

COUNTRY DANCE & SONG SOCIETY



NEWS

No. 36
DECEMBER
1980

TO THE MEMBERS

When we started this format of the News, we said to ourselves, "It will usually be four pages, occasionally six, and rarely eight." Well, this is the first four-pager, and may well be the last, but we're grabbing it while we can, as the next one will be another big one.

Happy Chanukah! Merry Christmas! Jolly Solstice! And may the New Year bring you health, happiness, dance and song.

Jerry Epstein
Bertha Hatvary



PEOPLE OF CDSS: SUZANNE SZASZ SHORR

CDSS is many things: songs, dances, playing, research.... But most of all it is the people of all ages, talents, and walks of life that enjoy it, give to it, and create its vitality. From time to time we're going to tell you about one of them: what he or she does, both in the "real world" and in CDSS. Below is the first of what we hope will be many such introductions.

Many readers will recognize the smiling face on the right: Suzanne Szasz Shorr has been dancing, singing, playing her guitar and taking pictures at CDSS events for many years, including 17 Pinewoods summers. Many also know that she is one of the country's most distinguished photographers. As Suzanne Szasz, she is the author of nine books including *The Unspoken Language of Children* (1979), *Child Photography*, and *Wedding Photography* (all with her own texts) and *The Silent Miaow*, which came out in 1965 with a text by Paul Gallico and "still sells like mad." She's



had picture stories in numerous major magazines, including LIFE, has created film strips and both TV and print ads, and will have a one-person exhibit in January in Manhattan. A terrific recent color spread in Country Journal pictured the first Marlboro Morris Ale, and she's working now on a photo story on last year's Family Week at Pinewoods.

Suzanne also photographs CDSS activities year after year and never charges us a penny. The lively and charming pictures of staff members and their babies in a recent News were by her. (Unforgivably, they appeared without a photo credit. She didn't sulk, but she did say, "One day I hope we'll have the money for paper and printing that will do justice to the photographs." That woman is a saint.)

Suzanne's influence in CDSS and on folk music has been very important. After her first experiences at Pinewoods at Folk Music Week, she felt a great impulse to continue the same kind of joyous music-making in New York. The result, achieved in 1965 together with John Langstaff, Jerry Epstein, Ben Mandel, and Bernie Klay, was the formation of a group that Suzanne named the Pinewoods Folk Music Club. An affiliated group of CDSS, it continues to flourish, with a vigorous program of concerts and sings.

Suzanne is now busily creating a folk musicians' and country dancers' directory. Frequently an officer of PFMC, she is at present its president. She is also a member of the CDSS Executive Committee, and brings one of her delicious home-baked Hungarian cakes to every meeting. She's an enthusiastic country dancer too. "I especially love Playford, with its beautiful music played by Phil Merrill and Marshall Barron," she says. And we especially love and honor her.



ATTENTION RESEARCHERS!

The growing interest in the history and original sources of our English and American dances is beginning to lead to some duplication of effort. To be sure, the work of every scholar is unique, but even so a researcher may wish to direct his efforts to relatively unplowed ground.

The News will be happy to publish announcements of work that researchers are doing or are about to embark upon. Needless to say, we are also interested in the results.

WESTWARD WITH THE HELWIGS LETTERS

Lack of space in the November issue forced us to curtail the enthusiastic piece that Christine and Ed Helwig had sent us on their trip last summer to the West. Here's the rest of it.

Wherever we went we found evidence of the enthusiasm generated by Pinewoods. We were greatly pleased and excited by the many vital activities that we saw in Berkeley--at Stanford University as well as at Mendocino--and those we heard about from leaders and participants from San Diego, Portland and Seattle. We attended a gala party evening of the English Country Dance Society of San Francisco, led by Brad Foster with wonderful music by Chuck Ward and company. At Stanford, we danced some of our favorite New England contras, called in fine style by Brad. At both places the dancing was good and the enthusiasm and interest of dancers, musicians and leaders were evident.

Mendocino was special in a number of ways. The thoughtful planning done by Brad and Jenny Foster and their organizing committee showed in all the arrangements and in the program. The staff and the dancers were young and enthusiastic, and there was a sense of excitement and discovery, since for most participants such a week was a new experience. It was fun for all of us to be part of a "first." The teaching was excellent and full of fresh ideas, and the whole week was one of sharing--old with young, neophytes with veterans, callers with dancers, musicians with everybody.

