

# Let's Dance!

THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING  SEPTEMBER 2019



The 2019 Staff at Stockton Folk Dance Camp: (top row, from left) Gigi and Warren Jensen, Maurits Van Geel, Tineke Van Geel, Rebecca Tsai, (middle row, from left) Joe Graziosi, Richard Schmidt, Gergana Panova, Tony Parkes; (bottom) Free Range Organic. *Photos by M. Giusto, E. Khuner, and L. Tucker.*

Review of Stockton and other summer dance events inside!

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

# *Let's Dance!*

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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](http://www.folkdance.com) under the **Services** tab.

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226 Alameda de las Pulgas

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Marcia Rosenblatt,

927 Springfield Drive, Millbrae, California 94030

To post dance event flyers on the Federation's website, email: [webmaster@folkdance.com](mailto: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](mailto:editor@folkdance.com)). Opinions expressed in *Let's Dance!* are not necessarily those of the Folk Dance Federation or of the Editor.

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## **WELCOME NEW FEDERATION MEMBERS**

Barbara Feinstein, Hayward  
Cafe Simcha (group), Kensington



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Joe Croco

A couple issues ago I started writing about a high school senior who planned to write a paper about folk dancing in America and he sent me a list of 10 questions. See the last two *Let's Dance!* for questions 1 to 7. He had done some research and had an interest in the folk-dance community. For someone who is not a part of folk-dancing I was very surprised to see his list of questions. So here are his last 3 questions and I would like to hear your thoughts too.

8. How can folk dancing bring people from different cultural backgrounds together?

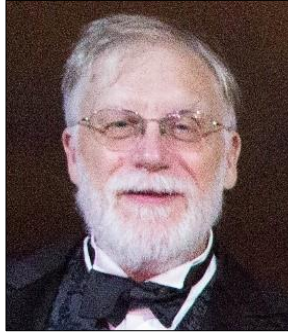
9. Why do you believe folk dancing is a valuable tradition in America?

10. What strategies do you believe can bring about more participants in the folk dance community within America?

These are questions that had been discussed by every folk dancer over the years, including discussion at the Federation board meetings, so to hear that someone outside our community is asking these questions also was very surprising. I would appreciate your thoughts on these questions and also the seven from the last two issues of *Let's Dance!*.

On another note I just got back from Stockton Dance Camp last week. This was the eighth time I've been there (the first in 1974, so our attendance was not regular) and I can't say enough about how great it is. Congratulations to the Stockton staff on another wonderful year. Laura and I already have deposits down for 2020.

At the recent Federation Board meeting, we got an update on the plans for this year's **Officers Ball on Saturday, October 19**. The planning committee has come up with an exciting theme: ***Around the World in 80 Dances!*** It will be interesting to see if they can actually play 80 dances during this event. A team of local teachers is being assembled for the afternoon workshop. Take a look at the tentative list of teachers and the **registration form on p. 12**. Get yourself registered as soon as possible so you can share dinner with us.



## UPCOMING GREEK AND ARMENIAN FESTIVALS

### September 6-8

Fri: 5-10pm; Sat: 11am-10pm; Sun: Noon-8 pm

#### **SANTA CRUZ GREEK FESTIVAL**

Prophet Elias Orthodox Church,

223 Church Street, Santa Cruz

[www.livelikeagreek.com](http://www.livelikeagreek.com)

### September 6-8

Fri-Sat: Noon-11pm; Sunday: Noon-6 pm

#### **STOCKTON GREEK FESTIVAL**

St. Basil Church, 920 W. March Lane, Stockton

\$2.00 (children 12 & under free with an adult)

[www.gosaintbasil.org](http://www.gosaintbasil.org)

### September 6-7

Fri: 5-10pm; Sat: Noon-10pm

#### **CUPERTINO ARMENIAN FESTIVAL**

St. Andrew Armenian Church

11370 South Stelling Road, Cupertino

[www.standrewarmchurch.org](http://www.standrewarmchurch.org)

### September 13-15

Fri: 6pm-Midnight; Sat: Noon-Midnight;

Sun: Noon-5 pm

#### **ST GREGORY ARMENIAN CHURCH FESTIVAL**

825 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco

\$5 (Children six and under, free)

[www.stgregorysf.org](http://www.stgregorysf.org)

[www.armenianfestivalsf.com](http://www.armenianfestivalsf.com)

### September 13-15

Fri: 5pm to 11pm; Sat: Noon-11pm; Sun: 11am-7pm

#### **CONTRA COSTA GREEK FESTIVAL**

St. Demetrios Church, Concord

Free, Parking \$10 per car daily

[www.stdgreekfest.wordpress.com](http://www.stdgreekfest.wordpress.com)

### September 13-15

Fri: 6-10pm, Sat: Noon-10 pm; Sun: Noon-8 pm

#### **MIDDLE EASTERN & GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL**

St. James Orthodox Church,

195 North Main Street, Milpitas, CA

Free [www.sjorthodox.org/festival](http://www.sjorthodox.org/festival)

### September 20-22

Fri: Noon-10pm; Sat: Noon-11pm; Sun: Noon-9 pm

#### **SAN FRANCISCO GREEK FESTIVAL**

Annunciation Cathedral

245 Valencia Street, San Francisco

\$5 Check website for free admission ticket

[www.sfgreekfestival.org](http://www.sfgreekfestival.org)

*More Greek and Armenian Festivals on p. 13.*

# September 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](mailto:editor@folkdance.com).

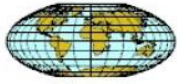
Additional events can be found at [www.folkdance.com](http://www.folkdance.com) (Community tab).

