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MESSAGE TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS!

We, your new staff, greet you with a belated New Year's Wish of Increasing Joy in the ever-growing happy fellowship of good dancing, both in your individual clubs and the all around get together of our monthly festivals.

With this, our first copy, we hope to strike a keynote of the future in creating for you an added interest in and enjoyment of, one another's individual club aims and activities. We hope that every member of every club in the Federation will share from time to time a place in the news items of your paper, and come to feel more and more as time goes on, that his or her active participation is essential to the individual club as well as to the Federation.

The post war period may, if we have the vision, bring us into a national field of folk dancing, as a leader in the rehabilitation of our national needs. Folk dancing may be enjoyed by all, whether they be returned from the armed forces, or recovering from the pressures of the home front. The more that we share the spontaneous gaiety of folk dancing, the more shall we grow in its appreciation and enjoyment.

This then is the overall picture. Within that picture we ask for the understanding and cooperation of all our many members, in order that we may achieve the success that our combined efforts will assure. Let us have your ideas, your suggestions, your constructive criticisms. THIS IS YOUR PAPER: make it a part of you, by being a part of it. You may help by seeing that your club elects a club reporter, whose duty will be to see that news of your club reaches the editor each month no later than the fifteenth, deadline date for the following month's publication. Will you see that your club reporter notifies the editor of his or her name and address for the list which is being assembled. We suggest that you give your reporter a chance to receive instructions from you at your club meetings, to help get the news of your club in by DEADLINE DATE, THE FIFTEENTH OF EACH MONTH.

Help us to help you. If the news does not reach us, we cannot print it. If you want a paper, and the subscriptions pouring in indicate that you do, let's get together and make it a good one.

SPECIAL THANKS TO ROY ZELICK, YOUR JANUARY EDITOR

We are most grateful to Mr. Roy Zelick of the Palo Alto, "Palomaniacs," for getting our January Copy of "Let's Dance." We think he did a very fine job, taking over without warning and bringing out such a complete issue. It is gratifying that we have members in our midst who can help out in such emergencies. The thanks of the entire Federation goes to him for this service so well rendered.

JANUARY FESTIVAL OF BURLINGAME

A very gay and delightful festival was celebrated at the Burlingame High School, Burlingame, on Sunday, January 14, under the direction of Miss Shirley Smith of the Burlingame Recreation Department. Everyone had a "bang-up" good time and we will look forward to the pleasure of having this group as hosts to the Federation again in the future. Our thanks to all who made the day a success. The exhibitions were especially fine and enjoyed by everyone.

FEBRUARY FESTIVAL

The YMCA Gate-Swingers will be host group for the February Festival on Saturday evening, February 17. More details from the Y. Gate-Swingers to follow. Everybody plan ahead for a grand time.

MARCH FESTIVAL

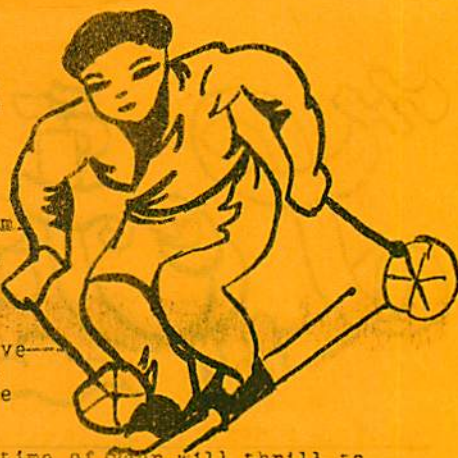
The March Festival will be held by the Marin Dancers on Sunday, March 11, at the Albany High School - 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. Notices from the Marin Folk Dancers later.

RELATED ARTS AND AMUSEMENTS

(It will be our policy to present each month some article on related arts or amusements. The first of these articles has been submitted by our President, Miss Clarice Dechent. Editor.)

SKIING, A KINDRED SPORT

By Clarice "Slope-Dope" Dechent



Skiing and folk dancing go together as much as pie and ice-cream. In pre-war days, the European folk of colder climes who indulged in the art of skiing (And boy, is it an art!) frequently finished their days of open air activity with equally active hours of gay dancing. In America, too, the schottische, polka, hambos, and other dances are a part of ski-holiday programs. The juke boxes of many Sierra snow resorts in California have folk records among their collection of jive and these are often the most popular. Many articles of ski clothing are decorated with folk dance figures, and nearly all the lodges have folk dance figures for decorations.

