Let's Dance!

THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING DECEMBER, 2013



Halloween decorations at the Officer's Ball



Season's Greetings



St. George slaying the dragon at the Officer's Ball costume party. Eileen Menteer and hubby John Burke.

—Photos by Gary Anderson

Sct's Dance!

Volume 70. No. 10 DECEMBER, 2013

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Mail applications, renewals & checks to: Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc. M. Rose

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/ **FolkDanceFed**

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

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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

email: wildwood press@comcast.net

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

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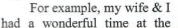
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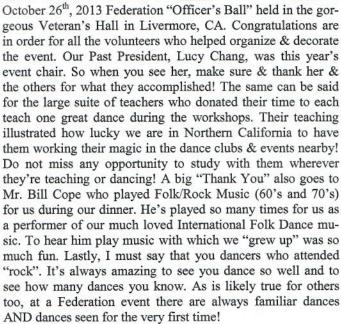
Contact: Editor, Box 548, Woodacre, CA 94973 or email: wildwood press@comcast.net or call 415-488-9197 (9:00 am to 3:00 pm)

President's Message

By Memo Keswick

The Federation President has an article for each issue of the "Let's Dance" magazine and is always writing a month in advance. Therefore, it always seems to me that I'm a month behind or a month ahead of that which I could be writing. Hmmm, somehow seems similar to my dance steps.





By the time some of you read this article the 2013 Thanksgiving San Francisco Kolo Festival may have already occurred. If so, we hope you attended! If it hasn't occurred yet, please consider attending. This wonderful festival offers so much to us and has a wonderful long dance tradition in our communities (62nd Annual Festival this year).

I want to share some updates on Statewide 2014. Teaching will be:

Sonia & Cristian Florescu (http://www.soniacristian.net/cristian_florescu_and_sonia_dion.ws) and Robert Bagnoli (http://www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/teachers/bagnoli_r.htm).

Also, "Chubritza" of Arcata, CA (http://chubritza.com/) will be playing for our dancing pleasure.

Make sure and "Save the Date" for Statewide 2014 during Memorial Day weekend. It's shaping up to be very memorable dancing! The lodging in the Redding, CA area should be affordable and we'll be dancing over a long Memorial Day weekend. The long weekend should help compensate for anyone traveling a long distance! California is a "mighty", long, and beautiful State!

I know many of your clubs will be having end of year or holiday events for your dancers. Therefore, I extend to you our wholehearted wish that these events be successful, fun, and full of cheer for you. May your December celebrations also help you close out 2013 with wonderful memories and "propel" you into your new adventures to come in 2014! We certainly look forward to sharing some of these adventures with you!

I'm still waiting to announce new names of participants on the Federation Board. However, I can say we found a fantastic new Chair for our vacant Promotions Committee. Other currently vacant Board positions include Chairs for "Costume", "North/South", "Teachers", and "Publications". What about you? Of course, there are also many committees of which you could be a member and not a Chair. Most important is your interest and knowing what you'd like to do working with the Board. If you'd like to work with the Board, please talk to me or any other Board member!

Having been asked several times about how to advertise your event through our Federation resources I offer the following:

Ways to announce your folk dance event using Folk Dance Federation of California resources.

(Note: See www.folkdance.com (North); www.socalfolkdance.org (South); or another source for more specifics)

Hard Copy Magazines

- 1) "Let's Dance" Magazine (Northern California Magazine). Ads are due 1 month prior to magazine publication.
- 2) "Folk Dance Scene" Magazine (Southern California Magazine). Ads are due by $10^{\rm th}$ of month preceding a publication.

ONLINE Media

- 1) www.folkdance.com for Folk Dance Federation of California (North) postings.
- 2) www.socalfolkdance.org for Folk Dance Federation of California (South) postings.
- 3) http://groups.yahoo.com/group/InternationalFolkDance/ to join folkdance "Yahoo" group.
- 4) https://www.facebook.com/FolkDanceFed for folkdance "Facebook" group.
- 5) www.meetup.com to find a folkdance meetup group near you.

Happy Dancing and hope to see you soon on the dance floor, - m.k.

Welcome new member

Marion Rose, our membership chairman, reports the following new member:

Dale Adamson Surrey, BC, Canada

Correction

In the article "Memories of Susan Cashion" in the November, 2013 issue, the month of her death was incorrectly listed as September 29, 2013, and should have been August 29, 2013. We regret the error and thank those who caught it for notifying us.

DECEMBER, 2013 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—

- Nov. 29 & 30 California Kolo Festival—This is the great one!!! Live music every night. Plus live music in the Kafana. Dancing, dancing, dancing! Yves Moreau teaching Bulgarian dances in one of his last west coast appearances, Lee Otterholt teaching Balkan, John Filcich teaching Kolos, France Moreau teaching Breton and Jerry Duke teaching Greek. Live music, 8-12 p.m., Main Hall and Kafana. Croatian-American Cultural Center, 60 Onondaga Avenue, at Alemany, (three blocks from Balboa Bart station) Advance registration is strongly recommended—http://balkantunes.org/kolofestival
- December 9 Annual Petaluma Snap-Y Dancers Holiday Folk Dance Party with fabulous live Balkan music by Santa Rosa Vechernka featuring band members Jim Avera on vocals and gajda, Barbara Babin on vocals and gadulka, Ken Getnetti on tambura, and Gaelen Genetti on kaval and tupan. Monday, December 9, 7-9:30 p.m., at Herman Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. Info: Carol Friedman 415-663-9512, cjay@horizoncable.com
- December 14 Razzmatazz Christmas Folk Dance Party, Join us for our annual Razzmatazz Christmas Folk Dance party on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 7:30 pm-10:30 pm at beautiful Monroe Hall, 1400 W. College Ave., Santa Rosa. We'll be dancing to recorded folk dance favorites PLUS live music by local musicians Barbara Babin (gudulka), Jim Avera (gaida), Ken Genetti (tambura), and Gaelen Genetti (kaval, tupan, gajda). We will have our traditional reading of "The Night Before Christmas" followed by a special visit from Santa Claus. Each child will have a chance to sit on Santa's lap and receive a candy cane. So, bring your little ones (and a camera!) and join in the fun. Admission is just \$5 and children are free. Tips for the musicians are greatly appreciated. Bring your favorite holiday snacks to share.
- **December 25 Peninsula Christmas party**—8:00 to 11 pm. St. Bede's Church, Sand Hill Road at Monte Rosa in Menlo Park. Info: 408-252-8106
- New Year's Eve Party at a new venue, Barrett Community Center, 1835 Belburn Drive, Belmont, One block from Ralston Ave. Time: 7-8 pm is potluck, bring a favorite dish. Moveable Feet will provide drinks, utensils and cake. 8-12:15 all-request party with MCs Lucy and Loui. Questions? Sponsored by the Moveable Feet Club. Contact LucySchang@gmail.com or Loui@Louitucker.com. Donation: \$10.
- 2014 January *Heritage Festival—New location: Sequoia High School, 1201 Brewster Avenue, Redwood City.

