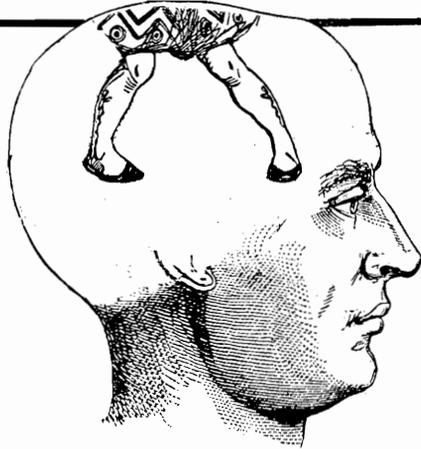




May, 1990



The Best-Kept Secret

- Nijinsky was right-footed and left-brain dominant.
- Nijinsky was left-footed and right-brain dominant.
- You can apply *right now* for one of the few places left for the English-Scottish Session at Pinewoods this summer and have the time of your bipedal life, regardless of your (or Nijinsky's) footedness.

Choosing the last of these options and communicating your choice to **Lisa Greenleaf (508) 779-6077** not only gets you an A on the exam but (if you call soon enough) a wonderful week of eclectic dancing and friend-making into the bargain. Vote with your feet. How can you lose?



Ineluctable Modality of the Visible

At least that if no more, thought through my eyes. Signatures of all things I am here to read...until **July 25, 1990** if you please, the day by which to send your palpable contribution to the next issue of the *CDS Newsletter*, care of

**Alex Humez
151 Elm Street
Somerville, MA 02144**

after which it's no I said no I won't no.

Put on Your Cardigan

Marty Markham, long-time chair of the CDS/Appalachian Mountain Club Cardigan Weekend, suffered a heart attack this winter. He's doing well, but unfortunately cannot continue his fine work with the weekend. Clay Wilcox and George Fogg have volunteered to step into the breach and are planning this year's program, September 14-16, 1990.

Cardigan is unique among CDS residential dance programs, not the least because of its location, at the AMC Cardigan Lodge in Alexandria, New Hampshire, in the Newfound Lake region. The place provides for plenty of outdoor activity, including a hike up Mt. Cardigan coordinated by the AMC. There is traditionally a songfest in the Boot Room late every night. And of course, there's English and American dancing workshops overseen by CDS. Evening dance parties alternate English and American styles. We also hope to provide an opportunity for international folk dancing.

Cardigan is an excellent weekend for beginners. Many CDS old-timers attend, yet the AMC crowd means that all skill levels are represented. The group is more intimate than the Pinewoods weekends--generally 50 to 60 dancers.

George Fogg will coordinate dancing and call English Country dances. The American caller is George Hodgson. Musicians are Ellen Mandigo, Roger Pinard, and Andy Riffin. Fees include all meals, prepared in hearty AMC hiker style. Sleeping accommodations are in the AMC lodge dormitories.

For further details, see the enclosed flier.





The President's Corner

At the last CDS Board meeting, Arthur Ferguson submitted an exceedingly encouraging membership report. In April, CDS surpassed our 1989 record of 700 members. And we reached that number a month earlier than last year. Consistently this season we have run about 50 members ahead of the previous year's figures.

Outreach to new dancers was a major goal of the 75th Anniversary celebration. I'm happy to see us so successful.

New members are the lifeblood of the organization, as I'm sure the old hands will agree. In the first place, we live in a nomad society.

Dedicated dancers move away from the Boston area all the time. They have to be replaced. But even more important, there's more work to be done for CDS than a small core of experienced dancers, no matter how enthusiastic, can do.

This year's new board members, for example, include several who have danced less than four years in Boston. (And I've only danced--anywhere--for five!)

Having lots of new members poses a challenge that gets right to the heart of CDS. As an organization, we're committed to teaching dancing and improving style. The steps from beginner to intermediate to experienced dancer are plateaus we recognize. It's our mission to make certain that new members continue to grow.

I remember the beginning of my second year. Rich Jackson asked me how I was doing, and I had to confess that dancing was becoming pretty frustrating. The figures were less confusing, but my dancing wasn't as satisfying as I'd remembered from my first year. Then, every dance I actually got through without circling left when everyone else was circling right was a thrilling accomplishment. But now, though I was concentrating as hard as ever, I knew I wasn't dancing well.

It was mid year before Helen Davenport, a dancer from Connecticut, accidentally broke my particular logjam. "Some dancers dance with their heads," she said. "And some dance with their feet. I dance with my feet."