Any of you who are fortunate enough to have your vacation this time of year will thrill to the added pleasure of the beauty of the Sierra's in their winter attire. The shining, crystal-line white of the snow carpet contrasting with the clear blue of the sky, and the rich, deep, green of the trees, awaits the skier in perfect silence. The only sound to break the stillness being an occasional evergreen branch releasing its heavy burden of snow, falling with a thud beneath, and the swish of the skis slipping over the snow.

Any one skiing in the vicinity of Norden would find an added pleasure in visiting the cordial, friendly, Sierra Club, a Federation member. One will always find a spirited group of Folk Dancers there, under the leadership of Haven "Jorgy" Jorgensen "poika-ing" good fellow-ing at the lodge. Put on your skis and drop in after dinner.

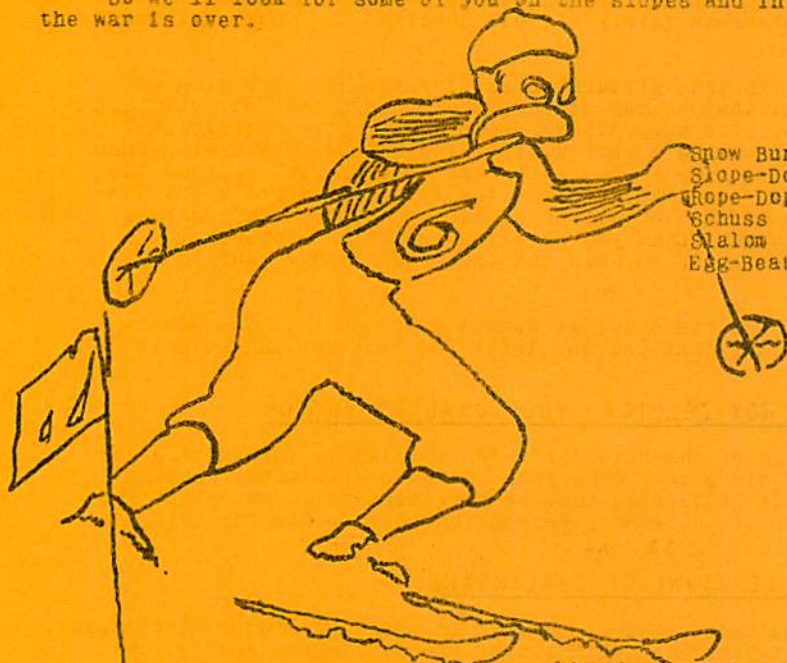
Mind you! Because you can execute a perfect "Kozotski" doesn't mean you can go out the first time on skis and "Schuss" down the steepest slope without taking an "egg-beater." Conversely, because you can "slalom" the most precise run doesn't mean that you are immune to "Vengerka leg". But both sports are fun. Regardless of how little or how much you know about them, you can still have a wonderful time doing both. For those of you familiar only with dancing -- you have something great to look forward to as you are introduced to skiing.

So we'll look for some of you on the slopes and in the lodges now -- and more of you when the war is over.

Ho for more folk dancing!
Ski hell!

(For those unfamiliar with skiing terms, we submit the following:)

Snow Bunny --- A Beginner
Slope-Dope --- Developed from a snow bunny.
Slope-Dope --- More advanced
Schuss --- Straight run down hill
Slalom --- Weaving in and out of trees
Egg-Beater --- Falling at bottom, tangled skis



COUNCIL MEETING

The officers and representatives of the Folk Dance Federation of California held their regular Council Meeting before the January Festival. Among special items of interest were the following: An application of the San Carlos-Belmont Country Folk Dancers to join the Federation was received, and this new club was voted into membership. The club consists of about a hundred members from San Carlos, Belmont, Redwood City, San Jose, Palo Alto, San Mateo, Burlingame and San Francisco. The Federation is very happy to welcome them as a member group.

A letter of interest to all was received from Mrs. Nellie McCay suggesting a West Coast National Festival after the war.

A letter from Mrs. Michael Herman of New York stated that California was now their second largest subscriber to the "Folk Dancer," published by the Community Folk Dance Center of Flushing L.I., N.Y. We wish them every success.

Walter Grothe was appointed Federation Chairman for future demonstrations. He is now arranging a current demonstration to be given in the Museum by members of the Festival Workshop, Chng's International Folk Dancers and Berkeley Folk Dancers on February 22, March 2, and 9th.

PETALUMA INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING CLUB

A recent new member of the Federation is the Petaluma International Folk Dancing Club. Mrs. Gladys R. Wallin, their Secy-Treas, writes that they are a small group, busy learning the federation dances. We will look forward to the time when we may come to know them better.

