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Folk Dance Scene Committee

Coordinator	Jay Michtom	editor@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 368-1957
Calendar	Gerri Alexander	calendar@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 363-3761
On the Scene	Jill Michtom	ots@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 368-1957
Club Directory	Steve Himel	directory@FolkDanceScene.org	(949) 646-7082
Dancers Speak	Sandy Helperin	ds@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 391-7382
Federation Corner	Beverly Barr	fedcorner@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 202-6166
Proofreading Editor	H. Barbara Cutler	proof@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 782-6715
Design and Layout Editors	Pat Cross, Don Krotser	design@FolkDanceScene.org	(323) 255-3809
Business Managers	Gerda Ben-Zeev Nancy Bott	business@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 399-2321 (310) 475-6112
Circulation	Sandy Helperin	circulation@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 391-7382
Subscriptions	Gerda Ben-Zeev	subscriptions@FolkDanceScene.org	(310) 399 2321
Advertising	Steve Himel	ads@FolkDanceScene.org	(949) 646-7082
Printing Coordinator	Irwin Barr		(310) 202-6166
Marketing	Bob, Gerri Alexander	marketing@FolkDanceScene.org	(818) 363-3761
Contributing Editor	Richard Duree	richard.duree@sbcglobal.net	(714) 641-7450
Contributing Editor	Marge Gajicki	folkmotif@aol.com	(562) 439-7380
Jill and Jay Michtom 10824 Crebs Ave. Northridge, CA 91326	Gerda Ben-Zeev 19 Village Park Way Santa Monica, CA 90405	Steve Himel 1524 Vivian Ln. Newport Beach, CA 92660	Sandy Helperin 4362 Coolidge Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90066

Folk Dance Scene

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On the cover : Tripod Castle Mountains, Slovenia

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(805) 687-8823 Alexandra
SANTA BARBARA, Gehringer
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ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church, 511 S. Harbor.

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1 Sat per month confirm 8:16 - 12:00
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dovbyrd@aol.com
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CANOGA PARK, Senior Center
7326 Jordan Ave

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(310) 625-9962 Nickie Burrell
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Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson

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ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church,
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CULVER CITY, Culver City Senior Center, northwest corner Culver & Overland, Wed 12:30-2:00

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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L.A., Fairfax Senior Citizen Center, 7929 Melrose Ave Wed 10:30am-noon

FRIDAY NIGHT L.I.F.E.
Fri 8:00-11:00
www.lifebalkandancers.com
worldance1@gmail.com Sherry
WEST L.A., Pacific Arts Center
10469 Santa Monica Blvd.

ISRAELI DANCING-James Zimmer
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(310) 284-3638 James Zimmer
Israelidance@yahoo.com
L.A., Westside JCC, 5870 W Olympic

ISRAELI DANCING-Natalie Stern
(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern
L.A., American Jewish Univ Dance
Studio, 15600 Mulholland Mon
10:00am-11:45 & noon-1:00 Tue
10:30am-noon Wed 7:00-9:30; Thu
10:15am-1:05

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Ballroom, 4220 Scott Dr Sun 7:00-12
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SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club,
Balboa Park

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(310) 832-1074 Pauline Klak
SAN PEDRO, Dalmatian-American
Club, 1639 S Palos Verdes St.

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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. 6
August 2013

Editors' Corner

Welcome to the height of summer - when many of us find time for travel.

Perhaps you will be inspired by our feature article to seek out Slovenia for your next adventure!

Meanwhile, continue to use the calendar - and contribute to it - to find and spread the word about local folk dance events (send events' notice to calendar@folkdancescene.org). Also find out what's happening in On the Scene, in the ads, and elsewhere.

And get a listen to other voices in Dancers Speak and in Poetry Corner.

Pat Cross and Don Krotser

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For information about dancing in the area, contact the Federation at (310) 478-6600 or Federation website: SoCalFolkdance.org

Federation Corner



I started folk dancing at Princeton University in 1970. Leo Aarons, president of the group, introduced me to Bulgarian dancing. I think my first true love is Bulgarian music and dancing, and that love has never faded.

I have always loved dancing and the arts. I began dancing at a young age, and throughout college never stopped taking ballet,

modern, ballroom, musical theatre and jazz classes. Classical ballet is a discipline that I have trained for since I was very young. I try to do *barre* exercises, which I find so important for staying limber and in shape. My love of all forms of dance is a life-long passion! I also love all kinds of music. I think that my love for music started with classical music and then just grew as I became exposed to the wealth of the music we all listen to at folk dancing from countries all over the world. It was the music that initially drew me into folk dancing, and I wanted to learn the dance just to move to the music that moved me!

Dance, in all of its forms, is really like "liquid art" to me. As a visual person, I can easily imagine myself moving through space to music, as I feel myself become a dynamic art form. I think of dance as an art-form that creates itself as it moves through the music and in the moment. It is often someone asks me if I remember the steps to a folk dance. Then, as soon as the music comes on, my body remembers. Many folk dancers I know share this sentiment. This is especially true if I consciously disconnect my logical mind and allow muscle memory to take over. It is a wonderful feeling to dance to music I have not heard in 30 years, and rediscover that I have never really forgotten it.

My love for folk dancing is only exceeded by my love for all the wonderful people I have met throughout my 40 years of dancing and teaching. After Princeton, I danced in San Antonio, Austin and Houston, Texas where I became President of the Houston Federation meeting terrific people all along the way! While attending Colorado State University in 1975, I was President of the CSU Folk Dancers in Fort Collins, Colorado. In Fort Collins, I met **Dick Oakes**, who was a great teacher, and he infused me

Kathy Molga's story continues on page 5...