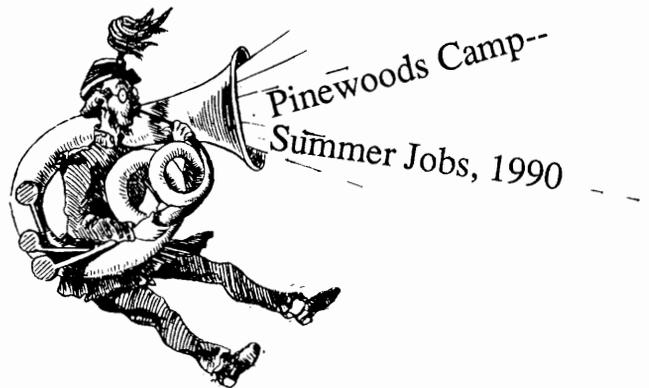
Aha!

During the next couple of months the CDS English and American committees will be planning next season's activities. Foremost in their minds is providing for the wealth of new dancers we have among us. Talk with them (see below) about your experience: how you grew or where you think you need help. Give suggestions on what to do: special workshops, new formats. Better yet, volunteer to help run the show by joining one of the committees:

The New England Dance Committee--Art Anger and Betsy Optiz, chairs, Katy Burns, Abby Dean, Betsy Handley, Irene Howard, and Karen Mueller. Ted Sannella, artistic advisor.

The English Dance Committee--Mary Stafford, chair, Alex Humez, Charity Stafford, Clay Wilcox, and Deb Small, ritual coordinator. Helene Cornelius, artistic advisor.

--Gordon Talley



Come spend a summer working, dancing, and swimming at Pinewoods Camp. For those of you new to Pinewoods, it is a traditional dance and music camp near Plymouth, Mass. For adults and families. The camp is on a beautiful forested site between two freshwater ponds. The camp season includes four sessions sponsored by the Boston Centre.

Crew members live at camp and work from early June through Labor Day. They have some opportunities to participate in the programs.

Positions available: Head cook, cooks, cook assistants, kitchen clean-up crew, and grounds crew. Applicants to volunteer are also welcome.

For details, write to

Susannah Diamondstone, Manager
Pinewoods Camp, Inc.
P.O. Box 1379
East Arlington, MA 02174

COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY, BOSTON CENTRE, INC.
EVENTS OF INTEREST TO OUR MEMBERSHIP

BOSTON CENTRE PROGRAMS:

TUESDAY NEW ENGLAND SQUARE AND CONTRA DANCE SERIES, St. John's United Methodist Church, 80 Mount Auburn St, Watertown. Sept 12 through June 12. Callers: 1st Tuesdays - Tony Saletan, 2nd Tuesdays - Ted Sannella, 3rd Tuesdays - Tony Parkes, 4th & 5th special programs and guests. Contacts: Arthur Anger (H)899-8702, (W)253-7044 and Betsy Opitz (H)899-8702.

WEDNESDAY ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE SERIES, St John's United Methodist Church, 80 Mount Auburn Street, 3 blocks from Watertown Sq., Sept. 13 - June 13. Program 8:00-11:00, attention to basics 8:00-9:00, requests 10:15 - 11:00. Music by "Bare Necessities" and "Zealand." Party formats (limited teaching) 2/14/ and 6/13. Contact Mary Stafford 782-7266.

WEDNESDAY RITUAL CLASS, St John's United Methodist Church, 80 Mount Auburn St, Watertown. 8:00 - 9:15. 5/9 - 6/6 Northwest morris, led by Kathy Henson, music by Cynthia Whear. Contact Deb Small evenings 628-0071.

"FIRST" FRIDAY ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING, First Fridays through June. Dances will be taught with the expectation that the dancers have a thorough familiarity of basic English Country Dance figures. Various leaders and musicians. Church of Our Saviour, Monmouth St, Brookline. 8:00 - 11:00. Contact Mary Stafford 782-7266.

BOSTON PLAYFORD BALL, Saturday, May 12. Contact Mary Stafford (617) 782-7266 or Alex Humez (617) 625-3069.

