

## FOLK DANCE SCENE



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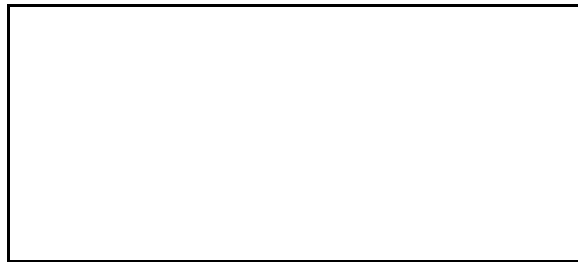
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## Folk Dance Scene

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

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

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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: Thanks to Henrietta Bemis for the archival photo of her with Gene Ciejka and Teri Hoffman*

# SIERRA STATEWIDE 2008 GOLD RUSH JAMBOREE

MAY 30-JUNE 1, 2008

## Placerville/Shingle Springs, CA

**KOVACS (with Ellie Wiener)**

teaching couples dances from Hungary

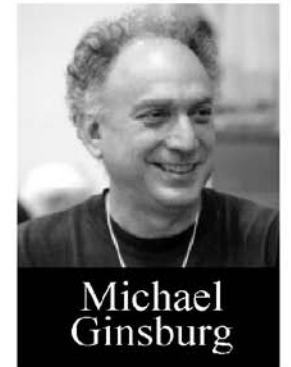


**Kovacs & Ellie**

*Live music by  
Legacy at the  
Miners' Ball!*

**MICHAEL GINSBURG**

teaching dances from the BALKANS



**Michael  
Ginsburg**

*Join the fun!*

**Friday :**

7:00 – 11:00 PM Miners' Ball

**Saturday :**

9:30 – 12:30 PM Institute Classes

12:30 – 2:00 PM Lunch (box lunch avail\*\*\*)

N/S Committee Meeting

2:00 – 5:00 PM Institute Classes

5:00 – 7:30 PM Dinner on your own

7:30 – 8:00 PM Institute Review  
with Michael Ginsberg

8:00 – 11:00 PM Jamboree Dance Party

**Sunday:**

9:00 – 10:30 AM Free Pancake Breakfast  
Installation of New Officers

10:30 – 11:00 AM Institute Review  
with Kovacs & Ellie

11:00 – 5:00 PM "Dancing on the Deck"  
1:00 PM Catered BBQ\*\*\*)

(\*\*\* preregistration required)

**Our Host hotel this year: Best Western Placerville Inn  
6850 Greenleaf Dr., Placerville, CA 95667 (530) 622-9100**

**Mention the Folk Dance Federation for discounted rate of \$99, with  
24 hours cancellation notice**

For more information: [www.statewidefolkdance.com](http://www.statewidefolkdance.com)  
Email: [info@StatewideFolkdance.com](mailto:info@StatewideFolkdance.com) or Teddy Wolterbeck (530) 677-1134

# 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.2  
March 2008

## Editors' Corner

Winter brings rains, new greenery - and sometimes endings as well: Gene Ciejka was a leader of Polish folk dancing in our area, and is remembered in the cover story. His contributions to our lives will be celebrated on March 1st.

In keeping with the cultural flavor, ethnic recipes from Ada Dzienanowska are featured this month.

A small sampling of images remembering Laguna Festival is included as a visual report. (Lots of good recollections on the cutting room floor)

The Macedonian New Year's festival was cause for comment on etiquette. There were comments on live music and partnering, too, as dancers speak.

If you are interested in folk dance camps, don't miss the scholarship application on page 20.

Be of good cheer!

— Pat Cross and Don Krotser

## Table of Contents

Federation Corner .....	3
Gene Ciejka .....	4
Calendar.....	6
On the Scene .....	8
Recent Events.....	12
Ethnic Food.....	14
Dancers Speak.....	16
Club Directory .....	21

## 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

March 2008

## Federation Corner



We have been folkdancing for almost 30 years. I have always enjoyed dancing, starting with tap and ballet at the Burbank Recreation Center at age 8. Our Girl Scout troop learned some beginning folk dances such as Lili Marlene, Oh! Johnny Oh, and the Virginia Reel. In junior high and high school my brother and I took ballroom dance classes which included formal dinner dances.

Then in 1961 I married Gordon who thought he had two left feet. The opportunity to change that came in 1980. A friend invited us to join a small group in Glendora for what we thought would be German folk dance lessons. It turned out to be practice sessions for a German/Austrian folkdance performing group, the **Enzianers**. We were drawn in and for the next eight years spent every Octoberfest season weekend somewhere in Southern California at an Octoberfest, frequently at Alpine Village. It was a lot of fun and we made a lot of new friends.

After that we tried round dancing, square dancing, and clogging before we encountered the **Narodni International Folkdancers** in Long Beach. I was nominated and elected Narodni's secretary and for the next several years I made dance flyers, took minutes of meetings, handled correspondence, and eventually started an e-mail list for Narodni. We also joined the Scandinavian dance classes in Anaheim where we enjoy the couple dances.

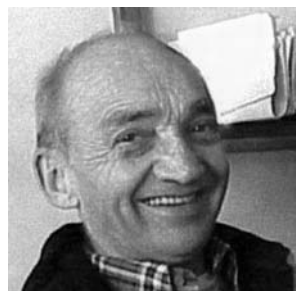
Before joining Narodni we had never encountered, or heard of, the Folk Dance Federation of California, South. **Carl Pilsecker** introduced us to the Federation by taking us to a Folk Dance Festival and Council meeting in San Diego.

In 1997 I became Director of Membership for the Federation and held that position for 4 years. There was much reorganization and redesign of the membership forms that had to be done and put on the computer, as well as publishing the membership directory. That first directory was a co-effort. I did the data entry and Gordon did the formatting. It ended up being a group effort with a party at our house for folding, stapling, and dinner. Since 2001 I have served on the Council as Sergeant-At-Arms, and now as representative for Narodni.

Gordon and I attend and enjoy the Camp Hess Kramer weekends in Malibu where I volunteer as the Camp Nurse, and Gordon helps with the music and video. We like to bring our granddaughters, Jasmine and Caroline, with us to nights at Narodni, festivals, and to camp so they can learn to dance, and enjoy the company of other folk dancers as we have.

