

Let's Dance

NOVEMBER 2000 · \$1.75

HAPPY
Thanksgiving
ONE
AND ALL

THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING



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

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On Our Cover:
Jim and Irene Oxford
Of Sacramento
A Lifetime of Dancing
(Story on Page 17)



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).



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President's Message

As most of you are aware, the Folk Dance Federation of California has its own website on the Internet, thanks to the efforts of Joel and Barbara Bruxvoort. Over the four years since it was initiated, the Federation website has been our window to the electronic world, informing others about our events and publications, and offering some dance descriptions such as Salty Dog Rag.

Last year, Joel modified the website to insert a counter, which not only counts the number of times that the web page is accessed, but also identifies the country of origin for each contact to the website. Using this counter, we can now keep track of the locations from which the contacts to our website are coming. Remarkably, the Federation website has already received contacts or "hits" from well over fifty different countries.

A review of Joel's records demonstrates how truly international in scope are both interest in folk dance and use of the Internet. Not unexpectedly, the continent with the highest number of nations accessing our website is Europe; we have had two or more contacts from all of the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and Yugoslavia.

After Europe comes Asia, with each of the following nations providing multiple contacts: Hong Kong, India, Israel, Japan, Korea, Lebanon, Malaysia, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Turkey. North and South American contacts included: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States, and Uruguay. From Australia/Oceania, we have received contacts from Australia, New Zealand and Tonga. The only nations in Africa from which we have received multiple contacts are Egypt and South Africa.

More surprising than the great diversity of countries in which the web hits have originated is the frequency of hits from particular countries. I expected that most of our hits would have come from the United States, but that is not the case. Of nearly 1850 contacts representing the top 50 originating nations, some 629 contacts came from Japan. That is over 1/3 of the total. The only other countries with more than 100 contacts were the U.S., with 199, and the Netherlands, with 143. Canada and Australia each originated over 90 hits. Between 50-70 hits were from both Belgium and the United Kingdom; between 40-49 were from Taiwan, Singapore, Italy, Finland and Portugal; between 25-39 we find France, Germany, Philippines, Denmark, and Greece. Fifteen more nations generated between 10 and 25 contacts.

It is really exciting to me to realize the worldwide interest in International Folk Dance, and that our Federation is truly a resource to the world. And we will now be expanding that presence, as at the last Assembly meeting it was decided to open a credit card merchant's account which enables the Federation to accept credit cards worldwide for purchase of Federation publications over the Internet. We may soon become a worldwide supplier of dance descriptions because of our fine library of dance description publications produced by the Federation. We can all be thankful for the fine work of the Dance Research Committee over the years in producing these publications. We can also be appreciative of Joel's efforts to develop and improve our Internet presence.

If you have access to the web, check out the Federation website at www.folkdance.com.

See you on the dance floor.

Craig Blackstone



What to do when the turkey's all gone?
Come to Kolo Festival!



The turkey was stuffed and so now so are you? Are you ready for some excitement? Shed those post-prandial blues, head for the San Francisco Russian Center, 2450 Sutter, near Divisadero, November 23-25, and kick up your heels at great workshops and lively parties at the 2000 Kolo Festival.

This year we welcome back the following dance teachers: **Joe Graziosi** (Greek); **Ahmet Luleci** (Turkish); **Slobodan Slovik** (Serbian), and **Mark Forri** will teach Croatian Tamburica songs.

Our new dance teacher this year will be **Ivan Dimitrov**. Ivan is a dance choreographer and former soloist with the Folklore Ensemble, TRAKIA, of Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Since 1996, he has taught and performed at festivals and workshops on the East Coast; he also directs his own ensemble in the Washington, DC area. This will be his first West Coast appearance.

To keep you hopping, we have a great lineup of bands for the Friday and Saturday evening parties.

Friday: **Vasil Bebelev** and **special friends** (Bulgaria); **Anoush** (Greek and Balkan; **Slovenian Traveling Band** (Kolos). An additional band is to be added.

Saturday: **Serbian Ensemble:** Nada Lewis, Clark Welsh, Jay Stebley, David Skuse (Serbian); Edessa (Macedonian); **Dan Auvil and George Chettenden** (Turkish). The tamburica orchestra for Friday and Saturday nights will be announced later and a Bulgarian band will be added.

