



Camp Photos by AmWeek Campers  
Staff Photos used by permission of owners



See more photos and lots more info at [AmWeek.org](http://AmWeek.org)



# Bay Area Country Dance Society American Dance and Music Week



*It's a Dance Camp with Music!  
It's a Music Camp with Dance!*

## July 1-6, 2018

in the Coastal Redwoods of Northern California,  
at Jones Gulch Camp, La Honda (near San Francisco)

CONTRAS and WALTZES  
Gaye Fifer · Sarah VanNorstrand

OUTSTANDING MUSIC  
The Syncopaths · Uncle Farmer  
The Whoots

COUPLE DANCING &  
LATE NIGHT ADVENTURES

MUSIC WORKSHOPS  
· Dance Musicianship  
· Jam Sessions  
· Tune Writing & Composition

SINGING  
Christa Burch

CALLERS' WORKSHOP

TRADITIONAL CRAFTS  
Rachel Olguin

SOUND  
Marty Brenneis

STRETCHING  
& PILATES  
Jean Gibson-Gorrindo



# Registration Information

Mail the attached paper registration or register online at [AmWeek.org](http://AmWeek.org)

We are offering sliding scale pricing so camp is available to more people. \$700 covers your lodging, meals, and program. Youth (ages 30 and under) have work-trade discounts—see the registration form. If you are over 30 and don't qualify for a scholarship, pay as much as you can, \$500 or more. To break even, for every dancer who pays under \$700, we need someone to pay that amount over \$700. If you are able, please make a tax-deductible donation in addition to your \$700 to help sustain our fabulous week in the redwoods. Thank you for making camp affordable to those who otherwise could not join us.

All applications will be considered in the order they are received; full payment is due with your registration. We cannot confirm your space until your payment is received. You can mail a check, or pay online with a credit card or a PayPal account. Notification of acceptance will be sent in mid-March and as space is available for registrations after that date.

All cancellations incur a \$40 administrative fee. After June 1, refunds are granted only if your space can be filled by someone from the wait list or at the discretion of camp managers for extreme circumstances. Detailed camper information will be sent in May and posted online at [AmWeek.org](http://AmWeek.org)

*We reserve the right to refuse registration or admission to anyone whose behavior has been judged by the camp organizers to be disruptive, harassing, or dangerous.*

## Camp Logistics:

- Only full-time registrants will be accepted.
- Participants ages 13-17 are welcome if accompanied by a responsible adult.
- All campers contribute by performing a light daily chore.
- Prior to camp every camper must complete a Jones Gulch Camp release form.
- Smoking, pets, and alcohol are prohibited at Camp Jones Gulch.
- Housing is in shared dormitory-style cabins holding up to 12 people. Bring your own bedding. You may wish to bring your own tent and camp in the meadow for increased privacy. There is no discount for lodging off-site.
- The Camp Jones Gulch menu accommodates omnivores and vegetarian/vegan diets.
- If you have other dietary restrictions, please consider bringing your own food; however, refrigerator/freezer space is not available. There is no discount for bringing your own food.



See lots more detailed information at [AmWeek.org](http://AmWeek.org)

### Key Deadlines - Camp Dates: July 1-6, 2018

January 2018	Registration opens
Mid-March	Notification of acceptance
Early May	Detailed info sent to registered campers
June 1	Registration closes; no refunds upon cancellation
July 1	CAMP BEGINS!

### Key Contacts —call or email if you have questions!

Camp Managers: Jen Bamesberger & David Buesch  
 amweek-manager@bacds.org  
 Program Director: Kelsey Hartman  
 amweek-programmer@bacds.org  
 Registrar: Russell Frank  
 amweek-registrar@bacds.org

BACDS American Dance and Music Week July 1-6, 2018

BACDS  
 American Dance & Music Week  
 2018

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt. Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name (to appear on your button): \_\_\_\_\_

Housing Preference:  All Gender Dorm  Male Gender Dorm  Female Gender Dorm

- I would like to be assigned housing with: \_\_\_\_\_  
 I will bring my own tent  I do not need a cabin space and will be sleeping off-site

I am (check all that apply):  Early to Bed  Early Riser  Night Owl  Late to Rise

Do NOT print on the camp roster provided to campers:  
 my name  my phone number  my address  my email address

Do NOT use my likeness in future camp publicity

Medical concerns/food allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary preferences (choose one):  Omnivore  Vegan

I am:  Gluten-Free  Dairy-Free

I'll bring my own food to supplement the offered menu

### Camper Fee (check one):

- \$700 camper fee  
 pay-what-you-can (\$500 or more)  
 I need additional financial aid. Please contact me about possible work-trade scholarships.

