

CALENDAR

MVFD Events

➤ MARCH

Regular Dance (beginners, 7 PM):

Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

NO Ethnic Sunday on Mar. 11!!

☛ **WORKSHOP: MAR. 24-25!!**

➤ APRIL

Regular Dance (beginners, 7 PM):

Apr. 5, 12, 19, 26

Ethnic Sunday: Apr. 8, 2:30 PM

➤ MAY

Regular Dance (beginners, 7 PM):

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Ethnic Sunday: May 13, 2:30 PM

Other Regular Events

Scottish Dancing – The Flying Ghillies. Beginning & intermediate classes on Mondays, 7:30 PM, Mangan Banquet Ctr., 1585 Grange Hall, Beaver Creek.

Israeli Folk Dancing – Classic and modern for all, most Wednesdays at **new location** Temple Beth Or (Rahn & Marshall Rds.), \$3. 6 PM, beginners; 7-9 PM, program & intermediate teaching. janifer.tsou@gmail.com.

Cityfolk Contra Dances at the Pavilion – 7:30 instruction, 8:00 contras. \$7 adults, \$5 students, under 12 free. March 2, Coffee Zombies with Susan Moffett. April 6, Fiddle 'n' Feet with Tamara Loewenthal. May 4, Changing with open-mike calling.

English Country Dance – Kathy Anderson and Leslie Hyll. Historic and modern. 7-9:00 PM, March 18 and April 15, the Pavilion.

Columbus Balkan Night Dance Parties – Themes: March 24, Irish Jig; April 28, Bunny Hop.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

MVFD Council

Chairperson:.....Harry Khamis
546-6092.....harry.khamis@wright.edu

Vice Chair:.....John Pappas
291-3343.....jepappas@sbcglobal.net

Secretary:..... Jim Rohal
824-0742..... jim@jimrohal.com

Treasurer:.....Bill Vernon
294- 6722.....verwill@hotmail.com

Member-at-Large:.....Janifer Tsou
436-2167..... kumon@woh.rr.com

Committee Assignments

Historian.....Leslie Hyll

Kitchen.....Ellen Rice
.....Rose Vernon

Membership.....Lee Moser

Miami Valley Dance Council and

Pavilion Support Committee

Representative.....Janifer Tsou

MVFD Webmaster.....Leslie Hyll
Newsletter Editor.....Ellen Rice
(277-1814.....efrice927@att.net)

Orientation Class Coordinators
.....John Pappas and Lina Considine
Program Committee

.....Chair, Lee Moser
.....Mike Clark
.....Colleen Dillon
.....Jim Hessler
.....Mei-Hwa Neal
.....Jim Tsui

Publicity.....Dolores Brooks

Recordings & Equipment Maintenance
.....Edmund Cordray

Refreshments.....Lee Moser



DON'T FORGET!

Bring us items on
Thursday, March 22nd
for our Agora market!



MARCH 2012

THE NEWS



★ 60th Anniversary Workshop with Sonia and Cristian ★

Everyone is invited to participate in our **Romanian Workshop**, on March 24-25, that will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Miami Valley Folk Dancers. The instructors for the workshop, Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu, are delightful individuals and excellent teachers. You will truly enjoy the sessions with them!

The schedule will be as follows:

SATURDAY morning: registration 9:30-10 AM, teaching 10-12:30 PM

afternoon: teaching 2:00-5:00 PM

evening: culture corner 7:30 PM, dance party 8-11:30 PM

SUNDAY morning: registration 9:30-10 AM, teaching 10-12:30 PM

afternoon: teaching and review 2:00-5:00 PM

The cost of the entire weekend is \$60. To receive \$5 off that figure, be sure to register by March 12. Those who cannot attend the entire weekend are most welcome to attend individual sessions at \$12.

A special anniversary feature of this weekend is that a **catered dinner** will be offered on Saturday evening at the Pavilion! The cost will be an additional \$15. The deadline for dinner reservations is also March 12. Please see the workshop flyer for more details.

We will again feature an **Agora marketplace** this year during the workshop! Contributions of folk items and miscellaneous treasures are needed for this intriguing shopping experience, which is being organized by Maureen Moloney and Lorraine Fortner. If possible, please bring your donations to the Pavilion on the Thursday evening before the workshop, so that they can be sorted and priced.

Please come and join the celebration!

Your Workshop Committee, Joanne and Mei-Hwa

★ Spring Kolo Party★

The South Slavic Club will host its annual Spring Kolo Party on **Saturday, May 12th** at the Czech Club. It will feature Columbus band Vatra Živa (with our own Dona Hyll) and a preview of this year's Živio performance at A World A'Fair. As always, there will be tasty food, and the music will begin at 8 PM. See John Pappas for more information!



The Chair's Corner

Brochures for the myriad choices of summer folk dance camps, workshops, weeks, weekends, cruises, etc. are starting to appear on the kitchen counter -- be sure to peruse them and, better yet, sign up!

And while you're at the counter, please fill out our survey for (1) preferred Thursday night schedule and (2) next year's workshop choice.

