



# 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: Călușari dancing with their sacred staffs. Photo by Elizabeth Wayland Barber*



# Folk Dance Scene

Volume 54, No. 8  
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## The Corner

### Editors' Corner

A great, big thank you to Elizabeth Wayland Barber, who with very little notice, produced both the cover story and the costume corner, complete with pictures! You are a Scene saver Betchen!

Note that Ethnic food also is about Romania.

We are invited to Somis again in The Corner, Calendar, and an ad for Fall Festival.

Find other events also in On the Scene and Recent Events.

We are always looking for Poetry Corner entries. Camille is the poet laureate—she and Carl grace the page every issue. Please join them!

Be of good cheer!

*Pat Cross and Don Krotser*

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's time to break out the dancing shoes and folk dance gear for the FALL FESTIVAL in Somis.

This trip to the country brings us to the light and airy Thursday Club where the large dance floor is just the way we like it -- wooden and sprung! Ventura International Folk Dancers are hosting the festival, which goes from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday, October 21st. The program will begin with fun dances good for beginners, so the event will be a good time to invite friends or family to share our favorite hobby. Beginners will be free!

If you like, you are welcome to arrive early, at 11:00 a.m., for the Folk Dance Federation, South Board Meeting. You may find the meeting interesting and sometimes even funny. Find out what we have been working on, for example Statewide 2019 which is being planned now. I will be curious to hear your ideas for future folk dance events and ways we can improve your experience as a dancer. In fact, I invite you to call me at home (310) 832-1074 to RSVP for the meeting since a light lunch is served to everyone after the meeting. Just leave your name and number and we'll look forward to seeing you.

Check out the flyer on the Federation website or the ad in this issue of Scene, which has a great map, or break out the GPS. We want to see you October 21st at 5380 Bell Street, Somis!

*Respectfully yours,  
Pauline Klak, President*

### More on the Cover Photo

*Călușari dancing with their sacred staffs. In addition to their white shirts and pants, they wear shin pads with bells as well as ribbons crossed on the chest (all like English Morris and Basque dancers, to whose age-old rituals these are probably related). Note also the ribbons hanging down from the waist, like the lappets on the corselets of the Roman soldiers from whom they are descended. (photo from 1997)*

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

# ROMANIA

California folk enthusiasts will have a rare opportunity this year to see Romanian folk costumes! 100 years ago, on December 18, 1918, speakers of Romanian in the Balkans were united into a single large country, Romania. To celebrate the Great Union (as they call it), the “Romanian Traditions in California Organization” will host a special exhibit of 100 Romanian folk costumes from the personal collection of its president, Dorina Manga, on September 30 from 12:00 to 6:00 pm., at 1770 West Cerritos Ave., Anaheim (92804), supported by the General Romanian Consulate of Los Angeles, the Ministry Abroad of Romania and Maya Bristow of the International Cultural Alliance. This collection, which includes costumes up to 150 years old, will soon after be set up in a more permanent museum display for six months. We will keep SCENE readers posted as to time and place.

Who are the Romanians, anyhow? The name Romanian began way back with the Romans, who conquered the area in the early centuries of our era, then sent retired veterans to settle down and farm there with their wives. Thus the Romanian language is of the “Romance” family, descended straight from Latin like its close cousins Italian, Spanish, and French. (“Goodbye” in Romanian, for example, is *la revedere*, “mountain” is *munte*, and the *l*s that turn up everywhere on the end of Romanian nouns—*Briu-l*, *Jian-ul*, *Jiana-lui*—are simply the equivalent of western Romance *il/elle* “the”, from Latin *ille*, differently placed.) But Romanian and its close cousin Vlach (or Aromanian) developed on their own after the south-moving Slavs cut them off from Italy on the west. The Slavs in turn got cut in two when the Magyar, or Hungarians, flooded into the great central plain of the Danube, now modern Hungary (**Map 1**). Indeed, the western



*Map 1: Geographical map of Romania, showing Danube River along southern border, and great curve of Carpathian Mountains through its middle. Note South Slavs (Serbs, Croats, Slovenians, Bulgarians, etc.) to west and south of Romania, and Hungary to northwest, cutting Romania off from Italy.*

provinces of modern Romania, greater Transylvania, are still partially populated with speakers of Hungarian and also German (further immigrants). To keep the subject manageable, however, let’s stick to the culture of the ethnic/linguistic Romanians (who themselves slop over a bit into eastern Serbia, in the Banat valley).

Romania can be divided into several large provinces (**Map 2**). In the south, Oltenia and Muntenia together make up Wallachia, whose most

*Map 2: Major regions of Romania. Oltenia and Muntenia together form roughly the old Wallachia; Transylvania, eastern Banat, Crişana, Satmar (Satu Mare), and Maramureş together form roughly the old Transylvania; Moldova, Bucovina, and NW Republic of Moldova form roughly the old Moldavia (ca. 1600).*



famous ruler was Vlad Drăculea. This cruel fifteenth-century fighter against the Ottoman Turks was the inspiration for Bram Stoker's very unhistorical but famous novel *Dracula*, set not in Wallachia but in Transylvania just to the north. Romanians, by the way, take umbrage at our notions of Vlad Dracul because of Stoker's distortions. Also known as Vlad Țepeș, or Vlad the Impaler, this ruler is viewed as a hero for having kept the Ottomans out of Wallachia for a long while, saving his country in part precisely through his reputation for cruelty. The Ottomans thought, well, no thanks, let's just creep away.

Wallachia, which includes the capital, Bucharest (București), is perhaps the region most quintessentially Romanian, having been the area most heavily settled by the ancient Romans. But traces of the peoples they sat down on, such as the Dacians, also persist here, especially in the southwest corner along the Danube. (The Danube forms the southern border of most of Romania: see map 1.) In this part of Oltenia, bands of men called *Călușari* still dance the ancient rituals for fertility and healing—as do their Bulgarian neighbors across the river, called *Rusaltsi* in Slavic. Although the belief system behind these rituals can be traced back to the original Neolithic farmers of 6000 years ago, the ritual as described in the 19th and 20th centuries still shows clear influence, in costumes, customs, and vocabulary, from the Roman *Salii* (**Cover Photo**). These were groups of vigorous men, bound together as soldierly priests and famous for their leaping dances. And the dances of the *Călușari* are nothing if not vigorous, as those who have learned one of their healing dances, *Florica*, can attest.

Just outside of Bucharest one can enjoy a remarkable open-air museum, a park into which many fine examples of rural farm buildings have been moved. Some of the thatched roofs are so high as to form veritable towers, a steepness necessary for shedding heavy rain off of dried grass (**Photo 2a**). Others are furnished with roofed porches, a convenient place to work outside the narrow confines of the house. I recall one equipped with a thick branch so gnarled that it curved around to make a convenient and rather comfortable-looking seat. The interiors, too, have been refurbished: rural Romanian houses were decorated with wood carvings and crockery, but

*Photo 2: Museul Satului (Village Museum), Bucharest: a) house with high thatched roof; b) interior decorated with typical Romanian textiles.*



principally with colorful handwoven textiles—on the big bed, hanging on the walls and shelves, festooning the windows, in a riot of red and white with spots of bright yellow, blue, and green (**Photo 2b**).

Other provinces have their own interesting characteristics. Dobrogea, known for its complex stamping dances in 4/4 rhythm, lies just east of Muntenia and runs along the Black Sea coast (contiguous with

Bulgarian Dobrudja). To the north of it runs the now long, skinny province of Moldova, whose capital, Iași (pronounced *yahsh*), was the site of the first printing press in Europe after those of Mainz and Strasbourg. It is still the home of a large university founded there in the Middle Ages. What makes the province so long is that it contains a north/south section of the huge curve of the Carpathian Mountains, which start by running east along the border between the Ukraine and Hungary, head south through Moldova and eastern Transylvania, then curve west again as the barrier between southern Transylvania and northern Muntenia ("Mountain" province).

This is a particularly beautiful area. When I was in Iași in 1979, our archaeologist hosts drove us up there in their tiny car, passing through great fields of hemp, drying before being made into the best rope in the world

for ships; then up into the rolling pasturelands with their flocks of sheep. I recall one shepherdess who scurried across the road wearing store-bought skirt, blouse, and scarf, along with handmade peasant boots and embroidered leather jacket. Clearly the rural people were buying what they could that suited their lifestyle, and still making the things they needed that the industrial world didn't supply. All along the way we saw little blue houses scattered here and there. "Do you know why they are all blue?" our hosts asked, in either French or German—the four of us had no one language in common. "No." "Because blue paint is very cheap!" (This was smack in the middle of the "socialist" reign of the Ceaușescu, when people were starting to starve.)

Up in the mountains, as we pattered into a small town, my husband noticed a shop with musical instruments and said he wanted to try to buy a *nai*, the Carpathian version of a panpipe. It turned out, after much discussion in several languages, that they had one, and by the time my husband had triumphantly bought it, half the village had gathered to watch. Since then, the dulcet tones of the *nai* have been made world-famous by the Romanian musician Gheorghe Zamfir (**Photo 3**), and dancers



*Photo 3: Virtuoso Gheorghe Zamfir playing Romanian nai, or wooden panpipe.*

will recognize the sound in the recording of *Jianul de la Slănic*.

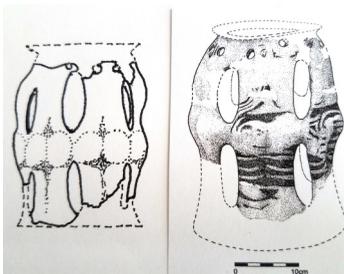
At the other end of the country, west of Oltenia, lies the Banat, its name coming from a medieval term for a frontier military governor, a *ban*. The area today, which crosses over into Serbia, contains morsels of a large number of ethnic/linguistic groups. Some of the Romanian speakers have been so isolated that they preserve not only the ancient Călușari rituals but also a particularly archaic version of the woman's traditional costume that demonstrably goes back to the Stone Age (**Photo 4**).



*Photo 4: Young Romanian girls in the Serbian Banat who just received the string skirts marking them as ready for marriage, dancing (rather timidly) with the local Călușari. (1970)*

Romanian dances also preserve layer upon layer of history. The very word *hora*, for example, as in *Hora de la Munte*, occurs in some form in most Balkan languages. Both the word and a basic dance form seem to come down from the early Neolithic farmers, who apparently began doing simple line and circle dances to promote bonding within their isolated little communities. They even left us pottery made in the form of dancers clutched in a very tight circle (**Drawing**). But for an excellent

description and analysis of Romanian dance as a whole, far more detailed than possible here, the reader should consult the thorough and delightful Federation website called *The Character of Romanian Dance*, written by experts Theodor and Lia Vasilescu.



*Drawing: So called "hora pots" (actually, vase-supports) from Neolithic sites in Romania, ca. 4000 BCE, showing 4 to 6 dancers in a tight inward-facing circle. (Cucuteni culture; ca. 16 inches high.)*

—Elizabeth Wayland Barber, author of *The Dancing Goddesses* (q.v. for fuller discussion of Roman and Neolithic layers)

# COSTUME CORNER

## ROMANIA

White. White with wonderful frostings of color. That's the impression that most Romanian costumes give.



*Photo 1: Romanians dancing in typical costumes, largely white, with black, red, and other colors as accents.*

The men start from white shirt and pants, to which they typically add black boots and hat, a wide leather belt or wrapped sash (usually some shade of red), and a sleeveless jacket (**Photo 1**). The cloth sash, of course, may have small multicolored patterns carefully woven into it, and the shirt usually has flowery bands embroidered around the cuffs and the shirt-tails (always worn hanging out), as well as down the front and sometimes down the sleeves. But it is the jacket, edged in black and embroidered all over, that catches the eye. In many areas, and especially in the Carpathian Mountains, the edging is a 2-inch-wide strip of sheepskin from a sheep with tightly curled black wool. The jacket itself may consist of coarse white woven cloth, or heavy white felt, or simply leather with the fleece inside

for winter warmth. Whichever, colorful satin-stitch embroidery covers most or even the whole of the outer surface (**Photo 2**).

The women, for their part, also generally start from a white chemise or skirt and blouse, then pile on the exquisite handwork. The typical Romanian use of raglan-style sleeves, in which the fabric runs all the way up to the neck (where it is gathered with smocking, along with the main panels (**Photo 3**), allows the seamstress to avoid all the exasperating curves of a sleeve set at the shoulder tip, while allowing the sleeve and indeed the whole blouse to be made as full as desired. Such clothing has the advantage of fitting the girl when slim, yet expanding as needed during pregnancy and even old age: one does not have to keep making new garments.

Another clever traditional device was to stitch a chemise or blouse together by first finishing the edges of each component with hemstitching (if they weren't already selvedges), then joining the appropriate edges with faggotting (**Photo 3**). Until recently, the cloth was of homegrown, homespun, and handwoven linen or hemp, which has absolutely no give; but the lines of faggotting add the needed elasticity—a trick we know was already figured out by central Europeans before 3000 BCE! And there is another advantage. After each piece has been hemmed, it can be embroidered to one's heart's content while it is still flat; then, when all components have been decorated, one can quickly sew the puffy garment together. Because of the ease of

*Photo 2: Detail of man's sleeveless leather jacket, edged in black fleece and colorfully embroidered. Part of the embroidered shirt shows between the front edges of the jacket. Probably from the Carpathian region.*



embroidering this way, Romanian women's sleeves and fronts are usually quite elaborate (**Photo 4**) and provide the most stunning part of the costume.

Atop the embroidered white foundation garments, the woman sports a sash, perhaps a vest or jacket, and one or more aprons. The more "modern" style is to wear a solid, multicolored apron in front (**Photos 1, 5**): sometimes wide, but often remarkably long and narrow. An older way, seen especially around Timișoara, is to wear a solid apron in front and an apron made principally of strings in the back (**Photo 6**); while the oldest way, going back 20,000 years at least, is to wear only strings (see **Photo 4** of the lead article in this issue)—although these would be anchored on a waistband or a slim patch woven with fertility symbols (**Photos 5b, 6**).

These short descriptions cannot do justice to the wealth of forms of Romanian folk dress. But with this as an introduction we can all go and enjoy the exhibition of 100 Romanian costumes currently being set at our doorstep. The details of this exhibition, such as we know them at the moment, are at the beginning of the first article in this issue.

—Elizabeth Wayland Barber, author of "On the  
Antiquity of East European  
Bridal Clothing,"  
Dress 21 (1994; 17-29)



Photo 3: Linen chemise showing edges of component panels "drawn" and hemstitched in white by hand, then sewn together with an elasticity-producing faggot-stitch in blue, after each panel had been fully embroidered and the smocking, commonly used to gather the panels at the neck and wrists, completed.



Photo 4: Several typical Romanian blouses. Note the full sleeves, so often embroidered with a large dense square on the upper arm followed by a long, more open design, often on the diagonal, below. Although red is often the dominant color, other favorites include blue (seldom used by their Slavic neighbors) as well as black picked out with gold. The embroidery of the first blouse, too beautiful to lose, has been removed from its original blouse and carefully sewn onto a new garment (an age-old solution).

