

Let's Dance!

THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING  DECEMBER 2019



**A VERY
MEMORABLE
OFFICERS
BALL!**

See p. 8.



Let's Dance!

Volume 76, No. 10

December 2019

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News From Around The Bay: Contributions from clubs

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The Federation's **Promotion Fund** is available to Federation members and clubs, in the form of a grant or a loan, to promote a specific dance event or folk dance in general. Read more about this fund and download an application at www.folkdance.com under the **Services** tab.

The Federation's **Scholarship Fund** provides financial assistance to dancers wishing to attend dance workshops and dance camps. Read more about this fund and download an application at www.folkdance.com under the **Services** tab.

Donations: The Folk Dance Federation of California is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, and donations are tax deductible! Gifts and donations are also welcome. Send to:

Folk Dance Federation Treasurer

226 Alameda de las Pulgas

Redwood City, CA 94062

Join now: Membership rates:

Individual \$35/year (add \$15 for foreign addresses)

Family rate \$45/year

Student rate \$25/year (26 or under and at least half time)

Group/Club rate \$40/year

Mail applications, renewals & checks to:

Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.

Marcia Rosenblatt, Membership

927 Springfield Drive, Millbrae, California 94030

To post dance event flyers on the Federation's website, email: webmaster@folkdance.com

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The deadline for *Let's Dance!* is the first day of the month prior to the date of publication. We welcome submissions, letters and comments from our readers. Please send to: Loui Tucker, Editor (editor@folkdance.com). Opinions expressed in *Let's Dance!* are not necessarily those of the Folk Dance Federation or of the Editor.

Your advertising helps support *Let's Dance!* Please make checks payable to the **Folk Dance Federation**. Ad rates:

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**Mail checks to: Folk Dance Federation Treasurer
226 Alameda de las Pulgas
Redwood City, CA 94062**

©*Let's Dance!* (ISSN#0024-1253) is published monthly by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., with the exception of the May-June and July-August issues, which are released each two-month period. Standard mail postage paid at Sacramento, California.

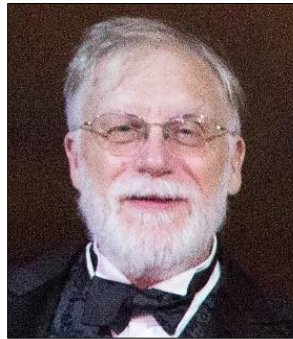
WELCOME NEW FEDERATION MEMBERS

Marguerite Treat, Santa Rosa
Julie House, San Francisco

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Joe Croco

Wow! The **Officers Ball** was a great success this year due to the hard work of the Federation Board members and many volunteers. My thanks to all the teachers who took time from their busy schedules to come teach and to Bill Cope who came in during dinner to entertain us.



The next Federation-sponsored event is the **Festival of the Oaks** in February, put on by the Berkeley Folk Dancers. There will be a Board meeting during the lunch break, and anyone attending the Festival is encouraged to pick up their lunch and join us. You do not have to be a Federation member to attend.

On a more personal level, I wanted to share my thoughts on the three different ethnographic trips to different countries in Eastern Europe that Laura and I have now been on. I can say I would gladly go on any of these trips again if I had the time. From the countries I'm listing, you can probably figure out whose trip it was. This is not an endorsement of any particular trip and we plan to do other trips should the opportunity arise.

After visiting many of these local folklore groups, one impression I have had is that the local population finds it amazing that we (Americans) want to come to see them and learn about their culture. For example, I spoke with one young man in Croatia and asked him what he and his friends thought about us. He was very diplomatic, saying that they all found it interesting we would want to come visit them when only a small number of his friends were interested in their own traditions.

Another time I spoke with László Tihanyi, the artistic director for Eszterlánc Hungarian Folk Ensemble (based in the San Francisco Bay Area) and is from Hungary and got his dance training there. He has since moved here and was surprised to find a Hungarian dance class here (Todd Wagner's class that I attend) that was made up of mostly Americans. Recently, while we were learning a Hungarian dance from a village in Transylvania, László told the person he'd learned the dance from that he was teaching it to Americans. At first he

didn't believe it, until László showed him a video of the class doing it and was very touched that the dance was being taught here.

These folklore groups are happy to take the time to show us their tradition costumes, dances and traditions. They are all doing an amazing job of preserving or recreating the traditional costumes, and then doing the research to find the old dances.



From the Lado performance. *Photos by J. Croco.*

On our recent 15-day Croatia trip, we saw eight different folklore groups and we had the chance to see their dances, and to dance and talk with them. We also got to enjoy a performance by Lado at an International Folkdance Festival in the town square at Varazdin. One of the local traditional events we saw was the Cow Ball in Slovenia. It takes place in the fall when the cow herds come back from the mountain pastures where they have been for the summer.

To be continued...



Turoolje, the village Velika Gorica local ensemble

December 2019 Calendar of Events

We reserve the right to edit all submissions; we assume no responsibility for accuracy.

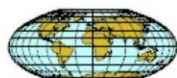
Send future events information to Loui Tucker, Editor, at editor@folkdance.com.

Additional events can be found at www.folkdance.com (Community tab).

The deadline for listings is one month prior to the magazine date.

