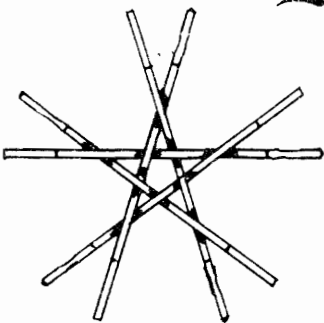


BOSTON CENTRE NEWSLETTER



The Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, Inc.
309 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts 02181

Telephone (617) 235-6181

April, 1982
Vol. VI, No. 4
Editor: Sally Rusher
Asst. Ed: Roger Davidson

FOR ALL MEMBERS --

COME ONE, COME ALL --

To the Annual Meeting and Dance
Saturday, May 8, 1982, 8:00 - 11:00
at 7 Temple Street, Cambridge. Free to
all CDS Boston members.

Dancing will begin at 8:00 followed
by the meeting and then more dancing.
Dance leaders are Helena Cornelius and
Dan Pearl. Music by Mary Lea, Earl
Gaddis, and Jackie Schwab.

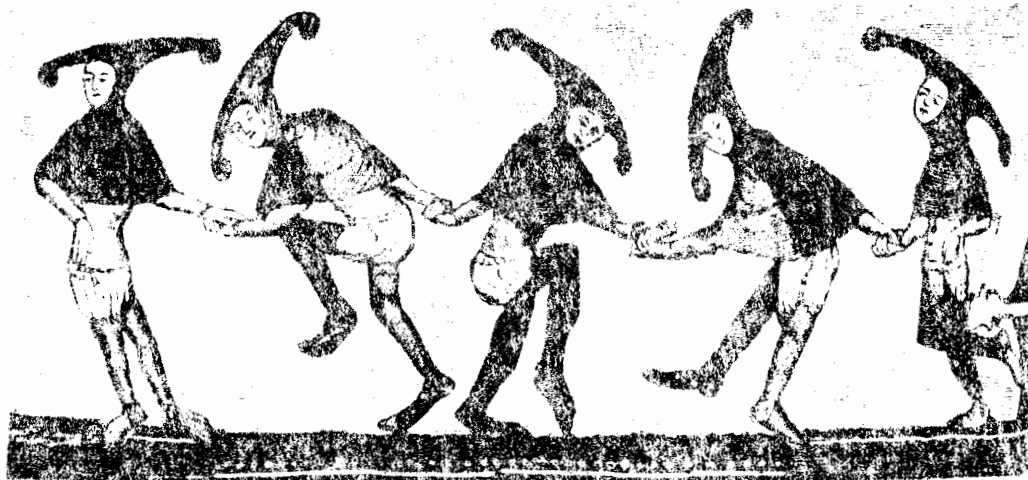
See you there!

EARLY HISTORY OF CDS

Many thanks to Evelyn Lamond for
collecting the fascinating information
about the beginnings of the English
Folk Dance Society and the Country Dance
Society contained in this issue. As
the historian of the Country Dance
Society, Evelyn has collected a great
deal of information about CDS from its
earliest beginnings to the present.

-Ed.

IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY RESERVED FOR
THE FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND, DO IT TODAY.



FROM THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION (1945)

- I. This Corporation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for the following purposes:
 - A. To preserve and promote the folk dances, songs and music in their traditional forms, with emphasis on the American and English forms,
 - (1) By disseminating information and promoting knowledge of these dances, songs and music and by encouraging their practice.
 - (2) By promoting and conducting research into traditional folk dances, songs, and music with emphasis on the American and English forms.
 - (3) By promoting the knowledge and practice of these dances, songs and music through classes, schools, lectures, demonstrations, festivals, community dance evenings and other similar means.
 - B. To conceive, initiate, stimulate, support, supervise, advise, and participate in programs, activities, projects, organizations, and research aimed at furthering one or more of the purposes set forth in the preceding paragraph A.
 - C. To inform and educate the public by reports, lectures, exhibits, educational programs and other media concerning the means and techniques for accomplishment of any of the said purposes.
 - D. To work with or for and to cooperate in any manner whatsoever with the local, state, and federal governments and governmental and private agencies, organizations, and institutions in efforts to accomplish one or more of the said purposes.

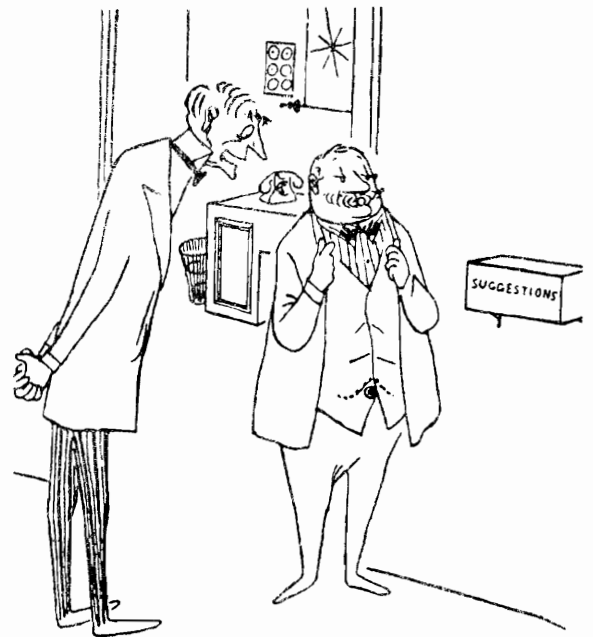
GREETINGS FROM BRAD SAYLER -

I am interested in seeing the Boston Centre hold a residential dance weekend next winter ('82-'83). The Board of Directors has authorized me to organize a search for a suitable location.

I envision a program similar to the 4th of July at Pinewoods, but there are other possibilities and that is not for me to decide. We would need a facility that could house and feed 75 to 150 people inexpensively with two or more dance floors -- one big enough for evening dances and a smaller floor for workshops.

I am seeking suggestions from the membership for such a facility in Eastern Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Southern Maine or New Hampshire. If you have any ideas, would you please send a note to me in the mail or mention it to me at a dance? Don't delay, we don't have much time if we want any choice of dates. Let's go for it!

Brad Sayler
70 Morton St.
Andover, Ma.
01810



"That's fine, R.B., but wouldn't it be a trifle more adventurous to have a slot made in it?"

RELAXING DAYS WILL SOON BE HERE AGAIN
AT PINEWOODS CAMP. FOR R&R, PLAN TO
BE AT PINEWOODS JULY 6-9.
WATCH FOR FLYERS AND OTHER INFO.



BEGINNINGS OF THE COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

ENGLAND -

"It happened that in 1899 Cecil Sharp was staying for Christmas at Headington in Oxfordshire, when suddenly he heard a fine swinging tune which got louder and louder, and presently six strapping countrymen, gaily bedecked with fluttering ribbons and jingling bells, came dancing through the snow. The tune was stirring, the dance exciting; six men footing it as one, eager and vigorous, but restrained and dignified, their movements demanding the utmost agility and control, yet danced with that absolute ease which is the hallmark of a perfect technique; and he suddenly realized that here, hidden in the obscurity of a little English village, was a great art; its existence unsuspected by the majority, and its importance unrealized by the few who knew of it.

To a man who loved English traditions as loyally as Cecil Sharp this seemed deplorable, and he determined that his fellow-countrymen should at any rate be given the opportunity to share in his "find."

Starting on his quest, he went from village to village gleaning folk-songs and dances, and learning from the Morrismen how to execute the various steps and arm-movements according to exact tradition.

In 1911 he founded the English Folk Dance Society to spread the knowledge of our songs and dances, to stimulate our pride in them, and restore them to general use. The Society, with its Branches throughout the country (and two in America) numbers over 6,000 members; but there are more than 35,000,000 people in England to whom these traditions belong, and his work should be the possession of every one of them."

taken from a brochure to raise money for Cecil Sharp House of London in his memory. Probably in 1924 or 1925

UNITED STATES -

from Louise Chapin's notes -
"1913-1914 Through the interest and financial help of Mrs. James J. Storrow and Professor Baker of Harvard University, Claude Wright came to the U.S.A. from England in the summers of 1913 and 1914 and taught English Country, Morris and Sword dancing at Mrs. Storrow's red barn in Lincoln, Massachusetts, at Chocorua in New Hampshire, and the MacDowell Colony at Peterborough, New Hampshire. This aroused interest and enthusiasm for our Cecil Sharp representation for English Dancing."

from Report of the Boston Centre
Feb. 1917 -

"Much of the enthusiasm which has made the Centre a possibility may be traced back to the energy of George P. Baker, Professor of Dramatic Literature in Harvard University, who, in 1913, following a visit to Stratford, invited A. Claud Wright, a member of the Stratford Staff, to come to America in the summer of that year and organize classes. This was done at Chocorua, New Hampshire; Lincoln, Massachusetts, and elsewhere. He laid the foundation for the later constructive work of Cecil Sharp."

from Article in Girl Scout Magazine
by Mrs. Storrow -
During World War I --"it so happened that Mr. Sharp came to this country, primarily to direct the dancing in Granville Barker's production of "Midsummer Night's Dream," but also with the hope of interesting Americans to form a branch of the Society.

Prof. George Baker of Harvard had become interested, having seen the dancing in England, and I had already joined the Society --the first American member. So we met Mr. Sharp in New York and formed the American Branch of the E.F.D.S. with Mr. Baker as president, and me as vice-president."

(I think she had misremembered and was really elected as Secretary.) At the Summer School at Amherst in 1916 she was elected President and served until her death.

[Continued on page 4]

Bouquets to all our C.D.S. Volunteers

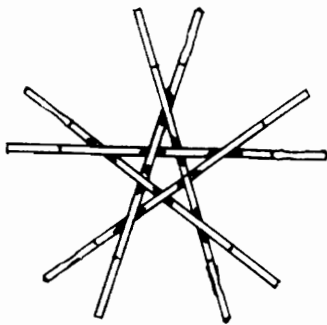
BOUQUETS TO ALL OUR C.D.S. VOLUNTEERS

U.S. HISTORY NOTES CON'T.

from the New York Times -
"The society had its official beginnings in this country at a meeting in the Colony Club on March 23, 1915, when the United States Branch of the English Folk Dance Society was organized. That same Spring branches were formed in Boston, Chicago, Pittsburgh and New York. The New York branch had its start at a country dance ball at Teachers College, Columbia, on April 20.

