



CDS Boston News

The Newsletter of the Country Dance Society, Boston Centre

Spring 2018

Swing Into Summer - June 15-17 2018

Exciting and affordable, Swing into Summer is an enlivening and relaxing weekend full of dance, song, music-making, and more! The weekend features Contra, English, ritual dancing; shape note, harmony and pub singing; and opportunities to play and call from morning until past midnight. There are also games, crafty projects, opportunities to relax in the sun and swim in the pond, surprises, and, yes, our acclaimed All-Comers Ukulele Orchestra.

This year's staff includes callers Sarah Van Norstrand and Dan Blim. Alchemy (Rachel Bell, Karen Axelrod, and Eric Martin) will bring English dances old and new to life and Contra dances will really swing with tunes from the Faux Paws (Andrew Van Norstrand, Noah Van Norstrand, and Chris Miller). Sing your heart

out with the fabulous Vox Hunters (Armand Aromin and Benedict Gagliardi). Our phenomenal staff will have you stomping your feet at dances and raising your voices in song. These individuals bring a wealth of experience in making the experience truly transcendent. In addition, there are also opportunities for YOU to organize your own cool/wacky/interesting class, party, or other collective creative endeavor.

A final note regarding registration: If more people sign up in March than there are spaces available, a lottery will be conducted in the first few days of April.

See you there!

- Alex, Allison, Ben, and Eleanor
Swing Into Summer Committee



photo: Zoe Madonna

July 4th Weekend 2018 June 28th to July 2nd

We all need something great to look forward to, and July 4th Session at Pinewoods is it! This classic Boston Centre Weekend at Pinewoods is one of the most popular events of the year. We arrive at camp on Thursday night and dance through the weekend at daytime classes and evening parties.

We are very excited about our staff this year. The

continued on page 3

ESCAPE to ESC week at Pinewoods! July 2-6, 2018

ESCAPE offers dancers a sampling of familiar favorites and new experiences, featuring English country dance, Scottish country dance, and Contra dance, plus an assortment of ritual and step dances, songs, games, and more. It's fun, friendly, and affordable—please join us this summer!

Music by: Aaron Marcus, Terry Traub, David

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Since 1915

The Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, Inc. works to preserve and promote the knowledge and practice of the traditional and contemporary dance and dance music of England and New England. The Boston Centre sponsors and produces classes, dance parties, workshops, and residential and special events featuring the best performers and practitioners of English and New England country dancing. Events are open to all, and most feature teaching; no experience or partner is required for most events.

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, Inc. Officers, Directors, and non-board offices

As of May 2016

Term Limits:

President: Two terms. Typically a four-year series of presidential offices: President Elect (1 year), President (2 years), Past President (1 year).

Other Board offices: Limit of three complete two-year terms.

* denotes term-limited, and may not be re-elected to the same office. Year denotes term expiration.

Board Members

- 1) 2017 John Hostage - Term #1
- 2) 2017 Hal Wagner - Term #2
- 3) 2017 vacant
- 4) 2017 vacant
- 5) 2018 Florentina Corbescu - Term #2
- 6) 2018 Tom Roby - Term #1
- 7) 2018 Jean Monroe - Term #1
- 8) 2018 vacant
- 9) 2018 vacant
- 10) 2018 vacant

Board Officers

- 11) 2018 President: Ruth Reiner - Term #1
- 12) 2018 Vice Pres: Miriam Newman - Term #1
- 13) 2018 Treasurer: Diane Gonzales - Term #1
- 14) 2017 Clerk: Deborah Kruskal - Term #1
- 15) 2017 Past-President: Judy Erickson

Non-Board Positions - Elected or Appointed

Nominating Committee

Member Elected, Board Nominates (three-year terms)

- 2) 2017 vacant
- 3) 2018 vacant
- 3) 2019 vacant

Board Elected, from the Board (two-year terms)

- 4) 2017 Judy Erickson
- 5) 2018 vacant

Pinewoods Camp, Inc. Board Representative
CDS Boston Center Nominates, PCI Board Elects

- 1) 2019 Eileen Callahan - Term #1* (three-year term)



Call for Nominations to the CDS-Boston Board

Directors and officers serve two-year terms. The Board usually meets 6 or 7 times per year, 3 in the fall and 3 or 4 in the winter and spring. Board committees include Finance, Operations, Development, and Nominating. The board can appoint to vacant positions at any time.

If you would like to nominate someone interested in serving on the Board of Directors (you can nominate yourself, too), or would like information on serving on the Board, please contact any current Board member (listed above or on the website), or email nominations@cds-boston.org.