YOUR CLUB AND MINE

GARFIELD FOLK DANCERS

On Thursday, January 11, 1945 at the Codornices Club House the Garfield Folk Dancers elected their officers to serve for the next six months. Here are the results:

Bob Mortimer, President Helen Hanson, Secretary
Ed Hanson, Vice-president Lotte Mohr, Treasurer
Roselle Carrington, Publicity Chairman

Helen Hanson, Secretary and Roselle Carrington, Publicity Chairman and Reporter to "Let's Dance," will act as representatives to the Federation Council.

The Garfield Folk Dancers are looking forward to continued growth under the leadership of their new officers.

GOLDEN GATE FOLK DANCERS

Beginning January 1, 1945, the Golden Gate Folk Dancers started to meet at 1441 Franklin St., Oakland, to continue their Sunday night dances. They recently moved from Vasa Hall in Berkeley. Members from other clubs and the General public are welcome.

On December 16, 1944, the Golden Gate Folk Dancers presented a program for the USO sponsored by the YMCA. The audience warmly received the dances, among which were the Triple Schottische, Tarantella, and Fado Blanquita. Betty Flurshutz, Irwin Berliner, Mary Clements, Ellen Hunter, Paul O'Brien, Kent Yarnell, and others, exhibited under the direction of Ellen Hunter, teacher for the group.

OAKLAND FOLK DANCERS

At a recent reorganization meeting of the Oakland Folk Dancers the following officers were elected:

Harold Pearson, President George Huffman, Treasurer
Fred Johnson, Vice-president Ruth Beck, Dance Chairman
Virginia Mattesson, Secretary

A general invitation has been given to all Federation members to attend a Valentine Party on Wednesday, February 14, 1945, at 7:45 p.m. at Park Blvd. Club House, located at Park Blvd. and Newton Street. A small fee of \$.25 will be charged each person in order to enlarge the record library. A gala evening is planned, and all are urged to attend.

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS

Headed by David Boyce, President of the Berkeley Folk Dancers, Berkeley is looking forward to their fourth year of successful and happy dancing. At this time Berkeley wishes to express their deep appreciation to everyone for their splendid cooperation in helping to make the December Festival the success it was reported to be. Thanks, folks, we like you!

Two Christmas parties were held by the Berkeley Folk Dancers. "Mistletoe" and "Bingo" were enjoyed by all. If you haven't played Bingo, you haven't lived!

Ruth Ruby is busy as usual as she will edit the Berkeley Folk Dance Bulletin for 1945 and will also act as one of the Berkeley representatives to the Federation Council.

SAN FRANCISCO STATE COLLEGE

The San Francisco State College group (closed group) offers a folk and square dancing class that meets twice a week at 3:00 p.m.

Recently the San Francisco State College group were hosts for Bay Area High Schools in a high school play day. Clydagh Enos led the group in an opening dance, the Badger Gavotte, followed by simple squares. Eight girls from the Folk and Square Dancing Class exhibited the dances before one hundred guests. All agreed the playday was a huge success.

Miss Enos is one of the college's representatives to the Federation Council.

FUN CLUB FOLK DANCERS

The important news here is that Amy and Hal Simpson became the parents of a baby girl in October. (We welcome the new folk dancer).

SAN JOSE PEASANT DANCERS

Tom and Frances Mansfield (former member of Chang's) now members of the San Jose Peasant Dancers welcomed a new addition to their family recently. Congratulations. (When you walk the floor at night we suggest that you soothe the baby with a waltz.)

CASTLE PROMENADERS

On January 12, 1945 an election was held to fill newly created offices and vacancies on the club's executive board. The officers elected are:

Peter Pilotti, Vice president Shirley Case, Secretary
Harold Pearson, Program Chairman Georgia Huffman, Publicity Chairman

(The regular yearly election of officers will take place in June).
The office of secretary has been well served up to this time by Ruby Biel whose increased responsibilities with the Federation have made it necessary for her to resign. We hope to keep Ruby, however, as an active member of the group.

The members of the Castle Promenaders feel deeply the loss of one of their charter members, Henri Ben Biel, who passed away December 2, 1944.

CASTLE PROMENADERS (Continued)

The first Saturday night of each month still finds the Promenaders having a grand time at Durant Park (98th Avenue and Mountain Blvd.). In a setting reminiscent of the old village barn the Castlewont group spends a delightful evening with its members and guests. The group offers an open invitation to all folk dancers to share their good times.

