Nowell Sing We Clear
Saturday, December 19
3 pm (matinee!) (We Sold Out last year!)

The lively quartet of John Roberts, Tony Barrand, Fred Breunig and Andy Davis returns for the 35th touring season of their “pageant of midwinter carols”, a delightful and spirited program of unusual songs, carols, stories, and customs. Bring the whole family—with ready and willing voices—to celebrate the tales and customs of Winter Solstice, Christmas, and New Years. This is exuberant entertainment, and a family friendly afternoon guaranteed to ignite your holiday spirits.

Nowell Sing We Clear celebrates Christmas as it was observed for centuries in Britain and North America, and as it is still kept in some places. Many songs come from an age when the midwinter season was a time for joyful and vigorous expression of older, pagan religious traditions. Every year, different songs and carols are researched and introduced. While some of the singing is unaccompanied, the show also brings to you the energetic dance band sound of fiddle, button accordion, electric piano, drums, and concertina.

Buy your tickets early through FSGW by December 18 and save $3 per ticket. General admission $25. Students (to age 22) $10. At Church of the Ascension, 633 Sligo Ave., Silver Spring, MD. About half a mile from the Silver Spring Metro on the Red Line. To reserve tickets go to www.fsgw.org, or send a check made out to FSGW to: NSWC c/o M. Summerour, 5212 Juliet St. Springfield, Va. 22151

For more info call 703.981.2217 or 703.354.6460.
FSGW Sunday Night Dances
at Glen Echo Park, MD
(Directions, page 23)
Contras & Squares • 7:30-10:30 pm
Introductory lesson every Sunday from 7-7:30 pm

Join us for an evening of dancing at Glen Echo Park. Every Sunday FSGW (in cooperation with the National Park Service, Montgomery County, and the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture) presents contras and squares danced to live music by fabulous bands with entertaining callers. Experienced and new dancers welcome; no partner needed. Welcome/Orientation session every Sunday at 7 pm. Come early for an introduction to the basic moves, and check out YouTube instructional videos as well. Dances often become more challenging as the evening progresses. Bring water or a sports drink, and dress appropriately in layers. Smooth soled shoes are kindest on your knees and ankles when turning. If you use scented products such as perfumes, note that some dancers have allergies—please apply it, if you must, with a light hand. Info: Penelope Weinberger, dance@fsgw.org.

Admission: $9 for FSGW, BFMS, CDSS, and ATDS Members. $12 for the general public

December

6  Whatever tribe you claim, or claims you, hop on over to Crowfoot country and whoop it up! Adam Broome on guitar, Jaige Trudel on fiddle, and Nicholas Williams on flute and accordion have been playing traditionally inspired new music together for six amazing years. Chief and only caller for the night is the fun and innovative Bob Isaacs from New Jersey.

13  The angelic Susan Taylor calls to Strings on Wings – Traditional fiddle tunes, Appalachian waltzes, Celtic, and folk tunes will echo through the Ballroom. Barb Schmid on fiddle, Todd Clewell on guitar, and Glenn Carson on mandolin.

20  The versatile (watch the sword dancing team), and recently married (sorry, gals!) Ted Hodapp calls to the tunes of the incomparable Morrison Brothers from Charlottesville, VA. Jim on fiddle, Will on percussion, and Owen on everything else. If you haven’t heard them, don’t miss them now!

27  Did you find new dance shoes in your stocking? Well, take them out and put them on ‘cause banjos are EVERYWHERE! Adam Hurt on banjo and fiddle, Grammy winners, Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer each on banjo, and Beth Hartness on guitar. Local doll, Ann Fallon calls the dancing.

On the Web:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1o7tdtHZyE&feature=related “Contra Dance Training.”

Have you come across an article about dance you’d like to share? Or would you like to write one? Please send your suggestions to Newsletter@fsgw.org
Schedule of FSGW Concert Events for 2010

Saturday, January 9 • FSGW Sampler Concert

Come celebrate FSGW’s homegrown talent. We’re bringing back our ‘sampler tradition’ with an interesting mix of song and story.

The performers will be:

~**Bill Mayhew**, with thirty years of storytelling history, (including a cable television show), mostly folk tales and usually funny; he recorded a cassette *D. Crockett, the Cyclops & Me* and a CD, *Maren & the Bears & Me*.

~**The Jones Family**, whose CDs *Unquiet* and *From Earth to Heaven* drew rave reviews; they are *Chuck and Brenda* and their daughter, who as *Chenoa Clark* is pursing a solo music career.

~**Bruce Sagan**, who plays fiddles and similar stringed instruments, mostly Scandinavian; he has released *Spelstundarna* (with *Andrea Hoag*) and *With Friends*.

~**Gypsy Meltdown** — Kathy Kerr (fiddle, mandolin), Colleen Reed (flute, sax, percussion) and Keith Gillis (guitar); they play traditional American folk dance tunes (sometimes for FSGW dances); their CD is *Unleashed*.

Free to members, donations encouraged! WES Auditorium.

Saturday, January 30

**Lee Murdock** Great Lakes songs and lore

In our second concert for January, we welcome **Lee Murdock** from the Midwest, where he’s known for uncovering the old songs and stories about the Great Lakes. He sings of the tragedies, the triumphs, history and everyday people who work the Lakes. His CDs are many, about a dozen, and he’s also written books about the lore. Bring your voice for the choruses! WES Auditorium. [www.leemurdock.com](http://www.leemurdock.com)

Then watch for further information on our final two free programs of the year!

Friday, February 12 –**Phil Wiggins and Friends**— Harmonica blues and songs

Saturday, March 13—**Andy Cohen** with Bill Ellis and Eleanor Ellis acoustic old-time blues.

For details, prices, etc., visit [www.fsgw.org](http://www.fsgw.org).
**FSGW English Country Dances**
**at Glen Echo Town Hall, MD**
**Wednesdays • 8 to 10 pm**

Dance on a wood floor in the climate-controlled community room of the Glen Echo Town Hall (Directions, Page 23). Bring clean, non-scuffing shoes for dancing. Cheerful, patient, talented callers are accompanied by top-notch musicians – every Wednesday a different and delightful mix of instruments, including piano, fiddle, flute, harp, oboe, concertina, bassoon, cello, viola, and recorder. Light refreshments served at the break. Experienced and new dancers welcome. No partner required.

**Info:** Stephanie Smith at 301.229.3577 or Roger Broseus at English@fsgw.org

**Admission:** $8 for FSGW members, $10 for non-members.

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**December**

2 Liz Donaldson calls to the music of Susan Brandt on flute, Bruce Edwards on bassoon and concertina, and Francine Krasowska on piano.

9 Michael Barraclough calls while Becky Ross (fiddle), Carrie Rose (flute), and Melissa Running (piano) play the tunes.

16 Stephanie Smith leads the dancing to the playing of Paul Oorts on mandolin, David Knight on fiddle, and Liz Donaldson on piano.

23 Anna Rain calls the dancing while Laurie Mielke (recorder), Jeff Steinberg (fiddle), and Melissa Running (piano) play the tunes.

30 Susan Taylor calls while Ralph Gordon (cello), Colleen Reed (flute), and Liz Donaldson (piano), make the music.

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**Attention Dancers**

New Year’s Eve English Country Dance Gala information on page 13!!

*Also, join us before the dance—The pot luck supper is back!*
FSGW Sings/Swaps & Co-sponsored Events

FSGW Open Sing • Montgomery Village, MD
Friday, December 4 • 8:30 -???

Heather Pierce will host the Open Sing this month, and has chosen as her theme Labor and Work Songs. For info/dir: heatherpier@gmail.com, or 301.869.7551.

FSGW Storyswap • Alexandria, VA
Saturday, December 5 • 7:30 PM

Storytellers and listeners are invited to the home of Debbie Griffin for a delightful evening of shared stories and potluck snacks. Free. For RSVPs and directions, call 703.379.2251.

FSGW Gospel Sing • NW Washington, DC
Sunday, December 13 • 4 - 8 pm

Gospel sings are held the second Sunday of every month at various homes. Singing starts at 4pm and breaks for a covered dish supper at 6pm with more singing after supper. Everyone is welcome! This month’s Gospel Sing will be at the home of Bill Thompson and Ann Herzog. Info/directions: 202.797.9259.

Sacred Harp Singing
Sunday December 27 • 4 - 8 pm

You are invited to the home of Kyle Greenlee for a sing with potluck from 6-7 pm.; Half a mile from Takoma Metro; Call 301.891.3899 for further info and directions.