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 or by mail to the address on the back page

Board Meetings

All meetings are open, and CDS-BC members are welcome. Please ask a board member or officer for date, time, and place or call the office.

To Contact the Editor

If you are planning an event, write it up! Send articles, poems, listings and photos by e-mail to: editor@cds-boston.org

Our next newsletter deadline is April 27th. Mailing is usually 10–14 days after the deadline.

To Update the CDS Boston Web pages

General CDS Boston site,
English Dance Committee pages,
Special Events, Camp Sessions:
[Christine Robb webmaster@cds-boston.org](mailto:ChristineRobb@cds-boston.org)

CDS Boston ECD Collection recordings:
[Dan Pearl daniel_pearl@yahoo.com](mailto:DanPearl@yahoo.com)

2018 Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods! August 31 - September 4

Here is your invitation to join us in the buoyant 2018 Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods weekend! It is your chance to enjoy an unparalleled and diverse session with something for everyone – you'll find day-time classes in individual dance and music genres, led by favorite dance callers and evening programs that feature a delightful smorgasbord of English, Contra, and International dancing. And, of course, all enjoyed with live music featuring the peerless players of a variety of instruments.

Our staff is sterling: teachers include Mary Jones (English) and Marcie Van Cleave (International). We are waiting with bated breath for our Contra dance caller to say yes, but we can't tell you yet who it is!

Fiddlers Vince O'Donnell and Audrey Knuth are in cahoots in bringing together a perfect staff of

musicians ... including Audrey and Vince, they thus far include: Kate Barnes, Alex Cumming, Scotty Leach, Barbara Pixton, Julia Poirier, and Patrick Yacono.

With these details in hand and only approximately 160 days to go before Labor Day Weekend, isn't it high time you mark the session on your calendar as a certainty?!

Dates: Friday afternoon, August 31 – Tuesday morning, September 4

Location: Pinewoods Camp, Plymouth, MA

Details: www.facone.org/labor-day-weekend/labor-day-weekend.html

Registration to open in April 2018

- Elizabeth McLachlan

Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods

Please note: March 1st, 2018 is the membership cutoff date to qualify for member status for all 2018 camp registrations, including member preference in the lottery and member rates. Please check your status and renew!

July 4th Weekend 2018 continued from page 1

English Dance program features the amazing Joanna Reiner, with her provocative teaching and a CDS-BC favorite, Brad Foster with his singing squares. Lisa Greenleaf is back to lead the American Dancing. We have a new guest from England, Lisa Heywood! A product of England's Morris Offspring project, she will call for Ceilidh Dancing and will also lead a creative morris/border workshop for us. Judy Erickson will be running a sword workshop with her detailed and insightful knowledge of the craft. Rebecca McGowan will be returning to us by popular demand running an advanced Sean-Nós Irish Step workshop for those who want to get a bit more challenged. She will also lead a workshop open to all levels for those who want a relaxing foot tapping experience. John Mayberry is back this year with Jamie Beaton to lead classic afternoon porch singing. And last, but most

certainly not least, the fabulous Miss Laura Sprung is bringing her fantastic crafting skills to share.

Our musical staff is brilliant as always, featuring Karen Axelrod, Kate Barnes, Anna Patton, Ethan Hazzard-Watkins, Owen Morrison, Amelia Mason, and the world renowned, Alex Cumming.

There will be the usual gatherings of after-parties, tea-parties, cocktail parties and general merriment. We can't wait to relax, dance, and enjoy life at Pinewoods with you all! Please join us!

To register, go to the Boston Centre website to find more information and a link to the on-line registration. More info can be found on the enclosed flyer.

- Peter Kruskal and Aidin Carey
Co-Chairs July 4th Weekend

ESCAPE to ESC week at Pinewoods! continued from page 1

Knight, Katie McNally, Daniel Beerbohm, Dan Emery, and Kristen Planeaux and Andrew Taylor from The Ripples!

Classes and calling by:

(E) Joanna Reiner Wilkinson

(S) Terry Harvey

(C) Alexandra Deis-Lauby
and Lisa Haywood for Ritual

Information, scholarships, and registration:

<https://www.cds-boston.org/summer-dance-camps/>

<http://rscdsboston.org/pinewoods-esc.html>

Eph Weiss Memorial Dance – Sunday, March 25, 2018

If ever there was a ubiquitous fixture in this traditional dance community of ours, that would have been Eph Weiss. He danced everywhere – international folk, English country, New England Contras and squares, Scandinavian, waltzing; you name it, he enjoyed it.

