



# Folk Dance Scene



Irwin Barr

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## Folk Dance Scene

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*On the cover: Tyler Hicks/NYT the McIntosh County Shouters in Eulonia, GA 2004*



# Folk Dance Scene

Volume 56, No. 7  
September 2020

## Editors' Corner

The cover story on Black dance, to be continued in a subsequent issue or two, has been somewhat eclipsed by the responses to Irwin Barr's death. We all suffer the loss, and will cherish our memories of him.

As we continue wondering how our government and the rest of the world will deal with the COVID 19 pandemic, we hope you are safely surviving, getting help and entertainment. There are a lot of adaptations accessible as you stay safely at home—as reported in Calendar, On the Scene, and Recent Events.

Hear from your colleagues in Dancers Speak, and Poetry Corner.

Keep safe, be well, and prepare to vote...

*Pat Cross and Don Krotser*

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For information about dancing in the area, contact the Federation at the Federation website: [SoCalFolkdance.org](http://SoCalFolkdance.org)

# The Corner

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## FEDERATION VIRUS RELIEF PROGRAM

The Federation has been contemplating what will happen when clubs try to restart their dance programs after it is safe to do so. Even after government regulations say it is OK to resume our dance activities, we think that attendance will fall short of pre-virus levels. Some will want to isolate for a while longer “to be safe” and some will have fallen out of the habit of going out to dance. However, rent, and other expenses will not have diminished which will put a financial burden on these clubs. In addition, as time comes for insurance renewal, some clubs may not be fully functional or yet to have met. These clubs may be tempted to let their insurance lapse. After much discussion, the Fiscal Committee proposed a relief program which was put into effect by the executive committee. Using un-allocated special project funds, the Federation will underwrite some of a club's expenses for a period of 6 months and will pay the basic level of insurance for each member club. Below is the letter which has gone out to each member club and which fully explains the relief program. We want to see folk dancing flourishing again and hope this program will ease the transition to a full recovery.

*Marshall Cates, Chair, Fiscal Committee.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ASSISTANCE

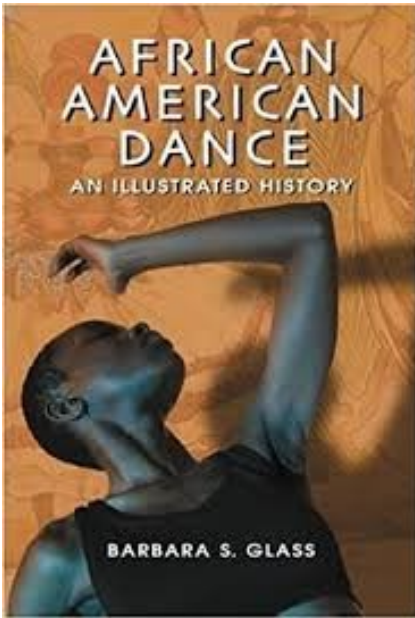
I know that we are all concerned about the effect that this pandemic will have on our ability to continue our enjoyment of folk dancing. We urge all of you to follow government guidelines as to when it will be safe to resume our activities. When that happens and we can restart dancing, we anticipate that clubs may encounter financial stress as rents come due, while attendance has not yet caught up to the pre-virus levels. Fortunately, the Federation is in a position to provide some financial assistance.

### Types and amount of assistance available:

Minimally, the Federation is able to provide assistance at the level of the difference between your club's rent and the income of your regular dance meeting fee for half of your members (based

*The Corner continues on page 17.*

# BLACK DANCE



## INTRODUCTION TO BLACK DANCE IN AMERICA

*This report is based on information from African American Dance: An Illustrated History © 2012 [2007] Barbara S. Glass by permission of McFarland & Company, Inc., Box 611, Jefferson NC 28640. <https://mcfarlandbooks.com/>*

Legally from the 1600's until 1808, illegally for decades afterwards, Black folk were abducted from their Central and Western Africa homes and transported on long, perilous journeys to American shores. They traveled with no suitcases, no backpacks, no wallets full of legal tender. "They came without possessions, but not without culture ... African dance, rooted in a distinctive musical tradition, was one of the most important of the cultural arts carried across the Middle Passage." (Glass, p. 3)

Though dance resonated in the bodies and the hearts of Black newcomers to cotton and rice plantations in America's South, it was not always welcomed by their masters. Owners and overseers at times vigorously suppressed the slaves' urge to dance, in part to minimize opportunities for their coming together where they might plot to escape or plan a rebellion.

Other slave masters permitted dancing on their plantations, sometimes having their chattel perform for themselves or their visitors. Occasionally, at festive seasons, a plantation owner would allow slaves from neighboring plantations to gather together for celebration. Dancing was a foremost activity at such times.

Whether clandestinely on dance-suppressing plantations or openly and joyfully where permitted, dance was a light in the darkness of slavery. "Dance helped ... African Americans retain and reshape their sense of who they were, find emotional release, express individual creativity, and have fun." (Glass, p.13) Slaves came from hundreds of different tribes, each with its own tribal history and customs. The forms of dancing-for-fun and dancing to depict tribal lore or honor tribal heroes or placate tribal gods varied from one African location to another. What helped make it possible for slaves with different roots to work out ways to dance together in their new homes was the fact that much of African dance was built on certain basic characteristics that became the bedrock of Black dance in America.

