

Footnotes



Portland Country Dance Community -- July-August 2013

Time for Thank You's

Norse Hall, June 8. Carmen Doerge called the 2013 PCDC general membership meeting to order. Thanks were immediately given to the Contra Committee for arranging the exceptional intermission entertainment – the World Naked Bike Ride – which went right past Norse Hall.

Thank you's were given to PCDC volunteers:

Ed Lohr – Bookkeeper Rick Piel – Website Gordy Euler – Contra dance booker Laurel Thomas – Footnotes editor

Sue Songer, Betsy Branch, Erik Weberg, Gordy Euler – Megaband

Etienne Scott – 1st Thursday tune sessions Wade & Lynnetta Wisler – Family dance

<u>Current PCDC Board Members were introduced</u> and thanked:

Dan Cottle – Contra Committee rep, scholarships
Mary Devlin – Secretary, ECD rep
Carmen Doerge – Co-chair, NWP rep
Sarah Goss – Treasurer, co-chair
Jon Neff – Outreach, mailing list, membership
Lou Payne – Family dance rep

Lou Payne – Family dance rep Mike Voss – Mail coordinator

<u>Greg Jackson thanked members of the Contra and</u>
Raindance Committees:

Kim Appleberry
Dan Cottle

Candice Check Megan Emerson

Kate Heim Greg Jackson

Tina Tau

Standing in for Sue Songer, Carmen thanked the English Country Dance Committee:

Mary Devlin - PCDC rep

Nan Evans – Caller scheduling (retiring)

 $Kath leen \, Ferrell - Supplies/pot \, luck \, coordinator$

Peggy Hanson – Publicity

Sally Joughlin - Secretary

Howell Lankford

Dave Macemon – Treasurer

Sean Nolan - Musician booker

Sue Songer - Interim chair

Standing in for Cynthia Stenger, Carmen thanked the English Country Dance Ball Committee:

Cynthia Stenger (chair), Anna Gilbert (registrar), Dave Macemon (treasurer), Rebecca Robbins (Friday dance), Rick

Piel (website), Sharon & Corey Brown (decorations), Skip Morey (hall), Sally Joughin, (hospitality), Sally Stepath (Sunday brunch), Bruce Goldman (publicity), Susan Gere, Sally Joughin, Brian Carlson (refreshments), Janet Trygstad (volunteer coordinator).

Rich Goss thanked the Northwest Passage Committee:

Rich Goss (chair), Karsten Kelly (treasurer), Carmen Doerge (camp liaison, work-trade coordinator), Mary Devlin (talent coordinator), Dave Hamlin (registrar), Bonne Voss (publicity).

Board members serve 2 year terms. Dan Cottle, Carmen Doerge, Sarah Goss, Jon Neff and Lou Payne were elected to the PCDC Board by unanimous vote of the membership.

Carmen wrapped up the meeting by saying: "PCDC is an all volunteer organization. Please consider becoming involved in your dance community."

The meeting was adjourned; the dancing recommenced.

"Press close magnetic nourishing night! Mad naked summer night." Walt Whitman, "Song of Myself"

Northwest Passage 2013

PCDC's Annual Labor Day Weekend Dance and Music Camp

By Bonnie Voss

Northwest Passage Dance and Music Camp is filling up fast, but there are still spaces available, so get your registrations in quickly! Registration forms are available online at www.NWPassageDanceCamp.org and at local dances. You won't want to miss four days of wonderful music and dance in a beautiful setting on the slopes of Mount Hood.

This year we have two hot contra bands and two energetic callers to keep us happily dancing through an unforgettable weekend. The **Blue Ribbon Dance Band** featuring Rodney Miller, Sam Bartlett and Max Newman *and* **Lift Ticket** with Rex Blazer, T. J. Johnson, Russell S, Seth Houston, and Portland's own Betsy Branch will provide the music. **Kathy Anderson** and **Carol Ormand** will be calling exciting dances for us all weekend long.

