



# **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
Last Dance	Carl Pilsecker	lastdance@FolkDanceScene.org	562.865.0873
Proofreading Editor	Carl Pilsecker	proof@FolkDanceScene.org	562.865.0873
Design and Layout Editors	Pat Cross, Don Krotser	design@FolkDanceScene.org	323.255.3809
Business Manager	Jan Rayman	business@FolkDanceScene.org	818.790.8523
Contributing Editor	Elizabeth Wayland Barber		
Circulation	Sandy Helperin	circulation@FolkDanceScene.org	310.391.7382
Subscriptions	Jan Rayman	subscriptions@FolkDanceScene.org	818.790.8523
Advertising	Steve Himel	ads@FolkDanceScene.org	949.646.7082
Jill and Jay Michtom 10824 Crebs Ave. Northridge, CA 91326	Jan Rayman 4827 Grand Ave La Cañada, CA 91011	Sandy Helperin 4362 Coolidge Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90066	

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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: World Lithuanian Song and Dance Festival — [www.Balticidea.com](http://www.Balticidea.com)*



# Folk Dance Scene

Volume 59, No. 9  
November 2023

## Editors' Corner

Lithuanian Dance is our feature this month. The article, cover picture, and Betchen's Costume Corner will give a few ideas for your edification. Note that song is integral in their dance culture.

Find your next events to attend in Calendar, On the Scene, and the ads.

What you may have missed you might find in Recent Events.

What your colleagues have to say are in Poetry and Dancers Speak.

Last Dance is what we know about passings.

Use Club Directory for times, places and contact information

Be safe. Be of good cheer!

*Pat Cross and Don Krotzer*

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### Federation South Officers

President	Diane Baker	949.675.2199
Vice-President	Greg Soloway	972.467.1406
Treasurer	Mindy Belli	714.914.7713
Secretary	Margaret Lange	
Membership		
Historian	Wen-Li Chiang	626.500.5035

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# The Corner

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## PREZ COLUMN

Do you want a “say so” about Federation South affairs? You are invited to attend quarterly council meetings. It’s virtual—you can wear your pajamas and sip coffee. The next meeting will take place in January 2024. To receive the date, agenda and zoom link send a message to [info@socalfolkdance.org](mailto:info@socalfolkdance.org). The council welcomes ideas contributed by all members, especially **YOU!**

Membership renewal forms are in the mail! Please update club information, e.g. location of dance sessions, club contact, request for insurance certificate and membership roster.

Mindy Belli suggested that Scene feature conversations with our local dance heroes, especially those who are unable to join the dance circle regularly. What folk dance experiences resonate in their memories? Who were their heroes? Ted Martin is the teacher who got my feet moving in the LOD years ago. I entered Ted’s name into the “search” function that Dick Oakes has handily built into the Federation Website. Up popped the link for the Folk Dance Scene Volume 45, No. 3 April 2009 which featured a column about Ted. Ted discovered folk dance at the University of Wisconsin in 1948. Later, Laguna Folkdancers became his home group and he volunteered to teach the beginner class. To learn how to teach he attended a Teacher/Leader training at the San Diego Folk Dance camp. Ted got hooked on Dance Camps and was thrilled to be introduced to Scandinavian dancing by Ingvar Sodal. Ted became a co-teacher of a weekly Scandinavian class, an organizer of the Julian Scandinavian weekend and a contributor to the Scandia Camp at Mendocino. An engineer by trade, Ted taught himself audio and video skills which he applied at festivals and camps. Ted’s wife Carol shares his passion for Scandinavian dance. They generously hosted fiddlers and teachers from the Nordic countries in their home in Westminster, and spent several holidays on tour in the land of the reindeer. Ted reported about a competition in Sweden with a thousand dancers doing the Hambo around a *fútbol* field. Did he enter the competition? Alas, my phone call to the Martins today was

*Continues on page 19.*

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

# LITHUANIAN DANCE

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*Ed's Note: The following article was taken from the Federation website.*

## LITHUANIAN FOLK DANCES

Lithuanian folk dances and *Khorovods* (choral dances) are distinguished for their symmetry: symmetry in the music, the movements, the pattern, and construction of the dances. Most of the steps are performed in pairs; first the dancers take a few steps forward, then the same number backwards; they move to the right and then to the left; they circle first in one direction, then the other. When the melody is repeated, the pattern of the dance also is repeated.

In most choreographies, the dancers are distributed symmetrically on the dance floor. There are an equal number of couples on each side, an equal number of dancers in the rows and rings, chains and columns. If there is a soloist dancing in the middle of the floor, the other dancers form a circle or semicircle. If the soloist dances on one side of the stage, the rest of the dancers move over to the other side.

Though there are a large number of varied movements in Lithuanian folk dance, most are executed with the feet, fewer with the hands, and very few with the head and body. The movements are light and gentle, not angular. Even in the faster dances, the turns are not sharp. Over thirty different steps are known, performed either singly or in combinations of two, three, or four different patterns that go to form a new step. The most frequently seen are the simple step, the running step, the side step, the double and triple steps, and the polka step.

The number of steps in a dance is not usually very great; most often, a dance will have only one or two basic steps with or without variations, as well as several supplementary steps. Many dances have just one basic step. Because dance steps are traditional in character, it is not customary to mix them or bring the steps of one dance into another, lest the character and meaning of the dance be distorted.

Varied movements of the hands and arms are used to bring out the meaning of the dances, their character, and their national flavor. They are used, for example, to depict the growth of plants in one dance or the flight of birds in another. The hand

movements are especially varied in dances and *Khorovods* that portray different work processes. In the *Ruguchial* (rye) dance, for example, the hands depict moving, sharpening the scythe, and binding sheaves, the way those processes were performed in the old days. Besides reflecting work processes, there are numerous Lithuanian dances portraying family life. Hand movements are different in almost every dance, depicting work or the motions of birds and animals.

Birds and animals are often enacted in Lithuanian folk dances. From living in such close contact with them, peasants have learned to portray their movement and habits to perfection. The young Lithuanian's best friend was his horse, and there are many folk songs about the horse. There also is a dance, the *Jigunas* (trotter), a fast, energetic, stimulating dance done by twelve men. It begins with six men imitating restless horses stamping the ground with their hooves. Then they race around in a circle and gallop. The dancers, each placing his hand on the shoulder of the man in front, form a row. The row advances and retreats repeatedly. Then six other men join in. During the dance the men form rows, then columns, then chains. When they dance together, they place their hands on another's shoulders, and when they dance alone, they fold their hands on their chests.

One of the oldest of Lithuanian folk dances, the *Brezdingele*, depicts the flight of swallows and expresses the hopes of the Lithuanian people for a happy future. It is done by an even number of girls, each of whom carries a kerchief. Holding onto the corners of the kerchiefs, the girls wave them high, while the last couple begins to swoop. Holding the corners of the kerchiefs, each couple swoops under an arch formed by the raised arms of another couple, then forms its own arch, and so on, first swooping, then forming an arch. The dance tempo increases and finally the girls form a "V" and wave their kerchiefs high in the air, representing the swallows flying south for the cold months.

In general, the Lithuanian people have no dances with the *pereplyas* (competition) found in Russian and Ukrainian folk dances. The nearest equivalent is the *Ojialis* (little goat), a comic dance in which two

groups and the individuals in them compete in skill and strength trying to outdo both their opponents and their partners in the leaps and also in the strength of the blows they deal their opponents. The dance begins with leaps in which the legs are spread or crossed. After testing their strength in that way, one group begins struggling with the other. The dancers "kick up their heels and butts." At the end, one of the dancers puts his arms about another dancer's neck and they whirl around, "kicking" each other with their feet.

Lithuanian folk dances have innumerable figures. Every dance has several characteristic figures that must remain, regardless of the overall choreography. These basic figures are part of the living folk dance. Developed and augmented by new figures, they make up the choreographic basis of professional Lithuanian folk dancing.

Adapted from an article on the Internet by I. Lingis, Ballet Master, Lithuanian State Folk Song and Dance





# COSTUME CORNER

Lithuanian costumes come in two historical types: truly traditional costumes as worn in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and generally more ornate costumes as developed in the 20<sup>th</sup> century to represent the country “nationalistically”. Since this Baltic country is small, regional differences, too, are in the small details, such that Roman K. (who writes the wonderfully researched FolkCostume&Embroidery blog) says one can even devise an entire Lithuanian woman’s costume *without* distinctive regional features.



**Photo 1:** 20<sup>th</sup>-century “national” type Lithuanian costume with elaborately woven and brightly colored horizontal band around the bottom of the apron (the striped woolen skirt is just visible below). Note the long white headdress and elaborately woven sash.



**Photo 2:** Costume with handsome patterns woven directly into the material for the chemise—not just for collar and cuffs, but also for the chest, shoulder panels, and, most unusually, the lower sleeves.

Such a woman’s costume would consist necessarily of a long-sleeved chemise, a long, gathered, wool or linen skirt, an apron, and a sash. In addition, one would normally wear a hip-length bodice (sometimes with lappets, as in nearby Poland) and a headdress. The latter differed according to whether the wearer was married or not, as married women were obliged—throughout traditional Europe—to cover their hair. In fact, Lithuanian wives’ white headscarves are often flamboyantly long, compared to other countries (**Photo 1**).

The chemises differ from others in Europe in that the *ends* of the sleeves (as well as the cuffs) are often elaborately decorated (**Photo 2**), usually with designs woven right into the linen, rather than embroidered on. In the Balkans, by contrast, the sleeve ends (which become ragged and stained from heavy work) are left

plain and then *covered* with fancy sleeve-covers for special occasions.

But the most important part of the costume for both women and men has always been the sash, or *juosta*, a tradition going back to the European Stone Age, as shown by both language and archaeology. Lithuanian sashes are strong, handsomely pattern-woven bands, 3 to 4 inches wide and several yards long—long enough to go around the body twice with two long tails hanging down and ending in fringes (**Photo 3**). Beautiful examples, woven with cards or on an inkle-loom, are readily available as souvenirs in Lithuania today. Children wore little sashes to gird up their shirt or chemise; but grown men deemed their sash as so important to their identity that when they otherwise moved over to “modern” European dress, they long retained these sashes.

Even more important in both Lithuania and closely related Latvia, just to the north, were women’s sashes. In Latvia when a girl reached menarche, she began to wear a long, patterned sash with particularly thick fringes on the ends—a sign that she was now marriageable. Women would later use their sashes throughout married life to help support the belly during and after pregnancy, just as women in central Greece did until quite recently. (In fact, the word still used in Greece, *zōne* or *zōnári*, has the same etymology as Lithuanian *juosta* and Latvian *josta*, along with Avestan *yāsta*-, Russian *pó-yas*, Albanian *ng-jesh*, etc., all coming from a 5000-year-old Indo-European word for belt or sash, pronounced roughly \**yōs*- or \**yōs-to*-.) But the European tradition of women wearing fringed sashes in conjunction with child-bearing (“marriage”) is depicted even farther back—20,000 years ago—on some of the Palaeolithic “Venus” figures, while the Russians, Ukrainians, and some other European cultures used to award boys a special sash upon reaching puberty. No wonder the sash has been so important to Lithuanian custom.

—Elizabeth Wayland Barber, author of *The Dancing Goddesses*



**Photo 3: Traditional costumes of Lithuanian man and woman, both wearing extremely elaborate hand-woven sashes. A rack of typical sashes is visible in the background.**

# CALENDAR

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## FOLK DANCE GROUPS MEETING ON ZOOM

*LIFE Balkan Dancers* on Fridays, 8-11 pm. Contact Sherry Cochran at [worldance1@gmail.com](mailto: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 from 6 pm-8:30 pm and 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, 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/](http://www.ethnicdance.net/virtualdanceroom/)

*The Peninsula Dancers* from Northern CA present the Global Folk Dance Party on Zoom every 3rd Saturday of the month from 3-6:30 pm with a 2:30 pm pre-program, also on Facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/PFDCouncil/> One time registration at <https://tinyurl.com/GFDPparty> Info: [virtual-folkdance@gmail.com](mailto:virtual-folkdance@gmail.com)

*Tuesday Night Revival* (Boston - MIT) now meets about one 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 occasion, at times from Greece. Information will be on their Facebook page and website [www.kypseli.org](http://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 - <https://www.youtube.com/user/iraweisburd>

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

## NOVEMBER

4 *Cretan Night* at St. Anthony's, 778 S Rosemead Blvd, Pasadena. 5:30pm – 1:00am. Dinner, drinks, dancing to live music from Crete. Reservations: Helen Skandale (818) 618-4963 [helen\\_skandale@yahoo.com](mailto:helen_skandale@yahoo.com), Bobby Zoumberakis (562) 413-3968, or Georgia Zoumberakis (562) 869-1413 or <https://socalcretans.square.site/> Adults \$90, Youth & Students \$45, Children 5 and under free.

7 *Fire of Anatolia* Fred Kavli Theater, 2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd, Thousand Oaks CA 91362 <https://bapacthousandoaks.com/show-details/fire-of-anatolia/-usa-tour>

10-12 *Fall Camp* with Steve Kotansky, Gergana Panova <https://fallcamp.org>

11 *Xorotroptzi Anniversary Dinner and concert* (Bulgarian performing group) <https://www.simpletix.com/e/xorotroptzi-and-friends-tickets-146721>

11 *Ukrainian Mosaic Concert* 7-9 pm, Zipper Hall, 200 S. Grand Ave, <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ukrainian-mosaic-orchestra-concert-tickets-698119162207>

## DECEMBER

1 *Irish Christmas in America*, 8 pm, 3330 Civic Center Dr, Torrance <https://torrancearts.org/show/irish-christmas-in-america/>



