

## GUEST ARTISTS FOR THE DANCING BEARS DANCE CAMP 2019

### CALLERS:



#### JEREMY KORR

Jeremy Korr has been calling contras and squares since 2003, and community and international folk dances since 1992. A second-generation dancer, he is known for his fun dances, efficient walkthroughs, precise calling, and community spirit. He is equally at home with an evening of hot contras, a family dance, a program of traditional contra chestnuts and New England quadrilles, or a dance weekend with a bit of everything.

Jeremy has called at events far and wide across the United States and Canada. His home bases are in Claremont, California during the winter, and dance stronghold Woods Hole, Massachusetts during the summer, where he regularly calls at the monthly contra series going strong since 1973, and at the weekly international and community dance running since 1960. He is on the national steering committee for the annual Pourparler Gathering, a national workshop for community and school dance and music leaders. (<http://info-usa.org/pourparler/>).

Off the dance floor, Jeremy enjoys playing clawhammer banjo and leading folksinging sessions. From 1997 to 2015 he served on the volunteer team helping Peter Blood and Annie Patterson, editors of the wonderful songbook *Rise Up Singing*, to assemble and chord the songs in the book's sequel *Rise Again*, which was recently published. Earlier this decade, Jeremy organized a session at the New England Folk Festival honoring and featuring legendary musician and composer Bob McQuillen, who in 1978 composed the now-classic reel "The Dancing Bear." He is looking forward now to spending a weekend with the other Dancing Bears!

#### BETH MOLARO

Beth calls high-energy, turbocharged squares and smooth flowing contras. She is known for her quick no-nonsense walk throughs and effective teaching for both the newest dancers and the most seasoned of dancers. Dancers from coast to coast will tell you that Beth Molaro's enthusiasm is contagious and she makes any dance more energetic and exciting. She is truly a dance caller dedicated to the art of Traditional American Dancing and good fun.



Since 1994, Beth has called hundreds of dances from coast to coast as well as Denmark and Canada. Beth's vocal style is unique in the dance world. Her ability to sing the calls makes for an exciting blending of music and calls which she accomplishes with both clarity

and musical integrity. You will hear elements of the blues and jazz in her voice as she sings you from one figure to the next, weaving together the various elements of dance, music and dancers into a positively charged room of inspired enthusiasm. Dancers are sure to leave with a feel-good dancing high! <https://www.bethmolaro.com>

## TOSS THE POSSUM

### LAURA ZISETTE



Laura Zisette (sometimes dubbed "Mama 'Possum") is a classically trained pianist. She never wanted to play contra piano. She preferred dancing. Then, one year she broke her toe in the first fifteen minutes of a weeklong dance camp. What to do with a whole week? As luck would have it, Bob McQuillen was on staff and became her mentor. While working together, he encouraged her with "Don't worry. There are no wrong notes in contra dancing...well, except maybe that one."

When she started the family band, she obsessively created clever or beautiful band arrangements. Her kids grudgingly read through them at home, and then, at the gig they would ignore the plan and play whatever they wanted. Over time she learned to let go of her expectations for planned and polished performances. It turns out they were right-spontaneity is more fun and can often create magical moments!

### ROB ZISETTE



Rob Zisette began playing fiddle at age 8. He somehow continued to get better each year despite sporadic lessons from age 8-12, and very little practice (because too much practice "would take all the fun out of it!"). Rob is an incredibly versatile player. His great sense of humor comes through his fiddling and singing. He can emote lyricism, take on the high energy of Klezmer styling, create hauntingly beautiful Celtic sounds, tear it up on a driving southern fiddle tune. Rob adds other colors to the band with his beat-boxing and his varied toys (including a trumpet kazoo). Rob also loves to dance and frequently teaches dance workshops in contra, blues, and waltz. Being a dancer himself, his first goal as a musician is to create some magic for the dancers. When Rob starts to play, you know you are in for a ride!



