Bučimiš
(Bulgaria)

Bučimiš (boo-chee-MEEESH). Learned by Dennis Boxell in Bulgaria and presented by him at the 1967 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp. There are many possible patterns to this dance; the description given below is based on the way the dance is done in the Peninsula Folk Dance Council area of California using the DU-TAM 1004-A record. Other patterns have been described by Dick Crum and Bruce Mitchell.

This dance is from the Shope Region in Western Bulgaria. The dancers in this region are known for their light-footed, small and intricate footwork. The upper part of the body often trembles and moves in sympathy with the steps of the dancers who punctuate their dancing with frequent shouts and cries.

RECORD: DU-TAM 1004-A, Duquesne University Tamburitzans (45 rpm); DU-TAM 3001, Duquesne University Tamburitzans Treasury of Dance (LP 33 rpm); Folkcraft LP 26; Folk Dances of Bulgaria, Vol 1 VIT001, (33 rpm); JAAPE LEEMWATER - VOL 1 (Balkanton EPA 10441); NAMA #1 - NAMA ORCHESTRA - Balkan Folk Dances. 15/16 meter

RHYTHM: 15/16 counted 1-2-3-4-5-6-7. Count 5 has the value of 3/16 while the other counts each have the value of 2/16. Can be cued: q-q-q-q-S-q-q.

FORMATION: Mixed lines of 5 to 8 dancers using a belt hold, grasping neighbors' belts with L arm over and R arm under. Dancers on ends tuck free thumbs into own belts. All face ctr.

STEPS: Bounce*, chug*, jump*, leap*, lift*, step*. Čukće (CHOK-cheh): Raise heel of supporting ft prior to the beat, lower heel to floor on the beat. Tap heel: touch heel briskly and firmly to floor, no wt, with knee straight. Reverse bicycle movement with L ft: Raise L knee fwd, up, slightly bkwd (twd body) and down. Ft describes a bkwd rotation.

*M*Described in Steps and Styling, published by the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.
IV. PETA I PETA (PAY-tah ee PAY-tah, meaning heel and heel)
1  Repeat Fig II, meas 1, cts 1-5; tap L heel to L diag (ct 6); tap L heel twd ctr (ct 7).
2  Repeat meas 1, reversing direction and ftwk.
3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

V. HAIDE (HIGH-deh, meaning let's go) -- NOTE: HAIDE moves only to R.
1  Repeat Fig IV, meas 1.
2  Step on L to L (ct 1); tap R heel to R diag (ct 2); tap R heel twd ctr (ct 3); hold (ct 4); jump on both ft landing with R across in front of L (ct 5); jump on both ft landing with both ft open, parallel and about 12 inches apart (ct 6); jump on both ft, landing with ft closed and parallel (ct 7).
3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.
5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

VI. NOVO (NO-voh, meaning new)
1  Step on R to R (ct 1); step on L across behind R to R (ct 2); step on R to R (ct 3); step on L across behind R to R flexing knee slightly (ct 4); tap R heel to R diag (ct 5); tap R heel twd ctr (ct 6); hold (ct 7).
2  Leap onto R beside L (ct 1); stamp L (no wt) beside but slightly ahead of R (ct 2); leap onto L beside R (ct 3); stamp R (no wt) beside but slightly ahead of L (ct 4); leap onto R beside L flexing knee slightly (ct 5); tap L heel to L diag (ct 6); tap L heel twd ctr (ct 7).
3-4 Repeat meas 1-2, reversing direction and ftwk.
5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

VII. PLETT (PLAY-tee, meaning braid)
1  Lift on L (ct 1); step directly back on R (ct 2); lift on R (ct 3); step directly back on L (ct 4); chug back on both feet (ct 5); chug fwd on L simultaneously raising R directly fwd (ct 6); tap R heel twd ctr fwd (no wt) (ct 7).
2  Do 4 running steps in place R,L,R,L (cts 1-4); tap R heel twd ctr (ct 5); step on R fwd (ct 6); tap L heel twd ctr fwd (no wt) (ct 7).
3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 using opp ftwk.
5-6 Repeat meas 1-2.
7  Repeat meas 3.
8  Repeat meas 4, cts 1-6. To finish dance, slap R ft fwd, holding ft on ground with R leg straight (ct 7).

DANCE SEQUENCE The dance as described above is done once through to the DU-TAM 1004-A recording. With other recordings the leader may determine the sequence and number of repeats of each Fig.