FSGW Sacred Harp Singing • Arlington, VA
Thursday, January 1 • 3-8 pm

Bring in the New Year with some fine old songs at the annual New Year’s Day Sacred Harp Sing. Starting at 3:00 singers from around the region join in unaccompanied four part harmony on the hymns, spirituals, and fugues in the 1991 edition of the original Sacred Harp and 1958 Christian Harmony (loaner books available). Original shape-note pieces or songs from other tunebooks (such as American Christmas Harp), are also welcome. There will be four hours of singing, with a break for supper. Please bring heart, voice, and dish. Directions: St. Peter’s is one-half mile south of Chain Bridge, on the west side of Glebe Road (crossing from Washington, on your right; from Virginia, on your left; from the Beltway, take the GW Parkway south to 123 north, then right at the T to Glebe). The church is not visible from Glebe Rd. but its sign is. Turn on Tazewell St. and bear right into the parking lot. Info: 301.229.8534.

Co-sponsored Event

Glen Echo International Folkdancers • MD
Thursdays, 7:30-10:30 pm

Just two dances this month, and December 10 will be All Romanian night. No dances on December 25, or December 31. Every Thursday at the Church of the Redeemer, 6201 Dunrobin Drive (just west of the shopping center across from Glen Echo Park). Lesson at 7:30. Request dances from 9-10:45. Mostly recorded music. No partner/experience necessary. Wear comfortable clothing and soft soled shoes. Adm. $5. Info: Jamie at 301.466.3018, or dancingplanet@erols.com.

FSGW Mini Fest • Takoma Park, MD
Saturday, February 6, 2010
* Noon-10:30 PM

Takoma Park Middle School will be full of smiling faces when the annual FSGW Mini-Fest rolls around. We’re in the planning stages, but you can expect two all-day dance tracks, traditional music performances and workshops, gospel and Shape Note sings, storytellers, crafts, and much more. Interested in helping? If you volunteer for two hours, you get in free. Do you have a skill to share, or would your group like to perform? Email minifest@fsgw.org or minifestmessages@aol.com.

—April Blum, Mini-Fest Chair
Gift an FSGW Membership for the Holidays!

Purchase an FSGW membership for friends and family and give the gift of music, dance, and community for the whole year, or longer! Benefits of membership include:

FREE:
- Concerts and special events to members
- Open Sings/Song Swaps
- Story Swaps
- Sacred Harp Singing
- Gospel Sings
- Dance Workshops
- Instrumental Workshops
- Eleven Monthly Newsletters (July/August is one issue) with area listings, calendar, and news, plus colorful email updates
- Washington Folk Festival at Glen Echo
- Winter Mini Festival

The cost for a one year membership is only $33 for an individual, or $45 for a family.

Send Membership form from back page and check made payable to FSGW to:
FSGW Membership • 6 Sunnyside Road • Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Or Purchase by going online at www.fsgw.org, and clicking on membership.

FSGW Board Meeting Highlights • (November 3, 2009)

The Utah Phillips program was a success, with the auditorium filled, and approximately $1800 dollars sent to the homeless shelter Phillips founded. The Washington Post announced the event.

Publicity requires many hours on the phone during the day. A committee needs to help with the calling, as Linda Goodman is only able to call on her lunch hour.

Marty Summerour and Mary Cliff are working on the sampler program for January 9, 2010.

An accountant will be enlisted to assist with the hours and efforts required to enter data into the system.

The emails continue to elicit positive responses. We don't want to overdo a good thing by sending too much too often. There are 600 extra newsletters available per month, at nominal cost, for marketing and distribution to community centers, coffee houses, colleges, FSGW events, and any other location where information on this folk society would be appropriate and appreciated.

David Shewmaker and April Blum are progressing with the planning of the Mini Fest.

FSGW Board Meeting
Tuesday, December 8 • 8 PM

The monthly FSGW board meeting will be held in Classroom 201 Arcade Bldg at Glen Echo Park, MD. All FSGW members may attend. If you wish the Board to consider a particular matter, please contact the appropriate board member, or Mary Cliff by e-mail, president@fsgw.org or call afternoons or evenings 703-534-7581 in advance of the meeting.
Concerts & Concert Series

Bryan Bowers • Herndon, VA
**Tuesday, December 1 • 7:15 pm**
Singer/songwriter and autoharp virtuoso. In the back room at the Tortilla Factory, 648 Elden Street, Herndon, $12, or $11 members. Purchase at the door or by emailing Dave Hurd at DAHurdSr@cs.com. These shows sell out regularly.

Hot Tuna • Alexandria, VA
**Thursday, December 3 • 7:30 pm**
Acoustic blues and more $35 Birchmere Concert Hall, 3701 Mt Vernon Ave. 703.549.7500 or www.birchmere.com

Schooner Fare • Vienna, VA
**Thursday, Friday, December 3, 4 • 8 pm**
High energy folk duo with warm humor by brothers Chuck and Steve Romanoff. Traditional maritime tunes, folk and pop. Barns at Wolf Trap, $25 703.938.2404 or www.wolftrap.org

Four Bitchin’ Babes • Alexandria, VA
**Friday/Saturday, December 4, 5 • 7:30**
Where music, laughter and girlfriends reign, featuring Sally Fingerett, Debi Smith, Nancy Moran and Deirdre Flint; $35 Birchmere Concert Hall, 3701 Mt Vernon Ave, 703.549.7400 or www.birchmere.com

Traditional Irish Music • Baltimore, MD
**Friday, December 5 • 8:00-10:00 pm**
Paddy O’Brien is a legendary accordion player and Pat Egan is a rare combination of sensitive guitar backing and lyrical vocals. Suggested donation of $15 advance, $20 at the door. Story Run Friends Meeting House, 5116 N Charles St., Baltimore. Info: Peter FitzGerald, 410.598.9094, or tickets@patricksallstars.com

Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer • Silver Spring, MD
**Saturday, December 5 • 1 pm**
Children’s music GRAMMY award winners Cathy and Marcy perform in their 24th Annual Winter Family Concert with special guests Scottish fiddle Champion, Bonnie Rideout and The Rockville High School Pipe Band. Concert held at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Performing Arts Center, Montgomery College. Tickets $10 in advance, $12 at the door. Sponsored by the House of Musical Traditions, 301.270.9090, or www.imtfolk.org. Info: www.cathymarcy.com. Share in the spirit of the season and bring a toy for a needy child. Over 3500 toys have been collected and distributed through the years.

Donal Maguire • Glen Echo, MD
**Wednesday, December 9 • 7:30 pm**
Irish pub music at the Irish Inn at Glen Echo, 6119 Tulane Ave., —just outside the Park. A donation of $15 will be requested. Info: 301.613.0753

Catie Curtis & Susan Werner • Alexandria, VA
**Friday, December 11 • 7:30 pm**
Singer/songwriters in the acoustic mode. $27.50 Birchmere Concert Hall, 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave, 703.549.7400, or www.birchmere.com

Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys • Alexandria, VA
**Saturday, December 12 • 7:30 pm**
Traditional tunes, $35 Birchmere Concert Hall, 3701 Mt Vernon Ave., 703.549.7400 www.birchmere.com

Elizabeth LaPrelle House Concert
• Edgewater, MD
**Saturday, December 12 • 7:30**
Powerful, Appalachian-style singing by one of the most talented artists in the genre of traditional music. Raised in the tradition, she perfectly captures authentic rhythms and intensities. Light refreshments including homemade cookies will be served. $15 suggested donation. Info: Dennis and Michele Callaghan at callagh@verizon.net, or 410.956.2266

Chanukah Benefit Concert • Silver Spring, MD
**Sunday, December 13 • 7–9:00 pm**
Performers include Alexandria Klezket, Lox and Vodka, Klezcentricity, Alan Oresky, Mark Novak, and other guests. Takoma Park/Silver Spring Performing arts Center at Montgomery College, 7995 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910. $25 for tickets in the first ten rows, and $20 for all other seats. Purchase at http://www.hungryformusic.org, or by calling 240.582.6193

Judy Collins, Amy Speace • Alexandria, VA
**Wednesday, December 16 • 7:30 pm**
Legendary folksinger and songwriter. $49.50 Birchmere Concert Hall, 3701 Mt Vernon Ave., 703.549.7400, or www.birchmere.com

