# FOLK DANCE SCENE



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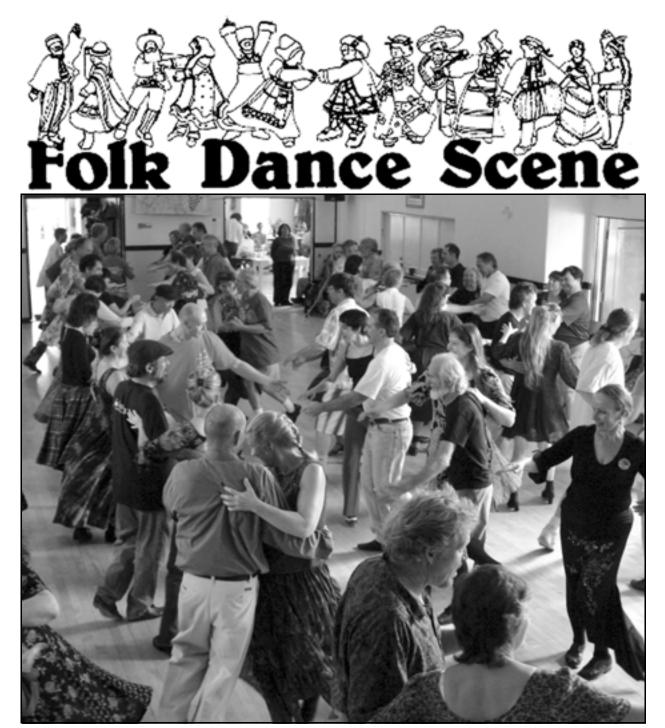
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Published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, South Volume 40, No. 4 May 2004

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### **Folk Dance Scene**

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Folk Dance Scene is published to educate its readers concerning the folk dance, music, costumes, customs, lore and culture of the peoples of the world. It is also designed to inform them of the opportunities to experience folk dance and culture in Southern California and elsewhere.

**SUBMISSIONS.** Information to be included in the Scene should reach Jay Michtom by the 10th of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for space considerations. *Electronic submission is preferred.* Views expressed in Scene are solely the opinions of the authors. Neither Scene nor the Federation assumes responsibility for the accuracy of the information sent in.

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1/2 page (6" x 3 1/2" or 3" x 7")	\$ 15	\$ 25	1524 Vivian Lane
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Email submission preferred			(949) 646-7082

#### Cover - Dancers at the Leap Frog Contra Dance weekend in Los Angeles, February 20-22, 2004. Photo by Steve Davis.

### **Beginner's Classes (cont.)**

Club	Time	Contact	Location
CONEJO VALLEY FOLK	Wed 7:30	(805) 497-1957	THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center,
DANCERS		Jill Lungren	403 W Hillcrest Dr
ETHNIC EXPRESS INT'L	Wed 6:30-7:15	(702) 732-4871	LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights Art
FOLK DANCERS	except holidays	Richard Killian	Center, 800 S. Brush St.
HAVERIM FOLK DANCERS	Sun 7-9	(805) 643-2886	VENTURA, Temple Beth Torah
OF VENTURA		Ann Zacher	760 Foothill Rd (corner Kimball)
ISRAELI DANCE WITH NATALIE STERN	Tue 7:30-8:30 Wed 7:30-8:30 Fri 10:00-11:00am	(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern	VALLEY VILLAGE, Shaarei Zedek, 12800 Chandler (Tu), L.A., Univ of Judaism Dance Studio 5600 Mulholland (W), THOUSAND OAKS, Temple Etz Chaim, 1080 Janss (F).
KAYSO FOLK DANCERS	Fri 10:00-noon	(619) 469-7133 Evelyn George	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 206 St
OJAI FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:30-9:30	(805) 646-0865	OJAI, Ojai Art Center
PASADENA CO-OP BEGINNER'S CLASS	Fri 7:45-8:30	(626)446-5160 Marsha Fenner	PASADENA, Throop Memorial Church, 300 S. Los Robles
SAN DIEGO INT'L FOLK	Wed 7:00-9:30	(619) 276-1765	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club,
DANCE CLUB		Bob or Virginia Bigelow	Presidents Way off Park, Balboa Park
SKANDIA FOLK DANCE CLASSES	Mon 7:00-10:00	(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin	ANAHEIM, Community Ctr, 250 E Center
	Wed 7:00-10:00	(310) 827-3618 Sparky Sotcher	CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park, 5401 Rhoda Way
SOUTH BAY FOLK	2nd Fri 7:45-8:15	(310) 377-6393	TORRANCE, Cultural Arts Center
DANCERS		Bea Rasoff	3330 Civic Center Dr. (310) 781-7150
WEST LOS ANGELES	Mon 7:30-8:30	(310) 202-6166	WEST L.A., Brockton School
FOLK DANCERS		Beverly Barr	1309 Armacost Ave
WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK	Thu 7:30-8:00	(310) 202-6166 Beverly	WEST L.A., F. Mahood Senior Center,
DANCERS		(310) 657-6877 Rita	11338 Santa Monica Blvd.

### **Exhibition Groups**

Club	Time	Contact	Location
AVAZ INTERNATIONAL DANCE THEATRE	Wed 7-10	(323) 663-2829 Jamal	L.A. Church of Guardian Angel, 1118 N. Commonwealth Ave.
BALLET FOLKLORICO XIUXTLA	Fri 4:00	(760) 414-9245 Jose Lucero	CARLSBAD
CLAN MACLEOD DANCERS	Mon 7:30-9:30	(818) 761-4750 Deanna St Amand	EAGLE ROCK, Women's 20th Century Club, 5105 Hermosa Ave.
DUNAJ INTERNATIONAL FOLK ENSEMBLE	Wed 7:00-10	(714) 641-7450 Richard Duree	COSTA MESA, contact: 2332 Minuteman Way
INT'L ACADEMY OF MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE		(818) 343-4410 Suzy Evans	VAN NUYS, Dars Art Center, 7412 Balboa Blvd
NAMAH ENSEMBLE	Sun 6:00 - 9:00	(310) 592-7348 Bana Sayyad	SHERMAN OAKS
SCANDIA DANCERS		(714) 533-3886 Donna Tripp	LONG BEACH, Roosevelt School
UCSB MIDDLE EAST ENSEMBLE	Tue 7:00 - 10:00	(805) 967-7125 Scott (805) 687-8823 Alexandra	SANTA BARBARA, Gehringer Music Bldg., UCSB Campus
WEST VALLEY FOLK DANCERS	Sun 1:00 - 4:00	(818) 346-5152 Joan Waller	WEST HILLS

# **Club Directory**

**Federation Clubs** 

Club	Time	Contact	Location
WEST LOS ANGELES	Mon 7:30-10:30	(310) 202-6166	WEST L.A., Brockton School
FOLK DANCERS	Fri 7:45-10:45	Beverly Barr	1309 Armacost Ave
WEST VALLEY FOLK	Fri 7:30-10:15	(818) 348-6133	CANOGA PARK, Senior Center
DANCERS		Wally Aurich	7326 Jordan Ave
WESTCHESTER LARIATS	Mon 3:30-9:00	(310) 645-5078 Ann Stenglein	LOS ANGELES, Westchester Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson
WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK	Thu 7:30-10:20	(310) 202-6166 Beverly	WEST L.A., F. Mahood Senior Center,
DANCERS		(310) 657-6877 Rita	11338 Santa Monica Blvd.

### Non-Federation Clubs

Club	Time	Contact	Location
ANAHEIM INT'L FOLKDANCERS	Wed 7:30-9:30	(714) 893-8127 Carol Maybrier	ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church, 511 S Harbor
CAFE DANSSA BALKAN DANCERS	Wed 7:30-10:30	(310) 474-1232 Gerda Worldance1@aol.com Sherry	WEST L.A., Cafe Danssa 11533 W. Pico Blvd.
CAL TECH INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Tue 7:30	(626) 797-5157 Nancy Mulligan	PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church 300 S. Los Robles
FOLK DANCE CLASS	Mon 10-11:30am Wed 10:15- 11:45am	(310) 652-8706 Tikva Mason	L.A. Robertson Rec Ctr. 1641 Preuss W HOLLYWOOD West Hollywood Park, San Vicente at Melrose
ISRAELI DANCING WITH JAMES ZIMMER	Tues 8:00-11:00 Thu 8:00-9:30	(310) 284-3638 James Zimmer Israelidance@yahoo.com	WEST HILLS, West Valley JCC, 22622 Vanowen ENCINO, Community Ctr 4935 Balboa
ISRAELI FOLK DANCING WITH YONI	Wed 7:00-11:30 Thu 7:00-11:30	(760) 631-0802 Yoni	COSTA MESA, JCC, 250 Baker St LA JOLLA, Beth El, 8660 Gilman Dr
ISRAELI DANCE WITH NATALIE STERN	Mon 10:00a-1:00 Wed 7:30-10:00 Thu 10:15-noon Wed 11:50a-12:50	(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern call for information	L.A., Univ of Judaism 5600 Mulholland (M,W Th); VALLEY VILLAGE, Adat Ariel 12020 Burbank Blvd.(W)
	Mon 6:15-8:45, Tue 10:15a-noon		L.A. Shaarei Tefila, 7269 Beverly (M,T)
OJAI FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:30-9:30	(805) 646-0865 Carol Smith	OJAI Art Center 113 S. Montgomery
SAN DIEGO FOLK DANCE CENTER	Every Evening Call for Schedule.	(619) 281-5656	SAN DIEGO, 4569 30th Street
SAN DIEGO FOLK DANCERS	Mon 7:30-9:30	(858) 571-2730 Kin Ho	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club, Balboa Park
SANTA BARBARA BALKAN FOLK DANCERS	Wed 8:00-10:30	(805) 964-3591 Jatila van der Veen	SANTA BARBARA, Oak Park Stage, corner Junipero and Calle Real
S.M.C INTERNATIONAL DANCE CLUB	Tue, Thu 11:15am-12:35	(310) 284-3637 James Zimmer	SANTA MONICA, Santa Monica College Clock Tower or LS bldg 1900 Pico Blvd
UCLA INT'L F.D. CLUB BALLROOM DANCE CLUB	Mon 9:00-11:00 Mon 7:00-9:00	(310) 284-3636 James Zimmer balllroom@ucla.edu	WESTWOOD, UCLA Ackeman Union Room 2414

### **Beginner's Classes**

Club	Time	Contact	Location
CABRILLO INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Tue 7:00-8:00	(858) 459-1336 Georgina	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club Balboa Park
Folk Dance Scene		30	May 2004



# Folk Dance Scene

#### Editor's Corner

This month's issue is a packed 32 pages. The theme is Contra Dancing, and as you will see, we had an overwhelming response to our request for articles. The first story focuses on the popular Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest and Folk Festival, which will be held this year on Sunday May 16 at Paramount Ranch in Agoura. There are also contra dance articles by Richard Duree, Gram Hempel, and Bill Burke, and a compilation of contra dances in Southern California.

Also this month, Daniela Ivanova (Bulgarian dance teacher) and Angel Nazlamov (accordion player) will be visiting several dance groups in Southern California. From the reviews we have read so far, they are not to be missed. Check out their website: dancing.cult.bg

Statewide 2004 will be in Modesto on May 28-30. Teachers will be Zeliko Jergan and Ned and Marian Gault. You can find Statewide info on pages 26-28.

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May 2004

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- Steve Davis

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# **Federation Corner**

Goodbye Well, two years have slipped by so quickly! Many of us are at the age, over 21, where every new year whizzes on by faster than the one before. Thanks to our folkdance affliction, some call it a hobby, others a pastime, we have many good memories and some bitter-sweet ones to keep us company. Over these

two years we have lost good friends who will never be replaced in our hearts or on our dance floors. Often we've had the good fortune to welcome new dancers and friends to our "villages".

