

**Thanks for the Big
Surprise!**

**Conference for Dance
Organizers coming to
Ontario!**

NEFFA



NEWS

Summer 2014 – Vol. XL #2

**Minutes, minutes, and
more minutes**

**The Fabulous Festival
Lost and Found List**



Puttin' On The Dance Returns!

Exciting news... Plans are afoot for a conference of dance organizers throughout eastern Canada and the northeastern U.S. We are delighted to announce Puttin' on the Dance 2: Hands Across the Border! If you help make, or are interested in helping make dances happen in your community, this conference will bring people like you together to share and learn for a whole weekend!

SAVE THE DATE - March 20-22, 2015

Come meet other organizers, share ideas and experiences, learn new strategies for creating successful dances, and more. We'll also dance, eat, and have fun with our organizer peers!

In November 2011, the first Puttin' On the Dance convened 78 dance organizers for a conference in White River Junction, VT. POTD was packed with workshops, discussions, dancing and more! Many dance communities benefited in significant ways from this weekend, and it was clear an event like this should happen every few years. POTD2 will provide resources and opportunities for learning, sharing, and renewal! We'll strengthen networks for sustaining the dance traditions we love throughout our region.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Organizers of any American/English dance series! This includes contra, English country, community/family, square, Quebecois, Cape Breton, and other American and Canadian social dance. ALL dance organizers are welcome to attend! We will draw attendees especially from eastern Canada and the northeastern U.S.: New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, and Ontario.

HOW MUCH?

Attending this event is an excellent investment in your dance's future! Making this conference as affordable as possible is one of our priorities, but there are many ways you and your group can help pay your way including travel costs. More information on costs and registration will be available later in the summer.

WHERE?

Ottawa, Ontario

WHY CANADA?

The first POTD was co-sponsored by many dance organizations, including the Country Dance and Song Society. After supporting several conferences throughout the U.S. since 2006, CDSS recently decided it's time to help a conference happen in Canada. The Ottawa dance contra community sent three of their dance organizers to the first POTD. Those individuals and their local dance organization are thrilled to help catalyze the next conference in the Northeast Region – on their home turf. A reminder, passports are required for travel to Canada by US Citizens. Plan ahead!

QUESTIONS? email puttinonthedance@gmail.com

FOUND AT THE NEFFA FESTIVAL

Please scan this list for items you may have left behind at the Festival. If you recognize any item, please call NEFFA Lost and Found Central at (617) 299-1590 or use the online Lost and Found form at the NEFFA website (http://neffa.org/lost_and_found.html). After August 1, NEFFA will dispose of the items or donate them to charity.

Miscellaneous: Chrome guitar stand; Wire brush in leather case; Check register; Several Dance Flurry badges; Finger Splint; Lanyard (blue), "Trust Women" badge; "Sandisk" thumb drive; "Studio Bliss" badge; University of Maryland folder with Scottish music and dance material; Towel with concentric squares design

Water bottles: Many, including one which says "Champ"; "Arctic Zone" bottle with insulated cover

Umbrellas: Lots of black folding umbrellas; Smiley-face folding; Leafy-vine folding brown on white; White arcs on orange; Yellow with multicolored stripes

Jewelry/Accessories: Gold running horse pin; Necklace with small watch and heart, silver finish

Eyeglasses: Several reading glasses.

Shoes: Worn M's boots chocolate brown; W's black shoes "Comfort Plus" 2" heels; Dancing shoes leather sole "K. Gilbert"; Worn M's sneakers "New Balance" black; Slippers black with white sole

Hats: Tan Nike ball cap

Scarves/Kerchiefs: Gray silk fringed; Olive green; Purple with turquoise, white, black stripes, cotton;

Pants/Shorts: Shorts "Perry Ellis" Spandex/Polyester M; "International Stefano" black size 10 corduroys

Shirts/Blouses: Black tee with math equations S; Celtics jersey Garnett L; "Sonoma" tee S brick red V-front; "Woolrich" M's medium shirt, slate blue

