THE SUNDANCE GAZETTE

The newsletter of the Sundance Association for Country-Western Dancing

Autumn, 2009 • vol. 11 no. 4



Two-steppin'-Two Nights!

THURSDAYS 6:30-10:30pm

lessons 7:00-8:00 open dancing 8:00-closing

SUNDAYS 5:00-10:30pm

lessons 5:30-7:15 open dancing 7:15-closing karaoke 7:15-10:00

550 Barneveld Ave., San Francisco Admission \$5 • 21+ with ID

www.sundancesaloon.org



San Francisco's Country-Western Dance Weekend

October 15-18, 2009

Three days of dance workshops ... Four nights of dance parties ... 600 cowboys and cowgirls ... One great weekend!

\$90 advance registration deadline is September 25.

www.stompede.com



The Sundance Association is an all-volunteer community-based 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to the promotion of country-western dancing in the LGBT community through education and public dance events.

www.sundancesaloon.org

The Sundance Stompede, October 15 – 18

The Sundance Stompede arrives in full force this October. Register in advance by September 25, and your \$90 StompedePass gains you entry to all events. Check out www.stompede.com for all the details, including a schedule of events and dance workshops, and information on volunteering.

Some highlights include:

• **Kick-Off Dance** – Thursday night, 6:30–11 pm at Sundance Saloon. 550 Barneveld Ave., admission \$10.

• Welcome Dance – Friday night, 7:30 pm–1 am at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn, 1500 Van Ness Ave., admission \$15. Exhibition performances 8–9 pm, then three rooms of dancing (general country-western dancing, a line dance room and a west coast swing room).

• Hoedown 2009 – Saturday night, 7:30 pm–1 am, at the spectacular Regency Ballroom, 1300 Van Ness Ave. Admission \$45 at the door; \$35 advance tickets available at Sundance Saloon or Rock Hard (518 Castro St.). Dance exhibitions 8–9 pm, then dancing in two huge rooms including a dedicated line dance room. Plus silent auction, raffle, entertainment, and more.

• **Stompede Ball** – Sunday night 5–11 pm at Sundance Saloon, admission \$10. Line dance marathon 5–7 pm, then open dancing until 11 pm.

• NEW - The Beach Ball – a west coast swing tea-dance – Saturday afternoon 4–6 pm at the Holiday Inn, admission \$5. Sponsored by the Gotham Swing Club of New York City.

o Dance Workshops galore at the Holiday Inn,
Friday 1–6 pm (\$15), Saturday 10 am–4 pm (\$25)
and Sunday 10 am–4 pm
(\$25), in up to four rooms
running simultaneously.

• Other non-dance events, including a VIP welcome social, a women's social, and after-hours parties.



Country-western dancing returns to the Castro Street Fair at our great location in the parking lot behind the Castro Theater. Dance all afternoon on our own portable dance floor, proudly custom-built by Sundance Association volunteers! We're planning a quick be-

Association volunteers!
We're planning a quick beginning line dance lesson at 2 pm ... and come help us teach the Barn Dance at 4 pm.

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We need volunteers for the floor-building and set-up (9–11 am), boot-check (11 am–6 pm) and tear-down (6–7 pm). Contact us at volunteer@sundancesaloon.org or 415-820-1403.

Upcoming Sundance Saloon Events

Halloween Party Sunday, October 25

Our annual Halloween costume ball, with cash prizes for the best costumes (1st place = \$100, 2nd place = \$50, 3rd place = \$25). Admission \$8, or \$5 if you come in costume.

Holiday Ball & Toy Drive Sunday, December 13

Sundance Saloon gets decked out in holiday lights and sounds. Bring a toy to benefit Mama's Toy Drive for Camp Sunburst. On this night we also celebrate the season of giving by honoring our volunteers. Admission \$8, or \$5 with a toy; free for Sundance volunteers.

The Sundance Gazette is the quarterly newsletter of The Sundance Association for Country-Western Dancing 2261 Market St., PMB 225, San Francisco, CA 94114 415-820-1403 • www.sundancesaloon.org

Country Dance-A-Thon at Sundance Saloon – Nov 15

The Country Dance-A-Thon is a three-hour country dance marathon taking place on Sunday, November 15 at Sundance Saloon. It is a fundraiser for the AIDS/Breast Cancer Emergency Fund and the Positive Resource Center. The Dance-A-Thon will take place during regular Sundance Saloon hours, 7–10 pm. You need to register in advance and collect a minimum of \$50 in donation. More info: www.sundancesaloon.org/dance-a-thon.

Community Events

Line Dancing at Magnet – 3rd Saturday of the month (except 10/17), 4122 18th St., San Francisco, CA. 7–10 pm, with advanced lessons at 7 pm and beginning lessons at 9 pm. FREE.

The South Will Burn Again – Oct 30 – Nov 1, Atlanta, GA. The next convention of the International Association of Gay/Lesbian Country-Western Dance Clubs takes place Halloween weekend and also coincides with Atlanta Gay Pride! www.hoedown2009.com.

California Dreaming – Nov 6 – 8, San Francisco, CA. The largest same-sex ballroom competition in the country. Spectator tickets available. www.californiadreamingdancesport.com

THE PHOTO GALLERY

More than a dozen volunteers rolled out and installed a new surface on our dance floor at at Sundance Saloon in August. Thanks to their efforts, we're dancing on a comfortable smooth surface again.









Dance Floor Etiquette

Following dance floor etiquette rules helps everyone to have fun. We recommend that everyone review these rules of the road periodically:

Dance counterclockwise around the floor. Try not to back up, but if you have to for some reason, look behind you first.

Leaders – look where you are going, and be prepared for the unexpected (like the couple in front of you who didn't look before they backed up).

Slower dancers should move towards the inside of the dance floor, allowing faster dancers to pass them on the outside. If there's a large space between you and the couple in front, either move to the inside, or speed up to close the gap. Don't dance recklessly: faster dancers should not move faster than they can safely go. When doing complicated moves that don't travel forward, move towards the center of the floor.

West coast swing dancers should leave room on the outside of the dance floor for other dancers. Similarly, traveling dancers should steer clear of the line of west coast swing dancers, being especially alert at either end of the dance floor. We also request you don't do couples dancing on the main floor during line dances.

If you bump into someone, smile and apologize. If someone bumps into you, smile and apologize. If you find yourself apologizing all the time, maybe the problem isn't just everybody else. If you find yourself smiling all the time, well, good.

If you are not dancing, don't stand on the dance floor; stand close to the wall to maximize our dance floor space. Don't carry drinks onto the dance floor. Report spills immediately.

Finally, there is no excuse for "road rage" on the dance floor. If you see someone breaking the rules, let it go. Maybe he isn't aware of the rules, maybe she's trying her best, but it's unlikely he really is a jerk who simply enjoys getting in your way. We all make mistakes, and we all have our faults. Just smile, and apologize.

THE SUNDANCE ASSOCIATION FOR COUNTRY-WESTERN DANCING

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