



dance notes

HAPPY
NEW YEAR

PORTLAND COUNTRY DANCE COMMUNITY

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 1986

Winter's chill has come early this year, tingling the nose and numbing the foot. One great respite from the winter tingle/numb cycle is dancing, and as the crowds indicate, this winter has proved no exception. With a very successful scholarship dance now passed and the Christmas dance just to come, winter spirits are looking very bright.

Special events

Breitenbush Dance and Ski Vacation. Fight the post Christmas blues with a retreat at Breitenbush hot springs. Running from Dec 27th to the 1st at Breitenbush Hot Springs, the week will feature contra/square dances on the 30th and 31st. There will be two bands and callers, including Roger Peacock, Phil and Vivian Williams, Dennis Rothrock, and Deborah and Creighton Lindsey. A five day stay costs \$150, 3 days for \$100, or \$35 per day. This includes lodging (4-5 / cabin), 3 meals a day, guided ski tours and the evening dances. Call Breitenbush at 854-3501 for more information.

First Friday Dances. We have a hot set of first friday dances coming up in the new year. The January dance will feature Larry Smith, a caller now living in La Grande who some may remember from the dawn dance. This dance also introduces Tommy Hayes, one of the hottest bodhran players in the world and a former member of the irish musical group, Stockton's Wing.

The February dance promises a lot of variety, with several new callers all living here in Portland. The first friday dances are aimed at strengthening our dancing community by providing opportunities for new musicians and callers to develop their skill. Besides new callers, sit-in musicians are welcome to join the scheduled band at this and all first friday dances.

Contradance Classes. Portland Public Schools in conjunction with Portland Parks and Recreation will sponsor an 8 week course in New England style contra and square dancing at MLC. The course will present the basics of New England dancing for beginners, provide an opportunity to work on styling, and show a variety of formations and dances leading to strong overall dancing skills. Classes will be on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9, starting January 15th. The instructor will be Bob Nisbet.

Early American Vintage Ball. An unusual evening of Early American dancing will be presented at the Fulton Community center late in January. Bob Nisbet has prepared an evening of vintage dance and a great lineup of musicians. Everyone is encouraged to dress up for this semi-

formal costumed event, to help spirit our community back two centuries, at least for one evening. \$4 PCDC/ \$5 others.

Musicians and Callers Workshop. PCDC is sponsoring a free workshop on playing for and calling dances. In the musicians workshop, Edith Farrar and George Penk will advise aspiring dance musicians in techniques for playing good dance music. In a separate workshop, callers and potential callers will participate in open discussion about techniques for calling. A dance that evening will provide workshop participants with practical experience. Nonparticipants are encouraged to come to the dance.

Ski and Dance Weekend. Once again Portland dancers can gather up their skis and dance shoes for a blowout at the Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp over the weekend of Feb. 21. The Friday night potluck/party will be followed on Saturday by a cross country ski tour and a evening dance called by Craig Shinn. No skiing or dancing experience is necessary, and the cost is only \$35 (not including skis). Call Ted Remillard for more information.

Camp Wannadance began last year, the first winter weekend camp put on by our dancing neighbors to the north. The camp is well worth the trip and happens at Fort Flagler, near Port Townsend, on the weekend following ski/dance. The staff includes Brad Foster, Laurie Andres, John Culhane and John Krumm. Last year's non-staff campers included the Canotes and Sandy Bradley, and filled up very quickly, so early registration is recommended. The cost (before Feb 14) is \$70, care of Camp Wannadance, 7211 1st Ave NW, Seattle WA 98117. For more information, call 206-784-3477 or 206-634-2770.

PCDC Spring Weekend. Mark your calendars now for the weekend of April 10th, when PCDC will host a spring weekend at Camp Kiwanilong, near Astoria. Workshops will focus on French country dance, Irish dance and contras, with dance parties each night. Staff includes Cour de Miracles, White Hart (including Mike Saunders & Dale Russ), Vickie Yancy, and Joan and Danny Hathaway. Festivities begin Thursday night and run through Sunday.

Dean Kenty Scholarship Fund

PCDC established the Dean Kenty Scholarship Fund to encourage the involvement of Portland country dancers at music and dance events in the Pacific Northwest and elsewhere. Scholarships assist persons who attend such workshops in order to enhance their knowledge and skills. The scholarships are intended to permit dance and music experiences that might not be otherwise financially possible.

