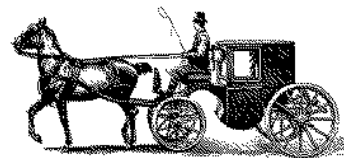


The Country Dancers of Rochester and
the Central & Western New York Region of the Jane Austen Society of North America
present our 15th

Jane Austen Ball Weekend



Saturday & Sunday
April 29 & 30, 2023
Rochester, NY



The festivities begin on Saturday with a Ball practice session in the afternoon and an experienced English dance in the evening. On Sunday, we offer another practice in the morning and a Regency period ball in the afternoon. The setting is a roomy, elegant, high-ceilinged ballroom, with many dancers in costumes reminiscent of Jane Austen's time, period English dances, and some modest refreshments.

Tom Amessé, Dancing Master

Music by Shandy

Dances will be chosen from the following list:

Auretti's Dutch Skipper	Fair Quaker of Deal	Money in Both Pockets
Aye Me	Halfe Hannikin	Old Wife Behind the Fire
Barbarini's Tambourine	Hambleton's Round-O	Rosamond's Pond
Braes of Dornoch	The Haymakers	Weekend in Wilton
Chestnut	Hole in the Wall	Well Hall
Dargason	Mr. Beveridge's Maggot	Whiskers

Advance registration required for the Ball. More information on our website at
<https://cdrochester.org/events/jane-austen-ball/>



Jane Austen Ball Weekend Events 2023

Sundays, April 2, 16 & 23

2:30 – 5:00 pm: **Ball prep sessions**, at First Baptist Church, 175 Allens Creek Rd, Rochester, NY 14618. \$5 per session. Pay at the door. Newcomers to English country dancing should attend all Ball prep sessions. We welcome everyone to also attend our usual beginner–friendly evening dance on those days at 6:30 pm. Due to COVID restrictions, there will be no potluck after the practice as in previous years.

Saturday, April 29

2:30 – 5:00 pm: **Ball practice** with *Tom Amessé* and *Shandy* at the First Baptist Church. \$10, pay at the door. Credit cards accepted. Sorry, no potluck after the practice as in previous years. Silent auction fundraiser.

6:30 – 9:30 pm: **Experienced English dance**, at First Baptist Church, with *Shandy*, and a cavalcade of regional callers. An evening of challenging but rewarding dances and old favorites. Solid familiarity with English country dancing assumed; basic figures will not be taught and walk-throughs will be minimal. Open to all with the needed skills — you don't have to be coming to the Ball. \$20, pay at the door.

Sunday, April 30

9:00 am: **Welcome table opens** at the Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Ave. Rochester, NY 14607. Your name tag will give you free admission (a \$14 – \$25 value) to the art gallery. Changing rooms will be available. Silent auction fundraiser.

10:00 – 12:00 pm: **Final Ball practice** with *Tom Amessé* and *Shandy*. Included in the Ball ticket price.

12:00 – 1:45 pm: **Break** for lunch (optional) and time to change into ball clothing.

1:45 – 2:00 pm: **Minuet** performance by Josephine Gaeffke & Padraic Neville.

2:00 – 5:30 pm: **The Ball**, with multiple breaks and boxed refreshments mid-way. Included in the Ball ticket price.

Preparation: Dancers should have prior experience with English country dance and be at least 17 years old. Even though dances at the Ball will be walked through and prompted, we strongly encourage dancers to take advantage of our prep sessions, practices, dance instructions & videos provided on our web site. **Dancers will give themselves—and their partners—the greatest pleasure if they are familiar with the afternoon's program before the Ball.**

Dress: Regency period attire is encouraged but anything formal or dressy is fine. Lisa Brown, of Regency Rentals, offers rentals of Regency era costumes by appointment. Contact her at RegencyCostumes@gmail.com to inquire.

To keep everyone safe, please follow our safety procedures:

Your registration is conditional until we receive your proof of vaccination image by snail mail or email, within 3 days if possible, to ballregistrar@cdrochester.org. After that, we will refund your money, unless it's after the cancellation deadline.

