**Holiday Contra 2017**

1. **New Year's Day IMP Longways Dup**

**Paul Balliet (Dale Rempert)**

A1 LL F&B

gypsy

M DSD

A2 L allm L 1 1/2

P Sw

B1 Circle L 3/4

Pass thru to next N

Gypsy this new N

B2 N B&Sw (orig N for single prog)

1. **BALANCE THE STAR Sicilian Circle – Originally OR IMP**

**Raymond K. McLain of Berea, KY**  Beginner/Intermediate Dance Level Music:  Beaumont Rag

(use “hand-shake star throughout” - Southern mountain tradition)

Stars

DSD &promenade

A1 Right Hand Star and Balance twice - In and Out (8 counts)

*<— hence, “Balance” the Star!*  
    Turn the Star once ‘round (8 counts)  
A2 Left Hand Star and Balance - In and Out (8 counts)  
    Turn the Star once ‘round (8 counts)  
B1   Neighbors DSD (8 counts)  
 Gents Promenade this N into your P’s place (8 counts) (Gent acting as a pivot)

B2 Partners DSD  
 (Similarly) Gents Promenade Partners into Original place

AND continue Promenade on to face a New Couple!  (8 counts)

Notes: "Balance The Star" was written by Raymond McLain Sr. for Christmas Country Dance School with Beaumont Rag as THE tune to play. The dance was written as a Sicilian Circle Dance - c. 1970 or 1971

1. **Carlisle Double Star IMP Longways Dup**

**Walter Lenk (Give and Take, 2004)**

A1 Star R!

Star to star progression

Short wave w bal

N Sw

A2 M pull by to WAVE, Bal the wave

P Sw

B1 Down in 4, turn single

Ret

B2 Circle L ¾

Star L to progress

1. **Rock the Cradle Joe Contra/Improper**

**Ridge Kennedy**

Short wave w Rory O’Moore

Give and take

STARTS IN SHORT WAVES, neighbor right hand

A1 Balance and slide to the right (as in Rory O'More) (8)

Balance and slide to the left (as in Rory O'More) (8)

A2 Neighbor balance and swing (16)

B1 Give & Take to gent's side & swing (16)

B2 Circle Left ¾ (8)

Balance the Ring & pass through to short wave (8)

**5. Etna Star 4x4**

**Fred Breunig (Zesty)**

4x4

Grand chain

A1 Fwd 8 and back

½ W Grand Chain

A2 Fwd 8 and back

½ W grand chain

B1 Star L w/ opp cpl

Star R w/ same

B2 Circle 8 HALFWAY

P Sw – end facing orig direction

[cpls are interchanged]

1. **Walk on the Sunny Side IMP**

**Don Flaherty**

Start facing down in 4, Act in ctr

A1 1’s arch; 2’s dive thru to next N

Dip’n’dive

Down in 4 w pivot

N swing

A2 M allm L 1 ½

P swing

B1 Promenade across

Circle ¾ and open to line (W2 leading)

B2 Down in 4, pivot, back up 4 more

Up in 4, pivot, back up to place

READY for 1’s to arch…

**BREAK**

1. [**Winter Wind**](http://www.dance.ravitz.us/#wn)    **Becket, counter-clockwise   
   Cary Ravitz     12-2011**

A1 LL F&B, P roll away w half sashay

Roll away w half sashay

petronella

Circle RIGHT ¾

A2 N B&Sw

B1 Circle – Bal & Petronella

Circle – Bal & Petronella

B2 NEW N – Star R ¾

M turn in – P Sw

1. **Tempus Fugit TEMPEST**

**David Smukler**A1 Line of 4 go down the hall

TEMPEST

Dip’n’dive

Return, face the nearest side couple

A2 Circle Half (follow momentum to put 2s in ctr – see note)

2s arch, 1s dive thru as 2s California twirl

DSD the one you meet

B1 B&Sw that N, end facing up or down w Gent on L, Lady on R

B2 Same 4 circle L halfway (return 2s to outside)

ALL PSw – and w 2s facing IN, 1s facing DOWN

[1s will alternate sides as they progress]

*Note that in A2 the* ***couple on the left of the line (as they face the music) turns left******and circles to the*right***with their neighbor couple, while the couple on the right turns right and circles to the left. Momentum will naturally carry the circle the correct way. Because the* ***twos always circle the same way****, when in doubt they are in charge.*

**TEMPEST formation**: As in a 4-face-4, the ones are in a line-of-4 facing down, both couples standing side by side. However, what distinguishes Tempest formation from a Portland Fancy is that the twos are not in another line-of-4 facing up. Rather, they are out at the sides, facing in, as if in a very widely spaced Becket formation dance (wide enough that the line-of-4 fits between).

**The “four-face-four” method.** Begin with a double contra (two couples in a line-of-four facing down at two more facing up, and so forth down the hall). The ones, who are facing down the hall, are all set. The twos, who are facing up, separate out to the sides and face in.

