

**Terry Huffaker takes  
the Presidential reins  
of NEFFA!**

**The Festival Lost and  
Found List!**

# NEFFA



# NEWS

Summer 2015 – Vol. XLI #2

**Hours of Minutes**

**Miscellaneous Filler!**

## **A MESSAGE FROM THE (NEW) PRESIDENT OF NEFFA**

Writing from NEFFA NEFFA land:

A word when used over and over loses its meaning. Try saying “elephant” to yourself for at least a minute. But I need to say thank you, *gracias, merci*, much obliged, *danke sehr* to all the volunteers who worked hard before, during and after to produce this year’s Festival. Thank you to all the folks who have made the Festival a part of the fabric of their lives. Thank you to those who dance, who lift up their voices in song and who craft.

Maybe you were one of those stopping on the busy byways to post signs to the Festival or providing muscle schlepping tables and chairs in and out for the night or handing the sound curtains somehow above the basketball nets. There are so many volunteer jobs that need doing. Thank you to those who join with membership, for they affirm that what we are doing is worth supporting. Thank you to those who give a little more, whether in time, money or word. Thank you to those who stop a committee member in the dance and pat us on the back. We all appreciate being appreciated. To Bill Cowie and the outgoing Board members I offer gratitude. You gave of your time and energy with heart and determination to make sure our “Festival table was set for company”.

Part of this community is a group that is always mentioned but rarely as “volunteers” – the performers, the musicians, the teachers, the presenters, the story tellers. They are unpaid and come of their own free will. They come as part of us. Both sides of the microphone come on their own time, on their own funds, on their own energy and on their own heart.

The result is a fusion of small communities that come together to renew themselves, to discover one another and to form a bigger circle dance. There is no one in the center. We don’t have spotlights, sponsored stages, skywriters or advertising banners. Think sometimes about what you DON’T see at NEFFA. Those who advertise in the program book also dance, craft and sing and sleep with us. We are a small-“f” Folk Festival, where everyone is folk.



As keeper of the archive flame I have seen (actually read) most of where NEFFA has been (literally and figuratively). Over the past 71 festivals, two forces are present. One is change – this year there was a drumming circle, an English Country Dance medley and blacksmithing (my spell fixer wants to make it **smiting** – certainly true). In recent years, changes have included more contra medleys and introductory classes to different kinds of dance - English Country, Squares, International Folk and others. Some years ago, NEFFA moved from Natick to Mansfield.



The second force is resistance. Some people don't change. Long memories of “we tried it before and...” And some things shouldn't be changed. The haven't-seen-you-since the last NEFFA hug. The jam groups trying things out. The dancer's Saturday/Sunday afternoon “boy-do-my-feet-hurt” shuffle. The excitement and exotic costumes of the dance group performance groups. The cakes that the Lithuanians bring to the table that ultimately get split and shared by folks sitting around the cafeteria tables.

But it is the tension between these two that generates the force to keep us moving, looking for the exciting new and keeping the bonds that bind us. It is this balancing act that the Board and the committees work on to keep us upright and sailing on.

Many of you already know me from years of dancing, whether Contra, Square, ECD or International. I have been heard laughing and squealing for joy on the dance floor. The smiles and warmth that extends around the dancers on the floor is nothing less than magic and it often finds a means of expression in my voice. A neighbor talked me into going to my first Festival in the early 1980's– that wonderful word of mouth that has brought so many of us to attend. That neighbor now has grandchildren and they probably need a child sized NEFFA T-shirt next year! I accepted the Presidency after working with some very talented and committed folks on the Board. I see creativity alive in the

crafts, the song and the dance. I see creativity alive in meeting the challenges of running an organization, a festival, a dance.

The Festival closed this year with the traditional “merry-go-round” in the main hall and the “closing sing around” in room 117. I hope you may have been one of the folks who danced/strolled/limped through the hallway full of jammin' musicians and their sweet melodies on your way out the door. All to the tune of new-made memories and See you next year...

Terry Huffaker  
President NEFFA

	<b>Editor: Dan Pearl</b> <b>Mailing: Dayle Watts</b> <b>Editorial Review: Terry Huffaker, Shelagh Ellman-Pearl,</b> <b>Lisa Greenleaf, Maureen Carey</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Issue</th> <th>Deadline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Spring</td> <td>Feb. 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Summer</td> <td>May 15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fall</td> <td>Aug. 15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Winter</td> <td>Nov. 1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Issue	Deadline	Spring	Feb. 1	Summer	May 15	Fall	Aug. 15	Winter	Nov. 1
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# Found Items at the NEFFA Festival

**This is it! The list of found items at the NEFFA Festival! Please check the list for your missing items. If any look familiar to you, let us know online by visiting the Lost and Found page at [neffa.org](http://neffa.org) . Items not claimed by September 1st will be donated to charity.**

## Shirts

- LL Bean, dark green, long sleeve, M's shirt, cotton
- Golf brand M's short sleeve, synthetic, medium, black
- Black T shirt, lightweight
- New NEFFA T, initials JLH, W's large
- T shirt. Polo Jeans Ralph Lauren
- T shirt, brown with golden eagle design, large
- V-neck shirt, white
- V-neck shirt, JKY by Jockey, medium, off-white
- Basic Editions, green, long sleeve, large
- Basic Editions, medium, blue/white plaid

## Jacket/Coat

- Land's End, large, dark blue. Gloves in pocket.
- Atlas Epsilon, XL wooly coat

## Sweaters

- Women's small, buttons, black, lightweight
- Gray, Aeropostale, small, floral pattern
- Hooded, multicolor, large, Empyre Surplus Company
- Nike, large, blue with white striped trim
- Vest, black fleece lining, Timberline, large

## Hats

- Black skull cap
- Columbia large hat
- Hard Rock café cap
- "Just Do It" Nike sports fishing cap

## Sweatshirts

- Reebok hoodie XS, dark purple stripes on white
- Fleece zipper front small, dark turquoise, The North Face
- Banana Republic, 100% cotton, black
- Hoodie: MCHAEL, black, zippered
- Hoodie, Red with gray interior, Under Armor, YXL
- Hoodie, "Hollister" XS. Name: Varnikna.M
- Hoodie, dark blue, Champion, medium
- Old Navy fleece, pink with white trim, large
- Under Armor, gray with blue lettering, Youth large
- Hoodie, Under Armor, "Xaverian" blue, L
- Hoodie, Champion, XL
- Hoodie, Boston Celtics, large, Adidas.com

## Accessories

- Dark purple long scarf
- Blue scarf with long fringes
- Hankie: Red with survival hints in white
- Hankie: Orange
- Hankie: Green with white design

## Jewelry

- Bracelet, gold finish
- Peace symbol earring

## Musical Accessories

- Music stand, collapsible, black
- Music stand, collapsible, black, in case

## Miscellaneous

- Lime-green change purse
- Camouflage colored key on "Sports Authority" lanyard
- Small key marked "BIKE"
- Fuchsia box 7"x7"x6" with handle
- Knurled knob for K&M equipment
- Compass on carabineer
- Auto key with round black head
- Lens cap
- Many water bottles
- Roll of 4" wide Velcro (hook)
- Black nylon bag "Eagle Ray Traders" with hooded purple sweater inside
- Many dance shoes
- Gap flip flops.
- Fabric bag with Mexican skull design
- Land's End slippers, black,
- Sneakers Nike youth 10C, gray with white rubber
- Mesh bag "Salsera"

# Secretary's Report

## October 19, 2014 NEFFA Board Meeting Minutes.

### President's Report

I talked to Harold about cost and budget and talking to the school. I assisted him in putting together a message for the school hopefully we can get something worked out this year.

### Treasurer's Report

We are in pretty good financial shape.

