



Footnotes



Portland Country Dance Community • November-December 2018

“It’s a Wild November, by George!”

By Brian Woodward

The George Marshall Dances in November are a favorite time of year for PCDC contra dancers. As in the past, PCDC has procured Norse Hall for two separate weeknights in November and is bringing in two of the finest bands with one of the country’s premier callers for both events.



Monday, November 12: Wild Asparagus with George Marshall. As I sit down to write this article, I am listening to the Wild Asparagus CD, *Live at the Guiding Star Grange* and holy smokes is it delightful music! How fortunate we are to again have this wonderfully talented New

England contra dance band visit us with the splendid, world-class calling of George Marshall. For those of you fairly new to contra, [Wild Asparagus](#) (David Cantieni, Ann Percival, Becky Tracy, Mark Murphy and Mark Hellenberg) is the definition of the outstanding live music contra dancers love and revere. Dancing energetically to the band’s infectious enthusiasm, we will end the evening exhausted, with our ‘smile muscles’ tired out. Whew! Those of you who have been to this dance know what I’m talking about; it doesn’t get any better than this. They’ve been making their annual pilgrimage to the Pacific Northwest for 25 years and graciously including the PCDC community. Who knows when their ‘wild’ ride will come to an end? Don’t miss this! Come make some memories.

Tuesday November 20: Buddy System with George Marshall. I suppose for inspiration I could put a Great Bear Trio CD in the player but that is only part of the picture of the band Buddy System. Instead, let me take this blurb from their website: "[Buddy System](#) plays acoustic and electronic music for contra dances, techno contras, concerts and festivals. Noah VanNorstrand (of Great Bear Trio fame) is on fiddle, mandolin and foot percussion; with Julie Vallimont on piano, accordion and jawharp. They have taken the country by storm since they started performing together in 2014." The last time they came to town some of us had the pleasure of attending their performance at a house concert. What a wonderful time it was getting up close and personal and marveling at their musical talents, which range from rollicking to soulful. For contra dances they shift seamlessly into tremendously energetic high gear to provide awesome dancing. What a wonderful evening it will be!

November is shaping up to be a contra dancer’s delight

– so mark your calendars for 11/12 and 11/20! Both events will be held at Norse Hall, 111 NE 11th Ave in Portland from 7:30 to 10:30 pm; no lesson. Admission is on a sliding scale: \$10-\$20.

It’s (The BIG) New Year’s Dance!

By Brian Woodward

It wasn’t the biggest or most momentous decision made by PCDC (that would be the fight to save Fulton Hall for our regular dances) but after a brief foray using the name “The Big Dance” we have decided to return to the more traditional “New Year’s Dance” as the official name for the huge event happening on December 29th. That being said, proponents of “The Big Dance” had a great point because how do you get any bigger than all three floors of Norse Hall and upwards of 400 dancers? But, amidst much shouting and brouhaha, the logic of calling it “New Year’s Dance” prevailed. Believe me, regardless of the name this is one event you don’t want to miss!

Saturday, December 29: Joyride & Countercurrent with callers Michael Karcher & Deb Comly. So what’s the big deal? For those who love the elegance of the waltz, PCDC’s good friend dance organization, Portland Dance Eclectic, will be commandeering the top floor of Norse Hall for waltz, swing and all the other wonderful couples dances they do. The flip side of the waltz is the trendy and steamier blues dancing. Go down to the basement and you’ll find the lights on low and the blues on high!



But of course, the main floor is reserved for the foot-stomping, sweat-inducing joy that is contra dance. And here we will have two of the top Pacific Northwest contra bands, Portland’s own [Joyride](#) (Erik Weberg on flute, Sue Songer on piano, George Penk on fiddle, and Jeff Kerssen-Griep on guitar and percussion), and the Western Washington duo known as [Countercurrent](#) (Brian Lindsay on fiddle and Alex Sturbaum on guitar.) [Deb Comly](#) from New Mexico and [Michael Karcher](#) from Seattle will be calling. What a powerhouse lineup!



Admission at the door covers all three floors of dancing. Take a break sometime during the evening from your favorite dance style and take a spin on one of the other floors. You will have a blast! Five hours of dancing at Norse Hall from 8 pm to 1 am; contra lesson at 7:30. Admission is on a sliding scale: \$10-\$25.

