# Let's Dance!

THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING April, 2012



Dancing around Rakia Brass at the Laguna Festival--Photo by Steve Himel

See Kay James' Festival of the Oaks article on page 8

> Wakas (long Maori canoes), see Eileen's article on page 12—Photo by Eileen Kopec



### Let's Dance!

#### Volume 69, No. 4 April, 2012

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The Folk Dance Federation is now a 501(C)3 organization and donations are now tax deductible! Gifts and donations are welcome. Send to:

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#### Join now: Membership rate is \$35.00

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Mail applications, renewals & checks to:

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#### Website:

You can now post your folkdance event flyers on the Federation's web site: <a href="webmaster@folkdance.com." "webmaster@folkdance.com." If you need help, contact: Loui Tucker, loui@louitucker.com</a>

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Federation banner by Jan Nicoara

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#### The deadline for Let's Dance! is one month prior date of publication.

We welcome submissions, letters and comments from our readers.

Please send to: Gary Anderson, Editor Box 548, Woodacre, CA 94973

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Opinions expressed in Let's Dance! are not necessarily those of the Federation/North or of the Editor.

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#### President's Message

Lucy Chang, President of the Folk Dance Federation

Membership Drive – The Federation's Membership Drive is generating a lot of enthusiasm to increase membership as well as participation in folk dancing in general. If dancers become direct members of the Federation (rather than just belonging to one of the member clubs), they receive their own copies of Let's Dance! magazine and their names will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 American Express gift certificate. If an existing member brings in a new direct member,



-Photo by Loui Tucker

BOTH names will be entered into the drawing.

As of the date of this message, the number of new direct members who joined the Federation is up to 19. As I offered last month, if we get 20 new direct members, I will personally add a second \$100 gift certificate from Amazon. Encourage someone to become a direct member so that we will be drawing the names of **two** winners at Statewide 2012! Joining the Federation costs only \$35 per year. You will receive monthly copies of *Let's Dance!* magazine and you will know that you are helping to promote folk dancing. The Membership Drive runs through April 30, 2012. So 'times a wastin'- join!

On the Spirit of Cooperation - Last month I promoted attempts to minimize scheduling conflicts on major events by requesting that you send early date notifications of your workshops, parties, and camps to Loui Tucker, Webmaster, (loui@louitucker.com) and Gary Anderson, Let's Dance! Editor, (wildwood\_press@comcast.net). This would make your information known early so that others can avoid scheduling conflicts and simultaneously lets us help to promote your

event. I am happy to report that we are receiving more events to post. Please continue. We even had one council reschedule its monthly party to avoid being in conflict with a major festival. As dancers we can now support and attend both the monthly council party AND the festival. It takes only a click in your email to send your flier and information to Loui and Gary. Let's communicate and help each other.

In February I attended 2 wonderful festivals. The New Dancers Festival in Turlock was exciting because the new dancers were families who came with many elementary school age children. We even saw a Girl Scout Troop dancing merrily to Waves. These smiling children are the future of folk dancing. The second event was the Festival of the Oaks in Berkeley. I always find it heartwarming when a festival brings together dancers from over a 100-mile radius to share fun times together. Many of the dancers also attended the Board meeting; some were even first time Board meeting attendees. The Board always welcomes Federation members to participate and help us lead the Federation and folk dancing into the future for everyone's enjoyment.

#### Welcome new members!

Marion Rose, Membership chair, announced these new members:

Joseph Yick & Angel Lee San Leandro, CA

Julie Killeen & Jim Emdy Felton, CA

Susan Courrejou Gonzales, CA

Israel Yakovee Woodland Hills, CA

Lesley Bone San Carlos, CA

#### Folk Dance Postage Stamps!

Do you still use the U.S. Postal Service from time to time? Would you like to use some very special postage stamps that call attention to folk dancing?

The postage stamp looks like the picture on the right, but the actual size is 2" x 1.25" You can obtain some of these stamps by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to



Loui Tucker,153 Race Street, San Jose, California 95126. *Include a check* for the stamps themselves  $(45 \not\in x \# of stamps = amount of check)$ . Allow one week for delivery.

#### April, 2012 Calendar of Events

We reserve the right to edit all submissions and assume no responsibility for accuracy Send future events information to Gary Anderson, Editor, Let's Dance!, Box 548, Woodacre, CA 94973, e-mail: wildwood\_press@comcast.net

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

#### Upcoming Events—

- March 31 Balkan Plus Folk Dance Party. Here it is again—the great Balkan Party! Great snacks, great dancing, lots of old favorites. Requests. Please bring finger snacks to share. Wonderful wood floor. 7:30 to 11:00+ pm at the Marin Masonic Hall, 1010 Lootens Street, San Rafael. For more info email: editor@letsdancemag.net
- April 13-14 Arcata Folk Dance Festival Dave and Emma Charlebois (Scandinvian), Jerry Duke (International), John Filcich (Kolos), and Daniela Ivanova (Bulgarian). Vocal and instrumental workshops. Parties with ten bands, dance hall, kafana, great food and singalong! www.arcatafolkdancefestival.org.
- April 14 Annual Petaluma International Folk Dance Party with live Balkan music. Saturday, April 14. Dancing to old and new recorded favorites 8-9:15 p.m. Live music 9:15-11 p.m. At Herman Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma
- April 22 General Assembly for the Election of Officers. And Board meeting. 10:30 noon. The location is at City College of San Francisco on Geneva Ave. The Board meeting is held during the Blossom Festival.
- \*New Dancers' Festival San Francisco—New Dancers' 1-3 pm; Info Luiselle Yakas 415-467-1444 or Gail: 415-452-5525; ggbarton@ccsf.edu; CCSF Wellness Center Ocean Campus, 50 Phelan Avenue, San Francisco. Enter on Ocean Ave. near Howth.
- \*Blossom Festival 3:30-6 pm with exhibition at beginning. Info Luiselle Yakas 415-467-1444 or Gail: 415-452-5525; ggbarton@ccsf.edu; CCSF Wellness Center Ocean Campus, 50 Phelan Avenue, San Francisco. Enter on Ocean Ave. near Howth.
- May 3-6 The Festival of Nations Saint Paul River Centre, Saint Paul, MN. More info at: Festivalofnations.com
- May 6 Cerritos Festival Cerritos Folk Dancers will host the third annual Cerritos Festival at the Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South Street, Cerritos, CA 90703, from 1 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 6, 2012. Info: CerritosFolkDancers@gmail.com or (562) 338-2298.
- May 12 Rose Festival. 1-4:30 pm, Wischemann Hall, Sebastopol
- \*Statewide 2012 San Jose. Saturday Institute and more. Teachers: Steve Kotansky, Balkan and Erica Goldman, Israel. Live music by Chubritza and others. Two evening parties. Del Mar High School, 1224 Del Mar Avenue, San Jose. Info loui@louitucker.com or 408-287-9999

June 30-July 7 Mendocino Folklore Camp.

- August 12 Little Festival of the Redwoods. Armstrong Woods, Guerneville
- October 7 \*Fiesta de Sonoma. Veterans Memorial Bldg., Sonoma

\*Federation sponsored events.

#### Plan ahead—Combined issues are coming up!

This is a reminder that Let's Dance publishes combined issues for May/June and July/August. Be aware that if you have an announcement for an event in June, for instance, and want it published in Let's Dance, then you must have it to us by April 1—the deadline for the May/June issue.

The deadline for the July/August issue is June 1.

Come celebrate our 35<sup>th</sup> Year!

### RAZZMATAZZ FOLK DANCE WEEKEND MAY 18, 19, 20, 2012 MENDOCINO WOODLANDS with

PETUR ILIEV - BULGARIAN DANCES



Our stellar music staff:

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Joe Finn and accordionist Ivan Milev

True Life Trio with Leslie Bonnett, Juliana Graffagna and special guest Corrine Sykes

<u>Cost:</u> \$145 per adult (age 18 and over); \$90 per child (17 years and younger). <u>Cost includes:</u> 2 nights lodging at beautiful Mendocino Woodlands Camp #1, hearty meals, snacks, live music parties and dance instruction

For information and a registration form, email: marilynmsmith@sbcglobal.net

FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC. AND FOLK DANCE CLUBS OF SAN FRANCISCO PRESENT

# International Dance Festival for New Dancers



# Sunday April 22 1 pm - 3 pm

(Doors open at 12:45)

An introduction of dances from around the world for those with little or no experience or those who have danced before and are waiting for the opportunity to return. Several SF-based instructors will present easy beginner dances from many parts of the world. Blossom Festival (3pm-6pm) will follow with a dance exhibition and group participation. No partner needed.





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Info: Contact Luiselle (415) 531-6174; world2dance@aol.com; www.folkdance.com

# Arcata Folk Dance Festival

# April 13th-15th, 2012

Bayside Grange, 2297 Jacoby Creek Rd.
(Just outside of Arcata in Humboldt County)



#### DANCE TEACHERS:

- \* Daniela Ivanova Bulgarian
- ★ Jerry Duke Balkan
- ★ John Filcich Kolos
- ★ Emma & Dave Charlebois Scandinavian

Dance parties, kafana, dance, singing, & instrument workshops, concert, afterparty, gourmet meals, singalong, dance reviews

For more information www.arcatafolkdancefestival.org or 707-822-8045



# FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

BRING A NEW MEMBER AND YOU COULD WIN A \$100 GIFT CARD!

See details in the President's Message!

