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**From the President, Terri Chadwick**

2 I am thrilled to have so many great folk dancers working with me on the  
 3 Board and as Committee Chairs this year. As you may know, we are an all  
 3 volunteer organization simply dedicated to enhancing international folk  
 3 dancing, primarily by putting on Texas Camp each Thanksgiving. I want  
 3 to highlight some of these volunteers and perhaps spark your interest to  
 3 join a committee. And I am not even getting into what you can do more  
 3 specifically for Texas Camp. Camp Co-Chairs Jo Soto and Lissa Bengtson  
 3 will let you know about Texas Camp opportunities.

4 Mike Revesz, past President, is our new Registered Agent (keeps  
 4 us legal). Anne Alexander continues as Webmaster (Check out our  
 4 website [www.tifd.org](http://www.tifd.org); it is amazing and fun!). As per our By-Laws we  
 5 have several standing committees. For these, Sally Jenkins will continue  
 5 as Publications Chair, with Anne-Louise Schaffer doing the eLetters.  
 5 Chuck Roth will continue as Membership Chair and I will continue as  
 5 Nominations Chair.

6 Then we have other committees that have emerged as needed.  
 7 Recently the Board approved the following Chairs, some of whom are  
 7 new, some are continuing from last year/previous years. Misi Tsurikov  
 7 for Camp Survey, Chuck Roth for Database and Insurance, Georgia  
 8 Horn for Finance, Investments, Inventory as well as Sales (this means  
 8 her garage is full of TIFD stuff). Franklin Houston has some great ideas  
 8 as new Chair for Financial Assistance. John Alexander continues for  
 8 Floor Maintenance, Elaine Moczygemba for Recognition, Jan Bloom  
 8 for Historical Project, Bruce Bostwick for Sound. Shelley Allison is new  
 8 Chair for the “broader” committee for Live Music while Joane Rylander  
 8 will continue as Live Music Coordinator for the more focused job of  
 8 coordinating live music at Texas Camp. We have a new Chair and new  
 8 committee, Garry Karner, Recorded Music (fondly known as “the dead  
 8 music committee”). Garry will continue coordinating the TIFD computer  
 8 and electronic dance inputs from our area groups to provide dance music  
 8 at Texas Camp parties. Chairs do choose their committees, but you can  
 8 certainly contact Chairs to volunteer.

The following are unfilled positions that I think are really needed  
 so please think about volunteering: Chair of Board Manual Updates and  
 Chair of By-Laws Review. Concerning the Board Manual Updates Chair,  
 Franklin Houston with others wrote our Board Manual that is available  
 upon request. It is a wonderful “how-to-do-it” and history of TIFD. But  
 it would benefit from updating and Franklin needs a rest from it. Then  
 for By-Laws Review, our By-Laws (available on website) are good, but  
 could stand review, maybe update. For example, I am bothered by sexist  
 “Chairman” language, but that’s me! We also could use Chairs and action  
 on four committees that have been dormant awhile: Special Events,  
 Fundraising, Educational Outreach and Long Range Planning. Please  
 contact me to volunteer as a Chair for one of these unfilled positions.

In summary, it looks like a great year for TIFD and international  
 folk dancing!



## National Accordion Convention Report and Photos by Susie Thennes

The National Accordion Convention convened from March 11-13, 2010, at the Westin Park Central Hotel in Dallas. About 3 dozen seminars over the three-day event included: Klezmer Music by Rita Davidson; Tips for Sight-Reading by Dr Sharon Seaton; How to Accompany Anybody by Mario Pedone; Composing by Joe Natoli; Performing workshops by Valina and Ross Witte; Blues and Roots Music by Debra Peters; Bass and Rhythm Techniques by Bruce Gassman; Youth Show; and Playing Folk Dance Music for Dancing by Shelia Lee and Dr. Daniel Kott. Over a dozen accordion-related dealers presented their merchandise in 4,000 square feet of space. Another room was set aside as a Swap Shop, for registered conventioners who wished to sell used accordions and related gear.

