



# AZ FOLK NEWS

News from Phoenix Traditional Music & Dance



August  
thru  
October  
2011

## Fall 2011 Contra Dance Schedule

### Second Saturday dances

Dances on the second Saturday of the month resume at Kenilworth School on August 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Aug 13<sup>th</sup>** – J.P. Thom-Gronachon with Out of Kilter

**Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>** – Peg Hesley with Pick & Holler

**Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>** – Sat. October 8<sup>th</sup> – Kari Usher with ClusterFolk

### Fourth Friday dances

Dances at the Irish Cultural Center are usually held on the fourth Fridays, with some dances on the fifth Friday, such as in September.

Fri. August 26<sup>th</sup> – Deb Comly with ClusterFolk

Fri. Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> – Clair Zucker with Jumping Chollas

Fri. October 28<sup>th</sup> – Peg Hesley with Hands Four (Halloween Dance; costumes encouraged, but not required)

### English Country dances

Saturday mornings at the Irish Cultural Center: Oct. 1, Oct. 8, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, 19; www.PHXtmd.org for details.

## It's Membership Time

PHXtmd memberships expire in August. This year PHXtmd will have a different membership structure. Individual and family memberships are \$5.00 a person, with a maximum of \$20 for a family. Your membership and any donations you make help cover insurance, publicity, and other costs for Phoenix contra dances. PHXtmd is a local, non-profit, volunteer organization.

## Annual Meeting on Oct. 8

Phoenix Traditional Music and Dance Annual Meeting will be held during the break at the Oct. 8 contra dance. The brief meeting will include an annual report and election of board members. All PHXtmd members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

## Admission Fee Changes for Phoenix Dances

In addition to the change in membership, PHXtmd has changed the admission fee for Phoenix contra dances. Starting Aug. 13, dances cost \$8 for both members and the general public. The cost for dancers 25 and under is \$5.00. The maximum for a family is \$20.00. PHXtmd hopes this new pricing will encourage new dancers while keeping dances affordable for everyone.

## Pre-Dance Dinner Beta Testing Successful

*By Barbara Daniel*

After a six month trial of pre-dance group dinners, we are pleased to announce that we will continue these delightful events. Fifteen to twenty people have attended dinner before each dance. During these past months, we have been welcomed at Pita Jungle, Carly's Bistro, Sweet Tomatoes, IHOP, and Pei Wei.

We have such an amazing diversity of backgrounds among our dancers! Our dinners provide great opportunities to get to know each other better.

We also have a diversity of considerations for our dining needs which affect our choices:

Allow for individual checks;

Flexible table set up;

Open time frame - 5:00 to 7:00pm;

Close to dance venue;

Wheelchair accessibility;

Meet dietary needs - allergy, dairy, vegetarian, etc.

We meet at the eatery before each dance at 5:00, with some of us leaving early to help with dance set up.

It is best to RSVP so that we can alert the restaurant about the size of our group and save a seat for you. So whether you come alone or with a group, please join us!

If you'd like to be added to the dinner notification email list, contact Barbara Daniel at [treasurer@PHXtmd.org](mailto:treasurer@PHXtmd.org).

### AZ Folk News

is a publication of the Phoenix Traditional Music & Dance organization dedicated to the preservation and advancement of traditional Contra Dance and Music, in Phoenix and Arizona.

*For more information or to submit an article, contact*

Janice at 623.910.2152 or

[newsletter@phxtmd.org](mailto:newsletter@phxtmd.org)

Phoenix Traditional Music & Dance

PO Box 10608, Tempe AZ 85284

Membership / change of address form for Phoenix Traditional Music and Dance. Please mail to: PHXtmd, PO Box 10608, Tempe, AZ 85284

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

New Member       Renewal       Change of address

Membership: \$5 x \_\_\_\_ # in family = \$\_\_\_\_\_ (max \$20)  Donation \$\_\_\_\_\_

I'll Volunteer (check all that apply):  Greeting/Door  Refreshments

Sound  Open Band  Special Events  Newsletter  \_\_\_\_\_

## **The Importance of Your Presence at the Pre-Dance (Newcomers) Introductory Lessons**

*By Judy Zeidel*

Whether I am dancing in Phoenix or dancing in a community that is new for me, the pre-dance (newcomers) introductory lessons holds special meaning. Experienced dancers can help newcomers feel at ease and help out-of-towners feel welcome. This is an opportunity to meet and greet each other in a way that isn't possible during a dance. The basics need to be covered for newcomers and there is always the opportunity for experienced dancers to help each other with technique, nuances, and flourishes. It is also an opportunity to learn more explicitly some of the expected behaviors and customs of contra dance culture.

If you are new to contra dancing, please know that we value your presence. The community would stagnate and eventually die without newcomers, so you are vitally important to us! If you are an experienced dancer, please know that your presence at the pre-dance lesson is also highly valued. We depend on you to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere and make our dances lively, playful, and filled with smiles and laughter. As a caller, I love it when I know I can rely on experienced dancers to help demonstrate and teach moves during the lesson, so that there will be a minimal need for teaching once the dances begin. When experienced dancers show up to pre-dance lesson, everyone feels more welcome - out-of-towners get a sense of homecoming and newcomers are put at ease when they see that there are dancers happy to help them and pleased that they are there.

So please, newcomer or frequent dancer, know that you are a vital part of our community. Show up and be present! Together we can create an atmosphere of smiles and laughter to ease the stresses of these difficult times.

(The past several years I have not been able to show up and be present as much as I would like and I am making a commitment to show up and be present more frequently. That said, I apologize for not being able to attend the Aug. 13th dance - it happens to be my dad's 88th birthday and I will be celebrating with him, in Prescott, that evening.)

See you at the pre-dance lessons throughout the year!

## **Dance In The Desert- Nov. 11-13**

The Dance In The Desert weekend contra dance camp is held at the Triangle Y Ranch Camp near Oracle, Arizona. Located at 5,000 ft. in the Santa Catalina mountains north of Tucson, the camp has pleasant weather during the day and cool evenings.

The 2011 camp features The Great Bear Trio plus callers Adina Gordon and Jim Kitch. Great Bear Trio is well known for their high energy blend of traditional and original material. Jim Kitch has been calling dances since the 1980's, and Adina Gordon is recognized for her joyful calling of both old and new contras and squares.

Registration and more information on Dance In The Desert is at [www.tftm.org](http://www.tftm.org). This year's camp promises to be a fun-filled weekend of dancing, workshops, and jam sessions.

## **Halloween Contra Dance- Tucson**

Tucson Friends of Traditional Music is having a Halloween contra dance on Saturday, October 29. The dance will be at First United Methodist Church, 915 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St. There will be a newcomer's lesson at 6:30 PM, with dancing from 7 – 10 PM. Costumes are encouraged. For more info go to [www.tftm.org](http://www.tftm.org) or call Dale at 520-906-0352.

## **No Phoenix Contra Dance- Nov. 12**

Due to the fact that many Phoenix area contra dancers go to Dance In The Desert, there will not be a contra dance in Phoenix on the second Saturday in November, Nov. 12.

## **Phoenix Traditional Music and Dance**

is an Arizona, nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation) preserves old-time music in Phoenix by presenting and promoting dances, concerts, and other special events throughout the year. Your membership supports PHXtmd's work. A monetary donation to PHXtmd, beyond the membership fee, may be tax deductible.



