

North Bay Country Dance Society
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HANDS FOUR



line art by Becky Hill

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH BAY COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

NPR FIDDLER TO PLAY FOR CONTRA!

We are fortunate to have legendary fiddler Frank Ferrel play for the January 9 San Rafael dance. Frank began fiddling at age 8, having inherited both his talent and interest from his grandfather, a traditional musician from Ohio and West Virginia. Frank played with Irish, French-Acadian and Canadian Maritime fiddlers in Boston in the 60's, a time when music greats were playing the local dance halls. Frank has since appeared on A Prairie Home Companion (and is included in their anthology recording "PHC Tourists"). He's performed with the legendary Celtic group The Boys of the Lough, has a CD in the Library of Congress's Select List of 25 Recordings of American Folk Music, and most recently played with acclaimed accordion player Joe Derrane. He's the music director of the NPR series Says You. Our own Charlie Hancock, on keyboard, will be appearing with Frank.

Frank will also teach a fiddling class and play a house concert on January 10. Visit our website or call Nanette Fynan at 707-569-0565 for more information. Thank you to the Country Dance and Song Society for bringing Frank to the West Coast.

VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

The San Rafael dance, orphaned by the departure of dance manager, Jeanne Bowman, has been adopted by a group of volunteer dance managers, working in teams. When you see them, be sure to thank Linda Howard, Alan Holbrook, Laura Rice-Hall, Merrie Sennett, Ann Brown & JohnMichael Seltzer for all their hard work. Helping hands are appreciated at all our dances.

IN MEMORIAM

We are greatly saddened to announce that Elizabeth Douglas passed away on December 1st, after a valiant fight with cancer. She will be remembered as a musician, caller, dancer and good friend. She created the Sebastopol contra dance. We will have a brief remembrance at the December 18 Santa Rosa contra dance.

THANK YOU RETA!

After 11 years of programming talent for our dances, Reta Lockart has decided to retire her post as programmer for the San Rafael dance. Thank you, Reta, for making such a success of this dance and for 11 great years of dancing to fantastic callers and musicians. Reta has been and will continue to be an asset to our dance community.

Susan Amato is the new programmer for San Rafael, and Craig Meltzner will program the Petaluma dance. We can look forward to more great music and talented calling.

NAPA DANCE TO END

A sad note from Celia Ramsay:
 With heavy hearts, Carlo Calabi and I have decided to close down the Napa Valley Contra Dance. Our attendance has been crashing and we feel it's time we accept fate. This comes after 25 years of dances in Napa. We want to thank Mike Fynan, Rosalie Towers, and Kathie Miller, who tirelessly drove over the hill to Tucker Farm Center to join us, and have filled in when Carlo and I simultaneously had other obligations.

A heartfelt thank you to Carlo for starting this dance in 1984. He managed us for 17 years, and has continued to do sound during the 8 years that I've managed the dance. We've rolled with many changes of venue, re-designs, and hiccups, and enjoyed every second of it. Thank you to all who supported us.

ODDS AND ENDS

'Tis the cold and flu season. Please follow common sense to keep from spreading germs. 1. Do not come to dances sick. 2. Wash your hands before dancing and at breaks. 3. Use the hand sanitizers provided at each dance. Be conscientious to keep yourself and fellow dancers healthy.

NBCDS is in need of help with maintenance of our website. We need a webmaster to update information on the website and a liaison to communicate the changes. The webmaster is a paid position and averages a couple of hours a month. The liaison is a volunteer position and requires mostly email communication. For more information email or talk to a Board member.

The Sebastopol Contra Dance is cancelled in January so that the floor in Wischemann Hall can be refinished. The dance floor will be beautiful and like new when we dance there again in February.



2009 NBCDS Board of Directors

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North Bay Dance Calendar: Winter 2010

NBCDS DanceLine: (707) 527-9794 • email: info@nbcds.org • www.nbcds.org

Regular dance admission: \$10 adults, \$8 members, \$5 Adults under 25 and FT students with ID, \$2 ages 6–17, under 6 free. Come a half hour early to every dance for a newcomers lesson.

