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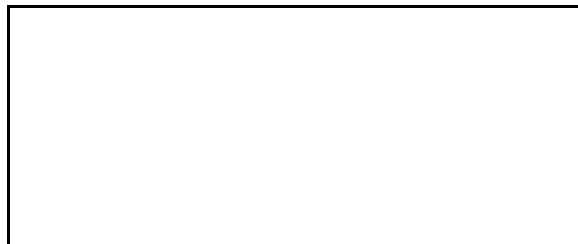
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Folk Dance Scene Committee

Coordinator	Jay Michtom	editor@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 368-1957
Calendar	Gerri Alexander	calendar@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 363-3761
On the Scene	Jill Michtom	ots@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 368-1957
Club Directory	Steve Himel	directory@FolkDanceScene.org	(949) 646-7082
Proofreading Editor	Laurette Carlson	proof@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 397-2450
Design & Layout Editors	Pat Cross	design@FolkDanceScene.org	(323) 255-3809
	Don Krotser		(323) 255-3809
Design & Layout Adviser	Steve Davis		(805) 964-5591
Business Managers	Gerda Ben-Zeev	business@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 399-2321
	Forrest Gilmore		(310) 452-0991
Circulation	Sandy Helperin	circulation@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 391-7382
Subscriptions	Gerda Ben-Zeev	subscriptions@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 399-2321
Advertising – Submission	Steve Himel	ads@FolkDanceScene.org	(949) 646-7082
Advertising – Info & Payment	Beverly and Irwin Barr	adinfo@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 202-6166
Marketing	Gerri and Bob Alexander	marketing@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 363-3761
Contributing Editor	Richard Duree	r.duree@att.net	(714) 641-7450
Contributing Editor	Jatila Davis	jatila@physics.ucsb.edu	(805) 964-5591
Contributing Editor	Lou Pechi	pechil@sbcglobal.net	(619) 237-1214
Jill & Jay Michtom	Gerda Ben-Zeev	Steve Himel	Sandy Helperin
10824 Crebs Ave.	19 Village Park Way	1524 Vivian Ln.	4362 Coolidge Ave.
Northridge CA, 91326	Santa Monica, CA 90405	Newport Beach, CA 92660	Los Angeles CA, 90066

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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1/4 page (3" x 3 1/2')	\$ 10	\$ 15	Folk Dance Scene Ads
1/2 page (6" x 3 1/2" or 3" x 7")	\$ 15	\$ 25	1524 Vivian Lane
full page (6" x 7 1/2")	\$ 25	\$ 40	Newport Beach CA 92660

On the cover: The most popular picture of the Moiseyev Dance Company available on the internet - Igor Moiseyev featured in cover story page 4.

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

(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern
L.A., American Jewish Univ. Dance
Studio, 15600 Mulholland
Wed 7:30-8:30 Thu 12:05-1:05
L.A. Shaarei Tefila, 7269 Beverly
Mon 7:45-8:45 Tue 1:30-2:30

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
School, 4220 Durfee Rd.

CLAN MACLEOD DANCERS

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

DUNAJ 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.

SCANDIA DANCERS

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

SYRTAKI INT'L PERFORMING GROUP

Wed 7:00 - 10:00
(949) 715-9788 Lee Otterholt
LAGUNA WOODS, Clubhouse 1
Gymnasium

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., American Jewish Univ Dance
Studio, 15600 Mulholland Mon
10:00am-11:45 Tue 10:30am-noon
Wed 7:30-10:00 Thu 10:15am-1:05;
L.A. Shaarei Tefila, 7269 Beverly
Mon 6:15-8:45, Tue 1:30am-2:30
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 L.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
ballroom@ucla.edu
WESTWOOD, UCLA Ackeman
Union Room 2414



Folk Dance Scene

Volume 44, No.1
February 2008

Editors' Corner

Welcome back. It's good to hear and read about all of the exciting things happening in the folk dance world. We think you'll be entertained while reading about an adventure across the border into Nevada. Loui Tucker has an article with some dynamite slogans designed to build interest in folk dancing and, if you think it's easy to put on a festival, see the piece in Dancers Speak.

The cover story this month is a bio of Igor Moiseyev, who died this past November at the age of 101. His work lives on in the dance company he founded.

Dancers Speak this month also poses the question "Live or recorded?" Be sure to have your opinion heard by email to ????????

Be of good cheer!

— Pat Cross and Don Krotzer

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February 2008

Federation Corner



When I moved to California in 1979, I was not aware of folk dancing. I had no friends or family here, so it was pretty lonely at first. When I saw an ad for folk dancing in Long Beach, I grabbed a co-worker and said, "Let's go. Now, where's Long Beach?" We found Herb Oftner's dance class. It was the last Tuesday in February,

1980. I know this because there was a food table and no teaching. I quickly learned to get behind the line and try to imitate the moves. I was immediately fascinated. At the end of the evening, my friend and I headed for the car. I said, "I can't wait for next week." She said, "I wouldn't be caught dead coming here again." That's when I learned that folk music and dance is not a universal passion. But it quickly became my passion. The next week I was back, learning *Jove Male Mome*. Bulgarian music and dance have held a special place in my heart ever since.

About a month later, Herb said to me, "You'll never become a folk dancer." I don't remember what instigated the comment, but perhaps it was part of my motivation, because I began dancing several nights a week – Narodni (then in Long Beach), Veselo Selo (then in Anaheim), Beseda at UCLA, the Intersection, Scandia class. It didn't take long before I was committed to various performing groups – Koroyar, Polski Iskry, Dunaj, Westwind, and now Syrtaki (Lee Otterholt, director).

By 1982, I was involved in the Folk Dance Federation and received a scholarship to go to San Diego FD Camp, provided I would bring the dances back to Narodni. That's when Henrietta Bemis, my folk dance teaching mentor, gave me some pointers on teaching: 1. Practice how you will break down the dance and what cue words you will use. 2. Play the music before starting to teach – let them hear what they will be dancing. 3. Cue the students with words such as "Weight on the left, ready, and....". That was my debut teaching folk dances. I refined my teaching abilities by attending the North/South Folkdance Teachers' Seminar every year, learning for the last 22 years from the best master teachers available. The last few years, I've worked on the committee for the seminar.

Dorothy Daw was another huge influence in my life. She was in charge of Research and Standardization for the Federation. She taught me how to correct folk dance syllabi, and we were a team for many years correcting notes for Stockton, Life Camp, and Idyllwild Camp, among others. When Dorothy died, her shoes were impossible to fill. I have taken on the R&S responsibility of preparing the syllabus for Camp Hess Kramer and Statewide South.

Folk dancers have become my friends and family, and I am very grateful for all of you.

— Laura Bremer

Igor Moiseyev



Igor Moiseyev was born in Kiev, Ukraine, Russian Empire, in 1906, however, he spent his first eight years living in Paris, France. His mother was French-Romanian and his father a Russian lawyer. At eight, his family moved to Russia and he began studying ballet. He studied at the Bolshoi Ballet School, starting at age 14,

and by age 18, was performing with them. He went on to become a soloist and choreograph several ballets for the Bolshoi.

During the 1920s and early 1930s Moiseyev was active in exploring new dance forms, but the Stalinist movement put a stop to his new expressions, until the end of the 1930s. It was then that he left the Bolshoi and became dance director of the Moscow Theatre of Folk Art. While doing research for the Moscow Theatre of Folk Art, he came upon the idea of changing folk dance from a participatory activity to performance. He drew on his memories of travels as a boy and brought colorful Russian rural dance traditions to the stage. The aim was for his work to "give the public a spiritual portrait of a people". He became the leader of a troupe of classically trained ballet dancers, the State Academic Folk Dance Ensemble, who would perform authentic village dances combined with Moiseyev's own theatrical effects, to the delight of audiences. He was the first to elevate folk dances to a theatrical art, paving the way for the many other performing groups which followed.

He gradually expanded his repertoire to include dances from other countries, eventually creating over 170 dances for his company. His company toured more than 60 countries. Moiseyev was introduced to America on the Ed Sullivan Show in 1958. One of his most famous works was "Partisans", in which he pays

tribute to the guerilla fighters who defended Russia during WWII. The dancers, wearing long robes, glide across the stage, as if they are on horseback. Another popular dance was the delightful, playful "Old City Quadrille". His performances usually ended with the troupe doing an athletic version of *Hopak*, (which the programs listed as "Gopak"). This was often followed in the U.S. by the Virginia Reel as an encore. He even incorporated American rock and roll into his choreographies, delighting western audiences.

Moiseyev's vision was summed up by his statements: "I try to understand a nation not only through its dances, but also from its music, history, traditions and customs." and "I merely take the folk dance and its related customs as a point of departure for fanciful interpretation."

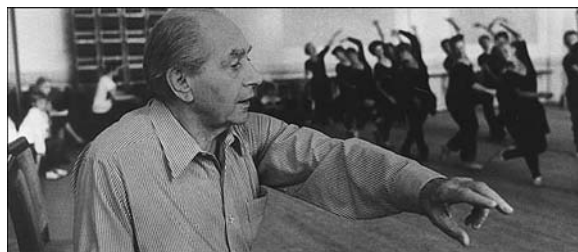
In 1940, Igor married the dancer, Tamara Zeifert. Their daughter, Olga Moiseyeva, danced with her father's company. On his 100th birthday, Moiseyev was presented with the Order of Merit, Russia's highest civilian honor, by President Putin. Igor Moiseyev recently died at 101 years of age, in Moscow.

If you have a computer, google [youtube/moiseyev](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=moiseyev), and enjoy Moiseyev Dance Company's Marek Cholewa narrate a short video of this wonderful dance ensemble with its spectacular choreography featuring complex geometric patterns performed with great precision and energy. Also type in Moiseyev and click on search to view more performances.

Also, available through Netflix, you can rent *Moiseyev Dance Company: A Gala Evening*, from 1980.

Thanks to the following sources:
www.washingtonpost.com, www.telegraph.co.uk,
www.BNET.com, and www.Encyclopedia.com.

— Sandy Helperin



Club Directory

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.

JIA MEI FOLK DANCE CLUB
(626) 757-0168 Andy Lin
Sun 2:00 - 7:00
ALHAMBRA, Sta Pacific California
Inc, 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 FOLK DANCERS
Sun 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:30-10:00
(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin
LAGUNA BEACH, Community Ctr
384 Legion Ave

LAGUNA 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

MOUNTAIN DANCERS
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,
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.
(Wed); VENTURA, Sr Recreation
Center, 420 E. Santa Clara St. (Mon);

SCANDINAVIAN DANCERS OF VENTURA & 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.

Dancers Speak

adults. Go to www.EEFC.org for membership information.

Here is some basic information about EEFC from the Web: The East European Folklife Center (EEFC) is a non-profit membership organization whose mission is to educate the general public about the folk music, folk dance, and folklore in the Balkans through promoting and sponsoring activities which honor and celebrate the richness of these cultures; and to foster understanding and respect of all peoples through shared experiences of Balkan cultures.

EEFC's greatest asset is the extraordinary talent and experience gathered in one place. At each camp, more than 25 of North America's most qualified Balkan musicians, dance teachers and scholars provide expertise and encouragement to about 150 students. Many teachers grew up with traditional music and dance in Europe or North America, while others learned from ethnic performers here and abroad. Many of the Balkan folk music recordings distributed in the U.S. and Canada were made by these musicians.

In addition to instruction in vocal, instrumental and dance techniques, we offer folklore presentations, staff and student concerts, jam sessions and incredible evening parties with live music. We emphasize traditional and contemporary folk music and dance from the Balkan countries, but material may also be included from neighboring regions of Central Europe and the Near East.

EEFC has enriched many lives. Think about it, have you: Danced to a tune someone learned at an EEFC workshop? Learned some of the music you play at an EEFC workshop or from someone who attended one? Enjoyed the company of friends you met through EEFC events? Learned a dance at an EEFC workshop or from someone who attended one? Received advice or help in purchasing an instrument from an EEFC member? Enjoyed a concert where EEFC members helped teach or coach the performers? Requested or used song words, translations, or linguistic information from the EEFC listserv? Received information about travel from EEFC members? Enjoyed recordings made by EEFC teachers or purchased at EEFC events?

Have you met people you now play music with at an EEFC event? Enjoyed wearing clothing, jewelry, T-shirts or aprons originating at EEFC events? Shared

the joy of music and dance with children as a result of an EEFC event? Experienced a moment of magic in your life involving Balkan music or dance which might never have occurred were it not for the EEFC?

The EEFC not only brings beauty, music, dance and culture to the lives of the people who attend its workshops, but its influence reaches out in countless ways to enrich the lives of others in the wider community. If your life has been enhanced in some way by the activities of the EEFC, please give generously to ensure the health and continuity of this unique and wonderful organization.

Membership gives you first-class mailings of the workshop brochure and Kef Times newsletter, plus a complimentary *kafana* credit card for use at the Mendocino or Iroquois Springs workshop, but most importantly it places you among those ensuring that the EEFC can bring people together--people of any background, gender, or age--to share their knowledge and love of Balkan traditions.

For over thirty years, the Balkan Music & Dance Workshops of the EEFC have brought the finest available teachers and performers together with thousands eager to share the joys of Balkan traditions. The Balkan camps form a kind of charmed circle. Here adults find permission to be beginners, beginners can grow into accomplished performers, friendships deepen, and American and Balkan-born musicians meet without borders, even in times of strife. In recent years, in particular, many master singers and instrumentalists from the Balkans have joined our staffs, and found a loving audience, devoted students, and new colleagues. And events like the kids' *kafana* at the East Coast workshop, or the junior brass band at Mendocino, show what happens when children live amid the raucous joy of Balkan camp.

Culture, Community, and Kef (Elevated Good Feeling)--these words sum up what the EEFC is about. Given all that we are going through as a nation and as a planet, all that we are learning about the need for community and cross-cultural understanding, surely the EEFC speaks to the very heart of our time. Please show us your support through your EEFC membership. Check the website for membership fees. <http://www.eefc.org>.

— Jerry Duke

Westwood Co-Operative Folk Dancers
presents

Sunday, April 6, 2008

Spring Festival

1:30 - 5:30 pm

A Festival of International Dances

We are encouraging new dancers to join us
as we will be teaching a few simple and easy
but interesting dances for all.

Costumes Welcome

Free Admission

Lots of Free Parking

Veterans' Memorial Auditorium

(Culver Blvd. at Overland in Culver City)

Westwood Co-op Folk Dancers, Members
of the Folk Dance Federation of California, South
co-sponsored by:

for info about the festival
call Beverly Barr (310)202-6166

The Culver City Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Afterparty

immediately following the festival at 6:00 pm

Felicia Mahood Center

SW corner of Santa Monica Bl. at Corinth (entrance in the back on Corinth)
free parking in well lit, large lot end of block south on Corinth

Everyone must reserve and pay in advance

for info & reservations call Beverly or Irwin (310)202-6166

Dinner and Price to be announced

Calendar

Note: Federation Dance Events are in Bold.

CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS

FEBRUARY

7 **Laguna Festival Preview, Narodni Folk Dancers, 7:30, at Women's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St. Info: Shirley (714) 932-2513, Carol (562) 862-0521 or www.narodni.org.**

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.**

9 *Greek Dances from Asia Minor, 7:30 at Cafe Aman, Pacific Arts Center, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd., West L.A. Info: Mady Taylor madelyntaylor@hotmail.com or Ian Price ianpricebey@hotmail.com.*

10 *Culver City English Country Dance, 4:00-7:00 at Lindberg Stone House, Lindberg Park, 5041 Rhoda Way, Culver City. Info: Annie Laskey (310) 837-3427 or www.caldancecoop.org.*

13 *Spirit of Uganda, to raise funds for HIV-related orphans. 7:30 at Smothers Theatre, Pepperdine University, 24255 Pacific Coast Highway, Malibu.*

14 **Valentine's Day Party, Narodni Folk Dancers, 7:30 at Women's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St. Info: Shirley (714) 932-2513, Carol (562) 862-0521 or www.narodni.org.**

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

21, 28 **Review of dances taught at Laguna Festival, Narodni FD, 7:30 at Women's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St. Info: Shirley (714) 932-2513, Carol (562) 862-0521 or www.narodni.org.**

23 *Albanian Folk Music & Song performed by Drita 8:00 at Cafe Aman, Pacific Arts Center, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd., West L.A. Info: Mady Taylor madelyntaylor@hotmail.com or Ian Price ianpricebey@hotmail.com.*

24 *Culver City English Country Dance, 4:00-7:00 at Lindberg Stone House, Lindberg Park, 5041*

Rhoda Way, Culver City. Info: Annie Laskey (310) 837-3427 or www.caldancecoop.org.

