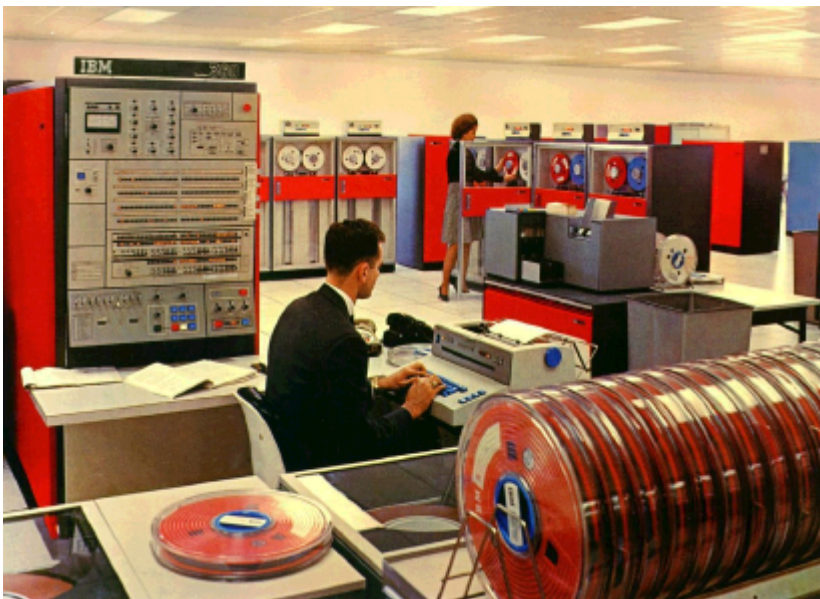


**Welcome to our
New President!**
**Internet Resources
for Callers and
More**

NEFFA NEW ENGLAND FOLK FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION NEWS

Summer 2007 – Vol. XXXIII #2

**The Lost and Found
List Returns**



Sharing Online Gives New Callers a Resource

**Chris Weiler
Goffstown, NH**

Let me take you back to the summer of 2004. I had been considering learning how to call for a number of years, and after being diverted from that goal for a while, I was ready to take the leap. Some friends were attending CDSS American Dance and Music Week at Pinewoods that summer and encouraged me to attend for the first time. Much to my delight, Tom Hinds was teaching a workshop for callers that week. What followed was a wonderful week of dancing, community, learning and friends old and new. Due to a great stroke of luck, my roommate for the week was Bob Isaacs, a wonderful caller and choreographer from New Jersey. Bob offered support, including David Kaynor's dance The Baby Rose, with walkthrough written out and prompts for music. He also provided some good natured bullying to make sure that I got up on stage during camper's night to call my first dance. Also attending the workshop was an acquaintance from the Boston area who quickly turned into a good friend and calling buddy, Seth Seeger. We both felt that the camaraderie and support from that community of callers was so wonderful that we didn't want it to stop.

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Before the week was over, Seth had suggested to me that we form an e-mail discussion group for callers. We took an informal poll of many of the callers that were attending that week at Pinewoods and received some cautious support. We talked to other callers that we knew and got some more support. We also did some research to find out if what we were looking for was already out there. What we discovered was that there are other lists, but that they were either dedicated to other forms, such as Modern Western Square Dance, or had a focus on other parts of the community. We decided that our list would be different by being focused on providing the opportunity for people new to calling to ask questions. To learn from the philosophy and experiences of callers who had been calling for years.

The people on the list are the ones that create the tone and make it a wonderful community to be

Thus was born the Callers list at SharedWeight.net. On September 19th, 2004, the invitation went out to callers, from the Pinewoods workshop and others that we knew from the Boston area. Shortly, we had a core group of roughly twenty people, new and experienced callers and others just interested in learning more. Over the two years since, I have grown as a caller and now call regularly around New England and have started my own dance series. Seth is not calling at the moment, but continues to manage the technical side of the mailing list and, with his wife, has become involved in the Morris community and the NEFFA organization. I have been attending calling workshops at Pinewoods and dance festivals and spreading the word about Shared Weight. Other people have helped spread the word as well, and the list has grown. This morning I checked and we now have 85 members from all across the country.

The feedback we get from list members has been very positive. They praise the focused nature of the discussion, the respectful tone of the posts and the


clarity of the information. Seth and I would love to take credit for it, but the reality is that the people on the list are the ones that create the tone and make it a wonderful community to be a part of. At the prompting of some of our members, we have started having informal gatherings at folk festivals (notably Ralph Page and NEFFA) to add the personal touch to our online community. While the list doesn't replace having mentors to provide us encouragement and pointers, it definitely provides a broad base of support and information for the new caller to draw upon.

