

The Country Dancers of Rochester and the Central & Western New York Region
of the Jane Austen Society of North America present our 11th annual

Jane Austen Ball Weekend

Saturday, May 6, 2017

3 pm to 9:30 pm

Sunday, May 7, 2017

8:30 am to 5:30 pm

A Sunday afternoon Regency period ball in one of Rochester's most elegant Ballrooms, with many dancers in costumes reminiscent of Jane Austen's time, period English dances, and delicious refreshments.

Tom Amessé, Dancing Master

Music by

Rebecca McCallum, violin

Eileen Nicholson Kalfass, violin

Jane Knoeck, piano and accordion

Ball Program

Mock Hobby Horse

Orange Nan

Jenny Pluck Pears

Cockleshells

The Maid Peeped Out at
the Window

The Siege of Limerick

Neat, Mr. John

Draper's Garden

Emperor of the Moon

Weekend in Wilton

Grimstock

Bar a Bar

Room for Ramblers

A Health to All Honest Men

Mr. Isaac's Maggot

Never Love Thee More

Advance registration required. More information at CDRochester.org

Jane Austen Ball Weekend Events 2017

Sundays, April 2, 9, 23 & 30

3:30-5:30 PM: **Ball prep sessions**, at the First Baptist Church of Rochester, 175 Allens Creek Rd, 14618, potluck dinner to follow. Newcomers to English dancing should be sure to attend the first two sessions to learn the basics.

Saturday, May 6:

3-5:30 PM: **Ball practice** led by Tom Amessé at First Baptist Church with music by Eileen and Jane, followed by a potluck dinner (all welcome; food contributions encouraged but not necessary, paper plates and utensils supplied).

6:30-9:30 PM: **Experienced English dance**, at First Baptist. An evening of challenging but rewarding dances and old favorites. Solid familiarity with English country dancing assumed; basic figures will not be taught and walk-throughs will be minimal. Music by Rebecca, Eileen & Jane, dances taught by a cavalcade of regional callers.

Sunday, May 7:

8:30 AM: **Optional breakfast** at the Ball venue, one of Rochester's most elegant country clubs (location will be sent to registrants).

10 AM-noon: **Ball dance review**, with Tom Amessé and the Ball musicians, focusing on the more challenging dances, followed by a buffet lunch, and time for dressing. Dressing rooms for both ladies and gentlemen are provided.

2-5:30 PM: **The Ball**, at the same location, with sumptuous refreshments mid-way.

6 PM: An **informal dinner** at a local restaurant for as many as will. There will be a sign up sheet at the registration table.

Registration: You can register using PayPal (which accepts credit cards) on our [web site](#), or can mail in the form on the next page, along with a check. Early registration is advised, as this event tends to fill up. No tickets available at the door. Dance instructions will be available on our web site, or can be mailed upon request. You can reach the registrar by e-mailing BallRegistrar@cdrochester.org or phoning (585) 721-5825.

Preparation: Prior experience with English Country dancing is assumed. We strongly encourage dancers to take advantage of our prep sessions, practices, and the Ball instructions & videos provided on our web site, as there will be limited teaching during the Ball. Dancers will give themselves—and their partners—the greatest pleasure if they are familiar with the afternoon's program before the Ball.

Dress: Regency period attire is encouraged but anything formal or dressy is fine. Lisa Brown of Regency Rentals offers rentals of Regency era costumes by appointment only. Contact her at (RegencyCostumes@gmail.com) to inquire.

Hospitality: We can accommodate a limited number of out of town visitors in the homes of local dancers. If you're interested, please e-mail BallHousing@CDRochester.org. A list of area hotels is available on the web site or can be mailed upon request.

