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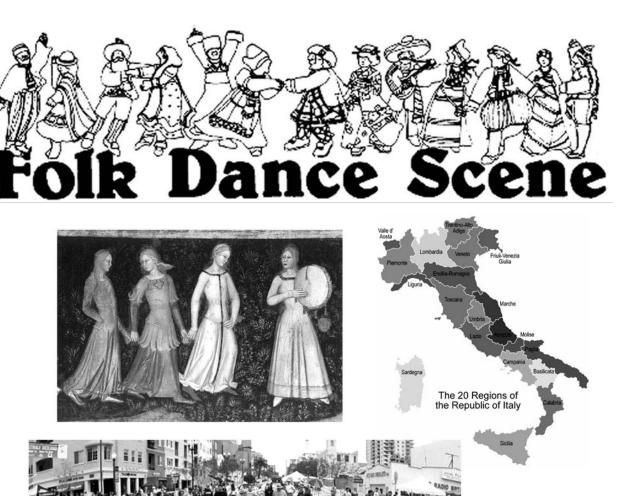
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Folk Dance Scene

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On the cover: Balboa Park Italian Dance Troupe at Sicilianfesta, 2010; fragment from 14th century painting by Andrea Bonaiuti; map of regions of Italy

Folk Dance Scene

2

March 2011

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FOLK DANCERS

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FOLK DANCERS

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of Dance, 14252 Ventura Blvd.

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(310) 645-8316 Karen Ricks

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(310) 452-0991 Forrest Gilmore

(714) 893-8127 Carol Maybrier

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2nd Sat 7:30-11:30. Teach 8:00-8:45

(310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659

BEVERLY HILLS, Roxbury Park

auditorium 471 So. Roxbury

Overland, Wed 3:00-4:30

ianprice@hotmail.com

Santa Monica Blvd

March 2011

Multi-Purpose Room, Culver &

madelyntaylor@hotmail.com

Tue 10:45am-12:30

CANOGA PARK, Senior Center

1309 Armacost Ave.

Fri 7:30-9:45

7326 Jordan Ave

Mon 3:30-9:00

Thu 7:30-10:15

Wed 7:30-9:30

511 S Harbor

(818) 990-8925 Louis

dovbyrd@aol.com

Tue 7:30 (626) 797-5157 Nancy Mulligan PASADENA, Dabney Hall, Cal Tech campus

DESERT DANCERS

Tue 7:00-9:00 (Scottish) Thu 7:15-9:30 (International (760) 446-6752 Nora Nuckles **RIDGECREST.** Hi Desert Dance Center 725 S. Gateway St.

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FOLK DANCE CENTER Every Evening. For schedule: (619) 466-4043, www.folkdancecenter.org SAN DIEGO, 4569 30th Street

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(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. **ISRAELI DANCING-James Zimmer**

Tues 7:30-12:00 (310) 284-3638 James Zimmer Israelidance@vahoo.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

31

ISRAELI DANCING-Yoni Carr (619) 227-0110 Yoni

NEWPORT BEACH, Avant Garde Ballroom, 4220 Scott Dr Sun 7:00-12 SAN DIEGO, Jewish Academy, 11860 Carmel Creek Rd. Thu

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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. SANTA BARBARA **BALKAN FOLK DANCERS**

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UCLA BALLROOM CLUB UCLA INT'L FOLKDANCERS

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School 14438 W. Telegraph 1st Sun 4:30-6:00 SANTA BARBARA, Gustafson Dance Studio. 2285 Los Positas Rd

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

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March 2011
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Folk Dance Scene

Volume 47, No. 2 March 2011

Editors' Corner

This month our focus is on Italian dance and dance teachers. You can find some recipes to try in Ethnic Food.

In Recent Events you can read about how Laguna Folkdancers get all those banners up. Local events include Cerritos Folk Dancers' Chinese New Year Festival (thanks to Sandy Levy for some of the pictures).

Please share any experience you may have in teaching folk dance to young people. Please submit to editor@FolkDanceScene.org by May 10 for June/July issue.

Be of good cheer!

Pat Cross and Don Krotser

Table of Contents

Federation Corner	3
Italian Folk Dance	4
Italian Dance Teachers	8
Calendar	10
On the Scene	14
Dancers Speak	18
Ethnic Food	24
Recent Events	
Poetry Corner	
Club Directory	

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Federation Corner

One of the major proceedings at the Federation meeting on January 9 was the approval of five different dates for dance events. One, the Cerritos Folkdancers festival, celebrating the Chinese New Year, was held February 13. On March 5, renowned Israeli master teacher, **Moshiko**, will conduct a workshop at Brockton School, with a dance party following the workshop. West Valley Folk Dancers will hold a festival on March 13 and the annual spring festival of the Westwood Co-op Folk Dancers will be held on April 3. On May 15, the Cerritos Folkdancers will sponsor a festival in Cerritos. See the Scene Calendar for details.

Director of Membership, Steve Himel, reported that all 34 clubs have renewed their membership in the Federation and Rick Bingle said that there are a total of 910 members in those clubs. Steve asked that club representatives keep him informed of any changes in their club officers, email addresses, dance dates or any other changes that need to be made known.

Scholarship applications to folk dance camps will be available in February and will be awarded in April. according to Laura Bremer, Scholarship Chair. The Council decided that the amount of the scholarships will be 50% of the total cost of the camp.

Work on this year's Statewide, A Fairy Tale Folk Dance, is progressing nicely, according to Marsha Fenner. Emily Winters has completed the artwork and **Beverly Barr** is accepting reservations at the host hotel, Holiday Inn Express. Please contact her at dancingbarrs@yahoo.com or call her at (310) 202-6166. The prices for the rooms are \$152.90 for Friday and Saturday nights and \$97.90 for Sunday night. The rooms can accommodate 1 to 4 people. These rates are only available by contacting Beverly. The Council recommended that the Statewide committee consider lowering the price of attendance, since the hotel rooms are somewhat more expensive than usual as the festival will be held on Memorial Day weekend. Marsha asked that anyone who would be willing to help in any way contact her at marfen1@aol.com.

The Nominating committee chair, Gordon Wall, will be presenting the slate of officers for election at the April 3rd meeting. Another opportunity for volunteers....he welcomes anyone who would like to consider being an officer. Please email him at g-cwall@earthlink.net

This meeting was exceptionally well-attended and everyone is welcome to come to any Council meeting. The next one will be held at the Westwood Co-op Festival on April 3rd at 10:30 a.m. at the Culver City Veterans' Memorial Auditorium in Culver City. - Lvnn Binale

3

Italian Folk Dance

HISTORY Middle Ages

The carol or carole (carola in Italian), a circle or chain dance which incorporates singing, was the dominant Medieval dance form in Europe from at least the 12th through the 14th centuries. This form of dance was found in Italy as well, and although Dante has a few fleeting references to dance, it is Dante's contemporary Giovanni del Virgilio (floruit 1319-1327) who gives us the earliest mention of Italian folk dance. He describes a group of women leaving a church in Bologna at the festa of San Giovanni; they form a circle with the leader singing the first stanza at the end of which the dancers stop and, dropping hands, sing the refrain. The circle then reforms and the leader goes on to the next stanza.

Boccaccio

But it is Giovanni Boccaccio (1313-1375) who illustrates the social function of dance in the Decameron (about 1350-1353). In Boccaccio's masterpiece, a group of men and women have traveled to a countryside villa to escape the Black Death and they tell a series of stories to while away the time. But there are also social activities before and after the stories which include song and dance. After breakfast at the beginning of the first day:

"Breakfast done, the tables were removed, and the queen bade fetch instruments of music; for all, ladies and young men alike, knew how to tread a measure, and some of them played and sang with great skill: so, at her command, Dioneo having taken a lute, and Fiammetta a viol, they struck up a dance in sweet concert; and, the servants being dismissed to their repast, the queen, attended by the other ladies and the two young men, led off a stately carol; which ended they fell to singing ditties dainty and gay."

For each of the ten days, song and dance are part of the storytellers' activities - at the end of the sixth day:

"Then, as the hour was very late, they did but bathe, and as soon as they had resumed their clothes, returned to the ladies, whom they found dancing a carol to an air that Fiammetta sang..."

And further after storytelling on the seventh day: "they presently gathered for the dance about the fair fountain, and now they footed it to the strains of Tindaro's cornemuse, and now to other music."