Over 200 attendees from all over the country enjoyed the lively atmosphere and informative workshops. Thursday evening's concert featured a tribute to Anthony Galla-Rini. About 40 musicians attended a Galla-Rini workshop all day on Thursday, and presented a wonderful program Thursday night. The highlights were *Tara*, *Hallelujah Chorus*, and *God Bless America*. Friday night, there were three activities from which to choose: National Accordion Dance Party in one salon, a Circle of Champions in another, and Folk Dancing in a third salon. The Dallas International Folk Dancers demonstrated a suite of dances including: *Vlaško*, *Drmeš iz Zdenčine*, *Syrtaki*, *Esmer*, *Daronee*, and *Šestorka*. The Circle of Champions featured solo and small ensemble performers who have all achieved national, regional or world performance recognition.

Saturday night, there was a lavish banquet followed by another concert. There were so many talented performers, it was hard to pick a favorite. Some of the highlights included performances by master accordionist and arranger Mario Pedone, and Rock and Roll with Bruce Gassman. Bruce's medley of Beatles hits and theme songs from James Bond movies was outstanding. Throughout the event, hallways and lobbies were filled with people playing, or talking about, accordions. The same hotel has been reserved for next year's event, so plan to attend, for some great entertainment, or learning opportunities.



## Deadline for the next issue of TIFD News is July 18

The TIFD Quarterly Newsletter is published on the first of the month, in February, May, August, and November; the eLetter is sent on the first of the remaining months. Send news to [editor@tiffd.org](mailto:editor@tiffd.org).

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.

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### Recipe - Greek Potatoes From Kathleen Cairns, Tulsa, OK

These might be the best potatoes I've ever eaten!

3 pounds potatoes, cubed (scrubbed but not peeled)  
 1/2 cup fresh lemon juice  
 1/3 cup vegetable oil  
 1 Tbsp. olive oil  
 2 tsp. salt  
 1/2 tsp. black pepper  
 1-1/2 tsp. dried oregano  
 2 garlic cloves, minced  
 3 cups hot water  
 (chopped fresh parsley for garnish after cooking)  
 (feta cheese optional, just before serving)

1. Toss together everything but the water and garnishes in a deep flat pan about 8"x12"
2. Add hot water
3. Bake uncovered about 1-1/2 hours at 475° F, stirring every 20 minutes, adding more water if necessary to prevent sticking

Be careful not to burn the potatoes during the final half hour. During the final 15-20 minutes, allow the water to evaporate until only the oil is left. Garnish with parsley. Can be sprinkled with feta cheese. Pan will become blackened, so Kathleen suggests using a disposable roasting pan.

### Next Board Meeting

The next TIFD Board meeting will be on Saturday, May 8 at Chuck Roth's home in Austin. If you have an item you would like the Board to consider or if you would like to attend, please contact [board@tifd.org](mailto:board@tifd.org).

### Lyrics - Gori More

Words by Željko Šašić

Refrain, sung twice at beginning and end,  
 also twice between verses:

/Gori more tope se planine  
 Od lepote tvoje i tvoje blizine/

Nebo nek' nas veže večnim lancem sreće  
 Nek' ne bude nikad kako srce neće

Nosiće nas veruj zauvek na duši  
 Onaj ko poželi ljubav da nam sruši

Iz ljubavi ove rodiće se duga  
 Da obasja redom i sva srca druga

### Language Textbook

*Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian: a Textbook with Exercises and Basic Grammar*, Second Edition. Ronelle Alexander and Ellen Elias-Bursac. Available from [uwpress.wisc.edu/books/4800.htm](http://uwpress.wisc.edu/books/4800.htm)

## Calendar

**May 14-16**, Tulsa, OK, *Dick Oakes International workshop*. [www.tulsaifd.org](http://www.tulsaifd.org) or [salandalan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:salandalan@sbcglobal.net).

**May 21-23**, San Antonio, TX, *Contra Dance Weekend at IFCC* featuring Sue Rosen calling to the music of Rodney Miller & friends. See article on page 6.

