



Folk Dance Scene



Published by the Folkdance Federation of California, South

Volume 60, No. 8

October 2024

Folk Dance Scene Committee

Coordinator	Jay Michtom	editor@FolkDanceScene.org	818.368.1957
Calendar	Fran Prevas	calendar@FolkDanceScene.org	310.921.2860
On the Scene		ots@FolkDanceScene.org	818.368.1957
Club Directory	Steve Himel	directory@FolkDanceScene.org	949.646.7082
Dancers Speak	Sandy Helperin	ds@FolkDanceScene.org	310.391.7382
Last Dance	Carl Pilsecker	lastdance@FolkDanceScene.org	562.865.0873
Proofreading Editor	Carl Pilsecker	proof@FolkDanceScene.org	562.865.0873
Design and Layout Editors	Pat Cross, Don Krotser	design@FolkDanceScene.org	323.255.3809
Business Manager	Jan Rayman	business@FolkDanceScene.org	818.790.8523
Contributing Editor	Elizabeth Wayland Barber		
Circulation	Sandy Helperin	circulation@FolkDanceScene.org	310.391.7382
Subscriptions	Jan Rayman	subscriptions@FolkDanceScene.org	818.790.8523
Advertising	Steve Himel	ads@FolkDanceScene.org	949.646.7082
Jill and Jay Michtom 10824 Crebs Ave. Northridge, CA 91326	Jan Rayman 4827 Grand Ave La Cañada, CA 91011	Sandy Helperin 4362 Coolidge Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90066	

Folk Dance Scene

Copyright 2024 by the Folk Dance Federation of California, South, Inc., of which this is the official publication. All rights reserved. *Folk Dance Scene* is published ten times per year on a monthly basis except for combined issues in June/July and December/January.

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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Subscription orders and renewals should be addressed to Jan Rayman. Annual submission rates are: \$10 for pdf via email, or \$25 USA, \$30 Canada for a print version (other foreign subscriptions available by email only). Payment should be made to Folk Dance Federation of Calif., South. Change of address or circulation problems should be addressed to Jan Rayman; see table above.

ADVERTISING: Ads must be consistent with the purposes of the magazine, accompanied by full payment, and either camera ready on bright white paper or in 300 dpi electronic format (TIF, JPG, or PDF). Ads that are not camera ready will be returned. Payment should be made to Folk Dance Federation of Calif., South.

Size (width x length)	Federation Club	Others	Payment to:
1/4 page (3" x 3 1/2")	\$10	\$15	Folk Dance Federation of Calif., South
1/2 page (6" x 3 3/4" or 3" x 7 1/2")	\$15	\$25	121 101st Ave NE
Full page (6" x 7 1/2")	\$25	\$40	Lake Stevens, WA 98258

On the cover: Translation of the Hungarian "It is still a tradition" -photo from Betchen Barber



Folk Dance Scene

Volume 60, No. 8
October 2024

The Corner

Editors' Corner

Be sure to read Dancers Speak on page 18. There is some important news about subscriptions to Scene.

Betchen contributes two articles in this issue: on courtship, and on men's costumes in a particular part of Hungary. We appreciate the extent of her personal experience and lifetime scholarship shared with us!

Find your up-coming opportunities in Calendar and On the Scene.

Camille contributes a poem with a surprise in this issue.

Also included in this issue are Recent Events and the Club Directory.

Be of good cheer!

Pat Cross and Don Krotser

Table of Contents

The Corner	3
Courting in Hungary	4
Costume Corner	6
Calendar	14
On the Scene.....	16
Poetry Corner	17
Dancers Speak.....	18
Recent Events.....	20
Club Directory.....	22

Federation South Officers

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

Have you enjoyed your endocannabinoid cocktail today? No mixing, shaking, stirring, olives nor shaved ice are required. Exercise generates multiple chemicals that affect our emotional state and outlook on life. Endocannabinoids—"home grown" cannabis—provide a natural cheer. According to the "Well" column of the NY Times July 30, 2024 endocannabinoids, dopamine, serotonin, oxytocin are all produced during exercise. These neurotransmitters exert positive influence on the brain. The caveat is that the benefit kicks in after 20 minutes of continuous moderate to vigorous activity. Exercising in a group, especially dancing, appears to increase the flow of oxytocin, pleasure and social bonding. Read the entire article at

https://www.nytimes.com/2024/07/30/well/move/exercise-boost-mood.html?unlocked_article_code=1.LE4.m2_N.FusrwAkAKR7v&smid=url-share

Who else besides me wants a daily cocktail? Should we rename our organization "Folk Dance Anonymous of CA, South"?

Last month I listened to the audio book *Muscle* by Roy A. Meals, MD, and gained even more appreciation for muscles' efficiency as force generating motors. I also learned that muscles are hormone producing organs. During contractions muscles make multiple proteins, "myokines," that interact with other tissues for diverse beneficial effects. More good reasons to keep dancing, walking and working out. (And, to listen to audio books while driving to folk dance events like North South Teaching Seminar in Aptos and Fall Camp in Simi Valley.)

No driving required to participate in zoomed events at home. Dale Adamson has resumed Bhangra sessions on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Class time and zoom links for Bhangra, Chair Dancing & other activities to do at home with zoom dance friends are updated daily in the calendar <https://daleadamson.online/events-calendar/>.

On September 24 Nancy Ruyter received honors as the Helena Modjeska Cultural Legacy Visionary Artist during the Orange Arts Award Ceremony at Samueli Hall. Vice President Greg Solloway and I represented the Federation to congratulate Nancy.

Continued on page 5

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

COURTING IN HUNGARY

The Hungarians—or Magyar, as they call themselves (**Photo 1**)—live right in the center of Europe, yet speak a language unrelated to any of their neighbors! The Slavic, Germanic, Romance, and even Albanian speakers, who almost entirely fill up Europe, all speak varieties of the “Indo-European” language family (which, yes, reaches all the way to India). But not the Hungarians, who as nomadic herders moved southwestward out of their Central Asian homeland just east of the Urals some 3000 years ago, first into eastern Europe, and finally reaching their present location in the 9th century. So if you go to Hungary, you won’t recognize a word: they haven’t even borrowed the usual words for *hotel* and *restaurant*! (Their closest linguistic relatives include Finnic and other peoples of the far north.)

Photo 1: Hungarian (Magyar) stamp showing Hortobagy swineherd in full costume.



Being so isolated linguistically, the Magyar also retained many old indigenous customs, until conversion to Catholicism, followed eventually by urbanization, began to shift things. Until World War II mixed people together and provided far more roads, the village customs remained archaic and quite different from city ways. One interesting example—since it often involved dancing—is the set of customs of courting. How *did* villagers go about acquiring a mate? [Much of the information for the rest of this article came from the 1975 essay “Hungarian Pre-Wedding Customs” by Andor and Ann Czombo.]

The ages of prospective spouses were somewhat different. Girls became eligible to marry between roughly 14 and 18, often when they finished school.

But boys had to finish their years of service as a soldier first, hence they might be 25 or more. Village children usually knew each other, of course, and might have chosen a sweetheart, or *szeretője*, early. But this could make life difficult when the debonair army recruiters came around, strutting their showiest, boot-slapping *Verbunk* dances and flirting with the girls till the poor village boys had to sign up to win their girls back! (*Verbunk* is actually a loanword from German *Werbung* “recruiting”.)

All the villagers knew who was “available”. The girl, known as *eladó lány* or “girl for sale”, was given a *ceger*—a pole bedecked with ribbons, red corn, and a pitcher on top, set up in front of her house. (Marriage no longer actually involved *selling* the bride, but the term long survived that custom, which had replaced the even older custom of kidnapping her.) In Transylvania, the boy used to receive a silver coin from his father with which to (symbolically) “buy” a wife. He would offer it to the girl of his choice—but she had the option of handing him a basket to show refusal! Usually, however, the young people had ample time and place to make up their own minds. The young men could visit the girls as they sat together spinning, weaving, and embroidering their future trousseaus (**Photo 2**); or chat with them on “girl’s day” (generally Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays), standing together at the gate to a girl’s yard; or join in the dancing all afternoon in the village square after mass on Sundays—a custom that I saw still in full swing during the 1980s, and which was shared with most of Hungary’s Slavic neighbors.

In general, marriages took place within the village, in which case a whole series of visits back and forth occurred between the two households: first to sound out whether both families were OK with this, then to clinch it with a ritual full of delightful symbolism (once again shared with, for example, the South Slavs). The young man would arrive at the girl’s house with his parents, relatives, and perhaps friends too, making a lot of noise to let everyone around know that the official *leánykérés* “asking about the girl” was about to happen. They would ask, for example, if the family could supply them with a mate for their dove, or a flower to grow beside their own flower. Usually the girl was supplied in answer...but if the family had changed its mind, the boy’s coat was set out on the front porch.

Once the engagement was official—signaled by

the *kézfogás*, or “handshaking” and an exchange of gifts—the boy was free to visit the girl any day of the week, and indoors (not just at the gate!). And she could finally visit *his* family.

If the girl came from a different village, she continued to wear the folk costume from her own village after marriage. This is unusual in the Balkans, where the bride had to wear a simple version of her *new* village’s costume. (It was simple, unfortunately, because she had not had her whole childhood to make and lavishly embroider it. The elaborate one she had made at home she could wear no longer, her work wasted.) The one place in Hungary, apparently, where the girl was expected to change to the local dress was in Mezőkövesd, the center of the Matyó area. For the story of the gorgeous Matyó costumes, see Costume Corner in this issue, and the next, of SCENE.

—Elizabeth Wayland Barber



Photo 2: Hungarian “working bee”: girls spinning, chaperone reading aloud, and boys doing small wood-work and entertaining everyone with music.

President’s Corner continued from page 3.

Read about Nancy’s multiple contributions to dance, folk dancing and the humanities on the Federation website, https://socalfolkdance.org/master_teachers.htm

I’m especially grateful to Nancy for supporting the 2019 Statewide Festival in Claremont. Another Southern California master teacher who contributed immeasurably to Statewide 2019, Dr. Tony Shay, will be honored as speaker at the NFO 2025 Conference April 2 – 6 in Portland Oregon. Conference registration opens in December at <https://info-usa.com/>. Tony’s bio is posted on the Federation Website among master teachers.

In closing, a note of thanks to folks who keep the Federation vibrant and humming!

First - the diligent Scene Committee for providing our community with informative articles, a calendar of

events and registration forms to attend camps and festivals. We can shower the Scene Committee with our appreciation by sending a contribution when we renew our subscriptions.

Second - Bob Altman has e-mailed Federation renewal packets to each club contact person. Please note that the Finance Committee has maintained renewal rates for member clubs at \$15/club plus \$1/ member for 2025.

Third - Mindy Belli, treasurer, for receiving the dues and maintaining accounts.

Fourth – Dick Oakes, our tireless webmaster who instantly updates the website with articles, notes, events, video links, corrections, etc.

Thank you!

Diane Baker

COSTUME CORNER

MEN'S COSTUMES FROM MATYÓ AREA, HUNGARY

Unlike among birds, where the males tend to have the showy, colorful outfits, human males in rural Europe regularly come in far behind their womenfolk—which is why this column usually discusses female costumes. But in the Matyó area of NE Hungary (*Map*), the tables are turned: the men's festive costume surpasses the women's in both colorfulness and complexity (*Photo 1*).

The most surprising component is a garment usually worn only by women: a very long, wide, and resplendent *apron*. And I've noticed that Matyó men, especially the older ones (married? with children?), usually belt it on not at the waist but below the belly (*Photo 2*). It hangs to the ankles as a flat oblong of black cotton with a wide band of gorgeous floral embroidery



Map: Matyó area in NE Hungary, around the town of Mezőkövesd.



Photo 1: Matyó man's festive costume.



Photo 2: Older Matyó adults in festive dress. Note the long white pants of the man in the middle, the long fringes below the embroidery on the left man's apron, and the extreme embroidery on the right man's shirt.



Photo 3: Top part of the netted fringe on the lower third of an apron (with my hand under it to make the knotwork visible), hanging below the embroidered section. The fringed portion is much longer on modern aprons than on old ones.



Photo 4: Man's luminous white pants, heavily gathered at waist and fringed at bottom.



Photo 5: Matyó men with black pants and boots. Note ornate sleeves,

across the middle. But look closely: in front of the bottom third of the black apron-cloth hangs a curtain of black silk (or silky synthetic) cord knotted into a long and elaborate fringed network (**Photo 3**).

Under this apron, for important occasions, the man wears long white pants so full that the bleached linen or cotton hangs down in thick folds, easily mistaken for a skirt (**Photo 4**). It seems, however, that for work—and for dancing—they leave the apron and “skirt” off, donning slim black pants and tall boots of soft black leather (**Photo 5**): all the better for boot-slapping in *Verbunk*-style dances!

Above, the men sport a roomy white shirt with sleeves so long and wide at the bottom that they have been nicknamed “yard sleeves.” For festive occasions, these shirts display the elaborate floral embroidery for which the area is famed, spread not only many inches deep around the sleeve-ends but also across a wide panel down the shirt-front and sometimes on the shoulders too (**Photo 6**).

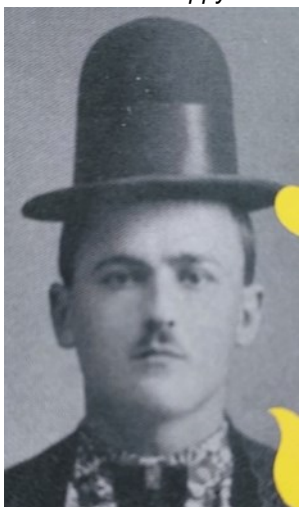
Over the shirt, contrasting with its brightness, custom dictates a sleeveless black vest. The whole outfit is then topped off with a distinctive black or dark gray hat. Somewhat reminiscent of a 19th-century top hat, this headpiece has a narrow brim and tall crown—but rounded at the top like a bowler—while one or more wide ribbons encircle the vertical portion (**Photo 7**). These look dark, silky, and plain on old photos, but now display the same sorts of bright flowers as the shirt and apron. A veritable peacock among men! (The origins and details of this embroidery style will be featured next month, along with the women’s costume.)



Photo 6: Shirt with heavily embroidered “yard sleeves.”

—Elizabeth Wayland Barber

Photo 7: Three Matyo hats: 1) with plain dark band, from old wedding photo, 2) modern, with several rows of colored ribbon, 3) modern, with one flowered band—over a happy smile.





Jim Gold International Folk Tours 2025

Travel, adventure, folk dance, culture



Eastern Europe-The Balkans

ALBANIA, GREECE, MACEDONIA and KOSOVO ext: May 21-June 2-4

Led by Lee Otterholt, guided by Kliti Zika: Tirana, Dures, Vlora Folk Festival, Kruja, Gjirokaster, Saranda, Berat, Lake Prespa, Ochrid,.

