tifd News
TEXAS INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS

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Texas Camp Syllabus Corrections

• Bruce Bostwick, not Roy Wilhite, was Sound Technician.
• Jo Soto was Chair, not Co-Chair, of Camp.

Remembering Texas Camp 2006

Texas Camp 2006 was once again an amazing weekend. Fun and challenging dances, great teachers, beautiful music, fabulous food, and friends from near and far—what more could one ask?

Left, top to bottom: teachers Lee Otterholt, Richard Powers dancing with a camper, and Joane Rylander. Right: our cook, Laura LaGue, with John Ramage, and our 2006 Camp Chair, Jo Soto.

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From the Editor - A fond look back

Elsewhere in this issue you will read about Houston IFD's new music-programming system. It brings to mind an article I read in the March 2006 issue of "On-Dit," published by the Oregon Folk Dance Federation. With permission, I'd like to share part of Kobi Lucas' article.

". . .another transition, when we switched from records to tapes. . .Whenever we do Alunelul, I have a clear picture in my mind of the singer, Geula Gill, surrounded by her bandmates, in that circular picture on the cover of the record. Sano Duso – same thing. Many folkdance groups use music from this same record album when dancing Miserlou, Korobushka, Corrido, Road to the Isles. Whenever we do Bufcansko, the image of the burly gaida player in the orange frame, and the Cyrillic writing on the back of the album, come to mind. . .When you see the record cover every time you do a dance, you can't help that it becomes ingrained in your memory. And sometimes we might even take a moment to read the liner notes and learn a little bit about the dance, the music, the musicians, the place the dance comes from. All this was lost when we switched to tapes.

All of this may seem trivial and unimportant. But I do think it is significant. The more we know about a dance, the more rewarding is the experience of doing it. Having visual images of the musicians while we're doing a dance adds just a little bit to the fullness of what we are doing, brings us a tiny bit closer to the source.

So, yes, I do still miss dancing to records. Dancing became a bit more abstract and disconnected when we switched to tapes. If you still have any of your old folkdance records, don't get rid of them. Hold onto them, or pass them on to someone who will use them. And maybe next time you go to your weekly or monthly folkdance club, you might take a few of those old records with you to share with your fellow dancers."

Deadline for the next issue of TIFD News is April 18

Effective immediately, the TIFD Quarterly Newsletter will be printed on the first of the month, in February, May, August, and November; the eLetter will be printed on the first of the remaining months. Uncertain who to send your news to? Send to Sally and Ann, both at editor@tifd.org, and we will sort it out from there.

TIFD News is published four times a year for the members of Texas International Folk Dancers, a non-profit educational organization. Submissions for publication are welcome, yet subject to editing. All opinions expressed are those of the author exclusively. Material herein may be reproduced with the editor's permission.

CALENDAR LISTINGS: Send email to editor@tifd.org and webmaster@tifd.org.

ADDRESS CHANGES: For newsletter mailing list or TIFD Member Directory, contact TIFD, PO Box 4516, Austin, TX 78765, Attention: Chuck Roth, 512-453-8936, tifd@austin.rr.com.

SOUTHWEST FOLK DANCE DIRECTORY: Send additions and corrections to Leslie Gompf, SWFDD@tifd.org.

GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS: Email editor@tifd.org or mail to TIFD News, PO Box 4516, Austin, TX 78765

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TIFD Board Elections

Congratulations to our newly-elected Board members: Anne Alexander from Austin, Mike Revesz from Austin, and Katie Pedersen from Houston. Some of Anne's goals as a Board member include strengthening TIFD's outreach programs and enhancing the website. Mike aims to do his part in keeping Texas Camp the best it can possibly be, and to promote outreach activities. Katie has her eye on improving the use of technology within TIFD, particularly in the realm of camp registration.

Board members whose three-year term of office ends February 2007 are Jane Lorenzen, Bob Madrulli, and Chuck Roth. Many thanks to these Board members for their valuable service to TIFD.

TIFD Board Meeting

The TIFD Board of Directors will meet in Austin on Saturday, February 3. TIFD members should notify Chris Broad (guy9bro@yahoo.com) if they want to attend or if they have an issue they would like the Board to consider.

Dance Directory

You are cordially invited to add your free listing to the global directory "Who's Who in Dance" of the International Dance Council CID. You can fill out the form at: www.cid-unesco.org

This is a strictly non-commercial program, carried out by volunteers as a service to the dance community. It lists openly all forms of dance in all countries on an equal basis and greatly facilitates overseas contacts and cooperation. With 100,000 addresses from 200 countries gathered so far, it is by far the largest dance directory ever compiled.

