

# *Let's Dance!*

THE MAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING 🐾 JANUARY, 2015



**Marcel Vinokur**

November 14, 2014

# Let's Dance!

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*Wishing everyone a  
Happy New Year  
From Let's Dance!*

Kathy and Marcel

In 1970



## Federation Officers, North

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Secretary: Pauline Klak

Historian: Wen-Li Chang

Treasurer: Rick Bingle

Website: [www.SoCalFolkdance.org](http://www.SoCalFolkdance.org)

The Federation's **Promotion Fund** is available to Federation members and clubs, in the form of a grant or a loan, to promote a specific dance event or folk dance in general. Read more about this fund and download an application at [www.folkdance.com](http://www.folkdance.com) under the **Promotion & Publicity** tab.

The Federation's **Scholarship Fund** provides financial assistance to Federation members wishing to attend dance workshops and dance camps. Read more about this fund and download an application at [www.folkdance.com](http://www.folkdance.com) under the **Money Matters** tab.

**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

Student rate is \$25.00 per year—26 or under and  
at least half time

Group/Club rate is \$40.00 per year

Mail applications, renewals & checks to:

Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.

Alicia La Fetra, 1614 Peacock Avenue, Sunnyvale,  
CA 94087



**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/FolkDanceFed](http://www.facebook.com/FolkDanceFed)

**Website:** You can now post your folkdance event flyers on the Federation's web site: "[webmaster@folkdance.com](mailto:webmaster@folkdance.com)." If you need help, contact: Loui Tucker, [loui@loutucker.com](mailto:loui@loutucker.com)

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The deadline for Let's Dance! is the first day of the month prior to  
the date of publication.

We welcome submissions, letters and comments from our readers.

Please send to: Gary Anderson, Editor

email: [wildwood\\_press@comcast.net](mailto:wildwood_press@comcast.net)

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

**Your advertising helps support Let's Dance! Please make checks  
payable to the Folk Dance Federation. Ad rates:**

	¼ page	½ page	full page
Member clubs	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$35.00
All others	15.00	30.00	50.00

**NEW RATE: ads with color are double the usual rate**

Contact: Editor, Box 548, Woodacre, CA 94973 or

email: [wildwood\\_press@comcast.net](mailto:wildwood_press@comcast.net)

or call 415-488-9197 (9:00 am to 3:00 pm)



# President's Message

By Memo Keswick

We've certainly had a busy 2014 in both our own dancing communities and abroad, and a new 2015 year awaits us all! We expect you, too, have been reflecting on the "good, bad, and ugly" of 2014 while planning for all the "good" to come in 2015. Dance club nights, festivals, camps, and tours abroad are some of the great things coming. Hopefully, we'll also be attracting new dancers of all ages to our dance communities



Thank you to all who donated to our Federation in 2014. Your support really made a difference. In 2015, please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to our wonderful Folk Dance Federation of California.

I want to extend a special thank you to our Federation Board of Directors for all the dancing joy they helped create in 2014. The last Federation event was the November Officer's Ball in Livermore. I'm stating for the record a heartfelt thanks to Past President Lucy Chang and all of her committee members for a fantastic job coordinating this event. I've heard lots of positive comments. The Officers Ball attracted dancers from all over (even Southern California) for an afternoon and evening of dance. The event honored several Northern California dance teachers who presented dances from their communities. We even sang along to music played by the outstanding musician, Bill Cope!

At the Officers Ball 2014 we also initiated our first Federation Video Challenge (see the article about it in this month's issue). During the evening, John Nicoara did me the great favor of accepting my challenge to post on the internet a video of him leading the Atanas Kolarovski dance Cetvorka, at which time I will donate \$30 to the Folk Dance Federation. My reasons for issuing this challenge:

1. To help raise funds for the Federation.
2. To remember a dance we've forgotten how to do in Chico.
3. To add a video of Cetvorka to the internet.
4. To recognize and honor John Nicoara for his many contributions to our dancing communities.
5. To make sure there are dances on the web featuring John Nicoara and other talented dancers whom I admire.

I hope that by the time you read this we will have a formal write up of this challenge on folkdance.com! The BOD recommended both the challenger and challenged agree before the Federation announces the challenge. I am delighted that John accepted my challenge. I know there are many other dancers and dances from our communities that would be great to have available on the internet.

I hope some of you will find your own reasons to participate in this new Federation Video Challenge fundraiser! Also, know that my choice of \$30 was arbitrary. Your challenge could be any amount!

Our next Board meetings are going to be very important. Please consider attending one or more of them. The next two have been set as:

**January 10th, 2015, 10:00 AM, at the Heritage Festival,**

Sequoia High School, 1201 Brewster Ave, Redwood City.

**February 8th, 2015, noon, at the Festival of the Oaks, Live Oak Park Community Center, 1301 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley.**

At the January meeting the Board intends to finalize proposed changes to our Bylaws which will make them clearer, and remove Committee Chair positions we were unable to fill. Many thanks to Bill Lidicker and Connie Hull who are on the Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee.

Also upcoming is the election of Federation officers to be held at our **April 2015** meeting. I encourage any and all to investigate the opportunity of participating in our Board. Our Nominations Chair is Craig Blackstone. You can reach out him or to any of our Board members. We'd love to have you join us!

Last minute reminders from me are:

1. Consider advertising your business or events in *Let's Dance!* magazine. The advertising deadline dates are a month before the magazine issue month.
2. Amazon shoppers consider signing up to use *SmileAmazon* and have your purchases potentially support the Folk Dance Federation.
3. Let us know if you're interested in hosting "Statewide 2016" in your community.
4. Encourage others to become Federation members. It's affordable and informative! Or, consider gifting a membership!

That's all for now! I can be contacted at [memok@saber.net](mailto:memok@saber.net) or (530) 774-2287.

Happy Dancing! -m.k.

## Razzmatazz Folk Dance Club Has a New Home

Beginning in February, 2015, Razzmatazz Folk Dance Club will meet in our new home—beautiful Monroe Hall, 1400 W. College Ave., Santa Rosa. Monroe Hall has been in continuous use as a dance community center since 1922. It features a beautiful wood floor, ample dance space, good acoustics and plenty of parking. The venue also has a small lounge, a kitchen and dining room. Our annual Christmas folk dance party and our Red & Black Ball are already held here at Monroe Hall and now we will be dancing here year round.

From Feb. 3-May 12, our Intermediate Balkan Folk Dance class taught by Marilyn Smith will meet at Monroe Hall on Tuesdays from 7 pm-9 pm. Cost of the 15 week session is \$60. Dancers may register by mail or pay at the first class meeting. Each class involves teaching of a new dance, review of old dances and request dancing. Info: [razzmatazzfolkdanceclub@gmail.com](mailto:razzmatazzfolkdanceclub@gmail.com)

Check out our website for more information about classes, parties and our annual folk dance weekend at Mendocino Woodlands in June: <http://marilynsmithrazzmatazz.blogspot.com>

Join our enthusiastic weekly folk dance group when we start again in February at Monroe Hall. We hope to see you on the dance floor!

**You can contribute to the future of folk dancing  
The Federation is a 501c3 organization and your contributions are  
tax deductible**

# JANUARY, 2015 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—

- December 25** **Peninsula Council Christmas Night Party**, Thursday, at St. Bede's Church in Menlo Park, 7:30 pm with all request dancing MC'd by Adony and Becky Beniares. FREE! Merry Christmas from The Peninsula Council!
- December 31** **Moveable Feet's New Year's Eve party**. Location: St. Bede's Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. Time: Potluck at 6:30 pm, All Request Party at 7:30 pm - 12:15 am. Contact: LucySChang@gmail.com loui@loutucker.com
- January 9 & January 10** **\*Heritage Festival Friday**, begins at Sequoia High School in Redwood City. 7:00 pm, with an all request dance party MC'd by Denise Heenan and Loui Tucker. **Saturday, 1:30 pm, Heritage Festival Dance Institute** with George & Iriana Arabagi, at Sequoia High School in Redwood City. Heritage Festival Continues with live music with Agapi Mou, Ukrainian Dancing, and request dancing. 6:30 pm. MC'd by Adony Beniares and Ken Kaye
- January 17** **Annual Scholarship Ball**, Central United Methodist Church, 5265 H St, Sac. More details later.
- January 17** **Dances from Serbia** will be the theme at the **Moveable Feet** party on January 17, 2015 at St. Bede's Episcopal Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road, at Monte Rosa, Menlo Park; 7-11 pm. The featured dance will be South Serbian Medley. Contact Lucyschang@gmail.com or Alicia@Lefetra.com
- January 31** **The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cerritos Folk Dancers Chinese New Year Festival**, 1:00-6:00 pm at Holy Family Catholic Church, Parish Hall, 18708 Clarkdale Ave, Artesia, CA 90701. Workshop theme: "East Meets West." Master teachers: Alexandru David, and others (TBA). Info: Wen Chiang (562) 865-8854, or CerritosFolkDancers@gmail.com.
- February 8** **\*77th Annual Festival of the Oaks**. Registration 9 am. Institute taught by Carol Friedman 9:30 to noon, Excellent hot lunch at Noon. International dancing from 1 to 5 pm. Recreation Center Live Oak Park (sprung wooden floor), 1301 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley Entertainment at 3 pm afternoon. Free refreshments, Used costume sale all afternoon. \$12 am or pm, \$20 all day call Mel Mann for information (510) 527-2177, meldancing@aol.com
- February 14** **Peninsula Council Valentines Day Party**, Saturday, 7:15 pm, St. Bede's Church in Menlo Park, with pre-party workshop by Kaela Fine, teaching Changulovo Oro from Macedonia and KIRČO NA ČARDAK SEDEŠE from Bulgaria.
- Feb 14 & 15** **San Francisco Tamburitza Festival \$15**. Croatian America Cultural Center, 60 Onondaga, SF. Two Days of Music and Dancing. Feb 14: Welcome Dance 7:30 pm (Valentine's Day). Feb 15: Concert, Dancing, Sing-a-long 12 pm-8pm. The fun loving band, Sinovi of Chicago, will headline the event. Also playing will be Sidro Tamburitza Orchestra, Slavonian Traveling Band with Lilla Serlegi. Eszterlanc Hungarian Folk Ensemble will perform.
- February 21** **Moveable Feet**. Theme: Saturday Night Fever—Celebrating the 70s; 7 to 11 pm. First United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto Lucyschang@gmail.com or Alicia@lafetra
- March 6 & 7** (Friday & Saturday): **\*Camellia International Folk Dance Festival**. Friday evening party, 7-11 pm, \$8. Saturday guest teachers, \$8 each session: 1 – 2:50 pm Bruce Hamilton – English Country Dance and 3:10 – 5 pm Steve Kotansky – Balkan line dances. Special Package price: \$25 for all events. Central Methodist Church, 5265 H St, Sac. For more information contact 916-923-1555, dancesong20@att.net
- March 28,** (Saturday): **\*Camellia International Folk Dance Concert**. A colorful show of ethnic dances and music for the whole family. Sacramento City College Performing Arts Center, 3835 Freeport Blvd., Sacramento. More information to follow. Mark your Calendars. It sold out last year! So get your tickets early! Info. Barbara Malakoff 916 296-8636 or barbakoff@mac.com or Bruce Mitchell 530-401-4013 dancebruce@aol.com Also see our web page folkdancesac.org for the latest info.
- April 18** **Annual Petaluma Spring Folk Dance Party** with live music by Staro Vino - Saturday, April, 8-11 p.m. at Herman Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. Info: Carol Friedman, 415-663-9512, cjay@horizoncable.com

