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Folk Dance Scene

WELCOME TO OUR VESELO SELO



Published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, South
Volume 38, No. 4
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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, costume, customs, lore and culture of the peoples of the world. It is also 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 us by the 10th of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. *Electronic submission is preferred.* Views expressed in Scene are solely the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy of the magazine or the Federation. Neither Scene nor the Federation assumes responsibility for the accuracy of information sent in.

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*On the Cover
Photo Collage of Veselo Selo Dancers
designed by Jatila van der Veen*

Club Directory

Beginner's Classes

Club	Time	Contact	Location
CABRILLO INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Tue 7:00-8:00 Thu 7:30-8:30	(858) 459-1336 Georgina (619) 445-4907 Ellen, Jack	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club Balboa Park
CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS	Mon 7:30	(805) 497-1957 Jill Lungren	THOUSAND OAKS, Conejo Elem School, 280 Conejo School Rd
DESERT INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS	Tue 7:45-8:45 Call to Confirm	(760) 342-1297 Helen Smith (760) 327-8684 Dwight Fine	PALM SPRINGS, Step By Step Dance Studio, 312 N Palm Canyon Dr.
HAVERIM FOLK DANCERS OF VENTURA	Sun 7-9	(805) 643-2886 Ann Zacher	VENTURA, Temple Beth Torah 760 Foothill Rd (corner Kimball)
ISRAEL DANCING WITH JAMES ZIMMER	Tues 11:00am-noon	(310) 284-3638 James Zimmer	VENICE, Israeli Senior Center, 201 Ocean Front Walk
ISRAELI DANCE WITH NATALIE STERN	Tue 7:30-8:30 Wed 7:30-8:30 Fri 10:00-11:00am	(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern	VALLEY VILLAGE, Shaarei Zedek, 12800 Chandler (Tu), L.A., Univ of Judaism Dance Studio 5600 Mulholland (W), THOUSAND OAKS, Temple Etz Chaim, 1080 Janss (F).
KAYSO FOLK DANCERS	Fri 9:30-noon	(619) 469-7133 Evelyn George	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park, Casa del Prado room 206 St
OJAI FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:30-9:30	(805) 646-0865	OJAI, Ojai Art Center
PASADENA CO-OP BEGINNER'S CLASS	Fri 7:45-8:30	(626) 358-5942 Ann Armstrong	PASADENA, Throop Memorial Church, 300 S. Los Robles
SAN DIEGO INT'L FOLK DANCE CLASS	Wed 7:00-8:15	(619) 422-5540 Alice Stirling	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club Balboa Park
SKANDIA FOLK DANCE CLASSES	Mon 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:30-10:00	(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin (310) 827-3618 Sparky Sotcher	ANAHEIM, Community Ctr, 250 E Center CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park, 5401 Rhoda Way
SOUTH BAY FOLK DANCERS	2nd Fri 7:45-8:15	(310) 377-6393 Bea Rasoff	TORRANCE, Cultural Arts Center 3330 Civic Center Dr. (310) 781-7150
WEST LOS ANGELES FOLK DANCERS	Mon 7:45-8:45	(310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr, instructor	WEST L.A., Brockton School 1309 Armacost Ave
WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK DANCERS	Thu 7:30-9:00	(310) 316-7513 Sybil (310) 452-0991 Forrest	WEST L.A., F. Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd.

Exhibition Groups

Club	Time	Contact	Location
AVAZ INTERNATIONAL DANCE THEATRE	Mon, Wed 7-10	(323) 663-2829 Jamal	L.A. Church of Guardian Angel, 1118 N. Commonwealth Ave.
CLAN MACLEOD DANCERS	Mon 7:30-9:30	(818) 761-4750 Deanna St Amand	EAGLE ROCK, Women's 20th Century Club, 5105 Hermosa Ave.
DUNAJ INTERNATIONAL FOLK ENSEMBLE	Wed 7:00-10	(714) 641-7450 Richard Duree	COSTA MESA, contact: 2332 Minuteman Way
INT'L ACADEMY OF MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE		(818) 343-4410 Suzy Evans	VAN NUYS, Dars Art Center, 7412 Balboa Blvd
SCANDIA DANCERS		(714) 533-3886 Donna Tripp	
UCSB MIDDLE EAST ENSEMBLE	Tue 7:00 - 10:00	(805) 967-7125 Scott Marcus (805) 687-8823 Alexandra King	SANTA BARBARA, Gehringer Music Bldg., UCSB Campus

Club Directory

Federation Clubs

Club	Time	Contact	Location
VENTURA FOLK DANCERS	Fri 7:30-9:30	(805) 985-7316 Edith Sewell	VENTURA, Loma Vista Elem. School, 300 Lynn Dr.
VESELO SELO FOLK DANCERS	Fri 7:30-10:30 Sat 8:00-11:00	(714) 680-4356 Lorraine Rothman	FULLERTON, Hillcrest Recreation Ctr, 1155 N. Lemon
VINTAGE ISRAELI DANCING	4th or 5th Sat confirm	dovbyrd@aol.com	SANTA MONICA, Bay Cities JCC, 2601 Santa Monica Blvd.
WEST LOS ANGELES FOLK DANCERS	Mon 7:45-10:30 Fri 7:45-10:45	(310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr	WEST L.A., Brockton School 1309 Armacost Ave
WEST VALLEY FOLK DANCERS	Fri 7:30-10:15	(818) 348-6133 Wally Aurich	CANOGA PARK, Senior Center 7326 Jordan Ave
WESTCHESTER LARIATS	Mon 3:30-9:00	(310) 374-1444 Roberta Bissill	LOS ANGELES, Westchester Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson Ave
WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK DANCERS	Thu 7:30-10:45	(310) 316-7513 Sybil (310) 452-0991 Forrest	WEST L.A., F. Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd.

Non-Federation Clubs

Club	Time	Contact	Location
ANAHEIM INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:30-9:30	(714) 893-8127 Carol Maybrier	ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church, 511 S Harbor
CAFE DANSSA BALKAN DANCERS	Wed 7:30-10:30	(626) 293-8523 Sherry Cochran	WEST L.A., Cafe Danssa 11533 W. Pico Blvd.
CAL TECH INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Tue 8:00-11:55	(626) 797-5157 Nancy Mulligan	PASADENA, Cal Tech Campus, Dabney Hall, parking off Del Mar
DESERT INTERNATIONAL DANCERS	Tue 7:45-9:45 Call to confirm	(760) 327-8684 Dwight Fine (760) 342-1297 Helen Smith	PALM SPRINGS, Step By Step Dance Studio, 312 N Palm Canyon Dr.
FOLK DANCE CLASS	Mon 10-11:30am Wed 10:15-11:45am	(310) 652-8706 Tikva Mason	L.A. Robertson Rec Ctr. 1641 Preuss W HOLLYWOOD West Hollywood Park, San Vicente at Melrose
FOLK DANCE FUN	3rd Sat 7:30-9:30	(818) 349-0877 Ruth Gore	VAN NUYS, 8648 Woodman Ave
ISRAELI DANCING WITH JAMES ZIMMER	Tues 8:00-12:00	(310) 284-3638 James Zimmer	WEST HILLS, West Valley JCC, 22622 Vanowen
ISRAELI FOLK DANCING WITH YONI	Wed 7:00-11:30 Thu 7:00-11:30	(760) 631-0802 Yoni	COSTA MESA, JCC, 250 Baker St LA JOLLA, Beth El, 8660 Gilman Dr
ISRAELI DANCE WITH NATALIE STERN	Mon 10:00am-1:00 Wed 7:30-10:00 Tue 7:30-9:30 Thu 10:30-noon Fri 10:00-11:00am Mon 7:15-9:45, Tue 11:15am-12:30	(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern call for information	L.A., Univ of Judaism 5600 Mulholland (M,W); VALLEY VILLAGE, Shaarei Zedek, 12800 Chandler (Tu); SHERMAN OAKS, Valley JCC 13164 Burbank (Th); THOUSAND OAKS, 1080 E. Janss Rd (F) L.A., Shaarei Tefila, 7269 Beverly Blvd
OJAI FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:30-9:30	(805) 646-0865 Carol Smith	OJAI Art Center 113 S. Montgomery
SAN DIEGO FOLK DANCE CENTER	Sun 5:00-7:00 Mon 6:30-10:30 Tue 7:00-11:30 Wed 9:00am-noon 7:00-10:00 Thu 8:00-10:00 Fri 7:30-11:00 Sat 8:00-12:00	(619) 281-5656	SAN DIEGO, 4569 30th Street
SAN DIEGO FOLK DANCERS	Mon 7:30-9:30	(858) 571-2730 Kin Ho	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club, Balboa Park
S.M.C INTERNATIONAL DANCE CLUB	Tue, Thu, Fri 11:15am-12:35	(310) 284-3637 James Zimmer	SANTA MONICA, Santa Monica College Clock Tower 1900 Pico Blvd
UCLA INT'L F.D. CLUB BALLROOM DANCE CLUB	Mon 9:00-11:00 Mon 7:00-9:00	(310) 284-3636 James Zimmer	WESTWOOD, UCLA Ackeman Union Room 2414
UCSB MERHABA FOLK DANCE CLUB	Fri 8:00-10:00	(805) 964-3591 Jatila van der Veen	SANTA BARBARA, UCSB Robertson Gym, Upstairs Left Gym.



Folk Dance Scene

Volume 38, No. 4
May 2002

Editor's Corner

This month's issue is packed with a wide range of articles. The cover story is about Veselo Selo, one of the Federation's very active clubs. Scandia, another Federation Club, has also contributed an article about their exciting travel plans to Finland.

The May Day and Mother's Day articles present the historical origins of these festivities. Did you know that the popular Romanian dance Alenelul has its origins in a May Day celebration?

In Dancers Speak, there are many replies to last month's editorial. We encouraged Folk Dance Scene subscribers to read the article and to respond if you had an opinion, and many of you have done just that...

Finally, Statewide 2002 is coming this month to Rocklin (near Sacramento). Try not to miss this one!

We hope you enjoy reading this issue.

