



# CDS Boston News

The Newsletter of the Country Dance Society, Boston Centre

Winter 2005-6

*Deadline for Spring issue: February 1*

## Playford Ball Returns to Perkins

By popular request, the Playford Ball will be returning to the Perkins School for the Blind this year. Those dancers who enjoyed the ambience and beauty of the hall will be able to invite friends who missed it, as we will be selling about 120 places this year, as opposed to about 100 last year. The Ball will be on Saturday, March 4. As usual, the night before will be a First Friday Experienced dance at the Church of Our Savior in Brookline. This is usually one of our best Friday dances, as we have many out-of-town guests to share the pre-ball excitement with.

Helene Cornelius will be Mistress of Ceremonies at the Ball, with music provided by Bare Necessities. The afternoon workshop will be led by Barbara Finney and Graham Christian, with music by Roberta Sutter and clarinetist Ron Dann. Tickets for the Ball are \$30 if we receive your application by January 14. After that, prices rise to \$35.

Helene has put together a wonderful program, with interesting new dances with great music, like Joseph Pimentel's "Treasure of the Big Wood," old favorites like "Saint Margaret's Hill," and repertoire dances like "Measured Obsession," which produce their best effect with the focused attention they receive at an event like the Ball.

As always, dances on the evening of the Ball are talked through, but not walked through, so study in advance is necessary. Part of the attraction of the event is the thought of all of us working together in separate locations, moving deeper into the dances. Then, the night of the Ball we bring it all together. Dancers who are comfortable at an experienced dance should have no problem with the program.

To prepare for the Ball, we'll have two pre-ball workshops, the first on Sunday, February 5, 2:00 to 5:00 PM at the Park Avenue Congregational Church in Arlington. This will be led by Barbara Finney, with

## CDS Boston Center Aids the Concord Scout House

The Concord Scout House has had a challenging summer, with two major and unplanned building maintenance projects requiring more than \$40,000 to conclude.

One project was to encapsulate lead paint on the outside of the hall. The Barn, a cooperative day care center in the basement, has bi-annual inspections by the state; when inspected last spring, paint chips falling from the rear of the building onto the playground were tested for lead content. Since the tests were positive, a certificate of compliance with lead laws and regulations was required prior to relicensing the Barn. State-certified contractors scraped and repainted the back south wall and portions of the east wall accessible to the playground. This project cost about \$35,000.

The second project was to replace a wood structural framing post that was discovered to be rotting. That post was part of the south wall and ran from foundation to the roof, approximately eight inches square and more than twenty feet long. Contractors replaced the post with another post from Quebec that is more than 125 years old and has a similar appearance to the one that was removed. All this cost about \$5,000.

The Scout House spent more than half of its precious building fund to complete these projects. It had about \$75,000 at the start of the year and now has \$30,000. Naturally it is important that the Scout House have significant funds in reserve to meet the potential contingencies of maintaining an 18th Century building. The Scout House Board has consequently embarked on an unprecedented campaign to replenish the building fund. Parents with children using the Barn and Boy and Girl Scout parents will be asked to contribute.

## English Dances, *Cont'd from page 1*

pianist Karen Axelrod. This is another opportunity for our out-of-town friends to make a weekend of it in Boston, as there will be a First Friday dance to start off the weekend. The second workshop will be Sunday, February 26, again at PACC, 2:00 to 5:00 PM, with dances taught by Helene Cornelius and Joyce Crouch playing.

Winter season tickets will be going on sale at the beginning of December. Ticket prices are \$140, good from January 1 until March 31, 2006. They admit ticket holders to all of our winter Wednesday and First Friday dances plus our two Sunday pre-Ball workshops and our 26th Playford Ball at the Perkins School for the Blind. That amounts to a saving of \$16 if admission to all of these events were purchased separately.

—Terry Gaffney

## Scout House, *Cont'd from page 1*

The CDS Boston Board was asked to participate in the Scout House building fund campaign and has agreed to pledge \$5,000. Board members expressed appreciation for the hall and some concern that it continue to be available for dances. (CDS Boston made use of the hall more than twenty times during the 2004/2005 season and has continuing plans to rent the hall for monthly and special dances for the foreseeable future.) The Board also agreed to permit the Scout House to appeal to the CDS Boston membership via a letter in this CDS Boston Newsletter, in the hope that our members participate individually and generously in supporting the Scout House.

We dancers have benefited from the past efforts and contributions of other communities to bring into existence and maintain the several halls we dance in. The Scout House has always relied upon contributions in addition to rentals to maintain and operate the hall. Our own contributions, as dancers, will make it possible for us to continue to dance in this treasured hall and also make it possible for future dancers to share our love of this hall. The Scout House is also unique in the Boston area, by having the full participation of several members of the dance community in its governance.

