



Spokane Folklore Society

# Footnotes

Serving folk arts in the Inland Northwest since 1977

October 2023

Volume 50

No. 10

## November 11th and 12th

Spokane Folklore Society Presents

# SPOKANE FALL FOLK FESTIVAL

28 Years of Celebrating Our Cultural Diversity

Sat. Nov. 11  
11am - 8pm

Sun. Nov. 12  
11am - 5pm



Spokane Community College, Lair Student Center, 1810 N Greene Street  
LIVE KPBX (91.1 FM) Studio Radio Broadcast - Saturday 11am to 1pm  
[spokanefolkfestival.org](http://spokanefolkfestival.org) (509) 828-3683

FREE ADMISSION!  
FREE PARKING!

**INLANDER**

*Jerry LeClaire*

ARTSFUND

**MEMBERSHIP  
FORM**

### What's Inside:

Dance Calendar.....	2
Membership Reminder..	2
October Contras.....	2
George Marshall.....	3
Fall Folk Festival.....	4
Fall LOL Weekend.....	5
Fall LOL Flyer.....	6
Cathy Dark Swing Classes...	7

### SFS Mission

#### About Footnotes

*Footnotes* is published monthly except July. SFS dues include an e-subscription. Paper copies add a fee.

**Editor:** Brent Smith

E-mail newsletter items to:

[ipfix3@gmail.com](mailto:ipfix3@gmail.com)

Or mail to

**Footnotes** c/o SFS

PO Box 141

Spokane, WA 99210

Copy deadline is the 15th of the month. Articles from the membership are welcome and appreciated! Copy may be edited for space or clarity.

#### SFS BOARD MEMBERS

**President:** Brendan Biele

**Vice-President:** Cathy Dark

**Treasurer:** Judy Lungren

**Secretary:** Penn Fix

**Members at Large:** Ken Raymond, Dana Smith

[www.spokanefolklore.org](http://www.spokanefolklore.org)

[myspokanefolklore@gmail.com](mailto:myspokanefolklore@gmail.com)

The purpose of the Spokane Folklore Society shall be to promote a broader community awareness and involvement in cultural folk traditions, such as music, dance, and other folk arts through such social and educational events as concerts, dances, festivals, workshops, lectures, demonstrations, and newsletters.  
[www.spokanefolklore.org](http://www.spokanefolklore.org)

# Calendar of SFS Sponsored Contra Dances

DATE	BAND	CALLER	LOCATION
October 4th	Reel Friends	George Marshall	Woman's Club Hall
October 18th	Crooked Kilt	Karen Wilson Bell	Woman's Club Hall
November 1st	Dog Paw	Emily Faulkner	Woman's Club Hall
November 15th	River City Ramblers	Mitchell Fry	Woman's Club Hall
December 6th	Banna Damhsa	Nancy Staub	Woman's Club Hall
December 20th	Prestwold Players	Susan Dankovich	Woman's Club Hall
January 3rd	Reel Friends	Nora Scott	Woman's Club Hall
January 17th	Jam Band	Karen Wilson Bell	Woman's Club Hall

Look Forward to additional information on Saturday dances, later this year. Full information in upcoming issues of Footnotes.

## Covid Protocols

Based on the results of a recent survey of both current and past members, proof of Covid vaccinations will not be required in order to participate at any SFS sponsored event until further notice. Good health is required. And masking is respected.

## Contra Dancing in October

We have two great contra dances set for October at the Woman's Club Hall. On October 4, George Marshall from Greenfield, Massachusetts will call with our own Reel Friends. George is an amazing caller. You won't want to miss this dance!

On the third Wednesday, October 18, Karen Wilson Bell will call with Crooked Kilt who will be returning to our dances after several years. You are in for a real treat!

And finally, there is still room if you want to drop everything and dance your heart away at Lady of the Lake Fall Weekend, October 6-8. Besides George Marshall, Engine Room, a fantastic dynamic trio will head up the music. See the enclosed article and flyer for more information.

## It's Time to Renew Your SFS Membership

August is the month to renew your SFS membership. Simply go to this link: <http://www.spokanefolklore.org/membership.html> for a full year membership, download the membership form, fill it out, and send it along with a check to our mailing address:

P.O. Box 141, Spokane WA 99210-0141.

Not only do you receive a substantial discount to SFS dance events but you also help to support our organization. We can't do it without your memberships and your additional donations. We are committed to making your dancing experience fun by increasing the guarantees to bands and callers, improving our sound system, and soon updating our website. We are confident that with your support we will not only sustain but also grow our community. Thanks for your help!

