

1955

MIAMI VALLEY FOLK DANCERS' LATE WINTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, January 26, 8:30 Meet in lobby of Bell Telephone Co.
All Thursdays, regular sessions, 8-11, up to February 10.
Sunday, January 30, 2:00, Burkhardt Center Planning Session

Thursdays, beginning February 10, 8-9:30, Instruction for Beginning Folk Dancers. Regular dance sessions for Miami Valley Folk Dancers, 9:30 to 11 (Eight Weeks)

Sunday, February 13, 4:00, Dayton Art Institute

Saturday and Sunday, March 19 and 20 Scottish and Irish Week-end.

As usual, our calendar is filled with interesting and challenging events. Sometimes there seem to be so many demands on our time that we wonder when we will ever get down to just dancing, but let us not forget, that the special things we do keep us really alive! There comes a time, however, when we feel the need to sit down and talk about our accomplishments and our goals. That is why we are planning to get together on Sunday, January 30, at 2 o'clock. Everyone please come.

The instruction sessions should attract new members to our group. We hope every Miami Valley Folk Dancer will come at 8 o'clock each Thursday to extend a welcoming hand to the new-comers, in fact, we hope you will bring your friends to the class. (Of course, the monthly fee of \$1.00 admits Miami Valley Folk Dancers to the class sessions without further charge.) In order to be stronger our group needs to be larger, but we would like to feel that each new member is imbued with the friendly folk dance spirit which I am sure they will catch from our members who so truly possess it. It will also be a good review of basic steps and many dances which we may have forgotten. Others we may never have learned.

Since our regular dance session must be shorter because of the instruction session, we must, of necessity, use it as efficiently as possible. There seems to be a definite need for a more consistent review of our old repertoire. We can talk about that Sunday. If it is impossible for you to be there, write or call in suggestions. We also need to stabilize our program planning. Are you still interested or are you now interested in this phase of our future?

The Folk Dance Program at the Art Institute, February 13, ushers in Brotherhood Week. Five or six nationality groups and the Miami Valley Folk Dancers will participate. Our dances will be LOS VIEJITOS and LOSAICO MEXICANO. All who wish to participate are urged to do so.

I still think the Miami Valley Folk Dancers have the biggest bargain in folk dancing fun and instruction in existence. There is another bright star in our future and it is about to appear on our first anniversary as a dance group. What a year! It is to be a week-end workshop to introduce to us Irish and Scottish dance steps. We can get only a taste of this dancing in so short a time, but it will be an introduction to dance forms which are new to most of us and will therefore broaden our dance horizon.

We are unusually lucky to have so many fine opportunities to do this right here in our home town and this time, in a way, our own home town will supply the leadership. Moire McGranahan, Irish and in America only two years, but living in Dayton, and John Williams, a native Datonian, who has had an extended experience in Scottish Dancing under Jeannie Carmichael in Boston and with the St. Andrews Society in Washington, will be our guest leaders for the week-end. There will be approximately three hours of Irish and three hours of Scottish dance work-shop. The remainder of the time will be devoted to American dance forms which have been influenced by the Irish and Scottish. This will be a real experience, a liberal dance education in a field hitherto unexplored by our group.

There will be several unplanned hours in which we may insert dance reviews or free dancing. How about suggestions? We will invite guests for the usual week-end fee, in fact we will advertise it widely, but it is another bonus for our group. Aren't we lucky?

Grace Wolff

P. S. On February 5 and 6 there will be a "Johnny Appleseed Festival" at Mansfield, Ohio. Last year they held their first annual festival, with considerable success, and are repeating it this year.

The program will be folk dancing and square dancing, and the staff will consist of Grace Wolff on folk dancing, and Earl Gulley on square dancing. Quite a number of people in the folk and square dance world--- including us---consider Earl Gulley Ohio's outstanding square dance caller. And we think it is quite an honor for Dayton, and due recognition, that Grace Wolff has been asked to lead in this program.

Vital statistics: February 5---sessions 1 to 5 p.m. Smorgasbord at 6 p.m. Evening Party: 8:30 p.m.---February 6---session 1:30 to 4 p.m.--- Registration fee: \$5.00 for the weekend, including smorgasbord. Advance registration by February 1, with \$2.00 deposit. Address to: Beverly Prieff, Y.W.C.A., 26 S. Mulberry Street, Mansfield, Ohio. Institute will be conducted at Friendly House, 380 N. Mulberry St. Mansfield, Ohio.

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