



Hi,

The heat is on! Temperatures are soaring, the sun is sweltering, and according to the National Weather Service, the high pressure dome responsible for heat waves looms over US cities from the Pacific Northwest to the East Coast. Such heat is often the ingredient for more severe weather and fires.

Glenn Frey sang about heat, fire, and high pressure in "The Heat is On," the 1984 soundtrack song to *Beverly Hills Cop*. Likewise, Soul and Funk Group, The Isley Brothers, in their 1975 song by the same title, advised listeners to "keep feet movin'" [sic] when the heat is on. Great advice! In their songs, both performers are actually referring to a second, non-weather related meaning of the idiom (i.e., being extremely busy or under pressure to achieve, produce, etc.). Curiosity about the relevance of fire to dance led me to some interesting findings. I found a number of fire-related stories, dances, dance scenes, and figures. One of them was "Nestinarsko Horo," a ritual fire dance presented by Yves Moreau in 1981. Check out some of my other compelling findings in the box below.

Thanks to Zoom, open dance studios and community centers, the heat does not keep us from dancing. Although concerns about the Covid Delta variant are ongoing, I hope that the dance community and its leaders will find inspiration in those who create, compose, design, and choreograph works/dances based on natural elements and language. We are thankful for the rain we have gotten in and around San Antonio in recent days. If you do not already have one, add a fire and/or a rain dance to your dance program to connect to nature, honor a choreographer, or just for fun! Those suffering loss and devastation due to flooding or fire are in our prayers.

Dorothy,
Editor

Ohio Players - Fire • TopPop (1973)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zqsYNc_M988

Dances With Wolves - Fire Dance (1990 Western)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1xSPAOWGcgA>

♪ JUST LIKE FIRE - {AMV Ballerina/ Leap !} 2016

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3wJeDPVpWN8>

Fire Dance - Marietta Greek Festival

<https://ps-af.facebook.com/MariettaGreekFestival/videos/fire-dance-marietta-greek-festival/1741180485920952/>

Making Connections: Dance and Exercise

Flexibility, which is achieved through movement (including dance) and regular stretching, is important for overall good health.

Seated Stretches For Seniors | 8 Stretches - Every Area (11 Minutes)

YouTube Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldUCy5KofZQ>



"The Burning of Zozobra"

It is tall, iconic, and chock full of gloom, but all that gloom will not last for long, and neither will its possessor. The fire spirit, with her well-rehearsed and tantalizing dance, riles the emotions of both the audience and "Old Man Gloom." She wields a fire torch in each hand as she dances, and with every well-executed movement, the 50-foot marionette's fiery demise draws closer.

I first learned about "The Burning of Zozobra" three years ago. My son brought home three issues of *New Mexico Magazine* from a local flea market. In the August 1975 edition was an article titled, "The Original Fiesta." On the page across, was a vividly-colored accompanying photograph of the then 40-foot marionette atop a hill with children playing around him. The burning has been a yearly Santa Fe, New Mexico tradition since 1924. Sources say that its creator, Artist William Schuster, borrowed the idea for from the Holy Week celebration of the Yaqui Indians of Mexico in which an effigy of Judas was burned.

Zozobra is stuffed with the gloom, (written notes, tickets, love letters, divorce papers, bad luck, failures, etc.) people want to have burned and put out of mind. It all goes up in flames when the marionette is set ablaze and burned to ashes. The Santa Fe Kiwanis Club organizes the event and donates the proceeds that are raised to support causes that improve the lives their community. It is admirable that the children of Santa Fe both benefit from and participate in this exciting event. Zozobra enlists the children to help spread gloom by performing a brave, but futile gloomies' dance. To learn more about this unique Santa Fe event, checkout the many sources on the web including this one: <https://burnzozobra.com/about/>

Do any Santa Fe folk dancers participate or perform in "The Burning of Zozobra" festivities? I contacted dance festival Mistress of Ceremonies and fellow folk dancer Kathy Molga and asked her to connect me with a Santa Fe folk dancer. Here is what Santafesina Sharon Flory told me:

"The Burning of Zozobra happens blocks from our home. The crowds, noise, and litter are off-putting to most of us. Folk dancers do not go there for the dancing, as far as I know. I have a friend who lives at the edge of Fort Marcy Park. Sometimes people take lawn chairs to this friend's parking lot and sit away from the chaos to watch the event. "The Burning of Zozobra" started at a man's farm years ago. My understanding is that he had a hard year and wanted to put the gloom and doom from that year behind him, so he created this old man gloom and burned him down to get rid of the negativity."

Thanks Kathy and Sharon!

COVID UPDATE

Please check with individual dance groups regarding their Covid-19 Code of Conduct.

Graphic artwork in editor's box drawn and designed by my son, artist Julian Avalos. A million thanks to my daughter, Accountant Laura Allen, for proofreading the newsletter each month!

Dancing Down Memory Lane Trivia.

Who is the flexible dancer in these photos?

The young and handsome dancer in these photos has everyone enthralled. He may have a few more years on him now, but he still captivates audiences with his dancing, his trendy fashion style, and his charisma. The answer to the trivia question, a recent photo, and some words from this well-known dance personality can be found on page 3.



