

Let's Dance

FEBRUARY 1997 • \$1.50



THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING



Official Publication of the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.

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BUSINESS MGR Genevieve Pereira

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On Our Cover
Welcome to the
Festival of the Oaks



NEW INFORMATION:

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Submission deadline for each issue
is the 25th of 2 months previous
(i.e., March deadline would be
the 25th of January).



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President's Message

Carlos Ruling

This year continues to look like it will be a good one. There are two festivals this month. The Sweetheart Festival will be on February 9th, and the Oakland Festival will be on February 23rd.

While I'm thinking about dates, here are a few more:

March 8 & 9	The Camellia Festival (Sacramento)
April 20	The Blossom Festival (San Francisco)
May 4	The Beginners Festival (We may change the name on this one)
May 23-25	Statewide (Whittier)

There's more information about the February festivals in this issue. There will be more information about the other festivals as we get closer to their dates. But, mark your calendar so you won't miss any of these dates. Whenever you read "Let's Dance," be sure to check Ed Kremer's Calendar of Events page. There is even some mention of the dance events taking place in the south.



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Festival

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23, 1997

- 11:00 - Committee meetings
- 11:30 - Assembly meeting
- 12:30 - Luncheon, meeting members
- 1:30 - Festival Program
- 3:00 - Exhibitions
- 5:30 - See you next year

of
the



Oaks



REDWOOD HEIGHTS

RECREATION CENTER

3883 Aliso Ave., Oakland
Redwood Road at Warren Fwy.

EXHIBITIONS

\$4.00 Donation
at the door

CO-SPONSORS:

Piedmonters Folk Dance Club
Greater East Bay Folk Dance Council
Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.
Office of Parks & Recreation - City of Oakland



The Greater East Bay Folk Dance Council is in the process of reorganization. We hope to provide a more viable service in the future for the International Folk Dancing community. Please get your name onto our mailing list so we can keep you advised of Folk Dance programs in the Alameda and Contra Costa County area.

* * * * *

For more information please mail us your questions or comments. If you are teaching or know of a class that needs a teacher we may be able to help with references.

Greater East Bay Folk Dance Council
MAX HORN
6200 Alhambra Ave.
Martinez, CA 94553
(510) 228-8533



Greater East Bay Folk Dance Council

FESTIVAL OF THE OAKS

Sunday, February 23, 1997

Redwood Heights Recreation Center
3883 Aliso Ave., Oakland

Redwood Road at Warren Freeway

PROGRAM

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. KOSTURSKO | 25. KVAR ACHARAY CHATZOT |
| 2. MR. LUCKY | 26. EL QAUCHO TANGO |
| 3. DOUBLE SIXSOME REEL | 27. 1314 |
| 4. TFI LAH | 28. WESTERN TRIO MIXER |
| 5. NUMERO CINCO | 29. SOMOGI KARIKAZO |
| 6. KORCZARDAS | 30. ALEXANDROVSKA |
| 7. VRAPCHETO | 31. COUPLE HASAPIKO |
| 8. CONTRA | 32. CONTRA |
| 9. BELASICKO | 33. RUSTEMUL |
| 10. CORRIDO | 34. ELIZABETH QUADRILLE |
| 11. SHIFTING BOBBINS | 35. VE DAVID |
| 12. KOROBUSHKA | 36. INI VITUI |
| 13. BAVNO ORO | 37. TEHUANTEPEC |
| 14. MAPLE LEAF RAG | 38. MARGARET'S WALTZ |
| 15. ZILLERTALLER LAENDLER | 39. DOSPATSKO |
| 16. GRAND SQUARE | 40. SQUARE |
| 17. KARAMFIL | 41. KESHENAVO |
| 18. LIVAVTEENEE | 42. DUNDEE WHALER |
| 19. LA SALAMANDRE | 43. LEPA ANKA KOLO VODI |
| 20. PRINCE WILLIAM | 44. TANGO POZUITO |
| 21. CACAK | 45. HORA TAUTEREASCA |
| 22. BLUE PACIFIC WALTZ | 46. JAPANESE SOFT FHOE |
| 23. HAMBO | 47. VO SADU |
| 24. SQUARE | 48. POSTIE'S JIG |
| EXHIBITIONS AT 3:00. | 49. AT VA'ANI |
| | 50. SOMEWHERE MY LOVE |



