

TEXAS INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS PRESENT THE 66TH ANNUAL

TEXAS CAMP

November 28 - December 1, 2013 (Thanksgiving Weekend)

Greene Family Camp • Bruceville, Texas

HUNGARIAN COUPLE DANCES AND ALBANIAN/OTHER BALKAN DANCES

Susan Kotansky danced with the George Tomov Folk Ensemble Hungaria, and the Hungarian dance troupe Hungaresca as a young adult. Her passion for Hungarian dance and music led her to a dance seminar in Hungary, where she met Sandor Timar, a master teacher who had a large role in initiating the “Tanchaz” movement. Inspired by the organic method of teaching dance that he espoused, Susan spent a year studying with Timar at the Folk Dance section of the Ballet Institute in Budapest and the Bartok Ensemble of which he was the director, and also made many research trips in Hungary and Transylvania. During this time, Susan met her future husband Stephen Kotansky, and together they brought the tanchaz style of teaching to NYC. They created and co-directed the Guzsal Ensemble while teaching weekly classes, inviting master teachers to provide choreography and to teach their ensemble. Susan has co-taught couple dances with Steve at many folkdance camps, including Texas Camp.

Stephen Kotansky has been active in international folk dance for over four decades as a teacher, researcher, performer, and choreographer throughout North America and Europe. He began his dance career as a high school student in the San Francisco Bay Area. In the early years he danced with the Westwind Folk Ensemble and the San Francisco Russian Dance Group before becoming a dance major at UCLA and joining the Aman Ensemble and Vincent Evanchuck’s Ukrainian dance group, while continuing his study and teaching of Balkan and Central European dance culture. He made his first research trip to Hungary and former Yugoslavia in 1970, later spending 5 months in Yugoslavia studying, researching, and recording village dance with Bob Leibman and working with prominent Yugoslav dance ethnographers and performers. In 1972, Steve stayed in Munich, Germany, where he taught international folk dance, performed, and continued research amongst immigrant communities. Steve also organized group trips and seminars both in Munich and to Balkan and Central European countries with top dance authorities. During this decade, Steve focused on Balkan



dance, especially Macedonian, Serbian, Vlach, Cretan, and Pontic. In the late 70s, while studying in Hungary, Steve met Susan Snyder and they decided to return to the United States. They taught and choreographed for many performance groups, and also organized Hungarian Symposia, inviting top dancers/choreographers from Hungary. During this time, Steve also continued as a popular teacher of Balkan dance throughout Northern America and Europe where he taught at most major dance camps, including several times at Texas Camp.

Recently, Steve has been researching Albanian and Roma dance from the Diaspora, and continues his work and research in Balkan and Central European countries. He is particularly interested in dance culture as it has evolved since the “fall of the Wall” in these countries.

ALBANIAN MUSIC AND SINGING INSTRUCTION

Merita Halili is one of Albania’s top performers, renowned for her stunning voice, prodigious range and exquisite vocal technique. **Raif Hyseni**, originally from the Republic of Kosova (which recently proclaimed its independence from Serbia), leads the most sought-after Albanian music ensemble in the United States. Together their performances thrill with masterful interpretations of instrumentals and urban folk songs from both Albania and the



Republic of Kosova. Recent performance highlights include engagements at The Kennedy Center, The Lied Center of Kansas, New York’s Lincoln Center and London’s famed Barbican Centre.

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

REGISTRATION, ETC.

CAMP BAND

Under the leadership of the dedicated **Don Weeda**, the Texas Camp Band continues its growth. Don's career in folk music spans more than 35 years. He's been a performer, recording artist, and workshop conductor at festivals and camps all over North America, and plays accordion with many ensembles.

All musicians attending camp are invited to join the Camp Band for daily performances and rehearsals. If you plan to play, please mark your registration form accordingly. Sheet music for this year's tunes will be provided for you. Please check the www.tifd.org Web site for the schedule of the pre-camp band rehearsal.