Walt Michael & Co. Holiday Concert
• Westminster, MD
**Saturday, December 19 • 8 pm**
Walt Michael and Co., Annual Holiday Concert, Common Ground, McDaniel College Auditorium, Gen. Adm.: $19 Info at 410.857.2771, cground@qis.net

Hank Williams Tribute • Alexandria, VA
**Wednesday, December 30 • 7:30 pm**
Featuring Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer, Bill Kirchen, Robin and Linda Williams and Their Fine Group; $29.50 Birchmere Concert Hall, 3701 Mt Vernon Ave., 703.549.7400, or www.birchmere.com
Concert Series continued

New Year’s with the Seldom Scene
• Alexandria, VA

Thursday, December 31 • 8 pm
New Year’s Eve with The Seldom Scene plus Legends of the Potomac featuring Darren Beachley, Mike Auldridge and Tom Gray plus Dead Men’s Hollow; $39.50 Birchmere Concert Hall, 3701 Mt Vernon Ave., 703.549.7400 or www.birchmere.com

Concert Series

listed by day of the week

Focus Inn Alexandria • Alexandria, VA
No concert in December. We’ll have a show in January at the Church of the Resurrection, 2280 N. Beauregard St. 7 pm; admission $18 advance, $15 at the door. Second Sundays. Info: 703.501.6061, kay@focusmusic.org or www.focusmusic.org

Mondays

Institute of Musical Traditions • Rockville, MD
Saint Mark’s Presbyterian Church, 10701 Old Georgetown Rd, Rockville, MD 20852. Shows at 7:30. $15 or 18 advance, $20 to 22 at the door. More info: 301.754.3611 or www.imtfolk.org.

December
7 Celtic Yule with Al Petteway, Amy White and Robin Bullock — $20 in advance, $25 at the door. Note • Different location: Kreeger Auditorium, JCC of Greater Washington, 6125 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD 20852
14 Scandinavian Christmas with Andrea Hoag, Loretta Kelley and Charlie Pilzer

Wednesdays

Focus Rockville • Rockville, MD
Wednesday, December 9 • 8 pm
Focus Inn presents bi-monthly concerts, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, at Big Saigon, 838 Rockville Pike, 20850. Shows begin at 8 pm This month, there will be one show, Canadian husband and wife team, The Laws. $12 in advance/$18 general public. Info: David at focusrockville@earthlink.net, 301.275.7459, or www.focusmusic.org

Thursdays

Baldwin’s Station • Sykesville, MD
Thursdays • 8 pm
7618 Main St, Sykesville, MD. Shows begin at 8. Ticket prices vary, $2 service charge on credit card orders, $1 service charge for cash or checks. Info: 410.795.1041, www.uptownconcerts.com, or uptownconcerts@gmail.com.

December
10 Maggie Sansone’s Celtic Christmas Celebration with Pat Egan, Laura Byrne, and Jim Eagan
13 The Hard Travelers Holiday Show • A Sunday show: 7:30 pm
17 A Connemara Christmas – A time honored tradition at Baldwin’s

Fridays

Cellar Stage • Baltimore, MD
Fridays • 8 pm
In the basement of Faith Community United Methodist Church, 5315 Harford Road Info: 410.521.9099 or www.uptownconcerts@gmail.com

December
4 Al Petteway, Amy White and Robin Bullock Holiday Show $22
11 A Celtic Christmas with The Hedge Band $20

333 Coffeehouse • Annapolis, MD
Friday, December 18 • 8 pm
Cutting Edge Performs with the Revels

For the second year, our local sword dancing team, Cutting Edge, will perform at the Christmas Revels. In keeping with the Revels Italian theme, the troupe will perform their version of “Il Bal do Sabre”, a dance of precision stepping, humor, hoop jumping, and a levitating body, all performed in military style to the beat of a drum. (The dancers give new meaning to the phrase “marching to a different beat”). This dance, originating from the Piedmont area of northwestern Italy, was researched by Judy Ericson of Massachusetts, a notable sword dancer and choreographer.

Cutting Edge was formed in 2006 by (current FSGW Vice President) David Shewmaker. The founding members include Scott Wittenberg, David Roodman, Jerry Stein and Ted Hodapp, who, with years of experience is the principal teacher. The troupe specializes in centuries old, linked sword dances where the dancers are connected in a chain. These are traditionally winter holiday dances originating in the coal mining regions of northern England. Originally, the group performed rapper dances, then introduced the slower long-sword dances to their repertoire. Tom Spilsbury joined the team at that time. Lynn Baumeister joined in 2008 (and thus the team could no longer be humorously called “Men in Black”). Kappy Lanning, a member of Charm City Rapper, is a guest for this year’s Revels performance. Sarah Foard is currently the fiddler for the group.

Sword dancing has been performed through history, and all throughout the world. Frequently a part of court entertainment, mock-sword play and battle dances occurred earliest, before choreographed hilt and point, or linked dances. Some types of sword dancing are connected with rebirth and regeneration in nature. Since the 1970's and the “Morris revival”, the popularity of sword dancing has grown, and teams have become extant in most major metropolitan areas in the English speaking world.
Dances

Community/Family

The FSWG Family Dance is listed on Page 2

All Holiday Ball • near Annapolis Saturday, December 5, 7-10 pm

Whatever you celebrate—come celebrate here! Traditional Appalachian dance tunes by Leah Weiss, Gary Wright and Friends. Dance squares, circles, longways sets and waltzes. Janine Smith calls the figures. No partner, experience, or lessons necessary. More challenging dancing from 8:30 to 10 pm. Galesville Memorial Hall, 952 Galesville Road, Galesville MD. Adults $10; 10-18, $5; Under 5 free. For info: call 301-926-9142 or www.galesville.info

Eastern Market Family Dance • Washington, DC Saturday, December 12 • 3-4:30

Families, neighbors, and friends—Come dance in the North Hall to live music by the Capitol Hillbillies under the direction of fiddler Joel Bailes. An experienced caller will demonstrate all the movements. This is the second of seven monthly dances. $5 admission, $20 family maximum, Under 5, free. Refreshments served. Call to confirm times. The historic market is at 225 7th St., SE, between Carolina and C. Close to Metro. 202.549.0144

Contra

Sundays

The FSWG Sunday Night Dances are listed on the inside front cover.

Wednesdays

Baltimore Folk Music Society • Baltimore, MD Wednesdays • 8–10:30 pm

Lovely Lane Ch., 2200 St. Paul St, Baltimore. Beginners are always welcome. New dancer workshops at 7:30 on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays. Nationally-known musicians and callers appear regularly. $8 Members/$12 Non-members, $3 discount to students w/ID.

December

2 Chris Weiler calls to Nor’easters
9 Ann Fallon with New Hip Trio
16 Terry Bachmann and Karl Sensemann calls The Baltimore Open Band
23 Tori Barone calls to Mortal Wombat
30 Susan Taylor calls our last dance of 2009 to Rambling House

Fridays

Friday Night Dancers • Glen Echo Park, MD Fridays • 8:30–11:30 pm

The Friday Night Dancers (in cooperation with the National Park Service, Montgomery County, and the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture) sponsor weekly contra dances to live music in the Glen Echo Spanish Ballroom. New dancer classes start at 7:30. Dances start at 8:30. $9 for the lesson and dance. To play for or call a dance, email fndgigs@petml.com. General info at www.fridaynightdance.org

December

4 Bob Isaacs calls to Crowfoot with Adam Broome on guitar, Jaige Trudel on fiddle, and Nicholas Williams on flutes, accordion and piano.
11 Gaye Fifer calls to the fabulous Glen Echo Open Band.
18 Robert Cromartie calls to The Morrison Brothers with Jim on fiddle, Owen on acoustic and electric guitars, and Will on percussion.
25 No Dance —Merry Christmas!!!

January

1 There will be a Friday Night Dance on New Year’s Day. The band will be Sugar Beat with Elke Baker on fiddle, Susan Brandt on flute, and Marc Glickman on piano, and guitar. Caller TBA

Locust Lane Contra • Harrisburg, PA 2nd and 4th Fridays • 8–11 pm


December

11 Sargon de Jesus calls to the Contra Rebels
25 No dance

Saturdays

Elverson Dance • Elverson, PA 1st Saturdays • 7:30–10:30 pm

December 5: Check website for info. St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, 61 Morningside Drive (3 miles east of downtown Elverson) $8, $5 students/seniors. New dancers welcome. Bring soft-soled shoes and a snack to share at the break. Smoke & alcohol free. Beginners lesson at 7. Children must be chaperoned. Info: Nancy Katzen, 610.780.5667 or elversoncontra.org

Deadline for the JANUARY 2010 Newsletter: THURSDAY, December 10th
New Year’s Eve Ball

Thursday, December 31, 2009

Woman’s Club of Bethesda
5500 Sonoma Road, Bethesda, MD

Music by The Contraptions: Nora Smith (fiddle), Bill Quern (mandolin, banjo), and Chloe Maher (piano)

Rick Mohr calling the figures

Grand March begins at 8:00 pm. Dance contras, squares, & waltzes until 12:15 am.

