

Old Farmers Ball
PO Box 9000, WWC Box 6278
Asheville, NC 28815

U.S. Mail
\$ 0.42

FIND YOUR SEPT/OCT 2008 DANCE FLYER ON THE BACK COVER.

THE BARE BONES—DETAILS INSIDE:

- CDSS Executive Board is coming to visit!! We need your help hosting them — page 2
- Time for Membership Renewal — page 3
- Bryson Hall Update — page 3
- Nominations Committee forming for OFB Board for 2009 — page 4

the Old Farmers Ball News is published bi-monthly by the Old Farmer's Ball, and includes the Asheville Area Dance Flyer, project reports, contact info, announcements, and more.

Deadline for the next *Old Farmer's Ball News* is October 8. Consider contributing an article. Send to newsletter@oldfarmersball.com.

COMING UP: CDSS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE VISIT

The CDSS Executive Committee is coming to visit!

The Country Dance and Song Society (CDSS) is an association of people and groups with a common interest in English and Anglo-American folk dance, music and song. (See all sorts of info at their website: cdss.org). The Old Farmer's Ball is an affiliate member of CDSS. We get our non-profit status through them.

The Exec. Committee is a subset of the Governing Board, including CDSS board members, plus a few paid staff. They meet twice a year at various locations around the country. The purpose of the "traveling executive meetings" is twofold: 1) for the CDSS Board to experience and meet different dance communities; 2) for different communities to have an opportunity to interact with CDSS leadership to learn more about the organization, to meet CDSS leaders, and to share local issues and concerns with the national leadership.

The Exec. Committee has selected Asheville for their Fall 2008 meeting, and we are looking forward to their visit on November 14-16, 2008.

We are planning a weekend of hospitality, dancing, and meeting which we hope will be up to the standards of other cities which have hosted the national board.

To be great hosts, we need your help:

- Overnight hospitality -- Would you like the opportunity to get to know a CDSS board member or two from around the country? Most exec. members will arrive on Friday, Nov. 14, and depart Sunday, Nov. 16, (although we're encouraging them to come on Thursday so they can actually attend the OFB dance). Some may wish to stay a day or two longer. They need a place to sleep and hang their hats, and we hope you will provide them with a simple breakfast on the mornings they are with you.
- Potluck participation Saturday evening -- We need folks to COMMIT to coming to the potluck at River Falls or Jonesborough on Saturday night, Nov. 15, and commit to bringing a double potluck contribution, to ensure that there will be enough food to host our guests.
- More potluck participation - Sunday brunch -- Join us for a potluck brunch at Joe Karpen's house on Sunday morning, Nov. 16, at 11:00.

Details and directions will be forthcoming. Please RSVP (see below) so we don't have 15 banana breads.

- Transportation -- CDSS Board members will be arriving at Asheville and possibly other regional airports throughout the weekend. In some cases host families can provide transportation; others cannot. Are you available to do an airport run?

Scheduled events for the weekend include:

Thursday, Nov. 13

- Regular Old Farmer's Ball contra dance at Warren Wilson College - open band and open mic, so bring instruments, or plan to call a dance or two.

Friday, Nov. 14

- Free day for sightseeing, hiking, gallery-hopping, etc.
- Dinner at xxxxx. Advanced Dance? House party? *Plans still pending. Got any ideas? Let us know!*

Saturday, Nov. 15

- Breakfast with hosts.
- 9:00 - 4:00 -- Board Meeting at (location TBA— hopefully Warren Wilson College). Lunch TBA.
- 4:00 - 6:00 -- Return to hosts, rest, drive to River Falls or Jonesborough.
- Potluck dinner and dance at River Falls OR dinner and dance in Jonesborough. (We are encouraging our CDSS guests to split up and visit both of these "sister" communities).

Sunday, Nov. 16

- Potluck brunch at Joe & Jean Karpen's home.
- Regular English Country Dance 2:00 - 4:00.
- Irish Jam at Jack-of-the-Wood, 5:00 - whenever. Food available on your own.

Any other ideas? We welcome suggestions as we plan to show our CDSS guests the best of our region.

If you can help with any of the above, please contact Diane Silver (president@oldfarmersball.com), or sign up on the wiki planning page: <http://ofb-volunteers.pbwiki.com/CDSS-Exec-Visit-Nov2008>.

This should be a fun weekend for us. We will have a chance to dance and talk with board members from around the country.

TIME FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's time to renew your membership in the Old Farmer's Ball.

As we reported in the January 2008, newsletter, the Old Farmer's Ball is changing the membership year to September 1 - August 31, to coincide with the academic year. 2008 is the transition year. It is now time to renew for '08-09. Although 2008 was a short "year," the Board hopes you will agree that it is still a great benefit to join the OFB. Because 2008 was a short year, the membership fee remains at \$5.00 for the full '08-'09 year.

