



Footnotes

Portland Country Dance Community · January/February 2004

Megaband Approacheth...

The Portland Megaband will play the 8th annual Dean Kenty Memorial Scholarship Dance with Erik Weberg calling on **Saturday March 13, 2003**. Once again, the event will be held at the spacious and comfortable Smith Memorial Ballroom at PSU, with free parking in the structures across the street. Dancers from Portland and other Northwest locales rave about this dance; no one will want to miss it. The band roster is currently full with its limit of 75 members, and there are several musicians on the waiting list in case anyone drops out. The sets have been determined, and informal rehearsals have already begun. Regular rehearsals start the first weekend in January, and will continue until the dance. To find out more about the Megaband, visit the Web site, www.portlandmegaband.com. Further information about the event will be published in the next PCDC newsletter and on the Megaband website.

Cascade Contra Camp

The ninth annual Cascade Contras dance and music camp will take place **April 2-4, 2004**. As usual it will be held at the ever popular Sky Camp, 45 minutes southeast of Eugene. This year the camp will focus on contras, with swing and blues dancing, plus instrumental and singing workshops.

The featured band this year is **Reckless Ramblers**, with Nat Hewitt on fiddle and guitar, Larry Unger on various guitars and banjos, Sam Bartlett on mandolin and tenor banjo, and Ginny Snowe on upright bass. The caller with this great band will be **Becky Hill**, of Cleveland, OH. Becky is known for her smooth calling style and wonderful selection of dances.

Playing get-down blues and pump-it-up swing for workshops and dancing will be **Blue Moon** from Eugene, OR. A novelty swing band with a bluesy edge, Blue Moon features Judith Rhys on vocals and bass, Guss Russell on keyboard, Michael Anderson on bass and guitar, Jerry Gleason on guitar, bass and pedal steel, and Jim Reinking on drums.

Rounding out the weekend will be delectable dining provided by **Annie Johnston**, and sound engineering by **Warren Argo**.

The price of the camp is: If application is postmarked by February 15, \$155/adult (9+ years), plus \$75 for each child 2 to 8 years of age. If after, the price is \$165/adult, plus \$80 for each child. Children under two years have free admission, but they must be registered regardless.

A lottery will be held for applications postmarked by **January 19** if the number of applicants exceeds the number of openings at the camp. Results will be mailed to everyone by February 15.

Farewell to a Friend

We are sad to report the death of **Jan Wheeland**, who was a regular dancer in Portland for several years until she moved to Port Townsend two years ago. Jan was killed in an auto accident on November 10 while returning to Port Townsend after visiting her children in Portland.



To quote her obituary, "Jan was and will continue to be loved and admired for her sense of adventure, enthusiasm for all things new and different, and her generosity and kindness. She was a renaissance woman and an avid reader. She was known for her talent for all kinds of dancing, especially contra, her love of bright colors, her passion for art, Scrabble, roller skating, gardening, crossword puzzles, her 1979 VW convertible, delicious baking, her inspiring creativity, and especially for the most fabulous apple pie this side of the Mississippi."

PCDC Family Dance

January 10 will see **Heidi Vorst** teaching international folkdances at the PCDC Family dance. Heidi will be bringing her dance troop, Sussefusse, to demonstrate some of the dances.

On **February 14** **Merilee Karr** will take on the teaching duties for a family contra dance.

So, come on down to Fulton Park Community Center and bring your friends and families and your friends' families and expect to have a rocking good time!

Style For the Masses

A perennial topic of conversation in the contra dance community is how to improve the skill level of dance so that it is both safer and more fun for all. In an effort to respond to this concern, your PCDC board has instituted a policy requesting callers to teach one or two style and safety tips throughout the evening. While we anticipate that this will have little impact on the number or duration of dances, hopefully it will eventually contribute greatly to increasing the fun of everyone who joins us on the dance floor. If you have comments or concerns regarding this policy, please inform any board member.

