

Footnotes



Portland Country Dance Community • January-February 2016

Back to the Future Raindance

By Kim Appleberry

You old enough to remember the very first Raindance? We started with a bang, launched by **Hotpoint Stringband**. We first saw this band in



Columbus, Ohio in 2003 and started Raindance just so we could bring them to Portland. Hotpoint has continued to innovate and maintain their standing as the sleekest

silver streak in the roundhouse. They are the original Pokey-on-the-drums band, and with their banjo-forward mix, they give more beats per mile than your Keds can keep up with. We are delighted they're coming back to race us down the rails—Hotpoint Special, coming through.

Clew Bay (also a place on the coast of Ireland named for this band) is an eight-year-old band that we haven't gotten enough of on the West Coast: Alden



Robinson (Riptide), Peter Siegel (Beverwyck, Gaslight Tinkers), Ashley Broder (Syncopaths), Matt Kenney (JEMS), and Stuart Kenney (76 bands at last count). They have a full, lavish sound that rises up and surrounds you like a flood tide, then crashes over you with a roar and a splash. Mind the sneaker waves.

Rick Mohr is a senior senator of contra calling. You

have done many dances written by him. He is well appreciated out here but stopped coming to the Wild West years ago when he became a father. Now, in a special command performance, he will appear only at Raindance. A truly rare opportunity. One of our peak contra dance camp experiences was a Rick Mohr "How to Write a Great Contra Dance" workshop. He will be doing it again at Raindance. Fascinating how the



sausage is made. Help write a dance and then do it that night.

Deb Comly is a sprite. When dancing she frisks



about the floor spreading elation and élan. At the microphone, she does it with her voice. Her affable and amiable self is amplified across the crowd as she leads you through the delights of dancing. But there's more. She also has the accuracy of a craftswoman and the repertoire of a maestro. You're gonna have more fun than your first ice cream cone.

Alan Roberts will again be precision tuning the sound, ably assisted by Kristen Falk, aka Gumby. Of course we will be returning to Norse Hall—the classic and colorful home of Raindance.

Raindance 2016 will be April 22-24. Cost for the weekend is just \$135. Registration is online only and opens on January 1st at www.PortlandRaindance.org. There will be a lottery for all those who register by midnight, February 15th. The weekend will be approximately gender balanced.

[Kim Appleberry is the chair of PCDC's Raindance Committee.]

Sad Dance Community News

Don Sparks, longtime dancer and member of the contra, Scandinavian and waltz communities, passed away in November. Don was an excellent dancer, friendly and welcoming to all. He was also an avid hiker, sailor and world traveler. Though he was a quiet man, he had many passions both political and environmental and he was happy to talk about his myriad interests, trips and projects with anyone who showed an interest. A memorial service held in December was packed with friends from his many walks of life. Our condolences to Don's partner, Carol. He will be missed.

Recipe for Exuberance

By Sue Songer

- Take 75-80 musicians, from well-aged and experienced to fresh off the vine;
- Add all manner of acoustic instruments (be sure to include at least 25 fiddles, a large dose of winds and brass, a sizable sprinkling of plectra, and a pinch of bombarde);
- Bind all together with back-up players;
- Marinate individually or in small groups for a month or so in a sauce of tunes, both familiar and new;
- Then stir all ingredients together for 2 months, during which time the appropriate infrastructure for serving up the final product must also be prepared.
- Finally, add 1 caller and 500+ dancers;
- Blend thoroughly with musicians and tunes for an entire evening.
- The result: perfect exuberance. It works every time. Don't miss it—The Portland Megaband Contra Dance!

As in years past, the dance will be held at the spacious and comfortable Smith Memorial Ballroom at PSU (1825 SW Broadway) in downtown Portland with free (after 6 pm) parking in the structures across the street. Erik Weberg will lead us through the evening with masterful calling.

