Boulder Community Contra and Family Dance

1st/3rd Fridays

Nov 4  “Deb and the Pariahs” caller Rick Smith
     Family Dance at 6pm
Nov 18 “Purple Zephyr” caller Rich Goss of Portland
Dec 2  “Sassafras Stomp” caller Patricia Danscen
     Duet from Maine on fiddle and guitar!
     Family Dance at 6pm
Dec 11 “Barefoot!!!” caller Cis Hinkle! 6-9pm
Dec 16 “The Megaband” caller Sam Smith

Denver Contra Dance - 2nd/4th Fridays

Nov 11 “The Megaband” caller Tina Fields
Nov 25 “Balance and Swing” caller Helle Hill
Dec 9 “Barefoot!!!” caller Cis Hinkle!
Dec 23 “New Rhythm Rangers” caller Viki Lawrence

Zesty Contra Dance – 2nd Saturday

Nov 12 “Sandra and Rodney” caller Rick Smith
Dec 10 “Barefoot!!!” caller Cis Hinkle!

Westminster Community Dance – 4th Saturday

Nov 26 “Acryk Parker & Friends” caller Helle Hill
Dec 24 No Dance – See You In January

Fifth Friday Waltz Dance

Dec 30 “Uncle Farmer”, lesson Susan Petrick

CFOOTMAD Music Jam – 1st/3rd Mondays

Fort Collins FOTD Events – 1st/3rd Saturdays

Nov 5 “Purple Zephyr” caller Ed Hall
Nov 19 “Julia Hayes, Phil Norman, Teri Rasmusson”
     caller Rick Smith
Nov 26 Waltz Night w/Ladies Choice
Dec 3 “Sassafras Stomp” caller Viki Lawrence
     Duet from Maine on fiddle and guitar!
Dec 17 “The Offbeats” caller Carol Fey
Dec 25 Holidance w/Eric Levine & Friends caller ??? 6-9pm
     contras and waltzes
Dec 31 “Uncle Farmer!!!” caller Susan Petrick!

----------Special Events!!!----------

December 9,10,11 – Barefoot!!!  Ed Howe (Perpetual e-Motion) on fiddle, Jamie Oshima on guitar, Cis Hinkle calling. Special thanks to sponsor Donna Harris!

December 31 – NYE Contra Party w/Uncle Farmer in Fort Collins!!!  Club Tico, 8:30 – 12:30pm, $15

----------Save the Date----------

Jan. 27,28,29 – Julie Vallimont (Nor’easter) on keyboard, Audrey Knuth (Free Raisins) on fiddle, Rachel Bell (Seaglass) on accordion. Special thanks to sponsor Ed Hall!
Meet Donna Harris

Donna went to her first Contra dance in early 2012. In high school, she had been involved in Jazz and modern ballet. While at a swing dance at the Avalon and a barn dance at her daughter’s school, Donna learned about Contra dancing. When a MeetUp group scheduled a meeting at a Contra dance, Donna went and was hooked. She also likes to attend Salsa Nights and swing dances. Donna enjoys the dances in both Denver and Boulder, and with family in Fort Collins, it is easy to combine a family visit with a Fort Collins Contra dance.

Donna says, “For me, contra dancing is ... a practice of presence a few seconds at a time with each person in the line ... an experience of flow ... the music, the people, the movement, the fun, and the melding of all those elements into a grand, shared experience ... friends ... exchange and balancing of energies ... healthy ... joyful ... the change and enhancement in my life since I started. Thank you, contra dance community, dance organizers, musicians, volunteers, and all you partners, neighbors, and neighbors' partners out there!”

Donna left her job in the computer field last June to spend more time with her 11-year-old daughter, who sometimes attends the Contra dances. Together they had fun reading, writing, drawing, gardening, and they even traveled to California for the BACDS Family Week. While her daughter was visiting grandparents, Donna and Linda Maguire traveled to Italy and France where they attended the “Grand Ball” dance in Gennetines and enjoyed lovely French dancing. Now that Donna’s daughter is back in school, Donna is finishing up some home projects and getting ready for the next adventure in the working world.

Lastly, Donna adds, “Please help me celebrate my 50th birthday! It is coming up on December 9, and we’ll have a visiting band and caller. The band is Barefoot!, with Ed Howe and Jamie Oshima. Many dancers will fondly remember Ed from his Perpetual e-Motion days. I’m very excited that they are coming. The caller will be Cis Hinkle. We’re planning a three-dance weekend with a Denver dance, a Žesty, and a special dance on Sunday evening at the Avalon. I can’t think of a better way to celebrate.”

by Helle Hill