

2008 CCDS Staff - Christmas Country Dance School

[vc_row][vc_column][vc_column_text]**Kathy Anderson**

Old-time music led Kathy to dancing, and she has been playing for years and calling squares and contras since 1982. She incorporates good flow, unusual figures, and quick clear teaching into her style. Calling is a great way to connect the music, rhythm, and the dancers' energy! Kathy is equally at home at local dances and weekends and international events.

Classes

- ***Contras With A Special Twist***
- ***Square Dance Calling***
- ***Squares For All***

Chris Bischoff

An enthusiastic supporter of traditional dance, Chris has been organizing, performing, and calling since 1986. He's called & taught at contra dances, dance weekends and weeks throughout the U.S., Canada, and Scandinavia. Chris is a co-founder of Terpsichore's Holiday dance week and has been a long-time staff member at Cumberland Dance Week and the Hindman Family Folk Week among others.

Classes

- ***Beginning Rapper Sword***
- ***Fun & Easy Contras***
- ***Contra Dance Calling***

Aidan Broadbridge

Classically trained and raised in the folk music and dance world, Aidan has created a style all of his own. From beginning to end his energetic performances allow his vibrant personality to shine through. Aidan's career has led him to play in numerous orchestras and musical productions throughout the UK. In the US he is well known for his driving fiddle style and has been the guest at many festivals and folk weeks. Aidan has performed as violinist for BBC Top of the Pops and is featured solo violinist for the motion pictures "Pride & Prejudice" and "Becoming Jane" and the BBC's "Cranford" and the upcoming "Tess of the D'Urbervilles."

Aidan is fiddler for four folk dance bands, two of which he leads. He has been part of the English and Ceilidh dance band **The Assembly Players** with Nicolas Broadbridge and Brian Prentice since 1994. The group has performed all around the UK, as well as in Holland and the US. The trio has recorded 15 English Dance albums, which are well known all around the world. Aidan's latest endeavor is a new folk rock band (which at time of going to press has no name), which he leads on an electric fiddle!

Kathy Bullock

Kathy Bullock's father was a Baptist minister and she grew up singing and playing piano and organ in his church with her four sisters. She is a professor of music at Berea College where, in addition to teaching music theory, she teaches courses in African-American and World music and has directed the gospel choir.

Eric Crowden

Eric is a graduate of Berea College, a fine arts major in textiles. His festive banners, paper cuts, and decorations grace Seabury Center at CCDS. He has been making temari for over 16 years. This will be his 5th year of teaching Temari at CCDS.

Classes

- ***Beginning Temari Craft***
- ***Intermediate Temari Craft***

Brad Foster

Brad has been dancing and teaching English country, contras and squares, and morris and sword for over thirty five years. He is well known for sharing the joy found in dance, and has taught throughout the US, Canada and Europe, including at Berea, Pinewoods, Mendocino, John C. Campbell Folk School, and Augusta. He is Executive and Artistic Director of the Country Dance and Song Society, a post he has held for over 20 years.

Classes

- ***Advanced English Country Dance***
- ***English Callers Workshop***
- ***English Country Dance in All Its Variety***

Katy Tarter German

A Berea native, Katy now lives in Hillsborough, NC. In her free time, she works to organize intergenerational dances and specializes in working with children and beginner-level dancers. She has led classes in traditional English and American song and dance at family dance camps across the country.

Classes

- ***Beginning English Country Dance***

Thomas German

Thomas, of Hillsborough, NC, started carving at Christmas school in 2002 and has had trouble putting the knife down since. He has made, sold, and generously given his spoons, spreaders, santas, and beautiful pendants

Kent Gilbert

Kent Gilbert has been singing and dancing since before conception, and has been a Christmas School participant for over 25 years. A leader in the Berea Shape Note community, Kent also has extensive experience in street theatre, writing, and community dance.

Classes

- ***Mummers Play***
- ***Shape Note Singing***

Mary Harrell

Mary has taught English country dancing at workshops, dance camps, elderhostels, and at Christmas Country Dance School. She is a graduate of Berea College, and was a performance dancer under Frank Smith during her college years. Her enthusiasm for the dance is infectious, and

her clarity makes learning a pleasure.

Classes

- ***Intermediate English Country Dance***

Ethan Hazzard-Watkins

Fiddler Ethan Hazzard-Watkins performs traditional and original music with infectious energy, passion and grace. His fiery, lyrical fiddling fuses elements of Irish, French Canadian and New England styles, along with influences from swing, blues and classical music. Based in Brattleboro, VT, Ethan tours extensively with the bands Elixir, the Figments and Beeswax Sheepskin, playing for dancing and listening audiences throughout the US. He is also an avid composer of original tunes, and his compositions have been performed and recorded widely.

