

Let's Dance!

THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING *or* APRIL 2020

WE CELEBRATE TWO REMARKABLE WOMEN



Lucy Chang – A life cut short (1952-2020).
See p. 8. *Photo by L. Tucker*



Marian Gault – 100 years old this month.
See p. 9. *Photo by L. Tucker*

Let's Dance!

Volume 77, No. 4

April 2020

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News From Around The Bay: Contributions from clubs

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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 under the **Services** tab.

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Folk Dance Federation Treasurer

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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.

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153 Race Street
San Jose, CA 95126

©*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.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

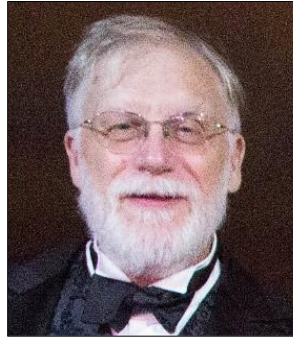
by Joe Croco

Last month I was saddened to learn that Lucy Chang had died. She meant a lot to all of us, and Laura and I are no exception.

Soon after Laura and I returned to folk dancing in 2003, after a break while we raised a family, we met Lucy and her husband Richard at Marcel's Tuesday evening class and his monthly dances. We quickly became friends. Lucy was outgoing, friendly, and enthusiastic. Lucy shared our love of folk dancing, and was soon active in the Federation. Laura and I served on the Federation Board with Lucy and saw her drive to give back all the joy folk dancing had given her. She later volunteered to be on the Research Committee at Stockton.

Not long after Marcel's monthly parties ended, Lucy stepped in to keep the tradition alive by creating the Moveable Feet Club. Her original plan was to have a once-a-quarter dance event, but it soon became something more, nearly once a month, including themed parties, workshops with visiting teachers, and fund raisers for local charities.

We are all so sad that she is gone, but so happy she was here.



I will really miss those red boots! Photo by J. Croco.

The Blossom Festival will be held April 26 at City College in San Francisco and I hope to see you there. I will be running my last Board meeting as president of the Federation before that Festival. It is also the General Assembly meeting when all Federation members in attendance will be voting for new Federations officers for next year.

Bay Area Dance Week is April 24-May 2 this year, which means there are lots of opportunities to dance **FOR FREE!** Many of our Federation member clubs are sponsoring these free events, which are listed on the April Calendar of Events (starting on p. 4 and continuing – because there are so many of them – on p. 20). You can try one of these events yourself and visit a dance club you've never attended before. You could even invite a friend or two to dinner and slyly suggest that they join you for evening of folk dance at one of these free events. Go ahead – change someone's life!

I hope you'll also be signing up for **Statewide 2020** which will be in **Petaluma May 22-24**. If you sign up before April 15, you can save \$20 (\$110 instead of \$130 at the door). **Ahmet Lüleci, Gergana Panova and Bruce Hamilton** will be giving the dance workshops and **Chubritza** will be providing the music. There are dancers coming down from Mendocino and Redding, over from Sacramento and Walnut Creek, up from the Santa Clara Valley and parts of Southern California. You'll want to be there too!

By the way, at the Statewide weekend, there will also be an Installation Lunch where I will step down as president and the newly elected president will take my position.

I'll end with this thought: ***We're fools whether we dance or not, so we might as well dance.*** (Japanese Proverb)



Lucy working on the syllabus at Stockton Dance Camp. Photo by J. Croco.

April 2020 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.

- March 29 **WORKSHOP WITH MIHAI AND ALEXANDRU DAVID.** All Saints' Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley Street, Palo Alto. 2-6 pm. \$15. This is a rare Bay Area appearance by the David brothers, teaching Romanian and Russian dances. Sponsored by the Moveable Feet Club. Info: Loui@LouiTucker.com.
- April 4 **GOLDEN GATE PARK'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY.** There will be folk dancing and a Maypole! Folk dancers go to the Log Cabin! Please check the schedule at goldengatepark150.com. See the announcement on p. 18.
- April 11 **PENINSULA COUNCIL'S SECOND SATURDAY PARTY.** St. Bede's Church Hall, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. 7:15-10:30 pm. \$9. Info: adony408@gmail.com.
- April 11 **CAFÉ SHALOM MONTHLY ISRAELI DANCE PARTY.** St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 1399 43rd Ave, at Judah, San Francisco. 7:30-11 pm.. \$10. cafe_shalom_dancing@yahoo.com.
- April 16 **40TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY.** St. Archangel Michael Serbian Orthodox Church, 18870 Allendale Avenue, Saratoga. 7:30-10:15 pm. \$6-\$8. A celebration of 40 years of international folk dance in Saratoga lead by Loui Tucker.
- April 18 **ANNUAL SPRING FOLK DANCE PARTY.** Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. 7:30-9:30 pm. \$15. 8:45-9:30 pm, live music by Staro Vino. Sponsored by Petaluma Snap-Y Dancers. Info: Carol Friedman at cjay@horizoncable.com.
- April 19 **ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH COUNTY DANCE WORKSHOP AND PARTY.** St. Bede's Church Hall, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. 2:30-8:30 pm. \$17. Teachers: Bruce Hamilton (English) and Alan Thwigg (Scottish). Teaching 3-6 pm; potluck dinner 6-7 pm; dancing our favorite English and Scottish dances 7:00-8:30 pm. Sponsored by the Moveable Feet Club. Info: kbegonia@me.com.

As this issue is going to press, there are many concerns about the coronavirus. Some events may be cancelled. Announcements will be made if that happens, but please contact the event organizers if you are concerned!

