



Footnotes

Portland Country Dance Community · March / April 1999

PCDC Dance Hotline 503-972-0619 · www.aone.com/~kluberg/folknews.html

THE VEGETABLES RETURN!

Monday, April 12 1999
Scottish Rite Ballroom

There are several bands on the national contradance scene about whom you might hear, "they're one of the leading contra bands in the country." With Wild Asparagus however, you can leave out "one of." Wild Asparagus has been blowing away contradancers for over 15 years and still generates musical energy and inventiveness as if they had just burst on the scene. Their music is consistently both beautifully played and dynamic. They have mastered the particular art of playing music for a live dance crowd, from gently sneaking into a tune while the walkthrough is still underway, to developing rhythm and tune in a seamless blend that makes dancers wonder why it doesn't always feel so smooth, to building an irresistible drive while maintaining perfect pitch and even tempo, and then ending so gracefully dancers are left thinking "that must be what it feels like to levitate." Many dancers think dancing to Wild Asparagus is as good as it gets.

While they hail from western New England, the contra heartland, the band's members travel far and wide as full-time professional musicians. Their list of recordings, collaborations, tours and camps would put many popular music stars to shame. All play in a variety of musical configurations, but Wild Asparagus is where their substantial talents have matured and blended to continually push the leading edge of American contradance music. These guys are no vegetables. Ann Percival is the rhythmic core of the band. On keyboard and guitar, she is both the consistent beat setter and a powerhouse rhythm machine with tremendous musical range. She may play melodious harmonies or nearly pure percussion, plus she sings! Her singing waltzes are sublime. Around and through Ann's dynamic music, David Cantieni casts a flood of delightful woodwind notes. He plays a variety of blown things including flute, tin whistle, oboe and saxophone. And when this snake charmer cuts loose on his bombard in the middle of a dance, dancers gasp. Knitting the band's musical magic together is fiddle virtuoso Becky Tracy. Few have the expressive talent and technical mastery with this instrument that Becky does. That she plays so strongly and yet so tightly with her cohorts is a remarkable thing to hear, let alone dance to. Her melodies are clear and sparkling, her rhythmic bowing techniques make your feet fly, her timing is perfect and her musical expression is deep. Becky's playing epitomizes fiddling for dancers. Stuart Kenny,
(con't page 3)

Labor Day FEAST and PICNIC at Suttle Lake

PCDC's 1999 Fall Dance Camp at Suttle Lake promises a FEAST and a PICNIC for four (count them September 3-4-5-6) days over Labor Day Weekend. The menu includes Contra and English Dances, waltzing, two concerts, workshops and gourmet meals from Portland's Annie Johnston. Musical staff is drawn from England, New York, British Columbia and Seattle.



Belshazzar's Feast

BELSHAZZAR'S FEAST formed in England in 1995 with Paul Satin on Oboe, Violin and Vocals and Paul Hutchinson on Accordion. This multi-talented duo have arranged and recorded a delightfully varied musical menu arranged and performed with originality and skill." On Suttle's musical menu will be English country dance tunes from the 1600's to the present, Scandinavian waltzes, Music Hall songs and their own compositions.

Caller JOHN TURNER from Southampton, UK brings 20 years of calling experience and an international reputation to our table. He began with traditional English and moved to New England Contras. "I firmly believe that dancing has got to be fun!"

Dancers will get to sample a wide range of English dance tastes, including the energetic English Ceilidh. This dance is "stepped" to blend flavors from a harvest barn dance, a folk discotheque and a rock concert into one delightful expenditure of high energy. We've invited Turner and Belshazzar's Feast to offer us a flavor morsel of Ceilidh as well as traditional English Country Dance.

Entree's also will include Contra Caller MARIAN ROSE and five musicians from New York known as GRAND PICNIC. They offer dancers an immense buffet of fun and unusual Contra dances. As a final treat, DAVE MACEMON will introduce the Rapper Sword Dance, to those who still have an appetite for high energy dancing with short, two handled blades!

(More on these folks in future Footnotes.)

