

Midwest Morris Ale

3rd letter

April 22, 1985

revised 23 April

Dear Morriscos,

Yah sure! Itsa gonna happen, you betcha! Thanks for the prompt response on registrations and especially to those who sent their full registration early; that will help us get under way. Morris dancers from Portland to New Haven and from St. Louis to Winnipeg will be attending this year. Enclosed you will find a schedule for the Ale, the list of massed dances and music for them, and maps which will help get you to the camp Friday. Final details on housing will be available at registration.

Our touring program on Saturday will offer a "bus person's holiday" in both of the Twin Cities. We have tried to provide broad exposure to our home turf and also to allow enough flexibility for small walking tours as part of each stop. It will all culminate in a parade across the Mississippi River to a massed dance, buffet supper and party at riverplace in the Historic Main Street District. On Sunday we will visit a number of locations in the Mound and Wayzata area on the brunch and pub circuit around Lake Minnetonka. Church information will be available for those wishing to attend services.

In order to take some of the strain off those who got here via "seven league radials," we have attempted to provide transport to events whenever feasible. When it is necessary to drive to an event we request that each car designate a chemically free driver. Minnesota's D.W.I. laws have recently been stiffened. They caught the Archbishop recently and he spent two days in jail with a \$500 fine and four weeks of court-ordered treatment on his first offense. This is typical of enforcement statewide. Also, please be aware that possession of marijuana is still a felony here; your discretion will serve you well.

With any luck, the tiny, obnoxious, blood-sucking Minnesota state bird (alias, the skeeter) will not yet have hatched, although our four or five days of mid-eighty degree weather in mid-April may indicate an unusually early and warm spring. In any case, come prepared.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call us! We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Capers,

Steve Parker
(612) 379-2286 (home)
(612) 871-3717 (24-hour answering service)

Carol Buche
(612) 644-6879 (home)

Jim Linton
(612) 721-5517 (home)

MASSED DANCES
1985 Midwest Morris Ale
Minneapolis, MN

B	Strike butts of stick	HR	Half Rounds
BB	Back to Back	L	Left
CCW	Counter Clockwise	OB	Odd Butt Strikes
CDH	Country Dance Hey	OSS	Open Side Step
CW	Clockwise	OT	Odd Tip Strikes
D	Dib (strike ground with stick)	OY	Once to Yourself
dbl	Double Step (4 Step)	PC	Plain Caper
DF	Distinctive Figure (chorus)	PD	Processional Down
DR	Dance Round	ptr	Partner
EB	Even Butt Strikes	PU	Processional Up
ET	Even Tip Strikes	R	Right
FU	Foot Up	SS	Side Step
HC	Half Capers ("furries"; fore)	T	Strike Tips of Sticks
HG	Half Gyp	WG	Whole Gyp
HH	Half Hey	WH	Whole Hey
HL	Hook Leg	WhR	Whole Rounds
		WkR	Walk Around

SOLDIER 0. --Double file. Complete description enclosed. (n.b. the suggestion to use this dance did not originate in Minnesota!)

BONNY GREEN GARTERS (Bampton)

OY; FU; HG; HR; dance off with (8 bars HC + 8 bars SS)ⁿ. Notes -- no singing; Bampton FU turn in and down at half way point. No SS before HC. OY begin with back step. L foot start for everything.

HIGHLAND MARY (Bampton)

OY;FU;DF;HG;DF;WG;DF;HR;DF

DF = SS and HH, repeat; do SS up first in both halves of DF.

STEP AND FETCH HER (Bampton)

OY;FU;DF;WH;HG;DF;WH;WG;DF;WH;HR;DF;WH

DF = cross over with partner (pass R shoulder) using 4 HC and turning CW to face, return (pass R shoulder again) using 4SS and turning CCW to face at end.

