

SEPTEMBER 1956



Let's Dance

THE MAGAZINE OF FOLK AND SQUARE DANCING • 25¢

Let's Dance

THE MAGAZINE OF FOLK AND SQUARE DANCING • September • 1956

VOL. 3 — NO. 8
Official Publication of The Folk
Dance Federation of Calif., Inc.

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PRose 6-2178

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

LET'S DANCE is published monthly by the
Folk Dance Federation of California
Subscription price: \$2.50 per year.
Foreign, \$3.25 per year.

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ON OUR COVER

Mexican couple dancing "La Chilena."
Photographed at the Mexican
Folklore Center, Mexico City,
by Virgil Morton.

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YOUR SEPTEMBER HOST

WALNUT CREEK

Mt. Diablo will look down from its 3849-ft. peak onto a scene of gaiety and color as the Diablo Council of Folk Dance and Square Dance Clubs hosts the Federation Festival on Sunday, September 16, at the Walnut Creek City Park. Dancing will begin at 1:30 and continue until approximately 5:30. A Kolo Hour is being arranged by Bev Wilder at 6:30, after which general folk and square dancing will continue until 10:30 p.m.

The Federation Council will meet in the Recreation Center, adjacent to the City Park, at 12:30 p.m., with Frank Kane, president, presiding. Everyone is welcome, so plan now to attend and find out what goes on in the Council meeting and meet the officers and committee chairmen who are serving the needs of the folk dance movement in Northern California.

Chairman of the Diablo Festival is Harry Donaldson. The chairmanship was bestowed upon Harry in recognition of his many years of faithful service to folk dancing in the Diablo area with the expectation that he would just oversee operations this year, but of course he'll be doing most of the hard work the morning and evening of the festival — putting up and taking down!

President of the Diablo Council, Gerry Cross, appointed Angie Laven and Jo Shelley to prepare the program as well as arrange for exhibition groups

and square dance callers. As this is being written (July) not all the exhibition groups have made commitments, but there will be at least one, and possibly two groups of young people performing during the afternoon. An outstanding group from San Francisco, and the local Suburban Swingers are planning to present a dance new to their repertoire. Two favorite women callers have indicated their willingness to put the dancers through patterns of square dancing, Ursula Mooney from San Anselmo, and Peg Allmond from San Francisco. Both have appeared at our festivals in previous years and have been greatly enjoyed by the dancers. Vic Wintheiser, from Richmond, is also scheduled to call a tip of squares and we'll have one or two more outstanding callers from San Francisco during the afternoon program. Local callers take over in the evening and we'll hear from Reva and Glenn Ward, Herb Shelley, George Kimball, Bev Wilder and maybe a few more. The program is in most capable hands and dancers at all levels of ability and agility will find something to their liking.

In addition to perfect weather, the Diablo Festival always provides perfect sound through the wonderful equipment owned and operated by Harold Lindsay of Redwood City. Mr. Lindsay will be paying his fifth consecutive yearly visit to the Diablo Festival and it is always a pleasure to welcome him and his charming wife to our community. The care with which Mr. Lindsay handles our records and heeds instruction of the MC's and callers makes for a pleasant and satisfying dance program for all. The Diablo Council is proud to present this magnificent sound equipment to the folk dancers. We are sure that it adds a great deal of enjoyment for them as well as the local residents who are lured to the park by the gay music.

Roger Whitcomb, of the Pleasant Hill Folk Dancers, is in charge of the Hospitality Booth which is arranged for exhibition groups, MC's, and square dance callers. Each Council club provides a host and hostess to serve half-hour shifts in this booth and we feel sure this attraction is appreciated by those who give their time to make our festival a success.

The Diablo Council held its first organizational meeting in May, 1950, and since then has been an active and increasingly important factor in the growth and extension of folk dancing in the area. The advanced folk dance class taught by the Wards was started under the auspices of the Council when such classes were no longer possible under the adult education program. A party for beginner dancers is hosted by the Council early each year, and in the spring a fund-raising party is arranged by the Council in order to have sufficient funds on hand when it's Diablo's turn to host the Federation.

In the Walnut Creek City Park there are several picnic tables and three large bar-b-que pits for those dancers who would like to bring a picnic supper. A well equipped playground, and tennis courts are adjacent to the dancing area. If it should rain (it wouldn't dare!) we'll move into the Recreation Center of our program. Several good restaurants are within walking distance of the City Park and we urge our dancing friends to patronize them — especially those that bought advertising space in *Let's Dance!* The City Park is located just a block east of Main Street on Ygnacio Valley Boulevard which is the first stop light coming from the north, and the second stop light coming from the south. You can't miss it — so come join the fun at Walnut Creek on Sunday, September 16.

by VIRGINIA WILDER

FIESTA

Somewhere in Mexico it's fiesta time. They may be either to celebrate civic or religious occasions. There are as many saints as there are days in the year, and each town or village honors its own patron saint. Fireworks, bull-fights, rodeos, and native dances always follow the impressive rituals of the Church. Regardless of the solemnity of the celebration, the fiesta is always gay and colorful. If the proper Saint's Day falls on a working day, the celebration will then be on the following Sunday. In the hearts of many of the Mexican Indians, fiesta is for "thanksgiving," and so their festivities are postponed until harvest.

Of course, dancing is an important part of every fiesta. Some of the dances have been modified from primitive rituals. Other dances brought from Spain, have been so mingled with Indian spirit that they are no longer recognized as Spanish. I have read accounts where these dances go on and on, beginning at 3 o'clock in the morning and continuing until sundown on the following day.

To hold any celebration would be unthinkable without fireworks, and at nightfall the people gather in the plazas to watch the "Castillo." The "Castillo" is a reed structure, 30 feet high, consisting of a complicated arrangement of firecrackers which, setting each other off in turn, makes a most dramatic and colorful sight—noisy, too! Another favorite demonstration is the "globo." Myriads of tiny pieces of bright-colored papers are put together in the form of a large balloon. Many little round lanterns dangle from threads attached to it. Weeks of patient work have gone into its preparation. Finally, the time has come—it is released into the air. As it rises, it flames into a mass of fire, then suddenly it falls to the ground in a shower of sparks.

With the fireworks bringing an end to fiesta, the natives who have traveled far, wrap their "sarapes" close about them and sleep on the ground overnight before starting their journey home.



The "Los Viejitos" of Michoacan, Mexico by the International Folk Dancers of Richland, Wash.



