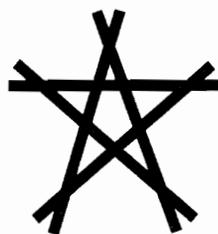


CDS Boston News



Winter 1995

Editor: Michael Bergman

Deadline for Spring Newsletter:

☞ Feb. 2, 1996. Details, page 11.

From the President

Dancing has got some good press lately. It's comforting to be reminded that dance, historically, is central to the establishment and maintenance of social groups and communities in virtually all cultures. By our participation in dance, we not only keep grand traditions alive, but we contribute to the growth and development of new traditions. Given the pleasures which derive from this activity, the apparent decline of general interest in dancing is puzzling and frustrating. Every dance sponsor I've spoken with bemoans the phenomenon of flat or declining attendance, even when we offer wonderful music, fine teaching, and welcoming dance companions. It's particularly ironic since, while celebrating social dance, the newspapers also report that fewer and fewer Americans are getting enough exercise. How, then, do we get attention which translates into attendance? We've done some outreach at festivals and with public performances. We offer admission discounts, for example, to students and new dancers. We've talked about producing a publicity brochure. How can you help? Bring us your ideas. If you've got some time to offer assistance to implement them, as well, that's doubly welcome. And, if you've not been to a dance for a while, bring a friend and join us.

—Jean Farrington

A Plea for HELP!

It's been about a year since I took on this job, strictly on a temporary basis, to replace the previous intensely overloaded editor of the News. Now, I am about to expire in the same manner. The solution to continuing to bring out the News on a timely basis is not a series of individuals, each working like crazy against a tight deadline and last-minute news or events, but a TEAM, reducing the amount of work to a more human, and part-time, level. To that end, I am taking this opportunity to beg for help — before I explode and disappear! If several of us work together on the News, we can probably each continue to do so for quite some time without a feeling of being overwhelmed.

The job really does break down quite easily into separable, reasonable-sized tasks. Material for the special events and out-of-town calendar needs to be gathered and edited. Articles that are not submitted by computer need to be typed in. All articles need to be formatted. The CDS calendar needs to be compiled and formatted. Suitable artwork need to be found and in some cases scanned into a computer (you may have noticed a lack of graphics since I took over). The calendar and articles need to be laid out to form the News. Once a year, the directory needs to be published, an entirely different formatting and layout task. Finally, a proofreader and production manager would be invaluable.

Each of these tasks is not that difficult, nor that time-consuming. Taken all together, as they all need to be accomplished in a two-week period four times a year, they are daunting. Prior experience is not needed (though helpful); access to a computer is helpful but not critical, as I can provide access to several computers to anyone who can get to my home or office, and I can train people on the various pieces of software used to put together the News (or maybe even sneak you into one of the classes offered at my company, for more formal instruction). The skills involved are marketable; we use the same programs that many businesses, both large and small, use for corporate newsletters, user manuals, advertising materials, etc. Come and help! It's fun (when taken

in moderation), a valuable contribution to the CDS, an opportunity to interact a little more with the other members of our community, and an opportunity to learn new and valuable skills. Call me at (617) 964-7684 or send me email at augment@world.std.com if you're interested.

—Mike Bergman
CDS News Editor

CDS Winter Dance Calendar on pages 5-8.

Other area events on pages 6-8.

Holiday Parties & Dances, page 11.

The CDS News needs you! Call Now!

Officers, Directors, and Committees of the Country Dance Society, Boston Centre

President Jean Farrington
Past President Art Anger
Vice President Doug Reiner
Secretary Maureen Carey
Treasurer Ralph Jones

Ex-Officio George Fogg
Membership Chair Arthur Ferguson
Newsletter Editor Michael Bergman
Mailing Chair Art Anger
Pinewoods Camp Rep.... Frank Attanasio

Directors: Bonnie Armstrong, Bill Cronin, Gene DiSalvatore, Terry Gaffney, Lynne Kimball, Elizabeth Morris, Dan Peisach, Tony Saletan, Jon Weinberg

Nominating: Karen Mueller-Harder, Tom Engel, Marcie Van Cleave

English Dance: Arthur Ferguson (Chair), Jean Farrington, Terry Gaffney, Alice Johnson, Elizabeth Morris, Allan Wechsler, Helene Cornelius (Artistic Advisor)

New England Dance: Art Anger (Chair), Ann Cowan, Irene Howard, Bob Pyron

Ritual Dance: Doug Reiner, Coordinator

Endowment and Grants: Robin Rogers-Browne, Ralph Jones (Ex Officio)

Finance: Art Anger, Bill Cronin, Jean Farrington (Ex Officio), Ralph Jones (Ex Officio), Jon Weinberg

Special Events: Gene DiSalvatore (Chair), Maureen Carey

Playford Ball: (English Dance Committee)

Festival Food Booth: George Fogg, Harriet Hayward, Jean Farrington, Maureen Carey

June Weekend: Katy Petersen, Jerry Callen (Chairs), Michael Berry, Stephanie Jack

July 4th Weekend: Ray Schneider, Barbara Finney (Chairs)

English/Scottish Session: Judy Erickson (Chair), Sandy Borden, Cary Browne, Robin Rogers-Browne, Julie Smith

Labor Day Weekend: Jack & Susan Janssen (Chairs), Dan Pearl, Shelagh Ellman-Pearl

News of the Board

September 1995

—Frank Attanasio was appointed to another term as CDS Representative on the board of Pinewoods Camp, Inc. The Grants and Endowment Committee was reconstituted; two changes were approved in the New England Committee (see adjacent list).

