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Published monthly except for June/July and December/January issues.

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Romanian Rendezvous II

Published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, South
Volume 40, No. 9
November 2004

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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, customs, lore and culture of the peoples of the world. It is also designed to inform them of the opportunities to experience folk dance and culture in Southern California and elsewhere.

SUBMISSIONS. Information to be included in the Scene should reach Jay Michtom by the 10th of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for space considerations. *Electronic submission is preferred.* Views expressed in Scene are solely the opinions of the authors. Neither Scene nor the Federation assumes responsibility for the accuracy of the information sent in.

SUBSCRIPTIONS. Subscription orders and renewals should be addressed to Gerda Ben-Zeev, see above. The subscription rate is \$15.00 per year U.S.A., \$20.00 for Canada or Mexico, \$25.00 for other foreign countries. Changes of address and circulation problems should be addressed to Sandy Helperin, see above, at least one month prior to the mailing date.

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Cover - Lia and Theodor Vasilescu, in a recent photograph taken by their son in their garden in Bucharest. Lia and Theodor will be teaching at Romanian Rendezvous II November 20 at the Westchester Senior Center. More information on pages 3 and 4.

Club Directory

Beginner's Classes (cont.)

Club	Time	Contact	Location
CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:30	(805) 497-1957 Jill Lungren	THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center, 403 W Hillcrest Dr
ETHNIC EXPRESS INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Wed 6:30-7:15 except holidays	(702) 732-4871 Richard Killian	LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights Art Center, 800 S. Brush St.
HAVERIM FOLK DANCERS OF VENTURA	Sun 7-9	(805) 643-2886 Ann Zacher	VENTURA, Temple Beth Torah 760 Foothill Rd (corner Kimball)
ISRAELI DANCE WITH NATALIE STERN	Mon noon-1:00 Wed 7:30-8:3	(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern	L.A., Univ of Judaism Dance Studio 5600 Mulholland
KAYSO FOLK DANCERS	Fri 10:00-noon	(619) 469-7133 Evelyn George	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 206 St
OJAI FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:30-9:30	(805) 646-0865	OJAI, Ojai Art Center
PASADENA CO-OP BEGINNER'S CLASS	Fri 7:45-8:30	(626)446-5160 Marsha Fenner	PASADENA, Throop Memorial Church, 300 S. Los Robles
SAN DIEGO INT'L FOLK DANCE CLUB	Wed 7:00-9:30	(619) 463-0434 Rodney Henderson	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club, Presidents Way off Park, Balboa Park
SKANDIA FOLK DANCE CLASSES	Mon 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:00-10:00	(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin (310) 827-3618 Sparky Sotcher	ANAHEIM, Community Ctr, 250 E Center CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park, 5401 Rhoda Way
SOUTH BAY FOLK DANCERS	3rd Fri 7:45-8:15	(310) 320-9758 Mary Steinkamp	TORRANCE, Cultural Arts Center 3330 Civic Center Dr. (310) 781-7150
WEST LOS ANGELES FOLK DANCERS	Mon 7:30-8:30	(310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr	WEST L.A., Brockton School 1309 Armacost Ave
WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK DANCERS	Thu 7:30-8:00	(310) 202-6166 Beverly (310) 657-6877 Rita	WEST L.A., F. Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd.

Exhibition Groups

Club	Time	Contact	Location
AVAZ INTERNATIONAL DANCE THEATRE	Wed 7-10	(323) 663-2829 Jamal	L.A. Church of Guardian Angel, 1118 N. Commonwealth Ave.
BALLET FOLKLORICO XIUXTLA	Fri 4:00	(760) 414-9245 Jose Lucero	CARLSBAD
CLAN MACLEOD DANCERS	Mon 7:30-9:30	(818) 761-4750 Deanna St Amand	EAGLE ROCK, Women's 20th Century Club, 5105 Hermosa Ave.
DUNAJ INTERNATIONAL FOLK ENSEMBLE	Wed 7:00-10	(714) 641-7450 Richard Duree	COSTA MESA, contact: 2332 Minuteman Way
INT'L ACADEMY OF MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE		(818) 343-4410 Suzy Evans	VAN NUYS, Dars Art Center, 7412 Balboa Blvd
KARPATOK HUNGARIAN FOLK ENSEMBLE	Mon & Wed 8:00-10:00	(562) 434-0520 Istvan Szabo	LOS ANGELES, Magyar House, 1975 Washington
NAMAH ENSEMBLE	Sun 6:00 - 9:00	(818) 888-8225Bana Sayyad	SHERMAN OAKS
SCANDIA DANCERS		(714) 533-3886 Donna Tripp	LONG BEACH, Roosevelt School
UCSB MIDDLE EAST ENSEMBLE	Tue 7:00 - 10:00	(805) 967-7125 Scott (805) 687-8823 Alexandra	SANTA BARBARA, Gehringer Music Bldg., UCSB Campus
WEST VALLEY FOLK DANCERS	Sun 1:00 - 4:00	(818) 346-5152 Joan Waller	WEST HILLS

Club Directory

Federation Clubs

Club	Time	Contact	Location
WEST VALLEY FOLK DANCERS	Fri 7:15-10:00	(805) 777-8110 Ron Ladd	CANOGA PARK, Senior Center 7326 Jordan Ave
WESTCHESTER LARIATS	Mon 3:30-9:00	(310) 645-5078 Ann Stenglein	LOS ANGELES, Westchester Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson
WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK DANCERS	Thu 7:30-10:20	(310) 202-6166 Beverly (310) 657-6877 Rita	WEST L.A., F. Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd.