### Basic Characteristics

**Total body movement.** Unhampered by tight clothing, the African dancer utilized all parts of the body. At the 2005 Camp Hess Kramer, Gary and Jane Diggs taught Kuku, a West African dance. On videotape #1 or the DVD of the Camp, you see the dancers employing legs, feet, arms, hands, torso, and head.

**Orientation to the Earth.** "The African dancer often bends slightly toward the earth, flattens the feet ... in a wide, solid stance, and flexes the knees." (Glass, p. 16) Postures of working with the land may be simulated.

**Improvisation.** A dancer was expected to stay within the rhythms and basic structure of a dance, but could feel free to bring his or her own interpretation to its execution.

**Importance of the Community.** African culture emphasized community in dance, this led to much line and circle dancing. When an individual performed, the observers clapped, sang, offered verbal encouragement. On plantations, little couple dancing occurred.

**Polyrhythms.** “African music included several rhythms at the same time, and ... dancers could move their shoulders to one beat, hips to another, and knees to yet another.” (Glass, p. 21)

**Percussion.** In Africa the drum was a dominant musical instrument. Black dancers in America made much use of it while augmenting it with foot tapping, and hand clapping.

**Pantomime.** “Dance movement may ... imitate animal behavior ... reenact human tasks ... express the power of spirits ... portray symbolically the deep, inner natures of men and women.” (Glass, p. 21)

**Something in Hand.** Blacks in America continued the African tradition of holding cloth, sticks, other meaningful or decorative items while dancing.

**Competition.** Hundreds of years before competitive dancing made its way into American homes by way of television, Black dancers were competing with one another on Southern plantations.

Ultimately Black and American cultures intersected in dancing, and each adapted versions of the other's forms. This did not, however, “change the set of basic African dance characteristics that survived intact and marked most of the dance performed by African Americans.” (Glass, p.29)



*Karina Wilson teaching African drumming and dance at New Mexico Camp, August 2012. What characteristics are displayed?*

# RING SHOUT

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“The Ring Shout is the oldest continuously-practiced African-derived dance in the United States.” (Glass, p. 32) As dancers move CCW in a circle, a leader sings short phrases which prompt short responses - sometimes echoes - from the dancers (call-response). There is much repetition by both parties. Usually the leader will be telling an improvised story or teaching a moral lesson. One collection of slave songs has the participants derisively describing the slave owner: “Call me Sunday Christian/Oh, my Lord/Call me Monday devil/Oh, my Lord.” (Glass, p. 36)

Rhythm is more important than melody in the Ring Shout, and syncopation is frequently used. Dancers, slightly bent, use shuffling step-close-step movements. Some will turn, bend knees, stamp, shake hips or shoulders. Women may wave handkerchiefs.

Some participants sit on the sidelines for a while - perhaps resting after a period of dancing - and sing, clap hands, slap thighs, beat time with a stick on the wooden floor. Drums will accompany dancers when available.

The dance may go on for an hour or more with increasing intensity and acceleration. Sometimes dancers will reach a state of frenzy. A dancer might be encouraged to leave the circle for a period of calming.

As Blacks began to be converted to Christianity in the early 1800’s, the Ring Shout became an instrument of worship. The calls and responses took the form of hymns. A religious phenomenon known as “The Great Awakening” swept the South, and Blacks as well as white folk attended camp meetings where ardent ministers pressed Christian claims. During these meetings Black dancers often engaged in the religious version of the Ring Shout.

There was a price to be paid. Dancing was often not looked on favorably by the proselytizers in charge of the meeting, so on some occasions there could be no crossing or lifting of feet during the performance; ergo, it was not a dance.

After the Civil War, as Blacks established their own churches, the Shout was a frequent component of the Sunday gathering. Benches and pews were sometimes moved to make it possible. When this became impractical, “the rocking and stepping of the Ring Shout survived in individual forms as worshippers stayed in place but danced ... during the religious service.” (Glass, p. 52)

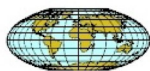
The Ring Shout is recognized as having a significant influence on the development of the Black dances that appeared later. The next issue of Scene will look at some of these dances.

