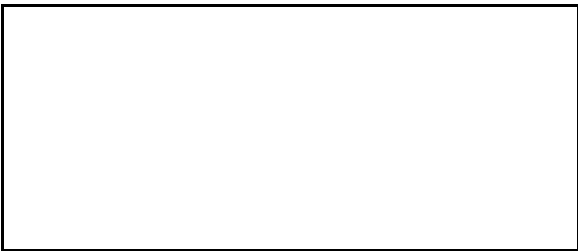


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- transforming information into movement since 1987

- publisher of:

- Folk Dance Phone Book & Group Directory
- Folk Dance Problem Solver (annual)
- Report to Members (quarterly, examples shown here)



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## Folk Dance Scene

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*On the cover: Samples of the publications of the Society of Folk Dance Historians, courtesy of Ron Houston*

# Club Directory

## VINTAGE ISRAELI DANCING

1 Sat per month confirm 8:16 - 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 7:30-10:30 Fri 7:45-10:30  
(310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr  
WEST L.A., Brockton School  
1309 Armacost Ave.

## WEST VALLEY FOLK DANCERS

Fri 7:30-9:45  
(818) 348-6133 Lila Aurich  
CANOGA PARK, Senior Center  
7326 Jordan Ave

## WESTCHESTER LARIATS

Mon 3:30-9:00  
(310) 645-8316 Karen Ricks  
LOS ANGELES, Westchester  
Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson

## WESTWOOD CO-OP

Thu 7:30-10:15  
(310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr  
WEST L.A., F. Mahood Senior Center,  
11338 Santa Monica Blvd.

## Non-Federation Clubs

### ANAHEIM 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  
BEVERLY HILLS, Roxbury Park  
auditorium 471 So. Roxbury  
Tue 10:45am-12:30  
CULVER CITY, Veterans Auditorium  
Multi-Purpose Room, Culver &  
Overland, Wed 3:00-4:30

### CAFE AMAN

2nd Sat 7:30-11:30. Teach 8:00-8:45  
madelyntaylor@hotmail.com  
ianprice@hotmail.com  
WEST LA, Pacific Arts Center 10469  
Santa Monica Blvd

## CAL TECH FOLKDANCERS

Tue 7:30  
(626) 797-5157 Nancy Mulligan  
PASADENA, Cal Tech Campus,  
Dabney Hall, parking off Del Mar

## 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. For schedule: (619)  
466-4043, [www.folkdancecenter.org](http://www.folkdancecenter.org)  
SAN DIEGO, 4569 30th Street

## FOLK DANCE CLASS

(310) 652-8706 Tikva Mason  
LOS ANGELES, Robertson Rec Ctr.  
1641 Preuss Mon 10:00-11:30am.  
W HOLLYWOOD, West Hollywood  
Park, San Vicente at Melrose Wed  
10:30am-noon

## FRIDAY NIGHT L.I.F.E.

Fri 8:00-11:00  
[www.lifebalkandancers.com](http://www.lifebalkandancers.com)  
worldance1@gmail.com Sherry  
WEST L.A., Pacific Arts Center  
10469 Santa Monica Blvd.

## ISRAELI DANCING-James Zimmer

Tues 7:30-12:00  
(310) 284-3638 James Zimmer  
Israelidance@yahoo.com  
L.A., Westside JCC, 5870 W Olympic  
**ISRAELI DANCING-Natalie Stern**  
(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern  
Studio, 15600 Mulholland Mon  
10:00am-11:45 Tue 10:30am-noon  
Wed 7:00-9:30; Thu 10:15am-1:05  
L.A. Shaarei Tefila(women only), 7269  
Beverly, Mon 6:45-8:15 Wed  
11:45am-1:15

## ISRAELI DANCING-Yoni Carr

(619) 227-0110 Yoni  
NEWPORT BEACH, Avant Garde  
Ballroom, 4220 Scott Dr Sun 7:00-12  
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

## 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) 284-3638 James Zimmer  
SANTA MONICA, Santa Monica  
College Clock Tower or LS Bldg  
1900 Pico Blvd

### TOPANGA CANYON INT'L Fd

Fri 9:30am-11:00am  
(310) 455-1051 Melanie Kareem  
TOPANGA, Froggy's Restaurant, 1105  
N. Topanga Canyon 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  
UniversityDanceClubs@yahoo.com  
WESTWOOD, UCLA Ackeman  
Union Room 2414

# Club Directory

## Federation Clubs

### BAY OSOS FOLK DANCERS

Tue 1:00-3:00  
(805) 534-1501 Anne Tiber  
LOS OSOS, South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Ave,

### CABRILLO FOLK DANCERS

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

### CAFE ASTERIA

Thu 8:30-11:30  
(310) 229-8947 Jerry Savin  
LOS ANGELES, Pacific Arts Cener, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd

### CERRITOS FOLK DANCERS

Tue 6:00 - 8:45  
(562) 865-8854 Sue Chen  
CERRITOS, Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St.

### CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS

Wed 7:30-9:30  
(805) 419-4793 Phoebe Rivera  
THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center, 403 W Hillcrest Dr

### ETHNIC EXPRESS

Wed 6:30 -8:45 closed holidays & August  
(702) 732-4871 Richard Killian  
LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights Art Center, 800 S. Brush St.

### FANTASY FOLK DANCE CLUB

Sun 2:00 - 6:00  
(626) 454-3181 Diane Chen  
ALHAMBRA, China Press, 2121 W. Mission Rd.  
Wed 7:30-10:00, Fri 7:30-10:00  
S EL MONTE, CSM Trading Inc., 9640 Klingerman St,

### KYSELI GREEK FOLK DANCING

Fri 8:00-11:00  
(818) 990-5542 Dalia Miller  
SHERMAN OAKS, The Tango Room, 4346 Woodman Avenue

### LAGUNA FOLKDANCERS

Sun 7:00-9:45  
(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin  
LAGUNA BEACH, Susi Q Community Center, 380 3rd St.

### LAGUNA WOODS FOLK DANCERS

Sat 6:30-8:30  
(949) 770-7026 Miriam Kahn  
LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 7, 24111 Moulton Pkwy

### LAGUNA WOODS INT'L FOLK DANCE CLUB

Tue 9:00am-11:00  
(949) 707-0605 Mikki Revenaugh  
LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 1, 24232 Calle Aragon

### MOUNTAIN DANCERS

1st & 3rd Tue 1:30-3:30  
(626) 355-9220 John Meursing  
S. PASADENA, Woman's Club, 1424 Fremont Ave.

### NARODNI INT'L FOLK DANCERS

Thu 7:30  
(562) 862-0521 Carol Wall  
BELLFLOWER, Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St.

### PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

Fri 7:45-11:00 janrayman@charter.net  
(626) 792-9118 Marshall Cates  
PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church 300 S. Los Robles (at Del Mar)

### PRESCOTT INT'L FOLKDANCERS

Wed 7:00 (928) 776-4582 Russ Briggs  
PRESCOTT: Mile High Middle School Girls Gym, 300 S. Granite St.

### RAINBOW SENIOR CLUB

Sun 3:00 - 7:00  
(626) 614-8625 Kevin Sun  
ALHAMBRA, Joslyn Senior Center 210 N. Chapel Ave.