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

- August 25 **SIFDAC MEMBERSHIP POTLUCK, BBQ, & DANCE PARTY.** Wolterbeek Ranch, 3100 Ponderosa Road, Shingle Springs. \$10. 3-5 pm games; 5-10 pm potluck and dancing. Sponsored by Sacramento Folk Dance and Arts Council (SIFDAC). Info: [www.folkdancesac.org](http://www.folkdancesac.org).
- August 29 **END OF SUMMER DANCE PARTY.** St. Archangel Michael Serbian Orthodox Church, 18870 Allendale Avenue, Saratoga. \$8. 7:30-10:15 pm. Theme: **Don Your Denim**. Info: [loui@loutitucker.com](mailto:loui@loutitucker.com).
- September 7 **SUMMER CAMP REVIEW.** All Saints' Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley Street, Palo Alto. \$10. 2-8 pm. Now in its sixth year, an increasingly popular way to learn the best dances from the summer camps and workshops. Teaching, potluck and review/dancing. Sponsored by the Moveable Feet Club. Info: [LucySChang@gmail.com](mailto:LucySChang@gmail.com), [kbegonia@me.com](mailto:kbegonia@me.com).
- September 7 **30TH ANNUAL POLISH FESTIVAL.** Polish American Club of Sacramento, 327 Main Street, Roseville. Noon-6 pm. Admission is free. More than 1500 people are expected to attend this year's festival! 5,000 pierogi; 1,000 cabbage rolls; 700 pounds of Kielbasa, hundreds of servings of potato pancakes and a variety of Polish pastries will be served. Info: Jennifer Weedon 916-220-6396 or [SacPolishFestival@gmail.com](mailto:SacPolishFestival@gmail.com), or visit [sacpolishclub.com/polish-festival](http://sacpolishclub.com/polish-festival).
- September 21 **PENINSULA COUNCIL MONTHLY PARTY.** St. Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. \$10. Pre-Party workshop 7:15-8 pm; dancing 8-10:30 pm. Info: [adony408@gmail.com](mailto:adony408@gmail.com)
- September 27 **BULGARIAN DANCE WORKSHOP.** Bethany Lutheran Church, 1095 Cloud Avenue, Menlo Park. \$15. 7:30-10 pm. Workshop features Iliana Bozhanova and Todor Yankov. Iliana and Todor brought us fabulous dances like Elerinka, Kune, and Dona. Sponsored by the Stanford Folk Dancers. Info: [info@stanfordfolkdance.com](mailto:info@stanfordfolkdance.com).
- September 28 **FRENCH DANCE WORKSHOP AND PARTY.** All Saints' Episcopal, 555 Waverley Street, Palo Alto. \$12 1:15-5:30 pm. Local French dance specialist Marilyn Smith will teach Bourrée Bourbonnaise, Carnaval de Lantz, and Avant Deux de Travers, followed by a general international folk dance party. Sponsored by the Moveable Feet Club. Info: [LucySChang@gmail.com](mailto:LucySChang@gmail.com), [kbegonia@me.com](mailto:kbegonia@me.com).
- October 12 **PENINSULA COUNCIL MONTHLY PARTY.** St. Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. \$10. Pre-Party workshop 7:15-8 pm; dancing 8-10:30 pm. Loui Tucker will be the MC. Info: [adony408@gmail.com](mailto:adony408@gmail.com).
- October 18 **BULGARIKA LIVE AT KOPACHKA FOLK DANCERS.** Strawberry Recreation Center, 118 E. Strawberry Drive, Mill Valley. 8-10:30 pm. \$15. See ad on p.17.
- October 19 **ANNUAL FEDERATION OFFICERS BALL.** Veterans Memorial Hall, 22737 Main Street in Hayward. Afternoon workshop taught by local teachers, an on-site dinner, and evening dance party. This is a fundraising event put on annually by the Folk Dance Federation of California. More information on p. 12.

**SEE PAGE 3 FOR A LIST OF UPCOMING GREEK AND ARMENIAN FESTIVALS**

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

Led by Lee Otterholt Tirana, Durres, Vlora Folk Dance Festival!

Kruja, Saranda, Berat, Shkoder, Gjirokastra

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

Led by Lee Otterholt:

Oslo, Gothenburg, Helsingborg, Copenhagen

**BULGARIA:** August 2-16, 2020

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

Led by Jim Gold and/or Lee Otterholt: Athens, Nauplia, Sparta,  
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Santorini Ext.: Oct. 23-25

**SPAIN: September 16-29, 2021**

Led by Lee Otterholt Malaga, Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba, Jaen, Granada

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# THE FAMILY PHOTO

## ALBUM

*Photos by L. Tucker,  
M. Rayman, M. Giusto, and Joe Croco  
[All photos from Stockton Folk Dance Camp]*



Rebecca Tsai teaching a Chinese dance involving a round fan, with Tom Sha and Mary Victor in the background.



(From left) Bill East, Jan Wright, Joe Croco, and Mike Giusto on ukuleles.



The unique Stockton-themed jigsaw puzzles were a big hit. Working on them here are (from left) Evan Chu, Clem Dickey, Darlene Wheeler, and Sally Jenkins.



Maurits Van Geel dancing Pale Amende, with Denise Heenan and Marcella Lawson in the background.



The combined singing and ukulele classes shared their rendition of Shto Mie Milo at the Saturday Talent Show!

# STOCKTON FOLK DANCE CAMP 2019

by Lon Radin

It was another outstanding year at Stockton Folk Dance Camp, featuring the to-be-expected top-notch teaching staff, great dances, and several surprises!

The teaching staff was excellent. Joe Graziosi taught fifteen (!) Greek dances, and did not appear to be troubled at all by his knee replacements. Gergana Panova presented catchy, upbeat Bulgarian dances, including the popular, modern, party dance, Kazundzha (watch for it!). Richard Schmidt taught Polish dances with amazing and elegant sequences. Rebecca Tsai taught Chinese dances involving different types of fans and graceful movements. Maurits Van Geel taught an assortment of dances ranging from a sweet waltzing couple mixer, to a Cape Verdian, African-flavored dance, to a crazy-fast Roma dance. Tineke Van Geel very clearly taught Armenian dances, all with haunting music and nice hand motions. Gigi and Warren Jensen taught not just Argentine tango, but two other popular Argentine dance forms – Milonga and Vals Cruzado. This was rounded out by Tony Parkes calling American squares and contras at the right level of difficulty so everyone could participate and enjoy them.

I am sure there are at least a dozen dances presented this year that will be taught widely and will become part of our repertoires. There will be a report out shortly on the Federation's survey of the dances taught that will identify the most popular dances.

The afternoon ukulele class taught by Melanie Lawson (with assistance from her sister, Marcella, and brother, Michael) was well-attended. The class learned a lot very quickly, and sounded wonderful when they performed the music for one of Gergana's dances, Shumarsko. The Saturday Talent Show featured the combined ukulele class and singing class in Shto Mi E Milo! I never thought I'd hear *that* combination!

The live auction raised a record amount of money for the Scholarship Fund. My wife Hollis high-bid for some lovely Ashmolean teacups to replace my favorite teacup which broke recently, so I'm happy.

The politics got rather thick this year. Let me explain: As part of Wednesday night Polish-themed festivities, we had a mock political battle between the two

largest Polish political parties. On one hand, there was the conservative PiS party (enthusiastically represented by Bill East and his lackies), and on the other hand there's the liberal PO party (jubilantly represented by Murray Spiegel and his flunkies).

A surprise entry into the two-way race was the normally insignificant Polish political force, the Feminist Initiative, represented by Loui Tucker. As Loui pointed out, there were more women than men there, so winning was inevitable! In the end, after much mud-slinging and a dirty campaigning, we all realized that Bill and Murray offered rather "pis-po" options, and the IF party triumphed. The balance of power was tipped when the wives of the PiS and PO party leaders joined the Feminist Initiative.

We didn't attend the second week, but were told the two parties were represented by Marian Snyder (the Berkeley Coalition) and Craig Blackstone (the San Francisco Coalition). The San Francisco Coalition promised to institute a mandatory, built-in-the-schedule Nap Time, while the Berkeley Coalition promoted air-conditioned stairwells and escalators, among other things. In the end, in the spirit of cooperation and bipartisanship (what concepts!), the two parties agreed to sit down, work out their differences, and together come up with solutions that would benefit our folk dance community.

This year also featured two remarkable 1000-piece jigsaw puzzles that were assembled in the lobby of our main dance hall. It took most of each week for the many participants to finish the two puzzles. One puzzle featured 60 scattered photos of teachers who had taught at least four times at Stockton Folk Dance

Camp, and the other showed nine of the big all-camper photos taken between 1948 and 2018.

