

# HANDS FOUR



line art by Becky Hill

SPRING 2012

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH BAY COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

## The Notorious Faultline Frolic

You can't come if you aren't registered, so go to [www.nbcds.org](http://www.nbcds.org) to register online, download an application, or pick up a form at your local contra. Dancing, singing, eating and celebrating community are all key to Faultline Frolic, our urban contra camp at Monroe Hall in Santa Rosa. The annual Frolic runs Friday night, June 15 to Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup>.

The weekend features Notorious, considered by certain opinionated dancers to be the reigning hottest contra band in the land. Eden MacAdam-Somer on fiddle brings classical technique and international versatility to the melody lead; Larry Unger on guitar and banjo writes unforgettable tunes and is the undisputed master of contra rhythm; Sam Bartlett on mandolin is everybody's favorite virtuoso stuntman; and Pokey is the percussionist most in demand with bands throughout the country.

Cis Hinkle, masterful Atlanta caller, teaches quickly and clearly with great programming and an unflinching sense of fun. When you register, be sure to note whether you can offer housing to gypsies. And don't wait too long to sign up; our weekend's reputation is growing, and the hall is charming—but small!

## We Met Our Goal

A very generous anonymous donor offered NBCDS \$1,000 if we could raise a matching \$1,000 from donations. We brought the challenge to our dancing community and you came through!

With donations from \$5 to \$200, our total, including the challenge grant, was almost \$2,400. The funds will be used to support our existing dances and expand outreach to new dancers. Thanks to all the contributors and especially our major donor.

## Mad Robin Syndrome

The annual English Extravaganza takes place this year on Saturday, June 9, 2:00-11:00 pm at Hermann Sons Hall in Petaluma. This year's dancing master is Sam Weiler, a former local caller whom we have missed greatly since he left us a few years ago to move North and then East. Our band this year includes local favorites Shira Kammen and Charlie Hancock as well as the always surprising Wayne Hankin. As is our custom, we'll follow the Saturday afternoon workshop and evening ball with a Sunday potluck brunch and special Sebastopol dance to make it a full weekend of fun. Visit <http://madrobin.org/home> for details.

## Bring A Friend

Dance attendance has slowly but steadily decreased over the last few years. Along with other ways to promote and publicize, we find the best way to attract new dancers is by word of mouth. Your enthusiasm for dancing is contagious. Help us keep our dance community thriving by inviting your friends, neighbors and co-workers to a dance. A reminder to NBCDS members: there is a free dance coupon for new dancers in the back of the membership booklet. Bring a friend — they'll dance for free!

## New Sonoma Valley Barn Dance

Remember when you first learned to do-si-do and star left? Think how nice it was to swing with someone who knew what to do. Pay it forward! Now you can support a room full of beginners at the Grange Barn Dance in Sonoma Valley any third Saturday. Patience is helpful but not required -- it's actually fun to re-live your first time contra dancing. The dance is even attracting families with middle schoolers and college kids. Beginners are the future of contra dancing. The strategy at the Grange is to keep it cheap (free for anyone under 26, \$5-7 donation for those older) and to insure that dances the whole evening are easy to learn (sorry, no heys or contra corners). We skip Beginners' Hints because it's ALL Beginners' Hints. Not an NBCDS-sponsored dance.

## Special Contrás in San Rafael

In May, we are honored to host fiddler Alan Jabbour and superb instrumentalist Ken Perlman at the SRF contra with our own Lynn Ackerson calling. Jabbour graduated from symphony work to study, record and play traditional fiddle tunes. His collected music from Appalachia is now in the Library of Congress. He's worked at the NEA and established the American Folklife Center at the LOC. Ken Perlman (banjo, guitar) has taught, written instruction books and performed at numerous prestigious music festivals. Join us for this very special dance and watch for house concerts and workshops.

And if you feel the earth shakin' on Sun June 17, 7:30 pm, it's the Aftershock dance following Faultline Frolic, with Cis Hinkle and Notorious!

## SRF ECD EXPANDING

San Rafael English Country Dance is expanding to two Sundays per month: second and fourth Sundays, 2-4:30 PM, Pickleweed Community Center.

