

1989 Midwest Morris Ale in Exile
Gold Hill, Colorado

Dear Fellow Dancers,

January 11, 1989

Colorado Morris, Inc. (est. 1988) invites you to join in the excitement and joy of dancing at 5340 feet (plus) for the 1989 Midwest Morris Ale. Since our last letter, we have finalized many of our plans and received a tremendous response from all of you-- and we wanted to bring you up to date.

First, as for attendance, we have been amazed, flabber--gasted and generally dumbfounded by the number of you wishing to attend. Including maybes, we have affirmative answers from 34 teams in 17 states and provinces, totaling from 160 to 260 potential attendees. Our (Mid)Western Ale should have representatives from CA (6 teams!), WA, OR, AZ, NM, TX, and CO, not to mention the normal complement of Midwestern and Eastern teams. There are not many other Ales that will offer you the chance to see members of Berkeley Morris, Foggy Bottom, Bells of the North and Shambles Morris all in one place.

For the Ale itself, we have settled on a beautiful camp 30-45 minutes (depending on how fast your car climbs) west of Boulder. It is an old mountain lodge (previously a casino, now a children's camp) with outlying cabins, camping space and a lovely view, plus a beautiful wood dance floor for Contra dancing. As usual, Friday night will be registration, followed by general revelry, private fun, and a mass dance practice. On Saturday, touring will be in Boulder, in partial association with the Boulder Creek Festival, which should mean good-sized audiences for whom to dance. After morning workshops on Sunday, we plan to head west to dance at one of the nearby mountain towns. Monday will bring the final breakfast and camp cleanup, followed by many long good-byes.

For those of you wishing to vacation in Colorado, we will offer hospitality and places to leave your excess luggage. If you elect to stay, the following weekend, June 6-7, is the annual Moonfest, a retreat weekend of folk music and dance at the very same camp. For more information on it, you may write to: Kimball Edell, 7750 E. Arizona, Denver, CO, 80231.

Now, for the bad news. Due to the high costs of camps in Colorado, the Ale cost may be as high as \$60-65. We sincerely apologize for the (possible) jump in price, but due to the touristic nature of Colorado, there are no inexpensive camps. Although we settled on the cheapest one we could find, we still will pay 3 times as much as Ann Arbor paid for theirs. To try to remedy the situation, we are applying for several grants, but we do not yet know if we will receive any. Additionally, if the Ale cost does remain this high, we will work on offering a program of work scholarships for those who can not afford the extra cost.

Furthermore, for those of you flying, do remember that Continental Airlines is the official airlines of the 1989 Midwestern Morris Ale (and you thought only Olympics had official airlines). Specifically, what this means is that Continental will grant anywhere from a 5% discount on their Super-saver fares to up to 50% on some first class ones. For our March mailing, Continental has promised a flyer giving full details; if you need to make your reservations before then, contact us about the information you need to have.