Jackets: Turquoise blue shawl with black detailing; Ruby red "Neon Buddha" big silver buttons; "Nordica Sportsystem" fuchsia w. gray lining; "L.L. Bean" dark olive zipper front; "Entrant Dermizax" spider design gray with white panels; Black trench coat

Sweatshirts: Hoodie youth size dark pink with red flowers; "Aerie" small salmon; "Columbia" M rust

Sweaters: Women's "Gap" loose-knit M; Appleseed petite PXL brick red cotton sweater; "Old Navy" L wool blue horizontal stripes; "J.M Collection" size 12 brown camo; Fleece "Land's End" size 6-8 black zipper front; Felt smock beige; Fleece button-front dark blue size small



Editor: Dan Pearl **Mailing:** Dayle Watts
Editorial Review: Bill Cowie, Shelagh Ellman-Pearl,
 Lisa Greenleaf, Maureen Carey

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. **Please send all editorial submissions to neffa_news@neffa.org**. Opinions of individuals are not necessarily the opinion of the NEFFA Executive Board.

Publicize your events! Display advertising is available for qualifying folk-related organizations. For more information, contact the editor. Copyright © 2014 by the New England Folk Festival Association, Inc.

Issue	Deadline
Spring	Feb. 1
Summer	May 15
Fall	Aug. 15
Winter	Nov. 1

NEFFA Executive Board Meeting Minutes February 23, 2014

Treasurer's report (Ralph Jones)

Ralph: I received an envelope from consumer's report with a 9 cent postage and I wondered how they did that?
Dan: pre-bar coded, carrier sorted, large quantity. They take advantage of all the discounts available. Ralph: I also got a certificate from the Boston Globe for a \$50 grant is this something we should look at? Dan: the \$50 is for advertising in the Globe.

Advertising (Bill Cowie for Marge Lewin)

Bill: Marge has done a great job selling ads. She has identified an assistant to work with her next year. Linda: she really wanted to have artwork on the program book cover. She talked with Frank and our printer and it will not cost more, so she is going to work with Lisa to get the tee shirt design on the program book cover.

Children's Activity room (Susan E. Levitin)

Susan: The room is in good shape. We need clean meat trays for the room. I do *not* need any more toilet paper or paper towel rolls. Dan: I'm a little reluctant to reuse anything with raw meat on it. Harvey; kitchen supply places sell these.

Crafts (Ann Schunior)

For the first time ever we had all our places filled by Thanksgiving! We accepted an extra crafter, expecting someone might drop out and, indeed, we have has that. For the first time we are splitting a booth. Unfortunately Sweetheart flutes will not be back this year.

We are keeping the hours the same with the 9:15 close and earlier opening at 9:15. We are again not having demos, I think there was only *one* comment on the evaluations. The demo space will once again be a jamming space.

Evaluations (Shelagh Ellman-Pearl)

Shelagh: I am most interested in what specific questions you want to have on the form. I have been collecting data to help me decide about some of the questions. Robert: One of the volunteer categories you asked about is "work on fund raising" what does that entail? Shelagh: if someone marked that, the President would take note of it when the evaluations came in. Harvey: I thought we might have a question: "How many people have you introduced to the NEFFA Festival." Dan: I think it goes without saying that word of mouth is the primary way people find the Festival. Any question needs to be of interest to someone on the board. Shelagh: It used to be "how did you hear about the Festival" for everyone. I changed it to apply only to new people.

Folk Bazaar (Angela Taylor)

Bill: the price of the table and chairs has gone down. Peterson Rental is giving us a discount.

Jane Breede: Jeff from CDSS wants to rent some space and chairs for jamming there. Linda Leslie: I will get back to you after we do a walk through. Terry: there are two performance rooms in the area and jamming bleed through has been a problem.

