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Folk Dance Scene

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On the cover: The Kodaly Ensemble of Budapest

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CAFE AMAN

2nd Sat 7:30-11:30. Teach 8:00-8:45 madelyntaylor@hotmail.com ianprice@hotmail.com WEST LA, Pacific Arts Center 10469 Santa Monica Blvd

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FOLK DANCE CLASS (310) 652-8706 Tikva Mason LOS ANGELES, Robertson Rec Ctr. 1641 Preuss Mon 10:00-11:30am. L.A., Fairfax Senior Citizen Center, 7929 Melrose Ave Wed 10:30am-noon

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(805) 682-4511 Luis Goena SANTA BARBARA, Oak Park Stage, corner Junipero and Calle Real



Folk Dance Scene

Volume 49, No. 4 May 2013

Editors' Corner

This month's issue features Hungary; Richard Duree's article is illustrated thanks to Google images, and complemented in Ethnic Foods. The cover picture is from the photo collection of former Scene editors, Teri Hoffman and Marvin Smith.

Find out what has been in Recent Events, what will be in On the Scene, what people think in Dancers Speak, and check the Poetry Corner. Lots of specific information in ads and the Directory.

We thank Marshall Cates (belatedly) for the collage in the Statewide feature and for last month's cover photo.

Be of good cheer!

Pat Cross and Don Krotser

Table of Contents

Federation Corner	3
Choreogeography of Hungary	4
Calendar	8
On the Scene	12
Dancers Speak	14
Recent Events	20
Ethnic Food	22
Poetry Corner	24
Club Directory	25
-	

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Federation Corner

My husband and I bought our Laguna Beach home in 1962. It was a big and daring thing to do for two penniless refugees from Hungary, after only five years in this country. It turned out to be the best investment anyone could ever hope for, in the most beautiful spot on earth. It just so happens that it is also the home of the

Eva Darai

Laguna Folkdancers and although it took me awhile to learn about that, I ended up being President for many years.

As artists, both my husband and I were exhibitors in the Festival of Arts for as long as he lived. He passed away in 1979. Usually, when you lose your husband, good people try to fix you up with cats and dogs for companions. One of my good friends had a better idea. She introduced me to Laguna Folkdancers. My first reaction was "oh, no, not folk dancing! The idea does not appeal to me at all!" I went along, just to show my appreciation for her thoughtfulness and I never stopped folk dancing after that. It was the music, more than anything else. Having been brought up in a family of classical musicians, I found folk music intriguing and needed to discover more and more about it. I am not a born dancer, or a talented one. But I learned all the dances, with all the strange sounding names. I discovered how much the great classical composers learned and borrowed from folk songs and folk music. It was, and still is, an amazing experience.

An even more important discovery followed: I realized that through folk dancing I found myself a new family and was no longer alone. In this country folk dancing is a lot more than just dancing. There is dancing everywhere in the world and here in the U.S. we folk dancers set ourselves the task to learn as much as we can of the entire cultural background, music and art of the people who dance those dances. This is symbolic of what our country is all

Eva Darai's story is continued on page 10...

3

Choreogeography of Hungary

Hungary is and has been in the forefront in ethnic dance research, notation and reconstruction for several decades. We know more about the dance culture and tradition of Hungary than perhaps any single country, due to the efforts and contributions of Dr. György Martin, director of the Ethnomusicology Department of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. The fortunate combination of a rich and diverse dance tradition, brilliant and concerned scientists and official government support has not simply provided us with a thorough and continuing study of Hungarian dance culture. It has provided an example and created a model for all to follow.

Recreational folk dancers are familiar with Hungarian dance through the 30-year effort of Andor Czompo, who began teaching to folk dancers in the early 1960s. The Hungarian *tanchaz* (TANC haaz = "dance house") movement — a direct result of research by Martin and others — reached America in the late 1970s and this improvised dancing of traditional "dance cycles" has become one of the most advanced recreational folk dance activities.

It is past time for us to examine this wealth of dance information. Many Hungarian dance names will be familiar to folk dancers; others will be new. Martin's regional and temporal classifications will be generally followed, though the length of this study requires some deletions and adjustments.

REGIONS OF HUNGARY

Martin divides the country into three regions or "dance dialects". In keeping with the east to west settlement of Hungary, let's begin with the oldest, easternmost region — Transylvania, (*Erdaly* : "air dai yee" in Hungarian), a forested plateau surrounded by the high Carpathian Alps, the eastern end of the Carpathian Mountains. Migrating Magyar tribes entered the region in the 10th Century from the Danube Valley to the south seeking to avoid attacks by other barbaric tribes in the area; thus, "Transylvania" (trans = "across" + sylvan = "forests"). This is the oldest region of Hungarianspeaking peoples and is part of Romania only by very recent political action.

Westward from the wooded slopes of Transylvania is the "Hungarian Basin", generally flat and treeless,



drained by two north-south rivers, the Tisza and the Danube.

The "Tisza Region" contains the Alföld (Great Plain), heart of the Hungarian horse culture, and the northern mountains, site of the famous Tokaj wine.

Further west, across the Danube is the western third of the Hungarian region, Transdanubia ("across" + "Danube"; *Dunantul*. "doo non tool" in Hungarian), divided north and south by Lake Balaton; this is Martin's "Danube Region". The south is a land of gently rolling hills, with sheep and swine husbandry dominant. Northern Transdanubia is closest to Austria and shows the most Western influence in its dance culture. Other well-known areas of the Danube Region are *Sarköz* (shar kooz) along the southern Danube and *Paloc* (pa lotes) in the north. One must remember to include neighboring areas in Croatia and Slovakia in these ethnographic regions.

DANCE CLASSIFICATIONS

Throughout most of Hungary, the various dances in each region's repertoire are danced in a traditional sequence, a *tancrend* or "dance cycle". The most common order is: the girls' *karikázo,* the men's *verbunk,* followed by the couple *csárdás.* This tradition follows a long period of development, the heart of Martin's research.

Old Style Dances:

Dance historians and ethnologists acknowledge the "chain" or "circle" dance as the oldest form of dance,

Club Directory

Federation Clubs

BAY OSOS FOLK DANCERS Tue 12:00-3:00

LOS OSOS, South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Ave, (805) 534-1501 Anne Tiber

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Tue 7:00-9:30 (858) 459-1336 Georgina SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park, Balboa Park Club, 2144 Pan American

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KYPSELI GREEK FOLK

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LAGUNA FOLKDANCERS Sun 7:00-9:45 (714) 893-8888 Ted Martin LAGUNA BEACH, Susi Q Community Center, 380 3rd St.

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(562) 867-4495 Julith Neff BELLFLOWER, Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St.

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TUESDAY GYPSIES Tue 7:30-10:30 (310) 390-1069 Millicent Stein CULVER CITY, Masonic Lodge 9635 Venice Blvd.