Non-Federation Clubs

Club	Time	Contact	Location
ANAHEIM INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:30-9:30	(714) 893-8127 Carol Maybrier	ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church, 511 S Harbor
CAFE DANSSA BALKAN DANCERS	Wed 7:30-10:30	(310) 474-1232 Gerda Worldance1@aol.com Sherry	WEST L.A., Cafe Danssa 11533 W. Pico Blvd.
CAL TECH INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Tue 7:30	(626) 797-5157 Nancy Mulligan	PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church 300 S. Los Robles
FOLK DANCE CLASS	Mon 10-11:30am Wed 10:15-11:45am	(310) 652-8706 Tikva Mason	L.A. Robertson Rec Ctr. 1641 Preuss W HOLLYWOOD West Hollywood Park, San Vicente at Melrose
INT'L & ISRAELI FOLK DANCE	Sun 7:30-11:30	(310)560-4262 Avi Gabay	NEWPORT BEACH, Avant Garde Ballroom, 4220 Scott Dr
ISRAELI DANCING WITH JAMES ZIMMER	Tues 8:00-11:00 Thu 8:00-9:30	(310) 284-3638 James Zimmer israelidance@yahoo.com	WEST HILLS, West Valley JCC, 22622 Vanowen ENCINO, Community Ctr 4935 Balboa
ISRAELI FOLK DANCING WITH YONI	Wed 7:00-11:30 Thu 7:00-11:30	(760) 631-0802 Yoni	COSTA MESA, JCC, 250 Baker St LA JOLLA, Beth El, 8660 Gilman Dr
ISRAELI DANCE WITH NATALIE STERN	Mon 10:00a-1:00 Wed 7:30-10:00 Thu 10:15-noon Mon 6:15-8:45, Tue 10:15a-noon Wed noon-1:15	(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern call for information	L.A., Univ of Judaism 5600 Mulholland (M,W Th); L.A. Shaarei Tefila, 7269 Beverly (M,T,W)
OJAI FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:30-9:30	(805) 646-0865 Carol Smith	OJAI Art Center 113 S. Montgomery
SAN DIEGO FOLK DANCE CENTER	Every Evening Call for Schedule.	(619) 281-5656	SAN DIEGO, 4569 30th Street
SAN DIEGO FOLK DANCERS	Mon 7:30-9:30	(858) 571-2730 Kin Ho	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club, Balboa Park
SAN PEDRO KOLO DANCERS	Mon 7:30-9:30	(310) 832-1074 Pauline Klak	SAN PEDRO, Dalmatian-American Club, 1639 S Palos Verdes St.
SANTA BARBARA BALKAN FOLK DANCERS	Wed 8:00-10:30	(805) 964-3591 Jatila van der Veen	SANTA BARBARA, Oak Park Stage, corner Junipero and Calle Real
S.M.C INTERNATIONAL DANCE CLUB	Tue, Thu 11:15am-12:35	(310) 284-3637 James Zimmer	SANTA MONICA, Santa Monica College Clock Tower or LS bldg 1900 Pico Blvd
UCLA INT'L F.D. CLUB BALLROOM DANCE CLUB	Mon 9:00-11:00 Mon 7:00-9:00	(310) 284-3636 James Zimmer ballroom@ucla.edu	WESTWOOD, UCLA Ackeman Union Room 2414

Beginner's Classes

Club	Time	Contact	Location
CABRILLO INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Tue 7:00-8:00	(858) 459-1336 Georgina	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club Balboa Park



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Volume 40, No. 9
November 2004

Editor's Corner

This month's issue has many "reviews" of one type or another. To start with, the Teacher's Corner has a biographical review of Theodor and Lia Vasilescu, who will be teaching in at the Romanian Rendezvous II in Los Angeles, the San Francisco Kolo Festival, and a few other workshops. See pages 3 and 4.

The next review is the San Diego Oktoberfest, which was held September 25 and 26 in San Diego. Thanks to past Federation President Sylvia Stachura for writing a great summary of the weekend's events.

Dancers Speak is not a review, but rather a must read article by Loui Tucker on the care and feeding of beginning folk dancers. The ability to attract and retain new dancers is a fundamental concern for folk dance groups and with many experienced dancers.

Our next set of reviews are the recent Esma and Encino folk dance events. Jay Michtom and this editor provided the photos that tell the stories of these very successful events. And finally our last reviews are recent CDs by Dennis Boxell and Zhena.

See you at Romanian Rendezvous II.

— Steve Davis

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Teacher's Corner

This month Theodor and Lia Vasilescu (photo on cover) will be in California for the Romanian Rendezvous II in Los Angeles on Nov. 20 and the Kolo Festival in San Francisco on Nov. 25-27. Here is some information about their interesting lives.

Theodor Vasilescu was born to a well-to-do, landed family near Cluj in Transylvania. He had no contact with village life or with peasants as a child, took lessons on the accordion, piano, and violin. At the age of fifteen or sixteen, he began playing tango, foxtrot, and swing music at dance balls. (Americans were in Romania from 1944 to 1947, and American movies with stars such as Frank Sinatra and Dorothy Lamour were very popular. Theodor learned the film's sound track music.) He also played music for a folklore group, realizing that folkloric music could bring his orchestra more contacts. At that time, his father lost his position in the army and the family began selling their possessions to make ends meet. The instructor for the amateur folkloric group *Cununa Carpatilor Folklore Ensemble* for which he played was the famous instructor and folklore collector, Gheorge Popescu-Judetz, from whom Theodor learned to dance and teach. Often Gheorge noticed that Theodor was correcting the dancers' steps and styling. Theodor joined the group in 1947, and within two years he had become more knowledgeable about folklore than any of the other members. One of those members was his future wife, Lia.

Theodor finished secondary school in 1951 and went to a polytechnical college where he studied chemistry. The family moved from Cluj to Bucharest in 1944. He was accepted as part of the youth dance team at the university. Its rule was "No dance without documentation," requiring him to go into villages to do research, learn dances, and write everything down (no video in those days!). The group danced for television shows and for ballroom sessions. He studied ballroom dance and formed a group of four couples that taught and performed for quarter-hour television shows. This exposure led to his being asked to create choreographies in Romania. Theodor graduated with an MS degree as a chemical engineer, working in the morning and dancing in the afternoon.

In 1964, having taken over the position and responsibilities previously held by a retired ballet mistress, Theodor decided to follow folklore research as a full-time profession. That same year he choreographed dances for a group in The Netherlands

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Theodor and Lia Vasilescu

and has returned each year. Since then, he has choreographed for professional dance ensembles such as AMAN International Music and Dance Company (Los Angeles), *Budlet* (Hong Kong), *International Danstheater* (Amsterdam), and *L'ensemble National de Folklore "Les Sorti"* (Montreal). He also has choreographed for several large open-air performances. Of course, he has done numerous choreographies for professional and amateur ensembles in Romania.

From 1976 to 1985, Theodor was the Chief Choreographer of Romanian National Professional Ensemble *Rapsodia Romana*. He was head of Choreographie at the National Center for the Preservation and Promotion of Folklore, was head choreographer for *Cununa Carpatilor* Folklore Ensemble in Bucharest, and was a teacher of Romanian folk and character dance at the Theater and Film Academy of Bucharest.

Under the socialist regime it was not easy for Theodor to leave Romania. His first visit to Japan in March of 1986 was possible because it was organized by the Japanese Folkdance Federation, which had official connections in Bucharest. That same year he was invited to teach at **Bora Ozkok's** camp but was not allowed to leave Romania because of "official national duties." Since 1990, travel has become easier and Theodor has taught in Germany, Hong Kong, and the United States.

Theodor is now an independent choreographer and dance instructor, as well as the leader of the Folklore Dance Academy and the president of the National Association of Folklore Choreographers of Romania.