Food (Julia Friend)

Julia: I have lined up vendors. We have everybody except the smoothies person from last year. One of the existing groups is taking on smoothies. We have a barbecue group that is willing to come inside. We are going to work with Frank to get a map into the program book. Ralph: is there a beverage vendor? Julia: almost all vendors sell drinks. Michael: it has been a tradition that we have a group doing beverages. Julia: I felt it was a bit redundant. We can assess how it works for next year. Shelagh: we were told that it was appreciated that the Girl Scout prices were low and that helped keep the vendor drink prices low. Historically, we tried to get a local group to do it. Dave: on behalf of volunteer committee, will there be someone coordinating volunteers in the cafeteria? Julia: I hope to send the volunteers to the info booth at the middle school when their shift starts and have a big sign with instructions on the wall and supplies available near it.

Information (Terry Huffaker)

Terry: We will use walkie talkies again. We will try to go with one or two phones, the current phones are not working well, the walkie talkies work well the EMTs were on our frequency last year. We are exploring some other options.

Inside Operations

Bill: who would like to go on a walk through? Linda: Please email me. We will try to do after work hours. A walk through allows us to make sure that everything is as we expect.

Inside Signs (Michael Resnick)

Michael R: everything is just ducky. I've been looking at minutes to see what needs to be done. If anyone else has needs let me know.

Outside Facilities

Dan: if anyone had issues with master operations schedule, please let me know. I will send out last year's as a draft. I'm not anticipating any problems.

Outside signs

Bill: I heard from Dayle that everything is fine.

Parking

Bill: Gene sent a report. We got permission for the remote

lot. We have managers for parking. As in the past, I will change signs as needed when parking fills up. Dena has requested parking passes. We are still looking for a parking lot cleanup chair.

Performer Sales (Harvey Cohen)

Harvey: I made one change in the performer application to say “materials that you produced or used in your session.” I will be looking for more help on the committee.

I want to have a place on the table to focus on people who have recently performed.

Printed materials/ mobile app

Bill: I talked to Frank, things are in process. Dan: the mobile app will be the same as last year. Data will be uploaded shortly. I would like spreadsheets from crafts and food and folk bazaar for inclusion in the app.

Terry: Dan, I would like you to send me the material as well. Linda: we will print the same numbers as last year.

Linda: the printed materials deadline is generally March 1. I think this is really early, but he does need materials soon.

Program (Linda Leslie)

Linda: I sent out that we are not having children’s performances this year again. It is becoming more and more challenging to get groups to perform. We have had four groups drop out. We need people to develop relationships with more groups. Being volunteers is a part of the problem. We have some very devoted groups, so dance performances is not going away, but the number of hours may be changing. There has also been a big issue with conflict with the medley. The schedule on the preliminary grid is going to change dramatically.

Today I received an email that the Colombian performer is not coming.

Lisa and I met to decide about what to do for Bob McQuillen. HS room 101 may be dedicated to Bob. We are going to ask David to have his video looping and to have some scheduled jams. We will put this in a special box on the top of the grid. We need memorabilia. Dave: I can handle working on that room. Bruce: there is a great Facebook group “Remembering Mac” Linda: Lisa really wants to keep it upbeat and not maudlin or sad for the last session. Not any special dedication. Dave: at the Flurry, the pavilion for jamming was “The Bob McQuillen pavilion” Linda: there are already some tribute sessions for Pete Seeger, and others. The feel to all of

this is good.

Publicity (Bill Cowie)

Bill: no changes from last year. Dan: do we send press releases to Homesteader and Baystate Parent’s Paper etc? Bill: no. I never heard that anyone was responding to newspaper notices. Dan: I tend to think that newcomers are more unlikely to fill out evaluations than regulars. Bill: I have also talked to people. I’m not saying there is no worth. Dan: if you send me a press release I will send them out.

Terry: Are we doing the Friday bring a friend? Dan: we got a some interest last year, but not a lot.