*Carl Pilsecker*



*Doing the Ring Shout in Georgia, ca.1930  
members of the Gullah community express  
their spirituality.*

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**PERU, BOLIVIA, CHILE:** May 22-June 3, 2021

Led by Martha Tavera. Cuzco, Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu,  
Quechua Village, Lake Titicaca, Uyuni, La Paz, Atacama Desert

**NORWAY, DENMARK, SWEDEN:** June 8-21, 2021

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

**BULGARIA:** August 2-15, 2021 **Koprivshitsa Folk Festival Tour!**

Led by Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, Lee Friedman  
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**GREECE and the GREEK ISLANDS:** October 9-22, 2021

Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt.: Athens, Nauplia, Sparta, Olympia,  
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2022

**ISRAEL:** March 13-24, 2022 or Germany in June

Led by Jim Gold, Joe Freedman, and Lee Friedman  
Jerusalem, Masada, Tel Aviv, Galilee, Haifa, Tiberias, Safed,  
and Golan Heights

**ROMANIA:** October 3-16, 2022 **Klezmer and Folk Dance Tour**

Led by Jim Gold with Nancy Hoffman and Lee Friedman  
Bucharest, Brasov, Sibiu

2023

**GERMANY, AUSTRIA, LICHTENSTEIN, SWITZERLAND**

June 14-27, 2023. **Folk Dance and Yodeling Tour**

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

**IRELAND:** August 5-17, 2023

Led by Jim Gold and Lee Friedman  
Galway, Connemara, Aran islands, Doolin, Killarney, Kerry, Cork, Blarney, Dublin  
Malaga, Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba, Jaen, Granada

**SPAIN:** September 14-27, 2023: Led by Lee Otterholt

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# CALENDAR

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**Note: Federation events are in bold.**

**ONLINE:** Events are often scheduled with little lead time..

Dale Adamson's Google calendar of online events is usually up to date

<https://daleadamson.com/events-calendar/>

All Greek Festivals should be regarded as tentative, or perhaps hopeful

## SEPTEMBER

5-7 CANCELLED. Long Beach Greek Festival  
[lbgreekfest.org](http://lbgreekfest.org)

6 Mainwoods Dance Camp 2020 E-vent. 12:00-3:00, 2021 Preview workshop, 5:00 on, 25/25 Dance Party, with 25 favorite dances from 25 teachers at Mainwoods. Info:  
[www.mainwoodsdancecamp.org](http://www.mainwoodsdancecamp.org).

11-13 CANCELLED. St. Paul Greek Fest, Irvine.  
[irvinegreekfest.com](http://irvinegreekfest.com)

12-14 Greek Festival, Downey <http://stgeorgedowney.org/festival-2/>

12-13 Cardiff-by-the-Sea Greek Festival  
[cardiffgreekfestival.com](http://cardiffgreekfestival.com)

## OCTOBER

2-4 St Sophia Greek Festival, [lagreekfest.com](http://lagreekfest.com)

9-11 Greek Festival, Anaheim <https://ocgreekfest.com/>

10-11 CANCELLED Temecula Greek Festival  
[temeculagreekfest.com](http://temeculagreekfest.com)

## DECEMBER

**4-6 POSTPONED to November 2021. Fall Camp, Brandeis-Bardin Campus of the American Jewish University, 1101 Peppertree Lane, Brandeis, CA 93064 (near Simi Valley). See OTS. Info: [Dance@FallCamp.org](mailto:Dance@FallCamp.org), <https://fallcamp.org>**

## 2021

### JANUARY

**30 Cerritos Folk Dance Festival, Info:**

[chiangwenli@yahoo.com](mailto:chiangwenli@yahoo.com) or [CerritosFolkDanceRS@gmail.com](mailto:CerritosFolkDanceRS@gmail.com)

### MAY

**1 Cerritos Folk Dance Festival. Info:**

[chiangwenli@yahoo.com](mailto:chiangwenli@yahoo.com) or [CerritosFolkDanceRS@gmail.com](mailto:CerritosFolkDanceRS@gmail.com)

### NOVEMBER

**12-14 Fall Camp. Teachers TBA. Info:**

[Dance@FallCamp.org](mailto:Dance@FallCamp.org), <https://fallcamp.org>

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

11/27-28 Kolo Festival with Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu, Joe Graziosi and others, <https://kolofestival.org/>

### OUT OF STATE

#### MAINE

8/15-21/2021, 8/22-28/2021 Mainwoods Dance Camps. Two separate, different weeks. Fryeburg. Info:  
[www.mainwoodsdancecamp.org](http://www.mainwoodsdancecamp.org)

#### OHIO

9/24-26 CANCELLED Tamburitza Extravaganza, Holiday Inn Cleveland South <https://www.tamburitza.org/>

### FOREIGN

#### ALBANIA AND KOSOVO

5/4-16/2021 *Tour led by Lee Otterholt.* Includes Tirana, Durrës, Viora FD Festival, Kruja, Saranda, Berat, Shkodra, Gjirokastra. Extension 5/16-18. Info: [www.JimGold.com](http://www.JimGold.com), 201.836.0362. See ad.



## **BULGARIA**

8/2-15/2021. *Koprivshitsa Festival tour*. Info:  
www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

## **CENTRAL EUROPE**

6/14-27/2023 *Folk Dance and Yodeling Tour* to  
Germany, Austria, Lichtenstein, Switzerland.  
Led by Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt and Lee  
Friedman. Info: www.JimGold.com,  
201.836.0362. See ad.

## **GREECE**

10/9-22/2021 *Tour of Greece and Greek Islands*.  
Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt. Athens,  
Sparta, Delphi, etc. plus cruise to islands. Info:  
www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.