Finally, don't forget to register for our 60th anniversary Romanian dance workshop with Cristian and Sonia, March 24-25. See you on the dance floor!

—Harry Khamis



First, Some Good News

Ed Anderson notes that his eldest grandchild Cora was introduced to folk dancing years ago when he held her in his arms while dancing to Never on Sunday. This coming spring she will receive her M.D. degree from Weill Cornell Medical College! She is now in Tanzania getting some practical experience.

And we are happy to report the birth of **Beth Mast's** son, Luke Allen Chase, on January 9th. She says it's been quite an adjustment, but he's fine, and she and Kevin are coping!

We've also heard from **Nirmal Mondol**, who says the 21-Day Himalayan Fiddle Adventure went very well, with 19 participants from the U.S., England, Scotland, and Korea playing not just fiddles but sitar and tabla. They raised enough money to sponsor a teacher at one of the Indian schools he supports.

In the almost-good-news department, **Dot Santi** is undergoing rehab (at Bethany Lutheran) after a fall. She'd enjoy hearing from people!

And a number of us were surprised and pleased to see **Eunice Yen** back at MVFD a few months ago. Because of her parents' health, she has had to move back to Taiwan, but she hopes to join us again at least once a year!

But perhaps our biggest and best good news is the election of **Jim Tsui** to the Engineering & Science Hall of Fame! This puts him in the company of Fermi, Edison, Kettering, and Pauling.

Who knew that our Jim was the world's leading authority on electronic warfare receiver technology, 50 patents' worth? Jim developed widely used standardized methods for evaluating receiver performance, and did pioneering work in signal processing methods. Then he invented the first-ever software GPS receiver.

Jim has also written seven books that are primary references for his fellow engineers (not to mention a host of grad students). No wonder he's an IEEE Fellow – and now in the Hall of Fame!



A Very Bad January

Ann Ballinger, a stalwart of MVFD for many years, died suddenly on January 7th at age 90. Born in Germany, she came to Dayton as a young girl. Ann and her husband Sam (who died in 2004), began dancing in 1957 – folk, round, square, and contra. From the early 1970s on, they were one of the driving forces in MVFD. Ann taught or supervised the beginners' class for many years, and as a Girl Scout leader also introduced great numbers of Scouts (and their leaders) to folk dance.

Ann and Sam were especially involved in organizing MVFD demonstrations at everything from the Sauerkraut Festival to A World A'Fair; Ann finally relinquished that role only in 2003! She chaired at least seven workshops, and held most of the possible MVFD officer positions at one time or another. (Sam was Treasurer for 16 years running.) Ann and Sam were named the 1992 MVDC Honor Roll dancers.

Ann followed the doings of MVFD through the newsletter, as well as reports from her grandson Karl Downing (who dances with Živio). There is a fine picture of her, Dot Santi, and Nancy Hyll at the Century Party in 2009 – *les grandes dames de MVFD!* We'll miss her.

Ray Gottschall's sister **Bonnie Shump** died on January 13th in hospice, at 78. We saw her only a couple of times a year, but she and her parents were active folkdancers in the late '40s and early '50s. She was only 19 when MVFD took shape! And she was still a lovely dancer in her late seventies.

Jeanine Yeager reports the death of her husband: "On December 30th, my husband Bob suffered a severe stroke. He was in Miami Valley Hospital for a week, then in hospice for about a week, and then passed away on January 16th. It all happened so dreadfully fast, and I miss him terribly."

And last, **Sister Janet Winandy** died peacefully on January 18th. She was only 74, but had been suffering from pancreatic cancer for several months. As Sister Rosemary Goubeaux put it, "We trust she is dancing in heaven, with no more pain!" The MVFD members who went to a service for her discovered so much more about her!

Janet joined the Sisters of the Precious Blood in 1954. She taught math and science, and also served as principal of elementary and secondary schools in CA and AZ. She was then called on to be director of her congregation's western region. Janet capped her career with 10 years as administrative assistant to the congregational leadership team in Dayton, where she joined MVFD.



Honor Dancers

Most of you already know that this year MVFD again nominated Leslie Hyll and Eddie Cordray as our candidates for the Miami Valley Dance Council Honor Dancers. As those of you who went to the dance know, this year they won – as they richly deserve to have! Their dance biographies can be found in the March 2011 newsletter, and on the MVFD website.



Annual Meeting

MVFD's 2012 Annual Meeting was held on January 8th. No earthshaking announcements were made, and the skit based on the Honor Couple nomination was reduced to a loudly polarized debate over whether we should renominate last year's nominees, Eddie and Leslie. (Fortunately for reality, the group decided to do so.)

Interesting news: 130 of the core dances will have been taught over 2 years. There are 83 subscribers to our group list. Shula Helzer has donated a wonderful collection of old dance records to the club. Henry Stovall and Gitta Reck have been chosen as members emeriti. Leslie Hyll is working with the East End Community Center on a program of dances for children and adults, profits to go to MVFD!