

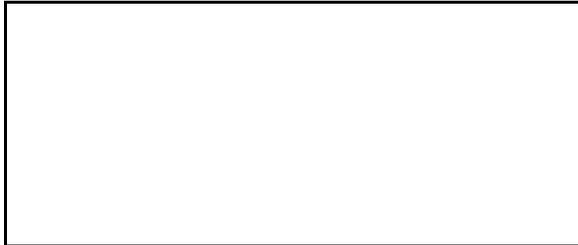
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Folk Dance Scene

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On the cover: From the website www.lyndonirwin.com/maypole.htm

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

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE INT'L DANCE CLUB

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

TOPANGA CANYON INT'L Fd

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

UCLA BALLROOM CLUB UCLA INT'L FOLKDANCERS

Mon 7:00-9:00 (ballroom dance)
Mon 9:00-11:00 (folk dance)
(310) 284-3636 James Zimmer
UniversityDanceClubs@yahoo.com
WESTWOOD, UCLA Ackeman
Union Room 2414

Beginners' Classes

CABRILLO FOLK DANCERS

Tue 7:00-8:00
(858) 459-1336 Georgina
SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club
Balboa Park

CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS

Wed 7:30
(818) 707-7664 Phoebe Rivera
THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center,
403 W Hillcrest Dr

ETHNIC EXPRESS

Wed 6:30-7:15 closed holidays & Aug
(702) 732-4871 Richard Killian
LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights Art
Center, 800 S. Brush St.

FOLK DANCE CLASS
(310) 652-8706 Tikva Mason
LOS ANGELES, Westside JCC, 5870
W. Olympic Blvd. Tue 10:30-11:30am

ISRAELI DANCING-Natalie Stern
(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern
L.A., American Jewish Univ. Dance
Studio, 15600 Mulholland
Wed 7:00-8:00 Thu 12:05-1:05

KAYSO FOLK DANCERS

Fri 9:30am-10:30
(619) 469-7133 Evelyn George
SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park,
Casa del Prado room 206 St.

PASADENA CO-OP

Fri 7:45-8:30
(323) 255-3809 Don Krotser
PASADENA, Throop Memorial
Church, 300 S. Los Robles

SAN DIEGO INTL FOLK DANCERS

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(858) 571-2730 Kin Ho
SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club,
Presidents Way off Park, Balboa Park

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(818) 761-4750 Deanna St Amand
EAGLE ROCK, Women's 20th
Century Club, 5105 Hermosa Ave.

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Wed 8:00
(310) 350-1135 Livia Varsanyi
LOS ANGELES, United Magyarhaz,
1975 Washington

KRAKUSY POLISH FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE

M, W 7:00-9:30 Sat 2:00-4:00
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LOS ANGELES, Polish
Parish Hall, 3424 W Adams Blvd.

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BELLFLOWER, Woman's Club

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Gymnasium

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(805) 687-8823 Alexandra
SANTA BARBARA, Gehringer
Music Bldg., UCSB Campus

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VESELO SELO FOLKDANCERS
Sat 7:30-10:30
(714) 738-8008 Phyllis Pivar
ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church, 511 S. Harbor.

VINTAGE ISRAELI DANCING
1 Sat per month confirm 8:16 - 12:00
(818) 990-8925 Louis
dovbyrd@aol.com
SHERMAN OAKS, Anisa's School of Dance, 14252 Ventura Blvd.

WEST LOS ANGELES FOLK DANCERS
Mon 7:45-10:30 Fri 7:45-10:30
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WEST L.A., Brockton School
1309 Armacost Ave.

WEST VALLEY FOLK DANCERS
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(818) 348-6133 Lila Aurich
CANOGA PARK, Senior Center
7326 Jordan Ave

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(310) 645-8316 Karen Ricks
LOS ANGELES, Westchester
Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson

WESTWOOD CO-OP
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WEST L.A., F. Mahood Senior Center,
11338 Santa Monica Blvd.

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Wed 7:30-9:30
(714) 893-8127 Carol Maybrier
ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church,
511 S Harbor

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(310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659
BEVERLY HILLS, Roxbury Park
auditorium 471 So. Roxbury
Tue 10:45am-12:30
CULVER CITY, Veteran Auditorium
Multi-Purpose Room, Culver &
Overland, Wed 3:00-4:30
WEST L.A., Felicia Mahood Senior
Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd
Thu 10:30 am-noon

CAFE AMAN
2nd Sat 7:30-11:30. Teach 8:00-8:45
madelyntaylor@hotmail.com
ianprice@hotmail.com
WEST LA, Pacific Arts Center 10469
Santa Monica Blvd

CAL TECH FOLKDANCERS
Tue 7:30
(626) 797-5157 Nancy Mulligan
PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church
300 S. Los Robles

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(760) 446-6752 Nora Nuckles
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Center 725 S. Gateway St.

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(760) 327-8684 Dwight Fine
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PALM SPRINGS, Step By Step Dance
Studio 316 N. Palm Canyon

FOLK DANCE CENTER
Every Evening Call for Schedule.
(619) 281-5656
SAN DIEGO, 4569 30th Street

FOLK DANCE CLASS
(310) 652-8706 Tikva Mason
LOS ANGELES, Robertson Rec Ctr.
1641 Preuss Mon 10:00-11:30am.
W HOLLYWOOD, West Hollywood
Park, San Vicente at Melrose Wed
10:30am-noon

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

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

ISRAELI DANCING-Natalie Stern
(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern
L.A., American Jewish Univ Dance
Studio, 15600 Mulholland Mon
10:00am-11:45 Tue 10:30am-noon
Wed 7:00-9:30; Thu 10:15am-1:05
L.A. Shaarei Tefila(women only), 7269
Beverly, Mon 6:45-8:15 Wed
11:45am-1:15

ISRAELI DANCING-Yoni Carr
(619) 227-0110 Yoni
NEWPORT BEACH, Avant Garde
Ballroom, 4220 Scott Dr Sun 7:30-12
SAN DIEGO, Jewish Academy, 11860
Carmel Creek Rd. Thu

KAYSO FOLK DANCERS
Fri 9:30am-1:00
(619) 469-7133 Evelyn George
SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park,
Casa del Prado room 206 St

SAN DIEGO FOLK DANCERS
Mon 7:30-9:30
(858) 571-2730 Kin Ho
SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club,
Balboa Park

SAN PEDRO KOLO DANCERS
Mon 7:30-9:30
(310) 832-1074 Pauline Klak
SAN PEDRO, Dalmatian-American
Club, 1639 S Palos Verdes St.



Folk Dance Scene

Volume 46, No. 4
May 2010

Editors' Corner

Spring is in full swing and we celebrate the season of flowers and dance with a cover story on May Day. We note in **On the Scene** that Veselo Selo celebrates with a Maypole dance. Thanks to **Henrietta Bemis** for getting the photo from the 2009 celebration to us on such short notice.

Other thanks for photos go to **Sandy Levy** for the Green Expo pictures and to **Marsha Fenner** for the pictures of Veselo's celebration of Dick Oakes' 70th birthday.

We hope to see many of you at Statewide in beautiful Sonoma.

Be of good cheer!

— Pat Cross and Don Krotser

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

May 2010

Federation Corner



I was born in Hollywood the eldest of four children. After graduation from North Hollywood High I rushed out to work for Prudential Insurance Company. I soon married and was blessed with three wonderful children, Keith, Lorna, and Lloyd, who, with their wonderful spouses have blessed me with five grandchildren. When my children were nearly grown I felt a

strong pull to return to school.

Horticulture and art were my original choices at Pierce College and I eventually received a BA and MA in art at California State University, Northridge. I continued my interest with studio art at several Los Angeles locations. My work has been shown in many curated and juried exhibitions and my creative impulses persist still today.

Economic necessity pulled me to art teaching and eventually to Flintridge Preparatory School where I remained for seventeen years. As the yearbook adviser I gained significant experience in publishing. I remain in contact with many of my talented and passionate students.

I retired in 2003 and began folk dancing at Beverly Barr's and Westwood Co-op. Soon I added more Israeli dancing. I am now a regular at the Tuesday Gypsies, Israel Yakovee and the Co-op. I also enjoy dance camps and exhibitions.

