

CDS Boston News

The Newsletter of the Country Dance Society, Boston Centre

Spring 2020

Swing Into Summer June 19-21

Exciting and affordable, Swing into Summer is an enlivening and relaxing weekend full of traditional dance, song, music-making, and other activities that people of every age/persuasion will enjoy. Our campers span all ages, including young adults, and families.

Our 2020 staff includes: Mary Wesley, Anna Rain, Cloud Ten, Anna Patton, Kristen Planeaux, Ethan Hazzard-Watkins, Max Newman and more!



Swing Into Summer 2019. Photo by Maddie Freeman.

Swing into Summer is a great place to do what you love and try something new along with friends both old and yet-to-be. Jump with joyful dance one period, learn to play a new instrument the next, then sing and swim late into the night. Come for what you love; stay for something you didn't even know you loved!

Registration is now open for Swing into Summer! Get your application in before the April 1st lottery deadline.

Check us out at <http://www.swingintosummer.org/> for registration and more info.

July 4th Session July 2-6

Great dancing, beautiful music, rejuvenating singing, brilliant tune swaps, exuberant parties—the Country Dance Society, Boston Centre's July 4th Session has it all. How do we cram so much fun, music, and dance into just one long weekend? Come and find out!

One of Pinewoods' longest-running camp sessions, this event has been held, in some form, since the 1950s. Walking into J4 is like arriving at a never-ending party full of great friends you haven't met yet. The session celebrates both the depth of traditions and the exciting new possibilities in English and American music and dance.

Join us! The weekend will feature:

Teaching by: Joanna Reiner, Dan Blim, Lisa Greenleaf, Ben Moss, Meg Ryan, Lily Kruskal Leahy, Jamie Beaton & John Mayberry, and Miss Laura Sprung.

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2019 July 4th Weekend. Photo by Gus Voorhees.

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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

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 Officers

President: Clara Stefanov-Wagner (until 2021)

Vice President: Hal Wagner (until 2020)

Past President: Ruth Reiner (until 2020)

Treasurer: John Hostage (until 2020)

Clerk: Tom Roby (until 2021)

Directors

Lise Foss

Sarah Gerbick

Jean Monroe

Carole Talley

Diane Gonzales

David Kranz

Non-Board Positions - Elected or Appointed

Nominating Committee

Member Elected, Board Nominates (three-year terms)

2) vacant

3) vacant

3) vacant

Pinewoods Camp, Inc. Board Representative

CDS Boston Center Nominates, PCI Board Elects

1) 2019 Eileen Callahan

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, listings, announcements, poems, photos, etc. via e-mail to: editor@cds-boston.org

Our next newsletter deadline is scheduled for the end of April. If you would like to be added to the contributor reminder email list, please contact the editor. 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

CDS Boston ECD Collection recordings:

Dan Pearl daniel_pearl@yahoo.com

Please note:

April 1st, 2020 is the membership cutoff date to qualify for member status for all 2020 camp registrations, including member preference in the lottery and member rates.

Please check your status and renew!

ESCAPE at Pinewoods July 6-10

Whether you're a veteran dancer or excited to try something new, ESCAPE is the perfect week for you! Enjoy amazing dancing, singing, food, and friends at Pinewoods Camp in Plymouth, MA, July 6-10, 2020.

ESCAPE 2020 Staff will include: Jenny Beer (English), Marc Hartstein (Scottish), Luke Donforth (Contra), Nancy Barbour (Rapper), Ben Moss (Morris), Catherine Miller, Adam Oleksa, Peter Macfarlane, Julie Vallimont, Dave Wiesler, Kristen Planeaux, Christopher Jacoby, Dan Emery

Dancing will be called and taught using gender-free terms.

Registration and more information at: bit.ly/ESC2020

Co-Sponsored by RSCDS Boston Branch and CDS Boston Centre. Scholarships are available!

See you there!



ESCAPE 2019. Photo by Daniel Potter.

CDS-BC July 4th Session *continued from page 1*

Music by: Alex Cumming, McKinley James, Aaron Marcus, Emily Troll, Stomp Rocket! (feat. Dave Langford, Glen Loper, & Bethany Waickman)

Sound by Dereck Kalish

This year, July 4th Session at Pinewoods will include gender-free calling! We believe the weekend should be a welcoming space for LGBTQ+ dancers, and incorporating gender neutral dance terminology is an important step toward a more inclusive camp experience. Expect a mix of gender-free and traditional calling styles at J4, as well as space for a robust discussion of this growing trend in American social dancing. We look forward to your participation and feedback.

For more information and the registration form, visit cbs-boston-j4weekend.weebly.com/

Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods September 4-8

Mark your calendars now for the exciting 2020 Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods Camp in Plymouth, MA, September 4-8!

