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# **First Class Mail**



**Dated Material** 





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#### Folk Dance Scene

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On the cover: Yves Moreau leading a dance in Sao Paulo, Brasil, 2004 See cover story p 4.

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# **Club Directory**

### **Beginners'** Classes

CABRILLO FOLK DANCERS Tue 7:00-8:00 (858) 459-1336 Georgina SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club Balboa Park

#### CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS

Wed 7:30 (805) 497-1957 Jill Lungren THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center, 403 W Hillcrest Dr

#### ETHNIC EXPRESS

Wed 6:30-7:15 closed holidays & Aug (702) 732-4871 Richard Killian LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights Art Center, 800 S. Brush St.

#### ISRAELI DANCING-Natalie Stern

Mon noon-1:00 Wed 7:30-8:30 (818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern L.A., Univ of Judaism Dance Studio 5600 Mulholland

#### KAYSO FOLK DANCERS

Fri 9:30am-10:30 (619) 469-7133 Evelyn George SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 206 St.

#### PASADENA CO-OP

Fri 7:45-8:30 (626)446-5160 Marsha Fenner PASADENA, Throop Memorial Church, 300 S. Los Robles

#### SAN DIEGO INTL FOLK DANCERS

Wed 7:00-9:30 (858) 571-2730 Kin Ho SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club, Presidents Way off Park, Balboa Park 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)

WEST L. A. FOLK DANCERS Mon 7:45-8:30 (310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr WEST L.A., Brockton School 1309 Armacost Ave

#### **WESTWOOD CO-OP** Thu 7:30-8:00

(310) 202-6166 Beverly (310) 657-6877 Rita WEST L.A., F. Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd.

### Dance Companies and Exhibition Groups

AVAZ INTERNATIONAL DANCE THEATRE Wed 7-10 (323) 663-2829 Jamal L.A. Church of Guardian Angel, 1118 N. Commonwealth Ave.

#### BALLET FOLKLORICO JUVENIL DE PICO RIVERA Mon 6:00 - 8:30 (562) 699-5183 Jorge Diaz PICO RIVERA, Durfee Elementary

CLAN MACLEOD DANCERS

School, 4220 Durfee Rd.

Mon 7:30-9:30 (818) 761-4750 Deanna St Amand EAGLE ROCK, Women's 20th Century Club, 5105 Hermosa Ave.

**DUNAJ INTL FOLK ENSEMBLE** Wed 7:00-10 (714) 641-7450 Richard Duree SANTA ANA, WISEPlace, 1414 N. Sycamore

#### INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE (818) 343-4410 Suzy Evans VAN NUYS, Lake Balboa Center, 7412 Balboa Blvd

#### KARPATOK HUNGARIAN FOLK ENSEMBLE

Wed 8:00-10:00 (310) 514-1706 Livia Gaspar LOS ANGELES, Magyar House, 1975 Washington

#### KRAKUSY POLISH FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE

M, Tu, W 7:00-9:30 Sat 2:15-3:15 (626) 969-7338 Janusz Romuzga LOS ANGELES, Polish Parish Hall, 3424 W Adams Blvd.

NAMAH ENSEMBLE Mon 8:00 - 9:30 (818) 888-8225 Bana Sayyad SHERMAN OAKS

#### SCANDIA DANCERS

(714) 533-3886 Donna Tripp LONG BEACH, Long Beach City College

#### UCSB MIDDLE EAST ENSEMBLE

Tue 7:00 - 10:00 (805) 967-7125 Scott (805) 687-8823 Alexandra SANTA BARBARA, Gehringer Music Bldg., UCSB Campus



### **Club Directory**

#### WEST VALLEY FOLK DANCERS

Fri 7:15-10:00 (818) 702-0431 Leah Moses CANOGA PARK, Senior Center 7326 Jordan Ave

#### WESTCHESTER LARIATS

Mon 7:00-9:30 (310) 645-8316 Karen Ricks LOS ANGELES, Westchester Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson

#### WESTWOOD CO-OP

Thu 7:30-10:20 (310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr (310) 839-1753 Adele Mortin WEST L.A., F. Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd.

#### **Non–Federation** Clubs

#### ANAHEIM INT'L FOLKDANCERS Wed 7:30-9:30 (714) 893-8127 Carol Maybrier

ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church, 511 S Harbor

#### BEVERLY BARR DAYTIME CLASSES

(310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 Thur 10:45am-12:30 International BEVERLY HILLS, Roxbury Park auditorium 471 So. Roxbury

#### CAL TECH FOLKDANCERS

Tue 7:30 (626) 797-5157 Nancy Mulligan PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church 300 S. Los Robles

#### DESERT DANCERS

Tue 7:00-9:00 (Scottish) Thu 7:15-9:30 (International (760) 446-6752 Nora Nuckles RIDGECREST, Hi Desert Dance Center 725 S. Gateway St.

#### DESERT INT'L FOLK DANCERS

Tue 7:30-9:30 (760) 327-8684 Dwight Fine (760) 342-1297 Helen Smith PALM SPRINGS, Step By Step Dance Studio 316 N. Palm Canyon

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

#### 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-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-Natalie Stern**

(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern L.A., Univ of Judaism 5600 Mulholland Mon 10:00am-11:30 Wed 7:30-10:00 Thu 10:15am-1:05; L.A. Shaarei Tefila, 7269 Beverly Mon 6:15-9:00, Tue 11:00am-2:00 Wed 11:45am-1:15

#### **ISRAELI DANCING-Yoni Carr** (619) 227-0110 Yoni NEWPORT BEACH, Avant Garde

Ballroom, 4220 Scott Dr Sun 7:30-12 SAN DIEGO, Jewish Academy, 11860 Carmel Creek Rd. Thu

#### KAYSO FOLK DANCERS

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

#### LIFE BALKAN DANCERS

Wed 7:45-10:15 (310) 310-399-2321 Gerda worldance1@aol.com Sherry LOS ANGELES, Pacific Arts Center 10469 Santa Monica Blvd.

ROMANIAN, RUSSIAN, INT'L DANCE -Mihai & Alexandru David Fri 8:00-12:00 (teaching 8:00-9:00) (818) 613-5259 davmichi8@aol.com Mihai; (818) 317-2200 Alexandru WEST I.A., Pacific Arts Center 10469 Santa Monica Blvd.

SAN DIEGO FOLK DANCERS Mon 7:30-9:30 (858) 571-2730 Kin Ho SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club, Balboa Park

#### SAN PEDRO KOLO DANCERS

Mon 7:30-9:30 (310) 832-1074 Pauline Klak SAN PEDRO, Dalmatian-American Club, 1639 S Palos Verdes St.

