

Folk Dancing in the S.F. Bay Area

This is a list of resources for:

- Square and Round dancers
- Contra and English Country dancers
- And those interested in other styles of American and International folk dance

Organizations

A very extensive list of dance organizations is at: www.cdss.org/cdss-group-affiliates.html

Bay Area Country Dance Society: www.bacds.org

California Dance Cooperative: www.caldancecoop.org

Country Dance and Song Society (in MA): www.cdss.org

Northern California Square Dancers Association: www.ncsda.org

Santa Clara Valley Square Dancers Association: www.scvsda.org

United Square Dancers of America: www.usda.org

Western Square Dancing: www.dosado.org

Events

Many of the organizations listed above have event calendars on their website. More dance events may be added here in the future.

Some of my square-dance / contra dance friends host a **private** “contra dance party” in La Honda, each Memorial Day and Labor Day weekend. If interested in knowing more, **e-mail me** and I will pass on your inquiry.

Andy Wilson leads three Barn Dance events most months, in the southern SF Bay Area; see his website at www.AndyWilsonDanceCaller.com/home/public-dances for details.

- “Barn Dance” at Emma Prusch Farm in San José at 7pm-9pm; square/contras dance with a live bluegrass band; www.pruschfarmpark.org/barn-dance.html; on the 2nd Wednesday every month
- “Family-Friendly String Band Dance” at Santa Cruz Live Oak Grange; music by Deby Benton Grosjean’s “Ginormous String Band” (a good-sized string band, with emphasis on fiddles); on the 3rd Friday in Jan., March, May, July, and Sept.; potluck at 6pm, dancing at 7pm.
- “Work Day, Potluck, and Barn Dance” at Pie Ranch in Pescadero, with a live bluegrass band; see www.pieranch.org/work-day---barn-dance.html for details; on 3rd Saturday every month; note that time varies depending on the season; RSVP before 3pm on Friday.
- Schedules may change and events may be canceled due to bad weather.

History of Folk Dance

Square Dance History dot Org website: www.squaredancehistory.org

SF Bay Area dancers: the home page has a photo of the "Golden State Roundup" circa 1964.

Library of Congress' American Folk-Life Center: www.loc.gov/folklife/guide/dance.html

There are innumerable books on the subject. Rather than me list just a few, feel free to search online yourself, if you're interested in acquiring some books.

This material is provided as a free public service by the author, who accepts no responsibility for its accuracy; it is ***your responsibility*** to verify dates and details! I will gladly correct or remove listings if requested by a host or representative; contact me at AFrench123@comcast.net. Please check my website www.RailGrass.info for occasional updates; it is my intent to add more material in due time.

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