Let's Dance!

THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING MAY/JUNE, 2013



Gradina singing beautifully at the Red and Black Ball—Photo by Gary Anderson



Veselo Selo plays for dancing at the Chicago Spring Festival —Photo by Diane Baker

Set's Dance!

Volume 70, No. 5 MAY/JUNE, 2013

Editor: Gary Anderson

Email: wildwood_press@comcast.net PO Box 548, Woodacre, CA, 94973

415-488-9197

Council Clips: Contributions from clubs Address change and membership: Marion Rose, marion-rose@att.net

Calendar: Gary Anderson, editor

Proofreader:

Federation Officers, North

President: Lucy Chang

LucySChang@gmail.com

Vice President: Hollis Radin Treasurer: Sabine Zappe,

treasurer@folkdance.com

Recording Secretary: Loui Tucker, loui@louitucker.com

Editor: Gary Anderson

Membership: Marion Rose

Parliamentarian: Bill Lidicker, dancefdf@aol.com

Federation Officers, South

President: Valerie Daley Vice President: Lynn Bingle Secretary: Carl Pilsecker Treasurer: Rick Bingle Membership: Steve Himel Publicity: Sylvia Stachura

Historian:

Website: www.SoCalFolkdance.org

Donations:

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

The Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.

Treasurer 153 Race Street San Jose, CA 95126

Join now: Membership rate is \$35.00

per year (plus \$15.00 for foreign) Family rate is \$45.00 per year

Group/Club rate is \$40.00 per year

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

2315 Ravine Court

San Jose, CA 95133-1226

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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Your Editor a bit out of focus—it helps!

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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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President's Message

Lucy Chang, President of the Folk Dance Federation

Dear Folk Dancing Friends,
It has been an immense privilege to lead the Folk Dance Federation of California -- our innovative, proactive, non-profit organization -- over the last two years. It is with deep gratitude for your support, dedication and hard work that I write this President's farewell message.

I have really enjoyed interacting with you, the members of the Federation. Where else can you have a wonderful group with whom



-Photo by Loui Tucker

you share a mutual interest and who are willing to work together to promote what they love? The Federation has initiated several new programs and continues to support ongoing developments involving the web, research and archives as well as maintaining the publicity, insurance, institutes/teaching, scholarship and promotion functions. Several additional programs for the promotion of folk dancing are in the planning stages.

In my first President's message in the July/August 2011 issue, I wrote we had 388 members and I challenged us to increase our membership by 10%. Membership Chair Marion Rose happily reports we have grown to 508 members; we increased our membership by 31%! Thank you for joining the Federation and for renewing your memberships. Note that your membership may be tax deductible as the Federation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable organization.

Every program initiated was designed to break even financially or generate a small profit. The benefits of programs that would not breakeven were carefully evaluated before they were sponsored with our hard-earned dollars. Thoughtful analysis is needed to insure a high rate of success. I am happy to report that the Federation has been very fiscally responsible. Cash was increased by 5% even in today's fiscal environment where interest rates are close to zero. Your generous donations and the contribution of time and materials by the Board and friends helped us maintain a healthy bottom line.

Every issue of *Let's Dance!* magazine is a masterpiece, and the April 2013 publication reached a high of 32 letter-size pages in color! We like to print your submissions because your passion is important to us. The recent topic of couple dances has generated dancers' interest in voicing their opinions. All this activity shows that we care about folk dancing and are not complacent. The printing of the Federation's flagship magazine, however, has a cost. Please consider purchasing advertisements for your business ventures in *Let's Dance!* or giving a donation to the Federation.

Our goal has been to provide many different dancing events for the diverse dancing interests of our members. For the devotees of Balkan dances, there was the Dick Crum Balkan Plus Workshop and Party in September 2012. To the seasoned dancers who longed for the classics dances of yesteryear, we offered two Officers Balls, *Dancing Down Memory Lane* in 2011 and *Hooked on Classics* in 2012. For the enthu-

siastic dancers fresh from the invigorating summer camps, we had the Summer Camps in Review taught by members and local teachers. Let us not forget our children, the future of folk dancing, to whom we dedicate the Maypole Festival in May 2013. Also in May, we hope to go 'viral' with a Flash Mob as another means to engage the community and show that folk dancing is fun and interesting. To promote folk dancing and attract new dancers to our clubs, we sponsored 15 New Dancers Festivals (NDF). We think that these festivals have spread music and dance to participants from many regions in northern California. One sponsoring group also said that an added benefit of putting together such a festival was seeing how the club members came together to make the NDF happen. Let us remember the amazing and colorful 'Dance to your Heart's Delight' - our Statewide 2012 in San Jose. At Statewide we announced the winners of the Federation Cup, a contest to increase memberships that was open to all clubs and groups: the Berkeley Folk Dancers, the Del Valle Folk Dancers and the Palomanians Folk Dancers of Menlo Park added the most members. My final act as your President is to host the 'It Takes 2' workshop, pot luck dinner and party on June 8, 2013 for lovers of couple dancing with dances from around the world.

The Federation is joining the social media bandwagon. We now are on Facebook and hopefully soon will expand to Twitter and other social media forms. If you have ideas or would like to help the Board in any of these activities, please let us know. While we can be proud of the accomplishments we made together, there is so much more we can do to 'show off' folk dancing and 'never have a dull moment'.

I have been asked what I am going to do with all my 'free' time after my retirement as President. From time to time, we receive requests from schools, community groups, and senior centers to provide brief and informal performances for free. Often the requests are on short notice, which makes it difficult to get organized. Therefore I am planning to gather a group of folk dancers who would love to dance informally and support the effort of these groups. We are tentatively naming this new venture 'Dancers on Call.' Recently, Loui Tucker and I decided to accept the invitation from Sequoia High School in Redwood City to dance at its International Day on May 25. We would very much like for you to join us. Please see the ad issue. If interested, please email (loui@louitucker.com and LucySChang@gmail.com) and we will email you with updates on matters such as what dances, when to meet, what to wear.

Henry Ford is credited with the saying: "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." We have experienced much success with all these events in the last two years because of your Board members and fellow dancers working together. I cannot thank you enough for your hard work, and I wish you all the very best ahead. I would very much like to see you at the 'It Takes 2' Couples Festival, which is my final event. If you are not able to come for the whole day, join us for some part of it, or drop by to say 'hi'. I hope you will support the new officers as you have supported me. My favorite folk dance quote comes from Bob Young: 'The world dances with you.' Richard and I will continue dancing with you in your clubs. Hugs to all.