*Photo 5: Young Romanian girls in the Banat, 1940. The righthand girl wears a typical long narrow apron with loom-woven designs (usually mostly red). The girl on the left wears an archaic string apron in which the strings are attached to a very short panel woven once again with lozenges denoting, and promoting, female fertility.*



*Photo 5b: The bridal version of the girl's string apron, with gold coins sewn over the fertility designs. The distribution of red and black fringe is typical.*



*Photo 6: Drawing of 2 Romanian women from the Banat area, each wearing a solid apron in front and a string apron behind. Note, too, the heavily embroidered sleeves.*

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Mendoza, Santiago

**ALBANIA and KOSOVO:** May 7-19, 19-21, 2019

Led by Lee Otterholt Tirana, Durres, Vlora Folk Dance Festival! Kruja,  
Saranda, Berat, Shkodra, Gjirokastra



**POLAND:** June 10-24, 2019. Led by Richard Schmidt

Led by Richard Schmidt: Kraków, Rzeszów, Zakopane,  
Częstochowa, Gdańsk, Olsztyn, Żelazowa Wola, Warszawa

**NORWAY, DENMARK, SWEDEN:** June 11-24, 2019.

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

**IRELAND:** July 13-25, 2019: Led by Jim Gold and Lee Friedman

Galway, Connemara, Aran islands, Doolin, Killarney, Kerry,  
Cork, Blarney, Belfast, Dublin



**ROMANIA:** October 12-24, 2019. Led by Jim Gold

Bucharest, Sibiu, Cluj, Sighetu Marmatiei, Piatra Neamt, Brasov

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Laguna International Dancers are members of the Folk Dance Federation of  
California South

# CALENDAR

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**Note: Federation events are in bold.**

**CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS**

## OCTOBER

14 *Macedonian Festival*. Noon to 7:00 at Saint Mary's Macedonian Orthodox Church, 10550 Whittier Blvd, Whittier. Info: 323.819.1961 or 562.695.3323. See ad.

20 **\*\*\*TO BE RESCHEDULED\*\*\*\*** *Balkan Festival*, Pomona College, live music by Bill Cope's band Zabava.. Info: Madelyn Taylor, madelyntaylor@hotmail.com

**21 *Ventura Fall Festival 1:00* at "Thursday Club" at 5380 Bell Street, Somis. See: The Corner, page 3. See ad.**

**25 *Narodni Halloween Party*. Come in costume and enjoy some treats. There will prizes for costumes as usual. We are always amazed at the creativity of our dancers! See OTS.**

30 *Halloween Party with Bulgarika*, sponsored by: Caltech Folkdancers. 7:30 at Dabney Lounge, Cal Tech. Contact: Nancy Milligan – 626.797.5157, John Hertz – 213.384.-6622 -or- Fran Prevas -franprevas@yahoo.com

## NOVEMBER

**1 *Live music by Bulgarika!! at Narodni.. Our regular meeting night is Thursdays at the Bellflower Woman's Club from 7:30 to 10:30. For more information contact Julith Neff at (562) 881-9504 (cell). You can also visit our website at www.narodni.org for basic information.***

2 *Michael Ginsburg and Bulgarika*. 8:00 at Friday LIFE, DanceFit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd. Introductory dance class and live music. See OTS. Info: worldance1@gmail.com

**3: *Dance for Life Party, celebrating the life of Henrietta Bemis. 7:30-10:30* at Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St, Bellflower. See ad.**

## 2019

### FEBRUARY

**16 *Lunar New Year Festival*. Ahmet Luleci and Evren Soytopcu Kiyak teaching. At Cerritos Sr. Ctr. Save the date!**

### MARCH

**1-3 *Laguna Festival* with Steve Kotansky, Bata Marcetic. Save the date! See ad.**

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

11/23, 24 *Kolo Festival*, teachers: Gergana Panova, Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, John Morovich & John Filcich. San Francisco. See OTS, <http://balkantunes.org/kolofestival>

### OUT OF STATE

#### FLORIDA

2/8-11/2019 *Florida Folk Dance Council Winter Weekend Workshop*. Clarion Orlando Airport Hotel. Turkish dances with Ahmet Luleci and Evren Soytopcu Kiyak and Macedonian dances with Vlasto Petrovski. Contact: Terry at [tabrahams@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:tabrahams@tampabay.rr.com) or [www.folkdance.org](http://www.folkdance.org).

### FOREIGN

#### ADRIATIC

6/1-15 *Adriatic Cruise*, with Dance on the Water. Save the date! See ad.

#### MACEDONIA

12/24/18-1/2/19 *Folklore tour of Mavrovo & Skopje*. For more information and registrations write to: [orovodec55@gmail.com](mailto:orovodec55@gmail.com)

#### SPAIN

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# ON THE SCENE

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## PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

We expect to start dancing at The Old North Church, 191 West Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Madre on October 5. Parking is in the back and the building is air-conditioned.

Fridays starting at 7:30 Roxanna Martell will be teaching *Pot-Of-Gold*, an Irish individual dance, and Robin Martell will teach *Sorondongo Del Mar*, a two-couple set from the Canary Islands. \$5 for members and \$6 for guests. We dance until 10:30.

For the latest information visit our web site (maintained by Jan Rayman) [www.Pasadenafolkdancecoop.org](http://www.Pasadenafolkdancecoop.org) for our weekly dance program, teaching schedule, and more.

