

Footnotes

Portland Country Dance Community · March-April 2009

Northwest Passage:

PCDC's Labor Day Weekend Dance & Music Camp

By Dave Goldman

For our first weekend at our new home, Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp, we're going to focus on contra, contra, and contra.

Punctuated perhaps by the occasional square, circle, or icosahedron.



Dancers will be hard-pressed to match the energy coming from this year's callers and musicians: **Susan Michaels, Nils Fredland,** the **Syncopaths**, and **Elixir**. That energy will be delivered by one of our

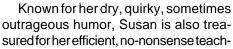
favorite sound enforcers, **John Oorthuys**, while *your* energy will be stoked by culinary impresario **Beth Gibans**.

As always, in addition to a full schedule of dance workshops and evening dance parties, you'll be choosing from a cornucopia of music, calling, and singing workshops.

Mark your calendars now for **September 4-7, 2009**, and keep your eyes open for the camp applications that will appear by early May in your mailboxes, at local dances, and at www.nwpassagedancecamp.org.

Susan Michaels

Susan has been calling contras, squares, and family dances for twenty years. She has toured extensively throughout the western United States and Canada, often as the featured performer at various dance camps and festivals.





ing style. Her goal at every event is to bring pleasure to the assembled dancers.

In her southern California "other life," Susan is an award-winning documentarian whose work can be seen regularly on The History Channel.

Elixir

Few contra dance bands these days feature a full horn section. After you've danced to Elixir, you'll wonder why! This exciting East Coast band combines musical innovation with awesome danceability. Elegant melodies evolve into raucous Dixieland horn riffs; transcendent harmonies, playful improvisations and rock, swing and reggae-inspired rhythms weave in and out of Irish, French Canadian and New England tunes.

The fiery, lyrical fiddling of Ethan Hazzard-Watkins draws

on his influences from traditional fiddle tunes, swing, blues, and classical music. From his Vermont home, Ethan tours extensively throughout the U.S. and beyond, playing at festivals and dance camps, and as an accompanist for singer-songwriters.

Clarinetist **Anna Patton** plays dance tunes with great verve, clarity and harmonic whim. She began studying

classical music on the clarinet at age fourteen, and has taken her training in eclectic directions. Besides playing for contra and English dancing, her repertoire includes Balkan music, Brazilian choros, and early jazz. Also a Vermonter, Anna has spent much of her life on tour in the States and abroad singing or playing for dancers, concert-goers, and pedestrians.



Jesse Hazzard-Watkins' trumpet-playing is a seamless fusion of keen musicality, skillful and accurate technical playing, and a clear and vibrant tone. Since childhood Jesse has pursued an ever deepening study of classical trumpet performance, culminating in a Masters of Music in 2007. Besides playing with Elixir, Jesse has wide experience performing in solo recitals, for religious ceremonies and weddings, as a member of chamber ensembles, and in large orchestra and band settings. Jesse lives in Northern Virginia.

Guitarist **Owen Morrison** grew up in Charlottesville, Virginia surrounded by great musicians, and it wasn't long before he wanted to join in the fun. He's now a full-time guitarist based in Nashville, though he's frequently on the road playing for dances, concerts, parties and weddings. He plays flat-pick and rhythm guitar as well as mandolin for contra dances all over the country with several bands besides Elixir, including Airdance and Night Watch.

Trombonist **Nils Fredland** doubles as Elixir's resident dance caller, about which more next issue! Trained as a classical trombonist at Indiana University, Nils has tooted his horn in ensembles ranging from symphony orchestras to ska bands. Elixir brings all of his myriad talents together in one thrilling musical package.

[Next issue: Nils Fredland, the Syncopaths]

Open Mike Night Recap

The last PCDC open mike night on Jan. 31st was a truly participatory experience, with more than a dozen musicians on stage and eleven (!) different callers. Lots of variety, no disasters! The next opportunity to get up on stage and call or play for a dance will be Sat. May 30th. Be ready! – Editor

Contra Dance Pioneer Dies

By Norman Hale and Mary Devlin

Paul McCullough, a Northwest contra dance caller, software designer, stage manager, and lighting designer, died shortly after Christmas 2008 at

his home in Ashland, Oregon.