-Lucy Chang

MAY/JUNE, 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—

- April 26 Hardly Strictly Balkan Party. Kopachkas with live music—Da! Mozhen. \$10.00. 8:00-11:00 pm. 177 East Blithedale, Mill Valley
- *Folk Dance Federation Board meeting and General Assembly. Election of officers. San Francisco City College Health and Wellness Center, Ocean at Phelan. 10:00 am to noon. Free.
- April 28 *New Dancers Festival. Following the Federation meeting.
- April 28 *Blossom Festival 3-6 pm, following the New Dancers Festival at the San Francisco City College.
- *Maypole Festival Meet at the Arboretum area and then to the Pioneer Log Cabin in Golden Gate Park. Contact Nancy Kaye to sign up a child to participate in the Maypole Dance. International dance for everyone. Pot Luck Picnic. FREE. Luiselle Yakas sisderoo@aol.com and Nancy Kaye nncykaye@gmial.com, co-chairs.
- *Rose Festival Saturday afternoon, 1:00 to 4:30 pm. Door Prizes, Beautiful wood Floor, Refreshments. Wischemann Hall, 465 Morris Street, Sebastopol. \$7.00 donation . 707-546-5467 for more info. See page 16 for program.
- May 17-19 Santa Barbara Statewide. Veterans Memorial Building, 112 W. Cabrillo Blvd, Santa Barbara After party-Contras, Carrillo Recreation Center, 100 E. Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara. Info@statewidefolkdance,com See flyer on page 20.
- *Flash Mob Want to be in a Flash Mob! It's not as spontaneous as you might think—join the fun and show up for a good time. Sometime between 2-5, followed by more dancing to live music by Edessa. To get on the list to participate, contact Kevin Greek (chair): silkroadfestival@earthlink.net Festival of the Silk Road, Mexican Heritage Plaza, 1700 Alum Rock Avenue, San Jose
- May 31, June 1, 2, 36th annual Razzmatazz Folk Dance Camp at Mendocino Woodlands. Dance instruction with Ahmet Luleci, live music parties with Edessa, Joe Finn and special guest musicians to be announced. Delicious food and lively parties. \$145 for adults, \$90 for children. Info: marilynmsmith@sbcglobal.net
- June 8 *"It Takes Two" Couple Dance Festival. Partnering workshop, Potluck Dinner and Evening Party. Teachers Richard Powers/Mirage Marrou and Todd Wagner/Sarah Tull. St Bede's Hall, Menlo Park. More info to come. www.folkdance.com
- June 28-30 "Dances from Swabia" See page 20
- June 29-July 6 Mendocino Folk Lore Camp.
- July 21-28 & July 28-Aug 4 Stockton Folk Dance Camp—See ad on page 17.
- August 1-4 New Mexico August Folk Dance Camp—For information contact: Charles Cummings, at 505-256-3807 or charlesacummings@comcast.net.
- **Sept. 22 Fiesta de Sonoma** More information to come. *Federation sponsored events.



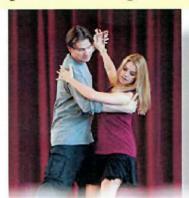


The Federation presents

"It Takes Two"



A Couples Partnering Workshop, Dinner and Party Featuring Master Teachers



Richard Powers/Mirage Marrou



Todd Wagner/Sarah Tull

7////



Presenting Fundamentals and Variations of

Cross-Step Waltz

Mezőségi táncok, Hungary

Freestyle Social Tango

For the Workshop, partners will rotate.

We seek a balance between Leaders and Followers.

Saturday, June 8, 2013

St. Bede's Hall, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park

Doors open: 11:45 am

Workshop: noon - 6 pm.

Early-registration highly recommended to secure a spot.

Potluck dinner 6: 00 pm -7:15 pm.

Everyone welcome; no partner required

Party: 7:15 pm - 10:45 pm.

Everyone welcome, no partner required

See Registration Form (next page) for information on registration, pricing, and details on the Workshop, Potluck Dinner and Evening Party.

Spend the full day of fun and friendship with our Master Teachers and fellow folk dancers.

Questions? Email Loui Tucker at loui@louitucker.com.



"It Takes Two"

Saturday, June 8. 2013 St. Bede's Hall, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park



Todd Wagner/Sarah Tull

Richard Powers/Mirage Marrou

loui@louitucker.com.

Workshop: Noon to 6:00 pm

We seek a balance between Leaders/Followers. If we receive an imbalance, you may wish to be placed on a 'wait list.' To assure fast confirmation, register early and register with a 'registration buddy.' A registration buddy helps insure everyone has a partner during the Workshop. Partners will rotate.

Potluck Dinner: 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm

Open to all dancers; bring a dish to share per your last name: A-H: appetizers; I-Q: main dishes; R-Z: salads. Desserts & drinks provided by the Federation. Oven and refrigerator are available.

Evening Party: 7:15 pm to 10:45 pm

Workshop and non-workshop dancers are welcome. Party features mostly couple dances, mostly by requests, from all countries. Todd, Sarah, Richard, Mirage will 'quick teach' fun dances throughout the party. Loui Tucker will call contras.

Your Name:		Leader/Follower (circle one)
Registration Buddy Name:		(the reverse of yours)
Federation member	Non-member	
Workshop \$10/each =	Workshop \$12/each =	
Party \$10/each =	Party \$12/each =	
Whole event \$15/each =	Whole event \$20/each =	
Regular registration: May 25 to June 8		
Your Name:		Leader/Follower (circle one)
Registration Buddy Name:		(the reverse of yours)
Federation member	Non-member	
Workshop \$12/each =	Workshop \$15/each =	<u>. 65 </u>
Party \$12/each =	Party \$15/each =	
Whole event \$20/each =	Whole event \$25/each =	
	Total Payment: \$	
I am mailing a check I will pay w	ith Pay Pal at www.folkdance.com	
Email (Print clearly):	Phone	

Walk-Ins: If there are any openings available at the Workshop (due to no-shows), you are welcome to register. You will be given first-come first-serve priority after wait list registrants.

Interested in participating in a folk dancing performance?



The Federation is planning to hold a flash mob

May 18, 2013

Festival of the Silk Road Mexican Heritage Plaza 1700 Alum Rock Ave San Jose, CA 95116



Time: Sometime between 2-5 pm

Followed by more dancing to Balkan live music by Edessa

To get on the list to perform, contact Kevin Greek (chair)

silkroadfestival@earthlink.net



TWO GREAT FEDERATION PROGRAMS WAITING TO HELP YOU

Scholarships to Camps and Workshops

Want to attend a dance camp, workshop or festival?
Would you like to learn more about folk dancing?
Would you like to learn how to teach folk dancing?

