



Footnotes

Portland Country Dance Community · January/February 2006

Swingin' in the New Year!

Putting It All Together

Part 1

By Gordy Euler, PCDC Contra Booker

You've shown up at Fulton Community Center on a Saturday night to contradance, something you can do in Portland every Saturday night year-round. There's a band, a caller and somebody doing sound. Did you ever wonder how all that is arranged? I am currently the booker for PCDC dances, which are held on the second, fourth and fifth Saturdays of each month. (Calico and UnLeashed! sponsor the first Saturday (Cats and Dogs) dance; Jigsaw 'owns' third Saturdays). And, in this two part series, I hope to explain how everything gets put together for a night of fun on the dance floor.

Let's start with venues. We are lucky in Portland to have the same dance venue (Fulton) every Saturday night. Even so, the need to find other venues does arise during the year. In 2005 we used the Kinton Grange for the Dusk-til-Done dance in June, the Oaks Park Dance Pavilion for Wild Asparagus in November, and the Multnomah Arts Center for the New Year's Eve dance. And let's not forget the PSU Ballroom for the March Megaband dance! We maintain a spreadsheet of venues, but are always on the lookout for more. If you come upon a promising place, please let one of the board members know.

Then there is sound, necessary for the caller and the band since we dance to live music. We are fortunate to have three excellent local sound providers, John Oorthuys, Lanny Martin and Carl Thor, and each does several PCDC (as well as other Saturday) dances during the year. We've scheduled it so that John does second Saturdays, Lanny does fourth Saturdays and Carl does fifth Saturdays and fill-ins. These fellows lug in their own equipment for each dance, and are the first to arrive and the last to leave.

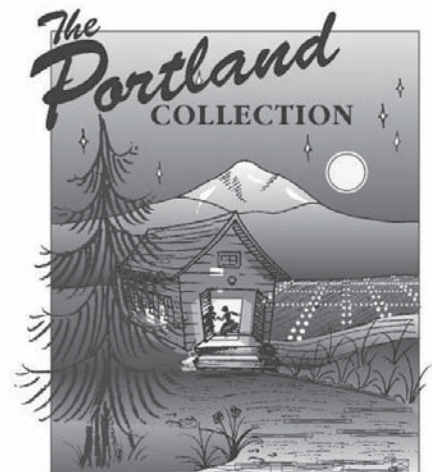
Most of my effort then, involves booking the bands and callers for PCDC dances. When I started booking I inherited a Rolodex with caller and musician contact information, and the marvels of e-mail make the job relatively easy (I can't imagine doing all of it by telephone!).

I usually do not book a band unless one of three things has happened: 1) I've danced to or called with them; 2) I'm aware of them through their recorded music; or 3) the band submits an audition recording. Often I get a phone call or e-mail from a local dancer, musician, or caller saying that PCDC should consider having a band they've heard play in Portland. Attending dances, festivals, dance weekends and dance camps also helps.

CD Release Party!

By Susan Songer, PCDC Membership Coordinator

On Saturday February 25th, PCDC will host a CD release dance/party at for George Penk (fiddle), Clyde Curley (mandolin, octave mandolin, banjo) and Sue Songer (piano). The festivities will commence at 7:30PM at Fulton Community Center. As this newsletter goes to press, their new recording, A Portland Selection 2, companion CD for Book 2 of The Portland Collection published earlier in 05 is in the final duplication phases with expected arrival date in early 06. This recording contains a cross-section of the tunes in the book played in a variety of styles and tempos. The Portland Collection books and companion CD for Book 1 are widely used by contra dance and other musicians throughout the United States, Europe, and Australia. Expect some special happenings at this dance as these 3 musicians celebrate completion of their project!



Contra Dance Music in the Pacific Northwest

by Susan Songer
with Clyde Curley

Wild Asparagus Redux

by Hank Laramée, PCDC Board

Oaks Park dance pavilion was the scene of another great **Wild Asparagus** dance on November 16th. This was the first stop on their Northwest tour. The regulars in Wild Asparagus were joined by percussionist **Mark Hellenberg** from Ohio who also plays in the band, **Hotpoint**. The music was better than ever this year with fantastic fiddle playing by **Becky Tracy** and flutist (as well as saxophone and bombard player) **David Cantieni**. A solid bass was provided by **Stuart Kenny** and great rhythmic accompaniment on keyboard by **Ann Percival**. Caller and concertina player **George Marshall** led the dancers through an evening of New England style contra dances that were fun for beginner and experienced dancers alike. George puts a lot of effort into searching out the best dances and with his years of experience he always provides a great evening of dancing.