#### Festival of the Oaks

#### Let Us Gather Together to Dance—Young and Old Alike

"When you do dance, I wish you A wave o' th' sea, that you might ever do Nothing but that." (William Shakespeare, "The Winter's Tale")

By Kay James

And so it goes, another Festival of the Oaks hath come and gone and I come forward mostly to praise it vigorously. For as long as I can remember Mel Mann and his lovely wife, Esther, have been the prime organizers of this lively festival, sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California and the Berkeley Folk Dancers. It's a winter event that I always happily anticipate, it being the perfect venue to reunite with old friends, to make new ones, to break bread with them, and, of course, most of all to dance among them.

It's absolutely lovely to see dancers come to this event from all over, be it Sacramento, San Francisco, the Peninsula cities, or parts of Marin County. And, if I'm not mistaken, this year seemed to draw even more people from all over, perhaps in part thanks to the efforts of our past president of the Federation, Loui Tucker, and our current president, Lucy Chang. It's impressive how these two presidents in particular have encouraged fellow dancers to intermingle more and visit one another's groups, making for a more cohesive folk dance community in general within the greater Bay Area.

But, I wander from my original aim to praise this festival, and all those who make it possible each year. Many members of the Berkeley Folk Dancers work tirelessly to make this event welcoming for the attendees, from the refreshments that are offered before and during the dancing to the amazing lunch offered at the unbelievably reasonable cost of only \$5. And, I certainly know that it is to Esther, and the helpful crew that she garners, that we mostly owe our thanks for this nutritious and delicious meal, though Mel is, of course, right there beside her all of the way.

Marion Earl was the excellent selection for teaching at this 64th annual event and she did an amazing job of teaching us not just several dances, but a grand total of eight dances -"Vasil'Arhontissa," "Kcim," "Retko Kolo," "Snosti te Prativ," Cicino Kolo," Vallje Hajde Merre Furken," Joi Rado, Joi Radmila," and "Banjsko." Now, if everyone didn't see this as an impressive feat, then perhaps they aren't aware of the competency needed to pull something like this off successfully. I quickly became aware of how many people came up to her and complimented her clear and superb teaching abilities. So, being in a mood for quotes, please indulge me when I mention what Vincent Van Gogh wrote, "I don't know anything with certainty, but seeing the stars makes me dream." And, so it was, that on this day, a Saturday in February of 2012, at the Festival of the Oaks, the fair Marion did indeed set the bar high for all teachers who will henceforth come forward to teach us mortals of dance in the future.

And, there were, of course, other important ingredients for this joyful event. There were the lovely costumes offered for sale, thanks to donations from a number of people, and thanks also to the many volunteers who handled the sales, by patiently standing by as dancer after dancer would grab an item and run into the powder room to try it on before pur-

chase. And so, it takes a proverbial village of dancers to put on a successful dance or festival, and mostly it came from the Berkeley Folk Dancers. We were also treated to an exhibition by the Village Scandinavian Dancers from Modesto in the early afternoon. They did a number of different dances for our enjoyment.

But, lest all of this praise become meaningless, I wish to be a truthful scribe and indulge in some honest, constructive criticism, at least for a part of the event. What I least appreciated about the day was the dance program in the afternoon, and I don't mean the actual lovely little pink booklet that was available as you registered at the door. This booklet was a wonderful accomplishment that was created by Carol Wong. No, what I mean is the actual program of dances, decided upon beforehand. And, I was not alone in my disappointment in this regard, as others expressed similar views. Almost 50% of the dances were partner dances, whether you referred to them as 'couple,' 'progressive,' or 'set.' It all resulted in the same outcome, in that you needed to find another person with whom to do the dance. And since the flyer for the festival clearly stated on it, "NO PARTNER NEEDED," I found myself muttering, "Well yes, no partner is needed as long as you're willing to sit out half of the dances, either because you don't know the couple or set dance and/or you can't find a partner with whom to do it." At one point in the afternoon, I counted as few as five couples on the floor doing a dance called "La Cotriade," while the number of people seated on the sidelines was full to capacity. I think this speaks to an issue that clearly needs to be addressed for a Federation event.

Last year the person in charge of programming reached out graciously to other groups in the dance community and asked for dance suggestions. The result was a successful and gratifying program, in that the dances chosen were actually those from not just one group's repertoire, but from that of many groups. This outreach makes for an inviting situation where most people will endeavor to get up to do more dances. I certainly don't expect to do every dance, nor would I care to. as little interludes allow time to engage in conversation with others. But, what I did notice was that many of the non-partner dance choices on the program were not even all that alluring, but rather were some of the older and staler ones. Here would have been a perfect opportunity to offer at least a few of the newer, and perhaps more exciting, dances currently being done in many groups, the result of a filtering down from the abundant master workshops and camps that so many of us dancers attend.

So, allow me to go back to a more general viewpoint. I love it that Lucy Chang, our current president of the Federation, and others, especially those from the Peninsula, are promoting the idea that dancers make an effort to visit other venues and groups to see what they are doing and to stay abreast of what is happening in the greater dance community. It would seem that the best notion to espouse is more universality and less insularity, so I suggest that the programming for this particular event, and others within the Federation, deserves some real thoughtful change and a fresh look at how to accomplish

#### Council & Club Clips

Sacramento International Folk Dance and Arts Council—Zeljko Jergan will be in Sacramento Saturday, April 21, 2012! He is a big favorite here and we feel quite pleased that he is coming for a workshop. Zeljko is the foremost teacher of Croatian dance in the US. Our local clubs, Dances of the World - Mostly Balkan and Kolo Koalition are sponsoring a dance workshop with Zeljko on Saturday, April 21, 2012, at the YLI Hall, 1400-27th St. at N, Sacramento, 3:30-5:30 pm followed by an evening dance party 7:30-11:00 pm. More details to follow. See zeljkojergan.com for more information, photos, and videos about Zeljko.

Camellia Festival is over and we just have wonderful memories. We have started the tradition of honoring dancers who have made a major contribution to folk dancing in Sacramento. Previous years we have honored Irene Oxford, Oscar Foaro, Al and Teddy Wolterbeek, and Bruce Mitchell. This year we honored Hadi Babazadeh. He is Barbara Bevan's husband and support team. He was born in Iran 91 years ago, and has had a most interesting and productive life, including 40 years of folk dancing. His greatest coup was to form our relationship with CSU, Sacramento, to have the Camellia Festival there. It was a pleasure to honor him and put him in our Honor Roll Scrapbook.

—Barbara Malakoff

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS. A special treat will feature the band, Večernica, at BFD's All-Request Evening on Friday, April 27. From 7:30-9:30 pm live music will fill the Hall in Live Oak Park at Shattuck and Berryman in Berkeley. The dances are selected from previously submitted dance requests but your favorite will surely be one of them. Please join us! \$5 for members and \$7 for others. Contact: Peter D'Angelo 510-654-3136 or pvdangelo@hotmail.com.—Naomi Lidicker

#### Bernice Schram Scholarship

By Elsa Bacher

This scholarship provides one half full tuition to Stockton Folk Dance Camp, i.e. \$425 this year, 2012. It is offered by the Petaluma/Novato International Folk Dancers to encourage folk dance teachers, assistant and prospective teachers, and others active in folk dancing, to attend camp. North Bay applicants especially encouraged. Deadline is May 15.

For an application form contact: Bob Birks 415-454-8355 or Rosa Savage 415-925-9786, rmtsavage@gmail.com

it. For the Festival of the Oaks in particular, perhaps by at least going back to the way it was done last year would be a start. And, I would venture to say that last year's more democratic programming may even have encouraged a larger number of people to attend this year's festival. After all, although it's fun to just get together and socialize, we really do want to dance most of the dances when we attend a folk dance festival.

"Dance till the stars come down from the rafters Dance, Dance, Dance till you drop." – W. H. Auden

"If I can't dance - I don't want to be a part of your revolution." - Emma Goldman

#### A Happy Valentine's Dance at &t Bede's

By John & Jan Nicoara

Over 80 dancers enjoyed a wonderful evening of dancing at St. Bede's for the Valentine's themed party, Saturday, February 11. Many of the dancers wore red in keeping with the theme. During the 45-minute pre-party workshop, John Nicoara taught Schioapa (Romanian), Deli Bechar (Macedonian), and Cherkezkata (Bulgarian). All in all a great evening of dancing.

The Peninsula FD Council has a party second Saturday of every month except January at St Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Rd at Monte Rosa, Menlo Park, conveniently located just a few blocks east of I-280. Parking entrance from Monte Rosa. Dancing to your requests after a teaching session. Cost is still only \$7.00. Bring a little finger food to share. Coffee, tea and punch are provided. Come at 7:00 and learn or review a good old dance. Call Al at (408) 252-8106 for teaching schedule and directions.



Going home—Croatia ©Toni Denmark art@hotelsuperior.com



#### Jim Gold International Folk Tours



# CROATIA! EASTERN TURKEY! NORWAY! HUNGARY! POLAND!





Travel with International Folk Dance Specialists: Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, Richard Schmidt, Adam Molnar

NORWAY!...June 9-19, 2012. Led by Lee Otterholt.

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CROATIA and SLOVENIA!...July 17-30, 2012. Led by Jim Gold. Zagreb Folk Festival, Ljubljana, Split, Dubrovnik Summer Festival.

HUNGARY!...July 31-August 13, 2012. Led by Adam Molnar. Magyar adventures in Budapest, Eger, Jászberény Folk Festival.