### SAN DIEGO VINTAGE DANCERS

(858) 622-9924 Mary Jennings  
SAN DIEGO, Normal Heights Methodist Church 4650 Mansfield St.

### SANTA BARBARA COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

Sun 6:30 - 9:30 Tue 7:30-9:30  
(805) 682-5523 Gary Shapiro  
SANTA BARBARA, Frst Presbyterian Church, 21 E. Constance Ave. (Tu);  
SANTA BARBARA, Carrillo Ballroom, 100 E. Carrillo St (Sun)

### SCANDINAVIAN DANCERS OF VENTURA & SANTA BARBARA

(805) 604-9608 Madeleine  
2nd & 4th Sat 2:00-5:00  
SANTA PAULA, Briggs Elementary School 14438 W. Telegraph  
1st Sun 4:30-6:00  
SANTA BARBARA, Gustafson Dance Studio, 2285 Los Positas Rd

### SIERRA FOLKDANCERS

Mon 7:45 - 9:15  
(626) 893-0303 Ann Armstrong  
TEMPLE CITY, Temple City Christian Church, 9723 Garibaldi Ave

### SKANDIA DANCE CLASSES

Mon 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:30-10:00; Sat 7:00 - 11:00(once a month)  
(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin  
(310) 827-3618 Sparky Sotcher  
ANAHEIM, Downtown Community Center, 250 E Center (Mon)  
CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park, 5041 Rhoda Way (Wed, some Sat.)  
BELLFLOWER, Women's Club, 9402 Oak St. (some Sat.)

### SOLVANG FOLK DANCERS

Sat 7:00-10:00 except 3rd Sat 2:00-4  
(805) 688-7994 Beatrice Djernaes  
SOLVANG, Bethania Lutheran Parish Hall, 603 Atterdag Rd.; Corner Alisal & Copenhagen (3rd Sat)

### TUESDAY GYPSIES

Tue 7:30-10:30  
(310) 390-1069 Millicent Stein  
CULVER CITY, Masonic Lodge 9635 Venice Blvd.

### VESELO SELO FOLKDANCERS

Sat 7:30-10:30  
(714) 828 2581 Lu Perry  
ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church, 511 S. Harbor.



# Folk Dance Scene

Volume 47, No. 10  
Dec. 2011/Jan. 2012

## Editors' Corner

The cover story of this issue informs, or expands on, what you may know about a rich resource in the folk dance community.

Our Federation Corner remembers well a folk dancer known by many, as does the article on page 20.

Find out about happenings in Calendar, On The Scene and Recent Events.

Your window into people's minds is found in Dancers Speak and Poetry Corner.

We wish you happy holidays. We're taking a holiday also and will be back in February.

Be of good cheer!

— Pat Cross and Don Krotser

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For information about dancing in the area, contact the Federation at (310) 478-6600 or Federation website: SoCalFolkdance.org

Dec. 2011/Jan. 2012

# Federation Corner

## REMEMBERING AVIS TARVIN



Avis Tarvin was President of the Folk Dance Federation of California South 1969 - 1972, a member of the San Diego Folk Dance Committee, a dancer with the Gandy Dancers, a folk dance teacher, performer, and a major player in the folk dance

community in Southern California.

One of my early experiences with international folk dancing was when I was persuaded to attend Avis Tarvin's folk dance class in Santa Monica. She was teaching an intermediate/advanced class and although I was not a long time folk dancer, I had a great time. She taught a lot of couple dances which I learned back then which are still being done today. We would go out to a restaurant after class and laugh a lot. She also talked about the festivals and San Diego Camp, and the Gandys. It was during this time that Avis became President of the Folk Dance Federation, South. This was the first I heard of the Folk Dance Federation. A few years later, when I went to my first folk dance camp, Avis was on the San Diego Camp Committee and her daughter Sam (Cynthia) was at camp too. It was delightful. Avis was like the queen in the L.A. folk dance world. She was a good teacher and a beautiful dancer and always wore fabulous costumes, which was a popular thing to do. After some years, we started seeing her less often and eventually she moved away from L. A. and from dancing. I always looked forward to seeing her at Statewide, where she continued to show up, until that also stopped. For years I missed her at Statewide. I always thought of her then. She will never be forgotten.

— Beverly Barr

I first met Avis Tarvin when I moved to Los Angeles from San Diego when I got out of the Navy. I had moved to LA primarily to dance with the Gandy Dancers and dance at Westwood Co-op. The first night I went to Gandys on December 16, 1960, I danced with Avis. She was a superb dancer.

— Dick Oakes

Tributes to Avis continue on page 5...

*This month's Scene feature is the Society of Folk Dance Historians (SFDH). Even with the national heritage awards from the National Folk Organization in 2007 and from the San Antonio Festival in 2010, the Society remains the best-kept secret in folk dancing.*

*Most of the following material was taken from the web-site [www.sfdh.org](http://www.sfdh.org), and is reprinted here with permission. You are encouraged to go to the website for further information, but please be aware that all material is copyrighted, and you will need to get permission to use it.*

## The Organization

The Society of Folk Dance Historians (SFDH), a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational corporation founded in 1987, collects, preserves, and disseminates information about the history and practice of recreational international folk dancing (RIFD), a social movement that originated in approximately 1894 and continues to this day. This movement not only preserves and reflects American cultural history, it occasionally contains the only surviving documentation of ethnic cultures that have vanished from their countries of origin, e.g., the European Jewish, the Rom (Gypsy), the Western Armenian, the several Bosnian, the Assyrian, and the Kurdish cultures.

The SFDH library and archives comprise one of the largest such collections in the world and the only such collection maintained on a daily basis by and for folk dance historians.

## The Staff

The two staff members of the Society of Folk Dance Historians are **Ron Houston & Tatiana Nikolova-Houston**. Ron researches, teaches, and writes about the history and practice of international folk dance when not working on his house and car or pursuing post-doctoral study about the Compelled Nonuse of Information (CNI). Tatiana helps Ron, especially with Bulgarian materials, when not designing landscapes or pursuing post-doctoral studies in Byzantine manuscripts and New Testament Greek.

The two permanent SFDH staff members hold PhDs and certificates of specialization in archives and preservation from the School of Information of The University of Texas at Austin. They maintain an archive of sound recordings, publications, artifacts, and the papers of organizations and individuals involved with RIFD. The constantly increasing SFDH archives consist

of tens of thousands of books and periodicals, 280 archival document cases containing approximately 280,000 unbound documents including dance descriptions, photographs, photographic negatives, and slides, 400 video tapes, 30 reels of cellulose acetate or polyester-based moving image films, several dozen artifacts such as musical instruments and costumes, and the sound recordings. All of these materials were produced between approximately 1880 and the present, with the majority being produced between 1940 and 1970, during the American revival of interest in the ethnic dancing of American immigrants and pioneers.

The employees of the SFDH use information from this collection to assist scholars and dancers around the world. The SFDH itself has sponsored and published since 1987 annual collections of research reports drawn in large part from the information stored in the SFDH Archive. The SFDH distributes its publications to approximately 500 member individuals and institutions each year. SFDH employees conduct educational and recreational seminars locally, nationwide, and abroad, drawing on information and recordings in the SFDH Archive.