### Grants Committee

The activity for the past year is in the paperwork on the table. We still have one item under consideration. We would like reauthorization for the coming year of up to \$2000. Dan: I thought we had a standing policy on that so you don't need annual authorization. Shelagh: We also had a period with no money? Bill: yes, but we lifted that the following year.

### Program Committee

Bill: Linda couldn't make it today but she reported. They have received over 400 applications, the deadline is past, but they are still accepting dance performance and ritual. We are going to try an afternoon performance on both Saturday and Sunday allowing large groups to use the space in the evening.

### Archives

Terry: Mark Ward has found a whole bunch of recordings his father made in the 40s 50s & 60s. It is on a strange recording media, some kind of paper backed film. This is from the stage and you can hear the musicians talking.

### Food

Luke: It has been discussed that we may want to change some things. The foot traffic is a bit muddy and people are could be happier with the choices. Food trucks are an option. This would require a site reorganization. Perhaps to use one of the parking lots next to the building. Parking is tight, so I know we will need to discuss this. Terry: are the trucks making enough money to perceive this in a positive way. Bill: How much competition do we want? Luke: I know we charge \$400 vendor fees. I don't know what the vendors make. Bill: Each organization is a community based organization (like Lavender or the Lithuanians) or a commercial organization. There are always complaints about not enough choices. Robert: I'm wondering what sort of food trucks might be invited? Greek? Or Hot Dogs? I think I would be more in favor of ethnic than just general construction site truck. Luke: we would be opening this up to "food trucks." There are organizations who coordinate fleets of food trucks. Ralph: What is your motivation for doing this? How will the Festival be better? Luke: my impression is that people are unhappy with the current offerings. Increasing the variety and possibly moving it to a different location at the Festival since the locations last year caused some issues. Ralph: so you put it not in the cafeteria? Luke: as I understand it we have had two locations: the cafeteria and the lawn between the buildings. Dan: we also had a vendor near the Morris dancers one year. We also have the Bistro. Luke: I would not move things out of the cafeteria or the Bistro. I am floating the idea of moving the outside area into one of the parking lots. Dayle: how did the food truck that came do? Ralph: how much room do we have? Dayle: the far parking lot would be best, not behind the school. Unless you are between the school. Shelagh: are you suggesting that all the outside vendors be moved? The Hot dog and Thai, and pizza? Luke: I don't think we want 5 food location, so yes, I am recommending moving the outside vendors. Bruce: the Hotdog and Thai currently use power. Dan: the tradeoff is exhaust and noise. You need to think about

programming, too. Bill: there were a bunch of them in Dewey Square and I have not noticed a roar of noise. These are not the old construction site trucks but self-contained mini-restaurants. Harvey: I think this could be a replacement for the Bistro. Bill: the Bistro was trying to get food into the High School. Terry: many people who write complaints about food are remembering the old days of a variety of ethnic foods. Even just a few years ago I had a vendor who was upset that another vendor was selling hot dogs. It would be very worth your while to talk to the vendors we currently have. Bill: Evaluations always have complaints about food. Even people who were never at Natick. These are not just hot dog vendors, but people trying to provide quality food.

Susan: Are there restaurants local to the area who would participate? There are very good restaurants local to the community. Bill: when we first came to Mansfield we made an effort to contact the restaurants in the area, with very little response. Susan: we were not known to them at the time. Shelagh: I wouldn't just rely on local. One of the complaints has been that local restaurants have not been ethnically diverse. I hear the comments from people who remember when we had multiple ethnic options: Turkish, Scottish, Indian, Philippine, Chinese, German, and Hungarian. To the extent that there are vendors who could bring in some diversity. You need to be careful not to undercut the people who have been with us for a long time to new outside people with no commitment. Dan: the situation has changed from Natick. At Mansfield lots of people are bringing food. That is the audience we would like to win back. If we could list new ethnic groups it might bring some of these people back. Susan: North Attleboro has a great little Greek market. Jon: people need to packages list of who we currently have and what is available in food trucks. Luke: the list of last year is in the program. Before we go ahead with food trucks I need to know if people are comfortable with taking over some parking area. Bill: so will we give up some parking area to move foods off the lawn and onto the pavement. Luke: we had a problem about where they were last year. Dan: yes, we need to keep the crowds from the walkway area. The long bus drop off area is another option. The other end could easily be used for food trucks. Luke: the busses would still need to have room. So people would access from the school side? Dan: yes. And they could be an eye catcher.

