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Folk Dance Scene

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Folk Dance Scene is published to educate its readers concerning the folk dance, music, costumes, customs, lore and culture of the peoples of the world. It is also designed to inform them of the opportunities to experience folk dance and culture in Southern California and elsewhere.

SUBMISSIONS. Information to be included in the Scene should reach the editor by the 10th of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for space considerations. *Electronic submission (including all photos) is required.* Views expressed in Scene are solely the opinions of the authors. Neither Scene nor the Federation assumes responsibility for the accuracy of the information sent in.

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Size (width x length)	Federation Club	Others	To: ads@FolkDanceScene.org
1/4 page (3" x 3 1/2')	\$ 10	\$ 15	Folk Dance Scene Ads
1/2 page (6" x 3 1/2" or 3" x 7")	\$ 15	\$ 25	1524 Vivian Lane
full page (6" x 7 1/2")	\$ 25	\$ 40	Newport Beach Ca 92660
Email submission preferred			(949) 646-7082

On the cover: The Statewide 2006 band Chubritza and the Statewide teachers Cristian Florescu, Sonia Dion and Samy Makar. See article on page 4.

Club Directory

Dance Companies and Exhibition Groups

AVAZ INTERNATIONAL DANCE THEATRE

Wed 7-10
(323) 663-2829 Jamal
L.A. Church of Guardian Angel, 1118 N. Commonwealth Ave.

BALLET FOLKLORICO JUVENIL DE PICO RIVERA

Mon 6:00 - 8:30
(562) 699-5183 Jorge Diaz
PICO RIVERA, Durfee Elementary School, 4220 Durfee Rd.

BALLET FOLKLORICO XIUXTLA

Fri 4:00
(760) 414-9245 Jose Lucero
CARLSBAD

CLAN MACLEOD DANCERS

Mon 7:30-9:30
(818) 761-4750 Deanna St Amand
EAGLE ROCK, Women's 20th Century Club, 5105 Hermosa Ave.

DUNAJ INT'L FOLK ENSEMBLE

Wed 7:00-10
(714) 641-7450 Richard Duree
SANTA ANA, WISEPlace, 1414 N. Sycamore

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE

(818) 343-4410 Suzy Evans
VAN NUYS, Dars Art Center, 7412 Balboa Blvd

KARPATOK HUNGARIAN FOLK ENSEMBLE

Wed 8:00-10:00
(310) 514-1706 Livia Gaspar
LOS ANGELES, Magyar House, 1975 Washington

KRAKUSY POLISH FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE

Tu, W, F 7:00-9:00 Sat 2:15-3:15
(310) 394-3500 Bogna Szupinska
LOS ANGELES, Polish Parish Hall, 3424 W Adams Blvd.

NAMAH ENSEMBLE

Sun 6:00 - 9:00
(818) 888-8225 Bana Sayyad
SHERMAN OAKS

SCANDIA DANCERS

(714) 533-3886 Donna Tripp
LONG BEACH, Roosevelt School

UCSB MIDDLE EAST ENSEMBLE

Tue 7:00 - 10:00
(805) 967-7125 Scott
(805) 687-8823 Alexandra
SANTA BARBARA, Gehring Music Bldg., UCSB Campus

The Tamburitzans

are coming!

When: May 20, 2006
Where: The Servite Theatre,
1952 W. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92801
Time: 7:00 PM

Tickets \$25 adult, reserved seat
\$20 general admission
Child, student and group rates available
To Purchase: 714-832-7470, 714-531-6610
or www.annunciationbyzantine.org/tamburitzans.html

The Tamburitzans perform the music and dance of the Balkans and Eastern Europe. The troop is composed of dancers from across the globe, representing the best folk dancers performing today! This high energy show changes each year and is a feast for the eyes and ears. This is truly a must see performance

Club Directory

WESTCHESTER LARIATS

Mon 3:30-9:30
(310) 215-0010 Gina Cruz
LOS ANGELES, Westchester
Methodist Church, 8065 Emerson

WESTWOOD CO-OP

Thu 7:30-10:20
(310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr
(310) 839-1753 Adele Mortin
WEST L.A., F. Mahood Senior Center,
11338 Santa Monica Blvd.

Non-Federation Clubs

ANAHEIM INT'L FOLKDANCERS

Wed 7:30-9:30
(714) 893-8127 Carol Maybrier
ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church,
511 S Harbor

CAFÉ DANSSA

Wed 7:30-10:30
(310) 474-1232 Gerda
Worldance1@aol.com Sherry
WEST L.A., Café Danssa
11533 W. Pico Blvd.

CAL TECH INT'L FOLK DANCERS

Tue 7:30
(626) 797-5157 Nancy Mulligan
PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church
300 S. Los Robles

DESERT DANCERS

Mon (Scottish)
Thu 7:15-9:30 (International)
(760) 446-6905 Ruth Dietrich
(760) 446-6752 Nora Nuckles
RIDGECREST, Hi Desert Dance
Center 725 S. Gateway St

DESERT INT'L FOLK DANCERS

Tue 7:30-9:30
(760)327-8684 Dwight Fine
(760)342-1297 Helen Smith
PALM SPRINGS, Step By Step Dance
Studio 316 N. Palm Canyon

FOLK DANCE CENTER

Every Evening Call for Schedule.
(619) 281-5656
SAN DIEGO, 4569 30th Street

FOLK DANCE CLASS

Mon 10-11:30am Wed 10:15-11:45am
(310) 652-8706 Tikva Mason
L.A. Robertson Rec Ctr. 1641 Preuss
W HOLLYWOOD West Hollywood
Park, San Vicente at Melrose

INT'L & ISRAELI FOLK DANCE

Sun 7:30-11:30
(310)560-4262 Avi Gabay
NEWPORT BEACH, Avant Garde
Ballroom, 4220 Scott Dr

ISRAELI DANCING-James Zimmer

Tues 8:00-11:00 Thu 8:00-9:30
(310) 284-3638 James Zimmer
Israelidance@yahoo.com
WEST HILLS, West Valley JCC,
22622 Vanowen ENCINO,
Community Ctr 4935 Balboa

ISRAELI DANCING-Yoni Carr

Wed 7:00-11:30 Thu 7:00-11:30
(760) 631-0802 Yoni
COSTA MESA, JCC, 250 Baker St
LA JOLLA, Beth El, 8660 Gilman Dr

ISRAELI DANCING-Natalie Stern

(818) 343-8009 Natalie Stern
L.A., Univ of Judaism
5600 Mulholland Mon 10:00am-1:00
Wed 7:30-10:00 Thu 10:15-noon;
L.A. Shaarei Tefila, 7269 Beverly
Mon 6:15-8:45, Tue 10:15a-noon
Wed noon-1:15

KAYSO FOLK DANCERS

Fri 9:30am-1:00
(619) 469-7133 Evelyn George
SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park,
Casa del Prado room 206 St

SAN DIEGO FOLK DANCERS

Mon 7:30-9:30
(858) 571-2730 Kin Ho
SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park Club,
Balboa Park

SAN PEDRO KOLO DANCERS

Mon 7:30-9:30
(310) 832-1074 Pauline Klak
SAN PEDRO, Dalmatian-American
Club, 1639 S Palos Verdes St.

SANTA BARBARA BALKAN FOLK DANCERS

Wed 8:00-10:30
(805) 682-4511 Luis Goena
SANTA BARBARA, Oak Park Stage,
corner Junipero and Calle Real

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE INT'L DANCE CLUB

Tue, Thu 11:15am-12:35
(310) 284-3637 James Zimmer
SANTA MONICA, Santa Monica
College Clock Tower or LS Bldg
1900 Pico Blvd

UCLA BALLROOM DANCE CLUB UCLA INT'L FOLK DANCE CLUB

Mon 7:00-9:00 (ballroom dance)
Mon 9:00-11:00 (folk dance)
(310) 284-3636 James Zimmer
ballroom@ucla.edu
WESTWOOD, UCLA Ackeman
Union Room 2414

WEST COAST GAMMELDANS

Wed 7:30-9:30
(714) 932-2513 Allan and Shirley
info@wcgc.us www.wcgc.us
WESTMINSTER, 5361 Vallecito A



Folk Dance Scene

Volume 42, No. 3
May 2006

Editor's Corner

This month's issue features the annual California Folk Dance Federation Statewide Festival which will be in San Jose from May 19 – 21. Teachers will be Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion (Romanian) and Samy Makar (Salsa Rueda). We hope to see you there; it will be a great time. See article on page 4.

This issue also features two great articles by our contributing editor Jatila van der Veen - Davis. One article is a review of two recent dance events that we attended in the San Francisco area. One event was a CD release party sponsored by the group Voice of Roma (VOR), headed by **Sani Rifati**. **The other event was the Mendocino Folklore Camp fund raiser and tribute to Dick Crum and Gordon Engler**, who both passed away recently.

