

Jean Sannella

Shameless
Exhortations

Late News about
the High School

NEFFA
NEW ENGLAND
FOLK
FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION
NEWS

Fall 2001 – Volume XXVII #3

~~The Fabulous NEFFA
Calendar~~

~~No Meetings, No
Minutes~~

Jean Sannella

I am sad to report the death of Jean Sannella, of Bremen, Maine. Jean was involved with NEFFA for many years, her last position being Crafts Chair in 1985.

I met Jean during a visit to Ted at their Wellesley Hills home, and she struck me with her warmth and practical nature. Weaving was as important to Jean as dancing was to Ted, and they supported each other's interests. Jean was happy to host me during my travels to Maine. I shall always remember her generosity and value her friendship. – Dan Pearl

Dear Everyone,

There has been a change in the time for my mother's memorial service that is requiring us to contact everyone in the world that might even possibly be thinking of coming. Please pass this info. on to anyone you know who may be planning to come.

Her service will be on Saturday, September 8 at 5:00 PM (NOT at 3:00 as previously announced) because the church goofed and scheduled us at the same time as a large wedding. The location is still the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church, and directions are on their web site at www.whcc-ucc.org. For those of you who attended my father's memorial service, this is the same church.

As at my father's memorial service, we will be inviting people to share any stories and memories they may have about my mother. If anyone has something to share but can't make the service or is



uncomfortable speaking in public, please forward your story to me and I will make sure that it will be read for you. Also, if you have any pictures of her to share, we will be setting up a

display (just don't forget to pick them up when you leave). In addition, we will be displaying some of my mother's weavings, baskets, a few items from her collection of mother-and-child figurines, and other mementos. It should be a warm service of celebration of her life.

Because of the later start-time, the reception afterward is going to be a pot-luck dinner. We invite anyone to stay that can, and we ask that people who live locally bring something to share (there are ovens and refrigerators available to keep things at the right temperature).

I hope I haven't forgotten anything, but please feel free to contact me with any questions by e-mail or phone (781-275-3537).

Thanks for your help in spreading the word.

Sincerely, Janet (Sannella) Breslau

Death Notice for Jean Sannella as published in the Boston Globe

SANNELLA - Jean Elizabeth Sannella, 69 of Bremen, Maine, died Monday (August 6th). She graduated from the Children's Hospital School of Nursing in 1953. Jean married Ted Sannella on June 12, 1954. They were very active in the Boston area dance community, and traveled throughout New England and internationally to lead dances and festivals. They lived in Lexington and Wellesley Hills, MA before retiring to Wiscasset, Maine in 1990. She was predeceased by her husband in 1995, one sister, Ruth Bishop and one brother, Richard Davis. She is survived by her four children Marianne Tibbetts, Donald Sannella, Michael Sannella, Janet Breslau, and one brother Peter Davis. Visiting hours [were] at Mayo & Daigle Funeral Home [in Wiscasset]. A Funeral service [was] held Wednesday at the First Congregational Church, Wiscasset. A Memorial Service will be held at the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church on Washington Street in Wellesley Hills, MA on Saturday, September 8th. Memorial contributions may be made to the Bremen Public Library, the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, PO Box 234, Boothbay, ME 04537 or to the Maine Cancer Society.



Editor: **Dan Pearl**
 Editorial Review: Shelagh Ellman-Pearl, Nancy Hanssen, Claire Reid, Lisa Greenleaf
 Calendar: **Bwah! Ha! Ha! Ha!**
 Mailing: **Dayle Watts**

Issue Covering	Deadlines	
	Calendar	Editorial
Apr.-Jul.	Jan. 20	Feb. 15
Jul.-Oct.	Apr. 20	May 15
Oct.-Jan.	Jul. 20	Aug. 15
Jan.-Apr.	Oct. 20	Nov. 15

The **NEFFA News**, a publication of the New England Folk Festival Association, Inc., is published four times a year to communicate with its membership and other interested persons. **While we figure out what to do with the Calendar, send Calendar items and other submissions** to Dan Pearl, 15 Buffalo Run, Southborough, MA 01772, or to Daniel_Pearl@yahoo.com. Opinions of individuals are not necessarily the opinion of the NEFFA Executive Board.

Publicize your events! Display advertising or flyer enclosures are available for qualifying folk-related organizations. For more information, contact Dan at +1-508-229-2854.