The dance passages in the Decameron show that the carol was always sung but could be accompanied by

instrumental music as well; both men and women danced, though women seem to dance more often than men, and all knew how to dance.

Boccaccio also uses two other terms besides *carola* to describe the dances done, *danza* and *ballo*. Some scholars assume that all the terms are synonymous since the dance forms are given no distinctive description, but others take these to mean separate dances and trace the names forward to the Renaissance dances bassadanza and ballo.

Dance in the countryside

These descriptions from Boccaccio are, of course, all of townsfolk dancing, but the Decameron also gives at least a glimpse at peasant dances as well. In the second story of the Eighth Day about the priest and Monna Belcolore, of the latter the story says:

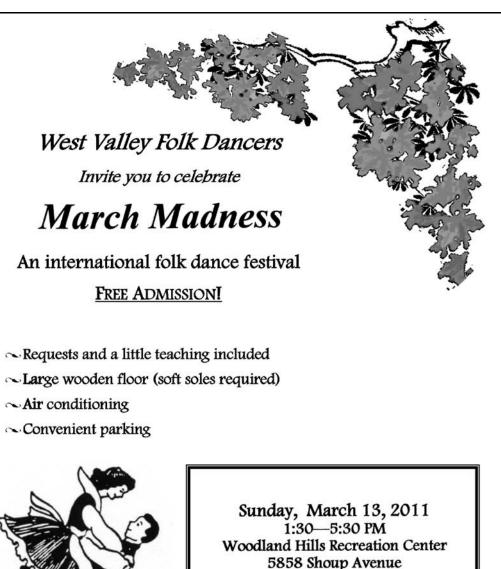
"Moreover she had not her match in playing the tabret and singing: 'The borage is full sappy', and in leading a brawl or a breakdown, no matter who might be next her, with a fair and dainty kerchief in her hand."

The two terms for dance that Boccaccio uses, *ridda* and *ballonchio*, both refer to round dances with singing. Another variant of the round dance with song is the Righoletto, known from Florence and the surrounding countryside in the 14th and 15th centuries.

One of the earliest known depictions of Italian folk dance is part of a set of frescoes at the Palazzo Pubblico in Siena by Ambrogio Lorenzetti (about 1285-1348). Part of his Allegory of Good Government (Effetto del Buon Governo) painted about 1338-40 shows a group of nine dancers, all women and accompanied by another woman singing and playing on the tambourine, executing a "bridge" figure where dancers go under the joined hands of the two lead dancers.



Lorenzetti 1338-40



Co-sponsored by Folk Dance Federation of California, South

[Shoup exit from 101.

Rt. (North) on Shoup, 1/2 mile.]

For information: 818-368-1957

Poetry Corner

TO OUR DEAR FRIENDS GORDON & CAROL WALL

On their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Fifty years of memories Treasures so precious and rare A lifetime of devotion Only two special people can share And here we are So many people who care Wishing you many more Anniversaries And hope we can be there.

Written by Beverly Barr For Carol & Gordon's Anniversary Party at Narodni

DANCING BEHIND THE LINE

Folk dancing first became a part of my life - and the lives of many Americans - in the 1940s. At Hidden Villa, a co-ed and interracial summer camp, I had a favorite partner. We learned *Gustav Skol, St. Bernard's Waltz, Road to the Isles, Cotton-eyed Joe.* My family hosted Camp Seeds of Tomorrow in the 50's - a most social time for me - with singing and dancing as well as farm activities, swimming and picnics.

After I left home for college I didn't have as much social life and found the college dance group not encouraging. Part of the problem was so many dances: you either learned or sat out, and I didn't learn easily. The option of dancing behind the line apparently didn't work for me, and not being exposed to enough teaching, I gave up, time and again.

Over the years I did find occasions to dance, but rarely - especially as my wife was not as enthusiastic as I - and the infrequent exposure didn't lead to learning.

When I did start dancing in earnest, I found groups that teach, and returned regularly to learn. I discovered that I needn't sit, but could mimic in real time many dances without waiting to be taught. I found support in joining the line, instead of dancing behind.

Now at a festival I find myself behind the line as the music moves me, and am pleased to pick up easily the steps to a *cocek*.

So, in the line if you can, behind the line if you're unwilling to risk, dance when you feel moved - enjoy the music and become a part...

a joy of youth		
left aside		
found again		
seeds sown in spring		
may grow fruit in fall		
	_	Don Krotser

The following two poems were written by **Lawrence Plotkin** (brother of Sandy Helperin), and a former folk dancer.

While working for the United States Information Agency in Panama, I was introduced to Scottish Country dancing and became a devotee during my years there.

Panama, Fall 1979

Dedicated to Frankie and Tam Syme Of whiskey I partook at least my share. Our host, Tam Syme by name, a hardy Scot, Made certain that my glass was always there, And full. His hospitality was not To be denied. Thus primed, I sang "As I Came in to Tara Market" at the door. "Nay, stop!" he cried, "St. Andrew's Night is nigh And you must come and dance a reel and more." I said, "I cannot dance and must demur." "It dinna matter. Do not make a fuss. We'll teach ere then - a pas de bas, figure Of eight. You'll schottische with the best of us." And so we danced the dance and drank a few. Old Bobbie Burns,

he knew a thing or two.

Note: Parental discretion advised for the following.

A Limerick

There was a young lassie from Skye Who had a dark mole on her thigh. She, when dancing fast reels, Would sure kick up her heels, And her mole caused each laddie to sigh. **Italian Folk Dance**

Dance suites usually started with a walking sequence, *pavana*, a term often found in the music of the time but almost never in dance manuals. The *passo e mezzo* (literally step-and-a-half) seems to have been a faster variant of the pavana. The faster, athletic *gagliarda* often followed the pavana but was also done as a separate dance. Other similar fast afterdances were the *tordiglione* and the *saltarello* (another term seen more often in music than dance descriptions). Further types were the *Spagnoletta* and the *canario* with its unique stamping patterns.

Even by the late Renaissance and the elaborate choreographies of Caroso, a link between court dance and country or folk dance can be seen. Elements of folk dance invigorate courtly dances and folk dances take over movements and styles from courtly dance. The difference between the two forms was likely one of style and elegance.

18th and 19th centuries

By the 18th century, the name *Tarantella* does appear in illustrations and travelers's accounts in Southern Italy. When the German writer Goethe describes the *Tarantella* which he saw performed in Naples during his trip to Italy in 1786-87, it appears as a dance for women only, two girls dancing with castanets accompanied by a third on the tambourine. Madame de Staël had also traveled in Italy and in her 1817 novel *Corinne*, she has her heroine dance the *Tarantella* as a solo. But the *Tarantella* as a couple dance telling a story of love in mime does appear in a description by Orgitano in the middle of the 19th century.

Also appearing in illustrations and texts is the *Saltarello* as a rustic dance of Romagna in Central Italy. This is a name which also appears in the earliest Italian dance music and throughout the Renaissance. It is not clear, however, that these various mentions represent the same or even related dances.

In the North, in Venice, there was the "wild courtship dance", known as *Furlana* or *Forlana* which was danced by Casanova in 1775.

References to figure dances similar to English Country Dances and French Contradanses also appear as early as the first part of the 18th century. Dances of this type from the 18th and 19th centuries in Italy include *La Contraddanza, Quadriglia* and *II Codiglione.*. A letter from the English writer and politician Horace Walpole dated 1740 from Florence declares "The Italians are fond to a degree of our country dances". The preceding was excerpted from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

DANCE QUIZ

The Tarantella

This Italian dance is named for:

- 1 the tarantula spider
- 2 the town of Taranto, Italy.
- 3 the tambourine used in the dance

Tarantella, a couple dance of Italy, is connected with tarantism, a disease or form of hysteria that appeared in Italy in the 15th to the 17th century and that was associated with the bite of the tarantula spider; victims were supposedly cured by frenzied dancing. characterized by light, quick steps and teasing, flirtatious behavior between partners; women dancers frequently carry tambourines. The *tarantella* is a genre with variations from many parts of Italy. The first *tarantella* is sometimes said to have been danced in Napoli.

The steps in the dance are graceful and lively. The woman typically teases her partner who shows off with agility and elegance. The dancers pass by one another, turn and pass again, in courting manner.

- Sandy Helperin

TARANTELLA: AN ITALIAN FOLK DANCE

In Italian culture, the word *"tarantella"* evokes images of a frenzied spinning dance traditionally played at weddings. However, this popular native dance of Southern Italy has a history and myth spanning several centuries.