The second article is about the Bulgarian Nestiarstvo ritual of fire-walking. Jatila had a chance to talk with Daniela Ivanova last month, who has done field research in Bulgaria and talked with modern-day fire-walkers about their fascinating abilities.

— *Steve Davis*

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Federation South Officers

President	Karen Wilson-Bell	(310) 320-3658
Vice-President	Marsha Fenner	(626) 446-5160
Treasurer	Rick Bingle	(626) 914-4006
Secretary	Lynn Bingle	(626) 914-4006
Membership	Steve Himel	(949) 646-7082
Historian	Sandy Levy	(310) 948-2574

May 2006

Federation Corner



This is a summary of what happened at our most recent Council meeting, April 2, 2006:

We met representatives of our newest Federation Club: Ballet Folklorico Juvenil De Pico Rivera.

We received our new Membership Directories.

We adopted a budget for 2006-2007. In addition to covering the usual administrative expenses, it includes money for camp scholarships and money to help with the costs of renting space for festivals.

We elected a new slate of officers. These people will be installed at the Statewide Folk Dance Festival in San Jose in May.

President Marsha Fenner
Vice President Lynn Bingle
Secretary Charlotte Edgington & Jeanne Cate
Treasurer Rick Bingle
Membership Steve Himel
Publicity Sylvia Stachura
Historian Sandy Levy

We voted to hold Statewide 2007 at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center on Memorial Day weekend (May 25-28, 2007). Valerie Daley will be the Festival Chairman.

It has been my privilege to serve as your Federation president for the two years ending in May. I want to thank every officer and committee chairman for all of your work in keeping folk dancing alive and well in Southern California. Please be as supportive of your new president, Marsha Fenner.

I'll see you on the dance floor.

— *Karen Wilson-Bell*

Folk Dance Scene

GRAB YOUR DANCING SHOES, AND COME ON UP TO SAN JOSE

I'm getting excited about Statewide and I hope you are too!

We have many treats in store for you. You probably already know about the teaching staff. We love Sonia and Cristian and we know that you do too. And, we are looking forward to all the new dances they have prepared especially for us. You've probably checked out Salsa Rueda, too - it's hot in the Southland and it's gonna heat up Statewide, especially with Samy teaching!

The teachers, however, are just the beginning. The college where the event will be held is in a beautiful suburb of San Jose and is a very short drive from the village of Saratoga, with lovely restaurants and boutiques, situated at the foot of the Santa Cruz Mountains. If you have a little extra time, then adding a mountain drive or a visit to Santa Cruz for a little nostalgia is a perfect beginning or end to the weekend.

I am jealous that you get to stay at one of the Larkspur Landing Hotels, and I have to sleep at home. They are one of the best-rated hotels in the San Jose area and they have given us a fabulous weekend rate of \$79. You can't beat that, and the rooms have full kitchens, feather beds, breakfast and Starbucks coffee included. I'm ready to pack my bags and have a luxury weekend myself.

Do you like international music? I know that's a silly question. We have incredible music for your dancing pleasure. If you have not had the privilege of being at a party with Chubritza, then you are in for a real treat. They play with joy and enthusiasm and incredible showmanship. They make anywhere they play into a party. If you like line and circle dancing to live music, and you don't really like couple dancing, then when the couples come out, check out the Kafana where there will be more live music from Bay Area Bands. They will be playing the entire time, so you can check it out if you just want a little time to sit and enjoy a more intimate moment, or hear a different type of music. The Kafana bands will play a variety of tunes from many countries including Bulgaria, Macedonia, Albania, Serbia, and Greece. You might also hear Klezmer, Rom (gypsy), and even Scandinavian and old time American fiddle music. I'm dancing in my seat as I write this, wishing the party were right now.

Those of us on the committee like atmosphere and treats, too. How about a chocolate fountain at the banquet? How about live music during the appetizers? How about hearing the renowned, and always entertaining Jerry Duke, share with us his stories, songs, and folklore from Appalachia? This is a banquet I don't want to miss. Hopefully you are reading this before May 1st! and you still have time to pre-register, and attend.

One more thing....On the same campus, in a beautiful theater, we are also having a concert featuring dancers and singers with selections from some of the best performing groups in the Bay Area.

Come to San Jose, and experience the best in international dancing, music, and entertainment. DANCE YOUR WAY TO SAN JOSE! Remember May 19, 20th and 21st!

For more info, look on our website home.comcast.net/~statewide_2006/statewide_2006.html.

See you there.....

— *Marion Earl*

Now Available

2006 Folk Dance Federation Directory

Club Schedules, Leaders, and Contacts
Teacher information
Federation Officers and Committees
More...

Only \$3.00

To Order send: Name, address and check for \$3.00 (Folk Dance Federation of California, South) to:

Folk Dance Federation of California South
Membership Directory
1524 Vivian
Newport Beach, CA 92660

Questions or additional information contact Steve Himel
(949) 646-7082 or membership@SoCalFolkdance.org

Federation Clubs

CABRILLO INT'L FOLK DANCERS

Tue 7:00-9:45
(858) 459-1336 Georgina
SAN DIEGO, Balboa Park,
Balboa Park Club

CONEJO VALLEY FOLK DANCERS

Wed 7:30-9:30
(805) 497-1957 Jill Lungren
THOUSAND OAKS, Hillcrest Center,
403 W Hillcrest Dr

ETHNIC EXPRESS

Wed 6:30-9:00 except holidays
(702) 732-4871 Richard Killian
LAS VEGAS, Charleston Heights
Art Center, 800 S. Brush St.

FANTASY FOLK DANCE CLUB

(626) 454-3181 Diane Chen
Sun 1:00 - 7:00
ALAHAMBRA, China Press, 2121 W.
Mission Rd.
Wed 7:00 - 10:00
EL MONTE, eToday TV, 9440 Telstar
Ave. #5

GOTTA FOLK DANCE

Mon 7:30 - 9:30
(805) 643-2886 Ann Zacher
VENTURA, Washington School,
96 S MacMillan

HAVERIM INT'L FOLK DANCERS

Sun 7:00-9:00
(805) 676-7705 Nancy Benz
VENTURA, Temple Beth Torah
7620 Foothill Rd (corner Kimball)

KERN INT'L FOLK DANCERS

Thu 7:00-9:00
(661)831-5007 DelphineSzczepkowski
BAKERSFIELD, St. Luke's Episcopal
Church, 2671 Mt. Vernon Ave.

KYPSELI GREEK FOLK DANCING

Fri 8:00-11:30
(818) 990-5542 Dalia Miller
PASADENA, Skandia Hall
2031 E. Villa

LAGUNA FOLK DANCERS

Sun 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:30-10:00
(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin
LAGUNA BEACH, Community Ctr
384 Legion Ave

LAGUANA WOODS INT'L FOLK DANCE CLUB

Tue 8:30 am Sat 9:00 am-11:00
(949) 768-6120 Florence Kauderer
LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 1,
24232 Calle Aragon

MOUNTAIN DANCERS

Tue 4:30-6:30
(818) 248-5804 Chuck Bausback
S. PASADENA, Woman's Club,
1424 Fremont Ave.

MULTI ETHNIC DANCERS

Wed 6:00
(949) 770-7026 Miriam Kahn
LAGUNA WOODS, Club House 1,
24232 Calle Aragon

NARODNI INT'L FOLK DANCERS

Thu 7:30-10:30
(714) 932-2513 Shirley Hansen
BELLFLOWER, Woman's Club of
Bellflower, 9402 Oak St.

PASADENA FOLK DANCE CO-OP

Fri 7:45-11:00
(626)446-5160 Marsha Fenner
PASADENA, Throop Mem. Church
300 S. Los Robles

SAN DIEGO VINTAGE DANCERS

Thu 8:00 - 10:00
(858) 622-9924 Harry Eisner
SAN DIEGO, Normal Heights
Methodist Church 4650 Mansfield St.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

Sun 6:30-9:30 Tue 7:00-9:00
(805) 682-1877 Elliott Karpeles
(805) 682-5523 Gary Shapiro
SANTA BARBARA Carrillo Rec Ctr
100 E. Carrillo St. (Sun); Oak
Park 300 W. Alamar (Tue-summer);
Westside Community Center, 423 W.
Victoria ST. (Tue-winter)

SKANDIA DANCE CLASSES

Mon 7:00-10:00 Wed 7:00-10:00 Call
for others
(714) 893-8888 Ted Martin
(714) 533-3886 Donna Tripp
(310) 827-3618 Sparky Sotcher
ANAHEIM, Downtown Community
Center, 250 E Center (Mon)
CULVER CITY, Lindberg Park,
5401 Rhoda Way (Wed)

SOLVANG VILLAGE FOLK DANCERS

Sat 7:00-10:00
(805) 688-2382 Jean Menzies
SOLVANG, Jonata Elementary School
301 2nd Street, Buellton

TUESDAY GYPSIES

Tue 7:30-10:30
(310) 390-1069 Millicent Stein
CULVER CITY, Masonic Lodge 9635
Venice Blvd.

