

Footloose



Newsletter of the Chicago Jitterbug Club

Hi Everybody,

We have been having a very nice summer, haven't we? Club attendance has been good and the dance parties have been fun like always. The number of new members has been heartening, seeing as how we're approaching 33 years of dancing with people still joining. The good news is the Club has a way to go before middle age! We've had snacks and cake and ice cream this year and your board is even now finalizing exciting end of the year plans!

I hope to see you at our **Annual Business Meeting at the September 9th** dance party with questions and/or suggestions for the board. **September 23 is Beginners Night Club 2**, the first of a two-session couples dance workshop offered by **Rich Patterson**. This is not the zippy Texas 2 Step country dance traveled in a circle around the floor from when country bar dances were popular (think John Travolta's Urban Cowboy) and people danced in cowboy hats. Instead, it is a smooth slow dance done in the center of the floor mostly in closed couple dance position **Beginners/Intermediate of Night Club 2 is October 14**.

Also in October, you have an opportunity to volunteer to serve or be nominated for a position on our Jitterbug Club board. **Board Nominations are due October 15th**. This is an extremely important one-year (unpaid) CJC job that is rewarding, fun, and easy. Imagine, once or twice a month you get to help make 50 to 100 dancers very happy. You would also get to meet new people, represent the club, dance, get in free, and your ideas would be welcomed! We meet about every two months to create new activities or to confirm plans for club doings, so how hard can it be? It's not. How much ice cream to buy, how much birthday cake? Who is willing to serve? How about a New Year's Eve dance or holiday dinner party? These questions all need answers before money can be spent on anything besides rent or DJ pay. If you are curious about joining us, please see me or an officer at the front table for info. You can always message me at MaryLou@chicagojitterbugclub.org too. I would love talking to you about our club!

Of course, on **October 28th is our Almost Famous Halloween Costumed Dance Party and Parade**. There will be cash prizes for Best Man, Best Woman, and Best Couple costumes. There are also \$\$ prizes for the Funniest, Scariest and most Original outfits. Let's see how creative or artistic you can be and maybe you'll win a prize!

In November, we encourage donations of personal items for the **Veterans Dance Party November 11th**. The Club is again supporting the Chicago South Elks collection for vets at the Illinois Veterans Home in Manteno, which has welcomed residents since 1986. The Home has medical accommodations for over 300 residents needing skilled nursing, but personal and comfort items are not always provided. Inside is a suggested shopping list for this effort. Please read it carefully and bring your items (New only) to the dance party November 11. An **election to the CJC Board is November 25**. Thank you.

Watch for info later on our pre-reserved **Holiday Dinner December 9th**. I hope to see you on the floor!

President Mary Lou

Dancing Checklist	Date	CJC & CWCJC Dance Party Schedule
	Sept 9	CJC Dance Party, Annual Business Meeting
	Sept 16	CWCJC Dance Party, American Legion
	Sept 23	CJC Western Dress-up Party, Elks (Free Night Club 2/Lesson 1 @ 6:15)
	Oct 7	CWCJC Dance Party, American Legion
	Oct 14	CJC J ustadance, Elks (Continued Night Club 2/Lesson 2 @ 6:15)
	Oct 21	CWCJC Dance Party, American Legion
	Oct 28	CJC Halloween Costume Spookytaacular Dance Party, Elks (\$\$\$ Prizes)

CJC Board of Directors 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

Welcome New/Rejoined Members

Lindalou Hess

Frannie Merar

Maryellen Heim

Carl Pignato

Joe LaRock

Lorraine Rybka

Angela Miller

Rico Salerno

Footnotes



It was a great summer for a few of our members. **Jean Engelbrecht** celebrated a champagne birthday brunch at the Drake Hotel in Oak Brook surrounded by family and friends. . . Club Secretary **Arlene Maynard** celebrated a birthday with a dream trip cruising Alaska and being awed by glaciers. . . Our sympathy goes out to **Linda Nygard**, the lady love of **Tom Masbaum**, who passed peacefully in July. Tom loved helping people and was a hospice volunteer for many years. He will be missed. . . Long-time members are saddened over the loss of **Pat Loibl**, who was residing in a nursing home with husband **Fred** for the last few years. When Pat and Fred joined us 30 years ago, they passionately fell in love with West Coast Swing, practicing and studying moves they found in video tapes. Fred remains in the nursing home and will benefit from our thoughts and many prayers. . . We just lost another of our long-time members who wanted to dance as long as he could, **Jim DeBickero**. Jimmy rarely sat during a dance event anywhere, showing many women a good time on the dance floor. Much love and spiritual hugs to our Jimmy with sympathy to his family and friends who came to miss him the last few months.