 10 & 11 Friday party—January 10, 7 pm to 10:30 pm. Saturday Institute—1:30 to 4:30 pm. Saturday party—
 January 11, 6:30 to 10:30 pm. Information Ken Kaye kenkaye46@yahoo.com, Adony Beniares, beni@pacbell.net See ad on next page ▶
- February 7-9 Laguna Beach Folkdancers announce the instructors for the 44th Annual Festival. Steve Kotansky will teach dances of the Balkans & Hungary and George & Irina Arabagi will teach dances of Moldavvia and the Ukraine. Festivities feature: Dance party with concurrent recorded & live music + tasty ethnic food, Friday evening; Workshop sessions Saturday morning & afternoon; Dance party & Early Bird Request Hour Saturday evening; Workshop review session Sunday morning; Concert followed by All Request Party Sunday afternoon. Details, lodging & registration flyer at lagunafolkdancers.org contact 714 891-0788 or info@LagunaFolkDancers.org Festival location, Ensign Middle School Gym, 2000 Cliff Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92633, is near John Wayne Airport.
- February 9 *FESTIVAL OF THE OAKS, Sunday, 9 am to 5 pm. Live Oak Park Community Center, Berkeley
- Feb 14-16 San Francisco Bay Area Scandia Festival, Petaluma CA featuring Swedish dance teachers Bengt & Britt-Mari and Swedish musicians Andströms. Weekend package for all workshops and dances \$90. Please visit our website for more information by Googling: Scandia Festival Petaluma. Registration begins 12/3/2013 on the Scandia Festival Petaluma website.
- March 7 & 8 *58th Annual Camellia International Folk Dance Festival Friday party 7-11 pm, Saturday Work shops with Lee Otterholt teaching Scandinavian Couple dances 1-2:50 pm AND a Balkan Line Dance Workshop 3:10-5:00 pm. Saturday party 7-11 pm. The Central United Methodist Church, 5265 H Street, Sacramento. Each event \$8.00 or \$25.00 for all events. FREE for students with student body card. Sunday concert to occur on a future date later in March, 2014.

^{*}Federation sponsored events.

- 64th year - Bigger and Better -

Heritage Festival January 10 and 11, 2014

New Location, Hours and Features!

Agapi Mou



Friday Night

Erica Goldman



Susan Worland & Friends



Saturday Night

- □ There will be Live Music on both nights, PLUS your recorded music requests.
- Erica Goldman, who taught the highest rated dances at 2013's Stockton Folk Dance camp, will be teaching a variety of Israeli dances at Saturday's Institute.
- □ Erica will teach the partner dance 'Mischak Hadmaot' and will choose among the non-partner dances 'Baleilot Hakayitz Hachamim', 'Zemer Nuge', 'Katonti', 'Olam Male Ahava' and 'Einchat Haadama'.
- We'll be dancing in a bigger room with a great wooden dance floor.
- Donation request of \$10 for each evening's party and \$15 for Saturday's institute.

Sequoia High School, 1201 Brewster Ave, Redwood City, CA

Friday Evening Party – January 10, 7:00pm to 10:30pm

Saturday Institute with Erica – January 11, 1:30pm to 4:30pm

Saturday Evening Party – January 11, 6:30pm to 10:30pm

The Heritage Festival is sponsored by the Peninsula Folk Dance Council and the Northern California Folk Dance Federation.

The Federation Board Meeting will be held at 10:30 on Saturday. All are encouraged to attend. email Ken Kaye (kenkaye46@yahoo.com) or Adony Beniares (beni@pacbell.net) for more information

44th Annual LAGUNA FOLKDANCE FESTIVAL



FEBRUARY 7-9, 2014 Ensign Intermediate School Gym. 2000 Cliff Dr., Newport Beach CA,

info@LagunaFolkdancers.org; www.LagunaFolkdancers.org; (714) 313-2933; (714) 893-8888; (949) 646-7082

Presenting Master
Teachers

Steve Kotansky dances of Hungary and the Balkans

George & Irina Arabagi

Ukraine.

A VARIETY OF BANDS will provide LIVE MUSIC throughout the week-end

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday evening \$16.-

Saturday

Morning workshop	9:30 - 11:30	\$11
Afternoon workshop	1:30 - 4:30	\$14
Evening		
Includes: "Early Bird Sp Evening Dance & After	ecial" all request h	our,

Sunday all dance events \$15.

	an dance events 3	
1	Reviews	10:00 - 11:30
	optional catered lunch (see bel	ow).11:30-12:30
5	Steve Kotansky's Greatest Hits	12:30 - 1:30
	Dance Concert	
I	Dance Party	3:00 - 4:30

Optional catered lunch in the Gym on Sunday must be ordered by 12:00 noon Saturday selection of premium prepared sandwiches, salad and bakery items \$12.-

PASSPORT FOR ALL EVENTS: \$55.- before Jan. 24; \$65.- at the door

SYLLABUS: \$3.- with advance registration; \$5.- at the door (PDF file)

Motel info:

Travelodge, 1951 Newport Blvd. Costa Mesa \$69.12 (1-2 people, 1 bed) or \$85.32 (up to 4 people, 2 beds), tax included.

(949)650-2999 Mention Laguna Folkdancers.

Register in Advance

	Advance	
Names for badges		
Number of passports	x\$55	Number of Sunday lunches
Number of syllabi (PDF)	x\$ 3	x \$12
Number of syllabi (paper)	x\$ 3	Total check \$
Your email address (preferred) of	or phone #	
(for confirmation and PDF sylle	abus)	

Mail with check (before Jan. 24) to Laguna Folkdancers, 1524 Vivian, Newport Beach, CA 92660

Council & Club Clips

Berkeley Folk Dancers. Our traditional New Year's Eve Party falls on Tues. Dec. 31 (surprise!) at Live Oak Park Social Hall at Shattuck and Berryman, Berkeley from 9 PM. Come dance the old year out and at midnight welcome the New Year in. There is sure to be a merry crowd dressed to the "tee" for this most festive of evenings. There will be beverages and snack to keep our energy up. A mere \$5 for members and \$7 for others for this most joyous evening. Contact: Judy and Neil Collier 510-524-2671 or (judithcollier@gmail.com or neil1335@gmail.com).

Note: BFD is not dancing on Tues., Dec. 24, Wed., Dec. 25 nor Wed., Jan. 1.

SEASON GREETINGS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

—Naomi Lidicker

Sacramento International Folk Dance and Arts Council— Our traditional Camellia Festival is now in two parts. We have lost our home at CSUS, and have made our usual 3-day event into a two-weekend event.

