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From the President contributed by Mike Revesz

2 And Now for Something a Little Different

3 The making of a successful Texas Camp is akin to creating a complex dish, finding the perfect balance of many flavors. Over the years we have learned what ingredients are usually involved: a mix of couples vs. line dances; a lively blend of freshly taught, classic, and nearly forgotten dances; a piquant combination of live music and our favorite recordings. But just as a great recipe is required to combine basic elements into a culinary triumph, it is the Camp schedule that brings the ingredients of Camp together. In creating the schedule, some key considerations are:

- squeezing in everyone's favorite sessions while minimizing those agonizing but inevitable conflicts
- keeping our esteemed teachers from exhaustion as they scurry from class to teacher sales to Camp Video sessions to culture corners
- minimizing the transport of singers, instrumentalists, and large and temperamental musical instruments
- timely feeding of the hungry
- getting the day's activities done early enough that we can be rarin' to go and in costume for the all-important parties

8 This year our co-chairs (our chefs, if you will) bring a fresh approach to the recipe that is our Camp schedule.

Each day there will be only two teaching sessions, one with each teacher, lasting approximately an hour and twenty minutes. While giving us a similar amount of teaching to what we have had in previous years, this allows both teaching sessions to happen before lunch. This leaves the afternoon entirely devoted to a smörgåsbord of other activities (contra, band practice, singing, special sessions, culture corners, etc.) or, at your discretion, a quiet spot of afternoon tea with friends. Bon appétit!

Bruceville Irregulars Make Their Debut

Who are the Bruceville Irregulars?

Every year we enjoy 3 sumptuously decorated parties at Texas Camp. Who makes those fabulous decorations? The members of AIFD, VIFD, HIFD, and DIFD are the usual hard-working, creative folks behind the scenes. This year it is time for *everyone else* (all the campers who do not belong to one of those groups) to step up to the plate. Hence, The Bruceville Irregulars. We don't have the luxury of meeting together, so coordination and planning will be primarily by e-mail. Sally Jenkins, dansingsal@gmail.com, is coordinating this effort. The party we are decorating for is Saturday night, and the theme is Turkish Delights. Please send your ideas to Sally, and even if you don't feel creative, do plan to help set up tables and decorations before the party and take everything back down afterward.

More camp information on page 3!



TIFD Board Meeting

The next TIFD board meeting is on November 22 at 10:00 a.m., at Greene Family Camp. Any member who would like to see an issue addressed is invited to send an e-mail to president Mike Revesz for inclusion in the agenda.

**Croatian Women—Their Journey to America
abridged and reprinted with permission of
Peggy Gunovick**

Original appeared in NFDI August 2009

“That’s the picture I fell in love with!” These were the words of an elderly Croatian widow we were visiting one day years ago in Seattle. She was pointing to a picture sitting on her mantle—a picture of her late husband, a Croatian immigrant she married in the 1920’s. After exchanging pictures, she traveled to America and after knowing each other a few short weeks, they married.

This was a story repeated many times over in America. This is how many Croatian women came here after the First World War. Most of these “picture bride” marriages were arranged by families and many times the prospective couples were from the same village or the same area in Croatia. Most of the Croatian immigrants were unmarried when they came here.

The gates to America were wide open to all immigrants from Europe prior to the First World War, but after the war, immigration was restricted. Immigrants already here could bring a prospective bride or extended family.

Typically, a young Croatian man would come to America, join family members here, start working, and save money, gradually learning English and getting established. After a period of years, most of them wanted to settle down and marry a Croatian girl—thus, the arranged marriages. Some went back to Croatia to find a bride or marry a sweetheart who had been waiting for him. After the wedding, this brave couple would travel, by ship of course, back to America, and start a new life together.

How did other Croatian women come to America? Certainly, some came as married couples and some couples already had small children. Usually, the man went to work while his wife stayed home and cared for the family. There were also many immigrants who were married in Croatia but came here without their wives and after a period of time, some as long as ten years, they would bring their wives to America. During this early period, it was very rare for a single young Croatian girl to arrive in America un-spoken for.