Scholarships come in two varieties: work scholarships to PCDC weekends, valued at \$25, and grants of \$40 or \$80 to non-PCDC music or dance events. Work scholarships generally entail assisting in the kitchen or camp cleanup. PCDC scholarships began in 1981 when three grants were awarded to the Bay Area Country Dance Society camp in Mendocino, CA. Work scholarships were initiated in 1982 with the first Suttle Lake weekend. When Dean Kenty died in September of 1983, the scholarship fund was named in his memory. Approximately 80 scholarships have been awarded over the last five years.

For 1986, PCDC will award up to five work scholarships to the spring weekend and ten work scholarships for the fall weekend. The number of grants will depend on the scholarship fund level, but are expected to be about six \$40 grants and six \$80 grants. The sum total of these scholarships is \$1095. Work

scholarships are awarded to PCDC members first, but persons from outside the organization may apply. Grants are for PCDC members only. We are trying to spread these scholarships as widely as possible through the organization. If you missed the application form in the last newsletter, additional copies are available by writing to PCDC.

Here are some possible candidates for scholarship application, gleaned from the flyer handed out at the scholarship dance.

PCDC Ski-Dance Weekend (see Special Events).

Camp Wannadance (see Special Events).

Eugene Folklore Society Retreat Weekend will occur sometime in April. Contact Marty Amburger, 1050 E. 28th, Eugene, OR 97405.

Dancing Bears' Dance Camp. A four day camp over Memorial Day weekend near Anchorage, AK. Contact Dancing Bears, P.O. Box 3-366 ECB, Anchorage, AK 99501.

Camp Baker weekend, a three day event featuring English and Scottish dancing over Memorial Day weekend, in Florence, OR. Carl Witman will be on staff. Contact Glenda Racleff, 835 Blaine, Ashland OR, 482-9858.

Lady of the Lake summer dance and music week, featuring Ted Sannella, and occurring in late June at Coeur d'Alene Lake, Idaho. Contact Spokane Folklore Society, P.O. Box 141, Spokane, WA 99210.

American Fiddle Tunes Week at Port Townsend, the first week of July. Contact Centrum, PO Box 1158, Port Townsend, WA 98368, 206-385-3102.

BACDS English Dance Week at Mendocino, the first week of July. Contact Bay Area Country Dance Society, Fred Perner, 3234 Ramona St., Palo Alto CA 94306, 415-856-3038.

BACDS American Dance Week at Mendocino, the second week of July. (same address as above).

Synopsis of regular dances

Unless otherwise noted, these dances are open to everyone—experienced or not. Partners are not necessary, all dances are taught, and children are admitted without charge.

PCDC First Friday Dance. This a contra dance at the Multnomah Art Center which showcases a collection of local and regional callers and dance bands. Cost is \$3 for seniors and PCDC members, others \$4. If you are interested in calling or booking a band for this dance, please contact PCDC. Extra musicians are welcome to sit in with the invited band.

PCDC English Country Dance. English country dancing is alive and well in Portland. Come experience the form and grace of dancing which provided a root for modern square and contra dance style. This First Saturday of the month dance is held at Fulton Community Center, starts at 7:30pm and features live music and several callers. For more information, contact Kate MacMillan, 255-2226. Cost is \$2.

Stumptown Cloggers' Barn Dance. On the second Friday of the month the Stumptown Cloggers sponsor a dance of mostly squares and a few contras in the old roller rink at Oaks Park. It is a large room with a good floor, and usually features

a Stumptown performance as an intermission event. Cost \$3.50.

Second Saturday Contra Dance. This is the longest continuously running contra dance in the state. For over seven years, Craig Shinn and Carl Wester have been introducing Portlanders to New England Contra Dancing. The location and bands have changed, but the dance goes on, currently in Multnomah Art Center. Cost is \$3 for seniors and PCDC members, others \$4.

Portland Ceili Dance. In Irish, *ceili* means loosely "a gathering of friends." Lively Irish music, sometimes played by world famous musicians, very aerobic dancing in a warm company of friends and a full bar are only a few of the notable features of this Third Friday of the month dance. The basic steps are taught usually from 8 to 8:30, then dances are called until 11. The band plays until around 1am. Because of the bar, you must be 21 or older to enter. Cost is \$3.50 for members of the Portland Ceili Society, \$4.50 for others.