### Youth Rates (based on age as of July 1, 2018)

- \$395 (ages 26-30)  
 \$345 (ages 23-25)  
 \$295 (ages 17-22)  
 \$245 (ages 13-16)

### Angel Donation: Any amount beyond the \$700

camper fee is a tax-deductible donation. Thank you for making camp affordable for dancers and musicians in our community who otherwise would not be able to join us.

### Payment:

Camper Fee (from above): \_\_\_\_\_

Donation (Thank You!): \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form with your check payable to BACDS to:

BACDS AmWeek Registrar  
 938 Margaret St  
 Monterey, CA 93940

# Our Staff



## The Syncopaths | Jeff Spero, Ashley Broder, Ryan McKasson, Christa Burch

From dance floors to concert halls, **The Syncopaths** bring a fresh, contemporary spin to music and songs rooted in the Scottish, Irish, and American folk traditions. Evolving beyond their contra dance origins, they are creating a “chamber folk” sound characterized by the compelling, rhythmic interplay of fiddle and mandolin, rich vocals, and unexpected colors and rhythms from the piano and bodhrán. The exuberant joy they derive from the music and each other is palpable and contagious. **Jeff Spero** (piano and keyboards), **Ashley Broder** (mandolin and fiddle), **Ryan McKasson** (fiddle and viola), and **Christa Burch** (vocals and bodhrán).

## Uncle Farmer | Ben Schreiber, Michael Sokolovsky

**Uncle Farmer** is **Ben Schreiber** on fiddle and **Michael Sokolovsky** on guitar and foot percussion. With an Irish and New England sound at its core, the duo is known for its original dance tunes, modern twists on old favorites, and sets mixed with pop rhythms and improvisational flair. Their performances range from sweet and nostalgic to gritty and energetic, and their sound truly fills both the room and the hearts of dancers.



## The Whoots | Jim Oakden, Shira Kammen

**“WHOOT WHOOT!!!”** is the sound dancers make when things really get cookin’; musicians live for that. **The Whoots** play a blend of Irish, Scottish, French Canadian, and Old Time music, and explore ContraFusion — a melding of traditional music with pop, swing, and techno. Multi-instrumentalist **Shira Kammen** has spent well over half her life exploring early and other intriguing styles of music. The strangest place she has played is in the elephant pit of the Jerusalem Zoo. Former AmWeek program director **Jim Oakden** performs with many bands in a host of genres on an absurd array of instruments. He is very much dedicated to passing on his knowledge at symposia, workshops, and dance and music camps from Pinewoods to Fairbanks to Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

## Gaye Fifer

**Gaye Fifer** is an accomplished contra caller from Pittsburgh, PA. An active dancer herself, Gaye understands the subtleties of making contra dances particularly satisfying for dancers. Her instructions are clear and concise, as she is a teacher by profession. An easy smile and delightful sense of humor are part of Gaye’s relaxed, pleasant style at the microphone. Gaye calls contra dances throughout the U.S. and Canada.



## Sarah VanNorstrand

**Sarah VanNorstrand** has been calling, organizing, and teaching contra, square, and family/community dances for more than ten years. From Syracuse, NY, she has a clear and engaging teaching style and a great repertoire of dances to share. Instantly hooked from her first contra dance as a teen, Sarah’s love of social dancing and her joy in sharing it with all who will is evident and infectious. Above all, her goal as a caller is to make sure the dancers are having a wonderful time connecting with the music and each other.



## Jean Gibson-Gorrindo

**Jean Gibson-Gorrindo** is a West Coast dancer and caller who has also been teaching Pilates for fifteen years. Jean founded the **Five Seasons Pilates** studio in Los Osos, CA. She retired after nearly three decades in the health and fitness industry and now encourages health and fitness as a contra dance caller and choreographer.



