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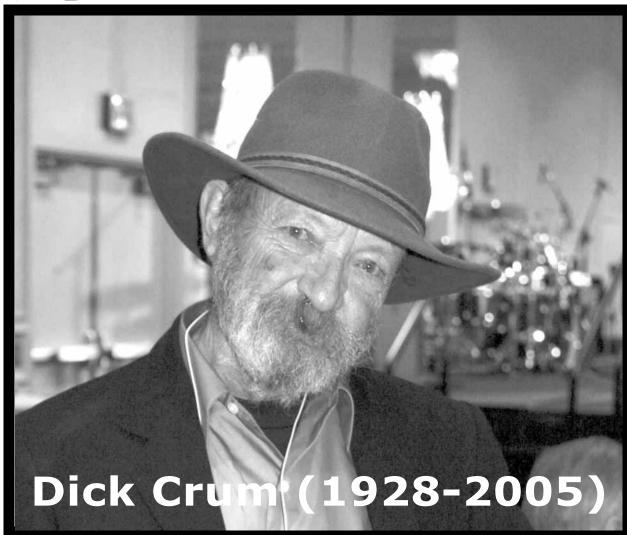
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#### **Folk Dance Scene**

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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 the editor by the 10th of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for space considerations. *Electronic submission* (*including all photos*) *is required*. 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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On the cover: Dick Crum at the Tamburitza Extravaganza, September 2005. See memorial stories pages 3 and 6.

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#### ISRAELI DANCING-Natalie Stern

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#### KAYSO FOLK DANCERS

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#### SAN DIEGO INT'L FOLK DANCERS

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#### SKANDIA FOLK DANCE

Mon 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:00-10:00 (714) 893-8888 Ted Martin (310) 827-3618 Sparky Sotcher ANAHEIM, Community Ctr, 250 E Center (Mon) CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park, 5401 Rhoda Way (Wed)

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Fri 4:00 (760) 414-9245 Jose Lucero CARLSBAD

#### CLAN MACLEOD DANCERS

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#### DUNAJ INT'L FOLK ENSEMBLE

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#### KRAKUSY POLISH FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE

Tu, W, F 7:00-9:00 Sat 2:15-3:15 (310) 394-3500 Bogna Szupinska LOS ANGELES, Polish Parish Hall, 3424 W Adams Blvd.

#### NAMAH ENSEMBLE

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#### SCANDIA DANCERS

(714) 533-3886 Donna Tripp LONG BEACH, Roosevelt School

### UCSB MIDDLE EAST ENSEMBLE

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### **Club Directory**

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#### WESTCHESTER LARIATS

Mon 3:30-9:00 (310) 645-5078 Ann Stenglein LOS ANGELES, Westchester Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson

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#### CAFÉ DANSSA

Wed 7:30-10:30 (310) 474-1232 Gerda Worldance1@aol.com Sherry WEST L.A., Café 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

#### DESERT DANCERS

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Every Evening Call for Schedule. (619) 281-5656 SAN DIEGO, 4569 30th Street

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#### ISRAELI DANCING-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 DANCING-Yoni Carr

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#### ISRAELI DANCING-Natalie Stern

(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern L.A., Univ of Judaism 5600 Mulholland Mon 10:00am-1:00 Wed 7:30-10:00 Thu 10:15-noon; L.A. Shaarei Tefila, 7269 Beverly Mon 6:15-8:45, Tue 10:15a-noon Wed noon-1:15

#### KAYSO FOLK DANCERS

Fri 9:30am-1:00 (619) 469-7133 Evelyn George SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 206 St

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#### WEST COAST GAMMELDANS

Wed 7:30-9:30 (714) 932-2513 Allan and Shirley info@wcgc.us www.wcgc.us WESTMINSTER, 5361 Vallecito A



# Folk Dance Scene

Volume 40, No. 1 February 2006

#### **Editor's Corner**

"Dance like no one is watching, Love like you'll never be hurt, Sing like no one is listening, Live like it's heaven on earth." – William Purkey.

Three prominent members of our folk dance community have passed away since December. I knew each of them for over 25 years. Their passing reminds me to dance, and love, and sing, and live, every day to its fullest.

**Dick Crum** – master teacher, historian, linguist and humorist. I last saw Dick in Los Angeles at the September Tamburitza Extravaganza. He was his usual witty self, surrounded by a cadre of friends and fellow dancers. I took some pictures (including the one on the cover), and promised to mail them to him... (pages 3 and 6).

**Don Sparks** – dancer and musician extraordinaire. I remember seeing Don at Cafe Aman sometime last year. He was playing music as well as he ever did, and seemed to be really enjoying himself (page 14).

Rose Miller – dancer and teacher from Ventura. I first met Rose at San Diego Camp in the 70's, and last saw her at the October Hungarian concert in Santa Barbara (more details next month).

There is a memorial party for Rose on February 5 at Valley Cities Jewish Community Center. Call (805) 899-1259 for more information.

Steve Davis

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### **Teachers Corner**

**DICK CRUM** 



Richard D. "Dick" Crum was born in the United States of German-Irish extraction and was raised in a Romanian neighborhood in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he attended school at the Romanian church. He was the oldest of five children. At an early age, he played with Romanian-speaking youngsters, attended language classes with them, and won their respect as someone interested in learning their dances and culture. Because of his interest in Slavic languages, he studied and received a Bachelor's degree in Romance Languages from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master's degree in Slavic Languages and Literature at Harvard University. He moved to Los Angeles, in 1972.

Dick started folk dancing in a group in which he saw Gordon Engler dancing in St. Paul. He eventually was a teacher at an Arthur Murray studio. Dick was the program director of the Festival of Nations at St. Paul Minnesota, and was a choreographer and technical adviser with the Duquesne University Tamburitzans for many years, first as a dancer, then as choreographer and technical adviser. He also was a choreographer and consultant for the AMAN Folk Ensemble.

Dick was a perennial favorite teacher among folk dancers beginning in 1951. He made seven research trips to the Balkan countries, doing field work and formal research with many groups from village dancers to exhibition ensemble choreographers.

He taught Balkan dance at all major folk dance camps in the U. S. and Canada and for innumerable master classes at colleges and universities. Not only was he a folk dance specialist and authority on Balkan dance, but he also published a collection of Yugoslav folk songs for recorder and voice.

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### **Teachers Corner**

Dick's interest in Balkan dance was threefold:

**Ethnographic** – Recording dances as they are danced by native dancers, studying dances in their natural context.

**Choreographic** – Presenting dances on stage, involving esthetics and dance adaptation for the stage and for non-dancing audiences.

**Recreational** – United States- and Canadian-type recreational folk dance, utilizing ethnographic and choreographic dances for recreation, physical education, and fun!

For years, Dick was an editor for a foreign-language translation service agency in Los Angeles. In addition to English, Dick spoke Spanish and Serbo-Croatian and had a working knowledge of Bulgarian, Polish, Indonesian, Romanian, and at least three other languages.