BLACK JOKE (Adderbury)

OY (begin with 4 PC facing up); WhR;DF;HG or BB;DF;DR;DF;CDH;DF
DF = 2 bars OSS down and 2 bars back, with low twists, then FU (once).
Notes -- Footwork for figures is 4 dbl + 4PC and repeat; do the 4PC facing ptr at middle and end of every figure, but end last DF with 4PC facing up. "Wave" hand movements (counter twists)* accompany PC. During dbl steps the hand movements described in Sharp and BAcon seem unclear and misleading; the Adderbury Morris Men themselves describe the handkerchief movements: "Hands together, are brought down from high (face level) on the first beat, then two circles with hands during 2nd and 3rd beats (at chest level) and then hands up, together, on the 4th beat, or the Hop of the dbl step. Diagrammatically this movement can be shown as a lower case d and b, "db". There should be one of these movements for each dbl step danced."

*Counter twist - Looking along arm from shoulder toward hand, the R hand will move CCW and the L will move CW.

BRIGHTON CAMP (Adderbury)

WkR (singing); FU;DF;HG;DF;PD;DF;PU;DF;DR;DF;CDH;DF;DF (fast)
 DF = 3 bars of $\begin{vmatrix} \text{OT} & \text{ET} & \text{OT} & \text{ET} \\ \text{EB} & \text{OB} & \text{EB} & \text{OB} \end{vmatrix}$ then the 4th bar is $\begin{vmatrix} \text{OT} & \text{OT} \\ \text{EB} & \text{ET} \end{vmatrix}$

and repeat all.

Words: Oh, let the night be ever so dark,
 Or ever so wet and windy,
 I must return to the Brighton Camp
 And the girl I left behind me.

IDBURY HILL (Bledington)

OY;FU;DF;HG;DF;WG;DF;HR;DF

Note -- this dance is identical to Morning Star, only the tune is different.
 DF = SS (R), dbl, SS (L), HL; then HH. Repeat.

YOUNG COLLINS (Bledington)

OY;FU;DF;HG;DF;WG;DF;HR;DF

DF = /DDD-/BBB-/DDD-/TTT-/ then HH. Repeat.

Notes -- D is done with butt. HR moves round 2 places (i.e., not half way) and strike with opposites.

BOBBY AND JOAN (Fieldtown)

OY;FU;DF;HG;DF;BB;DF;HR;DF

DF = evens (i.e., apprentice side) strike (bar 1, middle beat), then odds strike on meas. 2, then 4PC while striking /BT/BT/; then HH. Repeat.
 Those being struck in meas. 1 & 2 hold stick at both ends, horizontal over head, and turn back on ptr always turning toward the top.

WALTZING MATILDA (Fieldtown)

OY;FU;DF;HG;DF;BB;DF;HR;DF

DF is a variation of the DF in Balance The Straw.

DF = 1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	← counts
/ D	-	D	-	/ T(forehand)-	T(back,hand)	-	/	
/ D	-	D	toss /	Catch	-	T(forehand)	-	/

then HH. repeat.

Notes -- D is done with butt, exactly as in Balance the Straw.

"Toss" and "Catch" means: immediately after the second D throw your stick gently (keeping it vertical in the air) to your ptr so that you exchange sticks, catch stick on ct. 1 of meas. 4

***** For styling and other details see L. Bacon's "Handbook" or other sources.
 If desperate, contact Ed Stern, 619 NE 4th St., Minneapolis, MN, 55413; phone (612) 379-8318.

IMPORTANT - MUSICIANS please note that several tunes have been transposed out of their original keys to accomodate the instruments available for massed dancing.
 Please compare the music supplied with your present practice, in case you need to change.

We wish to thank the six teams who returned their questionnaire in good time; their comments and suggestions were useful and appreciated.

