



# CDS Boston News

*The Newsletter of the Country Dance Society, Boston Centre*

## Summer 1998

☞ **Deadline for Fall Newsletter: August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1998. Details, back page.**

### From the President

As another year of dancing comes to a close, it's useful to take stock of where we are. Where we are strong, we continue to be strong; and our problems. . .well, our problems aren't going away.

Our dance camps and special events continue to be popular and artistic successes. Average attendance at the Wednesday night series is in the mid-range of recent years. We still have problems helping beginners to continue with the series. The Tuesday series has a wonderful location at the Old Cambridge Baptist Church just outside of Harvard Square (with free parking!), but attendance remains low. Members of the Boston Centre who would like to see this series continue are encouraged to get in touch with Chris Reynolds and Andy Koehler.

Membership in the Society has continued to decline very slowly from our peak. The rate of decrease is nothing to be alarmed about, but does indicate that we need to think about ways of bringing in new members.

The Society's finances continue to be a source of strength. The last four years have seen an average increase in the Society's net worth of just under \$12,000 a year. This money represents a resource which the Society can use to promote country dancing in our region and even internationally.

For example, Marianne Taylor has been promoting English country dance in New Hampshire, and Anne Richardson (our new Vice-President) has produced a dance series in Providence. In both these efforts, relatively small sums make a big difference, by providing

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### Summer Dance Series

For the first time in several years, there will be dances sponsored by the Boston Centre during the summer.

Helene Cornelius and Ralph Jones are putting together a three-dance **English** series. This is still in the planning stages, but the dates are expected to be July 15, August 5, and August 19. Staff and locations will be announced, so keep your eyes open for flyers, or call the office for further information in July.

Cammy Kaynor's **First Tuesday** dance plans to continue for the summer in its current location. Call the office to verify.

### Don't Forget Our Gala Concord Contras!

Saturday May 30 will see the **Second Annual Memorial Day Picnic and Contra Dance**. Called by Dan Pearl with music by Roberta Sutter, Carol Bittenson, and Cal Howard, it will be held at the Concord Scout House. Singles and beginners welcome.

Be sure to join us for sun and sociability at our potluck picnic at 6:30 P.M. Contribute \$1 towards paper plates and utensils and bring a potluck contribution. We'll provide lemonade and yogurt beverages and some hot dogs. Salads, breads, main dishes, desserts, and your other favorites will be most welcome additions.

The dance is at 8 P.M., for an admission of \$6. There will be refreshments at intermission.

Y'all come on Saturday June 6 and have a wild time at our **Mardi Gras Party: Contra & Cajun Dances in June!** Why not? Our caller will be Mary Desrosiers with music by Crazy Blues (with Nat Hewitt, Liza Constable & Tom Pixton). Again, singles and beginners welcome.

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working capital and money for publicity and occasional deficits. Support of these dances can increase interest in ECD in the region without creating competition for our Wednesday series. As people who start dancing north and south of us move around, some of them will wind up in Cambridge, increasing our numbers.

What about the west? The benefit Jane Austin Ball that Tom Kruskal produced last fall in Sudbury shows potential support for dance events there. I encourage producers, callers, musicians, and dancers from the western suburbs to think about a possible series or special events there. I'll be happy to facilitate a meeting of people interested in doing something in the region.

Another idea grew out of some informal feelers put out by board members for ways of supporting country dancing: Dan Pearl suggested we produce an audio companion to Peter Barnes' book of tunes. This would be a collection of CDs recording all the dance music in Peter's book. Bare Necessities would record the tunes in the same style that they play at our regular Wednesday night dance. These would be made available at wholesale prices through our various national dance organizations.

I was excited about the idea because it means that any group with a CD player and a hall could put on a weekly dance with high quality, varied music. A series of CDs like this would be valuable internationally as well. ECD in England, for example, is typically done weekly in small clubs which don't have the resources for live music. It would also be a boon to people in international folk-dancing, because there are a lot of good country dances without a recording for the accompanying tune. Dan Pearl and Steve Boylan are looking into the feasibility of the project.