In addition to many hours of great dancing, the weekend offers a variety of fun and fascinating workshops taught by our outstanding staff. Workshops for dancers include: "Contra Chaos," "Hey Mania," "Oldies but Goodies (squares)," and "Gender Benders" among others. Musicians will have lots of opportunities for playing and learning in sessions including "How to be a Great Band," "Fiddle Techniques," Rhythm and Movement," and "Improvising." And who will be able to resist workshops called "Mathematical Mysteries of Music" and

"Stuntology"? We will also have concerts, jam sessions, and open mike opportunities. You will find a complete list of the weekend's activities on our website. Don't expect to get much sleep as we fit about a week's worth of fun into four days!

Scholarships and Work-Trade Positions Available!

If you are a PCDC member, don't forget that you can apply for a scholarship to help you attend this great weekend. Information is available on the PCDC website at www.portlandcountrydance.org/files/Kenty.htm

Anyone attending can also apply for a work-trade position. In return for a few hours of help with essential camp tasks, work-traders receive a \$75 discount off their camp fee and the satisfaction of helping make Northwest Passage a great camp. Work-trade tasks are arranged for minimal overlap with scheduled events. If you have questions about the work-trade positions, contact Carmen at carmendoerge@comcast.net.

[Bonnie Voss is a member of PCDC's Northwest Passage Committee.]

Slumming in the 'Couve

By Laurel Thomas

Contra dancing at the Hazel Dell Grange in Vancouver, WA continues into the summer with two dances you won't want to miss. (Well, I won't want to miss at least one of them since I will be calling the dance!) On July 12th the band, Traditional Blend will play with Noah Grunzweig calling and on August 9th, Laurel Thomas (that's me) will call with one of Olympia's favorite bands, Cobbler.

Young Noah Grunzweig has called many dances in the Tennessee/North Carolina area and has been busy calling both contra and techno contra dances in the Portland area since moving to the West Coast. Traditional Blend is Arizonabased Bill & Patti Cummings who play Celtic, Old-Time, Cajun and Mexican (!) music with passion and a sense of fun.

Not so young Laurel Thomas has called in Portland, Bend, Corvallis, Eugene and Tacoma. Dancers appreciate her clear teaching, articulate calling and her ability to choose fun dances that have good flow. "My goal is to get the beginners up to speed quickly and then call dances that, while still being accessible (and maybe just a tad challenging!) for beginners,

are satisfying and fun for the more experienced folks in the crowd."

Cobbler is a delightful, powerful and highly experienced musical duo from Olympia. Young fiddler Jesse Partridge plays Celtic, New England, Quebecois and Appalachian tunes in his own "sweet/powerful/creative" style, backed by



"GuitarGeezer" Jay Finkelstein's solid rhythmic guitar.

As always, dances are held at the Hazel Dell Grange, 7509 Hazel Dell Ave, in Vancouver, WA. [Note to Oregonians: there is no need to worry about border searches, as they have been temporarily discontinued.] Dancing is from 8 to 11 pm with a beginners' lesson at 7:30. More info at: www.contravan-wa.org/

Dance Matters

How (Not) To Help Beginners

By Dan Cottle

My first *Dance Matters* column was a grab bag of dance advice which more or less said, "Be nice to each other." Not bad as an overall philosophy. Still, I would like to get into more depth on a topic that I mentioned in that first column.

I learned to contra dance in Massachusetts, where learning is a quiet process. Those cold New England dancers never talk to you during a dance. They certainly never told me how to do a ladies chain, or explained what in the name of God was happening in contra corners. They demonstrate the proper moves with their actions and leave the chatting for the breaks.

As a learner, I found this approach useful. The inside of a



contra beginner's mind is a scary place. They are trying to figure out any number of complicated things, such as "Why is that gentleman wearing a mini-skirt and where can I get one?" You don't want to add to this confusion.

I know you are dying to help out because you are a Portlander and that's just what we do, so here is one great way to help: ask a newbie to dance. Here's another idea: if you notice your neighbors are new, you can offer to swap partners with them. (Don't forget to

run this idea by your own partner first!) And don't worry about it if they say no, sometimes newbies like to stick together.

When you find yourself dancing with a newbie, you will be tempted to explain everything. Resist the urge. During the walk-through, it is important to stay quiet. Your newbie needs to focus on just one speaker: the caller. So what's your role? Practice your mime technique.