Please join the community of people that continues to make this building possible and give generously to the Scout House building fund.

—Mark Jones

*CDS Boston Center, Board Member*

*Concord Scout House, Board Member*

## A Renewal Reminder from the Membership Secretary

Take a look at the mailing label on this issue of the CDS Boston News. There will be three sets of characters across the top. The set farthest to the right should be a letter or a number. If it is the number 05, 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 Wednesday dance or by sending your name, your current address and phone number(s), and a check, made out to CDS, Boston Centre, to

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre  
c/o Arthur Ferguson, Membership Secretary  
31 Ledgewood Road  
Framingham, MA 01701-3626

The membership categories and amounts are

Regular (Individual):	\$25.00
Senior/Student/Low Income:	\$10.00
Contributor (Basic Family):	\$35.00
Supporter:	\$45.00
Sponsor:	\$60.00
Patron:	\$100.00
Benefactor:	\$500.00

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.

**[www.cds-boston.org](http://www.cds-boston.org)**

**Office, (781) 662-6710**

## To update the CDS Boston Web pages

Christine Robb <[comments@cds-boston.org](mailto:comments@cds-boston.org)>

General CDS Boston site

English Dance Committee pages

Special Events, Camps

Cortni Frechna <[cortni@arrowmaker.org](mailto:cortni@arrowmaker.org)>

Mark Jones <[markjones@busybusy.org](mailto:markjones@busybusy.org)>

New England Dance Committee

Dan Pearl <[daniel\\_pearl@yahoo.com](mailto:daniel_pearl@yahoo.com)>

CDS Boston ECD Collection recordings

# In Memory of Bob Briggs

Dec. 1923 - Sept. 2005

*Marilyn:* Bob grew up in Brockton MA. A high school friend who moved to South Boston knew Arthur Cornelius, that's how Bob and Art became friends. During World War II, Bob served in the Signal Corps and received the Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with the Bronze Service Star, and was honorably discharged January 31, 1946. After graduating Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude, with a bachelor of arts degree with distinction in mathematics, he then earned his master of arts in mathematics from Boston University in 1956.

Before college, Bob had become a co-worker of Jeannie Carmichael at MIT in 1949. They worked in Building 20 on Vassar Street, processing data on the meteor and meteorite tracking program in progress at that time, which became the satellite tracking program for NASA at the Harvard Observatory, where Helene Cornelius eventually also came to work.

Bob and Art, who were roommates back then, had discovered square dancing. Ralph Page's Tuesday dance at the YWCA and Charlie Baldwin's Thursday dance at the YMCA were near their flat on Tremont Street in the South End. Jeannie asked Bob to try English Country dancing and said "bring along your roommate." In 1951, she helped Bob get a scholarship to the Boston weekend at Pinewoods. The following year, Art came to Pinewoods too. In the meantime, Jeannie formed the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. Bob, Art, and Helene were among the first members. Bob and Art also became members of the Pinewoods Morris Men. I met Bob at Ted Sannella's dance in 1952 and also got a scholarship for my first weekend at Pinewoods that June. By then, Bob and Art had joined Ed Mason as his roommates at Magnolia Avenue in Cambridge. Bob and I married in July, 1955.

Though his attendance at dances faded over the years, he continued his interest through our daughters, who also became involved in dancing in the 1970's. Our daughter, Ginny, is still a member of Muddy River Morris.

*Ginny:* I was introduced to English and contra dancing by my parents in 1975 and became quickly

hooked, attending dances nearly every night of the week. Soon after, I joined Muddy River Morris and became so enthusiastic, I convinced my father to put on his bells again and dance with Pinewoods Morris. My father wasn't so sure he remembered the difference between a single step and a double step, so with some tutoring from Shag Graetz, he eased back into it and even performed with the Christmas Revels in 1979. I remember how proud I felt that we were in that production together and how special Abbots Bromley looked to me that year. He didn't dance much morris after that. I think he came out of retirement because he knew how important it was to me, but really just wanted a rest from it all.

Dad would always ask me how morris was going and if I'd be at NEFFA this year. Though not interested in doing it anymore himself, especially since his strokes in the 1980's, he would always watch enthusiastically in the Courtyard outside Natick High School every year.

