



August 2006

Star

# The Western

Newsletter of Western Star Dancers,  
a contemporary American square dance club  
primarily serving the San Francisco LGBT community.  
International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs member.  
Contact us at:  
[www.westernstardancers.org](http://www.westernstardancers.org) OR 584 Castro Street #480  
San Francisco, CA 94114

## WSD Yard Sale Saturday, September 9, 2006

**We need your stuff!**

*This is our major fund raising event of the year*



**Donations may be dropped off in advance with Dan Smith  
(62 Diamond Street) Please call ahead--(415)238-8973**

**Pick-up service available on Tuesday, September 5  
Please call Joe Casserly (415) 436-9161 to make arrangements.**

**Donations accepted on the day of the sale.**

*Sale will be held in front of*

**4056 18th Street (X Hartford)**  
*(Thanks Grey, for the use of your space)*

**10 AM - 6 PM or so**

**Volunteers needed on  
September 9 to help with  
sales and recruiting.  
This is our first opportunity to  
recruit dancers for the Red  
Mainstream Class starting in  
October.**

## Club Notices -- Information You Can't Live Without

Nominations are open for candidates for election to the Board of Directors. The annual club meeting and election will be on September 20. Nominations should be received by August 20. Bob Brundage, Joe Casserly, Daryl Daniels, Dan Smith, and Todd Young have announced that they will stand for another term. The club bylaws allow up to seven board members.

Joe Iser and Dave Murphy have resigned from the Board due to personal reasons. Joe had served several years on the board, most recently as the Dance Coordinator. He booked top-flight callers well in advance, and brought in a variety of club night callers, two of whom were making their calling

debuts. This was Dave's first year on the board. He was the Archangel for the Purple Mainstream Class. Both will be missed.

E-mail and spam being what they are, the members of the board request that the Subject line of your email include "WSD." Some of us, maybe all of us, receive huge amounts of spam. Flagging the subject line with "WSD" will help avoid inadvertent deletions. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Get well wishes to Kip Mackey and Freddy Papapietro. Kip had back surgery that he says has greatly reduced the amount of pain

he experiences. He hopes to get back to square dancing soon. Freddy had abdominal surgery. He is home now recovering, but is quite weak. Hang in there, and hope to see you both on the dance floor again soon.

Kip is feeling so good that he is hosting a pool party again this year. The Pool Party will be Labor Day weekend on Saturday, September 2 from 1-8 pm at 1035 Las Gallinas Avenue in San Rafael. Guests are requested to bring party foods to share, as well as whatever intoxicants you may desire. RSVP if you plan to attend to [kipmackey@aol.com](mailto:kipmackey@aol.com) or call (415) 479-4759.

**Bob Brundage** 826-0879 [bernalbob1@cs.com](mailto:bernalbob1@cs.com)

**Joe Casserly** 436-9161 [joe@hirejoenow.com](mailto:joe@hirejoenow.com)

**Daryl Daniels** 586-2599 [daryldaniels94132@sbcglobal.net](mailto:daryldaniels94132@sbcglobal.net)

**Dan Smith** 238-8973 [danhsmit@yahoo.com](mailto:danhsmit@yahoo.com)

**Todd Young** 436-9161 [Earths\\_Laughter@yahoo.com](mailto:Earths_Laughter@yahoo.com)

**Board  
of  
Directors**



## MATCH THE MUGSHOT WSD Quarter-Century Countdown. Part 2 in a Series.

**Welcome back** from Anaheim. Everyone had a good time: Cinderella went to the ball, and Daniel stalked Betsy Gotta for the second year in a row. Rich called a couple of swimming pool tips, Gary tried to pass for twink in the Under-30 specialty tip, and Grey squared up for A2 even though he has never studied A1. Luckily, Randy Laroche and David Laudon are juxtaposed alphabetically, so they were called simultaneously from opposite sides of the stage, received their 10-Year Medallions, embraced and were photographed hand in hand.

**Enough fun** for now. We need to get back to business. So, as part of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Countdown, it is time to play *Match the Mugshot*. The numbered photos are either from about 25 years ago, or from when the poser was approximately age 25! Match them with the recent lettered photographs.

**Time's up.** How did you do? Number 1=D: Our WSD Administrator Daryl. 2=E: Davida (Duh!). 3=C: Twinkle-toed and top hatted terpsichorean Steve.

Number 4=A: Russ, who has been around WSD for nearly a quarter century. 5=B: Fred (during his stint in the army).