POLAND!... September 6-20, 2012. Led by Richard Schmidt. Kraków, Zakopane, Łodź, Toruń, Gdańsk, Olsztyn, Warsaw.



EASTERN TURKEY!... October 7-20, 2012. Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt.

Kurdish, Pontic/Black Sea, Georgian, former Armenian regions! Istanbul, Diyarbakir,

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### Laguna Folkdancers 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Festival

By David Carman and Diane Baker

Ensign School was alive with the hum of dedicated volunteers Friday afternoon February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The bevy of busy decorators, led by Palma Goulet in the gym and Henrietta Bemis and Diki Shields in the Kafana, was followed by chefs Bruce and Maria Benson, unloading and heating up trays of piquant dishes, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of the bands, Whirled Peas, warming up. Sound engineer, Steve Blakesley connected cables, microphones, speakers and cords in the Kafana while Ted Martin did the same in the gymnasium. Others made luminarias to light the path between the two halls. Master teachers Michael Ginsburg and Jill and Jerry Duke, along with festival chairpersons David Carman and Laura Bremer calmly greeted arriving dancers and musicians while Amy Dale and Steve Himel expedited name tags and admission.

For the second year the festival has kicked off with music and dancing Friday evening in two venues. While a program of recorded music played in the gymnasium for dancing under colorful banners, live music entertained for dancing and snacking in the kafana, aka school cafeteria. Decorated with veils and masks, colorful tablecloths, candlelight and trays and baskets of delectable dishes, the kafana evoked a taverna in Greece. The exceptional food, coordinated by Miriam Kahn, kept everyone well fed throughout the evening.

Whirled Peas, joined by Lee Otterholt with echoes of Zimzala, played the first set of Balkan favorites. The Rakia Brass Band played next in the Kafana, and later played a second set in the gym. Rakia includes two percussionists and two talented vocalists along with the gleaming brass horns. Dancers responded enthusiastically to Rakia whose energetic rhythms carried us into the after party, hosted again this year by John Matthews. Michael Ginsburg, who has his own brass band Zlatne Uste, brought his horn and played throughout the weekend, either solo, or with recorded accompaniment while we danced.

Veselba, brought their Balkan village sound again to the kafana. A special feature of their set was having a visiting zurla player sit in with the group. Here from Macedonia, he showed us how a professional zurla player could augment and meld with a local band. Later he joined Michael on tupan in the main hall. Truly a tasty treat for our ears and dancing feet!

After the late and lively party Friday night, Saturday a.m. was a slow start for many of us. Michael and Jerry's proficient instruction got our feet and brains in sync. Laguna Festival has always tried to be a venue that welcomes all folkdancers. Toward that end we invite accomplished teachers with broad appeal, and an institute that features both Balkan dance and folk dances for couples.

Michael presented a pan-Balkan program, spanning not only the region but also various levels of difficulty. His exemplary teaching techniques derive from a background as a physical educator, musician, dancer, ethnomusicologist and folk dance instructor. During the last half hour of the morning session he successfully taught Myatolo Lenche. By having us verbally repeat the sequences then get together in small groups to teach each other we all made remarkable progress on a chal-

lenging dance in a short period of time. Michael taught with grace and humor and added tidbits of cultural information to the dance instruction to increase our enjoyment.

Jerry taught couple dances from his vast knowledge of American folk traditions. With his talented wife Jill helping with demonstrations, Jerry's teaching spanned the eastern part of the continent, from the bayous of Louisiana, north through Appalachia, and Cape Breton. He provided dances that were accessible to all, with enthusiasm and a grasp of the material possible only because of his many years of primary field research. For some of us it was a joyful opportunity to become re-acquainted with Big Circle clogging and various Cajun Dances.

Saturday evening has always been "party night" at Laguna Festival. Eastern Exposure played 3 sets and teachers led dances from the day's institutes during the band's breaks. A highlight this year was a singing workshop after dinner led by Sanna Rosengren and vocalists of Eastern Exposure, Maryann Downs and Marie Hays. They arranged and taught a three-part harmony for Išu Beyala Nedo. Participants performed Išu with the band during the evening party to much applause and cheering. A concert preceded the party on both Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon. Shana Winokur coordinated and emceed the concerts. Saturday evening featured the Hawai'i Club of UCI, JJ & the Habibis and Ballet Folklorico Internacional. As on Friday night, the band energized dancers into the afterparty, hosted by Sherry Cochran. At 1 a.m. folks were shooed out of the gym so we could arrive Sunday morning in time for the review class.

The mission of the Laguna festival is to use our resources to support and promote international folkdancing. In recent years we have expanded to add more live music with local musicians at the kafana, and to feature more local groups for dance performances. Sunday afternoon's concert featured Clan MacLeod Scottish Country Dancers, Scandia, and Project Say, an energetic folkloric group from Anaheim. The inclusion of more youth groups was well received. The number of vendors, coordinated by Marge Gajicki, has also increased. Folks could purchase music and books, spangles, clothing and jewelry, and sign up for cruises and tours at various booths.

Too soon institute reviews, the Greek lunch, kolo hour with John Filcich, concert and all request dance party had come to an end Sunday afternoon. Vendors packed up. Tired friends said their goodbyes, but not before helping to take down banners, fold tables, pack up equipment and clean up. It was nice to get home and put our feet up. What a treasure trove of memories we created! If you missed this year's Laguna Festival, plan on being with us next year, when we'll do it all again with two more master teachers, performing groups, live music, and inspired dancing.

#### \$100 Gift Certificate!

Bring in a new member or join as a direct member Of the Folk Dance Federation—see page 3 for details

Classified ads—To place a classified ad, email the editor@letsdancemag.net Ads cost \$5.00 per column inch, per insertion. Pay by check made out to: Folk Dance Federation, Box 548, Woodacre, CA 94973

#### Eye on Dance by Eileen

#### **Update From Down-under 2012**

By Eileen Kopec, eisiedancer@gmail.com

The Russell NZ Ballroom Dance Group has been enjoying another successful year. Of course it's summer here now, when numbers swell with "swallows" - people like me who live here part-time. On a typical night, attendance is at least twenty. Not bad for a small town of 800 people. However we could not survive without people coming from "overseas" - in this case meaning on the other side of the bay. They have to take a ferry at 6:30 to get to us by 7:00 pm and then catch the last ferry at 10:00 pm to get home. One woman drives for 45 minutes to get to the ferry! She comes almost every week, even though gas (petrol as they say) is almost \$7.00 a gallen here. So I don't want to hear people in the Bay Area complaining about getting to a venue!

We've just had a visit by our Auckland instructor, Brian Jones, who comes up several weekends a year to teach new sequence and Latin dances. I've explained what sequence dances are in past issues, but in a nutshell they are like ballroom style folk dances done with a partner. They were originally choreographed for dance competitions and then they caught on with the general public. On "Brian" weekends we always have a party on Saturday night and last week was no exception. Everyone "brings a plate" meaning potluck, a word that is not used here. It used to be "Ladies bring a plate". Thank goodness that has changed! The dishes were delicious and varied, since our group is very international. The nondancing spouses all turned up, but of course there is still a shortage of men who dance. To help in these matters, I've taught a few line dances to the group so everyone can join in. They also love T'smidge and do it almost every week.

On Saturday afternoon, Brian taught us variations on the American Tango, which he said is not as "sharp" as the International Tango. It is a social dance and while style is still important, it's more important to enjoy yourself. He taught us a sequence of steps, but urged us to experiment with the order if we wanted to free-style. He's good at giving leading tips to the men, like when to change a handhold and ways to signal your partner about what's next. He also gave good tips for the women, for instance to stay balanced to be ready to move in any direction and don't anticipate what your partner will do next.

On Sunday Brian taught the Square Rumba, which is what I always thought of as the rumba, but here they usually do it more like a mambo - up and back. His demonstration of the transfer of weight while pretending to drag a piece of paper around the floor under his toe was enlightening. There are lots of body parts to be aware of. His weekends always add to my limited ballroom dance vocabulary. Neither Brian nor my lovely group of dancers will get me to give up Balkan dancing, but they do help me enjoy ballroom dancing while I'm in this country.

#### Other dance notes...

Dancing is not the only advantage of folk dancing! The friends you meet along the way are an added bonus. Two friends that I originally met on folk dance cruises came to visit me this summer, Bronwen from Auckland and Emily, an American now living in Jakarta. I met Bronwen in Greece and Emily on the Danube. I've since seen them in France, Russia, the Ukraine Croatia and among other places. I've even seen them in California. So it seemed normal they would pop in for a visit in New Zealand.

They were lucky to be here for the annual Waitangi Day celebrations, which are just across the bay I from us. I knew it would be a great



Mind the gap!-Photo by Eileen Kopec

day when we saw dolphins from the ferry on the way over. They were all around us and were leaping and playing in our wake. We got to the other side just as the wakas (long Maori canoes) were leaving shore. Some of the tattoos on the men were very intricate and artistic. The authentic ones have much meaning and family history connected to them. Later we saw the boats come back ashore and the strong men (and some women) did a haka (war dance) on the beach. You can check out hakas on YouTube - they are commonly done before sporting competitions by New Zealand teams to intimidate their opponents. It must work since the NZ All Blacks won the Rugby World Cup last year.

