

Stovalls

Miami Valley Folk Dancers Newsletter

Thursday, April 8, 1993

As you can see by the calendar of upcoming events, the next couple of months will be busy, busy, busy!!

Calendar

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| Sunday, April 11 | Israeli Ethnic Sunday |
| Saturday, April 17 | Tri-City Workshop in Columbus (Mike Clark, Chair)
(Dinner reservations are due TOMMORROW!!) |
| Sunday, April 18 | 40th Anniversary Party at M.S. Pavilion given by Bill & Grace Wolff |
| Saturday, April 24 | Joe Kroupa's House-warming Party |
| Sunday, April 25 | Scandi-Sunday in Columbus |
| May 7-9 | <u>Petur Iliiev</u> Bulgarian Dance Workshop at Camp Joy |
| Sunday, May 9 | Tri-City Review Ethnic Sunday |
| Thursday, May 20 | Open House (Ann Ballinger, Chair) |
| Saturday, May 22 | Annual Yugoslav Club Kolo Party |
| June 4 - 6 | World Affair |
| Sunday, June 13 | Scottish Ethnic Sunday |
| Sunday, July 11 | American Ethnic Sunday |
| Monday, Sept. 6 | Holiday at Home performance in Kettering |
| Saturday, Oct. 9 | Sauerkraut Festival performance in Waynesville |

Details, Details, ...

A few details about the above hectic schedule might be in order. The **Tri-City Workshop** is in Columbus this year -- be sure to get the flier on it and plan to attend. Dinner reservations are due in by April 9; even if you don't plan to have the dinner, try to get to the afternoon and/or evening dancing. Joe Kroupa's **Housewarming Party** is at 505 Twinning Dr., 5:00 pm - ???. RSVP 254-7548(H) or 255-9871(W). **Scandi-Sunday** in Columbus is a newly-formed group by *yours truly* and Suzanne Rizer from

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Columbus. We meet approximately once a month (carefully avoiding Ethnic Sundays) to dance and teach Scandinavian turning dances. All are welcome -- see me or Patty Gehring for further information. The **Petur Iliev workshop** will be at Camp Joy in Clarksville, OH (about a one-half hour drive away). As many of you know, Petur is a most dynamic and exciting teacher and dancer -- this is a dance camp not to miss! For further information, see Ray Gottschall or Ann Mosconi. Our annual **Open House** this year is on Thursday, May 20, 7:00 pm - 10:30 pm. This is our opportunity to recruit new members for the Club, and every MVFD member is asked to bring two things that night: a snack to share, and a nondancer friend/colleague/neighbor /relative to share! Please be thinking NOW of someone that you would like to invite that night. The annual **Kolo Party**, sponsored by the Yugoslav Club of Greater Dayton, will be held on Saturday, May 22. For further information, and tickets, see Carole Pappas or Bette Kelley. The **World Affair International Festival** will be held June 4-6 at the Convention Center. MVFD will have a spiffy advertisement in the program thanks to Leslie Hyll. Finally, our **Ethnic Sundays** happen every second Sunday of the month -- a great time to learn new dances and review old ones. Are there dances that YOU would like to learn, or have reviewed?? Then grab a hold of Louise VanVliet (Program Committee Chair) and let her know that you'd like to have *^&\$%# reviewed or #@(&* taught. Louise is waiting to hear from you.

Sharon Leahy in May!