To register send completed registration form and check payable to FSGW to:

FSGW NYE Dance
C/O Lynn Pastore
884 Azalea Drive
Rockville, MD 20850

Snacks, punch, and the Midnight toast with Champagne and Sparkling Cider provided. Bring a snack or sweet to share!

For more information visit www.fsgw.org or call (301) 251-8586.

Admission by advance registration only, no tickets available at the door. Adults only please.

Registration: (Please print legibly) Current FSGW Member?

Name ________________________________ M F Yes No
Name ________________________________ M F Yes No
Address ____________________________________________
City/State/Zip _______________________________________
Phone (H) ___________________ (Other) ________________
Email ______________________________________________

$32 for Current FSGW Members Amount enclosed $ ___________
$38 for General Admission Make checks payable to FSGW

I want registration confirmation by (Circle one): Email US Mail

Please enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope for US Mail confirmation

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: POSTMARK BY MONDAY. DECEMBER 14TH
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 am Annapolis Jam</td>
<td>7:30 Reston/Herndon Folk Club Concert Bryan Bowers 8 Greenbelt Scottish Dance 8 Arlington Int'l Folk Dance 8 Sea Chanteys / Wheaton</td>
<td>7:30 Kensington Story Salon 7:45 Rock Creek Morris Women 8 FSGW English Country Dance 8 Baltimore Contra Dance 8 Alexandria Scottish Dance 8 Columbia Int'l Folk Dance 8:15 Potomac Israeli Dance</td>
<td>7 Frederick 7:30 Glen Echo 7:30 Chevy 7:45 Arling 8 Mt. Vernon 8 Foggy Bottom 8 15 Slow Blues</td>
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<td>1 More Geese Than Swans</td>
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<td>8 Bethesda Scottish Dance 8 Balkan Singing</td>
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<td>2 pm CABOMA Jam</td>
<td>7:30 IMT Scandinavian Concert 7:30 IMT Celtic Yule 8 Baltimore English Dance 8 Bethesda Scottish Dance 8 Balkan Singing</td>
<td>7:30 Reston/Herndon Folk Club 8 Greenbelt Scottish Dance 8 Arlington Int'l Folk Dance</td>
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Deadline for the JANUARY 2010 Newsletter: THURSDAY, December 10th
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<td>Irish/Bluegrass Jam</td>
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<td>Echo Int’l Folk Dance</td>
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<td>Bottom Morris Men's Station</td>
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<td>Potter's House Concert</td>
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<td>SMTMD Open Mic</td>
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<td>Harrisburg Contra</td>
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<td>15 Greenbelt Int’l Folk Dance</td>
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<td>15 Friday Night Contra Dance</td>
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<td>FSGW Open Sing</td>
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<td>Batala Percussion</td>
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<td>Archie Edwards Blues</td>
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<td>Eastern Market Family Dance</td>
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<td>Baltimore Family Dance</td>
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<td>Silver Spring English Country Dance</td>
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<td>Gretna Irish/Bluegrass Jam</td>
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| New Year's Eve 31  |
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| Bottom Morris Men's Station  |

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**Christmas Eve**

**Christmas Day**

**New Year's Day**

**New Year's Eve**

**LETTER DEADLINE!**

**Advance Notice**

**Saturday, January 9 • 8 pm**

**FSGW Sampler Concert**

**Bill Mayhew**

**The Jones Family**

**Bruce Sagan**

**Gypsy Meltdown**

**WES Auditorium 7750 16th St. NW, DC**

**Saturday, January 30 • 8 pm**

**Lee Murdoch**

**Midwestern song collector**

**WES Auditorium 7750 16th St. NW, DC**

**Saturday, February 6**

**FSGW Annual Mini Festival**

**Takoma Park Middle School**

**Takoma Park, MD**

**Saturday February 12 • 8 pm**

**Phil Wiggins and Friends**

**Harmonica Blues and Songs**

**WES Auditorium 7750 16th St. NW, DC**

**Saturday, March 13 • 8 pm**

**Andy Cohen with Bill Ellis & Eleanor Ellis acoustic old-times blues**

**WES Auditorium 7750 16th St. NW, DC**

**April 9-11, 2010**

**28th Annual Chesapeake Dance Weekend**

**Camp Letts • Edgewater, MD**

**April 9-11**

**21st Annual Potomac River Sacred Harp Convention**

**June 5 & 6**

**30th Annual Washington Folk Festival**

**Glen Echo Park, MD**

**October 1-4**

**46th Annual Getaway**

**West River Retreat Center • MD**
**Gala New Year's Eve Dance**

Thursday, December 31st, 2009  
6:30 pm to 12:30 am  
at Historic Adelphi Mill  
8401 Riggs Rd, Adelphi, MD

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCES  
Called by MELISSA RUNNING

music by LIZ DONALDSON, piano;  BECKY ROSS, fiddle;  COLLEEN REED, flute

**PLEASE NOTE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:**

* Decorating & Set-up  
  6:30 PM
* Potluck Supper  
  7:30 PM
* Dancing  
  8:30 PM to 12:30 AM
* Dessert  
  10:30 PM
* Midnight Champagne Toast

**Advance Registration Necessary**

For information or to offer help call:

Bob Farrall  
301-577-5018

JoAnn Morris  
301-585-7750

If no answer, please leave a message;  your call will be returned

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**REGISTRATION FORM**

*FSGW members registering by December 1st are guaranteed to be admitted.*

Please reserve ______ places at FSGW's Gala New Year's Eve Dance for:

Name(s)__________________________________________

Address__________________________________________City________________State_______Zip__________

Day Phone________________________________________Evening Phone________________E-mail________________

Enclosed is a check payable to FSGW for $__________  
FSGW members and affiliates $28 ea.  Guests $30 ea.  
REGISTRATION by December 14 & DEDUCT $3.  
Ask about special rates for children.

I (need) (can offer) hospitality for ______ people.

Send this registration form, your check (payable to FSGW), and a stamped, self-addressed, long business envelope for directions to:

FSGW New Year's Dance  
e/o Bob Farrall  
7613 Kountainistea Drive, Suite 2112  
New Carrellton, Maryland 20784
Dances continued

Shepherdstown Dance • Shepherdstown, WV
1st Saturdays • 7:30–11 pm
December 5: Bob Isaacs calls to Crowfoot at the War Memorial Building. Beginners workshop at 7:30 pm, dance starts at 8 pm. All levels welcome, no partners needed. Please wear clean, soft-soled shoes to protect the floor. $10 adults, $7 SMD members, $4 dancers under 12. www.smad.us.

Baltimore Dance • Pikesville, MD
2nd Saturdays • 6:30–11
December 12 Caller Greg Frock with the Sugar Beat. The BFMS dance will be preceded by a potluck from 6:30 to 7:30, so come early to enjoy food and fellowship with your community. Free class—7:30–8 pm. Contra dance from 8:11. Admission: $8 BFMS members/affil., $12 non-members. Under 21 and full-time students with ID: $5 members, $6 non-members. No experience, partner nec. Info: BFMS hotline—1-888-BFMS or check out our website at www.bfms.org. The dance is held at St. Marks on the Hill, 1620 Reisterstown Rd. Pikesville.

Reston Dance • Reston, VA
2nd Saturdays, 8–10:45 pm

SMTMD Dance • California, MD
2nd Saturdays • 7–10 pm
December 12 Caller and band TBA. St. Andrew’s Church Parish Hall, 44078 St. Andrew’s Church Rd. Beginners instruction at 7, dance from 7:30–10:30. Wear floor-friendly non-scuffing shoes. $6 for SMTMD member, $8 for non-members. 12 and under free. Info: www.smtmd.org or 301.769.4762.