— Carol Wall.

## TO MY FOLKDANCING COLLEAGUES:



Some of you have already been apprised of Gene Ciejka's passing. I myself hadn't seen him in a very long time and did not know he had been ill. I was just notified of this sad news by an old dancing colleague, Janie Iacovetti. To me, losing **Dick Crum**, other nationally known top

dancers and teachers of folk dance in the recent past, and now Gene, signifies the beginning of the passing of perhaps the most colorful and spirited era in the world of International Folk Dancing for the past 50 to 100 years.

I recall the first day I laid eyes on Gene (I believe around 1960 or 1961) when he virtually flew in the room at the Friday night Garden Grove Dancers party accompanied on each arm by two newer and beautiful dance recruits (**Pat Robinson** and **Mikki Revenaugh**) and started telling some of his zany jokes. He had such a commanding presence and impish smile; he could never not be noticed!

He was all light, dazzle, and possessed indefatigable energy for dancing, shmoozing, and yes, lots of socializing. His incredible expertise in Polish dance form made it fascinating to see what he was up to next, bigger and better than the last time around, in his performing groups. I think many of you 'old-timers' would agree that the forty to fifty years of Gene's presence in the Orange County communities have inexorably changed how we see and regard Polish folkdancing. He will surely be missed by legions of folkdancers but his legacy of Polish dance and choreography, will continue to be recognized and to live on brightly in Southern California. Go in peace.... dear Gene, and keep lighting up those celestial dance floors for us *In pax, requiescat.*

In honor of Gene's memory, I've chosen a couple of short video clips to share with you. Hope these bring smiles to your face. Google in each one separately: YouTube - Magnificent Mazowsze - Cigány tánc (Gypsy dance),

If you'd like to know more about Gene's folk dance background as well as backgrounds of many other nationally known folk dance teachers, check the brilliant website originally created by **Dick Oakes** at Phantom Ranch - Folk Dance Teacher Biographies [www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/folkdanc/htm](http://www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/folkdanc/htm)

If you would like to contact me about this, or just to correspond with old dance friends we haven't seen or spoken with, please do so. Ann Litvin, POB 9392 Brea, Ca. 92822, 714-671-0707, email: [testsmarts@yahoo.com](mailto:testsmarts@yahoo.com), website: [www.testsmarts.com](http://www.testsmarts.com), (the web includes a prompt on home page - ANN's CULTURE CORNER that sometimes has photos and reports on classical music, opera, dance, theater and other cultural events taking place around Orange County and So. California.)

— Ann Litvin

## SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT GENE

I had been visiting Gene for the past three years on a regular basis. After **Dorothy Daw** died I took over some of the chores she and Tommy performed...taking him to hospital appointments, etc. He was very independent and preferred to drive himself if possible.

Gene and I go back to the early 60's...the old Santa Barbara Camp which came to be known as the San Diego Folk Dance Camp when it was moved in 1969. As we became friends and like brother and sister, we learned a lot about each other. I called Gene on the 27th of December, his birthdate, from Evanston, and he wished me a Happy Birthday, too, because my birthdate is the 28th. We always remembered to contact each other on birthdays. There were other special memories, too. Well over a year ago, in February 2006, we were talking about Laura Lippett, and I offered to take him over to the cemetery where she is buried. Their connection was truly very sad for him.

Gene made a Polish vest for me in the 70's...all the cutting, sewing and bead work done by his hand. It fit me once and I treasure my momento of our long friendship.

Gene and I had the same surgeon... for his eight back surgeries and my two hip replacements. We spent a lot of time talking on the phone and in the doctor's office.

## 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 FOLKDANCERS**  
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.

FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTH

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Purpose of the Scholarship Program: The FDFC,S has formed the Scholarship Program to: 1) develop potential folk dance teachers and leaders; 2) develop potential folk musicians; and 3) recognize individuals for service to and active participation in the folk dance community.

ELIGIBILITY FOR CONSIDERATION: The following criteria have been established for eligibility and consideration for scholarship awards. The applicant: 1) must be a member of a Federation club or be recommended (sponsored) by an officer of the Federation; and 2) must not have received an FDFC,S scholarship within the past three years.

AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS: A limited number of scholarships will be awarded, based on available funds.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CAMP FOR WHICH YOU ARE APPLYING \_\_\_\_\_

PREVIOUS FOLK DANCE CAMPS ATTENDED \_\_\_\_\_

PREVIOUS FDFC,S SCHOLARSHIPS RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_

AFFILIATION OR NAME AND SIGNATURE OF SPONSOR \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your folk dance "career". On a separate sheet of paper describe your: 1) folk dance experience (provide dates and locations); 2) music experience (if any); 3) activities, services, contributions to your club or the Federation; 4) offices held; 5) areas of expertise (teaching, research, countries studied, etc.); and 6) plans for future folk dance activities or service.

Please submit a photo of yourself with the application, if possible.

Send or email application to Betty Grant, 139 Weatherstone Drive, Henderson, NV 89074. E-mail: [bettygrant@cox.net](mailto:bettygrant@cox.net) Contact Betty if you have any questions. Telephone (702) 896-1415.

DEADLINE: April 11, 2008. Scholarship winners will be notified by May 9, 2008.

NOTE: If you do not get confirmation by mail or email from Betty, please contact her to make sure she gets your application. Thank you.

# Gene Ciejka

I was with Gene on the 31st of December right after returning, with Doug, from Evanston where we visit our daughter's family each Christmas. Then I was with Gene on Friday, the 4th, and I knew the time was growing short...his feet, ankles and legs were badly swollen...renal failure. My last visit was Tuesday, the 8th, and he died peacefully in his bed, asleep, on Thursday, the 10th, in the late morning. I thought you might be interested in a few details of the end of his life. You would not have recognized Gene...as I have told a few people...Gene looked like a 1,000 year old Mahatma Gandhi, only worse, during the last months and weeks and days. It is better to remember that gorgeous young man with two girls on his arm...

grouching; you're just a cranky old man"...and our conversation would continue to flow inwards and onwards...into eternity.

