# Letters and Announcements

#### SUBMITTING ADS AND ARTICLES

Articles, letters, poems and photographs about contra and traditional square dance, English country dance, morris and sword dance, dance tunes, folksongs, and the dance and music community are welcome. Newlycomposed dances and tunes also are welcome, as are new looks at historical dances and tunes. Please contact the editor for guidelines or send submissions to news@cdss.org (maximum size for most articles: 1,500 words, 750 words for essays and event reviews). We may edit for length and clarity.

Go to http://www.cdss.org/upcoming-events.html to see UPCOMING EVENTS. To include an event, send date, name of event, town/state, sponsoring group, website or phone/email to events@cdss.org.

PERSONAL ADS (75 words maximum) are free for CDSS members and \$5 for nonmembers.

#### AD SIZES & RATES

full page, 7-1/8" wide x 9-1/4" high, \$440 half page horizontal, 7-1/8" wide x 4-3/8" high, \$250 half page vertical, 3-3/8" wide x 9-1/4" high, \$250 quarter page, 3-3/8" wide x 4-3/8" high, \$175

CDSS members may take a 50% discount from these rates. Anyone placing the same size ad in three consecutive issues may take a 10% discount. Please include a note saying which issue(s) your ad is for.

#### SENDING ADS

Ads must be black and white or grayscale. Please send electronically to news@cdss.org (PDF, JPG or TIF, with 300-600 dpi, fonts and images embedded), with check or Visa/Mastercard info sent same day.

#### DEADLINES

Spring—February 1st (issue mailed early March) Summer—May 1st (issue mailed early June) Fall—August 1st (issue mailed early September) Winter—November 1st (issue mailed early December)

#### Follow us on:







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### SUPPORT

CDSS is a 501(c)3 organization; dues and donations are tax deductible. For the many ways you can support us and the community at large, visit http://www.cdss.org/ways-to-give.html. Your help is much appreciated.

## PLANNED GIVING

Does your will include the Country Dance and Song Society? If not, please consider ensuring that the programs, publications and services that matter to you continue in the future with a bequest. It's practical and tax deductible. For information about bequests and other ways to support CDSS, see our website at www.cdss. org/planned-giving.html.

## **Homeschool Folk Dance Class**

A few years ago I decided I wanted to make dance my full time career. So I quit my job and started creating classes [in Minneapolis]. This Homeschool Folk Dance Class is really taking off. The first year I posted to a local homeschool website and had eight students. The next year I had nine students in the same class and a homeschool community hired me to teach Folk Dance for their physical education credit. I had sixty students in that community. I now have taught over eighty homeschool kids and need to find time to offer more classes. Most of my returning students are 7-10 year olds and I get their younger siblings when they are old enough. There is a market for preschool folkdance as well. I try to split up ages to have classes of 4-6 year olds, 7-10, and 11 and over.

In the class I focus on culture, geography, history, teamwork, memorization, and rhythm. I start the class in the middle of the floor where we do a dance we have done every week. The kids love showing me they can remember it. Then we do what is now known as Jamie's Crazy Warmup. The same music but a slightly different and VERY silly warm up that includes following, leading, moving together, grapevining, and tons of laughter. After that, we sit by the map and listen to a piece of music. The kids then try to guess where the music is from. I tell them a little about the dance and culture, then we learn the dance. This happens until the end of the class. At the end, the kids invite their families in and I briefly teach one of the dances we have already done. I let the kids lead the dance or be partners with their parents. At the end of the session, usually six weeks, we have a ball where everyone is invited and the kids present all the dances.

Each session, I ask the kids to find out where they are from. I then try to do a dance from each of those countries. The class is a blast to teach and I wish I taught it all the time!

Jamie Berg, Oslo, Norway

Editor's note: Jamie is moving from Minneapolis to Oslo where she plans to continue her Homeschool Folk Dance Classes.

### **Insurance News**

The Group Liability Insurance for 2013-2014 is now available. Application forms are at http://www.cdss.org/group-liability-insurance.html. There are some changes this year. The policy is now \$2 million per occurrence, \$4 million aggregate. We also are now able to offer insurance to our Canadian groups. Group Affiliate membership is required, but is open to all groups who do some sort of Anglo-American tradition music or dance, as well as Scottish and Scandinavian music and dance groups. The insurance year runs from May 1 to April 30; prices are not prorated.

We once again are offering Callers Liability insurance as well; those forms are available at http://www.cdss.org/callers-liability-insurance.html.

Jeff Martell, CDSS Group Services Manager

## Appointment at Brasstown

Annie Fain Liden-Barralon is the new Music and Dance Coordinator at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, North Carolina, https://www.folkschool.org/. She replaces Bob Dalsemer who has retired after twenty-two years in the position. Annie, who a number of CDSS summer camp participants know from her book arts classes at our Timber Ridge program (2011) and American Dance Week (2008 and 2010), previously worked at the Folk School as an administrative assistant and as coordinator of the Little/Middle Folk School.

## **Final Call for 2014 Board Nominations**

CDSS is always on the look out for star volunteers. Are you one? Do you know someone who is a star?

The CDSS Board will have a number of Board members completing their terms next year and are seeking nominations for those positions before the end of June. As well, we're often looking for people to participate in task groups and board committees as community member representatives. And in planning for our Centennial celebrations, we're anticipating all kinds of opportunities and will need volunteers. We're asking for your suggestions.