*** THE FOLLOWING EVENTS ARE FREE AS PART OF BAY AREA DANCE WEEK ***

- April 24 **CHANGS FAMILY NIGHT – DANCES FOR EVERYONE!** Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, 417 31st Ave (between Clement and Geary), San Francisco. 7:30-10:30 pm. **FREE!** The first hour is designed especially for children and families and will be followed by request dancing. Info: changsdancers@aol.com or facebook.com/Changsfolkdancers.
- April 24 **ETHNIC DANCES FROM THE BALKANS AND BEYOND.** Almonte Improvement Club, 105 Wisteria Way, Mill Valley. 7:30-10 pm. A community of dancers can be yours! Come to have fun and ready for a new challenge, meeting other lovers of folk dance. **FREE!** Sponsored by the Kopachka Folk Dancers. Info: president@kopachkafolkdancers.com.
- April 24 **JOIN HANDS FOR WORLD DANCE!** Bethany Lutheran Church, 1095 Cloud Avenue, Menlo Park. 7:30-10 pm. **FREE!** Explore, learn, and participate in dances originating from cultures worldwide. Emphasis is on fun, not skill. Info: info@stanfordfolkdance.com.

BUT THATS NOT ALL! MORE BAY AREA DANCE WEEK EVENT ON P. 20

Jim Gold International Folk Tours: 2020-21



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broadens
one!

Our trips are for folk dancers, non-dancers,
and anyone with a love of travel and culture.

www.jimgold.com



PERU, BOLIVIA, CHILE: May 23-June 4, 2020

Led by Martha Tavera **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 Koprivshitsa Folk Festival Tour!

Led by Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, Lee Friedman
Sofia, Plovdiv, Bansko, Veliko Turnovo, and Koprivshitsa 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!

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Munich, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Swiss Alps, Lucerne, Zurich

ISRAEL: October 31-November 11, 2021, and/or March 13-24, 2022

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! Chose your tour. \$200 per person deposit. Or **register and send deposits on line at:** www.jimgold.com/folk-tours

Tour(s) desired _____
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THE FAMILY PHOTO ALBUM



Cindy and Craig Blackstone (with Trudy Baltz in the background) dancing at the Festival of the Oaks. *Photo by A. Partos.*



Another great photo of Lucy Chang, here with her good friend Todd Wagner. Look at that smile! *Photo by J. Croco.*



An old photo (the metadata says 2009) showing Lucy Chang (in the red skirt) at her best, with (from left) Martin Frost, Sarah Tull, Richard Graham, Paul Loewenstein, John Burke, and Eileen Menteer. *Photo by L. Tucker.*



Rebecca Tsai and Richard Powers dancing The Bohemian National Polka at Denise Heenan's 80th birthday party. That's Yves Moreau in the background. *Photo by L. Tucker.*



Laura Douglass and Kevin Greek dancing at the Festival of the Oaks. *Photo by J. Croco.*

THE REDWOOD DANCE SQUAD

by Megan Wolf

I am excited to announce our Rapper team, **the Redwood Dance Squad, will be performing at Statewide 2020 in Petaluma.** The performers are ages 11 to 15. Some have been learning Rapper for two years, while others have been doing it for a few months.

You may be wondering what Rapper Sword is and how is it different from Longsword. Rapper sword dancing originated in the coal mining region of northern England in the early 1800s. It is unknown if it is a

Rapper was originally danced by coals miners in pubs as was way for them to earn money.

variant on Longsword or if they evolved simultaneously. Rapper sword dancing is done much faster than Longsword, as the swords bend and swivel, it allows for quick fancy figures and lots of spinning and flipping. Rapper was originally danced by coals miners in pubs as a way for them to earn money. The swords are generally thought to have

originally been pony scarpers,

used by miners, although another theory is that they were worn out saw blades. Many coal miners also did clogging, and so the basic step of rapper is a clogging step.

Some of my students and I had the opportunity to learn Rapper Sword at the Bay Area Country Dance Society's Family Week, a dance camp designed, as the name says, for families. We all got so hooked on Rapper that we arranged to have the teacher, Rhonda Cayford, to come to give us private lessons in Willits. After those lessons, my students took a leadership role and taught the other children rapper too.

The only thing holding us back was that we had to borrow swords. I had looked online and Rapper swords are rare and expensive.

Then Bruce Hamilton surprised us with a gift of six rapper swords!! He thinks the swords came from his dance teacher, Mary Judson, in Pasadena where Bruce was exposed to Rapper in college in the late 1960s. He told us, "Folk dance was part of the women's physical education curriculum, and the teacher did quite a bit of English dance. For May Day, the folk dance club learned a maypole dance, a few Morris dances and a Rapper sword dance. We didn't know a thing about the context, but had a lot of fun doing them."

While we are attending Statewide in May, my students will be volunteering and attending the parties and workshops. If you enjoy our performance, please consider donating to our group. The kids are raising money to attend the Bay Area Country Dance Society's Family Camp again to learn more Rapper, as well as French Canadian dancing, contra and English dancing. Last year at camp, my students also taught some Israeli dances to the other kids.

We will have a donation box at Statewide, or you can send donations to megster1989@yahoo.com.



The Redwood Dance Squad practicing Rapper sword dancing in Willits. *Photo by M. Wolf.*

For more information, Wikipedia has an excellent web page on Rapper dancing and there are numerous video examples on YouTube as well.

We Love Lucy... Remembering Lucy Chang

by Alicia La Fetra

After a valiant and courageous battle which lasted almost two years, Lucy Chang succumbed to cancer in February. The folk dance community lost a much-loved and well-respected member who did so much and was an inspiration to all.

Lucy was a Past President of Folk Dance Federation. She was instrumental in organizing the annual Officers Ball, served on various Federation committees, and headed the Moveable Feet dance club which hosted parties and workshops throughout the year. These events usually featured well-known and popular master teachers and were always well attended.

With disbelief and sorrow, some of Lucy's many friends have shared their thoughts:

"So sad that Lucy is gone, but so happy that she was here."

"She will always be with us when we dance."

"Wisdom, power, grace."

"...a force for good."

"Lucy is a true angel and will always be. She did so much to help foster dance and inspire our community to join in dance. She showed amazing courage and stamina until the end..."

"Lucy Chang was a bright light and an amazing person whose struggle never let her spirits down."

"She was an active and bright light in all of our lives and we will miss her greatly."