Anyway... the loss of Crum, Unciano, Sparks, Tiffany, etc....all locals in a sense...leaves us wondering who is carrying on the great teaching traditions in this area. I only dance Scandinavian now (heritage) and I mark the passing of the ballet greats, always of interest since my pre-marriage professional days. Everything changes; the passage of time is relentless. I wonder...who will be next.

- Donna Tripp

## GENE CIEJKA MEMORIAL.

For those of you who don't know, Gene Ciejka, the infamous leader of **Polski Iskry**, passed away in late January. In his memory, and to celebrate his life, there will be a memorial for him at Veselo's dance hall in the Unitarian Church in Anaheim. If you know of anyone who would be interested in attending, please let them know. I know many, many people cared about him and would probably like to come. Thanks!



Gene was lauded by many in his lifetime, but I have come to realize that a whole new generation of dancers is only mildly interested in hearing about this fabulous man. The name means nothing as I contact various groups. Only the old timers such as you and I and his ex-dancers seem to care about his demise. I was one of the very few who visited him regularly during his long fight with cancer, but there were dancers who talked with him on the phone. He had all his marbles right up to the end!!! And, as I told him many times..."quit

*A Celebration Of Life* for the founder/choreographer of **Polski Iskry**, March 1, 2008 at Unitarian Universalist Church, 511 S. Harbor Blvd. Anaheim. We'll start the evening at 6:30 with a pot-luck dinner accompanied by some of Gene's favorite music. Video entertainment of **Polski Iskry** will be shown and memories of Gene will be shared. Admission is free but donations will be accepted to defray the cost of the Memorial. Any excess funds will be donated to the Federation Scholarship Fund.

Call Ralph Bates for more info (949) 951-3314.

# Calendar

Note: Federation Dance Events are in Bold.

## CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS

### MARCH

- 1 *Eastern Exposure Ensemble* playing Balkan music for listening and dancing at Folk Dance Center, San Diego. 7:30-10:00. Info: [www.folkdancecenter.org](http://www.folkdancecenter.org), (619) 281-5656.
- 1-2 *Greek Festival* at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Palm Desert. Info: (760) 832-2824 or [www.palmdesertgreekfest.org](http://www.palmdesertgreekfest.org).
- 8 *Sherry Cochran Kirk teaching & Veselba Bitov with Bulgarian Village music* at 7:30, Cafe Aman, Pacific Arts Center, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd., West L.A. Info: [madelvintaylor@hotmail.com](mailto:madelvintaylor@hotmail.com).
- 8 *Nevenka East European Folk Ensemble* in concert. 8:00 at Bordello, 901 E First St., Los Angeles. (213) 687-3766, <http://www.nevenka.org>.
- 13 **St. Patrick's Day Party at Narodni! With The Real Deal and step-dancer Meredith Lyons. Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak Street, (714) 932-2513, <http://www.narodni.org>.**
- 15 *"Turlu" plus Friends*. Live music Balkan dance party at Folk Dance Center, San Diego. Info: [www.folkdancecenter.org](http://www.folkdancecenter.org), (619) 281-5656.
- 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. Beverly, (310) 202-6166, (310) 478-4659.**
- 28-30 **Westwood Co-op's Weekend. At Camp Hess Kramer. Malibu. See OTS.**
- 31 **April Fool's Day Party with the West L.A. Folk Dancers 7:30, 1309 Armacost Ave. For info: Beverly, (310) 202-6166, (310) 478-4659**

### APRIL

1,8,15,22,29 *John Filcich* teaching at Cal Tech Folkdancers. Info: Nancy (626) 797-5157.

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

### MAY

18 *Topanga Banjo-Fiddle Contest*, Paramount Ranch, Agoura. 9:00 to 6:00. Israeli, Scottish, English, clogging, square dancing; performances, food, crafts. (818) 382-4819, [www.topangabanjofiddle.org](http://www.topangabanjofiddle.org).

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

### JUNE

5 **Kriss Larson's Interfolk Band at Narodni! Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak Street, (714) 932-2513. <http://www.narodni.org>.**

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

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

*"Sanctuary"*, (Cathedral Concerts by Kitka). Info: [www.kitka.org](http://www.kitka.org).

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

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.

3/9 *Bulgarian Village concert & dance party featuring Nikolay on gadulka*. 2:30 - 5:30 at YLI Hall, 1400 - 27th St. & N, Sacramento. Info: (916) 371-4441, (530) 346-0099. [Lonnawhipple@hotmail.com](mailto:Lonnawhipple@hotmail.com).

3/14 *Red & Black Ball*, fd party 8:00-11:00 at Santa Rosa Vet's Building, 1351 Maple Ave. Bring snacks. Live music. Info: [marilynmsmith@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marilynmsmith@sbcglobal.net).

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

3/28-30 *Dance Awakening* (13th Annual) at Harbin Hot Springs, Calistoga, CA. Info: (805-649-5189, [home@danceawakening.com](mailto:home@danceawakening.com) or [www.danceawakening.com](http://www.danceawakening.com).

3/29 *Balkan Dancers of Marin's Balkan Plus Party*, at Marin Masonic Hall, 1010 Lootens in San Rafael. Info: Anne Arend (415) 892-9405.

*Voice of Roma Cultural Events*, Info: (707) 823-7941, [voiceofroma@comcast.net](mailto:voiceofroma@comcast.net), [www.voiceofroma.com](http://www.voiceofroma.com).

# Dancers Speak

adventurous "folk-dancers" joining in. While the music consisted of many tunes that we knew, the dance steps were slightly different from the choreographed ones we have been doing. It was a lot of fun trying to follow their syncopated steps and rhythms. Every leader injected a bit of his or her own style into the dance and everyone followed, adjusting to the slight variations.

As the popularity and the word spread, more and more "folk-dancers" discovered this event, so that at the last event that I attended, the number of "us" was much larger than the number of "them". For these events, the Macedonians typically dress in their best clothes, with men in suits and ties and women in dressy dresses. I observed, on the other hand, that a few of us showed up in torn jeans, sweatshirts and sneakers.