Wanting to have paper qualifications (specialized studies or a certificate) in folklore, he enrolled in the Academy of Music and later received grants to study in Russia and China. He began writing, editing, and publishing books on dance and methods of teaching folkloric dance, publishing more than 56 volumes. He developed and perfected a dance notation system specifically for folkloric studies that was less complicated than that of Laban. This notation system is currently used by professional and amateur choreographers throughout Romania and other countries. He also authored *Folclor Coregrafic Romanesc* (Romanian Folklore Dances), based on several years of research throughout Romania, that includes a collection of 130 dances from all parts of the country.

Lia Vasilescu was born in Sibiu, an old town and important cultural center in the Transylvania region. She was attracted by music and dance, and studied classical music and ballet at the local art school. After graduating from high school, she attended the university in Bucharest, graduating as an English teacher. While in Bucharest, she became interested in folk dance and joined the amateur group *Cununa Carpatilor Folklore Ensemble*, where she met Theodor Vasilescu, then the group's choreographer and dance teacher. The group toured Belgium, China, France, Germany, France, Italy, The Netherlands, Russia, Viet Nam, and several other European countries. Lia was a member of the group for 24 years.

Lia and Theodor were married in 1959 and have a son, Florin, who is an engineer and amateur folk dancer, and two grandchildren. Since they met, the couple has worked together in the field of research, enriching their knowledge about the traditional life and the creation of Romanian villages.

Theodor and his charming wife, Lia, have participated in many workshops, which have endeared them to many dance communities. Beginning in 1990, Lia started teaching workshops and week-end camps together with Theodor in California, Maine, New Mexico, New York, Texas, and Washington. They have given workshops and master lessons throughout Canada, Finland, Hong Kong, Germany, Japan, The Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, and the United States, presenting with a style that is swiftly paced, yet attentive to details.

Dance teachers such as **Sunni Bloland** and **Niko Hilferink** popularized many of Theodor's dances.

Dances Theodor and Lia have taught include *Alunelul Amestecat din Bistret*, *Alunelul de la Orodel*, *Ariciul*, *Brâu de pe Valea Bistrei*, *Chilabaua de la Roseti*, *Dans Tiganesc*, *Hora Anton Pann*, *Hora de la Bolintin*, *Hora de la Mehadica*, *Hora de la Tulnici*, *Hora din Campie*, *Hora din Sud*, *Hora Lautareasca de la Mitreni*, *Hora Miresii*, *Hora Vlaha din Valea Timocului*, *În Gradina lui Ion*, *Jianul de la Slanic*, *Joc Batrînesc*, *Joc de Fete*, *Joc de Leagane*, *Matura de la Felnac*, *Mugur Mugurel*, *Mugurletul de la Beiu*, *Pe Picior*, *Preumbata de Femei*, *Sârba de la Balti*, *Sârba de la Calarasi*, *Straca-traca*, *Tarina din Sohodol*, *Tiocul de la Malesu*, *Trei Pazeste de la Goicea*, *Trei Pazeste de la Macesu*, and *Tropitica de la Balti*.

The above information was taken from Dick Oakes' website, www.phantomranch.net, and is reprinted with permission.

Club Directory

Federation Clubs

Club	Time	Contact	Location
CABRILLO INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Tue 7:00-10:00	(858) 459-1336 Georgina	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park, Balboa Park Club
CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:30-9:30	(805) 497-1957 Jill Lungren	THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center, 403 W Hillcrest Dr
CULVER CITY HOLLYWOOD PEASANTS	Wed 7:30-10:00 infrequently	(310) 398-8187 Al Drutz	CULVER CITY, Culver West Park, 4162 Wade St. (park on Moore St.)
ETHNIC EXPRESS INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Wed 6:30-9:00 except holidays	(702) 732-4871 Richard Killian	LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights Art Center, 800 S. Brush St.
HAVERIM INT'L FOLK DANCERS & GOTTA FOLK DANCE	Sun 7-9 Mon 7:30-9:30	(805) 643-2886 Ann Zacher	VENTURA, Temple Beth Torah 7620 Foothill Rd (corner Kimball) Washington School, 96 S. MacMillan
KERN INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:00-9:00	(661) 831-5007 Delphine Szczepkowski	BAKERSFIELD, Wayne Van Horn School, 5501 Kleinpell Ave.
KRAKUSY POLISH FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE	Tu, W, F 7:00-9:00 Sat 2:15-3:15	(626) 286-6779 Steve Perzyna	LOS ANGELES, Polish Parish Hall, 3424 W Adams Blvd.
KYPSELI GREEK FOLK DANCING	Fri 8:00-11:30	(818) 990-5542 Dalia Miller	PASADENA, Skandia Hall 2031 E. Villa
LAGUNA FOLK DANCERS	Sun 7:00-10:00 Wed 8:00-10:00	(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin	LAGUNA BEACH, Community Ctr 384 Legion Ave
LEISURE WORLD INT'L FOLK DANCE CLUB	Tue 8:30am-11:00 Sat 9:00am-11:00	(949) 455-9527 Thelma Rosenblum	LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 1, Leisure World
MOUNTAIN DANCERS	Thu 7:00-9:30	(626) 794-8889 Vicki Davis	S. PASADENA, Woman's Club, 1424 Fremont Ave.
MULTIETHNICAL DANCERS CLUB	Wed 6:00	(949) 770-7026 Miriam Kahn	LAGUNA WOODS, Leisure World Club House 1 Gym, 24232 Calle Aragon
NARODNI INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Thu 7:30-10:30	(714) 932-2513 Shirley Hansen	DOWNEY, Dance America, 12405 Woodruff Ave.
PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP	Fri 7:45-11:00	(626)446-5160 Marsha Fenner	PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church 300 S. Los Robles
SAN DIEGO INT'L FOLK DANCE CLUB	Wed 7:00-9:30	(619) 463-0434 Rodney Henderson	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club, Presidents Way off Park, Balboa Park
SAN DIEGO VINTAGE DANCERS	Thu 8:00 - 9:30	(858) 622-9924 Marry Jennings	SAN DIEGO, Normal Heights Methodist Church 4650 Mansfield St.
SANTA BARBARA COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY	Sun 6:30-10:00 Tue 7:30-9:00	(805) 682-1877 Elliott Karpeles (805) 682-5523 Gary Shapiro	SANTA BARBARA Carrillo Rec Center 100 E. Carrillo St. (Sun, Tue); Oak Park 300 W. Alamar (Tue-summer)
SANTA MARIA FOLK DANCERS	Mon 7:00-9:00	(805) 528-0568 Jean Wheeler	SANTA MARIA, Veterans Memorial Ctr, Pine & Tunnell Sts
SKANDIA DANCE CLASSES	Mon 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:00-10:00 Call for others	(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin (714) 533-3886 Donna Tripp (310) 827-3618 Sparky Sotcher	ANAHEIM, Downtown Community Center, 250 E Center CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park, 5401 Rhoda Way
SOLVANG VILLAGE FOLK DANCERS	Sat 7:00-10:00	(805) 688-2382 Jean Menzies	SOLVANG, Jonata Elementary School 301 2nd Street, Buellton
SOUTH BAY FOLK DANCERS	3rd Fri 7:45-9:45	(310) 320-9758 Mary Steinkamp	TORRANCE, Torrance Cultural Ctr, 3330 Civic Center Dr.
TUESDAY GYPSIES	Tue 7:30-10:30	(310) 390-1069 Millicent Stein	CULVER CITY, Masonic Lodge 9635 Venice Blvd.
VESELO SELO FOLK DANCERS	Sat 8:00-11:00	(714) 738-8008 Phyllis Pivar	FULLERTON, Hillcrest Recreation Ctr, 1155 N. Lemon
VINTAGE ISRAELI DANCING	4th or 5th Sat confirm	(818) 990-8925 Louis dovbyrd@aol.com	SHERMAN OAKS, Anisa's School of Dance, 14252 Ventura Blvd.
WEST LOS ANGELES FOLK DANCERS	Mon 7:30-10:30 Fri 7:45-10:45	(310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr	WEST L.A., Brockton School 1309 Armacost Ave