VESELO SELO FOLK DANCERS

Sat 8:00-11:00
(714) 738-8008 Phyllis Pivar
ANAHEIM, Unitarian Church, 511 S.
Harbor.

VINTAGE ISRAELI DANCING

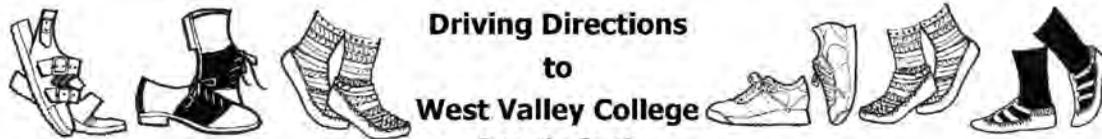
1 Sat per month confirm 8:15 - 12:00
(818) 990-8925 Louis
dovbyrd@aol.com
SHERMAN OAKS, Anisa's School
of Dance, 14252 Ventura Blvd.

WEST LOS ANGELES FOLK DANCERS

Mon 7:30-10:30 Fri 7:45-10:45
(310) 202-6166 Beverly Barr
WEST L.A., Brockton School
1309 Armacost Ave

WEST VALLEY FOLK DANCERS

Fri 7:15-10:00
(818) 368-1957 Jill Michtom
CANOGA PARK, Senior Center
7326 Jordan Ave



Driving Directions to West Valley College

From the South

Take Highway 101 North to Highway 85 North. Drive past the off-ramp for Highway 17. Exit at the Saratoga Avenue exit, turning left onto Saratoga Avenue. Turn left at Fruitvale Avenue. Go past the Allendale cross street. Turn left at the second parking lot entrance to West Valley College into Parking Lot 5.

From the Santa Cruz area

Take Highway 17 North to Highway 85 North. Exit at the Saratoga Avenue exit, turning left onto Saratoga Avenue. Turn left at Fruitvale Avenue. Go past the Allendale cross street. Turn left at the second parking lot entrance to West Valley College into Parking Lot 5.

From the East Bay

Take 880 South. Continue past Highways 101 and 280. Take Highway 85 North (which immediately follows the Camden Avenue exit). Exit at the Saratoga Avenue exit, turning left onto Saratoga Avenue. Turn left at Fruitvale Avenue. Go past the Allendale cross street. Turn left at the second parking lot entrance to West Valley College into Parking Lot 5.

From the Peninsula and San Francisco

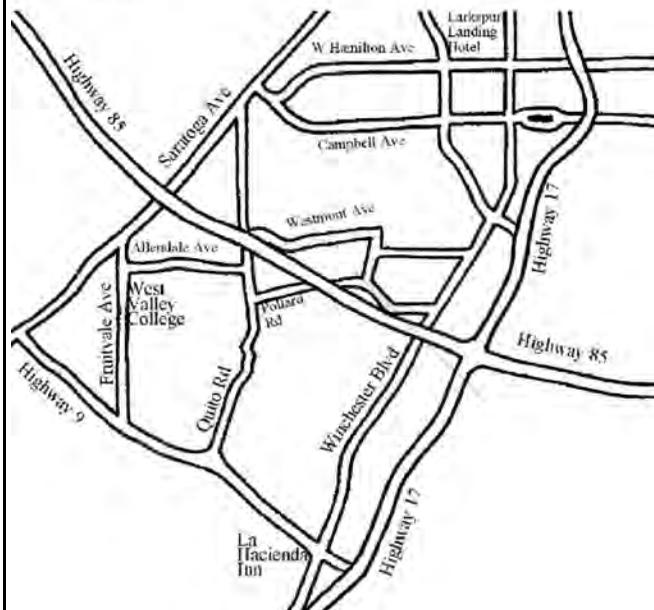
Take 280 or 101 South to Highway 85 South. Exit at the Saratoga Avenue, turning right onto Saratoga Avenue. Turn left at Fruitvale Avenue. Go past the Allendale cross street. Turn left at the second parking lot entrance into Parking Lot 5 of West Valley College. Follow signs to the Dance/P.E. Dept.

From the Larkspur Landing Hotel

Drive west on Hamilton Avenue. Hamilton merges with Campbell Avenue shortly before Saratoga Avenue. Turn left on Saratoga Avenue. Turn left on Fruitvale Avenue. Go past the Allendale cross street. Turn left at the second parking lot entrance to West Valley College.

From the La Hacienda Inn

Drive north on Saratoga Los-Gatos Road (Highway 9). Turn right at Fruitvale. Turn right at parking lot entrance to West Valley College.



Fruitvale Avenue

You cannot see the PE 7 from the parking lot. You must follow the sidewalk which leads from the baseball field towards the campus across a small bridge.

PE 7 is hidden from the parking lot by an enclosed driving range & an overgrown wilderness/bird sanctuary. Walk towards PE7. When you are in front of the building, turn left and walk till the path ends (you are now at the leftmost building). Turn right, and you are there.

Free parking ONLY in Parking Lot 5.

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Cultural
theme days!



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Binge dancing!

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Week 1, Aug 12-18

Yves Moreau BULGARIAN, France Bourque-Moreau FRENCH-CANADIAN,
Honey Goldfein-Perry ISRAELI,
Barbara Pixton, INTERNATIONAL FOLK MUSICIAN

Week 2, Aug 19-25

Tom Bozigian ARMENIAN, Sani Rifata ROMA (Gypsy),
Joe Wallin SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE,
Steve Gruverman INTERNATIONAL FOLK MUSICIAN

Week 3, Aug 26-Sep 1

Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu ROMANIAN, Demetris Tashie GREEK,
Jacqueline Schwab ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE,
Susan Anderson, Carol Wadlinger INTERNATIONAL FOLK MUSICIANS

Week 4 (Labor Day Weekend), Sep 1-4

Miroslav Marcetic SERBIAN,
Michael Gelman HUNGARIAN & ROMANIAN

At Every Session

Sandy Starkman INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE, George Fogg ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE

Questions? info@mainewoodsdancecamp.org OR Mary Zaleta (517) 351-2158

www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org

Calendar

Note: Federation Events are in Bold.
CALL TO CONFIRM ALL EVENTS.

MAY

- 3 *Romanian dance workshop*, 7:00, Cafe Danssa, West Los Angeles. Contact Asako Oshiro, ohana1117@earthlink.net.
- 4 **Romanian dance workshop**, 8:00 at **Westwood Co-op. Felicia Mahood Senior Center, West L.A. Contact Beverly Barr, (310) 202-6166.**
- 5 **Cinco de Mayo party, West L.A. Folk Dancers (Friday) 7:30, at Brockton School, 1309 Armacost Ave. All request program, potluck snacks. See OTS. Info: Beverly (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.**
- 6 **Romanian Fusion workshop, 2:30, traditional Romanian dance workshop 5:30, followed by party Folk Dance Center, San Diego, contact Vicki Maheu, flkdancer@yahoo.com.**
- 7 *Romanian Rom dance workshop*, 2:30, Folk Dance Center, San Diego Info: rschrier@ucsd.edu, or Vicki, flkdancer@yahoo.com.
- 9 *Romanian couples dance workshop*, 7:00 at Balboa Park, San Diego. Contact Georgina Sham, gbsham@san.rr.com, or Jeanne Cate, (858) 722-1264, jcate@nethere.com.
- 12 & 26 *Dance Downtown* at Music Center Plaza, 6:30 to 10:00, 5/12 Swing, 5/26 Salsa. Info: (213) 972-3660, activearts@musiccenter.org.
- Performances by Duquesne University Tamburitans:
- 19 7:30 at E. County Perf. Arts Ctr., El Cajon. Info: (858) 273-8203
- 20 7:00 at Servite High School, Anaheim. Info: (714) 832-7470.
- 21 3:00 at Fontana High School, Fontana. Info: (909) 823-4366.
- 23 8:00 at Mountain View Ctr for Perf. Arts. Info: (650) 903-6000.
- 24 8:00 at Lancaster Perf. Arts Center. Info: (661) 723-5940.
- 19-21 **Dance Your Way to San Jose, Folk Dance Federation's Statewide 2006 Festival. Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion (Romanian), Samy Makar (Salsa Rueda), music by Chubritza, concert. Saratoga. Info: http://home.comcast.net/~statewide_2006/statewide_2006.html.**

