

## NACDS HOLIDAY DANCE!

Our annual Holiday Dance will be December 19th, at 8:00 p.m. The caller will be Susan Kevra, and music will be provided by Waxwing. This promises to be a terrific night, so please reserve the date!

## SPECIAL DANCE SERIES

Gary Nelson and Rebecca Holbrook will organize a special series of dances in 2010, as described in the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting on page 3. They welcome your help making this series a success. To volunteer or discuss your ideas and concerns, contact Gary: [pialamode18@yahoo.com](mailto:pialamode18@yahoo.com).

## 2009 MUSIC CITY MASQUERADE

The 2009 Music City Masquerade in Nashville, Oct. 30 – Nov. 1, will feature dance instruction by John Krumm & Scott Higgs and music by the New England band Green Mountain (Mary Cay Brass, Sarah Blair, Sam Bartlett).

It promises an exciting weekend of dancing and unbridled fun, featuring contras, squares, English dancing and an extra dose of couple dancing (by popular request), featuring a multi-talented line-up. If you need a break from all the dancing, enjoy a band, calling, singing or stuntology workshop. Dance in the historic Cohn gym, gloriously decorated, with an exceptional wooden floor. Experience true Southern hospitality, served up by one of the most welcoming dance groups around.

You can get more information about individual workshop prices, scholarships, hotels, detailed staff bios, and so forth by visiting the website: [nashvillecountrydancers.org](http://nashvillecountrydancers.org).

## FEATURED TALENT

Billed as charming, warm, and musical, with a sense of humor, caller, musician, teacher, composer, singer, **John**

**Krumm** is the ultimate Renaissance man, with a vast knowledge of folk music traditions and a dedication to using the folk arts to bring people together. He is a master of singing squares and exciting contras.

**Scott Higgs** offers exhilarating couple dances, high-energy contras, and sparkling English dances. In demand across North America for weekends and workshops, Scott presents engaging programs that are accessible to novices, but rich in nuances for expert dancers.

Music will be provided by **Green Mountain**, comprised of **Mary Cay Brass, Sarah Blair, and Sam Bartlett**, musicians who each shine with impressive curricula vitae you can read in full at the Nashville Country Dancers web site.

Nashville's own **David Coe**, a dynamic Nashville based fiddler, and **Jim Pendergrast**, multi-instrumentalist, session player, and producer, will also perform during the weekend.



## 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., (corner of Whitesburg Dr. & Airport Rd.). Beginners Workshop is at 7:00 PM, and 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!

• Gen'l info, [bwalls@pobox.com](mailto:bwalls@pobox.com) or [www.secontra.com](http://www.secontra.com);  
Schedule info, Doug Roth: [hdroth@pobox.com](mailto:hdroth@pobox.com).

### OCTOBER 3 : HUNTSVILLE

CALLER — JANE EWING

BAND — APPALACHIAN STORM

### OCTOBER 17 : HUNTSVILLE

CALLER — HARRY DELUGACH

BAND — WOLVES A HOWLIN'

## AREA DANCE GYPSY CALENDAR

### OCTOBER 2 : NASHVILLE

CALLER — VICKI HERNDON

BAND — APPALACHIAN STORM

### OCTOBER 9 : NASHVILLE

CALLER — VICKI HERNDON

BAND — APPALACHIAN STORM

### OCTOBER 10 : BIRMINGHAM

CALLER — ROBBIN SHAFFER

BAND — JUST ADD WATER

### OCTOBER 10 : CHATTANOOGA

CALLER — ROBBIN SHAFFER

BAND — JUST ADD WATER

### OCTOBER 13 : FLAT CREEK

CALLER — CHRISSY DAVIS-CAMP

BAND — JIM & INGE WOOD WITH VARIOUS & SUNDRY

### OCTOBER 16 : NASHVILLE

CALLER — ED WILKINSON

BAND — THE CONTRARIAN ENSEMBLE

### OCTOBER 23 : NASHVILLE

CALLER — CHRISSY DAVIS-CAMP

BAND — NASHVILLE WEATHER

### OCTOBER 24: CHATTANOOGA

CALLER — VICKI HERNDON

BAND — CALLIOPE

### OCTOBER 25 : BIRMINGHAM

CALLER — ROBBIN SHAFFER

BAND — JUST ADD WATER

### OCTOBER 27 : FLAT CREEK

CALLER — CHRISSY DAVIS-CAMP

BAND — JIM & INGE WOOD WITH VARIOUS & SUNDRY

### OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 1 : NASHVILLE

MUSIC CITY MASQUERADE

CALLERS — JOHN KRUMM & SCOTT HIGGS

BAND — GREEN MOUNTAIN

## TO LEARN MORE

### Footmad (Birmingham, AL)

[www.footmadbirmingham.org](http://www.footmadbirmingham.org)