Andrea Hoag

Andrea Hoag's CD Hambo in the Snow was a 2007 GRAMMY® nominee for Best Traditional World Music Album. Andrea's first performances as a fiddler were in Berea with Parcel of Rogues in 1978-1980. A Seattle native and a Maryland resident since 1992, she has performed and taught widely in the U.S. and in Sweden. She is delighted to be back in Berea for Christmas School.

Atossa Kramer

From Berea, KY, Atossa is a multi-talented musician who has accompanied country dancing for more than 40 years playing clarinet, piano, recorder and accordion. She is a member of the music faculty of Berea College teaching several courses, including basic theory and ear training, and many private lessons. In addition to regional dance week-ends and summer camps, she plays regularly for the English dance group in Berea, plays and performs with Musick's Company, an early music group, and is a clarinetist with the Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra.

Classes

- ***Beginning Dance Band***

Heidi Kulas

Heidi Kulas grew up dancing with three generations of her family in Greenville, Michigan. As a young teenager, she was already competing, performing, touring and teaching clogging, Irish and many other traditional forms of percussive dance. She received a Michigan Dance Heritage Fellowship and moved to Maryland to be a principal dancer with the international touring company, Footworks Percussive Dance Ensemble. Heidi has performed as a guest dancer with many artists including Lunasa, Uncle Earl, and Eileen Ivers. Most recently she served as choreographer and actress for Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre's 2007 season and upcoming 2008 season. She holds a BA in Theatre Arts from Mars Hill College where she served as the 14-time National Champion Bailey Mountain Cloggers captain for two years. She is also a member of the All American Clogging team and currently is the director and choreographer for the percussive dance company, Sole Impact, based in Western North Carolina.

Classes

- ***Beginning Clogging***
- ***Intermediate Clogging***

Lewis & Donna Lamb

Native Kentuckians, this remarkable father-daughter duo have been making, preserving, teaching,

and sharing traditional Appalachian music for many years. With Lewis on fiddle and Donna on Guitar your feet don't stand a chance of remaining still! They began playing for the Berea College Country Dancers in the 1960's. They perform and teach old time square dance music and traditional songs at festivals and workshops throughout the region. Lewis is also known for his folk-art woodcarvings and he and Donna together have crafted numerous musical instruments. Lewis and Donna have are recent winners of the Kentucky Folk Heritage Award.

Roo Lester

One might say Roo has been observing, learning and studying Scandinavian dance since she met the Hambo on the dance floor when she was in college. Roo's hallmarks include clear, positive teaching that incorporates background information, styling and technique and her ability to present the basic concepts of Scandinavian dance to dancers of all levels in a fun and lighthearted manner. She conducts workshops throughout the US, specializing in the turning dances of Norway and Sweden. Roo will be assisted by Harry Khamis, a regular teacher at Miami Valley Folk Dance Club in Dayton, Ohio.

Classes

- ***Scandinavian Dance Basics***
- ***Scandinavian Dance***
- ***Methods of Teaching Turning Dances***

Elise Melrood

Elise is a classically trained pianist who specializes in improvisation with a blues base, and has been playing for dances of all kinds for many years. She plays for Contra dances with the Berea Castoffs, vintage dances, Christmas Country Dance School, and travels with the Berea College Country Dancers. She is a member of the Lexington based Reel World String Band, a regional band of renown with a folk and political base.

Denis Liddy

From Co. Clare, Ireland, fiddler Denis Liddy has been instrumental in teaching and inspiring students to play traditional music for many years. Since 1999, his students have recorded four CDs and toured in Ireland, the UK, France, Spain, Canada, China, Bulgaria, USA, Australia and Sweden. Denis has also won numerous All-Ireland awards as a soloist and as a group and band member. He released the CD *Waifs and Strays* with legendary flute player Michael Hynes and guitarist Rob Shearer in 2003 to critical acclaim. This year, he released "Spectacle Bridge" with Michael Hynes, Jack Talty and Eoin O'Neill.

Classes

- ***Beginning Dance Band***

Elvie Miller

Elvie Miller grew up going to contra dances in New England. She recently spent a year as a Watson Fellow tracing the origins of contra dance music across northern Europe. Elvie is a professional pianist, accordionist and weaver and is currently pursuing a master's degree in music therapy in Ireland.

Classes

- ***Advanced Dance Band Bonanza!***
- ***Will coordinate After Dance music***

Rodney Miller

Rodney Miller was designated a “Master Fiddler” in 1983 by the National Endowment for the Arts. He is widely considered to be the foremost exponent of New England style fiddling, a uniquely American blend of French Canadian and Celtic influences. He has earned a reputation as one of the Nation’s finest dance fiddlers, aiming his virtuosity at the feet of the dancers without restricting his own musical inventiveness. Over the past thirty five years, Miller has toured the United States, Canada, the British Isles, Australia and Denmark. In July 2008, Miller was a featured performer at the 70th National Folk Festival in Butte, MT. Miller has recorded twelve albums, the most recent of which is *Spyglass: Waltzes*, which he recorded with his daughter, Elvie Miller, playing piano and accordion.

