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1942- FEDERATED DANCING -1945

May 3, 1942 marked an historic event for the folk dancers of California. Following the invitation of Henry "Buzz" Glass of the Lodi Folk Dancers, folk dancers from 9 Bay Area folk dancing groups gathered in festive costumes and joyful friendship in Lodi to mark the first festival of the proposed federation of folk dancing groups.

With a mutual desire to share their folk dancing activities in common, the representatives of the various groups agreed to initiate steps to form a permanent organization.

The actual organization of the Folk Dance Federation of California began in San Francisco, with the Co-op Fun Club as hosts, on May 16, 1942 when representatives from various groups met and discussed aims and objectives of organization. The efforts of the S. F. meeting led to the first festival following organization in Golden Gate Park on June 14, 1942 under the sponsorship of Chang's Int. Folk Dancers.

With a firm beginning, with the wholehearted cooperation of the Federation groups, with a singleness of purpose to advance folk dancing and related arts, the Federation began to grow and become a direct contributor and heir to our American culture with its blend of old world and new world cultures. The positive results of the Federation have been quite evident in many ways. The development of exhibitions, the increased number of dancers, the enlarged repertoire of dances, the increased enthusiasm for dancing and related arts, the community services, etc., are all prominent echoes of our accomplishments. With its officers of high caliber, with an outstanding research committee, and with a paper circulated throughout the world, the Federation is destined to secure a permanent foothold toward effecting a peaceful and tolerant world.

The following data, stated succinctly, is a kaleidoscopic view of the Federation to date.

<u>1942-43</u>	<u>1943-44</u>	<u>1944-45</u>
Henry Glass, Pres.	Lt. Ed. Kremers, Pres.	Miss Clarice Dechent, Pres.
Mrs. Frances Shinn, V.P.	Ken Wade, V.P.	Ken Wade, V.P.
Mrs. Frances Glass, Sec.	Miss Clarice Dechent, Sec.	Mrs. Ruby Biel, Sec.
		Mrs. Beatrice Jenkins, Treas.

FESTIVALS

<u>1942-43</u>	<u>1943-44</u>	<u>1944-45</u>
May Lodi Folk Dancers, Lodi	U. C. Folk and Square, Berk.	Gateswingers, S. F.
June Chang's, S. F.	Chang's S. F.	Stanford F. D.; P. A.
July Co-op Fun Club, S. F.	San Jose State, San Jose	Chang's, S. F.
Aug. Palomanians, P. A.	Tamalpais F. D.; San Rafael	San Jose State, S. J.
Sept. Tamalpais F. D.; S. R.	Berkeley F. D., Mosswood, Oak.	Festival Workshop, S. F.
Oct. San Jose State, S. J.	Palomanians, Palo Alto	Docey-Dee Club, Redwood
Nov. U. C. Folk & Sq.; Berk.	Garfield F. D.; Berkeley	Fun Club, S. F.
Dec. Chang's, S. F.	S. F. State Coll.; S. F.	Berkeley F. D.; Oak.
Jan. Gateswingers, S. F.	Oakland F. D.; Oakland	Palomanians, Burlingame
Feb. Oakland F. D.; Oak.	Gateswingers, S. F.	Gateswingers, S. F.
Mar. S. F. State Coll.; S. F.	U. C. Folk & Square, Berk.	Albany F. D.; Albany
April Gateswingers, S. F.	Castle Promenaders, Oak.	Castle Promenaders, Oak.

It is interesting to note the wide participation in sponsoring festivals.

Research Committee:

Appointed by Pres. Ed. Kremers in November, 1943, Miss Lucile Czarnowski and her committee have spent many hours in research work to provide the Federation folk dancers with the fundamental step patterns and dance descriptions that accompany this paper each month. The appearance of the Research Committee's Volume I of folk dance descriptions this June will be an outstanding contribution to folk dancers throughout the United States, as well as California.