Make your motions slow and exaggerated as you demonstrate new moves so that your newbie has a chance to pick up on them. Don't skip ahead and anticipate the caller. The newbie is trying to memorize key words and match them to actions.

During the dance it's probably even more important to stay quiet. If you try to teach a move during the dance, you risk throwing off



not just your newbie, but the entire line. Remember the contra mantra: "Better never than late." Newbies already have perfectionist tendencies. Don't make it worse by insisting they do the moves to your personal standard. Contra is about iteration. They will get it in time.

Newbies are the life-blood of contra. We need to treat them well so they keep coming back. Make every effort to befriend them off the dance floor, but when it comes time to contra, zip your lips!

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



PCDC Board Meeting Minutes

April 30, 2013. Present: Dan Cottle, Mary Devlin, Carmen Doerge, Sarah Goss, Jon Neff, Lou Payne, Mike Voss.

The first small ensemble played for a first Friday English country dance (in lieu of an open band). Jon said that he played in it along with Sally and Ivan; Erik and Sue were the leaders. Jon reported that it went well.

Mary is working to set up a music workshop to be taught by Liz Donaldson (from Bethesda, MD) when she is here in September. It will likely be September 10th.

There were no applicants for the CDSS youth scholarship for Hey Days.

The Raindance weekend is just over and went well. Attendance may have been down a bit from last year. There will be a full report at the next meeting.

The techno contra dance at Norse Hall went well. Dan reported that people said they could see better this time, and that fewer people felt ill. Dan also reported that the revised contra committee charter is coming soon.

Flyers for the 2013 Northwest Passage Camp and save the date emails have gone out. Planning is underway for 2014.

Lou announced that Wade & Linetta Wisler are now organizing the family dance. The family dance will be included in the contra charter. A video was shot at the last family dance and it's very good. There is talk about doing some promotional excerpts, likely with Rob Hoffman doing the edits.

Scholarship requests have been coming in and being approved. The board affirmed that a simple majority is needed to approve scholarship requests. The new forms with revised amounts are in place.

Jon reported that membership levels are relatively steady.

There was a discussion about the policy of having a six year limit on PCDC committee membership and when the reckoning starts for those committees that are just getting a charter? The board agreed that if there is a committee member who is approaching the six year mark when the charter is approved, that person may have a one year extension if they would like to stay on the committee longer.

The board would like to rent some space for workshops and/ or dances at the Renaissance School's new quarters, however it was decided to wait until we can make sure the floor will be suitable for our needs. If it is, the board will offer a \$3000 prepayment for use of the hall (rather than paying as we go).

Carmen announced that the Dusk Till Done dance will be on June 8th at Norse Hall. The annual PCDC meeting will be held during the dance.

The next PCDC Board meeting will be June 17th at 6:30 pm at Sarah's house.

Remember the Ball!!

This year the Portland English Country Ball weekend will run from November 1-3. It begins with an evening pre-ball dance on Friday, continues with an afternoon rehearsal on Saturday and then The Ball on Saturday evening at the festive Oaks Park Dance Pavilion. The festivities wrap up with a brunch held on Sunday.

We will again have three pre-ball workshops so you can learn the dances that will be called at the ball. Workshops will be September 21, October 5, and October 19 from 2-4 pm at Christ Church in Lake Oswego. And as always, you are invited to come to join English country dancing every Friday evening from 7:30-10:30 at the Burlingame Water Tower Dance Hall.

For more information go to www.portlandcountrydance.org/Ball/SaveTheDate.htm or contact cynthiastenger at gmail.com

CALENDAR • July-August 2013

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.

