

January 2005 \$3.00

Let's Dance!

THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING

Kolo Festival 2004



Krovaci Croatia
Ensemble from the
Assumption of
St. Mary Church,
San Jose



Delije ensemble from
The Serbian Orthodox
Church of the
Assumption,
Sacramento area

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

Let's Dance!

Volume 62, No. 1

January 2005

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The deadline for Let's Dance! is one month prior to publication.

Material for the February issue must be received by January 1.

Please send to: Gary Anderson, Editor

Box 548, Woodacre, CA 94973

email: wildwood_press@comcast.net

*Opinions expressed in Let's Dance! are not necessarily
those of the Federation/North or of the Editor.*

You can now post your folkdance event flyers
on the Federation's web site: www.folkdance.com.
If you need assistance, contact Dick Raw-
son at drawson@gilia.com

Membership rate is \$22.50 per year (plus \$5.00 for foreign)
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President's Message

PARTY PARTY PARTY

Would you like to throw a really fun party?

Would you like to provide wonderful entertainment for your guests?

Would you like to get people up and dancing?

Well, consider yourself lucky because this very month, on Sunday afternoon, January 23, you can learn how to do all that.

Bruce Wyckoff, folk dance teacher and square dance caller, past president of the Federation, and present chairperson of the Teachers Committee, has designed a workshop called 'ONE-TIME FOLK DANCE EVENT'. It's to entertain, to have fun, and to dance.

This One-Time Event can be used in many situations for many kinds of groups. Bruce has not given out any specifics but we can all think of places where we can apply this technique. Here are some to spark your imagination:

A singles group, a father/daughter night.

The Cal-Maritime Academy, the UCSF campus.

An anniversary party, a birthday celebration.

The Chinese Consulate, the Latvian Embassy.

Wherever a ONE-TIME FOLK DANCE EVENT takes place, there's a good possibility that, without even trying, ONE person will be turned onto folk dancing!! That ONE can turn on another ONE.

And ONE and ONE make two. And two and two make . . . you get the idea.

So start this new year off by dancing at three events at the San Carlos Heritage Festival:

January 21 at the Warm-up Party;

January 22 at the Afternoon Institute and Evening Party;

and January 23 at the One-Time Dance Event where you'll learn how to get people up and dancing. There couldn't be a better way to begin a New Year!

Laila

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415-332-1020



Let's Dance! — January, 2005

Kolo Festival 2004

By Gary Anderson, Editor

How can you describe the Kolo Festival? One way is absolute exhaustion. Another is exhilaration. Dancing from 9:30 am to 1:00+ am for two consecutive days. Dancers rushing from one floor to another to get to a favorite band. Dancers taking a rest break in the Kafana, being pulled to their feet by the music and dancing more. Tired people, much too tired to dance anymore, sitting immersed in the music, enjoying just being there.

This year's Festival, under the direction of Jerry Duke, was the best organized I can recall. The check-in moved well, the honor bar was kept supplied, the muffins were great, the food was good. The classes and music mostly started on time. Sound checks sometimes slowed things and a bad CD caused a blip in a concert performance (which didn't faze the young performers). All-in-all, a very well run Festival.

While there were excellent teachers and interesting dances, the highlight of the event was the Saturday concert, organized by Phylliss Doyle. Every performance was superb. The young people of Krovaci Croatian Ensemble from the Assumption of St. Mary Croatian Church, San Jose, started the evening with spirited Croatian dances choreographed by Zeljko Jergan. They were supported by their own excellent band.

Shuvani, a group of agile young women, performed Roma Gypsy inspired dances from India, Turkey, Egypt and Spain. Beautiful costumes and graceful movement defined the dance. They were followed by the lovely singing of Mosaic Vocal Ensemble.

Djerdan (second grade to junior high) and Delije (junior and senior high) from the Serbian Orthodox Church of the Assumption came from Sacramento to perform Serbian dances. They were directed and choreographed by Dennis Boxell.

Finishing the Concert was Grup Yore, a Turkish dance group from San Jose, doing Silifke (Spoon Dance). This unusual and graceful dance was a perfect finish to an excellent concert.

Teaching at this year's Kolo Festival were: Theodor and Lia Vasilescu, Romanian; Tineke Van Geel, Armenian; John Morovich, Croatian and singing; Petur Iliev, Bulgarian and John Filcich teaching kolos.

The heart of a Kolo Festival is the bands and this year's were no exception. Among the bands were: Anoush, Top Dog Run, Vassil Beblekov, Tom Morgan, Brass Menagerie, Danubius, Sinovi and Rumelaj. (I probably don't have the names of all of the bands and I apologize if I have left someone out.) It was particularly gratifying that they played more of the choreographed dances, Ovcepolosko, Sadi Moma and Jove Malj Mome come to mind among others. I am partial to Croatian music and Sinovi was my favorite. They played an excellent waltz and polka that were very enjoyable. (Why don't folk dances have more regular polkas and waltzes?)

Volunteers Needed

The Kolo Festival is the result of the work of a large crew of dedicated volunteers. Unfortunately a number of the regulars are moving away or otherwise retiring from the staff. If you would like to be a part of this very important festival you are invited to volunteer: Call Jerry Duke (415) 338-1990 or email: jeduke@sfsu.edu

January, 2005 Calendar of Events

We reserve the right to edit all submissions and assume no responsibility for accuracy

Send future events information to Gary Anderson, Editor, Let's Dance!,

e-mail: wildwood_press@comcast.net (415) 488-9197

The deadline for the February issue is January 1

Upcoming Events—

- December 31** **BFD Traditional New Year's Eve Party.** 9:00 pm to midnight. Members \$5.00, non-members \$7.00. Live Oak Park Rec. Center, Shattuck at Berryman, Berkeley.
- December 31-January 1** **New Year's Eve Dinner Dance All Nighter. First and Last Dancers.** Theme: Chinese New Year. 7:00 PM. Valley Oaks Grange, 5th & D Streets, Galt. Reservations: Eda (916) 692-2638
- December 31** **Menlo Park Folk Dancers New Year's Eve Party.** \$7.00. Special refreshments, 8:00 pm to 1:00 am. Dancing in two halls. Burgess Recreation Center, 700 Alma Street at Mielke Drive, Menlo Park. 650-327-0759
- December 31** **Sacramento Country Dance Society New Year's Eve Contra Dance Party.** 8:00 pm to midnight. Clunie Clubhouse, 601 Alhambra Blvd., Sacramento. Contact David Wright 916-739-8906.
- January, 21 & 22 2005** ***The Annual Heritage Festival** will be held at the Community United Methodist Church, 1336 Arroyo Ave., San Carlos (same place as last year). Friday evening will be a warm-up party. Saturday will feature an afternoon Institute and evening dancing with a short break for exhibitions. See ad pages 7 & 8.
- January 23** ***One - Time Folk Dance event.** Of interest to everyone who wants to promote folk dancing. A course in how to introduce folk dancing to a group. 1:00 to 5:00 pm. Community United Methodist Church, 1336 Arroyo Ave., San Carlos. 650-368-7834.
- January 29** **Scholarship Ball.** Potluck 6 to 7:00 pm, 7 to 10:30 pm dancing. Theme: "Dancing in the Moonlight" Clunie Clubhouse, Alhambra & F Streets, Sacramento, info: 530-677-8099.
- January 29** **Central Valley-CAFY.** Lafayette Center, Princeton Street, West of Blackstone, Fresno. Contact Fran Ajoian, 559-255-4508.
- February 11-13** **Laguna Folkdancers 35th Annual Festival.** Workshops, concert, parties. \$42.00 for all events (advance purchase), \$48.00 at the door. Ensign Intermediate School Gym, 2000 Cliff Dr., Newport Beach, CA For information email: info@lagunafolkdancers.org or phone (714) 893-8888.
- February 13** ***Festival of the Oaks,** 10:00 am to noon, dance workshops with Susan Cashion; 1:00 pm to 5:30 pm, folk dancing with exhibitions. Laney College Gym, 900 Fallon Street, Oakland. Info: contact Mel Mann 510-527-2177.
- February 13** **Sweetheart Festival.** 1:30 to 5:30 pm. Napa Valley Junior College, 2277 Napa-Vallejo Highway, Napa. Contact David 707-255-7309 or Elsa 707-546-8877.
- March 5 & 6** ***Camellia International Dance Festival.** Institutes Saturday 1:00 to 5:00 pm, \$7.00 each, Parties in two halls, 7:00 to 11:00 pm, \$7.00 for both. Sunday dance and concert, 1:00 to 5:00 pm. \$6.00 for both. California State Univ., 6000 J St., Sacramento.
- June 18-25** **Mendocino Folklore Camp.** Mendocino Woodlands, info 707-795-6926 or phyris@mendocinofolkloreamp.com

**denotes Federation events*

Federation clubs—

SAN FRANCISCO COUNCIL

Changs International Folk Dancers, Inc. Meets the first four Fridays of each month at the Social Hall, 7th Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1329 7th Avenue, San Francisco. Teaching on the first two Fridays followed by general dancing, 8:00-10:30 pm. Third Fridays are party nights, 8:00-11:00 PM. Fourth Fridays, general dancing, 8:00-10:30 pm. Contact Sidney Messer, 415-332-1020.