Eph passed away last July at the age of 92, and it seems that people at every dance gathering since then notice the lack of his presence and miss him. His family and many of his friends have decided to honor him with a pull-out-all-the-stops dance in his memory. Planning together are people from the Folk Arts Center, Speledans, and the Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, along with Eph's daughters and close friends; the dance will happen on Sunday afternoon, March 25 from 3:00-6:00pm at the Payson Park Church in Belmont, MA.

The afternoon will be free to all, thanks to financial support from Eph's family and the Scandinavian dance group Speledans. All the afternoon's leaders and musicians are also donating their talents in this salute to Eph's memory. There

is a plan to accept donations of any amount at the door, the proceeds of which will be used to fund scholarships to Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods. This was a favorite session of Eph's, and he always contributed enthusiastically to the

fun of the weekend- - by leading waltz and hambo workshops, sporting a unique chapeau at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party, and never sitting out a dance!

This is one dance you, too, will not want to sit out. But if you cannot make it, and you would like to support the Scholarship Fund, the Folk Arts Center is accepting donations, all restricted for use solely through this Scholarship, and all are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

If you'd like to send in a check, make it payable to Folk Arts Center and mail it to: 10 Franklin Street, Stoneham, MA 02180.

You can also pay with a credit

card by calling the FAC offices: 781-438-4387.

One of Eph's oft-repeated phrases involved the traditional last dance at an evening of international repertoire. The circle dance is called a lesnoto, and whenever it was announced as "join us in the last dance - a lesnoto", Eph would pipe up with "No! We need more not!"

We all need more noto in our lives – whether it be of the Balkan, English country, Contra, or Scandinavian variety. I hope you are there on the 25th - whether in person or in spirit.

Marcie Van Cleave for the Memorial Dance Committee



10th Annual Play Ball! in Peterborough, NH

**Saturday, April 7th,
6pm - Midnight**

at the Peterborough Town House,
1 Grove St. Peterborough, NH

6:00 - 6:30 Waltzing

Callers: Carol Ormand & Steve Zakon-Anderson;
Music: Notorious

6:30 - 8:50 Contras

Callers: Carol Ormand & Steve Zakon-Anderson;
Music: Notorious

9:10 - 12:00 Contras

Callers: Steve Zakon-Anderson & Carol Ormand;
Music: The Latter Day Lizards

Admission Non-members \$16/Members \$12

More info: 413-369-4369 or zakon-anderson@comcast.net

Sponsored by the Monadnock folklore Society



*Your contributions
enrich our newsletter,
adding color and flavor.*

Consider contributing.

How about a dance haiku?

A sketch done at Pinewoods?

Your favorite photos?

Send them along! – Editor

Boston Centre Program

(781) 591-2372

Info: www.cds-boston.org

Park Avenue Congregational Church, Park Avenue and Paul Revere Road, Arlington Heights

Church of Our Saviour, Carlton and Monmouth Sts., Brookline

First Unitarian Society of Newton, 1326 Washington Street, West Newton, MA

Concord Scout House, 74 Walden Street, Concord, MA

Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church, 1555 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA

Wednesday English Country Dance Series

September through June

Park Ave. Congregational Church, 7:30–10:30PM;

A mix of elegantly simple to challenging dances, ranging from traditional to contemporary. Most dances will be walked through, with teaching as needed. One or two may be prompted only, and not walked through. English Dance Basics are before the dance at 7:10.

Staff callers Barbara Finney, Rich Jackson, Linda Nelson, Christine Robb and Miriam Newman will be joined this season by Tom Roby, a Summer Series favorite.

We plan to continue with style workshops on second Wednesdays. Also on second Wednesdays: birthday cake, and serenading that month's birthday celebrants!

The dances are held from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m., at the Park Avenue Congregational Church, located at the intersection of Park Avenue and Paul Revere Road (one block from Massachusetts Avenue), in Arlington Heights, MA. *We occasionally relocate to the Concord Scout House in Concord, MA, usually once in November and once in April.*

Newcomers and students \$4, Members \$7, Non-members \$9, 12-admission Dance Card \$75
The Dance Card is valid at all Wednesday dances for one year from the date of purchase and can be shared with friends and family.

Volunteers are always needed. Ask the door manager.

www.cds-boston.org/wednesday-english-dance-program/



Harvard Square English Dance, 2nd & 4th Fridays

September through June

Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church

1555 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA

7:30 - 9:30PM;

\$7 general, \$6 members,

\$4 students. View flyer for leaders and musicians.

www.cds-boston.org/harvard-sq-english-dance/

Experienced English Country Dance Series

Fridays and Saturdays

October through May, 7:30–10:30 PM

Friday 12/1/2017 First Friday Brookline

Friday 1/5/2018 First Friday Brookline

Saturday 2/3/2018 First Saturday Scout House

Friday 3/2/2018 First Friday Brookline

Saturday 4/7/2018 First Saturday West Newton

Saturday 5/5/2018 First Saturday West Newton

A more challenging evening of the English Country Dance tradition's beloved classics and exciting newer dances, with the same great callers and musicians. Dances will be taught, but attendees should be familiar with all basic figures and expect to learn dances quickly; some dances may be done after a talk-through only.

