

Let's Dance

JANUARY 2000 · \$1.75



THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL

Honoring Our Scandinavian Heritage



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

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On Our Cover:

Calling All Dancers!
Come to the
Scandinavian Festival!



NEW INFORMATION:

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
Deadline for each issue is now
the 15th of 2 months previous
(i.e., March deadline would be
the 15th of January).



SUBSCRIPTION RATE:
\$17.50 per year
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President's Message

One of the things I have noticed over the past few years as I have attended various folk dance parties and events around the state is how greatly live music contributes to the enjoyment of any such occasion. This month's message is a salute to the musicians who provide this extra measure of pleasure to our dancing activities.

Recently, more and more event organizers seem to be incorporating live music into their events. Just in the past few months, I've had the pleasure of dancing to gaida and tupan drum accompaniment by Tony Canavarró and Jean Faulkner at Fresno's October Harvest Festival after party, and the band Vecernica performing at the August Beginner's Festival. Even more ambitious was the recent Kolo Festival, with no less than seven different bands that performed at either its Friday or Saturday night parties.

While a live band is more commonly to be found in conjunction with Dance Festivals, they can add significantly to the ambiance of a club party as well. For each of the past five years, the folk dance club of which I am a member has brought in a live band for its monthly party in March, and we always have a lively turnout on that night. Other clubs have live music once a month, and some dance organizations have live music for all their activities.

I have found that my enjoyment of certain dances can vary to an extreme degree when I'm dancing to live music. As an example, I find that single pattern line dances can become quite monotonous, and even boring if they go on for a long time. One such dance is Opsa. Last July, I had the pleasure of doing the dance Opsa while it was being played by the band The Stocktunes during the Stockton Folk Dance Camp, and that performance featured a marvelous clarinet solo by the talented musician Amy Sebesta. The musicians really brought that dance to life.

The financial rewards for these musicians are minimal; no one is likely to become rich from their earnings as a member of a folk dance band. It seems to me that these musicians share with us dancers a love for the personal enrichment they obtain from their participation in the folk dance scene. If you have the opportunity to dance to live music, make a point of sharing with the musicians your appreciation for their efforts.

May God's blessing be with you all for a joyous Christmas.

Craig Blackstone

CALLING ALL DANCERS!

Save Jan. 14 & 15, 2000

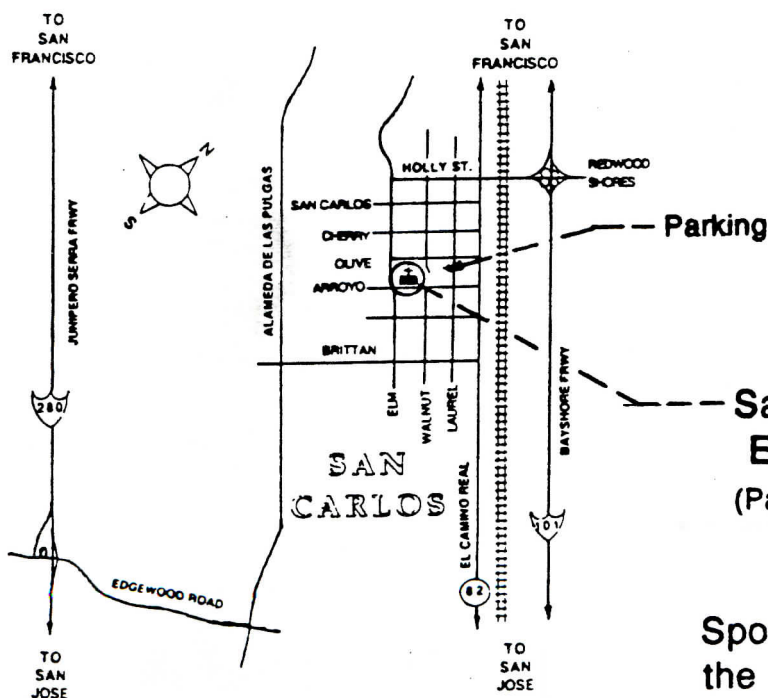
Join us for the first Festival of the new millennium!

The Peninsula Folk Dance Council invites all dancers to the year 2000 Heritage Festival honoring our Scandinavian (especially Finnish) heritage. The Friday night Party will start at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, January 14, 2000, with Marcel Vinokur as the MC. Festivities continue on Saturday, January 15, with an institute in the afternoon and a party in the evening with numerous other MCs. The Saturday afternoon Institute featuring dances from Stockton Folk Dance Camp will start at 1:30 p.m. with registration at 1:00 p.m. Suzanne Rocca-Butler will teach three dances from Turkey and Al and Teddy Wolterbeek will teach three or four dances from Finland. The Saturday Night Party of international dances including squares and contras will begin at 8:00 p.m. There will be exhibitions about halfway through the evening. Refreshments will be available at both parties.

All events will take place at the Community United Church of Christ, Elm at Arroyo, in San Carlos. There is parking available behind the church. Plan to join us for a fun filled weekend! We, of the Peninsula Council, extend a warm welcome to you.