RETURNING TO THE MAIN HALL FACILITIES

This year we will return to the use of the Main Hall at Greene Family Camp for both dining and dancing, just like in the old days (before last year)! We'll still have our wonderful dance floor, our band, and Balkan Bazaar's display of tantalizing goodies to buy.

A custom-built wooden dance floor will be installed for increased safety and comfort. We need **help** setting it up before camp and storing it away after camp ends. Please volunteer! See back page for contact information.

INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

The traditional Thanksgiving dinner will be served, and other tasty meals reflecting our ethnic themes. Eating well is always a priority at Texas Camp, and various diets can be accommodated by noting such on your registration form.



SILENT AUCTION

Fundraising proceeds from the silent auction will contribute to reducing Texas Camp operational expenses. Bring your donated items (costumes, jewelry, special clothes, services, etc.) with a minimum fair market value of \$10 for the silent auction. See registration form for details.

MUSICAL GUESTS

For at least a decade, **Slavadillo Quartet** has specialized in "mostly Balkan" vocal and instrumental music, with a

focus on Bulgaria and Macedonia. They are a feature of our evening parties.

The **Homegrown Contra Band** is composed of longtime Texas Campers who give some local flavor to our contra dance sessions. They love making music for friends and, when possible, adding an international twist to traditional contra tunes.

Donna and Steve Bing will get the good times rolling as you scoot your chère amie across the dance floor to Cajun swing and waltzes. *AiiiEEEE!*

BALKAN BAZAAR

Every year, Balkan Bazaar brings us a mountain of folk-friendly treasures. Music, dance clothing, folk costumes, textiles, jewelry, and footwear – somehow, it all unfolds from Suze and Richie's big blue van.

For a preview, see their website, www.balkanbazaar.com.



CAMP DELIGHTS

Bhangra Bonanza – Brush up your Bhangra moves to some spicy Indian music!

Bruceville Roadhouse – Club and couple dancing from everywhere: Texas Two-step, zydeco, swing, hambo, mambo and the inevitable evolution of a previously-undiscovered dance. Snacks and beer, too. Boogie on down!

Contra Dance – Long lines and hands four for contras to wonderful live music.

EVENING PARTIES

Thursday Black and White Ball – Reminisce about the early days of film, from Chaplin to Casablanca, sweetheart to swashbuckler: pick your idol to portray.

Friday Marvelous Magyars – From straw-hat villagers to powdered-wig Lisztomaniacs, they're all fabulous.

Saturday Albanian Independence – Celebrate on Albanian Independence Weekend!

FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM

This year we are accepting **children 16 and under FREE** with parent or guardian, so please come and bring the family. Supervised activities are provided for kids ages three and up, so parents can enjoy dance sessions and parties. Sports, games, crafts, s'mores by the campfire, a piñata, movies and more will keep small people busy. Parents of children under three, we will help you contact each other before camp so you can compare needs, consider options and pool resources.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE – DON'T LET MONEY KEEP YOU FROM TEXAS CAMP!

In memory of Ms. **Bobbi Gillotti**, TIFD offers full or half scholarships to full-time campers in financial need, regardless of age. Application forms are available online at tifd.org/downloads/gillotti-scholarship.pdf, and must be received by October 1; applicants will receive notice of results by October 20, so that a camp registration form can then be submitted.

REDUCED RATE FOR NON-DANCERS

A non-dancer is a camper with physical challenges which prevent dancing, or a camper's family member who does not participate in camp activities (classes, etc.). This rate is not available to part-time campers, scholarship recipients, or anyone receiving a staff discount.

REGISTRATION

NEW! If you prefer to register online, please visit tifd.org/camp-registration. All applications must include full payment. A late fee of \$25 per person must accompany applications postmarked after November 1. Applications postmarked after November 8 will not be accepted. We do not accept applications by phone or e-mail.