1. **Joyride IMP**  
   **Erik Weberg**   
   A1 Gypsy Neighbor (8)  
    Mad Robin around Neighbor (8)  
   A2 Half Pousette clockwise (8)  
    1/2 Hey, men passing left shoulders (8)  
   B1 Men pass L once more to cross set, swing Partner (2/14)  
   B2 Women's Chain (8)  
    Star Left(8)

Mad robin

Half pousette

1. **Stars of Bethlehem Improper**

**Bob Isaacs (for Bethlehem PA dance)**

A1 N1 balance, box the gnat, star R

Box the gnat

2 N but SGL Prog

A2 N2 allemande L, N1 swing

B1 Circle L 3/4, partner swing (on side)

B2 Ladies chain to N1, star L

1. **"There is no way to Peace; Peace is the way" BECKET**

**Erik Hoffman**

Star promenade

Butterfly whirl

A1 Women Do Si Do; Partner Swing

A2 Men Allemande Left 1-1/2; Neighbor Swing

B1 Long Lines Forward & Back; Women Right Elbow Turn 1-1/2

B2 Women Star Promenade Partner 3/4 until two (Next Neighbor) Men meet

Men link Left Elbows (women let go of the right elbow) to Star Promenade

End on Own Side with a butterfly twirl to face that same Next Neighbor couple

*Erik's Note: the quote is a saying from A. J. Muste, our nations one time "most famous pacifist." It boggles my mind that, with our corporate media tied to the military-industrial complex, we could have ever had a famous pacifist. Then again, we had Martin Luther King, too...*

**EXTRAS**

**Renewal  IMP  
Gene Hubert**

A1  F&B, Almd L N 1&3/4 to wave across w/W in the middle  
A2  Bal, W slide R (Rory O'More), All Sw P  
B1  1/2 hey w/W by R, Almd L P 1&3/4 to wave across w/M in the middle  
B2  Bal, M slide R, Sw N

**Yearning for Peace IMP  
David Smukler**

A1 RBal w N, box the gnat

RStar HALF, turn single L (loop LEFT), reach across set to P w LEFT

A2 LBal w P, swat the flea

LStar HALF, turn single R (loop R)

B1 Single file promenade (clockwise) within this group of 4, 3 places

Gents turn back to PSw

B2 LL F&B

Circle L ¾, pass thru up and down, give R to next

The “swat the flea” figure is just a left handed “box the gnat.”

*The day I composed this (April 21, 2007) I was deeply discouraged by what seemed like a relentless stream of tragic stories on the daily news. I wanted with all my heart to call a dance that night that somehow suggested the theme of peace. First, I considered Erik Hoffman’s wonderful dance, “There is No Way to Peace; Peace is the Way,” but Erik’s dance needs more space up and down the set than I was likely to have that night. Then I looked at a dance popular with English country dancers called Peace Be With You,written by Fried de Metz Herman. I started tinkering with it to try make it into a sequence that contra dancers would easily understand and enjoy, and this was the result. I did not call it that evening, but did on the next day. My first impulse was to give the dance the title “Sholom Aleichem,” which is Yiddish for “Peace Be With You,” but eventually settled on this title instead to try to convey a little of the sense of longing I felt as I worked on the dance.*

**Winter in Summerland BECKET**

**by Jeff Spero & James Hutson**

A1 Gents allemande left once and a half

Short waves

Hey ¾ only

Neighbor Swing

A2 Long lines forward and back

Pass through to an ocean wave

Wave Balance

B1 Walk forward to the next neighbor

Gypsy new neighbor right one-half

Hey three-quarters (gents, center, left)

(men go over and back, women cross the set)

B2 Partner Balance and Swing *[****Start again*** *with these* ***same neighbors]***

1. **"20 Below" by Bill Olson BECKET**

**Bill Olson**

A1 Circle left 3/4 to a wave across(L left in the center, N right) (8)

Balance the wave (4)

Short waves

Half hey

Pass through to a new wave (4)

A2 Balance the wave(4)

Neighbors swing (12)

B1 Gents allemande left 1 ½ (8)

Half a hey (Partners pass right on the outside) (8)

B2 Partners balance and swing (16)

**ZESTY CHRISTMAS HORNPIPE IMP**

**Tony Saletan / Ted Sanella**

A1 1s balance woman 2 and circle 3 to the left TWICE around

A2 1s balance gent 2 and circle 3 to the left twice,

opening to a line facing down with the woman in the middle;

woman 2 joins the line (now of four).

English-ish

Circle three people

B1 Down 4-in-line (1s in the center), all turn alone,

return and hand cast off.

B2 Long lines forward and back;

1s swing in the center and end facing the next woman

*Tony's notes:*

*Mark (and anyone else interested), in the Boston area (where I danced for several decades before recently moving to the state of Washington), we begin Vinton's (alias Christmas) Hornpipe pretty much as follows: On the first four beats all three people involved (woman #1 and the two gents in the subset) all balance advancing into a hand-holding circle of three. If the set is compact enough side-to-side, forming of the circle is almost instantaneous, and dancers can enjoy the connection of "balance the ring" almost from the very first beat.*

*Random other winter themed ideas*

*- "Dancing the Winter Away", Jim Kitch*

*- "Snow Dance" Gene Hubert*

*- You could try the contra modified version of* [*Wendy Crouch's Winter Solstice*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OEeXfkuZb1M) *(video)*

*(square with an extra couple). Renamed Swinging Solstice for the other side*

*of the Pond. Features a grand square for 5 couples! Progression is*

*clockwise.*