Slovenia – European Jewel

When the ill-advised state of Yugoslavia was created following World War I, one of the major mistakes was the inclusion of the tiny country of Slovenia. Of all the mutually distrustful ethnic groups included, Slovenia was perhaps the very worst fit; its only commonality was the Slavic nationality of its people. Everything else was glaringly different. Those who recall the break-up of Yugoslavia will remember that the Slovenes were the earliest and most militant – and successful – of the Yugoslav member states to withdraw and claim its own sovereignty.



Tucked into a tiny wedge of land between Austria and Croatia and reaching from the Adriatic to the very western border with Hungary, this tiny jewel of a place is truly unique, not only in its ethnicity, but its culture, folklore and traditions. It is one of those areas most fascinating to ethnologists where multiple cultures overlap and combine to create a unique cultural blend quite unlike any of its contributors. There is a rich and contented folklore of which the Slovenes are proud and which is very much alive.

Located at the westernmost reach of Slavic migration in Europe, Slovenia lies at the eastern end of the Julian Alps and the Dinaric Mountains, the western end of Pannonia Plain and the northern end of the Adriatic Sea. Stunningly beautiful mountain scenery in the north, heavily forested slopes and fertile plains

to the south and east result in a very mosaic structure with extremely diverse regions and macroclimates remarkable for so small a country. It is no surprise that tourism is a major industry.

Never exposed to the vagaries of the Ottoman Empire, Slovenia was an integral part of the old Hapsburg Austro-Hungarian Empire. Their language is Slavic; Slovene is the official language and they readily understand their Croatian neighbors to the south (indeed most Slovenians speak multiple languages, including Italian, Austrian and Hungarian), but their music and celebratory traditions are Austrian. To one familiar with German and Austrian dance and music, it takes a moment to realize that the words to the traditional songs are unintelligible; the melodies may be Austrian, the instruments are Austrian, the music is in major key, but the words are Slavic. One encounters the same phenomenon in the Czech Republic, another Slavic people who were part of Austria-Hungary and strongly influenced by Teutonic traditions.

If the music is Austrian in character, the folk dress is an interesting blend of Austrian, Bunjevci (Vojvodina) and Hungarian with some regional variations along the Croatian border resembling their neighbor's traditional loose-fitting white garments.

The best known – and considered the “national folk dress” – of the men consists of a jaunty black fedora like the Hungarians, a tight-fitting brocade vest like the Bunjevci, black knee-length knickers of the Austrians worn over an ankle-length white pantaloons like the Croats and fine black Hungarian-style boots. Under the vest, a fringed shawl is worn over a full-sleeved



Federation Clubs

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

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

CAFE ASTERIA
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xorepse@gmail.com (310) 508-9676
WEST LA, Pacific Arts Center 10469 Santa Monica Blvd

CERRITOS FOLK DANCERS
Tue 6:00 - 8:45
(562) 338-2298 Sue Chen
CERRITOS, Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St.

CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS
Wed 7:30-9:30
(805) 241-8563 Kathy Lemmon
THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center, 403 W Hillcrest Dr

ETHNIC EXPRESS
Wed 6:30
(702) 732-4871 Richard Killian
LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights Art Center, 800 S. Brush St.

FANTASY FOLK DANCE CLUB
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(626) 454-3181 Diane Chen
ALHAMBRA, China Press, 2121 W. Mission Rd.
Sun 3:00-6:00 Fri 7:00-10:30
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(323) 599-6688 (Fri) Michelle Chang
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Club Directory

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LAGUNA WOODS, Clubhouse 1, 24232 Calle Aragon

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(818) 990-5542 Dalia Miller
SHERMAN OAKS, The Tango Room, 4346 Woodman Avenue

LAGUNA FOLKDANCERS
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(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin
LAGUNA BEACH, Susi Q Community Center, 380 3rd St.

LAGUNA WOODS FOLK DANCERS
Wed 6:15-8:15
(949) 770-7026 Miriam Kahn
LAGUNA WOODS, Clubhouse 2, 24112 Moulton Pkwy

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(626) 355-9220 John Meursinge
S. PASADENA, Woman's Club, 1424 Fremont Ave.

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

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PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church 300 S. Los Robles (at Del Mar)

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PRESCOTT: Mile High Middle School, 300 S. Granite St.

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ALHAMBRA, Joslyn Senior Center 210 N. Chapel Ave.

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SAN DIEGO, Dance Place, 2650 Truxton Rd. Call for day & time.

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SANTA PAULA, Briggs Elementary School 14438 W. Telegraph
1st Sun 5:30-7:30
SANTA BARBARA, Carillo Rec Center Studio 1, 100 Carillo Street

SIERRA FOLKDANCERS
Mon 7:45
(626) 358-5942 Ann Armstrong
TEMPLE CITY, Temple City Christian Church, 9723 Garibaldi Ave

SKANDIA DANCE CLASSES
Mon 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:30-10:00; Sat 7:00 - 10:00(once a month)
(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin
(310) 827-3618 Sparky Sotcher
ANAHEIM, Downtown Community Center, 250 E Center (Mon)
CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park, 5041 Rhoda Way (Wed, some Sat.)
BELLFLOWER, Women's Club, 9402 Oak St. (some Sat.)

SOLVANG VILLAGE FOLK DANCERS
Sat 6:00-9:00 except 3rd Sat 1:00-3
(805) 688-3397 David Heald
SOLVANG, Bethania Lutheran Parish Hall, 603 Atterdag Rd.; Corner Alisal & Copenhagen (3rd Sat)

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

Adventure in Norway

Have you ever danced in a farmhouse in Hovin, Telemark? Ever fallen asleep while watching a waterfall through the glass ceiling of your hotel? Ever seen a real Viking ship? Ever slept in a hotel with grass growing on the roof?



A trip I took to Norway in June 2013 with **Lee Otterholt** was all of these things plus more. We visited the Viking Museum, and the Folk Museum in Oslo. We saw lots of costumes, dolls dressed in clothes from different areas of Norway, old traditional style buildings, early delicate jewelry, photos, displays, paintings, and the Oslo Opera House. We visited Vigeland Sculpture Park and were impressed by the talented sculptor's many works.

We traveled in a van with Lee driving and narrating, answering questions, and taking care of everything. We traveled through areas of green farm fields, old farmhouses, forests, and stave churches. We saw hundreds of waterfalls, some quaint towns, and huge fjords with their steep rocky sides. We watched a beautiful double rainbow unfold as the rain turned to sun. We enjoyed the music of Norwegian fiddlers at a "performing arts" school where we spent the night in their comfy dorm rooms, and stopped at a popular spot where everyone took a trail hike behind a waterfall.

I actually only remember wearing my jacket on 3 occasions. Once was in the mountains when we drove through snow country – extremely beautiful! The other 2 occasions were when there was some rain on our fjord cruise, and at the top of a tram ride

overlooking the port city of Bergen. Most days were good weather days and sometimes I wished I had brought more summerlike clothes.

The daylight hours were long due to summer solstice. It was hard to judge the time of day because the sun never set until way late into the night. The extra daylight gave us lots of time for our adventures including a stay and bonfire at a cottage by the Tyrifjorden at the end of our trip.

We spent 3 days at a folk dance festival in Vestby. It almost seemed like we were back home except everyone was speaking Norwegian. There were dance teachers, live and programmed music, parties, and excellent meals and snacks. Lee taught some of his favorite dances which everyone loved. Two days later we danced in a park down by the fjord in the town of Drobak with some of our new friends from the festival.

I found Norwegians to be very friendly, kind, and patient. Most people spoke English making it easy for me, although I did have a lot of people speak to me in Norwegian first. Maybe I look Norwegian? We learned a few Norwegian words and tried them out with great success. Our tour guide, Lee Otterholt, was excellent and very knowledgeable about everything Norwegian.

There are signs on many of the roads warning drivers to watch for moose. I finally saw one on the last day of our adventure. He was munching grass by the side of the road! He was gigantic and had a huge set of antlers. What a sight!

Interested in a trip to Norway? I was gone about 2 weeks and it was a trip of a lifetime. Lee's planning another trip for June 2014. Sign up now and hold your spot.

Carol Wall



white shirt with the corners of the shawl showing at the shoulder of the vest.

Women wear the familiar dirndl-style folk dress found all over Europe, usually dark, with a colorful triangular fringed shawl worn over the shoulders with the ends tucked into the waistband in front. The charming cap is a white fabric pleated into an embroidered band worn across the forehead. There are many regional variations, of course, but this attractive ensemble is found everywhere.

Slovenian folk dance is almost exclusively couple dance and appears to come in two forms: the polka and "play" dances. The polka is the traditional polka of the Tyrol, danced gently in contrast to the more aggressive polka of Bavaria. Folk dancers have learned many dances over the years in which couples alternate shaking fingers at each other, a motif that appears throughout northern Europe. Turning couple dances feature the waltz, polka, a turning two-step and pivots.

Perhaps the most characteristic feature of the dance is its gentle playfulness and easy relationship between partners. No domination of one by the other, no boastful displays of prowess or coy display of feminine charms. There is a charming innocence that

tells of contentment with their world and who they are.

And well they should be. Slovenia is one of Europe's loveliest jewels. None, not even Bavaria or Switzerland, can claim more beautiful Alpine scenery, more picturesque mountain villages or a more inviting world for tourists. Slovenians love their outdoor sports, especially the Alpine events, and their long continued success in international competition is remarkable for so small a country. Slovenians love dance and music and it is one of the few countries where folk dance is readily found – and not just as a performance, but as part of many social gatherings.

In America, Slovenians have happily maintained their identity and traditions. Slovenian Hall in Fontana has for years maintained a buttonbox club and it is a unique experience to sit in the midst of a group of somber-faced buttonbox players contentedly squeezing out lovely Slovenian folk melodies. There is also an active Slovenian dance band popular with the polka dance community. The recreational folk dance repertoire includes a few traditional Slovenian dances – but not nearly enough.

Richard Duree

Federation Corner continued from page 3...

with a love for Romanian dance. Dick and I held an Armenian/Greek/Turkish workshop in the mid-70s, featuring Duygu Demirioglu from Berkeley. We flew him out to Fort Collins to conduct a very successful Turkish/Armenian weekend workshop there. Through Duygu, I met Ali Bozatl, a graduate student at CSU, who danced with the Turkish National Dance Troupe. He and I performed Turkish dances at UC Boulder in Colorado. Later, I became involved with an Israeli dance troupe and performed Israeli dances. In Houston, I was privileged to work with the Houston Balalaika Orchestra, where I was appointed as one of the Artistic Directors to help choreograph and perform a suite of Hungarian, Bulgarian and Russian songs and dances. Everywhere I visited, I would bring a copy of the *Folk Dance Directory* with me, and I would call the people listed there asking where the next dance event would take place. That is how I met **Marge and Bora Gajicki** in the mid-70's. Bora made my first pair of Croatian *opanci*, and he designed them so nicely that I still dance in them to this day!

After I moved to California, I attended an Aman Workshop in 1987 at the Bellflower Ballroom. This is where I reunited with Dick Oakes, who introduced me to **Diki Shields**. He thought we were so much alike. Diki is someone I will never stop admiring!

Many people wonder how I became President of Veselo Selo. Since Veselo was the first place I regularly attended after moving to California in 1987, I felt a desire to help this great Saturday night dance group. To tell you the truth, **Lu Perry**, the President I replaced, was a tough act to follow! She has done so much for the folk dance community in Orange County, and I have such respect for everything she has done to help keep Veselo alive and dancing all these years. I want to reignite this group, and we have so many great events ahead of us. One of the things about Veselo that I like best is the feeling of family there. Everyone is genuine and so welcoming of new people, especially first-time dancers. It is one big, happy dancing family at Veselo! I want to share our love for folk dancing with the community, bring new dancers into the group, and keep Veselo alive for generations to come! I hope you will join us whenever you are in the Anaheim/Fullerton area on a Saturday night, and keep posted about our events at www.veseloselofolkdancers.org.

Kathy Molga

Calendar

Note: Federation Dance Events are in Bold.

CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS

AUGUST

- 2 *Bluegrass at the Ford* – Friday, 8:00 p.m. at the Ford Amphitheatre, 2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East, Hollywood. Info: (323) 461-3673 or FordTheatres.org
- 5 *Beverly Barr's Sherman Oaks Daytime Folk Dance Class*, Monday, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., will NOT meet on this date. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com
- 5 ***West Los Angeles Folk Dancers, Monday, 7:30-10:30 p.m., will NOT meet on this date. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com***
- 6 *Beverly Barr's Beverly Hills Daytime Class*, Tuesday, 10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m., will NOT meet on this date. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com
- 7 *Beverly Barr's Culver City Daytime Class*, Wednesday, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m., will NOT meet on this date. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com
- 9 ***Billy Burke teaching Int'l dances at West Valley Folk Dancers. 7:30 at 7326 Jordan Ave., Canoga Park. Info: jaymichtom@yahoo.com, (818) 368-1957***
- 10 *Miamon Miller & Band*, Saturday, 7:30 p.m., at Café Aman, Pacific Arts Center, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A. Info: Ian Price at ianpricebey@hotmail.com
- 10 *An Evening of Dance* with the Lulu Washington Dance Theatre, Saturday, 8:00 p.m. at the Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) 461-3673 or FordTheatres.org
- 11 *20th Annual Brazilian Summer Festival*, Sunday, 7:00 p.m., at the Ford Amphitheatre. Info: (323) 461-3763 or FordTheatres.org
- 15 ***Anthony Ivancic teaching Country Western dances Narodni Int'l Folk Dancers, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St., Bellflower. Info: Julith (562) 867-4495 or www.narodni.org***
- 24 *The British Beat by Pacific Ballet Dance Theatre*, Saturday, 8:00 p.m. at the Ford Amphitheatre,

2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East, Hollywood. Info: (323) 461-3673 or FordTheatres.org

- 25 *Los Angeles Jewish Symphony, Music & Dance from Russia, Argentina, Israel & the U.S.*, Sunday, 7:30 p.m. at the Ford Amphitheatre, 2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East, Hollywood. Info: (323) 461-3673 or FordTheatres.org
- 31 *L.A. So-Cal Dance Invitational by South Coast Dance Arts Alliance*, Saturday, 8:00 p.m. at the Ford Amphitheatre, 2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East, Hollywood. Info: (323) 461-3673 or FordTheatres.org
- 8/31-9/1 *Labor Day Weekend Dance Mini Camp*, Sat.-Sun., at Avant Garde Ballroom, 4220 Scott Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92660 (near John Wayne Airport). Teachers: Rafi Ziv and Avi Peretz. Info: Yoni Carr, Camp Director, (619) 227-0110, yonic@cox.net or http://www.israelidancing.com
- 8/31-9/1 & 2 - *Greek Festival* – Sat., Sun. & Mon. 12:00-9:00 p.m. at Assumption of the Virgin Mary Church, 5761 E. Colorado, Long Beach, CA 90814. Info: (562) 494-8929

SEPTEMBER

- 6-7-8 *Greek Festival* – Fri. 5:00-12:00 p.m. Sat. 12:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m., Sun. 1:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. at St. Sophia Church, 1324 S. Normandie, Los Angeles, CA 90006. Info: (323) 737-2424
- 7 *FolkWorks Concert* at Santa Monica History Museum – Info: FolkWorks@FolkWorks.org
- 7-8 *Greek Festival* – Sat. 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. & Sun. 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. at SS Constantine and Helen Church, 3459 Manchester Ave #32, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA. Info: (760) 942-0920
- 10 ***Narodni's Homecoming Party – All Request Night, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St., Bellflower. Info: Julith (562) 867-4495 or www.narodni.org***
- 20, 21 & 22 *Greek Festival* – Fri. 5:00-10:00 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 12:00-10:00 p.m., at St. Anthony Church, 778 S. Rosemead Blvd., Pasadena. Info: (626) 449-6945
- 27, 28 & 29 *Greek Festival* – Fri. 5:00-10:00 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 1:00-10:00 p.m. at St. Nectarios

Cerritos Festival



Wen-Li Chiang and Sue Chen show how it's done.

Scenes from the Cerritos Folk Dancers Festival held June 22



Musician Christie Hsu entertains on the GuZheng.

Thanks to Camille Dull, the photographer and to Carol Wall, Federation Historian, who sent the photos to the Scene

**SUNDAY AUGUST 11
6:00 - 10:00 PM
LAGUNA WOODS CLUBHOUSE 2
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POT LUCK BUFFET STYLE
GREEK FLAVOR**

**TRADITIONAL GREEK FOLK DANCING
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**FOR INFORMATION 949 770 7026
FEE \$ 12**

Church, 20340 Covina Blvd., Covina, CA 91724.
Info: (626) 967-5524.

