

BOSTON CENTRE NEWSLETTER

Country Dance Society

57 Roseland St., Somerville, Mass. 02143 - Phone 354-2455

March 1978

EDITORS

Kathy Ingoldsby, 18A Glendale Avenue,
Somerville, Mass. 02144

Lyril Ahern, 298 Central Street, Acton,
Mass. 01720

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The people to talk to about an idea or
an opinion:

S-J Thomas (Pres.), Joe Tierney
(1st V.P.), Dale Thomas (Treas.),
Mary Blomberg (Sec.), Lyril Ahern,
Donna Hinds, Bill Horne, Louise
Winston, Chris Walker, and Francis
Worrell

A Change Is Due

After much study and financial analysis, the Board of Directors has decided to raise the annual dues and to change the time at which they are paid.

The dues have been \$3 since 1946. In the past 32 years, our expenses have increased greatly. Along with inflation and the expansion of our program, it is also now more expensive to maintain and staff the office, even with NEFFA paying more than in the past. Ken Crook took care of the office for us for a very small fee, but now that he has passed away, we find it necessary to pay going rates for a secretary.

Our principle income sources are membership dues and admissions to dances. The dances about break even, so our office expenses must be financed from dues. This is now far from adequate; therefore, the Board of Directors has decided to raise the dues and to increase by a small amount the admission to dances for non-members.

Effective January 1, 1978, regular membership will be \$6 per year, contributing membership will go from \$5 to \$15, and supporting membership, formerly \$10, will increase to \$25. Non-members' admissions to dances will increase from \$1.75 to \$2.00.

The membership year will start in September for everyone. New memberships and renewals from January to August 1978

will be prorated according to the following schedule:

Jan.-Mar. thru Aug. -- \$4.50
Apr.-June thru Aug. -- \$3.00
July and Aug. -----\$1.50

Memberships dating from Sept.-Nov. 1977 will renew in September at the new rate.

Please call the office or a Board member if you have questions or comments about these or other CDS matters, as we welcome your contributions.

Spring Schedule

Tuesday evening dances will continue as usual through June 13. English country dancing will continue through June 14, beginning at 8:15. Morris classes will run through May 17 only, beginning at 8:00 and running till 9:15. From March 1 to 29, Shag Graetz will offer a 5-week series on rapper sword. Series price is \$7.50 for members, \$10.00 for non-member. From April 5 to May 17, Arthur Cornelius will teach Morris for people with some Morris dance experience.

On March 25 at the YWCA (7 Temple St. Cambridge), the Boston Centre will feature a day with Sandy Bradley. She calls traditional western squares, which has less to do with modern club square dancing than it does with our New England dancing. Music will be by Hank Bradley, Claudio Buchwald, and friends. The workshop



(#2) will begin at 2 p.m., and there will be a dance party in the evening (also \$2).

On April 8, advanced English dancers will join Helene Cornelius at the YNCA. Music will be by the CDS English Orchestra. The dance will begin at 8:00 and will cost \$2 for all.

The Annual Meeting and Dance is scheduled for May 13; it is FREE and for members only. It begins at 8:00 p.m.

The Continuing Saga of the Exec. Sec.

Friday, January 20, 1978, found the Boston Centre again without an executive secretary. Vickie Gatanis had resigned.

Susie Stix willingly filled in until a permanent secretary could be found. . . did a good job too. Now we wish to introduce to you our new secretary, Kitty Wheeler, who began working for us during the past week. She has lived with her family in Chestnut Hill for more than 20 years and has just finished an advanced degree. She is a tennis player who is thinking of taking up folk dancing.

At this point, her weekly office schedule hasn't been worked out, but it will probably continue Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

Benjamin Woodbury Horne was born at home on February 21, 1978, weighing in at 7 pounds, 15 ounces. His parents are Elizabeth and Bill Horne.

School for Traditional Dance and Song

"Québécois Customs (Dance and Song)" is scheduled for April 21-23, using the facilities at Windham College, Putney, Vermont. The fee of \$50 includes room and board. "Dancing and music in New England would be of a completely different nature were it not for the influence of the French Canadian culture. Over the centuries, there has been a great exchange of tunes, dances, and songs between English- and French-speaking peoples of the Northeast. This weekend course will bring four members of a Montreal-based dance group, "La Grand' Visite", to teach step dancing ("le clog"), social dancing, and songs from Québec. The fast-

moving Québécois step dance style is actually quite similar to the clog dancing of other cultures. Classes will be divided in terms of previous experience to give those with some facility a chance to learn more intricate steps. Social dance classes will concentrate on the traditional quadrilles, cotillions, and set dances which have been collected in various parts of Québec. The Saturday evening dance party will be a "Soirée Québécoise" in a local dance hall with singing and dancing for all. This will be a very special opportunity to learn directly from exciting young performers in a small group situation. Instructors: Ginette Dubois Roy, Claude Théberge, Claude Brochu, Gerald Tapp."

