



# Footnotes

Portland Country Dance Community · July / August 1994

## SPECIAL EVENTS

Summer is a traditionally lean time for dance newsletter editors, and if PCDC represents anything in this world, it is, of course, Tradition. So hang on tight and don't blink...

We begin with a return to our roots, as the PCDC **First Friday Dance** of July 1 welcomes back some **Old Friends**. Ever since the Tonya story dried up, our investigative staff have had little to do. So we sent them out to track down some of the callers and musicians who contributed early to our community but subsequently retired into mysterious seclusion. What they've come up with is **Rick Meyers, Kirk McCall, Bill Martin, and Joanna Karl** for calling, plus the neo-old **Spud Mountain String Quartet** for high-energy music. The fireworks will be early this year! 8 PM at Multnomah Art Center.

The very next night, Saturday July 2, all tradition goes out the window as the third-ever **Cats & Dogs Dance** pairs the purring of **Cat's Cradle** with the calling of **Merilee Karr**. Do help support this kitten of a dance series! 8 PM at Saint Andrew's Church. (Electric fans welcome.)

PCDC is non-profit corporation, and its by-laws require an **Annual Meeting and Election of Officers**. This will be held on Saturday July 9 (see next page for more details). Providing the entertainment before and after the meeting (also known as the **Second Saturday Dance**) will be speaker of the house **Nan Evans** and puppy parliamentarians **Moondog**. 8 PM at MAC.

The new **Fourth Friday Open Mike Dance Party** of July 22 will feature **Nan Evans** as lead caller, and **Clyde & Susan Curley** as lead musicians. Remember, this is an open-mike event: everyone is invited to sit in with the band, and anyone with a dance to call is encouraged to do so. And *definitely* remember the admission price: just \$2! 8 PM at the Burlingame Water Tower Hall.

Thanks to the universe's failure to give us evenly-divisible lunar and solar orbits, July will be blessed by a **Rose City Aces Fifth Saturday Dance**, July 30. Joining the polymorphously perturbed Aces will be visiting caller **Ted Hodapp** from Saint Paul. 8 PM at Fulton Community Center.

Summer is a time of reflection for many of us. Or at least the dance calendar each summer lately seems to have been prepared with the help of a mirror...

The PCDC **First Friday Dance** of August 5 welcomes back the crowd-pleasing music of none other than the **Rose City Aces**. Joining them will be favorite Seattle caller **Mike Richardson**. Mike has achieved national renown these past few years for writing a ridiculous number of great contradances—maybe if we ask him nicely he'll call a few for us. 8 PM at MAC.

The August edition of the **Cats & Dogs Dance**, Saturday August 6, brings together the beautiful voice of **Nan Evans** with the feral energy of **Moondog**. (It will be a *new* moon that night, so any resemblance to a certain Pfeiffer/Nicholson pairing is strictly superficial.) 8 PM at SAC.

Further undomesticated music follows as the PCDC **Second Saturday Dance**, August 13, features the playing of Portland's popular **Cat's Cradle**. The PCDC Booking Committee is still fighting among himself over which caller to put up against the feline fiddlers, so you'll just have to come and learn the results for yourself. 8 PM at MAC.

August 26's **Fourth Friday Open Mike Dance Party** will pair callers/teachers **Tom Roby** and **Ted Remillard**. Along with lead musicians **Volvos & Lutefisk**, the emphasis tonight will be on the *hambo*. If you've always wanted to learn this Scandinavian samba, don't miss this unique opportunity! Experienced hambo-ists will also have a great time. 8 PM at BWT.

# Suttle Lake Preview



## Moving Cloud Orchestra

A favorite in the San Francisco Bay Area, the Moving Cloud Orchestra has a vibrant repertoire of unique and beautifully arranged medleys of Irish, Appalachian, French Canadian and original tunes. Sara Hiebert's powerful fiddling is easily recognized up and down the West Coast and also in her new Pennsylvania home, where she has joined forces with *A Band Named Bob*. Paul Kotapish has been performing for the past two decades, playing his mandolin and guitar throughout the Americas, Europe and the former Soviet Union with the *Hurricane Ridgerunners*, the *Hillbillies From Mars*, the *Rodney Miller Band*, and Kevin Burke's *Open House*. The piano playing of Paul Machlis is probably best known from his tours and recordings with Scottish fiddler Alasdair Fraser, but his music also embraces traditional Irish, English, Bulgarian and New England idioms.

At Suttle Lake, the Moving Cloud Orchestra will be playing for contra and English caller Scott Higgs.