After leaving Mendocino, we saw additional evidences of CDSS influence. At Ashland, Oregon, Carl Wittman directed the summer dance programs associated with the Shakespeare Festival there. We saw only one of his three programs, a presentation that included 16th-century Italian court dances coached by Judith Kennedy as well as 17th-century English country dances. The music for dancing was played on instruments of the period, and Elizabethan songs rounded out a delightful program. We wished we could have stayed to see the program of morris and sword that Mary Judson had assisted Carl in staging. We did enjoy having a chance to meet and dance with Carl's troupe and see them rehearse.

On our way north, we stayed with Dick Lewis and Susan Isaacs, who have gathered a group of 30 to 40 people who dance every Monday night. They do both English country and morris dancing, and seven of them had been to Mendocino.

All the able and energetic leaders on the West Coast deserve congratulations for their accomplishments and the thanks of everyone in the Society for the many ways in which they are fostering and extending the music and dance that unite us all.

Christine and Ed Helwig



CLASSIFIED

SING OUT! The Folk Magazine. Subscription \$11.00/yr 6 issues. Foreign \$2.50 additional. Songs, features, reviews, discographies. Sing Out! 505 8th Ave., New York, NY 10018

...The other night we were showing our Pinewoods slides to friends; there were some really good shots of the morris tour.... Tonight Dennis and I were watching TV when Tim [aged 3] came in with an empty grocery bag. He held it so that the bottom of the bag was pointed toward me and said, "Pat the horse, Mom." Then turning the bag so I could reach the opening he said, "Put in some money, Mom." I pantomimed the donation. Then: "Put in some beer, Mom." Again a pantomime. "Thank you, Mom." Then he walked over to Dennis and repeated the whole thing! You made quite an impression on at least one little boy, John.

Excerpt from a letter to John Hodgkin, master hobbyhorse, from Joan Baragwanath Shaw



RED IS THE ROSE

At Folk Music Week last summer, Joe Heaney, the incomparable "sean nos" singer, sang a haunting song at the Camp House one evening. The whole camp quietly sang the refrain with him, and by the end many of us were in tears.

Lo, the song, which is sung to the tune of Loch Lomond, though much more slowly, was printed in the last issue of *Sing Out!*, and the editors and Joe have kindly given us permission to reprint it as a special holiday gift to you.

The arrangement is by Joe Heaney, the transcription by Sarah Plant of *Sing Out!* Chords are suggested.

Freely Chorus:

Red is the rose that in yonder garden grows
Fair is the li-ly of the val-ley Clear are the
waters that flows in yon-der stream But
my love is fair-er than an- y

Chorus:
Red is the rose that in yonder
garden grows
Fair is the lily of the valley
Clear are the waters that flows in
yonder stream
But my love is fairer than any

Over the mountain down to the glen
To a little thatched cot in the valley
Where the thrush and the jinnel sing
their ditty and their song
And my love leaning over the half-
door
(Chorus)

Down by the seashore on a cold
summer eve
With the moon rising over the
heather
The moon it shone fair all on her
head of golden hair
As she vowed she'd be my love
forever
(Chorus)

It's not for the parting with my
sister Kate
Or for the loss of my mother
It's all for the loss of my bonny
brown-eyed lass
That I'm leaving my homeland
forever
(Chorus)

EVENTS

Dec 26-Jan 1 CHRISTMAS COUNTRY DANCE SCHOOL.

Sponsored by Berea College. Eng., Amer., & Danish country dance workshops, morris & sword, Appalachian & Eng. clogging, dance band, leadership, story telling, crafts. Contact John Ramsay, Berea College Rec. Extension, CPO 287, Berea, KY 40404.

Dec 27-Jan 1 WINTER WORKSHOP.

Sponsored by Eastern Cooperative Recreation School at Watson Homestead, Painted Post, NY. To register, contact Eugene Carter, 676 Perth Pl. #E, Philadelphia, PA 19133, 215-MA7-5335.

Dec 31 GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE.