I also noticed, to my dismay, that some of us were trying to show them the "correct" steps. Even when a member of the church was leading the line, one of our "hot-shots" rudely stepped in front of the line in an attempt to show them how to do the dance "right". One or two people from the folk dance crowd even got in the middle to do their own thing.

Inexcusable! How sad!

When you think about it, what we dance are second hand dances, observed and brought to our community by our teachers who in turn saw them as dances in the various villages.

We are missing a great opportunity to learn and see the original dances, without the need to spend an inordinate amount of money to travel to the various countries. There so much we can learn from them.

Probably more important is that we are guests in their house and as such should behave accordingly and respect their customs and traditions. Let us be a bit more sensitive. Maybe they will invite us again.

I would love to hear from many of you, who attended this great event.

— *Lou Pecki*

## THE BENEFITS OF FOLK DANCING

My father was born on the island of Evvia, northeast of mainland Greece. An important part of Greek culture is teaching children to "dance Greek" and so it was, with me. Following Greek tradition, my father moved furniture to make room to dance! I was six years old; my younger sister was two.

My mother strongly believed in my dance abilities and sent me for formal training in ballet, tap, jazz and precision dancing which laid the groundwork for a career as a professional dancer. Sponsored by my dance teacher and mentor, Stanley Kahn in San Francisco, I became a member of Dance Masters of California at age 16. Following graduation from high school I worked in the line at the Italian Village followed by a tour of the US and Alaska. Later I danced in several companies; Rene De Haven Dancers, SF, Ashton-Kochman Productions, LA, Nicholson and Mattis Productions, LA, to name a few. I worked in San Francisco, Reno, Lake Tahoe, and Miami Beach Florida in several productions.

I married and have raised two children. During my "settled down" time, I taught all of the aforementioned dance forms and went on to include ballroom dancing in my repertoire. After about 10 years of Jazzercizing I experienced an incapacitating back injury that sent me reeling. I learned that your whole life can change very quickly in a few short moments! For a brief time, I wondered if I would ever dance again and asked myself, What will I do? It was devastating and incomprehensible. After the hospital and pain medication, although physically limited, I kept moving and danced even for brief segments (like 10 minutes). After months of physical therapy and epidural injections, I slowly improved.

During this time frame, after having attended several Greek festivals, I decided to pursue folk dancing, especially Greek. A friend, Bob Vickery, directed my daughter and me to Oak Park in Santa Barbara where we have been dancing with the Balkan Dancers ever since. It has been a few years and fellow folk dancers/good friends there have been very encouraging and lend support during any painful moments I may have. To say that dancing has been an integral part of my life is an understatement. I cannot put into words the joy it brings. I have passed on my father's legacy to my daughter, Cara, and every Wednesday evening you will find us dancing under the stars at Oak Park; and on Thursday evenings, teaching Greek dancing at the SB International Folk Dance Club at the Recreation Center. We enjoy sharing our love of dance with so many wonderful friends.

— *Kathy Salotti*

Another element of the closed dance position and any turning movement is the "pelvic tilt." Lift the pelvis in front and allow the rear to tuck under slightly. You'll feel the muscles in the lower back suddenly stretch and almost heave a sigh of relief. This lowers the center of gravity and moves it slightly backward; you should be slightly off-balance backward, held up by the counter balance of your partner. Without the pelvic tilt, your turns will never develop properly.

Dance, like walking, requires that you be off balance. If you try to remain balanced, you will not dance. Dance is learning to create body momentum and controlling it.

You need to be close enough that your right knee is between your partner's knees. If your shoulders are not parallel, your feet aren't parallel. If your feet aren't parallel...

When starting almost any turning dance, especially the waltz, it works best for the man to begin backwards - for several reasons. The Victorian / Viennese waltz always began backward because in the days of floor-length skirts, if the woman stepped backwards first, there was a real danger of her stepping on her skirts. The results were undignified at best and not pretty no matter how it turned out. Women still wear floor-length skirts today on occasion and the old wisdom still holds.

Also, by starting backward, the man has only to lean backward to start the energy flow. Gravity is a tried and true friend for doing that. You must always know from where the energy is generated for any movement and use the technique that requires the least energy.

The initiation and support for the dance movement is a constant part of the dance. The man cannot "program" the woman and then quit; every measure, every movement, every change requires the same support and renewal.

This could go on forever, but I'd like to share a little lesson I learned from the late, great Marvin Smith. This is a true story. We were attending a dance event at Idyllwild, I believe, a few years back. Marvin said something about wanting to learn the woman's part to the hambo. So I taught it to him. Marvin was a quick learner.

"OK, let's dance it," he said. I was a little hesitant, because I never danced it with a woman who outweighed me by 30 pounds or so. But we did.

After about two turns, Marvin stopped dead in his tracks. His eyes were wide open.  
"Wow!" he said. "No wonder women like to do this."

— *Richard Duree*

## MEMORIAL FOR RIVKA STURMAN

For at least two or three years, I've had a burning desire to plant seeds around the country to help create a Millennium Tribute Book in the memory of my beloved mentor, teacher, dearest friend and world renowned Founder of Israeli Dance, RIVKA STURMAN, who passed away at about age 100 a couple of years ago. If you think about it, there's probably not one International Dance evening anywhere (or Jewish wedding and bar/bat mitzvah) these days that doesn't bring to life one or more of her original choreographies. Let me know if you have some ideas for me. Ann LITVIN, POB 9392 Brea, Ca. 92822, 714-671-0707, email: testsmart@yahoo.com.

## DANCING WITH TWO LEFT FEET. (33)



In the past, I wrote several articles on the etiquette of folk dancing. Most of them addressed our own group and the foibles of our own behavior.

After attending the last Macedonian New Year's Party in Whittier a few weeks ago, I realized that I should talk a bit about our behavior outside of our small folkdance community.

For years, I have been going almost regularly to some of the Macedonian picnics and the Macedonian New Year's Eve parties. Since the Macedonian Orthodox Church follows the Gregorian calendar, they celebrate the New Year approximately two weeks after ours.

Besides the Greek, Serbian, and Armenian festivals, there are not many real authentic ethnic events in the Southern California area. I think that this one definitely passes muster. This is a rare event where you can really immerse yourself in the local culture and witness some of the authentic village dancing.