Federation's Monthly Paper:

The first copy of the Federation paper was mimeographed and issued personally by Pres. Ed. Kremers and Secretary Clarice Dechent in January, 1944, and called "The Federation Folk Dancer." This marked the beginning of the paper that continued to expand under the first staff of: Bret Van Kriedt, Editor; Beatrice Cook, Circulation Manager; and Marian Van Kriedt, Assistant Editor. The name of the paper was soon changed to "Let's Dance" to avoid any similarity between the name of our paper and the New York Folk Dancer. To Gloria Nash of the Palomaniacs goes the credit for suggesting the winning name. The present staff is endeavoring to carry on with the same spirit of service.

Federation Programs:

The personality of the Federation in the combined strength of its member groups issuing color, form, spirit, and a beauty of joy and vitality brought a public response to participate in community programs. The Federation can point with pride to such outstanding public performances as the following:

August 8, 1943 Woodminster Amphitheater, Oakland (Ed. Kremers, Chairman)
August 20, 1944 Sigmund Stern Grove, San Francisco (Clarice Dechent, Chairman)
October 1, 1944 Woodminster Amphitheater, Oakland (John Bittman, Chairman)
December 2, 1944 Oakland Aud. War Bond Show, Oakland (John Bittman, Chairman)
Feb. 23, Mar. 2 San Francisco Museum of Art
& Mar. 9, 1945 Programs, San Francisco (Walter Grothe, Chairman)

Thus the Federation gives future assurance that it will play an important part in cultural and social activities in various communities throughout the State.

APRIL FESTIVAL

With the theme "Honoring the United Nations", the Castle Promenaders presented the April Festival of the Folk Dance Federation of California on Sunday, April 22, with folk dancers from all over California, including representatives from distant Los Angeles and Tulare and Lodi attending. The festival started with Mrs. Peg Evans singing "Come to the Fair" and the folk dancers weaving a Farandole pattern across the floor. The festival's theme was carried out in the display of the flags of the United Nations, interspersed with pictures of gay folk dance figures, framed by greenery. The decorations by Peter Pilotti and committee, the "live" music via the five piece orchestra directed by Mrs. Irma Aldridge, the general organization by Clyde Evans, the publicity work of Mrs. Georgia Huffman, the reception committee of Mrs. Ruth Graham, and the program under the direction of "Buzz" Glass and Harold Pearson summed up an enjoyable festival. Three exhibitions were presented: "Jesucita" by the Palomaniacs, "Las Chiapanecas" by Chang's, and an Irish Jig by the Festival Workshop, and all were well received by the dancers and audience. Over 1200 people attended this festival and many of those who watched were amazed and pleased at the spectacle offered by the many costumed dancers.

MAY FESTIVAL

Featuring a Latin-American theme the Stanford Folk Dancers present their festival Sunday, May 27, from 1 to 6 p.m. in the Frost Amphitheater on the Stanford campus. The council meeting will be held at noon in the amphitheater. Dinner arrangements (limit 150) for \$1.50 may be made by contacting Dorothy Frost, Box 1028, Stanford University by May 20, stating number of persons. No money need be sent. Greyhound buses and a 10:30 a.m. S.F. train will get dancers to the festival and meeting on time. Dorothy Frost is chairman for the Festival.

JUNE FESTIVAL

Chang's will be hosts on June 10 for a festival in Golden Gate Park with Lois Malkason, Madelynn Greene, and Grace Perryman in charge of arrangements. This festival will have as guests the United Nations Conference Delegates--and will be one of the largest affairs attempted by the Federation. Chang's will announce full details at a later date. Be sure and keep June 10 open for a bang-up festival.

CANDIDATES FOR FEDERATION OFFICES

To assist you in selecting officers for the Federation we are listing the candidates for office with a concise statement concerning their merits, qualifications, and experience, based on their contributions to folk dancing. Each club will be entitled to one vote by mail, and completed ballots must be returned to Mrs. Ruby Biel, Fed. Sec., 8007 Hillmont Dr., Oakland 3, by May 20. * Representatives will receive full instructions, ballots and stamped return envelopes. Let's have a 100% response!