San Diego



Arleigh Yewchan (age 90) and Monty Felder (age 94)

OKTOBERFEST SAN DIEGO STYLE

September 25 and 26 many dancers found themselves gliding down the freeway headed south to join their far south friends in a weekend of dancing, international folk dancing. As I spoke to **Bob Barkley**, a member of the San Diego dance groups, he mentioned that he doesn't use that complete and descriptive term any longer when explaining to people what he does as a hobby. He mentions that he enjoys international dancing. That seems to be enough to interest others and explain his endeavor. Bob also explained how close the dance groups have come to losing their beautiful site. Only through the combined efforts of the many community groups of San Diego were they able to get the governmental 'powers' to realize the value of the groups that offer dance, song, crafts, music, etc. So many of us have lost valuable venues for dance. Perhaps we need to find ways of reaching out to our communities to help one another retain spaces like that which San Diego's residents enjoy.

Saturday afternoon in the Recital Hall located in the beautiful, well used Balboa Park, folks found their way into the hall and began receiving very basic instruction from **Kin Ho** augmented by his partner **Jeanne Cate**.

These folks helped experienced as well as cold newcomers learn the relation between the already known skill of walking and the basics of dance. I had the pleasure of undergoing this instruction last year and found it to be a learning experience for me at many levels. Both last year and this year it was a review of known dances at one level; but more importantly to me, watching the steps and having the motifs explained in their basic component nature helps me know how to explain movement in a clearer more succinct manner.

Then **Georgina Sham** took over the instruction duties and began to introduce us to polka as a type of motif and movement. I have often explained to friends that this particular motif is very difficult for me to teach because my learning of it came from very early childhood experiences. Going to Polish weddings as a child introduced me to the basic movements, rhythms and joy that this dance causes in both participant and onlooker but my attempts at breaking the movement down have never been successful. Thanks to Georgina we learned the basics and progressed from very simple dances to more complicated ones and ballroom positions. After Georgina, her mate **Lu** took over and taught us about waltz movement and choreography. Again he began with a very simple breakdown and gave everyone an opportunity to practice what can be a more complicated variety of motifs. In this dance I find myself counting over and over to stay on the beat.

Saturday evening a dance party took over in the large hall, the Balboa Club, and it was fun to see folks of all ages. The friendly atmosphere continued to engage all the folks who attended and many came who had been at the Recital Hall earlier that day. A younger couple, **Damien Brown** and his friend **Tracey (Cat) Kellner** had stayed for all the instruction and it was exciting to see them back again in the evening using what they had learned and experimenting with more. In contrast to this couple were two older dancers **Arleigh Yewchan**, 90 years of age, and **Monty Felder**, 94 years of age (above left), who participated in almost every dance that was played that night. How exciting to be there with 'folks' enjoying music, rhythms, movement, dance and friendship.

Then Sunday dawned and the dance hall at the Balboa Club was again filled with dancers, learners, observers and tired organizers ready for dance movement after long meetings of the Statewide

LAGUNA FOLK DANCERS



e-mail:
info@LagunaFolkdancers.org

website:
www.LagunaFolkdancers.org

Numbers to call:
(714) 893-8888

(949) 646-7082, 675-3749
494-7683

35th annual FESTIVAL February 11-13, 2005

Laguna Folkdancers is a member of the Folkdance Federation of California, South

Presenting Master Teachers

Michael Ginsburg

Dances of Macedonia, Bulgaria, Serbia

Lee Otterholt

Dances of Romania, Greece and elsewhere

Michele Simon

(Member of Kitka and other groups)

Vocal workshop Sun. 10:30-11:30

Featuring Live Music by

Members of Brass Menagerie

Saturday Afterparty

Madison Avenue Folk

Valentine Party

Surprise Guests

Friday evening

Veselo Selo Folkdancers

hosting the Valentine Dance Party Saturday night 7:30-10:15

Schedule of Events

FRIDAY EVENING \$10.-

Welcome Party and Dance workshop
with refreshments 7:30 -12:00

SATURDAY

(open/coffe 9:00)

Morning dance wkshp 9:30 -11:30 \$ 10
Afternoon dance wkshp 1:30 - 4:30 \$ 12
Valentine Dance Party 7:30 -10:15 \$ 15
Afterparty 10:15 - 1:00 incl

SUNDAY 10:30-5:30 \$12.-

Vocal workshop 10:30-11:30
Let's Dance! 12:00- 1:15
Dance Concert 1:30 -3:00
More Dancing 3:00 -5:30

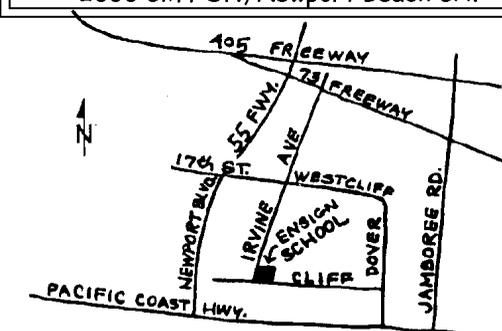
Passport for all events

\$42.- in advance

(\$48.- when purchased at the door)

Festival location

Ensign Intermediate School Gym
2000 Cliff Dr., Newport Beach CA.