I am honored and challenged by this appointment as proofing editor for Folk Dance Scene. I very much look forward to keeping our community entertained and informed. I will naturally continue to make my own original art work as well.

— H. Barbara Cutler



MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS

Material for this article was taken from the following websites: Ask.yahoo.com, www.brownlelocks.com, and the holidayspot.com.

The first day of the month of May is known as May Day. It is the time of year when warmer weather begins and flowers and trees start to blossom. It is said to be a time of love and romance. It is when people celebrate the coming of summer with lots of different customs that are expressions of joy and hope after a long winter.

May Day has been celebrated as the beginning of spring since the days of the Celts, who called their celebration *Beltrane*. It was the second most important holiday and thought to be the day that divided the year in half. The other half ended with the *Samhain* on November first. On May first, the pagan sun god would be honored with bonfires. Romans called their celebration *Floralia* and would gather flowers for wreaths and head garlands. In honor of the goddess of flowers, Flora, a five day festival would be held. All through the Middle Ages, May 1st was widely celebrated throughout Europe.

The Puritans attempted to end the May Day celebrations, considering them to be pagan.

Flowers were always a symbol of May Day, wreaths, daisy chains, baskets of flowers, or even a single blossom on the end of a wand. Townspeople would wake up early to go into the woods to gather the first flowers of May to decorate their doors and houses.

Women would also get up early to wash their faces with the morning dew. They believed the dew would restore beauty. Later, in the Ozark Mountains of the United States, this tradition would change slightly. Girls would wash their faces in morning dew, believing doing so would ensure they would marry the man of their choice.

Another symbol of the season is the maypole. It finds its origins in the pagan custom of parading trees in the town square. Each village would have its maypole which would be erected with great festivities and merrymaking. The Puritans saw the tree as a phallic symbol and again attempted to stop the tradition. In England, they were successful for some time in the 1600s. The maypole was again used with the return of the Stuart rule. There would be ribbons

adorning the trees and dancers would hold the ribbons while dancing around them. Morris dancers today dance with hats decorated with ribbons and streamers on their wrists and elbows, while dancing with sticks which they use to enhance the dance. In pagan times, the use of sticks was meant to scare off evil spirits.

In France, the May Tree became the "Tree of Liberty", symbolizing the French Revolution. The holiday was later used by some countries as a time to honor the working man, and in some countries today, to display military strength.

May Day is not a national holiday in the United States, but is observed by many school children, with dances and flowery costumes. In Hawaii, Lei Day is celebrated in May when people exchange flower necklaces as symbols of friendship.

A footnote: the distress call "mayday, mayday, mayday" has no connection with the celebration of spring. It is actually an anglicized version of the French "m'aidez", or "help me"!

MAY DAY DANCES

The following was excerpted from the web-site: <http://salmonriver.com/maydance.html>, titled 'Mayday Celebrations' by Nancy Sherer, and is re-printed here with permission. To see pictures and videos of May Day dances, check the following web-sites:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kt7pQL08hzQ, <http://www.lyndonirwin.com/maypole.htm>

Maypole Dances

Easiest for young children.

In ancient Europe, the Mayday procession was a march around the village, the marchers holding baskets, wreaths, Maypoles or effigies. The stations of the march would include village wells, barns where milk cows were housed, and around the village boundaries. This can easily be adapted to a march around the playground or park.

A little bit more difficult is "Thread the Needle," a simple procession of couples which somewhat resembles "The Stroll" (an American teenage dance popular during the 1950's). Children line up, boys on one side, girls on the other. The couple on the end steps forward, greet each other, then proceed to march through the lines. Another variation is to have a flower and ribbon trimmed arch which the other children march under.

Federation Clubs

BAY OSOS FOLK DANCERS
Tue 1:00-3:00
(805) 534-1501 Anne Tiber
LOS OSOS, South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Ave,

CABRILLO FOLK DANCERS
Tue 7:00-9:45
(858) 459-1336 Georgina
SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park,
Balboa Park Club

CAFE ASTERIA
Thu 8:30-11:30
(310) 229-8947 Jerry Savin
LOS ANGELES, Pacific Arts Cener,
10469 Santa Monica Blvd

CERRITOS FOLK DANCERS
Tue 6:00 - 8:45
(562) 865-8854 Sue Chen
CERRITOS, Cerritos Senior Center,
12340 South St.

CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS
Wed 7:30-9:30
(818) 707-7664 Phoebe Rivera
THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center,
403 W Hillcrest Dr

ETHNIC EXPRESS
Wed 6:30 Thu 6:30-8:45 closed
holidays & August
(702) 732-4871 Richard Killian
LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights
Art Center, 800 S. Brush St.

FANTASY FOLK DANCE CLUB
Sun 2:00 - 6:00
(626) 454-3181 Diane Chen
ALHAMBRA, China Press, 2121 W.
Mission Rd.
Wed 7:30-10:00, Fri 7:30-10:00
S EL MONTE, CSM Trading Inc.,
9640 Klingerman St,

KYPSELI GREEK FOLK DANCING
Fri 8:00-11:00
(818) 990-5542 Dalia Miller
PASADENA, Skandia Hall
2031 E. Villa

LAGUNA FOLKDANCERS
Sun 7:00-9:45
(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin
LAGUNA BEACH, Susi Q
Community Center, 380 3rd St.

LAGUNA WOODS INT'L FOLK DANCE CLUB
Tue 8:30am-11:00
(949) 707-0605 Mikki Revenaugh
LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 1,
24232 Calle Aragon

MOUNTAIN DANCERS
1st & 3rd Tue 1:30-4:00
(818) 248-5804 Charlotte Edington
S. PASADENA, Woman's Club,
1424 Fremont Ave.

MULTI ETHNIC DANCERS
Wed 5:00-7:00
(949) 770-7026 Miriam Kahn
LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 1,
24232 Calle Aragon

NARODNI INT'L FOLK DANCERS
Thu 7:30
(714) 932-2513 Carol Wall
BELLFLOWER, Woman's Club of
Bellflower, 9402 Oak St.

PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP
Fri 7:45-11:00
(818) 790-8523 Marc Rayman
PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church
300 S. Los Robles

RAINBOW SENIOR CLUB
Sun 3:00 - 7:00
(626) 614-8625 Kevin Sun
ALHAMBRA, Joslyn Senior Center
210 N. Chapel Ave.

SAN DIEGO VINTAGE DANCERS
(858) 622-9924 Mary Jennings
SAN DIEGO, Normal Heights
Methodist Church 4650 Mansfield St.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY
Sun 6:30 - 9:30 Wed 7:30-9:30
(805) 682-5523 Gary Shapiro
SANTA BARBARA, Westside Com-
munity Ctr, 423 W. Victoria St. (W);
TBD (Sun)

SCANDINAVIAN DANCERS OF VENTURA & SANTA BARBARA
Every other Sat 2:00-5:00
(805) 604-9608 Madeleine
SANTA PAULA, Briggs Elementary
School 14438 W. Telegraph

SIERRA MADRE FOLK DANCE CLASS
Mon 8:00 - 9:30
(626) 358-5942 Ann Armstrong
SIERRA MADRE, Sierra Madre Rec.
Center, 661 E. Sierra Madre Blvd

SKANDIA DANCE CLASSES
Mon 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:30-10:00; Sat
7:00 - 11:00(once a month)
(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin
(310) 827-3618 Sparky Sotcher
ANAHEIM, Downtown Community
Center, 250 E Center (Mon)
CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park,
5401 Rhoda Way (Wed, some Sat.)
BELLFLOWER, Women's Club, 9402
Oak St. (some Sat.)

SOLVANG VILLAGE FOLK DANCERS
Sat 7:00-10:00 except 3rd Sat 2:00-4
(805) 688-7994 Beatrice Djernaes
SOLVANG, Bethania Lutheran Parish
Hall, 603 Atterdag Rd.; Corner Alisal
& Copenhagen (3rd Sat)

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

Dancers Speak

It's best with a voice, not just in your head,
But your lips forming the words that are read out loud

For April and spring and everything read poetry.

– Camille Dull

A POEM FOR DANIELA IVANOVA

"Who is that?" leading the line at the Sunday dance festival

"The teacher we didn't go to see" - too tight a dance schedule

"We must go tomorrow!" - Her eye-catching elegance

So we go to San Pedro on Monday to dance again.