*\*Federation sponsored events.*



# Heritage Festival

January 9 and 10, 2015

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



Agapi Mou



George & Irina Arabagi

## Friday – 7:00 pm to 10:30 pm

- Request Dancing MC'd by Denise Heenan and Loui Tucker ●
- email dance requests to [heritagefolkdance@gmail.com](mailto:heritagefolkdance@gmail.com) ●

## Saturday – 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm

- Dance Institute with George & Irina Arabagi ●
- Dances from Ukraine and Moldova ●

## Saturday – 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm

- Live Music with Agapi Mou ●
- Dancing with George & Irina Arabagi ●
- Request Dancing MC'd by Adony Beniares and Ken Kaye ●
- email dance requests to [heritagefolkdance@gmail.com](mailto:heritagefolkdance@gmail.com) ●

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The Federation Board Meeting will be held at 10:30 on Saturday. All are encouraged to attend.

The Heritage Festival is sponsored by The Peninsula Folk Dance Council and  
The Folk Dance Federation of California, North

email Ken Kaye ([kenkaye46@yahoo.com](mailto:kenkaye46@yahoo.com)) or Adony Beniares ([beni@pachell.net](mailto:beni@pachell.net)) for additional information



# Heritage Festival

January 9 and 10, 2015

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

Bring a snack to share!

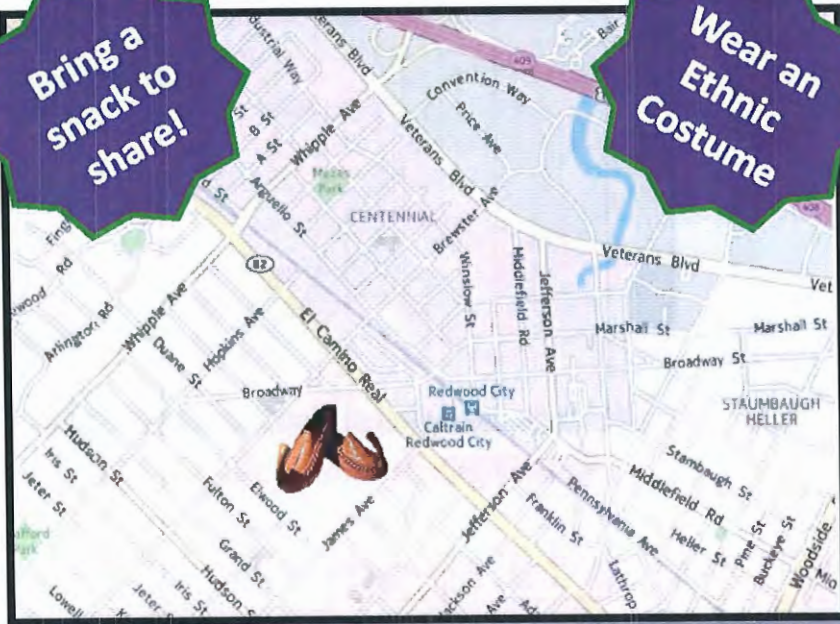
Wear an Ethnic Costume

## From Highway 101

- Take the Whipple Avenue Exit
- Proceed West on Whipple Ave for .5 miles
- Turn left on El Camino Real and proceed for .5 miles
- Turn right on James Avenue

## From Highway 280

- Take the Woodside Road Exit
- Proceed East on Woodside Road for 2.9 miles
- Turn left on El Camino Real and proceed for .9 miles
- Turn left on James Avenue



## Sequoia High School

FIRST FLOOR LAYOUT

KEY:	
1	Principal's Office
2	Instructional Vice Principal's Office
3	Attendance Office
4	Treasurer's Office
5	Administrative Vice Principal's Office
6	Guidance Office
7	Restrooms

## MAP KEY

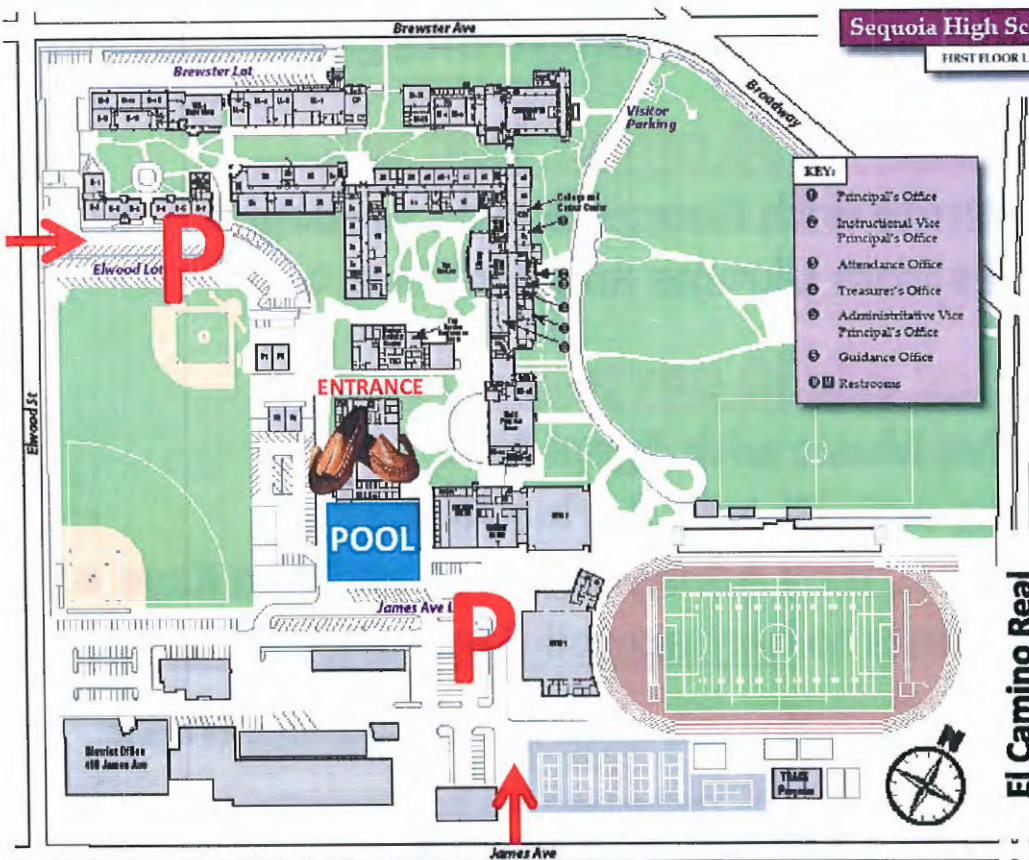
Parking =

P

Parking Entrance =



Dance =



# Council & Club Clips

## Peninsula Folk Dance Council

Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Al Lisin sponsored a dance in Pat Lisin's honor. St Bede's Church Hall was filled with over 100 dancers celebrating Pat's life by dancing many of her favorites, plus many requests. Al, his daughters, Kay, Cheryl, and Sue, her husband Tim and daughter Nicole joined in many of the dances. Al shared many photos of Pat and their family through the years. In addition, dancers had the opportunity to take home some of Pat's skirts, blouses, and other costume items. The donations received for these items will be donated in Pat's memory to the Stockton Folk Dance Camp Scholarship Fund. This very special event reminds us that we are all indeed a family. Al sends his deep gratitude to everyone for making this celebration of life so wonderful.

## Heritage Festival 2015

Heritage Festival, January 9 and 10, is fast approaching. It will be held at Sequoia High School, Redwood City. Agapi Mou will provide live music for Saturday night's dancing. Our teachers are Irina and George Arabagi teaching dances of Moldova and Ukraine. See the flier in this issue for more information, and a great map.

Chairs, Adony Beniares and Ken Kaye and their talented crew promise a fun dance weekend.

## Party Updates

The Moveable Feet Club welcomes the New Year with a Serbian theme party on Saturday, January 17 at St. Bede's Church, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. Teaching will start at 7 pm with Miriam Berg teaching South Serbian Suite (Dick Crum 1966) and Tom Sha teaching Serez (Roberto Bagnoli 2014). Email your party requests from all countries and all levels to LucySChang@gmail.com. We will dance till 11:00, or a tad longer if dancers are willing.

Mark your new 2015 calendars for Saturday, February 14th, 7:15 PM, for Peninsula Council's Valentine's Day Party, St. Bede's Church in Menlo Park, with pre-party workshop by Kaela Fine, teaching Changulovo Oro from Macedonia and Kirčo na Čardak Sedeše from Bulgaria.

Our March party, 3/21 (Note: 3<sup>rd</sup>, not 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend this month), will feature Gary Breitbard and Jena Rauti teaching a French dance. Look for more details in the next *Let's Dance!* All workshops start at 7:15; parties at 8:00.