REDWOOD CITY DOCEY DOE CLUB

Redwood City Docey Doe Club ended a most enjoyable 1944 with a "bang-up" party Dec. 30. The spirit of the evening was enhanced by the cowboy orchestra led

by Jack Adams, who also assisted our Mildred "Teach" Buhler in calling squares. During the evening a program was presented with Mrs. Carmen Tyson, as M.C. Several of the talented members participated in the floor show that followed. Mr. William Dobbyn gave several piano solos, Mrs. Roy Cloud, Jr. sang comic songs. And then it happened --- the cowboy tunes died away and sweet strains of old Hawaii sifted through the hall. Lo and behold, "Hilo Hatti" (Mr. H.M. Scales) and "Filo Fatti" (Mr. Paul T. Fisher) grass skirts n'all, presented their interpretation of the Hula. Tch. tch. The floor show came to a riotous conclusion with Mrs. Cloud singing "Sleepy Time Gal," while Scales and Fisher, having changed to pink and blue nightgowns, did a pantomime in the background. Midnight supper amidst confetti and red berries ended our holiday dance. The Redwood City Docey Doe Club wish our friends in the Federation the best in the New Year. We'll be seeing you.

STANFORD FOLK DANCERS

The Stanford Folk Dancers held an open house for the whole campus on January 1st. There were about 25 couples present, including many solo Alto dancers. The Hoedowners gave an exhibition of square dancing.

The Stanford Folk Dancers will sponsor a Ranch Rumpus on February 16, in the Women's Gym on the campus from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. Elementary dances will be taught, with advanced dances being exhibited by the Stanford Folk Dancers and the Hoedowners. Federation members who would like to attend the "Rumpus" are welcome.

U.C. FOLK AND SQUARE DANCERS

On December 30, the demonstration group of the U.C. Folk and Square Dance group added to the fun and color of a formal New Year's dance at the Hillside Club in Berkeley, by demonstrating a square and Kentucky running set, in costume. The group also taught several squares to those present, later joining the dance for an evening of fun and festivity.

On January 3 they took part in an assembly at George Washington High School in San Francisco. They exhibited a square, Kentucky running set, Hambo, Scandinavian Polka, and several other folk dances for the purpose of promoting interest and enthusiasm for square and folk dancing.

January 12 found the group demonstrating and teaching some folk dances for the Co-Rec., night on the Berkeley campus, even after they had tied themselves into knots a few nights before doing the Italian Quadrille!

Kate Jurjevich of the U.C. Folk and Square Dancers was appointed as club reporter for "Let's Dance." (O.K., Kate)

FESTIVAL WORKSHOP

Madelynn Greene announced the opening of her new dance studio February 1, 1945, at 451 Kearney Street, near California.



The large studio will be equipped with sewing machine, costume patterns, costume storage space, a costume library of geographics, and books on costume design for those pupils interested in costume making.

Classes in modern dance as well as folk dancing are being formed. The Festival Workshop will meet there on Monday evenings.

Madelynn plans to begin a new class on Wednesday nights of general folk dancing. New dances will be taught and our old dances gone over for improving dance technique. Miss Greene plans to invite teachers from our various groups to teach some of their dances so we'll all be better informed on dances at our festivals.

If you are interested, contact Madelynn for particulars or enrollment, as the class will probably be limited to size, depending upon the response. Those enrolling first will be given first consideration. Telephone SUTter 8155.

Those of you who did not get your articles in this month be sure to send in a copy for next month. We wish to thank all those clubs who have cooperated so nicely with us this month in getting "Your Club and Mine," under way. We hope you will enjoy being a part of this portion of "Let's Dance". Remember deadline date is the fifteenth of each and every month. Don't forget to send in copy. Thank you!



UNCLE SAM'S MAIL BAG

This is a new column for "Let's Dance." We are all interested in hearing from our men in the service and they are interested in hearing from us, so this column will be dedicated to keeping contact with our many friends away from their homes.

Lee S. Owens, former leader of the "Palomaniacs," sends greetings to his many friends in the Federation from an L.S.M. boat somewhere in the South Pacific! Lee would like to hear from his many folk dance friends, so write him at the following address:

Lee S. Owens, G.M. I/c U.S.N.R.

U.S.S. L.S.M. 173 d/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco, California

Lee, in a recent letter, states he is pleased to see more squares being done and emphasizes the need for developing more callers for squares. Incidentally, Lee and Virginia Owens became the parents of a fine son, Michael Lee Owens, last July 20.

Remember Herb Greggerson of the Texas Blue Bonnets who called such grand squares for Federation clubs during his short stay here? Herb, no doubt, is calling squares for natives on some South Sea Island. The California Schottische, which is fast becoming one of our most popular dances, was introduced by Herb. He would like to hear from his California friends. Address: H.F. Greggerson, M.A.M. 3/c, A3 #79 Isl. Comdr, Navy No. 926 d/o Fleet Post Office, San Francisco.