## **HUNGARY**

9/23-10/4 *Hungary Dance and Folklore Tour* with  
Steve & Susan Kotansky, Zoltan Farkas &  
Ildiko Toth and Jeff O'Connor. Budapest and  
NW areas of Hungary. Info:  
tours.easterneurope@gmail.com

## **IRELAND**

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## **ISRAEL**

3/13-24/2022 or Germany in June *Tour led by Jim  
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## **NORWAY, DENMARK, SWEDEN**

6/8-21/2021 *Tour led by Lee Otterholt*. Info:  
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## **PERU, BOLIVIA, CHILE**

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## **ROMANIA**

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tour/](https://yuvalronmusic.com/yuval-ron-ensemble/russia-tour/) or email [apricottoursv@gmail.com](mailto:apricottoursv@gmail.com)

## **SPAIN**

9/14-27/2023 *Tour led by Lee Otterholt*. Malaga,  
Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba, Jaen, Granada. Info:  
www.JimGold.com, 201.836.0362. See ad.



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Millbrae, CA 94030

# IRWIN BARR

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## **From L.A. Times:**

September 24, 1930 - July 24, 2020 Loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather (with 6 great grandchildren), passed away peacefully in his sleep. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Beverly. Besides his family, his passion was International Folk Dancing. He and Beverly taught International Folk Dancing for over 50 years. Irwin is survived by his wife Beverly, Holly Buchwald & Ramon Bautista (daughter), Gary & Joy Barr (son), Nicole & Rob Malone (granddaughter), Amy & Chris Clevenger (granddaughter), Keith Buchwald & Kayli Atha (grandson) & Alexis & Guy Handelman (granddaughter) and Asher, Calla, Tenley, Brodie, Remi and Ilana (great grandchildren).

## **Following from Legacy.com:**

I was saddened to hear about Irwin's passing. Who in the Southern California Folk dance scene hasn't heard of the Barrs? It has only been in the past few months, when the Barrs started dancing with the West Valley Folk Dancers, that I got to know Irwin better. He was always so interested in everything around him. He was so supportive and encouraging to both beginner and experienced dancers alike. Future folk dance events will be forever changed without his presence.

My deepest condolences to Beverly and the family.

*Monica Zordich*

We are so sorry to hear the news. We have danced with Beverly and Irwin over the years at Stockton Folk Dance Camp or when we came to LA and danced at their West Los Angeles group. Our condolences to Beverly and the family.

*Barbara and Richard Jeffe, Rockville, Maryland.*

We have such fond memories of folkdancing with both Irwin and Beverly. We will always remember Irwin as a sweet and kind man. May his memory be for a blessing. Sincere condolences to Beverly and all the family.

*Karen & Paul Richter*

May his memory be a blessing.

*Karen Fink*

Irwin was such a sweet guy. May his memory be a blessing.

*Helene and Barry Korn*

So sorry to hear about Irwin's passing. I saw Beverly and Irwin at so many folk dance events. My condolences to Beverly. He will be missed.

*Pat Crosswhite*

Very sorry to hear of Irwin's passing. We often crossed paths at various folk dance camps and workshops in various parts of California where we had been invited to teach. We keep fond memories of him and his passion and dedication to folk dance. Sincere condolences to Beverly and family members.

*Yves & France Moreau*

He was one of our most treasured dancers. His spirit never stopped dancing. I know he is leaping in heaven.

*Leslie Halberg*

I am so sorry for your loss. Over the years I have seen Irwin with Beverly at many folk dance events, always smiling, always on the dance floor. The folk dance world mourns, but we are lucky to have had him bringing joy all this time. May his memory be a blessing forever to his family and to all who knew him.

*Elyse Ellinger*

I have known Beverly and Irwin since my first folk dance camp in 1969. They were fixtures in the dance community. Irwin was always warm and wonderful whenever we met. My condolences to Beverly and family. Irwin will be missed.

*Sherry Cochran*

So sad to hear that Irwin passed away. We were folk dancing friends for over 30 years. He and Beverly gave so much to help fortify the folk dance community in Southern California. They organized the Camp Hess Kramer dance camps, and they were permanent guests at so many different

festivals. Too many to count. Irwin, you will be missed. Rest in Peace. My heartfelt condolences go out to you, Beverly, along with many hugs and kisses, and to your family.

*Kathy Molga*

I have many happy memories of dancing with Irwin (and Beverly) over many, many years. My condolences.

*Neil Siegel*

Irwin was a fine, distinguished gentleman and dance teacher. Along with Beverly, he encouraged a friendly, joyful dance community. Thank you, Irwin.

*Debbie Rand*

As an international folk dancer, I encountered Irwin and his lovely bride Beverly at many dance events. Although our paths seldom crossed in recent years, Irwin always had a smile and a warm greeting for me. I will remember him fondly. May his memory be a blessing.

*Robin (Bauman) Winston*

I'm remembering Irwin as a kind and giving man...he was friendly, and so helpful to his sister and brother-in-law, Gloria and Eddie. Condolences to Beverly, Holly, Gary and family. May Irwin's memory be for a blessing.