Admission is \$10 for CDS members, \$12 for non members, and \$5 for students.

For directions or more information, visit the Boston Centre website (www.cds-boston.org) or call Deb Karl at (617) 721-0600

We hope to see you there!

Other Regular Boston Area Dances and Events

Mondays

Contras. Concord Scout House, 7:30-10:30 PM. Various callers and musicians. Adults \$8 (\$5 after 9:30pm); Age 22 (and under) \$5
Info: 978-369-1232 or 781-272-0396
<http://mondaycontras.com/>

Scottish Country Dancing. Canadian American Club, 202 Arlington St, Watertown 7:45-10:15 pm. Live music \$9. Students \$5.
www.canadianamericanclub.com/Calendar.html
cambridgeclass@rscdsboston.org,
<http://www.rscdsboston.org/>

Tuesdays

Frequent Tuesdays

Contra Dance for All @ MIT, Cambridge, MA.
8-10:30PM All welcome, no experience or partner needed. Band sit-ins welcome. \$8-\$10, MIT & Wellesley students free, other students \$5. Prospective callers & musicians, contact fdc-request@mit.edu or (617) 354-0864.
Info: (617) 354-0864
<http://mit.edu/fdc/www/contra.html>

2nd, 4th & 5th Tuesdays

Boston Gender Free English Country Dance.
(Experienced Dance on 5th Tuesday)
First Church of Jamaica Plain UU, Centre & Eliot Sts. Jamaica Plain, Boston, MA 7:30-10 PM.
Come at 7:00 PM with a brown bag dinner & socialize!
Various leaders. \$7. www.lcfd.org/bgfe/
Info: Janet (617) 522-2216 or John (617) 512-5554

Tuesdays

Irish Sets at the Can-Am Club, 202 Arlington St. Watertown, Oct-May, 7.30-9pm, \$7,
<http://cceboston.org/branch-activities/>
Teaching by Sally Harney to recorded music.

Thursdays

New England Contras & Squares. Concord Scout House. 7:30-10:30 PM. \$10, \$5 students.
Info: NEFFA, (781) 662-6710; Dan, (508) 229-2854;
www.neffa.org/Thurs.html

Fridays

1st Fridays, Oct – May

Challenging Contras at the Concord Scout House.
8-11PM. For experienced dancers. \$10, under 21 \$8.
www.tiac.net/~mabaker/challenging-contras.html

2nd Fridays, Sept – June

Contras, Squares, & Couple Dances. Unitarian Church, 27 School St, Carlisle MA 8-10:00 PM, potluck at 6:30. Sue Rosen, Walter Lenk with the Carlisle Band. \$6. Info: (617) 547-7781
<http://www.configular.com/dance/carlisle/>

3rd Fridays, Sept – June

Roaring Jelly: Contras and Squares.
1st Parish Church, 7 Harrington Road, Lexington MA. Beginners 7:45, dance 8-11pm. Susan Elberger with Debby Knight. \$7, Teens \$5, Children under 12 free with parent. \$20 family max. Info: (781) 944-3544, RoaringJelly@comcast.net, <http://roaringjelly.org>

Saturdays

1st Saturdays, Oct - June

Contra Dance Berlin, MA, 8-11pm,
Admission: \$5 per person or \$12 max per family
Berlin 1870 Town Hall, 2nd floor, 12 Woodward Ave.
Info: 978-838-0044
<http://webpages.charter.net/brlncountryorch/>

2nd & 4th Saturdays, Sept - June, plus 4th Sat. July

Gender Role-Free New England Contra & Square Dances. 1st Church of Jamaica Plain (Unitarian-Universalist), Corner of Centre & Eliot Sts. 7:30-11pm unless noted. \$10, \$6 students. www.lcfd.org/jp/
Info: Chris (617) 852-4042 or (781)-982-8042
jp-dance@lcfd.org

4th Saturday, Sept – May

Walter Lenk with Debby Knight and Jack O'Connor. New England Contras and Squares, 8-11pm.
Cambridge Friends School, 5 Cadbury Road, Cambridge, MA. \$8; \$6, 21 and under.
(617) 547-7781 or (978) 369-1232
www.configular.com/dance