As a teenager, I also became well acquainted with Pinewoods Camp, another place to meet and dance with people of all generations. The last time I went to Pinewoods was in 2002 for First Weekend with my son, Andrew (then age 4) and my parents. I remember my father remarking that there were 3 generations of Briggs at Pinewoods that weekend, and I think he was excited that the tradition would continue.

There are so few communities that exist where entire families can meet and socialize, all together. Our dance community is one of them. At the age of 15, when I actually attended a dance as a dancer, rather than as a bored kid, I can remember thinking how cool that was. I remember doing the Nottingham Swing with my father at the YWCA in Cambridge, and never thinking that it was at all odd or strange that a kid should dance with their father. What a nice way to grow up. It gave us a permanent connection that was something we would always share, and most people outside our circle would never fully understand.

I will miss my father dearly and be forever grateful that he became so involved with English, contra, and morris dancing.

— Marilyn and Ginny Briggs

# Tonight We're Gonna Party Like It's 1799

*Jane Austen Evening at the Harvard Square English Country Dance*

*Published: Thursday, March 18, 2004, Harvard Independent*

*By Liz Carlisle*

"First couple cast up and around the second couple and back to place. Four changes of rights and lefts and you're ready to dance with the next couple. Music!"

Tonight, Leslie Lassetter is Jane Austen. Dressed in period costume—a long white dress and red shawl—she is a commanding presence at the top of the set, guiding inexperienced feet into graceful formations. As caller of this evening's English country dance, she teaches the sequence of each dance, cues the musicians, then announces each step as the dance goes on, reminding her charges what comes next. It is clear she has done her job well when the mechanics of the dance feel so effortless that the dancers can relax and enjoy their own movement and each other's company.

Over fifty people—just about as many as will fit in two crowded sets—have turned up for the annual Jane Austen Evening at Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church, located across from Cambridge Common just steps away from Harvard Law School. Some, like Lassetter, are fixtures of the Boston folk dance scene, involved in other English country dances (such as the Wednesday-night series in Arlington) and perhaps contra dancing, Scottish country dancing, and international folk dance as well. What makes this second and fourth Friday series special, however, is its focus on beginners. Setting and casting with the mostly middle-aged folk dance veterans are newer dancers of all ages, college seniors to senior citizens. For tonight's event, which features period costume and dances from the movie versions of "Pride and Prejudice" and "Persuasion," MIT's Jane Austen class joins the group. Jean Marie Downing, like many of her MIT classmates, had never done English country dancing before. "I always wanted to learn," she told me, "but I could never convince anyone else in theater to make it part of a production." With Lassetter's expert calling and the help of other dancers, though, Downing didn't find it too difficult to pick up the steps.

College students like Downing were exactly the people Otavia Propper, Leonard Lu, Jenny Hango, and Ken Allen had in mind when they started the Harvard Square dance in September 2001. "I had always been part of a folk dance community in college," Propper explained. "I looked around here and thought, there's not enough for new dancers and

young people. We need a beginner-friendly dance in an accessible location." The four founders, two of whom were graduate students at Harvard, held an English country dance workshop in Dudley House that soon evolved into the current biweekly series.

The Harvard Square dance's fresh approach stands on the strong shoulders of the 89 year-old Boston Centre of the Country Dance Society, an organization that dates back to the era of famous folk tradition reviver Cecil Sharpe. Many of the core group of dancers are drawn from the ranks of CDS; several of the regulars have simply added the newest dance to a schedule that has long included the society's Wednesday night dance. These veterans are joined by the members of the Harvard Square dance's organizing committee, most of whom are just a few years out of college. Both groups of dancers help keep the sets running smoothly, guiding newcomers through difficult formations and making sure they are included socially as well.

Inclusiveness is perhaps the most important component of this event, taking precedence over the other element that attracts the dancers—the beauty of the movement. When newer dancers are confused, Lassetter is happy to leave her position at the top and enter the set, in the place of either a man or woman, and demonstrate. When uncertainty emerges in the middle of the dance, as is often the case, those who know what's going on will gently push a confused dancer in the right direction or wave at them to let them know who they are supposed to be turning or setting to. Even when a formation has gone completely awry, those seeking to mend it never sound patronizing or irritated; there is never the sense that a beginner has screwed up a "perfect" dance. The experienced attendees consistently invite beginners onto the floor, choosing new partners after each dance with little regard for age, experience level, or even gender. (After attending hundreds of estrogen-heavy folk dances, women have become accustomed to dancing as men).

