

# Footloose



## Newsletter of the Chicago Jitterbug Club

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Hi Everybody,

Our president has some health issues and is awaiting surgery, so I'm taking the opportunity to write a bit about our Club's birthday(s) in his place. We celebrated a birthday on Saturday, January 11th, where I heard confused comments about just how old are we and how our birthday cake disagreed with website info. There's official, and then there's real, so I hope you'll read this little history of our club and celebrate as you wish.

Way back in 1991 my two best friends, Virginia Marigliano and Mike Surufka, and I were driving home from the Southside (St. Louis) Imperial Dance Club's Invitational, a wonderful competition event and weekend dance party held every June. We were all members of the CWCJC from its first year and were thoroughly enjoying the ability to "fast dance" again with that club. However, we also felt deprived as there were no cool 50s bars or dance clubs on the south side and complained about the amount of time spent on the tollway driving to Rosemont or Franklin Park to dance. And so, the three of us, in the same car, on a five-hour drive from the Invitational, decided to start a dance club for the south side! Boy, were we green. Not because we didn't know HOW to do it but we didn't know if there were enough south side dancers out there to make a club.

That fall I was involved in bringing my old Record Hop friend Jim Lounsbury to the Willowbrook Ballroom for an appearance. So we used Jim's event to set up a table to promote what we hoped would be the first dance of a "club" that didn't even have a name, but we had a date, a hall, and a DJ. I fronted the money, Virginia made calls and shopped, and Mike created promos. We had our first dance and people showed up! (Some like Gene Bylina, the Waschkes, and the "Twins" have been friends and supporters ever since.) My daughter Chrissy, an accountant at Brach's, donated candy and began our tradition of having sweets at every dance. She became our bookkeeper. At the end of that first dance, she stunned us when she said we made \$44.00!

So in 1992, we ran dances and got the word out. Mike and I even visited a CWCJC Meeting to see if they would let us create a junior Southside chapter but they declined. I contracted a hall for 6 months for more dances (keeping any "profit" in a series of little white envelopes), but until we had a charter from the State we couldn't even open a bank account! It took a year but we became official in January 1994 as a Not-for-Profit Organization. People scrambled for applications I hadn't created yet. We sold Charter Memberships for only three months at \$15 and set up a wonderful board of volunteer directors including: Gene Bylina, Art & Carolyn Johnson, Virginia Marigliano, Chuck Padgett, Barb Sainer, and myself. Lee Alo volunteered to be Dance Master and we began free lessons. We used DJ Danny Gallichio and DJ Bruce Bossier to play music, often paying them with gift cards purchased with my household credit card. We also trained our own DJ, who eventually went on to greener pastures but instead we got DJ Norm, and then came DJ (Miss) Willie, and the DJ Party Doll. We "hosted" dances on Sunday nights at a local bar, and we've even sponsored three profit-making dance conventions.

So now you know, we are 27, 28, and 29 years old, depending on how you count. Doesn't matter, but over all those years I have been blessed to meet (yes, I met my husband at a Club dance!) and work with some really terrific people and had more fun than ought to be allowed. No matter how many months or years you've been a member, I hope you can say the same.

**Happy Birthday to Us!**  
**Mary Lou Poremba**

## CJC Board of Directors

### **President**

Gene Bylina

### **Vice President**

Carol Green

### **Secretary**

Arlene VanHouten-Maynard

### **Treasurer**

Tony Zawacki

### **Board Members**

Mary Lou Poremba

Slim Waschke

### **Past President**

Barb Buschman



Connie Logan	Feb 4
Milly Bangert	Feb 9
Cyndy Dougherty	Feb 10
Frank Smith	Feb 10
Mae Debeikis	Feb 11
Patty Suchocki	Feb 11
Ted Lumbarkovski	Feb 14
Mark Gannon	Feb 20
Phyllis Piazza	Feb 20
Kay (Verthein) Conville	Feb 21
Eloise Sramek	Feb 23
Mary Anne Tigner	Feb 23
Sal Saldana	Feb 24
Whitey Ludwig	Feb 25
Tina Kerr	Feb 26
Jeff Tichelar	Feb 28
Ray Kelleher	March 4
Bert Kuehlhorn	March 6
Jack Sacks	March 6
Richard Gregorczyk	March 16
Mike Kazarian	March 16
Jan Levy	March 16
Judy Hook	March 22
Darlene Adams	March 30