A weekend workshop on Cotswold Morris was held March 16-18 with Tony Barrand and Fred Breunig. Did you know that there are now close to forty Morris teams in North America?

The School holds courses throughout the year, designed to "enable singers, dancers, and teachers to broaden their knowledge and enjoyment of the traditional dances, songs, and stories of Britain and North America, and to obtain information and teaching skill that can be taken back and put to work in their communities."

For further information, write to School for Traditional Dance and Song, Post Office Box 51, Marlboro, Vermont 05344, or call (802) 254-2651.

Resignation

Terry Tobias has resigned from the position of Treasurer. Dale Thomas, formerly 1st Vice President, was appointed to fill out the term, with Joe Tierney taking his place as 1st Vice President. Because Dale is out of town frequently on business, Evelyn Lamond has agreed to serve as Assistant Treasurer; she is not a member of the board and does not have a vote.

Susan Louise Ferguson wishes to announce a change of name. From now on, she is to be known as Emily Louise Ferguson.

Here's Your Chance!

In only a few short weeks, music from many lands will echo through the halls of the Natick High School, and the New England Folk Festival will be in full swing again. . . .yes, this means we are looking

for help with the food booth. Chairman Bob Cohen is looking for people to share an hour of their time working at the booth during the Festival (April 21-23), people to supervise the running of the booth for specific times, people to pick up non-donated items such as paper and plastic products, and people to help with clean-up. Food donations will be needed later, so be thinking. If you want to help, you can call Bob at 926-4719, or write your name on the sign-up sheet at the dance.

The Board of Directors thanks

Laura Stein

for her fine and well-organized job on the refreshments for the Christmas party, and in particular, for her detailed follow-up report, which will make the job much easier for the next person.

Where Are You??

There are a number of people whose mail is being returned to the office. Please send your new address--or if you know where any of these people can be reached, please let us know.

Edward N. Callahan	Richard Stallman
Leif Erickson	Stephen A. Thomas
Kerry Hite	Michael Nicolaidis
Margrit Hutler	Clarinda Philips
Martin Naumann	Hank Simpson
Nancy Pash	
John and Kathleen Tyson	
Jim and Marnie Morrison	

Pinewoods Opportunities

Pinewoods manager Gerda Conant has announced this spring's Pinewoods work weekends. The weekend of May 19-21 will be used to clear the paths of storm debris and do repairs. Anyone who isn't going to the Morris Ale in Vermont over Memorial Day weekend is welcome to join people from other groups interested in Pinewoods for the second work period. Camp opening is scheduled for June 2-4; a crew is needed to carry mattresses around, etc.

At other times before camp is open and also the week after opening weekend,

small self-directed work groups are encouraged.

Anyone interested in coordinating the work on any of these weekends is asked to contact Gerda at 696-6293. She's also looking for people to plan the meals and coordinated the cooking.

There are several open weekends at the end of summer which the camp would like to fill. If you know of an appropriate group who might be interested in using the facilities, please let Gerda know. Possibilities include conservation, hiking, orienteering, wild flower, bird study, educational, and church groups.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR !



Pinewoods weekend is going to be a 1-o-o-o-n-g one this year. It will begin on the evening of Friday, June 30 and run through breakfast on July 5, Wednesday.

Pinewoods Benefit

The Pinewoods Benefit Dance held on December 30 by Becky Lawson, Sandy Davis, and Tony Saletan was a great success. Over 200 people attended, and over \$600 was cleared for Pinewoods.

Concerts & Workshops

Sandy and Hank Bradley concert

The Bradleys will be presenting a varied program of traditional American music and things they've written themselves on the evening before the CDS-sponsored workshop. The concert begins at 8 p.m. at the Music Emporium, 1768 Massachusetts Avenue in Cambridge. Admission is \$2.50 at the door--and bring a pillow. Attendance is limited because of the size of the room, so come early.

There are two workshops at the Music Emporium in April that should be of interest to traditional musicians.

