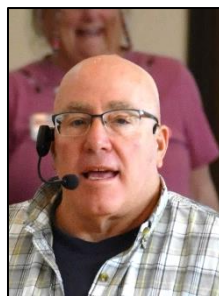


# Let's Dance!

THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING *or* JANUARY 2020



## THE 68th KOLO FESTIVAL WAS A HIT!

Review on  
p. 7.



# *Let's Dance!*

Volume 77, No. 1

January 2020

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

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

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

Folk Dance Federation Treasurer

226 Alameda de las Pulgas

Redwood City, CA 94062

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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). 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**

Heidi Hochrein, Santa Rosa



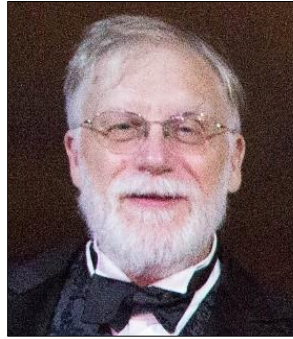
# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Joe Croco

## Happy New Year to all!

With all the great events we had last year I'm looking forward to doing them again this year. I especially want to thank the Kolo Festival Committee for putting on a great festival (this makes their 68th) and I can't wait for their next. After seeing all the great musicians and bands at Kolo this year, Editor Loui Tucker hit it right on the mark when the November issue of *Let's Dance!* was a tribute to our musicians.

I will write more about the ethnographic trips I've been on at another time. I want to share this month another thought I had about why we are so interested in folk dancing. I started folk dancing in 1973. I was attending San Francisco State University, and was scheduled for a late chemistry lab while the people I was commuting with enrolled in a folk dance class at the same time. My late lab was cancelled, so I joined the folk dance class. I was hooked and I've never looked back.



During that first year, I continued dancing at San Francisco State, the Mandala in San Francisco, the Berkeley festival, and two weeks at Stockton Camp. While dancing, I met Laura Douglass, the woman I would later marry. I consider it one of the luckiest chance decisions of my life.

But why did folk dancing suck me in? It was my first year at SF State and this introduced me to a community that was more than just friendly – it was the most welcoming group I've ever experienced. Of course, it didn't hurt that there were 5-6 women to every man. So I would like to hear from you. How did you start dancing and, more importantly, *why did you continue?*

Just another reminder that **Statewide 2020 will be in Petaluma on May 22-24**. Marina Troost is heading up the Statewide Committee and everything is falling into place for a great State-wide. Registration forms are available on-line and on p. 10. Sign up soon and book your hotel while the rates are low!

The next Federation-sponsored event is the **Festival of the Oaks on February 8**, put on by the Berkeley Folk Dancers. There will be a Board meeting during the lunch break, and everyone attending the Festival is encouraged to pick up their lunch and join us. You do not have to be a Federation member to attend.



Dancing to live music at the Kolo Festival 2019. Photo by J. Croco.

# January 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](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.

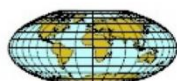
- Dec. 25 **FREE CHRISTMAS NIGHT DANCE PARTY.** St. Bede's Church Hall, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. 7-10 pm. IT'S FREE! Info: [adony408@gmail.com](mailto:adony408@gmail.com).
- Dec. 31 **NEW YEAR'S EVE POTLUCK DINNER AND PARTY.** All Saints' Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley Street, Palo Alto. 6:30 pm-12:30 am. \$12. Bring your favorite dish to share. All requests dance party MC'd by Lucy Chang and Loui Tucker. Sponsored by the Moveable Feet Club. Info: [LucySChang@gmail.com](mailto:LucySChang@gmail.com), [kbegonia@me.com](mailto:kbegonia@me.com).
- Dec. 31 **BFD NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY.** Frances Albrier Community Center, 2800 Park Street, Berkeley. 9-midnight. \$5 for BFD members/\$7 for non-members.
- Jan. 19 **SAN LEANDRO DANCERS FIRST ANNIVERSARY PARTY.** DC Dance Center, 1555 Washington Avenue, San Leandro (close to Davis Street exit off I-880). Lunch (TBD) at a local restaurant noon-1 pm; dancing 1-3 pm. \$8. Info: [dance@tangoandmoredance.com](mailto:dance@tangoandmoredance.com).
- Jan. 24 **FOLK DANCE PARTY KOPACHKAS WITH ZABAVA INTERNATIONAL.** Strawberry Recreation Center, 118 E. Strawberry Drive, Mill Valley. 8-10:30 pm. \$15. Zabava International provides exciting music to dance to, from the Balkans and Beyond. Info: [www.kopachkafolkdancers.com](http://www.kopachkafolkdancers.com). See p. 17.
- Jan. 25 **SACRAMENTO SCHOLARSHIP BALL.** Placerville's historic Odd Fellows Hall at 467 Main Street in Placerville. 1-4 pm. \$10 It's the Gold Diggers Dance! Info: [eneg.vaughn@gmail.com](mailto:eneg.vaughn@gmail.com).
- Jan. 26 **AFTERNOON FOLK DANCE AND TEA PARTY.** St. Bede's Church Hall, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. 2:45-5:30 pm. Planned especially for community members who don't like to drive at night. Info: [adony408@gmail.com](mailto:adony408@gmail.com)
- Jan. 31 **CHANGS INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS PARTY WITH DA! MOZHEM!** Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, 31st Ave. at Clement St., San Francisco. 7:30-10:30 p.m. \$5 plus tips for the band. Please bring a snack to share.
- February 8 **FESTIVAL OF THE OAKS.** Albany Veterans Memorial Building, 1325 Portland Avenue in Albany. 9 am-5 pm. Morning institute with Maurits and Tineke Van Geel. \$26 for all day; \$16 morning institute; \$13 afternoon dance party.
- February 16 **SAN FRANCISCO TAM FEST.** Croatian American Culture Center, 60 Onondaga Avenue, San Francisco. Noon-8 pm. \$20 (\$15 in advance through Brown Paper Tickets). Headline band is Tamburaški Sastav Ponoć (Midnight) from Pittsburgh.

**FROM LET'S DANCE! EDITOR** (Loui Tucker) and **WEBSITE MANAGER** (Kevin Greek):

The Federation website ([folkdance.com](http://folkdance.com)) and *Let's Dance!* magazine are both part of the Federation, but they are managed by two different people. While we are in close communication, sending email to one of us about your upcoming event does not necessarily mean the other will know about it. If you want the folk dance community to know about your event, please let **BOTH** of us know about it.



