



Folk Dance Scene



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Folk Dance Scene Committee

Coordinator	Jay Michtom	editor@FolkDanceScene.org	818.368.1957
Calendar	Fran Prevas	calendar@FolkDanceScene.org	310.921.2860
On the Scene		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
Proofreading Editor	Jan Rayman	proof@FolkDanceScene.org	818.790.8523
	Carl Pilsecker	proof@FolkDanceScene.org	562.865.0873
Design and Layout Editors	Pat Cross, Don Krotser	design@FolkDanceScene.org	323.255.3809
Business Manager	Gerda Ben-Zeev	business@FolkDanceScene.org	310.399.2321
Contributing Editor	Elizabeth Wayland Barber		
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

Jill and Jay Michtom
10824 Crebs Ave.
Northridge, CA 91326

Gerda Ben-Zeev
19 Village Park Way
Santa Monica, CA 90405

Sandy Helperin
4362 Coolidge Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90066

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On the cover: John Filcich, Somis Photo by Wen-Li Chiang



Folk Dance Scene

Volume 55, No. 6
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The Corner

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

May and June were amazing, busy, fun months for us!

Statewide in Claremont was a gem that brought over 200 participants with a healthy number of those coming from the North to enjoy the lovely venue at Pomona College. Weather was perfect. Town was lovely. Teachers were Treasures! Maimon Miller and Friends were, as expected, entertaining additions. There is much more on our successful Statewide inside Scene.

June brought an array of anniversaries! Cerritos Folkdancers celebrated their 10th Club Anniversary and the 5th Wedding Anniversary of leaders, Wen-Li Chiang and Sue Chen!! We congratulate their club in another well-organized festival which included exhibitions from a variety of groups. They also provided the space and lovely food for our Federation Meeting. Many thanks to Wen and your wonderful club for arranging the meeting room!

Federation clubs such as Narodni and Veselo Selo had Anniversary parties, too, that were well attended and brought out visitors and members alike. Live music was provided by Veselba for the Veselo event. Super fun dancing and great attendance at both events. Narodni leaders John Mathews, Julith Neff, Carl Pilsecker, Camille Dull and others keep folks dancing every Thursday night. Thanks to Lu Perry, Shana Winokur, Ed Cohn, and a host of active members, Veselo had its 49th Anniversary!!

The Federation South is working hard on our upcoming Fall Camp in honor of Beverly and Irwin Barr which is this November. The sadly lost Hess-Kramer camp has been resurrected close by at Brandeis-Bardin campus of American Jewish University. Registration for Camp has begun with wonderful teachers plus some things that we hope will evoke the homey sweet qualities of the old camp such as hiking, poetry workshops, conversation over puzzles. So look up the excellent website and register soon!

Thanks for keeping folk dancing in SoCal for all of us to enjoy!

Pauline Klak, President

Editors' Corner

This issue celebrates John Filcich on the occasion of his 95th birthday. An impressive bio merges with text and photos of the party at Somis.

We also report on Statewide, and several special Recent Events, On the Scene.

Read what your colleagues have to say in Dancers Speak and Poetry Corner.

The Corner reports on Federation news. Note Fall Camp, too

Find other events in Calendar.

Be of good cheer!

Pat Cross and Don Krotser

Table of Contents

The Corner	3
John Filcich	4
Calendar	8
Fall Camp 2019.....	10
On the Scene.....	15
Statewide 2019.....	16
Dancers Speak.....	18
Poetry Corner	19
Recent Events.....	20
Club Directory.....	21

Federation South Officers

President	Pauline Klak	310.832.1074
Vice-President	Diane Baker	949.675.2199
Treasurer	Mindy Belli	714.914.7713
Secretary	Leslie Halberg	661.296.0481
Membership	Bob Altman	714.891.0788
Historian	Wen-Li Chiang	626.500.5035

For information about dancing in the area, contact the Federation at the Federation website: SoCalFolkdance.org

JOHN FILCICH

Ed's Note: John has been, and continues to be, a strong force in folk dancing. We are fortunate to have had him as a Southern California resident for these many years. He just celebrated his 95th birthday at parties where he did his excellent teaching of Croatian dances. Below is a brief bio (taken from the Federation web-site – with thanks to Dick Oakes)

Ivan Petar "John" Filcich (Filčić) was born in Fiume, Italy, in 1924. The village is today called Rijeka in Croatia. When John was born, the village was called Fiume, the post World War I "free city-state" which was later annexed by Italy. For his father it was in Hungary, for his grandfather it was in Austria, and even earlier the area was part of Napoleon's Illyrian Provinces.

He immigrated to the United States when he was eight years old. His family settled in Gary, Indiana, the steel mill city with Croatian, Serbian, Polish, and other Slavic cultures and has had many years of experience with their music. He later moved to Arizona.

In 1935, when his father gave him an old phonograph and a stack of Bulgarian, Croatian, Macedonian, and Serbian records, his interest in international music was fostered. In 1946, the family moved again to California where John saw foreign dancers in their native costumes. By 1947, John was folk dancing every week in Oakland, California. With single-minded dedication, John devoted himself to the study of the origin, history, dance, music, and language of his people. Then, in 1948, the International Institute of Oakland asked him to form a Yugoslavian dance group to perform at the Festival of Nations. He did even more, he formed two groups – Croatian and Serbian – and he was also dancing six nights a week!