Dancers also shared some of their memories of Lucy:

"Lucy was a great gift to our dance community. She gave so much of her time and talents, even when her time was running out. She had the forethought to leave Moveable Feet a year's worth of dates, venues, themes, and MCs -- what a legacy!"

"...such a cheerful, positive, enthusiastic lady, and so gracious. Lucy had such a variety of interests and was so accomplished. I don't think any of us, outside of her family, realized how many facets the jewel that was Lucy truly had. The world is a little dimmer because of the absence of her light."

"Everyone knew Lucy as the strong, creative, well-organized go-getter who was the force behind the Moveable Feet events that have become so popular. There was a less obvious, softer, sensitive side of Lucy, whose feelings were easily hurt, and who cared a great deal about people, animals, the planet, the arts, and of course, dance. Lucy will be remembered with great appreciation for her tremendous contributions to the folk dance community and will be missed for the bright, caring, sensitive, socially conscious person that she was. RIP, our red-booted friend."

"When I think of Lucy, I remember more than the words she spoke. I remember the example for living that she set. I think of her courage and strength in the face of what were insurmountable odds, of her open and frank discussions of her condition and her ability to think beyond herself and to be interested in others, their stories, their lives. To remain a giving and caring person. She is a model for us all."

"I first met Lucy and Richard in Menlo Park many years ago. They were dancing with Marcel's group on Tuesday evenings and I was dancing with the Palomanians in the next room on the same nights. The two groups had been combined, occasionally for a few dances, and I immediately noticed Lucy, admiring her enthusiasm and excellent dancing. As time went on, we became friends and shared our dancing addiction. In addition to dancing together frequently in the Bay Area, both Lucy and Richard came down to Solvang over several years to Danish Days in September, for very full weekends of folk dancing, in the street. People thought we were entertaining the tourists, which we probably were, but in reality, we were the ones rewarded the most with our enjoyment of dancing together. It was always such a memorable pleasure to dance with her. We will miss her greatly."

continued on p. 15



Lucy Chang with husband, Richard Graham, at the 2019-2020 New Year's Eve Party hosted by the Moveable Feet Club. *Photo by L. Tucker.*

Marian Gault – A Long Life Dedicated To Dance

by *Loui Tucker*

Marian Gault will be 100 years old this April and she has spent the bulk of the 100 years dancing, primarily folk dancing.

Marian grew up in Idaho, lived in Hawaii and Yosemite National Park, traveled many places in the world, and now lives in Monte Sereno, a town on the southern end of the San Francisco Bay. In college she studied fine arts and education and, after graduating, taught in the public schools, mostly at the junior high level.

Both Marian and her husband Ned began dancing as ballroom dancers. Marian got hooked on folk dancing when she worked in Yosemite and attended classes held for the park employees. She moved to San Jose and met Ned in an adult education class taught by Ned's parents. In 1958, Ned's parents decided to stop teaching and Marian and Ned took over that class, an advanced class with over 100 dancers in it. This was the heyday of folk dancing when the Adult Education Program schedule included twelve large classes a week and enough dancers to fill the San Jose Civic Auditorium for their annual festival.

In 1962 they were married, with the local dance groups giving a huge party for them. Ned became president of the Folk Dance Federation of California (1964-66). Marian and Ned both served in many capacities for the Folk Dance Federation and have been members since the late 1950s.

Lawton Harris invited them to teach at Stockton Folk Dance Camp in 1963. They remained on the teaching faculty of the Stockton Camp for 28 years, first teaching tangos and later presenting the teaching techniques for folk dance classes and the basic repertoire classes. Marian, as an artist and calligrapher, designed the syllabus covers for 25 years and did the artwork for publicity. Because of their long study of German and Austrian dances, they twice taught as specialists in the dances of Austria at Stockton Folk Dance Camp. The two of them also choreographed several tangos, including Tango Poquito, El Gaucho Tango, Tango Campana, and La Encantada Tango. She and Ned still teach a once-a-week folk dance class in Santa Clara.

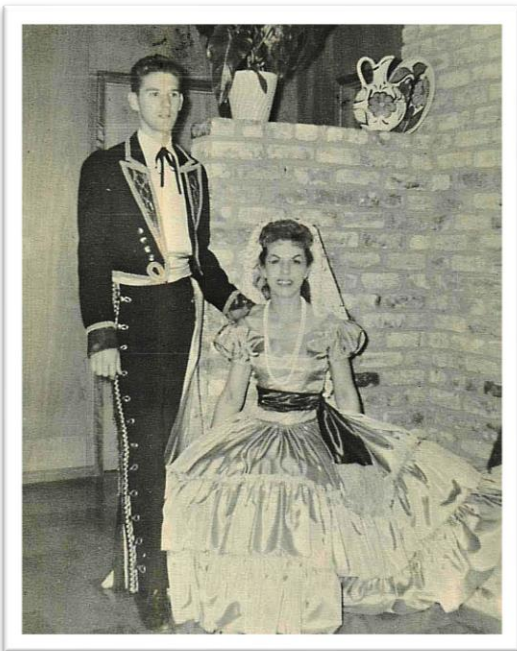
In 1966, at the urging of dancers in their classes, they formed the Ensemble International, as a performing folk dance group. For 37 years, Marian and Ned directed, taught, managed, and were choreographers for Ensemble International, which included many performances and full concerts all over California, and three performing tours in Europe. In the 1990s, Ensemble International's concerts were part of the City of San Jose's Performing Arts Series at the Montgomery Theater.

Ensemble International was a nonprofit organization, and Marian did all the correspondence, bookkeeping, reports, and grant writing, as well as designing and making many of the folk costumes worn by the dancers. She scheduled rehearsals and danced in all the performances.

Happy 100th birthday and congratulations to Marian on reaching this remarkable milestone – and thank you for all you have done in your long life to promote international folk dancing.



Marian Gault with husband Ned in October 2019. *Photo by L. Tucker.*



The Gaults in 1960.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE BAY . . .

