Portland Country Dance Community · September/October 2003

An Elegant Weekend For You

Need a change of pace and a little elegance? Attend the 11th annual **Portland English Country Ball November 1**. It's fun from the first half hour of waltzing through the entire evening of English dances ranging from the bawdy to the sublime.

How could you resist an event where each dance has its own beautiful music? Where women wear gowns that sweep the floor with chiffon, organdy or satin? Where men are handsome in suits, kilts or sexy blowsy shirts? And where you can eat wonderful finger food including homemade truffles and canapes?

With David Macemon officiating as dance master and caller, and a stellar band comprised of Portland's Fred Nussbaum, Betsy Branch and Denis Wilkinson, and Seattle's Julie King on the piano, you will experience the best of English Country music and dance.

And then the icing on the cake: This very popular ball weekend is always well-attended by some of the finest English dancers in the country. It starts on Friday night, where we dance old favorites and greet our out-of-town guests. A Saturday afternoon workshop gives us a last review of the ball dances, and Saturday night, we dance in our ball finery. Sunday morning brings a hearty brunch and more music and dancing. Here are the details:

Friday Night Dance: October 31, 8:00 P.M. at Fulton Park Community Center.

Saturday Workshop: November 1, 12:30-3:00 P.M. at PSU's Smith Memorial Ballroom.

Ball: November 1, 7 P.M. at Smith Memorial Ballroom.

Brunch: November 2, 10:30 A.M. at Sunlight Community Center

This weekend is "fragrance free." For more information, check our website at http://PortlandECD.home.att.net.

Learn the ball dances by attending our weekly Friday night English Country dances at the Burlingame Water Tower. We will be reviewing and learning the ball dances for the next two months, and we love having new people attend. The cost is \$28 per person for the Saturday workshop and ball. Preregistration is required. Pick up registration forms at the weekly contra or English dances, or e-mail Paula Hamlin at phamlin@easystreet.com.

PCDC Family Dance Returns!

Yes! The monthly Second Saturday Family Dance starts up again in October. The first dance (**October 11**) will feature teaching by Bill Martin, with music by Bill Martin and his many talented friends. Stay tuned for the rest of the 2003/2004 schedule...

Suttle Lake Dance Camp

It's not too late! There are still spaces available at PCDC's **Labor Day Weekend** dance and music camp. The deadline for receiving the discounted registration rate of \$199 has been extended to July 15.

Looking For Musicians...

Have you ever wondered if you could play contra dance music? Well, the answer is YES! On the first Wednesday evening of every month, George Penk and Dan Compton (alternately) teach contra dance music by ear in a slow-paced, friendly, and supportive setting. All instruments and all abilities are welcome. George and Dan share tunes, tips, tricks, and a wealth of dance music knowledge with anyone interested in giving it a try. This ongoing workshop is perfect for folks who have been playing for a year or two or those who have experience in another musical genre and would like to give contra dance music a try. It is great for musicians who are interested in improving ear-learning skills.

The teaching session has been in existence since 1987, spawning musicians and bands that now play frequently for dances (e.g. the Cat bands, Full Moon) as well as the Portland Megaband, which was first comprised mostly of the musicians who came to these workshops. In addition, many of the attendees have formed jam sessions on their own to practice the music in between the monthly meetings.

After a summer hiatus, the teaching sessions will resume on **Wednesday, October 1** from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. Cost is a bargain at \$5 per participant. Flavia, at an easy-to-find location in SW Portland, hosts the sessions. Contact her for more details: 503-244-7307; moshofsk@ohsu.edu.

Feast Reminder...

Annie Johnston, Wild Asparagus, George Marshall, Burke and Amy, the Canote Brothers: they all come together for the **Danceable Feast Dance Camp** the weekend of **November 14-16**.