Upper right: Stephen Angeli

(Photo: W. Carver)

At left reading down: Terpsichoreans, Doing the Fandango, Rikujom

(Photos: R. Chevalier)

MARIN FESTIVAL

JULY '56

Bottom: Palomanions

(Photo: H. Bloom)





(Photos: H. Bloom)

Above: New and popular "Doublebska Polka."

STOCKTON FESTIVAL AUGUST, 1956

Below: Oakland Recreation Dance Arts



FOLK DANCE CAMP—1956

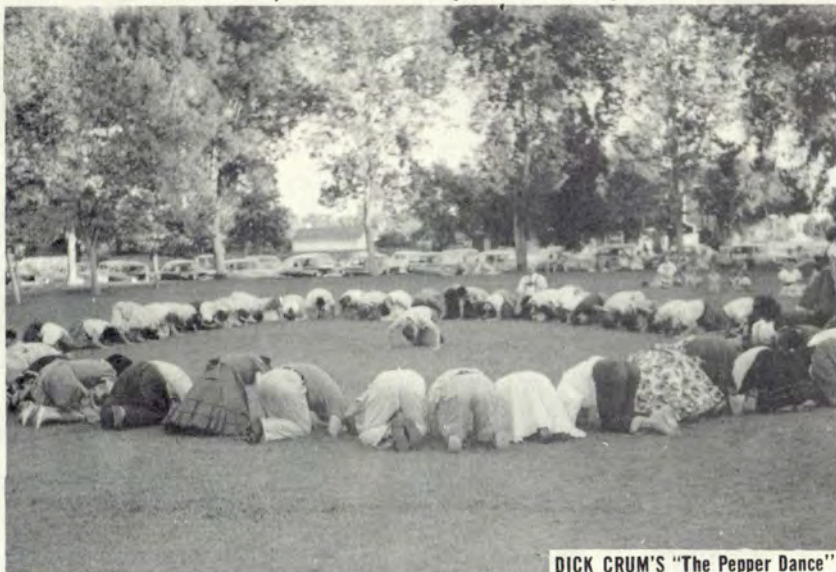
By PEG ALLMOND

The 1956 edition of the College of the Pacific's Folk Dance Camp provided the largest — about 400 were in attendance — and most enthusiastic group in all nine years.

Squares with JERRY HELT, KICK KRAUS, RALPH PAGE, VERA HOLLEUFFER, DALE GARRETT and JACK MCKAY reached a new high, running even the more highly emphasized Kolos a close second, even in the after parties. In addition to New England Squares, Ralph Page continued to win new friends for New England Contras.

The presence on the campus of 23 scholarship teen-agers, added a lot of drive and vigor. These scholarships were provided by the Federation, San Francisco Council, Oregon Federation, Reno Near and Far Club, Sebastapol, Filich and the Kolo Festival and private individuals. The kids got into everything and conducted themselves in the most commendable way. We were all proud of them.

VYTE BELIAJUS featured his own Lithuanian materials; DICK CRUM, ANATOL JOUKOWSKI and JOHN FILICICH provided some lovely new Balkan Dances; FRANCES AJOIAN joined the square dance groups with a lovely Armenion Square as well as some more line dances; BUZZ GLASS presented more of the Mexican material and two new rounds. With over 30 on the staff it is impossible to do more than hit the high spots but all classes were well attended. The Federation will immediately take to its heart about a dozen new dances, others will be used in areas where their taste varies. The attendance and hard work of both northern and southern section Research Committees insures early clarification of these dances. A feature this year involved a number of reviews of dances "with a past." Lawton Harris, camp director, ended the week with a report to the faculty—"not a complaint."



DICK CRUM'S "The Pepper Dance"



CAMP CUTIES—From left to right: Ralph Page, Paul Erfer, Mr. "J", Nate Moore, Dick Crum, Bert Fitz, Judge Chas. Merrill.

JERRY HELT from Cincinnati

DRMES From ZDENCINA

(Photos: A. Smith)



FRANKLY SPEAKING

In the front of this magazine we lay claim that this is the official organ of the Folk Dance Federation of California (North). Since I believe "*Let's Dance*" should be keeping the members informed, a new policy now starts with a monthly blurb on these pages. We shall endeavor in this space to bring the story of YOUR organization to YOU. After all, it is YOUR organization!

"Ha-ha," YOU say. That is the typical reaction one hears when they are told that their voice is important in the running of the Folk Dance Federation. The usual opinion is that some clique of teachers had the final say and that the dancers follow them like a bunch of sheep. Tain't so! Take it from one who knows. Just griping about the state of affairs will solve nothing. The organization is now being run by entirely too few. Only 18 clubs signed up at the July meeting in San Rafael. Thirty-five was the highest this year in February at Oakland. Still a small per centage of over 200 clubs. Ask the officers in your club if YOU are being represented. Don't let such a minor minority decide policies for YOU. The typical reaction at this point, "What good does it all do? Why do we need a Federation anyway?" There are answers to these questions in the broad statement, "In union there is strength." "Trite!" Could be! How about "too many cooks spoil the broth?" Can you imagine what would happen in Oberek, for instance, if we didn't have a pre-arranged traffic pattern? And just whom do you suppose did that arranging? In essence it was YOU — or more exact — an appointed team, the Research Committee working for YOU. All their doings are a democratic procedure completely governed by YOU.

They are the actual body that starts the wheels in motion and then passes down through the Teachers' Institute to your instructor, who finally ges you to moving those two left feet. At least that's the way they feel every time I tackle a new dance).

I know, I know — YOU don't like the new dance they present. How come so many tangos; how come another this or that — and the ever popular question, "Why any more dances at all?"

These very questions I brought up myself to the Research Committee which met at the College of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp. The mechanics of getting the dances to you in their final form had me puzzled, too. Anyway, I was enlightened a bit. The C.O.P. Camp does have a decided influence on what new dances are going to be presented. Actually it turns out to be a proving ground of a great number of dances — a few of which are filtered down to us by the Research group.

They, too, felt entirely too many new dances were being presented. They believe that the Camp Director might request a limit for each teacher. That is a Camp problem, but since it has such a direct effect on the Federation, these feelings will be passed on to the Camp.

It is lamentable that our organization does not have the wherewithal to finance a sort of scholarship trip for qualified instructors to go to Europe and do pure research for us. But we are fortunate that some of our teachers are from other ends of the world or have done just this on their own.

