THE OLD FARMERS BALL NEWS

the Old Farmers Ball News

is published bimonthly by the Old Farmers Ball Dance and includes the Asheville Area Dance Flyer, *Dance Thoughts* column, Project Reports, contact info and much more. Deadline for next *Old Farmers Ball News* is **February 8.** Please send your submissions: photos, jokes, letters, thoughts, articles, ideas etc. to our editor. bmolaro@earthlink.net

2007 CROW T-Shirt Design Released

The Old Farmers Ball has a new design for the 2007 calendar year Old Farmers Ball T-Shirt. The artwork was created by graphic designer, Jane Ware and produced by Jonathan Gilbert. The T-Shirt profits go into a scholarship fund to allow all our membership to attend functions which they otherwise could not attend due economic hardship.

This is the third in the Barnyard series, and for no good reason we are still on letter "C". Dancing Cows in 2005, Dancing Cats in 2006 and now for 2007 we have Crows, dancing of course!

This year, due to being short staffed, we have halved the quantity of T- Shirts that we will order. Being early is essential to get the size, style, and color that you want. We still have a brief time to do special requests, so call Jonathan at 645-0456 and leave a message.

2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONTACT INFORMATION:

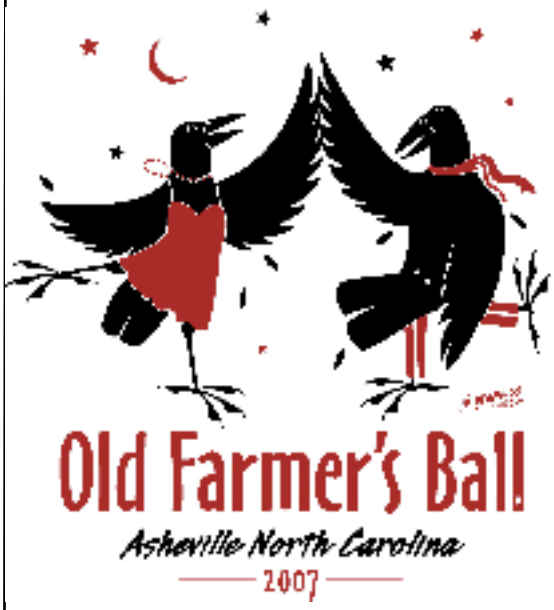
President/Reunion Committee..... John Combs
johncombs@main.nc.us
Vice President.....Diane Silver
diane@diane-silver.com
Secretary..... Andra Cagle
H2Andra@yahoo.com
Treasurer/T-Shirt Project..... Jonathan Gilbert
bodystone@aol.com
Booking/Newsletter.....Beth Molaro
bmolaro@earthlink.net
Volunteer Coordinator.....Daniel Davila
sacredspaces@onebox.com
Laurie Fisher.....fiddlewitch@lovemail.com
Bill Hufnagle.....bikerbilly@bikerbilly.com
Suzanne Hosch.....suzhosch@charter.net
Anne Fain Liden.....afliden@hotmail.com
Emily Mitchell.....emitch@bulldog.unca.edu
Hank Morris.....HanknJune@cs.com
Sara Slaughter.....swinginfiddler@yahoo.com
Deborah Swanson.....dswansong@aol.com

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Telephone Info-LIne 828-258-4809
Website .....www.oldfarmersball.com
List Serve **groups.yahoo.com/group/ofb/**

The **Old Farmers Ball** is a Community Dance. It is given life by individuals in this community volunteering their time and efforts. You are encouraged to volunteer where and when you can. Call any member of the board with comments, suggestions, or offers of help.