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and anyone with a love of travel and culture.

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## **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, Dures, Vlora Folk Dance Festival!  
Kruja, Saranda, Berat, Shkodra, Gjirokastra**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Malaga, Cadiz, Seville, Cordoba, Jaen, Granada**

## **GERMANY, AUSTRIA, LICHTENSTEIN, SWITZERLAND**

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

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

## **ISRAEL:** October 31-November 11, 2021, 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**

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# THE FAMILY PHOTO ALBUM

Photos by L. Tucker, J. Croco, A. Partos, Clem Dickey



Kolo Festival Director Bill Cope playing one of his many instruments.



Paul Petrescu wore several folk costumes during Kolo Festival!



John Filcich dancing Drmes for Three with Eileen Kopec and Laura Douglass.



Over 100 dancers – such folk dance luminaries as Yves and France Moreau, Joe Graziosi, Richard Powers, and Bruce Hamilton – gathered at the Peninsula Council Pie Party to celebrate Denise Heenan's 80th birthday. Watch for a full report in the next issue of *Let's Dance!*



The Berkeley Folk Dancers (including some young'uns) dancing at their Inaugural Ball.

# KOLO FESTIVAL 2019 – A Review

by Clem Dickey

It was a foggy Black Friday morning in San Francisco. The four doors to the Croatian-American Center were closed. There was no hint of occupancy, but a small sign on the leftmost door read “Enter Here.” Inside, the Kolo Festival was assembling. It was 9:10 am, and John Filcich had the Festival Records collection of CDs, DVDs, old syllabi, and a cookbook or two arranged on a table. Paul Bourbon was on stage, fiddling with the sound. A few strings of lights, yet unhung, were also on stage. A tall fellow entered after me. He spotted John Filcich, whom he greeted with happy recognition. It was John Morovitch, a featured singer, musician, and dance teacher. Before the weekend was over, nearly 300 dancers, musicians and friends would greet each other in a similar fashion. Walmart probably had a greater attendance, but Kolo had more fun.

Joe Graziosi, Cristian Florescu, and Sonia Dion taught at the major sessions. Between them they taught 25 dances in two days. Sonia and Cristian brought a collection of new (to me) dances, and many of the old-but-good jokes and repartee with which they pepper their teaching. When I learn from them, there is always someone who cannot manage the styling, and Cristian lampoons him or her (without mentioning names) by illustrating how *not* to sway, step, or carry oneself. The required carriage varied: some in proud “San Francisco” style, some in a more proletarian, earthy “Los Angeles” style. The style locations no doubt vary as they travel the world.

Like a scale model, the dances felt as if they fit together exactly one way. Styling was like model paint: it could make or ruin the assembled dance. I had previously learned from Cristian in Stockton to let a dance seep from our ears to our feet. Kolo Festival allowed less time, so Cristian repeated some of the ten dances he taught over the two days. I haven’t the memory necessary to describe all their dances, but will mention a few. Each session started with Hora de la Țerova, a walking and rocking dance. Joc din Arad has a SQSQS rhythm, for which Dick Crum provided “get your papers here” as a mnemonic. To that Sonia added “bon voyage tout le monde” which has the same beat, assuming your French is, well, better than mine. Cărășelul stepped a little outside the Romanian box by, well, adding a box: the first figure has dancers completing a full turn as they draw a four-sided box. Finally, Hododârla let us practice syncopation and some boot-slapping, not that I saw anyone wearing actual boots.

Joe Graziosi’s Greek dances worked like a set of Lego blocks: within each structure there was room for variation. Joe observed that all beats which did not transfer weight were equivalent: a pause, a touch, a lift, a scuff. If the pause was on a slow beat, one could even turn it into a quick double-step. To illustrate, he taught Tourkikos (from Rhodes). The sequence was 9 beats (one measure) long, counted QQSQQS. The middle “slow” beat (counts 4 and 5) was a pause, or a scuff, or a quick “right-left,” depending on whim. Tourkikos is danced facing another small group of dancers consisting of two or three people, or perhaps just one.

As an inexperienced Greek dancer, I also appreciated Diplos Horos Messinias, which alternated Tsamikos and Syrtos patterns.

At the end of the second day of teaching, Kolo Director Bill Cope announced to general acclaim that

Cristian and Sonia, and Joe would return to the Kolo Festival in 2020.

John Filcich and John Morovich shared an hour each day teaching Croatian and Serbian kolos, some of which, they confessed, might have originated in the emigre communities of Chicago, or maybe Pittsburgh. John Morovich also taught singing classes and played with Sinovi Tamburitza Orchestra (of Seattle).

Chubritza, Sinovi, and Zabrava International traded off the early evening musical slots in the Main Hall, returning in the late evening/early morning (after I had left for bed). Smaller bands played in the Kafana. I did not spend much time in the Kafana, a room perhaps 15 by 30 feet, but when I did venture there, it was quite crowded. I won’t mention a number, lest the Fire Marshall read this, but musicians, nosers, and dancers all squeezed in.

On-site lunches and dinners were catered by chef Hristo Kolev. I never expect good catered food, so it was a bit of a surprise to find minestrone soup made with fresh vegetables. The main courses included vegetarian options. Baklava, sometimes joined by brownies, was always available for dessert.

I have been to Kolo Festival only three or four times in 15 years, because family activities usually keep me at home that weekend, but the teachers this year were too good to miss. I hope to be back next year, with all my old friends, and a few new ones I made this weekend.

**Walmart probably had a greater attendance, but Kolo had more fun.**



# سفر همت

## Journey of the Simorgh

**January 11, 2020**

Show: 7 - 9 pm

Center for Performing Arts  
at Menlo-Atherton

555 Middlefield Rd  
Atherton, CA 94027

- Sadegh Hatefi
- Farima Berenji
- Homeyra Banejad  
and Ensemble
- Simorgh Dance Collective

Tickets: \$35 advance, \$40 at door

[journeyofthesimorgh.bpt.me](http://journeyofthesimorgh.bpt.me)  
[journeyofthesimorgh.farimadance.com](http://journeyofthesimorgh.farimadance.com)

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*A dance concert adapted from the Persian epic  
Conference of the Birds featuring folkloric, classical,  
and sacred dances of the Silk Road*





# **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**

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**~Motel 6 ~**  
**6145 Commerce Blvd.**  
**Rohnert Park, CA 94928**

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

**Banner art used by permission of artist Maxfield Bala**

# Pastoral Fandango – Statewide Folk Dance Festival

**May 22 - May 24, 2020**

Hermann Sons Hall, Petaluma, California

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

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

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

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

**All Day events** (ONLY WITH early registration)

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

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

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

**SUBTOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

**On-line Registration** available starting January 2020 at [statewide.folkdance.com](http://statewide.folkdance.com).

**Visit the Statewide 2020 webpage at [statewide.folkdance.com](http://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](mailto:mylt48@sbcglobal.net).