BULGARIA- Koprivshitsa Festival (held every 5 years) : Aug 4-15

Led by Ventsi Milev

Sofia, Plovdiv, Bansko, Veliko Turnovo, Koprivshitsa

ROMANIA: Sept 28-Oct 12 Bucharest, Brasov. Sibiu, Cluj, Sighet Marmatiei

GREECE-GREEK ISLANDS: Oct 4-17

Led by Lee Otterholt, Maroula Konti, guide

Athens, Nauplia, Sparta, Olympia, Delphi, Meteora, Mycenae, and Epidaurus.

Greek Island Cruise: Mykonos, Crete, Rhodes, Patmos, Kusadasi

TURKEY: Oct 17-31

Led by Lee Otterholt Istanbul, Ankara, Cappadocia, Pamukkale, Izmir, Kusadasi, Pergamon, Troy, Canakkale, and Bursa

Western Europe

SCANDINAVIA: June 10-23

Led by Lee Otterholt Oslo, Gothenburg, Helsingborg (Elsinore), Copenhagen.

IRELAND: Aug 2-14

Led by Lee Friedman and guided by Kay Cleary

Galway, Connemara, Aran islands, Kerry, Cork, Blarney, Dublin.

SPAIN: Sept 11-24 Malaga, Ronda, Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba, Granada

South America

PERU- Nazca and Peruvian Amazon ext: May 21-30.

Lima, Cusco, Machu Picchu, Puno, Sacred Valley, Lake Titicaca, Peruvian Amazon, Nazca ext.

ARGENTINA: Chile ext: Oct 5-15

BRAZIL: November 3-14

ECUADOR: Galapagos ext: Dec 1-14

North America

WESTERN CANADA: April 10-22

EASTERN CANADA: June 27-July 9



Middle East

EGYPT: Feb 20-March 2 Cairo, Nile River cruise, Luxor, Aswan

ISRAEL: March 2-13

Led by Lee Friedman and guided by Joe Freedman

Jerusalem, Masada, Tel Aviv, Galilee, Haifa, Safed, Golan Heights.

NEW: DELUXE SMALL GROUP TOURS to Croatia and Greece

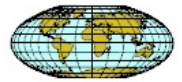
Videos of folk tours and folk dances on: **Jim Gold Youtube Channel**

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

Register on line at:www.jimgold.com/ Jim Gold International, Inc.

497 Cumberland Avenue, Teaneck, NJ 07666 U.S.A.

(201) 836-0362 Email: jimgold@jimgold.co



Travel
broadens
one!



California Kolo Festival 2024



Sonia & Cristian

Anna Angelova

Michael Ginsburg

John Morovich

Yannis, Hra, & Simos Konstantinou

FRI-SAT
NOVEMBER
29-30



Russian Center
San Francisco

California Kolo Festival 2024

kolofestival.org

So Many Bands!

Main floor bands :

Fanfare Zambaleta

Marco Ghezzi & friends

Michael Ginsburg & friends

John Morovich & Sinovi

The Rosen Sisters w/Orkestar Unbound

Petar Aleksiev-Usmivkata & friends

And more in the Kafana!

good vibes

It's a unique 2-day celebration featuring 35+ musicians
driving us to dance
to the exotic sounds of the Balkans and beyond!
Explore dance, song, and music led by master teachers.
Catch the vibe!



NOVEMBER 22-24, 2024

FALL CAMP

Ira Weisburd
International Dance

Genci Kastrati
Albanian Dance



REDUCED RATES! REGISTER NOW! Brandeis-Bardin Institute

Be yourself, relax and be happy!
Dancing, and many optional activities
such as crafts, star gazing, nature walks,
folk band practice and performance,
parties, and more!

1101 Peppertree Lane
Brandeis, CA 93064
(near Simi Valley, CA)
Motel-style rooms, 6 great meals

DanceFallCamp@gmail.com; FallCamp.org





Fall Camp

November 22-24, 2024

Featuring Master Teachers Genci Kastrati & Ira Weisburd

The weekend includes two nights in motel-style rooms (with heating and air conditioning, private bath, bedding, and towels), 6 meals (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch), snacks, teaching sessions, review sessions, evening dance parties, and other activities. Dance in a beautiful climate controlled room. **Visit FallCamp.org for details. Space is limited. Register soon!**

Fall Camp is at the Brandeis-Bardin Campus of the American Jewish University, 1101 Peppertree Lane, Brandeis, CA 93064. (It is near Simi Valley in Southern California, just south of the 118 Freeway.)

Although the facility has raised its rates again, prices are lower thanks to support from the Folk Dance Federation of California, South. Note there is no discount for sharing rooms.

Please circle your choice

Single room		
Double room	\$495 per person	\$ _____
Triple room		
Commuter (No room, 6 meals)	\$365 per person	\$ _____

Please consider an entirely optional donation: \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Refund policy: You may cancel anytime until Nov. 4 for a full refund. We cannot guarantee full refunds after that date. 

First name (for your badge) _____ Last name _____


Email _____

Address _____

Phone(s) _____ Name(s) of roommate(s) _____


We will try to accommodate special dietary requirements _____

Emergency contact (name & phone) _____ 

 **The Federation requires campers to sign two waivers of liability, and Brandeis-Bardin requires another. You can find all three using the menu on the upper right at FallCamp.org, or ask Kelley to send them to you. You need to sign the Federation waivers only once, so if you have already signed them for another Federation event, check this box.**

Please complete a separate registration and waivers for each camper, make your check payable to **Folk Dance Federation of California, South, Inc.**, and mail them to:

   Kelley O'Neill
21181 Serra Vista
Lake Forest, CA 92630

For questions, contact Kelley at DanceFallCamp@gmail.com. 

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- 4-6 *Temecula Greek Festival* live music with Synthesi. New location: Temecula Promenade Mall, 40820 Winchester Rd, Temecula
www.temeculagreekfest.com
- 5-6 *LA Greek Fest* at St. Sophia Cathedral – live music with Diesi from Montreal <https://lagreekfest.com/>
- 5-6 *Polish Festival LA* at Our Lady of the Bright Mount 3424 West Adams, LA CA - Sat noon - 11 pm, Sun 10 am-4 pm <https://parafiala.org/2024/08/polish-festival-2024/>
- 5 *Santa Barbara Old Time Fiddlers Contest* 10 am - 5 pm 304 N. Los Carneros Rd, Goleta CA 93117
<https://fiddlersfestival.org/>
- 5 *Bulgarian Folk Festival* in San Diego, noon – 6 pm Admission \$10, free for age 16 and under. Felicity Park, 742 Clarence Ln, Escondido, CA 92029. Entry and meal tickets at <https://st-nikolai-wonderworker-bulgarian-orthodox-curch-in-san-diego.square.site/>
- 5 Live Music with the Varimezovi Family, San Diego Folk Dance Center. At San Diego Oasis Wellness Center, 5500 Grossmont Center Dr. Suite 269, La Mesa, CA 91942**
<http://www.folkdancecenter.org/>
- 9 Apple Time Party** at Laguna International Dancers with live music from Sans Frontieres. 6-8:30 pm, in the Sequoia Ballroom of Clubhouse 2, 24112 Moulton Pkwy, Laguna Woods.
www.lagunainternationaldancers.com/ See ad.
- 10-15 *Many Winters Gathering of Elders Gabrielino/ Tongva Territory* c/o Angels Gate Cultural Center, 3601 S. Gaffey St, San Pedro, California 90731
- 11-13 *Greek Festival at St. George, Bakersfield*, 401 Truxton Ave, Bakersfield CA 93301. Live music with the Olympians and friends
www.BakersfieldGreekFoodFestival.org
- 13 *Macedonian Festival* St. Mary's Macedonian Orthodox Church, 10550 Whittier Blvd, Whittier with live music from Chris Bajmakovich, folk dance performances, kebapi, homemade treats, and more. Free Admission. Gates open at noon. Info www.mocstmaryla.org or email mocstmaryla@gmail

17 Party hosted by Narodni & Veselo Selo in Bellflower. Welcome Autumn with live music by Interfolk. \$10. Some New, some Old, some Rust, some Gold! On our wood floor at 9402 Oak St; free parking & entrance on Clark St. Snack table, etc. Website: www.narodni.org

- 17-20 *Far-West 2024 Conference*, Warner Center Marriott, Woodland Hills, CA. <https://far-west.org/conference>
- 20 *Historical Tea and Dance Society Tea & Dance P2P weekend* workshop info and registration <https://historicalteaanddance.org/>
- 26 *Nevenka Concert*, Studio Channel Islands, 2222 Ventura Blvd, Camarillo, CA 93010
www.nevenka.org

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/98271655334589/>
- 3 *Historical Tea and Dance Society Colonial Tea Social* info and registration <https://historicalteaanddance.org/>
- 22-24 Fall Camp** at Brandeis-Bardin Institute with Genci Kastrati (Albanian dance) and Ira Weisburd (Int) <https://fallcamp.org> See ad.

DECEMBER

- 8 *Historical Tea and Dance Society St Nicholas Ball* (2nd Sunday) info and registration <https://historicalteaanddance.org/>
- 12 *Klezmatiks and Mostly Kosher* at Cal State Long Beach Carpenter Center www.carpenterarts.org/event/klezmatiks-mostly-kosher
- 14 *Rumi's Wedding at First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, 7-9 pm. with Yuval Ron* <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rumis-wedding-night-celebration-rumis-divine-poetry-music-of-the-soul-tickets-951115531157>
- 24 *Annual LA County Holiday Celebration* at the Music Center and TV and the Internet <https://>

www.musiccenter.org/tickets-free-events/tmc-arts/l-a-county-holiday-celebration/

JANUARY 2025

10-12 *Israeli MiniCamp in LA with Shlomo Maman and Elad Shtamer* <https://tinyurl.com/minicamp2025>
info: e-mail IsraeliDance@yahoo.com See OTS.

