



Folk Dance Scene



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Folk Dance Scene

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Folk Dance Scene is published to educate its readers concerning the folk dance, music, costumes, lore and culture of the peoples of the world. It is designed to inform them of the opportunities to experience folk dance and culture in Southern California and elsewhere.

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On the cover: Schuhplattler, photo from dgemuetlichen.com



Folk Dance Scene

Volume 59, No. 5
June/July 2023

Editors' Corner

As you can see on the cover, this issue's focus is on German dance culture. The lead article is an aggregation from Richard Duree's past writings; Betchen informs us about an important costume accessory in her Costume Corner.

Our President salutes the organizers of festivals, and teachers; thanks outstanding contributors to the functioning of the Federation.

Check out the Poetry Corner and sample of the Statewide teachers on page 15.

Minutes of the latest Federation meeting are presented right after.

A trip to Canada and a memorial for Susie Burke are reported in Recent Events.

Be of good cheer,

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

The Corner

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

'Tis the season for weddings, graduations, baseball, barbecues, summer reading, foreign travel, camping vacations, stone fruits, after dinner walks and summer dance camps. How will you spend the extra hours of daylight? Federation committee members will devote some time to planning events for autumn. The Day of Dance in Ojai will take place September 23 and (round of applause) Carol Smith has again agreed to be planner-in-chief. Lee Otterholt volunteered to chair Fall Camp in Simi Valley November 10 - 12. Other Fall Camp execs include Jan Rayman and Kelley O'Neill. (More applause!) Mark the dates on your calendar now for both events.

Compliments and thanks to Wen-Li Chiang and Sue Chen for inviting SoCal dancers to the Cerritos 14th anniversary festival party, May 6. The event brought together Israeli, Taiwanese and Balkan folk dancers for an afternoon of shared pleasure.



Golden Waltz at Cerritos Anniversary Festival



Yael Steinfeld, Israeli dance leader in Claremont, performs at Anniversary Festival

President' Column continues on Page 6.

GERMAN DANCE

Ed.s Note: The author of the following article was the late Richard Duree, a former member of the Scene committee. It was excerpted from three articles which are available in the Federation web-site under 'Articles', along with many other well-written and interesting folklore items.

German immigrants made a major contribution to the collective character of those who founded America. Their work ethic, concern for craftsmanship, and talent for producing high quality goods set an example for those whom they joined in the mix of cultures that became Americans. Even today, German craftsmanship and engineering remain the standard for others to follow.

In any society, the dance produced by that culture clearly reflects the values and aesthetics of those who created it. The dances of Germany are no exception. In the industrial north, home to huge manufacturing enterprises, the most common dance form is the Set Dance, frequently in Quadrilles executing intricate and charming figures requiring well-coordinated movements by every dancer – just as in a piece of complex machinery. *Sauerlander Quadrille* is one well-known example.

To the south, in mountainous Bavaria, the people are much closer to nature. The splendid scenery and bracing mountain air lend to an outdoor life and the Bavarians do it with serious zeal. As one might expect, their most popular dance, the *Schuhplattler*, mimics not machinery but wildlife – the *Auerhahn*, the famous ring-tailed wood grouse. As large as a small turkey, the *Auerhahn* cock preens and struts in front of the hen on a fallen log, beating his wings to create a rhythm to impress the object of his lust. It works when the hen responds by turning in circles before him. The *Schuhplattler* does the same thing.

The men's dance consists of a syncopated series of very loud slaps on lederhosen-clad thighs and the soles of the shoes (thus *Schuhplattler* or "hitting the shoe"). Every district has its own unique *Plattl* (slapping rhythm), many of them very complex, all requiring strength, flexibility, and stamina. Couple *Plattls* are danced in 3/4 rhythm.

As the men *plattl*, the women turn in a never-ending *Dreher* or spin, either traveling around the men or remaining in place. Again, different regions have different footwork, either stepping on counts 1 and 3 or on every beat; both are one of the more difficult dance techniques for the women to master. Any time she is not dancing with her partner, the woman's skirt must be belled out fully. Between *Plattls*, the men pursue, capture, and waltz with their partners. Just as in nature.

Tradesmen's *Plattls*, danced in 2/4 meter, frequently utilize implements and tools of the trade. *Holzackerbaum* (logger's *Plattls*) use a log, cross-cut saw and axes, making a lovely mess of the dance floor with sawdust and wood chips flying everywhere. *Knappentanz* (miner's dances) uses a large rock, hammers and various-sized musical chisels; similarly, *Ambosstanz* (blacksmiths' dances) uses an



Schuhplattler
Pinterest

anvil and various-sized hammers to create melodies. Cowherds' *Plattls* use cow bells, while *Mühlradl* (baker's dance) mimics the gears and paddles of the bread dough-mixing machine. Benches, staffs, and other props are frequently used in *Plattls* where men play tricks on one another and even stage mock fights in the *Watschtentanz*.

