



## Promenade

Knoxville Country Dancers

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

April 2009

### Knoxville Dance Weekend #35 — *Cabin Fever* — *The Best Ever?*

Several folks commented that they loved this year's dance weekend; perhaps more than any before. The variety and number of delightful waltzes were praised most often.

All of the music was grand, with the sounds of **The Skytones**: Daron Douglas, Paul Moore, Mara Shea, Roger Gold and Lara Lengnick along with Knoxville's **Danny Gammon and the Love Muffins**. Additional local bands, **Clear Branch**, led by fiddler Tim Worman, and **The Attic Rattlers** supported Saturday workshops. Knoxville area callers **Nick Boulet**, **Donna Calhoun**, and **Tim Klein** attended these sessions and helped call dances. **Vicki Herndon**, a caller from Ringgold, Georgia who often calls for the Knoxville Country Dancers also participated, along with visiting and featured caller, **Robert Cromartie**. They kept hundreds of contra dancers hopping!



Saturday night was the Galactic Gala and included extraordinary costumes and fun times. There was no contest held, but **Kim** and **Luis Soltero** get my vote for the wildest and best costume. See Galactic Gala photos on Facebook! Luis is now famous in many galaxies.

**Thank You**, to our food sponsors: **The Mellow Mushroom**, **Oscar's Restaurant**, **Go Nutrition and Krispy Kreme**. There were ten workshops. Most praised were the Cross-Step Waltz with **Michael French** and **Barbara Ramlow** teaching, followed by the Crazy Contras called by **Robert & Louie Cromartie**.

**Joni Caldwell (Knoxville Country Dancers)**

**CAROLINA SHAG** was born during the 1940s in Myrtle Beach, SC. This was the little beach dance done to the changing sound of swing and blues music. Using 6 and 8 count slotted patterns, this style of Shag opens up from the original while keeping the primary features of Shag intact: the upper body stays "quiet" while the feet and lower body do all the talking; both partners practice fancy footwork and "cool" attitudes, and the leader uses signature spins and drops...If you see someone doing West Coast Swing with rubber legs and light footwork, you are probably seeing this style of dancing. **Dance Vision** (DanceVision.com)

## **Knoxville Contra Dance Schedule**

**April 13 – May 25, 2009**

**April 13 – Easter Dance!**; Caller, **Jesse Edgerton** (Boone, NC); Band, **Danny Gammon & the Love Muffins**; Sound, **Allen Miller**; Opener, **Sandee Rose Arozqueta**; Closer, **Jimbo Clark**. BRING SNACKS!

**April 20:** Caller, **Adina Gordon** (from Asheville, NC); Band, **Lost Marbles**; Sound, **James Baysinger**; Opener, **Jan Barber**; Closer, **Jimbo Clark**.

**April 27:** Caller, **Donna Calhoun**; Band, **Attic Rattlers**; Sound, **Mark Jordan**; Opener, **Marita Gale**; Closer, **Jimbo Clark**. The caller will teach a **beginner's workshop** at 7:30 pm.

**May 4:** Caller, **Jack Mitchell** (North Carolina); Band, **Clearbranch**; Sound, **Mark Jordan**; Opener, **Marita Gale**; Closer, **Marita Gale**.

**May 11:** Caller, **Doug Singleton** (Atlanta); Band, **Boogertown Gap** (Pittman Center, TN): Ruth Barber on guitar, Keith Watson on fiddle, and more!; Sound, **Allen Miller**; Opener, **Sandee Rose Arozqueta**; Closer, **Jimbo Clark**. BRING SNACKS!

**May 18:** Caller, **Nick Boulet**; Band, **Lost Marbles**; Sound, **James Baysinger**; Opener, **Jan Barber**; Closer, **Jimbo Clark**; The caller will teach a **beginner's workshop** at 7:30 pm.

**May 25 – Memorial Day Dance!**: Caller, **Vicki Herndon**; Band, **Attic Rattlers**; Sound, **Allen Miller**; Opener, TBA; Closer **Jimbo Clark**. The caller will teach a **beginner's workshop** at 7:30 pm. *Wear red, white & blue! Prizes! Bring snacks!*

Dances are held every Monday night from 8 to 11 pm at the Laurel Theatre, 1538 Laurel Avenue, Knoxville, Tennessee. **Beginners are welcome**. No experience required. Admission is \$7 (\$3 for students) at the door. If you arrive after the break please pay \$3.

**Knoxville Country Dancers** ([www.knoxvillecontradance.org](http://www.knoxvillecontradance.org)) are affiliates of **Jubilee Community Arts** ([www.jubileearts.org](http://www.jubileearts.org)), a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the traditional arts of the region. Please support Jubilee by becoming a member and attending other events in the Laurel Theatre. For Jubilee Community Arts information call (865) 522-5851.



