

## Shuffling on the Board

The SBCDS Board of Directors has reluctantly accepted the resignation of Peter Glatz from that Board.

Peter has been dance activist extraordinaire for the last several years, coordinating or co-coordinating several Harvest Moon and Sprung Floor Dance Festivals.

Peter took it upon himself to create a complete manual for producing the Harvest Moon Dance Festival, providing a valuable tool for future coordinators.

He has also been Our Person at the Post Office, collecting our mail, paying for address corrections, and most important, waiting in line.

Our newest Board Member is Rob Gardner. Although a relatively new dancer, Rob has dived in to help keep our dances afloat in various ways, including helping with the bookkeeping, helping to produce last year's Holiday Dance Weekend, and volunteering to be Dance Coordinator for regular dances from time to time.

The Board of Directors currently has seven members. That number is allowed to change, and we are currently seeking new energy, new ideas, and new people to serve on the Board. If interested, please contact the SBCDS or any current Board Member: Mignon Bradley, Sammy Ellis, Rob Gardner, Elliott Karpeles, Bob Leonard, Gary Shapiro, Bettine Wallin.

Apologies to Elliott for omitting his name from last issue's list of the Board.

## By Popular Demand

### Another 'One Time Only' English Country Dance

The "one time only" dance in March was such a success that James Hutson and the California Dance Co-operative present another Evening of English Country Dance on Friday, June 30. No experience is necessary, but do arrive promptly at 8 to review the basics. Dance from 8 to 11 p.m. Admission \$7.

Instruction and prompting is by James



Seventeenth Annual Santa Barbara

## Harvest Moon Dance Festival

September 22-24, 2000

People cross the continent to dance to **The Monks** but we've saved you the trip. We bring them to you for the **Harvest Moon Dance Festival**.

We also bring calling dynamo **Susan Kevra**, who has enchanted dancers far and near, as well as in the great places in between.

Please see the Harvest Moon flyer, either mailed with this issue, or to be found near where you picked this up. You can also download a copy at <http://www/sbcds.org/download/> or contact the SBCDS: P.O. Box 21904, Santa Barbara, CA 93121-1904, phone 805 969-1511, email [cannon@alumni.caltech.edu](mailto:cannon@alumni.caltech.edu).



## Harvest Moon Launch Party

Be part of the Harvest Moon Dance Festival. Here's how:

- Attend the volunteer party.
- Register to attend the festival.
- Sign the volunteer sign-up sheet at the next dance.
- Volunteer to help out with the floor-over-the-floor project. (Contact Lawrence Wallin at 565-1501 or [wallin@macol.net](mailto:wallin@macol.net) for more information on that.)

The time and location of the volunteer party will be announced at an upcoming dance, or call the SBCDS.



## Weekend (or Longer) Events of Interest

For most of these events, you'll find more information in the Carrillo Ballroom lobby during our dances.

Email addresses and web sites for most of these events can be found at <http://www.ucolick.org/~sla/danceCaConEng.html>.

June 10-11: 24th Annual San Francisco Free Folk Festival. Music and dance workshops, crafts, concerts, storytelling. 510 287-9095.

June 16-18: KCBX Live Oak Music Festival. Exceptional music, optional camping. <http://www.kcbx.org>, 805 781-3030.

June 23-25: 18th Annual Summer Solstice Folk Music, Dance and Storytelling Festival of the California Traditional Music Society, held at Soka University in Calabasas. A large variety of activities, including an almost full-time contra dance floor featuring callers Robert Cromartie, Dot Kent, Susan Michaels, Leda Shapiro; bands include the Volo Bogtrotters, Jump

see **STAR GAZER**, back page

Hutson; music is by the Belmont String Quartet Minus One: Paula St. James and Linda Kodaira, violins, and Ken Shaw, cello and guitar.

Location: Eagle Rock Community Center, 2225 Colorado Blvd., just west of Eagle Rock Blvd.

For further information contact James at 310 474-8105.

