

FUN IN THE SUN 10th ANNIVERSARY REPORT, 2014

Well, another great weekend in Orlando with friends, that beautiful pool, great hotel, wonderful floors, old-and-new friends, happy hellos and sad goodbyes, wonderful instructors, amazing dances, excellent show (and they practiced a lot for the show. I don't know if people realize how much they put into doing these shows but it's a LOT!!) Great job writing the show, Rachael, and being everywhere at once, as you always are. To get people out of the ballrooms at the end of the day for more practice, Rachael would sing her "GET OUT!" song and we should all encourage her to keep her regular job. She also found a couple of really talented kids at some theme park one day and invited them to come and they were really amazing little dancers and singers. I forgot their names but someone will write about it. You can also order the weekend videos with all the dances and the show if you would like. Write to info@FloridaFunInSun.com for more info. Thanks to the DJs (Louie St. George, JP Potter, and Olivia). I heard great things about Olivia and how she kept that room hopping and JP and Louie were doing the same thing in the main ballroom. The staff, as always, is family by this time and they have fun while getting everything done on time. Jen's amazing organization makes the event run like clockwork and she has things done ahead of time so she can have fun, also. The 50/50 raffle (\$460) is always a hit and there were a bunch of event passes given away as part of the prizes: FUN IN THE SUN, LINE DANCE MARATHON, TAMPA BAY LINE DANCE CLASSIC, FT. WAYNE, WINDY CITY, BIG BANG, DISNEY PASSES, THE EXPERIENCE SAN FRANCISCO. When the chosen number was called, the winner could choose the prize. Nice, huh?

There was a basket raffle that Zachary did to help pay his way to compete in the Gay Games in Cleveland. Someone said there are like a thousand competitors. If you want to donate, just contact Zac and I'm sure it will be appreciated.

Guyton did another wonderful puppet to help the Cancer Society drive this year. It was adorable, as always.

A couple of new additions this year were the really nice drinking cups that were handed out to everyone who preregistered. I thought that was a nice touch and I always forget to bring mine, so I REALLY appreciated it this year.

Another addition this year was the kids' classes. They were taught by Lorenzo Golo Evans, Fred Whitehouse, and Guyton Mundy. The kids just look at those three like they are supermen (which they are, of course) but you can just see the admiration in their eyes when they are around them. I watched the classes or parts of them and the kids were truly amazing and worked so hard. They got to be in the show on Saturday night with Guyton and they did such a wonderful job and were so proud of themselves that they just glowed. They had a pizza party for the kids on Saturday night during dinner so the parents/grandparents could enjoy dinner without worrying about the kids. I hope this will catch on around the country because we certainly need new young people in line dance and that is a great way to introduce them to line dancing and to meet friends. I know Vanessa Poole is already planning to come next year and meet up with someone she became friends with this year. I hope



many of you will take advantage of the opportunity and bring your kids/grandkids the next time it is offered.

Now for the Dances. I asked people to send in their picks because there is no way I can do them all and just putting a little note by them during the demos just doesn't do them justice. I frankly think there were NO BAD DANCES this weekend. Every one I saw, I either wanted to take or thought of classes that would want to do them. I'm going to add some notes from other people with their picks of the weekend so you can get a broader perspective than just meeeeeeeeee. The ones that stood out for me from either taking them, watching the demos, or just watching how many people were doing them on the floor were (some of the videos I found and some I used from Bracken's report below and Stacy gathered a bunch of videos with a link at the bottom of this report). Thanks, Stacy and Bracken.