- 14 *Sufi Nights* with Yuval Ron Ensemble and the Whirling Dervish at Pacifica Inc, 3735 Alton Pkwy, Irvine CA. Reception: 6:15 pm, performances: 7 pm. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sufi-nights-tickets-707185028457>
- 16-17 *Nouveau Chamber Ballet's The Nutcracker*, Fullerton College Theatre, 321 East Chapman Ave, both days at 2 pm. This one-hour format includes dances representing Spain, China, Arabia, and Russia, to the iconic Tchaikovsky score. Tom Bozigian is the choreographer of the Russian trepak. Tickets can be purchased online at: <https://www.simpletix.com/e/.nouveau-chamber-ballet-presents-the-nutcracker-tickets-145256>
- 17 *Yuval Ron Ensemble with Afghani Sufi Master Musician* at 1st Congregational Church of Los Angeles 540 S. Commonwealth Ave. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rumis-wedding-night-celebration-tickets-698765013967>
- 31 **Pasadena Co-op New Year's Eve Chicago Dance Party** Altadena Community Church, Heicher Hall, 943 E Altadena Drive, Altadena, CA 91001. 7 -10 pm \$10. Live music by Fifth Friday, plus all-request recorded dance music. Potluck Refreshments. Info@pasadenafolkdancecoop.org <https://www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org/events> See ad and OTS.

#### JANUARY 2024

- 13 **Pasadena Co-op Winter Festival** at Altadena Community Church Heicher Hall, 943 E Altadena Drive, Altadena, CA 91001, 1- 5 PM. \$10 Live music by Fifth Friday. Potluck refreshments. Play lists will be posted closer to the date at <https://www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org/events> See ad and OTS.

#### FEBRUARY 2024

- 15-18 *47th Annual Greek Orthodox Folk Dance and Choral Festival (FDF)*, returning to the Anaheim Marriott Hotel. <https://www.yourfdf.org/>

#### APRIL 2024

- Bulgarian Workshops with Jaap Leegwater, and accordionist Filip Filipov**  
**3 Conejo Valley Folk Dancers**  
 5 Friday Night L.I.F.E.  
**9 Cerritos Folk Dancers**

#### MAY 2025

- 2-4 Statewide 2025 will take place at the Portuguese Hall in Arroyo Grande - save the date.**

#### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NOVEMBER

- 24-25 *Kolo Festival* with master teachers Sonia and Cristian, Anna Angelova at Croatian American Cultural Center, 60 Onondaga Ave, San Francisco. Number of onsite participants will be limited with some limited Zoom sessions <https://kolofestival.org/index.html> See ad.

#### MAY 2024

- 17-19 *Statewide* in Northern CA, Master teachers Yannis Konstantinou and Cesar Garfiaz. More information to come.

#### OUT OF STATE

##### 2023

- Nov 4-5 *Seattle WA/USAANAR DANA West Coast Unit 11* mail@helene-eriksen.de  
 Nov 10-11 *Seattle WA/USA ANAR DANA West Coast RECITALS*, Dances Under the Crescent Moon, Theatre4, Seattle Center Armory, 7:30 pm, 305 Harrison St. <http://anardanasf.weebly.com> [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com)  
 Nov 23-26 *Texas Camp* Roberto Bagnoli, Joan Bennett and John Scott, Live music. <https://tffd.org/2023-overview/>

##### 2024

- Feb 2-5 *Florida Folk Dance Council Winter Workshop*, Holiday Inn Celebration, Kissimmee, FL (Orlando area), with Michael Ginsburg teaching Balkan dances and Bata Marcetic teaching Serbian. Info: Gary at [ghberke47@gmail.com](mailto:ghberke47@gmail.com) or [folkdance.org](http://folkdance.org)  
 Apr 4-9 *NFO National Conference* <https://info-usa.com/nfo/annual-conference-2024/> at the same location as Hora Eclipse, with some overlapping events.  
 Apr 5 – 8 *Hora Eclipse 2*: Friday to Monday, with a total solar eclipse Monday afternoon. At the URJ Greene Family Camp, just outside Waco Texas. <http://hora-eclipse.com> and <https://www.kochavim.net/>

# ON THE SCENE

## PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

Join us for in-person dancing any Friday night from 7:30 till 9:30 at Altadena Community Church Heicher Hall, 943 E Altadena Drive in Altadena. In the teaching sessions for November, Yael Steinfeld will be teaching the beautiful Israeli line dance, *Sonata*. Playlists for each Friday of the month can be found on the This Month page of our website.

Coming up this winter, we'll be having our two traditional winter events: New Year's Eve Chicago Dance Party on December 31<sup>st</sup> from 7 PM till 10ish (it will be 2024 in Chicago), and Winter Festival on Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup> from 1 till 5 PM. Both events will be held at our home base in Altadena and include live music by the Fifth Friday band. Admission \$10. The playlist for Winter Festival will be posted on our website Events page closer to the date.