Think about yourself and the people you know in your local community. We're looking for people who have the appropriate mix of skills, experience, time, energy, teamwork style and have a passion for the country dance, music and song that we all love! See our website for more specifics about the experience we're looking for: http://www.cdss.org/governing-board.html. We're particularly interested in increasing the number of younger volunteers.

Please send your suggestions by June 30, 2013 to the CDSS Nominating Committee via email to wturnip@sympatico.ca or by mail to 301-140 Bathurst St, Toronto, ON M5V 3N8.

Bev Bernbaum, Chair CDSS Nominating Committee

## Personal Ad

DANCING WELL: The Soldier Project would like to be in touch with the person who wrote in April inquiring about becoming a leader of dances for people with PTSD. Your email message disappeared while I was looking at it. Please be in touch again: www.dancingwell.org.

### **Outreach Outlook**

The Outreach Department has just reached an important anniversary...five years of offering CDSS grant funding to a total of two hundred dance, music and song communities throughout the US and Canada! To celebrate this milestone, we'll be publicizing information about these grants in a variety of ways: where they have been offered, what types of events and projects have been supported, and countless ways that CDSS funding has benefitted communities far and wide. For starters, we're creating an online map indicating where our grants have been offered. Here's a link to our first version: http://www.cdss.org/our-funds-at-work.html.

### **OUR PURPOSE**

The primary purpose of our current grants program is to provide seed money to support new community-based projects and events in the US and Canada. Another focus is to help the traditions that we know and love continue to grow and thrive. To make this possible, we are especially interested in supporting projects and events that train leaders (callers, musicians, dance organizers, etc.) and/or that encourage youth involvement.

Do you have ideas for an event or project to support YOUR local music, dance and/or song community? If so, CDSS can help in a variety of ways. If you need financial backing, take a look at our online grant application materials: http://www.cdss.org/outreach-funds.html. *Please note that the next deadline is October 1*.

## ONLINE RESOURCES

We also have an array of online resources filled with advice about organizing events, forming groups, training leaders, promoting youth involvement and much more. These how-to guides were originally developed by our first Youth Projects Intern, Ethan Hazzard-Watkins and have been expanded by subsequent interns, Max Newman and Mary Wesley.

Also available on our website is the *Make It Happen Manual*, a step-by-step planning guide for creating leadership training events. This toolkit includes materials that have been generated by actual events: a weekend workshop for twenty-five callers, a collaborative "house workshop" for ten callers and musicians, and a regional leadership conference for seventy-five callers, musicians and organizers. All these online resources can be found at http://www.cdss.org/advice-howto.html.

If you have further questions about ways CDSS can support you to bring resources to your community, feel free to contact me at linda@cdss.org or 413-203-5467 x 105.

Linda Henry, CDSS Outreach Manager

# Will You Join Me?

## by Rima Dael, CDSS Executive Director



photo: Linda Lieberman

I am a professed nonprofit geek and arts advocate.

What truly gives me joy, and what I am most passionate about in my professional work, is building the capacity of nonprofit organizations to meet their missions. (Geeky, huh?) Capacity building is the "stuff" that you do to bring an organization to the next level of operations, programs and/or finances in order to more effectively and efficiently fulfill its mission.

I am most passionate to do this for arts organizations because I believe in the intrinsic worth that they bring to communities—arts are a basic need like food, safety and education. The arts matter because they build social cohesion and connections between individuals and communities that can be transformative! Our art forms are participatory by design and do this so beautifully. So, while many of you may not be nonprofit geeks or arts lovers in general, I know you all share my passion for the art of participatory dance, music and song.

Throughout the year we will be sharing ways you can take part and share in our one hundredth anniversary celebration. The Centennial is also an opportunity to share and reaffirm our commitment to our communities: that we will continue to be here to support you. We support you with grants, scholarships, resources, insurance, advice, conferences and as an institution that will carry forward these living traditions.

Your support for what we've already achieved, and your continued support as we move forward to marking our first century, will strengthen and shape CDSS for our next hundred years! I look forward to partnering with you, our friends and members.

The Board and staff are building a solid partnership. My job is to build a framework and gather financial support for additional partnerships with individuals, communities and institutions to ensure our viability. I care passionately about our kind of dance, music and song. I am a passionate advocate for its transformative power and I am invested in ensuring CDSS's legacy. Will you join me in partnership?

My door is always open—rima@cdss.org—and this summer I'll be at Family Week Pinewoods, Ogontz and Timber Ridge. My daughter and I will see you there!

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## Welcome, Teeny



We warmly welcome new staff member Christine Dadmun, known as Teeny, as Database and Membership Administrator. You can contact her directly to join CDSS, renew your membership, update your contact information (snail mail, email, phone), or ask

general membership questions: christine@cdss.org, 413-203-5467 x 104 (Monday-Friday, 9 am-4pm).

Teeny says: "See a PDF of our new membership brochure at http://www.cdss.org/tl\_files/cdss/images/membership/CDSSmembershipbrochure.pdf."

### **Obituaries**

Among the friends and acquaintances we lost recently are: Helene Cornelius, Arlington, MA, on May 3, longtime English country dance teacher and CDSS's first Lifetime Contribution recipient (2002), and Michael Blanford, English morris dancer, who died May 7. Obituaries will be included with the online version of this newsletter.



Spend a week with us!
Programs for adults
and for families,
late June-end August:
www.cdss.org/camp.
Fun for all!