Arden Pierce

Arden Pierce, Peninsula Council President



\$6.00 donation, Institute
\$6.00 donation, other events

San Carlos Community United Church
Elm at Arroyo Street, San Carlos, Ca.
(Parking behind the church by the supermarket)
(Enter from Laurel or Walnut)

Sponsored by the Peninsula Council and
the Folk Dance Federation of California

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL INSTITUTE

HONORING OUR SCANDINAVIAN HERITAGE

Saturday
January 15, 2000

1:30 to 4:30 pm
Institute Workshop
\$6.00 Donation



INSTRUCTORS

Suzanne Rocca-Butler -----

TURKISH
Livan Oy
Mendil
Yeni Hamam

Al and Teddy Wolterbeek --

FINNISH
Hylkeen
hyppely
Sysmäläinen
Kuuden
kolmeinen

Festival of the Oaks



Sunday, February 27, 2000

Live Oak Park, 1301 Shattuck (at Berryman)

Berkeley California

10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Planning for the Festival of the Oaks is proceeding very well. The active committee from the Berkeley Folk Dancers is once again making plans for another very successful event, much like last year.

The day will begin at 10 A.M. with an Institute led by the popular couple, Bob and Ruth Fraley, teaching some new English County dances, with some live music. At noon, during the Festival lunch hour, the California Folk Dance Federation will hold an Assembly Meeting and all members are invited and encouraged to attend. A special hot lunch will be served to those attending the meeting.

From 1:30 to 5 P.M., there will be general folk dancing with a review of the morning's dances. At 3 P.M., there will be a brief intermission with limited exhibition dancing. There will be a cafe-like atmosphere all day with some free refreshments. Plan to attend. You are guaranteed a wonderful time. Mark your calendar.

For more information, call Mel Mann at 510-527-2177, or e-mail: meldancing@aol.com.



Dancing on the Internet

by Barbara Bruxvoort (bbrux@wco.com)
Federation Website: www.folkdance.com

Folk Fire

<<http://www.folkfire.org/>>www.folkfire.org

Covering St. Louis and the Central States, this web site describes events and groups for folk dance and music. It also hosts a newsletter with many on-line articles that may be of interest.

Just what is a ContraDance, Anyway?

<<http://www.netheaven.com/~rfutyma/whatiscontra.shtml>>www.netheaven.com/~rfutyma/whatiscontra.shtml

This is a good site to refer friends to when you're trying to convince them to go contradancing with you. It has a simple description, and some good photos of people having fun.

American Country Dances on Line

<<http://www.scar.rad.washington.edu:591/dances>>[www.scar.rad.washington.edu: 591/dances/](http://www.scar.rad.washington.edu:591/dances)
A database of nearly 250 American country dances that you can search by name, author or type. For example, try a search with "Traditional" as the author.

Contradancers of Hawaii Collection of Traditional Contradances

<<http://www.ill.hawaii.edu/esl/bley-vroman/contra/dances/dance-index.html>>www.ill.hawaii.edu/esl/bley-vroman/contra/dances/dance-index.html

A way cool collection of descriptions with the music files available on the web for you to listen to.

Folk Song Lyrics by Keyword

<<http://www.mudcat.org/KeyWords.cfm>>www.mudcat.org/KeyWords.cfm

Browse various categories for folk songs lyrics of all kinds, plus music—although the music tends to play slowly. Links to various contra dance descriptions on the Web.

And Now for something Completely Different...

Having run out of steam momentarily, I decided to look up some sites about good web design and share them with you... Because the web offers us more design possibilities than print media, it also

(Continued on Page 14)

COUNCIL CLIPS

Nadine Mitchell, 1941 Danvers Way, Sacramento, CA. 95832, Phone/FAX: 916-392-7357, e-mail: gmnadine@Juno.com Deadline for February issue is December 15, 1999.

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS

Naomi Lidicker reports there may be time to remind you that the Berkeley Folk Dancers are welcoming a very special New Year. Our annual New Year's Eve Party will be Friday, December 31, of course. Come join them in dancing out the old year and welcoming the new millennium at Live Oak Park Gym for our "Y2K Party," Berryman and Shattuck, Berkeley, from 9 p.m. – midnight. Bring your most indispensable Y2K emergency item and your favorite 20th century object. Still at the "old" donation of members, \$4; non-members, \$6.

Save the date of Saturday, January 22, for Berkeley Folk Dancers' dance, "Space Ball 2000" in El Cerrito at the Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, from 7:30 – 11 PM. Join us in our traditional Inaugural Ball.

This annual I-Ball will inaugurate BFD's new officers and welcome our new members from our enthusiastic beginners class which some of you may have recruited for us. Come and meet them. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Members: \$6. Non-members: \$8. For reservations call Simonetti at 510-525-4193.

PENINSULA COUNCIL

Arleen Marshall reports that they have been having difficulty in getting a hall to have a New Year's celebration on the Peninsula. Last word was they are having a New Year's **DAY** celebration on January 1. Please call Arleen Marshall at 650-592-7841 for details. It will be from 8:00 – 11:00 PM. Location and hosts to be announced.

January Festival

Dates: Friday evening, January 14, 2000
Saturday Institute and Party – January 15, 2000

Where: United Community Church, Elm at Arroyo Sts.;
San Carlos (parking behind the church and the super market).