#### SANTA BARBARA BALKAN FOLK DANCERS

Wed 8:00-10:30 (805) 682-4511 Luis Goena SANTA BARBARA, Oak Park Stage, corner Junipero and Calle Real

#### SANTA MONICA COLLEGE INT'L 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 BALLROOM CLUB UCLA INT'L FOLKDANCERS

Mon 7:00-9:00 (ballroom dance) Mon 9:00-11:00 (folk dance) (310) 284-3636 James Zimmer balllroom@ucla.edu WESTWOOD, UCLA Ackeman Union Room 2414



# Folk Dance Scene

Volume 43, No.10

#### **Editors' Corner**

The holidays are here and times are hectic. Still what joy it is to take time to dance. At this wonderful season we'll have extra opportunities to engage in one of our favorite activities. Many clubs are having an additional evening of dancing as we celebrate the arrival of a new year together.

We're also fortunate to have the chance to see our cover story teacher in action as Yves Moreau is conducting workshops in the area these first weeks in December. See the cover story for his schedule.

And, if after a busy day of shopping, you'd like a stress-free meal, prepared by someone else, try the Bulgarian restaurant featured in Ethnic Food.

We're taking a month off to have time for all that extra partying and dancing. We hope to see you at the Pasadena festival on January 20th.

All our best wishes for a wonderful holiday.

- Pat Cross and Don Krotser

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### **Federation South Officers**

President	Marsha Fenner	(626) 446-5160
Vice-President	Lynn Bingle	(626) 914-4006
Treasurer	Rick Bingle	(626) 914-4006
Secretary	Charlotte Edginton Jeanne Cate	(626) 792-9509 (858) 496-8038
Membership	Steve Himel	(949) 646-7082
Historian	Sandy Levy	(310) 948-2574
Publicity	Sylvia Stachura	(626) 300-8138

### Federation Corner



I first learned about folk dancing in a physical education class in college. After college I moved to Los Angeles and didn't rediscover folk dancing until 1957 when Forrest Gilmore told me about the

Santa Monica Club where he danced. The Westwood Co-op was even closer, so that became my folk dance home, opening up a new world of activity and friends.

That was where I met Wally the following year, in the girls' gym at Emerson Junior High. He had begun dancing in Seattle, his home town, and found that dancing was a great way to meet people when he moved to Los Angeles. We married in 1958 and continued to dance in Westwood every Thursday night.

When we moved to the San Fernando Valley in 1960, we found the West Valley Folk Dancers. This tiny co-op club had been started the year before by a few people who, like us, were newcomers to the Valley, had danced in their former communities and wanted to keep on dancing. Their repertoire was pretty small so I started teaching, just to be able to expand the number of dance choices.

As our family grew up, we were able to attend more festivals and institutes and participate in the wider Southern California dance scene. Ed Feldman recruited me to be the Secretary for the Federation Council in the early 80's. I served a year as Vice President and was Federation President from 1982 through 1985. Since then I have worked on several Statewide Festivals, co-chairing one in Pasadena with Dorothy Daw, and in recent years have chaired the Council's Budget Committee. I am also the *de facto* Parliamentarian as a result of sitting on many, many committees in my varied volunteer life.

We still dance with the West Valley Folk Dancers, more slowly than 45 years ago, but with the same warm feelings of love for dance and the dancers.

— Lila Aurich

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### **Yves and France Moreau**

#### YVES' BIO

Yves Moreau lives in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and is recognized as one of North America's foremost exponents of Bulgarian dance and folklore. He has traveled to Bulgaria almost annually between 1966 and 1986 to research dance and to record music in all regions of the country. He has also lectured and conducted workshops throughout North America as well as on numerous occasions in Belgium, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Mexico, Brazil, Israel, Japan, Slovenia, Hungary, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Thailand, New Zealand, and Australia.

From 1972 to 1988 he directed Les Gens de Mon Pays, a Montreal-based amateur folk ensemble specializing in Bulgarian and French-Canadian folklore which toured widely in North America and represented Canada at several international folk festivals in the U.S.A., France, Greece, Italy, and Bulgaria. Yves has also choreographed several stage suites of Bulgarian and French-Canadian material for various professional and amateur performing groups in North America, Australia and New Zealand.

From 1975 to 1985, Yves was special projects coordinator at the Canadian Folk Arts Council and also worked with Folklore Canada International, a private organization which coordinates cultural exchange programs and produces several international folk festivals in Canada. From 1986 to 2000, he was the coordinator of FCI's annual Heritage International folklore workshop in Lachine (Quebec) and Cornwall (Ontario).

Yves who speaks Bulgarian has been a regular contributor to various folk music and folklore programs for Canadian radio and television. He has supervised recordings of Bulgarian folk music on the Balkanton, Worldtone, XOPO, Gega and BMA labels and has presented several papers at various conferences on ethnomusicology and folklore in America, Asia and Bulgaria. In 1980, Bulgaria awarded him with the Order of Kiril & Metodi (1st degree) for his work popularizing Bulgarian folk culture in North America.

Yves teaches mostly non-choreographed village material which he has collected during his many field trips. His teaching method is clear and thorough yet relaxed. A special emphasis is put on regional styles and background information. Above all, Yves wants to share his love for Bulgarian folklore and communicate the fun of dancing. Yves has also introduced and teaches folk dances of other Balkan countries as well as dances from Brittany (France) and his native Québec.

Among the popular dances introduced by Yves over the years are: *Pinosavka, Dobrudžanska Râka, Gjuševska Racenica, Cetvorno Horo, Dospatsko, Bicak, Sandansko Horo, Sadi Moma, Vlaško Horo, Sitna Zborenka, Panagjursko Horo, Kulska Šira, Dobra Nevesto, Vidinsko Horo, Sâbrali sa se sâbrali, Idam ne Idam, Dimitrija, Krivo Ihtimansko, La Bastringue, Les Saluts, Le Laridé, An Dro Retourné* and *Gavotte d'Honneur.* 

Yves has produced five (5) DVDs and matching audio CDs of his repertoire and has also released 3 CDs with some of his Bulgarian village recordings (1966-1972) on the BMA label. He also produced in 2003 a 2-CD collection of tunes by the legendary Bulgarian accordionist Boris Karlov (1924-1964) and is currently preparing a new CD compilation dedicated to the famous Thracian clarinetist Georgi Koev. Yves is married to France Bourgue-Moreau, an internationallyrecognized specialist in children's folkdance and music. They have three children. From 1998 to 2001, Yves was on the Board of Directors of the East European Folklife Center (EEFC) which organizes the annual Balkan Music and Dance Camps in the U.S.A. In March 2007, he was the recipient of the "Preserving our Legacy Award" given by the National Folk Organization U.S.A. (NFO) for a Lifetime of Work and Achievement in Folk Dance and Folk Arts.