Dance Locations

BC	Benton Center, 630 NW 7th, Corvallis
BWT	Burlingame Water Tower Dance Hall, SW 17th and Marigold (between Spring Garden and Taylor's Ferry Roads)— <i>no street shoes permitted on the dance floor</i>
BVC	Buena Vista Club, corner of 16th and Jackson, Oregon City (call 650-0798 for easy directions)
FCC	Fulton Community Center, 68 SW Miles (off Barbur, traffic light just east of Terwilliger)
GP	Guthrie Park, 3 miles south of Dallas
KMS	Kelly Middle School, North Park & Howard, Eugene
KOC	Knights of Columbus Hall, 725 Shipping NE, Salem
LDC	Living Dance Center, 3536 SE 26th Avenue
MAC	Multnomah Art Center, 7688 SW Capitol Hwy. (at 31st)
MG	Mountainview Grange, White Salmon. Call 503/386-6461 for address
NG	Netel Grange, Lewis & Clark Road, 3.9 miles south of Miles Crossing at "Logan Road Chapel" sign. Call 503 / 325-7279 if lost.
PPAA	Portland Police Athletic Assoc., 618 SE Alder
RG	Rockford Grange, 4250 Barrett Drive, Hood River
SAC	Saint Andrew's Church, SW Dosch Road at Sunset Boulevard (near Beaverton-Hillsdale Hwy)
SBEC	Saint Barnabus Episcopal Church, 2201 SW Vermont (about 3 blocks west of Bertha)
WHCC	Waldo Hills Community Club, 5 miles south of Silverton, Cascade Highway & Sunnyview Road.

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. PCDC encourages sit-in musicians (unmiked) at regular PCDC dances at the discretion of the hired band and caller.

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. SAC, 8 pm, beginners' workshop 7:30 pm. \$7/\$6 for seniors and PCDC members.

PCDC First Saturday English Country Dance. English Country dance is a source of modern square and contra dance style. SBEC, 8 pm, beginner's workshop 7:30 pm. \$6/\$5 seniors and PCDC members.

First Saturday Cats & Dogs Contra-dance. Moondog and various Cat bands alternate months with guest callers. SAC, 8 pm, beginners' workshop 7:30 pm. \$6.

Second and Fourth Friday English Country Dance. Run by the Portland English Country Dancer, these two monthly dances feature a variety of callers and musicians. BWT,

8pm, no beginners' workshop. \$5. (No street shoes allowed at BWT.)

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. SAC, 8 pm, beginners' workshop 7:30 pm. \$7/\$6 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 \$6.

Third Saturday Contradance is organized by Paul McCullough. Dances tend towards the challenging side. FCC, 8 pm, beginner's workshop 7:30 pm. \$7.

Fourth Saturday Contradance is organized and called by Mary Devlin. FCC, 8pm, beginners' workshop 7:30 pm. \$7/\$6 CDSS members.

Fifth Saturday Contradance features the old-time music of the Rose City Aces with guest callers. FCC, 8pm, \$6.

Out of Town Dances

Second Saturday Dance, GP, Salem, 8 pm.

Fourth Friday Scandinavian Dance, KOC, Salem. 8 pm. Call 503/364-6713 to confirm.

First & Third Saturday Dances. BC, Corvallis. 8 pm. (*Bring non-street shoes.*) Call 541/754-1839.

Second Saturday Dance, KMS, Eugene, 8 PM. Beginner's instruction at 7:30 PM. (For info or places to stay, call Ellen at 503/686-2053.)

Fourth Saturday Swing 'n Contra Dance, GP, Salem. 8 pm.

Astoria Old-Time Country Dance, NG, Astoria. Call 503/325-7279 for info.

Contramania Dances, More challenging dances, intermediate workshop at 7:30. KMS, Eugene. Fourth Saturdays at 8 pm. Call 541/686-2053

Hood River Saturday Dances, RG, 8 pm. Call 503/386-6461 for details.

White Salmon Saturday Dances, MG, 8 pm. Call 503/386-6461 for details.

Bend Community Contradance, 3rd Sat. at Kenwood Gym, dance "parties" for summer, 2nd Sat. in fall. 541/317-1458, kanestdt@bendnet.com

CALENDAR • MARCH / APRIL '99

PCDC Dance Hotline 503-972-0619 • www.aone.com/~kluberg/folknews.html

March

3rd (We) First Wednesday Beginner Music Teaching Session. Call Susan (771-0035) for details.

5th (Fr) PCDC First Friday Contra & Swing Dance. 8 pm at SAC. Caller: Mary Devlin. Swing Teacher: Bo Snyder. Music: Moondog.

6th (Sa) PCDC English Country Dance. 8 pm at SBEC. Caller: Cynthia Stenger. Music: Betsy Branch, Mark Douglass, & Jen Blecha.

6th (Sa) First Saturday Cats & Dogs Dance. 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Erik Weberg. Music: Wildcats.

6th (Sa) Corvallis First Saturday Dance. Caller: Rich Kuras. Music: Dan Compton, Fran Slefer, & Joel Bernstein.