Our teaching staff is unparalleled: Lisa Greenleaf (American), Joanna Reiner (English), and Marcie Van Cleave (International) will join formidable forces to teach and call throughout the day and night!



Labor Day Weekend 2019. Photo by Sue Flint.

Fiddlers Vince O'Donnell and Audrey Knuth will lead a cracking combination of musicians: Laura Alexander (cello), Daniel Beerbohm (clarinet), Eric Eid-Reiner (piano), Ben Kennedy (piano), Julia Poirier (guitar), Patrick Yacono (clarinet and piano), and Brian Wilson (fiddle and clarinet) will play until you dance your feet off!

One of the many special elements of this session is the stunning ability of every one of our talented musicians to be able to play a variety of music for different genres. Listen and dance in amazement as they switch from flowing English melodies to rollicking American dance tunes to dizzying international cadences!

This perennial endcap to the summer is a magically diverse session with dancing, music, parties, and ponds, and you will not want to leave it off your datebook!

Registration is open now! For more information, visit: www.facone.org/labor-day-weekend/labor-day-weekend



Will we see YOU at Labor Day this year? Photo by Sue Flint.

The New England Folk Festival is Coming!

Many of us who value and appreciate traditions note the turning of the seasons with a roster of annual events. As Spring approaches in New England, it means that NEFFA is coming!

The first event that would grow into the New England Folk Festival was held October 28 and 29, 1944 at the Boston YWCA. It was billed as a “Fall Folk Festival,” and about 200 people attended. There were craft exhibits and demonstrations, music and dance performances, conferences for leaders, and participatory folk and square dancing.

The road from there to here has been long and scenic for the NEFFA Festival and for the organization. The Festival grew quickly to a few thousand participants, settled in as a springtime event, and now has a deep and colorful history. Every year brings many familiar things: participatory dance, singing, and music, dance performances, and crafts are all still essential components of the Festival. But some years come with additional challenges.

As we gear up for the 76th annual Festival, hopefully word is getting around that the Festival is moving this year. We found out in July that we would not be able to hold the 2020 event in Mansfield. We had only a few months to find a new site if we were going to have time to get everything in place for a Festival.

Even on that short timeline, we did our best to be thoughtful about the process, to consider what is most important about NEFFA and to assess our priorities. We need good spaces for dance and music events, of course, room for food, crafts and folk bazaar booths, reasonable parking and transit options. But everyone was also keen to be sure that there would be good spaces for informal gatherings, jam sessions and chatting with friends. For many people, socializing and community-building is a central feature of NEFFA.

We were delighted to find a venue as suitable as the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School. While there will certainly be adjustments and challenges as we find our way into new space, we are grateful to be able to hold the Festival at all this year. The Town of Acton and various town and school officials have been tremendously helpful and supportive, and we are hearing enthusiasm in the community for bringing in this event. NEFFA is a big undertaking, and we are doing our best to get all the logistics organized so that all goes smoothly. We are very much hoping that the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School will work well for us, and we are hoping this event will work well for the town. We are not certain this arrangement will continue, but we would certainly love to stay put for a good long while, if we can. We appreciate everyone’s understanding in this transition.

Another issue for us is that this venue will be significantly more expensive. We are working on strategies for reducing costs and considering additional sources of income. NEFFA is in a strong financial position, but we need our financial arrangements to be sustainable. We want to keep Festival ticket prices affordable, and we don’t necessarily expect the Festival to pay for itself. We have always relied, to some degree, on donations large and small from people who support NEFFA’s mission. We are grateful for the support of our loyal community.

From the outset, the goal of the Festival was to gather people from all walks of life to share a love of the folk arts. It brought different communities together, building a community of its own. Through three quarters of a century, new generations of dancers, musicians, crafters, and singers have continued to make the New England Folk Festival a vibrant gathering. New generations of generous volunteers have stepped forward to offer their organizational talents and leadership. NEFFA continues to be a strong presence in a thriving community.



Of course, you folks are experts on history. The Country Dance Society, Boston Centre, was well-established long before NEFFA was even an idea. The Boston Centre was at that first NEFFA Festival, sharing English dances, and, as far as I know, the group has been present at every NEFFA through all these years.

We are extremely fortunate in New England, particularly in the Boston area, to have such a wealth of organizations supporting living folk traditions—dance, music, crafts—and to have such a crowded schedule of wonderful events to choose from. We hope to see you at NEFFA in April!

