



# AZ FOLK NEWS

News from Phoenix Traditional Music & Dance



November - December 2010



## Mark Your Calendars for 2010 events...

### No Phoenix Dance on Nov. 13th

There will NOT be a Phoenix Contra Dance on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, November the 13<sup>th</sup>. Many dancers attend [Dance in the Desert](#), (←link) hosted by Tucson Friends of Traditional Music that same weekend.

### Holiday Season Events

Come to ICC the last week of October to experience the two nights of dancing in the same week!

### Peg Hesley to perform with Pick N Holler

Peg, and special guest caller Dave Black, to bring you entertaining, interesting dances at the beloved Irish Cultural Center. Bring your friends on **October 27 at 7PM**, and kick up your heels to the driving old-timey sounds of Pick & Holler.

### Elio Lewis to call Halloween Dance at the Irish Cultural Center

In addition to the usual 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday dance at the ICC, we are having a special **5<sup>th</sup> Friday dance on Oct 29**. This will be a costume dance party.



**Burn the Calories Dance: Nov 26, Friday after Thanksgiving** Thanksgiving Day can be 'no guilt' when you come to dance the calories away at this annual event called by Nevada/California caller, [Susan Petrick](#). Susan has been calling on the west coast and all over the U.S. for over ten years. She offers a variety of interesting dances and her expert calling style quickly and effortlessly gets folks moving on the floor. She will be calling to the eclectic music of ClusterFolk.



**Dec DEC 31, Friday**  
**NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE PHOENIX**

See calendar page for details.



## AZ FOLK NEWS GOES GREEN!

We are saving trees, money, and our volunteers' time by no longer 'snail' mailing our newsletter, but rather sending it out digitally as a pdf file, via email.

**MEMBERS: please be sure we have your current email address!** (Another reason to join or renew.)

If you are not a member of PHXtmd you may pick up a copy at one of our dances, or view the newsletter on our website, Facebook and Meet-up pages. Be sure to view all four pages so you get the calendar for the rest of the year!

## Membership Renewals

A special thank you to everyone who has made a donation, become a member, or renewed their membership in PHXtmd over the past year. Most annual memberships expired August 2010. Benefits to becoming a member or renewing your membership include:

- ▶ Reduced admission to Phoenix contra dances
- ▶ Free, direct delivery of the PHXtmd newsletter
- ▶ Reduced admission to other AZ contra dances
- ▶ Knowledge that you are supporting your local nonprofit contra dance group.

Please join or renew your membership by filling out the form below or at [www.PHXtmd.org](http://www.PHXtmd.org) and mailing it or bringing it to your next dance. Your membership and donations to Phoenix Friends helps cover the cost of putting on Phoenix area contra dances.

Thank You.



Membership / change of address form for Phoenix Traditional Music & Dance.  
Please mail to: PHXtmd, 13236 N 7<sup>th</sup> St. ♦ Ste 4 #191 ♦ Phoenix AZ 85022

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

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

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

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

Email notices and newsletter OR  OPT-OUT of Email

New Member  Single: \$15  Address Change

Renewal  Family: \$25  Donation \$\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

### 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**  
13236 N 7<sup>th</sup> St. ♦ Suite 4 #191  
Phoenix AZ 85022

In my humble opinion, although I find the four to five West Coast Swing weekend-long events I attend in AZ/CA each year are very educational and fun, the most fun I have *all year* are the Contra Dance weekends (six so far in 2010). Granted, our local Contra dances are always fun, but they can't generate the same high-energy as a hall full of experienced dancers moving to one or two of the best bands & callers in the country.



These weekends occur all around the country (& internationally), we have far fewer in the West than the East, but they're still a very memorable 48-hr (approx) natural-high.

I returned yesterday, with two great carpool dance friends, Becky E. & Judy F., from Harvest Moon at the amazing & historic sprung-floor Carillo Ballroom in Santa Barbara, CA. I'd only been once before, in 2003, and had to wonder this weekend why it took me so long to return. Bands were Wild Asparagus & Clayfoot Strutters, from the East Coast, with callers George Marshall and Jeremy Korr. Approximately 220 dancers came from around the country, with most being from CA; AZ sent the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest contingent.

Note: some of these weekends are so popular they have to use a lottery to fairly choose registrants. Others fill up the first day of registration & start a waiting list, so it's important to have your registration with check postmarked on the first allowable day. I read that Harvest Moon had over 150 people on waiting list. Other weekend Contras that may take a few years of applying to get into include Contra Carnivale (San Luis Obispo in February) & Harbin Hot Springs.