Her method is new to us, an arc behind her,
She, listening to know when to increase the pace,
move on

Then singing powerfully, inspiring the dance

Daniela comes again to our area, to teach at a senior center

Then she leads a dance party at the church hall we use too

She recognizes me, invites me second in the line
I feel honored, and delight in her proximity

As teachers we learn method as well as the dance
Leading with joy shining in her beauty and voice
She chooses dances to follow well on each other
And inspires us with her dynamic grace

– Don Krotser



FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, SOUTH PRESENTS CAMP HESS KRAMER 26TH EXCITING WORKSHOP WEEKEND

SAVE THE DATE

October 15 • 16 - 17, 2010

TEACHERS TO BE ANNOUNCED

REMEMBER THE FABULOUS TIMES THIS IS THE WEEKEND YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

For information: Beverly Barr

310-202-6166 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

May Day

More complicated, is dancing around the Maypole with particular steps. Four sets of two place themselves at each 'corner.' The following sample quadrille is taken from "Maypole Possibilities."

- . Courtesy to partners, 4 counts.
- . Courtesy to opposites, 4 counts.
- . Form a circle and side-step to right, once around, and back again to places.
- . Grand right and left.
- . Promenade all.
- . Head couple form an archway, and all pass under: "Thread the Needle."

Note the similarity between these steps and American barn dancing, or square dancing. This dance is done around a Maypole decorated with garlands, rather than plaited ribbons.

Most complicated is weaving ribbons around the Maypole. These instructions come from a book published in 1907. You will have to figure it out for yourselves. Good luck. It was performed by college students who practiced long, hard, and with enthusiasm.

What about music? The real answer is: anything goes. There have never been traditional tunes connected to Mayday, although the traditional English instruments are a pipe and a drum (played by the same person.) If you still need guidance on the matter, I will suggest the Virginia Reel, a formal waltz or 'Comin' Through the Rye'

– Nancy Sherer

The following was excerpted from the web-site: <http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/customs/questions/mayday.htm> written by Mandy Barrow, and is re-printed here with permission.

A traditional May Day dance is Maypole Dancing.

On May Day, people used to cut down young trees and stick them in the ground in the village to mark the arrival of summer.

People danced around the tree poles in celebration of the end of winter and the start of the fine weather that would allow planting to begin.

Maypoles were once common all over England and were kept from one year to the next. Schools would practice skipping round the pole for weeks before the final show on the village greens.

The end results would be either a beautiful plaited pattern of ribbons round the pole or a tangled cat's cradle, depending on how much rehearsing had been done.

Maypoles are still a part of some village life and on May Day the villagers dance around it.

Morris Dancing

A traditional dance seen throughout the month of May is Morris Dancing. It is a traditional English form of folkdancing, performed by groups of men or women.

Morris Dancing has been danced for hundreds of years, and passed down through the generations in the villages of rural England. There are several thoughts to the origins of Morris Dancing. The name may refer to the possibility of the form of dancing coming to England from the Moors of North Africa; or it may have been called 'Moor-ish' simply because the dancers sometimes painted their faces black, and people compared this to the dark-skinned Moors.

There are usually six or eight dancers arranged in two lines or in a circle facing each other. The dancers may carry white handkerchiefs that they shake, or short sticks that they bang against each other as they dance. Some dancers have bell-pads tied at their knees, which make a loud and cheerful rhythm as they dance.

– Mandy Barrow



Veselo Selo maypole dancers: Carol Wall, Pauline Klak, Ed Klak, Gene Schachter, Henrietta Bemis, Sue Gould, John Matthews, Abriana Matthews

Calendar

Note: Federation Dance Events are in Bold.

CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS

MAY

- 1 *The San Diego May Ball*, English Country Dance, Dance Leader: Erik Weberg, Music: Off The Cuff. Info: sdecad.org.
- 1 *UCLA Balkan Music Ensemble*, Sat. 8:00 -11:00 at UCLA Schoenberg Hall. Benefit Dance. See OTS. Info: Radka Varimezova at radele@gmail.com.
- 1-2 *Victorian Fair*, 1:00-5:00, Homestead Museum, 15415 E. Don Julian Rd., City of Industry, Philadelphia Quadrille Band & Yesteryear Dancers. Info: irene.ujda@gmail.com, homesteadmuseum.org
- 1,2 *Greek Festival*. Dancing, music, food, crafts. St. Prophet Elias Church, San Bernardino. Info: (909) 885-6213.
- 7 *Cinco de Mayo Party, Fri. 7:30, with West LA Folk Dancers at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166, (310) 478-4659, dancingbarrs@yahoo.com.***
- 8 *Cafe Aman*, The Varimesov Family, 7:30-11:30, at Pacific Arts Center, 10469 Santa Monica Blvd., West L.A. Info: Ian (818) 753-0740 or ianpricebey@hotmail.com.
- Duquesne University Tamburitans perform:*
- 14 Summerlin Perf. Arts Ctr., Las Vegas, NV, 8:00. Info: (877) 826-6437
- 16 Servite High School, Anaheim, 3:00. Info: Don Knapp, (714) 832-7555
- 19 Starbright Theatre, Las Vegas, 7:00. Info: Melissa Spina, (702) 242-4153
- 20 Boulder Creek Golf Course, Boulder City, NV., 7:00. Info: (877) 826-6437
- 21 East County Perf. Arts Ctr., El Cajon, 7:30. Info: Virgil Barbat, (858) 273-8203
- 22 Fontana High School, Fontana, 7:00. See ad. Info: Dr. Wayne Ruble, (909) 823-4366
- 23 Sun City Anthem, Henderson, NV, 3:00. Info: Greg Dreyer, (702) 614-5860
- 25 Heritage Theatre, Campbell, 7:30. Info: (877) 826-6437
- 25 Humboldt State University, Arcata, 8:00. Info: Roy Furshpan, (707) 826-4411

- 15 *Jane Austen Dance*, Las Vegas. Info: Marsden at Mmacrae@earthlink.net.
- 16 *Topanga Banjo and Fiddle Contest*, Paramount Ranch, Agoura. Performances, dancing, singing, jams, food. Info: topangabanjofiddle.org.
- 17 *Bulgarian Music & Dance* with Iliana Bozhanova & Todor Yankov, Mon. 7:30-10:30, Dalmatian-American Club, 1639 S. Palos Verdes St., San Pedro. Info: Pauline (310) 832-1074.
- 18 *Iliana Bozhanova at Cal Tech*. Iliana teaching Bulgarian dances, Todor Yankov on accordion. 7:30 at Throop Church, 300 S. Los Robles, Pasadena. Info: (626) 797-5157, franprevas@yahoo.com.
- 20 *Narodni's 34th Birthday Party. Live music by Zimzala, Woman's Club, 9402 Oak St., Bellflower. See OTS. Info: (714) 932-2513 or www.narodni.org.***
- 21, 22, 23 *Greek Festival*. Dancing, music, food, crafts. St. John the Baptist Church, Anaheim. Info: (714) 827-0181.
- 23 *Institute with Billy Burke, 7:00-9:45 pm at Susi Q Center, 380 Third St., Laguna Beach. Classic Balkan dances. Info: (714) 893-8888 or www.LagunaFolkdancers.org.***
- 25 *Yeseta Brothers Tamburica Band & John Filcich*, CalTech FD, 7:30, Throop Church, Del Mar & Los Robles, Pasadena. Info: Nancy (626) 797-5157.
- 29, 30, 31 *Greek Festival*. Dancing, music, food, crafts. St. Nicholas Church, Northridge. Info: (818) 886-4040.
- 30 *Birthday Bash for Ted Martin, party with live music hosted by Multi Ethnic Dancers of Laguna Woods. Clubhouse 7, 24111 Moulton Pkwy. Info: (714) 893-8888, www.LagunaFolkdancers.org.***
- 30 *Explore the World Through Dance*, Teaching 10-3, open dancing 3-4:30 Balboa Park Club, San Diego, Jeanne Cate (858) 278-4619
- 31 *Memorial Day Party, West LA Folk Dancers, Mon. 7:30 at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave., West LA. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166, (310) 478-4659, dancingbarrs@yahoo.com.***
- JUNE**
- 5, 6 *Greek Festival*. Dancing, music, food, crafts. St. George Church, Downey. Info: (562) 862-6461.