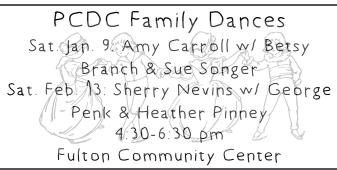
March 12th, 8 pm (lesson at 7:30) Smith Memorial Ballroom at PSU \$15 general public; \$12 PCDC/PFS members; \$9 seniors (over 65) & students

Because of the immense popularity of this dance, and because we are expecting many out-of-town dancers due to the Megaband Dance being part of the regional Cascade Promenade event this same weekend, we strongly encourage the purchase of advance tickets. This will ensure you a spot on the dance floor and free you from having to wait in line to pay for admission. Advance tickets will be sold by mail order only, via the Portland Megaband and PCDC websites. Flyers for the event will be available at local dances. Tickets will also be sold at the door for the same price as the mail order sales for as long as they last. Megaband t-shirts and live recordings from previous Megaband dances will be available for purchase at the dance.

Beginning January 10, the Megaband rehearses Sunday afternoons (except for holiday weekends) from 3-5 pm at Fulton Community Center. Observers are welcome.

For more information go to www.PortlandMegaband.com or www.PortlandCountryDance.org or call 503-293-1446.

[Sue Songer is the founder and director of the Portland Megaband.]



Portland Roadhouse #7

By Gordy Euler

Mark your calendars for the 2016 Cascade Promenade, happening March 9-13. This is the seventh annual Cascade Promenade, and it will offer lots of opportunities up and down the I-5 corridor to dance. Check out the website (www.CascadePromenade.org) for a complete listing of Promenade activities, or visit our Facebook page.

The two primary Portland events are the Portland Megaband Dance on Saturday, March 12 (see article at left) and the Portland Roadhouse Dance on Sunday, March 13. (On Friday March 11, there is an English country dance in Portland as well as a contra dance in Vancouver, WA). The Portland Roadhouse is also in its seventh year, and will once again be held at the Milwaukie Community Club (MCC), 10666 SE 42nd Avenue, in Milwaukie, Oregon. Dancing starts at 11 am and goes until 9 pm.

Eight bands and nine callers, all from the Pacific Northwest, will keep the energy and fun going all day and well into the evening. This year's bands are: Contra Quartet, Countercurrent, The Euphemists, Jigsaw, The Nettles, The Quarks, Riffraff and W.B. Reid & Bonnie Zahnow. Callers are: Adam Carlson, Noah Grunzweig, Michael Karcher, Sonya Kaufman, Susie Kendig, Woody Lane, Marlin Prowell, Gwen Rousseau and Laura Mé Smith.

Lanny Martin and Sue Baker will serve as house managers; Dave Goldman and Karen Marshall as stage managers; and Rich Goss will do sound, assisted by Jon Neff

This is a great chance to rub shoulders with contra dancers from out-of-town, and to dance all day long if the Megaband dance and other Promenade events are just not enough! The MCC is a grange-style hall with a hardwood floor ballroom and a downstairs common room where dancers seeking respite can refuel, replenish and relax. As in previous years there will be a day-long potluck in the common room. Please bring food to share, being mindful that it may sit out for a long period unrefrigerated. Think finger-food like trail mix, cheese & crackers, chips & salsa or fruit. Sweets and chocolate are always appreciated.

There is plenty of space for jamming downstairs so bring an instrument along with your dancin' shoes. The admission fee of \$20 (\$17 if you arrive before 11:30 am) entitles you to in-and-out privileges all day. As it has been since its inception, the Portland Roadhouse Dance is a benefit for the Northwest Folklife Festival with musicians and callers donating their time and talent. For those who think big, the Iron Dancer and Titanium Dancer awards will again be given out this year.

Many volunteers are needed to help put the Roadhouse Dance together and to make it successful. If you would like to help, contact Carmen Doerge at carmendoerge at comcast dot net.

Portland Roadhouse Committee members are: Lindsey Dono, Gordy Euler, Dave Hamlin, Woody Lane, Karen Marshall, Mike Richardson and Sue Songer.

[Gordy Euler is (also) the booker for PCDC contra dances and the co-conductor of the Portland Megaband.]

Board Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Mike Voss

November 16, 2015 Present: Christine Appleberry, Carmen Doerge, Susan Gere, Rich Goss, Sarah Goss, Noah Grunzweig, Jon Neff, Rick Piel, Mike Voss, Marsha White.