Wild Asparagus has been playing together for over 20 years. Originally they were a terrific band. Still for someone who has danced to their music since they first started playing together in 1984 it is clear that every year they are more energetic and the musicianship keeps reaching new highs. The lead melody players **Becky Tracy** and **David Cantieni** weave together melodies and harmonies that are rich and rhythmic. As George Marshall put it, "We're always striving to make better dance music that compels people to **MOVE!**"

If anyone is interested in buying any of the bands CD's (in case you missed the opportunity at the dance) you can reach them at their website www.wildasparagus.com. There you will find recordings by the band and by individual members.

Following the Portland dance Wild Asparagus played another contra dance in Eugene then moved on to the **Moveable Feast**. On Monday Nov 21st they played in Corvallis and by Thanksgiving they were back home in Asparagus country. But not for long. From **February 8-15** they will hold a **Tropical Dance Vacation** on St. Croix, USVI and another Tropical Dance Vacation on the Big Island of Hawaii from March 4-11. Visit their website for details.

Portland Ball In Retrospect

by Peggy Hansen, English Committee

Almost 150 of us danced the night away at the **Portland English Country Ball** on Saturday, November 4. Many commented on the excellence of the band, the wonderfully spacious feeling of the **Smith Ballroom at PSU**, and of course the friendly atmosphere. What a treat to see friends from near and far in a variety of dressed-up ensembles moving to **Nan Evans'** excellent calling of her well-chosen dances. We were all on our own when Nan came down to dance Fandango with the crowd! Even the weather cooperated when the weekend's monsoon-y weather morphed into a kinder, gentler fall evening

that allowed most of us to get to the ball without a drenching and even enjoy a breath of fresh air on the balcony at the break. The Friday night dance at Fulton Community Center was a grand introduction to the weekend's delights, and the workshop on Saturday afternoon prepared us well for the evening's challenges. Not to mention the Sunday brunch — thank you, **Ivy Tyson**, for all the work in putting that together as well as the absolutely perfect decorations for the ball itself. The ball committee would like to thank everyone who volunteered and helped make this ball a success, including those who pitched in at the last minute to put out food, clean up, ready the rest rooms — the list goes on and on. And thanks to all those who attended! Be sure to come back next year and tell your friends that this event is not to be missed.



Coming Events!

February 3-5, 2006 [Dancing Fool Contradance Weekend](#)
Location: Seattle, Washington. Caller(s): Seth Tepfer and Cis Hinkle; Band(s)/Musician(s): Hotpoint String Band & Reckless Ramblers (<http://www.dancingfool.net/>)

February 17-19, 2006 [Corvallis Contra Dance Weekend](#)
Location: Corvallis, Oregon. Caller(s): Becky Hill and Woody Lane; Band(s)/Musician(s): Lift Ticket and The Jigsaw Trio (<http://cfs.peak.org/>)

February 24-26, 2006 [Raincoat Ruckus](#) Location: Burnaby, British Columbia. Caller(s): TBA; Band(s)/Musician(s): TBA (<http://www.vcn.bc.ca/vcountry/ruckus/>)

April 7-9, 2006 [Cascade Contras](#) Location: Sky Camp, Eugene, Oregon. Caller(s): Seth Tepfer, Erik Weberg; Band(s): Spare Parts, KGB. PLUS Vicki Ayers teaches Argentine Tango! (<http://www.efn.org/~efs>)

April 21-23, 2006 [New England Folk Festival](#) Location: Natick, Massachusetts. Caller(s): Numerous. Band(s): Numerous. (<http://www.neffa.org>)

Dance Locations

ASP	Alberta Street Pub , 1036 NE Alberta Street, Portland
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 Park 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 , 850 Howard Ave. (North Park & Howard), Eugene
KOC	Knights of Columbus Hall , 725 Shipping NE, Salem
MAC	Multnomah Arts Center , 7688 SW Capitol Hwy, Portland
NH	Norse Hall , 1111 NE Couch, Portland (one block off of Burnside)
NSB	North Star Ballroom , 635 North Killingsworth Ct., Portland (near PCC Cascade campus)
PPAA	Portland Police Athletic Association , 618 SE Alder, 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 cost \$8/\$6/\$5 for nonmembers/members/seniors & students.