Greek Folk Dancing. Meets every Monday at the Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, 8:00-10:00 pm. First hour is teaching and second hour is practice. Contact Mary Ann Karonis, 510-530-5140 or for more information www.greekfeet.com.

Mandala Folk Dance Center. Meets every Thursday at St. Paul's Church Hall, 43rd & Judah, San Francisco, 7:30-8:15 pm. Request dancing, 8:15-9:00 pm. Intermediate teaching from 9:00-9:45 pm. Request dancing from 9:45-11:00 pm. First and last Thursdays are always Party Nights. Contact Edith or Paul at 415-648-8489.

San Francisco Dance Circle. Meets every Wednesday, 10:00-11:30 am at the Harvey Milk Recreation Center, 50 Scott Street, San Francisco. General Dancing. Beginners welcome! Free. Contact Mabel Doss at 415-467-9208. Easy parking. Public transportation.

SACRAMENTO COUNCIL—For a complete schedule of Sacramento Folk Dance & Arts Council classes, see www.folkdance.com/sacramentocouncil or call 916-923-1555. Sacramento Country Dance Society web site is: www.fussell.org/sacramento/, email: SactoCDS@comcast.net

Most Fridays—Nevada County Folk Dancers. Sept. thru May. Balkan and International, all levels, 8:00 pm. Nevada City United Methodist Church, 433 Broad Street, Nevada City. Contact David or Nancy 530-272-2149 or 800-521-2527, email: dance7@sbcglobal.net

First Fridays—Contra Dance. Sacramento Country Dance Society. Cluny Clubhouse, 601 Alhambra Blvd. at F St., Sac. Contact David Wright or Sue Jones 916-739-8906.

First Saturdays—Kolo Coalition. Balkan-Plus Party, theme: "Winter Tea Party", 7:00 pm for tea, 8:00 pm dancing. YLI Hall, 27th & N Streets. Contact Laura Leonelli at 916-739-6014.

Second Saturdays—Pairs & Spares Folk Dancers. 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Golden Palms Mobile Homes Clubhouse, 8181 Folsom Blvd. Contact Chuck at (916) 428-6992.

Second Saturdays—Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. YLI Hall, 27th & N Streets, Sacramento. Contact 916-783-9675. Web: www.rscds-sacramento.org

Third Saturdays—BBKM. Mostly-Balkan Party. 8:00-11:00 pm. YLI Hall, 27th & N Streets. Contact Barbara Bevan at 916-923-1555.

Third Saturdays—Sacramento Cape Breton Step Dancers. St. Francis School lunchroom, 2500 K Street. Classes first Sunday of the month & third Saturday. Contact Bob Schulheisz, 209-745-9063.

Selective Saturdays—Balliamo! Sierra Two Community Center, 24th Street and 4th Avenue. Contact Doris Beckert, 916-482-8674.

2nd & 4th Saturdays—Contra Dance. Sacramento Country Dance Society. Sacramento YWCA, 1122 17th Street, Sac. Contact Bob 916-641-7781

January 29—First and Last Dancers. Theme: "Dancing in the Moonlight." 8:00 pm. Valley Oaks Grange, 5th and D streets, Galt. Contact Eda at (916) 682-2638.

Second Sundays—English Country Dance, Sacramento Country Dance Society. Roseville Masonic Temple, 235 Vernon Street, Roseville. Contact Sue Jones or David Wright (916) 739-8906.

Third Sundays—Sacramento Sunday Israeli Dancers. 2-4 pm, YLI Hall, 27th and N Streets, Sacramento. For more information contact Toba (916) 371-4441.

MODESTO

Every Wed. night—Modesto Folk Dancers meet at Raube Hall in Ceres. Cost \$3.00 per person. Contacts: Floyd Davis and Barbara Summers (578-5551 for directions)

Every Friday—Night Village Dancers of Modesto meet at Sylvan Elementary School auditorium, 2908 Coffee Road, Modesto. Cost \$5.00 per night per person (students \$1.00). Contacts Don and Judy Kropp (209) 847-4439 and Floyd Davis and Barbara Summers.

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS. All classes are held at Live Oak Park Recreation Center, 1301 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, CA. 7:45 – 9:45 pm. Contact Naomi Lidicker at 510-524-2871.

Weekly class schedules:

Mondays—Third Year, Lone Coleman 510-526-5886 and Tom Sha, 510-614-5522

Tuesdays—Second Year, Claire and Al George, 510-841-1205

Wednesdays—Fourth Year, Yaqi Zhang, 510-525-1865 and Rick Sherman, 510-526-6540

Thursdays—Beginners, Louise and Bill Lidicker, 510-528-9168

Fridays—Requests. 7:45 – 9:45 pm. Contact Emily Stoper, 510-655-9332

OAKLAND

Scandinavian Dance Class. Thursdays 7:00 to 10:00 pm Nature Friends, 3115 Butters Dr., Oakland. For information contact Frank and Jane Tripi, 510-654-3636 or fjtripi@juno.com

PENINSULA COUNCIL

January 9—Santa Clara Valley Folk Dancers. St. Bebe's Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road at Monte Rosa, Menlo Park. 408-739-0500.

January 29—Menlo Park Folk Dancers. Menlo Park Recreation Building, 700 Alma at Mielke in Menlo Park. Potluck 6:00 pm, call for location. 8:00 pm until midnight. Lots of dancing in two halls. For information contact Marcel Vinokur at 650-327-0759.

—Continued on next page

Peninsula Council continued—

January 21 & 22, 2005—The Annual Heritage Festival will be held at the Community United Church in San Carlos (same place as last year). Friday evening will be a warm-up party. Saturday will have an afternoon Institute and evening dancing with a short break for exhibitions.

FRESNO FOLK DANCE COUNCIL

Tuesdays—Fresno Danish Dancers. Clovis Senior Center. 6:30-9:00 pm. Contact Wilma Andersen, 559-291-3176.

Tuesdays—Central Valley-CAFY, Lafayette Center, Princeton Street, West of Blackstone. Contact Fran Ajoian, 559-255-4508.

Wednesdays—McTeggert Irish Dancers. Beginners: 5:30-6:30 pm. Intermediate and Advanced: 7:00-8:00 pm. Contact Maureen Hall, 559-271-5200.

REDWOOD COUNCIL

Party every 4th Saturday. Napa Valley Folk Dancers. 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Napa Valley College, 2277 Napa-Vallejo Highway, Napa. Contact Mary 707-255-6815

Party every 2nd Saturday. Petaluma International Folk Dancers. 7:45 to 10:45 pm. Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. Contact Elsa 707-546-8877 or Anne 415-892-9405.

Every Monday, starting January 10. Snap-Y Dancers, Class and dancing. 7:00 to 10:30 pm. Guest teachers. Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. Contact Enriqueta LaVarta 707-778-0130 or Paul Smith 510-654-3636.

