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Folk Dance Scene

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On the cover: Jaap Leegwater at Mainewoods, 2016; photo courtesy of Jaap Leegwater



Folk Dance Scene

Volume 53, No. 1 February 2017

Editors' Corner

Welcome to California winter rains. We also have an evolving The Corner for you to consider and contribute to...

Jaap Leegwater is our feature this month - we're glad to have him! Check recipes from his native country in Ethnic Food.

Find your events in Calendar and On the Scene, and note the Invitation to Wisconsin!

Hear what dancers have to say in Dancers Speak and Poetry Corner, what's happened in Recent Events, and when and where in Club Directory.

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

The Corner

Long time readers know this section of the Scene as the Federation Corner or sometimes the Teacher's Corner. That's about to be expanded with your help. Besides including news from the Federation or bios of folk dance teachers, the Scene committee would like to include:

people you know, and would like others in the folk dance community to know about. Your club can choose a new or long-standing member, write a short bio including your reason for the choice, attach a photo and send to editor@FolkDanceScene.org.

people you know that were active in the folk dance scene and no longer are. You can send us an update of where they are now and what they are up to at the same email address as above. (Please note: This is not meant as a request for obituaries.)

This month we're featuring highlights from the November 6th meeting of the Federation, but next month we could feature you or someone else important in your folk dance life.

NOTES FROM FEDERATION COUNCIL MEETING

Statewide 2017, 5/26 to 5/29/2017, in Reseda with teachers Loui Tucker and Ercument Kilic.

Schedule for the weekend with coordinators

Friday: 7pm to 11pm - Recorded music program Saturday:9am to 11am Teachers - Valerie Daley

12 to 2pm - Lunch

2-3:30pm – Vintage Dances (Golden Oldies) - Marc and Jan Rayman

5-7pm - Dinner (Past Presidents) - Valerie Daley

7-10:30pm – International Dancing to live music

Interfolk Band

10:30-12-After Party - Loui Tucker

Sunday: 9 to noon Teachers

12 to 2pm- Lunch Break

2-3:45 -Teaching Review (video taking allowed)

2-3:45 - Beginner's Class, easy dances - Jay Michtom

MICHIOITI

3

4-5pm - Dance Concert -Pauline Klak

5-7pm - Dinner Installation - Shana Winokur

7-11pm - International Program Ice Cream

Social - Gordon Wall

Monday: 10am to 2pm - Dancing in the Park Barbeque (Hot Dogs and Burgers) need coordinator

Pauline Klak

February 2017

Jaap Leegwater



I am very much looking forward to my return to Southern California in March this year. I especially look forward to being able to (re)connect with many good old, and new, musicand dance friends. Before moving down to Southern California, my two week

teaching tour starts off with the Camellia Festival in my former home town of Sacramento on the weekend of 18-19 March. That's where I lived for almost 20 years before moving back to the Netherlands in 2000.

NEW SINCE I MOVED BACK TO HOLLAND

A lot of exciting things have happened in both my personal and professional life since then. I continued my employment as a school guidance counselor at International School of Amsterdam (ISA) and Amsterdam International Community School. Working with the international school population, expat families from various cultures, has given me a deeper appreciation of the culture and folklore of different countries and cultures. On the folk dance front, I have my regular dance classes at different folk dance organizations in Holland, and at the same time I return to the US and Canada a few times a year for camps like Stockton Folk Dance Camp, Ontario Folk Dance Camp, Mainewoods Dance Camp, June Camp and Balkanalia, I have rejoined the Paloina Dance Ensemble in Amsterdam and am now also playing regularly in some folk



bands. The most recent one is the Zadar Balkan Band with which I perform in a musical theater production called "The Wedding and the Seven Gypsies" set in Macedonia, based on the novel with the same name by A. den Doolaard.

NEW FOCUSES

I am involved in an exciting new project for which the Bulgarians themselves have already showed an interest. This is a "Bulgarian co-production" of my own previously unreleased archive footage and field and studio recordings. At the moment these are professionally transferred to a digital format and



Jaap with dancers of the village: Gabra, Bulgaria 1979 post-mastered for new productions. I am pleasantly surprised with how well the excellent quality of the analog studio tapes has been preserved over time, and I am excited to share some of this material with you on my brand new CD Echoes of Orpheus. As always, and happily so, I am open for special requests and including some of my golden oldies as well.

Another tradition that I am involved in is the *Bulgarian Dance Taverns*. This is a place where fans of Bulgarian folklore and culture meet and mingle "Ha xopo" (*Na Horo*) to dance together and listen to the inspiring live music and Bulgarian songs performed by orchestras and soloists specializing in Bulgarian music (Balkan Swing Band Sultan, Chubrica Choir and visiting Bulgarian musicians). The program consists of non-choreographed Pan-Bulgarian generic dances as done on weddings and special holidays in Bulgaria.

On my teaching tour next month, I will be accompanied by my partner and fiancé Mea Nordenfelt. She is a colleague, international dance teacher from Sweden, and former dancer with the International Dance Theatre of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. This past year Mea and I taught together at various workshops in Sweden and at the

Doe Dans Festival and Eerde Folk Camp (see photo at left), both in the Netherlands, 2016.