PCDC Friday English Country Dance Series. Every Friday at BWT, 7:30 to 10:30 P.M. Tea and cookies at the break!

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.

Cats & Dogs First Saturday 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 (Oct-Apr) 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 at 7:30.



Portland Ceili Society Third Friday 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 dance, held at PPAA. Cost

\$10.

Portland Waltz Eclectic – Waltz Brunch, 3rd Sunday of the month. Lesson 10:30-11:15 am, open dancing until 2:30 pm. Norse Hall, 111 NE 11th Ave. **Also:** Weekly waltz, swing, latin, and other partner dance practice, Thursdays, 7:30 - 10 pm, Sellwood Community Center, 1436 SE Spokane. Both dance locations in Portland.

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 at 7:30.

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

Cascade Zydeco Wednesday Dance 7:15 P.M. lesson, 8 P.M. dancing at ASP to recorded music.

Elinor Preston's Fourth Sunday Zesty Contra Dance 7 to 10 P.M. at NSB.

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

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

And check out PCDC's website: www.PortlandCountryDance.org

Norske Runddansere Monday Scandinavian Dance 7:30 P.M. to 10 P.M. at Friendship Masonic Lodge at 5626 NE Alameda in Portland.
www.norskerunddansere.org/

Out of Town Dances

Astoria Old-Time Country Dance, at NG, 8 P.M. For more info contact Dave (503-325-3602, ambrose@seasurf.com) for more info.

Bend 2nd Saturday Contra Dance, October through May at Highland School Kenwood Gym. For more info contact Kate (katebeardsley@hotmail.com, 541-330-8943).

Corvallis 1st & 3rd Saturday Dances. FirstCC, 8 P.M. (*Bring non-street shoes.*) For more info contact Marfa (541-754-1839, zebra@peak.org).

Eugene 2nd & 4th Saturday Dances, KMS, 8 P.M. Beginners' instruction at 7:30. For more info contact Jacque (541-302-2628, jaklas@efn.org).

Hood River 2nd Saturday Dances, RG, 8 P.M. For more info contact Keith (541-352-7550).

Scandia of Salem's 4th Friday Dance, KOC, 8 P.M. For more info contact Sharon (503-364-6713, sharonmooree@attbi.com).

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Portland Country Dance Community

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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 2189, Portland, OR 97208-2189, 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 2189, Portland, 97208-2189. 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 late changes and/or cancellations may not be reflected. We encourage submission of letters and articles that might be 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.

PCDC Board meeting: December 20, 2005. Members present: Kim Appleberry, David Blanchard, Isabelle Zifcak, Hank Laramée, Jerry Nelson.. A progress report was given on the Contra Committee and the New Year's Eve Dance. The contents and future direction of *Footnotes* was discussed. The Board also discussed, but declined to organize a special dance for 2/1/06.

We publish the newsletter every other month and distribute it to members of PCDC and to other folk organizations. Membership is \$15 a year for individuals, \$12 for students and seniors (65+), or \$25 for 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. 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 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. Call any board member for further info.