# CONTRA CALENDAR

## August - October 2011

### **PHXTMD Monthly Dances**

#### **PHOENIX**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays / <sup>NEW</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays / Select 5<sup>th</sup> Fridays**

Free Newcomer Orientation/Lesson: 7:00PM,

Dance: 7:30 to 10:30PM

\$8.00, \$5.00 for dancers 25 and under

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays @ Kenilworth School**

1210 N. 5th Ave. (at I-10), Phoenix 85003.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Fridays / Select 5<sup>th</sup> Fridays @ Irish Cultural Center**

1106 N Central Ave, Phoenix 85004 \$7.00

#### **August**

Sat. Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> – J.P. Thom-Gronachon with Out of Kilters

Fri. Aug. 26<sup>th</sup> – Deb Comly with ClusterFolk

#### **September**

Sat. Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> – Peg Hesley with Pick & Holler

5<sup>th</sup> Fri. Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> – Clair Zucker with Jumping Chollas

#### **October**

Sat. Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> – Kari Usher with ClusterFolk

*Annual Meeting during the break*

Fri. Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> – Peg Hesley with Hands Four

*Halloween Dance*

#### **November**

Sat. Nov. 12 – no dance in Phoenix

#### **English Country Dances 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 11/05**

Irish Cultural Center, 1106 N. Central Ave, Phx, 85004

10:00 AM – Noon, on select Saturdays starting in October.

\$7 at the door, or \$48 paid in advance for the entire 8

dance series.

#### **MONTHLY POTLUCK and Board meeting**

**Sept. 12,** All are welcome.

*Usually the 1st Monday of the month.*

Dinner: 7:00PM Meeting: 8:00PM

Location: Ron and Linda Nieman's home.

Call to confirm date, and for directions.

480-893-3328 or 602-268-7181.

#### **For More Info:**

Go to [www.phxtmd.org](http://www.phxtmd.org) or call/text Carl at 602-268-7181

for more info on dances or other PHXTmd events

## AROUND ARIZONA



#### **PRESCOTT 09/09, 10/01, 11/04**

Folk Happens! Contra Dance

Grace Sparkes Activity Center, 824 E. Gurley St.

Lesson 7:30, dance 8:00-10:30PM.

Sept. 9 – Archie Maclellan with Iona

Oct. 1 - Multiple Callers and Band from Folk Music Festival

Nov. 4 – Pat Tognoni and Jumping Chollas

\$7 public; \$5 members or other Arizona Contra dance organizations, teachers, and students; \$3 teacher and student members

[www.folkhappens.org](http://www.folkhappens.org), Bruce: 928-445-3496.

#### **COTTONWOOD Check website for fall schedule**

Contra dances at the Cottonwood Clubhouse

(Civic Center) in old town Cottonwood.

Lesson: 6:30PM, Dance: 7:00 - 10:00 PM. \$6

[www.AzWeDance.org](http://www.AzWeDance.org)

Deb: 928-774-5936, e-mail: [azwedance@gmail.com](mailto:azwedance@gmail.com)

#### **FLAGSTAFF 09/03, 10/08, 11/05**

Flagstaff Friends of Traditional Music Contra Dance

NAU's Ashurst Hall, 7:30-11:00PM. \$9, \$6 member/student

[www.ffotm.org](http://www.ffotm.org) or call Kris at 928-526-3020 for info.

#### **TUCSON 08/20, 08/27, 09/03, 09/17, 09/24, 10/1, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/05**

Tucson Friends of Traditional Music (TFTM) Contra

Dances, 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church, 915 4<sup>th</sup> St.

Lesson 6:30 PM, dance 7-10 PM. \$8 / \$7 members.

Lynn Maners, [lmaners@dakotacom.net](mailto:lmaners@dakotacom.net)

Dale 520-906-0352, [www.tftm.org](http://www.tftm.org).

#### **OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS**

*(See articles on page 2 for details.)*

**Halloween Dance** – Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> Tucson, AZ

**Dance In The Desert** – Nov. 11-13, Near Tucson, AZ

*All calendar information subject to change. Please contact each organization to confirm dates, times, locations, etc.*

### **Phoenix Traditional Music & Dance**

PO Box 10608 ♦ Tempe AZ 85284

[www.PHXtmd.org](http://www.PHXtmd.org)