(Thomas Bro's pages 888-889)

Area Motels

Ramada Limited, 1680 Superior, Costa Mesa
(949) 645-2221 \$65.- \$85.-
Travelodge, 1951 Newport Blvd., Costa Mesa
(949) 650-2999 \$55.- \$57.-
mention Laguna Folkdancers for these rates

Recent Events

ESMA "VOICE OF HOPE" CONCERTS

Esma Redzpova and her band performed on Friday, October 1 at UCSB and Saturday October 2 at the Westchester Senior Center.



Folk Dance Scene



TASTE OF FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL

On Sunday, October 10 the California Traditional Music Society (CTMS) held the 3rd Annual "Taste of Folk Music Festival" in conjunction with the Encino Chamber of Commerce "Taste of Encino" street faire.

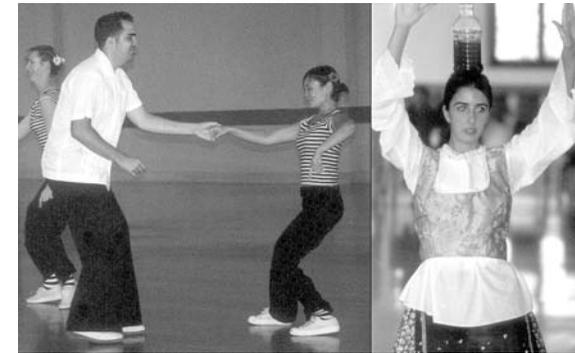


14

November 2004

Oktoberfest

Committee and then the Folk Dance Federation. Many vendors were there on Sunday. They sold folk arts, crafts or creative artworks. There were also donations of crafts, records, tapes, costumes, etc. for sale to interested shoppers. In the lobby, decorated with the work of the CCC from the FDR period in US history, food was available for purchase. There was delicious homemade German potato salad, bratwurst, hotdogs, sauerkraut, salad, bread, sodas, etc.



Two wonderful youthful groups performed for us on Sunday. First the "Radioland Rugcutters" (above left) from the San Diego Lindy Hop Society did a medley of

dances from the period. They danced in black and white costumes and were spectacular. Many Oktoberfest attendees could be heard remembering when they danced that way. Later **Marysia** and **Victor Leu** brought their young dancers in to do a series of Hungarian dances. First the young men performed very traditional village dances with slapping of boots and strutting. Then the young ladies entered and did the well balanced bottle dance (above right). They had nary a spill from the red liquid-filled bottles. Their finale was a medley of Hungarian pieces danced as couples. Once again the audience was left speechless but filled with pride that a younger generation is ready and able to take over.

Outside, music appropriate to the theme filled the air and attracted all to the hall. In the lobby a chorus sang medleys of pertinent music. All of us who come to San Diego for the Oktoberfest thank our San Diego neighbors for hosting us and finding time to furnish tired travelers with nourishment to keep them going after our meetings. Remember this festival next year, it is worth the drive.

— Sylvia Stachura

The 53rd Annual
KOLO FESTIVAL 2004
 The premier Balkan Dance Festival of the West Coast

<p>Dance!</p> <p>Exciting Teachers</p>	<p>Live Music!</p> <p>Theodor Vasilescu Tineke Van Geel John Morovich Georgi and/or Petur Iliev</p>	<p>Folklore!</p> <p>Romanian Dances Armenian Dances Croatian Dances and Singing Bulgarian Dances</p>
--	---	--

Parties! Fun! Dance Lessons!

- Dancing to live music Friday and Saturday evenings
- Saturday evening **Dance and Music Concert**
- Ethnic foods, costumes, folkcraft and music for sale
- Discount for pre-registration
- Folkdance and singing classes

Dance to music that excites the soul!

At the Russian Center, 2450 Sutter Street near Divisadero, San Francisco
 Thursday (Thanksgiving evening) thru Saturday, **November 25 - 27, 2004**

For more information, scholarships or to volunteer, call 9 AM - 9 PM Pacific time (510) 652-7859 or (800) 730-5615, email asha@kolofestival.org, write Kolo, P O Box 20181, Piedmont, CA 94620 or visit <http://www.kolofestival.org>

November 2004

7

Folk Dance Scene

Calendar

Note: Federation Events are in Bold.
CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS.

NOVEMBER

- 1 **Halloween Party** by West L. A. Folk Dancers, (Monday). Request program, 7:30 at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost. Potluck snacks. See OTS. Info: (310) 202-6166.
- 6 *Gasfitter's Ball*, a Sherlock Holmes themed Victorian Ball with Philadelphia Quadrille Band. Information: Jerry Kegley at (818) 893-1501.
- 6 *Samhain (Celtic New Year)*. The Onion, North Hills, presented by Celtic Arts Ctr. (818) 760-8322.
- 6 **Garage Sale, for Tuesday Gypsies. 10:00-4:00 at 941 26th St., Santa Monica.**
- 6, 7 *Greek festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. At St. Gregory Church, El Cajon. Info: (619) 593-0707.
- 7 **John Filcich teaches at Laguna Folkdancers, 7:00-10:00. Info: (714) 893-8888, www.LagunaFolkdancers.com.**
- 8-12 **Cruise and Dance for 4 days on the Paradise Cruise Ship with Beverly & Irwin Barr and the West L.A. Folk Dancers. For info: (310) 202-6166.**
- 13 *Southern California Autumn Ball*, hosted by Friends of the English Regency. Dance lessons, tea, dancing with buffet supper. Info: (213) 384-6622.
- 13 *Tanchaz*, Hungarian FD Party. 7:00 at First Hungarian Church, Hawthorne. Teaching, party, live music with Don Sparks band. Info: (310) 202-9024.
- 14 **John Filcich teaches at Laguna Folkdancers, 7:00-10:00. Info: (714) 893-8888, www.LagunaFolkdancers.com.**
- 20 UCSB Middle East Ensemble Fall Concert, Lotte Lehman Hall, 8:00, Info: (805) 893-2054.
- 20 **Romanian Rendezvous II**, with Theodor and Lia Vasilescu. Presented by *Folk Dance Scene*. At Westchester Senior Center. Workshops, culture corner, party, lots of free food. See ad.
- 20 *Whirling Dervishes of Damascus*, perform 8:00 at Royce Hall, UCLA. Info: (310) 825-2101, www.uclalive.org.
- 21 *Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats*, 2:00 at CSU Northridge. Info: (818) 785-8885.
- 26 **The Day After Thanksgiving Party with the West L. A. Folk Dancers (Friday). 7:30 at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost. Potluck snack table. See OTS for details. Info: (310) 202-6166.**

- 27 *Victorian Grand Ball*, hosted by the Social Daunce Irregulars. Throop Church, Pasadena. Info: (818) 892-34354, www.lahacal.org/sdi.html.