The current PCDC board members are:

- Kim Appleberry (Volunteers) 503-293-1248
apple5@spiritone.com
- David Blanchard (Secretary) 503-239-6286
DKB@pacifier.com
- Rick Kimball (Treasurer) 503-588-8713
r_n_k@juno.com
- Hank Laramée (Community Outreach) 503-699-6971
hlft@quik.com
- Jerry Nelson (Chair, Footnotes, Website) .. 503-331-8991
Jerry@jerryandmary.net
- Melanie Wilson 503-293-2233
MW@macomb.com
- Isabelle Zifcak (English) 503-255-9119
izifcak@quik.com

- Mailing list & membership:* Sue Songer
503-293-1446 or songer@portcoll.com
- Contra dance booking:* Gordy Euler
503-289-8669 or euleromi@pacifier.com
- English country dancing:* Paula Hamlin
503-691-1758 or phamlin@easystreet.com
- Family dance:* Susan McGinn
503-231-0504 or web3cools@hotmail.com

CALENDAR • January-February 2006

www.PortlandCountryDance.org • www.kluberg.com/folknews.html

Note: Unless otherwise noted all contra dances begin at 7:30 P.M. with a 30 minute teaching session and all English Country dances begin at 7:30 P.M.

January

6th	(Fr)	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Elinor Preston	Music: Open Band w/Dave Goldman, Lori Shaffer
7th	(Sa)	Cats & Dogs Contra Dance at FCC Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC	Caller: Rick Goss Caller: Rich Kuras	Music: Unleashed! Music: Barnstormers
13th	(Fr)	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Erik Weberg	Music: Shoo-fly
14th	(Sa)	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. PCDC Family Dance at FCC Eugene Contra Dance at KMS	Caller: Adam Carlson Easy contradances with Merilee Karr & Doherty, Penk & Pinney. 5-7pm potluck afterwards. Caller: Erik Weberg	Music: George Penk, Heather Penney, Mick Doherty Music: Unleashed!
15th	(Su)	Sunday Waltz Brunch at NH	CD music by Dennis Myers	For further info: www.waltzeclectic.com
20th	(Fr)	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Mary Devlin	Music: Kathleen Towers, Sue Songer, Fred Nussbaum
21st	(Sa)	Portland Third Saturday Contra at FCC Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC	Caller: Elinor Preston Caller: William Watson	Music: Pied-a-Terre Music: Joyride
27th	(Fr)	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Nan Evans	Music: Fred Nussbaum, Erik Weberg, Dave Goldman
28th	(Sa)	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Eugene Contra Dance at KMS	Caller: Barb Kirchner Caller: Tim Gogio	Music: Red Crow Music: Full Moon
28th&29th		Richard Power's Waltz Workshop at NH		For further info: www.waltzeclectic.com

February

3rd	(Fr)	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Erik Weberg	Music: Open Band w/Paula Hamlin, Sue Songer
4th	(Sa)	Cats & Dogs Contra Dance at FCC Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC	Caller: Carol Peining Caller: Barb Kirchner	Music: Calico Music: The Nettles
10th	(Fr)	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Nan Evans	Music: Fred Nussbaum, Erik Weberg, Marjorie Millner
11th	(Sa)	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. PCDC Family Dance at FCC Eugene Contra Dance at KMS Winter Waltz Ball at NH	Caller: Elinor Preston Heidi Vorst teaches fun international dances and Sussefusse. 5-7pm potluck afterwards. Caller: Woody Lane	Music: The Nettles Music: Jigsaw
				For further info: www.waltzeclectic.com
17th	(Fr)	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Mary Devlin	Music: Erik Weberg, Lori Shaffer, Carl Thor
18th	(Sa)	Portland Third Saturday Contra at FCC	Caller: TBA	Music: Pied-a-Terre
19th	(Su)	Special Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC	Callers: Becky Hill & Woody Lane	Music: Lift Ticket & Full Circle
24th	(Fr)	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Nan Evans	Music: Betsy Branch, Mark Douglass, Fred Nussbaum
25th	(Sa)	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC. Eugene Contra Dance at KMS	Caller: Laura Me Smith Caller: Rick Goss	Music: George Penk, Sue Songer, Clyde Curley Music: The Nettles



Northwest Passage 2006

Preview

by *Dave Goldman, NWP Committee*

As we settle into the depths of winter, it's always reassuring to remember that seasons do change, and before long it will be . . . autumn! Yes, it's never too soon to start planning for PCDC's annual dance and music camp, **Northwest Passage**.

This year's camp, September 1-4, will feature great contra and English Country dancing led by **Brad Foster** and **Susan Taylor**, with the awesome music of **Hold the Mustard** and **Bag o'Tricks** (a.k.a. Tricky Brits)

We'll be telling you a lot more about this superb line-up in upcoming newsletters. For now, though, the big news is a way for you to jump to the head of the line and bypass the lottery for admission to camp.