On the second Friday of each month we start at 6:30 with set reviews until 7:30.

*Marshall Cates*

## MICHAEL GINSBURG AND BULGARIKA AT L.I.F.E.

On November 2, 2018, the Friday Night L.I.F.E. Balkan Dancers are hosting Bulgarika, the wonderful Bulgarian folk band. Included in the evening is Michael Ginsburg teaching Balkan dances. He is touring with Bulgarika as a musician on their nationwide tour, so we are lucky enough to have a dance workshop with him.

The evening starts at 8 p.m. at the LA DanceFit Studio at 10936 Santa Monica Blvd, WLA (one block east of Veteran Ave.). \$15 entry fee.

*Asako Osiro*

## NARODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCERS

This month we will be reviewing some of the dances taught by our recent guest teachers Alexandru David and Lee Otterholt. We will finish up with Narodni's annual Halloween Party on October

25. Come in costume and enjoy prizes, treats, and of course, dancing.

And don't forget our special night on November 1 with Bulgarika!

Our regular meeting night is Thursdays at the Bellflower Woman's Club from 7:30 to 10:30. If you want to get on the mailing list to receive our weekly email announcements, you can sign up at [narodni@callicomp.info](mailto:narodni@callicomp.info)

For more information contact Julith Neff at (562) 881-9504 (cell). You can also visit our website at [www.narodni.org](http://www.narodni.org) for basic information.

*Julith Neff*

## WANT A MIDWEEK AFTERNOON BOOST?

Join the Mountain Dancers on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of every month. New dances are taught, and some familiar dances are reviewed, every session.

You'll find us at the South Pasadena Woman's Club, 1424 Fremont Ave.

It's \$5.00 for the session, from 1:30 to 3:00, followed by free refreshments.

For more information, call Roz Witt, at 626.797.4453

*Roz Witt*

## VESELO SELO OCTOBER SCHEDULE

Oct. 6 Maria Pahos Benson teaching.

Oct. 13 Shana Winokur reviewing recently taught dances.

Oct. 20 Marcella Lawson reviewing dances she taught on Sept. 15.

Oct. 27 Dark.

*Lu Perry*

## FOLK DANCE PROJECT IN VENTURA

Join us for fun dancing at the YMCA in Ventura on 1st Sundays! Occasionally we adjust this monthly party to a 2nd Sunday, and that will indeed happen again in December. So mark your calendars for 1st Sundays in October and November, and 2nd Sunday in December.

October 7

November 4

December 9

We dance in the Y studio from 3 p.m. until 5:30. Sign in at the front desk (you may be asked for a photo ID) turn right through the doorway, and follow the music. For non-Y members, a \$5 donation is requested, and there's a basket for that in the studio. This money goes to the Y scholarship fund and is how we get to have this wonderful space for our monthly "dance project" open to everyone!

Requests are honored, if the music is available.

The original idea of this "Dance Project" was to work on fun dances from Stockton and other camps and festivals that didn't make it back into our dance groups. To date, we are still working that part out, but have had lots of fun sharing dances in a party-like structure with some teaching.

This is a welcoming group, and Ventura is a lovely place to spend a Sunday! We hope you'll join us!

*Valerie Daley*

## KOLO FESTIVAL

The 67th annual Kolo Festival will be held on Fri. & Sat. Nov. 23 & 24, in San Francisco. Dance teachers: Gergana Panova: Bulgarian, Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu: Romanian, John Morovich & John Filcich: Kolos. Plus singing workshops, live music all evening, sing-alongs.

For the most current information and updates, please see: <http://balkantunes.org/kolofestival>



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Pay on-line or send application with check to  
Alicia LaFetra, Membership,  
1614 Peacock Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

# ETHNIC FOOD

## ROMANIAN RESTAURANT

The Dunarea Romanian Restaurant in Anaheim is a true gem, beautifully decorated with Romanian clothing, pictures and artifacts. They serve not only Romanian delicacies (mititei, dobrogeana, mamaliga, pastrami), but other European dishes (stroganoff, schnitzels, cordon bleu, chicken paprika, cabbage rolls). All food is excellent, moderately priced and attractively presented. The wine and beer list also includes Romanian items.

In addition to all that, on Saturday evening there is live music and a dance floor, with musicians from various European areas. Recently, Marge Gajicki\* arranged for a group of us to be there. The music was provided by Chris Bajmakovich, who played mostly Balkan dances on accordion or keyboard. A large group of folk dancers were there, so the evening consisted of good eating, listening and dancing to great music, and mingling with friends – some of whom we hadn't seen in a while. Lovely time had by all.

Dunarea is located at 821 N. Euclid St. Anaheim, 92801. It is in a small shopping center, with free parking right outside the door. Telephone: 714.772.7233. They are closed Monday and Tuesday. See their website for pictures and full menu: [dunarea.us](http://dunarea.us).

*Jill and Jay Michtom*

*\*Marge Gajicki heads Folk Motif, presenting clothing, jewelry and artifacts from the Balkans. You can see her wares at many folk dance festivals. She also wrote the column "Marge at Large" for Folk Dance Scene some years ago. In addition to arranging the above evening, Marge also promotes other folk events.*



24th Annual

# Macedonian Festival



**Sunday October 14, 2018**

**Noon to 7:00pm**

**Saint Mary's Macedonian Orthodox Church**

**10550 Whittier Blvd., Whittier, CA 90606**

**Live music by renowned Macedonian musician:**

**Chris Bajmakovich**

**Free admission**

**Traditional Macedonian foods for sale**

**Cultural dance performances & musical guests**

**For more information: Cane Carovski 323-819-1961 or St. Mary 562-695-3323**

# RECENT EVENTS



## NARODNI HOMECOMING PARTY

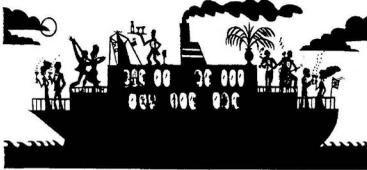
Zimzala, with Narodni member Bob Altman at the keyboard, supplied the zip at Narodni's Homecoming Party September 6. Pauline Klack, Federation President, was there and said my 10" tissue-paper flowers completed the colorful, homecoming atmosphere. Carl Pilsecker, who initiated Homecoming decades ago, had the honor of mopping the dance floor before the festivities began. Lee Otterholt entertained us, and Lee (barefoot), and Marcella Lawson (both of whom dance divinely, barefoot or not) joined in the dancing occasionally. Lee even taught us a new, pretty, easy dance. Marcella's harmony on Lee's songs made everything richer. Join us next year at Homecoming September 2019! Or better yet, come to our Halloween Party on October 25 and/or come on November 1 and dance to the live music of Bulgarika. The wonderful pictures were taken by Ralph Van Middlesworth.

*Camille Dull*



## LIA VASILESCU

Old-time folk dancers remember fondly the Romanian dance teachers Lia and Theodor Vasilescu. Sadly, Lia passed away on August 20, 2018. Lia was Theodor's unwavering helping hand in their field of research and teaching of Romanian folklore and dance. During the communist era, when their travels to the west were forbidden, Theodor's dances were popularized by their adept followers, like Sunni Bloland and Niko Hilferink. After the fall of the Iron Curtain, Theodor and Lia started a long career of traveling and teaching in the US and around the globe. Kind and gentle, Lia was the methodical planner, organizer and – mainly in the beginning – the English translator during these trips. We will always cherish Lia's memory...



## DANCE ON THE WATER

*Announcing our 2019 cruise!*

*From Dubrovnik and the Adriatic  
to Slovenia and Venice*

June 1 - 15, 2019

Seven days sailing the stunningly blue Adriatic on the 40-passenger *M/S Prestige*, then three days in Marija's homeland Slovenia, ending with three days in timeless Venice – with folk dancing every night!

Eleven excursions and most meals included! Sights include two National Parks, two UNESCO World Heritage sites, pristine Lake Bled, and St. Mark's Basilica.

All this for as low as \$3,985 (double occupancy, excluding air)

Check out our website for all the details: [www.folkdanceonthewater.org](http://www.folkdanceonthewater.org)

Please write to get on our email list: [folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com](mailto:folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com)  
Marija & David Hillis 2147 Parker Street, Berkeley CA 94704 (510) 549-0337

# POETRY CORNER

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## LIMERICK

Hot off the press!

Time for me to confess:

I can turn Fado into a mess.

Is it side to the right?

Try as I might,

Steps become a Portuguess.

*Carl Pilsecker*

## FINDING PLAINSONG

Clogging through winter winds of fear,

Springing up to thawing warmth of love,

Boisterous in blazing summer burn,

Calmed in fall's breeze of benediction

Finding plainsong that speaks to the soul

In this world of chaos and cacophony

Dancing the gentle art of living

Graciously grounded...through all seasons.

*Camille Dull*

## DANCING TO WINTER MARQUEE

The voice of Nancy Griffith echoes in my ear

iPod in my pocket, hands on the vacuum.

How loudly am I singing, slightly off key

As the dust motes and the cobwebs disappear?

Can I shimmy and still keep the rhythm

As I two-step across the floor?

What moves me?

highway 90 – “the only place on earth blue bonnets  
grow”\*

The good ol’ boy she left in Tennessee, whose

“sittin’ on the sofa, lookin’ for his supper”\*,

The smell of Ponchatrain or

“Spanish boots of Spanish leather”.

The task is done; the music fades;

The iPod laid to rest

To gather strength for another day

To make a chore a dance.

*From the CD Winter Marquee by Nancy Griffith*

*Pat Cross*





**“Fall Festival”** at the Thursday Club in Somis,  
A Folk Dance Federation of California South Event

*Hosted by the Ventura International Folk Dancers*

**Sunday, October 21, 2018**

1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m

\$8.00

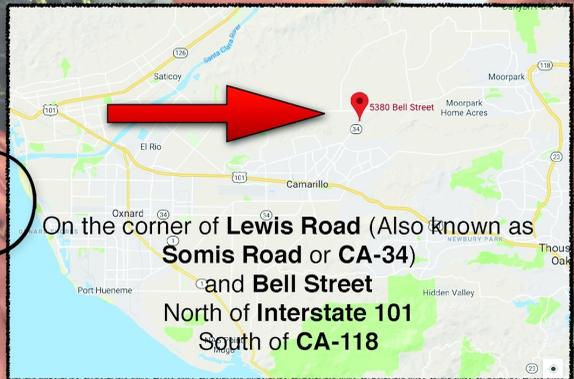
For questions or information call or email:

(805) 647-1634

Dancing.Valerie@gmail.com



Location: 5380 Bell Street, Somis CA 93066



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Sunday, October 21**  
Bring a non-folkdancing friend.  
They'll get in free!