Adony Beniares and his crew cooked up some wacky party games to keep us amused at the Polish Party. One member of each competing pair tossed rope rings at a wooden pole held erect in the between the other member's legs. The women pole-holders did as well as the men! (I'll just say that I did not volunteer for the ring-toss challenge!)

*continued on page 8*



Participants lined up for the Polish ring-toss. Photo by M. Giusto.



### Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2019 *(continued)*

The Friday Time Capsule gave Joe Graziosi a chance to review some classic dances, including Dhivaratikos and Issios. The Greek-themed banquet on Saturday was sumptuous, ending with coffee, sweet desserts, and film clips presented by Joe Graziosi showing Greek dancing in Hollywood movies. I never knew Lucille Ball was in a Greek dance skit! You can see it too if you search on Youtube for “Lucy’s Greek Wedding.” Don’t miss the shoulder-hold flips near the end!

Although we didn’t attend the second week, we were told the Argentine Tango party at “Café Felix” was a big hit, and most dancers dressed up in their finery for the occasion. A special trio of musicians was hired to play typical tango music.

This is not so say that Free Range Organic, Stockton Folk Dance Camp’s band of amazing musicians, wasn’t up to the task. They surprised Gigi during the second week by playing for the Once Over Lightly evening review of dances. This widely talented and versatile quartet played music for Tony Parkes to call contras and squares, learned several of the pieces for the Greek, Bulgarian, and Armenian dances taught during the week, and entertained us with light jazz during the pre-auction wine-and-cheese reception.

This year was particularly interesting for Hollis and me because we attended the first week instead of our normal second week. It turns out there is a whole crowd of parallel-universe dancers we had never met before! Suggestion for long-time campers: try switching weeks now and then!



The dancers under age 35 who attended the first week of Stockton Folk Dance Camp. Seven of them are still teenagers. *Photo by E. Kuhner.*

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PENINSULA FOLKDANCE COUNCIL



# A FAREWELL TO MENDOCINO FOLKLORE CAMP

by Aaron Alpert

In June 2019, I was a first-year Mendocino Folklore Camper. It was also my last time as an MFC camper. In the course of one week, I became part of the lifelong Folklore Family.

After 57 years of fun, family, and folk tradition, MFC closed its doors with a last, grand hurrah. It was my honor and pleasure to be present for the final year, sharing Israeli folk dance with a warm and welcoming group. In many ways, it was a typical camp, filled with the joy and delight that comes from friendship, dancing, and singing together, but there was also a poignant awareness that the end was coming.

Whenever a long-standing institution of the dance world ends, our community loses something. With MFC, we lost an atmosphere of sharing that I found unique among the camps I've attended. There was certainly a full set of dance and music teachers, but the learning was collaborative. For example, Daniel Tuutau led sea shanties, and even a student notoriously bad at holding a tune (I'm not naming names... but me) felt warmly invited to join the harmony. Although the students in Souhail Kaspar's Middle Eastern drumming class had a wide range of experience and ability, they were still able to pull together a single, coherent performance the last night of camp -- a performance that was inclusive and inspiringly energetic.

Michael Ginsburg's Balkan dance instruction was more like a conversation than instruction. When he picked up his trumpet to play a dance he had just taught, participants experienced the mixing of rhythm and movement via the interplay between musician and dancer. Tzvetanka Varimezova not only taught Bulgarian singing, but she invited us to learn the art of cooking the perfect banitsa (egg-cheese-filo pastry). She effectively brought the whole camp into her family's kitchen in Bulgaria for home-cooked food and good company. Even the youngest attendees, with a little help from Meadow Lo, were able to participate fully in the community with their (shockingly good) kids' band.



Making banitsa at Mendocino Folklore Camp. *Photo by A. Alpert*



Michael Ginsberg teaching. *Photo by A. Alpert.*

This is, I think, the quintessential element in folklore. Each of us has a voice, a talent, and when we share it, we build a community. Whether that means leading a syrto or telling a joke at the campfire, each person is irreplaceably part of the whole.

Mendocino Folklore Camp, too, is irreplaceable. While this may have been the last year of MFC, it certainly wasn't the end. The memories from 57 years persist, first of all. However, the future is bright, too. I also believe that these things don't disappear but simply evolve, showing up as new incarnations. The call of folklore is strong and has endured for many years; it just remains to be seen who will take up the mantle and how the tradition will continue to grow.

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE BAY . . .

## **PENINSULA COUNCIL** – *Adony Beniares*

Many Peninsula Council members went to the Stockton Folk Dance Camp and had a great time; we know all clubs will be sharing some wonderful dances over the next few months. Thank you to the Stockton Folk Dance team for another great year.

For July and August, the Peninsula Council shifted their parties to Sunday afternoon as a change of pace. The July party was French themed. Two French dances were taught, with Hollis and Lon Radin hosting the evening party. Many people were expressively happy with a 'change of pace' Sunday afternoon party. The August 11 party, being held as this issue goes to print, will also be an afternoon affair, featuring a review of some easy Stockton 2019 dances, with the main party theme being dances more than 10 years old. For the rest of 2019, (Sept 21, Oct 12, Nov 9 and Dec 25), the Council has secured its normal venue at St. Bede's Church in Menlo Park for all parties!

**The Moveable Feet Team** is hosting their annual **Summer Camps in Review** on September 7, at All Saints Episcopal Church in Palo Alto, with more than a dozen local teachers sharing dances from Stockton, Mendocino, Transylvania, and English-Scottish camps. The fun starts at 1:45 pm, with Loui Tucker hosting the workshop. A potluck at 5:30 pm is followed by open dancing until 8:30 pm. This is your chance to learn dances from summer camps and workshops that you were unable to attend.

**The Saratoga Folk Dancers** will hold their end-of-quarter party on **August 28, 7:30-10:15 pm** at St. Archangel Michael Serbian Orthodox Church. The theme of the party is **Don Your Denim**. These parties are always well-attended and the quarterly themes add even more fun.

**Todd Wagner's Tuesday Hungarian Class** has been on hiatus due to Todd's summer travel schedule, but **will be restarting soon**.

Leadership of the Peninsula Council is changing. After three great years as President of the Council, Hollis Radin is stepping down, but remains a member of the primary planning team. Another member of the primary planning team, Adony Beniares (me!), is the Council's new president. Lesley Bone (Finance) and Ellie Wiener (Secretary) agreed to stay on another year, and all members of the planning committee are also staying on for more great events in 2020.

Finally, as seen in this issue, the **Peninsula Council is moving the Heritage Festival from**

**January to March. The 2020 Festival will now be on March 13-14.** This will reduce the end-of-year and beginning-of-year congestion of events and give a little more room between the Heritage Festival and the February Festival of the Oaks. The Peninsula Council Team and the Sacramento Council Team also compared notes to make sure that our move did not conflict with the Camellia Festival, so dancers can enjoy both. Roo Lester will be our master teacher, with dances from the Basque region and pan-European dances, so **save the date!**

## **BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS** – *Naomi Lidicker*

In September, the Berkeley Folk Dances will experience a new beginning. All of our classes, except for the afternoon classes, will be at **James Kenney Recreation Center, 1720 Eighth Street, in West Berkeley**. This includes our **New Beginner Class** beginning Thursday, September 5 at 7:30 pm. A set of new teachers, Marian Snyder and Helen Brown, with Neil Collier as an assistant teacher, will present a dynamic evening. It's a bargain at \$30 for September and October, so please tell your friends who are potential dancers. Please refer to ***BerkeleyFolkDancers.org*** for our other classes beginning Tuesday, September 3.