Their hospitality is genuine and they greatly appreciate our respect for their culture and dances

In the past, these events were attended mostly by the members of the church, with only a few of us

4/4 *Vor's Intl. 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. Info: (707) 822-8045 or [linneaman@aol.com](mailto:linneaman@aol.com).

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

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

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

## ILLINOIS

3/28-30 *43rd Anniversary Spring Festival* at International House, 1414 E. 59th St., Chicago. Info: (773) 324-1247, Balkanske Igre, PO Box 1157, Chicago, IL 60690 or [balkanske.igre@yahoo.com](mailto:balkanske.igre@yahoo.com).

## MASSACHUSETTS

3/8 *Boston Playford Ball* 8-Midnight, Watertown. Info: Deb Karl (617) 721-0600, [registrar@cds-boston.org](mailto:registrar@cds-boston.org) or [www.cds-boston.org](http://www.cds-boston.org).

## NEW YORK

8/9-16 *Balkan Music & Dance Workshop* at Iroquois Springs, Rock Hill, New York. Info: [www.eefc.org](http://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](mailto:gathering@warren-wilson.edu) or [www.swangathering.com](http://www.swangathering.com).

7/13-19 Celtic Week

7/20-26 Old-Time Week

7/27-8/2 Contemporary Folk Week

## OREGON

4/11-13 *2008 Spring Folk Dance Festival with Tom Bozigian with Sheree King Bozigian* teaching dances from Armenia at Friendship Masonic Center, 5626 NE Alameda St., Portland. Info: Ros (503) 730-5135.

## TEXAS

3/14-16 *San Antonio Folk Dance Festival* featuring Miroslav Marcetic teaching & Nelda's 50th (& her retirement party). Info: (210) 342-2905 or [www.safdf.org](http://www.safdf.org).

## WASHINGTON

4/19 *NFDI "Stockton, Part II" workshop*, Cedar Valley Grange, Lynnwood. Thea Huijgen teaching. Info: Diane (425) 889-0541, [www.scn.org/arts/nfdi/](http://www.scn.org/arts/nfdi/).  
6/29 *50th Skandia Midsommarfest* - 11:00 - 6:00 at St. Edward State Park, Kenmore, WA. Info: [Skandia-folkdance.org](http://Skandia-folkdance.org) or (206) 784-7470.

## 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](mailto:TobaGoddard@hotmail.com).

### GREECE

7/2-6 *22nd World Congress on Dance Research*, Athens, Greece. Info: [president@cid-unesco.org](mailto:president@cid-unesco.org).  
10/19-31 *Greek folk culture, dancing, history, art, etc.* with Jim Gold & Lee Otterholt. Info: Jim Gold (210) 836-0362, [www.jimgold.com](http://www.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](http://www.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](http://www.jimgold.com) or [jimgold@jimgold.com](mailto:jimgold@jimgold.com).

### ROMANIA

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

10/11-18 *Dance & Cultural Tour to Romania*, Targu Mures - Transylvania. [stichting.doina@hetnet.nl](mailto:stichting.doina@hetnet.nl) or [www.Stichting.Doina.nl](http://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](mailto:meldancing@aol.com).

### SERBIA

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

### TURKEY

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

## TAMBURITZANS TICKETS ON SALE NOW.

Plan ahead to get the good seats for a night of vibrant song, instrumental music and dance!

The Tamburitzans of Duquesne University are coming to the L. A. area. They will be at the Servite Theatre, 1952 W. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, on Saturday, May 17, 2008 at 7:00.

To purchase tickets: call (714) 832-7470 or visit [annunciationbyzantine.org](http://annunciationbyzantine.org).

## SUNDAY EVENINGS MARCH AT LAGUNA BEACH

March 2 & 9 *Bekesi Paros*

March 16 *Shoofni* & review another old favorite

March 23 Easter party with live music & requests

March 30 *Brzak*

For more information, contact me at (949) 675-2199, [diane.bakerpe@spamcop.net](mailto:diane.bakerpe@spamcop.net).

— *Diane Baker*

## GENE CIEJKA MEMORIAL.

A *Celebration Of Life* for Gene Ciejkka, the founder/choreographer of *Polski Iskry* will be held March 1, 2008 at Unitarian Universalist Church, 511 S. Harbor Blvd. Anaheim. See cover story, page 4. Call Ralph Bates for more info (949) 951-3314.

## VESELO SELO

**Tom Bozigian** dances taught on January 19 were *Kafan Wedding Dance*, *Sheikani*, a fishermen dance *Vana Tsgnors*, and *Jurjena*. **Henrietta Bemis** reviewed *Kafan* and *Sheikani* the following week.

March 1 - Gene Ciejkka memorial. (See above).

March 8 - *Fun for All* with hostess **Carol Maybrier**. Dancing interspersed with quickie reviews.

March 15 - St. Patrick's Day party. Wear green. Bring snacks to share.

March 22 - **Phyllis Pivar** Birthday Party

March 29 - Nostalgia Night. Dance predominantly to the Oldies.

— *Louise Perry*

## MENDOCINO FOLKLORE CAMP DANCE PARTY

Mendocino Folklore Camp is having its Dance Institute/Dance Party & Fund-raiser on Saturday March 8th, 2008. This is a non-profit event for Mendocino Folklore Camp. It will start at 11:30 AM, at I.D.E.S.S.T. Hall, 511 Caledonia Street Sausalito.

Dance Institute from Noon - 5:00; Balkan Sing-Along with **Michele Simon**, 5 - 6:00; Swinging Dinner Dance from 6 - 7:20, International Dance Party from 7:30 - 11:30PM with live music with **Chubritza** and others, special performance by **Jubilee American Dance Theatre**. (Flyer with additional details available from [jimke6iva@comcast.net](mailto:jimke6iva@comcast.net) upon request.)

Please register for a Saturday full of dancing, learning, singing and a dance party with live music. We would love to see you there,

— *Jim and Joann Wood*

## MENDOCINO FOLKLORE CAMP FUNDRAISER RAFFLE

In conjunction with the above, there will be a raffle including prizes such as: 1st Prize - Campership to Folklore Camp, a \$725 value, 2nd Prize - Apple iPod nano, 8GB, a \$200 value, 3rd Prize - \$100 gift certificate to Trader Joe's, etc.