### Portland Country Dance Location Acronyms

BWT	Burlingame Water Tower Dance Hall, SW 17th and Marigold (between Spring Garden and Taylor's Ferry Roads)—no street shoes permitted on the dance floor
EAT	East Avenue Tavern, 727 E. Burnside
ECHO	Echo Theater, 1515 SE 37th
FAS	French American School, 1849 SW 58th (Sylvan)
FCC	Fulton Community Center, 68 SW Miles (off Barbur, traffic light just east of Terwilliger)
HS	Hough School, 1900 Daniels, Vancouver, WA.
MAC	Multnomah Art Center, 7688 SW Capitol Hwy. (at 31st)
MLB	Melody Lane Ballroom, 615 SE Alder
NWSC	Northwest Service Center, 1819 NW Everett
OC	The Old Church, 1422 SW 11th
PPAA	Portland Police Athletic Assoc., 618 SE Alder
SAC	Saint Andrew's Church, SW Dosch Road at Sunset Boulevard (near Beaverton-Hillsdale Hwy)

## Regular dances

Unless stated, all dances are open to everyone—experienced or not, with or without partners, and feature live music. All dances are taught and children are admitted without charge. PCDC encourages sit-in musicians (unmiked) at regular PCDC dances at the discretion of the hired band and caller. Sit-in musicians will be admitted free to PCDC dances.

**PCDC First Friday Dance.** This contra dance showcases local and regional callers and dance bands. If you'd like to call or book a band for this dance, please contact PCDC. Musicians are encouraged to sit in with the hired band, but will not be miked. MAC, 8 pm, beginners' workshop 7:30 pm. \$5/\$4 for seniors and PCDC members.

**PCDC First Saturday English Country Dance.** English Country dance is a source of modern square and contra

dance style. FCC, 8 pm, beginner's workshop 7:30 pm. \$5/\$4 seniors and PCDC members.

**First Saturday Cats & Dogs Contra-dance.** Cat's Cradle and Moondog play alternate months with guest callers. SAC, 8 pm, beginners' workshop 7:30 pm. \$5.

**Second Friday English Country Dance.** At least a little experience advised. Nan Evans calls and coordinates. BWT, 8 pm, no beginner's workshop. \$4.

**PCDC Second Saturday Dance,** the longest continuously running contra dance in the state. This dance is similar to the first Friday dance, maintaining the tradition. MAC, 8 pm, beginners' workshop 7:30 pm. \$5/\$4 seniors and PCDC members.

**Portland Ceili Society Dance** is "a gathering of friends" with lively Irish music, frequently played by world famous

musicians. Very aerobic dancing and a full bar are only a few of the notable features of this Third Friday of the month dance, held at Portland Police Athletic Association. Cost \$5.

**Third Saturday Contradance** is a dance series organized by Paul McCullough. The dances tend towards the challenging side. FCC, 8 pm, beginner's workshop 7:30 pm. \$6.

**Fourth Friday Open Mike Dance Party.** Open mike for callers and musicians, with designated leaders. Organized by Paula Hamlin and Tom Roby, with different dance themes from month to month. BWT, 8 pm, no beginner's workshop. \$2.

**Fourth Saturday Contradance** is another independent dance series, organized by Ted Remillard. FCC, 8 pm, beginner's workshop 7:30 pm. \$5.

# Your Input Needed for November Bond Measure

by *Marian Drake*

The Portland Department of Parks and Recreation is floating a bond measure on the November ballot which could have major implications for the dance community.

They are asking the voters for \$58 million. \$35 million of this would go toward repair and maintenance of existing buildings and other structures. The remaining \$23 million would go to build two new community centers, one in Southwest Portland and the other in outer Southeast, probably between 100th and 122nd.

Dancers need good dance floors. This means "suspended" wood floors, which is what we have at Fulton and the Burlingame Water Tower hall. PCDC people need to work together to be sure that the floors we already have are preserved, and perhaps even to work towards having the two new structures build suspended wood floors.

We are fortunate that I found out about this early, so that we can be involved now, in the planning stages. We have some time to plan our strategy, and I have some suggestions for how each of us can now do a very small part so that our collective impact can be significant. For the present I can serve as a clearinghouse for information and do some coordinating, but I certainly need everybody's help in this.

Here is a suggested task list/timeline on what we can do now.