You should put another exciting evening on your calendar: **A Ceilidh Workshop** at Albany Recreation Center, 1249 Marin Avenue, in Albany, on **Saturday, September 7, 7:30-10 pm**. This event, hosted by Neil Collier, with live music by Susan Worland and David Mostardi, is just \$10. Come enjoy the lively, fun and informal traditional Scottish dancing!

## **NORTH BAY** – *Carol Friedman*

**Two live music events** coming up, so mark your calendar: (1) **Monday, October 21, 7-9:30 pm**, dancing to live Bulgarian music by Bulgarika and (2) **Monday, December 9, 7-9:30 pm**, dancing to live Balkan music by Orchestra Euphonos. Both events will be at Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, in Petaluma. Info: Carol Friedman, [cjay@horizoncable.com](mailto:cjay@horizoncable.com).

International folk dancing in Petaluma **starts up again for the fall on Monday September 9, 7-9:15 pm**, at Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. On the teaching schedule are great dances learned at Balkan Camp from Peter Iliev, Alex Markovic, and Michael Ginsburg, as well as some old favorites. Drop-ins, newcomers, beginners through experienced dancers, and all ages are always welcome.



## ... AND BEYOND

**SAN FRANCISCO DANCE GROUPS** – *Linda Milhoan*  
Changs International Folk Dancers was well-represented by eight members at Stockton Folk Dance Camp in July! Changs dances every **Friday night, 7:30-10:30 pm** at Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, 31st Ave. and Clement St. in San Francisco's Richmond District. Contact Craig at [crb2crb@comcast.net](mailto:crb2crb@comcast.net). Visitors are always welcome!

**San Francisco Dance Circle** has returned to its regular venue, Harvey Milk Center for the Arts, 50 Scott Street at Duboce, dancing on Wednesdays, 10:45 am-12:15 pm. Contact Ann at [acolichidas@gmail.com](mailto:acolichidas@gmail.com). Come and dance with our friendly group!

**City College of San Francisco** is offering International Folk Dance during Fall Semester on **Mondays**, 6-8 pm. Contact Jeanne-Marie Hughes at [jmhughes5678@gmail.com](mailto:jmhughes5678@gmail.com).

**SACRAMENTO COUNCIL** – *Barbara Bevan*  
Yikes! Is it September already? Several Sacramento dancers attended Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2019. We learned many wonderful new dances and hope to share them with our local dance clubs. There is so much more to say about Stockton that I wrote a separate article which will appear in a future issue.

Roberto Bagnoli taught a great workshop August 7. He taught five dances: three from Bulgaria, one from Albania, and one from the French Basque region. His teaching style makes it easy to learn, and his personality is pleasant with some humor to make us smile and laugh. Thanks to Kolo Koalition dance club for arranging this workshop.



Roberto teaching in Sacramento. *Photo by J. Volkoff.*

**Editor's Note:** Roberto was in the Bay Area the first week of August and also gave workshops in Saratoga and Piedmont.

English Country Dance is very popular in our area. The venue is the historic Polish American Hall in Roseville, and there is always live music. Several dancers attended special Scandinavian dance events during summer.

Our **Annual Membership Potluck, Barbeque, and Dance Party** was **Sunday, August 25**. It was outdoors at the Wolterbeeks' Ranch in lovely Shingle Springs. We danced on the wooden deck under the trees and the stars and sometimes heard the nearby sheep responding to the music!

**THE DANCE CLUB IN WILLITS** – *Megan Wolf*  
Willits Folk Dancers had an awesome dance workshop and party with Aaron Alpert in June. He taught the Israeli dance Normali to the older kids and adults, and then we all danced our favorite dances together.

The older kids enjoyed their second year of BACDS Family Week at Monte Toyon. They got to learn some folk dances this year along with English country dancing and contra dancing. One of the highlights was watching a performance of contra dance done on stilts! We all had an opportunity to learn more Rapper sword material and I continued to practice my contra calling skills. Finally, we gave performances of Adama Veshamayim and a folk dance medley.



Contra dance on stilts at BACDS Camp. *Photo by A. Cover*

# OFFICERS BALL AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DANCES

**October 19, 2019**  
**Hayward Veterans Hall**  
**22737 Main St, Hayward, CA**



**SCHEDULE:** 1:00 Doors open

\$20 1:30-5:30 Dance Workshops (*see box below*)

\$15 5:30-7:00 On-site dinner (*sign up by October 12*)

\$20 7:00-10:30 Evening celebration, dances from the workshop, and your requests

*Advanced sale \$45 for the entire event and save \$10. At the door \$40, but dinner will NOT be included.*

Registration Form can be downloaded and payment made at [www.folkdance.com](http://www.folkdance.com)

**50/50  
Raffle**

## *Officers Ball 2019 Registration Form*

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**PRE-REGISTRATION for the entire Officers Ball (by Oct 12):**

\$45 **PACKAGE**      X \_\_\_ people =      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I/We can only come for part of the event:**

\$20 workshop      X \_\_\_ people =      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$15 dinner      X \_\_\_ people =      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**(sign up by Oct. 12!)**

\$20 evening party      X \_\_\_ people =      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Any dietary issues we should know about? \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail the check and reg form to:**

Laura Douglass  
226 Alameda de las Pulgas  
Redwood City, CA 94062

**Make check payable to the "FOLK DANCE FEDERATION."**

Email the form to: [L\\_M\\_Douglass@yahoo.com](mailto:L_M_Douglass@yahoo.com)

Contact [Loui@Louitucker.com](mailto:Loui@Louitucker.com) or

[LucySChang@gmail.com](mailto:LucySChang@gmail.com) with any questions.

### TEACHERS\*

Alan Rothchild

Yale & Marcia Rosenblatt

Kaela Fine

Barbara Bevan

Aaron Alpert

*\*Subject to change*

More teachers and the dances they  
will teach will be announced soon.





## I PRAISE THE DANCE, FOR IT FREES PEOPLE

*Contributed by Lesley Bone.*

*Many sources says this was written by Saint Augustine of Hippo (354–430 AD) over 1500 years ago. See Editor's Note.*

I praise the dance, for it frees people  
from the heaviness of matter and binds the isolated to community.  
I praise the dance, which demands everything:  
health and a clear spirit and a buoyant soul.  
Dance is a transformation of space, of time, of people,  
who are in constant danger of becoming all brain, will, or feeling.  
Dancing demands a whole person,  
one who is firmly anchored in the center of his life,  
who is not obsessed by lust for people and things  
and the demon of isolation in his own ego.  
Dancing demands a freed person,  
one who vibrates with the equipoise of all his powers.  
I praise the dance.  
O man, learn to dance,  
or else the angels in heaven will not know what to do with you.