Annual contests, called a *Gaufest*, pit *Schuhplattler* performing groups from across the country in a *Schuhplattler* marathon. Groups draw to determine which one of three different *Plattls* they will perform: *Haushammer*, *Reit im Winkler*, or *Heitauer*. Each group must have all three *Plattl* performances competition-ready. And the competition is strict. Total unity within the group is paramount: arms must all be at the same angle and height, feathers in hats must be at the same angle, dancers must turn at the same rate, skirts must be perfectly belled, five men plattling must sound like one, only deafeningly louder. There's not a smile anywhere. Each group is free to create their own choreography within the structure of the *Plattl* and design its own costumes, but every dancer must look and move just like all the others, with no one individual identifiable from the rest. (There is an interesting similarity to the Scottish country dance.)

So, in the *Schuhplattler* we see the expression of the Bavarians' close ties with nature, their concern with precision and power – and the dour German personality with which they perform this wonderful dance.

The *Zwiefacher*, “two things” (pronounced TSVEE-fach-er), is another unique dance of Bavaria, but it has spread much farther than the *Schuhplattler* into Austria, Bohemia, and Switzerland. Its mix of 3/4 and 2/4 rhythms creates a challenge to the dancers, who must execute the dance in a continuous spin, alternating *Waltz* and *Dreher* (pivot) steps (or, with 3/4 plus 4/4 rhythms, *Waltz* and *Polka* steps) to music that will sometimes camouflage the rhythms to confuse the dancers. The combinations are endless, but the dance again fulfills the German penchant for precision and discipline.

The *Ländler* is a major folk dance of the Tyrol and is found as far south as Switzerland and as far east as Bohemia. Characterized by complex intertwining of the couple's arms, changing continuously into seemingly impossible contortions, the *Ländler* represents closeness in the relationship between men and women. The *Zillertaler Ländler* in our folk-dance repertoire is a simplified version from the Ziller Valley (*Tal*) of Austria. Other versions are found in many of the Bavarian dances performed at Oktoberfest, though the Bavarian versions are somewhat faster and less complex.



Holzackerbaum
Pinterest



Ländler

The *Rheinländer* is the name for the *Schottische* throughout Europe in reference to its place of origin in the Rhineland, Germany. Most folk dancers are familiar with the basic *Schottische*, and the variants danced in Scandinavia, France, and elsewhere are endless and challenging.

The *Polka* is probably the most widely known of all European folk dances. First recorded in Bohemia in the mid 1830s, the dance was popular in the California Gold Rush country some 15 years later and is danced in one form or another in most of Western Civilization even today. It is the national dance of the Czech Republic, where it is danced with wonderful variations and lovely Czech polka music. Oktoberfest bands play one polka after another for hours. The polka's quick popularity in the mid-1800s in Europe was largely responsible for the widespread acceptance of couple dancing in polite society, breaking generations-old resistance to such intimate displays.

Germans love a celebration and they come in a bewildering variety of old and modern, religious and secular, local and national. Most famous, of course, is

Munich's *Oktoberfest*, celebrated throughout the world, but nowhere as seriously as in Munich itself. The tradition began as the wedding celebration of King Ludwig I of Bavaria to Maria Therese in 1810 and it hasn't stopped since.

Fasching is the German version of Mardi Gras and Carnival. It is one celebration that we might envy, a Middle Ages relic in which everyone indulges with carefree abandon. It is said that one judge opined that "marital infidelity does not matter at *Fasching*."

Our own Christmas has inherited much from German traditions, the most notable being the Christmas tree and decorations of holly. Santa Claus is, of course, Germany's Saint Nicholas; however, he comes on his name day (December 6) in Germany, filling children's stockings with gifts and goodies. It is *Christkindl*, the "Christ Child" who brings gifts on Christmas Eve in Germany with the assistance of the anonymous *Weihnachtsmann* (Christmas man).

Richard Duree

President's Column continued from page 3.

Congratulations to Jay and Jill Michtom, and to Julith Neff, recipients of the "Outstanding Service" to the Federation. Awards were announced at Harbor View Statewide. Editing Scene and administering the Master Teacher program (Jill and Jay), and arranging liability insurance (Julith) are all crucial responsibilities. I fervently thank you three for your service!

Would you like to be more involved in Federation activities? Contact me at info@socalfolkdance.org to participate in zoomed quarterly council meetings. Next meeting is scheduled for Sunday August 6 at 9:30 a.m. The Federation exists to foster friendship and sustain folk dance, music and related arts. Your participation strengthens the organization and offers you opportunities to make use of your talents, skills and experience for the common good.



Julith Neff at Cerritos Festival

Come join us for our 76th Camp featuring the following guest artists

Dance Teachers

Roberto Bagnoli – Iliana Bozhanova & Todor Yankov
Željko Jergan – Kyriakos Moisidis – Tony Parkes
Richard Powers – Kau’i Tuia

Musical Guests, Chubritza

Derek Shaw – Rick Kruse – Craig Kurumada – Meadow Lo
Randy Carrico – Linnea Mandell – Special Guest Michele Simon



Register today at www.folkdancecamp.org

Thank you for your support of Stockton and folk dancing & music

COSTUME CORNER

CENTRAL GERMANY

We Americans are so accustomed to thinking of German costume and dance in terms of southern Germany—of *Dirndl*, *Lederhosen*, and *Schuhplattler*—that we forget about the rich traditions of the rest of the country. (This is in large part because after World War II it was southern Germany that became the “American zone,” and it was Bavaria and the Schwarzwald that “our boys” came back talking about.) So let’s look at a remarkable bit of folk-wear just north of there, in the three central provinces or States of Hesse, Thuringia, and Lower Saxony (see **Map**), the last two of which were long part of the DDR (“East Germany”).