Ms. Lambrini Raikou
Executive Secretary

The International Dance Council (CID) is the official umbrella organization for all forms of dance in all countries of the world. It is a non-profit non-governmental organization founded in 1973 within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization headquarters in Paris, and a worldwide forum bringing together international, national and local organizations as well as select individuals active in dance. It represents the art of dance in general and advises the UNESCO, national and local government agencies, international organizations and institutions. www.cid-unesco.org

Calendar

February 6, 2007 *The Duquesne University Tamburitzans* of Pittsburgh, PA, are accepting auditions for the 2007-2008 season. Auditions by video accepted on or before Feb 6, 2007. For more info go to www.tamburitzans.duq.edu.

February 8-15 *Tropical Dance Vacation Contra/ Square Week*, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. Info (413) 323-9604 or george@wildasparagus.com.

February 10 *Another YOW (Your Own Workshop)* on Saturday, 2/10/07 at Odd Fellows Hall, 115 East 14th Street, Houston, TX. Afternoon teaching sessions, pizza party, evening dance party.

February 16-18 Bayou Bedlam, Contra Dance Weekend, http://www.hatds.org/html_pages_special_events/bayou_bedlam.html or Alice Bohlae at abohlae@sbcglobal.net or (713) 861-4185.

February 23 *Folk Dance Marathon,* Houston. Once again it's time to get out your knee braces and get ready for Kristin Lucas's annual birthday (take years off your life) marathon.

March 9-11 *San Antonio Folk Dance Fest (SAFDF).* This year we're having a Romanian teacher, Daniel Sandu, and a Bulgarian teacher, Daniela Ivanova. Also on Sunday afternoon we'll have an English session. All the information is on the website: www.SAFDF.org.
More Daniela Ivanova workshops:
March 8 New Orleans (dance workshop)
Contact: Reggie Dawes, reggie.dawes@gmail.com
March 12 Oklahoma City (dance workshop)
Contact: Merlaine Anderson, andersonmer@cs.com
March 13 Tulsa (song workshop)
Contact: Sally Jenkins, salandalan@sbcglobal.net

March 15-18 *The Great Southwest Lindyfest*, sponsored by the Houston Swing Dance Society Info: http://lindyfest.hsds.org/

March 23-25 *Tulsa IFD 38th Anniversary Party and International Folk Dance Workshop,* Susan Hinkins teaching. Live music Friday night by Nick Bratkovich; delectable cuisine. Info www.geocities.com/tulsaifd/index.html or salandalan@sbcglobal.net

March 30-April 1 *Norwegian Dance & Music Weekend,* featuring several Norwegians and Loretta Kelley. Dodgeville, WI www.folklorevillage.org

March 30-April 1 *"The Great Dance Escape: All Roads Lead to Contra" Contra Dance Weekend* in Post, Texas. Registration/Information: www.TheGreatDanceEscape.org or Glenn Hebert (gimp10@cox-internet.com, 512-251-8319)

April 5-9 *International Dance Competition*, Barcelona, Spain. Seeking dance directors interested in expanding their knowledge of other cultures & promoting their work abroad. Http://web.tiscali.it/dance2006/

April 13-15 *Cajun Dance & Music Weekend,* Dodgeville, WI. www.folklorevillage.org

April 28 *The 49th Annual San Antonio College Folk Dance Festival.* Workshops will focus on the dances and folklore of Spain. International Festival of food and culture held on the San Antonio College campus from 10am to 4pm, a free "Dance Around the World" Youth Concert at 4pm in McAllister Auditorium, and the 49th Annual Folk Dance Concert at 6pm in McAllister Auditorium. For more information contact Doug Hall, Festival Director, at sacfest@hotmail.com , George Ann Simpson, Faculty Representative at gsimpson@accd.edu , or Suzanne Dunmire, Workshop Coordinator, at sadu@sadu.org.
May 4-6 *When in Doubt, Swing* in Dallas. Joseph Pimentel calling to music by Latter Day Lizards. http://www.geocities.com/nttds/wids2007/flier07.html

May 25-28 *Strawberry Statewid*e in Oxnard, CA, featuring Zeljko Jergan, Cristian Florescu, Sonia Dion. http://www.socalfolkdance.org/

May 25-28 *Folklife Festival,* Seattle. www.nwfolklife.org

May 27 *Dance around the World,* Austin, TX. http://tsurikov.mailcan.com/DATW/index.html

June 23-July 1 *Dance on the Water Cruise*, Provence/Burgundy. Dancing led by Sandy Starkman. Info Mel Mann, (510) 526-4033, www.folkdanceonthewater.org

News from Local Groups

Dallas IFD News

Recently taught dances from Texas Camp include Opa Cupa, (taught by Wende Waters) and Mavromata and Paraliakos (taught by Susie Thennes).