## Support SFS Business Members

Business memberships not only provide valuable support to SFS, but the businesses receive extra benefits. New business members are listed monthly in the newsletter and have links on our website: [www.spokanefolklore.org](http://www.spokanefolklore.org).

## October 4th Dance Featuring Out of Town Caller George Marshall

Spokane dancers are in for a special treat. Hired for the Lady of the Lake Fall Weekend, George Marshall from Greenfield, Massachusetts will arrive early in order to call at the Wednesday night contra dance on October 4. George is one of the most widely recognized and sought after callers in the country. He has been dancing for over fifty years and calling for forty-five years. Living outside of Boston, George found contradancing at age 15. At Amherst College, he attended the monthly dance led by Dudley Laufman. He also learned to play concertina and began playing with a group of fellow students. Very quickly, the band began playing for fraternities and other parties. Enough so that they needed to come up with a name; *Swallowtail* seemed natural since they loved playing this jig.

After a year and half of college, in the spring of 1978, George took a gap year traveling to the Pacific Northwest where he sought out dancing. In Seattle, he found the legendary square dance led by Sandy Bradley and Gypsy Gyppo Band. There, he asked her if she could call a contra. She in turn asked him if he could call one. He turned to his Amherst friend Christy Keevil (who would later move to Portland and help solidify contra dancing there) who gave him a dance to call. It went so well that he found himself calling more and more.

Returning to Massachusetts that summer, he rejoined *Swallowtail*; not so much as a musician but as one of their three callers. Over the next few years, *Swallowtail* emerged as one of the more recognized bands coming out of Western Massachusetts. George helped to organize several summer tours which included a dance here in Spokane in 1981.

*Swallowtail* included several students who were graduating and finding their careers. As a result, some couldn't commit to these month-long tours. The band hired piano player Ann Percival as a temporary replacement. Over that summer long time member David Cantieni and Ann developed a relationship that would continue to this day. George, Ann and David began playing together, giving George the opportunity to play and call more.

Within a couple of months, George had organized a 10-week tour of 56 gigs. Thus was born the legendary band, "Wild Asparagus." It was 1983. Wild Asparagus, named after the Asparagus Valley in western Massachusetts, went on to become the first mega contra dance band crisscrossing the United States over forty years. They developed a unique style of play that pushed the envelope and paved the way for the fusion of multiple styles and origins as well as an interesting mix of instruments including oboe, saxophone, and bombard.

George grew up dancing in communities. Despite Wild Asparagus's national draw, the band has hosted a monthly dance in their hometown for many many years. For George, community is everything. He explained, "I really love organizing events that help create community." Because he is a musician as well as a caller, he understands the relationship of music and dance. He noted, "I help catalyze the event by helping everyone to move as a community to the music. We're being coordinated by the music and so we are interacting with the music."





# Celebrate the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Folk Festival

Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> and Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup> .

The Lair – Spokane Community College  
1810 North Greene St.

Information 509 828-3683 or [www.spokanefolkfestival.org](http://www.spokanefolkfestival.org)

The Fall Folk Festival presents the diversity of our community through traditional music, dance and the arts. Over 85 performing groups perform on six stages. The festival is FREE thanks to the generous support of many community organizations, business owners and individual donors. This community event is designed to promote awareness of the many and varied cultural and ethnic traditions in the region and to provide a showcase for sharing these traditions. The festival also includes music and dance workshops, children's programming and a Craft Fair. Meals are available for purchase along with a Bake Sale.

**The Festival Program and Schedule** will be mailed to SFS members approximately a week before the event..

## **There are many ways to support the Festival**

There are many ways each and every one of you can get involved with the production of this festival. It is a wonderful gift to the community and a much-needed showcase for the excellent folk and traditional performers living and creating in our area.

**Volunteer -Sign up for a 2-hour shift helping out at the festival.** There are many jobs from greeters, to set up, clean up, stage mangers and announcers, room monitors, button sellers, sound technicians and more. Sign up on the website or call 509 828-3683 for more info.

**Become a Friend of the Festival.** It's not too late to give a financial contribution to the festival. The festival needs to raise about \$30,000 dollars to produce the festival and pay for rent, sound equipment, supplies, publicity, printing, security and required building staff. All performers and festival organizers donate their time. Send your donations to Fall Folk Festival, PO Box 9768 Spokane, WA 99209 or donate on line. Donation envelopes will be available at the festival.

**Buy a button at the festival.** They cost \$5 and help us pay our expenses.

4. **Purchase a festival T –shirt** to support the festival.

## **Festival Set-up/Pizza Party – Thursday, November 9**

NOTE THIS IS ON THURSDAY- SCC will be closed on Friday due to the Veterans Day Holiday.