## Why Do I Dance?

*The above question, and the following essay first appeared on rec.folk-dancing, an Internet newsgroup where contra dancing (and other types of folk dancing) is discussed. Steve Davis read it and suggested it as an article for the Dance Star. It is printed below with the author's kind permission.*

A few months ago, a subscriber to this newsgroup asked for discussion of this question: why do you dance? At the time, I was not inclined to examine dancing philosophically, but recently I discovered that I needed to define just what it is about contra dancing that has turned this overweight, middle-aged secretary into a contra dance 'junkie.'

something  
very rare

Part of the appeal of contra dancing, for me, is its sense of community. Nice folks get together once or twice a month and dance with each other. It's as simple as that, and as profound. The kind of contact you get from dancing is something very rare in today's society. Where else can you hold hands with or put your arm around people without worrying about the "message" you're sending? Certainly not in the workplace! We work in "cube farms," and isolate ourselves at computer terminals. Innocent physical contact, especially between the sexes, is scrupulously avoided.

"cube farms"

Contra dancing breaks down the barriers that keep us isolated from others in our daily life. You learn that it feels good when an entire roomful of people moves in time with upbeat music. Hearts pound; breathing accelerates; feet stomp in unison. You put out your hand, and someone is there to take it. Over and over again. All the way down the set and back. You learn to trust, and to welcome interaction with each new person along the line. This is how you become part of a dance community.

As you dance with the members of your community, you develop good feelings for them, and tolerance for their foibles and rough edges. It doesn't matter

how people dress or how old they are, what color they are, or whether they went to college; contra dancing is very democratic that way. Everyone does the same dance, to the same music. Sweat happens. But you're sweating too; it's a natural part of vigorous dancing, and you learn to live with a certain amount of wetness and "ripeness." Dancing is playful, like being a kid again, running flat out with your buddies and then collapsing in happy exhaustion.

sweat happens

no means! We live in an imperfect world, and dancing is no exception. After you've been dancing long enough to gain some experience, it's easy to fall into negative thinking because dances don't always go the way you think they should. Sometimes there are so many beginners that it's hard to keep a dance from falling apart. Sometimes there are too many men. (Too many women do not pose a problem; they just dance with each other. It's hard for men to do that). Sometimes you have to

swept up

start to look and sound the same. My response to these glitches is to get out there and dance! I remember how I felt the first time I was swept up in the music; I hold onto a playful attitude (dancing is fun, not rocket science), and I dance with the beginners until they "get it" too. Above all, I appreciate and enjoy my dance community—without them, I wouldn't be dancing at all!

Now, I'd like to pose the question to the rest of you: we all talk about our dance communities, but what does that mean to you? How does 'community' happen? Just by dancing together, as I've suggested, or is there more to it? Do you, as organizers and dancers, consciously attempt to build community, or does it occur by happy serendipity?

May all your dance communities enjoy the best of times in the Year 2000!

JoAnne Rawls  
Virginia  
ldrawls@erols.com

## A Special Invitation From Bob & Gloria

Bob Mesick and Gloria Hall invite all contra dancers to join them at the Sunday night dance on August 13 to celebrate their marriage in June. (They're taking

such a long honeymoon, they won't be back until August.)

The dance is "on them" (free).

Bob and Gloria met each other contra dancing, a little



over four years ago. They say that dancing together keeps the joy in their relationship alive.

May they still be dancing on their 25th wedding anniversary.

Santa Barbara contra dances are  
co-sponsored by

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
**Parks  
&  
Recreation**  
*Enriching People's Lives*

—and—



Post Office Box 21904 • Santa Barbara, CA 93121-1904

a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation

Phone: 805 969-1511

email: cannon@alumni.caltech.edu

web: <http://www.sbcds.org/>

Dance Star: Gary Shapiro

Mailing coordination: Gloria Hall

Mailing list: Mary Ballard, Carl Magagnosc

Bookings: Mignon Bradley

Dance Coordination: Scott Swain

Liason to Parks & Rec: Elliott Karpeles

and many other volunteers

**Opinions expressed are those of the individual authors. Express yours in the next issue.**

Next issue copy deadline: August 9.