New members who joined during the summer months, starting July 1, will receive membership for the full '08-'09 membership year. If you just joined in the last two months and did not receive an '08-'09 keytag, just visit the membership table to get your new tag.

Benefits of Membership:

- \$1 off regular \$6.00 admission to Thursday OFB dances.
- Voting privileges
- Eligible to serve on the Board
- Supports the OFB dance community

- Inclusion in the membership directory — supports our sense of community: contact your dance friends for other fun activities, carpooling and business networking — find local folks who can help you out, and list your occupation so others can direct their business to you.
- Receive the membership directory - we'll be publishing the new one in January.
- Receive the newsletter

How to join the OFB or renew your membership for '08-'09:

1) Visit the membership table at a Thursday night dance. If you are a new member, there's a short contact form to complete. If you are renewing, just review your current information on our master list, and make any changes or confirm its accuracy. Pay your \$5.00 fee, and receive your '08-'09 keytag .

2) Download the membership form from the OFB website at www.oudfarmersball.com, send it in with your fee and a self-addressed stamped envelope, and receive your keytag by mail.

Note: The OFB fiscal year and terms of service on the Board of Directors continue to be the Jan-Dec. calendar year.

BRYSON HALL UPDATE - BY DIANE SILVER, OFB PRESIDENT

The latest word from Warren Wilson College is that they plan to repair Bryson Gym.

In July, college administration graciously solicited feedback from various users of the space about any improvements that the college should consider investing in as they undertake those repairs. OFB Board members attended this meeting to represent the OFB's interests in this process. Suggested improvements included: improved acoustics and some sound system amenities, storage, improved bathrooms, improved ventilation system, improved entry area for better admissions flow, updated wiring, perhaps a raised stage, and renovating the upstairs balcony for spectator use.

The college's insurance will only pay to restore the building to the condition it was in. It will not pay for any improvements.

The administration is currently considering the suggestions that were made to improve the building. This is likely the most cost-efficient time to do such improvements, as long as construction is being done for repairs. We do not know at this time whether the college will budget for these improvements, or launch a capital campaign to raise the money, or decline to do them at all. We also do not yet have a timeline for completion of the repair, although we are told it will be Spring 2009 at the earliest. We will continue to dance at the Pavilion as long as the weather allows. The Board is currently considering options for the dance for Oct. - March. We definitely plan to continue to hold our weekly dances; we just are not sure yet whether we will change venues, or tough it out in the cold (it's warm once you start dancing!). As always, we will keep everyone informed on the website and in this newsletter as new information develops.

OFB Contact Information:

Telephone Info Line:
828 258-4809

Website:
www.oldfarmersball.com

Volunteer sign-up: linked on the website - sign up for when you want to help, and get in free that night.

ListServe:
Send a blank e-mail to:
ofb-subscribe@yahoo.com
View archives at:
groups.yahoo.com/group/ofb/

Car Pool Wiki: linked on the website. Post a call for car-poolers or see what has already been organized.

Comments, concerns,
compliments,
constructive suggestions } president@oldfarmersball.com

Membership Updates:
Deedy Jolley --
deedyjolley@yahoo.com

2008 Board of Directors

Officers

PresidentDiane Silver
Vice-PresidentDavid Stalnaker
SecretaryLinda Mitchell
TreasurerJoe Karpen

Members-at-Large

Able Allen Lacy Hagan
Allen Bergal David Hayes
Ashlyn Bristle Kristin Holcombe
John Combs Suzanne Hosch
Karen Gaughan MJ Taylor
Jonathan Gilbert

SNAIL MAIL:
Old Farmers Ball - WWC Box 6278
PO Box 9000
Asheville, NC 28815

Committees

Finance
Marketing & PR
Booking
Newsletter
Volunteers
Sound
Policy

Governance
Long-range Vision
Community Outreach
Dance Development
Special Events Guidelines
Reunion Weekend

The Old Farmer's Ball is more than just the Thursday night dance. Be involved in YOUR dance community. Join a committee and help shape and implement the larger vision for music and dance in our region.

JOIN THE BOARD

The nominating committee is now being formed to identify candidates for the Board of Directors for 2009. The nominating committee is made up of both board-members and non-board members. The nominating committee receives nominations from the community, including self-nominations from anyone interested in serving, and also identifies and contacts individuals who they think would be good candidates. From this list of possible candidates, the nominating committee recommends a slate of new Board members to the Board as a whole. The Board as a whole then considers the committee's recommendation and votes on a final slate of candidates to be recommended to the membership. The membership then votes on the recommended slate at the annual meeting in January. **The 2009 annual meeting will be Sunday, January 25th.**

According to the OFB by-laws, Board positions are for a three-year term, and are staggered so that one-third of the positions are up for election in any

given year. If a Board member resigns in the middle of his/her term, or is unable to fulfill his/her commitment as a Board member, the President appoints a replacement to serve the remainder of that term. Five positions on the Board of Directors will be up for election in January.

