

ACROSS THE LAKE ~ JUNE 12, 13, 14, 2020

English Country Dance Weekend on the Vermont side of Lake Champlain

OUR TEACHERS



Scott Higgs began dancing in college, and started teaching soon thereafter, when the knowledgeable dancers graduated! For many years he has traveled the world (25 states and 6 foreign countries) delighting dance enthusiasts at weekends and week-long dance camps. His engaging programs make everyone welcome: offering nuances to engage experts, with a light-hearted approach that makes novices feel comfortable and successful. Scott takes particular pleasure in helping dancers stretch their skills and discover new aspects of music and dance, with an emphasis on fun! Scott has composed many of his own dances, and has developed and led intensive dance leadership workshops. Scott has served as a program director for CDSS at Pinewoods, and also has served on its Board of Directors. Jenny Beer and Scott recently published *Key to the Cellar*, a book of instructions and sheet music for the many English country dances they created or interpreted.



Christine Robb started dancing in university and hasn't stopped since. She lives and dances in Boston now, after moving from Canada, and is a dancer, dance organizer, caller, and reconstructor and author of dances, including "Sapphire Sea". Christine teaches regularly at all of the Boston English country dance series, and occasional special events around New England. In addition to English country dancing, she participates in a number of other social dance forms, including (but not limited to) contra, Irish sets, Scandinavian, and related couples dancing.

Photo by Judy Grunberg

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OUR SOUND MAN



Dereck Kalish has been dancing regularly in New England since 2005 and in 2011 became both a caller and sound engineer, with a focus on providing the best service possible to make for a fun and successful dance. He has provided great sound for weekly dances and larger events: Pinewoods Camp, St. Croix (contra week), Peterborough Snow Ball, NEFFA, and CDS to name a few. Dereck can be seen calling English and contra dances throughout New England.

Dereck has a strong background in the arts, having studied classical piano and gained a degree in fine arts. He also serves on the NEFFA Thursday Night Dance Committee and is the current Chair for the weekly Thursday night contra dance in Concord, MA. He is also very involved with NEFFA, as a Director for the last 3 years, and as a member of the Sound Committee.

When he's not dancing, calling, or running sound, Dereck is a full time database manager and enjoys working part-time as an Electronics Technician/Fabricator for a high-tech art design studio, co-hosting 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, Two, and Three), 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. To order: www.canispublishing.com

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.

Kate is the 2020 recipient of the CDSS Lifetime Contribution Award. A celebration is planned for Fall 2020 in the Boston area.



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. Her musical sensibilities arose from her time immersed in the rich classical and folk music scenes of Pittsburgh's "melting pot" and later in Boston. She spins musical stories, building bridges to connect listeners to the different cultures and strands that have formed our American music. Her signature playing infuses the soundtracks of Ken Burns' Grammy-winning *Civil War*, *Baseball*, *Lewis and Clark*, *Mark Twain*, *The War*, among others, as well as the soundtracks of 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, and, with Scottish singer Jean Redpath, on public radio's *A Prairie Home Companion* and on CBS' *Late Show with David Letterman*. Jacqueline graduated from the New England Conservatory in Boston, majoring in piano improvisation. She has performed in almost every State of the Union. She lives on Cape Cod.

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SATURDAY REVIEW BAND & SUNDAY DANCE BAND

with guest musician Julian Shepherd on cello



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 Rufty-Tufty.

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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.