Every Thursday—Balkan Dancers of Marin. 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm. One hour program dancing, one hour all request. Teaching every first Thursday 8:00-8:30 pm. 4140 Redwood Highway, San Rafael. Info: call Irene Croft 415-456-0786 or Anne Arend 415-892-9405

Every Friday—Kopachka. 8:30-10:30, Scout Hall, 177 East Blithedale in Mill Valley. Programmed & request dances. Jerry Duke is main teacher/leader. Contact Toni Denmark 415-789-0061

Every Wednesday—Novato Folk Dancers. Lynwood School, 1320 Lynwood Drive, Novato, CA. 94947. Time: 8:00-10:00 pm. 415-892-9405.

Every Wednesday—Santa Rosa Folk Dancers. 1:45 to 3:45 pm, Willowside Hall, 5299 Hall Rd., Santa Rosa.

For information on other Federation activities, call 510-524-2871

Other groups—

BAY AREA—

Albany Y Folk Dancers. Every Friday, all levels, instruction 8:00 to 9:00 pm, all request dancing until 11:00 pm. 921 Kains Street, just south of Solano, off San Pablo Ave., Albany. Various teachers, contact Kay James, 925-376-0727.

International Folk Dance. Wednesdays, 7:00 pm at the Dance Palace, 5th and B Streets, Pt. Reyes Station. Contact Carol Friedman 415-663-9512.

Rina Israeli Dance. Everyone is welcome. Thursdays, Beginners 10:00 am, Intermediates 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, 200 N. San Pedro Road, San Rafael. For information call 415-444-8000.

Saratoga International Folk Dance Class. Thursdays 8:00 to 10:00 pm. First class free, \$6.00. Beginners are welcome. 19655 Allendale Avenue, Saratoga. Contact Loui Tucker 408-287-9999, email: loui@loutucker.com

Second Saturday Scandinavian. Teaching 7:30 to 8:30 pm, dancing 8:30 to 11:00 pm. Live music. For location: Frank or Jane Tripi at 510-654-3636 or ftjtripi@juno.com

San Francisco Second Saturday Israeli. From 6:30 to 7:30 beginning dances, 7:31 to 10:30 will be request dancing. St. Paul's Presbyterian Church at 43rd and Judah.

Ashkenaz. Live music, various teachers, various dates, see website for calendar. www.ashkenaz.com

SACRAMENTO AREA AND FOOTHILLS—

Davis International Folkdancers. Tuesdays. Balkan, Israeli, line and circle. All levels, 7:15 to 9:00 pm. Stonegate Country Club, 919 Lake Blvd., Davis. Contact 530-758-0863 or 530-756-2285.

El Dorado International Dance. Tuesdays. Beginning & intermediate line and couple. 7:00 to 9:00 pm. IOOF Hall, 467 Main Street, Placerville. Contact 530-622-7301 or 530-644-1198.

Tuesday Dancers. Beginning and intermediate, International and Country Western, line and couple. 1:00 to 3:30 pm. Hamilton Street Park, 4855 Hamilton Street, Sacramento. Contact 916-446-6290 or 916-923-1555.

Calico Folk Dancers. Wednesdays, beginning and intermediate, International, line and couple. 3:00 to 4:30 pm. Mission Oaks Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael. Contact 916-487-0413 or 916-923-1555.

Beginning Folk Dance. Thursdays, international, 7:00 to 8:30 pm, Hamilton Street Park, 4855 Hamilton Street, Sacramento. Contact 916-652-6315, patroy@lanset.com

Foothills Folkdancers. 1st and 3rd Thursdays, September-May, 7:30 to ?; 3rd Thursday, June-August, 6:30 to ?. Old Schoolhouse basement, 14531 E. School Street, Amador City. Contact 209-267-5052.

Reno Folk Dance Co-op. Party third Saturday, Faith Lutheran Church, 2075 W. 7th Avenue, Reno, 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Contact Derise Wigand 775-677-2306 or wigand@gbis.com.

Not listed? Error in listing?

Call, write or email and we'll add your group to our lists or fix mistakes in current listings:

Let's Dance!

Box 548, Woodacre, CA 94973

or call 415-488-9197

or email: wildwood_press@comcast.net

International Folk Dance Festival Celebrating Our Varied Heritage

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

Friday, January 21, 2005

★ Warm up Dance Party 7:30 to 11:00 pm

Saturday, January 22, 2005

★ Institute / Workshop

Registration starts at 1:00 pm

Instruction 1:30 to 4:30 pm

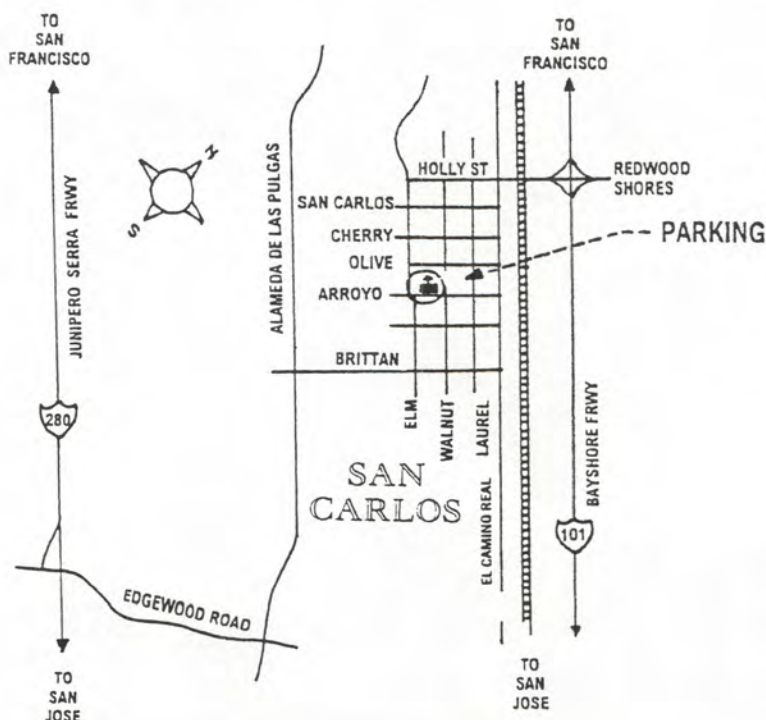
Presenting Polish, Bulgarian,
and Albanian Dances

★ Folk Dance Party

Dancing to Live Music by Vecernica
7:00 to 8:00 pm

Dancing and Exhibitions
8:00 to 11:00 pm

\$6.00 donation for each starred (★)
event; doors open 1/2 hour early



San Carlos Community United Church
1336 Arroyo Street, San Carlos, CA
(between Walnut and Elm streets)

(Parking behind the church by the super-
market; enter from Laurel or Walnut.)

HERITAGE FESTIVAL PROGRAM

January 21 & 22, 2005

Friday night party

7:30 - 11:00 PM

Marcel Vinokur, MC

TRUGNALA RUMJANA
GERAKINA
ROAD TO THE ISLES
EREV BA
ALUNELUL
MILONDITA TANGO
MAYIM
HORA FETELOR
TSIGANOCHKA
SYRTOS
ORIJENT
SALTY DOG RAG
SULAM YA'AKOV
GODECKI CACAK
DODI LI
DEDO MILI DEDO
AT VA'ANI
ARNOLD'S CIRCLE
SETNJA
HOREHRONSKY CARDAS
BOHEMIAN NATIONAK POLKA
IVANICE

TINO MORI
LIVAVTEENEE
MISIRLOU
DOSPATSKO HORO
ZILLERTALER LAENDLER
LECH LAMIDBAR
RUMELAJ
CARDAS Z
TFILATI
SITNA ZBORENKA
HAMBO
SAPRI TAMA
VULPITA
POLHARROW BURN
JOC DE LEAGANE
PASARELSKA
LA VIELLE BASTRINGUE
DOBRUDZANSKA REKA
LEMONIA
ILU TSIPORIM
GJUSEVSKA RACENICA
CACAK

ADA'S KUJUWIAK #1
BUCIMIS
SHIR
VRTIELKA
CIGANY TANC
JOVE, MALEJ MOME
MA AVARECH
RAVNO ORO
FLORICICA OLTENEASCA
ROROSPOLS
SHOOFNI
BELASICKO ORO
J. B. MILNE
ALI PASA
SOMOGYI KARIKAZO
NA'AMA
CIMPOI
CETVORNO HORO
SWING
SHIRI LI KINERET
OVCEPOLSKO ORO
WALTZ

Saturday afternoon Institute / Workshop
Featuring dances from Stockton Folk Dance Camp, 2004
Registration, 1:00 PM; Institute 1:30 - 4:30 PM.

