

DANCE STAR

News, Articles, and Calendar of Dance Events For Contra & English Country Dancers

Fall 2009



Bettine Wallin Honored

By Elliott Karpeles

At the Sunday evening Contra Dance on August 16, friends, family, and fellow dancers joined together to honor Bettine Wallin. She has given twenty years of service to the Santa Barbara Country Dance Society and to the music community. Bettine's love of all things musical started at an early age. Her mother taught international dance and her father played music and sang. As a child, she would play the piano for family sing-a-longs. Bettine says that she has been dancing for as long as she can remember. Music was her major in college, where she studied both piano and choral directing. For many years she taught piano, directed children's choirs, sung with various choral groups, and has been involved in folk and contra dance.

Bettine and Lawrence moved to Santa Barbara in 1987. She can

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Fiddler's Festival

By Andy Doerr

Perk up your ears! The 38th Annual Old Time Fiddlers' Convention and Festival, founded by Peter Feldmann in 1972 and now produced by the Rotary Club of Santa Barbara Sunrise, will bring the sounds of not just fiddles, but also banjos, guitars, mandolins, and song to the historic grounds of Rancho La Patera & Stow House on Los Caneros Blvd in Goleta on Sunday Oct. 11 from 10 to 5pm.

It's a celebration of traditional American music—its roots and shoots that will include performances by Grammy Award winner Laurie Lewis with Tom Rozum, Old Time band Sausage Grinder, a wee bit of the Irish with Molly's Revenge, a taste of spicy hot acoustic jazz with Trio Gonzalo featuring Nick Conventry, and the Old Time Fiddlers! Also, contests in Old Time fiddle, banjo, guitar, mandolin, song, and band throughout the day! Bring your instruments for jams around the grounds, bring the kids, bring a blanket and chairs, leave the dog at home! Invite your friends and relations! You're bound to have fine day!

For details: go to www.fiddlersconvention.org or call 805/450-2243. You can even join the festivals Facebook group!



Carrillo Ballroom Renovation Update

By Elliott Karpeles

Sunday, September 13, 2009 will be our last contra dance date at the Carrillo Ballroom until the renovations are completed (estimated to be 6 months). We will be using the Unitarian Hall, located at 1535 Santa Barbara St., beginning September 20. Construction on the other areas of the recreation center building is estimated to last 15 months.

We have been asked to clean out the back closets of all lost and found items, other stored property, and anything else we don't want thrown away. These items will be put out during the final dances, and anything not claimed by Sept. 13 will be donated. This is an exciting change and we're looking forward to getting back into the new and improved ballroom!

Local Artist CD Release!

The release of "Fiddle Pieces" by Michael Mendelson will be celebrated on Sept. 13, with an evening of Michael's original jigs, reels, rags, and waltz's. The dance will feature Susan Michaels calling with Chopped Liver plus special guest Mike Mullins. Michael's enhanced CD will contain 15 original tunes plus printable sheet music on the disc. For more on this new CD go to his website: www.slidingscalemusic.com

Jude's Journal

ETIQUETTE

'u' HEY, 'u',.....yes, 'u', are one of those who leave the dance floor and take to the food table.....PLEASE GO WASH YOUR HANDS BEFORE TOUCHING ANY FOOD OR DRINK ON THE TABLE

WHERE DO THOSE DANCING HANDS BELONG? (when not eating food)

GALS..... left hand on the round bone of his shoulder

GUYS.....left hand around back near the bra strap area

Ask Charlotte and Richard about BALANCE THE BAY (S.F.) dance camp just this past August...make plans for next year

BIG HEALTHY KUDOS TO OUR SENIOR DANCERS HAZEL AND CHUCK....you two are an inspiration for the reason to KEEP ON DANCING" ~ ~ ~

MUSIC KUDOS TO SIMON KEIFER FOR ALL THE WONDERFUL MUSIC AND CALLER BOOKINGS.....BIG KUDO TO MICHAEL GUITIN FOR HIS TERRIFIC AND FUN ACCORDIAN PLAYING AT HALF TIME!

DANCE FORM..... Keeping your group of four in closer proximity helps one to be on time. If you come in closer you will bring the group loser. The further you put yourself from your group of four the more energy is spent sprinting to your partner.

Think of where your face is facing, your back is facing. Groups of four are squares so dancers think and direct your (body) face towards the stage or entry door....NO ANGLES FOR THESE DANCE BODIES

Vince Messina you are missed!

For even more Jude's Journal and current updates catch her new web page as part of the Dance Star On-line edition at: www.sbcds.org/dsonline/ and be sure to let Jude know your comings, goings and celebrations. This column is for this dance community. Write Jude at: cloud-merlin@roadrunner.com

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even remember her first contra dance here; it was being held at Oak Park. She became very active in the contra community and in 1989 became a board member of the SBCDS. Over the past twenty years, she has spent many hours of involvement with the various duties and activities of the board; especially Harvest Moon, Sprung Floor, insurance issues, and monthly meetings. Bettine and Lawrence have always been generous with both their time and resources; hosting house concerts, entertaining friends, and opening their home to visiting dancers, band members and callers. And what are her plans for the future? "More of the same, of course!" We thank you so much, Bettine, for all you have done for the dance community.