# Pastoral Fandango

## MEET AHMET LÜLECI

by Marina Troost

Although Statewide 2020, Pastoral Fandango in Petaluma, is still months away, the Statewide Committee would like to start presenting the teaching faculty. One of our teachers is Ahmet Lüleci.

My earliest memories of Ahmet are from a couple of workshops at both Stockton Folk Dance Camp and Mendocino Folklore when Ahmet was first introduced to the West Coast. Ahmet's dances were different from what we usually did. He didn't just teach dances that were done in straight lines. He taught us how to move closely behind each other, sometimes in opposing lines, moving sideways towards each other, and then again apart. We had a lot of fun doing these unfamiliar dances.

Ahmet hasn't changed much and is still offering a curriculum full of surprises. You may never have met him, yet I'm sure you're familiar with many of his dances. Among many other dances, he introduced us to: Ali Pasa, Agir Halay, Kelekvan, Hozanki, Duz Halay, Kara Tren, Narino, Ordu, Oy Memo, Heyamo, Inaduna, Aslan Mustafam, Agir Halay, Esmer, Helef, Lacin, and Tesi Duz Halay.

A native of Turkey, Ahmet started dancing at a very young age and joined award-winning dance ensembles when he was only eight years old. Over the next 30 years, his dance ensembles participated in both national and international competitions throughout Europe and appeared in multiple broadcasts in both Europe, Canada, and the USA.

His love of folk songs made him pursue a college major in Music and Voice, and a second degree in Fine Arts. He has thoroughly researched Anatolian culture, and separately conducted academic research into Spoon Dances, and into the historical, social, and cultural background/customs of the people of the Mediterranean coast of Turkey. His 400-page research paper was rewarded first place by the Turkish Ministry in a 1985 national competition.

Ahmet arrived in the USA in 1985 and has taught numerous workshops all over the Americas, Europe, Japan, Asia, etc. as well as choreographed and worked with many well-known performing ensembles (Aman, BYU, Budlet, Les Sortileges, Vinod, Hoytur, Turhoy, Anadolu University). Currently, Ahmet is the Artistic Director of Collage Dance Ensemble in Boston. His goal for this ensemble is to "showcase the beauty and passion of neglected dance forms and their cultural heritage."



**We welcome Ahmet to Statewide 2020 and feel fortunate to have him as one of our master teachers.**

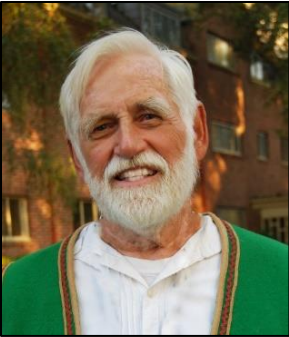
**WE HAVE A WINNER!** Martha Awdziejewicz of San Diego was the third person to email with the correct answers to last month's **NAME THAT DANCE!** quiz. The correct answers were: Tino Mori, Ma Navu, Hora pe Gheata, Pravo Rhodopsko, Setnja and La Bastringue.

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE BAY . . .

## SACRAMENTO – Barbara Bevan

[See our website [www.folkdancesac.org](http://www.folkdancesac.org)]

Our dear friend, **Vick Vickland**, whom many of you know, is very ill. Local dancers have visited him in the hospital, in rehab, and at his home. Vick is a past president of both our Sacramento council and the Folk Dance Federation. Besides dancing, Vick enjoys singing. On November 24, nine of us visited Vick at home and sang to him and with him. There were hugs and tears and even some laughter.



Vick Vickland 2013.  
Photo by L. Tucker.

English Country Dance is very popular in our area. They dance at the Roseville Polish American Hall. On **Dec. 1, Bruce Hamilton was the caller** and the band was Quite Carried Away. Dec. 15 was their **Annual Holiday Tea & Dance**.

We are now working on our annual **Scholarship Ball**, to be held in Placerville at the historic Odd Fellows Hall, Saturday, **January 25**, 1-4 pm. The appropriate Placerville theme is **Gold Diggers Dance**. Yvonne Couvillion is the dance host. Come up for a day in the foothills and dance with us!

Our BIG event of the year will be the **Camellia International Dance Festival, March 27-28, 2020**. The theme is **A Croatian Celebration** with dance

workshops with – who else? – **ŽELJKO JERGAN!** Two Croatian performing groups, Koraci and Skalinada, will entertain us. Location will be the Roseville Polish American Hall. See the flyer on p. 15. More details will be revealed in February.

Remember: *Dancing Keeps You Young!*



Željko Jergan. Photo by E. Khuner.

## SAN LEANDRO FOLK DANCE – Gigi Jensen

The **San Leandro Folk Dancers will be celebrating our first anniversary** on January 19. According to my records, about 45 individuals have attended at least one session this year and we have a solid core of 8-10 dancers each time we meet. Please come celebrate with the San Leandro Folk Dancers on **Sunday, January 19, 2020**, 12:30-3 pm. Bring a snack to share. We'll nosh and schmooze from 12:30-1 pm and dance from 1-3 pm.

## BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS – Naomi Lidicker

On **January 11**, BFD is going South of the Border for its **79th Birthday Ball**. Join us for the 6 pm dinner prepared by M & M Catering for \$15. The Ball (\$10) will follow and we will dance until 10:30 pm. It's \$25 for the entire evening. Come to the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Avenue, Albany! We'd love to have you join us!

Don't forget to save the date, **Saturday, February 8**, for the **72nd Annual Festival of the Oaks**, 9:00 AM to 5 PM! See p. 16.

