

## Texas Camp 2020 Update

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we the board have made the painful decision to cancel a physical Texas Camp for 2020. The health and well-being of our dancers is our top priority. Given the physically-close nature of folk dancing and the likelihood of a second wave of coronavirus this fall, we felt it would be impossible to hold a camp that would be both safe and successful.

We may not be able to meet physically for camp this year; however, we can still celebrate with our TIFD community! The board is eagerly exploring options for a free Virtual Texas Camp 2020 – and this is where you can help. We would love your feedback about what you would like to see featured in our online events.

Please share your thoughts by completing our survey and sending it to [camp2020@tifd.org](mailto:camp2020@tifd.org) by **Monday, July 6**. The survey is fillable and available as a [PDF](#) or [Word document](#).

Although Texas Camp will be different this year, with your help it can still be an event that brings us together. Thank you!

## Friday night folk dancing on Zoom

HIFD and AIFD are holding virtual dances every Friday night from 7:30 to 9:30 (room opens at 7:15). Houston and Austin are alternating hosting, with Houston hosting June 19th and Austin hosting June 26th.

Zoom is an easy way for us to continue to dance and also maintain a sense of community. It's a free program that lets you participate in online meetings using a computer, smartphone, or tablet. You will be able to hear our wonderful international music and see someone leading the dances. You do not need to have a camera or microphone on your computer (and in any case, their use is optional).

Everything you need to know can be found on the [HIFD website](#). There you'll find the [Zoom link](#) to both the Houston and Austin folk dance meetings. Dance programs will also be posted, usually on Friday morning. If you have never used Zoom before, there is even a short tutorial on using the platform.

If you have requests for the Houston dances, please [email John Bloom](#) by Thursday at noon. You can request dances that you know well and like to do, or dances that you would like to see reviewed. You can also email John if you have any questions.

People who have been attending enjoy it quite a bit, and we think you will too. Hope to see you dancing!

## A Sunday afternoon dance in the park



On May 31st, a group of Houston folk dancers led by Bud Bearce on accordion danced away the afternoon at a neighborhood park. The four HIFD dancers pictured (Kristin Lucas, Sue Coffman, Lauren Johnson and Augie Gaona) were invited to perform. It's a great way to promote folk dancing and keep in practice, all while maintaining social distancing!



## Virtual Folk Dances

Even though you may be stuck at home, that doesn't mean you can't dance! Virtual folk dance events have sprung up in communities around the country and perhaps you can join one from your own home. You can learn new dances online or use Zoom to join groups from San Antonio, Houston, Austin and beyond. Here is a sample listing. Check the [HIFD](#) and [AIFD Facebook](#) pages for updates and new events!

**Friday Night Folk Dance** co-hosted by Houston and Austin International Folk Dancers, 7:30-9:30 pm

<http://www.folkdancers.org/>

The [San Antonio Folk Dancers](#) have dances every Tuesday night at 7:00 pm. Use this Zoom link to join:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/430250629...>

### **Living Room Folk Dance**

**Rebekah Valencia** is hosting Monday evening Zoom folk dancing from Oklahoma.

[Oklahoma City Folk Dancers](#)

**Dale Adamson** maintains an extensive calendar of online dance events.

<https://daleadamson.com/events-calendar/>

Big list of ongoing virtual events, by day of the week:

<https://veselofolkdancers.org/events/>

Online events with **Roberto Bagnoli**

Roberto has weekly Israeli (Tuesday) and Balkan (Thursday) dancing and a biweekly Balkan Party (Sunday).

<http://www.morenu.it/>

Dance workshops from the **Folk Arts Center of New England** every Saturday

<http://www.facone.org/programs-online-events.html>

Online dancing with **Lee Otterholt** and the **Laguna International Dancers**

Wednesday and Sunday evenings, 6-8 pm Pacific

<https://www.lagunainternationaldancers.com/>

**Global Folk Dance Party** hosted by the Peninsula Folk Dance Council on Saturday, June 20

<https://www.facebook.com/PFDCouncil/>

### **Virtual Stockton Folk Dance Camp**

July 11 - July 18

<http://www.folkdancecamp.org/2020-virtual-stockton-folk-dance-camp>

**Yves Moreau** has dance videos of his teaching of several dances on his [Facebook page](#).

**Dimitar Petrov** teaches a workshop with many Bulgarian dances, available on [YouTube](#).

**CDSS (Country Dance & Song Society)** has compiled a great list of online events for the Contra and English Country Dancers.

<https://www.cdss.org/community/covid19/online-events>

**Austin Balkan Singers in quarantine** meets on Zoom, some Wednesday nights at 7 pm. You are welcome to join – zoom singing has the advantage that you can "sing along" while muted if you want to learn in private. Send e-mail to [susan.hovorka@gmail.com](mailto:susan.hovorka@gmail.com) if you want to zoom-sing along with them.

### **Submissions**

Write to us with your announcement, past camp experience, or anything related to folk dancing! Send it to [editor@tfd.org](mailto:editor@tfd.org) and we'll include it in the next newsletter.

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a 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit organization.

(Or simply shop at [smile.amazon.com/ch/74-6055403](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-6055403) and Amazon will donate a portion of the proceeds to TIFD.)

Visit our website

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

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