*Judie Rice*

We mourn the loss of a good friend and fellow folk dancer, Irwin Barr. I always enjoyed dancing and dining with Irwin and Beverly. I remember his firm handshake and warm smile. He played all of my requests and always mentioned my name when he played them. For all of us who were lucky enough to know Irwin, we will miss him terribly. *Ro een sholem*, Rest In Peace, our good, good friend, Irwin.

*John Trojan*

I was always delighted to see Beverly and Irwin over the decades at dance events. They had so much positive energy and made things fun. I can't imagine two finer or lovelier friends on the folk dance scene.

I love the fact that they were high school sweethearts, partners in dance and in life. Sending love and blessings to dear Beverly and to the spirit of a kind, warm friend, Irwin.

*Susan Lumiere*

I don't think Irwin ever said no when asked to help in any way, He was kind, gentle, inclusive and supportive. One word best describes Irwin - Mensch! He is missed.

*Sandy Helperin*

***Additional thoughts:***

Beverly and Irwin Barr were royalty in the folkdance world for over 50 years. He was a partner in her teaching, handled the music and solved technical problems. More than that Irwin was kind, thoughtful, patient and concerned about everyone he met. He saw to it that people were not deserted on the dance floor or the sidelines. And he was aware of when dancers' sensitive feelings needed to be soothed.

As a friend he was thoughtful and generous and always eager to show up and help,

The Barrs were great guests and party givers as well as teachers and friends. On a personal note, Irwin was especially helpful at times when my husband had health issues during dance sessions. As a couple they were always there to support us at times of personal crisis in our lives. Beverly has always been wonderful and Irwin was one terrific guy. Down to earth people who have brightened many lives.

Irwin was just one very special man who will be remembered lovingly and missed by all of us who knew him.

*Lillian Rodich*

We have known Beverly for the past 45 years...her mother lived downstairs from my mother. Beverly and Irwin are legendary in their kind friendly support and presence expanding the joys of Folkdancing to countless people throughout their lives as teachers and mentors. Irwin will be surely missed. We wish Beverly much strength, good memories and our deepest sympathy in her loss.

*Marcy and Randy Tamayei*

Beverly and Irwin were very close friends of my parents, sharing much besides "just" dancing -- family and social events, travel and the like.

Over the years, Irwin and I had talked business. Like all folk, he had his share of business issues, some pretty daunting. Yet at the end of a talk, he would quickly rebound, and his good cheer would surface. Indeed, Beverly and Irwin were two of the most cheerful people I've met, unforced and without artifice.

May Irwin's memory be a blessing to Beverly, their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, family and friends. *Zicharon L'Veracha*, may his memory be a blessing.

*Dennis Gura*

Irwin Barr was a strong force in folk dancing and in community affairs. With his wife, Beverly, they were "Mr. and Mrs. Folk Dance" in Southern California for perhaps 60 years. Together they taught many couple dances, and when Beverly was teaching a non-partner dance alone, he always provided support in many ways.

He would volunteer to help in clubs, camps, institutes, trips – doing his job quickly, efficiently, and without a complaint. It seemed that no matter how much he was asked to do, it always got done – and in a quiet, unassuming manner. He was the one people went to when they had a need, and he never disappointed them. Nothing was too much for him. This continued into his final years when even with deteriorating health and physical strength it became more difficult to do so, he would always be there for others. It was painful for us to see him in spite of

being bent over into a question mark still *shlepping* heavy loads.

Irwin also made friends easily. It is hard to imagine anyone who knew him who did not only like, but also admire, him. He also offered his services to the association where they lived, helped people with their financial investments, and asked little or nothing in return. But life was not all work. He was always ready for a party, dinner out, family events or hosting a Passover Seder. To say he will be missed is a woeful under-statement.

*Jill and Jay Michtom*

I knew no one when I moved to LA in 1975 and found an ad about a folkdance group in West LA. I had always loved folk dancing so I braved it and went. The minute I walked in to that large room full of happy dancers I was greeted by Irwin. He brought me in, introduced me to people, and proceeded to watch over me till I felt part of that wonderful group. That was the start of what became my LA family. It was sad watching his health decline but he never stopped greeting me in that same caring way. It's hard to imagine Beverly without her Irwin, isn't it? Such a long marriage. They gave us all so much.

*Carol Stern*

Irwin was always a dear gentleman, always ready with a hug and a smile. For a long time folk dance was: BEVERLY AND IRWIN.

What a time we all had!

*Ruth Bornstein*



***Irwin Barr***  
***September 24, 1930 - July 24, 2020***

# ON THE SCENE

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## NEWS ABOUT FALL CAMP 2020

Fall Camp 2020 will not take place as planned. We reached this decision with great disappointment, but after much consideration plus consultation with the lovely facility where we would conduct it and with the concurrence of the Federation. I doubt this will surprise most readers, as every *Scene* article about Fall Camp since the pandemic began has described our highest priority of ensuring the well-being of our participants, but we understand some people are still going to be disappointed. It has been nice to hold out hope for a great time Dec. 4-6 after so much dance and social deprivation. After all, Fall Camp 2019 had a special magic that really distinguished it from other camps, and we were planning another outstanding experience for campers this year. However, the recent course of the pandemic makes that impossible.

Among our many plans was to have master teachers Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu and Roberto Bagnoli. They support this decision and express their own disappointment about not being able to dance with everyone who would have attended.

We are still considering whether to conduct some kind of virtual camp and will publicize it widely if we do.

We are already starting to work on Fall Camp 2021, set for Nov. 12-14, 2021, again at Brandeis-Barding Campus. I know that weekend is already on your calendar, assuming you use the standard Gregorian calendar. Now you simply need to record that that's when Fall Camp 2021 will be.

You will read more about next year's camp over the coming 15 months. For now, along with the rest of the Fall Camp committee and the many others who would have helped conduct the camp, I look forward to a better dancing future.

*Marc Rayman*

## PASADENA FOLK DANCE

We plan to resume our Friday night dancing as soon as it is safe to do so, whenever that may be. Updates will be posted on our website: Pasadena-FolkDanceCoop.org. Also we have added a Forum/Blog page to our website to help us stay connected while we're dark, and we welcome you to join us there.

*Mari Werner  
Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op Publicity*

## BEVERLY BARR'S NEW HOME

Beverly Barr has moved to Land of Peace, 22626 Kittridge St. West Hills, 91307. It is a small (only 6 residents) facility, specializing in memory care. Her dementia is slowly worsening, but she does have periods of lucidity. You can call the facility at 818.704.9174 (daytime only), and ask to speak with her, but she may or may not know who you are. She also may not accept that Irwin has died, but if she does, she may tell you that he took his own life which is absolutely not true. He had been hospitalized, and when it was determined that he would not survive, he asked to return to be with Beverly. He was under hospice care for his final few weeks.

It is also possible to visit her there - outside with masks and distancing. Call her son, Gary, first to determine whether or not it would be a good time to do so (his # 818.489.7848). You can write to her, but again, send to Gary, and he will deliver in person, to ensure that she gets it, and if some explanation is needed. His address: 6237 Melba Ave., Woodland Hills, 91367. If you do see her, she will look quite different, e.g. gray hair in a new style.

*Jill and Jay Michtom*

# RECENT EVENTS

## CERRITOS FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL 2/2/2020

Cerritos Folk Dancers (CFD) had a successful Lunar New Year Festival on February 2, 2020. (Note that either 02/02/2020 or 2020.02.02. denotes a palindrome day.) We were unable to totally defeat the attraction of the Super Bowl and the panic about coronavirus, and so only fifty-six attendees came from fourteen groups. Four of our friends made the prepayment and failed to attend the party due to sickness and injury. (The prepayment is non-refundable and non-transferable. Sorry.)

This year, we invited Bulgarian teacher Daniela Ivanova-Nyberg to teach Bulgarian dances. She is teaching Bulgarian dances in Seattle, Washington now. She funded a performing group, Seattle Cheta, to perform Bulgarian folk traditions. Her teaching style and her beautiful singing conquered all attendees in the East West Workshop.

Marc and Jan Rayman performed an excellent Lion Dance right before the festival started. Thanks a lot to Marc and Jan. Any of you, either a couple or a person, who are interested in performing Lion Dance in our festivals, please let us know.

Those who returned the name badge should have received a red envelope in return. Lucky ones may receive the envelope with a larger face value bill.

Some dancers in the festival signed up for dance notations. If you have not done so yet, you may write to us to be included in the mailing list. The first release of the syllabus was distributed one month ago.

Unfortunately, our Cerritos Folk Dance Festival on May 3, 2020 was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Our 2021 festivals are scheduled on Saturday, January 30, 2021, and Saturday, May 1, 2021.

Stay safe and keep dancing,

*:-) Wen, for Cerritos Folk Dancers*

[chiangwenli@yahoo.com](mailto:chiangwenli@yahoo.com)

or [CerritosFolkDancers@gmail.com](mailto:CerritosFolkDancers@gmail.com)



# DANCERS SPEAK

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## ZIPPITY DOO DAH, ZIPPITY ZOOM DANCE

Kudos to the local dance leaders, Wen-Li Chiang, Sherry Cochran, Lee Otterholt and the San Diego Folk Dance Center executive committee, who organize weekly dance sessions online! You are providing opportunities for us folk dancers to make lemonade out of the Covid lemon.

Beaming faces, sometimes perplexed by wavering internet transmission and garbled audio output, greet us when we log in for a joyful evening of dance.

Maybe you doubt the power of zoom dancing to connect our dance community. Were you following an online leader and got frustrated by the steps being out of sync with the song? Or irritated when the leader's feet disappeared behind a table? Perhaps you looked at thumbnails of people dancing alone between stove & refrigerator and thought, "That looks ridiculous!" You're not the only Zoomer who left a session feeling annoyed. Just like we've all learned to live more comfortably with the menace of Covid, Zoom leaders and techies have mastered techniques for making Zoom dancing flow more smoothly. The result is varied dance sessions with joyful music, challenging step patterns, familiar dances, opportunity to catch up with friends' lives.