## KOPACHKA FOLK DANCERS – Nadav Nur

This has been, and will continue to be, an exciting dance year for Kopachka Folk Dancers. The club is hosting **three parties with live music**. In October, we hosted the nationally-touring band Bulgarika. About

60 dancers were treated to an exciting evening of singing and dancing. On **Friday, January 24**, the club will host **Zabava International** playing energetic,



soulful, and rhythmically dazzling music from the Balkans and beyond (see our ad p. 21).

Kopachka's **May 1** spring party will feature **Édessa**, returning this year after last year's wildly successful party. Come to our spacious sprung wood dance floor at the Strawberry Recreation Center in Mill Valley. 8-10:30 pm. \$15. Info: [kopachkafolkdancers.com](http://kopachkafolkdancers.com).



## ... AND BEYOND

### THE DANCE CLUB IN WILLITS – Megan Wolf

Our second Family Dance was a huge success. Kalia Klivan called so many fun dances! One favorite was Family Contra, where you dance as a family instead of a couple. Kalia has so much exciting energy, and is so skilled at making dances accessible for everyone. When she teaches a dance with a swing she gives several options for how to swing – from elbow turn to ballroom hold – and it makes dances like La Bastringue work for any age. Everyone had a wonderful time, and we look forward to having more Family Dances in the future.



The Willits Family Dance offered dancing for all ages. *Photo by M. Wolf.*

SAN FRANCISCO DANCE GROUPS – Linda Milhoan  
Changs International Folk Dancers is having a special **Fifth Friday Party on January 31** featuring live music by our good friends **Da! Mozhem**. Come and join us for our first party in 2020 – 7:30-10:30 pm at Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, 31st Ave. and Clement St. in San Francisco's Richmond District. \$5 plus tips for the band. A snack to share with other dancers would also be greatly appreciated.

**San Francisco Dance Circle** will have their annual potluck party on **Wednesday, February 12**. SFDC meets every Wednesday morning, 10:45-12:15 at Harvey Milk Arts Center, 50 Scott St. at Duboce. Come and join our friendly group! It's FREE! Info: acolichidas@gmail.com.

### PENINSULA COUNCIL – Adony Beniares

We hope everybody had a loving Holiday Season. The new year brings events, changes, and excitement to the Peninsula.

As you'll see from the registration form on p. 19, our annual **Heritage Festival has moved to March**. This was done to give everybody a needed break between all of the December parties and the New Year and avoid conflicts with other festivals.

In January, the Peninsula Council will instead have its annual **Afternoon Tea Party and Dance on January 26 at St. Bede's Church**. Last year's event featured tea and snacks from more than six countries, all provided by the Council and friends. Come for one of our four afternoon events throughout 2020. In addition, the great news is that all Peninsula Council events (except for the Saturday Heritage Festival) will be held at St. Bede's, our preferred location.

In 2019, the Palomanians added several new dancers to their Tuesday group and several friends have become regulars; we all welcome newcomers Karin, Virginia, and Bonnie to their growing family of dancers.

The **Carriage House Dancers**, after a short break, resume their Wednesday class on January 8 at Holbrook-Palmer Park in Atherton.

January is a quiet month for **The Movable Feet Club**, but in February you'll see two great events; more to come next month.

### NORTH BAY – Carol Friedman

We enjoyed our annual **Holiday Folk Dance Party on December 9**, with Orchestra Euphonos in their debut appearance in Petaluma. After that, we took a break, and will start up again **Monday, January 6**. Join Monday evenings 7-9:15 pm at Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma! Did you know the lovely hall where we dance every week will be the site of this year's Statewide Festival? You're going to love it! Info: cjay@horizoncable.com



Tea cups at last year's Peninsula Council Afternoon Tea Party. *Photo by K. Kaye.*

# Selecting New Dances, Berkeley Style

by David Hillis

[Editor's Note: Because the primary teacher of our local clubs typically has the sole ability to select the dances to be taught, I thought it would be interesting to learn how an organization like the Berkeley Folk Dancers selects dances. I asked David Hillis to write this article for *Let's Dance!*]

In an effort to keep its repertoire fresh, Berkeley Folk Dancers typically picks up to twelve dances a year as Trial Dances. Five of these are chosen at a Member Selection Night in early fall. The proposed dances must have been taught by a master teacher in the past twelve months; most typically they come from Stockton Folk Dance Camp and the late, lamented Mendocino Folklore Camp, although any workshop or festival can also be a source.

The next five Trial Dances are selected in November by BFD's Dance Committee, composed of teachers, class representatives and some board members. Here the rules are a little different – the dances don't have to be new; they can even be older dances previously dropped from the repertoire. Not all proposed Trial Dances are personally demonstrated; videos can also be used at this meeting, which is particularly helpful for set dances and mixers, as it's often hard to find enough people to demonstrate a new set dance. The Dance Committee is also charged with considering the types of dances being accepted, and their country of origin, in an effort to keep the overall club repertoire balanced.

The final two Trial Dances of the year are drawn from the teacher's offerings at our annual Monte Toyon weekend in January and the Festival of the Oaks in February. Normally that provides twelve new dances, although sometimes, if the enthusiasm is tepid for a swath of dances, less than twelve may be selected.

A teacher subcommittee assigns the levels at which each new Trial Dance will be taught. The Advanced class learns all the new Trial Dances; the complexity of each dance determines how far it goes down toward the Beginner level.

Over the summer, all BFD members are given dance surveys to gauge the popularity of the entire repertoire, especially the Trial Dances. The Dance Committee meets just before the beginning of the new dance year in September and makes the final decision as to which Trial Dances will become part of the regular repertoire, and which repertoire dance will be

dropped to make room for them. And the next thing you know, it's time to pick the next year's Trial Dances!

## NAME THREE!

*You found this month's challenge!* Fill in the lines below with three items that fit the category. Send your answer to [loui@louisucker.com](mailto:loui@louisucker.com) or [editor@folkdance.com](mailto:editor@folkdance.com) or you can write your answers below, take a photo, and email the photo. The THIRD person to submit acceptable answers gets a \$20 gift certificate.

1. Name three past presidents of the Folk Dance Federation who served *before* 1999.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Name three Bulgarian master teachers who are *not* Bulgarian.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Name three folk dance bands based in the San Francisco Bay area (Salinas to Santa Rosa).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Name three folk dance clubs in the San Francisco Bay area formed before 1960 that still exist today.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Name three Israeli dances that have a grapevine step in them.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Name three *Let's Dance!* editors *before* the current one.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Name three folk dance camps that (sadly...) no longer exist.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Welcome to the 63rd annual  
**CAMELLIA**  
INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL  
A CROATIAN CELEBRATION!