OFF THE CHAIN by Fred Whitehouse. This was one of the hits of the weekend for me. It's fun, it's peppy, it's fast, and it's really not difficult. I think this is going to be a huge hit. video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=cwV0DPRhlyQ

UNSTEADY, by Guyton Mundy. Guyton and Fred demoed this dance and it was amazing to watch them. Class was full. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qiq0eDz5wUg

DOWN TO THE RIVER, taught by Linda McCormack. This is another of my top picks from the weekend. I just love it. http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=lchpnwt17-Q

GET MY NAME, by Guyton Mundy and Will Craig. This dance is already a hit and will be done for the foreseeable future so if you haven't learned it yet, you should. I like it a lot. http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/get-my-name-ID98379.aspx

STL NO LIMIT, taught by Lorenzo Golo Evans. I had learned this in Boston and it is absolutely just a fun, fun dance.

http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=9IIf1uOoLBg

SUICIDE WALTZ, by Niels Poulsen. Beautiful, challenging dance. I took this lesson and really like the dance. It's probably not a one-teach dance but worth the effort. http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=FyFZ3Ra7Ra8

JUST ONE REASON, by Niels Poulsen (it was great having him there this year, by the way.) I have loved this dance since I first saw it. The dance isn't difficult but the timing is something that you have to hear and have to do the dance a few times to really feel it. http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=fsx0X9lp1YY

WALKING ON AIR, by Simon Ward, taught by Marilyn McNeal. This is going to be another hit for



Simon.

http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/walking-on-air-ID98667.aspx

WON'T YOU STAY, by Joey Warren, taught by Zachary Detweiller. Beautiful dance. I really want to learn this one.

http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/wont-you-stay-ID98124.aspx

LONG LIVE ROCK N' ROLL by Fred Whitehouse. Another hit in the making. http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/long-live-rock-n-roll-ID98668.aspx

SO FEISTY, by Scott Blevins. I didn't learn this yet but people loved it. http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/so-feisty-ID98616.aspx

SEVENTEEN, taught by Marilyn McNeal. This has been around a little while and it fills the floor. http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/seventeen-ID97799.aspx

YOU AND ME, Scott Blevins. Dance is by Darren Bailey. I really liked this NC2. He taught it in the beginner room and it didn't look very difficult. I thought it was a really good dance. http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/you-and-me-ID98841.aspx

AK FREAK by Rachael McEnaney and others. This one was a huge class and a really funky, fun dance.

http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/ak-freak-ID98952.aspx

GET IT BAE, by Will Craig. I really like this dance. I was too tired to take the class but someone is teaching it in our class so I will learn it. http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/get-it-bae-ID98530.aspx

LET HER DOWN EASY, by Rachael McEnaney. This was taught on Sunday morning and I left early but it looked really good in the demo and people were telling me how much they liked it. http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/let-her-down-easy-ID97822.aspx

THANKFUL, by Fred Whitehouse. This was another Sunday dance that Liz told me she really loved so I'm sure we will be doing it in our class. http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=GfthHDSWmb0

SCARLET DEVIL, by John Robinson and Junior Willis. I took this class awhile ago and really like this dance.

http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/scarlet-devil-ID97303.aspx

KEEP ME ALIVE taught by Sandy Albano. Great music that reminded me of After Party music and a really smooth dance.



http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/keep-me-alive-ID98910.aspx

I CAN MAKE YA, by Guyton Mundy and Fred Whitehouse. This was a really cool dance and I don't think there are any videos yet. Watch for it.

We had a great weekend and I can't wait to do it again next year. Thanks so much, Jen and Jason, for an amazing weekend!! Mark your calendar for next year and come dance with us in Florida.

PS: Stacy gathered many videos from the event at this link: https://www.dropbox.com/s/ua0uw8j17in6vyl/2014-fits-videos.pdf

Thanks, everyone for sending in your notes about the event. Keep them coming!! If you are on Facebook, there are lots and lots of notes and pictures from the weekend shared on my page (Carol Cummings Craven)

Carol Craven

NOTES FROM OTHER DANCERS:

From: Bracken Potter (bracken@moveinline.com)

Thank you Jen Cameron and Jason Cameron for a fantastic 10th year of Fun In The Sun (FITS)! It is always a pleasure for me to be on staff for this event. I absolutely love it!

After arriving a day early this time, JP and I were able to have some relaxing pool time with lovely conversation with Wendie Smith and Dee Dee Maynard of the Wild Roses. :)

The outstanding event staff brought great dances this year. I liked ALL the lessons I took (and I remember most of them!).

