



NEWSLETTER

The Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, Inc.

57 Raceland Street, Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

116120

Volume III, Number 3

Election R

Our Spring elections resulted in a fine new slate of officers and Board of Directors:

President: Honey Hastings

First Vice-President: Joe Tierney

Second Vice-President: Cindy Nasrallah

Secretary: Francis Worrell

Treasurer: Dale Thomas

Regular Members: Sam Alexander

Cindy Green

Susan Stix

Chris Walker

Louise Winston

Arthur Ferguson*

Ex-Officio: George Fogg*

(*by Board Appointment, see report)

Also, George Fogg, nominated by the Boston Centre, was elected to the National Council of the Country Dance Society as one of six Center Representatives.

Report from the Board of Directors

Much of the time at the May, June, and July Board Meetings was spent on plans for the 1978-79 season. Final details were set for the Fourth of July, Labor Day, and Cardigan Weekends.

At the May meeting the Board voted to extend the special members' admission rate at Tuesday and Wednesday dances to members of other centers and of national CDSS who do not live in the Boston area. We set up an Executive Committee, as authorized in the Bylaws, consisting of the five officers.

In June, Gayle Hannah was appointed newsletter editor. George Fogg, our representative to CDSS National Council, was named a non-voting ex-officio member of the Board. We also confirmed the policy of granting one free dance pass for an evening of volunteer work as cashier.

The Board voted in July to appoint Arthur Ferguson to fill the Board seat vacated by Donna Hinds. We established a "policy on approval of printed matter" that drafts

being distributed to the member-eral public be read and approved by two Board members before printing. Also we decided that admission to the Morris and Sword classes (except for the series welcoming beginners) be by series fee only.

During the summer a series of meetings was held with the teachers, callers, musicians, administrators to discuss plans for fall. Each meeting was characterized by frank exchange of suggestions and problems and we expect that the resulting understanding between the individuals responsible for Tuesday and Wednesday will be of great benefit to the Centre. Honey C. Hastings

Reports on Recent Events

Boston Centre CDS July 4th Weekend
(by Gayle Durham Hannah)

Though we want to have various members write reports and reviews of this nature, I took this opportunity to write about the July Fourth Weekend. My impressions are mainly personal ones, supplemented by comments from others, including both experienced and inexperienced campers at Pinewoods.

This was my first planned recreation period spent at Pinewoods, though I'd been on a couple of rewarding work weekends that included fine fellowship and spontaneous American, English and Scottish Country Dancing. The most complete thing I can say about it is that I've never had a better time!

For the most part, I chose to focus my energies on daytime dance activities and let evening parties take a secondary role. I'm a beginner in ritual dancing and I wanted both to enjoy social dancing and get a feel for Morris, Longsword, and Rapper Sword dancing. This meant an incredibly active schedule on my feet that began at 9 A.M. and ended sometime in the middle or near the end of the evening dance, whenever I wound down too much to go on. By the third day I felt

Editor's Note: The Newsletter, Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, Inc. is published quarterly and sent to members of the Boston Centre and other interested persons. Views expressed in signed articles represent the author's opinions. While we plan to inform members about Board policies and opinions, we also plan to print independent viewpoints expressed by members. Those who wish to contribute letters, articles, reviews of music and printed materials as well as events of interest to Boston Centre CDS members are encouraged to send material to the editor. Contributions should be sent with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Gayle Durham Hannah, c/o Boston Centre, Country Dance Society, 57 Roseland Street, Somerville, Massachusetts 02143. We also welcome comments on the Newsletter and personal news about members (births, marriages, and the like).

as if my legs were going to fall off at the knee, but the fourth and fifth days were great; endurance was setting in.