Where's The Calendar?

Jacob and Nancy Bloom, after **tireless years** of assembling the NEFFA Calendar, have finally stepped down from that position. Efforts to find a new editor have **failed**, despite **bribery** with mounds of peel-'n'-eat **shrimp** and offers of **fame** and **fortune**. Well, fame at least.

One person who was considering the job said that she **asked** a few of **her friends** if anyone actually **used** the Calendar, and no one fessed up. This got me thinking that maybe the **bang-buck** ratio was a little too low. I sent the Calendar on **vacation** and decided to ask you, the three or four people who actually **read** the Newsletter, whether you use the Calendar (and how much, for what regions, **blah, blah, blah...**). This highly scientific research protocol is designed to test the **hypothesis** that **NO ONE USES THE CALENDAR**.

Basically, it **pains** me to think we (the Royal "we", meaning "Jacob and Nancy Bloom and I, but actually Jacob and Nancy Bloom") have

been putting in a lot of **work** for, well, **nothing**, but maybe we need a **new way** to think about the Calendar.

I have been thinking of having a **web-based** event submission system that could be used for the Calendar as well as the LinkFest section of the NEFFA website. Is there some CGI-script **whiz** out there who could take this on?

Until something happens (or someone appears), we'll run a **little** Resource Guide that will point you to different places for information. It is pretty **pitiful**, but it is the least we can do. If you think you **have** what it **takes** to make a better Calendar, I want to hear from you! I cannot do this alone.

Also: **DO YOU MISS THE CALENDAR? LET ME KNOW!** (Write me at neffa@neffa.org)

-- The Editor

Calendar Briefs

NH, September 21—Newmarket Heritage Festival Contra dance. 7-10PM. 603-659-7154. (This is a Friday, contrary to a flyer typo).

RI, September 23. Preservation Society of Pawtucket Benefit Contra Dance. 7 - 10 PM. Knights of Columbus Hall at 1 New Road, E. Providence. Greenleaf, Hewitt, and Unger. \$8. 401-725-9581

VT, 2nd Sat: Burlington contradance is held Sept-June. Instruction at 7:45, dance 8:00PM, \$6-8. 802-658-4651 or 802-865-9363.: www.cyankee.com/qccontra/index.html.; qcc@cyankee.com

MA, 1st Sat: Medway, MA. Contra Dance -- September-June, 2001-2002. Christ Episcopal Church, School St., Medway, 7:30-10:30 \$6 adults, children under 12, free. 508-883-3443, mtvictor@juno.com

MA, 2nd, 4th Fri: English Country Dancing. Harwich Community Center, 100 Oak St. 7-10PM. Live music. \$5. 508-430-7003, fmworrell@capecod.net

THE NEFFA CLASSIFIED

Short ads by NEFFA members are free, as long as they are folk-related in the judgement of the editor. Send 'em in. I'll probably run 'em.

FOR SALE — Complete collection of Ralph Page's Kitchen Junket for the Historically-aware contra dancer. \$300 or best offer. (508) 540-4732. [Richard Payne]

From the President's Desk

Shelagh Ellman-Pearl



AS Summer once again slowly gives way to Fall, the NEFFA Executive Board begins another season of preparations for the Festival. The memories of the last Festival are fainter with the passing of summer, but in our planning we build on the experiences of past years. This year, the Board will be not only preparing for the upcoming Festival Scheduled for April 19-21, 2002 at the Natick High School, but we will also begin exploration of NEFFA's needs as we consider a possible new site. Necessity leads to this task: the Town of Natick is planning, and likely will commence, major construction at the High School.

The course is not firmly set, and we're not even sure that it will happen, as it will take a Proposition 2½ override in a town already paying for middle school construction. The leading proposal has a new science wing being constructed where the Lower Hall (and Overflow Room) exist now. The rest of the school would be renovated. (For more information, see the NHS website at <http://www.natick.k12.ma.us/>).

Things move slowly in town government, so we think the first year that construction would affect our Festival is 2004. We have had a long connection with the High School. It is hard to imagine our Festival elsewhere, for those of us who know no other site. However, in its history, the Festival has been held a number of locations, in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire. We must be prepared to move once again.

In considering a new location, we will be thinking about programmatic needs as well as all the logistics we have developed over the years. If you have ideas or suggestions, please write or email them to me at saep@charter.net. If you would like to join a search committee, we would love to have your help.