Very few immigrants during that period could speak English when they arrived here and had to learn on their own. The men of the house usually learned English much earlier than their wives because of their exposure to the “work world.” Most women eventually learned to speak English, and those of us who grew up with immigrant parents know what it’s like to grow up in a home hearing broken English. When we were teenagers, their broken English may have embarrassed us, but as we became mature adults, their broken accents became endearing to us.

Croatian immigrants of the late 1800’s first settled in the eastern part of America, much earlier than the West Coast. Thus, most Croatian Americans of the East are 3rd and 4th generation; whereas, many of us here in the West are 1st and 2nd generation Croatian offspring.

Most of these original immigrants are gone now, even the younger “picture brides” who came here prior to the ‘30’s. No matter how these Croatian women came to America, they brought with them and passed on to us the many skills, traditions and culture of that land—the cooking, the sewing and needlework, the music, the songs and dances, and the Croatian language which we as children learned in the home because this is the language that was spoken. We also learned from them the pride of working hard.

**Deadline for the next
issue of TIFD News is
January 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. Uncertain who to send your news to? Send to Sally and Terri, 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.

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Singing Classes contributed by Anne-Louise Schaffer

This year's classes will be devoted to Turkish and Azeri dance songs, which will be performed with instrumental accompaniment at the Saturday night Turkish Delights party. They include Yaylalar, Cilveli Oy, Reyhan, and Bir Mumdur, a halay tune. Folk-dance groups that have these dances in their repertoire are encouraged to review them before Camp.

The halay is a very easy dance to pick up at the party, or you can get a preview of it on YouTube. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tpLjxqdacvs> is a black-and-white video with singing by İbrahim Tatlıses. Tatlıses is the most famous Turkish folk-singer alive today; his recordings sell throughout the Caucasus and the Middle East.

For those singers not familiar with Turkish, it is relatively easy to pronounce for American English speakers. The songs themselves are monophonic (i.e., without harmony) and are responsorial in structure (think: verse/chorus and call/response).

Reyhan, an Azeri song, has a fascinating and heart-warming history. You can read about it here: http://azer.com/aiweb/categories/magazine/ai131_folder/131_articles/131_reyhan.html

Floor Setup

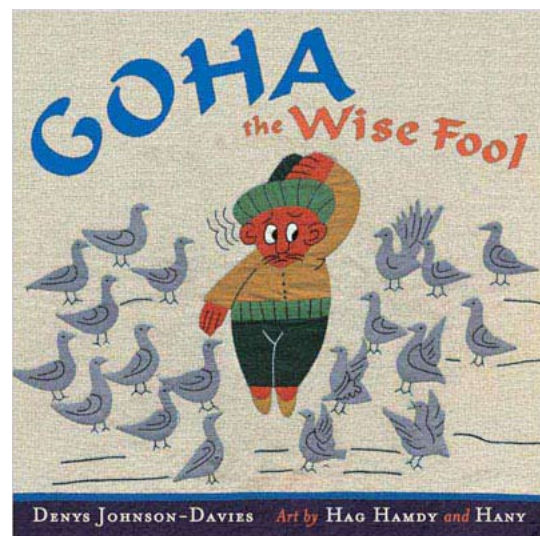
One of the nicest features of Texas Camp is the *great floor* engineered by John Alexander. The floor is set up the week before camp (November 21 & 22, about 4 hours each day). Setting up the floor is quite a lot of fun and a good way to get some exercise. If you would like to get out of the city (any city!) for one or both days and help with the floor, please contact John Alexander at neanderthal@mail.utexas.edu.