In addition to the dance bands, there will be live music for listening both evenings in the **Kafana**. If you find yourself hungry in spite of all the turkey, lunch and dinner will be available on site; however, both require advance purchase (call, write, or e-mail us for a pre-registration form for meals and the Festival. **King of Falafel** will provide lunches and **Bistro E Europe** will provide dinners. If your hunger is for knowledge, there will be **Culture Corners**. To tempt your checkbook, vendors will have music, books, costumes, tapes and other Balkanalia on sale day and night.

If this lineup doesn't get you out of those armchairs and off the sofa, well, maybe you had a wee bit too much cranberry sauce...so, come one, come all! Dance! Sing! Eat! Shop! Enjoy live music with live(ly) people! Meet old friends and make new ones at the 49th annual Kolo Festival in San Francisco on Thanksgiving Weekend. If you want to pre-register, volunteer or would like more information, please contact us at (510) 652-7859, (800) 730-5615, Kolo Festival, P.O. Box 20181, Piedmont, CA 94620-0181, or asha@jps.net.

P.S. If the turkey insists on coming, too, please just make sure that its claws are taped and its dressing is appropriate.

Joanne Splivalo



**The Federation is
“Banking” on You To Support**

TREASURER'S BALL

We “Trust” You’ll Have a Good Time!

Sunday, December 3, 2000

1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Federation Assembly Meeting, 11:15 a.m.

Donation: \$5.00

Veteran’s Memorial Building

126 1st Street West

Sonoma, California

RAFFLE DRAWINGS!

COSTUME SALE!!

If you have a costume to donate, it
would be greatly appreciated.

Please Come, You’ll Be Glad You Did!

Page Masson, Treasurer



The Treasurer's Ball
Sunday, December 3, 2000
1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

PROGRAM OF DANCES

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Šetnja | 25. Dhivaratikos |
| 2. El Gaucho Tango | 26. La Encantada Tango |
| 3. Skt. Gilgen Figurentanz | 27. Swedish-Finn Mixer (P) |
| 4. Double Sixsome | 28. Dundee Whaler |
| 5. Bohemian National Polka | 29. Japanese Soft Shoe |
| 6. Square | 30. Contra |
| 7. Belasičko | 31. Bela Rada |
| 8. Numero Cinco | 32. Olssons' Familievals (P) |
| 9. Three's a Crowd | 33. Let's Have a Ceilidh |
| 10. Ciuleandra | 34. Kvar Acharay Chatzot |
| 11. Posties Jig | 35. Frenchy Brown |
| 12. Contra | 36. La Cachucha |
| 13. Joc bătrânesc din Niculițel | 37. Divčibarsko Kolo |
| 14. Corrido | 38. Zillertaler Ländler |
| 15. Western Trio Mixer (P) | 39. La Bastringue (P) |
| 16. Pinewoods Two Step (P) | 40. Elizabeth Quadrille |
| 17. Hambo | 41. Louisiana Saturday Night |
| 18. Square | 42. Balmoral Strathspey |
| 19. Maitli Schottisch | 43. Tino Mori |
| 20. St. Bernard's Waltz | 44. Ada's Kujawiak #1 |
| 21. Polharrow Burn | 45. Bal in da Straat (P) |
| 22. Rumelaj | 46. Vrapcheto |
| 23. Bluebell Waltz (P) | 47. Trip to Bavaria |
| 24. Contra | 48. Blue Pacific Waltz |



Dancing on the Internet

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

The Salty Dog Rag

I've received a number of requests lately regarding music for the Salty Dog Rag, because of my Salty Dog web pages, so I thought I'd put together a resource list for those of us who are fans of the Salty Dog Rag.

The Salty Dog—The Dance, The Dog, The Drink

www.wco.com/~jbrux/bbrux/html/salty_dog.htm

I've put up a few descriptions that were shared on rec.folk-dancing newsgroup a number of years ago. You'll also find the words to the song, a cocktail recipe, and (gasp! don't look!) pictures of Salty, my dog.

The Salty Dog Rag, Round Dance Style

www.euphora.com/RoundDance/html/salty_do.html

A brief dance write up. Unless you're familiar with the Round Dance notations, you'll want to have the Cue sheet notation printed out or displayed side by side with the description (www.round-dance.de/Notation.html)

The Salty Dog Rag, if you're from Finland

w1.446.telia.com/~u44602021/saltydograg.html

At least I think that's the language of this dance description...

Arijaze Western Dancer's Salty Dog Rag

www.arjjazedance.freeonline.co.ukSalty%20Dog%20Rag.htm

I like this description, it seems clear and makes the most sense (in writing) of the in-between part that makes the Salty Dog Rag so much fun. It also recommends a different tune: "I Couldn't Leave you if I Tried" (something I might say to my Salty dog, but she wouldn't say to me if I left the front door open). The record number is also included.

Folk Music Index to Recordings—Salo to Sant

milton.mse.jhu.edu/research/folkindex/S03.htm

Wow, what a web site! Page down to the Salty Dog section, and you'll find references to a number of different albums that you can have fun tracking down. If you're like me, you'll also be interested in viewing the index by performer, and then you'll follow a few links & forget what you came for, all the while marvelling in this information mine. Make sure you look at the home page while you're at it (folkindex.mse.jhu.edu/). Impressive.

(Continued on next page)

4CSONS Records For Sale

www.4csons.com/dance/Records/Song/song-S.html

At last a place where you can actually buy the Red Foley version of the Salty Dog Rag. (I don't have experience with this vendor, inclusion here is not a recommendation one way or the other.)

Dogmar Vinyl Imports

www.bluesworld.com/roots/rr_cvinylai.htm

A version by Eddie Hill. (I don't have experience with this vendor, inclusion here is not a recommendation one way or the other.)

CDNow

www.cdnw.com

Search by song title to find a couple CD's with the Salty Dog Rag (Chet Atkins & an instrumental guitar version). (I have purchased from CDNow without problems.)

Amazon

www.amazon.com

Amazon has 3 CD's with the Salty Dog Rag (go to the "music" store, search in Popular Music by Song Title).



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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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2010 Parnell Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90025

**WELCOME
To the
TREASURER'S
BALL**

Wes Takara



MÂDRO

(E.Trakija, Bulgaria)

Mâdro (MUH-droh) translates as “wisely.” The dance is known also as Mâdroto (“the sage”) or Corbadzijsko Horo (“the master’s or rich lady’s dance”). From the town of Kotel in Eastern Trakija, Mâdro is a traditional women’s dance of welcome for their husbands, seasonal laborers back from weeks or months abroad. The dance originally consisted of only one step-close basic step, performed in a slow, light, subdued and feminine way. The composition described here is based on a version taught by Belčo Stanev, choreographer from Varna, Bulgaria.

Cassettes: Folk Dances from Bulgaria, UOP Folk Dance Camp, Side B/5;
Folk Dances from Bulgaria, JL1990.01, Side B/15.

Rhythm: 7/8 meter = 2/8+2/8+3/8, counted here as 1, 2, 3, or Q Q S.

Formation: Closed circle facing LOD, hands joined down in V-pos.

Styling: Trakijski: feminine, subdued, and somewhat solemn with light and bouncy movements. The shoes are a kind of slipper that dictate and explain the styling. The lacy and heavily ornamented dress and jewelry also influence the modest performing style.

Measures	7/8 meter	PATTERN
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INTRODUCTION. None.

I. MOVING IN LOD

- 1 Facing LOD with wt on L, touch ball of R ft fwd in LOD and rotate torso slightly CW, so that L shldr moves back (R fwd) (ct 1); step on full R ft fwd in LOD, rotating torso and shldr slightly CCW (ct 2); squaring shoulders, step fwd on L in LOD (ct 3). A gentle, subtle hip action accompanies the rotations and shoulder movements.
- 2-3 Repeat meas 1 twice.
- 4 Step fwd R, L, R (cts 1-3).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk.

II. MOVING IN LOD WITH LIFTS (Ritardando)

- 1-3 Repeat Fig I, meas 1-3, but raise heel of L slightly after meas 3, ct 3 (ct 3&).
- 4 Ritardando (music slows down): Step on R (ct 1); raise heel of R ft (ct &); step on L (ct 2); raise heel of L ft (ct &); step on R (ct 3).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk.