All these things we have experienced together. As president of the Folk Dance Federation of Calif., South, Inc. I've had the good fortune to work with some of the kindest, most efficient people on the planet. Thanks to Lynn Bingle we've all been able to keep abreast of what we've said at each meeting and thanks to her mate. Rick. we've had a directory to refer to as we have the need. Thanks to Karen Wilson-Bell, soon to be "formerly" Vice President, we've had a calendar of events and installation ceremonies to remember. Thanks to Gordon Wall we've been able to keep track of our finances and keep our heads above the red line. Thanks to Julith Neff we have "memory" books to look back through to help us keep our experiences on the dance floor alive and well. Not one of these hard working folks had only one job. Each of them, and many more, too numerous to mention here, have kept us smoothly sailing over these past two years.

I've not made any great changes or contributions over these years. I've learned a lot more than dances, and I've had the pleasure of being with and working with some truly wonderful folks. And I've shared the sadness with all of you as we've lost some of our villagers. On March 27, I had the opportunity to be with some of our generous village folk, helping Tom Daw begin to sort out the legacy our beloved Dorothy left behind. Dorothy Daw can never be replaced nor do we want to replace her. We can remember her and thank her on a daily basis, as we reminisce, for all she has done for us. Thank you Dorothy.

So good bye, but we'll be seeing one another. Thank you folks.

- Sylvia Stachura

## **Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest & Folk Festival**



Jatila van der Veen teaching folk dancing in 2003 The 44th annual Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest & Folk Festival will be held Sunday May 16th from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Paramount Movie Ranch In the Santa Monica Mountains Recreational Area. This day-long event features bluegrass and old-time music with over 100 contestants, folk singing, jamming musicians, crafts booths, international dancing, children's activities and three professional bands.

Western string band Kelly McCune & Border Radio, bluegrass bands Desert Sage and Heart of 'Grass will entertain. International dancers will perform in costume: fiddlers, singers, banio players, mandolin pickers and guitarists of all ages will compete for prizes and gifts; jamming musicians will play together on Western movie sets; and children will enjoy crafts, songs and storytelling. An expected crowd of 3–5,000 pickin' and grinnin' fans will be a-stompin' to a vast array of music and dancing at the Contest.

Recently the Music Legend Award was initiated in which one person, group or organization is honored that has distinguished itself over the years in the preservation and advancement of old time, folk and bluegrass music in the Southern California area. The prize consists of a trophy and cash award of \$1000. Nominations are invited. See the website for details.

The family-oriented event, held in outdoor film sets and mountain locations used for many Western movies including the television show, "Dr. Quinn Medicine Woman," features four stages:

The Contest Stage, where contestants and professional bands perform.

The Dance Stage, where folks can watch or join English Country, Irish Set, Scottish Country, Clogging, Children's, Contra and Mixed Couples Dancing.

The Railroad Stage, featuring Suzie Glaze (Appalachian Songs of Jean Ritchie), Sandii Castleberry & Ron Daigh (singing the History of Country Music), Fred Sokolow (sings Hank Williams), Ross Altman (sings The Man in Black: Johnny Cash) and Brantley Kearns (sings Bob Wills, King of Western Swing).

The covered Pavilion Stage, featuring Beginning and Intermediate Fiddle playoffs, Ken Graydon (Sea Songs of the Pacific), Mike Mahaney (Cowboy Songs and Poetry), Bob Flesher (Clawhammer & Minstrel Banjo) and Jacki Breger (Children's Songs).

Visitors may also find a bounty of folk arts booths featuring weaving, ceramics, woodcarving, inlaying, leather craft, metal work, jewelry, needlework, painting, glass and more. National Park Service environmental booths will provide exhibits and information. Children's crafts activities will take place in the Eucalyptus Grove.

Beginning, intermediate and advanced musicians are encouraged to bring their instruments and participate in informal jam sessions. Food and drinks are available but picnickers are welcome to throw a blanket on the grass and eat. Low-backed beach chairs and shade umbrellas are recommended.

The first Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest was held in 1961 at a private home in Topanga Canyon and attracted 26 five-string banjo pickers, 5 fiddlers, and more than 500 people. Last year, the Festival drew over 110 contestants and over 3,500 visitors.

Tickets are sold only at the gate. Children under 10 are admitted free of charge. Parking is also free.

Directions from the Valley: Take the Ventura Fwy (101) to the Kanan Rd. off-ramp, go south (towards the beach) 1/4 mile to Cornell Rd., turn left and continue 2 1/2 miles to Paramount Ranch. Signs are clearly posted.

For more information including contest entry applications, vendor booths and volunteering please call (818) 382-4819. Or you may visit our recently updated web site at www.topangabanjofiddle.org You can also e-mail at info@topangabanjofiddle.org.

The event is sponsored by Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest & Folk Festival, Inc. in cooperation with the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, a unit of the National Park Service.

Warren Garfield

May 2004

# **Club Directory**

Federation (	Clubs
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Club	Time	Contact	Location
CABRILLO INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Tue 7:00-10:00	(858) 459-1336 Georgina	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park, Balboa Park Club
CONEJO VALLEY	Wed 7:30-9:30	(805) 497-1957	THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center,
FOLK DANCERS		Jill Lungren	403 W Hillcrest Dr
CULVER CITY	Wed 7:30-10:00	(310) 398-8187	CULVER CITY, Culver West Park,
HOLLYWOOD PEASANTS		Al Drutz	4162 Wade St. (park on Moore St.)
ETHNIC EXPRESS INT'L	Wed 6:30-9:00	(702) 732-4871	LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights Art
FOLK DANCERS	except holidays	Richard Killian	Center, 800 S. Brush St.
HAVERIM INT'L FOLK	Sun 7-9	(805) 643-2886	VENTURA, Temple Beth Torah
DANCERS		Ann Zacher	7620 Foothill Rd (corner Kimball)
KERN INT'L FOLK	Wed 7:00-9:00	(661) 831-5007	BAKERSFIELD, Wayne Van Horn
DANCERS		Delphine Szczepkowski	School, 5501 Kleinpell Ave.
KRAKUSY POLISH FOLK	Tu, W, F 7:15-9:30	(626) 286-6779	LOS ANGELES, Polish Parish Hall,
DANCE ENSEMBLE	Sat 2:00-4:30	Steve Perzyna	3424 W Adams Blvd.
KYPSELI GREEK	Fri 8:00	(818) 990-5542	PASADENA, Skandia Hall
FOLK DANCING		Dalia Miller	2031 E. Villa
LAGUNA FOLK DANCERS	Sun 7:00-10:00	(714) 893-8888	LAGUNA BEACH, Community Ctr
	Wed 8:00-10:00	Ted Martin	384 Legion Ave
LEISURE WORLD INT'L	Tue 8:30am-11:00	(949) 768-6039	LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 1,
FOLK DANCE CLUB	Sat 9:00am-11:00	Florence Tabor	Leisure World
MOUNTAIN DANCERS	Thu 7:00-9:30	(626) 794-8889 Vicki Davis	S. PASADENA, Woman's Club, 1424 Fremont Ave.
MULTICULTURAL ARTS	Wed 5:00-7:30	(949) 770-7026	LAGUNA WOODS, Leisure World Club
CLUB		Miriam Kahn	House 1 Gym, 24232 Calle Aragon
NARODNI INT'L	Thu 7:30-10:30	(562) 862-0521	DOWNEY, Dance America, 12405
FOLKDANCERS		Carol Wall	Woodruff Ave.
PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP	Fri 7:45-11:00	(626)446-5160 Marsha Fenner	PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church 300 S. Los Robles
SAN DIEGO INT'L FOLK	Wed 7:00-9:30	(619) 276-1765	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club,
DANCE CLUB		Bob or Virginia Bigelow	Presidents Way off Park, Balboa Park
SAN DIEGO VINTAGE	Thu 8:30 - 9:30	(858) 622-9924	SAN DIEGO, Normal Heights
DANCERS		Marry Jennings	Methodist Church 4650 Mansfield St.
SAN PEDRO KOLO	Mon 7:30-9:30	(310) 832-1074	SAN PEDRO, Dalmatian-American
DANCERS		Pauline Klak	Club, 1639 S Palos Verdes St.
SANTA BARBARA COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY	Sun 5:30-10:00 Tue 7:00-9:00	(805) 682-1877 Elliott Karpeles (805) 682-5523 Gary Shapiro	SANTA BARBARA Carrillo Rec Center 100 E. Carrillo St. (Sun) Westside Cmnty Ctr, 423 W Victoria (Tue)
SANTA MARIA FOLK	Mon 7:00-9:00	(805) 528-0568	SANTA MARIA, Veterans Memorial
DANCERS		Jean Wheeler	Ctr, Pine & Tunnell Sts
SKANDIA DANCE	Mon 7:00-10:00	(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin	ANAHEIM, Downtown Community
CLASSES		(714) 533-3886 Donna Tripp	Center, 250 E Center
	Wed 7:00-10:00	(310) 827-3618 Sparky	CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park, 5401
	Call for others	Sotcher	Rhoda Way
SOLVANG VILLAGE FOLK DANCERS	Sat 7:00-10:00	(805) 688-2382 Jean Menzies	SOLVANG, Jonata Elementary School 301 2nd Street, Buellton
SOUTH BAY FOLK	2nd Fri 7:45-9:45	(310) 377-6393	TORRANCE, Torrance Cultural Ctr,
DANCERS		Bea Rasoff	3330 Civic Center Dr.
TUESDAY GYPSIES	Tue 7:30-10:30	(310) 390-1069 Millicent Stein	CULVER CITY, Masonic Lodge 9635 Venice Blvd.
VESELO SELO FOLK	Sat 8:00-11:00	(714) 738-8008	FULLERTON, Hillcrest Recreation Ctr,
DANCERS		Phyllis Pivar	1155 N. Lemon
VINTAGE ISRAELI	4th or 5th Sat	(818) 990-8925 Louis	SHERMAN OAKS, Anisa's School of
DANCING	confirm	dovbyrd@aol.com	Dance, 14252 Ventura Blvd.

May 2004

Folk Dance Scene

# Statewide 2004 · May 28,29,30, 2004 Valley Fever Registration

Friday Welcome Dance Party, Music by Chubritza		Single ev \$15	vent prices \$		
Saturday Institute I with Ned & Marian Gault Institute II with Zeliko Jergen Oldies, But Goodies Workshop with Ned Gault Dance Party I (Music by Chubritza) and/or Dance Party II (Balkan)		\$15 \$15 \$7 \$15	\$ \$ \$		
Sunday Oldies, But Goodies Workshop with AI & Teddy Wolterbeek Dance Concert Dance Party	Total	\$7 \$15 \$15	\$ \$ <b>\$</b>		
<ul> <li>Full Package Special Price \$69 befor Includes all dance events – All Meals are Extra</li> <li>Syllabus \$5 each</li> </ul>	e May 7	\$	·		
Sunday Special Meals (Reservation Only By May Installation Brunch Greek Dinner Tour of the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation (		\$20 \$20 Total	s s <b>s</b>		
Name(s):					
Address:					
Street City Phone: ( ) E-mail:	Sta	ate	Zip		
Amount Enclosed \$ (Optional receipt by mail e-mail) Make checks payable to: Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc. Mail to : Modesto Folk Dancers, c/o McElroy, 1204 Moffet Road, Modesto, CA 95351					
For information, call Barbara Summers (209) 578-5551 or <u>bsumone@softcom.net</u> HOTEL RESERVATIONS AVAILABLE: the DOUBLETREE 209.526.6000. Ask for "Folkdance Federation Special Rate" (available through May 7, 2004)					

# Contra Dancing in So. Calif.



The Growling Old Geezers from San Luis Obispo

On these pages are some of the places that you can enjoy yourself contra dancing. There is even one contra dance group, Santa Barbara Country Dance Society, that is a member of the Folk Dance Federation. Additionally, some folk dance groups include contras in their dance programs, such as Westwood Co-op, Tuesday Gypsies, West Valley, West L.A., and Pasadena Co-op.

All of these illustrate a trend towards combining contra with folk dancing; i.e., contra as an American folk dance. One publication that does this extremely well is **Folkworks.** This bi-monthly newspaper is available free of charge at many locations throughout California. It contains information about all types of folk music and dancing (contra, international, etc.).