— *Folk Dance Scene Committee*

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Hotline (310) 478-6600

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Vice-President	Sylvia Stachura	(626) 300-8138
Treasurer	Gordon Wall	(562) 862-0521
Secretary	Lynn Bingle	(626) 914-4006
Membership	John Matthews	(562) 424-6377
Historian	Julith Neff	(562) 867-4495
Publicity	open	

President's Corner



The past few months have brought us all a wake-up call as to how short our stay here really is. I refer to personal losses we've experienced. Friends and family members have left our dance lines, our sets, our arms and we are left with an emptiness that needs filling.

Recently, as we danced a circle dance in Pasadena, I looked across from me and saw a smiling face looking back. The moment brought me a realization of how important dancing is to me. In that moment the immediate pleasure was enhanced by memory. Remembering how, where and when I learned that dance brought me renewed joy in dancing it again with those with whom I learned it.

As I take office as President of the Folk Dance Federation of Calif. South, Inc., the awareness that we need to focus on the goal of actively seeking and creating ways of sharing dance is very real to me.

This last year **Yves Moreau** was here to share dances. Yves told us that the learning of dances that we do is often the only link that many countries have to their folkloric past. In a way, our hobby has become an active archive for so many places on earth that are going through upheavals and change.

One of our energetic Past Presidents, **Marilynn Pixler**, recently had a conversation with a Girl Scout leader who is interested in spreading the joy of dance she experienced as a young person. We have been in communication and are actively attempting to make that link with younger generations of potential dancers.

In my tenure as President, I'd like to see us keep and strengthen and take joy in the links we have with one another, and I'd like us to actively reach out to share folkdance with coming generations. Our out-going President recently brought his grandchild to dance with us. This child shows us that all ages want and need to move. We only need to clear a path. A song/poem from Ric Masten says: "Let it be a dance we do, may I have this dance with you? Through the good times and the bad times too, let it be a dance." Let's help create new memories with and for new dancers.

— *Sylvia Stachura*

Veselo Selo

32 YEARS IN ORANGE COUNTY

VESELO SELO – "HAPPY VILLAGE"



History

In early 1970, **Pat Thomas** and **Ann Billingsly**, realized that Orange County needed its own place to enjoy folkdancing. Our first meeting place, which included a complete kitchen, opened in downtown Anaheim. They named our new home, "Veselo Selo" which means Happy Village. Veselo was open as many as seven nights a week and made it possible for us to dance a full range of international countries' folkdances.

In the ensuing years, others stepped in to run the Club and by 1986 the Club became a full co-op with elected officers. In 1991, Veselo moved to Hillcrest Recreation Center in Fullerton. Hillcrest Center is ideal because the dance studio, which is upstairs, has a perfect wooden floor, the room is large, and we have a full dining room and kitchen downstairs.

Membership

Since we are a co-op, the direction of the Club has followed the membership's interests. And because our evenings are almost always "all request", the programs reflect the membership's selections. Today, Veselo has the reputation of being a predominantly Balkan club and with good reason. A goodly number of members identify their family roots as Croatian, Serbian, Slovenian, Macedonian, Bulgarian, Romanian, Moldavian, and, not to forget, Greek and Israeli. Many of these dancers speak their native languages. Some were born and grew up in their native countries. Others were born in this country to parents who brought their Balkan culture with them.



A major attraction to Balkan dance is the village's inclusiveness whereby everyone can dance. As in our Eastern European villages of years ago, the town's central square was the meeting place for everyone to come together to celebrate one another's special events. Veselo has this inclusiveness flavor. And from all this has come the reputation of being a very friendly group. Veselo's membership now tops over 80 people.

Activities

Veselo Selo's regular dance evenings are Saturday nights. Each evening is planned with a theme such as oldies and goodies on "Nostalgia Night". Last year we recognized **John Filcich's** contributions to folk dancing with a special party in his honor. This year, our young people are enjoying Veselo's special "Children's Evening"-the first hour specially planned with dances suitable for children. We celebrate life cycle events; birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, new births, end of life contributions, and everything in-between. We recently added a 7:30 to 8:15 time slot for new dancers and others of us who want more time to practice basic steps and introductory dances.

Club Directory

Federation Clubs

Club	Time	Contact	Location
ALPINE DANCERS OF SANTA BARBARA	Mon 7:30-10:00	(805) 968-3983 Gilbert Perleberg	SANTA BARBARA, Emanuel Lutheran Church, 3721 Modoc Rd
CABRILLO INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Tue 7:00-10:00 Thu, 7:30-10:00	(858) 459-1336 Georgina (619) 445-4907 Ellen, Jack - 11:00	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park, Balboa Park Club
CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS	Mon 7:30-9:30	(805) 497-1957 Jill Lungren	THOUSAND OAKS, Conejo Elem School, 280 Conejo School Rd
CULVER CITY HOLLYWOOD PEASANTS	Wed 7:30-10:00	(310) 398-8187 Al Drutz	CULVER CITY, Culver West Park, 4162 Wade St. (park on Moore St.)
ETHNIC EXPRESS INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Wed 6:30	(702) 732-4871 Richard Killian	LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights Art Center, 800 S. Brush St.
HAVERIM INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Sun 7-9	(805) 643-2886 Ann Zacher	VENTURA, Temple Beth Torah 7620 Foothill Rd (corner Kimball)
KERN INT'L FOLK DANCERS	Wed 7:00-9:00	(661) 831-5007 Delphine Szczepkowski	BAKERSFIELD, Wayne Van Horn School, 5501 Kleinpell Ave.
KRAKUSY POLISH FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE	Tu, W, F 7:15-9:30 Sat 2:00-4:30	(626) 286-6779 Steve Perzyna	LOS ANGELES, Polish Parish Hall, 3424 W Adams Blvd.
KYPSELI GREEK FOLK DANCING	Fri 8:00	(818) 990-5542 Dalia Miller	PASADENA, Skandia Hall 2031 E. Villa
LAGUNA FOLK DANCERS	Sun 7:00-10:00 Wed 8:00-10:00	(714) 533-8667 Ted Martin	LAGUNA BEACH, Community Ctr 384 Legion Ave
LEISURE WORLD FOLK DANCERS	Tue 8:30am-11:00 Sat 9:00am-11:00	(949) 768-6039 Florence Tabor	LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 1, Leisure World
MOUNTAIN DANCERS	Tue 7:00	(626) 799-6161 Jackie	S. PASADENA, Oneonta Cong. Church, 1515 Garfield
MULTICULTURAL ARTS CLUB	Wed 5:00-7:30	(949) 770-1312 Milton Feldon	LAGUNA WOODS, Leisure World Gym, 24232 Calle Aragon
NARODNI INT'L FOLKDANCERS	Thu 7:30-10:30	(562) 424-6377 John Matthews	LONG BEACH, Calif Heights Meth. Church, 3759 Orange Ave
PAS DE FOX	M/T/W 5:30-8:30 Sat 9am-1pm	(562) 943-9960 Susan Maryn	SYLMAR, Fox Dance Studio, 13090 Bordon Ave.
PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP	Fri 7:45-11:00	(626) 358-5942 Ann Armstrong	PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church 300 S. Los Robles
SAN DIEGO INT'L FOLK DANCE CLUB	Wed 7:00-9:30	(619) 422-5540 Alice Stirling	SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club, Presidents Way off Park, Balboa Park
SAN DIEGO VINTAGE DANCERS	Thu 8:00 - 10:00	(858) 622-9924 Marry Jennings	SAN DIEGO, Folk Dance Center, 4569 30th St
SAN PEDRO KOLO DANCERS	Mon 7:30-9:30	(562) 924-4922 Dorothy Daw	SAN PEDRO, Dalmatian-American Club, 1639 S Palos Verdes St.
SANTA BARBARA COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY	Sun 5:30-10:00 Tue 7:00-9:00	(805) 682-1877 Elliott Karpeles (805) 682-5523 Gary Shapiro	SANTA BARBARA Carrillo Rec Center 100 E. Carrillo St. (Sun) Westside Cmnty Ctr, 423 W Victoria (Tue)
SANTA MARIA FOLK DANCERS	Mon 7:00-9:00	(805) 925-3981 Audrey Silva	SANTA MARIA, Veterans Memorial Ctr, Pine & Tunnell Sts
SKANDIA DANCE CLASSES	Mon 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:30-10:00 Call for others	(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin (714) 533-3886 Donna Tripp (310) 827-3618 Sparky Sotcher	ANAHEIM, Downtown Community Center, 250 E Center CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park, 5401 Rhoda Way
SOLVANG VILLAGE FOLK DANCERS	Sat 7:00-10:00	(805) 688-2382 Jean Menzies	SOLVANG, Santa Ynez School 3325 Pine St
SOUTH BAY FOLK DANCERS	2nd Fri 7:45-9:45	(310) 377-6393 Bea Rasoff	TORRANCE, Torrance Cultural Ctr, 3330 Civic Center Dr.
TUESDAY GYPSIES	Tue 7:30-10:30	(310) 390-1069 Millicent Stein	CULVER CITY, Masonic Lodge 9635 Venice Blvd.

Recent Events



Billy Burke's Tanza Dancers performing at the Ojai Festival. Ghana (above) and Turn of the Century (right).



Robert Vickery leading a dance line at the Ojai Festival.



Carol Jacobson (center) and friends at the Camp Hess Kramer Weekend.



Jill and Jay Michtom and Helga and Fred O'Brien at the Westwood Festival.

Folkdancers

Veselo also offers a Friday evening class that gives us an extra evening to practice some of the newer more difficult dances from folkdance camps, festivals and visiting master teachers. This class also reviews many of our older classics. Our in-house teachers are in charge of this class and welcome new dancers.

Veselo has two major parties each year and smaller ones in-between. New Year's Eve brings in old Veselo friends from as far away as Sweden, Australia, Canada, St. Louis, New York, Arizona, San Francisco and San Diego. Our Anniversary Party in June is a very special event when we remember and rejoice in the years that Veselo has brought so much fun and camaraderie. This year, our Anniversary Party will be Saturday evening, June 15th.

A special party just around the corner is coming Saturday evening, May 4th, with Madison Avenue Folk Band. Other special events include teachings by visiting master teachers, live music to evenings' dancing, afternoon picnics and dance, and community performances. Veselo is blessed with three in-house teachers, **Sandra Wodicka, John Matthews, and Henrietta Bemis**, who teach and review newer

dances, older dances, and help us maintain integrity of footwork and styling.

