

Greek music & dance at Ramblewood, 1996

GRECOPHILES and fans of *elliniki dhimotiki mousiki kai horoi!** We have a treat for you this year at the Ramblewood Balkan Music & Dance Workshop. A special program of Greek music and dance will be offered, including some of the finest exponents of this diverse genre. For your playing, singing and dancing pleasure we are featuring: **Bob Beer** (Pontic lyra and Greek ensemble), **Hector Bezanis** (Thracian gaida), **John (Yiannis) Roussos** (santouri), **Jim Stoyanoff** (clarinet), **Alicia Svigals** (violin), **Carol Freeman** (Thracian singing), and **Joe Kaloyanides Graziosi** (dance). We're waiting for confirmation on a few more Greek music teachers, so stay tuned!

Along with the broad choice of Greek music classes, we will also offer exciting evening diversions, including folklore presentations and dynamite live dance parties. On Friday we will have a Taverna Night, where you will have the opportunity to enjoy a Greek feast, accompanied by a rich variety of music, from village and island styles to urban rebetika, from lyrical "table" songs to lively dance tunes. Dinner music will segue into dancing, and we will make room for a night of boogie à la grècque! *Yeia sas***!

If Greek isn't your scene, or if you're just hankering for a bit of everything in the grand Balkan camp style, don't despair. We also offer a full complement of non-Greek Balkan music and dance experts who will be teaching tamburica, brass, Romanian, Bulgarian and Macedonian village styles. A complete listing of teachers is available in the workshop brochure. We hope to see you at Ramblewood this summer! 🍷

*Greek folk music and dances!
**Cheers!

1996
WORKSHOP DATES
🍷
MENDOCINO
JUNE 29-JULY 7
RAMBLEWOOD
JULY 20-28
REGISTER EARLY!
🍷



National Endowment for the Arts supports 1995 EEFC program

THANKS TO A GRANT from the National Endowment for the Arts, Folk Arts Program, the EEFC created a number of scholarships for members of Balkan-American communities to come to Balkan Camp to learn traditional music to take back to their communities.

Generally, the summer workshops at Mendocino, California and Ramblewood, Maryland have not had large numbers of Balkan-Americans among the campers. Staff, yes. Campers, no. In an effort to establish relations with Balkan-American communities, we submitted a grant proposal to the NEA. Our purpose was to bring to camp members of Balkan-American communities who did not have ready access to lessons in traditional music from masters of the art. We received notification of the \$25,000 grant in September, 1994.

Our attendees included members of the Greek-American community from Modesto, California, Macedonian-Americans from Horseheads, New York, and Bulgarian-Americans from New York City and Pittsburgh. One scholarship recipient, Helene Rampley, a 65-year-old Bulgarian-American resident of Red Bluff, California wrote:

"... [It] made me aware of how much I was starved for the music of my childhood. ... My gratitude is two-fold, first because I was the happy recipient of one of the scholarships of the National Endowment of the Arts, without which ... I would not have been able to attend ... [and second,] I was once again a part of a Balkan community, as I had been

while growing up. It was almost like going back home."

Dena Stamos, of Modesto, wrote: *"We were all so overwhelmed by the warmth we felt from everyone who attended this year and very grateful for all the talented people who generously*

shared their knowledge with us all. ... It was like being in a Greek village fifty years ago—the spirit and zest for life was sooooo contagious that these memories will last forever."

The NEA scholars' contribution to the scene at Balkan Camp was phenomenal. (I particularly recall a kafana scene at Mendocino that went until dawn!) Their exuberance enhanced an already exciting level of music

and dance. The energy was reflected and multiplied among the campers, creating a very special atmosphere at the 1995 Mendocino workshop.

Unfortunately, the likelihood of this program being a permanent fixture in the Balkan Camp scholarship program is very small. The NEA has been cut to 60 percent of its former budget of \$186 million. (That may sound like a great deal, but the Pentagon received slightly more than that in 1990 for the maintenance of its military bands alone!)

Whatever the future brings, I believe we have made some very good friends and established at least a small connection to the communities whose music and dance culture we love so dearly. 🍷

—Craig Kurumada
Development Director

From the EEFC board

Hello, campers and other members of the EEFC Community! As the chair of the Administrative Committee of EEFC, I've taken on the interesting, if somewhat confusing, task of trying to give you a feel for who the Board is this year and what we're about. Many of you have been following our travails for years and know the major issues. This year, as you will see, is one where some longtime challenges are being addressed.

Last year's board, in its Spring meeting, decided to reduce the size of the board from nine to seven members. We did this for several reasons, the most important being a reduction in required expenses and an increase in ease of communication. So far, this appears to be a good decision. The 1996 EEFC Board is a good group and is working together well.

First, some officer introductions are in order. When the board met at the end of September, we elected a new president to replace our recently departed (though not from the planet!) and sorely missed Danilo Yanich. Our new president, Michael Leach (Rochester, NY), has more experience than most in EEFC, non-profit boards, and volunteer work in general. Mike's steady temperament and solid focus are proving to be a real treasure to the board. We unanimously re-elected George Long (Albany, NY) as Treasurer. George has done an outstanding job with EEFC financial planning and analysis, and is in the middle of cleaning up our budget process. Jerry Agin was elected as Secretary to replace Mike Leach, who had been serving in this position. Jerry is a new board member, and we are all impressed with his manner and organization. Finally, we elected Joe Mandell (Palo Alto, CA) as Advisory Liaison. Joe is also a new member, who promises to contribute much with his experience.

As most of you know, we are a working board, made up of committees. We reorganized and consolidated our committee structure this year, partly as a result of our experience of the past few years of EEFC operations, and partly in recognition that, as a smaller board, we needed to



The 1995-96 EEFC Board of Directors met in September in Pittsburgh. Shown here, our board members are (front row, l to r): Jeanne Busch, Belle Birchfield, Jerry Agin, and Joe Mandell, and (back row, l to r): George Long, