

# Corvallis Belly Dance Performance Guild

Newsletter-January 2009

Editor: Carol Small

## **Guild Meetings:**

### **4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month**

Next scheduled monthly meeting is February 26 in the basement of the Art Center. A program with Shellece showing how to make tassels begins at 7pm with our meeting beginning at 8pm.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

**February 6:** Platinum presents Astryd and Janikea. On 4<sup>th</sup> in downtown Corvallis.

**February 20:** MEDGE's monthly performance offers its Annual Alternative Night at Cozmic Pizza on 8<sup>th</sup> and Charnelton in Eugene. Featured dancers are the Bijou Project. Suggested donation is \$5. More info at HYPERLINK "<http://www.medge.org>" [www.medge.org](http://www.medge.org).

**February 21:** Mezdulene's Mystical Tribal Oasis Festival. Workshop with Gypsy Fire, dance festival and evening show with Americanistan. More info at HYPERLINK "<http://www.mezdulene@mezdulene.com>" [www.mezdulene@mezdulene.com](http://www.mezdulene@mezdulene.com).

**February 26:** CBDPG's monthly meeting in the basement of the Art Center. Program with Shellece teaching tassel making starts at 7pm with the meeting to follow at 8pm.

**March 6, 7, & 8:** Zephyr and Hip Trip Studio presents 'Reigning Down on Oregon.' Workshops and hafla including guests Sabine, Unmata, Dahlia, and Leslie along with local performers in Salem. For more info, check out 'Reigning Down on Oregon' on HYPERLINK "<http://www.tribe.net>" [www.tribe.net](http://www.tribe.net).

**April 16-18:** MEDGE presents Amel Tafsout. Workshops and performance at MEDGE's monthly show. For details check out

HYPERLINK "<http://www.medge.org>" [www.medge.org](http://www.medge.org).

**April 23:** CBDPG meeting at 8pm.

**April 24-26:** Saqra's Showcase at the Washington Co. Fair Complex, Hillsboro. Workshops, dancing, vendors. Sign-up for dancers begins February 1. More info at HYPERLINK "<http://www.saqra.net>" [www.saqra.net](http://www.saqra.net).

## **KUDOS**

Many thanks to Kelly Thurman, Colleen Jess, Tracy Scramstad, Tia Knight, Carol Small, Siobhan, Veronica Sims, Karen Randall, and Kathy Forrester with Tribalation and Kathy's student troupe Asafra from Eugene for dancing at the Old World Deli for the month of January. Also, thanks to Chas Hayden for announcing this month.

## **Volunteer Ops**

- Volunteer for the student show/hafla. Even a small part will be hugely helpful. Please

contact Samantha at HYPERLINK "mailto:ssied@hotmail.com" [ssied@hotmail.com](mailto:ssied@hotmail.com). Any feedback would be extremely helpful as well.

-Any ideas for possible workshops can be submitted to Samantha at HYPERLINK "mailto:ssied@hotmail.com" [ssied@hotmail.com](mailto:ssied@hotmail.com)

-Send any newsletter ideas to HYPERLINK "mailto:cbsmall@proaxis.com" [cbsmall@proaxis.com](mailto:cbsmall@proaxis.com)

#### CORVALLIS BELLY DANCE PERFORMANCE GUILD Meeting January 22, 2009

**ATTENDANCE:** Carol Flamez, Carol Small, Karen Randall, Shellece Millison, Veronica Sims, Tia Knight, Roxanne Hastings, Tina Empol.

**MEETING BROUGHT TO ORDER:** 8:12p.m.

**APPROVAL OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES:** November minutes were approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Checking \$959.08.

Savings \$2000.00

#### **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Auditions:** None.

**Library:** Doing fine.

**Membership:** No one new.

**Newsletter:** All fine. Looking for any suggestions.

**Monthly Program:** Shellece will be doing a program in February showing how to make tassels. Do we bring our own yarn? If so, it's better to use up bits and pieces while you're learning.

**Outside Events:** Carol Small has been in contact with Rebecca and the Corvallis Farmer's Market to solicit performance times over the summer. Also, Siobhan will be holding another benefit at the 2<sup>nd</sup> St Beanery on April 4. Call her at 760-8590 to reserve your dance spot.

**Website:** The website needs some updating. Instructors need to keep Brian informed about current class schedules.

**Workshop:** How about members donating an hour of their time to do single hour workshops for other members?

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The student showcase/hafla and workshops were discussed more thoroughly. While March had been discussed as the likely month for this event, it was agreed that April would be better for teachers and students and because the date previously discussed falls on the date for a tribal fusion festival in Salem. It was suggested to charge a suggested donation of \$5 for the showcase. We are looking at charging \$15 for members and \$25 for non-members for the workshops. We have 2 volunteer instructors. We talked about getting Sean Grant to teach a stage make-up class a week prior to the showcase. It was also thought that if he is unavailable, we could tap a local theatre make-up person. A motion to allow students first choice of dancing was put forward by Tina and seconded by Veronica. Motion passed. Discussion about day for the event was discussed and whether we wanted to do both workshop and dance event on the same day. Although this is still in discussion and depends on instructor availability, it was thought the hafla/show would occur on Saturday night with the workshops Sunday afternoon. Publicity was discussed and about how to do that. Erica McKay has expressed an interest in making card invitations. A few meeting attendees said they would help with this. The possibility of allowing vending was discussed with charging \$20 a table for members and \$40 for non-members. We need to check with Ted. We'll need volunteers for this event and a sign-up sheet will circulate at February's meeting and at the Deli. A raffle possibility was discussed with even selling tickets at the Deli at Wednesday show. If anyone would like to donate belly dance-like items, please let Samantha Sied know. We are assuming costs for all this will be minimal. The big cost will be in volunteer power since performance and workshop venues seem to be free. The choices for workshop topics are as follows:

Melaya Leff – A fun, sassy Alexandrian Egyptian theatrical folkloric dance style using a large shawl or wrap as a prop. Very fun and unusual in the local dance scene.

Improvisation with Baladi and Taqasim – similar to what Jani introduced at the guild program this past fall but building on the concept of improvising and interpreting music.

Four yard veil – Beautiful and not as hard as it sounds according to Jani.

A short fun drum solo choreography.

Andalusian Dance – A lovely old style with North African and Spanish influences.

A short, fun modern Egyptian troupe dance choreography.

Please let us know what you think of these workshop topics.

Aside from this hafla , an old item that got re-visited was the gentle reminder to dancers at the Deli, apparel shouldn't go 6" above the knee. We love your costumes but rules are rules. We don't want to see anyone get embarrassed - dancer or viewer.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Tina Empol got an offer of live music from 3 amateur musicians who play Middle Eastern music. She will be trying to get that opportunity locked in.

Tina Empol also has talked to a Portland band named Al-Arwaha (I think) who have 2 members who would like to journey down to the Deli on the occasional Wednesday night to play music for the dancers. They would charge \$60 to cover gas and that was approved. Since lots of dancers love to dance to live music, a motion was made by Tina and seconded by Tia that the dancing line-up would first be offered to those dancers who have never danced to live music (our stage is a learning tool, after all). The motion passed. With a limit of 8 dancers it was decided that if not all 8 spots got filled, the remaining spots would be filled through a random drawing of interested dancers. It sounds like the duet may like to come more than once so there may be ample opportunity for those live-music- lover dancers.

**MEETING ADJOURNED 9:31pm**

**2009 CBDPG Executive Committee**

**Carol Small, Treasurer**

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