## A brief history of the SFDH

In 1987, the SFDH was born to collect, preserve, and disseminate information about the history and practice of international folk dancing. Dancers and former dancers contributed hundreds of cubic feet of documents, publications, sound recordings and films, costumes, and musical instruments. Additional hundreds supported the Society through membership fees, the most outrageously low in the known universe. Scores contributed extra cash or services.

Tatiana suggested the Bulgarian Seminars, and five were held, varying from really successful to wildly successful in introducing dancers to the secrets of Bulgarian folk culture.

## Publications

The SFDH produces three publications, all of which are excellent as well as useful.

The quarterly Report to Members grew from a 1-page annual summation of activities to its present magazine format. Comments indicate that, even with the numerous obituaries, people really appreciate having news of one another.

dusty floor of a tiny church steeple, with Don playing an ancient organ that had accumulated dust for many years, on a small patch of lawn with Don playing an old guitar that he found in a little restaurant nearby (with Lee singing and drumming), in a hotel room with Don playing a little harmonica, etc. Bonnie told me that when he was in the hospital during the last weeks of his life, he used whatever strength he had to play his guitar to entertain the nurses, and when he could play no more his sons and friends would play for him to soothe him.

Our little Norway-formed family continued to meet at least twice a year for a few days somewhere in the states. Last year, on a rainy February night here in Santa Monica, we all cuddled up by the fireplace with Don playing the guitar. In June, we all met in Woodstock, NY for a wonderful tour of upstate NY. We danced in Schenectady, stopped for a day at Rowena's beautiful house by the shores of Lake Ontario, even crossed into Canada to visit Ottawa. Don was tiring easily, but was determined to enjoy life to its fullest, the warm smile never leaving his face.

Circumstances did not enable us to travel together this summer. But Don and Bonnie were able in June to take a marvelous trip to Italy, stopping in Rome, Florence, Venice. Don was fading. But he engaged his ebbing strength to enjoy the pleasures of life up to the very end.

The e-mail's subject was "Zimzala minus one". Zimzala was the band led by Lee Otterholt, where Don played. The funeral details were being announced. When I arrived, I had the impression that the whole Laguna Festival crowd was there to pay their last respects to Don. At funerals, there are usually speeches and obituaries. At Don's funeral, the main motif was music. It started with Lee playing and singing "Dodi Li", and ended with an incredibly beautiful song that Don had composed and that his son Joel had written words to.

We will miss Don, but he will always be in our minds: with Bonnie at his side, smiling, singing, playing some instrument, and we will want to start dancing.

— Gerda Ben-Zev

## HAPPINESS COMES BAREFOOT...

They say the best thing about a child is the spontaneous laughing, singing, joy that will bubble up... and out... anywhere

Like 5-year-old Josey, suddenly springing up out of his audience seat and doing a jig -- right there -- at the one-tent Zoppa Family Circus.

But the dust of time silences and stills -- fills in the cracks where laughter poked out -- chokes off the music --

Unless..... until, we open wide our wonder:

Allow in the mystery and promise of the oil that burned for 8 days...

Or... gently probe the straw of our inner manger...

And awake anew... to the peace that passeth understanding... to Happiness that comes barefoot and ready to dance.

— Camille Dull

## CARL'S LIMERICK

"Jacob's Ladder is easy," he said,  
But I couldn't get it into my head.  
In part two, with its switches,  
I kept making glitches,  
So we danced Sulam Ya'akov instead.

— Carl Pilsecker

*Ed.s Note: (For anyone who does not know this dance, Jacob's Ladder and Sulam Ya'akov are one and the same!)*

## **DON ROBINSON: 8/30-54 TO 10/30-2011**

He was quite simply the nicest, friendliest, most decent, most generous and most gentle man I have ever known. Every time I introduced the members of Zimzala I said: "On bass, my good friend (and he was), the brains behind the band (and he was - everyone looked at Bob and me as front figures, but believe me, everything about Zimzala was his idea), he's the strong, beating heart of our organization - Don Robinson!"

I met him as a dancer (because his wife Bonnie loves to dance and he always supported her interests), but he was a musician at heart. It was first at his funeral that I understood just how deep his interest in music was, as one relative after another stood up and told stories about this wonderful man who was always playing some instrument, gathering the children around him to sing with him, holding the family together with gentle wings of song.

I met him as his dance teacher, and I think he always thought of me with respect as his teacher, but he was wrong: it was he who was my teacher. Every time I was with him I learned something incredibly important about music, about life, about being a better person.

Don and Bonnie were so much a couple that all of us at one time or another slipped and called them Bon and Donnie. They raised 2 great sons - Joel and Glen - each of them with gifts as unique as those of their parents. Don was well-loved by more people than I could have imagined. An enormous number of both Don and Bonnie's relatives came to the funeral in addition to his folk dance and folk music friends, as well as others whose lives he touched.

At Don's funeral a man named Steve stood up and told that he met Don when they both had Guillain-Barre syndrome several years ago. This man had despaired of ever walking again, but Don, who was just beginning to recover from this paralyzing illness himself, came to his room every week, to give him hope. What amazed this man was that Don continued to meet with him every week thereafter until just before Don died. When Don found time for this I will never know, but one day a week was "Steve's Day" for Don. I was one of Don's best friends and I did not even know about Steve. That's the kind of man Don was. Helping others was not something he talked about. He

just did it naturally, because that's just what good people do.

Now his strong, beating heart is stilled, after a 3-year battle with cancer. Those of us who knew him will find it hard to live on without his gentle wisdom. But his memory will live on in the hearts of all those lives he touched.

– Lee Otterholt



Life is full of ups and downs, but last week was a bitter down, when I lost a wonderful friend and an incredible person. It was Don Robinson, the half of the inseparable Don and Bonnie (or Bon and Donnie), after a long and difficult battle with cancer.

I met Don and Bonnie on my trip to Norway in 2009, led by Lee Otterholt. Together with Rowena Miller, from upstate NY, and Shari Book, from Kensington, MD - we formed a little family that has remained in close contact ever since. Don was the musician that always found an instrument to play. We were the dancers. We danced in the most improbable places: on the

The annual *Folk Dance Phone Book and Group Directory* filled a need as did the Report. It includes contact information about dancers, groups, teachers, dance callers, musicians, vendors, ensembles, camps, lecturers, institutes, other publications, and song teachers.

The annual publication *The Folk Dance Problem Solver* contains notes to 40 or more popular dances, plus an index of which issue you can find a specific dance.

## **Membership Information**

You can support this worthwhile organization, and get the publications listed above by becoming a member. Single address membership: \$30, multiple address membership: \$35. Members will receive this year's Folk Dance Directory, this year's Problem Solver in December, and remaining issues of the quarterly newsletter.

## **Getting Listed in the Directory**

To protect everyone's privacy, SFDH accepts written directory listings and memberships from addresses to which we have sent an application by postal mail. They will not sell or otherwise distribute any information sent to them.

To get an application contact: fdhist@yahoo.com, or, 2100 Rio Grande St., Austin TX 78705.

## **Adding to the Collection**

The SFDH always is interested in expanding its collection. If you have material related to Recreational International Folk Dancing that you would like to donate, or should you wish to contribute information to this site, please contact them through the website.

They accept books, records, magazines, and newsletters, and also accept archives of groups and individuals: correspondence, scrapbooks, itineraries, receipts, photos, and the like.

## **Folk Dance Encyclopedia**

The Folk Dance Encyclopedia contains key information regarding many aspects of folk dance, including various dance and music tempos, specific dances, geographical regions, ethnic groups, and various historical figures. Many of the articles were written by Dr. Ron Houston and touch upon topics encompassed by the Archives of the Folk Dance Society.

The Society of Folk Dance Historians is currently seeking assistance in transforming its static Folk Dance encyclopedia into a dynamic managed wiki. Students

and individuals in need of volunteer hours may also contact the SFDH and obtain approved hours performing data entry and website formatting.

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*Continued from page 3...*

A vivid memory I have of the beautiful Avis Tarvin is a workshop or possibly class of Mexican dances taught by Al Pill with Avis assisting him...the when and where is lost in time...but Avis was a vision of grace and vivacity on the dance floor. We knew Avis as a Gandy Dancer and as a member of the early Santa Barbara Folk Dance Conference which moved to San Diego from 1969 to 1986. She was the secretary of the committee and I still have some of her committee meeting notes from 1964. Whatever Avis did, she did it well. Avis had such enthusiasm for folk dance that she infused her children, Cynthia (Sam) and Barry, with her joy, and I especially remember them from the Santa Barbara Camp in 1963, the ninth annual camp.

Avis was an outstanding member of the entire folk dance community, a warm, wonderful lady who was a good friend to all. She gave so graciously of her charm and multiple skills, and she had a thorough understanding of the disciplines of performance demanded of the Gandy Dancers. Those were special years, knowing Avis Tarvin.

– Donna Tripp

Knowing Avis Tarvin was one of those instances where you've known somebody for so long you don't remember when it began. It was well over fifty years ago, though. I remember Avis in the Gandy Dancers in the 1950s. She made exquisite costumes and wore them magnificently in exhibitions. I attended her Tuesday evening classes in Santa Monica in the early 1970s and saw her at various times over the years at festivals and other gatherings before losing contact with her when she moved away. I never saw her son Barry much, but had the pleasure of hiring her daughter Cynthia (Sam) once, and she proved to be an excellent worker with a delightful personality. Avis brought her special gifts to folk dancing and contributed greatly to everyone's enjoyment. We have lost too many good people in recent years, including Avis. She will be remembered with affection.

– Bill Campbell

# Calendar

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

## CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS

### DECEMBER

*Kitka Concerts*, Info: 1201 Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Oakland, CA 94612, kitka.org

Dec. 1 Cuyamaca College, El Cajon

Dec. 3 Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles

10 *Cafe Aman*, Saturday, 7:30 p.m. at Pacific Arts  
Center, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd., West L.A. Music  
by Dromia from San Diego. Info:  
madelyntaylor@hotmail.com

11 *Culver City English Country Dance*, Caller:  
Annie Laskey, Music: Frank Hoppe & Friends, at  
Lindberg Stone House, Lindberg Park, 5041 Rhoda  
Way, Culver City. Info: Annie (310) 837-3427 or  
caldancecoop.org

15 **Holiday Party at Narodni International  
Folkdancers. Thursday, 7:30 at Woman's Club  
of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St., Bellflower. Info:  
(714) 932-2513 or narodni.org**

19 **Chanukah/Christmas Party with West  
L.A. Folk Dancers, Monday, 7:30, at Brockton  
School, 1309 Armacost. All request program.  
Potluck snacks. Info: Beverly & Irwin (310)  
202-6166, or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com**  
See OTS.

20 **Chanukah/Christmas Celebration,  
Tuesday, 10:45 a.m. dancing followed by  
potluck lunch in auditorium at Roxbury Park,  
471 So. Roxbury, Beverly Hills. Info: Beverly  
(310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com**  
See OTS.

29 **Pre-New Year's Eve Party at Narodni  
International Folkdancers with live music by  
Whirled Peas. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at  
Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St.,  
Bellflower. Info: (714) 932-2513 or  
narodni.org**

30-1/1/2012 **New Year's Weekend at Camp  
Hess Kramer, Malibu. Dependent on having  
enough participants. Check with Beverly or  
Irwin. Info: (310) 202-6166, (310) 478-4659  
or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com**

31 **Pasadena Co-op's New Year's Eve Party,  
Saturday, 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at Scottish  
Rite Center, 150 N. Madison St., Pasadena.  
See OTS and ad. Info: (626) 792-9118 or  
www.PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org**

31 **New Year's Eve Party with Laguna Woods  
Folkdancers. Live Music by Eastern Exposure.  
Saturday, 7:30 p.m.-1:00 a.m. at Clubhouse 7,  
Laguna Woods. Info: Maria (714) 403-9873**

31 **Veselo Selo New Year's Eve Party, live  
music by Interfolk. This special event is \$12.**

### 2012

### JANUARY

15 **Pasadena Winter Festival, Sunday 1:30 -  
5:30 at Scottish Rite Center, 150 N. Madison  
St., Pasadena. Council meeting at 10:30 a.m.  
See ad. Info: (626) 792-9118 or  
www.PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org**

### FEBRUARY

3-5 **Laguna Folkdancers Festival at Ensign  
Intermediate School, 2000 Cliff Dr., Newport  
Beach. Teachers are Michael Ginsburg, Balkan  
and Jerry Duke, American. Info: (949) 586-  
2044, (714) 893-8888, (949) 646-7082 or  
www.LagunaFolkdancers.org**

### MARCH

25 **West Valley Folk Dancers Festival.  
Sunday, 1:30 - 5:30 at Woodland Hills  
Recreation Center, 5858 Shoup Ave. Free.  
Info: (818) 368-1957,  
jaymichtom@verizon.net**

### APRIL

20-22 **Westwood Co-op's Camp Hess Kramer  
weekend. Malibu. Info: (310) 391-7382**

21 **André Montsion teaching at Ethnic  
Express - French Canadian, Greek and  
Romanian dances. At Charleston Heights Art  
Center, 800 S. Brush St., Las Vegas, NV. Info:  
(702) 229-6383**

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

*Kitka Concerts*, Info: 1201 Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Oakland, CA 94612, kitka.org

**Pasadena Folk Dance  
Co-Op's  
Winter Festival**

1:30-5:30  
January 15 2012  
Scottish Rite Center  
150 North Madison  
Pasadena

Program listed after Nov 27 on  
[www.PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org](http://www.PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org)

**Council meeting  
with lunch  
10:30**

Fifth Friday Band  
Free gift for all attendees  
New format: more non-partner dances  
Dessert/ice cream bar  
Great wood floor

**\$5.00**  
(626) 792-9118

Sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California, South

## Quote of the Month

*Please send me your last pair of shoes, worn out with dancing as you mentioned in your letter, so that I might have something to press against my heart.*

– Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, 1749-1832

Goethe was educated to practice law, but is known for his writing. His most famous work, *Faustus*, a drama of redemption, took him fifty-seven years to complete.

## Question of the Month

I am writing this just after returning from Camp Hess Kramer and the wonderful weekend of dancing there. What caught my attention in particular was the phrase "worn out with dancing". It applies not just to my shoes! So, I looked for other quotes from Goethe, and found: "age merely shows what children we remain." I want to include this quote, because, although most camp attendees were "of a certain age", we definitely behaved like the children we remain in our hearts. It does, however, take me a little longer to recuperate than it used to. I didn't have to dress up on Monday morning, for Halloween, because I already felt like a zombie! My question - is it harder for you, also, than it was, say, ten years ago? If so, in what particular way?

