

CALENDAR

MVFD Events

➤ DECEMBER

Regular Dance (beginners, 7 PM):

Dec. 3, 10, 17 (*not 24th*)

* **New Year's Eve Party Dec. 31!**

Ethnic Sunday: Dec. 13, 2:30 PM

➤ JANUARY

Regular Dance (beginners, 7 PM):

Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28

➤ **Annual Meeting:** Jan. 10, 2:30 PM

➤ FEBRUARY

Regular Dance (beginners, 7 PM):

Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25

Ethnic Sunday: Feb. 14, 2:30 PM

Other Regular Events

Scottish Dancing – The Flying Ghil-lies. Beginner & intermediate classes Mondays at 7:30 PM, Mangan Ban-quet Ctr., 1585 Grange Hall Rd.

CITYFOLK Waltzing and Contra Dance at the Pavilion – 6:30 PM waltzing, 7:30 instruction, 8:00 con-tras. \$7 if over 12. **Dec. 4**, Kathy Anderson with the Corndaddies. **Feb. 5**, Susan Moffett with Hot Club of Derbytown. **Saturday, Feb. 27**, Flight of Fancy Dance Day!

Israeli Folk Dancing – Classic and modern, 7-9 PM most Tuesdays (Dec. 8, 15, 22, 29; Jan. 12, 19, 26; Feb. 9, 16, 23). Also 6-8 PM Weds Dec. 2, Jan. 13, Feb. 3. At the Boonshoft CJCE, Centerville. \$2 for non-members. See Janifer, Bill, or Mei-Hwa for details.

Yellow Springs Folk Dance – Bryan Ctr., 7 PM, Dec. 18, Jan. 15, Feb. 19. www.yellowspringsfolkdancing.com.

Columbus Balkan Night Dance Par-ties – *Fri.* Dec. 16, Swedish Christ-mas; Jan. 23, Masquerade Ball; Feb. 13, "Luv-in."

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

MVFD Council

Chairperson:.....Patty Gehring
371-1732.....plg2010@yahoo.com

Vice Chair:.....John Pappas
427-2543.....jepappas@sbcglobal.net

Secretary:.....Bill Vernon
294- 6722.....verwill@hotmail.com

Treasurer:.....Peggy Crutchfield
275-4249.....obedc@sbc.global.net

Member-at-Large:...Lina Considine
438- 9348.....pan_consi@yahoo.com

Committee Assignments

Miami Valley Dance Council and
Pavilion Support Committee
Representative.....Lina Considine

Program Committee

.....Chair, Lee Moser

.....Ed Anderson

.....Jim Rohal

.....Carolyn Stovall

.....Susan Tsui / Ellen Rice

.....Rose Vernon

Recordings & Equipment Maintenance

.....Edmund Cordray

Orientation Class.....Lina Considine

.....Joanne Dombrowski

.....Patty Gehring

.....Harry Khamis

.....Janifer Tsou

.....Bill Vernon

Kitchen.....Eleanor Woolley

Refreshments.....Lee Moser

Historian.....Leslie Hyll

Publicity.....Dolores Brooks

Membership Committee...Lee Moser

MVFD Webmaster.....Leslie Hyll

Newsletter Editor.....Ellen Rice

277-1814.....efrice927@att.net

MVFD on the World Wide Web:
www.daytonfolkdance.com/mvfd



DECEMBER 2009

THE NEWS



★ MVFD Plays... ★

- ❖ **An Early Christmas!** Our Christmas Party will be **December 17th**. John and Carole Pappas are already planning a program of favorite dances, favorite Christmas music, and some unique inter-sections of the two.... Everybody bring treats (healthful, of course, but don't forget the fifth food group!).
- ❖ **New Year's Eve!** This year New Year's Eve falls on a Thurs-day, so we have the Pavilion. Bring requests and food and any-thing else you think would be appropriate to welcome in the new year. For example, we've worked some challenging puzzles and played some games on previous New Year's Eves. Remember any champagne needs to be non-alcoholic, though....

★ ...and Plans ★

- ❖ **Annual Meeting!** MVFD's annual meeting will take place in the Pavilion on **Sunday, Jan. 10**, replacing Ethnic Sunday. Two members of the MVFD Council are rotating off, and we need re-placements. Please come vote (and feel free to volunteer too). **We need you!** No word yet on possible skits, but you never know..... There will be a potluck dinner following the meeting.
- ❖ **Italian Workshop in Columbus!** On **Friday Feb. 26 through Sunday Feb. 28**, the Columbus Folk Dancers are host-ing a workshop by **Celest DiPietropaolo** and **Marie DiCocco** at the Fourth Avenue Christian Church. Experienced researchers and collectors, they will teach village dances from all over Italy – lines, circles, couples, sets, mixers – including Sicily and Val Re-sia (as in Reziyanka). MVFD does almost no Italian dances, so we should all try to get to Columbus for Saturday at least!
- ❖ **MVFD's Spring Workshop!** It's not too early to mark your calendars for our Spring Workshop: **May 29 and 30**. (Yes, that's Memorial Day weekend, but it's the only time we could get the Pavilion this spring.) **Roo Lester** will teach dances from a variety of countries – watch this space for details....

