

Newsletter of North Alabama Country Dance Society • Group Affiliate, Country Dance & Song Society • Established 1982  
<http://secontra.com/NACDS/html> • Linda McAllister, Editor • email: [wmca@hiwaay.net](mailto:wmca@hiwaay.net) • (256) 534-8354

## Dancing Feet

All Sizes

All Types

Representing All People

*The feet may learn the steps but only the spirit can dance. -Anonymous*



***Dancing is like dreaming with your feet. -Constanze***

***Dancing is the poetry of the foot. -John Dryden***



***Dancing with the feet is one thing, but dancing with the heart is another.***



***Football isn't a contact sport; it's a collision sport.***

***Dancing is a contact sport.***

***-Vince Lombardi***

# Getting To Know You

## *Mary Ellen Sandridge*

Mary Ellen is a veteran public school art and photography teacher. She has a son who is a student at UAH. Her hobbies include photography, horses, Bible study and whining (her words). When asked if there was anything unusual about herself



that she would like to share, she said, "Yes, I'd like to be less unusual. Also, I'm half French and one of Jehovah's Witnesses: two things that would

not endear me to our current US President."

She has been dancing since the mid eighties when Huntsville dances were held at the church on the Burritt Museum property. "I love dancing – sometimes it feels like flying. I feel so free." She enjoys English country dancing also and many other forms of dancing but she does mention that many other types of dances need to be practiced with a partner regularly. She laughs and says that one of her first impressions was that it looked like fun and "guys liked my rough hands."

Mary Ellen's enthusiasm and energy always bring new life to any dance.

## *Bonnie Tondera*

Bonnie is the retired director of nursing at Huntsville Hospital and has been one of the grand dames in care giving here in Huntsville for many years. She has a husband, Steve, who is a retired engineer and gentleman farmer. They have three grown children and five grandchildren. Bonnie has a love for hiking, traveling, gardening, and wildflower photography. These interests spurred her to compile and co-publish a book in 1987 – *Wildflowers of North Alabama*.

Bonnie has only been contra dancing three

years but she was very impressed with the friendliness of the group and everyone's willingness



to help beginners. She also enjoyed contra dancing because there were no "slow" dances. "Growing up in Colorado, we had Saturday night dancing at the VFW and there was always a slow dance and then a fast one. I did not like the slow dances," she says. Bonnie does enjoy at least two other kinds of dancing though – the jitterbug and western swing. Her genuine smile and compassionate spirit are always welcomed at dances.

### **Flat Creek Contra Dance**

Jim & Inge Wood played for a NACDS dance recently and wanted to make everyone aware of their dances at Flat Creek Community Center – 7 miles south of Shelbyville, TN. They dance on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays from 7-9 pm with Chrissy Davis-Camp calling and 15-25 pickers providing the music. Dancers and pickers are welcome. Check out their Web site for more details.

<http://www.nashvilleoldtime.org/Dances/flatcreekcontradance.htm>

# Huntsville Calendar

Huntsville dances are the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:bwalls@pobox.com) or visit <http://secontra.com.NACDS.html> for more info.

Date	Caller	Band
Feb 4	Jane Ewing	Ed Baggott & Elsie Peterson
Feb 18	Harry Delugach	Maple Hill
March 4	Adina Gordon	Crosstown Traffic
March 18	George Snyder	Kaleidoscope – Chuck & Katrina Weber, Mike Bush



## Area Dance Gypsy Calendar

Date	Location	Caller	Band
Feb 11	Birmingham	Jeff Hodge	James & Rachel Bryan, Bill Martin
Feb 24	Sewanee	Adina Gordon	Kaleidoscope
Feb 3	Nashville	Chrissy Davis-Camp	Nashville Weather
Feb 10	Nashville	Emma Rushton	The Wingates
Feb 17	Nashville	Ed Wilkinson	Frances Cunningham & David Coe
Feb 19	Nashville (English at Friends Meeting House)	Susan Kevra	Calliope
Feb 24	Nashville	Kendal Broadie	Calliope
Feb 11	Chattanooga	Doug Singleton	Peavine Creek
Feb 25	Chattanooga	Adina Gordon	Mountain Creek Boys
Feb 14	Flat Creek, TN	Chrissy Davis-Camp	Jim & Inge Wood +

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

**CTDS (Chattanooga)** dances 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays at All Saints Academy, 310 E. 8<sup>th</sup> 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://www.mistycontra.zoomshare.com/0.htm>

**NCD (Nashville)** dances almost every Friday at 8:00 PM at University School.

For directions, contact Chrissy at (615) 210-6808 John, email: [DanceFools@aol.com](mailto:DanceFools@aol.com) or <http://dancenashville.org/>

**Flat Creek** dances - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, Flat Creek Community Center <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 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays. <http://hometown.aol.com/horselovers/index.html>

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



## NACDS

North Alabama Country Dance Society

4304 Holmes Avenue, 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!

## NACDS 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Moon Dance Weekend

May 19-21 on UAH Campus

*Featuring*

### **The Latter Day Lizards**

...A New England based dance band with a wide-ranging eclectic repertoire. Peter Barnes is on piano, guitar and flute, Bill Tomczak on clarinet, sax and drum and Dave Langford on guitar and fiddle. They will bring excellent musicianship, playfulness, drama and infectious rhythm to Blue Moon.

### **Becky Hill**

...of Ohio calls frequently at workshops and dance camps around the country and she is the author of several books of contra dances. She will call unique and traditional dances with ease and flare. She is an experienced caller of intergenerational dances.

### **The Evil Twins**

...are Laurie Fisher of Asheville on piano, drums and fiddle and David Knight of Washington D.C. on fiddle. They are each in demand in other bands as well. Their playful Scottish and Celtic sounds will keep you smiling as you enjoy the high energy music.

### **Barbara Groh**

...of Asheville is known for her smooth style, clear teaching and collection of interesting dances that will help you achieve Contra Nirvana. She has been immersed in traditional music and dance for three decades and calls frequently along the East Coast.