Judy Leslie	September 1
Dave Knox	September 2
Tom Kozin	September 11
Char Ludwig	September 17
Cai Trzepacz	September 29
Tony Zawacki	September 30
Lorraine Rybka	October 1
Sherrill Bylina	October 4
Barb Buschman	October 7
Cheryl Paras	October 8
Darlene Pellegrini	October 9
Dawn Adams	October 18
Angie Tuazon	October 19
Linda Masterson	October 29
Trudy Knox	October 31

2023 Dance Party Revenue Report

Date	Door	50/50	Total
January 21	\$607	\$165	\$772
February 25	\$504	\$165	\$669
March 25	\$602	\$155	\$757
April 22	\$648	\$200	\$848
May 13	\$496	\$152	\$648
May 27	\$635	\$127	\$762
June 10	\$353	\$110	\$463
June 24	\$611	\$177	\$788
July 8	\$343	\$155	\$498
July 22	\$515	\$150	\$665
August 12	\$525	\$140	\$665
August 26	\$620	\$182	\$802

Dance parties cost \$540, not including snacks

Sept 23 & October 9 Lessons

Night Club 2

6:15 – 7:15 pm

by Rich Patterson

Open Dancing 7:30 – 10:30 pm

Doors open for dancing after 7:15 pm

Lesson is FREE with door dues/donation of \$7/\$10

As a courtesy, no early arrivals if not taking class



November 11th

The Chicago Jitterbug Club in conjunction with the Elks Club is asking for donation to assist the Manteno Veterans Home.

Due to Infection Control Policies:

All personal care items must be NEW. Bring any of these items to Chicago Jitterbug Club - November 11th Dance

Personal Care Items

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Body Wash (Men & Women) | Deodorant (roll on) |
| Polident Denture Cream | Combs / Hairbrushes |
| Efferent Tablets (Denture Cleaner) | Hair Cream / Dressing for Men |
| Listerine / Mouthwash (Alcohol Free) | Kleenex |
| Electric Razors (New Only) | Aftershave |
| Pre Electric Lotion | Cologne Men & Women (Body Spray) |

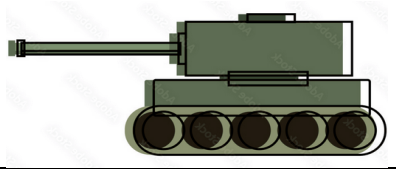
Other Personal Care Items

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Batteries: AAA, AA, C, D, 9V | Postage Stamps – Forever Value |
| Small flash lights | Greeting Cards |
| Candy sugar free chocolate bars | Sugar Free Gum / Freedent Gum |
| Snack Cakes (Little Debbie's Hostess) | Cereal Bars (soft) |
| Package Crackers / Cheese | Package Crackers / Peanut Butter |
| Cookies Regular and sugar free – No Nuts | |



AL Vet News

Former Dance Home Moved



Our club's former dance home, the **Argo Summit American Legion Post 735** at 60th & Harlem, has moved to a new home in Chicago's Garfield Ridge community! Sadly, our beloved bartender, Harry Bumper, has passed on too. Last year the post sold its long-time home to the Summit Animal Hospital, which moved in earlier this year. If you remember our huge dance hall, it's probably hard to imagine it as a high tech veterinary business. The Summit Animal Hospital is a walk-in facility that's even able to care for horses and farm animals!

The good news about our Legion friends' relocation is that they bought a considerably smaller 2000 sq ft building at 6945 Archer. "We moved there from Summit" said Past Commander Rice. The post is looking to increase membership as well as attract more Auxiliary members and Sons.

The new location is only for meetings of the post members, its Auxiliary, and Sons of the Legion. Organizations like Post 735 can help ensure veterans get the benefits they are entitled to under the GI Bill through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Any veterans concerned about benefits should consider joining. Meetings are the third Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm.

With the departure of the post, the Summit Park District created a new memorial park dedicated to the veterans in a wonderful grand opening. The post Honor Guard opened the dedication of the park, which features memorial bricks that used to decorate the front of the post on Harlem.

Everything was moved except the large monument, so an old army cannon has been cleaned and installed onsite. The memorial Legion Park is located at 61st and 73rd Avenue. If you want post info, please call the Post at 708/646-2622.

