

Meet the new Board members!

At the Annual Meeting of CDS, Boston Centre, on March 24th, 1996, eleven people were installed as officers and members of the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee was very pleased to have been able to put forth such a fine slate of nominees this year, and is sure that they will serve the society well. Here's a little background information on who they all are:

Terry Gaffney (President Elect) started dancing at the CDS English dance in 1984, after dancing in and helping to organize a local contra dance series in Jamaica Plain. He became a member of the English Committee in 1994, and organized the recent Fried Herman weekend. He has been a member of the CDS board for the past year, working on outreach issues. He is a mathematics professor at Northeastern University.

Margaret Keller (Vice President) has a variety of dance involvement, including English country over the past 20 years, and is a regular on Wednesday evenings. She is a member of Ha'penny and Merrie Mac morris teams, and the New Dancing Marleys, and has recently formed a rapper sword team. She is Director of Major Gifts at WBUR.

Ralph Jones (Treasurer) has been a member of CDS and NEFFA since he moved to Massachusetts in the mid-1970s. He has been treasurer for NEFFA since 1989, and has been acting treasurer for CDS-BC for quite some time. Ralph is currently on the faculty at Boston University, in the Department of Accounting. In addition to dancing regularly, he plays for English, Scottish, contra, and occasionally folk dancing.

Bonnie Armstrong (Secretary) started dancing as a high school student, in a performing square dance group, and has been contra dancing ever since. She discovered English country dancing five years ago, and is now a regular at the Wednesday evening dance. She has been a member of the Board for the past year.

Jean Krogh (Director) has been dancing for almost thirty years, starting as an international dancer, now doing primarily contras and English. She has been a member of CDS, NEFFA, and FAC for many years and is looking forward to supporting CDS as a member of the Board of Directors. Jean was a social worker and is now in career transition.

Chris Reynolds (Director) started dancing in 1984, when she read an ad for the CDS contra dance in the paper. Primarily a contra dancer since then, she also does some international and English dancing. She is a regular attendee of July 4th Weekend,

and occasionally goes to First Weekend and Labor Day, and met her husband at Pinewoods.

Tony Saletan (Director) has been a regular CDS dancer since 1976, and a CDS dance caller, musician, and song leader since 1978. He has served on the boards of several dance organizations, including the CDS Board for the past 2 years.

Bill Schultz (Director) first became involved in traditional song and music at Rutgers College. He became musician for Muddy River Morris when he moved to Boston in 1981, and in recent years has been a dancer with Commonwealth Morris and the Marlboro Morris Men. Bill enjoys English and contra dancing, and loves singing and playing traditional music, and practices law in between.

Eph Weiss (Director) has been dancing for about 25 years, and is active in contras, International, English, and Scandinavian dances. Eph has served as a director of NEFFA, has been a workshop leader or co-leader at NEFFA and NOMAD, and currently teaches International folkdancing to seniors. His current specialty is Scandinavian.

Nora Daoud (Director) started dancing in 1988, when she discovered international folk dancing, and suddenly found herself never seeing her old friends anymore. She joined CDS about 6 years ago, and now dances English as well as continuing with international dancing. She teaches French and is a tourist guide for French-speaking groups visiting Boston.

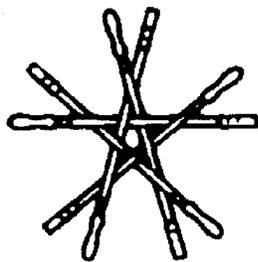
Walter Locke (Director) has been English Country dancing since being introduced to it in 1978 by Tom Kruskal and Elizabeth (Horne) Locke. He was introduced to Revels and to Pinewoods Camp about the same time by the same people. He attends Pinewoods' Family Week most every year and can be seen often in the chorus of the Christmas Revels. He likes to attend the Wednesday dance in Cambridge, but hasn't done so as often as he probably will now that he is a CDS Board member.

Maureen Carey (Nominating Committee) organized a Family Dance series in 1993 at the Longfellow School in Cambridge, where every week 60+ people dance and follow with a potluck. She has been on the Board and served as Secretary for the past year. She works for a magazine, "Growing Without Schooling," and is involved in the national movement of home schooling programs.

—Karen Mueller-Harder (retiring) Nominating Committee Chair



CDS Boston News



Autumn 1996

Editor: Michael Bergman

Deadline for Winter Newsletter:
November 1st, 1996. Details, back page.

From the President

August is traditionally the month to relax, to take a vacation, and generally to slow down a bit in preparation for a surge of activity in September. Although my own work schedule doesn't slow in the summer (in fact, it tends to speed up), my brain remains convinced that the year really begins after Labor Day and ends sometime in June. In recognition of a fine tradition, the CDS Board usually doesn't meet in August. This year, however, Board members and other volunteers, far from taking a holiday, have been working hard to develop some exciting new programs for our next dance season.

In response to a report from the Board's Task Force on the New England Dance Program, significant changes have been made to that program. CDS is collaborating with several well-known area dance leaders to produce weekly dances. We're excited by the prospect of working with them to explore new directions in traditional dance. Never fear, we are not abandoning the popular open mike evenings, which offer special opportunities for new callers and musicians.