– Sandy Helperin

## MARGE AT LARGE, REFLECTIONS & IMPRESSIONS

Although the October calendar was filled with many happy dance events and crazy Halloween parties, there were also a couple of poignant memorials.

To start off, we thoroughly enjoyed **Bulgarika** at Laguna Folkdancers. Susie Q Center is marvelous - from the well-lit underground parking, to the elevator, to the mirrored dance hall with a floor that undulates as folks dance. Also, Bulgarika musicians were guest performers at the Dept. of Ethnomusicology at UCLA. What a delightful way for young folks to learn about Bulgarian folk music.

All Hallow's Eve should be called All Hallow's Week. Masquerade parties were held for a full

week. There was Narodni in Bellflower, Balkan Dancers in San Pedro, Veselo Selo in Anaheim, and Laguna Woods. However, the loudest Halloween party was sponsored by CalTech Folk Dancers in Pasadena. **Ty Rust's** brass band **Rakia** started off with a lively *cocek* and proceeded to play for a couple of hours. Dancers in costume danced and pranced to the Balkan rhythms.



Marge, Ann Litvin, Anna

In honor of Anna, whose birthday was that day, Ty's band played a lovely rendition of "Happy Birthday", and then everyone joined in the *syrtó* which Anna led.

To remember and honor one of Veselo's founders, **Pat Thomas**, a memorial was held on October 22nd. After a delicious pot-luck dinner, many friends remembered Pat as a dancer, teacher, gardener, bird breeder, crafter, and costume maker. Fittingly, they recalled some of her Halloween costumes and what a fine imagination she had in creating them. Her most enduring interests were folk dancing and Eastern Star.

I was disappointed that Anna and I could not attend **Fran** and **Dave Slater's** memorial. I loved both of them dearly. They took you into their hearts and were true friends. I am sure it broke Dave's heart to lose Fran earlier this year. May they rest in peace together forever.

– Marge Gajicki

- 12/4 Arts at St. Bede's, Menlo Park
- 12/9 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Oakland
- 12/10 Dance Palace, Pt. Reyes Station
- 12/11 St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, San Francisco
- 12/15 Miner's Foundry, Nevada City
- 12/17 Wintersongs Community Sing: Temple Sinai, Oakland

1/13-14/2012 *Heritage Festival* at Community United Church of Christ, 1336 Arroyo Ave. at Elm Street, San Carlos. Info: (408) 739-8498 or [beni@pacbell.net](mailto:beni@pacbell.net)

2/25 *Festival of the Oaks* Saturday, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., at Live Oak Park.

3/9–11 *Camellia Festival*, details TBA.

5/18–20 *Statewide Festival*, San Jose. See OTS.

6/30–7/7 *Mendocino Folklore Camp*, 50th anniversary. Classes in folk dance, singing, and instruments. Teachers TBA. Info: [mendocinofolklore.com](http://mendocinofolklore.com)

## OUT OF STATE

### FLORIDA

2/17-20 *Florida Folk Dance Council's Presidents Day Weekend Workshop* at Holiday Inn Main Gate East, 5711 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy, Kissimmee. Teachers: Yuliyana Yardonov - Bulgarian; & Andy Taylor-Blenis - Portuguese & Scottish. Info: Terry Abrahams (813) 234-1231, [tabrahams@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:tabrahams@tampabay.rr.com); John Daly (321) 482-6818, [johnb@daypreservation.com](mailto:johnb@daypreservation.com); or Judy Merkt (941) 379-6302, [jamerkt@comcast.net](mailto:jamerkt@comcast.net)

### MAINE

8/12–18, 8/19–25 *Mainewoods Dance Camp*. Two one-week sessions, teachers TBA. Freiburg.

### OHIO

2/3–5 *Flying Cloud Academy 30th Anniversary*. Richard Powers, vintage dances, live music. Cincinnati. Info: [www.vintagedance.net](http://www.vintagedance.net).

### OREGON

1/14-15 *Veselo Dance Festival*. Joe Graziosi teaching Greek dancing. Veteran's Memorial Building, 1626 Willamette St., Eugene. Music by Balkalicious Fire

Drive of the Bay area. Package price is \$50 general admission, \$35 seniors/students

## FOREIGN

### CANADA

4/27–29 *Salt Spring Island FD Festival*. with Richard Schmidt and Zeljko Jergan. British Columbia. Info: [folk-dance@SaltSpring.com](mailto:folk-dance@SaltSpring.com)

### GREECE

4/9–23 *Folk Tour to Northern Greece*, with Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt. Info: [jimgold@jimgold.com](mailto:jimgold@jimgold.com), (201) 836-0362

### ISRAEL/JORDAN

3/11–23 *Folk Tour to Israel/Jordan*, with Jim Gold and Joe Freidman. Info: [jimgold@jimgold.com](mailto:jimgold@jimgold.com), (201) 836-0362

### THAILAND

3/1–15 *Dance on the Water Cruise*, with Mel Mann. Info: [meldancing@aol.com](mailto:meldancing@aol.com), (510) 526-4033



## Let's Dance

The Magazine of International Folk Dance

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 2315 Ravine Ct, San Jose, CA 95133

# On the Scene

## FUTURE TRAVEL & DANCE WITH BEVERLY & IRWIN BARR

Plans are being made for a new cruise trip in 2012. Details and prices will be available soon. If you are interested, please call us or send an e-mail. We will then forward you the information. You are welcome to call us anytime for updates or more detailed information as it develops. Beverly or Irwin (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

– Beverly & Irwin Barr

## CAMP HESS KRAMER NEW YEARS WEEKEND - DEC. 30-31-JAN.1.

How would you like to spend an exciting, and relaxed New Year's Weekend at Camp Hess Kramer? Dancers, musicians are all welcome. Come to dance, play and enjoy the beauty of the camp. There will be teaching, singing, dancing to live music, we hope.

It will be a grand New Year's Eve party with a huge happy hour full of fun and food. We will plan some interesting and fun activities also. We will also have our famous silent auction, where you can find a treasure. A discounted price for this weekend is available.

If you are interested in attending this New Year's weekend, please contact us right away. We will have flyers available for you. We hope that you will all come and be a part of this new idea. A plus, you don't have to drive on New Year's Eve.

Contact Beverly & Irwin Barr for any information, or to request flyers. Contact numbers: (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com.

## ANDRÉ MONTSION AT LAS VEGAS

Save this date: April 21, 2012. Catch the Ethnic Express in collaboration with the city of Las Vegas presenting folk dancing with André Montsion teaching French Canadian, Greek and Romanian dances.

This is an opportunity to see more of Las Vegas. There will be Scottish Country Dancing Friday evening at the same location, too.

These are the good ol' days because we make them so!

Charleston Heights Art Center at 800 S. Brush St., Las Vegas, NV 89107. one block west of Decatur on Charleston. More information is available at: ethnicexpresslasvegas.org, or call (702) 229-6383.

– Dick Killian

## LATEST FOLK DANCE MYSTERY NOVEL IS OUT

**Alexandra Schiller** (a folk dancer) has written another in her series of mysteries which feature a folk dancer as the detective. This, the fourth, is called *The Case of the Minstrel Minister*. It is available at most book retailers and e-book resources.