Roseville, California  
Polish-American Hall, 327 Main St., Roseville, CA 95678

**MARCH 27 & 28, 2020**

Workshops with guest teacher:

**ZELJKO JERGAN**

Teaching Croatian non-partner & couple dances



**SCHEDULE**

Friday, March 27: 7:30-10:30 PM - Opening Party - Request dancing - \$10

8:00-8:30 Skalinada Croatian Dance Performance

Saturday, March 28: 10:00-11:30 AM - Croatian Non-partner workshop - \$20

11:30-1:00 Lunch on your own (many nearby restaurants)

1:00-2:30 - Croatian Couple workshop - \$20      3:00-5:00 - Request dancing

5:30-6:30- Catered Croatian Dinner - TBA      Evening events \$15: 6:30-7:00 - Performance by Koraci,

7:00-7:30 - Sing-a-long, 7:30-10:30 - Request Dancing & Teacher Reviews

\*\*\* SPECIAL PRICE: \$50 for all events except Saturday dinner \*\*\*

Sponsored by the Sacramento International Folk Dance & Arts Council  
Members of the Folk Dance Federation of California & the National Folk Organization - all non-profit organizations

**Information:** [www.folkdancesac.org](http://www.folkdancesac.org) or [eneg.vaughn@gmail.com](mailto:eneg.vaughn@gmail.com) or 916-799-8086

## Tineke & Maurits Van Geel

Tineke van Geel has been teaching International Dance since 1975. In 1985 she began visiting Armenia, the country of her dance specialization, conducting extensive field research during her annual visits. She also attended classes at the Choreographic School and at the Pedagogical Institute in Yerevan, and trained with various amateur groups. Tineke organizes dance and culture tours to Armenia. Over 50 tours have been attended by folk dancers from all over the world. She also teaches workshops and releases Armenian music on the Van Geel Record label. She has taught workshops in 11 European countries, and her tours have included the U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Taiwan, Singapore, Hong Kong and Japan. Her worldwide teaching was recognized by the Armenia government, which presented Tineke with an award for her extraordinary devotion and energy in promoting Armenian dance, music and culture.

Maurits van Geel has been an active dance teacher, lecturer and choreographer since 1975. In addition to teaching numerous courses in International Dance, he researched and taught Appalachian clogging. He was a guest lecturer at the Dance Academy in Rotterdam, and a consultant for dance in Amsterdam. From 1988 to 2011 he worked at the International Dance Theater, spending 15 years as artistic director. Responsible for annually changing theater programs of this professional dance group, he left a legacy of 47 productions. Themed programs of the International Dance Theater were based on field research, often in collaboration with local ethnomusicologists. Maurits regularly makes research journeys around the world. He spent

nine months in India, and traveled throughout numerous countries that were part of the Silk Road, following the footsteps of Alexander the Great. He also did extensive research on two dance productions about the Roma. He has taught in many European countries, as well as in the USA, Canada, Japan, Hong Kong, New Zealand and Australia.

**We are thrilled to have both Tineke and Maurits as guest teachers for the Festival of the Oaks 2020.**

## 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Folk Dance

# Festival of the Oaks



**Saturday, February 8, 2020**

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

1325 Portland Avenue  
Albany, CA 94709



***No partner needed***

**Registration begins at**  
9:00 a.m.

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

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

**All day -- Institute & Folk Dancing**  
\$26.00

**Hot lunch**  
Noon - 1:00 p.m. - \$8.00

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

**Exhibition Dance Performance**  
1:00 p.m.

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

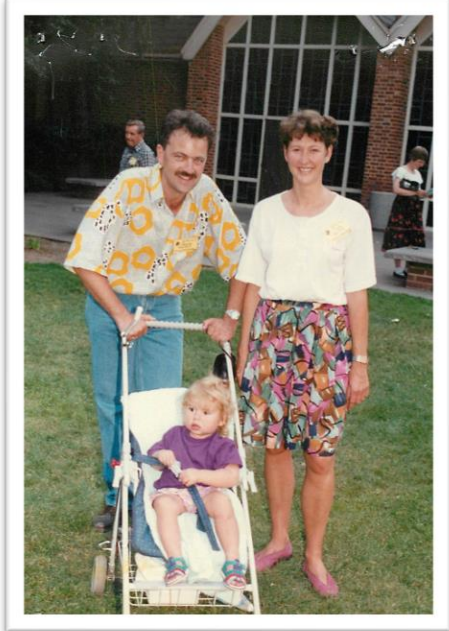
**Free refreshments will be served all afternoon**

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

For more information:  
<http://www.BerkeleyFolkDancers.org>  
or email: [rg94610@gmail.com](mailto:rg94610@gmail.com)



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



Who recognizes these two from a photo from 1986? Hint: they were not on the teaching staff.



The photo above, that appeared in the December issue of *Let's Dance!*, is of Suzanne Rocca-Butler and Denise Heenan. According to Suzanne, it was taken in 1996.

"It was the year Susie Cashion hosted a Saturday Night Party. Susie's instructions on the flyer that went out to everyone before Camp was to come 'as something you are not.' Denise and I decided independently to go dressed as men, but we talked on the phone before Camp and knew of each other's idea. We didn't tell anyone else.

"I had found a tuxedo jacket somewhere and had the gauchó hat. Georgia Milton, who had taken the photo, framed it and it was auctioned off several years later. I bought it myself, hoping to never see it again!"

ZABAVA  
International

ZABAVA International

Friday, JANUARY 24, 2020

8-10:30pm | Doors open at 7:30pm

\$15 (\$7 Students | Kids free with supervision)

Live Folk Dance Party at Kopachka

ZABAVA International features **Bill Cope** (gajda, bouzouki, tambura, accordion, vocals), **Michele Simon** (vocals, percussion), **Tom Farris** (guitar & tambura), and **Valerie Rose** (violin). One of the most popular bands in the Bay Area, they play energetic, soulful, and rhythmically dazzling music, from Bulgarian, Macedonia, the Romani, Greece, Albania, Armenia, Romania, Quebec and maybe more!

www.kopachkafolkdancers.com

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

SPACIOUS SPRUNG DANCE FLOOR | FREE PARKING

president@kopachkafolkdancers.com or 415-497-4890 (Nadav)



# HERITAGE FESTIVAL

## 2020

Featuring  
**ROO  
LESTER**



*Roo teaches to all levels of ability and is known for her clear, positive teaching style that incorporates styling and techniques in a fun and lighthearted manner.*

New  
Month!