—By Denise Heenan

**Berkeley Folk Dancers.** If there is still time, come join BFD's traditional "New Year's Eve Party!" Grab a party hat and come to Live Oak Park Social Hall, Shattuck and Berryman, Berkeley. The Social Hall will be open on **Wednesday, December 31**, of course, from **9 pm to midnight** with lights, laughter and music. The dancing will be lively and to your liking as it is an all-request program. We feature our traditional beverage and fabulous finger food that BFD is famous for. Bring your family and friends. \$5 for members and \$7 for others. Contact Judy Stonefield at 510-655-3074.

The highlight of January is our **74<sup>th</sup> Birthday Ball** on **Saturday January 17th**. A **Turkish Delight** is planned by the Sultan of Turkey at Grand Live Oak Park on Shattuck and Berryman, Berkeley. A festive occasion begins with greetings with the Sultan at 5:30 pm with feast to follow at 6 pm. After-

wards there will be dancing from 7:30 to 10:30 pm in the Grand Ballroom. All his subjects are welcome. Dignitaries from other countries have also been invited. To insure that there will be room to dance, tickets are required and available for \$22 for the dinner and dance and \$10 for the dance only. During the ball, a beverage and finger snacks will keep everyone fortified and perhaps a surprise of two. A Turkish Bazaar will be nearby for bargains and souvenirs to commemorate this magnificent event. Contact Marian Synder 510-549-1703 or kindermar54@sbcglobal.net.

The month of February brings the **77<sup>th</sup> Festival of the Oaks on Sunday, February 8**. Mark your calendar. Details to follow in the next issue.

**BFD is not dancing on December 24 & 25. No dancing on January 1<sup>st</sup> also.**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR! And ANOTHER GREAT DANCING YEAR TO ALL!**

—By Naomi Lidicker

## Sacramento International Folk Dance and Arts Council—

The Camellia International Folk Dance Festival is coming right up on Friday and Saturday, March 6 & 7, 2015. This year we are very excited to have two wonderful teachers with us, **Steve Kotansky** and **Bruce Hamilton**! You won't want to miss this! Last year was our first time in a new home at the Central Methodist Church, 5265 H Street in midtown. Everyone loved it! Free parking right outside the door, wonderful floor, great restaurants in close walking distance, and a warm ambiance. So mark your calendars and join us for non-stop two days of fun. It starts Friday evening with a party at 7:00 pm. Then on Saturday, Bruce Hamilton teaches at 1:00 pm and Steve Kotansky teaches at 3:00 pm, followed by a great party at 7:00 pm. See the Calendar in this issue for all the details. For more information contact 916-923-1555, dancesong20@att.net

The Camellia International Folk Dance Concert is coming up on March 28. It is in its second year at Sacramento City College's beautiful Performing Arts Center, 3835 Freeport Blvd. It was a big success last year, and we even made a DVD of it (which is still for sale.) Bruce is busy lining up the performers. We are building on last year's success to make it even better this year. It sold out last year, so get your tickets early! Info. Barbara Malakoff 916 296-8636 or barbikoff@mac.com or Bruce Mitchell 530-401-4013 dancebruce@aol.com Also see our web page folkdancesac.org for the latest info.

Our Scholarship Ball, an extravaganza produced by Yvonne Couvillion. It is called "The Dance Academy Awards, A Gala Premier!" and it involves nominating your favorite dances, and then voting on the dances by means of a \$1 donation for each vote, to the Camp Scholarship Fund. On the night of the Ball we will dance the most popular dances, with some glitz and hoopla! It's all in the name of having some fun, and earning money for the fund! PLUS, there will be a performance by Tanc El Dorado, the youth group taught by Al and Teddy Wolterbeek. The date is January 17, 6:30 - 10:30 pm, Central United Methodist Church, 5265 H Street. The cost is only \$8.00, and \$5.00 for those under 23.

—By Barbara Malakoff



# 2015 San Francisco Tam Fest

A Celebration of Tamburitza Music and Love

featuring



Celebrate Valentine's weekend with us. Come enjoy the music, dancing and food at the San Francisco Tamburitza Festival on February 14 & 15. The headlining band will be Sinovi of Chicago. They are fun loving, wonderful musicians who haven't made an appearance in San Francisco for seven years. They can play all the kolos and plenty of dance tunes for Valentine's Day. Also performing; Sidro, Slavonian Traveling Band and Eszterlanc Hungarian Folk Ensemble. *Food will be available both days.*

## Two Days of Music!

**Feb 14th** — Welcome Dance | 7:30

**Feb 15th** — Concert, Kolos, sing-a-long | 12PM-8PM



**Croatian American**  
CULTURAL CENTER

[www.croatianamericanweb.org](http://www.croatianamericanweb.org)

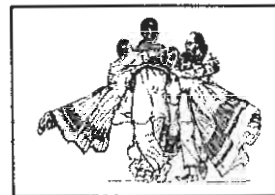


Our cultural programs are funded in part by the California Arts Council, National Endowment for the Arts, SF Grants for the Arts, SF Arts Commission, Alliance for California Traditional Arts, SF Foundation, Walter & Flora Hewlett Foundation, Zellerbach Family Fund, W.A. Geibode Foundation and the Walter & Elise Haas Foundation.





*Ensemble Balkanske Igre's  
50th Anniversary*



# SPRING FESTIVAL

**March 26-29, 2015**

International House, 1414 E 59th St, Chicago, IL 60637

(Hyde Park/University of Chicago)

*dance and music of the Balkans, Eastern Europe, and Eastern Mediterranean*

Enjoy the best in Balkan, Eastern European, and Mediterranean dance, music, and culture for 3 1/2 days with world renowned master teachers...spectacular live music...riveting dance & musical performances. Dance on a sprung oak floor. Sing, jam, and celebrate with friends new and old from coast to coast and Canada!

**March 26-29, 2015, Thursday, 8pm - midnight / Friday to Sunday, 9am-5pm**

*Workshops, parties, culture sessions with master teachers and artists*

**Nina Kavardjikova, Atanas Kolarovski, Yannis Konstantinou,**

**Ahmet Lüleci, Ventzi Sotirov, Chris Bajmakovich,**

**Zoya Sotirova, James Stoyanoff, & others.** Program subject to change.

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY EVENINGS, Concerts & Dance Parties featuring the finest live music**  
*and dances from all regions of the Balkans and Eastern Europe/Mediterranean*

**Info/Reservations: 847/331-7842 or 847/858-9822**

**balkanske\_igre@yahoo.com**

Balkanske Igre, PO Box 1157, Chicago, IL 60690

**[www.balkanskeigre.org](http://www.balkanskeigre.org)**

Plentiful housing options near campus; please contact us for details. The Spring Festival is co-sponsored by the International House at the University of Chicago, CEERES, and the Ensemble Balkanske Igre.

Please complete and return to **John Kuo, 9201 Mason, Morton Grove, IL 60053** - please make checks payable to: "Balkanske Igre". NOTE: EARLY REGISTRATION + WEEKEND PASS OPTIONS YIELD SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNTS.

	Student	General	Note: Friday & Saturday evening concert & parties included in weekend packages; evening dinners & syllabus are extra. Individual workshop admission is \$10/\$12.
	/FDCC	Seniors	
Option 1 Weekend Pass begins Thu eve, thru Sun	\$200	\$250 by 1/10/2015	\$210/\$260 after 1/10/2015, \$220/\$270 after 3/10/2015
Option 2 Weekend Pass begins Fri morning, thru Sun	\$190	\$230 by 1/10/2015	\$200/\$240 after 1/10/2015, \$210/\$250 after 3/10/2015
Option 3 Weekend Pass begins Fri eve, thru Sun	\$130	\$160 by 1/10/2015	\$140/\$170 after 1/10/2015, \$150/\$180 after 3/10/2015
Syllabus	\$20		
Dinners Friday & Saturday evenings	\$30 per evening (\$60 for both)		please check if vegetarian/vegan
Post-festival Sunday dinner/party w/live music	\$40 at a Balkan ethnic restaurant tba		
for a total of \$			

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

59th ANNUAL

❁ **CAMELLIA INTERNATIONAL** ❁  
**FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 6 & 7, 2015**  
**Sacramento, California**

**GUEST TEACHERS**

**BRUCE HAMILTON**

**ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE (Partner)**

**STEVE KOTANSKY**

**BALKAN DANCE (Non-partner)**



**LOCATION:** Central United Methodist Church, 5265 H St., Sacramento  
Free Parking in adjacent lot

**SCHEDULE**

**Friday, March 6, 2015 - Opening Party - 7:00-11:00 PM - \$8.00**

**Saturday, March 7, 2015**

**English Country Dance Workshop with Bruce Hamilton - 1:00-2:50 PM - \$8.00**

**Balkan Dance Workshop with Steve Kotansky - 3:10-5:00 PM - \$8.00**

**Evening Party - 7:00-11:00 PM - \$8.00**

**SPECIAL PRICE - \$25.00 for all Friday and Saturday events!**

**All events FREE for students with student body cards!**

**Sponsored by the Sacramento International Folk Dance & Arts Council &  
The Folk Dance Federation of California - 501(c)(3) non-profit organization**

**Affiliated with the National Folk Organization**

**For more information: [www.folkdancesac.org](http://www.folkdancesac.org) or [dancesong20@att.net](mailto:dancesong20@att.net) or call (916) 923-1555**



# **FEDERATION VIDEO CHALLENGE**

(Folk Dance Federation of California)

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the “**Federation Video Challenge**” is to:

1. Raise funds for the Federation to promote international folk dance.
2. Add to the collection of internet videos of interest to Federation members.
3. Promote the posting of internet dance videos which do not yet exist on the internet.
4. Promote and honor dancers and/or musicians from our dance communities.

The essence of this fundraising challenge is simple: In exchange for a Challenger agreeing to donate a certain dollar amount to the Federation, the Challenged person agrees to post a requested dance video on the internet. To help think about your video challenge, consider the following example of our first “**Federation Video Challenge**.”

*I, Memo Keswick (Chico), challenge John Nicoara (San Francisco Bay Area) to post on the internet a video which clearly shows him and others doing the Atanas Kolarovski dance known as Cetvorka. John is requested to lead the dance and have at least 4 dancers immediately behind him who know the dance well. If John chooses to accept the challenge and successfully posts the resulting video, I will donate \$30.00 to the Folk Dance Federation of California.*

## **CHALLENGE DETAILS**

The details of what kind of dance/music video is requested is left to the discussion between the Challenger and the Challenged. However, the Federation does have some general recommendations about the Challenge.

