

## What Kind Of Dancer Are You?

by Harry Delugach

In my years as a dancer, musician, and caller, I've noticed some characteristics of dancers and their attitudes. I thought I'd share some of them with you. All quotations and events are the product of the author's imagination. Any resemblance to real dancers is entirely coincidental.

### -- Attitude 1

I love to dance. I can do whatever I want, whenever I want, and no one cares. I can jump around, twirl like crazy, even fall down, and everybody loves it. Everyone is so accommodating. I can express myself and everyone loves the way I dance.

### -- Attitude 2

I'm very experienced and know all the moves. They go the same way every time. It's supposed to be exactly this way. I like doing it exactly this way. Every time. No matter what the music is or who my partner is, this is the way I'm going to do it. I get a real sense of comfort from this. I've always done it this way. And that's that.

### -- Attitude 3

Dance? What dance? Is this a dance? Are these the steps? What's going on? I'm so confused....

### -- Attitude 4

I've been coming to these dances for years. When I first started, I felt really self-conscious and awkward, but people said, "Don't worry, just relax and enjoy yourself." Right away I felt better. This stuff is really easy to do. I don't even have to try anymore, it just happens. If I'm in the wrong place, people gently push me where I need to go. It's so nice not having to really think or anything.

### -- Attitude 5

I don't pay much attention to the music; it always sounds the same, from song to song and from week to week, anyway. I've heard there are different bands, but I never really notice. It's all good.

### -- Attitude 6

When I want to twirl you, you're going to twirl. That's it, don't argue!

### -- Attitude 7

When I want to be twirled, I'm going to twirl. Don't argue!

### -- Attitude 8

There are never enough people at the greeting table or taking care of the water. They even asked ME to help!

### -- Attitude 9

I am a great dancer, better than most everybody else here. I enjoy the dances, but I have to spend so much time showing everybody else how to do it right. It's a good thing I'm here or else they'd all be making mistakes. Of course, I'd be so embarrassed if I made a mistake.

### -- Attitude 10

I really love the dance, except for just a couple of things. Some people seem really snobby during the breaks. My feet slip on the floor sometimes. Sometimes people say mean things to me. Some of the guys/girls really smell bad. Some of the guys/girls really sweat a lot. One person holds me so tight during a swing that it hurts. The music was too loud near the speakers. The caller flubbed up and I got totally lost. And it's weird when guys wear skirts. I asked someone to dance and they said they were sitting this one out, and then said "yes" to the very next person. I didn't get to dance with everyone I wanted to. It was so hot I was sweating. My shoes were uncomfortable. I overheard people gossiping about me. But other than that, I really enjoyed the dance!

### -- Attitude 11

It's soooo annoying to dance with all these old people.

### -- Attitude 12

It's such a bummer to dance with all these young people.

### -- Attitude 13

I love coming to these dances. It's a great place to meet people. It's such a fun social event. I get to talk to my friends and maybe meet some nice men/women.

### -- Attitude 14

I'd enjoy the dance a lot more if we didn't have all these inexperienced newcomers who haven't learned to dance yet.

### -- Attitude 15

I'd enjoy the dance a lot more if we didn't have all these snobby experienced dancers who never help new dancers and seem to ignore them.

# Getting To Know You

## Maureen Sumera



Maureen is a practicing nurse – RN, BSN. She is divorced and has three children and four granddaughters. In addition to ice skating and snow skiing, she enjoys ballroom, Cajun/Zydeco and swing dancing as well as contra dancing.

She began coming to contra dances several years ago when dancer friends assured her that this was a safe, nice place to meet new friends and enjoy dancing. She found it to be an eclectic group of nice people; the music was upbeat; and it was also fun and really good exercise.

I have sung in my church choir in the past but I do not play any musical instruments.

My motto this year is “You’re never too old to have a happy childhood.”