[Brian is a member of PCDC’s Contra Committee.]

PCDC Policy Updates

By Christine Appleberry

PCDC is a non-profit educational organization whose primary purpose is to promote the knowledge and encourage the practice of traditional country dance and music through activities and programs open to the general public.

The PCDC **Grant Fund** was created to increase the knowledge and skill of our community of dancers and musicians by helping members attend dance and music camps and workshops. The following changes to grants policy will be implemented beginning January 1, 2019:

- Applicants must have been a PCDC member for at least six months prior to the application
- Members can apply for a grant annually
- Members can apply for a grant up to 60 days after an event
- As the purpose of the grant is to increase knowledge and skill levels, grant recipients will be asked to submit a written statement on how their attendance at a particular event will enrich and/or increase their contribution to our community.

Grant amounts:

- \$75 grants are given for weekend events
- \$100 grants are given for long weekend (four days/ three nights) dance camps



Portlanders have been contra dancing at the Fulton Community Center since 1986. Above, the Portland Megaband rehearses at Fulton in 2018.

- \$150 grants are given for workshops or camps that are five days or longer
- A grant cannot fund greater than 100% of any event. For example if a workshop costs \$35, the grant will be for \$35.

PCDC, along with the first and third Saturday dance organizers have decided to move to a **sliding scale admission** of \$6-\$15 for all their regular contra dances. You are invited to pay what you can afford, what you have been paying or pay a little more than usual. Special events, such as the New Year's Dance, may be priced higher.

And sadly, there may be more changes on the horizon for the **Fulton Community Center**. Portland Parks and Recreation has a new commissioner ([Nick Fish](#)) and is in the midst of a search for a new director. They project being able to begin evaluating the small community centers including Fulton sometime in February 2019 and I, Christine Appleberry, am already signed up to be on the evaluation committee. Portland Parks and Recreation has been trying to close Fulton since 2005 and it now appears that they will succeed, perhaps sooner rather than later. PCDC, together with the other contra dance organizers, has therefore created a hall search committee to systematically look for an alternative hall. We will keep you posted on our search. And in the meantime, we will keep dancing.

[Christine is a member of the PCDC Board.]

Sue Songer Receives CDSS Award

CDSS, the Country Dance & Song Society of which PCDC is a member, recently announced that Sue Songer will be the 2019 recipient of its "Lifetime Contribution Award." CDSS says, "It's hard to imagine the Portland dance and music scene without Sue. She has been an integral part of that scene since the 1980's – as a musician, as the leader of the Portland Megaband, as a leader on planning and production committees and as the walking, talking tune encyclopedia we all depend on." A source close to Sue says, "This is a well-deserved national recognition for her decades of leadership...and advocacy in the community, and her teaching and playing across the country...she does it all with grace and joy!" Sue will be honored on Saturday March 30, 2019 at a celebration in Portland which will feature jams, a potluck, an award ceremony and an open band/caller contra dance.

–Editor

Corvallis Contra Weekend February 15-17, 2019

Two bands!

Genticorum

KGB

Two callers!

Cis Hinkle

Michael Karcher

Registration opens 11/15/18 and camp is expected to fill up quickly, so don't delay!
More info at www.corvallisfolklore.org

PCDC Board Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Ric Goldman and Sue Songer

August 21, 2018. Present: Christine Appleberry, Ric Goldman, Rich Goss, Sara Munz, Sue Songer and guests: Kim Appleberry, William Watson.

Treasurer's Report (via email): We are almost finished moving all accounting activities onto QuickBooks to streamline financials. The current fiscal year's books should be closed by early September and we should be able to file on time and without needing an extension, a major milestone for us. Jaydra and Ric met to look at opportunities to automate and make more of our financial processes available online. Jaydra feels we need to have a more formal annual budgeting process for all ongoing activities so we can start overall organization planning.

Chair's Report: The Hillsboro Contra has new organizers. Victor Fiore and Tarka Ayres are taking over from Ivan Camacho, who has returned part of the Hillsboro grant. The PCDC Dance Tunes Sessions asked to be funded for the 2018-2019 year at the same rate as last year. The board approved this without objection.