Remember that the registrations must be postmarked no earlier than **September 15, 2003**. You should still be able to find registration forms at a dance near you. Or, you can contact:

Tyler: tr@pcez.com

Ellen: 541-686-2053, cantore@lanecc.edu (Not available mid Aug - mid Sept.) Annie: 541-617-9467, anniej@bendnet.com

Donna: 541-908-4834, donna_ranae@hotmail.com

Scandy Dancing In Your Blood?

Norske Runddansere is a local Scandinavian folkdance organization that has been teaching and dancing at the Sons of Norway Lodge for the past 18 years. The Lodge is located at the corner of N.E. 11th and Couch, and it has one of the best dance floors in town. Please bring dance shoes (i.e. no street shoes allowed.) The dance is held every Monday evening from 7:30 until 10:00. The music is primarily recorded, with occasional live music. The annual teaching cycle starts each September for beginning Scandinavian folk dancers, teaching basic steps and dances. This fall they will be starting the teaching cycle on Monday September 8 with basic dance concepts such as buzz step, walking, chain and schottis etc. Each Monday there will be a review of the previous week's teaching and then a new dance form will be taught.

Cost is \$3.00 for each evening, which includes the lesson. For more information you can contact John Campbell at: namanuman@aol.com, or you can find him at most of the contra dances.

Need MORE Scandy Dancing??

Scandia of Salem will be having a 6-week session in Beginning and Intermediate (review) Scandinavian Dancing beginning Tuesday, September 16 and ending Tuesday October 21, 7-9 P.M. at Knights of Columbus Hall. Allen Paulson will be teaching. Cost will be \$20 for the full session (\$10 of which will be refunded to those who attend all 6 classes), or \$5 per night. Live music will be provided by David Elliker. For further info you can contact Sharon Moore at 503-364-6713, or sharonmooree@comcast.net.

Du Jour! Du Jour!

Coming to Fulton for your dancing (and listenging) pleasure on **Saturday September 13** is **Group du Jour**. Group du Jour is a new band from the Puget Sound region that specializes in the dance music of Quebec. David

Cahn of Seattle plays button accordion in the distinctly French Canadian style that emphasizes rolling rhythms and tricky triplets. A multi-instrumentalist, David is a fixture at the Port Townsend Fiddle Tunes Festival every year, and has played with countless bands, including the Queen City Bulldogs, the Rodney Miller Band, and the Canote brothers (look for them in Eugene in November). Clyde Curley, late of Portland, is the fiddler in Group du Jour. For many years he helped drive many a dance at Fulton Park as a member of Jigsaw and the Rose City Aces. His current mainline musical project in his new home in Friday Harbor is exploring the fiddle music of "La Belle Province" and unlocking its mysteries. Bill Meyer of Seattle rounds out the group with distinctive Quebecois stylings on the piano, chord voicings that verge on Texasstyle backup, or "Tex-bec," as he calls it. Bill, an old friend of David's from college days, is a veteran of the music scene, having also played with Rodney Miller, the Bulldogs, and numerous other fiddle and backup gigs, including a memorable stint at Wannadance as Bruce Molsky's guitar player.

Together since Folklife '02, when the band formed while jamming informally outside the Roadhouse dance hall, Group du Jour has been busy playing dances and working on its sound, which its members believe is unique in the Northwest. Above all, unrelenting rhythm is the hallmark of the band, accompanied by a nearly pathological reverence for the lilting, uplifting folk melodies of French Canada.

Seattle dance scene mover and shaker **Luther Black**, "le caller extraordinaire," will teach and call a compelling and engaging variety of contras for the evening.

Waltzing: Good for the Sole(s)

The weekend of September 27/28 will see some special waltz workshops and dancing. On **Saturday September 27** from 10 A.M. until 4 P.M. **Bejeurin and Monica Cassady** from Seattle's Waltz Etc will teach cross-step waltz and swing waltz. Those who attended their last Portland workshop said it was one of the best they had ever attended. The cross-step is a graceful, lyrical dance for slower tempos. The swing waltz is a ³/₄ dance that will allow you to waltz to most of the popular swing tunes. This teaching session will be held at Fulton Park Community Center and will cost \$35 for the day. You can preregister by contacting Nancy Matela at 503-281-0336 (nmatela@pacifier.com) or Dennis Myers at dmyersdesign@attbi.com.