### **Contra Dancing in Santa Barbara**

The Santa Barbara Country Dance Society (SBCDS) sponsors contra dances every Sunday night at the Carrillo Ballroom, 100 E. Carrillo St. in Santa Barbara. There is a beginners introduction at 6:30 pm and the dance is 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. There is a 20 minute break starting around 8:30 pm, during which time there is folk dancing, or swing or cajun dancing.

The Sprung Floor Dance Festival is May 29-30, with dancing both afternoons and evenings.

The Carrillo Ballroom has one of the finest sprung floors on the West Coast, and dancing there is a delight. For more info (including Ojai and San Luis Obispo), call (805) 969-1511 or go to <u>www.sbcds.org</u>. SBCDS is a member club of the Folk Dance Federation of California, South.



Contra Dancing at the Summer Solstice Folk Music, Dance and Folk Music Festival, June 25-27, 2004 on the campus of Soka University

Contra dance has been a major feature of the Summer Solstice Folk Music, Dance and Folk Music Festival for many years. This year, a series of contra dance workshops during the day, featuring callers **Susan Michaels** and **Seth Tepfer** (pictured above), and the bands Turtle Creek, Atlantic Crossing and The Syncopaths, culminates on Sunday afternoon with a hard core dance with band The Blue Ghillies.

In addition, there are three hour contra dances on Friday and Saturday evening of the Festival.



On Friday, June 25 starting at 7:30 the bands are Nightingale (9:00-10:30) and The Syncopaths.(7:30-9:00). The Vermont trio Nightingale (pictured above) consists of **Becky Tracy** (fiddle), **Keith Murphy** (piano, guitar, foot percussion), and **Jeremiah McLane** (piano, accordion). Their music travels from (continued on page 10)

- Steve Davis

Folk Dance Scene

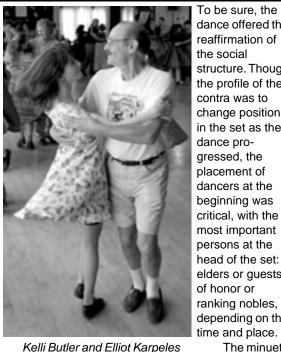
# **Origins of**

Dance history scholars take great pleasure in researching the connection of today's contra dance with the origins of dance in the misty annals of history. The evolution from tribal chain and circle dance rituals through the Renaissance to the New England contra is indeed an interesting journey, taking us through the very foundations of modern Western civilization.

It is a dance form which has lasted for half a millennium and was distributed across half the planet in cultures as diverse as an Elizabethan English village and an Early California hacienda. The Renaissance created the early forms of the contra dance, the first time in identifiable history when members of the opposite sex could dance together, even if only by an extended hand hold. Rigid formality prevailed and the dance became a major event at court with complex figures prepared for each ball by court dance masters. Dance technique was rigid, artificial, pompous and frequently harmful to the body - but the thrill of dancing with a member of the opposite sex was worth it. Even Queen Elizabeth I was a noted dancer and thoroughly enjoyed her participation in the dance. The Renaissance's effect on the arts in general, and dance in particular, significantly changed Western civilization forever and set it on the path to today, with new freedoms to create and think and explore.

It is interesting to examine the where and why of the contra's distribution and who has embraced its charm. There surely were parallel developments in the dance by the aristocracy and peasants. One can readily visualize the pomp and pageantry of the Baroque minuet, with the overly decorated court costume of the day, performed in vaulted ballrooms on polished floors to the strains of a full orchestra. Contrast that with the country dance, similar in form, danced with abandon by the common folk in simple clothing perhaps in a barn or on a hard-packed plot of earth somewhere in the village. Similar dances were performed in a character suitable to the aesthetics and values of the dancers. The charm and attraction of the contra in either venue was the same and it fulfilled several social needs - and here lies the value, even today, of the contra dance.

The dance became the opportunity for social and recreational interaction between generations and genders which could not exist in any other place. The business of court and the business of survival could be set aside and music would guide life for the moment of the dance.



dance offered the reaffirmation of the social structure. Though the profile of the contra was to change position in the set as the dance proaressed, the placement of dancers at the beginning was critical, with the most important persons at the head of the set: elders or guests of honor or ranking nobles, depending on the time and place. The minuet /

contra was originally created and choreographed by professional dancing masters, who, in order to maintain their position, were required to continually create new dance figures. As would be supposed, the figures became more and more complex, as the dancing masters explored the possibilities offered by the contra formation. It is interesting to consider the idea that these figures and the teamwork required to execute them might have been the seed for the interest in complex and precise machinery that eventually created the Industrial Revolution. It is no coincidence that the very ethnic groups which have taken the complexities of the quadrilles and contras as their own are the same ones noted for the exquisite precision of their machinery, optics, watches, cars and such.

An interesting comparison can be made between the Scottish and English Country Dances. Contrast the exactly prescribed character of the Scots, with all the discipline of classical ballet, with the almost casual, flat-footed walk of the English. Scottish progressions in the set are marvels of precision, while those of the English are casual by comparison. A comment was once made that the English must be a lot more "laid back" than the Scots based on this observation, to

## Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc Statewide 2004 - May 28 - 29 - 30

# Valley Fever Schedule of Events

# Friday

7:00 - 10 p.m. 7:30 - 11:30 P.m. 11:30 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m. on 10:00 a.m. - Noon 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.

### 11:00 p.m. Sunday 9:30 a.m. on

11:30 a.m. -

9:30 - 11:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m.

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

2:15 - 4:15 p.m.

4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

7:00 - 11:00 p.m.

After Party Registration Institute I Lunch Institute II Oldies, But Goodles Workshop Request Dances Dinner Dance Party I Dance Party II – Balkan After Party Registration Installation Brunch

Registration

Lunch

Dinner

Request Dances

Dance Concert

Dance Party

North/South Meeting

Welcome Dance Party

Live Music by Chubritza

Ned & Marian Gault On Your Own Zeliko Jergen Ned Gault

On Your Own Live music by Chubritza

On Your Own Your Choice

Al & Teddy Wolterbeek

Greek Dinner To be announced

11:00 p.m. on After Party Be prepared! "Oh, My G..." Dance Vignetttes may pop up any time!

Oldies, But Goodles Workshop

Hotel Reservations are available at The Doubletree Hotel at Area Code 209 526-6000 Ask for the "Folkdance Federation Rate of \$69 per night" Special Rate is available through May 7,2004

Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc Statewide 2004 - May 28 - 29 - 30

# Valley Fever in Modesto

Institutes with

Ned and Marian Gault

Zeliko Jergan Teaching New Dances

- Oldies but Goodies Workshops
- IN Live Music! With Chubritza
- pr Dance Party featuring International and Balkan Rooms
- Dance Concert spotlighting

Scandinavian, African, Portuguese, Middle Eastern Dancers

and International Champion Greek Dancers of the Church of the Annunciation

Image: Special Greek dinner and church tour

All Festival Dance Activities Under One Roof Courtesy of Doubletree Hotel and Modesto Centre Plaza Tenth and K Streets, Modesto, Ca

# Catch the Fever!

For Information, call Barbara at 209 578-5551 Or e-mail bsumone@softcom.net

Hotel Reservations are available at The Doubletree Hotel at Area Code 209 526-6000 Ask for the "Folkdance Federation Rate of \$69 per night" Special Rate is available through May 7,2004

# **Contra Dancing**

which another person, familiar with both, nodded and agreed. The character of the dance does indeed reflect the personality of the creator.

A LA SRITA D'MARIDE GUTTERES. LA MATTINS CONTRADANZA. FOR MANUEL SAUMELL Una per colori de la contra de la D. T. CHARTER THINK And big intriviet (P CHERRIC PART & Line) Ing Of Inity : On : On Of (Personal i fielting alle a marking thill by a start

by Manuel Samuell (b. 1817)

tecolero who controlled the dance.

fandangos and bailes of the Californios and the elders

and quests were indeed placed at the head of the set

with the rest of the assemblage placed in social order.

part of life from the beginning of colonization. English

longways sets of the contra; in the villages, callers and

country dances brought by settlers evolved into the

musicians were recognized for their contributions to

the dance, as were those considered to be the best

dancers. Every Saturday night featured a contra dance

somewhere and citizens routinely traveled from one to

the Atlantic coast, the contra went with it. Indeed, the

wealthy planters of the South were very concerned

with being in step with the latest European fashions

London were eagerly followed, though some alteration

dancer, had a particular favorite known as Sir Roger de

Coverly; we know it now as Virginia Reel. One can only

imagine the father of our country grinnin' and spinnin'

and the latest contra dance figures from Paris and

was natural. General George Washington, an avid

As the American population spread up and down

In New England, the contra dance was an integral

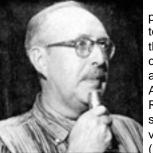
This arrangement was an important duty for the el

The contradanza found its way to Early California, a direct import from Paris in the early 19th century when the minuet was giving way to the less formal contra dance. Its character follows closely the rigid form and style of the minuet, though following it by some fifty years. It was important enough to be Music for "La Matilde," composed traditionally the first

dance of the

The Appalachian Mountains harbored yet another form of the contra in the Big Circle Dance, with the caller dancing in the set. The circle form of the contra provided even more possibilities for figures, a factor not unexplored by the callers. The mix of English, Irish, Scottish and African cultures created the first truly American dance culture in the remote hamlets and settlements of these mountains.

The westward migration took the contra with it and changed it to suit the new situation. Back home, everyone knew the figures to the dances, but settlers in the new territories came from everywhere. It quickly became apparent that the old figures and dances would have to adapt - and so they did. Figures were contributed by the dancers as they knew them from home and those with the skills of a caller assembled new dances from the patchwork of old ones. Quadrilles became more dominant than long sets - the reasons are many and probably more subtle than we know; it could have been the shape of the rooms or the numbers of dancers present or just the preference of one or another caller. But the square dance became America's dance, a parallel dance to the contra.



Contra dances are perhaps danced more today than at any time in the past. Well-attended contra dances are held in almost every city in America, large and small. Regional variations in style and character are very evident. Ralph Page (left), who was the man

most responsible for re-establishing the contra dance in New England, was one smooth dancer, gliding through the figures as though on rollers, arriving precisely at the correct position at the correct beat. He tolerated no foolishness or inattention in the dances he called and would evict those who would not take the dance seriously. He was a stern New Englander, after all, and he set the standard.

Dance the dance smoothly and well and savor the connection with history. You are, after all, following in the footsteps of Queen Elizabeth I, Marie Antoinette, George Washington and countless others across the passage of time.

- Richard Duree

his way through the set.

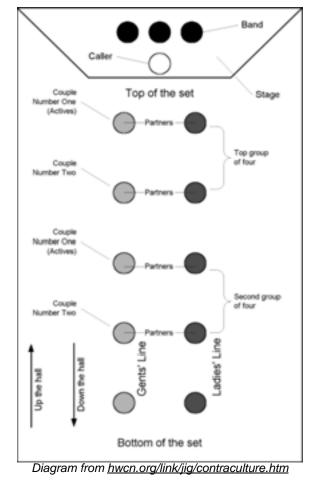
the other to join in.

Folk Dance Scene

# The Growth of

#### **Historical Overview**

Contra dance arrived in this country with the English settlers. In the beginning, everyone, of every social class in the thirteen colonies knew and danced them. After the Revolution, the dance titles took on a different significance. Such names as *British Sorrow, Jefferson and Liberty,* and *Hull's Victory* were considered to be more "American" and replaced some of the older dances. With time, and particularly after the War of 1812, contra dances grew out of favor within some of the regions and the new French quadrilles (later named "square dance") grew in popularity in these areas. The one region where contras continued to survive, and eventually thrive and evolve, was New England.



#### **Characteristics of the Dance**

Contra dances are done in longway sets (see left). Couples stand opposite their partner and couples line up down the dance hall. If there are too many couples in the hall, they form an additional second or even third set if the hall is wide enough. The band and caller sit and stand at one end of the hall. This end of the hall is referred to as the "top" or "head" of the hall, and the other end of the hall is termed the "bottom" or "foot." Historically, these terms are held over from European courts in which the end of the hall where the royal "presence" sat was the "head" of the hall.