## Marty Brenneis

Marty has been around theatre, film, and dance since before he could walk. Along the way he has gained skills in many of the entertainment crafts. When he started contra dancing, he realized that the sound quality was very important to the overall pleasure of the dance. The philosophy he applies to the sound is simple: “I gotta dance to it.” He has been a constant fixture of American week since 1999.



# Dance and More!

Days and evenings are jam-packed with dancing and more. **AmWeek** is a 3-ring circus with so much to choose from.

## **Waltzes Before Breakfast** for Early Risers

Come and dance, or bring your instrument and join us playing original waltz compositions along with other campers and members of our camp staff.

## **Contra Dances and More** with Gaye and Sarah

Dances that have shaken up the contra choreography world in some fashion. These dances feature the creativity and continual shifting of the contra scene.

## **Waltz & Couple Dancing** with Gaye Fifer

Waltzing is not only about fancy moves and twirls, but first and foremost, about connecting with the music and your partner.

## **Dance Choreography** with Kelsey Hartman

Using the basics learned from other nationally known choreographers' workshops in the past, Kelsey will work with the camper choreographers to create a new dance each day.

## **Dutch Crossing** with Gaye Fifer

This challenging yet deceptively simple dance is a favorite each year. Moves you know with orientation challenges for 16 dancers per group. Super fun!

## **CommuniContra** with Sarah VanNorstrand

How do dancers communicate with each other? How can we become better partners, neighbors and community dancers while elevating our own dance experience?

## **Contra Flourishes and Twirls** with Laura Gorrin

Safely add flourish and flair to dance moves in waltz and contra.

## **Stretch/Pilates** with Jean Gibson-Gorrindo

Explore different modalities aimed at strengthening and lengthening, fine-tuning your body awareness, and keeping your body happy and healthy during this action-packed week.

## **Photography** with David Buesch

Develop photographic skills and an eye to capture in those beautiful "split second" moments during dancing, making music, crafting, relaxing, and the stillness of redwoods.

## **Traditional Crafts** with Rachel Olguin

Bring out your creative nature! Make your own custom-sculpted beautiful Mardi Gras leather mask, molded to your face for a perfect fit. Sew a simple skirt made from bandanas or scarves.

## **Late Night Activities** with Fun For All

If you don't feel like turning in early, the Perkins Party Playhouse is the place to be. Snacks, dancing, music jamming, games, crafting, and general fun among friends.



# Music Sessions

Wall-to-wall music sessions and workshops throughout the day and evening. Musicians of all levels — novice to advanced — are welcome at **AmWeek**.

## **Mix and Match** with Uncle Farmer

Ask questions and get answers on how to match tunes to the dances and how to match tune to tune for 2- or 3-tune sets.

## **Fiddling Around** with Ryan McKasson

Practice improvisation and playing around with the tune with a Scottish fiddling champion. An open mind and your fiddle are the only requirements.

## **Contra Piano** with Jeff Spero

Learn the techniques that work the best to keep the band and dancers happy alike.

## **Fiddle Lessons** with Shira Kammen

Work on what you want with Shira's wise and wacky guidance. Sign up for 20-minute sessions.

## **Singing** with Christa Burch

Lift your voices together! We'll learn songs from the Irish, Scottish, and American folk traditions. Courting, finding love, experiencing loss, being far from dear places and people—they're universal experiences.

## **Write That Tune** with Ashley Broder

A low-stress, high-camaraderie environment and Ashley's guidance will help you enter the joyful world of tune writing.

## **Jam with ANY Instrument** with Jim Oakden

Learn & play tunes at a stately tempo, beginning music theory & chording, ear training, small group instrumental instruction... whatever people want. All newcomers and seasoned musicians are welcome. Bring any instrument, and let's have fun.

## **Callers' Workshop** with Sarah VanNorstrand

Learn how to call a dance or improve on your calling by doing it.

## **Camper Band** led by Jim Oakden & Shira Kammen

Join in playing tune sets at dance tempo to be performed at the Wed. Camper Night. No worries, and much fun will be had by all.

## **Evening Workshops** with staff musicians

If you're not on the dance floor, head to the Band Lab!

## **All Music All the Time!**

For those who want to play music all the time, this is the place to feast on workshops all day long, and music jam sessions moderated by staff bands during the evening dances.



See lots more info at  
[AmWeek.org](http://AmWeek.org)