—The outdoor contra dance to attract new dancers had attracted about 50 people in July; August got 14 in spite of cancelling the amenities because of earlier inclement weather; September's was about to occur. The ad-hoc outreach committee would be evaluating strategies for future activities.

—Plans for the Holiday Party were approved. Frank Attanasio and Lynn Jacobs were thanked for researching a variety of options for that busy season.

—A substantial discussion was held about improving sound amplification: quality of equipment, acoustic arrangements on the Hannum stage and in the

hall, guidelines for managers, monitoring of resulting levels, logging results and comments. Walter Lenk had assessed the condition of our equipment and general sound levels at one dance. Obtaining further professional opinion on management over several evenings was authorized.

—The Treasurer asked for comments and corrections on his detailed reports, which he was designing to help analyze the costs of the many aspects of our operation. He did not yet have all of his predecessor's records.

October 1995

—The Treasurer reported that CDS assets had risen above \$200,000, but some substantial payments were yet to be made. A significant part of these funds is restricted for scholarships and other activities to help preserve and develop our traditions. He discussed the

Continued on page 10

English Country Dance on Cape Cod

Barnstable Unitarian Church is the site of Country Dancing on Second and Fourth Tuesdays (except near the Christmas holiday). *Eleanor Calvin* occasionally provides live musical accompaniment. The December 8th dance will be a Year-End Party with extra goodies; wear something festive! Admission is \$3.50. You may telephone **Francis and Marjorie Worrell** at (508)362-9570 for additional information—particularly to confirm dates in February and March, which were tentative at press time.

SPECIAL TREAT:

The English Country dance on Wednesday, December 20, will be led by the renowned dance composer and leader from England, Colin Hume.

To the Editor:

A letter published in the *The Dance Gypsy* newsletter, and a letter from Jonathan and Sheila Bosworth, has brought to my attention an issue that I believe needs more discussion in the dance community, namely the sound level at dances.

Ample research has shown that at some level of sound volume, the hearing of people will be damaged permanently. There are regulations published by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) which limit the decibel levels to which people may be exposed in the work place.

Some investigation on the part of dancers and others has shown that the OSHA limits are exceeded at some dances, thus putting the dancers, callers, and musicians at risk for permanent hearing damage. It seems to me that this ought to be a matter of considerable concern to all members of the dance community.

Once hearing damage from excessive sound volume has occurred, it is

not reversible. So even if the listener does not think that there is a problem, damage may be happening.

Sound levels are measured in decibels (db). The OSHA limits for exposure times over an 8-hour period are:

115 db	15 minutes or less
110 db	30 minutes or less
105 db	60 minutes or less
102 db	90 minutes or less
100 db	120 minutes or less
97 db	180 minutes or less

The Bosworths quote several professionals in the dance field including Bob Mills (NJ), Eric Arnold (MI), Paul Stamler (MO), and David Kaynor (MA) as recommending a maximum level of 90 db for a dance. If some dancers complain of inadequate sound at 90 db, it may well be that their hearing has already been impaired, as is the case with many people who have grown up in the era of rock concerts. It seems inappropriate to me to jeopardize the hearing of those who don't have a problem to satisfy those who do.

Ideally, a decibel meter would be part of every sound system kit. The biggest benefit of a decibel meter is that it provides an objective standard, so if there are some people at the dance who want the volume higher, it provides an impersonal basis for resisting.

If a dance is very small one in terms of normal attendance, it may not be practical to purchase a decibel meter. On the other hand, there should be very little reason for excessively loud sound at a small dance.

Human inertia being what it is, it may be reasonably expected that very little will be done to make changes unless there is a significant chorus of concern that lets dance organizers know that numerous people are aware of the problem and care about it.

I urge all who are concerned about their hearing to make their feelings known wherever possible. Tell your dance organizers, tell the sound system operator at dances, write to dance publications such as this one, and become part of the solution. It's your hearing.

—*Steve Langford*

SOUND LEVELS AT ENGLISH DANCES

In response to concerns expressed by some dancers that the sound levels at the Wednesday night English dances were excessively high, the English Dance Committee sought the opinion and advice of Walter Lenk, a respected dance sound person in the area. He came to the first English dance of the season on September 13 and afterward assured us that the sound levels he observed were not dangerous to people's hearing.

However, since the Committee's goals go beyond safety to making the dance as pleasant and enjoyable an experience as possible for dancers, musicians, and leaders alike, we have not let the matter drop with the assurance of safety. We have asked the leaders to try to get the dancers to reduce the level of noise they produce through scuffing and conversation, thereby allowing the level of amplified sound to be reduced without adversely affecting the dynamic range of the music or the audibility of the leader. We have begun to pay closer attention to the sound over the course of each dance, and to aid in that process Gene DiSalvatore, our sound set-up person on Wednesday nights, has volunteered the use of a sound meter. We have

experimented with speaker placement in an attempt to produce a sound field which better serves the needs of both the dancers and the musicians.

