ALUMNI

NEWSLETTER

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CONTENTS

| A Note from Mary Bee Jensen | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Alumni Directory Update | 4 |
| BYU in Indonesia | 2 |
| Christmas Around the World 1 | |
| Costumes for Sale | 3 |
| Folk Dance for Youth | 2 |
| NFO Conference hosted by BYU | 3 |
| Resources | |
| Scholarship Recipients | 2 |
| Spring Performing Arts Company | 1 |
| Undate your address | _ |

THE FOLK DANCER Int'l Folk Dance Ensemble

Int'l Folk Dance Ensemble Alumni Newsletter

Editor Vickie Scholes Austin 259 RB Provo, UT 84602

Department of Dance Brigham Young University

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THE FOIK DANCER.

International Folk Dance Ensemble, Brigham Young University

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD 1 9 9 8

This year's concert promises to be one of our most exciting and enjoyable to date. The beautiful Dancing Waters will provide the backdrop for the stage as The Folk Dance Ensemble opens the evening with a traditional Celtic Céilídh. A new Scottish piece, choreographed by Reuel Zielke of Milwaukee, kicks off the evening, followed by a new Irish hardshoe dance, music by our very own Mountain Strings, an English Rapper Sword Dance, and the Riverdance-esque Cry of the Celts.

Several new numbers will be premiered this night, including a new suite of dances from the Black Sea region of Turkey, as taught by Ahmet Lüleci, a great Lindy Hop choreographed by a former student, Lane Hunter, a beautiful new Chinese piece set by Jiamin Huang, and new Mexican and Lithuanian choreographies.

Showtimes are December 4th & 5th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Marriott Center. This year we are adding a third performance on Saturday, December 5th, at 3:00 p.m. Specially priced family tickets will be sold for this performance only. Tickets go on

sale Saturday, November 7th, at the Marriott Center Ticket Office, 1-800-322-BYU1 or 378-BYU1.

Don't forget to join us after the show Saturday night for our alumni reception to be held in the Marriott Center, and make plans to join us for next year's 40th Anniversary Reunion. If you missed the gathering five years ago, you will not want to miss this one! More information will be forth coming.

A Note From Mary Bee Jensen

"What wonderful friends we make in the International Folk Dance program. I sincerely feel this special spirit as many of you shared congratulations for my memory books as I received two national honors this spring: The National Dance Association Heritage Awardee for Excellence in Dance, and The San Antonio College Folk Dance Festival National Award. These honors can be shared with each of you for we did it together.

"A great gentleman and ardent supporter of the Folk Dance program, my husband, Don A. Jensen, passed away in June. Your support at this time was deeply appreciated."

-Mary Bee

BYU GROUP ENCOUNTERS UNREST IN INDONESIA

by Ed Austin
This article first appeared in NFO News, July 1998

This summer, students with Brigham Young University's Folk Dance Ensemble faced some unexpected experiences while in Asia.

The group's first destination was Jakarta, Indonesia where the Asian financial crisis has hit particularly hard. We arrived on a Wednesday, May 13th, just one day before student protests turned into rioting and over 500 people died by arson fire. Fortunately, the students were never in any danger as we were able to gather at a hideaway hotel in Bogor, about 45 miles outside of Jakarta.

Myself and Scott Horman, another leader, stayed in Jakarta to review venue sites for the coming week, and saw some of the destruction first-hand. We knew we were near the unrest when we went up on the roof where we were staying, and observed smoke ascending from every direction. We later learned that we were only 1½ miles from the center of the riots. As we left the city early Friday morning to

Scholarship

Recipients

Congratulations to each of our scholarship recipients in 1998-1999.

MARY BEE JENSEN ENDOWMENT

Mike Brown Amy Pinegar

EXCELLENCE IN FOLK ARTS

Clayton Dorny Anne McNally

VILTIS

Katie Strong Greg Tucker rejoin our group, we zigzagged through burning cars, smoldering toll booths, and people rummaging through the previous night's destruction, while tanks and truckloads of armed soldiers entered the city. By this time, of course, all previous plans and performances had been canceled.