**May 28-30**, Ennis, TX. *National Polka Festival*. [www.nationalpolkafestival.com](http://www.nationalpolkafestival.com)

**May 28-31**, Socorro, NM, *FolkMADS Music & Dance Camp*. Includes contra, English, squares, swing, and Kerry dancing. [www.folkmads.org](http://www.folkmads.org)

**June 1**, San Antonio, *Duquesne University Tamburitzans*. See San Antonio News in this issue.

**June 3-6**, Beloit, WI, *June Camp*. Kete Ilievski (Macedonian) and Marilyn (Wathen) Smith (French). [sites.google.com/site/junecampifd](http://sites.google.com/site/junecampifd)

**June 11-13**, Oklahoma City, *Flamingo Fling*. Featuring Nils Fredland calling, with music by the Great Bear Trio. Limited space, so register early. [www.scissortail.org](http://www.scissortail.org)

**June 11-13**, San Antonio, TX. *Texas Folklife Festival*. [www.texasfolklifefestival.org](http://www.texasfolklifefestival.org)

**June 12-19**, Mendocino, CA, *Scandia Camp Mendocino*. [www.scandiacampmendocino.org](http://www.scandiacampmendocino.org)

**June 26-July 3**, Mendocino, CA, *Mendocino Balkan Music and Dance Workshop*. [www.eefc.org](http://www.eefc.org)

**June 27-July 4**, Lyman, NH, *Nordic Fiddles and Feet*. Swedish and Norwegian music and dance. [www.NordicFiddlesandFeet.org](http://www.NordicFiddlesandFeet.org)

**June 30-July 11**, Greece. *Tour with Joe Graziosi*. [jlulias@mlmtvl.com](mailto:jlulias@mlmtvl.com)

**July 7-11**, Sister Bay, WI. *Door County Folk Festival*. [www.dcff.net](http://www.dcff.net)

**July 9-11**, Butte, MT, *National Folk Festival* [www.nationalfolkfestival.com/2010/](http://www.nationalfolkfestival.com/2010/)

**July 20-30**, in Albania, *Albanian Folk Dance Seminar*. [www.albanian-folklore.com](http://www.albanian-folklore.com) or [chillebrand@onsbrabantnet.nl](mailto:chillebrand@onsbrabantnet.nl)

**July 25-31 and August 1-7**, Stockton, CA, *Stockton Folk Dance Camp*, [www.folkdancecamp.org](http://www.folkdancecamp.org)

**July 30-August 16 (approximate)**, Bulgaria, *tour led by Martha Forsyth*, [theforsyths@verizon.net](mailto:theforsyths@verizon.net)

**August 2-14 (or longer)**, Bulgaria. *Women's Ritual Dances and Traditions*. Laura Shannon with Bisserov Sisters. [www.laurashannon.net](http://www.laurashannon.net)

**August 2-15**, Bulgaria, *tour including Koprivshhtica festival and a visit to Petur's home village*, organized by Petur Iliev's Dance Art Foundation. [natalia.sheljaskow@gmail.com](mailto:natalia.sheljaskow@gmail.com) or [ipetur63@yahoo.com](mailto:ipetur63@yahoo.com)

**August 5-8**, Socorro, NM, *New Mexico August Camp*. Željko Jergan teaching Croatian dances, Bare Necessities playing for English Country dances. [www.swifdi.org](http://www.swifdi.org)

**August 7-14**, Iroquois Springs, Rock Hill, NY, *Balkan Music & Dance Workshop*, [www.eefc.org](http://www.eefc.org)

**August 8-15**, Raft Island, WA, *Ti Ti Tabor. Hungarian Music and Dance Camp*, with dance teachers Norbert Kovacs and Hortenzia Lorincz and music by the Duvo Egyuttés. [www.tititabor.org](http://www.tititabor.org)

**August 4-16**, in Bulgaria. *Balkanfolk workshop*. [www.balkanfolk.com](http://www.balkanfolk.com) or [info@balkanfolk.com](mailto:info@balkanfolk.com)

**August 3-15**, Koprivshhtitsa, Bulgaria. [www.jimgold.com/Bulgaria2010.htm](http://www.jimgold.com/Bulgaria2010.htm)

**Aug. 15-Sept. 4**, *Mainewoods Dance Camp*, [www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org](http://www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org)