Sound (Michael Bergman)

Michael B: I attempted to have bidding on the sound contract. I got only one response. I don’t think we would see any reduction in price even if we had gotten additional bids. I am satisfied with Eric and am happy to have him back. He has been flexible and adapted to our needs. We are once again bringing in special contra people.

Bill: you have said you have been short of management for sound? Michael: yes, I am still looking for more people. Audrey is taking over Middle School Auditorium. Dave: talk to me about needs.

Tickets

Linda: I am in discussion with Maureen about paper stock and printers.

Volunteers

Dave: the signup is active on the website. An email is going out today. Soft closing is March 21. What kind of access do we have Thursday/Friday? Dan: we come in Thursday for setup.

Mac: Would it be OK if we put up signs at colleges looking for volunteers? All: absolutely!

Dan: I request that job descriptions need to be reviewed. Dave: I spoke to Susan about this and she will be sending me the job descriptions and we will get them out to you.

Committee Badges (Mac Sloan)

Mac: Basically these are a last minute thing, so I am going to send out spreadsheets to the exec for you to fill in around the first week in April. Last year we went to a bigger size. This helps communicate better. I understand I get the graphics from Lisa.

Terry: I am sending around last year’s cell phone list. Please make corrections.

Distance Bus (Audrey Knuth)

Audrey: The biggest concern is that it would be only one bus and you would have to commit to that time. The next step is figuring out financials, logistics and requesting RSVPs. The alternative is a massive carpooling “thing” to help people make connections. Dan: we have pointed people to Ridebuzz. Audrey: it is a challenge to get commitment. Ron: I floated the idea of a bus from Providence. I have a number of people who are interested. Dan: we can put this in with our other bus commitments. I would encourage Audrey and Ron to put their heads together. I would envision sign up online and pay via PayPal with no cancellation.

Outreach / Informational meet and greet sessions (Val Kerin)

Val: Folk music event, I found 18 area events. I didn't find any little local things. Pat: Boxboro has founders day, Kids day in N. Attleboro. Val: I didn't check with churches.

Mac: what would you do with these? Val: General outreach, a booth, or timeslot in their event or even just advertising in their materials. Ann: these are mostly places that we would have to pay for. These aren't fitting together in my mind. These are very different organizations doing very different things. Val: I figured we would consider match and availability and decide how to proceed. Bill: so we are in the early days of deciding what to pursue. Mac: each one would have to be evaluated. That's a lot of work and that is the question that is being asked: are we willing to put the work in? The Ames free library has a number of cultural events. Dan: we would like to get some specifics, the events, the distance and the opportunities. Also the date is important. May, for instance, is pretty worthless.

Val: I will send out materials to the board with a straw poll. I will also look into tent pricing. Michael R: ask Harold Henry about rentals, too.

Michael Bergman: I found out about a nice hall in Randolph. I was wondering if we would be interested in fostering a contra dance to try to build up a South of Boston community. Terry: this is the old town hall that has recently be renovated. Michael: they are interested in fostering a dance. Audrey: it is 35 minutes from Randolph to Mansfield. Dan: if this is a town facility we might work with the town recreation department. If they are interested and motivated we could provide artistic expertise. NEFFA is well connected to provide that kind of expertise. Bill: I think NEFFA would be interested if someone was willing to take this on. Linda: I think we are overwhelmed with dances. The

amount of effort is enormous. I think we are better reaching out in other ways. Just based on the time invested we are better doing one-shot deals. Ann: I would feel better if I felt there was a dance community. Harvey: if there is a contact person we could invite to NEFFA to start an outreach.

Linda: if we wanted to expend money and effort we could offer free dances before the festival nearer to Mansfield. One shot affairs for publicity.

Bob: if there is someone in Randolph who wants to do this, they could apply for a grant.

