



# Folk Dance Scene



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## Folk Dance Scene

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

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

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*On the cover: Circle dance around a bonfire. Photo from FreePic, by davit85*



# Folk Dance Scene

Volume 60, No. 5  
June/July 2024

# The Corner

## PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

Run without pause to mail your registration to Fall Camp '24 when forms become available this summer. Bad news—AJU increased costs to rent camp facilities. Extraordinarily good news—registration prices will **decrease!** The Federation Council voted to subsidize Fall Camp '24 with funds contributed by Henry Rasof in honor of his mother Bea Rasof and her partner Emil de Portimo, both Federation dancers. The Council is grateful that Henry believed the Federation would use the donation purposefully to provide opportunities for people to participate in recreational folk dance. We want all our local dancing buddies on the floor in Wapner Hall November 22 – 24! Check the website <https://socialfolkdance.org/> for announcement of registration. Teachers will be Ira Weisburd and Genci Kastrati. The camp is run on volunteer labor. Thank you, Lee and committee members!

The website is also where you can conveniently make a donation to the Federation, ear-marked for future Fall Camps to assure that the weekend experience will remain affordable. Look for the donation link in the drop down menu labeled “Administrative.”

And, while you’re visiting the Federation website follow webmaster Dick Oakes’ suggestion to read: ***Cultivating and Sustaining Future Generations of International Folk Dancers, Identifying Opportunities and Barriers***, By Andrew Carnie and Paul Collins, 2024. It is included with permission in **Articles under Decline and Resurrection.**

One point that I wholeheartedly champion is the suggestion to use newer recordings of classic dances. “...the careful choice of recordings can make a big difference in whether new dancers come back to do more.”

Stellar sound is assured at the Summer Birthday party July 19 at Friday Night L.I.F.E. Bill Cope and the Orkestar Unbound will play adventurous music for dancing at LA Dance Fit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd. to fete all of us dancers born in June, July or August. (Do YOU have a summer birthday?) Recorded music requests will be played during breaks for the band to enjoy a glass of bubbly. The party will be zoomed if you live out of town like Steve Himel in WA (birthday August 25) and John Filcich in Arcata, CA. Later, John’s family invites us to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth at a festival/party August 10 & 11 in Arcata. Let’s be grasshoppers and dance thru the long joyful days of summer.

*Diane Baker*

## Editors’ Corner

We have another rich article from Betchen on dance history, customs and costumes relating to midsummer celebrations.

Also a wonderful article by Dennis Boxell from 1991 recounting his youthful travels in communist Bulgaria, and lessons learned in application to teaching recreational folk dancing.

Find your opportunities in Calendar and On the Scene.

Recent Events features Billy Burke at LIFE, and Somis Spring Festival.

Don’t miss Camille Dull’s June poem!

Full Calendar wraps it up.

Be of good cheer!

*Pat Cross and Don Krotser*

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*For information about dancing in the area, contact the Federation at the Federation website: SoCalFolkdance.org*

# MIDSUMMER

## EUROPEAN MIDSUMMER: A RETROSPECTIVE

To farmers, the celestial calendar is everything: plants depend on the sun, and domestic animals depend on plants. No surprise, then, that key dates like Midsummer should justify pausing from the endless work, to mark the turn of the solar year with festivities. Evidence shows that for at least 8000 years sedentary farmers have known how to distinguish the crucial point when the sun appears to stop moving north before heading south: the summer solstice. And 6000 BCE is not long after the principle of agriculture was discovered in the Near East—it's also about the time the first farmers reached the Balkans, and thus Europe, via Turkey.

Today, Midsummer is generally celebrated in the Balkans on June 23-24 and is called St. John's Night. Why St. John's? Well, the Sun was believed to take a bath that night, dance for joy as it rose in the morning, then rest for a few days before trekking south again. So all people should likewise purify themselves for the next year by bathing in the nearest river or lake. And who was in charge of Christian purification by water? John the *Baptist*, of course. This custom of jumping into living water was strong especially among the Slavs, from Bulgaria in the south all the way to northern Russia. Indeed, there is an unforgettable scene in Tarkovsky's film of the medieval icon-painter Andrei Rublëv, in which a peasant girl swims across a frigid northern lake during the long, bright midsummer "night".

And if the Sun *dances* at Midsummer, then so should we too! Before Christianity arrived—as we learn from unhappy missionaries—women in particular danced at Midsummer, hoping to act as channels to bring female fertility down onto their communities. Not just human fertility, but fertility for all the birds, animals, and plants that helped provide food for the community. A medieval manuscript originally written in 1206 depicts just such a Midsummer celebration (*Photo 1*), with two pipers and a drummer providing music while a boy and a young woman dance. The woman is demonstrably performing the special fertility dance that so upset Christian clerics, for she has let down the extra-long white sleeves of her chemise to wave them about, imitating the flight of the wild white swans and geese. These impressive birds migrated past in such huge numbers that



**Photo 1:** Dancing to music at the Midsummer Rusalii in Kiev—from a 1206 manuscript, of which a magnificent 15<sup>th</sup>-century copy still survives (Radziwill or Königsberg Chronicle).

they were believed to be the keepers of fertility itself. Ordinarily, the extended sleeves were held up at the wrists by bracelets, and surviving medieval cylindrical bracelets sometimes even depict the Midsummer dance (**Photo 2**). (Costume Corner: Ultra-long sleeves persisted in many areas of central and northern Russia into the 20<sup>th</sup> century: **Photo 3**.)



**Photo 2:** Ultra-long sleeves were fastened up at the wrists with bracelets. Medieval cylindrical examples sometimes even depict the Rusalii festival. Here we see the sleeve-dance and birds it imitates, a musician playing a zither-like instrument, and a man drinking a special brew (just like the woman). The interlaces at the bottom are water symbols; these spaces often show burgeoning hops vines.



**Photo 3:** Ultra-long sleeves as still worn by rich women around Moscow in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Note the slits partway down, from which the hands could emerge.

Indeed, girls who died before having any children were believed to *turn into* such birds. These ghostly creatures were called *vily* (English *willies*) or *rusalki*, and the Midsummer celebration long went under the name of *Rusalii*. Midsummer night was also the night that women and girls went out through the meadows and forests hunting for the next year's stock of medicinal herbs, thought to be all the more potent for having the Midsummer dew on them. But one had to take care not to meet up with the spirit-maidens (although they were less dangerous to women than to men). Remember that Shakespeare's audiences, too, saw Midsummer Night as full of spooky agrarian spirits.

Besides women dancing, another thing that the early clerics didn't like was people drinking themselves silly with a special sort of beer. Beer brewed from grain began back at least 5000 years ago with the Sumerians, who created special vessels with built-in strainers so they could drink it without encountering the lumps of half-

fermented barley that still floated around in it. Early beer didn't keep well—but accidental help was coming. Central Europeans celebrating Midsummer as a fertility festival viewed hops as a truly spectacular emblem of fertility, since hops vines (which propagate from root-shoots, not seeds) grow faster than almost any other plant, even as much as nine inches a day in spring, while its buds soon hang by the thousands on the long vines (**Photo 4**). Apparently, around the 9<sup>th</sup> century, people in the area of the modern Czech Republic started adding hops to their Midsummer beer—to spike local fertility—and discovered that its somewhat bitter alkaloids preserved the beer! The new recipe caught on, and we still call our hops-beers things like Pilsner and Budweiser, after the Czech regions from which the custom spread.

Besides dancing, the most widespread Midsummer custom is a bonfire: you will find it from Greece to the Basques to Britain



**Photo 4:** Hops vines loaded with buds.



**Photo 5:** A Baltic Midsummer bonfire outside of Tallinn, Estonia, June 23, 2023.

and Scandinavia. In Scandinavia and all around the Baltic Sea, huge bonfires are lit, often along the shore, and people dance simple circle-dances around them all day and through the long sunny(!) night (**Photo 5**). In Greece, Bulgaria, and other parts of the Balkans, while the women danced, the men and boys brought armloads of brushwood for middle-sized fires, and when these were no longer roaring too high, everyone jumped over the fire to purify and protect themselves from illness and evil spirits (including fleas) in the coming year (**Photo 6**). Women carried their babies, hopping over low spots, and the most elderly were even helped to step over a corner of the fire. For the young and agile, however, the higher you jumped, the higher the crops would grow, while in Bulgaria, if a boy and girl, holding hands, managed to jump across the fire without losing hold of each other—well, they were as good as married!

One must remember, of course, that the earth does not warm up so fast in the far north as in the Mediterranean; so Scandinavians celebrate at Midsummer the sort of new growth celebrated on

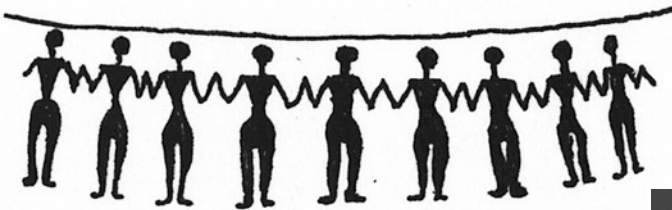


**Photo 6:** A boy jumping over the St. John's Night bonfire in Greece, for health and abundance in the following year.

Mayday in Britain and on the Spring equinox in the Balkans. The celebrations on those “equivalent” days are actually quite similar. On Mayday in England, at least since the Middle Ages, one danced around the Maypole—symbol of fresh growth—and lit a huge bonfire. The word *bonfire* itself comes from *bone-fire*, since the bones of dead animals (including those that had provided meat and hides that year) were heaped together to help make the fire...and clean up the village. The famous ribbons of the English Maypole dance (1-2-3-hop!) were, however, a very late addition, at the request of Queen Victoria when she learned that the charming ribbon dance was a custom in the part of Germany her husband came from. (Yes, maypoles, well decorated with ribbons or with colorful wooden figures, are still a part of the May festivities in parts of Austria and Germany.)

Fire, water, and dancing: these have been basic elements of Midsummer celebrations as far back as we can reconstruct—and communal dancing may very well have been in there from the beginning. Our earliest representations of dance go back to the 7<sup>th</sup> millennium BCE among Stone Age farmers, depicting just the sort of circle-dances, with the same hand-holds, that are still widely done today at Midsummer (**Photo 7**).

—Elizabeth Wayland Barber  
(from *The Dancing Goddesses and When They Severed Earth from Sky*)



**Photo 7:** Pots painted by early farmers in the New Stone Age (6<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> millennia BCE) depicting their communal circle-dances (around the pot). Note that they already used both the V-hold and W-hold (among others) that folk-dancers still use today for traditional line and circle dances.



# CALENDAR

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## FOLK DANCE GROUPS MEETING ON ZOOM

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

**Laguna International Dancers.** LID meets in person every Wed from 6 pm-8:30 pm, Fri from 1:30-4 pm, and on Zoom every Sunday from 6-8 p.m. We open the waiting room at 5:45 and let people chat and socialize until we start dancing at 6. The teacher/dance leader is Lee Otterholt. The first half hour is teaching and dancing of easier dances and the last hour from 7 to 8 includes teaching and dancing of some more challenging dances. Schedule at [www.lagunainternationaldancers.com/](http://www.lagunainternationaldancers.com/)

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

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

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

*Tuesday Night Revival* (Boston - MIT) now meets about one Saturday of every month, 5-8 pm Pacific Time <https://tuesdaynightrevival.com/> Join Zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/tnrzoom>

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

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

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## JUNE

1-2 *Downey Greek Festival*, St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 10830 Downey Ave, Downey, CA [www.stgeorgedowney.org/festival-2/](http://www.stgeorgedowney.org/festival-2/)

2 *Moroccan Music with Elinor Sitrish and Yuval Ron Ensemble*, 5 pm, part of La Paloma World Music Series at Mercado La Paloma 3655 Grand Ave, Los Angeles

8 **Cerritos Anniversary Festival. Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St., Cerritos, CA 90703. \$12.00 per person at the door OR \$10.00 if prepaid by June 1, 2024. See OTS.**

8-9 *Israeli Minicamp with Dudu Barzilai* in Sherman Oaks <http://tinyurl.com/israelidanceweekend> , 805.300.3372.

9 *Ballet Under the Stars*, Sheree King, Artistic Director, featuring choreography by Tom Bozigian Pearson Park Amphitheatre, 400 N. Harbor Blvd, Anaheim CA 92805 see ad.

15 *Classical Indian Mohiniattam Dance with Vijayalakshmi, Yuval Ron on Oud and Paul Livingston on Sitar* 5 pm part of La Paloma World Music

Series at Mercado La Paloma 3655 Grand Ave, Los Angeles.

21-23 *Irvine Greek Festival* at St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church, 4949 Alton Parkway Irvine, CA 92604 [www.facebook.com/IrvineGreekFestival/](http://www.facebook.com/IrvineGreekFestival/)

28-30 *Ventura Co Greek Festival* CHANGE IN LOCATION St. Demetrios Church in Camarillo. DJ on Fri, Synthesi Sat and Sun. \$5 admission <https://vcgreekfestival.org/>

28-29 *Santa Barbara Greek Fest* Chase Palm Park (new location) 236 East Cabrillo Blvd, Santa Barbara, CA 93103. Live music with the Olympians, \$3 entrance fee <https://www.sbgreekfest.org/>

30 *Persian Music with the Eshaghi Family Band.* 5 pm, part of La Paloma World Music Series at Mercado La Paloma 3655 Grand Ave, Los Angeles.

## JULY

12-14 *South Bay Greek Festival*, 722 Knob Hill Ave, Redondo Beach <https://www.facebook.com/sbgreekfestival/>



13-14 *Lotus Festival* at Echo Park, focusing on the Philippines' Lights of Dream Festival  
[www.laparks.org/lotusfestival](http://www.laparks.org/lotusfestival)

18-21 *Robyn Friend's Silk Road Dance Weekend*  
<http://robynfriend.com/annual-silk-road-dance-weekend/>

19 *Party for summer birthdays* at LIFE Balkan Dancers with live music from Orkestar Unbound - Bill Cope, Dan Auvil, Marko Danilovski, and Justine Krage in-studio and broadcast via ZOOM. Admission is FREE, tip jar for the band. E-mail [Worldance1@gmail.com](mailto:Worldance1@gmail.com) for Zoom link and more info. See ad.

## AUGUST

31 - Sept 2 *Long Beach Greek Festival*, Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 5761 E Colorado St, Long Beach, CA 90814, off site parking at VA Hospital off N Bellflower and Anaheim Blvd. Live music with the Olympians and friends. \$5 admission <https://www.lbgreekfest.org>

## SEPTEMBER

7-8 *Cardiff Greek Festival* Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. 3459 Manchester Ave. Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA 92007 info will be updated at <https://www.cardiffgreekfestival.com>

20-22 *Pasadena Greek Festival* <https://www.pasadenagreekfest.com/>

21 *73rd Annual St Anthony Croatian Festival* at the Compton Hunting & Fishing Club. BBQ'd Lamb and Piglets, Cevapcici and other Croatian delicacies. Dance the kolo, enjoy a cultural program by the kolo ensemble and other Croatian artists.  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/696733195731061/>

28-29 *San Juan Capistrano Greek Fest.*

## OCTOBER

5-6 *LA Greek Fest* at St. Sophia Cathedral <https://lagreekfest.com/>

17-20 *Far-West 2024 Conference*, Warner Center Marriott, Woodland Hills, CA. <https://far-west.org/conference>

## NOVEMBER

2 *Los Angeles Powwow* - a one-day event marking the start of Native American Heritage Month, across the street from LA City Hall <https://www.facebook.com/events/982716553334589/>

22-24 *Fall Camp* at Brandeis-Bardin Institute with Genci Kastrati (Albanian dance) and Ira Weisburd (Israeli-Int) Keep checking for updates at <https://fallcamp.org>

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

### JUNE

1 *Occidental World Music Day* (North of San Francisco) <https://www.occidentalcenterforhearts.org/upcoming-events/occidental-world-music-dance-day-43swz>

8-15 *Scandia Camp at Mendocino* (for the last time at this venue) <http://ScandiaCampMendocino.org>

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

### JULY

July 21 - 27 & July 28 - Aug 3 *Stockton 2024 in-person Camp*. <https://www.folkdancecamp.org/>  
Info: [stocktonfolkdancecamp@gmail.com](mailto:stocktonfolkdancecamp@gmail.com) See ad.

## AUGUST

9-11 *John Filcich Festival* in Arcata, CA The John Filcich Folk Dance Festival will be a celebration of old time kolos and classic folk dances in honor of John Filcich's 100th Birthday this year. Chubritza, John Morovich, Billy Burke, and Jeff O'Connor are confirmed, and more musicians and dance teachers will be announced. Information and registration are live now <https://www.filcichfestival.com/>

## SEPTEMBER

12-15 *Nirkoda Ba'Kerem 2024*, Israeli Dance and Wine Tasting with Aaron Alpert at Doubletree Hotel, Sacramento Teachers Yaron Carmel and Ilai Szpiezak, <https://nirkoda.com/bakerem>

## OCTOBER

25-27 *North/South Folkdance Teachers Seminar*, 220 Cloister Lane, Aptos, CA 95003, Master Teachers France Baroque-Moreau and Michael Ginsburg. <https://www.folkdance.com/event/ns-seminar-2024/>

*Calendar continues on next page.*

## OUT OF STATE

June 13-16 *June Camp 2024* Featuring Roberto Bagnoli and the June Camp Trio, Tom Pixton, Ralph Iverson, and Brian Wilson <https://sites.google.com/site/junecampifd/>

June 20-27 *Pinewoods Dance Camp* in Mass. Register at [www.FACONE.org](http://www.FACONE.org)

July 14-20 *Kentucky Dance Institute Camp* held at Murray State University, 102 Curris Center, Murray, KY 42071 <https://kentuckydanceinstitute.org/>

July 25-28 *New Mexico Folk Dance Camp*, in person

this July featuring Shmulik Gov-Ari and Nick & Melissa Enge. <https://www.SWIFDI.org>

Aug 10 – 17 *East Coast Balkan Music & Dance Workshop*, Iroquois Springs, Rock Hill, NY <https://eefc.org/balkan-camp/east-coast-balkan-music-dance-workshop/>

August 17-24, 25-31 *Mainewoods Dance Camp*. Two sessions. <http://www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org>

Sept 19-22 *Tamburitza Extravaganza* at Seven Springs Mountain Resort, Seven Springs PA <https://www.tamburitza.org/>



**NOUVEAU CHAMBER BALLET**  
*with Lois Ellyn Ballet Studio - Sheree King, Artistic Director*  
*Featuring Choreography by Tom Bozgian*

**Ballet**  
**UNDER THE STARS**  
A night at Pearson Park

Saturday, June 8th, 8:00 PM

Pearson Park Amphitheatre  
400 N Harbor Blvd, Anaheim, CA 92805

Please scan for tickets. Festival Style Seating- \$30.  
For more information visit [nouveauchamberballet.com](http://nouveauchamberballet.com) or call (714) 526-3862

Support your local ballet company! Nouveau Chamber Ballet is a nonprofit organization.