As this dance's website emphasizes, "English Country Dance is social, community dancing." Because all the figures progress through the set, each

**Jane Austen dances, *Cont'd on page 6***

# Boston Centre Program

Info: [www.cds-boston.org](http://www.cds-boston.org) or (781) 662-6710

## \* Addresses of Frequent Dance Locations \*

Park Avenue Congregational Church, Park Avenue and Paul Revere Road, Arlington Heights  
Scout House, 74 Walden St., Concord • Church of Our Saviour, Carlton and Monmouth Streets, Brookline

## English Country Dance

### **Wednesdays**

Park Avenue Congregational Church.\* 7:30-10:30 PM. Helene Cornelius with Graham Christian, Barbara Finney, Brad Foster, Robin Hayden, Leslie Lassetter, Linda Nelson, & Jacqueline Schwab. Music by Bare Necessities (Peter Barnes, Earl Gaddis, Mary Lea, Jacqueline Schwab) & others. \$7 members; \$9 non-members, \$4 students & beginners

### **Beginner Workshops in English Country Dance.**

Park Avenue Congregational Church.\* First Wednesdays of every month. 7-7:30 PM. Free, dance afterward, costs above

### **First Fridays for Experienced Dancers**

October to June

Church of Our Saviour.\* 8:15-11 PM. For dancers thoroughly familiar with basic English Country Dance figures. All dances taught. \$9; \$7 CDS members

### **2nd and 4th Friday Harvard Square English Series**

Harvard-Epworth Methodist Church, 1555 Massachusetts Avenue in Harvard Square, Cambridge. Leslie Lassetter, Barbara Finney, & Graham Christian, callers. Ken Allen, Jacqueline Schwab, Jonathan Gilbert, & others, music. Students (with ID) \$3, non-students \$6, CDS members \$5. Info: <http://www.cds-boston.org/friday.html>

**Nov. 25 NO DANCE! Dec. 9**, Michael Cicone with Seven Times Salt (Held at Cambridge Friends' Meeting, **Dec 23 NO DANCE! Jan. 13**, Barbara Finney, **Jan 27**, Barbara Finney, **Feb. 10**, Michael Cicone, **Feb 24**, Michael Cicone, **Mar. 10**, Leslie Lassetter or guest, **Mar 24**, Mary Devlin

### **Party Format Dances on Wednesdays**

**December 28**, Holiday Party

**February 15**, Valentine's Day Party (Staff Showcase).

**March 22**, Goodbye Winter-Hello Spring (Led by Graham Christian & Robin Hayden).

### **Special Events**

#### **Saturday, January 7**

**Gala Holiday Party.** Concord Scout House.\* 7:30-11 PM. Brad Foster with Karen Axelrod, Peter Barnes, & Mary Lea. \$12, students \$5. Info: Lynn, (978 371-2290 or Frank, (603) 878-4332

## New England Dance

Receive NEDC email announcements or snowstorm cancellation news: Sign up via email by sending a blank email to: [cdsbc-contrasubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:cdsbc-contrasubscribe@yahoogroups.com) or sign up via the web: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/cdsbc-contra/> Further info: Mark's cell (857) 499-8907, [www.cds-boston.org/american](http://www.cds-boston.org/american), [nedc@cds-boston.org](mailto:nedc@cds-boston.org)

Concord Scout House.\* Admission for most dances: \$8 members; \$10 non-members, \$6 students.

### **Special Event**

#### **Friday, December 2**

**Concord Scout House Fundraiser.** Produced by the Board of the Concord Scout House. Co-Sponsored by CDS Boston. 8-11:30 PM. George Marshall and Wild Asparagus. \$15

### **Odd Saturday (1st Saturday)**

#### **December 3**

**1st Saturday Contra & Square Dance.** 8-11:30 PM. Beth Molaro with Crowfoot (Jaige Trudel, fiddle; Adam Broome, cittern, guitar; Nicholas Williams, flute, accordion, piano). \$9, \$7 CDS Members, \$5 young people

### **Second Saturday Series**

8 PM. Performers to be announced. Price in 2006: \$10, \$8 for CDS Boston Members, \$6 young people. None in December, Jan 14, Feb 11, none in March

### **Special Event**

#### **Saturday, December 3**

**Annual Craft Fair.** 10 AM to 4:30 PM. 30-plus artisans displaying their creations for sale. Free Admission

**Odd Sundays Series:** Calendar not set yet for 2006. Check for flyers or check the CDS Boston Web pages: [www.cds-boston.org/american](http://www.cds-boston.org/american)

English Program *continued on next page*

## Jane Austen dance, *Cont'd from page 4*

dancer will eventually dance with everyone in the room, even those who are never their partners. Several social situations that might be uncomfortable at other dances—showing up alone, dancing with members of the same gender, asking an older, married adult for a dance—are commonplace. This dancing facilitates not just a romantic relationship between two partners, but a sense of community among all those who attend. (Nonetheless, there are certainly a few pairs of Elizabeths and Mr. Darcys in the room. Propper and her boyfriend, David Wald, met through dancing, as did Lu and his girlfriend, Mary Ann Rogers.)

