



February 2014

Oaky-Doaks Terpsichorean

(adj: of or relating to dancing)

Oak Grove Community Club Building, 14496 Cedar Avenue, Oak Grove, OR 97267

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 30 - Thursday -- Mainstream Class *(last open class, invite someone to try dancing; or even invite them again!)*

January 31 - Friday -- P.A.C. Fifth Friday Dance at OGCC (see below)

February 1 - Saturday -- Oaky Doaks Reigning Cats and Dogs Dance (see below)

February 3 - Cheryl Hoke's Birthday

February 4 - Shirley Jones' Birthday

February 15 - Saturday -- Modern Western Square Dance

February 15 - Mary Dieter's Birthday

And... March 20 - Thursday - O.D. Membership Meeting & Elections at 6:00 pm in OGCC (see below)



JUMPING RIGHT INTO FEBRUARY

February starts right off with a special Oaky Doaks' Dance: the **Reigning Cats and Dogs Dance** on **Saturday, 2/1**. This is a chance for the Oaky Doaks and Guests to help others in our community in a very special way. It's also a chance to have fun and show the world your feelings about your cat(s) or dog(s). For fun, you can even wear something related to felines and canines. A poodle skirt? A dog-eared hat? A photo imprinted sweat shirt? But most of all...

Bring photos or short anecdotes of your beloved Furry Family members to post for the evening on our **WALL of LOVE!** Stories of our Furry Family members who bring us joy, giggles with their playful antics, smiles at their tender affections and their incredible love for us big folks.

And - bring a bag (or more) **dried cat and dog food** for donation to support our homebound seniors. Guests bringing donations will get \$1 off their dance admission. We are collecting the dried food for Ani-Meals -- the organization ensuring that those who receive home-delivered meals have food for themselves *and* for their Furry Family members (for more info, see below). We'll make piles -- and smiles -- of the food for cats and the food for dogs and see which of the two will Reign for the coming year. All in good fun and to help fill a pressing need in our community. The donations will be dropped off at the Milwaukie Center where they will be transferred to Ani-Meals. Invite your neighbors, family and friends to also contribute. Why not? It's all for a good cause.

--- Elysa Foxman

A LIFELINE FOR THE MOST ECONOMICALLY VULNERABLE SENIORS

Do you have a senior or housebound friend living alone who relies on their pet for daily companionship? If so, you know how much they treasure that contact and how important it is for their physical and mental well being. Without their pets to care for and for the companionship given in return, those seniors would often lose hope. Their pets give them a reason to get up in the morning and keep going. How difficult it can be if they can't afford to feed their pets, or choose to use their limited money to buy pet food rather than food for themselves. The Ani-meals program partners with Meals-On-Wheels to deliver pet food along with the delivered meals, thus ensuring both humans and their furry companions get a regular supply of nutritious food.

--- Robben Romano, Oaky Doaks two-step graduate and square dance Student. *[She worked for an animal rescue organization with an Ani-Meals program, so she has seen first hand what a real difference they make.]*

CLASSY

The Oaky Doaks started **Mainstream Square Dance Lessons** in January. As of press time, we've had two big classes with students of all types, occupations, and ages. There will be one more "Open Class" on Thursday 1/30. Remember that first class is free, so anyone can try with only the investment of their time and enjoyment. We've had a nice showing of Oaky Doaks *Angels*, and will always welcome additional *Angels*, too; the more *Angels* dancing with new dancers, the quicker they can learn by "doing". So come to the classes, help make an additional square or two and the mainstream lessons will be even better and better.



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DON'T FORGET -- TO END JANUARY..

... the Portland Area Council will host the **Fifth Friday Dance (1/31)** at Oak Grove Community Hall. Without going anywhere special, you can attend a special dance. Roger Putzler will be calling and Tami Helms will be cueing. A chance to dance with old friends and soon-to-be-friends from near and far.

It will be a real treat to attend dances on two consecutive evenings in the same space with different callers and cuers. That's right: the very next evening will be our First Saturday Reigning Cats & Dogs Dance (see above).

FUNDRAISER CHARIOTS

Go back in your memories to that first week in December when the temperatures were dipping ever so close to single digits – icy cold – BRRRR!!!

A few wonderfully dedicated Oaky Doaks made their way to North Portland to support the Peninsula Optimists Club's Christmas Tree Sale and in turn fundraise for the Oaky Doaks' treasury. Bonnie Ivy, Debra and Kelly Dunn, Angie Clark, Eric & I, plus (*drum roll!*) that marathoner: Keith Miles, who stayed for 3 consecutive 3 hour shifts!! Thanks for your generous spirits and warm hearts.

We can feel supported and embraced by our burgeoning "Friends of the Oaky Doaks" (not members but willing and generous supporters of our club's health). A special thank you to Aiden and Kayla Dunn (granddaughters of Debra & Kelly), Rich Clark ("First Gentleman" – who quietly helps out in the background) and Robben Romano. Each of them volunteered for a 3 hour shift on that cold Sunday. Many, **many thanks** for your willingness to give the Optimists and the Oaky Doaks a hand!

--- Elysa Foxman

FOOD DONATIONS MUCH NEEDED

We can feel proud of our efforts to collect food donations at our Hard Luck Dance. Rolls and rolls of toilet paper and paper towels; canned soups, fruits & vegetables, stews, legumes, tuna, condiments; packaged soups, sauces, bread, cake and cookie mixes, instant oatmeal, baby foods ... 6 large cardboard boxes in all.