Harvey: Anything would need to be approved by the fire department. Robert: I'm pretty sure that any food truck could meet Mansfield's food safety standards. Dan: the benefit of a food truck over local restaurants is that they bring their own prep area which adds no pressure to the prep area. Dayle: the school does expect to do some grading and reseeding after our event. Last year was unusually wet. Bill: it sounds like we can solve the space issue. Are you willing to move ahead? Luke: I will plan on the assumption that we can find a space and look at truck vendors to expand on current offerings without having multiple outside areas and perhaps getting rid of the Bistro. Dan: I'm not sure we have consensus on the Bistro. Luke: I was under the impression that there was an issue with the Bistro. Dan: yes, that was me. The food was expensive and lousy. Shelagh: what if you had two vendors in that space? Bill: I believe we would like the Bistro to continue. Sushi?

## **Old Business**

### ***Folk Music Plan***

Jon: We are hoping to move forward with a NEFFA concert at Club Passim. Mark: Back in June I recommended that I would like to get involved. I looked at the numbers from your last venue which seemed pretty successful. Club Passim felt like the next step. We have reserved Saturday and Friday March 20 on hold with Club Passim. Passim has an extensive list of places where they promote. This helps people be responsive. I have a big press list. Dan: flyer/poster? You will need to think about that. And we have newsletter opportunities, too.

Bill: I want to return to Ralph's earlier motion. Shelagh: **I move that we table this resolution until the next meeting.** There are a number of things in this. **Dan seconds.** Bruce what are the consequences of not signing this? Ralph: we take our business away from Fidelity. Dan: but we do need to look at it before signing it. Shelagh: we really should read it. **Motion to table carries.**

## **New Business**

### ***2015 prices***

Bill: the deadline is publicity? Dan: yes the flyer at the end of the year. Dan: I think we need to find out things about expenses and the financial negotiation with the school. Ralph: we need to be sure Harold gets the message as well. Bill: So we need more information about sound, town costs, and insurance.

## **Retreat Follow-up**

### ***Mansfield Outreach***

Pat: I tried to call the Y, in Mansfield, North Attleboro and Foxborough which are all a group. I have not gotten any calls back. I will try again. Is there any kind of informational piece that I can send via email? Dan: you can direct them to our website. Terry: we have the brochure Alex made for the Youth Dance Weekend. Bill: I thought that was dance oriented. Pat: I would like to place a call and follow up with email. I would like to see if I can get some type of result.

### ***First timer guide***

Jane: this was a wide open question about how to present things. I broke it down into categories. Newcomers get overwhelmed with choices. I have two layouts. It also includes a small outline of the school so they would be aware of that idea that there are two schools. Large areas of the schools are Gym, Cafeteria and Auditoriums. There could be some discussion of the "Watch" and "Listen" sections. This can be reviewed once the program has come out. Susan: I like it. One thing I was thrilled to learn about my first year was the nap room. Jane: that could be easily added. Terry: it seems to be missing the intro dance areas. Jane: I was concerned about that.

Dan: so we are assuming that first timers are new to dancing? Ralph: so these people have gotten to the Festival somehow, how did they do that? Jane: This sheet is for people who have walked through the door. Susan: After people get here, it's a lot going on. The program book is chocked full of information. It's not immediately

obvious how to filter that information and find what you need. This is for those people. This is a nice start. It is not all the information but a place to start all in one place so people can absorb it in steps. Jane: I was aware I needed to put on the Information Table. Susan: I like that these are clean and spare and easy to understand.