English Country Dances (ECD) meet the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays from 2:00–4:30 pm at Wischemann Hall, 460 Morris Street, Sebastopol. For more information email jberger@sbcglobal.net

Key to Hall Locations and Contacts for Contra dances:

PET 1st Sun Petaluma Woman's Club, 518 B Street, Petaluma; 6:30 – 9:30 pm; 707-823-4982, tom@nbcds.org
 SRF 2nd Sat Marin Masonic Lodge, Lootens Place @ Fourth, San Rafael; 8:00 – 11:00 pm; 415-302-9503, andy@nbcds.org
 SRO 3rd Fri, 5th Sat Monroe Hall, 1400 W. College Ave., Santa Rosa; 8:00 – 11:00 pm; 707-566-9684, robweeks@sonic.net
 SEB 4th Sat Wischemann Hall, 460 Morris Street, Sebastopol; 8:00 – 11:00 pm; 707-569-0565, mnfynan@sonic.net
 UKI* 2nd Sat Ukiah Methodist Church, 270 North Pine, Social Hall; 7:30 – 10:30 pm; Ulla Brunberg-Rand, 707-467-0311; \$10
 * dances are not sponsored by NBCDS

Apple Tree Morris dancers meet weekly. Call or email for more information: 707-829-3478, kalia@sbcglobal.net



January

Sun 3	English SEB	Bruce Hamilton	Rebecca King (piano), Jon Berger (violin), Riggy Rackin (concertina)
Sun 3	Contra PET	Susan Petrick	Avant Gardeners: Laura Light (fiddle) (VA), George Paul (keyboard) (VA), Dave Bartley (mandolin, guitar) (VA), Jubal Creech (percussion) (NC)
Sat 9	Contra SRF	Susan Petrick	Frank Ferrel (fiddle) (Maine), Charlie Hancock (keyboard)
Sat 9	Contra UKI*	Lea Smith	Flashpoint: Howard Booster (fiddle), Jon Berger (fiddle), Rebecca King (piano)
Fri 15	Contra SRO	Karen Fontana	Celtic Junket: Pat Ryan (bass), Art Peterson (accordion), Jonathan Goodwin (fiddle)
Sun 17	English SEB	Alan Winston	Michelle Levy (violin, viola), Erin Vang (brass), Jon Berger (violin, viola)
Sat 23	Contra SEB	Dance Cancelled to refinish the floor in Wischemann Hall. See you next month.	
Sat 30	Contra SRO	Warren Blier	Raggedy Annes: Charlie Hancock (piano), Anne Goess (fiddle), Andy Eggleston (fiddle) CHALLENGING CONTRA DANCE - NOT FOR BEGINNERS.
Sun 31	English SEB	Dance Cancelled.	

February

Sun 7	English SEB	Mary Luckhardt	Laurie Reaume (piano), Jon Berger (violin), Dan Reynolds (double bass)
Sun 7	Contra PET	Tina Fields	Chris Knepper (fiddle, gadulka), Noel Cragg (piano)
Sat 13	Contra SRF	Chuck Galt	Driving with Fergus: Chris Knepper (fiddle, gadulka), Vince Wolfe (flute, whistle, bodhran), Lewis Santer (guitar, bozouki)
Sat 13	Contra UKI*	Nick Cuccia	Celtic Junket: Jonathan Goodwin (fiddle), Art Peterson (accordion)
Fri 19	Contra SRO	Tina Fields	Flashpoint: Rebecca King (piano), Jon Berger (fiddle), Howard Booster (fiddle)
Sun 21	English SEB	Sharon Green	Debra Tayleur (piano), Michael Siemon (concertina), Jon Berger (violin)
Sat 27	Contra SEB	Laura Smith	An Drochaid: Jonathan Goodwin (fiddle), Debra Tayleur (piano)

March

Sun 7	English SEB	Gary Thomas	Chuck Ward (piano), Janette Duncan (violin), David Barnett (winds)
Sun 7	Contra PET	Celia Ramsay	West Road: Laura Smith (fiddle), Darin Smith (cello, tenor guitar, fiddle), Kenny Blacklock (guitar)
Sat 13	Contra SRF	Mavis McGaugh	Swing Farm: Ray Bierl (fiddle), Charlie Hancock (keyboard), Steven Strauss (bass)
Sat 13	Contra UKI*	Ken Olcott	Janette Duncan (fiddle) and Friends
Fri 19	Contra SRO	Erik Hoffman	Ray Bierl (fiddle) and Friends
Sun 21	English SEB	David Newitt	Humus
Sat 27	Contra SEB	Susan Petrick	Contrazz: Ann Gilleran (fiddle), Pat Gilleran (bass), Jerry Pujal (guitar)

Contra dancing and English country dancing are easy, fun, friendly and inclusive. All dances are taught and prompted, and feature great live music. No experience is necessary; come alone or bring a friend. Wear comfortable clothes and low, smooth-soled, comfortable shoes. Scent-free dancing appreciated! New dancers are encouraged to come early for an orientation, and for simpler dances early in the evening. To see what contra dancing is all about before you attend a dance you can go online to http://www.contradance.org/html/what_is.php for video lessons.