29 **Sadie Hawkins' Day Leap Year Party with West L.A. Folk Dancers. 7:30 at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave. All request program, potluck snacks. See OTS. Info: Beverly, (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.**

MARCH

1-2 *Greek Festival at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Palm Desert. Info: (760) 832-2824 or www.palmdesertgreekfest.org.*

8 *Veselba Bitov with Bulgarian Village music at Cafe Aman. 7:30 at Pacific Arts Center, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd., West L.A. Info: Mady Taylor madelyntaylor@hotmail.com or Ian Price ianpricebey@hotmail.com.*

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

28-30 **Westwood Co-op's weekend, at Camp Hess Kramer, Malibu. See ad and OTS.**

APRIL

6 **Westwood Co-op's Festival. Veterans Auditorium, Culver City. See ad and OTS.**

MAY

18 *Topanga Banjo-Fiddle Contest, Paramount Movie Ranch, Agoura. 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Israeli, Scottish, English, clogging and square dancing, plus performances, jamming, food, crafts. Info: (818) 382-4819, www.topangabanjofiddle.org.*

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

JUNE

13, 14, 15 *Huck Finn Jubilee. Mohave Narrows Park, Victorville. Barn dances, performances, food, crafts, contests. Info: (951) 341-8080, www.huckfinn.com.*

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

2/16 *Arabic Music Concert by George Lammam Ensemble, 7:00 at Halanda Studio, 1062 Lincoln Ave., San Jose. Info: hala@haladance.com.*

2/17 *Drum Solo technique workshop & performance with Alexandra King, 11:30 - 1:30 at Halanda Studio. See above for address & info.*

Dancers Speak

can't move the festival date too much without conflicting with other festivals. Ok, time for plan B: beg, cajole, and otherwise petition the folks at the school to give your wonderful community-based 501(c)(3) charity an affordable rate. Nope, they really want to give you a better rate, but rules are rules, and you don't qualify... unless you can get another school or a city parks and recreation department to sponsor you. Yeah, that's the ticket. It turns out that your affiliation with the Laguna City Parks and Recreation Department gets you a great rate on the hall. Whew, that was close. (Really close... it's getting on toward October. The festival is only a few months away.)

Ok, now you need to get teachers. That one turns out to be really easy. Steve and Ahmet teamed up to teach at our festival a few years ago (2003 to be exact) and everyone loved them. Of course it helps that they're both party animals and they enjoy working with each other.

Now for the bands. Time for some serious negotiating. Not with the bands, but amongst the members of the organizing committee. Some folks want more bands. Some want fewer. Some want hot Balkan bands. Some want more well-rounded international folk dance bands. In the end you get three great local bands. Madison Avenue Folk (Saturday evening) is a solid international folk dance band that has performed at more Laguna Folkdancers Festivals than anyone can count. Veselba (Saturday afterparty) keeps the Balkan dance crowd hopping (and stepping, leaping, and stamping). And The Fabulous Four Play (Friday afterparty) do, indeed, play, both as in "playing music" and "playing with their music".

Meanwhile, someone has spent several months trying to contact performing groups for the Sunday dance concert. A couple of the groups are easy: Skandia Dancers Performing Group and Syrtaki are always ready with exciting material. A couple more are reasonably easy: The Hawaiian club and Gunghroo (Indian club) at Soka University both have great shows. But you want to do something a little bit different this year. So you try to line up a Hip-Hop performing group you saw at a local Boys and Girls Club. (Good luck getting them to return your calls and emails.) And, totally out of the blue, you got an E-mail from some guy in Malawi (East Africa) who says that his performing troupe wants to come perform at your festival.

Well (you're thinking) that was pretty easy. A little white knuckle drama getting the hall, knock some heads together to agree on bands, find a sucker to deal with the concert... now you can just sit back and wait for the festival to just happen. Yeah, right. Now someone needs to deal with coordinating with vendors. Someone needs to do publicity (like this), print and distribute fliers, get someone to handle all of the pre-registrations, get someone to line up door sitters. Don't forget that you need to collect and account for money at the door. Did I mention setting up the hall, decorating, setting up the sound system, rounding up tables for vendors. Food. Yeah, gotta deal with munchies for the afterparties. It would also be nice to feed the volunteers that are spending their Friday afternoon and evening setting up the hall. Gotta line up someone to run the music during the teaching sessions. Oh, speaking of teaching sessions, better find accommodations and transportation for the teachers.

Well, speaking of accommodations, some dancers are coming from afar and they'll want someplace to stay after the afterparty. So, better make some discount arrangements at a nearby motel -- like maybe the Travelodge. Just call (949) 650-2999, mention Laguna Folkdancers, and magic -- the rooms will be \$69 (one bed) or \$74 (two beds) plus the usual taxes.

A million and one little things, but someone has to do them all. Fortunately, you have a crack team who thrive on pressure (and pot luck board meetings). Yeah, this thing's gonna come together and happen after all. I'll see you in February at the festival!

— Bob Altman for Laguna Folkdancers

EASTERN EUROPEAN FOLKLIFE CENTER

This fantastic organization needs our support to keep Balkan music and dance alive and well. I have attended the Mendocino Balkan Camp many times during the 30 odd years it has been in existence and have seen the training and nourishment of many musicians and dancers which I continue to enjoy. It has brought many professional musicians and dancers to the U.S. and has promoted an interest in live music through its summer camps. Stabilizing an interest in folk music and dance is an ongoing concern. I strongly recommend that we continue to support-the EEFC. It is doing a fantastic job with children, teenagers and

Quote of the Month:

There is such a difference when you're dancing to music you really love, when there is this meeting of music and dancer that fuses into one. Those are the experiences we live for.

— *Aisha Ali*

Question of the Month:

There are those who love to dance to live music, and those who prefer recorded music. Personally, I feel that as a newer dancer I would have chosen recorded music which I was familiar with, because I knew exactly what to expect. The tempo never varied and the number of repetitions was consistent. Now that I have been dancing for a loooong time, I would choose live music. But I will qualify this statement to say that I would only prefer live music if the musicians were really good. There is a special feeling when the musicians and the dancers meet and "become one". There is an excitement that cannot be described when the musicians and dancers come together in that perfect way.

What do you choose? Live or recorded?

— *Sandy Helperin*

DANCING WITH TWO LEFT FEET. (32)



My mom, Piroska (Redhead in Hungarian) Petrich, passed away at the ripe old age of 93, on Halloween night and I was in no mood to write my usual column for the Folk Dance Scene.

My thoughts were only on the loss of my dear mother, until I realized that my love of dancing came from her and from my maternal grandmother.

In the Jewish belief, the true faith is determined through the maternal lineage. I wonder if that applies to dancing as well, and I am the last in the line of dancers.

My mom inherited her love of music and dance from her mother, who at parties would climb on the table tops and dance a lively *csárdás*. Mom, turned the grief of her mother's death when she was only twelve years old into becoming an accomplished eurhythmic dancer, high diver, gymnast, and track runner.

In later life, my mom continued to dance and became an accomplished ballroom dancer, winning several medals dancing. She and her dance partner Bill, could

be found at least twice a week at the local dance places, doing a mean tango, swing, or waltzing to the lively music.



Her love of dancing must have passed to me as well. My wife and I have been folk dancing at least twice a week for more than 40 years. Whenever there is live music, I love to let go, and get swept away with the happy mood. Thank goodness, there are no sturdy table tops. I just might climb on them, as my grandmother did, and really make a fool of myself.

My children, on the other hand are not very interested in dancing, so maybe it is true that the lineage of faith and dancing is passed through the female.

How sad!

My hope is that maybe they will eventually get their love of dancing from my wife's lineage.

— *Lou Pechi*

FESTIVAL PLANNING FOR DUNCES

What's that? You say you want to put on a 3-day festival like, for instance, the 38th annual Laguna Folkdancers Festival on Feb. 8-10? I mean, how much work could it be? You get a hall (Ensign Intermediate School in Newport Beach), hire some teachers (**Steve Kotansky** and **Ahmet Luleci**) and a few bands (**Madison Avenue Folk**, **The Fabulous Four Play**, and **Veselba**), line up some groups to perform at the dance concert, do a little advertising, and you're done. Not.