Jaap Leegwater http://www.jaapleegwater.com j.leegwater@casema.nl





Let's Dance! The Magazine of International Folk Dance

Join the Folk Dance Federation of California and receive *Let's Dance!* 10 issues for \$35/year

The where, when, how and who of International Folk Dancing

Membership application available on line at www.folkdance.com. Pay on-line or send application with check to Alicia LaFetra, Membership, 1614 Peacock Avenue Sunnyvale, CA 94087



CALENDAR

Note: Federation events are in bold. CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 12 Nevenka's 2nd Bon Voyage Concert & Dance Party, Sunday, 5-8:00 p.m. at The Tango Room, 4346 Woodman Ave., Sherman Oaks, CA 91423. \$18 general admission, tickets online only at Brown Paper Tickets. info@nevenka.org
- 12 Culver City English Country Dance, Sunday, 4-7:00 p.m. Guest Caller: Gene Murrow with Special Guest Band at Lindberg Stone House, Lindberg Park, 5041 Rhoda Way, Culver City, CA 90230. Info: Kevin Savage 310.650.8570 or www.caldancecoop.org
- 16 Valentine's Day Party with Narodni, 7:30-10:30 p.m. Thursday at Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St., Bellflower, CA. Info: Julith 562.404.383, 562.881.9504 (cell), or www.narodni.org

MARCH

- 3 Aspen Santa Fe Ballet, Friday 8:00 p.m. at Valley Performing Arts Center, 18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge, CA 91325 Info: 818.677.3000 or www.valleyperformingartscenter.org
- 3-5 Laguna Folk Dance Festival Friday to Sunday at Clubhouse 2, 24112 Moulton Parkway (Gate 12), Laguna Woods, CA 92637. Teachers: Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion, Romanian; Ahmet Luleci, Turkish; Miamon Miller, Balkan music workshops; Michael Lawson, Balkan singing workshops. See ad. Info and gate clearance: Miriam 949.680.9946 or 7kahnmiriam@gmail.com
- 24 Jaap Leegwater Workshop 8-11:00 p.m., Friday Night L.I.F.E. at DanceFit LA, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd., West LA 90025. Info: Sherry Cochran WorldDance1@gmail.com
- 25 Jaap Leegwater Workshop at Folk Dance Center in San Diego. Info: Vicki Mayhew flkdancer@yahoo.com

MAY

13 Martha Graham & American Music, Martha

- Graham Dance Co., Monday, 8:00 p.m. at Valley Performing Arts Center, 18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge, CA 91325. Info: 818.677.3000 or www.valleyperformingartscenter.org
- 26-29 Statewide Festival, Friday to Monday at One Generation Senior Enrichment Center, 18255 Victory Blvd., Reseda, CA 91335. Ercument Kilic, Loui Tucker.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

- 3/17 & 18 *Camellia Festival*, Sacramento, CA. Teachers: Richard Powers & Jaap Leegwater. Info: folkdancesac.org/camellia-festival.html
- 6/17-24 *Mendocino Folklore Camp* at Mendocino Woodlands. Teachers: Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion, Roo Lester, Yannis Konstantinou. Info: www.MendocinoFolkloreCamp.com
- 7/16-23, 23-30 Stockton Folk Dance Camp. Two identical weeks. At University of the Pacific, 3601 Pacific Ave., Stockton, CA. See ad. Info: www.folkdancecamp.org

ILLINOIS

3/24-26 Spring Festival, Chicago. See ad.

MISSOURI

4/6-8 *National Folk Organization Conference,* St. Louis, Missouri. Info: nfo-usa.org

WASHINGTON

- 5/6 Balkanarama, Saturday 7:30-10:30 p.m. at Fairhaven Public Library,1117- 12th St., Bellingham, WA. Info: 360.733.1815.
- 6/3 Zakuska, Friday 7:30-10:30 p.m. at Fairhaven Public Library, 1117 12th St., Bellingham, WA. Info: 360.733.1815.

FOREIGN CANADA

4/21-23 Lyrids Folk Dance Festival, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada. Yves Moreau & France Bourque-Moreau. Sat. party with Orkestar RTW. Info: www.LyridsFolkDanceFestival.org or lyridsfolkdancefestival@gmail.com

EUROPE FROM A TO Z

7/3-17 Amsterdam to Zurich! Sail the Rhine from Netherlands to Switzerland, stopping at Cologne, Mannheim, Strasbourg and Lake Lucerne. Info: Marija & David Hillis, 2147 Parker St., Berkeley, CA 94704. See ad. Info: 510.549.0337 or www.folkdanceonthewater.org or folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com

INDIA

11/7-21 led by Lee Otterholt. See ad. Info: Jim Gold jimgold@jimgold.com or www.jimgold.com

ISRAEL

3/19-30 *Israel!* Led by Jim Gold with Dr. Joe Freedman. Jerusalem, Masada, Tel Aviv, Galilee, Haifa, Tiberias, Safed, Golan Heights. See ad. Info: Jim Gold jimgold@jimgold.com or www.jimgold.com

NORWAY/DENMARK/SWEDEN

6/13-26 Led by Lee Otterholt. Oslo, Gothenburg, Helsingborg (Elsinore), Copenhagen. See ad. Info: Jim Gold jimgold@jimgold.com or www.jimgold.com

POLAND

7/21-8/5 *Poland Festival Tour* led by Richard Schmidt. Krakow, Rzeszow, Zakopane, Czestochowa, Gkansk, Olsztyn, Zelazowa Wola, Warszawa, See ad. Info: Jim Gold jimgold@jimgold.com or www.jimgold.com

ROMANIA

- 5/30-6/10 or 9/12-23 Ethnographic Trips to Transylvania, Cluj & Napoca, Romania with Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu. Info: Sonia dion@hotmail.com or www.soniacristian.net See ad.
- 8/5-17 Romania! Led by Jim Gold. Bucharest, Sibiu, Cluj, Sighetu Marmatiei, Piatra Neamt, Brasov. See ad Info: Jim Gold jimgold@jimgold.com or www.jimgold.com

SCOTLAND

8/7-20 *Scotland!* Led by Richard Schmidt. Glasgow, Edinburgh, Stirling, St. Andrews, Aberdeen, Inverness, Fort William, Glen Coe, Loch Lomond. Info: Jim Gold jimgold@jimgold.com or www.jimgold.com



DANCE ON THE WATER

New for 2017!

Europe from A to Z

(Amsterdam to Zurich!)

July 3 - 17, 2017

Sail the Rhine from the Netherlands to Switzerland Stops include Cologne, Mannheim, Strasbourg and Lake Lucerne 5 days in Amsterdam with tours selected and led by Maurits van Geel Prices start at \$3,465 (plus airfare; double occupancy)

\$200 Early Bird discount for registrations received by January 31! \$100 Early Bird discount for registrations received by February 28!