Undecided? You can get a glimpse of what the Ball is like by pointing your web browser to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZnEcnSexloQ>

REGISTRATION FORM 2017

Advance registration is required for the Ball and must reach us by May 1. Number of dancers is limited to 80 to minimize crowding on the dance floor, but there are no limits on observers or Saturday events. Dancers are expected to have basic English Country dancing skills, and will be admitted in the order that applications are received without regard for gender balance. Full refunds given if you cancel by May 1; no refunds thereafter unless we are able to find someone who can take your place. If admission fees are a challenge for you, please contact the registrar—we may be able to provide financial support.

NAME (S) _____

I can provide accommodations for out of town visitors. Please contact me.

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

Please send information on hotel and bed & breakfast accommodations with my confirmation.

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL (for confirmation) _____

<i>Number</i>	<i>Total</i>
_____ Dancers (morning practice, lunch and Ball) @\$65	_____
_____ Observers (includes afternoon refreshments) @\$25	_____
_____ Observers W/ Lunch (includes PM refreshments) @\$45	_____
_____ Sunday Breakfast @\$10	_____
_____ Student Discounts (-\$25 each HS or college student)	_____
_____ Saturday Ball Practice @\$10	_____
_____ Saturday Experienced Dance @\$15	_____
_____ Donation <small>Helps defray expenses and support low income attendees</small>	_____

You may pay for Saturday events at the door if you prefer.

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Fees are stated in US dollars. Canadian dollars accepted; please convert using current exchange rate. If you pay with Canadian checks, please add \$2 bank processing fee per check.

Admission fees tend to cover about 80% of our expenses, so donations are a big help (and are tax deductible in the US). We also raise funds with a silent auction during the Ball. Please consider bringing along a donation of items or services (those relating to Jane Austen or England especially appreciated).

Mail completed form and check payable to *Country Dancers of Rochester* (in time to reach us by May 1) to: **Jane Austen Ball, c/o Chris Cassidy, 26 Granite Dr., Penfield, NY, 14526.**

More About Our Performers



This will be Tom Amessé's fourth appearance as our dancing master. Before Tom discovered English Country Dance, he pursued several interests which included both American History, and acting -- if he seems a natural on stage, some of the credit goes to his having acted in local community theater! He has been calling English Country dances for over a decade, having studied with Scott Higgs, Beverly Francis, Paul Ross, Bruce Hamilton and Gene Murrow.

His clarity and easy-going style have helped him become a favorite at English country dance events in the New York/New Jersey area and all over the US. With regular calling engagements in North Jersey and Staten Island (his home), he has also emceed New Haven's Elm City Assembly, the Binghamton Ball, several New York Playford Balls (with Gene Murrow), and the Twelfth Night Assembly in Staten Island.

Rebecca McCallum grew up playing classical violin in youth orchestras and string quartets, but in college, she fell in love with contra dancing, and soon abandoned classical music for the fiddle. Nothing gives Rebecca greater musical joy than creating lift, energy and drive for a roomful of dancers. A member of *The Groovemongers* since 1997, Rebecca plays for contra and English dancers across the US and overseas. She was also a regular on stage at CDR dances before moving to Connecticut in 2008. Since then she has expanded her playing for Scottish and English country dancing, and is even experimenting with Bluegrass, early country, and string band fiddling and singing.



Eileen (Nicholson) Kalfass began studying violin at age 4 as a classical Suzuki violin student. Her appreciation of fiddle music followed soon thereafter as a result of her family's interest in folk arts. Eileen has been playing for contra and English country dances since 2005. Her playing combines an unforgettably smooth and pleasing tone with the solid rhythm dancers appreciate. Based in Central New York, she plays regularly with the bands *New Brew*, *Continental Drift*, and *SeaGlass*. She is especially known for her delightful harmony in duos.



Jane's musical beginnings were in classical piano and voice studies. She entered the instrumental folk music world upon discovering the hammered dulcimer. Contra dance bands followed and she's been playing for dances ever since on piano and accordion, weaving a variety of musical influences into her style and becoming accomplished at playing for both English and Scottish country dance. Much in demand for her ability to provide the drive and phrasing so important to dance music, she often plays with *The Groovemongers*, *New Brew*, and *Frivolity*.