Annapolis Contra and Square Dance • Annapolis, MD
3rd Saturdays • 7–10 pm
December 19, Michael Baraclaough calls to the lively and lilting music of Mortal Wombat. $10 with discounts for seniors, students, families and members of Annapolis Traditional Dance Society (ATDS). All ages welcome. All dances taught and walked through. Snacks to share at the break are welcome! Free introductory session at 6:30, dance 7–10, Friends Meeting Hall, 351 DuBois Rd. Info: Jan Scopel at 443.540.0867, janscope@hotmail.com or www.contradancers.com/atds.

Lancaster Contra Dance • Lancaster, PA
3rd Saturdays, 8–11 pm

Bluemont Contra Dance • Purcellville, VA
3rd Saturdays, 8 pm
December 19 Caller and Music TBA. Emerick Elementary School, 440 South Nursery Avenue, Purcellville, VA. $10, $7 for Bluemont Friends, Seniors. Workshop at 7:30. Info: info@bluemont.org, or 540.338.4640.

Frederick Contra Dance • Frederick, MD
Please note, there will be NO dance in Frederick in December. Trinity School, near Harry Grove Stadium. Free beginners’ workshop at 7 pm, dance begins at 8. Adults, $9, students $5, 12 and under $4. Info/directions: www.contradancers.com or call Boe Walker at 301.694.6794.

BFMS Midwinter Ball • Towson, MD
Saturday, January 30 • 6:45 pm
See special events and festivals section for details.

English Country

Baltimore Folk Music Society • Pikesville, MD
Mondays • 8–10:30 pm
English Country Dancing is lively movement to elegant music in a friendly informal setting. All dances are taught and walked through. New dancer orientation first Wednesday at 7:45. Admission $7 Members, $10 Non-members, $2 student discount. St. Mark’s on the Hill Parish Hall, 1620 Reisterstown Rd, 0.5 miles from Belt. Beltway Exit 20 South. Info: Carl Friedman at 410.321.841 or engdance@bfms.org.

December
7 Caller Tom Spilsbury with Rhonda Hotop, Marty Taylor, Jonathan Jensen
14 Caller Carl Friedman with Nora Smith, Karin Loya, and Melissa Running
21 Caller Diane Schmit with Becky Ross, Colleen Reed, and Liz Donaldson
28 Caller Susan Taylor with Mortal Wombat
Dances continued

**Wednesdays**

**THE FSGW ENGLISH COUNTY DANCES**

are listed on Page 4

**Saturdays**

English Country Dance • Silver Spring, MD

**Saturday, December 12 • 8-10:45**

Glen Haven Elementary School, 10900 Inwood Avenue. (Entrance and parking in rear) Dance to festive music by Peascods Gathering, calling by Barbara Harding and Bob Farrall. Includes festive lighting and decorations, and traditional flaming raisins snapdragons for good luck in the following year. Beginners and singles welcome. $5. Info: Carl Minkus 301.493.6281, Bob Farrall 301.577.5018.

**International**

**Sundays**

Alpine Dancers • New Carrollton, MD

**Sunday, December 13 • 4-6:30 pm**

Looking for energetic beginners. Free, open practice at New Carrollton Municipal Center, 6016 Princess Garden Pkwy. Graceful and lively couples and trio figure dances from Austria, Germany, and Switzerland. Recorded music. Info/dir: caroltraxler@yahoo.com, 301.577.3503, www.alpinedancers.org

**Mondays**

Bethesda International Folk Dancers • MD

**Mondays • 7:30-10 pm**

No partner necessary, all ages and levels of expertise welcome. Beginners: 7:30-8:10. Intermediate/Adv: 8:10-10pm. Mostly recorded with occasional live music. Beautiful wood floor. Held at the Lawton (formerly Leland) Center, 4301 Willow Ln. Classes here require registration with Montgomery County. Forms available at the class. $7 per class. Info: Phyllis or Brandon Diamond at 301.871.8788, www.diamonddancecircle.com, or diamonddancecircle@comcast.net

**Tuesdays**

Arlington International Folk Dancing • VA

**Tuesdays • 8-10 pm**

Key Elementary School, Veitch St., between Wilson and Key near Courthouse Road Metro. Folk Dance for Fun. Admission $5, recorded music, instruction, walk-throughs, and requests. Singles welcome, all ages or levels of expertise. Info: Sam or Sarah 703.527.8998 or sstulberg@earthlink.net or Kent Hibben at 301.520.3794 or KentLHibben@hughes.net

**Wednesdays**

Columbia International Folk Dancing • MD

**Wednesdays, • 8-10:30**

Meetings are from 8-10:30 at Kahler Hall with dancing at 8:30. Cost: $5, Senior, $3. Info: Ethel at 410.997.1613, or Ed at 410.740.2309. www.columbiabiafolkdancers.org

**Thursdays**

Glen Echo International Folkdancers • MD

**Thursdays, 7:30-10:45 pm**

Every Thursday at the Church of the Redeemer, 6201 Dunrobin Drive (just west of the shopping center across from Glen Echo Park). Lesson at 7:30. Request dances from 9-10:45. Mostly recorded music. No partner or experience necessary. Wear comfortable clothing and soft-soled shoes. Admission $5. Info: Jamie at 301.466.3018 or dancingplanet@erols.com

**Chevy Chase International Folk Dancers • Washington, DC**

**Thursdays • 7:30-9:30 pm**

Chevy Chase Community Center, 5601 Connecticut, NW (at McKinley). Instruction and walk-through until 8:30. All levels welcome, no partner necessary. Recorded music. Leader: Roland Forbes For info: Naomi Rogers at 301.438.0063

**Circle Dance • Arlington, VA**

**Thursdays • 7:45–9:45 pm**

Come and explore dances from all over the world in a spirit of meditation and joy. All dances are taught. Recorded music. Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, corners of Rte 50 at George Mason Dr. Donation requested. Info: Judie David at 703.451.2595 or Vedavid@starpower.net

**Mount Vernon International Folk Dancing • Alexandria, VA**

**Thursdays • 8–10 pm**

Beginners to advanced - all are welcome! Easy dances 8-8:30, followed by requests and advanced instruction. Join our friendly, diverse group on a beautiful dance floor. No partner necessary. Donation $2.50. Mt Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane. Info: 703.866.2393 or kkrogh@aol.com

**Fridays**

Greenbelt International Folk Dancing • MD

**Fridays • 8:15–10:45 pm**

Greenbelt Community Center Dance Studio, 15 Crescent Rd. Focus is dance from Eastern Europe and Scandinavia. No partner or experience necessary. Beautiful dance floor. Teaching 8:15–9, requests from 9-10:45. $7; $10 on 1st Fridays (live music). Info: Larry Weiner at 301.565.0539, larry@larryweiner.com

Deadline for the JANUARY 2010 Newsletter: THURSDAY, December 10th
Dances continued

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**Irish**

**CCE Monthly Ceili • Herndon, VA**

*Saturday, December 12 • 7–11 pm*

Note new location at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon VA. Dance programs, directions, and more online at [www.ceepotomac.org](http://www.ceepotomac.org), or call Kendra Swann at 703.490.5207. Ceilis will return to the Great Falls Grange in January.

**GWCC Monthly Ceili • College Park, MD**

*SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 • 9 pm–1 am*

New Years Eve Ceili with music by Dave Abe, Billy McComiskie, Zan Mcleod, and Myron Bretholz. Champagne, noisemakers, and snacks provided. Please bring a dessert to share. Cherry Hill Conference Center, 9700 Cherry Hill Road (punch entrance code 76000 at the gate). GWCC Members $45, Non-members $50. Info: 301.294.3568

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**Israeli**

**Israeli Dancing • Potomac, MD**

*WEDNESDAYS, • 8:15–10 pm*


**Israeli Dancing • Potomac, MD**

*SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12 • 8:15–11pm*

Israeli “Oldies” party (dances before 1990). Recorded music, light refreshments. Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road. $5. Info: Ben Hole, 301.441.8213

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**Morris**

**Arlington Northwest Morris • Arlington, VA**

*Mondays • 7:30–9 pm*

Learn and perform the traditional Morris dances of Northwest England which combine simple footwork with power and precision. We are a welcoming group of women who practice in a great place with a wooden floor (easier on your knees) at the Unitarian Universalist Church. Info: suzelise@comcast.net or nwdancers@comcast.net

**Rock Creek Morris Women • Silver Spring, MD**

*WEDNESDAYS • 7:45–9:45 pm*

Learn to dance in the ancient English Morris tradition, and you'll get all the aerobics you need. Join a strong community that dances, plays, sings, and drinks together. Montgomery Knolls Elementary School, 807 Daleview Dr. Info: 301.927.6373, lousiseneu@earthlink.net or www.uswet.com/RCMW.html

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**Scandinavian**

**Norwegian Dance & Potluck • Takoma Park, MD**

*SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5 • Potluck 6:30, Dance 8pm*

Bring clean shoes to wear, food to share, and $5 you can spare to Norwegian-style house party at 3600 T St., NW., Mesmerizing live music by Loretta Kelley on the unique Hardanger fiddle (see hfaa.org) Beginners welcome. Hosts are Linda Brooks and Ross Schipper: 202.333.2826. Info/dirs: www.mandfanitull.org or Jenny, pi@xecu.net, 301.371.4312.