Donation, \$5.00 per ticket or \$20.00 for book of 5. Order at [raffle08@aol.com](mailto:raffle08@aol.com). Drawing to take place Saturday, March 8, 2008 at Fund-raiser Institute and Dance Party. Need not be present to win

## KABILE TOUR

I am trying to help **Donka Koleva** coordinate Kabile's tour on the West Coast (Seattle to San Diego) which will hopefully begin around October 1st. *Bitov* is a style of Bulgarian music played on village instruments, and the Kabile musicians are masters of their art. The ensemble was formed in Thrace more than 30 years ago.

I am looking for suggestions for venues interested in having them play. Please contact me ASAP if your group is interested or if you know of a venue which might be interested. They will be available for concerts, dance parties, workshops and lessons.

Thank you very much, (510) 237-1124.

— *Joyce Clyde*

## DANCE DAY PREPARATIONS

On the 29th of April, as every year since 1982, Dance Day will be celebrated all over the world by the international community of dancers and dance enthusiasts.

The International Dance Council CID has prepared the following guidelines as a useful checklist for

"Partnering" is an intimate sharing of movement, teamwork as it were, to create a dance experience not possible without that collaboration. The man does not "lead"; he "initiates" the movements and "supports" his partner. The woman does not "follow"; her role is to "respond" and "execute" the movement the man has provided for her, using the support that he provides and without which she cannot execute.

The basic concept of couple dance - and we are, of course, discussing traditional ballroom couple dance - is that the man's role is to display his partner!

Why do you think the women embellish the skirts of their ball gowns? Who do you think observers are watching as couples swirl around the floor? The woman, that's who.

With that bit of attitude adjustment, the couple dance should become a bit more palatable to those who shy away from it.

The International Folk Dance community has been crippled for decades by the introduction of heavily choreographed couple dances which have denied the opportunity to learn the art of partnering. Ned Gault's beautiful tangos, of which there were many, are brilliant works of art and any would be perfect for a performance, but they do nothing to teach partnering. I long ago realized that neither partner needed the other to execute the dance. They could separate and dance their parts alone and nothing would change. And I don't know of another folk dancer who ever dared to take the figures apart and rearrange them. They need to be viewed as superb sources of learning rather than refuges and comfort zones.

The same is true of the hundreds of other choreographed couple dances in the IFD repertoire. Over the years it has created a comfort zone from which dancers fear to emerge.

The man inherits the role of initiating the dance movement because of his responsibility for supporting the figure after it has begun and ensuring its safe and graceful completion. The woman's response to the "lead" is the most important part of the whole equation and it requires both confidence in her partner's support and in her own technique.

Several elements must come together to create the magic that only comes from twirling around the dance floor in a partner's arms. Both the man and woman must become comfortable with the near-embrace of

the closed dance position. I learned years ago that the woman's most important concerns are that she is "safe" and "comfortable."

These require that the man hold her in a caring and supportive way. (Hint: One of the greatest joys of the couple dance is that you can be literally in love with your partner, even if just for the duration of the dance.) The man's right arm should be rounded, his arm up underneath hers, his right wrist straight. The right hand should be just below the woman's left shoulder blade, the thumb vertical along the inside edge and the fingers slightly spread. His strength must come from the larger muscles in the chest and shoulders, rather than the smaller ones in the forearms and hands. Keep the hands relaxed against the woman's back so they don't produce "hot spots" for her. The hand - mainly the right one behind her back - should remain relaxed and flexible so it can be used not only to support her, but to signal and support position changes with the flat of the fingers or the heel of the hand. Nothing is worse than a hand that presses in harder than necessary and claws at the back of her dress.

The lady's left arm serves two purposes: it is her contribution to helping hold the two of you together as you spin and it receives the signals from the man. It should rest gently on the man's arm and should never be pressed down to hold on. I have a permanent shoulder injury from too many women trying to clamp down with their left arms. Don't do it.

Signals to modify or change a position or to support a movement are initiated through the man's back and transferred through the shoulders and arms. Actual changes by both partners should be made as near to the center of the body as possible. I tell my students to "move from the sacral bone," the bone in the back of the pelvis which is the base of the spine. Once begun there, the movement can be extended at whatever energy level is necessary up through the back and into the arms and legs.

The initial signal to move should come on the beat before the movement occurs, to allow the woman to move on the correct beat, instead of trying to catch up. That is the man's responsibility, since the movement and following support are dependent on him. To the man, signal and use the shift of your body weight to start the movement. To the woman, don't make the man have to pull you; respond.



# Dancers Speak

## MARCH QUOTE AND QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

"Everything in the universe has rhythm. Everything dances." -

— *Maya Angelou*

### Question:

Have you ever watched the branches of trees, blowing in a soft breeze and thought "what a beautiful dance"? Or sat overlooking the ocean and been transfixed by the rhythm of the waves breaking on the shore? How about the magnificent, though common, sight of a flock of birds executing a complex ballet in the sky? I've even watched as a colony of ants rush back and forth carrying their eggs when I have bothered their nest while watering and marveled at the way they choreograph their movements. And hummingbirds! I agree with Maya Angelou. How about you?. Will you write in and describe some other amazing dancers for us? [sandysmail1@verizon.net](mailto:sandysmail1@verizon.net).

— *Sandy Helperin*

## Here is a reply to last month's question about live vs. recorded music:

Live v. Recorded Music

I personally find this issue to be a non-issue. But for many, it seems to be important, so it probably deserves some consideration. A look back at how folk dance began - and remained - might shed some light.

In the beginning, at least for me, in the early 1960s, recorded music was all we had. Those precious recordings were made from folk musicians who were either immigrants or who had been recorded in their homelands. There were a few "non-ethnic" bands recording music - Michael Herman comes to mind - but live music was pretty rare in those days. Folk dancers got in the habit of dancing the same dances to the same recordings for decades and folk dance became a rigid and fixed comfort zone from which far too many dare not venture to this day. Folk dance remained in its infancy and failed to mature.