In 1999, the board of the East European Folklife Center (EEFC) recognized Dick Crum with a certificate for his lifetime of service to Balkan Music and Dance and his contribution to understanding of cultures. The National Folk Organization (NFO) honored Dick at their May 2002 Annual Conference in Rocklin, California. In a booklet produced by NFO president. Vonnie Brown. "A Tribute to Dick Crum." Dick is guoted. "It is our responsibility to be well informed about the material we are handling. The steps are only one dimension. It is vital we consider the dance within its cultural context." Vonnie also included a portion of an ongoing poem about Dick that begins, "Dick, you scaled the mountain without a stop; you stuck to your dream and reached the top. You cast your spell and made your mark; you are the master and our patriarch!" She also included a list of more than 190 dances that Dick had taught (see below), some "Crums of Wisdom," that included "You could spend your life trying to be Bulgarian, but you'd never make it. No way!" In another booklet, "Crum Table Trivia," produced at the same time, Vonnie wrote a 14-question "Crumisms Quiz."

Some of Dick's "Crumisms" are:

"Bloop-bloops"

"Cranch"

"Dance inside your shoes"

"Earlobes upright"

"Ethnic symmetry" to indicate the same footwork in the opposite direction

"Get your papers here"

"Look less non-Serbian"

"Mixed pickles" (or "Kris Kringle" during the Christmas season)

"No shushing"

"Period. Paragraph."

"Plain vanilla" that morphed into "Plain yogurt" in later years

"Your other left foot"

For all his seriousness about folklore, however, Dick was not beyond humor. At times he would wear a vest with "Colorful Ethnic Native" on the back. A workshop he gave titled "From Folklore to Fakelore" was a hilarious, hands-and feet-on demonstration of how true folk dance "evolves" from village amusement to some unrecognizable balletic enterprise suitable for touring and tourists. Maybe the epitome of Dick's humorous bent can be found in the Hungarian Waltz Quadrille, in collaboration with Gordon Engler, which originally appeared in a spoof edition of Mary Ann Herman's Maine Folk Dance Camp daily newsletter, the Pioneer Press, in 1962. Dick and Gordon wrote take-offs on every section of the Pioneer Press, then substituted their own mimeographed versions for the originals that everyone found at their tables at breakfast!

Dick was known for interjecting humor into his dance instruction. The following is attributed to Dick's wit:

Beginning dancer: Knows nothing.

Intermediate dancer: Knows everything, but is too good to dance with beginners.

Hotshot dancer: Too good to dance with anyone. Advanced dancer: Dances everything, especially with beginners.

Dick was also leader of the "Ethnic Police," complete with helmet, badge, and whistle given to him by his groupies in Minnesota around 1980. He also used fictional characters in his teaching, such as "Harold J. Underfoot (Ethnic Choreologist)" & "Doris Ding-dong."

Dick consulted for and supervised many fine recordings of ethnic dance music on the Folk Dancer, Xopo, and Du-Tam labels, which are available from your local folk dance recording outlet.

Among Dick's publications, articles, record syllabi, and workshop syllabi are

A review of Slovenski ljudski plesi (2 vols.) with Josef Brožek. Volume I, Slovenski ljudski plesi primorske, by Marija Šuštar; Volume II, Slovenski ljudski plesi koroske, by France Marolt and Marija Šuštar (Ljubljana, 1958). Journal of American Folklore, LXXII (1959), 362-363.

### **Club Directory**

#### **Federation Clubs**

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#### HAVERIM INT'L FOLK DANCERS Sun 7:00-9:00

(805) 676-7705 Nancy Benz VENTURA, Temple Beth Torah 7620 Foothill Rd (corner Kimball)

#### **HOLLYWOOD PEASANTS**

Wed 7:30-10:00 infrequently (310) 398-8187 Al Drutz CULVER CITY, Culver West Park, 4162 Wade St. (park on Moore St.)

#### KERN INT'LFOLK DANCERS

Wed 7:00-9:00 (661)831-5007 DelphineSzczepkowski BAKERSFIELD, Wayne Van Horn School, 5501 Kleinpell Ave.

#### KYPSELI GREEK FOLK DANCING

Fri 8:00-11:30 (818) 990-5542 Dalia Miller PASADENA, Skandia Hall 2031 E. Villa

#### LAGUNA FOLK DANCERS

Sun 7:00-10:00 Wed 8:00-10:00 (714) 893-8888 Ted Martin LAGUNA BEACH, Community Ctr 384 Legion Ave

#### LEISURE WORLD INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB

Tue 8:30am-11:00 Sat 9:00am-11:00 (949) 455-9527 Thelma Rosenblum LAGUNA WOODS, Leisure World Club House 1, 24232 Calle Aragon

#### **MOUNTAIN DANCERS**

Thu 7:00-9:30 (626) 794-8889 Vicki Davis S. PASADENA, Woman's Club, 1424 Fremont Ave.

#### MULTIETHNICAL DANCERS

Wed 6:00 (949) 770-7026 Miriam Kahn LAGUNA WOODS, Leisure World Club House 1, 24232 Calle Aragon

#### NARODNI INT'LFOLK DANCERS

Thu 7:30-10:30 (714) 932-2513 Shirley Hansen DOWNEY, Dance America, 12405 Woodruff Ave.

#### PASADENAFOLK 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 DANCERS

Wed 7:00-9:30 (619) 463-0434 Rodney Henderson SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club, Presidents Way off Park, Balboa Park

#### SAN DIEGO VINTAGE DANCERS

Thu 8:00 - 9:30 (858) 622-9924 Mary Jennings SAN DIEGO, Normal Heights Methodist Church 4650 Mansfield St.

#### SANTA BARBARA COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

Sun 6:30-10:00 Tue 7:30-9:00 (805) 682-1877 Elliott Karpeles (805) 682-5523 Gary Shapiro SANTA BARBARA Carrillo Rec Ctr 100 E. Carrillo St. (Sun, Tue); Oak Park 300 W. Alamar (Sun-summer)

#### SANTA MARIAFOLK DANCERS

Mon 7:00-9:00 (805) 528-0568 Jean Wheeler SANTA MARIA, Veterans Memorial Ctr. Pine & Tunnell Sts

#### SKANDIA DANCE CLASSES

Mon 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:00-10:00 Call for others (714) 893-8888 Ted Martin (714) 533-3886 Donna Tripp (310) 827-3618 Sparky Sotcher ANAHEIM, Downtown Community Center, 250 E Center (Mon) CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park, 5401 Rhoda Way (Wed)

#### 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 DANCERS

3rd Fri 7:45-9:45 (310) 320-9758 Mary Steinkamp TORRANCE, Torrance Cultural Ctr, 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 DANCERS

Sat 8:00-11:00 (714) 738-8008 Phyllis Pivar FULLERTON, Chapman Park, 2515 San Carlos

#### VINTAGE ISRAELI DANCING

4th or 5th Sat confirm (818) 990-8925 Louis dovbyrd@aol.com SHERMAN OAKS, Anisa's School of Dance, 14252 Ventura Blvd.

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### **Dancers Speak**

#### **DANCING WITH TWO LEFT FEET (Part 11)**



Did you notice that every so often we get newcomers to our dance group and there is always a kind soul that takes them under their dance wing and shows them the dance steps? In many instances the kind soul is not necessarily the best dancer or the best teacher and

what they show the newcomers are not necessarily the correct steps.

To some of our "Cohanim" or keepers of the folkdance faith (see some of the previous articles) that is more terrible than scratching of fingers on a blackboard. They feel, rightly so, that one should be taught the dance the correct way. While I fully agree with them, this situation presents a big dilemma.

So what is one to do? (And this is a multiple choice question. Remember those?)

- A. Ignore the poor newcomer and let him struggle on his own. Eventually he will get it. And anyhow, why doesn't he take a beginner dance class?
- B. Correct the kind soul who offered his assistance and thus discourage him or her from ever again taking the newcomers under their dance wing. If we discourage them all, who will be left to take care of the newcomers?