The Workshop portion of the Camellia Festival will be on the traditional March 7 - 8 with Lee Otterholt teaching Scandinavian Couple Dances Saturday morning, and Balkan Line Dances Saturday afternoon. There will be an all-request party on Friday evening, and another party Saturday evening. Our new location will be the Central United Methodist Church, 5265 H Street in downtown Sacramento. Parking will be close, and free. We will be happy to have a kitchen there, which we never had at CSUS, so there will be food!

Change! We have had to change the date of our Camellia Festival Concert to Saturday afternoon, March 29, 3-5 PM, 2014. But the good news is we will be having it at the beautiful, newly refurbished, Art Deco Performing Arts Center auditorium at Sacramento City College, across from William Land Park on Freeport Blvd. Free parking, and a fine auditorium. Bruce Mitchell, who chairs this event, is in the process of inviting groups to perform, and expects an exciting and diverse program. Watch for more news as the months go by!

On Saturday, December 7th, Zeljko Jergan will teach a Croatian workshop in the afternoon at the YLI Hall followed by Kolo Koalition's monthly Balkan party.

On Sunday, December 8th, there will be a Memorial and dance party in memory of long-time folk dancer Dorothy Jerome who passed away October 2nd. The Memorial will be 1:00-3:00 PM at the YLI Hall followed by the dance party until 6:00.

We are planning a Scholarship Ball, called Midwinter Village Festival, on January 25, to be held at the IOOF hall in Placerville, 467 Main Street. Wear a folk costume! It is always a great time, on one of the most amazing dance floors you will ever experience. Plus you can spend the afternoon shopping at some very nice shops in the historic town of Placerville. Details to follow.

There is still time to donate to the Oscar Faoro "Feed the Tiger" Scholarship Fund for Stockton Folk Dance Camp. Send your donation to Camp Director, Jeff O'Connor, <folkdancecampdirector@gmail.com>, 225 California Ave., Arcata CA 95521.

-Barbara Malakoff

Snap-Y Dancers, **Petaluma**—Monday night dancing in Petaluma continues through December 9, from 7-9:15 p.m. at Herman Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue.

December 2 will be all-review night, and on December 9 we'll be hosting our annual Holiday Folk Dance Party with live music by Santa Rosa Vecherinka.

Newcomers and drop-ins are always welcome. Hope to see you on the dance floor.—Carol Friedman, 415-663-9512 cjay@horizoncable.com

Razzmatazz Christmas Folk Dance Party, Sat. Dec. 14 in Santa Rosa

By Marilyn Smith

Join us for our annual Razzmatazz Christmas Folk Dance party on Saturday, Dec. 14 from 7:30 pm-10:30 pm at beautiful Monroe Hall, 1400 W. College Ave., Santa Rosa.

We'll be dancing to recorded folk dance favorites PLUS live music by local musicians Barbara Babin (gudulka), Jim Avera (gaida), Ken Genetti (tambura), and Gaelen Genetti (kaval, tupan, gajda).

We will have our traditional reading of "The Night Before Christmas" followed by a special visit from Santa Claus. Each child will have a chance to sit on Santa's lap and receive a candy cane. So, bring your little ones (and a camera!) and join in the fun.

Admission is just \$5 and children are free. Tips for the musicians are greatly appreciated. Bring your favorite holiday snacks to share.

Check out our website for information on classes, parties and our annual Razzmatazz Folk Dance Weekend in Mendocino: http://marilynsmithrazzmatazz.blogspot.com/ or email us at:: razzmatazzfolkdanceclub@gmail.com

Letter to the editor:

I wanted to add a few details to Diane Baker's article about Balkanalia. She mentioned that Evan Stuart directed the kid's band. I wanted to mention that the kid's band class was created by Greg Jenkins (another bay area native) for the Mendocino Balkan Camp over 11 years ago. He brought Evan on as his assistant several years ago. It was so popular that Greg was eventually asked to teach the kid's band at Balkanlia three years ago. This year, the camp flew his 11 person Balkan Brass Band, Fanfare Zambaleta to Balkanalia and they also hired him to teach the adult Brass Band class so this was Evan's first year teaching solo. Zambaleta is a band that Greg formed from a class he taught at the Zambaleta school in San Francisco. Greg is also a founding member of Brass Menazerie, but later had to drop out of the band to attend UCSC. In January, you will have the pleasure of hearing Greg and his fellow band members of Agapi Mou, Aya and Alan Davidson and Michael Garabaldi, at the Heritage Festival in Redwood City. They have a varied repertoire which includes music from Greece, Armenia, Albania, Macedonia, Bulgaria, and Turkey, as well as Rom.

Arlene Imagawa

Stock Dance Camp 2014

July 20-27 and July 27-August 3



George and Irina Arabagi
Ukraine/Moldovia



Faculty for 2014

Roberto Bagnoli International Non-partner



Jan Pumpr & Jitka Bonasova Czech Republic



Miroslav "Bata" Marcetic Serbia



Susan Worland & Friends SFDC Band



Ziva Emtiyaz Belly Dance Workshop



Cesar Garfiaz Salsa Rueda



Ercument Kilic Turkey

More surprises are being planned, including the party themes and one more teacher. Stay informed by subscribing to the Stockton E-News or visiting the Stockton website *folkdancecamp.org*.



Fusae Senzaki-Carroll teaching Berovska Za Pojas, an excellent Macedonian dance, at the Officer's Ball

MEDLEYS, MIXERS, AND MORE!, A SPECTACULAR OFFICERS' BALL

By Bill and Louise Lidicker

When we arrived at the Veterans Memorial Hall in Livermore at noon on Saturday, October 26, there was a U-Haul truck parked in front, and folks were already working on decorations inside. This was an hour before the Federation's annual officers' ball actually began! The Halloween-themed decorations were amazing, and we finished putting them together just in time to start the institute on time.

Nine carefully selected teachers (two were couples) from all over the northern California region taught 9 dances. The dances were mostly classics, but a few were relatively new or somewhere in between, and represented 8 ethnicities. There were 3 mixers, 2 medleys, and 4 "mores" all of which were non-partner. The institute, attended by 88 registrants, went until after 5 pm and was marked by carefully spaced reviews of taught dances along with abundant and delicious snacks.

The teachers and the dances they taught were: Barbara Bevan – Hora Femeilor; Tom Sha – La Salamandre; Adony Beniares assisted by Alan Rothchild — Brass Band medley; Fusae Senzaki-Carroll – Berovska Za Pojas; Carol Friedman – Džangurica; Craig Blackstone – Arnold's Circle; Alan Rothchild – Debka Ramot; Mellissa Miller and Lew Smith – Vodarki Oro; and Frank and Jane Tripi – Stockholm Schottis Mixer.

