

Workshop Descriptions:

"Larks and Ravens Contra – Give Gender-free Roles a Try!"

Flap your wings and try dancing with gender-free role terms. Dana will ease us in and make this incredibly easy for dancers to try it for the first time. The first dance will be one that doesn't require role terms at all! It will be a welcoming, upbeat session. Come give it a try or experience something you already know you like!

Dutch Crossing

Here's what Joseph Pimentel says about Dutch Crossing: "This very cool eight-couple dance makes for a bonding experience as everyone cooperates intensively to get the carnival-ride buzz." The original "Dutch Crossing" was written as an English country dance by Ernst van Brakel of the Netherlands. Joseph's "Yankee Dutch Crossing" version includes a balance & swing for extra contra dance satisfaction. We'll be doing the "Yankee Dutch Crossing". It takes a bit to learn and the satisfaction is immense! There will be a sign-up sheet at the registration desk so we know how many are planning to come. The formation is eight couples to a set, 16 people.

New Contra Choreography

Dancers: here's your chance to try some brand new, rarely-seen dances! Devin has been collecting and practicing these for several months so that we can have some fun!

Musician's Workshop, of the singing variety!

Sing along with the Posse! Spend an hour with this weekend's guest band who, in addition to being a creative engine for dancing are passionate about a cappella singing. The boys will teach you a few of their current favorites, harmonies and all. The singing would be inclusive for anyone!

Making Ordinary Moves Extraordinary

This is the opposite end of the spectrum from a flourish workshop. See how small subtle head tilts, spinal movements and other small things can enhance and expand your connection with your partner. The focus is on developing a strong frame/connection with your partner so you can share these subtleties. We'll be exploring these moves in both contra and waltz.

Contra Medley

A continuous 40 minute dance called by Dana Parkinson and Jo Mortland with music by Pete's Posse. You can take a break if you wish by simply dropping out when you get to the bottom of the line.

Balboa

The Balboa is a swing dance that originated in Southern California during the 1920s (though it may have started as early as 1915) and enjoyed huge popularity during the 1930s and 1940s. It emphasizes rhythmic weight shifts and lead-follow partnership. Something new to try! Irene and Tara are from Madison, regularly instruct there and are excited to introduce us to this style of dance. Come and check it out!