One night I brought Bronwen and Emily to my folk dance group. The group is still going strong. We even picked up a few new members this year - including a man. I've taught a few new dances from Stockton, including the Tokyo Polka, Tu Romnie and Or. They love them. Then the group enjoyed watching my visitors and me do some advanced dances and they are game to learn a few. That made me think about what makes a dance more advanced. Are they dances that have more parts? Are really fast? Or have more complicated rhythms? Or all three? I will have to think about what they would enjoy being challenged with the most.

The beauty of folk dancing was the way my visiting friends blended seamlessly into our group and did the dances that they knew with us. And they easily learned the ones they didn't know. And between dances chatted with everyone and learned about their lives and vice versa. It was sad to see them go, hut I know I will see them somewhere in the world and dance with them again!

Happy Dancing and see you at the annual Balkan Plus Party in San Rafael - probably around the time you are getting this edition.

Eileen Kopec

"The Singing Neanderthals"

# WHICH CAME FIRST, MUSIC OR DANCE?:

A review of the "The Singing Neanderthals" by Steven Mithin By Bill Lidicker

The persistently interesting issues concerning the origins of music, dance, and language in human evolution is the subject of this fascinating book.\* Dancers, especially those seriously involved with folk or ethnic dance, will have an intuitive appreciation that these activities are more than just another form of good exercise and an enjoyable mode of social interactions. They may in fact wonder how something so ubiquitous among modern humans got started in the history of mankind, and when. Steven Mithin is a Professor of Archeology at the University of Reading, UK, and has academic degrees in archeology, prehistory, and biological computation. For five years he was Head of the School of Human and Environmental Sciences, and this was followed by three years as Dean of the Faculty of Science. To this he adds fieldwork in Scotland and Jordan. He has published extensively on this and related topics, and this book has been translated into Japanese, Italian, Russian, Turkish, Spanish, and Basque languages. Mithin thus brings a formidable inter-disciplinary background to bear on developing a plausible scenario for how and when we humans developed language, music, and dance. At the outset, I will reveal my conclusion by saying that I found this book convincing, synthetic, entertaining, and thoroughly engrossing throughout.

In an introductory chapter the author introduces his basic proposition that in human evolution there was a nonverbal, that is prelinguistic, musical mode of thought and action that preceded verbal language. Subsequently, the book is organized in two parts, the first dealing with modern humans (6 chapters), and the second with our history (10 chapters). In Part I, Mithin assembles evidence for how music and language relate to each other at the present time, in order to use this information in his search for clues as to how each mode of communication may have evolved. He brings to this task evidence from neurophysiology, ontogeny (development), and the impacts of brain lesions.

First, he finds that music and language have some significant similarities. 1) All existing human cultures have a verbal language as well as music (including song, and dance). In fact, music transcends time and culture in that we can respond emotionally to music composed long ago and from culturally distinct contexts from our own. So these skills are manifestly basic human characteristics, and while music clearly has a rhythmic structure, this is true for speech as well, and this aspect of speech is called "prosody." 2) Music and language both can be written down, and share vocalizations and gestures. 3) Both music and language: a) are hierarchical in structure (letters are components of words, words are parts of phrases, phrases make up sentences, etc.), b) use combinatorial systems, and c) are recursive (phrases can be embedded within phrases of a similar type). 4) Both modularities share the same neural networks.

Second, there are important differences between music and language. 1) In a fundamental sense, music is manipulative in that it influences the emotions of both the

musician and the listener, while language is referential in that it communicates about specific aspects of the environment or individual feelings whether these are in the past, present, or future. Language can also influence emotions, but this appears much later in evolutionary history. 2) Studies of individuals with various brain lesions have made it clear that loss of language (aphasia) does not necessarily result in the loss of musical abilities, and the reverse is also true, musical ability can be lost (amusia) while language skills are often maintained. Moreover, musical savants (musical geniuses) do not have correspondingly superior verbal skills. 3) While language processing in the human brain is primarily cortical, music processing involves neural networks that extend into parts of the brain that have a much older evolutionary history suggesting that music is an older skill set. 4) In ontogeny (development), human infants respond to "baby talk" long before they have acquired language skills, and this parent/ offspring communication has many attributes of music. Infants demonstrate an interest in and a sensitivity to the rhythms, tempos, and melodies of speech, which suggests that neural networks for language are built upon those for music.

This first part of the book can be summarized with the conclusion that music and language share a neurological substrate as well as a long evolutionary history. Of the two modalities, a sensitivity to rhythms is the more primitive, and may be the basis for known therapeutic influences of music. After all, if music can influence one's emotional state, it can influence how one thinks and behaves. Happy folks tend to be more successful in that they are more helpful and cooperative, evaluate themselves and others more positively, and think more creatively. Although the book does not mention it, there is the often repeated theory that mammals may be uniquely cued into rhythms because being viviparous they experience the heart and breathing rhythms of their mother for much of their intra-uterine development. Music and its derivatives of song and dance are, like language, clearly adaptive human traits, and like food and sex are fundamental human pleasures.

Part II develops a plausible hypothesis about how music and language gradually split from a common precursor into two, sometimes competing, modalities through the course of human evolution over the past approximately two million years. The common precursor could be called "musilanguage", but Mithin prefers the acronym HMMMM that serves to highlight the basic characteristics of the early hominid communication system, namely that it is holistic, multi-modal, manipulative, and musical. He begins his arguments by showing that these features serve important social roles in all of the extant great apes, and in many monkeys as well. By "holistic" in this context he means that a simple call or gesture communicates a complete, context dependent, and often complex message. For example, a particular alarm call might "say" "Everyone be careful, I have just seen an eagle circling overhead." Verbally, this takes 11 words, and these must be in an appropriate sequence. Multi-modal refers to both vocal and gestural components often being utilized. Such communications are manipulative in that they are intended to influence the emotions and/ or behavior of other individuals. Finally, they are musical because they incorporate rhythms, tempos, and melodic patterns.

<sup>\*</sup> Mithin, Steven, 2006. The Singing Neanderthals: the origin of music, language, mind, and body. Harvard Univ. Press; 374 pp.

Synthesizing the knowledge and skills of an archaeologist, biologist, paleontologist, and anthropologist the author then develops a theory of how vocal abilities gradually improved, starting about 1.8 million years ago. Interestingly, this was not the result of selection for improved vocalizations, but primarily the result of selection for other anatomical features, particularly bipedalism. As our ancestors moved into more savannah types of habitat, they became more carnivorous (and also scavengers), and inoved more readily on the ground by becoming increasingly bipedal. These two changes had profound ancillary effects. The teeth and lower jaw became smaller giving more room for the larynx, and partial bipedalism and its accompanying more upright posture led to a lowering of the larynx in the throat, increasing its size and enhancing its membranous structure. These changes in the voice box would have given individuals the ability to make a much greater diversity of sounds. Improving bipedalism freed the arms for more elaborate gesturing, as well as for making tools, carrying, signaling, and throwing. These changes required more mental capacity so selection favored an enlarged brain. The anatomy of these early humans also shows that endurance running became a way of life. This ability required rhythmic activity involving the coordination of numerous muscles, changes which would have been pre-adaptations for dancing. Mithin points out that in modern humans the gestures used in speech are much the same across all cultures. It has also been estimated that about 65% of "verbal" communication is through "body language" even though we are now largely unconscious of this modality. Compare communication on the phone or texting with direct personal confrontation to get some idea of how important gesturing still is. Besides, body movements occur continuously in a conversation whereas vocalization is intermittent. Professional actors exemplify the proficient and exaggerated use of body and facial language in communication.

About 600,000 years ago, the human brain size increased dramatically. This coincided with the development of the more complex life style made possible by the anatomical changes mentioned, and the increasing demands of a more complex social environment that humans were experiencing. This set the stage for the appearance of verbal language. One of the first steps would have been the mimicking of sounds for various physical and biological features in the environment. The addition of minesis to the HMMMM communication system led Mithin to add a fifth M for mimicking to the name of this stage of communication. And, it is this stage that characterized the Neanderthal people. There is no evidence that they had a sense of symbolism, no artistic artifacts are known for example, so Mithin concludes that they could not have had a language with words. Mimicking was nevertheless a critical step because it led to the idea that short bits of sound could be diagnostic or symbolic for specific things. These sound bits along with brief gestures were the first words. Vocalizations then could become increasingly fragmented and the resulting words now could be variously arranged to express new things. As language skills improved, this efficient form of communication gradually made the musical modality less critical. It remained significantly important, however, for communicating with infants and pets, for gesturing, for aiding in mate choice, for expressing emotions and group identity, and for reinforcing social bonds within groups. Interestingly, modern languages are peppered with what we call idioms that appear to be throwbacks corresponding to pre-linguistic holistic utterances in that the words used have lost or nearly lost their literal meaning while the expression communicates a complex idea. Examples are "red herring", "strawman," or even "How are ya." Laughter too is likely to be derived from this ancient form of non-verbal signaling. This basic musical sensibility remained critical for our species in social discourse, especially cooperation, and that became more and more a survival necessity with increasing population densities. Of course it also would contribute to problem-solving and innovation within the groups. Singing, dancing, and music making prevailed in spite of the increasing role of verbal communication. Communal sharing of these rhythmic activities creates a sense of social unity, and hence of cooperation, sharing, mutual tolerance, and joint innovation.

Folk dancers rejoice! You are privileged to be connected to our human ancestors in a deep emotional way that transcends genetic continuity over the past half a million or more years.