ECD Report: The Friday series is doing well. Ball preparation continues. Current registration is already at 69 (about half full).

Contra Committee: The committee is looking into declines in attendance and membership and wants to adopt sliding-scale admissions as used in Corvallis, Eugene and this year's Megaband. The First Saturday Contra Dance also plans to move to a sliding scale admission.

Raindance Report: The committee is meeting with PCDC's treasurer regarding the adoption of new accounting procedures.

Northwest Passage Report: Current registration is 119 (out of 125 max) campers. NWP will continue alternating between contra and English programs. The 2019 contra camp staff will include Adina Gordon, KGB and Eloise & Co.; the program will include one ECD workshop.

Grants: One approved, one on hold.

New Business: The administration of Fulton Park is being reorganized by the city once again. We are having trouble scheduling any 2019 dances until after Jan 2, 2019, which could be rather last minute for some. We will contact Portland Parks and Recreation to determine what the issues are.

Sept. 18, 2018. Present: Christine Appleberry, Rich Goss, Noah Grunzweig, Jaydra Perfetti, Sue Songer.

New grants policy. The new grants policy will take effect in January, 2019. The application will include a mechanism requiring the recipient to report back to the board within two months of the event attended. This report will go to the chair. Christine will write an article for Footnotes explaining the grants policy as well as the new sliding scale admission for contra dances. We will put out the word about grants at dances prior to January. Rich will send us a link to the Google doc that has the list of past grant recipients.

Hall Search. After much discussion and consultation, the board concluded that the likelihood of losing the Fulton Community Center is great and that we should therefore proceed with looking for a replacement. Sue will talk to

Dan Compton, who organizes the Third Saturday Contra Dance, about the Fulton situation. Sue will ask Dave Hamlin to contact the Milwaukie Community Club about availability for Sat. night, Fri. night, and other weeknights and she will ask the Polish Hall about its availability for regular dances. Christine will investigate whether the schools have already vacated Fulton and will include an update on the hall search in her Footnotes article.

The board brainstormed a few ideas regarding the Saturday contra dances with a consensus that all options should be on the table including changing the day of the week that the dances are held. We had mistakenly believed that the Milwaukie Community Club was available every Saturday, so some discussion was given to that before learning that it is not always available.

It was decided to form a hall search committee which will consist of Rich, Sue, Kim Appleberry, a representative from the Contra Committee, a representative from the band UnLeashed! (First Saturday Dance), and a representative from the Third Saturday Dance. Sue will ask Dave Hamlin if he would be interested in chairing the committee.

Other business. One grant was approved.

[Next PCDC board meetings: 11/8, 12/6.]

Upcoming Out-of-Town Events

Dec. 29-Jan.1 [Bash on Vashon](#) at Camp Sealth in WA. Family friendly DIY dance and music camp. Camper organized workshops in anything you want: storytelling, singing, crafts, poetry, bird watching... Dancing in the evenings. Bonfire. No bears because they are hibernating at this time. Heated cabins, special diets accommodated. Cost: sliding scale, \$140-\$245; discount for children.

Jan. 18-20 [Contra Carnivale](#) in San Luis Obispo, CA. Bands: Elixir, Rhythm Raptors, Drive Train; Callers: Nils Fredland, Gaye Fifer, Kelsey Hartman. Urban camp with world-class snacks. Cost: \$150.

Jan. 25-27 [Wintergreen Contra Dance Weekend](#) in Bozeman, MT. Bands: Contratopia, Sassafras Stomp; caller: Ted Hodapp. Cost: \$120-135; \$70 for students. Info: www.bozemanfolklore.org

Feb. 1-3 [Supersonic Contra Weekend](#) in Seattle, WA. Zesty all-contra, no workshop, urban weekend with SuperTrad, The Dam Beavers, Cis Hinkle and Seth Tepper. Info: www.supersoniccontra.com

Feb. 15-17 [Corvallis Contra Weekend](#) in Corvallis, OR. Contra dancing, workshops, jamming, waltzing and lunch potlucks. Camp is gender-balanced. Cost: \$90. Register online at www.corvallisfolklore.org starting 11/15.

PCDC Tune Sessions:

Learn tunes by ear in a group!

