



Footnotes



Portland Country Dance Community • May-June 2021

Portland Live!

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

May 16: Kestrel • June 20: Riptide

PCDC's popular monthly concert series continues this spring with **Kestrel** in May and **Riptide** in June.

Kestrel, coming to us from Western Massachusetts, is **Kate Barnes** and **Dave Langford**, both of whom are members of The Latter Day Lizards and were in Big Bandemonium when that band played Raindance in 2011. Kate has been playing piano, flute and assorted other instruments for dancers for an embarrassingly large number of years, and has been invited to most major contra, square, English and vintage dance events throughout the US. She currently works with the bands The Latter Day Lizards, Bare Necessities and Yankee Ingenuity. Kate was the 2020 recipient of the CDSS Lifetime Contribution Award.

Dave is an experienced and versatile fiddler and guitarist from the Boston area. A veteran of 30+ years of playing for public dances, weddings, parties and late night sessions, Dave combines multiple styles of fiddling with fierce energy and drive. He has been a staff member for music and dance weeks at Pinewoods, Ogontz, Mendocino, Augusta and the Christmas Country Dance School in Berea, KY, as well as hundreds of weekend dance events around the US and beyond. He teaches fiddle in Boston.



Riptide is a high energy band from Maine featuring **Alden Robinson** on fiddle, **Glen Loper** on mandolin, and **Owen Marshall** on guitar. Their repertoire contains literally hundreds of tunes from New England, Quebec, Ireland, Appalachia and a few other places. They have played at dances and contra dance weekends all over the country, thrilling audiences with their vivid and imaginative style. From their West Coast debut at the Echo Summit Contra Dance Weekend in 2014: "fresh high energy dance music that can crash into wild waves of rhythm, or gently set dancers adrift on a sea of sound." Find samples of their playing at: riptidedanceband.com

As always, Portland Live concerts start off on Zoom at 5 pm for catching up with dance friends and checking out everyone's crazy pandemic hair. The music starts at 5:30 pm on either Zoom or YouTube. After the concert ends at 7, we'll return to Zoom for chatting with the band and each other until 7:30. Your host for the evening is the always effervescent Kathy Story.



Celebrating a Milestone in a Timeless Year

By Kathy Story

June 20th will be the first (and I hope only) anniversary of our monthly Portland Live concerts brought to the world on Zoom and YouTubeLive by PCDC and Portland Raindance. We wanted to showcase our local talent, provide funding for contra musicians and have a place where our dance community could safely “gather,” see each other and have a good time during the pandemic.

I had no idea that when we began this journey with Campaign for Reel Time streaming from Fulton Hall on June 28, 2020, we'd still be at it now. Kim Appleberry, our fearless leader in this endeavor, committed from the beginning to "being in it for the long haul," I just didn't understand what that meant at the time! It has been a huge labor of love with a steep learning curve, especially for our sound and video wizards (Kim, William Watson, John Oorthuys when we're at Fulton and Christine Appleberry) and Zoom/YouTube wranglers (Ann Nokes, Bryce Holt, Curtis Roth and William Watson) but it has brought joy to so many. For me, it also has marked the passage of time in this strangely timeless year.

Whether you have listened, danced, sang along, played along, joined us for conversation before a concert, "chatted" with friends during a concert or talked with the band after a concert, we'd like to hear about your experiences. A memory, a feeling, a discovery, a good time, a sad time, a surprise, a highlight, a disappointment. Bring it on. Send them to me, Kathy Story, at kathystoryconsulting at gmail dot com by June 1st. We'll then share some of these responses in the next issue of *Footnotes*.

Please join us June 20th for our anniversary party featuring Riptide: Alden Robinson, Glen Loper and Owen Marshall, coming to us live from Maine.

Thanks so much for your support of our amazing talent over this difficult year and for your encouragement of and appreciation for our team!

In case you've forgotten the line-up we've had, here it is:

June	Campaign for Reel Time (Fulton): Betsy Branch, Bill Tomczak, Mark Douglass
July	Joyride (Fulton) : George Penk, Erik Weberg, Sue Songer, Jeff Kerksen-Griep
August	Pachelbel's Bazooka: Dave Bartley, Anita Anderson, Claude Ginsberg
September	Countercurrent: Brian Lindsay and Alex Sturbaum
October	Hey George: Alex Sturbaum, Brian Lindsay, Jesse Partridge
November	Joyride (Fulton) : George Penk, Erik Weberg, Sue Songer, Jeff Kerksen-Griep
December	Glen Loper and Bethany Waickman
January	Audrey Knuth and Ben Jaber
February	Drive Train: Ed Howe and Bennett Konesni
March	Turnip the Beet: Kelsey Wells and Jeremy Lekich
April	Deerfield Maple Music Makers: Ann Percival, David Cantieni, Gus Cantieni, Emma Kahn

If you're not already on our email list to get the Zoom and YouTube links, please send a request to raindance dot pdx at gmail dot com.