# Jim Gold International Folk Tours 2024

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**Our trips are for folk dancers, non-dancers  
and anyone with a love of travel, culture, and adventure**

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## **BULGARIA and Black Sea Coast**

**July 30-August 12**

Sofia, Plovdiv, Bansko, Nessebar,  
Varna, Black Sea, Veliko Turnovo.

Led by Ventsi Milev

With Bulgarian folk dance teacher Niki

Enchev, and musician Ventsi Andonov

## **ROMANIA: Sept 29-Oct 13**

Bucharest, Brasov, Sibiu, Cluj, Sighet

Marmatiei. Led by Nancy S. Hoffman

Guided by Virginia O'Neil

## **GREECE: Oct.18-30**

Athens, Nauplia, Sparta, Olympia,  
Delphi, Meteora, Thessalonika

Led by Lee Otterholt.

Guided by Maroula Konti

## **SCANDINAVIA: June 18-July 1,**

Oslo, Gothenburg, Helsingborg.

(Elsinore), Copenhagen

Led by Lee Otterholt

## **IRELAND: August 3-15**

Galway, Connemara, Aran  
islands, Kerry, Cork, Blarney,  
Dublin. Led by Lee Friedman  
and/or Kay Cleary

## **SPAIN: Sept 12-25**

Malaga, Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba,  
Granada. Led by local guides

## **PERU with Nazca and Peruvian**

**Amazon: May 22-June 3.**

Lima, Cusco, Machu Picchu, Puno,  
Sacred Valley, Lake Titicaca,  
Peruvian Amazon, Nazca  
extensions. Led by local guides  
and/or Martha Tavera

## **BRAZIL: Oct 21-Nov 1**

Rio de Janeiro, Salvador,  
Iguassu Falls. Led by local  
guides, and/or Hilary Almeida



**TOUR REGISTRATION:** Reserve my place! \$200 per person deposit.

Register on line at: <https://www.jimgold.com/> Jim Gold International, Inc.  
497 Cumberland Avenue, Teaneck, NJ 07666 U.S.A. (201) 836-0362 Email:  
[jimgold@jimgold.com](mailto:jimgold@jimgold.com)

# ON THE SCENE

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## PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

We dance in person every Friday night from 7:30 till 9:30 in Altadena, and our program includes a mix of programmed dances and requests plus a teaching session starting around 8:00. This month, Mari Werner will be teaching *Julud*, a circle dance done to music from Western Sahara with dance steps influenced by Bulgarian and Greek traditions.

On the second Friday, come early at 6:30 for set dance review with Marshall Cates. Visit our website for monthly dance programs, our dance list with videos, and lots more information.

[www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org](http://www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org)

Location: Altadena Community Church Heicher Hall, 943 E Altadena Drive, Altadena, CA 91001

*Mari Werner*

## CERRITOS FOLK DANCERS

The annual festival celebrating **Cerritos Folk Dancers'** (CFD) fifteenth anniversary is set on Saturday, June 8, 2024, from 1:00 to 5:30 P.M., at the **Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South Street, Cerritos, CA 90703**.

This event is sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California, South, Inc. You are welcome to participate in this "East Meets West" festival to share dances with others. And you are encouraged to wear ethnic or a special costume to the party. Cameras will focus on those with attractive clothing.

There will be no teaching in this festival. We will have fun dancing together. Everyone may request one of the dances he/she likes. Request earlier to have a better chance of being included in the program. Each group is welcome to perform and/or lead dances, up to a total of three dances. To do so, please send the music of your choice to CFD to be scheduled in advance.

The donation at the door is set at \$12. It is discounted to \$10 if you make the payment by June 1, 2024. You may send the name(s) and the check, payable to Cerritos Folk Dancers, to "Cerritos Folk Dancers, 20737 Cortner Ave., Lakewood, CA 90715-1656." Optionally, you may send the payment to either [chiangwenli@yahoo.com](mailto:chiangwenli@yahoo.com) or 626 500 5035 through Zelle. Those who make the payment, either \$10 or \$12, may attend CFD's 6/4/24 Tuesday's re-

view class, 5:00-7:45, in Cerritos Senior Center, FREE of charge.

There will be finger food served in the field. You are encouraged to bring food or non-alcoholic beverages to be shared with other dancers. But that is just optional, not compulsory. Unlike previous anniversary festivals, there will be no dinner meeting after the festival this time.

Our Lunar New Year Festival for the next year is scheduled to be on Saturday, February 15, 2025. The master teachers are to be arranged later. Our 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Festival is set on Sunday, May 18, 2025.

See you at the festivals. Let's have fun dancing together.

*Wen-Li Chiang*

## FOLK DANCE RECORDS

I am trying to help a friend that is trying to find a home for an extensive vinyl record folk dance music collection left to her by her deceased husband. The records had been used by a Laguna Beach Folk Dance group that is sadly no longer in operation. The records are in excellent condition and the songs have all been catalogued in two volumes. I welcome any suggestions or contacts you might have.

Thank you!

*Linda Peterson, folkfiddler56@gmail.com*

## LAGUNA INTERNATIONAL DANCERS OUTDOOR SUMMER DANCE WITH LIVE BAND

Summertime is coming, so let's take our dancing outdoors! Laguna International Dancers will hold an outdoor dance on the Plaza in front of Laguna Woods' Clubhouse 2, with live band (*Sans Frontières*) and ice cream, July 10, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. By 6:00 pm, the sun will be low and bright – an excellent reason to show off your *très à la mode* hat and chic shades.

Come on out, soak in the summertime warmth, and look cool as you dance. Any questions, or first-time non-residents for gate entrance, please email: [lagunadancers@gmail.com](mailto:lagunadancers@gmail.com) or call Marilyn at 949-939-0604.

*Terry Gucwa*

# DENNIS BOXELL

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*Ed's Note: The following article was taken from the Federation web-site; with thanks to Dick Oakes.*

## HOW I ANNOYED BULGARIAN COMMUNISTS AND FOUND FOLKLORE

In 1964, I went to Bulgaria for the first time. Since then, I've probably visited all parts except the Rhodope Mountains, with an extensive look at villages in the Šopluk region, Pirin, Thrace, and in the North from Čumen to Pleven, including along the Danube River. I found dances that delighted me which I've hardly ever taught to folk dancers, and I still have field recordings from my first trip that I haven't released.

One day in 1962 while I was a student at the University of California Berkeley, I had a call from the Mandala folk dance club. A Bulgarian man was there who didn't speak much English, but needed some help getting around the Bay Area and was looking for an American who understood some Bulgarian. So, I went over and met him. He was a photographer named Konstantin. We started dancing. I knew a couple of steps of the *Četvorno Horo*. He said, "In my village we do it this way," and showed me another step. I took him out to dinner and offered to drive him around San Francisco. I didn't realize that a lot of other people wouldn't have taken the trouble. He said, "If you ever come to Bulgaria, write me a note, or send me a telegram, and I will come to meet you." Well, I knew people on tours say these things and often don't come through with them. But I was planning on going to Yugoslavia and told him that. He said, "Send me a wire from Yugoslavia when you are ready to visit my country."

In 1964, after I had been in Yugoslavia for about a year, I thought it was time to go to Bulgaria. I sent a wire from Belgrade to Konstantin and caught the train to Sofia. At the station in Sofia, while I was marveling at all the new sights and savoring my first impressions of a country quite in contrast to the one I had just left, a long black limousine pulled up. A chauffeur in a cap called out to me in Bulgarian, "Are you Mr. Dennis Boxell? Come here, please, one moment." The back door of the limousine opened. Long shapely legs in nylons slipped out. It was a beautiful blonde.

She said, in perfect British, "Hello, Dennis. I'm your interpreter, Natasha. Konstantin sent us to pick you up." Could this delegation have been sent by a lonely peasant from a Shope village? "Where is he now?" I asked. "He sends his regrets," she said. "He couldn't come himself because of important Government business. You see, he is the Minister of Education and is kept very busy with his official duties." I was astonished. She went on, "He'll see you, he'll see you in a day or so, we'll set up an appointment. But please, first we must take you to your hotel." I climbed into the limousine, and they took me to the Rila Hotel, the great luxury hotel in Sofia at that time, and brought me to the penthouse suite. I said, "My goodness, I didn't expect all this from the cup of coffee I bought Konstantin and the little driving I did for him. I only wanted to thank him for the *Četvorno* he showed me." They said, "Here's your schedule." I said, "What?" They said, "Your schedule for the next two weeks, Mr. Boxell. You'll have Bulgarian language lessons every morning at ten. At noon, you'll go to lunch at famous folklore restaurants, listening to the best kaval, gaida, and gudulka players, enjoying our finest folk singers. Then a nap in the afternoon, or if you prefer, time to shop in our bazaars. In the evening, on the first night, the Maiakovski Ensemble; second night, Koutev Ensemble – all the folklore troupes of Sofia, plus a little trip to Blagoevgrad, Macedonia, for the Pirin Ensemble, one of our best."

It was quite a schedule those first two weeks, and I was thinking it was very good of them. Yet still coming, after all that, was the "Ten Day Grand Tour," to visit remote parts of the country. Several interesting folklore areas throughout North Bulgaria (the village of Dragoevo near Šumen) and in Thrace (the villages of Petrovo and Opan near Stara Zagora), the Valley of Roses and even the Rila Monastery. Chauffeured, hotels paid for, everything done and provided by the Slavjanski Komitet. I was flabbergasted. I was twenty-four years old, and all these things were lavishly being given to me as the only American to befriend a lonely Sop traveling through our land. I never forgot what that one small gesture of mine meant to a man from a Balkan country. Hospitality is tremendously important to them.

So, my two weeks in Sofia began. But as these people escorted me from dance group to dance

group, I couldn't conceal the disappointment from my face. They asked, "Isn't this wonderful? These are our best ensembles. Isn't this what you came to Bulgaria for?" I said, "I'm so sorry. You certainly are wonderful to me, and these shows are so beautiful, and the dancers are so talented" – and they were talented, the groups were marvelous for talent and skill and overall dance ability – "but it's not what I came to Bulgaria for." "What," they said, "what?" "Well, no," I said. "There's something missing in my heart. I want to see village people dancing, to music by typical Bulgarian instruments. I don't want to hear 101 gudukas or 50 *gaidas* playing all at once. That isn't the sound I love. I'd be happy with one accordion and a drum, thank you, or one *gajda* and *tâpan*. Or a small band with clarinet, or violin lead." "Well, we don't have that," they said. "We have Grand Art." This went on all through those first two weeks until we hit the Grand Tour.

After we had met with and seen the Pirin Ensemble, I was even more miserable. By that time, they thought I was crazy. "If you don't like these Macedonians . . .! They're the best we've got!" So they started calling ahead. "Change the plans! He doesn't want to see the State Folk Ensemble, or the People's Wine Bottling Plant. He wants to go to a village wedding." They were on the phone constantly. I was prodding them. "Well, do you have any weddings happening? We have this guest here. He wants to see a wedding. He wants to see folklore events. Do you have any people in costumes? You don't? Well, put them in costumes. We're coming in four hours and we want the whole village in costumes, celebrating something or other, we don't care what." So, I finally got to see villagers. The first stop was outside Stara Zagora, in Thrace. Some of them, especially women, still wore their costumes as daily attire. The whole village dressed up and re-enacted part of a wedding for me. Then, as long as they were dressed up, they danced. The whole village performed with great gusto a *Pravo Trakijsko* and at the end, the men separated from the women and broke into a *Često*, powerfully intense and delightful to watch. That was wonderful.