I. PRESIDENT (vote for one)

1. David Boyce: Current President of Berkeley F.D., teacher of Cornell and Marin folk dance classes under Albany Bd. of Educ.; also Oakland Evening High School, under Oakland Bd. of Educ. Past teacher of Oakland F.D., Berkeley F.D., Jefferson F.D. Chairman for Berkeley Folk Dance Conference; Assistant Chairman for Woodminister Exhibition and Oakland War Bond Show.
2. Lucile Czarnowski: In charge of dancing at Univ. of Calif. Guest (rep. U.S.) of Int. Folk Dance Festival, Stockholm, Sweden, 1938. Guest of Naas Institute (training school for folk dance teachers) in Floda, Sweden. Presented Lingiad gold medal by Swedish Government for participation in the Lingiad and Int. Dance Congress in Stockholm. Traveled thru Finland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Czech., Eng., and U.S. in folk dance research work. Nat. Chairman, Dance Section of the American Assn. of Health & Phys. Educ. Chairman of the Federation Research Committee and director of the U.C. Folk & Square Dance Group.

II. VICE PRESIDENT (vote for one)

1. Bill Ballou: Member of Gateswingers for 2 yrs. Served as vice chairman of executive committee. Chairman Federation Committee to draw up new voting laws. Active on Federation Council.
2. Walter Grothe: Active folk dancer for 5 years. President of Berkeley F.D. 1944. Coordinator S.F. Museum of Art Programs. Member of Berkeley F.D., Festival Workshop, and Assn. Member of Chang's. Active on Federation Council. Established contact with State Dept. officials for June 10 festival for United Nations Conference delegates.

III. TREASURER (vote for one)

1. Beatrice Jenkins: Federation treasurer for 1944-45. Organized Alpine Folk Dancers. Member of Chang's. Active on Federation Council.
2. Harold Pearson: Reorganized Oakland F.D., now president of group. Program chairman for Castle Promenaders Sat. night dances. Active on Federation Council.

IV. RECORDING SECRETARY (vote for one)

1. Dorothy Frost: President of Stanford F.D. Chairman of May, 1945 festival. Chairman of club dances. Active on Federation Council.
2. Lois Rodecano: Berkeley F.D. for 12 yrs. Active on many club committees. Financial secretary of the membership committee. Member record section.

V. CORRESPONDING SECRETARY (vote for one)

1. Mildred Buhler: Redwood City Rec. Dept. folk dance instructor. Organizer and instructor Redwood City Docey-Doe Club, and 11 other dance groups. Active on Federation Council. Formerly head of own school in dancing and dramatics.
2. Ellen Davis: Formerly head and organizer of Mt. View F.D. Formerly co-director of Palo Alto Junior Group. Past president Stanford Folk Dancers.
3. Kay Holmes: Gateswinger and active member for 2 years. Served as secretary of the Executive Committee of this group.

VI. HISTORIAN (vote for one)

1. Ginni DeLong: Member of Palomanians, Hoedowners, and Stanford F.D. Active on Federation Council. Member of Hoedowners Executive Committee.
2. Henry Koopmann: Member of Festival Workshop and Chang's. Former member of Berkeley F.D. Active Federation representative. Charge of Federation Scrap Book. Co-chairman Sept. 1944 festival. Served on various committees.

VII. DIRECTOR OF PUBLICITY AND EXTENSION: (vote for one)

1. Dan McDonald: Member of Chang's. President of Fun Club. Teacher and Federation representative of Scandinavian F.D. Teacher and member of Gateswingers Executive Committee. Leader of dancing at San Rafael USO.
2. Roy Zellick: President of Palomanians. In charge of exhibition dance group. Assistant at Burlingame festival. Active on Federation Council. Active on Oakland War Bond Committee. A folk dancer for over 25 years.

*If your club does not wish to mail your ballot you may have your representative turn it in at the Council meeting on Sunday, May 27.

YOUR CLUB AND MINE

GARFIELD FOLK DANCERS by Lotte Mohr

The Garfield Folk Dancers, who meet at the Codornices Club House in Berkeley, announce a beginners' group on Thursday, in addition to the advanced Tuesday group. Thursday, following the third Tuesday, has been chosen as "party night." Yvonne Keene of the group introduced the first thirteen of the thirty dances to be taught over a nine weeks' period. Bert Trubody is the instructor for April and Erwin Berliner for May. Publicity is in charge of Roselle Carrington. We cordially invite Federation members to attend the next monthly party, May 17, or to join us in one of our regular class sessions. Call Ashberry 0227 for more detailed information.