- C. Have one of the "Cohanim" take him aside and show him the right way?
- D. Leave the kind soul alone. After all he is paying attention to the newcomers and showing them we care. The newcomers will feel welcome and return to the group. I am sure that after several times dancing the dance, they will get it. In the meantime they will enjoy dancing, maybe not exactly the way it was taught, but dancing anyway.

Let me know how you feel. What do you remember from your first folk dance experience?

Has someone just dropped your hand and left you dancing by yourself when you didn't do the dance exactly the way the group was taught? It happened to me many years ago when I first started dancing. I refused to dance for several years.

Finally, at my wife's urging I went dancing again. I don't remember if the person who showed me the dance steps was one of the "Cohanim" or just a kind soul who took pity at my two left feet. It was not important. I felt welcome.

Well, I have been dancing since and thoroughly enjoying it. My belated thanks go to the person who showed me the way. Whoever it was, you have enormously enriched my life. Thanks a bunch.

Lou Pechi



### Dick Crum

"'Authenticity' in Podravina Dancing--A.D. 1868." The Tamburitzan, III, No. 3 (1960), 2.

"Balkan Dance." Folkdance Progression, eds. Miriam Lidster & Ester Tamburini, Belmont, 1965, 3-15. "Balun-Istrian Folk Dance." The Tamburitzan, III, No. 4 (1960), 2.

"Costumes." Viltis, 55:1 (Mar-Apr. 1955), p.14.
"Dances of the Baranja." The Tamburitzan, III, No. 3 (1960), 1 and 8.

"Dances of Prigorje." The Tamburitzan, III, No. 2 (1960), 1.

Dick Crum Book, The: Vranjanka and Other Jugoslav Songs and Dances, 24pp, Hargill Music Press, New York, New York, 1957 (reprinted 1958).

"Isn't it too bad that the old dances are dying out?" Let's Dance, Nov. 1974, p.4-5.

Old-Tyme Kolos. Softcover. Los Angeles, California: Tamburitza Extravaganza, 1993. (22 dance descriptions.)

"Some Background on the Kolo in the United States." Viltis, XII (1954), p.4-5.

"Some Notes on the Dances of Medjimure." The Tamburitzan, III, No. 2 (1960), p.8.

Dick was last seen at selected folk dance conferences, principally in a Master-of-Ceremonies role. He died at home on December 12, 2005, at the age of 77. He is missed by all.

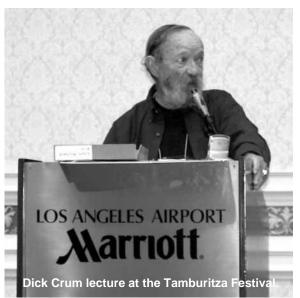
Dances Dick taught include Ajd' na Lijevo, Ajde Noga za Nogama, Alunelul, Ana Lugojana, Arap, Ardeleana cu Figuri, Arkan, Backo Kolo, Ballos, Balun Banatski Madjarac, Batrinescu (Batrineasca), Bela Rada, Bibersko Kolo, Bohiniska Sustarska, Boiereasca, Bosarka, Brîul Pe Sase (Brîuletul din Muscel), Bucimiš Bunjevacko Momacko Kolo, Cacak, Ca la Balta, Ca la Usa Cortului, Caluserul, Cigancica, Cigansko Horo, Ciganskoto, Ciro, Ciocârlanul, Cocek, Cone Milo Cedo, Coragheasca, Cuješ Mala (Šušu Mile), Cukarište Kokonješte, Czardáo, Dajcovo Horo, De-nvîtit, Deninka, Devetorka (Tri Godini), Devoyche Devoyche, Divna Divna (in Serbian Medley III), Divotinsko Horo, Doiul, Dorcolka Kolo, Drhtavac, Drmeš, Drmeš iz Zdencine, Ducec, Đurdevka, Dunavsko Horo, Dura, Dzangurica, Ekizlisko Horo, Ersko Kolo, Fatiše Kolo, Gaitanaki, Gankino Horo, Godecki Cacak, Goja Ples, Hajd Na Lijevo, Haj Haj Boze Daj, Hopa Hopa, Hora de la Câampulung, Hora Dreapta, Hora Mare, Igraj Kolo (Igra Kolo), Igraj Kolo na Dvadeset i Dva, Igrajte Nam Muzikaši, Întoarsa, Jambolsko Pajduško Horo, Jambolsko Pajduško II,

Jeftanovicevo Kolo II. Jovano Jovanke, Kabanica i Seksera, Kacerac, Kalaidžisko Oro, Kalendara Kolo (Kolo Kalendara), Karagouna, Kasapsko Horo, Katuše Mome Katuše, Kazlanuško Muko Horo, Keleruj, Kilimarsko Horo, Kiša Pada, Kokonješte, Kolenike Kolenike, Kolo from Ripanj (Ripanjsko Kolo), Kolo žita, Kopacka, Kopceto, Korcovo, Koso Moja, Kostursko Oro, Krecavi Ketuš, Krici Krici Ticek I, Krivata, Krivo Kuce (in Serbian Medley III), Krivo Sadovsko Horo, Kukuneško Horo, Kukunješte Kolo, Licki Tanac, Licko Kolo, Logovac, Lomsko Kolo (in Serbian Medley III), Ludo Kopano, Madarac, Makazice, Makedonsko Devojce, Malo Kolo, Mangupsko Kolo, Mazulinka, Mehmede, Milica, Minka, Mista, Moja Diridika, Mužko Trojno, Natalijino Kolo, Nebesko Kolo, Neda Grivne, Neda Voda Nalivala, Ne Odi Dzemo, Nojkatoliš Obicni Rej, Oj Jelo Jelano, Opšajdiri, Orijent, Oromnia, Pajduška, Petrunino Horo, Pirot Dance Medley (Serbian Medley II), Plieskavac I, Pleskavac II, Plevensko Pajduško, Plovdivska Kopanica, Po Zelenoj Trati, Pobelelo Pole, Pokupski Drmeš, Polster Tanc, Posavski Drmeš, Posavski Ples, Potrkan Ples, Povrateno, Pravo Takijsko Horo, Preplet (Mangupsko), Presjekaca, Purtata Fetelor, Pušnoto Oro, Puštejnu Oro (Sedna Mi Djemo), Radikalka (Devojacko Kolo, Haj Haj Bože Daj, Radikalko Kolo, Rukavice s Prstima), Radnicko Kolo, Ratevka, Razvruštanata, Ripna Maca, Rokoko Kolo, Rucenca for Three, Rumenka, Saracia, Sarajevka, Sârba In Trei Ciocane, Sareni Chorapi, Savamaljsko Kolo, Seljancica (Đacko Kolo), Serbian Medley III (including Divna Divna, Krivo Kuce, Lomsko Kolo, and Vasino Kolo), Šestinski Drmeš, Šestorka from Bela Palanka, Šetnja, Sî in Tre Ciocane, Sitno Kopanica, Sitno šopsko Horo, Skudrinka, Slavjanka, Slavonian Medley (including Presjekaca, Ajde Noga Za Nogama, Slavonsko Kolo, Stari Slavonsko Kolo), Slovenian Waltz, Sofisko šopsko Horo, Šokaško Malo Kolo, Šop from Trun, Šotiš, Srbijanka, Šroteš, Srpkinja, Štajeriš, Stari Šotiš, Što Mi E Milo, Sukacko Kolo, Šuster Polka, Svadbena Polka, Svadbeni Rejc, Svatbeni Rejc i Svadbena Polka, Svrljiski Cacak, Svrtos Silivrianos, Ta Potresena, Tandora, Trava Trava, Tsakonikos, Turopoljski Drmeš, Tarancuta, Trite Pâti, Trite Pâti from Gergebunar, Trojanac, Trugnala Rumjana, Turopoliski Drmeš, U Šest Koraka (Moravac), Vasino Kolo (in Serbian Medley III), Veliko Kolo, Vranjanka, Za Poyas, Zajecarka, Zaplanski Cacak, Zaplet, Žensko Krsteno, Zetovsko Oro, Zibnšrit, and Žikino Kolo. - Dick Oakes