Sub-sets are formed within the greater set by having the first couple join hands with the second couple, and the third couple join hands with the fourth couple, and so on down the set. Every odd numbered couple is considered "active" and the other couple in the sub-set (even numbered) is "inactive." These sub-sets of two couples each are what give it the designation "duple." There have also been many old style dances that are danced in a triple formation where each sub-set has one active and two inactive couples.

In every contra dance there is a "progression" in which, during one cycle of a 64-beat choreography (a complete AABB phrasing), the "active" couple progresses down the set one position and starts the cycle all over again with the next "inactive" couple. If there were no progression the result would be that the couple would remain in the same position dancing with the same people over and over again. This progression gives the dance its visiting couples effect.

Dances such as the Virginia Reel are called' whole set' dances because all the couples in the set are considered to be one 'whole' with no sub-sets. The top. or head, couple is the only active couple; while all others are inactive. Sets are formed with the men all on one side in a long line facing the women's line; partners are directly across from each other. These are among the oldest dances. Also among the older dances are those that are done duple and proper. In these sets the "proper" refers to the men staying in one long line opposite the women's line as in whole set dances. A newer development is dances that are done duple and improper. Sub-sets are still formed within the greater set as in the previously described manner under duple, proper. In these sets the "improper" refers to the active couples crossing over and exchanging places with their partners. The active woman now being in the

# **Recent Events**

gear, and one shirt in a plastic bag and went downstairs to the hotel lobby. There the company manager stopped him and inquired where he was going. Mihai replied, "Just shopping" and miraculously he was allowed to pass. He made his way into the streets, and using the Italian that Alexandru had taught him, he asked a traffic policeman directions to the nearest police station and it was there he nervously asked for political asylum. After producing his passport, the officials asked what kind of wine he liked and they drank to his new found freedom.

Six months later, in January of 1967, Mihai immigrated to the U.S. He worked at various jobs unrelated to dance, danced with the Boston Ballet Company for six months, and then moved to Detroit, Michigan to direct a dance group for the Romanian community living there. From there he moved to California, danced *adagio* in Las Vegas for a short time, was drafted into the U.S. Army and while in service danced with the Augusta Ballet Company in Georgia.

In 1969 he heard about the famous folk dance coffee house called "The Intersection" in Los Angeles and it was there he met members of the Folk Dance Federation of California. South and other contacts who invited him to teach them Romanian dances. In 1972 he was invited to teach at the San Francisco Kolo Festival and in 1973 he taught at the Stockton Folk Dance Camp and the San Diego Folk Dance Conference. From 1970-1976 he operated his own folk dance coffee house called "The Gypsy Camp." During his career Mihai has co-directed folk dance symposiums and camps, has led folk dance tours to Romania, has sponsored Romanian dance ensembles to the U.S. for concert tours, has taught Romanian dance throughout the U.S., Canada, the Orient, and Australia, and has produced a valuable set of video tapes documenting all the dances he has introduced.

It would be remiss not to acknowledge Mihai's brother, Alexandru, because Mihai credits Alexandru for a large part of his success. Alexandru finally escaped the doom of Communism several years after Mihai's defection, but at a much more dangerous risk. Although Mihai has been much more visible, Mihai and Alexandru have jointly arranged, researched, collected and documented all the dances they have taught and produced the accompanying recordings.

Before Mihai began teaching we really had a very limited repertoire of Romanian dances. However, when Mihai came on the scene, all this changed. He has introduced 150 or more Romanian dances and many of these are the most popular dances being done in the international folk dance movement across the U.S. and Canada. Mihai has had us hopping, jumping, twisting,

turning, stomping and stamping our way through Batutas, Brîuls, Aluneluls, Horas, Învîrtitas, Ardeleanas, Sîrbas, Trei Pazestes and every kind of Romanian dance there is. He has given us so many great dances: Brîuletul, Cimpoi, Crihalama. Ciuleandra, Hora Fetelor, Hora Spoitorilor, Itele, Rustemul, Tarina de la Abrud – and the list goes on and on. How can any of us forget the famous (or should I say infamous) Floricica Olteneasca? We all killed ourselves learning this complex, electrifying, lightning fast dance-and felt so proud and smug when we finally "got it!" Of course, we never did really "get it" because none of us can dance like Mihai.

Mihai, tonight we express our gratitude to you for all the beautiful and exciting Romanian dances you have given us and for instilling within us an interest and appreciation for Romanian folk culture. We are very fortunate that 38 years ago in Trieste, Italy you made that big decision to leave your life in Romania behind.

You have been a very fine ambassador for Romania and the impact you have had on international folk dancing has been very great, indeed. You brought a beauty and excitement to the dance that will never be forgotten. From all of us-thank you! Ladies and gentlemen. Mihai David."

### - Vonnie Brown (March 13, 2004)

#### DENNIS BOXELL TEACHES IN SANTA BARBARA



On April 14, over 40 Santa Barbara Balkan Dancers enjoyed dancing under the stars with guest teacher **Dennis Boxell** (at left with group leader **Luis Goena**). One of the foremost authorities on

Balkan dancing, Dennis has been a beloved teacher of the American folk dance community for over 30 years.

Among the eight dances Dennis taught that night, this group had two favorites: *Troïrou*, from northern Greece, is played by a gaida with a strong tapan accompaniment in an even 8/8 rhythm. This dance has a tantalizingly tricky pattern of emphasized stamps.

Our second favorite was a wonderfully syncopated foot pattern to our old favorite, the *Pravo Capraz* (fast pravo), with different styling for the men and women, including a coordination-challenging arm-swinging pattern for the women.

- Jatila van der Veen

# **Recent Events**

#### **TEACHER'S SEMINAR A MARVELOUS SUCCESS**

Friday, March 19, I found myself relaxing in the Burbank airport waiting for my friend **Jane Reed** and the plane that would take us to Las Vegas for the Teacher Training Seminar. We arrived late that evening and thanks to **Rick** and **Lynn Bingle**, we made it to our hotel, walking distance to the seminar's venue.

Saturday was scheduled to start late. What a wise decision that was. Participants did not have to feel rushed or begin a learning experience already exhausted. Our two instructors were ready and the organizing members of the dance group, The Ethnic Express, greeted us at the door of the Charleston Heights Art Center. We signed in and received a binder with the weekend's information concisely presented and ready to be used in class and for future reference.

**Richard Duree** and **Dick Oakes** were ready for the seminar and they began the afternoon first by presenting themselves and then asking all of the participants to introduce themselves and tell a little about the kind of dance they are involved in. Students ranged from folk dancers who have been dancing since the 40's to one interested in medieval dance in particular. They came from various parts of the USA and had a large variety of experiences to share.

Our two instructors took turns and in their own very individual styles began to share information with us. At times there were lecture sessions with reference to the written materials and most often we were physically involved with actual dance movement, discussed, demonstrated, practiced and critiqued. We learned some new terminology and a variety of ways to check our own methods of teaching dance. Check lists, questions, historical background, dance notes, choreogeography and definitions are a part of what we learned about and brought back with us.

Saturday evening **Bob** and **Betty Shapiro** graciously made their home available to all of us for a potluck and an evening of dance outdoors. What a pleasant surprise we had when we were joined by the Barrs that evening. I've been teaching dance for a while but having had an opportunity to hone those skills among other like-minded individuals was exciting. We hope there will be a next time and that the Folkdance Federation of Calif., South will sponsor or cosponsor it. – *Sylvia Stachura and Jane Reed* 

NATIONAL DANCE AWARD TO MIHAI DAVID – 45TH San Antonio College Folk Dance Festival



danced to his uncle's balalaika music and at the age of eight he began attending the Pioneer's Youth Palace-a place where all interested Romanian youth begin and learn to dance. Two years later he was selected to attend the School of Choreography in Bucharest and continued there for eight years, studying classical ballet, character dance, modern dance, and folk dance.

During this time he danced with various amateur ensembles including UTM (The Young Communists), considered to be the best amateur ensemble in Romania and directed by the famous choreographer and ethnochoreologist **Theodor Vasilescu**, a teacher at our 2002 SAC Festival.

At age 17, Mihai was accepted into the professional ranks and became the lead dancer in the Romania State Ensemble called Ciocîrlia. Two years later he resigned from Ciocília and was accepted into another professional group called The Music Hall Ensemble. Mihai's brother, Alexandru, was a lead dancer with this company and encouraged Mihai to join because of concert tours scheduled to Western Europe. Both Mihai and Alexandru had strong desires to leave Communist Romania and this seemed to present an excellent opportunity for defection. Two weeks after joining the company Mihai was off to Paris but Alexandru was denied traveling privileges because of his long-time associations with Western contacts. After the French tour, Mihai returned to Bucharest because he and Alexandru still had hopes of leaving Romania together. However, this never happened. The next year Alexandru was again denied travel and Mihai went on tour to Germany, East Berlin, and Italy. The day before the last performance in Trieste, Italy, Mihai put on a suit and tie, packed his toothbrush, toothpaste, shaving

# **Contra Dance**

"men's line" and the active man now being in the "women's line," therefore the term "improper." As the couples hold hands in their circle-of-four, they are now positioned man, woman, man, woman. Most of the dances done today are in an improper formation. **Historical Development and Trends** 

Contra dancing went through a series of changes over the years. In the early nineteenth century, duple, proper dances are preferred. By the mid nineteenth century the preference is for improper dances. Around 1900 the longway set continues to hang on in New England, but squares (quadrilles) start to move west and south. Although contra dances are preserved in New England they decline in popularity even there.

In 1926 Henry Ford's Good Morning is published. Among other dances it contains fifteen contras. Ford attempts to influence his workers to engage in the wholesome "dances of our northern peoples" instead of those "immoral" dances of the dance hall. Around 1930 a square dance revival begins. "Square dance" programs included squares, contras and couple dances such as Fox Trot and Waltz. Ralph Page (1903-1985) was very influential in perpetuating contras and squares in New England. As a dance musician turned caller, he became the dean of contra dance by calling the old time squares and contras and being a repository of tradition. After World War II, the "club" square dance movement starts and changes the way Americans look upon the old form. Club squares eventually became too complicated for most dancers.

Around 1950 the first contra dance revival begins in New England. Squares and contras reach fad status, because urban dwellers who skied in Vermont and New Hampshire discovered country dance and began hiring callers such as Ralph Page for their parties in Boston and other urban centers. A few of these cityfolk learned to call, and contra dance became a part of the urban scene once again. The old style contra involved the active couples doing most of the dancing and the inactive couples waiting their turn to become active. Caller **Herbie Gaudreau** starts to change all of that by choreographing "equal, all-moving" dances, which are in demand today.

In the early 1960s the second contra dance revival begins in New England. During the '60s, interest in squares and contras declined somewhat. However, a few "traditionalists" assisted in breaking away from the club square dance movement and caught the attention of college students in the northeast. By now they were referring to it as "contra dancing" rather than square dancing to distinguish it from the club movement. Many new, young people learned to play contra music and new, young callers came on the scene. Contra choreographers, in a quest for new material, borrowed from English country-dance and figures such as Hey, Gypsy, and Half-figure-eight are introduced into the American contra dance scene.

In the 1970s contra dancing spreads to many urban areas across the United States. Dancers in these communities are very sophisticated and highly educated urbanites who are not opposed to using the tools of modern day technology to promote their groups. Today virtually every contra dance group across the nation has a web page announcing their dance schedule.

Some of the current trends and controversies of today's contra dancing involve whether it's becoming too complicated like club square dances, whether there's too much standardization across the nation thus losing its regional variations, and whether its becoming too professional because callers and musicians are being paid increasingly larger fees. **References** 

Parkes, Tony. *Contra Dance Calling*. Bedford, MA: Hands Four Books, 1992.

Sannella, Ted. *Balance and Swing*. New York: Country Dance and Song Society, 1982.

Tolman, Beth & Ralph Page. *The Country Dance Book.* Weston, VT: Countryman Press, 1937.