III. FORWARD, BACK, AND SIDE, CLOSE

- 1 Turning to face ctr, raise hands to W-pos and step fwd on R, leaving L ft on floor (ct 1); take wt off L ft (ct 2); bouncing on R, raise L leg behind R with bent knee (ct 3).
- 2 Leaving R ft on floor, step back on L (ct 1); take wt off R ft (ct 2); bouncing on L, raise R ft in front with bent knee (ct 3).
- 3 Leaving L ft on floor, step on R to R (ct 1); take wt off L (ct 2); close L beside R with wt (ct 3).
- 4 Repeat meas 3, but do not take wt on L on ct 3.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

IV. MOVING TO CENTER AND BACK

- 1 Continuing to face ctr with upper body leaning slightly fwd and arms extended fwd, step diag fwd R on R ft (ct 1); bending R knee, strike ball of L ft next to R heel (ct 2); brush L ft fwd (ct 3); rising on ball of R ft, bring L leg fwd with straight knee (ct &).
- 2 Repeat meas 1, stepping diag L with opp ftwk.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2, but on meas 4, ct 3, close R ft to L heel with a stamp, no wt.
- 5 Straightening upper body, move bkwd from ctr, stepping on R, bending R knee and leaving L ft on floor (ct 1); take wt off L ft (ct 2); bounce on R, raising L leg in front with knee bent (ct 3).
- 6 Repeat meas 5 with opp ftwk.
- 7-8 Repeat meas 5-6.
- 9-14 Repeat meas 1-6.
- 15-16 Release and lower hands to sides, turning CW once in place, while dancing Fig. I, meas 1-2.

Sequence: Dance sequence: Fig. I, twice; Fig. II; Fig. I; Fig. III, Fig. IV; Repeat all; Fig. I.



Sacramento Council danced at the State Fair in September 2000.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Gregory Mitchell, 1941 Danvers Way, Sacramento, CA. 95832-1226,
(916) 392-7357, e-mail – ggnadine@cs.com

Deadline for **December** issue is *October 15, 2000*.

Plan ahead! Save these dates for upcoming events:

- November 23, 24 & 25** **Kolo Festival.** San Francisco Russian Center , 2450 Sutter St.
For more information contact (510) 652-7859 or (800)
730-5615, or Kolo Festival, P.O. Box 20181, Piedmont, CA
94620; e-mail: asha@jps.net.
- December 3, 2000** **Treasurer's Ball.** Veterans Memorial Hall, 126 1st Street
West, Sonoma, CA. Contact Page Masson, (707) 833-4181
(Flyer with information in this issue)
- January 12-13-2001** **Peninsula Heritage Festival.** San Carlos Community
Church of Christ, Elm at Arroyo Street, San Carlos, CA.
Contact Arden Pierce at 650-494-1631.
- February 11, 2001** **Sweetheart Festival.** Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1226
Salvador Avenue, Napa. 1:30 – 5:30 PM. Contact Dave
Thomson (707) 255-7309.
- February 25, 2001** **Festival of the Oaks.** Live Oak Park, 1301 Shattuck (at
Berryman), Berkeley, CA. Contact Mel Mann at (510)
527-2177.
- March 10, 11 & 12, 2001** **Camellia Festival.** CSUS Campus, Sacramento, CA.
Contact Teddy Wolterbeek at (510) 677-1134.
- April 1, 2001** **Cherry Blossom Festival.** Veterans Building, 126 I St.
West, Sonoma. Contact Frank & Elsa Bacher at 707-
546-8877.
- May 18, 19 & 20, 2001** **Statewide 2001.** Las Vegas, Nevada. Contact Dick or Dona
Killian at (702) 732-4871.
- May 20 , 2001** **Rose Festival.** Veterans Building, 1315
Maple St., Santa Rosa 95404; contact
Frank & Elsa Bacher at 707-546-8877.
- August 19, 2001** **Little Festival in the Redwoods.** Guerneville. Contact
Frank & Elsa Bacher at 707-546-8877.

September 9, 2001 **Fiesta de Sonoma.** Veterans Bldg., 126 I St. West, Sonoma.
Contact Frank & Elsa Bacher at 707-546-8877.

December 2, 2001 **Treasurer's Ball.** Contact Page Masson, 707-833-4181.