- Nov. 23 **PRE-KOLO FESTIVAL WORKSHOP WITH ZABAVA.** All Saints' Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley Street, Palo Alto. \$16. 6:45-11 pm. Workshop with Adony Beniares and Katherine Abbott 7-8 pm, followed by dancing to Zabava International. Info: LucySChang@gmail.com or kbegonia@me.com.
- Nov. 29-30 **KOLO FESTIVAL (68th Annual).** Croatian-American Cultural Center, 60 Onandaga Avenue, San Francisco. Teachers: Joe Graziosi (Greek), Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu (Romanian), John Morovich and John Filcich (Kolos). Pre-registration deal (preferred) or pay-at-the-door. Dance workshops and singing classes both days; dancing to live music both nights in the main hall and in the kafana.
- Dec. 2 **JOE GRAZIOSI GREEK DANCE WORKSHOP.** 401 Alabama at 17th Street, San Francisco. 7:30-9:30 pm. Sponsored by Greek Feet. Info: makaronis@earthlink.net.
- Dec. 7 **PALOMANIAN PIE PARTY AND CELEBRATION OF DENISE HEENAN'S BIRTHDAY.** St. Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. 7:30-10 pm. IT'S FREE! Pie and ice cream supplied by the Palomanians. MC'd by Denise Heehan. Info: deniseheenan@sbcglobal.net. See p. 7.
- Dec. 9 **PARTY IN PETALUMA WITH ORCHESTRA EUPHONOS.** Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. 7-9:30 pm. \$12 Dancing to live Balkan music by Orchestra Euphonos. Info: Carol Friedman, cjay@horizoncable.com.
- Dec. 11 **HOLIDAY DANCE PARTY.** Holbrook Palmer Park, Carriage House, 150 Watkins Avenue, Atherton. 7:45-10 pm. \$9. Sponsored by the Carriage House Dancers.
- Dec. 13 **BALKAN DANCE PARTY WITH ZABAVA INTERNATIONAL!** Bethany Lutheran Church, 1095 Cloud Avenue, Menlo Park. 7:30-10 pm. \$12. Info: info@stanfordfolkdance.com.
- Dec. 14 **HOLIDAY CELEBRATION AND SECOND HARVEST FUNDRAISER.** First Baptist Event Hall, 305 N. California Avenue, Palo Alto. 3-7 pm. FREE ADMISSION; instead bring 10 unexpired cans of food (no glass containers) or \$15 check made payable to Second Harvest Food Bank. The goal is 300 cans and \$300. Lots of dancing, plus quick teaching of some fun dances by local teachers. Sponsored by the Moveable Feet Club. Info: LucySChang@gmail.com or kbegonia@me.com.
- Dec. 19 **MANDALA CELEBRATES WINTER SOLSTICE.** St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 1399 – 43rd Avenue at Judah, San Francisco. 7:30-10 pm. \$5-10 (sliding scale). Info: paulbourbin@hotmail.com.
- Dec. 25 **FREE CHRISTMAS NIGHT DANCE PARTY.** St. Bede's Church Hall, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. 7-10 pm. IT'S FREE! Info: adony408@gmail.com.
- Dec. 31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE POTLUCK DINNER AND PARTY.** All Saints' Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley Street, Palo Alto. 6:30 pm-12:30 am. \$12. Bring your favorite dish to share. All requests dance party MC'd by Lucy Chang and Loui Tucker. Sponsored by the Moveable Feet Club. Info: LucySChang@gmail.com, kbegonia@me.com.
- Dec. 31 **BFD NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY.** Frances Albrier Community Center, 2800 Park Street, Berkeley. 9-midnight. \$5 for BFD members/\$7 for non-members.

Jim Gold International Folk Tours: 2019-21



Travel
broadens
one!

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folk dance with local groups.

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and anyone with a love of travel and culture.

Tour itineraries at: www.jimgold.com

PERU, BOLIVIA, CHILE: May 23-June 4, ext. June 4-6, 2020

Led by Martha Travera **Cuzco, Sacred Valley, Machu Picchu,
Quechua Village, Lake Titicaca, Uyuni, La Paz, Atacama Desert**

ALBANIA and KOSOVO: May 5-17, ext. 17-19, 2020

Led by Lee Otterholt **Tirana, Durres, Vlora Folk Dance Festival!
Kruja, Saranda, Berat, Shkodra, Gjirokastra**

NORWAY, DENMARK, SWEDEN: June 9-22, 2020

Led by Lee Otterholt: **Oslo, Gothenburg, Helsingborg, Copenhagen**

BULGARIA: August 3-16, 2020 Koprivshtitsa Folk Festival Tour!

Led by Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, Lee Friedman
Sofia, Plovdiv, Bansko, Veliko Turnovo, and Koprivshtitsa Folk Festival

GREECE and the GREEK ISLANDS: October 10-23, 2020

Led by Jim Gold and/or Lee Otterholt: **Athens, Nauplia, Sparta,
Olympia, Delphi, Meteora, Mycenae, and Epidaurus Greek Island
Cruise to Mykonos, Crete, Rhodes, Patmos, Kusadasi (Turkey),
Santorini Ext.: Oct. 23-25**

SPAIN: September 16-29, 2021: Led by Lee Otterholt

Malaga, Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba, Jaen, Granada

GERMANY, AUSTRIA, LICHTENSTEIN, SWITZERLAND

June 16-29, 2021. Folk Dance and Yodeling Tour. First of its kind!

Led by Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, and Lee Friedman
Munich, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Swiss Alps, Lucerne, Zurich

ISRAEL: October 31-November 11, 2021

Led by Jim Gold, Joe Freedman, and Lee Friedman
Jerusalem, Masada, Tel Aviv, Galilee, Haifa, Tiberias, Safed, and Golan Heights

TOUR REGISTRATION: Can't wait to go! Reserve my place! Mail your \$200 per person
deposit. Or with credit card at: www.jimgold.com

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THE FAMILY PHOTO ALBUM

Photos by L. Tucker, C. Dickey, A. Partos, B. Lemat



Phyllis Diller, Jack Sparrow, and Wonder Woman appeared at various Halloween folk dance parties, along with the usual assortment of skeletons, black cats, and ghosts.



Ahmet Lüleci was in the area and taught at workshops in Berkeley and Sacramento.



Cornelia Ghafur and Andy Partos are too cute for words in their matching outfits!

Berkeley Folk Dancers had a ceilidh!



CELEBRATING DENISE HEENAN AND HER MILESTONE BIRTHDAY

by Adony Beniares, with assistance from Becky Beniares, Lesley Bone, Ann Kleiman, Karen Bartholomew, and Ellie Wiener

Living all but nine years in the San Jose, California area, Denise Heenan, a fixture in the Bay Area dance scene, is celebrating her 80th birthday (which many people refuse to believe!). We decided we wanted to know more about her.

Born in San Jose as the second of five children, Denise danced from an early age, starting ballet at seven. Growing up, she took many dance classes and was always looking for more opportunities to dance.

She first participated in folk dance at San Jose State University where she was earning a teaching credential to go with her degree in home economics. At that time, Ned and Marian Gault were teaching two classes on campus, and Denise became a regular attendee. In fall of 1968, Denise signed up for additional dance classes, joined the Mexican performance group Los Lupeños, and saw a life-changing advertisement for the annual Stockton Folk Dance Camp. All this occurred after her divorce from Jim, her high school sweetheart and father of her son, Chris.



In 1969, Denise first attended Stockton Folk Dance Camp. She remembers that, during her first year, in addition to learning all she could, she was determined to learn the Hambo from Madelynne Green.

In 1971, Denise married Bruce Mitchell, future director of Stockton Folk Dance Camp, and moved to Sacramento. While living in Sacramento, Denise assisted Bruce with dance classes and events and, as part of the Sacramento-based performing group Camtia, performed throughout the state at festivals.

Camtia performed at the 1974 World Expo in Spokane, Washington, along with the children of the troupe members. Her son has never forgiven her for making him wear women's knee high socks as part of his costume. Lederhosen, constructed by mothers in the group, were also part of the boys' costumes.