Fourth Friday Square and Swing Dance. Rich Kuras and Ned Leager call squares and contras intermixed with swing and cajun dances at the St. John's Eagles Hall, on John street between Lombard and Ivanhoe. Cost is \$3.50.

Portland country dance locations

The acronyms used for representing dance locations listed in the calendar are explained below.

EAT	East Avenue Tavern	727 E. Burnside
EH	Eagles' Hall	840 N Ivanhoe (in St. Johns)
FAS	French American School	1849 SW 58th (the old Silvan school)
FCC	Fulton Community Center	68 SW Miles (off Barbur, East of Terwilliger)
FMH	Friends Meeting House	4312 SE Stark
MAC	Multnomah Art Center	7688 SW Capitol Hwy (corner of 31st)
MLC	Metropolitan Learning Center	2033 NW Glisan
OAKS	Oaks Park	Near the west end of SE Spokane
PST	Pine Street Theatre	221 SE Pine (9th and Sandy)
PPAA	Portland Police Athletic Association	618 SE Alder

PLEASE let us know immediately if your address changes. We get charged a quarter for each newsletter that is returned. And worse yet, you won't get your newsletter. Give your old and new address. Contact Skip Comer, 4551 NE 32nd, Portland, OR 97211, 282-8163.

This newsletter, *Dance Notes*, is published every other month. If you have a dance announcement for the newsletter, please contact the newsletter committee, or send it to PCDC, PO Box 14636, Portland, 97214. Give a concise description of your event, including featured band/callers, date, time, place, cost, and phone number for further info. The DEADLINE for the Mar-Apr issue is February 10th.

Special sections in future issues. The following compendiums are planned for upcoming issues: Regular dance classes for the July/August issue; regional dance series for the September/October issue; and a list of dance camps for the next November/December issue. We are also seeking submissions of letters and articles pertaining to dance and music.

Portland Country Dance Community: 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, Celtic, Scandinavian 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. We publish the newsletter every other month and distribute it to members of PCDC and other folk organizations in the Pacific Northwest. Membership is \$6.00 a year, which provides a \$1.00 discount at our regular dances and subscription to the newsletter. Subscription alone is \$2.00 a year. Correspondence may be sent to PCDC, P. O. Box 14636, Portland, OR 97214. We are an educational non-profit corporation and also a center of the Country Dance and Song Society, a national organization whose address is 505 Eighth Avenue, Suite 2500, New York, N.Y. 10018-6506.

PCDC is governed by a board of directors. Meetings are held once a month, and members are welcome to attend. We can really use your help in making PCDC events happen. Your assistance, however small, will provide you with a sense of accomplishment and help prevent board member burnout. In particular, we are looking for help articles for future issues of this newsletter. Call any board member for further info. The PCDC board comprises:

Facilitator	Jim Howe	283-2688	Danny Hathaway	(206) 574-7445
Secretary	Bob Nisbet	241-1130	Robert Reed	(work) 629-1354
Treasurer	Ted Remillard	292-1662	Bill Martin	(206) 695-4361

Newsletter committee: Danny, Robert, Bill.

First Friday dance committee: Danny, Jim.

Synopsis of December PCDC Board Meeting. Details were finalized on the Scholarship and Christmas dance. Bob Nisbet proposed a Vintage Ball. Danny presented the First Friday winter dance schedule. Additional work was done on the Ski/Dance weekend, the spring weekend, and a musicians and callers workshop. Bob Nisbet resigned from the First Friday dance committee due to his concern over conflict of interest. He will work on publicity, along with volunteers, Lanitta Hyatt and Deborah Holland.

PORTLAND COUNTRY DANCE COMMUNITY
P. O. Box 14636
Portland, OR 97214

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Address Correction Requested

CALENDAR

January/February 1986

December

- 21st (Sa) PCDC Christmas Dance.** 8pm-1am at MAC. Come join the PCDC Christmas celebration with dancing and a whole lot more. Bring a dessert dish and a Christmas tree ornament to share. Music and calling by Kris Kringle and the Reindeerphonic Country Dance Orchestra.
- 27-31 (Fr-Tu) Breitenbush Cross Country Ski and Country Dance Vacation.** Contra and square dances with callers and two bands.

