## **Traditional American Folk Dance Activities**

40<sup>th</sup> Annual

## DOOR COUNTY FOLK FESTIVAL

Wed-Sun, July 10-14, 2019 Baileys Harbor Town Hall Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin



## Square Dance and Contra Dance Activities







Fri	8:00am	9:45am	Morning Squares, Contras, Mixers (dancing with Instruction)
	8:00pm	12:30am	Ethnic Dance Party with Square Dance and Contra Dance Segments (brief walk-throughs)
Sat	8:00am	9:45am	Morning Squares, Contras, Mixers (dancing with Instruction)
	8:00pm	12:30am	Ethnic Dance Party with Square Dance and Contra Dance Segments (brief walk-throughs)
Sun	9:00am	11:00am	Morning Squares, Contras, Mixers (dancing with Instruction)

## Traditional American Dancing at the Door County Folk Festival

The **Door County Folk Festival (DCFF)** is one of the most fun-filled, enjoyable and educational dance weekends in the Midwest. Each year, the Festival attracts hundreds of participants to Door County from all around the U.S., Canada, Mexico and often other countries. The 40th Annual Festival Weekend (2019) begins on Wednesday, July 10th and runs from through Sunday, July 14th. This Annual event continues a tradition of enjoyable, immersion in dance in which one can dance, sing, play, learn, share experiences, eat, party and make new friends in a congenial, relaxed community atmosphere.

DCFF offers a wide range of options for international folk dancers, traditional contra & square dancers, singers and musicians of all levels of experience and interest, as well as activities and accommodations for their non-dancing family, friends and significant others. The Festival engages many talented instructors, callers, group leaders, singers and musicians from the Midwest and beyond to lead events.

If you're eager to get your feet wet in the dance world, an easily accessible starting point is at the Traditional American Square Dance and Contra Dance sessions at the Door County Folk Festival.

**Traditional American Square Dance** is a catch-all term for styles of square dance that are not within the genre of modern Western square dance. This includes the regional styles that existed before the middle 1950s (when modern the Western style began to emerge as a new standard as figures and calls were standardized, regional differences were eliminated and new figures and calls were created); or styles that have survived or have been revived since the middle 1950s. In some communities in the United States and Canada, there are dance events consisting primarily of traditional squares, sometimes alternating with other styles of partner dancing, such as contra dance, round dance, mixers, waltzes, Scandinavian dance, Cajun/Zydeco dance and/or country/western dance. Square dance callers who call for occasional dancers, beginning-level dancers or brand-new dancers primarily use calls and figures from traditional square dance.

American Contra Dance refers to several folk dance styles in which couples dance in two facing lines of indefinite length. Contra dances can be found around the world, though they are especially popular in the United States. Contra dance is also referred to as traditional New England folk dance. An actual contra dance group meeting may include other dance types such as: Square Dance, waltz, polka, schottische, swing, rounds, clogging, Hambo, and other forms of partner dancing.