—Bill Lidicker

#### Folk dancing artist Toni Denmark gives us permission to reprint her opanci paintings



By Gary Anderson

We've known Toni Denmark and admired her painting skill for many years. We have used her painting of opanci from the equipment cabinet of the Kopachkas folk dance group as a cover for Let's Dance! We have also used her triptych "Road to Zagreb" as a filler.

She has graciously opened her studio to us to use more of her folk dance connected paintings, starting with her series of

opanci from Macedonia, Serbia and Croatia. She has a marvelous series of folk costumes painted in egg tempera which we want to use also. "The methodical process of painting in egg tempera, to me, mimics the slow and methodical process women used to create the embroidery on the clothing.

Egg tempera shows the embroidery detail of the folk costumes in vivid colors and gives the completed picture a renaissance feeling to it." to quote Toni.

You may contact her at art@hotelsuperior.com or online at www.hotelsuperior.com/

Croatian Opanci © Toni Denmark



For more info: loui@louitucker.com or (408) 287-9999

Friday, Saturday & Sunday May 18, 1  Pre-Register and Save Time  Name:	DANCE TO YOUR HEART'S DELIGHT				
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Telephone:		Email:			
How do you wish acknowledgment of		Email	Phone (circle one)		
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Zappe, Treasurer, 153 Race Street, San Jose, CA 95126.

Check the website www.folkdance.com/Statewide2012.html for information about Local Host Hotel deals.

Need a scholarship? Contact Connie Hull at mscgh@aol.om.

#### **HOW DOES \$89-A-NIGHT SOUND TO YOU?**

Of course you are busy making plans to come to Statewide 2012 in San Jose! Have you been wondering what hotels are near the dance venue? The Host Hotel for Statewide 2012 is The Campbell Inn (www.campbell-inn.com), which is a bit over a mile from the dance hall at Del Mar High School. [Technically it is walkable - and most of it along the Guadalupe Creek Trail - but if you're going to dance all day, you'll probably want to drive.] We have arranged for a special price for Statewide attendees: \$89 a day, double occupancy, with a king-sized bed and breakfast is included! (Want separate double beds? Just \$99) When calling (800-582-4449) or emailing (sales@Campbell-Inn.com) to make reservations, ask for "The Folk Dance Federation Special."

DINING AT STATEWIDE. Below is a sampling of eatenes within two miles of the dance venue. So many choices - so little time!

Buca di Beppo Café Artemis Coffee Society Cold Stone Creamery El Burro Hobee's Kyoto Palace

Le Boulanger Lisa's Tea Treasures Outback Steakhouse Pacific Catch Pizza My Heart Rock Bottom Brewery Tandoori Oven Togo's Sandwiches Boston Market

Baja Fresh Mexican Grill Chipotle Mexican Grill

Der Weinerschnitzel Erik's Deli Café Hickory Pit Hooter's Jack-in-the-Box Jamba Juice Noah's Bagels Roundtable Pizza Sam's Bar-B-Que

Starbuck's (multiple) Subway Taco Bravo Thai Orchid The Garrett Una Mas Taqueria Whole Foods Market Yiasso Greek Café

OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA. In the event you want to bring non-dancing family members, there are plenty of things to do in the area, including:

- ✓ Winchester Mystery House
- ✓ Silicon Valley Tech Museum
- ✓ Children's Discovery Museum
- ✓ Santana Row Shopping Center
- ✓ Movie theaters at The Pruneyard
- ✓ Santa Cruz Beach and Boardwalk
- ✓ Numerous winenes in the surrounding mountains
- ✓ Downtown Campbell Farmer's Market (Sunday morning)
- ✓ Miles of walking trails leading north and south along Guadalupe Creek

DANCE PARTY THE NIGHT BEFORE STATEWIDE! Finally, if you want to come to San Jose a day early, the Saratoga Folk Dancers are extending an invitation to all Statewide visitors from out of town (driving more than 45 minutes to Saratoga) to come to an All-Requests Dance Party from 7:30-10:30 PM on Thursday, May 17 (the night before Statewide begins) and outof-towners can dance for FREE! This is a large and very friendly group of dancers and you're sure to have a great time. Contact Loui at Ioui@louitucker.com or 408-287-9999 for more information.



JOIN OUR CIRCLEI

Looking for ways to increase your year-end giving? Donations to the Folk Dance Federation are tax-deductible!



Photo is of Erin W., 11 years old who came with her girl scout troop for the festival. The next week she came with her mother and aunt.

## Village Dancers Beginners Festival Over 100 dancers enjoy a great time!

With the encouragement of President Lucy Chang, the Village Dancers agreed to hold a Beginners' Festival Feb 10, 2012. It was at the Carnegie Arts Center 250 North Broadway Turlock, CA.

Susan Gregory of Santa Clara quickly did a color poster. We emailed Let's Dance with the poster and Editor Gary Anderson put it in the next editions. Carnegie Arts Center is the beautiful place where we dance every Friday night. The center used our event as their monthly free family event. The poster went out to 7,000 school children in Turlock. It went on their website, in their publication of events and on Facebook. I emailed it to the dancers in my address book in December, January and February. Lise Swedberg and I placed posters on door steps within a 3 block radius of the center.

Don and I chose easy, fun dances. Ray and Dori Mc Elroy made name tags as people entered. Folk Dance Federation people came from Berkeley, San Carlos, Sacramento, and Merced to support the event. Many local dance friends came, too. A local line dance class, an adventure club, girl scouts and others from groups near-by joined us. We bought food from around the world and labeled each item ('Chocolate - Belgium, Gouda Cheese – Holland, etc.) and decorated with Valentines Day balloons We had cookies and lots of ice water available. There were 85 adults and at least 15 children who joined enthusiastically in the dances. We asked other dancers to join us in our brief performance and told about folk dancing during the intermission.

A few people returned the next week. I know that more people are aware of World Dancing now in our area. There were lots of smiles during a wonderful evening of dance.

-Judy Kropp, Village Dancers





#### Florida Festival Fun 2012

By Diane Baker

I couldn't stop dancing when the Laguna festival ended so booked a flight to Orlando for the Florida President's Weekend Camp February 17-20. Andy Taylor-Blenis taught Portuguese and Scottish. Yulian Yordonov taught Bulgarian. We danced international for four glorious days.

All the action took place at the Holiday Inn Main Gate East in Kissimmee. And what a lot of action!! When not dancing we were eating scrumptious meals and snacks, listening to cultural talks, jumping in the pool, bidding on auction items, buying folkdance buttons and occasionally sleeping.

President Terry Abrahams and festival chairpersons Pat Henderson & Bobby Quibodeaux welcomed the crowd from all over Florida plus Vancouver, Canada, Washington State, Ohio, North Carolina and other states.

Andy-Boy Pollock (there were 3 Andys in camp) played the music and set up the projector for Yuli's photos of his family and village in the Lovech region of Bulgaria. Yuli shared a vivid photo of the brass band that "took away" his favorite aunt on her wedding day. The auction benefited the Olga Princi Memorial Scholarship fund. One of the imaginative auction items was to be introduced with trumpet fanfare at the evening's party.

Let's Dance readers will recognize Caroline and Gary Lanker who attend Stockton Camp every year and generously donate a week in their lakeside home to the Stockton Scholarship Fund auction. Caroline publishes the Florida Folkdance Newsletter. (www.felkdance.org)

I could become a Dance Camp Gypsy and wander from festival to festival, but now it's time to get ready for work!

—Diane Baker





## Tokyo Polka (U.S.A.)

Tokyo Polka is a line dance choreographed by Richard Powers and presented by him at the 2011 Stockton Folk Dance Camp at the University of the Pacific.

- and carry	o
Music:	2/4 meter CD: Stockton 2011, Richard Powers Dances, Track 1, Leva's Polka, 124 BPM. The Savo Finnish tune Ievan Polkka, meaning Eva's Polka, is also known as Loituma's Polka and Leva's Polka. The version remixed by Beatnick has a stronger polka beat. The Japanese version of that tune is by Hatsune Miku and is the better match for Tokyo Polka. It is the one on the camp CD.
Video:	2011 Stockton Folk Dance Camp DVD. Camp videos can be viewed in the library at University of the Pacific, or by contacting a camp participant who purchased it. YouTube video: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4]cofrSpIQM">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4]cofrSpIQM</a> .
Formation:	Individual dancers, all facing top of hall.
Steps and Styling:	Styling is smooth with arms flowing naturally with the movements, but hands can also be held loosely at waist level, elbows bent.
	<u>Polka step</u> : Hop on R (ct &); step L to L (ct. 1); close R to L (ct &); step L to L (ct 2). This step can also be done with opp ftwk.
Measures	2/4 meter PATTERN
	INTRODUCTION: 4 meas. Begin the dance with the lyrics of the song.
1	Hopping on R, place L heel fwd to diag L (ct 1); hopping on R, place L toe near R (ct 2).
2	Polka Step to diag L (cts &, 1, &, 2).
3-4	Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.
5	Rock fwd on L across R, rotating upper body CW, L arm crossing over with ft (ct 1); rock back on R (ct 2).
6	Polka Step turning 180° CCW, traveling back around to L (cts &, 1, &, 2).
7	Polka Step as in meas 6, continuing traveling back around to L to finish a 360° turn back to face as in orig pos (cts &, 1, &, 2).
8	Rock back onto L (ct 1); rock fwd on R (ct 2).
9	Repeat meas 5 (cts 1, 2).
10	Polka Step sideways, beg L to L (cts &, 1, &, 2).
11	Repeat meas 9 with opp ftwk.
12 13	Polka Step sideways, beg R to R (cts &, 1, &, 2).  Polka Step beg L traveling fwd, twisting upper body slightly CW to throw L shldr fwd (cts &, 1, &,
15	2).
14	Repeat meas 13 with opp ftwk continuing fwd.
15	Pivot CW, stepping L to side (ct 1); step in place on R (ct 2).
16	Repeat meas 15 to begin dance again facing new wall to L.