These thoughts take us back to the most pressing situation at the moment

— the financial problem. With the conscientious group of officers and committee people constantly working on schemes to make the picture rosier, (and that doesn't mean red) YOU, too, can lend them YOUR support. As a subscriber, ask your fellow dancers if they, too, subscribe. This magazine is written solely for YOU, the members of the Federation. What YOU want in it is what the Editor wants to print. Being very frank (I find that easy to do — check my name) if the magazine doesn't show a decided increase in subscriptions, we will be left with one alternative — NO MAGAZINE.

If you don't want that to happen then each of YOU go out and send in at least one new subscription. YOU need not have an official order blank — any sheet of paper with the new name on it wrapped around \$2.50 will do the trick.

IT'S UP TO YOU. Do YOU want "Let's Dance" to continue?

FRANK KANE, *President*

FRANK DOING A PORTRAIT

(Photo A. Smith)



FOLKLORE OF SEPTEMBER

The Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashonah which begins at sundown September 6, is held by tradition to be the anniversary of the day on which God created the earth. Rosh Hashonah means literally "Head of the Year" and serves to usher in the new secular Hebrew year. It is also called the "Feast of Trumpets," for one of the ceremonies in the synagogue is the blowing of the shofar, which serves as a call to conscience of the faithful. The shofar, or "sacred ram's horn," has figured predominantly in Jewish rites since the early days of Palestine where it was used to call the people from their fields in the time of crisis. Rosh Hashonah is the first of the so-called "High Holidays," the most significant and holy of Jewish life. The observances that begin on that day end 10 days later on Yom Kippur — the Day of Atonement; and the intervening days are known as the Days of Penitence.

Yom Kippur will fall on September 15th this year. According to an old belief among Jews, there are three books in heaven — one for the names of those who are entirely wicked, one for those who are good, and one for those who have been neither entirely sinful nor good. If, by Yom Kippur, those whose names appear in this third book have repented and atoned for their sins, their names are entered in the Book of Life. The solemnity of this day of prayer is further increased by a strict fast; no food or water may be taken from sundown to sundown. Devotions in the synagogue, which begin at sunset, may continue through the night for the most devout. They are resumed again at an early morning hour and continue till at last the stars are announced and the ram's horn sounds the glad tidings. The Book of Life is closed, the seal is affixed, the judgment is set.

September 20th is the beginning of an eight-day festival called "Succoth," the Feast of Ingathering." It commemorates the rejoicing of an agricultural people in the ingathering of the autumn harvest. Since God watched over the Israelites when they dwelt in frail tabernacles in the wilderness, the modern Jew builds a "Succah" or hut — in memory of that fact. It is covered with green boughs "so the stars can shine through the roof." "Open Succah" prevails during the festival, when friends, relatives, rich and poor, are invited to share the hospitality of the household.

* * * *

"Wilhelm Tell" will once again come to life on September 2 this year, in the town of New Glarus, Wisconsin. The population consists mostly of Swiss or Swiss descent and each in his own way helps to revive the life of their national hero by presenting a pageant. Throughout the year the New Glarus Yodel Club practices authentic Swiss melodies which have been handed down through the generations. The country side of the Swiss Alps is brought forth by the appearance of scampering goats and brown cows wearing the traditional Swiss bells, whose tinkling is heard from afar. The high point of this affair is Wilhelm Tell's shooting of the apple from his son's head. Nowadays, the apple, which has already been pierced, is picked from the floor and displayed to the cheering Swiss patriots. It is said that one year the young boy picked up the wrong apple and the whole scene had to be redone. At the finale the young girls, dressed in the costumes of the Swiss cantons, displaying the flags of their region, dance their country dances in true Swiss style.

In Mexico City, as in every small town and village, the streets are thronged with people. Hundreds of electric bulbs in red, white and green — the colors of the Mexican flag — are hung across the streets and about the Zocalo, the capital's great plaza. On the night of September 15, the anniversary of Mexico's independence will come to a dramatic finale. This celebration always begins on the night of the 15th, when at 11 p.m., the President of the Republic appears on the balcony of the National Palace in Mexico City to repeat the famous "Grito de Dolores" the "Call to freedom," with which Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla the hero priest, incited the peasants to independence in 1810. Then the president rings the Independence Bell suspended overhead. At the same time the governors in all the Mexican States and the Municipal Presidents of Villages and Towns are performing the same ceremony.

On September 16th the festivities of the night before continue with parades, music, fireworks and other special events. In the villages the youths dance around the band stands according to historic tradition. The girls, dressed in gay full skirts and dark rebozos, walk two by two in one direction while the boys, in wide sombreros and bright blankets walk in couples in the opposite direction. As the young people pass they shyly look at one another and exchange many secret signs.

* * * *

In Foligno, Italy, a proclamation is made early in the month of September announcing the contest called the JOUST OF THE QUINTANA to all citizens. The August issue of the Tourist and Railway News of Italy gives an interesting description of this event.

"The first Joust took place in 1613 when the Priors of the City decided to celebrate the carnival with grandeur and solemnity. The games were reserved for the nobles who had to supply themselves with a second and a groom and assume a fictitious name. A figure of a warrior carved out of a massive piece of wood was placed in the center of a field and it is still used for the competition. The horsemen had to strike the face of the warrior and a complicated system of awarding points was in use according to the parts of the figure struck.

Three centuries later, however, the Quintana is slightly altered. On the outstretched arm of the statue are three rings of different sizes through which the riders must push their lances as they ride round the figure-of-eight track three times. The points awarded are calculated on the time taken over the track and the number of rings pierced. In addition to this contest there is a choreographical side to the event which involves practically all the population. A torchlight procession of women and girls, the riders of the joust, halbardiers, drummer-boys, grooms, pages, children, heralds, magistrates and consuls, all in magnificent costumes, parade around the main streets of the town and the 10 districts participating in the Joust. Each district has its own horseman to compete for the coveted trophy."

* * * *

The REBOZO, popular Mexican shawl, was defined in the Dictionary of the Castilian Language, in 1737, as "a shawl to cover the BOZO (mouth)."



(Photo by Virgil Morton)

Typical costumes of the Tarascan people as worn in the Lake Patzcuaro area. The girl is wearing a "chincueta," a skirt often containing 10 yards of material which is wrapped around the body, with large pleats in back, and then secured with a belt.



(Photo by Virgil Morton)

Beneath the chincueta, the girl wears an under-skirt, often as full as the outer skirt, and heavily decorated with designs in cross-stitch embroidery. To display this art work, she wears the outer skirt over the back of her head. The man's costume also has geometrical patterns of embroidery.