Bill and Louise Lidicker will teach 3 Polish dances: Kujony, Szot Madziar, & Warszawianka.

Suzanne Rocca-Butler will teach 3 Balkan dances: Cobankat, Tervelska Raka, and Krivo Ihtimansko Horo

Saturday night party

7:00 - 8:00 PM

Vecernica Orchestra (live music) : Program to be announced.

8:00 - 11:00 PM

PRAVO RODOPSKO HORO
TZADIK KATAMAR
CORRIDO
D'HAMMERSCHMIEDSG'SELLN
RUSTEMUL
KOHANOCHKA
SCANDINAVIAN POLKA
DREISTEYRER
PARALIAKOS
LA ENCANTADA TANGO
LEVI JACKSON RAG
ESHEBO

AN DRO RETOURNE
SHIR AL ETZ
LITTLE MAN IN A FIX
BONNIE CUCKOO
KUJAWIAK #3
CIULEANDRA
HOFBRAUHAUS LAENDLER
POLONEZ ROYALE
VLASKO (Moreau)
CONTRAS
ST GILGEN FIGURENTANZ
JOC BATRANESC din NICULITEL

KORCSARDAS
HAMBO
DIVCIBARSKO KOLO
PELORUS JACK
LEPA ANKA KOLO VODI
VIDINSKO HORO
SWEET GIRL
KARAMFIL
POSTIE'S JIG
STABBERINGLENDER
VALASSKY STARODAVNY
JOVANO JOVANKE

PLUS EXHIBITIONS AND INSTITUTE DANCES

I WISH I COULD SHIMMY LIKE MY SISTER KATE

By Sidney Messer

In a paroxysm of terpsichorean curiosity, I recently decided to take a peek at some of the dances that were introduced early in the twentieth century. What I found were dances like the Boston Two-Step, the Bunny Hug, the Fanny Bump, Turkey Trot and the Slow Drag Squat. None of these, however, even came close to anything like the Shimmy.

The dance form we know today as the shimmy has been around for a very long time—but not here in America. They were doing a form of it in Germany in the 1400s only they called it the Ahselroten. Also, there were voodoo practitioners doing it in Haiti even before that.

The physical movements involved in doing the shimmy have to be seen to be appreciated, words alone are not sufficient. Webster's Dictionary while giving three definitions for the word 'shimmy' probably comes as close to describing it as any I've seen... "an abnormal vibration or wobbling as of the wheels of an automobile."

The dance was originally introduced here in the early 1900s by several performers including no one other than the wonderful Mae West, writhing and trembling through twelve shows a day. Later, the dance really took off, thanks to a young Polish immigrant girl named Marianna Winchalska. Marianna began her career singing in saloons owned by her father-in-law. It was said she was singing the Star Spangled Banner in a bar one night, when she forgot the words. She made up for it by shaking her shoulders and hips much to the surprise and delight of the patrons. When someone later asked what she was doing, she simply replied, "I'm shaking my shimmy." Marianna had a very strong Polish accent, and it was her way of pronouncing the word 'chemise'. She had managed at that moment apparently, to introduce a new meaning to the word 'shimmy'.

It wasn't long before an agent discovered Marianna and she found herself in New York City. The famous Sophie Tucker took Marianna under her wing, took her to meet all the right people while at the same time changing her name to Gilda Gray.

Gilda went on to achieve considerable fame and fortune both in New York and Hollywood. She was seen doing the Shimmy in the Ziegfield Follies of 1922 and was in such films as *The Devil Dancer*, *Aloma of the South Seas* and *Cabaret*. Sadly, she died penniless in December of 1959. But I digress.

The Shimmy actually became a couple's dance for a short while in the 1930s. It's the solo version that still remains popular today with some people feeling it's more of a dance movement than a dance. The music most associated with the Shimmy (see title above) was published in 1919 by Clarence Williams and Armand Piron, the first black-owned music publishers in New Orleans. The original title of this song was rather risqué, to say the least, and certainly would not get past a censor then, now or probably ever. But I might whisper it to you if you are over twenty-one, can shimmy, and I've known you at least for more than a year or so.

For your edification I include here two very basic move-

Folk vs. Ethnic – What is the difference?

By Richard Duree

Richard Duree is a dance ethnologist and historian who has researched and taught dance for over thirty-five years. He is a retired Associate Professor of Dance and a free-lance writer.—Ed

Dance scholars, just as many other scholar-types, seem to try for job security by eternally seeking to describe their discipline and never being satisfied with it.

Try describing "dance" and you'll see the supposed problem as you attempt to be all-inclusive, as any description must be, without including something that isn't dance. If dance is defined as "expressive movement", you include a threatening raised hand; if you try "movement to rhythm", you eliminate some of the Macedonian dances in which the musicians follow the lead dancer and there is no rhythm. Music is not always necessary, as many forms of both folk and theatrical dance do very well without it.

The most commonly accepted definition of dance is "movement for its own sake", but that would appear to include simple walking just to be walking. Perhaps we should amend: "extraordinary movement for its own sake"—movement outside the normal movements of life.

Moving on, there are different ideas about what constitutes "folk" and "ethnic" dance, much of it obviously adopted to further a political agenda. It's fallacy is in being unable to stand up to its own definition.

"Ethnic" does not mean "non-white."

"Folk" does not mean "rural."

"Ethnic dance" is any dance form which can be identified as originating with an ethnic culture *and expressing the movement aesthetics of that culture*. It includes *all* ethnic cultures, whether European, American, African, Polynesian, Asian, Middle Eastern—all of them. It includes village folk dance, urban popular dance (swing, tango), classic dance (Kathak, Bharat Nayam), tribal dance, tap dance and many more. It does *not* include the classic theatrical forms of ballet, jazz and modern dance, but notice that there are theatrical forms

continued on next page.

ments of the shimmy for you to try in the privacy of your home (I hope). There are more to follow in future issues of *Let's Dance* providing I am not vilified or stoned before then.

The 4/4 Shimmy: Stand with your knees slightly bent and your feet together with the pelvis tucked underneath you comfortably. Now straighten the right leg. Next, straighten the left leg while bending the right leg. The movement comes from the thighs and the weight is placed evenly on both feet.

The Sliding Shimmy: While doing a very small fast 4/4 shimmy, (also known as a Flutter), slide your hips out to the right, back to center and out to the left, then back to center. The weight is mostly on your right when sliding right, mostly on your left when sliding left, and evenly distributed when you come back to center.

Good luck....and keep trying!

Folk vs Ethnic — What is the difference?

included. The primary criteria is simply identification with an ethnic culture of origin.

Ethnic dance includes several sub-categories: "folk", "theatrical", "religious", "tribal", "social" and so on. Our major concern is with the first two, but we'll take a quick look at the others.

"Folk" dance requires not only an ethnic identification, but a "participatory" and aesthetic tradition. It is dance which is an integral and anticipated behavior in the culture and defined by the aesthetics of that culture (whether rural or urban); thus the traditional village dances of Europe, the Hawaiian hula, the American clog, the Mexican Hat Dance and the Argentine tango are equal members of the "folk" tradition. A strong case can be made for including American Swing—consider the criteria.

An interesting thought: other countries have adopted American swing and rock dance and music, but they consider it to be an "American" form of music and dance, read: "ethnic."

"Theatrical" forms of ethnic dance are well-known, primarily in Asia, where professional dancers train a life-time to perform dances which are prescribed by tradition and do not change. Their function is to entertain a specific class of people, whether the populace or the aristocracy or women or men. They are found in India, Japan and throughout Southeast Asia; highly developed dances with extraordinary costume, make up, props and sets, usually telling an ancient fable for the entertainment of their select audience.

"Tribal" dance generally originates in a "pre-industrial" culture, created in a subsistence environment and functioning as an integral part of life. It is communication with the supernatural, a rite of passage, a courage builder for battle, a celebration victory or a mourning ritual in defeat. It is serious and rarely performed as recreation.

