



May - June 2011

# Rockin' Times

Hotline 773.467.0177 \* E-mail: [cwcjc@jitterbugchicago.com](mailto:cwcjc@jitterbugchicago.com) \* Website: [www.jitterbugchicago.com](http://www.jitterbugchicago.com)



**Joanne Kokalj**  
President

Before you know it the dance convention will be here, so see me at any one of the dances or mail a form to me for your Sweet Home Chicago ticket. We are planning another great convention for this year! If you were with us last year, then you know what a great time we had. If this is your first year then you are in for a wonderful weekend. The cost of a Sweet Home Chicago ticket for the entire weekend is \$70; this includes 4 workshops, a Hospitality room on Friday afternoon, late night buffet Friday evening, Battle of the DJs on Saturday afternoon, and dinner and our 4th of July celebration on Saturday evening. There is also a Gospel hour on Sunday morning. And of course there is continuous music and dancing all weekend.

We offer a great value at \$70 for our Sweet Home Chicago weekend ticket. By comparison, the prices of two very fine dance events this spring are in the area of \$150 for Swing Dance America – a West Coast event, and over \$200 for the Crystal Ball – a ballroom event. So you can understand why we feel that our convention is a great value at \$70 for 4 workshops, 2 meals, and loads of dancing with your friends. So don't miss out on this great weekend – buy a ticket and support our dance convention and treat yourself to this fantastic weekend!

On a different subject, I read with great interest the Cincinnati Bop Club newsletter in which there was an article about what the club is and is not, about music and responsibility and about the club's money. The article first explained how and whom started their club. I think by now all of our members are aware of how our club began, based on some of my earlier newsletter columns to which I devoted time. We also have printed up a tri-fold brochure that gives our mission statement, a brief history of our club and how to join, as well as the yearly dance schedule. If you know of someone interested in our club; please see a board member to get one of these brochures. We felt that this would be beneficial to new people so they know what type of club they are joining.

The paragraphs that interested me the most were "what we are and are not" and "music". I think everyone will agree that music is probably the most widely discussed topic of any club including ours. After reading their newsletter, I thought it might be a good idea to clarify a few things about our club. We have many newer members and perhaps even the older ones may have forgotten a few things. If you disagree with me that's fine, feel free to tell me so. Cincinnati's own words were: "We are NOT simply a dance club. This would imply that we were organized to provide a place to do all kinds of dancing, which is not the case. We're a Bop Club". Thus, their name, which is Cincinnati Bop Club. We are not simply a dance club either. We are a Jitterbug Club. We were established to promote and preserve Jitterbug, as it states in our by-laws. You can Jitterbug to many types of music, not only 50s and 60s, so please do not confuse the dance with the music. Over the years, however, we have changed our mix of music to include other types so that we can do line dances, cha-cha, and others, but the majority of our music is for Jitterbug dancing. I am not going to get into why or who or what made us change from our original 50s and 60s music, but I will say that time has a way of changing things even when you may or may not want it to.

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**Our DJs still do strive to play music from that era, but in order to maintain our membership and keep the club going, over the years both past and present board members have expanded on our music and have brought in some different types of dance. Some of the different types of dances evolved from our dance lessons program. If you expect people to take lessons from the club and pay for them, then we needed to play the music to dance to what they have learned in their lesson at least a few times throughout the evening. Our DJs are given guidelines to play, so please understand they are not just up there winging things. They try very hard to honor all of your requests, while trying to play to the guidelines that I as President never fail to remind them about. So please be understanding when you ask for requests; this is not a lounge, they are paid by the club and are given guidelines, which is part of their contract. And while we have tried to make our dances as appealing as possible to a wide range of members and guests, we are and always will be a Jitterbug club. When you join our club you should understand that this club was formed to dance to Jitterbug, which is also referred to as Bop, East Coast Swing and just plain Swing dancing, all of which imply a fast-dance that is done while the couple holds hands throughout the dance.**