Figure 1. Dancing with family at his Sister's wedding.



Figure 2. Dancing with his sister Cory at her wedding.

Photos courtesy of East European Folklife Center.

Dance Humor

"There was a dance teacher who talked of a very old dance called the Politician. "All you have to do" she told her class "is take three steps forward, two steps backward, then side-step side-step and turn around."

Source: <https://www.contemporary-dance.org/dance-jokes.html>

Dance Friends & Favs

Mike and Betty Russell Favorites Dance List:

Yarko Parag, Ceresna, T'filate, Mana Vu, Devichya Khordvodnaya, Hora de munte, Hora Veche, Hora de la Soroca, and Jovano Jovanke.



At a restaurant on the beach in California, April 2019.

Sometimes one dance is just not enough. "We really enjoyed listening to the music for all these dances."

-Thanks Mike and Betty

For Veteran, Military and All Kids 8 to Adult

DANCE FUN



an **online** program for **KIDS!**

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Balkan Bazaar also has 2 active "tiny tables" which are Google Slides presentations. [Shop now!](#)

Table #1 is https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1YTna17v4ICUsnYudphk4tFnXawOqyTaB0KbHsw_ac0A/edit#slide=id.g9048340f2f_2_75

And Table #2 is

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1HZbCnjd8S_XPmvcvusM20xZwkXDxajEeMveKQuVdKu8/edit#slide=id.p1

These addresses are also found on the intro / welcome page of their website. New goodies are being added to both pages.

Camps and Festivals

September 24-26, Mail-in Registration is now open for Shmulik Gov-Ari's much anticipated workshop with the Boulder International Folk Dancers at the Avalon Ballroom, Boulder, CO. **Register now** by downloading the registration form at: <https://www.boulderfolkdancers.org/events-workshops/2021/bifd-shmulik-gov-ari-2021-workshop>, or go to page 3 and print out and mail in the registration form.

Recurring Dance Events

Tuesday Nights -San Antonio Folk Dancers (SAFD)

In-person dancing at Lion's Field Community Center 2809 Broadway, 6:30-8:30pm. Simulcast on Zoom. Contact dennypoxy@gmail.com. Join the email list at host@sanantoniolfolkdancers.org.

AIFD hosts Sept. 3, Zoom dance & every other week until Austin Parks and Recreation allows in-person events. URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84780538417?pwd=aFFjUU1BSHVyRFZvTXlZTzBxalZiQT09>

HIFD in-person dancing suspended. Bi-weekly zoom dances resume Aug. 27. Zoom Link, changes and updates found at www.foldancers.org

First Tuesdays Free Beginner Clogging Classes, class Sept. 7; Oct. 5. Fire on the Mountain Cloggers – dance calendar, plus video or photo. Contact Linda Carolan at 210-344-2557 for more information. (See photo/video below).

Hungarian Folk Singing Circle/Népdalkör (Hungarian Folk Singing Workshops; Hungarian Pronunciation Classes; Weekly Hungarian Folk Singing Class Series; and Private Lessons). Led by Zina Bozzay. www.zinabozzay.com, or on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/hungarianfolksingingcircle/> Join from anywhere in the world.

Living Room Folk Dance (Zoom): Rebekah Valencia—Oklahoma City Folk Dancers. Find the link on their Facebook page. Email Rebekah at: cool_beques@yahoo.com to join the email list.

Every Third Saturday, 5:00-8:00PM CST (Zoom): Global Folk Dance Party, Peninsula Folk Dance Council. Dance playlists published. Check these sites for sign-in info. www.facebook.com/PFDCouncil/ or www.folkdance.com.

Texas Tuesday Israeli dancing 7:00 pm – 11:00 pm. Join Austin, Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio. Dance and/or schmooze. Requests always welcome! Link: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/9973201440> Password: TxTuesday

Online Events Calendars

www.daleadamson.com
<https://veselofolkdancers.org/events>.
www.folkdance.com California virtual folk dance event.

WELCOME FIRE ON THE MOUNTAIN CLOGGERS



Want to see an amazing video and support SAFDF in the process? Subscribe to the SAFDF YouTube channel. You don't have to be on Facebook to enjoy YouTube, so come on SAFD members, subscribe today. Help SAFDF reach its goal of 200 subscribers! Every subscriber helps. Use the link below. A new compilation! I hope you like it. <https://youtu.be/dRYmjtrbFFk>

-Mona Lisa Montgomery

Dancing Down Memory Lane Trivia (from p.2).



Joe Kaloyanides Graziosi

"Both pictures were taken at the reception in Lincoln, Massachusetts following my sister's wedding. With my sister (Fig. 2, p. 2), I am dancing a Syrtos and with the others (Fig. 1, p. 2), I am doing some leader improvisations for the Tsamiko. The man next to me holding me with the kerchief is not my father, but a family friend, Peter Sculos. My father is third down from line next to a cousin, Cindy Paleologos Kaloyanides. The woman who is basically at the end of the line on my other side is my mother's cousin Millie Dostou (Dostoglou). Cousin Milli, Peter Sculos, their spouses, my parents, and some others would always attend Greek dance functions as a group, and loved to hit the dance floor. My inspiration as a kid."

Joe

-Many thanks Joe!