July

Date		Dance	Caller	Music
5th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Dave Macemon	Open band w/ Marjorie Millner & Sue Gray
6th	Sat	First Sat. Contra Dance at FCC	Noah Grunzweig	Hands4 (Keith Moe, Fran Tewksbury, Rich Goss, Carl Thor)
12th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Nan Evans	Erik Weberg, Fred Nussbaum, Lisa Scott
12th	Fri	Contra in Vancouver at HDG	Noah Grunzweig	Traditional Blend (from Arizona)
13th	Sat	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Ted Hoddap	The Lanny Martin Revue (Lanny, Jon Neff, Kristen Falk, Sarah Goss, Lori Prime)
19th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Brooke Friendly	Erik Weberg, Jon Neff, Lanny Martin
20th	Sat	Third Saturday Contra Dance at FCC	TBA	The BFD (Betsy B, Fran, Dan)
26th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Erik Weberg	Lori Shaffer, Laurel Koran, Carl Thor
27th	Sat	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Woody Lane	Contra Rebels (Seattle)

August

Date		Dance	Caller	Music
2nd	Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Dave Macemon	Sean Nolan, Sue Gray, Sue Songer
3rd	Sat.	1st Sat. Contra Dance at FCC	Noah Grunzweig	UnLeashed!
9th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Mary Devlin	George Penk, Laurel Koran, Lisa Scott
9th	Fri	Vancouver Contra Dance at HDG	Laurel Thomas	Cobbler (Jesse Partidge, Jay Finkelstein)
10th	Sat	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Sue Baker	Mad Robin (Victor Fiore, Cecily Morris, Art Morris)
16th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Erik Weberg	Lori Shaffer, Sarah Goss, Alan Rutherford, Carl Thor
17th	Sat	Third Saturday Contra Dance at FCC	TBA	Jigsaw (George Penk, Heather Pinney, Dan Compton)
23rd	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at FCC	Nan Evans	Betsy Branch, Bill Tomczak, Fred Nussbaum, Lisa Scott
24th	Sat	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Gordy Euler	Carr Family Band
30th	Fri	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Cynthia Stenger	Sean Nolan, Tim Galloway, Marjorie Millner
31st	Sat	Northwest Passag	e Dance & Music We	eekend - No PCDC contra dance!

More Regular Portland Dances

Mondays	Norske Runddansere: Scandinavian Dancing to CD music at PH, 7-10 pm, lesson at 7:30, \$4
Mondays	Random Waltz: couples dancing to CD music at LB, 8:30-11 pm, open band last Monday of the month, \$5
Tuesdays	Tuesday Blues: blues dancing to CD music at LB, 8 pm to 1 am, lessons at 7:30 & 8:30, \$6
Wednesdays	Zydeco dancing to CD music at the Conga Club, lesson at 7:30, dance 8 to 10 pm, \$6
Thursdays	Portland Waltz Eclectic: couples dancing to CD music at FCC, 7:30-10:30 pm; Rhonda's practicum 5-7:30, \$5
Sundays	Square Dance at the Village Ballroom, 700 NE Dekum, 7-9 pm, \$7
3rd Sundays	Portland Waltz Eclectic Brunch: couples dancing to CD music at NH, 11:30-2:30 pm, lesson at 10:30, \$10 for dance, \$12 for dance & lesson; snacks included.

Upcoming Regional Events

7/26-28 Midsummer Madness in Springfield, OR. Contra dance camp on the McKenzie River (see page 2).

8/2-5 Orcas Summer Camp on Orcas Island, WA. Camper led weekend of dancing, music & outdoor fun.

8/18-24 Lady of the Lake Family Week in Coeur d'Alene, ID. Workshops in art, dance, music, singing. Swimming too!

8/30-9/2 Northwest Passage at Mt. Hood, OR. PCDC's own dance & music camp. Contras & squares, workshops, great food!

9/20-22 Chehalis Contra Dance Camp in Agassiz, BC. Contra dance camp in Canada w/ The Nettles & The Latter Day Lizards.

Dance Locations

BWT	Burlingame Water Tower Dance Hall, 8936 SW 17th Ave (between Spring Garden and Taylor's Ferry Roads) No street
	shoes permitted on the dance floor.
EL	Eagle Lodge, 4904 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland
FCC	Fulton Park Hall, 68 SW Miles (off Barbur, traffic light just east of Terwilliger) Please wear dance shoes!
GH	Gatton Hall, First Congregational Church, 4515 SW West Hills Rd, Corvallis, OR
HDG	Hazel Dell Grange, 7509 NE Hazel Dell Ave, Vancouver, WA
LB	Lenora's Ballroom, 615 SE Alder, Portland (waltzing 8:30 -11 pm on Mondays; www.randomwaltz.org)
MCC	Milwaukie Community Club, 10666 SE 42nd Ave, Milwaukie, OR
NH	Norse Hall, 111 NE 11th Ave (corner of Couch St.), Portland
OP	Oaks Park Pavilion, 400 SE Spokane Street (in Sellwood), Portland
PH	Polish Hall, 3832 N. Interstate Ave, Portland
PSU	Smith Memorial Ballroom @ PSU, 1825 SW Broadway, Portland