Now I'm working on plans to start two new lists to be a part of the SharedWeight.net website: one list for organizers of traditional dances to share information about booking performers, hall rental, insurance and advertising and another list for musicians based more on the template of the callers list to help new musicians learn their craft. I'm asking people from both communities to contact me and express their interest at my e-mail address: chris@sharedweight.net. Once the decision is made about the new lists, look for more information on our website: www.sharedweight.net.



Let me take the opportunity to publicly thank the many people who have contributed to the success of the list and have personally helped me become an organizer and a better caller.

Happy Dancing!
Chris Weiler

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Editorial Review: Robert Golder, Shelagh Ellman-Pearl, Lisa Greenleaf, Robert Johnson	<p>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 Dan Pearl, 15 Buffalo Run, Southborough, MA 01772, or to neffa@neffa.org. Opinions of individuals are not necessarily the opinion of the NEFFA Executive Board.</p> <p>Publicize your events! Display advertising is available for qualifying folk-related organizations. For more information, contact the editor.</p>											

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From the President's Desk

Robert Golder

On April 20-22 the New England Folk Festival was held, for the first time in its 63-year history, in Mansfield, Massachusetts, at the Qualters Middle School and Mansfield High School. In our new location, we continued to enjoy the traditional folk music, dance, arts, and crafts that arise from New England's cultural history and heritage.

Logistics and planning for the New England Folk Festival are complicated tasks. They could not have been carried out without the direct involvement of Mansfield's school administrators and staff, town officials, and citizens. But the key to the festival's success is the dedication of NEFFA's board members and volunteers. During the Festival, the performers are applauded every hour, but those of you who support the effort of logistics and planning and working throughout the year are the hidden heart and soul of NEFFA.

Many residents of Mansfield attended the Festival. They were pleased to find their schools transformed, for a weekend, into a family-oriented celebration of the best of New England's traditional arts and culture. We were pleased to find Mansfield school staff, police, and officials who were friendly and helpful, facilities that were clean, spacious, and modern, and superior parking arrangements to what we had experienced in recent years. NEFFA is currently involved in discussions intended to return the Festival to Mansfield in 2008.



Hundreds of festival-goers expressed their opinions about the 2007 Festival via handwritten and e-mailed evaluations. The Board learned that many of the arrangements we made were great successes. However, no transition of this magnitude can be made without finding some issues that need to be addressed and improved.

Many festival-goers were affected by the new room capacity limitations that were imposed by town officials. Acting well within their scope of authority and responsibility under state law, the officials chose conservative limits and required us to observe them. Although many of you felt inconvenienced, we thank you for being patient about the situation. We are negotiating for less severe room capacity limits in 2008 and, regardless of the town's decision, will re-think how we make use of concert and workshop space in order to gain a better result.

We benefited from superb weather, but are planning logistics changes to ensure an enjoyable experience in 2008 regardless of weather conditions. We have already made some decisions about improving cafeteria operations and food choices. We will be looking at improvements in sound and ventilation quality in the dance venues. We'll make many other changes (some

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FAREWELLS

J. Arthur Tufts III

Reprinted with permission from the Concord Monitor

J. Arthur Tufts III, 85, died Tuesday, March 27, 2007, at Langdon Place in Exeter.

He was born Dec. 28, 1921, in Lowell, Mass., a son of the late James A. and Hazel (Weinbeck) Tufts II.

Arthur grew up in Exeter and was a graduate of Exeter High School, class of 1939. He continued his education at Plymouth State College for a short time until he enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving overseas in World War II from 1943 to 1946 and honorably discharged as a first lieutenant. Arthur received his bachelor's degree from the University of New Hampshire in agriculture in 1948.

From 1948 to 1982, Arthur owned and operated the Granite State Nurseries in Exeter, a business founded in 1921. He married Jean (Staples) Tufts on Aug. 20, 1950. In 1961, Mr. Tufts received his master's degree in education from Boston University.

Arthur served as a member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives in two separate time frames, from 1961 to 1964 and then again from 1979 to 2003. He was a member of the New Hampshire Senate from 1965 to 1971, serving as president of the New Hampshire Senate from 1969 to 1970.

He was the Rockingham County commissioner in 1970, was on the board of trustees at the University of New Hampshire from 1962 to 1966 and served as a board member of the New England Board of Higher Education.

Mr. Tufts volunteered countless hours to many organizations and other services, including the Easter Seals of New Hampshire, New Hampshire Special Olympics, the New Hampshire Senior Olympics and the New Hampshire Unified Trails Commission.

Arthur and Jean were very active folk and square dancers throughout New England, which included Arthur being a past director of the New England Folk Festival Association. Arthur and Jean called square dances at hotels throughout New England including, Wentworth-by-the-Sea, the Crawford House, Severance Lodge, New England Inn, Star Island Hotel and the Farragutt Hotel. Arthur and Jean formerly taught ballroom dancing and square dancing to many residents in Exeter.