Paul was instrumental in popularizing contra dance in Portland. After visiting dances in the Bay Area and realizing that there weren't many dances in Portland, Paul became serious about dance calling, and in 1986 he started the Third Saturday Dance. Originally at the Pass Club, the dance was moved to the Fulton Community Center several months later where it ran continuously under his stew-



ardship until 2001. When he started his dance, the hall rental was \$85 and admission was \$4. By 2001, the hall cost had climbed to \$250 and admission was \$7.

At around the same time that he started the Third Saturday Dance, Paul became familiar with the dances of legendary New England caller Ted Sannella and the two became friends". Paul remembers meeting "Uncle Ted" in the summer of 1986: "I knew of him because of the dances he had written so I signed up for the Lady of the Lake dance week. I met Ted and [his wife] Jean there, then two weeks later went to the Mendocino dance camp where Ted was also on staff. Jean always said she thought Ted took a liking to me from the start because I reminded him of one of his sons." Ted was a mentor for Paul: "I learned so much from him and because of him traveled numerous times to NEFF [New England Folk Festival] where I was lucky enough to dance and study with many of the great New England callers."

Paul has described his own teaching style this way: "I think that I always strove to explain a dance or figure with the fewest words possible. And I tried to arrange for the best music possible. I wanted the most fun for the most dancers possible." At the monthly dance in Portland, Paul worked most often with Jigsaw – Heather Pinney, George Penk, Clyde Curley, and Dan Compton. In 2001, Jigsaw and Pied-à-Terre took over the Third Saturday dance and they continue to run it today.

Paul gave up the regular dance to pursue his other love: theatre. He studied stage design and lighting at Portland Community College, and worked as a stage manager at Quintessence, Miracle Theatre, and Theatre Vertigo.

In 2007 Paul and his wife, Margie Davis, moved to Ashland where he was the stage manager for Camelot Theatre. Paul commented on their busy life in Ashland: "Despite all the activity, what we really enjoy are the simple pleasures of summer. We take walks around town and in the parks, read and gaze at the hills from the deck, play board games, drink wine with friends."

Paul was especially grateful to the Portland dance community. "After all, where would we be if there weren't so many folks wanting to dance? To all of you, a huge thank you!"

On a snowy night in early January, our dance community said good-bye to Paul at a memorial dance held at Fulton. Jigsaw and others supplied the music. Many of the dances were particular favorites of Paul's. The dance raised over \$500 for Miracle Theatre. If you would like to make a donation in Paul's memory, please send it to: Miracle Theatre, 425 SE 6th Avenue, Portland, OR 97214.

Joyride: More Mid-Week Fun

By Erik Weberg

The Joyride First Wednesday Contra Dance is getting better all the time thanks to the wonderfully joyful dancers who join us each first Wednesday. On March 4th we'll be playing and dancing to the able calling of Barb Kirchner from Boulder, Colorado. Barb has called at the Joyride dance before and always brings with her an arsenal of fun, along with efficient teaching, and the latest dances including some of her own compositions.

On April 1st (no foolin') Mary Devlin will call at the Joyride dance. Also a veteran of the Joyride stage, Mary brings with her a world of experience calling both American and English dances. We're all so happy to have such a pro right here in Portland, and calling our dance! We'll be smiling all night long.

Dances are held at Polish Hall (3832 N. Interstate Ave.) from 7:30 to 10 PM. This is a fragrance-free event, so please, no perfumes, colognes, etc. For more information go to www.kluberg.com/joyride.html or call 503-246-2219.

There's still time to sign up for...

The Portland Raindance!

An Urban Dance Weekend at Norse Hall

Friday April 24 to Sunday April 26

2 nationally famous callers! Steve Zakon-Anderson Cary Ravitz

2 incredible bands!
The Clayfoot Strutters
The Great Bear Trio

Workshops!
Beautiful wood dance floor!

Details at www.PortlandRaindance.org or call Kim Appleberry at 503-319-1717

Board Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Diane Hunt

January 5, 2009. Present: Kim Appleberry, Tim Gojio, Sarah Goss, Dave Hamlin, Diane Hunt, Chris Mullooly, Jody Wiser.