Called by Jim Morrison & Bob Dalsemer; music by Tracy's Family Band & the Bosstown Buzzsteps. At Govans Post Hall, 510 Harwood Ave., Baltimore. 9PM-2 AM. Contact Bob Dalsemer 301-889-8541.

Jan 10 FAMILY DANCE.

With John McCutcheon, afternoon session for kids & grownups; regular evening dance too. Sponsored by NYDAC. Contact CDSS, 505 8th Ave., NY, NY 10018.

JAN 30-FEB 1 WINTER FOLK MUSIC WEEKEND.

Saugerties, NY. Sponsored by the NY Pinewoods Folk Music Club. For more information contact CDSS, 505 8th Ave., NY, NY 10018, 212-594-8833.

FEB 7 ENGLISH TRADITIONAL DANCE WORKSHOPS & PARTY.

With Hanny Budnick, sponsored by the Germantown Country Dancers. Contact Barbara Bekker, 6900 Wissahickon Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19119, 215-438-6841.

FEB 13-15 WINTER DANCE WEEKEND.

Sponsored by Knoxville Country Dancers at S. Knoxville Neighborhood Facility. Contact Peter Jorgensen, 3340 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919, 615-522-8557.

Applejack invites you to our 5th annual

NEW YEAR'S EVE Dawn Dance CELEBRATION Contras & Squares



8 o'clock pm December 31, 1980
the Gibson-Aiken Center 207 Main St. Brattleboro, Vermont

Advance tickets \$5.50 available by mail until Dec. 21 from
Applejack, Box 67, Saxtons River, Vt. 05154
checks payable to Applejack
\$6.50 at the door
Soft soled shoes please
for more information- 802-869-2602 or 802-387-4644

FEB 13-16 ENGLISH DANCE WEEKEND (TENTATIVE).

Sponsored by Bay Area Country Dance Society. Contact Brad Foster, 18100 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014, 408-867-7258.

FEB 27-MAR 1 DANCE LEADERS / DANCE BAND WORKSHOP.

Sponsored by John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC. Contact Laura Sprung, Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC 28902, 704-837-2775.

MAR 7 GEORGE WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY BALL.

Sponsored by the Williamsburg Heritage Dance Assembly. Contact Leland & Gail Ticknor, 107 Indian Springs Rd., Williamsburg, VA 23185, 804-229-7588.

MAR 14, PLAYFORD BALL.

Led by George Fogg. Contact Boston Centre, CDS, 309 Washington St., Wellesley Hills, MA 02181, 617-235-6181.

MAR 14, CONTRA WORKSHOPS & DANCE PARTY.

Led by Tony Parkes, sponsored by Germantown Country Dancers. Contact Barbara Bekker, 6900 Wissahickon Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19119, 215-438-6841.

SALES DEPARTMENT

NEW BOOKS

Bailey, John *Making a Folk Guitar*. Step-by-step instructions for the do-it-yourself guitar maker as set out by an experienced maker, with detailed scale drawings, discussion of materials and processes. End result: your own guitar! \$2.00.

Barrand, Anthony and Carole Moody, eds *Northern Harmony: A Collection of Tunes by Early New England Composers*. \$5.00. A book for singers, with 28 hymns with notes on the composers and their works. Transcribed in the four-shape system used in *Sacred Harp*.

Child, James Francis *The English and Scottish Popular Ballads* (in 5 volumes). \$7.50 per vol. The definitive work on ballads: the entire Child collection of 305 ballads printed with comprehensive discussion of the history and different versions of each ballad. This is an exhaustive scholarly work, but folksingers should note that tunes are not included.

Leach, McEdward *Folk Ballads & Songs of the Lower Labrador Coast*. \$9.00 Extensive history and descriptive notes accompany 138 songs from Canada. Illustrated with photographs of Labrador.

Marcoux, Omer *The Fiddle Tunes of Omer Marcoux*. \$4.00 Forty-six French Canadian fiddle tunes, reels, waltzes and polkas, transcribed as played by the popular New Hampshire fiddler. Included are old favorites such as Ragtime Annie, St. Anne's Reel, La Bastringue. All tunes are part of Omer's current repertoire.

Nevell, Richard *A Time to Dance: American Country Dancing from Hornpipes to Hothash*. Now available in paperback \$6.95 (also hard cover \$10). A portrait of country dancing in the U.S.: New England contras, southern mountain dancing, western squares. History plus interviews & anecdotes about the contemporary dance scene.