A serious problem that the Society had this year was finding people to serve as Directors. We were forced to postpone the annual meeting to April, because we could not get a full slate ready for March. In hopes of making better use of our Directors' time and making the job more attractive, the Board is proposing some changes in the way we go about our business. These changes and the changes to the bylaws which they entail are discussed elsewhere in this newsletter. I encourage the membership to think about these changes and let us know how you feel about them.

*Terry Gaffney, President*

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## Reorganizing the Board of Directors

### From the Editor

As we consider the changes that have been proposed in the way we run our organization, I hope that there will be many spirited but respectful conversations. As a *great* fan of process, I hope we will process the issues until everyone feels heard. Everyone has a right to his or her opinion, no matter how crazy it may seem to someone else, so please agree to disagree. With luck and hard work, the resulting changes (or lack thereof) will show a consensus of the membership.

Here is an article on the proposed changes by Boston Centre President Terry Gaffney, with a listing of the proposed changes, followed by letters from concerned members.

*Lyril Ahern*

### From Terry

In recent years it's been difficult to get people to agree to serve on our Board of Directors and difficult to staff our standing committees.

After thinking and talking about it for a couple of months, the board has proposed changing the way it

conducts business. This will involve changing the bylaws under which the board operates. Instead of meeting every month, the entire board would meet four times a year, establishing an executive committee to act on behalf of the board in situations which require action before the next scheduled meeting of the board. The board would continue as the group which sets policy for the organization. Board members would be expected to work on a standing or ad hoc committee.

How will this help?

People have a limited amount of time to give to organizations like CDS. When we meet as a board, the directors are basically acting as "editors" for the various proposals and reports that come up. As most of you know, 12-15 editors working over a topic tends to lead to "overkill" and an over concern with minutiae. Over the years our Board has somehow acquired the reputation of "micro managing".

On the other hand, members generally have positive things to say about their experience on standing committees, where their role is more creative than editorial. Running a dance series, organizing special events, run-

ning a dance camp is more fun than listening to and criticizing someone else doing these things.

By encouraging board members to spend more of their limited time in creative roles and less in editorial roles, we hope to better use the energy of our directors. By shortening the amount of time we meet as a board, we will force ourselves to focus on setting policy and evaluating how well we are doing at reaching our goals. Our hope is that as the dance community realizes the opportunities to be creative that directors have, it will become easier to find future directors.

By requiring directors to serve on board committees without increasing their time commitment to the board, we also will be able to revive some of our standing committees which are currently moribund.

Of course, someone still has to act as editor, and this is where the executive committee comes in. The executive committee would continue to review reports of events and would continue to look over budgets. Our belief is that a smaller group should be able to do this more efficiently. It would oversee the implementation of policies decided by the board and take action between board meetings in emergency situations.

### **Why are we changing the Nominating Committee?**

The changes to the bylaws would expand the nominating committee by adding two directors. Currently it is very difficult to get members to serve as directors. This means that the members of the nominating committee find themselves making many, many calls. By adding two directors to the committee, we increase the number of people who can carry the workload. Directors will also be able to give potential candidates a good feel for what's involved in the position and assurance that it's not overwhelming.

### **What comes next?**

The proposed changes are the board's attempt to implement the vision described above. The board has voted in favor of the ideas behind these changes and has approved this set of changes as a starting point for further discussions. The next step is for the membership to discuss the proposed revisions in our newsletter or by e-mail. After listening to member comments, the board will again consider these changes, and, if there seems to be broad support for them, will send out ballots to the membership next fall.

# **Proposed Changes to the By-laws**

Add to article IV

10. Duties of Directors. Directors are expected to make every effort to attend meetings of the Board regularly and to participate in CDS activities. Directors are expected to serve on at least one committee or task force.