**August 19-22**, near Portland, OR, *balkanalia!* [www.balkanalia.org](http://www.balkanalia.org)

**August 26-29**, Prague and Pobebrady, Czech Republic, *Dance2010Bohemia Festival*. [www.ifbbohemia.cz/dance2010/html](http://www.ifbbohemia.cz/dance2010/html)

**September 10-12**, Black Mountain, NC, *25th anniversary Mountain Playshop*, Jim Gold teaching. [www.mountainplayshop.org](http://www.mountainplayshop.org)

## Istanbul

The name İstanbul, in common use since at least 1453, is derived from of “eis ten polin,” (εις την Πόλιν or στην Πόλη), “to [or in] the city.” “The City,” of course, referred to the city of Constantine, or Constantinople. A few layers of linguistic corruptions down from “eis ten polis” gives you İstanbul. Q.E.D.

## Romanian Trip

*A family friend now living in Germany took a trip this past summer and gave Sally Jenkins permission to share his memories with you.*

... I'll begin with the high point of our year--our summer trip to Rumania. We spent two weeks in the Carpathian mountains, about 3600 feet, outside the city of Kluj-Napoca. Friends have a cabin in the mountains there. I saw a first for me--people making hay using scythes! The way the farmers live in the mountains is almost beyond comprehension, for me, as an American. The farms are on *steep* mountainsides. As Adelheid said in her Christmas letter, in 2 weeks of wandering around in the mountains there, we saw no place that was level enough to have pitched a tent--but the farmers managed to scrape out a level place for a house and (a much larger) barn for their most important assets--2 or 3 milk cows (the more well-to-do might have had 4 or 5 cows). The cabin where we stayed was a 20-30 minute walk downhill from the nearest road. But the walk was truly wonderful--fields of flowers, filled with grasshoppers and butterflies. The cows from neighbor farmers walked past our cabin every morning, and returned every evening--making pretty, ringing music with their bells. Horses stayed out, as they could outrun and outfight the resident brown bears. The one time that a neighbor's cow did not return to the barn while we were there, it got killed by a bear.

The houses were one room. About 15' x 15'. No running water. Our nearest neighbor, the approximately 80 year old Leila Marie, was very proud of their (she married a widower from the valley after a few year "engagement", when he faced up to selling his 2 milk cows because Leila Marie didn't have enough land on which to graze *her* two cows *and his* two cows!) new acquisition of the summer--a hose running several hundred meters from the spring above the house to, not the house, but a trough in front of the house (1/2 of a hollowed out tree), for a water trough for the cows. And it made her life quite a lot easier, since she no longer needs to carry water in buckets the several hundred meters downhill from the spring to the house.

In the tiny house was a wood burning stove, a bed, and a small table. All of the possessions of the owners were therein--and the house wasn't full. Leila Marie apparently had 2 or 3 pans, a skillet and little else in/on which to cook. They had a dog and a few chickens. They had all of the wood that they needed in order to heat and cook (Leila Marie's husband was cutting up firewood with a hand saw when we were there in August--you need a lot of wood to get through the winter!). I guess that the chickens provided eggs, during the summer. And, as we learned during our time there, you rely on milk from your cows for most of your protein. We had fresh milk everyday while we were there. Since the milk was unpasteurized (only passed

through a piece of cheese cloth that had been hanging on the fence all day, and had the wood chips and leaves shaken out of it just before the milk was poured through it), when we didn't get it all drunk on the first day, we also had sour milk, thick milk and even yogurt--on the one occasion that we waited long enough for the thick milk to get even thicker. And I never got sick! Actually, warm milk, direct from a cow milked by hand, is wonderful (probably about 5-8% milk fat!)! But, given the lifestyle, we still never saw a fat farmer! Tough life, tough people. But wonderful and friendly. People making hay with scythes took a break to stop and attempt to talk with us, using gestures, hands and words that we didn't know, since only our friend, Sebastian, spoke Romanian, and he wasn't always along. But it was an overall amazing 2 weeks. It was like going back in time, and a chance to meet wonderful, hard-working people. But, lest you think all of Romania is like that, we did "see" (as we drove out of it, away from the airport, toward the mountains) the city of Kluj-Napoca. It must be a city of several hundred thousand people, and contains "malls" just like those in the US, Germany, or where ever else (although there were also occasionally makeshift horse carts made from old truck beds being pulled by one or two lumbering horses on the streets, along with cars and trucks). All in all, a delightful country with amazing landscape and wonderful people. We hope to go back again, soon.