The Federation offers SCHOLARSHIPS to members who would like to attend folk dance events but need financial assistance.



Promotion of Folk Dancing

Do you have ideas on promoting folk dancing? Are you interested in launching a program to attract people to folk dancing?

Is folk dancing your passion and you want to promote it?

The Federation provides GRANTS for projects that promote folk dancing.

Interested? Contact Dan Unger, Chair danunger52@aol.com





"The world dances with you" - Bob Young

Eye on Dance by Eileen Dance News March 2013

By Eileen Kopec, eisiedancer@gmail.com

It was very nice of Ashkenaz to have a welcome home party for me the day after my return to California from the Antipodes. Well... it also happened to be Balkan night in the week of Ashkenaz's 40th Anniversary celebrations. And another woman had coincidently arrived from New Zealand that same day, so I didn't even have dibs on that! The party started at eight and there was already a large crowd gathered by then. The music began with a pravo by Edessa and took off from there. They played many crowd favorites, including a beautiful version of To Tragoudi Ton Gyfton, also known in dance circles as Syrtos Kitrinou. I had the pleasure of leading and it was the perfect way to slide back into the California dance scene. The evening continued with Agapi Mou playing their delicious variety of Greek tunes, making the many Greek dancers in attendance very happy. Trio (or sometimes duo) Zulum kept the music flowing from the center of the floor between bands. The evening had a rousing finish with one of my favorite bands, Black Sea Surf. They started with several of Ahmet Luleci's dances, including Heyamo, Kalenin Dibinde and the dreamy Agir Halay to the tune of Saza Niye Gelmedin. It was nice to see the crowd having so much fun, and still going strong when I left close to midnight.

All the bands paid special tribute to the wonderful staff at Ashkenaz, congratulating them on the 40th Anniversary. They expressed what a special place it is and how lucky we are to have such a long history of music and dance in the East Bay. A story was told about how years ago one of the staff members was very touched after looking through the window and seeing the folk dancers all holding hands and facing in towards each other. There were many more accolades and much applause throughout the evening. I debated whether to mention this next bit, but it would seem unrealistic not to mention that two days later Ashkenaz was invaded by two people intent on robbery and two employees were wounded by gunshot. It brought back the terrible memory of David Nadel's tragic murder. David's passion was folk dance and it is so satisfying that the genre and Ashkenaz have been kept alive. The Ashkenaz community has since rallied around the staff (who are out of the hospital and recovering) and it certainly will not keep me from going back. Anything can happen to you anywhere, and you can't live fearfully. I hope to see you all at Ashkenaz at the next Balkan night - they need our support more than ever. We certainly would not want to lose this unique place that has become a Bay Area tradition. Donations are also very welcome, which you can do easily through the Website.

March at the Starry Plough

This month's Berkeley Balkan Bacchanal featured The Dan Cantrell Band, and La Pêche. Galbeno was supposed to be the opening band, but cancelled. It was nice of the Disciples of Markos to fill in at the last minute, with their mostly rebetika music and Zeibekiko rhythms. Too bad the dance floor was empty during their set, except for people standing, drinking, chatting and listening to the fine Greek music. Well, not a bad way to spend an evening! Next up, Dan Cantrell was amazing on the accordion as was Lila Sklar on the violin. The

group played wonderful original compositions that evoked Romani traditions. The songs were well received by the crowd. I'm just not sure that I want to hear English lyrics, but that's just me. I kinda like when I don't know what's being said and can get totally swept away by the music. I did love the music. Then came the third and final band. My feet were so ready for La Peche, but there weren't many dancers there that night. A few of us had the floor to ourselves for the fabulous danceable music produced by the rousing brass instruments. In casual French conversation, 'La Peche' refers to being in high spirits and bringing vibrant energy! Yes, they did. Lots of young people there - maybe ready to be taught some dances? I left as they were finishing their last song - a lively klezmer tune. The Monthly Balkan Bacchanal continues to be full of incredible talent and deeply satisfying music. Every month is a different surprise. Check the Website - they list the program and sometimes give musical samples of upcoming bands, so you can judge for yourself. I hope more dancers will support Balkan night and help keep it going. And they do have nice cider on tap!

Adopt a Dance

When I am down-under I teach a weekly folk dance group. We have been meeting for seven or eight years for a 12 -week session over the summers while I am there. People have come and gone, but several women have been dancing with me all those years. They are very good dancers and to give them a new challenge, I suggested that each one of them adopt a dance, learn it and try to lead it. After the moaning stopped, the excitement set in and they actually became quite keen. It forced them to learn the names of dances while choosing their favorite, got them interested in the music and soon they were busily checking YouTube for Internet versions. They were a little nervous when the next week came and they took the lead. They performed admirably and each one got a big hand and hugs from the group. It was so much fun for all of us, and something you might want to introduce into your groups too. See you on the dance floor,

Eileen Kopec

PS - I like broccoli. I love broccoli. The problem is, there's a definite shortage of dancing broccoli! And I don't always want to lead the asparagus.



Festival of the Oaks—Yaqi Zhang, Jean Rabovsky, Lone Coleman, Kay James and Carol Friedman—*Photo by Gary Anderson*

Council & Club Clips

BERKELEY FOLK DANCERS.

Help us celebrate our 73rd annual **Birthday Ball** on **Saturday**, **May 11**, at Live Oak Park at Shattuck at Berryman, in Berkeley. "**Fiesta Mexicana**" is a wonderful dinner and dance evening and highlights the rich vibrant culture of Mexico. Dinner will feature chicken or vegetarian enchiladas, rice, beans and salad. Horchata for drinks. And, of course, a birthday cake! Dance hall opens at 7 pm with dancing from 7:30-10:30 pm. Kick up your heels in your South of the Border costume. Party favors at the door and finger snacks to keep up the energy for the lively dancing. Dinner and Dance for \$20 and for dance only \$10. Contact Yvonne Weiss at 510-326-4609 or yvonnem2@sbcglobal.net.

A quick reminder: BFD will **not** be dancing on Monday, May 27, Memorial Day.

—Naomi Lidicker

Sacramento International Folk Dance and Arts Council—We enjoyed our guest teachers, Gigi and Pampa, and Ventzi, at the Camellia Festival this year! Pampa and Gigi also performed at the Sunday Concert, which was spell binding. We also enjoyed seeing so many visitors from other parts of the State. There are rumors that CSUS is easing us out due to financial needs, so we are looking for new ideas, if that happens.