PUBLIC SERVICE

NEWS RELEASE

Sylvia Stachura
236 DeAnza St
San Gabriel, CA. 91776

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Sylvia Stachura (818)300-8138
Marilynn Pixler (818)790-6037
Dance Hotline: (310)478-6600

December 9, 1996

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

All Aboard the Dance Lore Express

The Folk Dance Federation's Statewide Festival-1997

Approximately fifty years ago, when Southern California Folk Dance Clubs were beginning to form their Federation, the first 'Statewide Festival' was held in Ojai, California. The two branches, Northern and Southern, decided to alternate hosting these Festivals on the Memorial Weekend in May. Two years ago, 1995, that tradition was celebrated at the 50th anniversary of Folkdance Festivals held in the city where it all began, Ojai. Last year, per tradition, the Statewide Festival was held in Northern California, San Francisco, to be exact, and what great fun that was.

This year's Statewide Festival is scheduled to be held in Southern California and the committee is working hard to organize the **Folk Lore Express** for a visit to the beautiful and historic city of Whittier. The YMCA on Hadley and Pickering will be the site for the institutes and dance parties while the wonderful auditorium of Whittier High School, around

the corner from the YMCA, will be the site of the Dance Concert.

Today, December 7, on a visit to the city to make further inquiries, I found myself engulfed in a seasonal Holiday Parade. What a great atmosphere of camaraderie, participation, pride and fun there was in the air of the little city as I struggled to reach my destination through side streets! A great multi-cultural mix of folks filled the streets as bands, floats, drill teams and Santa himself put on their annual show.

Like all cities everywhere, there are problems. The city is changing, but it still has its historic tradition of being a Quaker Center, it has Whittier College and Rio Hondo College among others. Just East of the 605 Freeway on Whittier Boulevard is Pio Pico State Historic Park. It has Turnbull Canyon Road which is a scenic drive along the mountains that separate Whittier from La Puente.

Whittier is bounded by the 605 Freeway on the West, the 5 Freeway on the South, the 57 Freeway on the East and the 60 Freeway on the North. Surrounding communities clockwise from the North are: El Monte, City of Industry, La Puente, Rowland and La Habra Heights, La Habra, La Mirada, Santa Fe Springs, Pico Rivera, Montebello, Monterey Park and Rosemead.

It looks like Statewide '97 will be a great time for all. Start looking for fliers and plan to make your reservations at the Hilton Hotel on Greenleaf in 'Uptown' Whittier.

□

Sylvia Stachura
Publicity, Folk Dance Federation of California
South, Inc.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Ed Kremers, 155 Turk Street, San Francisco, CA 94102, 415-775-3444

Feb 1	REDWOOD CITY	Palomanians Party, First Methodist Ch
Sat		Broadway at Brewster 425-333-2210
Feb 7	SAN JOSE	SCVFD Ist Christian Church, 80 S5th
Fri		408-739-0500
Feb 8	PETALUMA	Hermann Sons Hall 8:00-11:30
Sat		707-546-8877 Bachers
Feb 7-8-9	SAN FRANCISCO	Savina - Women's Folk Choir, Russian
FSS		Center 510-530-1567
Feb 9	NAPA	SWEETHEART FESTIVAL See adver. LD
Sun		Charles Emerson 707-258-0519
Feb 14-17	SO CALIFORNIA	Israeli FD Camp, Yoni Carr, 3044
FSSM		Southwind Ln, Vista 92084
Feb 15	MENLO PARK	Peninsula Council Party, St. Bedes
Sat		2650 Sand Hill Rd at Monte Rosa
		408-252-8106
Feb 15	SANTA ROSA	Piner Elem School 8-11:30 PM
Sat		Bacher 707-546-8877
Feb 16	SANTA CRUZ	Contra "Dawn Dance" (8 PM to 7 AM)
Sun		Portuguese Hall, 1216 Evergreen
		\$15.00 408-458-2928
Feb 21	SAN FRANCISCO	Changs FD Party, 7th Ave. Pres. Ch
Fri		SF Dalrymple 415-221-2147
Feb 22	SAN CARLOS	Docey Doe FD Party, United Com Ch.
Sat		Elm at Arroyo 415-368-7834
Feb 22	MENLO PARK	Menlo Park FD (Vinokur) MP Rec Ctr
Sat		700 Alma at Mielke 415-327-0759
Feb 22-23	OAKLAND	Kitka Concerts \$16.00
Sat-Sun		510-444-0323
Feb 23	OAKLAND	FESTIVAL OF THE OAKS See this issue
Sun		of Let's Dance.
Feb 23	SUNNYVALE	Party at Rec. Ctr. 408-252-8106
Sun		
Feb. 28	SAN FRANCISCO	SVIRAJ - Balkan Orchestra
Mar. 1	SACRAMENTO	Paula Popovich Smith 408-688-4423 or
Mar. 2	SAN JOSE	Disanka 408-252-3866 ffi
		Kolos from many regions.
March 8 & 9	SACRAMENTO	Camellia Festival & Assembly Meeting
Sat & Sun		
April 20	SAN FRANCISCO	Blossom Festival & Assembly Meeting
Sun		
May 4		Beginners Festival
May 23-26	WHITTIER	STATEWIDE

