

Newsletter of the North Alabama Country Dance Society

Established 1982

Group Affiliate, Country Dance & Song Society

September 2001

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NACDS home page: <http://www.pobox.com/~nacds/NACDS.html>

September 1st: Harry Delugach with Elsie Peterson & Ed Baggott

Dancing to Harry's calling and Ed and Elsie's playing will be a labor of love on this Labor Day weekend. Harry recently directed the play "Dancing At Lughansa." He'll direct some dances for us this Saturday.

September 15th: JoAnna Laney with Vulcan's Britches

The Birmingham band that opened our first dance weekend in 1998 as their first gig is back again. This will actually be **Vulcan's Britches Lite** because one of their fiddlers - Elsie Peterson's son, Alan - is off at grad school. They should be able to work well with **JoAnna Laney** as caller - she's also a member of the band, playing guitar & feet. Their new CD - "No Ash Will Burn" - is out too, and will be available at the dance.

September 29th: Open Mike with Bob & Cathy White and Curt Lewis

It's a fifth-Saturday-month, so get out your dance cards & tune up your instrument - **YOU** can gain fame & glory as a caller or musician. Callers should show up early to coordinate with & encourage each other.

The fine print: NACDS dances the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturdays of the month in the gym at Faith Presbyterian Church on Whitesburg at Airport Rd. in Huntsville. Come to the refresher workshop at 7PM, then dance until 10:30 for \$6 (\$5 for members, \$3 for teens.) Don't forget to bring comfortable shoes to dance in and please wear a name tag. Bring someone new to a dance this

Ron Franz is moving!

For years, Ron has shown up at 6:30 to set up the sound equipment for most of our dances. He lugged the heavy mixer, amplifier and speakers around. He plugged everything together with a maze of cables and then monitored and adjusted the settings so that we could hear both the caller and the band during the dance. When the dance was over, he took everything apart, wound up the cables, packed up the equipment, and helped haul it back out of the gym.

Ron announced recently that he has accepted a new job in California, and will be moving in early September. He's so quiet that you hardly know he's there, but he will be sorely missed, both as 'sound guy' and as a great dancer.

The September 1st dance will be our last opportunity to say: "Thanks Ron, for your years of service to the NACDS community!"

Positions Available:

Sound Person - Quite honestly, we've been fairly spoiled by having Ron as a dedicated, hard working technician for our sound system. We need several other interested people to work with Steve Nix and learn how our system is put together & operated. If you enjoy dancing to live music, and like being able to hear the caller at the far end of the hall, now is the time to step forward and help out.

Membership Database Guru - Our membership database (MDB) has been kept quite capably for the last few years by Chuck Weber. He used dBase for a while, then switched to MS Access a year or so ago. He prints the labels for each newsletter issue, and to

mail flyers to previous attendees of our dance weekends. I gather that this takes him a total of 1 to 2 hours per month. However, Bryan tries to keep our e-mail lists up-to-date, and thus consistency with the MDB is an issue. If you are computer and database savvy and/or have any ideas for doing these tasks more efficiently, we'd like to hear from you as well.

Coming soon to the NACDS page ...

I recently found a way to output the newsletter as a .pdf file without having to buy Adobe Acrobat. This will allow us to put a link to the current issue on our web page. When we tried this last, it took more fussing with HTML than it was worth. Check it out.

And while you're at our site, (see URL in the masthead) why not sign up for our 'steers' e-mail list. That's short for steering committee, which sounds way more formal than the reality. We discuss upcoming dance events, coordinate schedules, and occasionally arrange to meet for a picnic! The list can't be posted to by outsiders, so spam is not a problem. Do it today!