Council Club Parties

Redwood Council

Every 4th Saturday

Napa Valley Folk Dancers. Grandview Mobilehome Park
Clubhouse, Napa. Contact Frank & Elsa Bacher at
707-546-8877.

November 11

Petaluma International Folk Dancers. Hermann Sons
Hall; 860 Western Ave., Petaluma 94952; 8:00 – 11:00PM;
contact Frank & Elsa Bacher at 707-546-8877.

San Francisco Council

November 17 **Changs.** Thanksgiving Party, Presbyterian Church, 1739 7th Ave.,
San Francisco, 8:00- 1:00 PM, Social Hall, Joel & Barbara Bruxvoort :
MCs and Party Planners. General Dancing and Refreshments.
Contact Sidney Messer 415-332-1020.

Peninsula Council

November 18 Community United Church, Arroyo at Elm St. San Carlos, CA.
Contact Arden Pierce, 650-494-1631 or Al Lisin, 408-252-8106.

Redwood Council

November 15 **Santa Rosa Folk Dancers.** Veterans Memorial Bldg., North Room,
1315 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa; contact Frank & Elsa Bacher at
807-546-8877.

Berkeley Folk Dancers

November 18 **BFD Fun Night Party,** Live Oak Park Gym, Berryman and Shattuck,
Berkeley, 7:30 – 10:00 PM; BFD members \$5; non-members \$7;
Call Lone Coleman at 510-527-2491.

Sacramento Council

Selective Sat. **Balliamo!** Sierra Two Community Center, 24th St. & 4th Ave.
Doris Beckert at 916-482-8674.

November 4 **Kolo Koalition.** YLI Hall, 27th & N Sts., 8:00 – 10:30 PM.
Contact Laura Leonelli at 916-739-6014 (home), or 916-424-0684
(work).

November 5 **Sacramento Cape Breton Step Dancers.** St. Francis School
Lunchroom, 2500 K Street. Contact Gail Erwin, 209-745-9063.

- November 11** **Pairs & Spares.** Babcock School, 2400 Cormorant Way, 8:00 11:00 PM. Theme: "Harvest of Happiness." Contact Chuck Paulsen at 916-428-6992.
- November 11** **Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.** YLI Hall, 27th & N Sts., 7:30 PM. Contact Patrick Gallagher at 916-737-8770.
- November 18** **BBKM.** YLI Hall, 27th & N Sts., 8:00 PM. Contact Barbara Bevan, 916-923-1555.
- November 25** **First & Last Dancers.** Valley Oaks Grange, 5th & D Streets, Galt, 8:00 – midnight. Theme: "Down the Chimney with Good St. Nick." Contact Irene Oxford at 916-371-4949.

Club Weekly Class Schedules

Berkeley Folk Dancers All classes are held at Live Oak Park Recreation Center at 1301 Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley, 7:45 PM to 9:45 PM

<i>Mondays</i>	Intermediate Level		Norm Gelbart & Yaqi Zhang 510-525-0174.
<i>Tuesdays</i>	Advanced	"	Lone Coleman & Mark Anderson 510-527-2491
<i>Wednesdays</i>	Advanced/Int.	"	Louise & Bill Lidicker 510-528-9168
<i>Thursdays</i>	Beginners	"	Claire & Al George 510-841-1205
<i>Fridays</i>	Request Night		7:45 PM – 10:30 PM Occ. teaching for part of evening

November 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17 & 30. (Every Thursday & Friday). (Call Bachers regarding Thanksgiving week class schedule) Napa Valley Folk Dancers. Grandview Mobilehome Park Clubhouse. Contact Frank & Elsa Bacher, 707-546-8877.

November 3 **Changs.** Presbyterian Church, 1329 7th Ave., San Francisco, CA. Social Hall. Teaching by Elsa Bacher, 8:00-9:30 PM. General Dancing 9:30-10:30 PM. Contact Sidney Messer 415-332-1020.

November 8 **Napa Valley Folk Dancers. Novato Class.** Lynwood School, 1320 Lynwood Dr., Novato 94947; 8 – 10:00 PM. Contact 415-892-9405.

November 8 **Santa Rosa Folk Dancers.** Veterans Memorial Bldg., North Room, 1315 Maple St., Santa Rosa 95404; 2 – 4:00 PM Contact Frank & Elsa Bacher at 707-546-8877.