For me, Friday was JUST ONE REASON with Niels, OFF THE CHAIN with Fred, STL NO LIMIT with Lorenzo, MMM YEAH with Rachael, and then THINKING OUT LOUD for my teach.

Here are some links (all links are from my mobile device - Hope they come through for y'all):

JUST ONE REASON (intermediate/advanced) 48 counts, 4 walls

sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/just-one-reason-ID97836.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=fsx0X9lp1YY

OFF THE CHAIN (intermediate/advanced)

Phrased, 2 walls

sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/off-the-chain-ID98749.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=cwV0DPRhIyQ

STL NO LIMIT (intermediate) 96 counts, Intro and tag, 1 wall



sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/stl-no-limit-ID98233.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=9IIf1uOoLBg

MMM YEAH (intermediate/advanced) 64 counts, 2 walls sheet: http://dancewithrachael.com/Dance_with_Rachael_McEnaney/Dances_files/Mmm%20Yeah_1.pdf video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=9zYQRzpjUqc

THINKING OUT LOUD (intermediate)

32 counts, tag, 2 walls sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/thinking-out-loud-ID98972.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=OoKwZHIBXRI

Friday evening brought demos - thank you so much to Larry and Tracy Harmon for doing the demo of SING with me. Y'all are awesome. :) and Friday night I had a blast dancing to music from JP Potter until my legs were jelly and I couldn't feel my feet.

I didn't get much sleep Friday night but I was still up in time for Jamie Marshall leading Zumba. I did a very very low key version, knowing the day I had in store... First up for me was Klara's DOWN TO THE RIVER with Linda, then SUICIDE WALTZ with Niels. I missed Fred's lesson on ME U AND THE MUSIC as my brain needed to reset before I taught SING (and THINKING OUT LOUD again). My beginner lessons this year were BACK PORCH and LOVE SIMPLY RUNS OUT - both of which are more high beginner/low intermediate level. The class tackled them beautifully so I had time to give them an ULTRA BEGINNER lesson of TIMBER by Vivienne Scott. Here are more links:

DOWN TO THE RIVER (intermediate/advanced)

64 counts, restarts, 2 walls

sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/down-to-the-river-ID98077.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Ichpnwt17-Q SUICIDE WALTZ (intermediate/advanced) 96 counts, restarts/tag, 2 walls sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/suicide-waltz-ID98652.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=FyFZ3Ra7Ra8

ME U AND THE MUSIC (intermediate/advanced) 64 counts, restarts and tag, 4 walls sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/me-u-and-the-music-ID96310.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=bNXvbIH6S04

SING (intermediate) 32 counts, 4 walls



sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/sing-ID98971.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=juAHdbcVRuY

BACK PORCH (low intermediate) 32 counts, 1 restart, 4 walls sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/back-porch-ID96982.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=oEHkFFjUZDA (music at 2:13)

LOVE SIMPLY RUNS OUT (beginner) 48 counts, tag, 4 walls sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/love-simply-runs-out-ID98602.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=OwxJkKvQefY

TIMBER (ultra beginner) 32 counts, 4 walls sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/timber-ID95898.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=KfdXuzmRnoc

Saturday night brought the event dinner (lovely as always eating with new dance family!) and the show (created by Rachael, props by Guyton, and loads of effort by the entire instructor staff plus Vicky St. Pierre and Mandi Staley and the KIDS!).