The result from meas 15-16 is a ¾ turn from orig pos in meas 1.

#### FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

The Federation has started another contest as part of its mission to increase membership in the Federation and participation in folk dancing in general. As part of this membership drive, the Federation is offering you a chance to win a \$100 American Express gift card. Here's how the drive works:

- If you, as a current *direct* member (not a member through your club or class), bring a NEW member to the Federation, BOTH your name and the new member's name are entered into the drawing for the \$100 gift card. Just make sure the new member provides your name on the membership application (available at www.folkdance.com).
- If you are currently a member through your club or class, and you join the Federation as an individual or family member, your name is entered in the drawing.
- If you are not currently a member and you join the Federation as an individual or family member, your name is entered into the drawing.

The more members you encourage to join the Federation, the more chances you have to win. The membership drive runs through *April 30*, 2012, and the drawing will be held at Statewide 2012 in San Jose. You can email Lucy-SChang@gmail.com with your name and the name(s) of the

new member(s) for the drawing, or provide your name as the sponsor on the new member's membership application (available on the Federation website at www.folkdance.com) when the application is mailed to the Federation Membership Chair, Marion Rose.

Loui Tucker Federation Secretary



#### Continued from page 23

site: www.scds.ca

#### SUNDAY

\*DANCES OF THE WORLD - INTERNATIONAL. Beg. & Int. International line & couple, 2nd & 4th Sun. monthly except July & Aug. 2:00-5:00 pm. YLI Hall, 1400-27th St. at N, Sacramento. Contact: 916-632-8807, yacouvillion@sbcglobal.net \*DAVIS INTERNATIONAL FOLKDANCERS. All levels. Mostly non-partner Balkan & International. 7:00-10:00 pm. Davis Art Center, 1919 F St., Davis. Contact: 530-758-0863. Website; www.davisfolkdance.org

\*SACRAMENTO COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY - ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING, Beg. & Int. Couple. 1st Sunmonthly, 2-5 pm. Masonic Hall, 235 Vernon St., Roseville. Contact: 916-549-7093, leonelli@cwo.com Website: www.scds.ea

EXHIBITION GROUPS. Contact the following, if interested, for further information.

ALPENTANZER SCHUHPLATTLER. Austrian & Bavarian exhibition group. Thursdays, 7 pm. Contact 916-689 -2943 or 916-402-2130. Website: www.alpentanzer.com

BALLIAMO! Italian performing group. Saturdays, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Italian Center, 6821 Fair Oaks Blvd., Carmichael, 95608. Contact: 916-482-8674, bdbeckert@sbcglobal.net.

EL DORADO SCANDINAVIAN DANCERS. Contact: 916-536-9809 or 916-969-8904, d.r.herman@comcast.net Websitc: www.folkdance.com/scandi/

LINCOLN VILLAGE DANCERS. Mostly Balkan. Contact: 530-277-4999, patroy@ssctv.net.

Website: www.ifdvl.org/Roy\_Butler\_Dance\_School.shtml

TANCE EL DORADO, International. Teens plus. Contact: 530-417-7322 or 916-467-6743.

VIENNA RHYTHM. Contact: 916-395-8791, waltz@strauss.net Website: www.viennesewaltz.net

VILLAGE DANCERS OF MODESTO. Scandinavian. couple. Contact: 209-480-0387, judy\_kropp@sbcglobal.net

>>> Note: Information is subject to change. Call contact numbers for current information.

#### Other groups and classes—

#### BAY AREA—

Rina Israeli Dance. Everyone is welcome. Thursdays, Beginners 10:00 am, Intermediates 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, 200 N. San Pedro Road, San Rafael. For information call 415-444-3000.

Stockton in Exile—First and third Sundays. 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. All requests, mostly Stockton dances. Saratoga School of Dance, 18776 Cox Ave., Saratoga, Call to confirm, Marion Earl 650-793-1166.

At the Dance Palace, 503 B Street, Point Reyes: International Folk Dance: Folk dances from all over the world, including Scrbia, Turkey, Rumania, Armenia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Israel. Wednesdays 7-8:15 p.m., January 4-May 9; \$55 per 6-week session, or \$12 drop-in: Beginners, newcomers, drop-ins always welcome; no partner necessary. Contact Carol Friedman 415-663-9512 for information. cjay@horizoncable.com Blog:http://carolfriedmanfolkdance.blogspot.com/

Balkan Dancing at Ashkenaz. Check for day. Dance lesson at 7:00. 7:00—11:00 pm. 1317 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley, sce website for details: www.ashkenaz.com

#### Where to dance

#### Federation clubs

#### **CENTRAL STATE**

Bay Osos International Folk Dancers. Tuesday afternoons, 1-3 pm. South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Avenue, Los Osos. First hour is beginner-intermediate instruction, 2nd hour is all request. For Information call Anne Tiber, 805-534-1501 or email: annetiber@charter.net

Mid County Folkdancers. Beginner and intermediate folkdancing Thursdays 10-11:30 am. Mid County Senior Center, 828 Bay Ave. Capitola, CA Tel. 831 476-9711. Teachers: Norma Jamieson, 831 430-0968 and Gabriele Swanson 831 646-5453

#### **NORTH STATE**

Humboldt Folk Dancers meet Fridays from 8:00 p.m. to 11 p.m. All level of dancers are welcome and you don't need a partner. First Fridays of the month have live music with 2-3 bands. Venues vary. Please consult our website at www.humboldtfolkdancers.org for latest information.

Redding Folk Dancers meet every Friday (except during July and August) from 7:00 to 9:45 pm at the Redding Ballet Academie, 1726 Market St., Redding. All levels of dancers welcome. Easy warm-up dances start at 7:00, instruction is from 7:30 to 8:30, and request dances follow. For more information, call Julie at (530) 547-4071 or e-mail Jan at jmwright32@frontiernet.net

#### SOUTH STATE

West L.A. Folk Dancers meet Mondays and Fridays, 7:45-10:30 pm. Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave. in West Los Angeles. Info: Beverly Barr 310-202-6166, email: dancingbarrs@yahoo.com

Cerritos Folk Dancers meet Tuesdays, 6:00-8:45 p.m. Cerritos Senior Center, 12340 South Street, Cerritos, CA 90703. 50+. Cost \$4. First time free. Info: Sue Chen, (562) 338-2298, email: CerritosFolk-Dancers@gmail.com.

#### **OUT OF STATE: NEVADA**

LAS VEGAS—Ethnic Express ethnicexpresslasvegas.org. Every Wednesday except holidays & August. All requests. 800 So. Brush St. \$4.00. 702/732-4871. rpkillian@gmail.com

RENO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CO-OP. Beg. & interm. int'l. Thursdays, 7-9 pm, Temple Sinai, 3405 Gulling Rd. (off King's Row), Reno. Cost \$2.

First Saturday Party, 7-9:30 pm at Nevada Dance Academy, 1790 W. 4th (off Keystone). Cost \$5. Contact Derise at (775) 677-2306 or wigand@gbis.com.

#### SAN FRANCISCO

Croatian American Cultural Center, attn: Les Andres, 890 Springfield, San Jose, CA 95008 danica@danicarestoration.com

#### SAN FRANCISCO COUNCIL

Changs International Folk Dancers, Inc. Meets the first four Fridays of each month at the Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church at the corner of 31st Avenue and Clement Street, San Francisco. Teaching on the first two Fridays followed by general dancing, 8:00-10:30 pm., Third Friday is Family Folk Dance Night at 7:00 pm, followed by Party Night at 8:15 pm. Fourth Friday is now "Easy dances and Requests" 8:30-10:30 pm. And there is no session on the fifth Friday. Luiselle Yakas, at 415 467-9319 or sisderoo@aol.com.

Greek Feet THIS IS A NEW LOCATION in the PRESIDIO. Presidio Performing Arts Center, 386 Arguello at Moraga on the Presidio's Main Post, Presidio, San Francisco. Parking available at the Presidio Performing Arts Center parking lot by the side of the center. To enter

the parking lot, take an immediate left past the Herbst Exhibition Center (unfortunately the road is dark and there is no sign but you can't miss it if you know you are looking for it). New Studio is across from the Officiers' Club and behind the Presidio Bowling Alley. Once you see the Studio, you can't miss it, big building with lots of windows. Please protect our new floor and wear dance shoes, no street shoes allowed.

Mandala Folk Dance Center. Meets every Thursday at St. Paul's Church Hall, 43rd & Judah, San Francisco, 7:30-8:15 pm. Request dancing, 8:15-9:00 pm. Intermediate teaching from 9:00-9:45 pm. Request dancing from 9:45-11:00 pm. First and last Thursdays are always Party Nights. Contact Edith or Paul at 415-648-8489.

San Francisco Dance Circle meets every Wednesday 10:45 am - 12:15 pm at the newly renovated Harvey Milk Recreation Center, 50 Scott Street @ Duboce. Lines, sets, partners, trios-we do it all! Beginners welcome to start anytime. Gorgeous dance studio. Good public transportation. Free! Contact: Ann Colichidas at 415-902-7690.