LA CHILENA

LA CHILENA, our featured dance this month, comes from the State of Guerrero in the central region of Mexico. It is usually performed as a ceremonial dance at weddings of important personages. Underlying the ceremonial formality there is a feeling of playful teasing between partners. The use of the kerchiefs carried by the dancers shows an influence from Spain. At the time of the conquest of Mexico, many of the Spanish dances were performed with the aid of a flowing kerchief (pañuelo) held in one or both hands. This custom is no longer followed in the mother country of Spain, but is still to be found in many of the former Spanish colonies. The dance is also known by other names, including LA CHILENA GUERRERENSE (The Chilena of Guerrero) and LAS SANMARQUENAS.

Literally translated, LA CHILENA means "Girl from Chile," and is believed to have been inspired or influenced by the CUECA CHILENA, a typical courting dance of Chile. The Chilean CUECA is different; it is more individualistic and violent in addition to its coquettish nature.

The man, dressed in Chilean cowboy garb, swaggers forward confident of an easy victory. He carries a fluttering kerchief and tucked in his sash is the sharp tip of his traditional knife termed a "pothook." As his partner retreats from his advances, he must be quick enough to turn his back on her at just the same moment lest he be ridiculed by the audience. With his partner, alternately flirting and fleeing, he carries his pursuit to the climactic moment when she surrenders in his arms. At the close of the dance the man is on his knees in submission to his loved one.

The CUECA is traditionally accompanied by guitar, tamborine, and harp, as well as the rhythmic clapping of the spectators' hands. The changing moods of the dance from bold confidence to sly flirtation, the advances and retreats, all are reflected in the music.



Although we have a new format, the dance description is the same size as in previous issues. For easy removal, you will always find descriptions on the center page of "Let's Dance."



This man from Chiapas, a state in Southern Mexico, braids straw for a new hat as he walks long the roadway. His trousers have been pulled up and tucked into the waistband, giving the effect of short trousers, the typical way of wearing them in Chiapas. The hat is decorated with strands of bright ribbons, and the sandals are of ancient design.

LA CHILENA (LA SANMARQUENA)

(The Lady from Chile)

GUERRERO, MEXICO

This dance was learned in Mexico 1954-55 by Henry "Buzz" Glass from Senora Alura Flores de Angeles at the National University of Mexico. It was presented by Henry "Buzz" Glass at the 1955 Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

MUSIC: Record: Folkraft F1038-B "Las Sanmarqueñas"

FORMATION: Partners facing about eight feet apart. Handkerchief held in R hand in front about chest height. W hold skirt with free hand, M's free hand in back.
Unless indicated otherwise, handkerchief waves gracefully from side to side following lead foot.

STEPS: Running Waltz, *Waltz Balance, Zapateado, Leap Waltz, Stamp Step-hop.

RUNNING WALTZ: Three running steps done one to each count of music. Beginning R, first step in accented, second and third are lighter and smaller. Repeat beginning L. Handkerchief waves gracefully from side to side following lead ft.

ZAPATEADO: Stamp to R on R (ct. 1), stamp on L beside R (ct. 2), stamp on R, no wt., (ct. 3). Stamp on R, taking wt., (ct. 1), brush L diagonally across in front of R (ct. 2), brush L diagonally back to L (ct. 3). Accent ct. one of each measure. Repeat beginning L.

Handkerchief action for Zapateado Step: For zapateado step beginning R the handkerchief describes two arcs in the air, similar to writing a letter "e."

The letter is written backwards on the zapateado step beginning L.

LEAP WALTZ: Leap fwd on R (ct. 1), small step fwd on L (ct. 2), small step fwd on R (ct. 3). Bring knees up high on leap. Repeat beginning L.

STAMP STEP-HOP: This is a syncopated step. Stamp on flat of R (ct. 3), step R (ct. 1), hop R, lifting L slightly from floor in back (ct. 2). Repeat beginning L.

Measures
2

INTRODUCTION

I. RUNNING WALTZ

- | | | | |
|---|------|----|--|
| A | 1-8 | a) | With 8 running waltz steps dancers change places starting R and passing R shoulders (turn R to face on meas. 7 and 8.) |
| | 9-14 | b) | Repeat back to place beginning R and passing R shoulders with 6 running waltz steps turning R to face on meas. 13 and 14. Dancers wave handkerchief side to side gracefully in direction of lead ft. |

II. INTERLUDE: WALTZ BALANCE

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 1-4 | In place dancers do 4 waltz balance steps sdwd (R, L, R, L). |
|-----|--|

III. ZAPATEADO

- | | | | |
|---|-------|----|---|
| B | 1-16 | a) | Move slightly to the side, obliquely R and L as follows: 8 zapateado steps beginning R and alternating R and L. |
| | 17-20 | b) | With 4 waltz balance steps beginning R make one turn to the R in place. (CW). |
| | 21-24 | c) | With 4 waltz balance steps beginning R make one turn to the L in place. (CCW). |
| | 25-32 | d) | In place beginning R do 8 waltz balance steps sdwd alternating R and L. |
| | 1-32 | | Repeat action of Fig. III, meas. 1-32. |

IV. LEAP WALTZ AND CIRCLING

- | | | | |
|---|-------|----|--|
| C | 1-4 | a) | With 4 leap waltz steps ptrs advance twd each other until R shoulders are adjacent. (Handkerchief is carried about chest height without waving). |
| | 5-12 | b) | On one leap waltz step each dancer makes a half turn to own R to bring L shoulders adjacent and at same time bringing handkerchief above head. Continue 7 more leap waltz steps moving bwd in a CW circle. |
| | 13-20 | c) | Making a half turn L sweep arm downward and up, at the same time to again move bwd with 8 leap waltz steps moving CCW. R shoulders adjacent. |
| | 21-24 | d) | Take 4 leap waltz steps bwd to original position. |

V. STAMP STEP-HOP

- | | | | |
|---|------|----|--|
| D | 1-8 | a) | Beginning R and passing R shoulders change places with 4 stamp step-hop patterns. In opp place make one turn R (CW) with 4 more of these patterns. |
| | 9-16 | b) | Repeat action of Fig. B, meas 1-8 back to place.
Note: The first step of Fig. V begins with ct. 3 of pick-up measure. |

VI. *SQUARE (CUADRO)*

- E a) Moving continually to their own R dancers follow the outline of a square, moving a quarter of the square on 2 waltzes and 3 stamps as follows: (Handkerchief sways from side to side following lead ft.)
- 1, 2 Starting R dancers make one turn R (CW) with 2 waltz steps. Dancers have moved one quarter of the square to face ptr. At this point all dancers, M & W, are in one single line.
- 3, 4 Facing partner, stamp R (ct. 1), hold (ct. 2), stamp L (ct. 3), hold (ct. 1), stamp R, no wt. (ct. 2), hold (ct. 3).
- 5-8 Repeat action of Fig. VI, meas 1-4. Dancers have progressed half way around square and are in opp place.
- 9-16 b) Repeat action of Fig. VI, meas. 1-8. (Each time on the third stamp (R), stamp R without taking wt on it so that it is free to start next waltz).

