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Folk Dance Scene Committee

Coordinator	Jay Michtom	editor@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 368-1957
Calendar	Gerri Alexander	calendar@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 363-3761
On the Scene	Jill Michtom	ots@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 368-1957
Club Directory	Steve Himel	directory@FolkDanceScene.org	(949) 646-7082
Dancers Speak	Sandy Helperin	ds@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 391-7382
Federation Corner	Beverly Barr	fedcorner@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 202-6166
Proofreading Editor	H. Barbara Cutler	proof@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 782-6715
Design and Layout Editors	Pat Cross, Don Krotser	design@FolkDanceScene.org	(323) 255-3809
Business Managers	Gerda Ben-Zeev	business@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 399-2321
	Nancy Bott		(310) 475-6112
Circulation	Sandy Helperin	circulation@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 391-7382
Subscriptions	Gerda Ben-Zeev	subscriptions@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 399 2321
Advertising	Steve Himel	ads@FolkDanceScene.org	(949) 646-7082
Printing Coordinator	Irwin Barr		(310) 202-6166
Marketing	Bob, Gerri Alexander	marketing@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 363-3761
Contributing Editor	Richard Duree	richard.duree@sbcglobal.net	(949) 981-3273
Contributing Editor	Marge Gajicki	folkmotif@aol.com	(562) 439-7380
Jill and Jay Michtom 10824 Crebs Ave. Northridge, CA 91326	Gerda Ben-Zeev 19 Village Park Way Santa Monica, CA 90405	Steve Himel 1524 Vivian Ln. Newport Beach, CA 92660	Sandy Helperin 4362 Coolidge Ave. Los Angeles, CA90066

Folk Dance Scene

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(562) 941-0069 Nancy Atwood ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church, 511 S Harbor

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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

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FOLK DANCE CENTER Every Evening. For schedule: (619)

466-4043, 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. L.A., Fairfax Senior Citizen Center, 7929 Melrose Ave Wed 10:30am-noon

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(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern L.A.,American Jewish Univ Dance Studio, 15600 Mulholland Mon 10:00am-11:45 & noon-1:00 Tue 10:30am-noon Wed 7:00-9:30; Thu 10:15am-1:05

ISRAELI DANCING-Yoni Carr

(619) 227-0110 Yoni NEWPORT BEACH, Avant Garde Ballroom, 4220 Scott Dr Sun 7:00-12 SAN DIEGO, Infinity Sport Dance Center, 4428 Convoy St Thu 7:00

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Casa del Prado room 206 St

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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



Folk Dance Scene

Volume 49, No. 10 December 2013 January 2014

Editors' Corner

Greetings and Happy Holidays. Two announcements this month: this is our second two month issue, so look for us again in February; the second announcement is below.

Pat Cross and Don Krotser

Due to the increasing cost of printing and mailing, the one year subscription rate for the Folk Dance Scene will be raised to \$18 beginning Jan. 1 2014.

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

FEDERATION CORNER

What is the "Federation?" What do they do for me, a dancer in Southern California? Who is in the Federation? The Federation Council?

How can I be a part of this? What can I do to help? Is there some way I can volunteer or be a part of this? Are there officers, committees? Would they need someone like me to donate some time? Or a special talent?

The Council is made up of representatives from 30-35 groups and clubs. The meetings are held in conjunction with a festival and are about 1 to 2 hours long and usually followed by a luncheon. Officers are elected each year and others volunteer to head committees. Would you like to be nominated for an office or volunteer for a committee? Do you have good secretarial skills or organizational skills or computer skills? Contact Valerie Daley, dancing.valerie@gmail.com. She's waiting for your email.

The Council takes responsibility for publishing a membership directory, publishing a monthly activity magazine, "Folk Dance Scene," and keeping a website. The new 2014 directory will come out in a few months and if you're interested in owning a copy contact Steve Himel, membership@SoCalFolkdance.org.

Folk Dance Scene is a must read magazine for dancers in Southern California. It is published by a Federation committee and can be ordered from Gerda Ben-Zeev, subscriptions@FolkDanceScene.org for a mere \$18 for 10 issues per year.

The Federation website is

www.SoCalFolkdance.org. Look it up to find out about folk activities in your area. The web master is Ralph Kuttner, rkuttner@aol.com.

Each year the Federation grants scholarships to attend folk dance activities, events, and camps. Would you know of anyone interested in a scholarship, or would like one yourself? Please contact Marsha Fenner, marfen1@aol.com.

Another treasured Federation sponsored event each year in the fall is a folk dance workshop, Camp Hess Kramer. The camp is Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Federation Corner continues on page 23...

ČESKE (CZECH REPUBLIC)

Gentle music seems to fill the air as one passes through the lovely Czech countryside. There is a unique quality in the folklore of this landlocked country, situated at the very center of continental Europe in the wide Bohemian Basin, the crossroads of migrations and conquests for over a thousand years. And that quality, or character, deserves a close examination to reveal the character of its charming people.

The country's recent history is well known. Emerging from the Austro-Hungarian Empire after World War I, its close ties with Austria are very evident in its folklore and folk art, which are the truest indications of a people's character and identity and we shall enjoy our visit with them.

When separated from its artificially induced brotherhood with Slovakia, there was some question about what to call themselves; the term *Česke* was suggested and informally adopted, though it has not received international recognition. To most of the world, it remains the "Czech Republic." The political matrix now includes the Bohemian Basin and Moravia, which comprises about a quarter of the nation along its eastern border with Slovakia and has its own unique and very rich folklore.

Its own country at last, after many decades of confusing and oppressive relationships, *Česke* has become an emerging bright spot in the European community. And its folklore is as rich and alive as any in Europe, Bohemia with its historical connection with Austria evident in its folk dress, song and dance; Moravia with Hungary and Slovakia.

Czech men's folk dress consists of kneelength trousers of tan or brown, white "over the knee" stockings, boots and a vest with regional embroidery designs over a longsleeved peasant shirt. Sometimes a decorated four-inch wide leather belt is worn. Women wear a dirndl-type dress, again with regional variations and a modest number of



petticoats. The women of Plzen, for example, wear bright red tights and a bonnet with an enormous, heavily starched shoulder-width bow in the back.

Of course, the polka is the most well known dance and is typically danced with a soft, lilting, traveling style. Choreographers have had their way with the polka and there are scores of variations of the dance; in addition to the gliding polka step, the polka employs pivots, stamps, scuffs, lifts, separations, hops, slides, spins – most folk dancers have a nodding acquaintance with the "Bohemian National Polka", which introduces a sample of the polka's rich repertoire of figures.

A comparison with the polka of Austria and Germany might reveal something of the Czech character. While the German polka – and music – has a strong, intense character played by brass bands and danced with high energy and intensity with very few variations, the Czech equivalent is played by clarinets and the lovely *dudy*, the mellowest and perhaps most sophisticated of the many European bagpipes. The polka is slower, softer, smoother, gentler and more playful, allowing for the rich variety of figures.