phantomranch.net/folkdanc/teachers/crum\_d.htm

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### Remembering



Like many of us, I'm in shock and filled with deep, deep grief. And regret, yes, regret, since I and so many of us had not seen enough of him lately, and several of us old friends and colleagues of Dick had just recently -- as well as over the years -- been talking about being in closer touch with him and making one more formal effort to further document his immense and unique knowledge, experience and wisdom. Fortunately he kept notes, but not about everything, and I'd give all the notes in the world to have him still with us.

Indeed, wisdom. Dick was one of the wisest people knew, we all knew (though, as is often the case, not always in regard to himself). He was one of the sharpest minds greatest wits and warmest friends any of us ever knew. I don't think any of us ever had enough time with Dick in the last 30 years at least. I know he was not young, and it was clear he was likely nearing the end of his life, but it was not time for him to go – or at least for us to lose him. We have lost a dear friend, colleague, teacher and confidante. One of the very dearest. There was no one like him, and there will never again be anyone who saw and experienced his particular slice of history and the human experience and had the awesome perspective on it he did. And was able to articulate it so well, so wittily, so inspiringly, and to so many different kinds of people in so many different contexts. There is just a huge empty space in the world, in all of us, that he leaves...

Yet he lives on in us, in all we learned from him, shared with him, did and said and discussed and sang and danced together. Individually and in community. Only a few nights ago I happened to be sitting in a cafe in Warsaw, telling a friend for at least half an hour about Dick's brilliant and zany workshop called *Nashki*, (Ours) -- as incisive and funny an exploration of the packaging of traditional culture as has ever been created. And 6 weeks before that, the discussion was around Mark Forry's table in Santa Cruz, a world away. A world filled with Dick's work, soul, insight and inspiration, the world he delighted and excelled in exploring in all its quirky complexity.

In Yiddish -- which Dick understood quite well -- we would first say *borekh dayen emes* (Blessed is the Judge of Truth) upon hearing of someone's death. It is of course ever true in one way but always rang hollow for me. Nothing suffices. We would also say *Af simkhes* – may we see each other on happy occasions...celebrations, really....but it's hard to imagine a celebration without Dick. On the other hand, where else would we expect to see him, or wish him to be?

It will be appropriate over the coming time, and for years, to raise many a glass and make a *lekhayim* (to Life) in remembrance of Dick and his extraordinary soul and joie de vivre. Also to his struggle to live, to overcome loneliness and the darkness and unrest that often accompanies his kind of brilliance and openness. He was such an example to us all in being joyous, even when you knew he was crying inside or was just plain tuckered out after a day -- and night -- of work. Joy in the face of immense adversity, and one of the greatest examples I know of how to turn your life around.

It's traditional as well among East European Jews and others to drink such a toast to life when visiting the grave of a dear one. On such occasions it is of course as if that person is there with us. But Dick, goddamit, gets a glass of juice! If I were in St. Paul I would pour a bottle of slivovitz over his grave, though. Or maybe grape juice. I have to figure that one out.

Vaya con Diós, Dicksele, moreynu v'rabeynu v'khavereynu. Our teacher, our guide, our friend. Con lagrimas y con gritos. Bas mi zao da se rastajemo / Zao mi je, i srce me boli / Rastajemo i ne sastajemo....

I'd say "we'll talk," but it will likely, G-d willing, be a one way conversation for a while...

Yours in grief, solidarity, love and friendship,

– Michael Alpert



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### **Dance the Shimmy**



#### I WISH I COULD SHIMMY LIKE MAE WEST

In a paroxysm of terpsichorean curiosity, I recently decided to take a peek at some of the dances that were introduced early in the twentieth century.

What I found were dances like the Boston Two-Step, the Bunny Hug, the Fanny Bump, Turkey Trot and the Slow Drag Squat. None of these, however, even came close to anything like the Shimmy.

The dance form we know today as the Shimmy has been around for a very long time, but not here in America. They were doing a form of it in Germany in the 1400s only they called it the Ahselroten. Also, there were voodoo dancers in Haiti even before that.

The physical movements involved in doing the Shimmy have to be seen to be appreciated; words alone are not sufficient. Webster's Dictionary, while giving three definitions for the word 'shimmy', probably comes as close to describing it as any I've seen... "an abnormal vibration or wobbling as of the wheels of an automobile".

The dance was originally introduced here in the early 1900s by several performers, including none other than the wonderful Mae West (above), writhing and trembling through twelve shows a day. Later, the dance really took off, thanks to a young Polish immigrant girl named Marianna Winchalaska. Marianna began her career singing in saloons owned by her father-in-law. It was said she was singing the Star Spangled Banner in a bar one night, when she

forgot the words. She made up for it by shaking her shoulders and hips much to the surprise and delight of the patrons. When someone later asked what she was doing, she simply replied, "I'm shaking my shimmy." Marianna had a very strong Polish accent, and it was her way of pronouncing the word 'chemise'. She had managed at that moment apparently, to introduce a new meaning to the word 'shimmy'.

It wasn't long before an agent discovered Marianna, and she found herself in New York City. The famous Sophie Tucker took Marianna under her wing, took her to meet all the right people while at the same time changing her name to Gilda Grav.

Gilda went on to achieve considerable fame and fortune both in New York and Hollywood. She was seen doing the Shimmy in the Ziegfield Follies of 1922 and was in such films as The Devil Dancer, Aloma of the South Seas and Cabaret, Sadly, she died penniless in December of 1959. But I digress.

The Shimmy actually became a couple's dance for a short while in the 1930s. It's the solo version that still remains popular today with some people feeling it's more of a dance movement than a dance. The music most associated with the Shimmy (see title above) was published in 1919 by Clarence Williams and Armand Piron, the first black-owned music publishers in New Orleans. The original title of this song was rather risqué, to say the least, and certainly would not get past a censor then, now or probably ever. But I might whisper it to you if you are over twenty-one, can shimmy, and I've known you for at least a year or so.

For your edification I include here two very basic movements of the shimmy for you to try in the privacy of your home (I hope). There are more to follow in future issues of Let's Dance providing I am not vilified or stoned before then.

The 4/4 Shimmy: Stand with your knees slightly bent and your feet together with the pelvis tucked underneath you comfortably. Now straighten the right leg. Next, straighten the left leg while bending the right leg. The movement comes from the thighs and the weight is placed evenly on both feet.

The Sliding Shimmy: While doing a very small fast 4/ 4 shimmy, (also known as a Flutter), slide your hips out to the right, back to center and out to the left, then back to center. The weight is mostly on your right when sliding right, mostly on your left when sliding left, and evenly distributed when you come back to center.