Editor's Note: This poem is certainly inspirational, so I wanted to include it. However, it occurred to *Let's Dance!* Assistant Editor David Hillis to do some research. I only wish my own background had prompted me to check it out as well.

An internet search resulted in several web pages devoted to this poem. It dates, with a few variations, only to 1998. No one has been able to verify that Saint Augustine wrote the poem, and his complete works were digitized in 1993.

Other scholars have traced portions of the poem to the German writer George Goetsch. His poem has been variously translated as beginning: "I praise the dance, for it binds body, mind and soul together in man, it binds the isolated people to the community, it binds the community to space and time." Many other lines bear a striking resemblance to the lines of the poem reproduced here.

No matter who wrote it, it certainly expresses the sentiment of those of us who dance.

If you'd like to read more about the poem and the issues surrounding it, type "I praise the dance" into your favorite search engine.

## UPCOMING GREEK AND ARMENIAN FESTIVALS (*continued*)

### September 21-22

Sat: Noon-8pm; Sun: 11am-7pm

#### MODESTO GREEK FESTIVAL

Annunciation Church

313 Toka Avenue, Modesto

\$15 in advance

[www.goannunciation.org](http://www.goannunciation.org)

### September 21-22

Sat: 11am-7pm; Sun: Noon-7pm

#### VALLEJO GREEK FESTIVAL

#### NAPA-SOLANO GREEK FESTIVAL

Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church

1224 Alabama Street

Vallejo, CA 94500

\$3 [www.stscach.com](http://www.stscach.com)

### September 27-29

Fri: 5-10pm; Sat: 11am-10pm; Sun: 11am-5pm

#### ST. KATHERINE GREEK FESTIVAL

Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church

9165 Peets Street, Elk Grove

Free [www.saintkatherine.org](http://www.saintkatherine.org)

### October 4-6

Fri: 11am-10pm; Sat: Noon-10pm; Sun: Noon- 9pm

#### SACRAMENTO GREEK FESTIVAL

Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation

616 Alhambra Blvd (across from McKinley Park)

Sacramento

Free Friday from 11am-3pm; then \$5

(children under 12 years free)

[www.sacramentogreekfestival.com](http://www.sacramentogreekfestival.com)

### October Date TBD

(check website, usually the end of October)

Sat: Noon-9pm, Sun: Noon-4pm

#### SAINT JOHN ARMENIAN CHURCH

#### FOOD FESTIVAL

St. John Armenian Church

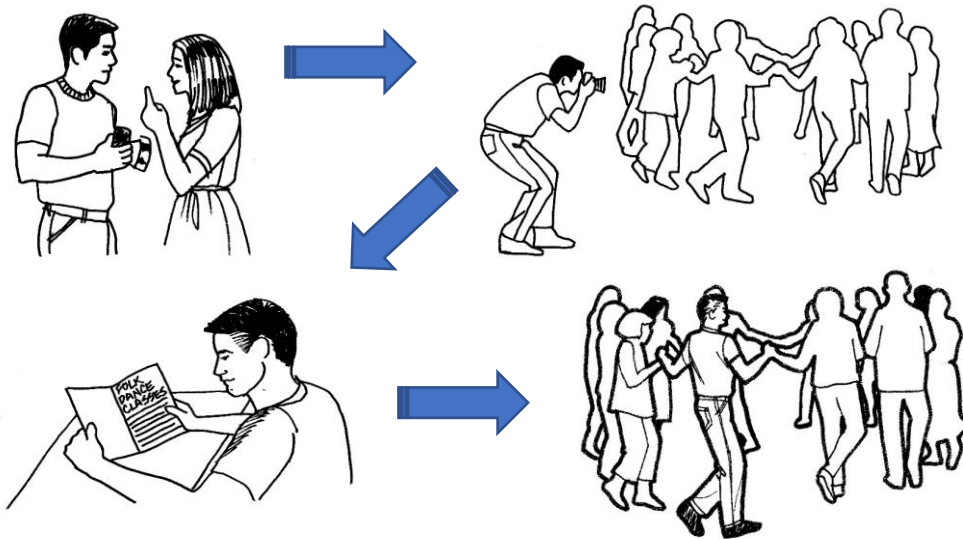
275 Olympia Way

San Francisco, CA

[www.stjohnarmenianchurch.com](http://www.stjohnarmenianchurch.com)

In 2014, *Let's Dance!* magazine began running an occasional cartoon illustrating the answer to the question: **Why did YOU start folk dancing?** Artwork by Susan Gregory; text by Loui Tucker.

I was taking a photography class in college and we were assigned a project involving action. My classmates headed for the gymnasium, track, and field. I wanted something different and found my way to the dance studio.



The folk dancing teacher told me she would let me take photos if I first learned two dances. That didn't prove to be too difficult and I was soon taking photos for my assignment. I got a good grade on the project and moved on. I didn't think about folk dancing again for many years.

One day I was looking through a booklet listing classes at my local community center and I noticed an international folk

dance class. Remembering the good experience I had in college, I signed up for the class. I even remembered one of the dances from that college class: Salty Dog Rag. I've been dancing now for 9 years and only regret I didn't re-discover it sooner!

P.S. You can share YOUR story or the story of a friend by emailing the idea to [editor@folkdance.com](mailto:editor@folkdance.com). No names will be included, so your secret will be safe with us.



## GET YOUR FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER BOTTLE!

\$10 for Federation members  
\$12 for non-members

### OPTIONS:

Contact Loui: [loui@louisutucker.com](mailto:loui@louisutucker.com) or 408-771-4542

- \* Buy individually
- \* Buy in bulk, have them shipped/delivered and re-sell at your dance group
- \* Take orders from your dancing friends and have them shipped/delivered



# DANCELAND

by Crista McGowan

It was midday on a Sunday with nice weather. I had been anxious and excited for many weeks before my trip. I had gotten over the stress and worrying of what to pack and how would it fit in my car, and I was finally headed to Stockton Folk Dance Camp at the University of the Pacific. I attended just Saturday last year, and I decided I wanted to attend the whole week this year. Boy, what a treat it was going to be!

After driving there, I checked in and hauled my stuff up to my third floor room without an elevator, meeting other friendly campers in the process. I went on the campus tour. Most of the places they showed us were familiar to me from the last year. Then I looked at the daily schedule that had what seemed like a million choices. Finally, it was off to dinner at the cafeteria where I would make some new friends.

The next day I went to Tineke Van Geel's Armenian dance class, Tony Parkes' squares and contras class, the singing class, and finally the ukulele class. I soon decided I had taken on too many classes at one time, so skipped Tineke's classes the rest of the week. I noticed as I went to the same classes, the same people were in them. I got to know some of my fellow dance partners this way, and could try to dance with the good dancers.

At the end of the week I had officially joined the Sore Feet Club due to dancing so much. During one of the square dancing classes, I had a shoe malfunction. My insole came loose because I had been turning a lot. The only way to fix this was to use packing tape (no joke!) With the tape in place, my shoe held up until the end of camp.

When I went to the cafeteria, I often asked if I could sit at a spot where there was an empty chair. Most of the time there were people I didn't know, so I got to know them and become friends with them. I am hoping these will be lasting friendships for many years, and I will get to see them at future camps because I enjoyed spending time with them so much my first year.