The polka, of course, is not the only dance; indeed, in some parts of Moravia it is not even danced. Though couple dances are most common, there are examples of dances for men and women and a study of them would take a lifetime. Farm and trade tools are frequently used as props and even instruments; weapon dances are very rare. Interestingly, many couple dances feature lifts, frequently a sustained lift of several measures length requiring strength, stamina and skill from men and women alike.

Here is a clue to the Czech character, a gentle, warm-hearted folk who beneath their evident shyness and reserve are some of the most hospitable and welcoming of any. Relationships between men and women appear to be very congenial and equable and women play a prominent role in society. An interesting pairing of free artistic expression and a love of precision has created a society with exquisite artistic traditions and a history of superb manufacturing of both light and heavy industry.

Continuing our venture into the dance, we'll take a look at Bohemia first. Most unique is the famed *furiant* of Plzen, the capital of the beer-brewing region of western Bohemia. Most references refer to it as simply "a spirited Bohemian folk dance with mixed meters." How trite. Here is one of the most

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Center, 2180 Palisades Ave, (805) 534-1501 Anne Tiber

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Tue 7:00-9:30 (858) 459-1336 Georgina SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park, Balboa Park Club, 2144 Pan American

CAFE ASTERIA 3rd Sat 7:30-11:30. xorepse@gmail.com (310) 508-9676 WEST LA, Pacific Arts Center 10469 Santa Monica Blvd

CERRITOS FOLK DANCERS Tue 6:00 - 8:45 (562) 338-2298 Sue Chen CERRITOS, Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St.

CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS

Wed 7:30-9:30 (805) 241-8563 Kathy Lemmon THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center, 403 W Hillcrest Dr

ETHNIC EXPRESS Wed 6:30

(702) 732-4871 Richard Killian LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights Art Center, 800 S. Brush St.

FANTASY FOLK DANCE CLUB Sun 3:00 - 6:30

(626) 454-3181 Diane Chen ALHAMBRA, China Press, 2121 W. Mission Rd. Sun 3:00-6:00 Fri 7:00-10:30 (626) 429-9008 (Sun) Vincent Cheng (323) 599-6688 (Fri) Michelle Chang S EL MONTE, CSM Trading Inc., 9640 Klingerman St,

INT'L FOLK DANCE CLUB-LAGUNA WOODS

Tue 9:00am-11:00 (949) 354-0837 Frieda Gorlick LAGUNA WOODS, Clubhouse 1, 24232 Calle Aragon

KYPSELI GREEK FOLK DANCING

Fri 8:30-11:30 (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.

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(949) 770-7026 Miriam Kahn Wed 5:30-8:00. Some Sat 6:00-9:00 LAGUNA WOODS, (Wed) Clubhouse 2, 24112 Moulton Pkwy. *(Sat) Clubhouse 7, 24111 Moulton Pkwy.*

MOUNTAIN DANCERS 1st & 3rd Tue 1:30-3:30 (626) 355-9220 John Meursinge

(626) 355-9220 John Meursinge S. PASADENA, Woman's Club, 1424 Fremont Ave.

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Thu 7:30-10:30 (562) 867-4495 Julith Neff BELLFLOWER, Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St.

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Sun 3:00 - 6:00 (626) 456-1900 Kevin Sun ALHAMBRA, Joslyn Senior Center 210 N. Chapel Ave.

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(858) 622-9924 Mary Jennings SAN DIEGO, Dance Place, 2650 Truxton Rd. Call for day & time.

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(805) 604-9608 Madeleine 2nd & 4th Sat 2:00-5:00 SANTA PAULA, Briggs Elementary School 14438 W. Telegraph 1st Sun 5:30-7:30 SANTA BARBARA, Carillo Rec Center Studio 1, 100 Carillo Street

SIERRA FOLKDANCERS

Mon 7:15

(626) 358-5942 Ann Armstrong TEMPLE CITY, Temple City Christian Church, 9723 Garibaldi Ave

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Mon 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:30-10:00; Sat 7:00 - 10:00(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 VILLAGE FOLK DANCERS

Sat 6:00-9:00 except 3rd Sat 1:00-3 (805) 688-3397 David Heald 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.





interesting of all European folk dances – and one of the most demanding. The music has been the inspiration for numerous classical compositions, most notably by Dvorak in his "Bartered Bride" opera. The dance is composed of a series of figures in 2/4 and 3/4 rhythm and it tells the ageless story of a handsome young man who chases, charms and wins fair maiden.

The version taught by Dr. Frantisek Bonus consisted of

a series of vignettes with a chase and retreat in three 2/4 measures and two measures in 3/4, followed by an invitation and acceptance into a vigorous figure of two eight-measures of 3/4 - including that very difficult sustained lift – which told of the ecstasy of the realization of love.

When asked about the dance, Dr. Bonus stopped what he was doing and clasped his hands to his chest, gazing into memory.

"Ah," he exclaimed, "that was the dance of my youth. We danced it many times. And my partner, she was so beautiful." His hands dropped to his sides and his face sobered and he smiled.

"But now she's an old lady." Such is the character of the Czech.

Examples of *furiant* can still be seen in performances at festivals in Bohemia, though none have displayed the vigor and demanding technique of the dance of Frantisek's youth. The logo of the Folk Dance Federation of California, South is a depiction of one of the *furiant's* pursuit figures, just as he taught it.

Beseda means "company" or "visitors." The famous dance by that name has several variations throughout Bohemia and Moravia. Figures were chosen (by state leaders) from the many local regions and combined to create the "national" dance, just as *Jarabe Tapatio* was created in Mexico. *Beseda* is performed in quadrille formation in eight parts, each telling a story of young people searching for a partner to their liking. The character is formal and proper, not unlike the English and French Victorian Lancers. To see the *Beseda* danced in South Moravia (about which more in a moment) is an experience of brilliant, swirling color. A version of *Beseda* was a part of the international folk dance repertoire for many years when we were still using 78 rpm records. The dance required both sides of two records and all paused while the records were turned and exchanged between figures. Sadly, the dance has fallen away with time and few recall it today. Perhaps a reconstruction is in order.

Situated along the eastern border with Slovakia, Moravia occupies about a quarter of the total territory of the Czech Republic and to many it is the most interesting. The region is divided ethnically into northern and southern regions; the northern part, Wallachia, is hilly, heavily forested and is historically a logging area, beautiful and unspoiled. In truth, the region has been little studied by ethnologists and we have nothing in the repertoire from them. Perhaps here is a potential field of

study for someone. Performances of local folk dances show a vigorous version of some of the softer Czech polkas and many others using axes and staffs, a common motif among mountain folk.