We have also heard from Carl P. Jensen, Lt. Comdr., MC, USNR, K (formerly on USS Relief) who states he was very happy to receive a subscription to "Let's Dance." Comdr Jensen was active with the Vallejo Folk Dancers while on duty at Mare Island. Comdr Jensen may be reached at the Naval Hospital, Long Beach, California.

A former member of the Stanford group writes from Harvard University he is doing a lot of folk dancing in Boston. He comments they seem to be well organized and dancing is much more widespread there than on the coast. Dances have many interesting variations, but not so many costumes are worn. The name: Ens. J. Jack Heckelman, USNR, Winthrop House, Gore Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge 38, Mass.

S/Sgt. Louis Strassler, a former Palomaniac member, sent Christmas Greetings from the Philippines. He is looking forward to rejoining his many folk dance friends in a fast square and a furious Hopak. Address him as follows: S/Sgt. Louis Strassler, Div. HQ 11th A/B Div., A.P.O. 488, d/o Post Master, San Francisco, Calif.

While Earl C. Campini no longer yodels with the Alpiners Ski Club he is, nevertheless, interested in the many activities of the folk dancers on the home front. He is now bivouaced in Richmond, Virginia, and his complete address is: Earl C. Campini, F. I/c 888-44-13, Batt. 4H-A, N.T.S. (Diesel), Richmond 19, Virginia.

(Ed. Note: Let us know, Federation members, when you hear from one of our folk dancers now in the service. Be sure and furnish us with addresses so that we may let their many friends know where they may be reached.)

Servicemen and Servicewomen — how about some chatter from the chow line?

Address all communications to:

Address all subscriptions to:

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Mr. Henry "Buzz" Glass	Asst Editor
Miss Lucille Czarnowski	Research
Mrs. Octavia Carleton	Art Editor



List of DANCE DESCRIPTION SHEETS Prepared by
The Research Committee, Folk Dance Federation of California
During the year 1944

Introductory Material

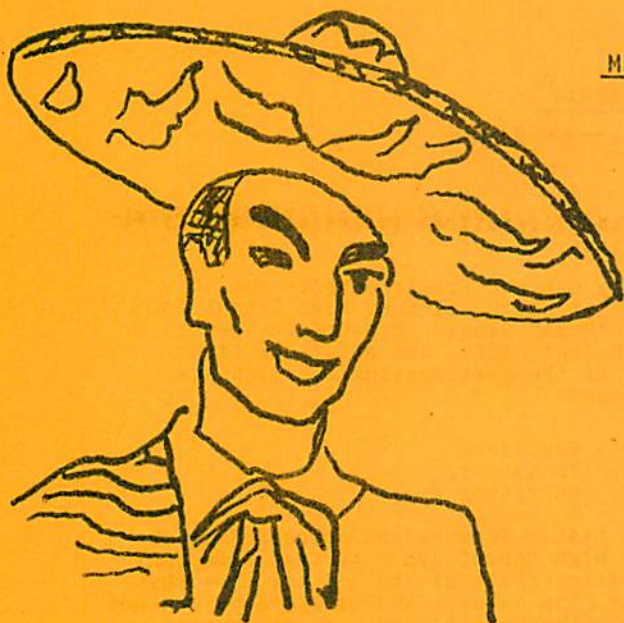
Temporary paging	Item	Date of Issue	Reprod. Process
i	Fundamental Forms of Locomotion		Mimeo.
ii	" " " "		"
iii	Folk Dance Steps		"
iv	" " "		"
v	" " "	July, 1944	Offset
vi	" " "	" "	"
vii	Dance Positions	Sept, "	"
viii	Square Dance Figures	" "	"
ix	Reference List for American Square Dances	Oct, "	"
x	" " " " " "	" "	"

Dance Patterns

Temporary paging	Item	Date of Issue	Reprod. Process
1 - 4	Schottische, Swedish & Fancy		Mimeo.
5	Bleking		"
6	(Blank)		"
7 - 8	Little Man in a Fix		"
9 - 10	Crested Hen		"
11	Dashing White Sergeant	April, 1944	Offset
12	Highland Schottische	" "	"
13	Tsigonochka	May "	"
14	Ladies Whim	" "	"
15 - 17	Tarantella	June, "	"
18	Troika	" "	"
19 - 20	Korobushka	July, "	"
21 - 22	Russian Polka	Aug, "	"
23	Sicilian Circle	" "	"
24	Fireman's Dance	" "	"
25 - 26	Kohanochka	Sept, "	"
27	Alexandrovska	Oct, "	"
28	Pas d'Espan	" "	"
29 - 30	Tantoli	Nov, "	"
31	Danish Schottische	" "	"

MEXICO

By Grace Perryman



Our colorful next-door neighbor has several national costumes. The best known of course is the Charro costume of tight-fitting trousers and short jacket heavily braided and embroidered, topped with the characteristic huge felt sombrero embroidered in gold and silver. The Charro is primarily a horseman and his costume usually harmonizes with his elaborate mount, a carved leather saddle chased with gold and silver.