Map of German states. Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg (which includes the Black Forrest) occupy the south, while Hesse, Thuringia, and Saxony run eastward across the center.



The presence of full skirts with big aprons, and tight bodices over white blouses (**Photo 1**), is pretty standard for Western Europe, though the cuts and decorations vary, of course. But look at those hats!! In the Schwalm valley, just southeast of Kassel in northern Hesse, they look like little black muffins perched atop the wide black satin ribbons that hold them on. The “muffins” in nearby Marburg (**Photo 2**) even seem to have a pile of frosting on top!

Photo 1: Girls from the Schwalm valley, Hesse.



Photo 2: Costume of Protestant girls in Marburg, Hesse.



Photo 3: Woman's costume, Thuringia, as pictured on DDR stamp.



Photo 4: Veiled woman from Lindhorst, Schaumburg-Lippe district, Saxony.



Photo 5: Punz topknot on woman from the Schaumburg-Lippe district, Saxony.



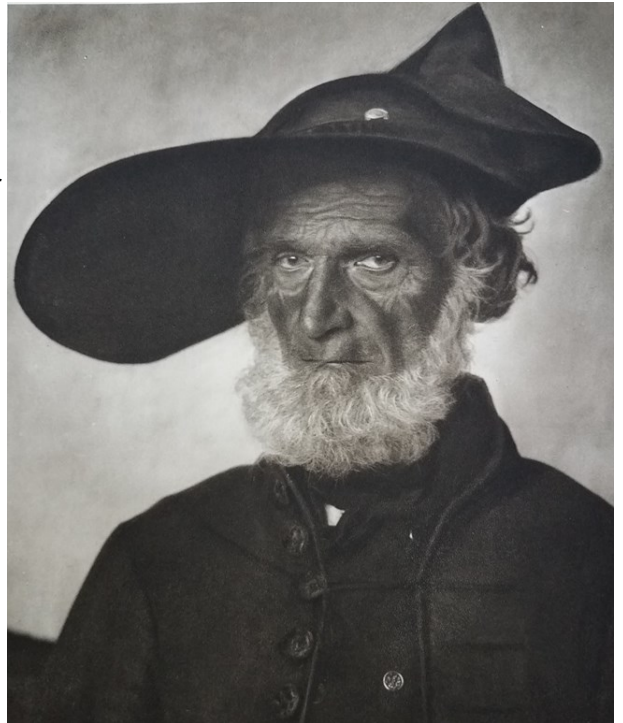
Photo 6: Woman in full festive dress, from Schaumburg-Lippe district of Saxony.

These cylindrical hats get a bit bigger as we go farther east into Thuringia (**Photo 3**), and bigger still in Saxony (**Photo 4**). Here they are so big that they require a special hair-do to support them, the hair being swept up into a very large round bun, called a *Punz*, sitting on top of the head *and* forehead (**Photo 5**). The *Punzmüssen*—the large cylindrical hat itself—then fits right over the *Punz*. For festive occasions, however, the hat—and the woman—are almost lost amid enormous lace collars, embroidered shawls, ribbon bows, and so on (**Photo 6**).

But the men of Marburg, at least, were not going to let themselves be outdone in the hat category (**Photo 7**)!

—Elizabeth Wayland Barber

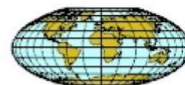
Photo 7: Man from Marburg, Hesse.



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CALENDAR

FOLK DANCE GROUPS MEETING ON ZOOM

LIFE Balkan Dancers on Fridays, 8-11 pm. Contact Sherry Cochran at worldance1@gmail.com for the link and password. Now hybrid - online and in person at LADanceFit, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd, LA CA 90025.

Laguna International Dancers. LID meets in person every Wednesday and Sunday from 6 pm-8:30 pm. LID meets on Zoom every Sunday from 6-8 p.m. We open the waiting room at 5:45 and let people chat and socialize until we start dancing at 6. The teacher/dance leader is Lee Otterholt. The first half hour is teaching and dancing of easier dances and the last hour from 7 to 8 includes teaching and dancing of some more challenging dances. In-person dancing Wednesday at Clubhouse 2 on the patio, 6-8:30 p.m.