### ***Insurance***

Susan: everywhere I did shows I was required to have insurance that covered accident, injury in my booth. I was surprised that NEFFA does not have this and I am concerned that this is a potential liability to NEFFA. Shelagh: so we could require all our vendors to get this. Susan: yes. Bill: Folk Bazaar. Jane: there are two or

three tables who have come for years who would drop out. Bill: some of these vendors don't make much. Susan: it is worth asking our insurance agent about this. Is there a difference between a booth, a table or a food vendor? Dan: I know that our insurance only protects NEFFA, it does not protect the vendor. Susan: you are sure our insurance covers us? Dan: yes. Susan: I was surprised that almost every venue I worked in this past year required insurance. Shelagh: people who sue usually go for the deepest pockets. Bill: we did ask the insurance company about this in the past. Jane: the vendors do have to sign a liability release. Shelagh: it is worth revisiting. Bill: I will schedule a meeting with the insurance broker.

### ***Drum Circle***

Bill: I have been in contact with Dave Currie who does drumming circles. I talked to him about him jointly putting on a drum circle in close proximity to the Festival. a

## **January 4, 2015**

### ***Treasurer's Report***

Our insurance comes due in January. Our insurance payment is paid in December. The Scout House apparently has a new lawyer who wants a certificate of insurance immediately. I don't have a solution for that. This is never been a problem before. Bill: So they are good for now. Dan: They are going to get a certificate faxed to the Scout House tomorrow.

## **Festival Committees**

### ***Parking***

The parking lot properties were transferred and the new manager needs to approve our use. Gene has contacted them several times. He replied some weeks ago that he will get to this later. Hopefully we will hear back soon. We need to be aware that we may need to scramble if this changes. Dan: the main issue is the flyer. The earlier we get this done, the better. Bill: so if they fail to get back to us we will need to find another candidate.

Robert: January is apparently the first time we can get the dates confirmed by the school. Bill: the contract is renewed the beginning of the year. Harold: we get the contract in January. It is pretty much pro-forma. I also communicate with Bob LaConte's admin.

### ***Folk Bazaar***

Angie: Everyone seems to be on board. Bill: are rates for tables going to be the same? Harold: I have not gotten a communication but it should be the same.

### ***Crafts***

Ann: Everything is going well. We still have a few openings. If you know of someone (no jewelers) who would be a good match. Harold: last year we had a small free-standing changing room because a vendor brought one. Can you look into what it would cost to provide one? Harold: we can do poles and cloths for a privacy area.

### ***Folk Concert***

Jonathan: NEFFA night at Club Passim. March 20, 8-11. We are confirmed for the date. They will charge usual Passim Ticket price which will be split between Passim and the performers. 15-20 minute performing slots. We have a lineup. We have 6 performers a variety of styles.

### ***Food***

Luke: I am a bit behind schedule. I have changed the process a bit. My understanding is that we charge certain amounts and I am trying to find out why. Bill: Julia would be able to help with that. We are trying to be equitable. Dan: I believe the vendor prices were historically based on NEFFA overhead. A free-standing food truck would use less of our resources and I would think it should be less. Luke: I also see the electrical prices are going up. I don't see any explanation. Bill: it has simply been what is equitable. Ann: Crafts sets their booth fees based on comparable fairs. We look at places like the Lowell Folk Festival, etc. It would be interesting to look at food booths. I know at Old Song the food booths are charged a percentage. Luke: is the deposit strictly a check or can they pay electronically? It seems the Festival overall is accepting online. Can this be extended? Dan: yes, we could set up a PayPal button on a private page. Ann: The crafts room has also wondered if we could use online payment. Luke: for outside tent locations we provide space and hookups but not tables, correct? Harold: tent location is subject to school approval. I need to know if there are changes. It mostly revolves around fire and emergency access. Last year we had lawn damage as well. Keep me in the loop. Luke: I'm guessing our expansion will be food trucks. Once I have applications I will let you know.

### ***Volunteers***

Dave: I am going to send out queries about what people need. I will also send out last year's descriptions for any corrections.