**Describing his days** as a young buck in uniform, Fred says, "I went to Fort Roberts for training (infantry); but after 6 weeks I signed up to go to the State of Washington to be a radar operator. I wasn't crazy about that, so I became the Battery Clerk for the rest of my time there to complete my two years. I got drafted. I got a lot out of it—the first time in my life I was away from home. It was difficult but I managed."



Debonair Fred—25 years ago.



That leaves Number 6=F: Last, but certainly not least, Merle.

"Twenty-five years ago, I was playing softball with a pick-up team, and sometimes I'd go hiking to Mt. Tumpalpias. We traveled a lot in 1982, also. My partner, Jed, and I would travel to his Chemical Conventions. I got to see a lot of U.S. cities—and to shop. In 1982, we went to some Gay motorcycle weekends. Also, spent a lot of our time supporting the S.F. Gay Chorus—we still do that."



Merle and Jed—on a biker run.

Twenty-five years ago, Merle and Jed were celebrating 25 years together! They are now approaching their 50th Anniversary.

They first met in 1957 in the Pacific Northwest, visited San Francisco the next year, then moved to The City in 1962. Merle remembers, "Our rent was \$85 a month, furnished." Times have changed. In 1978, they moved into the home on Diamond Heights where they still live.



Merle—soon after moving to San Francisco.

What is the secret of maintaining a relationship for 50 years, or even 25 years? "It's a lot of work," Merle explains, "and you don't have to think like each other, but you have to respect each other."

*Thanks to my research, photo and proof-reading staff (Gary, Daniel and Steve). And who would have think I'd be moist from thinking about Merle?*

**Brenda Line**







# Rainbow Girls

Steve Scott Interview Part 2 (Continued from last month)

by Dan Smith

**STEVE:** I took Ballroom dancing in junior high. I was very popular at lunch breaks because when the kids went to the gym and turned on music I was the only boy dancer. The girls would dance together. The guys would just kind of sit watching. Well I'd get out on the floor and dance, making me very popular with the girls. I loved ballroom dancing.

**DAN:** Did you ever dance with a guy as a kid?

**STEVE:** No.

**DAN:** That's sad.

**STEVE:** Yes it is, knowing what people can do now legally and with support. I think that's terrific.

**DAN:** Tell me about learning to square dance?

**STEVE:** I learned at Eureka Valley Recreational Center. Ron Masker was my first Mainstream caller. I remember that I loved it right away. I love it because you

to be twirled. That was easy, I mean I was one of the first ones over there to the girl line and that continues to be my favorite position. I'm, so called, bi-dancial now, I can dance the boy part also. I like to think that I'm a pretty good boy, leader. I love people who will allow me to twirl (Steve laughs) as much as I possibly can without spinning me out into the universe.

**D:** You took the Basic/Mainstream class at Western Star, did you immediately go to Plus?

**S:** I took the Plus class from WSD as soon as it was offered. Foggy City Dancers started their Mainstream class well after WSD so even though my WSD's Mainstream class was not quite finished I was able to Angel FCD's new Mainstream class. I learned Boy doing that. I did the same thing with Plus if I recall correctly.

**D:** How did you find Foggy City?

**S:** Andy Shore was teaching and I found that there were many more squares so that was interesting in some ways but, I don't know, it felt a little crowded. What I got out of it was a different Instructor, teaching things differently and I think that is still a useful tool.

**D:** Did you also move on to A level at some point?

**S:** I guess spent a year dancing Mainstream then went onto Plus and danced at that level, which remains my favorite level for three or four years. After that I took Advanced class twice. A Class consists of A1 and A2. I still feel like I don't get enough floor time with A and

don't feel really strong at it. I enjoy going to Midnight Squares, where you go at least in San Francisco to advance beyond Plus. I have angeloed the A class at least two times and I'm doing that right now.

**D:** Cool, so you have a lot of experience. When did you first think about becoming some kind of official in Western Star?

**S:** You know I have always felt grateful to the club because I have met so many

friends through it. When I'm walking with my non-square dancer friends I always say, "Oh, that's another square dancer, that's another square dancer." I always feel very pleased about the fact that I'm recognized and I know other people through this activity.

I was invited to be on the Board by Alan Turpin who became a very, very good friend of mine. He was a part of a small group of square dance drag queens and I became one of those. Alan Turpin's drag name was 'Crystal Ball'. Alvin had red as his color and my color was green and my name was 'Tammy'.