Early Bird  
\$40

Opening Party (\$10)  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 13<sup>th</sup>**

St. Bede's Episcopal Church  
Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park

7:00 to 10:00 pm

*Come share your favorite club dances  
Meet Saturday's Institute Teacher*

BRING  
SNACK TO  
SHARE

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14<sup>th</sup>**

Twin Pines Community Center, Belmont

Institute starts at 2:00 pm (\$25)



**Roo Lester** will be teaching international dances  
including Basque

Dinner Break 5:00-6:30 pm

*Bring your own dinner or order a wrap to enjoy on site (\$15)  
accompanied by **SUSAN WORLAND'S** fabulous fiddle  
playing or go out dinner in town*

Party 7:00- 10:00 pm (\$15)

*Dancing to recorded music from around the world, and Susan  
on the fiddle. (ethnic dress welcome)*

Special Guest  
Fiddler extraordinaire  
**SUSAN  
WORLAND**



**BONUS !!** Come to the Saratoga Folk Dancers' Class on March 12<sup>th</sup> to learn the **HAMBO** with Roo

Pay BEFORE March 12<sup>th</sup> and save! Both Friday AND Saturday for only \$40 (\$55 with supper)

[Heritagefestival20.brownpapertickets.com](http://Heritagefestival20.brownpapertickets.com)

Please visit [folkdance.com](http://folkdance.com) for registration form and maps. Doors open 1/2 hour in advance.

Email dance requests, questions and registration to  
[heritagefolkdance@gmail.com](mailto:heritagefolkdance@gmail.com)

Sponsored by: the Peninsula Folk Dance Council and the Folk Dance Federation of California, North



<b>HERITAGE FESTIVAL 2020 - Advance Registration</b>		<b>#</b>	<b>Each</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>(Both days, save \$10) Friday, March 13</b> (7-10 pm in Menlo Park) <b>AND Saturday March 14</b> (2:00–10:00 pm Belmont)			\$40	
<b>(One day, save \$5) Saturday March 14</b> (2:00–10:00 pm Belmont)			\$35	
Paper syllabus (must be ordered in advance) emailed <b>PDF notes are free</b>			\$2	
<b>Saturday Dinner: LARGE WRAP plus Greek Salad</b> <b>Pre-order by Wednesday March 11th</b>				
_____ Hummus with Eggplant/Zucchini (VEG) _____ Falafel Wrap (VEG)			\$15	
_____ Lamb+Beef Shawarma Wrap _____ Chicken Shawarma Wrap			\$15	
Please register online at <a href="http://heritagefestival20.brownpapertickets.com">heritagefestival20.brownpapertickets.com</a> OR mail this form and payment to: <b>Lesley Bone, 112 Club Dr., San Carlos, CA 94070</b>			<b>TOTAL</b>	
REGISTRATIONS: PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY Questions ? Email <a href="mailto:heritagefolkdance@gmail.com">heritagefolkdance@gmail.com</a>				

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## THERE'S MORE TO ROO LESTER THAN SCANDINAVIAN DANCE

By Ellie Wiener

When we hear the name Roo Lester, we think of a Scandinavian dancer, teacher, researcher and choreographer extraordinaire – and with good reason. Roo has been studying Scandinavian dance since college, when she first saw the Hambo. Fast forward *just a few* years. Roo has taught in most major camps and festivals in the US. She has been a director of Mendocino Scandia camp for the past 23 years. In addition to competing, Roo served as the American coordinator for several dance and music camps in Scandinavia. She published a number of lengthy descriptions of Norwegian dances, including the popular Telespringar. She also wrote a guide to Scandinavian Dance Basics. Today, Roo is recognized by many as the foremost authority of Scandinavian dance in the United States.

Would it surprise you to hear that Roo's folk dance expertise is in no way limited to Scandinavian, and that she actually started as an international folk dance teacher? It all began on a rainy day in a Southern California elementary school when a dance class substituted for the usual PE activity. This single class sparked an interest that eventually led to a Master's in Dance with a focus on Dance Ethnology from UCLA. While living in Southern California, Roo performed with Betyarok Hungarian Dance Ensemble, Westwind, and the UCLA Yugoslav Performing Group. Additionally, she toured the US while dancing with the prestigious AMAN Folk Ensemble. Roo attended the founding meetings of the National Folk Organization (NFO) where she currently serves on the Board of Directors. Her dance life has taken other non-Scandinavian paths as well. She taught folk dance in the LA-area public schools, was a director of Barátság Hungarian Music and Dance camp for five years, and traveled to Basque Country several times, including once for three months to study their traditional dance. (See next month's *Let's Dance!*). In addition to teaching, she has been an organizer, promoter, consultant and choreographer of various forms of folk dance.

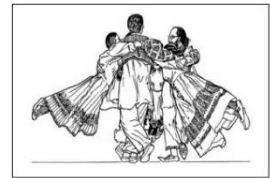
Regardless of what dance style Roo teaches, she creates a student-friendly environment where dancers of all levels feel comfortable. With her clear, positive teaching, she is a master of breaking down movements in such a way that they are accessible to everyone. Her teaching is infused with a great love of dancing and a desire to pass this love on to others. Learning from Roo is a "feel good" activity, that we all have an opportunity to experience at the Heritage Festival in March (see p. 18).



Roo Lester. Photo by L. Tucker.



*Ensemble Balkanske Igre's  
55th Anniversary*



# SPRING FESTIVAL

**March 20-22, 2020**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

balkanske\_igre@yahoo.com

Balkanske Igre, PO Box 1157, Chicago, IL 60690

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

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

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

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

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

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

SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNTS.

Student

/FDCC

Seniors

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

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

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

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

Syllabus \_\_ \$20

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

Dinner Saturday evening \_\_ \$30 Please check if \_\_vegetarian, \_\_vegan, \_\_food allergies:\_\_\_\_\_

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

for a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip/Country\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address\_\_\_\_\_



## Bingeol

(Armenia)

Bingeol (BIHN-guhl) is the name of a village in former West Armenia (now the Anatolia region of Turkey). The village, written Bingöl in Turkish, is located 10 kilometers east of Sivas. The lyrics were written by Avedik Isahakian (1875-1957), a native of the city of Gumri in northern Armenia in the old tradition of troubadours. This rendition of the song is sung by Haig Yazdjian. This dance was choreographed by Tineke Van Geel based on traditional steps. Tineke presented the dance at the 2019 Stockton Folk Dance Camp held at University of the Pacific.