Arthur formerly taught science at the Pentucket Regional High School in Groveland, Mass., from 1967 to 1968, and he also spent some time substitute teaching in the Exeter school system.

Ellen Elizabeth Lindell

1916 - 3/5/2007

Ellen was instrumental in beginning the First Finnish Food Table @ NEFFA in the 60's. She & her family started at Brockton High School and then moved to other locations: Tufts University, Wellesley College, and Natick High School. She prepared every year with her family to promote the Finnish culture & foods & was famous for her homemade Birch Log, Finnish Nisu (Pulla), cabbage rolls, meatballs, sima drink, etc.

She started her own Recipe Book.

Through NEFFA we made many lasting Friendships.

NEFFA became one of her extended Families.

Written by her Daughter:
Linda Ilona Lindell

Dr. Morley Leyton

Dr. Morley Leyton, of Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, died on May 20, 2007 at age 76. Morley was a friend of NEFFA, and had appeared at many Festivals as dancer and with his wife, Monique Legaré, and directed the Janosik Polish Dance Ensemble. He had just finished performing in New York City and suffered a heart attack. Dr. Leyton was a professor of statistics at the University of Washington, and in Poland.

The Festival Lost and Found List

These are the items found at the NEFFA Festival. Fill out a Lost and Found form at www.neffa.org or call 508-229-2854 (reasonable hours, please) before July 15th to claim your items. After that date, the items will be recycled or donated to charity.

<p>Shoes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M's black Rhama sneakers • M's white New Balance sneakers • Adidas sandal 	<p>Glasses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dark blue glasses case • Dark green glasses case (Fall River optician) • Many sunglasses • ½ frame reading glasses in hard plastic case • ½ frame reading glasses in silver finish case • Other misc. prescription glasses 	<p>Hats & Caps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Campagnolo cap • Floral Childrens' Place hat • Pink Scala sun hat • Irish tweed cap • Columbia SC cap • Paul Brockett Roadshow Band cap • Pink Nike cap • Green American Folk Festival cap • Byrnes & Baker leather hat
<p>Misc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecco walker drawstring bag • Cellphone belt pouch • Canon lens cap • Electronic key with Domino's fob • Pen knife • Wal-Mart key • Master padlock key • Toyota key with grey handle • Drummer's throne • Box of old 78rpm Lithuanian music records • Cobalt blue batik fabric • Instrument stand (fiddle?) 	<p>Bottles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic with Eddie Bauer holder • Green aluminum, black screw stopper • Brushed aluminum, black stopper • Smoke Nalgene with blue stopper • NH Public Radio travel mug • Rubbermaid 1 quart 	<p>Sweats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circo L-12 grey zipper front top • Navy Kids 12/14 top zipper front: Nametag "Chris Gonzales"
<p>Toys & Kid stuff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dragon finger puppet • Cow toy 	<p>Jewelry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earring: vine with light blue stones • Multicolored beaded bracelet • Smooth silver rope necklace • Large hoop earring • Strange frail silver chain bracelet • Octagon charm 	<p>T-Shirts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gray S polycotton World Series 2004 • Blue "Wooden Boat"
<p>Towels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green bath • Grey hand 	<p>Pants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prospirit L 10/12 navy w. white strip synthetic blend • Columbia M polyester black • Linden Hill black 10 	<p>Shirt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuschia knit no label • Red LL Bean knit M • Faded Glory large dark green long sleeve • Slate blue button down • Cotton multicolored vertical stripes button down • Ashley green 9/10 button-down • Most Wanted light blue M button down • Black Perry Ellis M • Russ Berens brown rayon
<p>Sweaters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen Kane M tan silk/cashmere • Cotton Emporium olive M fishnet • Mercer and Madison white with dots 		<p>Jackets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windbreakers Sports green Cape Cod nylon

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 \$20/individual, \$38/family (up to 2 people over 18). Contributions beyond these basic amounts are welcome and 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, or via email: neffa@neffa.org

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

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highly visible, others behind-the-scenes) to ensure your enjoyment.

There are four things that you can do to help make the 2008 New England Folk Festival a resounding success. First, help us build NEFFA's membership base. If you're already a NEFFA member, be sure to renew your membership, or encourage a friend or family member to join. Second, please volunteer some time in preparation for or at the 2008 Festival. NEFFA is an all-volunteer festival, and your participation is essential to its success. Third, plan to bring with you a friend or family member who has never attended the Festival before. Fourth, please visit www.neffa.org often for the latest updates on planning for the 2008 Festival, plus our other programs such as the annual Ralph Page Dance Legacy Weekend in Durham, NH, and the Family Dance Series and Thursday Night Contra Dance Series in Concord, MA. Thank you for helping NEFFA to create joyful celebrations of music, dance, and crafts for the New England folk community.

Bob Golder
President
New England Folk Festival Association
Melrose, MA



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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.neffa.org

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