**D:** Was that name because of Tammy Wynette?

**S:** And *Tammy Tell Me True*. It's the country girl in me.

**D:** Had you done any interesting drag activities before meeting Alan.

**S:** When I lived in Northeastern Arkansas, in Jonesboro, working at my first post education job there were no gay activities, literally, OK, period! So every weekend I drove for about an hour and a half to Memphis Tennessee to a very famous drag bar. I have memories of seeing fantastic drag shows at that bar. Famous performers like *I Will Survive*, Gloria Gayner performed there.

Alan as you know is a very talented seamstress. He has in his basement all kinds of costumes. His favorite holiday is Halloween. He and his lover Harold, who were both in Western Star, would go out on Halloween dressed as queen Elizabeth and Glenda the Good Witch from the Wizard of Oz. Because I was part of their entourage I was introduced to drag again. There were four of us (Alan, Alvin, Douglass and myself), all members of the Board of WSD, the Rainbow Girls, who appeared at events like Castro Street Fair to recruit new class members. Western Star as you know does a color of the rainbow designation for the different classes. We didn't quit have 6 colors but we called ourselves the rainbow girls. We would go to the Castro Street Fair in complete drag and square dance and that was a lot of fun. We also did that at the convention.

**D:** Thank you Steve.

**S:** No, thank you.



can be a single person and join a square once you learn the moves; the fact that the moves are a set of calls that are known across the world was really appealing to me.

**D:** Did you take girl or boy first?

**S:** Oh girl, that was easy. Ron said, "The way to decide about being boy or girl: do you want to twirl someone else or do you want to be twirled?" Well, HELLO, I want



Don't Stop!  
San Francisco  
WESTERN STAR DANCERS  
Don't Slow Down!

Kip  
Mackey's

Saturday  
September 2, 2006  
1-8 pm

Labor Day  
Weekend



Potluck!  
Bring Your Own Intoxicants!  
Soft Drinks Provided!

1035 Las Gallinas Avenue  
San Rafael, CA

RSVP  
kipmackey@aol.com  
415-479-4739

Rich  
REEL  
caller

Purple Plus Class  
Completion Party


Don't Stop!  
San Francisco  
WESTERN STAR DANCERS  
Don't Slow Down!

Monday, September 25, 2006  
7:30 until 9:30 pm  
Eureka Valley Recreation Center

Members:  
PLEASE bring  
party food to  
share





 23rd Annual IAGSDC Convention  
June 30 - July 3, 2006 Anaheim, CA



**The Floor Laying Crew**  
Rich & Jose! helped put the flooring in place in one dance hall.  
It took them 7 hours to put it down, but only 1 to take it up.







*Class/Club Night--Tuesdays*  
TGIF Dance/Potluck  
3rd Friday  
1700 Oak Park Boulevard  
Pleasant Hill



*Class Night--Tuesdays*  
Forest Hill Christian Church  
250 Laguna Honda Boulevard  
San Francisco



*Class Night--Wednesday*  
St. Andrew's Methodist  
4111 Alma Street  
Palo Alto



*Class--Sunday Afternoons*  
Jon Sim Center  
1519 Mission Street  
San Francisco

**Other Bay Area  
Square Dance Clubs**



*Class/Club Night--Wednesday*  
Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club  
1650 Mountain Boulevard  
Oakland

August 5  
7:30-10:30 pm

**Star Across Summer** El Camino Reelers. Howard Richman caller. 5-7 pm Potluck/Intro (free), 7:30-10:30 pm Plus/A2 \$8/\$10 St. Andrew's Methodist Church, 4111 Alma Street, Palo Alto

August 11-13

**PACE.** Saundra Bryant caller. Friday 7:30 pm A2, Saturday 11 am, 2 pm C1, Sunday 11 am C3A, 2:30 pm C3. Diablo Light Opera Co., 1948 Oak Park Boulevard, Pleasant Hill

August 12  
4-8 pm

**Picnic & Promenade (Potluck Picnic & outdoor dancing in the Oakland Hills)** Oaktown 8s. Bay Area callers. MS/Plus/A\*tip \$8/\$10 Skyline Community Church, 12540 Skyline Boulevard, Oakland

August 16  
7:30-9:30 pm

**Club Night** Fen Tamanaha caller. EVRC

August 19  
9:45 am-?

**Angel Island Picnic.** Rich Reel caller. \$20 Advanced reservations suggested (includes ferry). Contact Todd (415) 436-9161

September 2  
1-8 pm

**Kip Mackey's Pool Party.** Potluck. 1035 Las Gallinas Avenue, San Rafael. RSVP: kipmackey@aol.com or (415) 479-4759

September 8-10

**PACE.** Anne Ubelacker caller. Friday 7:30 pm A2, Saturday 11 am, 2 pm C2, Sunday 11 am C3A, 2:30 pm C3. Diablo Light Opera Co., 1948 Oak Park Boulevard, Pleasant Hill

September 9  
10 am-6 pm

**WSD Yard Sale** 4056 - 18<sup>th</sup> Street. Bring your stuff to sell. Buy good things. Volunteer to help raise money for your club!