It was wonderful to start the day with white hankies and Shag Graetz in C#, take a break for contras and squares, then continue with classes in English country dance. I moved from one class to another, largely because there were specific things I knew I needed to work on. One of these was the rant step, which I'd been making a desperate attempt to pick up without instruction all year (the effort had been largely unsuccessful). It was with delight that I found Helene Cornelius working on the Morpeth Rant the first day I attended her class. I don't hold her responsible for the quality of my ranting but I feel that at least I know what it is I ought to be doing as I move through the figure. One evening we did the Morpeth Rant in C# and I don't know exactly what happened, but someone stepped on my left big toe and I missed a complete measure of music! By wearing sandals I managed to get through the rest of the evening and weekend. Although I still have my purple "Morpeth Rant Toenail" I've actually done it since then, following the psychology of riders who get back on their horses after being thrown.

Sword dancing with Sue Salmon was great, once I got over being #1 in my set (as well as managing to pass this honor on to another member at an appropriate time). By the time I got through with Chris Walker's Beginning Rapper class at 5:30 P.M. I was hooked. Each day my Rapper group retired to Bampton for post-Rapper refreshment that saw us through the first part of the evening dance. The climax of that experience was probably the last day when Chris put us through our paces while Andy Woolf played Beethoven's Ninth. A greater combination of concentration, teamwork and hilarity I've never known.

While I enjoyed these beginning classes, and really felt as if I were doing something like ritual dancing at the end of the five days, others commented on how nice it was to be able to take advanced classes in these

areas. It was terrific to be able to exchange dances and experiences with people from New York and Maine, particularly. Some commented on the need to have more clearly differentiated classes in English Country Dance, and, having observed all three, I'd certainly agree. A steadier concentration on style and technique was another emphasis strongly suggested.

Ed Durham's calling of Southern Squares was a relaxed and fun part of the day for many of us. Some of us just couldn't resist doing them, even when we intended to rest.

With my schedule it was really almost impossible to take advantage of Tony Saletan's fine singing sessions. I did drop in on a couple of the afternoon sessions and saw people really enjoying Tony's relaxed leadership. I heard a lot of appreciative comments.

Not to let the hard work pass unnoticed: we all appreciated the effort that went into organizing activities and housing and carrying out the plans. Thanks a million to Chris Walker, Louise Winston, and all the teachers and musicians, and to Gerda Conant and the crew.

When I attended the CDS/NEFFA dance at the First Congregational Church on July fifth and found that half the people there had been at Pinewoods, I knew I was part of an annual phenomenon: It can't be over.

Dancing in Deerfield- Summer 1978

Boston Centre Dance leader Helene Cornelius is one of four teachers participating in an eight-week series of early American and English Country Dancing in Deerfield, Massachusetts. Frank Van Cleef, Lila Farrar, and Cammy Kaynor are the other callers. Helene, who is teaching two sessions, says that at her first one there were about 50 people, many of whom had done some contra dancing. It was a "lively group that didn't mind the heat."

Third Marlboro Morris Ale

A hot Memorial Day Weekend was the setting in Marlboro, Vermont for the Third

Annual Morris Ale. There were about 16 clubs visiting, and dancers from another 8 or 9 clubs came as guests of visiting clubs. The Saturday demonstrations included dancing by about 270 people on the Maypole field, and Sunday's tours covered many of the towns in the county. All of the teams converged on Newfane, Vermont for a "grand spectacle!"

Editor's note: George Fogg has suggested that reviews of events, music, literature of interest to our members be a regular feature of our newsletter. It takes a few moments to jot down the basics and some opinions and reactions. Take the trouble and make this your contribution to our newsletter, and if George or I or someone else asks you, please oblige by helping us out. Help spread the word about fine and enjoyable events, and make your newsletter more lively. Thanks. (GDH)

The Suggestion Box

Would anyone like to see Family Dances with American and English Country Dances, children of members welcome? A number of people, including Tony Saletan and Gayle Hannah, have expressed an interest in this. Both are already loaded with CDS responsibilities and would like to hear from more people, especially someone who would be willing to organize some sessions. Let us know if you are interested in having these at all. We think it's a great way to keep the family tradition going in our dance community, and include our children in activities that are so important to us.