With the internet it's become very easy to search for local and weekend events on sites like:

<http://www.contracorners.net/contra/links/dancemap.html>

Comprehensive international listing:

<http://www.contradancelinks.com/festivals.html>



You can see lots of additional photos (six 'Harvest Moon' folders) shot by a very nice California dancer and writer:  
Sonia Sones:

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=567915596&v=photos>

*Many of our AZ dancers are in some of her photos! ☺*

Here are some events to check out (mostly in the West):

**October 29-31, 2010**

[New Mexico Fall Harvest Camp aka Boo Camp](#)

Location: Jemez Springs, New Mexico  
Caller(s): Pat Tognoni and Noralyn Parsons  
Band(s)/Musician(s): The Grouchy Geezers

**November 6, 2010**

[Fall Has Sprung Dance Festival](#)

Location: Grass Valley  
California Caller(s): Nils Fredland, Joyce Miller and Warren Blier  
Band(s)/Musician(s): Contra Sutra (Dave Bartley, Ryan McKasson, Marni Rachmiel, Russell Shumsky), Elixir & Hot Cider

Note: since there are usually more women than men that sign-up, as a woman it may be better to sign-up with a real or "paper partner." For guys, your chances are usually the best, but it can be very helpful to ask local women dancers if they'd like a paper partner.

***Be sure and check out our own Arizona weekends; there may still be slots available:***

**November 12-14, 2010**

[Dance in the Desert](#)

Location: Oracle, Arizona  
Caller(s): Rodney Sutton and Lisa Greenleaf;  
Band(s)/Musician(s): Notorious (Mark Murphy, Sam Barlett, Eden MacAdam-Somer, Larry Unger)



**Coming in 2011**

**May 20-22, 2011**

[May Madness](#)

Caller(s): TBA

Location: Prescott, Arizona

Band(s)/Musician(s): TBA

Thanks to Flagstaff, AZ's own Deb Comley and other volunteers, there were a few Contra dances for the first time this year, a few weeks ago; I'll definitely go again in 2011.

**September 16-18, 2011**

[Picking in the Pines](#)

Arizona Caller(s): TBA

Location: Flagstaff,

Band(s)/Musician(s): TBA

I hope others will also submit their Contra stories, photos & videos to our newsletter ([www.PhxTMD.org](http://www.PhxTMD.org)), and/or to our Facebook & Meet-up groups: Contra Dance Phoenix.

I'm also hoping to encourage the creation of memorial pages for some of the amazing dance organizers, callers, musicians & dancers who have done so much to promote the joy of Contra Dancing in Arizona. Meanwhile, if you have stories, photos or videos of Craig Tinney, you can post them to his Facebook page—helping to keep this amazing man's memory alive for those who knew & loved him.

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1197815333&v=wall>

Happy dancing, Dave

*Thanks to Dave for sharing his experiences with us all!*



## Let's Get 'er done!



You love those great snacks and beverages that are available at our monthly dances, don't you? Did you know that those goodies are supplied by volunteers of the club? Each month we need volunteers to help with the purchase of these items (reimbursed up to \$25.00/mo), and bring them to the dance. If you are able to help, please contact Irene Lundquist at 480-820-3181.

Your time, and talent, are also needed in many other areas for the club, so please help support PHXtmd by volunteering!

*The PHXtmd Board of Directors, extends a huge 'THANK YOU' to all of you who have volunteered in the past to help make our dances a success!*

## PHXtmd Newsletter Advertising Opportunity

Starting in 2011, with our first quarterly newsletter, PHXtmd will be publishing our events calendar with an advertising page on the back. This page is included with the newsletter, which is distributed at all dance events, sent via email to all club members, and available online on our website, Facebook, and Meet-up pages as a download.

Ads are business card sized (3.5" x 2"), and are only \$25.00 per issue. Submission deadline is Dec. 15, 2010. Please contact Janice at [newsletter@PHXtmd.org](mailto:newsletter@PHXtmd.org)

## Appreciation to the PHXtmd Board

Next time you get to dance with one of the great members of our 2009/2010 Board of Directors, please give them thanks for their tireless work given throughout the year!

Carl Morgan, President  
 Michael Cohen, Secretary  
 Peg Hesley, Treasurer  
 Dave Black, Director  
 Barbara Daniel, Director  
 Laura Davidson-Crowley, Director  
 Joe Hesley, Director / Webmaster  
 Bill Miller, Director  
 Ron & Linda Nieman, Directors Emeritus



## SOUND FAMILIAR? Anonymous quotes:

"A contra dance is like an amusement park ride we make for ourselves."  
 "The music is irresistible and often hypnotic. I love being compelled to smile."  
 "It's amazing to have so much fun with people I have never met before."  
 "Ecstasy — the state-of-mind, not the drug"

## Special Event at the Irish Cultural Center

The Irish Cultural Center invites you to a celebration of all things Irish and Celtic. They will feature Pipers, Irish Step Dancers, some of the best Irish Music in the Valley, Food, Drink, A Craft Sale and for the kids there will be a Hayride and numerous kids games with prizes. There will also be a raffle with cash prizes, food and a cash bar.

This is a great way to celebrate Halloween with the entire family.