Complete information on our website www.folkdanceonthewater.org
Please write to get on our email list: folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com
Marija & David Hillis 2147 Parker Street, Berkeley CA 94704 (510) 549-0337

ON THE SCENE

NARODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCERS

February 2 Groundhog Day. We will celebrate this day by reviewing dances, so let us know what dances you would like to polish up.

February 9 Julith Neff will review Edno Maloj Mome and La Bordeiul Cel din Vale

February 16 Valentine's Day party – wear something red and bring something sweet to eat. This will be an all request evening.

February 23 More reviews

Narodni's board has had a couple of special club activities lately: a contest to design our next T-shirt and the creation of our "go green" Narodni water bottle. Both can be ordered from Narodni and there are stories elsewhere in this issue where you can "read all about it."

Our regular meeting night is Thursday 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 562.881.9504 (cell). You can also visit our website at www.narodni.org for basic information.

Julith Neff

NEVENKA'S 2ND BON VOYAGE CONCERT AND DANCE PARTY

Sunday, February 12, 2017, 5-8 p.m. at The Tango Room, 4346 Woodman Ave. Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

Our percussionist and friend Jerry Summers is moving to Crete this spring. (Wonderful for him, not so much for us!) So let's send him off in style, with a Balkan dance party! The 1-hour concert begins at 5:00 p.m., followed by dancing with live music, appetizers and beverages.

Limited space! We are selling 80 tickets online only at Brown Paper Tickets \$18 General Admission

VESELO SELO

Feb 4 Advanced teaching at 9 p.m., Shana Winokur teaching *Opas*

Feb.11 Veselo Selo will begin a program of teaching to help dancers new to international folk dancing. The focus will be on learning basic steps and dance structure within the standard

folk dance repertoire, with an intent to help dancers learn and pick up dances based on common elements. The sessions will be the second Saturday of the month and will be taught initially by Sandy Wodicka. First night is free.

Feb. 18 A teaching of Kadrila

Feb. 25 Diane Baker teaching Matanot K'tanat

Lu Perry

WANT A MIDWEEK AFTERNOON BOOST?

Join the Mountain Dancers on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at the Woman's Club of South Pasadena, 1424 Fremont Avenue. Enjoy dancing and learning dances with a welcoming group. It's \$5.00 for the session from 1:30 to 3:00 followed by free refreshments.

For more information, call Roz Witt at 626.797.4453.

JAAP'S WORKSHOPS

After teaching at the Camellia Festival in Sacramento, Jaap Leegwater will be doing a series of workshops in Northern California. He will then come to the south for some additional sessions. So far, the following have been set up:

Friday March 24, L.I.F.E. World Dance, Sherry Cochran

Saturday March 25, Folk Dance Center, San Diego, Vicky Maheu

He does have some open days in his schedule, so if you would like to arrange a workshop at your club, contact him at j.leegwater@casema.nl, + 31 - 6 - 250 244 16 / cell phone

PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

We had a wonderful New Year's Eve party and Winter Festival. If you missed them, don't fret (too much): it's less than a year until the next ones, and the wait will be worth it! And in the meantime, we will dance every Friday from 7:30 to 10:30 at Throop Unitarian Church in Pasadena. Visit the Dances/This Month page of our website at

PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org for the weekly dance program, teaching schedule, dances available for request (many with links to videos as reminders), and much more.

Marc Rayman



JULY 16 - 23 & JULY 23 - 30, 2017

OUR 2017 FEATURED GUESTS

Roberto Bagnoli International Caspar Bik Georgian



Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion Romanian



Radboud Koop Russian







Bruce Hamilton English



Miamon Miller & My Men And Yours

RECISTER NOW



Tony Parkes American Squares & Contras



Visit our website! www.folkdancecamp.org/

ETHNIC FOOD

Ed. Note: Although Jaap Leegwater, our feature this month, teaches mostly Bulgarian dance, he is from Holland and does also teach some Dutch dances. Here are some foods from his country.

DUTCH BABY POOFED PANCAKE

Ingredients:

3 eggs

1/4 cup flour, plus1 tbsp flour

1/4 cup milk , plus1 tbsp milk

1tsp canola oil

1/4 tsp salt

1 tsp confectioners' sugar

2 tbsp butter

2 tbsp lemon juice

1/8 cup confectioners' sugar

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400 and put an 8" or 9" cast iron skillet inside to get hot.

Whisk or beat eggs. Add milk and oil and whisk again. Add flour and salt and whisk very well.

Remove skillet from oven, melt butter and swirl to coat entire surface, wiping sides with a paper towel dipped in the butter. Pour in batter all at once.

Return to oven and bake for 18-20 minutes - it's better not to be too golden brown on the underside - and may take a few (delicious) tries to figure what degree of doneness YOU like best with your oven

and pan.

Remove and serve at once garnished with slim lemon wedges and sprinkled with confectioner's sugar

I would think you could use a souffle or casserole dish

Serves 2

DUTCH CUCUMBER SALAD

Ingredients:

2 - 3 large cucumbers

8 -10 ounces white vinegar (Japanese seasoned sushi vinegar can also be used)

3-5 tablespoons sugar

1 -2 thinly sliced onion

Directions:

Wash and peel cucumbers.

Slice cucumbers in thin rounds and onions as thinly as possible. Place in bowl and cover with vinegar. Add 3-5 heaping tablespoons of sugar, Mix well. Chill and serve.

This is better if you let it sit in the fridge covered overnight, or for two or three days, turning to let all of the cucumbers and onions marinate well.

Sandy Helperin





E-mail Address

Ensemble Balkanske Igre's 52nd Anniversary



SPRING FESTIVAL

March 24-26, 2017

International House, 1414 E 59th St, Chicago, IL 60637

(Hyde Park/University of Chicago)

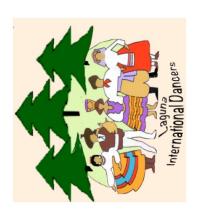
Dance and Music of the Balkans, Eastern Europe, and Eastern Mediterranean

Enjoy the best in Balkan, Eastern European, and Mediterranean dance, music, and culture with world renowned master teachers...spectacular live music...riveting dance & musical performances. Dance on a sprung oak floor. Sing, jam, and celebrate with friends new and old from coast to coast and Canada!

