



News from Sun Assembly

Summer 2018

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Newsletter editor: [Pat Petersen](#)

Contributors: Donald Hughes, Mary McConnell, Lucy Ringland, Mara Shea



Once and Future DanceFest

DanceFest 2018 was our most successful ever, with **Kalia Kliban** as an excellent draw for out-of-town participants. Over 80 dancers participated; we had to limit the number of dancers on Saturday evening, a first for us! So many dancers complimented us on a great weekend, appreciating the fine facility at the Murphey School, the good dance floor and acoustics, the welcoming community of dancers, the fine music, and the great calling by Kalia. We have been able to attract top talent and developed a reputation for a fine time. The work of our many volunteers provided wonderful refreshments, a well-managed facility and a fine welcome. Thanks to all! But we won't rest on our laurels--

Planning for **DanceFest 2019** is already underway! The date is one week later, on **March 16-17**, at the Murphey School, avoiding the time change weekend (but not St. Patrick's Day). **Bruce Hamilton**, one of the best callers ever, will return after some years. Since Mara Shea will be away in Scotland next year, we will have Becky Ross (DC area) join our local musicians to provide wonderful music for the weekend. Put that weekend on your calendar now! *Mary McConnell, SA President*

Dances of the Month

In June, we'll be dancing Mayfair, a 2-couple dance by Colin Hume to the tune of Grinstock. See a demo video [here](#). July is a time to review previous DOTMs. Check the SA website for future selections.

Reaching Out: Traveling thru time

Those folks you've seen practicing dances as you arrive for the evening are the **Outreach** branch of SA. This past month, they have danced at Royal Wedding festivities and entertained library patrons in Raleigh and Wake Forest. Upcoming events include a talk/dance at Nerd Nite Chapel Hill and a possible July engagement to celebrate Bastille Day. Other opportunities are being whispered about for later in the year. Interested in dancing with us? Talk to anyone in the current group. *Lucy Ringland*

The Highlanders had a Fling!

Once again, **Julie and Mara** brought their student band, the **Highlanders**, to entertain us in May. We were treated to some Irish step dancing this time. After their short concert, they played for a few dances, then stayed on to dance, musicians and parents alike..

Jane Austen Ball

On June 16, several of our members will attend a **Jane Austen Ball**. This event is part of the 6th annual Jane Austen Summer Program, a four-day conference that focuses on one of Austen's works each year. Attendees come from all over the country; on Saturday night local dancers join them to dance the night away at the lovely and historic Gerrard Hall at UNC-CH. It's sold out this year; register early next year to join this festive occasion.

Judith Muse

A note from Mara

Our beloved music coordinator and fiddler extraordinaire is taking a well-deserved sabbatical! What will we do without her? She'll be off to Scotland in the fall to pursue an advanced folklore degree. Mara writes,

A huge thank-you to all who have donated to my GoFundMe campaign! All your contributions will help me pay for travel expenses while I'm in graduate school at the University of Aberdeen beginning in September 2018. It means a great deal to have so much support from friends and well-wishers! I will be writing a blog throughout the year, and sharing my experiences and photos—please visit my new website at www.marashea.com and click on "Blog" in the upper right corner. There's also lots of music to sample and listen to on the newly-revamped website (still something of a work in progress, but it's getting there!). Thank you!

News from SA Steering Committee

The SASC welcomes **Heide Dorfman** to its numbers. If you would like to be more involved with planning SA events, please contact any of the SC members.

News from CDSS

•**Katy German**, an Asheville resident and part of the Jean Richie family, has been appointed Executive Director of CDSS.

•A new move is afoot to strengthen and broaden the programs and services to organizations and individuals.

•Thanks to a major grant, the Society is nearing completion of a major computer system upgrade

that will better integrate all the services and sales and result in a smoother operation.

Donald Hughes, CDSS Board member:

Off to camp!

Dance camp, that is—the season is about to open, and some venues still have space. A large group from SA is going to English Week at Pinewoods—including Joe, Lucy, Vic, Gail, Leah, Mary, Pete (others?); Pat and Doug will dance at Camp Cavell in Michigan. We look forward to their stories! *DH*

Support the dancing you love! Join the **Country Dance and Song Society**, the umbrella organization that provides all kinds of English & American dance & dance camps and scholarships, publishes materials, & much more. Go to CDSS.org for info (and shop their [store](#) for great tunes and other dance-related items—like **Gary Roodman's** latest book of Calculated Figures and accompanying CD).

SUN ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP 2018

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ DATE _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ E-MAIL _____

I'm in! Here's my check to SUN ASSEMBLY for ___\$20 (annual regular membership)

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

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DANCE CALENDAR and teaching schedule

Dances are held at the [Reality Center](#), 916 Lamond Av., Durham, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Suggested donation: \$7/night or \$25/month. For more info, call 919-286-2202 or 919-683-9672.

WHEN	WHERE	TEACHERS	SPECIAL INFO
Thurs., Jun. 7	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	
Thurs., Jun. 14	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	Live Music! Beginners' lesson at 7:15
Thurs., Jun. 21	Reality Center	Gail Lacy	
Thurs., Jun. 28	Reality Center	Leah Hefner	Live Music!
Thurs., Jul. 5	Reality Center	Allan Troxler	
Thurs., Jul. 12	Reality Center	Gail Lacy	Live Music! Beginners' lesson at 7:15
Thurs., Jul. 19	Reality Center	Mary McConnell	
Thurs., Jul. 26	Reality Center	Leah Hefner	Live Music!
Thurs., Aug. 2	Reality Center	Allan Troxler	
Thurs., Aug. 9	Reality Center	Leah Hefner	Live Music! Beginners' lesson at 7:15
Thurs., Aug. 16	Reality Center	Gail Lacy	
Thurs., Aug. 23	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	Live Music!
Thurs., Aug. 30	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	5th Thursday—watch for special topic
Thurs., Sep. 6	Reality Center	Gail Lacy	
Thurs., Sep. 13	Reality Center	Pat Petersen	Live Music! Beginners' lesson at 7:15
Thurs., Sep. 20	Reality Center	Leah Hefner	
Thurs., Sep. 27	Reality Center	Allan Troxler	Live Music!