Treasurer: Extension filed for tax returns. Raindance bank account still needs to be established. Tentatively scheduled for second week of December.

English country dance: There will be a dance party December 25 at the Water Tower starting at 7:30 pm. There is a need to clarify who on the ECD Committee provides upcoming info to Laurel for the newsletter.

ECD Ball Committee: Ball was well-attended with a waiting list. Talent for next year is still under discussion.

Contra Committee: Anne Heimlich was approved to join the committee. Attendance at regular dances continues to be good. Outreach dances at PSU and Lewis & Clark are in the works, as well as Univ. of Portland. Dances will be free for students. Wild Asparagus played Norse Hall on 11/17 and The Syncopaths are scheduled for 11/24, also at NH. The New Year's dance will be on January 2 at Norse Hall. There will be a contra December 26 with Susan Petrick and the Euphemists. It was mentioned that Microsoft offers contra dancing as a campus activity for their employees. Discussion of local implications.

Raindance Committee: Bands will be Hotpoint and Clew Bay with Rick Mohr and Deb Comly calling. Dates are April 22-24 at Norse Hall. Registration opens January 1, 2016.

NW Passage Committee: Welcomed new NWP board rep Marsha White. NWP Committee consists of Marsha, Rick Piel, Sue Songer, Erik Weberg, Rich Scher, Ethel Gullette and Ric Goldman. It was noted that committee members are required to be PCDC members. NWP 2016 will be an all-English format. Calling by Joanna Reiner and Bruce Hamilton, music by Tricky Brits (Seattle) and Earl Gaddis & Friends.

Membership: There are currently 273 PCDC members. Senior memberships are increasing. Suggestion to talk up the advantages of membership to younger dancers at the door. Discussion of advantages of volunteering vs. joining. "Frequent Dancer" punchcards were mentioned. No decision was made. Renewal notices are sent by email and USPS.

Website: Discussion of ease of access by content providers. Susan reported difficulty adding repeating events. Discussion of who has access to what parts of the website. Jon will modify what appears in the Special Events column. Susan would like to have a separate page with information about the nature of English country dance and other ECD info. The alleged copyright infringement issue with Getty Images has been resolved amicably at no cost. Newsletter files have been purged of questionable images back to 2012.

CDSS Centennial celebration: Verification of donation to CDSS is pending.

Outreach: Still searching for good images of Fulton with a crowd of dancers. Submissions are welcome.

New business: A letter to callers has been circulated and minor revisions have been made. Noah will send the revised version to the board.

Search for new Treasurer: Sarah will write a job

description. Two possible candidates were suggested.

CDSS renewal: Carmen will sort this out. Forms for exemption renewal will be submitted.

The board retreat will be March 26 at the Kennedy School, pending availability. Current and former board members will be invited. Topics will include: who has been involved, the history of PCDC and planning for the future.

Second Thursday tune sessions are doing well.

Safety and behavior: warning was given to a dancer about repeating inappropriate behavior.

[Next meeting: January 5, 2016, 6:30 pm.]

Buddy System is Back!

By Brian Woodward

Remember last year's fabulous techno contra dance at Norse Hall? You know the one. Where strangers wandering by were drawn in the front door and stood slack-jawed watching nearly 200 contra dancers gyrating in unison while the building throbbed to the energy put out by the duo Buddy System?

Yeah. That one.

And if you don't remember, not to worry. On Monday, February 22 you will get a chance to relive that magical evening as your Contra Committee is, as I write this, busy nailing down the details to make it so. Contra dancers don't gyrate you say? So sue me for getting a little flowery with my prose, but the rest is true. The music of Buddy System — Noah VanNordstrand of Great Bear Trio and Julie Vallimont of Nor'easter — with the special lights and sound system of a techno contra made for one of the best contra events ever. Nope, I'm not being flowery with that statement at all. And we are just pleased as punch they could squeeze us into their very busy Northwest tour, thus the unusual Monday scheduling of this event. We'll take it!

Calling for your evening's pleasure will be Northwest favorite Michael Karcher of Seattle.