March 24-26, 2017, Friday, 8pm - midnight / Saturday to Sunday, 9am-5pm Workshops, Party, Culture Sessions with Master Teachers and Artists Nina Kavardjikova, Ahmet Lüleci, Ventzi Sotirov, Keepa Jasim, Chris Bajmakovich, James Stoyanoff, & others.

SATURDAY EVENING, March 25, 7pm, Concert & Dance Party featuring the finest live music and dances from all regions of the Balkans and Eastern Europe/Mediterranean

Info/Reservations: balkanske igre@yahoo.com 847/331-7842 or 847/858-9822 Balkanske Igre, PO Box 1157, Chicago, IL 60690 www.balkanskeigre.org Shuttle between O'Hare and Midway Airports and the International House/University of Chicago: www.airportexpress.com or call 888.2THEVAN/888-284-3826. Plentiful housing options near campus; please contact us for details. Program subject to change. Spring Festival is co-sponsored by the International House at the University of Chicago, CEERES, and the Ensemble Balkanske Igre. Please complete and return to John Kuo, 9201 Mason, Morton Grove, IL 60053 - please make checks payable to: "Balkanske Igre". NOTE: EARLY REGISTRATION + WEEKEND PASS OPTIONS YIELD SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNTS. Student /FDCC General Note: Friday & Saturday evening concert & parties included in weekend packages; evening dinners & syllabus are Seniors extra. Individual workshop admission is \$10/\$12. ___\$160 by 1/10/2017, Weekend Pass (Fri evening through Sun) \$140 \$150/\$170 by 2/10/2017, \$160/\$180 after 2/10/2017 Saturday evening concert & dance party only \$ 30 \$ 40 (included in weekend pass) Syllabus Dinner Saturday evening \$30 Please check if __vegetarian, __vegan, ___food allergies:_ Post-festival Sunday dinner/party w/live music \$40 at a Balkan ethnic restaurant tba for a total of \$ Other Phone Address City/State/Zip?Country



LAGUNA FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL the 47th Annual CLUBHOUSE 2

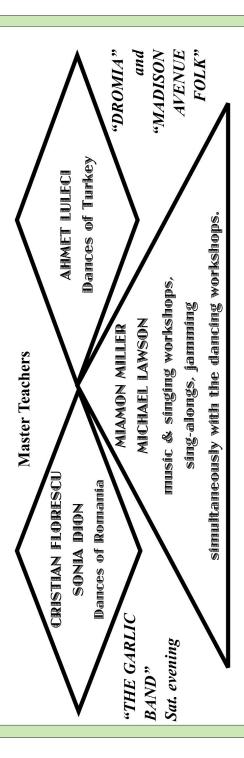
24112 Moulton Parkway, Laguna Woods, CA 92637 (Gate 12)

MARCH 3-5, 2017

(Friday thru Sunday)

We are members of the Folkdance Federation of California, South, www.SoCalFolkdance.org

email <u>7kahnmiriam@gmail.com</u> or call cell: (949) 680-9946; home: (949) 770-7026 Gate clearance needed unless pre-registering. Please:



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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

\$80 before . Feb. 20; \$100 at the door Dance descriptions: free downloads PASSPORT FOR ALL EVENTS:

HOTEL INFO: Ayres Hotel, walking distance - discounts for "Laguna Woods Groups": \$139/night, double occup. for other options call Beverly Barr (310) 478-4659 incl. full hot breakfast - CALL (949) 588-0131

Advance Passport and/or Meal Registration (register individually)

	- \$80	meals	may be	ordered	without	Without Learning	gurkna	passport
Name	Passport - all events		Saturday lunch\$11.00	:	Sunday lunch\$11.00 ()	Total check \$	Free late snacks and wine	Fri. & Sat. night

spinach& mushroom quiche, mini croissants...\$11.-...\$16.-Sat. Lunch: Blintz souffle, fresh fruit platter, Sat. Buffet Dinner: Greek salad, moussaka, Catered Meals on the premises Sun. Lunch: Fried chicken, piece of fruit, white fish Greek style w/veggies: MENU lemon meringue pie

Your email address (for confirmation)

Mail with check payable to Laguna International Dancers (before Feb. 20) to: Folk Dance Festival, 24751 Castle Hill Road, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

potato salad, cookie

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DANCERS SPEAK

NARODNI HAS T-SHIRT CONTEST

We have recently had several people ask about Narodni T-shirts and it has been a while since we have had them available. So, at our October meeting the board members decided that we would like to "step it up a notch" and do something a little different. Instead of ordering more of the same, we had a contest to design our next shirt. We announced the contest during the month of October and board members wore their current Narodni t-shirts to help kick things off. The contest ended on December 1.

When it came time to choose the winning design,



things didn't go exactly as we had originally planned. Members liked some parts of each of 2 favorite designs, so we compiled a list of suggested changes and used them as a basis for a design combining the best of both. Our

winners are Julith Neff and Carol Wall. We have kept the same dancing figures, designed by Terri Hoffman and used with her permission while making some changes to our layout. Our winners were presented with a copy of Carl Pilsecker's "Limericks" for the discerning folk dancer. You see his contributions regularly in the Scene.

Julith Neff

GO GREEN! AT NARODNI BYOB

Plastic trash polluting our oceans is shocking! Don't Google 'plastic trash' while you are eating. It will spoil your appetite and raise hackles on your spine. It made me want to stop throwing *anything* away!

Narodni has decided to become part of the solution to the plastic pollution of our planet. We are on a mission to do away with using single-use plastic food items at Narodni. We're starting with plastic water cups. An anonymous donor has paid for 100 re-useable water bottles with the Narodni logo on them. The bottle is a lovely pale shade of blue with a green cap and the words: GO GREEN! BYOB - Come

Dance With Us – narodni.org. Terri Hoffman created the picture of the dancers. The bottles have been given out free to members. They are being sold for \$1.00 to non-members.

Some startling statistics to re-awaken us regarding plastic trash (source: Eco Watch):

- 90% of the trash floating on the ocean's surface is plastic
- 1 million sea birds and 100,000 marine mammals are killed annually from plastic in our oceans
- 44% of all sea birds and 22% of cetaceans, all sea turtle species and a growing list of fish species have been documented with plastic in or around their bodies.
- 10 metric tons of plastic trash are carried into the Pacific Ocean every day from the Los Angeles area alone... like grocery bags, straws, soda bottles, etc.
- 85 lbs: Amount of plastic trash thrown away yearly by the average American
- 35 Billion: Plastic water bottles Americans throw away every year (source: Brita)
- 1 Million: Plastic bags used every minute 500 to 1,000: years it takes for plastic to degrade

Camille Dull

Editors' Note: Marge's beloved daughter, Anna Tinka Gajicki, succumbed to a brain tumor on Saturday, December 3. 2016

MY MEMORIES OF ANNA GAJICKI

I first met Anna in the mid-1980's at a festival where she and her mom, Marge, were vending. Anna said: "Let's do this dance coming on," and we talked while dancing. I saw her this way for about 10 years. In the mid-90's we both danced in the Gypsy Folk Ensemble. We did Irish, Mexican, Italian, Country Western, and Greek dances. I discovered she was very good at learning and remembering choreographies. After our time together with Gypsy Folk Ensemble ended, we still saw each other at festivals where she and her mother were working. The last chance I had to see and dance with her was at the Laguna Festival in 2014. As a friend, coworker, and someone to enjoy fun times with, she will be missed.

Nancy Milligan
President CalTech Folkdancers

KYPSELI EVENT

LAHELLENICRADIO.COM is a Los Angeles-based radio station on the Internet that broadcasts Greek music 24 hours. Our president, Ann Sirota, recently placed an ad with them, inviting listeners to attend Kypseli. As thanks for the ad, the station provided a band to come to one of our sessions to play Remetica music which was broadcast on the station.

Remember Greek dance encompasses everything Greek; that's Macedonian, Bulgarian, Pontian, the isles of Greece and the mainland, and modern music, village and the Rembetia. There is something for everyone.

Kypseli has special teachers and bands regularly.

Nancy Milligan

Ed.s Note: We recently asked readers their thoughts on: 'How to Recruit and Retain New Dancers'. We will print the responses as we receive them. Here are the first three

PLEASE DON'T PRESSURE BEGINNERS TO JOIN THE LINE

Maybe the problem is unusual, but when I began folk dancing, two people pestered me to join the line although I wanted to dance behind the line. It almost drove me away.

Since even simple steps or patterns can be puzzling, it can be easier to unravel the puzzle (and feet) while observing someone who knows the dance – from behind. I didn't like being dragged to and fro while having no clear view of anyone who clearly displayed the steps.

Newbies might also prefer the "slow lane" for other reasons. They can select the dancer they best learn from. They can stop to restart or rest; and they can focus on footwork without the distraction of moving arms in sync with others.

Warm invitations to join a line or circle and friendly guidance are wonderful. But please remember to respect a newbie's preferences to choose to dance behind the line. (Of course, please be gentle if you ask someone to dance behind the line!)

A novice

My folk dancing experience began in the 70s. I can recall encounters with a few impatient or rude dancers – and I see both today. If I were not

absolutely thrilled by the music and challenge of learning dance steps, I would have found/would find another pastime! Surely, the impact of impatience and rudeness are even greater since today's newbies are essentially alone. In past decades, a newbie could dance, chat, and share frustration with other beginners. With fewer newbies, it's vital that we are patient with learners, gentle if we offer guidance, and socially inclusive during non-dance times.

As a newbie, I usually preferred to dance behind the line. Yet two dancers at one club persistently pestered me to join the line – which almost drove me away. In contrast, a warm invitation now and then was very nice.

We've all seen dancers curtly gesture to a newbie to get behind the line. Curtness is never kind, and these days, dancing behind the line means dancing alone – which some people dislike. If you want a learner to dance behind the line, please ask nicely and offer to join them. In addition, a few folks curtly refuse to take a hand, even from a novice, unless it's correctly oriented. If a correct hold is vital, we can gently offer correction; if not vital, we can ignore mistakes. Please, be inviting to novices!

I've also heard harsh responses to questions (mine and from others), such as "You should have been listening," or "That was taught last time." Perhaps some dancers have forgotten that the auditory and visual input while trying to coordinate unnatural and/ or new movements results in sensory overload. So, newbies cannot comprehend and absorb all they see and cannot recall steps or styling — even for the duration of instruction or a dance — and certainly not a week or two later.

Another thing that experienced dancers need to keep in mind: in the good ol' days, thorough teaching or reviewing was much more frequent because large portions of dancers and dances were new. In contrast, today's beginners are overwhelmed with the number of different dances done in a session – with very little instruction or guidance. Even when some of the dances are thoroughly taught, newbies suffer from sensory overload. In addition, today's newbies are usually over 60 and don't move or learn as easily as the dancers who started before they were 30; and they are often expected to learn from leaders whose steps are not crisp and easy to recognize.

It would help greatly if one or two regulars were appointed to help newbies feel welcome and to help them with a few dances each session. The dance

mentors need not be great at dancing or teaching as long as they can gently give the guidance through their handhold and/or whispered tips. Based on my experience and what newbies tell me, a total newbie makes so many mistakes that imperfect guidance is preferred to none at all. In addition, the dance program (at least early) needs to focus on beginner-friendly dances and include some teaching. Newbies are already challenged, alone, and perhaps frustrated; so we must not expect them to sit out most, or even half, of the dances.

In addition to being more inviting, tolerant, and guiding, our clubs should consider suggestions by new members and allow them to exercise their talents. I know of a club where efforts by new members to help with tasks are rejected, and suggestions are nearly always harshly dismissed. Even if an idea was "tried before," it was a different time and by a different person. The ideas and efforts of new members might attract more newcomers than "the way we've always done it."