Poetry Corner

The Pivot is a Pantoum, a poetic form first appearing Giddy and gay on wild Gypsy Wine... in the fifteenth century in Malayan literature. It existed orally before then. The Western version is a poem of indefinite length, made up of stanzas whose 4 lines are repeated in a pattern: lines 2 and 4 of each stanza are repeated as lines 1 and 3 of the next stanza, and so on.

THE PIVOT

Two steps, a revolution, things change Pivot and balance and dash 'cross the floor Reaching backward and forward in time We are child, we are grown, we are child... again.

Pivot and balance and dash 'cross the floor Like the Earth, just spin through it all, We are child, we are grown, we are child... again Curious, and cautious and carefree...

Like the Earth, just spin through it all Curious and cautious and carefree, At one with magic, the music, the moment ...

Giddy and gay on wild Gypsy Wine At one with *magic*, the music, the moment ... Two steps, a revolution, things change Pivot and balance and dash 'cross the floor... Camille Dull

FOLK DANCER'S LAMENT

Muscles complain when I'm out on the floor: Even Sano Duso turns into a chore. So, while other folks flit, I mostly sit And pray Tylenol will make me a dancer once more. Carl Pilsecker



oin us August 1 - 4, 2013 for 4 spectacular days of dancing on the campus of New Mexico Tech in Socorro NM. We are excited to be celebrating our 30th anniversary and are looking forward to a very special camp. For information, contact Charles Cummings at charlesacummings@comcast.net or (505) 256-3807, or go to our Southwest International Folk Dance website http://www.swifdi.org



http://swifdi.org

originating in the dim, unknown past as part of tribal ritual. The form exists still, primarily in the Balkan region of Europe, insulated by the Turks from the influences of Western Renaissance which allowed development of couple dance.

In Hungarian dance, the circle and chain dance is found in several forms, including the *hajza* (hay zaw) of the Csangos from Gymes in northern Romania, the left-moving chain dances of Transdanubia, the women's karikázo, found throughout Transdanubia and to a lesser extent elsewhere, and in the lassü Magvar, a slow turning dance of two couples found



in Transylvania, plus numerous other examples found throughout the Hungarian dance region.

The *karikázo*, well-known to recreational folk dancers, is the most recent of the circle dances and is considered to be more of a singing game than a dance, the girls gathering and singing to pass the time while the men engage in a bout of macho drinking. The songs are accompanied by simple dance steps led by one of the singers. Different circles of women - usually of different generations — will dance different steps to the same song. The steps are improvised from within a repertoire of local dance figures and is created anew each time

Herdsmen's dances generally fall within the ugros or "jumping dance" family, also very old. Early settlers were, of necessity, both herdsman and warrior, and were known as *hajduks* (hai duke). Dancing with naked swords, staffs, whips and other tools and weapons was a common, often spectacular entertainment, noted enthusiastically by early travelers. The dances exist today and, though the sword is rarely seen, amazing dexterity with the staff is demonstrated in shepherd's dances of Somogy and horsemen's dances of the Hortobagy. *Olahos* is a well -known variation of the dance, found in the Great Plain and the southern Tisza region.

The ugros takes many forms and is still danced throughout Hungary. Where the newer verbunk did not become established, this is still the dominant dance for men and often for couples, as well.

"Lad's dances" were developed from the old herdsmen's dances and are found mostly in Transylvania. They are considered to be the most highly developed of all Hungarian dances. Competitive in nature, as were many herdsmen's dances, the dance is improvised by the dancer from a local repertoire of figures and movement styles and is performed within a highly structured format which varies from place to place. The dance is marked by dynamic leg gestures, slapping patterns on boot and thigh, leaps and stamping rhythms. Once observed, no one can fail to recognize one these spectacular dances, known variously as legényes, tempö, pontozó, sürü Maqyar and others.

Old Style Couple Dances

Martin credits the Western Renaissance of the 16th Century with the introduction of the pre-csárdás couple dances into Hungary. Many of the figures of the csárdás appeared very early, including the closeholding of the partner and rapid turning figures. The dance form is still found in Transylvania in such wellknown dances as the Székélv forgatós, and the csárdás of Mezöség. Transylvanian Romanians perform similar dances (*invirtita, ardeleana, breaza* and ungureasca), characterized by complex 7/16 rhythms and syncopated dance movements in stark contrast to the Hungarians' more straight forward treatment of a 4/4 rhythm.

New Style Dances

In Europe, anything 200 years old is considered "new". So it is with Martin's "New Style Dances", which he traces to the late 18th Century, with new musical motifs which are still with us.

The Hungarian male was most proud of two things: his ability to ride and his skill in dance. These factors combined to become the basis of the creation of a new dance — the verbunk (from verbun, "to recruit" in German). Those were the days of the hussars (*hussar* in Hungarian), the famous, brilliantly uniformed cavalry of European armies. Hungarian youth were of great interest to the Austro-Hungarian army and the *verbunk* was developed as a recruiting device.

Small detachments of soldiers, specially selected and trained, were sent into the villages, where their uniforms drew great attention from the young men and girls alike. The sergeant would hire the local gypsy musicians to play and the soldiers would gather in a circle around the corporal, who was the dance master. Then, with spurs ringing, the dance would begin, soldiers repeating ever more complex dance figures led by the corporal. What an irresistible sight for the young, poor boys! It took little encouragement for them to join the dance circle, a little more from the inevitable jug of wine, perhaps trying on a soldier's sabre or shako, and the young man was heartily welcomed into a lifetime enlistment in the emperor's army! It worked! It worked for over a hundred years. Accounts of the dance, already well developed, date from 1793 in Vienna.



The *verbunk* is the dominant men's dance throughout much of western Hungary; in the northwest, the dance is very martial in nature, every man performing the same figures (*Kapuvari Verbunk* and *Gencsi Verbunk* are two of Czompo's popular dances of this type). Further east and south, the dance disappears, or at least its martial nature disappears, as the older *ugros* and herdsman's dances reappear in Somogy, Sarköz and the Great Plain. Even further away, in Transylvania, the already mentioned *lads' dances* appear.

Lastly, the *csárdás* (char dawsh; sounds like "car wash"), the national dance of Hungary. Originating in the village *csárdá* or pub, the dance lacked respectability for generations, since no respectable girl would ever go into a csárdá. Like the Charleston, the dance eventually outgrew its immoral beginnings and became the dance most dear to the Hungarian heart.



The *csárdás* displays marked differences between regions, varying greatly in richness of figures, tempo and character. The classic profile of the *csárdás* is a long, almost melancholy beginning, followed by a short, fiery ending in which the slower figures may be repeated or, in some areas, completely new figures may be introduced. In Rabaköz and Paloc in the north, the dance is energetic, with sharp, stamping movements. In Somogy to the south, the dance becomes much more languid and open. To the east, Szatmar County displays a *csárdás* with immense differences in slow and fast tempos, a rich variety of figures and the introduction of *verbunk* figures into the dance by the men — one of the most spectacular versions of the *csárdás*.

In Transylvania, still further east, though the couple dances are mostly of the older form, the term *csárdás* is usually applied to the middle section which is preceded by a very slow dance and followed by a very rapid one.

Interestingly, the word *paros* (par osh) means simply: "couple dance" and is applied to any couple dance, whether a *csárdás* or not. It does not identify any specific dance.

If this sounds like a lot of information, it is, but it barely scratches the surface of this most interesting and challenging ethnic dance tradition. And Hungary is only one of many with dance cultures equally worthy of such in-depth analysis. It is hoped that others will continue to apply its methods and lessons to the preservation of this most precious and fleeting of the folk arts.

Richard Duree

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Full flyer with more information in the next issue of Scene Contact Beverly Barr for early information 310-202-6166 or 310-478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com Contact Beverly Barr

Ethnic Food

KOHLRABI SOUP

Kohlrabi has always been a popular Eastern European vegetable since it tolerates frost well and can be stored a long time in a root cellar. The bulbs come in white and purple varieties. The white are more flavorful and tender when small and have a hint of radish and cucumber flavors. Purple Kohlrabi tends to have a slightly spicier flavor.

Ingredients:

- 2 tbsp. butter
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 pound kohlrabi bulbs, peeled and chopped
- 2 1/2 cups vegetable stock
- 2 1/2 cups milk
- 1 bay leaf
- Salt and black pepper

Preparation:

Melt butter in a large pan with a lid. Add onions and cook gently until soft, about 10 minutes. Add kohlrabi and cook 2 minutes.

Add vegetable stock, milk and bay leaf to pan, and bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat to low and simmer 25 minutes or until kohlrabi is tender. Let cool a few minutes and remove bay leaf.

Using an immersion blender, a conventional blender or food processor, puree soup until smooth. You may want to strain the soup through a fine sieve if the kohlrabi is especially fibrous. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve in heated bowls with hearty bread of choice. Makes 4 servings.

Sandy Helperin

SOUR PORK

This recipe is from *Gundel's Hungarian Cookbook*, the 45th edition, which was purchased in Budapest in 2004. The book, first published in 1934, has been translated into many languages. Ingredients: 1 kg (2 1/4 lb.) boneless young pork Or 1 1/2 kg (3 1/4 lb) pork, with bones 80 g (6 tbsp.) lard 60 g (1/2 cup) onion Salt, pepper, bay leaf 30g (1/4 cup) flour 2 dl (7/8 cup) sour cream
20 g (4 tsp) prepared mustard
10 g (1 tbsp.) sugar
5 cl (4 tbsps.) lemon juice, lemon peel Sear the skin and scrape it clean. Cut the boneless meat into 20-30 g (1 oz) pieces. Cut the bony meat into 40-50 g (1 ¹/₂ - 2 oz) pieces.

Heat the lard in a pot, fry the onion lightly, add the meat and spices, cover and cook on medium heat with the addition of a small amount of stock or water. When the meat is almost tender, mix the flour and sour cream and add it to the meat. For flavoring use the mustard, sugar, lemon juice and a small amount of grated lemon peel. Finely chopped pickled tarragon leaves may also be used. The flavoring should be done in several steps, checking to make sure that the meat has a piquant taste. Serve with boiled potatoes or rice.

Don Krotser

SWEET NOODLE PUDDING

Ingredients: 1 lb. med. egg noodles 6 eggs, separated 5 tbsp. sugar 1 ¹/₂ tsp. vanilla 1 tbsp. lemon rind, grated 1 tbsp. melted butter 1 cup sour cream ¹/₂ cup golden raisins 1 tbsp. sugar

Powdered sugar Boil the egg pr

Boil the egg noodles in plenty of boiling salted water. When tender, drain. Rinse and drain again. Beat egg yolks with the 5 tbsp of sugar until thick. Add vanilla, lemon rind and melted butter. Fold the sour cream and raisins into the yolks. Beat egg whites to soft peaks; add 1 tbsp sugar and beat another minute. Fold into egg yolk mixture.

Then fold in the noodles, and pour into buttered baking dish. Bake in a 350 degree oven, uncovered, and one hour or until lightly browned. Let stand 10-15 minutes. Dust with powdered sugar, Serve warm. Serves 5.

This recipe is from Gloria Harris' collection. Previously printed in Scene, September 1982.



broadens

us!

Jim Gold Folk Tours: 2013

Travel with International Folk Dance Specialists: Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, Adam Molnar, Richard Schmidt, and Tineke van Geel





POLAND!... June 9-24, 2013. Led by Richard Schmidt. Kraków, Zakopane, Łodź, Toruń, Gdańsk, Olsztyn, Warsaw. Castles, palaces, historic sites. Folk dancing with local groups!

NORWAY! . . . June 15-25, 2013. Led by Lee Otterholt. Optional folk dance workshop in Drobak: June 14-16. Oslo, Bergen, Hovin , (Telemark), Fjord Cruise, Voss. Norwegian and International dancing.

BULGARIA, MACEDONIA, GREECE!... July 28-Aug 11, 2013. Led by Jim Gold.

Sofia, Kjustendil, Skopje, Ohrid, Bitola, Florina, Thessaloniki, Plovdiv, Koprivshtitsa Folk Festival! Balkan culture, Sephardic heritage, folk dance, more!

HUNGARY! ... July 30-August 12, 2013. Led by Adam Molnar. Budapest, Eger, Hortobagy Plain, Jaszbereny Folk Festival. Magyar travels.

ALBANIA and Corfu! . .October 6-20, 2013

Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt. Adventures in Tirana, Durres, Vlora, Kruja, Shkoder, Berat, Saranda, Butrini, and Gjirokastra, Greek Island of Corfu! Meet and dance with Albania and Greek folk dance groups!

ARMENIA! . . . May 12-23, 2013. Led by Tineke van Geel. Yerevan, Lake Sevan, Garni temple, Zvartnots, Edsmiadzin Cathedral. Armenian folk dancing , touring, and more!

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Calendar

Note: Federation Dance Events are in Bold.

CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS

Ongoing till 7/14 – *Resplendent Dress from Southeastern Europe,* at Fowler Museum, UCLA. 50 stunning ensembles. Info: staceyra@arts.ucla.edu (310) 825-4288

MAY

- 2 *Cinco de Mayo theme with Numero Cinco & Aztec Dance* Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Narodni Intl. Folkdancers, Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St. Bellflower. Info: Julith (562) 867-4495 or julithilona@gmail.com
- 4 *May Faire Ball*, Dance Mistress Ellen Riley with music by Foxfire at San Diego, Saturday. Info: sandiegoball.org
- 11 *Old Time Fiddle & Banjo,* Dan Levenson & Bob Carlin. Info: FolkWorks@FolkWorks.org
- 12 Zhena Folk Chorus Free Mother's Day event Sunday, 3:00 p.m. at Fowler Museum/UCLA. Info: fowler.ucla.edu
- 14 *Culver City English Country Dance,* Caller: Judee Pronovost; Music: The English Roses, Sunday 4-7:00 p.m. at Lindberg Park, 5041 Rhoda Way, Culver City. Info: Annie Laskey (310) 895-1571 or caldancecoop.org
- 17-19 Surfside Statewide Folk Dance Festival at Veterans Memorial Bldg., 112 W. Cabrillo Blvd., Santa Barbara. See ad. Contact for hotel accommodations: Beverly Barr (310) 202-6166, (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com. Other info: Marshall (626) 792-9118 or Statewidefolkdance.com
- 19 53rd Annual Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest & Folk Festival, Sunday 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., at Paramount Movie Ranch, 2813 Cornell Road, Agoura Hills. Info: (818) 382-4819 or info@topangabanjofiddle.org
- 23 Andy Taylor-Blenis, Guest Teacher at Narodni Int'l Folkdancers, Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St., Bellflower. Info: Julith (562) 867-4495 or julithilona@gmail.com
- 25 Andy Taylor-Blenis, Workshop & Dance at Laguna Woods Folkdancers, 6:00 - 10:00 p.m., at Clubhouse 7, 24111 Moulton Parkway. Info: Miriam Kahn (949) 770-7026, www.LagunaWoodsFolkdancers.com

- 25-27 *Greek Festival* 1-9:00 p.m. at St. Nicholas Church, 9501 Balboa Blvd., Northridge. Info: (818) 886-4040
- 27 *Memorial Day Party* with West L.A. Folk Dancers, Monday, 7:30 p.m., at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave., West L.A. Info: Beverly Barr (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

JUNE

- 8 *The Varimezovs & Ivana Paunova* with Bulgarian music Saturday 7:30 p.m. at Café Aman, Pacific Arts Center, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd. Info: Ian Price at ianpricebey@hotmail.com
- 8 *Admiral Nelson Ball.* 6:00 10:00 at Fullerton Ballroom. Dance Mistress: Judee Pronovost, Music: Whirled Peas. Info: admiralnelsonball.com
- 22 Cerritos Folk Dance Festival, Saturday, 1-6:00 at Holy Family Catholic Church parish hall, 18708 Clarkdale Ave., Artesia 90701. Parking in back of church. Info: Sue Chen (562) 338-2298 chiangwenli@yahoo.com or CerritosFolkDancers@gmail.com

JULY

19 *Fanfare Ciocarlia* (Romanian Brass Players) Grand Performance, California Plaza, L.A. Info: Carol Silverman csilverm@uoregon.edu

OCTOBER

- 5 *So. California Playford-to-the-Present Ball.* Dance Leader: Chris Page; Music: Bonfire. Info: Annie Laskey (310) 895-1571 or www.caldancecoop.org
- 18-20 29th Annual Camp Hess Kramer Workshop Weekend in Malibu, CA. Teachers: Beverly Barr, Suzanne Rocca-Butler & Israel Yakovee.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

- 5/3 *Hot Blood Orkestar Concert,* Friday, at The Sleeping Lady, 23 Broadway, Fairfax. Info: sleepingladyfairfax.com/
- 5/4 *Hot Blood Orkestar Concert,* Saturday, at The Caris School of Dance, 1416 Broadway, Fresno. Info: facebook.com/pages/The-Caris-School-of-Dance/131852846884419
- 5/5 *Dance Around a Maypole in May,* Sunday 11:00 a.m., potluck lunch & folk dancing. Free, at Golden Gate Park, S. F. Info: Nancy Kaye at nncykaye@gmail.com

tween 1968 and 1973. He was accompanied by a professional recording engineer with high quality equipment, and captured music which, as yet, has not appeared on sound recordings. If interested in supporting this project please send a contribution to Balkan Echoes, PO Box 2484, Vashon, WA 98070. On Sunday Alex Marković, presented video recordings he collected in Vranje as part of his PhD research. He illustrated dances unique to the Rom and the Serbian communities of Vranje, as well as dances common to both groups. Many folks left for home just after Alex' session as a late spring snowstorm was blowing into the region.

A bonus for attending Spring Festival is the opportunity to experience Chicago. Arriving a day early I snuggled into warm jacket and gloves for a walk along the lakeshore where I found numerous sculptures and a great view along Promontory Point. After a tasty lunch at the family owned restaurant Salonika in Hyde Park, I re-lived archaeology classes with a visit to the Oriental Institute Museum. The galleries feature works that would never be allowed to leave their countries if excavated today, such as a human headed bull (weighing 40 tons) and an entire basrelief carved palace wall from Assyria, a colossal statue of King Tut, monumental sculpture from Persia and many more artifacts of the Sumerians, Babylonians and neighboring cultures. The Elizabeth Smart Museum featured a visiting exhibition of works by the contemporary art collective, Sahmat, of New Delhi. Other early arrivees headed to the Museum of Science and Industry. The top of my list for next year is the Field Museum plus walking tours of historic neighborhoods. Speaking of next year, confirmed date for the 49th Spring Festival is March 28-30, 2014 and for the 50th, March 27 – 29, 2015. Save the dates!

Other Californians who attended Spring Festival 2013 are Jana Julian, George Fairbrook, Mike Lipsey and Fusae Senzaki.

Diane Baker

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Folk Dance Scene

Recent Events

CHICAGO SPRING FESTIVAL

The music was hot; the winds were not at the 48th Annual Chicago Spring Festival.

Five Californians braved unseasonal cold to welcome springtime at International House on the University of Chicago campus. Spring Festival is cosponsored by the International House Global Voices Performance Arts series, the Center for Eastern European and Russian/Eurasian Studies and the Ensemble Balkanske Igre, directed by **John Kuo**. John is also the festival director. He, his wife Galia, and a dedicated committee worked 'round the calendar' and 'round the clock' to welcome arriving dancers and musicians to the I-House Assembly Hall March 22-24, 2013.

A hallmark of Spring Festival is the successful "marriage" of ethnic communities in and around Chicago and recreational folkdancers from the US and Canada. What makes the union so successful? Dynamic musicians, delectable ethnic food, superb teachers, enthusiastic performing ensembles, John Kuo's gentle humor, and, above all, shared appreciation of the music and folklore of the Balkan and Mediterranean cultures. Some examples of community support: Participants were greeted daily with freshly baked burek prepared by Branko Adzic. Branko Jordanovski, owner of Branko's Sandwich Shop, supplied fresh sandwiches for lunches during culture corner. Viktor Popovski, a hydro electric engineer in Macedonia, who currently drives a taxi in Chicago, was available to ferry dancers to the airport or their hotels after he led kolos at the parties. And, for Saturday's feast, Galia's family, the Sokolovas, and their team of expert Balkan cooks supplied tasty ethnic dishes for dancers, musicians, performing groups and their friends and family. Various local businesses, whose owners have Eastern European roots, participated as festival sponsors. Best of all dancers of all ages and ethnicities joined together in lines for fast cacaks, clapping *pajduskas* and lively *djanguritsas*.

Chicago brings out the most highly acclaimed musicians for concerts and dancing. This year featured **Chris Bajmakovich** on accordion; **Ljupčo Milenkovski**, gold medalist *kaval* player; **Angel Dobrev**, gold medalist *gadular* player; *tapan* players **Duško**

Simić and John Parrish; Orchestra Balkanski Ritmi; Veselo Selo Tamburitza Orchestra; Orchestra Izgrev; and vocalists Kircho Zhelov and Alija Dalipović, Dance ensembles entertained us with their enthusiasm, precision, colorful authentic costumes and surprising variety of tempo and style. They included Kitka from SS Peter and Paul Macedonian Orthodox Church of Crown Point, Indiana: and Veselo Selo Kolo club from St. George Serbian Orthodox Church of Joliet, IL. Dance ensembles from Chicago included: Romanaşul from St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church; Dukati-Biseri, Serbian and Macedonian dancers; Mava Flamenco; Chicago Belly Angels; Ellas, Greek dancers; Bulgarian Folk Club Verea: Miorita from Holv Nativity Romanian Orthodox Church; and Ensemble Balkanske Igre who performed a Râčenica from Thrace.

Going to Spring Festival in Chicago is like traveling through the Balkans with your friends, but only paying the price for domestic airfare! Speaking of friends, **Sanna and Mars Longden** send greetings to their California folk dancing pals. After the Saturday evening concert, bands rotated for a continuous party until 1 a.m. Dancing to Chris Bajmakovich is like taking a journey through time signatures, and miraculously returning to the rhythm in which the dance began. We loved the challenge!

Featured teachers included **Atanas Kolarovski**, assisted by **Fusae Senzaki**, **Martin Koenig**, **Ahmet Lüleci**, **Alex Marković**, **Ventzi Sotirov** and **Boris "Kete" Illievski**. My brain was full after Friday evening's introductory instruction and the sessions continued through Sunday afternoon! Concurrently instrumental instruction and jam sessions took place.

Another hallmark of Spring Festival is the outstanding culture corners. On Saturday Martin Koenig presented his film, *The Popovich Brothers of South Chicago* which depicted Serbian American neighborhoods, celebrations and concerts throughout the US from 1926 – 2001. A CD of selected recordings of the Popovich Brothers will be available for a contribution to Spring Festival. For information contact John Kuo (balkanske_igre@yahoo.com). Martin Koenig's newest project is to produce a Smithsonian Folkways recording of music he collected in Macedonia be-

- 5/10 *Iliana Bozhanova & Todor Yankov Bulgarian Workshop* at Stanford Folk Dancers. Info: http:// home.comcast.net/~genebloch08/Stanford
- 5/11 *Rose Festival*, Saturday 9-4:30 p.m., Wischemann Hall, 465 Morris St., Sebastopol. Info: (707) 546-5467
- 5/11 *San Francisco Balalaika Ensemble,* Saturday 8-10:30 p.m. at Rythmix Cultural Works, 2513 Blanding Ave., Alameda. Info:www.sfbalalaika.com/
- 5/18 *Flash Mob Folk Dance* (sometime between 2-5:00 p.m.) Saturday during Festival of the Silk Road, outdoors in the Mexican Heritage Plaza, 1700 Alum Rock Road, San Jose. Info: Kevin Greek, silkroadfestival@earthlink.net
- 5/31-6/2 *36th Razzmatazz Folk Dance Weekend* at Mendocino Woodland. For a registration flyer, contact: marilynmsmith@sbcglobal.net
- 6/8 *"It Takes Two" Couple Dance Festival,* Saturday, workshop, potluck dinner & evening party. Teachers: Richard Powers/Mirage Marrou & Todd Wagner/Sarah Tull. St. Bede's Hall, Menlo Park. Info: www.folkdance.com
- 6/9-16 *Scandia Camp at Mendocino* Dances, Music & Culture from Norway and Sweden. Info: (630) 985-7192 or ScandiaCampMendocino.org
- 6/22-29 *2013 Balkan Music & Dance Workshops.* Mendocino Woodlands. Info: East European Folklife Center (510) 547-1118 or rachel@eefc.org
- 6/29-7/6 *Mendocino Folklore Camp*, Mendocino Woodlands. Info: MendocinoFolkloreCamp.com.
- 7/11-14 *California WorldFest 2013* with Moshav. Info: www.worldfest.net or call (530) 891- 4098
- 7/20 *Fanfare Ciocarlia* (Romanian Brass Players) Saturday, Moe's Alley, Santa Cruz, Info: Carol Silverman csilverm@uoregon.edu
- 7/21 *Fanfare Ciocarlia* (Romanian Brass Players) Sunday, Stern Grove Festival, San Francisco. Info: Carol Silverman csilverm@uoregon.edu
- 7/21-28, 7/28-8/4 *Stockton FD Camp*, two identical weeks, at University of the Pacific, Stockton. See OTS and ad.
- 8/18-28 *Dancing with Donna Cruise to Alas*ka. Info: Donna (408) 257-3455 or donna@dancingcruises.com

MAINE

8/14-24, 8/25-31 *Mainewoods Dance Camp.* Two separate sessions. Freiberg. Info: mainewoodsdancecamp.org

NEW MEXICO

8/1-4 *30TH Annual New Mexico August Folk Dance Camp* at New Mexico Tech, Socorro. See ad. Info: Charles Cummings (505) 256-3807, charlesacummings@comcast.net or swifdi.org

NEW YORK

8/10-17 *Balkan Music & Dance Workshop*, Iroquois Springs. See OTS. Info: Rachel MacFarlane (510) 219-5462, rachel@eefc.org

PENNSYLVANIA

6/28-30 "*Dances from Swabia*"18th Annual Folk Dance-Folklore Weekend, Reinhold Frank, Instructor, at Lancaster Liederkranz Lodge, 722 S. Chiques Rd., Manheim, PA. Info: Doris Blouin (717) 697-8455, dib36@paonline.com

WASHINGTON

- 5/3 *Bulgarian dance workshop Iliana Bozhanova and Todor Yankov,* 7-9 p.m., party from 9- 11. Russian Community Center, 704 19th Ave. E., Seattle.
- 6/30 *Scandia Midsommarfest* Sunday, 11 a.m.-6:00 p.m., St. Edward State Park, 14445 Juanita Dr. NE, Kenmore. Info: (206) 784-7470 or skandiafolkdance.org
- 8/4-11 *Ti Ti Tabor Hungarian Folk Camp,* Instructors: Norbert "Cimbi" Kovacs & Beata Gaschler; Music & Camp Band: Duvo Egyuttes & Singing: Erika Juhasz. Info: (425) 670-2396 or tititabor@gmail.com

FOREIGN

ALBANIA & CORFU

10/6-20 *Folk Tour to Albania & Corfu* led by Jim Gold & Lee Otterholt. Info: (201) 836-0362 or jimgold@jimgold.com

