

nacds March 2007 news

Newsletter of North Alabama Country Dance Society • Group Affiliates, Country Dance & Song Society • Established 1912
http://www.nacds.com/NACDS/About • Linda McElisett, Editor • email: wncap@waynetel • (256) 594-8114



Twirls and swings and smiles all the way from South Africa



Young and young at heart enjoying extraordinary callers



Huntsville Calendar

- Huntsville dances are the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month in the gym at Faith Presbyterian Church, 5003 Whitesburg Dr., South, (corner of Whitesburg Dr. & Airport Rd.). Beginners Workshop is at 7:00 PM then the regular dance is from 7:30 – 10:30 PM.
- Admission is \$7 (\$6 for members), \$4 for teens, free for ages 12 & under.
Remember to bring comfortable, **non-scuffing shoes** for dancing. Bring someone new to a dance this month.
- Contact Bryan Walls (256) 837-0656 or email: bwalls@pobox.com or visit <http://secontra.com.NACDS.html> for more info.

Date	Caller	Band
March 3	Jane Ewing	Maple Hill
March 17	Jef Hodge, Birmingham	Wolves A Howlin'
April 7	Harry Delugach	Ed Baggott & Elsie Peterson
April 21	Nick Boulet, Knoxville	Kaleidoscope



Area Dance Gypsy Calendar

Date	Location	Caller	Band
March 23	Sewanee 8 pm CST	Vicki Herndon	Kaleidoscope
March 2	Nashville	John Sharlet	Linda Anderson, Frances Cunningham & Bill Verdier
March 3	Nashville (Breakin' Up Winter Dance) Cedars of Lebanon State Park	Chrissy Davis-Camp	Old Time bands
March 9	Nashville	Janet Shepherd	Ed Baggott & Elsie Peterson
March 11	Nashville (English at Friends Meeting House 4-6:30 PM)	Kendal Broadie	Calliope
March 16-18	Nashville (Playford Ball Weekend – with Friday night being mostly contra dances)	Scott Higgs	Daron Douglas, Karen Axelrod & Daniel Beerbohm
March 23	Nashville	Dwayne Johnson	Cumberland Tenderfoots
March 30	Nashville	Chrissy Davis-Camp	The Contrarian Ensemble
March 10	Birmingham Workshop & Dance	Steve Gester & Jef Hodge	Jerry's Kids & Flying Jenny
March 10	Chattanooga	Rob Harper	Fiddlin' Bob & Banjer
March 24	Chattanooga	Doug Singleton	Peavine Creek
Mar 30-Apr 1	Chattanooga 07 (Dance Weekend)		

FoOTMaD (Birmingham) dances 2nd Saturdays at the YMCA, 3rd Ave & 23rd St, 7:30 PM. <http://www.bamalong.com/bcds.htm>.

CTDS (Chattanooga) dances 2nd & 4th Saturdays at All Saints Academy, 310 E. 8th St., downtown, 8:00 PM.

Contact Steve at (706) 937-4991, Claire & Bryant at (423)876-7359 or <http://contranooga.org>

Misty Mountain Dancers (Sewanee, TN) dances at the Legion Hall in Sewanee, TN. For details, call (931) 598-0814 or check <http://mistycontra.zoomshare.com/>

NCD (Nashville) dances almost every Friday at 8:00 PM at **NEW LOCATION** -- Second Presbyterian Church on Belmont Blvd one block south of Woodmont – on the corner of Graybar. Sept 8 at Cohn Adult Education Center, 4805 Park Ave.