For Further Information call:

East Bay: Pereira 510-814-9082 or Horns 510-228-8598
 Rohlfing 510-649-3080 (family & Senior Folk dancing)
 Santa Rosa Area: Bachers 707-546-8877
 Napa Area: Emerson 707-258-0519
 Sacramento Area: General folk dancing 916-392-7357
 Balkan 916-485-1324
 916-739-6014

Gorenka

(Russia)

Dances with the name *Gorenka* (GOH-rehn-kah) are known in many regions of Russia. The *gorenka* was the room in the house where the show pieces of furniture were placed. The room was used for special occasions, such as a party or celebration. This dance is an adaptation by Hennie Konings, based on a traditional dance from the Orenburg region and was introduced by him to the participants of "Ballet Holidays" in Germany, 1995. He also taught it at the 1996 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp at Stockton, CA.

Cassette: Russian Dances Stockton 1996 Side A/12. 2/4 meter

Formation: One circle of dancers, facing in LOD (CCW) with all hands joined in V-pos. Dancers are numbered in groups of six starting at the LOD end of each group. Number one of each group is the Leader.

Measures	2/4 meter	PATTERN
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12 meas INTRODUCTION No action.

I. ONE CIRCLE

A 1 Moving in LOD, step fwd on R (ct 1); stamp L (no wt) beside R (ct &); step fwd on L (ct 2).

2 Repeat meas 1.

3 Continuing in LOD, step fwd on R (ct 1); stamp L (no wt) beside R (ct &); repeat cts 1,& with opp ftwk (cts 2,&).

4-5 Repeat meas 1-2.

6 Continuing in LOD, stamp fwd on R (ct 1); stamp L beside R (ct &); stamp R beside L (ct 2). Each stamp takes wt.

7-12 Still moving in LOD, repeat meas 1-6 with opp ftwk.

II. INTO SMALL CIRCLES

B 1 Moving in LOD, step R,L,R (cts 1,&,2). Step on the full ft but keep wt on balls of ft.

2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.

3-6 Repeat meas 1-2 twice.

7-12 Use same ftwk as in meas 1-6. Each Leader release R hand from R neighbor and place R fist on hip. Leading the line in twd ctr, each Leader curve the line to meet and join hands with Dancer 6. Continue circling CCW in these small circles until the end of the musical phrase.

III. ARCHES

- B 1-6 Throughout Fig III, use the same ftwk as in Fig II. Leader release R hand from Dancer 6 and place R fist on waist. Dancing in place, Dancers 2 through 6 raise joined hands to make arches as the Leader starts to weave the line through the arches. Leader and Dancer 2 still have hands joined in V-pos. Leader go in front of Dancer 2 and under the arch between Dancers 2 and 3, 3 and 4, 4 and 5, 5 and 6. Each Dancer go under the arch made with his L arm and then lower it to V-pos. Dancers 3 and 5 make a full CW turn in place under the raised L arm as the line passes behind them. After the last arch, Leader dance CCW around Dancer 6.
- 7-12 Leader lead the line CCW to reform original large circle. Rejoin hands and continue circling CCW.
- SEQUENCE: Dance complete pattern twice. Then repeat Fig I, ending with all facing ctr. [Meas 12: Stamp (with wt) on L in LOD (ct 1); stamp (with wt) on R, turning to face ctr; stamp (with wt) on L beside R (ct 2)]. With hands still joined, bow from hips.