Planning Time

Board meetings, which are held at the beginning of each month, are open to everyone. We meet at different members' homes and usually start with a pot luck meal. Some of our best ideas for special evenings have evolved during the pot lucks.

Veselo Selo's Purpose

Veselo Selo's mission guides our activities. Our purpose is to encourage the enjoyment of international folkdancing and related activities, and to promote a spirit of friendship; to encourage research in authentic folklore, folk music, folk dance costumes and folk dance techniques; to support cooperation and exchange of dance techniques and instruction; to encourage festivals, classes and events in which all may participate; and lastly to carry out all activities which fulfill these purposes.

For monthly details of Veselo Selo's programs, check ON THE SCENE.

— *Lorraine Rothman, with Veselo Selo's Archivists and Other Helpers*

BALKAN FOLKLORE STUDIES TRAVELS TO
HUNGARY & CROATIA ❖ JULY 15 - AUGUST 2,
 2002

HIGHLIGHTS IN HUNGARY: Beautiful **BUDAPEST**, the triennial **DANUBE FOLKLORE FESTIVAL** and, historically rich **PECS**.
 ✕✕✕✕✕✕✕✕

HIGHLIGHTS IN CROATIA: The capital **ZAGREB**, **PLITVICE LAKES PARK** with 16 lakes and 92 waterfalls, Diocletian's Palace in **SPLIT**, the walled city of **DUBROVNIK**, and the breath-taking beauty of the **ADRIATIC COAST**.
 ✕✕✕✕✕✕✕✕

Dance Workshops! Performances! Craft Fairs! Ethnographic Museums!
 ✕✕✕✕✕✕✕✕

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Balkan Folklore Studies 11065 Collinwood Dr. Santee, CA 92071	Delores Crawford Phone/Fax: 619-562-5948 E-mail: delcraw4d@aol.com
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Please visit us at www.geocities.com/balkanfolklore

Calendar

Note: Federation Events are in Bold.

CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS.

MAY

2, 3 **Altan with Kate Rusby**, Irish and British music. Saturday at UC Riverside, Sunday, 8:00 at Royce Hall, UCLA. Info: (310) 825-2101.

2,9 Vedat Gursoylu teaching Turkish dances at Narodni. Info: (562) 862-0521.

4 Spring Fling Party, hosted by Veselo Selo. See OTS or Cover Story for details.

5 **Cinco de Mayo Festival**, De La Guerra Plaza, Santa Barbara. Info: (805) 730-1080.

5 **Cinco de Mayo Celebration**, 3:00 at Madrid Theatre, Canoga Park. Free. Info: (818) 347-9938.

5 **Old Time Music Jam**, 4:00-8:00 at CTMS Folk Music Center. 16953 Ventura Blvd., Encino. Free. Info: Tammy, (818) 817-7756.

11 **Hungarian Dance Party**. 7:30 teaching, 9:00 party. At Gypsy Camp, 3265 Motor Ave., LA. Info: Debbie (310) 202-9024.

11 **Rangoli**, dance concert. 4:00 at Madrid Theatre, Canoga Park. Free. Info: (818) 347-9938.

18 **Scottish Dance demonstrations**. 1:00-2:00 at Descanso Gardens, La Canada.

19 **Topanga Banjo & Fiddle Contest**. 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. At Paramount Ranch, Agoura. Info: (818) 382-4819, info@TopangaBanjoFiddle.org.

19 **Tamburitzans of Duquesne University**, perform 3:00 at Servite Theatre, Anaheim. See ad. Info: (714) 671-0707.

20 **Tamburitzans of Duquesne University**, perform 7:30 at Civic Arts Plaza., Thousand Oaks. Info: (805) 449-2775.

25, 26 **Highland Games**. Costa Mesa. Scottish dancing demonstrations. Info: (909) 624-9496.

27 Memorial Day Party with the West L.A. Folk Dancers. All-request program, 7:30 Memorial Day. See OTS. Call Beverly (310) 202-6166.

JUNE

1 **Jane Austen Evening**, English country dances, sponsored by Ballroom Dance Club at UCLA. Free. Info: (310) 284-3636, ballroom@ucla.edu.

1,2 **Greek Festival**, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Prophet Elias, San Bernardino. Info: (909) 885-6213.

1,2 **Irish Festival**, Oak Park, Santa Barbara. Music, dancing, crafts, food. Free. Info: (805)687-4343.

7,8,9 **Greek Festival**, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Demetrios, Camarillo. Info: (805) 482-1273.

8 **Hungarian Dance Party**. 7:30 class, 9:00 party. At Gypsy Camp, 3265 Motor Ave., L. A. Info: Debbie (310) 202-9024.

8,9 **Greek Festival**, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. George, Downey. Info: (562) 862-6461.

8,9 **Greek Festival**, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Spyridon, San Diego. Info: (619) 297-4165.

9 **AMAN Int'l Dance & Music**. 8:00 at Ford Theatre, L. A. Info: (323) 461-3673.

14, 15, 16 **Huck Finn Jubilee**, Bluegrass and country music and dance, performances, crafts, food. Mojave Park, Victorville. Info: (909) 780-8810.

18, 18, 20 **Compania Marta Carrasco**, Spanish theatre-dance. 8:00 at Ford Theatre, L. A. Info: (323) 461-3673.

21, 22, 23 **CTMS Summer Solstice**. Folk and contra dancing, singing, storytelling, music and crafts. Soka University, Calabasas. See ad. for details. Info: (818) 817-7756, ctms@lafn.org.

24-29 **San Diego Vintage Dance Week**, Classes with Richard Powers, and others, balls, live music. At UCSD. Info: Nat Sanders at (858) 587-9408, Mary Jennings at drjemnma@pacbell.net.

25 **Miriam Makeba**, "The Grand Dame of World Music", 8:00 at Barclay Theatre, Irvine. Info: (949) 854-4646, www.thebarclay.org.

27-30 **Noche Flamenca**, dancers and musicians from Spain. At Orange County Perf. Arts Ctr., Costa Mesa. Info: (714) 556-ARTS, www.ocpac.org.

29, 30 **Chinese Festival**, Oak Park, Santa Barbara. Music, dancing, crafts, food. Free.

30 **Polynesian Paradise**, music, song and dance. 7:30 at Hollywood Bowl. Info: (323) 850-2000.

JULY

5 "July 5th Party" (Friday) celebrate July 4th with the West L.A. Folk Dancers. Celebration will be on Friday evening with an All-Request Program, pot-luck snacks, and the usual fun. See OTS. Call Beverly & Irwin (310) 202-6166.

6 **Jaliyaa**, African music, stories and dance. 8:00 at Ford Theatre, L. A. Info: (323) 461-3673.

Gold Country Festival

Statewide 2002 - Registration Form

May 17-19, 2002

For additional information: Call Toba Goddard at (916) 371-4441 or e-mail: tobag@hotmail.com or Bruce Mitchell at (530) 888-6586 or e-mail: dancebruce@aol.com

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

	<u>SINGLE FESTIVAL EVENTS</u>	<u>POSTMARK BY MAY 3</u>	<u>AFTER MAY 3</u>
Friday (May 17)			
• "Fandango" - Warm up party 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 midnight	\$10.00 \$ _____	\$12.00 \$ _____	
• Ice Cream Social (see Full Package)	\$ 3.00 \$ _____	\$ 3.00 \$ _____	
Saturday (May 18)			
• Institute - includes Syllabus 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	\$12.00 \$ _____	\$15.00 \$ _____	
• Dick Crum presentation (free) limited seats available 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	# _____	# _____	
• "Gold Rush" - Evening dance party including live music with "Vecernica" 7:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.	\$10.00 \$ _____	\$12.00 \$ _____	
Sunday (May 19)			
• Federation Installation Brunch 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	See Selected Events*	See Selected Events*	
• International Dance Concert 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	\$10.00 \$ _____	\$12.00 \$ _____	
• Western Bar-B-Que 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	See Selected Events**	See Selected Events**	
• "The Tailings" - all request dance party 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	\$ 8.00 \$ _____	\$10.00 \$ _____	

SELECTED EVENTS:

FULL PACKAGE: All dance events including the Ice Cream Social for pre-registered dancers	\$49.00 \$ _____	\$64.00 \$ _____
*Installation Brunch:	\$17.50 \$ _____	\$17.50 \$ _____
**Western Bar-B-Que:	\$15.00 \$ _____	\$15.00 \$ _____
TOTAL:	\$ _____	\$ _____

Please make checks payable to **Folk Dance Federation of California**

Mail to:

GOLD COUNTRY FESTIVAL
403 Safflower Place
West Sacramento, CA 95691

▼ **BE A REAL 49er - BUY THE WHOLE PACKAGE AND GET THE ICE CREAM SOCIAL FREE!!** ▼

Statewide 2002 Gold Country Festival



California Miner's Dance.

Save this date
for fun and
frolic in the
historic
California Gold
Country!

Friday through Sunday – May 17, 18, 19, 2002
Rocklin (near Sacramento)

Larry Weiner– teaching Balkan Dance
(Steve Kotansky is unable to come due to physical problems)
Richard Powers – teaching Vintage Dance
Dick Crum – expounding on Dance

Three days of fun dancing, colorful concert, barbecue, and much, much more!

For information call Bruce Mitchell at (530) 888-6586 or dancebruce@aol.com
Sponsored by The California Folk Dance Federation Statewide Festival
in conjunction with the National Folk Organization.