Sundays

Scottish Country Dance, Sept. - May, 6:30-8:30pm
The Parish House, Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth Street, Brookline, MA (Evelyn Murray, 617-864-8945; Heather Day, 617-244-6914) \$5 donation.
www.rscdsboston.org/classes-listing.html

1st & 3rd Sunday, year 'round

Contra Dance. Masonic Hall in Porter Square, Cambridge, MA. 7:30-10:30pm
Cost \$5-\$12 (sliding scale). Introductory workshop at 7pm, first night is free if you come by 7pm.
Boston Intergenerational Dance Advocates.
www.bidadance.org

Mostly 2nd Sundays, Sept-May

Mostly Waltz for Boston, Waltzes & other couple dances. 2-5:30pm selected Sundays, Concord Scout House, 74 Walden Street, Concord, MA
Admission \$12; Folk Arts Center members \$10; Young adults \$6. Your second time attending Mostly Waltz is FREE! Beginners, experienced dancers, singles, and couples are all welcome!
www.facone.org/programs/mostlywaltz.html



There are many local dances in New England. For comprehensive listings of folk dances in the region visit <http://www.facone.org/calendars-folk-dancing-in-new-england.html> or www.contradancelinks.com

Outside the Boston Area - "check the web site or call before you travel"

English Country Dance

Massachusetts

South Amherst, Mondays, Saturdays & Sunday,
* All South Amherst dances are at Munson Library*

Mondays

Robin Hayden with live music. 7pm. Sliding scale \$7-10. Info: Robin at (413) 695-2024, www.amherstecd.org

2nd Saturdays

Second Saturday English Country Dance. A fun evening welcoming to all. Led by Graham Christian and Mary Jones with live music. 7:30 - 10:30pm, \$8. Info: www.amherstecd.org

4th Sundays

Sundays in Amherst English Country Dance. 1:30 - 4:30pm. A variety of English dances with a special focus such as Engl/ Contra, advanced dances, highlights of particular collectors, etc. Various callers with live music. \$12 regular admission, \$8 students. Info: (413) 549-4123 Joyce Crouch, www.amherstecd.org

Rhode Island

Saturdays

Kingston English Country Dance

South Kingstown Land Trust, 17 Matunuck Beach Rd, South Kingstown, Rhode Island.
2018 Dates: 3/10, 4/14, 5/12, 6/9, 7/14, 9/8, 10/13, 11/10. Potluck at 6pm, dancing 7:30 to 10:30pm. General admission: \$12; \$10 with subscription card. More Info: Kingstonenglishcountrydance.org or call 401-539-3009.

New Hampshire

Keene, Sunday afternoons

English Country 2:30-4:30
RSCDS Scottish Country Dancing 4:30-6:30
69 Washington Street, Keene, NH, \$5.00
Priscilla Borden and guest callers, Musicians TBA
Contact info: Priscilla Borden 508-451-9301
ArachneAS@aol.com

Concord, Second Sundays, Sept-June

Concord NH, West St Ward house
41 West St, Concord NH from 6-9 PM.
\$8, \$7 members. Info: Dave Bateman (603) 397-0042, dave@NHECDS.org. Directions at www.nhecds.org

Monadnock Folklore Society Sunday Dances:

3/18 - Hastings House, Walpole, NH, 2-5pm
Caller: Brad Foster; Music: Kate Barnes, Lydia Levins
4/15 - Dublin, NH Town Hall, 2-5pm
Caller: Rich Jackson; Music: Seven Times Salt
5/20 - Nelson, NH Town Hall, 2-5pm
Caller: Sue Rosen; Music: Bruce Rosen, Mary Lee

Nelson, Saturday, 5/19

English Country Dance, Town Hall, Nelson, NH, 8PM
Caller: Sue Rosen; Music: Anna Patton, Ethan Hazzard-Watkins and Kate Barnes
All are welcome! For more information please contact Sue Turner suetnr7@gmail.com.