[Kathy is the Chair of PCDC's Contra Committee and your Portland Live Dancing Host.]

Northwest Passage 2021 Dance Camp Cancelled

By Rich Scher

Sadly, despite all the hand-washing, mask-wearing, social distancing and vaccinating, there is still enough uncertainty about the Covid-19 situation to make it necessary for the Northwest Passage Dance Camp Committee to cancel our 2021 weekend. Be sure to mark September 2 to 5, 2022 on your calendar for next year's camp, which will be a Zesty English Country Dance at our usual location on the slopes of Mt. Hood.

We plan to rehire our 2021 staff where possible – bands Alchemy (Karen Axelrod, Rachel Bell, Eric Martin) and The Whoots (Shira Kammen, Jim Oakden, Jonathan Jensen), and dance leaders Susan Kevra and Melissa Running – but there may be some changes.

Keep an eye on the Northwest Passage Dance Camp [website](#) for announcements about 2022 staff and other details as they become available. And you can support the activities of our staff musicians and callers by visiting their websites and social media sites.

[Rich is a member of the PCDC's NWP Committee.]

Joyride Hoping to Resume First Wednesday Dances

Dear Friends,

We acutely miss playing for all of you on [First Wednesdays](#) at the Polish Hall. Playing Zoom concerts is fun, but we want dancers out front just as much as all of you hope to occupy a dance floor once again. But, of course, we need to proceed carefully and keep everyone safe. Our situation is the same as everyone else's: wait and see. We have a caller tentatively penciled in for October 6, but the event is not actually planned to go on at this point. If Covid conditions later in the summer show that we can dance in the fall, we'll let everyone know via all the digital and analog means at hand. Until then, stay safe, get vaccinated and know that all four of us are thinking of you and we're doing our best to get us all back together safely and joyfully.

—Erik, Sue, George and Jeff

Spotlight on PCDC Volunteers

By Christine Appleberry

First and foremost, **Jon Neff** is a musician. Musicians play music for other people to listen to, dance to and just generally, enjoy.



Jon is a former member of the PCDC Board and is currently a member of the Portland Megaband, the caretaker of the PCDC membership database and one of the four sound engineers for our dances. He is also a member of The Hat Band and plays regularly at Friday's ECD.

As with many things in life, one thing has led to another. Contra dancing in Portland led to playing mandolin in the Portland Megaband. Then the band's bass player left and Jon took over that instrument. A year's break created an opening for another musician to hold this position and so when Jon returned he did so as a guitar picker. Then one fateful evening, the current bass player, as she was unloading her standup bass from her car, bumped the scroll at the top of the neck. Once inside, she realized that the piece was broken and the strings were hanging loose. Sue Songer, our fearless band director and conductor, quietly asked Jon if he could run home, bring his bass and play it for the performance. Jon did so immediately. While he hadn't practiced the bass parts, he could read music and the bass was his primary instrument. He also knows that what dancers want and need is a good, steady beat and foundation for the harmony.

The evening was a great success in that most of the band did not realize there had been a change and the dancers were whipped into the usual joyous frenzy of dancing to the Portland Megaband.

In 2009 Jon became a board member by accepting an offer to fill a board position opened by someone leaving. While on the board he was instrumental in changing and upgrading PCDC's website. Musicians often need "day jobs" and one of his was a Web Developer so this was right up his alley. Shortly after joining the board, Sue Songer, who managed the membership database, needed to give this responsibility up and Jon easily stepped into her shoes and remains there to this day. Finally, in another bit of luck, Lanny Martin asked Jon to do sound one year for his birthday party, and the rest is history: Jon now regularly does/did, (and will do again), sound for our dances.

As a musician, Jon is already giving to his audience, our community. But he has also taken advantage of many other opportunities. "I like knowing so many people in the community and, in the membership world, seeing their names in front of me. Offering one's services and sharing one's talent is an enjoyable way of being connected. It is part of the glue that ties people together; it says, I belong."