Sharon Leahy is the co-artistic director (with Rick Good) and choreographer for *Rhythm in Shoes*, a Dayton music and dance group that specializes in dance that is based in traditional step dance and choreographed in a contemporary style. For every Thursday in May except May 20 (our Open House) and the first Thursday in June, Sharon will be offering a dance class from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Solomon Pavilion -- this will replace our regular beginner's class for those Thursdays (we're giving Sam and Ann time off for good behavior!). For MVFD members these classes are **FREE**, for nonmembers there will be a fee (probably somewhere between \$3 and \$5 per night). Rick Good will provide live music for the classes.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to learn from an expert in traditional and folk dance (as well as many other forms of dance); in fact, this is like getting four one-hour mini-workshops free, conveniently located at our dance pavilion. This is also another wonderful opportunity to collaborate with Cityfolk, the sponsoring organization. Although all of the details have not been worked out yet, it looks like Sharon will teach some clogging and a fabulous waltz, called "Out of the Fog," that was part of *Rhythm in Shoes'* last performance. She also mentioned other possibilities, such as the swing, and is anxious to

accommodate our interests.

I know that many of you are not accustomed to arriving at the Pavilion as early as 7:00 pm for dancing, but Sharon and Rick's classes at the Pavilion presents us all with a unique opportunity -- let's take advantage of it! (They'll sort of be like "artists in residence.") So, write down these dates: May 6, 13, 27, and June 3, and be there at 7:00 pm.

Dance Etiquette

The following, brought to my attention by Ann Ballinger, is excerpted from a 1989 MVFD newsletter . . . just some friendly reminders.

- Do not get into a dance you do not know! It's no fun for anyone when a line or a set falls apart because some of the people don't understand what is going on. Always get behind a line dance to learn it.
- Always join a line dance at the end of the line. Ninety percent of the time, the left end is the end. Note that there are some dances where the end is on the right. Always join a contra line or longways set at the foot of the set (the end farthest from the music).
- Be quiet and attentive to the instructor even though you know what is being explained or you are not dancing. Perhaps someone else needs to be briefed. Do not try to teach when someone else is teaching.
- Bathe diligently, that the sweet aroma of soap and lotion may assail the nostrils of your associates. Similarly, take care that your utterances are not scented with strong smelling herbs, such as garlic, onion, or alcoholic beverages.
- Wear a name tag at all times. New members don't know old members; old members don't know new members.
- Be conscious of the feelings of those around you and do not let the stranger in your midst sit on the sidelines, failing to speak to him/her. Be friendly and respectful at all times.
- Never forget that you were once a beginner, and that others helped you become a good dancer by tolerating your mistakes. Remember, always help new dancers -- that's how to keep folk dancing alive!

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- Make it a practice to thank guests for coming, instructors for teaching, program leaders for leading, everyone who made your evening a pleasant one. And as always, dance for the FUN that you find in it.

Five Stages of a Folk Dancer: 1. Beginner, 2. Advanced, 3. Too good to dance with beginners, 4. Too professional to dance with anybody, and 5. Back to JUST DANCING with everyone to HAVE FUN.

(Editorial note. I only had three stages as a folk dancer: 1. Try weakly, 2. Try weekly, and 3. Tri-weekly.)

Subscriptions

I would like to bring to your attention two excellent organizations that you, as an international folk dancer, might be interested in subscribing to. One is **VILTIS Magazine** published by Vyts Beliajus, 1337 Marion St., Denver, CO. 80218 at \$15/year. This is a general folklore and folk dance magazine that has a wealth of information in it. The other is **The Society of Folk Dance Historians** at \$12/year. The goal of this Society is to preserve and disseminate information about folk dances and folk dance history. Further information can be obtained from Ron Houston, 2100 Rio Grande St., Austin, TX 78705-5513.

Membership News

Congratulations to Vera Fisher for being selected by the *Day'n-8's* dance club as their honor roll nominee to the Miami Valley Dance Council. Well done, Vera!

Well, I told you that there were lots of things happening in the coming months. I hope to see you at all of them!

Ethnically and Terpsichorially Yours,

Harry

Harry Khamis, Chair
MVFD

*30 W. Woodruff
St. Stephen's
Episcopal
Church*

*I 70E to 315
315 N. to Lane Exit
Lane E. to High St.
Right on High (one block)
R on Woodruff
L on College for parking*

Suzanne Rizer

*(614) 459-1630 W
268-5043 H*