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2025

13 *Greek Orthodox FDF* at the Anaheim Marriott
www.yourfdf.org/event/fdf-2025

15 *Lunar New Year Folk Dance Festival* hosted by Cerritos Folk Dancers. **Saturday 1:00-5:40 pm, Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St, Cerritos, CA 90703. Donation: \$15 (or \$12 if paid by 2/8/2025). Featured teachers TBA. Info: Wen Chiang (626) 500-5035, or CerritosFolkDancers@gmail.com.**

Feb 28 – Mar 2 *Laguna Festival*, featuring Tineke and Maurits van Geel.

MAY 2025

2-4, 2025 *Statewide 2025* will take place at the Portuguese Hall in Arroyo Grande – master teachers Zeljko Jergan and Billy Burke, music by Chubritza <https://socialfolkdance.org/statewide.htm>

18 *Cerritos Folk Dance Festival* hosted by Cerritos Folk Dancers. **Sunday 1:00-5:40 pm, Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South Street, Cerritos, CA 90703. Donation:\$12 (or \$10 if paid by 6/11/2025). No teaching/reviewing. Info: Wen Chiang (626) 500-5035, or CerritosFolkDancers@gmail.com.**

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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/>

NOVEMBER

29-30 *Kolo Festival* at the Russian Center with master teachers Anna Angelova, Michael Ginsburg, John Morovich, Yiannis Konstantinou, Cristian and Sonja <https://kolofestival.org/> See ad.

OUT OF STATE

Oct 4-6 *Omaha Dancers Pink Party* "delighted/excited to host Barbara Bleisch at Pink Party 2024 - celebrating 38 years of survivorship. Plus, she's bringing Marvin Moehle" <https://nfo-usa.com/major-events/tag/omaha-intl-folk-dancers/>

Oct 6 *Seattle Croatian Festival* at the Seattle Center Armory. Free admission. For a complete schedule of events visit www.croatiafest.org

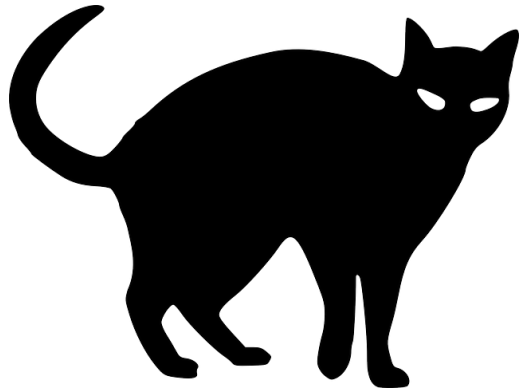
Oct 18-19 *Bulgarian Folklore Festival "Tupan Bie"* at the Phoenix Center for the Arts, Phoenix, AZ. a weekend full of vibrant Bulgarian culture and heritage with dance groups from across the U.S. and Canada, live music, exciting entertainment, and various workshops. <https://tupanbie.wixsite.com/tupanbie-phoenix>

Oct 19 *Balkan Chestnut Festival* at Wyoming Farm in Clinton MD with Zlatne Uste, info email: colin@wyoming.farm <https://www.facebook.com/events/521787960336620>

Nov 28-30 *Texas Camp*

Mar 28-30, 2025 *San Antonio Folk Dance Festival*

Apr 2-6, 2025 - *NFO Conference* in Portland Oregon
<https://nfo-usa.com/annual-nfo-conference-2025/>



ON THE SCENE

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. We're also continuing our Beginners' Hour program begun in September. Beginners' classes are from 6:30 till 7:30 PM every first and third Friday, and cover folk dance basics, common patterns, and beginner-friendly dances. At 6:30 on the second Friday, Marshall Cates leads set dance review for dancers with some set dance experience.

Visit our website for monthly dance programs, our dance list with videos, and lots more information. www.pasadenafolkdancecoop.org. Location: Altadena Community Church Heicher Hall, 943 E Altadena Drive, Altadena, CA 91001

Mari Werner

WORLDCAMP

This year is going to be our last time doing WorldCamp. You mean a lot to us and we would love to share the last one with you. If you have not registered yet, please do so, let's share one last special moment together.

One other important reason for you to be with us this year is that our very special friend Yves' entire family will be with us on the weekend to celebrate Yves' life. Come help us to celebrate his life with us.

To register, please visit our website: www.worldcamp.us. We hope that you will be with us to celebrate both WorldCamp and Yves.

*Ahmet Luleci
(On behalf of WorldCamp)*

NFO NATIONAL CONFERENCE – APRIL 2025 – SAVE THE DATE!

We invite you to attend the **National Folk Organization Conference**, April 2-6, in beautiful Portland, Oregon .. *the City of Roses*. Once again, the conference will offer an exciting array of workshops and activities where we will participate in learning, networking, and dancing with incredible people from throughout the entire country.

Come and join in this stimulating gathering of dancers, teachers, musicians, and educators. Learn

more about what the NFO organization can do to support you and your organization. Join with us to foster respect, synergy, diversity, curiosity and education. We would love to be with you, and invite you to be with us.

Go to nfo-usa.com to register in December. Before December, direct any specific questions to Jeanette Geslison, at jeanette_geslison@byu.edu.

LOS ANGELES MINI-CAMP WITH SHLOMO MAMAN & ELAD SHTAMER

Jan. 11-12, 2025 hosted by James/Miri/Lior (The Valley Dancers).