- 21 *Topanga Banjo and Fiddle Contest*, Paramount Ranch, Agoura. Irish, Scottish, English, and contra dancing. Bluegrass and old-time music, crafts, food. Info: (818) 382-4819, www.topangabanjofiddle.org.
- 26-6/4 *Travel & dance* with Beverly & Irwin Barr on a 10 day trip combining an Alaska Cruise & the FolkLife Festival in Seattle. Call: (310) 202-6166.
- ## JUNE
- 16 *Nevenka*, women's folk chorus perform songs from Eastern Europe, as well as Ladino, Sephardic and Rom (Gypsy) songs. 9:00 at: Club Tropical, 8641 Washington Blvd., Culver City. Info: 310-287-1918, mollywhite@sbcglobal.net.
- 16, 17, 18 *Huck Finn Jubilee*. Barn dance, blue grass and country music and workshops, crafts, food. At Mojave Narrows Regional Park, Victorville. Info: (951) 341-8080, www.huckfinn.com.
- 23,24,25 *CTMS 24th Summer Solstice Folk Music, Dance & Storytelling Festival* at Soka University, Calabasas. Info: (818) 817-7756, info@ctmsfolkmusic.org.
- 24 *The Intersection Reunion* honoring Dick Oakes, Paul Sheldon, Nick Nichols, Barry Glass & Sherry Cochran is a Special Event 6:30 to 11:00 at the CTMS 24th Summer Solstice Festival. See OTS. Athan Karras (818)609-1386, xasipiko@prodigy.net.
- ## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
- 5/4-26 *21st Annual Jewish Music Festival*. Events throughout the SF area. Info: Ellie Shapiro, (510) 848-0237, x126, www.jewishmusicfestival.org.
- 5/20 *10th Annual California Herdeljezi Festival*, 12:00 at Ives Park, Sebastopol. Traditional Romani holiday with Danny Fender Orchestra, Brass Menagerie, Lolo & Flamenco Dance. Info:(707) 823-7941.
- 5/20-21 *Magda & Atef of Egypt*, Master Dancers teaching & performing in Redwood City. Info: <http://www.HalaDance.com>.
- 5/21 *Bulgarian Sts. Kiril & Methody Cultural Festival*, 2:30 to 10:30 pm, San Francisco. Dance & music workshops & performances. (510) 524-6294.
- 6/2-4 *Razzmatazz Camp 2006* at Mendocino Woodlands. Info: Marilyn Smith (510) 965-9688.
- 6/4 *Rose Festival International Folk Dance 1:30-5:00* hosted by Santa Rosa Folk Dancers, Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Ave.
- 6/4 *Tanchaz with Danubius*. 7:30-10:00 at Ashkenaz in Berkeley. Info: Ellie Wiener (408) 452-1890. elliedw@hotmail.com.



STATEWIDE 2006 May 19, 20 & 21, 2006



Schedule of Events

Friday May 19

- 7:30 pm Registration opens
8:00 - 9:00 Warm-up Party with Marcel Vinokur
9:00 - 11:00 Evening Dance Party with live music in 2 rooms! Chubritza in the main room! Great local bands in the Kafana!

Saturday May 20

- 9:00 am Registration Opens
9:30 - 11:00 Salsa Rueda Class with Samy Makar
11:00 - 11:15 Break
11:15 - 12:45 Romanian Class with Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion
12:45 - 3:00 Lunch Break
3:00 - 5:00 Concert
5:00 - 7:30 Dinner Banquet with speaker Jerry Duke
7:30 - 11:00 Evening Dance Party with live music in 2 rooms! Chubritza in the main room! Great local bands in the Kafana!

Sunday May 21

- 9:30 am Registration opens
10:00 - 11:00 Romanian Class with Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion
11:00 - 12:00 Salsa Rueda Class with Samy Makar
12:00 - 2:30 Lunch and/or Installation Lunch & North/South Meeting
2:30 - 3:15 Romanian Review with Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion
3:15 - 4:00 Salsa Rueda Review with Samy Makar
4:00 - ??? Request Dance Party with Loui Tucker

Great wooden dance floor - dance shoes please!

Some of the Local Bands that will play in the Kafana:

The Brash Punks Tony Cannavero & Friends Zaedno
Joyce Clyde & Friends Verna Druzhdina

Accommodations

Our host hotel is **the Larkspur Landing Hotel, Campbell** (877) 527-5778. The rate is \$79 per night for a studio and \$99 per night for a one bedroom suite. There is a \$10 per person additional charge for 3rd or 4th persons in a room.

Accommodations are also available at the nearby **La Hacienda Inn, Los Gatos** (408) 354-9230. The rate is \$110 per night for a room with a Queen sized bed and \$145 per night for a room with a King sized bed.

Request the special "Folk Dance Federation Event" rate to take advantage of these low rates.
Event sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California and West Valley College

For more information contact: Louise @ (510) 528-9168 or Marion @ (650) 793-1166 or visit the website.

http://home.comcast.net/~statewide_2006/statewide_2006.html

Statewide 2006



Dance Your Way to San Jose!

Come join the fun! May 19, 20 & 21

Cristian Florescu & Sonia Dion
non-partner dances from Romania

Samy Makar
Salsa Rueda Mixers

Live Music with **Chubritza!**

Partner & Non-partner Dances! Friday and Saturday Parties!

Saturday and Sunday Classes! Saturday Concert & Banquet!

Great local bands at the Kafana!

Event sponsored by the Folk Dance Federation of California & West Valley College

West Valley College, 14000 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga, California 95070-5698

For more info contact Louise at (510) 528-9168

or visit our website:

http://home.comcast.net/~statewide_2006/statewide_2006.html

The host hotel is the Larkspur Landing Hotel, Campbell at (877) 527-5778, \$79 per night for studio, \$99 per night for a one bedroom suite (\$10 extra per person for 3rd & 4th person per room). Accommodations also available at the La Hacienda Inn, Los Gatos at (408) 354-9230, \$110/\$145 per night for Queen/King, \$125 for 2 doubles (limited availability). Request the special "Folk Dance Federation event" rate!

Calendar

6/10-17 *Scandia Camp*, Mendocino. Dances and music of Telemark, Norway and Dalarna, Sweden. Info: Scandia Camp Mendocino, 1320 Harleyford Road, Woodridge, IL 60517, DancingRoo@aol.com or call (630) 985-7192.

6/17-24 *Mendocino Folklore Camp*. Teachers: Michael Ginsburg, Balkan, Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion, Romanian, Jeff O'Connor, Country Western and Swing. Music classes with Billy Burke and Tzvetanka Varimezova. Info: (707) 795-6926, phyris@mendocinofolklore.org.

6/24-7/1 *2006 Balkan Music and Dance Workshop*. Mendocino Woodlands. Info: Eastern European Folklife Center (EEFC), at (510) 547-1118, office@eefc.org.

7/16-22, 7/23-29 *Stockton Folk Dance Camp*. Two identical weeks with Erik Bendix (Balkan), Nora Dinzelsbacher (Tango), Jerry Helt (Squares and Contrás), Hennie Konings (Russia), Paul Mulders (Macedonia), Lee Otterholt (Greece), Loui Tucker (Israel). Live music, singing, parties. Info: www.folkdancecamp.org.

7/28-8/5 *Lark Camp*, Celebration Of World Music, Song & Dance Mendocino Woodlands (all three camps). Balkan music and dance classes. Info: <http://www.larkcamp.com>.

9/29-30, 10/1 *Dancing The Living Goddess*, Women's Ritual Dances From The Balkans and The Near East with Laura Shannon at Hillside Community Church, 1422 Navellier St., El Cerrito. Info: Catherine Sutton (510) 528-2261 catherine@sonic.net.

OUT OF STATE

MAINE

Mainwoods Dance Camp. 3 1-week sessions, plus Labor Day Weekend.

8/12-18 France Bourque-Moreau - Quebecois, Yves Moreau - Bulgarian, Honey Goldfein-Perry - Israeli

8/19-25 Joe Wallin - Scottish, Sani Rifati - Roma (formerly called Gypsy), Tom Bozigian - Armenian

8/26-9/1 Jacqueline Schwab - English, Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu - Romanian, Demetris Tashie - Greek

9/1-4 Michael Gelman - Hungarian/Romanian, Miroslav Marcetic - Serbian

Info: Mary Zaleta, info@mainwoodsdancecamp.org

MASSACHUSETTS

Pinewoods Camp at Plymouth, MA.

6/16-18 *American & English Dance*. Info: Cary Browse, (978) 456-8160 cbrowse@browse-av.com.

6/29-7/3 *July 4th Weekend*, English Country Dance, Contrás, Squares & More. Info: Stephanie Jack (617) 497-4544, steph@data-miners.com.

7/3-7 *English-Scottish*. Info: Marianne (603-463-7771), taylorgorman@juno.com.

8/5-12 *English & American Dance Week & English Dance Leaders Course*.

8/12-19 *English Dance Week & English Dance Musicians Course*.

8/26-9/2 *American Dance & Music Week & Contra Dance Callers Course*.

Info: Judy Savage, Executive Director; Pinewoods Camp.; 80 Cornish Field Rd., Plymouth, MA 02360; or manager@pinewoods.org or (508) 224-4858.