Theme: Scandinavian

Admission: \$6.00

Times: Institute Classes: 1:30 PM
Parties start at 8:00 PM on Friday and Saturday.

More Information: Call Arden Pierce at 650-494-1631

e-mail: ardenhram@aol.com

THERE WILL BE FOOD, INSTITUTE CLASSES AND EXHIBITIONS. WATCH FOR FLYERS WITH MORE DETAILS.

SACRAMENTO COUNCIL

The Sacramento Council's New Year's Dinner and Dance Party is scheduled for January 15, 2000, at the Clunie Clubhouse, Alhambra and F Streets, Sacramento, from 6 – 11 PM. The theme is "Red, White & Blue Salute 2000." At \$5 per person this seems like a really fun way to get the new millennium going. A raffle will also be held. We always have a delicious pot luck dinner so we hope many of you will make it a point to join us for this special event!

Plans for the Camellia Festival in March, 2000, are still being discussed. The Planning Committee informs us it is hard at work trying to make this Festival a success. Using the Memorial Auditorium again for the Festival is being worked on at this point with an alternate site as a backup if use of the Auditorium is not possible. We thank the Committee for its hard work on this matter.

One of our Council Clubs, Pairs & Spares, is active in and around Sacramento. Jim Oxford, a Pairs & Spares instructor/member, on a regular basis, conducts Monday night Bingo for the Bruceville Terrace residents. His wife, Irene, had an idea to include the wheel chair set in doing the Grand Square by having folk dancers guide the chairs during the dance. Irene says, "The happy wheelers loved it and are excited about performing at a future event during Happy Hour." Periodically, Pairs and Spares members perform folk dances for the Bruceville residents and are always enthusiastically received.

NADINE MITCHELL

SAN FRANCISCO COUNCIL

Ruth Ruling reports the following schedule for Changs International Folk Dancers:

January 2000

January 7 & 14, 2000 – Teaching: 8 – 10:00 PM

General Dancing: 10 – 11:00 PM

January 21 – Party Night.

General Dancing: 8 – 11:00 PM

Refreshments

January 28 (Fourth Friday)

MC and Program Planner to be announced. General dancing and whatever from 8 – 11:00 PM

February 2000

February 4 & 11 - Teaching 8 – 10:00 PM

General Dancing 10 – 11:00 PM

February 18 – Party Night

General Dancing - 8 – 10:00 PM

Refreshments

February 25 (Fourth Friday)

MC & Program Planner to be announced.

General Dancing & Whatever - 8 – 11:00 PM

MEET OUR CLUBS

As Craig pointed out in his November Message, the Folk Dance Federation of California consists of over seventy very different dance clubs. Let's get acquainted with some of them.

Spotlight on.....KOPACHKA DANCERS

The Kopachka Dancers were started by Dean and Nancy Linscott in 1965. We were looking for a place to dance which included non-partner as well as partner dances, and which did some performing as well. Since we couldn't find such a club, we decided to start one ourselves, in Mill Valley where we were living. The rest is history, as they say. Kopachkas are still going strong after 34 years, and we still dance a mixed program of both partner and non-partner dances. We get together at a member's home for potluck twice a year, and we bring in live music from time to time. Currently we have 34 members, and on any given Friday night 30-35 people usually show up, including a number of non-members who enjoy dancing with us from time to time. We meet every Friday except during the summer, at Scout Hall, 177 East Blithedale Avenue, in Mill Valley. I do some teaching or reviewing from 8:00 until 8:30 PM, then we dance a prepared program until 10:00 PM, and after that we do requests for a half-hour or so, followed by refreshments and time to socialize. We usually dance from 25-30 dances in a given evening, from slow to fast, easy to difficult. Won't you come and join us? Guests are ALWAYS welcome. Give me a call at 707-546-2434 if you have any questions.

Dean Linscott

Thank you, Dean. Please let me hear from others of you about your club, who you are, what makes your club special and what's going on. Send that information to me at P. O. Box 263, Fulton, California 95439.

ELSA BACHER

Dublin Bay

(England)

Dublin Bay was originally published as "We'll Wed and We'll Bed" in 1713 in *The Dancing Master* by John Playford. The dance was reconstructed in 1962 in a Summer School workshop in Dublin led by Bernard J. Bentley and given the name "Dublin Bay," which has become the common name. It was presented by Marianne Taylor at the 1999 University of the Pacific Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

- Music: Cassette: Popular English Country Dances of the 17th and 18th Centuries Side B/2.
Score: Barnes, Peter. *English Country Dance Tunes*. The Country Dance and Song Society:
A Capella Books: Chicago, 1990.
- Rhythm: 6/8 meter counted in 2 beats per meas.
- Formation: Longways set for as many as will: Dancers in two parallel lines with partners facing. M have L shldrs twd the head of the hall (usually where the music is located).
- Steps and Styling: Light walking/running steps (2 per meas). Commonly beg with R (not required).
- A Double: Four light springy steps in a specified direction, as in "forward a Double."
- Arm R: Neighbors hook R elbows and turn CW with light springy steps.
- Cast off: Cpl 2 assists Cpl 1 to move down one place. M 1 with M 2 and W 1 with W 2, hands joined in W-pos and giving weight, Cpl 1 walks fwd and Cpl 2 backs up to turn Cpl 1 out and down the set into progressed pos.
- Set: With small, light leap onto R move sideward and fwd to R (ct 1); step on ball of L beside R (ct &); step on R in place (ct 2). Step is smooth and light. Repeat action fwd to L to complete pattern (cts 1,&,2).
- R-hand Turn: Joined R hands are held at shldr height, handshake hold, arms held easily extended. Turn CW, 2 steps per meas.