Boston Centre - Committee meetings, all are welcome (confirm meeting date, time, and place by calling ahead):

- Board of Directors, 3rd Wed., 6:00, office 1950 Mass Ave. (354-1340)
- American Dance Committee, 2nd Tues., 6:00, Cafe Rose, Watertown (899-8702)
- English Dance Committee 2nd Wed., 6:30, BYO, @Alex Humez, 151 Elm St., Somerville (625-3069)

RESIDENTIAL EVENTS:

PINEWOODS:

First Weekend, Fri 6/15- Sun 6/17, contact Susan Rosen 965-0542

July 4th, Thurs 6/28 - Mon 7/2, contact Deb Small 628-0071

English Scottish session, Mon 7/2 - Fri 7/6, contact Lisa Greenleaf
(508) 799-6077

Labor Day, Sat 9/1 - Tue 9/4, Contact Jim Moss 965-5045

FRIENDS OF CDS BOSTON CENTRE, EVENTS:

ANDOVER, NJ - Hudson Guild Farm weekend, leaders, Christine Helwig, Fried Herman, Scott Higgs, and Liz Snowden. 11/2-11/4. Contact Peggy Joplin, 13 N Orchard Terr, Sparta, NJ 07871.

ARLINGTON, MA - Roaring Jelly, 3rd Fridays, Susan Elberger, St John's Episcopal Church, 74 Pleasant St, 8:00, 894-4464.

AUBURN, ME, Jack Janssen w/Yankee Exchange, June 8, 8:30 - midnight, Unitarian Church, Elm and Pleasant St, on Rte 121 contact church (207) 783-0461.

BARNSTABLE, Cape Cod - English Country Dance, 2nd & 4th Fridays, Barnstable Unitarian Church, (508) 362-9570.

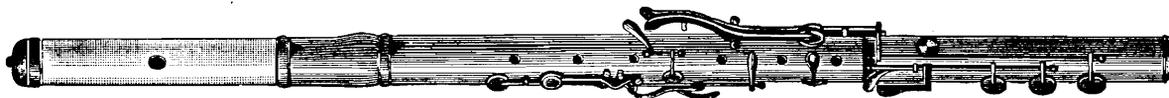
BOSTON, MA, Mandala's 1991 schedule at John Hancock Hall, 3/15-3/17, 1991.

BOWDOINHAM, ME, - English Country Cance, Merrymeeting Musical Menagerie, 4th Sundays, 7:00 - 10:00, Bowdoinham Community Hall, School St. Contact Cindy (207) 666-3090 evenings.

BROOKLINE, MA - ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE PARTY, Robin Rogers-Browne and Brad Saylor, music by Karen Axelrod, Pat MacPherson and friends. 3rd Fri., Sept. through May (no dance in April). Church of Our Saviour, Monmouth and Carlton St. 8:00-11:00. Contacts: Robin (508) 897-8629 and Brad (508) 475-0791.

CAMBRIDGE, MA - RSCDS, Boston Branch, Scottish Country Dance, Mon., YWCA, 7 Temple St., warm-up 8:15, beginners and experienced classes 8:30-9:45, social dancing for all 10:00-11:00. Contact Edmund Thompson (508) 977-9500 X200 (day) or (617) 272-8621 (evening).

DURHAM, NH, Great Bay Festival of traditional music, dance, storytelling and folk arts. Univ of New Hampshire, August 18,19. (603) 332-8474.



Playford Revisited: Petticoat Wag

by Francis Worrell



Lead up forwards and back, turne back to back, faces againe ˘ All that againe ˘

First man crosse and goe behind the 2. Wo. the first Wo. going behind the second man, peep twice at each other, fall into the 2. place on your owne side ˘ Doe thus to the last the rest following in order.

Sides all, and as before ˘ That againe ˘

First Cu. crosse between the 2. fall into the 2. place, crosse againe fall into the 2. place on your owne side ˘ Do thus to the last, the rest following in order ˘

Armes all as before ˘ That againe ˘

The two first men take both hands, change places, the We. as much, set and turne S. ˘ Doe thus to the last, the rest following.

Petticoat Wag is dance #68 in the first edition of Playford. It is one of a group of dances designated in Playford as "Longways for as many as will," consisting of three parts, which are introduced by doubles, sides, and arms, respectively, all of which are progressive. Unlike the common duple minor longways, the progression starts with *only* the first couple dancing with the second. As this couple progress down the set, more and more couples get involved until all are dancing as in a duple minor set. Each couple dance the full length of the set both ways. As each couple reach their starting place, they stop dancing, and the dance winds down in reverse order to the start. For convenience, I will refer to this progression as the Essex Progression¹.