Moving back to San Jose in 1980, Denise returned to college, adding kitchen design courses and certifications to her resumé, which led to positions at multiple design and construction firms.

Denise resumed folk dancing via Scottish Country Dancing and earned the very difficult RSCDS Teaching Certificate. As have others who have earned the certificate, Denise described it as being harder than any college course, with multiple written exams and live exams by instructors from Scotland. After completion, Denise began teaching the San Jose Scottish dance class.

Getting back into international folk dance, Denise first joined the Santa Clara Valley Folk Dancers, meeting many people who have become lifelong friends. In addition to weekly classes and monthly parties, she again attended Friday night folk dancing at San Jose State. In 1982, Denise began teaching the Santa Clara team, partnering with Ken Yates and Christa Werling.

In the mid-1990s, Ruth Ruling invited Denise to join the Palomanians (See *Let's Dance!*, November issue, p. 7) as an assistant teacher to Ruth, and Denise gradually introduced recreational folk dancing to the Palomanians. Given the group's dance repertoire, her experience in Scottish Country Dance also

continued on p. 8



Denise Heenan – *continued*

served her well. As time passed, Denise took over the primary responsibilities of the group.

Denise has been the primary Palomanians teacher for more than a decade, recruiting new dancers to folk dancing, encouraging class members to teach, balancing her great pre-fixe programs with dancers' requests, and being one of the major drivers behind the growth of the Palomanians group. When developing a program, Denise favors dances that balance new and classic, partner and non-partner, easy and challenging, various nationalities, along with mixers and some of her personal favorites. In general, she dislikes seeing people sit out for more than a few dances and she reads a room exceptionally well.

In addition, Denise teaches at local festivals and parties and attends many other events and classes. In 2019, she was the first honoree during the Candle Lighting Ceremony at Stockton for her work and dedication to Stockton as a long-term camper (50 years), a former member of the Board, and five years of organizing the live Scholarship Auction.

When dancers were asked about Denise, the most common phrases heard were "marvelous dancer," "gregarious personality," "terrific friend," "light-hearted and focused," and "infectiously funny."

When asked about teachers and dancers who have influenced her, Denise thought of many, many master teachers, among them Atanas Kolarovski's spirit, Yves Moreau's humor and breakdown of steps, Marianne Taylor's thoroughness, Bruce Mitchell's organizational skills, Johnny Pappas' authenticity, and Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu's light-hearted teaching style. One of the things Denise learned from Edith Thompson was that "You always want people to wish the party hadn't ended as opposed to wishing it would."



On December 7, Bay Area dancers will celebrate Denise's 80th birthday at the annual Palomanians Pie Party, joined by dancers from across the United States and Canada, as well as her family. All

are invited! Watch for pictures from Denise's party, as well as other year-end events in next month's issue.

THE 2019 OFFICERS BALL

by Sabine Zappe

In baseball, commentators say that a team has "a deep bullpen" to mean that they have a lot of good pitchers they can call upon to pitch at any time. I'd like to say that the Bay Area folk dance community has a deep teaching staff. We are lucky (and grateful) to have so many dance teachers available to teach at the afternoon workshop at the Officers Ball. How many other dance communities have such a wide variety of capable teachers?

Lon Radin, Chair of the Federation Institute Committee, works each year to put together a well-balanced workshop program: old and new, partner and non-partner, easy and challenging, and from different countries or ethnic communities. We don't have to bring in a master teacher or call upon the same local teachers year after year. Thank you, Lon, for the work you and your committee does to ensure an enjoyable afternoon.

Lucy Chang did a fine job keeping the workshop running smoothly, interspersing the teaching with familiar dances, and reviewing the dances before dinner. Lucy has had a tough year and we are all amazed by her tenacity and resilience.

Other highlights of the day include some pretty spectacular decorations – balloons! flags! lights! – assembled by Kevin Greek and his team, a delicious meal provided by Marian Snyder and Marija Hillis (affectionately referred to as M&M Catering), and entertainment by Bill Cope, the Federation's favorite song-meister. I wasn't able to stay for the evening dance party, but I'm told Loui did her usual good job keeping people on the dance floor.

In addition to providing an entertaining day for local dancers, the Officers Ball is a fundraiser. Laura Douglass, Federation Treasurer reported that, pending any last-minute receipts for expenses, just over \$900 was raised by the Officers Ball this year. The 50/50 drawing should have divided \$440 between the Federation and the winner of the drawing, **Warren Jensen**. However, Warren graciously and generously returned all but what he and Gigi spent on raffle tickets (\$45), so the Federation came away with \$395! Thank you, Warren!

Congratulations to the Officers Ball Committee and all the people who chipped in to make it a successful event.



Pastoral Fandango

Statewide 2020 Folk Dance Festival
Friday May 22 - Sunday 24, 2020

Guest Teachers:
Ahmet Lüleci
Gergana Panova
Bruce Hamilton

Hermann Sons Hall
860 Western Ave
Petaluma, CA 94952

Evening Parties
with
Chubritza

Middle Eastern Dinner and
Installation Lunch catered by
The River Front Cafe

Additional entertainment by
Gradina
Chinese Performance Group
with Rebecca Tsai
The Redwood Dance Squad

Our Host Hotels:
~ Hampton Inn and Suites ~
6248 Redwood Drive
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
~Motel 6 ~
6145 Commerce Blvd.
Rohnert Park, CA 94928

For more information about the festival,
parking, host hotel go to:
<http://statewide.folkdance.com>

Banner art used by permission of artist Maxfield Bala

Pastoral Fandango – Statewide Folk Dance Festival

May 22 - May 24, 2020

Hermann Sons Hall, Petaluma, California

Registration Form (Please register individually, one form per person)

Name: _____ E-mail: _____
Phone: _____ Best time to call: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Festival Package (Includes ALL workshops and parties, **\$130 at the door**)

- ☐ \$105 when payment is received by February 1, 2020
☐ \$110 when payment is received by April 15, 2020
☐ \$115 when payment is received by May 12, 2020 (*final day to preregister*)

All Day events (ONLY WITH early registration)

- ☐ \$70 All day Saturday (**\$80 at the door**)
☐ \$45 All day Sunday (**\$55 at the door**)

Individual Events (ONLY WITH early registration) **\$30 each at the door**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Friday evening party | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Saturday evening party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Saturday AM instruction | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Saturday PM instruction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Sunday morning instruction | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Sunday afternoon review |

SUBTOTAL: \$ _____

Additional offerings: (meals and syllabus only available with pre-registration)

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$12 Mexican Lunch Saturday | <input type="checkbox"/> with meat | <input type="checkbox"/> vegetarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$18 Middle Eastern Dinner Saturday night | <input type="checkbox"/> with meat | <input type="checkbox"/> vegetarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$17 Installation Lunch Sunday | <input type="checkbox"/> with meat | <input type="checkbox"/> vegetarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Festival video access on Google drive | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Festival video on a DVD mailed to you | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Printed syllabus | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$22 Souvenir T-shirt designed by S. Gregory | ____ Size | <input type="checkbox"/> Man <input type="checkbox"/> Woman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax deductible donation \$ _____ | | <input type="checkbox"/> Crew neck -OR- <input type="checkbox"/> V-neck |

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

To register with this mail-in form: Send with your check (made payable to *Folk Dance Federation*) to:
Statewide Registrar, Sabine Zappe, 153 Race Street, San Jose, CA 95126.