Calendar of Events South - February

Note: Federation events are in bold
 *** Call to confirm all events

FEBRUARY

Black History Month. Events include:

2/11: Black Cultural Fest at Darby Park, 3400 W. Arbor Vitae, Inglewood, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Info: (310) 412-5391

2/17: "The Afrikans are Coming", an African cultural extravaganza featuring authentic African drumming and dancing from all over the continent. Arts & crafts and African foods. 6 p.m. at the Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro, L.A. Info (310) 412-1136; (818) 361-7075

7-9 **Laguna Folk Dance Festival.** Ensign Jr. High, Newport Beach. Info: (714) 641-7450

8 Guitar Music of Latin America. Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Info: (714) 432-5880

16 House concert by Judy Frankel. Sephardic (Ladino) and Yiddish songs. 7:30, Northridge location. Info: (818) 368-1957.

18,19 Preservation Hall Jazz Band concert, Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. Info: (800) 300-4345

21 The Peking Acrobats. 8 p.m. at Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Info: (714) 432-5902

MARCH

8 AMAN Institute Reunion-'97. Dance instruction, singing, live music, food, folk arts and crafts vendors. Full dinner available in full package; evening party with live music. Mayflower Ballroom, 234 S. Hindry Ave., Inglewood. Info: AMAN Office, (213) 931-1750.

8 Lola Montes & Her Spanish Dancers. Concert of Hispanic dance, music and song. Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa. Info: (714) 432-5902

Idam, ne Idam

(Macedonia, Bulgaria)

Idam, ne Idam (EE-dahm, neh EE-dahm) was choreographed by Yves Moreau using traditional Lesnoto (Pravoto) and Širto steps from Pirin-Macedonia. The song is a popular one throughout Macedonia, known as "Oj ela mi, Felidže" or "Idam, ne Idam." Mr. Moreau presented the dance at the Statewide Intitute in San Francisco, CA on May 25, 1996.

Cassette: Dances of Bulgaria, BMA-002 Side A/1.

Rhythm: Meter 7/8, counted as 3-2-2; 1,2,3 or slow-quick-quick (S,Q,Q).

Formation: Line with hands joined in W-pos. Face R of ctr, wt on L ft.
Leader at R end.

Styling: Macedonian- light and proud.

Measures	7/8 meter	PATTERN
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INTRODUCTION None.

I. LESNOTO (instrumental)

- 1 Step in LOD (CCW) on R ft (S); step on L in LOD (QQ).
- 2 Facing ctr, step on R and begin to raise L leg with knee bent (S); raise L leg and hold (QQ).
- 3 Repeat meas 2 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 4-12 Repeat meas 1-3 three times.
Note: In this Fig the dance is in 3 meas phrases and the music is in 4 meas phrases so the phrases do not coincide.

II. ŠIRTO (vocal)

- 1 Step on R in LOD (S); step on L in LOD (Q); step on R in LOD (Q).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk but still moving in LOD.
- 3-4 Repeat Fig I, meas 2-3 (step R, raise L; step L, raise R).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.
- 9-12 Repeat meas 1-4 but facing and moving twd ctr.
- 13-16 Repeat meas 1-4 but moving bkwd away from ctr.
- 17-24 Repeat meas 9-16.

SEQUENCE: Dance pattern as written 3 times and then add Fig I once more.

Words for the song appear on the next page.

SONG WORDS:

Oj, ela mi, Felidže, na maloto djukanče (2 X)

Chorus:

Idam, ne idam, sama kje dojdam, kje dojdam,
Idam, ne idam, sama kje dojdam. (2 X)

Koga dojda libe, porti da otvoriš,
Porti da otvoriš, portite široki

Chorus: As above.

Mene da prečekaš, mene da pregârneš,
Mene da pregârneš, mene da celuneš

Chorus: As above except the repeat, 2nd line (meas 21-24):
Idam, ne idam, što kje mi činiš.

Rough Translation:

Come visit me, Felidža, in my little shop. Will I go or not?
I shall go, alone. When I arrive, you will be waiting for me
and then hug me and kiss me. What else will you do to me?

Mr. Moreau encouraged the dancers to sing along during the Chorus (Fig II, meas 9-24). He supplied the following phonetic words:

EE-dahm, neh EE-dahm, SAH-mah keh DOY-dahm, keh DOY-dahm
EE-dahm, neh EE-dahm, SAH-mah keh DOY-dahm (2 X)
Last line (Fig II, meas 21-24):
EE-dahm, neh EE-dahm, SHTOH-keh mee CHEE-neesh.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOLK DANCE RECORD SHOP

ED KREMERS' FOLK SHOWPLACE - Dance, school, and foreign records. Dance books and supplies. Public address systems and cassettes of "unavailable" music. Teacher, Caller, Party Leader. 155 Turk Street, San Francisco, CA 94102, downstairs, Afternoons, 415-775-3444.