The first thing you need to deal with is the hall. A year in advance. Oh, and by the way, this year they want to charge you \$240 an hour because you don't qualify as a school organization. So you look for another venue. There actually are a couple of good options, but they aren't available in February, and you

2/16, 17 *San Francisco Tam Fest*, Tamburitza music and dancing at Croatian Cultural Center. Info: (510) 640-0941, www.CroatianAmericanWeb.org.

2/23 *Festival of the Oaks*, 9:15 a.m. to 5:00, Live Oak Recreation Center, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Info: Mel Mann (510) 527-2177, meldancing@aol.com.

"Sanctuary", (Cathedral Concerts by Kitka). Info: www.kitka.org.

2/28 8:00 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 114 Montecito Ave., Oakland.

2/29 8:00 Old First Concerts, 1751 Sacramento St., San Francisco.

3/1 8:00 Smith Center for the Arts at Ohlone College, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont

3/2 4:00 Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 2620 Capitol Ave., Sacramento.

Nikolay Kolev Tour

2/29 at Cabrillo College, Aptos - dance party at 8-11:00.

3/1 at French Garden, Sebastopol - afternoon dance party 1-4:00.

3/3 at 7-9:00 & 3/5 at 8:00 Le Bateau Ivre, Berkeley - dining music.

3/6 Ashkenaz, Berkeley

3/7 Stanford Folk Dancers, Mt. View - dance party 8-11:00.

3/8 Sacramento YLI 27th/N St. - afternoon concert & dance party 2:30 - 5:00.

3/8 *Folklore Camp's "Mendocino Memories" Institute & Dance Party* at Portuguese American Hall, 511 Caledonia St. Sausalito. Info: (818) 203-5812, sullyburke@adelphia.net.

3/14-16 *Camellia International Festival* at Sacramento with Loui Tucker, Jane and Frank Tripi teaching. Info: (916) 536-9809, (916) 923-1555 or www.folkdance.com/sacramentocouncil.

3/29 *Balkan Dancers of Marin's Balkan Plus Party*, in San Rafael.

Voice of Roma Cultural Events, Info: (707) 823-7941, voiceofroma@comcast.net, www.voiceofroma.com.

4/4 *Vor's Int'l. Roma Day Celebration*, Croatian American Cultural Center, 60 Onondaga, San Francisco.

5/3 *12th Annual Calif. Herdeljezi Festival*, Ives Park & French Garden, Sebastopol.

4/4-6 *Arcata Folk Dance Festival* at Bayside Grange, 2297 Jacoby Creek Road, Bayside, CA. Info: (707) 822-8045 or linneaman@aol.com.

5/30-6/1 *Statewide 2008* with Michael Ginsburg & Kovacs (with Ellie Weinberg) in Placerville, CA.

6/21-28 *Mendocino Folklore Camp*, Mendocino Woodlands. Zeljko Jergan, Kovacs, others. Info: (818) 203-5812, sullyburke@adelphia.net.

6/28-7/5 *Balkan Music & Dance Workshop* at Mendocino Woodlands. Info: EEFC, PO Box 12488, Berkeley, CA, (510) 547-1118, or www.eefc.org.

7/17-20 *WorldFest #12* at Fairgrounds in Grass Valley, CA. Info: info@worldfest.net.

ILLINOIS

3/28-30 *43rd Anniversary Spring Festival* at Int'l House, 1414 E. 59th St., Chicago. Atanas Kolarovski, Ahmet Luleci, Sani Rifati, Ventzi Sotirov, Martin Koenig, others. Info: (773) 324-1247, Balkanske Igre, PO Box 1157, Chicago, IL 60690 or balkanskeigre@yahoo.com.

MASSACHUSETTS

3/8 *Boston Playford Ball 8-Midnight* at Perkins School for the Blind, 175 No. Beacon St., Watertown, MA. Info: Deb Karl (617) 721-0600, registrar@cds-boston.org or www.cds-boston.org.

NEVADA

2/12-14 *Southwest Polka Party* at The Orleans Hotel-Casino, 4500 W. Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89103. Info: Ed & Lois Halvorson, 215 N. Power Rd. #334, Mesa, AZ 85205, (480) 218-7009.

OREGON

2/16-17 *Veselo Festival* with Steve Kotansky teaching. Vet's Club at 1626 Willamette St., Eugene, Or. Info: Shirley Reeves (541) 484-2123 or (541) 683-6197.

NEW YORK

8/9-16 *Balkan Music & Dance Workshop* at Iroquois Springs, Rock Hill, New York. Info: www.eefc.org.

NORTH CAROLINA

The Swannanoa Gathering, Warren Wilson College, PO Box 9000, Asheville, NC 28815-9000, Info: (828) 298-3434, gathering@warren-wilson.edu or www.swangathering.com.

7/13-19 Celtic Week

7/20-26 Old-Time Week

7/27-8/2 Contemporary Folk Week

Calendar

TEXAS

3/14-16 *San Antonio Folk Dance Festival* featuring Miroslav Marcetic teaching. Info: (210) 342-2905 or nelda@sc2000.net.

FOREIGN

BULGARIA

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

GREECE

7/2-6 *22nd World Congress on Dance Research*, Athens, Greece. Info: president@cid-unesco.org.
10/19-31 *Greek folk culture tour*, dancing, history, art, etc. with Jim Gold & Lee Otterholt. Info: Jim Gold (201) 836-0362, www.jimgold.com or jimgold@jimgold.com.

NORWAY

5/14-24 *Norway!* led by Lee Otterholt. Folk culture, folk dancing, history, art, music, adventure! Info: Jim Gold (201) 836-0362, www.jimgold.com or jimgold@jimgold.com.

POLAND

5/3-17 & 9/6-29 *Poland!* Folk culture, dancing, history, art, etc. Info: Jim Gold (201) 836-0362, www.jimgold.com or jimgold@jimgold.com.

ROMANIA

4/26-5/3 *Dance & Cultural Tour to Romania* sponsored by the DOINA Foundation for Romanian ethnography & folklore. Info: stichting.doina@hetnet.nl or www.Stichting.Doina.nl.

RUSSIA

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

SERBIA

6/8-19 *Serbia*, Folk Culture, Folk Dancing, History, Art, etc. Info: Jim Gold (201) 836-8307, jimgold@jimgold.com or www.jimgold.com.

TURKEY

5/2-18 *The Tangents Turkey Music Tour* - Explores the rich diversity of Anatolian music. Info: tangentsturkeytour@gmail.com.

Pahrump

over her shoulder. Craig asked, "Do you take that thing with you everywhere you go?" Holly answered, "Yes, I do."

We struck out across the desert as the sun was going down, surrounded by dry landscape of sand and mountains. As we followed the narrow two-lane highway through passes and curves, Craig told us about Pahrump. It developed from an Indian village decades ago, and was now growing with new houses and population daily. The word Pahrump is from the Shoshone Indian language meaning "hit rock with stick and water flows out." The whole area covers an underground lake. We told him about the propane tank and the smokers, and he said, "Yes, that tank is famous for regularly leaking."

It was almost dark when we came to a vast level plain, and he pointed out two prominent billboards pointing the way to the two brothels in town. Craig cheerfully commented, "It's legal here, you know. See that road? It's X-rated. You're not allowed to go down it unless you are over twenty-one." Then we drove by the garage where he worked. "It's closed now, but in the morning we'll take a look at your car and I'll call you and let you know the situation." As we were driving along we came into an oasis of bright multicolored flashing lights, buildings, and parked cars—a miniature Las Vegas Strip. Craig pulled into the parking lot of the Saddles West Casino and told us, "You can stay here tonight. I'll phone you in the morning."

Holly pulled out the cardboard box piled high with food, camping and cooking gear, and again threw the alligator over her shoulder. I grabbed sleeping bags and we walked into the casino. Grungy from three days of hiking and camping, with the box of aluminum pots and utensils hugged close to her chest, we looked around. The casino was crowded with elegantly dressed gamblers, the women in sparkling gowns, jewelry, and high heels, the men in cowboy boots, shirts, hats, and jeans. A live dance band was playing in the dining room accompanied by the clanging of slot machines. Tables were set with linen and silver.

We tentatively approached the cashier's window. The man in the cage stared at us with a totally blank expression. The sign on the cage advertised Rooms from \$150. Holly, clutching the box of camping equipment to her chest said, "Our car broke down in the desert and we were camping. Can you give us the cheapest room you have?" He answered, "I'll give you

one for \$49." "Great!" thanked Holly. We settled the finances with a credit card. An aged bellhop appeared to guide us to our room. He did not offer to carry our box of gear nor sleeping bags.