205-822-0505

2nd Saturdays at the YWCA in downtown Birmingham  
4th Sunday afternoons (except May-August)

### CTDS (Chattanooga, TN)

[contranooga.org](http://contranooga.org)

All Saints Academy

310 East 8th St. - Chattanooga, TN

### Misty Mountain Dancers (Sewanee, TN)

931-598-0814

[mistycontra.zoomshare.com](http://mistycontra.zoomshare.com)

American Legion Hall

36 University Avenue, Sewanee, TN

### NCD (Nashville, TN)

615-356-3869

[nashvillecountrydancers.org](http://nashvillecountrydancers.org)

Contra dance most Friday nights

English Country Dance 2nd Sunday of each month

See web site for locations

### Flat Creek, TN

[jimwoodmusic.net/fcc.htm](http://jimwoodmusic.net/fcc.htm)

Flat Creek Community Center south of Shelbyville, TN

## A BIT FARTHER AWAY, BUT 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/>

## **SEPTEMBER 27 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

On September 27 an NACDS Steering Committee meeting was held at the home of Trey Brakefield.

Attendees: Jane Ewing, Mark Mohon, Rebecca Holbrook, Gary Nelson, Erin Macguire, Kevin Riggs, Claire Davies, Doug Roth, Steve Nix, Jeff McClure, Trey Brakefield, Bryan Walls, Donna Deaton, Wayne Hitt.

### **5<sup>TH</sup> DANCE DISCUSSION**

Gary and Rebecca proposed a series of special dances on the 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays in 2010: Jan 31, May 25, July 30, and October 30. Gary wants to enhance the dance experience by encouraging new members and for dancers who have stopped attending regularly. He wants to work with the NACDS group, planning the proposed dances and organizing their production. NACDS would fund the dances with the expectation that attendance would cover the cost and some profit. The only unusual expense Gary proposed was \$50 payment to whoever runs the sound equipment. For each 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday, Gary & Rebecca already plan to have a dinner/concert series in concert with the Flying Monkey.

We discussed the aptness of the proposed dates. The dance near the Blue Moon weekend is not a direct conflict, but it's an adjacent weekend and might stress the organization or force some dancers to choose one or the other. On the other hand, many dancers might think an extra dance would enhance the Blue Moon experience. The Nashville Masquerade Ball will be held on a 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday, so that would be a direct conflict. We discussed possibly shifting the dates of those dances to address conflicts. For example, the "5<sup>th</sup> Saturday" dance might be held on a 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday at those times.

Dance admission would be a special price. Discussion resulted in the suggestion \$8 for members, \$10 non-members, and \$5 students.

Kevin motioned to support the 4 "5<sup>th</sup> Saturday" dance series in 2010 to be produced by Gary & Rebecca, with a budget of \$2800. Seconded by Erin. The vote passed unanimously.

### **CALLER'S MONITOR**

Steve & Jeff wanted to discuss a caller's monitor. The usual price is \$200, but vendors have recently started raising prices. One vendor still has for \$200, so Jeff would like to buy now.

Jane made a motion to purchase a caller's monitor. Erin seconded, and the vote passed unanimously.

### **BLUE MOON**

Erin contacted Lift Ticket about playing for the dance since the online poll of steering committee members was mostly for this band. Exact price is still in negotiation. We need to watch travel costs & so forth. No caller has been selected, but the group favors Lisa Greenleaf, Kathy Anderson, or Robert Cromartie.

The UAH hall is reserved for the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of May.

### **BREAK TIME DURING DANCES TAKING TOO LONG**

Erin believes we need shorter breaks during regular dances. Need to police the break time & say time's up. Possibly play music (waltz, swing, Cajun) during the break. Need to talk to new people during the break and make them feel welcome.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Publicity:** Mark does some radio spots on WLRH; Jane puts some on radio stations in Marshall County. We have been getting dances publicized in the Go section & the Huntsville Times.

**New bands:** Erin has noticed that some bands at the Huntsville Monday Concert In the Park series are contra-ish. Could we do a display dance at the park? Or at the library or the mall?

There's a **sign-up sheet** for helping at the money table at regular dances. When you sign up, you need to pay attention to the gender balance of the group – if we're not balanced, it's better for the less represented gender to be on the dance floor than at the table.

Carol has proposed that we **purchase a chair caddie & chairs** for our use as a gift to the church. The idea would be to store it in the back room. This would make setup and take-down easier. Need to look into prices.

**Holiday dance:** it's time to start promoting this. Erin will put together ideas for a flyer. Kevin will begin mentioning this in the newsletter. Dec 19<sup>th</sup>. Admission planned to be \$10 except students \$5.

Motion to close by Jane, seconded by Erin.

Minutes scribed by Claire; decoded and clobbered by Kevin

## **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](mailto: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,  
and a \$1 DISCOUNT to each regular dance!*