The PCDC Board welcomed Sarah Goss to the position of treasurer. Thank you, Sarah, for accepting the nomination. Signatories for the five PCDC bank accounts were updated and will be presented to the bank. The English committee announced that workshops will begin in January and run once a month through June. The board has decided to recognize these events as PCDC events, thereby resolving issues related to insurance coverage. The board voted to use the Dean Kenty Memorial Fund to cover any shortfall from these workshops and also authorized monies for the Contra Innovation Fund to cover contra dance promotion activities.

Kim reported that Raindance planning is in full swing with registration open, a website up and running, and talent contracts being drawn up. The board was reminded that every Raindance participant will pay full price to attend; no board or committee members get in free.

Dave Hamlin reported that the Northwest Passage Committee is planning a walk-through of the camp for this year's Labor Day weekend event to determine what is available for our use; they are also in the process of deciding what to offer in the way of work-trades for this year's camp. The board will consult a lawyer regarding the issues of insurance and employment as they relate to dances, workshops, special events, and dance camps. And finally, the board decided that the best way to inform dancers of cancellations due to bad weather would be to post them on the PCDC website.

Upcoming Special Events

April 3-5 Cascade Contras Dance Camp at Sky Camp near Lowell, OR. Contra dancing, waltzing, workshops, great food. Bands: Nightingale & The American Café Orchestra; callers: Nils Fredland & George Marshall. Cost: \$185.

April 3-4 <u>Spring Thaw</u> in La Grande, OR. Celebration of traditional music & dance featuring contra, cajun, waltz, English. Workshops, jamming, evening dances. Homestays available; optional group dinner. Cost: \$25. Info: www.neofs.us

April 17-20 Springdans NW in Seabeck, WA. Swedish dancing and music. Workshops, dances, food, lodging. Cost: \$300. Info: www.skandia-folkdance.org

April 24-26 Portland Raindance. Urban contra dance weekend with workshops & dances. Bands: Clayfoot Strutters, Great Bear Trio; callers: Steve Zakon-Anderson, Cary Ravitz. Cost: \$130. Info: www.PortlandRaindance.org

May 1-3 Camp Westwind on the Oregon Coast near Lincoln City. Dance and music camp sponsored by the Salem Folklore Community, featuring camper-run workshops & dances. Also: jamming, hiking, playing on the beach. Vegetarian meals, rustic accommodations. Cost: \$105/adults; \$75/teens; \$60/age 3-12. For more information call Alan at 503-763-8901.

May 1-3 Cascadia English Country Dance Weekend in Seattle, WA. Workshops, dances, elegance, fancy duds, picnic on Sunday. Large band comprised of the NW's best folk musicians; caller: Tom Roby. Food & lodging not included. Cost: \$70. Info: www.paulbestock.com/cascadia.html

May 22-25 Northwest Folklife Festival in Seattle, WA. Extravagant, lively, busy, intense gathering of lovers of traditional music, art & dance. Perform, participate, perambulate. Cost: \$10/day suggested donation.

June 28-July 5 Festival of American Fiddle Tunes in Port Townshend, WA. Live, learn and jam with masters of North American fiddling traditions. Cost: \$495/tuition plus \$175-\$495/room & board.

— Editor

NW Passage Work-Trades

The Northwest Passage Camp offers several work-trade positions. In return for a essential camp tasks, a \$75 discount off their satisfaction of helping camp. Work-trade for minimal overlap with

Please contact Rich Goss at 503-327-6582 for more information.

Save the Date!!