The woman's dress comparable to the Charro's, and probably as well-known, is the China Poblana costume. The skirt is long and full of red flannel with a black design on it and covered with many sequins to form a sparkling pattern. With this is worn a white blouse with a brightly embroidered or beaded square yoke and a fine rebozo (which is described below) worn over the shoulders, usually crossed in back and the ends pulled under itself at the waist in front. Earrings, bracelets, beads, and ribbons and flowers in the hair complete the costume.

The peon's costume, however, is just as purely Mexican and as characteristic. The Peon's wife wears an ankle-length full cotton skirt over several petticoats. Tucked into the skirt is a low-necked collarless blouse gathered full at the neck and short-sleeved. These may be in any gay color or combinations of colors. The blouse is usually white with lace ribbons and colored bands used as gay trimmings. It is completed with a bright sash or belt. Her hair is usually in two long braided pigtails. Her head is covered with a rebozo which is a long narrow shawl usually in navy blue, purple, or black, but interesting and arresting because Mexican women know how to drape them so gracefully over head and shoulders.

The peon wears a pajama-like suit of cotton. The shirt is usually collarless and can be worn either tucked in or the short-tails pulled tightly about the waist and tied in a large flat bow or knot in front. The shirt may be in a gay shade--brilliant purple, red, pink, yellow, or any gay shade. The trousers are worn long and loose or may be rolled up as high as the knee and fastened tightly about the leg. Sometimes a gay sash is wound about the waist. Every peon has his protection against weather. It is a woven blanket beautifully designed and worn by putting the head through a slit in the center. The sombrero may be embroidered with bright colored string or simply plain, but always large--so broad-brimmed that it keeps off the sun and rain and carries articles while being worn. The men almost never go bareheaded. There is one gesture however, as gracious as any in the world, that is most impressive. Even though the peon may be dirty and ragged, yet when he takes off his broad-brimmed hat and makes a low bow, he makes you feel that in heart he is a gallant courtier, a real gentleman, rich in manners if poor in money.



CASTLE PROMENADERS

By Frances Glass

While our club is one of the youngest clubs in the Federation, and we have not as yet celebrated our first birthday, we do have a short history.

On January 28, 1944, under the sponsorship of the Oakland Public Schools and the Oakland Recreation Department, forty persons gathered at the Castlemont High School for the first dance session under the direction of Henry "Buzz" Glass. Most of the people attending that evening had never done a folk dance in their life, but after the first meeting were so enthusiastic about folk dancing that at the next meeting the club was officially formed and the name Castle Promenaders chosen.

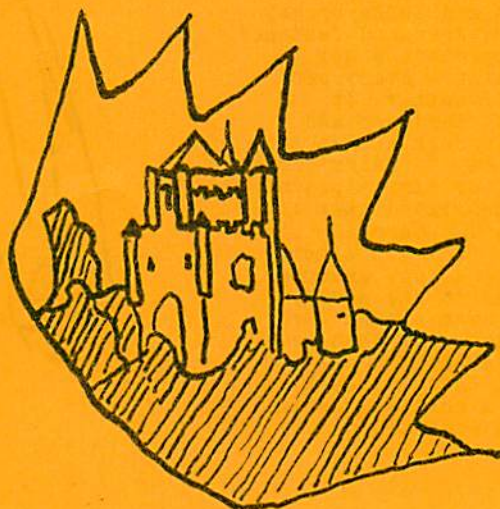
Mr. Clyde Evans, President
Mrs. Peg Evans, Treasurer
Mrs. Ruby Biel, Secretary

After being organized only two short months the Castle Promenaders sponsored their first Federation Festival in April in the Castlemont High School gym. At that time many of the Castle Promenaders had never attended a Federation Festival and did not know what to expect, so were quite thrilled to see the costumes, the dances, and to learn more about the Federation. Since that time they have been very enthusiastic about all Federation activities and have taken an active part in the Federation.

During the ten months that have elapsed our club has continued to meet the second and fourth Friday of every month at Castlemont. "Buzz" has taught the members all but two or three of the Federation repertoire, plus a number of the new dances that have been introduced at the festivals.