Message from the President

The Boston Centre needs your help. Our recent growth to approximately 700 members, combined with a continuing full schedule of activities and the "retirement" of several very responsible members mean that we need you to help with the work necessary to keep our program active. Jobs available are varied; there is one to fit your interests and schedule. Some are on-going, others are finished in one evening or in a few hours over a period of a week or two; some require accepting considerable responsibility. Others do not; some involve working together, others are one-person jobs. See the Help Wanted column for a few ideas, or talk to me about what you would like to do to help your Society.

We welcome your ideas, suggestions, questions and complaints. As the fall program

gets underway, please let us know what you think about the schedule, administration, teachers and callers, choice of dances, and the music. Is there something new that you'd like to see tried? Please feel free to speak with me (briefly) at dances, or call me at 527-2791 or drop me a note at 12 Waban St., Newton, Mass., 02158. Honey C. Hastings

Help Wanted!

Publicity Coordinator: plan and carry out publicity program. Get news of our regular and special events to appropriate newsletters, papers and magazines. Arrange for the production and distribution of flyers.

English Dancer: to sit at door on Tuesday nights in exchange for free admission to Wednesday classes. Prefer person who will make a commitment of at least 8 weeks.

American Dancer: to sit at the door on Wednesday nights in exchange for free admission to Tuesday series. Prefer 8-week commitment.

Refreshments Coordinator: plan and arrange for refreshments at CDS parties. See flyer for party schedule as well as Fall Calendar.

Door People for parties: two or three members to help at each party. See schedule.

Tired Dancers: to give themselves and the door folks a break by sitting out a dance or two at the door.

Reviews Coordinator for Newsletter: to identify events that need reviewing and arrange for coverage and reviews, arrange for or write reviews of new literature or musical recordings. (See Gayle Hannah for this one)

For the above, see or call Office or Honey Hastings.

Sales of Books, Records, Etc.

The Boston Centre office has available a rather large selection of 33 and 45 RPM recordings of English and American dance music as well as pamphlets, brochures, and books featuring the history and methods of performing a wide variety of dances from the Anglo-Saxon heritage. Sometime in the Fall we will announce details of a system to facilitate ordering specific items by individual members. In the meantime contact Kitty Wheeler at the CDS office as to what items are available there, or come to Pinewoods Labor Day Weekend and select your own at the bookstore.

From National CDS

The 1978 Annual Meeting of the Country Dance Society was held in the Camp House at Pinewoods on Monday evening, July 24, at 7:15 P.M.. People from the Boston Centre who attended were Honey Hastings, Dale and S.J. Thomas, George Fogg (who chaired the meeting) and others who were in attendance as campers that week.

It was exciting to hear about the Society's rapid growth and hear reports from all over the continent about the activities of various Centers and Associate groups. There are now 23 Centers and 26 Associates, totalling 49. Representatives from Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, California, Tennessee, Massachusetts, Maine, Vermont, Chicago, and Winnipeg were among those who reported on a variety of activities. One notable group is Pittsburgh, which actually has a surplus of male dancers and wants more women to participate.

Our Treasurer, John Hodgkin, gave a complete financial report (a copy of a summary in table form is in the Boston Centre Office for those interested). Two items of special interest are: 1) That the Executive Committee recommended to the National Council that dues be raised from \$10 annually to \$15 in order to cover operating costs (N.B. See notes on meeting of National Council in which this recommendation was passed). On the other hand, there is a donor who will back 20 new memberships so that these people will have to pay only \$5 the first year (apply now to take advantage of this). Also, members who bring in a new member will receive a two-dollar coupon for use on sales or activities. Contact: The Country Dance Society, Inc.

55 Christopher Street
New York, N.Y. 10014
(212)255-8895

The Society is seeking a new secretary, and would prefer someone who is familiar with its activities and purposes. Contact above address for this job.