And now we come to south Moravia, home of the "Moravian Slovaks" and one of the most unique areas of Central Europe. This is winegrowing country and one of the nation's most



treasured folk life centers. Here are some of the most elaborate folk costumes of Europe with incomprehensibly ornate embroidery, cutwork and needlepoint embellishments to be found anywhere.

Folk festivals are an overwhelming vision of gorgeous artistic creations. This area is one in which several cultures overlapped, in this case, Slovakia, Hungary and Austria, each adding their own contributions to the very rich folklore.

Men wear tight pants, often heavily embroidered with many colors and tucked into Hungarian-style boots, also frequently embroidered. Vests are frequently very short and heavily embellished with ruching, embroidery, appliqué, sequins and braid. Shirtsleeves frequently display elaborate cutwork patterns, the amount of embellishment indicating the wearer's wealth. Long, hand-painted ribbons stream from chest to ankle.

Not to be outdone, girls wear enormous skirts, sometimes fairly short, with an embarrassment of



petticoats, appearing to be a gathering of beautiful, brilliantly colored bells with gossamer aprons. Elaborate boots are worn, often with intricately pleated or embroidered tops. The tight bodice gives more opportunity for elaborate embellishment. accompanied by cut-worked collars

and long, painted ribbons. Of course, there is always the ornate cap to top the gorgeous ensemble.

Podluzi area has the most ornate *kroj* (folk dress) of any and includes the towns of Lanzhot, Hodonin, Kyjov, Vlcnov and Hornačko.

There seem to be two kinds of dance in South Moravia: an almost incomprehensible verbunk danced by the young men and gently turning couple dances. The men's verbunk appears to have no structure, as does the Hungarians' verbunk; the dancers from each town seem to have their own technique and character, some circular movements, others angular, still others more "airborne" – all very athletic. The verbunk is seen most often in competitions at folk festivals, the most famous in Straznice. The dancers are judged on artistic merit, creativity, athleticism – and singing! It is a bittersweet embarrassment to see a young man, whose voice is just changing, breathlessly croaking through a folk song in the midst of his dance, being encouraged by several musicians who gather around him to help.

The couple dances are an embarrassment to a researcher, but they are loved by the Moravians. Surely 90% of the dance is singing; couples stand holding hands, the women appearing as dazzling, starched little dolls in their fabulous kroj, all singing at the top of their lungs as the boys raise their free hand to the sky. When the musical phrase ends, couples assume a "hip-to-hip" position mandated by the women's enormous skirts and they gently turn

with any one of several simple dance steps, sometimes walking, sometimes a little hop-step-step, but never disturbing the women's brilliant ensemble. If one cannot sing – or doesn't know the language – you're out of the dance. We are told that even the language of the South Moravians is very musical. An American woman who taught English at a public school in the town of Hodonin described the area as "paradise" and that was before the Soviet Union's demise. We tend to agree.

South Moravia includes a number of towns famed for their own folklore; indeed the entire Czech nation takes great pride in them and goes to great lengths to support them. There is the Whitsuntide parade of Vlcnov, folk festivals at Straznice and Luhačovice, the open-air museum (*skansen*) at Rosnov in Wallachia and much more.

Traditional folk dance can be found throughout the Czech lands from Plzen in the west, Prague in the center, Česky Krumlov in the south and Moravia in the east. We have barely touched on the wealth of folklore and dance. The Czechs treasure their folk traditions and it is to our benefit and enrichment to share it with them.

Richard Duree



The Federation in Action





President Memo Keswick, Federation North; and Valerie Daley, President, Federation South at Statewide, Santa Barbara



Officers Rick and Lynn Bingle and Carl Pilsecker at a Federation Council meeting.

Encouraging children's dance at the Laguna Folkdance Festival

Federation Corner continued from page 3...

in October and features 3 teachers who present about 8 new dances each. The music CD and a DVD of the dances are available for purchase. There are usually 70-100 dancers at the camp who come to learn the dances and then take their favorites back to their clubs or groups. Some just come to enjoy the music, the good company, and the outstanding meals. Want more info? Contact Beverly Barr, dancingbarrs@yahoo.com.

Every other year the Federation plans a California Statewide weekend folk dance festival to which we extend special invitations to Southern California dancers, all of the Northern California dancers, and dancers from Nevada and Arizona. All dancers are welcome. Our last festival was in Santa Barbara in May 2013, and our next festival is in San Diego in 2015 on Memorial Day weekend in May. Save the dates and we'll see you there. Want to help out or have a special talent to share for the festival? Contact Georgina Sham, gbsham@gmail.com.

There's much more I could tell you but I want you to volunteer and find out for yourself.

Would you like to be a part of this very vibrant organization, Folk Dance Federation of California, South? We need you. Volunteering is a cinch. Contact Valerie Daley, dancing.valerie@gmail.com today. And welcome to the "Federation."

Carol Wall

RECENT EVENTS

SO WE HAD TWO BANDS

In October, Cal Tech Folkdancers had the Yeseta Brothers *tamburitza* band and *Rakia* brass band. Generous donations, including recyclables, made it possible, thanks.

You all know I've fallen in love with tamburitza music. That article in the September Scene about the Yeseta Brothers, incidentally, was published just in time for me to show it to people at the Tamburitza Extravaganza, which was in Phoenix, September 26-29. I'd saved my pennies to go, and I had a blast. It was Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian plucked-string heaven. The Brothers were a big hit. With their scheduling we could only get them for Cal Tech on October 8th.

We had already engaged Rakia for the 29th. Compared to what we might like, two bands in one month may not be much. Compared to our resources, it was a lot. But with everybody's help we made it happen, good live music is best anyway, and besides, the two bands play in very different styles.

Tamburitza is the diminutive of *tambura*, used for instruments in this family at least as far east as Armenia, Persia, Turkey, India; how they came to Southeast Europe is a story I'll leave for others. Tamburitza-land is the Pannonian plain, including Zagreb, capital of Croatia, and Belgrade, capital of Serbia. *Rakia* is brandy, distilled from various fruits including plums (in that case called *shlivovitsa*), sometimes flavored (Armenian *arrak* has anise, like Greek *ouzo*). Brass bands are popular in southern Serbia and nearby Macedonia and Bulgaria.

On both nights people came from all over. Some of the two crowds were the same; others only came for their favorite sound. Rakia's night was our Halloween party, with swell costumes. We always give prizes. I blush to tell you that this year I forgot to bring them from home, but I've been mailing them and handing them out since.

John Filcich taught on the Yeseta Brothers' night. They haven't recorded in years – it's not too late, boys – but John is rightly proud of bringing out a 2-CD set of the Banat Tamburitza Orchestra, so we used that. One woman said she didn't often see *Veliko Kolo*. We told her "You can dance it tonight." I like *Bunjevachko Momachko Kolo* for a man and two women. It and *Veliko* are from Vojvodina, the northeast of the former Yugoslavia, home to Croats, Serbs, and enough more for six official languages. There was plenty of *Kolo u Shest* and some Macedonian songs for good measure. We ended with *Lichko Kolo*, Anthony Ivancich leading and the band walking off one by one as we began the part without music.