The night always finishes with a waltz, before organizing committee members pack up the sound equipment and invite everyone to Herrell's Ice Cream for further socializing. Before the last dance, Lassetter reminds the dancers of the three people who are perhaps most responsible for transforming the 21st-century mix of jeans, period costumes, cell phones, microphones, and apple juice into an 18th-century ball: the musicians. It would not have been hard to forget pianist Beth Murray, fiddler Jonathan Gilbert, and flutist Hannah Schneider. The rhythm was so steady, the blend and tuning so perfect, a dancer could easily have taken the music for granted while focusing

on which way to turn or which hand to offer an approaching partner. The dancers' bodies responded to the band's nuanced gestures, though, giving more weight to the first beat of waltz-time as Gilbert dug in with his bow, lifting with Schneider's breath on weak beats, taking more delicate steps when Murray brought the dynamic level down to a hushed whisper. Unlike a recording, these musicians were ready to play just a few bars for demonstrations, extend the form to allow all the dancers to participate as both first and second couples, or stop after a few bars if something went awry. Their keen responsiveness was perhaps best illustrated when a cell-phone went off as Lassetter was teaching a dance. Within seconds, we heard the melody of the ring mimicked on the piano, then the violin, and finally the flute.

The Harvard Square English Country Dance is held in the Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church (1555 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge) on Second and Fourth Fridays, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Admission is \$6 general/\$5 CDS members/\$3 students. For more information, visit <http://www.cds-boston.org/Friday.html> or consult the Boston Country Dance Society's main page: <http://www.cds-boston.org>.

## English Program *continued from previous page*

### Sunday, February 5

**Annual English Scottish Party.** Church of Our Saviour.\* 3 PM. Marianne Taylor with Anne Hooper & Ken Allen. \$10. Info: <taylorgorman@juno.com>

### Sunday, February 5

**Pre-Ball Workshop.** Park Avenue Congregational Church.\* 2-5 PM. Barbara Finney with Karen Axelrod, piano. \$7 pre-registered for the Ball, \$9 non-registered.

### Sunday, February 26

**Pre-Ball Workshop.** Park Avenue Congregational Church.\* 2-5 PM. Helene Cornelius with Joyce Crouch,

piano. \$7 pre-registered for the Ball, \$9 non-registered.

### Saturday, March 4

**Playford Ball.** Perkins School for the Blind, 175 North Beacon Street, Watertown MA. Afternoon **workshop** 1:30-4:30 PM; Graham Christian & Barbara Finney with Roberta Sutter, piano, & Ron Dann, clarinet. Evening **Ball**, 8PM til Midnight. Helene Cornelius, Mistress of Ceremonies, with Bare Necessities. \$30 on or before January 14, \$35 afterwards

## Call for Nominations to the CDS Boston Centre Board

The Nominating Committee of CDS Boston appreciates hearing from any CDS Boston members who might be interested in becoming board members. Suggestions of potential candidates that the Nominating Committee may speak to about becoming board members are also most welcome. This year, because of term limits, we expect at least two vacancies on the Board and will also be seeking a President-Elect that would, after a year, serve as President in 2007. The nomination process usually comes to a conclusion by the end of January, and the elections for board membership conclude at the annual membership meeting in March. The term of office for a board member is typically two years.

The nominating committee consists of Kristen Bray, Julien Cole, Kim Barrett, Susan Carr, and Ruth Reiner.

— Mark Jones, Clerk, CDS Boston Board

## CDS Board Members

Term

Expires

### Directors

2007 - Graham Christian, Term 2  
2007 - Susan Carr, Term 1  
2007 - Lynda Wright, Term 1  
2007 - Cortni Frecha, Term 2  
2007 - Hal Wagner, Term 1  
2006 - Jacqueline Barnard, Term 0 (partial term)  
2006 - Otavia Propper, Term 1  
2006 - Susan Elberger, Term 2  
2006 - Ruth Reiner, Term 2  
2006 - Kim Barrett, Term 1

### Officers

2007 - President Judy Erickson  
2006 - V.Pres. Nikki Herbst, Term 1  
2006 - Treas. Ralph Jones, Term 1  
2007 - Clerk Mark Jones, Term 2  
2006 - Past President Julian Cole  
---- President Elect (next elected Spring 2006)