#### SAN FRANCISCO HALL RENTAL

Polish Club of San Francisco—Event venue available. Weddings, meetings, dance workshops, seminars, parties, receptions, etc. Full kitchen, dance floor, 2 large meeting rooms, tables, chairs, stage. Limited free parking. Info & reservations 415-285-4336 or 415-821-2574, email staff@polishclub.org

#### MERCED

Merced International Folkdance classes - Lines, Circles, and couple dances. Thursdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm, at 645 W. Main St, Merced, CA (3rd Floor). \$7 per session. No classes during Summer. More info: call Memo Keswick at 209-723-4016 or 209-261-6861.

#### MODESTO

Every Wed. night—Modesto Folk Dancers meet at Raube Hall in Ceres. 7:30 to 10:00 pm. Cost \$3.00 per person. Contacts: Floyd Davis and Barbara Summers (209-578-5551 for directions)

Every Friday night—Village Dancers meet at the Carnegie Arts Center, 250 N. Broadway, Turlock, CA 95380, 7:00 - 9:30, \$5 per person. Students free. Contacts: Don and Judy Kropp, 209-480-0387

Every Saturday—Modesto Tango Practica Saturdays Basics 11:00 am-12:15 pm Sophia's Dance Journey 711 10th Street

Every Monday—Modesto Tango meets at Jacob's Restaurant, 2501 McHenry Ave, Modesto, for a practice and social dancing. 8 to 10 pm. No fee, but participants are encouraged to order food and/or drinks. Contact Mary Menz 209-522-1571.

#### **TRI-VALLEY**

Del Valle Folk Dancers. NEW VENUE AND TIME! Meets every Tuesday evening 7:30-9:30 pm at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Stree, Livermore, in the room at the west end. Cost \$4 per person. Your first time is FREE! Small, congenial group enjoying international dances, mostly Balkan and Israeli. Mix of long-time and recent dancers; beginners welcome. Ad-hoc, informal instruction. We're in it for the movement, the music, and the fun! Contact George Pavel 925-447-8020, george.pavel@gmail.com.

#### ALBANY

Albany Y Balkan Dancers. Fridays, all levels, instruction 8:00 to 9:00 pm, all request dancing until 11:00 pm. 921 Kains Street, just south of Solano, off San Pablo Ave., Albany. Contact Kay James, 925-376-0727.

#### **BERKELEY**

Advanced Balkan Dancers class. Every third Sunday, 2-4:00 pm in the Rear Dance Studio at Ashkenaz. Learn the great dances of folk dancing. A few year's dancing experience is needed. Experienced instructors, friendly people. Entry via the left hand door at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley. Information: Gary Anderson, 415 -488-9197 weekdays or email: wildwood\_press@comcast.net

Cape Breton Step Dance dancers, 2-4 pm. Ashkenaz Music and Dance, back studio, 1317 at Ashkenaz—2nd Sundays, beginners, 1:00 pm, experienced San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. For info call Bob Schuldheisz 209-745-9063, bobschul@softcom.net

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS. All classes are held at Live Oak Park Recreation Center, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 7:45-9:35 pm Contact: Naomi Lidicker at 510-524-2871 or http://berkeleyfolkdancers.org

April 27. All-Request-Night Fun Night. Live music by the band Večernica! Join BFD for a great night of dancing at the Live Oak Park Social Hall at the above address from 7:30-9:30. The dances are selected from previously submitted dance requests. For members \$5 will get you in the door; \$7 for non-members. Contact: Peter D'Angelo 510-654-3136 or pvdangelo@hotmail.com.

Weekly class schedules:

Mondays—Advanced, Lone Coleman 510-526-5886 and Tom Sha 510-614-5522

Tuesdays—Intermediate, Claire and Al George 510-841-1205 Wednesdays—Advanced Intermediate, Judy Stonefield 510-655-3074 and Yaqi Zhang 510-525-1865

Thursdays—Beginners, Bill Lidicker 510-528-9168 and Marija Hillis 510-549-0337, assisted by David Hillis and Andy Partos Fridays—All Request Night. Contact Peter and Lynne D'Angelo 510-654-3136

#### **OAKLAND**

Scandiadans—Thursdays. 7-10 pm at the Nature Friends, 3115 Butters Drive, Oakland, Ca. From Highway 13 take the Joaquin Miller exit. Drive East (up the hill) on Joaquin Miller about a mile. Take the second Right onto Butters Drive. Follow Butters 0.4 mile. On the Right is a sign reading SCANDIADANS. Turn into the driveway and go down into a large parking area. The clubhouse is ahead on the Right. Contact: Frank and Jane Tripi 510 654-3636 or fjtripi@juno.com

Scandia Saturday. Four times a year. Location: Nature Friends, 3115 Butters Drive, Oakland. Donation is \$7, or \$10 in December. Scandinavian couple turning dances. Everyone is welcome. Info: Jane Tripi 510-654-3636 or <a href="mailto:fitripi@iuno.com">fitripi@iuno.com</a>.

#### PENINSULA COUNCIL

Folkdances of Hungary and Transylvania Tuesdays 8:00-10:30 pm Arrillaga Family Recreation Center, 700 Alma St, Menlo Park. Warm up dances 8:00-8:30, teaching 8:30-10:00 You do not need to bring a partner since we rotate partners during the teaching. Taught by Todd Wagner and Sarah Tull. For more information call 650-941-0227 or email todd@wagnerhaz.com

Peninsula FD Council Party Second Saturday of every month except January at St Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Rd at Monte Rosa, Menlo Park, conveniently located just a few blocks east of I-280. Parking entrance from Monte Rosa. Dancing to your requests from 7:30 to 10:30. Cost is still only \$7.00. Bring a little finger food to share. Coffee, tea and punch are provided. A half hour of teaching/reviewing old dances will precede most parties. Come at 7:00 and learn or review a good old dance. Call Al at (408) 252-8106 for teaching schedule and directions.

Mostly Balkan. Thursdays, teaching 7:45 to 8:45, request dancing 8:45 to 10:15. \$6.00. Arrillaga Family Recreation Center. Information: Sue 408-247-2420 or Derek 650-851-8498.

Menlo Park Folk Dancers Parties—Apr. 28, No Party in May, June 23. Arrillaga Family Recreation Center, 700 Alma at Mielke in Menlo Park. Preceded by a potluck starting at 6:00 pm, call 650-327-0759 for location. 8:00 pm until midnight. Lots of dancing in two halls. Free refreshments provided. Adults \$9.00, teens \$3.00. 700 Alma St. near Ravenswood Ave, Menlo Park. Call Marcel Vinokur at 650-327-0759 for details.

Mondays—Menlo Park Folk Dancers. Classes, International, Beg., 7:00-7:45, Inter. 7:45-8:45, request dancing 8:45-10:15. Arrillaga Family Recreation Center, 700 Alma at Mielke, Menlo Park. Marcel Vinokur 650-327-0759.

Palomanians IFD—Every Tuesday. Beginning level dances 7:30 pm. Intermediate 8:00 to 10:00 pm. Arrillaga Family Recreation Center (aka Menlo Park Recreation Center), 700 Alma, Menlo Park. \$6 drop-in fee. Adony Beniares, Denise Heenan and David Heald, instructors. Call Al at (408) 252-8106 or email to palisin@comcast.net for info.

Carriage House FD—class on Wednesdays at Holbrook Palmer Park, 150 Watkins Ave. in Atherton. Teaching 7:45 - 9:00. Requests 9:00 to 10:00 or so. Suzanne Rocca-Butler, instructor (650) 854-3184.

Saratoga International Folklore Family. Thursdays 7:30-8:15 beginners lesson; 8:15-10:00 intermediate-advanced. \$8 general public, \$6 seniors. St. Archangel Michael Serbian Orthodox Church, 18870 Allendale Avenue, Saratoga. Contact Loui Tucker 408-287-9999, email: loui@louitucker.com

#### FRESNO FOLK DANCES

Tuesdays—Fresno Danish Dancers. Clovis Senior Center. 6:30-9:00 pm. Contact Wilma Andersen, 559-291-3176.

Wednesdays—McTeggert Irish Dancers. Beginners: 5:30-6:30 pm. Intermediate and Advanced: 7:00-8:00 pm. Contact Maureen Hall, 559-271-5200.

First, Third & Fifth Saturdays—International Dancers. 8:00 to 10:00 pm at California Arts Academy, 4750 N. Blackstone near Gettysburg Street, Fresno. Info: Marty 559-227-7051, Gary 559-439-1416

#### **MARIN**

Kopachka International Folkdancers Scout Hall, 177 E. Blithedale, Mill Valley. Every Friday 7:30 to 10:30 pm. Beginners' teaching 7:30 to 8:00, followed by half an hour's intermediate/advanced teaching, then program for all levels. \$7. Information: Nadav Nur, (415) 497-4890, or Susie Shoaf, <a href="mailto:susieshoaf@aol.com">susieshoaf@aol.com</a>

#### **NORTH BAY**

Razzmatazz Folk Dance Club, Balkan dance classes; meet Tuesdays from 7 pm to 9 pm in Tauzer Gym at Santa Rosa Jr. College. Fall session beginning the end of August and Spring session beginning the end of January. Online registration begins 3-4 weeks before each session through Community Education, Santa Rosa Junior College. Usually 2 parties in the fall, one in the spring and a folk dance weekend in Mendocino in May or June.