On-line Registration available starting January 2020 at statewide.folkdance.com.

Visit the Statewide 2020 webpage at statewide.folkdance.com for the latest information about schedule, teachers, area hotels and restaurants, parking, and directions. Statewide 2020 is sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California, a non-profit organization.

Children under 13 are admitted free with a paying adult. Young adults aged 13-21 will receive a 50% discount, but may be required to volunteer from 1-2 hours during the festival. Work scholarships available. Contact Marina Troost at mylt48@sbcglobal.net.

Pastoral Fandango

****Motel Guide for Petaluma/Sonoma****

Statewide 2020 will be happening in Petaluma during Memorial Day Weekend. **Motel prices will be going through the roof on that weekend *so please book your rooms early.***

Our first hotel is **The Hampton Inn and Suites** in Rohnert Park, for \$195 a night (one bed or two beds) plus tax. It is a high-end hotel with beautiful rooms, and it includes free WIFI, a fridge, a microwave, a couple of free upgrades to a King Suite with a pull-out couch, and a complete hot breakfast (eggs, waffles, fruit, juice, yoghurt, oatmeal, etc.). The breakfast is self-serve in a motel style manner, since the hotel does not have a restaurant. To reserve, call: 855-283-5831 or go to: <http://group.hamptoninn.com/FolkDanceFederation>.

Our second motel is **Motel 6** on 6145 Commerce Blvd, Rohnert Park, 94928. For reservations, call 1-800-544-4866 and either mention Statewide 2020, or give the ID code: GP96KST778. Rates will be considerably lower if you're a senior (60 and over), a AAA member, or an AARP member. WIFI and free coffee included.

Both hotels will make rates available from May 21 through May 26, and **will honor the set rates until one month before the event**, which is April 21.

Other hotels close to Petaluma that we researched and visited and are still available at reasonable rates (search the Internet for the best rates) if reservations are made soon:

The Days Inn in Novato

Reservations: 415-897-7111

America's Best Value Inn in Novato

Reservations 415-892-7500

Hotel Petaluma North Bay

Reservations: 707-795-9005

Budget Inn in Rohnert Park

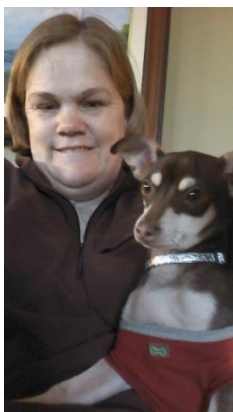
Reservations: 707-584-1305

Metro Hotel and Cafe in Petaluma

Reservations: 707-773-4900

Unfortunately, the hotels are **not** within walking distance. We'll set up a carpool board and possibly a shuttle. More information to come.

– Classified Advertisement –



PAW\$H PAW\$

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Dog Walking and Pet Sitting
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pawshpawscampbell.com



NEWS FROM AROUND THE BAY . . .

NORTH BAY – Carol Friedman

We had a wonderful time dancing to the fabulous music of Bulgarian band **Bulgarika** in October. More than fifty folks turned out from all over the Bay Area for the occasion.



Bulgarika in Petaluma. Photo by C. Friedman.

We're looking ahead to our **Annual Holiday Folk Dance Party on Monday, December 9**, when we will be featuring **Orchestra Euphonos in their first appearance in Petaluma**. They will be playing an exciting mix of music from Romania, Israel, and the Balkans. Orchestra Euphonos is a Bay Area-based Eastern European folk and klezmer band whose performances are joyous occasions filled with wild takes on old favorites, group improvisations, and lots of dancing. We spent most of November learning and reviewing dances from their repertoire including basic Romanian dances, a slow Yiddish hora, Hora Veche, and some Israeli favorites like Dodi Li and Ma Navu.

SACRAMENTO COUNCIL – Barbara Bevan

Ahmet Lüleci taught a Turkish dance workshop hosted by Kolo Coalition of October 9. It was a nice surprise that he was assisted by Evren Soytopcu Kiyak. Many of us remember her from Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2016 when she taught Turkish women's dance styling.

Ahmet's teaching style is precise and fun. He has come a long way since 1985 when I first met him in Turkey. He was a young kid who spoke limited English, but was a very talented dancer.

Two weeks later, the **popular Bulgarian band Bulgarika** played for our dancing pleasure. A lot of the dancers sang along on such pieces as Sadi Moma, Karamfil, and Makedonsko Devojce.

On October 18, ten **local dancers performed** at an assisted living facility where one of our long-time dancers, Rosemary Johnston, now lives. Health issues now prevent her from dancing. Barry Moore organized the event, and the residents seemed to enjoy it.

Halloween parties were enjoyed at Dances of the World led by Yvonne Couvillion and IDS (International Dancers of Sacramento) led by Bruce Mitchell.

In November, we gave thanks for our wonderful hobby of folk dancing, plus all the other blessings we receive.

SAN LEANDRO FOLK DANCE – Gigi Jensen

We're so excited that our classes are going well. We have a stable core of about 10 people – some returning to folk dance, and some new, plus experienced local dancers who drop in from time to time. As our skill level has grown, we've been able to add more time to the class so now we meet for two hours. Loui Tucker's genius at teaching helps to foster confidence. We've also had Andy Partos from Berkeley Folk Dancers guest teach, and various members have shared favorite dances. Everyone is welcome!

We're about to celebrate our first year in January. Watch for details about a party in the next issue of *Let's Dance!*



Dancing in San Leandro on Sunday afternoons. Photo by L. Tucker.

... AND BEYOND

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS – Naomi Lidicker

The highlight of December is our traditional **New Year's Eve Party** on **Tuesday, December 31**, 9 pm-midnight, always a merry, raucous and fun night. We will be at **Frances Albrier Community Center**, 2800 Park Street in Berkeley. Wear your most glamorous apparel, most colorful or whatever! All-request dancing, so come with a dance that you enjoyed this year. \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members.