Contra Dance

Massachusetts

Amherst, most Wednesdays (except 2nd)
7:30-10:30PM, lesson 7PM. Bring your friends
Masonic Lodge, 99 Main St. Amherst. \$10-15, Students \$8, High School \$6. www.amherstcontra.org

Cape Cod, All Four Saturdays, 8-11 pm

Dancing continues through summer
www.capecontra.org or contact shabam@ais.net
3rd Fridays, Sept. - June

Greenfield, Fridays, Saturdays and some Sundays

401 Chapman St. www.guidingstargrange.org

Rehoboth, 2nd, 4th and 5th Fridays

8-11PM, \$9; \$8 students; \$5 ages 16 and under; \$20 max families with children under 16.
<http://www.contradancelinks.com/rehoboth.html>

South Amherst, 4th Saturday, Sept. - May

Munson Library, 1046 South East St. South Amherst.
7:30-10:30 Cost: \$5-10 (sliding scale)
More info: (413) 256-0673; lindapiano@gmail.com

Worcester, 2nd Saturdays, Sept. - June

Beginners Lessons 7pm, Dancing 7:30-10:30pm.
Wesley Methodist Church, 114 Main St. Worcester.
\$8-12. \$6-8 students w/ID, \$18-20 family, under 12 free
www.worcesterdance.org

New Hampshire

Manchester, 3rd Fridays

Mill City Contra Various callers & musicians. Beginners
Wkshp 7:30pm. Dance 8-11pm \$8, \$5 students. 106
Lowell St, Manchester, NH; Info: Paul Lizotte 603.595.4484
www.wordworthy2.org/Mill_City_Contra_Dance/Home.html

Kingston, 4th Saturdays

Kingston Town Hall, 163 Main St., 8-11 p.m. \$8. Potluck at the break. Bring snacks to share and water to drink.
Please bring clean soft-soled shoes to dance in.

March: NO DANCE

Apr. 28: Alice Morris w/Gypsy Minor

May 26: Don Primrose w/Old Favorite

June 23: Rich Sbardella w/Wild Card

July: NO DANCE

Aug. 25: Tod Whittemore w/Carol Bittenson and Debbie Knight

Sept. 22: Caller Marcie Van Cleave w/Reelation

Oct. 27: Gale Wood w/Concepdance

Nov: NO DANCE

Dec. 29: Peter Yarensky and Sarah Mason w/Lamprey River Band (Annual Seacoast Holiday Dance)

Info: www.contradancelinks.com/scheduleNH.html#KingstonNH
More information, call Glenn: 772-5355 or glennccopp@rcn.com,
Claire: 778-1514, Gale: 679-5448, or Sarah: 659-5612.

Vermont

Brattleboro, 2nd & 4th Sundays, Sept. - June

Contra Dancing 118 Elliot St., Brattleboro.
7:15 beginner wkshp, dancing for all 7:30-10:30pm.
\$10-\$12 adults; \$8 students/seniors/low income; \$5 youth. Beginners welcome; all dances are taught. No partner necessary. Info: email ethan@ethanhv.com or call 802-257-9234. <http://brattcontra.org/>

CDS, Boston Centre Code of Conduct – Getting with the Times

The CDS-Boston Centre Board has issued a Code of Conduct (“the policy”) regarding behavioral expectations at CDS-BC events and procedures for implementing the policy. Issuing this policy is part of the Board’s continuing effort to be inclusive and welcoming to current and new participants.

The Board feels that CDS-BC policy should better reflect a commitment to the safety and harmony of all attendees at our events, regardless of gender, and support CDS-BC members of all genders in encouraging respectful interactions and discouraging inappropriate behavior. We have reviewed examples from many other organizations, both from the folk dance world and other areas, and have drafted a policy that is clear, without attempting to describe every possible contingency.

It is particularly difficult to write a code of conduct that is detailed and prescriptive for our events, where expected behavior necessarily involves close physical contact. However, the basic intent of the policy is to communicate that behaviors outside of the normal range of activities (asking partners to dance, dancing, playing music, teaching dance and music, etc.), that may make others uncomfortable are not acceptable, and that clear violations of the policy will have consequences. In addition to clarifying basic standards for behavior, we wish to codify a process for responding to unwelcome behavior as well as the possible consequences.

In the past, those who have been complained about have sometimes (often!) responded “Oh, I always act like this, nobody minds.” It is time to acknowledge that many people do mind, even

if they have remained silent in the past. People do mind more intimate behavior or suggestions thereof by relative strangers, or even by dance acquaintances, who have not had the courtesy to enquire if such behavior is welcome. Our new response to such an assertion would be: “Maybe your behavior has not changed, but please recognize that attitudes are rapidly changing.”

In no way does the Code of Conduct seek to discourage friendly interaction, and any behavior must be evaluated in context. Asking partners to dance is absolutely part of expected behavior. So is the possibility of declining a request. However, repeatedly pressuring someone to dance, or responding rudely or angrily to someone declining a request, are not expected behavior. Close contact on the dance floor is usual in a social dance or ritual context, but does not, in itself, automatically confer permission for close contact off the dance floor. Would you take ballroom position with a mere acquaintance at work? Would you spontaneously give backrubs to your child’s teacher or the postal clerk you see every week? We just ask that people be respectful. If you are not sure, please ask. If you ask someone and they prefer not to, it is perfectly acceptable for them to decline. If a request is declined, please accept the answer as given and don’t pressure someone to change their answer.