Website: <https://www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org>

*Mari Werner*

## SOUTHERN NEVADA INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS

A new folkdance club is the Southern Nevada International Folk Dancers. They meet at Ballroom Addiction, 2301 Renaissance Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89119 on Thursdays from 4 to 6 pm. Currently focusing on intermediate & advanced dances. Contact: Eileen Hug [hugagiraffe@cox.net](mailto:hugagiraffe@cox.net)

## SPRING 2024 WORKSHOPS WITH JAAP LEEGWATER AND FILIP FILIPOV

Jaap Leegwater, together with Bulgarian master accordionist Filip Filipov, will be taking a swing through California between a few East Coast engagements in early to mid-April 2024. He will be teaching a hybrid



event (LIVE and on Zoom) at my group, Friday Night L.I.F.E., on a Friday (TBD) and has some flexibility on dates. He asked if I could help coordinate this tour. Usually, he will teach for 2 hours then break and dance with you and play some music.

The program would be tailored to your needs: new material, golden oldies and special requests are all possible. Jaap is traveling with accordionist Filip Filipov (check him out on YouTube!). He worked with Bulgarian choreographer Belcho Stanev in Ensemble Varna. Jaap recently made two new research trips to Bulgaria, and will be back there this Fall. He is happy to share some of the original Bulgarian dances he learned during these trips.

Please let me know if you are interested in hosting a workshop. Contact me if you have questions, or suggestions for others to contact. Jaap and Filipov will need housing with dance friends but they will have a car and will be self-sufficient.

Thanks for your interest and any assistance you can provide. Love and light,

*Sherry Cochran,*  
[worldance1@gmail.com](mailto:worldance1@gmail.com)

# POETRY CORNER

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*My dancing friend, Norman, found this very inspiring poem about dancers and dancing. I share it with you, my dancing friends. Enjoy. (Not that you are all burnt out, but it happens!)*  
Stefanie Holzman

## **ANTHONY'S SILENT KOLO**

After a day filled with music  
In the now silent room  
We link arms and follow  
Anthony's resounding steps  
And fuse into one rhythm  
one resounding footfall drum-beat

Snaking around the dance floor  
We are a vibrating symbol  
Of solidarity, of community,  
Of humanity unchanged  
By cultures and centuries and conflict

We are humanity prevailing in music and dance  
We are all peoples, primitive and present  
Speaking loudly in silent kolo.

*Camille Dull*

*Note: The poem was inspired by Anthony Ivancich's excellent lead of silent kolo at Harbor View Statewide*

To the dancers who got burnt out,  
To the dancers who fell in love with something else,  
To the dancers who stopped due to an injury,  
To the dancers whose circumstances forced them to retire,  
To the dancers who realized dancing wasn't for them,  
And to the dancers who let dance go for their own reasons,

I know you still walk to a beat no one can hear. I know you can't stay still once your favorite songs play. I know you reminisce on the trainings, jams, classes, and performances of the past. I know you still click that play button when a dance vid shows up on your timeline or YouTube.

So wherever you are in your life right now, whether it's been weeks or years since you last "took it seriously", I hope you remember that the dancer will always be in you. And it will always be there to welcome you back whenever the urge comes...



KOLOFESTIVAL.ORG

# Kolo Festival 2023

FRI-SAT  
NOVEMBER

24-25



**SONIA & CRISTIAN**

**ANNA ANGELOVA**

Help us celebrate the 100th Croatian birthday year of John Filcich in person!

Location: Croatian American Cultural Center, 60 Onondaga Ave, San Francisco.

For the health and safety of attendees, the number of on-site participants will be limited. Register early to reserve your spot!

Limited Zoom will be available, but we really want to see ALL of you in person!

We welcome back our beloved teaching team of SONIA DION/CRISTIAN FLORESCU and introduce an exciting new Bulgarian dance teacher, ANNA ANGELOVA!

Expect amazing evening party live music by John Morovich's SINOVI from Seattle (Kolos & beyond), SPAGĂ ROMANIAN TRIO (Marco Ghezzi Andrew Cohen & Janie Cowan), KF BULGARIAN BITOV BAND (Dan Auvil, Hector Bezanis, Dena Bjornlie, Bill Cope & Ivan VeleV), and ORKESTAR UNBOUND (Dan Auvil, Asaf Ophir, Janie Cowan, Emily Saletan, Ralph Iverson & Bill Cope).

Singing teachers: MARIA BEBELEKOVA, JOHN MOROVICH, and MICHELE SIMON. IVAN VELEV will be back as Kafanameister hosting more wonderful live music!