In Article V

Replace 3. with

3. The Board shall meet at least four times a year. The President may call additional meetings and shall call a special meeting at the written request of at least four Board members.

In Article VI

Change 2. to:

2. The standing committees are Executive, Finance, English Dance, American Dance, and Endowment and Grants. The members of these committees who are not ex-officio members must be approved by the Board.

Insert the following article as article VII and increment the number of the other articles by 1.

Article VII: Executive Committee

1.) Composition. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers of CDS and such other directors as the Chair may from time to time nominate, and the Board approve. The President shall be the chair of the Executive Committee.

2.) The Board may delegate specific powers, duties or tasks to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is also empowered to act on behalf of the Board in situations which, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, require action before the next scheduled meeting of the Board. The Executive Committee shall report its actions to the Board at the Board's next regular meeting. In managing the administrative and operational functions of CDS, the Executive Committee shall act in accordance with policies established by the Board.

3) The Executive Committee shall meet at least once during each calendar month that the full Board does not meet, and otherwise as necessary for the efficient operation of the organization. The Executive Committee may conduct meetings by conference call. A majority of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum; decisions by the Executive Committee shall also require a majority of the committee.

In Article X Elections (which is the new Article XI)

Replace 1. with

1. The Nominating Committee will consist of five members, three to be elected by the members of CDS and two to be appointed from among the members of the Board. Terms of elected members are three years with one expiring each year; terms of director-members are for two years with one expiring each year. The Committee is chaired by its senior elected member.

## Letter to the Editor On Bylaw Changes

A modified version of the proposed bylaw changes has been written by the Board of Directors and is included in this newsletter for your consideration.

While this modification is an improvement, there is still much to be done to increase its democratic character and increase communication among the officers, board, and members. The new proposal creates radical changes in organization which remove the board's actions further from the membership. I believe this will lead to increased apathy toward, rather than the invigoration of the organization.

As I did in the last newsletter, I will outline the major changes proposed, the problems I see with them, and alternative ways to deal with the issues.

### **The proposal:**

1. Decreases the minimum number of board meetings per year from ten to four, with an executive committee meeting in the other eight months.

2. Creates an executive committee composed of the five officers with a quorum of three, with only three votes also necessary for action.

3. Allows the president, with the consent of the board, to add any number of directors to the executive committee, with a majority of the committee deciding issues.

4. Allows the executive committee to meet by conference call.

5. Expects (does not require) directors to serve on one or more committees.

6. Increases the number on the nominating committee from three to five, with three elected by the membership for three years each and two appointed from the board for two years each, all with staggered terms and chaired by its senior member.

### **Some problems:**

1. This proposal concentrates most of the power and responsibility of the organization in a small group of five

people, with only three necessary for organizational action. This seems unnecessary and dangerous, and may lead to further disinterest in participation by members.

2. With three or four people making most organizational decisions, most members and even most board members will be uninformed as to what the organization is doing, and why. The President's description of most board motions, discussion, and voting as "editing" is confusing. What the Board has been doing is investigating, deliberating, deciding, and voting on programs and budgets, etc., i.e., legislating.

3. Leaving the chair the option to nominate any number of directors to the executive committee leaves considerable uncertainty as to who and what procedures govern—to an unnecessary degree of arbitrariness.

4. A large(r) board increases the participation of members, keeps more people informed and feeling responsible. It also insures a certain diversity of insights, opinions, and talents, adding to the creativity of the organization.

5. Several board members have confided to me that they appreciate the opportunity to discuss issues with like-minded friends and to have their opinions sought and count for something.

6. I am unconvinced that having fewer board meetings will get directors to volunteer even more time to committees.

7. If some items on the agenda have been trivial or time-wasting, they can be eliminated or constrained by the chair or other directors. However, if the board meets only to hear what the executive committee has already done, it will surely lose interest in coming to meetings. This is even more true if "meetings" are held by phone or e-mail, which does not allow for full participation or observation by directors, and certainly not by members.