Janet Yeracaris, NEFFA President

New England Folk Festival

April 24-26, 2020

Acton-Boxborough Regional High School
(36 Charter Rd., Acton, MA)

For more information please visit <https://www.neffa.org>

Boston Centre Program

(781) 591-2372

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 Universalist 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. English Dance Basics are before the dance at 7:10.

Staff callers are: Barbara Finney, Rich Jackson, Linda Nelson, Christine Robb, Tom Roby and Miriam Newman.

Style workshops continue on second Wednesdays. Also on second Wednesdays: birthday cake, and serenading that month's birthday celebrants!

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 Rd. (one block from Massachusetts Ave.), in Arlington Heights, MA. *We occasionally relocate to the Concord Scout House in Concord, MA, usually once in November and once in April.*

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.

More Information at:

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 Ave., Cambridge
7:30 - 9:30 PM;

\$7 general, \$6 members, \$4 students.
View flyer for leaders and musicians.

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

ACE! The Advanced Challenging English Dance Series 2019-2020

Are you ready for a challenge? Try your hand at our "ACE" dances - the Advanced Challenging English Dance series - challenging evenings of the English Country Dance tradition's beloved classics and exciting newer dances, with CDS-Boston's 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 talk-through only.

ACE - the Advanced Challenging English Dance series - will be held on First Fridays and Saturdays from September 2019 through May 2020. Please visit the CDS-Boston website for the final schedule of dates, locations, dance leaders and musicians. Please note that all Advanced Challenging English series dances run from 7:30 – 10:30 pm.

Admission is \$10 for CDS members, \$12 for non-members, and \$5 for students. For schedule, directions or more information, visit the Boston Centre website (<http://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. You pick a price \$5,\$10 or \$15. Volunteer options available. (\$3 after 9:00pm) Info: 978-341-4143 <http://mondaycontras.com/>

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

Tuesdays

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 w/brown bag dinner & socialize! Admission \$7. Info: www.lcfd.org/bgfe, John 617-512-5554, john@gintell.org

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

Thursdays

Thursday Contras. Concord Scout House, 74 Walden Street, Concord, MA. 7:30-10:30 pm. Introductory pre-dance workshop at 7:10pm \$10, (\$5 age 22 and under). (\$3 after 9:00pm) Info: NEFFA, <https://www.neffa.org/thursday-contras>

Fridays

1st Fridays, Oct – May

Challenging Contras at the Concord Scout House. 74 Walden Street, Concord, MA. 8-11PM. For experienced dancers. \$10, under 21 \$8. <http://concordscouthouse.org/pages/calendar.php> info@concordscouthouse.org

2nd Fridays, Oct – June (no April dance)

Contras, Squares, & Couple Dances. Unitarian Church, 27 School St, Carlisle MA 8-10:00 PM, potluck at 6:30. Music by 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. Various callers w/music director Debby Knight. \$7, Teens \$5, Children under 12 free with parent. \$20 family max. Info: 781-259-0753, [RoaringJelly@comcast.net](http://roaringjelly.org), <http://roaringjelly.org>

Saturdays

1st Saturdays, Oct - June

Contra Dance Berlin 1870 Town Hall, 12 Woodward Avenue, Berlin, MA, 7:30-10:30pm, Admission: \$8 per person or \$15 max per family, First timers free w/early arrival & lesson. Info: 508-863-0769, <https://berlin1870townhall.org/contras-dances>

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. Admission: \$5-\$15 sliding scale. Info: www.lcfd.org/jp, jp-dance@lcfd.org

Sundays

Scottish Country Dance, Sept. - May, 6:30-8:30pm The Parish House, Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth Street, Brookline, MA Info: Evelyn Murray, 617-864-8945; Heather Day brooklineclass@rscdsboston.org <http://rscdsboston.org/class-massachusetts.html>

1st & 3rd Sunday, year 'round

Contra Dance. Masonic Hall in Porter Square, 1950 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA. 7:30-10:30pm Cost \$5-\$15 (sliding scale). Introductory workshop at 7pm, first night is free if you come by 7pm. Boston Intergenerational Dance Advocates. Info: www.bidadance.org

Selected Sundays, Sept-May

Mostly Waltz for Boston, Concord Scout House, 74 Walden Street, Concord, MA. Waltzes & other couple dances. 2-5:30pm selected Sundays, 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! Info: 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,](http://www.facone.org/calendars-folk-dancing-in-new-england)
[www.contradancelinks.com,](http://www.contradancelinks.com) or
<https://www.cdss.org/community/events-calendar/>



2019 July 4th Weekend at Pinewoods. Photo by Gus Voorhees.

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

English Country Dance

Massachusetts

South Amherst

Mondays

Monday night Dance Munson Library, 1046 South East St., South Amherst 7-9:30pm. Sliding scale \$7-10. Info: <http://amherstecd.org> or email amherstenglish@gmail.com