We have been moving around a lot this year, from James Kenney Community Center to Frances Albrier Recreation Center to Northbrae Community Church. The Birthday Ball in January will be at the Albany Community Center, and the Festival of the Oaks will be at the Albany Veterans Memorial Building in February. Why all this hop-scotching around?

When the City of Berkeley temporarily closed Live Oak Community Center for construction work, we were just one of many groups the City had to relocate for the duration. Most of the Live Oak evening groups meet only one or two nights a week, but BFD dances five nights a week. James Kenney Community Center was available five nights a week, and is large enough (barely) for our classes. So there we are (except when we are not). This is why David Hillis refers to this as “our year in the orphanage.”

Fortunately, this hop-scotching around has not affected our class and special event attendance. In fact, membership is up and we will be dancing on a **sixth day of the week starting Sunday, January 12**. The Live Oak reconstruction project is on schedule so far, and we could be back in Live Oak as soon as the very end of October 2020.

No dancing December 24 or 25 or January 1. The two afternoon classes at Northbrae Church in Berkeley will not be dancing on Dec. 26 and Dec. 31.

Happy Holidays and a Marvelous New Year to all!

PENINSULA COUNCIL – Adony Beniares

Another successful year of fun, dancing, and friendship on the Peninsula. All club leaders wish everyone a Happy New Year and a great 2020.

All are invited to the **Free Christmas Night Dance Party**, at St Bede's Church in Menlo Park, 7-10 pm. Bring your friends and finish up Christmas with this Romanian tradition. No admittance fee or donation!

The Carriage **House Folk Dancers** will be having their holiday and end of year party on **December 11**. They'll then take a short break and resume class on January 8, 2020.

The Moveable Feet Club's **Annual Holiday Fundraiser**, at the First Baptist Church in Palo Alto is 3-7 pm on **Saturday, December 14**. Please bring either 10 unexpired cans of food and/or \$15 donation for the Second Harvest Food Bank.

Wrap up the year with a **New Year's Eve Potluck and Dancing**, at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Palo Alto, 6:30 pm-12:30 am. Bring a favorite dish for the potluck dinner at 6:30, or come after 7:30 for dancing with Lucy Chang and Loui Tucker sharing MC duties.

The celebration on **Denise Heenan's 80th birthday** will be held on **Saturday, December 7** at St. Bede's in Menlo Park. No admission charge (**yes, it's free!**), with plenty of surprises and guests.

The Palomanians will take a break and not meet on December 24 and 31, resuming on January 7 for the new quarter.

The Stanford Folk Dancers meet Fridays at Bethany Lutheran Church in Menlo Park. December 6 and 20 Lew Smith and Melissa Miller are the featured instructors. December 13 is their **annual holiday dance party** with live music by **Zabava**.



Dancing in Willits at the October Family Dance.
Photo by M. Wolf.

THE DANCE CLUB IN WILLITS – Megan Wolf

We hosted our first **Family Dance** for all ages with caller Evo Bluestein in October. It was fun for all and we had another in November with Kalia Kliban, who is the most fun caller ever! We also have an official website now. You can find us at **willitsdance.com** and as **Willits Folk Dancers** on Facebook.

continued on p. 14

NEWS FROM AROUND THE BAY... AND BEYOND – *continued*

SAN FRANCISCO DANCE GROUPS – Linda Milhoan

Changs members wish you all a happy December and look forward to dancing with you in 2020!

The Mandala will again celebrate **Winter Solstice on Thursday, December 19** 7:30-10 pm. You are invited to an evening of music, dance and the annual bell-ringing ceremony. Bring your own bell, or borrow one of theirs. Join in the ringing of the bells to scare away the demons of darkness and welcome the sunlight's return showing the way to spring.

Changs International Folk Dancers is planning a party featuring live music played by our good

friends **Da! Mozhem**. Mark your calendars for **January 31**, the fifth Friday in 2020. Look for more details in the next issue of *Let's Dance!*. December at Changs is when we'll review dances taught during the first 11 months of 2019.

Erika Opper noticed that the November issue of *Let's Dance!* had a great list of kid's books to encourage youngsters to dance. Now how about bringing those youngsters to Changs on the **third Friday of each month** (7:30-8:30) for a fun and engaging **Family Dance program** with our talented and engaging teacher, Michel Hardbarger?

CHANGS VISITS LONG-TIME MEMBER LILLIAN ENG

by Luiselle Yakas

Lillian Eng has been a very long-time member of Changs – since 1951!

For the last several years, Linda Milhoan and I would pick her up on our way to Changs so she could continue to enjoy folk dancing with us!

This past fall, eight of us from Changs went to **The Point at Rockridge** in Oakland, where Lillian had been living, to dance for her and her fellow residents. We danced many of our favorite dances, including Setnja, Turning by Threes, Hora Veche, Chilili, Jiffy Mixer, Zemir Atik, Chaos Mixer, Joc de Leagne, Chu Ku Wu, Ada's Kujawiak, Sweet Girl, Cumbia Sumana, St. John River, Shto Me E Milo, and a waltz.

The playlist was chosen with music and ease of dancing in mind. Turning by Threes, Ada's Kujawiak and St. John River were not join-in dances, but chosen for their beauty and entertainment value. During other dances, some of the women and staff members joined us, including Lillian. It was wonderful to see the smiling faces of the residents and staff who watched or danced with us.

We only had an hour, but we packed in a lot of good times and joy. At the final waltz, some of the residents who were confined to their chairs, "danced" with us from where they were as we held their hands and swayed to the music. We hope to come to dance for Lillian again. It was a very special afternoon, indeed!

YES, I AM A DANCER.
NO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO
BE YOUNG TO DANCE.



Lillian Eng in 2015.
Photo by L. Tucker.

STOCKTON CAMP OPENED UP THE WORLD TO TRAVEL

by Luiselle Yakas

In the summer of 2018, while at Stockton Camp, I was encouraged by Sonia and Cristian to sign up for their 2019 tour in Romania. I hesitated because it was right around the time of Stockton Camp. If I chose to go, I would have to resign myself to skipping a year of Camp. It took me several months to finally decide to go, especially with the strong suggestion to apply for a Federation scholarship to help make it possible. I had to plan ahead: I packed my car for Camp *before* leaving for Romania. I would be leaving *the morning after* my flight home arrived.

Although I was bit jet-lagged during Camp, it was good to be there: reconnecting with so many of my folk dance buddies, some of whom I only see at Camp, so many planned activities and – let's not forget – the dancing of both old and new dances, that typifies a Camp experience.