Ty Rust's Rakia band has been getting better and better. John Hertz taught *Shareni Chorapi*, danced in the south of the former Yugoslavia, in northern Greece, and in southwest Bulgaria; and Petrunino from northern Greece (unrelated to the Shope dance *Petrunino* from Bulgaria; Petra is a women's name). Drummer Jerry Summers had been to the brassband festival in Gucha, Serbia. Rakia was one of two bands invited to play at the world premiere in June of a film about the festival. This region too has *Kolo u Shest*, also *Chochek*, lots of catchy 5/4 and 7/8 and 9/16 rhythms, and for the sake of Halloween the band threw in a few surprises, like *Dodi Li* from Israel.

We dance on Tuesdays, usually in Cal Tech's Dabney Lounge, or when we can't get that usually at Throop Church (where the police shut us down once because it's hard for a brass band to play quietly even after 10 at night). We'll be dark on December 24th and 31st. Come by any other time.

Nancy Milligan

AMAN 50TH REUNION

It was an absolutely amazing weekend. So many of us reconnected, remembered and resolved relationships. You had the feeling that when you met someone you had not talked to in 20 or 30 years you finished the conversation you started back then. I heard stories I had never heard, learned things I never knew and gained an appreciation for people I had only guessed at. I realized that this was a once in a lifetime experience, and one only available to those few who had participated in an artistic experience like AMAN.

Along with that it was completely exhausting!

Billy Burke



CALENDAR

Note: Federation Dance Events are in Bold.

CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS DECEMBER

- 7-8 Los Angeles Ballet performs Nutcracker, Saturday 7:30 p.m. & Sunday 2:00 p.m. at the Alex Theatre in Glendale. Info: (310) 998-7782 or LABallet.org
- 8 Culver Citv English Country Dance Sunday 4-7:00 p.m. at Lindberg Park, 5041 Rhoda Way, Culver City . OPEN MIKE! Join CCECD's very first Open Mike Guest Callers program. Want to call a dance? Contact James Hutson for more information. ihutson@bavareamorris.com
- 12 Narodni Int'l Folkdancers Holiday Party (NOTE CHANGE IN DATE FROM 12/19)-7:30-10:30 p.m. at Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St. Bellflower. Live music with Zimzala. Wear something green, red and/or sparkly & bring some festive food to share. Info: Julith (562) 404-4383 or narodni.org
- 14-15 Los Angeles Ballet performs Nutcracker, Saturday 1:00 & 5:00 p.m. & Sunday 1:00 p.m. at Valley Performing Arts Center in Northridge. Info: (310) 998-7782 or LABallet.org
- 14 End of Year Celebration with music provided by Veselba, Saturday, 7:30 p.m. at Café Aman, Pacific Arts Center, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A. Info: Ian Price at ianpricebey@hotmail.com
- 23 Christmas Party, West Los Angeles Folk Dancers, Monday, 7:30-10:00 p.m. at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave., West L.A. All request program & potluck snacks. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com
- 25 Beverly Barr's Culver City Davtime Class. Wednesday, 12:30-2:00 p.m., will NOT meet (Christmas Day). Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

- 26 Celebrate Boxing Day & Birthdays with Narodni Int'l Folkdancers, Thursday, 7:30-10:30 p.m. at Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St., Bellflower, Dancing this night is FREE! Info: Julith (562) 404-4383 or narodni.org
- 12/29/13-1/1/14 New Year's Weekend at Camp Hess Kramer, Malibu, CA. Flexible stay. See OTS and ad. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166, (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com
- 30 Beverly Barr's Sherman Oaks Davtime Class, Monday, 1:30-3:00 p.m., will NOT meet on this date. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com
- 30 Beverly Barr's West Los Angeles Evening Class, Monday, 7:30-10:30 p.m., will NOT meet on this date. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbars@yahoo.com
- 31 Beverly Barr's Beverly Hills Daytime Class, Tuesday, 10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., will NOT meet (New Year's Eve). Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com
- 31 Pasadena Co-op's New Year's Eve Party 8:00 - 12:30 at Throop Unitarian Church. See ad and OTS.
- 31 Veselo Selo's New Year's Eve Party, 7:30 -12:30, Unitarian Universalist Church Anaheim. See OTS.

JANUARY

- 1 Beverly Barr's Culver City Daytime Class, Wednesday, 12:30-2:00 p.m., will NOT meet (New Year's Day). Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@vahoo.com
- 6 Party to Welcome 2014 with West Los Angeles Folk Dancers, Monday 7:30-10:30 p.m. at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave., West L.A. All request program & potluck snacks. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com



NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND CAMP HESS KRAMER'S REGULAR LOCATION Last year's attendees said they want another New Year's weekend like last year – SO WE ARE DOING IT AGAIN

DEC. 29 – 30 – 31, 2013 – JAN. 1, 2014 FLEXIBLE STAY 3 days/2 nights "OR" 4 days/3 nights

INCLUDES YOUR CHOICE: 2 nights lodging, 6 outstanding meals, or 3 nights lodging, 9 outstanding meals, endless snacks, fresh fruit, coffee, tea, hot chocolate 24/7, some dance teaching, evening dance parties, musicians jamming, and or playing dance music, sing-alongs, and if you can find the time, hiking, beach strolling and other outdoor activities. Do you have a talent to share? You may also go home with something to treasure from the silent auction. A flexible & exciting, yet relaxing weekend enjoying new friends and surprises.

A HUGE EXTRAVAGANZA NEW YEARS' EVE "HAPPY HOUR PARTY" "OUTSTANDING DINNER", MUSIC – DANCING – ICE CREAM SOCIAL – MIDNIGHT NEW YEARS' TOAST Camp Hess Kramer is located at 11495 E. Pacific Coast Highway, in a verdant canyon in Malibu, California, one mile north of the Ventura County Line.

