

Newsletter of the North Alabama Country Dance Society

Established 1982

Group Affiliate, Country Dance & Song Society

December 2002

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NACDS home page: <http://secontra.com/NACDS.html>

December 7th:

Jane Ewing with Up In The Air

Atlanta's "Up In The Air" will play as our own **Jane Ewing** calls contras, circles and squares.

December 21st:

**Special Holiday Dance - featuring
Susan Kevra with Russ Barenberg and Friends**

See detailed info below.

The fine print: NACDS dances the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturdays of the month in the gym at Faith Presbyterian Church on Whitesburg at Airport Rd. in Huntsville. Come to the refresher workshop at 7PM, then dance until 10:30 for \$6 (\$5 for members, \$3 for teens.) Don't forget to bring comfortable shoes to dance in and please wear a name tag. Bring someone new to a dance this month!

Special Holiday Dance

Mark your calendars now for our annual Holiday Dance - Saturday December 21st at 8:00 PM. The cost will be \$8 per person (same as last year) and tickets will be sold at our dance on Dec. 7th. They'll be available at the door as well, but if you buy them early, you'll get TWO chances on our door prizes instead of one. What a deal!

Our caller for the evening will be the lovely and talented Susan Kevra. The music will be provided by the talented "Russ Barenberg and Friends," some of whom are also lovely. At press time, Russ's friends are purported to include:

James Bryan - fiddler from Mentone. He played and recorded for many years with Norman and Nancy Blake.

Rachel Bryan - guitar - James' daughter. Her straightforward assurance, solid rhythm, and wonderful appreciation of the tunes perfectly complement her dad's playing.

Mike Compton - mandolin from The Nashville Bluegrass Band. You hear him on the soundtrack of the film "Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?" and he spent the better part of the past year playing on the follow-up "Down from the Mountain" tour

Russ himself on guitar & mandolin. He was a member of the group "Fiddle Fever," with Jay Unger and Molly Mason. That group's recording of Ashokan Farewell was the theme for Ken Burns' "The Civil War."

Needed for this dance:

We'll need some volunteers to pull this dance off! The schedule for the dance, in terms of people and items needed, is as follows.

- Prior to December 21st we need folks who can donate items for a door prize or two, or who can arrange to get gift certificates for a restaurant etc.

If you can help in any of these ways, contact Carol Mebane - 883-7016 - ASAP!

- On Saturday the 21st, several people are needed to help decorate the gym. If you can loan or donate some greenery (wreaths and garlands) or other items to "deck the hall" bring them at noon.

If you have a poinsettia or three that you can loan us for the evening, bring them in the early afternoon, *or* as you arrive for the dance.

- In the mid-to-late afternoon, Faith is having their annual clothes for the homeless drive again this year. We will need a few folks to come to the church at 7:00 to help cart the donated clothing out of the gym, take down tables, set up the sound equipment and finish the decorations.

- Finally, we'll need a bunch of seasoned dancers to help with the beginners class at 7:30. New folks get to be good dancers by dancing with and getting tips from more experienced partners. We were all novices once, and patient, skillful people gently helped us over our rough spots and assisted us in reaching the lofty pinnacles of perfection where we dance now!

Admission for this dance: \$8.00.

Time: 8:00-11:00 P.M.

Beginners orientation at 7:30.

Blue Moon VI

... is scheduled for May 30 - June 1, 2003. Flapjack with Robert Cromartie calling. Preparations are proceeding apace. You can help - our next "steers" meeting will be in mid January.

You may join us or renew your membership (check date on mailing label) at any of our dances, or by sending \$8, payable to me at the address below. You will receive this monthly newsletter & 2 free guest passes, plus you and all your kin will pay \$1 less to get into each of our regular dances.

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Calendar

*Local events in **bold**; contact Bryan Walls (256 837-0656; bwalls@pobox.com) for more info.*

Dec. 6 (Fri.): Nashville: Chrissy Davis-Camp with Wild Hog String Band

NCD dances almost every Friday at the Woodbine Community Center, Burbank & Oriol, near I-440 & Nolensville Rd.

Instruction at 7:30, dance at 8:00. For more info, contact Chrissy (615-210-6808) or John (DanceFools@aol.com).

Dec. 7 (Sat.): NACDS dance - Jane Ewing with Up in the Air

Dec. 9 (Mon.) Knoxville: Beverly Smith calling with Danny Gammon & the Love Muffins

KCD dances Mondays at the Laurel St. Theatre (at 16th Street); for info: <<http://www.kornet.org/kcd/kcdsched.htm>>.

Dec. 13 (Fri.): Nashville: Jim Coode with Nashville Weather

Dec. 14 (Sat.) Chattanooga: - Charlie Harvey with This Band For Hire

CTDS dances 2nd & 4th Saturdays at All Saints Academy, 310 E. 8th St., downtown; 8-11 P.M.; \$5.

For info contact: Steve at 706-937-4991 or Claire & Bryant at 423-876-7359 or: <<http://conranooga.com>>

Dec. 14 (Sat.): Birmingham: Doug Singleton with Peavine Creek

BCDS dances 2nd Saturdays at the YWCA, 2300 3rd Avenue North; 7:30 \$8. Info: <<http://www.bamalong.com/bcds.htm>>

Dec. 16 (Mon.) Knoxville: Nick Boulet calling with music by Contra Amazons

Dec. 20 (Fri.): Nashville: Ed Wilkinson with TBA

Dec. 21 (Sat.): NACDS dance - Suasn Kevra with Russ Barenberg & Friends

Dec. 23 (Mon.): Knoxville: Donna Calhoun calling with music by Contraindicated

Dec. 27 (Fri.) Nashville: No Nashville Dance

Dec. 28 (Sat.): Chattanooga: TBA

Dec. 28 (Sat.): Birmingham - No Unplugged this month

BCDS Unplugged dances are held at the Unitarian Church on Cahaba Rd. near the Zoo in MountainBrook. \$3

Dec. 30 (Mon.): Knoxville: Vicki Herndon calling with music by Clearwater

Dec. 31 (Sat.) Birmingham: Susan Davis & Scott Russell with the Carter Laney Band - New Year's Eve

To get your dances on the schedule, e-mail us with the particulars by the 20th of the month. - Doug & Bryan

Upcoming Dance Weekends & Events

Winter Dance Week - Dec. 26, 2002 - Jan. 1, 2003 - John C. Campbell Folkschool, Brasstown, NC.

Our own Blue Moon VI - May 30 - June 1, 2003 - UAH University Center

Your dance related item could be gaining wide exposure here!