

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

14th Annual

Jane Austen Ball Weekend

Saturday & Sunday
April 25 & 26, 2020
Rochester, NY

Two practice sessions, an experienced English dance, and a Sunday afternoon Regency period ball in a roomy, elegant ballroom, with many dancers in costumes reminiscent of Jane Austen's time, period English dances (plus a few modern ones), and delicious refreshments.

David Millstone, Dancing Master

Music by Alchemy

Eric Martin, violin
Rachel Bell, accordion
Karen Axelrod, piano

Ball Program

Bath Carnival
Black and Grey
Blackheath
Dover Pier
The Irish Howle
Jaque Latin

Mount Hills
Mr. Millstone's Inauguration
Mutual Love
The Punch Bowl
Red and All Red
Sam's Maggot

Signs of Spring
Sprigs of Laurel
St. John's Meeting House
Trip to Provence
Whim of the Moment

Advance registration required. More information on our website at
www.CDRochester.org/events/jane-austen-ball



Jane Austen Ball Weekend Events 2020

Sundays, March 29, April 5 & 19

3:00-5:15 pm: **Ball prep sessions**, at the First Baptist Church, 175 Allens Creek Rd, 14618, each followed by a potluck dinner (food contributions welcome, not required) and our usual beginner-friendly evening dance. Newcomers to English dancing should attend all sessions if possible.

Friiday, April 24

8:00 pm: **House concert with *Alchemy***, at the home of Peggy & Rich Dempsey. A nice chance to hear our Ball musicians in a warm, intimate setting, with wonderful refreshments. \$15 to reserve a seat in advance, or you can take your chances and make a contribution at the door.

Saturday, April 25

3:00-5:15 pm: **Ball practice** with *David Millstone* and *Alchemy* at the First Baptist Church, 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 Church, with *Alchemy*, and a cavalcade of regional callers. 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.

Sunday, April 26:

9:30 am: Welcome table opens at the Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Ave., 14607.

10:00 am-noon: **Ball dance review**, with David Millstone and *Alchemy*, focusing on the more challenging dances and followed by a buffet lunch and time for dressing. Dressing rooms for both ladies and gentlemen are provided.

1:50 pm: Demonstration of the Minuet, a traditional opening dance, in the ballroom.

2-5:30 pm: **The Ball**, with sumptuous period-appropriate refreshments mid-way.

6:00 pm: **Optional post-Ball buffet dinner** at *The Brown Hound* in the Memorial Art Gallery building, \$30 (includes tax & tip), preregistration required. Food served until 7 PM.

Registration: You can register using PayPal or a credit card on our [website](#), 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. Pre-registration is required for dancers and for the post-Ball dinner and is suggested for observers. You can reach the registrar via e-mail at BallRegistrar@cdrochester.org. Registration closes on Monday, April 17 so that we can provide counts to our caterers.

Preparation: Dancers should have prior experience with English country dance and be at least 17 years old. Though dances at the Ball are walked through and prompted, 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. 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 website 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://youtu.be/3I3AWbsXG9o>

Jane Austen Ball Registration Form 2020

Advance registration is required, and must reach us by April 17. The number of dancers is limited to 85 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. Registrations may be cancelled up through April 17 (in which case 90% of your payment will be refunded); 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) _____

STREET _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please be sure to check this email for your confirmation and for additional details as the Ball approaches.

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

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

<i>Number</i>	<i>Total</i>
_____ Dancers (morning practice, lunch and Ball) @\$70	_____
_____ Student Dancers (@\$45 each HS or college student)	_____
_____ Observers with afternoon refreshments @\$25	_____
_____ Post-Ball dinner Sunday night @\$30	_____
_____ Saturday Ball Practice @\$10	_____
_____ Saturday Experienced Dance @\$20	_____
_____ Friday night house concert with Alchemy @\$15 <small>See web site for details</small>	_____
_____ 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 raffle and a silent auction during the Ball. Please consider bringing along a donation of items or services (those relating to Jane Austen or dance or England especially appreciated) .

Mail completed form and check payable to *Country Dancers of Rochester* (in time to reach us by April 17) to: **Jane Austen Ball, c/o Chris Cassidy, 26 Granite Dr., Penfield, NY, 14526.**

You may also register on our web page: cdrochester.org/events/jane-austen-ball

More About Our Performers



David Millstone started contra dancing with Dudley Laufman in the early 1970s and has been calling dances for more than forty years. His monthly dance (1980–2015) was with the band “Northern Spy” in Norwich, Vermont, making this one of the longest series in New England. David recently served six years as president of the Country Dance and Song Society. An experienced caller of English country dances, he’s been on staff at dance weekends, festivals and weeklong camps from Alaska and Hawaii, Maine to Florida.

He is known for his clear and supportive teaching style, the breadth of his repertoire, his sense of humor, and his ability to pick dances that offer the right level of challenge for all audiences.

Alchemy is Karen Axelrod, Rachel Bell, and Eric Martin, three dynamic players steeped in traditional English Country Dance and Contra Dance music. Individually, they have performed across the United States, Canada, and Europe. As a trio, their improvisatory style brings a contemporary and innovative feel to both traditional and newly composed tunes and songs.

Alchemy invites the dancers to share in a sublime dance experience ranging from intensely energetic to the kind of exquisite, nuanced beauty that tugs at the heart strings. Recent appearances include the Pitt’s Maggot dance weekend, the New Home Ball, and this year’s Binghamton Ball and Dance Flurry Festival.



Country Dancers of Rochester is on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/CountryDancersofRochester