Blue Moon V

Our fifth dance weekend has been scheduled for May 31st through June 2nd, 2002 - once again we'll dance in the air conditioned comfort of the University Center at UAH. We've already started looking at callers and bands, but if you have any ideas or suggestions, contact Natasha Kunin (880-8740) or Bryan Walls (837-0656). One of the ideas we're exploring is to have a noon meal on Saturday at the Bevill Center. It would be an extra-cost option for attendees, but could reduce the time wasted as everyone scatters to local restaurants for lunch, plus allow further socializing as a group.

You may join us or renew your membership (check date on mailing label) at any of our dances, or by sending \$8, payable to me at the address below. You will receive this monthly newsletter & 2 free guest passes, plus you and all your kin will pay \$1 less to get into each of our regular dances.

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Calendar

*Local events in **bold**; contact Bryan Walls (256 837-0656; bwalls@pobox.com) for more info.*

- Aug. 31 (Fri.) Nashville: Chrissy Davis-Camp calling with Nashville Ceili Band
NCD dances almost every Friday at the Woodbine Community Center, Burbank & Oriel, near I-440 & Nolensville Rd.
Instruction at 7:30, dance at 8:00. For more info, contact Chrissy (615-210-6808) or John (DanceFools@aol.com).
- Sep. 1 (Sat.): NACDS dance - Harry Delugach with Ed Baggott & Elsie Peterson**
- Sep. 3 (Mon.): Knoxville: - Nick Boulet calling with music by Cosmic Crop Circlers (Berea KY)
KCD dances Mondays at the Laurel St. Theatre (at 16th Street); for info: <<http://www.kornet.org/kcd/kcdsched.htm>>.
- Sep. 7 (Fri.): Nashville: Eddie Doss calling with Students of Jim Wood
- Sep. 8 (Sat.) Chattanooga: Toby Koosman with Midnight Kitchen
CTDS dances occasional Saturdays at All Saints Academy, 310 E. 8th St., downtown; 8-11 P.M.; \$5.
For info contact: Steve at 706-937-4991 or Claire & Bryant at 423-876-7359
- Sep. 8 (Sat.): Birmingham: JoAnna Laney with Vulcan's Britches
BCDS dances 2nd & 5th Saturdays at the YWCA, 2300 3rd Avenue North; 7:30 \$6. Info: <<http://www.bamalong.com/bcds.htm>>
- Sep. 10 (Mon.) Knoxville: - Chrissy Davis-Camp with Danny Gammon & All Over the Road
- Sep. 14 (Fri.) Nashville: NO NASHVILLE DANCE!
- Sep. 15 (Sat.): NACDS dance - JoAnna Laney with Vulcan's Britches**
- Sep. 17 (Mon.) Knoxville: - Vicki Herndon calling with Contra Amazons
- Sep. 21 (Fri.) Nashville: Jim Coode calling with Five O'Clock Somewhere
- Sep. 22 (Sat.): Chattanooga: Janet Shepherd with Contraband
- Sep. 22 (Sat.): Birmingham - Unplugged is tentative - check before coming.
- Sep. 24 (Mon.): Knoxville: - Tim Klein calling with music by Nightcrawlers
- Sep. 28 (Fri.) Nashville: John Sharlet with Carnival Knowledge
- Sep. 29 (Sat.): NACDS dance - Open Mike calling with Blue Moon band**

To get your dances on the schedule, e-mail us with the particulars by the 20th of the month. - Doug & Bryan

Archie Faulkner is Feeling Better

Just days before he was scheduled to fly up to Massachusetts for a caller's class at Pinewoods, Archie Faulkner, Birmingham dancer, caller & frequent visitor to our NACDS dances, began experiencing numbness and tingling, etc. down his left side. Apparently, no immediately life-threatening conditions were found, but a medical unpleasantness of kind is a rough row to hoe. A big "Thank You!" to everyone who contributed to the "Archie Fund in the Fiddle Case" during the August 1st dance. He missed Pinewoods, but appreciated the gift, and felt well enough to call a few dances at Mentone later in the month. As Jane Ewing said: "It is great to know that NACDS abounds with community spirit and cares about people."