The dance, originally an Italian folk dance of the lower- and middle-classes, has been labeled as a dance to cure sickness and as a dance of courtship. In the courtship version of the dance, the woman uses rapidity and liveliness to excite the love of her partner. In turn, the man tries to charm her with his agility, elegance and demonstrations of tenderness. The dance is one of unity and separation, which sees dancers flying into each other's arms only to bound away again.

It is considered unlucky to dance the *Tarantella* alone so it is often danced by couples or by two women.

The earliest historical mention of the *Tarantell*a is the St. Vitus Dance in 1374. It's not mentioned again until 1839, as the title of a ballet, "La Tarentule,"

Italian Folk Dance

produced by Jean Coaralli. In 1844, Madame Michau introduced the dance to the public.

Three possible sources of origin for the dance are given. The first originates with the bite of the Tarantula, Arania or Apulcian Spider. The dance itself was used to cure the poison from the bite of the spider. Town folks would play music and the afflicted person would dance non-stop to avoid succumbing to the poison.

The second origin lies in the religious story of the St. Vitus Dance, which is commonly referred to as the outbreak of dancing in the Middle Ages. The myth begins with the young people of Saxony dancing in the churchyard of St. Magnus. Fifteen youths and four girls were dancing and singing so loudly that they disturbed the priest. Angered, the priest prayed to God and St. Magnus to make the youth dance for a whole year. The outbreak of dancing went unexplained until the realization that the dancers had been bitten by the Tarantula spider.

The final possible origin for the dance is said to be in the villages of Toranto and Tarantum. Women working in the fields would use frenetic dancing when they were bitten by spiders in order to sweat the venom out through their pores.

The *Tarantella*-type of dancing is not limited to just Italy. In Buzabatt, Persia, there is a *Tarantella* dance which is similar to the one found in Southern Italy. The *Furlana* or *Fourlane* found in Venice is also similar to the *Tarantella* although it is more irregular and brusque and danced mainly among gondoliers. The *Saltarello* in Rome and Venice also bear some semblance to the *Tarantella*.

Fiona Story
 From http://ilpostinocanada.com/ottawaitalians/
 Heritage/tarantella.htm



ITALIAN FOLK DANCE SURVEY

Now that we have taught most of the country (approximately 30 states and 60 cities) Italian Traditional dances at the basic level, we would like to have a feel for how many groups still have those dances in their repertoire and which of those dances are danced regularly.

We would like to continue teaching with an emphasis on specific dance regions. We intend to teach more dances from each region and include more material at the intermediate level. Remember that "intermediate level" means the same basic steps with additional variations and additional emphasis on local style.

So we would really appreciate it if you take a minute and let us know which dances still create interest in your group. Here is a link to our teaching history: http://www.italianvillagedance.com/ TeachingHistory.htm

Thank you,

 Marie DiCocco & Celest DiPietropaolo dance@italianvillagedance.com

DANCING IN SARDINIA

Last year, we took a trip to Malta, Corsica and Sardinia (interesting, historic and beautiful places). In Sardinia our group (consisting of one other couple besides us) went to a shepherd's hut on a mountain top to have a picnic lunch. There was a pig roasting on an open fire along with home-made sausages, cheese made by the shepherd, unusual bread, vegetables, and local wine.

After this lovely meal, our driver told us he had a surprise for us, took out his accordion, and started playing Sardinian folk music. Then he introduced his parents, who had been part of a performing folk dance group that had toured Europe extensively. They started to dance to his music. After a few seconds we recognized it: *Passu Torrau*! By sign-language (we had no common language) we asked if we could join them, and we did. The dance was basically the same as we do it, except for the changing of one figure to the next. Instead of calling out, the leader (Papa) just changed and we followed him.

What a thrill! The highlight of our trip. – *Jill and Jay Michtom* **Recent Events**

When the last dance is finished, the whole process is reversed, the lines loosened, the banners spread out on the floor, carefully rolled up, bound and stored away for next year's festival. It has been my joy to participate in the raising and lowering of the festival decorations each year, just to see it happen.

While all this is going on, two other groups are busily doing their tasks. **Ted Martin** and **Steve Himel,** Laguna Folkdancers "sound crew", are busily setting up the club's sound system, with speakers aimed across the room, amplifiers and mixers placed and wires attached, play lists prepared and sound levels checked. This system is the very heart of the

s festival and its complexities are beyond my comprehension.

Marge and **Anna Gajicki** chair the Vendors Committee for the festival and they arrive to ensure that tables are in place for the vendors, moving many of the tables themselves.

These are the things you see when you attend the Laguna Folkdance Festival. Behind the scenes, doing things that are not so readily seen, are those members who have done the same thing for several years. It's no wonder that the festival runs so smoothly each year. I thought it might be interesting to know about the magic of the "hanging of the banners."

- Richard Duree





March 2011

Recent Events

LAGUNA FOLKDANCE FESTIVAL **Thanks and Acknowledgements**

Most readers of Folk Dance Scene are surely aware of the annual Laguna Folkdance Festival, held the first weekend of February each year. Though Laguna Folkdancers meet in Laguna Beach, the festival itself was moved several years ago from the Laguna Beach High School gym to Ensign Jr. High School in Newport Beach.

Anyone who has ever attended the festival knows of the many colorful banners that hang over the dance floor. Those banners are there because of the selfless contributions of many dedicated members over many years. I will always remember the astonishment of two of the school's teachers who dropped in, unaware of the festival, and stared open-mouthed and speechless at the sight of those banners in their otherwise bare gym.

I first started dancing with Laguna Folkdancers in 1973 and the festival had been going for a few years and many of the banners were already made. Many more were made by members in the next few years under the guidance of **Eva Darai**, whose artistic talents are well known to all of us. Many of the current members still identify banners that they made those many years ago. There are about 300 in the collection.

But the real story here is how the collection is handled, stored, hung, unhung and stored again. One man is chiefly responsible for that task: guiet, unassuming, genial Palma Goulet. A retired meat cutter, Palma has demonstrated sheer genius in developing the tools and techniques for what would appear to be a monumental task.

The gym is in the "Quonset hut" format, with a high arched roof, crisscrossed by hundreds of supporting beams or rafters. With the permission of the Ensign Jr. High principal, Palma installed dozens of hooks around the ceiling at somewhere near 25 feet up from the floor - a most difficult task due to, not only the height, but also the irregularity of the support beams. Even higher, hooks were installed to support the lines holding the banners across the dance floor, along with belaying hooks to anchor them.

The banners, each with a 3/4" dowel rod at top and bottom, were tied side by side to a 3/8" nylon rope by two nylon cords. The banners are stored attached to the lines, carefully folded over and over on top of each

other, rolled up into one roll and bound with a nylon strap and a quick-release buckle. The rolled-up banners are then stored in individual bags, each labeled with a number indicating the sequence in which they are to be hung.

At the ends of the rows of banners, the line is run through a small pulley with a steel loop attached. Palma designed and "manufactured" an ingenious tool for attaching the pulleys to the hooks some 30' in the air. Three 8' fiberglass poles were fitted with interlocking devices to create a pole of the necessary length, but lightweight and collapsible. To the "working" end, Palma affixed a metal switch box, the kind used to house the light switches in the home. The pulley, with the line running through it, is inserted into the box with the steel loop extending through the top. The pole is then raised to vertical with the line hanging to the floor on both sides of the pulley and the steel loop is carefully placed over the hook high above. When all are in place, the lines are pulled to raise the banners and anchored to cleats mounted on the rafters.

The banners hung along the sides of the gym are raised into place on the same pole with a trough-like attachment. The banner is raised and the support dowel rods are slipped into hooks, the trough removed and the banner magically unrolls to reveal its colorful face.

From start to finish, with two to three assisting, the entire set-up takes less than 90 minutes, thanks to Palma's excellent work.



Friday Night L.I.F.E. Presents **MOSHIKO HALEVY**

Master Teacher & Choreographer Friday, March 4th, 2011 at 8pm, \$15 (workshop and dance party)



Please welcome the world class Israeli and Yemenite dance master & choreographer of great dances like Eshal Elohai & Ya Abud! The workshop will be from

8-10pm followed by an all-request international dance program until midnight hosted by Sherry Cochran.

Join us in the weeks ahead for reviews with Sherry and friends.