The year is winding down, and most classes are taking a break over the summer. But we always start the fall off with a bang, at the Membership BBQ on August 24. So watch for that. Everyone is welcome, and it is a beautiful setting on the outdoor dance floor at the Wolterbeek's beautiful estate in Shingle Springs.

Many of us will be going to Stockton Folk Dance Camp, so we will see our extended folk dance family in our annual reunion. Bruce is planning a Brazilian Party on Wednesdays. And much much more! See you there!

-Barbara Malakoff

Left behind at Balkan Plus

Someone went off without their orange water bottle. It is marked Aquarium of the Bay and has a green carabineer attached to it.

And someone left their shoes behind—"Walkabout" brown oxfords, approximate size 10 ½ or 11.

If you own one of these items and want it back, call 415-488-9197 or email editor@letsdancemag.net



Great Dancing on a hill top at Balkan *Plus*

By Gary Anderson

We watched the setting sun from the windows of the Unitarian Church, in San Rafael, before we started dancing. Some reported seeing a rainbow stretching from hill to hill as they arrived into the parking lot before the dance. It was a very pleasant beginning to a fine evening.

We set up snack tables in the antechamber of the church. The custodial staff helped make the coffee. We were ready to dance! And dance we did. The Advanced Balkan Dancers were true to Irene Croft's belief of not underestimating the dancers. We did a mix of easy and difficult dances. Many people danced behind the lines to help learn the great dances we did. We were fortunate in having a large number of good leaders and the dances went smoothly. And we were helped by receiving excellent requests. We did as many of them as we had time for, trying to do at least one request from everyone's request slips.

Many people mentioned the excellent floor and the nearly square room which made for the possibility of several circles when the hall filled. This is a fine facility and we plan to have the Balkan *Plus* party here in the future. It has a large parking lot on site, a spacious antechamber, and the excellent dance floor, with windows on three sides. It would be beautiful on a moonlit night! You might expect to have some sound problems but we didn't have any feedback, and the only sound problems were from excited dancers talking between dances.

We had a couple of special dances: Steve Ayala brought his candle crew and rapidly distributed electric candles to everyone for Mom Bar, an Armenian dance. The lights were turned low and it was very moving dance. Later, Lennie Talmy lead the Silent Kolo, which is always a hit.

We kept the dances flowing, one after another, trying to mix slower dances with the fast ones. We danced from 7:30 until 11:00 and there were still about a third of the folks still dancing at the very end, which I consider a good sign. But, the church is in a residential neighborhood and we had to stop the music and go home. Some day I want to have a dance somewhere where we can just keep going as long as we want, sending out for snacks to rejuvenate us. To watch the sun come up through the windows in the East. I'd probably go to sleep in a corner somewhere and miss it!

I want to thank Davida Munkres for taking over the MC duties to give me a break from time to time and all those who minded the door and kept the food flowing on the snack tables and all those who brought snacks. We want to give our best wishes to Bernice Goldmark, who instead of being there to mind the door, had heart surgery. She emailed that she is doing well and hopes to be back, if not dancing, at least being there for the Kopachka party. Get well Bernice!

Note: We were too busy to get any photographs of the Balkan *Plus* Party. If you have or know of someone who has good photos of the party please let us know. We would love to have them. Contact the editor at editor@letsdancemag.net or call 415-488-9197.



Jim Gold Folk Tours: 2013

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

4444



POLAND! ... June 9-24, 2013. Led by Richard Schmidt. Kraków, Zakopane, Łodź, Toruń, Gdańsk, Olsztyn, Warsaw. Castles, palaces, historic sites. Folk dancing with local groups!

NORWAY! . . . June 15-25, 2013. Led by Lee Otterholt.
Optional folk dance workshop in Drobak: June 14-16.
Oslo, Bergen, Hovin, (Telemark), Fjord Cruise, Voss.
Norwegian and International dancing.





BULGARIA, MACEDONIA, GREECE!... July 28-Aug 11, 2013. Led by Jim Gold.

Sofia, Kjustendil, Skopje, Ohrid, Bitola, Florina, Thessaloniki, Plovdiv, Koprivshtitsa Folk Festival! Balkan culture, Sephardic heritage, folk dance, more!

HUNGARY! . . . July 30-August 12, 2013. Led by Adam Molnar.

Budapest, Eger, Hortobagy Plain,

Jaszbereny Folk Festival. Magyar travels.





ALBANIA and Corfu! . .October 6-20, 2013

Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt.

Adventures in Tirana, Durres, Vlora, Kruja, Shkoder, Berat, Saranda, Butrini, and Gjirokastra, Greek Island of Corfu!

Meet and dance with Albania and Greek folk dance groups!

ARMENIA! . . . May 12-23, 2013. Led by Tineke van Geel.

Yerevan, Lake Sevan, Garni temple, Zvartnots, Edsmiadzin Cathedral.

Armenian folk dancing, touring, and more!



Visit www.jimgold.com for itineraries, details, and Youtube videos.

TOUR REGISTRATION: Can't wait to go? Reserve your place now by sending a \$200 per person deposit. Or register with credit card by clicking Folk Tours at: www.jimgold.com

Tour(s) desired_					
Name			Address		
No. of people	Phone()		_Email	

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Gelebrate the Spring with a Maypole Festival



Arboretum area and Pioneer Log Cabin Golden Gate Park, San Francisco 10:30 am - 4:00 pm

Children's Parade at 10:30 a.m. starting in the Arboretum area, Dancing and Maypole weaving in the Pioneer Log Cabin area

* Live music provided by members of Da! Mozhem **≯** Potluck Picnic - bring your own meat to BBQ and a dish to share International folk dancing for everyone FREE

Contact Nancy Kaye to sign up a child to participate in the Maypole Dance

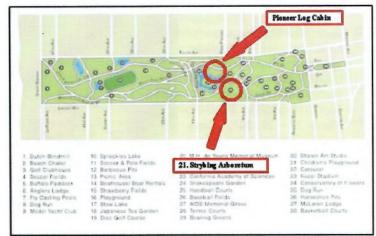
Go to <u>www.folkdance.com</u> for more information and updates

Luiselle Yakas (<u>sisderoo@aol.com</u>) and Nancy Kaye (<u>nncykaye@gmail.com</u>), Co-chairs

For driving directions go to: http://www.golden-gate-park.com/directions.html

Public parking is entered either at Fulton/Tenth or off MLK Drive

Note: JFK Drive is closed to through traffic.