1. Please write a letter to the Parks Director explaining how important it is to dancers to have suspended dance floors. Give some specific experiences, if you

have any, of concrete slab floors causing physical problems for you. Write to: Charles Jordan, Director of Parks, City of Portland Parks and Recreation, 6437 SE Division Street, Building 416, Portland 97206; phone 823-1635, fax 823-2246.

2. Call me, Marian Drake, at 335-0965 to give me the names of any health professionals with knowledge in this area. Also call them and ask them to write to Charles Jordan and give their professional opinion as to the great importance of suspended wood dance floors for dancers' health.

3. If you know any architects or contractors who are familiar with bidding on this type of floor, contact them so that we can get the lowest bids should the bond measure pass. Also call me with their names.

4. Plan to attend any public meetings in the fall, if such meetings are held. Numbers of bodies in dance dress are very important.

5. If you know contact people in other dance groups, please call those people, too, and give them a copy of this article. Also have them call me to put their name on my clearinghouse list.

I have spoken with Charles Jordan personally about these issues, and he was not aware of the suspended floor importance until I brought it up. But then he said that he is a basketball player, so he understands what I mean. He was very friendly and seems very happy to work with the dance community. I feel sure that PCDC can work to participate with the Parks Department as collaborators and consultants in a cordial working relationship so that benefit comes to the dance community.

## PCDC Board Elections

Nominations are now open! Several current members of the PCDC Board of Directors are stepping down and need to be replaced. Our annual election will be held during the July 9 dance. If you would like to join the Board for a two-year term, contact the Nomination Committee: Rik Smoody (503/249-8300). Board member privileges include deciding the direction and role of PCDC, being involved in planning PCDC events (regular dances, special dances, workshops, etc), being fed a nutritious dinner at the hexaweekly board meetings, and getting into regular dances free.

# CALENDAR • JULY / AUGUST '94

*Note: most dances offer a beginners' workshop half an hour before the listed time.*

## July

- 1st (Fr) PCDC First Friday Dance—An Old Friends Dance.** 8 pm at MAC. Callers: Rick Meyers, Kirk McCall, Joanna Karl, Bill Martin. Music: Spud Mountain String Quartet.
- 2nd (Sa) PCDC English Country Dance.** *Off for the Summer.*
- 2nd (Sa) First Saturday Cats & Dogs Dance.** 8 PM at SAC. Caller: Merilee Karr. Music: Cat's Cradle.
- 4th (Mo) Old-Time Music Jam Session.** 7-10:30 pm at the Martin's. Call Bill or Nancy (206/695-4361) for details (and to learn whether this goes on during national holidays).
- 8th (Fr) Second Friday English Country Dance.** 8 pm at BWT. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: Kathleen Towers, Dave Goldman & Fred Nussbaum. *(No street shoes allowed.)*
- 9th (Sa) PCDC Second Saturday Dance.** 8 pm at MAC. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: Moondog. *Board Elections to be held—see Special Events.*
- 13th (We) Beginner Music Teaching Session.** Call Susan (503/771-0035) for details.
- 15th (Fr) Portland Ceili Society Dance.** 8:30 pm at PPAA. *Off for the Summer?*

- 15th (Fr) Portland Folklore Society Coffeehouse.** *Off for the Summer.*
- 16th (Sa) Third Saturday Contradance.** 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Paul McCullough. Music: Julie King, Claude Ginsburg & Dave Bartley.
- 22nd (Fr) Fourth Friday Open Mike Dance Party.** 8 pm at BWT. Lead caller: Nan Evans. Lead musicians: Clyde & Susan Curley.
- 22nd (Fr) Fourth Friday Scandinavian Dance.** *Off for the Summer.*
- 23th (Sa) Fourth Saturday Contradance.** 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Ted Remillard. Music: Cat's Cradle.
- 30th (Sa) Rose City Aces Fifth Saturday Dance.** 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Ted Hodapp. Music: Rose City Aces.

## August

- 1st (Mo) Old-Time Music Jam Session.** 7-10:30 pm at the Martin's. Call Bill or Nancy (206/695-4361) for details.
- 5th (Fr) PCDC First Friday Dance.** 8 pm at MAC. Caller: Mike Richardson. Music: Rose City Aces.
- 6th (Sa) PCDC English Country Dance.** *Off for the Summer.*
- 6th (Sa) First Saturday Cats & Dogs Dance.** 8 PM at SAC. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: Moondog.
- 10th (We) Beginner Music Teaching Session.** Call Susan (503/771-0035) for details.
- 11th (Th) PCDC Board Meeting.** 6:30 pm at Nan's new home.