The Folk Arts Center of New England holds cultural workshops on Thursdays and monthly Saturday hybrid parties with live music. <http://www.facone.org/programs-online-events.html>

Ethnic Dance Chicago, Illinois Fridays at 7:30 -11 CDT (5:30 - 9 pm Pacific Time). 1st half hour warm ups, discussion, with more discussion following after 8 pm Pacific Time. Schedule and info at www.ethnicdance.net/virtualdanceroom/

Cerritos Folk Dancers. Cerritos Folk Dancers conduct virtual classes through Zoom every Tuesday evening, from 6:00 to 8:45. It is open to the public. Donation is \$4 each time. Other options to donate are available. The first time participating in CFD's Tuesday class is free of charge. Contact CerritosFolkDancers@gmail.com for the weekly playlists and other details.

The Peninsula Dancers from Northern CA present the Global Folk Dance Party on Zoom every 3rd Saturday of the month from 3-6:30, also on Facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/PFDCouncil/> One time registration at https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZuceMrqT4rGdEuA1GXFGqXLH9BSIMr8_Hp Info: virtual-folkdance@gmail.com

Tuesday Night Revival (Boston - MIT) now meets on the 1st Saturday of every month, 5-8 pm Pacific Time <https://tuesdaynightrevival.com/> or join Zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/tnrzoom>

Kypseli has been presenting Greek dance and music sessions on Zoom on occasional Saturdays, often from Greece. Information will be on their Facebook page and website www.kypseli.org

Ira Weisburd teaches line dances and hosts a Balkan-Israeli Session, usually recorded for later viewing. Donations requested. <https://www.facebook.com/dancewithira> Ira's classes are now broadcast on his YouTube Channel - his Facebook page redirects to: <https://www.youtube.com/user/iraweisburd>

Vintage Israeli Dance is hosting monthly hybrid in person and Zoom meetings. Email dovbyrd@aol.com for the dates and Zoom link. <http://www.vintageisraelidancing.org/>

JUNE

All Weekends in June: *Koroneburg Renaissance Festival* 14600 Baron Dr, Eastvale, CA 92880.

On June 10-11 and 24-25 Odjus Ozi Dance Theater will present dances from the Romani Trail <https://renfestcorona.com/>

3-4 *Downey Greek Festival*. Live music by Synthesi. Info: <https://www.stgeorgedowney.org/festival-2/>

9-11 *San Diego Greek Festival*, The Olympians www.stspyridon.org

16-18 *Irvine Greek Festival*, live Greek music with Takis Koktas, Alekos Galas, Dimitris Papkostas. St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church, 4949 Alton Parkway, Irvine, CA 92506, <https://irvinegreekfest.com/>

24-26 *Ventura Co Greek Festival* 515 Eubanks Camarillo CA 93010 with Synthesi <https://vcgreekfestival.org/>

JULY

14-16 *South Bay Greek Festival*, 722 Knob Hill, Redondo Beach with the Olympians

20-23 *Robyn Friend's Silk Road Dance Weekend* - info and reservations Robyn@RobynFriend.com or <http://robynfriender.com/annual-silk-road-dance-weekend/>

30 Greek Dance Workshop with Kyriakos Moisides & LIVE Music co-sponsored by LIFE Balkan Dancers and Kypseli Greek Dancers, info: Sherry Cochran, worldance1@gmail.com

AUGUST

4 *Dakhabrakha* Ukrainian ethno-chaos at the Ford <https://www.theford.com/events/performances/2553/2023-08-04/dakhabrakha>

8-25 *Iliana Bozhanova and Todor Yankov workshops*.

8 **workshop at Westside Dancers**

10 **workshop at Narodni**

13 *workshop at Ventura*

18 *workshop at Santa Barbara*

18 *workshop at LIFE Balkan Dancers*

19 **workshop at San Diego FD Center**

22 **workshop at Cerritos Folkdancers**

25 **workshop at Laguna International Dancers**

SEPTEMBER

7 *Mostly Kosher* at the Muckenthaler, Fullerton <https://themuck.org/program/2023-09-07>

8 *Croatian dance workshop with Zeljko Jergen* at LIFE Balkan Dancers, info: worldance1@gmail.com

9-10 *Cardiff Greek Festival* Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 3459 Manchester Ave., Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA 92007 <https://www.cardiffgreekfestival.com/>

23-24 *San Juan Capistrano Greek Festival*, at the San Juan Capistrano Community Center, live music by Synthesi – <https://www.sjcgreekfest.com/>

OCTOBER

26 **Bulgarika dance party at Narodni**

27 *Bulgarika* dance party at LIFE Balkan Dancers

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

JUNE

10-17 *Scandia Camp Mendocino* in-person <http://scandiacampmendocino.org>

17-24 *West Coast Balkan Music & Dance Workshop*, Mendocino Woodlands, California <https://eefc.org/balkan-camp/west-coast/>

JULY

7-10 *Nirkoda Ba'Kerem 2023*, at Sonoma State University - Israeli Dance and wine tasting <http://nirkoda.com/bakerem>

16-22 *Stockton Folk Dance Camp – week 1* <http://www.folkdancecamp.org/july-2023-camp-home-page> See ad.

23-29 *Stockton Folk Dance Camp – week 2* <http://www.folkdancecamp.org/july-2023-camp-home-page> See ad.

