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Newsletter for January 2007

Howdy!



Happy New Year to all. The holiday season is now behind us - time to look forward to a new year. Let's hope this is a year of joy and peace for us all. And also let's pray we have plenty of chances to dance; like tonight. So, put down the noisemaker, say goodbye to the wreaths, put away the tinsel and stockings, and get in a square!

Class Suspended

Due to lack of attendance and problems with scheduling we have decided to suspend our classes for now. The Executive Board will meet to consider what to do next; we may start classes again in the spring. For those who are interested in Plus workshops, Bill Mager is leading a workshop on Wednesday evenings from 7-9 p.m. at the Buttonball School in Glastonbury.

Windham Whirlers Out and About on New Year's Eve

Several of us braved the winter chill to ring in the New Year throughout the area. Bernie & Ernie Brisson and Fred Rick ventured up to Hayloft to ring in the New Year with "Double Trouble" (Matt Auger and Mike Pettibone) and Leo Boudreau. The evening began with a potluck feast followed by an early start on the dancing thanks to guest caller Dave Smith.

Chuck Morgan sent in this note:

"We [Chuck & Noreen] went to a contra dance for 200 dancers in West Hartford. The band was the world-class "Notorious" from Boston: classically trained Eden MacAdam-Somer on fiddle and Larry Unger (no relation to Jay) on guitar. They were

amazing. There's so much talent out there. Something to think about for next New Year's. Irene mentioned that Morty and she had attended the dance several times in the past."

Alice Leibowitz took a different tack and ushered in the New Year at a silent retreat.

Travel Nights/Banner Raids

We don't have an official travel night for January/February, but here are a few dances of interest; unless otherwise noted dances start at 8, 7:30 Rounds:

Saturday, January 20: Hayloft Steppers; Caller: Daryl Sprague; Cuer: Leo Boudreau. Dance begins at 8 p.m., no early Rounds

Sunday, January 21: Cheshire Cats Pie Nite. Caller: Bill Mager; Cuer: Bev Boudreau. Plus level with one A1 tip. Dance is from 7-9:30 p.m., no early Rounds.

Friday, January 26: South Windsor Snowflake Ball; Caller: Ed Ruddy; Cuer: Randy Roraback; alternating Mainstream/Plus tips

Saturday, January 27: Manchester SDC. Plus level. Caller: Jim DiNigris, Cuer: Steve Garrett. This is a casual dress dance.

CASDC Mini Festival

CASDC will host a Mini festival in October 2007 at New Horizons in Farmington CT on Sunday October 14, 2007. We'll provide details as soon as they are available.

New England Convention

The 49th New England Convention will be in Springfield MA, April 26,27,28 & 29, 2007. We have been told that the problems with the floors have been resolved, there will be wood floors in all the halls.

National Square Dance Convention

The 56th National Square Dance Convention will be in Charlotte, NC, June 27-30, 2007. We'll provide more details as soon as they are available.

Dance Schedule for 2007/08

Burt Starkey has announced that the first draft of the schedule for 2007/08 has been set (we are short a cuer for one dance, but he's working on it). The tentative schedule is printed on p. 4.

Kolegas Step In

While Burt & Jeanne Starkey are in Florida, Alice & John Kolega have volunteered to serve as acting programmers until April. The Kolegas will contact callers and cuers to

remind them about our dances, among other duties. We want to thank John & Alice for once again stepping in to help the club.

Quiet Corner Contra Dance Season

The next dance of the 2006-2007 Quiet Corner Contra Dance (QCCD) season will be Saturday, February 3 at 8 p.m. (lesson at 7:30). The caller is Tom Roby; live music provided by Cathy Mason and Craig Edwards. The dance is at the Hampton Congregational Church at 256 Main Street (on Rte. 97) in Hampton, CT. This is a new location; the QCCD would like as many people as possible to join them and give offer their thoughts on this site as a permanent location for the dance. They are also asking for contributions to their dessert potluck at the break.

Shindigs and Hoedowns at the Powder Mill Barn

Ralph Sweet is calling Contra Dances at the Powder Mill Barn in Hazardville on the 4th Sunday of each month through June. Ralph is also calling and hosting a series of "Hoedowns at the Barn" on the 2nd Sunday afternoon from 2-5 p.m. thru June. The series will take place featuring mostly square dancing to live music with the Barn Band. This will be a fun-level but fast-moving dance that uses the same basics as contra dancing; Ralph is expecting some new people will be joining each night so he might be "doing a mite more teaching than usual" during the early part of the evening. There will also be a couple of contra dances and waltzes-- this is a good chance to introduce some new beginners to both square and contra dancing. For contact information: phone 860-749-4494, e-mail Ralphsweet@aol.com or check the website at www.powdermillbarn.com.

In February We'll Party Like it's 4799!

Our February dance is scheduled for Friday, February 16 at the Sweeney School; the theme is Chinese New Year - 4705, the Year of the Pig, begins on February 18. Caller: Bill Mager Cuer; Kathy Bryant. Hosts: Noreen & Chuck Morgan. The Morgans will provide Chinese New Year goodies for the dance.

In March, the Ides Have It!

Our March dance is scheduled for Friday, March 16 at the Sweeney School. Caller: Jim DeNigris; Cuer: Bev Mackay. Hosts: Alice Leibowitz & Fred Rick. Refreshments: **Sandwiches** - Zoe Leibowitz & Fred Rick; **Desert**: Alma Derway; **Veggies**: Alice Leibowitz. Cookies and chips provided by the club.