Elections for Dallas Board Members will be held on Friday, January 26. Current board consists of : Sara Chapman, President; Wende Waters, Program Chair; Mike Hefner, Social Chair; Gail McClung, Treasurer; Vickie Stohl, Secretary; and Susie Thennes, Teaching Chair.

Houston IFD news

HIFD has a new laptop, acquired after our original one suffered a mishap in November. It was a bargain, has better sound, and has programming enhancements that include:

- making it impossible for the programmer to accidentally interrupt a playing dance while adding dances to the program;
- a delayed play feature that allows time for dancers to form dance sets, find partners, etc.;
- the ability to set a marker within a dance, so a teacher can go back to the same place within the dance for teaching;
- and variable speed play.

Tulsa IFD News

Tulsa IFD was cancelled due to treacherous road conditions once in December and twice in January – unprecedented! We are in the planning stages of our anniversary party and international dance workshop, both on the weekend of March 23-25. See calendar listings.

Austin IFD News

AIFD's New Year's Eve party was great fun and included live music from Don Weeda and several Homegrown Contra Band and Camp Band members, among others.

Village IFD (Austin) News

Several VIFD members are getting ready for our first performances; members will dance an Israeli set at SAFDF in March and an international set at Dacne Around the World in May.

Halloween/Dyann Slosar's birthday party, Dallas, 2006.
Photo courtesy of Gary O'Berg

Fiddler's Dream Reports

Several TIFD members from Oklahoma and Texas attended Fiddler's Dream over the New Year's weekend. We danced to wonderful live music and contra calling, all by volunteers from local groups across the southwest. Mimi Rogers of the North Texas Traditional Dance Society of Dallas has been organizing this 3-day party for several years now, and this year's was the best yet. —*Chris Broad*

The facilities of Cross Point Methodist Camp on the north side of Lake Texoma were filled with 150 dancers and musicians; about 5% of those present were also TIFD members. There were many sessions of music workshops; contra dances, of course; an English Country Dance session led by Carol Barry; singing sessions; a nature walk; a schottische-teaching session led by Chris Broad and Nancy Dennis; lots of informal jamming; and more. About a dozen different callers from Texas, Oklahoma, and Florida (!) led the dancers in a wide array of contra dances. The folk dancers managed to sneak in some practice and teaching of Maxixe, Lemko Csardas, and Waikiki Tango. We rang the old year out with a "cup o' kindness" and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and rang the New Year in with a simplified rendition of Jane Farwell's German dance "The Bells of Peace," led by Tulsans Julia Harris, Sally Jenkins, and Mary Jo Watkins. —*Sally Jenkins*

This was my third Fiddler's Dream and I had a wonderful time as I have the previous two years. I always say that the best dance camps and dance weekends should be for both dancers and musicians because then the music is just wonderful to dance to. The people who attend this camp are all so welcoming and fun to be with that it feels like a big family reunion minus all the squabbles you see amongst people who are related. —*Ann McCracken*

I look forward to Fiddlers Dream every year. It's not your standard Contra Weekend.
I have had many chances to try and play a violin.
We have participated in writing a new dance.
This year there was amazing Swedish dancing.
Every year we get great contra and music. This year we got new callers and new musicians who never thought they would have any opportunity to practice. It was a hoot. Mimi keeps it fresh and delightful for all. I go to many dance events but by far this is one of my favorites. —*Rhonda Beckman*

TIFD Members at Fiddler's Dream
L to R: Shelley Allison, Ann McCracken, Chris Broad, Sally Jenkins, Alan Jenkins, Jane Lorenzen, Ben Smith
Not Pictured: Merlaine Anderson, Rhonda Beckman

Need Help with Floor Problems

The following paragraph about Sticky Floors appeared in the December 2006 issue of the e-letter, prompting dancer Jan Bloom to request help with its opposite problem, Slick Floors. Please send your suggestions to editor@tifd.org.

Sticky Dance Floors?

What do you do when the dance floor is too sticky for comfortable dancing? The Austin contra dancers have successfully used Triple Crown powdered dance wax. On an individual basis, some dancers carry a candle in their shoe bag and rub candle wax onto the soles of their shoes for temporary relief. A layer of duct tape on the rubber soles of sport shoes can provide a smooth surface for turning dances. Someone has suggested using Teflon spray, but we leave this one up to you to test out.