Measures	6/8 meter	PATTERN
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Chord + 1 note INTRODUCTION. No action, varies according to music.

DANCE

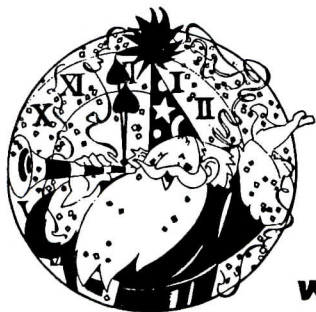
- | | | |
|---|-------|---|
| A | 1-2 | M 1 set to W 2 <i>while</i> W 1 sets to M 2, M 1 and W 1 advancing and W crossing in front of M. |
| | 3-4 | M 1 and W 2, W 1 and M 2 R-hand Turn about 3/4 until Cpl 1 are facing each other again. |
| | 5-10 | Cpl 1 pass each other by L shldrs, crossing over to dance through their own places and go below one dancer, moving up the ctr to end back to back facing their orig neighbor (Cpl 2). |
| | 11-14 | All arm R to end in a line of four, Cpl 1 in the ctr, all facing down the set with hands joined in W-pos. |

- B 15-16 All fall back a Double—twd the top of the set.
- 17-18 All forward a Double, turning twd neighbor on the last steps to end as before, but facing up the set, hands joined in W-pos.
- 19-20 All fall back a Double in line facing up.
- 21-22 All forward a Double.
- 23-24 Cpl 1 release ptr's hand and continue fwd to Cast Off one place, Cpl 2 assisting the movement by backing up slightly and giving a firm arm for support.
- Repeat with a new cpl.

Folk Dance Scene

For info on folk dance and ethnic activities in Southern California, and elsewhere, read the Folk Dance Scene.

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The Female Saylor

(England)

Pat Shaw reconstructed this dance from John Essex's 1706 translation of Feuillet's "La Matelotte." The tune is the one to which William Morris wrote the well-known carol, "Masters in This Hall." It was presented by Marianne Taylor at the 1999 University of the Pacific Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

Music: Cassette: Popular English Country Dances of the 17th and 18th Centuries Side B/3.
Score: Barnes, Peter. *English Country Dance Tunes*. The Country Dance and Song Society: A
Capella Books: Chicago, 1990. 6/8 meter

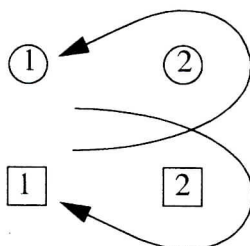
-Formation: Longways set: Dancers in two parallel lines with partners facing each other. M have L shldr
twd the head of the hall (usually where the music is located).

Steps and Styling: Light walking/running steps (2 per meas). Commonly beg with R (not required).

Back-to-Back: Dancers move fwd passing R shldr and move bkwd to place passing L shldr.

Cast: Dancer turns outward (away) from set or ptr in order to move to a designated place.

Half Figure-8: Cpl 1 cross in between Cpl 2, W crossing first, and go around opp person to end in ptr's pos.



R-hand Turn: Joined R hands are held at shldr level, handshake hold, arms held easily extended. Turn CW by walking fwd, 2 steps per meas.

Two-hand Turn: Both hands joined and held at shldr level, M hands are on the bottom supporting W hands on top, arms held easily extended. Turn CW, walking 2 steps per meas.

Measures	6/8 meter	PATTERN.
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Chord + 1 note INTRODUCTION. No action.

DANCE

A1	1-4	Cpl 1 lead up through the cpl <i>above</i> (at the top, dance through an imaginary cpl) and cast down the outside to place.
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	5-8	Cpl 1 lead down through the cpl below and cast up the outside to place.
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- A2 9-12 Cpl 1 Half Figure-8 through Cpl 2.
13-16 Cpl 1 R-hand Turn to finish facing neighbor.
- B1 17-20 All dance Back-to-Back with neighbor.
21-24 All Two-Hand Turn neighbor once around.
- B2 25-28 All dance Back-to-Back with ptr.
29-32 Cpl 1 Two-Hand Turn 1/2 and cast down into 2nd place
while
Cpl 2 Two-Hand Turn once around, moving up into 1st place.
Repeat with a new cpl.

Dancing on the Internet (Continued)

poses more challenges to really use it effectively. It's worth taking a look around and finding web site designs that really make sense to you, before embarking on your own web page.

The Foundations of Web Design

<<http://www.hotwired.com/webmonkey/98/07/index0a.html?tw=design>>www.hotwired.com/webmonkey/98/07/index0a.html?tw=design

An interesting tutorial about the out-of-the box thinking that web design requires. I find I rely on webmonkey often to both learn new things and to brush up on web programming tricks I've allowed to rust.