28- Aug 5 - *Lark Camp* at Mendocino Woods- Traditional World Music and Dance <https://www.larkcamp.org/>

AUGUST

5-10 *Middle Eastern Dance Camp* Mendocino www.middleeastcamp.com

OUT OF STATE

2023

June 1-4 *June Camp* in the northern suburbs of Chicago - with Tineke and Maurits van Geel <https://sites.google.com/site/junecampifd/>

June 8-11 *Hora Shalosh* in Copake, NY honors Moshe Eskayo's life and legacy. Info www.horashalosh.com

June 22 – 29 *Pinewoods Camp* Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu, Jacob Madsen <https://facone.org/pinewoods/pinewoods.html>

July 7-9 *Door County Folk Festival* In person & online, <https://www.dcff.net/>

July 20-23 *New Mexico Folk Dance Camp 2023* Featuring Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu and Fusae Carroll, at Socorro, New Mexico. www.swifdi.org See OTS.

Aug 20-26 *Mainewoods Dance Camp* www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org Week 1

Aug 27-Sep 2 *Mainewoods Dance Camp* Week 2 www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org

Oct 4-8 *Tamburitza Extravaganza*, Independence Ohio, <https://www.tamburitza.org/>

2024

Apr 5 - 8, 2024, *Hora Eclipse 2*: Friday to Monday, with a total solar eclipse Monday afternoon. At the URJ Greene Family Camp, just outside Waco Texas (in conjunction with the National Folk Organization and Kochavim Israeli Dance Camp.) <http://hora-eclipse.com>

ON THE SCENE

PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

We dance in-person every Friday night from 7:30 till 9:30 at Altadena Community Church Heicher Hall, 943 E Altadena Drive in Altadena. In June during the teaching segment of the evening, we plan to teach the traditional Bulgarian line dance, *Dobrudzanska Raka*. Also, this month has five Fridays this year, and on June 30th we'll have our traditional Fifth Friday party night with live music by the Fifth Friday band plus all-request recorded music. Go to our website [This Month](#) page to see the programs for each Friday of the month.

As announced last month, our Covid protocols have changed: we no longer require vaccination, and masks continue to be optional. We only ask that everyone be vigilant about staying home when you're sick. Please visit our website for updates and lots more information. <https://www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org>

Mari Werner

NEW MEXICO FOLK DANCE CAMP 2023

Featuring Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu and Fusae Carroll, July 20-23 at Socorro, New Mexico. Registration and info at: www.swifdi.org. We have many options for attending camp:

- Attend all four days of camp, Thursday lunch through Sunday lunch, or go with the weekend-only option (join us any time after lunch on Friday)
- Special lower price for youth (age 13-21) and students
- Work-trade [scholarships](#) available that cover half the tuition cost in exchange for various duties during camp
- Full-day children's program for ages 5-12 included in registration

Your 2023 NM Camp Committee



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Marsha Rosenblatt, Membership,
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POETRY CORNER

CLOUDY MORNING OF CALMING STILLNESS

Cloudy morning of calming stillness
Soothing brain, eyes, neck, shoulders,
Insides sedated to sinuous softness

Everything floating, gossamer
Shades of gray filling in all the cracks
Nothing left to creak away the quiet

Nor disturb a peace precious, patient, poised,
Prescient... as the soul, somnambulant,
Gently awakens anew

--- Camille Dull

Pictures from Statewide of teachers Bata and Joan



FEDERATION MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTH, COUNCIL MEETING APRIL 16, 2023

ELECTED OFFICER REPORTS:

President Diane Baker announced:

- That Margaret Lange has agreed to be secretary.
- That all current officers will stay on for the next year.
- That Fall Camp may take place after all, as Lee Otterholt is interested in chairing the camp. He will decide by May 1st, therefore reservations for Nov 10-12, 2023, have not been cancelled.

•That the membership directory is in preparation. It will not be published or posted online. Your personal information will be sent to members just once, after which time you will need to email info@folkdance.org and Diane will provide you with the information.

•That Dick Oakes has updated the website and calendar so it's more user friendly and a great resource. He has added additional syllabi, including the first Santa Barbara conference in 1956.

Vice President Report:

•Laguna Festival: Greg Solloway reported that the festival first weekend in March was in person and had about 80 pre-registrants. With five live-bands they used no recorded music for the weekend! There were close to 100 in attendance on Saturday night. There was a loss of about \$1300-\$1500. They are looking forward to next year.

•Cerritos 14th Anniversary Party: Wen-Li Chiang stated this party will be on May 6 this year.

•Amazon Smile has ended but we did receive one last donation in February.

•If all would become associate members, you would donate \$10 each which would help us cover operating expenses such as the website.

•In order to subsidize the Folk Dance Scene and the hard-working volunteer team there, we transferred \$4000 which should keep them afloat for a few years. This transaction was approved last meeting. Printing and postage is still desired by many and is expensive!

•Laguna Festival had a loss. The Federation provided \$300.

•There was a \$275 subsidy for a Fall Camp camper who required the funds but was unable to apply for scholarship because of timing, and the council approved the need for her to go to the camp.