FOR SALE: CALIFONE SOUND SYSTEMS - Phil Maron, 4820-A Lawton Avenue, Oakland, CA 94609, 510-654-1124. Folk dance records.

DAY CLASSES - With Millie von Kinsky, Line-Country Western, 510-828-5976. Tuesdays, 1:30, 22325 N. 3rd Street, Hayward, \$25/10 weeks. Wednesdays, 11:30, 7437 Larkdale, Adult Education, Dublin, free. Thursdays, 10:00, 400 Hartz Avenue, Danville, \$2/session for drop-ins, \$16/full 10 sessions. Fridays, 2:00, 1375 Civic Drive, Civic Park Community Center, Walnut Creek, \$23/6 sessions. Performance rehearsals: The von Kinsky Dancers, Austrian/Bavarian, 8:00 p.m., Davis & Clark Streets, San Leandro.

WESTWOOD CO-OP FOLK DANCERS - meet Thursday nights, 8:00 to 10:45 p.m., Emerson Jr. High School, Selby near Santa Monica Bl., W.L.A. 310-839-6719 or 310-478-6600.

COUNCIL CLIPS

SAN FRANCISCO COUNCIL

City College of San Francisco offers many dance classes in their spring semester – African-Haitian, Ballet, Ballroom, Dance History, Dance Conditioning, Folk, Jazz, Modern, Tap, Latin American and Production. The semester begins on January 21st. To enroll, call 415-239-3285. All classes are on unit of academic credit.

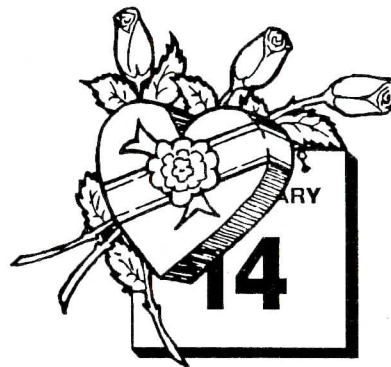
FOLK DANCE NEWS

FAMILY PROGRAM – Tibetan New Year's Festival, Sunday, February 8th, 2:00 p.m., at the Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. For more information on this and other events, contact the Outreach/Public Programs Office at 415-379-8879.

CALLERLAB – The International Association of Square Dance Callers, offers an Accreditation Program for callers. Any square dance caller may seek CALLERLAB accreditation. Membership in CALLERLAB is not required. Callers must be re-accredited every six years to maintain continuous accreditation. A caller seeking accreditation must be accredited first as a General Caller. Once qualified as a General Caller, he/she may also opt to be accredited in any or four (4) specialty areas (one-night-stands, rounds, contra and advanced dancing). For more information, contact CALLERLAB, 829 3rd Avenue S.E., Suite 285, Rochester, Minnesota 55904-7313, 800-331-2577.

CONVENTION – The USA West Square Dance Convention will be held August 6-9, at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado. There will be room for 20,000 dancers, spectators and visitors! Pre-registration is going on now. For more information, contact the Director of Publicity, Charlie and Coletta Gaunt, 3247 E 112th Place, Thornton, Colorado 80233-2401, or call 303-451-1991. Or find them on the Worldwide Web at www.WebSet.com/USAWEST or E-mail them at Presen@aol.com.

"DANCELORE EXPRESS" – Continues on track. This year's Statewide will be held Memorial Day Weekend, May 23-26, at the Whittier YMCA. It will consist of four days of dancing, six dance parties, a Beginner's mini-festival, a dance concert, an ice cream social, a barbecue and classes with some of our finest teachers. The teaching staff will include Ted Martin and Donna Tripp (Scandinavian), Allison Snow (Turkish), Yoni Carr (Israeli), Jancsi Hoah (Hungarian) and Dick Crum (Licko Kolo). Hope you will all come and share in the festival fun.



Happy Valentine's Day
From Let's Dance



**WELCOME
TO THE
FESTIVAL OF
THE OAKS**

———— **Wes Takara** ————

Origin of the Polka

by Milo Kovar

In a recent broadcast it was mistakenly stated that the Polka is of Polish origin and that the Beer Barrel Polka is also Polish. This statement is not correct.