### Recommended Documentary: *The Music Instinct*

In the May 2008 issue of this newsletter Sally Jenkins reviewed Daniel Levitin's book *This Is Your Brain on Music*. Now he has issued a documentary, which has been aired on PBS, called *The Music Instinct: Science and Song*, in which some of the same material is covered and some is new. In the documentary, available from your library or from Netflix or Blockbuster, you can watch simulations of brain activity while musicians make music. You can see for yourself the effect of music therapy on premature babies and on patients with Parkinson's Disease. Famous performers including Bobby McFerrin, Daniel Barenboim, and Yo-Yo Ma contribute musical selections and discussion. Musicians, neuroscientists, a physicist, and an ethnomusicologist all participate. The documentary is about 2 hours long and there are some additional selections that didn't make the final cut but which are nonetheless interesting. If your library doesn't have it, consider buying it, watching it, and then donating it to the library.

## News from Local Groups

### Austin News

Club news from Bruce Bostwick: VIFD and AIFD in a joint effort put on a performance for Gattis Elementary School in Round Rock on Mar 26. On the last dance of the evening, the children were invited to come up and dance Turkish Halay with the group. Jo Soto directed.

VIFD is moving to the back room at Hancock Recreation Center, 811 East 41st Street, Austin, Texas. 1st and 3rd Friday, 8-10 pm.

The Flying Balalaika Brothers perform in Austin every Monday 9-11:30 pm at Ruta Maya International Headquarters, 3601 S Congress Ave, Suite D-200, Austin. Instrumentation is three balalaikas including a giant bass balalaika, accordion, banjo and electric guitar. Repertoire includes Russian, Roma Gypsy, Ukrainian, and foot-stomping original songs.

### Houston News

The elections for the five positions on the HIFD board were held in April with the following results. Kristin Lucas, Andy Reyman-Cruz, and Augie Gaona were re-elected for another term and will continue in their current positions as President, Secretary, and Performance Coordinator, respectively. Georgia Horn will serve as the new Treasurer and Dale Pollack as the new Location Coordinator.

### San Antonio News

Two upcoming events:

**First**, San Antonio Contra Dancers celebrate their 26th Anniversary with a weekend featuring outstanding talent May 21-23, 2010. Exceptional New England caller Sue Rosen will be complemented by two renowned musicians: Rodney Miller on fiddle and Bruce Rosen on guitar and piano.

Sue has written contras that most contra callers have in their repertoires, and dancers of all levels will value her clear teaching and great choice of contras, squares, and English Country Dances. Rodney Miller, designated a “master fiddler” in 1983 by the National Endowment for the Arts, is the foremost exponent of New England style fiddling. He has recorded more than ten fiddle albums—you probably have one or more in your CD collection! Bruce Rosen has collaborated on four recordings of New England contra dance music and conducts the New England Folk Festival Orchestra.

The weekend workshop has some interesting sessions.



Rodney Miller

After a Friday night contra with Rodney and Bruce to get things warmed up, Saturday morning Sue will teach English Country Dancing as a smooth start to the day. Then dancers can pick Sue’s brain in the Callers’ Corner, and musicians can jam with Rodney and Bruce. The International Folk Culture Center will provide lunch, and then we’ll study Contra Choreography and write a new dance together! In the late afternoon our area callers will get a chance to call to the music of Rodney and Bruce during almost 2 hours of “open mike.” Saturday night? A hot contra dance with Sue, Rodney and Bruce.