Come join us on Monday, February 22, from 7:30-10:30 pm, at Norse Hall (111 NE 11th Ave) in Portland. Cost: \$15 general admission, \$12 PCDC members, \$10 students & seniors. No lesson.

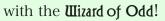
[Brian is a member of PCDC's Contra Committee.]



Attention witches and wizards!! Wave your magic wand (or your cell phone) over the mystical rune at left and you will be magically transported to...well, try it and find out for yourself!

Cascade Contras Camp April 8-10

Follow the yellow brick road to a fabulous getaway weekend



Notorious
 The Nettles

•Cis Hinkle •Linsdey Miller Dono

Registration has begun! Click your heels and go to: www.EugeneFolklore.org/CascadeContras

Calendar • January-February 2016

www.PortlandCountryDance.org

Note: Unless otherwise noted all contra dances begin at 7:30 pm with a 30 minute teaching session, and end at 11. All English country dances begin at 7:30 pm and end at 10:30.

January

Date		Dance	Caller	Music
1st	Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Elinor Preston	Laura Kuhlman, Seth Goldman, Lanny Martin
2nd	Sat.	PCDC New Year's Dance at NH, 8 pm-1 am	Noah Grunzweig Erik Weberg	Gallimaufry
6th	Wed.	First Wed. Contra Dance at PH, 7:30-10 pm	David Kaynor	Joyride
8th	Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at FCC	Cynthia Stenger	Leslie Hirsch, Seth Goldman, Lisa Scott
8th	Fri.	Contra in the 'Couve at HDG	Amy Carroll	Lanjovic
9th	Sat.	PCDC Family Dance at FCC, 4:30-6:30 pm	Amy Carroll	Betsy Branch & Sue Songer
9th	Sat.	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Amy Carroll	The Nettles
15th	Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Erik Weberg	George Penk, Sean Nolan, Sue Songer
16th	Sat.	Third Saturday Contra Dance at FCC	Noah Grunzweig	The BFD (Betsy, Fran, Dan)
20th	Wed.	Newberg Contra Dance at CCC	Laurel Thomas	Sue Songer, Gordy Euler, Lanny Martin
22nd	Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Brooke Friendly	George Penk, Erik Weberg, Rich Scher
23rd	Sat.	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Sue Baker	Hands4 (Carl Thor, Keith Moe, Fran Tewksbury, Rich Goss)
29th	Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Elinor Preston	Esther Saulle-Simek, Sarah Goss, Jon Neff, Carl Thor
30th	Sat.	PCDC Fifth Sat. Open Mike Contra at FCC	Rich Goss et al.	Dave Hamlin, Lanny Martin et al.

February

Date		Dance	Caller	Music
3rd	Wed.	First Wednesday Contra Dance at PH	Frannie Marr	Joyride
5th	Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	David Macemon	Leslie Hirsch, L. Kuhlman, Lisa Scott, Ellen Hansen
6th	Sat.	First Saturday Contra Dance at FCC	Erik Weberg	The Stage Crew (Sue Songer, Lori Shaffer, Lanny Martin, Jim Bell)
12th	Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Cynthia Stenger	TBA
12th	Fri.	Contra in the 'Couve at HDG	Ric Goldman	Zephyr Trio
13th	Sat.	PCDC Family Dance at FCC, 4:30-6:30 pm	Sherry Nevins	George Penk, Heather Pinney
13th	Sat.	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Sherry Nevins	Charles Street Messengers (from Seattle)
17th	Wed.	Newberg Contra Dance at CCC	TBA	TBA
19th	Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Ric Goldman	Lori Shaffer, Sarah Goss, Alan Rutherford, Carl Thor
20th	Sat.	Third Saturday Contra Dance at FCC	Rich Goss	Jigsaw
22nd	Mon.	PCDC Techno Contra at NH, 7:30-10:30	Michael Karcher	Buddy System
26th	Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Erik Weberg	George Penk, Laura Kuhlman, Heather Pinney
27th	Sat.	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Carol Piening	Zephyr (Dave Goldman, Todd Silverstein, Ellen Hansen, Bo Leyden)

Learn Contra Tunes by Ear

Jan. 14: George Penk Feb. 11: Dan Compton 7-9 pm, 1014 SE 50th

Info: climb 2 ski at gmail dot com Cost: \$10 PCDC members/\$15 not

"Pizza Jam"

Play contra tunes in a group on 1st and 3rd Mondays from 7:30-9:30 pm. All welcome. Free! Contact: SydNewell @ mac dot com

Find house concerts at: www.froggie.com

Dance Locations

BWT Burlingame Water Tower Dance Hall, 8936 SW 17th Ave. No street shoes permitted on the dance floor.

