

Highlights from Shared Weight

CDSS is an ongoing sponsor of this vital resource, which features community discussions on a variety of topics. Join the conversations at sharedweight.net.

- **Dance organizers list:** Initial musings about when and how dance communities might reopen after this time of physical distancing. There was acknowledgement that our ability to start dancing together is still a long way off.
- **Contra callers list:** There have been some fun posts about contra dances that involve no touching (imagine that!) inspired by the current need to practice physical distancing.
- **Trad callers list:** Some wonderful sharing of easy square dances for families and newer dancers.
- **English country dance list:** Lots of discussion about favorite but neglected dances.

It has been particularly exciting to hear how organizers are engaging their local communities. Here is one example:

“One of our members with a Zoom account has organized a weekly series of online check-ins via Zoom; I co-hosted the one last night. (Everybody who wants to speaks briefly about how they’re doing this week, there’s some general conversation, people can drop in or out.) It’s nice to see people’s faces. One of the people last night talked about how interesting it was to get to know dancers in a different way—at least to learn their names, hear what they’re doing for fun, etc.”

—Alan Winston, California



Highlights from the Resource Portal

www.cdss.org/resource-portal

Resources that have recently been added to the Portal:

- **New section for families!**
We have a brand new section of the Portal containing resources for parents and children. This section is currently focused on content useful during this time of physical distancing. Please suggest resources to add (instructions below).
- **Let Us Sing As We Go, Votes for Women!**
Compiled by Steve Woodbury, this collection of songs contains suffrage lyrics matched to commonly known tunes. All songs are in the public domain. Read more from the author on page 21. (See the *Singers and Song Organizers* section of the Portal.)
- **Switching to Gender-Neutral Language in a Positive Way**
Caller Diane Silver provides some ideas for organizers and callers to consider when making the change to gender-neutral role terms. (See the *Callers* section of the Portal.)
- **Barnes Three Dance Database**
The Portal links to Robert Messer’s website, which provides information and instructions for all of the dances in *The Barnes Book of English Country Dance Tunes, Volume Three*. Barnes Three is available in the CDSS online store! (See the *Callers* section of the Portal.)

Do you know of resources to add to the Portal? Suggest them at cdss.org/share-your-resource. We welcome resources for all sections, but we’re especially looking to expand the sections for singers and song leaders, ritual dancers, classroom teachers, and families.

Photo by Avia Moore.