Portland English Country Ball October 24, 2009 Dances led by Cynthia Stenger

Portland Megaband Dance

Saturday, March 14th, 8-11 PM Workshop for newcomers at 7:30

Smith Memorial Ballroom at PSU 1825 SW Broadway

\$15 general public; \$12 PCDC or PFS members; \$9 students & seniors over 65

CALENDAR • March-April 2009

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

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

March

1st	Sun	Waltz Eclectic Blues Fusion Dance at NH; 7-10 PM; DJ Dennis Myers; \$5				
2nd	Mon	Norskerunddansere: Scandinavian dancing to CD music every Monday 7-10 PMat FML; lesson 7:30-8:30; \$3				
4th	Wed	Joyride's First Wed. Contra at PH	Caller: Barb Kirchner	Music: Joyride		
4th	Wed	Zydeco Dancing to CD music every Wednesday 8-10 PM at PPAA; lesson 7:15; \$5 (live band 1/7; \$15)				
5th	Thu	Waltz Eclectic: waltzing to CD music every Thurs. at FCC 7:30-10 PM; \$5				
6th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Mary Devlin	Music: Open band w/ Fred Nussbaum & Barb Kirchner		
7th	Sat	Cats & Dogs Contra Dance at FCC	Caller: Mary Devlin	Music: Calico		
7th	Sat	Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC	Caller: Woody Lane	Music: Dave Hamlin, Keith Moe, et al		
11th	Wed	English Country Workshop at ROC	Leader: Mary Devlin	Music: Kathleen Towers, Sue Songer, Erik Weberg		
11th	Wed	Square Dance at People's Food Coop 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7-9 PM, live music & caller; Free!				
13th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Nan Evans (?)	Music: Jon Neff, Lanny Martin, Marjorie Millner		
14th	Sat	PCDC Family Dance at FCC, 5-7 PM	Caller: Maggie Lind	Music: (?)		
14th	Sat	PCDC Megaband Dance at PSU	Caller: Erik Weberg	Music: Portland Megaband		
14th	Sat	Eugene Contra Dance at CCS	Caller: Jana Rygas	Music: Skinner City String Band		
15th	Sun	Waltz Eclectic Brunch at NH w/ DJ Dennis Myers; lesson 10:30-11:30; dance till 2:30; \$7 (\$12 w/ lesson); snacks incl.				
20th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Dave Macemon	Music: Lanny Martin, Fred Nussbaum, Sue Songer		
21st	Sat	Third Saturday Contra Dance at FCC	Caller: Susan Petrick	Music: Jigsaw		
21st	Sat	Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC	Caller: Mary Devlin	Music: Joyride		
27th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Erik Weberg	Music: Jon Neff, Skay Lessley, Carl Thor		
28th	Sat	PCDC Contra Dance	Caller: Rich Goss	Music: Three Fingered Jack		

April

1st	Wed	Joyride 1st Wed. Contra Dance at PH	Caller: Mary Devlin	Music: Joyride	
3rd	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Cynthia Stenger	Music: Open band w/ Lanny Martin & Rick Piel	
4th	Sat	Cats & Dogs Contra Dance at FCC	Caller: Tim Gojio	Music: UnLeashed	
4th	Sat	Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC	Caller: Cindy Rakowski	Music: Full Moon	
5th	Sun	Waltz Eclectic Fusion Dance at NH; 7-10:30 PM; dance to recorded music (blues, swing, etc.); \$5			
10th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Mary Devlin	Music: Erik Weberg, Skay Lessley, Marjorie Millner	
11th	Sat	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Caller: Elinor Preston	Music: Cascade Crossing	
11th	Sat	Elegant Evening of Waltzes & Couples I	Dances in Eugene at CCS	Music: George Penk & Dave Goldman	
17th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Nan Evans	Music: Jon Neff, Sean Bolton, Fred Nussbaum, Dave Goldman	
18th	Sat	Third Saturday Contra Dance at FCC	Caller: Mary Devlin	Music: Django Amerson, Dan Compton, Fran Slefer	
18th	Sat	Corvallis Contra Dance at FirstCC	Caller: Drew Tronvig	Music: The Nettles	
19th	Sun	Waltz Eclectic Brunch at NH w/ DJ Dennis Myers; lesson 10:30-11:30, dance till 2:30; \$7 (\$12 w/ lesson); snacks incl.			
24th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Dave Macemon	Music: Full Circle (George, Fred, & Heather)	
25th	Sat	PCDC Contra Dance Cancelled Due to Raindance			
25th	Sat	Eugene Contra Dance at CCS	Caller: Woody Lane	Music: Nightowl	
26th	Sun	Special Post-Raindance Contra Dance at NH, 7-10:30 PM	Caller: Steve Zakon- Anderson	Music: The Clayfoot Strutters	
May					
1st	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Caller: Erik Weberg	Music: Open band w/ Maralyn Belgique and Marjorie Millner	
2nd	Sat	Cats & Dogs Contra Dance at FCC	Caller: Erik Weberg	Music: Calico	