This year we have matching grants funded by Mitch Allen, Diane Baker Lew Smith, & Bill Cope for a total of \$3.5k! You can help us receive that money by either a one-time or a monthly contribution. You will find both options on our website [kolofestival.org](http://kolofestival.org) or contact [Bill@KoloFestival.org](mailto:Bill@KoloFestival.org)



# New Year's Eve Chicago Dance Party

(In Altadena CA)



Hosted by

**Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op**



**Sunday, December 31, 2023**

**7:00 PM till 10:00ish**

**(It will be 2024 in Chicago)**

**Live music by**

**Fifth Friday**

**plus all-request recorded dance music**

**Altadena Community Church,**

**Heicher Hall**

**943 E Altadena Drive,**

**Altadena, CA 91001**

**Potluck Refreshments**

**Admission: \$10**

Please visit our website for updates: <https://www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org/events>

# DANCERS SPEAK

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*Ed's Note: Below is another in our series of Folk Dance Memories, submitted by our readers. To submit a story that you would like to share with the folk dance community, please send it to: Memories, at [hellp.cp@gmail.com](mailto:hellp.cp@gmail.com).*

## **ANTHONY AND THE SILENT KOLO**

It touched my very heart, the first time I participated in the silent kolo led by Anthony Ivancich. Following Anthony's resounding steps in the silent room was surprising, mesmerizing, haunting as we snaked around the floor creating music. We became one rhythm, one drumbeat. It felt like all of us were one entity vibrating a message to the universe, a rhythmic missive of solidarity, of community. We were the music and the dance, and there was a freedom and connectedness in the silent intervals of the steps that drew me into a different sense of the primitive nature of dance. I was so grateful to be able to share that experience with my daughter, Therese, when she accompanied me to Diane Baker's excellent Harbor View Statewide in San Pedro, this year. Anthony again led the silent kolo at the end of the evening. Therese got caught up in the physical sense of a universal, primitive experience of dance, just like I did. Thank you, Anthony!

*Camille Dull*

## **THE TRUE MEANING OF "KERPLUNK"**

It was at the 50th Anniversary Stockton Folk Dance Camp in 1997 when I first met Yves and Francé Moreau. By then, Yves had taught at the Stockton camp for 10 different years, presenting over 90 dances. His first time there was in 1970. He was admired, respected and well-known at camp and at venues around the world. It was my 3rd year at the camp. I attended every class Yves taught. He made dances fun, challenging, and doable for beginners,

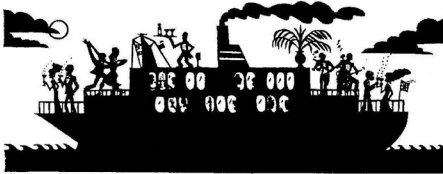
experienced dancers or those unfamiliar with Bulgarian rhythms. He sang! During teaching and parties, he often vocalized the word "KerPlunk" to help us remember, capture and enjoy the bent knee "side-behind-side" step. During two weeks of camp he participated in frivolities and delighted us with performances. At late night (2-3 am) parties he'd join while we did camp dances or things he'd taught there over the years. By camps end, all attendees had heard Yves call out "KerPlunk". Many dancers began using "KerPlunk" while dancing or practicing in the hallways. One evening, a fire broke out in one of the kitchens on campus causing the evacuation of all dance camp attendees. Once outside, Yves grabbed a microphone and spontaneously became the roving CNN reporter, interviewing people, guests, dancers and campus employees. Yves turned an unpleasant situation into another fun and exciting (now infamous) camp event.

During the first days of camp, a skunk 'took up residence' and roamed around the UOP campus areas where we were located. When doors were opened during teaching sessions, parties, or courtyard happenings, the slight (sometimes strong) aroma of skunk wafted into the rooms and hallways. The skunk became camp 'mascot' and the topic of daily humorous conversations. A "Name the Skunk" contest was organized by Steve Turner (videographer/board member). Skunk names were put into a suggestion box. The camp newsletter (published by Kamrin MacKnight) contained daily funny comments and skunk name suggestions. A few name examples were: Coquette (France Moreau), Pomponette (Germain Hebert), Petite Stinké (Roy Butler), Aroma (Marian Fogle), Miss Peubutt (Patty Butler), Stinky, (Gordon Deeg), Mouffette Le Peau (Unknown), Pepe LePeau (Germain Hebert), Sir Smellsalot (Marge Gajicki & Jerry/Kathy Helt). At

midweek, a stuffed toy skunk appeared on a table in the camp office. It became the grand prize for a lucky winner. The winner would be announced at the grand finale Talent Show of Week 2. My submission of “KerPlunk, the Skunk” won! Bruce Mitchell presented the prize to me amidst the crowds burst of applause and laughter. Fast forward to 2019. I had attended years of events and workshops around California including additional Stockton Camps where Yves and France were featured teachers. One year, they were part of Sonia and Cristian’s wedding party where I was the videographer’s assistant. Over joyful times, we all became friends. In December 2019, Yves and France came to the Bay Area to surprise their good friend Denise Heenan for her 80th birthday party at St.