Good luck....and keep trying!

- By Sidney Messer

This article appeared in the January 2005 issue of Let's Dance, and is reprinted here with permission.

### Dick Crum

Mark Forry just forwarded to us the sad news that Dick Crum has passed away. This news comes to us just days after we found out that Gorden Engler died. This is freaky that they both died so close to one another since they were life long friends, and Dick started folk dancing because of Gordy.

May their soul's rest in peace and may they keep each other company in the here after...they will be missed.

Billy and Suzie Burke

Here is a quote from Dick that I've never heard anyone else repeat. He said of folk dance: "The dance is a symbol of a person's identity with a community and his / her place within it." It's pretty profound and states almost better than any other way Dick's crusade to impress the richness and importance of ethnic dance.

Richard Duree

In last month's "Dancing with Two Left Feet" column I wrote about Dick Crum. I was greatly saddened when I heard shortly after that he peacefully left us.

Dick was a unique individual who brought immense joy to me and every folk dancer who had the privilege of knowing him. Although I was not very close to Dick, I would run into him at the oddest moments. Every encounter was a memorable event, his smile and sparkle lingering on long after.

I savored each encounter but never got a chance to express directly to him how I felt. My last article was an attempt to do so. I hope that I was not too late and he had a chance to read it.

Of all the many encounters one of my fondest memories was Dick bantering, many years ago, with my Serbian namesake Ljuba at U. C. San Diego. I still hear the melodies and the words of the "Bezobrazne Pesme" (Cheek-less songs, or dirty ditties) in Serbian. I still remember the sparkle in Dick's eyes as he kept outdoing each one of Ljuba's great verses.

As he left us, his eyes peacefully closed in his sleep, but the sparkle in his eyes will linger in my memory.

I think about Dick on the big folk dance floor in the sky. He is probably replacing the harp hymns with fast Serbian accordion music as he teaches the angels to dance inside their shoes; if angels even wear shoes.

Are you allowed to sing dirty ditties in Heaven? My last article ended with the words: "Thanks Dick. See you at the next event".

So, until we see each other at the next event. I will think of Dick Crum while humming the happy tunes and singing the dirty ditties, just in case they are not allowed up there....

Lou Pechi



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### Calendar

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

- 3,4,5 *Dickens Festival*, Riverside. Info at website: http://www.dickensfest.com/.
- 4 Nevenka in concert with the Yeseta Brothers. Croatian concert and dance party 8:00 at Throop Church, 300 S. Robles Ave, Pasadena. See OTS for details. Info: Nevenka.org.
- 4 A Retrospective of 50 Years of Emily Winters' Art Work. At Social and Public Art Resource Center (known as SPARC) 685 N. Venice Bl. See OTS for details. Info: (310) 822-9560 x1.
- 4 Scottish Fiddler Jamie Laval with Ashley Broder on mandolin, cello and fiddle. Perform 8:00 at the California Traditional Music Society's Center for Folk Music, 16953 Ventura Blvd., Encino. Info: (818) 817-7756, info@ctmsfolkmusic.org.
- 4 Ana Moura, Portuguese Fado singer. Performs 3:00 and 8:00 at Getty Center, L.A. Info: (310) 440-7300, www.getty.edu.
- 5–17 Mysterious Voices of Bulgaria. Performances at various CA locations. See OTS for specifics.
- 7 A Free Dance Party! To celebrate the birthday of Emily Winters. 7:30 – 10:30 at Tuesday Gypsies, 9635 N. Venice Bl. Cake and coffee with be served. See OTS. No gifts please.
- 8–15 Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance, performances at McCallum Theatre, Palm Desert. Info: ((866) 889-ARTS, www.mccallmtheatre.com.
- 10–12 Laguna Folkdancers Festival. Ensign School, Newport Beach. Teachers: Cristian Florescu, Sonia Dion, and Steve Kotansky. Council meeting tba. Info: (714) 893-8888, info@LagunaFolkdancers.com.
- 11 Cafe Aman, 7:30 to 11:30 at Cafe Danssa. Folk dance music by the UCLA Bulgarian Wedding Band under the direction of master gajda player Ivan Varimezov! Teaching by Jatila van der Veen Davis from Santa Barbara. Info: (310) 478-7866.
- 13 Valentine's Day Party with the West L. A. Folk Dancers. An all request dance program will be played by Beverly & Irwin Barr. Pot -luck snacks. 7:30 at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166. or (310) 478-4659.

- 16 Valentine's Day Party with live entertainment: a West Coast Swing demo and short teaching! Narodni Int'l Folk Dancers @ Dance Dynamics, 12405 Woodruff Ave., Downey. Wear your favorite costume!!! Info: Shirley ar (714) 932-2413, Shirley@Hansen-Family.us.
- 24–26 Frog Contradance Festival. 200 S. Euclid Ave., Pasadena. Info: (818) 785-3839, www.FolkWorks.org/frog.
- 25 Keshet Chaim Dance Ensemble, perform 8:30 at Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Center. Info: (805) 449-2787, <a href="https://www.toaks.org/theatre">www.toaks.org/theatre</a>.
- 28–29 Israeli Dance Camp, with Yoni Carr, others. See OTS for details. Info: (760) 631-0802, yonic@cox.net.r

#### MARCH

17 St. Patrick's Day Party, West L.A. Folk Dancers (Friday) 7:30, at Brockton School in W.L.A. Wear your green. Request program and a pot-luck snack table. See OTS for details. For info: Call Beverly at (310) 202-6166

#### **APRIL**

- Westwood Co-op's Spring Festival. Veterans Memorial Auditorium, at Overland and Culver Blvd., Culver City, 1:30 - 5:30. Council meeting at 10:30 a.m. Free festival & free parking. For info: (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.
- 7–9 Westwood's Camp Hess Kramer Weekend. Malibu location. Info: (310) 391-7382.

#### MAY

Performances by Duquesne University Tamburitzans:

- 19 7:30 at E. County Perf. Arts Ctr., El Cajon. Info: (858) 273-8203
- 20 7:00 at Servite High School, Anaheim. Info: (714) 832-7470.
- 21 3:00 at Fontana High School, Fontana. Info: (909) 823-4366.
- 23 8:00 at Mountain View Ctr for Perf. Arts. Info: (650) 903-6000.
- 24 8:00 at Lancaster Perf. Arts Center. Info: (661) 723-5940.
- 21 Topanga Banjo and Fiddle Contest, Paramount Ranch, Agoura. See OTS for details. Info: (818) 382-4819, www.topangabanjofiddle.org.



Numbers to call: (714) 891-0788 893-8888 (949) 646-7082

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#### Schedule of Events

#### FRIDAY EVENING \$10.-

Welcome Party and Dance workshop with refreshments 7:30 -12:00 SATURDAY

Morning dance wkshp 9:30 -11:30 \$ 10

Afternoon dance wkshp 1:30 - 4:30 \$ 12
Valentine Dance Party 7:30 -10:30 \$ 15
Afterparty 10:30 - 1:00 incl

SUNDAY 12:00-5:00 \$12.-Beginners' class 12:00-1:00 Dance Concert 1:00 -2:30

Dance Party 2:30 -5:00

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Travelodge, 1951 Newport Blvd., Costa Mesa
(949)650-2999 \$64.- incl.tax

Laguna Folkdancers is a member of the Folkdance Federation of California, South

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### **Recent Events**

#### Pasadena Folk Dance Co-Op Winter Festival

Pasadena's annual winter festival was held January 15 at the Scottish Rite Temple in Pasadena. Here is a one picture featuring Marshall Cates on the left in full Scottish regalia. See page 20 for another picture.



#### **Macedonian Tour**

The first annual U.S. tour of Macedonian master accordionist Goran Alački and master dancer and teacher Ljupčo Manevski has been a wonderful success.

After stops in Chicago, IL and Tempe, AZ, Goran and Ljupčo arrived for a whirlwind tour which included concerts in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, and teaching workshops with the Santa Barbara Balkan Folk Dancers, Narodni in Downey, Stanford Dancers in Mountain View, San Diego Folk Dancers, Ethnic Express in Las Vegas, San Pedro Folk Dancers, and a spectacular finale at Cafe Danssa.

The highlights were the standing-room-only Macedonian-Arabic fusion concert with leading Arabic musicians Souhail Kaspar (tarabouka) and Naser Musa (oud) at the Levantine Cultural Center on Jan 15 (above right), and the sold-out concert at Soho Music



Levatine concert cast Ljupčo, Goran, Naser, Sue Rudnicki (tupan), Souhail, and Jatila.

and Dinner Club in Santa Barbara with clarinetist Sonia Tamar Seeman on January 16 (see below).

One of the most significant outcomes of this tour was the coming together of the Macedonian and local folk dance communities. After Goran and Ljupčo's initial appearance at the Macedonian New Year's Party on January 14, the local ethnic Macedonians in Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Mountain View came out to support Goran and Ljupco at the concerts as well as the folk dance workshops.

Atanas Kolarovski called and personally thanked Ljupco and Goran for coming to the U.S. to continue the tradition he started, and Cane Carovski, leading member of the Macedonian church and former member of Sherry Cochran's performing group, praised them for being ambassadors of the culture of Macedonia.

– Jatila van der Veen - Davis



### Calendar

- 19–21 Dance Your Way to San Jose, Folk Dance Federation's Statewide 2006 Festival. Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion teaching Romanian, music by Chubritza, concert. At West Valley College, Saratoga. Info: <a href="https://home.comcast.net/~statewide\_2006/statewide\_2006.html">home.comcast.net/~statewide\_2006/statewide\_2006.html</a>.
- 26-6/4 Travel & dance with Beverly & Irwin Barr on a 10 day trip combining an Alaska Cruise & the FolkLife Festival in Seattle. Dates include the Memorial Day weekend. Call for details & reservations. (310) 202-6166 or (310 478-4659.

#### **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

- 2/4 Festival of the Oaks. At Alameda College Dance Studio, 55 Atlantic Avenue, Alameda. Dance workshops. 9:30 AM-Noon, Int'l folk dancing, 1:30 5:00, dance performances. 3:00. Info: Mel Mann (510) 527-2177 or email, meldancing@aol.com.
- 2/10, 11, 12 18th Annual Russian Festival 2006, at the Russian Center, 2460 Sutter Street, SF. Russian crafts, art, food, desserts and teas.
- 2/12 Sweetheart Festival. Sponsored by the Napa Valley and Petaluma Folk Dancers. For information call David Thompson (707) 255-7309.
- 3/3–5 Camellia Int'l Dance Festival. Yves Moreau, Richard Powers, live music by Chubritza. Info: folkdance.com/sacramentocouncil.
- 4/1 Balkan Plus Party, Balkan Dancers of Marin, 8:00 to 11:00, lots of great dancing, plentiful parking, good wood floor, finger snacks and drinks provided. 1010 Lootens, San Rafael. Info: (415) 456-0786 www.folkdance.com/sacramentocouncil.
- 4/7–9 10th Arcata Folk Dance Festival!. At: Bayside Grange, 2297 Jacoby Creek Road, Bayside. Info: Becky at (707)839-3665 or <a href="mailto:greepbecky@cox.net">greepbecky@cox.net</a>.
- 6/10-17 Scandia Camp, Mendocino. Dances and music of Telemark, Norway and Dalarna, Sweden. Info: Scandia Camp Mendocino, 1320 Harleyford Road, Woodridge, IL 60517, <a href="mailto:DancingRoo@aol.com">DancingRoo@aol.com</a> or call (630) 985-7192.
- 6/17–24 Mendocino Folklore Camp. Teachers: Michael Ginsburg, Balkan, Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion, Romanian, Jeff O'Connor, Country Western and Swing. Music classes with Billy Burke and Tzvetanka Varimezova. Info: (707) 795-6926, phyris@mendocinofolklorecamp.com.

7/28–8/5 Lark Camp, Celebration Of World Music, Song & Dance Mendocino Woodlands (all three camps). Balkan music and dance classes.Info: <a href="http://www.larkcamp.com">http://www.larkcamp.com</a>.

### OUT OF STATE ILLINOIS

3/1–19 41th Anniversary Spring Festival, at Int'l House, Chicago. Atanas Kolarovski - Macedonian, Ahmet Luleci -Turkish, Sani Rifati - Rom, Yuliyan Yordanov -Bulgarian, members of *Hrvatska Loza* - Croatian and Daniela Ivanova - Bulgarian, Serbian. Info: <a href="mailto:balkanske igre@yahoo.com">balkanske igre@yahoo.com</a>.

#### MAINE

- Mainewoods Dance Camp. 3 1-week sessions, plus Labor Day Weekend.
- 8/12-18 France Bourque-Moreau Quebecois, Yves Moreau - Bulgarian, Honey Goldfein-Perry - Israeli
- 8/19-25 Joe Wallin Scottish, Sani Rifati Roma (formerly called "Gypsy"), Tom Bozigian Armenian
- 8/26–9/1 Jacqueline Schwab English, Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu Romanian, Demetris Tashie Greek
- 9/1-4 Michael Gelman Hungarian/Romanian, Miroslav Marcetic - Serbian

Info: Mary Zaleta, info@mainewoodsdancecamp.org

#### WASHINGTON

- 4/1-2 NFDI Festival celebrating our 50th anniversary, Seattle. Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion teaching Romanian; Thea Huijgen teaching international dances; Mary Sherhart teaching Balkan singing.
- 5/26-29 *Folklife Festival*, Seattle. The festival celebrates its 25th anniversary at Seattle Center.

#### FOREIGN CANADA

4/28 - 30 Salt Spring Island Folk Dance Festival, British Columbia. Yves Moreau, Bulgarian and Balkan, France Bourque-Moreau, Quebecois and French. Groupa Dunbarov providing live music. A full weekend of dance and music, with home cooked meals, and a great party. Festival@keough-art.com.

#### **CARIBBEAN**

3/25–4/1 Dancing with Donna, sailing from Fort Lauderdale to the E. Caribbean aboard Caribbean Princess. Info: Donna Frankel, (408) 257-3455, donna@dancingcruises.com.

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### On the Scene

#### **EW ADDRESS FOR GERDA**

Gerda Ben-Zeev, Scene Subscriptions Mgr. has moved. So when you renew, or have other subscription correspondence, her new address is: 19 Village Park Way, Santa Monica, CA 90405.

#### **CELEBRATIONS FOR EMILY WINTERS**

You are cordially invited to come celebrate Emily Winters' 70th birthday at two celebration events!

**Saturday, February 4**, 6 - 9 pm. A retrospective of 50 Years of her art work. (1956-2006) at the Social and Public Art Resource Center (SPARC), 685 N. Venice Bl., Venice. Info: (310) 822-9560 x 15.