**We are also NOT a singles club or a couple's-only club, we welcome both. If you should meet someone at the club, great, but that was not and is not why we are here. We also are not a couple's only club, but there are many here who have been together for years. We encourage people to ask others to dance, including encouraging our women to ask men, and believe me it's not the easiest thing to do. We have always emphasized that people be respectful of other relationships. And, I know first hand that our club members are very respectful of that.**

**We also realize that some people look at us as more than just a dance club, they look at us as a social club where they come to meet with their friends, chat and dance. We have tried to come up with interesting theme nights and dances away from the Legion Hall, including our latest road trip on the Jitterbuses, in hopes that we have something that all of our members will enjoy.**

**The Cincinnati article also talked about money, which I think I have talked about enough for now. They also talk about responsibilities, which I will get into at another time. There are many clubs out there doing different things, each club is run differently than the others; some differences are small and others very big, but we are all striving to make our club the best. I think it's great to offer different dance styles and be open to new ideas, but we also must not forget who we are, where we came from and get lost in what's new. We can all learn from other clubs, put that information together and come up with something that hopefully pleases the majority of our people without losing our identity. We have a great club here, let's not dwell on what was; what could have or should have been. Let's just enjoy what we have, because if our club went away tomorrow we all will have lost a really great thing.**

**See you at the dance,**

**Joanne**

## **CWCJC Photos**

**As always, you can view all of the latest CWCJC photos at our club's photo site:**

**<http://cwcjcphotos.shutterfly.com> .**

## CENTERSTAGE

**GET WELL WISHES TO:** Jerry Basofin, Diane Silvestri, Ken Liacone and Shelly Gross.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO:** Linda Paige and Stu White, who were married on March 21st.  
Ruth Marquez and George Graham, who were engaged in April.

**ON A SAD NOTE:** Condolences to the friends and family of Ken Anderson, who passed away in April. Ken supervised the Franklin Park American Legion for many years.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER:** Ernst Dirndorfer

**DON'T FORGET:** Visit our Web site frequently: [www.jitterbugchicago.com](http://www.jitterbugchicago.com) . Also, bookmark [www.americanbopassociation.com](http://www.americanbopassociation.com) for the latest ABA news, including cruise info. Our next meetings will be May 11th and June 8th, at the American Legion Hall beginning at 7:00pm.

## Meeting Recaps

### January

Checking 6327.79

Money Market 11878.99      Interest .50

Members: 526

New Member: Sue Sturmon

1/15 Coat Drive

### February

Checking 9668.29

Money Market \$11879.49      Interest\$ .50

Members 524

2 New Members: Roy Metoyer and Bonnie Coutee

2/05 Canceled due to snow

2/19 Voted on / passed - Volunteer/Hospitality position in lieu of Dance Director

2/19 Flash Mob dance lesson/Hockey Night : Dance lesson Profit \$34

### March

Checking 10987.06

Money Market 11879.95      Interest .46

Members: 515

3/19 Chevy Chase Swing Into Spring dance

Merchandise Sales: \$283

**MAY**

Bill Johnson .....1  
 Helen Kaye .....2  
 Danny Hosek .....3  
 Leslie Wiederhold .....3  
 Gay Essary .....4  
 John (Butch) Pocica ....4  
 Carm Scanlon .....4  
 Marilyn Jablonski .....6  
 Paul Romz .....7  
 Gerald Koppel .....8  
 Barry Bruno .....9  
 Jane Laich .....9  
 Linda Applebaum ....10  
 Beth Lopotko .....10  
 Virginia Roby .....10  
 Stanley Ryzner .....10  
 John Szuper .....10  
 Ron Untiedt .....10  
 Sybil Wijas .....11  
 Gerald Fortier .....12  
 Stephen Koncz, Jr. ....12  
 John Schwerdtfeger...12  
 Connie Gilpin .....13  
 Gloria Racanelli .....14