Pacific Arts Center

10469 Santa Monica Blvd, W. Los Angeles 90025 LifeBalkanDancers.com & LifeBalkanDancers @ Gmail.com

Italian Dance Teachers

The following bios were taken from Dick Oakes' website: phantomranch.net.

CELEST DIPIETROPAOLO

Celest DiPietropaolo was born in Evanston, Illinois, and received his B.S. degree in Mathematics from Loyola University, an M.S. degree in Theoretical Mathematics from DePaul University and his M.S. in Applied Linguistics from Georgetown University.

Celest started studying the accordion classically when he was seven years old, began playing professionally at the age of sixteen for parties and local restaurants, and continued while working his way through the universities. In 1969, while on assignment in Arlington, he discovered the joys of ethnic dance in the weekly-met IFD group led by **Sam** and **Sarah Stulberg;** much of the music was reminiscent of the neighborhood sounds of his youth (Irish, Yiddish, Slovenian, Bohemian, Polish). During the 1970s, he danced and played accordion with Balkan, Scandinavian, Polish, Bulgarian, and Swiss performing groups in the Washington, D.C. area.

In 1976 Celest founded the Italian Folklore Group of Washington, D.C., and was its director for 18 years. IFGW was comprised of about 15 Italian-born and 15 American-born singers and dancers. He was one of the founders of the Italian Folk Art Federation of America and was its folk dance chairman for many years.

During these years, Celest suspected that Italians still practiced traditional music and dance. He sought out ethnomusicologists and dance ethnologists in Italy to help him locate venues where traditional music was still practiced without the influence of tourism, media, or classical dance; recognizing that a dance can only be considered traditional if it satisfies the constraints of the community in which it originates.



Celest has researched traditional village music and dance from the mountains of southern, central, and northern Italy (including Sardinia) since 1983. Celest and his wife **Marie DiCocco** lived and worked in Italy from 1995 to 1998. Since they were living in the geographic center of Italy, it afforded them the opportunity to research dances anywhere in Italy

within a half day's drive. He has spent about ten percent of his life in Italy, where he became fluent in Italian and familiar with the different dialects and localcultures.

He has exhibited traditional music at all of the major festivals in the Washington, D.C. area, including those

sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution, Folklore Society of Washington, and the Italian Embassy. He has been teaching Italian traditional dances since 1984 all over the United States--7 regions, 20 states, and 40 cities, including Florida Folk Dance Camp, Friends of International Folk Dance Weekend in New Orleans, Annual Mendocino Folklore Camp, Annual Chicago Festival of Folk Dance, and Folklore Village Farm.

ROBERTO BAGNOLI



Roberto Bagnoli grew up in Rome, where he was first introduced to folk music and dance, eventually taking part in several performances and teaching dance classes. He subsequently studied various forms of folk dance in workshops throughout Europe, Israel, and North America

under the guidance of renowned choreographers and teachers.

Roberto now lives in Reggio Emilia in Northern Italy, considered to have one of the most important dance communities in Italy.

From 1995 to 2003, he performed as a dancer and choreographer with the Terra di Danza Dance Company and was involved in the production of *Raggi di luna Italiana* and *Capriccio Italiano, GiroGiroMondo* (dances from around the world), *Keltic Emotion* (Celtic dances), *Mazal Tov* (Israeli dances), and *Ethnos* (international folk dances).

He is the founder of Fok Atelier Reggio Emilia (FARE), devoted to the development and conservation of folk dance heritage. As director of FARE, he is in charge of organizing and conducting folk dance classes, workshops with Italian and foreign specialists, and of the performing sector, staging various performances, parties, and dance gatherings.

In recent years, he has organized some of the most important annual folk dance events in Italy, such as, Balkanot Israeli and Balkan Dance Camp, Maratona di Danza folk dance marathon, and Camp Yofi Israeli Dance Camp in Lago di Garda. He has completed the training program in Folk Dance Teaching led by Jan Knoppers from the National Dance Academy of Rotterdam, Netherlands.

Roberto teaches weekly classes in various cities in the North of Italy and conducts monthly sessions in Rome and Milan besides conducting workshops and seminars throughout Europe, the United States (notably the Stockton Folk Dance Camp), and Canada. The Folk Dance Federation of California, South Presents

"A DAY WITH MOSHIKO"

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2011



MOSHIKO master teacher / choreographer

1:30 – 4:30 P.M. ISRAELI DANCE WORKSHOP 7:00 – 10:30 P.M. SATURDAY EVENING DANCE PARTY INTERNATIONAL AND ISRAELI DANCES, INCLUDING SOME OF MOSHIKO'S OLDIES

\$10.00 includes the workshop & evening dance party FREE and EASY Parking on the School Grounds

LOCATION: BROCKTON SCHOOL 1309 Armacost Ave. West Los Angeles, 90025 INFORMATION: Beverly Barr 310-202-6166 or 310-478-4659 dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

BRING POT-LUCK SNACKS TO SHARE

Folk Dance Scene

Ethnic Food

RICE AND PEAS

TORCETTI (LITTLE TWISTS)

This recipe is one I remember my mother making. although we aren't Italian. They are flaky and not too sweet.

- 1/2 pound butter
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 1/4 cup warm milk
- 1/8 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 teaspoons each vanilla and lemon extract
- 1/2 tablespoon yeast (1/2 package)
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar

Cut butter into flour and combine milk, sugar, vanilla and lemon extract. Stir in yeast until dissolved. Stir into flour mixture. Beat in eggs. Knead slightly, adding flour if dough is too sticky. Place bowl in a warm, draft free cups of the stock and cook uncovered 5 minutes, place, cover and let rise for one hour.

Cover board with powdered sugar. Tear off small pieces of dough and shape into small ropes. Roll in the powered sugar and shape as you would for pretzels.

Bake at 350 degrees for 15 to 18 minutes. Yields 3 dozen cookies.

5 cups chicken stock, fresh or canned 6 Tbs. butter 1/2 cup finely chopped onions 2 cups fresh green peas (about 2 lbs. unshelled) 1 1/2 cups plain white raw rice 1 cup cooked ham, diced 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese Bring the chicken stock to a simmer in a 2-3 quart sauce pan, and keep it barely simmering over low heat. In a heavy 3-quart casserole, melt 4 Tbs. of butter over moderate heat. Add the onions and cook, stirring frequently till transparent, but not browned. Add the peas, rice and ham. Cook a minute or two. When the rice grains are buttery and opaque, add 2

stirring occasionally until the liquid is absorbed. Add 1 more cup of stock and cook, stirring, until the stock is almost absorbed. Then add another cup of stock. After this is absorbed the rice and peas should be tender. Now stir in 2 Tbs. butter and cheese. Serve at once. - Gloria Harris

- Sandy Helperin

New in West L. A. JOIN BEVERLY & IRWIN BARR FOR A FUN EVENING OF PARTNER DANCES Couple Dances, Scottish & English Country Dances, Contras, Mixers & an occasional Line dance Dance on a very good wood floor Starting Friday, March 11, 2011 7:45 – 10:30 p.m. BROCKTON SCHOOL 1309 ARMACOST in W.L.A. Between Santa Monica & Wilshire Blvd. About 1/2 mile west of the 405 For information call Beverly 310-202-6166 or 310-478-4659 dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

WELCOME WITH OR WITHOUT A PARTNER

Camp Hess Kramer March 25, 26, 27, 2011 Two nights - Six meals (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch) Families Welcome Early Bird Choose 1 of 4 types of accommodations Before Feb. 25 per person A - Dormitory (couples or singles).....\$115.....\$125 B - Room for two or three in the Redwood Building......\$140......\$150 *D - Deluxe room for two with private bath in the New Conference Building....\$250..........\$265 * (includes towels, linens and housekeeping) Cost based on double occupancy (single occupancy \$40 extra) Send coupon below and check for the full amount payable to WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK DANCERS and mail to: Saralee Kaufman, 2111 Balsam Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025 Camp Rule - No Pets Allowed Reservation guestions? Call Saralee or Gary (310)474-8841 Others questions? Call Sandy at (310)391-7382 WESTWOOD CO-OP'S CAMP HESS KRAMER WEEKEND - March 25.26.27 201 ACCOMMODATIONS: A B C D Preferred Roommate(s): Name(s) (Print your name as you want it on your badge) Street Address: City and ZIP Phone: () email:

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CONTACT

Relationship: Special Dietary Need: Vegetarian

WESTWOOD CO-OP IS A MEMBER CLUB OF THE FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA. SOUTH, INC.