2nd Thursdays, 7-9 pm

November 8: George Penk

December 13: Dan Compton

Cost: \$10 PCDC members; \$15 non-members;
\$8 students

Contact delonalang@gmail.com for the address.



Calendar • November-December 2018



Note: Unless otherwise noted all contra dances begin at 7:30 pm with a 30 minute teaching session, and end at 11. All English country dances begin at 7:30 pm and end at 10:30. All dances feature live music.

November

Date	Dance	Caller	Music
2nd Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at PiCC	Laura Hatch	Laura Kuhlman, Carl Thor, Leslie Hirsch
3rd Sat.	PCDC English Ball (must pre-register!) at OP	Nan Evans	Fine Companions
3rd Sat.	First Saturday Contra at FCC	Noah Grunzweig	The Stage Crew
7th Wed.	First Wednesday Contra at PH, 7:30-10 pm	George Marshall	Joyride
9th Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Cynthia Stenger	Heather Pinney, George Penk, Erik Weberg
9th Fri.	Contra in the 'Couve at HDG, 8-10:30 pm	Noah Grunzweig	Coriolis
10th Sat.	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Sherry Nevins	Hands4
11th Sun.	PCDC Advanced ECD, 3-5 pm at RS	Cynthia Stenger	Fine Companions
12th Mon.	Special PCDC Contra at NH, 7:30-10:30 pm, no lesson	George Marshall	Wild Asparagus
16th Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Ric Goldman	Carl Thor, Jon Neff, Sean Nolan, Alan Rutherford
16th Fri.	Hillsboro Contra Dance at OFL	Tarka Ayres	Stepwise
17th Sat.	Third Saturday Contra Dance at FCC	Michael Karcher	The BFD (Betsy, Fran, Dan)
20th Tues.	Special PCDC Contra at NH, 7:30-10:30 pm, no lesson	George Marshall	Buddy System
23rd Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Mary Devlin	Lisa Scott, Leslie Hirsch, Laura Kuhlman
24th Sat.	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Gordy Euler	Coriolis
30th Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Brooke Friendly	Fine Companions

December

Date	Dance	Caller	Music
1st Sat.	First Saturday Contra Dance at FCC	Rich Goss	UnLeashed!
5th Wed.	First Wednesday Contra at PH, 7:30-10 pm	Deb Comly	Joyride
7th Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Cynthia Stenger	Heather Pinney, George Penk, Erik Weberg
8th Sat.	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Noah Grunzweig	The Nettles
9th Sun.	PCDC Advanced ECD at RS, 3-5 pm	Erik Weberg	Betsy Branch, Lisa Scott, Bill Tomczak
14th Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	David Macemon	Damsel
14th Fri.	Contra in the 'Couve at HDG, 8-10:30	David Kaynor	Hands4
15th Sat.	Third Saturday Contra Dance at FCC	Lindsey Dono	Jigsaw
21st Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Erik Weberg	Lanny Martin, Alan Rutherford, Jon Neff, Sean Nolan
22nd Sat.	PCDC Contra Dance at FCC	Rich Goss	Gordy Euler, Keith Moe, Carl Thor
28th Fri.	PCDC English Country Dance at BWT	Ric Goldman	Heather Pinney, George Penk, Maia Hoffman
29th Sat.	PCDC New Year's Contra Dance at NH, 8 pm-1 am at NH (waltz & blues on other floors)	Michael Karcher Deb Comly	Joyride Countercurrent



BWT	Burlingame Water Tower Dance Hall, 8936 SW 17th Ave, Portland • <i>No street shoes permitted on the dance floor.</i>
FCC	Fulton Community Center, 68 SW Miles St. (off Barbur Blvd.), Portland • <i>Dance shoes recommended.</i>
HDG	Hazel Dell Grange, 7509 NE Hazel Dell Ave, Vancouver, WA
NH	Norse Hall, 111 NE 11th Ave, Portland
OFL	Odd Fellows Lodge, 267 E. Main St., Hillsboro, OR
PH	Polish Hall, 3832 N. Interstate Ave, Portland
PiCC	Pioneer Community Center, 615 5th St., Oregon City, OR
RS	Renaissance School, 0234 SW Bancroft St. (off SW Corbett Ave), Portland • <i>No street shoes allowed in the building</i>
St. B	St. Barnabus Episcopal Church, 2201 SW Vermont St., Portland, OR
VB	Village Ballroom, 700 NE Dekum St., Portland
WHC	Waverly Heights Congregational Church, 3300 SE Woodward St., Portland

Venues

Regular PCDC Dances

Unless otherwise stated, all PCDC dances are open to everyone—experienced or not, with or without a partner—and feature live music. All dances are taught. PCDC encourages sit-in musicians (unmiked) at regular dances at the discretion of the hired band and caller.