# **Club Directory**

**MOUNTAIN DANCERS** 

### Federation Clubs

ASTERIA GREEK DANCE CLUB Thu 8:30 - 11:30 (310) 229-8947 Jerry Savin West L.A. Pacific Arts Center, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd

CABRILLO FOLK DANCERS Tue 7:00-9:45 (858) 459-1336 Georgina SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park, Balboa Park Club

CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS Wed 7:30-9:30 (805) 497-1957 Jill Lungren THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center, 403 W Hillcrest Dr

#### ETHNIC EXPRESS

Wed 6:30 closed holidays & August (702) 732-4871 Richard Killian LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights Art Center, 800 S. Brush St.

FANTASY FOLK DANCE CLUB (626) 330-6064 Doris Chien Sun 1:00 - 4:00 ALHAMBRA, China Press, 2121 W. Mission Rd.

#### KYPSELI GREEK FOLK DANCING Fri 8:00-11:30 (818) 990-5542 Dalia Miller

PASADENA, Skandia Hall 2031 E. Villa

#### LAGUNA FOLKDANCERS

Sun 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:30-10:00 (714) 893-8888 Ted Martin LAGUNA BEACH, Community Ctr 384 Legion Ave

#### LAGUANA WOODS INT'L FOLK DANCE CLUB

Tue 8:30am-11:00 Sat 9:00 am-11:00 (949) 768-6120 Florence Kauderer LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 1, 24232 Calle Aragon 1st & 3rd Tue 4:30-6:30 (818) 248-5804 Chuck Bausback S. PASADENA, Woman's Club, 1424 Fremont Ave.

MULTI ETHNIC DANCERS Wed 5:00-7:00 (949) 770-7026 Miriam Kahn LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 1,

LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 1, 24232 Calle Aragon

#### NARODNI INT'L

FOLK DANCERS Thu 7:30-10:30 (714) 932-2513 Shirley Hansen BELLFLOWER, Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St.

#### PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

Fri 7:45-11:00 (626)914-4006 Rick/Lynn Bingle PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church 300 S. Los Robles

#### **RAINBOW SENIOR CLUB**

Sun 4:00 - 7:30 (714) 491-1438 James Huang ROSEMEAD, Rosemead Community Center, 3936 Muscatel Ave.

#### SAN DIEGO

VINTAGE DANCERS Thu 8:00 - 10:00 (858) 622-9924 Harry Eisner SAN DIEGO, Normal Heights Methodist Church 4650 Mansfield St.

#### SANTA BARBARA COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY Sun 6:30-9:30 2nd Mon 7:00-9:00 Wed 7:30-9:30 (805) 682-1877 Elliott Karpeles (805) 682-5523 Gary Shapiro SANTA BARBARA Carrillo Rec Ctr 100 E. Carrillo St. (Sun); Westside Community Ctr, 423 W. Victoria St.

Community Ctr, 423 W. Victoria St. (Wed); VENTURA, Sr Recreation Center, 420 E. Santa Clara St. (Mon);

#### SCANDINAVIAN DANCERS OF VENTURA & SANTA BARBARA

VENTUKA & SANTA BARBARA Every other Sat 2:00-5:00 (805) 604-9608 Madeleine SANTA PAULA, Briggs Elementary School 14438 W. Telegraph

#### 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, Bethania Lutheran Parish Hall, 603 Atterdag Rd.

#### 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 ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church, 511 S. Harbor.

#### VINTAGE ISRAELI DANCING

1 Sat per month confirm 8:15 - 12:00 (818) 990-8925 Louis dovbyrd@aol.com SHERMAN OAKS, Anisa's School of Dance, 14252 Ventura Blvd.

#### WEST LOS ANGELES FOLK DANCERS

Mon 7:45-10:30 Fri 7:45-10:30 (310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr WEST L.A., Brockton School 1309 Armacost Ave.

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### **Yves and France**

#### YVES' CDS AND VIDEOS

Yves has a large collection of CDs and videos that he has made, and that he thinks you would like. Below is his latest. but check the web-site: Bourgue-Moreau.com for more complete descriptions, plus many other desirable ones. Yves Moreau's 3-CD anthology of Bulgarian village music:

Beyond the Mystery Volume 1: Rhodopes & Thrace / BMA productions BMA-1001

This is the **first** in a collection of 3 CDs featuring instrumental and vocal village music from all ethnographic regions of Bulgaria. This album features some fine bagpipe (kaba gajda) players from the Rhodopes (including a group of 100 pipers playing at the Rozhen Festival). Also some excellent singers such as Valja Balkanska and Feim Dzhigov. The Thracian pieces are from both West and East Thrace with good dance tunes played by modern and bitov folk orchestras.: Racenica, Bucimis, Dzhinovsko and Trite Pati etc.

Beyond the Mystery Volume 2: Severnyashko (North Bulgaria) & Dobrudzha / BMA productions BMA-1002

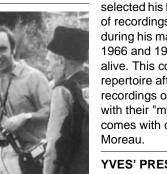
This is the **second** in a collection of 3 CDs featuring instrumental and vocal village music from all ethnographic regions of Bulgaria. Many dances appear on this volume including some of Yves' earlier classics: Osmica, Batuta, Floricica, Hora de la Vrav, Preskacanka, Cerkezko Horo, Kucata, Tropanka, Zborenka etc. This album also contains seldom heard Vlach songs and dances from N.W. Bulgaria.

Village Music of Bulgaria, Field recordings by Yves Moreau in Bulgaria 1966-1972

Volume 3 - Shopluk & Pirin BMA Productions: BMA-1003

This is the **third** and last in a collection of 3 CDs featuring instrumental and vocal village music from all ethnographic regions of Bulgaria. Vol. 1 (Rhodopes & Thrace), and Vol. 2 (Severnyashko & Dobrudzha) are already available. These CDs are unique and feature traditional instruments, male and female vocal styles, dance tunes, rituals, minority groups, etc. Yves

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selected his favorite material from more than 100 hours of recordings made in Bulgarian villages and towns during his many trips to Bulgaria in the period between 1966 and 1972. Many of the performers are no longer alive. This collection offers a refreshing new choice of repertoire after the influx in recent years of dozens of recordings of professional Bulgarian women's choirs with their "mysterious" and "magic" attributes... CD comes with descriptive booklet written by Yves

#### YVES' PRESENTATION AT STOCKTON

I was fortunate to attend Stockton Folk Dance Camp in July of this year. Yves and France Moreau were among the wonderful teachers on the faculty. Each afternoon at the camp one of the teachers presents a Culture Corner. Again, I was fortunate to be there when Yves presented his material. The topic he selected was the state of folk dancing around the world. This lecture was unique, unlike any other that I have attended. Yves took us around the globe: one continent at a time. He mentioned the countries with significant folk dancing activity. In these countries, he then talked about the cities where there is dancing. In the cities, he mentioned the names of groups, sometimes the names of their leaders, and even the groups' unique character when applicable. He also talked about festivals and special events taking place in the pertinent regions. The information was vast and detailed, yet fascinating. It was a virtual trip around the world, meeting fellow dancers.