This is our time to dance. It's our way of celebrating life. It's the way it was in our beginning, the way it's always been, the way it always will be.

Footloose, The Musical

CJC Announces Holiday Event

The CJC Board of Director at their August meeting approved an exciting new event for the Club. We are hosting a FREE Holiday Buffet Dinner on Saturday, December 9! While the dinner is free, space must be pre-reserved to ensure adequate food ordered for the number of diners committed. Watch your email, Footloose, or dance parties for details and reservation forms. There will be no walk-in food service.

Thoughts on Our Old Time Rock n Roll

by Mary Lou Poremba

When the "South Side Club" was starting 30+ years ago, the majority of applications came from former jitterbug dancers or those who wished they were. We grew up digging 40s, 50s, or early 60s dancing but Chicagoland called it "Jitterbug" for the Lindy Hop, Jive, Fast Dancing, or even Circle Dancing descendants. The dance's name depended on where and when you learned 6-count smooth Lindy, what we mostly do now. "Ballroom" dances were old, not cool!

Did you jitterbug, maybe at lunch or school dances, at schools like Blue Island High, Visitation, CVS, Lindblom, Kennedy, Calumet, Gage Park, Harper, St Rita, Leo, Mt. Carmel, Mendel, Loretto, Fenger, Saint Sabina Grammar School or the Swank or Art's Roller Rink? These were south side joints that drew teen dancers to hops. We actually have members who fondly talk of dancing and making friends at many of these south side schools or hangouts.

Besides wearing out dancefloors, we listened to the best DJs in the country, maybe even while doing homework. We had rock n roll played by stars like **Dick Biondi, John Records Landecker, and Larry Lujack** with WLS, WIND, WJJD, WCFL, and WGN ruling our ears.

Wild I-tralian Biondi (HOF 1998) passed on this year at age 90, Superjock Lujack (HOF 2004) ended decades in Chicago in 2006 and died in 2013. John Records Landecker (HOF 2017) did a last Boogie Check in 1979 but holds on to Chicago on WGN now.

Willy "DJ Casper" Perry, Jr gave the world the fun Cha Cha Slide dances, a global sensation. He became a star but stayed a Chicagoan. My big thrill as a Hop dancer (Holiday Inn bar in Rosemont) was when DJ Casper showed up at the lounge and led his dance. He was 58 when he passed last month in Hazelcrest from kidney cancer. Cha Cha y'all again with DJ Casper!

We were sure blessed years ago as young people and we still enjoy great DJ dance music today, don't we?

Chicago Jitterbug Club

11857 S Lawler
Alsip, IL 60803

Officers and Board of Directors Statement of Candidacy/Nomination Form

You may nominate yourself or one (1) person for each Officer position and up to three (3) individuals for Board Member/Director. **Please have the nominee sign to indicate acceptance and approval of the nomination.** The Membership Chair/Vice President will confirm eligibility. Nominations open October 1, 2023, and close October 15, 2023.

I nominate the following individual(s) for the position(s) indicated below:

Officers (qualification is 1 year of service on Board completed immediately prior to January 2024)

President _____ I accept _____

Vice President _____ I accept _____

Secretary _____ I accept _____

Treasurer _____ I accept _____

Executive Board Member (qualification is 1 year current membership-in-good-standing)

Board Member _____ I accept _____

Board Member _____ I accept _____

Board Member _____ I accept _____

I am a member-in-good-standing of the Chicago Jitterbug Club.

Name _____
Must be signed to be valid.

Membership No. _____
(CJC only)

Please mail this nomination form to the Club office (CJC, 11857 S Lawler., Alsip, IL 60803) by October 15th. Competing qualified candidates may be asked to submit a brief statement for introduction in the newsletter to present to the membership for Election night, November 25, 2023. Terms for offices are January 1 - December 31, 2024. Unfilled seats are subject to appointment by the 2024 Board of Directors. Where there is no competition for office(s), eligible candidates may be elected by acclamation.

Mailed Nomination Forms must be postmarked by October 15th and received by October 20, 2023



Chicago Jitterbug Club
11857 S Lawler
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

Fall News:

CJC Nominations DUE by October 15

Please Volunteer for an Open Seat on the Board!

Halloween Spookytacular Costume Parade & Contest

Veterans Donation Collection of Personal & Comfort Items



Halloween Spookytacular Dance Party & Parade
October 28th