At 6:00 we were treated to a dinner enjoyed by 90 folks, and accompanied by Bill Cope playing a guitar and singing folk songs mostly from the '60s era.

From 7 to 10, 100 dancers enjoyed a request-based dance program, which also included most of the 9 dances taught at the institute. Many dancers stayed on almost to 11 taking down decorations, packing and carrying them to the U-Haul truck, dealing with left-over food, cleaning the kitchen and dance hall, and saying good-byes. It was truly a spectacular event! Kudos to the many who teamed up to make this event such a success!

Seven past-presidents of the Federation were in attendance, plus our current president Memo Keswick who came with his wife from Chico to be with us. If you missed this event, we missed you too.

Out and about...

Holiday Parties

By Editor Gary Anderson

These are interesting times, dance wise. Lots of dancing, lots of parties, having to choose between them is not an easy thing to do sometimes.

Tonight is a, more or less, private party. I suspect that hundreds of people have been invited, hence the more or less. I would imagine that anyone who wanted could come. But back to the choosing between parties, there is another regular party going on and there are people of whom I am fond who will be there. But I'll see them at another party soon.

December 9. Carol Friedman's Snap-Y Dancers are having their annual Holiday Party with live music, the Santa Rosa Vechernka. The party starts at 7:00 pm at Hermann Sons Hall in 860 Western Ave in Petaluma.

December 14 is Marilyn Smith's annual Razzmatazz Christmas Folk Dance Party at beautiful Monroe Hall, from 7:30 to 10:30. The location is at 1400 W. College Avenue, Santa Rosa. Marilyn will have the same musicians as Carol. There will be a reading of "The Night Before Christmas" and Santa will make an appearance with candy canes for the children. (Bring your young ones)

December 25 will be the Peninsula Council's annual Christmas Party at St. Bede's Church. 8:00 to 11:00 pm. At Sand Hill Road at Monte Rosa in Menlo Park.

December 31 is the Jackpot! At least three parties-Moveable Feet will do a party at Barrett Community Center, 1835 Belburn Drive in Belmont on the Peninsula. This is a replacement for the famous New Year's Parties given for many years by Marcel and Kathy Winokur. Moveable Feet has added a potluck dinner at 7:00 pm with dancing starting at 8:00 pm. Moveable Feet will provide drinks, utensils and cake. Questions: lucyschang@gmail.com Loui@louitucker.com. (Memories-Marcel's New Year's Eve parties were the highlight of the year. So many great dancers and great dances. People coming from far away. The Albuquerque contingent coming if they could get away. Following unique dances from behind the lines. Making lists of dances to learn. Kathy's snack tables. Something special has gone, can we make something new special also? Let's try!)

Berkeley Folk Dancers have their New Year's Eve party at the Live Oak Park Rec. Center at Shattuck and Berryman, Berkeley from 9 pm. There will be beverages and snacks to keep our energy up. A mere \$5 for members and \$7 for others. Contact: Judy and Neil Collier 510-524-2671 or (judithcollier@gmail.com or neil1335@gmail.com).

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Avenue in Berkeley will have their usual New Year's Eve party that will go on late into the morning of January 1.

There are probably other New Year's Eve parties and Holiday parties that we don't know about. Look around, perhaps there is one near you!

44th Annual Laguna Festival welcomes Steve Kotansky and George and Irina Arabagi

By DianeBaker

The Laguna Folkdancers welcome Steve Kotansky and George and Irina Arabagi as featured teachers for our 44th Annual Festival. The location again is Ensign School in Newport Beach. You're invited to the party February 7-9, 2014! Now, read about our vibrant workshop teachers.

George and Irina, who will be teaching dances from their home countries, Moldova and the Ukraine, are making their Laguna Festival debut this year. In California they have recently taught at the Camellia Festival and Stockton Camp. In June of 2013 George and Irina had nine Ukrainian and Moldavian Dance workshops in Japan. While living in Europe they danced professionally and were honored with numerous awards for artistic achievement by the government of the Republic of Moldova.

Irina had already danced whenever and wherever she could, and pleaded with her mom to go to ballet school, when her mom enrolled her at the age of 6 years! She studied both ballet and folk dance. Recognizing Irina's potential her teacher encouraged her to audition at Kiev State College of Performing Arts. She was accepted, and after graduation, danced with the Theater of Opera and Ballet in Kiev. Irina continued her studies at the Moldavian State Pedagogical University, where she earned a degree in choreography, and was a principal dancer of the Moldavian State Dance Company JOC. During her youth Irina also excelled at gymnastics and enjoyed knitting and sewing with her mom, who was a professional dressmaker.

George began dancing in his village Giurgiurleshti when he was in 7th grade. He played various sports and joined a local folk dance ensemble as their youngest dancer. After graduating high school he left the village to study at the Moldavian Choreographic College in Kishinev. Like Irina, George was a principal dancer with JOC. He continues to play basketball, volleyball and tennis, and currently coaches his school volleyball team. George reports that his mother sang beautifully and his father played the harmonica but both he and Irina were the first in their families to make a career in dance.

And what a successful career they have achieved! While dancing with JOC they had the opportunity to work with acclaimed choreographers from Bulgaria, Hungary, Czech & Slovak Republics, Croatia, Serbia, Romania, Macedonia and Russia. As soloists with a touring company they performed in more than 25 countries and within 15 Republics of the former Soviet Union. (Whew!) They write, "Our dance company always performed at the prestigious assemblies and important celebrations in Moscow in front of the leaders of the Soviet Union!" View clips of lavishly staged performances of JOC at http://www.youtube.com/user/georgejoc/videos. But dance in Moldova and the Ukraine is not just for the stage. People enjoy doing traditional dances when celebrating weddings, birth-days, children's baptisms, and on other festive occasions.

George and Irina are pleased to have a role in preserving the rich folk dance traditions of Ukraine and Moldova. They established the Arabagi Dance School in Sacramento and are artistic directors of Sonechko and Veselka, ensembles for both youth and adult dancers. They are also proud to be citizens of the US. They came to Sacramento in 2000 when they won a lottery Green Card, which permitted entry to the US for work and study. When not working they enjoy getting together with friends from Ukraine and Moldova to enjoy a relaxed evening of camaraderie, good wine and tasty dishes from their home countries. The occasion is even more special when son, Slava, visits from Boston. He is a research scientist at Harvard University.

Irina and George are delighted that recreational folk dancers attend their workshops and embrace Ukrainian and Moldavian Folk dance.

Steve Kotansky needs no introduction to California folk dancers. He's returning to his "roots" to again present dances of the Balkans & Hungary at the Laguna Festival 2014. So far just in the 21st century he has taught at Laguna Festival in 2001, 2003, 2006 & 2008. Other recent workshops in California include SF Kolo Festival 2011, Mendocino Folklore Camp 2013, California Statewide Festival 2012, Stockton Camp 2010, among others. For any "newbies" who haven't experienced a high octane workshop with Steve, here's how the Texas International Folk Dancers introduce him in their 2013 Camp Brochure: "Stephen Kotansky has been active in international folk dance for over four decades as a teacher, researcher, performer, and choreographer throughout North America and Europe. He began his dance career as a high school student in the San Francisco Bay Area. In the early years he danced with the Westwind Folk Ensemble and the San Francisco Russian Dance group before becoming a dance major at UCLA and joining the Aman Ensemble and Vincent Evanchuck's Ukrainian dance group, while continuing his study and teaching of Balkan and Central European dance culture. He made his first research trip in 1970...." The Texas camp brochure enumerates Steve's experiences (research & performance) in Germany, Hungary, Romania and other Eastern European countries. It concludes with these notes about Steve's current interests: "Recently Steve has been researching Albanian and Roma dance from the Diaspora, and continues his work and research in Balkan and Central European countries. He is particularly interested in dance culture as it has evolved since the 'fall of the Wall' in these countries.

If you find yourself traveling to Texas for a Thanksgiving reunion with family in the future, make it an "eat and dance" vacation and attend the annual TCIFD camp in Central Texas. Information about camp, history of folkdance in Texas, where to dance in Texas and much more is posted on the website.

Mark your calendar now for the Laguna Festival, February 7-9, 2014. Chairman Bob Altman and committee are in the midst of festival planning. Kriss Larson's Interfolk band will play for the Saturday evening dance party. Chef Bruce will again be cooking up moussaka for the Friday Kafana. Look for flyer and details about music, concert, schedules and registration on the website, LagunaFolkdancers.org.



Eye on Dance by Eileen

I Danced at an Albanian Wedding

By Eileen Kopec, eisiedancer@gmail.com

I just returned from an amazing Jim Gold tour of Albania and Corfu, along with dance leader Lee Otterholt and twenty other intrepid folk dancers. About half way through our travels, we were headed to the town of Gjirokastra, a UNESCO world heritage site since 2004. I had read about Gjirokastra in the novel Chronicle in Stone by Albania's premier author, Ismail Kadare, and was psyched to see the town in person. As the bus crept around the last corner, I could see the stone houses clinging impossibly to the massive hills. Characters in the book began to come alive for me. I soon forgot about the book! Much better was to come.

We pulled up in front of the Cajupe Hotel. Luckily the hotel had a generator, because the rest of the town was experiencing a blackout. After checking in, we were introduced to a delightful group of young women dancers called The Gjirokastra Women's Folk Dance Group. They were dressed in adorable costumes with striped socks. A three-piece band provided the music - small drum, clarinet and accordion. The girls performed a few dances for us, and then invited us to join them. We did several dances together, including a pogonishte, the equally ubiquitous valle kukesit, and a katjushka (AKA pajdusko). The women were all pleasantly surprised at our ability and extremely chuffed that we knew or could follow their dances. We also impressed another tour group from the UK that was watching us. Sitting with them was a woman who wrote the Bradt Guide to Albania, Gillian Gloyer. One of our group members had that book with her and Ms. Glover signed her copy!

After the dance session, we went up to the top floor of our hotel for a delicious dinner. Our guide, Kliti, told us that a wedding reception was going to take place shortly and we might get to participate in the dancing. Soon we saw guests arriving. Many men were dressed rather casually – a few wore jackets or suits, but most wore just shirts and slacks. They looked fine. But the women! The older women wore very smart modern dresses. A lot of younger women were in short (or very short), form fitting, colorful fancy dresses with killer spiked heels. The gorgeous bride arrived in a stunning gown – bare shoulders, tight bodice and tons of gauze for the huge skirt.

Kliti ushered us to a table right outside the ballroom. We could hear the band very well – it was LOUD. Many musicians kept rotating in and out, probably depending on whether they were playing Albanian folk or American popular music. I confess this music junkie was concentrating on the guests. Soon the dancing started. Mostly valle pogonishte (not like our choreographed one by the same name) and what they called valle treshe, also known as valle Napoloni (like a slow hasaposervico or statria). At the beginning, there were a lot of special dances for just the family. It was gratifying to see the children of all ages also partake in the dancing. We all watched for a while and then the band started playing American dance music – classic rock or even older pop dance tunes, etc. Some of the guests could really move to those too. But at that point our group lost interest and went down to their rooms.

I left too, but my room was one floor below the ballroom, and after a short time I could hear Albanian music start up again. I went upstairs and stood by the door. Someone must have seen my feet moving, because a few minutes later a man

came over to me and led me into the line to dance with him and the other wedding guests. I was in heaven. People around me were smiling and nodding and I got a lot of bravos. They didn't know that compared to all our crazy dances, this was easy stuff. BUT this was "real". I did several dances and was grinning ear to ear. What a trip.

Then people moved to the sides of the room and started to clap. They were welcoming the bride's family who were arriving at 11:00 PM. Turns out that this was the second reception! A grinning Kliti, who I hadn't realized had been watching me, explained that the night before was the party for the bride's parents and relatives. The groom's family came a few hours later. That night was the reverse. Then they had to do a bunch of special dances with the newly arrived bride's family and it was not appropriate for others to join in again. After several dances they started playing more western style music. Kliti left and I didn't know when it would be appropriate to join in again, so I also left. The bride also left to change into another gorgeous, but less voluminous gown.

With the music lulling me, I fell into a contented sleep, but having consumed a healthy amount of liquids, I woke up about 5:00 am for a bladder emptying call. Lo and behold, I could still hear the band playing! I just had to see what was going on! I threw on some clothes and ran upstairs. One large table was still occupied, covered with a lot of empty or half full glasses of raki. A few men got up to dance freestyle. They call it a cifte or cifteteli, with a squiggle under the c, which means double (as with two people dancing together). One of the men looked up, our eyes locked and he waved me in! Yes! They didn't have to ask twice. They seemed delighted to dance with me. The feeling was mutual. Soon the other people got up, including the bride, and all of us danced until almost 6:00 am! One of the waiters held up my camera and motioned that he could video me, and he did! The kitchen staff (presumably preparing breakfast) all stared out the window of the kitchen, grinning. What a scene. Forever etched in my memory. At one point the man I was dancing with gave me money to tip the band, which I stuck in the clarinetist's shirt pocket. He shook his head as if to say that's not necessary, but smiled and definitely looked like he appreciated it.

At one point a man who spoke a little English asked where I was from. I told him and then said I was with a group of folk dancers who loved Albanian dance and music, touring the country. He couldn't believe it. But maybe after seeing me dance, I hope he did believe it. On my way out I saw a huge basket on the bride's table... filled with money!

Often the best things that happen when you travel are not planned. That was so true in Gjirokastra. The next day – what am I saying – later that day, and not much later, we visited the 14th century Castle way up on the hill, giving us an amazing view of the town and surrounding countryside. I hardly had to walk up the very steep cobblestone path – I was already on such a high, I just floated up! In the Castle grounds we saw the site of the last Gjirokastra National Folklore Festival held in 2009. Holding up iTunes playing on my phone, we pogonishte-ed around it for good measure. The festival is held every five years – but if they are going to have one in 2014, they better fix the floor. I would love to go to the next festival. See you all there?

This was only one day! More about the rest of the trip next month...

—Gezuar!



Roy Butler teaching a Balkan line dance at the Colfax Greek Bistro in October.

The Colfax Greek Bistro in the Sierra foothills

By Steve Ayala

From 7 to 9 pm on the last Friday of each month dancers from surrounding foothill towns gather in Colfax to enjoy authentic Mediterranean-style dining and listen to good music. Often there's a local band, and the program is sometimes led off by a session of dance instruction. Owner Elan Vitkoff's family roots are from Bulgaria, Macedonia and Lebanon, and these events are part of a wide range of cultural activities she and her daughter Sofia host each month at the Colfax Greek Bistro.

The 2013 yearend schedule includes two international dance events: December 6th sees Nevada City's *Village Folk Orkestra* playing from 7-9, after an hour of international dance teaching by popular Loomis instructor Roy Butler. Roy returns again on December 27th to teach dances from Macedonia, Bulgaria and Greece.

Colfax is found between Auburn and Truckee, one half hour east of Sacramento on Highway I-80 at about 2,500 feet elevation. The Colfax Greek Bistro occupies an old brick building at 30 N. Main Street in historic downtown, and is open for lunch or dinner from Thursday through Sunday. Check their website or Facebook pages for directions or to learn about the events, dates, musicians, instruction programs and other activities: http://www.colfaxgreekbistro.com/, or https://www.facebook.com/GreekBistroAtColfax



Laura Douglas and Memo Keswick taking a break at the Officer's Ball—Photo by Gary Anderson

Scandia Festival

Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday, February 14 – 16, Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma, CA

Britt-Mari & Bengt are skillful dancers who will share with us their knowledge of Swedish traditional dances. They are highly regarded by other traditional Swedish dancers and are considered to be the experts in Western Dalarna dance; however they also have a thorough knowledge of all the dances of Sweden. They are some of the best at analyzing and demonstrating dance movement. They will emphasize the similarities and differences between the various polskor and other steps found in Swedish dance. They will teach dances from other parts of Sweden as well as from Föllinge.

Andströms – Mats, Ulf, Nils, & Anders. Andström's music is the traditional dance music of Sweden, mainly from the provinces of Jämtland, Medelpad and Norrbotten. The music is lively, intricate, and just plain fun to hear and dance to. Mats and Ulf are energetic fiddlers who both hold the prestigious title of Riksspelman, or national fiddler. The brothers grew up in Föllinge, where they were taught by Jämtland tradition-bearers. Anders is a talented multi-instrumentalist from Överkalix who specializes in fiddle and accordion. The three have played together for many years, teaching and performing together at the Föllingevecken folk music week and other events. Now they are joined by Ulf's son, Nils, on bass. Also an outstanding musician, Nils has the polska heart-beat in his blood.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The \$90 weekend package includes:

- Dance Workshops Saturday and Sunday
- · Music Workshops Saturday and Sunday
- · Dance Parties Friday and Saturday evenings (open to all)
- · Saturday and Sunday lunch

Applications will be accepted beginning December 3. Please visit our website for registration instructions by Googling: Scandia Festival Petaluma.

Dancers

Participation in dance workshops is by pre-registration only. We will try to keep a good balance of men and women, and dance partners will be changed frequently. Because the number of women dancers admitted is usually limited by the number of men who register, we ask men to register early. The total number of dancers must be limited due to space constraints, so register early.

Musicians

Part time registration is available for musicians. Talk to Sarah Kirton about any special requests, including to indicate interest in classes specifically for accordion or string bass. Note that the number of musicians will be limited due to space constraints; please register early.

Contacts:

- Brooke Babcock: (415) 334-3455 after 1/4/2014, for-brooke@juno.com
- Nobi Kurotori: (415) 890-4083 after 1/4/2014, for-nobi@gmail.com
- Jane and Frank Tripi: (510) 654-3636, fjtripi@juno.com
- Mark Wegner and Mary Korn: (510) 527-9209, wegorn@sbcglobal.net
- Sarah Kirton: (650) 968-3126, sarah.kirton@sbcglobal.net (Email is preferred.)

Folk vs. Ethnic - What is the difference?

By Richard Duree

Dance scholars, just as many other scholar-types, seem to try for job security by eternally seeking to describe their discipline and never being satisfied with it.

Try describing "dance" and you'll see the problem as you attempt to be all-inclusive, as any description must be, without including something that isn't dance. If dance is defined as "expressive movement" you include a threatening raised hand; if you try "movement to rhythm", you eliminate some of the most interesting of all folk dances in which the musicians follow the lead dancer and there is no rhythm. Music is not even always necessary, as many forms of both folk and theatrical dance do very well without it.

The most commonly accepted definition of dance is "movement for its own sake", but that would appear to include simple walking just to be walking. Perhaps we would suggest: "extraordinary movement for its own sake" - movement outside the normal movements of life or movement done to "feel" or experience movement..

Moving on, there are different ideas about what constitutes "folk" and "ethnic" dance, many obviously adopted to further a political or personal agenda, frequently being unable to stand up to its own definition.

"Ethnic" does not mean "non-white;" "folk" does not mean "rural."

"Ethnic dance" is any dance form that can be identified as originating or being identified with an ethnic culture and expressing the movement aesthetics of that culture. "Ethnic" is an inclusive term for all ethnic cultures, whether European, American, African, Polynesian, Asian, Middle Eastern, Mongolian, - all of them. It includes village folk dance, urban popular dance (swing, tango), court dance (Polonez, palotas), classic dance (Kathak, Bharat Nayam), tribal dance, religious dance, tap dance and many more. It does not include the classic theatrical forms of ballet, jazz and modern dance, but notice that ethnic dance includes many theatrical forms that are performed by either professional performers or selected member of the community. The primary criterion is simply identification with an ethnic culture of origin.

Ethnic dance includes several sub-categories: "folk", "theatrical", "religious", "tribal", "social" and so on. Our major concern is with the first two, but we'll take a quick look at the others.

"Folk" dance requires not only an ethnic identification, but also a "participatory" tradition and aesthetic matrix. It is dance which is an integral and anticipated behavior in the culture and defined by the aesthetics of that culture (whether rural or urban); thus the traditional village dances of Europe, the Hawaiian hula, the American clog, the Mexican Hat Dance and the Argentine tango are equal members of the "folk dance" tradition. A strong case can be made for including American Swing if one considers the criteria.