My hosts grew impatient and very annoyed with me and this village stuff. They were, after all, members of the Communist Party, and they were trying to show off the most impressive accomplishments of their modern Communist state. They were disappointed in me. They tried hard to take me to steel mills and factories. I was only happy with peasants. They would sit in the car bored and anxious to move on while I eagerly explored each new village we visited. They were so unhappy. My beautiful blonde interpreter pouted. "This is disgusting, these villages. We don't understand why

you've come so far, from a great country like America, to see these peasants dancing around in their simple surroundings with their crude, coarse ways. We want to leave right now for the luxury hotel in Stara Zagora, with the red plush carpeting and classic European dining next to the night club and bar, and get some real food."

At the moment, we were at the most exciting wedding I had ever been to. I was sitting at the men's table parallel to another long table set up for the women. Bread was being brought to me – home-made bread. It smelled so good. There was *čorba*, a great big goulash-type soup. Roast chicken. Lamb. Rice pilaf. *Šljivovica*. No one makes *Šljivovica* like the Thracians – the most golden, wonderful plum brandy in the world. And wines, with their rich tastes. Real food? I was beside myself. I said to Natasha, "No, I don't want to leave." "You're impossible, Dennis! You're the most unpleasant guest we've ever had! We're thinking of canceling the tour and returning to Sofia immediately! We can't stand these villages any more!" I let them sit and pout, and I went back to the raucous sounds of Thracian clarinet, violin, accordion, and drum. The wedding party was enjoying a wild *Kyuček* in 9/16 rhythm and I joined them. But right then and there I made up my mind to come back later on my own. Fortunately, after the tour, I was able to stay in Bulgaria for three more months. And yes, I did go back.

The excitement for me, then and on my later trips, was seeing what people did for their own entertainment. They loved spectacle. I'm using the word in the French sense – a gala event with lots of colors and music and food. They loved to dress up, have a big festival, put on all the old-time costume pieces. They were amazed to find an American like me who was interested in the costumes. I had done my homework in the museums, so I knew the right questions to ask. "What about that little bracelet the girls used to wear?" They were delighted. "You know about that?" And they'd rush to their trunks to dig one out and put it on so I could see the right way to wear them.

I wanted to understand each area I went to. I wanted to learn all the dances of Thrace, all the dances of Šop-land. After that, I went up to Pleven and got a big surprise seeing the Vlach and Romanian dances up there. Those are dances like *Čerkeska* and *Kameno-polsko* and *Čekurjankino*. The versions of those three dances that I later taught are just arrangements of village dance steps edited to fit the recorded music. One reason I love to have live music for teaching, as a University of Chicago festival gave me in 1990 and an Atlanta, Georgia, festival did in 1999, is that you can understand better how the dance works: dancing each

step as long as you like and then signaling the musicians to go on, either slowing or speeding up the tempo.

In Thrace, the great dances are *Rūčenica* – done all over Bulgaria – *Pravo Trakijsko*, *Paiduška*, *Trite Pūti*. From Stara Zagora to Sliven, and south to Haskovo and Topolovgrad, is where they do *Često*. Everyone is dancing the *Pravo*, and after a while, as the music grows faster, the men break out of the line, come forward, and start fancy tapping steps. Around Sliven there are many variations of *Trite Pūti*. Throughout Bulgarian Thrace and down into Greek Thrace (as in much of Southeast Europe, Thrace is an ethnic region that political boundaries run through; another part of Thrace is today in Turkey), they love a dance called *Kyuček*, in 9/8. Greek Thracians call it *Syngathistos*, because it is danced in couples. Around 1923, Greeks in Thrace were resettled into political Greece. I became especially interested in them in 1985 because of the work I had begun to do with the U.S. Greek community. Anyway, no Thracian wedding would be complete without that dance. It can get raucous. Thracians use their arms and hands in very tasty ways.

The *Šopluk* borders on Serbia and Macedonia. The Serbs have a certain looseness of the upper body that Bulgarians don't. The "natrisané," or trembling of the body which so many people associate with Šops, mainly appears in their local step that Bulgarian dance teachers call *Šopka*. The Šops also enjoy a variety of unusual rhythms, like 13/16 for the dance *Petrunino*, 11/16 for *Kopanica*, or the amazing 25/16 for the dance *Sedi Dimka* (7+7+11) and, of course, *Rūčenica* in 7/16. A basic dance form that Šops share with Macedonians is called *Graovsko* on the Bulgarian side and *Kopačka* on the Macedonian. They start to fancy it up. They add such embellishments that, before long, we don't recognize it. All the little places are completely filled in with hop-step-steps and twizzles and twinkles, especially as the music grows faster. That's very exciting and one of the reasons people are attracted to Šope and Eastern Macedonian dance.

Actually, I found more things in common than different throughout the Balkans. It's true the costumes are different, and each region has its own dances, its own style and idiom, its favorite songs and melodies. But we magnify the differences in grotesque ways. We should be studying the basics, the things in common. Then to enjoy dancing like a Thracian, or like a Šop, would be much easier for us. I've definitely found that true with performing groups.

It's very interesting trying to put folk dances on the stage. I met the famous choreographer Kiril Har-

alampiev in Bulgaria. In the early days he had what I consider the right philosophy. You learn dances from the village. You perform village steps and you maintain the village idiom. Even though villagers might not do all those dances together or quite such complex combinations, your work is at most to amplify or concentrate. It is as if you put on the best saint's day dance or wedding ever, with all the best dancers and musicians there. The stage should display the dances, not distort them. Seventy per cent of the impact comes from the traditional village dance style and technique – how they are done; thirty per cent from how you edit and frame them.

Everything has to be based thoroughly on the village. In Bulgaria, as is the case elsewhere, not everyone has understood this. Instead, it was, "I'll go to choreography school and study geometric figures. Those villages are dirty and the villagers are simpletons anyway." Fantasy became popular. And of course, with State performing troupes, many people joined them for political and personal reasons more than from taking delight in the traditions. The curious thing is that while I keep hearing how this fantasy approach pleases audiences, it doesn't last. In today's language we might say it isn't good ecology; it may bring a rush of energy, but you can't live on it. I've had great artistic satisfaction, and won applause and prizes, by teaching folk dancers and performing groups to be as authentic as I can. They tell me they have more fun that way, and I do too.