Seeing a great need, he opened his first record shop in 1949 in the San Francisco Bay Area, specializing in Balkan and international music and folk dance records (he later opened another record shop in Los Angeles). That same year, he attended



the College of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp in Stockton, California, which was later renamed the Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

This led to his teaching of Yugoslavian "kolo" (circle) dances at the camp

and his subsequent founding of the San Francisco Kolo Festival. According to his niece, Sharen Skorup, "And my mother's brother, my Uncle John, was in the music business and was into dancing. As a kid I worked in his record store in Oakland. Uncle John started the whole Kolo movement here in the Bay Area back in 1940. He had a performing dance company of mostly Croatians. That was before I was born. In 1952, he started the Kolo Festival as a benefit for a friend and well-known folk dancer named Vyts Beliajus." The festival's name was later changed to the California Kolo Festival."

John was a credited advisor on the feature documentary film "American Gypsy: A Stranger In Everybody's Land," written, produced, and directed by Jasmine Dellal. He speaks five languages. To his many folk dance friends, he is known as "Kolo John," a moniker that Millie von Kinsky solidified in print in "Let's Dance" magazine in November, 1957.

John, with his Festival Records label, was a principal supplier of folk dance recordings to North America and the world. His record shops, Slav-Art Music Center in Oakland, Festival Records in Los Angeles, and Festival Folk Shop in San Francisco, were must stops for folk dancers, square dancers, ethnic musicologists, and Gypsies from all over the world. Because of his life-long interest in the Rom (Gypsy) culture, he is often invited to their weddings, religious celebrations, and other community activities

and was the North American supplier for Gypsy music, candles, and other items for many years.

John has now closed his shops. A big party with live music honoring John was thrown in Los Angeles on November 11, 2000, with dancers and teachers, including Dick Oakes, flying in from around the country. Dick Crum, John's long-time friend, did the officiating. Naturally, John led everyone in his favorite dance, Veliko Kolo. He hasn't given up selling records, though – you can still purchase some of your favorites from John by writing to info@festival-records.net. Also, John has constructed a website, www.festival-records.net.

On March 20 and 21, 2004, 'From the Heart: A Musical Tribute to "Kolo" John Filcich' took place at the Harold M. Williams Auditorium, J. Paul Getty Center, Los Angeles, California. Some of L.A.'s finest Eastern European folk musicians paid homage to "Kolo" John Filcich. Performers included the Yeseta Brothers Tamburica Orchestra, Tzvetanka and Ivan Varimezova, and the Gypsy Roma Band.

In 2005, John received the National Folk Organization's "Preserving Our Legacy Award."



THE AMAZING JOHN FILCICH'S 95TH BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Veselo Selo had a Happy 95th Birthday Party for John Filcich Saturday night June 29th. The party included a brilliant teaching and review of Croatian dances John learned both long ago and on more recent trips to Croatia. His dances are ones that have no more than two step variations which can be enjoyed by all ages at all types of social events in Croatia.

At Veselo, he taught Bistranski Tanec, a drmes which moves in and out and then smoothly travels left then right according to the music. We formed two shorter lines and the sense of movement in the dances was much stronger than with one longer circle. This was followed by a sweet and funny song called U Ponedeljak Ranu (Monday Morning) about the father and son who grew, harvested, and dried the product, then went to town to sell the crop together. Then they drank together, and Sunday went home to kiss their wives bringing home none of the profits but lots of good memories of their time together.

We also danced Seljancica—both Serb way (to the right) and Croatian way (to the left). This competition was (I hear) won by the Croatian line led by Anthony Ivancich.

Birthday cakes were delicious, and the crowd sang both Happy Birthday and Sto Lat, the Polish birthday song wishing the celebrant One Hundred Years!

The next day, June 30th, we all drove to Somis in Ventura County, where the Ventura International Folkdancers threw a well-attended party for both John Filcich and Valerie Daley. These two dynamic people share a passion for dancing and the same birthday! Special guests at the event were John's family members: his son, Mark, his daughter, Jana, and his granddaughter, June, age 5, who danced throughout the party; also 5-month-old grandson, River, was shepherded by dad and grandmother. Visitors came down from Seattle and Las Vegas as well. Photos of both events were taken by Historian, Wen-Li Chiang.

Pauline Klak





CALENDAR

Note: Federation events are in bold.

CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS

AUGUST

10 L.A. Bal, An Early CA Fandango, at UCLA Bruin Plaza. Learn dances celebrating L.A. Founding 1781 & first 50 years of CA Statehood 1850-1900, 7-11 pm. RSVP to Historical-Dance@yahoo.com. Info: <http://www.walernelson.com/dr/node/3673>.