DECEMBER

- 11 *Witcher Brothers*, perform bluegrass 8:00 at Encino Comm. Ctr., 4935 Balboa Blvd. Info: (818) 705-8870, harleybgaol.com.
- 15 *Dennis Boxell* reviews Balkan dances at the Santa Barbara Balkan Dancers, 8:00. For location and other info, call Jatila at (805) 964-3591.
- 16 **Winter Solstice Celebration, with live entertainment. At Narodni. Info: Shirley, (714) 932-2513.**
- 17 **Holiday Party with the West L.A. Folk Dancers, (Friday). 7:30, at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost. Potluck snack table. See OTS for details. For info call (310) 202-6166.**
- 29-1/1/2005 **Annual New Year's Weekend with Beverly and Irwin Barr. Solvang. Info: see OTS and ad, or call Beverly at (310) 202-6166.**
- 31 **New Year's Eve Party, hosted by Pasadena Coop. Throop Memorial Church. See OTS.**

2005

JANUARY

- 3 **New Year's Party with the West L.A. Folk Dancers (Monday). 7:30, at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost. Potluck snacks. See OTS.**
- 16 **Winter Festival, hosted by Pasadena Coop. Council Mtg. at 10:30 a.m.**

FEBRUARY

- 11-13 **Laguna Folkdancers Festival. With Michael Ginsburg & Lee Otterholt; singing, live music, concert. Newport Beach. See ad. Info: (714) 893-8888, info@LagunaFolkdancers.com.**

MAY

- 1 *Gypsy Crossings*, perform 7:00 Royce Hall, UCLA. Info: (310) 825-2101, www.uclalive.org.
- 15 *Topanga Banjo and Fiddle Contest*. 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at Paramount Ranch, Agoura. Folk dancing, singing, contest, jamming, crafts, etc. Info: (818) 382-4819, info@topangabanjofiddle.org.

JUNE

- 24-26 *Summer Solstice*, dancing, music and storytelling weekend presented by California Traditional Music Society. At Soka University, Agoura. Info: (818) 817-7756.

Dancers Speak

of all the many nights you dance for your own pleasure, dedicate this one evening to making your friend's night enjoyable.

A Time to Plant, a Time to Reap. Beginners are often hyper-sensitive. They are aware and are hurt when a good dancer, no matter how carefully and inconspicuously, slips out of a circle next to them and joins in again elsewhere. If they get up the courage to ask someone to dance a couple dance, rejection -- even a delicately worded one -- is doubly hard because they attribute the rejection to their beginner status. I believe there is nothing more damaging to the health of the dance community than an advanced dancer who habitually rejects a beginner and then accepts the invitation of another advanced dancer.

If you're an established dancer and you become aware of a beginning dancer in your midst, take the time to introduce yourself, and guide the beginner through a dance or two. I have heard so many dancers -- both men and women -- lament the lack of eligible dancer partners, while ignoring the potential that lies in every beginning dancer. I hear dancers say, "I don't like dancing with beginners because then I can't enjoy the dance and I go dancing to have a good time."

Just remember that beginning dancers don't stay beginners forever. In six short months a beginner can turn into a popular, attractive, graceful partner, and if you were there in the beginning, encouraging and helping and guiding, he/she can be your popular, attractive, graceful partner. Take just ten minutes [time for three dances] out of your two hours of dancing. Those ten minutes of cultivation can pay off in the future.

Fresh Water. I remind myself frequently that beginners are the fresh water that keeps our pool from becoming stagnant. Drought puts a strain on the ecosystem. In the case of a dancer-drought, we have the power within us to "make it rain."

Make it one of your New Year's Resolutions to bring at least one new person into the dance community this year. Make another resolution to dance at least one dance each evening with someone new, someone you've never danced with before -- whether by initiating or by accepting an invitation.

[I often think we should provide beginners with buttons or T-shirts bearing Ashley Brilliant's line: "Appreciate me now and avoid the rush...."]

— Loui Tucker

Contact Loui at loui@louitucker.com.



DANCE ON THE WATER
21st ANNUAL FOLK DANCE CRUISES
 dancing led by **LEE OTTERHOLT**
June 10-18, 2005
 Depart & return to **VENICE, ITALY**

CROATIAN COAST/ADRIATIC SEA
\$2198.00 (double occupancy) Includes round trip flight from LAX to Venice, transfers, 8 day cruise, daily dancing, daily free excursions

Enjoy two vacations in one: an exciting cruise visiting historic ports plus a wonderful folk dance experience. Master teacher **LEE OTTERHOLT** will lead a dance lesson and later an all request evening dance, & special events with local dance groups

Single Shares Arranged

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
 MEL MANN (folk dancer)
 BERKELEY TRAVEL COMPANY
 1301 CALIFORNIA ST.
 BERKELEY, CA 94703
 TELE (510) 526-4033 FAX (510) 524-9906
 E-MAIL MELDANCING@AOL.COM
 web www.FolkDanceOnTheWater.org

We depart from Venice and visit Dubrovnick, Split, Korcula, Pula, Kotor and Corfu. Flights from other cities also arranged. One can extend their stay in Europe. Cruise only rate \$1398

This month we are starting a series of articles about the perennial folk dance problem: How to get beginners to try folk dancing, and how to keep them coming back. There will be a lot of concrete suggestions on getting and retaining beginners.

We start off the series with an article by Loui Tucker, who in addition to teaching Israeli and other dances at many locations, has also done some serious thinking about beginners.

THE CARE AND FEEDING OF BEGINNERS

Being a beginner at anything -- whether you're learning tennis or bridge or French cooking or Russian -- is tough. A beginner's self-confidence and poise can really take a beating during the first months of contact with the new activity.

I have had several discussions over the past few months about beginning dancers - with teachers, with current dancers, and with beginners themselves. What are teachers doing to make it easier for beginners? What are current dancers doing to ease the way for their friends who are starting to dance? What do beginning dancers feel is needed to facilitate their learning and increase their comfort level?

Start At the Beginning. Most dancers and teachers agree that if you want to encourage a friend to start dancing, you should first try to find a class for beginners in the area. It is, however, an ideal that is not always possible to attain.

If there isn't a beginners' class, at least pick one of the smaller local classes where the energy level isn't putting stress fractures in the ceiling beams. Beginners have told me there is very little that is more discouraging than attending the most popular and crowded night of dancing and stumbling over your own two feet while watching the stars of the dance floor glide and twirl like Rogers and Astaire.