Westwood Co-op Folk Dancers

presents another fun-filled weekend at

Folk Dance Scene

Phone: ()

After Feb. 25

per person

Calendar

Note: Federation Dance Events are in Bold. CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS MARCH

5 *A Day With Moshiko*. Israeli Dance Workshop, 1:30 - 4:30, and dancing, 7:00 -10:30. Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave., West L. A. See OTS and ad. Info:(310) 202-6166, (310) 478-4659 or

dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

- 12 *Peat-Fire Flame.* House concert, 7:30, in Northridge. Reservations essential: (818) 368-1957, JayMichtom@Verizon.net
- 13 March Madness, festival hosted by West Valley Folk Dancers. Sunday, 1:30 –5:30 at Rec. Ctr, 5858 Shoup Ave. Free. See ad. Info: (818) 368-1957, JayMichtom@Verizon.net
- 13 *Culver City English Country Dance Open Band Day.* Dances led by James Hutson. More info: Annie (310) 837-3427.
- 17 *St. Patrick's Day Celebration,* Narodni Int'l Folk Dancers, Thurs. 7:30 at Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St. Info: (714) 932-2513 or www.narodni.org
- 18 *St. Patrick's Day Celebration*, with the West L.A. FD. All-request program, pot-luck table. 7:30 at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659, dancingbarrs@yahoo.com
- 18 Wearin' of the Green at Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op. Fri., 7:45-11:00 at Throop Unitarian Church, 300 S. Los Robles, Pasadena. Info: (626) 300-8138 or (818) 790-8523.
- 25-27 *Westwood Co-op's Hess Kramer Weekend,* Malibu. Info: Sandy Helperin (310) 391-7382.

APRIL

- 1 *April Fools' Day Party* Pasadena F D Coop, Fri. 7:45-11:00 at Throop Church, 300 S. Los Robles. Info: (626) 300-8138 or (818) 790-8523.
- 1 *April Fools Day Party* West L.A. Folk Dancers. 7:30 See OTS.

3 Westwood Co-op's Spring Festival, 1:30-5:30 at Veterans' Auditorium, Culver City. Free. See OTS and ad. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166, (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com 8-10 *12th Annual Weekend of Contra Dance, Music & Mountain Sports,* at Harwood Lodge, Mt. Baldy. TheLivingTradition.org, Lynn_Ricketts@yahoo.com

29 World Dance Day - Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op. Free, with "Fifth Friday Band" playing live dance sets, Fri., 7:45-11:00, at Throop Unitarian Church, 300 S. Los Robles, Pasadena. Info: (626) 300-8138 or (818) 790-8523.

MAY

7 San Diego May Ball (English Country Dance) Sat., Caller: David Macemon. Info: sdecd.org. Tamburitzans' Schedule:

15 Sunday, San Pedro,

16 Monday, 7:00, Fontana H.S. Auditorium, Info: (909) 823-4366.

17 Tues., 7:00, Henderson, NV, Independence Ctr., Freedom Hall. Info: (702) 614-5860.

21 Sat., 3:00, Anaheim, Servite High School. Info: (714) 832-7555.

27-30 *Statewide 2011 - A Fairy Tale Folk Dance Festival* in Solvang at Veterans' Memorial Building, 1745 Mission Drive. See ad. JULY

17 *Summerfest at Narodni!* Live music by Kriss Larsen & his Interfolk Band. Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St. Info: (714) 932-2513 or narodni.org

SEPTEMBER

10-11 *California Traditional Music Society (CTMS) Equinox Festival* at Rancho Cordillera del Norte, Northridge, See OTS.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

3/4-6 *Camellia Festival* -. Info: folkdancesac.org 3/5 *Bulgarian Nat'l Day!* - Sat. 9:30pm. - 2:00 a.m.,

at 46 Geary St., S. F.. Info: (415) 425-3877. 3/12 Bulgarian Nat'l Holiday Celebration - Sat., 7:00

at Danville Grange 85, 743 Diablo Rd. Danville, CA 94526. Info: sskirilmetodi@gmail.com

3/12 *Workshop with Joe Graziosi,* Sat. 1-5:30, Presidio Dance Academy, 1158 Gorgas Ave., San Francisco. Info: caroline_simmonds@hotmail.com

3/12 Evening Glendi with Edessa, hosted by

GreekFeet. 8-11:00. 500 DeHaro St., S. F.. Info: makaronis@earthlink.net

3/20 Kitka in Concert - Trinity Cathedral, Sacto. Info: trinitycathedral.org/music_series_10-11.shtml *World Folk Traditions Shows:*

3/20 Stork Club, 2330 Telegraph Ave. Oakland 3/24 Crepe Place, 1134 Soquel, Santa Cruz



Co-sponsored by the Culver City Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Calendar

Beverly Barr - 310-202	HOST HOTEL HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS 1455 Mission Drive or Statewide reservations contact: -6166 or at dancingbarrs@yahoo.com rday-\$152.90 each; Sunday-\$97.90 (*	
ST	ATEWIDE SCHEDULE	
Day Location	Time	Individual Price
	march 1	
FRIDAY (Bethania Lutheran Church)		alle -
Registration	7:00 P.M.	
Dance	8:00 -11:00 P.M.	\$ 5.00
SATURDAY (Solvang Veterans' Memorial Build	ding)Full day is \$33, plus lunch	
Registration	10:00-10:30 A.M.	
Institute	10:30-12:30 P.M.	\$15.00
Lunch (Pre-registration required)	12:30-2:30 P.M.	\$ 5.00
Yves/France reviews, dancing &		
Danish teaching by David Heald	2:30-5:30 P.M.	\$ 8.00
Dinner	5:30-8:00 P.M.	
Dance Party	8:00-11:00 P.M.	\$10.00
SUNDAY (Solvang Veterans' Memorial Buildin	g)Full day is \$33 plus lunch	2
Warm Up Dance	9:30-10:00 A.M.	4
Institute	10:00-12:00 P.M.	\$15.00
Lunch/Installation Lunch	12:00-2:30 P.M.	\$12.00
(Everyone is welcome, but pre-reserv		- Ala
Review and Dance	2:30-5:30 P.M.	\$ 8.00
Dinner	5:30-8:00 P.M.	V
Dance Party	8:00-11:00 P.M.	\$10.00
MONDAY (Solvang Veterans' Memorial Buildi	ng)	
Dancing and Barbeque	10:00 A.M2:00 P.M.	\$10.00
(Pre-reservations required)	10.00 A.M. 2.00 F.M.	\$10.00

22

3/25 Fri. at Amnesia, Valencia between 19th & 20th, S. F. WorldFolkTraditions.com,(407) 446-5841.

- 3/26 Balkan <u>Plus</u> Folk Dance Party, Sat. 7:30-11:00, at Masonic Lodge Hall, 1010 Lootens, San Rafael. Info: (415) 456-0786 or editor@letsdancemag.net
- 4/2 BACDS Playford Ball, Sat., San Jose, CA. Dancing Master: Bob Fraley. Info: bacds.org
- 4/9 *Kitka in Concert,* Arcata Playhouse. Info: arcataplayhouse.org/Hom_Page.html
- 5/6 *Helene Eriksen* performing, at Halanda Studio's 5th Anniversary Gala. Info: amandadancer.com
- 5/7 *Helene Eriksen Afghani Dance Workshop* Sat. 12-4:30 p.m. Location: TBA.
- 5/8 *Women's Dances of Armenia, Azerbaijan & Georgia* with Helene Eriksen, Sun. 1-5:30 at Halanda Studio, San Jose. Info: halanda.com
- 5/15 *Kitka in Concert* Sun. 7:00 p.m., Kanbar Hall, Eugene & Elinor Friend Center for the Arts JCCSF, 3200 California St. Info: info@kitka.org
- 5/20-22 Razzamatazz Folk Dance Weekend, Mendocino Woodlands. Teacher: Steve Kotansky. Info: marilynmsmith@sbcglobal.net
- 5/22-6/1*Alexander Zankin Workshops*, Bulgarian dance, in San Francisco area. Info: kay.james@comcast.net
- 6/11-18 Scandia Camp, Mendocino Woodlands. Info:
- ScandiaCampMendocino.org
- 7/2–9 *Mendocino Folklore Camp*, Mendocino Woodlands. See ad.
- 7/14-17 *15th Annual California WorldFest* at Fairgrounds in Grass Valley. Info: (530) 891-4098
 7/24–30, 7/31–8/6 *Stockton FD Camp.* Two identical weeks. See ad