### ***Sound***

Audrey: Eric Kilburn is hired for this year. Dan Richardson is not available. Michael is working on it. Robin Humes will be doing sound notebooks again. Linda: This is a vital role and it is thrilling to have her back. She keeps track of the forms and delivers the books to the room. Dave: It also includes volunteer schedule. Bill: you are doing sound volunteers and Susan is doing the rest of the volunteers. What about the role Don Veino did? Audrey: we are looking for a volunteer for that.

### **Old Business**

#### ***First Time Guide***

Jane: I can't bring it up to date until I have the program. Michael: would the content be good on the wall? Jane: it's not designed for that. We can decide after we see it. Harold: are we going to have the Mobile app? Can we get a copy of this for there? Susan: the kids don't carry paper. Jane: I have two different styles.

### **New Business**

#### ***Crafts Demo***

Carl: I am new here. My understanding that my function is to see if we can get outdoor craft demos. This would be things that are loud, messy etc. Potters, blacksmiths, yarn dying, etc. Lessons or demos. Bill: we should start small. Perhaps with one blacksmith. Would you do this? Carl: Yes, I would be glad to do this out back behind the buildings. This is not next to the food. Harold: behind the gym? I would be willing to work with you and the schools concerning safety. Carl: I have done many public demos and would work with you on that. Ann: I think this is a great idea. I do hope however that this doesn't end up being an alternate set of crafts booths. Carl: a potter would be good. Whatever we can get. Mac: the benefit of that location is you can



drive to it. Harold: the school and the fire department need to have their say. Robert: rain or shine? We need to know that to put it in the program. Susan: so this year we are trying it out and we can then evaluate it how it went. I would love you to come up to the kid's room and do a hands on discussion. Carl: It would be better to bring the kids to the demos. XXX: would you need volunteers? Carl: probably just an extension cord. Harold: perhaps a safety person. The room monitor role. Just someone for crowd control. Carl: if you have spare bodies, help would be nice, but it is not really necessary. Linda: being a devil's advocate. You may want a backup plan in case the school doesn't want fire. Perhaps we could have a different "first demo" type idea. Harold: knowing what we went through for the open flame food booths, I don't think this is any worse. Dan: does it damage the ground? Carl: a smear of ash perhaps, but nothing more. Dan: I would advocate for NO audience participation at all. Carl: my own students. Susan: I would be happy to teach spinning and I know a beginner's spindle is about \$15. Would it be ok to buy a few? Bill: your budget would cover that. Bill: are you talking about a long period of time? Carl: I don't want to be out there for 12 hours on Saturday, but I would be glad to be out for quite a while. Ann: Ralph asked me if I am comfortable with this in terms of booth fees. I am totally comfortable with this. Demos are very different. Bill: so for the first year would you only demo, not sell? Carl: I would gladly have my table of stuff, but it is not necessary. Mac: as viewer, potential customer and friend of Carl I would like him to be able to purchase. Susan: selling only during the demo but not at other times. Bill: sounds like it's a go, Carl!

### ***2016 Dates***

Linda: How are we doing with dates for 2016? We advertise in the program book when the Festival happens. Dan: there is a file in the Google doc about the Festival. We recognized the conflict at our last meeting. Harold: I will bring it up with Bob LaConte. We have done the switch at Mansfield. Leslie: I want to be sure the school is well aware, well in advance.

### ***Nominating committee***

Mac: we have had a couple of good meetings. We would like to entertain suggestions from the board for directors and nominating committee and presidency. Please contact us with suggestions.