## WEST L. A. MONDAY FOLK DANCERS

Teacher: Beverly Barr

We are in the holiday season and are ready to party. Please join us for our Chanukah/Christmas party on Monday, Dec. 19. We begin at 7:30 p.m. and dance until you are too tired to dance anymore.

Monday evening is an intermediate group doing all types of dances. We will learn some of the new dances that were taught at Stockton Folk Dance Camp and at Camp Hess Kramer. Join us and enjoy the love of folk dancing. Parties begin at 7:30 p.m. and weekly dance sessions begin at 7:45 p.m. We are open for dancing on all Monday holidays unless otherwise noted. Requests are always welcome. Old and new dances are both done.

We meet every Monday and some Friday evenings and dance on a beautiful wooden floor at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost, W.L.A. (Between Barrington & Bundy, 1 1/2 blocks north of Santa Monica Blvd.). We look forward to seeing you. For information call Beverly at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

If you are coming for the first time, please call to make sure we are open.

– Beverly & Irwin Barr

## LOOKING FOR A HOTEL ROOM FOR THE LAGUNA FESTIVAL WEEKEND?

Beverly and Irwin Barr have a block of rooms, at a discounted group rate for the weekend of the Laguna Festival. (This price is only available by contacting Beverly or Irwin Barr). The hotel has underground parking and indoor corridors that protect you in rainy or windy weather.

Join us at this lovely hotel that we have stayed at for many years. It has recently been refurbished with new beds, pool, jacuzzi, fitness room, and amenities. They serve a complimentary hot breakfast. Info at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659, or e-mail dancingbarrs@yahoo.com to reserve these rooms at the discounted price.



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**ISRAEL! CROATIA!  
EASTERN TURKEY!  
NORWAY! HUNGARY! POLAND!**

Travel with International Folk Dance and Folklore Specialists:  
Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, Adam Molnar, Joe Freedman

**ISRAEL ! . . . March 11-23, 2012.** Led by Jim Gold and Joe Freedman.

Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Galilee. Meet Israeli, Arab, Druze, Balkan, Yemenite, Bedouin, and Kurdish groups. Jordan ext. March 23-28. Amman, Petra, Wadi Rum, Jerash.

**NORWAY ! . . . June 9-19, 2012.** Led by Lee Otterholt.

Norwegian and International dancing with breathtaking scenery in the Land of the Mountain Kings! Spring in Norway! Oslo, Bergen, Hovin (Telemark), Fjord Cruise, Voss.

**CROATIA and SLOVENIA ! . . . July 17-30, 2012.** Led by Jim Gold.

Ljubljana, Zagreb Folk Festival, Split, Dubrovnik Summer Festival.

**HUNGARY ! . . . July 31-August 13, 2012.** Led by Adam Molnar.

Magyar adventures in Budapest, Eger, Jászberény Folk Festival.

**POLAND ! . . . September 6-20, 2012.** Led by Richard Schmidt.

Kraków, Zakopane, Łódź, Toruń, Gdańsk, Olsztyn, Warsaw.



**EASTERN TURKEY ! . . . October 7-20, 2012.** Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt.

Kurdish, Pontic/Black Sea, Georgian, former Armenian regions! Istanbul, Diyarbakir, Urfa, Mardin, Van, Dogubeyazit, Kars, Ani, Erzurum, Trabzon. Istanbul ext. Oct. 20-24.

TOUR REGISTRATION: I can't wait to go! Enclosed is my \$200 per person deposit.

Tour(s)desired \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

No. of people \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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# New Year's Eve



# Party



Hosted by

**Pasadena Folk Dance Co-Op**

**LIVE MUSIC BY  
FIFTH FRIDAY BAND**

**8:00-1:00 \$10.00**

**Free gift for all dancers**

## Potluck Dinner

View the program after Nov. 27 on  
[www.PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org](http://www.PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org)

**Scottish Rite Center**

**150 N. Madison  
Pasadena**

(626) 792-9118

Member: Folk Dance Federation of California, South



## On the Scene

### SUNDAY EVENING DANCING IN LAGUNA BEACH

Susi Q center, 380 Third St., Laguna Beach, CA 92651, 7:00 - 9:45 p.m.

### December Teaching Schedule

December 4 - **Diane Baker** teaches *Berovsko Za Pojas*, a Macedonian dance introduced by Atanas and taught at Stockton Camp 2011.

December 11 - **Richard Duree** teaches *Tropanka* step patterns assembled by Richard Unciano.

December 18, 25 & January 1st - dark - facility closed for winter holiday

### January Teaching Schedule

January 8 - **Shana Winokur** teaches *Debka Medabeket*, Israeli dance choreographed by Shmulik Gov-Ari, and *Bim Bam Bom*, an Israeli couple mixer, both taught at Stockton Folkdance Camp 2011.

January 15 - **Shana Winokur** teaches *Debarska Svadba*, Macedonian, introduced by Atanas and taught at Stockton Folkdance Camp 2011.

January 22 - **Henrietta Bemis** teaches *Joc in Patru*, Romanian, introduced by Theodor Vasilescu.

January 29 - **Diki Shields** teaches *Guhneegha*, Armenian, *Sukachko Kolo* and *Moja Diru Dika*, Croatian circle dances.

Info: (714) 893-8888, [www.LagunaFolkDancers.org](http://www.LagunaFolkDancers.org)  
- Diane Baker

### BEVERLY BARR'S DAYTIME CLASSES

Please join us for dancing and a pot-luck lunch on Tuesday morning, Dec.20. Dancing will begin at 10:45 and end at 12:00 noon for lunch.

Beverly teaches an intermediate international folk dance class at Roxbury Recreation Center every Tuesday, 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. You will find us in the Roxbury Park auditorium, 471 So. Roxbury, about one half block south of Olympic Blvd.

Beverly also teaches a daytime class in Culver City, in the multipurpose room behind the Culver City Veterans Auditorium on Wednesdays, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m., Veterans Auditorium is located at the southwest corner of Overland Ave. & Culver Blvd. in Culver City.

For all information, call Beverly at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or [dancingbarrs@yahoo.com](mailto:dancingbarrs@yahoo.com)

### STATEWIDE 2012

The Santa Clara Valley where San Jose is located was once called the Valley of Heart's Delight. Where you now see miles and miles of homes, office buildings, and shopping malls laced together by asphalt highways, there were once miles and miles of orchards laced together by dirt roads! With its mild climate and rich soil, the Santa Clara Valley was the grocery store for most of the surrounding communities when it came to produce. It was said that the soil was so fertile you could stick a branch torn from a tree into the ground and the next year it would bear fruit!



This label for a can of apricots was the inspiration for Statewide 2012 in San Jose. We shared the label design with the Federation's ace graphic designer Susan Gregory and she came up with the beautiful advertisement you will find in this issue of Folk Dance Scene magazine. (Perhaps you were wondering about the "Extra Choice" above "Statewide 2012" on the flyer?)

We hope you will all put May 18-19-20, 2012 on your calendars and plan to Dance to Your Heart's Delight at Statewide 2012 in San Jose.