These efforts appear to be largely successful. Evaluation questionnaires, which include questions on sound level, have been distributed at three dances so far this fall, on September 20, October 11, and November 1, as they will be at many more over the course of the year. Of the twenty nine people who filled out questionnaires, two on September 20 found the sound level too loud, and two on November 1 found it too loud for the first half of the evening but better in the second half. Three others (two on September 20, one on October 11) found the sound level for the leader too soft. All of the other respondents considered the sound level about right. In addition, some of the people who expressed concern about the sound level last year and who have been asked their opinion of the level this fall have indicated that they now consider the level satisfactory.

—*Arthur Ferguson, Chair
English Dance Committee*

Ted Sannella's Death Great Loss to Dance Community

Ted's Obituary as printed in the Boston Globe 20 November 1995:

Ted's death came rather suddenly for your editor, and there was not enough time to put together a tribute from his friends, as would have been more appropriate to appear in these pages, before the deadline for mailing the newsletter. So instead, here is his formal obituary as it appeared in the Globe:

Ted Sannella of Wiscasset, Maine, a former pharmacist at Richardson Drug in Concord and a choreographer whose forte was traditional dancing, died at his home Saturday after a long battle with cancer. He was 67.

Mr. Sannella was born and raised in Revere [Massachusetts]. He graduated from Revere High School in 1945 and Tufts in 1949, receiving degrees in biology and chemistry.

He worked as a pharmacist for 35 years before retiring in 1989 and moving to Maine.

Mr. Sannella devoted much of his time to traditional New England dancing as a caller, choreographer and dancer and was known among his peers as the dean of New England callers. He began calling professionally in 1946 and organized dance series in Cambridge, Westport, Concord [Mass.] and North Whitefield, Maine.

He was the past president of the New England Folk Festival Association and the North of Boston Callers' Association. He was an Honorary Life Member of the Boston Centre of the Country Dance Society and honorary member of the Country Dance and Song Society.

Mr. Sannella also served on the Board of Directors of the New England Folk Festival Association, the Folk Arts Center of New England and the National Council of the Country Dance and Song Society. He wrote three books on the subject and called dances in five foreign countries.

He leaves his wife, Jean (Davis); two daughters, Marianne Tibbetts of Windsor, Maine, and Janet Breslau of Jamaica Plain; two sons, Donald Sannella of Edinburgh, and Michael Sannella of Morristown, N.J.; a sister, Anna Mayo of Concord; a brother, Joseph Sannella of Muncie, Ind; and five grandchildren.

Those who wish may send cards to Jean Sannella at R1, Box 218, Old Sheepscot Rd., Wiscasset, ME, 04578.

A RENEWAL REMINDER FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Take a look at the mailing label on this issue of the CDS Boston News. In the upper right corner of the label you should see a letter or a number. If it is a number and the number is 95, it indicates that your membership, which expired on August 31, has not yet been renewed, in which case this is the last issue of the CDS Boston News you will receive until you renew. You can renew your membership at any Tuesday or Wednesday dance or by sending your name, your current address and phone number(s), and a check, made out to CDS, Boston Centre, to the address below.

The membership categories and amounts are

Regular (Individual):	\$20.00
Senior/Student/Low Income:	\$10.00
Contributor (Basic Family):	\$30.00
Supporter:	\$40.00
Sponsor:	\$60.00
Patron:	\$100.00
Benefactor:	\$500.00

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre
c/o Arthur Ferguson, Membership Secretary
21 Upper Joclyn Avenue
Framingham, MA 01701

Any membership at the Contributor level or above can serve as a family membership and include up to two adults and any children under the age of 18 all at one mailing address.

1996 WINTER DANCE CALENDAR

For the latest information on events in the Boston area, call the CDS office, 354-1340.

A recorded announcement will bring you up to date.

☎ Except where noted, all telephone numbers are in Area Code (617).

CDS REGULAR EVENTS

CENTRAL-SQUARE CONTRAS AND SQUARES

7:30-10:30 PM at Cambridge YWCA, 7 Temple St.

First Tuesdays: Tony Saletan, caller, with Vince O'Donnell, Carol Bittenson, Cal Howard, music.

Second Tuesdays: Open Mike, Cambridge Open Dance-Band Society. Callers: 629-2749; musicians: 924-5454.

Third and Fourth Tuesdays: Various callers and musicians

Fifth Tuesdays: Open Mike, for info: 354-0864.

First Saturdays: Open Mike; Spontaneous Combustion (open danceband). Info: 524-1767.

\$5 regular; \$4.50 CDS Members; \$2.50 students with current student I.D.

Contact: CDS office or Art Anger, 899-8702.

CONCORD CONTRAS AND SQUARES

7:30-10:30 PM at Concord Scout House, 74 Walden St..

Fifth Saturdays: Guest Callers & Musicians

\$5 regular; \$4.50 CDS Members; \$2.50 students with current student I.D.