Saturday, "official On Americans" were evacuated from Jakarta, but the BYU group was advised by embassy officials to wait for a Monday departure. Instead, our group performed that evening for hotel guests including expatriates and ethnic Chinese who were leaving homes and businesses for a safer place. The music and dance was a perfect way to ease, at least for the moment, the anxiety felt by all. Helicopters continued to land in the middle of the night to evacuate private businessmen wishing to leave. During this time we were in contact with colleagues and families at home in the U.S., and in constant consultation with the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta.

Although there was a time when our transportation to the airport seemed impossible to obtain, by early Monday morning, all arrangements had been confirmed, the unrest had

HARMON SCHOLARSHIP

Kamae Bradburn Jeff Dunster Matthew Gamette

Folk Dance for Youth

The Folk Dance For Youth program will be held January 4th

momentarily subsided, and the airport was once again functioning more normally. We quickly, quietly, traveled to the airport with no incident, performed some spontaneous songs and dances for weary families waiting to leave the country, and departed Indonesia with conflicting feelings and emotions – and a genuine sigh of relief. There was never any evidence of violence directed towards Americans during the crisis. One simply had to avoid being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

During the next three weeks, in addition to performing, the group traveled through the jungles of Thailand riding on elephants; enjoyed lychee fruit (and rambutan), dragon fruit (red pitaya), and a dozen other exotic foods; fought off dehydration, cockroaches and mosquitos; and explored the Cu Chi tunnels used by the Viet Cong near Ho Chi Minh City – but that's another story . . .

(In August, the folk dancers spent 3 weeks in the People's Republic of China. But that's also another story...)



through April 19th, 1999. Jeanette Geslison is the coordinator and Amy and Kyley Jex are the directors of this wonderful program. If you have children in grades 3-12, consider this unique opportunity.

Call Karen Pingel at BYU Conferences and Workshops, 1-801-378-4854, for more information.

1999 N.F.O. Conference Hosted by BYU

by Vonnie Brown

The National Folk Organization of the U.S.A. will hold its annual conference January 21-24, 1999, in Provo, Utah.

The conference begins on Thursday evening with an international folk dance party hosted by over 200 students at Brigham Young University with various dance leaders from across the nation. On Friday and Saturday, sessions will focus on (1) official business meetings; (2) presentations and panel discussions relative to recreational and performing folk dance, music, folk traditions, and folk festivals (CIOFF and IOV); (3) workshops in folk dance; and (4) a performance by the Brigham Young University Folk Dance Ensemble with special guest performances by Darena (a women's Balkan choir), Eastern Arts, and Narodna - with an opportunity for NFO'ers and all performers to mingle afterwards.

Sandwiched between all of this will be the usual networking, good camaraderie (and world-class downhill skiing for those who choose to come early or stay longer). The conference ends Sunday morning after the NFO annual planning meeting.

Everyone, whether an NFO member or not, is invited to attend. A mailing with the registration form will be sent to all NFO members and former conference participants sometime this fall. You may request a registration form or further information by contacting Vonnie R. Brown, NFO vice president, 1717 Applewood Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70808. Tel-Fax: 504/766-8750 (area code may change to 225); e-mail: duward@prodigy.net

ARTS COMPANY

Scheduling for the Spring Performing Arts Company is once again underway. They will be presenting an educational showcase for elementary schools during the month of May. There is no better multi-cultural program to bring to your elementary school. If you and your children's school are interested in booking this entertaining and educational folk dance program, contact Colleen Anderson, 1-801-378-3104.

Costumes for Sale

The following costumes are currently available for purchase:

Polish

14 Red-striped pants w/sash 6 W skirt, aprons, blouses, vests 10 W black lace-up boots 14 M black vests

Lithuanian

9 W skirts, vests, blouses, headpieces 10 M pants, vests, belts

Hungarian

6 M grey vests

9 M grey wool pants w/black trim 28 M white pants w/black trim

Mexican

27 M black boots

Western/U.S.A.