11 Classic Israeli Dances with Joan Hantman at LADanceFit Studio, 7:30 pm -11+ info: jehdance@gmail.com or 617.893.2399

30 thru Sept 2: Long Beach Greek Festival, <http://www.lbgreekfest.org>

30 thru Sept 1: Orange International Street Fair <http://www.orangestreetfair.org>

SEPTEMBER

7-8: Cardiff-by-the-Sea Greek Festival <https://www.cardiffgreekfestival.com/>

14-15: Be Romanian for a Day, Ernie Howlett Park Rd, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274. A cultural festival that includes entertainment, food, and folk dancing. <https://www.facebook.com/events/2233078626955037/>

20-22: Pasadena Greek Fest, 776 S. Rosemead, Pasadena <http://pasadenagreekfest.org>

OCTOBER

4-6: LA Greek Festival, St. Sophia <https://lagreekfest.com>

13: Macedonian Fall Festival at St. Mary's, 10550 Whittier Blvd, Whittier. noon to sunset. Free entry, food and drink for sale, folk dance and performances

NOVEMBER

1 Bulgarika at LIFE Balkan Dancers, West LA

1 Moldovan teacher Elena Macovei will be teaching at West Valley, 7:30 at 7326 Jordan, Canoga Park. Info: 818.348.6133.

4 Elena Macovei will be teaching at Folk Dance Center, San Diego.

6 Elena Macovei will be teaching at Ethnic Express, Charleston Center, 800 So. Brush St., Las Vegas. Info: rpkillian@gmail.com

9 Elena Macovei at Veselo Selo, Anaheim.

10 Elena Macovei will be teaching at Laguna Int'l Dancers. Info: LeeOtterholt@yahoo.com

15-17 Fall Camp in Honor of Beverly & Irwin Barr. At the Brandeis-Bardin Campus of the American Jewish University, 1101 Peppertree Lane, Brandeis, CA 93064 (near Simi Valley). Master teachers Erica Goldman (Israeli) and Caspar Bik (international). Info: visit FallCamp.org or email Dance@FallCamp.org. See articles and ad.

MARCH 2020

5-8 2020 NFO Conference, in conjunction with the 50th Laguna Folk Dance Festival, Laguna Woods

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Nov 29-30: Kolo Festival, Croatian Center, San Francisco, with Sonia and Cristian and Alex Markovitz; info <http://balkantunes.org/kolofestival>

OUT OF STATE

OREGON

Aug 30-Sept 2: Balkanalia! at Camp Angelos, Corbett
OR <https://balkanalia.squarespace.com/>

MAINE

Aug 18-24, 25-31 Mainewoods Dance Camp. Session
One teachers: Caspar Bik, Penny Brichta, Sonia
Dion and Cristian Florescu. Session Two teach-
ers: Iliana Bozhanova, 'Bata' Marčetić, Jacqueline
Schwab. At Fryburg. Info: in-
fo@mainewoodsdancecamp.org

NEW YORK

Aug 10-17 EEFC Balkan Camp, Iroquois Springs. Info:
office@eefc.org

VIRGINIA

Sept 19-22 The 2019 Tamburitza Extravaganza at the
Hyatt Regency Dulles in Herndon, Virginia (near
Washington, DC). Info at www.ganzadc19.com
and our Facebook page, Ganza Washington DC.
Email ganzadc19@gmail.com.

FOREIGN

ALBANIA AND KOSOVO

5/7-19, 2020 *Tour led by Lee Otterholt.* Includes
Tirana, Durres, Viora FD Festival, Kruja, Saran-
da, Berat, Shkodra, Gjirokastra. . Extention 5/19-
21. Info: www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See
ad.

BULGARIA

8/2-16, 2020 Tour led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt.
Includes Koprivshitsa Folk Festival. Info:
www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

CENTRAL EUROPE

6/16-29, 2021 Folk Dance and Yodeling Tour to Ger-
many, Austria, Lichtenstein, Switzerland. Led by
Jim Gold. Info: www.JimGold.com,
201.836.0362. See ad.

GEORGIA AND ARMENIA

Two tours (can be combined) led by Tineke and Mau-
rits van Geel

9/13-23 Culture tour to Georgia. Tbilisi, the monas-
tery of David Gareja, hike to caves.

9/23-10/2 Dance and culture tour to Armenia. Yere-
van and surrounding sights, and a 5-day trip to
the east.

To see the complete program or to register, please
visit <http://www.tinekevangeel.nl>

GREECE

10/10-23, 2020 Tour of Greece and Greek Islands.
Led by Jim Gold and/or Lee Otterholt. Athens,
Sparta, Delphi, etc. plus cruise to islands. Info:
www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

ROMANIA

10/21-11/3 Klezmer and Folk Dance Tour. Led by Jim
Gold and Henry Sapoznik. Info:
www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

SCANDINAVIA:

6/9 – 22, 2020 Tour to Norway, Denmark, Sweden.
Led by Lee Otterholt. Info: www.JimGold.com,
201.836.0362. See ad.

SPAIN

9/16-29, 2021 NOTE CHANGE OFDATE! Tour led by
Lee Otterholt. Malaga, Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba,
Jaen, Granada. Info: www.JimGold.com,
201.836.0362. See ad.

FALL CAMP 2019

Friday, November 15- Sunday, November 17th

It is official, Fall Camp 2019 will feature the best of the old Camp Hess Kramer as well as some wonderful new attractions. We will have two master teachers, Erica Goldman teaching Israeli dances and Caspar Bik teaching international dances with an emphasis on dances from around the Black Sea. Be sure to read the biographies of Erica and Caspar in this issue of Scene. We will also have local teachers bringing you the best of recent camp dances. There will be happy hours, all request dance parties, and more.

Fall Camp, which will honor Beverly and Irwin Barr for providing many years of excellent camp experiences, will now be held at Brandeis Bardin's beautiful campus in Simi Valley. It is easy to get to, has beautiful wooded grounds and all the accommodations are in air-conditioned/heated motel style rooms. We will be dancing in a large building with a wooden floor.

Besides dancing there will be a cozy area in the dance hall for relaxation and puzzles, games, etc. There is also another building next to the dance hall for extra activities. Our theme for Saturday evening is "Fall Colors" so, if you like, dress accordingly.

Meals include Friday evening dinner, breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday, and breakfast on Sunday. There will also be happy hour appetizers and coffee and tea will be available at all times. For those who wish to have lunch on Sunday, it is available for a small extra charge.

There is a cap on the number of attendees we can accommodate, so be sure to make your reservations



soon. See the registration form for Fall Camp in this issue of Scene.

For lots more information about the new camp please visit FallCamp.org You will see many photos of past years at Hess Kramer and photos of our new camp as well.

The committee working on this new Fall Camp is excited to be bringing you a quality camp where fun and camaraderie abound.

Sandy Helperin

MASTER TEACHERS

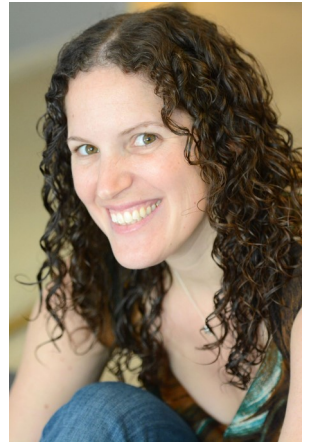
Erica Goldman

Erica Goldman, a very popular master teacher of Israeli dance, is sure to make Fall Camp on Nov. 15-17 memorable.

Erica began Israeli dancing in New York as a child alongside her father, an accomplished and enthusiastic folk dancer. "I can't remember a time we didn't dance," she says. Since that early start, Erica has taught Israeli dance on four continents (so far!) to old and young alike. She is well known to dancers in California from her teaching at Stockton, the Laguna festival, North/South, and other events.

While a student at Brandeis University in Boston, she performed with several area Israeli dance troupes and was the director of *B'yachad* (the university's student group). She branched out into other kinds of folk dance as a member and choreographer of the Mandala Folkdance Ensemble, and she later danced with the Collage Dance Ensemble, with whom she competed at the Golden Karagöz Folk Dance Competition in Turkey in 2003.

After receiving her BA in linguistics and cognitive science from Brandeis, Erica worked in software development in the Boston area. She spent the summer of 2004 in Southern California as director of dance at Camp Alonim, a Jewish overnight camp where Israeli dancing is truly an obsession among the campers. (Camp Alonim is adjacent to the Brandeis-Bardin campus, where Fall Camp will take place.)



That experience was the beginning of a rewarding new career of teaching Israeli dance, both in the U.S. and internationally. "When I got a call asking if I was interested in the dance director position at Camp Alonim, I realized I had a chance to spread the joy of what I loved doing and turn my avocation into a vocation," Erica recalls.

After working for nearly eight years in Boston, Erica quit her job, moved to Los Angeles, and has been teaching Israeli dance ever since, both in the US and abroad. When she arrived in LA, she immediately joined the Keshet Chaim Dance Ensemble and danced with that Israeli performance company for about eight years.

While in LA, she taught Israeli dance at several schools and synagogues, including the New Community Jewish Day School, where she also coordinated their long and short Israel exchange programs for tenth graders, in addition to running the popular "Mostly Couples" Israeli dance session.

In 2014, Erica returned to the Boston area as a graduate student and taught Israeli dance at the Newton Jewish Community Center. The following year, she joined the education faculty of the Cornerstone Fellowship of the Foundation for Jewish Camp and launched *Ma'agal*, an initiative to improve Israeli dance education at schools and camps across the nation. After 12 wonderfully successful summers at Camp Alonim, Erica now spends time every summer traveling from camp to camp across the US doing Israeli dance residencies.

Erica earned an MBA and an MA in Jewish professional leadership from the Hornstein Program at Brandeis University. She is now the director of program and operations at JPRO Network, and is delighted to help support all those who work for the Jewish nonprofit community in North America.

She lives in Brooklyn with her husband, Dustin (Dustø), and daughter, Emmy, both of whom will be at Fall Camp. Many participants at camp already know her, and all are sure to enjoy her fun dances and her enthusiastic teaching.

You can learn more about Erica and see photos and videos of her at FallCamp.org

Caspar Bik

Participants at the Nov. 15-17 Fall Camp are in for a delight with Caspar Bik, a beautiful dancer and a talented and gentle teacher. At 29 years old, he is a rising star in the folk dance community. He brought his terrific teaching of Bulgarian, Georgian, Roma, and Turkish dances to Stockton in 2017 and 2018. He also taught a wonderfully creative dance from his home

country of the Netherlands that he choreographed.

Caspar has been an active dancer from a young age with groups that represent Dutch dances as well as groups with an international repertoire. He graduated in 2013 as a dance teacher from the dance academy Codarts in Rotterdam. Besides folk dancing, Caspar has experience in modern/contemporary dance, classical ballet, jazz dance, ballroom and tap dance.