\* Challenges can be between individuals, between clubs, or between an individual and a club. Challenges are not limited to Northern California.

\* The Federation greatly appreciates Challenges for videos of dances NOT already found on internet, but this is not a requirement.

\* It is recommended that the participants work out *in advance* the details of exactly what the Challenger expects from the video.

\* The Federation asks for common courtesy in all discussions between a Challenger and Challenged. The process is meant to be enjoyable, not stressful.

\* As appropriate, Federation may post Challenge details on its website.

\* The Federation must be assured that both Challenger and Challenged have agreed to the Challenge *before* the Federation will post the Challenge on its website. Please e-mail the Federation President at [president@folkdance.com](mailto:president@folkdance.com) to acknowledge the accepted Challenge, and later when it is agreed that the Challenge has been successfully met.

\* You will need to provide the names of the participants and the city/club where the filming is done.

\* There is no specific amount required for the Challenge. The amount to be donated to the Federation upon the successful completion of the Challenge could be more or less

than the example above, and is to be determined by the participants. If requested, the Federation acknowledgement of a Challenge donation would not provide the specific amount of the donation.

\* Don't worry if you've been challenged, but don't know how to post videos. Making the video is more important, and posting your video may be easier than you think. You may learn to do it yourself, or you may find a family member, friends, or colleagues to assist you. The Federation is also willing to help you.

## **VIDEO CREATION**

Quality videos are important to the Federation. The Federation will leave discussions about video quality up to the Challenger and Challenged, but the Federation reserves the right to not post videos on its website.

\* Try to find an experienced videographer. This need not be a professional, but it should be someone who has had some time behind a video camera.

\* Think about where to video. Perhaps a local dance teacher or weekly dance group will be happy to film your video during a class or local dance event. You might prefer a beautiful outdoor setting.

\* Cameras record best with good lighting. If filming indoors, having all available lights on produces better results. Avoid having lights directly behind dancers. Even windows with sun shining behind the dance line can severely impact video quality.

\* Having the camera set up right next to the speaker system can improve sound quality tremendously, is especially helpful in blocking out any unwanted background noise.

\* The camera should be stationary, on a table or tripod to avoid a shaky result.

\* The video should be of a small group of dancers who know the dance well.

\* There are many video file formats used these days. Cameras often don't offer choices of recording format and what you record in may not be appropriate for posting. If necessary, family, friends, colleagues, or the Federation can help convert the file to one used in internet videos.

## **POSTING VIDEO TO INTERNET**

The Federation has some general recommendations for posting your video on the internet.

\* The finished video can be posted on a Youtube or another website belonging to the Challenger, the Challenged, the videographer, or the Federation. The video is to be made available for viewing by the general user of the internet.

\* If you're not interested in posting your video on Youtube or another online website, ask others for ideas on who might post it for you. The Federation is always willing to help you post your video.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Federation hopes this “**Federation Video Challenge**” will be warmly received as a valued Federation fundraiser and that it will provide both incentive and support for promoting the legacy and viewing availability of our beloved dances. Hopefully this fundraiser will inspire community members to have fun, share dances or music adventures with others, and honor our dance leaders.

As with any new fundraising project there is room for improvement or clarity on how the fundraiser works. Please contact any member of the Federation Board of Directors with your feedback or questions.

# Memorium

Marcel Vinokur

November 14, 2014

*From John Nicoara*

Czechoslovakian-born Marcel Vinokur, who came to America at the age of 13, has long been known as one of the West Coast's foremost authorities on Balkan-Israeli dancing. For Marcel, it all began in the 1950s when he was studying engineering physics at Cornell University. It was there that a dormitory friend managed to talk him into attending a folk dance class session. As Marcel later recalled, "I was hooked the very first time." It was a revelation to discover the magic of line dancing – that it encourages dancers to perform together as a unit.

After receiving his Ph.D. in aeronautical engineering from Princeton, Marcel came to Palo Alto to work as a research scientist at Lockheed. While in graduate school at Princeton, Marcel had found the time to teach a folk dance class. And so, soon after coming to California, he began teaching at the Palo Alto Recreation Center and quickly grew his class to over 40 regular dancers. It was at this time that he began to concentrate on the combination known as Balkan-Israeli – a term that he coined.

Recalling that his college dance group had held special get-togethers – hikes, camping, and such, Marcel and his wife Kathy in the late 1960s began annual May folkdance campouts in Yosemite, often attracting 80 or more dancers for hiking in small groups and a massive folk dance potluck and party in Yosemite afterward. Neither rain nor snow ever deterred Marcel and his dedicated dancer campers.

About this same time, the late 1960s, Marcel moved his class to the Menlo Park Recreation Center just as the interest in folk dancing was about to explode. There were festivals and workshops introducing exciting new dances, and the popularity of folk music brought new young dancers into the folk dance scene. Marcel expanded his Menlo Park classes, having a double class – beginning and intermediate – on Tuesdays, and an advanced class on Wednesdays. With the interest in folk dancing at fever pitch, Marcel expanded once again, this time adding a Monday class at Foothill College in Los Altos, a Thursday class at the College of San Mateo, and a Friday class at UC Santa Cruz. It didn't end even there. Soon he was conducting weekend folk dancing retreats at a Japanese teagarden facility in Saratoga where dedicated dancers could concentrate on mastering the most complex of Balkan dances. All of this continued throughout the 1970s and 1980s.

From the very beginning Marcel regularly attended a multitude of folk dance festivals and workshops, constantly adding to and expanding his repertoire. These included AMAN in Los Angeles in the 1970s, the annual May Berkeley Folk Dance Festival in the 1970s and 1980s, the June Israeli Folk Dance Institute in San Luis Obispo in the 1970s and early 1980s, the July Folk Dance Camp in Stockton, the November Kolo Festival in San Francisco, and numerous workshops sponsored by local dance clubs.

Beginning in the 1990s Marcel noted that interest in folk dancing had leveled off. Fewer new young dancers were coming into the classes; many had married, started families, and stopped coming on a regular basis; and several of the festivals – AMAN, Berkeley, San Luis Obispo – had come to an end.

Even so, Marcel persevered, still teaching his Tuesday class well into the Millennium and continuing with his monthly parties at the Menlo Park Recreation Center where many of those who had been his students over these past 50 years would drop in to renew acquaintances and join in their favorite dances. New Year's Eve, in particular, continued to draw a wonderful mix of old and new dancers, all of whom were delighted to greet old friends and revel in the fact that – like Brigadoon – it was all just as they had remembered it.

For his nearly 50 years of dedicated teaching, Marcel, once called The Pied Piper of Menlo Park, will always be remembered as the Bay Area's revered master of Balkan-Israeli folk dancing.

## Dancers Remember

I share in your sorrow. Kathy called me today with the news and I am in shock. Thank you for spreading the sad news. I plan to attend the memorial. —Denise Heenan

I am heartbroken. One of the prominent teachers in the San Francisco Bay Area, Marcel Vinokur, died this morning, November 14, 2014, in his sleep.

His son Robert is with Kathy and they will be making arrangements for a memorial service and probably some sort of dance celebration of Marcel's life. I will update when I have more information.

Should you wish to send a condolence card or similar tribute, the Vinokur residence is 919 Channing Avenue, Palo Alto, 94301.

—Loui Tucker

I saw him every year at Stockton Folk Dance Camp and at Kolo Festival with his syllabus and pen in hand. I admired him for being so precise. He paid me a compliment a few years ago by asking ME for some clarification in some dance notes!

—Barbara Bevan

Marcel led many of us to pass along this gift of Folk Dance. He helped show me that you can love Israeli and Balkan dance as well. We will miss him greatly.

—Alan Rothchild

Marcel, being a mathematician, once pointed out that a line dance is like a circle dance of infinite radius.

—Todd Wagner

It is truly sad when my beloved friend and teacher, the King of Announcements, is no longer alive and teaching in our midst; Marcel was a great one, and many of us owe our somewhat dubious careers in the folk dance world to his tutelage and creative spirit. Oh, Marcel, wherever you are now, I'm certain you are exchanging dance moves and appropriate music with whatever gods of dance there be.

—Cliff Jenkins



Mark your  
**CELEBRATION**  
**MARCEL VINOKUR**  
Sunday, January 19, 2015  
6:00 - 10:00  
Lucie Stern Ballroom, 1000  
Palo Alto, CA 94301





When Tony and I started dancing with Marcel in the late 1960s he had the reputation of being an almost mystical place, where the most dramatic dances were taught and the best dancers turned up. Marcel could tell you everything about every dance – how to do it, who introduced it, where it came from, and what the name meant. It was an education that has brought us pleasure for many years.

—Tony and Judy Kramer

When I started folk dancing with the Sierra Singles in the 1990s, people told me that if I wanted to learn the dances really well, I should take Marcel's class. I'm sorry to say I didn't do that, but over the years I've enjoyed many parties and events that Marcel and Kathy organized, and I deeply appreciate the way they brought our community together.

—Betsy Moore

Marcel was not only our primary folk dance teacher but also became a close friend and supporter of our activities over the past 47 years. We miss him.

—Arden and Hiram Pierce

Marcel was the major influence in my dance career, both in Menlo Park and at the Japanese garden in Saratoga. He also launched my career in show business at Stockton Folk Dance Camp in the 70s as we performed PDQ Bach's "My bonny lass, she smelleth."

—Jim Emidy

Marcel was a perfectionist about dance details. When we would encounter different "village" versions of a dance, we could consult Marcel because we could rely on his in-depth knowledge to be definitive. We will miss Marcel, whose expertise on dances we trusted and respected.

—Lucy Chang

I gave Marcel a ride to the North/South Teachers' seminar a few years ago. On the way, Marcel was telling me the whole history of North/South as he knew it. I attempted to ask a question (attempted is the key word here) but Marcel said "Kaela, I was getting to that" in a very agitated tone of voice. So typical Marcel! He really was one of a kind.