The figures in this dance are simple and familiar, except for an unusual figure that appears in each introduction where normally one would expect to set and turn single. Margaret Dean-Smith says that "the dance belongs to the comparatively rare, and possibly older type of mimetic game [in which] the dancers engaged in such actions as 'peeping,' 'winding,' 'weeping into their hands.'" A peeping figure appears in the first part of this dance. This figure and the "turne back to back" figure are flirtatious.

Playford's instructions, reproduced from the Mellor edition, are mostly quite clear, and the music and figures fit well together². Two figures, however, need explanation. In the first introduction, "turne back to back, faces again" certainly does not mean the usual back to back figure, which seldom appears in the First Edition³. My interpretation is that the man and woman should each turn a half turn, approaching, so as to end with their backs to each other (chance for flirtation here), then turn back to place. Our dancers have found that the easiest way to execute the figure is to turn clockwise, starting with the left foot. The beginning of the B section of the second figure, as described by Playford, would need only four of the available eight bars of music. I have therefore inserted a double back and forward, which fits well into Playford's figure and makes a nice intermezzo between repetitions of the figure.

Instructions for the dance follow in modern notation. Numbers in parentheses are numbers of bars for the figure. Superscript numbers are footnotes. Unlike **A Health to Betty**, this dance can be done with any number of couples, the main restriction being the length of time required to go through the Essex progression three times. I have usually done this with three couples, but one group expressed a preference for four-couple sets because "it gives us more dancing."



PART 1

- A1 (4) All up a double and back.
(2) Couples 1 and 2 meet, turning half around clockwise as they approach, ending back to back.
(2) Couples 1 and 2 back to place, turning clockwise. (A shorthand for this figure is "backs and faces.")
- A2 (8) All that again.
- B1 (4) Couple 1 cross and go behind corners. In crossing, overshoot and loop back to use up the available music.
(1) Couple 1 peek at partner (man right, woman left).
(1) Couple 1 peek at partner (man left, woman right).
(2) Couple 2 lead up while couple 1 change places with a two-hand turn half way.
- B2-B6 Continue the figure to the end of the progression⁴.

PART 2

- A1 (4) All side, right shoulder.
(4) Backs and faces, as in Part 1.
- A2 (4) All side, left shoulder.
(4) Backs and faces.
- B1 (4) Couples 1 and 2 go back a double and forward.
(2) Couple 1 cross to corner's place (second position, improper) while couple 2 cast up to first place.
(2) Couple 1 change places with a two-hand turn half way.
- B2-B6 Continue the figure to the end of the progression.

PART 3

- A1 (4) Arm right.
(4) Backs and faces.
- A2 (4) Arm left.
(4) Backs and faces.
- B1 (2) Man 1 and Man 2 change places, giving two hands.
(2) Woman 1 and woman 2, the same.
(4) Couples 1 and 2 set and turn single.
- B2-B6 Continue the figure to the end of progression.

Footnotes

[1] See the first paragraph of "Playford Revisited: The Gun, or, The Valiant Captain" in the December 1989 issue of the *CDS Newsletter*.

[2] In the music shown above, which is from the Mellor edition, I have eliminated ties in three places. These ties appear in the first and third editions of Playford but have been dropped in the fourth edition. I feel that their elimination makes the music and the figures match better.

[3] Interestingly, this same figure appears in dance #67 in Playford, **Cuckolds All a Row**. I am indebted to Pat Talbot for her interpretation of this unusual figure in that dance, which I have followed.

[4] Essex Progression. For three couples, six repetitions of the B music is required.



EAST DERRY, NH - English Country Dance, Led by Brad Saylor, music Derry Aire, 3rd Sundays, 7:00 - 10:00, 11/19 Colonial Ball, (603) 432-8558.

HARTFORD (WETHERSFIELD) - Wethersfield Grange, 136 Main St. 1st and 2nd Fridays Contras, 3rd Fridays Clogging/Cajan/Southern Squares, 4th Fridays English Country. For more info, contact Jim (203) 236-4445.

KINGSTON, RI - ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE. Mitch Robbins, leader, Kingston Free Library, Route 138 at URI entrance, 1st & 3rd Sundays, 4:00-6:30, 364-9964.

LINCOLN, MA - FAMILY ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE led by Rich Jackson, with coop baby sitting, 2nd Sat through June 9, 5:30 pot luck and dance for all, 7:00 adult dancing, Stone Church across from town hall, (508) 443-8940.

LOWELL, MA - Lowell Folk Festival, July 27-29, 1990.

NEWPORT RI, Vintage Dance Week, August 20-25, Hannah (617) 648-0840.

NEWTON, MA - 1st Sat. contra dances through June, Kate Oesterheld and Uncommon Fare, 1st Unitarian Society, 1326 Washington St, 8:00, 965-2180.

NEW YORK - COUNTRY DANCE, NEW YORK CD*NY, Metropolitan Duane Church, 201 W 13th St. at Seventh Ave. (212) 459-4080

- Sat. through 6/3, 8:00 - 10:45, American Contras & Squares

- Tues through 5/30, English Country, 7:45 - style, 8:30 - 10:00 dance

- Experienced Fridays 8:00 - 10:45

ENGLISH 4/7, 5/12; AMERICAN 4/14, 5/1

NEW YORK CITY, Day long CD*NY CDSS 75 anniversary, 11:00 AM - Midnight, NYU in the village and High School for the Humanities, Sat June 2, (212) 459-4080.

NOVA SCOTIA, 35 annual family Dance camp, Aug 18 -26, folk, ballroom, Scottish, Square (914) 941-7358.

OLD WETHERSFIELD, CONN, Vintage Dance Society, Weekend Dance Workshop led Richard Powers, June 8-10, 1990, advance registration only, (203) 286-9191.

PHILADELPHIA, PA - 1st Saturday dances, Summit Presbyterian Church, (215) 247-5993.

PLIMOTH PLANTATION, Visitor Center, Plymouth, MA. George Fogg w/Merrymeeting Musical Menagerie, Sat July 14, 8:00 PM St Swithin's Dance; Sat October 27, 8:00 PM All Hallow's Eve Dance, Creative dress encouraged! Contact (508) 746-1622 ext 377.

PROVIDENCE, RI - Contra and Squares, 5/19 Bridget Edwards, 6/16 Mary Desrosiers, St Martin's Church, 50 Orchard Ave. 8:00 - 11:00; Contact Dale (508) 636-8168.

SANDY HOOK, CT - NOMAD 90, 10/20, 10/21, Newtown High School, (203) 372-8632.

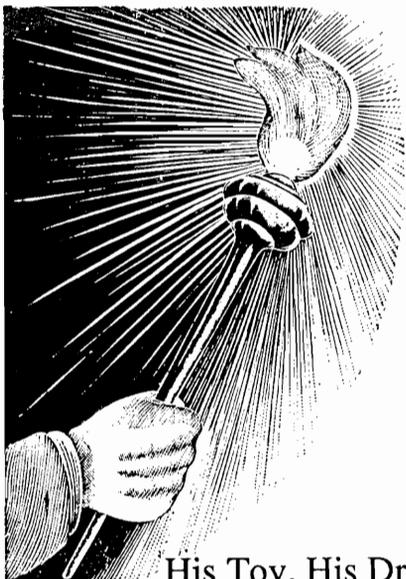
SOUTHBORO, MA - Framingham Folk Dancers, International Folk Dancing, Fayville Village Hall, Central & Grove Sts. 8:00-10:30, (508) 872-4110.

WHITE PLAINS, NY, Christine Helwig & Fried Herman, Thursday dances, Church in the Highlands. (212) 881-2930, (914) 834-4672, (914) 834-9350. FESTIVAL 75 a day long event being planned for 6/2/90.

WORCESTER, MA - INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS, Thursday, 7:30 - 9:30, All Saints Episcopal, Irving St. at Pleasant. Contact Betty Hoskins, (508) 791-7434.

All calendar submissions must be in writing and received by Harvey Cohen, 54 Elda Rd, Framingham Ma 01701 on or before July 15, 1990.





His Toy, His Dream, His Rest

It's time to pass the editorial torch, folks. Come the next edition of the *CDS Newsletter* I will have completed two years of printing pretty much whatever I pleased (and of not printing pretty much whatever I didn't please) with only my dubious sense of propriety as my guide.

My dubious sense of propriety tells me that two years is probably about right for a term in this particular office and that it is time for somebody new to be the editor of the *CDS Newsletter* for a while.

How come? Not because being the editor of the *Newsletter* isn't fun any more: it is. And not because being the editor of the *Newsletter* has gotten to be too much work: it hasn't--in fact, it's gotten to be less work each time out (and no big deal at that). Rather, it's because I believe that no individual should get to "own" the *Newsletter* for too long: The First Amendment doesn't make much sense if you only have one person to whom you are at complete liberty to listen.