Regular Portland Dances

Unless otherwise stated, all dances are open to everyone — experienced or not, with or with-

out 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 \$9/\$7/\$6 for non-members/members/seniors & students.

PCDC Friday English Country Dance Fridays at BWT, 7:30 to 10:30 pm. Beginning in March 2013, first Fridays alternate between open band and small ensembles. For tune lists, current requirements for open band, and information about small ensembles, musicians should contact Sean.Nolan.public.@comcast.net

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

PCDC Second Saturday Family Dance Fun dancing for kids and families, Oct.-Apr. FCC, 4:30-6:30 pm. \$6/adults; \$5/kids; \$20/family max.

PCDC Second Saturday Contra Dance is the longest continuously running contra dance in the state. FCC, 8-11 pm, beginners' lesson at 7:30.

Portland Céilí Society Third Friday Dance (Sept.-May). Traditional Irish music, dance and drink at

EL, 8-11 pm, lesson at 7:15. Cost \$10/\$8 students & seniors.

Third Saturday Contra Dance. Organized by the band Jigsaw. FCC, 8 pm, beginners' lesson at 7:30. \$8/\$6 students.

Portland Waltz Eclectic. Waltz Brunch, 3rd Sunday of the month, Norse Hall. Lesson 10:30 -11:30 AM, open danc-

ing until 2:30 PM. **Also:** Weekly waltz, swing, latin, and other partner dance practice, Thursdays, 7:30-10 pm, Fulton Community Center, 68 SW Miles.

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.

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

www.PortlandCountryDance.org



Portland Country
 Dance Community

Norske Runddansere Monday Scandinavian Dance. Polish Hall, 7-10 pm, lesson at 7:30, \$4. Website: www.norskerunddansere.org

Out of Town Dances

Astoria 3rd Sat. Country Dance: Sept., Nov., Mar.-May at the Netel Grange, 8 pm. For more info contact Craig at 503-325-8207or craig.holt@oregonstate.edu.

Bend 2nd Saturday Contra Dance: October through May at Bend Boys & Girls Club, 7:30 pm. Note: there will be a 4th Saturday dance from Jan-Apr. Contact: webmaster@bendcontrdance.org

Corvallis 1st & 3rd Saturday Dances: Sept.-June at GH, 8 pm. For more information, contact williamcallscontras@gmail.com.

Eugene 2nd & 4th Saturday Dances: Sept.-June at Dunn, 8 pm. For more information contact dancecoord@eugenefolklore.org

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

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

Vancouver 2nd Friday Contra Dance: Hazel Dell Grange, 8-11 pm w/ lesson at 7:30. Info: www.contra-van-wa.org

Get weekly email updates about dances in the Portland area. E-mail <kluberg@kluberg.com> to be put on the list.

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 @JonNeff.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 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+), \$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. We are an educational nonprofit corporation and also an affiliate 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. Contact any board member for further info.

The current PCDC Board members are:

Other major PCDC volunteers are:

Contra dance booking: Gordy Euler 503-289-8669 or euleromi@pacifier.com Contra Committee Chair: Kim Appleberry 503-319-1717 or pdxapple@comcast.net English Committee Chair (interim): Sue Songer 503-293-1446 or songer@portcoll.com Family dances: Wade & Lynnetta Wisler 503-241-7898 or wadew@ocp.org Footnotes editor: Laurel Thomas 503-331-9197 or laureland3@yahoo.com Mailing list & membership: Jon Neff 503-245-2041 or jon@jonneff.net Northwest Passage: Rich Goss 503-927-7777 or richgoss@comcast.net Webmaster: Rick Piel web.guy@portlandcountrydance.org