Winter Waltz Ball

Announcing a dance event that should not be missed, on **Saturday February 7th** a Waltz Ball will once again take place from 8 P.M. to midnight at the Norse Hall, 111 NE Couch in Portland.

As requested by many dancers, music will once again be provided by the Valse Café Orchestra, a favorite of Seattle dancers. The Valse Café Orchestra (many of whom are dancers) will fill the evening with numerous waltzes, complemented by a mix of one-steps, fox trots, tangos, schottisches, hambos, and polkas.

This event will give people a chance to dress up as much as they want, dance to some great vintage music, and socialize in an elegant atmosphere.

Admission this year will be \$15. For further information, please contact Dennis (503-246-3038, dmyersdesign@comcast.com) or Nancy (503-281-0336, nmatela@pacifier.com).

Gimme That Old-Time Music

Wednesday January 14 through Saturday January 17 will see the **6th Annual Portland Old-Time Music Gathering** take place. It culminates with a concert Friday night at Norse Hall (\$10 at 8 P.M.) and a square dance Saturday night at Norse Hall (\$5 at 8 P.M.) with calling by Bill Martin and Tony Mates.

There's lots more going on over those four days though, so you'll want to check out the website www.bubbaguitar.com/festival/ for the full schedule, or give "Q is for Choir" a call at 503-235-9678.

Power Waltzing

The weekend of **January 17 & 18 Richard Powers** (full time instructor at Stanford University and one of the world's foremost experts in American social dance) will be teaching workshops in Portland. The cost for the

weekend is \$75 (\$85 after January 6). You must preregister for the teaching workshops. Lead/follow balancing will be done by the organizers. There will also be an evening dance on Saturday for \$8 that will be open to the public.

To register or to get more information please contact Dennis (503-246-3038, dmyersdesign@comcast.com) or Nancy (503-281-0336, nmatela@pacifier.com).

Flying With the O'Carolans

Based in the mid-Willamette Valley, The **Flying O'Carolan Brothers** are multi-instrumentalists and singers who bring wide-ranging influences. You could run into any or all at Irish pub music sessions. Just as likely, you'll hear some of them playing swing, or bluegrass, or Brazilian choro. They have variously shared the stage or studio with the likes of Kevin Burke, David Grisman, Bill Monroe, and Riders in the Sky. The Flying O'Carolan Brothers play dances, concert halls, house parties and colleges from Ashland to Seattle.

Brother Roy Rowland is the go-to fiddler for the O'Carolans; He also plays mandolin and tenor guitar. Brad Johnson's concertina kicks the melodic energy up a notch; Brad also picks up the guitar from time to time. Jon Neff's resophonic bass or rhythm guitar is the foundation we build upon. Tim Crosby has a banjo and is not afraid to use it. Todd Silverstein completes the circle with his wealth of tunes and songs on bouzouki, penny whistle, and saxophone; Todd is also a highly sought-after contra-dance caller (so if you've just gotta dance, it can be done).

On Saturday **February 14** the Flying O'Carolan Brothers will be playing for the PCDC contra dance, with Todd Silverstein and Brad Johnson tag-teaming as callers.

A genealogical note: Turlough O'Carolan (1670-1738), famed blind harper and composer, is arguably the single most influential Irish musician of all time (Bono notwithstanding). We like to believe that we are the direct descendants of Turlough's beloved nephew Harpo O'Carolan. (Other descendants of this family line in the early 20th century were notorious Marxists.)

So, What Do You Think?

Well? The PCDC Board is looking for some feedback about your feelings on the dances of the past year. Did you like the revamped Dusk-Til-Done format? How about the recent waltz/contra mixture during the November open-mic dance? Do any of the bands float your boat, or do some sink your ship? And how about those callers? What can we do to make the dances more enjoyable for you? Please talk to a board member and let them know how you feel.

