

THE FOLK DANCER

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THE FOLK DANCER

Int'l Folk Dance Ensemble
Alumni Newsletter

Editor

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259 RB
Provo, UT 84602

Department of Dance
Brigham Young University

ALUMNI ORGANIZATION

PRESIDENT
Kelly Gleave

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kristen Andersen
Bryce Bassett
Nina Booth
Amy & Kyley Jex
Brent Lewis
Scott Mahoney
Earlet Phillips Meiners
Karine Pitcher
Tiffany Smith
Yayoi Matsuoka Swapp

ALUMNI REUNION MUSINGS

Great friends and good food, workshops, parties, banquets...what a great reunion! The alumni committee worked extra hours to make the third ever folk dance reunion a memorable one. Friday night's performance was wonderful. I didn't want it to end. I told my children that I can still dance just like those young students! Then, off to the Friday night parties to see all our good friends. It seems like it was just yesterday that we were all together on tour.

Saturday morning workshops featured Irish and Hungarian dance. We had great instructors, and plenty of dancing. OK—I may not be able to dance like I could twenty years ago.

Saturday evening gave us the opportunity to dress up for a formal banquet dinner. We had displays and videos from past Christmas concerts in the Garden Court of the Wilkinson Center. The banquet was in the main ballroom. Everyone looked great! We started the evening by squeezing in close together for a big group picture, just like on tour. We were

especially glad to have in attendance Elder and Sister Robert L. Simpson, Robert and Mary Ann Conlee, Dean of the College of Health and Human Resources, and many others. Mary Bee Jensen and Ed Austin were our featured guests. We enjoyed learning about the beginnings of the folk dancers, and hearing about the wonderful things folk dancers are doing today. This is a program that we all need to continue to support.

In short, we had FUN, FUN, FUN. But after all...we always did have the BEST parties! Thank you to all that attended. We hope to see everyone in 2009 for the 50th Annual Christmas Around the World Concert and Folkdance Alumni reunion!

Kelly Gleave
1999 Reunion President

Alumni Directories

*New Folk Dance Directories are available for purchase on a limited basis. They were up-to-date as of December 1. Please send \$6.50 payable to **BYU Folk Dance** (includes postage and handling) to: International Folk Dance, 261 RB-BYU, Provo, UT, 84602. Please include your current address with the order.*

MID-SEMESTER TOUR 2000

The Performing Arts Company will be performing in Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico for their annual mid-semester tour. We hope to see many of you at one of the following venues:

Riverton, WY

Friday, March 10th

7:30 p.m.

Peck Auditorium,
Central Wyoming College

Lovell, WY

Saturday, March 11th

7:30 p.m.

Lovell High School Gymnasium

Lovell, WY

Sunday, March 12th

8:30 a.m. Morningside, Lovell
Wards

7:00 p.m. Fireside, Cheyenne
Stake

Cheyenne, WY

Monday, March 13th

7:30 p.m.

Cheyenne Civic Center

Sterling, CO

Tuesday, March 14th

7:30 p.m.

Sterling Middle School

Grand Junction, CO

Wednesday, March 15th

7:30 p.m.

Avalon Theatre

Denver, CO

Thursday, March 16th

7:30 p.m.

Teikyo Loretto Heights Theatre

Alamosa, CO

Friday, March 17th

7:00 p.m.

Centari Middle School

Farmington, NM

Saturday, March 18th

7:30 p.m.

Henderson Performing Arts
Center,
San Juan College

*For more information, call Lynn
Elliott at Performing Arts
Management, 1-800-432-3576.*



Many Thanks to Helpful Alumni

Kudos to all who were involved in making Christmas Around the World a tremendous success this past December--Ed, Delynne, Jeannette, Colleen, Tara, the students, the technical directors, the guest performers and last but not least, the audience and our alumni. The reunion after the usual bumps and hilly places all came together in grand fashion the weekend of December 3 and 4.

We'd like to give our special thanks to all those who worked so hard to put the reunion together. **Karen and Kelly Gleave** did an outstanding job as Co-chair of the event. They spent many countless hours overseeing all of the details and did a tremendous job. A special thanks to **Lyman Durfee** and **Mary Bee Jensen** for locating the

"first" folk dancers, and beginning each concert with their presence on stage.

Thanks also goes to **Earlet Phillips Meiners** for coordinating and managing all the "after parties" (Thanks to those who hosted); **Karine Burns Pitcher** for all the hours she spent working on the T-shirt; **Kristin Williams Anderson** for the beautiful display of memorabilia and pictures at the banquet; **Nina Booth Woodbury** for the excellent banquet; **Yayoi Matsuoka Swapp** for the reunion lanyards; **Bryce Bassett and Brent Lewis** for all their work on the website; **Scott Mahoney** for the long hours spent updating our database and putting together the newest alumni directory. Also, thanks to **Tiffany Smith Stefl** for coordinating facilities and instructors for the workshops, and to **Kyley and Amy Thurston Jex** for overseeing the workshops. We also wish to thank the workshop instructors-- **Tina Edlinger Shelly and Katie Edlinger Van Hoven** for their fun and invigorating class in Irish, **Jeanette Geslison** for the Hungarian dancing and **Laraine Miner** for the general folk dance workshop. Those who attended the workshops will agree that they had a great time and were dead tired at the end. **Ken Johnson** was there ready and willing to lead former musicians in a fun jam session--but there was a lack of participation for that one. Where were you, musicians? It was great fun to see so many of you at the shows and many of the events. We look forward to seeing you and hearing from you often in the future.

All in all, the reunion turned out great--and the committee has come up with some ideas for making the 50th anniversary reunion even better.