9/28-29 San Diego Oktoberfest, Saturday, Workshops 11- 5 p.m.; Sunday, Federation Council meeting, 11:00 Festival 11:00 - 5 p.m. at Balboa Park Club Ballroom, 2144 Pan American Rd W, San Diego 92101. Info: www.sites.google.com/site/oktoberfestdancefestival

29 *AlohaFest: Kanikapila the Polynesian Way* – Music, Dance & Drums, Sunday, 7:00 p.m. at the Ford Amphitheatre, 2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East, Hollywood. Info: (323) 461-3673 or FordTheatres.org

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. See Ad. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

DECEMBER

12/29/13-1/1/14 New Year's Weekend at Camp Hess Kramer, Malibu, CA. Flexible stay. See OTS. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166, (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

ALASKA

8/18-28 *Dancing with Donna – Cruise to Alaska.* Info: Donna (408) 257-3455 or donna@dancingcruises.com

ARIZONA

9/26-29 *DOBRO NAM DOSLI* – Tamburitza Extravaganza – Phoenix 2013 . Kolo Dancing; bands include: Jedinstvo, Arizona; Sarena, Ohio; Yeseta Brothers, California. Info: <http://www.tamburitza.org/2013extravaganza>

MAINE

8/18-24, 8/25-31 *Mainewoods Dance Camp.* Two separate sessions. Fryeburg. Info: mainewoodsdancecamp.org

NEW MEXICO

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

NEW YORK

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

WASHINGTON

8/4-11 *Ti Ti Tabor Hungarian Folk Camp*, Instructors: Norbert "Cimbi" Kovacs & Beata Gaschler; Music & Camp Band: Duvo Egyuttés & 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

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

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

GREECE

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/

INDIA

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

TURKEY

10/6-22 *Tangents Turkey Music Tour*. Info: Dore Stein, (415) 584-4367 or tangentsturkeytour@gmail.com

On the Scene

PASADENA CO-OP

Because we have been getting so many new dancers, we are continuing to make beginning teaching especially easy, but the particular dances to be taught have not been finalized. For the first three weeks, for intermediate teaching, **Marshall Cates** will teach the set dance *Shiftn' Bobbins*. The fourth Friday will either be the start of teaching of a new dance from Stockton or the review of a dance. Check our website later this month. There will be no teaching on August 30. Instead we will have an all-request program, some live music by the Fifth Friday Band, and a silent auction.

We dance on Friday evenings at Throop Memorial Church, 300 S. Los Robles (at Del Mar). Parking is free in the church's lot. We are a 10 minute walk from the Del Mar Metro Station. After dancing, several of us drive by the Gold Line Station and would be happy to give you a lift there. Teaching is 7:45 - 9:00. Programmed and requested dances follow until 11:00. Dance programs for the current month and other information are posted on our website: PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org. For more information contact Jan at JanRayman@charter.net or call (818) 790-8523.

Jan Rayman

STATEWIDE 2014 INPUT REQUESTED

The Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc. (North) is asking for your input regarding next year's Statewide 2014. The "sooner the better" in providing your input. Planning for next year's Statewide requires lots of advance work. Available venues and teachers generally prevail regarding the date. You may submit your feedback via the webpage at: <http://www.folkdance.com/html/contact.htm>. At this time there are no deadline dates for individual input or group proposals submission.

For those of you that use Facebook - check out the Federation (North) Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/FolkDanceFed>. We love to see new "Friends", "Likes" or your posts on the site. Please "pass the word" freely on any of the above items.

Memo Keswick, Federation (North) President

NARODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCERS TEACHING PROGRAM

- August 1 & 8 **Bob Altman** Teaching
 August 15 Guest teacher **Anthony Ivancič** teaching Country Western dances
 August 22 Review of Country Western dances
 8/29 & 9/5 **Ed Goller** teaching new dances from Stockton Camp
 September 12 Review night-Request a brush-up on your favorite recently taught dance
 September 19 Narodni's Homecoming Party - all request night
 September 26 Review night - we will pick a few "old time" favorites to review.

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

Next Narodni Board meeting - October 6

Julith Neff

SUMMER FOLK DANCING IN SANTA ROSA

Razzmatazz Folk Dance Club will have summer all-request folk dancing every Tuesday night from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. beginning June 4 and ending August 27. All levels are welcome! Admission is \$4. Location: beautiful Lomitas Schoolhouse at 2421 Lomitas Ave. in Santa Rosa. Come join the fun! Info: marilynsmith@sbcglobal.net

Marilyn Smith

SOME CLOSURES AT BEVERLY BARR'S CLASSES

All Beverly Barr's Classes will be closed from July 31 - Aug. 7, 2013 while Beverly and Irwin are at folk dance camp learning new dances. They will return to their regular schedule of classes on Monday, Aug. 12.

Classes include:
 Monday Evening - West L. A. Folk Dancers at Brockton School
 Daytime Classes:
 Mondays - Sherman Oaks Senior Center
 Tuesdays - La Cienega Community Center in Beverly Hills

THE FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTH, INC.

PRESENTS the 29th annual

CAMP HESS KRAMER WORKSHOP WEEKEND

"Camps Review & MORE"

Attendees say this is the best folk dance weekend of the year

October 18 - 19 - 20, 2013

Beverly Barr

INTERNATIONAL
Including New Mexico Camp

Suzanne Rocca-Butler

INTERNATIONAL
Including Stockton Camp

Israel Yakovee

ISRAELI & YEMENITE

THE WEEKEND INCLUDES: 2 nights lodging, 6 outstanding meals, endless snacks, teaching sessions, review sessions, evening dance parties, happy hour, ice cream social, and if you can find the time, hiking, beach strolling and other outdoor activities.

Camp Hess Kramer is located at 11495 E. Pacific Coast Highway, in a verdant canyon in Malibu, California, one mile north of the Ventura County Line.