—Kaela Fine

Saying that Marcel Vinokur taught international folk dance classes is like saying Beethoven wrote music. It's like saying Rosa Parks rode buses. If the San Francisco Bay Area international folk dance community were a loaf of bread, Marcel would be a substantial portion of the yeast that has made it grow.... Many dance teachers produce dancers. Marcel's reach extended into another generation by fostering the teachers who have produced still more dancers.

—Loui Tucker

## What Marcel Knew

*B Bonnie LeMat*

Marcel Vinokur changed my life. He was my friend and my first folk dance teacher. In the summer of 1974, a friend suggested that we walk from our homes in Menlo Park to the nearby community center to check out a folk dance class. I had never seen or heard of folk dancing. I was captivated by the music, the dance movements, and the smiles on the faces of the dancers. I became hooked. I started dancing at Marcel's Tuesday and Monday classes, going to his workshops, his Saturday and NYE's parties and then to various other dance groups and dance camps. I met people from all over the world and made lifelong friends. Over the years I came to know Marcel through our many conversations at festivals, potlucks, weekend events, camps, carpools to workshops, and while carrying his cases of records up the hill at a local college. I picked his brain. He was an information-junkie, a detail man, a fact-finder and a community builder. We talked about our families, friends and science careers. His knowledge and memory astounded me. He was interested in others and inquisitive about diverse subjects. He could tell you where hundreds of folk dance friends worked, volunteered, studied, traveled, or were born and raised. He could tell me if I knew (or had learned) such-and-such a dance. He was wrong only once that I recall...at a party at a North/South teachers seminar, I jumped up to do the Scottish dance Bratach Bana, and he told me I didn't know it. He didn't know that I had learned the dance elsewhere. That evening I had fun chiding him for missing that detail.

The real story, however, is that Marcel was well aware of the true essence and significance of folk dance. More than the steps and beyond the details and intricacies of the dances, rhythms and music, Marcel knew that folk dancing was the door to cultural awareness, socialization, and a rich, joyful life. He knew it was all about connections, community and friendships.

He knew the reason we were smiling.

We got the sad news yesterday about Marcel's passing. It's hard to believe. He was such a giant, so influential, in the Bay Area folk dance scene--a standard-bearer. He marked many of us. I imagine you all took time out at the Officers' Ball yesterday to announce it and for 1st reminiscences. It must be a terrible shock for Kathy. Our dancing hearts, brains & feet are with her & the community. —Carol Toffaleti and Bill Croft

I too am stunned and deeply saddened by this news. The folk-dance community is huge, and a lot of people come and go from your circle of friends, but Marcel was one of those people that everyone stayed in contact with forever. This is a great loss to our community.

Marcel's advanced class probably had the largest repertoire anywhere. We had over half a dozen Bulgarian Kopanicas alone. He was famous for his copious notes taken at camps and workshops (too bad nobody else could read his handwriting).

—Todd Wagner

calendar  
ON OF LIFE  
VINOKUR  
January 18, 2015  
10:00 PM  
305 Middlefield Road  
San Francisco, California



## Memoriam

### Marcel Vinokur

Born February 16, 1929, Ostrava, Czechoslovakia. Died November 14, 2014, Palo Alto, California.

Marcel Vinokur was a compassionate man, and an avowed Humanist who expanded upon his orthodox Jewish heritage and upbringing in favor of a secular philosophy that espoused optimism in humankind to make this world a better place. He was born to a Polish mother and Ukrainian/Russian father in what is now the Czech Republic, and was raised a Jew. He witnessed the Nazi takeover of Czechoslovakia in 1939, mere weeks before he and his parents fled to Le Havre and sailed on a steam liner to New York City, where he gained his life-long passion for subways, baseball, and folk dancing.

Some of his ardent supporters openly proclaim Marcel to be a 'true renaissance man.' He studied Physics at Cornell University, eventually earning his PhD in Quantum Physics from Princeton University during Einstein's tenure there. Marcel moved to California to work with Lockheed, settled in Palo Alto in the early '60s, and later worked for NASA Ames Research Center at Moffett Field. In fact, he worked at his Ames office the day he died. His scientific contributions included NASA's manned space program and co-authored theorems in fluid mechanics.

He was an internationally recognized master instructor and historian of Balkan and Israeli folk dance. He was instrumental in building a large folk dance community on the San Francisco Peninsula through his 60+ years of teaching up to four classes a week at Foothills College, at UC Santa Cruz, and in Menlo Park. The annual calendar for the 'Menlo Park Folk Dancers' (as his following was called) included monthly Saturday night folk dance parties, monthly retreats at a private Japanese tea garden in Saratoga, as well as annual Mother's Day dance weekends in Yosemite Valley (including this past year), and New Year's Eve parties back home.

With his wife, Kathy, Marcel was an avid supporter of the Arts, ranging from ACT in San Francisco to the Redwood Symphony and the Lively Arts at Stanford.

Marcel was a political activist who met his surviving wife Kathryn in Palo Alto during the campaign to block Oregon Expressway back in the early 1960s. Ever on the go, he was an Alpine hiker, with his last Alpine trek in Austria and Germany in 2003, age 74.

Marcel is survived by his wife and son, two stepsons and eight grandchildren.

### Erik Bendix will do a workshop at the Albany Y Balkan Dancers

The Albany Y Balkan Dancers will celebrate their last night of folk dancing at the Albany YMCA facility on January 16, 2015. The night will be especially meaningful because the group will be going out in great style with a workshop featuring Erik Bendix, a teacher who has long been a favorite with the Albany Y Balkan Dancers. Come and join the group for an enjoyable and full evening of dancing to the strains of lovely Balkan music with a master teacher.

The price for this event will be \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members. It will begin at the usual time of 8:00 pm and go until 11:00 pm. The Albany YMCA is located at 921 Kains, near Solano and San Pablo Avenues in Albany. For more information contact Kay James by telephone at (925) 376-0727 or by email at [kay.james@comcast.net](mailto:kay.james@comcast.net)



## Memoriam

### Chester "Chet" Wright

Folk dancing lost a true friend November 10, 2014. Chet Wright passed away at the age of 83. Anyone who attended Stockton Folk Dance Camp will remember Chet as the smiling face at the mid-morning refreshment break. We'll always think of him and his constructions of coffee cups when we get our morning coffee and fruit.

He was raised in Stockton, married to wife Jan for 62 years and they lived the last 20 years in Shingletown.

Chet and Jan have three children, Lynn Haskins (husband Dan), Ken Wright and Sue Klein (husband Dan) as well as 11 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

He loved backpacking, fishing, cross-country skiing and international folk dancing.

Chet raised his children to attend the East Side Presbyterian Church, where he had attended as a child and served as elder and teen group advisor.

He served 18 years as a Stockton Police Officer and 21 years with the Marine Corps Reserve including 2 years active duty in Korea.

He was active with the Shingletown Volunteer Sheriffs for the last 18 years.

A Celebration of Life was held at Risen King Community Church on November 23rd. He was laid to rest at the Veterans Cemetery in Igo.

Chet will be missed by all his friends, in Shingletown, and at the Stockton Folk Dance Camp.

## Carol Friedman's 2015 class schedule:

**Petaluma Snap-Y Dancers** - January 5-May 4 (no class April 6); \$65 for the 17-week session or \$7 drop-in. Mondays, 7:00-9:15 pm. Herman Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma.

**College of Marin** - January 28-March 11 (no class February 25); April 1-May 5; \$54 per 6-week session. Class number 0292, Wednesdays 2:10-3:30 p.m., PE#22, Kentfield Campus, College of Marin.



67<sup>th</sup> Annual

# Festival of the Oaks

**Sunday February 8, 2015**

**Live Oak Park Community Center  
1301 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, CA**

**REGISTRATION..... 9:00 AM**

**INSTITUTE..... 9:30 AM – NOON \$12**

**CAROL FRIEDMAN will teach some unique and enjoyable line and circle dances  
from a variety of countries**

Carol Friedman has over 35 years of experience teaching a wide variety of dance forms to people of all ages including international folk dance, ballroom dance, line dancing, and dance for kids. Along with teaching dances from all over the world, her classes combine rhythm, geography, historical and cultural context, physical fitness, community-building, and just plain fun. She has taught folk dance for seniors at Villa Marin in San Rafael, world rhythm and dance at Dance Palace Summer Camp in Point Reyes Station, line dancing at Indian Valley College in Ignacio, folk and ballroom dance at the Dance Palace in Point Reyes. She currently teaches regular international folk dance classes at Herman Sons Hall in Petaluma and the College of Marin in Kentfield.

She will be teaching a diverse and lively mix of dances including: an Armenian Miserlou from the Armenian community in Racine, Wisconsin; Homey Twist, my favorite Urban Soul line dance; Cocek Za Merak, a Rom dance from Macedonia; Alunelul de la Urzica, a wonderful classic Rumanian dance originally taught by Sunni Boland; Tzel Midbar, a lovely Israeli dance choreographed by Bonnie Piya in 2005; Talima, from Bulgaria; and Esmer, from Turkey. Time permitting also Changulovo (Macedonia) just in case.

**HOT LUNCH ..... NOON – 1:00 PM \$6**

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING ..... NOON – 1:00 PM**  
Folk Dance Federation of California attendees will receive a free lunch

**INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING ..... 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM \$12**

Dances from Macedonia, Croatia, Hungary, Armenia and other far away places.

**AM INSTITUTE & PM FOLK DANCING \$20**

**NO PARTNER NEEDED**

**USED FOLK DANCE COSTUMES FOR SALE 1:30 – 5:00 PM**

Bring items to donate. Consignment sales accepted.

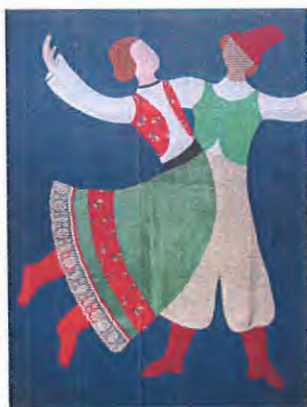
**EXHIBITION DANCE PERFORMANCE at 3:00 PM**

**Free refreshments will be served 1:00 – 5:00 PM**

**DANCE SHOES RECOMMENDED (tape will be available for soles)**

**SPONSORED BY:**

Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc. &  
Berkeley Folk Dancers



**For more information, call Mel Mann (510) 527-2177, [meldancing@aol.com](mailto:meldancing@aol.com)**

## Around Town Fall 2014

By Eileen Kopec, [eisiedancer@gmail.com](mailto:eisiedancer@gmail.com)

What do you do when your local sports team (Go A's) has already lost, but most of the Bay Area was glued to game seven of the World Series? Go to Ashkenaz...for an evening of Klezmer music with The Jubilee Klezmer Ensemble, dance teacher Bruce Bierman and his assistant (and new husband – mazel tov) Gilberto Melendez. The wearing of Halloween costumes was encouraged, but only a few people wore them. I semi-wimped out and only wore my devil ears and ghostly socks – after all, I didn't want to go too orange and black (Giant's colors!).