Come join us before the festival on Thursday, November 9 any time **after 5 pm** to help with a variety of tasks. We need folks to help set up chairs and sound systems, organize the bake sale, put up signs and more.

Free pizza and pop will be provided to all volunteers Friday evening. Meet in the cafeteria at Spokane Community College (Building 6). Park in the east parking lot and come through the east entrance for best access. Directions and maps can be viewed at [www.scc.spokane.edu/maps/](http://www.scc.spokane.edu/maps/) IF YOU ARRIVE BEFORE 5 PM you will have to pay for parking. Park at the meters or buy a day pass from the kiosks or

## **Thanks to the Fall Folk Festival Committee 2023**

The members of the Festival Steering Committee have been hard at work since January organizing the Festival. Please say thanks and even better help out by volunteering to work during the festival or joining the committee. . Festival Committee members are **Llyn Doremus, KenGlastre, Sylvia Gobel, Donna Graham, Margaret Herron, Nora Scott, and Carolyn Wright.**

# Lady of the Lake Music and Dance Camp News

## Fall Weekend October 6-8

See Flyer on the following page.

If you've been longing for a dance camp weekend not far from home with a terrific staff, beautiful location, friendly people and good food, put Lady of the Lake Fall Dance and Music Weekend on your calendar for October, 6-8 2023. Contra dancing, international folk dancing, music, dance, and singing workshops will be in store at Camp N-Sid-Sen on the shores of Lake Coeur d'Alene near Harrison, ID, about 90 minutes from Spokane.

George Marshall will be coming (all the way from Massachusetts) to call with Engine Room (Noah VanNorstrand, Kelsey Wells and Alex Sturbaum) a powerful young trio from both coasts, to drive the contra dancing. George has been to N-Sid-Sen many, many times with Wild Asparagus, and we're excited he's coming back with a new, hot band!

International folk dancing will be led by Spokane's own Cathy Dark, accompanied by the absolutely amazing Laurie Andres on accordion.

Don't miss this stellar line-up in early October! Registration is open and payment is on a sliding scale.

Attention young organizers, callers, and musicians: The \$50 Marron Scholarship is available to you.

Details and registration are available online at:

[ladyofthelake.org/fallwend](http://ladyofthelake.org/fallwend)

If you've been wondering about the COVID protocols at Fall Weekend, they're pretty simple: Bring three tests to camp, use one when you arrive on Friday afternoon and present your negative result at the check-in table before you sign in (leaving two tests for just-in-case). Masks will be optional, but respected, and proof of vaccination will not be required.

We'll be dancing our tootsies off, hope to see you there.

Thanks!

Emily Faulkner

Fall Weekend Committee



# Lady<sup>OF</sup>theLake

Registration opens May 1st

## Fall Dance and Music Weekend October 6-8, 2023

### Engine Room



Kelsey Wells, Alex Sturbaum, Noah VanNorstrand

George Marshall



Laurie Andres



Cathy Dark

### Workshops:

Contra dance & music & calling  
International Folk Dance  
Singing & more



New! A sliding payment scale to help make LOL more accessible for all

Camp N-Sid-Sen ~ Lake Coeur d'Alene ~ North Idaho

 [ladyofthelake.org/fallwend](https://ladyofthelake.org/fallwend)

Lady of the Lake Dance Camps 

CHECK website for updated COVID protocols regarding vax, masks, and tests



## **Swing Dance Classes**

Classes are taught by Cathy Dark, returning to Spokane after 30 years of teaching dance at Oregon State University. Have fun, share social interaction and DANCE. Please wear closed-toed shoes. \*Water bottles are recommended.

# Swing Dance Classes

*Taught by Cathy Dark*

*Learn to "cut a rug" at your next party, wedding, or at home!*

**Single and Couples Welcome**

**Starting Tuesday, September 12 – October 24<sup>th</sup>**

### **Beginning Swing Dance**

**7:30-8:20 pm**

This is for true blue beginners. This class will introduce you to 6 count swing, ideal for easy dancing. Learn basic footwork and partner connection and be on the dance floor with confidence.

### **Swing Dance II**

**6:30-7:20 pm**

For those who have taken Swing Dance or have other partner dance experience. This session will work on Tripple Time Swing, great to use when the songs are too slow for regular swing. Learn variations specific to Tripple Time and how to incorporate single times moves

Cost for 7 lessons series:

Only \$30 per person for Members (\$40 for non-Members).

Leather soled or worn tennis shoes recommended, along with water bottles.

Please wear closed toed shoes.

**Southside Community Center**

**3151 E. 27<sup>th</sup> Ave, Spokane WA**

**Arrive 5 minutes early to register and pay for the class.**