THERE ARE 4 LEVELS OF ACCOMMODATIONS FROM DORMITORIES TO THE DELUXE ROOMS IN THE CONFERENCE CENTER

\$165 \$195 \$230 \$270

FOR INFORMATION CALL

BEVERLY or IRWIN - 310-202-6166 or 310-478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

MAIL APPLICATION TO: Gerri Alexander, 19137 Kenya St., Northridge, CA. 91326

Registration on a first come first serve basis

Please make check payable to **CAMP HESS KRAMER COMMITTEE**

Name _____	\$165 Per person\$ _____ Dorm: 2 to 5 persons - Bring bedding & towels
Address _____	\$195 Per person\$ _____ Room in Redwood Bldg., Semi or private bath, Sleeps 2 or 3, bring bedding & towels
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	\$230 Per person\$ _____ Room under dining hall, semi-private bath sleeps 2, with bedding, towels & maid service
Home # _____ Work # _____	\$270 Per person\$ _____ Deluxe room in the Conference Center, private bath, with bedding, towels, maid service
E Mail _____	<u>Single Supplement</u> \$40.00\$ _____
Roommate _____	Syllabus: \$5 each \$ _____ Total \$ _____
Smoker _____ Non Smoker _____ Vegetarian _____	
Emergency Contact _____ Phone # _____	

Another memorable weekend camp experience is planned

Poetry Corner

ODE TO AN OAK WOOD FLOOR

A mighty sound is the fall of the white oak, cut
asunder,
Crashing to the ground, branches smashing,
Crushing small things

And as it falls, the whirl of remembering...
Wild winds that wrenched off limbs,
Press of a brother tree fallen into its upward arms,
Scarring of scorching fires;
The bird nest held carefully in its huge hands,
Tiny eggs cracking open, the anxious cry for food,
The perilous plunge of the fledgling... and flight!

Dragged to the mill, a buzz saw cuts to its heart
Where ringed patterns read like pages in a journal
Telling of the thirsty time and the flood,
The exact sweetness of the sun's warmth
The burst of new bud and the withering cold.

Memories of the fall and the bruise of the saw fade

As transformation ensues: strong, straight, resilient
Floor-boards grooved to fit; varnished, stacked,
And carried carefully into the Great Hall
To be secret-nailed over the wide expanse.
Then music! And dancing! And springing joy...
And swelling pride to be an American white oak,
Honed, polished, and ready to serve.

Camille Dull

Wikipedia reports:

Traditionally dance floors have been installed using 57mm and 83mm wide strips of American White Oak and Canadian Maple secret nailed to a semi sprung sub floor. Oak and maple are chosen for their hardness and because they have good stability in narrow widths.

Generating power from dance: A number of green nightclubs, including Rotterdam's Club Watt, have installed sprung floors which help generate power for their music and lightshows. The floors are suspended on transducers that act like shock absorbers. To absorb the energy produced by dancers, piezoelectric crystals are used. When compressed, these crystals charge nearby batteries.

History of sprung floors: There doesn't seem to be a researched history of sprung floors. There would not have been much perceived need until recently, when concrete slabs started being generally used for sub-floors. Before then floors were mainly either earthen or used wood on joists, both of which provide some cushioning from shocks. Early sprung floors often used leaf or coil springs, whence the name; these floors tended to bounce, but modern floors have suppressed this 'trampoline' effect and so are often called semi-sprung.

Many sprung floors were installed for dance soon after 1900 in places like embassies, hotels, and private clubs. Use of sprung floors exploded with the opening of large public dance halls between 1920 and 1945.

The earliest references on the web refer to the New Zealand Prime Ministerial home which was rebuilt soon after 1872. The rebuild included a ballroom with a sprung floor and New Zealand's first elevator. A purpose built dance hall with a still functioning sprung floor was built in the Over-the-Rhine area of Cincinnati in 1885.

LIMERICK

A feisty folk dancer one night
Was accused of starting a fight.
"Don't just blame me,"
He said heatedly.
"It takes two to Zweifacher. Right?"

Carl Pilsecker

Wednesdays – Culver City Senior Center

Come join us when we return. We look forward to seeing you. 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.

BILLY BURKE TEACHING AT WEST VALLEY

On Friday, August 9, Billy Burke will be a guest teacher at the West Valley Folk Dancers, located at 7326 Jordan Ave, Canoga Park. Billy will be teaching a variety of international folk dances, starting at 7:30. All are welcome to attend.

SUNDAY EVENING DANCING IN LAGUNA BEACH

Susi Q Center, 380 Third Street, Laguna Beach, CA
7:00 - 9:45 p.m.

Instruction at Laguna Folkdancers during August will feature a felicitous mixture of classic and new dances, all-request evenings and review. Dance names and teachers will be listed on the website August 1st.

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



Suzanne Rocca-Butler

2013 CAMP HESS KRAMER WORKSHOP WEEKEND – Oct. 18-19-20, 2013

Save the dates for the 29th year of fun at the Camp Hess Kramer Workshop weekend. All year campers continue to talk about the Camp and they are anxiously waiting for the next enjoyable workshop weekend.

Our teachers this year are Beverly Barr, Suzanne Rocca-Butler, and Israel Yakovee. These teachers all teach their own local groups in their respective cities, as well as other workshops during the year. The campers love the teachers and the teachers love the campers. We all look forward to seeing each other, getting to dance together for a

whole weekend, and building real worthwhile and lasting friendships.

The weekend is topped off with learning great dances from wonderful, energetic, and experienced teachers. Most people return home raving about the camp, the outstanding food, meals, snacks, Happy Hour, Ice-cream Social, and fruit and beverages 24-7, and of course, the beauty of the camp surroundings in beautiful Malibu, CA. See the full page ad in this issue of Scene. Plan ahead, for another memorable camp experience.

To request flyers for yourself or your groups, or for any other information, please call Irwin or Beverly at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com



Beverly Barr



Israel Yakovee

NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND – Dec. 29, 2013 – Jan. 1, 2014 CAMP HESS KRAMER

We are back at the wonderful Camp Hess Kramer where we were the last two New Years. This is the same place that the outstanding Folk Dance Workshop weekend is held in October.