# CLUB DIRECTORY

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

## Federation Clubs

**Bay Osos Folk Dancers:** Tue 11:00-3:00. South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Ave, **LOS OSOS.** (805) 534-1501 Anne Tiber.

\***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.

**Cafe Asteria:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sat 7:30-11:30. LA DanceFit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd, **WEST LA.** jsavin@ctcg.com (310) 229-8947 Jerald Savin

**Cerritos Folk Dancers:** Tue 6:00-8:45. Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South St, **CERRITOS.** (562) 338-2298 chiangwenli@yahoo.com Wen Chiang

**Conejo Valley Folk Dancers:** Wed 7:30-9:30. Conejo Rec Center, 403 W Hillcrest Dr, **THOUSAND OAKS.** (206) 849-1190 dancermmm@gmail.com Marie Montes

**Ethnic Express:** Wed 6:30 except holidays. Charleston Heights Arts Center, 800 So. Brush St, **LAS VEGAS.** (702) 732-4871 rckillian@gmail.com Richard Killian

**Fantasy Folk Dance Club:** Sun 4:00 - 7:00. St Thomas Aquinas Church, 1501 S Atlantic Blvd, **MONTEREY PARK.** tiggerbyc@yahoo.com (626) 458-8851 Sophie Chen. *Fri 8:15-10:45. El Monte Chamber of Commerce, 10505 Valley Blvd EL MONTE.* (626) 429-9008 *Vincentyhcheng@gmail.com Vincent Cheng*

**Int'l Folk Dance Club - Laguna Woods:** Tue 9:00am-11:00. Clubhouse 1, 24232 Calle Aragon, **LAGUNA WOODS.** (949) 454-0837 friedagorelick@hotmail.com Frieda Gorelick

**Kypseli Greek Folk Dancing:** Fri 8:30-11:30. The Tango Room, 4346 Woodman Ave, **SHERMAN OAKS.** www.kypseli.org (310) 508-9676 Anne Sirota xorepse@gmail.com

**Laguna Int'l Dancers:** Wed 6:00-9:00, Sun 6:00-9:00. Clubhouse 2, 24112 Moulton Pkwy, **LAGUNA WOODS.** (949) 770-7026 7kahnmiriam@gmail.com Miriam Kahn

**Mountain Dancers:** 1st & 3rd Tue 1:30-3:30 (Oct. thru June). Woman's Club, 1424 Fremont Ave, S. **PASADENA** (626) 355-9220

johnmeursinge@gmail.com John Meursinge

**Narodni Int'l Folkdancers:** Thu 7:30-10:30. Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St, **BELLFLOWER.** (562) 881-9504

julithilona@yahoo.com Julith Neff

\***Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op:** Fri 7:30-10:30 (Beg 7:30-8). The Old North Church, 191w West Sierra Madre Blvd, **Sierra Madre.** (626) 893-8508 ricklynnbingle@gmail.com Lynn Bingle

**Prescott Int'l Folkdancers:** Sun 3:00-5:00. First Congregational Church, 216 E. Gurley St, **PRESCOTT, AZ.** (928) 925-8995

raweston@earthlink.net Dick Weston

**Rainbow Senior Club:** Sun 3:00-6:00. Joslyn Senior Center 210 N. Chapel Ave, **ALHAMBRA.** (626) 456-1900 ksun310@yahoo.com Kevin Sun

**San Diego Vintage Dancers:** Dance Place, 2650 Truxton Rd, **SAN DIEGO.** (858) 622-9924 drjenma@pacbell.net Mary Jennings

**Skandia South Dance Club:** Mon 6:45-9:45. Downtown Community Center, 250 E Center, **ANAHEIM.** (714) 893-8888 tedmart@juno.com Ted Martin. *Sat(usually first) 3:30-10:00. Lindberg Park, 5041 Rhoda Way, CULVER CITY.* (562) 732-4990 cameronflanders@gmail.com Cameron Flanders

**Solvang Village Folk Dancers:** Sat 6:30-8:30 (except 3rd Sat). Bethania Lutheran, 603 Atterdag Rd, **SOLVANG.** 3rd Sat 1:00-3. Corner Alisal & Copenhagen, **Solvang** (805) 688-3397 dlh4362@gmail.com David Heald

**Tuesday Gypsies:** Tue 7:45-10:30. Masonic Lodge, 9635 Venice Blvd, **CULVER CITY.** (310) 391-7382 sandyhelperin@icloud.com Sandy Helperin

**Veselo Selo Folkdancers:** Sat 7:30-10:30. Unitarian Church, 511 S. Harbor, **ANAHEIM.** (714) 828-2581 Lu Perry

**Vintage Israeli Dancing:** One Sat per month 8:16-12:00. Anisa's School of Dance, 14252 Ventura Blvd, **SHERMAN OAKS.** (818) 881-7494 (after noon) Louis, dovbyrd@aol.com