November 10 **Santa Clara Valley Folk Dancers.** First Christian Church, 80 South

5th Street, San Jose. Contact Denise Heenan (408) 249-6104 or Maxine Burnham, (408) 739-0500.

- Nov. 3 & 10** **Changs.** Presbyterian Church Social Hall, 1329 7th Ave., San Francisco. Teaching by Elsa Bacher, 8:00- 9:30 PM. General Dancing 9:30-10:30 P.M. M.C & Program Planner - Frank Bacher.
- November 11** **Petaluma Folk Dancers.** Herman Sons Hall, 8:00-11:00 PM . Contact Frank or Elsa Bacher, 707-546-8877.
- November 15** **Santa Rosa Folk Dancers.** Santa Rosa Veterans Hall, 2:00 – 4:00 PM. Contact Frank or Elsa Bacher, 707-546-8877.
- November 15** **Napa Valley Folk Dancers. Novato Class.** Lynwood School, 1320 Lynwood Dr., Novato; 8 – 10:00 PM; contact 415-892-9405.
- November 17** **Berkeley Folk Dancers.** Request Night and Open Teaching. Live Oak Park Gym, Berryman and Shattuck, Berkeley; 7:45 – 10:30 PM BFD members free; non-members \$5; Ed Malmstrom, 510-525-3030.
- November 18** **Menlo Park Folk Dancers.** 700 Alma at Mielke, Menlo Park, CA. Contact Marcel Vinokur, 650-327-0759.
- November 29** **Napa Valley Folk Dancers. Novato Class.** Lynwood School 1320 Lynwood Dr., Novato 94937; 8 – 10:00 PM. Contact 415-892-9405.
- November 29** **Santa Rosa Folk Dancers.** Veterans Memorial Building, North Room, 1315 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa 95404; 2-4:00 PM. Contact Frank & Elsa Bacher at 707-546-8877.

For information on other Federation activities call 50-558-6862.

COUNCIL CLIPS

**Nadine Mitchell, 1941 Danvers Way, Sacramento, CA. 95832, Phone/FAX: 916-392-7357,
e-mail : ggm nadine@cs.com Deadline for December issue is October 15, 2000**

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS

Charlotte Weber reports that BFD will again offer the popular REQUEST NIGHT PLUS SOME TEACHING for guests new to our beloved activity on Friday, November 17 from 7:45 – 10:30 PM, Live Oak Park, 1301 Shattuck Avenue, non-members \$5. For information call Ed at 510-525-3030.

BFD FUN NIGHT PARTY, Saturday, November 18, sponsored by the Advanced Class. It will be held at Live Oak Park, 1301 Shattuck Avenue at Berryman, 7:30 – 10:00 PM. BFD members: \$4; non-members: \$7. Call Louise at 510-528-9168.

Plan now to attend THE fabulous NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY, Sunday, December 31, 9:00 PM to midnight, Live Oak Park, 1301 Shattuck Avenue. Refreshments will be served.

PENINSULA COUNCIL

Arleen Marshall reports that the Palomanians had a wonderful time at their annual club installation picnic on Sunday, September 10. All the current members, past members and friends were present for the pot luck picnic. They had games like horseshoes and tossed the Frisbee into a box and as the sun went down on a beautiful day everyone went inside the SLAC building to do their favorite folk dances. Al Lisin hosted the picnic and Denise Heenan was MC for the Dance. New officers were listed last month.

Peninsula Council President Arden Pierce is busy working on the Heritage Festival to be held in San Carlos on January 12 and 13 at the Community Church of Christ. An Institute will be held on Saturday afternoon. Dances that will be taught are: Czech – Bill and Louise Lidicker; Croatian – Lone Coleman.

SACRAMENTO COUNCIL

Editor's Comment: This month I wish to welcome Vick Vickland, Council Vice President, who will submit articles for the Sacramento Council. Thanks for your help, Vick. I appreciate it.

Vick reports that Sacramento has kicked off the fall season of folk dancing, with a number of groups that were dormant for the summer, coming back to life in early September. A beginner's party, with a Halloween theme, will be held on Saturday, October 28, 2000, at the YLI (Young Ladies Institute), 27th & N Streets, in Sacramento. People who expressed interest in folk dancing at this year's Camellia Festival, and at the Friday evenings' "Dancing in the Street" in June in Old Sacramento, will be given invitations to attend. Local folk dance teachers will be asked to teach some of their clubs' easier dances. Experienced dancers are asked to attend this event, and help draw new dancers into the fold.

Our folk dance performance at the State Fair was a great success, thanks to Irene Oxford, who coordinated it, and to the approximately 50 dancers who participated. A variety of dances, both line and couple, was included in the performance. The event was in a central area of the fairgrounds, at 1:00 o'clock, near the food booths, which provided an excellent spectator attendance. "Where to Dance" lists were passed out to about 25 interested spectators. We always hope that will draw some new dancers.

The Sacramento Folk Dance and Arts Council has agreed to sponsor the Statewide Festival on the weekend before Memorial Day weekend in 2002.

Pourparler 2000, a conference of national recreational folk dance teachers, was held in Sacramento September 14 to 17. It was co-sponsored by the National Folk Organization, the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc./North, and the Sacramento International Folk Dance and Arts Council. They sponsored a Friday evening dance for local dancers as a "thank you" to Sacramento for holding the event. On Saturday evening, following a dinner cruise on the delta, they joined BBKM's (Benevolent Brotherhood of Kolo Maniacs) party, dubbed "Pourparler et Pourdancer."

The Council's Scholarship Ball will be combined with the New Year's Ball on January 27, 2001, at Clunie Clubhouse. More information will follow in the next Let's Dance.

THE OXFORDS



Clockwise from top left: the Kaleidoscopes Folk Dance Club performs at the Camellia Festival in Sacramento, Jim and Irene at the Camellia Festival, Jim and Irene with their son Ted.

THE OXFORDS

Oxford. This is a name familiar to people in the folk dance community, not only in Sacramento but also throughout California.

Jim and Irene Oxford began folk dancing in Mt. Shasta with the Dudes and Daisies Folk Dance Club. They were members of the Mountain Mixers, the Hedge Hoppers and the Square D, which was a square dance group. They next came to Sacramento and joined Whirl-A-Jigs and Pairs and Spares and are charter members of Pairs & Spares. They also formed Kaleidoscopes from a beginners class they taught at the Clunie Clubhouse in Sacramento. Also, they were honorary members of the Left Footers Folk Dance Club because they taught the dance "Left Foot One Step." Jim was privileged to hold the office of president in every club he has been affiliated with.

Jim and Irene were instructors of Family Circle for many years. They accepted this position as a memorial tribute to their son, Ted. Many will remember Ted Oxford, a shining light in folk dancing for too brief a time. Ted followed in his parents' footsteps (and dance steps, too). All three were invited to call squares at all Federation, Regional and Statewide Festivals throughout California. They also called at the local weekly (yes that's right, in those days in Sacramento, there was at **least** one party every Saturday night) parties in Sacramento. Ted belonged to the Buttons and Bows, with Omega Graham, and the Dionysians exhibition group, and he was the square dance caller for the Goofers Teen Square Dance Group. He was also a dancer and choreographer for a teenage exhibition group called the Silhouettes. This group was scheduled to perform in Europe but unfortunately, Ted passed away before that occurred. Ted was awarded a Sacramento Council scholarship to the Stockton Folk Dance Camp for two consecutive years but his untimely death occurred two weeks prior to his second year. Ted will always be missed by all those who knew him. One can only imagine how far this talented young man could have gone if his time had not been cut short. However, his talent and enthusiasm should be a beacon for young dancers today.

Jim and Irene continued in Family Circle for fifteen years until insurance issues became a problem. For that reason and the fact that the children were growing up, the decision was made to dissolve the club.

Jim was President of the Sacramento Folk Dance Council from 1964 to 1965 and Irene served in that capacity from 1997 to 1999. They both served the Federation and the Sacramento Council in various roles over the years and continue to do so to this day.

Jim instructed at the Rio Hondo Teachers Training Class for the Federation. His agenda was "Sound Systems and One-Night Stands."