NEW MEXICO

5/12-14 *Romanian/Transylvanian/Hungarian Rhapsody!* dance weekend in Albuquerque. Four full teaching sessions plus Saturday night party; \$20 per session or \$55 for the weekend. Info: Carol McGinn, (505) 897-7505, jraybaker@earthlink.net or Gary Diggs, gdiggs@comcast.net.

8/3-6 *New Mexico August Folk Dance Camp* with Michael Ginsburg, Balkan, and Richard Schmidt, Polish. Info: Dorothy Stremer (505) 379-6821.

NEW YORK

8/12-19 *2006 Balkan Music and Dance Workshop*. Rock Hill. Info: Eastern European Folklife Center (EEFC), at (510) 547-1118, office@eefc.org.

NORTH CAROLINA

Workshops at Warren Wilson College, Asheville. Info: (828) 298-3434, gathering@warren-wildon.edu.

7/9-15 *Dulcimer Week*

Sing and Swing Week

7/16-22 *Celtic Week*

7/23-29 *Old-time Week*

7/30-8/5 *Contemporary Folk Week*

Guitar Week

8/6 *Fiddle Week*

PENNSYLVANIA

5/19-21 *Gypsy Dance Weekend* in Harrisburg, with Daniel Sandu, Jocelyne Vaillancourt, and Ahmet Luleci. Live music, dance performances, special classes for experienced dancers. \$16/session; \$60 for the weekend. Info at www.sfmsfolk.org/events/Gypsy.html or Bart Carpenter, (717) 234-3844.

Calendar

WASHINGTON

5/26-29 *Folklife Festival*, Seattle. The festival celebrates its 25th anniversary at Seattle Center. www.nwfolklife.org.

FOREIGN

BULGARIA

7/30-8/5 *Folk Music & Dance Seminar* located in Plovdiv. Info: Larry Weiner, (301) 565-0539. weiner.larry@comcast.net.

9/6-21 *Bulgaria's History, Culture, Art & Architecture Through The Ages*. Info: www.elderhostel.org International Programs, Bulgaria.

CANADA

5/18-22 *Ontario Folk Dance Camp* at University of Waterloo 100 km west of Toronto. Teachers: Tom Bozigian (Armenian) and Karin Gottier (German/Switzerland). Info: Cecille Ratney (416) 225-3231.

CZECH REPUBLIC

7/25-8/14 *Czech Pleasure*. 5-part program including dance seminar, tours, festival. Info: Dvorana, tel +420-235-318 279, dvorana@mbox.vol.cz.

GREECE

Bulgarian Music seminars located on Crete. Info: info@labyrinthmusic.gr.

6/26-7/1 - *Godlike* by Georgi Petri.

7/10-15 - *Vocal Technique* by Tsvetanka Varimezova.

6/30-7/8 *Seminar Of Traditional Greek Dances Of The Islands, Asia Minor, Thrace*. Held on the island of Ikaria, in the Aegean sea. Info: Caroline Simmonds, caroline_simmonds@hotmail.com.

8/5-18 *International Seminar, Greek Traditional Dances*. Macedonia (Lake Prespes). Info: Yannis Konstantinou, Athens -Greece. Tel. +30 210 99 46 227, email: yankost@otenet.gr.

MACEDONIA

7/5-16 *Macedonian Pearl Folk Seminar*, located in Struga with Goran Alacki and Ljupco Manevski. Info: www.macedonianfolk.com.

TURKEY

5/1-8 *Tours with Helene Eriksen to Zeybek Region*. Info: www.helene-eriksen.de.

6/2-16 *Tour to Turkey*, with Ahmet Luleci, others. Info: Ahmet at (857) 234-0400, ahmet@rcn.com.

Stockton Folk Dance Camp

Week One: July 16-22, 2006 - Week Two: July 23-29, 2006

Visit our website: www.folkdancecamp.org

Enjoy seven days of dancing with dance masters from around the world at the University of the Pacific Campus, Stockton, California. From the opening party Sunday evening to the after party the following Saturday night, experience a week of folk dance, folklore, and music. Although the dances taught are the same each week, the experiences are different. First week the Saturday party will have a Macedonian theme. Second week the Saturday party theme will be Russian. Come both weeks and take it all in.

Erik Bendix	Dances of the Balkans	Paul Mulders	Dances of Macedonia
Nora Dinzeltbacher	Argentine Tango	Lee Otterholt	Dances of Greece
Jerry Helt	Squares and Contras	Loui Tucker	Couple Dances of Israel
Hennie Konings	Dances of Russia	Gary Diggs	Workshop
California Kapela	Live Music	Barbara Bevan	Singing

For scholarships, contact Bobi Ashley at AdventuresContinue@yahoo.com before May 1.

Questions? Call Jan Wright at (530) 474-3231 or by e-mail jmwright32@frontiernet.net

Fire-Walking in Bulgaria



"Few people know that Nestinarstvo is charisma - it chooses the person, not the other way about. One is born to be a nestinar... Some day, the 'door' leading to the 'castle' simply opens in him, and the way is waiting, straight ahead. Nestinarstvo belongs to those ritual systems whose roots were deeply implanted in the very origin of Man's concept of secular and sacred" (Ivailo Ayanski, 2001).

Ayanski describes the transcendence of the performer during the ritual:

"The embers are the intersection-point of the time and space axes. They remain somewhere between heavens and earth, change the nestinar's body, and present it to the community completely transfigured. In other words, the particular living matter does not react in the usual way to the temperature change, and the nestinar reaches the state of trance; the so called "fit" or "obsession". That "fit" leads him to an "information field", which is the source of his visions.

...Many of the local people still remember the famous prophecies made by some Nestinari - Granny Dobra, Granny Zlata Daskalova. They predicted the disaster that befell Bulgaria under the reign of Czar Boris III, the onset of the communist system, and many other things that are facts today. They are not susceptible to any type of interpretation, except reading. They are simply facts.

...While dancing, one has no sensation of reality; the only sensation is that of flying, of fluttering wings...It is worth mentioning that the state changes in the nestinar's body precede the act of dancing, his sight is blurred, and his sense of orientation is lost, together

with his auditory perception. The only sounds the nestinar can hear, are the tune of the bagpipe and the beat of the drum. At that moment, his body is controlled by a power belonging and coming from another world. So, it is deprived of its conscious processes and reaches the level of subconscious contacts, in which mind does not participate."

I have seen a demonstration at a physics teachers' convention during the summer of 2005 in Sacramento, in which a physics teacher tried to "prove" how walking on embers can be done safely, in order to diminish the mystery of this ritual. The individual created a long bed of hot coals, and proceeded to, at the proper moment, run across it. He crossed back and forth a few times, running lightly, with flat feet held relaxed, like "snow shoes" so as not to dig into the embers. He did not appear to get burned, but there were fire extinguishers on hand - just in case. But what I have seen (in videos, not in person) of the Nestinari is that they dance on the coals, rub their feet in them, and get on their hands and knees, gather embers and throw them over their heads. Neither their bodies, nor their clothing, are affected by the heat, yet a piece of newspaper flung onto the coals would burst into flame. This phenomenon simply cannot be explained by our so-called "laws" of physics!

As Ivailo Ayanski of Strandzha says, it is not subject to any interpretation. It is just a fact. For me, trained both in dance and physics, I find the idea that human beings can transform their bodies so as to be able to walk on 1000-degree Fahrenheit coals and not get burned no less amazing than the current notions that the universe really exists in 11 dimensions, or that we can calculate not only the expansion rate of the universe, but the acceleration of the expansion at the present time. The mere existence of such people as Ivailo Ayanski in Bulgaria, who preserve and practice this ritual, simply deepens my love of the music and dance that has come from such a culture!

— *Jatila van der Veen - Davis*

References:

The interviews and quotes from Ivailo Ayanski were taken from <http://library.thinkquest.org/C0130033>. The website also has two videos that can be viewed.

Daniela Ivanova's paper on Nestinari, *Dance on Fire Today: A Gift or Archetype Awakening*, can be found at <http://www.dancing.cult.bg/publications.html>

The Nestinarstvo Ritual



Bulgaria ©2004 Carnival.com

Communal dance has been an integral part of village life in many parts of the world for millennia. The sense of continuity with the past, and community in the present, is strengthened by the music, rhythms, traditional instruments, as well as the traditional steps, of the horo. Some rituals combine ancient pagan rites with Christianity. Examples include various fertility rituals for women, associated with the festivals of St. Lazarus and St. Enyo (St. John), and the mummers' (masked *kukeri*) rituals for men, associated with Lent. The most dramatic is the *Nestinarstvo* ritual, which culminates with fire walkers (*nestiari*), both male and female, who dance in a trance on hot coals in honor of the patron saints of their villages.

