

Newsletter of the North Alabama Country Dance Society

Established 1982

Group Affiliate, Country Dance & Song Society

July-August 2004

H. Douglas Roth, ed.: hdroth@pobox.com (256) 830-3540 or 882-6378
NACDS home page: <http://secontra.com/NACDS.html>

- July 3rd:** Archie Faulkner with Ed Baggott & Elsir Peterson
- July 17th:** Jane Ewing with Carole Anne Rose and Curly Miller
- July 25th:** Steers meeting at the Mebane's
- August 7th:** Janet Shepherd with Tom Kat and the Fiddle
- August 21st:** Eddie Doss with Bob & Cathy White, Curt Lewis and Jim Holland

The fine print: NACDS dances the 1st & 3rd 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 \$7 (\$6 for members, \$4 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 month!

August issue early!

As some of you may have noticed, this issue is a bit late in getting to your mailboxes. This is not the result of sunspots or an evil conspiracy, rather it is fallout from a confluence of events including a tour of Scandinavia and a persistent case of poison ivy.

At any rate, I seem to have largely recovered from the trip and the rash is almost gone too.

Steers meeting held

On Sunday July 25th, a group of local dancers, NACDS officers, interested parties and occasional teenagers met in the domicile of Jerry and Carol Mebane. After enjoying a feast of the potluck variety, including home-made cinnamon ice cream, most of those gathered participated in a planning session to chart the course of NACDS for the coming year. Topics discussed at the meeting included our next Blue Moon weekend (schedule, venue, bands and callers), group membership costs and benefits, and many other issues concerning our dance group's activities.

Guest Column

by Jane Ewing

Our ever-present Beginners and the workshop - Why you need to be there!

Personally, I feel it is my responsibility as an experienced dancer to arrive early enough to help with the workshop. Often I will learn a tidbit of information that will increase my enjoyment of dancing, or that will help me become a better dancer.

The leader of the workshop needs experienced dancers for demonstrations and to assist instructing the new-comers. Without experienced dancers a beginner has no good example to dance with and mimic

(a necessity of learning). Not enough experienced dancers at the workshop makes their learning a slow and arduous endeavor. The perfect workshop would match an experienced dancer with every new dancer on the floor. The session will go faster with this ratio and the raw beginner, or the one with just a few dances under their belt, will come along very fast. Thus, they will blend in to our overall great experience on the dance floor.

Without new dancers our group would slowly die. We here in Huntsville are lucky to have a steady flow of new dancers. I have asked many a newbie what made them come back - most answer that someone took time to talk with them and they felt welcomed by the group. During the evening be sure to encourage a beginner - say "Hello" and welcome them on the side lines. When they leave say "Good Bye & we hope you come back". Most of all ask beginners to dance! It is very important that they dance at least the first 3 dances with a caring, experienced dancer! And don't forget to wear a "Dance Buddy" badge.

Remember, the workshop starts shortly after 7 - You, the experienced dancer, are needed.

You may join us or renew your membership (check date on mailing label) at any of our dances, or by sending \$10 (\$15 for families), payable to NACDS at the address below. You will receive this monthly newsletter & 2 free guest passes, plus you will pay \$1 less to get into each of our regular dances.

N.A.C.D.S.
3604 Mae Dr. SE
Huntsville, AL 35801

Calendar

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

July 17 (Sat.) Sewanee - Vicki Herndon with Tom Kat and the Fiddle

This Misty Mountain Dance starts at 8 in the Legion Hall in Sewanee TN. Call 931 598-0814 for more info.

July 25 (Sun) NACDS - Steers meeting at the Mebanes

July 30 (Fri.) Nashville - Jim Coode calling with Wingates

Aug. 6 (Fri.) Nashville - John Sharlet with Nashville Weather

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).

Aug. 7 (Sat.) NACDS - Janet Shepherd with Tom Kat and the Fiddle

Aug. 13 (Fri.) Nashville - Barb Kirchner with Shady Groove

Aug. 14 (Sat.) Nashville - *Saturday Dance in Centennial Park!* - Susan Kevra with Nashville Ceili Band

Aug. 14 (Sat.) B'ham FoOTMaD - Barb Kirchner with Shady Groove

FoOTMaD dances 2nd Saturdays at the YWCA, 3rd Ave. & 23rd St. in Birmingham. 7:30 - \$8.

Aug. 14 (Sat.) Chattanooga - No Dance

Aug. 20 (Fri.) Nashville - Eddie Doss with Nashville Old Time String Band Association

Aug. 20-22 FoOTMaD dance weekend in Mentone

Aug. 21 (Sat.) NACDS - Eddie Doss with Bob & Cathy White, Curt Lewis and Jim Holland

Aug. 27 (Fri.) Nashville - Chrissy Davis-Camp with TBA

Aug. 28 (Sat.) Chattanooga - Nick Boulet with Cross Town Traffic

CTDS dances 2nd and 4th 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 or: <http://contranooga.org>

Sep. 3 (Fri.) Nashville - Susan Kevra & Joyce Eyler with Ed Baggott & Elsie Peterson <- *Huntsville band*

Sep. 4 (Sat.) - NACDS - Jane Ewing with Ed Baggott & Elsie Peterson

Sep. 10 (Fri.) Nashville - TBA with In The Woods

Sep. 11 (Sat.) - Chattanooga - Jane Ewing with Up In The Air <- *Huntsville caller*

Sep. 11 (Sat.) - B'ham FoOTMaD - Jef Hodge with the Jakes (Jamie/Jim/Joyce, Edwin & Karen)

Sep. 17 (Fri.) Nashville - Chrissy Davis-Camp with Wingates

Sep. 18 (Sat.) - NACDS - Barb Kirchner with Tom Kat and the Fiddle

Sep. 24 (Fri.) Nashville - Susan Kevra with Runn Barenberg & Friends, James & Rachel Bryan

Sep. 25 (Sat.) Chattanooga - TBA with Tom Kat and the Fiddle <- *Huntsville band*

In Atlanta they dance on Fridays and Tuesdays - see <http://contradance.org>

In Knoxville they dance every Monday - see <http://www.kornet.org/kcd/>

In Memphis they dance 1st and 3rd Fridays - see <http://hometown.aol.com/horselovers/index.html>

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

Other Dance Events of Note

Lake Eden Arts Festival - Oct. 15-17 2004