Ballet, jazz and other forms of theatrical dance fall outside the umbrella of "ethnic" dance, because they are cross-cultural and have lost any ethnic identity they may have had. They do not express any ethnic identity or aesthetic, nor is that their intent; rather the focus is on ever-more difficult and fantastic technical performance.

So the next time some one refers to "ethnic" dance, question them. Make them a little uncomfortable by asking why they don't include the Ukrainian Hopak (that's one they're probably familiar with) or the Hungarian csárdás or the Argentine tango. How do they make the distinction between "ethnic" and "non-ethnic" dance. Make 'em squirm. A Dane or a Greek or a Hungarian or a Spaniard is as much of an "ethnic" as is a Hawaiian, an African, an Asian or anyone else and the sooner we recognize that, the more equal we'll all be.

Editor goofs—

I really did it this time—there is no date on the cover of the December issue. It is well marked inside—every page has the month and year, but not the cover. Sorry.—Ed.

Council and Club Clips

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS

Join us for BFD's New Year's Eve Party if it is still timely. We will ring in the New Year at our familiar dancing spot at Live Oak Park in Berkeley from 9 PM to Midnight on December 31st. The all-request night will have music, food and dancing. Wear your best duds and dance the last of the year and the first of the year with your friends. \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members.

The highlight of the New Year is our Inaugural Ball when we welcome beginners into the club and honor our newly elected officers. The I-Ball, as we call it, will be at the El Cerrito Community Center on Saturday, January 15 where we will dance "Around the World in 180 Minutes." Book early as advance tickets are required. They can be had for a mere \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members. All aboard at 7:30 PM.

—*Namoi Lidicker*

Sacramento International Folk Dance and Arts Council (SIFDAC)

web: folkdance.com - search for Sacramento, Barbara Malakoff 916 446-6290 barbikoff@mac.com

A highlight of November in Sacramento was the wonderful workshop by Tineke Van Geel. She taught some easy Armenian dances and a hard one, and also a pretty Russian dance. She also gave us a very interesting talk on her trips to Armenia and her experiences which eventually resulted in her becoming an expert in those dances. She went on to teach at the Kolo Festival later in the week.

December we will mostly be taking some time off for the holidays, and celebrating in our various clubs. But January will feature our annual fundraising Scholarship Ball on the 29th. The theme is "Dancing in the Moonlight". It will be a potluck at the Clunie Clubhouse at Alhambra and F streets starting at 6:00 PM. This is always a wonderful dance and all are welcome, whether you are from Sacramento or not. For a mere \$10 you can purchase the dance of your choice or the chance to perform a dance or a skit! Sounds uh, well... interesting. For information call Karen Powell 530 677-8099.

—*Barbara Malakoff*

BALKAN DANCERS OF MARIN—It's the time of the year for us to start thinking about our annual Balkan Plus Party. A tentative date of March 26 will not conflict with other major parties. We accept requests for as many as 16 dances. The rest of the dances are programmed. We dance at the excellent Masonic Hall in San Rafael (good wood floor).

What is your club doing?

We are a folk dance community and we care and are interested in what your groups and dancers are doing. How did that party do? Who has a big anniversary? What are you planning next?

Let us know what's going on—write or email us:

Council and Club Clips,

Let's Dance, Box 548,

Woodacre, CA 94973-0548

Or email: wildwood_press@comcast.net

ONE –TIME FOLK DANCE EVENT

A course in how to present a one-time event to introduce Folk Dancing or to provide entertainment for a group.

TEACHER: Bruce Wyckoff, Folk Dance teacher and Square Dance Caller.

WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS COURSE?

Potential Folk Dance teachers
Established Folk Dance Teachers
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Anyone who wants to entertain a group

COST: \$ 25, includes syllabus, dance descriptions, and music

Place: Community Church, 1336 Arroyo Ave., San Carlos, CA 94070

Time: Sunday, January 23, 2005 1-5 pm

For information call: 650/368-7834

SPONSORED BY THE FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA

To register send check for \$ 25 made out to the Folk Dance Federation of California.

Send to Bruce Wyckoff NAME _____
1215 Chesterton Ave. ADDRESS _____
Redwood City PHONE NO. _____
CA 94061



Dressed to dance!



By Mel Harte

Going to a play a few months back, I was met by a fellow folkdancer who looked at my outfit and exclaimed, "You look ready to dance!" Actually, I'm always ready to dance in spirit, even if it's not possible to do so 24/7. Dancing is so much more exuberant and exciting than the daily schedule of work and chores and I love wearing clothes that reflect this. In contrast, the muted, monochromatic colors and simple Spartan styles deemed by fashion moguls as those that often determine our everyday wear frankly bore me and so do the price tags. So, a few years ago, looking over my burgeoning closet of folk items, I finally made the leap. Why not dress up in folk clothing everyday? For me these accessories vibrate with beauty and spirit—they are a living testimony of the skills and artistry of otherwise unrecognized craftswomen and a legacy of the cultural diversity that is so often endangered by the steamroller of modern mainstream "western" civilization. My clothing also becomes an advertisement and a conversation opener with friendly strangers to one of my favorite topics: folkdancing!

When teaching folkdance I wear pants so that all can see my leg and foot movements easily but I also wear a colorful, embroidered folk blouse on top. To dress up quickly and easily on other days, though, I keep assembled outfits ready on hangers. The Salvation Army and other recycling enterprises are great and cheap sources for full skirts, floral or of rich

Letter to editor—

Videos of Institutes?

I really appreciate the great coverage that you did for our Fresno Folk Dance Festival here on October 16th and 17th. We had a wonderful time! We had more out of town dancers than local dancers.

I wish there were some way that the dances taught at "The Institute" could be purchased on video tapes. After the festival is over we never do these dances again because no one remembers them so we do not help each other. . . If video tapes were available to watch it might create more interest. I can order all kinds of clogging video tapes from Stevens Clogging Supplies in Mercer, Pa., from beginner basics to advanced steps.

Folk dancers should do the same thing—the dances should be more available to people who need to learn by watching the steps over and over again. Several years ago, three of us learned our clogging routine from a video tape (we were entertaining at social functions) taught by a very well known instructor from the east coast. Square dancers have video tapes for instruction—so I would like to see folk dancing presented the same way.

—Marty Torbit

Exhibition Chairman for our Fresno Folk Dance Council

What about it? Any ideas? Are household video cameras of good enough quality to show the detail of steps and styling? Could someone be assigned to tape a teaching performance and could the Federation make copies available to those present? Would the teachers give their permission? Any answers anyone?—Ed.

monochromatic colors such as red, blue, black or forest green. Often a skirt has a loose waistband, stretched beyond its original elasticity. To fix that, I attach a small safety pin to one end of a 4-foot length of black brocade cord, open up a seam on the skirt that leads to the elastic pathway, and 'thread' the pin and cord through the entire waistline, creating a flexible, drawstring skirt. Such skirts pair well with folk embroidered blouses, vests, and yes, even aprons. My wide belts hang nearby for ubiquitous daily duty: an underlying wide elastic black belt creates a defined waist and a firm flat surface against which I can overlay a festive belt without fear of it crumpling as I move around.

The reaction to my outfits? Both men and women in public, on the street, in the store or at the play, will approach me to tell me how much they admire what I'm wearing. Sometimes they ask questions, and sometimes they are reminded of their own cultural heritage. And sometimes, yes, sometimes, we talk of folk dancing. Happy folk dancing, wherever you are!

Mel Harte (melharte@yahoo.com) has been folk dancing for 25 years; she teaches international folkdance at the Orinda Community Center, and El Cerrito senior center, and is on the costume committee of the CA Folkdance Federation. An avid folk costume collector who has provided a good home to many pieces of orphaned folk clothing, she almost always wears folk textiles, whether dancing or not. If you have a story about a costume you acquired, she's all ears!

BYOB Actually Means "BRING YOUR OWN BEGINNER"

By Loui Tucker

(Loui Tucker teaches three classes a week of Israeli and international dances. You may reach her at loui@loutucker.com or (408) 28709999)

You've probably been dancing for years. You enjoy dancing and have made it an important part of your life. You have also noticed that the number of dancers is diminishing and our dance halls lack new young dancers with energy and enthusiasm. Are you willing to let this wonderful activity that has sustained you for years wilt for lack of excited new dancers? We are becoming a pond that needs an infusion of fresh water.