**Scandinavian Candlelight Holiday Dance & Luciafest • College Park, MD**

*SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13 • 7:30–10:30 pm*

Dancing to candlelight on a magnificent suspended wood floor. Includes Santa Lucia and her crown of candles and traditional holiday refreshments. All welcome, no partner necessary. Music by Peascods Gathering. Basic teaching by Linda Brooks. Info: Lorraine Silsbee, 301.585.1130, or Carl Minkus 301.493.6281 (cminkus@verizon.net)

**Scandinavian Dance • Greenbelt, MD**

*SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19 • 7–10 pm*

Scandia DC sponsors a Third Saturday Holiday Dance Party with fiddlers, Loretta Kelley, Goran Olsson and the Scandia DC Spelmannslag. No partner’s necessary. Possibly some recorded music. Dancing starts at 7, no teaching this month, but there will be short talk throughs of most dances. Wear a costume if you have one, bring finger food to share if you can, but most important, bring yourself. Greenbelt Community Center Dance Studio (wood floor) at 15 Crescent Rd. $7. Info: 202.333.2826, inclement weather call 301.474.5525. Info: linda@scandiadc.org, or www.scandiadc.org.

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**Foggy Bottom Morris Men • Silver Spring, MD**

*THURSDAYS • 8–10 pm*

Experience the vigorous thrill of the Morris and the camaraderie of a Morris team! Learn and perform dances from English Cotswold villages, Mummer’s Plays and occasional long-sword dances. We welcome new and slightly used dancers to our practices at Highland View Elementary School, 9010 Providence Ave and/or at the pub afterwards. squire@fbmm.org. Andrew Marcus (617) 721-0146, www.fbmm.org
Dances continued

Scottish


Scottish Country Dance • Bethesda, MD
   Mondays • 8-10 pm
   NIH Building T-39 (Dance and Aerobic Center). $5 Call/email in advance for directions. Info: John MacLeod, 301.622.5945 or blackolav@cs.com

Scottish Country Dance • Greenbelt, MD
   Tuesdays • 8-10 pm
   Dance all year round at the Greenbelt Community Center $5  Info: www.rscds.greaterdc.org or Jay Andrews at andrewj@erols.com or 703.719.0596

Scottish Country Dance • Alexandria, VA
   Wednesdays • 8-9:45 pm
   Learn Scottish dance at the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St. $5 Info: Carol Porter, 703.379.5779 or nova-secretary@rscds-greaterdc.org

Swing/Blues

Slow Blues Dance and Lesson • Glen Echo, MD
   Thursdays, December 3, 10, 17 • 8:15-11:30
   Thursday night Blues Dance in the “back room”. Come early as it is selling out. Beginner lesson at 8:15-9, Presented by Capital Blues. DJ Mike Marcotte and guests play incredible blues from 9 to 11:30 pm. Admission is $8 for lesson and dance. Sprung solid maple floor, plus heating and air conditioning! Info: Donna Barker at 301.634.2231 or 301.634.2222 or www.CapitalBlues.org

Washington Swing Dance • Glen Echo Park, MD
   Saturday, December 5 • 8-MN
   Music by the Solomon Douglas Swingtet. No partner or experience necessary. All ages welcome. Introductory lesson from 8-9 in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park. Admission $14. Info: 301.340.9732 or wsdcswings@yahoo.com

Slow Blues and Swing • Glen Echo Park, MD
   Sunday, December 6 and 20 • 7-11 pm
   Sunday Blues dance in the Spanish Ballroom featuring a band to be determined. There is an optional 1-1/2 hour workshop, taught by Donna Barker and Mike Marcotte, from 7-8:30 pm. Dance slow blues and swing from 8:30-11 pm. Cost: $17 for the workshop and dance; or $12 for the dance only. No partner needed. For more information, call Donna Barker at 301.634.2231 or Glen Echo Park at 301.634.222, or go to www.DanceDC.com. The Park is located at 7300 MacArthur Blvd.

Waltz

Afternoon Waltz • Glen Echo Park, MD
   Sunday, December 6 • 3-6 pm
   Dance to the music of Crowfoot in the Spanish Ballroom. They’ll play a lively mix of folk waltzes, Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. The fun begins at 3 pm with a half-hour introductory waltz lesson followed by 2 ½ hours of social dancing. $8. No partner required. For info: www.WaltzTimeDances.org or call Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222.

Afternoon Waltz • Glen Echo Park, MD
   Sunday, December 20 • 3-6 pm
   Waltz Magic provides the music for an afternoon of couples dances and folk waltzes. Dance the Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. 30 minute introductory Waltz lesson at 3pm followed by 21/2 hours of social dancing. Admission is $8. No partner required. For info: go to www.WaltzTimeDances.org, or call Glen Echo Park at 301-634-2222.

Zydeco/Cajun

Cajun/Zydeco • Glen Echo Park, MD
   Thursday, December 3 • 7-10:30 pm
   Join us for a Zydeco dance in the Spanish Ballroom. The 30 minute dance lesson given by Michael Hart and Sharon Schilliro begins at 7 pm with dancing to Andre Thiery and Zydeco Magic from 7:30 to 10:30 pm. Admission is $15. No partner required.

Cajun/Zydeco • Glen Echo Park, MD
   Saturday, December 13 • 3-6 pm
   Cajun Zydeco dance party in the Spanish Ballroom featuring Dikki Di and he Zydeco Krewe. The 30-minute Cajun dance lesson given by Michael Hart and Sharon Schilliro begins at 3 pm with dancing from 3:30-6pm. Admission is $15. No partner required. For more information, call 301.762.6730 or go to www.DancingbytheBayou.com.
**Dance Classes**

**Scandinavian Dance Classes • Bethesda, MD**

**Tuesdays**

**Beginning Class: December 8 • 7:30 – 9:30 pm**
In the Beginning Class, learn Hambo, Schottish, Waltz, Zwiefacher, and other couple turning dances. Some Hambo is done every time.

**Advanced Class: December 1 & 15 • 7:30 – 9:30 pm**
In the Advanced Class, learn dances from Boda, Orsa, Rättvick, and Föllinge, as well as Gothenburg Mazurka, Finnskogspols, Nigpolska, Gammalvänster, Telespringar, and requests. Singles, couples, beginners, and advanced dancers welcome. Sometimes live Swedish fiddle music. Wear smooth-soled shoes for turning, not running shoes. $5.

*Info: Lisa Brooks at 240.731.1935, lisa@HamboDC.org or www.HamboDC.org.*

*Directions: Note new entrance to NIH: Enter NIH at Wisconsin Av. and the new Gateway Drive for visitors (not staff or commercial vehicles, south of South Dr., reachable only from the north on Wisconsin Ave.) for vehicle inspection (have ID ready). Park there, or drive to the south center of NIH and park in NIH permit parking next to dancing in Building T-39, just northwest of building 41. Or walk 12 minutes from the Medical Center metro stop (just out of the exit walk straight into the building for inspection and have ID ready). See a map (essential) at www.HamboDC.org or on a flyer.*

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**Jams/Open Mics/Audience Participation**

**Listed by day of the week**

*(Sunday thru Saturday)*

**Sundays**

**Scottish Traditional Music Jam • Wheaton, MD**

**1st Sundays • 3–6 pm**
Scottish traditional music jam, first Sundays, Royal Mile Pub, 2407 Price Avenue. Musicians welcome. Info: http://dcscottishsession.blogspot.com/ or contact Peter Walker at boghadubh@gmail.com.