Music: 3/4 Meter CD: *Dance Program 2019 Tineke Van Geel*, Track #2

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

Formation: Mixed line of M and W facing center, hands joined in V-pos.

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Measures	3/4	PATTERN
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INTRODUCTION. No action. Slow vocals. As vocals speed up, listen for 2 sounds (da-da) and begin.

I. RIGHT HEEL STEPS AND STAMP.

- 1 Bounce on L, touching floor with R heel in front of L and leaning upper body to R (ct 1); step R to R (ct 2); step L beside R (ct 3).
- 2-3 Repeat meas 1 twice.
- 4 Step R to R (ct 1); step L behind R (ct 2); step R in front of L (ct 3).
- 5 While bringing arms slowly up to W-pos, step L to L (ct 1); raise R knee so thigh is parallel to the floor (cts 2-3).
- 6 Stamp R beside L and pull bent elbows down (ct 1); stand in place while extending arms up, fwd. and down (cts 2-3).

II. RIGHT HEEL STEPS AND LEFT HEEL STEPS.

- 1-2 Repeat Fig I, meas 1-2.
- 3 Repeat Fig I, meas 4.
- 4 Bounce on R, touching L heel to L (ct 1); step L to L (ct 2); step R beside L (ct 3).
- 5 Repeat meas 4.
- 6 Step L to L (ct 1); step R behind L (ct 2); step L in front of R (ct 3).

III. SLOW SECTION. Music slows dramatically.

- 1 Face R (CCW), bringing L arm behind back, palm out, and connect with person behind, R hand palm down. Step R to R (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
- 2 Touch ball of L ft beside R (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
- 3 Step L bkwd (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).

- 4 Step R bkwd (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
- 5 Step L bkwd (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
- 6 Touch ball of R ft beside L (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
- 7 Small step R to R, in place (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
- 8 Touch ball of L ft beside R (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
- 9 Step L bkwd (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
- 10 Step R bkwd (ct 1); hold (cts 2-3).
- 11 Step L to L (ct 1); raise R knee so thigh is parallel to floor while arms slowly rise to W-pos (cts 2-3).
- 12 Stamp R beside L and pull bent elbows down (ct 1); stand in place while extending arms up, fwd. and down (cts 2-3). (Same as Part I, meas 6.)

Sequence: (Fig I, Fig II) x 3; Fig III. Repeat twice. The Fig I and Fig II through meas 5, then step L to L (ct 1); step R to R (ct 2); step L beside R (ct 3).

## Bingeol Lyrics

The lyrics were written by Avedik Isahakian (1875-1957), native of the city of Gumri in the north of Armenia. Avedik carried on the poetic traditions of the Armenian troubadours, writing of love and sorrow relating to the Armenian Genocide in his poems. He wrote about disillusioned love, love for his mother and his homeland, and sorrow for those who fell heroically for their homeland. In this musical version there has been an adaptation and only the first two verses can be heard. The third and fourth verses are provided below.

Yerp pats yeghan karnan ganach trneruh  
Knar taran aghpyourneruh Bingyoli  
Shahrve sharan antsan zoukvadz oughderuh  
Yars el gnats yailaneri Bingyoli

When the green doors of spring opened  
The springs of Bingeol sang like a lyre  
A caravan of camels went by in pairs  
And carried my true love to the fields of Bingeol

Ankin yaris louys yeresin garod em  
Nazoug mechkin, dzov dzamerin garod em  
Kaghtsr lezvin anoush hodin garod em  
Sev achkerov en yeghnigin Bingyoli

I miss my precious love's bright face  
I miss her small waist, her hair wavy like the ocean  
I miss her sweet words, her sweet smell  
And the dark eyes of a doe of that beauty of Bingeol

Bagh bagh chrer, babag shourtuhs chi patsvi  
Dzoup-dzop dzaghgounk  
Latsogh achkus chi patsvi  
Ter chdesadz yaris, sirdus chi patsvi  
Indz inch, avagh, aghpyourneru Bingyoli

Even for cold waters, my parched lips won't open  
Even with layers of beautiful flowers around me  
My crying eyes won't open  
My heart won't open until I see my true love  
Alas, even the beautiful springs of Bingeol

Molorvatsem, jampanerin dzanot chem  
Pyour li jerin, ked ou karin dzanot chem  
Yes bantoukhd em, es degherin dzanot chem  
Kouyrig asa, vorn e jampan Bingyoli?

I am lost, these roads are foreign to me  
These thousands of lakes, rock, and rivers are foreign to me  
I am adrift; I am not familiar with these paths  
Sister, tell me, which is the road to Bingeol?



# What's Up Down South?

~ News from Southern California ~

## FALL CAMP WAS A SUCCESS!

by Loui Tucker

The weekend of November 15-17 brought happy dancers to Simi Valley for a rejuvenated, remodeled, refurbished, and redesigned Fall Camp. Co-directors Marc and Jan Rayman led a team of dedicated volunteers that presented a fresh look at this long-standing Southern California fall tradition.

Over a year ago, Marc and Jan took over the reins of the event formerly known as Camp Hess Kramer from Beverly and Irwin Barr. The venue that had been used for years was badly damaged in the Woolsey Fire in 2018, so Marc and Jan had to find a new location and also figure out how they were going to put their own spin on this popular dance weekend. They did a great job!

The first significant change was, instead of hiring what some refer to as second-tier teachers to share dances learned at recent dance camps and workshops, the teaching staff consisted of Erica Goldman (Israeli) and Caspar Bik (Black Sea/Balkan). These two master teachers taught a good selection of dances requiring a range of ability and energy levels.

In addition, the Planning Committee built a schedule that included many activities for non-dancing spouses and aging dancers needing alternatives to learning dances and strolling the ample grounds of the facility. These included a poetry corner, a drum circle, a book club, a pot-luck band, hair-wreath making, jigsaw puzzling, a music time machine ("I can name that song in 10 notes!" – but with popular songs in the U.S. 1930-1970 instead of folk dance tunes), a silent auction, and something called Party Hearty. There were also morning walks and

evening star gazing! Truly, you had to work hard to be bored!