## Special Events and Festivals

### December

**18, Sunday**

**Yankee Ingenuity's Christmas Cotillion.** Concord Scout House, Concord MA. Tony Parkes, dancing master.

**26 to January 1, 9006**

**Christmas Country Dance School.** Berea College. Info: Berea College CCDS, CPO 2159, Berea KY 40404; (859) 985-3431; or [www.berea.edu/ccds](http://www.berea.edu/ccds)

### January 2006

**13, 14, 15**

**19th Annual Ralph Page Dance Legacy Weekend.**

University of New Hampshire, Durham NH. Callers Todd Whittemore & Lisa Greenleaf with music by Northern Spy, Old New England, & Rodney Miller, Peter Barnes, & Marko Packard. Info: Patrick, (603) 436-8372

**14, Saturday**

**English Country Ball.** Seattle WA. Music by the Tricky Brits (Anita Anderson, Dave Bartley, Betsy Cooper, & Sande Gillette). Pre-ball dance on Friday, workshop & Ball on Saturday, brunch on Sunday, and skiing on Monday (MLK b'day). Info: [seattleball.org](http://seattleball.org)

### February

**3, 4 & 5**

**San Diego English Country Dance Community Weekend Workshops.** Guest caller, teacher, & musician Gene Murrow. Info: [www.sdecdd.org](http://www.sdecdd.org)

### March

**10-19**

**Dancing Down the Nile.** Joseph Pimentel (contras) & Colin Hume (English), with Peter Barnes & Mary Lea. Info: Ken McFarland at [ken\\_mcfarland@earthlink.net](mailto:ken_mcfarland@earthlink.net), (907) 456-7556, or [www.reeljig.com/mcfarland/](http://www.reeljig.com/mcfarland/)

### April

**7-9**

**12th Cascade Contras Spring Dance & Music Weekend.** Sky Camp near Eugene OR. Contras, music workshops, & Argentine Tango. Music by Spare Parts from MA & NY and KGB from Seattle. Contras called by Seth Tepfer (Atlanta GA) & Erik Weberg (Portland OR). Eugene's Vicki Ayers, Argentine Tango. \$155 for adults. Info: Lia Davis, (541) 344-7764 or [savant@efn.org](mailto:savant@efn.org)

**28-30**

**19th Annual Fried-for-All weekend workshop** for experienced English dancers. Community Center, Lenox MA. Fried de Metz Herman with music by A Joyful Noise (Kathy Talvitie, Barbara Greenberg & Daniel Beerbohm). Info: Judy, 518 758-1645 or [jbgrun@berk.com](mailto:jbgrun@berk.com) or [jraskin@wmht.org](mailto:jraskin@wmht.org)

## Other Regular Boston Area Dances

Call first to check details and directions

### MONDAYS

**Yankee Ingenuity Scout House Contra Series.** Concord Scout House. 7:30-10:30 PM. Various callers & musicians. Info: (781) 272-0396 or (781) 259-8442

**Scottish Country Dancing.** Springstep, Medford. 7:45-10:15 PM. Live music. \$7, \$4 student. Info: Laura Billmers, (781) 862-1950 or billmers@rcn.com

### TUESDAYS

2nd & 4th, then 1st & 3rd Tuesdays. **Contra Dance for All @ MIT.** Sponsored by MIT Folk Dance Club & Music-for-Robin. A dance that especially encourages beginning callers, musicians, & dancers. 8-10:30 PM. Band sit-ins welcome. \$5, MIT & Wellesley students free. No partner needed, all dances taught. PE Credit Available from 9/13 for all dates except 10/11. Prospective callers & musicians: acowan3@earthlink.net or (617) 354-0864. Info: (617) 354-0864, MIT Folk Dance Club (617) 253-FOLK, or mit.edu/fdc/www/contr.html

#### All Dances In Student Center 407 or 491

**10/25, Halloween Party,** Ann Cowan with Victor & Emily Troll, 407; **11/8, Election Day Party,** Lobby Bldg. 13, **11/29, Thanksgiving Party,** Laura Johannes with Dixie Butterhounds, 407; **12/13, Holiday Party,** Barb Kirchner with Pandemonium, 491

#### 1/10--3/14, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays

**1/10, New Year Welcome Dance Beginner Special,** 491; **1/24: Pre-PE Beginner Dance,** 491; **2/14: Valentine's Day Dance, Register:** First Spring PE Dance, 407; **2/28: Winter Fiesta,** Laura Johannes, 407; **3/14, St. Pat's Day Gala,** 407