In lieu of gifts, please bring finger food to share, or a donation to the Venice Arts Council, or SPARC.

**Tuesday, February 7**, 7:30 - 10:30 pm (the actual birthday) <u>A Free Dance Party!</u> At the Tuesday Gypsies: Culver City Masonic Lodge, 9635 N. Venice Bl.

Cake and coffee with be served. No gifts please. If you must, in lieu of gifts, please make a donation to the Tuesday Gypsies. I do hope you will join me for a wonderful evening of dancing.

– Emily Winters

#### **VESELO SELO SCHEDULE**

**Feb. 7** Fun For All Night with hostess,

#### **Carol Maybrier**

Feb. 14 Closed For Laguna Festival

Feb. 21 Reviews Of Laguna Festival Dances

Feb. 28 Reviews Of Laguna Festival Dances.

- Lu Perry

#### NEVENKA CONCERT WITH THE YESETA BROS.

Saturday, February 4th at 8:00 pm

We are really pleased to be joining the Yeseta Brothers for this concert! We will be presenting Croatian songs and tamburica music, followed by a rollicking dance party. There will also be a Ladarke sing-along, so bring your voices and dance shoes!

For tickets and information, call Trudy Israel at (818)-907-7340. Or better yet, send a check/money order and SASE before January 20th to:

Nevenka, 4207 Matilija Ave., Sherman Oaks, Calif. 91423.

Hope to see you there!

Trudy Israel

#### CAFE AMAN

Come join us at Cafe Aman on Saturday, Feb. 11th. 7:30 pm to 11:30 pm. We will have Bulgarian Folk Dance Music by the UCLA Bulgarian Wedding Band under the direction of master gajda player - Ivan Varimezov!

Also, our teacher will be: Jatila van der Veen - Davis from Santa Barbara who will teach "Todor's Trite pati" and "Nikolai's Ruka", from Balkanfolk 2005.

Please join us and help support local musicians! Admission: \$7. At Cafe Danssa, located at 11533 West Pico Blvd., CA 90064-1519 in West L.A., between Sawtelle and Barrington, on the north side of the street, upstairs. Tel: (310) 478-7866. Street parking.

– Ian Price

#### LAGUNA FESTIVAL

The weekend festival put on by Laguna Folkdancers will be held at Ensign School in Newport Beach. The dates are February 10–12, and will feature workshops with Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion, and Steve Kotansky. There will be a concert, Valentine party Saturday night hosted by Veselo Selo, live music, and a beginners class. See ad for further information.

Beverly and Irwin Barr have a block of hotel rooms in Newport Beach at a great price, including a complimentary full hot cooked breakfast. To reserve a room call (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.

#### MINI CAMP WITH YONI CARR

Presidents Weekend, Feb. 18th & 19th (Sat. & Sun.).

Teacher from Israel; the young & talented: Avi Levy
With some other local teachers: Israel Yakovee and
Yoni Carr.

Location and other details will follow soon. Please keep the date! Phone: (760) 631-0802, yonic@cox.net.

– Yoni Carr

### WEST L. A. FOLK DANCERS - PARTIES

Valentine's Day Party, Monday, Feb. 13

The West L. A. Folk Dancers will celebrate the day before Valentine's Day with a Folk Dance Party. An evening of fun, food, and folk dancing.

### St. Patrick's Day Party, Friday, March 17

This year we will celebrate on St. Patrick's Day, Friday, Mar. 17. Wear your green and get into the spirit of the Irish.

Dance Your Way to San Jose! Statewide 2006

Come join the fun! May 19, 20 & 21

Event sponsored
by the
Folk Dance
Federation of California

Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion

with Dances from Romania Samy Makar with Salsa Rueda Mixers Live Music with Chubritza!



Partner & Non-partner Dances! Parties! Classes! Concert!

Banquet! Great local bands at the Kafana!

West Valley College, 14000 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga, California For more info contact Louise at (510) 528-9168 http://home.comcast.net/~statewide\_2006/statewide\_2006.html

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### **Remembering Don Sparks**



Don Sparks was a very accomplished dancer and musician who performed with many Southern California dance organizations. He first began his performing arts career as an Equity actor and dancer in musical theatre, and as a dancer in the folk group, Bessarabia. He then pursued his interest in ballet and for many years was a well-known guest artist among western ballet companies.

Don joined AMAN Folk Ensemble in 1977 and was a member until 1995. He demonstrated great artistic flexibility, and performed as a dancer, solo singer and musician, and served the company's management as a choreographer, Men's Dance Director, Music Coordinator, Associate Artistic Director, and Artistic Director.

He had a deep interest in Hungarian music and dance and took numerous trips to Hungary and

Transylvania. He performed with the Los Angelesbases Hungarian dance company, Karpatok.

Don will be greatly missed.

Jon Rand

From the Editor: Last month, there was a Memorial Folk Dance Party for Don at Cafe Aman. To remember Don's passion for folk music, musicians and ensembles from as far away as the San Francisco Bay area donated their time and talents. There was a fund started to help Don's wife and 10 year old son, who live in Hungary.

This is a copy of an email letter that Miamon Miller received from Don's wife in Hungary:

#### Dear Miamon:

I am sorry that I couldn't be in L.A. through all these weeks and I didn't have a chance to talk to you and Don's friends who were close to his heart. I don't know how to thank you for all the help and support you gave to my sister and us! Please, I would like to ask you to send this letter to Don's friends. Also, I'm still waiting for my visa, so I don't know when I will be able to go to L.A. Also we are trying to come up with the best way regarding the burial. Deanne was very kind to share her thoughts with my sister and we think the best place would be Texas. We will arrange it somehow and take Don's ashes, so he can rest in peace!

Now I would like to thank everybody for the support you gave and for the planning of this wonderful memorial service. I wish I could have been there. My sister told me all about it and the photos are on the way already.

I'm very touched with all of your kindness and thoughtfulness. Now I understand that I'm not the only one who lost a husband and Jason a father, but you lost a precious friend.

Let me tell you a little bit about Jason. He is a wonderful boy. He is an excellent student, works very hard at school and always wants to be one of the best. He is talented in many ways, just as Don. His drawings are receiving lots of attention at school, he sings on school programs, likes karate and modern dance. When he grows up, he wants to be a biologist because he loves animals and nature. We decided that all your donation will be put into a saving account for Jason. He is already talking about to study in the U.S. One more time I would like to express my gratitude to all of you!

- Beata and Jason

### On the Scene

An all-request program will be played. Bring snacks or desserts for the potluck table. The parties begin at 7:30 p.m. and end when you're too tired to dance.

We meet every Monday and Friday evening and dance on a beautiful wooden floor. The place is Brockton School, 1309 Armacost, W.L.A. (between Barrington & Bundy, 1/1/2 blocks north of Santa Monica Blvd.). We look forward to seeing you. For information call (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.

- Beverly & Irwin Barr

#### DRUMMER WANTED

A youth group that will be performing at the Greek Folk Dance Festival is seeking a percussionist to play Florina repertoire on the snare drum.

The group is located in the Los Angeles area. The event takes place in San Diego, the weekend of February 17-19. If you are interested and available, please reply to me at <a href="mailto:demotika@earthlink.net">demotika@earthlink.net</a> with your contact info, and I will pass your info on to the group.