This caused me to reflect on the impact attending Stockton Camp has had on me, starting with my first time in 2001. It was there that I met Athan Karras, the Greek teacher that year. It was because of his informational flyer on the table in the lobby that I learned about a two-week Greek dance seminar on the island of Crete that included dances from several regions of Greece. A little voice said to me, "You've got to do this!" I felt I needed to go, not only to connect to my Greek heritage, but to broaden my travel and dance experience. It would be my first European trip going solo! What an eye opener that trip was, learning the variety of Greek dance styles, participating in the local culture, and having a taste of travel with the hospitality I encountered during my travels to Greece and in Greece.

During that time in Crete, I also met life-long friends from Canada (one went with me to Ahmet's tour this year). Stockton Folk Dance Camp has provided me with opportunities that have gone far beyond dancing on the UOP Campus.

That table in the lobby is always full of flyers with invitations to explore dance and culture at the source, traveling with master dance teachers and fellow dancers for an unforgettable experience. It has led me to Yves and France Moreau's western Mediterranean cruise with Roberto Bagnoli, Ahmet Lüleci's tours of Turkey, and Sonia and Cristian's Romanian tour. I guess I can say that attending Stockton opened the world to me, literally. Not only

in Stockton, California, but Europe and – next year – Japan!

Thank you to the **Folk Dance Federation Scholarship Committee** for providing me with a scholarship to be able to attend Camp this last summer. I hope to be able to attend every year as, I know, the Camp experience and all its connections to folk dancing and friendship has truly broadened my world, both personally and culturally.

NAME THAT DANCE

"I can name that dance in six steps." "Well, I can name that dance in four steps!" That's the challenge. Below are the kind of description you'd write for yourself if you were making notes so you could remember a dance. There are no beats, no measures, no speed, and no rhythm – just the steps.

Note: The steps may be from anywhere in the dance, not just the beginning. One descriptions is for one dancer's steps for a couple dance. No "give-away" terminology is used such a grapevine or Yemenite.

Enjoy!

1. Moving CCW, step R, lift L, step-together-step, step R, lift L, step L, lift R while pivoting ½ to the L to face CW.

2. Facing center, point R toe forward, point R toe to the R side. Step back on R, step on L next to R, step forward on R

3. Moving CCW, walk four steps R, L, R, L. Face to center and sway on R to R. Sway on L to L. Step toward center on R and hold. Back up five steps. Stamp R next to L.

4. With hands in W position, move toward center three steps. Back up three steps. Step on R, touch L next to R. Step on L, touch R next to L. While bringing hands from W position to V position, take two steps in place R, L, and touch R next to L.

5. Walk CCW two slow steps (R, L), continuing CCW walk three steps quickly (R, L, R). Back up two slow steps (L, R), quick step back onto L, quick step on R next to L, step forward onto L.

6. Walk toward center three steps (R, L, R), back away from center three steps (L, R, L) Repeat moving in and out again. Moving CW, four "step-together-steps." Moving CCW, four "step-together-steps."

THIS IS THE LET'S DANCE! MONTHLY CHALLENGE. Now that you've figured out the dances, write to loui@loutucker.com. If you are the **THIRD** person to email with all the correct answers, you will win a \$20 gift card.

72nd Annual International Folk Dance Festival of the Oaks



Registration begins at
9:00 a.m.

Institute with Tineke & Maurits Van Geel
Master International Folk Dance Teachers
9:30 - noon – \$16.00

International Folk Dancing
*Dances from around the world &
Institute Reviews*
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – \$13.00

All day – Institute & Folk Dancing
\$26.00

Saturday, February 8, 2020

**New Location -- Albany
Veterans Memorial Building**

1325 Portland Avenue
Albany, CA 94709

Hot lunch
Noon - 1:00 p.m. – \$8.00

Federation Membership meeting
Noon - 1:00 p.m.
*Folk Dance Federation of California will be
providing lunch for members attending.*

Exhibition Dance Performance
1:00 p.m.

Pre-owned folk dance costume sale
12:30 – 4:30
Bring items to donate

**Free refreshments will be served all
afternoon**

Sponsored by
Berkeley Folk Dancers &
Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.



No partner needed

For more information:

<http://www.BerkeleyFolkDancers.org>

or email: rg94610@gmail.com

HOW FAR IS IT FROM ARCATA TO LOS OSOS? CHUBRITZA KNOWS!

You may recall from a back issue of *Let's Dance!* that the northernmost members of the Folk Dance Federation are in Arcata, California. For the record, the southernmost members are in Los Osos, California, near San Luis Obispo. That's just over 500 miles and over eight hours traveling by car.

And the point of this information? Well, Chubritza, one of our well-known folk dance bands, made up of musicians (who are also dancers) who live in the Arcata area, recently played for the Bay Osos Folk Dancers in Los Osos! And we have photographic proof that it happened.

According to Craig Kurumada and Linnea Mandell, Chubritza's leaders, this was Susie Burke's brainchild. When Susie and Billy Burke moved to Los Osos a few years ago, Susie put together a relatively new and quite delightful choir in Los Osos called Balkan Central. For their debut concert, Susie asked Chubritza to accompany the choir and also share the stage with tunes from their repertoire. Of course, Chubritza was happy to work with Susie again, but the distance and timing needed a fair amount of hammering out.



Chubritza played for the Bay Osos Folk Dancers! *Photo by C. Dickey.*

They thought about a little tour like the one last year when Chubritza played at the Tamburitza Extravaganza in Burbank, stopping off to play for the Palo Alto Folk Dancers, Chang's 80th Anniversary Party in San Francisco, a concert in Fresno, and a house concert in Santa Cruz. That tour couldn't be replicated.

The stars align, however. Chubritza member Meadow Lo teaches school music and is professionally acquainted with the Gilroy High School music teacher. This award-winning choir had scheduled their annual fundraising dinner on a day Chubritza could be there that coordinated with the trip to Los Osos. In return for playing for their community spaghetti feed, Chubritza members received a lovely meal and lodging with families, thus avoiding having to make the Arcata-to-Los-Osos drive in one day.

The Kincaid Fire had just got started, so Chubritza members were past it by the time it started closing roads. On the way back, however....

The Balkan Central concert program was eclectic and was a stretch, even by Chubritza standards. The choir had worked up an entertaining mix of genres. Besides classic Balkan choir songs such as Bre Petrunko and Što Mi e Milo, the program included a Mexican ranchera song and couple of folk tunes from the United States (It was a first for Chubritza to play a bluegrass number!). The day after the concert, Chubritza played for a very enjoyable folk dance party hosted by the Bay Osos Folk Dancers (see accompanying photo).

Craig and Linnea reported that their stay in Los Osos was the epitome of hospitality. The folk dance community was so welcoming in housing and feeding the band and participating in the weekend activities. Between activities band members got to enjoy the beauty of Morro Bay and some warm weather.