Yves' lecture could have been a Ph.D. dissertation. We know him as specializing in Bulgarian folklore. But the lecture he presented showed how much his knowledge extends beyond the Bulgarian boundaries and how much he is truly an international leader in folk dancing. A leader to be admired...

Gerda Ben-Zeev

#### WORKSHOPS WITH YVES MOREAU

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Yves Moreau is coming here this month to give workshops in Bulgarian dance. His dances are excellent, and always well-received, and his teaching style is relaxed and fun, and yet precise and clear. Here is his schedule: (see Directory for addresses and times).

Sat Dec. 01, San Diego: Two Workshops at FD Center (2-4 pm & 5-7 pm. Approx) + party

Folk Dance Scene

### **Yves and France**

(12-2 pm) followed by dance

Mon Dec. 03, San Diego: Evening workshop (Vicki's regular class)

Tue Dec. 04, Los Angeles: Tuesday Gypsies -Culver City

Wed Dec. 05, Los Angeles: Life Balkan Dancers -Sherry Cochrane, Pacific Arts Center

Thu Dec. 06, Los Angeles: Narodni Int'l Folkdancers (Bellflower)

Fri Dec. 07, Los Angeles: West Valley Folk Dancers (Canoga Park)

Sat Dec. 08, Anaheim: Veselo Selo Sun Dec. 09, Laguna Beach: Laguna Folk Dancers Mon Dec. 10. San Pedro: Kolo Dancers

Tue Dec. 11, Free

Wed Dec. 12. Santa Barbara: Balkan Folk Dancers

#### FRANCE'S BIO

France Bourgue-Moreau lives in Montréal, Québec and for the past twenty-five years has been active in Canada and abroad teaching folk dances for children and conducting special seminars to train school teachers in this field.

Her current repertoire includes hundreds of dances and singing/games from all parts of the world especially designed and adapted to various age and experience levels. Ms. Bourgue-Moreau also puts emphasis on the French and French-Canadian repertoire which is widely used in the Canadian school curriculum.

She has been a regular consultant to the Montreal School Board and has helped in the production of 2 LP records containing French-Canadian songs and dances as well as a similar repertoire representative of the various ethnocultural groups in Montreal. This material is used in the Montreal School Board music and dance program at the elementary school level. She is also actively involved with Montreal's annual Children Festival (La Fête des Enfants de Montréal) as coordinator of the "Entrons dans la Danse" participatory workshop.

France Bourgue-Moreau is the author of Je Danse Mon Enfance (I dance my childhood) published in 1979 by FLDQ in Montreal and now in its fifth printing. The book contains some 80 dances as well as useful tips on teaching, with emphasis on rhythms, formations,

Folk Dance Scene

Sun Dec. 02, San Diego: Workshop at Balboa Park cultural background and psycho-motricity. The book is also approved by the Quebec Board of Education. In 1983, she co-authored with Michel Landry La Danse d'Inspiration Traditionnelle au Primaire which suggests a pedagogical approach to teaching folk dance in elementary schools and groups the dances in relationship to holidays, rituals and trade guilds. It also looks at creative variations of traditional dances. Ms. Moreau is a founding member of Dance and the Child Int'l, chairperson of Danse-Education-Folklore du Quebec a provincial organization which regroups educators using folk dancing in schools. DEFQ was responsible for setting up a special children's folklore workshop program, Les Enfants Autour du Monde, first as part of the Drummondville World Folklore Festival and later held for many years in Lachine, near Montréal. She has been active in the ORFF music education movement and was President of the Quebec Chapter of Orff Music for Children Canada and former secretary on the national executive. She has conducted lectures and courses across North America, Western Europe, Australia and Japan. She also researched and notated several French-Canadian dances of the Saguenay region which were published in Danses et costumes régionaux au Québec (FLDQ, 1977).

> For fifteen years she performed with the folk dance ensemble Les Gens de Mon Pays with whom she toured Europe and North America. In the performing field, Ms. Moreau has choreographed French-Canadian dances for Les Gens de Mon Pays and many other performing groups in Canada and abroad: Les Réveilloneux (Fredericton, N.B.), Les Blés d'Or (St.Paul, Alberta), Komenka (New Orleans, LA), Khadra (San Francisco, CA), Aman (Los Angeles, CA), Carol Maddocks Dancers (Sydney, Australia) and Folkloristich Danstheater (Amsterdam, Netherlands). In the summer of 1984 and 1988, she taught French-Canadian folk dances at the annual Folklories (gathering of French choral groups) in France. In October 1989 she returned to Australia as a quest specialist under the auspices of the Australian Association for Dance Education (now Ausdance). She has made special presentations on folk arts programs

for children during CIOFF International folklore festivals and conferences including Orlando and Milwaukee (U.S.A.), Zielona Gora (Poland), Rättvik (Sweden) and I-lan, (Taiwan). In 1998 she was part of

### **Recent Events**



Dec. 2007 / Jan. 2008

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### **Recent Events**

DANCING FOR DENNIS

#### DANCING WITH YESETA BROTHERS AND JOHN FILCICH

Cal Tech Folkdancers had the **Yeseta Brothers Tamburitza Band** on September 12th. **John Filcich** of Festival Records was our guest teacher that night. (We'd have him for a whole month if we could. Sometimes we do.)

As a co-op we take turns teaching, and since we're an international dance group, what we dance on any given night depends on who's there. Lots of dances from tamburitza-land are in our repertoire.

John taught the "ballroom" kolo *Neda Grivna,* and *Bistranjiski Drmes*, which he learned in Croatia this spring. When the Kingdom of Yugoslavia was formed around 1900, ladies in ball gowns and gentlemen in evening clothes, danced these kolos. Many ballroom kolos remain well known today. Tamburitza music lives in the Pannonian region of southeast Europe, which includes both Zagreb, capital of Croatia, and Belgrade, capital of Serbia. In America it is loved across the U.S. and Canada.