Play as harp

A Waltzing Matilda after Fieldham (A) [ABB]⁴

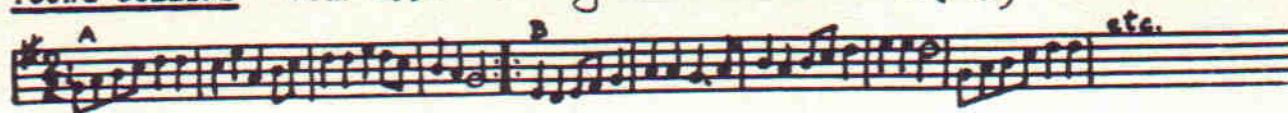
A Blekington Idbury Hill B (A) [AB]⁴

A Barton NIGHLAND MARY (A) [AB]²

Fieldham Bobby and Joan A [AB]⁴

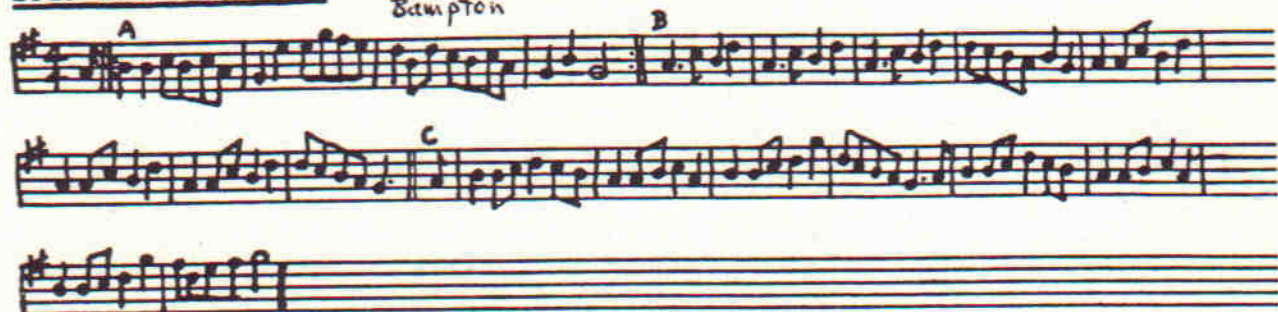
YOUNG COLLINS Jour 1934 Bledington

A(AB)⁴



STEP AND FETCH HER (RD, from Arnold Woodley)
Bampton

A.(ABC)⁴



THE BLACK JOKE

(MDT)
Alderbury

$\frac{1}{2}$ A(AB)⁴



BRIGHTON CAMP

Alderbury

A (AB)⁶ B-fast



BONNY GREEN GARTERS

(MDT)

$\text{♩} = 100$

Play 4 times.

Bampton



after the WG,

switch to the following:



Midwest Morris Ale

SCHEDULE

Friday, May 24th, 1985

- 12 noon: Registration begins at the Boys Club Camp, Mound, Minnesota (Yes, Mound.)
- 9 p.m. Squires and Forefolks Meeting (downstairs in the Mess Hall, "Galley")
- 10 p.m. Massed Dance Practice (behind the Galley, or in the barn, "Arthur Hall")
- 11 p.m.... General Merriment

Saturday, May 25th, 1985

- 7-9 a.m. A Hearty Breakfast (in the Galley, of course!)
- 8:30 a.m. Squires and Forefolks Meeting (downstairs in the Galley)
- 8:30 a.m. Musicians Meeting (in the barn, "Arthur Hall")
- 9:30 a.m. Massed Dance & Show Dances on the site (gather in front of the Galley)
- 12 noon Tours Depart for the Twin Cities (4 busses=4 tours) (meet up by the road- Know your tour #!!!)
- 4:30 p.m. Processional down Nicollet Mall
- 6 p.m. Massed Dance & Show Dances at Riverplace (in Lourdes Square)
- 7 p.m. Naming Ceremony (A brief ceremony on the banks of the Mississippi to welcome our newest Morris Baby)
- 7:30 p.m. Return to site for a Sumptuous Feast (worth waiting for!)
- 8:30 p.m. Dinner is Served
- 10 p.m.... Ad lib, and not so ad lib, shenanigans on site