The Board presents the new policy for members’ consideration and we welcome your opinions and suggestions. Please send any comments to president@cds-boston.org, or feel free to discuss it with any board member.

New CDS-Boston Centre website!

The Country Dance Society, Boston Centre has a new website! It is at the usual address (www.cds-boston.org) and now has listings for events (weekly and special), a calendar of current dances, how to get involved, our history and more. Please take a look—we have pictures. The transformation was the result of massive work by both Christine Robb, Webmistress, and Terry Huffaker, Membership Chair. Please be sure to thank them next time you see them.

We hope you enjoy the new site and finding out more about the organization that provides so much for its members.



Country Dance Society Boston Centre
Come dance with us!

Events ▾ Calendar Get Involved ▾ Resources ▾ History ▾ About ▾ Contact

JOIN US!

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre hosts dances year round centered in the Eastern Massachusetts area, and in the summer sponsors camp programs at Pinewoods Camp near Plymouth.

Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, Inc.

Code of Conduct

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, Inc. (CDS-Boston Centre) works to preserve and promote the knowledge and practice of the traditional and contemporary dance and dance music of England and New England. The Boston Centre sponsors and produces classes, dance parties, workshops and residential and special events featuring the best performers and practitioners of English and New England country dancing. Events are open to all and most feature teaching; no experience or partner is required for most events.

SUMMARY:

The CDS-Boston Centre's Code of Conduct prohibits inappropriate behavior in all forms, including:

- Sexual misconduct or harassment
- Verbal misconduct or harassment
- Physical misconduct or harassment
- Nonverbal misconduct or harassment

Complaints or reports of violation of this policy may be conveyed to:

- CDS-Boston Centre President, president@cds-boston.org, (Ruth Reiner as of 2/2018)
- CDS-Boston Centre Vice President, vp@cds-boston.org, (Miriam Newman as of 2/2018)

The CDS-Boston Centre Board of Directors may take action in response to violations of this policy, including

- A warning
- Temporary suspension from CDS-Boston Centre events
- Permanent removal from CDS-Boston Centre events
- If required, assistance from law enforcement

POLICY:

CDS-Boston Centre preserves and promotes traditional and contemporary dance and dance music of England and New England by providing a community environment in which all participants are treated with dignity, decency and respect. The environment of events organized by the CDS-Boston Centre is characterized by mutual trust and the absence of intimidation, oppression and exploitation. Community members should be able to dance, play music and socialize in a safe and supportive atmosphere. Our goal is to create a space where everyone can grow as dancers, leaders and musicians, and where everyone can enjoy participating in the program and socializing safely. To make this happen we all need to agree to a few expectations.

The CDS-Boston Centre's Code of Conduct prohibits inappropriate behavior in all forms, and the CDS-Boston Centre Board of Directors will take appropriate and prompt action in response to complaints or knowledge of violations of this policy.

Inappropriate behavior is defined as behavior that injures, intimidates, harasses or otherwise threatens people in our community.

This can be verbal, physical, or sexual in nature, and directed toward dancers, musicians, volunteers, board members, or any person or performer working for or on behalf of CDS- Boston Centre. Aggressive

or negative behavior that, in the opinion of the targeted individual or group, impairs their ability to safely engage with the CDS-Boston Centre community will be considered by the Board as possible violations of the CDS-Boston Centre Code of Conduct.

The following examples of inappropriate behavior in contravention of this Code of Conduct are intended to be guidelines and are not exclusive when determining whether there has been a violation of this policy:

- Sexual misconduct includes unsolicited and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.
- Verbal misconduct includes comments that are offensive or unwelcome regarding a person's nationality, origin, race, color, religion, age, gender, gender presentation, sexual orientation, sexual identity, body, disability, appearance, dance or musical ability, pregnancy, marital or other protected status, including epithets, slurs and negative stereotyping; threats of violence; aggressive or combative interactions.
- Physical misconduct includes physical interactions outside of the usual activities required for dance and music participation that are offensive, intimidating or threatening.
- Nonverbal misconduct includes distribution, display or discussion of any written or graphic material that ridicules, denigrates, insults, belittles or shows hostility, aversion or disrespect toward an individual or group because of national origin, race, color, religion, age, gender, gender presentation, sexual orientation, sexual identity, body, disability, appearance, dance or musical ability, pregnancy, marital or other protected status; any other actions designed to intimidate or harass.