12th (Fr) Second Friday English Country Dance. 8 pm at BWT. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: Julie King, Fred Nussbaum, & Kathleen Towers. (No street shoes allowed.)

13th (Sa) PCDC Family Dance 5 pm at SAC. Caller: Bill Martin. Music: Sue Songer, Nancy Martin, & Dave Mount. Potluck 7-8 pm.

13th (Sa) PCDC Second Saturday Dance 8 pm at SAC. Caller: Dave Smith. Music: Betsy Branch, Mark Douglass, & Jan Blecha. (the regularly scheduled Dean Kenty Benefit dance has been moved to May 8th.)

13th (Sa) Eugene Second Saturday Dance.

13th (Sa) Salem Second Saturday Dance.

16th (Tu) Third Tuesday Portland Folk Song and Old-time Music Jam, 7:30-9:30 pm. Call 452-9961 for directions/information.

19th (Fr) Portland Ceili Society Dance.

20th (Sa) Third Saturday Contradance. 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Paul McCullough. Music: Jigsaw.

20th (Sa) Corvallis Third Saturday Dance. Caller: Elinor Preston. Music: Moondog.

26th (Fr) Fourth Friday English Country Dance. 8 pm at BWT. Caller: TBA. Music: Hal Mueller, Fred Nussbaum, & Dave Goldman. (No street shoes allowed.)

26th (Fr) Scandia of Salem Dance, 8 pm, KOC. Call 364-6713 for more information.

27th (Sa) Fourth Saturday Contradance. 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Mary Devlin. Music: Spro City Bats (Anita Anderson, Betsy Branch, & Terry Wergeland.

27th (Sa) Salem Fourth Saturday Swing 'n Contra Dance.

27th (Sa) Eugene Fourth Saturday Dance.

April

2nd (Fr) PCDC First Friday Scantra Dance. 8 pm at SAC. Caller: Ben Allbrandt. Music: Lingonberry Jam.

3rd (Sa) First Saturday English Country Dance. 8 pm at SBEC. Caller: Molly Libby. Music: Bill Martin, Nancy Martin, & Keith Fisher.

3rd (Sa) First Saturday Cats & Dogs Dance. 8 pm at SAC. Caller: Erik Weberg. Music: Moondog.

3rd (Sa) Corvallis First Saturday Dance. Caller: Suzanne Girardot. Music: TBA.

7th (We) First Wednesday Beginner Music Teaching Session. Call Susan (771-0035) for details.

9th (Fr) Second Friday English Country Dance. 8 pm at BWT. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: Betsy Branch, Mark Douglass, & Jen Blecha. (No street shoes allowed.)

10th (Sa) PCDC Family Dance 5 pm at SAC. Caller: Ben Allbrandt. Music: Gordy Euler & Marianne Kandel. Potluck 7-8 pm.

10th (Sa) PCDC Second Saturday Dance 8 pm at SAC. Caller: Elinor Preston. Music: Scot Free.

10th (Sa) Salem Second Saturday Dance.

10th (Sa) Eugene Second Saturday Dance.

12th (Mo) PCDC Special Dance 7:30 pm at Scottish Rite Center Ballroom. Caller: George Marshall. Music: Wild Asparagus. Cost \$9/10. (see article)

20th (Tu) Third Tuesday Portland Folk Song and Old-time Music Jam, 7:30-9:30 pm. Call 452-9961 for directions/information.

16th (Fr) Portland Ceili Society Dance.

17th (Sa) Third Saturday Contradance. 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Paul McCullough. Music: Jigsaw.

17th (Sa) Corvallis Third Saturday Dance. Caller: TBA. Music: TBA.

23rd (Fr) Fourth Friday English Country Dance. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: DogHouse 4.

23rd (Fr) Scandia of Salem Dance, 8 pm, KOC. Call 364-6713 for more information.

24th (Sa) Fourth Saturday Contradance. 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Warren Argo. Music: Close Call (Gathie Whitesides, Dave Bartley, & Peter Langston).

24th (Sa) Salem Fourth Saturday Swing 'n Contra Dance.

24th (Sa) Eugene Fourth Saturday Dance.

May

1st (Sa) PCDC English Country Dance. 8 pm at SBEC. Caller: Dave Macemon. Music: Hal Mueller, Beverly Stafford, & Maria Falasca.

1st (Sa) First Saturday Cats & Dogs Dance. 8 pm at SAC. Caller: Ed Hall. Music: Feline Groovy.

7th (Fr) PCDC First Friday Contra Dance. 8 pm at SAC. Caller: Woody Lane. Music: Rex Blazer & Anita Anderson.