Tamburitza bands sometimes have, besides the plucked-string instruments they're named for, an accordion (Tom Yeseta plays one), fiddles and other instruments. More about that when I report on this year's Tamburitza Extravaganza held in Reno in October.

The Yeseta Brothers drew as a big crowd as ever. People came from all over. I recognized some Serbs, Croats, and Macedonians. When the band sang about the Srem region, a family who came from there looked very happy. It's great to take part in a living folk music tradition.

Tamburitza music has waltzes, polkas, and trio dances like *Bunjevacko Momacko*. John Filcich did a fancy men's step which he calls the teenager variation. He should know; he's been doing these dances since before I was born.

We ended singing *Pjevaj mi pjevaj* and dancing *Licko Kolo*. The band faded away like Haydn's Farewell Symphony. Through the generosity of Lois Goodsman we were able to get them.

Thanks, Lois.

Join us any Tuesday. We're still at Throop Unitarian Church, Del Mar at Los Robles, Pasadena.



Dancing for Dennis on November 3rd, 2007, was

happy to announce a collection of over \$2,000 to help

beloved teacher of many years, has had serious health

monthly income. Our Dancing for Dennis was a way of

one of the most exciting nights we've had. We are

Dennis Boxell in his hour of need. Dennis, our

issues that have left him with a less-than-ample

Many of us had not realized the wealth of material Dennis has brought us. Some of our oldest favorites, such as *Bavno Oro* were introduced to us by Dennis. While he was in California, we enjoyed his many teachings which focused on style; he introduced us to new favorites such as *Podaraki, Cacanka,* and *Feruso.* Some of Dennis's private books were available for sale at a silent auction. **John Filcich**, our brilliant MC, had one more trick to earn another \$25. He brought apples for four of us "maidens" to carry around so that guests could insert coins.

**Dick Oakes**, who came here all the way from Colorado, took photos. **Mary Kobetech** also came, which was a special treat. It was extremely nostalgic to be dancing with Dick, John and Mary leading. Although we are all older, we don't seem to have lost any of our spirit. If anyone missed this event & still wishes to contribute, contact me at (562) 941-0069 or <u>neatwood@aol.</u> It was a glorious evening and I think I can truly say that a good time was had by all.

– Nancy Atwood, Veselo



### **Yves and France**

the Canadian official delegation to the Unesco Cultural summit held in Stockholm. In 2006 she was invited to teach French-Canadian and children's dances at the Winterlager Dance Camp in Switzerland and in October 2007 will be doing her third workshop with Italian educators in Reggio Emila, Italy sponsored by Balliamo sul' Mondo.

France has been vice-president of the Conseil québécois du patrimoine vivant (Quebec Living Heritage Council) and was also on the Board of la Société du patrimoine d'expression du Québec (SPEQ). She has been a regular lecturer for several Elderhostel programs in Montreal. Her sessions with kids in Quebec elementary schools are eligible for funding through the Quebec Government program entitled Artists at School.

#### FRANCE'S CDS

Her latest CD "*Danse, mon coeur danse!*" featuring French-Canadian dances, rounds and songs for elementary and pre-school children was released in November 1999.

Folk dances and songs from Quebec for children Collected and adapted by: France Bourque-Moreau

Sixteen rounds, songs and dancing games chosen from traditional French-Canadian repertoire: *La petite boiteuse - L'omelette au lard - La vieille Bastringue -Que sais-tu bien faire? Valse de l'amitié - La noce des oiseaux- Cassons les oeufs - Les Saluts Lundi, jour de lavage - Marion danse - Un air trompeur - La petite souris grise La laine des moutons - La danse des mouchoirs - Jeu à trois - Bien travailler* 

Domino, DOMCD-1-1

Quebec's finest traditional dance band. This CD features traditional tunes and compositions ideal for French-Canadian set dances and American contras. Three of the tracks are medleys of over 10 minutes long! This group is much in demand and has appeared regularly in New England and other parts of the U.S.A. and Canada. Domino is composed of: Rejean Brunet (piano and string bass), Richard Forest (fiddle), Sabin Jacques (diatonic accordion) and Luc Laroche (vocals and foot tapping).

Selections include: 1. Le Gadeliderot (11:29); 2. Les trois rubans (3:47); 3. Domino (11:13); 4. Berceuse pour Hannah (4:31); 5. Le Galant (10:52); 6. Le mal de dents (3:34); 7. La valse de Luc Lavallée (3:32); 8. Le tricentenaire (10:24). Total: 59:30

#### TRAVELING WITH THE MOREAUS

I had the great good fortune to travel on two cruises led by France and Yves Moreau. We traveled to the Caribbean on the first trip and to Greece and Turkey on the second. I can't praise the Moreaus enough for the relaxed atmosphere they were able to create while keeping their travelers busy with all kinds of special activities. A couple of things I especially remember: in the Caribbean, we saw a performance by a group of local children dancing native dances, and then were invited to join them in the dance. In Istanbul, we saw a wonderful performance by a group of young adult students of dance. We were served mint tea, given gifts, and treated like royalty. When the students heard we wanted to go to the Bazaar, they arranged for enough chaperons so that each would take a group of 4 to 5 of us in and out to the confusing streets of shops and make sure no one got lost! We ended the tour by meeting at a yogurt shop. It was a day to remember.

This photo was taken as we pulled away from shore in Istanbul.



– Sandy Helperin

Dec. 2007 / Jan. 2008

Folk Dance Scene

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– Nancy Milligan

# Calendar

#### Note: Federation Dance Events are in Bold.

#### CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS

#### DECEMBER

Fishtank Ensemble, perform Romanian, Balkan, Flamenco, Klezmer and Gypsy music. 8:00 at Pacific Arts Center, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd. West L. A. Info: madelyntaylor@hotmail.com.

#### Workshops with Yves Moreau.

- Folk Dance Center, San Diego
- 2 Balboa Park, San Diego
- 3 VIcki Maheu's class, San Diego
- 4 **Tuesday Gypsies, Culver City**
- 5 Balkan Dancers, West L. A.
- 6 Narodni. Bellflower
- 7 West Valley, Canoga Park
- 8 Veselo Selo, Anaheim
- 9 Laguna FD, Laguna Beach
- 10 Kolo Dancers, San Pedro
- 12 Balkan FD. Santa Barbara
- 8 Cafe Aman Party!, UCLA Bulgarian Orchestra with Ivan Varimezov, Bulgarian dance teacher. 7:30 at Pacific Arts Ctr. 10469 Santa Monica Blvd. West L A. Info: www.pacificartscenter.com.
- 15.16 Pierce College Annual Dance Concert, Folk!, 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, traditional multicultural and authentic in dance, music and costume. Info: (818) 719-6473 or (818) 710-4355.

#### 20 Holiday Party at Narodni with Richard Duree calling a special dance! The Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak Street, Bellflower. Info: (714) 932-2513, http://www.narodni.org.

- 29-1/1/08 CTMS New Year's Camp, Hess Kramer, Malibu. Contra dancing, workshops, performances costume party. Info: http:/. /www.ctmsfolkmusic.org/ newyearscamp/default.asp, or call (818) 817-7756.
- 31 West L.A. Folk Dancers New Year's Eve Party, 8:00, Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166, (310) 478-4659.
- New Year's Eve Party at Veselo. See OTS. 31
- 31 New Year's Eve Party at Pasadena Co-op.

#### JANUARY

2008

10 Contra Dancing with Live Music at Narodni! Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak Street. Info: (714) 932-2513, http://www.narodni.org.

#### Folk Dance Scene

Winter Festival, hosted by Pasadena Co-op., 20 1:30 - 5:30 at Scottish Rite Temple, Madison St., Pasadena. See ad. Info: Marsha (626) 446-5160. FEBRUARY

#### 8, 9, 10 Laguna Folkdancers Festival. Teachers: Steve Kotansky & Ahmet Luleci, at Ensign Intermediate School, 2000 Cliff Dr., Newport Beach. See ad. Info: Ted (714) 893-8888 or info@LagunaFolkdancers.org.

15 Valentine's Day Party with the West L. A. Folk Dancers. All-request program, pot-luck snacks. 7:30 at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave. See OTS. Info: Beverly, (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.

#### MARCH

- 17 St. Patrick's Day Party with the West L. A. Folk Dancers. All-request program, pot-luck snacks. 7:30 at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave. See OTS. fo: Beverly, (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.
- 28-30 Westwood Co-op's Weekend. At Camp Hess Kramer, Malibu, See OTS

#### APRIL

Westwood Co-op's Festival. Veterans Auditorium, Culver City. See ad.

#### MAY

24, 25 United Scottish Society's Annual Scottish Festival. Orange Co. Fairgrounds NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

#### 2008

- January & February Dancing in SF: for Body, Mind & Spirit. 2 - 5-Day Elderhostels by Mel Mann. See Elderhostel web page or call (800) 454-5768.
- 2/16, 17 San Francisco Tam Fest, Tamburitza music and dancing at Croatian Cultural Center. Info: (510) 640-0941, www.CroatianAmericanWeb.org.
- 3/29 Balkan Dancers of Marin's Balkan Plus Party, in San Rafael.
- 5/30-6/1 Statewide 2008 in Placerville.

#### WISCONSIN

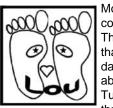
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12/28-1/1 60th Christmas Festival with Yves & France Moreau. Folklore Village, WI. Info: www.folklorevillage.org.

Dec. 2007 / Jan. 2008

# **Dancers Speak**

#### DANCING WITH TWO LEFT FEET. (31)



Most of my previous articles covered the subjects of dancing. This one will touch on a subject that is an integral part of the dancing culture of the Balkans. It is about the culture of drinking Turkish coffee consumed throughout the Middle East, North

Africa, Caucasus, and the Balkans, and in their expatriate communities and restaurants in the rest of the world.

You might ask how Turkish coffee is connected to dancing. Just as identical or similar dances and melodies are claimed as their own by each one of the Balkan countries, so is Turkish coffee claimed by them as well. Despite all the claims and though called by different names, the black muddy concoction is almost identical in all the countries.

You would seriously offend an Armenian or a Greek by asking for Turkish coffee and not for "Armenian" or "Greek" coffee even though the black and thick liquid you would get is the same. In Yugoslavia, you are welcome to say Turkish coffee or better yet "Turska Kafa".

My young days in Yugoslavia were spent with my Sarajevo coffee drinking, "cigarette smoking" aunts that included coffee rituals similar to all the other regions. The raw green coffee beans roasted by my aunt in a flat pan emitted an aroma that still lingers in the nostrils of my memory.

Once roasted it was my chore to grind the dark beans in a brass grinder into a fine powdery dust. Brewing the coffee was also a ritual that had to be precisely followed. Water, boiled in a copper pot with a wooden handle called džezva was sweetened by three teaspoons of sugar and then followed by stirring in exactly three teaspoons of the finely ground coffee. It was crucial to allow the brew to boil, remove the pot from the heat source just prior to boiling over, allow it to settle, and then repeat the process exactly three times.

The coffee had to be immediately poured into small teacups with no handles called *findžan* and the boiling hot coffee sipped with a definite slurping sound to cool the liquid.

While I, at my tender age, was not a coffee drinker, I anxiously awaited my reward as the finished cups were overturned onto small saucers and the muddy coffee

#### drippings seeped out of the upturned cup. Once turned back up the cups revealed a plethora of black and white pictures all around the insides of the cup. The pictures interpreted by my aunt, predicted each drinker's fortune and were embellished by her into fantastic stories of marriage, birth, death, money fortunes and lucky and unlucky events. I listened, my eyes wide open, wondering how she was able to see all of this by just looking into a muddy cup. Like an experienced fortuneteller, she would never reveal her secrets and I am still wondering how she was able to see fantastic pictures and tell such intricate stories hidden in the small cup.

Doing a bit of "scientific" research into this "occult art" I found out that the white images, peeking out of the dark coffee grounds predicted good happenings while the dark ones predicted bad happenings. Rings indicated completed deals, and if they contained a dot inside, they fulfilled a desire for children. Images of flames stood for guarrels, lines for journey, crosses for victory over an ordeal and ladder for promotions. My conclusion is that these are only the interpretations of one person and that the symbols are interpreted differently not only in each different region but also by each individual coffee grounds reader. Just like the coffee





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Bulgaria, only to find the Greeks are doing their own steps to the same beat. So, no matter how vou sip vour coffee. or dance, it might be Turkish. Bulgarian, Armenian, or Greek. Enjoy! Lou Pecho

drinking tradition,

interpreted

differently in

various regions.

listen to a familiar

We may often

rhythm that we

associate with

folk dances may be

### **Dancers Speak**

#### DECEMBER QUOTE AND QUESTION

"If you can't get rid of the skeleton in your closet, you'd best teach it to dance."

George Bernard Shaw quotes (Irish literary Critic, Playwright and Essayist. 1925 Nobel Prize for Literature, 1856-1950).