Contact Chrissy at (615) 210-6808 or John, email: DanceFools@aol.com or <http://dancenashville.org/>

Flat Creek dances – 2 & 4th Tues, Flat Creek Community Center – seven miles south of Shelbyville, TN. <http://www.nashvilleoldtime.org/Dances/flatcreekcontradances.htm>

A Bit Farther Away, But Well Worth The Travel

CCD (Atlanta) dances on Fridays & alternate Tuesdays. <http://contradance.org>

KCD (Knoxville) dances every Monday. <http://www.kornet.org/kcd/>

MCD (Memphis) dances on the 1st & 3rd Fridays. <http://hometown.aol.com/horselovers/index.html>

Sautee Community Dances (N. GA) once a month from Sept – May. <http://sauteecontra.home.mindspring.com/>

Getting To Know You

Eddy J. Burks & Barbara Grigsby

Eddy is a professor at Troy University. He has two sons that he has recently been bringing to our dances. He enjoys reading, bicycling and running.

Eddy especially enjoys dancing and meeting new people at the dances. He just began contra dancing in June of 2006 and enjoyed it from the beginning. He also enjoys ballroom, swing, and country dancing. With that big smile surely he is a hit at any dance he attends.



Barbara Grigsby is a librarian at Athens State University. Like Eddy, she also enjoys bicycling and reading. When she first began contra dancing in June of 2006, she thought it was fun and said, “You can’t help but smile when you’re doing it.” And again like Eddy, her smiles are contagious at our contra dances.

Barbara says that she played drums in high school and can also play the piano a “little.” She wants to take ballroom dance lessons in the future.

Contra Dance Tips & Courtesies

- 1. As lines are forming for a dance, you and your partner join in at the bottom of the line or set. It is not considered good “contra etiquette” to jump in the middle or front of a set.**
- 2. Dance with newcomers and help newcomers. They will feel more welcome and become confident dancers much faster if they have opportunities to dance with experienced dancers. (Remember your first few dances?)**
- 3. Have fun! Don’t worry about mistakes – but do learn from them.**
- 4. Listen to the caller....especially during the “walk through.” If you know the dance, still listen because others need to hear.**
- 5. Have a firm hand grip but don’t squeeze hands (arthritis – ouch). It is also advisable to leave big rings at home.**
- 6. Changing partners is customary and it is okay for gals to ask guys to dance. It’s also okay for either gender to dance the other gender’s role if there is an imbalance of men and women.**
- 7. Eye contact with your partner is important.**
- 8. Give weight. Hold your arms firm but flexible and be careful not to jerk anyone. Guys, when you swing a gal give support with your hand placed firmly on the center of her back. Dancing is not wimpy but is strong and graceful.**
- 9. Listen to the music. Basically, all dance moves take four or eight counts. Once you learn the sequence of dance moves you can easily see and hear how it fits with the music.**
- 10. Timing is important! Finish a move or a swing on time. If you miss a move don’t try to make it up – just skip it for that set.**

A Note From the President

We now have flyers for the Blue Moon Dance Weekend, May 18-20! Some were taken to the Knoxville dance weekend to share with our dancing friends there, and they will be available at our dance on Saturday. Bryan also is working on updating our website to include information for the Blue Moon Weekend.

Now - There are many other activities that must happen to make our dance weekend successful: advertising, making buttons, mailing out flyers, planning decorations, etc., etc. If you would like to get in on the fun of putting on a party for 150 of your dancing friends, we will have a meeting to kick off the home stretch.

When: 5 pm, March 3rd at Faith Presbyterian Church

Where: well, the gym . . . before the dance

You were planning on being at the dance anyway, weren't you? Just show up a little earlier and get to know your friends and work on the show. Ever wanted to be a roadie? Like to plan meals? Enjoy decorating? Wondered how buttons are made? Tired of hearing me say things like this and just want to help with the weekend? Yes! Yes!

See you March 3rd!

- mark

North Alabama Country Dance Society
4304 Holmes Ave, NW, Huntsville, AL 35816
Address Correction Requested



Send just \$10 for one, or
\$15 per family, to the address above.

Make checks payable to NACDS.
(mailing label shows renewal date)

Members receive monthly newsletter,
2 guest passes, and a \$1 DISCOUNT to
each regular dance!