**MAY**

Frank Lupac .....16  
 Norm Victorson .....16  
 Jane Bade .....18  
 Anthony Brancato .....18  
 Wayne Rohr .....18  
 Vince Agriesti .....19  
 Fred Renzetti .....20  
 Ernst Dirndorfer .....21  
 Debbe Lapina .....23  
 Roxanne Klejna .....25  
 Mary Poremba .....25  
 Susie Johnson .....27  
 Norlene Pierce .....27  
 Gloria August .....28  
 Pat Ciarrocchi .....28  
 Marshall Ellenstein ...28  
 Thomas M. Jablonski ...28  
 Hal Johnson .....28  
 Virginia Douglas .....29  
 Pamela Gembicki ....29  
 Bob Parille .....29  
 Clay Voegtle .....30  
 Mary Jo Cappitelli ....31

**JUNE**

Sherri Klopfenstein ....1  
 Linda Koppel .....4  
 Gene Dombrowski .....5  
 J.A. Armour .....6  
 Scott West .....6  
 Bob Presta .....7  
 Warren Johnson .....8  
 Corrine Rupar .....9  
 Joyce D. Bien .....10  
 Patti Kamerlander ....10  
 Jim Canada .....12  
 Judy Smaida .....12  
 Kris Taylor .....12  
 Marge O'Connor .....13  
 Carole S. O'Malley ...13  
 Nora Selinger .....13  
 Susan Chiovari .....14  
 Gerry Vabros .....14  
 Brett Daniel .....15  
 Cynthia Dorian .....17

**JUNE**

Ruth Marquez .....19  
 Linda Papadopoulos ...19  
 Audrey Pijanowski ...19  
 Gene Bylina .....20  
 Gail Tatsuda .....22  
 Rici Sultan .....23  
 Mary Jo Kelly .....24  
 Lyn Alongi .....25  
 Robert poznecki .....26  
 Diane Carroll .....27  
 Sally Gregosanc .....27  
 Karen Jacobs .....27  
 Kevin Klopfenstein ...27  
 John M. Vick .....27  
 Helen Oshinski .....28  
 Jim Vahey .....28  
 Russ Lijewski .....29  
 Louis Prempas .....29  
 Joseph Cavallaro .....30  
 Douglas Clark .....30

**FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY** Your admission to the last dance of the month is **FREE**

## CJC Schedule

**All dances at Crestwood Elks**  
**May 14th Regular Dance**  
**May 28th Crazy T-Shirt**  
**June 11th Flag Day Dance**  
**June 25th Viva Las Vegas**  
[www.chicagojitterbugclub.com](http://www.chicagojitterbugclub.com)

## CDC Schedule

**May 14th Dance at Legion**  
**June 11th (Sunday) Picnic at Madison Meadows, Lombard**  
[www.dancinfriends.com](http://www.dancinfriends.com)

### MOVED?

**Contact Pat Agriesti, 2nd Vice President, at one of the club dances or at 847-824-0782**  
[patatcwcjc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patatcwcjc@sbcglobal.net)

### ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS!

**If you are unable to meet your commitment to help at one of the dances, please contact me:**  
**Ralph Dahma 224-627-0423 .Thank you all for your cooperation.**

## **CWCJC March & April Dance Reports**

**March 5th---Jitterbug Lesson  
144 Members 31 Guests 175 Total  
50-50: Mary Pat Lamberty won \$164!**

**March 19th---Swing Into Spring, Chevy Chase CC  
179 Attended Steve Koncz, Jr., won \$342!**

**April 2nd---Take Me Out To The Ballgame!  
167 Members 40 Guests 207 Total  
Bob & Mae Debeikis made hot dogs.  
50-50: Paul Romz won \$200!**

**Linda Nelligan & Vickie Chapman won Cubs & Sox tickets!**

**Friday, April 15th---SHC Sneak Preview Dance at Westin  
197 Attended, Doug Clark won \$246!  
Adele Dary won SHC weekend ticket!**