For purposes of this policy, "harassment" consists of systematic and/or continued unwanted and annoying actions of one individual or group towards another individual or group, including threats and demands.

Attendees of CDS-Boston Centre events are expected to ask for positive confirmation, either verbally or by gesture (for example, extending a hand), before engaging in physical contact, such as asking someone to dance or offering a backrub. If contact is refused, it is expected that further contact will not be initiated beyond the normal interactions of asking someone to dance or otherwise inviting participation in the normal activities of an event.

If a member of the community has an issue with another member of the community, it is expected that any discussions will be civil and undertaken privately. Anyone may request assistance from a Board member or the event organizer in the event of experiencing harassment or being the subject of personal confrontation.

Any member of the CDS-Boston Centre community can contact any Board member or the event organizer to report any instance of violations of this Policy. Should a member of the community wish to formally report a violation of this Code of Conduct, they may contact CDS-Boston Centre President, president@cds-boston.org or CDS-Boston Centre Vice President, vp@cds-boston.org). All reports of potential violations made to the CDS-Boston Centre Board or official contact persons will be considered confidential.

All community members who participate in CDS-Boston Centre events, regardless of their position, are covered by and are expected to comply with this policy. The CDS-Boston Centre Board will take appropriate action according to this Code of Conduct to deal with any community member who violates this policy, whether the violation is a single instance or a pattern of behavior. When evaluating harassment issues, CDS-Boston Centre will also take into consideration the subject's behavior in non- CDS-Boston Centre spaces. Based on the seriousness of the offense, action may include but is not limited to communication with the subject of the complaint, temporary suspension from CDS-Boston Centre events, permanent removal from CDS-Boston Centre events and/or, if required, assistance from law enforcement.

CDS-Boston Centre – Process for Reporting a Violation of the Code of Conduct

It is the intent of the Country Dance Society, Boston Centre (CDS-Boston Centre) to provide a safe, harmonious, and respectful atmosphere for all participants to enjoy traditional dance, music, and socializing. With this goal in mind, the CDS-Boston Centre Board of Directors establishes this process for reporting and responding to a violation of the CDS-Boston Centre Code of Conduct:

1. Anyone who feels they have experienced a violation of the CDS-Boston Centre Code of Conduct may contact either CDS-Boston Centre President at president@cds-boston.org, or CDS-Boston Centre Vice-President at vp@cds-boston.org or any other member of the CDS-Boston Centre Board or any dance organizer to report the violation. As per the Code of Conduct, contacts for reporting violations may be communicated by email, phone call, or in person.
2. Once contacted, the CDS-Boston Centre representative will promptly inform the President and Vice-President, and a meeting (teleconference or actual meeting) of the Executive Committee will be called.
3. The Executive Committee will gather facts and interview those involved.
4. If by a preponderance of evidence the CDS-Boston Centre Executive Committee determines that the Code of Conduct has been violated, then one of the following actions will be taken by the Executive Committee:
 - A. A written warning will be sent to the offender advising them to change their behavior immediately.
 - B. If behavior does not change, the offender will receive a registered letter informing them that they are banned from CDS-Boston Centre events for a term of years. Following the expiration of the ban, the offender may petition the then CDS-Boston Centre Executive Committee for resumed access to CDS-Boston Centre events.
 - C. If the situation warrants, the Executive Committee will mail a registered letter permanently banning the offender from any and all CDS-Boston Centre events.
 - D. The President will inform CDS-Boston Centre Board, event leaders, teachers, and organizations that co-fund or co-organize camp sessions of any ban resulting from a violation of the Code of Conduct, whether temporary or permanent.
 - E. If the situation warrants, legal action maybe initiated by CDS-Boston Centre, in order to protect persons who are covered by this policy. The underlying allegations/facts relied upon for a determination of a violation of the Code of Conduct may also be referred to a law enforcement agency when in the judgment of the CDS-Boston Centre Executive Committee the same becomes necessary.

Officers as of January 2018

President: Ruth Reiner

Vice-president: Miriam Newman

CDS Boston Centre
P.O. Box 3055
Acton MA 01720
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Join the Country Dance Society of Boston Centre!

Benefits include reduced admission to dances and events, a newsletter, preferred admission to dance camp sessions, and more. Discounts available for students, seniors, and organizations.

Inquire via membership@cds-boston.org or at www.cds-boston.org.

Need to look up a dance or venue? Try one of these internet resources:

- www.cds-boston.org
- www.contradancelinks.com
- www.facone.org/fdrb/home/
- www.TheDanceGypsy.com
- www.dancedb.com/dancedb

Boston Centre's website: www.cds-boston.org Office telephone: **781-591-2372**