## **February 8, 2015 NEFFA Board Meeting Minutes**

### **Secretary's Report**

Ralph moved to accept minutes from January 4, 2015, Terry seconded. Motion carried. Terry moved to accept minutes from November 23, 2014, Luke seconded. Motion carried

### **Festival Committees**

#### ***Activity Room***

We are in good shape. We have one potential snag: I somehow didn't notice that my niece was getting married the weekend of the Festival. I have gotten a friend to cover. What are the choices of setup for the room? Harold: the bins get there about 1:00 on Thursday. Susan: so if she needed to do Thursday night that would be OK? Harold: yes. Thursday is the big setup night and any time after 2 is fine. Harold: the Thursday setup crew may be able to help as well. Linda: I was under the impression that the activities room was not open on Friday night, so that is also an option. Susan: yes, I will mention that to her as well.

## ***Food***

Luke: I sent out an email saying I would like to move the food trucks into the parking lot. We got a Caribbean goat curry vendor for the Bistro, so we are not giving that up. We still have people in the cafeteria. My main issue is the question of moving the outside vendors. Linda: that parking lot in front of the High School is not the handicapped lot. It is close to the auditorium stage. Luke: what about electrical? Harold: if there are going to be 5 trucks we will need to know what the load is. We may want to charge extra for that. Bill: I am surprised to hear they need electrical setups. I thought they were self-contained. Luke: some of our outdoor vendors are tents. A lot of them would like to have it. Harold: I am not sure how we want handle it. We may want to rethink the power issue. The Google doc I shared has the breakdown of who wants power. Harold: I will look at that. Harold: there is at least one Food vendor without liability insurance. Luke: the application I inherited says we do not require it. Dan: we are protected to whatever extent we are culpable. That won't cover them. Bill: we have never required it. Susan: is the East lot a fire lane? Harold: no. Susan: would that impact the performer entrance? Linda: no. Jenna: we need to be considerate about grass and rain. Bill: I will be meeting with Bob soon to discuss the damage to the grass. Luke: my inclination is to move all of the outside food to the East side lot. Jenna: I think it is worth trying. Linda: I think I am hearing Luke is planning on NOT having food trucks near the Middle school. I would be hesitant to have them there because there would be nowhere for people to eat in case of bad weather. Linda; also we will need to have someone making sure no one is bringing food into the high school. Susan: I think if we put all of the food in the East lot, it would change the use a lot in case of bad weather. Harold: we have some 10x12 tents which are impractical for tables. They are not sturdy. We used them once or twice but stopped because they were not sturdy enough.

Bill: In the past we have had more inside food vendors. Luke: we only lost one from last year/ I am looking at the horseshoe lot. Could we put some trucks there? Luke: I thought we had decided not to do that. We could put trucks or tents there. We need to make sure it does not interfere with the shuttle busses. Susan: I would only do that in case of bad weather. I like the idea of the east lot for the main outside food. Luke: so in good weather, all in east side lot, if weather is bad, two self-contained trucks to take front spots. There's no electrical in the horseshoe lot? Harold: it would be problematic to run cables there. Luke: I could put Nutmeg Concessions there and see if someone else can go without. Harold: we have had some vendors who have been down by the middle school are you going to move them? Dan: the queue for those vendors was blocking the walkway. If you look 90 degrees, there is a wide walkway that seems to be fertile ground for booth replacement. If you put the sausage guy there it would move his queue. Luke: we are still talking about moving everyone to east side lot in good weather. We have a contingency for bad weather to move people to the horseshoe lot. Bill: I think because of the electrical setup.

Ralph: has anyone considered the space behind the schools? Dan: it is not visible. Harold: the back lot is used for vendor deliveries, custodians and committee parking. Harold: I need to be involved because of the electricity issue. Luke: so Harold and I will come up with a plan and you are all going to agree.

## ***Evaluations***

Shelagh: I've been listening in. I sent an email about evaluations. Please send my be email any thoughts in the next week or so.

## ***Program***

Linda: program is in a very happy space. The grid is now up for public viewing and appreciation. New this year: two of the dance performance groups are also doing participatory dance sessions. Jacob Bloom with colonial dance and a traditional classical Indian dance session.