Finally, many old-timers assume, and even say aloud, that "Everyone knows such-and-such" regarding a policy, venue, dance, or whatever. The assumption is also evidenced by simplifications and abbreviations. That's not friendly to newbies and suggests a lack of interest in making them feel welcome. We must strive to ensure that newcomers are – and feel – appreciated and enjoy our wonderful folk dance "village."

Anonymous

When a new dancer is trying to learn by following behind the line, someone from the club might want to let them know which dancers are the best to follow. Those should be dancers who know the patterns and who dance with clear steps. I have seen beginners struggle to follow someone who is struggling to follow someone else.

Anonymous



Dancers, Clean out your closets!

Bring your folk outfits, vests, dance shoes, hats, scarves, and anything "folk" you'd like to donate. We'll even take folk instruments, stationary, dance notes, CDs, books, jewelry and anything else you

haven't used lately that's gathering dust in your closet. Place all those folk goodies into large bags with your name on them, and bring your checkbook too for the:

The Statewide Festival
Bazaar and Silent Auction
One Generation Senior Enrichment Center
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Shop on *Saturday, May 26 and Sunday May 27*Want to Volunteer at the Bazaar? Email Kathy Molga at: ad_wiz@yahoo.com

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The Folk Dance Federation of California South proudly offers:

The 2017 Federation Scholarships



Do you know of someone in your club who has contributed to folk dancing in a significant way?

Club Committee Members may nominate Candidates for a 2017 Scholarship.

Candidates must be participating members of a Southern California Federation Club, and they must not have received a scholarship within the past 3 years.

We will award scholarships that pay up to 1/2 the tuition only for a 2017 camp to candidates, who have demonstrated that they have actively promoted or contributed to Folk Dancing in Southern California. Your Club may nominate more than one candidate. We will announce Scholarship Winners at the Statewide Festival in May.

Please note: Nominating Club Committee Members must work with their Candidates to complete the Scholarship application form, located on our website: http://www.socalfolkdance.com/forms/S ScholarshipApp.pdf

Email application forms to Kathy Molga, Scholarship Committee Chair, at ad_wiz@yahoo.com, or mail in your applications to:
Kathy Molga, 57 Westgate Laguna Niguel, CA 92677.

All applications must be received by no later than April 30, 2017.

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February 2017

RECENT EVENTS

SOCAL BEGINNERS' FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL DRAWS DANCERS OF ALL AGES

On November 6, 2016, the Folk Dance Federation of California, South held a wonderful international folk dance workshop geared toward beginners. The dance floor was full of dancers of all ages, and our volunteer teachers did a terrific job. After some practice of basic dance movements, 16 dances from 11 countries were taught. In the middle of the 4 hour event, we enjoyed a short performance by the marvelous Scandia Dancers of Southern California, dressed in traditional Scandinavian costumes. Another feature of the event was a display of folk costumes organized by Elizabeth Barber, chair of the Folk Dance Federation costume committee.

We decided to host the beginners-oriented event in order to attract new dancers to our recreational folk dancing clubs in the region. With increasingly older dancer populations, our members worry that our beloved pastime, recreational folk dance, is in danger of dying out. While we don't know if this type of event will have a lasting benefit, we felt it was worth the effort. Funds from a recent large donation enabled us to offer the event free of charge to beginning dancers.

Most of the young dancers in attendance were girl scouts from four area troops, thanks to the outreach effort of co-chair Pauline Klak. We applaud the Girl Scouts leaders for encouraging their members to try new experiences and awarding badges to the girls. If we consider having a similar event in future, we can broaden our outreach to other youth groups and schools. Publicity can go beyond the folk dance community into any type of social dance email lists, Facebook pages, etc.

Enthusiastic THANK YOU! to all our volunteers:

Co-chairs/teachers: Pauline Klak and Shana Winokur.

Teachers: Diane Baker, Henrietta Bemis, Marshall Cates, Sue Chen & Wen-li Chiang, Karen Codman, Jan & Marc Rayman.

Sound technician: Gordon Wall. Food coordinator: Carol Wall.

Scandia Dancers of Southern California, directed

by Stefanie Holzman.

Costume curator: Elizabeth Barber.

TWO PARTIES

Recently a friend and I attended two holiday dance parties – so different but both delightful in their own

ways.

On Friday we went to Kypseli's Greek holiday party. The next night we went to Scandia's holiday party. Both had music, dancing and food, plus friends we both have known for years. No other people attended both.

The Greek group had the band bring food and drinks (adult and non-adult). Scandia was potluck with a group in charge doing beverages – no alcohol allowed by the renting party (Bellflower Women's Club). I was well-fed at both events – one a sit-down potluck, the other savories – both had vegetarian and meat.

Kypseli's music was provided by a professional group who plays all over the greater L.A, area – such as St. Sophia's Greek Festival and others. Scandia had a semi-pro ensemble that plays for folk dance groups, with fiddlers playing for folk dance groups and fiddlers who have spent years learning regional dances – more as a challenge- becoming better every year- adding musicians as they come along. It felt fun to know how some musicians started and grew in their learning of music. Both events had enough dances that if you had only a vague idea of the basic syrto (Friday) or of a waltz (Saturday) you could dance all night.

Did I dance a great deal? Yes, both nights. The big difference – more dress-up on Saturday. Few ladies wore pants – a skirt felt better in turning dances of any type. Anything goes in the Greek world. Both showed the value of learning a basic dance that can be done all night.

I recommend that every folk dancer learn to waltz well and learn a syrto well – both show up at general folk dance festivals and are gateways to other dances forms. I come from a ballroom dance background, so waltzing I knew. Syrto was harder to learn for me, but helped me, and opened doors to other types of dance besides Greek. I hope every group teaches these two dances at least once every vear, so beginners catch on and attend more varied dance types throughout the year.

The bonuses – you make 2-3 times the friends and have more fun. Also going to an ethnic event is not so scarv since you can learn more dances easier.

Sadly the only thing I saw missing from both events was the chance to buy CD's by any of the musicians. But I know John Filcich is a great resource for both types of music.