The trip back north to Arcata was more problematic. They kept their eyes on the fires along the way and debated whether to try their normal direct route on Highway 101 or take Highway 5 to Redding. Despite taking different routes back in three separate cars, the musicians all got home at about the same time, only to be told PG&E had cut off power for Humboldt County AGAIN.

Craig and Linnea both said the trip was a great deal of fun, though they did have to sacrifice ice cream and frozen and thawed meat from their freezers!

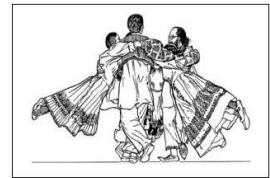
**A musician is someone
who puts \$5000 worth
of gear into a \$500 car
to drive
50 miles
to a \$50 gig.**



Not exactly true in this case, but musicians certainly understand the concept!



*Ensemble Balkanske Igre's
55th Anniversary*



SPRING FESTIVAL

March 20-22, 2020

Hyde Park/University of Chicago (Saturday & Sunday) plus Balkanika Restaurant (Friday evening)
Saturday: International House, 1414 E 59th St / Sunday: Ida Noyes Hall, 1212 E 59th St, Chicago, IL 60637

Dance and Music of the Balkans, Eastern Europe, and Eastern Mediterranean

Enjoy the best in Balkan, Eastern European, and Mediterranean dance, music, and culture with world renowned master teachers, spectacular live music, riveting dance & musical performances. Dance on a sprung oak floor. Sing, jam, and celebrate with friends new and old from coast to coast and Canada! **Special guest artist Ivan Dyakov.**

March 20, Friday, 7pm – midnight, **Ivan Dyakov & mini-dance workshop**, Balkanika Restaurant, \$20 admission
March 21-22, Sat/Sun, 9am-5pm - Saturday: I-House, 1414 E 59th St, Sunday: Ida Noyes Hall, 1212 E 59th St, Chicago
Workshops, Party, Culture Sessions with Master Teachers and Artists from Europe

Dance Workshops: **Yannis Konstantinou** (Greek) from Greece, **Šani Rifati** (Rrom) from Germany,

Ventzi Sotirov (Pirin), **Prof. Nikolay Tsvetkov** (Bulgarian) from Bulgaria

Singing & Music Workshops: **Chris Bajmakovich, James Stoyanoff** \$10/\$12 per workshop

SATURDAY EVENING, March 21, 7pm, Concert & Dance Party featuring the finest live music
and dances from all regions of the Balkans and Eastern Europe/Mediterranean - special guest artist **Ivan Dyakov \$30/\$40**

Info/Reservations: 1-847-331-7842 or 1-847-858-9822

balkanske_igre@yahoo.com

Balkanske Igre, PO Box 1157, Chicago, IL 60690

www.balkanskeigre.org

Shuttle between O'Hare and Midway Airports and the International House/University of Chicago: www.airportexpress.com or call 888.2THEVAN/888-284-3826. **Plentiful housing options near campus**-please email us for details. Program subject to change.

Tax-deductible donations: please send a check payable to Eastern European Folklore Society.

Syllabus ads: black & white page 1 page-\$100, 1/2 page-\$65, 1/4 page-\$35. For color pages - double b&w prices - payments and ads must be received by March 1, 2020. Please email ads to balkanske_igre@yahoo.com & call 847-858-9822

Spring Festival co-sponsored by the University of Chicago International House, CEERES, WHPK, and the Ensemble Balkanske Igre.

Please complete and return to John Kuo, 9201 Mason, Morton Grove, IL 60053 - please make checks payable to: "Eastern European Folklore Society." NOTE: EARLY REGISTRATION +WEEKEND PASS OPTIONS YIELD

SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNTS.

Student

/FDCC General

Seniors

Note: Friday & Saturday evening concert & parties included in weekend packages; evening dinners & syllabus are extra.

Individual workshop admission is \$10 student/\$12 general

Weekend Pass (Fri evening through Sun) __ \$150 __ \$170 if postmarked by 3/1/20. \$160/\$180 by 3/10/20, \$170/\$190 after 3/10/2020

Saturday evening concert & dance party only __ \$ 30 __ \$ 40 (included in weekend pass)

Syllabus __ \$20

Friday evening dance party w/Ivan Dyakov __ \$20 Note: dinner is separate charge a la carte off Bulgarika Restaurant's menu

Dinner Saturday evening __ \$30 Please check if __vegetarian, __vegan, __food allergies:_____

Post-festival Sunday dinner/party w/live music __ \$40 at an ethnic restaurant tba

for a total of \$_____

Name _____ Cell Phone _____

Address _____ Other Phone _____

City/State/Zip/Country _____

E-mail Address _____

FROM THE *LET'S DANCE!* PHOTO ARCHIVES



This photo was taken at Stockton Folk Dance Camp in the 1990s. Do you recognize them?

This is NOT the Let's Dance! Monthly Challenge, but you can send your answer to loui@loutucker.com and she'll tell you if you are correct.



The photo above that appeared in the November issue of *Let's Dance!* is of Atanas Kolarovski and Steve Kotansky. Informed sources said the photo was taken in 1990 when they were both at Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

The person who won the \$20 gift card for being the 10th person with the correct identification was **Eliot Khuner**.

Have you found this month's challenge?

Dance on the Water



Our 2019 cruise to the **Adriatic, Slovenia and Venice** was **SOLD OUT!**

Our 2020 trip to the **Rhone River and Marseilles** is **WAITING LIST ONLY!**

It's not too early to be thinking about our 2021 voyage:

Ireland and Iceland!

June 3-18, 2021 (approximate dates)

www.folkdanceonthewater.org

Get on our mailing list at
folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com

FEDERATION NEWS

FOLK DANCE PASSPORTS

Contrary to information provided in the last issue, the Folk Dance Passports were NOT made available at the Officers Ball in October. Design and implementation appear to have run into problems. We hope to have an update on this program soon.



GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Looking for the perfect holiday gift for your new folk dance friend? Consider a gift membership in the Federation. It's just \$35 a year for an individual and \$45 for a couple. They will get a copy of *Let's Dance!* magazine delivered each month, become a member of the Federation Google Group, and be eligible for occasional free or discounted merchandise available from time to time.

YEAR END GIVING

If you are looking for ways to lighten your 2019 tax load, consider a donation to the Federation. The Federation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and, assuming you itemize your deduction and don't use the standard deduction, your donation is tax-deductible. If you want a receipt for your records, just ask!