Serving on the Board is a great way to make a serious contribution to the dance community. We are always emphasizing that this is an all-volunteer organization and we need help with ... everything. There is a lot of behind-the-scenes work that makes the dance run smoothly and keeps us legal and accountable. If you've been dancing for a few years (or even just for a little while but you feel strongly about the health and continuance of the OFB), consider serving on the Board. If you'd like to know more about what it actually involves, or if you wish to nominate yourself or anyone else for consideration, please speak to any Board member. They would love to talk with you about it.

Asheville Area Dances

Sep - Oct 2008

Grey Eagle

Mondays - 8pm Beginners Always Welcome
185 Clingman Avenue - Asheville NC (828) 232-5800

- 9-1 **Wild Goose Chase**..... w/ Barbara Groh
Bob Kogut, Karen Gaughan, Art Shuster, Skip metheny
- 9-8 **Jupiter Road**..... w/ Beth Molaro
Hilary Dirlam, Bill West, Jacques Lewin, Hunt Mallet
- 9-15 **The Goosebone Prophets**..w/ AnneMarie Walter
Laura Lengnick, Paul Moore, Jeff Hersk
- 9-22 **Steam Shovel**.....w/ John Combs
David White, Roger Gold
- 9-29 **Firefly**.....w/ Diane Silver
Julia Weatherford, Barbara Davis, Pearl Mueller, Laurel Davis
- 10-6 **Cailen Campbell & David Brown**
w/ Adina Gordon
- 10-13 **Dancing Bears**w/ Sam Rotenberg
Lew Gelfond, Mark Langner, John Culp, Skip Metheny
- 10-20 **Crowfoot**.....w/ Charley Harvey
Jaige Trudell, Adam Broome, Nicholas Williams
- 10-27 **The Blue Eyed Girls** w/ Keith Cornett-Eustis
Ellie Grace, Pearl Mueller, Annie Fain Liden

OFB BOARD MEETINGS

2nd Mondays – Grey Eagle - 6:30pm

- 9-13, 10-10 Before the Monday dance - Everyone Welcome

Old Farmer's Ball

Thursdays - 8pm (lesson 7:30pm) (828) 258-4809
Warren Wilson College - Morris' Pavilion - Swannanoa NC

- 9-4 **Notorious** from Boston..... w/ Hank Morris
Larry Unger, Eden MacAdam-Somer, Sam Bartlett,
Taki Masuko
- 9-11 **Feral Broccoli**.....w/ Beverly Smith
David Lynch, Vollie McKenzie, Amy Hobbs, Thorn Cary
- 9-18 **Footloose** from the NC Triangle...w/ Barbara Groh
David Coe, David DiGiusseppe, Jim Roberts, Pete Campbell
- 9-25 **Firefly**.....w/ John Combs
Julia Weatherford, Barbara Davis, Pearl Mueller, Laurel Davis
- 10-2 **Morning Coffee**..... w/ Anne Marie Walter
Jeff and Diane Baker, David Cohen
- 10-9 **Chicken Train**..... w/ Phil Jamison
Meredith McIntosh, John Herrmann, John Engle
- 10-16 **Land of Sky**Beth Molaro
Laura Lengnick, Roger Gold, Paul Moore
- 10-23 **Reunion Fund Raiser** – Community Open Band
Open Mic for Callers – Paula Bishop MC
band led by Kris Wallace and David Hayes
- 10-30 **Halloween Dance**w/ Adina Gordon
Wild Goose Chase
Bob Kogut, Karen Gaughan, Art Shuster, Skip Metheny

OFB Thursday Dance Hot-Line (828) 258-4809

Other Regional Dances & Instruction**Asheville Community Dance**

Second Saturday - 8:15pm - Calvary Episcopal Church - Fletcher
on hiatus Info: 828.298-7084

Family Dance w/ Diane Silver

Saturday - 5pm Brown Bag Supper – 6pm to 7:30 Dancing
www.diane-silver.com/familydance.html info: (828) 298-7084
on hiatus Calvary Episcopal Church – Fletcher

English Country Dance

Karen – (828) 230-8449

1st & 3rd Sunday Afternoons – 3pm – 5pm - \$6
Asheville Arts Center – 308 Merrimon Ave. - Asheville

River Falls Dance – Greenville SC.....www.harvestmoonfolk.org

Dates: (Saturdays) 9-20, 9-27, 10-4, 10-11, 10-25

Traditional Square Dances

Asheville Arts Center – 7:30PM to 10PM
308 Merrimon Avenue - Asheville, NC
Info: romeorecords@yahoo.com
Sept. 28, w/ Beth Molaro + Lindsey Hogan & friends playing

Swing Dance Information.....www.swingasheville.com

Celo Dance – most Fridays 8pm.... rlevin@trccomputing.com
"Green Cay" at Arthur Morgan School \$3 (828) 675-4331
Music by **Bruce Greene & Friends**

Find current information and other dance links at:

oldfarmersball.com