Accordianist Sonia Tubridy played for us as Bruce taught the basics of Klezmer dancing while giving lots of interesting background information. It was a small but enthusiastic crowd. After the teaching, the band played for a few hours, including some classic Israeli dances. I was surprised to learn a third part in Zemer Atik, where people paired up for a short time. Unfortunately, most people left when the band took a short break. What they missed after the break were fun renditions of some familiar songs (like *Bei Mir Bist Du Schein*) in the rich tones of vocalist Alby Kass, and great clarinet solos by Paul Alexander, ably backed by Mark Peabody on the bass. The group plays frequently around the Bay Area, so keep a look out for them and connect with your Eastern European roots.

### November Balkan Bacchanal

When the Starry Plough first started doing the monthly Bacchanal a few years ago on Thursday nights, an optimistic handful of dancers showed up and hoped there would be enough people to form a short line to weave through a few pockets of swaying hipsters. Now on Friday nights, the Bacchanal has really evolved. I got there an hour early to eat dinner, a time when historically one had the pick of any table. But that night I barely found a place to sit. Luckily, a few friends got there even earlier and I squeezed in with them. (Delicious pulled pork and crispy fries – but bring mints – lots of garlic!).

If you are not familiar with the Balkan nights, there are always three bands, advertized as starting at 9:00, 10:00, and 11:00 pm. Has that schedule ever been kept? No. Musicians seem to have their own time. So, be prepared for a late night. The first band was the Plovdiv Party Bus. The dancers got on the bus! So to speak. All the expected dances were played, from *pajdusko*, to *racenica*, *pravo*, *lesnoto* and more. Enthusiastic lines snaked around the intimate dance floor with lots of dancers of all ages. I think every decade starting in the 30-somethings and up was represented. Might I add there were plenty of men. The energy started high and went up exponentially with each band.

The second band was the ever-popular Agapi Mou and they brought out all the usual Greek dance enthusiasts from the Bay Area, as well as a local group of young Greek people, who were quite energetic dancers. How can I paint this scene? Waiters balancing trays of beer, wine, and food trying to squeeze through the dancers. Lines of experienced dancers leading and encouraging many new “let's try this - it looks like fun” dancers, all trying to make paths through the

schmoozers, chairs, and tables. Band members playing their hearts out. The music blaring. People talking and bending their elbows at the bar, taking in the whole scene, while glancing at the basketball game on the overhead TV. People grinning from the other corners of the room, enjoying the craziness and Balkan rhythms. I know this picture will turn a lot of people off – too noisy, too unpredictable, too late at night – or should I say early morning. But if this is your thing, come to the Plough! You won't be sorry.

I was unfamiliar with the last band, a group called Orchestra Euphonos. I was soon a fan. They are a Klezmer and Balkan Band, playing Moldovan, Romanian, Ukrainian, Greek/Macedonian, and Serbian music. I was trying to remember anything Bruce Bierman taught a few weeks ago – come on brain. Who cares? Just dance. The floor emptied out after some of the Greek aficionados left and I just let myself go, waltzing at times, or just moving to the music. There was an amazing guitar guest during the set who was excellent, but wound up being a bit of a buzz kill as he wasn't very dance-y. Fortunately, the band started up again after his set and played until 1:00 am. Wow. Great night.

### Officer's Ball

The very next day was the Officer's Ball, a Federation Event. The annual party and institute was a completely different experience from the previous night, but not any less enjoyable. It was so wonderful to be able to partake in such a variety of dance happenings in one weekend. Everyone should move to the Bay Area. Well maybe not – housing is expensive enough.

The Veteran's Memorial Hall in Livermore was a perfect venue for dancing, with a huge wood floor, a high airy ceiling, and easy parking. The afternoon started with several hours of teaching, mostly (ahem) couple dances. I hate to keep bringing this up, but being a dance-partner-less person, I am frequently a recipient of grumbling from many other single Balkan (and happy to be Balkan) dancer friends. I feel that I owe it to them to make their voices heard as a counter-point to the strong movement to go to more couple dancing. And now back to our regular program.

A delicious Greek dinner was served to the accompaniment of a Bill Cope sing-a-long. It's hard to sing and eat at the same time, but we managed between bites to belt out our favorite choruses. An all request dance program followed, with new and old dances. Sometimes it staggers my mind at how many dances we know! The physical and mental challenges we take for granted should be in the Guinness record book! I commend all my fellow folk dancers for their stamina, commitment, and sheer enjoyment of dancing. Huge thanks to the committee for their hard work organizing this event, also for the beautiful decorations, the yummy food and the seamless running of the music – not an easy task. Another great night.

Eileen Kopec

A sad note: At the Officer's Ball I learned about the passing of two long time dancers who were much loved in the dance community - Marcel Vinokur and Chet Wright. I'm sure others will be writing about them in *Let's Dance*. I will miss them.



## Letter to the editor

The December issue of *Let's Dance!* contained a number of interesting articles which brought to mind my own past, present and future in folk dancing. I remember well the early years (1967-1970) dancing with Maxine Burnham at Co-op Camp Sierra. It is there I first started serious dancing and by 1971, I was dancing as many as four nights a week. I came back to the Co-op Camp at various time to share dances such as Belasicko oro, or to lead dancing at the second week session.

As this is written near the Thanksgiving holiday, I would like to express my gratitude to the many fine teachers and mentors who guided my path: Maxine, Marcel Vinokur, John Nicoara, Stan Isaacs, Martin Frost, Al Daoud and many others. During the years (1973-1974) that I taught on Fridays at Tressider Deck on the Stanford Campus, I had the help of many other dancers, who tolerated my erratic programming and misguided pronunciations. I hold Hiram Pierce in high esteem as a friend and founder of Planina, which provided years of wonderful dancing in a beautiful outdoor setting, along with other services to the folkdance community. I also want to thank Cliff Jenkins for his generosity in opening his land to fine dancing experiences.

Through the efforts of the Folkdance Federation and its many dedicated presenters, I see a bright future for community folk dancing and am proud to be a member. Though Julie Killeen and I are not actively teaching dance at the moment, our impromptu Bulgarian moves at Rock and Roll Concerts have provided us an opportunity to spread the word. It should be noted that large efforts to recruit new members to a group usually result with a small response; response may not take place immediately but it will happen.

Jim Emdy, 12/1/2014

## Welcome new members

Membership chair Alicia La Fetra announces the following new members:

Kay Dorman  
North Quincy, MA

Marian Snyder  
Berkeley, CA

Wendi Ellis  
San Mateo, CA



## Danish dancing in Solvang

By Thad Trela

(This article originally appeared in *Changs Bulletin*)

Recent trips with partner, Steve Rivas, included experiencing two very different genres of folk dancing.

In late August/early September in the Hawaiian Islands we scheduled a day-long visit to the Polynesian Cultural Center on Oahu, an hour drive northwest of Honolulu. This theme park of simulated Pacific island tropical villages features arts and crafts exhibits and demonstrations. One hula program displayed how restricted was island dancing before stringed instruments were introduced: foot-stomping, grunting, slapping to drumbeats. The evening show is a 2+ hour elaborately costumed spectacle with a cast of hundreds singing and dancing patterns--mucho macho for the men, graceful and swaying for the women--from the Hawaiian islands to as far south as the Maoris of New Zealand. It's an energetic extravaganza but near the end of the show we both felt the relative limitations of island choreography exhibited. The PCC is definitely worth a visit and you cannot but be impressed with the genial staff and performers mostly made up of students from the adjoining Mormon university.

We had our first brief look at Solvang last year when driving to Statewide in Santa Barbara. This is a town of about 5,000 founded in 1911 by Danish immigrants who decided to escape the climate of the upper Midwest. It has evolved into a meter-less, accommodating, somewhat faux taste of Denmark with windmills, buildings/architecture that reflect Danish provincial style, monuments (Little Mermaid, Hans Christian Anderson) and a comforting abundance of pastry shops.

This year we decided to attend Solvang's annual Danish Days Festival in September, whetted by comments made by Craig and Cindy Blackstone who are among *Changs'* members that have previously experienced the festival. We found the festival an easy-going, unpretentious, pleasant weekend of events. Those included simple opening & closing ceremonies, small-scale parades, two Danish men playing/singing vintage and modern Danish songs, local and Fresno Danish dancers, "The Great Danes" band, beer & wine outdoor garden, two street market shopping fairs, outdoor apple pancake breakfast/pancake eating contest, "Kids Korner" play & rest area. A "lighter side" organ/piano concert Saturday afternoon at the historic Bethany Lutheran Church was a thorough delight. All events are centrally located easily walked from any town hostility.

The music and dancing goes on daily in the streets to recorded selections on a casual schedule but with live music in the evenings in a pavilion on a wooden floor. Similar to Dutch dancing I've seen, Danish folk dancing seems uncomplicated. Even moderately skilled folk dancers could easily join in after watching one or two sequences of most dances performed. Though encouraged, very few adults ventured to join the performing dancers. The folk dancers would go out into the audience but preferably chose children. Adult afternoon bystanders and evening audience members were content to watch even when approached. All that was needed to change that atmosphere would have been a few visiting international folk dancers. May I suggest you think about doing just that--dance, stroll about picturesque Solvang, savor the array of pastries and, then, dance some more.

# Jim Gold International Folk Tours: 2015



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## 2015 Tours

### **CUBA! (New) February 13-20, 2015**

Led by Jim Gold  
Havana, Mantanzas, Varadero

### **NORWAY, SWEDEN, DENMARK!**

**(New) June 13-23, 2015.**

Led by Lee Otterholt  
Oslo, Swedish West Coast, Hamlet's  
Castle, Copenhagen, Jutland peninsula, cruise of Oslo Fjord!