#### REDWOOD COUNCIL

Petaluma/Novato International Folk Dancers Party dates: April 14, May 5, June 2, July 14, Sept. 8, Oct. 20, Nov. 11 & Dec. 9. All dances are 2-6 pm at Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma

Sonoma County Scandia Dancers—Scandinavian dance class in Petaluma. Beginners welcome. Come learn the dances of Norway and Sweden on Tuesdays from 7:15 to 9:15 pm. at Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Ave. Petaluma. No partner needed. Bring leather or smooth soled shoes. The first night is free, thereafter \$4 per class. For questions call Vince at 996-8300 or Emma at 823-4145.

Napa Valley Folk Dancers. Telephone contact: 707-255-6815. Napa Valley College, 2277 Napa-Vallejo Highway, Napa, 94558. Party Every 4th Saturday, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Novato Folk Dancers Class - Telephone contact: 415-892-9405. Lynwood School, 1320 Lynwood Dr., Novato, 94947. Every Wednesday 8 - 10 p.m.

Petaluma Snap-Y Dancers Monday night dancing in Petaluma resumed on January 9-May 7; \$65 for the 17-week session, or \$7 dropins.7-9:15 p.m. at Herman Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. Beginner lesson/review at 7 pm; a couple of new intermediate

dances will be taught in the middle of the evening, plus there will be lots of time for requests and dancing to old and new favorites. Come enjoy our friendly atmosphere, great mix of dances and the wonderful wood dance floor at Herman Sons Hall. Info: Carol Friedman 415-663-9512 cjay@horizoncable.com http://carolfriedmanfolkdance.blogspot.com/

Santa Rosa Folk Dancers Class - Telephone contact: 707-546-8877. Willowside Hall, 5299 Hall Road, Santa Rosa. Every Thursday 1:00-3:00 p.m. except June - Aug.

Snap-Y Dancers (Sonoma). Beginners welcome! Seven Flags Clubhouse, 1400 W. Watmaugh Rd., Sonoma, 95476. Thursdays 7:00–9:00 pm. Contact Paul Smith 707-996-1467 for summer schedule.

#### **SACRAMENTO**

PONY EXPRESS DANCE CLUB Country-western, couple & line. First Saturday of Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr, May, Jun, Sept, Oct, Nov, & Dec. Lesson 7-8pm. Open dance 8-11:00pm. Arcade Creek Recreation & Park District Hall, 4855 Hamilton Street (I-80 & Madison Ave). Sacramento. Members \$5 & Non-members \$7. Contact: 916-212-4654 or cerponyepress@aol.com.

IRISH AMERICAN CEILI DANCERS. Irish folk dancing. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at the Ethel M. Harte Senior Center. 915 27th Street, Sacramento. Contact Helen Healy 916-444-3181

# Where to dance in the Greater Sacramento Area: SACRAMENTO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE & ARTS COUNCIL

Website: www.folkdancesac.org \*indicates "Beginner-friendly class"

(Note: Federation members are in bold type, others do not belong to the Federation.)

#### MONDAY

\*EL DORADO SCANDINAVIAN DANCERS. All levels, couple. 7 -9 pm. Hamilton St. Park, 4855 Hamilton St., Sacramento. Contact: 916-358-2807. Website: www.folkdance.com/scandi

HOROS. Mostly-Balkan, non-partner, intermediate & advanced. 7:30 -9:30 pm. Coloma Community Ctr., 4623 T St., Sacramento.

Contact: 916-798-4675, fusaec@aol.com

\*VILLAGE DANCERS OF MODESTO. Beg. & Int. Scandinavian, couple. 7:30-9:30 pm. Raube Hall, 4455 Roeding Rd., Ceres.

Contact: 209-480-0387, judy\_kropp@sbcglobal.net

#### **TUESDAY**

\*EL DORADO INTERNATIONAL DANCE - Beg. & Int. International, line & couple. 7-10 pm. IOOF Hall, 467 Main St., Placerville. Contact: 530-622-7301 or 530-644-1198

\*TUESDAY DANCERS. Beg. & Int. International. 1:00-3:00 pm. Hamilton St. Park, 4855 Hamilton St., Sacramento. Contact: 530-888-6586 or 916-923-1555, dancebruce@aol.com or dancesong20@att.net

#### WEDNESDAY

\*CALICO FOLK DANCERS. Beg. & Int. International, line & couple. 3:00-4:30 pm. All year except Aug. Mission Oaks Community Ctr., 4701 Gibbons Dr., Carmichael, CA 95608. Contact: 916-972-0336 or 916-923-1555, dancesong20@att.net

KOLO KOALITION. All levels. International, non-partner. 7:30-10:00 pm. YLI Hall, 1400- 27th St. at N, Sacramento. Contact: 916-739-6014, leonelli@cwo.com

\*MODESTO FOLK DANCERS. Beg. & Int. International. 7:30-10:00 pm. Raube Hall, 4455 Roeding Rd., Ceres. Contact: 209-578-5551

#### THURSDAY

\*DANCES OF THE WORLD - BEGINNERS CLASS (Starting Sept. 15, 2011). Beg. International, line & couple. 7:00-8:30 pm. YLI

Hall, 1400- 27th St. at N, Sacramento. Contact: 916-923-1555, dancesong20@att.net

INTERNATIONAL DANCERS OF SACRAMENTO. Intermediate. Couple and non-partner. 7:30-9:30 pm. Hamilton St. Park, 4855 Hamilton Street, Sacramento. Contact 530-888-6586 or dance-bruce@aol.com

\*PAIRS & SPARES. Beg. & Int. International line & couple. 7:30-8:30 pm. (Sept.-June). Thursdays 7-8:30 pm. Bruceville Terrace Convalescent Home Dining Room. 8151 Bruceville Rd. Sacramento, 95823 Contact: 916-682-2638, edaandco@aol.com

\*RENO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CO-OP. Beg. & Int. International, recreational, non-partner, couple. 7-9 pm. Temple Sinai, 3405 Gulling (off King's Row), Reno. Contact: 775-677-2306, wigand@gbis.com

#### **FRIDAY**

\*EL DORADO INTERNATIONAL DANCE - GARDEN VAL-LEY. Beg. & Int. International. 7:00-9:00 pm. Marshall Grange, 4940 Marshall Grange Rd., Garden Valley. Contact: 530-622-6470 or 530-333-4576, bonnieb@eldoradolibrary.org

\*EL DORADO INTERNATIONAL DANCE - All levels, couple & line. 7:30-10:00 pm. 3100 Ponderosa Rd., Shingle Springs. Contact: 530-676-9722, Karen@karensandler.net

\*NEVADA COUNTY FOLK DANCERS. Beg. & Int. Balkan & International. Selected Fridays. 7-10:30 pm. Methodist Church, 433 Broad St., Nevada City. Contact: 530-272-2149, dance7@sbcglobal.net

\*ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY. Beg. & Int. Recreational/couple. 7:30 pm. YLI Hall, 1400- 27th St. at N, Sacramento. Contact: 916-716-3696. Website: www.rscds-sacramento.org \*VILLAGE DANCERS OF MODESTO. Beg. & Int. International, recreational, couple, & non-partner. 7:30-10:00 pm. Call for location. Contact: 209-480-0387, judy\_kropp@sbcglobal.net

\*FIRST & LAST DANCERS. All levels. Country-western, couple & line. Last Fri. of Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., Sept., Oct., & Nov. 8 pm. Valley Oaks Grange, 5th & D, Galt. May, June, July, Aug., & Dec.: special dates & times. Contact: 916-682-2638, edaandco@aol.com

#### SATURDAY

\*DANCES OF THE WORLD - MOSTLY BALKAN. PARTY (formerly BBKM) All Levels. Mostly-Balkan. Non-partner. 3rd Sat. monthly except July & Aug. 8-11 pm. YLI Hall, 1400-27th St. at N, Sacramento. Contact: 916-923-1555, dancesong20@att.net

KOLO KOALITION. PARTY. All Levels, Mostly Balkan, Non-partner. 1st Sat. monthly. 8:00-11:00 pm. YLI Hall, 1400-27th St. at N, Sacramento. Contact: 916-739-6014, leonelli@cwo.com

\*PAIRS & SPARES. PARTY. International. 2nd Sat. monthly except July & Aug. 7-10 pm. Golden Palms Mobilehome Estates Activity Room, 8181 Folsom Bl., Sacramento. Gated community. Planned late arrivals should call contact for the gate code number to open the gate which is closed at 7:00 pm. Contact: 916-682-2638, edaandco@aol.com.

\*RENO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CO-OP. PARTY. Beg. & Int. International, recreational, non-partner, couple. 1st Sat. monthly. 7-9:30 pm. Nevada Dance Academy, 1790 W. 4th (off Keystone), Reno. Contact: 775-677-2306, wigand@gbis.com

\*ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY - YOUTH CLASS. 10 am. YLI Hall, 1400- 27th St. at N, Sacramento. Contact: 916-716-3696. Website: www.rscds-sacramento.org

\*ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY PARTY. Recreational/couple. 2nd Sat. monthly except July & Aug. 7:30 pm. YLI Hall, 1400- 27th St. at N, Sacramento. Contact: 916-716-3696. Website: www.rscds-sacramento.org

\*SACRAMENTO COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY - CONTRA DANCE. Beg. & Int. 2nd & 4th Sat. 7:30-11:00 pm. Coloma Community Ctr., 4623 T St., Sacramento. Contact: 916-549-7093. Web-

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FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

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