OUT OF STATE

ILLINOIS

3/25-27 *Spring Festival* 1414 E. 59th St., Chicago. Atanas Kolarovski, Ahmet Luleci, Ventzi Sotirov. Info: (847) 331-7842, balkanske_ igre@yahoo.com

MINNESOTA

5/4-8 *National Folk Organization Conference,* St. Paul, MN. Info: nfo-usa.org

OREGON

- 3/26 *Workshop with Daniela Ivanova* teaching Bulgarian, 2-5, dance party 7-11, 5626 NE Alameda, Portland. kyklosfolkdancers.org/festival2011/
- 4/8 *Kitka in Concert,* Rogue Valley Unitarian. Info: stclairevents.com/tickets_20110408.htm

19th & WASHINGTON

- 5/27-30 *Northwest Folklife Festival* at Seattle Center, Seattle, WA.
- 5/20 *Marty Koenig* teaching Bulgarian dances. Hosted by Seattle Balkan Dancers at the Russian Center, 704 - 19th Ave. E. Info: Steve Bard, (425) 883-0332 or danceinfo@seattlebalkandancers.org

FOREIGN ALBANIA

- 7/21-31 *Folkdance Seminar* Tirana & No. Albanian mountains with folklore between this & following trip:
- 8/7-21 *2nd Folkdance Seminar* Mountain Festival in Lepushi. Info: cees@albanian-folklore.com

ARMENIA

5/8-20 *Dance Tour to Armenia* - organized by Tineke van Geel. Info: tinekevangeel.nl

BALKAN

6/23–26 *Festival Workshops* in Zetten, near Arnhem, The Netherlands. Info: StichtingDoina.nl

BULGARIA

8/3-15 *Folk Tour to Bulgaria* led by Jim Gold. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com

CANADA

- 4/29-5/1 *8th Annual Salt Spring Island Folk Dance Festival* - B.C. Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu;
- Roberto Bagnoli. Info: folkdance@saltspring.com GREECE
- 6/16-27 *Hellenic Discovery Tour* with Joe Graziosi. Info: (727) 945-1930 or info@scarlsontvl.com
- 10/16-30 *Greece & the Greek Islands* led by Lee Otterholt. jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362.

HUNGARY

8/2-15 *Folk Tour to Hungary* led by Adam Molnar. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362.

NORWAY

6/12-22 *Folk Tour to Norway,* led by Lee Otterholt. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362.

PORTUGAL

6/21-7/2/ *Lisbon, Portugal tour & Douro River Cruise.* Dancing led by Roberto Bagnoli. Info: Mel Mann (510) 526-4033, meldancing@aol.com

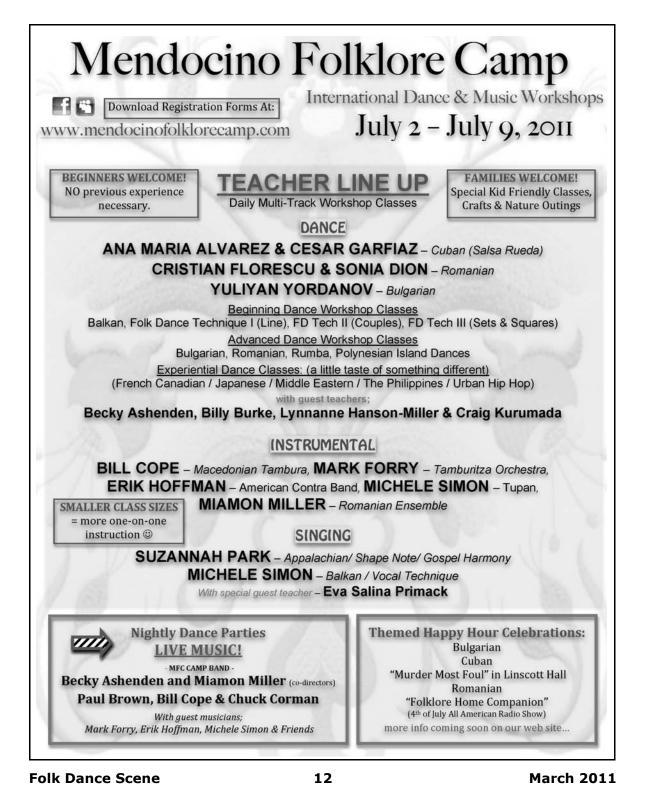
ROMANIA

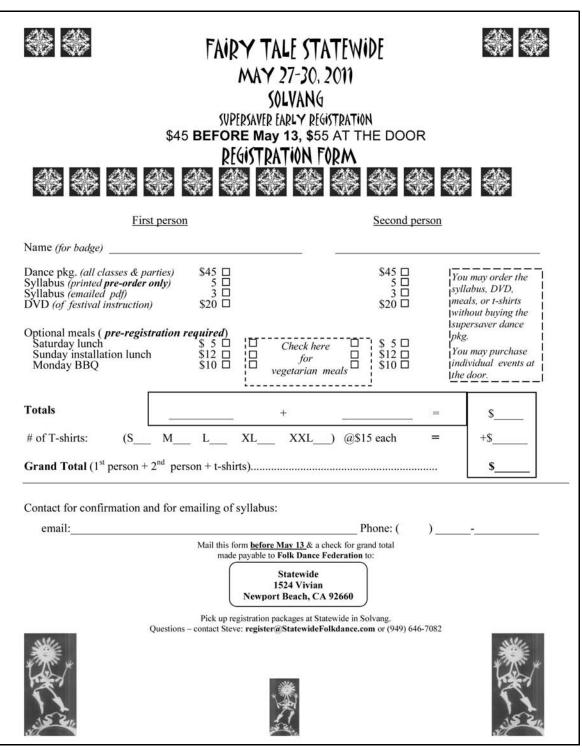
6/7-18 *Dance Tour of Romania* led by Theodor & Lia Vasilescu. See OTS. Info:ping.chun@att.net

SICILY

11

5/8-18 *Folk Tour to Sicily,* led by Jim Gold. Info: jimgold@jimgold.com or (201) 836-0362.





March 2011



DNVID HEALD

March 2011

Email

On the Scene

NARODNI INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCERS **TEACHING PROGRAM**

March

March 3 Review of **Bata Marcetic**'s Serbian dances taught at Laguna Festival, by **John Matthews** and/or Julith Neff

March 10 Review of Bata Marcetic's Serbian dances, by John Matthews and/or Julith Neff

March 17 St. Patrick's Day Celebration!, plus Third Thursday Singers Circle (6:30 – 7:30)

March 24 Julith Neff teaching two Andre Montsion's dances

March 31 Julith Neff teaching/reviewing two Andre Montsion's dances

April

April 7 John Filcich leading a "Night of Kolo Dancing"

April 14 John Filcich leading a second "Night of Kolo Dancing"

April 21 Special guest teacher: Lee Otterholt plus Third Thursday Singers Circle (6:30 –7:30)

April 28th Special guest teacher: Lee Otterholt Info: <www.narodni.org>

VESELO SELO SCHEDULE

March 5 All request night.

March 12 Mardi Gras party! Wear your mask, costume and Mardi Gras colors gold, green and purple.

March 19 St. Patrick's Day After-party. Henrietta Bemis teaching an Irish dance. Programmer: Lu Perry

March 26 Celebrating the retirement of **Bob Altman** with live music by **ZIMZALA.** This event is free to all attendees, courtesy of Bob Altman and Michelle Sandler. Bring finger-foods to share.

MOSHIKO FESTIVAL

Don't miss it.

Folk Dance Federation of Calif., South presents "A Day with Moshiko", Saturday, March 5, 2011. Afternoon Israeli Workshop and evening International and Israeli Dance party. See details in the full page ad in this issue of Scene. Have a question? Contact Beverly Barr at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

EQUINOX FESTIVAL

It's official—this year's Equinox Festival will be taking place on Saturday, September 10th and Sunday, September 11th, at the Rancho Cordillera del Norte (Northridge, CA)

We are returning to the beautiful Rancho for a full 2day festival, bringing local and national talent together in a unique environment designed to foster, encourage and celebrate traditional arts.

We have tons of exciting things in the works for this year's festival. However, none of it will be possible without your help. We understand that your time is valuable, but please consider donating a little (or a lot!) and become a volunteer. We need help with nearly every aspect of the production and we greatly appreciate any and all helping hands! For more information on becoming a volunteer, please visit us online at www.ctmsfolkmusic.org/getinvolved

NEW IN WEST L.A.

