

OUR READERS WRITE

Estômago Vazio from Sao Paulo asked, "What happened to the cozido à portuguesa I brought to eat during the break last week? I came out to get a drink of water before the break, and my platter was empty!"

We don't know where it went, *Estô*, but we guess some non-dancers couldn't wait for the break, or that some dancers needed a snack to keep up their strength for the first waltz. We deal with this by leaving the snacks we bring under our seat or in the car until break time.

On a related note, *Lauge Schnorrer* from Brooklyn asked, "Hey, I'm really hungry at break time, and there's never any good snacks. Who's in charge of bringing food?"

The food on the table at break is donated by your fellow dancers, Lauge. I read an interesting article a couple of weeks ago that reported on research into the correlation between wealth and happiness. It's not surprising to learn that wealthier people are generally happier. But quantifying this relationship has bedeviled researchers for centuries – for example, the wealthiest are not necessarily the happiest. A very simple recent experiment seems to finally reveal a direct, concrete connection between wealth and happiness; the more you give away, the happier you will be. Bring some food and share it with others from time to time, Lauge!

Fiore della Parete from Genoa asked, "After each dance, I sit in my seat and smile sweetly to all of the dancers leaving the floor, but no one ever asks me to dance! Am I doing something wrong?"

Oh *Fiore*, you've got to try harder than that! At least once each dance, I try to walk over to the side of the floor and ask someone who sat out the last dance to dance the next dance with me – but it often takes me two or three tries, because others stop me along the way and ask me to dance before I get there. That's the way to do it – don't be shy! Ask someone to dance. And do it quickly!

ATTEND BLUE MOON FOR FREE!

(Some restrictions apply)

We are still looking for two students to help set up on Friday and take down on Sunday for the Blue Moon dance, along with sweeping the floor when necessary, running errands, and helping with setting up and serving Saturday's lunch.

If you are interested, or if you know someone who might be interested in this opportunity for two working scholarships, or if you would like more information on the scholarships please contact Natasha Kunin or any of the NACDS board members.



HUNTSVILLE CALENDAR

• Huntsville dances are the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month in the gym at Faith Presbyterian Church, 5003 Whitesburg Dr., (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!

• For more info Contact Bryan Walls (256) 837-0656 or email: bwalls@pobox.com or visit <http://secontra.com.NACDS.html>

APRIL 5 : HUNTSVILLE

CALLER — VICKI HERNDON
BAND — KALEIDOSCOPE

APRIL 19 : HUNTSVILLE

CALLER — GARY NELSON
BAND — ED BAGGOTT AND ELSIE PETERSON

AREA DANCE GYPSY CALENDAR

APRIL 4 : NASHVILLE

CALLER — CHRISSY DAVIS-CAMP
BAND — CUNNINGHAM, ANDERSON, VERDIER, WOLFE

APRIL 8 : FLAT CREEK

CALLER — CHRISSY DAVIS-CAMP
BAND — JIM & INGE WOOD WITH VARIOUS & SUNDRY

APRIL 11 : NASHVILLE

CALLER — KENDAL BROADIE
BAND — SMALL TIME STRING BAND

APRIL 12 : BIRMINGHAM

CALLER — JEF HODGE
BAND — FLYING JENNY

APRIL 12 : CHATTANOOGA

CALLER — ROB HARPER
BAND — NASHVILLE WEATHER

APRIL 13 : NASHVILLE COUNTRY DANCERS

4-6:30 PM AT FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE; FOR DIRECTIONS
GO TO DANCENASHVILLE.ORG
CALLER — SUSAN KEVRA
BAND — CALLIOPE

APRIL 18 : NASHVILLE

CALLER — VICKI HERNDON
BAND — CALLIOPE

APRIL 22 : FLAT CREEK

CALLER — CHRISSY DAVIS-CAMP
BAND — JIM & INGE WOOD WITH VARIOUS & SUNDRY

APRIL 25 : NASHVILLE

CALLER — JOHN SHARLET
BAND — CHRISTIANSON, COMBS, BRYAN, CUNNINGHAM

APRIL 25 : SEWANEE

CALLER — EMME (FLORIDA) AND KRISTIN (CANADA)
BAND — KALEIDOSCOPE

APRIL 26 : CHATTANOOGA

CALLER — VICKI HERNDON
BAND — CUNNINGHAM AND LYNDA ANDERSON

APRIL 27 : BIRMINGHAM

CALLER — BECCA IMPELLO
BAND — SONS OF ANAK

MAY 16-18 : HUNTSVILLE BLUE MOON 11

CALLERS — JOSEPH PIMENTEL, CIS HINKEL
BANDS — HOTPOINT STRINGBAND, ED & ELSIE

FoOTMaD (Birmingham) dances 2nd Saturdays and 4th Sundays 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://contranooaga.org>

Misty Mountain Dancers (Sewanee, TN) dances at the Legion Hall in Sewanee, TN, 8:00 PM. For details, call (931) 598-0814 or check <http://mistycontra.zoomshare.com/>

NCD (Nashville) dances almost every Friday at 8:00 PM at Second Presbyterian Church on Belmont Blvd one block south of Woodmont – on the corner of Graybar.

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/flatcreekcontra_dances.htm

MARCH NACDS STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was held at the home of Carol Mebane.

Jane motioned that the minutes of the January meeting be accepted. Bryan seconded the motion.

Treasurer's report – Jane reports that we have had larger crowds recently and are finishing in the black. Jeff found a good deal on a wireless mike set up for the group. Jane polled steering committee members at the February 2nd dance. NACDS agreed to reimburse him at cost.

Jane also reported that attendance has been up since the news paper article a month ago. We are now having over 100 people per dance. We are also getting a larger number of returning first timers. Response to the dance survey is good. The last three dances have made a profit.

Jane reminded us that we need to be sure to dance with new people and make them feel welcome.

Mark motioned to accept the treasurer's report. Natasha seconded.

Blue Moon - Steve mentioned that in the past we have had Pat Camp come to work the sound board during the Blue Moon weekend so that our sound guys can enjoy the weekend. Jane made a motion that we again hire Pat and Jerry seconded. The motion carried. Steve offered to contact the Camp's and see if they were interested. Carol asked if Hot Point has a sound system diagram. It will be helpful for set up if we can get one.

On the issue of scholarships for the weekend, no board member has been approached. We need to work on finding interested parties. It was suggested that we advertise in the newsletter.

We also need a volunteer to act as housing director for the dance weekend. The basic job consists of coordinating information on the different types of housing and to be at sign-in to assist dancers with location of dorms and/or introducing house guest to home owners.

Responses to the new dancer survey indicate that people are having trouble finding the way in to the hall. It was suggested that we put a new sign out by the top of the wall at the parking lot. Doug will try to make an announcement encouraging people to dance and not sit out, and mentioning that water and snacks are available in the lobby.

Production – Doug Roth - Bands and callers are committed for dances through June, 2008.

Jane motioned for the meeting to be adjourned. Kevin seconded it.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire B. Davies, Secretary.



GET CONNECTED, STAY CONNECTED

Visit the NACDS web site:

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

There is an announcement list for everyone and a Yahoo Group discussion list for those more involved. E-mail nacds@pobox.com if you'd like to be on either.

Yahoo group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NACDScontraCommunity/>



**North Alabama Country Dance Society
162 White Elephant Road Grant AL 35747**

Address Correction Requested

**Please Join Us!
Or Renew Your Membership!**

*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!*