ARMENIA

9

- 5/12-23 *Folk Tour to Armenia* led by Jim Gold and Tineke van Geel. Info: (201) 836-0362 or jimgold@jimgold.com
- 5/25-6/7 *Culture Tours to Armenia* organized by Tineke van Geel. Info: (0) 521-380382 or armeniaholiday.com
- 8/30-9/10 *Dance Tour to Armenia* with Armenian guest teachers. Info: (0) 521-380382 or tinekevangeel.nl
- 9/14-27 *Culture Tours to Armenia* organized by Tineke van Geel. Info: (0) 521-380382 or armeniaholiday.com

BULGARIA

- 7/21-27 2013 Bulgarian Folk Music & Dance Seminar in Plovdiv. Info: http:// www.folkseminarplovdiv.net/
- 7/28-8/11 *Folk Tour to Bulgaria, Macedonia, Greece* led by Jim Gold. Info: (201) 836-0362 or jimgold@jimgold.com
- 8/4-11 *Kotel,* BG Youth Summer School for Bulgarian Music, Songs & Dance. Info: balkanfolk.com/ bulgarian-music-instruments.php

CHINA

Aug-Sept *Tour to Xinjiang (Chinese Turkistan*). Led by Ian Price. Info: ianpricebey@Hotmail.com

CROATIA AND ITALY

6/15-7/2 *Cruise Italy and Croatia with Yves and France Moreau* guest teacher Zeljko Jergan. Info: www.folkdancecruise.com info@bourquemoreau.com (450) 659-9271

CZECH REPUBLIC

6/23 *Dance on the Water Cruise in Prague – Three Rivers Cruise* with Mel Mann. Info: (510) 526-4033, meldancing@aol.com or folkdanceonthewater.org

GREECE

- 7/19-28 *3rd Olympus Greek Dance & Culture Seminar.* Info: Vasilis Gerovasileiou propantos@gmail.com
- 9/1-8 *Bulgarian Singing Holiday,* Salsa, Bulgarian Singing & Art in Paros. Info: paulboizot.co.uk/
- 9/10-17 *Songwriting, Belly Dance & Harmony Singing* in Paros. Info: paulboizot.co.uk/

HOLLAND

5/7-12 *Folk Tour to Amsterdam* led by Jim Gold and Tineke van Geel. Info: (201) 836-0362 or jimgold@jimgold.com

HUNGARY

7/28-8/11 Folk Tour to Hungary led by Adam Molnar. Info: (201) 836-0362 or jimgold@jimgold.com

INDIA

9/3-19 *Dance on the Water Cruise in India* with Mel Mann. Info: (510) 526-4033. meldancing@aol.com, or folkdanceonthewater.org

INDONESIA

7/19-28, 2014 *Dance Vacation to Bali*. Guest teachers: Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion, Tineke & Maurits van Geel. Info: (0) 521-380382 or tinekevangeel.nl

MACEDONIA

- 7/9-18 *Macedonian Pearl Folk Seminar* Hotel Manastir, Berovo, Macedonia. Info: Goranalachki.com
- 7/16-25 *SunRay Macedonian Folk Seminar* -Vevcani, Macedonia. Info: http:// www.sunray.mk/
- 7/25-8/10 *Macedonian Folklore Seminar & Tour.* Info: Boris "Kete" Ilievski kete@primus.ca or Boris.kete.ilievski@gmail.com

NORWAY

6/15-25 *Folk Tour to Norway* led by Lee Otterholt. Info: (201) 836-0362 or jimgold@jimgold.com

POLAND

6/9-24 *Folk Tour to Poland* led by Richard Schmidt. Info: (201) 836-0362 or jimgold@jimgold.com

TURKEY

5/5-21 *Tangents Turkey Music Tour.* Info: Dore Stein, (415) 584-4367 or tangentsturkeytour@gmail.com

10/6-22 Same as above.

Federation Corner continued from page 3...

about, as if we were studying the cultural texture of our own land. It makes our dancing unique and it unifies folk dancers from coast to coast.

I find it very rewarding to belong to this unusual family and every moment of it enjoyable, whether serving as insurance chairperson for the Federation, or as president of Laguna Folkdancers, (both positions held for several years) or as leader of the band *Madison Avenue Folk*. I have countless wonderful memories about folk dance camps, especially the old folk dance camps in San Diego, Skandia week-ends at Harwood, Julian, and many, many unforgettable experiences. Last not least, I have a great circle of friends who throughout the years have made me feel part of it all. I am still active with the Laguna Folkdancers and leader of *Madison Ave Folk*. We play music for many folkdance events.

Eva Darai

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MONDAYS at UCLA Kerckhoff Hall Grand Salon

Questions e-mail UniversityDanceClubs@yahoo.com

April 29, 7pm Lessons with Ballroom Dance Club at UCLA; 8pm-11pm Scottish Dance Lessons w/LIVE MUSIC

Special Guest: Roberta Gotfried, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

- May 6, 7pm Lessons w/BDC; 9pm Learn Dances of/from Jerusalem
- May 13, 7pm Salsa Lessons; 9pm Greek/Swedish Dance Lessons Learn the Hambo with special guest, William Harvey

May 20, 7pm Swing Dance Lessons; 9pm Armenian Dance Lessons with Tom Bozigian plus tent. Live Music

May 27 Field Trip: Valley Greek Festival at St. Nicholas Church, Northridge FREE

June 3, 7pm-9pm Swing & American Dance Lessons

Swing Dance Party 9pm-11:30pm Live Music w/Swing Inc. Celebrating Int.I Folk Dance Club's 700th Week of Meetings www.my.calendars.net/BDCIFDC 310-284-3636

Summer Lessons at UCLA: Ballroom & Folk Dance: Mondays June 24-Aug. 26 See website: 400+ Free Summer Concerts, Movies, Festivals, Plays Tuesdays Israeli Folk Dancing at Westside JCC Auditorium 8pm-11pm \$7 Thursdays Lessons: Ballroom 6pm; Salsa 7:15pm Beverly Hills Mun. Gallery

13 Saturday Night Theme Dances w/Lessons Costumes Optional at UCLA Kerckhoff Hall/Powell Library Rotunda or Westside JCC Auditorium 6/1 Jane Austen Ball 16th Annual at UCLA Powell Library with John Hertz 7/20 Revolutionary Ball Learn the Minuet & 18th Century Ballroom Dances Saturdays: 8/10, 10/19 or 10/26, 11/2, 11/16, 12/7 or 12/14, 1/25, 2/1, 2/8, 3/1 Sponsored by the Historical Ballroom Dance Club at UCLA, Free Events since 1998 www.my.calendars.net/HBallroomDance RSVP to HistoricalDance@yahoo.com

19



LOCATIONS IN SANTA BARBARA



All Events except afterparties Veterans Memorial Building 112 W. Cabrillo Blvd Friday & Saturday After Party Muddy Waters Café 508 E. Haley St. After Party - Contras Carrillo Recreation Center 100 E. Carrillo Street Hotel: Holiday Inn Express 17 W. Haley Contactact Bevely Barr for reservations. (310) 202-6166 See Web site for additional information

Email: info@statewidefolkdance.com WEB: Statewidefolkdance.com

Sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California, South

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On the Scene

WEST L. A. FOLK DANCERS

Mondays: 7:45 - 10:15 p.m.

We meet most Monday holidays and have a very friendly group of intermediate dancers, learning and dancing great dances. This class keeps up with the popular new dances, and keeps the great old ones alive. Beverly will be teaching and reviewing dances that will be on the Statewide Festival program, as well as local festival programs. Join us and learn these dances and enjoy the wonderful festivals by knowing more dances.

May 27 – Memorial Day Party, a great way to end the holiday weekend.

On party nights we begin at 7:30 p.m. and end when you get too tired to dance. We love holidays and we are so happy that we get to celebrate dancing together. We dance all evening to your requests. Join us in these joyful evenings and dance on our beautiful wood floor at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost, W.L.A.

Fridays: No Friday plans for this month.

If you are new to our classes or have not been there for a while, please call us to be sure we are dancing that evening or have scheduled an extra party night or if we are possibility not dancing that evening.

For information call (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY EVENING DANCING IN LAGUNA BEACH

Susi Q center, 380 Third St., Laguna Beach, CA 92651

7:00 – 9:45 p.m.

May 2013 Teaching Schedule

May 5 **Diane Baker** teaches Serbian dances introduced by Miroslav "Bata" Marcetic, *Niski Cacak* and *Davorike Dajke*

May 12 **Richard Duree** teaches 2 classic dances, *Novozagorsko Horo* from central Bulgaria & *Ivanice*, a Macedonian dance introduced by **Atanas Kolarovski**.

May 19 requests plus brief review of *Novozagorsko Horo* and *Ivanice.*

May 25 Laguna Woods hosts **Andy Taylor – Blenis** at Clubhouse 7, 24111 Moulton Parkway, Laguna Woods 92637

May 26 is dark at Susi Q center for Memorial Day.

Looking ahead: June 2, Laguna Folkdancers will host **Wen-Li Chiang** and **Sue Chen** reprising dances from Chinese New Year Festival, and June 9, **Joan Hartman** reprising Macedonian dances she taught at the Pomona Balkan Fest.

Info: (714) 893-8888 or www.LagunaFolkdancers.org

CRUISE AND DANCE WITH BEVERLY & IRWIN BARR - LOS ANGELES TO HAWAII, ROUND TRIP.

No flying, no airports, no extra cost. Cruise for 15 days on the Star Princess, Nov. 5 - 19, 2013. Contact Beverly for information and prices for the type of stateroom you prefer. The lush beauty of Hawaii awaits you. Enjoy the islands and learn folk dances and line dances from Beverly Barr while dancing with your group of friendly travelers at sea. This is one of the most enjoyable ways to see the world and to meet nice people who love to dance as much as you do. Tell your friends and don't miss out on this wonderful Hawaiian Cruise Vacation and get to folk dance and line dance and party with Beverly and your group, as well as dance a variety of dances to live music on board the ship.

There will be an ad with more information in the next issues of Scene. To get more information and prices sooner, contact Beverly or Irwin at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

MAY SCHEDULE FOR VESELO SELO, ANAHEIM

All of Veselo's dance events are held on Saturday evenings from 7:30 until 10:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, located at 511 S Harbor Blvd. in Anaheim, California.

May 4 - May Day celebration with programming by Pauline and Eduard Klak. The celebration comes complete with a real May Pole and the "May Pole Dance".

Kathy Molga will review the Israeli dance, *Adama Veshamayim*, taught on April 27. This dance was originally introduced by Gadi Bitton, and taught at

Schedule

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Friday:		
6:30	Registration	
7:00 - 10:0)0 Dance	\$15
10:00	Silent Kolos	
10:30-12:0	00 After Party Muddy Waters Cafe	\$5
Saturday		
8:30	Registration	
9:00-12:00	Teaching	\$20
12:00 - 2:00	Lunch Break (Installation lunch)	
2:00 - 5:00	Afternoon Dancing (with walk throughs)	\$15
5:00 - 7:00	Dinner Break	
7:00 - 10:00	Evening Festival	\$15
10:00-10:30	Ice Cream Social	
10:30-12:00	After Party Muddy Waters Cafe	\$5
Sunday		
8:45	Registration	
9:00 - 11:30	Teaching	\$20
11:30 - 1:30	Lunch	
1:30 - 4:30	Dancing (with walk throughs)	\$15
4:30	END of Statewide	
6:30 - 9:30	After Statewide Afterparty	\$12
Contra d	ancing at the Carrillo Recreation Center	
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Veterans Memorial Building, 112 W. Cabrillo Blvd

Veselo by **Valerie Daley**, President of the Folk dance Federation South.

May 11 - **Sandy Wodicka** will teach a basic, beginner's ten-count version of *Cetvorno* from Bulgaria (everyone can learn this), while **Nancy Atwood** will lead our dancers as DJ.

May 18 - Lu Perry will be DJ for an all-request night.

May 25 – Veselo is dark so our dancers can join the Laguna Woods' group as they present: Andy Taylor-Blenis from New England, followed by all-request dancing from 6 p.m. -12 midnight. Laguna Woods Clubhouse 7 is located in Laguna Woods, CA 92637. Info: www.lagunawoodsfolkdancers.com/ ANDY_TAYLOR.html.

Upcoming Events at Veselo:

Saturday June 1 is the big Veselo Selo Anniversary Celebration with Live Music from the Balkan band, **Veselba**

Info: (949) 573-1585, Kathy Molga or www.veseloselofolkdancers.org/calendar.html

EEFC'S BALKAN CAMPS

Registration is now open for the Mendocino 2013 Balkan Music & Dance Workshop. We're still not quite ready to begin enrollment for the Iroquois Springs Workshop, but we thought we'd give you a little teaser. We're excited about our East Coast dance instruction staff:

Alex Marković-- teaching dances of South Serbia, Steve Kotansky-- Albanian, Macedonian, and Romani, Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion-- folk traditions and dance of Romania, Joe Kaloyanides Graziosi-- selection of Greek dances, and "how-tolead" Greek master class. 2013 Balkan Music & Dance Workshops: Mendocino, CA: June 22-29, Iroquois Springs, NY: Aug 10-17 Info: Rachel MacFarlane, EEFC Workshop Manager , (510) 219-5462, rachel@eefc.org

NARODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCERS TEACHING PROGRAM

May 2Cinco de Mayo theme – Numero Cinco and
Aztec danceAztecMay 9TBDMay 16TBDMay 23Guest teacher Andy Taylor-Blenis

May 30 Review of Dances by Andy Taylor-Blenis

All teaching is subject to change. For more information contact Julith Neff at (562) 404-4383 or visit our website at www.narodni.org.

FANFARE CIOCARLIA'S SUMMER TOUR.

July 17 Albuquerque - NM - The Dirty Bourbon Phoenix - AZ - Musical Instrument Museum July 18 Julv 19 Los Angeles - CA - Grand Performances July 20 Santa Cruz - CA - Moe's Alley July 21 San Francisco - CA - Stern Grove Festival Portland - OR - The Alberta Rose Theatre Julv 23 July 24 Seattle WA - The Triple Door These Romanian Romani brass players are great. Info: csilverm@uoregon.edu

Carol Silverman

BEVERLY BARR'S WEEKLY DAYTIME CLASSES

Note change of location for the Tuesday class in Beverly Hills:

Tuesdays - 10:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the new location beginning April 30. La Cienega Community Center in the dance room with a wood dance floor. The Community Center is on the northwest side of La Cienega Park, 8400 Gregory Way, one block north of Olympic Blvd., on the east side of La Cienega. Free parking lot on the east side of La Cienega Blvd. Must enter the parking lot going south on La Cienega. This is an intermediate class learning international folk dancing and line dancing. Beverly is reviewing dances that will be on the Statewide Festival program. Everyone is welcome. Beverly Hills residents-\$1.00 and non-residents -\$2.00. We will dance all Tuesdays in May.

Mondays – 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at the Sherman Oaks Senior Center 5056 Van Nuys Blvd., one block south of Magnolia, on the southeast corner. A new senior center with free parking at the corner of Van Nuys Blvd. and Hartsook. Attention dancers in the Valley. It is very centrally located for those living in the Valley. Enjoy some good daytime international folk dancing and line dancing. The dance room has a beautiful wood floor. Keep up with the popular dances. Beverly is reviewing dances that will be on the Statewide Festival program. Everyone is

On the Scene continues on the bottom of p. 15...

Dancers Speak

Quote of the Month

The truest expression of a people is in its dance and in its music. Bodies never lie. ~Agnes de Mille, (September 18, 1905 – October 7, 1993) was an American dancer and choreographer.

Question of the Month

For a little twist on Question of the Month, we will be asking readers for the question. This month, **Tikva Mason** has suggested the question "Have you ever danced in a foreign country, and if so, what was that like?".

My most memorable experience was on a tour of Israel with Jim Gold and our magnificent Israeli guide,



Joe Freeman. We were guests in a small room with a group of Israeli Curds. There was a band, including a *tabla* (drum) and a *zurna* (horn) player. The music

was so loud that you felt it inside your body. Normally, this may not have appealed to me, but in this case, it added to the experience. The dances were generic and easy to follow and the group was so warm and happy to have the visiting Americans join in the dance. Just remembering it brings back the feelings I had at the time. "I could have danced all night!"

Sandy Helperin

In 2011, we travelled to Corsica, Malta and Sardinia. While in the latter we were taken to a mountain top for an outdoor lunch at a shepherd's hut -suckling pig, home-made flat bread spread with cheese made from their own goats and topped with honey- served on a small plate made of cork. After eating, our driver took out a concertina, and started playing Sardinian songs. Then his parents got up and started doing a folk dance which we recognized as Passu Torrau. They did it slightly differently, but it was clearly the same dance. (I was about to show them the correct way to do it, but thought better of it). They invited us to join them, which we did. It was the highlight of the trip. We later found out that they had been part of a professional folk dance group that toured Europe, even performing for the Queen of England!

Jill and Jay Michtom

MARGE@LARGE REFLECTIONS AND IMPRESSIONS

The long-awaited and anticipated opening of "Resplendent Dress from Southeastern Europe" was attended by hundreds of people. Some came from other states but most were local folk who were thrilled by such a display of brilliant embroidery, gold couching, and unique stitching on fantastic costumes.

The Fowler had announced that there would be a lecture by Dr. Elizabeth Barber preceding the Grand Opening of the exhibit. Those interested in attending were asked to RSVP via e-mail. No problem!! However, there was a major problem in seating. The auditorium had approximately 350 seats, but most were filled up by Fowler museum members who were given priority seating. Needless to say, there were many disgruntled folks who were turned away



(present company included). I have sent an inquiry as to whether this lecture might be repeated before the exhibit ends on July 14. We'll see.

These original costumes and costume pieces are from Macedonia, Croatia, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Serbia, Hungary, the Slovak Republic, the Czech Republic, Montenegro, and Romania—nearly all from the Fowler's substantial collection—plus one hundred individual items, including aprons, vests, jackets, and robes. Each piece or ensemble has a caption card giving type of dress element (e.g., vest, footwear, costume, etc.), the region it is from and name of the donor. Many familiar names showed up as donors – **Bob Liebman**, **Elsie Dunin**, and **Dorothy Daw**, to name a few.

We did have the opportunity to enjoy food and drink, as well as live music by Rakia, a local Balkan brass band. Bob Liebman (Austin, TX) very graciously took my left hand in his right hand and made me the designated leader of the *Lesnoto* that the orchestra had just started playing. It was a privilege to dance next to him. Bob led other dances as

well. We all wandered in and out of the exhibit hall as people were viewing the exquisite garments and accessories. I ran across long-time friends such as Elsie Dunin (Flagstaff and Dubrovnik), **Marty Koenig** (Vashon Island near Seattle), **Bernie** and **Susan Ziobro** (Las Vegas, NV), and many local folks. I think there were over 900 persons there that evening. Certainly a well-attended event for the Fowler, but a bit chaotic for the attendees.

After the reception at the Fowler Museum some of us went to dance at Café Aman. A delightful way to end the evening -- in the company of old friends!!!

"Resplendent Dress from Southeastern Europe" at the Fowler Museum (UCLA) closes on July 14. I would encourage everyone to visit this wonderful costume exhibit. Admission is free, but parking is not. Check www.fowler.ucla.edu for hours, for events relating to this exhibit (e.g., Zhena Folk Chorus on May 12), and for other concurrent exhibits.

Correction: in the April issue of Scene, please note that "katchina" should read "katsina" and that "Beard Museum" should read "Bead Museum" (typesetter's error). *Editors Note: Our apologies.*

Marge Gajicki

On the Scene continued...

welcome... \$5.00. We do not meet on Monday holidays, as the center is closed. We will not meet May 27 Memorial Day.

Wednesdays - 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. at the Culver City Senior Center – northwest corner of Overland Ave. and Culver Blvd. We dance in the dance room on a wood floor, inside the main building, on the first floor. We learn and dance international folk dancing and line dancing. This is a good class for newer dancers. At this time most of our dancers are in a more beginning stage of their dancing, and there is more teaching. Beverly will be teaching the easier dances that will be on local festivals and Statewide Festival programs. Everyone is welcome...\$4.00. Daytime classes are friendly and welcoming. We will dance all Wednesdays in May.

If you are coming for the first time, or for information about any of our classes, call Beverly at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or e-mail dancingbarrs@yahoo.com.