SACRAMENTO – Barbara Bevan

On February 29, many folk dancers attended the memorial for **Vick Vickland** who died in January. In addition to his many folk dance friends, other attendees were his family members, singing groups in which he sang, hiking friends, Renaissance Society friends, and others. Many spoke of his influence on their lives. It was truly a celebration of his interesting life. He would have loved to have been there! In a way, he was...

The **Zado Singers** sang with another local singing group, **Vox Musica**, at two performances February 29 and March 1. The featured performers were Tzvetanka Varimezova, a well-known Bulgarian singer, and Ivan Varimezov, an amazing gaida player. Both are charming and very friendly in addition to being extraordinarily talented. It was a pleasure to work with them. Zado director Jan Volkoff and Vox Musica director Daniel Paulson created a beautiful program, *The Fragility of Goodness*, including songs from Bulgaria and Georgia. For more about **Zado**, go to zadosings.org

El Dorado International Dance Association (EDIDA) Tuesday night class in Placerville had a Scottish workshop on March 4 with **Jeff Corrigan**.

As I write this, the **63rd annual Camellia International Dance Festival - A Croatian Celebration!** has been cancelled due to concerns about spreading the coronavirus. It saddened us to have to make the decision, but the health of our folk dancing community is important and we all want to live to dance another day, at another great festival.



Members of Zado.

NORTH BAY – Carol Friedman

On **March 30**, the inimitable **Sani Rifati** will be returning to Petaluma as a guest teacher.

Our **Annual Spring Folk Dance Party** is scheduled for **Saturday, April 18**, 7:30-10:30 pm. Mark your calendars now for this fun event. The first hour of the party will feature dancing to old and new recorded favorites, followed by a live set with **Staro Vino** playing Bulgarian, Macedonian, and Greek music.

We'll be dancing every Monday night through May 4. Come dance with us!

SAN FRANCISCO DANCE GROUPS – Linda Milhoan

Changs International Folk Dancers welcomed two new families at February Family Night! The evening's program included dancing while weaving the colorful ribbons of our Maypole, providing an opportunity to preview one of the opening day activities planned for the **celebration of Golden Gate Park's 150th anniversary**. The Federation has a long history of folk dancing in the Park and we appreciate its support in this 8-month celebration! Remember, **Opening Day is Saturday, April 4**. *Pending a decision about the coronavirus*, we plan to be dancing in the meadow adjacent to the Log Cabin near Stow Lake, 11:30 am-5 pm. There will be live music, performances and the audience will be invited to participate in some dances. This event is free. **Be there, and be a part of history!** See p. 18.

In the meantime, come and dance with Changs on Friday evenings from 7:30 to 10:30 at Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, 31st Ave. and Clement Street in San Francisco.

San Francisco Dance Circle continues to welcome new dancers to our group. We're busy planning a **birthday party for our teacher, Channa Orner**, who will celebrate a very special birthday on April 22. Come and join us on Wednesdays, 10:45 am-12:15 pm at Harvey Milk Center for the Arts, 50 Scott Street at Duboce in San Francisco. It's FREE!

The Mandala dancers will be joining other folk dance groups for the 150th year celebration of the founding of Golden Gate Park on Saturday, April 4. **And even while renovations are happening, the Mandala dances every Thursday evening** at St. Paul's Church, 1399 – 43rd Avenue at Judah Street, San Francisco. Visit themandala.org or call (415) 648-8489.

... AND BEYOND

PENINSULA COUNCIL – Adony Beniares

The decision to cancel the Heritage Festival this year in response to the coronavirus was a difficult one. The Peninsula Council and Heritage Festival committee members spent two days discussing the issue, and finally made the decision late on March 7. We know a lot of people disagreed with our decision, but the health of our folk dance community, particularly our older members who are at-risk, was very important to us. We hope by the time this magazine reaches your hands that we are safely beyond this crisis and are once again gathering and dancing without fear.

The monthly party for the **Peninsula Folk Dance Council** will be on our usual second Saturday, at St. Bede's in Menlo Park on **April 11**. Remember, April showers bring...

If you receive your issue of *Let's Dance!* prior to **March 29**, I hope you realize there is still time to attend the special Moveable Feet Club workshop with renowned Romanian teachers **Mihai and Alexandru David**.

On **Thursday April 16**, the Saratoga Folk Dancers will be celebrating the **40th anniversary** of their Thursday night international dance club lead by Loui Tucker! Come join us for an amazing party, being held at Loui's normal Thursday night location in Saratoga! Wow!

Everyone in the Bay Area is saddened by the passing of Lucy Chang. We wish her husband Richard and the entire family our condolences.

KOPACHKA FOLK DANCERS – Susie Shoaf

Kopachka Folk Dancers just completed the month of February in our new venue at Almonte Clubhouse, 105 Wisteria Way in Mill Valley, just seven minutes from our former spot. Turnout has been high on Fridays! We welcomed Carol Friedman as guest teacher for two evenings, and we look forward to Sue Williard returning for a couple nights as guest teacher April 10 and 17.

On April 24, Kopachka will start off the Bay Area Dance Week with everyone invited to join us at the Almonte hall for FREE. The following week, May 1, **Édessa will be back** for a live dance party for one night at **Strawberry Recreation Center** (see ad on p. 16). Lots of opportunities to dance! Info: kopachkafolkdancers.com.

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS – Naomi Lidicker

After our busy winter months, April is a quiet month for BFD. The warm sunny days that we have been enjoying reminds us that spring is near. We look forward to seeing new faces joining us for the **Bay Area Dance Week**. Our **FREE EVENTS** include:

Our favorite **All-Request Friday Night** on **Friday, April 24**, at James Kenney Recreation Center, 7:30 to 9:30 pm.

On **April 28**, the **Tuesday Afternoon** class with Andy Partos will be dancing at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Mostly beginners dances are featured. 1:30-3 pm. No partners are needed.

Thursday, April 30, our evening beginners class with Marian Snyder and Helen Brown will be welcoming new dancers at James Kenney Center 7:30-9:30 pm.