Sue Rosen

The weekend concludes with a Scottish Social, another unusual session that won’t be found at other contra weekends. In San Antonio there is a close relationship between the Scottish Country Dancers and the Contra Dancers, with many crossovers, thanks to the easy-going supportive style of John Roby, the Scottish dance instructor (and contra guitarist). All of the dances chosen for the Social will be easy for any contra dancer and they will all be taught that afternoon. Rodney Miller has not played for a Scottish Ball or Social before, and he looks forward to the challenge.

Dormitory rooms will be available on the campus of Our Lady of the Lake University, the location of the International Folk Culture Center. Each room has two twin beds and shares a bathroom with another room with two twin beds. Each room has a microwave and refrigerator, but no linens and no pillows will be provided. The price is \$25 per person per night. Parking is free and the dorms are within easy walking distance of the IFCC.

For a pdf flyer, please see [www.sacontradancers.org](http://www.sacontradancers.org) and look in the left-hand sidebar. Or email [lbengtson@lake.ollusa.edu](mailto:lbengtson@lake.ollusa.edu) for more information.

**Second**, International Folk Culture Center presents the **Tamburitzans** of Duquesne University



Cake for Tulsa's anniversary party, with picture of two of the founders

on Tuesday, June 1, 2010 in Thiry Auditorium on the campus of Our Lady of the Lake University. Reasonable ticket prices—contact Lissa Bengtson at 210-431-3922 or email [lbengtson@lake.ollusa.edu](mailto:lbengtson@lake.ollusa.edu) for more information.

**Tulsa News**

Tulsa IFD celebrated 41 years in March with an international potluck and dance, most people in costume. The following week we had another party, almost as big, celebrating the 95th birthday of Wayne Beebe, who continues to dance with us regularly, to ride his bicycle around town, and to swim and lift weights daily. Wayne is an inspiration to all of us. His is shown in this picture with another of our regular dancers, Matt Dretske, who turned 2 the same week.



Sally and Alan Jenkins attended the Steam & Stomp, a Montana-based “do-it-yourself” workshop. Beth Cooper, Jackie Rickel, Jennifer Rickel, Jo Loyd, and Arkansas friend Jan Luecking attended Iliana Bozhanova’s Bulgarian workshop in St. Louis. Our club is learning some of the dances brought back from these out-of-town events.

Sally and Alan Jenkins taught a folk dance workshop to 22 members of the Green Country Oklahoma chapter of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association. The Orff organization consists of “music and movement teachers” at the elementary school level. The teachers were marvelous students! If you would like to get some children’s folk dances into the schools in your area, I enthusiastically recommend connecting with your local Orff chapter, which you can find at [www.aosa.org/localchapters.html](http://www.aosa.org/localchapters.html)



*Sally Jenkins teaching Hoe Ana to Green Country Oklahoma Orff chapter*



*Tulsa IFD 41st anniversary party*



*Matt Dretske receives Sole Award for 1 year dancing with us*

**Need DVD cases?**

Does your club host workshops and then make a review DVD available? Save money (and help the environment) by asking your local library if it has cases to discard. Many libraries keep DVDs in locking cases, and then discard the original cases. (If your local library cannot help you, ask me! My library generates hundreds per year and I can bring them to Texas Camp if you let me know – Sally Jenkins, [dansingsal@gmail.com](mailto:dansingsal@gmail.com))



**Featured Website: Greek Keys**

Ever wonder about those “square scrolls” that decorate so much Greek art? Find out about the origins and how to generate many variations here:

<http://gwydir.demon.co.uk/jo/greekkey/index.htm>



## San Antonio Folk Dance Festival Photos

Many thanks to Mary Reyes for sending pictures. The April eLetter contained a description of the festival; now here are the photos.



*Andy Taylor-Blenis presents award to Nelda Drury*



*Sonia Dion teaching*



*Elaine Moczygemba receives award from Terri Chadwick*



*Above: Time out. Sonia Dion, Janice Mendelson, Sandy Starkman, Cristian Florescu. Below: Friday night welcome, Nick Bratkovich*



*Above and below: SAFDF workshop Saturday morning*