He led us to a far away room and when we closed the door after him we threw ourselves on the beds and turned on the TV. When we recovered we ate out of the cardboard box for dinner, and with a bathroom, bed, TV, and full stomachs we fell asleep for the night. The next morning we finished off the food from the cardboard box in our room and then called the garage. Yes, our car was fixed and Craig would come by to take us to the garage within half an hour. Holly stopped in the casino to buy a bumper sticker that read THINGS GO PAHRUMP IN THE NIGHT.

The ride home was uneventful. On our telephone answering machine was a message from my son Lee. "Hi, Mom and Holly. Lucille and I just closed escrow on a house in a place called Pahrump, Nevada. We want you to come and visit."

— Carolyn Brent

— In collaboration with Holly Baldwin
May 18, 2007

HOLLY'S FANTASTIC PUNCH

Holly is not only an adventurer and a fine writer (see above) but a maker of great punch.

64oz. Langers 100% apple juice
2/3 of Ocean Spray cranberry and Pacific raspberry juice
1 large 7-up (32 oz.)
orange sherbert floated on top

Holly has been making this for Tuesday Gypsies parties, and everyone likes it. Watch for party announcements and join us!



Mendocino Folklore Camp's
"Mendocino Memories"
2008 Institute & Dance Party

I.D.E.S.S.T. Hall
511 Caledonia Street
Sausalito, CA 94965

With Dance Teachers

Sarah "Anindo" Marshall
— West African Dance & Drumming

Lynn Ackerson — Squares & Contras
Billy Burke — Balkan Favorites
Emma Charlebois
& **Vince Taylor** — Scandinavian
Jerry Duke — Greek
Erik Hoffman — French Canadian

PRE-REGISTRATION
GETS A DISCOUNT
AND IS STRONGLY
RECOMMENDED!

SATURDAY, MARCH 8TH, 2008

Dance Institute (Noon – 5pm)
Balkan Sing Along (5 – 6pm)
Swinging Dinner Dance (6 – 7:20pm)
With live Swing music by "The OpporTunists"
(Pre-Registration required for dinner!!)

Evening Dance Party (7:30 – 11:30pm)
Live Music by:
Chubritza (International)
OpporTunists (Contra & Swing)
Fred Bialy (Scandinavian)

Special Performance by:
Jubilee American Dance Theatre

Doors Open At 11:30am

Download the registration form at:
www.mendocinofolklorecomp.com
Or call registrar at (510) 657-6234

Pahrump

ADVENTURES IN THE WILD WEST, 2006, or, WHAT GOES PAHRUMP IN THE NIGHT?

"They didn't name this place Death Valley without good reason," I thought as I watched the brake dysfunction indicator on the dashboard flicker, and then steady into a continuous red glow. I looked through the windshield down the mountain at miles of hairpin turns disappearing into the distance. I was apprehensive.

Holly and I had been camping in Death Valley National Monument for three days. We had been filled with awe and glory at the magnificent views of sand dunes, fields of yellow wildflowers, mountains striated with varicolored purple and blue, depending on the sun and shadows. It was early summer and we seemed to be the last tourists in the area. Starting for home we saw no sign of civilization. The only life was a red tail hawk sailing through the sky and a coyote walking toward us looking for a handout.

"Don't worry, Mom," Holly assured me, "I'll follow the family legend of what Pop did at the top of a mountain when he went down hairpin curves in low gear to bring the car home safely."

Sitting there with my teeth clenched, tense in all muscles, eyes glued to the road, I agreed that following that strategy was the best thing to do. Indeed, in less than an hour we were safely down out of the mountains and had reached a road sign announcing Shoshone, a town consisting of a Chevron station with tourist store, a flowering vine covered pergola behind a thousand gallon butane tank, a tiny museum, and the Crow Bar eatery.

Driving down a mountainside with no dependable brakes was one thing, but going on to heavily crowded freeways at night was another. I refused to do that. We parked and went inside the gas station/tourist store to find a telephone. The only phone was being used so we looked around the Indian Trading Post-enjoying the wonderful hand made turquoise and silver jewelry, mineral specimens of geodes, amethysts, yellow, green and white calcite rocks, local wood carvings, as well as the usual tee shirts, and tourist trinkets. The phone was finally available so Holly called our 21st Century roadside service.

When she was finally connected with the dispatch department she said:

We need to be towed to a garage. The brake idiot light went on.

Where are you?

We are in Shoshone.

Where?

Shoshone, California

Spell it please.

S-H-O-S-H-O-N-E.

What is the address?

There is no address. It's the Chevron Station in Shoshone, California.

[Sounds of consulting with a supervisor] *What's the nearest cross street?*

There is no cross street. The only thing in town is the Chevron Gas Station.

Where do you want your car towed?

[Holly consulted the gas station manager.] The nearest town is Pahrump, Nevada.

What? We don't like crank calls. What do you really want?

Let me speak to your supervisor, please.

After a lot more conversation Holly was assured a tow truck would be on its way, and since Pahrump was thirty-five miles distant, warned us it would take more than an hour for it to get there.

We got a cold drink and went outside to sit in the pergola to wait. There was a couple there smoking, sitting about four feet from the propane tank under the sign that read

WARNING

NO SMOKING WITHIN 50 FEET.

PROPANE GAS TANK.

Holly pointed out the sign to the couple. The woman answered, "Oh, that doesn't mean anything. It's perfectly safe." We didn't want to sit near them, so we crossed the highway to the Crow Bar Café and ordered tacos. A handsome youth served us water in Kerr canning jars and told us the outhouse restrooms were in back labeled COWBOYS and COWGIRLS.

The tow truck arrived and the driver, Craig, maneuvered our car onto his trailer and then invited us into the cab to ride to Pahrump. We grabbed out essentials from our car and loaded ourselves into his truck. Holly carried her three foot green velour alligator

SIERRA STATEWIDE 2008 GOLD RUSH JAMBOREE

MAY 30-JUNE 1, 2008

Placerville/Shingle Springs, CA

**Friday
Miners' Ball
Live Music
Refreshments**

**Saturday
Institute
Classes
&
Evening Party**

**Sunday
Pancake
Breakfast &
"Dancing on
the Deck"**

MICHAEL GINSBURG

teaching dances from the BALKANS

KOVACS (with Ellie Wiener)

teaching couples dances from Hungary

For more information
www.statewidefolkdance.com
Email: info@StatewideFolkdance.com
or Teddy Wolterbeek (530) 677-1134

FEDERATION BOARD MEETING

There will be a federation meeting in conjunction with the Laguna Festival, Sunday February 10 at 10:30 AM. Location is 431 Heliotrope, Corona del Mar.

WEST L. A. FOLK DANCERS

Our New Year's Eve Party was a huge success, with a happy crowd of folk dancers enjoying every moment of the evening which started at 8:00 and ended at about 1:30 a.m. Plan ahead for our party nights:

Valentines Day Party - Friday, Feb. 15, 2008

Leap Year Sadie Hawkins Day Party - Friday, Feb. 29, 2008

St. Patrick's Day Party - Friday, March 17, 2008

On party nights we dance from 7:30 until you are too tired to dance anymore. All-request program; bring something for the pot-luck table.

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

On Fridays we will teach some dances that were taught at the recent Camp Hess Kramer and Stockton FD Camp. We also teach and review set dances, and have specialty nights. Our regular program includes international line, circle, Individual, couple, and set dances. We dance from 7:45 to 10:30.

We look forward to these nights and seeing our old and new friends. Come join us and dance with one of the friendliest groups around. We will be closed on Friday, Feb. 8, for the Laguna Folk Dance Festival.

We meet every Monday and Friday evening and dance on a beautiful wooden floor at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost, W. L.A. (Between Barrington & Bundy, 1 1/2 blocks N. of Santa Monica Blvd.).

We look forward to seeing you. For information call (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.

— *Beverly & Irwin Barr*

EAST EUROPEAN FOLKLIFE CENTER ANNOUNCES SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

EEFC sponsors two Balkan Music and Dance camps each year. The Mendocino (CA) camp will be June 28-July 5 and Iroquois Springs (Rock Hill, NY) will be August 9-16.

We feature folk music and dance of Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia & Turkey.