### **POLAND! June 14-27, 2015.**

Led by Richard Schmidt.  
Kraków, Zakopane, Wrocław, Berlin,  
Gdansk, Olsztyn, Warsaw!



### **BULGARIA! Koprivshtitsa Folk Festival Tour!**

**August 3-16, 2015.**

Led by Jim Gold.  
Sofia, Plovdiv, Bansko, Veliko Turnovo,  
great Koprivshtitsa Folk Festival! !



### **FRENCH CANADA! September 9-19, 2015.**

Led by Richard Schmidt.  
Montreal, Quebec, Mont Tremblant!

### **ALBANIA! October 4-17, 2015**

Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt.  
Dance with Albanian master teacher Genc Kastrati!  
Tirana, Durres, Vlora, Kruja, Saranda, Berat, and Shkoder!

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## Sandy's Čačak

(Serbian)

This dance was learned by Sandy Clemmer in New York after WWII in a Serbian dance club. Sandy brought it to the Santa Rosa area after moving there. In time, it made its way around the North Bay. It is commonly done to an old cacak recording which was provided on a CD at the 2014 Folk Dance Federation N. Officers Ball in Livermore, where it was presented by Gary Anderson.

- Music: 2/4 Meter Any fast, peppy čačak
- Formation: Short lines with belt hold, facing center. An alternative hold for those without belts is hands down in V-position. There should be no mixed handhold lines.
- Steps & Styling: Peppy, with an underlying bounciness.  
All the crossing steps should be with the knee raised as much as comfortable for men, ladies more subdued.  
Take special note of the lifts, if they aren't done the dancer will get ahead of the music.

Measures	2/4 meter	Pattern
Meas	Description	
1	<i>Begin a 6-step grapevine:</i> Lift R knee with a small anticipatory hop on L (ct & before 1); step R to R (ct 1); step L behind R (ct &); step R to R (ct 2); step L in front of R (ct &).	
2	<i>Finish the grapevine:</i> Step R to R (ct 1); step L behind R (ct &). <i>Begin three step-swings:</i> Step R to R (ct 2); swing L in front of R (ct &).	
3	<i>Finish the step-swings:</i> Step L to L (ct 1); swing R in front of L (ct &); step R to R (ct 2); swing L in front of R (ct &).	
4	<i>Side-behind plus a step-swing:</i> Step L to L (ct 1); step R behind L (ct &); step L to L (ct 2); swing R in front of L (ct &).	
5	<i>Another step-swing and side-behind:</i> Step R to R (ct 1); swing L in front of R (ct &); step L to L (ct 2); step R behind L (ct &).	
6	<i>Reels:</i> Step L to L (ct 1); swing R in front and then around behind L (ct &); step R behind L (ct 2); swing L behind R (ct &).	
7	<i>Pas-de-basque:</i> Step L behind R (ct 1); lift R (ct &); step R to R (ct 2); step L in front of R (ct &).	
8	<i>Finish the Pas-de-basque:</i> step back on R (ct 1); lift L (ct &); step L to L (ct 2); step R in front of L (ct &).	
9	<i>End of sequence:</i> Step back onto L (ct 1).	

NOTE: This is an unusual 17-count sequence and will not fit the music.

*Continued from page 23*

### **WEDNESDAY**

**\*CALICO 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

**\*VILLAGE DANCERS OF THE VALLEY.** All levels, couple, & non-partner. 7:30-10:00 pm. Raube Hall, 4455 Roeding Rd., Ceres. Contact: 209-480-0387, JudyKropp40@gmail.com

### **THURSDAY**

**INTERNATIONAL DANCERS OF SACRAMENTO (IDS).** Intermediate. Couple & non-partner. 7:30-9:30 pm. Jane Steele Park, 4855 Hamilton St., Sacramento. Contact: 530-888-6586, dancebruce@aol.com

**\*TANCE EL DORADO.** Beg. & Int. International. Age 18-30. 8:30pm. 3100 Ponderosa Rd., Shingle Springs. Contact: 650-248-1539 or 530-306-9602 or tanceeldorado@gmail.com

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

### **FRIDAY**

**\*EL DORADO INTERNATIONAL DANCE - GARDEN VALLEY.** 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 - SHINGLE SPRINGS.** All levels, couple & line. 7:30-10:00 pm. 3100 Ponderosa Rd., Shingle Springs. Contact: (530) 409-7138, Karen@karensandler.net

**\*VILLAGE DANCERS OF THE VALLEY.** Beg. & Int. International, recreational, couple, & non-partner. 7:30-9:30 pm except June, July, Aug. Carnegie Arts Center, 250 N. Broadway, Turlock, CA. Contact: 209-480-0387, JudyKropp40@gmail.com

**\*NEVADA CITY FOLK DANCERS.** Beg. & int. Balkan & international. Selected Fridays. 7:30 pm. Methodist Church, 433 Broad St., Nevada City. Contact: 530-272-4650, dance7@sbcglobal.net. For schedule: davunterman@yahoo.com Party: 7:00 pm

### **SATURDAY**

**\*DANCES OF THE WORLD PARTY.** All Levels. Non-partner & partner. 3rd Sat. monthly except July & Aug. 7:30-10:30 pm. YLI Hall, 1400-27th St. at N, Sacramento. Contact: 916-923-1555, dancesong20@att.net

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

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

**\*SACRAMENTO COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY.** All levels. Contra Dance. 2nd & 4th Sat. 7:30 pm. Coloma Community Center, 4623 T St., Sacramento. Contact: <http://sactocds.org>

### **SUNDAY**

**\*DANCES OF THE WORLD.** Beg. & Int. International line & couple. 2nd & 4th Sun. monthly except July & Aug. 3:00-6:00 pm. YLI Hall, 1400-27th St. at N, Sacramento. Contact: 916-570-3482, yvandance@surewest.net

**\*DAVIS INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS.** All levels. Mostly non-partner Balkan & International. 7:00-9:45 pm. Davis Art Center, 1919 F St., Davis. Contact: 530-758-0863 or linderholm@sbcglobal.net

**\*SACRAMENTO COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY.** All levels. English Country Dance. 1st Sun. monthly. 2-5 pm. Masonic Hall, 235 Vernon St., Roseville. Contact: <http://sactocds.org>

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

**BALLIAMO!** Italian performing group. Saturdays, 9:30-11:30pm. 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/](http://www.folkdance.com/scandi/)

**TANCE EL DORADO.** College-age cultural dance group. All levels. International. Contact: 530-306-9602 or 650-248-1539, tanceeldorado@gmail.com

**VILLAGE DANCERS OF THE VALLEY.** Scandinavian, couple. 4455 Roeding Rd., Ceres. Contact: 209-480-0387, JudyKropp40@gmail.com

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

### **Other groups and classes**

**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:

**Please check your listing and inform the editor of any changes: [wildwood\\_press@comcast.net](mailto:wildwood_press@comcast.net)**



## ***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](mailto: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**

**Chico World Dancers** regular club dancing meets most Fridays 8 pm at Chico Creek Dance Centre, 1144 West First Street, Chico, CA. World Dance Classes also offered thru Chico Area Recreational District on most Thursday evenings 7 pm. All are welcome to attend either venue. No partner needed. Contact: Memo Keswick 530-774-2287 ([memok@saber.net](mailto:memok@saber.net)) for more details or to assure no changes to dance schedules.

**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.humboldtfolk dancers.org](http://www.humboldtfolk dancers.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](mailto:jmwright32@frontiernet.net)

**Shasta Scottish Country Dance Club** C/O Margaret Randolph PO Box 2000, Cottonwood, CA 96022 [purdypeggy@att.net](mailto: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](mailto: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: [CerritosFolkDancers@gmail.com](mailto:CerritosFolkDancers@gmail.com).

The **Pasadena Folk Dance Co-op** meets Friday 7:45-11 pm at Throop Unitarian Church, 300 S. Los Robles, Pasadena, CA. Info: Jan Rayman 818-790-8523, [www.PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org](http://www.PasadenaFolkDanceCoop.org).

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

##### **OREGON: COOS BAY**

**South Coast Folk Society** holds a folk dance party every 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month from Sept through May at the Greenacres Grange in Coos Bay, OR. Dancing starts at 7:00 pm with teaching then requests. Admission \$4 or \$3 for folk society members. For more information, 541.808.1002 <http://southcoastfolksociety.wordpress.com/>

A **beginning folk dance** class is held every Tuesday night from 7:00 – 9:00 pm at the Harding Learning Center 755 S. 7<sup>th</sup> St. Coos Bay, OR. More information 541.808.1002 <http://stacyrose.weebly.com/>

##### **NEVADA**

**LAS VEGAS—Ethnic Express** [ethnicipresslasvegas.org](http://ethnicipresslasvegas.org). Every Wednesday except holidays. All requests. 800 So. Brush St. \$4.00. 702/732-4871. [rpkillian@gmail.com](mailto:rpkillian@gmail.com)

**RENO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CO-OP.** Beg. & in-

term. 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](mailto:wigand@gbis.com).

#### **SAN FRANCISCO**

**Croatian American Cultural Center**, 60 Onondaga Ave, San Francisco, CA 94112. Phone: 510-649-0941 Contact : [johndaley@mindspring.com](mailto: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](mailto:sisderoo@aol.com).

**Greek Feet** 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/tl1Dep>

**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](mailto:staff@polishclub.org)

#### **MERCED**

Merced World Dance, Erica Zweig, Instructor, (Folk Dance Federation Member). Wednesdays, 7-8:30 pm, Merced College, 3600 M Street, Merced, CA. Gym 4, \$40 per six-week session, beginning January 14, 2015. Contact Erica at [worlddance519@att.net](mailto:worlddance519@att.net); (209) 756-6039. Register: [www.mercedcommunityservices.com](http://www.mercedcommunityservices.com)

#### **MODESTO**

**Monday—Village Dancers:** Scandinavian Performance group rehearsals, Ceres. Contact: 209-480-0387 or [Judykroop40@gmail.com](mailto:Judykroop40@gmail.com).