We want to get the word out early so that everyone will have the opportunity to think about enjoying the New Year's weekend doing what we love. We look forward to our third New Year's Camp Hess Kramer Weekend. Everyone who attended in the last 2 years had had such a good time that we anticipate the word has spread and we will have more people join in the fun weekend this New Years. We look forward to being together with the attendees who enjoyed the last two years and hope that a lot of our folk dancers, contra dancers, any and all dancers, musicians, singers, hikers, joke tellers, story tellers, board game enthusiasts, puzzle experts, and if I missed you, we want you too. We hope lots of you come. Last year's attendees said

they want another New Year's Weekend Camp. It's here and this weekend will continue to be an annual New Year's weekend.

Flexible stay will be available: Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday nights, going home on Wednesday (New Year's Day), or Monday and Tuesday nights, going home Wednesday (New Year's Day). 3 days, 2 nights includes 2 nights lodging and 6 outstanding meals, and the 4 days, 3 nights includes 3 nights lodging, 9 outstanding meals. There are also endless snacks, fruit, beverages, lots of dancing, day and night, some dance teaching, evening dance parties, and musicians jamming, and/or playing dance music, singing, and more for all to enjoy. Bring your favorite board games to share with those interested.

The weekend will include a huge New Year's Eve party with a Happy Hour, outstanding dinner, music, dancing, ice cream social, midnight New Year's

champagne toast. Expect an exciting, yet relaxing weekend enjoying new friends and surprises. There are 4 levels of accommodations, priced accordingly.

A full page ad will be in the Scene next month with information on accommodations and prices. We look forward to spending the New Year's Weekend with you.

For information: Contact Beverly or Irwin Barr (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com



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SFDH.org



Carol died from complications related to cancer of her gall bladder and liver a year after being diagnosed.

She is survived by her husband Dick, parents Orval and Vi Meyer, sister Nancy Meyer Davis, and brothers Larry and Roger Meyer.

A memorial service was held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Cancer Society, Denver Dumb Friends League, or Fight for Life

SUSAN AND JOHN TIFFANY

In the 1960s, folk dancing in California had an influx of young people largely as a result of 3 happenings...the folk music movement, Russian dance companies (Moiseyev and Ukrainian Dance Company) coming to perform, and some new male dance teachers to inspire young dancers - one of whom was **Andor Czompo**. Andor was a frequent visitor to the Los Angeles area in part because of Susan and John Tiffany.

Susan and John met in New York City at Michael and Maryanne Herman's folk dance house (and who their children were named after) and, after moving to California, spent many years furthering folk dancing in the Los Angeles area through teaching, performing, and active participation in local groups.

They hosted folk dance leaders over the years, especially Andor, and Susan reverted to her Hungarian roots of language, making his favorite dishes, hosting gatherings, and taking him to local Hungarian events.

Susan and her Johnnie danced for many years in Fullerton, Los Angeles and Ventura, and exhibited with Gandys, Betyarok, and Scottish dance groups. They also led back packing trips and skiing weekends. My very first "camping out" event was in Susan's borrowed sleeping bag.

They were both warm, friendly (John a bit more), good performers, and an asset wherever they danced until their separation and divorce.

John's heart gave out several years ago, after he and Susan had re-established a relationship, and Susan fought, but finally succumbed to a brain tumor this June. Many of us remember them fondly with warm memories of all the good times.

Lynn Williams



Last Dance

BEA RASOF, 1918-2012



In December 2012 Bea Rasof, a longtime dancer in the Southern California folk dance scene, passed away. She had a major stroke in 2010 that left her incapacitated.

Bea had been dancing since at least 1961, when she met her longtime partner **Emil de Portimo**, at a dance event. For a number of years she was

president of the Southbay Folk Dancers, and after that group closed its doors, she was active with the San Pedro Kolo Dancers. For many years she and Emil were regular attendees at the various folk dance festivals, workshops, and special events in California.

In spite of her advancing years, Bea continued dancing regularly up to just a few days before her stroke, when she was 91. And, in spite of her infirmity after the stroke, she continued going to the Monday night dance programs at Dalmatian Hall in San Pedro, escorted by her neighbors and caregivers. Although she could not stand, walk, or dance any longer, she often would shoo non-dancers onto the floor with an imperious wave of her left hand.

She is survived by her loving son, **Henry Rasof**, and will be fondly remembered by her many friends.

CAROL OAKES

Carol Oakes, loving wife, passed away on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at the age of 63. Carol was born to Orval and Viola Meyer. At the age 18, she moved with her parents to Tulsa, Oklahoma and began college at the University of Oklahoma where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics.

At the university she started folk dancing and became a club leader and a teacher. She was a self-taught software programmer while at the Federal Aviation Administration.

In 1979, she moved with Dick Oakes to California where she continued programming and folk dancing. Carol and Dick traveled all over the United States, including to Alaska three times and Hawaii (two of her favorite states) with Colorado being number one.

In 1981, she traveled with Dick to the 1300th Anniversary of the town of Koprivshtitsa, Bulgaria, as well as to Romania and the countries that made up Yugoslavia.

Carol had a life-long interest in traditional needlework and crafts (cross stitching, Hardanger embroidery, knitting, crocheting, beading, kumihimo, tatting, quilting, needlepoint, spinning, and weaving).

In 1995 she moved with Dick to Highlands Ranch, Colorado, and the couple were married on their deck. In 2010, they moved to Heather Gardens in Aurora, Colorado where she remained until her death.



Travel broadens one!