Bede’s in Palo Alto. Two days before the party, Howard Young and I invited Yves and France over for dinner prior to dancing with Loui Tucker’s group in Saratoga. We sat in the living room and chatted about our histories. We shared photos of our children and grandchildren. I told Yves and France that I had saved “KerPlunk the Skunk”. My grandsons play or cuddle with it and hear me talk about Skunks’ benefit to the environment. The four of us laughed and sentimentalized. It was then that Yves put his arms around me and France said that the significance of life is found through joyful play and the love shared between family and friends.

*Bonnie LeMat*



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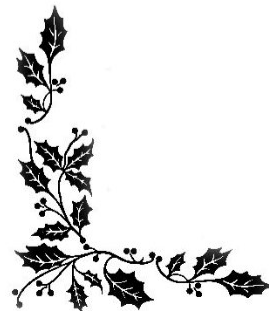


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## NEW YEAR'S EXTRAVAGANZA in ALBANIA and ITALY

**Dec 27, 2023 to Jan 9, 2024;** Led by Cathie Dunklee-Donnell  
Dance instructors: Lee Otterholt and Genci Kastrati

### Middle East

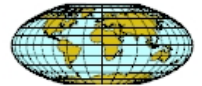
**EGYPT: February 23-March 3, 2024** Cairo, Nile River cruise, Luxor, Aswan

**ISRAEL: March 3-13, 2024** Jerusalem, Masada, Tel Aviv, Galilee, Haifa, Safed, Golan Heights. Led by Lee Friedman and guided by Joe Freedman

### North America

**WESTERN CANADA: April 11-23, 2024** Calgary, Banff, Vancouver.  
Led by Cathie Donnel-Dunkel, with Lee Otterholt and Genc Kastrati

**EASTERN CANADA: June 28-July 10, 2024** Montreal, Quebec, Saint John, Halifax, Charlottetown, and more. Led by Richard Schmidt



Travel broadens one!

### Eastern Europe (The Balkans)

## ALBANIA, GREECE, MACEDONIA and KOSOVO:

**May 22-June 3-5, 2024** Tirana, Durres, Vlora Folk Festival, Kruja, Gjirokaster, Saranda, Berat, Lake Prespa, Ochrid, Kosovo extension. Led by Lee Otterholt and guided by Kliti Zika

## BULGARIA and Black Sea Coast:

**July 22-August 4, 4-8. 2024** Sofia, Plovdiv, Bansko, Veliko Turnovo, Varna. Led by Ventsi Milev, with Bulgarian folk dance teacher Niki Enchev, and musician Ventsi Andonov

**ROMANIA: Sept 29-Oct 13, 2024** Bucharest, Brasov. Sibiu, Cluj, Sighet Marmatiei Led by Nancy 3. Hoffman/Virginia O'Neil

**GREECE and the GREEK ISLANDS: Oct.19-Nov. 1, 2024,** Athens, Nauplia, Sparta, Olympia, Delphi, Meteora, Greek Island cruise. Led by Lee Otterholt and guided by Maroula Konti



### Western Europe

**SCANDINAVIA: June 18-July 1, 2024** Oslo, Gothenburg, Helsingborg (Elsinore), Copenhagen. Led by Lee Otterholt

**IRELAND: August 3-15, 2024** Galway, Connemara, Aran islands, Kerry, Cork, Blarney, Dublin. Led by Lee Friedman and guided by Kay Clear

**SPAIN: Sept 12-25, 2024** Malaga, Ronda, Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba, Granada



### South America

## PERU with Nazca and Peruvian Amazon: May 20-29. 2024 .

Lima, Cusco, Machu Picchu, Puno, Sacred Valley, Lake Titicaca, Peruvian Amazon, Nazca extensions. Led by Martha Tavera

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# RECENT EVENTS



*Toti O'Brien leading dancers at Ojai Day of Dance photo by Mari Warner*



*On September 28, Narodni and Veselo celebrated Yves Moreau night. We danced the whole evening doing only dances taught by Yves. We took a short break to listen to stories about Yves from a couple of the dancers.*





*So Cal dance teachers attended the North/South Folk Dancers teaching seminar to improve their skills and techniques.*

*Pictured: Shana Winokur, Joan Hantman, Valerie Daley, Adeline De Haan & Toti O' Brien.*

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*The Corner continued from page 3.*

unanswered so I returned to the search function on the Federation website and entered "Hambo Competition Sweden." Ended up reading a fascinating anecdote by Dick Crum about Madame Maletić's extraordinary experience doing ethno-dance research in a remote mountain village in Serbia in 1952. Look up the article and enjoy! Which dancer is your hero? Please make a phone call and relate your conversation to Scene readers in an upcoming edition. We want to stay in touch with our folkdance heroes.

