

Playshop Descriptions 2018



OPEN TO ALL AGES



MUSICIAN/BAND/INSTRUMENT



SINGING



ADVANCED PLAYSHOP

*****Saturday Playshops*****

Greet the Day with Yoga Join Stefanie for a bit of gentle yoga to get your body ready to enjoy a day of dancing...and/or to recover from the day before! Come each morning or just when the spirit moves you. Please bring your own yoga mat.

Carol's Contra Delight Carol promises to show us where the flow between the figures creates a whole greater than the sum of the parts. Come experience some of Carol's favorite dances and glide your way to perfection on the dance floor!

Borrowed Figures David will show us how, like the English language itself, contra dancing has grown by absorbing other cultures. These contras include figures that originated in such diverse dance traditions as Appalachian square dances and English country dancing.

Cajun Dancing Betsey will teach the basics...a little two-step, a little waltz...mmm mmm good! Open to beginners and to those who want to add a bit of finesse. And, oh yeah, *live* music with Weasel Gras...

New England Chestnuts Until recent decades, the core of the contra dance repertoire included a small group of dances, some of which go back 200 years. We've all heard callers comment, "...as in Rory O'More..." or "spin to the right, as in Petronella." With David's guidance, we will explore and dance some of the classic dances that are deeply embedded in contra dance DNA.

Contra Quest: Seeking the Perfect Dance David S. will share several finesse points that are quintessential to mastering that marvelous flow that makes contra dancing so glorious (e.g. giving weight, being on time, dancing to the music, caring for your partner). Let's make our dancing a true pleasure for our partners, our line, and ourselves!

Beginning Ukulele What a sweet little instrument...bring yours to this playshop and Brian will start with the basics; you'll learn a few chords and a few tunes! Meet in the Arts and Crafts Building.

Wickedly Fun Squares The title says it all. And Carol and Buster will supply the goods. It can't get any better!!

Waltz 1: Ahhh, the potential for elegance (or just plain fun)!! If you can count to three you can learn to waltz! Jim and Barbara will guide you in learning this simple and wonderful dance. Open to beginners and to those who want to touch up their style.

Stomp Rocket Band Playshop The band has promised to tailor this workshop for the folks who show up! This is your opportunity to get the answers to those burning questions about playing in a band, or for contra dancers, or maybe to learn a new musical trick or two from these fantastic musicians. Bring your questions, instruments (optional) and enthusiasm! You don't have to be a musician to participate...being a music lover is just fine!

Shape Note Singing: Free Time in the Chapel Lynn and Charley will bring you a session with that soul touching sound—shape note song. Come join in the singing or just listen to the sweetest of music.

Cajun Practice: Free Time in Arts & Crafts Building Get in a little bit of practice for the dance tonight. Betsey will hang out and answer your Cajun dance questions and help you shine up your moves.

Late Night Dance: Cajun and Zydeco Dancing!! Come and practice your Cajun stylings with DJ Brian who will provide terrific Cajun and Zydeco tunes for your dancing pleasure.

*****Sunday Playshops*****

Friends Meeting (Not a playshop) Some of our Bears conduct a quiet Sunday worship time for those who want to join in a Friends meeting. It is open to all. Gather in the Arts and Crafts Building unless otherwise notified.

THE SILENT AUCTION BEGINS SUNDAY AT 10:35 AM IN THE CHAPEL...HURRY TO GET THE FIRST PICK!

Scandinavian Smörgåsbord A veritable feast of dances—polka, snoa, schottische and possibly a taste of hambo. David will ease you into the moves as Jubilee plays those dulcet tunes...and you will find yourself swirling around the dance floor in syncopated Scandinavian centripetality!

*******Sunday Playshops Continued*******

David Presents: Contrás vs Squares: 300 Years of Country Dance History (Not a dance session) Where did contrás & squares originate? Why does everyone know what a square dance is but few have ever heard of contrás? David will enlighten us on the evolution of these dance forms over the years, tell us about some key folks who helped make it all happen, and share audio clips illustrating the changing styles of calling and music over the years.

English Country Dance David will teach us English Country Dance which is the forerunner of contrás, so much about it is familiar. That said, ECD offers fresh challenges through its extraordinary variety: formations, figures, meter, tempo, energy level. We'll pay particular attention to these aspects and how our bodies (and brains!) respond to each.

Callers Playshop with Carol Carol will tailor this playshop to fit the participants just as all good callers tailor their offerings to fit the needs and skills of the dancers. You may learn to call a dance or you may get the scoop on some of those essential calling details and finesse points! Bring your questions! Open to callers and non-callers.



Buster Band Playshop These master musicians can help you understand the ins and outs of how to play for contra dancers. They can also offer special tips on the art of playing your favorite Old Time stringed instrument. Bring your instruments and your questions...or your ears. Maybe you can all join in and learn a new tune...or some corny jokes.



A Patchwork Quilt of Dances Carol will give us a run for our money with these wickedly fun and *challenging* contrás, squares...and who knows what else! (Best for experienced dancers.)

Club Contra Bob H. will bring you contrás danced to club, pop, disco and Latin music, with their danceable, solid beats. Think Lady Gaga, Enrique Iglesias, Pitbull and Katy Perry. Not your mother's contra!

Swingy Thingy or Night Club 2 Step *Weather permitting*, Barb and Jim will help you add to your repertoire...add a few new moves and a touch of flair. They'll have you stylin' in no time. (in the Pavilion)



Satisfying Songs with Choruses Anne will teach satisfying songs with great choruses, some songs with parts, and maybe even play with a bit of fun vocal improv. Treat your vocal chords and your songster heart! Join in and sing along, or if you are feeling contemplative, come and just listen.

REMINDER!! THE SILENT AUCTION IN THE CHAPEL CLOSES AT 3:37 :)



VERY SPECIAL EVENT!! For your listening pleasure...each of our guest bands, Stomp Rocket and Buster, will offer a "mini-concert" that will let them strut their stuff!! YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!



Lemmy Sticks (Free time: in the Gazebo) An annual favorite...Peg will teach a fun game in which you'll be singing & tossing & catching & rhythmically "hitting" lemmy sticks with a partner. We recommend that kids be at least upper elementary school age.



Juggling with Jim Kerr (Free time: in the Pavilion) Jim always delights young and old alike when he shares the secrets to becoming a master juggler!! Jugglers & wannabe jugglers of all ages and skill levels are welcome.

Hopefully, you have already paid for your Auction Items and Decadent Desserts, but if not... Monday morning is the time to make that happen!! Please don't make us have to come look for you!

Late-Night Dance—Dance Party with Doug & Barbara! Two of our favorite dancers will be playing a wonderful assortment of music for your dancing pleasure. They will play some swing, blues, two-step and who knows what else?!

*******Monday Playshops*******

Rip-Snortin' Squares Join David as he shows us how Texas and the American Southwest created an exciting style of square dance. Callers took figures from Southern Appalachian dance and boosted the activity level to involve more dancers moving more of the time. These dances were at the heart of the square dance explosion of the 1950's. Now we get to have fun with them!!

Hey Mania Finish off the weekend of playshops with something special...Carol will treat us to dances filled with that sweet move, the hey, in ways that we have never imagined!!