YOU are one of the sources of that needed infusion, and **YOU** have an opportunity to make a difference to the future of folk dance!

Here is your mission: find one new person to **bring** to your local dance session. It could be someone in your church, at work, in your neighborhood, someone you've met on-line, someone in your family. Don't just think about people who are already doing some other form of dance, although that's an excellent place to start. Think about the people who run twice a week and complain that it's boring and hurts their knees. Think about the folks who drag themselves to a gym to ride treadmills and stationary bikes. Think about the couch potatoes who need to get some exercise. Think about the folks glued to their computers night after night.

Start **now** to talk about international folk dancing and how much it means to you. Hum one of the tunes while you work or while you eat lunch and mention that it has been stuck in your head since last night. Talk about the dance camp or festival you plan to attend. Tell them the reason you haven't seen much television lately is because you're so busy dancing. Let someone at work catch you practicing the steps to a new dance in the elevator or cafeteria.

Invite these potential dancers to join you at your local dance night. Better yet, invite a **group** of people and turn it into a potluck and/or carpool. It's actually easier to deal with a group than a single invitee. A single invitee is solely your responsibility, but members of a group can entertain and encourage each other.

It is very important that you **bring** these new dancers to your dance class. Think how you'd react if someone handed you a flyer and said, "Here! You should go to this. You'll like it!" If you bothered to keep the flyer at all, there will surely be a dozen other things to do on the day of the event (clean the garage, write Aunt Martha a letter, alphabetize the bottles in your spice rack...). On the other hand, you know from your own experience that if you've committed to attending an event **with** someone, it's harder to change your mind and your plans.

So, plan a potluck meal for your invitees so they can get to know each other before the event. Encourage them to wear layers of casual clothes and comfortable shoes. Reassure them that they will be learning from experienced teachers. In the car while driving to the dance hall, tell them what dancing has meant to you, about the friends you've made, how it's a good form of exercise, whatever you think they will relate to.

Then, at dance class, you can applaud their efforts, introduce your invitees to other people you know, and pick up flyers for dance classes near them. When a mixer is taught, your

invitees can begin by dancing with you and another member of your group and move on from there. Someone attending alone has to get up the courage to ask another person -- and you know how that can dampen motivation! You want to leave them thinking that folk dancing is the best kept secret in their community and they are lucky you invited them to join the fun.

Most dance classes advertise and post flyers and send email invitations, but I believe that this **personal approach** -- with you, the dancer, inviting and **bringing** new dancers -- is the best way to revitalize our folk dance membership pool.

Dancing with Donna

Dancing and Traveling Mix Well!

By Donna Frankel

<http://www.dancingcruises.com>

Email to: donna@dancingcruises.com

Holiday travel is upon us. If you are lucky enough to be heading out of town for a vacation, visiting with family or even a few days break, check out the dance classes and venues where you will be staying. I find that dancers throughout the world are among the most wonderful, happy and generous folks. They are usually only too happy to include you in their dance sessions and classes when you explain in advance that you are visiting or even if you simply arrive. The Internet is a wonderful way to connect with dance organizations and classes. When you show that you are a good guest and know some of their material, or can even share some dances with them, you will be welcomed warmly back.

I have danced all over California, the USA including both Hawaii and Alaska, in Mexico, the Caribbean, Copenhagen, the UK, and some out of the way spots, like Corsica and Valetta, Malta. All over the world people enjoy dancing, and a smile and nod are universally understood. You don't have to speak their language to participate in a dance, and don't be surprised when you see the same dances you know and love are enjoyed by those who live whole continents away.

There could be other surprises. My daughter was studying at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England for her junior year abroad. She wanted to meet more people and in particular townspeople who might not be associated with the University. So knowing she liked to dance, I suggested checking to see if they had a local folk dance group either at the college or in the town. Sure enough the town held a weekly International Folk Dance evening that included students, faculty and townsfolk. I credit this group for my daughter's love and interest in English country dancing, but to her dismay that is all they did. After a few weeks, she asked if the group shouldn't change their name to English Country Dance Club rather than International Folk Dance Club if they were only going to teach and dance English country dances. "Oh, no", came the reply, "We are an international folk dance group." Then they proceeded to dance one Scottish dance to prove to her they really were international. Before the year

continued on next page

MEMORIAM

MILDRED H. RIBA

It is with sadness I report the passing of Milli Riba on October 21, 2004, at age 92. Services were held at Faith Lutheran Church in Pioneer, California. Milli's beloved daughter Marilyn was ceremoniously presented a United States flag in honor of Milli's service to her country as a U. S. Army nurse.

Many of our lives have been touched and enriched by knowing Milli...you can't speak about Milli, however, without saying Elmer. They were a package. My friendship with Elmer and Milli goes back 45 years when they showed up for a beginners folk dance class in Sacramento at the Clunie Club House. They commuted from Vacaville every Thursday, bringing three single ladies with them. Walt and Cleo Baldwin were the instructors for this large class of enthusiastic dancers and I, as an experienced dancer, was instrumental in forming the Pairs and Spares Folk Dance Club. Elmer and Milli were charter members and both served effectively in various offices of that club. In 1967, Elmer was installed as President of the Sacramento Folk Dance Council. With his excellent leadership abilities Elmer was recruited in 1970 for President of the California Folk Dance Federation for a two-year term. Milli, with her social graces, was right by his side as first lady. For several years, they were King and Queen in charge, along with Max Horn, of an annual fancy dress ball which was held in various locations.

The years passed and Elmer retired from the U. S. Air Force. They personally built a beautiful home in Pine Grove and Jim and I were honored to help place the cornerstone. This home became a landmark in the area for the Indian tepee in the yard which was a backdrop for their annual Thanksgiving dinner with an open invitation to one and all.

As you can see, their lives did not slow down in the mountain country as they became active in their Lutheran church where Milli was a talented organist. They taught folk dance classes and all folk dancers were annually invited to Jackson for a folk dance weekend sleepover and Millie served breakfast on her bone china. One memorable theme for this event was the "Waltz Tango Cotillion." Can you imagine? Nothing but tangos and waltzes, our favorites. I loved it!!! Another activity to occupy the Riba's time was their keen interest in Native American culture. They served as docents at Chaw'Se Indian Grinding Rock State Historical Park from the time of the park's dedication in 1967. At Amador Whitney Historical Museum they served as interpretive guides making visitors feel welcome while sharing their knowledge.

Elmer's passing on October 27, 2000, was sudden and unexpected. He has been sorely missed in many walks of life. Milli was admiring their important keepsakes and so she called me and asked if Elmer's Federation Past President's pin could be passed down to Greg Mitchell, the next outgoing Federation president. As Installing Officer I asked Greg if he would mind having a recycled pin and he said he would be honored and proud to wear it in Elmer's memory. So, I took the pin to our jewelry manufacturer in Berkeley where the engraver was astounded to again see this pin of such outstanding quality. They are now made with a different technique. So, thanks to Milli, Greg is now wearing Elmer's pin with Greg's name and years added. A picture of Milli giving me the pin

appeared in Let's Dance Magazine.

Milli recalled that one of her favorite accomplishments was when Elmer was stationed at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii. Milli was hostess of a television program and with her gracious manner and winning smile increased the cooking show's popularity from 300 to 2,000 on her mailing list.

God picks the loveliest flowers for his garden and ladies like Milli are rare nowadays. I'm sure Millie is waltzing with Elmer in heaven and when the sun breaks through the clouds they are smiling down on us.

*Fondly submitted by
IRENE OXFORD*

Dancing with Donna continued from previous page

was out, she asked me to send her a CD of her favorite Israeli dances so she could teach a couple to her new friends.

When I lead my dance cruises I always check the ports of call in advance to find out if there are any local dance performances, dance groups or classes my group can join. Often through email, I am able to connect with the teacher or president of a group in advance and make some arrangements. I always offer to teach a dance or two if they would like, and occasionally my group has performed dances for their group, which is also appreciated. We have brought cameras and shared photos with our new dance friends and I have invited them to be guests at my dance classes if they should find themselves in our area.