**More Geese Than Swans • Washington, DC**

**1st Sundays • 7 pm**
More Geese Than Swans meets on 1st Sundays to sing Renaissance choral music, sacred and secular. Some sight-reading skills necessary. Group meets near a Metro stop and welcomes new members. Info: Joan Gildemeister at jgildemeister@cs.com.

**CABOMA Jam • Arlington, VA**

**2nd and 4th Sundays • 2 pm**
Capitol Area Bluegrass and Old-Time Music Association (CABOMA) holds jams the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. Lyon Park Community Center, corner of N. Fillmore and Pershing. Info: Dave at 301.274.3441.

**Annapolis Acoustic Jam • Annapolis, MD**

**Sundays • 9 am–Noon**
Indoors at The Visitor Center, Quiet Waters Park. Info: phyllis@saroffillustration.com.

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**Mondays**

**Balkan Singing • Takoma Park, MD**

**Every Monday • 8 pm**
Informal singing group, Sedenka, meets in Northwest DC/Takoma Park to sing Balkan village songs. Interested novices welcome. Info: Katya, 301.270.4175 or Katya@partan.com or Joan at 202.363.6197.

**DC Bluegrass Union VFW Bluegrass Jams • Takoma Park, MD**

**1st & 3rd Mondays • 7–10 pm**

**Sea Chantey Open Pub Sing • Wheaton, MD and Washington, DC**

**1st and 4th Tuesdays • 8 pm**
The Ship’s Company chanteymen host open mike sea chantey sings. No cover/minimum; arrive early for a table. Participation encouraged but not mandatory. Requests are honored if possible. Mostly a cappella but instruments are welcome. Info: Myron Peterson at rustic@yahoo.com or www.shipsc0mpany.org.

1st Tuesdays – At Royal Mile Pub, 2407 Price Avenue, Wheaton. 8 pm

4th Tuesdays – New location. Laughing Man Tavern, 1306 G St NW, DC (across 13th St from Metro Center station). 8 pm
Folk Club of Reston/Herndon • Herndon, VA  
**Tuesdays • 7:30 pm**  
Tortilla Factory, 648 Elden Street. Open mic format. 2nd Tuesday includes 25-minute member showcase; monthly concerts usually 3rd Tuesday, price varies. Smoke-free environment. Info: [www.restonherndon-foolkclub.com](http://www.restonherndon-foolkclub.com), 703.435.2402.

Cajun Jam • Greenbelt, MD  
**4th Tuesdays • 6–9 pm**  

**Wednesdays**

Sea Chantey Open Pub Sings  
• Baltimore and Annapolis, MD  
**2nd & 3rd Wednesdays • 8 pm**  
*The Ship’s Company* chanteymen host open-mike sea chantey sings. Participation encouraged but not mandatory. Requests are honored if possible. Info: Myron Peterson at rustic@yahoo.com or [www.shipscompany.org](http://www.shipscompany.org).

Arlington Jam! • Arlington, VA  
**3rd Wednesdays • 7–10:30 pm**  
Fiddles, guitars, all instruments welcome! Intermediate and advanced players interested in old-time, blues, Scandinavian, swing, and other styles. First Friday and third Wednesday at 1909 N. Ohio St. Info: Lilli Vincenz, 703.532.2731 or FiddlerLilli@zzapp.org.

Irish Traditional/Bluegrass Music Sessions  
• Frederick, MD  
**Thursdays • 7 and 8:30 pm**  
At Boe’s Strings, 26 S. Market Street. Info and tune list at [www.BoesStrings.com](http://www.BoesStrings.com) or Boe at 301.662.0750.

**Fridays**

Arlington Jam! • Arlington, VA  
**1st Fridays • 7-10:30 pm**  
See Wednesday listing.

Glen Echo Open Band • Glen Echo, MD  
**2nd Fridays • 8:30–11:30 pm**  
The fabulous Glen Echo Open Band plays for the second Friday contra dance. All instruments and levels of ability are welcome. Find recordings, tunebook names and page numbers of tunes played by the Open Band at [www.openbandonline.com](http://www.openbandonline.com). The site works best using iTunes on a PC or a Mac. Info: [www.fridaynightdance.org](http://www.fridaynightdance.org).

Open Mic at Potter’s House • Washington, DC  
**4th Fridays • 8 pm**  

**Saturdays**

Batala Percussion Band • Washington, DC  
**Saturdays • 10am – 1 pm**  
All-women ensemble plays Brazilian samba-reggae rhythm. Instruments provided by the band. No prior knowledge of music or percussion is necessary, only interest and willingness to learn. Practices will be in locations convenient to public transportation. Info: Mariana Pereira, Musical Director 202.361.8993, or drums@batalawashington.com, or [www.batalawashington.com](http://www.batalawashington.com).

Archie Edwards Blues Jam • Riverdale, MD  
**Saturdays • 1–5 pm**  
The Archie Edwards Blues Heritage Foundation is pleased to announce the resumption of weekly Saturday afternoon blues jams. All skill levels welcome. Note the new location: 4701 Queensbury Rd., across the street from the Riverdale MARC train station, a few blocks east of Rte 1. Ample parking. Free, but donations welcome. Info/confirmation: 202.526.7539 or [www.acousticblues.com](http://www.acousticblues.com).

Hammer Dulcimer Jam • Falls Church, VA  
**December 20 • 1:30 – 4:30 pm**  
Hammer dulcimer players meet monthly to swap tunes and play together. Other acoustic instruments welcome. Meeting this month is at the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043. Info: 703.790.8088 [http://pages.prodigy.net/holsopple_nvhdpholsopple.com](http://pages.prodigy.net/holsopple_nvhdpholsopple.com).
Workshops, Weekends, Festivals & Special Events

**Mandolin Workshop with Orrin Star • Takoma Park, MD**
*Saturday, December 5 • 2:30–4:30*

“CRACKING THE CODE: Visualizing the Neck via Double-Stops” Inherent in the tuning of the mandolin is a ‘map’ of the fretboard that mandolin players rely on to play in any key. This workshop will jump-start your understanding of this map and also explore the technique of the tremolo. House of Musical Traditions, 7010 Westmoreland Ave., 301.270.9090 or lessons@hmtrad.com. $50 fee, tab hand-out included. More info at http://orrinstar.com.

**Sean-nos Dance Workshop • Silver Spring, MD**
*Saturday, December 5 • 12–3:00 pm*

Steps and Style: Workshop and Critique. Focus on Sean-nos as an improvised dance form. The first half will cover basic improvisation structures which will add depth to your dancing. The second half will focus on critiquing each student and the execution of steps and stylistic/musical choices made by the dancer. Limited to 10. Must have a basic knowledge of sean-nos steps to register. Loc: National Park Seminary, Dewit Drive. Instructor: Shannon Dunne, slanproject@gmail.com

**Viennese Christmas Ball • Arlington, VA**
*Saturday, December 12 •*

Presented under the patronage of the Ambassador of Austria, this year’s ball is given in honor of Herbert and Carol Traxler. Con Brio performs the world’s favorite Strauss waltzes, polkas, and ballroom music. Join in a grand march to the famed Radetzky Grand March and dance the Fledermaus Quadrilles No. 6 as done at midnight in Vienna. Champagnes, seated Austrian dinner and desserts buffet. Cotillion and Opening Ceremonies. For info: Mrs. R Bocek 540.882.4808, mbocek@verizon.net. Tickets: $95 Ball only, $175 with dinner.

Storytelling

**Kensington Row Story Salon • Kensington, MD**
*Wednesday, December 2 • 7:30–9:30 pm*

The featured teller is Cricket Parmalee, and the evening is hosted by Ellouise Schoettler. Free. To get on the open mic, contact ellouise9112@ellouisestory.com. Kensington row Bookshop, 3786 Howard Avenue, 20895. 301.949.9416

**SpeakeasyDC • NW, DC**
*Tuesday, December 8 • 8 pm*

The theme this month is the kindness of strangers: stories about unlikely favors and unexpected assistance. Every second Tuesday hear 8-10 interpretations of the night’s theme as people tell original tales drawn from their own life experiences. Doors open at 6:30 pm.

**Speakeasy DC • NW, DC**
*Thursday, December 17*

My So Called Jewish Life —Spend Hannukah with SpeakeasyDC and Sixth & I Historic Synagogue for a night of funny, poignant stories about all things Jewish. An incredible line-up includes Washington Post blogger Ezra Klein, writer and editor Hannah Rosin, editor of Slate Magazine, David Plotz, and other well known speakers. Check www.speakeasydc.org for ticket information.