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



The Dancing Chair

Don't forget that our annual meeting is coming up soon, and we need you to vote! Two Council members will be rotating off, so if you can give some time to MVFD, please run for office. Happy holidays to all!

—Patty Gehring



Milestones and News

Harry Khamis was the dance teacher at the 9th annual Fairwater (WI) international dance workshop Oct. 17; he gave an afternoon workshop at the Sons of Norway in Cincinnati Nov. 14; and he will be on staff at the Berea Country Dance School in December. One busy boy!

In distressing contrast, **John Pappas's** son Mark finally lost his long battle with lymphoma on October 20th. All of us at MVFD are saddened by John and Carole's loss.



New Member No. 3: Doris Rehmert

Doris has lived in Dayton for 52 years now, but it wasn't until she took Bill Vernon's class at the University of Dayton in the Retired Learning Program that she (like Fran Duntz, Marcia Beachler, and Kathy Rosengarten) decided to give MVFD a try. (Thanks, Bill!)

Doris says she's never done much dancing before, and she really enjoys Thursday evenings – it gives her good exercise and makes her smile! She appreciates the kindness and patience of the more experienced dancers as she tries to master some of the challenging dances.

Doris is a retired teacher. She taught elementary school (anywhere from

grade 1 to grade 7) for 35 years. This required a good deal of versatility; she says if she had a specialty it was math. Besides dance, Doris also does water aerobics and participates in the Curves fitness program. When she's not actively exercising, she does all sorts of crafts – for instance, scrapbooking, wreaths, and calendars.

Doris and her husband Bob live in Kettering. They were both widowed, so it's a second marriage for the two of them. Bob volunteers virtually full-time at the Air Force Museum, specializing in aircraft restoration. Also, three of Doris's children are local – Sheila in Bellbrook, Maureen in Union, and Tom in Dayton – for a total of five grandchildren. MVFD is happy you can find time for us, Doris!



New Member No. 4: Kitty Jensen

Kitty, who was invited to join MVFD by Patty Gehring, has lived in Yellow Springs off and on since 1958. She started folkdancing at the Antioch School as a 4th or 5th grader – the folkdance teacher, Rex Barger, had a daughter in her class. Rex also ran the Friday night folkdance at Mills Lawn School, which attracted many area children and adults. Some of Kitty's early favorites were Duck for the Oyster, Dodi Dodi, Nebesko Kolo, and Tanko Bushi.

Later on Kitty also danced on Red Square at Antioch College, as well as in Athens, Georgia and in Atlanta. She has also tried square dancing, clogging, and belly dancing, but says her favorite international dance type is slowish Eastern European.

Kitty is a singer as well (like Patty and Maureen, she is a member of Sokolitse, the women's Slavic chorus based in Yellow Springs), and plays flute, recorder, and piano. Among her other occupations are volunteering at Glen Helen, proofreading for the *Yellow Springs News*, and sewing... at Xenia Shoe and Leather Repair!

But underneath it all Kitty is a scientist. (There's nothing like being well-rounded.) She has a Ph.D. in molecular botany from the University of Georgia, and has worked as a research assistant or associate at both Wright State and Ohio State medical schools. Kitty's husband, Peter, died of ALS in 2005. Her daughter, Lila, graduated from Earlham College last spring and now works for WIC (the Women, Infants and Children food program) in Boston. Her son, Kumar, is a sophomore at Earlham.

We're so glad you've joined us, Kitty!



A Farewell to Sam

On Thursday, November 19th MVFD remembered Sam Fleischer. He started out in English country dancing (which is where he met Sara), but when he moved to Dayton he soon found his way to MVFD. Carolyn Stovall told the group some of his history, both before and during MVFD; it might be summed up as "You were never sure what Sam would say next – but it would probably be outrageous!" Several others also shared their memories of Sam, as a dancer and as an encouraging teacher of new members. He was active in MVFD for more than 45 years, until his hearing and balance problems forced him to the sidelines about five years ago.

Before and after the reminiscences, we did some of Sam's favorite dances. Leslie Hyll taught both Appalachian Big Circle and Italian Quadrille, and English dances were to the forefront all evening. And we enjoyed an unusually gracious assortment of treats in his memory.

Those who had known Sam remembered him warmly all evening, and those of us who joined MVFD after he ceased to dance wished we had known him. But he'd have been the first to tease us for being sentimental!



What a Party!!!

It was exhausting, it was marvelous... but when we're only in single digits it's too early to say that it was the party of the century as well as the Century Party!

Balkan Cabaret at the Pavilion on Thursday – so great to have live music! B.C. and Lyuti Chushki alternated and then played together at Canal Street Tavern on Friday. Local ethnics, out-of-towners, and MVFDers happily squeezed into the dance space, and kept going until the bands had been reminded three times that it was already Saturday.

And then there was *all* Saturday: teaching by Larry Weiner, Alix Cordray, Paul Collins of Chicago, and Warren Kubischek of South Bend. In the evening, live music by both bands till 1 AM, and a marvelous assortment of ethnic and Hallowe'en costumes (some constantly changing). Attendees from at least 8 states. You'll want to check out the slideshow at <http://www.mvfolkdancers.com/party>, which has pictures taken by several roving photographers.

The Balkan Birthday Bash was a wonderful birthday present – to us. THANK YOU, EDDIE AND LESLIE!!!