The first is on April 9, and is really two separate workshops running from 2-4 p.m. One features Cathal McConnell of the Boys of the Lough on whistle and flute. Aly Bain, also of the Boys of the Lough, will present Shetland fiddle. The fee is \$15, and space is limited. Sandy Davis suggested that interested persons call the Emporium at 661-2099 and reserve a space.

The other workshop is a master class in English concertina. Alistair Anderson will hold the classes on April 23 and 30; private lessons are available during the week. The fee is \$25.00.

Anna A. Kloss

We have just learned of the death of Miss Anna A. Kloss of Medford on January 11, 1978, at the age of eighty-seven. Many will remember her as a most gracious, charming person who loved the English dancing, was often hostess at the monthly parties, and attended the women's classes until several years ago. She was Secretary of the Country Dance Society from 1936 to 1950.

Miss Kloss graduated from Simmons College and attended Radcliffe, and from 1915, for more than forty years worked for the Massachusetts Department of Education, visiting state-aided schools and passing on qualifications for teachers of Home Economics. She also had been in charge of the Summer School at Hyannis.

Since 1926 she's has a summer camp in Holderness, New Hampshire, where Miss Louise Chapin often visited her in

August. Spring and fall found her at her very old family Colonial home in Topsfield, where Mary Blomberg and I visited her on November 11 of last year. She was keenly interested to hear all about the Country Dance Society and said she felt very much indebted to it for the many people she's known and the friends she's made and also for some of the happiest times of her life.

The large desk at our office had belonged to her father, who was a designer of woolen cloth, and she also gave the oak bookcase--now being used for our "library" of books.

--Evelyn Lamond

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People who have worked on this issue:

Honey Hastings Barbara Page
Kathy Ingoldsby Susan Stix

BOARD of DIRECTORS

S-J Thomas, President; Joe Tierney, 1st Vice-President; Dale Thomas, Treasurer; Mary Blomberg, Secretary; George Fogg, Donna Hinds, Bill Horne, Jackie Schwab, Susan Stix, Louise Winston, Chris Walker and Francis Worrell.

Message from the President

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1977-78 YEAR IN BOSTON CENTRE CDS: A Report as my Term as President Draws to a Close.

CDS membership hit an all-time high last May, at 630, and is still going up. When the official tally is done for the Annual Meeting the number is expected to be over 650. This growth is probably the result of several factors including the continued success of the weekly English Country Dances with George Fogg, teaching the introductory portion, and Helene Cornelius, our Consultant Director of English Dance, leading the second portion of each night's program. Earl Gaddis, as the Head of the band and sound specialist, along with Claudio Buchwald and Jackie Schwab, has consistently presented excellent and delightful music.

Our Tuesday night series with Ted Sannella, alternating with Tony Parkes, and always backed by Donna Hinds with Yankee Ingenuity, set all kinds of new attendance records. Their very high standards of excellence brought more enjoyment to us all than any such combination of talent in recent years. Thanks also go to Al Olson for teaching the newcomers at the beginning of each evening.

Our additional weekly Thursday American Dance Series last spring offered Roger Whynot with the newly formed City Ducks, led by the versatile Claudio Buchwald, and Tod Whittemore who had April Limber and Pete Colby behind him.

And speaking of versatility, we should note Cal Howard, who plays with various groups and also managed to provide a more balanced sound system so that we were able to enjoy the added space afforded in the large Brimmer and May School Gym.

There are many other leaders and musicians whose significant contributions to CDS have made this a lively and successful season. Leadership for the Morris and Sword classes has come from Shag Graetz and Arthur Cornelius, with Paul Cole and Tom Kruskal supplying the music.

The 1977 Boston Centre 4th of July Weekend at Pinewoods was a great treat as usual, in spite of the loss of C# due to remodeling. The evening dance programs were divided and held simultaneously in the Dining Hall and C# Minor, necessitating an incredible shifting of musicians and leaders (not to mention dancers) and lots of running back and forth between the pines in the dark!!

Mary Blomberg and Evelyn Lamond spent many hours last year sorting our book, record and music collections, and searching the office files for historical materials. We have a lending library of several hundred English and American dances, and some folk dances, and a fair selection of books on the form and execution of the dances and the traditions behind them. Our files also include glimpses into the active social and



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dance activities of our early members who held grand parties with style and dress that hasn't been seen in recent years.

After developing and for two years, editing, this newsletter, Lyrl Ahern and Kathy Ingoldsby have decided to move on to other projects. We appreciate their work in putting out an attractive and much needed publication.