APPOINTED OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Insurance Chairperson:

Judith Neff said she gets a break right now because everyone has their certificates. Jim Rothman reported that they need to leave their place by April 30 and he's going to be looking at another place today. They've been dancing in Sherman Oaks and will now be in Encino if this place works out. Steve Himel advised him to let Scene know of new address and he'll put it in the directory.

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS:

Visiting Master Teachers:

Jay Michtom said Iliana Bozhanova and Todor will be here in August and already have a pretty full schedule so Bart Carpenter is not actively looking for more bookings. Diane said Iliana typically teaches one or two different dances to each group, so it pays to go to as many of her workshops as you can.

Scholarship:

Carol Smith: No applications have been received so far. Deadline has been changed to May 15, 2023. Rule that you cannot reapply within four years has been changed to three years. Shana suggested more publicity by having Jay send his list about scholarships and asking people to bring a copy to their group (this has already been done). Scholarships are for festivals, camps, workshops, seminars, etc.

OLD BUSINESS:

Website:

Dick Oakes has improved the readability of the calendar. He has also been collecting statistics which shows an average of 5000 requests/day though the website host does not include which section of the website is most visited.

NEW BUSINESS:

Liability Waivers:

Waivers were instituted for COVID to protect the Federation from lawsuits. Should we keep requiring them or stop? Carol made a motion to discontinue waivers. A vote was taken and by a 4 to 8 vote, the motion was defeated.

Ojai festival:

We've had two successful events with no significant loss at the cost of about \$200. Dates available are 9/16 and 9/23 this year. The group preferred 9/23 which is the date that will be reserved, and Carol will co-chair the event.

Fall Camp 2024:

Diane said the only weekend space available is the weekend before Thanksgiving. Should we book it and put down the deposit? As there's a 90-day cancellation possibility, we can ask for early registration and be able to cancel if necessary. Having it close to Thanksgiving may bring family visitors to the camp. Go ahead and book it.

Spring Festival 2024.

Should we have a Spring festival now that Westside no longer has them? Yes, but not during Passover which is evening of April 22 through 30th so any time before that in April. Diane recommends we have it at the dance hall owned by Tom Bozigian and Sheree King, said to be very large and with a wooden floor in Fullerton. The other place suggested was Soma near Thousand Oaks but that's much further for people in the south to access, and we already have a festival in Ojai in the north.

Young People:

Diane's other topic is young people who dance, but usually with the Serbian church or Ukrainian Cultural Association, etc. Diane was thinking of the beginner

festival where Pauline invited the girl scouts. Perhaps invite youth from 3 churches, the girl scouts, and have each group teach one of their dances and perform. Problem is we don't know whether the teachers are any good—they could be awful. If we can get some good teachers with the kids' groups, we could build it up. It may require time, resource and money. Perhaps we can use the money that Henry donated because he wanted to promote youth potency. Perhaps we can have the girl scouts earn a badge by learning/teaching dances. Something to think about. Joe said he started dancing at 15 and did not like to learn from a peer—only from an adult.

Billy Burke:

Diane raised the possibility of the Federation making a donation to the cost of the celebration of Suzie Burke's life. Carol Smith moved that we give Billy Burke \$250 from the Folk Dance Federation, seconded by Mindy. Motion carried. Mindy will send a check to Carol who will take responsibility of getting it to Billy. Individuals may donate directly and should RSVP if you plan to attend.

Lynn Bingle said she'd got an email from publicity chair Mari Werner about the Photo Shoot (see May issue of Scene about this). "It was shot March 16th at our home base in Altadena. At this point, they're in post-production for a couple of months, but we expect to hear from them later on and we hope to be able to share some clips."

Diane said a graduate student who was making a film about Serbia and wanted folk dancing in the background and various clubs were involved. She suggested live, but they didn't want the masked dancers. Masking was required at the time, so Pasadena served as the dancers.

Diane showed the boats Mindy had the idea of making with corks and card stock for the sail for Statewide. People can decorate them as they please.

Next meeting will again be virtual, on Sunday, August 6th.

RECENT EVENTS

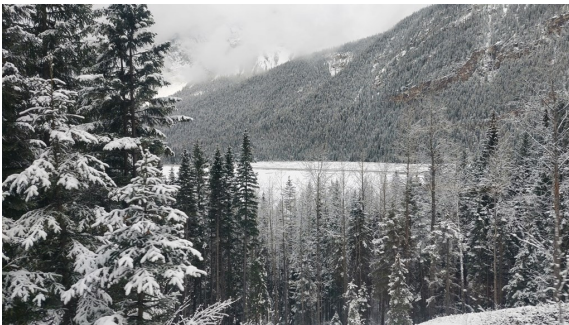
NEW JIM GOLD TOUR – WESTERN CANADA

This year a new tour was added to the Jim Gold lineup, the Western Canadian Tour. Led by Canadian Cathie Dunklee-Donnell; it included 2 maestro teachers, and 18 lucky participants. The tour began in Calgary with plenty of dancing and early spring views of sun and snow. A tour of downtown Calgary included many views of stunning new and old architecture, with lunch above in the rotating Calgary tower.