VII. *TORO (BULL) STEP*

- F 1-4 a) Dancers hold handkerchief with both hands about waist level simulating a matador holding his cape.
- 5-8 Do 4 waltz balance steps in place R, L, R, L. M pretending to be the bull ducks under W's handkerchief as dancers meet passing R shoulders to exchange places in 4 running waltz steps turning R to face on last step.
- 9-16 b) Repeat action of Fig. VII, meas. 1-8 back to original position with W assuming the character of the bull.

VIII. *LIGHT AND HEAVY ZAPATEADO*

- 17-32 Repeat action of Fig. III, meas. 1-16, the first 4 zapateados lightly on toes, and the last 4 heavily on the heels.

IX. *SQUARE*

- G 1-16 Repeat action of Fig. VI, meas. 1-16. On the last part of square figure take the last 3 stamps to end side by side, R hips adjacent, handkerchief high.

This material will appear shortly in book form and is not to be reproduced without permission.



Costume of Yalalag, a small village in the mountains of Oaxaca, Southern Mexico. Blouse, called huipil, skirt and rebozo are all hand woven. Rodete, headdress, is of black yarn.

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Walnut Whirlers

SEPTEMBER

Afternoon Program

- 1—Totur (Prog.)
- 2—Road to the Isles
- 3—Tuljac
- 4—St. Bernard's Waltz
Squares
- 5—Vienna Two Step (Prog.)
- 6—Polyanka
- 7—Miserlou
- 8—Ranchera
- 9—Blue Pacific Waltz
Squares
- 10—Anniversary Two Step
- 11—Neopolitan Tarantella
- 12—Square Tango
- 13—Siamsa Beirte
- 14—Capri Square
Squares
- 15—Down the Lane
- 16—Russian Peasant
- 17—Laces and Graces
- 18—Zillertaller Laendler
- 19—Korobushka
Squares
- 20—Der Gsatslig
- 21—Corrido
- 22—Milondita
- 23—Slovenian Waltz
- 24—Italian Quadrille
Squares
- 25—Eva Three Step
- 26—Hambo
- 27—Boston Two Step
- 28—Vrtielka
- 29—Beautiful Ohio

Exhibitions During Afternoon

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Between Afternoon
and Evening Programs



Evening Program

- 1—Cotton Eyed Joe
- 2—Varsouviana (Prog.)
- 3—Scandinavian Polka
- 4—Black Hawk Waltz
- 5—Marklander
Squares
- 6—Maxixe
- 7—Canadian Barn Dance
- 8—Vrtielka
- 9—Waltz of the Bells
- 10—Rio Rimba
Squares
- 11—Caballito Blanco
- 12—California Schottische
- 13—Amanor Waltz
- 14—Gerakina
- 15—Der Gsatslig
Squares
- 16—Dutch Foursome
- 17—Tango Porque
- 18—Korobushka
- 19—Hambo
- 20—Brandiswalzer
Squares
- 21—Teton Mountain Stomp
- 22—Neopolitan Tarentella
- 23—Milondita
- 24—Boston Two Step
- 25—Missouri Waltz

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TED TALKS FROM THE SOUTH

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Golly gee . . . this has been an exciting two months . . . so much happened and so many pleasant memories! And in the meantime, the prospect of a new format and a new editor. Always something to look forward to in folk dancing . . . June started out with a fine event but it was not supported by the folk dancers at large. The Yosemite Workshop did nobly as did all those in support. Only the Kolo enthusiasts came out for an event that should have packed them in. The Saturday Night Program was excellent — songs and dances from Croatia, Macedonia and Serbia. JOHN FILCICH was there with his interesting Yugoslaviana.

The new officers SOUTH were presented at the Westwood Co-op Federation Festival at the Colonial Ballroom on the 10th. HELENE RUFRAN left nothing undone as Chairman. Her committee came through with flying colors and so did her school-kids. Here was team-work at its best! We are going to miss HELENE as she leaves for Japan soon. Her successor at Westwood is JANET LONG, a very good worker and she will be ably assisted by PHIL KRAMER, vice president.

OSCAR LIBAU tells me that they are dancing every Saturday night at Buendo . . . Then on to the Friars Club on Vermont for more dancing with ROLAND and SYLVIA MILLER. Guess whom I saw at the Friars? . . . TERRY MacDONALD . . . Wonder what happened to ANKE PETERS?

Well, it never rains but it pours. Festivals, barbecues and twilight dances on the "Fourth" this year. We went to Ventura for the July Federation Festival and enjoyed every minute of it. A brand new building, a simple program, charming exhibitions and fine hospitality made for an enjoyable day with our Ventura friends. The exhibitions were different since they did not appear like the exhibitions we have come to see before. We particularly enjoyed MARY and JERRY BROZICK in their dances of Spain. You will be seeing more of these two I am sure! It was nice to meet GALE PRIETAUER at this festival and glad to hear he is back with a little group of dancers. Thanks Prof. Bill for the publicity and the folk dance pictures, too.

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One hundred eleven members of the Glendale Folk Dancers and their families were guests of BABE and CECIL ARMSTRONG for the Sixth Annual Independence Day Party. It was a terrific swim-dance-folk dance affair. ELSA MILLER was in charge of the excellently planned spread and buffet . . . Santa Monica hosted a party on the outdoor slab and this, too, has become an annual affair.

Then on Saturday, the 7th, up to Idyllwild for the Weekend Conference. The program Saturday night was the best we've seen up there. The recorder ensemble of the NEWMANS and MADELYNNE GREENE's dancing made for enjoyable evening under the stars. Of the dances taught, we liked "Waltz Minuet" and "In a Little Spanish Town." People came from all over to attend Idyllwild. This is an institution by now. Well done, CAROLYN, ELBA, NATE, EARL and VIVIAN!