"The origin of the Polka goes back to 1830 to the town of Kostelec, Bohemia, where a young girl, named Anicka Chadimova, while taking care of her master's children, teaching them to sing and dance, invented her own dance in 2/4 time. Soon the village heard about this, including the village teacher Josef Neruda. He was the first to write the tune down in music and called the dance "Pulka" which means half of 4/4 time. Soon the Pulka got to be called POLKA .

The POLKA soon conquered all Europe and later was brought to America by the immigrants. It survived many other dances and is much danced today, 166 years after its invention. The Polka tempo is much used by Czech composers, but is not found in the work of classical Polish composers or those of other nationalities.

"Websters New World Dictionary of American Language" says: POLKA - Czech 'pulka' fast dance for couples, developed in Bohemia in the early 19th century.

"The Beer Barrel Polka" comes from a Czech love song by Jaromir Vejvoda, of Zbraslav, Czechoslovakia, named "Skoda Lasky." It was brought to England by Czechoslovak airmen, and with translated lyrics became General Dwight D. Eisenhower's favorite melody. He had the author come to England to thank him personally for the morale building of the song.

Coming next month...

Camellia Festival

Saturday, March 8th, 8-11p.m.
50/50 Dances

Sunday, March 9th, 1:30 - 6p.m.
Line Dances, Couple Dances
Exhibitions, Door Prizes



**Rancho Cordoba
Sacramento**

The UOP Library Needs Your Help

In July/Aug., 1996 at Stockton Folk Dance Camp, Costume Committees North and South had several productive meetings to discuss services we could do for the folk dance community. One rather obvious service is in support of the Lawton Harris folk dance collection in the main library. We surveyed the holdings in this collection and on the general shelves. We discovered the costume books and papers were scant and often very dated--before much research on ethnic costume had been done.

When one is doing research for teaching or performance, the music and directions are essential but so is the costume information. We know there are some fine costume libraries among folk dancers. So a project was born to collect photos, videos, books and pamphlets. These items are also of interest to researchers in anthropology, music, theater, and textile/fashion design. The Dean of the Library, the collection librarian and Bev Wilder approved our project enthusiastically, so now we need you to mail in contributions. If you would like a tax deduction for your donation, please request the librarian, Sylvia Hedlund, send you a receipt. You might also put a note with your will that your library on dance and costumes is to go to the address below. The availability of this fine collection will be listed on the Melville system and on the Internet so researchers in many parts of the country will be able to access the information.

Need to clean out some drawers and book shelves?
The Lawton Harris Folk Dance Collection at U.O.P.,
Stockton needs your costume pamphlets, books and
photos. Mail to:

Sylvia Hedlund
Music/AV
U.O.P. Library
Stockton, Ca. 95211

For further info,
Contact: Barbara Lynch
hm. (707) 778-8831
wrk:(707) 778-4398

Folk Dancers We Should Remember

by Larry Getchell

DANNY MC DONALD - 7TH Federation President

Many of today's folk dancers probably never heard of Danny McDonald, the seventh Federation President. In the recent published "A HISTORY OF THE FOLK DANCE MOVEMENT IN CALIFORNIA" of which the first edition has sold out and a second is now available at the Federation Office, under Federation Presidents there appears a rather lengthy article about him. With just a little editing, the following is a copy of this article. We quote:

To just mention that Danny McDonald was the seventh President of the Federation, without calling attention to his other contributions to the folk dance movement, would be to overlook the best part of this loveable character.

Actually, how Danny became interested in folk dancing, no one we have talked to seems to know. We feel sure it happened during the early forties because by 1945 he was calling squares, teaching and dancing up a storm. It could have been as early as 1943 at Ed Kremers' class over in the East Bay at the Finnish Hall in Berkeley. Danny came to the class but Ed does not remember what caused him to do so. Not long after this his name became associated with several clubs in San Francisco, namely the Gate Swingers, the Fun Club and a Scandinavian group. During this time he was teaching folk dancing and calling square.

In 1946 Danny was a member of Grace Perryman's (Nicholes) Folk Arts. We travelled to Ojai where we exhibited the Lithuanian Quadrille.

Of the many places he taught folk dancing probably the best known was St. Dominics Church. You could expect to see Danny at each and every folk dance function of note and as likely as not he would call a square. His were fun square and everybody liked them.