On **Sunday September 28** there will be a lesson from 2:00 to 3:30, with Bejeurin and Monica teaching how to accommodate faster waltzes, such as the musettes. There will follow a live Tea Dance, from 3:30 until 6:00, with music by **Rouge**, a delightful group with a vocalist whose voice reminds one of French cabarets. They will play an afternoon of lively waltzes, swings and tangos in the French Bal Musette tradition. The Sunday events will take place at the **Viscount Ballroom** (722 E. Burnside). The cost will be \$20 for lesson and dance, or \$15 for dance only.

Dance Locations

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

FCC Fulton Community Center, 68 SW Miles (off Barbur, traffic light just east of Terwilliger)—must wear shoes in this venue

FirstCC First Congregational Church, 4515 SW West Hills Road, Corvallis KMS Kelly Middle School, 650 Howard Ave. (North Park & Howard), Eugene

KOC Knights of Columbus Hall, 725 Shipping NE, Salem

LH Liberty Hall, 311 N. Ivy, Portland

MKS McMenamins Kennedy School, 5736 NE 33rd, Portland

NG Netel Grange, Lewis & Clark Road, Astoria, 3.9 miles south of Miles Crossing at "Logan Road Chapel" sign.

Call 503-325-7279 if lost

PPAA Portland Police Athletic Association, 618 SE Alder, Portland

RG Rockford Grange, 4250 Barrett Drive, Hood River
 VB Viscount Ballroom, 722 E. Burnside, Portland

Regular Portland Dances

Unless otherwise 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.

Regular PCDC dances are \$8/ \$6/\$5 for nonmembers/members/seniors & students.

PCDC Friday English Country Dance Series. English Country dance is a source of modern square and contra dance styles. We dance every Friday at BWT, 7:30 to 10:30 P.M. The dance begins with a teaching session. Tea and cookies at the break! Bring clean dance shoes for this wonderful wooden floor.

The first Friday of each month is an open-mike dance for callers and open-band for those who would like to play (bring a folding chair and a music stand). Contact Cynthia Stenger, 503-722-4555, for more information.

First Saturday Cats & Dogs Contra Dance. The UnLeashed!

and Calico bands alternate months with guest callers. FCC, 8 P.M., beginners' workshop at 7:30. \$7.

PCDC Second Saturday Contra Dance, the longest continuously running contra dance in the state. FCC, 8 P.M., beginners' workshop 7:30.

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 \$10.

Third Saturday Contra Dance is organized by Jigsaw. FCC, 8 P.M., beginners' workshop at 7:30. \$7.

PCDC Fourth Saturday Contra Dance. FCC, 8 P.M., beginners' workshop 7:30 P.M.

PCDC Fifth Saturday Contra Dance is an open-mike session for callers and musicians. FCC, 8 P.M., beginners' workshop at 7:30.

Out of Town Dances

Astoria Old-Time Country Dance, First Saturdays at NG, 8 P.M. Contact Dave (503-325-1082, ambrose@seasurf.net) for more info.

Bend Community Third Saturday Contra Dance, October thru May at Highland School Kenwood Gym. Contact Kate Beardsley (katebeardsley@hotmail.com, 541-330-8943) for more info.

Corvallis First & Third Saturday Dances. FirstCC, 8 P.M. (Bring non-street shoes.) Contact Marfa (541-754-1839, zebra@peak.org) for more info.

Eugene Second & Fourth Saturday Dances, KMS, 8 P.M. Beginners' instruction at 7:30. Contact Ellen (541-686-2053, cantore@lanecc.edu) for more info.

Hood River Second Saturday Dances, RG, 8 P.M. Contact Keith Harding 541-352-7550 for more info.

Scandia of Salem's Fourth Friday Dance, KOC, 8 P.M. Contact Sharon (503-364-6713, sharonmooree@attbi.com) for more info.

Return service requested

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Portland Country Dance Community P.O. Box 14636 Portland, OR 97293

PLEASE let us know immediately if your address changes. We get charged 37¢ for each newsletter that is returned. And worse yet, you won't get your newsletter. Please provide your old and new address to: Sue Songer, PO Box 14636, Portland, OR 97293, 503-293-1446, songer@portcoll.com.

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 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 submissions for the next issue is the 1st 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. 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 a year (\$12 for seniors 65 years and older) and \$25 for single household families. Membership provides a \$2 discount at our regular dances, and a subscription to the newsletter. So, where's this month's nursery rhyme? Donations in excess of membership fees are tax deductible. Correspondence may be sent to PCDC, PO Box 14636, Portland, OR 97293. We are an educational nonprofit 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 every six weeks, 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:

Kaye Blesener (Publicity) 503-287-3404
kblesener@plix.com
Janene Benfield (Treasurer) 503-657-8988 celtic flame@hotmail.com
John Campbell
John Coon/Mary Olsen (Secretary) 503-636-6993
john.coon@noaa.com Hank Laramee (Financial) 503-699-6971
hlft@quik.com
Dave Macemon (English) 503-722-4555 stengermacemon@attbi.com
Jerry Nelson (Website)
Eliza Romick (Bookings)
Cindy Workman (Volunteers) 503-777-2668
Ken Yates (Chair, Newsletter) 503-675-0454
yates_bird@yahoo.com

Mailing list & membership: Sue Songer 503-293-1446 or songer@portcoll.com

PCDC Board Meeting, June 17, 2003. **Board members present**: Janene Benfield, Kaye Blesener, John Campbell, Hank Laramee, Dave Macemon, Mary Olsen, Cindy Workman, Betty Woerner, and Ken Yates. **Topics**: Welcomed new board members. Approved six scholarships. Discussed possibility of paying a regular door person at contra dances. Discussed how to get better involvement from our members to help with volunteer work and at special events/dances.

CALENDAR • SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2003

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

Note: All contra and English country dances begin at 7:30 P.M. with a 30-minute teaching session, unless otherwise noted.

September

- 3rd (We) First Wednesday Beginner Music Teaching Session. Call Flavia at 503-244-7307 for details.
- 5th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Open Band, Open Mic. Lead Caller(s): Elinor Preston. Lead Musician(s): Carl Thor, Paula Hamlin. Bring dance shoes for this hall.
- 6th (Sa) Cats & Dogs Contra at FCC. Caller: TBA. Music: UnLeashed!
- 6th (Sa) Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC. Caller: Woody Lane. Music: Calico.
- 12th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Cynthia Stenger. Music: Ellen Hansen, Dave Goldman, and Paula Hamlin. Bring dance shoes for this hall.
- 12th (Fr) Hayloft Music Series, 8:00. Three Wheeling (Celtic), Jinx Davis and Friends (swing and whatnot). 5304 Center St, Salem. Contact Sharon Moore for info: <sharonmooree@attbi.com>,503-364-6713.
- 13th (Sa) PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: Luther Black. Music: Group du Jour (Clyde Curley, Bill Myers, David Cahn).
- 13th (Sa) Eugene Contra Dance at KMS. Caller: TBA. Music: TBA.
- 19th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Dave Macemon. Music: Betsy Branch, Julie King, Fred Nussbaum, Denis Wilkinson. Bring dance shoes for this hall.
- 20th (Sa) Contra Dance at FCC. Caller:Paul McCullough. Music: Jigsaw.
- 20th (Sa) Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC. Caller: Sherry Nevins. Music: Clan Loki.
- 21st (Su) Waltz at VB, 10:30 lesson, dance 11:30 to 2:00. \$7 for lesson and dance. Recorded music.
- 26th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Molly Libby. Music: Hapsala. Bring dance shoes for this hall.