To see how much fun it is, watch this time-lapse video of the crew from a few years back:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RzBpJ3Ov6DM>

Recommended Reading

Before the Culture Corners at camp this year, why not bone up on some of the history and culture of the featured countries? Fast readers still have time to read James Michener's *Poland*, which, though fictionalized, is well-researched and very interesting. Check your local libraries for books about Turkey, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Czechoslovakia (and the Czech Republic and Slovakia), and Poland. Back issues of *Viltis* magazine have a wealth of informative articles on these countries and their cultures. One of my personal favorite books is the children's book *Goha the Wise Fool*, by Denys Johnson-Davies, with priceless illustrations by Hag Hamdy and Hany, who hand-appliqué their interpretations of the stories of Goha, a folktale staple in Turkish lore. And there's always Google. Check out Atatürk's reforms. Look at maps.



Calendar

October 30–November 8, 2009, New Braunfels, TX. *Wurstfest*, featuring German food, entertainment, polka bands. www.wurstfest.com

November 12, last day to register for *Texas Camp*. www.tifd.org

November 14–15, Houston, *Monsoon Moves Bollywood Dance Workshop*. All proceeds benefit the Alzheimer's Association. More information and registration at <http://monsoonmoves.eventbrite.com/> and <http://monsoonmovesint.eventbrite.com/>

November 20–22, Lawrence, KS *Pilgrim's Progression* contra dance weekend. Shawn Brenneman calling, Notorious playing (Eden MacAdam-Somer, Larry Unger, Sam Bartlett). Info at <http://www.lawrencebardance.org/lbdawknd.htm>

November 26–29, Bruceville, TX *Texas Camp*. Ercüment Kılıç and Monique Legaré teaching. See articles elsewhere in this issue. Info on the new improved website at www.tifd.org

December 12, 2009, Houston, *Holiday Ball*. Mark your calendar and watch the hatds.org website for particulars.

December 31, 2009–January 3, 2010, Lake Texoma, OK. Fiddler's Dream contra weekend. www.nttds.org

February 3–10, St. Croix, Virgin Islands. *Tropical Dance Vacation*. Contra dance week extraordinaire. Be an island tourist by day and dance to Wild Asparagus by night. Calling by George Marshall and Lisa Greenleaf. www.tropicaldancevacation.com

February 12–14, Houston, *Bayou Bedlam*. Latter Day Lizards and Erik Weberg. www.hatds.org

March 12–14, San Antonio Folk Dance Festival at IFCC. More information to come.

March 20, Libuse, LA, *Czech Heritage Festival*. Info from David Holcombe, daniho402@gmail.com

March 10–14, Dallas, *National Accordion Association Convention*. <http://accordions.com/naa/>

March 19–21, 2010, Dallas, *Set For Spring*, English Country Dance Weekend. Joseph Pimentel and Foxfire. www.nttds.org

April 2010, (date not announced yet) Portland, OR, *National Folk Organization Annual Conference*. <http://www.nfo-usa.org/Conference2010.htm>

April 23–25, 2010, Dallas, *When In Doubt, Swing, contra weekend*. Bob Dalsemer with Steve Hickman and Evening Star. www.nttds.org

August 3–15, 2010, Koprivshitsa, Bulgaria. <http://www.jimgold.com/Bulgaria2010.htm> Start planning now!

Wanderlust

Several folk dance teachers lead tours and cruises with emphasis on folk dancing. Tours by Jim Gold that are coming up in 2010 include:

Israel—March

Budapest—March & April

Norway—June

Bulgaria—August (this is the Koprivshitsa festival)

Greece, Crete, Greek Islands—October

Information at www.jimgold.com

Tineke Van Geel leads tours of Armenia and has plans in the works for both May and September 2010. Information at www.tinekevangeel.nl

Mel Mann leads dance tours every year; in June 2010 he is taking a group to China and the Yangtze River. Information at <http://folkdanceonthewater.org>

DIFD at Addison Worldfest (see News from Local Groups)



News from Local Groups

Dallas News

from Shelley Allison

At least 15 folk dancers (I forgot to count heads) turned out for a recent Friday night's DIFD double party for Vickie Stohl and Jay Waters. We danced many old favorites, including (of course) Turkish Kiss and that wonderful birthday dance with all the yodeling -- somebody help me here with the name! Also, Shelley (that's me) taught the slow, lamenting Turkish dance Ağır Halay.

Following on the heels of our successful performance for "A Taste of Swiss" on Swiss Avenue, the DIFD performance group danced on the outdoor European Stage at Addison Worldfest on Sat., Oct. 24.

VIFD News

from Jo Soto

The Village International Folk Dancers have moved! To a new night and a new place! With wood floors!

The group now meets at NiaSpace in South Austin on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month.

Address: 3212 So. Congress. Parking in front of building. Enter through reception area or the doors to Studio 2. Cost is \$3/person. 8:00-10:00 pm.

Programming by Jo Soto, Bruce Bostwick, and others first 90 minutes; and request dancing final 30 minutes. Information at (512) 292-9162 or <http://vifd.org> which, by the way, is being revamped. There are new sections and videos and photos. Help and suggestions always welcome.

The Exhibition group is starting up again and is always looking to add dancers if you are interested. Rehearsals are noted in the VIFD calendar.

Pot Luck at Jo and Bruce's on November 6, 2009. More about this in VIFD NOVEMBER NEWS.

If you have something you to wish to have in VIFD NEWS send it in.

Tulsa News

We received a lovely visit from Wendy Brown, director of New Mexico's August Camp, and fellow dancer Ed Clark. It is always a treat to dance with people from other dance groups.

Like VIFD in Austin, we are in a new wooden-floored dance studio, after 40 years at a Unitarian church. We now meet at Jane Whitt's Dance and Swim Schools (no, there's no pool for cooling off, rats!) at 7030 South Lewis, Suite J, in southwest Tulsa. Same time, new price. 7:00-10:30 or so, \$4/person for members, \$5/person for guests after their first free visit.

OKCIFD News

OKCIFD performed at an event called Global Oklahoma.

Louise Fritz has been teaching Israeli dances at Emanuel Synagogue in preparation for the festival of Simchat Torah. One of her class sessions was featured in the Daily Oklahoman, complete with photos. Simchat Torah is described as the celebration of the Torah scrolls, and dancing is a form expressing that joy. Hineh Ma Tov and Y'Did Nefesh were mentioned in the newspaper article.

Roger Young, longtime OKC folk dancer, passed away this month. His wife Frances was also an avid folk dancer and teacher for many years.

Austin News

In October 2008, Chuck and Kaye Roth and eight other Texans went on Jim Gold's tour of Greece and the Greek Islands. To celebrate the first anniversary of this wonderful trip, Chuck and Kaye hosted a Greek party on October 23. In addition to the Greek tourists from Texas, we invited all of the Austin folk dancers, and 38 people showed up. We started off with a Greek potluck dinner. Kaye made moussaka (yummm!) and others brought a variety of Greek delicacies. After dinner, we showed slides and videos from the trip, followed by Greek dancing.

And now, a few words about the tour, which started in Athens. The first half was a bus tour to visit some of ancient historic sites on the mainland, and the second half was a cruise around the Greek islands. Lee Otterholt was our dance leader for the tour. In addition to Lee's teaching sessions, we had several opportunities to dance with the Greeks during the trip. One evening, we danced with a Greek folk dance class in Nafplio. One of the highlights of the tour was a visit to the Palazzo Supper Club in Kalambaka, where the audience was half tourists and half Greeks. After a performance by Greek folk dancers, the Greeks got up and danced and we joined right in.

Lyrics—Bărbătesc din leud
Source: Birgitt Karlson's Folklore-
Liederbuch für Kurzsichtigen

<http://www-linux.gsi.de/~karlson/index.htm>

1.
 //Bine joacă Turdenii, sub grumazu ceterii.//
 Haj țura și iar tri, ș-apoi tura Văsăli.
 Haj țura și țurai, zî măi tade, măi Mnihaj.
 Aj, haj, haj haj, mândru-i jocul, ardă-l focul.
 Aj, haj, haj haj,
 da-oi muri și nu l-oi sti, doamne rău mi-oi bănui, hop, hop,
 hop.