Design How To

<http://www.swin.edu.au/tafe/aged/howto/wdes/wdes_idx.htm>www.swin.edu.au/tafe/aged/howto/wdes/wdes_idx.htm >

From "down under," the University of Swinbourne provides a basic tutorial to get you thinking about what's involved with good web design.

INSURANCE ISSUES 2: ARE YOU DANCING UNINSURED?

By participating in the Square Dancers Insurance Program, we are assuring the underwriters that 100% of each club's membership, as of the date of application, is enrolled. It is hoped that everyone will be factual in reporting the number of members. Underwriters reserve the right to audit our records at any time. A suspicious record or error could result in the loss of the insurance program for the entire Federation. Each club is required to submit a roster with the names, addresses, zips and telephone numbers of its members with its enrollment. This list is privileged information.

If a dancer is a member of more than one club within the Insurance Program, the dancer must decide which club he/she will insure with. That particular club will include the dancer in its roster and pay his/her premium. (Only one enrollment per dancer.)

When new members join a club during the year, their names, addresses, telephone numbers and \$3.25 are to be sent to the Federation Insurance Chairman. Beginners in a club-sponsored class will automatically be covered while attending classes. Their insurance coverage ceases after graduation from class unless they join an insured club. Club members lose their coverage when they leave a club and fail to join another insured club within 30 days.

As dancers get older, our clubs get smaller and some of them cease to exist. Dancers from such a defunct club may visit other clubs to continue enjoying dance without bothering to join the club. They are dancing uninsured. By simply rejoining a club they would be covered under the Accident Medical Policy should they be injured while dancing.

We have experienced both aspects of this scenario. A volunteer who was not covered by our insurance was injured while helping set up for a dance. The volunteer had been a club member the previous year, but had not rejoined the club. This person had to sue the insurance company to have expenses paid which is a costly and time-consuming process. Another insured dancer had a front tooth knocked out while dancing. This person had no personal medical insurance. Our Accident Medical Insurance quickly paid for the dental reconstruction.

FRANK AND ELSA BACHER
Insurance Chairpersons

CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

Craig Blackstone, 207 Monterey Road #1, Pacifica, CA 94044, 650-359-7486

Deadline for Feb, 2000 issue is Dec 15, 1999

Plan ahead! Save these dates for upcoming folk dance festivals:

Jan 14-15	SAN CARLOS	Heritage Festival
Feb 13	NAPA	Sweetheart Festival
Dec 31, Fri	BERKELEY	BFD New year's Eve "Y2K" Party, Live Oak Park, Shattuck at Berryman 9:00 p.m.-midnight Clem/John 510-236-4807
Dec 31, Sat	GALT	First & Last Dancers New Year's Eve Black & White Ball, Country Western, 8:00 p.m., Valley Oaks Grange, 5th & D Sts. Eda, 916-682-2638
Dec 31, Fri	MENLO PARK	Council New Year's Eve Party, St. Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road at Monte Rosa Hank, 650-493-8653 or Al, 408-252-8106
Dec 31, Fri	MENLO PARK	Menlo Park FD New Year's Eve Party, Menlo Park Rec. Center, 700 Alma at Mielke Marcel, 650-327-0759
Jan 1, Sat	SACRAMENTO	BBKM Party, Theme "Y2K - Y2Dance" 8:00 p.m. YLI Hall, 27th & N Sts. Barbara 916-923-1555
Jan 1, Sat	SAN CARLOS	Council Party, Community United Church, Arroyo at Elm Streets Hank, 650- 493-8653 or Al, 408-252-8106
Jan 4, Sat	SACRAMENTO	Council Meeting 7:30 PM Babcock School, 2400 Cormorant Way
Jan 8, Sat	PETALUMA	Hermann Sons Hall, 8:00-11:00 Elsa/Frank, 707-546-8877
Jan 8, Sat	SACRAMENTO	Japanese Workshop with Ryoichi Oikawa 4-78:00 p.m. YLI Hall, 27th & N Sts. Sponsored by Kolo Koalition
Jan 8, Sat	SACRAMENTO	Kolo Koalition Balkan Party, Theme "Y2K-Y2Dance" 8:00 p.m. YLI Hall, 27th & N Sts. Laura 916-739-6014 or 916-424-0864
Jan 8, Sat	SACRAMENTO	Pairs & Spares, 8:00-11:00 p.m., Babcock School, 2400 Cormorant Way Chuck, 916-428-6992
Jan 8, Sat	SACRAMENTO	Royal Scottish Country Dance Society 7:30 p.m. YLI Hall, 27th & N Sts. Paul 916-737-8770

(Continued)

Jan 14, Fri	SAN CARLOS	HERITAGE FESTIVAL, Friday Night Party, Community United Church, Arroyo at Elm Streets Hank, 650-493-8653 or Al, 408-252-8106
Jan 15, Sat	SAN CARLOS	HERITAGE FESTIVAL, Institute, Folk Dance Party and Exhibitions, Community United Church, Arroyo at Elm Streets Hank, 650-493-8653 or Al, 408-252-8106
Jan 19, Wed	SANTA ROSA	Veterans Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, 2-4 p.m. Elsa/Frank, 707-546-8877
Jan 21, Fri	SAN FRAN.	Changs Party, 7th Ave. Presbyterian Church Social Hall, 1329 7th Avenue Carlos, 415-333-2210
Jan 22, Sat	EL CERRITO	Berkeley Folk Dancers Inagural "Space Ball 2000" El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, 7:30-11:00 p.m. Val 510-525-4193
Jan 22, Sat	MENLO PARK	Menlo Park FD Party, Menlo Park Rec. Center, 700 Alma at Mielke Marcel, 650-327-0759
Jan 22, Sat	SAN CARLOS	Docey Doe FD Party, Community United Church, Arroyo at Elm Streets Bruce, 650-368-7834
Jan 29, Sat	GALT	First & Last Dancers, Country Western, 8:00 p.m., Valley Oaks Grange, 5th & D Sts. Eda, 916-682-2638 Theme: "Smile - Smile - Smile"

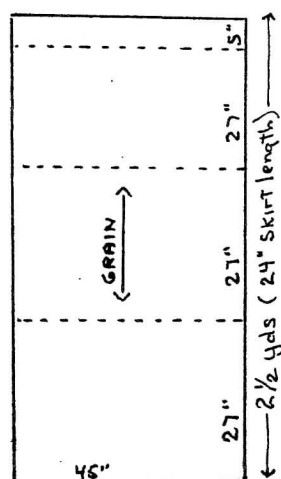
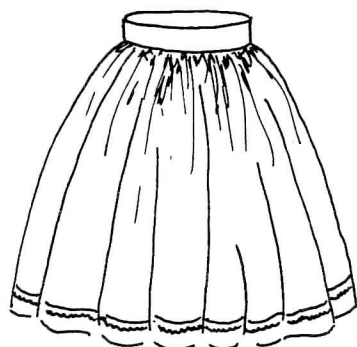
CLASSIFIED ADS

MILLIE VONKONSKY DAY CLASSES - Mondays: Beginning Ballroom, Civic Park Community Center, 1375 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek (free: 1-1:30, class, 1:30-3); Wednesdays: On-going Country Western Line, Dublin Senior Center, 7437 Larkdale Ave., 11:30-1:00 (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced), 1:30-3, Intermediate Ballroom; Thursdays: On-going Country Western Line, Danville Community Center, 420 Front Street, 10-11 (Intermediate, Advanced), 11-12 (Beginner); Fridays: On-going Country Western Line, Civic Park Community Center, 1:30-2 (Free), 2-3:30 (class Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced). Private lessons available. For more information, call 925-828-5976.

"Chookasian Armenian Concert Ensemble" - present their new recording: *Chookasian Armenian Songs & Dances of Eastern & Western Armenia*. It is a combination of Classical, Folkloric & Troubadour musical selections. TO ORDER YOUR audio cassette, video cassette and compact disc, contact John Chookasian at 2511 West Browning, Fresno, CA 93711 (209) 449-1777, or fax 209-432-6666.

MAKING A GATHERED SKIRT

There is no reason a person should need a pattern for a full or gathered skirt. The pieces are straight on all sides and can be cut or torn on the cross-grain line. Tearing, or cutting on the cross-grain line is best, but when you are using a permanent press fabric it may be impossible. When the permanent press finish is put into the yardage, the fabric is often a little crooked on the rollers, and when finished and pressed, the yarns cannot be pulled into another position. If you can manage to pull it straight it will return to its original position when washed. Most fabrics of this type, ie: Tarpoon, Kettlecloth, must be measured and cut.



The easiest way to figure how much fabric you will need is to first decide how long you want your finished skirt to be. (Let's use 24") Take your finished length (24") and add the hem allowance (+3"), and the waist seam allowance ($5/8$ "). The length of each panel in the skirt will be cut $27-5/8$ inches long. Decide on how full you want the skirt to be. (Let's say 3 to 4 yards) If the fabric you want is 45" wide you will need three panels to make the skirt 3 yds and 27 inches around, just short of four yards. ($3 \times 45" = 135"$). You now know that you want 3 widths that are $27-5/8"$ long so $3 \times 27-5/8"$ comes to $82-7/8$ inches. You will also need a waistband, and if you line the waistband with either a fabric or belting, you can cut it crossgrain. So $82-5/8"$ plus $5\frac{1}{2}"$ for the band equals $88-1/8"$, or 2 yds and 16 inches. Round it off and get $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards for your skirt.

Sew the three panels together, leaving one seam open. Sew 2 gathering lines, large stitches when done by machine, one on the $5/8$ inch line and one about $\frac{1}{2}$ of that, or on the $3/8$ inch line. Use a heavy thread, because you don't want the thread to break when you are almost finished. Gather it up to your waist measurement. If you want to eliminate some bulk, you can take darts at the waistline (trim out the excess in the darts) before you do the gathering. (See illus. a)

Pin the belt and the skirt together, right sides together. With the gathering on the top, sew on the $5/8$ inch line. Try to keep the belt piece flat so it doesn't pleat or pucker as you sew. If you didn't back the waistband and are using a belting, put it in now, fold the waistband piece to the inside and tack it down by hand. Top stitch the waistband if you wish, it does make it a little more sturdy and helps keep the belting in place.