- 27th (Sa) PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: Woody Lane. Music: George Penk, Creighton Lindsay.
- 27th (Sa) Bejeurin and Monica Cassady from Seattle teach cross-step waltz and swing waltz at FCC, 10:00 to 4:00. Cost is \$35. Preregister by contacting Nancy Matela at 503-281-0336 or nmatela@pacifier.com.
- 27th (Sa) Eugene Contra Dance at KMS. Caller: TBA. Music: TBA.
- 28th (Su) Special Tea Dance at VB, featuring music by Rouge. Lesson 2:00 to 3:30, dancing to 6:00. \$15 for dance alone, \$20 includes lesson.

October

- 1st (We) First Wednesday Beginner Music Teaching Session. Call Flavia at 503-244-7307 for details.
- 3rd (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Open Band, Open Mic. Lead Caller(s): Dave Macemon. Lead Musician(s): Paula Hamlin. Bring dance shoes for this hall.
- 4th (Sa) Cats & Dogs Contra at FCC. Caller: Sue Baker. Music: Calico.
- 4th (Sa) Corvallis Swing Dance at Silver Falls.
- 4th (Sa) Astoria Contra Dance at NG. Caller: TBA. Music: W. B. Reid, Bonnie Zahnow.
- 10th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Cynthia Stenger. Music: Kathleen Towers, Sue Songer, and Paula Hamlin. Bring dance shoes for this hall.
- 11th (Sa) PCDC Family Dance at FCC. Caller and band TBA. Dance from 5-7, with potluck following. For more info contact Judith at 503-281-2888.
- 11th (Sa) PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: Merilee Karr. Music: UnLeashed!
- 11th (Sa) Eugene Contra Dance at KMS. Caller: TBA. Music: TBA.
- 11th (Sa) Hood River Contra Dance at RG. Caller: Elinor Preston. Music: Mill Creek String Band.
- 12th (Su) Waltz at VB, 10:30 lesson, dance 11 to 2:00. \$7 for lesson and dance. Recorded music.

- 17th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: Fred Nussbaum, Betsy Branch, Dave Goldman, and Denis Wilkinson. Bring dance shoes for this hall.
- 18th (Sa) Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: William Watson. Music: Pied-A-Terre.
- 18th (Sa) Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC. Caller: Gordy Euler. Music: The Nettles.
- 24th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Mary Devlin. Music: Kathleen Towers, Sue Songer, and Paula Hamlin. Bring dance shoes for this hall.
- 24th (Fr) Salem Scandinavian Dance at KOC, 8:00.
- 25th (Sa) PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: Mary Devlin. Music: George Wilson and Friends.
- 25th (Sa) Eugene Contra Dance at KMS. Caller: TBA. Music: TBA.
- 31st (Fr) PCDC Pre-Ball English Country Dance at FCC [note the changed location!!!]. Caller: Mary Devlin. Music: Kathleen Towers, Sue Songer, Paula Hamlin. Bring dance shoes for this hall.

November

- 1st (Sa) PCDC Portland English Ball at PSU Smith Memorial Ballroom. Caller: Dave Macemon. Music: Betsy Branch, Julie King, Fred Nussbaum, Denis Wilkinson.
- 1st (Sa) Cats & Dogs Contra at FCC. Caller: TBA. Music: UnLeashed!
- 1st (Sa) Astoria Contra Dance at NG. Caller: TBA. Music: Suzie McLerie, Gina Kytr.
- 7th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Open Band, Open Mic. Lead Caller(s): TBA. Lead Musician(s): TBA. Bring dance shoes for this hall.
- 8th (Sa) PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: Marlin Prowell. Music: Full Circle.