WE NEED YOUR EMAIL!

Do you want to become part of the SBCDS Group and receive updates on community events?

Visit www.sbcds.org and sign up for one or more of the email lists, or email Gary Shapiro at: garys@sbcds.org

If you want to get the best bi-weekly email on all of So. Cal. contra happenings get on Louise's dance calendar at: louise-danceinfo@earthlink.net

Upcoming Contradance Camps

Echo Summit at Camp Sacramento high in the Sierras. **Sept. 18-20 2009** Callers: **Seth Tepfer** and **Beth Molaro**. Bands: **Latter Day Lizard** and **Contrazz**. www.scds.org

Fall has Sprung 12-hour contrafest in Grass Valley, CA **Nov. 1st 2009** Callers: **Nils Fredland**, **Jeremy Korr** and **Joyce Miller**. Bands: **Moving Violations**, **Hot Cider** and **The Fiddlecats**

Dance in the Desert near Tucson AZ. **Nov. 13-15 2009** Callers: **Seth Tepfer** and **Susan Kevra**
Band: **Tidal Wave**. tftm.org

Contra Carnivale in San Luis Obispo **Jan. 15-17 2010** Callers: **George Marshall**, **Nils Fredland** and **Warren Blier**. Bands: **Nightingale**, **Notorious** and **Elixir**.

Applications will only be accepted after Sept 12th and will fill up very fast! www.cccds.org

Dance Awakening at Harbin Hot Springs near Calistoga CA. **April 9-11 2010** Callers: **Susan Petrick**, **Joyce Miller**, **Deb Comly**, and **Brenda Goodwin**. Band: **Later Day Lizards**.

Applications only accepted from Nov. 3-5th and will fill up very fast! www.danceawakening.com

Ojai Concert Series

Upcoming Shows

Sept. 17 Paddy Keenan

World renowned Irish uilleann piper and founding member of UK's legendary "Bothy Band"

Oct. 8 David Mallett

Folk legend from Maine, author of the now classic "Garden Song" "Inch by inch, row by row, Gonna make this garden grow..."

Nov. 4 The Battlefield Band

Don't miss the return to Ojai of Scotland's favorite Celtic band.

For directions or ticket info or to get on the mailing list go to www.ojaiconcertseries.com or call Shane at 805-665-8852.

MAUD KARPELES & CECIL SHARP

By Gary Shapiro

"...it has been proved beyond all doubt that the most suitable age to start dancing is the age you happen to be." –Maud Karpeles, 1931

Once or twice I've included the above quote in messages sent to our announcement lists. "Who is Maud Karpeles?" people asked. Maud Karpeles encountered English folk song and dance in 1909, and was inspired to form a folk dance club. When Cecil Sharp gave lectures on folk dance, her club demonstrated the dances.

Later, Karpeles collaborated with Sharp, including trips to North America. Karpeles continued to collect and document country dances after Sharp's death.

And yes, it's true our very own Elliott Karpeles says he's a distant relative.

Maud Karpeles (1885–1976)
Cecil Sharp (1859–1924)

Roadtunes

The Roadtunes Sessions airs on KCSB 91.9 FM broadcasting from UC Santa Barbara on Tuesdays from 10 to noon and live around the world at www.kcsb.org. It was started by host Andy Doerr about 3 years ago to bring the mostly acoustic Irish and other folk music/singer songwriters he loves to our community airwaves. It quickly evolved to include a much wider range of music including rock, blues, Latin and other world music, spoken word, and even on occasion, techno and club. Andy also regularly interviews local and touring artists and people like Shane Butler to thank them for bringing this music to our communities! Andy's most recent initiative is to bring music from UCSB's internationally known collection of cylinder recordings to the airwaves. The collection contains some of the earliest recorded music we have. Information about this incredible local resource can be found at: <http://cylinders.library.ucsb.edu>. The number in the studio is 805/893-2424 if you want to call and say hello!

Santa Barbara Country Dance Society

In partnership with:
CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

Parks & Recreation

Enriching People's Lives

SBCDS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation
805-682-1877 www.sbc.ds.org
PO Box 21904, Santa Barbara, CA 93121
Articles, announcements, contributions
and letters to the Dance Star should be
sent to:

dancestar@sbcds.org or mailed to:
Dance Star,
SBCDS, PO Box 21904,
Santa Barbara CA 93121-1904

All schedule information subject to
change. Accuracy not guaranteed.

Letter from the editor

Greetings:

And thanks for all the fun!!!

Sad to say but this will be my last Dance Star. It's been an enjoyable run of a year and a half, but due to lack of editorial and artistic contributions I can no longer make it happen on my own.

If someone would like to take a shot at keeping alive this wonderful publication, please talk to Elliott or Gary at the dance, plus I will help in any way I can.

There will still be a quarterly SBCDS Calendar/Flyer available at the dances. Cynthia Boche will be taking over my duties of working with our terrific dance scheduler, Simon Kiefer, to get the calendar formatted and out to the dances on time.