Jane: I propose an “In memorial” page be incorporated into the program. Ralph: within the past year? Jane: yes. Ann: you would need to make a distinction of people who have a connection to NEFFA and people who are important. I.e. Pete Seeger vs. Bob McQuillen. Beth: we would need someone to volunteer to manage it. Linda: what problem are we trying to solve by having a memorial page? Would it create more problems? [General discussion]

Dan: anyone is welcome to submit an obituary for NEFFA News at any time.

April 6, 2014

Membership

Bill: are you intending to do a mailing so people can send in a check? Beth: I did not intend to do so. Bill: please do. Beth:OK.

Evaluations

Shelagh: I only got one response to my request for comments. Bill said he no longer needs to know how people heard about the Festival. We will remove that question. Harold: there could be a question about “do you know of electronic media?” Dan: every question should have someone who cares about the answers to the question and is willing to present the data. Linda: I like having the zip codes. Shelagh: I did an evaluation of those last year. It is easy to look at that electronically and that is good data. Harold: I scan things from the report. Shelagh: Linda certainly reports on the program information. I want to encourage people to use the online form if possible. Dayle: Perhaps a small portable “Remember to do the evaluation” handout. Pat: do we collect emails when we sell tickets? Beth: No, but it would be easy to implement. Dan: we have a email blast system we can use. Luke: it sounds like we were trying to get people to use online media, and now we are asking for a paper list? I would rather ask people to submit their emails online. Mac: I would volunteer to do the email

transcription. I think the probability of actually capturing it that way is higher than having them remember it later. Shelagh: so let's try it this year. Terry: I do want to say that the paper evaluations have a good following. People enjoy filling them out together. Shelagh: I think we do have people who prefer to do it on paper, but it is an onerous task to transcribe them. Linda: does it say in front of each question "Please Print"? Harold: if there was a way of offering immediate feedback, could we do this? Shelagh: we have talked about that. Dan: there is some cool technology. We want information about big trends and reasons, not just thumbs up and thumbs down.

Food Committee

Julia: Everything is going along. Harold: Do all of your vendors know they must have their permits in order? Julia: yes. We don't have anyone new this year so they have all been through it. I will double check with them. Harold: I want to know about any outside groups so I can communicate with electrical.

Information

Terry: not a lot to report. I have not gotten a phone line yet, but I will shortly have the phones. We will be relying on the walkie-talkies within the school.

Inside operations (Harold Henry)

Harold: things are rolling along. We went to the selectman's meeting on Wednesday. They were remarking on how it's been seven years and that they see us as a positive force. We are getting a new electrician. I have talked to them. Bob LaConte says he knows where the cable and junction boxes are. I will need to be talking to food and crafts about what is needed. I need to be sure the new guys know what is needed. I have told them I need it in place Wednesday night. Everything else is business as usual. Bill: do we have a sense of budget and whether this will be about the same? Harold: I do not know. I assume it will be close to the same as previous years. The schools have said this is who they want to work with. If there are any early morning volunteers available I could use some to help move out/in tables and chairs.

Outside facilities

Nothing of note except that there is a bit of a personnel change at the bus company and we will be working to be sure they know our needs. I am suggesting they avoid the center of town. Dayle: Will there be a new phone number correct? Dan: yes (this is the phone number for people coming in from the T.) There are certain hours for the dispatcher, timed with the T schedule.

Outside signs (Dayle Watts)

Dayle: I read there was a performer entrance handicapped sign issue? Beth: was this the "emergency performer parking spot?" Dan: there was an issue that we might want a sign outside asking jamming to be aware of inside workshops. Harold: there is a grassy area outside of the wind that is popular.

Parking

Bill: parking passes were passed out. Linda: if you did not get them today you either didn't ask for them, or you requested they be mailed. I have signed the contract with the remote lot people.

Mobile app

Dan: mostly up as far as a program is concerned. It's been giving me some irritation, but it is only \$99/year and is pretty good for the price. Terry: sched.org, correct? Dan: yes; you can find it on the NEFFA home page.