– Joan Friedberg

#### **TOPANGA BANJO AND FIDDLE CONTEST**

The 46th Annual Topanga Banjo and Fiddle Contest will be held on Sunday, May 21 at the Paramount Ranch in Agoura, 9:00 to 6:00. There will be lots of dancing: Irish set, Scottish country, English country, family, and contra dancing.

In addition to the banjo and fiddle contestants, there will be old time music and songs, crafts, jam sessions, western movie sets, food, and children's activities. Info: (818) 382-4819, topangabanjofiddle.org.

#### WESTWOOD CO-OP'S HESS KRAMER WEEKEND

It is already time to start planning for Westwood Coop's Camp Hess Kramer! This year the camp will be held from April 7th to 9th. We will have lots of our favorite activities and some new ones, and of course dance teaching and dance parties. This camp is quite low keyed, and a perfect camp for new dancers.

Camp is held in a beautiful setting in Malibu, close to Los Angeles, and yet it gives you the feeling of being in a remote, mountain getaway, with the beach a short walk away. If we get enough rain, the stream running through the grounds will be an added attraction.

A registration form is in this month's Scene. For questions, call Sandy at (310) 391-7382.

Sandy Helperin

#### NARODNI FOLK DANCERS TEACHING PROGRAM

**February 16th** Valentine¹s Day Party --- West Coast Swing Demo & Teaching

Thursdays, 7:30 - 10:30 at Dance Dynamics, 12405 Woodruff Avenue, Downey. Info: (714) 932-2513.

#### 'MYSTERIOUS VOICES OF BULGARIA' TOUR

The "Le Mystere des Voix Bulgares" choir will be touring in the U.S. this spring. The program will be a mix of traditional songs, folk-song inspired choral music by 20th century and contemporary Bulgarian composers, and some Orthodox choral pieces.

Here are the performances scheduled for California:

San Diego, 3/05/2006, Sunday, 8:00. At Mandeville Auditorium, UC San Diego. <u>ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/calendar/DisplayEventDetail.asp.</u>

Santa Barbara, 3/06/2006 Monday. At UC Santa Barbara Campbell Hall, show: 8:00. <u>artsandlectures.</u> <u>ucsb.edu/perform/bulgares.asp.</u>

Los Angeles, 3/08/2006 Wednesday. At Disney Hall, show: 8:00.

Santa Cruz, 3/09/2006 Thursday. At Holy Cross Church, show: 8:00. zookbeat.com.

Arcata, 3/11/2006 Saturday. At Humbolt State University, 1 Harpst St., show: 8:00.

San Francisco, 3/17/2006 Friday. At Grace Cathedral, 1100 California, show: 8:00. http://www.sfjazzfestival.org/.

Don't miss this rare appearance by one of the world's greatest vocal ensembles. It's been over 10 years since they've had the opportunity to tour in the US.

For info: call me at (510) 444,0323, shira@kitka.org

– Shira Cion

#### **WESTWOOD CO-OP SPRING FESTIVAL - APRIL 2**

It's almost time again for one of the best folk dance festivals of the year, so save the date The date is Sunday, April 2, 2006, 1:30 - 5:30 p.m., at Veterans Memorial Auditorium, at the corner of Overland Ave. & Culver Blvd. in Culver City.

The festival is free and the parking is free. See the flyer in this issue of Scene. For more information, please call (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.

Beverly Barr

### On the Scene

#### ALASKA CRUISE AND FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL

A seven day Alaska Cruise on the 5 Star Holland America Westerdam including the Memorial Day weekend at the FolkLife Festival. We will stay two nights in Seattle and attend the largest and most impressive folk festival of it's kind. What a great combination, a luxury Alaska Cruise with the exciting FolkLife Festival and only one round trip to and from Seattle. The dates for this ten day trip are May 26 - June 4, 2006. See ad in this issue of Scene. Info: (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.

– Beverly & Irwin Barr

#### THE LOS ANGELES CELTIC ARTS CENTER.

Irish Ceili Dance Class: Tuesdays at 7:00. The class will teach simple party dances such as The Walls of Limerick and The Haymakers' Jig, and the more advanced Eight-Hand Jig and High Cauled Cap. Emphasis will be on proper form & footwork. Irish Ceili Dance is the lively forebear to much of American Folk Dance. Info: call Bird at (818) 353-7316.

Another Ceili class: Monday nights (except the first Monday of the month) at 8 p.m. at the Celtic Arts Center's Seisiun – the longest-running traditional music session in Southern California.

The Celtic Arts Center is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the preservation of Celtic arts, culture and languages. We offer classes in language, art and history, award-winning theater, and concerts.

We are located at 4843 Laurel Cyn Blvd., Studio City - about a block north of Riverside Blvd.

http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/ceiltis

#### **FOLK DANCE PROMOTION FUND**

The Folk Dance Federation of California has established the Folk Dance Promotion Fund to promote international folk dance.

Projects should promote folk dance in the broadest sense. Grants will be made up to \$2000 with a maximum annual expenditure by The Fund of \$6000.

Applicants must be Associate Members of the Federation, or belong to a member club or Federation committee.

For information, or to get application procedures, contact: Gary Anderson (<a href="mailto:editor@letsdancemag.net">editor@letsdancemag.net</a>), or Bruce Mitchell (dancebruce@aol.com).

# Alaska Cruise &

### FolkLife Festival

with

Beverly & Irwin Barr 10 Days -May 26 - June 4, 2006

3 days in Seattle for FolkLife Festival, the largest festival in the U.S. 7 Days on the "5 Star" Holland America Westerdam Cruise Glacier Bay, Visit Juneau, Sitka, Prince Rupert Island, B.C. & Victoria, B.C.

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\$1,899 - Inside Cabin - double occupancy

\$2,279 - Outside Cabin "

\$2,399 – Balcony Cabin "

Deposit - \$350 per person

### "Great Price and it Includes"

Round trip Airfare L.A./Seattle. Port charges & taxes. Hotel for 2 nights in Seattle. All meals & entertainment on board ship, and FOLK DANCING. Visit the best "Ports of Call" in Alaska.

<u>& to Reserve your cabin</u> 310-202-6166 or 310-478-4659

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# Westwood Co-op Folk Dancers



Two nights - Six meals (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch)
Families Welcome

Choose 1 of 4 types of accommodations Reservations based on availability	Cost per Person
A - Dormitory (couples or singles)	\$110.00
B - Room for two or three with private bath in the redwood building You may arrange for a roommate of your choice, or one will be assigned to you.	
C - Room for two with semi-private bath under the dining hall(includes towels, linens and housekeeping)	
D - Deluxe room for two with private bath in the new conference building (includes towels, linens and housekeeping)	\$240.00*

\*Cost based on double occupancy (Single occupancy \$40 extra, based upon availability.)

Late cancellation may be subject to a \$40 cancellation fee.

Send coupon below and check for the full amount payable to WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK DANCERS and mail to: Wes Perkins or Gloria Harris at 1621 Bryn Mawr Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90405

#### Camp Rule - No pets allowed

Reservation questions? Call (310)452-1538 ..... Other questions? Call Sandy at (310)391-7382

WESTWOOD CO-OP'S CAMP HESS KE ACCOMMODATIONS; A B C_				APRIL 7,8,9, 2006
Name(s):(Print your name as you want it on your be Street Address:			_	Preferred Roommate(s):
City and ZIP	or		_,_	
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CONTACT  Special Dietary Need: Vegetarian — WESTWOOD CO-OP IS A MEMBER CLUB OF THE	E FOLK	Phone (		<u> </u>