

Footloose



Newsletter of the Chicago Jitterbug Club

Hello Dance Friends,

Well here we are coming to our holiday season and wrap up of club activities. But those of us on the Board have been looking at 2023 for quite a few months. It's usually summer that we start planning the calendar and adding any themes/special occasions for the next year. Sometimes great ideas don't come up that soon and sometimes an epidemic dampens plans for a year or two. Like other organizations in the country Covid hit us too, dance and membership-wise but we are holding our own now and picking up new and renewed members. I think we have a pretty great Board, all of whom are returning for 2023 (meet them inside!), and we can't thank them enough for supporting members' dance desires and making them so special! How about that delicious prepaid Luau Dinner Dance this summer, and the great Halloween costume parade? Have you ever seen 3 Blind Mice and Farmer's Wife on a dance floor simultaneously or evil Cruella DeVil, a very scary witch, or had a laugh with Hollywood's Oliver Hardy? There were many more costumes of note, every one competing their best for cash and prizes. And how about the luscious free ice cream sundaes to cool you while you danced? Yup, we did that too, with whipped cream and nuts!

The Chicago Jitterbug Club marks its 30th birthday in January. We had some dances in 1992 but the state charter took a lot of hard work and approval. In 1993 we officially became a Not-for-Profit Jitterbug Club dedicated to the preservation and promotion of jitterbug, its music, and its various forms known as East Coast Swing, Bop, Bebop, Shag, and/or Fast Dancing. During various dance rages over the years, dance attendees came expecting to convert us to Argentine Tango, West Coast, Hustle, Salsa, or Country dancing. Those dance rhythms do have dances all around Chicago, social and/or for profit, supporting those styles but our niche is Jitterbug and its music. Since Covid has calmed, we've been blessed with a number of guests and new members so we are wondering if there is a need again for beginner level East Coast lessons. They could be several-week-lessons on another night or as pre-dance workshops. Please let me know at the Board Table or see a board member at Welcome Desk if you're interested. We'll be discussing this in the near future.

At our next dance party, we'll have the 2023 Calendar. Taking the weather into consideration, we are hosting only one dance January through April, still with a great schedule. Dates are booked and themed dance parties are planned for which you might wish to dress accordingly. Heads up for Oldies Night, Black & White Night, Club Tee Shirt Night, Flag Day Night, Beachcomber Night, Western Night, and of course Halloween.

As we finish up the calendar, I wish I could personally greet and thank each and every one of our dancers for helping the CJC have such a good year. We came into 2022 hopeful and we are exiting happy, financially strong, and looking forward to many more wonderful experiences at Chicago South Elks Lodge. We are blessed to have such a good relationship with the lodge, so please see their letter to us inside. Till next we meet, I wish you the most joyous of holidays, good health, and to see you often on our floor in 2023.

Mary Lou, President



CJC and CWCJC Dance Party Schedule

December 3	CWCJC Dance, American Legion
December 10	CJC Holiday Dance Party, Elks
December 19	CWCJC Dance, American Legion
January 21	CJC Birthday Dance Party, Elks

CJC Board of Directors for 2022/2023

President/Newsletter Editor

Mary Lou Poremba

Vice President/Membership

Carol Green

Secretary/50-50 Sales

Arlene VanHouten-Maynard

Treasurer/Tee Shirts

Tony Zawacki

Board Members/Workers

Barb Buschman

Judie Collins

Slim Waschke

Past President

Gene Bylina

Web Master

Dave Chess



Ronald Kollins	December 1
Wally Wolan	December 6
Carol Green	December 12
Tom Masbaum	December 19
Ronald Thompson	December 20
Dave Chess	December 21
Sally Kupczyk	December 24
Shirley Wolan	December 24
John Trudeau	December 29
Ray Wardell	December 30
Catherine LiSoleil	January 2
Betty Sirko	January 4
Marilyn Kozin	January 14
Art Morgan	January 17
Pat Lauer	January 31

2022 Dance Party Revenue Report

Date	Door	50/50	Total
Feb 26	\$525	\$153	\$678
March 26	\$610	\$187	\$797
April 9	\$473	\$162	\$635
April 23	\$360	\$0	\$360
May 14	\$495	\$175	\$670
May 28	\$500	\$159	\$659
June 11	\$497	\$160	\$657
June 25	\$539	\$140	\$679
July 9	\$670	\$167	\$837
July 23	\$422	\$107	\$529
August 13	\$551	\$165	\$716
August 27	\$499	\$143	\$642
Sept 10	\$356	\$107	\$463
Sept 24	\$444	\$116	\$560
Oct 8	\$633	\$173	\$806
Oct 29	\$548	\$176	\$724
Nov 12	\$392	Donation	\$392
Nov 24	\$412	\$135	\$547

Dances cost \$540, snacks not included



Sue Ane Bement

Doug Clark

Celeste Panici

Cheryl Paras

Sharon Waspi

October Board Meeting Recap

- 79 dancers enjoyed the Ice Cream Social
- Ice Cream Social cost to club under \$150
- Tee shirt interest survey ok'd, new vendor TBD
- Tee shirt pricing report, minimum 12 needed
- 50/50 half on Nov. 12 to Elks Veterans' collection
- Pizza quantity for Holiday Party + gluten free
- Next Meeting January 18th

End of Year Reminders

Enjoy the little things in life.... for one day you'll look back and realize they were the big things.