THERE ARE 4 LEVELS OF ACCOMMODATIONS FROM <u>DORMS</u> TO THE <u>DELUXE ROOMS</u> IN THE <u>CONFERENCE CENTER.</u> PRICES FOR 3 DAYS 2 NIGHTS: \$160 - \$190 - \$240 - \$270 PRICES FOR 4 DAYS 3 NIGHTS: \$215 - \$245 - \$295 - \$355

FOR INFORMATION CALL:

BEVERLY or IRWIN - 310-202-6166 or 310-478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

Mail Applications to: IRWIN BARR, 3200 S. Sepulveda Blvd., # K29, Los Angeles, CA 90034

Registration	on a first	come firs	<u>t serve basis</u>
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Please ma	ke check payable to IRWIN BARR
	Dorms with Bathrooms 2 to 5 people - Bring bedding & towels.
Name	\$160 Per person - 3 days,2 nights\$
Address	\$215 Per person – 4 day, 3 nights\$ Room in Redwood Bldg., Semi or private bath, Sleeps 2 or 3
	\$190 Per person-3 days, 2 nights Bring bedding & towels
CityStateZip	\$245 Per person-4 days, 3 nights .Bring bedding & towels
	Room under dining hall, semi private bath, sleeps 2-maid service
	\$240 Per person-3 days, 2 nights, with bedding & towels
Home # Work #	\$295 Per Person – 4 day, 3 nights\$\$
	Deluxe room in the Conference Center, with maid service
E- Mail	\$270 Per person-3days, 2 nights with bedding & towels
Bedding & towel rental \$25 per bed \$	\$355 Per person-4 days, 3 nights\$\$
Roommate	Single_Supplement \$40.00\$
Smoker Non Smoker Vegetarian	
	TOTAL \$
Emergency Contact	Phone #
	e weekend camp experience is planned

- 19 Pasadena Co-Op's Winter Festival, Sunday 1:30-5:30 p.m. at Pasadena Scottish Rite Center, 150 N. Madison, Pasadena. Council Meeting 11:00 a.m. Info: (626) 792-9118 or janrayman@charter.net
- 20 *Beverly Barr's Sherman Oaks Daytime Class,* Monday 1:30-3:00 p.m. will NOT meet (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day) Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com
- 31-2/2 *Royal New Zealand Ballet* performs Giselle at the Music Center Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. Info: (213) 972-0711

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Jan 10, 11 *Heritage Festival* at Sequoia High School, Redwood City. Sponsored by Peninsula FD Council and Federation. Live music both nights, large wooden floor. Info: Adony, beni@pacbell.net, or Ken, kenkaye46@yahoo.com

ALASKA & SEATTLE

5/17-26 *7-Day Alaska Cruise,* round trip from Seattle, WA followed by 3 days attending the Northwest FolkLife Festival in Seattle, with Beverly & Irwin Barr. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

FLORIDA

2/14-17 *Presidents' Day Weekend Workshop,* Mihai David, Steve Kotansky, at Holiday Inn, Kissimmee. Info: www.folkdance.org, Jack Seltzer, seltzerjl@gmail.com

MISSOURI

Late April/Early May (exact dates to be announced) *Trip to Branson, MO. & More* with Beverly & Irwin Barr. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

WASHINGTON

6/29 *Skandia Midsommarfest,* Sunday 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., at St. Edward State Park, 14445 Juanita Dr. NE, Kenmore, WA. Skandia's authentic rendition of summer solstice festival with music, dance & much more. Info: (206) 784 -7470 or skandia-folkdance.org

FOREIGN

ARMENIA

5/4-15 *Folk Tour to Armenia* led by Tineke van Geel. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362

CANADA

4/25-27 *Lyrids 2014 Folk Dance Festival* in Burnaby, British Columbia, (replacing Salt Spring Island Festival). Info: info@lyridsfolkdancefestival.org

GREECE

6/29-7/11 *Folk Tour to Greece and the Greek Islands* led by Lee Otterholt. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362

HUNGARY

7/31-8/11 *Folk Tour to Hungary* led by Adam Molnar. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362

IRELAND

7/10-23 *Folk Tour to Ireland* led by Jim Gold. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362

ISRAEL

3/8-21 *Folk Tour to Israel* led by Jim Gold & Joe Freedman. Info: (201) 836-0362 or jimgold@jimgold.com

SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN

1/25-2/8 *Exotic Cruise to the South Caribbean* with Yves & France Moreau plus special guest teachers Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion. Info: (450) 659-9271 www.folkdancecruise.com or info@bourque-moreau.com

NORWAY

6/14-24 *Folk Tour to Norway* led by Lee Otterholt. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362

POLAND & UKRAINE

July Folk Tour to Poland & Ukraine led by Richard Schmidt. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362

ON THE SCENE

7-DAY ALASKA CRUISE & 3 DAYS AT FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL IN SEATTLE

Join Beverly and Irwin Barr, May 17-26, for 10 days of fun and excitement on a cruise ship with all it has to offer, plus our own folk dancing on board, and the largest and most impressive folk festival of its kind. Our hotel accommodations in Seattle are walking distance to the festival. What a wonderful 10 -day combination trip, a luxury Alaska cruise, visiting some of the best Alaska ports and Victoria, BC, as well as the exciting northwest with Memorial Day weekend at the FolkLife Festival.

How many nights you stay in Seattle is flexible. Our plan is to stay and enjoy folk festival for 3 days, which is an exciting weekend all on its own. One round trip to and from Seattle is also a plus. There is a big demand for cruise ships now and they fill up very quickly. See ad in this issue of Scene. Call Beverly or Irwin for details and prices, and reservations, (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

Beverly & Irwin Barr

SUNDAY EVENING DANCING IN LAGUNA BEACH

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

December 2013 Teaching Schedule

December 1 Susi Q Studio is closed for holiday weekend.

December 8 Maria Pahos-Bensen teaches one or more Greek dances presented this fall in San Diego by Christos Papacostas. Dances from which she will choose include: *Goumenissa, Serres, Grevena, Agrafa-Thessalia* or *Neo Monastiri-Anatoliki Romilia*

December 15 Richard Duree will review the classic dance, *Veliko Kolo*, followed by requests

December 22 & 29 Susi Q studio is closed for winter holidays

January 2014 Teaching Schedule

January 5 Shana Winokur teaches *Sitna Lisa*, a Macedonian dance introduced by Pece, plus another dance on the upcoming festival program. January 12 Sandy Wodicka teaches *Lakodalmi Tanc*, a Hungarian dance based on research by Andor Czompo.

January 19 Sandy Wodicka reviews *Lakodalmi Tanc* and teaches *Denjovo Horo*, Bulgarian, from Yves' red album.

January 26 all request and spot reviews of dances on festival program

Info: (714) 893-8888 or www.LagunaFolkdancers.org

NEW CONTRADANCE STARTING

Just want you all to know about a contra dance we are starting at the Westwood Masonic Hall! Years ago we danced in this hall. Great floor! We are glad to have been able to get it back again...of course at a higher rent, but hey! We are hoping many of you who may have done contra before will return to it. We know you will love it!

Live Music! And a great band playing! 2nd Saturdays. Come at 7:30 for intro. Dance at 8 p.m. If you can walk, you can do contra. Folkdances are way more complicated than Contra dancing and the live music makes it exciting. AND, for those who count these things – you can make your 10,000 steps in one evening of dancing!

Admission is \$10, 2244 Westwood Blvd., just south of Olympic. Park on Westwood, Olympic or (one block in either direction) on Tennessee.

Come Contra dancing!