8th (Sa) PCDC Second Saturday Dean Kenty Benefit Dance. 8 pm location to be announced. Caller: Erik Weberg. Music: Portland Megaband.

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



PCDC Needs You!

Portland Country Dance Community VOLUNTEER

PCDC depends on volunteers who do the tasks that deal with the nuts and bolts of running 2 monthly contra dances, monthly English and Family dances, and special events as well as tasks that deal with outreach to the larger community.

If you can help with any of the following jobs, let us know. It's a great way to lend support to the community, to get to know other dancers and to learn more about dancing, calling, and music.

- _____ Door duty (including hall set up and clean up)
- _____ Publicity
- _____ Newsletter and mailings
- _____ Organization of Family dance
- _____ Organization of English dance
- _____ Special events
- _____ Fund raising
- _____ Hosting out-of-town callers and musicians
- _____ Search for new dance halls
- _____ PCDC board member
- _____ Suttle Lake Dance Camp
- _____ Other

Your Name _____

Phone # _____

E-mail _____

Mail to: PCDC,
PO Box 14636,
Portland, OR 97293.

Or, give to the door person at a PCDC dance.
Or, e-mail info to songer@teleport.com.
Questions? Call 293-1446 or 246-2219.



❖ SPECIAL NOTICE ❖

Mark Your Calendars

PCDC's 1999 Suttle Lake Dance Camp will be
Friday-Monday,
Labor Day Weekend,
September 3-6

Forage future Footnotes for facts
on this fabulous feast for your feet!



THE VEGETABLES RETURN!

DANCE TO WILD ASPARAGUS DANCE
MONDAY, APRIL 12, 1999
SCOTTISH RITE BALLROOM



ATTENTION - FOR THOSE WITH E-MAIL

A new e-mail list is beginning which will announce workshops for musicians, house concerts, sessions, and other out of the way events that might be missed in the newsletters of the larger organizations. If you would like to receive occasional e-mail notification of such musical happenings, please contact Sue Songer, songer@teleport.com, to have your name added to the list.



Portland's Own Megaband Returns!

Come hear the largest contradance band in the land
30+ musicians all on the same stage - it's a sight and sound to hear!
You can find them at the
PCDC Second Saturday Dean Kenty Benefit Dance.



Wild Asparagus

(con't)

playing on string and electric base, grounds the band with a solid bottom line and inventive runs. His base is an active participant in the band's amazing improvisational digressions. The dance will be rolling along and suddenly you realize the music has evolved into some jazz-like concoction with just a hint of the straight jig they started with. And finally there's George Marshall, the band's debonair caller, stand-up comic, sit-down concertina and bodhran player and generally bemused spokesperson. Always turning a phrase with economy and wit, George is one of the best callers around. He has mastered the art of getting large groups of people moving together in a variety of directions at just the right time with surprisingly few words. George truly makes dancing seem effortless and inevitable. If you haven't experienced one of his walkthroughs that just glides oh so smoothly into the dance, you're missing one of life's little wonders. With all of this talent and so much experience blending it, Wild Asparagus brings a relaxed expertise to their dance gigs. Not aloof however, they revel in playing to and with the dancers in a collaboration that usually leads to cheers and grins all around.

Previous Wild Asparagus dances in Portland have been knockout events with large crowds and energetic dancing. We're lucky to have them in town again. PCDC has arranged a special hall for the event - the Grand Ballroom at the Scottish Rite Center in downtown Portland at 709 SW 15th Avenue, just west of I-405. With high ceilings, a beautiful wood floor and a grand entry staircase, this should be a fitting site for a very special dance. The street entrance is on SW Morrison between 15th and 16th. Free covered, supervised parking will be available adjacent to the Center with entrances on SW 16th between Morrison and Alder and on Alder between 15th and 16th. The dance starts at 7:30 PM on Monday, April 12 1999. Mark your calendars now and come dance to Wild Asparagus!



March Dances

March starts out with a flair with the long-awaited Contra/Swing Combination Dance on Friday, March 5. Moondog has been polishing their swing repertoire to contrast with their contra creations and will show us their true musical multi-talents. Mary Devlin will bring her calling expertise and dancemaster Bo Snyder his relaxed charm to teach us some basic swing steps. Mary and Bo are planning to blend some swing moves right into contradances for what they say will be a well-orchestrated cross-cultural experience.

On Saturday, March 13, Portland's newest musicians return for another high energy evening. Mark Douglass, Betsy Branch and Jan Blecha have quickly established a positive reputation with local dancers for their dance-inspiring playing style and musical invention. Portland's newest, but now very well established, caller and drummer

Dave Smith will lead the show with his signature clarity and impeccable timing. Dave has worked many times with this band so we can expect not only fresh newness but also experienced oldness.