## Argentine Tango Valentine's Day Weekend

There is only one dance — Argentine Tango — that can express the romantic sentiment of Valentine's Day. This passionate, "ultimate couple dance" brought dancers and teachers together during the February 14–15, 2009 Valentine's Day weekend. Members of the Knoxville Argentine Tango Society, visitors, and four Tango Evolution instructors (from Atlanta) met early Saturday (Valentine's Day) afternoon at Knoxville's downtown YWCA.

Workshops and a Milonga (social dance) were scheduled for both Saturday and Sunday. **Tango Evolution** — Clint Rauscher, Lena Hrybok, Kevin Mason, Edie Crowder — began by introducing "Improvisation: Building Your Own sequence". One figure in this set included the **Calesita**. *A Guide to Tango Terminology* (Sacramento Tango) defines it as: "Carousel; the merry-go-round: A figure in which the man places the lady on one foot with a lifting action of his frame and then dances around her while keeping her centered over, and pivoting on her supporting leg." The man steps rather than pivots around the lady.

"Workshop 2 – Volcadas 101" followed. According to the *Guide to Tango Terminology*, **Volcada** is derived "from Volcar – to tip-over or capsize; a falling step: The leader causes the follower to tilt or lean forward and fall off her axis before he catches her again. The process produces a beautiful leg drop from her. The movement requires the support of a close embrace." A gentleman may lead a Volcada by stepping to the side with his left foot, placing weight on it while stepping forward on the right foot to ease the lady to him in a close embrace with weight shifted to this foot. He steps *slightly* (a wide step not recommended for a beginner) back with his left foot bringing the lady forward to form an inverted "V" with her, his weight shifted to the left foot. The leader exits the Volcada by gently stepping forward with his left foot, moving into an open embrace, and collecting his feet.

Later, dancers along with Tango Evolution gathered at The Emporium (100 S, Gay Street) for a Saturday supper and Valentine's Day milonga (social dance), 8:00 – 11:00 p.m. Tango Evolution's Clint Rausch served as disc jockey with a wide selection of Tango music that included Traditional, Evolutionary, and Nouveau. The Emporium's superb, aged floor enhanced the gliding steps and adornments of all who conversed in the sensuous language of Argentine Tango.

Sunday (February 15) brought a return to Knoxville's downtown YWCA for brunch, two afternoon workshops — "Embellishments for both Leaders and Followers" and "Milonga [an aerobic dance that contributed to the evolution of Tango] 101" — with a closing "Practilonga — Tango with instructor guidance" session.

Tango Evolution's "Embellishments" workshop introduced us to "sweet" (Clint Rausch's description), melancholy, and haunting *Poema* (poem), as rendered by Francisco Canaro's orchestra. It's sublime melody and rhythm express the essence of Argentine Tango. A web site devoted to *Poema* (<http://petere.wordpress.com/poema/>) informs us that "*Poema* is one of my favorite songs, and as Keith of ToTango says, 'Right now, if you are a DJ, you darn well better have a good version of Canaro's *Poema* ready to go. It is a "new" hit.' *Poema* is written by Eduardo Bianco and Mario Melfi. It's most famous in Francisco's Canaro's version sung by Roberto Maida...Many couples did demo's on *Poema*, from the old guard to the more innovative dancers like Chicho and Dana y Pablo. [These] are mostly improvisations, not [choreographed], which makes it interesting to watch...[Francisco Canaro's *Poema* recorded] November 6, 1935 [in] Buenos Aires."

After the "Embellishments" workshop Tango Evolution's Clint Rausch and Lena Hrybok treated us to an incomparable performance when they danced to Francisco Canaro's *Poema*. Their creative, smooth improvisation, inseparable connection, fluid figures, subtle passionate intensity, blended with a hint of humor and playfulness truly expressed *Sabor del Tango* – Soul of the Tango. Clint and Lena's "conversation" said to us, "This is how you dance Argentine Tango!"

Gentlemen, let your special Valentine always be expressed in a passionate Argentine Tango conversation with your beloved; and don't forget to bring a rose for her hair.

**Randall Grimsley**

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### **Area Contra Dance**

*Asheville, NC* — Grey Eagle 185 Clingman Avenue  
[www.oldfarmersball.com](http://www.oldfarmersball.com)

**Monday 8 pm**

*Swannanoa, NC* — Warren Wilson College  
[www.oldfarmersball.com](http://www.oldfarmersball.com)

**Thursday 8 pm**

Old Farmers Ball Hot-Line (828) 258-4809

*Athens Area Council for the Arts*  
320 N. White St. Athens, Tennessee  
Phone 423-745-8781  
[www.athensartscouncil.org/dance.php](http://www.athensartscouncil.org/dance.php)

**Saturday 7:30 pm**

*Atlanta, Georgia*

Chattahoochee Country Dancers

[www.contradance.org/html/schedule.php](http://www.contradance.org/html/schedule.php)

"For important information about shoes and other stuff, please refer to our [Nightly Details](#) web site page. For directions to a given Dance Hall, please see our [Directions](#) web site page."