The club has now grown to the point where we have a beginners' section and an advanced section. On our dance nights from 7:30 to 8:00 pm, one of the advanced members teaches the fundamental steps used in most of the dances. From 8:00 to 10:00 the club has a social time, during which "Buzz" introduces new dances for all. The advanced section meets on the same evening from 10:00 to 11:00 pm. This is purely a work period where new and advanced dances are learned. At the present time the group is working on an advanced version of La Chiapaneca, and in the near future will learn two more versions of this dance. Also in the offing are the La Vera and a Mazure. "Buzz" hopes to introduce many more advanced dances not now done by any of the Federation groups.

Recently the club purchased a loud speaker system complete with phonograph and mike. A "just for fun" dancing party is sponsored by the club on the first Saturday of every month at Durant Park. After a full evening of dancing, refreshments are served before the fireplace. Community singing and more dancing usually finishes the evening. We have had guests from many other clubs and we welcome them to join us at any of our parties. You are also welcome on dance nights as well.



BERKELEY CLICKS AGAIN

The B. F. D. are giving something new and different in the way of festivals. It will be given on Sunday, December 10th, from 3:00 pm until late the same night. It will be at the GERMAN PIONEER HOUSE at 52 Home Place East, Oakland. Go out Mac Arthur to Alma Avenue (one block west of Park Boulevard and Oakland Highl, and turn south two blocks to Home Place East, then left to Number 52.

There will be plenty of ice cold beer and maybe a few sandwiches too during the afternoon. Then a buffet supper between six and seven for fifty cents. Entertainment between seven and eight. Then dancing way off into the night.

The atmosphere will be Christmasy of course!

SUBSCRIBERS PLEASE NOTE

This month, two issues of LET'S DANCE are being combined into one. This is to adapt our publishing to the litho technique and get out our paper the very first part of the month. Last month four dances were sent out which might have been a great deal clearer. Therefore the same dances will be sent out this month. The publishing staff wishes to assuage you if you feel you didn't get quite as much as you should; It will be made up sometime during the ensuing year.

Thank you,

Your dear Publishing Staff

BERKELEY FOLK DANCE CONFERENCE

"To share your experiences, your fun and disappointments with fellow dancers; in turn to learn from their experiences; to dance; to improve skills and techniques in the use of folk-dancing as a means of serving people; to know the rich fellowship that results from folk-dancing"--all this is offered by this Conference of the Berkeley Folk Dancers.

With that as a greeting, Chairman DAVID BOYCE officially opened the conference of the Berkeley Folk Dancers.

First such venture in the west, the Conference proved to be an amazing hit--successful from the stand-points of both technical enlightenment and downright good fun. From the opening address at 1:30 'til the final waltz at 9:15, there was never a sign of lag.

We were a little disappointed that so many of our own Berkeley members had to miss the festivities, but were very pleased at the response of other Federation Clubs in sending representatives. There were present during the day some 75 BFD'S and 28 guests.

Well--here's what you missed--you who couldn't come; After being greeted at the door by ANN MIKESELL, registered and name-tagged, we got off to a bang-up start with CHERYL KLEINHAMMER leading community singing. This was followed immediately by LUCILLE CZARNOWSKI, associate supervisor of PE at UC, in an address on European folk-dancing--its origin and resistance to the onslaught of modern civilization.

Interest sections next, with MARJORIE ARONOVICI of Stagecraft Studios letting us in on a few of her trade secrets of costume-making, while JIMMIE KLEIN coached the fellows in the art of Square calling.

Then all together again for a group discussion of "Objectives and Standards of Folk Dancers" under the direction of THURSTON CARLETON.

This was followed by more interest sections, during which time RUTH RUBY gave us her approach to the job of teaching, while CONNIE MONCHARSH covered the problem of dance techniques, complete with demonstrations (Oh, brother). And in another part of the Park, CHARLES SMITH and MARY McCAUGHNA were leading discussions on recordings and music. Finally the group on folk art and handicraft met to hear OCTAVIE CARLETON speak on crafts dear to the folk-dancer and to inspect samples of peasant handwork and native dance instruments. Meanwhile, GEORGE MONCHARSH was holding his own on the subject of floor-chairmanship.



And if we hadn't already been raving about Berkeley's Conference--came the food! Following supper, CLARE MELBIN played the piano while C.K. again led in a few songs. Highlight of the evening was a talk given by MADELYNNE GREENE about her recent trip East, on the folk-dance groups she visited, and on comparisons of Eastern and Bay Area techniques, routines and spirit.

And then JON BITTMAN took over--which means assurance of a swell time. It was a fun-session--dancing, stunts, door prizes, and the like 'til closing, which came too soon.

From the November, 1944,
issue of "Berkeley Folk Dancers."