While this is all fun, I have also been rescued by dancers. I was leading my second dance tour of Branson, Missouri, in May when someone on our bus wanted to stop to shop for a snack after a dance show. I met Barbara in the store where we started chatting about prices and then dancing. Turns out she had been a folk dance regular in college, and had joined a country western line dance class when she moved to Branson to take a nursing job in the local hospital. She loved the exercise and people, but her teacher was looking for a new venue ever since the place they danced was sold and turned into a bowling alley. I invited her and any of her dancing friends to come to our hotel and dance with us for the remaining 4 sessions we had on our trip. She did, loved it and us.

Three days later, one of my older ladies fell on some broken sidewalk and hurt her knee. We iced it and she thought she was fine. Sunday morning we had a 3-hour dance session planned at the hotel. Barbara and her dance teacher arrived to see Jen hobbling to the dance floor (she is usually among my best dancers) but in spite of taking several pain relievers, she was really not doing well. Barbara took a look at the knee and agreed x-rays were needed and she knew the location of the only emergency room open on a Sunday. Did we have a car? No just the bus that would take the rest of us to the luncheon and show on the Branson Belle River Boat. Barbara drove Gen to the emergency room, stayed with them and brought an x-rayed and bandaged Gen to the River Boat before it took off. Barbara and I have become email buddies.

What goes around does come around. I can only say that I meet wonderful dancers everywhere I go, and I wish you the very same as you travel this Holiday Season.

Christmas in Bulgaria

By Anna Travalì (QLD), Reprinted with the permission of Maureen Petherick, editor of Footnotes, Bi-monthly Magazine of Folk Dance Australia Inc. (This letter from Anna refers to her Christmas, 2002.)

This Christmas has been anything but prosaic! The snow had gone from Sofia and I thought a "white Christmas" would be nice, so went to the delightful town of Bansko (pop. 9,000), located 160 kms from Sofia at the foot of the Pirin mountains. It's the most recently developed centre for skiing and so does not attract large numbers of foreign tourists but more Bulgarians, this time of year anyway. Bansko was founded in the 10th century and by mid 18th century was very prosperous with traders and merchants; craftsmen and artists; icon painting and wood working schools. The architecture is interesting and many of the National Revival stone and timber buildings were built behind fortress type walls to shield inhabitants from Ottoman occupiers.

On Christmas Eve the streets were practically deserted, not surprising as traditionally this is the day for families to gather together and everyone else was on the snowfields. The streets and pavements were very icy but there was snow and I got my "white Christmas." Difficult as it was to walk around, I none-the-less spent much time exploring. In the evening I planned to eat at the small hotel at which I stayed but discovered the mehana in the basement was not, after all, open. Imagine my surprise when the manageress then invited me to dine with her family and the cook and a guy who helps out at the hotel! I never cease to be amazed at the warmth of Bulgarian people. There were platters of grape leaf and rice rolls, cabbage and rice rolls, stuffed capsicums, legumes, sauerkraut, meat and homemade bread. A coin is put inside the bread, whomever gets that will be wealthy the next year! Some people also put inside tiny pieces of a branch from a tree which have been marked, the number of marks signifying luck, love, good health etc.

There was wine, and to finish, banitsa, the cheese pastry of which Bulgarians (and I) are so fond. The manageress had pinned pieces of paper rolled around a toothpick, on top, with New Year wishes. It seemed fortuitous that I should pick the piece of banitsa labelled "abroad."! Finally we had the Bulgarian equivalent of baklava – delicious! Uneaten food is left on the table overnight, supposedly for relations who are no longer with us.

Just before Christmas I saw many people walking around with small branches from a tree (the same used to put inside the bread). I was told that in some families, popcorn, peppers etc. are attached, then the branch is used to "beat" a family member on the back whilst saying "Merry Christmas" and this person in return gives money. Then there are the Koledari (Koleda meaning Christmas), they dress in long woolly cloaks and carry sticks, and go around the houses singing Christmas carols. In return they are given a type of bread in the form of a ring, which is put on the stick. However, three young men came to the mehana I was at on Christmas night and the manager wouldn't let them in; he said they would want money.

On Christmas Day everyone was out and about and all the shops were open. I went to the Orthodox church (1835,

Reminder:

Heritage Festival Jan. 21 & 22

The annual Heritage Festival, sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California and Peninsula Folk Dance Council, will be held on January 21 and 22, 2005. The location is the Community United Church at Elm and Arroyo Streets in San Carlos.

The warm-up dance party starts at 7:30 pm on Friday, January 21. Saturday, January 22, features an institute with Bill and Louise Lidicker teaching Polish dances and Suzanne Rocca-Butler teaching Balkan dances starting at 1:30 pm.

Saturday evening's program will begin at 7:00 pm with dancing to live music with the band Vecernica playing International Folk Dance, followed by a program of more dancing, exhibitions and reviews of the institute dances. For further details, see our ad in this issue. —Al Lisin

International Folk Dance Classes

Start at San Francisco City College

The classes begin Tuesday, January 18. Beginning (PE 518A, 1 unit) is from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Intermediate and production (PE 17B, 2 units) is from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

Students may enroll for academic credit, with the current fee of \$26.00 per unit. Students may register in advance or at the first or second class meetings only. The beginning class will learn about 25 partner and non-partner dances from around the world. The production class student has the opportunity to learn and perform dances from Bulgaria, Turkey, Taiwan, Scotland and more.

For information contact Gail Barton in PE North (415) 452-5353 or the Registration office 239-3285 at Conlan Hall. The address is CCSF 50 Phelan, San Francisco, 94112, off Ocean Avenue. www.ccsf.edu (search: dance)

beautiful inside) there were many people coming and going. Six men with magnificent voices sang in perfect harmony, unaccompanied, in amongst the chanting. I stayed a while just to listen to them.

I then came across musicians in the square and some gypsies imitating Kuker dance. They had no costumes or masks but did wear the large bells around their waists, and had the sticks, and jumped up and down, warding off evil spirits. The music was great. Another group of musicians walked around the streets; they were also a delight to hear.

On Christmas night I went to one of the many mehanas in Bansko—cosy, typical restaurants, many of which occupy the 19th century stone and timber buildings and this time of year, with log fires blazing. This one was quite small but there were three super musicians and room enough to dance. They played only Bulgarian music and when people started dancing Horo, I joined in. It was a fun evening and just when I was thinking of leaving, the manager arrived with a glass of wine for me to have "on the house." He was amazed that someone all the way from Australia could do Bulgarian dances (told me he can't dance), said he was proud of me and therefore presented me with the wine! So naturally I stayed longer, danced some more, and left with a wonderful feeling of well-being, half skating back to the hotel on the icy streets!

A memorable Christmas indeed..

MEMORIAM

Martha H. Froelich

Martha was on her way to C.S.U.F. on November 15 at about 6:45 am and someone went through a red signal and hit the driver's side of her car. She was badly injured and died on November 24. She did such a wonderful job on our Fall Festival! She will be greatly missed.

—Marty Torbit

From the Fresno Bee—

Martha Van Hassel Froelich was born in Fresno on February 20, 1921, and died tragically on Wednesday, November 24, 2004.

She spent most of her life here, graduating from Washington Union High School and from Fresno State College where she was a member of the Tokalon Honor Society. After receiving her teaching credential from University of California, Los Angeles, she taught biology in Lancaster, CA for nine years.

She married Ray Froelich in 1947, and moved back to Fresno where she taught at Calwqa and Viking elementary schools until retiring in 1978.

Martha was a fun loving person who enjoyed dancing, hiking, traveling, bowling, baking, entertaining and playing bridge. She was active in St. Paul's United Methodist Church

FEDERATION STOCKTON FOLK DANCE CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

By Mel Mann

It isn't too soon to think about and recommend people to apply for summer camp scholarships that are offered by the California Folk Dance Federation. These scholarships are intended to help people who are potential group leaders and/or teachers to improve their skills. Applications and information about these scholarships are available from Mel Mann, Scholarship Committee Chairman at (510) 527-2177 or meldancing@aol.com. Applications must be into the committee by March 1, 2005

Over the years many people who have applied for these scholarships enjoyed their camp experiences. This year's camp teachers look like another excellent wide selection of master teachers. Don't miss this opportunity.

and with many volunteer organizations. She was a breast cancer survivor.