> Nancy Milligan President of CalTech Folkdancers

POETRY CORNER

WHEN DOING THE TOPSY-TURVY DANCE

Ups become downs and ins become outs

And all is confusion and a profusion of shouts

And the music, more frenzied, grows as it goes! Now everyone's dancing on the tips of their toes!

Dancing Topsy-Turvy can feel very un-nervy!
So how does one cope??? with one's inner gyroscope

Spiraling upward to the stars... even to Mars...

Above wild improvisation to an orderly sensation,

Weightless, we tumble safely through space High on the tip of the finger of grace

LIMERICK

Folk dancer Jane shook her head,

Watching the clapping and jumping by Fred.

"At our house he's a brick;

Won't move a lick."

"Take home a bottle of Anjzerica," Doc said.

Carl Pilsecker

Camille Dull

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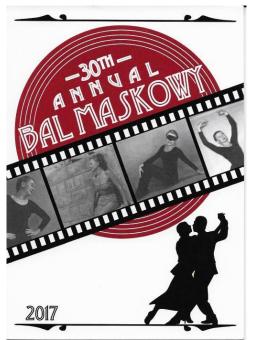
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dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

A beautiful card arrived in the mail addressed to "Folk Dance Scene." It is an invitation to a special ball celebrating Ada Dziewanowsky's 100th birthday.



A hearty "Happy Birthday" from the Scene readers to Ada, an icon in the folk dancing community.

The Syrena Polish Folk Dance Ensemble Requests the honour of your presence at the

--30" ANNUAL:-BAL MASKOWY

Saturday, the Eleventh of February, in the year Two Thousand and Seventeen

— THE WISCONSIN CLUB . —

Grand Ballroom
Nine Hundred West Wisconsin Avenue,
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-- COCKTAILS --

at half past five o'clock

-- DINNER --

at half past six o'clock

-- OPENING POLONEZ --

at eight o'clock

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until Midnight

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-- DANCING --

to the music of the Anthony Kawalkowski Orchestra of Chicago with special guest appearances by Tod and Friends of Warsaw

-- "PANI ADA" S STO LAT" --

A special tribute to
Ada Dziewanowska on her
100th birthday
featuring elegant Warsow Cobaret
songs and dances and
The Mazur from
Ada Dziewanowska's Lancer Suite
Performed by the
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"Special surprises for Ada and our guests





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Led by Jim Gold Bucharest, Sibiu, Cluj, Sighetu Marmatiei, Piatra Neamt. Brasov



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GREEK ISLAND TOUR: Oct. 2018 Crete/Santorini: Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt

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CLUB DIRECTORY

Most groups welcome beginning dancers. The groups with an * below have sessions specifically for beginners.

Federation Clubs

Bay Osos Folk Dancers: Tue 1:00-3:00. South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Ave, **Los Osos.** (805) 534-1501 Anne Tiber

*Cabrillo Folk Dancers: Tue 7:00-9:30 (Beg 7-8). Balboa Park. Balboa Park Club, 2144 Pan American, SAN DIEGO. (858) 459-1336 gbsham@gmail.com Georgina

Cafe Asteria: 4th Sat 7:30-11:30. LA DanceFit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd, **WEST LA**. xorepse@gmail.com (310) 508-9676 Anne Sirota

Cerritos Folk Dancers: Tue 6:00-8:45. Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St, CERRITOS. (562) 338-2298 chiangwenli@yahoo.com Wen Chiang

Conejo Valley Folk Dancers: Wed 7:30-9:30. Conejo Rec Center, 403 W Hillcrest Dr, THOUSAND OAKS. (206) 849-1190 dancermm@gmail.com Marie Montes

Ethnic Express: Wed 6:30 except holidays. East Las Vegas Community Ctr, 250 N. Eastern Ave, LAS VEGAS. (702) 732-4871 rpkillian@gmail.com Richard Killian

Fantasy Folk Dance Club: Sun 4:00 - 7:00. St Thomas Aquinas Church, 1501 S Atlantic Blvd, MONTEREY PARK. tiggerbyc@yahoo.com (626) 458-8851 Sophie Chen. Fri 8:15-10:45. El Monte Chamber of Commerce, 10505 Valley Blvd EL MONTE. (626) 429-9008

Vincentyhcheng@gmail.com Vincent Cheng

Int'l Folk Dance Club - Laguna Woods: Tue 9:00am-11:00. Clubhouse 1, 24232 Calle Aragon, LAGUNA WOODS. (949) 454-0837 friedagorelick@hotmail.com Frieda Gorelick

Kypseli Greek Folk Dancing: Fri 8:30-11:30. The Tango Room, 4346 Woodman Ave, **SHERMAN OAKS**. www.kypseli.org (310) 508-9676 Anne Sirota xorepse@gmail.com

Laguna Int'l Dancers: Wed 6:00-9:00, Sun 6:00-9:00. Clubhouse 2, 24112 Moulton Pkwy, LAGUNA WOODS. (949) 770-7026 7kahnmiriam@gmail.com Miriam Kahn

Mountain Dancers: 1st & 3rd Tue 1:30-3:30. Woman's Club, 1424 Fremont Ave, S. PASADENA (626) 355-9220 johnmeursinge@gmail.com John Meursinge

Narodni Int'l Folkdancers: Thu 7:30. Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St, BELLFLOWER. (562) 862-0521 wall9505@gmail.com arol Wall

*Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op: Fri 7:30-10:30 (Beg 7:30-8). Throop Unitarian Church, 300 S. Los Robles, PASADENA.

mrayman@alumni.princeton.edu (818) 790-8523 Marc Rayman

Prescott Int'l Folkdancers: Sun 3:00-5:00. First Congregational Church, 216 E. Gurley St, PRESCOTT, AZ. (928) 925-8995 Dick Weston

Rainbow Senior Club: Sun 3:00-6:00. Joslyn Senior Center 210 N. Chapel Ave, **ALHAMBRA**. (626) 456-1900 ksun310@yahoo.com Kevin Sun

San Diego Vintage Dancers: Dance Place, 2650 Truxton Rd, SAN DIEGO. (858) 622-9924 drjenma@pacbell.net Mary Jennings

Scandinavian Dancers of Ventura & Santa Barbara: Some Sat 2:00-5:00. Briggs Elementary School, 14438 W. Telegraph, SANTA PAULA. (805) 216-9526 mdejounge@gmail.com Madeleine.