CLUB NEWS

Did ya know.....that the GATESWINGERS get letters from all over the globe...from boys who haven't seen a square dance for months reminiscing about the good times they had on Monday and Thursday nites?.....that Vera Holleuffer is getting out a special Christmas letter to send these boys?.....that Ken Wade recruits his gang from almost every firm in town to square dance for the War Chest drive?.....that Holly Holleuffer designed those lucky "Y".....that Dottie Sanderson was able to surprise us by a visit thanks to W.A.V.E. replacements?.....and that Aileen Wade has opened a new Thursday nite SQUARE Dancing course, not the least attraction being a very clever booklet given to everyone by Aileen and dedicated to the Monday Night GATESWINGERS.

ANNOUNCEMENT-----!

Who says folk dancers and square dancers never agree? Lt. Ed. Carpenter, formerly in charge of the Hoe Downers, and caller par excellence for many local groups has just presented Ellen Davis of the Stanford Folk Dancers with an engagement ring. Ed is located near Marysville.

The Stanford Folk Dancers are active again with a group which meets from 8:00 to 10:00 every Wednesday night in the Women's Gym on a Stanford campus. The group is making plans for a party soon. A number of soldiers on the campus are regular in attendance at these sessions.

The PALOMANIANS are learning the Neapolitan Tarantella, which was exhibited at the September Festival by the Festival Workshop. The group is particularly grateful to Madelynne Greene for sharing the dance with them. Madelynne may share it with some of you others too. Wouldn't it be fun to have a second tarantella on our monthly festival programs? It will be included as soon as enough know it.

The DOCEY DOE Club of Redwood City recently installed the officers for the new year at a dinner and party at Sequoia Union High School. Clarice Dechent served as installing officer of the evening. Songs were part of the dinner program, which was followed by dancing at the Women's Clubhouse.

The Folk Dance Federation of California has been invited by the Treasury Department and the City of Oakland to present the big bond show in the Oakland Auditorium on the closing night of the coming Bond Drive. Admission will be by Bond, only, and the Federation is to have ENTIRE CHARGE OF THE PROGRAM. The committee so far for the affair will be: Jon Bittman, Berkeley Folk Dancers, chairman; Mildred Buhler, Redwood City Docey Doe Club; Roy Zellick, Palomanians; Buzz Glass, Castle Promenaders; Madelynne Greene, Festival Workshop and Chang's; and Ethel Turner, Golden Gate Folk Dancers. Many more assistants will be needed, and we ask you to please do all you can if you are called upon. We know you will.

The date: Saturday Night, December 2nd.

Each club will receive additional publicity and specific directions very soon. So shine up your boots, practice your kazaksakis and starch your petticoats..... 'cause we must live up to our growing reputation for fine performances.

A new group to add to your club list! The Petaluma Folk Dancers were voted in at the last Council meeting.

CLUB NEWS (CONTD)

It is with great pleasure that the Federation now welcomes as members the HOE DOWNERS (formerly, Palo Alto Juniors) whose exhibition of square dancing has been so often a part of the Festival program during the past several months. This group meets every Friday night at the Palo Alto Community Center.

Vilma Lenshaw celebrated her birthday CHANG'S on Friday, November 19th between dances. At a corner table a huge cake was served with wine, and there were some lovely flowers around, too! Many happy returns, Vilma!

Those of you who complained that the publicity about the November 12th Festival came out too late should be enlightened as to the reason. Until two weeks before the festival, we had no place to give it and no one to sponsor it. Dan MacDonald and his FUN CLUB Folk Dancers came to the fore at the last minute and handled the whole thing on very brief notice. We congratulate them for their fine spirit and assistance in the emergency. A good time was had by all.

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ADDITIONAL CLUB NEWS

The GARFIELD FOLK DANCERS proudly, but regretfully, have learned their vice president, Dan Carrington, to Uncle Sam. He is now a Technical Observer for the Army Services Force. During his stay in New York, he was able to obtain rare folk dance records which he sent to his wife Roselle as a Christmas gift. We are counting the days 'til your return. Good luck, Dan!

The GARFIELD FOLK DANCERS had the pleasure of counting Lieutenant John Watson of the Royal Australian Air Force as one of their guests Thursday night, November 9th. He is on his return from England where he has been stationed for four years. He was introduced to the group by our three members of the "1411 Manage", Marjorie, Erwin, and Mary.

After a largely attended general membership meeting of the Golden Gate group it was decided to have one hour of instruction from 8 - 9 pm each Sunday evening. This to be followed by social dancing until 11 pm. It is hoped that this will appeal to all folk dancers, for beginners who feel they want to take advantage of the instruction and for all others, who may want to brush up, and then really dance. Come one, come all to the Golden Gate -- Sunday evenings at 8 pm.