1914-1915 Lily Roberts of the Stratford Staff/ (Mrs. Richard K. Conant) was helping Cecil Sharp with the dances for the Midsummer Night's Dream and then toured the United States with him as he lectured and formed other English Dance groups.

Lily Roberts stayed in America as the first English teacher here and directed the Boston Centre.



NOTICE!!

The following people have been nominated for CDS Office and Board positions:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Deanna Marvin | President |
| Brad Sayler | President Elect |
| Sandra Borden | Secretary |
| Arthur Ferguson | Vice President |
| Ingrid Christiansen | Board Member |
| Eleanor Calvin | Board Member |
| Betty Hoskins | Board Member |
| Cal Howard | Board Member |
| Mary Stafford | Board Member |
| Michael Paine | Nominating Comm. |

As the year come to a close, we would like to thank the many people who help make C.D.S. and the Boston area dances successful. Thank you to all the people who have contributed their time to organize the dances, sit on the door, work on bulk mailing, work in the office, design flyers, and to do the many chores necessary for a Society like ours. C.D.S needs and appreciates the time you have given.



-Ed.

FROM PINWOODS CAMP, INC.

In the past, we have kept the increase in fees down to the bare minimum. This year we have found it necessary to start to catch up in some areas of the budget. Therefore, the increase in this year's fees reflects not only the effects of inflation, but also an effort on our part to increase the wages we pay to the Pinwoods crew. We feel that it is important to continue to attract crew members who care about the camp, and we want to do this without lessening the services in other areas. Therefore, we have had to raise the fees for weekends and other programs.

- Robin Rogers-Browne

New England Notes

TUESDAY SERIES CONTINUES

The CDS dance series of New England Squares and Contras continues every Tuesday at the Brimmer and May Gymnasium in Chestnut Hill. Our callers, Ted Sannella and Tony Saletan, guarantee that you'll feel that it was worth the trip.

Joining Ted and Tony are our super regularly scheduled musicians, Peter Barnes and Cal Howard. Mark your calendars with the names of our special guest musicians, who combine with Peter and Cal to produce some of New England's finest sounds:

- April 20 & 27 - Vince O'Donnell & Mary Lea
- *May 4 & 11 - Andy Woolf & Alex Demas
- May 18 & 25 - Vince O'Donnell & Jack Perron
- June 1 & 8 - Mary Lea & Carol Kaufman
- June 15 & 22 - Andy Woolf & Bill Smith

INSTRUCTIVE INFORMATION

Do you have a friend that you would love to take to a dance, but they are uncomfortable to go because, well, they don't know how? Bring them to the Tuesday night New England Square and Contra Dance! Before the dance, at 7:45, beginners are walked through the main figures, taught how to dance with the music and with other people. These mini-classes are specially designed for people with more than one left foot (although anyone is welcome!). When the dance starts at 8:15, the graduates of the course don't sit down, they dance! This is the only regularly scheduled dance instruction in the area that is absolutely free! Our volunteer teachers, Chuck Adams, Andy Dennison, Dan Pearl and Sally Rusher, would love to see you and your friends at 7:45 sharp on Tuesdays.

-Dan Pearl

* IF IT'S TUESDAY, IT MUST BE CHESTNUT HILL

--unless it is May 4th... On that date only, the regular Tuesday night Square and Contra Dance moves to the Concord Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord, Mass. (One block south of Concord Center). The dance will begin at the usual time, 8:15, after instruction for beginners at 7:45. The location has changed, but the fun's the same! Hope to see you there!

-Dan Pearl





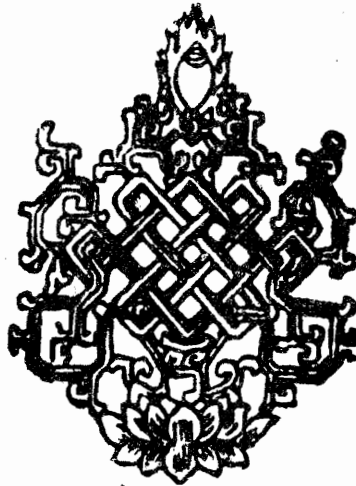
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Phone: 235-6181

TIME VALUE
 DO NOT DELAY !



MAY DAY CELEBRATION

See the yellow flyers sent to all members and available at dances for the details of the May Day Celebration held during the day at the First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge, and the evening dance at the Brimmer & May School in Chestnut Hill, Saturday, May 1, 1982.

WATCH FOR RELEASE OF BARE NECESSITIES RECORD --

Our Wednesday night musicians "Bare Necessities" are in the process of recording a record of English Country Dance music. Watch for the release later in the year.