First 100 Dancers registered will receive a Complementary Camp T-Shirt.

Full Camp Price \$175, until Nov. 12. Questions e-mail IsraeliDance@yahoo.com



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.
Pay on-line or send application with check to
Marsha Rosenblatt, Membership,
927 Springfield Drive
Millbrae, CA 94030

POETRY CORNER

EUCALYPTUS TREE AT TREND TERRACE

Tethered giant tossing its great mane
Explosive launcher of bark, branches, buds
Carpet-layer of blue-green leaves
Pungent, permeating fragrance

Playhouse twenty feet high
Platform for tossing rocks into a neighbor's pool
Romper room for possums and raccoons
Stage for scolding squirrels

Breezy bedroom for two doves
Feeding station for nesting brood
Perilous perch for a first flight
Safe haven for feathery chicks

Prey to three men and a chainsaw
Decapitated, dismembered mammoth
Blazing, long-burning fireplace logs
Gray/black ashes... earth-food.

... *Camille Dull*



CAUCASUS SPECIAL 2025 - "We would have loved to stay longer"

GEORGIA August 14-27 & ARMENIA August 26-September 11

with Tineke & Maurits van Geel



Many travelers shared their excitement about the beauty and culture of the Caucasus. Destinations that have not yet been ruined by mass tourism, although they do see an increase in visitors. Both tours can be booked individually or as a whole. You see the highlights of the countries, but also the hidden gems. Visit our website.

www.tinekevangeel.nl Both tours are also suitable for non-dancers.

DANCERS SPEAK

ALL SUBSCRIBERS - PLEASE READ

For those getting printed issues mailed to their home

As with everything else, our costs for having Scene printed, and the US postage to mail it, have been steadily increasing. Now those costs are at a point where they are considerably more than we receive from subscriptions. So, yes, we are losing money each issue, and have needed to get bailed out by the Federation. We have tried many things to reduce expenses, but now have no choice but to increase the subscription fee - something we have avoided doing since 2014. The new rate will be \$25/year, at which we will still be losing money, but not as much as now. This rate will go into effect immediately, so next time you renew it will be at the increased amount.

Since we do not have printing or mailing costs for the e-mail version, that rate will remain at \$10/year. So you might want to consider switching. Not only do you pay less, but you also would get the issue earlier and in color! If you can receive Scene by e-mail, but prefer reading from a printed copy, we suggest you print at home. Then in addition to the above advantages, it could also be on larger paper and larger font. Or, perhaps you know of someone who gets the e-version and would print it for you. We don't want to lose you as a subscriber.

For those getting Scene by e-mail

Your rate will continue at \$10/year, but there are some changes. It is tedious and time-consuming for us to keep track of when each subscription will end, if payment has been made, and then send one or more reminders. So now you will be on the 'honor system'. Instead of a personal reminder, several times a year all readers will be asked to renew if they have not yet done so. We hope that most, if not all, readers will think that each issue was worth the \$1 charged and will send their checks in without being pressured. (Of course, if you think it is worth more, we do not plan to discourage any payments that are more than the nominal \$10.)

Also, to increase our readership, we will encourage you to forward your copy to any who might like to get it, in the hope that they will become subscribers. If you know of subscribers who get printed copies, and can't print at home (see above), we suggest you might offer to print out their copy for them.

Scene Committee

LAST DANCE

Rita Sklar passed away on February 28, 2024, age 89. She was a member of Westside Folk Dancers for many years (I am guessing over 30 years, but I am not sure). She started as a beginner. As she became more experienced, she became more involved with the group and was president for many years. During COVID, when in person dancing was cancelled, she helped organize Zoom meetings for her group to keep everyone in touch. Folk dancing gave her much pleasure and purpose for many years.

Mitch Sklar (Rita's son)

Jim Fogle passed away this year. Marian and Jim Fogle danced with the Gandy Dancers performing group and later took over running Dave Slater's Tuesday Gypsies in Culver City when Dave retired. They taught for many years before handing the group on to Asako Oshiro.

Sandy Helperin

DANCE MUSIC AVAILABLE

Tom Fogle, the son of Marian and Jim Fogle, got in touch with me to say that Jim had passed away and Marian was not well. The Fogles were long time dancers, dance teachers and group leaders. Through the years they acquired a very large collection of dance music. Their entire collection is being given away. If you are interested in having the music you can contact Tom Fogle- 707 494-5505 Fogle.798@gmail.com

Sandy Helperin

Fall into Folk Dancing at our
Apple - time Party



with LIVE dance music by
Sans Frontières (Without Borders)

plus programmed recorded dance music

Wednesday, Oct. 9th, 6 to 8:30 PM \$10

Sequoia Ballroom, Clubhouse 2

24112 Moulton Parkway, Laguna Woods

You're invited to add to the fun by
bringing a snack or dish to share.