Program

Linda: we have a final schedule. I will let Dave discuss the Bob McQuillen jam room

Dave: it should be good. We have four scheduled jams with collaborators of Bob's we will be screening "Paid to eat Ice Cream" David Millstone will be there.

Harold: the school does have a technical coordinator. We can put custom stuff on the screens in the school. We are also going to have a "Bob McQuillen story hour" as well.

Harold: do we need to have the band room cleared for the ritual teams? Linda: I can leave this until Friday before the festival.

Publicity

Bill: I have rewritten the press releases this year. You can edit them and send them out as needed. Dan: something was just printed in Norton's Wicked Local. It appeared that they were at the selectman's meeting.

Sound

Michael: we have a contract. It's been back and forth a bit, but it's been signed. We have a bit of churn in the committee this year. The new people are finding their way. We can use more volunteers. Dave: volunteer.neffa.org

Dan: is there anything at the Festival that we should be especially aware of? M: the concert halls will be the same as last year. There will be some new speaker from Eric. He is adding some fill speakers in the high school gym to fill some dead spots. The middle school auditorium is mostly the same with some smaller

monitors. The crew in the middle school will be overseen by Audrey Knuth. I expect she will do a fabulous job. High school is under command of Mike Booth who has been around for several years, with a largely experienced crew.

Linda: I would love to offer congratulations on electronically submitted sound forms. Michael: these went live last year late and we had a great response. This year they went out earlier and we had a less enthusiastic response.

Volunteers (Dave Eisenstadter)

Dave: scheduling is happening. I would like a couple of things: 1) if anyone else needs to be on the early entry list please get them to me. 2) Volunteer job descriptions need to be confirmed.

Terry: When will the table be staffed? Dave: when should it be? Beth: 3:00 Dan: this is really important. Linda: this is when all the questions happen and it needs to be someone who has the tickets and has answers.

Transportation busses

Bill: Audrey has not gotten anything together. I don't know if anyone else has the time to work on it.

Group Rates

Bill: we got a request about group rates. It has been a one-off kind of decision in the past. Robert: two years ago I contacted 54 COAs around Mansfield and it was notably unsuccessful, so I didn't follow up in later years. I think it is reasonable to have a group rate, but we need to ask "What is a group?" It would be helpful to discuss it. Mac: anyone who can organize a dozen people deserves a group. Terry: I think this is a retreat topic. Harold: I agree on that, but if there is a group this year, what kind of guidance can we give. Dan: there has been like one enquiry. I am fully happy letting Bill handle this. Perhaps we can establish a policy in the future and publicize it, but we don't have a lot of time right now.

Folk Music Series

Mac: I go out to the Pioneer Valley which is rife with our kinds of people. I would like to know if the board would be willing for me to solicit proposals for running a quarterly concert in the pioneer valley. Bob: another route would be to apply for a grant. Bill: two years ago we said we were willing to take a loss of up to \$1000. Robert: grants can decide on its own up to \$500. Beth: the board expressed interest in getting involved in folk music. Linda: I think the original reason for folk concerts was to make sure NEFFA got

out to a different group could potentially attend the Festival. If part of the goal is to try to get attendees, the idea might be to have people perform elsewhere than in the pioneer valley.

Sarah: I went to college in Maine, a ton of people who have no idea that this exists. Mac: the idea that I had did not have any relationship to getting people to come to the festival. I think it would stand on its own as a representation of our goals. Linda: but that area is incredibly strong in the tradition. Mac: I can see serving underserved markets, but there is a certain serving of our identity to having our identity on an event in a well-served area. Pat: do the people there need it? Mac: that would be the TBD of the whole proposal. Reaching out to an underserved area is a great deal more work. Jane: the town I go to in Maine has a museum with a new manager who is setting an active program. They have a nice outdoor area with a bandstand.