It's helpful to refocus perception from viewing individuals doing a circle dance alone in separate compartments, to feeling your own response while dancing. Tense shoulders relax (and no one is hanging onto you or squeezing your hand). A smile crosses your face as you forget, then remember, a step you well know. Beloved songs echo in your ear. Memories of doing a dance at a specific party crowd out thoughts of chores. Your muscles come alive. Knees feel springier, your steps have a bounce. You think of dances you want to be doing and rush to the keyboard to make a request. After a few sessions you become curious. When was that dance introduced to the recreational folk dance community? By which leader? What is the meaning of the lyrics? Which instrument contributes that deep sound? What are the "counts" for that Bulgarian dance your feet know, but your brain doesn't? Who all is dancing in the Zoom room that session? Where do they live? Suddenly you recognize a dancer on the screen that you met a dozen years ago on a trip to Romania! Later you hear the voice of the dancer from your group who recently moved to Florida.

That's the "lemonade" of Zoom dancing. You can meet up with folks in Boston, North Carolina and Sweden who all dance to the music you cherish. The next night you can dance with acquaintances in California and welcome the new person who zooms in. You realize: "Hey, I'm part of this community and glad of it! When the spotlight shines onto each participant in turn, you'll find yourself waving vigorously. When the spotlight turns onto you, you'll smile, wave and glide joyfully across your kitchen. More lemonade: better night of sleep with sweet dreams!

*Diane Baker*

## DEAR EEFC COMMUNITY



Last month, a determined committee and tenacious batch of volunteers did something we couldn't have imagined mere months ago—a completely online rendition of EEFC Balkan Camp. At first, we were all a little skeptical. We weren't sure if people would participate given the amount of Zoom fatigue with which we've

all become familiar. But true to camp style, magic happened.

Despite the distance, we connected as a community in a profound way. We all swayed to music from our beloved musicians, learned new things, connected with friends, sang from the same songbook, and stayed up past our bedtimes (especially if you were on the East coast). Our Board and staff had high hopes for the project, but we were all astounded at how heartwarming an experience it was, and according to your evaluations, many of you felt the same way.

*Alex Marković, President  
& the EEFC Board of Directors*

# POETRY CORNER

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## DANCING IN THE SHADOWS

Scarves flying  
Yasous! Echo  
A mosaic of dancing figures  
Disappears between  
Shafts of light and dark  
They re-appear singing  
Thin voices like violin strings  
Compete with chirping crickets  
And I strain to hear them  
Skirts ripple  
Crimson yellow blue  
flowers not quite visible  
Among wild blooms  
And restless leaves  
Flirting figures  
I struggle to recognize  
Sometimes sensing their presence  
Hidden in greenery  
Among lonely branches  
And mists of yesterday

Their footsteps  
are formed of silence  
as they dance over  
fallen leaves  
and soft supple earth

music is there  
embracing them with joy  
rhythms I remember  
I hear them clearly  
and they are part of the silence  
Circles of memories  
Twirling figures  
My friends  
Are dancing in the shadows

*Lil Rodich*

## RAINBOWS OF DANCE

Folk dances, like oceans encircling the sphere,  
Are sparkling currents weaving constant and clear  
Warming, and cooling, and gliding through seas  
Borrowing beauty, enriching with ease

New steps go right through fallacious conclusions  
Saturating the senses, inspiring inclusions...  
Flooding away all false separation  
With blending rainbows of bright affirmation

*---Camille Dull*





on the membership you provided to the Federation in fall for 2019) for 6 months. Assistance based on other expenses will also be considered. Each club's needs and situation will be assessed separately. Our goal is to give every club an opportunity to get on its feet (pun intended) and dancing again.

## Process for applying for assistance:

Write a brief message requesting this assistance. Be sure to include the amount of your monthly rent and your regular dance meeting fee. We already have the number of your members that you provided last fall, so you don't have to include that. If your club has additional financial hardship beyond this amount, please describe it as well. Depending on funds available, the Federation will make its best effort to provide additional support so that all clubs can resume a flourishing dance experience. Applications will be screened by the finance committee.

## Send your request to:

Federation Fiscal Committee representative, Rick Bingle at:

Email: [ricklynnbingle@gmail.com](mailto:ricklynnbingle@gmail.com), Postal mail:  
120 E. Juanita Ave., Glendora, Ca 91740

## Timing:

Please send your request no later than two months after your club resumes offering dance meetings.

## INSURANCE

We are also anticipating financial difficulties due to the insurance premiums that will be due in December. To keep our insurance coverage, the Federation will pay the minimal premium necessary for each club (8 members). As your club re-opens and start dancing, you will need to pay for any additional members with the usual form. This will be explained again in the renewal packages.

All clubs should follow the government guidelines that are in effect when they begin dancing again.