Sunday I was up early again, not for Zumba this time, but for YOUNG VOLCANOES and THANKFUL with Fred. Then I joined in on Zac Detweiller's lesson on JP Potter's classic EVERLAST. And more links:

YOUNG VOLCANOES (intermediate) 32 counts, 2 walls sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/young-volcanoes-ID94749.aspx

THANKFUL (intermediate) 48 counts, 2 walls, restarts, tag sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/thankful-ID96813.aspx video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=GfthHDSWmb0

EVERLAST (intermediate) 32 counts, tag, 4 walls sheet: http://www.copperknob.co.uk/stepsheets/everlast-ID55999.aspx (Note - start 32 counts after the vocals)

The event ends with dancing the floor away... I only stayed until I had danced my feet off which didn't take too much. By others' requests, Louis St George played SING, THINKING OUT LOUD, and UNDER YOUR SPELL during open dance. I attempted Suicide Waltz, Off the Chain, Just One



Reason, and Down to the River and I was done. Feet sore, legs tight, but face smiling after seeing so many of my dance family and having a fantastic weekend. :)

Just two more dances I want to mention - beginner ones that I liked and hadn't seen before - MOVING HIPS (taught by Frank Trace) and LET'S HAVE A PARTY (taught by Rachael). Last set of links:

MOVING HIPS (beginner) 32 counts, 4 walls sheet: http://www.franktrace.com/ss/moving_hips.pdf

LET'S HAVE A PARTY (improver) 64 counts, 4 walls sheet: http://dancewithrachael.com/Dance_with_Rachael_McEnaney/Dances_files/Let%27s%20Have%20A %20Party_1.pdf video: http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=LwhXFXVO3hI

If you haven't yet made it to FITS you are missing a wonderful event and experience. I hope to see all of you next time I'm in Florida!

- Bracken Potter www.moveinline.com

SUBJECT: FITS FROM: HELEN WALKER FITS 2014 from Helen A.Walker dancer 29046@yahoo.com

Hey Carol,

First time to Fun In The Sun and hopefully many to follow! Just wanted to send you a quick note, saw you in passing many times but never at an opportune moment to chat! What an outstanding event placed at a great hotel. Loved seeing everyone again, fun selection of dances and instructors. Particularly enjoyed Off The Chain taught by Fred Whitehouse.

STL No Limit taught by Lorenzo Evans.

OMG! This Is My Song from Larry Bass

Cha Cha Burn from Scott Blevins

Won't You Stay taught by Zachary Detweiller

Mama Jama Boogie from Linda McCormack

So many great dances, classes and instructors, wish I could have been everywhere at once with an infinite capacity to retain all the new dances! Great open dancing in both ballrooms each night. Dinner with the instructors was a nice touch and lots of fun. The Chitty Chitty Bang Bang themed show was incredible, very creative and beautifully put together, the cast and crew were fantastic of course! It was



also great to see some of our up and coming talented youngsters dancing and I'm sure being taught by Guyton, Lorenzo and Fred was fun, wish I'd have had opportunities like that as a kid!

Hugs Helen x

SUBJECT: BEGINNER ROOM AT FITS

A NOTE TO EVENT ORGANIZERS: I spend most of my time in the intermediate classes as well as on the intermediate dance floor at night. But I do like to go into the beginner room to relax and take a break! One thing that I have noticed is that not as much attention (if any) gets paid to decorating the beginner room for the dance on Friday and Saturday night!! The lights are bright and it just doesn't seem to feel like a party atmosphere like what we experience in the intermediate room. I was so very pleased; however, that the beginners got the opportunity to experience the "well-known" instructors at FITS! Kudos to the organizers for doing that!! They pay the SAME amount to attend the workshop but seem to not get the same level of attention. I also wish there was another term to be used for "beginner" as most of the dancers who attend these classes are NOT beginners but just those dancers who do not want the stress of the more challenging dancers.

Vickie Schermbeck dancejunkie71@yahoo.com

SUBJECT: FITS

In response to your request for feedback on FITS, here are my favorite dances:

Down To the River (Linda McCormack was delightful and such a beautiful dancer)

You And Me

Suicide Waltz (but I need a GPS to help me find my wall!)

Cha Cha Burn

STL No Limit (also did Lorenzo's soul beginner workshop and enjoyed it - not the type of dance I would usually do, but FUN!)

Thankful (A beautiful waltz, easier than Suicide Waltz but plenty "meaty." Fred Whitehouse is a keeper!)