There is still a wonderful forum for stories, comments and editorials etc at www.sbc.ds.org. The site is maintained and updated regularly by Gary Shapiro and has a wealth of information, incite, whimsy plus the calendar and every edition of the Dance Star going back to the Mayflower.

My departure from the Dance Star frees me up to put more energy into my "Ojai Concert Series" (the success of which is in part due to the support of so many of you wonderful contra dancers).

Thanks so much, and we'll see you on the dance floor.

Shane Butler



DANCE SCHEDULE Spring 2009

Santa Barbara Contra Dances

Carrillo Ballroom, 100 E. Carrillo (until Sept 13)
 1535 Santa Barbara St. (from Sept 20th until ???)
 www.sbcds.org 805-682-1877

Dance Every Sunday

\$8.00 unless otherwise noted

6:30 to 9:30pm (6:00 Contra dance workshop)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>CALLER</u>	<u>BAND</u>
Sept 6	James Hutson	Contradictions
Sept 13	Susan Michaels	Chopped Liver w/special guests MICHAEL MENDELSON "Fiddle Pieces" CD RELEASE Please note: This is the last dance on the schedule that will be at the Carrillo Ballroom. The rest of the schedule below will be held at the Unitarian Hall, located at 1535 Santa Barbara St. All other details remain the same.
Sept 20	John Rogers	Growling Old Geezers <i>Old-Timey local favorites Jim, Amber & James</i>
Sept 27	Frannie Marr	Michael Gutin Band
Oct 4 Featured Dance \$10	Susan Petrick	GiveWay: A rare treat, four talented sisters from Scotland on a US tour.
Oct 11	Warren Blier	Michael's Mixed Nuts
Oct 18	Frannie Marr	Southern Comfort
Oct 25	Chris Page	Fiddle Tunas
Nov 1	Susan Petrick	OpporTunists Day of the Dead~ Halloween Costume Dance
Nov 8	Warren Blier	Syncopaths
Nov 15	Jean Gorrindo	Paddy O'Furniture
Nov 22	Donnalyn Karpeles	Chopped Liver Cecil Sharp's 150th Birthday Party Come celebrate with us for a whole day of dancing fun, starting at 2:00 with a special ECD w/music by Pâté de Foie Gras followed by our annual Thanksgiving Potluck (turkey provided) at 5:30pm, (<i>Bring a dish to share</i>) then contra the night away! <i>Long sword and Morris dance demos during the break</i>
Nov 29 ZESTY \$9.00 6:30-10:00	Susan Michaels	Michael's Mixed Nuts: their unique sound is described as "eccentric eclectic". Featuring midi accordion, fiddle, mandolin and kit drummer!

SBCDS English Country Dances

www.sbcds.org/ecd/ 805 682-5523

Dances led by Alice Williams or Gary Shapiro.
 Special guest caller Ric Goldman from Palo Alto on October 21 and other dates TBA. Recorded music unless otherwise announced.

Santa Barbara Dances

Westside Community Center, 423 W. Victoria St.
 Dance every Wednesday*, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
 *(November 25—day before Thanksgiving: no dance)
 Cost: \$3; \$6 on live music nights TBA.

Experienced ECD

Programmed towards the preferences of experienced dancers.
 Once per month on third Sunday afternoon, 2:00 to 4:30.
 Dates: September 20, October 18, skipping November, but see Nov. 22 Cost: \$3
 First Presbyterian Church of Santa Barbara,
 21 E. Constance Ave. (at State St.)

November 22: "Cecil Sharp's 150th Birthday Party"

2:00 to 5:00: English Country Dance with Pâté de Foie Gras and Gary Shapiro Cost: \$8
 5:00 to 6:00 Festive Potluck, turkey provided
 6:30 to 9:30 Contra Dance \$8
 Long sword and Morris demos during the break

Ventura Dances

House of Dance, 3007 Bunsen Ave., Suite E
 First Sunday of every month*, 2 to 4:30 p.m.
 **"September" dance was held on August 30
 Dates: October 4, November 1
 \$5 adults, \$4 students 12-24, \$1 ages 7-11

San Luis Obispo Contra Dances

Odd Fellows Hall, 520 Dana St, San Luis Obispo
 (From SB: Hwy 101 Marsh St. exit, left on Nipomo, left on Dana) 805-541-0201 www.cccds.org
Dance on Second Saturdays (unless noted)
 7:30 to 10:30 (7:00 Workshop) Admission \$9

Sept 12	Jean Gorrindo	Foggy Bay String Band
Oct 10 Potluck 5:30	Warren Blier	Paddy O'Furniture
Nov 14	Jon Southard	Growling Old Geezers

Ojai Contra Dances

OJAI ART CENTER, 113 S. Montgomery St
 805-933-0660 www.ojaiartcenter.org/dance
 Admission \$9/ Art Center members \$8/ teens \$5

Nov 28th Jon Southard Celtic Spring: Finalists on America's Got Talent!!!

New Years Dance is coming! info at: www.ojaiartcenter.com