Since his graduation, he has been teaching different dance styles to children, teenagers, and adults of both amateur and professional level. He founded a youth school for theater art in 2014 that performs a stage musical every year for which Caspar creates the choreography. Both as a folk dance instructor and as a choreographer, he has taught courses in Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, Taiwan, Turkey and the USA.

We are fortunate to have Caspar join us at Fall Camp to present international dances with emphasis on countries from around the Black Sea. He will teach dances at a variety of levels, including easygoing and beautiful and also some dances where we can challenge ourselves. The common ingredient will be fun dances and enjoyable teaching.

Visit FallCamp.org to learn more about Caspar and to see pictures and videos of him. Together with Erica Goldman, our other master teacher, he will help make this a wonderful weekend.

There is a registration form for Fall Camp in the middle of this issue of *Scene*, as well as at FallCamp.org.

Jan Rayman





Fall Camp

November 15-17, 2019

Master Teachers

Erica Goldman & Caspar Bik

Enjoy dancing, teaching, parties, dining and other activities – in a beautiful setting


The weekend includes 2 nights in motel-style rooms (with heating and air conditioning, private bath, bedding, and towels), five meals (Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast), snacks, teaching sessions, review sessions, leisure dancing, evening dance parties, and more. Syllabi and videos are included. **Visit FallCamp.org for details. Space is limited. Register soon!**

Fall Camp is at the Brandeis-Bardin Campus of the American Jewish University at 1101 Peppertree Lane, Brandeis, CA 93064. (It is just south of the 118 Freeway, near Simi Valley in Southern California.)

\$325 per person (double occupancy) or \$440 per person (single occupancy) \$ _____

\$225 per person (triple occupancy – limited number of rooms) \$ _____

Optional Sunday lunch \$15 \$ _____

 **Total Due: \$ _____**

Refunds minus \$25 are available until Sept 1, 2019. We cannot offer refunds after Sept. 1.

For single occupancy: Would you like us to try to find a same-sex roommate for you?

YES NO (circle one) Male Female (circle one) Night owl Early bird (circle one)
(You will be charged the single occupancy rate, but if we find a roommate and you both agree to it, then we will refund you \$115.)

Name _____ Email _____

Mailing address _____

Phone(s) _____ First name for badge _____

Name(s) of roommate(s) _____

We will try to accommodate special dietary requirements _____

Emergency contact _____ Phone(s) _____

Please complete a separate form for each camper, then mail the form(s) and a check to:



Sandy Helperin
4362 Coolidge Ave.
LA, CA 90066



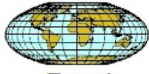
Make your check payable to Folk Dance Federation of California, South, Inc.



For questions, contact Sandy at sandysmail1000@gmail.com or 310-391-7382.

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Jim Gold International Folk Tours: 2019-21



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broadens
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Meet the people, see historic sites,
folk dance with local groups.

**Our trips are for folk dancers, non-dancers,
and anyone with a love of travel and culture.**

Tour itineraries at: www.jimgold.com

ROMANIA: October 21-November 3, 2019

Klezmer and Folk Dance Tour. First of its kind!

Led by Jim Gold and Henry Sapoznik
Bucharest, Brasov. Bistritsa, Iasi

ALBANIA and KOSOVO: May 5-17, ext. 17-19, 2020

Led by Lee Otterholt Tirana, Durres, Vlora Folk Dance Festival!
Kruja, Saranda, Berat, Shkodra, Gjirokastra

NORWAY, DENMARK, SWEDEN: June 9-22, 2020

Led by Lee Otterholt:
Oslo, Gothenburg, Helsingborg, Copenhagen

BULGARIA: August 2-16, 2020

Koprivshitsa Folk Festival Tour!

Led by Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, Lee Friedman
Sofia, Plovdiv, Bansko, Veliko Turnovo, and great
Koprivshitsa Folk Festival

GREECE and the GREEK ISLANDS: October 10-23, 2020

Led by Jim Gold and/or Lee Otterholt: Athens, Nauplia, Sparta,
Olympia, Delphi, Meteora, Mycenae, and Epidaurus Greek Island
Cruise to Mykonos, Crete, Rhodes, Patmos, Kusadasi (Turkey),
Santorini Ext.: Oct. 23-25

SPAIN: September 16-29, 2021

Led by Lee Otterholt Malaga, Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba, Jaen, Granada

GERMANY, AUSTRIA, LICHTENSTEIN, SWITZERLAND

June 16-29, 2021

Folk Dance and Yodeling Tour. First of its kind!

Led by Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, and Lee Friedman
Munich, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Swiss Alps, Lucerne, Zurich

TOUR REGISTRATION: Can't wait to go! Reserve my place! Mail your \$200 per
person deposit. Or with credit card at: www.jimgold.com

Tour(s) desired _____

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ON THE SCENE

PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

We dance every Friday from 7:30 till 10:30 at the Altadena Community Church at 943 E. Altadena Drive in Altadena. Park in the back to be close to the hall. We start with some warmup dances, and begin teaching at 7:45. In the first teaching session for the month of August we will be teaching Black Nag, an English set dance, as well as reviewing *Ec Ec*, an Albanian line dance. In the second session, we'll be teaching the line dance, *Mahala-Mori Shej* (Hungary/Transylvania/Roma).