## ELECTION

Since we missed our April Federation Board Meeting due to Covid, we could not have our election of new Board officers. I propose an election by email to be held in September. Every Federation Club should have a chance to nominate someone-- and vote on electing the new board. Would all clubs please be sure that their official representatives make nominations and also that they officially vote in the election.

The slate of officers running for the board are: President, Diane Baker; Vice-President, Leslie Halberg; Treasurer, Mindy Belli. Positions unfilled are Secretary and Membership Chair.

Please help the Federation to come back strong when we are allowed to return to our folk dance activities with a full board ready for action. Submit nominations for board officers from your clubs by September 10<sup>th</sup>, or earlier. Voting will be by email and we hope it can be completed by September 14th.

Thank you all for continuing to support folk dancing whether virtually or in our dreams! Keep the faith and we'll be back!

*Pauline Klak*

*President, Folk Dance Federation of California,  
South*

*Email: [klakfamily@cox.net](mailto:klakfamily@cox.net)*

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## SCENE MAIL DELIVERY

We know that some of you got your August Scene late, and some never received it. They were mailed early enough to arrive in time, but the Post Office is experiencing large delays, and often losses, in mail delivery. Fortunately, due to the fact that most events are being delayed or cancelled, there is very little of an urgent nature in these current issues. But they do make, (we hope) interesting reading at any time. So whenever you don't receive your copy, you can contact Sandy Helperin for a replacement. Her phone and Email are on page 2. Of course, sending the replacement as an Email would be easier for us, so if that works for you, we would prefer you to ask for it that way.

*Folk Dance Scene Committee*

# CLUB DIRECTORY

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

## Federation Clubs

\***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) 495-6491 mar601@earthlink.net Marion Miller

**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) 688-9245 Sophie Chen. *Fri 8:15-10:45. El Monte Chamber of Commerce, 10505 Valley Blvd EL MONTE.* (626) 429-9008 Vincen-tyhcheng@gmail.com Vincent Cheng

**Int'l Folk Dance Club - Laguna Woods:** Tue 9:00am-12:00. 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 (323) 660-1030 jozefbilman1030@aol.com Jozef Bilman

**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 www.lagunainternationaldancers.com

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

**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) 808-0361 mari2@workableeconomics.com Mari Werner

**Prescott Int'l Folkdancers:** Sun 3:00-5:00. First Congregational Church, 216 E. Gurley St, **PRES-COTT, AZ.** (928) 925-8995 Prescott.intl.folkdancers@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 7:00-9:45. Downtown Community Center, 250 E Center, **ANAHEIM.** (714) 893-8888 tedmart@juno.com Ted Martin.

**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 7:45-10:15. 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.** veseloselo1@yahoo.com (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) 348-6133 lila@aurich.com Lila

**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 7:30-9:45. 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.** (805) 341-9640 sissykf@earthlink.net Sissy Keresztes-Fischer

**Krakusy Polish Folk Dance Ensemble:** Tue 7:30-9:30 Sat 9:00-10:00. Szarotka Retirement Home, 3400 W Adams Blvd, **LOS ANGELES.** Sat 2:15-4:15. 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

**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.

**Cafe Aman:** 2nd Sat 7:00-11:30. Teach 7:30-8:30 LA DanceFit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd, **WEST LA,** ianpricebey@gmail.com, madelyntaylor@hotmail.com

**Caltech Folkdancers:** Tue 7:30. Cal Tech Campus, Dabney Hall, parking on California Blvd. or Throop Church, 300 Los Robles, **Pasadena.** (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. Oasis Wellness Center, 5500 Grossmont Center Dr, **La Mesa.** (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 www.Foothill.Dance

**Friday Night L.I.F.E.:** Fri 8:00-11:00. LA Dance-Fit 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 @ AJU-Natalie & Pat:** Mon 10:30am-1:00, noon-1:00(Beg); Thu 10:30am-11:30. American Jewish Univ Dance Studio, 15600 Mulholland, **L.A** 818-642-3585 Pat Jordan

**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:** Mon 6:00-8:30, Wed 12:30-2:00, Wed 8:00-10:00. Oak Park Stage, corner Junipero and Calle Real, **SANTA BARBARA.** 805.895.4885 Michal Lynch soria-susan@gmail.com Susan Soria

**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

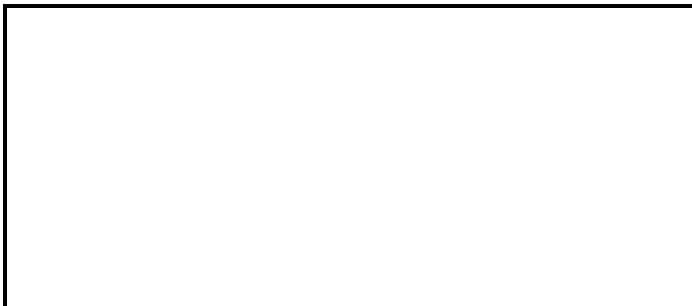
**Topanga Canyon Int'l FD:** Fri 9:30am-11:00am. Froggy's Restaurant, 1105 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd, **TOPANGA .** (310) 455-1051 Melanie Kareem

**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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# First Class Mail



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