



There is a fine

band called the



Silver City **BIG DITCH CRICKETS** that wants to play reels and lively Irish tunes so you can



**CONTRA DANCE** the night away with **LONNIE LUDEMAN** for **St. Patrick's Day**.

That's **Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>** at the Mesilla Community Center, lessons 7:30 pm

Info. under "Current Events": [www.snmmds.org](http://www.snmmds.org).

Hope to see you wearin' your best **GREEN** and a **GREAT BIG SMILE**.



**SNACKS are ALWAYS welcome. See 2017's spread – HAPPY DANCERS!**



**Photos from last month's Mardi Gras Contra:**

We had a huge crowd, over 70 persons, for this special contra dance, and many, many beginners.  
~ New were about 15 persons from Kosovo, Georgia, Taiwan, Nigeria and Albania, sponsored by Kevin S. from El Paso, who helps integrate foreigners into the US, many of whom speak 2-3 languages.  
~ Beth and Shine visiting from Damariscotta, Maine  
~ Don and Beth from the local hiking group  
~ Our favorite group from El Paso Fort Bliss came up, 9 of them!  
~ A family reunion from NY-CA- Las Cruces – meeting in the middle.  
~ And our square dance friends, some regulars and some new  
I guess it is a good thing when you run out of name tags and sign-in sheets. Whew!

So we need many “**dance angels**” who can come at 7:30 pm for lessons and pair up with newcomers. And **newcomers**, it is always good to dance first with experienced dancers – you will pick up the moves quicker with guidance. Don't hesitate to ask an experienced dancer for the next dance – we are a very friendly and helping group.



New dancer Jimmy says he “loves to dance” – oops.





Are you in this photo? You could be...Lots of dancers, many first-timers.



Bayou Seco (Jeanie & Ken) with Deming Fusiliers (Dennis & Rus) and Fusilettes Liam, Alma and Ana Sofia



Julie and Jeremy – got those Mardi Gras colors

*I'll send a video from February's contra dance with next week's reminder. Watch for it.*

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### **What's happening in music and dance:**

Coming up on **April 19**: next contra dance with **The Muletones**, Amy, Brian & Drew

Coming up in May:

#### **NM FolkMADness Camp, May 24-27, in Socorro NM**

More details here: <http://folkmaids.org/events/camps/folkmadness/>

Last year had record attendance of 225 and it is fun for all levels – so much going on at the same time, with dance in two areas, singing and harmonizing, instrument workshops, outdoor music jams, swimming, tennis, birding, fine food, stay in the dorms, OR try it by ordering a day pass.

Below is a link from FolkMADness 2011, the traditional Thrift Store Prom night. See what contra dancing is at the next level (bring your dance skills up just by being there). Note Julie (long navy dress) and Lonnie are in upper right around 1 minute 13 seconds and at end :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5MYPcNAWEQ> And THIS IS WHY WE CONTRA DANCE.



*See you next Friday in a contra swing --  
Julie and Lonnie*