Contact: CDS office or Art Anger, 899-8702.

WEDNESDAYS: ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE

7:30-10:30 PM at Cambridge YWCA, 7 Temple St.

Musicians: *Bare Necessities* (Peter Barnes, Earl Gaddis, Mary Lea, Jacqueline Schwab), and others.

Leaders: Helene Cornelius, Emily Ferguson, Barbara Finney, George Fogg, Rich Jackson, Robin Rogers-Browne
"Party-format" dance on last Wednesday of every month.

\$6 non-members; \$5 CDS Members; \$2.50 students with current student I.D.

Contact: CDS office or Arthur Ferguson (508) 875-0382.

FIRST FRIDAYS: ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE FOR EXPERIENCED DANCERS

8:15-11:00 PM at the Church of Our Saviour, Carleton & Monmouth Sts., Brookline.

\$5.00 for all. All dances will be taught.

JANUARY 5: George Fogg, *Leader*; Old Peculier, *Musicians*.

FEBRUARY 2: Fried Herman, *Leader*; Jacqueline Schwab, *Musician*.

MARCH 1: Brad Foster, *Leader*; Jacqueline Schwab, *Musician*.

For dancers thoroughly familiar with basic English Country Dance Figures.

Contact: CDS office or Arthur Ferguson (508) 875-0382

Saturday December 2

Holiday Party. Concord Scout House, 7:30-11:00pm. Barbara Finney (English) and Susan Kevra (American); with Karen Axelrod, Bill Tomczak, Dave Langford, Susan Kevra. Elegant dessert buffet. \$10. Info (508)369-8611

Saturday December 2

First Saturday Dance. Cambridge YWCA, 7:30-10:30pm. Open Mike; with Steven Cushing and Spontaneous Combustion (open band — drop in).

Tuesday December 5

Tony Saletan; with Vince O'Donnell, Carol Bittenson, Cal Howard.

Wednesday December 6

English Country Dance.

Tuesday December 12

Open Mike; with Cambridge Open Danceband Society.

Wednesday December 13

English Country Dance.

Tuesday December 19

Susan Kevra; with Ruthie Dornfeld, Keith Murphy, Bill Tomczak.

Wednesday December 20

English Country Dance.

Tuesday December 26

Charlie Webster and Rick Frank; with Terry Traub and the Contramaniacs. 6:15pm potluck nearby.

Wednesday December 27

English Dance Party.



OTHER BOSTON AREA DANCES

These regularly scheduled dances appear in the *CDS Boston News* when space is available.

MONDAYS

CONTRA DANCE, Concord Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord. 7:30-10:30 PM. Yankee Ingenuity, music, & Tony Parkes, caller. \$6. Info: (508) 667-7459 or 272-0396.

No dance December 25th!

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE, Cambridge YWCA, 7 Temple St. 7:45-10 PM. Instruction, all welcome. \$5. Info: 492-8180. *No dance December 25th!*

THURSDAYS

NEW ENGLAND SQUARES & CONTRA DANCES, VFW Hall, 688 Huron Ave., Cambridge. 8-11 PM. Variety of callers and bands. Air Conditioned. \$5. Info: 354-1340, 272-0396 or (508) 872-5228.

FRIDAYS

NEW ENGLAND SQUARES & CONTRAS. Third Friday at First Parish Church, 7 Harrington Rd., Lexington. 8 PM. Roaring Jelly & caller Susan Elberger. \$5. Through June. Info: 235-0713, (508) 429-3466.

SATURDAYS

NEW ENGLAND SQUARES & CONTRAS, Concord Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord. 8-11 PM. Alternating weekly schedule (except first Saturdays) featuring callers Beth Parkes (508) 667-7459, Walter Lenk 547-7781 & others; Live music by a variety of bands. \$5.

FIRST SATURDAY CHALLENGING CONTRAS, All Saints Episcopal Church, 17 Clark St. (corner Common St.) , Belmont Centre. 8-11 PM. Calling by Lisa Greenleaf, and guests; music by Unstrung Heroes. \$5. Info: (508) 877-1168.

SUNDAYS

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE, Church of Our Savior, 23 Monmouth St., Brookline, 6:30-8:30 PM. Instruction, all welcome. \$3. Info: 864-8945.

FAMILY DANCES, 1st and 3rd Sundays, except December 17; Concord Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord. 2 - 4 PM, Various Styles and Leaders (International, Contras, Squares); music: Cal Howard and Friends; Refreshments. Info: 491-6083, 354-1340. \$4/person, \$15/family maximum. Suitable for ages 5 & up.

RAGTIME TEA DANCE, 4th Sunday Afternoons, January - April, Masonic Hall, 1950 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, 1:45 - 5:30 PM, Various couple dances popular from 1890 - 1916, including Waltz, Polka, Schottische, One Step, Tango, Foxtrot; various musicians, beginning and intermediate workshops, \$9 including workshop, Info: 964-7684.



Saturday December 30

Fifth Saturday Winter Warm-up. Concord Scout House, 8-11pm. Susan Elberger; with Yankee Ingenuity.

Tuesday January 2

Tony Saletan; with Vince O'Donnell, Carol Bittenson, Cal Howard.

Wednesday January 3

English Country Dance.

Friday January 5

English Dance Party. George Fogg, Leader; Old Peculier, Musicians.

Saturday January 6

First Saturday Dance. Cambridge YWCA, 7:30-10:30pm. Open Mike; with Steven Cushing and Spontaneous Combustion (open band — drop in).

Tuesday January 9

Open Mike; with Cambridge Open Danceband Society.

Wednesday January 10

English Country Dance.

Tuesday January 16

Sue Rosen; with Broadway Band: Walter Lenk, Debby Knight, Ruth Richards.

Wednesday January 17

English Country Dance.

Tuesday January 23

JB Sweeney and Jacob Bloom. 6:15pm potluck nearby.

Wednesday January 24

English Dance Party.

Tuesday January 30

Pre-Groundhog party, costumes invited. Open Mike; with Terry Traub and the Contramaniacs. Callers call Ann, 354-0864; Musicians, Terry, 643-6420.

OUTSIDE THE BOSTON AREA

Please call the information number listed to confirm date, time and place.

FRIDAYS

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING in NEW HAVEN. 12/1 and Alternating Fridays starting 1/5, no dance 1/19 at Neighborhood Music School, 100 Audubon St., New Haven, CT. 7:30-10:30 PM. **Christine Helwig**, leader, assisted by Andreas Hayden; music by *Marshall Barron, Grace Feldman, Margaret Ann Martin, & friends*. \$6. **Info: (203) 776-6929.**

WORCESTER CONTRA DANCES, First and Third Fridays at 8:00 P:M, through June, beginner's session at 7:30, First Unitarian Church, 90 Main St., Worcester. \$5., **Info: (508) 755-7329**

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE. Third Fridays, Oaklawn Grange. Cranston RI. Soft-soled shoes. 7:30-10:30pm. \$6. English Country Dances of Rhode Island: Anne Richardson **Info: (401) 331-3239.**

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE on Cape Cod. 2nd & 4th Friday, year-round. Barnstable MA, Unitarian Church. Live music by *Eleanor Calvin*. 7:30pm. \$3. **Info: Francis & Marjorie Worrell 508-362-9570.**

CARLISLE DANCES—Squares, contras, & couple dances. Second Fridays of the month at the Unitarian Church in Carlisle, MA, featuring *O'Connor's Mob* with **Walter Lenk**, caller. Potluck 6:30; dance 8:00 - 10:30 PM. Through June. \$5 **Info: 547-7781 or (508) 369-1232**

SATURDAYS

NEW ENGLAND CONTRA & SQUARE DANCE, First Saturdays, Berlin Town Hall, Corner of Rt. 62 and Woodward. **Sue Rosen**, caller, and *The Polymorphous String Band*, 8 - 11 PM, \$5. **Info: (508) 481-4802, or (508) 393-7598.**

MEDWAY SQUARES & CONTRAS. 2nd Saturdays, Christ Episcopal Church, 14 School Street, Medway, 8-11 PM. \$6. **Info: (508) 533-1259 or (508) 429-1773.**

MYSTIC CONTRAS AND SQUARES, Second Saturdays, Oddfellows Hall, Mystic, CT \$6. **Andy Derr, (203) 437-8189.**

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE. Third Sat, Grange Hall, Pequot Trail, Stonington CT, 1/4 mile east on Rt. 234, exit 91 off Rt I-95. **Peggy Vermilya** (leader); *Peter Corbridge, Marianna Pinchot Avery* (music). Soft-soled shoes. 7:30-10:30pm. \$6. English Country Dance of Greater Mystic: **Peggy & Peter Vermilya (203) 535-3623.**



Wednesday January 31
English Dance Party.

Friday February 2
English Dance Party. *Fried Herman, Leader; Jacqueline Schwab, Musician.*

Tuesday February 6
Tony Saletan; with *Vince O'Donnell, Carol Bittenson, Cal Howard.*

Wednesday February 7
English Country Dance.

Saturday February 10
"First" Saturday Dance. Cambridge YWCA, 7:30-10:30pm. Open Mike; with *Steven Cushing and Spontaneous Combustion* (open band — drop in).

Tuesday February 13
Open Mike; with *Cambridge Open Danceband Society.*

Wednesday February 14
English Country Dance.

Tuesday February 20
Mardi Gras Party. **Eve Kitchen;** with *Red Beans and Grit* playing old-tyme contras and Cajun.

Wednesday February 21
English Country Dance.

Tuesday February 27
Michael Resnick and Ann Cowan; with *Terry Traub and Contramaniacs.* 6:15pm potluck nearby.

Wednesday February 28
English Dance Party.

Friday March 1

English Dance Party. Brad Foster, *Leader*; Jacqueline Schwab, *Musician*.

Saturday March 2

First Saturday Dance. Cambridge YWCA, 7:30-10:30pm. Open Mike; with *Steven Cushing and Spontaneous Combustion* (open band — drop in).

Tuesday March 5

Tony Saletan; with *Vince O'Donnell, Carol Bittenson, Cal Howard*.

Wednesday March 7

English Country Dance.

Tuesday March 12

Open Mike; with *Cambridge Open Danceband Society*.

Wednesday March 14

English Country Dance.

Tuesday March 19

Dave Titus; with a new Klezmer band.

Wednesday March 21

English Country Dance.

Tuesday March 26

Dances with "as you like it" roles. **Chris Ricciotti** and **Rick Frank**; with *Monkey Island*. 6:15pm potluck nearby.

Wednesday March 28

English Dance Party.

Friday February 2

English Dance Party. **Fried Herman**, *Leader*; **Jacqueline Schwab**, *Musician*.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Christmas, New Year's, and Holiday Gala Affairs, Balls, and Dances have been given their own space on page n. Don't miss them!

Ralph Page Legacy Weekend.

January 12-14. Durham, NH. NEFFA, *Andy Davis, Bob McQuillen, Nightingale, The Milford Musicians*, and a host of callers & workshop leaders. **Reservations Required. Info: 354-1340.**

The Pleasures of Providence

English Country Dance Ball. January 27 Providence, RI. English Country Dancers of Rhode Island, Call **Peggy Vermilya** for **reservations: (203) 782-1646.**

Ragtime Dance Weekend,

January 27 & 28, Workshops & Dances, One Step, Hesitation Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot, Grizzly Bear. *Spare Parts*. Masonic Hall, Porter Square, Cambridge, MA, Discount for advance reservations. **Info & reservations, Mike at 964-7684**

Advanced English Country Dance.

February 11, South Amherst, MA. Munson Library, 2-5pm. Challenging dances for experienced dancers. *Sharon Green, Larry Wallach, Doug Creighton, and friends*. Childcare available. **Info: (413) 549-8159.**

Dance Flurry Festival

February 16 - 18. Saratoga Springs.

Gender-Free Dance Camp.

February 23-25, Becket MA. Becket/Chimney Corners Camp. **Pierre Chartrand** (Quebecois), **Lisa Greenleaf** (contras), **Michael Cicone** (English), **Louise Brill** (international); music by *Nightingale*. \$160 (non-LFCD member after 15 Jan). **\$50 deposit: LFCD, c/o Greg Rice, PO Box 7001, Groton, CT 06340.**

CDS Boston Centre Playford Ball 8:00

PM on Saturday, March 2, 1995 at the Weston Town Hall Music: *Bare Necessities*. **Leader: Helene Cornelius**. Discount for registering before January 7; Afternoon Workshop Formal or period dress encouraged. Advanced registration required. **Info: 354-1340 or (508) 875-0382**

Downeast Country Dance Festival.

March 8-9 South Portland, ME. **Jim Spicer: (207) 495-2331.**

Returning Heroes' Ball.

March 16, 7:30 - 11:00 pm, 1860s Formal Ball; \$15/person, \$25/couple; music by *Spare Parts*; prompting by **Patri Pugliese**; Winchester, MA, Reservations and Period Costume Required, For information, reservations, or help with costuming, call **Patri or Barbara at 396-2870.**

Novelty and Tradition in the American Dance Program

Our Winter-to-Spring program of Tuesday and Saturday dances continues the Fall effort to combine well known contra and square-dance callers and bands with new callers and musicians in varying combinations. We aim to include as many of both groups as possible to enrich the opportunities for all participants at an affordable price. At the same time, we see ourselves more and more as a prime training ground for new callers, musicians, dancers, and producers. In fact, we **invite** anyone interested in developing these skills to participate in our program.

First-Tuesday Tony

Tony Saletan continues as our lead caller each month, calling old and new contras and singing squares with his usual skill and humor. He is accompanied by *Carol Bittenson, Vince O'Donnell, and Cal Howard*. They're fun; come, enjoy!

Second-Tuesday Open Mikes

This evening, that welcomes new and developing callers and musicians, continues to offer new experiences on Second Tuesdays. Callers interested in making a contribution to this program should call **Steve Boylan** at 629-2749; musicians may simply drop in, but **Rick Mohr** would appreciate advance notice at 924-5454. Of course, all dancers are welcome (without notice) to these lively and diverse evenings.



Third-Tuesday Special Guests

On December 19th, **Susan Kevra** will call to music from *Ruthie Dornfeld, Keith Murphy, and Bill Tomczak* and his unbeatable clarinet!

On January 16th, **Sue Rosen** joins in her debut solo performance for us, accompanied by a new band, *The Broadway Band (Walter Lenk, Debby Knight, and Ruth Richards)*.

We celebrate Mardi Gras on February 20th, when **Eve Kitchen** will call contras to the Old Timey music of *Red Beans and Grits*—and teach a bit of Cajun dance, too. Costumes will add to your fun!

On March 19th, **Dave Titus**, newly arrived from Wisconsin, will call the dance; we hope that he will be accompanied by a Klezmer-sounding band. Come find out.

Fourth-Tuesday Duo Nights

Charlie Webster and **Rick Frank** will call on December 26th, with **Terry Traub**, his *Contramaniacs*, and sit-in musicians playing.

On January 23rd, **JB Sweeney** and **Jacob Bloom** return in a fun combo.

On February 27th, **Michael Resnick** and **Ann Cowan** will call to more exhilarating tunes from **Terry Traub**, his *Contramaniacs*, and sit-in musicians.

Chris Ricciotti and **Rick Frank** will call to the accompaniment of *Monkey Island* on March 26, an opportunity to dance old

favorites in traditional gender roles or to have fun “learning the other part”.

Don't forget—each of these is preceded by a 6:15 **Potluck Supper** at Helen's home, 1 Fayette Park, to help you get to know your fellow dancers better.

Fifth-Tuesday Open Mikes

Extra opportunities for new callers and musicians. Callers should phone **Ann Cowan** at 354-0864, musicians call **Terry Traub** at 643-6420. January 30th will be a **Pre-Groundhog Day Party!** We challenge you to come up with a costume or personal decoration to celebrate an underdog holiday.

First-Saturday Open Mikes

This is our new series for people who prefer weekend dancing, especially new or recently new dancers. Music will be provided by *Spontaneous Combustion*, led by *Steven Cushing*; musicians wishing to play may phone him at 524-1767.

Callers wishing to join the program on December 2nd should phone **Joel Breazeale** at 497-2112. The coordinator for January, February, and March will be **Ann Cowan**, at 354-0864. One important schedule change is that the **February** dance will be on the **second** Saturday at the Y. Plan on a full evening of enjoyment with numbers of new faces!

Fifth Saturdays in Concord

Come to our gala Winter Warm-up Dance on December 30th, with **Susan Elberger** and *Yankee Ingenuity*. This is our Big Dance, held at 8pm at the Concord Scout House. Both caller and band are stars in their firmaments, and promise a fine evening of New England Contra and Square Dancing.

You owe it to your friends (and to yourself) to bring them to some of these enjoyable programs!

—Ann Cowan, Program Chair

Concord Scout House

History of a Community House

The Concord Scout House in Concord, Massachusetts, was made for country dances! Built in the mid-1700s, the Scout House was originally a barn, part of a successful farm owned by the Wheeler family. The Wheeler farm later became the Stow farm that butchered and barreled beef and pork and also manufactured soap and candles. Pigs and cows were housed in the barn until the spring of 1930, when the barn and the small slice of land it stands on were bought by the Girl Scouts of Concord for renovation into a meeting hall.

The barn was typical for New-England, 80 feet long and 40 feet wide. It was divided into six bays, with a hay loft on either side and a higher one over the center open area for the hayracks. Large hand-hewn timbers supported the lofts; all the beams in the framework were hand-hewn and pegged together. The floor of the barn was supported by large trunks of white pine with the bark still on, extending from one stone foundation wall to the opposite wall. In 1930, these trunks were still in good condition, considering their age, so they were sawed into lumber for sheathing in the hall. At that time, the cross beams were spliced in the middle with old beams and supported from the roof with iron rods to give a spacious, unobstructed floor area.

The Concord Girl Scout House was finished in June 1931, just a year and one-half after the stock-market Crash of 1929, exemplifying some of the remarkable acts of generosity that occurred during the Depression of the 1930s. One of many special gifts given at the completion of the renovation was an electric clock with a cast Girl-Scout Trefoil, encased in a large wooden plaque made from a fallen pine tree planted by Ralph Waldo Emerson.

To assure that the Concord Girl Scout House would continue to serve Concord as a community center, it became a separate not-for-profit corporation, Concord Scout House, Inc., in the mid-1970s. As a self-supporting facility, its funds are derived from rental income and the donations of members and friends. It is available to rent for celebrations and meetings of almost any kind.

The Concord Scout House continues to serve both Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts as a meeting place and camping site. It also serves as a gathering place for folk, country, and contra dancers; most who now know the Scout House think of it as a home for dancers as well as for scouts. The next time you attend a dance at the Concord Scout House, remember that you are part of its rich and colorful history!

—Elizabeth Cabill, President,
Concord Scout House, Inc.

Board News (continued from page 2)

effort of assimilating past records into the new scheme.

—Shelagh Ellman-Pearl reported that the Labor-Day Weekend at Pinewoods had been “simply a wonderful event” due to fine weather, many willing assistants, and a full camp. Another addition to campers’ enjoyment was a hired Children’s Activity Leader. They had also managed, in spite of current scarcity, to hire a lifeguard for swimming sessions. The session netted a wonderful surplus in comparison with 1994’s event. A cancellation question was raised; the Board re-affirmed the announced policies.

—Renewal of the lease with the YWCA for 1996-2001 needs to be negotiated in the next few months. Gene DiSalvatore, Herb Jacobs, and Ralph Jones were delegated to begin the

Fried Herman Weekend

Fried Herman is coming to Boston! Fried, the author of the dances “Rose of Sharon”, “The First Lady”, and “Astoria Lass”, will be with us for the weekend of Feb. 2nd and 3rd.

On Friday night, she will be teaching at the First Friday dance for experienced dancers, with music by *Jacqueline Schwab*, at 8:15 at the Church of our Savior, Carlton and Monmouth streets in Brookline. On Saturday, she will hold a workshop from 2 to 4:30 in the afternoon in Hannum Hall at the Cambridge YWCA, 7 Temple street; a party will follow, from 7:30 to 10:30. Music will be provided by *Bare Necessities*.

Admission for the First Friday will be the usual \$5. Admission for the Saturday events will be \$8 for each event, or only \$12 for a combined ticket. We are hoping this will be a regional event, so we are willing to register people and groups in advance. To register, send a check for the combination you desire to: Terry Gaffney, 11 Burr St., Boston, MA 02130

Continued on next page



Fried Herman

(continued from previous page)

We plan to send out to anyone who registers in advance instructions for six of Fried's dances which she will be doing at the party on Saturday night: *The Archbishop*, *Face the Music*, *Love's Triumph* (her reconstruction), *Nine for the Nine Bright Shiners*, *Shoomaker Row* (reconstruction), and *Yola's Invitation*. In response to past requests for the music that accompanies our dances, each group of six preregistrants will receive instructions and music in addition to six copies of the dance directions. We hope that groups will preregister and then have the fun of practicing the dances in preparation for the weekend.



Christmas/New Year's/Holiday Dances/Balls/Galas

CDS Boston Centre Holiday Party 12/2, English & American with **Barbara Finney** and **Susan Kevra**. Desert Buffet. \$10. (508) 369-8611.

Mandala Holiday Party, 12/9, Masonic Hall, Porter Square, Cambridge, MA, afternoon workshops, evening party with live music, 7:30 - 11:30 pm, \$10, 868-3641

Gender-Free Holiday Contras & Squares. Sat 12/9 Jamaica Plain, MA, 1st Church of Jamaica Plain, Centre & Eliot Streets. **Chris Ricciotti**, caller. Beginners' workshop 7:30, easy to intermediate dances 8-9:30, advanced 10-11 pm. \$6. Info: 522-2216, 522-1115.

Gender-Free Holiday Contras & Squares. Sat 12/16 Greenfield MA, Second Congregational Church. **Chris Ricciotti**, caller; music by *Wintergreen*. Beginners' workshop 8pm, advanced dance 9:30-11pm. \$5. Info: (413) 772-2822, or (413) 584-0938.

Christmas Cotillion Dec 17 Concord, MA., Music by *Yankee Ingenuity*, Calling by Tony Parkes, Formal or period dress encouraged, Reservations Required: 272-0396, (508) 667-7459.

Christmas Dance, 12/25, All Saints Episcopal Church, Belmont, 8:30 - 11 pm, Contras & Squares with **Cammy Kaynor**, Harp Concert at 7:00 pm, Newcomers & Families especially welcome, \$6 donation, Info: 324-7355.

Pre-New Year's Eve Vintage Dance, 12/29 Bookfriends Cafe, NYC, music by *Spare Parts*, prompting by **Marc Casslar** (203) 286-9191

FAC New Year's Eve Dance Party, 12/31, Masonic Hall, Porter Square, Cambridge, MA 9pm - 1am, live music, potluck refreshments, \$12, 491-6083.

Gala New Year's Eve Contra Dance, 12/31, Concord Scout House, 8 pm - 1 am, Callers: **Lisa Greenleaf & Walter Lenk**, music: *Jack O'Connor, Debbie Knight, Cal Howard & friends*. \$10, 547-7781.

New Year's Eve Dawn Dance. December 31 — Northfield, MA. Brattleboro Dawn Dancers, Kevin Collins, (413) 256-1233.

CDS Boston Centre Meetings

Meetings are open; all members are welcome, but please call ahead to confirm date, time, and place.

Board of Directors:

3rd Wednesday, except July, 6:00 PM,
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge

New England Dance Committee:

1st Tuesday, 6:00 PM 497-6732

English Dance Committee:

Various dates and places, 7:00 PM.

Call (508) 875-0382 for specifics.

Deadlines for Spring issue:

(covering February 1996 - May 1996):

Editorial and calendar: **February 2nd**; Inserts (pre-approved): **February 9th**

Communicating with the Board

If you are planning an event or have some other matter that requires consideration by the CDS Board, please send a one or two-page summary to:

Jean Farrington

24 Frost Street

Cambridge, MA 02140

by one of the following dates for consideration at the subsequent meeting:
December 8th, January 6th, February 4th, March 4th.

News Needed

If you are planning a future event, or attended a notable past event, that you would like to tell all your fellow members about, we would like to hear from you.

Send articles, announcements, requests, or inquiries to:

Art Anger

MIT PO Box 397227

Cambridge, MA 02139-7227

E-mail: Anger@MIT.EDU

Phone Art Anger, 899-8702 (h) or 253-7044 (o) to discuss assisting, or for delivery instructions.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR TED SANNELLA

On Saturday, December 2, at 1:00 pm, there will be a Memorial Service at the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church, Washington Street (Rt 16), at Rt 9, Wellesley, MA. There will be an opportunity for those who wish to say a few words to share their remembrances of Ted.

After the service, there will be a gathering in the community room downstairs to share pot-luck finger foods (appetizers and desserts). The church will provide beverages and utensils. Of course, you don't need to bring anything to attend. Please spread the word to anyone you know who may be interested in coming.

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre
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