Scarlet Devil (A great dance that I had done before but John and Junior had a lot to offer in the way of technique. Their vanilla vs no holds- barred- style demo was hilarious!)

I did not have the energy to do Get It Bae but loved watching it and hope to learn it too. Karen Craiglow

Subject: FITS favorite dances

From: Egc123@aol.com

OK this is a LONG LIST of favorites! It's fortunate I learned some at FloriDance and Marathon or I'd have no brain cells left!

Off the Chain (Fred Whitehouse) Mmm Yeah (Rachael/Joey/Roy) Get My Name (Guyton/Will)



Thinking Out Loud (Bracken Ellis Potter) So Feisty (Scott Blevins/Tajali Hall) Won't You Stay (Joey Warren) Unsteady (Guyton Mundy) Suicide Waltz (Niels/Joey/Debbie) Me U and the Music (Fred Whitehouse & Darren Bailey) No Goodbyes (Scott Blevins/Nicola Lafferty) AK Freak (Rachael/Guyton) Let Her Down Easy (Rachael) Get It Bae (Will/Joey/Linda) I Can Be (Linda McCormack) Not a Bad Thing (Will Craig/Holly Easom) Cha Cha Burn (Scott Blevins/Jo Thompson Szymanski) Scarlet Devil (John Robinson & Junior Willis)

WHEW!!!

SUBJECT: FUN IN THE SUN FROM: LINDY BOWERS

I was honored again this year to teach at the FITS event. While I teach all levels of dance in my classes, I love to teach in the beginner room at FITS because I have a special place in my heart for beginners. That said, I don't think REAL beginners really come to these events till they are a bit more experienced.....maybe improver level. :-) Note to beginners: NO ONE is watching your feet, they are all too worried about what their own feet are doing. lol I taught 4 dances. Dressed To Kill is a great little dance to a Cher track, choreographed by Craig Bennett. Everyone got it! I know this because when I teach I DO watch feet to make sure. lol In that same time frame I also taught Cheap Talk by Gaye Teather. It goes to Talk Is Cheap by Alan Jackson and while it is a longer dance, there are enough repeats, that it doesn't seem longer. I was thrilled to pieces that people actually came to my Sunday class since it was the last teach of the event and Guyton was teaching at the same time. :-) I taught The Small Story, by Craig Bennett (who also choreographed the longer version "The Story Of My Life". This little dance is perfect for beginners because it is a great floor split with the longer one and many of the intermediates like this one better too. The other one I taught on Sun. was the only one with a restart and it is guite easy to hear and happens only once. It's called American Kids, and is my choreography to the track by Kenny Chesney. Seems there are lots of dances being choreographed to that song, so I hope you are doing one of them. :-) I spent some time in the beginner room in the evenings, where if needed, Olivia would tap some instructor to pitch in and do a 'reminder wall'. There were several good beginner level dances this year. AND there were plenty of intermediate dancers spending a lot of dance time in that room too.....all of us have fun doing dances we can do without our feet having to think so hard! Maybe we should change the name of that room to "The E Z Does It" or maybe "The Happy Feet" room.????

I LOVE this event because it is like a giant family reunion,where you actually LIKE the family!!!



Rachael does an AMAZING job with the show and choreography and is so very sweet to include everyone in the show.

Many thanks to Jen and Jason for making this event bigger and better every year.....wow 10 years already?!

LET'S DANCE Lindy lindysdancelines@gmail.com www.lindysdancelines.jimdo.com

SUBJECT: FITS FROM: DEB CARPENTER

I knew several before I went so didn't necessarily take the workshops for everything but I thought the schedule had lots of good stuff on it.

New for me: Off the Chain Me U and the Music I Can Make Ya (my pick of the weekend) Unsteady Keep Me Alive

Wished I could have taken: Just One Reason

Current favorites that were taught (and members of my class were glad to have the teach from the choreographers) ::

AK Freak Mmm Yeah Get My Name So Feisty Let Her Down Easy

I was glad to have another teach for: No Goodbyes Can't Handel Me.