### ***Nominating Committee***

Mac: we are working on one more meeting. We have a pretty good list. We may have more people than slots, but that may be evaporating. We still need to contact a couple of people. We will send out an email to the exec so people can comment. Linda: I am getting concerned about timing, generally the candidate statements go into the next NEFFA News. Can you speak to the timing? Mac: we will do it. Bill: Dan you need candidate statements beginning of March. Dan: can Mac share any names? Mac: I think it is appropriate to have the committee meet one more time. I would rather not open that box.

### **Old business**

#### ***Mansfield Outreach***

Susan: people do not call back. I think outreach needs to be through existing connections. There is only so much chasing I can do. Bill: we had an idea. Jon: I have not yet gotten in touch with the Mansfield orchestra, but I will do that. The idea is to come in and teach a workshop and a couple of tunes by ear with one of their orchestras and explain the kind of music played at NEFFA. I will follow up on this today.

### **New business**

Bill: I had hoped we would have met with the folks at Mansfield, but the weather has intervened. We have another meeting this week. I understand we do not have a handle for our budget. We want to talk about the drumming event and to discuss the food issue. Any other ideas that should be on our agenda. Linda: we always ask the school to do the contract earlier in the game. Also, the Dates for 2016 are not going to be the usual dates. Carl: crafts demo out back. Bill: you want us to run it past them? Carl: I was under the impression you wanted to talk to them about it. Bill: especially blacksmithing. Luke: The vendor lot was a proposed food truck location, I will keep the blacksmithing demo in mind. Dan: how will people find that demo? Beth: by the smoke. Carl: I assume we will have it on the grid. Linda: we can have a specialty box with the annual meeting, blacksmithing and the drumming session.

### ***Neffa night***

Jonathan: I put out press information. At this point we should start getting the flyers into the hands of people who are interested. Bill: is it time to create a Facebook event? Jonathan: yes. The performers seem excited. Bill: it looks like a good lineup. Dan: do we need any people to be at the event? Membership? Literature? Jonathan: I hadn't thought about that. I don't want to play a visible role in running the show. I don't think we need more than one person there. Dan: give some thought to it. Larry Jennings would have said it is good that we are all in it together. Linda: I am going to second what Dan said. Jonathan: It would be helpful to have someone there.

# Traveling? English Dance Weekend in Georgia!

English Country Dance Atlanta is proud to announce the 20th Annual English Country Dance Weekend, "Fandango!" will be held on September 25-27, 2015. DANCE LEADER: BRAD FOSTER . BAND: FOXFIRE (Daron Douglas & Karen Axelrod). Location: Decatur Recreation Center, 231 Sycamore Street, Decatur, GA. Decatur is a wonderful Atlanta suburb, (accessible from the airport by MARTA subway) with a variety of hotels and restaurants within walking distance. The registration form is available for download at our website:  
<http://www.ecdatlanta.org/fandango2015-dance-weekend>

We also have a list of hotels available for download at the website as well. We hope to see you in September at FANDANGO! 2015 !!!!!

## Music of the Batchelder Orchestra, Frankfort, Maine

On July 11 at 1 PM, the Waldo Pierce Reading Room in Frankfort Maine will host a concert and discussion of the history of fiddling, fiddle making, and dancing in the lower Penobscot River region. Emeline Dehn-Reynolds will play fiddles made by Frankfort luthiers Edwin R. Batchelder (1846-ca. 1910) and Alvah M. Batchelder (1879-1968), while Peter Yarensky will demonstrate a piano style typical of the region during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The style and repertoire of the Batchelders was highly influential as far away as the Monadnock region of New Hampshire. This was especially true at the Nelson NH dance, where fiddler and Frankfort ME native Albert Quigley played his mentor Alvah Batchelder's repertoire for many decades.

Admission is free; all donations will benefit the library. For more information visit [www.batchelderviolins.com](http://www.batchelderviolins.com) or email Emeline at [batchelderviolins@gmail.com](mailto:batchelderviolins@gmail.com).



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New England Folk Festival Association

PO Box 2789, Acton MA 01720

[www.neffa.org](http://www.neffa.org)

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