As the years passed, more and more dancers and musicians began to realize that the folk music we danced to could indeed be recreated with the proper instruments and folk music groups began to appear across the country. Though some of the early groups did not come close to the original recordings, they kept at it and talent began to win out as musicians gained

expertise in their art. Today, and for many years now, our folk musicians have provided us with superb folk dance music from almost any country one can imagine.

How can we not admire and respect and participate in their success? To fail to savor the gift these musicians have given us nears an insult.

Even those in severe denial must realize that the folk dance community's days are numbered. We have lost so many of our best because they were saddened by the stagnation of the dance and moved on to other dance communities where they remain to this day.

The time has long passed when folk dancers need to be able to take off the "training wheels", get out of the comfort zone and explore the joys and adventure of joining with our musicians to refresh our dance.

— *Richard Duree*

## And here is a reply to a previous month's question on men leading in partner dances:

"Partnering" in Dance

The recent discussion on "leading and following" is of major interest to me as a dancer and teacher. I've been teaching couple dance technique in International Folk Dance, Ragtime and Early California dance circles for a long time and I've developed a lot of theories and techniques that work. Many of them were published in "Dance Tips" in my old publication, "Dance Traditions." I'll try to make some helpful comments here on "partnering" in no particular order.

The concept of "leading and following" in couple dance has probably driven more potential dancers away from it than any other issue. Some "modern minded" women recoil from the idea of being "led" by a man and turn to other forms of dance where they don't have to submit to such indignities. Many men shy away from the idea of being scorned for their presumption to lead or control their female partner - or their incompetence.

Truth be told, I strongly suspect that each would secretly love to be able to dance as a couple if only there weren't that unbearable relationship of leader and follower.

And again, truth be told, the relationship is not "lead and follow." The relationship is "partnering" and has nothing at all to do with leading, following, controlling, submission or any other such nonsense.

# On the Scene

persons institutionally involved in the wider field of dance.

Object: The main purpose of Dance Day events is to attract the attention of the wider public to the art of dance. Special emphasis should be given to addressing a "new" public, people who do not follow dance events during the course of the year.

Events: Dance Day events may be special performances, open-door courses, public rehearsals, lectures, exhibitions, articles in newspapers and magazines, dance evenings, radio and TV programs, visits, street shows etc.

Content: Organizers have full freedom to define the content of the event. Make sure that you include general information on the art of dance, its history, its importance to society, its universal character. This can be done in a short speech, a note in the program, a text distributed to those present. By adding this dimension you make the event different from dance activities taking place any other day.

Coordination: In order to achieve maximum success, it is important that preparations start early enough. It is imperative to inform the press and the media about your event. Notify an organization holding a central position at regional or national level, which should publish a list of events planned for Dance Day. Entrance to events should preferably be free, or by invitation. Invite persons who do not normally attend dance events.

Location: At best, events should take place in "new" places, such as streets, parks, squares, shops, factories, villages, discotheques, schools, stadiums etc. By setting the event in original surroundings you stress the fact that this is an event dedicated to the universal family of dancers.

— *Dr. Alkis Raftis, President of the CID*

## NARODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS

### Teaching Program

Thursdays, 7:30- 10:30, Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak Street.

March 6th- Review of dances taught at Laguna Festival by **Bob Altman**

March 13th - St. Patrick's Day Celebration with live entertainment!

March 20th - A walk- through of recently taught dances

March 27th - **Ann Armstrong** teaching tba ~ all teaching is subject to change ~

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

## TRAVEL AND DANCE WITH BEVERLY & IRWIN BARR IN 2008

The response to our last cruise was outstanding, with 72 people in our group enjoying a magnificent cruise, daily dancing, and each other's company. Many strong friendships were developed and renewed during our week together. It was a very special week and we are ready to lead another one.

We are researching European Cruises, including some or all of the following: Croatia, Spain, Italy, Greece, & Turkey, in early Sept., 2008. We will make a decision on the best cruise at the best price. We will keep everyone posted with ads in Folk Dance Scene and flyers. Our goal is to plan an enjoyable and interesting trip and have fun with a great group of friendly people.

Call Beverly & Irwin at 310-202-6166 or 310-478-4659 for information and details. Join us for another great time together.

## WESTWOOD WEEKEND

Remember the dates for Westwood Coop's Camp Hess Kramer are March 28th through the 30th! For information, contact Sandy Helperin at (310) 391-7382. See the ad in this month's Scene.

## WEST L. A. FOLK DANCERS - PARTIES AND TEACHING ON MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS

Plan ahead for our party nights:

\* St. Patrick's Day Party – Monday, March 17, 2008

\* April Fools Party – Monday, March 31, 2008

On party nights we dance from 7:30 until too tired to dance. An all request program is played by Beverly & Irwin Barr. Bring something for the pot-luck table.

On Monday evenings, dances from the recent Camp Hess Kramer Workshop and Stockton Folk Dance Camp will be taught. Easier dances begin at 7:45 p.m., followed by intermediate dances. We dance until 10:30 p.m and will be closed on Monday, March 10 and Friday, March 14 and 28.

## On the Scene

On Friday evenings we will teach some new and review dances that were taught at the recent Camp Hess Kramer and Stockton Folk Dance Camp. We also teach and review set dances, and have specialty nights. This is a fun evening with lots of good dancing. Come and enjoy international line, circle, Individual, couple, and set dances. Hours are from 7:45 to 10:30.

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 new dances.

We meet every Monday and Friday evening at Brockton School with its beautiful wooden floor. The address is 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

### WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK DANCERS' ANNUAL 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 p.m. in Culver City. It is like a big reunion every year, when we dance and meet up with old and new friends. The Culver City Veterans Memorial Auditorium is located at the corner of Overland Avenue and Culver Boulevard in Culver City. The festival is free, the parking is free and even the fun is free

Bring along a folk dance friend or a non-folk dance friend, who may be a potential folk dancer. They can enjoy watching and getting into a few easy dances, and get to see and feel the enjoyment of folk dancing.

For information about the "After Party" or any other festival information, please call Beverly Barr at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659. See ad in this issue of Scene.