Dancers Speak

Now I want to have my say about what Rich said! I believe that putting down any group of dancers, categorically, is wrong. Although I agree with some of what Rich says, his use of "hard core Balkan-type folkie" in a derogatory way is again divisive. We see it on the political news all the time; angry and ugly language about anyone who holds a different opinion. Let's try being accepting and supportive of one another rather than negative.

— Sandy

DANCING WITH TWO LEFT FEET. (55)



*People who dance in circles
End up in the same places.*

The other day while helping our social committee member bring in a case of cold bottled water and drinks to our Folk Dance Center, I started thinking of all the folksongs and dances we do that

evolve around the community well and celebrate the drawing of the water and the maidens that carry the jugs of the cool liquid on their shoulders or heads back to their homes.

A beautiful village girl goes to the well to fetch a jug of water, where she meets a young Turkish man with whom she falls in love, but cannot marry, goes a popular Bulgarian song.

The Israelis with glee celebrate the drawing of the water from Joshua's wells in the popular dance *Mayim* - "*Shavite mayim b'sason mi mayne ha Jeshua*," as they dance around the well.

Progress in digging technology brought the well closer to the houses, by having the well dug up in the backyard. I, as a young boy in Croatia, still remember putting on my boots and trudging through the snow a few yards to the well, or *bunar* as we called it. I would drop the bucket down the deep hole, while jiggling the rope to make sure the bucket filled up with water to pull it up full of water. Leaning to one side, I carried the full bucket as it scraped my knee with each step.

Progress was made as a hand cranked pump replaced the *bunar* and years later by an electric pump that brought the water right into the kitchen sink.

Eventually even the electric pump was replaced with a network of pipes that brought the water from far away to be delivered directly to our houses. To get

water we just had to turn on the faucet for the cool liquid to come gushing out.

Not very romantic!

Who would nowadays write a song about a maiden turning on the kitchen faucet or the refrigerator spigot to draw cold water, and hope to meet her lover in the kitchen?

Many of us don't drink tap water and have come back a full circle to trudge to the supermarket, not to draw the free fresh water, but to buy water in plastic bottles.

Who knows, maybe someone will find romance in that and write a song about a young girl going to the supermarket to buy a case of cold water and who meets and falls in love with a young grocery clerk.

But, until then we will have to be satisfied and dance to the tunes of old romantic songs about wells, young maidens, and their Turkish lovers.

Get romantic and enjoy dancing.

— Lou Pechi

AN APPEAL FOR POETRY

Camille Dull shares this reminder to read poetry. We were not able to get it in the April issue, but poetry is special any time of the year. Does anyone have a poem about dance they would like to send to the Scene?

Happy to say this is the day to start reading poetry! Just one each morning, or evening, or mid-day or breakfast

A funny one or sad; don't make it bad -- like homework you hate, berate, relegate to never

Because you might love it -- laugh or cry, we don't know why

Let it seep inside, reside

Or let it be light and bright and stay at bay

Who cares, dares, prepares for poetry -

But, it's in our songs, belongs in our hearts

So, just pull out a book, dust it off, and read

Just one poem a day,

Any time, any where, read it to yourself or share

Quote of the Month

"Never did the woods ring to such a merry peal as we of the Maypole shall send up!" cry the pagans in Nathaniel Hawthorne's short story The Maypole of Merry Mount. In the story, set in the 1630's, Puritan spoilsports soon arrive to chop down the pole, which, to the Puritans, represents idol worship, paganism, and perhaps sexual license. To the Merry Mount residents, it symbolizes a pleasurable way of life.

Sometimes, when I'm dancing I notice that particular dances lift everyone's spirits. It seems impossible to do the dance without a smile on your face. Certain dances immediately come to my mind. One, *Petrecere*, was recently taught by **Daniel Sandu**, when he came to the Tuesday Gypsies. It is a dance in which the patterns represent drinking and paying the musicians, etc., in other words, revelry. Another dance is *Rumenie*, a Romanian/Jewish dance, also very lively and joyous. No matter how serious some people usually look when dancing, these dances are done with a sense of abandon and playfulness.

Question of the Month

Can you name some other dances that fit in this happy category?

– Sandy Helperin

Send responses to: ds@folkdancescene.org

RESPONSE TO LAST MONTH'S QUESTION

Dear Sandy,

I think you need to lighten up a little bit on this one! I've always found the comment, "Other folk dancing that doesn't suck" amusing and simply meaning, "Whatever I haven't covered above, follows." **Fran Prevas** who writes the newsletter to which you referred is free to cover whatever events she chooses to cover. She is not paid and she works for no organization. It seems to me that she does cover the special events of many groups in the region. Perhaps she gives more space to the groups with which she is most familiar and most comfortable, but why shouldn't she? I truly don't find that to be elitist at all.

We should be praising her and thanking her for the considerable amount of time and effort she expends to voluntarily compile the extensive list of information she publishes. She provides a great service for all of us who choose to subscribe (at no cost, by the way). I

find her newsletter to be a treasure trove of current activities in the folk dance/folk music world, and a wonderful "at-your-fingertips" source. If I did not, I would simply unsubscribe. Anyone who is annoyed is free to choose that option.

Sincerely,

– Elaine Muir

Sandy's reply

I have to say that I do agree that the writer is free to write whatever she chooses. And I agree, as I stated, that she provides a service by letting her readers know about a lot of upcoming activities. Thank you for your opinion.

– Sandy

From Rich Duree:

I don't know who the woman is who made the "dances that don't suck" statement, but I can name a few suspects. Rather than "elitist," this statement is indicative of the selfish attitude among many folk dancers that is causing a slow, relentless deterioration of the folk dance movement. Maybe it's the Me Generation at work, but I see this attitude everywhere. At the Laguna Festival a couple of years ago, one of the hard-core Balkan-type folkies walked dejectedly off the dance floor, hands over her ears, when Santa Rita was played at the afterparty. Another incident happened at Stockton Folk Dance Camp when another hard-core Balkan-type folkie bitched loud and long about having Morley Leyton on the faculty. Morley Leyton happens to have been one of my favorite teachers since 1965 and, yes, I took and still take offense at that. It's been my experience that most of those who profess to be "expert" folk dancers are not. They are folk dance collectors and every dance they do looks the same. They're the ones who add arm swings and high kicks where they don't belong, just because they think it attracts attention to themselves. I recall having my left shoulder almost pulled out of the socket by one young lady who was going to show me she didn't need me to assist her in an underarm turn - and she was one of those hard-core Balkan-type folkies. All this has caused me, like so many others before me, to walk away, disgusted and discouraged. That's difficult to do after 50 years of dedicated participation in the folk dance community.

– Richard Duree

5,6 *Greek Festival*. Dancing, music, food, crafts. St. Andrews Church, San Luis Obispo. Info: (805) 546-8337.

6 *Nevenka Concert*, Sunday 7:00, Boston Court Performing Arts Center, 70 N. Mentor Ave., Pasadena. Tickets: (626) 683-6883 or www.ovationtix.com/trs/pe/8080075.

8 **Bulgarian Workshop with Yuliyán Yordanov. 6:00-9:00 at Charleston Hts Art Ctr, 800 So. Brush St., Las Vegas. Info: Dick & Donna Killian (702) 732-4871, rpkillian@gmail.com or www.ethnicexpresslasvegas.org.**

11, 12, 13 *Greek Festival*. Dancing, music, food, crafts. St. Spyridon Church, San Diego. Info: (619) 297-4165.

14 *A Night of Macedonian & Roma Music & Dance*, Mon. 7:30 at SOHO Dinner & Music Club, 1221 State St., Ste. 205, Santa Barbara. Info: Jatila (805) 403-7935 or Robert & Doris (805) 729-2808.

19 *Balkan Dance Party* with Lisima, 8:00 at Serra's Dine N Dance, 12449 Ventura Blvd., Studio City. Info: weathervanedance.com/performances.html.

25, 26, 27 *Greek Festival*. Dancing, music, food, crafts. St. Demetrios Church, Camarillo. Info: (805) 482-1273.

25, 26, 27 *Greek Festival*. Dancing, music, food, crafts. St. Paul Church, Irvine. Info: (949) 733-2366.

JULY

9, 10, 11 *Greek Festival*. Dancing, music, food, crafts. St. Katherine Church, Redondo Beach. Info: (310) 540-2434

18 **Summerfest at Narodni. Live music by Interfolk. At Women's Club, 9402 Oak St., Bellflower. Info: (714) 932-2513, www.narodni.org.**

31, 8/1 *Greek Festival*. Dancing, music, food, crafts. St. Barbara Church, Santa Barbara. Info: (805) 683-4492.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

5/8 *Rose Festival Dance*, 1:00-4:00 at Wischemann Hall, 460 Eddie Lane, Sebastopol.

6/4-6 *Statewide 2010, Dancing in the Valley of the Moon*, at Sonoma Veteran's Memorial Hall, 126 First

St. West. Teachers: Zeljko Jergan & Erik Bendix. Music: Chubritza. Info: Gary (415) 488-9197.

6/12-19 *Scandia Camp*, Mendocino, Norwegian & Swedish singing, dancing & music. Contact Registration@ScandiaCamp.org.

6/19-26 *Mendocino Folklore Camp* at Mendocino Woodlands. Info: (415) 225-9956 or mendocinofolklore.com.

6/26-7/3 *Mendocino Woodlands Balkan Music & Dance Workshops* (West Coast), Mendocino. Info: (510) 547-1118 or office@eefc.org.

7/26-8/1 *Stockton Folk Dance Camp, Week 1*, Stockton, CA. University of the Pacific campus, Italian dance. Info: www.folkdancecamp.org.

8/2-8/8 *Stockton Folk Dance Camp, Week 2*, Balkan dance. Info: See above.

8/15 *Little Festival of the Redwoods*, Sunday, Picnic in Armstrong Redwoods noon & 4:30. Request dance at Veterans Memorial Bldg. First & Church Sts, Guerneville, 1:30-4:00. Info: (707) 546-8877.

9/26 *Fiesta de Sonoma Folkdance*. Sunday, Veterans Memorial Bldg., 126 First St. West, 1:30-4:30. Info: (707) 546-8877 or (415) 925-9786.

OUT OF STATE

ALASKA

6/11-18 *Dancing with Donna Cruise*. Info: Donna, (408) 257-3455, donna@dancingcruises.com.

MAINE

8/15-21, 8/22-28, 8/29-9/4 *Mainewoods Dance Camp*. Three 1-week sessions with various teachers. Fryeburg. Info: (973) 787-4614, info@mainewoodsdancecamp.org

MASSACHUSETTS

Pinewoods Camps; Info: cds-boston.prg
6/18-20, English and American dance
7/1-5, English music and dance
7/5-9 Scottish dance

MONTANA

7/9-11 *National Folk Festival*, Butte, MT. www.nationalfolkfestival.com.

NEW MEXICO

8/5-8 *New Mexico August Camp*. Zeljko Jergan teaching Croatian, music Bare Necessities. Socorro. Info: Wendy (505) 345-0447, www.swifdi.org.

Calendar

NEW YORK

5/28-31 *World Music & Dance Camp*, 90 miles outside New York City. Info: ahmet@rcn.com.

8/7-14 *Iroquois Springs Balkan Music & Dance Workshops*, (East Coast) Rock Hill. Info: eefc.org.

10/8-10 *Intern'l Folkdance Camp Columbus Day 2010 Weekend*, at Circle Lodge, Hopewell Junction.

Teachers: Moshe Eskayo, Sonia & Cristian, Susan & Steve Kotansky & David Vinski, Magali Boivin. Info: Moshe (212) 942-4143 or skayokeff@gmail.com

NORTH CAROLINA

Camps at Swananoa Gathering, Asheville. Info: (828) 298-3434, gathering@Warren-wilson.edu.

7/11-17 Celtic Week

7/18-24 Old-time Music and Dance Week

7/25-31 Contemporary Folk Week

OHIO

5/29-30 *Miami Valley FD Workshop*, with Roo Lester. Dayton. Info: themacgahanfoundation.netfirms.com.

WASHINGTON

5/7-8 *Dance Workshops & Party* with Iliana Bozhanova & Todor Yankov, hosted by Seattle Balkan Dancers at Russian Center, 704 19th Ave. E., Seattle. Info: Steve Bard (425) 883-0332 or danceinfo@seattlebalkandancers.org.

5/28-31 *Folklife Festival*, Seattle Center.

WISCONSIN

7/1-4 *Midsummer Festival* at Folklore Village, Dodgeville. Info: www.folklorevillage.org.

FOREIGN

BULGARIA

7/31-8/12 *Bulgarian Tour*, led by Nina Kavardjikova. Tel. 31-20-647-6713, Email: ninelk20@hotmail.com.

7/26-8/1 *Bulgarian Folk Music & Dance Seminar*, Plovdiv. Info: www.folkseminarplovdiv.com; larryweiner.com or (310) 565-0539.

8/2-15 *Koprivshitsa Festival Tour!* led by Jim Gold. Festival held every 5 years - register early! See ad. Info: jimgold.com.

CANADA

5/21-24 *Ontario Folk Dance Camp* in Waterloo. Teachers: Fethi Karakecili (Turkish/Kurdish) & Jaap

Leegwater (Bulgarian). Info: Sheryl Demetro, 121Sexton Cres. Toronto, M2H 2L7.

CHINA

6/10 -26 *Yangtze River Cruise & Custom China Tour*, dancing led by Sandy Starkman. Organized by Mel Mann. Info: (510) 526-4033, meldancing@aol.com, www.folkdanceonthewater.org.

7/18-7/25 (in Marienbad) - 7/25-7/30 (in Prague) *Intern'l Dance School 2010*, European & Vintage Dances & Ballroom Dances of the 19th Century, Teachers: Sylvia Hartung & Richard Powers. Info: www.creanc.com or sylvia@creanc.com.

EGYPT

6/9-23 *Music & Dance Tour*, Info: Halanda Studio, 1062 Lincoln Ave., San Jose, CA 95125 or hala@haladance.com.

GREECE

7/17-25 *Greek Traditional Dancing Seminar* on island of Kalymnos. Info: iannismaris@orange.fr.

10/10-22 *Tour Greece and Greek Islands*; 10/21-24 *Santorini Extension*. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362 See ad.

ITALY

9/17-28 *Folk Dance Cruise to Italy & Western Mediterranean* with Yves & France Moreau & Roberto Bagnoli. Info: (450) 659-9271 or Info@bourque-moreau.com.

MACEDONIA

7/24-8/03 *Traditional Folkdance From Macedonia*. Info: anastasovs@yahoo.com.

NORWAY

6/12-22 *Midsummer in Norway!* led by Lee Otterholt. See ad. Info: jimgold.com.

POLAND

9/3-17 *Tour of Poland* - Warsaw, Krakow, Zakopane, Wroclaw, Torun, Malbork, Gdansk. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362.

ROMANIA

5/1-8 *Dance & Cultural Tour to Romania*, Deva-Transylvania, sponsored by The Doina Foundation. Info: www.StichtingDoina.nl

6/5-17 *Dance tour Led by Lia and Theodor Vasilescu*. Info: PING.CHUN@ATT.NET, (973) 539-7020.

Recent Events

Sunday we had serious competition with a music group nearby using a solar powered sound system, with big badda-BOOM amps. Rather than compete with them, I tailored some folk dances to their music. They loved having me dance to their playing! At the end of a piece, they applauded me! I used *Ya Da Kalinushka Lomala*, a very lyrical and soft version of *Dorozhka*, *Belasicko Oro* and a *Syrto*, which I was dancing solo on Sunday. When **Irwin** and **Beverly Barr** showed up, they joined me, and then **John Filcich** arrived and danced in the line with us too! Wow! That was so cool!!!

John Filcich brought me a beautiful bouquet of camellias and geraniums from his garden. I am sure you can imagine how honored I felt. I was fortunate enough to have along with me a special CD of kolos I had bought from him at a Greek festival 5 or 6 years ago, and there on the grass in the park, I, along with others, danced many of those kolos with John Filcich. I will forever treasure the memory of this wonderful day. Thank you, John. Wow.

Ann Armstrong, Marsha Fenner and Sylvia Stachura came both Saturday and Sunday, and gave me the assistance, equipment and muscle I needed to manage. Marie Montes was with me all day Saturday, even though her Thursday chemo was beginning to take its toll. She paced herself and was a beautiful asset!!!

