



INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE

Fall Edition

Alumni Newsletter

1994



The Stockings are hung, the lists have been made and plans are well under way for Christmas Around The World's 35th Anniversary Celebration. Also planned and set into motion are many fun and exciting events involving the alumni. We look forward to seeing many of you on stage clogging or performing a Krakowiak. (Are your legs still up to it?) Then plan to come to the BIG EVENT on Saturday with workshops, recreational dancing -- remember Doudlebska Polka, Dodi Li, Red Boots? -- and a buffet (what's folk dancing without eating!) Your alumni committee is working hard to ensure you have a reunion experience to remember. It's going to be fabulous. If you haven't received your alumni letter, let us know ASAP.

The Folk Dancers will be spotlighting numbers from their American show which are often not seen by local audiences. The Performing Arts Company will also be premiering the new Bulgarian Suite taught to them by Petur Iliev last winter. You'll love it and the costumes -- it's unique and a lot of fun.

Remember the dates are December 1 & 2 -- that's a Thursday and Friday. Tickets go on sale November 7, 8:00 a.m. Call 378-BYU1 or 1-800-322-BYU1

ALUMNI REUNION UPDATE

It has been great hearing from our alumni from around the country and we are excited that so many of you are making special arrangements to be with us for the reunion and concert. For those of you who are a little slow or who have just received the information, it's not too late to send in your response form! We would like to hear from all of you whether or not you are planning to join us for the reunion. The alumni dance numbers have been filled but we still want you to come to the reunion! Those of you dancing will be notified of which dance you're in.

Important dates to remember:

- Oct 27th: Final date to order tickets for the concert
- Nov 18th: Final date to have response forms in with money for attending the reunion

If you haven't received a form or have any questions, call me at:

(801) 223-9767 (h) or

(801) 226-1524 (w).

Rehearsals have been set for November 5, 12, & 19: Krakowiak 9-12 noon; Clogging 1-4 pm in 278 Richards Building. These rehearsals are scheduled to get the bulk of choreography completed and the local alumni rehearsed so that those flying in CAW week can quickly be rehearsed and blocked into each number. Band



rehearsals will be announced very soon. Just a reminder that everyone performing is expected to be available Tuesday evening, Wednesday afternoon, and every evening from then on through the performances.

We appreciate all those who have responded so far with your information and the whereabouts of many of our "lost souls". The lost list has been pared down quite a bit. Please continue to help us out. It has been wonderful.

Thanks, Bryce Bassett

IN REMEMBRANCE

Vytautas (Vyts) Beliajus passed away September 20, 1994 three days short of his 50th Anniversary of Viltis party. He was 87 years old. He has probably done more for Folk Dance in the United States than any other person. He certainly was a great fan and supporter of BYU's Folk Dance Program. He made it possible for BYU's first International Tour in 1964. He has taught at the Y and through his magazine provided a great deal of exposure and publicity for the program. Many of you have had the opportunity to meet him or to be involved in one of his programs in Denver. We feel privileged to have been a part of his legacy. Vyts will be greatly missed.

His family determined the 50th Anniversary Party and program would go on as planned in celebration of his life. This year's 10:00 back-up team traveled to Denver to be a part of the festivities. They performed the Austrian Suite and several Lithuanian numbers including a wedding ritual. These numbers were specifically requested by Vyts and he personally worked with the group on the Lithuanian dances. The wedding ritual was the last choreography Vyts ever created. They did a terrific job in their presentation. Vyts would have been proud.

SUMMER TO FALL

Fall was upon us before we knew it after a fast and furious summer. Ed did SPAC (Spring Performing Arts Company) and Clog Camp this year and went on a summer vacation with his family - a long awaited trip across the United States. They say it was fabulous, and a lot of fun. SPAC did an outstanding job in presenting their program for over 60 elementary schools. Scheduling is commencing at this time. If you are interested in this program, call 378-4283 now as the dates are filling up rapidly.

Peggy taught several classes Summer Term including a special program called Discovery involving specially selected high school students from the United States. She also put together a great representation of the Folk Dancers for the Days of 47 parade in Salt Lake City.

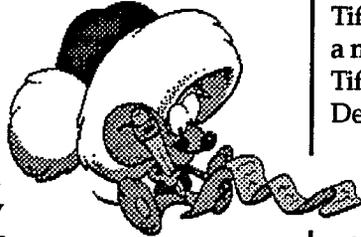


Colleen taught Spring Term and attended a lot of Tap Dance workshops. She also got to go home to Canada for a visit.

Delynne took the summer tour this summer to some new and exotic ports. The group traveled and participated in concerts and festivals in Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria and Jordan. She and Garth are also building a new house.

Susanne always seems busy and is now adding to her schedule by also building a new house.

And that brings us to Fall when rehearsals began immediately for World of Dance. World of Dance was a superb concert. The Performing Arts Company performed Appalachian Patchwork, Dama Sirba, Calusarri and Hopak. The level of expertise and performance was outstanding for all groups involved. Of course, Hopak was a highlight as the finale of the program.



THE LEGACY CONTINUES

Amy Alba is the daughter of Rene and Kathi Terry Alba. Rene and Kathie danced in the early 70's and both went to Europe in 1974. (A true "T.R.") Amy is a freshman and is a Folk Dance Freshman Scholarship Awardee.

David Benson is the son of Fred and Janeice Jenkins Benson, currently residing in Idaho. They both toured in 1970. (Another "T.R." perhaps?) David is on the back-up team that just returned from a successful performance in Denver. David is a senior.

Tiffany Green, is the daughter of Norene McClellan Green, a member of the original Folk Dance team in 1956 and 1957. Tiffany is back dancing with us after serving a mission to Detroit, MI.

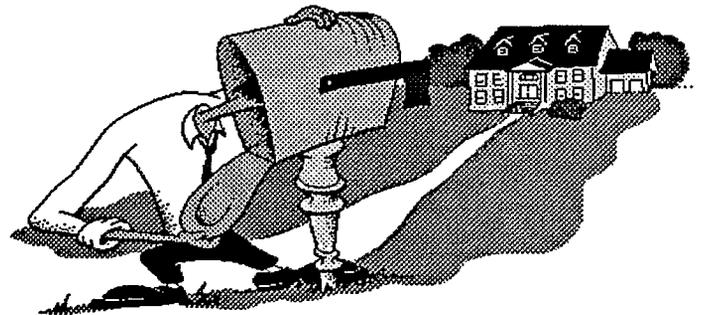
Elise Nielson, the daughter of Madelyn Hollingshead Nielson is also a recipient of a Freshman scholarship award. Madelyn toured in 1972 and resides in Hawaii with her family. Elise is on a back-up team.

Greg Tucker is the son of Terry Tucker. Terry danced 1964-66. He now teaches and directs at Pleasant Grove High School both the Choral groups and Cloggers West, one of the originally formed clogging teams in Utah. Greg is also a Freshman Scholarship recipient.

Marcus Williams is the son of Mark and Debbe Jacobsen Williams. Mark toured in 1972 and Debbe in 1973. Their family has performed together for many years and Mark and Debbe continue to be active in clogging. Marcus also performed with the back-up team this fall in Denver.

TOUR HISTORIES...ARE YOU KIDDING?

Summer Tour of '74... your tour history is done! We will be sending those out soon or they can be picked up in the office, 259 RB. Many thanks to Craig Steed who took on the project and has seen it through to the finish.



And guess what? The tour history for Southern States, 1986 is also done! ShiRey Kartchner Carroll could not stand it any longer and took on the project. Thank you ShiRey.

We are hoping to sometime soon see histories from 1991 and 1992.