- The Statewide 2012 Committee

### MENDOCINO FOLKLORE CAMP EARLY-BIRD

2012 will be Mendocino Folklore Camp's 50th anniversary. An exceptional week is being planned with teachers teaching new dances, plus oldies from the last 50 years. Also singing and instrument classes, lots of good food, great parties and all in a beautiful redwoods setting. Again this year the camp is offering a discount for 'early-birds'. If you sign up by January 15, instead of the usual fee of \$830, you will need to pay only \$775. To get an application contact the web-site at [mendocinofolklore.com](http://mendocinofolklore.com).

# On the Scene

## NARODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCERS TEACHING PROGRAM

### December 2011

December 1 **John Matthews** teaching *Dunantuli Ugros* (Hungarian Circle Dance)

December 8 **John Matthews** teaching *Dunantuli Ugros* (Hungarian Circle Dance)

December 15 Holiday Party! Third Thursday Singers Circle (6:30 - 7:30 p.m.)

December 22 **Camille Dull & Carl Pilsecker** teaching *Arnold's Circle* (English couple dance)

December 29 Pre-New Year's Eve Party! Live Music by **Whirled Peas!** \$5

### January 2012

January 5 **Laura Bremer** teaching Stockton Dances

January 12 **Laura Bremer** teaching/reviewing Stockton Dances, Narodni Board Elections

January 19 **Sue Chen & Wen Chiang** teaching two Taiwanese/Chinese dances, Third Thursday Singers Circle (6:30 - 7:30 p.m.)

January 26th **Sue Chen & Wen Chiang** teaching two Taiwanese/Chinese dances

Info: [www.narodni.org](http://www.narodni.org)

– Shirley Hansen

## PASADENA CO-OP

**Marc and Jan Rayman** will teach *Itele*, a line dance from Romania, *Avi Avi*, a line dance from Israel and *Bhangra*, an individual dance from India.

We dance every Friday evening at Throop Memorial Church, 300 S. Los Robles (at Del Mar). Beginning teaching is at 7:45, followed by intermediate teaching at 8:30. Programmed and request dances follow until 11:00.

On December 30, we will have an all-request program with no teaching.

For more information, visit our web-site at [www.PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org](http://www.PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org), email [janrayman@charter.net](mailto:janrayman@charter.net), or call Marshall or Cheryl at (626) 792-9118.

Join us on New Year's Eve (8:00-1:00, \$10) for a fine evening of dinner and dancing at the Scottish Rite Center, 150 N. Madison, Pasadena.

Our Winter Festival, 1:30-5:30 on January 15, also at the Scottish Rite Center, has a new format with more non-partner dances and a dessert/ice cream bar, all for \$5.00.

The Co-op's Fifth Friday Band will provide some of the music for both events. The program of dances is on our website.

Everyone who attends either event will receive the gift of a free Co-op bandana or USB memory stick.

– Jan Rayman

## MACEDONIAN NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION

Many folk dancers have found a love for Macedonian music and dances. A long-standing tradition of this music and dancing continues at St. Mary's Orthodox Church. The Macedonian New Year's Eve celebration or *Vasilica* as it's referred to in Macedonia, has become one of St. Mary's most popular events. It started over twenty years ago as the collaborative effort of **John Hertz** and **Cane Carovski**. They set out to create an event that would showcase Macedonian culture, food, and music to a wider audience.

Over the years many different musicians have performed at the event. Who pays for these great musicians? As John Hertz would say "I get by with a little help from my friends." On January 14, 2012 there will be a folk orchestra playing traditional Macedonian music for dancing and listening. Great folk musicians are currently being engaged, and you will be guaranteed some fantastic music.

A few holidays remain which follow the Julian Calendar - including Christmas and New Year's Day. Generally, there is a two-week delay from the Gregorian Calendar.

The Macedonian community opens its arms and hearts to all who have come to love and enjoy folk dancing, music and not in the least - food. A delicious Macedonian dinner is included in the price of admission. All dishes are traditional recipes and are prepared on the premises. All the desserts are home-baked from old family recipes. And, as John Hertz' says "Cheerful beverages available". This includes beer, wine, soft drinks and water.

Another tradition is the "Maznik Lottery". *Maznik* is a traditional homemade pastry made with feta cheese. A gold coin is placed in the dough before it is baked. Lottery tickets are sold for a chance at a piece of the

# DANCE TO YOUR HEART'S DELIGHT

Happy 70th Birthday to the Folk Dance Federation!

EXTRA CHOICE

## STATEWIDE 2012

Sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California

**Steve Kotansky**  
dances of the Balkans

**Erica Goldman**  
dances from Israel

# May 18 - 20

**Friday Night - Two rooms for dancing!**  
(including a Kafana with live music)

**Saturday Night - The Big Birthday Bash!**

**Del Mar High School**  
**1224 Del Mar Avenue**  
**San Jose, CA 95128**  
**(10 minutes from the San Jose Airport)**

**For more info: [loui@loutucker.com](mailto:loui@loutucker.com) or (408) 287-9999**

**Saturday evening live music with Chubritza!**



## Recent Events

### TAMBURITZAS TWICE

Cal Tech Folkdancers had the **Yeseta Brothers** on September 20, 2011. Then I went to San Francisco on the 22nd-25th to hear them and nineteen other bands at the Tamburitza Extravaganza - what a weekend! **John Filcich** received a special award. So did **Mark Forry**, the Honorary Yeseta Brother.

Thanks to Cal Tech math professor Dinakar Ramakrishnan, our dance group is back in Dabney Lounge. Everyone wants it and we're sometimes bumped. In theory I'm told in advance. On the 20th, I was surprised to find Cal Tech staff arriving to set up something else. But they graciously arranged for us to use nearby Avery House, helped carry things, and handed out maps during the evening to folkdancers who went to Dabney.

The band was in good form. Lots of people came. John Filcich was the evening's teacher. Tamburitza music is from the Pannonian plains, which lie in Croatia and Serbia, also Bosnia, Hungary, and Romania. Tamburitza bands sometimes have an accordion (as Tom Yeseta plays), besides the plucked-string instruments they're named for.

The Yesetas say they're glad to play for us because, even though we don't always know the songs, we like to dance. At the end **Anthony Ivancich** led *Licko Kolo*. Someone muttered to **John Hertz** "Don't you usually lead this?" John muttered back "Last time I looked, Anthony was a lot more Croatian than I am."



The Extravaganza was held at the San Francisco Airport Hyatt Regency. It has concerts, an awards dinner, at least one room for dancing, and "break-out" rooms and other spots where bands take turns. This year four bands each had an hour in the sports bar. That was hard on me, a sports nut. I had to watch games and I had to dance. There was a history session with **Adam Eterovich**, whose family came from the island of Brac in 1860, and a tribute to **Emil Cosetto**, who arranged the choral *Ladarke* many of us have heard. A jam session ran all night.

It was a thrill to see **Mark Forry** placed in the Hall of Fame. He's worked hard learning to sing and play this music. His Ph.D. dissertation on the Vojvodina region (in tamburitza country) was translated and published there this year. The President's Award was given to Uncle John (Filcich), who has contributed greatly to the continuation of this music.

This year nine bands came from the west coast. That's a lot when you consider that most Croats and Serbs still live in the midwest and east. Tom Yeseta told his fellow musicians "Support your local folk dance group!" Tamburitza music is alive for anyone who loves it. That's me.