### **2019 Dance Party Revenue Wrap-up**

Date	Door	50/50	Total	+/-
Jan 9	\$325	\$100	\$425	(-\$115)
Feb 9	\$492	\$160	\$652	\$112
Feb 23	\$235	\$84	\$319	(-\$221)
March 9	\$261	\$94	\$355	(-\$185)
March 23	\$335	\$119	\$454	(-\$86)
April 13	\$281	\$106	\$387	(-\$153)
April 27	\$414	\$111	\$525	(-\$15)
May 11	\$458	\$153	\$611	\$71
May 25	\$390	\$133	\$523	(-\$17)
June 8	\$486	\$135	\$621	\$81
June 22	\$303	\$134	\$437	(-\$103)
July 13	\$465	\$166	\$631	\$91
July 24	\$540	\$156	\$696	\$156
Aug 10	\$563	\$173	\$736	\$196
Aug 24	\$612	\$175	\$787	\$247
Sept 14	\$538	\$150	\$688	\$148
Sept 28	\$541	\$130	\$671	\$131
Oct 12	\$426	\$145	\$561	\$21
Oct 26*	\$240	\$140	\$380	\$160
Nov 9	\$393	\$147	\$540	\$0
Nov 23	\$466	\$130	\$596	\$56
Dec 14	\$682	\$205	\$887	\$347

Dance expenses = \$540, excluding snacks, pizzas, etc

\*Door net after prizes = \$190



Ray Kelleher  
 Juanita Larcman  
 Ronald Thompson  
 Sue Yessa

### **Secretary Message**

from Arlene VanHouten-Maynard

Happy New Year to all our members! Hope everyone enjoyed bringing in the new year as many did at our New Year's Eve Gala at the Garden Chalet. I want to extend a sincere "Thank You" to the three women who helped organize this event: Carol White, Barbara Buschman, and Mary Lou Poremba. I must also thank Todd Bremner for coming to our aid at the last minute.

May 2020 bring good fortune to you all!

### **Dance Party Checklist**

(Support your local nonprofit clubs!)

Feb 1	CWCJC Dance Party (New!), AL
<b>Feb 8</b>	<b>CJC Dance Party, Elks</b>
Feb 15	CWCJC Dance Party, AL
<b>Feb 22</b>	<b>CJC Mardi Gras Dance Party, Elks</b>
March 7	CWCJC Dance Party, AL
<b>March 14</b>	<b>CJC Fancy Dress Dance Party, Elks</b>
March 21	CWCJC Oldies Party, AL

## CJC Holiday Party

The CJC Holiday Dance Party was a great time and had a terrific turnout. The pizza was plentiful and there were 16 feet of desserts on the table! DJ Norm kept the floor busy all night, and the 50/50 was the largest in a long time. Thanks to all who came out and for making it such a fun evening. A big Thank You to Darlene, Arlene, Linda, and Sally for dishing out the pizza and the luscious desserts!

## Board Meeting Recap

- Volunteer of the Year Drawing approved
- Holiday Party plans finalized
- New Year's Eve Gala selling well
- Website updates considered
- DJ Gay and DJ Fast Freddie booked
- Six dance lessons approved for 2020
- Picnic locations being considered
- Income: \$15,242 to date
- Expenses: \$14,583 to date

## Favorite Songs of People Our Age

Let's Get Physical(s)  
Sea Cruise  
A Hard Day's Nap  
I Can't See Clearly Now (the light is gone)  
I Hear you Knockin' (on the bathroom door)  
Blurry Lines  
Staggering Lee  
(I've Gained) 16 Tons  
WPLF (White Port & Lemon Fleet)  
Achey Breaky Hip  
Fly Me to the (Florida) Moon  
These Orthotic Boots Are Made for Walking  
(I've Got a) Fever  
Just Don't Look Good Naked Anymore  
Old Fashioned Ways

## Powerful Perks of Dancing

During their heart health research, scientists at the University of Sydney Australia studied 48,000 people over 40. They found that those who danced at least once a month were 46 percent less likely to suffer heart-related deaths over a 10-year period than nondancers! They also found that dancing cut the risk of cardiovascular death 21% more than brisk walking. They described dancing as "exercise in disguise" and noted that the social aspects may counter stress and thus, enhance heart health too.