Dance Star contact info: 805 682-5523,

garies@pobox.com

# SUMMER 2000



# SANTA BARBARA CONTRA & ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE SCHEDULE

PLUS SLO & LOS OLIVOS LISTINGS

Calendar produced by Santa Barbara Country Dance Society • P.O. Box 21904 • Santa Barbara, CA 93121-1904 • 805 969-1511

Come enjoy a dance to the irresistible rhythms of a live old-time string band. We'll dance flowing contras of New England, a thriving North American tradition, plus other delights. All dances are taught and prompted: no experience or partner neces-

sary. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

## SANTA BARBARA CONTRA DANCES

**Sponsors: SB Country Dance Society & SB City Parks and Recreation Dept.**

Dance from 7–10 p.m. every Sunday at the fabulous Carrillo Ballroom. SBCDS 24-hour Dance Hotline: 805 969-1511.

## LOS OLIVOS DANCES

**Sponsor: Santa Ynez Grange**

Dance first Saturdays, 7–10 p.m. No dance in June. For more information contact Lauris, 805 688-3334.

## SAN LUIS OBISPO DANCES

**Sponsor: Central Coast Country Dance Society**

Dance in SLO on the third Saturday (second Saturday this June and July),

from 8–11 p.m. International Folk Dancing precedes at 5:30.

SLO 24-hour Danceline: 805 541-0201.

## INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP

The SB & SLO contra dance groups hold workshops 30 minutes before each contra dance evening. Also, the simpler dances are generally taught earlier in the evening.

## ADMISSION

\$7 (\$10 in Los Olivos) unless otherwise stated; subject to change. In SB, 12 and under free, 13–17 half price.

## SB ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCES

Tuesdays. Oak Park, 7–9 p.m. through July 25 (no dance July 4). Then Westside Community Center, 7:30–9:30, through September 5. \$5. 805 682-5523.

## KEY TO DANCE LOCATIONS

Carrillo Ballroom	<b>CB</b>	100 E. Carrillo St., SB
Oak Park	<b>OP</b>	Junipero at Calle Real, SB
Westside Center	<b>wcc</b>	423 W. Victoria, SB
San Luis Obispo Veteran's Hall	<b>SLO</b>	801 Grand Ave., SLO East of 101, Cal Poly exit
Grange Hall in Los Olivos	<b>LO</b>	2374 Alamo Pintado Ave. West of flagpole

## ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCES

Tuesday May 30: Westside Community Center, 7:30–9:30 p.m., featuring music by Thruppence

Tuesdays June 6 through July 25 (except July 4): Oak Park (OP), 7–9 p.m.

Tuesdays August 1 through September 5: Westside Community Center (wcc), 7:30–9:30 p.m.

## CONTRA DANCES

DATE LOC CALLER • BAND • Etc.

June 4	Sun	CB	Don Ward • Kitchen Junket
June 10	Sat	SLO	Barbara Stewart • Growling Old Geezers
June 11	Sun	CB	Gary Shapiro • Hot Flashes
June 18	Sun	CB	Jeff Spero • For Old Times' Sake
June 25	Sun	OP	TBA • Easy Pickin's (Stan Tysell, Russ Johnson, Tom Lee, and more)
July 1	Sat	LO	Carl Magagnosc • Growling Old Geezers
July 2	Sun	CB	Gary Shapiro • Growling Old Geezers
July 8	Sat	SLO	Graham Hempel • Paddy O'Furniture
July 9	Sun	CB	Graham Hempel • Paddy O'Furniture
July 16	Sun	CB	Chuck Galt • Michael's Mixed Nuts
July 23	Sun	OP	James Hutson • Acoustic Light Orchestra
July 30	Sun	CB	Caller's Jubilee • Open Band • If you'd like to call, please contact Gary Shapiro (805 682-5523, garyes@pobox.com). To play in the open band, contact Jim Mueller (805 473-2440, jmueller@calpoly.edu).
Aug 5	Sat	LO	Carl Magagnosc • Growling Old Geezers
Aug 6	Sun	CB	Warren Blier • Jump Fingers • Monterey and San Diego meet halfway for us.
Aug 13	Sun	CB	Chuck Galt • New Young Buzzards • Bob and Gloria's extremely reduced price wedding dance. Extremely reduced price cake too! (Free)
Aug 19	Sat	SLO	Erik Hoffman • Growling Old Geezers
Aug 20	Sun	CB	Erik Hoffman • Kristina and Her Right-Hand Stars
Aug 27	Sun	OP	Gary Shapiro • Kristina and Her Right-Hand Stars • Stars under the stars.