We need old friends to help up grow old and new friends to help us stay young.

Friends can make you laugh like no one else can.

Note:

Problems with your emailed newsletter, message MaryLou@ChicagoJitterbugClub.org.

For dance info, call Barb call 630/257-6479



Frank Smith

We are sad to report the loss of former Board Member and long-time member (since 2005) Frank Smith.

Frank enjoyed dancing and was always on the dance floor. He was a great dancer and popular with many ladies over the years. He and his long-time girlfriend, Carol Green, went on many ABA cruises and always enjoyed the dance conventions around the country. He made friends wherever he went with his sharp wit and sense of humor enhancing any gathering.

Frank grew up on the south side of Chicago, graduated from Harper High School in 1958 and joined the Air Force in 1959, serving four years. His last duty station was in Taiwan, which he was able to re-visit in 2016 via a Princess Cruise, his last cruise. Frank was an alderman for Oak Forest for 16 years and upon his passing the City Hall in Oak Forest draped the building in memorial bunting. He meant so much they also mentioned his passing on their digital marquee, and posted a memorial on their website. Frank will always be remembered for his endearing and sincere personality, his eagerness to be helpful in any and every way, his generous nature, optimism, and enthusiasm for life. Frank had three children, seven grandchildren, and several nieces & nephews. He will be missed greatly by all who knew him.

Appreciation of Officers, Board, and Music

from Mary Lou

As president and/or officer of the CJC for years, I've been around and observed great dedication to our little club. This year, I must personally acknowledge the amazing contributions of **Carol Green, Arlene Maynard, Tony Zawicki, Barb Buschman, Judie Collins, and Slim Waschke**. They have given and done much, even as they experienced losses, illnesses, family needs, and/or job demands.

Then there are the 2022 DJs worthy of thanks. They worked for many hours to make music for us: **DJ Party Doll Arlene Waschke, DJ Norm Oden, Guest DJ Gay and Guest DJ Fast Freddie**. I heartily thank each of them for being part of the CJC. Happy 30th Birthday to all of us!



CJC Christmas Party

For the last dance of this year, we are again hosting the annual Christmas Party. Mark your calendar and plan on attending the party on December 10th. Wear your holiday best and come spread some holiday cheer with your dancing friends.

We hope you all can join us despite the weather. Doors will open at 7:15pm, and dancing from 7:30-10:30pm. Beggar's Pizza is on the menu that evening.

Needed: Members to Volunteer

If you haven't worked at our Welcome Desk this year, please consider taking a shift some time in the coming year. It's fun and you get to meet new people. It's a tremendous help that allows board members to attend to other things like answering questions, restocking snacks, taking photographs, handling 50/50 donations, counting costume votes, signing up new members, watching the lights, whatever else comes up. Two shifts 7:00 – 7:45 or 7:45 – 8:30 are available for your choosing.

One last thing, when you receive your renewal card, please think about checking one of the boxes to volunteer at the desk or with 50/50. You'll get free admission and after your shift you have the rest of the evening to dance your feet away.

Club Tee Shirts

Hey members, it looks like enough members may have shown interest in tee shirts that we likely will be ordering some clubwear. The cost is unknown at this time but with the way things are today it's surely to be over \$20.00. How much depends on how many and the style dancers are interested in purchasing. There seems to be interest in men's polos and ladies' V-neck ¾ sleeved tees in black. Of course, black tees are also desirable, and a few ladies have inquired about the pink ones. We'll soon have order info at the Welcome Desk for interested dancers. We are currently pricing shirt preferences and estimated costs for potential orders. Then you can decide.

Halloween Bash 2023



Tony & Sally / Best Couple



Oliver Hardy



Halloween Bash Winners



CJC Donations on November 12 Dance Party



*Chicago South Elks Lodge 1596
4428 Midlothian Turnpike
Crestwood, IL 60418*

November 14, 2023

Dear Chicago Jitterbug Club & Members,

The Veterans of the United States are a major part of our charities. We are very proud of the work we do at our lodge and all of the Elksdom across the country.

We are very involved with the DAV (Disabled Veterans of America) as well with the local Veterans hospitals in the Chicago area.

Your donation of needed products and cash are very much appreciated to help us make a difference for several veterans in the Chicago area.

The Elks clubs of America are presently involved with the renovation of the Pearl Harbor Museum in Hawaii. In the past year we have donated over one million dollars for this project.

Thank you once again for all you do to support our Veterans.

Fraternally yours,
Officers and Members of Chicago South Elks Lodge

Meet Your 2023 Board



President
Mary Lou Poremba



Vice President
Carol Green



Secretary
Arlene Maynard



Treasurer
Tony Zawicki



The CJC Board extends its deepest gratitude for your loyal support. With 2022 coming to an end and 2023 just on the horizon, we are all looking forward to seeing you at our dances.

Happy Holidays!



Past President
Gene Bylina



Board Member
Barb Buschman



Board Member
Judie Collins



Board Member
Slim (Ron) Waschke

Chicago Jitterbug Club

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Alsip, IL 60803

www.chicagojitterbugclub.org

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

Retired

Inside:

Veterans Recognition

Meet the 2023 New Board



**Wishing our Dancers
Season's Greetings and Happy New Year!**