SRF ECD, because it is a start-up group and not yet under sponsorship of a CDSS affiliate, has found a home with the San Rafael Parks and Rec Dept. We look forward to increasing our Marin base of dancers as we publicize through local newspapers, colleges, community bulletin boards, and word of mouth. The more consistent a dance group, the more stable the program. Thanks go to all Bay Area dancers, callers, and musicians who have supported us for these last two years of startup. Our Jane Austen Tea Dance felt as though we had finally come of age. Not an NBCDS-Sponsored dance.

..... End Notes .....

Dancers are the athletes of God  
~ Albert Einstein

## 2011/12 NBCDS Board members

Susan Amato		<a href="mailto:susan@nbcds.org">susan@nbcds.org</a>
Lenore Cantrell	(707) 933-9740	<a href="mailto:lenore@nbcds.org">lenore@nbcds.org</a>
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Andy Westbom, Treas.	(707) 526-5643	<a href="mailto:andy@nbcds.org">andy@nbcds.org</a>

# North Bay Dance Calendar: Spring 2012

English Country Dances (ECD) meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays, 2–4:30 pm, at Wischemann Hall, 460 Morris St., Sebastopol. Admission rates are the same as described below for Contra dances. Call 707-829-0168 for more information or contact [kalia@nbcds.org](mailto:kalia@nbcds.org) or [kwoeltjen@yahoo.com](mailto:kwoeltjen@yahoo.com). Apple Tree Morris dancers meet weekly and welcome new members - no experience necessary. Call or email Cliff Stevens, 823-6925, [cliff@kichu.com](mailto:cliff@kichu.com)

Regular NBCDS dance admission: \$12 adults, \$10 members, \$7 adults under 26, FT students with ID and financial hardship, \$2 ages 6–17, under 6 free. Come a half hour early to every dance for a newcomers lesson. \* dances are not sponsored by NBCDS

## Key to Hall Locations and Contacts:

PET	1st Sun	Petaluma Woman's Club, 518 B Street, Petaluma; 6:30 – 9:30 pm; 707-544-7036, <a href="mailto:craig@nbcds.org">craig@nbcds.org</a>
SRF	2nd Sat	Marin Masonic Lodge, Lootens Place @ Fourth, San Rafael; 8:00 – 11:00 pm; <a href="mailto:andy@nbcds.org">andy@nbcds.org</a>
SRO	3rd Fri, 5th Sat	Monroe Hall, 1400 W. College Ave., Santa Rosa; 8:00 – 11:00 pm; 707-545-1274, <a href="mailto:contrabeet43@gmail.com">contrabeet43@gmail.com</a>
SVBD*	3d Sat	Barn Dance, Grange Hall, 18627 Sonoma Hwy, Boyes Springs; 8:00 – 11:00 pm; Under 26 free, all others \$5-7 Lauren 707-939-9999, <a href="mailto:lauren.sonoma@gmail.com">lauren.sonoma@gmail.com</a>
SEB	4th Sat	Wischemann Hall, 460 Morris Street, Sebastopol; 8:00 – 11:00 pm; 707-569-0565, <a href="mailto:mike.fynan@gmail.com">mike.fynan@gmail.com</a>
SRFE*	2nd and 4th Sun	Pickleweed Community Center, 50 Canal Street, 2:00 – 4:30 pm; Cost: \$10

## April

Sun 1	Contra	PET	Karen Fontana	<b>Crabapples:</b> Marta Lynch (fiddle), Bob Silberstein (mandolin), Norm Cotton (piano), Teresa Fife (bass)
Sun 1	English	SEB	Alan Winston	Jonathan Jensen (piano), Jon Berger (violin), Erik Ievins (cello)
Sun 8	English	SRFE*	Kalia Kliban	Noel Cragg (piano), Jon Berger (violin)
Sat 14	Contra	UKI*	Alan Winston	<b>Ruby Mountain String Band:</b> Cliff Landis (banjo, fiddle), Julia Landis (guitar), Darin Smith (cello)
Sat 14	Contra	SRF	Susan Petrick	<b>Swing Farm:</b> Ray Bierl (fiddle), Markie Sanders (bass), Charlie Hancock (piano)
Sun 15	English	SEB	Kalia Kliban	Laurie Reaume (piano), Jon Berger (violin), Dan Reynolds (bass)
Fri 20	Contra	SRO	Lea Smith	<b>Whimsical:</b> Janette Duncan (fiddle), Regan Hemphill (fiddle), Roxanne Oliva (accordian), Beth Christian (cello), Debra Tayleur (piano)
Sat 21	Contra	SVBD*	Ken Olcott	Debra Tayleur & Friends
Sun 22	English	SRFE*	David Newitt	Rebecca King (piano), Jon Berger (violin)
Sat 28	Contra	SEB	Mike Fynan	<b>Right to Parlay:</b> Thomas Angell (fiddle), Mike Lewinski (banjo), Dane Miller (fiddle), Dan Kluger (guitar)
Sun 29	English	SEB	Mary Luckhardt	Debra Tayleur (piano), Elizabeth Miranda (flute), Marilyn Simpson (violin)