Associate Director Jim Morrison reported on some of the Society's activities which will surely be of interest to Boston Centre Members. There will be a concentrated effort to promote Morris dancing in areas where few or no opportunities exist. Two weekends have been planned for this year, one for Northern California and one for Southern California. National CDS will send people to lead these workshops. A Dance and Music Weekend sponsored jointly by CDS and the American Recorder Society will be held November 18-19, 1978 at

Hudson Guild Farm in New Jersey. Renaissance and Baroque Court and Country dances and recorder playing will be featured. (Contact National CDS at above address). There is now a computerized index of country dances and selected dance tunes for dance leaders. This can be updated as new items go into and out of print. There is a sample in the bookstore at Pinewoods this summer, and it is available at the low cost of \$5 from National CDS (address above).

A record of old favorites from the 17th and 18th centuries is now available has been produced by National CDS. Tunes played by Marshall Barron and Phil Merrill.

As of this writing the National CDS newsletter was reported in the mail and the magazine Country Dance and Song will be sent out to members as soon as it's available from the printers.

Gayle D. Hannah

N.B. Contact National CDS at 55 Christopher Street, New York 10014 for all materials and information on above items.

The summer 1978 meeting of the National Council took place August 3 at 5:15 P.M. at Pinewoods. Honey Hastings attended, as well as National Council Members George Fogg (Representative of Centers), Shag Graetz (Representative of Associate Groups) and Tom Kruskal (Representative of General Membership). National CDS President Jeff Warner presided. There was a vote of thanks to Norman Singer, our past president. It was decided to have another National Council Meeting on October 21, 1978 at the Helwigs' in Larchmont, New York. The Executive Committee's proposal that dues be increased from \$10 to \$15 annually was approved after a great deal of discussion. The basic reason for the increase is inflation; dues have not been increased since 1973. The change is effective as of September 1, 1978.

Honey C. Hastings

Miscellany

The CDS office has several old hand-operated AB Dick mimeograph machines it would like to have adopted for a nominal fee to be negotiated. Check with Kitty Wheeler who will direct you to the appropriate person for negotiations, or see Honey or George. We need the space these machines occupy.

CALENDAR of ACTIVITIES: 1978-1979

The Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, Inc.

WEEKLY SERIES

English Country Dance Wednesdays 8:15 P.M. 7 Temple Street, Cambridge, Mass.

September 20, 1978 to June 13, 1979 Helene Cornelius, George Fogg

Musicians: Earl Gaddis, Jackie Schwab, Claudio Buchwald

Admission: 1.50\$ CDS Members, 2.00\$ others

American Squares and Contras Tuesdays 8:15 P.M. Brimmer & May School, Middlesex Road near Hammond Street, Chestnut Hill, Mass (Riverside Line - Chestnut Hill Stop)

September 19, 1978 to June 12, 1979 Ted Sannella, Tony Saletan

Musicians: Andy Woolf, Jack Perron, Cal Howard, Peter Barnes

Admission: 1.50\$ CDS Members, 2.00\$ others

(For both of the above, beginners welcome--come at 8 for basic instruction)

PARTIES

October 14 English Country Dance Party (for all), 7 Temple Street, Cambridge
Callers: Helene Cornelius and others

November 4: English Country Dance (for experienced dancers), 7 Temple Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts. Callers: Helene Cornelius and others.

November 18: Squares and Contra Dances, Brimmer and May School, Chestnut Hill
(address above)
Caller: Chip Hendrickson

November 22: NEW VOICES - Party will feature new and up-and-coming callers.
7 Temple Street, Cambridge. Those interested in leading an English
Dance should contact Arthur Cornelius (643-3415) by November 12.

December 9: Gala Christmas Party at Brimmer and May School, Chestnut Hill

January 27: English Country Dance for all, 7 Temple Street, Cambridge
Caller: Helene Cornelius and others.