Dennis Boxell, 1991



# Stockton

## FOLK DANCE CAMP

JULY 21 - 27 & JULY 28 - AUG. 3, 2024

[WWW.FOLKDANCECAMP.ORG](http://WWW.FOLKDANCECAMP.ORG)

**AARON ALPERT** *Israel*

**ŽELJKO JERGAN** *Croatia*

**AHMET LÜLECI** *Turkey*

**ROBERT McOWEN** *Scotland*

**LIINA TEOSE** *Estonia*

**KAU'I TUIA** *Polynesia*

*Our Band;* **TOM PIXTON**

**RALPH IVERSON**

**BRIAN WILSON**

As many know, Tony Parkes is facing health challenges and sadly won't be able to be with us at our July 2024 Camp.

We know that everyone in the world of folk dancing sends Tony and Beth their love.





# RECENT EVENTS

## BILLY BURKE AT LIFE

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Billy Burke, who will be a master teacher at Statewide 2025, illustrated his competent teaching skills to Friday Night L.I.F.E. Dancers. Beside Billy is his son Sean Burke. Photographer Diane Baker




## SOMIS FESTIVAL

We enjoyed a beautiful spring Saturday of folk dancing, visiting and munching goodies at the Thursday Club in Somis April 20th. A big "Thank You" to everyone who pitched in to bring it together, and to the Folk Dance Federation for making Spring Festival happen! Let's do it again next year! Start ordering up another lovely day!

Special thanks to Terry Gucwa for the terrific dance program, Diane Baker, Bets Lewis and Kasia Lisowska for food, water, decorating and encouragement.

*Valerie Daley*



**Dance Under the Stars**  
(and artificial lighting)  
Wednesday, July 10th • 6 PM to 8:30 PM

with LIVE dance music by  
**Sans Frontières (Without Borders)**

Plus an **ICE CREAM SOCIAL** with all the fixin's.  
*Finger-foods to share will add to the fun, but are not required.*  
*Water and wine will be provided.* • **SUGGESTED DONATION \$10**

 **Outdoors on the Clubhouse 2 Patio**   
24112 Moulton Parkway, Laguna Woods

**Hosted by the Laguna International Dancers**

Questions or first-time non-residents for gate entrance please email  
[lagunadancers@gmail.com](mailto:lagunadancers@gmail.com) or call Marilyn at 949-939-0604.

All Laguna Woods Village residents and their guests are welcome.

# POETRY CORNER

## IT'S JUNE!

And the man-in-the-moon feints surprise  
As the sun, rising early in a glory of light,  
Nibbles away at the long dark night.

It's June and green nasturtiums climb fences  
And flaunt fragrant flowers of orange and gold  
And mourning doves act amorous and bold

It's June and radiant sunlight signals summer  
And festivals chock-full of dancing days  
And vacations at the beach, catching rays.  
It's June!



*Camille Dull*



***Let's Dance!***  
The Magazine of International  
Folk Dance

Join the Folk Dance Federation of California  
and receive *Let's Dance!*  
10 issues for \$35/year

### **The where, when, how and who of International Folk Dancing**

Membership application  
available on line at [www.folkdance.com](http://www.folkdance.com).  
Pay on-line or send application with check to  
Marsha Rosenblatt, Membership,  
927 Springfield Drive  
Millbrae, CA 94030



DIANE BAKER & FRIDAY NIGHT L.I.F.E. PRESENT

2024  
**SUMMER**  
*Birthday Party*

LIVE MUSIC WITH:

**ORKESTAR UNBOUND**

**JULY 19TH | FRIDAY**  
**8 PM - 11PM PT**

**LA DANCEFIT & VIA ZOOM**

**FREE ENTRY**

[@lifebalkandancers/](https://www.instagram.com/lifebalkandancers/)[worldance1@gmail.com](mailto:worldance1@gmail.com)

# CLUB DIRECTORY

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

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

## Federation Clubs

**Bay Osos Folk Dancers:** Tue 11:00-3:00. South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Ave, **Los Osos**. 818-203-5812 [wburke.dance@gmail.com](mailto:wburke.dance@gmail.com) Billy Burke, [BayOsosFolkDancers.org](http://BayOsosFolkDancers.org).

\***Cabrillo Folk Dancers:** Tue 7:00-9:30 (Beg 7-8). Balboa Park. Balboa Park Club, 2144 Pan American, **SAN DIEGO**. (858) 459-1336 [gbsham@gmail.com](mailto:gbsham@gmail.com) Georgina, 858-722-0489 [yueugenia@yahoo.com](mailto:yueugenia@yahoo.com) Chin Yu, [sites.google.com/site/cabrillodancers](https://sites.google.com/site/cabrillodancers)

**Cerritos Folk Dancers:** 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Tue 5:00-7:45 Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St, **CERRITOS**. (626) 500-5035

[chiangwenli@yahoo.com](mailto:chiangwenli@yahoo.com) Wen Chiang

**Conejo Valley Folk Dancers:** Wed 7:30-9:30. Hillcrest Center for the Arts, 403 W Hillcrest Dr, **THOUSAND OAKS**. [paula.davis@bucknell.edu](mailto:paula.davis@bucknell.edu), Paula, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/265181362778249>

**Fantasy Folk Dance Club:** Sun 3:00 - 7:00. St Thomas Aquinas Church, 1501 S Atlantic Blvd, **MONTEREY PARK**. [vincentyhcheng@gmail.com](mailto:vincentyhcheng@gmail.com) 626-429-9008 Vincent Cheng. Sat 10-noon. Langley Senior Center, 400 W Emerson Ave., **Monterey Park**. (626) 673-2184 Peter Lin

**Folk Dance Center:** Wed 9:30-11:30am, Sat 7-10 . Oasis Wellness Center, 5500 Grossmont Center Dr, **La Mesa**. [jknappster@gmail.com](mailto:jknappster@gmail.com) John, [www.folkdancecenter.org](http://www.folkdancecenter.org)

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

**Kypseli Greek Folk Dancing:** Friday, 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. 310-508-9676 Anne Sirota. [www.kypseli.org](http://www.kypseli.org)