She is survived by daughters Carol Cunningham and husband Bob of San Jose and Marlene Hicks and husband Craig of Fresno; sister Ruth Stinson of Walnut Creek; stepsisters Leni Johnson and Frieda Kollmeyer; nephew Steve Stinson and wife Sugar and their daughter Sara; and cherished grandchildren Cristy, Ryan, David and Daniel.

A celebration of Martha's life was held at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Fresno on Saturday, December 4.

YES VIRGINIA, THERE IS A STATEWIDE '04 VIDEO

During many of the activities at Statewide this year a video camera was running. We did not hire an experienced crew for this but instead used one of our Modesto members to record as much as possible of what took place. Many people have expressed a wish to have a copy of this video so now we will make it so.

We have edited the 5 video cassettes down to a reasonable 2 hour 40 minute pictorial record of the fun and dancing. The actual workshop sessions are not included except incidentally, but most of the dances taught at statewide are shown in their entirety at the evening parties.

We are so sorry, but the cassette with the dance concert on it did not "take" although Dave Thompson filmed a portion of the dance concert and gallantly rescued us with a little footage, and even though several performances were missing, it does bring back a memory.

The video will be available as PREPAID ORDER only at \$20.00 per copy including mailing. To order complete the coupon below and send with a check for \$21.45 for each video payable to the Folk Dance Federation of California (Video: \$20.00, California sales tax: \$1.45.)

Mail to: Statewide Video
c/o Barbara Summers
2416 Surrey Ave
Modesto, CA 95355

You may contact Barbara at (209) 578-5551. e-mail bsumone@softcom.net

All orders must be received by the 5th of February. The videos will be shipped by February 16th.

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Warszawianka

(Poland)

Warszawianka (VAHR-shah-VYAHN-kah) is a couple dance from the Lachy Sąsz region. This area is rich in folklore as it lies in the valley of two major rivers which were important avenues for trade with other countries. The region's folk dance has also been influenced by the folk-rich neighboring regions around the cities of Kraków, Zakopane, and Rzeszów. The dance is also found in several other regions of Poland.

Warszawianka is a calm, easy dance often done by older persons. Versions choreographed for performing groups can add spins and accents. Described here is the simple, light-hearted basic dance. It was taught by Richard Schmidt at the 2004 Stockton Folk Dance Camp. At a workshop for the Palomanians on August 17, 2004 (Menlo Park, CA), he taught a progressive version of this dance, and this is detailed at the end of the description. The dance's name literally means "woman or girl from Warsaw," but the implied connection to Warsaw may be spurious. Schmidt has discussed the history of this name with several ethnographers and believes it may have resulted from the dance becoming popular in Austria where it was erroneously assumed to be from Warsaw. Later when the dance returned to Poland, the name based on Warsaw was simply translated back into Polish.

CD: *Folk Dances from Poland, Vol. 1* (edited by Richard Schmidt), Band 6. 3/4meter

Formation: Circle of cpls in Closed Ballroom pos*, M facing LOD.

Steps: Step-bounce-bounce: Step to R on R ft (ct 1); bounce up and down on ball of R ft as L ft is closed to R (ct 2); bounce again rising on balls of both ft, and down (ct 3). This step can also be done starting to L.

Styling: Dancers move proudly and with erect posture, showing off the rich costumes characteristic of this region. In Fig. II, the waltz step is done singly and moves either fwd or turning. It is a flat waltz with dancers rising only slightly on balls of ft. Closed ballroom hold is done with leading arms quite straight and parallel with the floor.

**Described in the "General Glossary" of Steps & Styling (rev. 1996), published by the Folk Dance Federation of CA Inc.*

Meas	3/4 meter	Pattern
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4 meas INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. STEP-BOUNCES

1-3 Cpls dance 3 Step-bounce-bounce steps twd ctr (M move to L, W to R).

4 Stamp with wt (M's L, W's R)(ct 1); hold (cts 2,3).

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and moving out of circle.

9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

II. CIRCLE WALTZ

1-4 M join hands to form large circle outside of W. Circle L (CW) with 4 waltz steps starting with L ft. W join hands to form circle inside of M, and do 4 waltz steps to R (CCW) starting with R ft.

- 5-7 M drop hand holds, put thumbs in belt (or fists on hips), and with 3 waltz steps turn individually to L 1 3/4 turns while continuing to move fwd around circle; end facing approx twd ctr. W also drop hand holds, hold skirt with arms down, and like M turn individually with 3 waltz steps making 1 3/4 turns to R; end facing approx twd ctr.
- 8 M stamp R (ct 1); stamp L with wt (ct 2); hold (ct. 3). W do the same with opp ftwk.
- 9-12 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk (M start with R, W with L) to circle back twd original place.
- 13-14 With 2 waltz steps and hand holds as in meas 5-8, dance one complete turn individually, M to R, W to L.
- 15 With one waltz step dance directly back to face ptr, M facing LOD.
- 16 M stamp L, R; W stamp R, L; and regain Closed Ballroom hold.

Dance repeats three times more.

PROGRESSIVE VERSION OF THE DANCE

I-a. STEP-BOUNCES

The first time through the dance, do Fig. I as in the non-progressive version. On the three subsequent times through, dance as follows:

- 1-4 Instead of resuming Closed Ballroom hold as you join ptr face to face at end of Fig. II, keep hands on hips (or in belts). Both M and W dance meas 1-4 to their own R (starting with R ft) and angle slightly fwd.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 moving to L, starting with L ft and angling slightly fwd to meet new ptr. On meas 8, assume Closed Ballroom pos with this new ptr.
- 9-16 Dance meas 1-8 of non-progressive version.

II. CIRCLE WALTZ

This Figure is unchanged from the non-progressive version.

Last Party

Carol Hirsh retires from SRJC folk dance teaching

A lively crowd gathered Saturday night, December 4 in Sonoma's Vintage House hall to celebrate with Carol the culmination of her twenty-three plus years of teaching folk dance to thousands of Santa Rosa Junior College students. Over 170 friends, students and well-wishers came to party with Carol.

Carol started the evening with a programmed dance and about half way through live musicians took over. Well wishers provided a going away cake and there was the usual abundant supply of snacks.

Carol plans to start retirement with a two month trip to Kauai to greet the arrival of a new grandchild.

Snap-Y Dancers to continue Carol's Monday Folk Dance Classes

In an effort to continue our folk dance program Snap-Y Dancers is offering a 16 week session of International Folk Dancing. Beginning January 10, the classes will be held on Monday evenings at Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. Sessions will be from 7:00 to 10:30 pm. These sessions will cover all aspects of international folk dance and will include dances from intermediate through advanced. We are planning to use guest teachers and each dance taught will be reviewed by these teachers on the following week. We are planning to teach two dances per night, except for advanced dances.

In addition to instruction, we are offering a huge selection of dances for your entertainment and pleasure. For more information contact Enriqueta LaVarta 707-778-0130 or Paul Smith 510-654-3636.



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JULY 17-30

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Week 2: July 24-30

University of the
Pacific, Stockton, CA

For registration information
see the camp website or contact

Jan Wright

36676 Viola Meadows Court

Shingletown, CA 96088

530-474-3231 Phone

530-474-4501 FAX

Jmwright32@frontiernet.net

BULGARIAN: Daniela Ivanova
with Angel Nazlamov—accordion

BALKAN: Steve Kotansky

ENGLISH: Marianne Taylor

NORWEGIAN: Alix Cordray

POLISH: Richard Schmidt

ROMANIAN: Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion

SQUARES Jerry Helt

WORKSHOP: Hawaiian Dance with
Merilyn Gentry & Nora Nuckles

LIVE MUSIC: Chubritza

WWW.FOLKDANCECAMP.ORG

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Happy New Year!



"Now remember—Croatian dances usually lead to the left"

Action at the Sacramento Beginner's Festival



Toba Goddard teaching Israeli (photo by Vick Vickland)

Wes Takara
wishes
everyone a
Happy
New Year!



See you at the
Heritage Festival
January 21 & 22