### Autumn Celebration

**When:** Saturday, October 30, 2010 10:00AM - 5:00PM

**Where:** Irish Cultural Center

1106 North Central Ave, Phoenix Arizona 85004

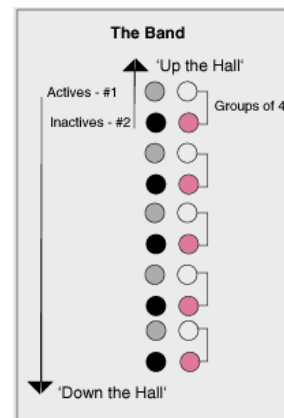
**Admission:** Adults \$10; Families \$20

### ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE:

10:00 – 10:30AM Phoenix Pipe Band  
 10:30 – 10:50AM Celtic Dance Academy  
 10:50 – 11:20AM Pat McCrossan  
 11:20 – 11:40AM McTeggart Irish Dancers  
 11:40 – 12:10PM Direct from Ireland Brendan McCrossan  
 12:10 – 12:30PM Bracken School of Irish Dance  
 12:30 – 1:00PM Academy of Irish & Celtic Studies Band  
 1:00 – 1:30PM Glendale Police Pipes & Drums  
 1:30 – 1:50PM Tir Conaill Academy of Irish Dance  
 1:50 – 2:50PM Seanachie  
 2:50 – 3:10PM Phoenix Irish Step Dancers  
 3:10 – 4:10PM Trotters Wake  
 4:10 – 5:00PM Celtica!

## Beginner's Corner

Here is a helpful diagram showing you how to line up for a typical start of a Contra dance.



## Interesting Facts - Did you know?...

- Contra dancing has been around since the 1600s, originating in England and France, and is experiencing a renaissance (no pun intended) of popularity.
- 'Hey' and 'Gypsy' patterns were not part of the dance until the 1970s.

Phoenix Traditional Music & Dance (a 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, entitles you to discounts at most PHXtmd events, and a subscription to the Arizona Folk News, a newsletter published four times a year. A monetary donation to PHXtmd, beyond the membership fee, is tax deductible.





# CONTRA CALENDAR November - December 2010

## PHXTMD Monthly Dances

### PHOENIX

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays / 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays / Select Fridays

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays @ Kenilworth School (KS)

1210 N. 5th Ave. (at I-10), Phoenix 85003. Lesson: 7PM, Dance: 7:30-10:30 PM. \$10, \$7 for members, \$3 under 18.

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays @ Irish Cultural Center (ICC)

1106 N Central Ave, Phoenix 85004 7:30-10:00 PM. \$7

Wed Oct 27 (ICC)... Peg Hesley with Pick & Holler

Fri Oct 29 (ICC) ... Elio Lewis with ClusterFolk

Sat. Nov 13 ... N O D A N C E

Fri. Nov 26 (ICC) ... "Burn The Calories Dance"  
Susan Petrick with ClusterFolk

Sat. Dec 11 (KS) ... Peg Hesley with Privy Tippers

Fri. Dec 31 (ICC) ... "New Year's Eve Dance"

Chris Page with Hands Four

## MONTHLY POTLUCK and Board meeting

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> & Dec 6<sup>th</sup>, Monday All are welcome.

*Usually the 1st Monday of the month.*

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

Location: Ron and Linda Nieman's home.

Call to confirm date, and for directions.

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

## OUR SPECIAL EVENTS

OCT 29. Friday  
HALLOWEEN Dance

Irish Cultural Center  
Costumes Welcomed



NOV 26, Friday Day after Thanksgiving  
BURN THE CALORIES Dance Irish Cultural Center

'Gobble 'til you Wobble' 'cause you can dance away  
all those extra calories with us the day after!

Bring snacks too if you'd like.



DEC 11, Saturday  
HOLIDAY CELEBRATION Dance

Kenilworth School

DEC 31, Friday  
NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

Irish Cultural Center

PHXTmd members: @12.00

Non-Members: \$15.00



## AROUND ARIZONA



### PRESCOTT 11/05, 12/03

Folk Happens! Contra Dance

Grace Sparkes Activity Center, 824 E. Gurley St.

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

\$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 11/20, 12/18

Contra dances at the Cottonwood Clubhouse  
(Civic Center) in old town Cottonwood.

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

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

### FLAGSTAFF 11/06, 12/04

Flagstaff Friends of Traditional Music Contra Dance

NAU's Ashurst Hall, 7:30-11:00PM. \$8, \$5 member/student.

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

### TUCSON 11/06, 11/20, 11/27; 12/04, 12/18, 12/31

Tucson Friends of Traditional Music (TFTM) Contra  
Dances, 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church, 915 4<sup>th</sup> St.

Lesson 7:30 PM, dance 8-11 PM. \$8 / \$7 members.

Lorien at [contradance@tftm.org](mailto:contradance@tftm.org) or 520-591-2432,

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

## OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

NOV 12-14: DANCE IN THE DESERT, ORACLE AZ  
<http://tftm.org/ditd10/danceinthedesert010.html>

DEC 18: 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Extravaganza COTTONWOOD  
Deb: 928-774-5936, email: [azwedance@gmail.com](mailto:azwedance@gmail.com)

DEC 31: NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE  
TUCSON [www.tftm.org](http://www.tftm.org)

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

## Phoenix Traditional Music & Dance

13236 N 7<sup>th</sup> St. ♦ Suite 4 #191 ♦ Phoenix AZ 85022

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