CDS is a collective venture. It works because different people take turns pumping their energy and ideas into running the show, and this includes editing the *Newsletter*. In this way, entropy is confounded and CDS can remain in perpetual motion instead of rusting out at the rocker panels.

But enough of my personal blend of philosophy, thermodynamics, and automotive naiveté: Now it's *your* turn.

If you'd like some details about the *Newsletter* Editor's job description, go ask **Alex (Humez)**. If you're interested in taking the job, talk with **Gordon (Talley)**.

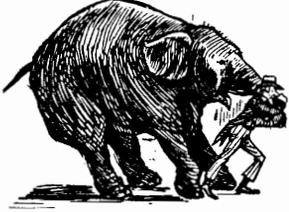
How to Make Your Gifts Go Twice as Far

Because of its many educational activities, grants, and scholarships, CDS is a nonprofit, charitable organization. And this in turn means that CDS is eligible for matching gifts from many corporations. In the past year CDS members Harvey Cohen, Bill Cronin, Harold Henry, Joe Kynoch, and Michael Resnick have made sure that their employer, Digital Equipment Corporation, knew of their gifts to CDS. The DEC match effectively doubled their generosity.

About 200 Massachusetts business participate in a matching gifts program. Most match gifts dollar for dollar, for example, a \$100 donation to CDS would be matched by \$100 from the corporation, making a total of \$200. Some match at two-for-one, that is, a \$100 gift would become \$300. The procedure varies but usually requires you to pick up a form from the personnel office, fill in the amount of your gift, and forward it to CDS for verification. It's that simple.

Both regular membership gifts (above the membership fee) and gifts to the 75th Anniversary Fund can be matched. If you don't know whether your employer matches your gifts, ask your personnel office or call **Gordon Talley**, (617) 497-7490, who has a list of companies that do.





Lost and Found

Lose a shoe, a sweater, an umbrella, a jacket, or...well, who knows? If you lost your job or the person to whom you promised the next dance but then forgot to dance with when it was the next dance, we can't help you. Sorry. If, on the other hand, you misplaced that other glove--or both gloves--you might check with the Lost and Found at **St. John's Church, 80 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown**, the next time you go to a Tuesday or Wednesday night dance and maybe you'll be lucky and we *can* help you. Otherwise, we empty the chest of forgotten goods at the end of the season and give everything away, mitten clips, false promises, and all.

THE Playford Ball

The Tenth Annual Boston Playford Ball, of course. If you missed it, eat your heart out. If you didn't, savor the memory of it and thank the following people for a great evening the next time you see them: **Karen Axelrod, Peter Barnes, Sandy Borden, Helene Cornelius, Barbara Finney, Earl Gaddis, Lisa Greenleaf, Nancy Hanssen, Alex Humez, Mary Lea, Jenny Mosley, Brad Saylor, Jacqueline Schwab, Deb Small, Charity Stafford, Mary Stafford, Maryanne Taylor, Marcie Van Cleave, Clay Wilcox**, and all who pitched in anonymously to do those things that had been left undone. Thank you thank you thank you.



Summerdance

Mark your calendar and reset your biological clock: the Summerdance series is fast upon us and is definitely not to be missed!

Thursday nights will offer contras and squares by a variety of great callers, and the Wednesday night series will include two evenings of swing dance, three evenings of English country dance, an English-Scottish evening, a Cajun dance, a Zweifacher (or Zwiefacher) workshop (or both), and an evening of waltzes and tangos.

Come and try something tried and true or something new and adventurous (or both). Bring a friend or (better) several friends: Summerdance is for **you!**

Check out the enclosed fliers for details.

Service for Don Davis

A committal service will be held for Don Davis at 2:00 p.m. on June 9, 1990 at the Walter deForest Lot of the Rehoboth Village Cemetery (Pine and Walker Streets). Don was an avid dancer and a member of CDS, RSCDS, and FAC until his retirement 5 years ago to the Tampa, Florida area. He died suddenly on January 5th of a massive cerebral hemorrhage. For details about the service, call (617) 944-6432.

Thanks

To Harvey Cohen, George Fogg, Arthur Ferguson, David Harrison, Irene Howard, Herb Jacobs, Jim Moss, Mary Stafford, Gordon Talley, Clay Wilcox, Francis Worrell, and the ranks of Harrison's Irregulars without whose labor you would not be reading this.

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre
1950 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02140
Telephone: (617) 354-1340

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