Dance Locations

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>
FCC	Fulton Community Center , 68 SW Miles (off Barbur, traffic light just east of Terwilliger)— <i>must wear shoes in this venue</i>
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
NH	Norse Hall , 1111 NE Couch, Portland (one block off of Burnside)
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 Paula Hamlin, 503-691-1758, 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 Family Dance, fun dancing for kids



and families. FCC, 5 to 7 P.M., with potluck following.

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.

Norske Runndansere Monday Scandinavian Dance 7:30 to 10:00 at Norse Hall.

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.

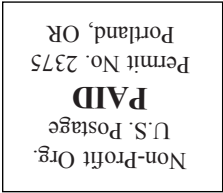
Eugene Second & Fourth Saturday Dances, KMS, 8 P.M. Beginners' instruction at 7:30. Contact Jacque (541-302-2628, jaklas@efn.org) for more info.

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.

Get weekly updates about dances in the Portland area by e-mail.

Just e-mail Erik Weberg at kluberg@kluberg.com, and ask to be put on the list.



Return service requested

P.O. Box 14636
Portland, OR 97293

Portland Country Dance Community

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 students and seniors - 65 years and older) and \$25 for households. Membership provides a \$2 discount at our regular dances, and a subscription to the newsletter. Donald O'Connor, Gene Kelly, Fred Astaire, the Nicholas Brothers, Buddy Ebsen: these men (in no intended order) are my inspiration. 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:

- Janene Benfield (Treasurer) 503-657-8988
celtic_flame@hotmail.com
- John Campbell 503-816-4566
namanuman@aol.com
- John Coon/Mary Olsen (Secretary) 503-636-6993
john.coon@noaa.gov
- Mary Devlin (English) 503-236-8062
mary@mdevlin.com
- Hank Laramee (Publicity) 503-699-6971
hlft@quik.com
- Jerry Nelson (Website) 503-331-8991
Jerry@jerryandmary.net
- Eliza Romick (Bookings) 503-289-8669
euleromi@pacifier.com
- Cindy Workman (Volunteers) 503-777-2668
cintren@easystreet.com
- Ken Yates (Chair, Newsletter) 503-449-2590
yates_bird@yahoo.com

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

PCDC Board Meeting, Oct 29, 2003. Board members present: Janene Benfield, John Coon, Mary Devlin, Hank Laramee, Jerry Nelson, Mary Olsen, Eliza Romick, Cindy Workman, and Ken Yates. **Topics:** Website construction continues. Get-in-free cards were discussed (printing of and distributing of.) New committee for managing English country dances has been established, with Paula Hamlin heading the committee. Still looking for volunteers to help with the Family dances. A sub-committee was established for managing the upcoming New Year's Eve dance.

CALENDAR • JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2004

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.

January

2nd (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Open Band, Open Mic. Lead Caller(s): Mary Devlin. Lead Musician(s): Dave Goldman & Paula Hamlin. *Bring dance shoes for this ball.*

3rd (Sa) Cats & Dogs Contra at FCC. Caller: William Watson. Music: UnLeashed!

3rd (Sa) Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC. Caller: Neal Schlein. Music: Luckiamute River String Band.

3rd (Sa) Astoria Contra Dance at NG. Caller: Erik Weberg. Music: Full Moon.

7th (We) First Wednesday Beginner Music Teaching Session. Call Flavia at 503-244-7307 for details.

9th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Erik Weberg. Music: Sue Songer, Kathleen Towers & Paula Hamlin. *Bring dance shoes for this ball.*

10th (Sa) PCDC Family Dance at FCC, 5:00. Heidi Vorst will be teaching folk dances for all ages.

10th (Sa) PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: Erik Weberg. Music: Mark Douglass, Betsy Branch & George Penk.

10th (Sa) Eugene Contra Dance at KMS. Caller: Woody Lane. Music: UnLeashed!

10th (Sa) Hood River Contra Dance at RG. Caller: Todd Silverstein. Music: TBA.

16th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Molly Libby. Music: Dave Goldman & Friends. *Bring dance shoes for this ball.*

17th (Sa) Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: Gordy Euler. Music: Pied-a-Terre.