The process of inquiry and writing qualifies as "cognitive activity." Regularly taking part in hobbies that involve cognitive activity is associated with a lower risk of dementia. What physical activity is likewise associated with a lower risk of dementia? **Dancing!** Think about it. One has to learn how to do the steps, and in which direction, then learn the sequence of steps and coordinate one's feet with the music. Browse the article "Ballet Is a Great Workout for An Aging Body" by Dorie Chevlen, published in the NY Times Wellness Newsletter Sept. 7, 2023. Save the date to celebrate Chinese New Year Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> 2024 at Cerritos Folk Dancers' East West Fest. CU on the dance floor at Fall Camp in Simi Valley Nov. 10 - 12 and at Kolo Fest '23!

*Diane Baker*

# LAST DANCE

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*Ed's Note: As a final salute from the Southern California folk dance community, Folk Dance Scene publishes notifications of the recent passing of Southern California folk dancers. Not an obituary or eulogy, just a few sentences giving date of death, age of decedent, club affiliation(s), and perhaps a folk dance related phrase or two about her/him. Please submit notification statements to [LastDance@folkdancescene.org](mailto:LastDance@folkdancescene.org)*

## STANLEY STERN

Stanley Stern, dancer, musician, artist, teacher, died in Los Osos, CA in September 2023 at age 83. He and Carol, his wife of over 40 years, danced at several clubs in Los Angeles, before moving to Los Osos and joining the group there. In addition to dancing, he was the drummer for the Scottish Fiddlers, an excellent piano player, and formed and led the Hess Kramer Folk Dance Band. His friendliness and warmth and ability to encourage people to join in activities endeared him to all.

## JUDY SARUP

I sadly received the news that our friend Judy Sarup has passed. She danced at CalTech Folkdancers, Veselo, Balboa Park, Square Dancing (multiple places), Greek events and more. She always asked me if she was still on my mailing list, and gave me her address multiple times, saying: "Please alert me to EVERY event". Yes, she and her husband drove from San Diego to Pasadena at the drop of a hat and hated to miss our Halloween Party. On ordinary nights she happened to just drop in and danced whatever we were doing, rarely making a request herself. I always enjoyed her smiling face just popping in. Was she a great dancer? Maybe, but really happy to be dancing anything played. I will miss her; she radiated happiness and our circle will miss that.

*Nancy Milligan*



## BOB ALEXANDER

Bob Alexander died in October 2023 in Lake Oswego, OR. He was 95 years old. Bob and Gerri had recently celebrated their 72<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary. They had retired and moved to Oregon five years ago, and up to then were avid dancers with Beverly Barr, and the West Valley Folk Dancers. Bob was heavily involved with the running of Camp Hess Kramer, and was the videographer, refreshment organizer, and all-around 'gofer'. He volunteered for many other activities and was always the hail-fellow-well-met. Bob and Gerri worked with the Folk Dance Scene committee for a number of years.

*At Camp Hess Kramer in 2014, Bob Alexander, Beverly Barr, Sue Chen. Wen Li-Chiang*



# CLUB DIRECTORY

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

*For changes, additions, or deletions email [directory@folkdancecene.org](mailto:directory@folkdancecene.org)*

## 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](mailto:wburke.dance@gmail.com) Billy Burke, [BayOsosFolkDancers.org](http://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](mailto:gbsham@gmail.com) Georgina. [sites.google.com/site/cabrilloodancers](http://sites.google.com/site/cabrilloodancers)

**Cerritos Folk Dancers:** 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Tue 5:00-7:45 Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St, **CERRITOS.** (562) 865-8854 [chiangwenli@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.** [vincentyhcheng@gmail.com](mailto:vincentyhcheng@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](mailto:jcknappster@gmail.com) John, [www.folkdancecenter.org](http://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](mailto:MarilynMichael829@gmail.com) Marilyn Michael Yurk. First-time dancers call Marilyn for gate clearance. [www.lagunawoodsvillage.com/amenities/clubs/dance-club-international-folk](http://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](http://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](mailto:7kahnmiriam@gmail.com) Miriam Kahn [www.lagunainternationaldancers.com](http://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](mailto:julithilona@gmail.com) Julith Neff [www.narodni.org](http://www.narodni.org)

**Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op:** Fri 7:30-9:30. Altadena Community Church, 943 E Altadena Dr, **Altadena.** [info@pasadenafolkdancecoop.org](mailto:info@pasadenafolkdancecoop.org) 626-808-0361 Mari Werner [www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org](http://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](mailto:Prescott.intl.folkdancers@earthlink.net). [www.prescottinternationalfolkdancers.org/](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](mailto: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,  
**BELLFLOWER**. 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. Danzmundo 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 sissykf@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 L.A**  
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

**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

**Southern Nevada Int'l FD:** Thu 4:00-6:00.  
Ballroom Addiction, 2301 Renaissance Dr., **Las Vegas, NV.** hugagiraffe@cox.net Eileen Hug

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



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