



# INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE



Fall Edition

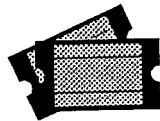
Alumni Newsletter

1993

## CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

♪ On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me:  
a ticket to Christmas Around the World.

Tickets go on sale November 8th at 9:00 a.m. for Christmas Around the World, "The Twelve Days of Christmas." Be sure to get your tickets early as seats go quickly. Call 378-BYU1 or 1-800-322-BYU1.



This year's show will be outstanding as many favorite dances are brought back such as the popular Ukrainian Povzunetz, Russian Birch Tree and Calussari from Romania. To be premiered is a delightful Austrian suite choreographed by Morrey and Michael Gelman. Also, an Afghanistan women's dance will be presented. This was choreographed by graduate student Katherine St. John.

We know you will enjoy the concert and look forward to seeing many of you at our reception after the show Saturday night. It will once again be held on the concourse above the ticket office in the Marriott Center.

## FALL SEMESTER

The Folk Dancers seem to be having one of "those" semesters. Increased demand and not enough time to do it all is getting to be normal in our office.

The students gave an outstanding performance in the annual World of Dance concert held in the deJong Concert Hall to four nights of sold out audiences. They performed the unique and lovely Turkish suite as well as an ever popular American Hoedown and precision clog. They were a big hit every night.

Homecoming has also been exciting. The Club once again presented the half-time at the Homecoming game (BYU vs. Fresno) and PAC participated in the Homecoming Spectacular, with Frontier Hoedown, Monroe's Hornpipe, and Poltavskiy Hopak.

## SPAC

Scheduling for the Spring Performing Arts Company is taking place at this time. If you live along the Wasatch Front and your elementary school or junior high is interested in this highly educational and worthwhile showcase of international folk music and dance, call Susanne Davis at (801) 378-5013. Colleen Anderson, '93 SPAC Director, estimates this group was able to

impact the lives of some 45,000 Central Utah children during a one month period in April and May. It's a wonderful program that benefits all who are involved.

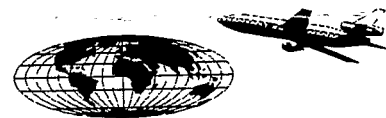
## FOLK DANCE FOR YOUTH

Registrations are now being accepted for Winter '94! After a gangbuster beginning last winter, we are continuing this program on a semesterly basis. Alumni Earlet Phillips Meiners and Steve Hamblin are instructors for these fun programs designed for grades 3-6 and 7-12. You may call Margie Green and BYU Conferences & Workshops at (801) 378-2536 for further information or registration.

## SUMMER '93

The Summer of 1993 will be a summer never to be forgotten. It may also go down in history as one of the busiest, most eventful to date.

Touring Arizona last March for ten days was just the beginning. That trip was deemed a great success and a lot of fun by all. There were also lots of alumni who showed their support. Ed and Delynn report that they were able to visit with Brent and Joan Rappleye Solomon in St. Joseph, and Bruce O'Dell in Showlow. He took the group rappelling, and they had a wonderful time. They saw Brent and Kerrie Hyde Summerhays, Ike Leppanen, Esther Baldwin, Kelly and Karen Pettingill Gleave, Doug and ShiRey Kartchner Carroll, David Downs, Celeste Rose Lewis, and LaVona Jenks Comsa. (We hope we didn't leave anyone out.)



The semester barely ended and the group was off to Connecticut, New Jersey and New York for ten days culminating with one of the Folk Dancers' favorite events: "The Two Rivers Ethnic Festival" in Binghamton, New York. This is the 6<sup>th</sup> year they have participated in this event. Two days after arriving home, they left for South America. This trip was to be one none would ever forget as this area is basically uncharted and unfamiliar to BYU. The group did an admirable job of rising to each occasion. They had many interesting and faith-building experiences in the five-week trip and saw many beautiful areas, including Iguazu Falls, from both the Argentine and Brazilian sides. All would probably say, though it was a very difficult trip, it was one of the best they'd ever been on. They also found the South American people to be very warm, giving and sweet-spirited.

