

A greeting to dancers from Erik, the Bal Master:

I'm looking forward to a fun weekend of workshops and dancing with you in late October. For the Bal Masqué on Saturday, October 30, I was asked to assemble a program of dances which are both accessible and comfortable to newer dancers and yet interesting to experienced dancers. What follows is the result of that endeavor which I hope will meet your expectations. Some of you have been hoping to learn these dances prior to the ball weekend, others may be relying on the workshops preceding the ball to learn them, and others may already know them. Still others may be planning to learn them as we walk through them the night of the ball. Each of those plans is welcome. To facilitate those hoping to learn them at the workshops, we will dance some of these at the workshops as well as others with similar figures for teaching purposes.

The tunes for all of these dances are in one of the two Barnes ECD (English Country Dance) music books available from CDSS (Country Dance and Song Society at www.cdss.org)

The Ragg
Zephyrs and Flora
Henry's Other Hornpipe (Tune: Henry's Hornpipe)
Ashford Anniversary
Childgrove
Hole in the Wall
Old Wife Behind the Fire

-Break-

Corelli's Maggot
Long Odds
Well Hall
Helena
Yellow Stockings
Alice

My plan for the workshops will be to teach the figures and geography of some of the ball dances as well as some other dances and figure/style teaching. There are some of you who will go to all four workshops, so I decided to make each workshop different but essentially the same level of teaching. I'm hoping to keep it interesting and provide a good cross-section of ECD skills so that folks feel confident at the ball to enjoy themselves.

I look forward to meeting you in October when we can all relax, enjoy each others' company and dance to some delightful music by George Penk, Earl Gaddis and Heather Pinney. See you then...!

Erik