- 12th (Fr) Second Friday English Country Dance.** 8 pm at BWT. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: George Penk, Heather Pinney, Fred Nussbaum & Dan Compton. *(No street shoes allowed.)*
- 13th (Sa) PCDC Second Saturday Dance** 8 pm at MAC. Caller: TBA. Music: Cat's Cradle.
- 19th (Fr) Portland Folklore Society Coffeehouse.** *Off for the Summer.*
- 19th (Fr) Portland Ceili Society Dance.** 8:30 pm at PPAA.
- 20th (Sa) Third Saturday Contradance.** 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Paul McCullough. Music: Jigsaw.
- 26th (Fr) Fourth Friday Open Mike Dance Party—Hambo Night!** 8 pm at BWT. Lead callers: Tom Roby & Ted Remillard. Lead musicians: Volvos & Lutefisk. *(No street shoes allowed.)*
- 26th (Fr) Fourth Friday Scandinavian Dance.** *Off for the Summer.*
- 27th (Sa) Fourth Saturday Contradance.** 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Ted Remillard. Music: Full Moon.

## September

- 2nd (Fr) PCDC First Friday Dance.** 8 pm at MAC. Caller: Laura Mé Smith. Music: Rick Meyers & Dave Mount.
- 3rd (Sa) PCDC English Country Dance.** *Off for the summer.*
- 3rd (Sa) First Saturday Cats & Dogs Dance.** 8 pm at SAC. Caller: Eric Weberg. Music: Cat's Cradle.

## Dear Professor Dance™

I have misspent my youth dancing until all hours of the night, lying and cheating on women and eating unhealthy foods. I squander money on dance camps and I don't recycle. I cheat on my taxes, I balance and swing even when inactive and I think I even voted for Nixon/Agnew (the law and order candidates).

In general I have been a jerk totally without remorse. Now I have met an attractive, sweet young lady whom I greatly admire though I haven't yet told her so. She is a delightful person and a good dancer, but I just found out she is also a lawyer. My question is, am I too good for her?

—Sleazy in Seattle

Dear Sleaz—

We hesitate to answer this letter, as lawyer-bashing has become such a cliché for easy laughs that only the most unimaginative hack writer, fresh out of ideas, would resort to it. Also we are not among those who believe that the lawyer is the lowest form of life on the face of the Earth. In fact we are in possession of some recent scientific evidence that shows that there are at least a dozen species lower on the evolutionary scale than the lawyer. Of course, few of those species are found on the surface of the planet and then only on dark wet nights.

Even Dave Barry, the Professor Dance wannabe, wouldn't waste column inches asking readers if they know why sharks don't eat lawyers (answer: professional courtesy). Therefore we will forego the opportunity for an easy column and get to the advice.

We recommend you make your feelings known to this young lady. Perhaps you will become a good influence on her.

Dear Professor Dance—

Would you please explain the difference between Cajun and Zydeco dancing and why the difference seems to make such a difference to the people who do one or the other, but not both? It all looks remarkably the same to me, yet one dance partner of mine swears *by* Zydeco and swears *at* Cajun, while other dancing friends assure me that Cajun is cool and Zydeco's not. (Which puzzles me all the more, because I thought Cajun stuff was supposed to be hot!) And then I see bands advertising that they play "Cajun-Zydeco"!

—Confused in Corvallis

P.S. Somebody told me that lyrics to Cajun (or is it Zydeco?) songs are in French. I took two whole years of French in college, and I can't understand a word! Pourquoi ça? (They're not...you know..."talking dirty," are they?)

Dear Confused—

Counselors for the Professor Dance 12 Step Program for a Dance Free Life tell us they never allow recovering Cajun and Zydeco clients in the same room. We understand such a confrontation makes ice hockey games look peaceful.

Bands that purport to play both Cajun and Zydeco are courting disaster as each faction will arrive at the dance expecting Louisiana purity as they define it. Neither side being satisfied, uncomfortable social interaction is sure to follow (they'll trash the place). A Seattle Zydeco dancer was recently a victim of a drive-by gumbo toss by one of the local Cajun gangs. You can imagine the sense of victimization one must feel after having had their best dance clothes covered with okra.

As to the supposed "French" lyrics the vocalists are singing, we are not surprised you do not understand them. The Professor Dance Research Institute played their songs backward and discovered the Zydeco bands were chanting "Cancel the Cajuns, Cancel the Cajuns," while the Cajun lyrics say "Zero the Zydecos, Zero the Zydecos." We recommend you avoid either group unless accompanied by UN peacekeepers or Henry Kissinger.