# Thank You!

Everybody listed below served as a Door Host for one or more dance parties in 2019. Without these wonderful volunteers, Board Members would be required to handle host responsibilities instead of overseeing dance parties and ensuring they run smoothly and are fun for all. Hosting at the door also allows the volunteer to meet and greet members, and get free admission! Because we appreciate the following people, each one will have a chance to win a free annual membership next month:



**Darlene Adams**  
**Anne Anderson**  
**Barbara Benitez**  
**Dean Becker**  
**Lori Becker**  
**Dave Chess**  
**Ed Cimney**  
**Arlene Dalia**  
**Teri Galka**  
**Phil Jorgensen**  
**Mary Josek**  
**Mike Kazarian**  
**Dave Knox**  
**Trudy Knox**  
**Jerry Koppel**  
**Linda Koppel**  
**Audrey Krautter**  
**Shirley Krenkle**  
**Sally Kupczyk**  
**Bob Kurth**  
**Connie Logan**  
**Char Ludwig**  
**Whitey Ludwig**  
**Ted Lumbarkovski**  
**Shirley Medley**  
**Art Morgan**  
**Matt Nailleux**  
**Carl Pignato**  
**Jeanne Quigley**  
**Susan Richardson**  
**Mary Anne Tigner**

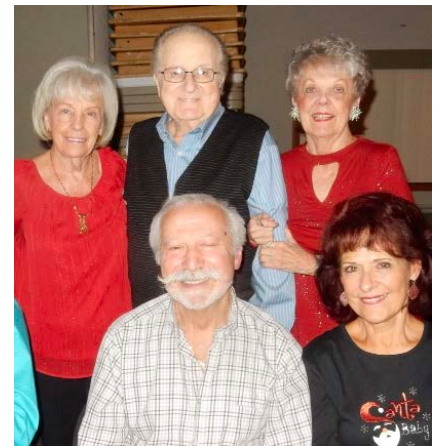




**CJC Holiday Party**



**Saturday, December 14, 2019**



*Photos by Carol & Mary Lou*



# Chicago Jitterbug Club

## 2020 Dance Calendar

(Subject to slight change)



### Featuring

DJ Norm  
DJ Party Doll



### Guest DJs

DJ Gay  
DJ Fast Freddie

**January 11 – Birthday Dance Party (Free Birthday Cake!)**

**February 8 – Justadance**

**February 22 – Mardi Gras Dance Party**

**March 14 – Fancy Dress Dance Party**  
(Note: 1 Dance only in March!)

**April 4 – Justadance Party**

**April 25 – Black & White Dance Party**

**May 9 – Justadance Party**

**May 30 – CJC Tee Shirt Dance Party**

**June 13 – Annual Flag Day Dance Party (Casual Red/White/Blue)**

**June 27 – Justadance Party**

**July 11 – Justadance Party**

**July 25 – Ice Cream Social & Dance Party**

**August 8 – Justadance Part**

**August 22 – Beachcomber/Luau Dance Party**

**\*September 12 – Annual Business Meeting @ 7:30 & Dance Party**

**September 26 – Sports Team Jersey Dance Party**

**October 10 – Justadance Party**

**October 31 – Halloween Dance Party & Parade**

**November 14 – Veterans Dance Party**

**\*November 28 – Meet the Candidates @ 7:30 & Victory Dance Party**

**December 12 – Holiday Dance Party**

### Dance Party Home

Chicago South Elks Lodge  
4428 W Midlothian Turnpike  
Crestwood

**Doors open for dance parties @ 7:30pm. Please comply for the convenience of our host workers.**

**\*Doors open at 7:15 for meetings. Door-opening times for workshops to be announced.**

Visit [www.chicagojitterbugclub.org](http://www.chicagojitterbugclub.org) for more info or call Barb at 630/257-6479.

Find us, like us, and join our private Facebook page for timely updates!



CJC New Year's Eve Gala: Garden Chalet Banquets





*Photos by Arlene, Carol, & Mary Lou*



**Chicago Jitterbug Club**  
**5131 W 115th Street**  
**Alsip, IL 60803**  
[www.chicagojitterbugclub.com](http://www.chicagojitterbugclub.com)  
**Proud Member:**  
**American Bop Association**  
**First Premier Cruise Club–2006**  
**Premier ABA Cruise Club–2010**  
**Premier ABA Cruise Club–2013**  
**Premier ABA Cruise Club–2014**  
**Premier ABA Cruise Club–2015**

**Happy New Year!**  
**Holiday photos inside**  
**New Year's Eve Gala photos inside**



**Happy Birthday CJC!**