CCC Chehalem Cultural Center, 415 East Sheridan, Newberg (45 min. SW of Portland)

Dunn Dunn School, 3411 Willamette St., Eugene

FCC Fulton Community Center, 68 SW Miles St. (off Barbur Blvd.) Dance shoes recommended.

GH Gatton Hall, First Congregational Church, 4515 SW West Hills Rd, Corvallis, OR

HDG Hazel Dell Grange, 7509 NE Hazel Dell Ave, Vancouver, WANH Norse Hall, 111 NE 11th Ave (corner of Couch St.), Portland

PH Polish Hall, 3832 N. Interstate Ave, PortlandVB Village Ballroom, 700 NE Dekum St., Portland

Regular Portland Dances

Unless otherwise stated, all dances are open to everyone – experienced or not,

with or without a partner – 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.

Regular PCDC dances cost \$9 for non-members, \$7 for members and \$6 for seniors & students.

PCDC Friday English Country Dance at BWT,

7:30-10:30 pm. All dances are taught. Guest musicians with ECD experience are invited to sit in with a "small ensemble" on 1st Fridays. Contact Sean.Nolan.public at comcast dot net to arrange your guest appearance and for information about the twice yearly "open band."

First Saturday Contra Dance. The UnLeashed! and Calico bands alternate months at FCC, 8-11 pm with a beginners' lesson at 7:30. Cost: \$8/\$6 students; arrive prior to 7:30 and get \$1 off coupon for a future First Saturday dance.

PCDC Second Saturday Family Dance. Fun dancing for kids and families, October-April at FCC, 4:30-6:30 pm. Cost: \$6/adults; \$5/kids; \$20/family max. For more information contact wadew at ocp dot org.

PCDC Second Saturday Contra Dance. The longest continuously running contra dance in the state. FCC, 8-11 pm, beginners' lesson at 7:30. \$1 off before 7:30.

Third Saturday Contra Dance. The bands Jigsaw and The BFD alternate months. FCC, 8-11 pm; lesson at 7:30. \$8/\$6 students.

PCDC Fourth Saturday Contra Dance. FCC, 8-11 pm, beginners' lesson at 7:30. \$1 off before 7:30.

PCDC Fifth Saturday Contra Dance is an open-mike session for callers and musicians. FCC, 8-11 pm, lesson at 7:30 pm. \$1 off before 7:30.

Joyride First Wednesday Contra Dance is organized by the band Joyride with guest callers. Sept.-June at PH, 7:30-10 pm. \$7/\$6 students w/ ID.

Portland Waltz Eclectic. Waltzing and other partner dances to recorded music, Thursdays at FCC, 7:30-10:30 pm. All ages, all levels, everyone welcome. Cost: \$7. Also: "Waltz Brunch," 3rd Sundays at NH. Lesson 10:30-11:30 am, open dancing until 2:30 pm. Cost: \$10, \$12 with lesson.

Waltz Practicum. Develop skills, build confidence, connect with other dancers. Thursdays 5:30-7 pm at FCC. Cost: \$5. For more information contact rhondamcfaddin at yahoo dot com.

Portland Céilí Society Third Friday Dance. Traditional Irish dancing w/ live music Sept.-May at NH, 8-11 pm, lesson at 7:30. Cost: \$10/\$8 students & seniors.

Every Sunday Square Dance Sept.-June, 7-9 pm at the VB. Not your grandparents' square dance! Gender neutral calling on last Sunday of the month. Cost: \$7

www.PortlandCountryDance.org





Portland Country
Dance Community

Norske Runddansere Scandinavian folk dancing (including the Hambo) every Monday at Polish Hall, 7-10 pm, lesson 7:30-8:30. All welcome. Cost: \$4.