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2014 Tours

ISRAEL! . . . March 8-21, 2014. Led by Jim Gold and Joe Freedman
ARMENIA! . . . May 4-15, 2014. Led by Tineke van Geel.
POLAND and UKRAINE! . . . July, 2014. Led by Richard Schmidt.
SCOTLAND! (New!) . . . August, 2014. Led by Richard Schmidt
NORWAY! . . . June 14-24, 2014. Led by Lee Otterholt.
IRELAND! (New!) . . . July 10-23, 2014. Led by Jim Gold
GREECE and GREEK ISLANDS! . . . June 29-July 11, 2014. Led by Lee Otterholt.
HUNGARY! . . . July 31-August 11, 2014. Led by Adam Molnar.
BALKAN SPLENDOR! (New!) . . . Oct 4-16, 2014. Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt
Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia/Herzegovina, Montenegro: Oct. 4- 16



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Recent Events

VARIMEZOVI FAMILY BAND AT CAL TECH FOLKDANCING

Once again we celebrated June with an evening of Bulgarian music featuring **Ivan Varimezov** (on *gaida* = bagpipe) and his wife **Tzvetanka Varimezova** (vocals); they were with us on Tuesday, June 11th. The Varimezovi are from Thrace in Bulgaria, Ivan from Burgas, Tzvetanka from Pazardjik. They've been living in Southern California and teaching at UCLA. Sometimes one or both of their daughters, Tanya and Radka, join them; not this year; but we did have Tzvetanka's friend **Vania Paunova**, visiting from Bulgaria, on *gadulka* (vertically held fiddle). Tzvetanka also played electric keyboard, and Vania and Ivan also sang — pretty good for the bagpipe player!

We were glad to see people from all over, including Riverside and San Diego. I had John Hertz teach the dance class. I like the way he pays attention to things that bring out the flavor of dances.

The great dance of Thrace is *Pravo Horo* - outside Thrace called *Pravo Trakijsko Horo*. The band played that, and *Paidushko*, *Kopanitsa*, *Ruchenitsa*, *Trite Puti*; also dances from other parts of the country like *Daichovo* and *Graovsko*. Since some Macedonians had come, the band made sure to play some Macedonian music. Pirin, the northeast region of Macedonia, is within the political borders of Bulgaria.

As do other folkdancers we use recordings a lot, and our library is good, but all those recordings are made possible by live musicians playing somewhere. Good live music is best. You can get into a dance, and a dance can get into you.

The skill, knowledge, and joy of the Varimezovi and their friends go hand in hand. They're wonderful to dance with. We're lucky we could have them. They played at Café Aman the previous Saturday too.

On Tuesday they brought CDs and handcrafts to sell. Before I could buy anything, friends borrowed money from me so they could buy things. It's a good idea to bring money, budget permitting. You might find something you want. You'll go home with souvenirs, you'll enrich your life, and you'll support artists.

Expect CDs made for an ethnic market to have songs and other music along with dances. Try listening to those CDs too. Even if you don't understand song words you'll get to know all the music better, and from that you'll have more fun dancing. The best source for recorded music, and books, and maps, is still John Filcich's Festival Records, Los Angeles.

Our Tuesdays are back in Dabney Lounge, on the Cal Tech campus, thanks to Cal Tech math professor Dinakar Ramakrishnan. Most Tuesdays: The room is in so much demand that now and then we're "bumped" out. Our usual alternative is nearby Throop Unitarian Church.

Here are words for a Thracian dance-song in 11/16 (*Kopanitsa*) rhythm, thanks to Tzvetanka Varimezova. *Zarekoh se mamó i zakleh se* from Pazardjik, West Thrace rhythm 2+2+3+2+2=11 or "quick-quick-slow-quick-quick"; each line is sung twice except the last two

Za-re-koh se ma-mo / i za-kle-eh se, / da ni mi-na ma-mo / krai Rai-ni-i-ni
Da ne mina mamó krai Rainini, krai Rainini mamó ravni dvori.

I decided, Mother, not to go to Raina's place, not to go round her yard.

Storih dva dni mamó, storih tri dni, storih mi se mamó tri godini.
Pa si stanah mamó pa otidoh, krai Rainini mamó ravni dvori.

It was two days, Mother, it was three days, it was like three years to me.
Finally I went there, Mother.

Biala Raina mamó da dvor sedi, na dvor sedi mamó gergef shie.
Az i rekoh mamó dobarvecher, tia mi nishto mamó ne direche.

Fair Raina, Mother, was sitting there, sewing with her embroidery hoop.
And I gave her good evening, Mother, but she didn't answer me.

Pak provodih mamó pa i rekoh, tia me reche mamó ela s vecher.
Doidi, doidi libe po vecheria, dorde ne sme libe vecheriale
Tezhki porti libe zatvorile, da ma isকাশ libe za neviasta.

Again, Mother, I said the same. And she said, "Come this evening;
"Come, come, this evening, before our supper,
"Before our gates are closed, and you can ask me to be your bride."

Nancy Milligan

Dancers Speak

Quote of the Month

When you stumble make it part of the dance.

Author unknown

The older I get the more I appreciate this quote!

Sandy Helperin

MARGE @ LARGE, REFLECTIONS AND IMPRESSIONS

It seems that "Resplendent Dress from Southeastern Europe" opened just a few weeks ago – and now it has closed. This stunning exhibition of eastern European folk costume was up for four months at the Fowler Museum at UCLA. There were quite a few activities related to this exhibition. The opening was fantastic, chaotic, and had an "old home week" atmosphere. Rakia Folk Orchestra provided Balkan music for listening and dancing.

During the run of the exhibit, Dr. Elizabeth Barber (co-curator) lectured on the development of costume at the opening, and later for the Anthropology Dept, and the Textile Museum Associates of SoCal. In addition, Barbara Sloan (co-curator) was very gracious in sharing her time when she gave Daniela Ivanova Nyberg and me a short private docent's tour. She also gave a final gallery "Culture Fix" about a week before the exhibition closed. There was even a

Crnogorac present whose family had donated the Montenegrin costumes on display.

Mother's Day was a special event with Zhená Folk Chorus presenting a lovely concert of eastern European songs. And, Fishtank Ensemble gave a final farewell with a concert on closing day.

Although there were a few discrepancies on the identification of some of the items and in the dressing/display of some costumes, the exhibit was an excellent, resplendent representation of costume from Southeastern Europe.

Marge Gajicki



Marge and Barbara Sloan of the Fowler Museum