#### - Graham Hempel

Graham Hempel is an Assoc. Professor of Dance in the School of Music & Dance at San Diego State Univ. where he teaches courses in dance history, ethnology, and pedagogy. Graham has been calling dances since 1994, both throughout California and Arizona and in Kentucky and North Carolina. Among contra dancers, Graham is known for his concise & helpful teaching and for creating exciting programs suited to dancers at all levels. Graham performed Don Cossack Chorus and Dancers of New York and the AMAN Folk Ensemble of Los Angeles. He has researched dance in Croatia, Georgian Republic, Serbia, and the United States. He has created over forty choreographies; published five research articles; founded two ethnic dance companies; and has been active as a master teacher for over thirty years in the U.S. & Mexico.

Folk Dance Scene

# **Contra Dancing in**

#### (continued from page 5)

Quebec and Newfoundland to Ireland, France and Scandinavia for a style that is unique and compelling.

With influences ranging from jazz to rock, The Syncopaths have delighted Southern California contradancers with eclectic traditionalism. The band's signature sound showcases soaring improvisations with highly sycopated rhythms. Band members are well known in Southern California. Christa Burch plays bodhran with several contra and Irish bands around Los Angeles, Multi-instrumentalist Bill Flores has played music professionally for over 25 years and has played with artists such as Bob Dylan, Stevie Ray Vaughn and Mike Seeger. Scottish fiddle champion Ryan McKasson, who began studying violin at three, has appeared with Richard Green and with the Los Angeles Scottish Fiddlers. Known for his energetic piano style, Jeff Spero has played for dances and festivals throughout Southern California.



On Saturday night June 26, starting at 7:00, the bands are The Monks (7:00-8:45) and Domino (8:45-10:30). The Monks (pictured above) are a raging, Old Time band from Bloomington, Indiana. As a band, they continue to play nationally to rave reviews, backing up this country's finest dance callers. The Monks are Claudio Buchwald, Abby & Evie Ladin, and Sam **Bartlett**. Pulitzer prize-winning author Annie Proulx wrote about them, "If you're not dead, The Monks will get you dancing."

Domino, from Canada, is a group of three musicians and composers who channel their original repertoire in the spirit of tradition and who interpret traditional tunes in their own style! Domino is made up of Richard Forest, Rachel Aucoin, and Sabin Jagues. Richard Forest has played fiddle for over 25 years and is a central figure in the Quebec traditional music revival. Rachel Aucoin grew up steeped in the Acadian

heritage and now is considered one to the best quebecois-style piano accompanists. Sabin Jagues is a diatonic accordion virtuoso whose "swing" is unsurpassed. He is widely regarded as one of Quebec's best.

Both nights feature callers **Susan Michaels** and **Seth Tepfer**. Susan has been calling contras, squares and family dances for 15 years and has toured throughout the western US and Canada. Susan offers contemporary and traditional dances that are smooth and interesting. Susan hasn't written any books or received any awards but she's a damn good caller.

Seth Tepfer is "Atlanta's Dance Magician," calling dances for adults and children like you've never seen before. Known for his infectious energy, his short walkthru's, and his 'hash-contras', Seth's warm enthusiasm is contagious, and gets everyone moving, smiling, and having a great time. Whether in squares, contras, or other folk dances, you can be certain that all involved novices and experienced dancers alike - will amble away happy and eager to dance more!

More information is available from the website at CTMSFolkMusic.org or by calling (818) 817-7756. - Chris R. Warber

#### California Dance Cooperative

The California Dance Cooperative sponsors Contra Dances and English Country Dances every week in the greater Los Angeles area. A short introduction to contra dance is offered before each dance. It is not a substitute for dancing with experienced partners, nor is it considered a prerequisite for joining the dance, but some people feel more comfortable having attended the introduction.

Feel free to attend the introduction multiple times. Different teachers will present it differently. Heck, the same teacher will present it differently. And you'll notice different things, and different things will sink in, especially after having experienced what they're teaching. Also don't hesitate to ask other dancers, or the caller, for help, but keep in mind you may not get the same answer from two different dancers, or two different callers!

Brentwood: Contra at Youth House, 731 S. Bundy Dr. 7:30-11:00, 1st and 4th Saturdays.

Pasadena: Contra at Throop Memorial Church, 300 S. Los Robles Ave. 7:30 -11:00 3rd Fridays. 7:00 -11:00 5th Fridays.

#### NEW BEGINNER'S CLASS WITH WESTWOOD COOP FOLK DANCERS

Westwood Coop Folk Dancers will begin a new Beginner's class on Thursday May 6. This class will be geared to the true beginner who has never folk danced, as well as the beginners who have not had the opportunity to learn from the beginning. The class will be from 7:15-8:00 every Thursday, preceding the intermediate teaching. Send those potential folk dancers to us and let Westwood Coop help them learn and increase the folk dance population.

We meet on Thursday evenings from 7:15-10:20 at Felicia Mahood Senior Center on the corner of Santa Monica Blvd. and Corinth Ave.(2 blocks west of the 405 freeway) in W.L.A. Beginners teaching from 7:15-8:00, intermediate teaching from 8:00-8:45, previous month's dances reviewed from 8:45-9:00. Dance program from 9:00-10:20.

We would be so happy to have you join us on any Thursday evening. For information call Beverly at (310) 202-6166 or Rita at (310) 657-6877.

#### FOLK DANCE CELEBRATION

Isabelle Persh and Bob Moriarty invite all folk dancers to join them in a folk dance celebration. Save the date: July 11, at the Westchester Recreational Center. More info in next issue.

#### **TAMBURITZANS IN CALIFORNIA**

The Annunciation Byzantine Catholic Church of Anaheim is pleased to present the world famous Tamburitzans of Duquesne University. Each year the Tamburitzans' show features new artists and new choreographies in an electrifying "leave-you-wantingmore" performance. We hope you can join us for a wonderful evening of family entertainment.

It will be on May 22, Saturday evening, at 7:00 at the Don Wash Auditorium, 11271 Stanford Avenue, Garden Grove. Info: (714) 832-7470 or (714) 531-6610, E-mail: flambe14@dslextreme.com.

The Tamburitzans will also perform on Friday. May 28, 7:30, at ECPAC -- East County Performing Arts Center, 210 E. Main St. El Cajon, CA 92020. Info: (619) 440 -2277, (or by mail at above address).

A new trimester for the Oasis class at Robinson May in the Westside Pavilion in W. L.A. begins on June 14. This class, which Beverly teaches on Mondays from 1:30 - 3:00, features individual style line dancing. She also teaches International Folk Dancing with some individual style line dancing on Thursdays at Roxbury Park in Beverly Hills from 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Irwin teaches an International Folk Dance class on Mondays at Plummer Park in West Hollywood from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. For information call Beverly or Irwin at (310) 202-6166.

### **BALKAN WEB SITE**

A website that might be of interest to the many Balkan bands in the Bay area can be found at: www.heavymellow.com/artistsneeded.html.

"Heavy Mellow Music" - a new website in Santa Barbara, dedicated to promoting and selling world fusion music. Please pass this website along, and tell musicians to check it out, as Vincent Zorn is offering to sell and distribute the music of artists whose styles are - Beverly Barr international, combining genres.

> Also, I am building my own dance website at www.jatiladance.com. It is not yet complete, and I am working on it in my spare time, but I appreciate comments and feedback, and of course, advertising! Thanks very much! Best wishes,

> > - Jatila van der Veen

#### MAINEWOODS DANCE CAMP

This excellent folk dance camp in a lovely setting, with outstanding food and lots of fun activities, has 3 6day sessions, plus Labor Day Weekend.

Session #1 - August 14-20, Bora Ozkok (Turkish), Ann Smith (Scottish), Emilia Zankina (Bulgarian)

Session #2 - August 21–27, Bob Dalsemer (Contras and squares), Roo Lester (Basque), Lee Otterholt (Balkan)

Session #3 - August 28-Sept. 3, Dale Hyde (Canadian), Ann Smreclu (Romanian), Demetris Tashle (Greek)

Labor Day - Sept. 3 -6, Ya'akov Eden (Israeli), George Fogg (English), Miroslav Marcetic (Serbian) For more information, call (704) 847-0134, or AWright29@aol.com

# On the Scene

#### **VESELO SELO**

We have a very busy month of May coming up. Foremost is that we are changing our time from 8 to an earlier hour. Veselo's new hours are 7:30 to 10:30.

May 1 African Workshop, with teaching by Linda Kazibwe from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00. The evening of dancing starts at 7:30, when you can do your newly taught dances. This is also our Maypole Dance Party, so bring goodies to share.

May 2 Dorothy Daw Celebration Of Life. This Sunday afternoon program to honor our dear friend, Dorothy, starts with a pot-luck at 1:00 p.m. and a dance concert by the Yeseta Brothers starting at 2:00. Eulogies will follow the concert and a dance program from 3:00 to 6:00 to the lively music of the Yeseta Bros.

Wear an ethnic costume if you have one, and bring an interesting dish for the pot-luck if you wish to join us for that.

May 8 Pat Alexander will be teaching Sedenka. May 15 Teaching by Lee Otterholt.

May 22 Kadem Duo night. Donation \$10.

May 29 Memorial Day celebrates our hard-won freedom. Bring goodies to share.

Veselo Selo celebrates its 34th anniversary on June 12 with Madison Ave.

- Lu Perry, President

#### CLASSES IN SERBIAN AND ROM CULTURES

The Amala School in Serbia is getting ready for summer 2004 classes in Romani and Serbian culture. Once again we will offer 7- and 14-day courses in Romani and Serbian music, dance, and language, with homestay and local food (including world-class tomatoes!). See www.galbeno.co.yu for more info.

A Tamburica workshop with musicians from Deronje, Vojvodina is available by special arrangement; also brass band workshops. Plus all the pleasures of local culture in its proper context! (yes, \*of course \* live music parties!) We have been delighted to make many new amala (friends, in the Romani language) through these sessions, and you will have time to get to know other amazing folks. Please visit the website and/or phone us for more info and to enroll.

Contact: Suzanne Leonora, U.S. Coordinator for the Amala School, 1154 1/2 Powell St., Oakland, CA 94608. E-mail: suzanneleonora@hotmail.com.

#### MEMORIAL FOR DEAN LINSCOTT

The memorial for Dean will be held at the Alpine Club, up on Mt. Tamalpais, on Friday May 14th, at 7:00. There won't be too much room to park, so suggest that as many of you as can, carpool! Do bring your dancing shoes!

#### - Nancy & Russ Linscott

The California Alpine Club is at 730 Panoramic Way, Mill Valley, (415) 388-9940, 5 miles from 101 (takes approx. 15 minutes). Bring a flashlight (the mountain is very dark at night).

If you need directions, or a map, contact me at joycexopo@hotmail.com.

- Joyce Clyde

San Pedro Bal-

kan Folkdancers

are hosting, and

invited. to an

and song by

and Angel

Daniela Ivanova

Nazlamov, the

#### KADEM DUO COMING TO SAN PEDRO



Kadem Duo. on May 17th, from 7:30 to 10:30. Come and learn the dances of Bulgaria, Serbia, and Macedonia taught by a master teacher, with special attention to the styling differences between the three cultures. Dalmatian-American Club, 1639 S. Palos Verdes, San Pedro, CA. Call Pauline at (310) 832-1074 or Zaga at (310) 832-4317 for more info.

Note: This dynamic duo will also be appearing on May 7 - San Francisco, May 15 - San Diego, and May 22. 23 - Los Angeles.

#### ETHNIC MUSIC AT FORD AMPHITHEATRE

Many ethnic music and dance events at this outdoor venue, across the freeway from the Hollywood Bowl. Some highlights: May 29 Brazilian music, July 10 Cuban dance, August 20 Fiesta Peru, Inca dance, Sept. 10 Celtic music, Sept. 11 dances from India, Sept. 26 Fiesta Mexicana, Oct. 1 Flamenco, Oct. 8 Korean dance. Info: (323) GO1-FORD, www.fordamphitheatre.org.

Southern California



South Pasadena: Contra at War Memorial Bldg. 435 Fair Oaks Ave. 7:30-11:30 1st and 3rd Fridays.

Torrance: English Country Dancing at 1st Methodist Church, 1551 El Prado. 8:00-10:00, 1st and 3rd Thursdays.