January

- 3 (Fr) PCDC First Friday Dance.** 8pm at MAC. Calling by Larry Smith from La Grande (formerly Spokane). Music by Tommy Hayes, George Penk, Heather Pinney, Bill Martin, and others. Sitins welcome.
- 4 (Sa) PCDC English Country Dance.** 7:30pm at FCC.
- 5 (Su) PCDC Board Meeting.** 5pm at Bob Nisbet's(2337 NW Overton, 241-1130)
- 10 (Fr) Stumptown Cloggers Barn Dance.** 7:30-11pm at OAKS. Calling by Rich Kuras with music by the Rustic Brothers.
- 11 (Sa) PCDC Second Saturday Contradance.** 8pm at MAC. Calling by Carl Wester and Craig Shinn. Music by Edith Farrar, Erin Shrader and Leslie Rousos.
- 17 (Fr) Portland Ceili Society Dance.** 8pm-1am at the PPAA.
- 18 (Sa) Early American Vintage Ball.** 8pm at FCC. Calling by Bob Nisbet. Music by George Penk, Heather Pinney, Pablo Izquierdo and Susie Seyer. Semiformal vintage dress preferred.
- 22 (We) Portland Morris Potluck.** 6:30pm at Edith's (3910 SE 31st, 235-5023). Potluck dinner and kickoff for spring Morris dance practise. Come see slides and demos, and hear tall tales and testimonials.
- 24 (Fr) Fourth Friday Square & Swing Dance.** 8pm at EH. Rich Kuras and Ned Leager calling. Music by the Rustic Brothers.
- 25 (Sa) Penn Fix Contradance** at FAS (off Sunset Highway at Silvan). Music by Edith Farrar, Laurie Andres and John Culhane. For more information, call Edith (235-5023).

February

- 1 (Sa) PCDC English Country Dance.** 7:30pm at FCC.
- 2 (Su) PCDC Board Meeting.** 5pm at Bob Nisbet's(2337 NW Overton, 241-1130)
- 7 (Fr) PCDC First Friday Dance.** 8pm at MAC. Calling by Dick Lewis, Robert Reed and Moggy Vanderkin. Music by Dennis Rothrock and company. Sitins welcome.
- 8 (Sa) PCDC Second Saturday Contradance.** 8pm at MAC. Calling by Carl Wester and Craig Shinn. Music by Edith Farrar, Laurie Andres and John Culhane.
- 14 (Fr) Stumptown Cloggers Barn Dance.** 7:30-11pm at OAKS.
- 16 (Su) Musicians and Callers Workshop.** 2pm at FMH, free.
- 16 (Su) Workshop dance.** 8pm at FMH, \$1. Music and calling by participants of the day's workshop.
- 21 (Fr) Portland Ceili Society Dance.** 8pm-1am at the PPAA.
- 21-23 (Fr-Su) 2nd annual Ski and Dance Weekend** at the Mt. Hood Kiwanis camp.
- 28 (Fr) Fourth Friday Square & Swing Dance.** 8pm at EH. Rich Kuras and Ned Leager calling. Music by the Rustic Brothers.
- 28-Mar 2 (Fr-Su) Camp Wannadance** at Fort Flagler on Marrowstone Island, near Port Townsend, WA.

March

- 21-23 (Fr-Su) Sing Time Frolics,** a weekend of singing at Camp Howard. More details will be in the next newsletter.
- 22 (Sa) English and Scottish Spring Ball** at the Jacksonville Hotel Ballroom, Jacksonville OR. Call Glenda Racleff, 482-9858.

On a weekly basis...

- Mondays** **Folk Song Circle.** 8:30-11pm at The Horse Brass Pub, 4534 SE Belmont. A varied group who bring a varied mix of English, Irish and American folk songs—and good conviviality besides. No cover charge. For more information, contact Moggy (236-8499)
- Wednesdays** **Morris Dance Practise.** Learn Morris dancing! The only traditional English Morris side in Oregon seeks new members. Requirements: sense of rhythm, sense of humor, physical stamina. For info: call Edith, 235-5023
- Wednesdays** **New England Contra and Square Dancing.** 7:30-9pm at MLC. Bob Nisbet leads this class in the basics of New England style contra and square dancing. Register by calling 280-5742.
- Sundays** **Old Time Music and Clogging** 8-12 at East Avenue Tavern. A "sit-in" music session with dancing. This is a good place to hone your skills at playing or calling, or pick up a few new dance steps. Clogging instruction available from 8 to 9.