8. The tendency for this small group will be to eliminate public meetings and do the business of the organization mainly by phone and e-mail, leaving both the board and members with considerably diminished opportunity for access and the executive committee with considerably diminished creative input.

9. The conference call meeting approach will eliminate prospective candidates who do not have or cannot get or afford this service (E. DiSalvatore).

10. Perhaps the nominating committee is obsolete, since it has not recruited effectively or in a timely manner in the past two years, and seldom manages to get more nominees than slots. Increasing the size and complexity of the nominating committee does not seem a productive way to use scarce volunteer talent.

11. In addition, allowing two appointees from the board to the nominating committee without stating how

they are to be chosen suggests that perhaps they might be self-selected officers—a further concentration of power.

**Some suggested alternatives:**

1. Continue monthly board meetings, but make them cover only those items on which decisions are required, or on which directors or members have questions. Aim to keep them to one hour.

2. Establish an executive committee composed of the five officers plus two directors elected by the board, with a quorum of five with four votes necessary for action, to serve the board between meetings on matters delegated to it or in emergencies.

3. Require board review and approval for all acts of the executive committee.

4. Keep all meetings of board and executive committee open to all members. Use conference calls for decisions only in dire emergencies.

5. Have the board appoint a facilitation subcommittee to help the board and chair prepare an agenda for efficient board meetings by:

a. Collecting data on all committees and the time-tables they must meet,

b. Determining what board decisions on programs and budgets need to be approved, and when,

c. Working to determine when proposals are required and when the board needs them for considered deliberation well in advance of board meetings,

d. Informing committee chairs and president when board members need materials,

e. Directing chairs to confine their remarks to decisions to be made and to a limited number of minutes,

f. Informing board members of their responsibility to be prepared to discuss and vote on the items when they come to the meeting.

In this way, the Board will be better prepared, and the meeting can move more quickly and be less burdensome, with less or no need for an executive committee.

6. Replace the nominating committee with an election committee of three member volunteers. The election committee will administer the elections, encourage any and all members to run for office, and advertise widely for volunteers to run as directors, committee chairs and committee members, screening candidates for qualifications, i.e., CDS Membership and willingness to give the necessary time and attention to the position.

In general, increase rather than decrease the accessibility of the organization to its members. Publicize all position openings and invite volunteers to serve. A little freedom and open democratic competition might be the breath of fresh air we need!

*Ann Cowan*

Endorsed by Art Anger

## Food for Thought

The President of CDS, Boston Centre has proposed changes to the bylaws. The Board of Directors has been discussing the proposed changes for several months and is far from unanimous on its merits. I urge members of the Boston Centre to become informed on the nature of the proposed changes, which may be presented to the membership for approval. This vote may result in unintended consequences.

The impetus for the proposal has been that the current structure is inefficient, cumbersome, too time-consuming, and does not facilitate rapid response in cases where it seems to be necessary. Monthly meetings of the board are required by the current bylaws and seem excessive. Most of its tasks could be conducted by a much smaller active executive committee.

I agree with the problems but disagree on the proposed solutions for several reasons. Under the present bylaws most of the activities of the current board could be delegated to a smaller group. One or more smaller committees could be charged with tasks by the board. This could improve efficiency and expedite decision-making, but has rarely been attempted during my tenure on the board.

The requirement of monthly meetings should be relaxed somewhat, but not radically. Meetings should be held at the call of the president or several members of the board.

Changing the bylaws to transfer power from the board to an executive committee tends to reduce the democratic nature of the organization and unduly centralize authority. This is no reflection on the current President or on the President-elect. Control by single (or a few) individuals tends to be efficient; democracy tends to be inefficient. Despite its inefficiency, I prefer democracy.

Inertia may be cumbersome, but it tends to assure a reasonable amount of continuity in an organization and reduces the likelihood that one individual or small group could dissipate a substantial portion of the hard-earned resources of the organization, or engage in ill-advised enterprises. Such events may be inadvertent or well-intentioned, but can be quite detrimental.