Out of Town Dances

Ashland 3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Sept.-May at The Grove in Ashland. Info at: www.socontra.org

Bend 2nd Saturday Contra Dance: October-April at Boys &
Girls Club of Central Oregon. Info
at: www.bendcontradance.org

Coos Bay 1st & 3rd Saturday Contra: Sept.-May at Greenacres Grange. Info: www.southcoastfolk society.wordpress.com

Corvallis 1st & 3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Sept.-June at Gatton Hall, 8-11 pm, lesson at 7:30. Info at: www.corvallisfolklore.org.

Eugene 2nd & 4th Saturday Contra Dance: Sept.-June at Dunn School, 7:30-10:30 pm, lesson at 7. Info: www.eugenefolklore.org

Hood River 2nd Saturday Dance: October-June at Rockford Grange, 7:30 pm. For more info contact Callie at 541-296-1550..

Olympia 1st, 2nd, 4th Saturday Contra: 8-11 pm, at the South Bay Grange in Lacey, WA. Info at: www.olympiadance.org

Seattle: English country, contra and other folk dancing. Info at: www.seattledance.org

Tacoma 3rd Saturday Contra: 8-11 pm, at Wells Hall. Info at: www.tacomacontradance.org

Portland Country Dance Community

P.O. Box 2189 Portland, OR 97208-2189

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PLEASE let us know immediately if your address changes. We get charged 45¢ for each newsletter that is returned. And worse yet, you won't get your newsletter. Please provide your old and new address to: Jon at JonNeff dot net, or call 503-245-2041.

This newsletter, Footnotes, is published every other month. If you have a dance announcement for the newsletter, please contact the newsletter editor, or send it to: PCDC, PO Box 2189, Portland, 97208-2189. Give a concise description of your event, including featured band and caller, date, time, place, cost, and phone number for further info. The information provided here is as accurate as we can make it, but late changes and/or cancellations may not be reflected. We encourage the submission of letters and articles that might be of interest to the community. All such letters and articles become the property of Footnotes upon publication and may be edited. The DEADLINE for submissions for the next issue is the 10th of the previous month.

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.

Footnotes is distributed to members of PCDC and to other folk organizations. Membership is \$15 per year for individuals, \$12 for students and seniors (65+), \$25 for households, and \$20 for senior households. Membership provides a \$2 discount at all regular PCDC dances, and a subscription to the newsletter. Donations in excess of membership fees are tax deductible. Correspondence may be sent to PCDC, PO Box 2189, Portland, OR 97208-2189. PCDC is an educational non-profit corporation and an affiliate of the Country Dance and Song Society (CDSS), 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. Board meetings are held approximately every six weeks. 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 info.

Current PCDC Board members:

Christine Appleberry (Raindance Rep) ceappleberry at yahoo dot com

Carmen Doerge (Co-Chair, Northwest Passage Rep) carmendoerge at comcast dot net

Susan Gere (English Country Dance Rep) susangere at gmail dot com

Sarah Goss (Co-Chair, Treasurer) sfgoss at comcast dot net

Rich Goss (Family Dance Liaison) richgoss at comeast dot net

Noah Grunzweig (Contra Committee Rep) grunzwei at gmail dot com

Jon Neff (Outreach, Membership & Mailing) jon at jonneff dot net

Mike Voss (Secretary) williams5key at mac dot com

Other major PCDC volunteers:

Contra dance booking: Gordy Euler euleromi at pacifier dot com

Contra Committee Chair: Noah Grunzweig

English Committee Chair: Susan Gere susangere at gmail dot com

English dance booking: Sean Nolan, Erik Weberg Family dances: Wade & Lynnetta Wisler

ramily dances: Wade & Lynnetta Wisler wadew at ocp dot org or 503-659-0281

Footnotes Editor: Laurel Thomas laureland3 at yahoo dot com

Northwest Passage Committee Chair: TBA

Raindance Committee Chair: Kim Appleberry pdxapple at comcast dot net