A new board took office in July: President, Don Krotser; Vice President, Toti O'Brien, Treasurer, Ann Armstrong; Secretary, Loretta Slifkin, Federation Rep, Marshall Cates; Member in charge of MCs, Roxanna Martell, Member in charge of Publicity, Mari Werner.

For more details check
PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org

Mari Werner

NARODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCERS

August 1 & 8 John Matthews will review Flemish Mazurka

August 15 & 22 Sandy Wodicka will be teaching Hungarian dances: *Csandi Leanytanc* & *Szokkenos* .

August 29 Narodni T-shirt night. Wear your Narodni T-shirt and save a dollar. An all request evening.

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



Fall Camp:

Accommodations

Ambiance

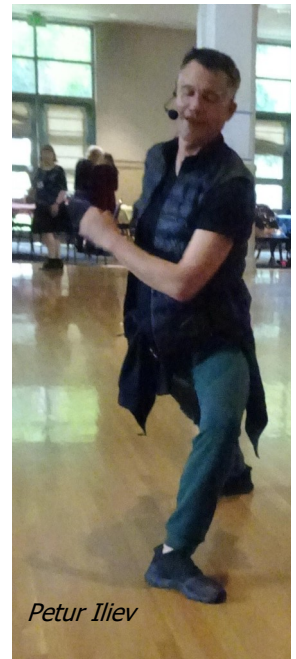


STATEWIDE 2019

The planning committee held a vision for Statewide 2019—an all-encompassing festival that would recognize the talent of immigrant dance teachers living in Southern California, and that would honor the contributions of numerous preceding Federation officers and Statewide Chairpersons. We also wanted to invite community participation in the festival. May 31 – June 2 our plans came to fruition. Numerous volunteers hung posters, arranged items donated for the Ethnic Bazaar, set out refreshments, and organized the registration tables while the band, Miamon Miller & Friends,



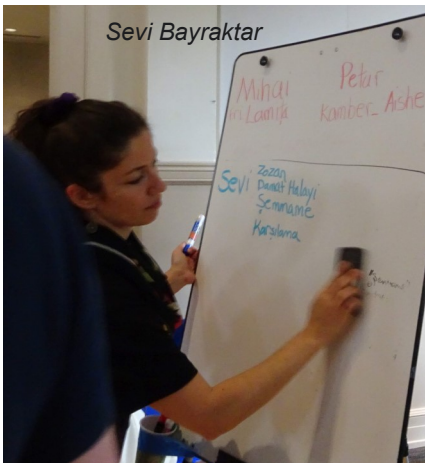
Israel Yakovee



Petur Iliev

rehearsed and the audio engineer Nick Casillas connected speakers and components. Meanwhile, invited teachers, Sevi Bayraktar, Mihai David, Petur Iliev and Israel Yakovee arrived at the host hotel, Claremont Double Tree, and were escorted to dinner by Pauline Klak's lovely daughter Anna Tigue. At 7 p.m. the doors opened, DJ Adony Beniares played welcoming dance tunes and friends greeted and quickly changed into dance shoes.

During the weekend, dancers socialized and re-learned dance steps from Mihai that may have been forgotten. We listened attentively to Sevi describing her research in Turkish villages, attempted to keep up



Chris, Mihai David and Diane Baker

with Petur's fast steps and kicks, and cajoled our hands, arms and feet to reproduce Israel's authentic style in *San Ha Memune*. After review on Sunday we feted Federation Achievement Award recipients during lunch at the Sagehen Café then returned to Edmonds Ballroom to

loosen hips and backs dancing salsa with Cesar Garfiaz.

On Friday evening the Claremont Israeli dance club demonstrated 3 dances from Israel and Anthony Ivancich and compatriots performed a Hornpipe in honor of Pauline Klak's birthday. On Saturday evening the talented Claremont College Ballroom Ensemble entertained us with exuberant and athletic renditions of salsa, jive and samba.



Claremont Israeli Dancers

The Statewide 2019 Festival Committee gratefully thanks the following individuals and businesses for their contributions in support of the "Ethnic Treasures" Festival: Henry Rasof as a loving tribute to his mother, Bea Rasof, Narodni in memory of Henrietta Bemis, Stefanie Holzman, Ed & Pauline Klak, Dennis & Diane Baker, Nancy Ruyter in honor of Anthony Shay, Carol & Gordon Wall, Dick Oakes in memory of Loui Denov, Rebecca Searle, Kassie Koledin, Wen-Li Chiang, Charlotte Augustine, Chin Yu, Sylvia Stachura, Anonymous contributions.

The committee thanks Elizabeth Wayland Barber for providing authentic costumes, Dr. Anthony Shay and the Pomona College Department of Theater & Dance, Susan Gregory (flyer and T-shirt design), Yael Steinfeld, director of Claremont Israeli Dancers, Adony Beniares (visual displays and DJ-ing), Elyse Ellinger (centerpieces), Ann Armstrong and Noelle Singer (signs), Shana Winokur (printed program), Bob Altman (video editing), Dick Oakes (syllabus), Leslie Halburg (facebook admin.), Emmanuel Dale (posters of schedule), the Kindig family (worked tirelessly at registration tables) and the many other volunteers who contributed time and efforts to make Statewide 2019 a success!