Think before you leap at seemingly simple solutions.

*Eph Weiss*

# CDS Boston Centre Events

## English Country Dance Regular Events

### WEDNESDAYS

YWCA.\* 7:30 to 10:30. To 6/24/98. Helene Cornelius with Barbara Finney, and others. Music: Bare Necessities (Peter Barnes, Earl Gaddis, Mary Lea, Jacqueline Schwab) & others. \$6; \$5 CDS Members; \$3 students and beginners.

### June 24

End-of-Year English Country Dance Party

### FIRST FRIDAYS

**For Experienced Dancers.** Church of Our Saviour.\* Oct. thru June. 8:15 to 11 PM. For dancers thoroughly familiar with basic English Country Dance figures. All dances will be taught. \$5.

**June 5:** CDS Leaders with Vince O'Donnell and Susan Janssen

## Summer Dances

Proposed dates: July 15, August 5 and 19. Leaders, musicians, and location to be announced. Call the CDS office to confirm.

## American Dance Regular Events

### FIRST TUESDAYS

Old Cambridge Baptist Church.\* Informal instruction at 7:45 and dancing 8:00-10:30 PM. Adjacent parking of 25 spaces. \$6; \$5 members; \$3 students & seniors.

**Continuing for the summer:** First Tuesdays. Cammy Kaynor's Community Dance. Musicians are invited to sit in, and callers are encouraged to call.

## Special Events

### May 30, Saturday

**Second Annual Gala Memorial Day Picnic & Contra.** Concord Scout House\*. 6:30 potluck picnic, \$1; 8:00 dance, \$6. Dan Pearl with Roberta Sutter, Carol Bittenson, & Cal Howard.

### June 6, Saturday

**Mardi Gras in June Contra.** Concord Scout House. 8 pm. Mary DesRosiers with Crazy Blues. \$6.

**Please include your new area code in dance notices!**

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## Boston Centre Summer Camps at Pinewoods

See page 8 for more details.

### June 19-21

**First Weekend.** Katy Petersen and Jerry Callen (617) 876-5330 or jcallen@world.std.com

### July 2-6

**Fourth of July Weekend.** Bill Schultz (603) 225-5129 or wshultz@tiac.net

### July 6-10

**English-Scottish Session.** Christina Wasch (617) 661-8091 or cwasch@alum.mit.org

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For information about CDS Boston-sponsored dances, please call the office at (617) 354-1340. Arthur Ferguson, chair of the English Dance Committee, is an additional source for English dances at (508) 875-0382. American dances have additional numbers listed in each item, as they vary.

### \* Addresses of Frequent Dance Locations \*

Concord Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord

Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave., Cambridge

Church of Our Saviour, Carlton & Monmouth Streets, Brookline

YWCA, 7 Temple Street, Cambridge

## OTHER REGULAR BOSTON AREA DANCES

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

Call before going to make sure that these dances are running during the summer.

### MONDAYS

**Contra Dance**, Concord Scout House, 74 Walden St. 7:30-10:30 PM. Various callers with Yankee Ingenuity. \$6. Info: (781) 259-8442 or (781) 272-0396.

**Scottish Country Dance**, Cambridge YWCA, 7 Temple St. 7:45-10:30 PM. \$5. Info: (617) 492-8180.

### TUESDAYS

**English Country Genderfree Dance**. 1st Church UU of Jamaica Plain, Centre & Eliot Streets. May 26. Michael Cicone & Rob Dobson, callers. 7:30-10:30 pm. \$5. Info: Michael Cicone, (781) 891-3296.

### THURSDAYS

**New England Contrás & Squares**, VFW Hall, 688 Huron Ave., Cambridge. 8-11 pm. Various callers, bands. \$5. Info: 354-1340, (781) 272-0396, or (508) 229-2854.