Thank you so much Jon!

[Christine is the Co-Chair of the PCDC Board.]

David Kaynor Celebration & Book

From CDSS: "Thank you all so much for joining us to celebrate David Kaynor's Lifetime Contribution Award. It was a truly joyful occasion, with over 700 people from all across the continent and beyond, coming together to show their appreciation for the music and dance and community that David shared with them. If you didn't make it to the whole event, or just want to watch your favorite part again, the whole recording is now available on the [CDSS website](#). It's also not too late to contribute a memory or a photo to the scrapbook! You can view the [digital scrapbook](#) here, or [submit your own mementos](#) to be included!

"Thank you again for being part of this very special celebration!"

Sue Songer is publishing a book with and about David Kaynor: his dances, his tunes, his art, his calling, his community. To pre-order a copy, go [here](#).

Pizza Jam in the Park

The Pizza Jam has resumed its fair weather Covid schedule, which is every Saturday, from 2-4 pm at Wilshire Park, in NE Portland. If you want to find out what the Pizza Jam is, click [here](#). For more information or to get on the email list, contact Rick Piel at: rick at mr-rick dot org.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye

The Portland Country Dance Community's Annual Meeting is coming up in mid-June. On this occasion, we traditionally vote on new board members. As this has been a very different and challenging year, we, the board, will be sending you, the members, via email, a By-Laws Amendment to allow board members whose term limits are expiring to continue for one more year. The vote will be held via SurveyMonkey.

PCDC General Meeting:
June 26th on Zoom



Portland Megaband 2021: The Gang's All Here!

THE MEGABAND VIDEO

By Sue Songer

The finalized video of the March 2021 Megaband performance (see photo above) is now residing in its permanent YouTube home. Much thanks goes to Betsy Branch and Erik Weberg, who between the two of them were able to upload the huge file! There were still some small edits remaining to be made when we showed the videos at the preview and release parties. The editing is now finished, the three separate videos have been combined into one, and, since we no longer need to show the video through Zoom, the whole thing has been converted to HD. The video can be found [here](#).

We Megabanders are very grateful to the PCDC Board for being willing to take a chance on this project. This was the second year that the Megaband dance was cancelled. The video work provided a focus that held us together during the dreary winter days of pandemic shutdown, and we increased our musical skills in the process. Now we have a finished product we are quite proud of. Even so, we very much look forward to playing our music live for an in-person dance.

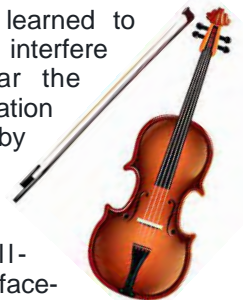
The video cost a little over \$5,000 to produce. To date we have received donations of more than \$2,800 toward that expense, many of which came from band members. Contributions can still be made via [Paypal](#) or by check mailed to PCDC at PO Box 2189, Portland, OR 97208. When sending a check, specify that it is for the Megaband video.

[Sue is the Co-Chair of the PCDC Board and the Director and Co-Conductor of the Portland Megaband.]

PCDC's Monthly Tune Teaching Sessions

By Sharon Allen

Dan Compton and George Penk have been teaching us new dance tunes on the second Thursday of every month for many years, and this pandemic year has been no exception. Most of the sessions have been on Zoom, where we've all learned to utilize that mute button so we don't interfere with each other's ability to hear the instructor. In April, with the cooperation of the weather and abiding strictly by OHA's Covid restrictions, we experimented with a hybrid format. A small number of us met in person: masked, distanced and well-ventilated. Others Zoomed in. The face-to-face folks had the benefit of playing together in person for the first time in a long time, and the folks on Zoom had the benefit of participating from the comfort of their own homes. And we all learned three wonderful new tunes!



If you haven't been able to attend in person, you can find recordings of all the tunes we've learned in the last few years at an archive managed by Chris Murray: <https://sites.google.com/view/pcdcsessions/home>.

If you'd like to learn more about the sessions, check out the "Jams & Classes" link on the PCDC website. Contact Sharon at sharonjeanallen at yahoo dot com if you want to receive monthly notices about the sessions.

[Sharon plays the fiddle and is a member of the Portland Megaband.]