September 9  
7-10 pm

**Harvest Dance** Foggy City Dancers. Eric Henerlau caller. Class/MS/Plus/A\*tip \$8/\$10 Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 678 Portola Drive, San Francisco

September 20  
7:30-9:30 pm

**Annual Membership Meeting & Club Night** Ron Masker caller. EVRC

September 23  
7:30-10:30 pm

**Leather & Lace 2006** Andy Shore caller. MS/Plus/A\*tip \$8/\$10 Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 678 Portola Drive, San Francisco

September 25  
7:30-9:30 pm

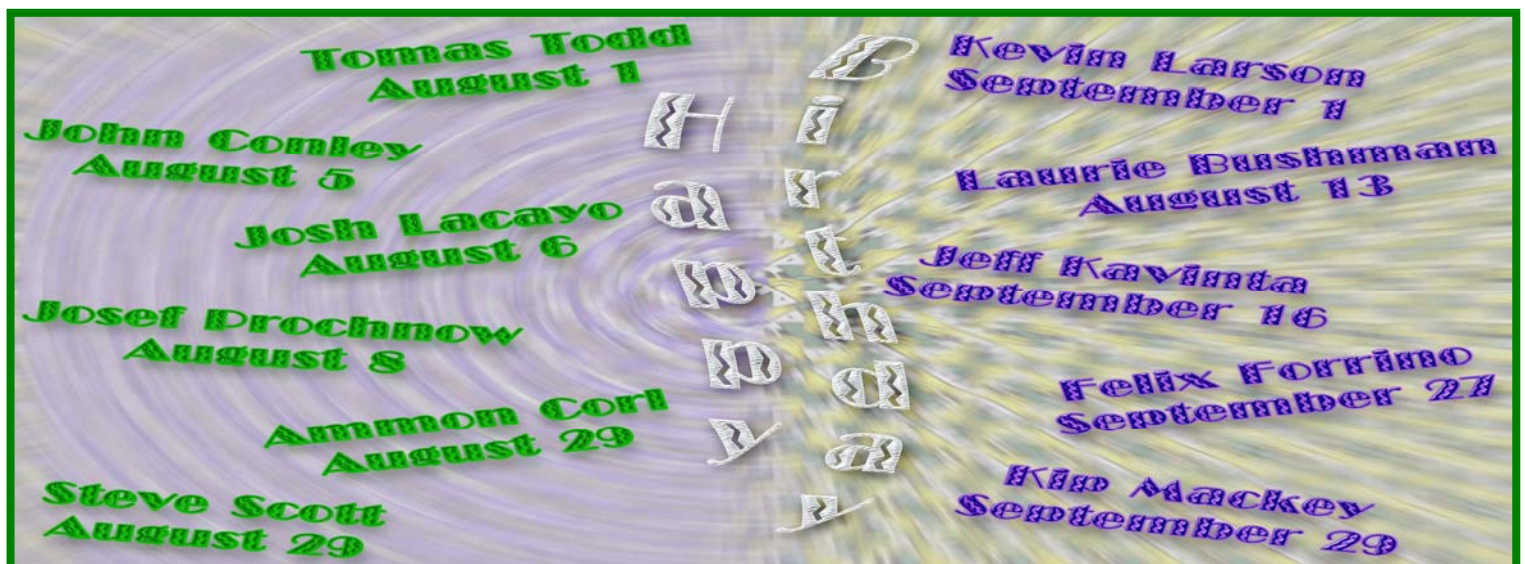
**Purple Plus Class Completion Party** EVRC. Partners, friends invited.

October 1  
All Day

**Castro Street Fair** Volunteers needed to dance and help recruit. Rich Reel caller.

October 2  
7:30-9:30 pm

**Free Introductory Red Mainstream Class** Rich Reel caller. EVRC





Square dancing just doesn't get better than this!

# Leather and Lace 2006

Don't Stop!  
San Francisco  
WESTERN STAR DANCERS  
Don't Slow Down!

September 23, 2006  
7:30 - 10:30 PM  
MS-Plus-A Star  
Members \$8  
Guests \$10

Andy Shore  
caller

Ebenezer Lutheran Church  
678 Portola Drive  
San Francisco



Western Star Dancers  
584 Castro Street #480  
San Francisco, CA 94114