GOLDEN GATE FOLK DANCERS by Kent Yarnell

This group is now meeting at the Jenny Lind Hall, 22nd and Telegraph Ave., Oakland, every Sunday night. All folk dancers are welcome.

GATE SWINGERS by Patricia French

The Gate Swingers under the leadership of Ken Wade have appeared at over 500 service camps, centers, and USO's. The group has danced throughout the state from Yosemite to Santa Cruz. The Gate Swingers have done yeoman work with servicemen and have the largest attendance of enthusiastic men in uniform who swear by folk dancing after one session. Gate Swinger "gals" pay special attention to "left-footers" and "never tried" producing real square dance enthusiasts at the end of an evening's fun. The dance enthusiasts sponsor a share in the YMCA's youth program, dances weekly at the Stage Door Canteen and has members throughout the world. Visits to the San Leandro Naval Hospital and Presidio in S.F. are on the monthly schedule, sometimes dividing the group to keep all engagements. A series of exhibitions were given in behalf of the recent War Chest drive. Holly Holleffuer, treasurer, is reported to have coined the slogan for the 99 Gate Swingers "We don't boast any inactive members."

PALOMANIANS by Roy Zellick

This group has been under the guest directorship of Grace Perryman the last six weeks, working out new dance arrangements. To offset the hard work of this group since the first of the year in learning new dances and new versions of old ones a party was arranged for Saturday, March 3 with close-by groups invited to attend. Continuous dancing was enjoyed from 8:00 to 12:00 p.m.

CHANG'S INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS by Jack Kaufman

At a date to be announced in a later issue, Chang's will hold "open house" at an "International Hobby-Craft Show." Watch for the date!

VALLEJO FOLK DANCERS by Sue Lemmon

The Vallejo Folk Dancers wish for the continued improvement of their vice-president, Fred Nottleman, who has recently been convalescing after an operation. A suggestion box is now being used to advantage at the monthly business meeting. It has produced some very beneficial ideas to date.

U. C. FOLK AND SQUARE DANCE GROUP by Kate Jurjevich

Under the direction of Miss Lucile Czarnowski the U. C. Folk and Square Dance Group started the new term with a bang, with a very large enrollment. Longer and more complicated dances are on the program.

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS by Walter Grothe

The Berkeley Folk Dancers are losing two of their oldest and best liked members with George and Connie Moncharsh moving to Washington, D.C. An innovation at the Thursday night meetings is "live" music consisting of piano, guitar, and two violins. Russell and Mary McCaughna, Phil Aldrich and Bill Rapp are the musicians. An unusual Easter and April Fool's party was given at the Claremont Club on Saturday, March 31, with Ruth Ruby as chairman. George Jelton was in charge of decorations. Entering the club in the spirit of Easter you were fooled by a Santa Claus (John Bittman) and Christmas carols. David Boyce and Bert Trubody had charge of the program, with other members taking part in skits. The evening was a huge success and enjoyed by everyone.

CASTLE PROMENADERS by Georgia Huffman

On Saturday, April 7 the Castle Promenaders along with many members of other clubs, enjoyed an evening of dancing in the festival manner at Durant Park. Joe and Marcellina Barry were honored on their wedding anniversary, and provided refreshments for the dancers. More than 100 dancers took part in honoring the Barry's.

SQUARE STEPPERS by Mrs. Stanley Little

On March 29 the following officers were elected: Mr. Everitt Smith, President; Mr. Charles Kennedy, vice president; Mr. Stanley Little, Sec.-Treas.; Mr. and Mrs. Doug. Nesbitt, Instructors. This group organized by Lawton Harris appears often in Stockton at the College of the Pacific to demonstrate folk and square dances.

FRESNO DOSIDO CLUB by Thelma Deming

The Fresno DOSIDO club, under the direction of Miss Thelma Deming, and on of the new Federation members, was officially welcomed by Mrs. Mildred Buhler of the Federation on her recent visit to Fresno. The group is working hard to build up membership and dance routines.