Calendar

- 7 *World Roots*, music from around the world. 7:30 at Hollywood Bowl. Info: (323) 850-2000.
- 12, 13, 14 *Greek Festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Katherine, Redondo Beach. Info: (310) 540-2434.
- 13, 14 *Danza Floricanto & Kaymanan Ng Lahi*, Mexican and Filipino dance. 8:00 at Ford Theatre, L. A. Info: (323) 461-3673.
- 13, 14 *French Festival*, Oak Park, Santa Barbara. Music, dancing, crafts. Free. Info: (805) 564-PARIS.
- 27, 28 *Greek Festival*, Oak Park, Santa Barbara. Music, dancing, crafts, food. Info: (805) 878-0274.
- 27,28 *Greek Festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Gregory of Nyssa, El Cajon. Info: (619) 593-0707.
- 27, 28 *Greek Festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Barbara, Santa Barbara. Info: (805) 683-4492.
- 28 *African Funk*, music and dance. 7:30 at Hollywood Bowl. Info: (323) 850-2000.
- 31–8/3 *Fiesta Mercados*. De La Guerra Plaza, Santa Barbara. info: (805) 962-8101.
- AUGUST**
- 2 *Agualuna Dance Company*, Mexican music and dance. 8:00 at Ford Theatre, L. A. Info: (323) 461-3673.
- 16, 17, 18 *Greek Festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Sophia, L. A. Info: (323) 737-2424.
- 23, 24, 25 *Greek Festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Nectarios, Covina. Info: (626) 967-5524.
- 24, 25 *Italian Festival*, Oak Park, Santa Barbara. Music, dancing, crafts, food. Info: (805) 565-2968.
- 31 *Ballet Folklorico del Pacifico*, Mariachi music, dance. 10:00 a. m. & 8:00 p.m. at Ford Theatre, L. A. Info: (323) 461-3673.
- 31, 9/1, 2 *Greek Festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. Assumption of the Virgin Mary, Long Beach. Info: (562) 494-8929.
- SEPTEMBER**
- 6, 7 *Gipsy Kings*, 8:00 at Greek Theatre. Info: (213) 365-3642, www.premieremarqueeclub.com.
- 6, 7, 8 *Greek Festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Paul, Irvine. Info: (949) 733-2366.
- 7 *Fandango Jarocho*, Mexican music. 7:00 at Ford Theatre, L. A. Info: (323) 461-3673.
- 7, 8 *Greek Festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Constantine & Helen, Cardiff-by-the-Sea. Info: (760) 942-0920.
- 8 **Annual Waltz/Hambo Workshop, Scandia at Women's Club of Orange, 121 S. Center St. 2:00–5:00. Info: (714) 893-8888.**
- 8 *The Beat of Brazil*, Carnival music and costumes. 7:30 at Hollywood Bowl. Info: (323) 850-2000.
- 14, 15 *Hazaran Bulbul*, Armenian folklore, music and dance. 8:00 at Ford Theatre, L. A. Info: (323) 461-3673.
- 19 *The Passion of Spanish Jews*, Ladino music and dance. 8:00 at Ford Theatre, L. A. Info: (323) 461-3673.
- 20, 21, 22 *Greek Festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. John, Las Vegas. Info: (702) 221-8245.21 *Greek Festival*, music, dancing, food, crafts. St. Constantine & Helen, Lancaster. Info: (661) 945-1212.
- 21, 22 *Ballet Folklorico de Mexico*, at Greek Theatre. Info: (213) 365-3642, www.premieremarqueeclub.com.
- 28, 29 *Multi-Cultural Music and Dance Festival*, Oak Park, Santa Barbara. Music, dancing, crafts, food. Free. Info: (805) 966- 6950.
- 28, 29 *Oktoberfest*, hosted by Int'l Dance Assn. Balboa Park, San Diego. Info: (619) 286-0355, Georgina at gbsheh@ucsd.edu.
- OCTOBER**
- 6 *Namah and Zarbaang Percussion Ensembles*, Persian music and dance. 7:00 at Ford Theatre, L. A. Info: (323) 461-3673.
- 12 *Scandinavian-American Festival*, MGM Plaza, Santa Monica. Info: (310) 372–9535.
- 18–20 Federation Institute at Camp Hess Kramer, Malibu. Info: (310) 202–6166.**
- 18–20 Skandia Harwood Lodge Weekend. Info: Paul or Carol, (619) 466–7983.**
- NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**
- 5/6 13, 20, 26 *Balkan Singing Workshop*, with Kitka. 7:30–9:30, at First Congregational Church of Oakland, Call KITKA at (510) 444-0323.
- 5/5 *Rose Festival*. Veterans Bldg., 1315 Maple St., Santa Rosa. Contact: (707) 546–8877.

Calendar

5/10 *Dance & Concert*, sponsored by Nevada County FD. Live music. 8:00 at Methodist Church, Nevada City. Info: (530) 272-2149.

5/10-12 *Spring Jamboree*, hosted by San Joaquin Valley Square Dance Assn. Lodi. Info: (916) 689-1039, dubscott1@aol.com.

5/17-19 Statewide 2002, Gold Country Festival. Three days of fun dancing, a colorful concert, barbecue and much more! Featuring Larry Weiner teaching Balkan Dance; Richard Powers teaching Vintage Dance and Dick Crum expounding upon dance! Contact Bruce Mitchell, (530) 888-6586, or email: dancebruce@aol.com. North/South Meeting, Saturday, May 18, 9:00-10:00 a. m., Spring View Middle School, Rocklin.

6/15-22 *Scandia Camp* at Mendocino Woodlands. Dances from Jämtland & Härjedalen, Sweden, Telemark, Norway. Info: Kay Loughman, kayloughman@attglobal.net.

6/22-29 *Mendocino Folklore Camp*, Mendocino Woodlands. Live music, dance and singing classes, parties, great food. See ad. Info: Billy Burke, (818) 980-4604, BillyCBurke@adelphia.net.

6/29-7/7 *Balkan Music & Dance Workshop*, Mendocino. Info: (510) 549-2124, www.eefc.org.

6/30-7/6 *Aranykapu Tabor (Golden Gate Camp)*, new Hungarian dance & music camp. At Camp Cazadero, north of Santa Rosa. Info: (510) 526-7757, www.aranykapu-tabor.org.

7/7-13 *Baratsag*, Hungarian Dance & Music Camp. Mendocino Woodlands. Info: (707) 937-3554.

7/13 *Workshop of North American Dance Forms*. At Roble Dance Studio, Stanford University. Info: Susan Cashion (650) 725-0738.

7/21-27, 7/28-8/3 *Stockton Folk Dance Camp*, University of Pacific, Stockton. See ad. Info: Bruce Mitchell (530) 888-6586, dancebruce@aol.com.

8/18 *Little Festival in the Redwoods*, Guerneville. Contact Frank & Elsa Bacher (707) 546-8877

9/8 *Fiesta de Sonoma*, Veterans Bldg., 126 'I' St. Contact Frank & Elsa Bacher (707) 546-8877.

10/19-20 *Harvest Festival*, CSU Fresno. North/South and Assembly meetings. Info: (559) 291-4958.

11/28,29,30 *Kolo Festival*, San Francisco Russian Center, 2450 Sutter St. Info: (800) 730-5615, Kolo Festival P.O. Box 2018 Piedmont, asha@jps.net.

12/1 *Treasurer's Ball*, Veterans Bldg., 1226 I St. Sonoma. Contact Page Masson (707) 833-4181.

OUT OF STATE

ALASKA

7/23-8/6 *Dance on the Water*, Alaska Inside Passage Cruise, with Lee Otterholt. Info: Mel Mann (510) 526-4033, MelDancing@aol.com.

ARIZONA

6/4-13 *Tour of National Parks in Arizona, Colorado Utah*. See ad, OTS. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166.

KENTUCKY

7/21-27 *Kentucky Dance Institute*. Israeli, Scottish, contras, etc. Info: grant.logan@3web.net.

LOUISIANA

9/5-8 *Tamburitza Extravaganza*, 20 Tamburitza orchestras, music and dancing. New Orleans. Info: Kathy, (314) 434-9917.

MAINE

8/3-9/2 *Mainewoods Dance Camp*. 4 weeks plus Labor Day Weekend. Teachers include: Tom Bozigan, Iliana Bozhanova, Jacek Marek, Ya'akov Eden, Mihai David. See OTS. Info: (908) 647-6708, demosk@mail.com.

MARYLAND

5/24-27 *Memorial Day Weekend*, Int'l Folk Dance Festival. College Park. Ahmet Luleci, Marilyn Smith, Boris "Kete" Ilievski, Jerry Helt, Laurie Anderson. Live music. Info: (301) 871-8788.

6/30-7/6 *Callers Week*. Western Maryland College, Westminster. Info: (410) 857-2771.

7/20-28 *Balkan Music & Dance Workshop*, Ramblewood. Info: (510) 549-2124, www.eefc.org.

MASSACHUSETTS

6/14-16 *First Weekend at Pinewoods*, sponsored by Country Dance Society. Plymouth. Info: Betty (508) 877-9738, blehrman@neaccess.net.

7/4-8 *July 4th Weekend at Pinewoods*. English, Scottish, square dancing. Info: (802) 254-2651.

7/8-12 *English-Scottish Session at Pinewoods*. Plymouth. Info: geocities.com/SoHo/Courtyard/8534.

10/11-14 *World Music & Dance Camp*, Atanas Kolarovski, Yves Moreau, Joe Graziosi, Steve Kotansky, Ahmet Luleci. Plymouth. Info: (617) 232-4140, ahmet@rcn.com.nevada

Statewide History

Here s a list of prior festivals, along with their chairs.

'46	Ojai	David Young	'75	Santa Maria	Audrey Silva
'47	Fresno	David Young	'76	Hayward	Ruth Melville
'49	Santa Barbara	Bill Herlow	'77	Santa Monica	Sheila Ruby
'50	Monterey	Ace Smith & Chuck Reed	'78	Oakland	Phyllis Olson
'51	Santa Barbara	Bill Herlow	'79	San Diego	Vivian Woll & Evelyn Prewett
'52	Oakland	Leonard Murphy	'80	Fresno	Cleda Rodrigues & Jim Kearns
'53	Fresno	Walt McGugin	'81	Santa Maria	Audrey Silva
'54	Long Beach	??	'82	Concord	Phyllis Olson & Burt Scholin
'55	Sacramento	??	'83	Ventura	Walt Metcalf & Alex Sheyday
'56	Fresno	Marjorie Widman	'84	Sacramento	Oscar Faoro & John Alfors
'57	San Diego	Vivian Woll	'85	Santa Barbara	Steve Davis & Flora Codman
'58	San Francisco	Virginia Wilder	'86	Santa Rosa	Frank Bacher
'59	Bakersfield	Wilma Lindscott	'87	Pasadena	Lila Aurich & Dorothy Daw
'60	Long Beach	Lilly Lee & Marion Wilson	'88	Palo Alto	Oscar Faoro & Bill Leonard
'61	San Jose	Ken Stevens	'89	Ventura	Walt Metcalf
'62	Fresno	Mary Springs & Jim Scott	'90	Fresno	Francis Ajoian
'63	Santa Monica	Liesl Barnett	'91	Culver City	Marshall Cates
'64	San Jose	Jack Stankey	'92	Dublin	Mille Von Kinsky
'65	San Diego	Vivian Woll & Alice Houserman	'93	Arcadia	Marshall Cates
'66	San Jose	Carolyn Riedeman	'94	San Mateo	Denise Heenan & Andy Kocsmar
'67	Long Beach	Ed Feldman & Alice Gabrielson	'95	Ojai	Steve Davis
'68	Oakland	???	'96	San Francisco	Bill & Louise Lidicker
'69	San Diego	Alice Houserman	'97	Whittier	Richard Duree & Julith Neff
'70	San Jose	Julews DiCicco	'98	San Francisco	Carlos Ruling
'71	Santa Monica	Avis Tarvin	'99	San Diego	Renee Fry
'72	Sacramento	Bruce Mitchell	'00	Fresno	Fran Ajoian & Gary Hughes
'73	San Diego	Vivian Woll	'01	Las Vegas	Richard & Donna Killian
'74	San Jose	Elmer Riba	'02	Rocklin	Bruce Mitchell

From the Glory of Prague to the Heartland of Slovakia and the Countryside of Hungary

July - August 2002

Visit cities and villages – live the folklore!