And of this we are certain--**Mary Bee** will be there looking better than all of the rest of us.

TEACHING CD IS FINALLY HERE!!!

A new folk dance CD will be available by the middle of March. This CD is being produced by Ed Austin and engineered by Clive Romney, Mark Geslison, and Troy Sales. The musicians are Romanian, Czech, members of Živio directed by Jan Root, Salt Lake City, and members of the Folk Music Ensemble directed by Mark Geslison, BYU. It has taken countless hours of work getting the material, groups, and syllabus together to finish phase one of this project.

The CD contains many dances that you will be familiar with: Salty Dog Rag, Ciuleandra, Ersko Kolo, La Bastringue, Doudlebska Polka, and Vulpița, etc. plus some new dances for your repertoire. Those who attended the reunion workshop learned many of the dances and there will be an accompanying syllabus with the CD. (However the dance notes will be most beneficial to those who have previously learned the dances.) Ed sees this as an on-going and overdue project--having good music which is easily available.

To order this CD, please send \$20.00 payable to **BYU Folk Dance**, (includes postage and handling) to: International Folk Dance, 261 RB-BYU, Provo, UT, 84602. Be sure to have your current address included with your order.

*"The salt of
patience seasons
everything."
(Italian)*

I.F.D.E. SPRING CONCERT

The Performing Arts Company will be "In Concert", Saturday, March 25th, 8:00 pm, at Timpanogos High School, in north Orem. Because of a sell-out crowd last year, the troupe will add a matinee at 3:00 pm in the afternoon. This will be the only time you will be able to see IFDE in performance this season. Tickets will be on sale Monday the 13th, in 165 RB from 1-4 p.m., (801) 378-5859. You may reserve your tickets by credit card over the phone.

NEW WEB PAGE

Whether you want to reminisce or keep up-to-date, the website is where it's all at. Bryce Bassett and Brent Lewis have spent many hours inputting histories, newsletters and current events. Information on tours, scholarships, and special events can be found on the folk dance website. Take a look at www.byu.edu/dance/folk/default.htm

Also...check us out at www.nfo-usa.org. This is the website for the National Folk Dance Organization of the United States. It is designed by one of our students, Jeff Dunster, who is an English major and wants to be a professional webmaster. The website contains information about NFO membership, events, conferences and workshops, and festivals. We will soon include performing groups and their performance schedules, and there also is a special link to the CIOFF-USA website which lists festival opportunities for American groups who would like to go abroad.

FOLK DANCE FOR YOUTH

The Folk Dance for Youth program, for children 9-17, has begun once again. For the past several years it has only been offered during BYU's winter semester. One of our challenges has been in finding directors who could stay in the area long enough to allow the program to grow and evolve under their leadership.

We are happy to announce that Aaron and Becki Brimhall Love have recently assumed directorship of Folk Dance for Youth. They are very excited about the prospect of building the program, and are anxious to make any changes needed for improvement. They are hopeful that classes can once again begin each fall and continue through the year. If you have any children of this age and would like to know more about this fun opportunity, or have some creative ideas for the new directors, please contact them at their new number in Lehi, 1-801-768-2405.

1999-2000 Scholarship Recipients

Mary Bee Jensen Endowment
Clayton Dorny
Lisa Thurston

Viltis Award
S. Craig Anderson
Jeff Dunster

Excellence in the Folk Arts
Mike Brown
Sarah Rasmussen Bateman

Harmon Scholarship
Brent Wallwork
Whitney Debenham
Greg Tucker

New Zealand, Australian Summer Tour

On July 10th the Folk Dance Ensemble will depart for their first trip ever down under. The troupe will take their combined international and American show to Auckland, Hamilton and Wellington, New Zealand for 10 days and then it's off to Australia. The group will perform in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Hobart (on the island of Tasmania--the first BYU group ever to perform there). It will be quite an adventure and one that everyone is looking forward to. (If it just wasn't going to be winter!!!)

MILLENNIAL CELEBRATION 2000

The Folk Dance Ensemble has been invited to perform May 1-13 at the Epcot Center in Disney World, Florida. This will all be part of their special Millennial Celebration 2000. The group will perform selections from their international repertoire four times each day. Come on down and have some fun with us. We hope to see many of you in our audiences.

Alumni Rec. Night

The BYU International Folk Dance Club would like to invite any alumni in the vicinity of BYU to Rec Night March 8th, 2000, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (or so) in 270-278 RB. The club is excited about having you come and join in doing those fun dances we all love to do. This night will be especially for the alumni so call your friends and come together. Old favorites that you all know will be done as well as teaching some new ones that you may not be familiar with. (We will make sure to do dances from the new CD.) Refreshments will be served. Hope to see lots of you there!

COSTUMES FOR SALE

International

- M's Ukrainian shirts
- M's Mexican "Charro"
- M's & W's Israeli--purple & white
- M's & W's Polish
- M's & W's Scottish

American

- Black sequined jackets
- M's Western shirts--black/red/white
- M's Western shirts--black w/white trim
- M's Western shirts--white w/red yoke
- M's Clog shirts--blue bandana
- W's Clog dresses--blue bandana

For more information, please call Colleen West at 801-378-3104 or e-mail her at colleen_west@byu.edu

✂ SEND US YOUR NEW ADDRESS!!!

To Update Information

✂ clip this portion and send to Vickie Austin, 259 RB-BYU, Provo, Utah 84602

Name:
Address:

Telephone:
SS#:
E-Mail:

(all SS# info for office records only)

Other Addresses You Know

Name:
Address:

Telephone:
E-Mail:

Name:
Address:

Telephone:
E-Mail: