



News from Sun Assembly

Spring 2018

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Newsletter editor: Pat Petersen



Welcome Newcomers!

We're so glad to have you join us! Some of the recent evenings have been pretty challenging for novice dancers, so we hope you will hang in there, take the hand that's offered, and keep smiling! We'll be sure to program more easier dances this spring.

Spring DanceFest!!

DanceFest 2018 is upon us! It's Saturday and Sunday, **March 10-11**. We are thrilled to have **Kalia Kliban** from California as our dance caller. If you haven't already registered, do so NOW—the event is almost sold out! Our dance venue at the **Murphey School** is a beautiful place to dance and we'll have wonderful music. Check the [Sun Assembly website](#) for details and schedule.

Spring DanceFest has become increasingly successful, attracting dancers from far and wide as we bring in top talent. Many travel a distance to attend, but it is in your own backyard—don't miss this opportunity to meet and dance with people from other communities.

We need plenty of **local volunteers**, so be thinking of how you can help—set up? Kitchen duty? Setting out refreshments? Sweeping? Desk monitoring? Arranging flowers? Clean up? Sign up on Thursdays for a slot.

As always, **no partner is necessary**; we mix it up a lot! You don't need much experience; basic knowledge of the calls and a general idea of the forms will serve you well. No need for ball gowns and tuxes; just come wearing the clothes you like to dance in. Some folks like to change clothes between the workshops and the evening dance. If you can't make it for the whole weekend, you can come for a workshop or two, or just the evening dance, and pay at the door. Come dance!

Highlanders!

Mara and Julie's band of young folks, **The Highlanders**, will regale us with tunes before the **April 19** dance. Welcome the next generation of musicians, and get their parents dancing!

Dance of the Month

Rural Sports, our **March DOTM**, is a set dance from 1748. We'll post the directions on the website. **Whately Barn** is planned for April; May will bring **King's Maggot**, a popular choice from DanceFest.

Well Rung, New Year

With glitter of balloons and swirl of skirts, delicious food, and lovely music by Hey Fever--Roz, Julie, Joey, and Walt—December 31 at the Murphy School was a feast for the senses! We had quite an array of callers—Allan, Eric, Gail, Leah, Russell, and Sharon—who brought their various styles and talents to the wonderful dances, from the gentle grace of Heidenroslein to the wild energy of The Physical Snob. We ended the evening with our traditional Sellinger's Round and singing "Ring It In." Thanks to all the terrific volunteers who helped make it happen. This is really an event to look forward to every year!

Sharon Spangler

Where are we THIS week?

The beautiful, danceable space at the [Reality Center](#), 916 Lamond Ave. in Durham, will be ours for the next several weeks, *with a few exceptions*. Check the calendar and our website to note when we're dancing at Binkley Baptist in Chapel Hill.

...and where have we been?

Christmas Country Dance School (CCDS) held each year between Christmas and New Year's at **Berea College** in Berea, KY, is great fun! It includes American and English Dance in all their forms, singing, storytelling, making music and some crafts. Morning Song and Parlor bring the community together for sharing talents, rounds, and memories. With 300+ people in attendance, the atmosphere is not as intimate as at the Folk School in Brasstown, but the offerings are more varied than Winter Dance week. The college no longer offers housing in dorms, so accommodations need to be booked separately. The best place to stay is at the Boone Inn and Tavern for the lucky ones who can get in before it fills up, as it is in walking distance. Hotels are a short drive away. The college cafeteria encourages conversation over meals; local restaurants provide variety. Fabulous staff, all the young people who come, and those kind people who return year after year, make Berea CCDS a very special place to ring in the New Year.

Mary McConnell

The 2nd Annual ECD Mid-Winter Dance weekend in **Asheville** was a splendid event. Sharon Green from California was the caller and musicians were the incredible Jonathan Jensen (of so many wonderful dance tunes) and our own marvelous Mara Shea. The weekend was full, limited by the size of the Saturday dance space

at the church. Sunday the dancing was at Warren Wilson College with plenty of room. Saturday morning the workshop was on dances to Jonathan Jensen tunes; his piano playing was glorious and varied with trills and arpeggios! And ocarina, too! Saturday evening dances included accompaniment with 3 ukuleles and singing for the dance “Juniata”! Sharon Green’s warm manner and clear calling was very well received. A very fun weekend!
Mary McConnell

Summer Dancing!

Escape the NC heat this summer at dance camp! [CDSS](#) offers dance weeks to suit all tastes. Scholarships are available for those in need.

Link to 1912 dancing

See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQEKXMCusuI> at about 3:25. Note the high energy level, the “running step,” and then imagine dancing with so many layers of clothing on! Here’s another, of dancing in NY around 1929—Morris, sword, and Gathering Peasecods (at 2:30, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CuqhEix8lGY>)

SUN ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP 2018

NAME _____ PHONE (best) _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ E-MAIL _____

Here’s my check to SUN ASSEMBLY for _____ \$20 **Regular Membership** (newsletter; guest pass; special event discount).

_____ \$250 annual **Sustaining Membership** (admission to all weekly dances; newsletter; guest pass; special event discount).

Am including a (tax-deductible) contribution of _____ to the **Celia Wright Live Music Fund**.

Send newsletter by e-mail regular mail.

DANCE CALENDAR and teaching schedule

Dances are held every Thursday, 7:30-9:30 pm, usually at the **Reality Center**, Lamont, Durham unless otherwise noted, with live music generally on 2nd and 4th Thursdays. Check sunassembly.org for updates. Suggested donation: \$7/night or \$25/month. More info? Call 919-286-2202 or 919-683-9672.

WHEN	WHERE	TEACHERS	SPECIAL INFO
Mar. 10-11	Murphey School	Kalia Kliban, Pat Petersen	DanceFest!
Thurs., Mar. 15	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	
Thurs., Mar. 22	Binkley Baptist	Allan Troxler	Live Music!
Thurs., Mar. 29	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	
Thurs., Apr. 5	Reality Center	Leah Hefner	
Thurs., Apr. 12	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	Live Music!
Thurs., Apr. 19	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	Live Music—The Highlanders
Thurs., Apr. 26	Reality Center	Gail Lacy	Live Music!
Thurs., May 3	Reality Center	Allan Troxler	
Thurs., May 10	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	Live Music! Beginners’ lesson at 7:15.
Thurs., May 17	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	
Thurs., May 24	Binkley Baptist	Mary McConnell	Live Music!
Thurs., May 31	Reality Center	Gail Lacy	
Thurs., June 7	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	
Thurs., June 14	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	Live Music! Beginners’ lesson at 7:15
Thurs., June 21	Reality Center	Gail Lacy	
Thurs., June 28	Reality Center	Leah Hefner	Live Music!