Sunday, May 26th, 1985

- 7-10 a.m. Another Hearty Breakfast
- 9:30 a.m. Workshops (Locations will be posted)
- 11:30 a.m. Boat Tours Depart (ask your squires about this)
- 12:30 a.m. Land Tours Depart (no busses today)
- 4 p.m. Massed Dance & Show Dances at the Surfside (on the shores of Lake Minnetonka)
- 7 p.m. Midwest Ale Banquet and Dance, American Legion Hall, Delano, Minnesota. (map will be posted in Galley)

Monday, May 27th, 1985

- 7-9 a.m. And Still Another Hearty Breakfast (for those requiring an early departure, an earlier breakfast can be arranged, but it might not be Hearty.)
- 9-12 noon Let's see... what kind of trouble can we still get into???
- 12 noon Clean-up, Farewells and retirement, of those still in the mood, to another location. Interrment of the Executive Committee... RIP.

Midwest Morris Ale

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, 9:30 a.m.

These will run concurrently, at locations which will be posted in the Galley.

1) BRACKLEY TRADITION (Cotswold)

Presented By: Andrew Bullen & Jamie Haas
of Fox Valley Morris in Chicago, IL

2) BORDER MORRIS

Presented By: Frank Hall
of Bloomington Quarry Morris in Bloomington, IN

3) RAPPER SWORD

Presented By: Rick Mohr
of New Haven, CT

4) MISC. USEFUL AND/OR WEIRD DANCES

Presented By: Ed Stern
of Minn. Traditional Morris in Mpls., MN
(Dances may include: Abrams Circle, Wyresdale Greensleeves, single-file Winster, and Soldier Oh. Also, audience participation and kids dances(Morris)).

Our thanks to all those who volunteered to present workshops, but who were not scheduled this year... maybe at next years Ale... We will pass on your responses to our questionnaires.

Midwest Morris Ale

MASSED DANCE SCHEDULES

MD = massed dance

SD = show dance

SATURDAY MORNING

MD - Soldier Oh
 MD - Highland Mary
 MD - Brighton Camp
 SD - Bells of the North
 SD - Bloomington Quarry
 MD - Bobby and Joan
 SD - Ann Arbor M & S
 SD - Maroon Bells
 MD - Step & Fetch Her
 SD - Oak Apple
 SD - Cornstalk/Fox Valley
 MD - Black Joke
 SD - Multicultural Morris
 SD - Capering Roisters
 MD - Young Collins
 SD - Rocky Mnt. M & S
 SD - Minn. Traditional M
 MD - Waltzing Matilda
 MD - Idbury Hill
 MD - Bonnie Green Garters
 (Bells will lead off)

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

MD - Soldier Oh
 MD - Highland Mary
 SD - Ann Arbor M & S
 SD - Cornstalk/Fox Valley
 MD - Bobby & Joan
 SD - Oak Apple
 SD - Rocky Mnt. M & S
 MD - Young Collins
 SD - Maroon Bells
 SD - Minn. Traditional M
 MD - Black Joke
 MD - Bonnie Green Garters
 (MN Trad. will lead off)

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

MD - Soldier Oh
 MD - Step & Fetch Her
 SD - Bloomington Quarry
 SD - Multicultural Morris
 MD - Waltzing Matilda
 SD - Minn. Traditional M
 SD - Capering Roisters
 MD - Brighton Camp
 SD - Bells of the North
 SD - Cornstalk/Fox Valley
 MD - Idbury Hill
 MD - Bonnie Green Garters
 (MN Trad. will lead off)

NOTE: We prepared these on the assumption that not all teams had prepared, or would want to perform 3 separate show dances. If you do want

to perform a show dance both Saturday and Sunday afternoon,

please let us know at the Squire's meeting. Thanks,