

Kopachka Folk Dancers

NEWSLETTER

Friday Calendar

DA! MOZHEM



www.kopachkafolkdancers.com

JANUARY 2019

4 all requests

>> PARTY 11 DA! MOZHEM

18

25

FEBRUARY 2019

1 all requests

Carol Friedman 8 Teaching

“ 15 “

22

MARCH 2019

1 all requests

8

15

22

29

APRIL 2019

(5) No dancing

12

19

FREE 26 BA Dance Wk

MAY 2019

3 all requests

>> PARTY 10 EDESSA

17

24

31

JUNE 2019

7 all requests

14

Summer break until Sept 6

Strawberry Recreation Center, 118 E. Strawberry Drive, Mill Valley

Exit Hwy.101 at Tiburon Blvd. (131); Go east towards Tiburon for 3/4 mile to E. Strawberry Drive. Turn right, then go straight to the parking lot entry on right.

From the President's Corner

This fall we had a very special Balkan folk dance party with **Bulgarika** on **October 19th** with our usual good turn out of exceptional dancers for a great evening with a live band.



Now, as we welcome in the New Year, **Da! Mozhem** will be returning for another Balkan Folk Dance Party on **January 11th, 2019, 8-10:30pm \$12, 1/2 price for students.** Da! Mozhem came last year at the same time and it was indeed a nice reason after the holidays to get together with our dancing friends. > **Mark your calendar!** (see ad above)

In February we'll have two Fridays with returning guest teacher from the North Bay **Carol Friedman, February 8th & 15th, 2019.** Stay tuned for details of what she'll be teaching in the weekly Blast.

As a reminder, on April 5th there will be no dancing at Kopachka, as Strawberry Recreation Center is booked, a yearly occurrence.

At the end of the month, **April 26th**, the first night of **Bay Area Dance Week** will be **free** for everyone at Kopachka.



Edessa has just agreed to play on **May 10th** for a **Balkan Folk Dance Party at Kopachka!**

A lot is happening on the Kopachka calendar! We hope you'll join us for any or all of the events, as well as, for our regular Friday teaching & dancing.

Donation time

Remember that **Kopachka Folk Dancers** is a member of the Folk Dance Federation of California, a **501(c)(3) charitable organization.** Any donations to Kopachka are tax deductible, as allowable by law, and accepted any time of the year. We keep our finances in order with a cushion to tide us through changes in venue or other need. (see our website for donations)

Dancing sparks joy!
Susie Shoaf, President
Kopachka Folk Dancers

SCHEDULE

7:30-8pm:
beg/interm. teaching

8-8:30pm:
interm/adv. teaching

8:30-10:30pm:
Dance Program
with light refreshments

First Friday monthly
All Requests:
7:30-10:30pm
No teaching

Entry \$7 | First time free
Monthly Pass option

Romanian trip last June

Last June, I had the pleasure of joining **Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu**, master Romanian dancers, on the 10-day group tour to Romania along with several members of Kopachka Folk Dancers. We were 40+ dancing aficionados from the US, Canada (Quebec), Germany, Sweden, Italy, England and even Romania.



The tour was based out of the university town of **Cluj-Napoca** in Transylvania, where **Camelia and Neluțu Motoc**, good friends of Sonia and Cristian, have directed a school of ethnic Romanian dance for 25 years.



The tour's focus was *'Ethnographic Travel in Transylvania and Bucovina'* encompassing day tours out of Cluj, dance classes, museum visits (wooden spoons and decorated eggs), and, the best part, village 'festivals' specifically for our group. We spent one weekend staying in Bucovina, a region northeast of Transylvania, in the green and rainy hills where storks sat in 4ft. wide nests atop light posts. In each town we visited the villagers all came out to greet us dressed in ethnic costumes, with bread, **tuica** (a red liquor distilled from fermented fruit) and music....then a performance, dinner, ending with dancing with all of us. Camelia and Neluțu's students, so professional and talented, performed 3 times for the group. The youngest was 8 years old and a perfect performer.

At the town of **Frata** we were serenaded by incredible violinists led by **Sandorica** and more dance performances over a feast of goulash and polenta. As we were leaving, the village organizer for the evening came aboard the bus to say goodbye, in Romanian of course. Cristian translated, but you could tell the host

wanted to say something in English to really communicate his feelings. All of a sudden he held up his arms as if to embrace us and said *'Barack Obama!'* It was great. The bus passengers, of course, burst into applause. It was a nice little cross-cultural highlight.

Near the end of our stay we headed up into the hills near Cluj to the village of **Marisel**, in even more rain, for a ride on horse-drawn carts, used in the fields, not for tourists. Greeted to a buffet of hors d'oeuvres, more tuica, then dinner, serenaded by incredible musicians, we ended the evening dancing around an enormous bonfire with the villagers.

This was so much more than a well-organized trip. It was a celebration of Romania, its customs, songs, dances, costumes, and feasting culture, in Dracula country! I'll be teaching many of the dances we learned at Kopachka Folk Dancers on Fridays in Mill Valley.

- by *Susie Shoaf*

(published in **Let's Dance**, Oct. 2018)



2018-2019

Board Members

- Susie Shoaf, president
- Nadav Nur, vice president
- Holly Hudson, secretary
- Richard Paoli, treasurer
- Toni Denmark, membership
- Elizabeth Settel, programs
- Marilyn Wronsky, publicity

**Financial Report
2018-2019 dance year**

June 30, 2018 balance:	\$5,885
Income:	\$2,495
Door	\$1,543
Door-Party	\$ 952
Donations	\$ 0
Expenses:	\$2,314
Rent	\$1,375
Music/teaching	\$ 750
Website	\$ 126
Insurance/dues	\$ 0
Printing/ads	\$ 50
Supplies	\$ 13
Net gain	\$ 181
Nov. 30, 2018 balance:	\$6,066

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