An interesting thought: other countries have adopted American swing and rock dance and music, but they consider it to be an American form of music and dance, (read: "folk" in their view.

"Theatrical" forms of ethnic dance are well-known, where professional dancers train a life-time to perform dances which are prescribed by long tradition and change slowly if at all. Their function is to entertain or communicate to a specific

audience, whether the populace or the aristocracy or women or men – or deity. They are found in India, Japan and throughout Southeast Asia; highly developed dances with extraordinary costume, demanding technique, make up, props and sets, usually telling an ancient fable for the entertainment of their select audience.

"Tribal" dance generally originates in a "pre-industrial" culture, created in a subsistence environment and functioning as an integral part of life. It serves as communication with the supernatural, a rite of passage, a courage builder for battle, a victory celebration or a mourning ritual in defeat. It is serious and rarely performed as recreation.

Ballet, jazz and other forms of theatrical dance fall outside the umbrella of "ethnic" dance, because they are cross-cultural and have lost any ethnic identity they may have had. They do not express any ethnic identity or aesthetic, nor is that their intent; rather the focus in on ever-more difficult and fantastic technical performance and spectacle. The origins of ballet dictated a salute to its patrons, the aristocracy, so it started with a wonderful tradition of stories about noble kings, kindly queens, handsome princes and beautiful princesses.

Those of us involved in European folk dance and American swing and square and social dance are all part of the "ethnic" dance community, just as are those who dance Mexican, Asian, African or any other dance with a label on it.

More Officer's Ball fun



Julie East terrorizing Loui Tucker



Marija Hillis, Toba Goddard, Cynthia Lambert and Cricket Raybern
—Photos by Gary Anderson



Jim Gold Folk Tours: 2014

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Jim Gold, Lee Otterholt, Adam Molnar, Joe Freedman,
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ARMENIA! May 4-15, 2014. Led by Tineke van Geel. Yerevan, Lake Sevan, Zvartnots, Edsmiadzin, Mt. Aragats!

POLAND! June 9-23, 2014. Led by Richard Schmidt. Kraków. Zakopane, Łodź. Toruń. Gdańsk. Olsztyn. Warsaw!

NORWAY! June 7-17, 2014. Led by Lee Otterholt. Oslo, Bergen, Hovin (Telemark), Fjord Cruise, Voss!

IRELAND! (New!): July 25-August 6, 2014. Led by Jim Gold.
Galway, Connemara, Aran islands, Doolin, Killarney, Kerry, Belfast, Dublin!

GREECE & its ISLANDS! June 29-July 11, 2014. Led by Otterholt. Athens, Olympia, Delphi, Meteora, Mycenae, Epidaurus. Greek cruise to Mykonos, Crete, Rhodes, Patmos, Santorini, Kusadasi, and Ephesus!

HUNGARY! July 31-August 11, 2014. Led by Adam Molnar Budapest, Eger, Mezokovesd Folk Festival, Jászberény Folk Dance Camp!

FRENCH CANADA! (New!) Sept. 10-20, 2014.

Led by Richard Schmidt Montreal, Quebec, Mont Tremblant!

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Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt

Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia/Herzegovina, Montenegro: Oct. 4- 16.
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2015 Tours

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Cont. from page 19

June, July, Aug., & Dec.: special dates & times. Contact: 916-682-2638, edaandco@aol.com

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

*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. Website: 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 Sun. monthly. 2-5 pm. Masonic Hall, 235 Vernon St., Roseville. Contact: 916-549-7093, leonelli@cwo.com Website: www.scds.ca

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

Website: 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 415-444-8000.

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

HAVE YOU VISITED THE FOLK DANCE FEDERATION'S WEBSITE LATELY?

Did you know the Federation is now posting the minutes of its meetings on the website? The minutes of the past nine meetings are now available for viewing and more will be added.

Go to www.folkdance.com and look under the "Join the Federation" tab.

And what do you think of the new website design???

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

Shasta Scottish Country Dance Club C/O Margaret Randolph PO Box 2000, Cottonwood, CA 96022 purdypeggy@att.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. 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, 60 Onondaga Ave, San Francisco, CA 94112. Phone: 510-649-0941 Contact: johndaley@mindspring.com http://www.slavonicweb.org/

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—New location: Joe Goode Annex, Project Artaud, 401 Alabama Street (at 17th Street), San Francisco, CA 94110. Greek dancing Monday nights from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm. The first hour is lesson and the second hour is dancing by request. Cost: \$20/month or \$10/drop-in. Ring the buzzer to enter. Gate is locked at all times. Google Directions: http://goo.gl/maps/t1Dep

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

Monday—Village Dancers: Scandinavian Performance group rehearsals, Ceres. Contact: 209-480-0387 or Judykroop40@gmail.com.

Every Wed. night—Modesto Folk Dancers Ceres, 7:30-10:00 pm. Contact 209-480-0387 or Judykropp40@gmail.com

Friday—Village Dancers of the Valley. (Sept. to June) 7:30 to 9:30 pm, Carnegie Arts Center, 250 N. Broadway, Turlock. June to Sept. in Ceres. Contact 209-480-0387 or Judykropp40@gmail.com

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. Meets every Tuesday evening 7:30-9:30 pm at the Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Street, 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. Adhoc, 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 \$5.00

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

Balkan Dance Cabal: "Plotting to achieve the sublime through the joyful mastery of dance" Class meets every 2nd and last Monday, 7:30-9:30 pm, in the Rear Dance Studio at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley (enter left hand door). We focus on teaching intermediate and advanced Balkan dances, the ones you wish you knew. Cost: \$5 Info: Richard 510-524-3611, balkanazers@gmail.com

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS. All classes are held at Live Oak Park Recreation Center, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

December 31. New Year's Eve Party. Our annual New Year's Eve Party will be All-Request Party emceed by Judy and Neil Collier. Let us kick up our heels and dance the old year away from 9 PM until midnight when we welcome the New Year in. Join the festive and merry crowd in Live Oak Park Social Hall at the above address. There will be beverages and nibbles. A donation of \$5 for members and \$7 for others will get you in. Contact: Judy and Neil Collier (judithcollier@gmail.com or neil1335@gmail.com).

Note: BFD is not dancing on Tues., Dec. 24, Wed., Dec. 25 nor Wed., Jan. 1.

SEASON GREETINGS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Weekly class schedules:

Mondays—Advanced, Lone Coleman 510-529-4120 and Bill Lidicker 510-528-9168

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

Thursdays—Intermediate, Marija and David Hillis 510-549-0337 Fridays—All Request Night. Contact Peter and Lynne D'Angelo 510 -654-3136

COLFAX

Colfax Greek Bistro Fri. Dec. 6 – Special Event of Cultural Dance! LIVE music by Nevada City's "Village Folk Orkestra" will follow an International dance class taught at 6 pm. Come to learn to dance and join the fun, dancing & entertainment that follows. 7-9 pm. 30 N. Main St., Colfax, Ca. 95713 (530)305-4050 for information.