Remembering Nancy Linscott

December 3, 1930 - October 26, 2019

We are sad to inform you that we lost a beloved member of our California Scandinavian dance community last weekend. Nancy Linscott, founder of Scandinavian dancing in the Greater Bay Area, and founder of Scandia Camp Mendocino, passed away at the age of 88, on Saturday evening October 26, after sustaining a stroke the week before. Nancy had been living with progressive dementia for many years.

We will remember Nancy for so many things. She was an avid watercolorist, and had even captured the magic of the Mendocino Woodlands in some of her watercolors, one of which eventually became a Scandia Camp t-shirt illustration. She loved to play tennis, hike, backpack, and was a leader in the international folk dance community in the Bay Area as well.

More importantly, we will remember Nancy for her long dedication to building a Scandinavian dance community locally, teaching Scandia dancing for many years with her former husband, Dean Linscott, and eventually founding the Scandia Camp Mendocino. And Nancy did it all with great love and much grace! There was a time in the late 80s and early 90s when the monthly dances she led gathered over 100 people per evening!

Nancy's many contributions that helped establish a strong Scandinavian dance and music culture in the San Francisco Bay Area have enriched all of our lives, and are continuing to do so today. We were and are very lucky to receive the many gifts that she gave us.



Orovyanka

(Bulgaria)

Orovyanka (oh-roh-VYAHN-kah), meaning Little Horo, is part of the Vlach tradition in the village of Gigen in the Severnjashko (northern) region of Bulgaria, across the Danube from Romania. Gergana Panova presented this dance at the 2019 Stockton Folk Dance Camp at the University of the Pacific.

- Music:** 2/4 meter. *Gergana Panova presents Bulgarian Dances*, Vol. 4.
A USB flash drive is available from Gergana Gerganafolkwang@gmail.com
- Video:** *2019 Stockton Folk Dance Camp DVD*. Camp videos can be viewed by contacting a Camp participant who purchased it.
- Formation:** Open, mixed circle of dancers facing CCW, hands in V-pos. The first person in the line should be a man.
- Steps & Styling:** Semicircle forming different shapes like a snake. Walking steps are large.
Triple Step: Three steps in one measure: Leap R fwd (ct 1); step L next to R (ct &); step R next to L (ct 2). If repeated, use opp ftwk. Can also be done bkwd and from side to side.

Measures	2/4	PATTERN
4 meas	INTRODUCTION. No action. The downbeat of the first step is preceded by 4 quick notes.	
1	Facing CCW, step L fwd with L leg straight and extended (ct 1); step R fwd (ct 2).	
2	Step L fwd (ct 1); stamp R next to L (ct 2).	
3	Stamp R next to L (ct 1); hold (ct 2).	
4	Moving diag R, one Triple Step beg R (cts 1, &, 2).	
5	Repeat meas 4 with opp ftwk, moving diag L.	
6-7	Repeat meas 4-5.	
8	Facing ctr, dance one Triple Step beg R to R (cts 1, &, 2).	
9	Repeat meas 8 with opp ftwk and direction.	
10	Dance one Triple Step, beg R, into the ctr, bringing arms up to W-pos and yelling: "EE-soo OO-nah" (cts 1, &, 2).	
11	Dance one Triple Step, beg L, out of ctr, bringing arms down to V-pos (cts 1, &, 2).	
12-13	Repeat meas 10-11, changing call to: "EE-soo DOH-ah."	
14	Repeat meas 10, changing call to: "EE-soo-TREH-ee."	
15	Step L bkwd, bringing arms down to V-pos (ct 1); stamp R next to L (ct 2).	
16	Stamp R next to L (ct 1); small leap onto R to face CCW while kicking L leg fwd (ct 2).	

Sequence: Dance repeats with stepping L fwd, then repeat the rest of the dance as described. The dance repeats 11 more times.

What's Up Down South?

~ News from Southern California ~

LAGUNA FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL – 50 YEARS YOUNG!

Laguna Folk Dance Festival will be held **March 6-8, 2020** and it will be the 50th anniversary, so this festival will be a doozy!

The legendary **Yves Moreau** (who taught at our 25th Festival), teaching mostly Bulgarian dances, is already confirmed as one of the main teachers, as is young and energetic **Aaron Alpert**, teaching Israeli dances. There will also be cameo appearances by former Laguna Festival teachers **Tom Bozgian** and **Lee Otterholt**. The National Folk Organization (NFO) will be holding its annual conference in conjunction with the festival, so many dance leaders from all over the U.S. will be there.

The Festival will, as always, include dancing to live music (three bands!) Friday night, dance workshops all day Saturday, a very happy Happy Hour (with dancing to 50s-style pop and rock music) and a gala evening dinner followed by dancing to live music with **Miamon Miller** and band. There will be

a review of dances on Sunday morning, a concert after lunch, and again dancing to live music Sunday afternoon. Catered lunches are available onsite both Saturday and Sunday so you don't have to leave!

Our popular Sing-Alongs will be led by **Michael Lawson** and the **Southern California Lifetime Achievement Award** will, for the fifth time, be awarded to a worthy recipient who has made an exceptional contribution to the Southern California folk dance scene.

If you are coming from out of town, you can book rooms at the nearby **Ayres Hotel** at a discounted rate. The Ayres Hotel is a short walking distance from the festival venue.

If you can stay an extra day, we will **Dance On The Beach** on the Monday after the festival, a unique experience not many other festivals can offer!

Registration for the festival is now open at www.lagunainternationaldancers.com. You can register and pay online, or you can download a form and send it in with your check. Do it early, because space will be limited for this very special event!

HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Featuring
ROO LESTER

SAVE THE DATE:
MARCH 13TH & 14TH
2020

New Month!

Come learn **BASQUE**
International & Scandinavian DANCES

PENINSULA FOLKDANCE COUNCIL

2020 NFO CONFERENCE

PRESENTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE

50th Laguna Folk Dance Festival



FEATURING KEYNOTE

Janet Reineck

World Dance For Humanity

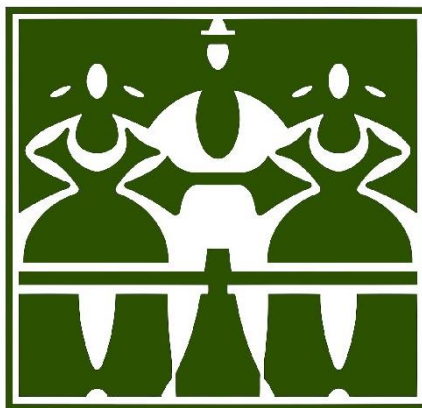
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Yves Moreau

France Moreau

Dick Oakes

Bill Cope



National Folk
Organization

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WHEN

**Thur March 5 thru
Sun March 8, 2020**

WHERE

**Ayres Hotel
Laguna Woods, CA**

NFO-USA.ORG

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