So many clubs showed their support by dancing with us!

I feel so lucky, so grateful, to be a part of such a wonderful people! Folk dancers are my family: my favorite people.

Thank you, to every single dancer that helped me this Folk Dance in the Park day.

Two things John Filcich said to me Sunday, March 21, will continue to motivate me to promote folk dancing in this way. One was in response to someone who was not entirely happy with dancing on the grass, and he said something like, "Village dancers dance on whatever surface they have!" The other bit was, (paraphrased, I'm afraid,) "I was driving one weekend with my parents when I saw these dancers in a large field, and I asked them to stop the car, so we could go investigate what was going on. It was a group of folk dancers, and my life was then forever changed."

Wow!

We folk dancers are so grateful for that providential moment! John Filcich, you are a treasure! Thank you!

If there are any other crazy folk dance nuts out there who might be interested in trying a similar public presentation of folk dance, please feel free to contact me:

Dancing.Valerie@gmail.com

Dance with joy!

– Valerie Daley

DICK OAKES BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

On March 27th Veselo Selo honored Dick Oakes with a party commemorating his 70th birthday. Live music was provided by Veselba.



Dick does some teaching.



Dick and John Filcich chatting.

Recent Events

DANCING IN THE PARK

Many international folk dancers in Southern California celebrated this vernal equinox in the beautiful Woodley Park in Van Nuys as an extension of the Green Expo.

The idea to do such a thing was initially prompted by an email I received from **Sylvia Stachura** with info about this Green Expo (<http://thegreenexpo.net/>) that she heard about on the radio. I checked out the website and contacted the guy in charge of exhibitors, asking for some information and permission to have a table for flyers and maybe some space for dancing at this event. I thought, "Hey! A lot of the folk dancers I dance with are pretty 'green,' so maybe 'green' folk might be interested in dancing!"

Michael was excited to have us, so I got the green-light "Go!" and I went!

I only had a few days, so I scurried to gather dancers and the things we would need to pull this off, and luckily it worked out beautifully! Emails I sent out were forwarded on to other folk dance lists, and the event was announced in many folk dance clubs.



Ann Armstrong brought her canopy, two tables, our "International Folk Dance" banner, an ipod and amp, chairs, water, goodies to snack on and her amazing "know-how." She, **Marsha Fenner** and **Marie Montes** were my basic support. **Jay Nichtom** helped us set up Saturday morning, and brought complimentary copies of "Folk Dance Scene" for us to offer to potential newbie folk dancers.

Saturday morning we had a wonderful mix of dancers from the Pasadena Coop, the Tuesday Gypsies and the Westwood Folk Dance groups. Later in the day, we danced with West Valley dancers and even had live music to dance to, provided by **Pat Cross** and **Don Krotser** of the **Fifth Friday** band! Wow!



Serendipitously, dancers arrived, mingled, danced with us for a while, and departed as other dancers were arriving. We maintained a group of between 8 to 10 dancers throughout the weekend.

At a slow spell on Saturday, I showed *Hineh Ma Tov* to some of the dancers seated in the shade. No club in our area that I know of does that dance, and I wanted them to see it. As I was dancing out there on the lawn, solo, 3 teenage girls stopped to watch, seemingly enthralled! I thought I had hooked some really cool newbies!!! Yes!!! When the dance ended, they enthusiastically asked, "Oh! What was that dance?" I told them, and one gal said, "Oh, yeah! I knew I knew it! I learned it in folk dance class!" She had been in **Billy Burke's** class at Millikan Middle School a few years before. Oh well. I didn't snag a new dancer, but I may have reminded her of how much fun this kind of dancing can be. She did tell me that taking Mr. Burke's class changed her life by opening her up to so much more than she ever could have imagined.

We did not have more than 5 to 10 expo people join in with dancing each day, nor very many people taking flyers and asking about dance venues. A few, yes, but it was a tad disappointing. Walking about the expo, and later as we were loading the cars people would stop me to say how much they loved the dancing, or some like comment. That was very nice.



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Travel with international folklore and folk dance experts:
Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, Adam Molnar, Joe Freedman

Tours for 2010

NORWAY! . . . June 12-22. Led by Lee Otterholt.

Norwegian and International Dancing with breathtaking scenery in the Land of the Mountain Kings! Midsummer in Norway! Oslo, Bergen, Hovin (Telemark), Fjord Cruise, and Voss.

HUNGARY! . . . July 27-August 4. Led by Adam Molnar. Magyar adventures in Budapest, Eger, Jaszbereny Folk Dance Camp! (Can be combined with Bulgarian tour!)

BULGARIA! . . . August 3-15. Koprivshitsa Festival Tour! Led by Jim Gold.

The one you've been waiting for! Sofia, Bansko, Plovdiv, Veliko Turnovo, Koprivshitsa. Colorful, unforgettable, mountain-top Folk Festival held every five years! Register early.

POLAND! . . . Sept. 3-17. Warsaw, Krakow, Zakopane, Wroclaw, Torun, Malbork, Gdansk.

GREECE and the GREEK ISLANDS! . . . October 10-22.

Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt.

Dance hasapicos, syrtos, and more! Mountains, markets, archeological wonders, and sun-kissed islands. Classical tour of Athens, Olympia, Delphi, Meteora, Mycenae. Greek cruise to Mykonos, Crete, Rhodes, Patmos, Ephesus, Santorini. Santorini extension: Oct. 21-24.

Tours for 2011

ISRAEL/JORDAN! . . . March 7-19. Led by Jim Gold and Joe Freedman.

Meet the people of Israel, learn their songs and dances, visit historic sites. Meet and dance with Israeli, Arab, Druze, Balkan, Yemenite, Bedouin, and Kurdish cultural groups. Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Galilee. Jordan extension: March 19-22. Amman, Petra, Jerash, and more!

HUNGARY! . . . July 26-August 3. Led by Adam Molnar.

Magyar adventures in Budapest, Eger, Jaszbereny Folk Dance Camp!

BULGARIA! . . . August 2-14. Led by Jim Gold.

A mysterious, magical country with unbeatable dancing, music, and folklore. Sofia, Bansko, Pamporovo, Plovdiv, Veliko Turnovo, Koprivshitsa Folk Festival, day trip to Northern Greece.

SICILY and southern ITALY! . . . May 8-18, 2011. Led by Jim Gold

Palermo, Agrigento, Siracusa, Taormina! Folk dancing with local Sicilian teachers! Meetings with local Tarentella dance groups. Southern Italy extension. May 18-22. Naples, Pompeii, Herculaneum, Amalfi Coast, Sorrento, and Capri.

EASTERN TURKEY! . . . October 9-27, 2011. Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt.

Enjoy hospitality, history, and adventure in this exotic land. Visit Kurdish, Pontic/Black Sea, Georgian, former Armenian regions! Turkish and international folk dancing. Istanbul, Diyarbakir, Urfa, Mardin, Van, Dogubeyazit, Kars, Ani, Erzurum, Trabzon. Istanbul extension: October 27-31.

For itineraries and details: Visit www.jimgold.com

TOUR REGISTRATION: I can't wait to go! Enclosed is my \$200 per person deposit.

Tour(s) desired _____

Name _____ Address _____

No. of people _____ Phone(____) _____ Email _____

Jim Gold International, Inc. 497 Cumberland Avenue, Teaneck, NJ 07666 U.S.A.

(201) 836-0362 www.jimgold.com Email: jimgold@jimgold.com

On the Scene

WEDDING GUESTS (NUNTASILOR)

In Romania, a wedding includes many special events and customs which involve everyone who will attend the wedding. When you are internationally known dance teachers, how can you assemble your many friends for a week or so to make it happen? **Sonia Dion** and **Cristian Florescu** decided to share their marriage ceremony and other wedding celebrations with all of their friends who attend Stockton Folk Dance Camp. Other friends and family are also coming for their "big day."



The dance notes for *Hora Nuntasilor* (the dance of the wedding guests) are available on the camp website. Go to www.folkdancecamp.org and scroll to the bottom, click on Dance Descriptions, then on *Hora Nuntasilor*. Let's all prepare to offer a wedding toast: *Traiasca Mirii!* Long live the bride and groom!