Slick Floors?

Dear TIFD Editor,
OK, so now we have suggestions about sticky floors. Thanks very much, that was useful. How about a follow-up with ideas about how to deal with a too-slick floor (such as the first day and night of Texas Camp!)? The only thing I've tried that helps is going out to the sidewalk or other concrete surface and lightly scuffing the soles of my shoes so that they are less smooth, but of course this is also wearing them out more quickly. Perhaps most dancers have a habit like mine of just taking 5 pairs of shoes to any dance just to cover the contingencies...
Thanks,
Jan Bloom

Lyrics: Uske Gukas

(also spelled Uska Gukas, Ooska Gookas, and Hooshig Mooshig, and other ways as well). Used by permission of Tad Kramar and Henry Temchin. Dance and song from Armenia. A different transliteration, as well as a translation and an in-depth look at the convoluted history of this song and dance appears in the 2000 issue of the Problem Solver published by the Society of Folk Dance Historians. The transcription provided below is used by the Kansas City area band "Continental Drift" and works fine for dancing.

1.
Uske gukas veriye Vana
Uske gukas veriye Vana
Derdit yimyerer divana
Ba chik mâdur mart chimana
Yar gülüm dzhane.

Chorus:
Yar gülüm dzhane
Sirer yem yes kez
Yar gülüm dzhane
Bidi arnem yes kez.

2.
Uske gukas ushik mushik
Uske gukas ushik mushik
Vot gât mader varti pushik
Tun bâzdzidig bachik anoshik
Yar gülüm dzhane.

3.
Uske gukas veriye Vana
Uske gukas veriye Vana
Yes divana tun divana
Astvats mezi turmi pana
Yar gülüm dzhane.

Camp Memories
continued from page 1

After some classes and the Thanksgiving dinner, the festivities began with the Green Party.

Hula dancers, spinach, Robin Hood, college graduates, crayons, and turtles appeared that night, and several folks brought out their 2005 Camp shirts.

Friday night was the Vintage Party. The stage was set with a French-themed supper, including a wonderful chocolate mousse. Flappers and their beaux danced the cross-step waltz.

Saturday included classes and afternoon parties. The Bruceville Roadhouse featured everything from Texas Two-Step to Indian Bangra. Saturday night was the Balkan party, featuring a wide variety of costumes and a surprise visit from a half-Vulcan who bore a striking resemblance to Lee Otterholt. And Sunday, exhausted dancers reviewed the new dances, camp closed for the year, and a loyal crew disassembled the floors.

Thanks to everyone whose work makes Texas Camp possible! See you next year for the 60th Texas Camp!

TEXAS FOLK
DANCE CAMP

Recipe—Griesspudding from Germany
(pronounced GREES pudding)

Friends in Göhl, Germany served me this light dessert in 1971. They chose cherry juice and cherries, but I have since made it myself using apricot and even pineapple. "Griess" probably translates most nearly to "grits" but it is really made from Cream of Wheat.

3 cups fruit juice (apple, strawberry, raspberry, apricot, cherry, etc.)
1 tsp. lemon juice
6 T. sugar
½ cup uncooked Cream of Wheat

Boil juice and lemon juice. Add sugar slowly. When dissolved, add Cream of Wheat and cook per directions. Then beat in electric mixer at high speed 10-15 minutes or until pudding has tripled in volume. Chill. Top with fruit and fruit juice (as in strawberry shortcake) or sauce.

New Serbian Dance DVD

Thanks to a special arrangement with the Center for the Teaching of the Folkdances of Serbia, a division of the College of Musical Arts in Belgrade, the first DVD in their planned series of 12 is now available here in the U.S. Format. Twenty-seven original "izvorno" dances from central Serbia, namely Šumadija and Pomoravlje, are covered. This DVD is accompanied by a 22-page booklet in English. This package will be **available for a limited time** (until early March 2007) for $30, which includes shipping. All proceeds will go to the Center to further their work in documenting and disseminating the folkdance heritage of Serbia. For further information and to order, contact Cheryl Spasojevic, 17626 Olympic View Drive, Edmonds, WA 98026. Phone (425) 745-1785; cspaso@gmail.com Make checks out to Cheryl Spasojevic. (Cheryl is a member of the East European Folklife Center. She divides her time between living in the Pacific Northwest and living in Serbia.)

Sincere Thanks to Our TIFD Donors

TIFD gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the following members who contributed in 2006 to the Bobbi Gillotti Scholarship Fund, the Live Music Fund, the Texas Camp Floor Fund, and/or the General Fund:

Alan & Sally Jenkins
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