17th (Sa) Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC. Caller: Sue Baker. Music: Three Wheeling.

18th (Su) Waltz at VB, 10:30 lesson, dance 11:30 to 2:00. \$7 for lesson and dance. Recorded music.

23rd (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Mary Devlin & Mike Lassner. Music: Dog House Four. *Bring dance shoes for this ball.*

23rd (Fr) Salem Scandinavian Dance at KOC.

24th (Sa) PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: Suzanne Giradot. Music: Mill Creek String Band.

24th (Sa) Eugene Contra Dance at KMS. Caller: Gordy Euler. Music: Luckiamute River String Band.

30th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: Carl Thor, Fred Nussbaum & Lori Shaffer. *Bring dance shoes for this ball.*

31st (Sa) PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Open Band, Open Mic. Lead Caller: Paul McCullough. Lead Musician(s): Ellen Hansen, Jeff Kerssen-Griep & Carl Thor.

31st (Sa) Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC. Caller: Todd Silverstein. Music: Flying O'Carolan Brothers.

February

4th (We) First Wednesday Beginner Music Teaching Session. Call Flavia at 503-244-7307 for details.

6th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Open Band, Open Mic. Lead Caller(s): Erik Weberg. Lead Musician(s): Sue Songer & Fred Nussbaum. *Bring dance shoes for this ball.*

7th (Sa) Cats & Dogs Contra at FCC. Caller: Merilee Karr. Music: Calico.

7th (Sa) Winter Waltz Ball at NH. 8:00, music by Valse Cafe.

7th (Sa) Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC. Caller: TBA. Music: The Nettles.

7th (Sa) Astoria Contra Dance at NG. Caller: Bill Martin. Music: Hart & Blech.

13th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Mary Devlin. Music: Kathleen Towers, Dave Goldman & Erik Weberg. *Bring dance shoes for this ball.*

14th (Sa) PCDC Family Dance at FCC, 5:00. Dances taught and called by Merilee Karr.

14th (Sa) PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: Todd Silverstein. Music: Flying O'Carolan Brothers.

14th (Sa) Eugene Contra Dance at KMS. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: Fred Nussbaum, Dan Compton, Fran Slefer.

14th (Sa) Hood River Contra Dance at RG. Caller: Bill Martin. Music: TBA.

15th (Su) Waltz at VB, 10:30 lesson, dance 11:30 to 2:00. \$7 for lesson and dance. Recorded music.

20th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Nan Evans & Mary Stevens. Music: Carl Thor, Lori Shaffer & Fred Nussbaum. *Bring dance shoes for this ball.*

21st (Sa) Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: Suzanne Giradot. Music: Jigsaw.

21st (Sa) Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC. Caller: Elinor Preston. Music: UnLeashed!

27th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Caller: Elinor Preston. Music: Full Circle. *Bring dance shoes for this ball.*

27th (Fr) Salem Scandinavian Dance at KOC.

28th (Sa) PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Caller: William Watson. Music: Phil Katz, Alan Roberts, Dave Bartley & Sue Songer.

28th (Sa) Eugene Contra Dance at KMS. Caller: Elinor Preston. Music: Hawthorn (Deb O'Connor, Roy Rowland, Bruce Marbin).

March

5th (Fr) PCDC English Country Dance at BWT. Open Band, Open Mic. Lead Caller(s): Molly Libby. Lead Musician(s): Paula Hamlin. *Bring dance shoes for this ball.*

6th (Sa) Cats & Dogs Contra at FCC. Caller: TBA. Music: UnLeashed!

6th (Sa) Astoria Dance at NG. Cajun dance, featuring Cayenne (from Seattle).

6th (Sa) Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC. Caller: Woody Lane. Music: Hawthorn.

13th (Sa) PCDC Megaband Contra Dance at PSU Smith Hall Ballroom. Caller: Erik Weberg. Music: The Portland Megaband.