For those of you who haven't preregistered for Stockton Folk Dance Camp this year and wish to attend the wedding of Sonia and Cristian, the camp is offering a limited number of wedding packages, which include the wedding ceremony, the pre-dinner reception, the banquet, the dance and the after party for \$100 per person. For an additional \$50 you may be able to stay the night in one of the dorm rooms.

Please contact **Jan Wright** at (530) 474-3231 or jmwright32@frontiernet.net to find out if spaces are still available. If available, you may hold your place with a \$50 deposit. The balance must be paid by July 25.

— Karen Wilson-Bell, for the Stockton Folk Dance Committee

SUNDAY EVENING DANCING IN LAGUNA BEACH

Susi Q center, 380 Third St., Laguna Beach, 7:00 - 9:45 p.m.

May Teaching Schedule

5-2 **Carol Maybrier** reviews *Ajnzerica* and teaches *Svetinja*

5-9 Mothers Day - all request

5-16 **Shana Winokur** teaches *Sitna Baluca*, a Bulgarian dance introduced by **Yves Moreau** at Stockton Camp 2007

5-23 Institute with **Billy Burke** -classic Balkan dances, extended instruction

5-30 **Ted Martin's** Birthday Bash 5:30-9:45.

Join Ted for his birthday party at Clubhouse 7, 24111 Moulton Parkway, Laguna Woods. The party begins at 5:30 with a potluck dinner so bring some of your favorite food to share. After dinner will be dancing to live (**Madison Ave. Folk & Kriss Larson's** band) and recorded music. The room is large with a nice wood floor and there is plenty of parking. Co- hosted by **Ted & Carol Martin** and the Laguna Woods Folk Dancers. Ted and Carol plan to cover all of the costs.

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

— Diane Baker

VESELO SELO EVENTS

Saturday nights in May

May 1 - May Day party with annual May Pole dance. Always a fun event.

May 8 - All Request Night., Programmers: **Lu Perry** and **Henrietta Bemis**

May 15 - **Fran Prevas** teaching a Romanian dance.

May 22 - Nostalgia Night. Dance to the "oldies" of your choice! Programmer: **Laura Bremer**

May 29 - Memorial Day Party. **Fran Prevas** reviews Romanian dances.

May 17 Special Event.

The special event that Veselo Selo is co-hosting with San Pedro of **Iliana Ivanova** (married name) with accordionist **Todor Yankov** is on Monday, May 17 at San Pedro. This special event is \$10.00. Pot luck, bring something ethnic!

Saturdays in June

June 5 - All Request Night

June 12 - **Laura Bremer** teaching dances from Statewide.

June 19 - 40th Anniversary celebration with live music by **Interfolk Band**.

June 26 - **Laura Bremer** reviews Statewide dances.

Statewide 2010 Dancing in the Valley of the Moon™ Friday, Saturday & Sunday—June 4, 5 & 6 Pre-register and Save Time and Money!

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

How do you wish acknowledgement of registration? () email, () phone, () mail

Event costs

Under 18 are admitted free—pre-high school must be accompanied by an adult

Package for all events (paid by May 10): \$75.00 x _____ = \$ _____
(Does not include Winery tour or installation lunch—includes syllabus)

Per event pricing:

Friday night party, dancing in two rooms, 7:30 to 11:30 pm
light teaching by Erik and Zeljko \$20.00 x _____ = \$ _____
plus Kafana with local bands in the dining room

Saturday, all events: \$45.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Saturday, Institutes only: 9:00 am to 12:00 \$15.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Afternoon 2:30 to 5:00 pm \$15.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Saturday night party with Chubritza: \$20.00 x _____ = \$ _____

7:30 to 11:30 pm (Institute dances will be done during the evening)

Sunday morning, Institute and reviews: 9:30 am to 12:00 noon \$15.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Syllabus (included in the package price) \$5.00 = \$ _____

Installation Lunch—details and cost to come

Sunday afternoon Winery Tour and Dancing, 2:00 to 5:00 pm, at the Gundlach Bundschu Winery

One hour tour and tasting followed by request folk dancing.
\$20.00 per person (must be pre-paid) \$20.00 x _____ = \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Mail form and check made out to **Folk Dance Federation of California** to:

Sabine Zappe, Treasurer, Statewide 2010

153 Race Street, San Jose, CA 95126



Statewide 2010

"Dancing in the Valley of the Moon"

June 4, 5 & 6, 2010

It's a vintage year for fine dancing—
Excellent facilities, outstanding teachers

**Zeljko Jergan, Croatian ~
Erik Bendix, Balkan & Klezmer!**

Friday party and Kafana with local bands (two halls)!

Saturday morning and afternoon dance classes

Saturday night party with music by Chubritza!

Sunday morning dance classes/reviews

Sunday afternoon winery tour and tasting at Gundlach

Bundschu Winery with dancing! Extra charge, paid in advance

(See pre-registration form, downloadable from statewide2010.com for costs)

Accommodations:

Lodging in Sonoma and the immediate area is expensive. One alternative is to share a house rental with friends. Here is a link for the Visitors Bureau in Sonoma, with alphabetical listings for lodging in or immediately near Sonoma: <http://www.sonomavalley.com/index.php/Table/lodging/>

Less expensive alternatives:

Our "host" hotel is the **Sandman Inn/Motel** at 3421 Cleveland Avenue, Santa Rosa. The Inn is located just off Highway 101, not far from the exit for Highway 12, which leads to Sonoma. Sonoma is approximately **45 minutes** away. Their telephone number is (707) 293-2100. The cost of a room in this facility is \$95.50, plus tax, totaling \$103.01 per night. Breakfast is included. There are two queen sized beds per room. Mention the code "**FOLK**" to get this special rate. **The Inn will be holding the rooms for our group until May 14**, when any unused rooms will be released to the general public. Here's a link to their website: www.sandmansantarosa.com

Also, there are reviews you can read about this facility at Trip Advisor:

http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g33055-d577309-Reviews-Sandman_Motel-Santa_Rosa_Sonoma_County_California.html

There is a **Motel 6** near the Sandman at 3145 Cleveland Avenue. The cost is around \$70.00. We have no reviews of this unit. Phone 707-525-9010

Another suggestion, 15 minutes closer to Sonoma: I suggest you check Google or Yahoo for searches for Napa motels. We found some that were not much more than the Santa Rosa rates. (None had enough rooms for a "Host" hotel, though.)

The Sonoma Veteran's Memorial Hall, 126 First Street West, Sonoma
Sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc. (North)

Information: garychair@statewide2010.com Phone: 415-488-9197 Website: Statewide2010.com

On the Scene

Saturdays in July

July 3 - Independence Day Party

July 10 - Nostalgia Night

July 17 - Reviews of co-hosted events at San Pedro:

May 17 **Iliana Bozhanova**, and June 21 **Yulyian Yordanov**

July 24 - Continued reviews of July 17.

July 31 - All Request Night

— Lu Perry

WEST L. A. FOLK DANCERS

Friday, May 7, a Cinco de Mayo party a few days late, but not too late to enjoy a Mexican Fiesta. We will have just returned from our cruise to the Sea of Cortez & Mexico. Join us and request some of your favorite dances.

Monday, May 31, our annual Memorial Day Party which is our way to end the long weekend doing what we love to do, folk dance and party. Join us for a great time and enjoy the evening and the energy.

Parties are all request programs, played by Beverly and Irwin Barr. Bring snacks or desserts for the pot-luck table. All parties begin at 7:30 p.m. and end when you get too tired to dance.

We dance on a beautiful wooden floor at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost, W.L.A. (Between Barrington & Bundy, 1 1/2 blocks north of Santa Monica Blvd.). We look forward to seeing you on Mondays and Fridays. We will not meet on Monday, May 3 & 24 and Friday, May 14 & 28

For information call (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com.

— Beverly & Irwin Barr

NEVENKA CONCERT

Spring Concert at the Boston Court, Sunday June 6, 2010 - 7:00 at Boston Court Performing Arts Center, 70 North Mentor Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91106

Nevenka returns to the wonderful acoustics of the Boston Court to present a full two-hour concert, with instrumental guests. This will be our last performance before our tour of Bulgaria this summer - come support us and enjoy a wonderful evening of music!