The Music was hot; the winds were not at the 48th Annual Chicago Spring Festival

By Diane Baker

Five Californians braved unseasonal cold to welcome springtime at International House on the University of Chicago campus. Spring Festival is co-sponsored by the International House Global Voices Performance Arts series, the Center for Eastern European and Russian/Eurasian Studies and the Ensemble Balkanske Igre, directed by John Kuo. John is also the festival director. He, his wife Galia, and a dedicated committee worked 'round the calendar and 'round the clock to welcome arriving dancers and musicians to the I-House Assembly Hall March 22- 24, 2013.

A hallmark of Spring Festival is the successful "marriage" of ethnic communities in and around Chicago and recreational folkdancers from the US and Canada. What makes the union so successful? Dynamic musicians, delectable ethnic food, superb teachers, enthusiastic performing ensembles, John Kuo's gentle humor, and, above all, shared appreciation of the music and folklore of the Balkan & Mediterranean cultures.

Some examples of community support: Participants were greeted daily with freshly baked burek prepared by Branko Adzic. Branko Jordanovski, owner of Branko's Sandwich Shop, supplied fresh sandwiches for lunches during culture corner. Viktor Popovski, a hydro electric engineer in Macedonia who currently drives a taxi in Chicago, was available to ferry dancers to the airport or their hotels after he led kolos at the party. And, for Saturday's feast, Galia's family, the Sokolovas, and their team of expert Balkan cooks supplied tasty ethnic dishes for dancers, musicians, performing groups and their friends & family. Various local businesses, whose owners have Eastern European roots, participated as festival sponsors.

Chicago brings out the most highly acclaimed musicians for concerts and dancing. This year featured Chris Bajmakovich on accordion, Ljupčo Milenkovski, gold medalist kaval player, Angel Dobrev, gold medalist gadular player, tapan players Duško Simić & John Parrish, Orchestra Balkanski Ritmi, Veselo Selo Tamburitza Orchestra, Orchestra Izgrev, and vocalists Kircho Zhelov and Alija Dalipović.

Dance ensembles entertained us with their enthusiasm, precision, colorful authentic costumes and surprising variety of tempo and style. They included Kitka from SS Peter & Paul Macedonian Orthodox Church of Crown Point, Indiana, and Veselo Selo Kolo club from St. George Serbian Orthodox Church of Joliet, IL. Dance ensembles from Chicago included: Romanaşul from St. Mary's Romanian Orthodox Church, Dukati-Biseri, Serbian & Macedonian dancers, Maya Flamenco, Chicago Belly Angels, Ellas, Greek dancers, Bulgarian Folk Club Verea, Miorița from Holy Nativity Romanian Orthodox Church and Ensemble Balkanske Igre who performed a <u>Râčenica</u> from Thrace.

Going to Spring Festival in Chicago is like traveling through the Balkans with your friends, but only paying the price for domestic airfare! Speaking of friends, Sanna & Mars Longden send greetings to their California folk dancing pals. After the Saturday evening concert, bands rotated for a continuous party until 1 a.m. Dancing to Chris Bajmakovich is like taking a journey through time signatures, and miraculously returning to the rhythm in which the dance began. We

loved the challenge!

Featured teachers included Atanas Kolarovski, assisted by Fusae Senzaki, Martin Koenig, Ahmet Lüleci, Alex Marković, Ventzi Sotirov and Boris "Kete" Illievski. My brain was full after Friday evening's introductory instruction and the sessions continued through Sunday afternoon! Concurrently instrumental instruction & jam sessions took place.

Another hallmark of Spring Festival are the outstanding culture corners. On Saturday Martin Koenig presented his film, "The Popovich Brothers of South Chicago" which depicted Serbian American neighborhoods, celebrations and concerts throughout the US from 1926 - 2001. A CD of selected recordings of the Popovich Brothers will be available for a contribution to Spring Festival. For information contact John Kuo (balkanske igre@yahoo.com). Martin Koenig's newest project is to produce a Smithsonian Folkways recording of music he collected in Macedonia between 1968 and 1973. He was accompanied by a professional recording engineer with high quality equipment, and captured music which, as yet, has not appeared on sound recordings. If interested in supporting this project please send a contribution to Balkan Echoes, PO Box 2484, Vashon, WA 98070. On Sunday Alex Marković, presented video recordings he collected in Vranje as part of his PhD research. He illustrated dances unique to the Rom and the Serbian communities of Vranje, as well as dances common to both groups. Many folks left for home just after Alex' session as a late spring snowstorm was blowing into the region.

A bonus for attending Spring Festival is the opportunity to experience Chicago. Arriving a day early I snuggled into a warm jacket and gloves for a walk along the lakeshore where I found numerous sculptures and a great view along Promontory Point. After a tasty lunch at the family owned restaurant Salonika in Hyde Park, I re-lived archaeology classes with a visit to the Oriental Institute Museum. The galleries feature works that would never be allowed to leave their countries if excavated today, such as a human headed bull (weighing 40 tons) and an entire bas-relief carved palace wall from Assyria, a colossal statue of King Tut, monumental sculpture from Persia and many more artifacts of the Sumerians, Babylonians and neighboring cultures. The Elizabeth Smart Museum featured a visiting exhibition of works by the contemporary art collective, Sahmat, of New Delhi. Other early arrivees headed to the

Museum of Science & Industry. The top of my list for next year is the Field Museum plus walking tours of historic neighborhoods. Speaking of next year, confirmed date for the 49th Spring Festival is March 28-30, 2014 and for the 50th, March 27 – 29, 2015. Save the dates!

Other Californians who attended Spring Festival 2013 are Jana Julian, George Fairbrook, Mike Lipsey and Fusae Senzaki.



Veselo Selo Tamburitza

Mezőségi and the Táncház Movement

By Todd Wagner

Since we will be teaching Mezőségi at the "It Takes Two" couples dance workshop I thought I would discuss the origins and structure of this popular dance and how it became part of the táncház (tánc=dance, ház=house) movement in Hungary. Transylvania was part of Hungary until a few years after World War I, when it was ceded to Romania as part of the Treaty of Trianon. Although their nationality had changed the Hungarian villages in Transylvania retained their language, traditions, songs, and dances. At best the Romanian government ignored them. At worst they actively suppressed Hungarian cultural activities. Even today the smaller villages in Transylvania are distinctly Hungarian or Romanian. The larger cities are more integrated.

Transylvania (trans=across, sylvan=woods) is called Erdély by the Hungarians and Ardeal by the Romanians. The Romanian dance "Ardeleana cu Figuri" would translate to "Transylvanian with figures" (no, I don't know why the second "a" in Ardeal goes away in Romanian). Geographically some parts of Transylvania are very isolated, with steep mountains and deep forests full of bears, wolves, and boar. It's gorgeous! I've been there twice. Although part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire (until 1848) it was far enough from Vienna that the monarchy left them alone and Austrian influences never seeped into their dances. Incidentally, there are over 30 folk dance camps during the summer in various Transylvanian villages. (Fun fact: it's not clear if they still believe in vampires, but morticians traditionally sever the leg tendons of the departed to limit their mobility).

Dancing in rural central Hungary was (and still is) simple village dances including but not limited to the csárdás (couple dance), ugrós (jumping dance, done in a line), verbunk (men's military recruiting dance, done solo or in a circle), and karikázó (women's dance, done in a circle while singing). In the cities dances had more of an Austrian flavor and included waltzes and polkas, reflecting nearly 150 years of Austrian domination. The word csárda means inn or pub. The village pub is where people in rural areas went to dance, so csárdás literally translates to "pub dance". Csárdás is also the name of a specific dance step but can refer to any Hungarian couple dance. There are no csárdás steps in Mezőségi csárdás!

The village dances were not particularly challenging so amateur and professional performing groups, including the Hungarian State Ensemble, created choreographies to inspiring Hungarian music having little relationship to actual folk dances. Although the original dances were (and still are) done in the countryside, recreational dancing in the major cities was also based on made up material. Even today most Hungarian folk dances done by American recreational groups are synthetic choreographies.

Everything changed in the 60's when some intrepid Hungarian ethnomusicologists, led by the late Dr. György Martin, went to Transylvania to collect music and dances. They filmed and transcribed a wealth of songs and dances that had been there for centuries. One of the villages Dr. Martin and company visited was Magyarpalatka in the Mezőség region of

Transylvania. The dance we call Mezőségi is technically Magyarpalatkai, but everyone just called it Mezőségi. The name stuck even though we've learned other dances from the Mezőség region over the past several years.

The Transylvanian music and dances were hugely popular in Hungary and all of the performing troops immediately embraced this material. Sándor Tímar, then director of the Hungarian State Ensemble, decreed that henceforth the ensemble would only present authentic material. Of course they had to spice it up a little since nobody wants to watch people walking in circles while singing for half an hour. Tímar and his colleagues also helped start recreational groups and taught them these dances. Musicians learned the Transylvanian songs and established clubs called dance houses. Some of the dances from central Hungary also crept back into the repertoire to satisfy people's thirst for authentic material. This is referred to as the táncház movement. On my first trip to Hungary in 1986 the dance houses were packed, often with hundreds of participants. (Fun fact: the "Music in Folk Dancing Rooms" double LP that most of us have in our collections was the best selling album in the history of Hungaroton records).

Surprisingly, folk dancing thrived under communism both before and after the táncház movement. The communists were big supporters of indigenous cultural arts, especially since they steered people away from decadent western entertainment. The Hungarian State Ensemble was well funded by the government (now they actually have to make money), and many large state run companies fielded performing groups. Some companies sponsored several groups, such as an adult group, a seniors group, and youth dance groups for employee's children. The communists were also big on building recreation centers known as culture houses. Even today many of the large older buildings in Hungary have a room with a big dance floor, granted many are now in poor condition.

Folk dancing was also popular for some unintentional reasons. When you only have two state run TV stations and government approved movies in the theatres (dreary Russian epics) an evening out folk dancing can be very appealing. There was also a more serious political undercurrent. The Hungarians embraced their dances as a way to flaunt their culture in front of their Russian "guests". The Russians didn't know what to do about the táncház movement. They wanted an image of happy peasants in their satellite countries celebrating their cultural heritage. What they got were unhappy peasants pursuing their culture as a subtle rebellion against the Russians. Everything was resolved in 1989 with the collapse of communism.

Mezőségi is the most popular dance in Hungary and arguably the most popular dance in Europe. The annual táncháztalálkozó (dance house festival) every spring always concludes with the band from Magyarpalatka playing Mezőségi for several hundred dancers on the floor of the Budapest sports arena. In a very non-scientific survey in 1998 the Society of Folk Dance Historians (Ron Houston's outfit) asked people what dance that would do if it was their last hour on Earth. Out of 167 responses Mezőségi came in 4th, after Hambo, Rørospols, Jove Male Mome, and tied with Mari's Wedding. Apparently almost everyone who knew Mezőségi voted for it as their favorite.

Mezőségi táncok (-ok makes it plural) consists of four (Continues on next page)

(Continued from page 13)

dances. The csárdás is the core dance and is what we will be teaching. Here they often play just the csárdás (I'm writing this in Budapest). The akasztós is a simple introductory dance leading into the csárdás. Akasztós means hanging or limping and refers to the syncopation in this dance. The akasztós is played about 50% of the time. We will also teach this at the workshop if we have time. The other two dances are a bit more obscure. After the csárdás the band sometimes plays the korcsos. This word means hybrid, mongrel, or bastard (I hope they mean hybrid here). The korcsos can be a couple dance or a men's solo dance. Often a couple will move in front of the band, do the couple korcsos for a minute or two, and then the man will break away and do the solo dance. The sűrű legényes (sűrű=swift, legényes=lad's dance) is a men's solo dance done by one guy at a time in front of the band. They only play it if the guys here really want to do it, and will play it until each guy has had his turn.

Most Transylvanian Hungarian dances consist of a lassú (slow) and a friss (fast) csárdás. Friss actually means fresh, like when you are buying fruit and vegetables, but can also mean brisk. The lassú is at a constant slow tempo and the friss is at a constant but faster tempo. Mezőségi csárdás is unusual in that the speed is constantly changing. The lassú gradually speeds up, then the music suddenly slows down for a part called the szokos, and then it gradually speeds up from there. It's not clear when the szokos ends and friss begins since the speed change is continuous. Sometimes the speed change is so gradual it is almost imperceptible - it can take 30 minutes or more from the beginning of the szokos to the end of the friss. As it gets faster couples will switch to the rest step and admire the virtuosity of the musicians and remaining (surviving?) dancers. It would be rude to the musicians to leave the dance floor while they are still playing.

The good news is that the Mezőségi csárdás steps are the same for the lassú, szokos, and friss. Only the tempo is different, although some of the flashier figures would look a little weird during the slow music. The dance is completely non-choreographed. There are a set of basic motifs and a set of transitions from one motif to another that you do 95% of the time. There are also some more involved figures often attributed to one particular dancer (someone's great grandfather in Transylvania) that you may add from time to time. The man's job is to string them together with a firm and timely lead, and the women's job is to follow his lead. There are a vast number of potential combinations. A typical Mezőségi here lasts from 30-45 minutes. It's a lot like ballroom (on steroids!) in that some people know 5 figures and others know 25 figures, but they all have a good time.