Leda Shapiro

NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND – DEC. 29, 2013 – JAN. 1, 2014, CAMP HESS KRAMER IN MALIBU, CA

The third consecutive year for the New Year's Weekend is almost here. The weekend has been so much fun that the attendees asked for the New Year's weekend at Camp Hess Kramer to continue. Each year it has grown with new ideas, new interesting and enjoyable activities, and wonderful new attendees. We are listening to the happy campers and plan to make it an annual New Year's retreat.

For those who have not been to Camp Hess Kramer: We are not camping. We stay in very Alaska Cruise on the Golden Princess and Folk Life Festival with Beverly & Irwin Barr 10 days, May 17 – 26, 2014 PRINCESS CRUISE LINE IS HAVING A PRICE PROMOTION WHICH IS TO OUR ADVANTAGE!!

Prices below include the special price reduction, Port and Government taxes and fees, Airfare (Round trip L.A./Seattle), Hotel stay for 2 nights and transfers in Seattle., All food, fun, & entertainment on board the ship, including a cocktail party for our group and of course

FOLK DANCING!!

ITINERARY: 7 Days on the "5" Star Golden Princess. Cruise Glacier Bay, Visit Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan, Victoria, British Columbia, and Seattle Washington.

3 days in Seattle for the Folk-Life Festival, the largest and most exciting folk festival in the U.S.A. The Festival is free.

Inside Stateroom - \$1,699 ~~~ Outside Stateroom (obstructed view)- \$1,799 Full Ocean View Stateroom - \$2,099 ~~~ Balcony Stateroom - \$2,399 Prices are per person, double occupancy.

\$350 – Deposit is due by December 12. The great promotion price from Princess Cruise Line will end, and the cruise portion of the price will increase

To reserve your Stateroom or for information, CALL NOW, 310-202-6166 or 310 -478-4659 or <u>dancingbarrs@yahoo.com</u>, or mail Deposit to IRWIN BARR, 3200 S. SEPULVEDA BLVD., #K29, Los Angeles, CA 90034 Deposit refundable until Feb. 28, 2014

POETRY CORNER

JUST A NORMAL DAY FULL OF MIRACLES

Speaking my sadness to a listening ear No words – but comfort – how does it appear? A gash that heals without even a trace, A spider web spun much finer than lace --Just a normal day full of miracles.

Time for geese to fly north. How do they know? Hummingbirds going clear to Mexico – What tells a mustard seed that it's a tree? As I cuddle a child, I succor... me! Just a normal day full of miracles.

Children growing out of yesterday's clothes, Pure pleasure of wriggling sandy toes, Dancing Doudlebska, girls giggling 'out,' Jambalaya and joyous bursting shout: Just a normal day full of miracles!



Babe in a manger; great star in the sky Celebration, now, where hope was bone dry --Just a normal day full of miracles.

Camille Dull



THIS MIGHT BE YOU

I don't recall if I read it, Or was told that some dancer said it; But, in response to some praising ("Your repertoire is amazing.") The dancer gave Hess-Kramer the credit.. *Carl Pilsecker*

DANCE ON THE WATER 2014 CRUISES

JUNE 20 – JULY 5: SLOVENIA, CROATIA, and the ADRIATRIC COAST

See Ljubljana, Bled, Opatija, Split, Korcula, Trogir, Brac, Omis & Dubrovnik. Explore the Postojna Caves, Plitvice Lakes and Mljet Nat'l Parks, swim in the splendid Adriatic Sea, and meet history! Dancing led by Marija Hillis, a native of Slovenia! (from \$3198 dbl occ + air)

OCT 5 - 16: MADRID, MOORISH SPAIN and PORTUGAL

Tour Madrid, Toledo, Sevilla, Granada, Faro, Cadiz and Jerez. Visit a bull ranch, see an equestrian show & experience the Alhambra! Optional trip to Gibraltar and extension to Barcelona (from \$3198 dbl occ + air) For more information and enrollment forms: Email: <u>folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com</u> Website: <u>www.folkdanceonthewater.org</u> A joint production of Mel Mann and new owners David & Marija Hillis

\$150 DISCOUNT for enrollments received by December 31st!

comfortable buildings with comfortable rooms. All accommodations are for 2 people, except the dorms. Single accommodations are available for a single supplement.

We look forward to being together with the attendees who enjoyed the last two New Year's weekends and hope that a lot of folk dancers, contra dancers, any and all dancers, musicians, singers, hikers, joke tellers, story tellers, board game enthusiasts, puzzle experts, exercisers, attend. The last two years' attendees said they want another New Year's Weekend Camp.

Flexible stays are available, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday nights, going home on Wednesday afternoon (New Year's Day). The weekend includes: 4 days, 3 nights lodging, 9 outstanding meals or 3 days, 2 nights lodging, 6 outstanding meals, endless snacks, lots of choices. Bring your favorite board games to share with those interested, and if you can find the time, hike, stroll on the beach or enjoy other outdoor activities. Maybe you have a talent or a game or a joke or a dance you can share.

A huge New Year's Eve party is planned with a happy hour, outstanding dinner, music, dancing, ice cream social, and midnight New Year's champagne toast.

Children are welcome. Arrangements can be made for children to stay in the same room or adjoining room with their parents or grandparents. We have had wonderful experiences with the children who have attended in the past. They have a great time doing their own things together.

There are 4 levels of accommodations, priced accordingly. A flyer with all of the information on prices and accommodations is in this issue of Let's Dance and the Folk Dance Scene. We look forward to spending the New Year's Weekend with you.

To receive flyers now or any other information and to request the accommodation of your choice, Contact Beverly or Irwin Barr (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

BEVERLY BARR'S WEEKLY DAYTIME CLASSES

Everyone is welcome!

Tuesdays - 10:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the La Cienega Community Center in the dance room with a wood dance floor. The Community Center is on the northwest side of La Cienega Park, 8400 Gregory Way, one block north of Olympic Blvd., on the east side of La Cienega. Free parking lot on the west side of La Cienega Blvd. Enter the parking lot driving south on La Cienega. This is an intermediate class learning international folk dancing and line dancing. Beverly will be introducing new dances taught at the recent folk dance camps as well as continuing to keep the class up to date on popular dances and bring back some oldies, but goodies that are requested. Beverly Hills residents - \$1.00 and non residents - \$2.00.

There will not be a class Dec. 31

Mondays – 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at the Sherman Oaks Senior Center 5056 Van Nuys Blvd., one block south of Magnolia, on the southeast corner. A new senior center with free parking at the corner of Van Nuys Blvd. and Hartsook. Attention dancers in the Valley. It is very centrally located for those living in the Valley. Enjoy some good daytime international folk dancing and line dancing. The dance room has a beautiful wood floor. Keep up with the popular dances. Beverly will be teaching some new dances taught at the recent folk dance camps. The cost is \$5.00. We do not meet on Monday holidays, as the center is closed. There will not be a class Dec. 30 or Jan. 20.