Tim Cavanaugh has left Boston for the green hills and Morris Bells of Vermont, but takes with him our warmest thanks for establishing and maintaining our record and book sales department. This service not only put welcome money into our treasury but placed pleasurable and useful-English and American dance materials into our hands. Bruce Pratt has offered to assume the sales business for us, but needs one or two co-workers to help with this project. Volunteers should please speak to Bruce or to Honey Hastings.

The English Food Booth at the NEFFA Festival benefited again from the clever frame and tri-colored canvas roof over a table laden with home-baked goodies, beef stew, Cornish Pasties, Queen's Tarts, home-made soup, and yes, bagels. The Food Booth is always a successful money raiser for CDS as well as a service to NEFFA. Credit is due in order of appearance, to Cindy Tobias, many good cooks, Abel Silva, Gere Mansbach, Kathy Ingoldsby, and Bob Paul, and especially to the co-chairpersons, Bob Cohen and Judy Otto.

The Nominating Committee--Jerry Wheelock (chairman), Michael Paine, and Eva Linn talked to many members about CDS activities and goals. We salute them for finding several able and interested members who are willing to serve on the Board of Directors.

I doubt that many CDS members are aware of the great sense of responsibility and the many hours of work that are given so freely by every member of the Board of Directors. Our weekly programs, in addition to our participation in the NEFFA/CDS Summer Series (an idea ably

"proponented" by Larry Jennings), means that we are administrating about 95 dances per year. Our Pinewoods and Cardigan Weekends, and our annual Christmas Party must also be mentioned, and recognition extended to Marty Markham and to Laura Stein for the last two projects respectively. We now have an annual operating budget of over \$40,000.00 even though much of what we do is based upon volunteer help or reduced fees to the leaders and musicians.

After a succession of five able but short-term secretaries, including CDS members Susan Reiners, Dottie Palmer and Susie Stix, we have found a permanent executive secretary whose considerable experience with arts/cultural volunteer organizations has already become evident in administrative improvements in efficiency and style. Kitty Wheeler is a person of many talents, with a strong interest in our Society now, and plans that should help us strengthen our programs and widen our influence in the future. Experience has made it obvious to me that the administration of this Society's affairs requires the active, sustained support of a knowledgeable Executive Secretary. The new President, the Board of Directors, and you the members will soon appreciate Kitty's skills.

In addition to the excellent service given by each and every Board member, I want to mention the work being done by Evelyn Lamond, our Assistant Treasurer, as a service to the Board. To all of these people, and to the others who have been mentioned in this report, the Society owes a considerable debt of gratitude. I hope that members will consider sharing in the work of the Society in the year(s) ahead, as sharing the load is the best way to ensure that we maintain an artistically satisfying, socially stimulating and fiscally sound organization.

And now, after two years of rewarding but very time-consuming involvement as your President, I hope to do less talking and more dancing!! Good luck and continued success to all of you.

S-J Thomas

*Note - Brimmer + May Dance - Note
Monday, May 22 (not Tuesday)*



For the Record...

Susan Stix has been appointed to fill the vacancy on the Board of Directors created by Lyril Ahern's resignation.

Volunteers needed to help at dances, with mailings, membership and assorted office jobs. For details, ask at the door or phone Kitty at the office.

The Library of Congress has asked for back copies and a current subscription to the Boston Centre Newsletter.

Special thanks to the following faithful volunteers -- Mary Blomberg, Alan Oakes and Louise Winston.

A Workshop Series in English and Early American Dance will be held in Deerfield, MA on eight Wednesdays in July and August. Staff will include Helene Cornelius and Lila Parrar. Contact: Timothy C. Newmann, Box 174, Deerfield, MA 01342.

NEEDED: Editor, calligrapher, writers, artists--for this Newsletter. Please contact CDS office or Honey Hastings, 527-2791.

Summer Schedule...

Flyer with details will be mailed in June.