The *Nestinarstvo* ritual of Bulgaria, has its origins in the proto-Bulgarian civilization that predates even the Thracian and Greco-Roman cultures. Considered by practitioners to have a common origin with the Anestinar practice of Greece, it is practiced today in southeast Bulgaria (Strandzha District) and in certain villages in Greece. The public performance of trance

dancing on hot coals is the most well known aspect of a more extensive practice, akin to the "medicine" practices of the Americas. With the adoption of Christianity as the official religion at the turn of the 9th century, many of the earlier pagan rituals became incorporated into the celebrations of the Christian holidays. The *Nestiarstvo* ritual in southeastern Bulgaria is most closely connected with the feast of St. Constantine and St. Elena, celebrated on May 21, but can also be performed in association with other patron saints' days (Ayanski, 2001).

The ritual is mostly performed at night. During the day a huge bonfire is built, so that by evening there is a large circle of glowing embers. Protected by their saints, the *nestinari*, who can be equally female or male, dance on the hot embers. The *nestinari* may dance alone, with a partner, or in a group. They usually begin their dance on the coals by tracing a cross, and then follow their own inspiration. They are accompanied by a special kettle drum reserved for the occasion, along with gaida, tapan, and cow bells. The *nestinari* emerge unharmed, ecstatic, and elated from their experience, even transformed, according to some accounts (Ivanova, 2003). The individual performances vary according to the feelings and personal styles of the performers.

More than a mere feat of super-human prowess, the dancing on hot coals as an ecstatic religious experience goes far beyond any that we can imagine our Judaeo-Christian-Muslim modern practices. According to Daniela Ivanova:

"fire-dancing imparts to us the idea of a really ancient meaning of rhythm-and-action, when it performed a central culture managing function. The rhythmic stomping around and on the glowing embers, the unrestrained spinning, gesturing, rhythmic chanting - loud, sharp, piercing, *vahkania*, the beating of a percussion instrument - all these take us to the time of rather ancient ecstatic ritualism. The bearers of this activity rationalize it as the establishment of intensive contact with the cosmic fundamentals, as a particularly strong direct bond between human beings and divinity, between the external and the internal, whose climax is the point of falling in a state of ecstasy, *prihvashtane*." (Ivanova, 2003).

According to Ivailo Ayanski, a modern *Nestinarstvo* practitioner, the ability to walk on fire is a gift or calling that is recognized at some point by the individual:

Ethnic Food



TURKISH RED LENTIL SOUP – MERCIMEK ÇORBASI

1 cup red lentils (pick out any discolored lentils)
1/3 cup rice - for thickening
5 1/2 cups boiling water
1 1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. cumin
1/4 cup tomato sauce - no more - as this is only for color OR 2 peeled very finely chopped tomatoes
Simmer slowly 45 minutes, stirring twice. Serves 6

Optional Topping (YUM)

2 Tablespoons butter
1/4 tsp. paprika for color
1/8 tsp. cayenne
1/4 cup fresh chopped mint
Add mint to hot (but not sizzling) butter just long enough to wilt.

Spoon topping in swirls over soup.
Note - this is particularly good if made a day ahead, but make topping fresh just before serving.

— Phyllis Pivar

FROM OUR FAVORITE RECIPES (WESTWOOD'S CAMP HESS KRAMER)

A few years ago, members of Westwood Co-op Folk Dancers compiled some of their best recipes and put them together in their first annual cookbook.

There has been no second annual cookbook, since it turned into a great deal of work. However, we would like to share some of the recipes with our readers. If you like them, we'll print more. Below are the first two.

— Sandy Helperin

Sybil Goldenblank's Praline French Toast

This recipe was requested by Sybil's friends. It has long been a favorite. It is perfect for entertaining.

8 eggs
1 1/2 cups milk
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/2 cup plus 1 tablespoon packed brown sugar
8 slices French or Italian bread, 1/2 to 3/4 inch thick
1/4 cup butter
1/4 cup maple syrup
3/4 cup chopped pecans

Thoroughly blend egg, milk, 1 tablespoon brown sugar and vanilla. Pour 1/2 of the egg mixture into a 9X13 inch pan. Place bread slices in the pan.

Put the remaining egg mixture over the bread. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

Put butter in another 9X13 inch pan, and melt the butter. Add the brown sugar and maple syrup and mix, covering the bottom of the pan, and sprinkle with pecans. Carefully place soaked bread on top of the nut mixture.

Pour the remainder of the egg mixture over the bread and bake at 350 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes, or until puffed and light brown.

To serve, invert onto a platter (praline will be on top).

— Sybil Goldenblank

Brenda Koplin's Raw Broccoli Salad

This colorful dish has a nice lemony tang. Brenda is well known for her cooking and baking talent, and is a favorite at all pot-lucks!

1 large bunch broccoli
salt and pepper
approximately 1/4 cup salad oil
2 tablespoons lemon juice
4 ripe tomatoes
1/3 cup sour cream
1 teaspoon prepared mustard
lettuce cups

Finely chop the florets of a well-washed bunch of broccoli. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Add enough salad oil to moisten lightly, and the lemon juice.

Mix well, and chill for a half hour. Cut the tomatoes into fairly small bits, squeezing out most of the seeds. Add to the broccoli. Add the sour cream, blended with the mustard. Mix well and serve in lettuce cups.

— Brenda Koplin

WEST L. A. FOLK DANCERS

Cinco de Mayo party celebration on Friday, May 5, 2006. What fun we will have dancing together to the dances you choose. We love parties.

An all-request program will be played by Beverly & Irwin Barr. Bring snacks or desserts for the potluck table and don't miss this great party night. It begins at 7:30 p.m. and ends when you get too tired to dance.

We meet every Monday and Friday evening and dance on a beautiful wooden floor. We will not be meeting on Monday, May 29 and on the following Fridays: May 19 and 26 and June 2, 2006.

The location is Brockton School, 1309 Armacost, W. L. A. (between Barrington & Bundy, north of Santa Monica Blvd). Info: (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.

— *Beverly & Irwin Barr*

VESELO HAPPENINGS FOR MAY

This is what we have lined up at our new place for the summer months. We're at the corner of Harbor and Santa Ana St. in Anaheim through October.

May 6 **John Matthews:** *Hora Dupa Anton Pan*

May 13 John will review the same dance

May 20 Nostalgia Night. Time to do the oldies.

May 27 Memorial Day, all request, bring snacks.

— *Lu Parry*

CRUISES WITH DONNA FRANKEL

Announcing two fabulous dance cruises:

Europe: Sept. 2-15, 2006,

Australia & New Zealand: Dec. 22, 06-Jan. 5, 07.

Please let your family and friends know-these won't last long! I have a lovely lady looking for a cabin mate to Europe-so if you are a lady hoping to share a cabin, please let me know.

For more info: call (408) 257-3455, EMail donna@dancingcruises.com, or website www.dancingcruises.com

— *Donna Frankel*

TUESDAY GYPSIES IN MAY

Why is May, 2006 different from all other previous Mays? In all other Mays we paid a fee to dance with the Tuesday Gypsies. This May we will all dance free.

That's right, there will be no charge for the month of May! Come and join us at the Culver City Masonic Lodge, 9635 Venice Blvd. For more info: call Millicent Stein (310) 390-1069.

STOCKTON FOLK DANCE CAMP

Stockton Folk Dance Camp will be held July 16-22 and July 23-29 this year. Our faculty lineup includes **Nora Dinzelbacher**, teaching Argentine Tango, **Jerry Helt**, teaching American Squares and Contrasts, **Hennie Konings**, teaching dances of Russia, **Paul Mulders**, teaching dances of Macedonia, **Lee Otterholt**, teaching dances of Greece, and **Loui Tucker** teaching Israeli couple dances.

A new faculty member this year will be **Erik Bendix**, teaching Balkan dances. Erik teaches regularly in Europe and on the East Coast. Last year he made a big hit teaching at Kolo Festival. **Gary Diggs**, another newcomer to FDC, will be teaching the International Recreational dance workshop this year. Gary comes from New Mexico and often teaches at the Southern California Camps Review Weekend.

In addition to our exciting lineup of dance classes, there will be singing workshops with **Barbara Bevan** and live music played by **California Kapela**. In addition to the assemblies presented by faculty members there will be a Macedonian party the first week and a Russian party the second week to round out your folklore experiences.

It's not possible to do everything in just one week of camp. Fortunately there are still spaces in camp both weeks. If you need a little help in order to attend two weeks, there are still partial scholarships available. You can download an application form from our website: www.folkdancecamp.org.

Attending Folk Dance Camp is the high point of my year. I hope to see you there!

— *Karen Wilson-Bell*

WESTWOOD COOP FOLK DANCERS - GUEST TEACHER - DANIEL SANDU

Westwood Coop Folk Dancers invite the folk dance community to join them for a Workshop with **Daniel Sandu** teaching a variety of Romanian dances. We look forward to learning some exciting new dance forms from Romania.