**Friday 8 pm**

*Berea, Kentucky*

Russel Acton Folk Center, 212 West Jefferson St.

[www.folkcircle.org/contra/index.html](http://www.folkcircle.org/contra/index.html)

859-985-5501

"We are extra nice to beginners and children of all ages. Our Saturday dances have childcare available for only \$4.00 for the whole dance!"

**Saturday 8 pm** (beginners 7:30-8:00 pm)

*Chattanooga, TN*

All Saints Academy, 310 East 8th St.

[www.contratooga.org/schedule.shtml](http://www.contratooga.org/schedule.shtml)

**Saturday 8 pm**

*Jonesborough, TN*

Visit web site below for dance location

[www.historicjonesboroughdancesociety.org/site/calendar/](http://www.historicjonesboroughdancesociety.org/site/calendar/)

**Saturday 7:30 pm** (beginners class at 7:00 pm)

*Lexington, Kentucky Lex Dance*

Arts Place 161 North Mill Street, Lexington, KY

[www.ravitz.us/ltda](http://www.ravitz.us/ltda)

**Friday and Saturday 8 pm**

### **Memphis, TN**

Memphis Contra Dancers, Idlewild Presbyterian Church 1750 Union Avenue in Midtown Memphis, Tennessee  
For more information, contact Joan & Ernest Kelly at [Horselovers@aol.com](mailto:Horselovers@aol.com) or call 901-725-9165  
No web site available.

### **Nashville, TN**

Nashville Country Dancers, Second Presbyterian Church 3511 Belmont Blvd  
[www.nashvillecountrydancers.org](http://www.nashvillecountrydancers.org)  
**Friday 8 pm CST**

### **River Falls Lodge, SC**

Harvest Moon Society

**Harvest Moon Hotline:** "Call 864-836-2986 for upcoming dance dates, bands and callers. Dance cancellations due to inclement weather will be recorded by 2:00 PM the day of the dance. Visit web site below for Greenville **Wednesday** night dance schedule. Also for **Friday** night schedule."

[www.harvestmoonfolk.org/hmfs/index.php](http://www.harvestmoonfolk.org/hmfs/index.php)

**Saturday 8 pm**

### **Sewanee, Tennessee's Contradancing on the Cumberland Plateau**

American Legion Hall, 36 University Avenue, Sewanee, Tennessee

[www.mistycontra.zoomshare.com/0.html](http://www.mistycontra.zoomshare.com/0.html)

For information call **Ron Lee:** 931-598-0814

"Club name is **Misty Mountain Dancers**. Yes, this mountain is a wee misty sometimes."

"A little secret: like you, I'd love to be asked to dance! So hey, let's dance."

**Friday 8 pm CST** (beginner lessons at 7:30 pm)

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## **Dance Gypsy Calendar**

### Ongoing Opportunities

#### **Knoxville Swing Dance Association**

<http://www.swingknoxville.org/>

Monday – Church Street United Methodist Church

Wednesday – Laurel Theater

"All lessons and dances are FREE. No Partner required.

Lessons begin at **7:00 p.m.** followed by dancing at **8:00 p.m.**"

#### **Lark in the Morn English Country Dancers**

Contact: Karan Dotson at (865) 546-8442 or Email: [mythicalglass@bellsouth.net](mailto:mythicalglass@bellsouth.net)

Dancing "virtually every Sunday evening at **8 p.m.** at the Laurel Theatre on the corner of 16th & Laurel Avenue in Knoxville, Tennessee. *Live Music.*"

#### **Scandinavian Couple Dancing**

"Tuesdays at **7:30 p.m.**" at the Laurel Theater, Knoxville, Tennessee. "There's no need to bring a partner; instruction is excellent. Dances include Polskor, Schottische, Waltzes and more."

For more information contact: Jubilee Community Arts

1538 Laurel Avenue

(865) 522-5851 or [info@jubileearts.org](mailto:info@jubileearts.org)

## **Knoxville Argentine Tango Society (KATS)**

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

“KATS is a non-profit group that promotes Argentine Tango in the area. Members receive discounts to all tango events. It really helps to have a regular partner; however, classes often “change partners” throughout the lesson, so that anyone can dance.”