- Attend the universally renowned **Csángó International Folk Festival of European Minorities**, with a nightly tãncãz (dance party) 'til dawn!
- **Kis-Duna International Folk Festival**, a kaleidoscope of costumes, music, and dance from everywhere!
- And, the markets, fairs, medieval towns, castles, regional and national museums, crafts, historic costume collections, traditional music, village life, delicious food, join the fun!

For information contact:
Carol Resnick, Folklore Studies
5020D Baltimore Drive, #244 • La Mesa, CA 91941
619.466.6058 • sdtanc@att.net • www.FolkloreStudies.com



9th Annual Folk Dance Weekend
of
The North American Federation of German Folk Dance Groups



Featuring the Heritage and Culture of the Danube-Swabians
and focusing on

'Technique for Folk Dancers'

Hosted by
The Carpathia Club
of
Sterling Heights, MI

June 28th, 29th, 30th, 2002

For information contact:
Pete Bullard 812-597-4932 * Karin Gottier 860-875-3559 * Adam Medel 810-978-2292

Calendar

MICHIGAN

6/28-30 *Technique for Folk Dancers, German/Swabian FD.* Info: Adam (810) 978-2292.

NEW MEXICO

5/24-27 *Memorial Day Weekend*, sponsored by NM Folk Music & Dance Society. Socorro. Info: Lisa (505) 983-5832, lisabertelli@aol.com.

5/25-27 *Don Armstrong Memorial Dance Weekend.* English, folk, contra, square dancing. Albuquerque. Info: (336) 643-2975, maramst@bellsouth.net.

NORTH CAROLINA

Folk Music and Dance Camps, at Swannanoa Gathering, Asheville. Info: (828) 298-3434.

6/21-23 *Cherokee Heritage Weekend*

7/7-13 *Celtic Week*

7/14-20 *Sing, Swing and String Week*

7/21-27 *Old-time Music & Dance Week*

7/28-8/3 *Contemporary Folk Week*

OREGON

8/30-9/2 *Balkanalia!*, Balkan Music & Dance Workshop. Info: (510) 549-2124, www.eefc.org.

RHODE ISLAND

8/12-17 *Newport Vintage Dance Week*, Richard Powers, others. Portsmouth. Info: (781) 662-8344.

VIRGINIA

9/27-29 *World Music Festival.* Floyd. Info: (540) 745-FEST, www.floydfest.com.

WEST VIRGINIA

7/8-8/12 *Augusta Heritage Center* week-long sessions. Includes French Canadian 7/15, Irish 7/22, Dance 7/29, Cajun 8/5. Elkins. Info: (304) 637-1209.

FOREIGN

CANADA

5/17-20 *Ontario FD Camp*, Ya'akov Eden, Roo Lester. Univ. of Waterloo. Info: (416) 633-4852.

8/4-10 *Montreal Perseids Dance Camp.* Atanas Kolarovski, Yves Moreau, Ahmet Luleci, Zeljko Jergan, Maria Christina. Info: (514) 768-8053.

CROATIA

7/15-8/2 *Balkan Folklore Studies Tour to Croatia and Hungary*, with Delores Crawford. See ad for details.

EQUADOR

6/10-20 *Dance on the Water*, Galapagos/Equador Cruise. Info: Mel Mann (510) 526-4033, MelDancing@aol.com.

12/1-10 *Dancing Through the Galapagos Islands*, tour with Ken McFarland. Info: (907) 456-7558.

FRANCE

6/27-28 *Dance in the World Today* congress by Int'l Dance Counsel. Paris. Info: unesco.org/ngo/cid.

GREECE

7/14-28 *MAZOXI-2002*, FD Conference. Crete. Info: Athan Karras (818) 609-1386, mazoxi@prodigy.net.

7/22-26, 8/26-30 *Summer Courses*, classes in Greek fd and culture. Info: grdance@hol.gr.

HUNGARY, CZECH & SLOVAK REPUBLICS

6/22-7/7 *Folk Culture Of Czech & Slovak Republics.* Tour with Sarah and Sam Stulberg. Info: (703) 527-8998, ssdancetrav@earthlink.net.

7/23-8/8 *Folklore Study Tour*, organized by Carol Resnick. See ad. Info: (619) 466-6058, sdtanc@att.net.

INDIA

10/6-11/6 *Rhythm of Life*, Indian dance festival. Chandigarh. Info: cipa_india@yahoo.com.

IRELAND

5/11-9/22 *Tours of Ireland.* Eight separate folklore tours with Mick Moloney. Info: (800) 848-4364.

MEXICO

9/29-10/6 *Mexican Riviera Cruise*, with Beverly and Irwin Barr. Info: OTS, (310) 202-6166.

RUSSIA

5/18-31 *Waterways Of Russia*, Tour with Sarah and Sam Stulberg. See ad. Info: (703) 527-8998, ssdancetrav@earthlink.net.

7/15-29 *Dances of the Peoples of Asian Russia.* Int'l Folk Dance Seminar. Novosibirsk. Classes, exhibitions, excursions. Info: rhfe@usa.net.

SERBIA

7/22-8/5 *Folklore Treasures of Serbia.* Dance camp, festivals, historic sites. With Cheryl Spasojevic and Slobodan Slovic. Info: [cpasojevic@webtv.net](mailto:cspasojevic@webtv.net).

TRANSYLVANIA

7/6-13 *The Transylvanian Experience*, Int'l Folk Dance Seminar. Alba Iulia. Info: rhfe@usa.net.



Mendocino Folklore Camp

June 22 – June 29, 2002

Join us in the beautiful Mendocino Woodlands for a week of dance, music, parties and ethnic food.

Dance Staff:

- Yves Moreau – Bulgarian Dances**
- Dean Linscott – European Couple Dances**
- Sarah Marshall – West African Dances**

Singing Staff:

- Beata Begeniova Salak – East European Songs**

Folk Instruments:

- Sarah Marshall – African Drumming**

Dance Workshop:

- Jerry Duke – Cape Breton Dances**

Registration Fees:

- Full Time (7 days) – \$490/person
- Part Time – \$80/person/day
- Work Scholarship – \$250/person (limited)

Music by *Harmonia* - www.harmoniaband.com



For More Information:

- Web – www.phyris.com/folklore
- E-mail – phyris@akamail.com
- Telephone – (707) 795-6926

Southwest International Folk Dance Institute
presents:

Jaap Leegwater

Jaap Leegwater returns to the Southwest after a four-year absence. Jaap is a well-known ethnographer of Bulgarian dances has spent nearly 20 years researching, learning and preserving Bulgarian dance traditions. Along with his enthusiastic teaching style Jaap will bring new Bulgarian dances and a few Dutch treats.

On the campus of New Mexico Tech University Socorro, NM, an hour south of Albuquerque

August 1 – 4
2002

Yoni Carr

Beginning her dancing career at Kibbutz "Maagan Michael", Yoni has graced stages, films, and studios from L.A. to Tel Aviv. Connoisseurs of Israeli dance make pilgrimage to her annual "Camps Yona" and "Finjan" in California. It will be our great fortune to learn from the best, as Yoni promises a mix of tradition and contemporary Israeli choreography.

Featuring great wooden floors, all air-conditioned facilities, comfy rooms and an outdoor pool!



New Mexico August Folk Dance Camp

Both teachers will offer selections for couples.

Please join us on a beautiful campus for this fabulous dance experience, parties, Balkan singing, live music, and the nicest accommodations west of the Pecos. This special location offers dry air, cool nights, and proximity to mountain hikes, a wildlife refuge, the VLA (radio astronomy) observatory, and other attractions. Families are welcome, and child care is separate but close to dance activities. This is a non-profit camp, and scholarships are available. To get complete information:

Call Matt Nyman (Director) 505-266-5984, e-mail to mnyman@unm.edu, or drop a line to SWIFDI, P.O. Box 8704, Albuquerque, NM 87108

Mainewoods Dance Camp 2002

FEATURED TEACHERS & MUSICIANS

Session #1: Aug 3 – Aug 9

- Tom Bozigian - Armenian
- Shawn Donaldson - Balkan
- Joe Wallin - Scottish
- Teme Kernerman – Teaching Techniques

Session #2: Aug 10 – Aug 16

- Iliana Bozhanova - Bulgarian
- Lyuben Dossev – Kaval Master
- Natty Kamikura – Japanese
- Jacek Marek – Polish
- John Matulis – International Folk Musician

Session #3: Aug 17 – Aug 23

- Iliana Bozhanova - Bulgarian
- Lyuben Dossev – Kaval Master
- Ya'akov Eden - Israeli
- Grant Logan – Squares & Contras
- Miroslav Bata Marcetic - Serbian
- Ingvar Sodal - Scandinavian
- Sandy Starkman - International

Session # 5: Aug 30 – Sept 2

(Labor Day)

- Mihai David - Romanian
- John Lulias - Greek
- Jean Noble – Scottish

STAFF INSTRUCTORS

- George Fogg – English
- Roy Hilburn - Contras/Squares
- Sandy Starkman - International

International Folk Dancing With a Difference

We have returned to the old Maine Folk Dance Camp site in Bridgton, Maine, now called Camp Manasseh. Enjoy rustic cabins, nestled in the tall pines on the shore of scenic Woods Pond. Come join us for dance instruction, evening parties, group singing, cultural theme days with delicious ethnic foods, swimming, boating, hiking and more. Experience a sense of community with us.....you will never forget it! **New this year: live music and training in teaching techniques.**

\$480 US per weekly session
\$270 US for Labor Day weekend

<http://www.erols.com/mainewds>

Ask about the **George Bass Memorial Dance Scholarship**
sandydancing@juno.com

MORE INFO

Kathryn Demos
68 Liberty Corner Road
Warren, NJ 07059-6708
908-647-2936
demosk@mail.com

Kitchen Scholarships Available
demosk@mail.com

Mother's Day

Early Celebrations

Some historians claim that the predecessor of the Mother's Day holiday was the ancient spring festival dedicated to mother goddesses. In the ancient Greek empire the spring festival honored Rhea, wife of Cronus and mother of the gods and goddesses. In Rome the most significant Mother's Day-like festival was dedicated to the worship of Cybele, another mother goddess. Ceremonies in her honor began some 250 years before Christ was born. This Roman religious celebration, known as Hilaria, lasted for three days - from March 15 to 18!