Daniel will teach at Westwood Coop on Thursday, May 4, 2006 at Felicia Mahood Senior Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd., W. Los Angeles (corner of Corinth & Santa Monica Blvd., 2 blocks west of the 405 Fwy).

For information call Beverly Barr at (310) 202-6166.

stay there, they were invited to perform at the Minnesota State Fair. Morry Gelman and I were there, also, to perform in Morry's workshop group. We observed the **Duquesne Tammies** performance with Dick as one of the new dancers.

Of the five siblings in his family, he and his sister Lois Crum were the only two who were involved in folk dancing. We used to call them "Big Crum" and "Little Crum".

After Lois married, she was no longer active in folk dancing. When their parents lived in St. Petersburg, Florida for a few years, their mom, Florence (Fee Fee) Crum taught folk dancing in a group there.

Besides being in the 1951 group to New York, Dick and Lois also went to the St. Louis, Missouri Folk Dance Festival and also traveled to Hibbing and Chisholm, Minnesota, for Serbian Days.

One last memory of Dick for me is our impromptu couple dance of *lindy* or *swing* at the Tapestry Folk Dance Center in October, 2005, for a workshop with Dick and David Vinski. When the music stopped, he shouted "The winners!" I mentioned to him that he was teaching and dancing more than I thought he would. He agreed and said his legs were killing him.

When his sister Lois called me about the sad news of his death and asked me to spread the word I immediately phoned people and some I could not reach. When I called Ceil Wirth to give her the sad news she said she could e-mail and the sad news was spread.

— *Myrtle Hoppe*

FEDERATION WILL SUPPORT CLUB FESTIVALS

Folk dance festivals give us an opportunity to come together to dance as a community, but far fewer festivals have been scheduled in recent years. The Federation Council recognizes that the costs of putting on a folk dance festival, particularly of obtaining a suitable location, have risen a lot in recent years and this can be a big obstacle.

To make it easier for clubs to sponsor festivals, the Council has voted to provide a subsidy of up to \$400 for any club festival where costs exceed proceeds. A club can request the subsidy from the Council vice president.

— *Lila Aurich, Finance Committee*

CORRECTION TO ARTICLE, "CHICAGO SPRING FESTIVAL" BY JATILA:

It was pointed out to me by **Tom Bozigian**, that my writing of the review of the Chicago Spring Festival implied that Ahmet taught Kurdish dances from the Kars region of Turkey. This is geographically impossible, and I apologize for my sloppiness! What I *should have* written, is the following:

Ahmet Luleci taught a number of exciting dances from various regions of Turkey, including Kurdish-style dances, and lively Black Sea dances, among others. My favorite dance, however, was one in a 6/8 rhythm from the Kars region of Turkey, in the northeast.

Again, thanks to Tom Bozigian (an avid Scene reader), for pointing out my mistake!

— *Jatila van der Veen-Davis*

BALKAN RING TONES FOR YOUR CELL PHONE



Dear friends,
As a result from the cooperation of Balkanfolk with Mediaplaza - a world leader in the distribution of mobile phones contents in 62 countries -Balkan Folklore ring tones for cell phones now are

available.

Batuta 2 - Romania

Brankovska rachenitsa - Bulgaria

Dafino vino - Bulgaria

Daichovo horo 2 - Bulgaria

Devojacko kolo - Serbia

Galaonul - Romania

Hora - Romania

Moravac 1 - Serbia

Pletenitsa - Bulgaria

Slance se slega - Macedonia

Srpsko kolo 2 - Serbia

Takovsko kolo - Serbia

You can listen and download folk ringtones from: <http://balkanfolk.hit-logo-ringtone.com/>.

Regards,

— *Boris Dimitrov, www.balkanfolk.com*

DANCING WITH TWO LEFT FEET. (14)



Have you ever lifted your eyes from following the leader's steps to look at the other dancers? Try it sometime and you will notice the different ways each one of us dances. Some of us dance with passion, sometimes ignoring the correct steps. Others, who have

mastered the dance steps, dance with the same passion. And there are some, no offense, who have mastered the technique but lack the passion of folk dancing.

The idea to look at the dancers and look for the different dance styles actually came to me while traveling through Spain and attending several Flamenco performances. My wife is a passionate Flamenco follower and for her recent big birthday we made our pilgrimage to the birthplace of Flamenco.

Our first experience of the Flamenco passion happened in a small bar in Jerez we stumbled on in the middle of the day. The place was crowded with young people gathered around an older Gitano dancing to just the clapping and stomping of feet. It was pure passion, feet, body, and expression following the rhythm and the clapping. We joined the clapping and before we knew, at the request of the crowd, we were swept to the floor joining the dancer.

In the hills of Granada we experienced the dancing skill interwoven with Gitano passion in the cave home of Maria La Canastera. The dancers, from the grandmother down to her eleven year old granddaughter, showed us how the skill and the passion are passed on from generation to generation.

Seville, our next destination, demonstrated the last way of dancing, pure skill with little to no passion showing. We got tickets for a performance in the local Ladino/Gitano Hall, expecting to see the melding of the two cultures. After the introduction by a mediocre guitar player and a great flamenco singer, a beautiful young dancer with a big smile came on stage. While her intricate steps and patterns changed to the music, the smile on her face remained fixed throughout the performance. She was unable to draw either the audience or me into the mood and the feeling. It was all skill and with no passion.

So, back to folk dancing. What can we learn? Listen to the music. What does it tell you? Is it sad? Is it happy? Humorous? Playful? Sad?

Swing with the mood. Not only will you have more fun, but others will be swept into the mood of the moment. Believe me, passion is contagious.

— *Lou Pecki*

DICK CRUM

Dick Crum began international folk dancing at the International Institute in St. Paul, Minnesota in September, 1947, with Morry Gelman as instructor. He also attended the University of Minnesota (University Folk Dancers) group in Minneapolis, Minnesota. His instructors were Dr. Ralph Piper and Morry Gelman.

Another group he participated in was the YMCA International Folk Dance Group in Minneapolis, Morry Gelman, instructor. At the YMCA he participated in a special kolo session led by Michael Herman of New York City, in 1950.

In the late 1940's, he participated in the Festival of Nations, sponsored by the International Institute. In 1952, he was the Festival program director.

In the late fall of 1951 (Thanksgiving weekend), he attended the first annual Kolo Festival in New York City, sponsored by the Folk Dance House and founded by Michael and Mary Ann Herman.

In 1953, when Morry and Nancy Gelman lived in Bavaria, Dick was in Yugoslavia. A former folk dancer, Dorothy Wesson, now deceased, was visiting the Gelmans. She was invited by Dick to come to Croatia and Serbia. The Gelmans took her there and she had a great time. Dorothy was a seamstress and made beautiful costumes.

— *Morry Gelman*

REMEMBERING DICK CRUM

In addition to Morry Gelman's recollection of Dick Crum's activities in Minnesota and elsewhere, I, too, was a part of this beginning of international folk dancing, attending a university dance group since 1945.

Dick went to Duquesne University in 1950, and at break times would come home to Minnesota. In August of 1951, when the Duquesne University Tamburitzans went to Lake Nebagamon, Wisconsin for their annual

SEMINAR IN MACEDONIA

Zdraveitei Friends,

I would like to announce the first annual Macedonian Pearl Folk Seminar in Struga, on the shores of Lake Ohrid! It will be held July 5 - 16, 2006, under the direction of **Goran Alacki**, master accordionist, and **Ljupco Manevski**, dance director of **Tanec**.

For those who had a chance to attend their workshops in the US this past January, or has had the pleasure of spending the two weeks of Balkanfolk Camp with them in Bulgaria, you know what great teachers and "fun" people they are!

There will be beginning and advanced levels of Macedonian dance, and a special choreography class for advanced students. In music, there will be teachers of accordion (Goran himself, of course!), *kaval*, *gaida*, *zurla*, *tapan*, *darbouka*, and clarinet.

In addition, there will be nightly dance parties, classes in Macedonian language taught by Goran's beautiful and talented daughter Graciela, daily lectures on the costumes, culture, history, and handicrafts of Macedonia, and a boat trip with music and singing to see the ancient church of Sveta Naum.

Accommodations will be in the Hotel Biser at Struga, and all the dance classes will be held in a studio with a proper wood floor! And if you have not yet had the pleasure of swimming in the crystal clear waters of Lake Ohrid - well, you are in for a treat!

To see the program and download the registration form, go to www.macedonianfolk.com. Please forward this message far and wide.

See you there! *So pozdrav,*

— *Jatila van der Veen-Davis*

CRUISING WITH BEVERLY AND IRWIN BARR

We have had three years of exceptionally wonderful four night cruises in the fall, and at great discounted prices. We are fortunate to be able to do it again this year, Dec. 4-8, 2006 (Mon-Fri) on the same beautiful Paradise Cruise Ship sailing out of Long Beach. A really great time was enjoyed by all the folk dancers and friends on these cruises, and we anticipate the same this year. We do a lot of dancing on board ship. We have our own room for folk dancing. The port stops are Catalina Island and Ensenada, Mexico.