*No matter how humble, Professor Dance will answer your questions. Write him at the Professor Dance Library, Box 9644, Spokane WA 99209. Use the same address to request permission to reprint this column.*



## Unclassified ads

The Northeast Portland Contra Car Pool continues to grow. To participate, call Marian at 335-0965.



## Get In Free

You don't have to join the Board to get into the First Friday or Second Saturday PCDC dance without paying. The first two PCDC members who arrive each evening at 7 PM to help set up the room (move tables and chairs, etc) are not charged admission that night.

And although it won't get you in free, if you bring an electric fan (and extension cord) to a dance on a hot summer night, the smiles you receive will be worth more than any admission price!

**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 Bob Nisbet, 10101 SW 55th, Portland, OR 97219, 244-3971.

This newsletter, *Footnotes*, 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 and callers, date, time, place, cost, and phone number for further info. The information provided here is as accurate as we can make it, and changes or cancellations may not be reflected in this calendar. We encourage submission of letters and articles of interest to the community. Letters and articles become the property of *Footnotes* on publication and may be edited. The **DEAD-LINE** for the Sept./Oct. calendar is Aug. 15th.

**Portland Country Dance Community** 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, 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 \$10.00 a year (\$8.00 for seniors), which provides a \$1.00 discount at our regular dances and subscription to the newsletter. Donations in excess of \$10 per year are tax deductible. Correspondence may be sent to PCDC, PO 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 17 New South Street, Northampton, MA 01060.

The PCDC board is an elected body of volunteers from the community. Meetings are held once a month, and community members are always welcome. 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. Call any board member for further info. The PCDC board comprises:

Kathy Bowman .....	295-2648
Darrell Desper .....	252-6203
Nan Evans .....	249-8168
Keith Fish .....	628-0112
Barbara & Rik Fischer Smoody .....	249-8300
Dave Hamlin .....	691-1758
Jan Hinkamp .....	244-8865
Marianne Kandel .....	649-0873
John Kral .....	230-1126
Tyler Robinson .....	245-6982
Barb Tabachnick .....	590-3542

Chair: Dave Hamlin  
 Secretary: Barb Tabachnick  
 Treasurer: Nan Evans  
 Booking: Tyler Robinson (245-6982)  
 Publicity: Merilee Karr (245-2185)  
 Newsletter: Dave (245-2185), Terri (235-3153)  
 Mailing list & membership:  
 Bob Nisbet (244-3971)

**PCDC April Board Minutes.** MAC's committee is still deciding on PCDC's application for "tenancy" (and associated discounted rental rate); the committee needs to develop official criteria for tenants. Liability insurance has now been quoted at \$201 per year, even including MAC as an additional insured; we will proceed to acquire this policy. Some discussion of how best to keep an evening on schedule; Tyler will make a few changes to the contract that explains our schedule to the performers. The Dusk 'til Dawn Dance will be held this year at the Redland Grange; bands and callers have been lined up. Projected expenses will be \$300 less than last year (when we lost \$500); there will be much publicity to maximize attendance (and income). Wild Asparagus is confirmed for June 15; this dance will receive extra publicity. Joanna Karl is organizing an "Old Timers' Dance" for the July First Friday Dance. The Board agreed to spend up to \$25 to advertise Portland in the CDSS Newsletter as a destination for bands and callers. The Board expressed official support and encouragement to the new Fourth Friday Open Mike series. The piano at BWT is soon to be removed; the Board would be willing to help the BWT dance organizers in funding a replacement, should the organizers bring back a proposal to that effect. The recurrent question of when to stop taking money at PCDC dances (start of the break? 9:30? 10:00?) was definitively answered: the start of the break. The question was raised whether PCDC dances are perceived as the "beginner" dances in town, and if so whether that is what we want. No definitive answers, but given the large number of beginners who do attend, we will ask our callers to include a 5 minute style pointer "workshop" sometime during the evening. Experienced dancers are encouraged to now and then ask a beginner to dance. Family dances are planned for September 10 and November 12, continuing every other month through the coming year. The local organizers of the national Folk Alliance conference in February 1995 have asked PCDC to help organize one of the evening dances. The Board extended its free admission policy to the non-Board members with regular newsletter, publicity, booking, and mailing list responsibilities.

**Next Meeting:** August 11, at Nan's new house.

## Portland Country Dance Community

P.O. Box 14636  
 Portland, OR 97214

*Address correction requested*

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