**Contradancers Holiday • Morgantown, WV**
*Friday through Thursday, December 26–31*

7th Annual Contradancers Delight Holiday at the Lakeview Resort. Music by the Elftones, Skytones, and Contrarians. Calling by Beth Molaro and Nils Fredland. For more info: www.warrendoyle.com

**Terpsichore’s Holiday • Roanoke, WV**
*December 27 , 2009-January 1, 2010*

Terpsichore is a folk dance camp for ages 4 & up. 5 days and nights of dancing, music-making, crafts, nature hikes, meals and 4-star accommodations at Stonewall Jackson Lake State Park! With programs for adults, teens and children, activities include contra & squares, English country, swing dance swap, English ritual dancing (Morris and sword), dance band, arts & crafts, singing, storytelling, nature hikes, swimming, community dances, and nightly contra dances. Featuring Bill Wellington, Gaye Fifer, Notorious, Abby Ladin, Anna Rain, Danny Knicely, Shawn Brenneman, Henry Chapin, Betsy Blachley, Lori Madden, and More! For best rates, register before December 1. Details and registration information: www.danceholiday.net. or 703.532.6181.

**Upper Potomac Pipers Weekend • Shepherdstown WV**
*Friday–Sunday, January 8-10, 2010 • 8 pm*

Retreat offers two hour classes at a variety of levels, concerts, private tutorials, and jam sessions with a variety of bellows, blown bagpipes, and other instruments from Celtic traditions. The staff includes Jerry O’Sullivan (Irish uileann pipes), John Skelton (flute,
Workshops, Weekends, Festivals & Special Events

whistle), Cleek Shrey (Irish fiddle), Ian Lawther (Northumbrian and Border Pipes in the English Tradition), Iain MacHarg (Scottish Smallpipes and pipes in the Scottish tradition), Maggie Sansone (Celtic traditions on hammered dulcimer), and our host piper, Bob Mitchell. Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, WV. Check updf@earthlink.net for pricing, or call 304.263.2531.

BFMS MidWinter Ball • Towson, MD Saturday, January 30, 2010 • 6:45 pm
Reception begins at 6:45 with a grand march at 7:15. Contra and couples dancing from 7:30-11:30 pm. Music by Giant Robot Dance with calling by Seth Tepfer. To be held in the Chesapeake Room, town University. $25 before January 4, BFMS members and affiliates. Call Joyce Duffy-Bilanow at 410.608.6731, midwinter@bfms.org, or bfms.org.

Ski-Dance Weekend • Laurel Highlands, PA February 12-15, 2010
The 26th annual ski dance weekend offers cross-country skiing, sledding, contra dancing, and music making. Have lots of fun outdoors and indoors in a beautiful rustic setting. Dance to live music in the evening by Dave Weisler and the Avant Gardeners. Janine Smith and Bob Mathis will call squares and contras. Lodging is dormitory-style. Check out the website, www.skidance.com for more information and a registration form. Email: Eliot Applestein H: (301) 984-6855; or Bob Mathis (301)589-7539. Adults $170 ($160 for STS/Sierra Club members), Children ages 3-13 $75, Infants – 2 years, free.

Scottish Folksong Tour • Scotland June 13-23, 2010
Spend 10 dys traveling through Scotland with Ed Miller, a noted folk singer who will share his friends, country, humor and knowledge with you “on location”. Hear Border ballads in a 16th century castle, dance to the fiddle of Iain Fraser, sing sea songs in Pittenweem harbor, and have many more unique and musical experiences. For extensive details, pricing, and an application download information at www.songsofscotland.com.

Favorite Quotes from Tom Verratti

Our dilemma is that we hate change and love it at the same time; what we really want is for things to remain the same, but get better.
Sydney J. Harris

Old age to the unlearned, is winter… to the learned, it’s harvest time
Yiddish saying

Love will find a way. Indifference will find an excuse.

The purpose of education is to replace an empty mind with an open one.
Brevity is the soul of lingerie.

The handwriting on the wall may be a forgery.

Tom Verratti started out playing three finger banjo in the seventies and helped form a local group called The Herd, spoofing another group, The Seldom Scene. They played regular monthly gigs at Gallagher’s (now Nanny O’Brien’s) on Connecticut Avenue until 1989. After a twenty year hiatus from bars, (during which he kept up as a closet picker) Tom recently began playing solo as the warm up act to the Irish Inn Mates at the Irish Inn at Glen Echo on Monday evenings. He says, “I play an eclectic mix from classic bluegrass, folk, rock, some classical tunes, Irish, and a smidgeon of jazz. I am attracted to music that sounds good to me and projects some positive energy.”

Tom is the president and founder of the Constructive Change and Coaching Center in Bethesda, MD., a private therapy and coaching practice working primarily with young adults and adults. He has done organizational management, leadership development, and has been playing the five string banjo for over thirty years. He can be reached at 301.320.9747.
Driving & Mass Transit Directions to Frequent Venues:

Glen Echo Park, MD • Spanish Ballroom/Bumper Car Pavilion
7300 MacArthur Blvd. At Goldsboro Rd., Glen Echo, MD

From the Beltway:
Maryland Side: at 2-lane Exit 40 take the left fork for the Cabin John Parkway. Where Cabin John merges with the Clara Barton Parkway, move into the left lane, under the overhang. Then follow instructions in MD&VA, below.
Virginia side: Get into the far right hand lane at the top of the bridge. At the first fork, bear right. Stay in the left lane; watch for Cabin John traffic merging from the right at the overhang. Then follow instructions in MD&VA, below.

MD&VA: Watch for signs to MacArthur Blvd. Make a very sharp hairpin turn and move immediately into the right lane. At the T intersection/stop sign, turn left onto MacArthur Blvd. The Upper parking lot is on the left. For the lower parking lot, go around the small traffic circle and make the first left onto Oxford St. Be SURE to come to a COMPLETE STOP at the Stop Sign!!!!

By Public Transportation: Take the #29 Bus from the Friendship Heights Metro Station. Ask the driver to let you know when to get off for Glen Echo Park. The bus stops running before the last dance ends. Ask the dance coordinator to announce that you need a ride. We've never left anybody at the Park. Last bus leaves Friendship Heights Metro at 7:30 pm.

Glen Echo Town Hall
6106 Harvard St., Glen Echo, MD:
Same as for Glen Echo Park, save that Harvard Street is the THIRD left off of MacArthur Blvd. After the traffic circle. Please Note: Park in the lot behind the hall, on University Drive, or on the east side of MacArthur Blvd, NOT on Harvard St.

Washington Ethical Society (WES) Auditorium,
7750 16th St. NW, DC just south of the intersection of Kalmia Rd. and 16th St, about four blocks inside the DC/MD line

From the Beltway:
Take the Georgia Ave.(Rt. 97) South exit (31 south). Stay in either right line. Go .4 miles from the exit ramp, going south on 16th St. South. Follow 16th Street past the light at East-West Highway (Rt. 410); go straight at the circle at the DC/MD line. Kalmia Rd. is the second light after the DC/MD line. WES is the second building on the right after Kalmia Rd. Parking is on Kalmia or 16th St.

By Metro: Red Line to Silver Spring Stop. Walk south on Rt. 29 Colesville Rd. to the traffic circle at 16th – go left down 16th four blocks to Kalmia Rd. and WES. If you'd rather not walk, an S-4 Metro Bus will deliver you to the corner of Kalmia Rd. and 16th.
FSGW Membership Form

- Renewal
- New Address
- New Membership*
- I want only the electronic copy of the Newsletter (No paper copy sent)

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- Newsletter Subscription ONLY $25

Available ONLY to those living OUTSIDE the Greater Washington Metro area.

- If you are a new member, where did you get this newsletter?
  - at Glen Echo Park (which event? ______________________)
  - Another FSGW Event (which one?____________________)
  - From a friend who is a member
  - At my public library
  - Other__________________

Name(s)___________________________________________
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City_____________________State_____ Zip_____________
Phone(s)
H: ________-_______-_________W: ______-______-_______
Email:_____________________________________________

May we list you in our Membership Directory?
(FSGW does not provide mailing lists to any other organizations.)
- Yes [ ]
- No [ ]
- Yes, but do not list my:
  - address [ ]
  - home phone [ ]
  - work phone [ ]
  - email [ ]

Send form and check made payable to FSGW to:
FSGW Membership • 6 Sunnyside Road • Silver Spring, MD 20910