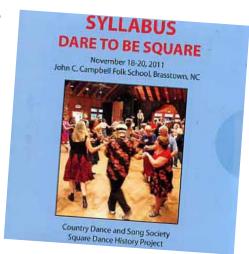
Balance and Sing store update ~ winter 2012-2013

New CDSS Publication!

We've just produced our first CD-ROM: the *Syllabus* for Dare to Be Square, the mega-event held at the John C. Campbell Folk School in November 2011, which was made possible with major financial funding from CDSS.

Nils Fredland, a member of the CDSS Publications/Education Department, led the *Syllabus* project and he and California caller and CDSS Board member, Lynn Ackerson, took on the mammoth task of transcribing the dances and discussions. As Nils writes in his introduction "square dance descriptions on a page are elevated by the skilled calling of a master" and this makes this syllabus/audio package an invaluable resource for dance callers, musicians and historians.

Each of the six master callers at the weekend brought a unique approach to square dancing: Bob Dalsemer, who produced the event, taught dances from Maryland Line, Maryland; Bill Litchman taught traditional Western squares; Tony Parkes showcased New England squares; Phil Jamison's specialty is Southern Appalachian squares;



and Larry Edelman taught the dances he learned from Jerry Goodwin, a caller in rural southwestern Pennsylvania.

The CD-ROM includes the 80-page *Syllabus* PDF, with a transcription of every dance presented during the three-day event, plus valuable teaching tips and background information, and 158 audio tracks, with the walkthrough and calls for each dance (a total of over ten hours of music and calls) plus an index to the video clips of each dance, which can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/user/SquareDanceHistory.

The six callers at the workshop are also consultants for the Square Dance History Project, directed by CDSS President David Millstone and the Dare to Be Square event was their first opportunity to meet face to face for discussions and interviews. See the 24 taped interviews at http://SquareDanceHistory.org, as well as the massive archive of square dance materials which is being built.

Many thanks to the musicians at the workshop: veteran performers Steve Hickman, Claudio Buchwald, Jim Morrison and Sam Bartlett. CD-ROM, \$20.

~ Pat MacPherson, Director of Education Dept.

Strike the Harp: An Irish Christmas Revels

This lovely mix of Irish vocal, choral and instrumental music, capturing the sound of 2012's Christmas Revels in Cambridge, Massachusetts, draws you into the joy, celebration and mystery of the winter season and will sustain your spirit throughout the rest of the year. This is a studio recording, so audience coughing and sneezing is not heard—only strong singing and vibrant music. CD, \$13.

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