To distribute the donated items, I sent a list to the Homebound Coordinator at the Milwaukie Center. Her reply? *"This is such a great list, thank you. ... Everything on the list we would use. Thank you for all the work you (both Oaky Doaks and Guests) have done for this. It is truly wonderful."* She was aware that the pantry of Annie Ross House* is especially low just now and suggested sharing the donated items between the two groups. It

REMINDERS:

2/1 Meeters & Greeters: Bonnie & Eugene Ivy

Kitchen Sprites: Laurie Phelan + Diane Ledoux

2/15 Meeters & Greeters: Angie Clark + Keith Miles

Kitchen Sprites: Elysa & Eric Foxman

Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 7:30 pm, at the Foxman's home: 4332 SE Logus Road, Milwaukie

All members are encouraged to attend and support the Club.

was a window into the needs of these organizations and of how they help one another. We can be grateful to be a part of their wonderful work! (*Annie Ross House helps families with children transition from homelessness.)

--- Elysa Foxman

ELECTIONS ARE COMING, AND...

We need some nominees for the Board. It may seem like the Board is quiet just now, but a lot of great things are happening and in the planning stages. It'll take some time to do them all, and your help could make the essential difference.

There aren't many requirements or expectations: attend board and general membership meetings; help with door duty (3-4 times a year); chairing special dances; and hosting occasional board meetings (1-2 times a year). One year of club membership prior to starting office in August is required for the Secretary and Members-at-Large. The other positions require two years of membership prior to assuming office.

Are you able to help out on the Board? It's a wonderful way to be involved with -- and for -- the club. Elections will take place at the March Membership Meeting; nominations can be made now. Talk with any Board member to get involved and take the Oaky Doaks the next step in its growth.

And MARK YOUR CALENDAR now ... The Oaky Doaks' **Membership Meeting and Elections** will be next month on **Thursday March 20** at 6pm in OGCC. It's right before the Mainstream Class, so after the meeting we can *Angel* our Student Dancers!

MIDWINTER'S OVER <=> SUMMER'S COMING

Are you thinking about attending the Oregon Federation Summer Festival this year? It's not as close to home as



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the last two, yet it's not too far and would make a nice weekend trip, especially at the longest day of the year.

This year's Summer Festival is being hosted in Prineville, on the other side of the Cascades over the weekend of June 20-22. That also happens to be the weekend of our usual 3rd Saturday Dance. If enough Oaky Doaks plan to go to Summer Festival, we might need to be "dark". Therefore the Board wants to ask all Oaky Doaks members if they *might* go to Prineville for Summer Festival, so the club can make plans that reflect our members' wishes. If you're thinking about going, let me know and I can compile the information. We'll also talk about this at the March membership meeting.

But wouldn't it be cool if we made it a club visitation and the Oaky Doaks showed up in force? Heck, we might even win an award for most members, or biggest percentage. But only if the club members *want to go*. So think about it and let me know your thoughts.

--- Eric L. Foxman

FUNDRAISING POSSIBILITIES

The Peninsula Optimist Club really appreciates our participation and enthusiasm in their Christmas Tree Sale event; they raised a record amount of money, which will help lots of different youth, sports, and other groups in the coming year. As of press time, a check for our efforts had not yet arrived, but it will make a big difference in the Oaky Doaks' finances.

The P.O.C. has invited the Oaky Doaks to participate in their other major fundraising event: they will be selling fireworks at the end of June and beginning of July. They will have 3 locations, thus there could be plenty of opportunities for Oaky Doaks to sign up and help. It will also be easier: all items for sale will be much smaller and lighter than Christmas trees of any size, and the weather *should* be much warmer at that time of year! The sign-up

schedule won't be available for a couple of months, but it's not too early to be thinking about how you can help the Oaky Doaks make this another worthwhile fundraiser activity for the club.

The Board is also discussing whether to plan a fundraiser yard sale in 2014. Last July's efforts were rewarded with much less for the club treasury than in previous years. It has been suggested that the club not hold a yard sale each and every year. Before any decision is made, the Board would like YOUR feedback. Especially to know if you have 'worthwhile junk' that would help make a yard sale a success for the club. Please keep your eyes open around your home for possible items. Come prepared with your input to the Membership Meeting, so we can talk about this and end up planning appropriately.

WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT FEB 7, 2014?

Yes... it doesn't have much to do with dancing, but **Friday, 2/7** is **Wave All Your Fingers at Your Neighbor Day**. It's the perfect opportunity to greet your neighbor with a big wave. But, to show your respect and appreciation on this very important day, you must wave with all of your fingers! Without a doubt, this day was created to put a smile on your, and your neighbors' face. It's intent is to be friendly and create better relations. Think of the term "Neighbor" broadly. Go out and greet *everyone* today with a big five finger wave. P.S. Don't forget to include a big, bright smile on your face!

REMINDER: KITCHEN SPRITE SCHEDULE

Here is the updated Kitchen Sprites schedule. **Be sure to make note of when you are responsible for helping out.**

2/1 Laurie P & Diane L	2/15 Elysa & Eric F
3/1 Debra & Kelly D	3/15 Ken M & Mary Sch.
4/5 Connie & Chris S	4/19 ??
5/3 Larry & Susie W	5/17 + beyond: TBD

OAKY DOAKS OFFICERS FOR 2013-2014

Pres: Angie Clark	503-830-4527
Past Pres: Bonnie & Eugene Ivy	503-289-0889
1st VP: Keith Miles	503-310-5672
2nd VP: Debra & Kelly Dunn	503-313-9571
Sec: Elysa (Eric) Foxman	503-659-2715
Treas: Chris & Karen Suran	503-658-5011
Members @ Large:	
Connie Rodgers	503-544-5170
Mary Schneider	503-949-9904
Newsletter: Foxman	rohirrim@mymacmail.com

Newsletter Deadline: 25th of month preceding.

OAKY DOAKS NEWSLETTER
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