**Thanks to volunteers & dance hosts: Willie Townsend, Sr., Mary Ann Burke, Pete Margarites, Bill Kohn, Karen Krisberg, Don & Beth Lopotko, Ken Liacone, Carmella Scanlan, Gail Schwartz, Arlene Robinson, Elaine Morrison, Paul Trost, Tony Brancato, Sandy Glunz, Ray & Carol Schultz, Joe & Vickie Konewko, Pam Cress, Roberta Gerard & Midge Klein.**

## **CWCJC Election News**

**At our March, 2011 CWCJC Board Meeting Mary Pat Lamberty was unanimously appointed as Volunteer/Hospitality Director pro tem. Also, the following Board members were re-nominated for their respective positions, and since none of them were opposed, will continue to serve on the CWCJC Board of Directors for 1 more year: First Vice President Ralph Dahma, Secretary Susan Havrish & Vol./Hosp. Director Mary Pat Lamberty. The Sales Director Board position became vacant when Mary Pat Lamberty was appointed in her new position, and since nobody was nominated for the Sales Director position, shall remain vacant until next June's Election, or the Board appoints somebody for that position. At the June 4th dance, Temporary Election Chairman Joanne Kokalj will cast 1 ceremonial vote for each of the above mentioned Board Officers and Director, thus making a vote by the membership unnecessary.**

**Temporary Election Chairman Joanne Kokalj**

## **CWCJC July 28th Jitterbus Update**

**We were able to negotiate two 55 seat deluxe motorcoaches for the price of the smaller ones, which means we have about 6 or 7 seats available at this time. See or contact 1st VP Ralph Dahma at 224-627-0423 or rd12dance@aol.com to get on the bus. We won't be adding another bus after these seats are sold, but will have a waiting list available. We'd appreciate the payment of \$49 per person by our May 7th dance, or send your check, made out to CWCJC, to Ralph Dahma, 446 N. Crooked Lake Lane, Lindenhurst, IL 60046.**

## **Volunteer Party At Sweet Home Chicago!**

**We've moved the Sweet Home Chicago Volunteer Party from the Legion on June 22nd. The new date & location will be Friday, July 1st at the Westin Hotel during the convention. At around 10:45pm, right after the Late Night Buffet, we'll be having an invitation-only Champagne & Chocolate Reception for our SHC volunteers. We want to show our appreciation to all of the people who make Sweet Home Chicago possible.**

**Volunteer arrangements and schedules will be made at our 2 dances at the Legion in June, on the 4th & 18th. See any Board member if you'd like to volunteer or have any questions.**

## **2 Big Sweet Home Chicago Raffles!**

**Raffle #1: Win a 3 night stay at the 4 Star Westin in Itasca during Sweet Home Chicago. Winner also receives 3 Breakfast Buffets for 2 people at Don Shula's Restaurant! Tickets are \$5 apiece, with the winning ticket being drawn on June 4th at our regular dance at the Legion. Winner need not be present. See Mike Lapina for tickets.**

**Raffle #2: Win \$1,000 in CASH!!! 2nd Prize is \$250 in cash. Tickets are \$5 apiece, with the winning tickets being drawn on July 2nd at Sweet Home Chicago. Winners need not be present. See 1st VP Ralph Dahma or any Board member for tickets.**

**All proceeds benefit CWCJC, a not-for-profit organization.**

## **New Closing Time for Regular Dances!**

**Because most of our members and guests have been leaving our regular dances well before midnight, the Board has voted to close our regular dances at 11:30pm, effective immediately. As usual, we'll close every dance with our signature circle dance to Lee Greenwood's 'God Bless the USA'.**