Morris, Longsword and Rapper Sword (see flyer for fees and payment plans)

September 20- October 4, 1978 8 - 9:15 P.M. Howard Lasnik/ MORRIS
Presumes some experience but beginners not excluded.

October 11-November 1, 1978 8 - 9:15 P.M. Chris Walker/MORRIS
Beginners welcome.

November 8-15, 29 -Dec. 20, 1978 8 -9:15 P.M. Chris Walker/LONGSWORD

January 3-31, 1979 8- 9:15 P.M. Shag Graetz/MORRIS-Intermediate
Lichfield Tradition

(Continued on next page)

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES 1978-1979
(continued)

February 7-March 7, 1979 8 - 9:15 P.M. Tom Kruskal /MORRIS
Presumes some experience in Morris or Country Dances, but beginners are not excluded. Lancashire clog Morris, Royton Tradition.

March 14-April 11, 1979 8 - 9:15 P.M. Arthur Cornelius/MORRIS-Experienced
For experienced Morris Dancers, Sherborne Tradition

April 18- May 16, 1979 8 - 9:15 P.M. Howard Lasnik/RAPPER SWORD

NOTE: ALL OF THE MORRIS, LONGSWORD AND RAPPER CLASSES HELD AT 7 TEMPLE STREET, CENTRAL SQUARE, CAMBRIDGE (dining room)

Other CDS-Sponsored and Related Events

The 1978 CDS-AMC Cardigan Weekend will be held September 22-24 at the Appalachian Mountain Club's Ski Lodge, Alexandra, New Hampshire. There will be hiking on Mount Cardigan or on woodland trails and Square and English Country Dancing with Mitch Robbins, George Fogg, and Louise Winston. Housing is in bunk rooms or dorms in the Lodge, which is equipped with "modern facilities."

Cost:\$40.50 for AMC or CDS members
\$43.50 for guests

A deductible deposit of \$15 will save a space. See flyer for more details.

English Country Dancing in Providence, Rhode Island on Tuesdays at the Beneficent Congregational Church at the corner of Weybosset and Empire Streets. Time: 8-10 P.M., starting September 19 with George Fogg calling. Donation \$1. For information call Mitchell Robbins (401) 521-5160.

Dances at South Weymouth in the Congregational Church Mondays: October 16, 23, 27, and November 13, 23, 30. English Country Dancing with George Fogg calling. 8-10 P.M.

A full day of Morris and Sword dancing will be presented by the Pinewoods Morris Men at their annual Fall Tour on Saturday, October 7, 1978. Many guest teams from Boston and elsewhere will be dancing at Harvard University in the morning and in Boston in the afternoon. The public is invited; there is no charge, but the traditional hat will be passed.

New England Folk Festival Association
(NEFFA) Contra Dance Schedule

At press time we did not have a complete NEFFA dance schedule, but the following is a list of contra dances for Fall 1979:

Sunday, September 17 at 7:15 - NEFFA Contra with Bruce Sagan and Friends, Girl Scout House, Concord, Massachusetts

Sunday, October 1, 7:15 - Challenging Contras, Girl Scout House, Concord

Sunday, October 15, 7:15 - NEFFA Contra, First Congregational Church, Cambridge

Sunday, November 5 at 7:15 - NEFFA Contra, Girl Scout House, Concord

Bob Fitzgerald is NEFFA's new Program Chairman.

Notes on Manners and Style

We hope to have in each issue some hints and comments about dancing manners and style. Two sources, from quite different motivations, have provided us with a couple for this issue.

A member reports that while she has suffered a number of discomforts due to ill-mannered or careless dancing, one night this Spring topped them. While being swung, she was "walloped on the head by somebody's shoulder, head or something." Symptoms included initial semiconsciousness, head pains and nausea upon waking the next morning, and a head-in-a-vice feeling 24 hours later.

Surely, we could all be more considerate of our fellow dancers. Good dancing with attention to manners and style would certainly go a long way toward alleviating the problem.