England's Mothering Sunday

More like the modern celebration of Mother's Day is England's "Mothering Sunday", also called Mid-Lent Sunday, observed on the fourth Sunday in Lent. Some say the ceremonies in honor of Cybele were adopted by the early church to venerate the Mother of Christ, Mary. Others believe the Mother Church was substituted for mother goddess and custom began to dictate that a person visit the church of his/her baptism on this day. People attended the mother church of their parish, laden with offerings.

Also in England in the 1600's, young men and women who were apprentices or servants returned home on Mothering Sunday, bringing to their mothers small gifts like trinkets or a "mothering cake". Sometimes furrmety was served - wheat grains boiled in sweet milk, sugared and spiced.

In northern England and in Scotland, the preferred refreshments were carlings - pancakes made of steeped pease fried in butter, with pepper and salt. In some locations, this day was called Carling Sunday.

Interest Starts In The United States

Anna M. Jarvis (1864-1948) is credited with originating our Mother's Day holiday. She never married and was extremely attached to her mother, Mrs. Anna Reese Jarvis. Mrs. Jarvis was a minister's daughter who for 20 years taught Sunday School in the Andrews Methodist Church of Grafton, West Virginia. Miss Jarvis graduated from the Female Seminary in Wheeling, West Virginia, and taught in Grafton before moving to Philadelphia with the rest of her family.

Anna Reese Jarvis died in Philadelphia in May of 1905. Still unmarried and left alone with her blind sister Elsinore, Anna missed her mother greatly. Two years after her mother's death (1907), Anna Jarvis and her

friends began a letter-writing campaign to gain the support of influential ministers, businessmen and congressmen in declaring a national Mother's Day holiday. She felt children often neglected to appreciate their mother enough while the mother was still alive. She hoped Mother's Day would increase respect for parents and strengthen family bonds.

The First Mother's Day

The first Mother's Day observance was a church service honoring Mrs. Anna Reese Jarvis, held at Anna Jarvis's request in Grafton, West Virginia, and in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on May 10, 1908.

Carnations, her mother's favorite flowers, were supplied by Miss Jarvis. White carnations were chosen because they represented the sweetness, purity and endurance of mother love. Red carnations, in time, became the symbol of a living mother. White ones now signify that one's mother has died.

Other Mother's Day Observances

Other areas celebrating Mother's Day include Mexico, Canada, China, Japan, South America and Africa. Countries such as Denmark, Finland, Italy, Turkey, Australia and Belgium celebrate Mother's Day on the same day as the United States.

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MAINEWOODS DANCE CAMP

There's a wonderful dance camp on a lake in the woods of Maine during August. Each week has a different set of teachers and all are wonderful. I speak with the voice of experience, as Jay and I have been going for several years. This year some of the teachers whose names are familiar out here are Tom Bozgian, Illiana Bozhanova, Jacek Marek, Ya'akov Eden, Mihai David., and many other top teachers. There's live music, crafts, culture corners, lobster lunch, and so much more, such as swimming or just lounging watching the sun on the lake. From our experience, the people are unusually warm and friendly, the food is excellent, and it's altogether wonderful. For more info: Kathryn Demos, 68 Liberty Corner Road, Warren NJ 07059-6708; or demosk@mail.com.

— *Jill Michtom*

CELTIC SPRING



If you enjoy Celtic music and dance, check out the Celtic Arts Center. We recently saw a wonderful family group there called Celtic Spring. It's a family of 5 children from age 4 to 16 who play the fiddle and dance at the same time, all done professionally, with their father on the bodhran. These kids were really outstanding. Look for their performances through their mother-manager, Mary McCauley Wood, Celtic Spring, P.O. Box 23174, Ventura, CA 93002-3174; or tel: (805) 649-5731.

— *Jill Michtom*

FD COURSE IN ISRAEL

The Department of Folk Dance Teaching of Tel Aviv Univ is planning to hold a one-month Israeli Folk Dance (IFD) teachers course geared mostly for foreign country dancers and group leaders.

This course shall take place during the month of July, 2002, and will be held at the University Campus, 8 hours a day, approximately 220 hours. If you might be interested (no commitment), contact: Gadi Bitton, Class Director, IFD Department-Tel Aviv University. Email: gdance2@hotmail.co.il.

— *Kim Frankel*

MEMORIAL DAY PARTY – WEST L.A. FOLK DANCERS

Monday, May 27, 2002, is Memorial Day and you can complete your long weekend dancing with the West L.A. Folk Dancers. The party will begin at 7:30. Top off your weekend with a fun time dancing with a very friendly, welcoming group of people.

The place to be is Brockton School, 1309 Armacost, W.L.A. (between Barrington & Bundy, 1 ½ blocks north of Santa Monica Blvd). Beverly & Irwin Barr will keep an ALL REQUEST DANCE PROGRAM going until you are too tired to dance. Bring snacks and desserts for the potluck table and join the fun and good dancing.

The West L.A. Folk Dancers meet every Monday and Friday evening at 7:45.

For information call (310) 202-6166.

— *Beverly & Irwin Barr*

SOCIETY OF FOLK DANCE HISTORIANS

This Austin-based group, headed by Ron Houston, produces an annual directory of folk dance clubs, contacts, teachers, performing groups, individual dancers, camps, - everything about folk dancing- mostly U.S. but some foreign listings as well. It can be yours for only \$15. And that fee also entitles you to 4 quarterly publications, each with a number of interesting tidbits. You will also get an annual book of directions to popular dances.

To become a member, or to put yourself or your group into the publication, contact: SOFDH, (512) 478-9676, sofdh@juno.com and sofdh@mindspring.com.

— *Jay Michtom*

Scandia Dancers go to Scandinavia

You've probably enjoyed Scandia Dancers performances at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival or at Statewide. You may have seen them dancing in the parking lot at Ikea or on the slippery outdoor floor at California Lutheran College or maybe at the House of Norway in Balboa Park, San Diego, perhaps in the 100 degree heat in Kingsburg. Yes, the Scandia Dancers led by **Donna Tripp** have been bringing the dances of Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland to audiences in California since 1984. Now, this spring, with an invitation from the International Folklore Festival Pispalan Sottiisi, the Scandia Dancers are taking their show and Donna's arrangements and choreographies to Norway and Finland.

Twenty-five members of Scandia will fly to Finland to participate in the largest Finnish dance festival of the year, from June 4th through the 9th, where they will perform the dances of the Nordic countries. Many of these dances you have already seen at our California festivals. How and why are California dancers performing Nordic dances over there since they have lots of expert groups of their own? Well, it turns out, that the Scandia Dancers display lots of fun while performing, do a creditable job of presenting the dances and just happen to be on the OLDER side of thirty (some much older). In Finland dancing and performing at our ages is apparently a rarity. The festival organizers want their people to see that they, too, can continue to dance after age 30.

The story really started with **Petri Kauppinen** and **Milla Korja**, the young leaders of four highly respected dance ensembles in Finland. They came to the United States a year and a half ago to study dance and earn their Masters of Fine Arts at UCI. In 2001 they set a Karelian Finnish suite on the Scandia Dancers for the Laguna Folkdancers Festival, and at that time they decided that the people of Finland should see Scandia, too. So, off to Finland go the Scandia Dancers.

As luck would have it, there also happens to be a Norwegian Folk Music Week in AI, Norway, from May 27 through the 29th. Some members of Scandia will be joining the Nordahl Grieg Leikarring Performance Group of northern California, led by **Mikkel Thompson**, to present both Norwegian and American dances.

Both festivals include formal concerts by various groups and informal performances in places like shopping centers and schools.

After all of us were committed to the trip and had our airline tickets, an exciting event occurred. One of our enterprising members, co-director **Stefanie Holzman**, found opportunities to write grant applications to support this venture. To everyone's surprise both sources decided to provide financial support.

The Fund for U.S. Artists at International Festivals and Exhibitions awarded a grant of \$18,000. The Fund is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, the U.S. Department of State, The Pew Charitable Trusts and The Rockefeller Foundation, with additional support from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, and is administered by the Arts International.

The Finlandia Foundation awarded a grant for AMERICAN INTEREST IN AND DEMONSTRATION OF FINNISH FOLK DANCE in the amount of \$2,000.

We are indeed grateful to these federal agencies and private foundations for their advocacy of the Scandia Dancers.

— *The Scandia Dancers*



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On the Scene

VESELO'S HAPPENINGS

Fridays: Int./adv. teaching with **John Matthews**

Saturdays:

4th: 8:00 to 11:00 -- Spring Fling May Pole Party with Madison Avenue Folk Band. We'll be serving healthy finger foods. Bring some to share.

11th, 18th, and 25th: 7:30 to 8:15 -- Basic steps and easy dances 8:15 to 11 -- All request with some reviews

These last three weeks' programs will include favorite dances that members have asked for. Our in-house teachers will review. Some Atanas and some Vasilescu, for sure.

Coming In June

Veselo Selo will be celebrating our 32nd anniversary on Saturday evening, June 15th. This will be a very special evening because we will also be recognizing some Veselo members who have provided leadership and support through "thick and thin" since "day one". We will not have live music this evening, but instead--using our great collection of tapes--

8 to 9: Kolo Hour

9 to 10: Federation Hour

10 on: After Party with lots of special finger foods and desserts to share.