Board Meeting Summaries

Submitted by Ric Goldman

March 16, 2021. Present: Christine Appleberry, Patricia Donohue, Victor Fiore, Ric Goldman, Noah Grunzweig, David Macemon, Sara Munz, Sue Songer, Mark Swan and guests Tarka Ayres and Kathy Story.

Term Limits: Christine and Noah are due to be "termed out" off the board in June. Given the current Covid situation, David recommended we extend current board terms by one year. A straw vote confirmed the board's intent to do so, but it's not currently allowed by our bylaws. Sue pointed out we have until June to address this and suggested we defer discussion to April. Ric will look into what actions we can take within our rules.

Northwest Passage: No decision yet on 2021 camp. Will decide at April meeting. The committee needs and is looking for 2-3 new volunteers.

Family Dance: We still need a board rep and committee organizer.

Raindance: There will be no 2021 event. Details for the 2022 event are to be determined.

Portland Contra: Portland Live's February event had 465 views. This week's concert is Turnip the Beet from Nashville. The committee is looking into possible outside events such as concerts, jams or a picnic, if state rules permit. Kathy and Ric have been discussing a number of sources for building a good contact list for contra dancers (not just members). Mark and Kim Appleberry will work on developing a consolidated list.

Megaband: We have audio mixes complete, video in progress and we're on track for the release party, which was moved to March 27. Socializing via Zoom will follow the performance.

Membership: Counts are down by 7 compared to the previous month and down 48 compared to last year. It was noted that our membership message has moved from a "you get a financial benefit" model to a "help provide the services and support the arts" model, similar to that of public broadcasting. We need to look into encouraging community support to help us do what we do. We're still looking into some of the mechanics of membership, like handling annual renewals, setting up subscriptions and letting members check their membership status via the website.

Website & Online Storage: All Dropbox archive and work area folders have been set up with access granted to appropriate users. Ric offered to do a Zoom walkthrough of Dropbox and how archives are organized for the board. Work continues on website components. The shared calendar plug-in has stopped working. The "Dance Schedule" tab of the menu will be hidden temporarily until new calendar software is set up. Events will be listed on the home page "News:" section.

Footnotes Distribution: Ric proposed that rather than sending out large .pdf copies of *Footnotes* by email (some attachments can be over 13 MB in size), that we send out emails with the link to https://portlandcountrydance.org/current_newsletter.pdf which always points to the most current version of *Footnotes* or at least use the smaller optimized .pdf file he loads to the website (about 5-10% of the what goes in emails now). Discussions will continue.

Master Mailing List: Ric proposed creating a master email list, consolidating all our various lists (which are

currently separated by activity) to reduce duplicates and redundancy. The idea is to let all members and others be able to sign up on the list and specifically subscribe to (or unsubscribe from) whatever events, series, workshops or activities they want announcements for and let everyone explicitly opt in and control their email list preferences. No action was taken as the current focus is on the contra contacts list (described above).

Submitted by Sue Songer

April 27, 2021. Present: Christine Appleberry, Patricia Donohue, Victor Fiore, Noah Grunzweig, David Macemon, Sara Munz, Sue Songer, Mark Swan and guest Kathy Story.

Treasurer's Report: The following motion passed: In accordance with advice from our CPA and former Treasurer Jaydra Perfetti, PCDC will now retain only three years of hard copy financial reports on dances and events. All other financial information is stored online, so there is no need for hard copy.

Northwest Passage: NWP 2021 is cancelled. The staff has been rolled over to 2022. All were offered a \$50 cancellation fee as specified in their contracts, but only one person accepted this payment.

Family Dance: Still needs a board rep and organizer.

Raindance: The organizers' job description has been completed. Norse Hall has set up a GoFundMe campaign to replace rental income that was lost during the pandemic. The hall is not in financial jeopardy.

Portland Contra: Portland Live just featured Deerfield Maple Music Makers (Ann Percival, David and Gus Cantieni). Dave Langford and Kate Barnes will be next. The possibility of summer picnics was discussed. Right now, PCDC is not ready to sponsor or plan any PCDC gatherings. We will revisit this decision each month. The board will be discussing establishment and enforcement of re-entry criteria as we get closer to resuming dances and other in-person activities. Mark is working on the development of a contra email list.

Megaband: The final HD virtual concert video has been posted in its permanent location on YouTube. With donations of \$2800+, there is a \$1000+ shortfall of the \$1000 initially allocated by the board.

Membership: Discussion of platform for tracking memberships.

Website: Jon Neff will serve as the back-up webmaster.