Last spring, the Concord Scout house let CDS-BC know that the building would be available this year for some First Saturday events. We signed up for four such dates, in November, January, March and May. As of this writing, the New England Dance Committee has plans afoot for November; our holiday party will

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CDS Autumn dance Calendar on pages 4

Other area events on pages 5-6

Special events on page 5

Membership Renewal Request

By the time you receive this you should be getting the membership renewal letter. This is just a note to ask you to return your renewal and the accompanying questionnaire promptly.

Meet the New Tuesday Dance

"It's a long way from Monday to Thursday," said our contra-dancing friend, wishing there were a "great" contra dance in the Boston area between the Monday dance at the Scout House and the Thursday dance at the VFW. Well, friend—come September—your wish should be granted!

A thoroughly overhauled CDS contra-dance series will start Tuesday, September 10th, at the Church of the Good Shepherd near Watertown Square. This series will feature popular callers **Cammy Kaynor**, **Chris Ricciotti**, and **Linda Leslie**, plus the ongoing Second Tuesday Open Mikes, now coordinated by **Larry Jennings**.

Linda, Chris, and Cammy will each have full responsibility for choosing their bands and format, and setting the tone of their dances. Each of the caller-producers will do most of the calling on their respective evenings, but may share the stage from time to time with others.

All dancers—newcomers, long-time dancers, and everyone in between—are welcome.

Cammy's lively dances will be on the first Tuesday of each month. Second Tuesdays will feature the Open Mike, where newer callers and musicians, mentored

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by experienced callers, will get people's feet moving. Third Tuesdays will have Chris's exciting gender-free dances, and then Linda will energize the hall on fourth Tuesdays.

Cammy Kaynor has been calling in Western Massachusetts and the Boston area for almost twenty years and has organized a band, *Fourgone Conclusions*; he welcomes other musicians to sit in with his regular band. Cammy hopes his dances will feel welcoming both to newcomers and to more experienced dancers. He has an ability to call to all levels at once and specializes in making difficult dances easier for newcomers. A typical evening may be built on sets of four dances—three contras and a couple dance—with a mix of fairly easy dances, traditional contras, and modern, difficult dances. At the break, Cammy likes to teach at least one couple dance. He encourages an atmosphere of fun and informality and sees the dance as a participatory experience where caller, dancers, and musicians all work toward a single final product: a great evening. Cammy is enthusiastic about this new series and looks forward to helping to make it a success.

Larry Jennings has been calling and organizing contra dances for well over two decades and has written a book on zesty contras. He is committed both to developing new callers and to putting on a rewarding evening for dancers. He will be enlisting some experienced assistants to help coach those who bring their talents to the mike and will often be steering their choices of dances for the best overall program. If you have ever mused seriously about trying to call a dance, step up and tell Larry what you would like to do. If you're content to let others do the calling, come and help us spot the next stars!

The Cambridge Open Danceband Society (Watertown Branch) will continue to offer their "big-band sound" that has drawn many musicians and dancers in recent years.

Chris Ricciotti has been calling dances since 1979; he started calling in 4-H Clubs and now calls all over New England and the U.S. Besides contras and squares, Chris also enjoys international, English, and Scottish dancing. He is very active in the gender-free dance community and is helping to organize a growing network of local gender-free dances across the nation, including community and family dances. Gender-free danc-

ing lends itself easily to family dances as well as to adult dances; it is a fun way to learn both parts of the dance and a great way for kids and adults to dance together. Chris is skilled at calling to the level of experience in the room. He writes many dances himself, using figures that allow experienced dancers to have fun while not losing newcomers. He is very much looking forward to producing and calling gender-free dance evenings in this new Tuesday series, and welcomes newcomers, families, and highly experienced dancers. Chris plans to bring in a variety of musicians and will occasionally cede the mike to other callers who would like to try their hand at gender-free calling.

Linda Leslie has been calling all over New England for the past six years, at regular dances, special events, and festivals. She is enthusiastically anticipating the new monthly Tuesday dance series. She welcomes the challenge of balancing the concerns of the experienced local dance community with the needs of the new dancers she expects to welcome into the Tuesday series. She feels that a ratio of about three experienced dancers for each newcomer will best ensure a good time for all. Linda is proud to announce that her band will include *Kerry Elkin* on fiddle and *Ruth Richards* on keyboard. Her goal for the dances is to provide an experience that encourages an appreciation for our rich musical heritage and the artistry of our musicians. Linda has "loved every minute" of dancing and calling over the past ten years and looks forward to sharing this love and enthusiasm with both experienced and new dancers alike.

Our new hall for this series is ventilated by rows of windows on opposite sides, has a tile-on-wood floor, and is acoustically and optically bright. It is at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Episcopal, at the corner of Russell Avenue and Mount Auburn Street—the fourth bus stop east of Watertown Square.

Treat yourself to some good times with some good callers in a good hall, every Tuesday between 7:30 and 10:30pm. Join the fun, starting on September 10th!

—Ann B. Cowan

Special-Events Coordinator, 354-0864

Mike Bergman was on vacation during the time the newsletter had to be produced for publication. Art Anger edited the articles as usual. Liv Toftner prepared items for the Calendar, and Lyrl Ahern did the layout. Mike returned in time to proof-read.