2nd & 4th Tuesdays. **Boston Gender Free English Country Dance.** (Experienced on 5th Tuesday) First Church of Jamaica Plain UU, Centre & Eliot Sts. 7:30-10 PM. Come at 6:30 PM with a brown bag dinner & socialize! Various leaders. \$7. Info: Jill (617) 678-7007, Dean (617) 480-3645, or www.lcfd.org/bgfe/

### THURSDAYS

**New England Contrás & Squares.** VFW Hall, 688 Huron Ave., Cambridge. 8-11 PM. \$6. Info: NEFFA, (781) 662-6710; Cal, (781) 272-0396; Dan, (508) 229-2854; or www.neffa.org/Thurs.html

### FRIDAYS

2nd Fridays. **Contrás, Squares, & Couple Dances.** 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) 369-3353

3rd Fridays starting in Sept. **English Country Dance.** First Parish (UU) Church of Sudbury, 327 Concord Rd., Sudbury MA. 7:30 - 9:30 PM. Beginners welcome! Tom Kruskal & friends leading, with Kitchen Band & friends. Donations accepted. Info: Tom Kruskal, (978) 443-8940 or kruskalt@comcast.net

3rd Fridays. **"Renaissance Dance for Everyone" with Renaissonics.** First Church in Cambridge, 11 Garden Street (just outside Harvard Square). 7:30 PM. All Dances are taught by Maris Wolff. 12/16, Jan. 20, Feb. 17, March 17, April 21, May 19, June 16. \$8, Children FREE. Info: (617) 661-3353 or renaissomics.com

3rd Fridays through June. **Roaring Jelly: Contrás and Squares.** 1st Parish Church, 7 Harrington Road, Lexington MA. Beginners 7:45, dance 8-11 PM. Susan Elberger with Debby Knight. \$6. Info: (781) 944-3544, RoaringJelly@hotmail.com or www.trillian.mit.edu/~jc/RJ.html

### SATURDAYS

**New England Contrás & Squares.** Concord Scout House. 8-11 PM. \$7.

**1st Sat.** Various callers & bands. Check for flyers. Often Swing Dances, sometimes Contra or English events.

**2nd Sat.** New England Dance Committee, CDS Boston Centre. See page 6

**3rd Sat.** Beth Parkes with Swinging on a Gate. Info: (978) 667-7459

**4th Sat.** Walter Lenk with Jack O'Connor and Debby Knight. (617) 547-7781 or (978) 369-1232

**Gender Role-Free New England Contra & Square Dances.** 1st Church of Jamaica Plain (Unitarian-Universalist), Corner of Centre & Eliot Sts. 7:30-11 PM unless noted. \$5 before 8 PM, \$6 after. Info: Janet, (617) 522-2216; Peter, (617) 971-0828; or Chris (617) 469-4732; or www.lcfd.org/jp/

### SUNDAYS

**Scottish Country Dance.** Church of Our Saviour, Carleton & Monmouth Sts., Brookline. 6:30-8:30 PM. \$4. Info: (617) 325-6657

**Family Dances.** Sponsored by NEFFA and Folk Arts Center. Concord Scout House. 2-4 PM. Music by Cal Howard & friends. **12/4, International Folk Dance** with Regina Laskowski & Judtih Staimies-Hamilton; **1/8, New England Square & Contra Dance** with Dudley Laufman. All dances taught. Ages 5 and up. \$5, \$20 family max. Info: FAC, (781) 662-7476 or NEFFA, (781) 662-6710



## Outside the Boston Area

*Call before you travel*

### Contras

#### Greenfield MA

3rd Friday. **Contra dance at the Guiding Star Grange.** 401 Chapman St. 8 PM-midnight. \$6. Info: (802) 254-2874 or bromczak@sover.net

#### South Amherst MA

Swallowtail second Saturday dance discontinued  
4th Saturday. **Contra Dance.** Callers Susan Conger, Susie Secco, guests. 8:30 PM. \$6. Info: Susan, (413) 367-9269 or sconger@shaysnet.com

#### Deerfield NH

**Deerfield New England Country Dances.** 1st Saturdays (Nov. thru May in 2005-6). Town Hall, Deerfield. 8-11 PM. Info: Marianne Taylor, (603) 463-7771

#### Cape Cod MA

For general information about the following dances, contact shabam@ais.net

1st Saturday. **Contra Dance.** Woods Hole Community Hall, Main St., Woods Hole. Info: (508) 548-6229 or 548-6661

2nd Saturday. **Contra Dance.** Freedom Hall, 976 Main St., Cotuit. Info: (508) 563-6750

3rd Saturday. **Contra Dance.** East Sandwich Grange, Old County Rd., Sandwich. Info: (508) 563-6934

5th Saturday. **Contra Dance.** North Falmouth Congregational Church, 155 Main Rd., N. Falmouth.