We are grateful for contributions from Smart & Final and Trader Joe's Claremont for items on the refreshment table.

Statewide 2019 planning committee: Pauline Klak, Stefanie Holzman, Darlene Wheeler, Bryant Fraps, Julith Neff, Diane Baker, Marshall Cates

Diane Baker

DANCERS SPEAK

FESTIVALS: A PERSONAL JOURNEY

Back in the mists of time - probably 1953 - I had the good fortune to spend a summer working on the trail crew at Mt. Rainier National Park. What a marvelous introduction to the wondrous works of Mother Nature for this city guy!

An hour's drive from our Park living quarters lay the town of Enumclaw, Washington. There a lively group of folk dancers, calling themselves the Glacier Gliders, put forth a folk dance festival on a pleasant mid-summer weekend. They danced in the high school gym on Friday night (to this naive spectator the Hambo looked easy). They danced all over the streets of town on Saturday. On Sunday they danced in a meadow. I was entranced.

There were a few opportunities for me to folk dance immediately after that summer, but soon folk dancing got lost in the hubbub of life.

Then, in 1967 (I think), with Mary and me and our three young daughters living in Lakewood, Statewide came to Long Beach. Our family attended a session as spectators; we were excited by the sprightly dances, the range of music, the colorful costumes. For me the folk dance spark again burst into flame. Mary and I joined Silverado Folk Dancers where, nourished by the tutelage of Dorothy Daw, we became full-fledged members of the folk dance community.

Thus, two festivals had proven pivotal to my becoming a Folk Dancer.

Over the years since, festivals, local and Statewide, have helped considerably to keep the folk dance flame alive. Understandably, then, I looked forward to attending Ethnic Treasures Statewide with Camille. It turned out to be precisely planned and very well executed; a testimony to the hours of hard work by its leaders and volunteers. I had the thrill of dancing *Drmes iz Zdencine* with five husky guys who spun at top speed!

Shortly after the festival a dancer at Narodni (my home club) asked me if I had enjoyed Statewide.

"Mostly."

"Why just mostly?"

"A lot of time was spent teaching."

Many dancers are eager to learn additional dances, pick them up quickly, retain them well. I greatly admire them, but I'm not part of that group. I have a significant folk dance repertoire, and I want to use it to dance into the sunset. I don't need to add dances. Learning dances, some say, helps keep the brain alive. I've got crossword puzzles, and Scrabble games with Camille, and the public library for that.

So - the diagnosis is clear: I am now a folk dance dinosaur.

This dinosaur is looking forward to the next festival. (Maybe I'll get to dance a fast *Drmes iz Zdencine*.)

Carl Pilsecker



Statewide 2019

POETRY CORNER

BLESSED BLAZE OF YOUTH

Flashy guy stomps, arms raised, slaps his boot,
Twice turns doing Turkish *Ramo Ramo*
And twirls his shirt right out of his trousers.

Ablaze with young strength and endless possibility
Aroused by the chaos of the world
The saber-rattling and restlessness

He dances embraced and emboldened by the music,
Alive only to the thrilling throb of the beat,
Wrapped in youth's blessing:
'Nothing too hard for thee.'

Camille Dull

SUMMER MORNING

is the song sung
by jays in mocking tone
the taste of berries
wading in the white cream sea
the feel of flannel floating lightly
on sweat-glistened skin
the smell of dog and cat combined
a furry mix of stretch and yawn
the sight of you, sleep tumbled

Pat Cross



Caspar Bik who will be teaching at Fall Camp



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RECENT EVENTS

RUTH LEVIN - CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Dear friends and family –

What a wonderful party we had yesterday in memory of dear Ruth. I know the notice was short and many of our closest friends could not attend, to my disappointment. Cherished friends from our four “communities” came in costume and I’m sure Ruth loved it. There were Old West cowboy shooters, Living History re-enactors, Vintage dancers and recreational folk dancers and an eye-opening spread of fabulous food for our potluck lunch. Bridget Richards created a slide show of photos of Ruth; it is now on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/tY6ITBJXBs>. I hope you enjoy it as I did. It seems the best way to have your picture taken was to be next to Ruth. Her beauty and spirit show in every image. Jim Garner and Kriss Hansen brought their instruments and played for dancing for about half an hour. I even got to do a waltz or two with dear friends, though not enough. I am intensely grateful for the many stories and comments confided in me by our friends and colleagues and I’m looking forward to seeing you all down the road very soon.

*With love and thanks,
Richard Duree*



CLUB DIRECTORY

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

Federation Clubs

Bay Osos Folk Dancers: Tue 11:00-3:00. South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Ave, **LOS OSOS.** (805) 534-1501, annetiber@charter.net 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.