### FRIDAYS

**Contrás, Squares & Couple Dances**. 2nd Fri. Unitarian Church in Carlisle, MA. 8:00-10:30 PM, potluck at 6:30. Walter Lenk with O'Connor's Mob. \$5. Info: (617) 547-7781 or (978) 369-1232.

**Contrás and Squares with Roaring Jelly**. 3rd Fri. First Parish Church, Unitarian Universalist, on The Green, Lexington. 8-11 PM; beginners 7:45. Caller Susan Elberger. \$5. Info: (781) 944-3544.

### SATURDAYS

**New England Contrás & Squares**, Concord Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord. 8-11 PM. \$6.

**1st Sat.**, various callers & bands.

**2nd Sat.**, Tony Saletan with Concord Country Dance Band. Info: (978) 369-4462.

**3rd Sat.**, Beth Parkes with Swinging on a Gate. Info: (980) 667-7459.

**4th Sat.**, Walter Lenk with Jack O'Connor and Debby Knight. Info: (978) 369-1232.

**Challenging Contrás & Squares**. 1st Sat. All Saints Episcopal Church, 17 Clark St. (at Common St.), Belmont Center. 8-11. Lisa Greenleaf with live music. \$5. Info: (978) 779-6077.

**New England Squares & Contrás**. 3rd Sat. Studio 665, 665 Salem St. (3rd fl.), Maplewood Sq., Malden. Instr. 7 PM, dance 8 PM. Cammy Kaynor & Knights of Tunisia. \$5. Info: (781) 324-7355.

**Genderfree Contrás and Squares**. First Church U. U. of Jamaica Plain, Centre and Eliot Sts. 7:30-11 pm. May 23: Contrás & Squares with Sarah Gregory Smith & live music. \$5 before 8pm, \$6 after. Info: Chris Ricciotti: (617) 522-1115.

### SUNDAY

**Scottish Country Dance**. Church of Our Saviour, Carlton & Monmouth St., Brookline. 6:30-8:30 PM. Evelyn Murray, I. Lamont, and others. \$4. Info: (617) 661-5899.

Please include your new area code in dance notices!

## OUTSIDE THE BOSTON AREA

*Please* call the info number to confirm date, time & place.

Call before going to make sure that these dances are running during the summer.

### MONDAYS

**Nelson Town Hall Contra Dance**. Nelson, NH. 8 to 10:30 PM. Mary DesRosiers with Harvey Tolman & Friends. \$3. (No number given).

**English Country Dance Party** at the Old Gym in Hadley, MA, on Rt. 9 near Rt. 47. Robin Hayden and Mary Jones. All dances taught; beginners welcome. \$5. Info: (413) 256-8260, or (413) 549-8159.

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# SPECIAL EVENTS AND DANCE CAMPS

Call first to check details and directions.

## **CDSS Summer Dance and Music Camps**

### **Buffalo Gap Camp, Capon Bridge WV**

English & Amer. Dance Week, July 4-11; English Dance Musicians Workshop, July 4-11; Family Week, July 11-18

### **Pinewoods Camp, Plymouth MA**

Early Music Week, July 18-25; Folk Music Week, July 25-Aug. 1; Family Week, Aug. 1-8; Amer. Dance Week, Aug. 8-15; Campers' Week, 15-22; English Dance Week, Aug. 22-29; English Dance Teachers Workshop, Aug. 22-29; English & American Dance Week, Aug 29-Sept. 5; American Dance Callers Workshop, Aug 29-Sept. 5

**Country Dance and Song Society**, 132 Main St., P.O. Box 338, Haydenville MA 01039-0338  
Phone (413) 268-7426, ext. 3; Fax (413) 268-7471; camp@cdss.org

## **May**

**29-31**

**Work Weekend** at Pinewoods. Grounds work and cleanup to open camp. Housing & meals provided. (508) 224-4858 or manager@pinewoods.org