— *Lorraine Rothman*

TRAVEL AND DANCE THROUGH THE NATIONAL PARKS

This is your last chance! If you act fast, you still might be able to get onto this wonderful 10 day trip, touring the National Parks in Arizona and Utah, June 5-14, 2002. We will be traveling on a state-of-the-art deluxe motor coach (no airports, no airfare).

A great group of people are going and are ready to enjoy the best that sightseeing has to offer. You don't want to miss this trip!

Go to the phone right now and call for information or to reserve your space before it is too late. You can see our ad in this issue of the Scene, and you can call for detailed information and an itinerary.

Call us ASAP at (310) 202-6166.

— *Beverly & Irwin Barr*

GERMAN FOLK DANCE WORKSHOP

The North-American Federation of German Folk Dance groups is planning its 9th annual folk dance weekend on June 28-30, 2002. The event will be hosted by the Carpathia Club of Sterling Heights, MI, which has a history of presenting creative and innovative programs. The emphasis will be on 'Technique for Folk Dancers', within a context of traditional German dance repertoire from all regions.

The weekend will also feature the heritage and culture of the Danube-Swabians with exhibits and presentations. The presenter will be Nora Jarchow-Durrenfeld, president of the *Society for Dance Education and Presentation of Germany*.

Various craft workshops are planned for early arrivals. The event is open to anyone interested in German dance and folklore. For more information, call Karin (860) 875-3559, or Pete (812) 597-4932.

— *Karin Gottier*

FORD THEATRE

It's getting on toward summer and time to think of the John Anson Ford Theatre and some wonderful programs. It is a lovely outdoor theatre, across the freeway from the Hollywood Bowl. Some highlights of special interest to folkdancers are; Aman, Jaliyaa, (music, stories and dance of Africa), Danza Floricanto and other dance programs, plus chamber music and lots of other stuff. And, HEAR THIS: they need volunteers. You can usher and get to hear the concert free. Check out the schedule in the Calendar of this magazine, and contact Sarah Watland: (323) 464-1158. For complete info: 323-GO 1-FORD.

— *Jill Michtom*

"DANCE IN THE WORLD TODAY 2 - CREATIVITY AND EDUCATION"

The International Dance Council - (CID) announces the congress "Dance in the World Today 2 - Creativity and Education", which will be held at the Palais de l'UNESCO, Paris, 27-28 June, 2002.

Members make their own funding, travel and accommodation arrangements. After plenary sessions, participants will meet in work groups and make visits to places of interest.

For other information and eventual changes please consult the CID home page www.unesco.org/ngo/cid.

BELTANE FESTIVAL

Beltane (also known as May Eve, May Day, and Walpurgis Night), happens at the beginning of May. It celebrates the height of Spring and the flowering of life. Beltane is a festival of flowers, fertility, sensuality, and delight.

It is the midpoint between Spring Equinox and Summer Solstice. In Pagan Rome, *Floralia*, from April 27-May 3 was the festival of the Flower Goddess Flora and the flowering of Springtime. On May 1, offerings were made to *Bona Dea* (as Mother Earth), the *Lares* (household guardian spirits), and *Maia* (Goddess of Increase) from whom May gets its name. The pastoral tradition was to turn sheep, cows, other livestock out to pasture at this time. In Pagan Scandinavia, mock battles between Winter and Summer were enacted.

Prepare a May basket by filling it with flowers and goodwill and then give it to someone in need of healing and caring, such as a shut-in or elderly friend. Form a wreath of freshly picked flowers, wear it in your hair, and feel yourself radiating joy and beauty. Dance around a Maypole. Dress in bright colors. On May Eve, bless your garden in the old way by making love with your lover in it. Make a wish as you jump a bonfire or candle flame for good luck. Welcome in the May at dawn with singing and dancing.

Maypole forms include pole, tree, bush, cross; either communal or household; permanent or annual. In Germany, a fir tree was cut on May Eve by young unmarried men, branches removed, decorated, put up in village square, & guarded all night until dance occurred on May Day. In England, permanent Maypoles were erected on village greens. In some villages, there also were smaller Maypoles in the yards of households. The ribbon dances are done with two circles interweaving around decorated bush or tree, or in clockwise circles.

Traditionally, sacred woods are kindled by spark from flint or by friction -- in Irish Gaelic, the Beltane Fire has been called *teine eigin* (fire from rubbing sticks). * Jump over the Beltane Fire, move through it, or dance clockwise around it.

ALUNELUL, May Day Dance

Alunelul is a Romanian children's dance. The name means 'The Hazelnut'. The reference hearkens from the Beltane festivities and, therefore, refers to the

testicles---in a playful way, as is the spirit of the Beltane Fests.

The dance stems from May Day (also known as Beltane). May Day is what remains of a very sensual country folk celebration of the fertility of the Spirit, Nature and the Community. The May Pole is a phallic symbol and the hazelnuts were representative of... Oh, nuts!

Try dancing it in several circles going in opposite directions. Variations to try, according to region of Romania or whim, are:

- lean into the direction of the movement
- turn the knees & feet slightly out
- lift the free foot slightly, with bent knee
- put emphasis on the leading foot, and the stamps
- place the closing foot just behind the other foot
- with doll-like arms, swing arms forward and back with each step

This apparently simple children's dance from Romania is a wonderful dance to lighten an evening that has gotten too heady. I especially like to pull this dance out when facilitating groups of men's gatherings. Children under the age of five generally find this dance quite easy to do. Over that age, the dance becomes increasingly difficult.

Words in English

Alunelu, alunelu, come to the dance!

Let it be lucky for us.

Whoever dances the hora big, big will become.

Whoever doesn't dance, likewise, will remain small.

Alunelu, alunelu, come to the dance!

Let it be lucky for us.

Dance, dance, right in place, let the sweet-basil bloom,

Dance, dance, just like this, dance and don't let up!

Words in Romanian

/Alunelu, alunelu hai la joc,

sa ne fie, sa ne fie cu naracl/

Cine-n hara a sa joece mare, mare se va face.

Cine n-ci juca de fel va ramine mititel.

/Alunelul, alunelul hai la joc

sa ne fie, sa ne fie cu naracl/

Jcemca, jcemca tot e loc, sa rasara busuioac.

Jcemca, jcemca tot auga,

Jcemca si nu te lasa

Ed. Note: This information was obtained from the Touchstone Sacred Dance Library. On the Web at <http://www.sacredcircles.com/THEDANCE/>.

TO THE EDITOR

God Bless the gray-haired ladies but what in the world can we do to get more young people and men involved in the activity they are so valiantly trying to keep alive. I don't know Richard, maybe pissing people off is one way to get some interest in it but...

— *Billy Burke*

WELCOMING "WALK-INS"

Most folk dance class meetings are in locations that aren't exposed to casual foot traffic. It's rare for someone to casually discover a group of people dancing strange dances to strange music and stop in out of curiosity. Though it's a painfully slow way to increase numbers in the folk dance community, it's one that should not be treated casually. A dedicated, proactive effort should be in place to attract and hold this explorer of strange dance.

There are probably dedicated folk dancers everywhere who happened upon dance by accident and had the interest and personality to stay with it, so it's worth a club's attention.

A thoughtful policy of welcome and integration into the dance can do much to improve the chances of walk-ins becoming regulars. Consider what will make the visit a comfortable and successful one, leading to a high probability that the newcomer will become a long-term folk dance friend.

First, realize that, to a newcomer, folk dance is strange. And the music is stranger, yet. It's strange because very few people have ever seen dances performed in lines and gaidas and ziras are an acquired taste. Most nondancers are challenged to walk in 2/4 time and have little idea how to move gracefully. Forget making sudden direction changes in 7/8. Leg lifts are very foreign and they feel strange and nonsensical.

I've seen many newcomers eagerly pulled into some Balkan dance which we think is so simple that anyone can do it - Setnja, for instance. The combination of slow and quick counts becomes terrifying and confusing to the prospective dancer, causing an embarrassing, humiliating and unpleasant experience - not the best way to encourage a return visit.

Rather than expose the newcomer to this barrier to folk dance bliss, I suggest that a small group of four or five dances from the club's repertoire be selected that can be quickly reviewed, so that the newcomer can be introduced to the dance in a successful, supportive group experience. The dances need to be within the aesthetic envelope of the general public in both dance and music character. They must be teachable within a few minutes. And the entire group must join in. Shame on anyone who resists taking time to do this.

Suggestions:

Hasaposerviko, danced without variations at first, is interesting to nondancers, though the step-touch, step-touch movement can be confusing at first. "Trava Trava" is particularly interesting to newcomers - exotic in a way, yet pleasant to Western ears.

D'hammerschmiedsgselln is a blacksmith's dance from Bavaria - Patty-cake with muscles if you will. It's fun, not silly enough to embarrass anyone, immediately danceable and it involves everyone in the set in an intimate game requiring everyone to do their part.

Pravo Horo - Select the music carefully and teach the dance clearly. A slow one is best, preferably one that doesn't speed up and will allow the kind of group interaction which is a major part of the dance.

Note that hasaposerviko and pravo horo are literally the same dance, differing only in style and music. To the beginner, this can be a wonderful introduction into the fascinating world of folk dance - two dances for the price of one, illustrating a clear difference in cultural aesthetics from neighboring cultures.

Each club's repertoire is unique and each will have different dances appropriate to the visitor. The most important thing is to remember what your own first folk dance experience was like. You probably would have been put off by some show-off wickedly inviting you into a dance in 7/8 zira with quick direction changes every few seconds and the person on either side of you jerking and pushing, condescending and tolerating you.

In spite of all you do, most walk-ins will not return. Folk dance is not for everyone, just the more intelligent ones.

— *Richard Duree*

Dancers Speak

LETTER TO FOLK DANCE SCENE

The letter by Richard Duree in the April Folk Dance Scene raises some important questions for us folk dancers, but I think it contains a few misconceptions. First, women did not recently "seize control of the International Folk Dance movement" in southern California, because they've always been in the lead. For example, in 1945 Katherine Jett led in the founding of Westwood Co-Op, and in the forties and early fifties (Ms.) Terry McDonald ran the largest southern California folk dance club. Moreover, the 1968 Federation (South) Directory lists 16 women and 9 men folk dance teachers, and the 1978-79 Directory lists 42 women and 26 men.