On Saturday, July 14th, there was an exhibition of Folk Dancing at the opening of the Miss Universe Pageant. This was well received in the Veterans Memorial Stadium and the coordinator was MARION WILSON . . . The Gandy Dancer's Ball was a smasheroo. Good publicity on this one thanks to DAPHNE UPTON and HARVEY WALTERS from the Ocean Park Assn. of Commerce . . . The International Fashion Show which has become synonymous with the Gandy Festival was the best ever and the winners were most deserving of their trophies and a credit to the movement. MINNIE ANSTINE for her Swedish, BILL GARBER attired in a Croatian costume, BOB GIBSON in a Georgian, and RUBY PRITCHARD in a Ukrainian won the individual trophies. The Sweepstakes Trophy was presented to IDC for their Polish costumes. Costumes were outstanding at this Festival. Everybody dressed up for this one. Program, decorations, sound, hospitality and facilities were outstanding! Well done, Gandy's!

The Irish Rovers, under the direction of EDDIE MASTERSON, have joined the Federation. Their Irish Picnic was on the 22nd of July, same day as the Gandy's Festival. The bagpipes and dancing were at the Polka Palace. . . . Danish Days at Solvang on the weekend before the Santa Barbara camp. . . . The response and pre-registration for the new camp are encouraging to the University and the committee . . . Fiesta del Pacifica in San Diego on the 5th of August . . . Then to Solvang, Santa Barbara and Glendale on successive weekends. Droom-droom . . .

The "South's" Junior Scholarship Committee chairmaned by SID PIERRE, chose two young people for scholarships in inaugurating its Junior Program. Others on the selection committee were ELMA McFARLAND, PAUL PRITCHARD, and TED WALKER. Final screening was done at the Westwood Co-op Festival on June 10th and two winners were announced: PENELOPE WILLIAMS, outstanding junior leader from Ojai and BILL STEBENSON from Los Angeles. PENNY attended Idyllwild and BILL will go to Santa Barbara. Several clubs sponsored scholarship parties to raise funds for the scholarships. The Committee thanks everyone who contributed to this cause this first year. Let's send SEVEN in '57.

TED WALKER

THE PROMENADE

By PEG ALLMOND

THEY ROLLED OUT THE RED RUG — really, they did! When MILDRED and JAKE BUHLER stepped out of their car at the Redwood City Women's Club, July 14th, for a dance with old friends, the carpet was rolled right out to the sidewalk and they walked up the front stairs of the club, and to the end of the hall — on the red carpet, to "thrones" where they received their friends, and were presented with a large basket of flowers which had a "welcome home" card, signed by dozens of their friends, attached to the handle. Prior to the "red carpet ceremony," there was a wonderful potluck supper in the lovely garden of JEANNETTE BEDWELL's home in Redwood City where Jake and Mildred had an opportunity to visit with lots of their friends. DOROTHY TAMBORINI did all the work in preparing for the party and getting the friends together. The Buhlers were here for only a vacation, and will return to London, England, late in August.

* * * *

THE DAISY CHAINS of Richmond, meet in the Coronado School and invite you square dancers to dance with them. They offer the following callers: RON CONGER, July 21st; NEVA JOHANNES, August 18th; BILL THEEDE, September 15th; BOB PAGE, October 20th, and JACK LOGAN, November 17th. Third Saturday each month — take a square over with you — you'll be glad you did!

* * * *

Hawaiian decorations keynoted the Y-Knot party given on June 18 in honor of HON WA WAT and his group, the Jeans and Janes of Honolulu, who stopped to visit in the Bay Area on their way to the National Square Dance Convention in San Diego.

DODIE and FRED ALLAN became acquainted with Hon Wa Wat on their recent trip to the Islands, where they were royally entertained by him and the Jeans and Janes — which proves that square dancers are the friendliest people in the world.

Fifteen square dance groups were represented at the Y-Knot party. FRED ALLAN, master of ceremonies, was ably assisted by the following callers: PEG ALLMOND, JERRY BERMAN, BOB DEWAL, JACK EVANS, MYRTLE FULLER, DAVEY JONES, KEN KNOX, AMY La JANNETTE and LEE McNUTT.

Hon Wa Wat also called several tips, one in Chinese, Hawaiian, Japanese and English, which particularly delighted everyone. Square dancing's fun in any language!

* * * *

The Black Hawk Waltz is a product of the West. Music is by Mary R. Walsh, pioneer resident of the famous mining town of Leadville, Colorado. The dance was created in Leadville by a French dancing master around 1859.



Jeans and Janes of Honolulu

THE FIFTH ANNUAL NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE

ELEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED square dancers converged in Balboa Park, San Diego, to enjoy their activity to its fullest — and starting at 9 a.m. on the 22nd there were full programs of square dancing to name callers and name bands, square dance work shops, Contra Dance work shops, Round Dance work shops, Exhibitions, Children's dances, Teen Age dances, Rock Along dances, Callers' Swap Shops, Teachers' work shops, and panels on caravan and tour organization. Also club officers' and club activities, publishers' round table, camp leaders' discussions, convention organization and operation, plus a professional callers' discussion group. There was a square dance forum, a round dance forum, waltz quadrille work shop. Literally hundreds of people took active part in the panels and discussion and work shops — and thousands danced and enjoyed themselves. Exhibitions were programmed all afternoon and evening on Friday and Saturday and all afternoon on Sunday. They were staged in the big Balboa Bowl, outdoors. And they ranged from tiny tots to middle aged dancers from all over the country. Beautiful, beautiful is the word. Nearly 50 booths were manned with dancers and business people, to show and sell everything pertaining to dancing — shoes, boots, dresses, jewelry, men's shirts, hats, ties, western trousers, rec-

ords, public address systems, photographers, and plastic badges. Booths were open from 10 a.m. until midnight.

One of the highlights of the convention was a pre-convention dance, held aboard the airplane carrier Kearsarge. More than 6300 dancers enjoyed dancing on the flight deck, to Navy music. The Kearsarge was docked at North Island and its searchlights pierced the sky as the thousands of dancers rode across the bay in motorboats for the dance aboard the carrier. For many of the visitors, this was their first visit aboard a ship of any kind, and to ride out to it in a Navy motorboat, in the white moonlight, was a supreme thrill.

Thirteen other pre-convention dances were held in and around San Diego and it took everyone of them to accomodate the visitors who came from 48 states and five foreign countries.

Next year's convention will be in ST. LOUIS. Better plan to attend.



Lakeport Jamboree in Lake County—sponsored by the Redwood Empire Callers Association and the Lake County Dos-y-Dos Club and Gaytimers Club.

ONE TRY . . . SUCCESS

The Albuquerque Folk Dancers held their first workshop June 22-24, at the YWCA Camp in the nearby Manzano Mountains. As this was in the nature of an experiment for our group, much knowledge was gained about running such a project.

Friday and Saturday nights were turned over to open dancing, while Saturday was devoted to teaching the beginners the most frequently requested dances of our group, and Sunday was used for a review session.

TOBY CASTILLO and CHESTER SKINNER, who teach the Wednesday and Friday night groups respectively, at the YWCA, turned the beginners' dances over to other members so these members could gain more experience in teaching.

Everyone carried out his duties so pleasantly and well, that we are encouraged to have another workshop in the near future.

COUNCIL CLIPS

SACRAMENTO

Village Green dancing opened July 7 with the Council Clubs hosting the Saturday parties until September. Parties and classes have drawn good crowds all summer, thanks to our good publicity chairman, LOIS TABER.

The Council sponsored week end at Camp Sacramento in June was attended by 150 folk dancers.

Folk dancing sponsored by the Council at Oak Park on July 4, "enriched" the pockets of two clubs, Circle Square and Golden Slippers. They had the largest attendance and best costumes.

Next Council Meeting will be September 14 at the American Legion School. Next Teachers' Institute will be September 21 at Bret Hartte School.

* * * *

The folk dance festival at the State Fair will be Sunday eve at 6:30 on September 9th. All dancers in costume admitted free. There will be exhibitions. Chairman: Chet Nelson.

* * * *

Highlanders have been having summer classes each Tuesday at Smythe School.

* * * *

Tahoe Swingers gave a farewell party for THELDA and BOB FROST, who moved to Fresno. Bob is with United Air Lines. Sacramento's loss and Fresno gained another fine family of folk dancers.

* * * *

Woodland Villagers hosted their annual festival at the Yolo County Fair for the seventh year on August 19th.

* * * *

Levis and Laces have danced at Loomis Grammar School this summer with classes each Tuesday. In July the BELYEAS had the program and the BILL COOKS and DICK BOUNDYS had the food for their party

* * * *

CENTENNIAL SWINGERS and GAY GREENBACKERS have danced together all summer at Rusch Park. Classes each Thursday, parties each third Saturday. July party hosted by Centennial Swingers and August by Gay Greenbackers. Each will resume in their respective schools this fall.

* * * *

WHIRL A JIGS' new officers are the TOM CAMERONS, co-presidents; the BILL HENDRICKS, vice presidents, and the WALT BALDWINS, treasurers.

CIRCLE SQUARE officers are BOB WILSON, president; HELEN MOORE, vice president; BESS REDD, secretary, and MIKE ENOS, treasurer.. The club is dancing on the Redd's patio this summer.

Let's Dance officers are: ROY BROWN, president; EDIE KELLOGG, vice president; JOEAN GARIBALDI, secretary, and HAROLD WALLACE, treasurer.

* * * *

United Nations Day in September. Chairman: OMEGA GRAHAM.

Folk dancing in McKinley Park Garden Club Center early in October. Chairman: LEWIS REDD.

CARMEN SCHWEERS

OAKLAND

The Parker Polka Dots had their annual barbecue and installation of new officers at Sequoia Lodge on June 3rd. Everyone enjoyed a steak dinner, dancing, horseshoes, badminton and hiking. The new officers for the coming year are: President, EARLE and ELMA DAVIS; Vice President, LES and LOIS PARRY; Secretary, BEN and MARIE BENKISER; Treasurer, AB and JULIE BUENO, and Historian, RUDY and MARIE FISCHER.

* * * *

New officers for the Oakland Folk Dance Council for 1956-57 are: President, ED HARTMAN; Vice President, HARRY AHLBORN; Secretary, VERA CUTHBERT, and Treasurer, JOE GALARDIN. After August 1st, the president, Ed Hartman, will be reached at 17068 Bia Pasotiempo, San Lorenzo, California.

* * * *

The Teenage Festival held in Oakland in the Fremont High School gym was a great success and was attended by approximately 200 teenagers from Stockton, Lodi, Sacramento, Santa Cruz, San Francisco and the Bay Area. The festival was held on June 24th. A wishing well netted approximately \$48 for the Teenage Scholarship Fund.

VERA CUTHBERT, *Secretary*, Oakland Folk Dance Council

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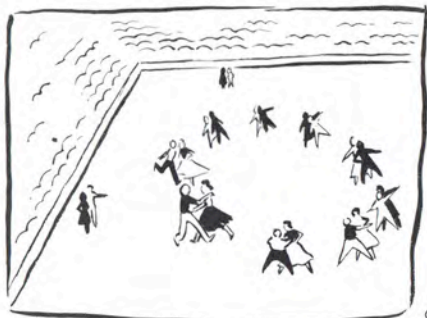
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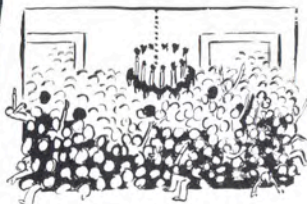
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CHANGS' INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS are pleased and happy to have MR. ANATOL JOUKOWSKY take over the advanced Wednesday Class for one night only, September 12th. He is continuing to teach the Exhibition Group regularly.

September 9th is the date set for CHANG'S Annual Picnic — to be held for the second time at Morton's Grove near Glen Ellen. Everyone is anticipating a wonderful time.

The following are the newly elected officers of CHANG'S Executive Board: President, FRANK SACHERER; Vice President, EDNA ROSE; Registrar, KAY CHEVALIER; Secretary, EVERETT POWER; Treasurer, HAROLD DIRKS; Exhibitions, BEA DRESCHER; Publicity, ELISABETH FULLER; Floor Program Chairman, JACK MONA; Historian, ADA HARRIS; Class Chairman, CHAS. ALLEN; Membership, EDITH DEMRICK; Bulletin, BOB CHEVALIER; Research, DOROTHY BART, and Entertainment, PATTY HESS.

* * * *

The CAYUGA TWIRLERS were very happy to have been the very first Club to feature, as an added attraction to their regular Folk Dance Party, a personal visit from FRANK KANE, Federation President, who brought with him his crayons and a portrait of his wife, MIRIAM. Frank, who has started his own personal method of collecting funds for Summer Camp Scholarships, did a portrait in chalk, during refreshment time, of the winner of a lucky ticket picked from a roll of tickets which he distributed throughout the evening, at 25 cents a chance. OLGA CERRUTI was the fortunate winner.

* * * *

The SWINGSTERS celebrated their Sixth Birthday Party on July 26th, with President FRANK KANE and his wife, MIRIAM, and DON SPIER, "Let's Dance" Manager, as guests of honor. The hosts for the evening were JEAN and CLIFF HAMILTON and SALLY and VIC SUTTMAN. During the folk dance party a dance contest was held, and the winners were FRANK KANE and JANET EVERSON and ARMAND SCHWARTZ and VON TASHIAN. JEAN ROCCO was the lucky winner of a chalk portrait by Frank Kane.

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CARROUSEL hosted the annual July Fourth Folk Dancing on the Marina Green. The good turnout was pleasant to see, but the lack of costumes was regrettable. Costumes seem particularly called for when we are dancing for the public.

Over 100 folk dancers turned out for CARROUSEL'S annual County Fair. This year it was a "Carnival Picnic," July 7th, at the home of JIM KNUDSEN, in San Anselmo. There were carnival games, prizes galore, appropriate movies, fortune telling, and a pot luck dinner on the lawn. Then everybody trekked to Kentfield for the LAENDLER's Folk Dance Party.

Another CARROUSEL event was the installation of new officers, which was preceded by an Election Night Party, when there were speeches, LARRY's free colored punch, BUD's bizaare costume, JEANNETTE's kisses (candy, and the mighty interesting posters. The new officers are: LARRY BROWNE, President; HARLAN BEARD, Vice President and Emcee; GRACE PERRYMAN, Treasurer; EVELYN ENGLE, Secretary; JEANNETTE STARK, Historian, and BUD SOUTHARD, Delegate.

* * * *

All folk and square dancers are invited to CARROUSEL's "International Night" Party, on Friday evening, September 14th, at 8:30 o'clock, at Collingwood Hall, 18th and Collingwood Streets, San Francisco. Guest callers will be STAN VALENTINE and URSULA MOONEY. There will be exhibitions by the Caluga Twirlers, under the direction of FRANK MOORE, and the San Leandro Folk Dancers, under the direction of MILLIE VON KONSKY.

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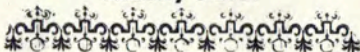
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From all reports, several of the MERRY MIXERS are having a wonderful time throughout this summer vacation folk dancing, swimming, boating, eating and sleeping (?) at the mountain home of the FRANK EMERY's, at Pinecrest. MILDRED and FRANK are wonderful hosts and their guests are always unhappy to leave their cabin and beautiful surroundings.

* * * *

The CAYUGA TWIRLERS and their friends enjoyed a jolly good picnic at Mark West Springs on August 5th. In addition to folk dancing on a slab, there was horseshoe playing, volleyball practice, swimming and barbecuing. Thanks to the efforts of ED MEDLEY, everyone had a wonderful time.

The TWIRLERS are looking forward to a barbecue dinner at folk dancing at Stern Grove the evening of September 15th. BEN DAVIS is in charge.

—VI DEXHEIMER

LET'S DANCE WILL BENEFIT

BOB BAKER, President of the Peninsula Folk Dance Council, announces that a party will be held for which the entire proceeds will be turned over to help *Let's Dance* magazine. Perhaps the first of its kind, it is hoped that other Regional Councils might follow the example, to assist the Federation.

The party will be held at the Burlingame Recreation Center, 850 Burlingame Avenue, Burlingame. Date is Saturday night, September 22nd, and there will be continuous dancing from 8:00 p.m. The program will include a balance of folk and square dancing with the first half hour devoted to warm-up requests. There will be time for requests throughout the evening, no exhibitions, just plenty of dancing fun for everyone. And, of course, refreshments.

FRANK KANE will be there. He plans to sketch a portrait of one of two lucky folk dancers. Frank has been giving his time and talent to the Federation for some time by painting pictures of folk dancers.



EDITOR'S CORNER

New Editor and a "New Look" for *Let's Dance*! By way of explanation, the size of the magazine has been changed due to new policies of the Federation. Material-wise I hope to please all who have enjoyed *Let's Dance* in the past, as well as to interest all newcomers.

I would particularly like to let you know that we want pictures of your club parties, festivals and anything that you would like to see in YOUR magazine. We'll try to get as many in each issue as is possible. And, of course, your suggestions in regard to content will always be welcome.

THE EDITOR

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CARMEN SCHWEERS
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Federation Festivals

SEPTEMBER 16 — SUNDAY Walnut Creek City Park
Chairman: Harry Donaldson
Council Meeting: 12:30 to 1:30 P.M.
Dancing: 1:30 to 5 P.M. — 7:30 to ?

OCTOBER 21 — SUNDAY Long Beach Municipal Auditorium
Hosts: Silverado Folk Dancers
President: John Simpson
Time: 5:15 P.M. to 10 P.M.

OCTOBER 28 — SUNDAY Fresno Memorial Auditorium
Hosts: Fresno Folk Dance Council
Council Meeting: 12:30 to 1:30 P.M.
Dancing: October 27 and 28

NOVEMBER Bay Area
Chairman: John Moonen
Treasurer's Party

NOVEMBER 18 — SUNDAY West Hollywood West Hollywood Playground
San Vicente at Santa Monica Blvd.
Hosts: West Hollywood Folk Dancers
Chairman: Sid Pierre

DECEMBER 9 — SUNDAY Santa Monica Municipal Auditorium
Ocean Park Pier
Hosts: Santa Monica Folk Dancers
Director: Audrey Marcus

DECEMBER Chico

Regional Festivals

OCTOBER 21 — SUNDAY Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium
Hosts: Santa Cruz Breakers

Special Events

SEPTEMBER 9 — SUNDAY EVENING Sacramento California State Fairgrounds
Hosts: Sacramento Council Folk Dance Clubs
Chairman: Chet Nelson
Dancing: 6:30 to 10 P.M. — Exhibitions
Folk dancers in costume admitted free
Party on Village Green on Saturday night

SEPTEMBER 16 — SUNDAY Chula Vista Chula Vista Bowl
385 Parkway
Theme: "Summer Fest"
Hosts: Folklanders
Chairman: Elizabeth Ullrich
Time: 1 P.M. to 5 P.M. Council Meet 11 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 22 Institution Camp Dances

SEPTEMBER 29 AND 30 — SATURDAY AND SUNDAY Sonoma In the Valley of the Moon
Vintage Festival
Pageant Saturday evening and Sunday evening
Folk Dancing on Sunday afternoon at the Plaza under the trees
Folk Dancing Sunday night, Veterans' Memorial Building, exhibitions

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