\$18 general admission. Tickets available at the box office, by calling (626) 683-6883, or online: <http://www.ovationtix.com/trs/pe/8080075>

Info: <http://bostoncourt.com/>, <http://nevenka.org/shows.html>

2010 CAMP HESS KRAMER WORKSHOP

October 15-17, 2010 are the dates for the 2010 Camp Hess Kramer Workshop weekend. This international folk dance workshop weekend gets better each year. This is the 26th year of having this much fun. We all look forward to seeing each other, building worthwhile friendships, dancing together for a whole weekend and learning great dances from wonderful teachers. Save the date for another memorable camp. Teachers to be announced. Read Folk Dance Scene for information as it develops. For more about the weekend, or to add comments or suggestions please call or e-mail Beverly or Irwin Barr (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659, dancingbarrs@yahoo.com.

TAMBURITZANS

Duquesne University **Tamburitzans** will be performing at Servite Theatre on Sunday, May 16, at 3:00 p.m. Phone: (714) 996-4313
www.annunciationbyzantine.org/tamburitzans.html

PACIFIC ARTS CENTER NEWS:

The Pacific arts Center at 10469 Santa Monica Blvd. has an excellent wooden floor, and is the venue for a number of great events. News:

* **Sherrie Cochran's** Balkan group, **LIFE**, has switched to Friday nights. All else remains the same.

* **Mihai and Alexandru's** (Romanian, Russian, etc.) group will meet on the fourth Saturday of each month.

* **Café AMAN** continues to meet on the second Saturday of each month. The next one, May 8th, will feature the **Varimezov** family.

FESTIVAL AND CYCLING IN BULGARIA

Go to Bulgaria for the Koprivshtitsa Festival and stay to bicycle in the Rodopi Mts.

Folkdancer, cyclist is seeking other folks to join me on a week long cycle tour of the Rodopi Mountains in Bulgaria after the Koprivshtitsa Festival.

For details about the tour- cost, accommodation, lodging, bicycles provided, etc. go to the website: <http://www.cyclingbulgaria.com>. If interested please contact me: diane.baker@spamcop.net or (949) 675 - 2199.

You could join me in Bulgaria August 14 if you want to cycle but not attend the Koprivshtitsa Festival. If you want to attend the festival and have not made plans there are several folk dance tours with space available.

— Diane Baker

On the Scene

BEVERLY BARR'S DAYTIME CLASS CHANGES New Class

Beverly's new international folk dance class will be held on Wednesdays, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m., beginning May 5. It will be part of the Culver City Senior Program and will be held at the old Senior Center, which is now called the "Multi Purpose Room". It is just south of the Veterans Memorial Auditorium building which is on the southwest corner of Culver Blvd. & Overland Ave. The room is in the back, across from the park. There is plenty of free parking. No class on May 26

Change to Thursday Class

Beverly's folk dance class at Felicia Mahood Senior Center will now be on Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. - noon in the auditorium. This change of day will begin on May 6. Felicia Mahood Senior Center is located at 11338 Santa Monica Blvd. in West Los Angeles, 2 blocks west of the 405 freeway. No class on May 27.

Tuesday Class

Beverly's folk dance class at Roxbury Park Recreation Center in Beverly Hills will continue on Tuesdays, 10:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., in the auditorium. Roxbury Park is located at 471 So. Roxbury Dr. in Beverly Hills, about one half block south of Olympic Blvd. No class on May 4 & 25.

For information on any of the above folk dance groups, please contact Beverly at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

SUPERDEVOICHE

On Saturday, May 1, from 8-11p.m. the UCLA Balkan Music Ensemble(Superdevoiche) is hosting a dance on the stage at Schoenberg Hall to benefit the ensemble's travel this summer to Bulgaria.

The purpose of the trip is to celebrate the 50th birthday of Tsvetanka Varimezova, our women's choir (Superdevoiche) director. We are trying to raise additional funds through performances and dances to help defray some of the costs. We invite you to join us at this dance and, in lieu of an admission fee, make a generous donation, if you have enjoyed the music of this ensemble over the last ten years.

If you can't attend, but would like to contribute to our fund, please send a check made out to "UCLA Foundation," Memo: "UCLA Balkan Music Ensemble" to this address:

UCLA Arts Development Office, Broad Art Center
405 Hilgard Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90099-4973

If you have questions about this event, please contact Radka Varimezova at radele@gmail.com

The Tamburitzans

are coming!

When: Sunday Afternoon, May 16, 2010
Where: The Servite Theatre,
1952 W. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801
Time: 3:00 PM

Tickets \$30 adult, reserved seat
\$23 general admission
Group rates available

To Purchase: 714-996-4313 or 714-832-7555
or www.annunciationbyzantine.org/tamburitzans.html

The Tamburitzans perform the music and dance of the Balkans and Eastern Europe. The troop is composed of dancers from across the globe, representing the best folk dancers performing today! This high energy show changes each year and is a feast for the eyes and ears. This is truly a must see performance.

Macedonian Folklore

WHY STUDY MACEDONIAN FOLKLORE?

A Message to my Students

by John Kuo, Chicago, U.S.A.

Folklore, from epic poetry to the folk dance, is the means by which traditions are passed from generation to generation and helps to keep alive the cultural characteristics of a people. Macedonian folklore is of particular interest, not only for the Macedonians but also for anyone with a lively interest in that which is excellent in the world.

For the musician, there is splendid rhythmical variety including not only meters familiar from Western European folk and classical music such as 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, and 6/8, but also 5/8, 7/8, 9/16, 11/16, 12/8, 13/16, 15/16, 18/16, 22/16 etc. (*aksak* rhythms) and the use of *rubato* within the aksak rhythms to intensify the delicious, artistic tension in the music and dance. Also to be found are the plaintive, at times lyrical and at times harshly dissonant tonal colors of the natural, full-voiced singing and well as the traditional instruments, such as the *gajda*, *kaval*, *tambura*, *zurla*, and *tapan*.

In Macedonian dance, there is a contrast between the dynamic, structurally complex forms of the north and northeast, to the legato of the Pelagonian and Aegean regions, to the powerful yet smooth, *tai-chi*-like, "silk-reeling", continuous energy of the tesko family of dances of the western regions.

For the keen observer this tradition provides a window to its cultural history: from the minor mode *makams* which govern the melodic progressions, to the timeless shepherd's *ezgija*, which echoes the freedom and freshness of the mountain breezes, to the *shamanistic ritual dances of the Rusalii*, to the *calgija* style of music - complex, intoxicating, but gained through the pain of the Ottoman yoke. In all this, one can sense the work of heroes, poets, and saints.

When a tradition dies, it becomes the sole province of scholars who must maintain a respectful distance to conduct their dispassionate inquiry but in the process lose some of the vital essence. This folk tradition, millenia in its creation, and distilled through the "folk genius" of the Macedonian people, comes rich, vibrant, and living to be inherited by you, its new and future bearer. This inheritance is not about division but about

coming together to discover a common, powerful voice which speaks from the heart of the Macedonian people, ancient and present.

True folklore cannot be bought or sold, but has to be learned through toil, sweat, tears, and, sometimes, even blood. Contrary to some who abuse its name for self-serving interests, it is not mere entertainment to amuse the throngs or to pander to an audience. Rather, it should, as with all true art, stimulate, educate, irritate, and, hopefully, lead all who are touched by it to a new level of insight. At the same time, by its nature folklore is also accessible, not merely to an artistic elite, but to all who pursue it with passion. It will take all of your concentration, creativity, and passionate effort to capture its essence, to add to its richness, and to transmit it undiluted to the next generation so that they, Macedonians and others, may yet know its sublime beauty and glory.

Are you ready for the challenge?

Essay Credit: John Kuo, Artistic Director, Ensemble Balkanske Igre, Chicago, IL Director, Spring Festival of Balkan Dance and Music, co-sponsored by the International House at the University of Chicago and the Ensemble "Balkanske Igre" Folklore Instructor, "Kitka", SS Peter and Paul Macedonian Orthodox Church, Crown Point, IN "Goce Delcev", SS Kiril and Metodij Macedonian Orthodox Church, Hinsdale, IL

Photo credits: Steve Davis, USA and Tanec National Ensemble of Macedonia:



Tanec National Ensemble of Macedonia at Lake Ohrid Amphitheater, August 10, 2005