Admission for regular PCDC contra dances is on a sliding scale of \$6-\$15; PCDC English country dances cost \$10 for non-members; \$8 for members; \$7 for seniors or students. *NOTE: All PCDC dance events are fragrance-free; please do not wear scented products to a dance!*

PCDC Friday English Country Dance. This traditional form of dance has been around since the 1600's and it's still thriving! The tunes are hauntingly beautiful and the dances are graceful, elegant, and best of all, fun and easy to learn! Tea and cookies at the break. BWT, 7:30-10:30 pm.



PCDC Second Saturday Family Dance. Fun dancing for kids and families, October-April at FCC, 4:30-6:30 pm. Cost: \$6/adults; \$5/kids; \$20/family max. For information contact wahedim at gmail dot com.

PCDC Second Saturday Contra Dance. The longest continuously running contra dance in the state. Anyone can learn to contra dance! FCC, 8-11 pm, beginners' lesson at 7:30.

PCDC Fourth Saturday Contra Dance. FCC, 8-11 pm, beginners' lesson at 7:30.

PCDC Fifth Saturday Contra Dance. An open-mike session for callers and musicians. FCC, 8-11 pm, lesson at 7:30 pm. Arrive early to sign up for a calling slot and/or to set up your instrument on stage.

PCDC Second Sunday Advanced ECD. More challenging dances, with focus on style & technique for experienced dancers. Sept-June at RS, 3-5 pm. Cost: \$10.

Other Portland Area Contra Dances

First Wednesday Contra Dance is organized by the band [Joyride](#) from Sept-June at PH, 7:30-10 pm with guest callers. No lesson; please do not wear scented products. Cost: \$8/\$7 students w/ ID.

[Contra in the 'Couve!](#) is on 2nd Fridays at HDG in Vancouver, WA, 8-10:30 pm; lesson at 7:30. 10 miles north of downtown Portland! Cost: sliding scale \$6-\$15.

Hillsboro Contra Dance is on 3rd Fridays at OFL, 7:30-10 pm, lesson at 7.

Cost: \$8-\$12 sliding scale; \$7 for seniors, \$5 for students, under 12 free.

First Saturday Contra Dance. The *UnLeashed!* and *Stage Crew* bands alternate months with guest callers at FCC, 8-11 pm with a beginners' lesson at 7:30. Cost: sliding scale \$6-\$15

Third Saturday Contra Dance. The bands *Jigsaw* and *The BFD* alternate months with guest callers at FCC, 8-11 pm; lesson at 7:30. Cost: sliding scale \$6-\$15.

More Portland Dances

Norske Runddansere: Scandinavian Folk Dancing (including the Hambo) to recorded music. Mondays at Nordia House, 7-10 pm, \$5, all welcome.

Monday Waltz: waltz and other couples dances to recorded music at WHC,

8:30-10:30 pm, lesson at 8. Cost: \$8. Contact eric at smoothwaltz dot com.

Every Wednesday Square Dance at the VB with live music & caller, 7-10 pm, \$7.