– Nancy Milligan

### HALLOWEEN PARTY AT LOS OSOS



Here is picture from our Nov. 1 post Halloween party along with an invitation to come and visit our Bay Osos Folk Dance Club. We meet every Tuesday afternoon from 12 to 3 p.m. at the South Bay Community Center in Los Osos. Scottish dance instruction by Brian Evans from 12-1. International dance instruction from 1-2 by Anne Tiber and Jean Wheeler, and request dancing from 2-3. We will be performing at the Maxine Lewis Homeless Shelter Fund Raiser on Sat. Dec. 10th. Keep the central coast in your dance plans when you drive up to San Francisco.

– Anne and Norm Tiber

## On the Scene

### VESELO SELO

#### December

Dec. 3 - **Laura Bremer** and **David Carman** teaching *Kol Nedarai* (Isr) and *Joj Rado, Joj Radmila* (Serb)

Dec. 10 - Laura and David reviews

Dec. 17 - Christmas and Hanukkah party

Dec. 24 - DARK... Merry Christmas!

Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve party with live music by Interfolk. This special event is \$12.00.

#### January

Jan 7 - Loyalty Night

Jan. 14 - DARK - for Macedonian New Years Celebration

Jan 21 Master teacher **Lee Otterholt** teaching. This event is \$6.

Jan. 28 - **Lee Otterholt** reviews. This event is \$6.

– Lu Perry

### KITKA CONCERTS

Vocal ensemble Kitka celebrates the holiday season with a Wintersongs Tour.

Internationally renowned women's vocal ensemble, Kitka, is pleased to announce the return of Wintersongs, a celebration of the winter season. Six concerts and a participatory "Community Sing" will take place this December in venues from El Cajon outside of San Diego to Kitka's home base in Oakland.

Dec. 1 Cuyamaca College, El Cajon, CA

Dec. 3 Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles, CA

Dec. 4 Arts at St. Bede's, Menlo Park, CA

Dec. 9 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Oakland, CA

Dec. 10 Dance Palace, Pt. Reyes Station, CA

Dec. 11 St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church, San Francisco, CA

Dec. 15 Miner's Foundry, Nevada City, CA

Dec. 17 Wintersongs Community Sing: Temple Sinai, Oakland, CA

Info: Kitka, 1201 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland, CA 94612, kitka.org

maznik which will contain the gold coin. The maznik is cut into 12 pieces; 12 numbers are drawn from the lottery. The 12 pieces are distributed to the dozen lottery winners. The one whose piece contains the gold coin is the lucky winner. The coin symbolizes a year of good health and prosperity for that person.

This is a formal event so dress to impress. I recommend stylish yet comfortable shoes. I don't recommend 7-in. heels. You could lose your balance, fall over and break a leg.

Cane Carovski and his lovely wife, Snezana, personally invite all folk dancers to this unique holiday. They are both very active in the Macedonian community, and they wish to share their culture with everyone who enjoys and appreciates Macedonian folk dances.

The Macedonian New Year's Eve Celebration is at St. Mary's Orthodox Church on Saturday, January 14 at 7:00. It's been a great party for years. See You There!

St. Mary Macedonian Orthodox Church 10550 Whittier Blvd., Whittier CA 90606. Church Phone (562) 695-3323. John Hertz (213) 384-6622, Cane Carovski (323) 819-1961, www.moc-stmary-la.com

– Marge Gajicki

### 2012 FACULTY ANNOUNCED FOR THE 65TH YEAR OF STOCKTON FOLK DANCE CAMP

Stockton Folk Dance Camp will be welcoming some new teachers in 2012. **Miroslav Bata Marcetic** teaching dances from Serbia, and **George and Irina Arabagi** teaching dances from Ukraine and Moldavia. **Cristian Florescu** and **Sonia Dion** will be back presenting dances from Romania, along with irrepressible **Jerry Helt** leading American Squares and Contras. **Nora Dinzelbacher** will be returning, teaching Argentine Tango and **Iwao Tamaoki** will be returning, teaching dances from Japan.

Live music will be provided by California Kapella, under the leadership of **Susan Worland**. The band consists of Susan, **Barbara Deutch**, **Chris Bajmakovich**, **Rumen Sali Shopov** and **Evan Stuart**. Rumen will also be teaching the singing class.

Watch for future announcements, including special plans to celebrate Stockton Folk Dance Camp's 65th year.

– Karen Wilson-Bell, Stockton Camp Committee

Numbers to call:

(714) 893-8888

(949) 586-2044, 646-7082



e-mail: info@LagunaFolkdancers.org

website:

www.LagunaFolkdancers.org

**Same Prices as  
LAST YEAR!!**

42nd annual

# FESTIVAL

February 3-5, 2012

Ensign Intermediate School Gym

2000 Cliff Dr Newport Beach CA 92663

Presenting Master Teachers

**Michael Ginsburg**

*dances of the Balkans*

**Jerry Duke**

*dances of the Americas*

## LIVE MUSIC

*Friday night-Kafana*

*Saturday night-Eastern Exposure*

**Friday night Kafana**

*more intimate setting, with live music by*

**Whirled Peas,**

**Veselba,**

**Rakia Brass Band**

*(concurrent with activities in the gym.)*

## Schedule of Events

### FRIDAY EVENING \$15.-

Dance Party in Gym with recorded music and requests and a bit of introductory teaching.

PLUS Kafana in separate room, w/live music ..7:30 -12:00

### SATURDAY

Morning workshop..... 9:30- 11:30 \$10.-  
Afternoon workshop..... 1:30 -4:30 \$13.-  
Singing workshop w/Mary Marshall.....6:30 -7:30 \$17.-  
Concert, Evening Dance & afterparty ...7:30 -1:00

### SUNDAY

(all dance events) \$15.-

Reviews.....10:00 -11:30  
Kolo Hour (all request).....12:30 - 1:30  
Concert ..... 1:30 - 2:15  
Dance Party .....2:15 - 4:30

\*\*\*

\*\*Optional Greek Sunday lunch\*\*.....11:30-12:30 \$12.-

*Passport for all events \$50 before Jan.21,  
\$60 at the door. Syllabi: \$3 with advance  
registration; \$5 at the door (pdf file)*

Under 18 admitted free. Under 14 must be accompanied by an adult.

### optional:

**Greek lunch in the Gym on Sunday** (must be ordered by 12:00 noon Saturday) Chicken kabob plate or vegetarian plate \$12.-

### Motel info:

Travelodge, 1951 Newport Blvd., Costa Mesa (949) 650-2999

\$66.96(1 bed), \$73.44 (2 beds) incl. tax, per night mention Laguna Folkdancers

**For request-time you may bring your favorite MP3,CD, cassette or mini disc**

## Register in Advance

Names for badges \_\_\_\_\_

Number of passports \_\_\_\_\_ x\$50.-= \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Sunday lunches:

Number of syllabi ~ PDF \_\_\_\_\_ x\$ 3.-= \_\_\_\_\_

chicken \_\_\_\_\_ x\$12.-= \_\_\_\_\_

Number of syllabi ~ paper \_\_\_\_\_ x\$ 3.-= \_\_\_\_\_

vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ x\$12.-= \_\_\_\_\_

Total check.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your e-mail address (preferred), or phone#  
*(for confirmation & pdf syllabus)*

Mail with check (before Jan.21) to Laguna Folkdancers, 1524 Vivian, Newport Beach, CA 92660