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insharonce@yahoo.com

**Don't forget to sign up for the club's Official Email List!**

**Send your email info to:**

**Joanne at [pjkokalj@aol.com](mailto:pjkokalj@aol.com) .**

**CWCJC merchandise** for sale at all regular dances at the American Legion Hall from 9:00 to 9:30pm

**Club Jackets** \$70.00    **Club T-Shirts** \$12.00    **Club Polo Shirts** \$20.00    **CWCJC Pins** \$15.00    **Shoe Bags** \$30.00

**CWCJC Caps** \$12.00    **CWCJC Sweat Shirts** \$18.00    **CWCJC Throws** \$35.00

**From 2nd VP Pat Agriesti:**

Membership cards will be at the desk at the dances for two months. To receive them after two months, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

**Pat Agriesti 2232 Elmira  
Des Plaines, IL 60018.**

**Joanne Kokalj** .....President  
**Ralph Dahma** .....1st Vice President  
**Pat Agriesti** .....2nd Vice President  
**Susan Havrish** .....Secretary  
**Janet Campeotto** .....Treasurer

**Mary Pat Lamberty** .Vol./Hosp. Director  
**Bill Matthews** .....Audio-Director  
**Vacant**.....Sales Director  
**Linda Nelligan**.....Social Director



**P.O. Box 713  
Franklin Park, IL 60131**

## **CWCJC Members & Guests To-Do List**

- 1. Attend May 7th Rumba Lesson with Mike & Debbe.**
- 2. Purchase SHC Hotel & Cash Raffle tickets.**
- 3. Purchase Sweet Home Chicago tickets from Joanne.**
- 4. Wear Red, White & Blue gear on June 4th.**
- 5. Wear CWCJC club t-shirts on June 18th.**
- 6. Sign up for CWCJC E-newsletter.**
- 7. Save date for July 24th CWCJC picnic.**
- 8. Sign up for July 28th Jitterbus to Milwaukee.**
- 9. Sign up to Volunteer at SHC, so you can attend....**
- 10. Our first ever invitation-only Champagne & Chocolate reception for our volunteers at Sweet Home Chicago!**

The Mission Statement: **Chicago's Windy City Jitterbug Club** is a not-for-profit, non-charitable corporation established to provide growth and the perpetuation of Jitterbug dancing, the true expression of American vitality. The purposes of **CWCJC** are to provide a bond among its jitterbug dancers so they can travel and meet other enthusiasts of dancing; to promote and exchange steps and styling among jitterbug dancers throughout the country; and to spread and develop jitterbug dancing so that more people will be able to enjoy and appreciate it.



# Sweet Home Chicago

11<sup>th</sup> Annual Dance Party

June 30 through July 3, 2011

Westin Chicago Northwest  
400 Park Blvd., Itasca, IL 60143  
(630) 775-1549



### Top Deejays

Bud Waters - Fenton, MO  
Jane Harrington - Valrico, FL  
Bill Matthews - Chicago, IL  
Norm Oden - Chicago, IL



www.jitterbugchicago.com

### Fantastic Workshop Instructors

Phil Dorroll - West Coast Swing  
Willie & Diane Santacruz - Imperial Swing  
Gloria Medel & Randy Baustert - Jitterbug  
(East Coast Swing)  
Mike & Debbe Lapina - Ballroom Cha -Cha

### Your Weekend Ticket Includes:

- ★ Generous Hospitality
- ★ Friday - Late Night Buffet
- ★ Saturday Afternoon Battle of the Deejays
- ★ Saturday Evening Dinner Buffet
- ★ Sunday Morning Gospel Session
- ★ FREE Parking
- ★ No Competition / Over 25 Hours of Open Dancing
- ★ Free Dance Workshops
- ★ Great Dance Exhibitions
- ★ 2,800 Sq. Ft. Wood Dance Floor
- ★ Wonderful Vendors
- ★ Smoke Free Ballroom

**Ticket Price: \$70.00 if postmarked by June 4, 2011; \$80.00 thereafter. Attendees must be 21 or over.**

Event tickets may be purchased online at [www.shc-info.com](http://www.shc-info.com) and paid for through **PayPal**. Table reservations are available for the weekend with the purchase of 10 event tickets. Tickets are not refundable, but may be transferred. Contact **Joanne Kokalj** at (773) 792-8842 or email [pjkokalj@aol.com](mailto:pjkokalj@aol.com) for table reservations, ticket transfers, and/or for more info regarding the event.