So as to better get from here to there and to include his friends, in 1948 Danny bought a Chevrolet station wagon in which there was always room for one more dancer. Our first trip with him in his new wagon was to a festival in Ingleside, Southern California. He loaded eight members of Madelynne Greene's Festival Workshop, plus my wife and me, and we were off and running. Travelling at night we spent Sunday dancing outdoors at Inglewood, returning Sunday night back to San Francisco. I don't recall where we slept if at all. On the return trip we took turns driving. The others tried to get a little sleep in the bed of the station wagon. Monday was a work day.

On another occasion, Danny, Madelynne Greene and a couple of members of her Festival Workshop set out for New York in the

station wagon. After several days and nights of driving they arrived at their destination and located sleeping quarters. We will repeat here a story Danny told us about his arrival experience.

Deciding his room needed a little tidying up, Danny visited a small nearby store where he asked the proprietor for a bottle of Hexal, a disinfectant well-known on the West Coast. As is quite customary in New York, the owner of this store was Jewish and, when Danny asked him for Hexal, he replied, "Hexal, Hexal, what is it with Hexal?" "Now Lysol, it stinks the world over, but Hexal, I never heard of it. Must be a local product." Danny settled for Lysol.

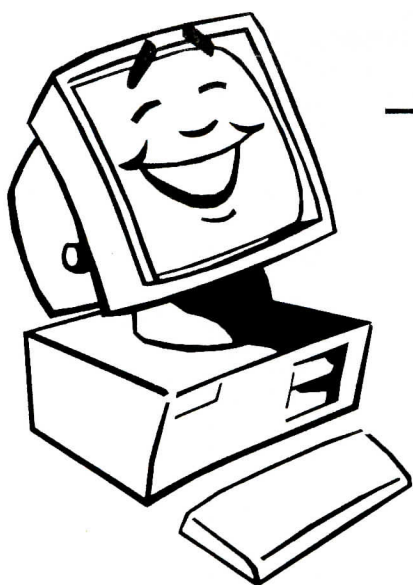
As an impromptu speaker Danny was at his best. But he met his match at one of his early Woodminster exhibitions while he was Federation President. They wrote him a speech. On occasions of this kind Federation Presidents were always expected to say a few words. Danny had never read a speech in his life but he gave it a try. After a few stammering lines which was not Danny at all, he looked up, stopped, tore up the written speech and winged it the rest of the way. Got the usual big hand.

An event took place rather early during Danny's term as President. In a Vallejo hospital there were a number of patients confined to wheel chairs. They, along with some nurses were relaxing in the hospital recreation room one evening during the year 1949, talking about this new activity, folk and square dancing. There was Bill Heilman, a wheel chair patient, who at one time had been a square dance caller. Why, he wondered, could they not form a square dance group? They were short on ladies so two nurses volunteered. It wasn't too long before the "ROUND WHEEL SQUARE DANCERS" were cutting a rug. Word got around and soon they were asked to perform in public. They exhibited at Festivals in both the Oakland and San Francisco Auditoriums and as you might expect brought down the house. According to Grace Nicholes, Danny later worked with a wheel chair group but that is not surprising, knowing him. We regret lack of details.

During his Presidency and later Danny conducted a folk dance radio program, playing folk dance records and commentating.

Few were aware at the time that Danny McDonald was married. His wife and daughter were a professional specialty dance team, touring the country. We had occasion to meet them once when their schedule brought them to San Francisco.

Folk dancing was Danny's main hobby, you might say his life. He was an unselfish contributor to the movement and left us all too soon. Wherever he is today, it's safe to say, his spirit is bringing joy to someone, maybe even St Peter.



Dancing on the Internet

by Barbara Bruxvoort (bbrux@wco.com)

Israeli Dancing on the World Wide Web

For this month's column, I thought I'd look into Israeli Folk Dancing. Wouldn't you know it, the Internet is just as eclectic as International Folk Dancing, so I got a little side-tracked along the way.

Here are a few things I turned up:

Israeli Folkdance Archive <http://superbook.bellcore.com/archive/homepage.html> This site contains a searchable index of hundreds of dances that gives you a pointer to recordings of the music, the choreographer, and its number in the Video In Motion Israeli folkdance video library. Clicking on the title of the tape/record/cd sends you to an index of its contents. This resource should be invaluable to teachers and dancers looking for new recordings of old favorites or videos of particular dances.