## **June**

**19-21**

**First Weekend** at Pinewoods. CDS, Boston. Families welcome. Preplanned and camper-led activities. Katy Peter-sen, Jerry Callen: (617) 876-5330 or jcallen@world.std.com

## **July**

**2-6**

**Fourth of July Weekend** at Pinewoods. CDS, Boston. English county dance, American

dance, Irish Sets, Cotswold Morris, Northwest Morris, Cape Breton Stepping, Longsword, Rapper, Singing, Couple Dances, Band class. Bill Schultz, (603) 225-5129 or wschultz@tiac.net

**6-10**

**English-Scottish Session** at Pinewoods. CDS, Boston and RSCDS, Boston Branch. English and Scottish country dancing, Scottish step dancing and highland dancing, English clog, Rapper and Longsword, band workshop. Christina Wasch, (617)661-8091 or cwasch@alum.mit.org

**10-13 and 13-18**

**Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Sessions I & II.** Scottish Country Dancing, Highland, Step, Cape Breton, and Old Time.

Jane Angstrom, (978) 774-5783 or jangstrom@aol.com

### **July 25 - Labor Day Mainwoods Dance Camp.**

Various dance weeks. Info and brochure, Patricia Williams, (207) 674-2112 or pwwmaine@aol.com

## **September**

**5-8**

**Labor Day Weekend** at Pinewoods. Families welcome. Dance leaders: Scott Higgs (English) and David Millstone (American). Call CDS, Boston at (617) 354-1340 for further information.

### **Dates to be announced**

**Work Weekends** at Pinewoods. Grounds work and cleanup to close camp. (508) 224-4858

## **Want Ads**

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**Rose Galliard Northwest Morris**, of the Boston area, is seeking a musician. We are a women's team of ten years, currently practicing in Sudbury on Tuesday nights. Please contact Luisa Granitto, squire, at (781) 275-5265, or by e-mail at Wendells@TIAC.net.

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Aspiring rapper sword dancers are invited to attend a class offered by **Charles River Rapper**. Learn the basics of stepping and some of the exciting figures that make rapper unique. No experience necessary. Three weekly classes begin June 7, 6-8 p.m. Waltham. For more information, call (617) 489-2003.

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## FRIDAYS

**Contra Dance at the Guiding Star Grange.** 3rd Fri. 401 Chapman St., Greenfield, MA. 8 PM to midnight. Susan Kevra with Bill Tomczak, Mary Cay Brass, Carol Hamm, & Dave Langford. \$6. Info: (802) 254-2874 or btomczak@sover.net.

**English Country Dance on Cape Cod.** 2nd & 4th Fri. Unitarian Church, Barnstable MA. *Third* Fridays on 4/17 and 5/15. Live music by Eleanor Calvin. 7:30 PM. \$4. Info: (508) 362-9570.

## SATURDAYS

**New England Contra & Square Dance.** 1st Sat. Berlin Town Hall, Rt. 62 and Woodward. Sue Rosen with The Polymorphous String Band. 8-11 PM, \$5. Info: (508) 481-4802.

**Peterborough Contra Dance.** 1st Sat. Peterborough Town House, Grove St., Peterborough, NH. 8:00-11:00, 7:30 beginners. \$5. Info: (603) 525-3883.

**English Country Dances with Pleasures of the Town.** 3rd Sat. Munson Library, South Amherst, Mass. 8-11 PM. Beginners 8-8:30. \$6. Info: (413) 549-4123.

**New Haven Country Dancers.** 1st & 3rd Sat. Eli Whitney Barn, 915 Whitney Ave. 8-11 PM. \$7. Beginners' workshop 7:30. Info: (203) 776-1812 or [WWW.NHCC.COM/~HENRY/NEWHAVENDANCERS.HTML](http://WWW.NHCC.COM/~HENRY/NEWHAVENDANCERS.HTML).