Last, sew up the still open side seam to within 7 or 9 inches of the top. There is no need to put in a zipper on a full skirt, but if you wish one, it should be put in before the gathering is done. There would not be any open seams at this point of construction then.

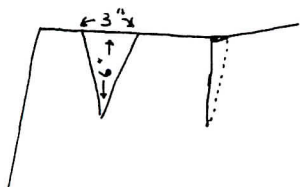
Hem the skirt by hand, by machine, or by using one of the new iron-on tapes or bonding strips that are available at the yardage stores.

Attach hooks and eyes, large ones, or buttons and buttonholes.

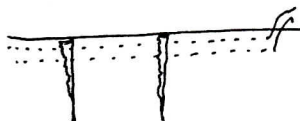
Lace, rickrack, ribbon, braid or fringe may be topstitched before the last seam is sewn in order to tuck in the raw ends into the seam. The finishing touches may also be sewn on after the skirt is completed.

BORDER FABRICS: When using a border fabric you will only need to know how full you want your skirt to be, and how long. A 45 inch wide fabric will make a long skirt. For a shorter skirt, cut off the excess from the top. Make the waistband from the excess fabric you cut off. Gather the skirt as you would a panel type skirt described above.

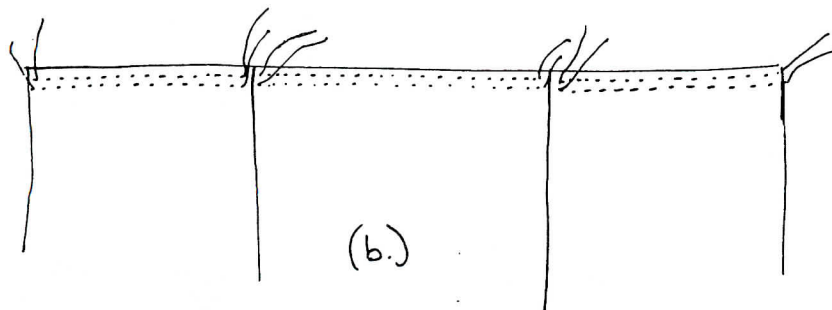
NOTE: When gathering any fabric, use at least two rows of gathering, large stitches, and patience. Never use old thread. About 45 inches can be gathered at one time to minimize the excess wear on the thread and to prevent thread breakage. (See illus. b)



(a.)



(a.)



(b.)

TURNING CORNERS WITH A WIDE FLAT BRAID

Quite often, when substituting braid for embroidery, the problem of making a wide flat braid turn a corner or ease around a curve arises. Gathering it will leave a rippled and bumpy finish, but if you sew in darts and iron them flat you will have a nice smooth finish.

To make the braid curve you need to put in a series of small darts along one side of the braid. The dart is sewn from one edge to the other, and the spacing between the darts and the width of each dart is determined by the tightness of the curve. Often a braid has a design that allows a series of small darts on just one part of the design, that makes a small change in the design but in no way destroys it. See illustration (A).

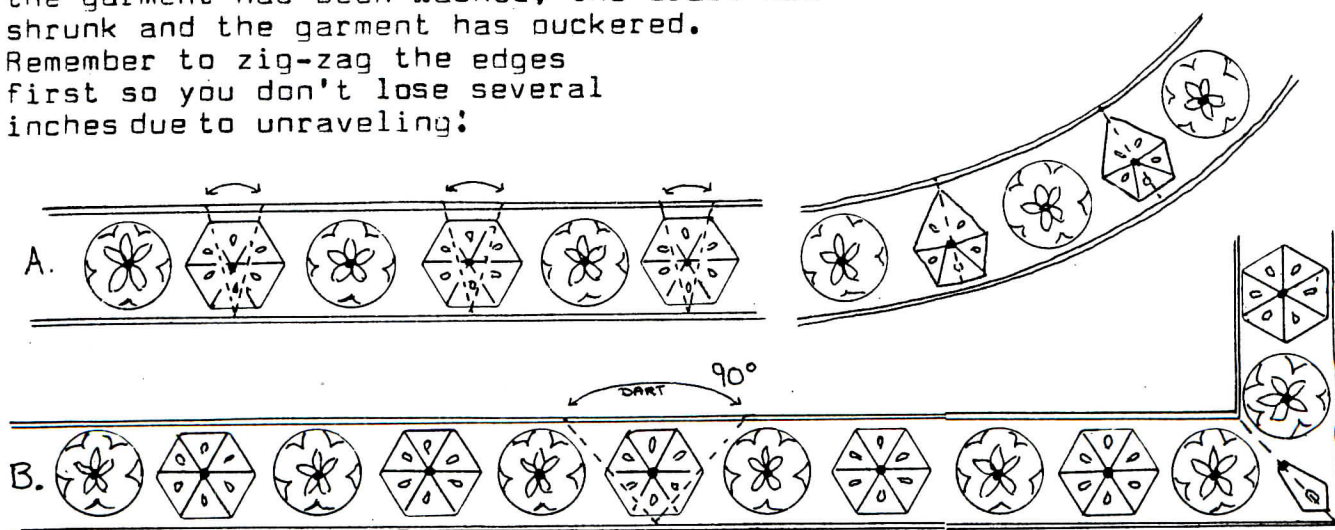
Experiment by laying the braid on the area of the garment that it is to be sewn, and secure it at regular intervals. By pinching and pinning you can tell just how many darts will be needed.