Sierra Madre: Contra at Masonic Temple, 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., 7:30- 11:00 2nd Saturdays.

La Verne: Contra at Veteran's Hall 1550 Bonita Ave., 3:30 - 7:00 2nd Sundays.

Riverside: Contra at All Saints Episcopal Church, 3847 Terracina Dr. 7:30-11:00 1st Saturdays.

For more info an any of the above, call Dixie at (909) 592-5811, or Jeff at (310) 396-3322.

- Dixie Swanson

#### **Contra Dancing in San Diego**

San Diego Folk Heritage (SDFH) holds contra dances every week in the North Park district of San Diego. We meet in a church hall at the corner of Thorn and Grim Streets; relatively close to the 805 freeway. Our schedule for many years has been the first, second, third Friday, and fourth Saturday of each month with a fifth Friday dance when there is one. However, starting in July we will be going to the following schedule: First, third, and fifth Fridays, and second and fourth Saturdays. We schedule a pot-luck dinner on the fourth Saturday, which starts at 6:30. All the dances start at 8:00 and end at 11:00; we offer a free introductory dance lesson from 7:45 to 8:00 before each dance. All dances are done to live music. We have six bands that rotate on a regular basis and also schedule in about two to four guest bands during a

year. We have four local callers who rotate regularly and also bring in two to three or four guest callers.

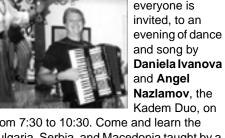
Our contra dance web site, which is replete with directions, is www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~sbarlow/ sdfh.html. The San Diego Folk Heritage also sponsors folk music concerts. For more information, the webpage is sdfolkheritage.org.

- Graham Hempel



Folk Dance Scene

May 2004



# **Young Contra Dancers**

#### **Contra Dance at Millikan Magnet School**

The dance program at Millikan Magnet School includes several types of classes in Traditional/ Recreational (Folk) dance. One of the strands is called a "Survey Class". At the 7th and 8th grade level students may choose to explore the world of traditional/ recreational, without any pressure to perform the material for an outside audience. Performance classes exist at this level, but they really only learn a few suites. A Survey class learns many dances, from a wide variety of areas.

One unit for the Survey Class is on the dances of the Western World done in the 17th century through the 19th century. A large part of this is English Country Dances and then American Contras. After learning several Country dances and Contras, the students are given the assignment to translate the written text of a dance into movement. They work in teams of three or four couples.

The text comes from John Playford's English Dancing Master, as well as a variety of other texts (see bibliography below). The final lesson in this unit is for the students to choreograph their own Contra. They must select an outside theme or piece of art that will serve as the inspiration for their work.

Students use a pattern that we establish in class which is:

Part One - Everybody in the dance moves

Part Two - The Active Couple progress down the set

Part Three - The Active Couple completes some figure with the couple they just passed to move down the set (their Inactive Couple).

This following contra dance is the creation of Anoush. Anoush is a 13 year old Armenian-American who came to this country as an infant.

#### Theme:

Folk Dance Scene

"I was trying to come up with a theme that mostly anyone could relate to. Considering what's been going on in the United States with our economy, people, and ongoing wars, I believed that a positive tone was needed. I selected "Peace" as my theme. Then I figured out what about Contras could be considered aspects of peace. The thing I finally decided on was the idea of "Hands in Peace." All of the figures in my Contra have hands touching or held at some point."

HANDS IN PEACE by Anoush

Music: AABB music with 8 measure phrases Formation: Proper Duple The Dance: First A:

Meas. 1-4 All couples "side" with partner, and "side" back to place. Right hands are touched on count 2 on the first cross over and left hands are touched on count 2 coming back.

Meas. 5-8 Man #1 sides with man #2, touching hands as in meas. 1-4, while lady #1 sides with lady #2.

#### Second A

Meas. 1-4 Couples #1 and #2 "Pousette" on half (man #1 moves forward and down the set with partner, man #2 moves backward and up the set with partner)

Meas. 5-8 Reverse the movements of meas. 1-4 to return to place.

First B:

Meas. 1-2 Man #1 exchanges places with lady #2 with right hand

Meas. 3-4 Man #1 exchanges places with man #2 with left hand

Meas. 5-6 Lady #1 exchanges places with lady #2 with left hand

Meas. 7-8 Lady #1 exchanges places with man #2 with right hand

Ends with #1 couple proper and progressed. Second B:

Done with #1 couple working with the #2 couple they just moved beyond. "Rights and Lefts", both couples right hands to trade places with partner (four counts), left hand for lady #1 and lady #2 to trade places, men the same, change with partner again, lady with lady, man with man change with left again.

– Billy Burke

#### Bibliography

Hendrickson, Charles Cyril, Colonial Social Dancing for Children, The Hendrickson Group, Sandy Hook, Connecticut, 1995.

Hendrickson, Charles Cyril and Kate Van Winkle Keller, Social Dances from the American Revolution, The Hendrickson Group, Sandy Hook, Conn., 1992. Van Winkle Keller, Kate and Shimer, Genevieve, The Playford Ball, The Country Song and Dance Society, Northampton, Massachusetts, 1994. Parks, Tony, Contra Dance Calling: A Basic Text,

Hands Four Books, Bedford, Massachusetts, 1992.

# On the Scene

is a good start for any one interested in Scottish dances. The dance program is usually not hard for anyone who just got into the Scottish dance world.

Asilomar Workshop and Ball - The weekend will be held on October 22-24 at Asilomar State Park in Pacific Grove. The spectacular park is an ideal setting for the weekend. The Saturday Ball will have two topnotch Scottish musicians: lasdair Fraser and Muriel Johnston. The Saturday workshop has classes in Scottish techniques, social aspects, and basics for the beginners. I have always enjoyed my visit when I can find time to be there. Info: Julee Montes at (510) 722-0473 or email at julm-hcs@pacbell.net.

- Frank Wu

#### NADODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCERS Save these dates:

June 10th	28th Birthday Celebration
Sept. 23rd	Homecoming Celebration
October 28th	Halloween Party
December 16th	Winter Solstice Celebration
We meet Thursdays	, 7:30-10:30, with teaching at
30. Eniov our spring	v wood floor! We are located a

8:3 ited at Dance Dynamics, 12405 Woodruff Avenue, Downey.

For more information, please contact Shirley at (714) 932-2513, or sihansen@rc.org, http:// www.angelfire.com/ca/narodni/index.html.

#### NORTH AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GERMAN FOLK DANCE GROUPS - 2004 WORKSHOP

The North American Federation of German Folk Dance Groups will hold its 11th annual folk dance/ folklore weekend on June 18 19 20, 2004 in Tulsa, OK. The event will be hosted by the "German American Society of Tulsa Volkstänzer." The emphasis of the workshop will be on the dances of the Lüneburger Heide since the city of Tulsa is sister city to Celle in the heather district of Germany. Presenter will be Dr. Wolfgang Schlüter from Germany.

Dr. Schlüter was instrumental in the re-publication of the dance collection Heidjers Tanzmusik (Prof. Dr. F. Kück; F. Rotermund Schönhagen, 1911). He also is a member of the folk dance orchestra Sträkel Strakel.

The weekend will begin with craft sessions and culture corners followed by a get acquainted dance

party on Friday evening. Saturday begins with workshops and culminates with a festive banquet and gala dance party. The weekend will close with a review session of the learned material. All participants receive a folder with dance directions and cultural information about the Lüneburger Heide. The weekend is open to any one interested in German dance and folklore. For more information contact: Carol Wright (918) 299 2839, d.c.w.@ATT.Net or Karin Gottier (860) 875 3559, karin gottier@webtv.net.

- Karin Gottier

#### MEMORIAL DAY PARTY - W. L.A. FOLK DANCERS

Did you miss the last party? Everyone is still talking about the good time they had. Don't miss this one! The party will be on Memorial Day, Monday, May 31.

You can have a wonderful evening of dancing and partying to top off the holiday weekend. Have fun at the annual Memorial Day Party in W. L. A. The party will start at 7:30 p.m. There will be an "All Request" dance program for everyone's enjoyment. Your dance requests will be played by Irwin & Beverly Barr.

Bring along the names of your favorite dances and your snacks and desserts for the pot luck table and come to Brockton School, 1309 Armacost, West L. A. (1 1/2 blocks north of Santa Monica Blvd., between Barrington & Bundy). Join the fun and good dancing.

The West L.A.Folk Dancers will be dark on Monday, - Shirley Hansen May 10 & 17 and Friday, May 14 & 28. We look forward to seeing you on the other Monday and Friday nights. More Info: call Beverly & Irwin at (310) 202-6166.

### **ROMANI FESTIVAL IN SEBASTOPOL**

The Voice of Roma's annual Romani Festival will be in Sebastopol this May 7th and 8th! We are filling up the rosters with folks who want to take part in making our 8th annual Herdeljezi Festival happen - both before and especially during the Friday evening and Saturday all-day/evening events on May 7th & 8th. Please call Andrea: (707) 544-6416 or Sani (707) 823-7941, voiceofroma@comcast.net, and sign up for whatever activities you enjoy most, preparing/serving food, helping decorate, selling cd's/books/handcrafts, helping run the children's activities, etc.

> - The VOR Festival Coordinators Andrea, Robin, Carol and Sani

# On the Scene

#### CAMP HESS KRAMER WORKSHOP WEEKEND

Watch for information on the 2004 Camp Hess Kramer Workshop Weekend. This will be a special weekend as we celebrate our 20th year of the successful "Camps Review" format. Plan ahead and plan to be there.

Save this date. Oct. 29-30-31, 2004, Camp Hess Kramer is located in beautiful Malibu and will be a very popular place to be for this special camp. Come and enjoy yourself and help us make this a super weekend.

Watch for more information in the Scene or call Irwin or Beverly at (310) 202-6166.

#### **CATCH THE FEVER! STATEWIDE IN MODESTO** Update on Hotels

If you have not yet made your hotel reservations for Statewide in Modesto, you should be aware of the following: One of our dance couples tried to register at the DoubleTree and was told it was full and that our block of rooms was fully booked. It was not the case. but we have had this happen before to three couples who have called to register.

We found an alternative place if the hotel does this again. Should you call the Double Tree Hotel and find it full we have been able to secure a special rate at the Best Western Town House Lodge located on 16th street just 8 blocks from the Double Tree. They offer a Single room at \$59.00 and a Double at \$65.00. The lodge has a swimming pool with continental breakfast included. Coffee makers, microwaves and refrigerators are in the rooms. This is a motor hotel with parking for its guests, located in a very good downtown area. Call (209) 524-7261 and mention the Folk Dance Federation.

#### Directions

Where is the DoubleTree Hotel and Modesto Centre Plaza? The DoubleTree Hotel is the tallest building in town. Modesto Centre Plaza is attached to it on K Street. Parking is behind the Centre on L Street or in parking garages across from K or 9th Streets. The secret to getting here is State Route 132.

From the Bay Area, follow I-5 to the Highway 132 exit, then turn east to Modesto. Follow it to 9th Street,

then turn right one block to K Street. You are there. If you come from the north down SR 99, get off at the downtown, Highway 132 exit, then turn left. Follow it to 9th Street, then right one block to the hotel.

From the **south**, take SR 99 to the Highway 132. Downtown Modesto exit. Follow the surface street to K Street. Turn right. That leads you to the hotel. If you turn right on G or I Street, turn left when you get to 9th Street. Take it to the hotel.

For Information, call Barbara at (209) 578-5551, or e-mail bsumone@softcom.net.

- Ray McElroy

### - Beverly Barr SCOTTISH DANCE SCENE

Scottish Country Dance workshops, balls, summer parties and AGMs (meetings) in upcoming months:

MacLeod Rant - The MacLeod Dancers put on their own ball every year in the Los Angeles area. The Rant will be held on June 5 in the South Pasadena Woman's Club (1424 Fremont Ave). The evening ball features live music, and dances such as: Byron Strathspey, Reel of the 51st Division, MacDonald of the Isles, The Bees of Maggieknockater, and Mairi's Wedding. The Reel of the 51st Division will also be danced by all-men sets, depicting what was done at the prison camp in Europe during World War II. Info for the Rant: Deanna St. Amand (818) 761-4750.