Any discussion of Mezőségi would not be complete without explaining the women's heel turn myth. When we first learned this dance the women were taught to go up on their heels as high as possible during turns. I remember camps and workshops where the women were on the sidelines practicing their heel turns during breaks. It turns out that the original Magyarpalatka films were shot outside to take advantage of natural lighting and they were dancing on dirt, rocks, and gravel. The Magyarpalatkai women were going way up on their heels just to get around. On a decent floor it doesn't happen.

Is Mezőségi a difficult dance? It depends on your per-

spective. Most of our folk dances are strictly choreographed so the men don't have to lead and the women don't have to follow. Leading and following are hard, but remembering a long involved choreography is also hard. I really hate seeing dancer's lips move while they are counting out how many times to do each figure! Some of you may discover that non-choreographed dances are actually easier for you. One thing is certain – if you are dancing in a foreign country with one of the locals he/she is not going to know your choreography. Being able to lead or follow is even more important when your partner doesn't speak your language.

Finally, it's important not to take this stuff too seriously. A few nights ago I was doing Mezőségi csárdás with a Hungarian woman I had never danced with before in a crowded táncház. At one point she turned a little too soon and bumped into me in what is best described as a full frontal body slam (fortunately she was petite). I just smiled and said köszönöm (thank you, as in thanks for the hug). After some hysterical laughter we were both much more relaxed and had a great time doing the dance.

The author:

Todd and his wife Sarah Tull teach Folkdances of Hungary and Transylvania every Tuesday night at the Arrillaga Family Recreation Center in Menlo Park.

Gradina at Red and Black Ball

Our California North Bay ensemble Gradina ("garden" in Bulgarian) performed this spring at local Balkan dancers' favorite annual event, the Red and Black Ball. New this year is the great venue, the warm and evocative Monroe Hall of Santa Rosa, all wood and made for dancing, where the acoustics and floor are so welcoming, and we can stand in the middle singing and playing with no amplification (except for tambura and guitar).

Many of us dancers muse about the community spirit that comes with circle and line dancing, and what it must feel like to actually live in a village where people all know certain dances and wear certain similar costumes . . . sometimes at a festival you can't tell them apart from a distance. We get a bit of that at the Red and Black Ball. Looking for a friend across the floor, you see a sea of red and black. It can be hard to find people quickly, but so what? There's just something fun about it. We are inside a kinetic painting.

It's also fun to bring red lights, and red and black snacks; over the years, I've brought red and black caviar, blood orange slices, black olives, and of course licorice.

Now my hope is to have additional dances with other color themes--how about purple or blue? But always in spring, the Red and Black Ball.

In gratitude, Rebecca Dwan for Gradina



Letter to the Editor

Couple dancing to attract young people, a mother's perspective...

By Arlene Imagawa

I have been following all the letters to Let's Dance regarding couple dances and how they are some people's solution to bringing in more dancers, especially young ones. I am in the unique position of having two sons who not only play Balkan music, but also dance, lead dances and have attended various dance workshops with me both in the USA and in Bulgaria.

I started folk dancing in college, at a time when almost every university and Jr. college had their own folk dance classes. That was in 1970. Today, only UCSC has a folk dance class and only during one quarter. If you dance at Cabrillo College in Aptos, Rena often brings her students there. I met my husband dancing and we, in turn, took our boys to the dance groups as well.

In 1995, we took them to the Mendocino Balkan Camp. That's when they really got interested at the age of 10 and 13. What drew them in were two things. First, Petur Iliev from Bulgaria was the kid's dance teacher. Also, Michael Ginsberg taught the Balkan brass band class that got Greg excited about Balkan music at age 13 (he has taught the kids' brass band class for 11 years now) and Lyuben Dossev taught kaval, which Alex, at age 10 studied and Alex now plays trumpet in the brass band class.

Both of our sons are very active in the local Balkan and Greek dance scene. There are a lot of young people both at camp and in the bay area, the main difference is that many of them start off as musicians, not dancers. If they do any form of couple dancing, they do swing dancing or zaydeco.

The only way you are going to attract more young people is by having not just live music, but really good live music. We have been spoiled by having access to amazing musicians and because there is access to YouTube and the internet to explore music and dance. There is more interest in "village" and authentic music from different countries and not so much interest in complicated choreographed dances that were made up by Americans, etc.

I have been asked many times how to engage young people and when I say, "have more great bands and you will attract young people," the answer I invariably get is that "we don't like live music." More couple dances are not the answer...in fact, I stopped going to some dance groups because I am not interested in doing more couple dances. I have been injured by men who don't know what they are doing, so I just sit them out, especially mixers.

So, if you want to attract younger people, you need to really attend events that they go to and you will understand that they are out there, they are just not interested in dancing to recorded music and if groups insist on playing more and more couple dances, they will soon lose many of those who do not have partners or prefer line dances.





Old Monroe Hall filled with happy dancers

—Photo by Gary Anderson

Razzmatazz Red & Black Ball

By Marilyn Smith

Every spring Razzmatazz Folk Dance Club hosts the Red & Black Ball. I don't know why the wearing of red and black creates so much excitement in the room. I just know it does. Annual attendees often have special outfits they choose especially for this dance and wait all year to wear them. Some people have told me that when everyone wears red and black it feels like we all belong to the same community, almost as if we are in our "native" costumes.

And because this party has become a special occasion, people come "out of the woodwork" to go to it. Saturday March 23rd was no exception. As Gary Anderson said: "It was an explosion of reunions!" It seemed every time I turned around I saw a former student from my folk dance classes in the 1970's and 1980's. Some had started folk dancing at SSU with Rick Luttman in the early '70's and there they all were together again at Monroe Hall in Santa Rosa. You could hear squeals of delight throughout the room as more and more people discovered a long lost friend.

A special treat of the evening was the singing and music of our own Sonoma County group Gradina. Standing in a semi-circle in the middle of the room, they sang such haunting songs as Hora din Campie, Isu Byala Nedo and Joc de Leagane as well as more upbeat songs such as a Cocek, Pajusko and Gankino. A special moment for me was at the end of Joc de Leagane when all the singers faced out towards us and finished the song. We all stood there for a moment when they finished, basking in the joy of this experience.

Serendipity at the Red and Black Ball

A folk dance party is often an occasion for meeting friends, both expected and unexpected. But Marilyn's Red and Black Ball was an explosion of reunions.

At least eight of the students from the 1971 Sonoma State University folk dance class of Rick Luttman were there. Do you remember the names of the folks in your first class? One from 40 years ago?