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

CCS Cesar Chavez School, W. 14th Ave & Chambers St., Eugene FML Friendship Masonic Lodge, 5626 NE Alameda St, Portland

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

First Congregational Church (Gatton Hall), 4515 SW West Hills Road, Corvallis

FUMC Community Hall, 1166 NW Jackson Ave, Corvallis **KOC Knights of Columbus Hall,** 725 Shipping NE, Salem

NH Norse Hall, 111 NE 11th & Couch, Portland (1 block north of Burnside)

PFC People's Food Coop, 3021 SE 21st & Division, Portland

PH Polish Hall, 3832 N. Interstate Ave, Portland

PPAA Portland Police Athletic Association, 618 SE Alder St.

PSU Smith Ballroom at Portland State University, 1825 SW Broadway, Portland

ROC River Oaks Church, 1666 SE Lambert & Milwaukie, 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

dances at the discretion of the hired

band and caller.

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

PCDC Friday English Country Dance Series. Every Friday at BWT, 7:30 to 10:30 PM. 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, 8-11 PM, beginners' workshop at 7:30. \$8/ \$6 students & seniors.

PCDC Second Saturday Family Dance (Oct-Apr) fun dancing for kids and families. FCC, 5 to 7 PM, with potluck following.

PCDC Second Saturday Contra Dance, the longest continuously running contra dance in the state. FCC, 8-11 PM, beginners' lesson 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, Norse Hall. Lesson 10:30-11:15 AM, open dancing until 2 PM. Also: Weekly waltz, swing, latin, and other partner dance practice, Thursdays, 7:30-10 PM, Fulton Community Center, 68 SW Miles. Both dance locations in Portland.

Third Saturday Contra Dance is organized by Jigsaw. FCC, 8 PM, beginners' lesson at 7:30. \$8/\$6 students.

PCDC Fourth Saturday Contra Dance. FCC, 8-11 PM, beginners' lesson at 7:30.

PCDC Fifth Saturday Contra Dance is an open-mike session for callers and musicians. FCC, 8-11 PM, beginners' lesson at 7:30.

Dance is organized by the band Joyride with guest callers. October-June at Polish Hall, 7:30-10 PM. \$7/\$6 students w/ ID.

Cascade Zydeco Wednesday Dance. PPAA, 8-10 PM dancing to recorded music, lesson at 7:15. \$3.

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

Norske Runddansere Monday Scandinavian Dance. Friendship Masonic Lodge, 7-10 PM, ongoing lesson 7:30-8:30 PM, \$3. Website: www.norskerunddansere.org

Out of Town Dances

Astoria 1st Sat. Country Dance: Sept. through June at the Netel Grange, 8 PM. For more info contact Craig at 503-325-8207 or craig.holt@oregonstate.edu.

Bend 2nd Saturday Contra Dance: October through May at Highland School Kenwood Gym, 7:30 PM. For more information contact Kate at 541-330-8943 or katebeardsley@hotmail.com.

Corvallis 1st & 3rd Saturday Dances: Sept.-June at FirstCC, 8 PM. (Bring non-street shoes.) For more information, contact William at williamcallscontras@gmail.com.

Eugene 2nd & 4th Saturday Dances: Sept.-June at CCS, 8 PM. For more info contact Christie or Eric at enthurston@hotmail.com.

Hood River 2nd Saturday Dance: October-June at Rockford Grange, 7:30 PM. For more info contact Keith at 541-352-7550.

Scandia of Salem's 4th Friday Dance: KOC, 8 PM. For more info contact Sharon at 503-364-6713 or sharonmooree@comcast.net.

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

Check out PCDC's website: www.PortlandCountryDance.org

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PLEASE let us know immediately if your address changes. We get charged 42¢ 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 5th 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 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:

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