The dancing started with after-dinner dancing at a Turkish restaurant. We enjoyed dancing Turkish dances and other folk dances as long as we could, until the restaurant closed. The dancing continued the next two nights at a workshop with the Calgary Folkdance Fridays group hosting. The weekend workshop included many beautiful Albanian dances by Genci Kastrati and new and old dances from Lee Otterholt. Local Albanians joined in and their children also picked up some culture and added to the fun.



We took a break in the dancing to visit the UNESCO site of Head Smashed In. A Blackfoot docent-led tour proved to be very interesting and educational. We visited the museum as well as the starkly beautiful site where the Blackfoot people ran the buffalo stampedes for 6000 years. Next on to the stunning sights of Banff and Banff National Park. Just gorgeous! Snowcapped mountain ranges, emerald-colored lakes, and still-frozen lakes. Many of the group enjoyed a hot springs mineral bath pool while the lifeguard was wrapped up in winter coat and gloves!



Folk Dance Scene



A highlight was the 2-day luxury train trip through the Rockies. The beautiful views left one speechless. While we were enjoying the views, our fresh gourmet meals were served to us on white linens while our guides pointed out landmarks and wildlife along the way. We were so overjoyed with it all we danced in the aisles!



We arrived in Vancouver for the annual Lyrids festival. Our “own” Genci taught Albanian dances and shared Albanian culture. Steve Kotansky taught new and old dances spiced with historical information and interesting anecdotes. Lee Otterholt added to the teaching with an original dance. On Saturday we were treated with a Bulgarian folklore dance performance by costumed young dancers, beautiful and energetic. The festival was a great time with dances and meeting and greeting of old and new friends.

Next stop was Victoria. The bulbs were popping up among the lush green landscape; happy yellow daffodils and multi-colored tulips. The tour ended on a high note as we stayed in a particularly beautiful neighborhood of Victoria at a luxury hotel. More mineral pools with stunning views of the bay and thick robes to wrap up in afterwards.

My heart and soul were filled from 2 weeks of dancing and beautiful nature, all while sharing it with kind and interesting fellow travelers. A smile remains in my heart.

Kelley O'Neill

SUSIE BURKE MEMORIAL

On Saturday April 29 a Memorial was held to celebrate the life of Susie Burke who had passed away earlier this year. It was at the Art Center in Ojai, where she and her husband, Billy, met many years ago. For several hours the crowd of 150+ were outdoors on the large patio where they enjoyed catered food, music and entertainment from three performing groups – Big Rock Balalaika, Nevenka and Chubritza.

The attendees were from various parts of Susie' professional life: AMAN, Avaz (dancer and lead singer), Nevenka (singer), Mendocino Folklore Camp (camp director) and Disney and other studios (animator). Tributes were delivered along with sing-alongs, and some dancing to the live music. Later, indoors, there was a huge energetic rendition of *Ladarke* followed by dancing to live music by Chubritza.



Photos by Brandy Tuutau



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**. 818-203-5812 wburke.dance@gmail.com Billy Burke, BayOsosFolkDancers.org.

***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. sites.google.com/site/cabrillodancers

Cerritos Folk Dancers: Tue 6:00-8:45 on zoom. 2nd, 4th Thu 1:30-4:30 at Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St, **CERRITOS**. (562) 865-8854 chiangwenli@yahoo.com Wen Chiang

Conejo Valley Folk Dancers: Wed 7:30-9:30. Hillcrest Center for the Arts, 403 W Hillcrest Dr, **THOUSAND OAKS**. 805-501-9810 marilynml@yahoo.com Marilyn Ludwig

Ethnic Express: 2nd Thu 5:30 – 8 pm,. Charleston Heights Arts Center, 800 S. Brush St., **LAS VEGAS, NV**. (702) 732-4871 rpkillian@gmail.com Richard Killian. Meeting informally 1 or 2X monthly at restaurant contact for details

Fantasy Folk Dance Club: Sun 3:00 - 7:00. St Thomas Aquinas Church, 1501 S Atlantic Blvd, **MONTEREY PARK**. vincen-tyhcheng@gmail.com 626-429-9008 Vincent Cheng.

Folk Dance Center: See website for times. Oasis Wellness Center, 5500 Grossmont Center Dr, **La Mesa**. jcknappster@gmail.com John, www.folkdancecenter.org

Int'l Folk Dance Club - Laguna Woods: Tue 10:00am-12:00. Clubhouse 1, 24232 Calle Aragon, **LAGUNA WOODS**. 949-939-0604 MarilynMichael829@gmail.com Marilyn Michael Yurk. First-time dancers call Marilyn for gate clearance. www.lagunawoodsvillage.com/amenities/clubs/dance-club-international-folk

Kypseli Greek Folk Dancing: Friday, 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. 310-508-9676 Anne Sirota. www.kypseli.org

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

Narodni Int'l Folkdancers: Thu 8:00-10:00. Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St, **BELLFLOWER**. (562) 881-9504 julithilona@gmail.com Julith Neff www.narodni.org

Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op: Fri 7:00-9:30. Altadena Community Church, 943 E Altadena Dr, **Altadena**. Mari Werner info@pasadenafolkdancecoop.org 626-808-0361 www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org

Prescott Int'l Folkdancers: Sun 2:00-4:00.
Prescott Boys & Girls Club, 335 East Aubrey St, **PRESCOTT, AZ.** (928) 925-8995
Dick Weston Prescott.intl.folkdancers@earthlink.net. <http://www.prescottinternationalfolkdancers.org/>

Rainbow Senior Club: Sun 2:00-5:00.
Joslyn Senior Center 210 N. Chapel Ave, **ALHAMBRA.** (626) 456-1900
ksun310@yahoo.com Kevin Sun.

Solvang Village Folk Dancers: Sat 6:00-8:00 (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 www.svfolkdance.com

Ventura Int'l Folkdancers: Tue&Thu 2:15-3:30. Ventura YMCA, 3760 Telegraph Rd, **VENTURA.** (805) 746-0884 dancing.valerie@gmail.com Valerie Daley. www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067987230157

Veselo Selo Folkdancers: Thu 8:00-10:00.
Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St, **BELFLOWER.** Meets with Narodni. "Veselo Selo Night" is once/month (date varies). Plus special events. ms.winokur@yahoo.com, Shana Winokur. www.facebook.com/groups/800433566740206

Vintage Israeli Dancing: One Sat per month 8:15-12:00. Danz mundo World Dance & Fitness Studio (DWDFS), 16733 Ventura Blvd., #13, **ENCINO.** jrbythec@aol.com Jim Rothman. www.vintageisraelidancing.org

West Valley Folk Dancers: Fri 2:00-4:00.
Canoga Park Sr. Ctr. 7326 Jordan Ave. **Canoga Park.** (818) 368-1957. jaymichtom@yahoo.com. Jay Michtom. www.WestValleyFolkDancers.org. Vaccination proof & masks.

Westside Folkdancers: Tue 7:45-10:15.
Masonic Lodge, 9635 Venice Blvd, **CULVER CITY.** (310) 391-7382 sandysmail1000@gmail.com Sandy Helperin

Exhibition Groups

Karpatok Hungarian Folk Ensemble:
United Hungarian House, 1975 Washington, **LOS ANGELES.** (805) 341-9640 sissykfy@earthlink.net Sissy Keresztes-Fischer. www.KarpatokFolkEnsemble.com

Krakusy Polish Folk Dance Ensemble:
Wed 8:00-10:00, Fri 7:00 - 9:00, Sat 2:30-4:00. Our Lady of the Bright Mount, 3424 W Adams Blvd, **LOS ANGELES.** (626) 827-7338 elistarr@yahoo.com Elizabeth Romuzga. www.krakusy.com

Scandia Dancers: Thu 7:30-9:30. (714) 356-7745 sholzman1@verizon.net Stefanie Holzman

Westchester Lariats: Mon 4:00-9:00.
Westchester Townhouse, 8501 Emerson Ave, **LOS ANGELES.** 310-480-4343 dseruto@gmail.com Danielle Gulalo. www.WestchesterLariats.org

Non-Federation Clubs

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. Caltech 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: Tue 7:00-9:00 Nov-Apr. Step by Step Dance Studio, 316 N Palm Canyon, **PALM SPRINGS**. (760) 342-1297 Helen Smith

***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 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 @ 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: Wed 8:00-10:00PM (In-person/safety precautions). Oak Park Stage, corner Junipero and Calle Real, **SANTA BARBARA**. soriasusan@gmail.com Susan Soria, or michalcathy@cox.net (805.895.4885) Michal Lynch

Santa Barbara Int'l Folk Dancers: In-person but schedule is in flux. Contact Michal Lynch for info michalcathy@cox.net, 805-895-4885.

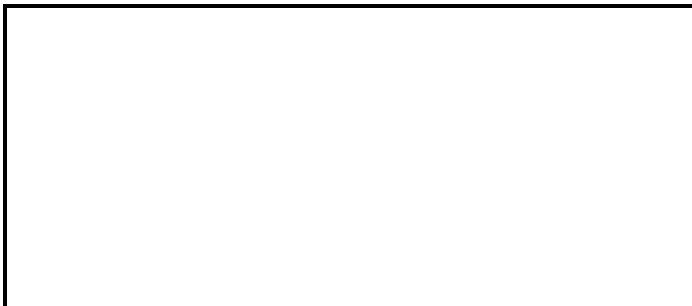
Santa Monica College Int'l Dance Club: Tue, Thu 11:15am-12:35. Santa Monica College Clock Tower or LS Bldg, 1900 Pico Blvd, **SANTA MONICA**. (310) 284-3638 James Zimmer

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: Cultural, Historical & Ballroom: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat. St. Albans Social Hall, 580 Hilgard Ave, **WESTWOOD**. (310) 284-3636 James Zimmer. See website for details: ballroom2.wixsite.com/westwoodballroom

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