Balance and Sing store update ~ summer 2012

New CDSS Publication: Classic English Country Dances

CLASSIC ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCES

CDS:

Gary Roodman and I have created another booklet with CD, to follow on the very successful booklet/CD combo *21 Easy English Country Dances*, published by CDSS in 2010. But what is a "classic" English dance? Here's our criteria: it is fun to dance and has good music; it was part of the early English dance repertoire in North America; and, last but not least, the music for it exists on a CDSS recording.

Gary and I chose twenty dances whose music was recorded by CDSS in the 1970s and '80s and played by Phil Merrill, Chuck Ward, Marshall Barron and others. Dances are included from By Popular Demand (CDS6), Popular English Country Dances (CDS7), Step Stately (CDS8), plus two dances recorded by the New York Renaissance Band on Country Capers (Arabesque Records, 1984), and a very spirited "Picking Up Sticks," found on CDS3, played by the Pinewoods Players and conducted by Phil Merrill.

Our selection of dances is suitable for dance leaders who have been enjoying English country dancing for a while, are comfortable teaching the dances we introduced in our earlier booklet, and want to become familiar with the classic repertoire.

The dances in the new booklet are Apley House, The Boatman, Chestnut; or Dove's Figary, Come Let's Be Merry, The Dressed Ship, Dublin Bay, The Female Saylor, Jack's Health, Joy After Sorrow, Mad Robin, Mr. Beveridge's Maggot, Mr. Isaac's Maggot, Newcastle, Orleans Baffled, Picking Up Sticks, Prince William, Saint Margaret's Hill, Scotch Cap, The Shrewsbury Lasses, and A Trip to Tunbridge. And we've included a glossary of dance figures and steps not in 21 Easy Dances.

We hope you enjoy this introduction to these English dances which have been loved and learned by many English country dancers on this continent.

Pat MacPherson, CDSS Director of Education

After an evening of dancing or singing, go home to a cup of your favorite drink in a CDSS mug.



Our new CafePress store offers beautiful and useful items featuring the CDSS logo and slogan. We've created teeshirts, baseball jerseys, tanks tops, hoodies; beach and tote bags; sigg, stainless and trek water bottles; mugs and more! Go to www.cafepress.com/countrydanceandsongsociety to see the goodies.