

Princeton Country Dancers

Newsletter

Vol. 5, No. 4

December 2005

Cotillion—Sunday, December 11

Candlelit potluck, seasonal entertainment including the Cotillion Singers, and Contra & English dancing to the music of Terpsichore

PCD's annual festive December dance is back at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Trenton this year. And the Cotillion Singers, who took last year off, will once again delight our ears during the dessert break. "Festive or spiffy" dress is encouraged.

For directions & other details, see the PCD website, <http://www.princetonol.com/groups/pcd/>, or pick up a flyer at a dance.

Hinda's call for volunteers seems worth quoting:

PCD's Cotillion is the eleventh of December, 'Twill certainly be a night to remember.

There'll be dining and dancing and entertainment galore

And music fantastic, you'll want more and more.

But the Cotillion Committee on that day will need you. We can't do it alone, there's too much to do!

If you'll give but an hour or choose your own time
There are things that need doing, what you can is just fine.

Three o'clock is the time that set-up will begin.
Later, help in the kitchen will help us all win.
Setting out the desserts is a job one can't beat,
You'll know all the placements of those that you'll eat.

The punch and the water bowls need to be full
So dancers can quench their thirst when they will.
Collecting money at the door for an hour is great,
And cleaning up after we'll sure appreciate.

Paul Prestopino just might do sound
If helpers he'll have. They must be found!
So contact Hinda* by email or sign up at a dance,
There's a place for each one, you can all have a chance!

* hindakriegel AT-sign comcast DOT net

Prosaic summary of Cotillion tasks: Set-up & sound start at 3 pm; kitchen work begins at 4:30; punch & water bowls—sign up to check and fill them for any hour from 5 to 10; clean-up is 10-11; admissions table shifts are 4:30-5:30, 5:30-6:30, 6:30-7:30, 7:30-8:30.

Editor's note:

If you missed the October issue, check the PCD web page www.princetonol.com/groups/pcd for news including the Katrina benefit dance results, the send-off for Ross Harriss, "dance angels," and the community meeting explaining the PCD Executive Committee's goals for the year.

Future newsletters will be posted on the web sooner now that some wrinkles in the paper-to-electronic transition have been ironed out and the editor is no longer preoccupied with Rum & Onions.

Visiting Musicians & Callers for Winter 2005

Wednesday, Dec 7: All Hat No Cattle from Phila

Ross Harriss returns to play with Fire Hazard on **Wednesday, Dec 21**, and to co-lead the Pick-Up Band on **Wednesday, Dec 28**. (See p. 2 for other PUB dates and contact information.)

Wednesday, Jan 18: PCD welcomes back the Contra Rebels band from central Pennsylvania

Wednesday, Jan 25: Alan Winston from California calls an English dance

Saturday, Jan 28: Raise the Roof from Phila
Appalachian clogging workshop 5:15 pm—see back—and Fiddlekicks performance during evening dance break

Wednesday, Feb 15: DanceWizz from Phila

New Year's Eve English Dance

Saturday, December 31, 2005 at the Suzanne Patterson Center, 8 pm – 12:30 am

Sue Dupré calls to music by Barbara Greenberg, Daniel Beerbohm, & Bill Peek.

Please bring:

A festive dessert to share at the break

Floor lamps for lighting

Clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing

For more info or to volunteer help: email pjm@na2k.net, or call Pat at 908-359-2642.

Lots more news on the next page....

Special Appalachian Clogging Workshop!

Saturday Jan. 28 2005 5:15–6:45 pm

PCD will sponsor an Appalachian clogging workshop before the contra dance on the 4th Saturday of January. Instructors Peggy Leiby and Pat McGrath, of the Philadelphia group FiddleKicks, are experienced teachers and choreographers of percussive dance, especially Appalachian clogging. See special flyer for pre-registration details, call 609-924-6763, or email pcdinfo@AtoIDOT.com. FiddleKicks dancers will also perform at the break during the evening dance.

CDSS Board's Executive Committee Visits New Jersey

February 10–11, 2006

PCD is hosting a visit by the Executive Committee of the CDSS (Country Dance and Song Society) Board! As you may know, PCD and LCD are group affiliates of this national organization that sponsors dance camps, publishes a newsletter and member directory, and in many other ways works to support living traditions of music & dance and to link those who love them. This is an exciting opportunity for us to meet and dance with board members from around the country.

On Friday, February 10, the Lambertville contra dance will feature music by Raise the Roof and calling by CDSS Board members. See <http://lambertville.countrydancers.org> for more info and directions.

The CDSS Executive Committee will hold a meeting during the day on Saturday, Feb. 11. That evening, callers from the Northeast, Midwest, and Northwest—Brad Foster, Carol Ormand, and Mary Devlin—will join PCD's local callers at the Suzanne Patterson Center for a contra dance to the music of R&O XXVI. (This event will help offset the expenses of the Halloween dance, which often exceed its income.)

If you'd like to help with visitors' transportation, lunch, or a possible pre-dance potluck, email Barbara greenbee1@comcast.net. For further info. about the weekend's events, watch the PCD web page for updates or email Barbara.

February Fling All-day English dance with Scott Higgs & Hold the Mustard

Saturday, Feb. 25, 2006, 2:30–5 and 7:30–11

The "Fling" is PCD's and LCD's annual festive English dance—a "ball without the homework"—for dancers who are familiar with the basic English figures and calls. Dances will be minimally taught & prompted. Preregistration is required for the evening; the afternoon is open to walk-ins. Pick up a flyer at a dance, send email to febfling2006@Yahoo.com, or see the LCD web page: lambertvillecountrydancers.org/ECDindex.html

Pick-Up Band Dates for Winter

Wed Dec 28 led by Ross Harriss and Larry Koplík (Musician info: lkoplík@Monmouth.com)

Wed Jan 4 led by John Vadnais (Musician info: dancefiddle@pobox.com or 973-829-0457)

Caller's Open Mic

Wednesday Dec 28
Organized by Ridge Kennedy

Community Dance for All Ages

Sunday, January 20, 3-5 pm
Janet Mills calls to the music of John Devine and Steve Hickman (from the Washington, D.C. area)

Head for the Hills Weekend Report

Head for the Hills, PCD's annual weekend in the Poconos, in mid-November was a great success. Over 100 dancers, including 16 children, attended and danced to A Band Named Bob, Raise the Roof, and numerous local contra and English dance ensembles. Workshops included everything from waltzing and zwiefachers to Cajun music & dance to Tai Chi.

We hope you'll join the fun at next year's Head for the Hills, November 10-12, 2006. Watch this space and <http://www.head-for-the-hills.com> for updates.
—Larry Koplík