**Laguna Int'l Dancers:** Wed 6:00-8:30 at Clubhouse 2, 24112 Moulton Pkwy, **LAGUNA WOODS**. Fri 1:30-4:00 at Clubhouse 7 24111 Moulton Pkwy, **Laguna Woods**. Sun 6:00-8:00 on Zoom. [leeotterholt@yahoo.com](mailto:leeotterholt@yahoo.com) Lee. [www.lagunainternationaldancers.com](http://www.lagunainternationaldancers.com)

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

**Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op:** Fri 7:30-9:30. Altadena Community Church, 943 E Altadena Dr, **Altadena**. [info@pasadenafolkdancecoop.org](mailto:info@pasadenafolkdancecoop.org) 626-808-0361 Mari Werner [www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org](http://www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org)

**Prescott Int'l Folkdancers:** Sun 2:00-4:00. Prescott Boys & Girls Club, 335 East Aubrey St, **PRESCOTT, AZ**. Wed 6:00-8:00 (June -Aug)(Call to confirm). Ken Lindley Park gazebo, 702 E. Gurley St, **Prescott, AZ** (928) 925-8995 Dick Weston [Prescott.intl.folkdancers@earthlink.net](mailto:Prescott.intl.folkdancers@earthlink.net). [www.prescottinternationalfolkdancers.org/](http://www.prescottinternationalfolkdancers.org/)

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

**Solvang Village Folk Dancers:** Sat 6:00-8:00  
(except 3rd Sat). Buellton Recreation Center, 301  
2nd St, **Buellton**. 3rd Sat 1:30-3:30. Corner Alisal  
& Copenhagen, **Solvang** (805) 688-3397  
dlh4362@gmail.com David Heald  
www.svfolkdance.com

**Ventura Int'l Folkdancers:** Tue&Thu 1:30-3:00.  
2nd Sun 1:30-3:30 (may change due to conflicts -  
check with Valerie). Ventura YMCA, 3760  
Telegraph Rd, **Ventura**. Non-members check with  
Valerie first. (805) 746-0884  
dancing.valerie@gmail.com Valerie Daley.  
www.facebook.com/profile.php?  
id=100067987230157

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

**West Valley Folk Dancers:** Wed 2:30-4:30  
OneGeneration, 18255 Victory Blvd. **Reseda**. Fri  
3:00-4:00. Canoga Park Sr. Ctr. 7326 Jordan Ave.  
**Canoga Park**. (818) 368-1957.  
jaymichtom@yahoo.com. Jay Michtom,  
psw20@icloud.com Paul Waller,  
WestValleyFolkDancers.org

**Westside Folkdancers:** Tue 7:30-9:30. Culver City  
Foshay Lodge, 9635 Venice Blvd, **CULVER CITY**.  
(310) 391-7382 sandyhelperin@icloud.com  
Sandy Helperin

## Exhibition Groups

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

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

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

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

## Non-Federation Clubs

**Caltech Folkdancers:** Tue 7:30. Caltech Campus,  
Dabney Hall, parking on California Blvd. or Throop  
Church, 300 Los Robles, **Pasadena**. (626) 797-5157  
Nancy Milligan

**Claremont Israeli Dancers:** Mon 7:00-10:00  
Masonic Lodge, 272 W. 8th St, **CLAREMONT**. (909)  
921-7115 Yael

**Desert Dancers:** Thu 7:00-9:00 Nov-April. Hi  
Desert Dance Center, 725 S. Gateway St,  
**RIDGECREST**. (760) 371-5669 Nora Nuckles

**Desert Int'l Folk Dancers:** Tue 2:00-4:00 Nov-Apr.  
Step by Step Dance Studio, 316 N Palm  
Canyon, **PALM SPRINGS**. (760) 342-1297 Helen  
Smith

\***Foothill Folk Dancers:** Thu 8:00-10:00. St.  
George's Episcopal Church, 808 Foothill Blvd., **LA**  
**CAÑADA** (818) 790-8523 JanRayman@charter.net  
www.Foothill.Dance

**Friday Night L.I.F.E.:** Fri 8:00-11:00. LA DanceFit  
Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd **WEST L.A**  
www.lifebalkandancers.com  
worldance1@gmail.com Sherry Cochran

**Israeli Dancing-James Zimmer:** Tue 8:00-12:00.  
Westside JCC, 5870 W Olympic, L.A. (310) 284-3638 James Zimmer israelidance@yahoo.com

**\*Israeli Dancing @ AJU-Natalie & Pat:** Mon 10:30am-1:00, noon-1:00(Beg); Thu 10:30am-11:30. American Jewish Univ Dance Studio, 15600 Mulholland, L.A 818-642-3585 Pat Jordan

**Israeli Dancing-Yoni Carr:** Mon 7:00-11:30  
Beginners at 7:00. Infinity Sport Dance Center, 4428 Convoy St, SAN DIEGO. (619) 227-0110 Yoni

**San Diego Folk Dancers:** Mon 7:30-9:00. Balboa Park Club, Balboa Park, SAN DIEGO (858) 278-4619 Jeanne Cate

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

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

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

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

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

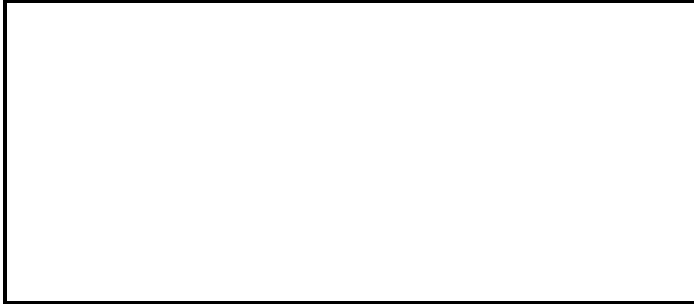
**UCLA Ballroom Club & UCLA Int'l Folkdancers:**  
Cultural, Historical & Ballroom: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat. St. Albans Social Hall, 580 Hilgard Ave, WESTWOOD. (310) 284-3636 James Zimmer. See website for details:  
ballroom2.wixsite.com/westwoodballroom

**\*Westside Daytime Folkdancers:** Wed 12:30-2.  
Culver City Senior Center 4095 Overland Blvd, Culver City. sandysmail1000@gmail.com, (310) 391-7382 Sandy Helperin



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