Call the **Westin Chicago Northwest** for hotel reservations during regular business hours at (630) 775-1549 & ask for the reservation supervisor. Please mention **Sweet Home Chicago** to get the special room rate of **\$89.00** per night for a regular room, \$114.00 for a Junior Suite, or \$139.00 for a Deluxe Suite. These special room rates will only be honored until **June 13, 2011**. Don't delay!

Please provide a full name and address for each ticket ordered.

Ticket Price: \$70.00 if postmarked by June 4, 2011; \$80.00 if postmarked thereafter.

Order early; ticket sales are limited. Attendees must be 21 or over.

Please Print Clearly

Name(s) _____	# of Tickets _____
Address _____	Phone # _____
City, State, Zip _____	E-Mail _____
Club Affiliation _____	Amt. Enclosed \$ _____

\*\*\*\*\* Enclose an additional \$5 for a chance to win a 3 night stay at the Westin during SHC 2011 \*\*\*\*\*  
Includes 3 breakfast buffets for 2 / Raffle ticket will be mailed with your confirmation letter / Drawing will take place on June 4<sup>th</sup>; winner need not be present to win.

Make check payable to: **CWCJC** - DO NOT SEND CASH

Mail check, completed form, and a self addressed stamped envelope to:

Joanne Kokalj, 5860 N. Odell, Chicago, IL 60631

Please note that we do not mail out tickets, instead you will receive a confirmation letter.

Tickets are not refundable, but may be transferred by calling Joanne Kokalj at (773) 792-8842.

# **CWCJC Spring & Summer Schedule**

**All dances are at Franklin Park American Legion, 9757 Pacific Ave.  
Sweet Home Chicago is at the Westin Hotel, Itasca, IL  
July 24th CWCJC Picnic at Pottawatomi Park, St. Charles, IL**

## **Saturday, May 7th**

**RUMBA LESSON with Mike & Debbe!**

**Members pay \$4 for lesson with paid admission, guests pay \$5 for lesson with paid admission. Doors open at 6:45pm, lesson from 7 to 8pm, dancing from 8 til 11:30pm.**

## **Saturday, May 21st**

**MEMBERS WITH MAY BIRTHDAYS GET IN FREE!**

**Doors open at 7:45pm, dancing 8 til 11:30pm.**

## **Saturday, June 4th**

**RED, WHITE & BLUE DANCE, ELECTION**

**Wear your patriotic gear, jeans ok.**

**Doors open at 7:45pm, dancing 8 til 11:30pm.**

## **Saturday, June 18th**

**CWCJC T-SHIRT NIGHT!**

**Wear your CWCJC gear, jeans ok. MEMBERS WITH JUNE BIRTHDAYS GET IN FREE! Doors open at 7:45pm, dancing 8 til 11:30pm.**

## **June 30th to July 3rd**

**11th ANNUAL SWEET HOME CHICAGO!**

## **Saturday, July 16th**

**MEMBERS WITH JULY BIRTHDAYS GET IN FREE!**

**Doors open at 7:45pm, dancing from 8 til 11:30pm.**

## **Sunday, July 24th**

**CWCJC PICNIC AT POTTAWATOMI PARK!**

## **Thursday, July 28th**

**CWCJC JITTERBUSES TO MILWAUKEE!**

## **Saturday, August 6th**

**OPEN MEETING/REGULAR DANCE**

## **Saturday, August 20th**

**OLDIES NIGHT with Mike Hartman!**

**[www.jitterbugchicago.com](http://www.jitterbugchicago.com)**