Third Friday Céilí: Traditional Irish dancing w/ live music at St. B, 8-11 pm,

Out of Town Dances

Ashland: 3rd Saturdays, Sept.-May at The Grove in Ashland. Info at: www.socontra.org

Bend: 2nd Saturdays, Oct.-April at Pine Forest Grange. Info at: www.bendcontradance.org

Coos Bay: 1st & 5th Sat. Oct-May at Bay Area Senior Center, 7 pm. Info at: www.southcoastfolksociety.com

Corvallis: 1st & 3rd Saturdays, Sept.-June at Gatton Hall, 8-11 pm. Info at: www.corvallisfolklore.org

Eugene: 2nd & 4th Saturdays, Sept.-June at Dunn School, 7:30-10:30 pm. Info at: www.eugenefolklore.org

Hood River: 2nd Saturdays, Oct.-June at Rockford Grange, 7 pm; family friendly. For more info: www.communitygorge.net

Olympia: 1st, 2nd, 4th Saturdays, 7:30-10:30 pm, at the South Bay Grange in Lacey, WA. Info at: www.olympiadance.org

Seattle: English country on Fri. & Sun.; contra on Thurs., Fri., Sat. Info at: www.seattledance.org

Tacoma: 3rd Saturdays, 7:30-10:30 pm, at Christ Church Wells Hall. Info at: www.tacomacontradance.org

www.PortlandCountryDance.org

 → [Portland Country Dance Community](http://PortlandCountryDanceCommunity.org)

lesson at 7:45. Cost: \$12/\$8 students & members.

Kyklos International Folk Dance at Reed College, Sun. 7-9:45 pm. European, Israeli and American line, set and couple dances. Newcomers welcome, \$2.

Portland Country Dance Community

P.O. Box 2189

Portland, OR 97208-2189

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This newsletter, *Footnotes*, is published every other month. If you have a dance-related announcement, event, article or photo for the newsletter, please contact the editor at Laureland3 at yahoo dot com. The information provided herein is as accurate as we can make it, but late changes and/or cancellations may not be reflected. We encourage the submission of letters and articles that might be of interest to the community. All such materials become the property of *Footnotes* upon publication and may be edited. The **DEADLINE** for submissions for the next issue is the 12th of the previous month.

Portland Country Dance Community is a consortium of dancers, musicians and callers promoting country dance and music traditions through regular dances, workshops and other events. Everyone is welcome. Our interests include American, English, Scandinavian, Celtic, and related traditions, expressed through live performance and participation. With this

newsletter we hope to exchange information and share concerns about traditional music and dance.

Footnotes is distributed to members of PCDC and to other folk organizations. **Membership** is \$15 per year for individuals, \$12 for students and seniors (65+), \$25 for households and \$20 for senior households. Membership provides a \$2 discount at all regular PCDC dances, and a subscription to the newsletter. Donations in excess of membership fees are tax deductible. Membership renewals may be sent to: PCDC Membership, 3600 SW Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy #10, Portland, OR 97221. PCDC is an educational non-profit corporation and an affiliate of the Country Dance and Song Society (CDSS), a national organization whose address is 132 Main St., PO Box 338, Haydenville, MA 01039-0338.

The **PCDC Board** is an elected body of volunteers from the community. Board meetings are held approximately every six weeks. Community members are welcome to attend. Help, ideas and feedback from the community, in whatever form, is necessary to make PCDC events happen. Your contributions of time and support are appreciated. Contact any board member for further information via email or: PO Box 2189, Portland, OR 97208-2189.

Current PCDC Board members:

Christine Appleberry (Raindance Rep)
ceappleberry at yahoo
Ric Goldman (Secretary)
letsdance at goldman dot org
Rich Goss (Chair)
rich at richgoss dot com
Noah Grunzwei (Contra Committee Rep)
grunzwei at gmail
David Macemon (Family Dance Rep)
macemondavid at gmail
Sara Munz (ECD Committee Rep)
sara.v.munz at gmail
Jaydra Perfetti (Treasurer)
jaydralin at gmail
Sue Songer (Northwest Passage Rep)
songer at portcoll dot com

Other major PCDC volunteers:

Contra dance booking: Gordy Euler
euleromi at pacifier dot com
Contra Committee Chair: William Watson
williamcallscontras at gmail
English Committee Chair: Susan Gere
susangere at gmail
English music booking: Laura Kuhlman
shawm1550 at gmail
English caller booking: Erik Weberg
erik at erikweberg dot com
Family dances: Mastura Wahedi
wahedim at gmail dot com
Footnotes editor: Laurel Thomas
laureland3 at yahoo
NWP Committee Chair: Ethel Gullette
effieg47 at gmail
Raindance Committee Chair: Kim Appleberry
pdxapple at comcast dot net