- Tue June 13-Last Brimmer and May Dance
- Wed June 14-Last English Dance at YWCA
- Tue June 20-NEFFA Contra and Square,
Girl Scout House, Concord
- Tue June 27-NEFFA Squares, Girl Scout
House, Concord
- Wed June 28-English Dance, beginning of
CDS/NEFFA Summer Series.
Every Wed at 8:00 P.M. at
First Congregational Church,
Garden and Mason Streets,
Cambridge
- Fri June 30-July 5-Boston Centre Pine-
woods Weekend
- Wed July 5-NEFFA Contra
- 12-English Dance
- 19-English Dance
- 26-NEFFA Dance
- Wed Aug 2-NEFFA Dance
- 9-NEFFA Dance
- 16-English Dance
- 23-NEFFA Dance
- 30-NEFFA Dance
- Fri Sept 1-Sept 5-Boston Centre
Pinewoods Weekend
- Wed Sept 6-NEFFA Dance
- 13-NEFFA Dance

Thanks to S-J

Never since the Boston Centre of the Country Dance Society was founded in 1915 has it grown so rapidly as in the past three years, during which our numbers have trebled, to a membership of over 650. The main reason for this increase has been the dramatic growth in our square dance attendance, which has been due to changes instigated by S-J and Dale Thomas.

For the past two years S-J, in serving as our President, has ably led us through the growing pains attendant on such rapid expansion. She has also had to contend with many unusual problems, chief among them the recurring headache of finding a part-time executive secretary for our office. Six times during her term she has had to carry out the time-consuming search, then train the new secretary on all of the many details of the job, only to have each one in turn leave, usually for full-time employment. The seventh and present secretary, Kitty Wheeler, is proving to be an exceptionally wise choice and a jewel who plans to be with us for some time to come, so we expect to be grateful to S-J for that contribution to CDS long after she has left office.

Through all the many problems S-J has faced, including drains on her time which sometimes ran to as much as twenty hours a week, she has maintained a calm, friendly, tactful approach to everyone, and her wise, thoughtful, and eminently fair administration has been deeply appreciated by all of us who have worked with her. We hope that all of you who enjoy CDS activities will thank her for the outstanding job she has done as your President.

Louise Winston

Pat Shaw

Most of Pat's dances and music were composed for his friends and were named after them or their houses or special occasions.

In London a scrapbook is being made in memory of Pat. Needed are photographs of the people and the places concerned and, where possible, a short "history" by them and why the dance or music was composed. Reminiscences of Pat and the occasions would be very welcome.

Material in America is being collected. Please send all material in duplicate to Frieda Metz Herman
66 Chestnut Avenue
Larchmont, New York 10538

Bob Cohen says "Thanks!!" to all helpers. 

News from Nat'l CDS

CDSSA will sponsor six weeks of music and dance at Pinewoods this summer, including a Chamber Music Week and a Family Week. The chamber music program will include classes in early music for instrumentalists and singers, as well as Baroque, Renaissance and country dancing. The staff will include Lanone Davenport, Martha Bixler, Valerie Horst and Janis Pforsich. The Family Week will feature classes for children and adults in country and ritual dance, plus folk singing, crafts and band. New this year is a special program for teachers featuring daily seminars in the use of traditional music and dance with children. Staff includes Bob Dalsemer, Meg Durham, Sibyl Clark and Pessie Smith. For further information, contact CDSSA, 55 Christopher Street, N.Y., N.Y. 10014, (212) 255-8895.

Plimouth Plantation

On June 24 and 25 there will be a Midsummer Festival at the Plimoth Plantation in Plymouth. After bringing in the summer harvest, villagers take pleasure in sports, dancing, singing and feasting.

On July 1, 2, 3 and 4 the villagers will begin to raise the main section of a 72-foot reproduction of a 17th century barn. Work will continue each weekend in July.

On July 23 there will be a music festival. Traditional folk music will be heard on the Plantation grounds.

On August 16 there will be re-enactment of typical wedding festivities in Pilgrim Village.

For a complete program of events through November 30 please contact Laurie Downing, Plimoth Plantation, Box 1620, Plymouth, MA 02360, (617) 746-1622.

Other Events at Pinewoods

Work Weekends - contact Gerda Conant, 506 Elliot Street, Milton, MA 696-6293.

Dates - May 19-21

May 26-29

June 2-4

Program - Grounds work and repairs, cleaning, setting up for opening of camp.

Appalachian Mountain Club - contact Jim Christopher, 16 Birch Road, Andover, MA 475-5470.

Program - Bike trips, boating, dance, hiking. Date - June 16-18

Folk Arts Center of New England - contact Connie and Maryanne Taylor, 62 Fottler Drive, Lexington, MA 862-7144.

Date - June 23-25

Program - International folk dance and music.

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society - contact Gail Sullivan, 8 Farrington St., Arlington, MA 646-4516.

Date - July 7-15

Program - Scottish Country and Highland Dances, Special 25th anniversary events.



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