Finally after dancing my heart out, experiencing living in the dormitories, making new friends, playing tricks on my hall neighbors, and having the time of



Crista McGowan, ready for the Thursday Hat Kolo. Photo by L. Tucker.

my life almost every waking hour, it was time to head home. I never had a dull moment so it was a little hard to leave and get back to the real world.

All this fantastic experience was possible due to two generous scholarships for which I am sincerely thankful. I'm already thinking of returning to Stockton Folk Dance Camp (perhaps next year) and hoping that time passes quickly because I simply cannot wait!

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## BALKAN CAMP 2019

by Lew Smith and Melissa Miller

The East European Folklife Center's (EEFC) 43rd West Coast Balkan Music & Dance Workshop was held June 22-29 deep in the California redwoods, at Mendocino Woodlands. With dance instruction by Michael Ginsburg (Balkan), Petur Iliev (Bulgarian), Alex Marković (Serbian), and Caroline Simmonds (Greek), one could fill five classes a day with dance, or include instrument and singing classes taught by twenty-six world-class musicians and singers. Classes were tailored to suit both beginning and experienced students. A selection of ethnic instruments is available if you don't already have a gajda, kaval, dumbek, tambura, or tapan.

The Mendocino Woodlands was built by the WPA. The rustic cabins have glass windows, fireplaces, and balconies overlooking the hilly terrain. Each cluster of cabins has a bathhouse with toilets, hot water and showers, and electrical power. People may also bring their camper-vans, and/or pitch a tent in the meadow beside the beaver pond.

The dining hall provides three meals, all-day snacking, and a midnight feed, coffee, teas, and juice/punch. The kafana (tavern) offers bottled water, juices, and assorted beers on the honor system through the day. At night, kafana volunteers pour wines and selected liquors (ouzo! rakija!). Fortunately, campers get plenty of exercise, so it's possible to finish the week only a few pounds heavier. There are hikes and other outings (tide-pools! Big Tree Trail!) during the week to show campers the beauty of the North Coast. There is a swimming hole in the river near the camp.

At the Camp Store you'll find donated party clothes, costume pieces, hats, shawls, shoes and boots, souvenirs and Balkan-themed books. (Melissa always says her favorite clothes come from the Camp Store.) In addition, campers and staffers market their own CDs, jewelry, woodworking products, scarves, spare instruments, and so on. The shopping is great!

Dance classes are held in the dance hall, the singing classes are in the dining hall, while the music classes are outside under the redwoods. In the after-dinner period, faculty present informative folklore sessions, panel discussions, and group sings.

*continued on p. 17.*

# FROM THE *LET'S DANCE!* PHOTO ARCHIVES



The *Let's Dance!* Monthly Challenge: (1) who is the teacher; (2) what is she teaching; and (3) where is the class? Be the fifth person to email the editor at [editor@folkdance.com](mailto:editor@folkdance.com) or [loui@louisutucker.com](mailto:loui@louisutucker.com) with *\*all\** the correct answers, and receive a \$20 gift card.

## **Dance On The Water – New for 2020!** **Provence, The Rhone & Marseilles** **June 14-27, 2020**

2 days in Lyon, 7 days sailing the Rhone in a riverboat, and 4 days in Marseilles!

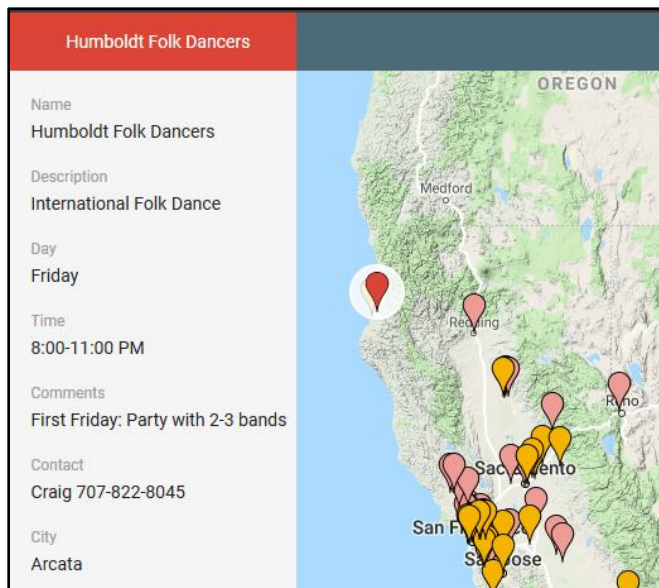
Includes 10 guided excursions, most meals (including beer and wine on the ship) and folk dancing virtually every night!

\$3,550 per person (dbl. occupancy, excluding air)

Full itinerary and all the details at  
[www.folkdanceonthewater.org](http://www.folkdanceonthewater.org)

## **And the winner was....**

The winner of the July-August Let's Dance! Challenge was Pete Galanis of Livermore who went to the Federation's website ([www.folkdance.com](http://www.folkdance.com)) and checked the club listing on the map to locate the Humboldt Folk Dancers in Arcata, California, the northernmost group member of the Federation.



The photo in last month's Photo Archives is of **Max Horn**. Max and his wife June opened their farm in Martinez every Memorial Day and Labor Day (and occasionally other times) for gatherings to share food and folk dancing. Max was a major contributor and leader in the East Bay folk dance community. He and his committee put on the Festival of the Oaks for many years. When he could no longer manage it, the Berkeley Folk Dancers took over the operation.



# BULGARIKA



## **BULGARIKA** Live at Kopachka Folk Dancers

**Friday, OCTOBER 18, 2019**

**8-10:30 pm \$15**

**Bulgarian Folk Dance Party**

Join us for Bulgarika's first stop in the Bay Area on their national tour! Come dance to the haunting melodies and fiery dance tempos of five master musicians, all steeped in Bulgarian music and rhythms from a young age:

**Donka Koleva** (singer), **Nikolay Kolev** (gâdulka), **Temelko Ivanov** (kaval),  
**Nikolay Kodzhabashev** (tambura), and **Marin Chalâmov** (tâpan).

**Strawberry Recreation Center, 118 E. Strawberry Drive, Mill Valley**

**SPACIOUS SPRUNG DANCE FLOOR | LOTS OF PARKING**

[president@kopachkafolkdancers.com](mailto:president@kopachkafolkdancers.com) 415-497-4890

[www.kopachkafolkdancers.com](http://www.kopachkafolkdancers.com)

## **BALKAN CAMP 2019** *(continued)*

Some of the classes prepared the students to perform as an ensemble at the Friday party. This year the student ensembles included Brass Band, Albanian Orchestra, Greek Ensemble, Macedonian Village Ensemble, Tamburica Ensemble, and Bitov Ensemble. There were also programs for children, including outdoor recreation and a youth dance class, plus the inspiring kid's band, which is always a hit at the Friday night party.

The evening parties were exclusively live music, with bands and soloists composed of the teaching staff. It's a privilege to hear and dance to world-class professional musicians and singers in a friendly space with a good sound system. The dance hall has a restored vintage wooden floor, so our feet are happy, too.