### English Country Dance

#### Cape Cod MA

3rd Friday, except Dec. **Lively and Elegant English Country Dance on Cape Cod.** East Sandwich Grange, 85 Old County Road, East Sandwich MA. Priscilla Adams & Linda Nelson with Jan Elliott & friends. \$8, \$6 students & seniors. Info: (508) 540-1151

#### South Amherst MA

at the Munson Library, [www.amherstecd.org](http://www.amherstecd.org)

#### MONDAYS

**English Country Dancing.** Robin Hayden with live music. \$6. Info: Robin at (413) 256-8260 or [www.amherstecd.org](http://www.amherstecd.org)

#### SATURDAYS

1st Saturday. **Amherst Assembly.** 7:45-10:45 PM. Graham Christian with various musicians. Special refreshments. \$7. Info: [bray1699@yahoo.com](mailto:bray1699@yahoo.com)

3rd Saturday. **Pleasures of the Town English Country Dance.** 7:30-10:30 PM. Music, Joyce Crouch, piano, & Doug Creighton, flute & melodeon. \$7. Info: (413) 253-3828, [madrobin@rcn.com](mailto:madrobin@rcn.com), or [www.amherstecd.org](http://www.amherstecd.org)

**November 19,** Marcie Van Cleave with Joyce, Doug, & Jessica Murrow (oboe and English horn)

**December 17,** Judi Rivkin with Joyce, Doug, & Lydia Ievins (violin)

**January 21, 2006,** Brad Foster with Joyce, Doug, & Ethan Hazzard-Watkins (violin)

**\*\* February 18,** Robin Hayden with Joyce, Doug, & Aldo Fabrizi (mandolin)

**March 18,** David Millstone with Joyce, Doug, & Susan Conger (violin)

#### February 19, 2006

**English Country Dance for Advanced Dancers.** 2-5 PM. Robin Hayden with Ken Allen (piano), Doug Creighton (flute & melodeon), & Jessica Murrow (oboe & English horn). Info: [madrobin@rcn.com](mailto:madrobin@rcn.com) or (413) 253-3828

#### West Kingston RI

#### SATURDAYS

**English Country Dancing.** Courthouse Center for the Arts, 3481 Kingston Rd., West Kingston RI. 7:30-10:30 PM. Live music, guest callers: Jan. 28, Michael Cicone; Feb. 11, Barbara Finney; Feb. 25, Gary Roodman; Mar. 11, Sue Rosen; Mar. 25, Linda Nelson

#### New Hampshire

#### SUNDAYS

2nd Sunday, Sept.-June. **English Country Dance in New Hampshire.** Concord NH: Presidential Oaks (Odd Fellows Home), Minot St. off Pleasant just west of the Concord High School. Up the hill, old section front door; ring buzzer and say you are there for the English dance. 5:30-8 PM. Marianne Taylor calling. \$7, \$6 members. Info: Dave Bateman (603) 886-5071, Marianne Taylor (603) 463-7771 or [taylorgorman@juno.com](mailto:taylorgorman@juno.com), or [people.star.net/blw/dance.english.html](http://people.star.net/blw/dance.english.html)

#### Connecticut

Fridays. **English Country Dance.** New Haven CT. Neighborhood Music School Recital Hall, 100 Auburn St. 8-10:30 PM. Dec 2 only, Jan 6 & 27, Feb 3 & 17, March 3 & 17, April 7, Drancy Fess Ball April 21. \$8. Info: (203) 776-6929

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## **Deadline for Spring issue: February 1**

Covers from late February through June

### **CDS Boston Centre Meetings**

All meetings are open, and all members are welcome. Please ask a committee member or officer for date, time, and place—or call the office.

**Boston Centre's website:**  
[www.cds-boston.org](http://www.cds-boston.org)

**Office telephone:**  
(781) 662-6710

### **Communicating with the Board**

If you are planning an event or some other matter requiring consideration by the CDS Boston Centre Board, please send a brief summary to:

[president@cds-boston.org](mailto:president@cds-boston.org)

or

**CDS Boston Centre  
P.M.B. 282  
1770 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge MA 02140**

### **To Contact the Editor**

If you are planning an event, write it up! Send articles or announcements by e-mail with **NO** formatting or attachments to

[editor@cds-boston.org](mailto:editor@cds-boston.org)

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