Summer dances - LA and San Gabriel Branches have parties during the hot summer months. SGV's Summer Strawberry Ballette is on July 18, the Scottish Luau is on August 21, while LA's monthlies are on July 24 at Torrance Cultural & Arts center, and August 28 at Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Senior Center. POCs are Anthea Macdonald (909) 624-9496 for SGV and Jack Rennie (310) 377-1675 for LA Branch. In addition to all these, The Thousand Oaks Scottish Class will host a - Barbara Summers Solstice Dance at Hillcrest Center for the Arts in Thousand Oaks. Info: Mike McChessney (805) 492-1465. All three Scottish branches have their AGM soon. SGV's is May 15, LA's June 26, and OC's June 12. These AGMs have pot lucks and dances besides business meeting. Dances are fun, so come and enjoy.

> The Interbranch Beginner's Party - During the beginning of the dance season, Southern California Scottish branches - Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego and San Gabriel Valley - put together a joint party to kick off the season. The date is October 2. This



In late 2002, the Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op was contacted by Jossalyn Emslee about the possibility of setting up a teaching situation with and for the Girl Scouts of the Mt. Wilson Vista Council of the Scouts. The Council serves young ladies in the San Gabriel Valley area. The Pasadena Co-op saw it as an opportunity to bring young people and their families into our movement.

Our aim was to give the youngsters a taste of our kind of dancing and instill some idea of what "International" means. We wanted to teach them about why we dance these dances and the respect we feel for the cultures they come from. We found parents and troop leaders also willing and ready to be a part of the learning. We set up two sessions for our first classes, one for Brownies and another for Juniors. Brownies are young ladies ages 6 to 8 years old and Juniors are 9 to 11 vears old.

With the willing assistance of Marsha Fenner, Ann Armstrong, Jane Reed and Lynn Bingle we brainstormed ideas for dances that we thought might entice these young ones. We used portable equipment from Ann Armstrong and Marsha Fenner and pulled together two programs for our first lessons, which took place in February and March of 2003.

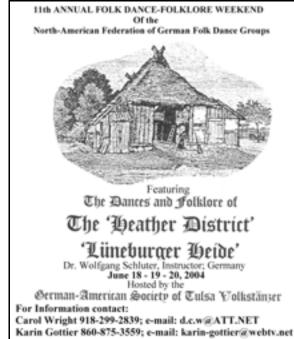
Enthusiasm and energy has never been a problem. Harnessing these natural tendencies of the youngsters was our challenge. We also invited them to share at the final of our four teaching sessions some of their ethnic background, costumes and artifacts. The dances included Syp Simeon, Savila Se Bela Loza, Pata Pata, Zemer Atik, Kendime, Promaraca, Tokyo Dontaku, and D'hammerschmied'gselin. We taught two or three dances at each one-hour session. At the end of the first teaching session, Scouts and their families were invited to join us for a Friday evening of dancing. They

became our special guests, and their dances were included in our regular program. We also furnished parents/leaders with dance notes and an audiocassette of the dances we taught. It was a verv successful experience for all of us. The first Guest Party was well attended by young Scouts, their brothers, sisters and parents. Our regular members were charmed by the inclusion of these youngsters. We all had a great time.

We repeated the teaching sessions with another group of youngsters in November of 2003, and we just completed a series of four sessions in February and March of this year, 2004. At the final sharing lesson in March 2004, one of the youngsters, who is from Finland, enthusiastically shared her national costume and her mom explained something about what and why the dress was created in that particular manner.

I believe all of us; scouts, parents, scout leaders and folk dancers have benefited from these experiences. We hope that the memory of having participated in dance will stay with these children and as they grow they will seek further folk dance experiences wherever circumstances take them.

- Sylvia Stachura and Marsha Fenner



May 2004

13

# Girl Scout Dancers

# **Dancers** Speak

The Folk Dance World – Like a Second Family Back in the late '50's and early 60's – them was the years. Treasurer of the Federation (South), folk dancing 7x a week and 1 year going to 5 different "camps". One I went to for 4 years was the Mendocino Folk Lore Camp. What a beautiful setting; what fantastic food and excellent instructors. Each week was preceded by a Friday night party in San Francisco, at a dance studio shared by Madelynne Greene (founder of the camp), Gordon Engler (Romanian master teacher) and C. Stewart Smith (a world champion highland dancer and expert on Scottish country dancing). Unfortunately these were the last 4 summers that Madelynne was alive.

But there (amongst others) I met the Burke family -Bobbi and Dale were on the staff those years. Really nice people - even stayed at their home one year before returning to LA. And when **Billy**, their son, moved from the Bay area to L.A., he even worked for me for several months - best employee I ever had. (He was one of last year's Mendocino's FLC's directors.)

I spent the last 3 months of '97 working in Stockton and the following 7 in Santa Barbara. In SB county I made several good friends. Especially friendly were the Solvang Village FD and the Alpine Dancers – even performed with the latter.

But in Stockton on Friday nights I danced with the Stockton folk dancers. Ever go to the Stockton FD camp at the UOP? This is where we met. It was led by Floyd Davis whom I met along with his good friend Barbara Summers. My first night there we went out for a bite. It was Barbara's birthday, so SHE picks up the tab for each of us. I objected. But I ordered a complete dinner. "That's alright - It's my birthday - I want to."

Talk about making quick friends. Floyd, as many of you know, is organizing this year's Statewide in Modesto, along with his assistant, Barbara, and the Statewide Committee. It should be a great festival. If you've never been to a Statewide, now's a good time to go; any avid dancer will tell you so. Let's support our northern friends by spending a weekend in Modesto.

Many friendships last with even first-time visits to a different FD group or a Statewide. Ever met a new dancer, exchange e-mails and frequently e-mail each other thereafter? Ever met your spouse at a FD group? Yes the folk dance world can be a wonderful family. Try to tell me you can't make good friends there. – Jim Matlin

Folk Dance Scene



Date: Saturday, May 22, 2004 at 7pm

Location: Don Wash Auditorium, 11271 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, CA Cost: \$20-General adult admission: Call for child,

student and group rates For tickets and info; Don Knapp at 714-832-7470

www.annunciationbyzantine.org www.tamburitzans.duq.edu



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# Calendar

### KENTUCKY

5/16-22 'Dancing with Donna' Blue Grass Jamboree River Cruise. Six nights aboard the Delta Queen, departing from Louisville. Info: Donna Frankel, (408) 257-3455, or http://www.deltagueen.com/.

### MAINE

8/14–9/6 Mainewoods Dance Camp. 3 6-day sessions, plus Labor Day Weekend folk dance camps. Fryeburg. See OTS. Info: call (704) 847-0134, or AWright29@aol.com.

### MARYLAND

5/28-31 Int'l FolkDance Festival. at Cherry Hill Park, College Park. With Mihai David, Richard Powers, Boris 'Kete' Ilievski.Info: (301) 871-8788.

### MASSACHUSETTS

8/22-29 Balkan Music & Dance Workshop, Mt. Washington, Berkshires. Info: (510) 549-2124, office@ewefc.org.

### NORTH CAROLINA

Activities at Swannanoa Gathering, Asheville:

- 6/18–20 Cherokee Heritage Weekend
- 7/11–17 Celtic Week
- 7/18–24 Old-Time Music and Dance Week
- Info for all of the above: (828) 298-3434, gathering@warren-wilson.edu.

### **OKLAHOMA**

6/18–20 German Folk Dance Weekend, Tulsa. Featuring dances and folklore of the Heather District. Info: (800) 875-3559, baumann@t-online.de.

## WASHINGTON

- 5/16, 16 Slavic Festival, classes in Slavic dance, crafts and cooking; concert and dance, parade, etc. University of Washington, Seattle.
- 5/28–31 Seattle Folklife Festival, Seattle Center.
- 10/1-3 Richland's 50th Festival, presented by Int'l Dancers, featuring Yves Moreau.

### FOREIGN

### **BOHEMIA & MORAVIA**

- 7/21–31 Folk Dance Pleasure, tour hosted by Dvorana. Info: Spanielova 38/1275, 163 00 Praha 6, Czech Republic, dvorana@mbox.vol.cz.
- 7/31–8/7 Summer Folk Dance Week 2004. Czech and Moravian dance camp, hosted by Dvorana. Info:

8/8–15 *Vintage Dance Week, with Richard Powers,* Radek & Eva Reisek, Jitka Bonusova, others, Info: Spanielova 38/1275, 163 00 Praha 6, Czech Republic, dvorana@mbox.vol.cz.

## **BULGARIA**

7/9-22 Folk Dance Tour led by Nina Kavardjikova, Info: ninalk20@hotmail.com.

### CANADA

5/21–24 Ontario Folk Dance Camp, with Miroslav Marcetic (Serbian), and Ada Dziewanowska (Polish), Pinewoods Band. At Waterloo University. Info: Sandy at (416) 633-4852, sandydancing@juno.com.

### EASTERN EUROPE

- 7/1–10 Folklore and Heritage Tour to Slovakia and Poland. Classes, excursions, performances, meet with locals. Info: Vonnie Brown, (225) 766-8750, vrbfolk@prodiav.net.
- 7/2–10 Danube Cruise to Romania, Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria. Led by Lee Otterholt, sponsored by Dance on the Water, Info: Mel Mann (510) 526-4033. meldancing@aol.com.
- Folklore and Heritage Tour of Czech, 8/13–22 Slovakia, and Hungary. Classes, excursions, performances, meet with locals. Info: Vonnie Brown, (225) 766-8750, vrbfolk@prodigy.net.

### GERMANY

9/17-19 35th International Folk Dance Festival. Berlin. Performances, open dancing, sight-seeing. Info: Karin Gottier, (860) 875-3559.

### GREECE

7/17–24, 7/25–31, 8/1–8Mazoxi, Greek Folk Dance Conference. 3 one-week sessions on island of Crete.Dances. folklore. museums. Info: Athan Karras, (818) 609-1386, mazoxi@prodigv.net.

### INDIA

19

5/21–30 International Folkdance Festival in Mumbai (Bombay), inviting dance ensembles. Info: president@cid-unesco.org.

### SERBIA

7/20–8/3 Folklore Treasures of Serbia, tour led by Cheryl Spasojevic. Festivals, art, museums, crafts, dance camp. See ad. Info: CSpasojevic@webtv.net.

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# Calendar

- 16, 17, 18, 19 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. At St. John Church, Las Vegas. Info: (702) 221-8245.
- 17 Sonidos Gitanos, Gypsy Flamenco. 8:00 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, www.fordamphitheatre.org.
- 17, 18, 19 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Anthony Church, Pasadena, (626) 449-6945.
- 18 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. SS Constantine & Helen Ch, Lancaster, (661) 945-1212.
- 23 *Homecoming Celebration*. At Narodni. See OTS. Info: Shirley, (714) 932-2513.
- 23 *Virsky*, Ukrainian National Dance Company. perform 7:30 at Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza. Info: (805) 449-2775.
- 26 *Fiesta Mexicana,* Ballet Folklorico Ollin, Mariachi Monumental de America. 7:00 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, www.fordamphitheatre.org.

### OCTOBER

- 1, 2 *Ay! Flamenco with Domingo Ortega* & *Company.* 8:00 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, <u>www.fordamphitheatre.org.</u>
- 2, 3 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. At St. Spiridon Church, Upland. Info: (909) 985-4411.
- 8 *Traditional Dance & Music of Korea.* 8:00 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, <u>www.fordamphitheatre.org.</u>
- 8 *Tango Passion*, Argentine dance musical. 8:00 at Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza. Info: (805) 449-2775.
- 28 *Halloween Party.* At Narodni. See OTS. Info: Shirley, (714) 932-2513.
- 29-31 *Camp Hess Kramer Workshop Weekend* on Pacific Coast Hwy in Malibu celebrates its 20th year. Info: Beverly Barr at (310) 202-6166. NOVEMBER
- 6, 7 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Gregory of Nyssa Church, El Cajon. (619) 593-0707. **DECEMBER**
- 16 Winter Solstice Celebration. At Narodni. See OTS. Info: Shirley, (714) 932-2513. NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
- 5/7, 8 *Romani Festival,* hosted by Voice of Roma. Sebastopol. See OTS, Info: (707) 544-6416.
- 5/14 *Memorial for Dean Linscott*, Mt. Tamalpais. See OTS. Info: joycexopo@hotmail.com.