<http://tossthepossum.com>

## EDWARD HOWE



Edward Howe is an exceptional fiddler, and a maestro of improv who delights in weaving in and out of tunes—building energy and resolving tension. Drawing from New England, Acadien, bluegrass, contemporary folk, or electronica, his palette is wide and his love for the art runs deep. He believes that music is a feeling, not a sound, that should be felt in the soul—a gift he is honored, humbled, and very pleased to offer to you.

You can find Edward nourishing his roots in a bluegrass band, pushing the limits as a solo electronic artist, rocking it with a big band rock sound, and of course driving that dance line. He plays in a number of bands: Barefoot (not to be confused with Bearfoot), JEMS, and, the Gather Rounders. You may know him best as a member of the hugely popular contra dance band Perpetual e-Motion. <http://www.sopaudio.com>

## HOLLY DING

## TOM SAUBER

A returning guest artist, Tom Sauber has played for the Bears Dance Camp, the Alaska Fiddle Camp, and the AK Folk Festival. Tom is widely known in the Old-Time music world—since the late 70s, Tom has played and taught at camps and festivals from Alaska to Spain and from Scotland to Australia. Tom Sauber does it all and you won't hear anyone do it better. He's a master musician in a variety of styles, a multi-instrumentalist (if it has strings, he plays it!), and a singer, well-grounded in tradition, with a comprehensive grasp of style and an exceptional ability to teach. In the years Tom has devoted to playing traditional music, the cast of characters with whom he has associated reads like a who's who in Old-Time, bluegrass and Cajun music. Fans have heard Tom's music as one-third of Tom, Brad, and Alice, with Brad Leftwich and Alice Gerrard, or as One-Eyed Dog with Dirk Powell and John Herrmann. A native of Southern California, Tom has helped bring authentic traditional music to the film industry. Ry Cooder recruited him for the soundtrack of *The Long Riders*. He's also appeared in "Bound for Glory", "Geronimo", and "Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman".



## BRIAN DEMARCUS



Brian DeMarcus has a music and dance career dating back four decades. Starting in 1971, he spent 12 years touring professionally with the *Green Grass Cloggers*, a music and dance group from North Carolina, taking the rich traditional sounds of Old-Time string band music and Southern Appalachian clogging out of the mountain regions and into venues around the world, from Europe to South America to Carnegie Hall in New York City. Brian has been calling dances worldwide and he has taught at most of the prestigious music and dance camps around the country. Over the years, he has played with a multitude of bands and has won many awards at fiddlers'

conventions around the country. He is currently active with several bands in Alaska, his favorite genres being Old-Time, Cajun, and Zydeco. He calls, and plays and teaches clawhammer banjo, bass, guitar, and dance calling at music camps in Alaska and in the Lower 48. He has published a book of his original dances called *Hands Four And Square Your Sets* that was featured in "The Country Dance & Song Society Newsletter" and in "The Old-Time Herald", an international traditional music magazine.

## JOHN CORZINE

John Corzine has been part of the southern California acoustic music scene for more than 40 years.

Festivals and contests, Disneyland and dance floors, coffee houses and concert halls -- John has performed throughout the southland, having gathered a collection of some of the best bluegrass, Old-Time, country, and folk music you'll find. Influenced and inspired for life by meeting Doc Watson at age of 9 years old, John spent his early years in local flatpicking and clawhammer banjo contests, and began performing bluegrass and Old-Time music professionally shortly thereafter.



John has played in many area bands over the years, often with his wife Peggy Corzine on bass and vocals; John and Peggy currently perform with their youngest son, Cody, as the Corzines. John comes to Alaska and the Dancing Bears Dance Camp for the first time this year alongside his lifelong friend and musical mentor, Tom Sauber. Look for John and Tom together this summer at the California Bluegrass Association's Father's Day Festival in Grass Valley, CA, where they'll perform two shows with the Coyote Brothers. John says life doesn't get much better than playing in a good dance band with a full dance floor -- he's gonna love Camp! A picker's picker and a singer's singer, John is certain to be a hit!