2.
 //Mândru-i jocul Turdenesc, ca cela Ardelenesc.//
 Jocu-i mîndru "De sărit", ca și cela "De-nvârtit".
 Haj să batem pălmile, să ne-audă mândrele.
 Aj, haj, haj haj, atita cunosc ca-i vară
 Până-i patu mândrii afară.
 Aj, haj, haj haj, dacă mândra-și mută patu,
 știu că vară s-o gătat. Hop, hop, hop.

3.
 //Din Săpânța-i mândruța, și eu îi cânt cu gura mea.//
 Că-s Turdean din tată-n fiu, tot cu cântecul mă știu.
 //Nepot de-a lui Stan Pătraș, nu departe de Oaș.//

Rough translation, based on notes by Theodor Vasilescu
 :
*The members of the Turda family dance well under the neck
 of the violin*
*Come on, Tura, say again (these 2 verses are onomatopoeic
 and typical in Oaș and Maramureș calling); Mihai, play
 louder!*
Ai, hai, hai hai, the dance is nice, let the fire burn it.
*Ai, hai, hai hai, if I should die without knowing it, I would
 think very badly of myself.*
Hop, hop, hop.

Nice is the Turdeni dance, just like in Ardeal.
*Nice is the dance "De sărit" (jumping dance), also one of
 the "De-nvârtit" (turning couple dance) dances.*
Let us clap our hands, so that our sweethearts hear.

Ai, hai, hai hai
Let us make a bed in the shed, since it is summer.
As long as the bed of my sweetheart is outside,
Ai, hai, hai hai
*When the sweetheart moves the bed back, I know that the
 summer is gone, oh, oh, oh.*

From the village of Săpânța comes my sweetheart, and I

sing for her with my voice.

*Because I belong to the Turda family, from father to son. I
 sing since always, I am the nephew of Stan Pătraș (a well-
 known singer) not far from Oaș.*

Lyrics Variation

Source: unknown, but were typewritten and filed with
 dance notes so may have come from Sunni Bloland.
 Differences to above are slight.

1.
 //Bine joacă Turdenii, sub grumazu ceterii.//
 Haj Țura și iar zîi, ș-apoi tura Văsăli.
 Haj Țura și Țurai, zîi măi bade, măi Mihai.
 Aj, haj, haj haj, mândru-i jocul, ardă-l focul.
 Aj, haj, haj haj,
 de-oi muri și nu m-oți stîi, tot de rău mi-oi bănui, uff! uff!
 uff!

2.
 //Mândru-i jocul Turdenesc, ca cela Ardelenesc.//
 Drumu-i mîndru "De sărit", ca și cela "De-nvârtit".
 Haj să facem părgmile, să ne-audă mândrele.
 Aj, haj, haj haj, facem pat în pod căț-i vară
 Mîna-i patu mândrii afară.
 Aj, haj, haj haj, dacă mândra-și mută patu,
 știu că vară s-o gătat. Uff! uff! uff!

3.
 //Din Săpânța-i mândruța, și eu îi cânt cu gura mea.//
 Că-s Turdean din tată-n fiu, tot cu cântecul mă știu.
 //Nepot de-a lui Stan Pătraș, nu departe de Oaș.//

Featured Website

www.patchworkproductions.org, a celebration of
 traditional folk music. Clips of music and videos,
 photos, journal entries. Worth the visit just for the
 wallpaper.

Dining Out Ethnically

The Oklahoma City International Folk Dancers have a fifteen year old tradition called Dining Out Ethnically. The tradition entails exactly what its name specifies. Periodically, dancers sample delicious fare at a variety of ethnic restaurants. During the past three years, contradancers have been included on the invitation list, and novel experiences have been added to spark interest. For example, in 2007, dancers undertook a hike in the Wichita Mountains and dined out “Environmentally” in Meers. In 2008, dancers cruised down the Oklahoma River in a tour boat, dining out at an Italian restaurant. 2009 has been the occasion for several ethnic culinary adventures. Late January saw dancers at an Irish pub, dining and dancing Celtic style. In May, several dancers attended a contradance in T-Town and dined Asian with their Tulsa counterparts. The Dining Out experience in September was, appropriately, Oktoberfest. Dancers enjoyed German cuisine at the Old Germany Restaurant. This charming little German establishment features walls of beer steins, and waitresses in authentic costumes. Of course, it has an accordion player.