Beginners frequently have tender, if not downright fragile, egos. We've all seen them retreat to the refreshments table after a discouraging bout with pivot turns. After all, when they look around the room, they can't tell if another dancer has been dancing 20 years or 2 years. Everybody is a better dancer than they are, and the prospect of trying to attain the same skill level is daunting. Besides needing large doses of encouragement, beginners need a class that operates on a lower level that will decrease the perceived distance to the goal, thus increasing the likelihood that the challenge will be accepted.

Multiple Exposures. Beginners should realize that dance classes are like new shoes. Sometimes you have to "try on" more than one class before you find a good fit. Each class provides a slightly different learning environment, social atmosphere, and physical ambience. Even the same teacher on a different night in a different dance hall can create a completely different mood. Beginners need special encouragement so they won't give up after the first try.

I also believe it's important to give beginners more than one reason to dance. This way, if the first evening doesn't provide instant gratification, they'll be more willing to consider going a second time. If they're going to meet people [new in town or newly divorced], mention the aerobic benefits of dance. If they're going to work off stress, remind them that friendships are great tension-relievers.

Which is Your "Inside" Foot? A first visit to a dance class is not unlike a visit to a foreign country. Wouldn't you at least like to know the words for "please", "thank you", "hello" and "goodbye", and a little about local customs?

Before your friend's first evening of dance, schedule a mutually convenient half-hour and introduce some of the basic vocabulary and etiquette of dancing. Demonstrate the grapevine step and the Yemenite step. Briefly practice step-hops and 3-step turns and pivoting. Mention that most dances move counter-clockwise; show him/her how to join a line of dancers and how to hold hands. Talk about standing behind the line of dancers to copy the steps and avoid the shock of joining a line and having it take off to the left for *Cimpoi*. Tell them about wearing layers of clothing and proper shoes. [I've seen so many women come to their first dance class wearing a special dress, ornate jewelry, and high heels!]

Dancers Hold Hands with the Nicest People. A lot of well-meaning dancers hand a friend a flyer and say, "This is a great class. You really should go one night." Most beginners I spoke with agreed that it is far better if you can accompany your friend and act as a tour guide. Introduce the other people at the class. If possible, talk to the class members you know ahead of time and ask for their cooperation in dancing next to your friend in the line dances and with him/her for some of the easy couple dances.

If you know which dances a beginner can handle, request a few of them. Enlist the teacher as well; if you've taught your friend *Tzadik Katamar* and *Ersko Kolo*, ask the teacher to play them early in the evening.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

11/2 Election Day, ****Two Balkan Bands!**** at Ashkenaz: Zabava Rumen Shopov & Orkestar Sali. teaching, 7:30, music, 8:30. Come celebrate or despair!

11/12, 13, 14 **Veterans Day Bluegrass Festival**, Yolo County Fairgrounds, Woodland.

11/16 **Turkish dance teacher Ahmet Luleci** 7:30, music with Edessa at 9:00. Rockin' Balkan Music, with a Turkish emphasis. At Ashkenaz, Berkeley. Info: (510) 525.5054, www.ashkenaz.com.

11/19-21 **West Coast Ragtime Festival**, at Red Lion Inn, Sacramento. Teachers are Richard Duree, Bruce Mitchell and Stan Isaacs. See website.

11/20 **Tineke Van Geel workshop**, 2:00 – 11:00 at Saratoga Comm. Ctr. Workshop, dinner, party. Contact: Loui Tucker, (408) 287-9999.

11/25–27 **Kolo Festival**, with dance teachers Theodor Vasilescu, Tineke van Geel, John Morovich, and Petur Iliev. See ad pg 7.

OUT OF STATE

HAWAII

12/6–21 **Dance with Donna**. Donna Frankel leads a Dance Cruise Course- round trip San Diego to Hawaii aboard the Holland America Statendam! Teaching, dancing, all the major islands. Info: (408) 257-9228, donna@dancingcruises.com.

WISCONSIN

Events at Folklore Village. Info: (608) 924-4000, www.folklorevillage.org.

11/6 Barn Dance

12/28–1/1 Christmas and midwinter traditions.

FOREIGN

CANADA

Armenian Dance Workshops, with Tineke van Geel.

11/10 8:00–11:00 at Bathurst Jewish Comm. Ctr., Toronto. Info: (416) 636-1880.

11/15 7:30 – 10:00 at Shaughnessy Heights Church, Vancouver. Info: (60) 732-9652.

11/16 7:30– 10:00 at Charles Rummel Centre, Burnaby, B.C. Info: (604) 522-2031.

CROATIA

6/10–19, 2005 **Dance on the Water Cruise**, on the Adriatic to Italy, Greece and Croatia. Lee Otterholt teaching. (510) 526-4033, meldancing@aol.com.

TASMANIA

2/4–14/2005 **Nature Trip for Dancers**. Led by Ken McFarland. (800) 822-3435, reeljig.com/mcfarland.

New Years Weekend
With
Beverly & Irwin Barr

In

Solvang

4 Days - 3 nights
Dec. 29, - Jan. 1, 2005

\$295 Per Person

Includes:

- * 3 Nights lodging at a hotel in the heart of Solvang
- * All Breakfasts & Dinners
- * New Years Eve Dinner & Folk Dance Party
- * Interesting & Unusual Fun things planned to do & see
- * Hospitality Room for friendly get-togethers
- * Folk Dancing & other events

Join Us
You'll Love It

For INFORMATION Call
(310) 202-6166

AN OPEN LETTER TO OUR FOLK DANCE COMMUNITY

Hey fellow folk dancer! Greetings to you from the Statewide 2005 organizing committee, **Julith Neff, Michelle Sandler and Sylvia Stachura**. We've been working hard on your behalf for an exciting dance-filled vacation in the wonderful resort town of Palm Springs. With assistance from many of your fellow folk dancers, the date of June 3, 4 and 5, 2005 was chosen. The place, Palm Springs and the title, *Dancing Under the Palms* were chosen with input from our membership. The committee has enlisted very capable helpers, as well as a number of experienced advisers, who will help you have fun. We have gotten a wonderful rate at the local Ramada Inn, \$71.92 per night single/double (with a \$10 pp charge for up to 2 extra people) and a marvelous Dance Pavilion which has a super wooden dance floor, air conditioning, a kitchen and a stage.

We need help from you, our fellow folk dancers from the South, to make this Statewide Festival a success. Our guests are the folks from the North and we want to make this as enjoyable an experience for them as they have done for us. There are three specific areas that need your help.

1. We will need people to volunteer to 'door sit'. That is help with the pre-registration and on-site registration of attendees. **Nancy Mayhew** is in charge of that, and she can be reached at (562) 594-4338.

