



## From Our President



*Here is John as often seen running the sound board at SMTMD Open Mic nights--editor.*

Greetings from your incoming Southern Maryland Traditional Music and Dance (SMTMD) president. I look forward to seeing more of all our members and potential members during the coming year. We face some challenges this year with the increasing costs for putting on our events. The rental for Christ Church Parish Hall has gone up, and other costs have gone up as well. We will try to deal with these realities while keeping the cost of our events affordable.

The emphasis will remain on promoting traditional music and dance in Southern Maryland in a fun and welcoming environment. Greg Penk and the SMTMD board of directors have done outstanding jobs and leave the organization in fine shape. We need to find a way to increase our membership and participation, and I ask your help in this endeavor. If you have any ideas which might help in this regard please bring them to me or the board members. We are suggesting an "Invite a Friend" campaign whereby every member will bring at least one friend to an SMTMD event as a potential member or just to boost interest and attendance.

Another year of great music, dance, and friendship awaits us and I look forward to sharing it with all of you.

John Garner

## Welcome New Board Members

President: John Garner ideas for the board, know of

Vice President: Mike Barbour events in which the Open

Secretary: Rita Holden Band might play, or learn

Treasurer: Suzie Gunsalus about interesting events that

Hospitality Chair: Terry Nevins your fellow SMTMD-ers might enjoy, contact the board.

Member at Large: Alan Newhouse *(See page 3 for contact information.)*

Membership Chair: Joan Paribello.

Now the work begins. The board is open to your suggestions. If you have

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## Membership Time

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Membership in the Southern Maryland Traditional Music and Dance Society is annual, running from January 1 through December 31. As a member, you will receive this little newsletter informing you of events to come (4 times a year), contact information for our group, discounts to concerts and open mics, and other interesting information as it becomes available. Take a moment to consider what SMTMD does for your community. Your membership dollars promote traditional music and dance in Southern Maryland, and because we are a 501(C) (3) non-profit educational corporation, your contributions are tax deductible. If you haven't yet become a member or have let your membership expire, contact Joan Paribello right away by electronic means at [smtmd2@gmail.com](mailto:smtmd2@gmail.com) or in person at the next event.

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## Notes

Here is a copy and paste from Wikipedia (Please refer to their site for the footnotes—address below) that your editor found very informative—just in case you were wondering the origins of the term "Contra." BTW—you'll need to visit the Wiki page for the entire article and the footnote references.

At the end of the 17th century, English country dances were taken up by French dance masters. The French called these dances contra-dances or contredanses. As time progressed, these dances returned back to England and were spread and reinterpreted in the United States, and eventually the French form of the name came to be associated with the American folk dances, where they were alternatively called "country dances" or in some parts of New England such as New Hampshire, "contra dances." [2][3]

Contra dances were fashionable in the United States and were considered one of the most popular social dances across class lines in the late 18th century, though these events were usually referred to as "country dances" until 1780s, when the term contra dance became more common to describe these events. [4] In the mid-19th century, group dances started to decline in popularity ...except in rural areas. When squares were revived (around 1925 to 1940,...contra dances were generally not included. In the 1930s and 1940s, contra dances appear to have been done only in small towns in widely scattered parts of northeastern North America, such as Ohio, the Maritime provinces of Canada, [5] and particularly northern New England.

There is much more to read and photos at Wikipedia [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contra\\_dance](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contra_dance). Check it out.



**Contra!**

## 2014 Calendar

### January

Jams: 3, 26  
Dance: 11 Sargon DeJesus  
Concert: 24 Open Mic

### February

Jams: 7, 23<sup>1</sup>  
Dance: 7 (Friday) Ann Fallon  
Concert: TBD

### March

Jams: 7, 23  
Dance: 8 Greg Frock  
Concert: TBD

### April

Jams: 4, 27  
Dance: 12 Elgin Perry  
Concert: TBD

### May

Jams: 2, 25  
Dance: 10  
Concert: TBD

### June

Jams: 6, 29  
Dance: 14  
Concert: TBD

### September

Jams: 5, 28  
Dance: 13  
Concert: TBD

### October

Jams: 3, 26  
Dance: 11  
Concert: TBD

### November

Jams: 7, 30  
Dance: 8  
Concert: TBD  
Annual Membership Meeting 7:30 PM

### December

Jams: 5, 28  
Dance: 13  
Concert: Holiday Open Mic

### INFORMATION & CONTACTS

**Southern Maryland  
Traditional Music and Dance:**  
P.O. Box 403  
Leonardtown, MD 20650  
www.SMTMD.org

**Information:**  
[smtmd2@gmail.com](mailto:smtmd2@gmail.com)

**Open Mic Contact:**  
[garner@wildblue.net](mailto:garner@wildblue.net)

### ADMISSION FEES

**Concerts:** \$10 members, \$15 non-members

**Contra Dance:** \$6 Members  
\$10 non-members

**Open Mic:** \$7 members & non-members

## Classifieds

### Musical Instruments for Sale

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Cort 6-string acoustic guitar. No bells or whistles but has good sound. Call for a visit and to make an offer. Lois (240) 925-9797

### Music Lessons

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Joe Johnston – electric and acoustic guitar (rock and alternative music) (240) 309-4030.  
Nancy Baysinger – piano, acoustic guitar, classical guitar, violin, viola, and flute. (240) 309-4030.  
Mason Sebastian – acoustic and Celtic guitar (240) 309-4030.

### Miscellaneous

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#### Nanbos Guitar Emporium

23928 Mervyl Dean Road, Hollywood  
25% off of entire stock. Will take trades.  
Also providing rentals and fretted instrument and amplifier repair.  
(240) 309-4030.

<sup>1</sup> Jams occur on the 2nd Fridays and final Sunday of the month. Contact Lucy Peterkin (301)769-4762