— Beverly Barr

### OREGON COAST DANCE CLUB

This is to introduce the Oregon Coast International Dancers based in Florence, Oregon. This group started dancing in October, 2007. We are a small but dedicated group of International Dancers and have recently added two new dancers to the group. OCID

have given 2 dance demonstrations already---both in January, 2008---one of them being at the Winter Folk Festival at the Florence Events Center. The photo shows the dancers in their "authentic-imitation" costuming following a performance demonstration. Demonstrations include time for audience participation to help encourage new dancers to attend.



The OCID meet every Wednesday evening from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. There is instruction for the first 45 minutes and then requests the remainder of the time. This is a drop-in class and there is a small weekly fee. However, out of town visiting dancers are always welcome at no charge. Contact Ellen Templar at (541) 997-9505 or email Ellen at [umpquariver@isp.com](mailto:umpquariver@isp.com).

Ellen is a member of NFDI, FDFCL (North), subscribes to The Folk Dance Scene (CA So) and has attended Stockton Folk Dance Camp. Ellen danced in AZ with the Prescott International Folk Dancers, the Phoenix Folk Dancers and, along with Ron Vosacek, originated, taught and directed the Green Valley (AZ) International Folk Dancers for several years before relocating to Oregon.

If you are ever in Florence, OR (on the coast!), please come join us as our guests!

### PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

In March, Toti O'Brien will be teaching the Israeli couple dance, Dilam Bazan. Camille Dull and Carl Pilsecker will teach the Norwegian mixer, Komletro and the Macedonian line dance, Yovano Yovanke.

The co-op will not be able to dance at their usual venue on March 7. We are currently looking for an alternate site. Please contact Don Krotser at [donkrotser@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donkrotser@sbcglobal.net) for further information.

— Pat Cross

## 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.

# Ethnic Food

## Salataka Jarzynowa Dziewanowskich

- 1 cooked medium potato
- 2 cooked medium beets
- 8 radishes
- 2 celery stalks
- 1 small onion
- 1/4 medium cauliflower
- 1/2 head lettuce
- salt and pepper
- dry dill weed
- Miracle Whip or sour cream with some vinegar or yogurt with some mayonnaise

Chop each ingredient into small cubes or slices and mix well. Season with salt, pepper and a generous amount of dill weed. Add one of the above dressings. Serves 4.

The suggested amounts of ingredients could be altered, some items could be omitted and other cooked or raw vegetables added or substituted, according to your taste. Adding some chopped apples and/or pickles gives a special flavor. The whole idea behind a Polish "salatka" (as opposed to a "salata") is that it is a mixture of raw and cooked vegetables; it is both soft and crunchy. A Polish "salata" is composed of native lettuce only and dressed either with sour cream or oil and vinegar.

## Felicias's Nalesniki Z Kapusta Grzybkami

Pancakes:

- 4 eggs, separated
- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup water
- 1 Tbsp. melted butter

Filling:

- 1 medium-sized head of cabbage
- 1/2 lb. mushrooms
- 2 large onions
- 2 hard-cooked eggs
- 1/2 cup bread crumbs
- salt and pepper
- 1 raw egg

Pancakes: blend egg yolks with everything but egg whites. Fold in half the beaten egg whites. Brush a very little butter onto a 9-inch heavy frying pan or griddle. Pour 1/4 cup of the pancake batter, spreading it evenly over the pan. Cover and bake on top of range about 2 minutes. Remove this pancake to plate. Brush pan again with butter and repeat. Pancakes may be piled onto plate. Recipe makes 18 to 20 pancakes.

Filling: Cut cabbage in half; remove core and cook in water until tender. Saute chopped onions until tender but light colored. Saute sliced mushrooms under cover for 10 minutes. Chop fine the 3 ingredients. Add chopped eggs, bread crumbs, salt, pepper and 1 raw egg; mix well. Place 1 tablespoon of filling onto pancake, Lap two sides of pancake to make a slender roll. Place all in a buttered pan and brown lightly on both sides over low heat. Makes 6 to 8 servings. Tastes especially good with tart, tangy barszcz. (beet soup)

— *Ada Dziewanowska*

The two recipes above, written by Ada of Ada's Kujawiak fame, come from the "St Hedwig Church Cookbook", published as a fund raiser for the parish in 1984. St Hedwig's is a Catholic parish on the lower east side of Milwaukee and was the site of the dance rehearsals of the Syrena Polish Folk Dance Ensemble, directed by Ada. The parish school has closed, but the ensemble continues to practice there.

— *Pat Cross*



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 = Dinner and Dancing

immediately following the festival at 6:00 pm

## Felicia Mahood Senior 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

Chinese Buffet Dinner (no MSG)  
includes wine, cider, tea \$14

Everyone must reserve in advance  
for info & reservations call Beverly or Irwin (310)202-6166

## Recent Events



Laguna Festival teachers  
Ahmet Luleci and Steve Kotansky



Saturday evening  
live music  
by  
Madison Avenue Folk



## Recent Events



Afternoon dance concert included  
Scandia Dancers  
Syrtaki  
and (not shown here) groups from  
Soka University of America  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove



## Stockton Folk Dance Camp

University of the Pacific, Stockton, California  
Week One: July 20 - 26, 2008 - Week Two: July 27 - August 2, 2008  
Visit our website: [www.folkdancecamp.org](http://www.folkdancecamp.org)

Immerse yourself in a week (or two) of folk dance and folk culture with these wonderful teachers.

**Robert Bagnoli** - Italy

**Jerry Helt** - Squares and Contras

**Hennie Konings** - Russia

**Tineke Van Geel** - Armenia

**Barbara Bevan** - Singing

**Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion** - Romania

**Daniela Ivanova** - Bulgaria

**Richard Schmidt** - Poland

**TBD** - Workshop

**California Kapela** - Live Music

For scholarships, contact Bobi Ashley at [AdventuresContinue@yahoo.com](mailto:AdventuresContinue@yahoo.com) before May 1.

Questions? Call Jan Wright at (530) 474-3231 or by e-mail [jmwright32@frontiernet.net](mailto:jmwright32@frontiernet.net)