Community Values: The values subcommittee met and established overarching values categories. These categories will be further defined in the next meeting and then the committee will recommend changes in bylaws and refinement of safety policies with these values as guide.

Annual Meeting/Election of Officers: The board unanimously passed the following motion: The board may declare an "extenuating circumstance" with a two-thirds vote at any regular or special meeting of the board, for the purpose of extending board member terms. The reason and justification for said extenuating circumstance must be documented in that meeting's minutes. Having declared such an emergency, the board may extend the current term of all board members by one year with a two-thirds vote. This vote will be taken via SurveyMonkey. We will have our annual meeting via Zoom on June 26th.

[Next board meetings: May 18 & June 15 via Zoom.]

Online Events

May

Date	Event	Platform	Band
Sunday 5/16	Portland Live, 5 pm	Zoom, YouTube	Kestrel

June

Sunday 6/20	Portland Live, 5 pm	Zoom, YouTube	Riptide (sans Pokey)
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PCDC Board Members

Co-Chair/Raindance Rep: Christine Appleberry
(ceappleberry at yahoo.com)

Co-Chair: Sue Songer (songer at portcoll.com)

Treasurer: Open
(board-treasurer at portlandcountrydance.org)

Secretary: Ric Goldman (letsdance at rgoldman.org)

At-Large: Noah Grunzweig (grunzwei at gmail.com)

Portland Contra Committee Rep: Mark Swan
(mark.swan.portland at gmail.com)

English Country Dance Committee Rep: Sara Munz
(sara.v.munz at gmail.com)

Hillsboro Rep: Victor Fiore (victor.n.fiore at gmail.com)

Family Dance Coordinator: David Macemon
(macedmondavid at gmail.com)

NWP Rep: Patricia Donohue (patricia at mwg.org)

Board Email: board at portlandcountrydance.org

Major PCDC Volunteers

Contra Committee Chair: Kathy Story
(kathystoryconsulting at gmail.com)

English Country Dance Committee Chair: Susan Gere
(susangere at gmail.com)

Contra dance talent booker: Gordy Euler
(euleromi at pacifier.com)

English dance caller booker: Erik Weberg
(erik at erikweberg.com)

English dance music booker: Laura Kuhlman
(shawm1550 at gmail.com)

Raindance Committee Chair: Kim Appleberry
(pdxapple at comcast.net)

Northwest Passage Committee Chair: Ethel Gullette
(effieg47 at gmail.com)

Newsletter Editor: Laurel Thomas
(laureland3 at yahoo.com)

About PCDC

Portland Country Dance Community (PCDC) is a consortium of dancers, musicians and callers promoting country dance and music traditions through regular dances, workshops and other events. Everyone is welcome. Our interests include American, English, Scandinavian, Celtic, and related traditions, expressed through live performance and participation. With this newsletter we hope to exchange information and share concerns about traditional music and dance.

Membership in PCDC is \$15 per year for individuals, \$12 for students and seniors (65+), \$25 for households and \$20 for senior households. Membership provides a subscription to the newsletter, either by regular mail or electronically, and eligibility for PCDC grants. Donations in excess of membership fees are tax deductible. Please send membership renewals to: PCDC Membership, 3648 SW Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy. #10, Portland, OR 97221. PCDC is an educational non-profit corporation and an affiliate of the Country Dance and Song Society (CDSS), a national organization headquartered in MA.

The **PCDC Board** is an elected body of volunteers from the community. Board meetings are held approximately monthly. Community members are welcome to attend. Help, ideas and feedback from the community, in whatever form, is necessary to make PCDC events happen. Your contributions of time and support are appreciated. Contact any board member for further information via email or write to PCDC at: PO Box 2189, Portland, OR 97208-2189.

This newsletter, **Footnotes**, is published every other month beginning with the January-February issue. Dance-related announcements, events, articles or photos are welcome and can be submitted to the editor at: Laureland3 at yahoo.com. The information provided herein is as accurate as possible, however last minute changes and/or cancellations may not be reflected. Check the online version of **Footnotes** and the PCDC website for more up-to-date information. We encourage the submission of letters and articles that might be of interest to the community. All such materials become the property of **Footnotes** upon submission and may be edited. The copy **DEADLINE** for any given issue is the 12th of the previous month. E.g. the deadline for the Jan-Feb issue is Dec. 12. **Please note that Footnotes will be online only while dancing is on hiatus.**