Jim and Irene both taught weekly folk and square dance classes for the Sacramento City Recreation Department for twenty-five years. They also did one-night stands at regional fairs, churches, lodges, retirement facilities, weddings, scout meetings, malls, etc. In 1955, they attended a square dance course class as "guinea pig dancers." Their job was to exactly follow the caller's instructions. Jim had such a good time with their goofing that he was handed the mike, given an "idiot sheet" to memorize for the following week and so began their career to be square dance callers.

At one time the Kaleidoscopes, under the direction of Jim and Irene, had the largest membership of all the folk dance clubs in Sacramento. Club members appeared on Channel 10 Television Station for a Sears commercial and danced on a morning show, too.

For twenty years the Oxfords hosted New Year's Eve parties in their home where there was "standing room only." They also had summer-long patio dance parties and classes. The Kaleidoscopes differed from other folk dance clubs in that their program consisted equally of traditional folk dances and basic square dance figures. The club costume was pink and green and the badge was a kaleidoscope consisting of those same colors with figures of dancers in the center doing a "kaleidoscope" of dances. The club, along with many others, decorated the Memorial Auditorium for Camellia Festivals throughout the years.

For fifty years Jim and Irene have been going strong. They are still active well into the new millennium. They are currently members of Pairs & Spares Folk Dance Club and the First & Last Dancers (country line dancing). Jim is Vice President of Pairs & Spares; Irene is Hold-Over Officer for the Sacramento Council and is on the Executive Board of the Federation serving as Chairperson of the North/South Committee. Irene is also on the Board of the First & Last Dancers. These are their official titles. Both of these popular people serve on numerous committees, call squares, dance at various functions around the city, and other activities too numerous to mention. Irene's love is decorations and you can always depend on her to "fancy up" a room for a folk dance event. Just look for "happy faces" all around the room and you'll find Irene. At the same time look for a tall, blonde fellow in western wear. That's Jim. He is always willing to call a square or contra and can be depended upon to offer instructions, when needed or requested, on folk dances, new and old.

Anyone who knows Jim and Irene are aware that they are loyal, dedicated members of the clubs they belong to as well as the Sacramento Council and the Federation. They never miss a club class night or party unless it is absolutely impossible to be there. They are equally dedicated to the other groups, as well. They tirelessly bring their music equipment to classes and parties and call squares willingly. They are usually the first ones at Pairs & Spares class and party nights and the last to leave. As members of the First & Last Dancers, which is not only a dance club but a service organization, you can find them serving on bingo nights at a local convalescent home, often dancing with that group and Pairs & Spares to entertain the residents, and generally spreading a little fun and laughter to those around.

Their true loves are each other, family and folk dancing. Oh, and let's not forget their little dog, Misty!

We are all richer for having this couple in our midst. We know we will continue to reap the results of their experience for a long time to come.

NADINE MITCHELL



Jim and Irene - 50 years together and folk dancing.

FOLK DANCE NEWS

CHOOKASIAN ARMENIAN ENSEMBLE

A concert by the Chookasian Armenian Concert Ensemble will be held Saturday, November 18, 2000, 7:00 PM, at St. Andrew's Armenian Church Concert Hall, 11370 So. Stelling Road, Cupertino, CA.

The performance will consist of a traditional concert program of Armenian Classical, Folkloric and Troubadour Songs and Dances.

The Chookasian Armenian Ensemble received the Gold Medal Award from the government of Armenia after their month-long tour in 1999.

For information on tickets call (408) 257-6743 or (408) 323-4090.

Directions to St Andrew's Armenian Church are as follows: 280 South to 85 South - Exit; Stevens Creek Road - right; to De Anza - right; to Rainbow Drive - right; to Stelling Road - left.

IN MEMORIAM

Carolyn Riedeman, Past President of the Folk Dance Federation, Inc./North, passed away in Sacramento, California, on July 25, 2000. She served as President from 1962 to 1964.

She and her husband were very active in Bay Area folk dancing circles and were founders and instructors of the Merry Mixers.

It is always sad to note the passing of our folk dancing friends, but we are happy to remember that they shared happy times with us on the dance floor.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

Got time on your hands? We've got the job for you! The Federation is asking for someone who would be willing to mail out the Let's Dance magazine each month. For details call Craig Blackstone, President, at 650-359-7486, or Nadine Mitchell, Editor, at 916-392-7357.

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