There was a short five week break before the group returned for their trip to Berlin and Armenia, during which time some thought there wasn't enough to do so they participated in the Springville World Folk Fest.

Berlin was tough! Sponsored by the U.S. Army for three weeks, the group had to stay in apartments the entire time. They "had" to sightsee and explore Berlin each day, and perform each night. It was a great experience to really get to know this wonderfully historic city. Some highlights of this trip included a performance for the children of Chernobyl - victims of the Chernobyl nuclear accident brought to Beelitz Hospital for cancer treatment - and the wonderful people of the Volksfest (members and non-members) who befriended us. It was exciting to watch missionaries and students in action. It's not often we get to witness the great impact our group has on others.

A four couple group of dancers and the band then went on to earthquake-ravaged Armenia for five days at the request of the Area Presidency. Peggy Little Wright and Lynn Elliott (now with Performance Scheduling) went with this group. With packaged food, copies of the Book of Mormon in hand and little (if any) electricity and water, this small group did a wonderful job representing the church, BYU and the U.S.A. performing each day under very difficult circumstances.

You can be proud of these students who represent you and carry on the "Folk Dancer" legacy as they go out to various areas yearly. They do an excellent job.

## ALUMNI

It is fun to report that through tryouts we have in our program at the present time some children of alumni.



Tara Christopher, daughter of David and Fawn Christopher is in the twelve couple back-up team. She is a freshman talent scholarship recipient. David and Fawn live in Spanish Fork, Utah.

Joshua Williams, son of Mark and Debbe Jacobson Williams is also in twelve couple back-up. Josh was also a freshman dance scholarship recipient. We reported on their family last fall.

Alicia Hutchings is also a freshman. She is the daughter of Kent and Jeanie Roth Hutchings and a niece of Carla Hutchings Haskin. She is the second of nine children. Kent and Jeanie live in Maryland. Her cousin, Timothy Hutchings, is new in club also.

Heidi Nielson is the daughter of Madelyn Hollingshead Nielson. She is in eight couple PAC and is a junior. Their family lives in Laie, Hawaii.

Amy Coleman is the daughter of Ann Staples Coleman. This is Amy's 2<sup>nd</sup> year in the Performing Arts Company. She was able to tour this past summer to South America and Berlin.

Dana Clark, our mandolin player for the past two years, is the daughter of Patricia Hodge Clark. Dana toured with the Folk Dancers in 1992 and 1993. In fact, the whole family plays together.

Rees Olson, sophomore from Placentia, California, is the son of Craig T. Olson, member of the Folk Dancers 1963-64 and 1967-68. After Craig left BYU, he taught dance for the Latter-Day Saint Student Association at UCLA and has continued his involvement in dance.

Kourtney and Kyley Jex follow sisters Kim Jex Coon and Kelly Jex Cook and mother, Mary Tischner Jex. The family resides in Spanish Fork. They've been active in music and clogging for a number of years.

Jon Wood, fiddle and mandolin player from Salt Lake City, is the son of Russ and Ilene Elfors Wood. Russ toured with the Folk Dancers in the band in 1966, and Ilene joined him in the band in 1970. He has been our Christmas Around the World Master of Ceremonies for the past 5 years.

Ladd Olsen is the son of Burton Olsen, 1958. Ladd is in ten couple PAC. His dad is a professor of Recreation Management here at BYU.

## GUEST INSTRUCTORS

Early this semester, the Folk Dancers brought in Kelly Gleave from Chandler, Arizona to reteach Calussari to the men. He was in the original group taught by Alexandru David. Kelly did an excellent job teaching. (He wasn't sure he'd live to tell the tale, though.) Karen came up with him and we had a great visit. They have four children.

Petur Iliev from Bulgaria is coming in January to set a new Bulgarian suite on the group. It will include a Kopanitsa. Everyone is looking forward to that. Especially Ed.

Vickie Austin, Editor  
Scott Preator, Masthead Design  
Tyler Sundrud, Design/Layout

