

## CALENDAR

### MVFD Events

#### ► SEPTEMBER

**Regular Dance** (beginners, 7 PM):

September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

**Ethnic Sunday:** Sept. 12, 2:30 PM

#### ► OCTOBER

**Regular Dance** (beginners, 7 PM):

October 7, 14, 21, 28

**Ethnic Sunday:** Oct. 10, 2:30 PM

#### ► NOVEMBER

**Regular Dance** (beginners, 7 PM):

November 4, 11, 18 (not 25)

**Ethnic Sunday:** Nov. 14, 2:30 PM

### Other Regular Events

**Scottish Dancing** – The Flying Ghillies. Beginning & intermediate classes on Mondays, 7:30 PM, Mangan Banquet Ctr., 1585 Grange Hall, Beavercreek.

**Cityfolk Waltzing and Contra Dance at the Pavilion** – 6:30 PM waltzing, 7:30 instruction, 8:00 contras. \$7 if over 12. Oct. 1, Frank Buschelmann with the Full Moon Country Dance Orchestra. Nov. 5, Jim Vogt with Changeling. None in Dec.

**Israeli Folk Dancing** – Classic and modern for all, 7-9 PM Tues Sept. 14, 21, & 28; 6-8 PM Weds Oct. 6, 13, 20, & 27, and Nov. 3, 10, & 17. Boonshoft CJCE, Centerville. \$2.

**English Country Dance** – Kathy Anderson and Leslie Hyll. 7-9:00 PM, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, the Pavilion.

**Yellow Springs Folk Dance** – Bryan Ctr., 7 PM, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19. [www.yellowspringsfolkdancing.com](http://www.yellowspringsfolkdancing.com).

**Columbus Balkan Night Dance Parties** – Sept. 25, Sherman's Lagoon; Oct. 23, the Peanuts Gang & the Great Pumpkin; Nov. 27, Calvin & Hobbes.

## OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

### MVFD Council

**Chairperson:**.....**Joanne Dombrowski**  
426-8509....[joanne.dombrowski@wright.edu](mailto:joanne.dombrowski@wright.edu)

**Vice Chair:**.....**Lee Moser**  
885-4698.....[moserted@aol.com](mailto:moserted@aol.com)

**Secretary:**.....**Bill Vernon**  
294- 6722.....[verwill@hotmail.com](mailto:verwill@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer:**.....**John Pappas**  
427-2543.....[jepappas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jepappas@sbcglobal.net)

**Member-at-Large:**.....**Lina Considine**  
438- 9348.....[pan\\_consi@yahoo.com](mailto:pan_consi@yahoo.com)

### Committee Assignments

Historian.....Leslie Hyll

Kitchen.....Ellen Rice

.....Eleanor Woolley

Membership.....Lee Moser

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

MVFD Webmaster.....Leslie Hyll

Newsletter Editor.....Ellen Rice  
(277-1814.....[efrice927@att.net](mailto:efrice927@att.net))

Orientation Class Coordinator  
.....John Pappas

Program Committee  
.....Chair, Susan Tsui  
.....Ed Anderson

.....Dolores Brooks

.....Wendy Chou

.....Grace Kau

.....Harry Khamis

.....Ellen Rice

Publicity.....Dolores Brooks

Recordings & Equipment Maintenance  
.....Edmund Cordray

Refreshments.....Lee Moser

MVFD on the World Wide Web:  
[www.daytonfolkdance.com/mvfd](http://www.daytonfolkdance.com/mvfd)



SEPTEMBER 2010

# THE NEWS



## ★ Milestones and News ★

While most of us were wilting in the heat in Dayton, a few were far away doing exciting things. (See John Pappas's story inside.) Here are two people whose summers were noteworthy; how about yours?

- ❖ **Misho Spirov** (the MVFD member formerly known as Mike Shapiro) was in Bulgaria with his wife **Radka** and son **Hristo** getting married



– in a church this time. They had a memorable wedding in the city of Bansko. Radka's family and her friends from Bulgaria and Holland, and some of Misho's friends from his student time in Bulgaria, came to share in their happiness. They celebrated that evening at an inn owned by the father of Pelagia Benin (for those of you who know them, Vladimir

and Pelagia, with their daughters Radka and Lyuba, were there as *kumove*, a sort of best-man couple). The night before, everyone gathered in Radka's home village to carry out the traditional "wedding flag" ceremony, with Radka and Misho in traditional folk costume – something rarely seen these days. MVFD members present were John and Carole Pappas, Louise van Vliet, and Margaret Westlund. We all wish Misho and Radka a long and happy marriage!

- ❖ And at the other end of Europe, **Harry Khamis** and **Roo Lester** took seventh place in the Hälsinge Hambo contest (senior division – over 55 years old) in Järvsö, Sweden. Harry received his *ninth* diplom in Swedish dance in Östersund, Sweden this summer. Then in France he taught Swedish dances with his French dance partner, Josiane Rostagni, in St. Gervais and Liernolles. They also gave a 30-minute dance performance in St. Gervais (500 spectators!). All in all, a busy summer for our Harry!