OLD FARMERS BALL
PO BOX 9000 W W C BOX 6278
ASHEVILLE, NC 28815



FIND YOUR JAN/FEB DANCE FLYER ON THE BACK COVER

ANNOUNCING the ANNUAL MEETING

The 2007 Annual Meeting will be held on January 18th during the break at our regular Thursday Dance. All with an interest in our dance community are encouraged to attend. 2007 Old Farmers Ball Members in good standing are eligible to vote and to attend this January 18th Member Appreciation dance for free. Memberships may be renewed that night. Primary Business for Annual Meeting is to vote on proposed slate for the 2007 Board of Directors. It is also an opportunity for our community to express themselves to the Board.

Proposed Slate:

Officers: President Diane Silver
Vice-president Suzanne Hosch
Treasurer Jonathan Gilbert
Secretary Linda Mitchell

New Members-at-Large:
Able Allen Harriette Bugel
Joe Karpen David Stalnaker

Thank You! to Board Members who will continue to serve as Members-at-Large:

John Combs Daneo Davilia
Laurie Fisher Bill Hufnagle
Emily Mitchell Beth Molaro
Hank Morris Sarah Slaughter

And Special Thanks to our outgoing Board Members for their service to our community: Annie Fain Liden, Deborah Swanson, and Andra Cagle.

~Thank You~Thank You~Thank You~Thank You~

2006 has been a big year for the OUR Community volunteers. We have bonded at our pizza parties, potlucks and special gatherings and expanded communication via our on-line discussion list. We have succeeded in making our dance a smooth running, fun-filled enjoyable event. We have had the fortune of witnessing and partaking of the growth, friendships and togetherness this wonderful group of folks brings. I am so grateful to be a part of this community!It is difficult to list all contributors without worrying that I have accidentally excluded someone. Please know that we appreciate you ALL!
Many Thanks to our 2006 Volunteers! Sincerely, **Daneo**

Listed In ALPHABETICAL ORDER: Athena Anderson, Travis Anderagg, Scott & Annette, Durham Barnes, Kyra Bauer, Miriam Burkett, Rachel Brock, Harry Bryan, Harriete Bugel, Brenna Chase,Christy Cleavenger, Sean Donahue, Sarah Easterling, Nathan Ellis, Aundee English, Leigh Evans, Stu Flying, Tony Fogleman, Stephanie Frederick, Mary Gavlik, Lacy Hagan, Carl Hart, Holly Hixson, Kristen Holcombe, Jennifer Horrocks, Forrest Kelley, Nicholas Ladd, Zoe Ladmer, Lonnie Lepore, Jennifer Long, Noreen Long, Chris Love, Sarah McHarge, Allen Owensby, Sage Phillups, Amanda, Brenda & Sacha Rathe and FAMILY!, Joe Rinehart, Kimberly Schoville, Jaime Shelton, Sarie Sisler, Scott Smoyer, MJ Taylor, Nathan Vish, David Wiley, Chuck Williard, Alex Cole Weiss, Hanna Wright, Pete Zamplas

SPECIAL THANKS TO TEAM LEADERS Christy Gordner, Marti Grist, Gari Carter, Donald Williams, Hank Morris, Josh Watson, Raj Bowers-Racine

Old Farmers Ball Membership Form

The Old Farmers Ball will not distribute any of this information for commercial purposes.
Check the box at left of each line if you **DO NOT** want that particular line of information in the directory. Submit Membership Form by January 18 2007 to be included in the 2007 Membership Directory.
Join anytime in the year... Renewals are due in January 2008.

Date:____/____/____ ** ***PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY*****

❒ Name: _____

❒ Address: _____

❒ City: _____ State:_____ ZIP:_____

❒ Phone (w/ area code) (____) _____-_____

❒ E-mail: _____

❒ Birth Date: ____/____/_____

❒ Occupation (max. 25 characters): _____

Annual Dues.....**$5.00**
Mail to OFB, PO Box 9000 WWC Box 6278, Asheville, NC 28815 or Bring to a Thursday Night Dance.

the Old Farmers Ball circa 1950

Happy 25th Birthday: Dance Through Time w/ 25 years of musicians & callers

The Old Farmer's Ball turns 25 years old in 2007, and we'll be throwing a weekend birthday bash beginning Thursday, February 15 and continuing through Sunday, February 18, 2007. As the weekend progresses so will the entertainment! At each dance a core band from a specific time period, beginning from 1982 to the present, will perform. There will also be opportunities for guest musicians to sit in with performing bands.

