

12 June

Dear John,

I received your letter with a mixture of disappointment and relief - disappointment at not being able to see all of my Dayton friends, tho I hope to see some of them at KDI next month - and relief that I will have an opportunity to 'get my head together' and prepare a better program. I was willing to come and do my best, but would have been jamming it in between our own camp in September, and the many activities of October, which means our local Italian group getting to work in earnest after a rather lazy summer.

Also I am happy to clear up a point with you that I evidently did not explain too well on the phone. As ethnic Italian dances are few, I hesitate to teach some of them to an international group, preferring to keep them special for ethnic performing groups. However, I do have some nice Italian-American tarantellas and other 'real' Italian dances which I do teach to mixed groups. So when you do your planning, you can let me know which type of group I will be coming to visit. Maybe you would want to keep them somewhat separate -

The Washington Italian group did 'Tarantella Pescatori' at the North Virginia Folk Festival, and as it is from Calabria, where most of them come from, it was well done and well received. It is the first time I have known it to be performed in our area, as it is not well known, but is one of the few 'real' Italian folk dances we have available.

I am looking forward to being with you when I can be of real service. Keep in touch.

Happy dancin'

Mae