Get ready to take a luxurious cruise for a very non-luxurious price. Don't wait. Cruises are very popular and in great demand and are selling out fast.

Deposits of \$150 per person to save your cabin are being accepted now. Deposits are fully refundable until balance of money is due.

For more information and prices or to reserve a cabin, please call (310) 202-6166 or (310) 478-4659.

— *Beverly Barr*

LARK CAMP

The annual Lark Camp Celebration Of World Music, Song & Dance will take place July 28 - August 5, 2006 with 100+ teachers. It will take up all three camps at the Mendocino Woodlands with constant shuttle buses traveling between.

If you want to check it out, but don't want to go for the entire week, note that Balkan Dance night is Wednesday and Greek Dance night is Thursday, both in Camp 1 (where most of the Balkan classes take place). If you sign up for second half camp it will include both those nights. For all the Lark information visit the website at <http://www.larkcamp.com>.

NARODNI HAS MOVED!

Yes, that's right --- Narodni International Folk Dancers has moved! From now on, we will be at:

The Woman's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak Street, Bellflower, CA 90706. Same time, 7:30 - 10:30 pm, same great people, same wonderful dances!

The Woman's Club of Bellflower is centrally located, near the 605 & 91. The new dance venue has nice wooden floors and lots of parking, which is well lit at night! For a better idea where we are located, please check our Website: <http://www.narodni.org>.

Note: On the 2nd Thursday of the month (just for 2006), we will be dancing elsewhere: The Hansens' House, 5361 Vallecito Avenue, Westminster.

For more information, please contact Shirley (714) 932-2513 or Shirley@Hansen-Family.us, or Carol (562) 862-0521 or g-cwall@earthlink.net.

INTERSECTION REUNION (2)

The California Traditional Music Society (CTMS), along with **Athan Karras**, will host a second reunion of the famous Intersection. This time it will be at the CTMS Summer Solstice, held yearly at Soka University in Calabasas. The Solstice will be the weekend of June 23-25, and the reunion will be held on the Saturday night of the weekend, June 24, from 6:30 to 11:00.

It will honor the memory of **Elaine Weissman**, the founder of CTMS and the Solstice Festival, and **Rudy**

On the Scene

Dannes, co-founder of the Intersection, along with Athan Karras. The honorees will be: **Dick Oakes**, **Sherry Cochran**, **Barry Glass**, **Nick Nichols** and **Paul Sheldon**. The reunion will feature live music, and refreshments will be available.

The first reunion, held two years ago, was an outstanding success; well attended, with lots of re-kindling of friendships, and was a very exciting evening. This promises to be as good.

For information contact Athan Karras at (818) 609-1386, xasapico@Prodiogy.net. For tickets, contact CTMS at (818) 817-7756, www.CTMSfolkmusic.org.

ROSE MILLER (1919-2005)



Rose was the daughter of a Russian Jewish immigrant father, Selig Miller (Milchecher before Ellis Island) and a first generation Russian-Jewish-American mother, Sarah Goldstein. A colorful, talented person, Rose showed her connection to her heritage by her enjoyment of Jewish music, stories, and Yiddish. Her broad artistic passion sparked her long lived interest in the music, dance and costumes of the Slavic nations.

Rose was a woman of many strengths. She was a trendsetter, even a maverick. She lived a long, fruitful life doing what she enjoyed. Rose was chutzpadik, but tempered with menschlikayt; she showed "attitude" before it was fashionable. She expressed her talents in beautiful artworks, designs and productions. Rose believed she could do anything she set her mind to and she was right. She didn't care what other people thought about her; she did her own thing.

Rose died on December 22, 2005 following a massive stroke. She was independent and in relatively good health until the end. She will be greatly missed by her folk dance friends and family.

— *Patricia Schwartz*

Ed. Note: I first meet Rose sometime in the 1970's at the San Diego Folk Dance Conference, and often danced with her in Los Angeles and Ventura. She will be missed. — *Steve Davis*

Recent Events

REVIEW OF TWO MAJOR DANCE EVENTS IN SAN FRANCISCO, MARCH 31 & APRIL 1



Sania Rifati (center) and Rumen Shopov (right) listen to a Bulgarian clarinet solo by Petar Vodenov (left).

CD Release Party by Sani Rifati, and Voice of Roma

What is Roma spelled backwards? Amor! Amor, Ahava, Ljubov, Love - in any language, that is what dance and music are all about, and the party at the Slavonic Center in South San Francisco on Friday night, March 31, was overflowing with lots of amor, and fantastic Romani music and dance.

This party was sponsored by the group Voice of Roma (VOR), headed by **Sani Rifati**, for the purpose of fund raising and consciousness raising, for VOR as well as Roma people in general, but also to celebrate the release of the new CD *Soul of the Mahala*, featuring **Rumen Shopov** and his son, Angel. Since we had to drive up from Santa Barbara, in the rain, after work, we unfortunately missed the first half of the party, which featured the local celebrity bands **Anoush** and **Edessa**; however the second half of the party featured some of the very best Bulgarian and Macedonian Romani musicians in the country, who flew in specially for this event, to play with Rumen. And what a party it was! We danced until after 1 am.

In order to present authentic, traditional Balkan Romani music to the world, as it is played in its "home land," Sani and Rumen went to Rumen's home village in southwest Bulgaria, in the Gotse Delchev region (see map). Featured on the recording are Rumen, Angel, and their family and friends of expert Romani musicians, in their own *mahala*. Mahala in Turkish

Recent Events

means "neighborhood," but in the Balkan Romani dialect, mahala is more than a neighborhood. Mahala, according to the information provided in the CD cover, means: "your community, your home, your culture, the people with whom you grew up and with whom you share your spirituality and your life." Listening to *Soul of the Mahala* one certainly does get this very precious family feeling, simultaneously full of joy and sorrow, poignantly expressed in the songs of love and longing, of desperation filled with hope.

As with all the handicrafts sold by Sani and his beautiful wife Carol, also an expert dancer, all the proceeds from the CD sales go directly to benefit the artists themselves. You can purchase a CD from Voice of Roma on line at <http://www.voiceofroma.com/>, or by contacting Rumen Shopov directly at rumenashopov@yahoo.com, or (510) 847-7918.

Mendocino Folklore Camp Tribute and Fund-raiser

Saturday's party, also at the Slavonic Center of South San Francisco, was calmer by comparison to the wild party the previous night, with a different but also very worthy purpose. The original purpose was to raise funds for the Folklore Camp of Mendocino, which has taken place during mid-late June each year for 44 years. The additional purpose was to honor the loving memory of two folk dance icons, **Dick Crum** and **Gordon Engler**, who both passed away recently.

The events of the day were intended to provide a "taste of camp," hopefully to attract new people for the 2006 camp. The goal of Folklore camp is to preserve international folk dancing with both a deep respect and reverence for each culture, as well as a loving sense of irreverent humor. These two aspects were well represented at this event!

During the day, mini "taste-of-camp" workshops were taught by **Erik Hoffman** (contra), **Jeff O'Connor** (salsa), and the "Indomitable **Billy Burke**" (Balkan). The highlight of the afternoon was a crash-course singing workshop in *Ladarke* (see below),



during which kindly experienced singers dragged along those of us who are less experienced in an incredible "Ladarke sing along," with accompaniment by a large tamburitzza orchestra! This was the next-best-thing to hearing the full Ladarke sung in the cavernous kitchen at Mendocino camp!

There was a themed happy hour (another traditional camp experience) featuring a Barbary Coast waterfront saloon with sea chanties and hornpipes (see below).



The evening dance party featured great dancing to an incredible line up of talented bands, notably **Turlu** and **Anoush** from the Bay Area, and **Chubritza**, who came all the way from Arcata. The festivities were rounded out by moving speeches honoring the memories of Dick and "Gordy" by Billy Burke, **John Filcich**, and **Honora Clark**, who spoke lovingly of their teaching and humorous escapades at camp.

The "camp experience" was made complete by Billy's mini-rendition of his famous live auction, which he does at camp every year, to raise money for the scholarship students. As humorous and fun as the auction is, the purpose is really quite serious, and deserves special mention. The camp offers scholarships each summer to under privileged teens who are talented, deserving, interested in ethnic dance, but who otherwise could not afford to come to camp. Almost all of "Billy-and-Susie's kids" who have come to camp in the past have gone on to pursue dance, music, and/or theater careers in college and beyond, to carry on the ethnic traditions. If any readers wish to donate to the scholarship fund, you can get info at <http://www.mendocinofolkloreamp.com>.

Oh - by the way - one of the auction items that went for \$150 was "me" - for a Middle Eastern dance performance at a private party.

— *Jatila van der Veen-Davis*