“Tango originated in Buenos Aires and Montevideo during the mid-to late-19th century. Its music is derived from the fusion of music of Europe, South America, and Africa. In the early twentieth century, dancers and orchestras from Buenos Aires traveled to Europe, spreading tango there and eventually to the United States in about 1913. Tango’s latest revival was led by the composer, Astor Piazzolla. This revival gathered strength with the 1980’s Paris show, *Forever Tango*.

### Special and Annual Events



2009

**April 24-26: Hands Four Spring Dance Weekend.** Berea, KY. 859-986-7584, [www.berea.cc/handsfour](http://www.berea.cc/handsfour)

**May 1-3: English Country Dance Weekend.** Brasstown, NC. John C. Campbell Folk School, [www.folkschool.org](http://www.folkschool.org)

**May 1-3: Tomas Howlin** (of Montreal / Buenos Aires) **5th Annual Regional Tango Weekend in Asheville, NC.** [www.tangoclasico.com/tomas.htm](http://www.tangoclasico.com/tomas.htm), Karen Jaffe: [kjsummit@hotmail.com](mailto:kjsummit@hotmail.com), 828-215-1177

**May 3: Jane Austen Ball.** Rochester, NY CD of Rochester, 585-442-4681, [www.rochestercontra.com](http://www.rochestercontra.com)

**May 8-9: English Dance Weekend With Bare Necessities.** Berea, KY. Folk Circle, 859-986-4285.

**May 15-17: Blue Moon 12.** Huntsville, AL. North Alabama CDs, 256-582-1021, [secontra.com/NACDS.html](http://secontra.com/NACDS.html)

**May 15-17: Sixth Annual Potato Run Dance Weekend** featuring caller Kathy **Anderson** and music by **House Red**. Louisville, KY Country Dancers. [www.louisvillecontradancers.org](http://www.louisvillecontradancers.org)

**May 24: Carolina Contrathon V.** Glendale Springs, NC. Historic Jonesborough Dance Society, 423-913-3246, [www.historicjonesboroughdancesociety.org](http://www.historicjonesboroughdancesociety.org)

**June 12-14: Dance Trance.** Lexington, KY. **Lift Ticket and Lisa Greenleaf**. 859-552-5433, <http://dancetrance.lttda.ws/>, [dancetrance09@yahoo.com](mailto:dancetrance09@yahoo.com)

**June 14-19: Dance Vision Mastery Camps.** Las Vegas, NV. 800-851-2813, [www.MasteryCamps.com](http://www.MasteryCamps.com)

**July 18-September 5: Country Dance and Song Society Summer Camps.** 413-268-7426, x3, [camp@cdss.org](mailto:camp@cdss.org)  
[www.cdss.org/camp](http://www.cdss.org/camp)

**October 30-November 1: The Music City Masquerade.** Nashville, TN. Featuring music by Green Mountain, with calling by John Krumm from Philadelphia. [www.nashvillecountrydancers.org](http://www.nashvillecountrydancers.org)

**November 13-15: Atlanta Dance Weekend** with Tribal Tune Twisters and Elixir with callers Rob Harper and Nils Fredland. [www.contradance.org](http://www.contradance.org)

2010

**February 12-14: Cabin Fever.** Knoxville Dance Weekend. Featuring **Notorious:** Eden MacAdam-Somer and Larry Unger. [www.knoxvillecontradance.org](http://www.knoxvillecontradance.org)

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#### Thank You

Eileen Hayes would like to thank three dance community members for their help with her fallen trees – **Steve Kopp, Mark Jordan and Dean Bolton.**

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## **Begin the Beguine**

*When they begin the Beguine,  
It brings back the sound of music so tender,  
It brings back a night of tropical splendor,  
It brings back a memory evergreen.*

*I'm with you once more,  
Under the stars,  
And down near the shore an orchestra is playing,  
Even the palms seem to be swaying,  
When we begin the Beguine.*

*To live it again is past all endeavor,  
Except when that tune clutches my heart,  
There we are swearing to love forever,  
Promising never, never to part.*

*Such moments divine such raptures serene,  
Till clouds came along to disperse the joys we had tasted,  
Now when I hear people curse the chance that was wasted,  
I know but too well what they mean.*

*So, don't let them begin the Beguine,  
Let the love that was once a fire remain an ember,  
Let it die like the dead desire I only remember,  
When they begin the Beguine.*

*Oh, yes let them begin the Beguine,  
Till the stars that were there before return above you,  
Till you whisper once more "darling I love you",  
Then suddenly we know, what heaven we're in,  
When they begin the Beguine,  
When they begin the Beguine!*

**Music and lyrics by Cole Porter. Featured in the MGM film *Broadway Melody of 1940*, starring Fred Astaire and Eleanor Parker**

***Beguine***: French *béguin* flirtation: a vigorous popular dance of the islands of St. Lucia and Martinique somewhat like the rumba. *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* (1993)