**Greater Providence Contra Dance.** 2nd or 3rd Sat. Oaklawn Grange, Wheelock Street, Cranston, RI. 8-11 PM. \$5. Info: Jeanne Chapman (401) 828-3229.

**Westcustogo Grange Contras.** 2nd Sat. North Yarmouth, ME. Slow Jam with Pam Weeks at 6:00, potluck 7:30, dance 8:30 to midnight. \$6. Info: (207) 926-4210 or (207) 799-2585.

**Dancing Cat Contras** in Dover, NH City Hall. 8:30-11:30 PM. \$6. Info: (603) 659-7038.

**Presumpscot Grange Contra Dance.** 4th Sat. David Kaynor and live music. Info: (207) 799-2585.

**July 29 - August 12**

**Contras in England.** Contact Ken McFarland at [Farlands@PolarNet.Com](mailto:Farlands@PolarNet.Com) or (800) 822-3435.

## Join Us at Pinewoods for English-Scottish

There is still time to sign up for the July 6th to 10th English-Scottish session at Pinewoods. Come and revel in this wonderful combination of country dancing – elegant English and stylish Scottish! There will be longsword and rapper, step and highland as well. Terrific teachers, marvelous musicians, and great parties!

Contact Bonnie Armstrong at (781) 749-1750.

## Seventh Annual Nahant Victorian Day Ball

The Seventh Annual Nahant Victorian Day Ball, to benefit the Nahant Historical Society, will be held on Saturday July 11th, 1998 at the Nahant Town Hall, 7:30 pm to 11 pm. Come join us to celebrate the late Nineteenth Century with music by Spare Parts and the punctilious prompting of Dr. Patri Pugliese. The Era of this year's ball will be the 1890s. Formal dress is requested and period dress is encouraged. Admission is \$20 per person; spectators welcome.

For further information, including Victorian Games Day, call Ben or Katy at (781) 593-3038. To register, send a check payable to Vintage Victorian to: P.O. Box 9, Nahant, MA 01908

## Newport Vintage Dance Week

This year's Newport Vintage Dance Week will be held August 10-16 in Portsmouth, RI. Staff includes Marc Casslar, Martha Griffin, Richard Powers, Patri Pugliese, Joan Walton. Three classes will be held daily, with afternoon Teas, 1860s and 1890s Balls, and a ragtime Great Disasters costume ball. Music is by the New River Dance Orchestra. \$515 includes tuition, room & board. Info: [CVDNewport@aol.com](mailto:CVDNewport@aol.com) or Hannah Roberts Artuso, (781) 662-8344 before 10 pm.

## *Concord Contras, Continued from page 1*

Mary will teach a few Cajun dances interspersed with contras. Bring your beads, masks, and friends to the Concord Scout House at 8 P.M. We'll serve (Cajun?) refreshments at intermission. Admission is still \$6.

For info about the dances, call (617) 354-0864.

*Ann Cowan, Producer*

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

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Telephone (617) 354-1340

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### Deadlines for Fall issue:

(covering September through December 1998):

Editorial and calendar: **August 1st**, inserts/flyers, August 10th

*Please be prompt!*

## CDS Boston Centre Meetings

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

### Board of Directors:

3<sup>rd</sup> Wed., except August, 6:00 PM  
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge

### New England Dance Committee:

1st Tuesday, (617) 923-9330

### English Dance Committee:

Various dates and places. Call  
(508) 875-0382 for specifics.

## 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:

Terry Gaffney  
11 Burr Street  
Boston, MA 02130

by the 1st Wednesday of the month for consideration at the subsequent meeting.

## News Needed

If you are planning an event or enjoyed an activity that you would like to tell your fellow members about, write it up! Send articles, requests, inquiries, or announcements, preferably by e-mail to:

Anger@MIT.Edu

or by mail to:

Lyril Ahern, 298 Central Street  
Acton Mass. 01720

Phone Art Anger, 899-8702 (h) or  
253-7044 (w) to arrange delivery of mailing inserts.