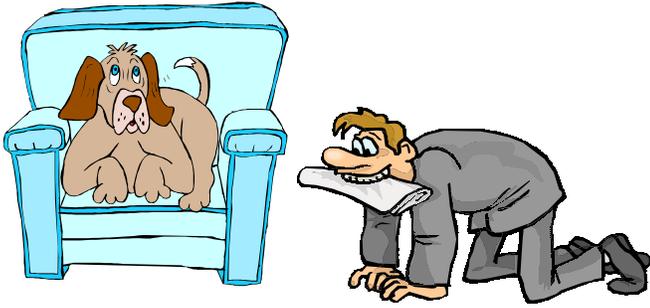
I would like to thank everyone who helped, in ways either significant or small, in making the 2001 Festival the success it was, and those who help NEFFA to run as smoothly as it does. In particular I would like to recognize those dedicated Board members and committee chairs who have recently relinquished major responsibilities. **Dan Pearl**, our outgoing Secretary, provided much organization, skill and tireless effort to that position for more than 10 years. His service to NEFFA spans many areas; fortunately, he will continue his participation in a number of other ways in the coming year (including, among other things, Newsletter editor and Webmaster). After many years of preparing the calendar for the NEFFA News, **Jacob and Nancy Bloom** have stepped down. Jacob will continue to chair the Family Dance committee. **Mary Stafford** has also

resigned her position as chair of the Crafts Room. **Ann Schunior** and **Suzanne Mrozak** are leaving their positions as chairs of the Folk Music and Song Committee. Ann, however, along with Susan Tornheim, will take over the Crafts Room Committee. **John Wojtowicz** is ending his term on the Nominating Committee, but

continuing as Chair of the Safety Committee. **Sylvia Miskoe**, a former chair of the Ralph Page Memorial Committee, has ended her service on that committee. All of these volunteers have been generous in sharing their time and expertise during their years of dedicated work for NEFFA. On behalf of NEFFA, I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation for their contribution.

Many people help prepare for and run the Festival. Some take on major responsibilities; others handle one specific function. Now, as always, NEFFA is looking for more willing people who'd like to participate in any way. If you would like to join us in this rewarding and fun effort, please write to me at the NEFFA office or email NEFFA at neffa@neffa.org. ■

The Town of Natick will likely commence major construction at the High School...We must be prepared to move once again.



Got News?

Why is this issue nearly content-free? Because no one sent in anything. Maybe it was a slow summer. Maybe you're too busy dancing. Maybe your dog ate your computer.

Well, **wake up, Nellie**, cause the summer's over! Please send ~~academic theses~~ interesting articles **anything** to the address on Page 2. Your fellow readers, and editor will thank you.

The New England Folk Festival Association, Inc. is a non-profit educational and cultural organization, incorporated under the general laws of Massachusetts to preserve folk traditions in New England and elsewhere; to encourage the development of a living folk culture; and to encourage high standards of quality and performance in the folk arts.

Membership entitles one to voting privileges, publications, and to reduced admission to selected NEFFA-sponsored activities. It is open to interested persons who support our objectives.

Annual Dues are \$7/individual (\$18 for 3 years); \$11/family (up to 2 people over 18) (\$28 for 3 years) Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Send check, payable to NEFFA, to the office. Occasionally, NEFFA shares its mailing list for a one-time use by like-minded folk organizations. If you do not want your name and address shared in this way, tell us with your membership. **Please direct all inquiries** to the NEFFA office: PMB 282, 1770 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140 or (781) 662-6710.

Interested persons can get on NEFFA's mailing list for one year at no charge. Send request with full name and address to the office.

A teenie-weenie
Resource
Guide
for dance information

The NEFFA LinkFest (www.neffa.org/~neffa/) A great jumping-off place
Boston recorded Dance Information, Folk Arts Center Folk Fone: 781-662-7476. (www.facone.org)
Vermont and surrounding areas: The Dance Gypsy newsletter (www.dancegypsy.com)
Maine: DEFFA News (www.deffa.org)
Country Dance and Song Society (www.cdss.org) 413-268-7426



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New England Folk Festival Association
PMB 282, 1770 Mass. Ave., Cambridge MA 02140
Phone: +1-781-662-6710 FAX: +1-781-662-6730
WWW: www.neffa.org/~neffa

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