All dances will be held in Bryson Gym, Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, NC. We are searching for photos and flyers from the past. If you have any flyers from the following years: 1982-1984, 1991-94, and 2000, please contact John Combs. Help us decorate Bryson Gym with your photos and old flyers.

If you're coming from out of town to help celebrate our birthday and you need housing, or if you're a local dancer and you can provide housing, please visit www.ofb-events.pbwiki.com. Follow the instructions to add your name to the list, and we'll match up guests with hosts.

Tentative Schedule:

Thursday 2/15
Regular weekly dance at 8:00 pm with beginner's instruction at 7:30 pm. Nightwatch with Shawn Brenneman.

Friday 2/16
8:00 pm-midnight
Travel back in time with musicians and callers from the 80's.

Saturday 2/17
Noon–1:00 pm Waltzing
1:00-6:00 pm Dance through the 90's with musicians and callers from that time period.
6:30 pm Potluck dinner…Bring your favorite dish to share.
8:00 pm–midnight Return to the 90's with more dancing.

Sunday 2/18
Noon–1:00 pm Waltzing
1:00 pm–5:00 pm Enter the new millennium with musicians and callers from the 2000's.

Check-out www.oldfarmer'sball.com for scheduling updates as the talent is confirmed. For more information, contact John Combs, 253-3994 jcombs@main.nc.us, Diane Silver diane@diane-silver.com, Suzanne Hosch suzhosch@charter.net or Annie Fain Liden afliden@hotmail.com

Dance Thoughts: on a Dance Hall Not to Be Forgotten

text and photo by Beth Molaro

Dancehall on Warren Wilson College Rd

You drive by it on your way to the dance every Thursday, the original dance hall for the Old Farmers Ball. Looking run down and forgotten, it sits there on the East side of Warren Wilson College Road.

I imagine that most of our dancers don't even notice that old building and, honestly, it doesn't look like much. My guess is though that for those of us who had a chance to dance in that original place, it holds memories not easily forgotten and a permanent place in our hearts. We remember and give a nod to history as we go by every Thursday as we have done for countless Thursdays to dance the night away each week.

I know that I always smile when I drive by as I can't help but remember the magic in that little building! The dim light and the low headroom, and the myriad of twinkle lights on the ceiling. I was intoxicated by the magic... the wonder of dancing in this crowded place where so many had danced before me...

It was in this little building that area farmers gathered for music and dance ... Imagine all the good times and tunes and dancing feet that graced that oak dance floor with it's low stage at the North end. Imagine the harvests and weddings that were celebrated here in music and dance...

This is the place where the first of our Old Farmers Ball community dances got its start 25 years ago, in that great tradition of gathering together to share the music and dance of the people. And it is in that great tradition that we continue today, although the crowds ebb and flow and the faces change, the magic remains.

Asheville Area Dances Jan - Feb 2007

Grey Eagle

Mondays - 8pm Beginners Always Welcome
185 Clingman Avenue - Asheville NC (828) 232-5800

1-1 Dancing Bears.....w/ Barbara Groh
Lew Gelfond, Mark Langner, John Culp, Skip Metheny

1-8 Land of Sky .....w/ Diane Silver
Laura .Lengnick, Paul Moore, Roger Gold

1-15 Mock Turtle Soup ..... w Gary Nelson
Pearl Mueller, Chris Holleman, Willie Repoley

1-22 Get Reel ..... w/ TBA
Vincent Fogerty, Beanie O'Dell, Duncan Wickle

1-29 The Reems Creek Rattlers ...w/ Rodney Sutton
Rob Mangum & friends

2-5 The Reel Magnolias.....w/ Beth Molaro
June Advincula, Jane Weaver, Suzanne Hosch

2-12 Night Watch.....w/ Shawn Brenneman
Naomi Morse, Elvie Miller, Owen Morrison

2-19 Euphoria String Band.....w/ Adina Gordon
Bob Kogut, & friends

2-26 The Tar Heel Rattlers.....w Anne Marie Walter
Robbie Robertson, Travis Stuart, Meredith Macintosh, Martha Scanlan

OFB Board Meetings

6:30pm - Warren Wilson – Kittredge - Rm 15A

1-4, 2-1 Before the Thursday dance - Everyone Welcome

Old Farmer's Ball

Thursdays - 8pm (lesson 7:30pm) (828) 258-4809
Warren Wilson College - Bryson Gym - Swannanoa NC

1-4 Fly by Night ..... w/ Margaret Mathews
David White & Roger Gold

1-11 Reel Magnolias.....w/ Hank Morris
June Advincula, Jane Weaver, Suzanne Hosch

1-18 Community Open Band w/ Laurie Fisher MC
Rob and Beth Mangum – come join the band or call a dance
Annual Meeting during break - 2007 OFB Members get in Free

1-25 Ants in the Pantry..... w/ Barbara Groh
Laurie Fisher, Karen Gaughan, John Culp, Skip Metheny

2-1 Feral Broccoli .....w/ Mark Langner
David Lynch, Vollie McKenzie, Thorn Cary and Amy Hobbs

2-8 Euphoria Stringband .....w/ Beth Molaro
Bob Kogut, etal

2-15 Nightwatch.....w/ Shawn Brenneman
Naomi Morse, Elvie Miller, Owen Morrison

2-16/18 OFB 25th Birthday Extravaganza
Friday – Saturday - Sunday (Feb 16, 17, 18)
Find details on PAGE 3. Watch the website for updates

2-22 Ed Baggot & Elsie Petersen
w/ Anne Marie Walter

Other Regional Dances & Instruction

Asheville Community Dance Scene

Second Saturday - 8:15pm - **NEW Venue**
Info: 828.582.9222 828.216.5115

Jan 13 **Feral Broccoli** ..... **w/ Beth Molaro**
David Lynch, Vollie McKenzie, Thorn Cary, Amy Hobbs

Feb 10 **Get Reel**.....**w/ TBA**
Duncan Wickel, Beanie Odell, Vincent Fogerty

Family Dance **w/ Diane Silver**

Saturday - 5pm Potluck – 6pm to 7:30 Dancing
www.diane-silver.com/FamilyDance.html info: (828) 298-7084
Jan 13 – Before the ACDS dance (above) at their NEW VENUE
Feb 10 – Before the ACDS dance (above) at their NEW VENUE

advanceDANCE **w/ Beth Molaro**

We Are Looking For A New Hall Info: (828) 277-4068

English Country Dance Julia – (828) 669-5907

1st Wed of the month 7:00PM to 9:00PM with beg. class at 6:45PM
Black Mountain Center For The Arts
225 West State Street in downtown Black Mountain

Celo Dance – Friday 8pm ..... rlevin@trccomputing .com
"Green Cay" at Arthur Morgan School $3
Music by Bruce Greene & Friends (828) 675-4331

Webster Dance Sylva/Cullowhee at Webster .....2nd Fridays
call Kathy (828) 497-4709 or Ron (828) 586-5478

Swing Dance Information ..... www.swingasheville.com

Cross-Step Waltz ..... Tom (828) 298-4688
synergycenter@bellsouth.net

River Falls Dance – Greenville SC.....www.harvestmoonfolk.org
Dates: 1-6, 1-20, 1-27, 2-3, 2-17, 2-24

OFB Thursday Dance Hot-Line (828) 258-4809

Find current information and other dance links at:
oldfarmersball.com