*Dancing will be
indoors.*



For more info' or gate clearance for first-time non-residents, please email

lagunadancers@gmail.com or call Marilyn at 949-939-0604.

www.lagunainternationaldancers.com

RECENT EVENTS

KARPATOK HUNGARIAN FOLK ENSEMBLE

Karpatok Hungarian Folk Ensemble was founded in 1965 by young immigrant students after the 1956 Hungarian revolution. The group will turn 60 years old next year, making it the oldest Hungarian folk dance ensemble in the US. We're a multi-generational troupe performing for the Hungarian community and others locally and around the country. We also perform in parades, festivals and of course in our own shows. The pandemic hit us hard too, but we bounced back. In May we hosted the Zagyva Banda from Hungary, performing with them at the LA Hungarian House and at the Buena Vista Winery in Sonoma. We've also danced at the Hungarian Heritage Festival in Belmont along with our dance cousins in the Bay area, the Eszterlanc Ensemble. The group is looking forward to an exciting anniversary year and the fresh material we'll learn from the soon arriving teachers from Hungary.

Csaba Varsanyi President

Kárpátok Hungarian Folk Ensemble
(323)374-3836, www.facebook.com/lakarpatok



Pictures from the Kárpátok Hungarian Folk Ensemble's May trip to the Hungarian Heritage Festival in Belmont and a show at the Buena Vista winery in Sonoma.



The whole group, photo by Chin Yu

MIHAI AND ALEXANDRU DAVID COME TO SAN DIEGO FOLK DANCE CENTER

Our San Diego Folk Dance Center community was pleased to have Mihai and Alexandru David come to San Diego for a workshop and after-party. It had been a long time since Mihai had visited San Diego, and this was the first visit for his brother Alexandru. We had a great turnout to welcome them. Mihai taught 5 Romanian dances and Alexandru taught 6 Russian dances – some were oldies (new to me) and others were collected from a recent trip. We had great fun learning and re-learning them, and also doing other dances from their vast repertoire.

Other events in the works at the Folk Dance Center include a live music night by Tzidia in September, another one by the Varimezovs in October, and a workshop with Tom Bozigian in November.



There are two dance clubs in San Diego: The Folk Dance Center (FDC), which now meets at Oasis Fitness Center in La Mesa, and the Cabrillo Dancers, which meets in Balboa Park. Between the two clubs, we have dancing practically every day/night of the week, and we love to have visitors and newcomers join us!

For information about FDC activities, contact John Knapp at jcknappster@gmail.com

For information about Cabrillo Dancers activities, contact Georgina Sham at gbsham@gmail.com

*Gail Wilson,
Folk Dance Center (FDC)*

Alexandru (on the right) watching the action. Photo by Diane Baker

CLUB DIRECTORY

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

For changes, additions, or deletions email 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 Billy Burke, 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 Georgina, 858-722-0489 yueugenia@yahoo.com Chin Yu, sites.google.com/site/cabrillocdancers

Cerritos Folk Dancers: 1st-4th Tue 5:00-7:45 Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St, **CERRITOS**. (626) 500-5035 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, 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 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**. jcknappster@gmail.com John, www.folkdancecenter.org

Friday Night L.L.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

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

Kypseli Greek Folk Dancing: Occasional Sunday live music events. 310-508-9676 Anne Sirota. www.kypseli.events

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 Lee. 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 Julith Neff www.narodni.org

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

Prescott Int'l Folkdancers: Sun 2:00-4:00. Prescott Boys & Girls Club, 335 East Aubrey St, **PRESOTT, 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. 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 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. **Not currently dancing**

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: Thu 3:00-5:00 Nov-Apr. Community Room, Mizell Center, 480 South Sunrise Way, **PALM SPRINGS**. (760) 342-1297 Helen Smith

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

***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.

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

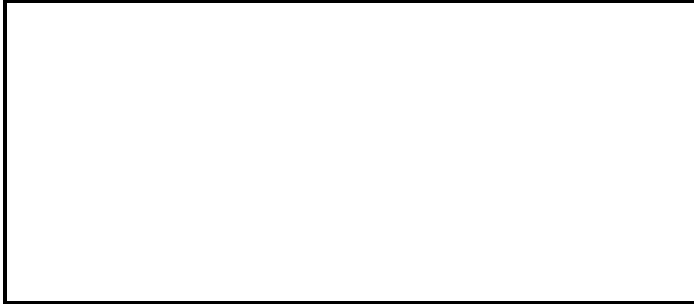
UCLA Ballroom Club & UCLA Int'l Folkdancers: Cultural, Historical & Ballroom: Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat. St. Albans Social Hall, 580 Hilgard Ave, **WESTWOOD**. (310) 284-3636 James Zimmer. See website for details:

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

FOLK DANCE SCENE
4827 Grand Avenue
La Cañada, CA 91011

First Class Mail



Dated Material

ORDER FORM

NAME _____
E-MAIL _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____ STATE _____
CITY _____ ZIP _____ - _____

Please mail subscription orders to the address at the top left corner of this page.
(Allow 6-8 weeks for subscription to start if order is mailed after the 10th of the month.)

\$10 pdf via email

\$25 print version, United States

\$30 print version, Mexico, Canada

Print version not available elsewhere
Payment should be made to Folk Dance Federation of Calif., South.