Mac: my ultimate motivation was that I see a hotbed which is ripe for something with the NEFFA brand stamped on it. My sense of the meeting is not strong. Beth: don't take the analytical response as a negative response. Harold: I would be interested in hearing more about where you see opportunity. Colleges are another area that may not be aware of the culture. You can work with schools. Sarah: they also have grants.

Jenna: there are dances at two of the colleges now, so they know about folk. Mac: between Brattleboro and Northampton has all kinds of stuff. Jenna: most of those folks already come to the Festival. Mac: my objective is to create more folk opportunity. Pat: is there a need? Is there interest? Run it as a decision tree. Interest + Need is an opportunity. Michael I agree that this should be a retreat topic. Folk in general has a small slice of the people in any geographic area. We would need to be finding new people rather than just cannibalizing existing folk groups. In Greenfield, for instance, it would be hard to imagine not competing with existing events. Other nearby towns, perhaps not. Harvey: If we could find groups who have a core of people looking for something new to do, and offer them an opportunity.

Terry: when I think of underserved I think of other kinds of groups. Linda: I think we should do something in Mansfield so that the NEFFA name is getting out there. Someplace like Wheaton.

Dates of the next Festival

2015 April 24-26

I didn't expect what happened on Saturday night at the NEFFA Festival.

I had been honored by NEFFA several months ago by being awarded a Life Membership, but there had been no formal ceremony as there had been with previous recipients. I got wind that Something was going to happen on Saturday during my calling slot in the High School gym; they'd rip the mic from my hands, present me with a certificate, give me an opportunity to stammer a few words of thanks, and call it a day.

Well, Terry Huffaker had something else in mind, and as I play it back, it seems more like something out a dream you'd have after eating Chicken Vindaloo at 11pm.

First, the sound of a brass band -- a marching band! Over a dozen players marched in playing "When the Saints Go Marching In". Then two friends carrying a big "Thanx Dan" banner ran in front of the stage informing the hundreds in attendance what was going on, more or less.

Then dozens of people waving fans decorated with a beautifully stylized NEFFA logo with the words "Dan Pearl gets Life Membership" streamed into the hall.

My imagination got one thing right: The mic was ripped from my hands by Lisa Greenleaf, who, along with Jo Crawford and Terry, herself, recounted my contributions to the folk scene with pretty good accuracy.

I was presented by NEFFA President Bill Cowie with one of the most attractive certificates I have ever seen: Beautiful calligraphy by R.P. Hale with gilded highlights, tastefully framed.

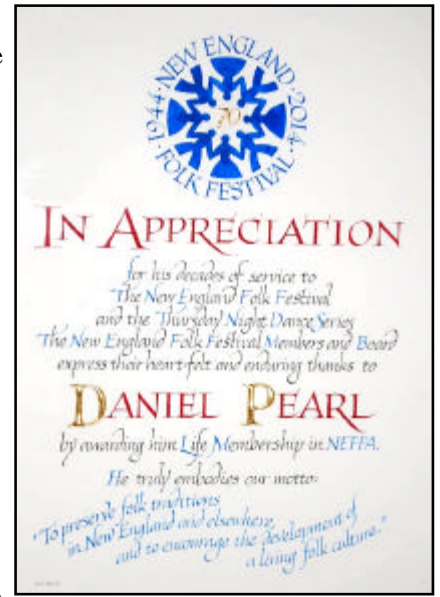
I stammered a few words of thanks (natch), and managed to collect myself to call the last dance of the session.

I thank all who participated in this grand conspiracy of embarrassment! I don't know how you planned it, in addition to putting and participating in a folk festival, but you pulled it off.

Also, thanks to Terry Huffaker, the coordinator, the instigator, the NEFFA archivist who looked at NEFFA records for the last 35 years and kept seeing my name, over and over, with all sorts of roles.

And a final special thanks to my wife Shelagh Ellman-Pearl (a former NEFFA President and Hospitality Chair, herself) and my daughter Lily Pearl, who have had to share me with NEFFA and other organizations I volunteer for.

Thank you, all! — *Dan Pearl*



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