2nd Saturdays

Second Saturday Location Varies: Munson Library, 1046 South East St., South Amherst AND Whately Dance Barn, Intersection of Hydenville & Masterson Roads, Whately. A fun evening welcoming to all. 7:30 - 10:30pm, \$8. Info: <http://amherstecd.org>, www.whatelydancebarn.com, or email maryjones@pobox.com

4th Sundays

Sundays in Amherst Munson Library, 1046 South East St., South Amherst, 1:30 - 4:30pm check schedule for specific dates. A variety of English dances. Various callers with live music. \$12 regular admission, \$8 students. Info: <http://amherstecd.org> or email amherstenglish@gmail.com

Rhode Island

Saturdays

Kingston English Country Dance

Quonochontaug Grange, 5662 Post Rd (Route 1), Charlestown RI from 7:30-10:30pm (potluck discontinued). March 14, Martha Griffin calling, music by Robert Mills and Bill Ouimette

April 11, Joanna Reiner Wilkinson calling, music by Patrice Newman and Bill Ouimette

May 9, Marcie Van Cleave calling, music by Elaine Winic and Barbara Pixton

June 13, Rich Jackson calling, music by Patrice Newman and Bill Ouimette. General admission: \$12

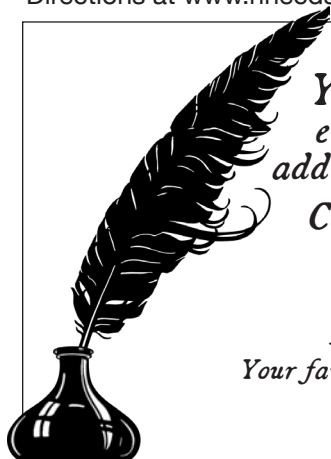
Info: Kingstonenglishcountrydance.org or call 401-539-3009.

New Hampshire

Concord, Second Sundays, Sept-June

- New Location and Time -

Howard Recreation Center, on the grounds of NH Hospital / Hugh Gallen State Office Park, Kent Road (off Pleasant St), Concord NH from 3-6 PM. Info: Dave Bateman 603-397-0042, dave@NHECDS.org. Directions at www.nhecads.org.



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

Consider contributing.

An informative article?

A favorite memory?

A sketch done at Pinewoods?

Your favorite photos, poems, quotes?

Send them along! - Editor

Contra Dance

Massachusetts

Amherst, most Wednesdays (except 2nd)

Pacific Lodge Masonic Hall, 99 Main St. Amherst. 7:30-10:30PM, Lesson 7PM. Bring your friends! \$10-15, Students \$8, High School \$6. First-timers who attend our 7pm Beginner's Lesson: FREE
Info: www.amherstcontra.org

Cape Cod, Saturdays, 8-11 pm (locations vary)

Dancing continues through summer at some locations
www.capecontra.org or contact shabam@ais.net

Greenfield, Fridays & Saturdays

401 Chapman St. www.guidingstargrange.org

Rehoboth, 2nd, 4th and some 5th Fridays

8-11PM, \$10; \$8 students; \$5 ages 16 and under; \$25 families with children under 16; \$5 for latecomers.
Info: www.contradancelinks.com/rehoboth.html
Shawn 508-252-6375, shawnkendrick@comcast.net

South Amherst, 4th Saturday, Sept. - May

(no December) Munson Library, 1046 South East St. South Amherst. 7:30-10:30 Cost: \$10, (reduced income \$5-10 sliding scale), \$25 per family
More info: <https://fiddlersgreencontra.org/>
413-461-0445, FGinfo@fiddlersgreencontra.org

Worcester, 2nd Saturdays, Sept. - June

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

New Hampshire

Manchester, 3rd Fridays

Mill City Contra 106 Lowell St, Manchester, NH
Various callers & musicians. No partner necessary. All dances taught. Please bring soft-soled shoes. Introductory workshop 7:30pm. Dance 8-11pm \$8, \$5 students.
Info: <https://www.wordworthy2.org/>
Contact Paul Lizotte, 603-595-4484, wordworthy2@gmail.com

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.
Info: Glenn: 603-772-5355 or gcoppelman@gmail.com,
www.contradancelinks.com/schedule_NH.html

Vermont

Brattleboro, 2nd Tuesdays

Contra Dancing The Stone Church, 210 Main Street
Info: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/brattcontra/>

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Photo: Gus Voorhees.

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
www.TheDanceGypsy.com
www.dancedb.com/dancedb
www.cdss.org/community/events-calendar/

Boston Centre's website: www.cds-boston.org