Colfax Greek Bistro Fri. Dec. 27- International Dance. Roy Butler from Loomis teaches dances from Macedonia, Bulgaria & Greece. Join the fun! You don't even need a partner. Last Friday of each month. 7-9 pm. 30 N. Main St., Colfax, Ca. 95713 (530)305-4050 for information

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 fitripi@juno.com.

PENINSULA COUNCIL

Folkdances of Hungary and Transylvania Tuesdays 7:30-9:45 Arrillaga Family Recreation Center, 700 Alma St, Menlo Park. Singing and warm up dances 7:30-8:00, teaching 8:00-9:30. 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 Moveable Feet Club Party Saturday, November 23, at Barrett Community Çenter, 1835 Belburn Drive, Belmont. Theme: Macedonia, Teaching, 10-12 Macedonian dances, all request thereafter. 7:00 to 10:45, \$8.00. Meets various dates. See announcements.

Peninsula FD Council Party: Second Saturday of the month, except January, at St Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Rd at Monte Rosa, Menlo Park, a few blocks east of I-280. Parking entrance from Monte Rosa. Dancing to your requests from 8 to 11 pm. Cost is still only \$7. Bring a little finger food to share. Coffee, tea and punch provided. There will be 45 minutes of review/teaching of old dances prior to most parties. Come at 7:15 and brush up on some good old dances. Call Denise for teaching schedule and other info (408) 249-6104 or email to deniseheenan@sbcglobal.net.

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.

Palomanians IFD—Palomanians IFD class meets every Tuesday at the Arrillaga Family Recreation Center (aka Menlo Park Recreation Center), 700 Alma, Menlo Park, just south of Ravenswood Av. Beginning level dances at 7:30. Intermediate level from 8 to 9:45. Drop-in fee is \$8. First night is free. Denise Heenan and Adony Beniares, instructors. Call Al at (408) 252-8106 or email to palisin@comcast.net for more 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.

Santa Cruz—Dance to the music of Israel! Tuesdays 7:30-10 pm. \$7/\$5-student. Circle, line/individual, couple, old and new choreography. Warm-up/gathering dances and instruction take place in the first hour. Teacher: Alan Rothchild, rothdance@hotmail.com First Congregational Church, 900 High Street [Fellowship Hall]

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

Stanford International Folk Dancers Fridays. Teaching 8:00-9:00 pm, requests 9:00-11:00 pm. First Baptist Church, 305 North California Ave (near Bryant), Palo Alto. Suggested admission is \$7.00 generally, \$10 on live music nights, and \$15 for special events and workshops. Students are half price and children are free. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Mostly line dances. Live music party monthly, usually on the first Friday. http://home.comcast.net/~genebloch08/Stanford/ or Lew 408-246-7646.

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.

MARIN

International Folk Dance at College of Marin, PE Building #22, College Avenue, Kentifield with Carol Friedman. Wednesdays 2:10-3:30 p.m., October 30-December 11. Beginners, newcomers, experienced dancers all welcome; no partner is necessary. Contact Carol Friedman for information 415-663-9512, cjay@horizoncable.com; registration is through College of Marin Community Education.

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, susieshoaf@aol.com

San Rafael - Greek Folk Dance

Wednesday's at 7:30 – 9:00 pm. We have a break in December 2013. In January we will start again. Please contact Kristalli Papadopoulos for further information: kristalli.papadopoulos@gmail.com or 415-570-1841

NORTH BAY

Razzmatazz Folk Dance Club. Tuesday night folk dancing in Santa Rosa starts on Sept. 3 - Dec. 10. An intermediate Balkan folk dance class will be taught by Marilyn Smith from 7 pm-9 pm at Lomitas Schoolhouse, 2421 Lomitas Ave. in Santa Rosa. Registration is \$54 for the 15 week class. Join our enthusiastic and friendly group in this charming dance venue and learn exciting dances from the Balkans and beyond. For registration info, email marilynmsmith@sbcglobal.net

Santa Rosa Junior College. Beginner level folk dance class, Dance 40 - Intro to Folk Dance, taught by Marilyn Smith on Wednesdays, 7 pm-9 pm from Aug. 21 - Dec. 18. Registration is through Santa Rosa Jr. College. Students may register online at http://www.santarosa.edu/. The class meets on the SRJC campus. This is a chance for new dancers to learn and enjoy folk dances from the Balkans and beyond.

REDWOOD COUNCIL

Petaluma/Novato International Folk Dancers Party dates: Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 9 and Dec. 22. 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 707-996-8300 or Emma at 823-4145.

Napa Valley Folk Dancers. Contact Brian @ 707-253-8452 or <u>briantbe@mac.com</u>. Party most 4th Saturdays @ Napa Valley College.

Novato Folk Dancers Class - Telephone contact: 415-892-9405. Lynwood School, 1320 Lynwood Dr., Novato, 94947. Every Wednesday 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Petaluma Snap-Y Dancers Monday night folk dancing in Petaluma fall folk dance session started on September 9 and will run through December 9, Mondays 7-9:15 p.m. at Herman Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. Cost is \$65 for the 17-week session or \$7 drop-in. Newcomers, beginners and drop-ins are always welcome.

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.

Intermediate Balkan Folk Dance class taught by Marilyn Smith, Tuesdays from 7 pm-9 pm, Sept. 3 - Dec. 10 at Lomitas Schoolhouse, 2421 Lomitas Ave. in Santa Rosa. Registration is \$54 for 15 weeks. Info: marilynmsmith@sbcglobal.net

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 There have been many changes in classes, times and dates—please check the website.

*indicates "Beginner-friendly class"

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

ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY, Sacramento Branch, PO Box 162455, Sacramento, CA 95816 contact person Lynne Lockwood

MONDAY

VILLAGE DANCERS OF THE VALLEY. 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

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

THURSDAY

*DANCES OF THE WORLD - BEGINNERS CLASS (Starting Sept.) Beg. International, line & couple. 7:00-8:30 pm. YLI Hall, 1400, 27th St. at N, Sacramento. Contact: 916-923-1555, dancesong20@att.net

*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

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: 530-272-4650, dance7@sbcglobal.net

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

*FIRST & LAST DANCERS. All levels. Country-western, couple & line. Last Sat. of Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., Sept., Oct., & Nov. 8 pm. Emeritus Laguna Creek, 6727 Laguna Park Dr., Elk Grove. May,

Cont. on page 16

FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

> 2315 Ravine Court San Jose, CA 95133

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\$150 DISCOUNT for enrollments received by December 31st!