Skandia South Dance Club: Mon 7:00-10:00. Downtown Community Center, 250 E Center, ANAHEIM. (714) 893-8888 Ted Martin. Sat 3:30-10:00(once a month). Lindberg Park, 5041 Rhoda Way, CULVER CITY. (562) 732-4990 Cameron Flanders

Solvang Village Folk Dancers: Sat 6:30-8:30 (except 3rd Sat). Bethania Lutheran, 603 Atterdag Rd, SOLVANG. 3rd Sat 1:00-3. Corner Alisal & Copenhagen, Solvang (805) 688-3397 dlh4362@gmail.com David Heald

Tuesday Gypsies: Tue 7:30-10:00. Masonic Lodge, 9635 Venice Blvd, **CULVER CITY**. (310) 390-1069 jstein1927@gmail.com Millicent Stein

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

Vintage Israeli Dancing: One Sat per month 8:16-12:00. Anisa's School of Dance, 14252 Ventura Blvd, SHERMAN OAKS. (818) 881-7494 (after noon) Louis, dovbyrd@aol.com

*West Los Angeles Folk Dancers: Mon 7:30-10:00 (Beg 7:30-8). Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave, WEST LA. (310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr

West Valley Folk Dancers: Fri 7:15-10:00. Senior Center, 7326 Jordan Ave, CANOGA PARK. (818) 348 -6133 lila@aurich.com Lila Aurich

Westchester Lariats: Mon 3:30-8:30. Westchester Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson, Los ANGELES. (310) 689-9176 veniceii@yahoo.com Ina Hall

Westwood Co-op: Thu 7:30-10:00. Felicia Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd, WEST LA. (310) 202-6166 dancingbarrs@yahoo.com Beverly Barr

Exhibition Groups

Karpatok Hungarian Folk Ensemble: Wed 8:00. United Hungarian House, 1975 Washington, Los ANGELES. (310) 350-1135 Livia Schachinger

Krakusy Polish Folk Dance Ensemble: Tue 7:00-9:30 Sat 2:15-4:15. Polish Parish Hall, 3424 W Adams Blvd, Los Angeles. (626) 827-7338 Ela Romuzga

Scandia Dancers: Woman's Club, BELLFLOWER. (714) 356-7745 Stefanie Holzman

UCSB Middle East Ensemble: Tue 7:00-10:00. Gehringer Music Bldg, UCSB Campus, SANTA BARBARA. (805) 729-645 scottmarcu@aol.com Scott Marcus

Non-Federation Clubs

Beverly Barr Daytime Classes: Mon 1:30-3:00 Senior Center, 5056 Van Nuys Blvd, Sherman Oaks. Tue 10:45am-12:30. Roxbury Park Rec. Center, 471 So. Roxbury, Beverly Hills. Wed 12:30-2:00. Culver City Senior Center, northwest corner Culver & Overland, Culver City. (310) 202-6166

Cafe Aman: 2nd Sat 7:30-11:30. Teach 7:30-8:30 LA DanceFit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd, West LA, madelyntaylor@hotmail.com ianprice@hotmail.com

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

Claremont Israeli Dancers: Mon 7:00-10:00 Masonic Lodge, 272 W. 8th St, CLAREMONT. (909) 921-7115 Yael

Desert Dancers: Thu 7:30-9:30. Hi Desert Dance Center, 725 S. Gateway St, **RIDGECREST**. (760) 371 -5669 Nora Nuckles **Desert Int'l Folk Dancers**: Thu 7:30-9:30 Oct.-May. Leisure Center Dance Studio, 401 S. Pavilion Way, **PALM SPRINGS**. (760) 342-1297 Helen Smith

Folk Dance Center: Every Evening. 4569 30th St, SAN DIEGO. (619) 466-4043, www.folkdancecenter.org

Folk Dance Class: Thu 10:15-11:45am. Pan Pacific Senior Center, 141 S. Gardner St, L.A. (310) 652-8706 Tikva Mason

Friday Night L.I.F.E.: Fri 8:00-11:00. LA DanceFit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd WEST L.A www.lifebalkandancers.com worldance1@gmail.com Sherry

Israeli Dancing-James Zimmer: Tue 8:00-12:00. Westside JCC, 5870 W Olympic, L.A. (310) 284-3638 James Zimmer Israelidance@yahoo.com

*Israeli Dancing-Natalie Stern: Mon 10:00am-11:45 & noon-1:00(Beg); Tue 10:30am-noon; Wed 7:00-9:30; Thu 10:15am-12:00, 12:05-1:05(Beg). American Jewish Univ Dance Studio, 15600 Mulholland, L.A (818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern

Israeli Dancing-Yoni Carr: Mon 7:00-11:30 Beginners at 7:00. Infinity Sport Dance Center, 4428 Convoy St, **SAN DIEGO**. (619) 227-0110 Yoni

Kayso Folk Dancers: Fri 9:30am-12:00. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 206, SAN DIEGO (619) 463-7529 Joe Sigona

San Diego Folk Dancers: Mon 7:30-9:00. Balboa Park Club, Balboa Park, SAN DIEGO (858) 278-4619 Jeanne Cate

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

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

Santa Monica College Int'l Dance Club: Tue, Thu 11:15am-12:35. Santa Monica College Clock Tower or LS Bldg, 1900 Pico Blvd, SANTA MONICA. (310) 284-3638 James Zimmer

Topanga Canyon Int'l FD: Fri 9:30am-11:00am. Froggy's Restaurant, 1105 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd, **TOPANGA**. (310) 455-1051 Melanie Kareem

UCLA Ballroom Club & UCLA Int'l Folkdancers: Mon 7:00-9:00(ballroom), 9:00-11:00 (folk). UCLA Kerckhoff Hall, Westwood. (310) 284-3636 UniversityDanceClubs@yahoo.com James Zimmer

February 2017

FOLK DANCE SCENE

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