

# ACROSS THE LAKE ~ JUNE 7, 8, 9, 2019

English Country Dance Weekend on the Vermont side of Lake Champlain

## OUR TEACHERS



**Joanna Reiner**, our featured caller, has taught English dance for over two decades. In addition to being one of the leaders of the Philadelphia-based Germantown Country Dancers, her calling has taken her from Amherst to Ann Arbor, from NEFFA to Hey Days, from St. Croix to Vancouver, and other points abroad, including many sessions at Pinewoods Camp. Joanna loves teaching workshops for ECD callers, and workshops that explore ECD technique, new dances, and how people learn and remember dance choreography. While known for her clear calling and instruction, Joanna is also an avid dance gypsy, and in her spare time, works to support her dance habit.



**Val Medve**, our Saturday review teacher, calls regularly in northern Vermont for the Burlington Country Dancers in Colchester, the Wake Robin retirement community in Shelburne, and the Richmond summer classes. She also teaches/has taught English dance for many “from away” dance communities, as well as for special events, including NEFFA (New England Folk Festival), the Flurry Festival, Adirondack Dance Weekend, the Stockade Assembly, the Spencerville Ball Weekend (in Spencerville, Ontario), the Strafford Ball, Champlain Valley Folk Festival, and Jane Austen-themed gatherings (e.g., weekends at the Governor’s House B&B in Hyde Park, VT). In 2013, with the help of coffee (which she had forsaken for almost a decade), Val booked and powered through a 2-week ECD tour. For fourteen years (2003-2017), she steered the Across the Lake committee and is now happy to be a worker bee on the committee!

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## OUR SOUND MAN



**Dereck Kalish** has been contra dancing since 2005 and going to local dances in New England, mostly the Boston area, just about every week. Around 2011, Dereck became both a caller and sound engineer, traveling throughout New England with a focus on providing the best service possible to make for a fun and successful dance.

Dereck has a strong background in the arts. In high school, he studied classical piano. After graduation, he attended art school and received a degree in fine arts, with a concentration in sound and sculpture.

In 2016, Dereck joined the NEFFA Thursday Night Dance Committee. He is also the Director of NEFFA's Sound Committee.

When he's not dancing, calling, or running sound, Dereck enjoys working part-time as an Electronics Technician / fabricator for a high-tech art design studio, co-hosting (since 2010) a weekly podcast (for which he is also the audio engineer), gaming, and playing tennis.

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## OUR MUSICIANS ~ BARE NECESSITIES



**Kate Barnes** has been playing piano, flute and assorted other instruments for traditional dancing since 1971, and has been invited to most major contra, square, British Isles and vintage dance events throughout the United States, performing for dances and concerts, leading ensemble workshops, and generally acting in a crazy and often undignified manner. Averaging over 250 engagements per year since 1980, she is arguably one of New England's busiest musicians, and has also played for festivals and tours in England, France, Denmark, Shetland, Scotland and Czechoslovakia. She works with the bands The Latter-Day Lizards, Bare Necessities, Third String Trio, Yankee Ingenuity, Big Bandemonium, Dark Carnival, Crazy Quilt, and The Dactyls and has performed with many traditional greats including Seamus Connolly, Joe Derrane, Cathie Ryan, Chris Norman, Alasdair Fraser, Rodney Miller, and Joe Cormier.

Publications include English Country Dance Tunes (Volumes One and Two), a widely used collection of English traditional dance music, A Little Couple Dancemusik, a collection of 400 traditional couple dance tunes, and Interview With A Vamper, an instruction book of piano techniques. See [www.canispublishing.com](http://www.canispublishing.com) to order.

Recordings include Sous le Ciel de Paris with Third String Trio, Sleeping On a Rock with The Latter Day Lizards, Kitchen Junket and Heatin' Up The Hall with Yankee Ingenuity, Bare Necessities, Take A Dance, Nightcap and at least 10 others in the Boston CDS Centre Dance Series with Bare Necessities, Airplang and Airplang II with Rodney Miller, BLT (Barnes, Lea & Tomczak), Soir et Matin with Kerry Elkin, Yankee Dreams and Moxie with Frank Ferrell, Shape Shifting with Jeanne Morrill, Cascata de Lagrimas, Between Two Worlds and Gypsy Wine with Mary Lea, and Twelve-Gated City, The Great Waltz and Childsplay: Live with Childsplay.