Classes

- ***New England Fiddle***

Jim Morrison

Jim has been a traditional dance enthusiast since his first Christmas Country Dance School in 1968. He helped found several morris and sword dance groups. He was a pioneer in the study of historic American social dance and a collector of traditional community dance in the Southeastern US and New England. Jim plays fiddle and guitar, currently performing with the Morrison Brothers Band and the Albemarle Morris Men.

Classes

- ***Advanced Morris***
- ***Advanced Rapper Sword***
- ***Irish Sets***

Owen Morrison

Owen Morrison is a second generation dancer and musician. His fluid guitar playing is influenced by styles as diverse as bluegrass, swing, classical and flamenco but is firmly rooted in traditional dance music. Since graduating from Guilford College in 2006 with a degree in music, Owen now travels the country playing for dances, festivals and camps. His bands include the Morrison Brothers, Airdance, House Red, Night Watch and Elixir.

Janet Northern

Janet, a basket maker from Rockcastle County, Kentucky, will proudly be joining the CCDS staff for her ninth year. Janet will be offering both traditional and nontraditional styles of basketry using materials native to the east Kentucky region.

Classes

- ***Basketry, Session One and Session Two***

Anna Patton

Anna Patton plays dance tunes on the clarinet with great verve, clarity and harmonic whim. Besides English and contra dance tunes, her repertoire includes Balkan dance tunes, Brazilian choros and early jazz. Based in Brattleboro, VT she has spent much of her young life on tour around the U.S. and abroad, singing and playing for dancers, concert goers and pedestrians. She also enjoys teaching music to kids and adults and writing arrangements.

Jim Pfitzer

Storyteller Jim Pfitzer would rather paddle a canoe than drive a car and prefers watching birds to watching television. After spending much of his twenties wandering the west in an old Volkswagen—guiding rafters on the Snake River in Wyoming, running a hostel in the Redwoods in California and working with birds of prey in Arizona—Jim went urban and moved to Chicago for ten years. To begin his fifth decade, Jim accepted an artist’s grant to move back to the city of his birth, Chattanooga, TN and pursue storytelling full time. He has since traveled from coast to coast telling tales and teaching workshops. Storyteller Donald Davis says that “Jim Pfitzer’s nature stories are not stories of naïve ecology, but rather stories of the honest struggle to fit human needs (and sometimes wants and desires) into the fragile order of the natural world.”

Classes

- ***Beginning Storytelling***
- ***Intermediate Storytelling***

Peter Rogers

Peter has taught traditional dance for about four decades: in community dance programs schools; at various dance camps; and numerous “one night stands”. He leads English, Danish, Appalachian, Contra, Morris and Sword for new dancers as well as experienced, and is an acknowledged leader for teaching callers to call. One of his special interests is the square dances of Southeast Kentucky (aka “Running Set”) about which he has gathered oral histories, published descriptions and live experience to share with others.

Classes

- ***Kentucky Set Running***

Susan Spalding

Susan Spalding directs Dance Programs at Berea College, and works with the Berea College Country Dancers. She has been involved in Appalachian Square dance for over 20 years. Besides going dancing in communities every chance she gets, she has documented the dancing in several communities for the Smithsonian Institution and in a documentary for public television entitled “Step Back Cindy: Old Time Dancing in Southwest Virginia.” She serves on the planning committee for the Kentucky Folklife Festival, has served on the curatorial committee for the National Folklife Festival, and has facilitated presenters at both. Her book, *Communities in Motion: Dance, Community and Tradition* gathers articles by a number of authors on traditional dance in the southeastern United States and beyond.

Classes

- ***Appalachian Square Dance***

Patty Tarter

Patty is a member of the Ritchie Family of Eastern Kentucky with a repertoire of traditional Appalachian songs and singing games. She plays dulcimer and sings and enjoys leading groups in song.

Will coordinate Morningsong and Stories and Evening Parlor

Al White

Al teaches Appalachian music for string instruments at Berea College and is best known for his mandolin, fiddle, guitar, and banjo playing, teaching any and all of these when asked. Al plays fiddle in the Berea Cast-Offs dance band and has been an artist-in-residence for the Kentucky Arts

Council in storytelling, folk music and dance. He also has been a staff member at Pinewoods, Buffalo Gap, KY Summer Dance School, and other dance weeks.

Alice White

Alice grew up singing and playing traditional, bluegrass and gospel music with her family in the McLain Family Band. She is an early elementary school teacher and plays bass in the Berea Cast-Offs.

Will coordinate evening staff music

Nathan Wilson

Nathan is an inspired bassist in a wealth of musical styles from contra and old-time to classical and jazz. Currently plays bass with Sheila and the Geezers, Tim Lake and The Little Big Band, and Lewis and Donna Lamb. Nathan also directs a church music program and teaches music privately. His love of dance music is something he shares joyfully with people of all ages.

Sound by Doug Dorschug

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