O'Connor, David and Philip Spratley *Bushes and Briars: An Anthology of Essex Folksongs*. \$5.50

(continued on next page)

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67 songs from Essex, mostly broadside ballads; topics covered are harvest songs, love and courtship, crime, violence and war, sea songs, coastal songs, old Essex customs, and children's songs. Included are "As I Walked Out" and "On the Banks of the Clude." Many of the children's songs are singing games. Illus.

Palmer, Roy, ed. The Rambling Soldier: Life in the Lower Ranks, 1750-1900, through Soldiers' Songs and Writings. \$6.50 A vivid account of life in the army, with songs and ballads of the period and writings from the letters and memoirs of many soldiers, as well as contemporary prints and photographs.

Pearse, John Teach Yourself Appalachian Dulcimer. \$2.00 "A complete self instructor containing all the traditional styles of Dulcimer playing, plus easy to follow, note-for-note tablature examples demonstrating the revolutionary three finger picking technique devised and performed by John Pearse."

Pearce, Maggi Kerr Keep the Kettle Boiling. \$6.50 Rhymes, chants and songs remembered from Maggi's childhood in Northern Ireland. Counting rhymes ("1-2-3-4-5, Once I caught a fish alive, Why did you let it go? Because it bit my finger so, Which finger did it bite? The little finger on the right."), skipping rhymes ("Keep the kettle boiling, miss the rope you're out, If you had a been, Where I had a been, You wouldn't ha' been put out.") Also Ball game rhymes, finger rhymes, games, irreligious rhymes, parodies, political rhymes, songs, superstitions.

Word of Mouth Singers The Word of Mouth Round Book. \$1.25. 21 favorite rounds ranging from those easy enough for small children to learn to ones requiring concentrated practice to master. The introduction says, "A little bit of love and a little bit of concentration can turn a session with any one of these rounds into a magical occasion." Included: Thomas Tallis, Death is a Long Long Sleep, Bottle of Pop, Oh, Lord Turn Not Away Thy Face, Wake Every Breath, Summer is Icumen In, Soul Cake, By the Floods of Babylon, Miserere Nostri Domine, Ah, Comme C'est Chose Belle, White and Gray Sands, Lacrimosa, Shaker Life, Old Avram Brown, Jubilate Deo, Non Nobis Domine, Oh, Absolom My Son, Der Ring, When Jesus Wept, Singt Dem Herren, The Lord is Risen.

NEW RECORDS

All Smiles Tonight Woody Simmons, \$6.00 Listen to fiddle music as performed by one of West Virginia's best old-time fiddlers. Woody Simmons was part of the American Dance and Music Week staff at Pinewoods last summer. Booklet included with pictures and interview with Woody, published by the West Virginia Dept. of Culture and History. Tunes: West Virginia Highway; Home Brew Rag; Honeymoon Waltz; Mitchell's Clog; Sugar Tree Stomp; Paris Waltz; Cotton Baggin'; Natural Bridge Blues; Sugar in the Gourd; I'll be All Smiles Tonight; Smokey Mountain Rag; Devil in Georgia; Susie's Band; Sweet Bunch of Daisies; Liza Jane.

NEWS STAFF

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This newsletter is published monthly for the information of Society members. Views expressed in letters and signed articles represent those of the author and not necessarily those of the National Council, the Executive Committee or the headquarters staff.

We urge all members to send articles, reviews, announcements, etc. to the editor by the first of the month; the issue will be put in the mail before the tenth of the following month.

Display advertising is available at \$30 for a full page, \$18 a half-page, \$10 a quarter-page. Members may have a classified ad up to 40 words for \$1. The Society reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. Prices are based on camera-ready copy.

ARE YOU A A CDSS MEMBER ?

If you're not a member of CDSS and would like to support its work in traditional dance and song, consider membership in the Society. Annual dues are:

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| \$15 Individual | \$6 each additional person at the same address |
| \$10 Fulltime student or senior cit. | \$4 additional to receive English Dance & Song, magazine of the English Folk Dance and Song Society |
| | \$6 additional for membership in Pinewoods Folk Music Club (\$8 for family) |