**Every Wed. night—Modesto Folk Dancers** Ceres, 7:30-10:00 pm. Contact 209-480-0387 or [Judykroop40@gmail.com](mailto:Judykroop40@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 [Judykroop40@gmail.com](mailto:Judykroop40@gmail.com)

**Every Saturday—Modesto Tango Practice** 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 \$3 per person. Your first time is FREE! Small, congenial group enjoying international dances, mostly Balkan and Israeli. Mix of long-time and recent dancers; beginners welcome. Ad-hoc, informal instruction. We're in it for the movement, the music, and the fun! Contact George Pavel 925-447-8020, george.pavel@gmail.com.

#### ALBANY

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

#### BERKELEY

**Advanced Balkan Dancers class.** Every third Sunday, 2-4:00 pm in the Rear Dance Studio at Ashkenaz. Learn the great dances of folk dancing. A few year's dancing experience is needed. Experienced instructors, friendly people. Entry via the left hand door at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley. Information: Gary Anderson, 415-488-9197 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 Schultheisz 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! This still may be relevant.** Join BFD at the above address from 9 pm to midnight when we welcome the New Year. All Request evening promises to be filled with merriment, music and munchies. Bring your dancing shoes, tasty treats to be shared and \$5 for members and \$7 for others. Contact: Judy Stonefield 510-655-3074.

**January 17. 74<sup>th</sup> Birthday Ball!** Experience a Turkish Delight as Sultan of Turkey invites you to Live Oak Park at the above address. All his subjects whether they are peasants, gypsies, harem girl or desert traders are welcome. Dignitaries from other countries have also been invited. A feast is served at 6 PM, but come at 5:30 PM to meet the Sultan. Afterwards we will gather in the Grand Ballroom for dancing from 7:30 to 10:30 PM. For crowd control reasons tickets are \$22 for the dinner and dance and \$10 for the dance only. A Turkish Bazaar will be nearby for bargains and souvenirs to commemorate this grand event. Contact Marian Synder 510-549-1703 or kinder-mar54@sbcglobal.net.

**February 8. Festival of the Oaks.** Mark you calendar for the 77<sup>th</sup> Festival of the Oaks. Further details will be in the February issue.

**BFD is not dancing on Wednesday, December 24, Thursday, December 25 and Thursday, January 1. Happy Holidays and a very Happy New Year!**

#### *Weekly class schedules:*

*Mondays—Advanced, Yaqi Zhang 510-525-1865 (with assistance from Tom Sha)*

*Tuesdays—Beginners, Claire and Al George 510-841-1205*

*Wednesdays—Advanced Intermediate, Judy Stonefield 510-655-3074 and Lone Coleman 510-529-4120*

*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** Last Friday of each month. 7-9 pm. 30 N. Main

St., Colfax, Ca. 95713 (530)305-4050 for information

#### OAKLAND

**Scandiads—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 fjttrpi@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 fjttrpi@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 are often 45 minutes of teaching or dance review prior to the parties, usually starting at 7:15. Email Hollis at hollis.radin@gmail.com or call her at 650-521-7143 to confirm dates and times.

**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.

**Moveable Feet Club.** Headed by Lucy Chang with the assistance of Loui Tucker and Alicia La Fetra. The Themed Parties may feature teaching and ~ 10 notable dances from that theme. The remaining dances will be from dancers' requests. All levels, all countries, all forms. For info contact Lucy at lscsamalex@gmail.com

**Change of venue!** Moveable Feet will close out 2014 with a **New Year's Eve party**, Wednesday, Dec 31, at St. Bede's, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park. Come at 6:30 for a potluck, followed by all request dancing until 12:15 a.m. Jan 1, 2015

**Saturday, January 17, 2015,** St. Bede's Church Hall, 2650 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, Theme: Serbia - 7 to 11 pm - \$ TBD

**Saturday, February 21, 2015,** First United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto. Theme: Saturday Night Fever - Celebrating the '70s; 7 to 11 pm - \$ TBD

**Saturdays in 2015: April 18, May 16, and June 27 (Israel)** Theme: Suggestions? - Time & \$ TBD

**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@loutucker.com](mailto:loui@loutucker.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—McTeggett Irish Dancers.** Beginners: 5:30-6:30 pm. Intermediate and Advanced: 7:00-8:00 pm. Contact Maureen Hall, 559-271-5200.

#### MARIN

##### College of Marin International Folk Dance

at PE#22, Kentfield Campus. January 28-March 11 (no class February 25); April 1-May 5; \$54 per 6-week session. Class number 0292, Wednesdays 2:10-3:30 p.m., PE#22, Kentfield Campus, College of Marin. Info: Carol Friedman 415-663-9512 [cjay@horizoncable.com](mailto:cjay@horizoncable.com) <http://carolfriedmanfolkdance.blogspot.com/>

**Kopachka International Folkdancers** The Gym at Strawberry Recreation Center, 118 East Strawberry Drive, Mill Valley (Tiburon Blvd. Exit on Highway 101, go 3/4 miles to East Strawberry Drive, turn right) 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](mailto:susieshoaf@aol.com)

**San Rafael – Greek Folk Dance** Fall and winter courses in Greek Folk Dance in San Rafael: Dec. 3–Feb 18, 2015, Wednesdays, 7:30–9:00 pm. Greek Folk Dance Classes at the Community Center San Rafael, 618 B Street, San Rafael, CA 94901. Kristalli Papadopoulos will offer classes this semester with dances from North Greece. Please sign in at the Community program ([www.https://eplay.lifelocally.com](http://www.https://eplay.lifelocally.com)), or contact Kristalli at 415.570.1841; [kristalli.papadopoulos@gmail.com](mailto:kristalli.papadopoulos@gmail.com).

#### NORTH BAY

**Razzmatazz Folk Dance Club.** New location beginning February 3! Razzmatazz Folk Dance Club intermediate level Balkan folk dance class taught by Marilyn Smith, Tuesdays from 7 pm-9 pm at beautiful Monroe Hall, 1400 W. College Ave. Santa Rosa. Spring session: Feb. 3 - May 12. \$60 for 15 weeks. Registration info: [razzmatazzfolkdanceclub@gmail.com](mailto:razzmatazzfolkdanceclub@gmail.com)

#### REDWOOD COUNCIL

**Petaluma/Novato International Folk Dancers Party dates: Jan. 25, Sunday.** All dances are 2-6 pm at Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. Contact: Elsa 707-546-8877

**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 [brianbe@mac.com](mailto:brianbe@mac.com). 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. Mondays 7-9:15 pm, September 8-December 8, at Herman Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue, Petaluma. Cost is \$65 for the 14-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](mailto:cjay@horizoncable.com) <http://carolfriedmanfolkdance.blogspot.com/>

**International Folk Dance Villa Marin Senior Class** - Thursdays 10 -11 am, Villa Marin 100 Thorndale Drive, San Rafael.

**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.

**Santa Rosa Jr. College beginner folk dance** class taught by Marilyn Smith. Course title: Dance 41, International Folk Dance. Meets Wednesdays 3:00 pm-5:00 pm, Jan. 14 - May 20. Fee: \$66. 1 unit college credit. High school students welcome! High School students pay only \$20. Register online at: [www.santarosa.edu](http://www.santarosa.edu)

**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 [cerponyexpress@aol.com](mailto:cerponyexpress@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 folk dance in the Greater Sacramento Area as of 5-27-14  
**SACRAMENTO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE & ARTS COUNCIL.**

Website: [www.folkdancesac.org](http://www.folkdancesac.org) \* indicates beginner-friendly class.

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

**Note: Federation members are in bold type, others do not belong to the Folk Dance Federation.**

**HARRISON OAKS STUDIO.** Venue for traditional music & dance events. 8524 Willings Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Contact: 916-966-4128, [harrisonoaksstudio@gmail.com](mailto:harrisonoaksstudio@gmail.com) or [davehill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:davehill@sbcglobal.net)

#### MONDAY

**\*EL DORADO SCANDINAVIAN DANCERS.** All levels, couple. 7-9:30 pm. Coloma Community Center, 4623 T St., Sacramento. Contact: 530-409-6820. Website: [www.folkdance.com/scandi](http://www.folkdance.com/scandi)

**VILLAGE DANCERS OF THE VALLEY.** Performance rehearsal. Scandinavian, couple. 7:30-9:30 pm. Raube Hall, 4455 Roeding Rd., Ceres. Contact: 209-480-0387, [JudyKropp40@gmail.com](mailto:JudyKropp40@gmail.com)

#### TUESDAY

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

**BASIC NON-PARTNER FOLK DANCING—**Beginning to Intermediate, non partner, 7:30 - 9:00 pm Jane Steele Park at Hamilton and Myrtle Streets, Sacramento: Contact Bruce Mitchell 530-888-6586, [dancebruce@AOL.com](mailto:dancebruce@AOL.com)

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FOLK DANCE FEDERATION  
OF CALIFORNIA, INC.

1614 Peacock Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

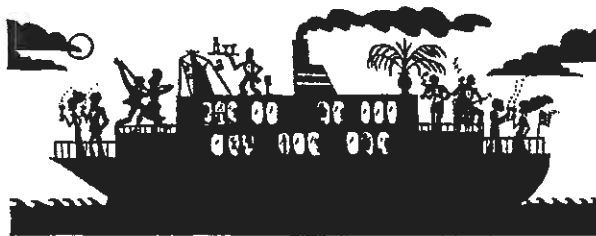
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## **DANCE ON THE WATER**

*New for 2015!*

**June 20-July 1: *Alaska, Vancouver & the Inside Passage***

Sail the Inside Passage to visit  
Glacier Bay, Juneau, Skagway, and Ketchikan.  
We'll be sailing on the Holland America *Noordam*.

Five days post-cruise in Vancouver, where you will:  
Have a city tour; walk the Capilano suspension bridge; take the  
Grouse Mountain gondola for a scenic hike; go whale watching; and  
enjoy a full-day ferry trip to Victoria and the Butchart Gardens!  
Dancing led by Marija Hillis.

For more information and registration forms:

Website: [www.folkdanceonthewater.org](http://www.folkdanceonthewater.org)

Email: [folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com](mailto:folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com)

David & Marija Hillis 2147 Parker Street, Berkeley CA 94704 (510) 549-0337