We end Bay Area Dance Week with **ANOTHER All-Request Friday Night** on **Friday, May 1**, at James Kenney Recreation Center, 7:30 to 9:30 pm.

THE DANCE CLUB IN WILLITS – Megan Wolf

Our Redwood Dance Squad is practicing hard! We are looking forward to attending and performing at the **Statewide Festival in Petaluma**. Please see our article on p. 7.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST: COUNCIL CLIPS FROM APRIL 2005! (15 years ago!)

The Menlo Park Folk Dancers. The next party will be April 16, and will feature the live music of Zaedno, a very popular local group. Dancing starts at 8:00 pm in two halls at the Burgess Recreation Center, 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park. One hall has intermediate-advanced dancing and the other has beginner-intermediate dancing. Plenty of parking. If you are interested in the 6:00 potluck call Kathy for what to bring 650-327-0759.

Balkan Dancers of Marin. We are getting ready for our April second Balkan *Plus* Party. This features a programmed dance plus spaces for requests (about sixteen in total). Our members will supply finger foods and juice drinks for all who come. We had a great turnout last year and we hope to see you this year.
—Gary Anderson



Pastoral Fandango

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

Guest Teachers:
Ahmet Luleci
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**

☐ \$25 Friday evening party

☐ \$25 Saturday evening party

☐ \$25 Saturday AM instruction

☐ \$25 Saturday PM instruction

☐ \$25 Sunday morning instruction

☐ \$25 Sunday afternoon review

SUBTOTAL: \$ _____

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

☐ \$12 Mexican Lunch Saturday

☐ with meat

☐ vegetarian

☐ \$18 Middle Eastern Dinner Saturday night

☐ with meat

☐ vegetarian

☐ \$17 Installation Lunch Sunday

☐ with meat

☐ vegetarian

☐ \$20 Festival video access on Google Drive

☐ \$25 Festival video on a DVD mailed to you

☐ \$10 Printed syllabus

☐ \$22 Souvenir T-shirt designed by S. Gregory

____ Size

☐ Man

☐ Woman

☐ Tax deductible donation \$ _____

☐ Crew neck

-OR-

☐ V-neck

All T-shirts in either Red or Black, except men's V neck in either Black or Teal

Color: R ☐ B ☐ T ☐

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 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

GERGANA PANOVA

Gergana Panova was born in Sofia, Bulgaria, and graduated with honors from the National High School for Dance and the Academy for Music and Dance. She was a soloist and ballet master with Filip Kutev Bulgarian Ensemble while working with children and youth doing stage performances and establishing dance therapy in Sofia.

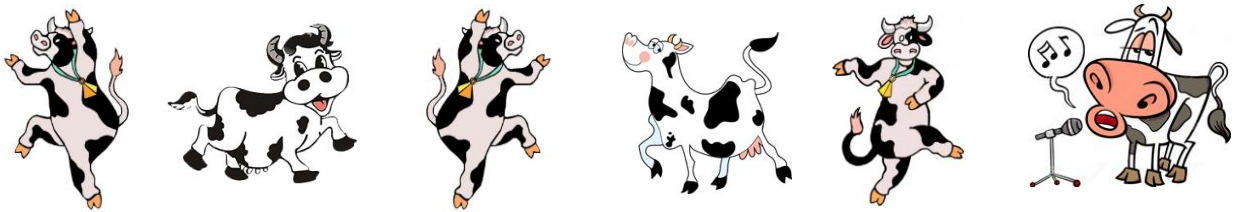
Gergana is trained as a stage performer, dance teacher, choreographer, ethnologist, stage director, and Laban notator. She regularly commutes between Bulgaria, where she heads the Ethnochoreology Dept. at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and Germany, where she is Professor of Dance at Folkwang University in Essen.

Gergana has written two books and more than 70 articles on Bulgarian dance and intercultural communication. She has organized summer culture seminars in Bulgaria and has taught dance workshops in Europe, Asia, and North and South America where she teaches dances from all ethnographic regions of Bulgaria. She co-founded the Theater Department of the New Bulgarian University in Sofia and still works with the Theatre Total in Bochum. For 23 years, she was director of the Dance Archive at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.



We welcome Gergana to Statewide 2020 and feel fortunate to have her as one of our master teachers.

SIGN UP SOON and take advantage of Early Bird pricing. Register by April 15, and save \$20 off the Statewide Festival package of \$110 (instead of \$130 at the door).



DONATE ON FACEBOOK!

Did you know the Folk Dance Federation has a Facebook page? A “DONATION” button was added recently which means you can visit Facebook, follow the Folk Dance Federation and, when you have some spare cash and the mood strikes, you can quickly make a tax-deductible donation to the Federation.

NEED A SCHOLARSHIP?

by Sabine Zappe

Registration forms are already available for the many of the upcoming summer camps. Whatever camp has captured your interest, don't let a lack of funds keep you from attending. The **Folk Dance Federation has a Scholarship Fund** that can help pay for your dance adventure. Visit **folkdance.com**, click on the **Services** tab, and download the scholarship application. Last year the Federation



awarded ten scholarships, and we hope to award as many this year.

Scholarships are given not only to current and potential group leaders and teachers of folk dancing, but also to experienced and new folk dancers. All are encouraged to apply,

including dancers who are not Federation members. Tell your dancing friends about our scholarships!

WE HAVE A WINNER – THE “WHO’S WHO” QUIZ

The March *Let's Dance!* Challenge was a test your knowledge of folk dancers, and Lone Coleman earned a \$20 gift card for being the fifth person to email with the correct answers (below). Congratulations, Lone!

A. Marilyn Smith	Razzmatazz
B. Marc Rayman	Fall Camp
C. Julie East	Redding
D. Vick Vickland	Sacramento
E. Valerie Daley	Ventura
F. Roo Lester	Sweden
G. John Pappas	Greece
H. Bruce Mitchell	Stockton
J. Susan Cashion	Mexico
K. Ruth Ruling	Changs
L. Marian Snyder	Berkeley

WE LOVE LUCY (continued)

Lucy was always a doer and this dancer's memory is just one example of that:

“What do you think about me organizing a couples workshop?” The breakfast table was set with berries, brie, eggs, and other culinary delights. Lucy and Richard hosted me many times in their home, and we had great conversations over amazing breakfast fare. That day, I said, “Yes, do it!” – and she did.”

We will remember Lucy as an accomplished folk dancer who was proficient in a wide variety of international folk dances -- Scottish, Balkan, Hungarian, Scandinavian, and many others. She not only taught the steps to dances -- she also made sure to teach their correct styling as well. She paid great attention to detail which was appreciated by fellow dancers as evidenced by the following comments:

“We'll all be dancing with you in our hearts, Lucy, and trying to keep up to your standards!”

“I was thinking when I go to Statewide, she would be one of a few dancers I'd love to watch when they dance.”

Lucy had a way of making everyone feel like family. A few years ago, she started referring to me as MM – short for Mei Mei, which means “younger sister” in Chinese. So I asked her what the Chinese word was for “older sister” and she told me that it was Jie Jie. From then on, we always called each other by those names.

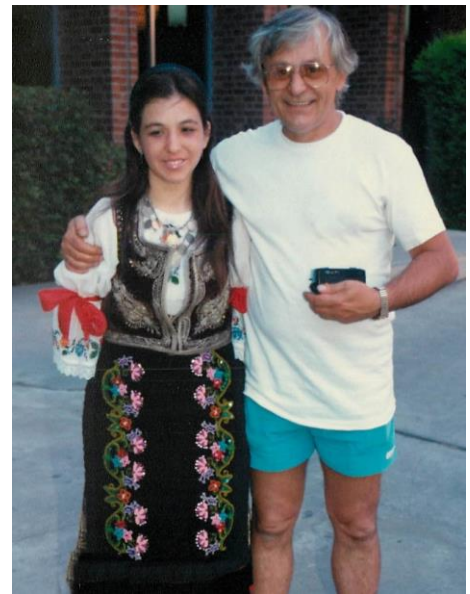
We will all greatly miss Lucy and our hearts go out to Richard, her husband and dance partner, and to their daughters, Alex and Sam.

Dear Lucy, you inspired us all and we are reminded of Irving Berlin's quote – “The song is ended, but the melody lingers on.” Rest in peace.

Honoring Lucy's wishes, her family and the Moveable Feet Club will be holding a dance event in celebration of Lucy's life on a date to be determined.

FROM THE *LET'S DANCE!* PHOTO ARCHIVES

The photo in last month's issue is of Bora Gajicki (right) and his daughter Anna.



Looking good! The photo was taken at Stockton Folk Dance Camp in 1992. Who are they? Be the *SIXTH* person to email the correct answer to loui@loutucker.com or editor@folkdance.com, and you will win a \$20 gift card.

ÉDESSA



www.kopachkafolkdancers.com

ÉDESSA at KOPACHKA | Balkan Dance Party

Édessa is comprised of musicians who have devoted decades to the study and performance of the rich cultural expressions of the southern Balkans, with music from Albania, Greece, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Armenia, Turkey, and Balkan Roma (Gypsy).

George Chittenden on clarinet, gaida (bagpipe), zurna (shawm) and guitar;
Lise Liepman on santouri (hammered dulcimer) and accordion; violinist Ari Langer;
percussionist Sean Tergis and bassist Paul Brown.

Friday, MAY 1, 2020 8-10:30 pm \$15

>>> Strawberry Recreation Center, 118 E. Strawberry Drive, Mill Valley <<<
SPACIOUS SPRUNG DANCE FLOOR | LOTS OF PARKING
president@kopachkafolkdancers.com or 415-497-4890

Kazundzha

(Roma, Bulgaria)

Kazundzha (kah-zuhn-DZHAH) is derived from the Turkish word “kazan,” meaning boiler or cauldron. An older version of this dance is from Varna in the Dobrudzha region of Bulgaria. Having lost the context of its old name and meaning, the dance is becoming very popular in contemporary Bulgarian clubs for folk dances.

In 2019, at the Festival of the Bulgarian Diaspora in La Nucia, Spain, it was announced that the main horo of the event would be this dance. It was sent in advance to the participants of the Festival. Thus, 61 Bulgarian groups learned and danced this one figure.

This dance was presented by Gergana Panova at the 2019 Stockton Folk Dance Camp at University of the Pacific.

Music: 2/4 Meter CD: *Bulgarian Dances Vol. 4*, Track 13

Video: 2019 Stockton Folk Dance Camp DVD or online access. Camp videos can be viewed by contacting a Camp participant who purchased it.

Formation: Open mixed circle of dancers, hands joined and down in V-pos.

Steps & Styling: Joyful and relaxed.

Measures	2/4	PATTERN
1-16	INTRODUCTION. No action.	
1	Facing ctr, step L to L (ct 1); step R behind L (ct 2).	
2	Step-hop on L (cts 1-2).	
3-4	Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.	
5-6	Repeat meas 1-2.	
7	Step-hop on R, small kick with L fwd (cts 1-2).	
8	Repeat meas 7 with opp ftwk.	
9	Repeat meas 7.	
10	Heavy step L in front of R (ct 1); step R to R (ct 2).	
11	Repeat meas 10.	
12	Heavy step L in front of R (ct 1); hold (ct 2).	
13	Jump lightly onto both ft, R twd ctr, turning the body a bit to L (ct 1); step in place on	
14	Jump lightly onto both ft, R twd outside, turning the body a bit to R (ct 1); step back in place on L (ct 2).	
15	Repeat meas 13.	
16	Step R bkwd (ct 1); hop on R (ct 2).	



Gergana Panova
dancing at Stockton
Folk Dance Camp
2019.

Sequence: Repeat as described above until the end of the music.

We are printing the announcement below with the understanding that it may be cancelled due to the coronavirus. The Opening Ceremony is three weeks away as this issue goes to press, and there is the hope the situation will have changed enough that it will go on as planned. The Federation's Google group and other local email lists will have updated information about the participation of our folk dance community as April 4 approaches. We hope it goes on as planned and that we will have good reasons to celebrate!



Come Join Us in
Celebrating
Golden Gate Park's 150th
Anniversary!
April 4, 2020

Folk Dancing in The Park

Festivities start at the Bandshell for Opening Ceremonies with a Procession accompanied by Musicians to the Log Cabin for Dancing around the Maypole and Dances of the World. Folk Dance Performances and much more!



Dancing in Golden Gate Park, May 2013, Changs Int'l Folk Dancers



Dancing in Golden Gate Park, May 1, 1947, S.F. Chronicle

- 10:00am - 11:00am Opening Ceremonies at the Bandshell
11:00am - 11:30am Maypole procession to Log Cabin with live music by Da! Mozhem. All ages invited to join in.
11:30am - 5:00pm Music and Dance Performances by local groups. Open dances with invitation for all to join in. No experience necessary.

Free shuttles throughout San Francisco will be available at local libraries to bring you to the Park! The Park will be entirely closed to traffic. More details to at: <https://www.goldengatepark150.com>



Sponsored by San Francisco Rec & Park, San Francisco Park Alliance, the Folk Dance Federation of California as a Community Partner and local dance groups.

Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2020

FIRST WEEK: JULY 19-25

SECOND WEEK: JULY 26-AUGUST 1



**Cristian Florescu
& Sonia Dion
Romanian**



**Richard Powers
Waltz**



**Tineke Van Geel
International
non-partner/partner**



**Maurits Van Geel
International
Balkan/Roma**

**UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC
STOCKTON, CA**



**Vlasto Petkovski
Macedonian**



**Aaron Alpert
Israeli Partner**



**Tony Parkes
Squares & Contras**



**The Band
Miamon Miller & Free Range Organic**



**Michele Simon
Singing**



**Melanie & Marcella Lawson
Ukulele**

April 2020 Calendar of Events

(continued)

- April 24 **INTERNATIONAL DANCE PARTY.** James Kenney Community Center, 1720 Eighth Street, Berkeley. 7:45-10 pm. **FREE!** Berkeley Folk Dancers (BFD) has been active in Berkeley for nearly 80 years! All kinds of people belong to BFD, from teenagers (and younger!) to retired people. Couples and singles are equally welcome. Come dance with us! Info: BerkeleyFolkDancers.org.
- April 26 **2020 BLOSSOM FESTIVAL.** City College of San Francisco, 50 Frida Kahlo Way, Wellness Center, Studio 301, San Francisco. Federation General Assembly 10:30 am. Dances for All Ages 12:30-1:30 pm. General dancing 1:30-5:30 pm. **FREE!** (Parking \$5) Info: changsdancers@aol.com or facebook.com/Changsfolkdancers.
- April 27 **STEP INTO THE WORLD OF GREEK DANCES.** Joe Goode Annex, 401 Alabama at 17th Street, San Francisco. 7:30-9:30 pm. **FREE!** OPA! Your chance to step into the world of Greek Dance. Learn fundamental steps and distinctive rhythms in this introductory class. Info: BerkeleyFolkDancers.org.
- April 28 **BEGINNING FOLK DANCE WITH ANDY!** Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Mostly beginners dances are featured. 1:30-3 pm. No partners are needed. **FREE!** Info: BerkeleyFolkDancers.org.
- April 30 **BEGINNERS DANCE WITH MARIAN AND HELEN!** This class for beginners will welcome new dancers at James Kenney Center 7:30-9:30 pm. **FREE!** Info: BerkeleyFolkDancers.org.
- April 30 **MOSTLY BALKAN DANCE CLASS IN SAN FRANCISCO.** St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 1399 43rd Ave, at Judah Street, San Francisco. 7:30-10:30 pm. **FREE!** Dance to the exciting rhythms of the Balkans and beyond! No partner necessary. Light refreshments will be available. Info: themandala.org.
- April 30 **WE DANCE TO MUSIC FROM AROUND THE WORLD.** St. Archangel Michael Serbian Orthodox Church, 18870 Allendale Avenue, Saratoga. 7:30-10:15 pm. **FREE!** A great opportunity to join a great group of people in a good-for-your-body-and-soul activity. Info: loui@loutucker.com.
- May 1 **DANCES OF THE WORLD!** Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, 417 31st Ave (between Clement and Geary), San Francisco. 7:30-10:30 pm. **FREE!** Changs International Folk Dancers offers both traditional and current dances for all dancing levels, perfect for an introduction or return to folk dancing. Info: changsdancers@aol.com.
- May 1 **INTERNATIONAL DANCE PARTY.** James Kenney Community Center, 1720 Eighth Street, Berkeley. 7:45-10 pm. **FREE!** Berkeley Folk Dancers (BFD) has been active in Berkeley for nearly 80 years! All kinds of people belong to BFD, from teenagers (and younger!) to retired people. Couples and singles are equally welcome. Come dance with us! Info: BerkeleyFolkDancers.org.
- May 2 **NORDIC FOLK DANCE.** St. Bede's Church Hall, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. 7:30-10 pm. **FREE!** Nordic Footnotes invites you to dance to live, traditional music of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland. Start with the one hour class and stay for the dance party including easy-to-join-in dances. No partner necessary. Info: nordicfn@gmail.com.