In a conversation with May Gadd, I asked her a question that has been bother-

ing me as I fumbled along with others in doing a hands-across (right or left). I asked her which couple's hands should be above, and which below. She replied: "Whoever gets there first should have their hands above."

* * * * * MEMBERSHIPS * * * * *

Please Note: Although the Boston Centre, Country Dance Society and the New England Folk Festival Association share an office and have many members in common, we are actually separate organizations. Your membership in CDS does not admit you to NEFFA functions at members' rates, except in the case of co-sponsored events or series such as the summer CDS/NEFFA series at the First Congregational Church on Wednesdays. Conversely, NEFFA members do not receive reduced-rate admissions to CDS functions.

Effective January 1, 1978 annual dues are \$6.00 for Regular Memberships, \$15.00 for a Contributing Membership, and \$25.00 for a Supporting Membership. The Membership year for everyone starts September 1, 1978, and renewals or new memberships before this date have been pro-rated to that time. Everyone should renew in September, 1978. Please call the office to check on your membership status if you have a question about it, or speak with a Board Member if you have questions about the timing and procedure.

All memberships entitle you to receive flyers of upcoming events, the quarterly Newsletter, use of the CDS library, and discount fees at dances, workshops and weekends. A Contributing or Supporting Membership will support training and development programs for musicians and leaders, improvement of our dance and music library and will help sponsor special events and guest programs.

You will not receive a mailing about membership from the office, and this is your dues notice. Please cut the form below on the dotted line and send the filled-out form with your check to the office or take them to the first fall dances, September 19th and 20th.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

1978-1979 Sept

The Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, Inc.
57 Roseland Street, Somerville, Mass. 02143

Name(s) * _____

Surname _____ First name _____ Initial _____

Address _____
Number Street and Apartment No. Town State Zip

Telephone _____

New Renewal

* (NOTE: ALL CDS MEMBERSHIPS ARE INDIVIDUAL)

- * Regular \$6.00
- Contributing \$15.00
- Supporting \$25.00

I am thinking of someone who would enjoy being a CDS Member. Please send membership information to:

I can volunteer for Society activities

My special skills and interests are: _____

The best time to reach me is: _____

Name _____

Address _____

News from PINWOODS

Gerda Conant reports that volunteers are still needed for two Pinewoods Work Weekends: September 8-9-10 and September 15-16-17. The weekends start Friday after supper and run until about 4 P.M. on Sunday, but there's some flexibility and good workers are needed to do closing chores and repairs. Please bring work clothes, any useful hand or garden tools, and musical instruments for evening entertainment. These weekends can be a great way to enjoy working with good people on a project important to us all. Good fellowship and informal dancing in the evenings! Send a note or card to: Gerda Conant, Manager

Pinewoods Camp
Box 451, RFD #6
Plymouth, Mass. 02360

List any special skills or interests.

On the Pinewoods Fund Drive: at the beginning of the summer we needed 75,636\$, and by the week of August 3, this sum was 68,910\$. The expectation at press time was that by August 5 there would be one thousand

donors! Keep up the support. We still have a way to go, and we need to think about what summertime would be like without Pinewoods. Feel free to suggest improvements as you make your pledge.

More Miscellany!

Congratulations to Arthur Quinlan on his 78th birthday this month. Keep dancing, Arthur!

Flyers accompanying this newsletter were designed by Martha Schechter Forsyth (English and American), Ishmael Stefanov (Morris) Barbara Page (Cardigan) and Honey C. Hastings (parties).

Once again: Please feel free to write to us and contribute items and articles for the newsletter. We want this to be your Newsletter, and though this issue contains primarily material that is either "official business" or written by the Editor, we do want more participation by members. This includes artwork and appropriate illustrations, too.

Boston Centre, Inc.

The Country Dance Society

57 Roseland Street,
Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

NON-PROFIT ORG.
BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Cambridge, Mass.
PERMIT No. 58340

Dated Material/Please Do Not Delay

Return Postage Guaranteed