Wednesdays - 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. at the Culver City Senior Center – northwest corner of Overland Ave. and Culver Blvd. We dance in the dance room on a wood floor, inside the main building, on the first floor. We learn and dance international folk dancing and line dancing. This is a good class for newer dancers. At this time, most of our dancers are in an advanced beginning stage of their dancing, and most dances are taught or reviewed. This is a very friendly and welcoming group. The cost is \$4.00. There will not be a class Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.

If you are coming for the first time, or for information about any of our classes, call Beverly at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or e-mail dancingbarrs@yahoo.com.

WEST L. A. FOLK DANCERS

Mondays: 7:45 – 10:15 p.m.

We meet every Monday evening including most Monday holidays and have a very friendly group of intermediate dancers, learning and dancing great dances. This class keeps up with the popular new dances, and keeps the great old ones alive. Beverly will also be teaching and reviewing dances from the recent folk dance camps. Join us for our wonderful upcoming party nights and enjoy a great fun and friendly evening.

Dec. 23 – Christmas Party – Enjoy the holiday dancing with good friends.

Jan 6 – Welcoming 2014 Party – It's our opening night of the New Year.

Come and enjoy our happy group and enjoy dancing on a great wood floor in our beautiful auditorium at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave. in W.L.A. (between Barrington & Bundy and between Santa Monica & Wilshire).

On party nights we begin at 7:30 p.m. and end when you get too tired to dance. Party night dance programs are all-request. Bringing snacks for our potluck table is appreciated.

If you are new to our group or have not been there for a while, call to check to see if there is a special event happening or if we are on vacation. (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

STATEWIDE 2014

Statewide will be held on Memorial Day Weekend May 23-26, 2014 (Friday-Monday) in Redding, California. Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion will be teaching non-partner dances of Romania. One more teacher will be added. No pricing or hotel information is available yet. Contact the Chair of the Statewide Committee, Julie East (email: tazeast@frontiernet.net) if you have questions.

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, February 7-9. This price is only available by contacting Beverly or Irwin Barr, \$79.99 + tax = \$88.78 per room, per night for 1- 4 people per room. The hotel has underground parking and indoor corridors that protect you in rainy or windy weather. Join us at the same lovely hotel that we have stayed at for many years. It has recently been refurbished with all new beds, pool, Jacuzzi, fitness room, new amenities, and a nice complimentary hot breakfast. Contact Beverly or Irwin at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659, or e-mail at dancingbarrs@yahoo.com to reserve these rooms at the discounted rate.

NARODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCERS

Here are the highlights for activities at Narodni for the holiday season:

We have changed our Holiday Party from December 19 to December 12. We have confirmed that we will have live music featuring *Zimzala*. Wear festive attire: red, green, glittery and bring some holiday goodies.

December 26 is Boxing Day and Narodni is celebrating by making tonight's dancing free for all who come. We are also honoring those with December birthdays. We like to party, so there will probably be cake.

January 2 We plan to have Wen-Li and Sue Chen do some Chinese New Year dances with us.

January 23 & 30 Diane Baker will be teaching us a few Stockton dances.

January 30 We will be celebrating January birthdays.

January 12 (Sunday) will be our quarterly board meeting. If you would like, feel free to join us and give us a few ideas or suggestions.

Our regular meeting night is Thursdays at the Bellflower Woman's Club from 7:30 to 10:30. If you want to get on the mailing list to receive our weekly email announcements, you can sign up at narodni@callicomp.info

For more information contact Julith Neff at (562) 404-4383 or visit our website at www.narodni.org. Julith Neff

PASADENA COOP

December's teaching is focused on preparing for our Winter Festival in January. Introductory teaching, by Marc and Jan Rayman, will be *Papadhopanayiotena, Konyali*, and *Sobotki*, and, if we have more new people than usual, *Believe*. In the intermediate slot, Valerie Daley will teach *Made in Romania* and *Tokyo Polka*.

Yes, we will be dancing on Friday December 27! For our 15 minute "And Now for Something Completely Different" event, we will do some west coast swing.

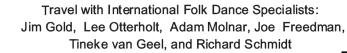
On December 31 we will have a New Year's Eve party at our usual location, Throop Unitarian Church, featuring an all-request program plus live music by the Fifth Friday Band. For \$10 you get to dance from 8:00 to 12:30 and snack on desserts and savories. For more information call Pat at (323) 253-2485 or send an email to Jan at JanRayman@charter.net.



Jim Gold Folk Tours : 2014

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2014 Tours

ISRAEL! March 8-21, 2014. Led by Jim Gold and Joe Freedman. Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Galilee, Haifa, Tiberias, Safed, Golan Heights!

ARMENIA! May 4-15, 2014. Led by Tineke van Geel.

Yerevan, Lake Sevan, Zvartnots, Edsmiadzin, Mt. Aragats! **POLAND! June 9-23, 2014.** Led by Richard Schmidt. Kraków

Zakopane, Łodź, Toruń, Gdańsk, Olsztyn, Warsaw! **NORWAY!** June 7-17, 2014. Led by Lee Otterholt. Oslo, Bergen, Hovin (Telemark), Fjord Cruise, Voss!

 IRELAND! (New!): July 25-August 6, 2014. Led by Jim Gold. Galway, Connemara, Aran islands, Doolin, Killarney, Kerry, Belfast, Dublin!
 GREECE & its ISLANDS! June 29-July 11, 2014. Led by Otterholt Athens, Olympia, Delphi, Meteora, Mycenae, Epidaurus. Greek cruise to



Mykonos, Crete, Rhodes, Patmos, Santorini, Kusadasi, and Ephesus ! HUNGARY! July 31-August 11, 2014. Led by Adam Molnar Budapest, Eger, Mezokovesd Folk Festival, Jászberény Folk Dance Camp! FRENCH CANADA! (New!) Sept. 10-20, 2014.

Led by Richard Schmidt Montreal, Ouebec, Mont Tremblant!

BALKAN SPLENDOR! (New!) Oct 4-16, 2014.

Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia/Herzegovina, Montenegro: Oct. 4- 16. Belgrade, Novi Sad, Osijek, Djakovo, Sarajevo, Mostar, Kotor, Budva, Dubrovnik!

2015 Tours

ALBANIA! May 3-16, 2015: Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt BULGARIA! August 1-15, 2015: Led by Jim Gold/ Big Koprivshtitsa Festival!

Visit www.jimgold.com for itineraries, details, and Youtube videos.

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DANCERS SPEAK

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

This month's question comes from Rich Duree.

Q: What is the most serious issue confronting the folk dance community's continued existence?

Rich answers: Folk dance has become too splintered and self-centered and has squandered the educational opportunity that it offered. It has become "a mile wide and an inch deep" with little interest in the serious related issues of folklore and music. There is too often a lack of patience in teaching technique and character. These issues need to be addressed in order for new dancers to find a reason to stay.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S QUESTION

MARGE @ LARGE, REFLECTIONS AND

his adopted country, i.e., the USA.