The Balkan Music & Dance Workshops offer a unique opportunity to join in a celebration of music, dance and traditions; an enjoyable learning experience in an informal and supportive atmosphere. Part-timers, evening party goers and beginners are welcome! You will find:

- Instruction on folk instruments and dance;
- Ensemble coaching & jam sessions;
- Daily children's programs;
- Live music every evening;
- Singing workshops;
- Delicious ethnic food; and
- Hiking & swimming.

— *Jerry Duke*

FEBRUARY VESELO

Feb. 2 Reviews of recently taught dances.

Feb. 9 Closed for Laguna Festival.

Feb. 16 Reviews of Laguna dances

Feb. 23 Reviews of Laguna dances.

WESTWOOD CO-OP SPRING FESTIVAL - SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2008

It's coming soon. The annual Westwood's Festival is always a highlight of the year. Note the date, Sunday, April 6, 2008.

The place and time are the same as all the years before. The Veterans Memorial Auditorium at the S/W corner of Overland Ave. & Culver Blvd. in Culver City from 1:30 - 5:30. The festival is free, (compliments of the Westwood Co-op Folk Dancers), the parking is free, and the fun is free. Come and have a great day.

Bring some new potential folk dancers with you so they can enjoy watching and witness the enjoyment of folk dancing. There will be a couple of very easy dances taught during the afternoon.

There will be an Afterparty at Felicia Mahood Sr. Ctr., corner of Santa Monica & Corinth in W.L.A. Details in next months issue of Scene, or call Beverly at (310) 202-6166 or (310)478-4659 for any information, or if you would like flyers e-mailed or mailed to you or your folk dance group.

— *Beverly Barr*

WOULD YOU PUT ONE ON YOUR CAR?

Advertising slogans have a way of sticking in our brains. We remember the jingle long after the company has gone out of business and the product has vanished from store shelves. I am sure the slogans below will bring to mind a particular product. In fact, even if you never used the product, I'll bet you recognize these -

"Double your pleasure, double your fun, with double good....."

"Put a tiger in your tank!"

"Plop, plop, fizz, fizz! Oh, what a relief it is!"

"You're in good hands with"

"My bologna has a first name, it's...."

International folk dancing needs just such a slogan - something catchy and memorable, something that we can have printed on bumper stickers and t-shirts and canvas tote bags. It has to be in a bright, eye-catching color, with some snazzy graphics. People will spot it on your car or on your shoulder. People will yell at you out of car windows and stop you in the grocery store. "What's this folk dancing thing all about?"

The ones you see following are just a few of the ones that popped out of my brain while dreaming about this article.

Let's pick one or two. Let's get them printed up as bumper strips. Heck, if the readers of this magazine can help me pick the two top favorites, I will personally have 500 printed and give them away to anyone who will promise to put one on their car. If you particularly like one of the slogans above, email me at loui@loutitucker.com. I will keep a tally and see if one or two of them look sufficiently popular to merit production. I'll report the results in a future issue.

Our favorite pastime is one of the best-kept secrets in modern society. We need to get the word out. How about a little creative marketing?


— *Loui Tucker*

Note: This article first appeared in the November issue of Let's Dance, and is re-printed here with permission. In the interim, Loui has gotten feedback, and narrowed the selection down to two. So there is no need to contact her with your preferences. But if you would like to comment about the idea, she'd be glad to

hear from you. The 'winners' are named at the end of the list of choices.

FOR A GOOD TIME, FOLLOW ME!
I'm going international folk dancing!

I SUFFER FROM O.F.D.*
*Obsessive Folk dance Disorder

 **Folk dancers hold hands with the nicest people!**

Aerobics + Socializing =
INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING 
Helping guys pick up chicks since 1935!

I ♥ INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Good for the Body. Good for the Brain.
INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

International Folk Dancers
DANCERS WITHOUT BORDERS

Here is the update on the project from Loui:

The vote was strongly in favor of "Dancers Without Borders" and "Holding Hands with the Nicest People". I am already working with a graphic artist to jazz up my temporary designs. His first draft of the bumperstickers were marvelous and I am looking forward to the final version the first of next week. I should have the bumperstickers themselves in my hands by March, or perhaps late February.

— *Loui Tucker*

Westwood Co-op Folk dancers

presents another fun filled weekend at

Camp Hess Kramer

March 28, 29, 30, 2008

**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.....\$140.00
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.....\$185.00*
(includes towels, linens and housekeeping)
- D - Deluxe room for two with private bath in the New Conference Building.....\$240.00*
(includes towels, linens and housekeeping)

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

Send coupon below and check for the full amount payable to WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK DANCERS
and mail to: Wes Perkins 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 KRAMER WEEKEND - MARCH 28, 29, 30, 2008

ACCOMMODATIONS: A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ Preferred Roommate(s): _____

Name(s) _____
(Print your name as you want it on your badge)

Street Address: _____

City and ZIP _____

Phone: (____) _____ or (____) _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CONTACT _____ Phone (____) _____

Special Dietary Need: Vegetarian _____ Relationship: _____

WESTWOOD CO-OP IS A MEMBER CLUB OF THE FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTH, INC.

NARODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS

February Teaching Program

- 7th Laguna Festival Preview
 - 14th Valentine's Day Party!
 - 21st Review of dances taught at Laguna Festival
 - 28th Review of dances taught at Laguna Festival
- ~ all teaching is subject to change ~

Thursdays, 7:30 10:30, Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak Street. For more information, please contact Shirley (714) 932-2513 or Shirley@Hansen-Family.us or Carol (562) 862-0521 or g-cwall@earthlink.net, <http://www.narodni.org>.

— Shirley J. Hansen

STANFORD FOLK DANCERS

Stanford Int'l Folk Dancers is having an open mic/ stage evening on March 21, and we are looking for bands interested in playing. Although all music should be international in flavor it need not be exclusively Balkan and time may be provided for "listening" music.

Time slots are between 15 and 45-50 minutes, as needed. The most recent open stage event, held last August, was a blast to play at and an extremely well attended event. A sound system and loud, enthusiastic support will be provided to those who offer their talents. It is a great venue and a way to get your band heard by many in the local dance scene.

Other events:

- February
- 1 Tanya Kostova - Bulgarian, Verna Druzhdina - Live Balkan Music
- 8 & 15 Jerry Duke - International
- 22 Kaladrios - Live Greek Music
- 29 All requests

- March
- 7 Nikolay Kolev & Friends - Live Bulgarian Music
- 14 Armen Gabrielian - International
- 21 Open Mic Night - Call Ginny to sign up
- 28 Armen Gabrielian - International Teaching: 8:00 - 9:00, Request dancing: 9:00 - 11:00

Dance with us Friday evenings from 8:00 to 11:00; at Flex-It aerobics studio, 425 W. Evelyn Ave., Mountain View, 3-1/2 blocks east of Castro Street, immediately past Minton's Hardware and Lumber.

Please contact Ginny Snyder if interested at ginsnyder@comcast.net, or call (408) 773-8424.

February 2008

LAGUNA BEACH CLASS

This is to inform you that I volunteered to teach the Wednesday night dance class in Laguna Beach sponsored by the City of Laguna Beach and the Laguna Folkdancers. The class started on Wednesday, January 9, costs \$4 each session, and runs through March 26.

The class begins at 7:30 at the Laguna Community Center, (formerly the American Legion Hall) located two blocks inland from PCH on Legion Street (first traffic signal south of Main Beach at the top of the hill).

I'll do a beginning-level class with a mix of couple and Balkan folk dance, women's dances, men's dances, Ragtime and Early California dance, and some basic ballroom Waltz, Fox Trot and Tango. I do hope this class will be the beginning of a long and pleasant dance experience for everyone and I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

— Richard Duree

richard.duree@sbcglobal.net, 2332 Minuteman Way, Costa Mesa, CA 92626, (714) 641-7450, (714) 318-7152

LOOKING FOR A HOTEL ROOM FOR THE LAGUNA FESTIVAL WEEKEND?

Beverly and Irwin Barr have a block of rooms, at a discounted price, for the weekend of the Laguna Festival. (This price is only available for our group)

Join us at the same lovely hotel that we have stayed at for many years. It has recently been refurbished with all new beds, pool, jacuzzi, fitness room, and now serves a complimentary hot breakfast, cooked to order. To reserve rooms at the discounted price, you must call Beverly or Irwin at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659, or e-mail at dancingbarrs@yahoo.com.

FOLK DANCE ELDERHOSTEL

Mel Mann, who is organizing the February folk dance Elderhostel, is asking dancers for testimonials of how folk dancing has had a really big impact on their health or has improved their lives in some special way. Mel will use these statements (without using anyone's name) to show the real value in folk dance.