## June

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## July

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## August

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## Star Gazer from front page

Fingers, Turtle Creek and Sliding Scale. James Hutson leads English Country Dancing with musicians Frank Hoppe, Aubyn Miller and Martin Morrissey. So far we've just scratched the surface. Don't even think of skipping this event. 818 817-7756.

July 1-8: BACDS Family Week at Alta Sierra Camp. Activities for all ages and sizes. Staff includes Kathy Anderson, Erik Hoffman, Kathrine Gardner and many more. 707 829-8833.

July 8-15: BACDS English Week at the enchanting Mendocino Woodlands. The enchanted staff includes Brad Foster, Sue Dupré, Bruce Hamilton, and FootLoose. 510 793-6545.

July 8-15: Sierra Swing, BACDS American Dance Week at Alta Sierra Camp. Contrás, squares, salsa, swing dance. Staff includes Kathy Anderson, Erik Hoffman, Rodney Miller Band, El Meneo and more. 510 215-2785.

July 21-23: Humboldt Folklife Festival near Arcata. Contra, square and international folk dancing. Free except for Friday night concert and Saturday night dance. 707 822-5394.

Sept. 1-4: Alta Sierra Dance Camp near King's Canyon. Caller Ron Buchanan and more TBA. 310 459-7179.

## Scottish in Ventura & SB

Santa Barbara Scottish Country Dance classes resume on June 8. The class meets every Thursday from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., upstairs at the SB Ballet Center, 29 W. Calle Laureles, between De la Vina and State St.

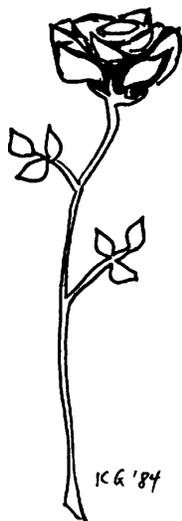
All are welcome to discover the delights of this lively form of dance. No partner is required. For further information, contact Eileen Gray, 805 967-0698.

Meanwhile, in Ventura, a six-week Scottish Country Dance Class begins Friday, June 9 at 7 p.m. The cost is \$25. Classes are in a beautiful dance studio, Room C102, at Ventura College. Soft-soled shoes are requested for the sake of the floor.

For further information or questions about carpooling from Carpinteria, contact Lillian Goldstein, 805 644-4238, [goldsteinl@vcss.k12.ca.us](mailto:goldsteinl@vcss.k12.ca.us).

September 15-17: Echo Summit Dance Camp near Lake Tahoe. Bands: Domino and the Post-Industrial String Band. Callers are Susan Kevra and Erik Hoffman. 916 489-0488.

September 22-24: Santa Barbara Harvest Moon Dance Festival. See info elsewhere in this issue.



*"You can dance anywhere, even if only in your heart."  
~Unknown*

## Jam Sessions Around Town

- Old Time: Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m., Alice Keck Park Memorial Gardens, between Santa Barbara St., Arrellaga, Garden, and Micheltorena.
- Celtic: Mondays 8:30-10:30 p.m. and Thursdays 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Dargan's Pub.

## Co-Sponsorship Happens

The City of Santa Barbara Parks & Recreation Department and the SBCDS have finalized the new co-sponsorship agreement.

A few of the points: Our doorkeeper now works for the City. Instead of paying rent on the hall, we share net proceeds using a specific formula. Callers and bands are more likely to earn more than the guaranteed amount.

## Ojai Dances on Hiatus

Contra dances in Ojai return on September 16. Look for their schedule in our Fall issue.

## English Dances Resume

English Country Dance (ECD) activities continue in Santa Barbara.

Our Tuesday series resumes on May 30, featuring music by Thruppence, at the Westside Community Center, 423 W. Victoria (inches east of the 101), 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Dances in June and July move outdoors to the Oak Park damce platform, Junipero at Calle Real, and the time moves up one-half hour: 7:00- 9:00. (No dance July 4.)

In August, it's back to the Westside Community Center, and back to the 7:30-9:30 schedule, continuing on Tuesdays up to and including September 5.



Post Office Box 21904 • Santa Barbara, CA 93121-1904

**Dance Star**  
**Internet edition**  
**Summer 2000 rev 1**  
**22 May 2000**