Eve O'Rourke, Gretchen (Cave) Feher, Jana (Webb) Muhar, Eugene Erickson, Paul Michlis, Karen Guggenheim, Jackie Egbert and others unidentified. Great dancers, great people. They added to a wonderful party.

Santa Rosa Folk Dancers Invite You

Rose Festival International Folk Dance

Saturday, May 11, 2013 1:00 - 4:30 P.M.

Door Prizes, Beautiful Wood Floor, Refreshments

Wischemann Hall 465 Morris Street, Sebastopol, CA 95472

\$7.00 Donation

We welcome you to this folk dance event. You will find a wide selection of international folk dance music, friendly dancers, a bouncy hardwood floor, tasty refreshments, and surprising door prizes - for a delightful afternoon of dance. The Santa Rosa Folk Dancers are waiting for you to join them at the not-to-bemissed annual Rose Festival. Call 707-546-5467 for more information.

Rose Festival Dance Program 2013

- 1. Alunelul
- 2. Japanese Soft Shoe
- 3. Bluebell Waltz (P)
- 4. Tzadik Katamar
- 5. Salty Dog Rag
- 6. Braes of Dornoch
- 7. Banjsko Oro
- 8. La Cachucha
- 9. Ba La (P)
- 10.Somogyi Karikazo
- 11. Neapolitan Waltz
- 12.Levi Jackson Rag
- 13.Lo Ahavti Dai
- 14.El Gaucho Tango
- 15. Pinewoods Two Step (P)
- 16. Frenchy Brown
- 17 Bohemian National Polka
- 18. Windmill Quadrille

- 19. Louisiana Saturday Night
- 20. Baztan-Dantza
- 21. Ridee
- 22. Bepunak Katan
- 23. Sobotki
- 24. Mairi's Wedding
- 25. Hora Veche
- 26. Milondita Tango
- 27. La Bastringue (P)
- 28. Vrapcheto
- 29. Falsa Moneda
- 30. Polharrow Burn

- 31. Cobankat
- 32. Maple Leaf Rag
- 33. Oklahoma Mixer (P)
- 34. Ciuleandra
- 35. Dreistevrer
- 36. Bonny Cuckoo
- 37. Ina Ina
- 38. Couple Hasapiko
- 39. Tex-Mex Mixer (P)
- 40 Tfilati
- 41. Numero Cinco
- 42. Elizabeth Quadrille
- 43. Ma Na'avu
- 44. Chilili
- 45. Never on Sunday
- 46. Picking Up Sticks
- 47. Kohala Waltz
- 48. Oslo Waltz (P)

Stock Dance Camp The 66th Year July 21-28 & July 28- August 4, 2013

University of the Pacific, Stockton, California

Stockton Folk Dance Camp 2013 will welcome the following teachers:



Pampa Cortes & Gig Jensen Argentine Folk



Erica Goldman



Yves Moreau Bulgarian



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My Men and Yours

Registration form online at www.folkdancecamp.org

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Tuition only (no meals or room)	\$505.00	X	x			
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\$100 deposit will hold your place – partial payments are accepted throughout the year

ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 30TH

CANCELLATION POLICY:

If you cancel *BEFORE* June 30, a \$50 processing fee will be withheld from your refund.

If you cancel AFTER June 30, your \$100 deposit will be withheld from your refund.

Questions: Contact Sabine Zappe at: registrar@folkdancecamp.org or 1-408-658-7007

Mendocino Folklore Camp



JUNE 29 - JULY 6, 2013

www.mendocinofolklorecamp.com

-- 2013 TEACHERS --

DANCE

Steve Kotansky - Balkan Marie Wendt - French Ziva Emtiyaz - Middle Eastern

SINGING

Merita Halili - Albanian Tzvetanka Varimezova - Bulgarian

MUSIC ENSEMBLES

Raif Hyseni - Albanian/Kosovar Ensemble Alan Keith - Traditional French Band

ADDITIONAL DANCE

Billy Burke – Beg. Folk Dance & Vintage Two-Step
Cesar Garfiaz – Hip Hop, Salsa Rueda and more..
Lynnanne Miller – Ancient Hula, English Country Dance

INSTRUMENT WORKSHOPS

Sean Burke - Hula Percussion & Chants
Bill Cope - Beg/Int Bulgarian & Macedonian Tambura
Polly Tapia Ferber - Beg/Int Doumbek
John Gibson - Beg. Kaval

-- 2013 MFC CAMP BAND --

Becky Ashenden & Bill Cope - Co-Musical Directors
Chuck Corman, Vic Koler and Miamon Miller
With Raif & Merita, Alan, Tzvetanka & Ivanka, John, Polly & Friends

World Dance &
Music Workshops
- and Folklore
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Our Camp Is RENOWNED For The EXCELLENCE OF OUR FOOD



Beginners
Welcome!
= =
No Previous
Experience
Necessary





FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CA., SOUTH March, 2013

Greetings on behalf of the Folk Dance Federation of Calif., South:

Our groups have been Folk Dancing in So. California for 50 years. We are a Federation of Clubs from all over the Southern, CA area and our group will hold the Folk Dance Festival called the "Statewide Festival" which is held every other year in conjunction with our sister organization in Northern California. Below you will find information on this year's event Statewide event. We hope you will encourage your peers and students to attend. My contact ph: 626.-300.8138 & email: sstach236@earthlink.net for more details or additional info/fliers.

Sincerely, Sylvia Stachura, Publicity

Folk Pance Festival in Santa Barbara Surfside Statewide May 17 – 19, 2013

Teachers: Iliana Bozhanova & Todor Yankov & Andy Taylor-Blenis

Location: Veterans Memorial Building, 112 W. Cabrillo Bl.

Info: statewidefolkdance.com or 626.792.9118

All Welcome

Sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of CA, South

Continued from page 23

Website: www.ifdvl.org/Roy_Butler_Dance_School.shtml
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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.

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 Serbia, 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, 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

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, 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

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.

May 11. Birthday Ball. "Fiesta Mexicana" will be held in the above address beginning at 6 PM with dinner and dancing from 7:30 -10:30 PM. Come celebrate the rich vibrant culture of Mexico! Kick up your heels in your South of the Border costume. Finger snacks is appreciated for the lively dancing. Dinner and Dance tickets are \$20 and for dance party only \$10. For further information: Yvonne Weiss 510-326-4609 or yvonnem2@sbcglobal.net.

May 27. No dancing at BFD.

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, assisted by Andy Partos

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

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 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

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.

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

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

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: Mar. 9, Apr. 14, May 4, June 16, Jul. 13, 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 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 will be starting up again on January 7—May 6, 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.

FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

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