



News from Sun Assembly

Spring 2015

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Newsletter editor: [Pat Petersen](#)



Spring into Spring at DanceFest!!!

It's been quite a winter, with heaps of snow and cancellations. As we write this, it's in the 70's, yet once again we're threatened with ice for tomorrow night's dance. But that earthy smell is in the air, so **let's celebrate!** Join [David Millstone](#), current president of the Country Dance and Song Society, along with our FABULOUS musicians **Julie Gorka, Dean Herington, Joey O'Donnell, Walt Robinson, and Mara Shea**, in 2 wonderful days of English dancing on **March 14-15, 2015**. (If you're a contradancer, you can make it 3 days—David will be calling the Friday contra on the 13th!). David is a beloved teacher, well-known around the country for his clear, supportive teaching style and his sense of humor. Experience great Saturday workshops: David's *English from the New World* and *Joy of Sets*, Pat Petersen's workshop *Old World–New Dances*, and Allan Troxler's presentation on his experiences of leading **dancing in retirement centers**. You can still register for the entire English weekend, and check out the schedule and workshop descriptions, at <http://sunassembly.org/spring-dance-fest-2015/>. **Come for any or all!!!** And bring a friend—there's one more opportunity to make use of Sun Assembly's coupon for a **free dance** before DanceFest. Find the coupons online at our website. Better still, print up a few and hand them out!!!

[Bob Dalsemer returns!!!](#)

April 23 is the date that fabulous teacher Bob Dalsemer will be leading our evening dance again, delightfully accompanied by the [Elftones](#), Mara Shea and Roger Gold. Don't miss it!

Dance with the Highlanders!

Mara and Julie's student dance band will again regale us with their energetic tunes for a few minutes before the **May 14** dance. Come at **7:15** to cheer on these up-and-coming youngsters, and stay for spring-themed dances.

New Years Eve thanks!

A crowd of the usual suspects enjoyed dancing at the Ark for our annual New Years Eve dance. Thanks to all the teachers, musicians, snack-bringers, and other volunteers who pitched in to make this another memorable occasion!

you

Dances of the Month

It's **Miss de Jersey's Memorial** for the month of **March**, a Pat Shaw favorite that is often done "for those who know" at dance camps. Find directions [here](#), and check out Colin Hume's comments on the dance [here](#) (scroll down a bit). DOTMs haven't been chosen yet for April or May; we'll gladly hear your requests, either for a particular dance or for a kind or dance (set or longways? Chestnut or modern? Slow or fast? Something from a ball program?)

CDSS Centennial coming up

The Country Dance and Song Society will spend 2015 celebrating its 100th anniversary! Go to [<CDSS.org>](http://CDSS.org) to see what's being planned across the country. **Sun Assembly** and **Triangle Country Dancers** are collaborating to plan a weekend of dancing in celebration of this momentous event! **SAVE THE DATE:** the weekend of **November 14!** Talk with **Lucy** or **Pat** at the dance if you have ideas or would like to be involved.

Nearby dance opportunities

The snowed-out Victorian ball has been rescheduled to March 28. A Regency ball will be held on Saturday, May 23rd, 7-10 p.m., on the lawn at Ayr Mount (c. 1815), a property of The Classical Homes Preservation Trust. Our own **Syllabub** will be playing. Mar. 20-22, [Irish Set Dancing Weekend](#), Brasstown, NC; Mar. 27-29, [Playford Ball](#), Nashville, TN; May 1-3, [English Country Dance Weekend](#), Brasstown, NC

Open Mike June 4!

•Our **Open Mike** evening was such a success that we've decided to do it again, on **Thursday, June 4**. Contact **Eric** at econrad003@gmail.com, 614-900-7759 if you'd like to try your hand!

Summer camp—register NOW!

Can you imagine yourself immersed in a whole week of dancing and music in a rustic setting between 2 ponds in a glorious New England summer? Registration for [PineWoods Camp](#) and other CDSS camps is now open. [New London Assembly](#) offers less rustic accommodations and a more historical look at dances. On the West Coast, check out [Heydaze](#).

A great way to celebrate the [CDSS Centennial Year](#) will be to join the **Country Dance and Song Society**, the umbrella organization that supports all kinds of English & American dance & dance camps, provides scholarships, publishes materials, & much more. If Sun Assembly inspires 8 new people to become CDSS members, we will get a free year of affiliate membership; if 10, we'll get a free ad in the CDSS newsletter!!! Go to [CDSS.org](#) for info (and shop their [store](#) for great tunes and other dance-related items).

SUN ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP 2015

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ E-MAIL _____

I'm in! Here's my check to SUN ASSEMBLY for ___\$20 (annual regular membership) ___\$250 (annual sustaining membership; includes fees for all regular dance classes and New Year's Eve).

Send newsletter by ___e-mail ___regular mail. Enclosed is my (tax-deductible) contribution of ___ to the Celia Wright Live Music Fund.

DANCE CALENDAR and teaching schedule

Dances are held at the **Freedman Center of Beth El Synagogue**, Watts St. at Green, Durham, 7:30-9:30 p.m., **unless otherwise specified**. Suggested donation: \$7/night or \$25/month. For more info, call 919-286-2202 or 919-683-9672.

From Raleigh: take I-40 to the Durham Freeway; exit at Duke St. Turn right; go through town, past the high school on the left, thru the lights at Trinity & Markham. Go one more block, turn left on Green, go to the 2nd stop sign, turn left on Watts, & left into the parking lot.

From Chapel Hill: take 15-501 to I-85 north. Exit at Gregson St. The 3rd light is Markham; turn right, right at the next corner onto Watts, & right into the parking lot. The building is to the left of the parking lot.

WHEN	WHERE	TEACHERS	SPECIAL INFO
Thurs., Mar. 5	Freedman Center	Gail Lacy	
Thurs., Mar. 12	Freedman Center	Pat Petersen	Live Music! Beginners' lesson at 7:15
Thurs., Mar. 19	Freedman Center	Pat Petersen	
Thurs., Mar. 26	Freedman Center	Allan Troxler	Live Music!
Thurs., Apr. 2	Freedman Center	Pat Petersen	
Thurs., Apr. 9	Freedman Center	Gail Lacy	Live Music! Beginners' lesson at 7:15
Thurs., Apr. 16	Freedman Center	Pat Petersen	
Thurs., Apr. 23	Freedman Center	Bob Dalsemer	Live Music!
Thurs., Apr. 30	Freedman Center	Allan Troxler	
Thurs., May 7	Freedman Center	Pat Petersen	
Thurs., May 14	Freedman Center	Pat Petersen	Live Music! No beginners' lesson; the Highlanders will perform starting at 7:15. Holiday theme!
Thurs., May 21	Freedman Center	Allan Troxler	
Thurs., May 28	Freedman Center	Gail Lacy	Live Music!
Thurs., June 4	Freedman Center	Open mike!!	
Thurs., June 11	Freedman Center	Pat Petersen	Live Music! Beginners' lesson at 7:15
Thurs., June 18	Freedman Center	Gail Lacy	
Thurs., June 25	Freedman Center	Pat Petersen	Live Music!