## Marilee Keim



Marilee is employed as a dietitian at Huntsville Hospital. She was born in Iowa but grew up in Huntsville and later spent many years living in New England. She has three daughters – Jenny and Rachel attend college in Maryland and Rebecca is a sophomore at Huntsville High School.

Marilee enjoys swimming, hiking, reading and listening to all kinds of music.

In 1997 she began contra dancing and was introduced to the dance by Teri Foster. Her first impression was that it was a lot of fun but she was also surprised to discover how hot she becomes when dancing. She does enjoy the high energy level found at dance weekends. “But the best part of contra dancing,” she says, “is the wonderful people you meet wherever you go to dance. Contra dancing attracts great people.”

## How You Can Be A Team Player

Doug Roth, NACDS Production Manager, lead a discussion in a recent Steering Committee meeting concerning soliciting volunteers to help with local dances. The committee decided to offer free admission for up to two people at each dance if they helped with set up and/or break down at a dance.

Here are some of the duties - arrive at the church by 6:15 to help unload materials from Doug’s car and set up fans, sticky mats, chairs, and registration, information and refreshment tables. After the dance one would help the many who volunteer to return chairs and tables, clean the refreshment area and floors and then pack and load NACDS property for storage.

Doug says, “It is good to keep the NACDS property (bins, fans, water cooler) together and I can store it all....unless I miss a dance. However, it would be very helpful to have someone help unload and load the property as well as assist with the duties mentioned above.”

Consider signing up to assist with at least one dance during the year. Call or email Doug in advance to tell him you will be a willing team member. His phone is 882-6378 and email address is [hdroth@pobox.com](mailto:hdroth@pobox.com).

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- 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
July 1	Vicki Herndon	Wolves a Howlin'
July 15	Jane Ewing	Ed Baggott & Elsie Peterson
July 25	Steering Committee Meeting	Carol & Jerry Mebane's house 6:30 PM Come!
Aug 5	Harry Delugach	Maple Hill
Aug 19	Chrissy Davis-Camp	Jim & Inge Wood



## Area Dance Gypsy Calendar

Date	Location	Caller	Band
July 11/25	Flat Creek, TN	Chrissy Davis-Camp	Inge Wood & anyone who wants to play
July 28	Sewanee	Harry Delugach	Glory in the Meeting House
July 7	Nashville (See below - new location.)	Eddie Doss	Cumberland Tenderfoots
July 14	Nashville	Fred Park	Ed Baggott & Elsie Peterson
July 21	Nashville	John Sharlet	Calliope
July 28	Nashville	Chrissy Davis-Camp	Nashville Weather
July 8	Birmingham (Anniversary Dance)	Becca Impello	Stone's Throw
July 22	Chattanooga	Rob Harper	Avant Gardners

**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/bcds.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.html>

**NCD (Nashville)** dances almost every Friday at 8:00 PM at **NEW LOCATION –July through August** - 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](mailto:DanceFools@aol.com) or <http://dancenashville.org/>

**Flat Creek** dances – 2 & 4<sup>th</sup> Tues, 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/>

★★ **Mark your calendar now – Music City Masquerade in Nashville! Oct. 27-29 with George Marshall & Nightingale** ★★  
A contra weekend featuring one of the country's most sought after callers and couple dance teachers, George Marshall. A member of Wild Asparagus and Swallowtail, George will be joined by one of the finest, Nightingale – Jeremiah McLane (piano, accordion), and Keith Murphy (guitar, mandolin, foot percussion, vocals). They have charmed audiences for 10 years with vibrant and imaginative explorations of musical traditions. Workshops will include contras, Scandinavian couple dances, French bourrées with Susan Kevra and a workshop – “Putting Drama in Dance Music.” On Thurs night Nightingale will perform at Station Inn in downtown Nashville.

**North Alabama Country Dance Society**  
4304 Holmes Ave, NW, Huntsville, AL 35816  
*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!



Nobody cares if you can't dance well.  
Just get up and dance. *Dave Barry*