10 W black, sequined, long-sleeved jackets

10 M black/red/white shirts

12 M white w/red yoke shirts

12 W white/blue bandana clog dresses

12 M white/blue bandana clog shirts

14 M black w/white trim shirts

For further information, please contact Colleen Anderson at (801) 378-3104.

Resources



Recreational Folk Dance by Susanne Davis and Colleen Anderson contains 42 popular folk dances. This book is the current syllabus for our beginning folk dance classes. Folk dance teachers will get excited about the many dance briefs and other folk commentaries included in this book. For more information contact Susanne Davis at (801) 378-5301, susanne davis@byu.edu

Cultures and Styling in Folk Dance, by Sanna Longden and Phyllis Weikart has recently been released. Written for schoolteachers, as well as a companion to Phyllis Weikart's other books, it is useful for anyone who teaches folk dance. Excellent cultural background information, styling, traditional music, and many photos are included. Contact Sanna Longden for orders and further information, (847) 328-7793, or sannamars@aol.com

<u>New Videos</u>

Andor Czompo has produced a video, "Hungarian Recreational Folk Dances," that includes most of his popular dances such as Tuberósza, Somogyi Karikázó, Oláhos, and 16 others. The dances are beautifully demonstrated by members of the Timar Hungarian Folk Dance Ensemble in Budapest, Hungary. Contact Professor Czompo



at (757) 258-0466, aczompo@aol.com

Alumni Directory Update

We continue to update the folk dance alumni directory. By the time 1999 rolls around we would love to have it as correct and upto-date as possible. (Would you all please stop moving!) If you have any changes in your address or phone number, or have any information about one of our "lost souls", please send your information to Vickie Austin, 259 RB-BYU, Provo, UT 84602. And don't forget to include e-mail addresses. Thanks to those who have kept us informed. You have been a great help.

Here is our current "lost" list:

Richard Anderson T67 Robert C. Anderson Marcie Nash Arter T72 Germany Douglas Barker T70 Angus Barnes T79 Paul Beck Robin Mercer Beck Mark Bennett T83 Larry Bickmore T72-YU David Bingham T72-YU Charles (Chuck) N Blake T76 William A Bond T71 Glen Boulter Norm & Cyndi Pullins Brower T78 Gave Brown T82 Barry Bullock Del Cabe T83 Clayton Chamberlain T89-Japan Manuel & Patricia Chavez T80-Japan Greg Duerden T71 Robert Erickson T72-Germany George Estacapio T72-Germany Tiana Fatutalie T78 Allen Glander T83 Lowell & Yvonne Murray Glenn Jacques Gohier T72-Germany Roni Hammond T72-Germany & YU Laurie Jordan Hansen Robert Hawker T72 Susie Hinson Howard T64 Elwyn Norman Hull David Jensen Lorna Johnston Dean Kerr T71 Mark Brian Larsen Donald C. Lee T64 Doug Lee Joan Larsen Lunt T71

Lani Henderson Lynch Matthew Maclean Marilyn Blauer Mann Jay Martin Andy Martinez Kathryn Maxfield T95 Rena McDaniel Beth Rains McGowen Randy Moe Steve Murdock T71 Erik Neilson Kirk Nielsen T77 Kim & Geri Nielson T68 Chris Nokleby Mary Ann Miller Pearson T73 Jack Peterson T71 **Brad Powell T75** Cynthia Roberts T80 Shane Rosenberg Justin Rucker Tadd Schwendiman T87 John Seymour T68 Jack Spencer T72 Germany, T76 Yayoi Matsuoka Swapp T80 Troy Taylor T89-Japan Ben & Rachel Tolman Terry T95 Ryan Thornton Elizabeth Wright Turner Michael Van Slooten T77 Ralph Wahlquist T71 Matthew Webster Dwan & Liz Bowers Wride