The question came from Irene Ujda and concerned how to better remember dances. Of course the best way is repetition, repetition, repetition. But also, after you have a feeling for the dance, try doing it without looking at the teacher or your fellow dancers. Concentrate on the music.

Ah! Ahmet! So good to see Ahmet Luleci after such

a long time. Such a joy to see this charismatic and

dynamic Turkish dance instructor. With his old world

charm he is equally at home in the old country as in

He is not a stranger to SoCal. Ahmet lived here for

several years, dancing and touring with Aman. He is

a talented dancer in various styles of folk dance. He

dance camps and seminars. He is directly involved in

directing and planning a couple of camps on the East

Ahmet planned his SoCal tour around the Aman

50th Reunion, but due to family commitments he was

unable to attend the reunion. He did, however, start

has taught at Stockton FDC and many other folk

Coast. He currently lives in Boston and directs

"Collage", a performing folk dance ensemble.

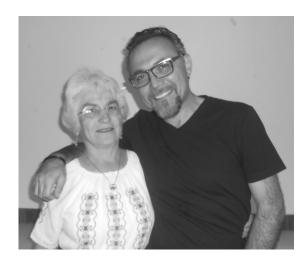
his teaching tour at Narodni Folk Dancers in Bellflower. With precise styling and undaunted humor he taught various dances. Additionally, he was presented with a birthday cake. We sang Happy Birthday and then he generously shared the cake with all those present.

His tour continued to San Diego, Laguna Beach, Tuesday Gypsies, and ended up in Las Vegas. We look forward to his next appearance in the Southland.

Autumn is the time for Octoberfest and to commemorate this annual tradition, a group of us got together at the Jagerhaus in Anaheim. In our private room, we had a delicious German dinner, and Wen Li Chiang and Sue Chen danced the *Laendler* from "The Sound of Music". Wen Li played folk dances on his electronic equipment and we danced until closing time.

Halloween passed me by this year. I had my costume, complete with moustache, ready to go. But, unfortunately, I was not feeling well and had to forego all the festivities. Better luck next year! Marge Gaiick

Marge Gajicki



Ahmet and Marge at his birthday

On Sunday, January 19, from 1:30 to 5:30, we will have our Winter Festival at the Scottish Rite Center, 150 North Madison, Pasadena. Dance many of your favorite dances and enjoy desserts and savories, all for \$5. The list of dances is on our website. There will also be a silent auction of shabby but chic folkdance costumes. For more information call Pat at (323) 253-2485 or email Jan at JanRayman@charter.net.

On January 31, we will have an all-request party (with no teaching) and live music.

We dance every Friday evening at Throop Unitarian Church, 300 S. Los Robles (at Del Mar). We are a 10 minute walk from the Del Mar Metro Station. Teaching is 7:45 - 9:00. Programmed and requested dances follow until 11:00. Dance programs for the current month and other information are posted on our website: PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org. For more information contact Jan at JanRayman@charter.net or call (818)790-8523.

Jan Rayman

VESELO SELO DECEMBER 2013 AND JANUARY 2014 CALENDAR

Veselo will be dancing three Saturdays in December at the Anaheim Community Center, Dec. 7, 21 and 28, 2013. Join us for dancing from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. in the Fine Arts Room.

On New Year's Eve - December 31st - Veselo Selo will hold our Annual New Year's Eve Party at the Universalist Unitarian Church Anaheim (our old place). See our website,

www.veseloselofolkdancers.com, for location and directions.

Veselo December Events

December 7 – (8 p.m. – 11 p.m.) - Anaheim Community Center

Nostalgia Night - Sandy Wodicka will teach *Dunafalvi Leanytanc* an Andor Czompo girl's Hungarian circle dance and *Ovcepolska Potrculka* – a Pece Atanasovski Macedonian one pattern line dance, while Kathy Molga will DJ your favorite dances from the 60s and 70s.

December 21 – (8 p.m. – 11 p.m.) - Anaheim Community Center

Veselo Selo will hold its Christmas Party with an allrequest dance evening to recorded music. Bring your favorite Christmas food, cakes and cookies, and dance for three solid hours! December 28 – (8 p.m. – 11 p.m.) - Anaheim Community Center

Veselo Selo's Pre-New Year's Party - For those with other plans on New Year's Eve, Veselo will celebrate the last Saturday of 2013 with live music performed by the incredible Balkan Band, Veselba!

December 31 – (7:30 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.) -Unitarian Universalist Church Anaheim

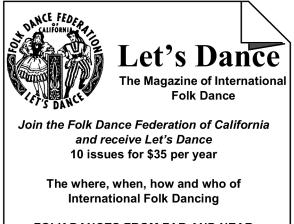
Veselo Selo's Annual New Year's Party - We'll ring in the New Year 2014 with the UUCA Folk Dance Group, and you won't want to miss the Veselo New Year's Grand March. We will have finger foods only instead of a formal dinner. No alcohol at the church, but we will bring champagne flutes and Martinelli's sparkling cider to celebrate! (see website for location).

Veselo January Events

January 25 – (8 p.m. – 11 p.m.) - Anaheim Community Center

Nostalgia Night - Sandy Wodicka will teach *Lakodalmi Tanc* an Andor Czompo girl's Hungarian circle dance, while Kathy Molga will DJ your favorite dances from the 60s and 70s.

Kathy Molga



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IMPRESSIONS

Don Krotser

44th Annual 44th Annual FEBRUIARY 7-9, 2014 LAGUNA School Gym FISAUARY 7-9, 2014 LAGUNA School Gym 2000 Cliff Dr. JEST WAL Mergent Beach CA , 92663
info@LagunaFolkdancers.org; www.LagunaFolkdancers.org; (714) 313-2933; (714) 893-8888; (949) 646-7082
Presenting Master Teachers Teachers George & Irina Arabagi dances of Hungary and dances of Moldavia and the Balkans Ukraine
A VARIETY OF BANDS will provide LIVE MUSIC throughout the week-end
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
Friday evening \$16 Dance Party in Gym with recorded music, requests and a bit of introductory teaching 7:30-12:00 also: KAFANA, in separate room, more intimate setting, live music
Saturday Sunday
Morning workshop
Optional Catered Lunch in the Gym on Sunday <i>must be ordered by 12:00 noon Saturday</i> selection of premium prepared sandwiches and bakery items \$12
PASSPORT FOR ALL EVENTS:Motel info:S55. before Jan. 24; \$65 at the doorTravelodge, 1951 Newport Blvd. Costa Mesa \$69.12 (1-2 people, 1 bed) or \$85.32 (up to 4 people, 2 beds), tax included.\$5 at the door (PDF file)2 beds), tax included. (949)650-2999 Mention Laguna Folkdancers.
Register in Advance
Names for badges
Mail with check (before Jan.24) to Laguna Folkdancers, 1524 Vivian, Newport Beach, CA 92660