One of my personal skeletons was the shy girl who was afraid of most everything. How I wish I had had the courage to deal with this when I was young. How different life might have been. Instead of cringing whenever anyone mentioned dance, I might have enjoyed this wonderful activity and found such a marvelous community of friends much sooner. Dance has revealed a side of me, to me, that is free and jubilant.

What is it that Shaw is telling you?

– Sandy Helperin

### ABOUT LAST MONTH'S QUESTION ON 'LEADING LADIES'.

Traditionally, men have been the leaders in couple dances everywhere. Is that because of their desire to control the women and show their 'Macho-ness'? Perhaps to some extent, but I think it is rather of question of physics. Men tend to be taller than women, heavier, and have a higher center of gravity. Thus, it would be difficult for a woman to direct her partner. Also, women tend to be lighter on their feet and perhaps a bit more adaptable than men, and are therefore more capable of reacting to a man's moves. So, it makes sense for men to be the 'leaders'.

But, we need to define 'leading'. If the couple is doing a choreographed dance, no one needs to decide what to do next, so there should be no leader. If the man is not sure of the dance, then it is perfectly acceptable, and even desirable, for the woman to remind him. Of course, it is preferable if she does it in a helpful, rather than a critical, way. E.g. "I think it goes to the left here" or, "Would you like me to remind you of the sequence?"

However, if a non-choreographed dance is being done, such as a tango or a free waltz, then someone needs to decide which of the figures to do next. As stated above, it needs to be the man. But how does he do it? Some years ago, at the late-lamented Santa Barbara Camp, Sonny Newman was teaching tango. As part of the class, he asked the men: 'With which part of your body do you lead, i.e. inform the woman what we are going to do next?' In many cases, I think the man believes that he leads with his feet. But that is a poor choice. How does the woman see his feet? Only by pushing him away from her (not a bad idea anyway in many cases), and looking down. Similarly with his legs - she can't see them or detect what they are going to do. What about using his hands? Well, better than the feet, but tends to become a push or pull, and not always explicit enough.

Sonny suggested the upper body, particularly the shoulders and upper arms. Not only can his partner see his shoulders, but also her arm is usually resting on one of them. So if he twists to the right, she can see and feel that movement. If he leans forward, she knows she has to go backward. If he starts to raise an arm, she prepares to turn under it. If she detects his muscles tightening, she can expect a pivot.

Another possibility is for him to use his mouth. That is, quietly suggest or ask her about the next figure, e.g. "Would you like to try a *corte*?"

And, whenever possible, men, don't wait until you have started the movement to signal. As you are ending the current figure, anticipate what you would like to do next, and start your shoulder or arm movement early enough so that she can react in time. And you can even do that in choreographed dances. A subtle, gentle reminder of what comes next would usually be welcomed.

This does put a large burden on the man, but it makes for a smooth, enjoyable dance, and a partner who would look forward to dancing with you again.

Jay Michtom

#### THANK YOU, FEDERATION

West Valley recently had a great festival, and we could offer it free because Federation has a new policy underwriting club festivals. They will reimburse you up to \$400.00. We didn't need that much, but if we had, it would have been there for us. I hope this will lead to more clubs putting on festivals. We used to have one just about every month; now only Pasadena, Westwood, Laguna and San Diego have regularly scheduled festivals. So, thanks again, Federation.

– Jill Michtom

### Calendar

### FOREIGN

#### BULGARIA

8/4–17/08 Bulgaria!, folk culture, dancing, and singing tour, led by Jim Gold. Koprivshtitsa Festival. Info: (916) 371-4441, <u>TobaGoddard@hotmail.com</u>.

#### CARIBBEAN

12/27/07–1/6/08 Seminar at Sea, cruise Western Caribbean with folk dancing led by Sandy Starkman on MV Explorer. Info: (416) 633-4852, www.semesteratsea.org/seminar2007.

#### MEXICO

12/2-10 *Cruise & Dance to Mexico* with Beverly & Irwin Barr and West L.A. Folk Dancers. See OTS. Info: Beverly at 310-202-6166 or 310-478-4659.

#### RUSSIA

6/28–7/9/08 Dance on the Water Cruise, St. Petersburg to Moscow. Dancing led by Lee Otterholt, trip run by Mel Mann. Info: (510) 526-4033, <u>meldancing@aol.com</u>



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New Year's Eve Party Monday – December 31, 2007 Let's Ring in the New Year With Folk Dance Friends Start at 8: 00 and Stay Late - \$7.00 Beverly & Irwin Barr ALL REQUEST DANCE PROGRAM ON A BEAUTIFUL WOOD FLOOR Pot-Juck Table for Refreshments West L. A. Folk Dancers

Brockton School - 1309 Armacost, West L.A. For information call 310-202-6166 or 310-478-4659

### **On the Scene**

#### DAYTIME CLASS WITH BEVERLY BARR

Beverly is now teaching only one daytime class. Both folk dancing and line dancing are included. The class is held at Roxbury Park Recreation Center on Roxbury, just south of Olympic in Beverly Hills on Thursdays from 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The class will not meet on Dec. 6. For information, call (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.

#### NARODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS

Teaching Program, Thursdays, 7:30 - 10:30, at Woman<sup>1</sup>s Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak Street

#### December 2007

December 6th Special Evening with **Yves Moreau!** (Bulgarian Dances)

December 13th Review of dances taught by Yves Moreau

December 20th Holiday Party! December 27th All Request Evening!

#### January 2008

January 3rd Allan Hansen teaching a Golden Oldie

January 10th Special Contra Dancing with Live Music!

January 17th Allan Hansen teaching/reviewing a Golden Oldie

January 24thReview of Tom Bozigian DancesJanuary 31stReview of Tom Bozigian Dances

#### February 2008

February 7thLanguna Festival PreviewFebruary 14thValentine's Day Party!February 21stReview of dances taught at Laguna

Festival

February 28th Review of dances taught at Laguna Festival

~ all teaching is subject to change ~

For more information, please contact Shirley (714) 932-2513 or <u>Shirley@Hansen-Family.us</u>, or Carol (562) 862-0521 or <u>g-cwall@earthlink.net</u>, <u>http://</u><u>www.narodni.org</u>.

# NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY WITH THE WEST L. A. FOLK DANCERS

We are very excited about having a New Year's Eve Party. Come join us. Party with us on New Year's Eve,

Monday, Dec. 31, 2007. We are lucky to be able to enjoy New Year's Eve with friendly folk dancers, dancing on one of the best wooden floors around. Everyone is welcome. The party will begin at 8:00 p.m. and will last until we bring in the New Year together.