LODI FOLK DANCERS by Isabel Reynolds

Due to wartime restrictions the Lodi Folk Dancers cannot attend many of the festivals, but through the paper "Let's Dance" we are able to keep up on Federation and festival news. Our club started as an evening high school class in 1940 with "Buzz" Glass as director and continued in this fashion until June, 1942 when we organized the Lodi Folk Dancers. Mrs. Grace Nossek, formerly a teacher at the Pasadena Jr. College, now instructs the group, with the administrative duties being carried out by Mrs. Alyce Naas, President; and Mrs. Edna Small, Secretary-Treasurer. Since last spring the club has been active in USO work and on the third Tuesday of every month presents a program at the Stockton USO, under the auspices of the Women's Ambulance and Defense Corps, consisting of squares, folk dances, and social dancing. Quite a number of servicemen journey from Stockton to Lodi each Tuesday to be present at the regular club session. Mrs. Alyce Naas, President, and Mrs. Isabel Reynolds, past secretary of the group, were present for the April festival, and were able to bring back some new dances for the group.

SIERRA CLUB by Ruth Praeger

A letter from Dorothy Guy of the Sierra Club and ski enthusiastic, reports of attending a March gathering at the Sierra Club. Folk dancing is quite an experience in ski clothes claims Dorothy. With other folk dancing devotees the Sierra Club made certain that the cold would not effect the warm spirit of the dancers. Amid a scene of dripping puddles of melted snow, scarves, parkas, etc. Jimmy Kein called squares for such dancing addicts as Marjorie and Chuck Martin, Fred Rust, Ellen Collier, Elva Stranberg, Joan Oppenheimer, Rudolph Pundt, Ronny McConnel, Jane Holder, Jim Bickford, and Mr. and Mrs. Sandy Tepfer. (Editor's Note: Cousin Penguin--what's the latest in folk dancing in the antarctic?)

STANFORD FOLK DANCERS by Dorothy Frost

The Stanford Folk Dancers look forward to starting a combined community folk sing along with their weekly folk dance session. Translations of folk songs, including the words to several of our familiar dance tunes, are to be sung at these sessions.

TULARE FOLK DANCERS by Norma Ensz

The Tulare Folk Dancers are now well underway, with two groups that meet at the Tulare High School--the advanced group on Thursday and the beginners group on Wednesday evenings. We have learned many of the Federation repertoire of dances, and especially like squares. At present we are working on some special South American dances for a Pan-American exhibition--the samba, Cueca, tango, and rumba. Leonore Bravo, formerly of Chang's and Berkeley Folk Dancers, is the dance director for the advanced group, with Florence Rata and John Ethridge directing the beginners' group. The officers of this enthusiastic club are: Milford Cook, President; Norma Ensz, Secretary; and Florence Rata, Treasurer. Two of the Tulare Folk Dancers were able to attend the April festival--in spite of tire and gasoline rationing!

WEDDING BELLS FOR FOLK DANCERS

Miss Nancy Deering and Mr. Eugene Bulf were married at a simple ceremony at the Episcopal Church in Redwood City on Tuesday, April 10, 1945 at 11:00 a.m.; with only the families of the couple present. Nancy and Gene have been active in folk dancing for a long time, and the Federation extends good wishes for a happy future. Plans will depend on Gene's Navy orders.

RECORD ANNOUNCEMENT

Mrs. Dorothy Hamel of Breuner's Record Department, Oakland, will keep a file of all folk dancers' names and addresses and telephone numbers who want to be on the mailing list for folk dance records. Watch the June issue for a list of available records for folk dancing. In the meantime drop by Breuner's and inspect the special department of grouped folk dance records. They now have seventeen popular folk dance records available.

UNCLE SAM'S MAILBAG

Dan Carrington, a Garfield Folk Dancer, with the armed services in Europe witnessed the following scene in a Marseilles railroad station: "Liberated French and Russians, some of whom had been in prison as long as five years, were greeted by the populace and a French band. They danced some of their native dances to the accompaniment of drums and balalaika. Only men danced, their footwork was clever, but not strenuous, and the music sounded familiar."

STAFF

Mrs. Ruby Biel, Editor, 8007 Hillmont Drive, Oakland 3. (Deadline 15th of the month)
Mr. Clyde Evans, Business Manager, 8141 Idlewood Street, Oakland 3. (Sub. \$1.75)
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Glass, Assistant Editors
Miss Annemarie Steinbiss, Art Editor