- 6/8 Rose Festival, Veterans Bldg., Sonoma.
- 6/12–19 *Scandia Camp,* Mendocino Woodlands. Info: Roo Lester: (630) 985-7192,

### DancingRoo@aol.com.

- 6/19–26 *Mendocino Folklore Camp.* Teachers: Helen & Stig Eriksson (Swedish), Sarah Anindo Marshall (West African), Larry Weiner (Balkan), Tzvetanka Varimezova (Bulgarian Singing). Mendocino Woodlands. Info: (707) 795-6926, <u>phyris@akamail.com</u>.
- 6/20–25 KlezCalifornia 2004. Info: (415) 789-7679, www.KlezCalifornia.org.
- 6/26–7/3 Balkan Music & Dance Workshop. Mendocino Woodlands. Info: (510) 549-2124, office@ewefc.org.
- 7/4–10 Aranykapu Tabor, Hungarian Dance Camp, Guerneville. Info: <u>www.aranykapu-tabor.org</u>.
- 7/14 *Kitka* performs at Mendocino Music Festival. Info: (510) 444-0323, <u>info@kitka.org</u>.
- 7/18–24, 7/25–31 *Stockton Folk Dance Camp.* Two identical weeks at University of the Pacific. Yves Moreau, Richard Powers, Lee Otterholt, Jennifer Kelly, Jerry Helt, Cristian Florescu, Richard Schmidt, others. Live music. Info: Jan (530) 474-3231, www.folkdance.com/stockton.
- 7/30–8/7 Lark Camp 2004. English and many other dances and music. Mendocino Woodlands. Info: (707) 964-4826, http://www.larkcamp.com.
- 8/17 *Little Festival in the Redwoods,* Guerneville.
- 9/17 Fiesta de Sonoma, Veterans Bldg., Sonoma.
  10/22–24 Asilormar Workshop and Ball. Scottish classes, dance. Pacific Grove. Info: (510) 722-0473.
  OUT OF STATE

### 7. HAWAII

- 5/8 19 Spring cruise to Hawaii and the Islands with Beverly & Irwin Barr and the West L. A. Folk Dancers. Info: Beverly or Irwin at (310) 202-6166. IDAHO
- 7/26–8/7 International Folk Dance Festival. Parades, street dances, performances. Rexburg, Pocatello and Burley. Info: (208) 356-5700, <u>www.rexcc.com</u>.

# STOCKTON FOLK DANCE CAMP 2004

Polish	Richard Schmidt
Romanian	Cristian Florescu
Scottish	Jennifer Kelly
Squares	Jerry Helt
Vintage	Richard Powers
Bulgarian	Yves Moreau
Balkan	Lee Otterholt
Workshop	Jerry Duke
Music	Susan Worland &
	California Kapela

Again this Year: Air Conditioning in all rooms & dance venues!!

# July 18-24 July 25-31 Two Identical Weeks

University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA Phone: 530-474-3231 Email: cjwright@shasta.com

# www.folkdance.com

### Folk Dance Scene

# Calendar

### Note: Federation Events are in Bold. CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS.

### MAY

- Concerts at UCLA Hammer Museum, Music of India Ensemble, 2:00, Music of Korea Ensemble, 3:30. 10899 Wilshire Blvd. at Westwood Blvd. Info: (310) 443.7000, www.hammer.ucla.edu.
- 2 *Tribute to Dorothy Daw*, potluck, concert, dance. 1:00 at 1155 N. Lemon St. Fullerton. See OTS, or call Laura Bremer: (949) 586-2044.
- 8 *Baksheesh Boys,* Balkan band plays 12:00 at Skirball Center. Free.
- 8 *Concerts at UCLA Hammer Museum,* Music of Bali Ensemble, 2:00, Music of West Africa Ensemble, 3:30. 10899 Wilshire Blvd. at Westwood Blvd. Info: (310) 443.7000, <u>www.hammer.ucla.edu</u>.

#### 15 *Claddagh,* Irish folk music. 'Noble House concert in Van Nuys. Info: (818) 780-5979, <u>efgcpa@pacbell.net</u>.

- 16 Topanga Banjo & Fiddle Contest, 9:00 a.m. -6:00 at Paramount Ranch, Agoura. Irish, Scottish, English Country, contra, folk dancing, performances, crafts, jam sessions. See article on p.4. Info: (818) 382-4819, info@TopangaBanjoFiddle.org.
- 16 *Tamburitzans,* dancers and musicians from Duquesne University. perform 2:00 at CSU Northward, (818) 760-1099, 7:30 at Fontana High School, (909) 823-4366.
- 17 *Kadem Duo*, Balkan dance teachers at San Pedro Folkdancers. See OTS. Info: (310) 832-1074.
- 21, 22, 23 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. John the Baptist Church, Anaheim. Info: (714) 827-0181.
- 17 *Kadem Duo*, Balkan dance teachers at Veselo Selo. See OTS. Info: (714) 738-8008.
- 22 *Tamburitzans,* dancers and musicians from Duquesne University. Perform 7:00 at Don Walsh Auditorium, 11271 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove. Info and tickets: Don Knapp (714) 832-7470.
- 22 UCSB Mlddle East Ensemble, Spring Concert, Lotte Lehman Hall, Santa Barbara, (805) 893-3535.
- 28–30 Valley Fever, Statewide 2004. Modesto. Sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation. Institutes, performances, dancing, after-parties. Info: (209) 578-5551, <u>rmcelroy@charter.net</u>.

Folk Dance Scene

- 28 *Tamburitzans,* dancers and musicians from Duquesne University. perform 7:30 in El Cajon. See OTS. Info: (619) 440-2277.
- 29 *Brazilian Singers,* 7:30 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, <u>www.fordamphitheatre.org.</u>
- 29, 30, 31 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. At St. Nicholas Church, Northridge. Info: (818) 886-4040.
- 31 *Memorial Day Party,* West L. A. Folk Dancers (Monday) 7:30 at Brockton School in W. L.A. See OTS. Info: Beverly at (310) 202-6166. JUNE
- 5 *MacLeod Rant*, Scottish Ball. South Pasadena Women's Club. See OTS. Info: (818) 761-4750.
- 5, 6 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. At St. George Church, Downey. Info: (562) 862-6461.
- 6 25th Anniversary Celebration of Calabasas Historical Society. Contra and square dancing, BBQ. At Leonis Adobe. Info: Arlene (818) 607-6711.
- 10 *28th Birthday celebration.* At Narodni. See OTS. Info: Shirley, (714) 932-2513.
- 11 Floricanto Dance Theatre & Quetzal, 8:30 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, www.fordamphitheatre.org.
- 11, 12, 13 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. At St. Demetrios Church, Camarillo. Info: (805) 482-1273.
- 12 *34th Anniversary party.* At Veselo, with Madison Ave. See OTS.
- 12, 13 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. At St. Spyridon Church, San Diego. Info: (619) 297-4165.
- 13 Al-Andalus to Jerusalem: Levantine Festival. Jewish & Arabic music, 8:00 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, <u>www.fordamphitheatre.org.</u>
- 18, 19, 20 Huck Finn Jubilee. Mojave Narrows Park, Victorville. Bluegrass and country music, barn dance, shows, contests. Info: (909) 780-8810, <u>www.huckfinn.com</u>.
- 19 Solstice Dance in the Thousandfold Oaken Wold. Scottish dance 7:30 at Hillcrest Center for Arts, Thousand Oaks.
- 20 *MIKVEH*, women's klezmer band with Adrienne Cooper. 3:00 at Temple Israel, Hollywood. Info: (310) 478-6332.

May 2004

# Calendar

AUGUST

- 25, 26, 27 *CTMS Summer Solstice*, Soka Univ. Int'I, contra, Celtic, Greek, belly dancing. Instrument classes, performances, sing-alongs, etc. Info: (818) 817-7756, <u>ctms@lafn.org</u>.
- 26 Viver Brazil Dance Company, 8:30 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, www.fordamphitheatre.org.
- 27 *Brazil Night*, 7:00 at Hollywood Bowl. Info: (323) 850-2000, HollywoodBowl.com.
- 27–7/4 Vintage Dance Week. The San Diego Vintage Dance Week at the Claremont Colleges. Dance from Victorian Europe to early rock and roll. Information: Mary Jennings <u>drijenma@pacbell.net</u>.
- 29 Party night at Tuesday Gypsies. 7:30 at Masonic Lodge, 9635 Venice Blvd., Culver City. Videos of Stockton Camp shops, potluck snacks, request program. Info: (310) 390-1069. JULY
- 9, 10 *Gipsy Kings* perform at Greek Theatre, Los Angeles. Info: <u>www.greektheatrela.com</u>.
- 9, 10, 11 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. At St. Katherine Church, Redondo Beach. Info: (310) 540-2434.
- 10 *I Am Cuba*, Cuban music and dance, 8:00 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, www.fordamphitheatre.org.
- 11 Folk Dance Celebration, hosted by Isabelle Persh and Bob Moriarty. All folk dancers are invited. At Westchester Recreational Center. More info to come.
- Summer Strawberry Ballette, Scottish dance party, hosted by San Gabriel Valley RSCDS. Info: (909) 624-9496.
- 25 World Electonica, Latin and Asian music and dance, 7:00 at Hollywood Bowl. Info: (323) 850-2000, <u>HollywoodBowl.com</u>.
- 30–8/1 Costume College. Airtel Plaza Hotel, 7727 Valjean Ave., Van Nuys. Classes in historical costume design and construction. Contact: <u>www.costumecollege.org</u> or the Costume Guild, P O Box 3052; Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670-3052.
- 31 Salon Mexico, Pacifico Dance Company, 8:30 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, www.fordamphitheatre.org.
- 31, 8/1 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. At St. Barbara Church, Santa Barbara, (805) 683-4492.

- 13–15 *Sutter Creek Ragtime Festival* Sutter Creek, CA. Ragtime music and dancing in beautiful Gold Rush town in Sierra foothills. Richard Duree and Ruth Levin will teach; evening dance party; music concert. Information to come.
- 14 *This is Belly Dance*, 8:30 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, www.fordamphitheatre.org.
- 17 John Filcich teaching Croatian dances. 7:30 at Cal Tech Folkdancers, Throop Church, Pasadena. Live music by Yeseta Brothers Tamburica Band. Info: Nancy (626) 797-5157
- 20, 21, 22 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Nectarios Church, Covina, (626) 967-5524.
- 20 *Fiesta Peru,* music and dance by INCA. 8:00 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, <u>www.fordamphitheatre.org.</u>
- 21 *Scottish Luau,* Scottish dance party, hosted by San Gabriel Valley RSCDS. Info: (909) 624-9496.
- 28 *Rei Aoo's Dance Planet* Japanese music and dance. 8:00 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, <u>www.fordamphitheatre.org.</u>
- 29 *To Havana with Love,* music of Cuba. 7:00 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, <u>www.fordamphitheatre.org.</u>

### SEPTEMBER

17

- 4, 5, 6 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. At Assumption of the Virgin Mary Church, Long Beach. Info: (562) 494-8929,
- 10 Solas, Celtic music. 8:00 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, <u>www.fordamphitheatre.org.</u>
- 10, 11, 12 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. At St. Sophia Church, Los Angeles, (323) 737-2424.
- 10, 11, 12 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Paul Church, Irvine. Info: (949) 733-2366.
- 11 *Rangoli Foundation for Art and Culture*,. music and dance from India. 7:30 at Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) GO 1-FORD, <u>www.fordamphitheatre.org.</u>
- Greek festival, music, dancing, food, crafts. At SS Constantine and Helen Church, Cardiff-bythe-Sea. Info: (760) 942-0920.
- 12 American Roots, Country, folk, swing and gospel music. 7:00 at Hollywood Bowl. Info: (323) 850-2000, HollywoodBowl.com.