For the night owls there is a nightclub-like setting in the kafana, where chamber performances may go until dawn. Some of the acts consist of campers playing in pickup ensembles, some are solos/duets/trios, and some are bands that play together throughout the year. There's enough room to dance, too.

This year we had a record number of new campers, many of them under 30. It gives us long-time campers joy to see fresh faces, as well as to connect with the many old friends we know and love from past years in our village.

Besides classes in tambura and tupan, Lew played in Macedonian Ensemble and studied Serbian dance with Alex Marković. Melissa attended Albanian and Bulgarian singing classes, and played kaval in the Macedonian Ensemble. We both came back from camp happy, tired, and inspired with more than enough material to keep us practicing until next year.

About the authors: Lew Smith started folk dancing at UCSB in 1966 and is a member of the folk dance bands Svirači and Da! Mozhem. Melissa Miller started folk dancing in elementary and high school, continued at UC Berkeley with Sunni Bloland, and is a member of Svirači. The two of them teach most often at Stanford Folk Dance Club.



Balkan Camp menu. *Photo by L. Smith.*

# So You Think You Can't Dance...

by Carol Friedman

I can't tell you how times I've heard this from folks who find out I teach folk dance: *I can't dance. I'm really bad at dancing. I'm left-footed. I have no sense of rhythm. My (fill in the blank: wife, partner, friend, PE teacher, mother...) refuses to dance with me.*

I beg to differ. I fully believe everyone can dance. I fully believe that everyone can bring joy and fun into their lives through dancing.

How?

Well, the first thing you have to do is stop telling yourself you can't dance. The words you say, whether out loud or just in your head, are powerful. Telling yourself you can't dance is the primary thing that's keeping you from dancing.

Next, find a dance class that is warm, welcoming, and open to newcomers and beginners. Look for a teacher who works actively to integrate newcomers and beginners into the class. If you don't succeed with your first class, try another class (it's like trying on shoes!).

In my experience, 75% of adults can't tell their right foot from their left, so you're in good company. Here's the trick: when you are in a circle of dancers facing counter-clockwise (which is standard, for the most part, except for those pesky French and Croatians who tend to move clockwise), your right foot will be the one closer to the outside of the circle and your left foot closer to the center of the circle.

Then you need to relax. Relax your shoulders and your arms and your knees. Try to feel the rhythm through the hands you are holding. Listen to the music.



Carol Friedman. Photo by D. Bergan.

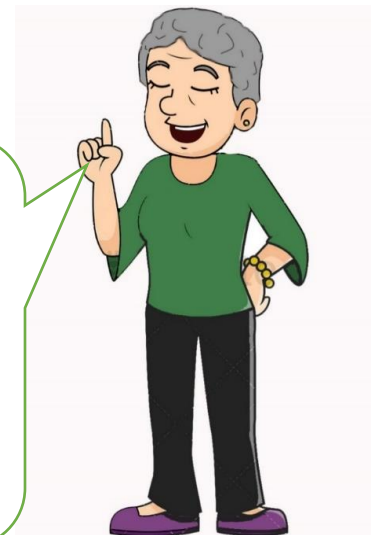
There are many who believe there is a rule of dance etiquette that beginning dancers are supposed to go the end of the line, out of the way of experienced dancers. I personally don't subscribe to this belief. In fact, it's much better for you to find two friendly experienced dancers and stand between them. I believe one of the very best ways to learn is by letting your fellow dancers help you. Also be aware that different people learn at different paces; some will learn

a dance immediately; others will need more time to figure it out.

Every single one of us, beginners to experienced dancers (including me!), makes mistakes. It's not a sin in folk dancing. There is no need to feel embarrassed. Just laugh and shrug it off. There is no need to say "Oops." Keep moving with the dance circle and the musical beat.

So go out, start dancing, and join in the fun. I promise it will make you a better, happier person.

*There is no such thing as a non-dancer. There are only people have not yet discovered they can dance.*





# FEDERATION NEWS

## Archives Committee Seeks an eBay Seller

by *Loui Tucker*

Several large collections of costumed dolls have been donated to the Federation Archives and are currently in a storage unit in Sunnyvale. Many have been sold to dancers at local festivals, but perhaps a Federation member who enjoys selling items on eBay (or similar site) would be interested in offering some of these dolls to a wider audience. A generous commission would be available. Contact me at [loui@louiucker.com](mailto:loui@louiucker.com) to set up an appointment to select the dolls you'd like to sell.



## Passport to Folk Dance Adventures

by *Craig Blackstone*

The Folk Dance Federation Board has decided to start the process of creating a **folk dance club passport**, with separate pages representing different clubs within the Federation participating in the project. There are currently **seven clubs** interested in participating and we hope several more will join

Each club page will include the address of the location where the club dances, as well as the days and times the club meets. Dancers will each have a passport, and the clubs will endorse the passport when presented by dancers from other clubs. Ideally, the passports would inspire dancers to visit other clubs near and far, and then compare notes on their experiences travelling to foreign parts. There might even be competition on the number of places visited. Passports would be printed by the Federation and distributed to the participating clubs free of charge.

**Does this sound like something your club would be interested in joining as a participant club?** If so, please contact me at [crb2crb@comcast.net](mailto:crb2crb@comcast.net) if you are interested, or if you have any questions.

---

## Sandra Guaglionone returns to Stockton Folk Dance Camp

by *Loui Tucker*

I met Sandra Guaglionone this summer when she came to the University of Pacific campus in search of the Stockton Folk Dance Camp office. She told me she wanted to donate some folk costumes she had. In talking to her about how she came to have the costumes and how she knew about Camp, she told me she's attended Camp for 15 years starting in 1959, the last time being in 1978. More often than not, she attended both weeks. When we arrived at the Camp office, several long-time campers—Bob Harris, Denise Heenan, Cookie Brakebill, and Ann Braden—remembered her and greeted her with smiles and hugs!

Sandra's first love was performance dance and she performed with several troupes in this area. She told me that, for some years, she was the wardrobe mistress for Khadra, a troupe based in the East Bay. She also worked for the San Francisco Opera and, many years later, for Lucas Films in Marin County. She lives in Nevada now, was in Stockton visiting her sister, and decided to stop by to donate her costumes.

In the collection of old Stockton Camp photographs, I found several showing Sandra in the years she attended. She had never seen them before, so I made copies for her. The staff decided to treat her and the guest of her choice to the Saturday night Greek-themed banquet. She was delighted with the invitation, and it was good to see her smiling and joining in the end-of-the-evening Lesno.



Sandra Guaglionone, taken in 1961 at Stockton Camp.



Sandra Guaglionone 2019. Photos by L. Tucker



# What's Up Down South?

~ News from Southern California ~

## John Filcich Birthday Celebration – 95 Years Young!

by Valerie Daley

Happy Birthday, Ivan Filcich!

Our party for Ivan in Somis was a joyful, fun-filled celebration! Abundant thank yous to John for bringing music and dance to our folk dance communities all these many years! Thank you to everyone who came to dance and show appreciation for all that he has given.

This party was especially delightful for many and varied reasons. John's family and friends from near and far, along with a broad cross-section of California folk dancers who don't often get to dance together, gathered at the beautiful Thursday Club to honor John's 95th birthday. Ivan taught and led quite a few dances, we sang, we had wonderful munchies, and birthday cake. Even the weather behaved!