Camp Namanu hosts occasional work weekends to maintain and improve its facilities. Volunteers receive free room and board for the work weekend, along with evening campfires. Upcoming weekends are March 3-5 and June 9-11.

If you volunteer for one of these work weekends, your admission to this year's Northwest Passage will be guaranteed. That's right — for you, no lottery and no waiting lists! Sign up in advance with **Rich Goss**, 503-327-6582, richgoss@comcast.net.

Megaband is on the March...

...For March

by *Susan Songer, Leader, Portland Megaband*

Already, at the time of this December writing, the **Portland Megaband** is gathering steam for its 10th annual local appearance and only performance anywhere this year. The 75-member dance orchestra will play the **March 11th** second Saturday PCDC contra dance with **Erik Weberg** calling. The event will be held at the spacious and comfortable Smith Memorial Ballroom at PSU (downtown Portland) with free parking in the structures across the street. Musicians begin practicing and attending weekly rehearsals in January so they can be in top shape for the big night. Instruments include: fiddles (more than 30), banjos, banjo ukes, mandolins, autoharps, accordions, flutes, whistles, clarinets, saxophones, hammer dulcimers, guitars, bass, harp, piano, and percussion. The band is open to any musician on any instrument at any level of experience and/or expertise, and band members run the gamut from highly accomplished to beginner. In the 9 years that the band has been playing, dancers have been delighted with both its energy and musicianship. All are welcome. No partner or dancing experience necessary to completely enjoy this unique and memorable contra dance. **March 11th, 8:00 pm** (7:30 workshop for newcomers) **Smith Memorial Ballroom at PSU; 1825 SW**

Broadway \$11 general public; \$9 PCDC and PFS members; \$8 seniors (over 65) and students.

Because of the immense popularity of this dance, not only with Portland dancers but also with dancers who come from all over the Northwest to attend, you may buy an advance ticket, which will insure you a spot on the dance floor and no waiting line to pay for admission. The tickets will be sold by mail order only. Look for flyers with order blanks at the local dances. In addition, *advance ticket order forms may be downloaded from the PCDC Web site and from the Portland Megaband web site.* Tickets will also be sold at the door for the same price as the mail order sales. We anticipate there will be plenty of room in the ballroom for dancers who prefer to buy their tickets at the door on the night of the dance.

For more information about the dance, call 503-293-1446 or 503-246-2219 or go to these Web sites:

www.portlandmegaband.com

or www.portlandcountrydance.org.

This is the annual **Dean Kenty Memorial Scholarship** dance with all proceeds going to the PCDC scholarship fund.

The Dean Kenty Scholarship Fund was created to fund PCDC members to attend dance and music camps and workshops. The scholarship fund is currently primarily funded by the proceeds from the annual Megaband dance, usually held the second Saturday in March.

RULES AND CRITERIA

1. The applicant must be a current member of PCDC, and must have been a member for at least six months.
2. The applicant must not have received a scholarship in the previous fiscal year. (Our fiscal year ends on May 31st.)
3. \$100 dollar scholarships are given to those applicants attending workshops/camps that are five days or longer. \$50 dollar scholarships are given to those applicants attending shorter events.
4. PCDC will not fund greater than 100% of any event, e.g. if the workshop costs \$35, we will give a scholarship no greater than \$35.
5. All PCDC members are encouraged to apply for scholarships.
6. Scholarship recipients are expected to give back to PCDC. This can be by participating in Megaband, performing volunteer work for PCDC, serving on the PCDC Board, serving on a PCDC related committee, calling at dances, playing music at dances, or other similar activities.
7. The PCDC Board must receive the completed *scholarship form* no later than two weeks prior to the event.
8. Scholarships are given at the PCDC Board's discretion. However, it should be noted that the PCDC Board has not, in recent memory, denied a scholarship except for the above reasons.
9. Suttle Lake Dance Camp work scholarships are handled entirely by the Suttle Lake Committee. They set their own eligibility rules, and define their own criteria for acceptance.