After all the darts are sewn and pressed, a gathering line along the inside curve can be used to ease in the small amount of excess that may still be there. Steam and press the easing flat.

To make a right angle turn you need just one dart (B), that is a 90° angle. Or, as with the curve, you lay the braid on the area of the garment it is to be sewn and pin out the excess. Sew the dart and press it flat. With a bulky braid, you may have to slash the dart, spread it open, and press it flat.

Top stitch the braid along the very edge so the stitching will appear as part of the braid.

HINT: All braid should be washed or shrunk before it is used. It is very discouraging to spend a lot of time placing and easing a braid into place, only to find that when the garment has been washed, the braid has shrunk and the garment has puckered. Remember to zig-zag the edges first so you don't lose several inches due to unraveling!



Let's Dance

Submission and Subscription Information

The deadline for Submission of ALL material is now the 15th of the month preceding publication--or 6 weeks before publication.

For example, the deadline for the March 2000 issue is January 15, 2000

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Information line: 510-558-6862

CALENDAR OF EVENTS, SOUTH

by Jay Michtom

CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS.

JANUARY 2000

- 14-16 "Ramah Rikkudiah", Israeli Dance weekend with Meir Shem-Tov and D'ani Uziel. Camp Ramah, Ojai. Info: Natalie at (818) 343-8009.
- 15 Burns Ball, hosted by San Gabriel Valley and Orange County RSCDS. Dabney Lounge, Cal Tech. Live music by Wild Rose. Info: Valerie Marshall (805) 494-8597.
- 23 "Winter Festival", sponsored by Pasa-dena Co-op. 1:30 at Scottish Rite Temple, 150 N. Madison. Council mtg. at 10:30 am. Info: Marshall at (626) 794-9493.
- 28, 29 "Chieftains", Irish musicians performing at UCLA Royce Hall, 8:00. Info: (310) 825-2101, www.performingarts.ucla.edu/main.htm.
- 29 Eth-Noh-Tec; Asian folktales, music, dance. 2:00 at CalTech's Beckman Auditorium. Info: (888) 222-5832, tickets@caltech.edu.

FEBRUARY

- 4-6 Square Dance Jamboree. Del Mar. Info: Bob and Carol (760) 738-0248.
- 11-13 Laguna Folkdancers festival. Ensign Intermediate School, 2000 Cliff Dr. Newport Beach. Workshops with Belle Birchfield, Michael Ginsburg and Ya-akov Eden. Dancing, concert, after parties. Info: Steve (949) 646-7082, shimel@aol.com.
- 18-21 Camp Yona - Israeli FD Camp. At Highland Springs Resort, Beaumont. Teachers from Israel and California. Info: Yoni Carr (760) 631-0802, yonie@earthlink.net.
- 25 Shanghai Kunju Opera Theatre. "Kun" drama, melding song, dance, acting. 8:00, at El Camino College, Torrance. Info: (800) 832-2787.
- 26 Soweto St. Dance Theatre. Contemporary and traditional African dance. 8:00 at CalTech's Beckman Auditorium. Info: (888) 222-5832, tickets@caltech.edu.
- 26 Kol Simcha, Klezmer Band. 8:00, at El Camino College, Torrance. Info: (800) 832-2787.

MARCH

- 3,4 Ballet Hispanico; ballet, modern and ethnic dance. UCLA Royce Hall. Info: (310) 825-2101, www.performingarts.ucla.edu.
- 11 Celtic Fiddle festival. Irish, Scottish and Brittany folk music. 8:00, at El Camino College, Torrance. Info: (800) 832-2787.

- 15 Battlefield Band, Scottish music. 8:00 at CalTech's Beckman Auditorium.
Info: (888) 222-5832, tickets@caltech.edu.
- 18-91 Arriving Las Vegas' Festival, hosted by Ethnic Express. Council Meeting at 10:30.
Details TBA. Info: 702) 732-4871.
- 29 "The Acadian Trail" with Beau Soleil Cajun band. Barclay Theatre,
Irvine. Info: (949) 854-4646.

APRIL

- 1 "93The Acadian Trail" with Beau Soleil Cajun band. Limited dance area.
8:00, at El Camino College, Torrance. Info: (800) 832-2787.
- 2 Westwood Co-op=92s Spring festival. Culver City Memorial Auditorium.
Details TBA.
- 7-9 42nd State Square and Round Dance Convention. San Diego.
Info: Keith and Linda at (760) 510-9547, square@squaredance.org.
- 15 Ojai Festival 2000. Details TBA.
- 28-30 Westwood Co-op's Hess Kramer Weekend, Malibu. Details TBA.
- 29 Halau Hula Ka No=92Eau. Authentic Hawaiian music and hula. 8:00,
at El Camino College, Torrance. Info: (800) 832-2787.



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