**\*West Los Angeles Folk Dancers:** Mon 7:30-10:00 (Beg 7:30-8). Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave, **WEST LA.** (310) 202-6166 dancingbarrs@yahoo.com Beverly Barr

**West Valley Folk Dancers:** Fri 7:15-10:00. Senior Center, 7326 Jordan Ave, **CANOGA PARK.** (818) 348-6133 lila@aurich.com Lila Aurich

**Westchester Lariats:** Mon 4:00-9:00. Westchester Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson, **LOS ANGELES.** (310) 689-9176 veniceii@yahoo.com Ina Hall

**Westwood Co-op:** Thu 7:30-9:45. Felicia Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd, **WEST LA.** (310) 657-6877 rwsklar@yahoo.com Rita Sklar

### **Exhibition Groups**

**Karpatok Hungarian Folk Ensemble:** Wed 8:00. United Hungarian House, 1975 Washington, **LOS ANGELES.** (310) 350-1135 Livia Schachinger

**Krakusy Polish Folk Dance Ensemble:** Tue 7:00-9:30 Sat 2:15-4:15. Polish Parish Hall, 3424 W Adams Blvd, **LOS ANGELES.** (626) 827-7338 elistarr@yahoo.com Ela Romuzga

**Scandia Dancers:** Tue 7:00-10:00. Woman's Club, **BELLFLOWER.** (714) 356-7745 sholzman1@verizon.net Stefanie Holzman

**UCSB Middle Eastern Ensemble:** Tue 7:00-10:00. Gehringer Music Bldg, UCSB Campus, **SANTA BARBARA.** (805) 729-6453 scottmarcu@aol.com Scott Marcus

### **Non-Federation Clubs**

**Beverly Barr Daytime Classes:** Mon 1:30-3:00 Senior Center, 5056 Van Nuys Blvd, **SHERMAN OAKS.** Tue 10:45am-12:30. *Roxbury Park Rec. Center, 471 So. Roxbury, Beverly Hills.* Wed 12:30-2:00. Culver City Senior Center, northwest corner Culver & Overland, **CULVER CITY.** (310) 202-6166

**Cafe Aman:** 2nd Sat 7:00-11:00. Teach 7:45-8:45 LA DanceFit Studio, 10936 Santa Monica Blvd, **WEST LA,** madelyntaylor@hotmail.com ianprice@hotmail.com

**Cal Tech Folkdancers:** Tue 7:30. Cal Tech Campus, Dabney Hall, **PASADENA,** parking off Del Mar. (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:** Thu 7:00-9:00 Nov-Apr. Leisure Center Dance Studio, 401 S. Pavilion Way, **PALM SPRINGS.** (760) 342-1297 Helen Smith

**Folk Dance Center:** Every Evening. 4569 30th St, **SAN DIEGO.** (619) 466-4043, www.folkdancecenter.org

**\*Foothill Folk Dancers:** Thu 7:30-9:30. Community Center, 4469 Chevy Chase Dr., **LA CAÑADA** (818) 790-8523 JanRayman@charter.net

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

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

**\*Israeli Dancing-Natalie Stern:** Mon 10:00am-11:45 & noon-1:00(Beg); Tue 10:30am-noon; Wed 7:00-9:30; Thu 10:15am-12:00, 12:05-1:05(Beg). American Jewish Univ Dance Studio, 15600 Mulholland, **L.A** (818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern

**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

**Kayso Folk Dancers:** Fri 9:30am-12:00. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 206, **SAN DIEGO** (619) 463-7529 Joe Sigona

**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 8:00-10:30. Oak Park Stage, corner Junipero and Calle Real, **SANTA BARBARA.** (805) 682-4511 Luis Goena

**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

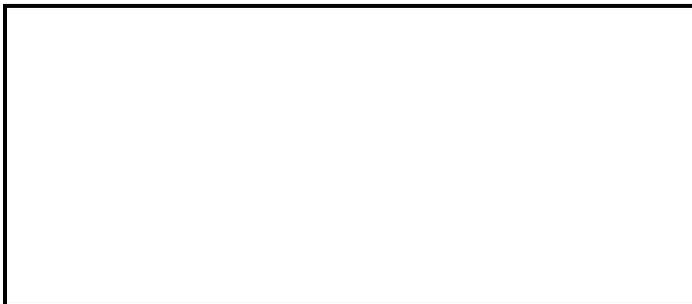
**Topanga Canyon Int'l FD:** Fri 9:30am-11:00am. Froggy's Restaurant, 1105 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd, **TOPANGA .** (310) 455-1051 Melanie Kareem

**UCLA Ballroom Club & UCLA Int'l Folkdancers:** Mon 7:00-9:00(ballroom), 9:00-11:00 (folk ). UCLA Kerckhoff Hall, **WESTWOOD.** (310) 284-3636 UniversityDanceClubs@yahoo.com James Zimmer

**Ventura Folk Dancers:** Tue 1:15-2:30, Thu 1:45-3:00. YMCA, 3760 Telegraph Rd, **VENTURA.** (805)-746-0884 Valerie Daley.

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