All registrations are confirmed promptly, by e-mail if available. If you do not receive confirmation within two weeks of application, please call or e-mail the registrar by November 8. Cancellation requests must be submitted by mail or e-mail. Those received by October 31 will receive a full refund. Cancellation requests received November 1-8 will receive a refund only if we can fill the vacated slot from our waiting list; we will retain a \$25 handling fee. **All refunds will be mailed after camp.**

HOUSING

All housing has central air and heat. Most campers are housed in duplex dorms that share a large central



bathroom; each side has seven bunk beds. Private cabins and rooms are also available, for full-time campers only.

Private cabins with shared bath: each houses up to four people; twin and/or bunk beds. Families (one or more adults with one or more children age 16 or younger)

have priority **ONLY UNTIL OCTOBER 15.**

There is no extra charge for families. For non-families, there is an extra fee of \$60 per cabin.

Private rooms with private bath:

each houses a maximum of two people; twin beds. There is an extra fee of \$90 per room for double occupancy, \$60 per room for single occupancy.

Assignments are first come, first served, based on the date applications are received by the registrar.

If we cannot fulfill your housing request, we will refund the extra fee after camp.

DANCE REVIEW DVDs

TIFD produces DVDs of the teachers dancing the dances taught at camp, for review purposes only. Duplication and resale are prohibited. You must attend camp to be eligible to purchase a DVD. Pre-order with registration for the best deal; orders during camp are priced higher. All DVDs will be mailed after camp.

WHAT TO BRING

Pack your own linens (sheets, pillows, blankets, towels, etc., or obtain them for a fee), toiletries, and clothing for any conceivable weather (25-85°F, sun/rain/ice). Also nice: umbrella, flashlight, shower shoes, extra dance shoes, belt, costumes for the parties, clothes hangers, paper fan, ear plugs. For dorm dwellers: a sheet to hang for bunk privacy.

IMPORTANT RULES

Smoking is prohibited anywhere within the Greene Family Camp grounds.

No pets allowed anywhere within Greene Family Camp at any time.

A confirmed **reservation is required** to attend any part of camp; no visitors or drop-ins.





Texas International Folk Dancers
 P.O. Box 4516
 Austin, TX 78765

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



GETTING THERE – For directions to Greene Family Camp, see tifd.org/texas-camp/more-information. If you fly into Austin, Houston or Dallas/Fort Worth no later than Thursday noon, we may be able to arrange a ride for you; please e-mail campchairs13@tifd.org. The Waco Eagle/Streak Shuttle has van service between DFW airport and Waco hotels; make reservations through Waco Eagle/Streak Shuttle.

OPENING DAY HIGHLIGHTS – THURSDAY

- 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Registration and TIFD sales
- 1:00 pm Howdy Dances
- 2:00 pm Opening Ceremony
- 2:30 pm Hungarian Dance Class
- 4:15 pm Albanian Singing Class
- 5:15 pm Band rehearsal
- 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Dinner*

***Please note: we do not provide any meals to campers prior to Thursday dinner.**

IMPORTANT DATES

- October 1 Deadline for all scholarship applications
- October 15 Deadline for “family priority” private housing requests
- November 1 Deadline for regular registration (\$25 late fee after this date)
- November 8 Absolute last day to register!
- November 28 TEXAS CAMP starts!

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Volunteer to help with floors John Alexander
512-453-4463, neanderthal@mail.utexas.edu
- Registrar Sara Talbot
sahtalbot@gmail.com
- General Camp Information. Jay Elbaor, Genevieve Kent
512-919-2493, campchairs13@tifd.org
- Housing Wendy Erickson
512-501-9455, sampson_erickson@sbcglobal.net
- Camp Band. Don Weeda, 512-482-8371
don.weeda@austin.utexas.edu
- Family Support Brenda Benton, 512-832-6972
balkanbabe7@gmail.com
- Greene Family Camp 254-859-5411
www.greene.urjcamps.org

Texas International Folk Dancers, Inc., is a non-profit, educational organization serving Texas and surrounding states. Please visit our website at www.tifd.org