

Newsletter of the North Alabama Country Dance Society

Established 1982

Group Affiliate, Country Dance & Song Society

February 2003

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

February 1st:

Harry Delugach with Feet First

Our own **Chuck & Katrina Weber** and **Tom Green** return to provide the tunes as **Harry Delugach** calls.

February 15th: Archie Faulkner with Ed Baggott and Elsie Peterson

Celebrate the day after Valentine's with us when **Archie Faulkner** comes up from Birmingham to call for our dance. **Ed and Elsie** will play fiddle & piano to keep our feet moving.

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!

Steers Meeting Held

"The north wind doth blow, we almost had snow, and what did your steers do then, poor things?"

Well, we had a meeting at the Mebane's on January 16th. Carol's soup & corn bread warmed us up and we got a lot accomplished. See the article below.

This meeting was mentioned in the last issue, but hadn't been fully scheduled at press time. The time and place were negotiated via email thru our "nacds-steer" list. You can be on it by signing up at our web site. Find the URL in the masthead above.

By the way - we're called the steers because whoever shows up at a meeting is automatically a member of the informal "steering committee" of the dance group. It has nothing to do with neutered cattle.

Changes in what we Charge

While most of the business attended to at the steers meeting had to do with our next Blue Moon dance weekend, more prosaic issues were dealt with as well. Primary among them: finances.

The NACDS is a not-for-profit corporation. Our officers are all volunteers; no one is paid a salary. The group does have expenses though. We pay \$40 per night to rent the gym at the church. Our sound system equipment must be maintained - broken or worn out items are replaced. The callers and musicians who perform for our dances are paid as well.

Over the years the money we pay our musicians and callers has generally fallen behind the going rate. We want to make it worth their while to come and work 3 plus hours for us on a Saturday night. In order to pay a bit more, we need to charge a bit more.

Starting March 1, 2003 the cost of admission to the dances will increase by \$1 per person. The new rates are: \$7 for non-members, \$6 for members and \$4 for teens. Those 12 & below still dance for free. The last price increase was effective in July of 1999.

The cost of membership in the NACDS has been \$8 per year since at least the early 1990's. Effective March 1st, the yearly dues will increase to \$10 for individuals and \$15 for families. You may renew or extend your membership at the current rate until the end of February.

Dance Adventures

The night of the steers meeting, your editor returned home to find an email from a correspondent in the Nashville group informing us that Bela Fleck, well known musician and banjo magician, would be sitting in with Russ Barenburg & Friends (two fiddlers!) at their Friday dance the 17th.

Long story short: my son and I drove up the next evening, braving seven inches of snow in the Music City, and danced with the Nashville Country Dancers. Susan Kevra called, the music was great, and we got to hang out with Bela & Russ a bit during the break.

We were gently chided the Saturday at our Huntsville dance for not forwarding the announcement to the steers list & let everyone else know. I'm sorry. I was so surprised that the logistics of our excursion worked out in spite of everything, that it slipped my mind that I should have passed the email on. Mea culpa.

In other news: I went to visit the Rocket City Cloggers recently. They meet most Mondays in the Optimist Community Center on Oakwood east of 565 at 7 PM. There are lessons for beginners, and the performance group dances at several events each year. Check them out!

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.

Jan. 31 (Fri.): Nashville: - No Nashville Dance

Feb. 1 (Sat.): NACDS dance - Harry Delugach with Tom, Kat and Chuck

Feb. 7 (Fri.): Nashville: Nashville Old Time String Band Association with John Sharlet

NCD dances almost every Friday at the Woodbine Community Center, Burbank & Oriel, 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).

Feb. 8 (Sat.): B'ham: Susan Kevra with James & Rachel Bryan, Russ Barenberg & Mike Compton

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

Feb. 8 (Sat.): Chattanooga: Seth Tepfer with TBA - --> at Gorham's Bluff!

CTDS (usually) dances 2nd and 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://contranooga.com>>

Feb. 14 (Fri.): Nashville: No Friday Dance - Knoxville Weekend

Feb. 14-16 Knoxville dance weekend - Groovemongers & Robert Cromartie

Feb. 15 (Sat.): NACDS Dance - TBA with Ed Baggott & Elsie Peterson

Feb. 21 (Fri.): Nashville: Nashville Ceili Band with Chrissy Davis-Camp

Feb. 22 (Sat.) Birmingham: Unplugged - Open Mike calling plus you can sit-in & play

B'ham FoOTMaD Unplugged dances are held at the Unitarian Church on Cahaba Rd. near the Zoo in MountainBrook. \$3

Feb. 22 (Sat.): Chattanooga: TBA with Magic Truck form Atlanta

Feb. 28 (Fri.): Nashville: Nashville Weather with John Sharlet

Mar. 1 (Sat.): NACDS dance - Becca Impello with Tom Kat & the Fiddle

Mar. 7 (Fri.): Nashville: John Sharlet with the Wingates

Mar. 8 (Sat.): Chattanooga: Diane Silver (Asheville) with Up in the Air (Atlanta)

Mar. 8 (Sat.): Birmingham: Becca Impello with Flying Jenny - CD Release Party!

Mar. 14 (Fri.): Nashville: Jane Ewing with Nashville Weather

Mar. 15 (Sat.): NACDS dance - Blue Moon open calling with Bob, Cathy & Curt

Mar. 21-23 (Fri.-Sun.): Nashville: Playford Ball Weekend - English & Contra (50-50)

Mar. 22 (Sat.): Chattanooga: Jane Ewing with Feet First <- *Huntsville band and caller!*

Mar. 22 (Sat.): B'ham FoOTMaD Unplugged - Open mike calling & music

Mar. 28 (Fri.): Nashville - No Dance!

Mar. 29 (Sat.): NACDS dance - Seth Tepfer with Up in the Air

In Atlanta they dance on Fridays and Tuesdays - see <http://contradance.org>

In Knoxville they dance every Monday - see <http://www.kornet.org/kcd/>

In Memphis they dance 1st and 3rd Fridays - see <http://hometown.aol.com/horselovers/index.html>

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

Don't forget the CTDS dance February 8th at Gorham's Bluff near Pisgah, AL - 7:30 CST \$5

Knoxville's 29th annual dance weekend Feb 14-16 - see <http://www.kornet.org/kcd/flyer2003.pdf>

Nashville Playford Ball - March 21-23 - Susan Kevra with Bare Necessities - Cohn Center

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

Robert Cromartie - Flapjack - Seth Tepfer - Avant Gardners -- flyers available real soon now!