Everyone must show proof of full vaccination and a booster (as defined by the CDC) at the door of Saturday's events even if previously submitted.

Everyone must wear an N95, KN95, or KF94 mask at every event.



We share your frustration with these additional measures, but we would rather err on the side of caution than risk our dancer's health. We will not relax these masking rules even if conditions improve.

Jane Austen Ball Registration Form 2023

Advance registration for the Ball is required, and must reach us by April 16. You can register using PayPal or a credit card on our [website](#), or can mail in the form on this page, along with a check and proof of vaccination and booster. If registering digitally, your registration is conditional until we receive your proof of vaccination image by email to ballregistrar@cdrochester.org within 3 days if possible. After that, we will refund your money, unless it's after the cancellation deadline.

The number of dancers at the Ball is limited to minimize crowding on the dance floor. Dancers are expected to have basic English country dancing skills, and will be admitted in the order that applications are received without regard for gender balance. We will start a waitlist if we are oversubscribed.

Payment for Saturday events will be made at the door; no preregistration is needed and credit cards will be accepted.

Registrations may be cancelled for a full refund up through April 16; no refunds thereafter unless there are medical reasons or we are able to find someone who can take your place.

Due to COVID risks, mid-Ball refreshments and lunch will be provided in small boxes to encourage dispersal and social distancing during their consumption.

NAME (S) _____

TELEPHONE _____

STREET _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

Please be sure to check this email for your confirmation and for additional details as the Ball approaches.

<i>Number</i>		<i>Total</i>
_____	Dancers @\$80 each	_____
_____	Student Dancers @\$40 each HS or college student	_____
_____	Observers @\$30 each	_____
_____	Optional Box Lunch @\$20 Choose: ___turkey sandwich ___roasted veggie wrap ___gluten-free salad	_____
_____	Donation Helps defray expenses not covered by admission ticket	_____
	TOTAL ENCLOSED	_____

Fees are stated in US dollars. Canadian dollars accepted; please convert using current exchange rate. If you pay with Canadian checks, please add \$2 bank processing fee per check.

Admission fees this year will not cover our expenses, so donations are a big help (tax deductible in the US).

Mail completed form and check payable to *Country Dancers of Rochester* (in time to reach us by April 16) to:
Jane Austen Ball, c/o Chris Cassidy, 26 Granite Dr, Penfield, NY 14526.

More About Our Performers



Tom Amessé

Before Tom discovered English country dance, he pursued several interests including both American history and acting. If he seems a natural on stage, some of the credit goes to his having acted in local community theater! He has been a dance leader for over 20 years in New York City and northeastern New Jersey, and is well known for his entertaining and relaxed demeanor and for his ability to make complicated figures seem easy. That clarity and easy-going style have caused him to become a favorite across the USA as well as in Canada, England, and Wales. You might also find him calling contra dances and square dances, and playing his fiddle at Irish music sessions. Mostly, though, he is very happy that dancing has resumed.

Shandy

Eileen Kalfass (violin), Rebecca McCallum (violin), Jane Knoeck (piano & accordion).

The musicians in Shandy have played together in various combinations for years and are now performing as a trio, playing for both English country and contra dancing. Past English events include the 2017 Jane Austen Ball in Rochester, NY and a Colin Hume ECD weekend in Toronto in 2019. Rebecca contributed her classically trained violin style to Rochester contra and English dances for many years, until she moved out of the area, and Eileen and Jane, as *Sister Haggis*, play often at the Rochester English dances.



Eileen has an award winning CD, available on her [web-site](#). Jane is the doyenne of Rochester dance piano for both English country and contra. Both Jane and Rebecca have played in the nationally known touring band, The Groovemongers, as well as River Bend, New Brew, and others.



Country Dancers of Rochester is on Facebook and Instagram!
www.facebook.com/CountryDancersofRochester
[@contraenglish](http://www.instagram.com/contraenglish)