Cerritos Folk Dancers: Tue 6:00-8:45. Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St, **CERRITOS.** (562) 865-8854 chiangwenli@yahoo.com Wen Chiang

Conejo Valley Folk Dancers: Wed 7:30-9:30. Conejo Rec Center, 403 W Hillcrest Dr, **THOUSAND OAKS.** (805) 492-0914 lauripiano7@gmail.com Laurie Allen

Ethnic Express: Wed 6:30 except holidays. Charleston Heights Arts Center, 800 So. Brush St, **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 6, 24061 Algarrobo, **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 asirota@gmail.com

Laguna Int'l Dancers: Wed 6:00-8:30, Sun 6:00-8:30. Clubhouse 2, 24112 Moulton Pkwy, **LAGUNA WOODS.** (949) 770-7026 7kahnmiriam@gmail.com Miriam Kahn

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

Narodni Int'l Folkdancers: Thu 7:30-10:30. Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St, **BELLFLOWER.** (562) 881-9504 julithilona@gmail.com Julith Neff

***Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op:** Fri 7:30-10:30 (Beg 7:30-8). Altadena Community Church, 943 E Altadena Dr, **Altadena.** (626) 914-4006 ricklynnbingle@gmail.com Lynn Bingle

Prescott Int'l Folkdancers: Sun 3:00-5:00. First Congregational Church, 216 E. Gurley St, **PRESCOTT, AZ.** (928) 925-8995 raweston@earthlink.net 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

Skandia South Dance Club: Mon 7:00-10:00.
Downtown Community Center, 250 E Center,
ANAHEIM. (714) 893-8888 tedmart@juno.com
Ted Martin. *Sat(usually first) 2:30-5:30.*
Lindberg Park, 5041 Rhoda Way, CULVER
CITY. (562) 732-4990
cameronflanders@gmail.com Cameron
Flanders

Solvang Village Folk Dancers: Sat 6:30-8:30
(except 3rd Sat). Buellton Recreation Center,
301 2nd St, Buellton. 3rd Sat 1:30-3:30. Corner
Alisal & Copenhagen, Solvang (805) 688-3397
dlh4362@gmail.com David Heald

Tuesday Gypsies: Tue 7:45-10:30. Masonic
Lodge, 9635 Venice Blvd, **CULVER CITY.** (310)
391-7382 sandyhelperin@icloud.com Sandy
Helperin

Ventura Int'l Folkdancers: Tue 1:15, Thu
1:45, 1st Sun 3:30. Ventura YMCA, 3760
Telegraph Rd, **VENTURA.** (805) 647-1634
dancing.valerie@gmail.com Valerie Daley

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) richterlouis@aol.com Louis

West Valley Folk Dancers: Fri 7:15-10:00.
Senior Center, 7326 Jordan Ave, **CANOGA**
PARK. (818) 346-5152 jpwaller2@earthlink.net
Paul Waller

Westchester Lariats: Mon 4:00-9:00. United
Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson, **LOS**
ANGELES. (310) 689-9176
veniceii@yahoo.com Ina Hall

Westwood Co-op: Thu 7:30-9:40. Felicia
Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica
Blvd, **West LA.** (310) 657-6877
rwsklar@yahoo.com Rita Sklar

Exhibition Groups

Karpatok Hungarian Folk Ensemble: Wed
8:00. United Hungarian House, 1975
Washington, **LOS ANGELES.** (323) 374-3836
sissykf@earthlink.net Csaba Varsanyi

Krakusy Polish Folk Dance Ensemble: Tue
7:30-9:30 Sat 2:20-4:20. Polish Parish Hall,
3424 W Adams Blvd, **LOS ANGELES.** (626) 827-
7338 elistarr@yahoo.com Elizabeth
Romuzga.

Scandia Dancers: Tue 7:00-10:00. Woman's
Club, **BELLFLOWER.** (714) 356-7745
sholzman1@verizon.net Stefanie Holzman

UCSB Middle Eastern Ensemble: Tue 7:00-
10:00. Gehringer Music Bldg, UCSB Campus,
SANTA BARBARA. (805) 729-6453
scottmarcu@aol.com Scott Marcus

Non-Federation Clubs

Beverly Barr Daytime Classes: *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 7:00-11:00. Teach 7:45-8:45 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 Milligan

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

Desert Dancers: Thu 7:00-9:00 Nov-April. Hi Desert Dance Center, 725 S. Gateway St, **RIDGECREST**. (760) 371-5669 Nora Nuckles

Desert Int'l Folk Dancers: Thu 7:00-9:00 Nov-Apr. 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

***Foothill Folk Dancers:** Thu 7:30-9:30. Community Center, 4469 Chevy Chase Dr., **LA CAÑADA** (818)790-8523
JanRayman@charter.net

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

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

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

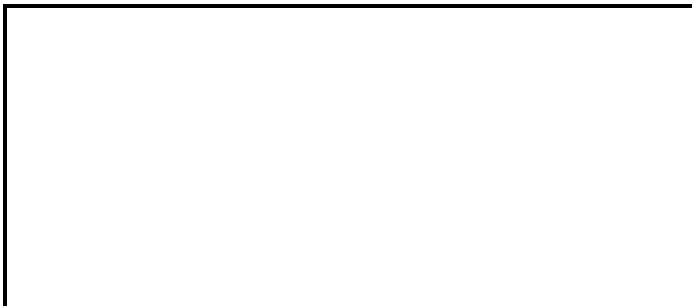
Santa Monica College Int'l Dance Club: Tue, Thu 11:15am-12:35. Santa Monica College Clock Tower or LS Bldg, 1900 Pico Blvd, **SANTA MONICA**. (310) 284-3638 James Zimmer

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

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