If you have something that Mel can use, please e-mail it to him, meldancing@aol.com.

This Elderhostel "Dancing in San Francisco: For Your Body, Mind and Spirit" Program 15597RJ still

11

Folk Dance Scene

On the Scene

needs more sign ups. It will feature lectures about the history and variety of dance, and dance lessons. The evening entertainment will be a performance by a top notch dance performing group, another night with a Klezmer band and another to a folk dance club. The afternoons will feature sightseeing in San Francisco.

It is hoped that this will help produce more interest in folk dancing. For more information google Elderhostel, call (800) 454-5768 or contact Mel Mann (510) 527-2177, meldancing@aol.com.

WESTWOOD COOP'S CAMP HESS KRAMER WEEKEND

This year Westwood Co-op Folk Dancers is hosting its annual weekend at Camp Hess Kramer from March 28 through the 30th. There is dancing, parties both evenings, and teaching during the day. Regular activities include morning exercises and bird walks, sports (croquet), happy hours and an "ice cream social". We have a chance to recommend our favorite book of the year, and come away with a list of "must reads". This year we will also discuss two specific books: *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini and *Water For Elephants* by Sara Gruen. If you want to take part in this discussion group, please read one of these books.

We have a silent auction each year where people donate items to be sold (no junk please). Also a book, tape, and CD exchange table. We will have a slide show of **Gerda Ben Zeev's** trip to Romania, **Laurette Carlson** will present an informative session on Beethoven and how composers compose. **Stanley Stern** will be turning us all into accomplished artists. Other activities are still in the planning stages.

The camp has several types of housing to choose from, and meals are especially good and plentiful. There is always fruit, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate available.

Westwood would love it if people from other clubs would join us this March.

— *Sandy Helperin*

FESTIVAL OF THE OAKS

The 60th Annual Festival of the Oaks (folk dance festival) in Berkeley on Saturday, February 23, 2008, at Live Oak Park 1301 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley from 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Program: 9:30 to Noon - Institute led by Loui Tucker teaching Romanian and other favorites.

Noon - Hot Lunch on site and meeting of California Folk Dance Federation, 1:30 to 5:30 - Main Hall review of morning institute dances and general dancing, 3:00 - exhibition dancing by Jubilee Dance performers Fireside Room, 1:30 to 5:30 - all request Kolo dancing. For more information contact Mel Mann, (510) 527-2177 meldancing@aol.com.

NEVADA COUNTY FOLKDANCERS

Feb. 8 Village Folk Orkestra plays traditional tunes! Podruzki choir sings Balkan and beyond! Doors open 7:30, music starts 8 p.m.

Feb. 15, 22, and March 7, 14, and 28 - Dancing and practicing our favorites--doors open 7:45

April 11 - Dance workshop 7 to 8:30; Karen Powell teaches Turkish, Albanian, plus more dances from the Stockton workshops. Doors open 6:30. Village Folk Orkestra and Podruzki sing and play live from 8:30

April 18 and 25, and May 9 and 16--Practice new (to us) dances from Karen, and tune up other favorites.

May 30 - Live music by Village Folk Orkestra! Singing by Podruzki Choir!

At Nevada City United Methodist Church, 433 Broad St., side door. Beginners welcome, no partners needed for most dances. Most nights, doors open 7:45, teaching from 8 to 9, then more dancing to recorded music. Feb. 8 and May 30, doors open 7:30, live music starts at 8.

Note special times for April 11 workshop and party. Admission by donation.

JIM GOLD TOURS

Dear (Future) Shining Serbian and Bulgarian Travelers,

Happy New Year! May you folk dance happily all year. May you dance the *kolo*, *ucest*, and *cacak!* May you dance *pravo horo*, *rachenitsa*, and *paidushko!* While you do, imagine yourself dancing these exciting folk dances in Serbia or Bulgaria!

Who? Why you, of course! Fulfill a dream. Deepen your knowledge. Join us this year. What better way to improve your dancing and cultural understanding?

Want to discuss anything? Any questions? Give me a call or E-mail. I'd love to talk to you. (201) 836-0362, www.jimgold.com or jimgold@jimgold.com

— *Jim Gold*

Valentine's Day

BITS AND PIECES IN HONOR OF VALENTINE'S DAY

William Shakespeare's Sonnet 130

My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun;
Coral is far more red than her lips' red;
If snow be white, why then her breasts are dun;
If hairs be wires, black wires grow on her head.
I have seen roses damask'd, red and white,
But no such roses see I in her cheeks;
And in some perfumes is there more delight
Than in the breath that from my mistress reeks.
I love to hear her speak, yet well I know
That music hath a far more pleasing sound;
I grant I never saw a goddess go;
My mistress, when she walks, treads on the ground.
And yet, by heaven, I think my love as rare
As any she belied with false compare.

Vinegar Valentines

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia and emotionscards.com:

In Victorian days, vinegar valentines were greeting cards, or, rather, insult cards, selling for 1 cent, that came in the form of an insult, decorated with a caricature and below the caricature, an insulting poem. Ostensibly, given on Valentine's Day, the caricature and poem is about the "type" that the recipient belongs to – floozy, scholar, carouser, gadabout, etc. The cards were usually a simple, poor quality sheet of colored paper, purposely poorly printed, or more recently, around the first quarter of the 20th century, a postcard. They were generally sent anonymously. Some people mistakenly call them penny dreadfuls, although that term actually refers to a form of potboiler fiction.

Bill Watterson's comic strip, Calvin and Hobbes referred to vinegar valentines in the strip when Calvin gave Susie Derkins vinegar valentines in order to hide his true feelings for her.



Victorian Gingerbread Valentines

In Victorian times, lovers declared their affections via words, songs, pictures and foods. One such food was gingerbread "life cakes" in the shape of hearts. I adapted this recipe somewhat, since I found it kind of plain. With the addition of chocolate topping, the cookie hearts turned out to be pretty good.

2 ½ cups of unsifted flour
2 teaspoons cinnamon
1 ½ teaspoons ginger
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup butter or substitute
1/2 cup packed dark brown sugar
1/3 cup dark corn syrup
1 large egg

In a large bowl, sift together flour, cinnamon, ginger, cloves and salt.

Blend together the butter and brown sugar, until smooth. Add the corn syrup, and egg and beat well. Gradually add to the dry ingredients and chill for at least an hour.

Roll out the dough one-half at a time, on a lightly floured surface, to about one-fourth inch thickness. Use a heart shaped cookie cutter and place on parchment paper-covered or ungreased cookie sheet and bake at 350 degrees for about 15 to 20 minutes, or until golden. Cool on wire rack.

Icing

Melt about one-half cup chocolate chips in a double boiler with a few teaspoons of your favorite liqueur. Dip each cookie into the chocolate and return to the wire racks to cool. Store in a covered container.

Makes about 4 dozen.

Happy Valentine's Day to all

— *Sandy Helperin*

Recent Events

Jane Austen Ball

On a recent evening in January, several Westwood Folk Dance members were seen at the annual Jane Austen Tea Party and Ball, held at the Pasadena Scottish Rite Temple. This event began with an afternoon High Tea followed by an evening of English Country Dances. The vast majority of the about 200 attendees wore costumes of the Regency period.

The tea was a complete High Tea, including several varieties of teas, sandwiches, soups, Yorkshire pudding, scones and desserts. While we had our tea, Walter Nelson, of the Lively Arts Historical Association, spoke to us about dancing in the Regency period. He talked about the origin of contra dancing and styles of dancing, all in a very entertaining way. He talked the entire time we were eating and drinking. When we and he had finished, we cleared our dishes, then broke for a while.

During the break people were madly photographing each other, because, as I mentioned earlier, most of the people were wearing costumes. At the time of Jane Austen, about 1810, the Napoleonic wars were going on, and in almost every one of her novels at least one character is a naval officer. The ladies wore

various styles and colors, and many had their hair done in the style of that day. Men wore uniforms or other types of clothes, such as country squires might wear, sort of in the style of George Washington's time. Some who had no costume wore skirts or dresses, tuxedos, or other kinds of dressy clothing.

Soon the dancing began. The program was posted around the room, listing the names of the dances and whether they were easy, intermediate or advanced. We usually lined up, as in a contra dance, and were in sets of 2, 3 or 4 couples, dancing up and down the line. A live band played for us. Some of the music was familiar to your reporter, but I cannot say the name of the tunes. A caller walked us through each dance before it began, and called it as we were dancing.