Dining Out Ethnically offers dancers opportunities to include nondancing family and friends in social events. It builds community spirit by creating the environment for conversations that can't occur on a dance evening. The OKCIFD have found DOE to be an enriching experience and an option for other groups to try.



Games from our focus regions

Golden Gate, from the Czech Republic

Medium-sized open space, indoors or outdoors. 10-20 players. No materials needed.

Two players form an arch with their joined hands, as in London Bridge. Before the game begins, these two decide secretly which one will be the angel and which one will be the devil. The remaining players line up and pass under the bridge, chanting:

Players: Please let us through the Golden Gate.

Gate: What will you give us?

Players: Bread and butter, and keep the next one through.

The next player is trapped as the gate is lowered. The captive chooses whose side to be on, and stands behind that person. The game continues until every player has been captured and has chosen a side. The angel and devil then reveal their identities, and a tug-of-war (without the rope) ensues between good and evil.

Fox and Hen, from Turkey

Large, open outdoor space. 7-15 players. No materials needed.

One player plays the part of the fox, and he marks off a square at the edge of the playing area as his den. Another player is the hen. The other players (the chicks) line up behind the hen, each holding onto the shoulders or waist of the player in front. The fox walks up to the hen and asks for the last chick in line by name. The hen refuses, and tries to keep in front of the fox and keep him from grabbing or tagging the last chick.

When the fox has caught the last chick in line (and the game would be no fun if he didn't), he leads the chick to his den, then returns and asks the hen for the next chick. The hen can release her stolen chick by going over to the den and touching him. The captured chicks must stay inside the den, but they may stretch out their wings—uh, hands—to make it easier for the hen to touch them. Once tagged, the chicks run to rejoin the line. The game ends when the fox has taken all the chicks, or when the hen has lost all but one chick and then won all of them back.

This game works best with a mixed-age group. The roles of the fox and the hen should be taken by two of the older, more skillful players.

Yellow Pea Soup (*Grochówka*) from Poland

contributed by **Małgosia Stamm, Lawrence, KS**

3 cups dried yellow peas, soaked overnight
 2 medium carrots, peeled and sliced
 10 cups water
 3 large potatoes, peeled, cubed
 1 tablespoon salt
 2 cups bacon, cut into squares
 1 small onion, chopped
 2 tablespoons dry marjoram
 3 garlic cloves, crushed
 1 teaspoon black pepper
 salt, to taste (optional)

Rinse the dried yellow peas well in cold water. Place the peas and sliced carrots in a Dutch oven or a large pot and cover with 10 cups of water. Simmer over medium heat until the peas are very soft, about 1 hour.

Place the cubed potatoes in a pot, add 1 tablespoon of salt and cover generously with cold water. Boil the potatoes over high heat until very tender. Do not drain.

In a medium skillet, fry the cubed bacon and chopped onion over medium heat until the onion is browned. Drain grease. Add the onion and bacon, the cooked potatoes with cooking water, marjoram, salt and pepper to the pea soup. Simmer for 10 minutes over low heat. Season the soup with additional salt, if desired. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Turkish Cola Float to help you dance all night!

2 cups chilled extra-strength coffee
 2 cups (1 pint) dark coffee ice cream (I used Cappuccino Chunky Chocolate Ice Cream)
 2 cups (16 oz.) cola
 Orange slices for garnish

Fill each of 4 16-oz. glasses with 1/2 cup coffee. Scoop 1/2 cup of ice cream into each glass and top with 1/2 cup cola. Garnish each glass with an orange slice. Serves 4.

(Recipe provided by Dovie Gaither, former TIFD member now living in Maine, as given in *The Complete Coffee Book* by Sara Perry)