Join Beverly and Irwin Barr's new partner dance class. Learn some new partner dances and more. Brush up on some of those that you once knew. Check it out at Brockton School. Starting Friday, March 11, - Shirley J. Hansen 2011 (7:45-10:30 p.m.) Welcome with or without a partner. For details, see the half page ad in this issue of Scene.

> Have a guestion? Call Beverly or Irwin at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or dancingbarrs@vahoo.com Beverly Barr

STATEWIDE HOTEL- SHARE A ROOM!

Solvang hotels can be expensive. Since Statewide is on a holiday weekend, very few hotel discounts are available. The committee negotiated the best deal it could find, and the cost is a lot less than the internet for the same rooms but still more expensive than at previous Statewides.

Do you want a significant discount on your room? Then share a room with other dancers. Many of the rooms have 2 queen-sized beds. If you want to share with another couple (or another single), let Beverly Barr know and she will attempt to put people who want to share in touch with each other.

You can reserve now and pay later (even if you don't share a room).

- Statewide Committee

Dancers Speak

folk dances from a native Serb. We were privileged to meet Miroslav "Bata" Marcetic at the Laguna Folkdancers Festival. Last year when the festival was in the planning stages, David Carman called and asked if I could recommend a Serbian dance teacher. I had seen Bata's dance ensemble a couple of years earlier at St. Sava's. I had spoken with both Bata and his wife, Rodika. Thereby, there was no hesitation on my part to recommend Bata as a master teacher.

Bata had danced with Ansambl Kolo in Beograd as had Bora. Bata, being younger, joined Kolo after Bora had left, but they had met during Bora's trips to Serbia. Bata, who currently lives in Toronto, Canada, presented traditional dances from various parts of Serbia. He explained the different styles. His steps were intricate and precise. His styling was impeccable. He was a delight to watch. I was particularly touched by the accordion music used for a couple of the dances. The typical Šumadija style with its nostalgic sound and subtle syncopations was reminiscent of another time and another life.

After the Laguna Folkdancers Festival, I think we can all stand tall with slightly bent knees.

- Marge Gajicki

19

Anna, Bata and Marge



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The purpose of the Folk Dance Federation of California, as I see it, is to support and promote folk dance. Often, this support merely provides the insurance to allow member folk dance clubs to secure their dancing venues. That's good. Recently, the Federation has



been offering funding to offset (to a degree,) the costs of hosting a regional folk dance festival. This has been working wonderfully well to encourage dance groups to step up, take charge, and bring more fun dancing opportunities to us all.

Statewide in Solvang promises to be a fantastic Federation event! Wow! Yves and France will be teaching! Wow! David Heald and Stephanie Johnson will bring some Danish/Scandinavian dances! Wow! We will be in the quaint village of Solvang during their centennial anniversary! Cool! We may even be blessed with Solvang Village dancers dancing with us!

I want this Folk Dance Federation of California, South, event to be available to every folk dancer in California and also to our neighbors to the east and north. That's it.

If it isn't widely affordable, why are we even doing it? Since hotels in Solvang are so expensive, I proposed a nominal statewide fee. The idea that we must make ends meet when hosting a statewide festival, or any federation festival, goes against our primary "nonprofit" purpose.

As long as I am your Federation president (and please, you can impeach me whenever you like!) I suggest we all look to the "why" for which we exist, get creative about how we might make that work better. brainstorm with each other and then act on some conceivably productive choices. I am here to promote folk dance. I believe you are, also.

I get it that we can't continue to spend without funding also coming in from time to time. We are a 501(c)3. Perhaps a better use of one of our annual Federation meetings might be to host a grant writing seminar. I am quite naive about these things, so I'm not sure how it would work. I hope there is someome out there who might help us with this.

In the short term, let's just throw the best affordable party we possibly can for this year's Statewide. - Valerie Daley

14

Dancers Speak

MARCH QUOTE AND QUESTION

... Italian Proverb. ~ *He who is unable to dance says that the yard is stony*

Nowadays we all talk about the importance of a good wooden dance floor. But I remember when I was new to dancing, people recalling dancing on the sand at the beach, or at a park on the grass. We used to have a 4th of July dance on concrete at a park in Santa Monica.

So, my question is, where do you remember dancing on an unusual "dance floor" and could you do so comfortably today? Is it a question of aging that makes a really good dance floor so important?

– Sandy Helperin

GANDY DANCERS - LAST MONTH'S SCENE

How lovely to see the Gandy picture I took on the cover of Scene.

But I looked the photo up, and it was taken in 1992 and not at the 50th reunion which was in 1998 (I took that one too). 1992 had 70 people attending.

The final reunion still had an impressive 50 people attending, considering there was a heat wave in San Pedro (106?) and there were only 2 inadequate fans. What dedication!

Some of the better memories...

Canary Islands exhibition when **Nina Pinthus** was ill but sent her costume which **Anthony Ivancich** wore and did the dance he had directed from a new perspective. Only **Ed Feldman** seemed to have noticed it.



Al Vincent, our unofficial social director somehow convinced 2 older women he'd met in Palm Springs they should invite us for a weekend - they did and we

Folk Dance Scene

18

came, 24 or so of us, to a small house with tiny kitchen and one bathroom. With the pool taking up most of the backyard, we were wall-to-wall sleeping bags. Maybe there were numbers assigned for the bathroom? I can't remember. But we danced on what grass there was.

White elephant parties with **Wayne Gunderson** showing up with a whole toilet someone had ordered but never used, cocktail parties for all at Statewide at \$1 a drink, costume material collecting with sewing parties (there was no material for Canary Island skirts so we wove our own), dancing at the Music Center for Parnes, Ensenada for the Mexican Red Cross benefit (when **Bill Bein** put his foot through the stage floor doing Oxdans, and many of us on the Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour decorating the stage in different costumes as Andy Williams wandered through singing "People".

We had social dancing after exhibition practice with mostly members of the group teaching, which meant Elsie Dunin, Dick Oakes, Dave Slater, Dorothy Daw, Anthony Ivancich, John Tiffany, Donna Tripp, Al Vincent, Don Green, Ed & Carol Goller, Avis Tarvin, Cam Williams, Gordon Engler, Chris Tasulis, Tony Shay, Al Pill - the list could go on and on of many of the best and the brightest of each era.

Finally, as far as the Turkish, **Bora Ozkok** did a beautiful suite that **Bob Bowley** directed. But they were very physical dances.

My palms were red from *Cipikli* every Friday, and in the set dance Dorothy Daw and I cracked heads one night on the bow and almost knocked each other out. The hats weren't ready yet. But I also remember we were practicing material for <u>two</u> exhibitions every week, not a normal occurrence, but there were so many performance requests. It became more work than fun and caused a divisiveness in the group, as Donna said.

Nothing lasts forever but...while it did, Gandys was very, very special.

– Lynn Williams

March 2011

MARGE AT LARGE: IMPRESSIONS AND REFLECTIONS

Serbian Dance Revisited

Many moons have passed since we folks in southern California have had the opportunity to learn Serbian **On the Scene**

TWO DAYTIME INTERNATIONAL FOLK & LINE DANCE CLASSES TAUGHT BY BEVERLY BARR Weekly at Roxbury Recreation Center in Beverly Hills

We have returned to our former way of paying for classes as you attend, not by series on our Tuesday morning International Folk Dance class. Class is on Tuesdays - 10:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - \$2 per class and \$1 per class for Beverly Hills residents. This is an intermediate class doing international folk and line dances. Everyone is welcome to attend in a very warm and friendly group. We are in the auditorium, 471 S. Roxbury Dr. in Beverly Hills, about one half block south of Olympic Blvd.

Weekly At The Culver City Veterans Memorial Auditorium

Wednesdays 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. - \$4 per class for everyone. Class is held in the Multi-Purpose Room behind the auditorium, near the park. The auditorium is on the southwest corner of Culver Blvd. & Overland Ave.

If you are coming for the first time, or for any information, call Beverly at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659 or e-mail at dancingbarrs@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY EVENING DANCING IN LAGUNA BEACH

Susi Q center, 380 Third St., Laguna Beach, 7:00 – 9:45.