April Dances

And in April, another combination dance! On Friday the 2nd, it's the granddaddy of combos: the Scantra. Portland Scandinavian band Lingonberry Jam will lilt their way into an evening of snoas and jigs, hambos and reels. This six person band plays regularly for scandinavian dances and events and has also developed a contra tune collection they are eager to share. Ben Allbrandt will teach and lead some basic scandinavian dances and call lots of contras in his friendly and personable style.

Then on Saturday, April 10, Elinor Preston will return to the PCDC callers stand with her wide experience from many dance communities around the country and her extensive collection of dances. Accompanying Elinor will be Portland band Scot Free, featuring twin fiddles and a variety of musical influences from scottish to classical.



From the PCDC chair:

It is with sadness that I have to report that fellow contra dancer, Tim Coffey, died last month, apparently while on his way to a Saturday night dance. Tim was an avid supporter of many forms of dance; contra, English, Balkan, Scandinavian. Tim didn't say much, but sometimes surprised me with a joke or a cartoon that he clipped and brought to a dance to show me because he thought I'd like it. Our thoughts and condolences go to Tim's family, and we fondly remember Tim as we continue to dance and nourish the community that is so important to all of us.

Other news is that the PCDC board is actively searching for a hall to replace St. Andrew's Church as a dance venue. We would like to hold our dances East of the Willamette, if possible, while all the other contra dances are held at Fulton Park in Southwest. If you know of a hall which would be appropriate for a contra dance and which is run by folks who may be interested in a long-term rental relationship with PCDC, please contact a board member (listed at the back of Footnotes).

Finally, we've gotten some good response from the volunteer forms in the last Footnotes and from the new membership forms. We appreciate our volunteers (that's all of us) and if you recently volunteered, you should soon be hearing from a board member regarding how you can best help out. If you haven't yet volunteered, give it a try. We've got both long-term commitments and one-shot tasks. And everything in between. Make PCDC your community.

PLEASE let us know immediately if your address changes. We get charged 33¢ for each newsletter that is returned. And worse yet, you won't get your newsletter. Give your old and new address. Contact Sue Songer, PO Box 14636, Portland, OR 97293, 293-1446, songer@teleport.com.

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, 97293. 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, but 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 DEADLINE for the May/June calendar is April 1st.

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 \$15.00 a year (\$12.00 for seniors), which provides a \$1.00 discount at our regular dances and subscription to the newsletter. Donations in excess of \$15 per year are tax deductible. Correspondence may be sent to PCDC, PO Box 14636, Portland, OR 97293. We are an educational non-profit corporation and also a center of the Country Dance and Song Society, a national organization whose address is 132 Main St./PO Box 338, Haydenville, MA 01039-0338.

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 members are:
 Allen Cook 628-2946

- Paula Hamlin 691-1758
phamlin@easystreet.com
 - Rob Hoffman 452-8780
cue-moon@pcez.com
 - Ellen Leatham 234-3532
eleatham@reed.edu
 - Judith Swinney 281-2888
swicon@aol.com
 - Dave Vogl 246-5929
 - Erik Weberg 246-2219
kluberg@aone.com
 - Betty Woerner 244-1593
bwoerner@reed.edu
- Chair:* Erik Weberg
Secretary: Betty Woerner
Treasurer: Dave Vogl
Booking: Tyler Robinson (245-6982)
tr@pcez.com
Publicity: John Benecki (*flyers*) & Caroline Klug (*faxes & web page*)
Newsletter: Erik Weberg (246-2219)
kluberg@aone.com & Paula Hamlin (691-1758) phamlin@easystreet.com
Mailing list & membership:
 Sue Songer (293-1446) songer@teleport.com

Minutes from January 8 PCDC board meeting:

In attendance; Tyler Robinson, Betty Woerner, Paula Hamlin, Erik Weberg, Judith Swinney, Rob Hoffman. It was decided to pursue the use of funds in the Suttle Lake account in the general account for the purpose of earning interest. The money transferred would be returned to the Suttle Lake account once check writing begins in May or June. The Dean Kenty dance will move to May 8; we are still looking for a hall. It was decided to move PCDC dances to a new hall other than Fulton, preferably in south east Portland. Criteria were established for the hall search. It was decided to hold off on development of a PCDC web page until the hall search activity has settled down. Rob Hoffman is exploring ways to increase numbers of PCDC memberships.



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