Party Hearty had the advantage of being in a small air-conditioned room, so some campers chose it instead of learning new dances in the non-air-conditioned main dance hall. Marc and Jan led participants through some conventional dances that lent themselves to a party, as well as dances that are intrinsically a little silly, plus a few old favorites with a new twist.

One clear advantage over the former location was that, with a separate dining hall, there was no need to allow for time to set up tables

and chairs in the dance space for meals, or move them out of the way again for dancing. The meals, by the way, were delicious and there were ample alternatives for people with special diets.

Attendance was perfect in that the rooms felt full, but the dance floor was never uncomfortably crowded. There was the usual mixture of S. Cal dancers, from Indio and Palm Springs, south to San Diego and Orange County, and north to Ventura and Santa Barbara. Some strategic advertising brought dancers from the San Luis Obispo, the S.F. Bay Area, Canada, and New Mexico, plus a van-load drove down from Las Vegas.

Of course, like most first-time events, there were wrinkles and glitches (a misunderstanding on the schedule; a bit too much dead air between dances at the evening parties), but the Fall Camp planning committee will be reviewing comments by the participants (via an email provided after Camp) to see what can be done to iron out the wrinkles and fix the glitches for next year. And there will be a camp next year – **December 4-6, 2020** – so mark your calendar and plan to attend.

Congratulations to Marc and Jan and their team for a job well done. Take a bow!



Caspar Bik and Marc Rayman dancing Bhangra at Fall Camp. Photo by L. Tucker.



Dancing at Fall Camp. Photo by L. Tucker.



# 50TH ANNIVERSARY LAGUNA FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL

MARCH 6-8, 2020

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DANCES



**MIAMON MILLER  
AND BAND.**



**DETAILED PROGRAM  
AND REGISTRATION  
NEXT PAGE**

**[WWW.LAGUNAINTERNATIONALDANCERS.COM](http://WWW.LAGUNAINTERNATIONALDANCERS.COM)**



# LAGUNA FESTIVAL MARCH 6-8 REGISTRATION FORM

NAME

EMAIL

PHONE

ADDRESS

## EVENTS

<b>PASSPORT</b> (gives entrance to ALL events)	<b>IF ORDERED BEFORE 2/20/2020</b>	<b>\$100</b>
	(Passport if ordered after 2/20, or at the door)	<b>\$120</b>
or tickets to <b>INDIVIDUAL EVENTS</b>	(same price whether ordered beforehand or bought at the door)	
<b>FRIDAY EVENING</b>	LIVE MUSIC and some teaching 7:15pm-11:45pm	<b>\$25</b>
<b>SATURDAY WORKSHOP</b>	Teaching 9:00am-12:00pm & 1:10pm-5:00pm	<b>\$45</b>
<b>SATURDAY DANCE PARTY</b>	5:15pm-11:45pm Happy Hour, dinner and party. (order dinner below.)	<b>\$30</b>
<b>SUNDAY ALL DAY</b>	9:45am-4:30pm dance reviews, concert 1:00-2:00 pm, and dancing.	<b>\$30</b>

## CATERED MEALS

**All meals must be ordered in addition to Passport or individual event tickets. Meals must be ordered before 2/29.**

<b>SATURDAY LUNCH</b>	RUSSIAN SALAD, BEEF MEATBALLS, PARSLIED POTATOES, ROLLS, LEMON SQUARES, BROWNIES, RASPBERRY BARS.	<b>\$14</b>
<b>SATURDAY DINNER</b>	GREEK SALAD, MOUSSAKA, GREEK WHITE FISH, VEGGIES, ROLLS. LEMON MERINGUE PIE, AND CHOICE OF RED WINE, WHITE WINE OR NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE	<b>\$18</b>
<b>SUNDAY LUNCH</b>	VEGETABLE FRITTATA, FRESH FRUIT PLATTER, GREEN SALAD. POTATO KUGEL, CROISSANTS, APPLE COFFEE CAKE	<b>\$13</b>

**TOTAL \$**

Check payable to:

**LAGUNA INTERNATIONAL DANCERS**

Mail check and Registration Form to:

**5483 C PASEO DEL LAGO W  
LAGUNA WOODS CA 92637**

**OR** Register and pay **online** at: [www.LagunaInternationalDancers.com](http://www.LagunaInternationalDancers.com)

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# 2020 SAN FRANCISCO TAM FEST

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www.tsponoc.com. They are today's virtuostic, new generation of musicians and vocalists. Members: Peter Kosovec, John Huckle, Mark Stafura, Ben Wagner, Nikola Vranesovic. They have all performed for Duquesne University's famous Tammies. Peter Kosovec is a well known songwriter with numerous cds to his credit.

**Feb 16th-12PM-8PM | Concert • Kolos • Sing-a-Long**



MUSIC



PERFORMANCE



FOOD



WORK SHOP

Celebrate Valentine's weekend with us. Come enjoy the music, dancing and food at the San Francisco Tamburitza festival on **February 16**. The headlining band will be **Tamburaški Sastav Ponoć (Midnight)** from Pittsburg.



**Bike to festival  
from Balboa BART!**

Advance tickets available  
at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com)



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Our cultural programs are funded in part by the California Arts Council, National Endowment for the Arts, SF Grants for the Arts, SF Arts Commission, Walter & Flora Hewlett Foundation, Zellerbach Family Fund, W.A. Gelbode Foundation and the Walter & Elise Haas Foundation.



# 2020 NFO CONFERENCE

PRESENTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE

## 50<sup>th</sup> Laguna Folk Dance Festival



### FEATURING KEYNOTE

**Janet Reineck**

World Dance For Humanity

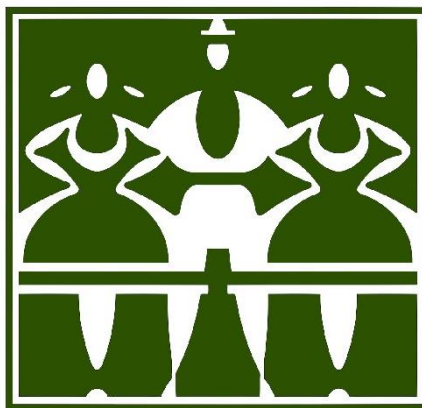
### PRESENTERS

**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**

**#nfoconf2020**

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OF CALIFORNIA, INC.  
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