## The Chair's Corner

Attendance has been good despite the recent hot summer weather. With cooler fall temperatures approaching, we hope to see even more dancers regularly enjoying Thursday evenings!

On Thursday, September 30, we will dedicate a few moments to honor the memories of Charles Krainz and Jim Woolley, longtime members of the Miami Valley Folk Dancers. Those who knew them well are invited to share stories and pictures from the past.

On October 28, MVFD will have a Halloween party. Costumes and unique apparel are encouraged!

The MVFD New Year's Eve party will be held at a hall in Beaver-creek, since the Pavilion is not available that evening. There will be live music with Vatra Živa, a six-piece band that plays a variety of familiar folk music, with recorded music during the breaks. Please do plan to come.

And MVFD continues to grow. Both Karen Cassidy and Louisa Wille have completed the requirements for membership. We would also like to welcome back Mike Clark, who recently renewed his long-lapsed membership!

—Joanne Dombrowski



## Thanks to All!

We had a great group at Dany and Ruthy's workshop, and lots of assistance to help it run smoothly. Harry thanks Angie Thompson and Nancy Hyll for handling registration, and Eddie Cordray for running music and sound all weekend!



## New Member: Dan Reckers

Dan was born in the Pacific Northwest, and mostly grew up in the Puget Sound area of Washington State. He spent three years in the Army after high school, and then worked in the construction and welding trades for nearly 20 years. Since then Dan has been a technical writer with a local Dayton company, O'Neil and Associates (that's another 20 years). He lives in Kettering with his wife Donna and three step-children; his three daughters from his previous marriage all live in Oregon.

Dan says his earliest folk dancing experience was participating in a class project as a fifth-grader! It wasn't until he was introduced to international folk dancing as an adult living in the Bay Area that he made it a regular activity. From 1972 to 1974 he attended weekly dances at San Jose State, Stanford, and other community clubs in the area, with occasional excursions to UC Berkeley. But in mid-1974 Dan moved back to Seattle to raise a family, which took care of any spare time for dancing.

In 1981 Dan and his family ended up in Dayton. He danced briefly with MVFD in the early '80s, but found that traveling for his job interfered, and he gave up attending. But last year Dan heard about the Cityfolk-sponsored Balkan Cabaret / Lyuti Chushki concert at Canal Street Tavern. He enjoyed that so much, he showed up for the workshop and Century Party, and hasn't looked back since! He has become a regular at MVFD, and dances with the South Slavic Club and Flying Ghillies as well. Other activities Dan enjoys include riding his '98 Heritage Classic Softail Harley-Davidson, hiking in Ohio, hiking and climbing in the mountains of Colo-

rado and the Pacific Northwest, and fishing for Chinook salmon in the Columbia River when he's visiting his grandkids in Oregon!

It's great to have you with us, Dan!



## Coming Up Soon

For you Balkan-dance lovers: The South Slavic Club's Fall Kolo Party will be held on **Saturday, September 25** at the Czech & Slovak Club on Valley Street. The Bill Skimos Band, always popular with the South Slavs, will play. Dinner will be available from 7:00 PM (sausages from Detroit! Strudel hand-made by people you know and love!), and the band will begin the first of three sets at 8:00. \$15 admission, plus whatever you choose to spend on food, 50-50 raffle tickets, and so on. There's nothing like live music!



## Previews

**New Year's Eve party, Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup>:** We had such a good time last year, we decided to go for a party again! We don't have the Pavilion on Friday, though, so it will be at C.I. Beaver Hall, off Dayton-Xenia Road. We will have live music from Vatra Živa, interspersed with your choice of recorded music from non-Balkan countries. More info to come....

**Winter Workshop with Kiriakos Moisisdis, Saturday and Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>:** Our spring workshop is coming early this year! Kiriakos Moisisdis will be in this country this coming winter, and we had the opportunity to get him for a Greek workshop in February, so we grabbed it. There will be more details in the December newsletter, but save the dates now!



## "The" Dance, in Pirin

Folk dancers in the USA typically dance a particular dance to a particular tune. Some folk dancers dance a folk dance to a particular rhythm regardless of the tune. I fall into the second category, sometimes to the dismay of my fellow folk dancers who prefer to always use the same tune to the dance that they love.

A strange thing happened at the Pirin Pee festival in 2010. After the finale at the main stage of the festival, the announcer invited everyone to join the performers and dance with them, either on stage or on the grass in front of the stage. Naturally, most attendees joined the dance. I decided to join those on stage. After one long song, I was joined by Larry Weiner from Washington, DC, who had been videotaping the festival. We were dancing a much-loved dance from Pirin called Maleshevsko. It felt very good to dance in the open to live music played by Bulgarian musicians, along with many quite accomplished dancers, from old to teens.

And then, the strangeness happened. The musicians were playing a medley and switched to another song that seemed to fit in with the previous song.... except that the rhythm was different! This sort of befuddled me – but not the rest of the dancers. They just adjusted the steps to make the dance fit the tune. After a while, it made sense to me also. Larry explained that this dance is the most popular in Pirin, and locals will make that dance fit any rhythm that is played. Well, as they say, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do...."

—John Pappas