Mark your calendars for John's 100th birthday on **Sunday, June 30th, 2024**. By then, River, John's grandson will be 5½ years old, and June will be 10! Remind me to bring more toys!

By the way, because Ivan knows that he and I share a birthdate, not only did he bring me *my own birthday cake*, but he also brought a gorgeous bouquet and "Happy Birthday" balloons. Best, though, were his words: "To Valerie, who brings joy wherever she goes." WOW!

Thank you so much!



John's birthday cake. Photo by W. Chaing

## Fall Dance Camp in Southern California

By Jan & Marc Rayman

If you're like us, you would love a wonderful weekend of dancing with friendly people in a scenic location. That's why the Fall Camp Committee is planning the new **Fall Dance Camp** for **November 15-17, 2019**.

Fall Camp's first year promises to be a great one. We will have master teachers **Erica Goldman** (Israeli) and **Caspar Bik** (international, with emphasis on dances from around the Black Sea). We will also teach some Stockton dances. There will be other activities, including opportunities for campers who want to play instruments or sing in a "potluck band," a popular poetry workshop, morning hikes around the lovely rural campus, and more.

The camp is about 40 miles northwest of Los Angeles, near Simi Valley, at the Brandeis-Bardin Campus of American Jewish University. We will stay in motel-style rooms with private baths, enjoy five meals (Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast), and dance on a wood floor.

You get all this and more for \$225 (triple occupancy), \$325 (double occupancy), or \$440 (single occupancy). A **registration form** is available on our website: **FallCamp.org**. Space is limited, so we encourage you to register soon.

If you'd like to know more about Fall Camp – the master teachers, the location and campus, the rooms, the activities – visit **FallCamp.org**.

P.S. Fall Camp replaces Camp Hess Kramer, which was destroyed by fire. Fall Dance Camp in Honor of Beverly & Irwin Barr is sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California, South, Inc.



## **Mari Kiz – Mari Kız** (Gagauzia)

Mari Kiz (MAH-ree KUHZ) means Oh, Girl. This dance is from the Gagauzi culture and is danced to a Gagauzi love song. The Gagauzi people are from the same Oguz tribe as Turks living in Turkey now but, when migrating from the middle of Asia, the Gagauzi branch followed the north Black Sea path, and finally settled in the territories from Crimea to Bulgaria. Once there, most of them converted to Orthodox Christianity. Today the Gagauzi people speak a very clear Turkish dialect which is somewhere between Azerbaijani and Turkish dialects.

In 1994 the Gagauzi people were given an autonomous piece of land called Gagauzia. This independent country is located within the borders of Moldova. Just as their language has many influences, in their dance culture you can find influences from Turkish, Pontic, Bulgarian, Romanian and Moldovan dances and music. Caspar Bik learned this dance from Dominike Karantzounis, a Dutch specialist in Romanian dances. Caspar presented Mari Kiz at the 2018 Stockton Folk Dance Camp held at University of the Pacific, in Stockton, California.

Music and video: 3/4 Meter                      CD: *Balkan and Beyond*, Track 5

Video: *2018 Stockton Folk Dance Camp Video*. This video can be seen by contacting a camper who purchased it.

Formation:              Circle of dances, facing center, hands in V-position.

Steps & Styling:      Slow, with deep knee bends.

Measures	3/4	PATTERN
16 meas	INTRODUCTION. No action.	
	I. <u>ALONG THE CIRCLE.</u>	
1	Large step L across in front of R, bending knees (ct 1); step R to R (ct 2); step L next to R (ct &); step R to R (ct 3).	
2	Large step L across behind R, bending knees (ct 1); step R to R (ct 2); step L next to R (ct &); step R to R (ct 3).	
3	Repeat meas 1.	
4	Large step L across behind R, bending knees (ct 1); sway R to R (ct 2); sway L in place (ct &); step R next to L (ct 3).	
5-16	Repeat meas 1-4 three times.	
	II. <u>ANGLE TOWARD CENTER AND BACK.</u>	
1	Step L diag R, moving 45 degrees twd ctr (ct 1); 3 steps (R, L, R), continuing at 45 degree angle (cts 2, &, 3).	
2	Step L in front of R with bent knee (ct 1); step R back, in place (ct 2); step L to L, now facing 45 degrees to L of ctr (ct &); step R in front of L with bent knee (ct 3).	
3	Continuing to face diagonally L, step L bkwd (ct 1); 3 steps (R, L, R) backing up (cts 2, &, 3).	

Mari Kız — continued

- 4 Facing ctr, step L behind R (ct 1); large sway R to R (ct 2);  
sway L in place (ct &); step R next to L (ct 3).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

Sequence: As noted above 5 times, then Fig I one more time.

## Lyrics

### Transliteration:

Su bag cotin altinda, Mari kız  
Gül üzümçük  
Üzüm mü toplayım, Mari kız  
Sana mi bakayım?

Sana baka, Mari kız, gözüm süzüldü

Versene o al basmani, Mari kız  
Gözümü sileyim,  
Gözümü sildilce sildikge, Mari kız  
Sana kem bakayım

Seni da bana vermesaydılar deli mi olayım?

Komratimin alcak yollarına  
Köprü mü olayım?  
Gelene gecene, Mari kız, seni mi sorayım?

Bildir (gecen sene) turnam biricikti  
Bu yıl yes oldu (esi oldu).  
Vardı tabir karakaşlı  
Kime yes oldun

### Translation:

Under the grape leaves, oh girl  
Fruited bunches of grapes  
Shall I pick up the grapes, oh girl  
Or shall I look at you?

Due to too much looking, oh girl, my eyes get tired.

Give me your red cotton scarf, oh girl  
Let me wipe my eyes.  
After wiping and wiping my eyes, oh girl  
Let me see you again

If they don't give me you, shall I go out of my mind?

Over the lower roads of my Komrad\*  
Shall I be a bridge?  
To all the passersby, oh girl, shall I ask of you?

Last year my crane bird was alone  
This year she found a mate.  
Gone with one with black eyebrows\*\*  
Whose mate are you now?

\* Komrad is the capital city of the Gagauz Turks in today's Moldova.

\*\* Karakaşlı: "one with black eyebrows" usually refers to a pretty girl (or, rarely, to a handsome boy) with dark eyes and eyebrows. The last two paragraphs are quite abstract.

Caspar Bik dancing  
(though not Mari Kız) at  
Stockton Camp in 2018.





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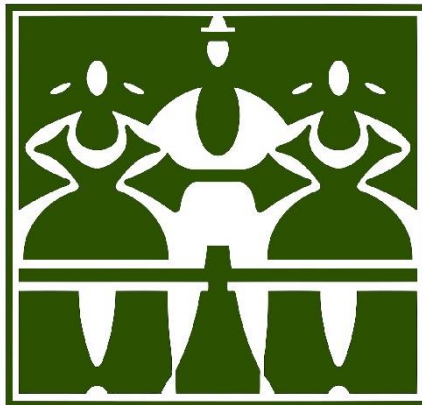
### PRESENTERS

**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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