An all-request program will be played by Beverly & Irwin Barr. Bring something for the pot-luck table and don't miss this happy night. The party will end when you get too tired to dance. Expect some surprises.

The place is Brockton School in W.L.A. (On Armacost, 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

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

This year, Westwood Co-op will hold its annual Camp Hess Kramer Weekend at the end of March, from Friday the 28th through Sunday, the 30th. The committee putting on the weekend will meet to plan the activities soon and more information will be available in the next issue of the Scene. So, until then, mark your calendars. We hope to see you there.

– Sandy Helperin

#### WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK DANCERS' SPRING FESTIVAL

Don't miss one of the best festivals of the year, Westwood Co-op's annual Spring Festival, Sunday, April 6, 2008, 1:30 - 5:30 in Culver City. It is like a big reunion every year, dancing and meeting up with old and new friends. The Culver City Veterans Memorial Auditorium is located at the corner of Overland Ave. and Culver Blvd. in Culver City. The festival is free and the parking is free and even the fun is free.

Bring some new potential folk dancers with you so they can enjoy watching and getting into a few easy dances. They'll be able to see and feel the enjoyment of folk dancing.

Watch for future information about an after-party dinner and dancing, or call for information below. See the ad with preliminary festival information in this issue of Scene. For more information, please call Beverly Barr at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.

– Beverly Barr



### **Bulgarian Food**

#### **BULGARIAN RESTAURANT REVIEW**

In November, my sister- in- law and brother were visiting from Virginia. Since they had lived in Bulgaria for three years while working for the State Dept. and USIA, my son suggested treating them to lunch at a favorite restaurant of his. My brother wrote this review of our meal. However, he left out any mention of the bread served with the meal. One bite convinced me that we were in for a wonderful lunch. The bread was freshly baked, crusty and yet tender and the waiter brought us more when we asked. Here is Larry's review:

#### – Sandy Helperin

The Danube Restaurant wasn't easy for us to get to. You may have an easier time of it if you don't drive a '65 Olds. It was worth the trip. The Danube is a Bulgarian restaurant that honors its roots in all that it does, with one exception: it lacks a liquor license. It is applying for a beer and wine license.

We had lunch at the Danube in early November and decided that the best way to sample their offerings would be to order a variety of appetizers: *Shopska salata, taramasalata,* roasted red pepper and eggplant, fried zucchini, *vata banitsa*, blue cheese mushrooms (not entirely Bulgarian) and *tarator*. Everything was fresh and the Bulgarian feta and yogurt, basic to many of the recipes, was excellent.

For those not familiar with Bulgarian dishes, the following: *Shopska salata* is a salad of chopped tomatoes, onions, red (and sometimes green) peppers, cucumbers and feta cheese; *taramasalata* is red caviar whipped with olive oil, onion and fresh lemon juice; *vata banitsa* is layers of filo filled with cheese, eggs and herbs; *tarator* is a cold yogurt soup with diced cucumbers, a hint of garlic and chopped walnuts.

We haven't tried the entrees yet, but the array of Bulgarian specialties, ranging from stuffed peppers to omelets, to kebabs, all sound worthy of a return visit.

The service was also fine and the ambience (if you ignore the Bulgarian MTV on the television set, almost ubiquitous these days) was pleasant. Folk-woven cloths on the tables, a cleanly appointed dining room, dishes nicely presented and the portions generous.

Those of you who love Bulgarian dances should try the food!

Da vi e vkusno!

Folk Dance Scene

Appetizers: \$3.95-6.95 Entrees: \$10.95-18.55 Danube Bulgarian Restaurant 1303 Westwood Blvd. Ph. (310) 473 2414

– Larry Plotkin



BULGARIAN RECIPE

*Tarator* (Cold Cucumber and Yoghurt Soup with Walnuts)

1 medium or 2 small cucumbers

1 1/2 tsp. salt

- 1/2 tsp. chopped garlic
- 2 cups unflavored yoghurt
- 2 tbs. sunflower or olive oil
- 1/3 cup finely chopped walnuts
- 1 cup crushed ice cubes
- 1 tbs. fresh cut dill

Peel cucumber and slice lengthwise in half. Remove seeds; dice pulp into 1/4 inches. Place in small bowl and sprinkle with 1/2 tsp. salt; wait 15 minutes, then place in sieve, rinse with cold water and let drain. Spread on paper towels and pat dry. Combine cucumber, yoghurt, chopped walnuts, dill, garlic, and remaining salt and oil in a blender, blending till just smooth. Refrigerate soup for at least an hour or until thoroughly chilled. Immediately before serving, place about 1/4 cup crushed ice in each of four bowls. Pour the soup over the ice, float a few chopped walnuts or a sprig of dill or parsley on top.

It's just as good without the walnuts for those like me who can't eat them.

Note: This recipe taken from Gloria Harris' notebook of ethnic recipes published in Folk Dance Scene. This appeared in the November 1977 issue. Thanks to Wes Perkins for providing us with this notebook

### **On the Scene**

#### WEST L. A. FOLK DANCERS

On Monday evenings, dances from the recent Camp Hess Kramer Weekend will be taught. Easier dances will be taught beginning at 7:45, followed by intermediate dances. We dance until 10:30.

On Friday evenings we will teach some new and review and dances taught at the recent Camp Hess Kramer. We will also have specialty nights. Our regular program includes international line, circle, individual, couple, and set dances.

Plan ahead for our party nights. In addition to our New Year's Eve Party on Dec. 31 (see ad in this issue of Scene), we will have a Valentine's Day Party celebration on Friday, Feb. 15 and also a St. Patrick's Day Party on Mar. 17. We dance from 7:30 p.m. until you are too tired to dance anymore.

We all look forward to Monday and Friday nights and seeing our old and new friends. Come join us and dance with one of the friendliest groups around. What fun we have dancing and learning good dances! We will be closed on Monday, Dec. 4 & 24 and Friday, December 7. 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

#### PASADENA CO-OP DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Pasadena Co-op meets Fridays at Throop Church on the corner of Los Robles and Del Mar. Intermediate teaching in December will be the Cossak-inspired dance, Darozhka, to be taught by Valerie Daley and Thomas Hu. Beginning teaching starts at 7:45 and intermediate at approximately 8:30.

December 31st is the New Year's Party with some programmed music and also time for requests. The coop's band, Fifth Friday, will provide two sets of live music. The party runs from 8 pm to 1am and potluck refreshments will be available.

The Winter Festival will be held at the Scottish Rite Temple, 150 North Madison, on January 20th. For more information: <u>donkrotser@sbcglobal.net</u>



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