March Teaching Schedule

March 6 **Pauline Klak** teaches 2 Serbian dances introduced by **Bata Marcetic** at the Laguna Festival March 13 **Pauline Klak** reviews 2 Serbian dances introduced by Bata Marcetic at the Laguna Festival

March 20 **Diki Shields** teaches *Dzumbus,* a Rom dance introduced by **Steve Kotansky** at Laguna festival 2009

March 27 **Rochelle Dreeben** teaches the classic women's Polish dance, *Kujawiak Niebieski*

Info: (714) 893-8888, www.LagunaFolkdancers.org – Diane Baker

WEST L. A. FOLK DANCERS

Friday, March 11 - New Partner Dance class begins. March 18 - St. Patrick's Day Party. We will celebrate on the day after the holiday. Dress in your green and bring a friend to party and dance and join the fun. April 1- Hang in there and extend your celebration. You have a chance to attend another dance party on April Fools Day. Be creative, or come as you are.

Bring snacks or desserts for the pot-luck table. On party nights we begin at 7:30 p.m. and end when you get too tired to dance. We all look forward to party nights. Reuniting with friends is always special and exciting. Join us in a joyous evening dancing with one of the friendliest groups around.

We dance on a beautiful wooden floor at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost, W.L.A. (Between Barrington & Bundy, 1¹/₂ blocks north of Santa Monica Blvd.). We look forward to seeing you on Mondays and at our new Couples' Dance class on Fridays.

No dancing on Friday, March 4 and 25.

If you are new to our class or have not been there for a while, please call us to make sure that we are meeting that evening or if we have scheduled an extra party night.

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

- Beverly & Irwin Barr

GOOD NEWS FOR ROMANIACS (FOLKS WHO LOVE ROMANIAN MUSIC & FOLKDANCE)

If Sonia and Cristian's tour through So Cal last month whetted your appetite for Romanian culture, you can enjoy total immersion this June. Theodor and Lia Vasilescu will be leading their 9th annual dancing tour of Romania June 7 – 18.

In addition to the customary visits to local villages, dance classes with regional choreographers and dance ensemble performances, this year's tour is named "From the Mountain to the Sea" and will feature spectacular sights from the highest Carpathian Mountain pass in Romania at Balea Lake on the Transfagarasan Road, down to the Danube Delta and the Black Sea Coast at Sulina, where Marin Barbu, Theodor's partner and assistant on this tour conducts his national reality TV shows when he isn't dancing. Dances from Muntenia, Oltenia, Moldavia, Galati and Dobrogea will be taught during the tour by local

choreographers.

For more information about this grand dancing tour of Romania where folk dancing and costuming are still practiced by rural townspeople contact: Ping Chun, 49 Junard Drive, Morristown, NJ 07960. (973) 539-7020, ping.chun@att.net

On the Scene

FREE FESTIVAL! COMPLIMENTS OF THE WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK DANCERS

Save the date and don't miss one of the best festivals of the year, Westwood Co-op Folk Dancers' annual Spring Festival, Sunday, April 3, 1:30 - 5:30. It is a big reunion every year, dancing and meeting up with old friends and dancers from many groups. It's at the Culver City Veterans Auditorium, at the southwest corner of Culver Blvd. and Overland Ave. The festival is left us from their teaching in February. We welcome all free and the parking is free and even the fun is free.

Bring a couple of new potential folk dancers with you so they can enjoy watching and witness the enjoyment of folk dancing. There will be 1 or 2 easy fun dances taught during the afternoon.

An after-party with a Middle-Eastern dinner and dancing will be held at Felicia Mahood Senior Center. 11338 Santa Monica Blvd., West L. A., at 6:00 p.m. Information is on the flyer in this issue. Advanced reservations are necessary for the after-party.

If you would like festival flyers mailed to you or want more festival and after-party information, please call Beverly Barr at (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659, dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

TIKVA'S DAYTIME CLASSES

Hear ye, hear ye - young and old. Welcome to our classes meeting Mondays at Robertson Recreation Center (Robertson & Airdrome) and Wednesdays at West Hollywood Park (San Vicente north of Melrose).

The Monday class is now celebrating its 15th year and the Wednesday class was started one year later. We have a large repertoire of dances - about 50% Israeli. Join us for a lot of fun.

Robertson RC offers several "L.A. Kids Classes" free of charge through a Community Development Block Grant. Tikva's "World Dance" started last April. It's for ages 5 - 18 on Mondays 4:30 - 5:30. The kids have a great time. (Refer to club directory)

- Tikva Mason

DANCE ON THE WATER- PORTUGAL TOUR

June 21- July 2, Dancing led by **Roberto Bagnoli** Cruise line is selling out fast and will soon recall my reserved space. Do not delay, if interested. At this time, there are 30 dancers enrolled from all over the U S., plus four from the UK. meldancing@aol.com Mel Mann

PASADENA CO-OP

Come to Pasadena on Friday, March 18, and enjoy our day after St. Patrick's Day. The Co-op plans to "GO GREEN" for our day-after celebration at Throop Unitarian Church, 300 S. Los Robles at Del Mar. Our normal monthly teaching in March will feature some special dances we have chosen to teach from the repertoire that Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu to come and enjoy these dances with us on any Friday from 7:45 p.m. to 11 p.m.

In April the Co-op will have dancing on April Fools Day and all are invited to come with whatever dress/ costume they feel might fit the 'Fooling' category, or not. Not only will the 1st day be special for Pasadena, the last Friday of April will be a great day as well. We will celebrate World Dance Day on April 29, our normal 5th Friday dance night. Our great band, Fifth Friday, will play live sets of dances and the evening will be free. We all look forward to seeing you in Pasadena with us.

- Sylvia Stachura

RAZZMATAZZ FOLK DANCE WEEKEND

Our 34th Year, May 20, 21, 22 - at Mendocino Woodlands, with Steve Kotansky - Balkan Dances Our stellar music staff: ÉDESSA (George Chittenden, Lise Liepman, Rumen Shopov, Ari Langer, Paul Brown) Joe Finn & Paul Johnson. Plus: Bulgarian Accordionist **Ivan Milev**, and violinist Jesse Kotansky

Info: Marilyn Smith: (510) 965-9688, marilynmsmith@sbcglobal.net or Phyris Tobler: (707) 795-6926, phyris@sbcglobal.net



Stockton Folk Dance Gamp

First Week: July 24 - 30, 2011 Second Week: July 31 - August 6, 2011

Daily dance classes held in air-conditioned rooms with springy wood floors. All activities are held on the beautiful campus of the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California.

Outstanding teaching faculty: Erica Goldman - Israeli, Bruce Hamilton - English, Jerry Helt -American Squares and Contras, Jaap Leegwater - Bulgarian, Paul Mulders - Macedonian, Richard Powers - Vintage and American Couple dances, Andy Taylor-Blenis, Portuguese, and Roberto Bagnoli - "What's Hot in Europe" dance workshop,

Live music by Miamon Miller and Friends. Daily Singing Classes with Michael Lawson.

Parties: Sunday, Welcome to Folk Dance Camp. Wednesday, wine and cheese party plus "What's Hot in Stockton"; Saturday First week, English, Second Week Balkan.

Scholarships are available — application forms available on our website www.folkdancecamp.org. Or contact Bobi Ashley, P.O. Box 2482, Redmond, OR (541) 977-4328 Deadline for application is May 1.

University Extension Credit is available for an additional fee. Let us know if you are interested.

Questions? Ask Jan (530) 474-3231 or jmwright32@frontiernet.net

REGISTRATION FORM - 2011

Name(s)		Address		
City	State Zip (c	or postal) Code	Country (if not U	JSA)
Phone	E-mail		Gender (M/F)	Age, if under 18
Roommate preference (for sl	nared room)		This will be my	year at Folk Dance Camp
I will attend (check one):	1st Week (7/24-30)) 2 nd Week (7/	/31-8/6) Both V	Weeks (7/24-8/6)
	amper (tuition only) ed room and all meals			ll meals I'll bring my own linens
Enclosed is my deposit of \$ No deposit refunds after May 12				er week due by May 15)
Make checks payable to: FC	DLK DANCE CAMP - o	r you may charge the a	amount to your Visa or	Master Card:

Make checks payable to. TOER Diffice Critin	or you may enange the amount	to your visu of musici curu.	
Card No	Exp. Date	Amount to charge:	
Name as it appears on card:	Signature		

Return Registration Form to: Folk Dance Camp Attention Jan Wright 36676 Viola Meadows Court Shingletown, CA 96088

March 2011

(OR register online through our website: www.folkdancecamp.org