The University Dance Society Folk Dancing at UT Austin <http://www.nortropic.com/lis341/rshapiro/index.html> Includes a list of dance groups and instructors by region, as well as dance notes indexed both by dance and by country.

Kesher LeMachol—The Israeli Folk Dance Connection <http://orion.webspan.net/~hgpkim/> Where to dance Israeli Dances around the world, information on dance index and descriptions available for purchase.

Vienna International Folkdance Pages Links <http://dsn.ast.univie.ac.at/~peter/links.html> This set of links catalogs folk dance and cultural Web sites from around the world and includes the first few lines of each web page to give you an idea of what the web page is about.

Mandala Folk Dance Ensemble <http://people.delphi.com/paulbourbin/Mandala.html> Meeting and teaching information for this San Francisco dance group.

If you're tired of power surfing after that list of folk dance pages and indexes, point your Internet browser to "Still Dancing the Night Away," a 1995 LA Times reprint about the Caltech Israeli Folk Dance Group (<http://ramble.seismo.unr.edu/ifd/latimes.html>). They even interviewed Marilyn Pixler, president of the Folk Dance Federation of California, South!

ALBERTO TOLEDANO AND LOREEN ARBUS TANGO AT THE PREMIERE OF EVITA

Foremost Argentine Tango artists **Alberto Toledano and Loreen Arbus** choreographed, staged and starred in the large scale show for the world premiere of the year's most anticipated film, Hollywood Pictures', **EVITA**. The extravaganza, which was held at the legendary Shrine Auditorium (the 'home' of the Academy Awards) in Los Angeles on December 14, 1996, was one of the largest premieres in history, second only to Gone With the Wind. The evening was hailed as "the event of a decade" with camera crews from around the world, a star-studded audience, and over 2,000 fans who were lined up to witness the festivities. After an extensive search, and amidst much competition, Toledano and Arbus, the producers of the critically acclaimed show **RITMO TANGO™**, which is the first and only touring, theatrical Argentine Tango show to originate in the United States, were selected to produce and perform for the gala.

The film's stars, Madonna (with Carlos Leon) and Antonio Banderas (with Melanie Griffith), were in attendance along with director Alan Parker, composer Andrew Lloyd Webber and producer Andy Vanja. Among the 4,200 guests were: Gabriel Byrne, Glenn Close, Grace Jones, Debi Mazar, David Hasselhoff, Jenny McCarthy, Jennifer Tilly, Paula Abdul, James Belushi, Melissa Etheridge, Marisa Tomei and James Woods, as well as Consul General Luis Maria Riccheri from the Argentine Consulate. Also on hand were studio executives: Michael Eisner, Chairman of the Board/President/CEO of the Walt Disney Company; Donald DeLine, President of Touchstone Pictures; Charles Hirschhorn, Executive Vice President, Hollywood Pictures and President of Walt Disney Telefilms; and Robert Stigwood, Chairman of RSO Films.

Alberto Toledano and Loreen Arbus are the foremost Argentine Tango performers, choreographers and teachers in the United States, where they frequently tour. They originally studied in Los Angeles with master, Orlando Paiva, and further trained in Argentina. Their television and film credits include: "Concierto por la Vida", taped at the 13,000 seat Los Angeles Sports Arena and broadcast on Telemundo; "Another Woman's Lipstick", an episode of Showtime's "Red Shoe Diaries"; "The Dance", a Playboy Channel short movie; "Mr. Saturday Night" and "Naked Gun 2 ½."

Toledano and Arbus premiered their show, **RITMO TANGO™**, in March, 1994 at the Fountain Theater in Los Angeles, where it returned for another sold out engagement in June, 1996. In a Los Angeles Times Calendar column headed "The Year of the Tango...", Lewis Segal cited the show **RITMO TANGO™** as one of the "Best of 1994" in his annual year-end retrospective, stating that the show is "...an atmospheric survey of Argentine traditions featuring the drop-dead authority of Alberto Toledano and Loreen Arbus."

Toledano and Arbus brought the show to the trendy nightclub, Luna Park, in West Hollywood, California in March, 1995. The show was extended four times for a five month run due to its sell-out status.

Toledano and Arbus took their show to the 3000 seat Palace Theatre in Cleveland, Ohio in October. They just concluded an east coast tour, during which they performed, gave workshops and seminars. They are represented for film/television (choreography/performance) by Julie McDonald at Kazarian, Spencer & Associates, (818) 769-9111.



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