## May

Sun 6	Contra	PET	Lea Smith	Chris Knepper (fiddle), Charlie Hancock (piano)
Sun 6	English	SEB	Sharon Green	Rebecca King (piano), Jon Berger (violin), Beverly Jacobs (flute)
Sat 12	Contra	SRF	Lynn Ackerson	Alan Jabbour (fiddle) (Wash. DC), Ken Perlman (banjo, guitar) (MA)
Sat 12	Contra	UKI*	Mike Fynan	<b>Plaid Menagerie:</b> Ben Fynan (keyboard), Nanette Fynan (fiddle), Phil Fynan (penny whistle, recorder)
Sun 13	English	SRFE*	Kalia Kliban	Charlie Hancock (piano), Michelle Levy (violin)
Fri 18	Contra	SRO	Erik Hoffman	<b>StringFire:</b> Erik Ievins (bass), Ben Schreiber (fiddle), Patti Cobb (piano)
Sat 19	Contra	SVBD*	Ken Olcott	Debra Tayleur & Friends
Sun 20	English	SEB	Gary Thomas	Chuck Ward (piano), Jon Berger (violin), Riggy Rackin (English concertina)
Sat 26	Contra	SEB	Robin Steen	<b>Honeysuckle Sisters:</b> Janette Duncan (fiddle), Regan Hemphill (fiddle), Debra Tayleur (fiddle)
Sun 27	English	SRFE*	Sharon Green	Noel Cragg (piano), Michelle Levy (violin)

## June

Sun 3	Contra	PET	Mike Fynan	<b>The Rosin Doctors:</b> Erik Hoffman (fiddle), Dan Engle (banjo), Topher Gayle (bass)
Sun 3	English	SEB	Kalia Kliban	<b>Plaid Menagerie:</b> Nanette Fynan (violin), Nora Guthrie (flute), and friends
Sat 9	Contra	UKI*	Bob O'Brien	TBA
Sat 9	English	<b>Mad Robin Ball</b>		See website at <a href="http://madrobin.org/">http://madrobin.org/</a> for details
Sun 10	English	SEB	Sam Weiler	Shira Kammen (fiddle), Charlie Hancock (piano), Wayne Hankin (multiple instruments) No San Rafael English Dance June 10.
FRI-SUN 15-17	<b>FAULTLINE FROLIC WEEKEND</b> preregistration only- go to: <a href="http://www.nbcds.org/ffregistration">www.nbcds.org/ffregistration</a> to sign up			
Sat 16	Contra	SVBD*	Ken Olcott	TBA
Sun 17	Contra	SRF	Cis Hinkle (GA)	<b>Notorious:</b> Eden MacAdam-Somer (fiddle) (MA), Larry Unger (guitar, banjo) (MA), Sam Bartlett (mandolin) (IN), Mark "Pokey" Hellenberg (percussion) (OH); <b>SPECIAL AFTERSHOCK DANCE—7:30 - 10:30 p.m.; \$12 admission</b>
Sun 17	English	SEB	David Newitt	<b>The Humuhumunukunukuapua'a &amp; Strathspey Society Band</b>
Sat 23	Contra	SEB	Mavis McGaugh	<b>Flat Earth Stringband:</b> Tom Stiles (bass), Dennis Hunt (mandolin), E. Elder (fiddle), Carlo Calabi (guitar)
Sun 24	English	SRFE*	Kalia Kliban	Noel Cragg (piano), Jon Berger (violin)
Sat 30	Contra	SRO	Susan Petrick	<b>The Newts:</b> Chris Knepper (fiddle), Noel Cragg (keyboard) <b>CHALLENGING CONTRA—NOT FOR BEGINNERS</b>