The dances were not difficult, and since each lasted a long time, we were experts at every dance by the time it ended. We were encouraged to change partners throughout the evening, and many did. It was, indeed, a wonderful experience.

Walter Nelson has a website which tells all about events such as the one we attended. It is LAHAcad.com or LAHA/Social Dance irregulars

— Rachel Almo



Pasadena Winter Festival



LAGUNA FOLK DANCERS



e-mail:
info@lagunafolkdancers.org

website:
www.lagunafolkdancers.org

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

38th annual FESTIVAL February 8-10, 2008

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

Presenting Master Teachers

Steve Kotansky

Dances of eastern Europe

Ahmet Lüleci

Dances of Turkey

Live music

The Fabulous Four Play - Friday afterparty
Madison Avenue Folk - Valentine Dance
Veselba - Saturday afterparty

Valentine Dance Party - hosted by Veselo Selo

Saturday night 7:30-10:30

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY EVENING	\$10.-
Welcome Party and Dance workshop with refreshments 7:30 -12:00	
SATURDAY	
Morning dance workshop 9:30- 11:30	\$10
Afternoon dance workshop 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.-
Kolo hour 12:00 - 1:00	
Dance Concert 1:00 - 2:30	
Dance Party 2:30 - 5:00	

Festival location

Ensign Intermediate School Gym
2000 Cliff Dr., Newport Beach CA.

Area Motel (mention Laguna Folkdancers)
Travelodge, \$69.- & \$74.- +.tax
1951 Newport Blvd., Costa Mesa
(949) 650-2999

For request-time you may bring your fa-
vorite CD-s, cassettes or mini discs

Passport for all events \$48.- at the door
Under 18 FREE

Recent Events

ALLLLLL ABOOOOARD!

On the third dining excursion of the Ethnic Express 18 crew members & passengers recently vicariously visited Peru. This unique South American establishment, Inka, (Si Señor), in Las Vegas has colorful art abounding. It's everywhere! Vivid colors are in the presentation of the food, too, which is an edible work of art. Every dining excursion (three) has been highlighted by visual and taste comparisons of the dishes chosen by the crew. Every one was a visual delight!

I ordered *Causa de Pollo*, a mashed potato patty on the bottom with shredded chicken breast & celery along with seasoning mixed with mayonnaise, next up was an avocado layer topped by another mashed potato patty decorated with a red cross of pepper strips with half of a hard boiled egg. Our waitress commented that it was only a *Primero lo Primero*, an appetizer. Well, there was plenty to take home, all portions were very generous and prices reasonable.

Dancing began early, as soon as drink orders were served. **Bill & Roni Wolf** are two of the crew of our committee that track down locations where we can dance as we dine using our taped music. The festive evening continued for nearly three hours. Every lady was given a miniature handmade pin of a couple in Peruvian costumes exquisitely fashioned. Catch the Ethnic Express in Las Vegas any Wednesday.

— Dick Killian

RENO FOR TAMBURITZAS

The 2007 Tamburitza Extravaganza was in Reno, Nevada, October 11-14. I had a great time. Some of you were there too. We danced together and you saw me helping **John Filcich**. It's amazing how much he knows about this music and its people.

The tamburitza is a plucked-string instrument from a region of Southeast Europe including Zagreb, capital of Croatia, and Belgrade, capital of Serbia. There's a family of tamburitzas from high-voiced to low. Tamburitza bands can include fiddles or accordions. And singing, naturally.

Southern Californians know the **Yeseta Brothers** band. Tom Yeseta is a director of the Tamburitza Association of America, which sponsors the Extravaganza.

This year we were at the Silver Legacy Casino & Resort. I arrived early Thursday and sat for a while admiring a mural of Reno silver-mining days. Then I helped John set up, held the fort while he went to Radio Shack for some kind of contraption, and tried to make myself useful as people began to appear. That night two bands played 2-hour sets in the Drinx Lounge, and seven took 1-hour sets in the Silver Baron Ballroom from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. But we were just getting started.

On Friday, **Billy Burke** (another Southern California connection!) taught a Kolo Klinik, with a break halfway through while the all-women band *Šarena* led a sing-along. In the second half John Filcich taught too. By then we were in full swing, with twenty bands from Buffalo and Seattle to Los Angeles. One-hour sets in the Drinx Lounge started at noon. That evening ten of the bands played theater-style in the Grande Exposition Hall, with Tom Yeseta as Master of Ceremonies. Then from 10 to 2 a.m. everyone took turns with short sets in six hospitality suites, longer sets in the ballroom. At least that was the plan. But Nevada casino hotels have no clocks anywhere except rooms you sleep in. People tried to stay on schedule, knowing another band and its fans would want their turn.

Saturday morning was the annual TAA meeting. I'm a member. I see more Californians joining, and in general people west of the Mississippi pitching in. At 1 p.m. the other half of the bands began their concert, so the banquet could start at 7. This was a busy day for vendors. I ran back and forth listening to music and giving John a hand. It was worthwhile to let people hear audio and watch video recordings. After doing these dances for years, I'm beginning to learn the geography. It means a lot to people who were born there and have families there. The vendors next to us were very friendly. I asked a lady from Heart of Croatia for advice on what to wear to the banquet. Folkdancers wear very casual clothes but I find ethnics dress up more.

At dinner I purposely sat with no one I knew. I met people from Toronto and Cleveland. I'm a vegetarian, which is not the traditional Balkan way, but I didn't try to explain, I just ate what I could. After all, I had come for their customs. I already have mine. Momcilo "Momo" Nikolic was one of two musicians placed in the TAA Hall of Fame, another Southern California connection; he was a founder of the L.A. Tamburitza Orchestra, which closed the Saturday concert.

Recent Events

The banquet ended early, the evening started early, and we ran an hour later -- 3 a.m. That was wonderful. I heard verses I didn't know to songs I knew, like *Pjevaj mi, pjevaj (Licko Kolo)*. With Serbian bands the most frequent dance was what folkdancers call *U Šest*. Most Serbs just called it *kolo* (the word for "dance"). There are polkas and waltzes in this repertoire. I did the polka with a man of about 70 who had tons of energy.

Sunday morning I helped John pack. By noon it was time for the Survivors' Picnic in Rum Bullion's Island Bar. Five bands were still with us. I should have left at 5 but I stayed till 6. Luckily I didn't miss my bus. John offered me a ride home but I didn't want him to miss anything. You shouldn't either; ask him about anything I left out, or buy music, naturally: Festival Records, (323)737-3500, FestivalRecords@netscape.net, 2665 W. Pico Bl., Los Angeles, CA 90006. As for me, I'm the President of Cal Tech Folkdancers; we meet Tuesday nights at 7:30, Throop Church near the Cal Tech campus, Del Mar & Los Robles, Pasadena.

Here's a song from *Šarena's* handout. You can waltz to it. *Srem* is in the Vojvodina region of former Yugoslavia.

Divan je kiceni Srem
Lijepo je živet' u njem.
Sremica zdrava k'o dren,
Sladak je poljubac njen.

English Translation:
Wonderful is well-decorated [= the landscape: flowers, crops] Srem,
Good is life there.
Woman of Srem, healthy as a dogwood ["fit as a fiddle"]
Sweet is her kiss.

(Chorus)
Srem, Srem, Srem
Divan je kiceni Srem
(repeat)

*Prošla sam selo i grad,
Nisam ga našla do sad
Al sada idem u Srem
Mozda je dragi u njem!*

English Translation:
I've traveled village and town,
I haven't found him yet.
But now I'm going to Srem,
Maybe my sweet will be there.

(Chorus)
*Kad Sremac podje na rad
Da kopa vinograd
Ponese litru dvje
Sremice poljubi me*

English Translation:
When a man of Srem goes to work,
To dig in his vineyard,
He brings a liter or two;
"Woman of Srem, kiss me!"

(Chorus)

— Nancy Milligan

KOLO FESTIVAL

This year's San Francisco Kolo Festival was a success! Plenty of good bands playing music from all over the Balkans, Greece and Turkey, great people attending, good food, and all the dancing our bodies could take. People from Ohio, Chicago, Utah, Oregon and all over Calif - plus some nice Goth kids - one from BC Canada - who were really excited by the music and dancing. Saturday night sold out again. Great job, committee.

— Sharon Gardner



Steve and Elaine Kotansky at Kolo Festival