2. For the after-parties we need folks to bring a snack. To volunteer, call Michelle Sandler: (714) 871-0788.

3. Concert. Give your input for that to Julith Neff at (562) 867-4495.

We will have: **Yves and France Moreau** for our institute, live music, wonderful after parties (with your help), an ice-cream social, and a number of other surprises. Please feel free to suggest ideas for our *Dance Under the Palms*, Statewide 2005. Contact Sylvia at: (626)300-8138, sstach236@earthlink.net.

We'll see you all very soon.

— *Sylvia Stachura*

WESTWOOD COOP FOLK DANCERS

Westwood Coop Folk Dancers are having **Theodor and Lia Vasilescu** from Romania as guest teachers on Thursday, Nov. 18. We would be so pleased to have you join us for the evening and enjoy their wonderful

dances. We will begin dancing at 7:30 p.m. and the workshop will begin about 8:00 p.m.

Westwood Coop will not meet on Nov. 11 & 25. Thursday evenings are at Felicia Mahood Center on the corner of Santa Monica Blvd. and Corinth Ave. in W. L.A. Beginners teaching is 7:15-8:00, intermediate is 8:00-8:45, previous month's dances are reviewed from 8:45-9:00 and a dance program is 9:00-10:20.

Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or Rita (310) 657-6877.

— *Beverly Barr*

NEW FD CLASS STARTED

I am starting a new folk dance group, *Gotta Folk Dance*. It will meet Monday evenings at the Washington School, 96 South MacMillan, Ventura. *Haverim* will still be meeting as usual on Sunday evenings at Temple Beth Torah here in Ventura.

All this is very exciting to me, as I attended the Washington School as a child. Then, this school was not used at all for more than twenty years. Now, it has just been put back into use by the Ventura County Christian School. The Christian School is a private school for grades K - 12.

We are very grateful to be using what is now called the Fireside Room for our folk dancing. Also, we will be dancing on a beautiful wooden floor. This school is in my neighborhood, right over my back fence. It had been sadly neglected, had much graffiti and damage from vandals. So, there is much gratification to see it refurbished and currently being used as a viable school once again. Happy dancing,

— *Ann Zacher*

VESELO HAPPENINGS

November, 2004

Veselo Selo meets on Saturday night from 7:30 to 10:30. Students only \$1.00, Children under age 14, guests and first-time visitors are welcome free. Members, \$4.00, non-members \$5.00.

November 6 Romanian Night, international requests but with emphasis on Romanian.

November 13 **Lee Otterholt** teaches new and old dances. This special event is \$5.00.

November 20 *Veselo Selo* will be closed so that we may attend the Theodor Vasilescu workshop.

November 27 All Request Night. Your choice for old and new dances.

— *Lu Perry*

NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND IN SOLVANG

Announcing another fun-filled New Years Weekend. This year at the annual event, we will enjoy 3 nights and 4 days in Solvang. Our New Year's extended weekends are always packed full of interesting things to do and sights to see. The weekend includes lodging at a beautiful hotel in the heart of Solvang. You can walk out of your door and enjoy most of the town without getting into your car.

There is also a sightseeing trolley that stops across the street from our hotel. Also included are breakfast and dinner daily, New Years Eve celebration with dinner, dancing, midnight champagne toast, fun things to do during the day, social gatherings in the Hospitality Room, and of course, folk dancing. Wonderful, lifelong friendships are very often a bonus.

Beverly & Irwin have been taking folk dancers and their friends away for the New Year's every year since 1982, without missing a year. If you have not spent a New Year's weekend with them, you have been missing a great time. Don't wait. Call and reserve now.

See the ad in this issue of Scene for price and details. For more info call (310) 202-6166.

— *Beverly Barr & Irwin Barr*

PASADENA NEW YEAR'S EVE

Since New Year's Eve falls on a Friday, we have been able to obtain the use of our regular site, Throop Memorial Church, for a special party. Many of you did not like the floor at our alternate site, but this year's site has a wonderful floor.

The party starts with dancing at 8:00 P.M. and a supper around 9:00, then more dancing until well after midnight (read: when everyone is tired). Due to technology improvements with our music, the program will be different from that presented at our Winter Festival on January 16.

We are not planning extensive publicity, due to the size of the room, but everyone who would like to dance with us is invited. The cost will be \$10.00.

— *Rick and Lynn Bingle*

VASILESCUS COMING TO CALIFORNIA

The famed Romanian dance teachers, **Theodor and Lia Vasilescu**, will be coming from Bucharest to spend two weeks in California. They will be giving a full-day workshop in the Los Angeles area (Westchester) on Saturday November 20. That will include morning and

afternoon sessions, a culture corner and evening party. (See ad pg 5). They will be in San Francisco at the Kolo festival on November 25-27 (see ad pg 7).

In addition, they will be offering short workshops up and down the coast, from San Diego to Santa Barbara. As we go to press their schedule is still being finalized. To see if there is a workshop near you call Gerda at (310) 474-1232, or Jill at (818) 368-1957.

GYPSY CAMP - CORRECTION AND APOLOGY -

Last month we had printed an item about Gypsy Camp, and their soliciting dancers to perform with them. Apparently we had been sent erroneous information and what was said was not correct. Gypsy Camp is alive and well and doing lots of good things. And they welcome you to join them. But ignore the other information that was in that article.

We regret any inconvenience we may have caused.

— *Folk Dance Scene Committee*

PARTY NIGHTS - WEST L.A. FOLK DANCERS

Monday - Nov. 1 - If you get this in time, you can make it to our Halloween Party. Continue having fun with another Halloween Party the day after Halloween. Dance from 7:30 to (It's up to you).

Friday - Nov. 26 - Day After Thanksgiving Party - 7:30. This annual party held the day after Thanksgiving is always so well attended and so much fun. It is the start of the holiday season and a happy time of year.

Friday - December 17 - Holiday Party - 7:30. The West L.A. FolkDancers will celebrate the holiday season with a party for everyone.

Monday - January 3 - New Year's Party- 7:30. Let's start the New Year with a party to celebrate the New Year on our first night of folk dancing in 2005.

These parties are always so much fun with folk dancers who come from other groups and other cities to dance with us. We look forward to seeing you and enjoying your company.

Bring along the names of your favorite dances. An "All Request Program" will be played. Bring snacks and desserts for the pot-luck table and come to Brockton School, 1309 Armacost in W. L. A. (1 1/2 blocks north of Santa Monica Blvd. between Barrington & Bundy).

The West L. A. Folk Dancers meet on Monday and Friday nights. We will not meet on Monday Nov. 8.

For information call (310) 202-6166

— *Beverly & Irwin Barr*