So many opportunities to dance for FREE! Tell those friends of yours who've been curious about what you do in the evening!

bayarea danceweek

APRIL 24 - MAY 3, 2020

Folk Dance Events Sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of N. CA
and Participating Member Groups

Invite your family and friends to these free dance events

<p>APR 24</p>  <p>BALKANS AND BEYOND KOPATCHKA FOLK DANCERS</p>  <p>DANCES FOR EVERYONE! CHANGS FOLK DANCERS</p>  <p>JOIN HANDS FOR WORLD DANCE STANFORD FOLK DANCERS</p>  <p>INTERNATIONAL DANCE PARTY BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS</p>	<p>APR 26</p>  <p>BLOSSOM FESTIVAL CHANGS & CITY COLLEGE</p>	<p>APR 27</p>  <p>STEP INTO THE WORLD OF GREEK DANCE GREEK FEET</p>	<p>APR 28</p>  <p>BEGINNING FOLK DANCE WITH ANDY! BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS</p>	<p>APR 30</p>  <p>WE DANCE TO MUSIC FROM AROUND THE WORLD SARATOGA INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS</p>  <p>MOSTLY BALKAN DANCE CLASS MANDALA FOLK DANCE</p>  <p>BEGINNING FOLK DANCE WITH MARIAN & HELEN! BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS</p>
<p>MAY 1</p>  <p>DANCES OF THE WORLD! CHANGS FOLK DANCERS</p>  <p>INTERNATIONAL DANCE PARTY BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS</p>				
<p>MAY 2</p>  <p>NORDIC FOLK DANCE NORDIC FOOTNOTES</p>				

SEARCH Bay Area Dance Week online to find all
free dance classes, performances, and more
by specific groups, dates, or locations

bayareadance.org | folkdance.com

All dance. All week. All free.



HISTORY CHANNEL

Thank you to Dick Rawson!

Do you remember decals? Raise your hand if you put a Folk Dance Federation decal on your car's back window! Dick Rawson came across one in his files, scanned it and shared it with *Let's Dance!* (By the way, the name "decal" is a shortened form of *decalcomania*, from the original French *décalcomanie*, a technique for transferring prints onto pottery.)

These old-style decals were dipped in water and then carefully applied to the desired surface, often glass. The water softened the glue so the decal would stick, but if you left the decal in the water too long, the glue dissolved and the decal failed to adhere. The industry terminology for them is a water-slide or water-dip decal, as opposed to the now much more common vinyl stickers. Today's vinyl decals are vinyl with an adhesive backing that is transferred by peeling off the base – no need to use water.

According to the advertisement in the July 1981 issue of *Let's Dance!* (right) decals like the one above sold for 50¢.



DECALS

Official Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc. emblem.
Applies to inside or outside of glass or other smooth surface.
A colorful reminder that you are a Folk Dancer. \$.50

-ADD \$1.00 POSTAGE FOR EACH ORDER FROM THE FEDERATION OFFICE -

News from... Italy!

by Loui Tucker

When news that the coronavirus had reached Italy, I became concerned about one of our favorite dance teachers, Roberto Bagnoli. Roberto currently lives in Rome with his girlfriend Giulia, but he used to live outside Milan and still travels back and forth to that area to teach dance classes and conduct dance workshops. Below is a transcript of our text messages.



ME: The news is that Milan is under quarantine. Are you okay? Giulia? Are you stuck in Milan or home in Rome?

ROBERTO: Hi, Loui. We are OK, thank you. Just no work and events are cancelled everywhere.

ME: What about your Israeli Camp Yofi in July? Is that still on?

ROBERTO: So far only March workshops and classes are cancelled. In April I have a big tour in The Netherlands. We are really hoping that this craziness will end soon.

ME: Whew! Glad you're okay. As the saying goes, "From your lips to God's ears!"

[The next day]

ROBERTO: Now everything is shut down in Italy; we're asked to stay home until the end of March.

Remember when the lambada was popular in 1990s? International folk dancing was here before and it's still going strong – and the lambada is long gone!



WANT TO SEE YOUR NAME IN PRINT?

Do you have some interesting news or information about your community, an event, or some aspect of folk/world dance or culture that would make interesting reading in *Let's Dance!* magazine?

Why not tell the *Let's Dance!* readers how great the dance scene is in your area and what you and your group has done to make it great?

If you've done some traveling that involved folk dance, music, art, etc., consider writing something to share with *Let's Dance!* readers.

If you've read a dance-related book, seen a video, or visited a website that you think others would enjoy, please submit that information.

If you are or were involved with a workshop, festival, performance, or the like, consider writing an article.

If you've been taking photos at dance events, consider forwarding them for inclusion (especially if you use a real camera and not your cellphone).

Are you a cook? Do you have recipes for a favorite ethnic food? Share it with *Let's Dance!* readers!

Take a look at the last issue or two to see the kinds of articles that are typically printed. Or, if you look and think to yourself, "Why don't they have an article about...", consider writing that article yourself!

Deadline for submissions is 30 days before the date of the magazine (April 1 for the May/June issue). Contact *Let's Dance!* Editor at editor@folkdance.com or loui@louisucker.com to discuss.

SF Bay Area Dance Week FREE EVENT



Sunday, April 26, 2020

Federation Meeting (Assembly): 10:30am
Dances for All Ages (Beginners): 12:30pm-1:30pm
General Dancing: 1:30pm-5:00pm

City College of San Francisco
Wellness Center, 3rd Floor, Studio 301
50 Frida Kahlo Way (formerly Phelan Ave.),
San Francisco (enter at Ocean Avenue & Howth Street)



Info. & Dance Requests - crb2crb@comcast.net or 650-359-7486

Parking: \$5.00. Buy tickets at kiosks in parking lots.
Yellow machines, cash. Grey machines, debit/credit.

Sponsored by:
CCSF PE & Dance, Folk Dance Federation of California, SF Folk Dance Groups,
Changs International Folk Dancers, & CCSF Faculty Jeanne-Marie Hughes

FOLK DANCE FEDERATION
OF CALIFORNIA, INC.
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*If the shoes fit... go ahead
and dance!*



advertisement



Folk Dance Scene

This (almost) monthly publication has folk dance events in California and elsewhere, folk lore articles, ethnic recipes and lots of good reading. To get a **free** copy, just call Sandy: (310) 391-7382, or Email: circulation@FolkDanceScene.org

To subscribe, it is just \$18 a year for 10 issues - \$10 for an Email version.
Send to Gerda Ben-Zeev, 19 Village Park Way, Santa Monica, CA 90405