**Earl Gaddis** was originally trained as a classical violinist, with a special passion for Baroque music. But his orientation shifted when he discovered the excitement of small-ensemble improvisation for dancers, with its unique opportunities for creating interesting harmonies, countermelodies, and rich musical textures on the spur of the moment. He is now a full-time dance musician who has been playing violin and viola for various combinations of English, Scottish, American, and international dancing for more than fifty years. He plays at dance camps, workshops, balls, festivals, and dances throughout the United States, in Canada, and abroad. As a member of Bare Necessities, Earl has made eighteen recordings of English Country Dance music so far, and he has recorded with a number of other musicians as well. He lives in great contentment on ten acres of woods in Plainwell, Michigan with his wife Sherry Brodock.

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**Mary Lea** is a Brattleboro VT-based fiddler and violist with a national reputation for playing a wide range of dance music. Performing for dances since 1978, Mary is a founding member of Bare Necessities, known here and abroad as the benchmark of English country dance music. Her musical versatility and wide ranging musical interests are reflected in the variety of bands she has played with over the years, which include: Yankee Ingenuity and Wild Asparagus (contra dance bands), BLT, Dark Carnival and Crazy Quilt (all kinds of music), Paradiso (music from Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and France), Orijent Express (international) and the large ensemble, Childsplay. In the past 30 plus years, Mary has toured extensively throughout the United States playing for concerts, dance weeks and weekend events. She has performed with Bare Necessities and other bands in England, Canada, Scotland, Czech Republic, Greece, France, Egypt and Ecuador. Besides producing 3 solo CDs of couple dance music, Mary has played on at least 30 others, including 18 by the band, Bare Necessities. Also an experienced teacher, she has run workshops for musicians, produced concerts and organized and run dance and music weeks over the years.



Photo by Wayne Hankin

Pianist **Jacqueline Schwab** loves inspiring people to dance and has long played for English country and many other styles of dancing with Bare Necessities and others. She has been heard on over a dozen of Ken Burns' PBS documentaries, including his Grammy award-winning Civil War, Baseball, Lewis and Clark, Mark Twain, The War and The National Parks, as well as on other PBS documentaries, including The Irish in America and Ric Burns' New York: A Documentary Film. She has performed at the White House for President Clinton (celebrating Burns' Lewis and Clark series) and, with Scottish singer Jean Redpath, on public radio's A Prairie Home Companion and CBS's Late Show with David Letterman. She has performed solo concerts of vintage American music in almost every State of the Union. Her newest program "I Lift My Lamp—Vintage Songs and Dances of Immigrant America" draws on her years of playing for dancing. Jacqueline has four solo recordings and has performed on over 50 other ones. She is a graduate of New England Conservatory of Music, where she majored in piano improvisation. She lives on Cape Cod. For more information, see [jacquelineschwab.com](http://jacquelineschwab.com).

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## SATURDAY REVIEW BAND & SUNDAY DANCE BAND



**Aaron Marcus** draws on a rich background of musical traditions including New England contra, classical piano, and music and dance traditions from the British Isles, Scandinavia, eastern Canada, and the Appalachians. Well known throughout the Northeast for their performances with [Frost and Fire](#), [Giant Robot Dance](#), and The Turning Stile, Aaron brings exuberant energy, creativity, and a thoughtful and open heart, whether percussive step dancing or playing tunes on concertina. Aaron recently released their album of entirely original work, "Men Don't Cry," which won a Rutland Herald/Times Argus Tammie Award for best traditional album of 2018.

<https://store.cdbaby.com/cd/aaronmarcus>



**Sarah Babbitt Spaeth** (viola, violin) is a classically-trained violist with a special interest in chamber music and small ensembles. She is an avid English dancer and loves the range of the ECD musical repertoire. Sarah is a resident of Burlington, VT and is also an accomplished fiber artist and ceramicist.



**Jonathan Werk** is a freelancing oboist in Montreal. Jonathan received his Bachelor of Aerospace Engineering in 2011 from Carleton University, and his Bachelor of Music in 2016 at the University of Ottawa. In 2016, Jonathan was a member of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada. In addition to playing classical music, Jonathan's love for music extends into many genres of folk and world music, and he can be found playing Irish, Quebecois, Klezmer, Appalachian, Breton music. He has performed for English country dances as part of the Ottawa Playford Players, Quite Carried Away, and Ruffy-Tuffy.

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## SUNDAY BRUNCH MUSICIANS



**Lee and Julian Shepherd** hail from Binghamton, NY; they play elegant and exuberant music from the classical and English folk tradition for fund-raisers, fairs, festivals, coffeehouses, dances, weddings and parties. Julian, a biology professor at Binghamton University, is an expert in birds and bugs, flora and fauna. Lee, a volunteer at Binghamton's PBS station, is a retired newspaper feature writer.