Secondly, the women I've talked to all enjoy couple dances, but there are simply not nearly enough men for partners. For many women, their choice is between non-partner dances and not dancing at all. Why so few men? In an aging group, it is well known that the men generally become incapacitated or die before the women. Also, in our culture, men are generally more reluctant to let people see that with aging they have become less energetic and slower to learn.

Accordingly, the important question is, why does the average age of the folk dancers in most groups keep increasing, instead of being stabilized by the addition of younger dancers? I think there are several reasons. One is the well-known desire of young people to do something different from their parents. Also partly responsible are the distractions of television, starting a few decades ago, and of computers more recently. Perhaps more important at present are the pressures on young people to work harder at school and on the job, because the world has become more competitive. No wonder that many young people prefer dances with a relatively simple and consistent style, such as contras or tangos, which they can enjoy without much effort. (Also, these dances are American, or at least Latin-American - - foreign things have lost their former glamour.)

Nevertheless, I prefer the variety of truly international folk dancing, even though the number of participants has continually decreased over the last 15 or 20 years. Perhaps the third or fourth generation will rejuvenate this activity!

— Forrest Gilmore

TO THE EDITOR

I agree with Rich Duree that folkdancing isn't quite what it used to be in the 60's and 70's, and that the average dancer's age is steadily increasing, there are fewer guys dancing, etc. Here in Northern California many (but not all) Federation programs are heavily tilted toward American round dances, which I don't care for. But I can still enjoy weekly folkdancing with an energetic group of accomplished enthusiastic dancers because after 37 years Kopachka Dancers are still going strong. Perhaps our format might help other groups to maintain vigor – who knows.

We dance from 8:30 til 10:30 Friday nights, during which time we go through 20-25 dances, with some time spent reviewing dances that are starting to look a little ragged. We have a repertoire of a little more than 100 dances, of which about 40% are couple dances. Most evenings I plan and post a program of about 15 dances, and after those I play requests for 20-30 minutes. Maybe once a month or so the program is all requests. We have a few extra women, but the ratio is not too uneven. I tend to play a few more non-partner than partner dances, partly because of the extra women.

We break at 10:30 for light refreshment and socializing. I keep a dance check list and record every time we do a dance, so that we don't neglect some until they're forgotten. In a given year, I probably only teach 5 or 6 NEW dances, but I review quite a few of the more difficult dances in our repertoire, so they stay looking good.

We usually have a few non-members, and they are always welcome. We don't really have enough time to socialize on Friday nights, so twice a year we have a pot-luck where we have more time to talk and get acquainted. We also have outside teachers for workshops once in a while, and we hire a band about once a year. Kopachkas used to perform often, but that has gradually decreased until now we just dance for fun.

Our average attendance is about 25-30 dancers, occasionally 35 or even 40. So my motto is, if you don't enjoy the programming at dance events in your area, then try to put together a group that sees things your way, and - happy dancing!

— Dean Linscott



Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2002

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Nuckles: Pacific Island

Germain Hebert: French

Jerry Helt: Squares

Roo Lester: Scandinavian

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**Istvan "Kovacs" Szabo:
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Dancers Speak

Ed. Note: This section is for you, our readers, to write your opinions and ideas about folk dancing and related subjects. It is the policy of Folk Dance Scene not to reject any suitable articles, nor do we edit or re-word them. Occasionally, due to space limitations we need to trim an article without changing its intent.

Thus the opinions expressed are those of the writer, and don't necessarily reflect those of the Scene Committee. Controversial topics are welcomed, as they provide interest to all.

Last month Richard Duree (dancer, teacher, choreographer, dance historian and frequent contributor to Scene) wrote an article about his view of the current state of folk dancing. His article has caused a lot of discussion and comments. In fact we can't think of the last time so many people have been talking about folk dancing (AND Folk Dance Scene!). So, if nothing else, his article has stirred up our thinking. Below are the reactions we have gotten (also un-edited), plus a non-controversial article by Rich.

— *Folk Dance Scene Committee*

TO THE EDITOR

In last month's Scene, Richard Duree suggested that the demise of international folk dancing has much to do with the nefarious activities of the "gray-haired ladies" who do not want to do couple dances. His explanation is certainly entertaining, but it is wrong.

The fact is that fashions and people change. What was popular in the 1970s is no longer popular today. It is sad but true that we attract few young dancers. Among the older people who make up the majority of the folk dance population, women greatly outnumber men. It is not that the men have been driven off and are dancing elsewhere. They have died or been incapacitated. The provision of additional couple dances at folk dance events will not resurrect them. As for the gray-haired ladies who remain, it is hardly surprising that they prefer to do dances that do not exclude them. Hence, the preference for line dances over couple dances.

There is one point about Mr. Duree's proposed explanation for the decline in international folk dancing to which I would like to call special attention. His diatribe was a classic example of what we psychologists call "scapegoating." Sometimes, events occur over which we have little or no control and for which

there is no simple explanation. One way in which to deal with the anxiety that is aroused by such events is to blame some supposed "enemy," against whom (presumably) action can be taken. In Mr. Duree's case, the enemy is the army of gray-haired ladies who "have seized control of the international folk dance movement." Because it is not reality-based, scapegoating is not a healthy mechanism, and it is not even an effective one. Emotion may be vented, but the underlying problem remains. Mr. Duree is right to mourn the decline of international folk dancing, but he would be well advised to seek a more productive way in which to further the cause of international folk dance than vilification of a mythical set of enemies in our midst.

— *Annette Ehrlich, PhD*

P. S. I have never met Mr. Duree but I hope that someone will point him out to me sometime. Since there are few young women with whom he can do couple dances and he expresses such a keen dislike for older, gray-haired ladies, I cannot help wondering who his partners are when he gets to do the couple dances he so enjoys.

TO: FOLK DANCE SCENE COMMITTEE

In the April issue of Scene you encouraged me to read Richard Duree's column: "Folk Dance As It Is Today". I didn't need the encouragement because I've read informative articles by Richard before. But, having read it, I now am puzzled by your encouragement.

In part the commentary tells us what we know: that folk dancing is not as popular as it once was. And, as old-timers, we mourn the lost glories of the past. What balm, then, does Richard offer us? Constructive suggestions for revivifying our favorite recreation? Tried and true techniques for finding and holding on to new members of our clubs? Encouragement as we struggle together? NONE OF THE ABOVE. Instead: vituperation and name calling! Bummer.

So, Committee, what did you want me to take from the article? That we should bar the door to gray-haired ladies? That if they sneak in somehow we at least don't let them lead a dance? That Schuhplattler Laendler is more worthy than, say, Ersko Kolo? That pleasant and sometimes challenging movement to delightful music is scandalous unless one also fully understands the history, geochoreography and body mechanics of the dance? That us long-term lightweights should learn our

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place and be appropriately deferential to the hefties among us?

You encouraged me, Committee. Now, please explain why.

— *Carl Pilsecker*

Ed. Note: Carl, we hope you didn't misconstrue our 'encouragement' to read the article as an indication that we agreed with the writer. As stated above, we print what our readers write without judgement or approval. The intent of the encouragement (which appeared in the 'Editor's Corner') was to see if there was agreement with the writer, or, as we anticipated, a lot of disagreement (as evidenced by these pages). We feel that airing opinions is good, and controversy is good. The article certainly accomplished that.

— *Folk Dance Scene Committee*

TO RICHARD DUREE:

In your letter to the editor in the April Folk Dance Scene, you said you have been folk dancing for 40 years. Things change as time passes. Young people have little time for dancing - they need 2 incomes, and juggle work, school, chores and spending time with their children. The macho men of 40 years ago now have heart disease and bypasses. The pretty young girls of 40 years ago now have osteoporosis and arthritis.

Single ladies who have lost dance partners still enjoy couple dances but as you pointed out, there is a lack of men in folk dancing. Holding hands and dancing face to face with someone makes folk dancing enjoyable. Some ladies pair up but the dynamics are not the same. They welcome being asked to dance by men but this doesn't happen frequently. The ladies feel it is better to do line dances than to sit home in front of TV.

All folk dancers started as beginners and many of us were helped by more experienced dancers. I invite men such as you, who have been dancing for a long time and enjoy couple dances, to dance with us at Westwood Coop Folk Dancers on Thursday nights. You will have no trouble finding partners and can help someone become a really good dancer.

— *Rita Sellar*

*(A single gray-haired lady who likes couple dances)
Past-President x2 Westwood Coop Folk Dancers*

TO THE EDITOR

I have read the April edition of Scene and am frankly disgusted to read yet another snobbish, insulting diatribe from Mr. Duree criticizing the folk dancers who are participating in clubs today.

"Folk" are folk of all ages and abilities. "Folk" dancing is not just for professionals or dancers who may possess more skill in style or who take a strong interest in the cultural setting of each dance. Folk dancing is a social activity. Movement to music is a human enjoyment not restricted to a self-appointed elite who value only talent. The decline in interest in international folkdance is multi factorial and is sad. But it is not a devious personal plot to "take away" the contributions of Mr. Duree. I believe his editorials are self defeating: a new self-conscious dancer reading them would be discouraged to continue to learn and to later perhaps draw others into an activity he or she enjoyed.

I think it is time for Mr. Duree to either seek professional counseling help to release his grief, bitterness and perfectionism, or to get back on his high horse and ride off into the sunset.

— *Susan Beem*

(a soon-to-be "gray-haired lady" dancer)

REBUTTAL

I say, "thank goodness" for the gray-haired ladies. They are keeping folk dance alive by their dedication and passion, their celebration of other cultures. They are keeping themselves in good shape mentally and physically. They are giving new dancers an example to follow. If the majority of the men have disappeared from folk dancing, then it is up to the women to carry on the tradition.

I am not as fortunate as some: I came to folkdancing later than many. I missed the "glory days". And yet, I have found a joy that will last me the rest of my days, hopefully even when I am a "gray-haired lady." As long as there are men around who ask me to dance, I will gladly savor the taste of Scandinavia with them. But when the day comes when a partner is no longer available, I will not curl up in a corner and mope about my fate. Instead, I will dance my way through Bulgaria, Romania, Macedonia and Israel with as much passion and fervor as I feel today.

— *Sandy Helperin*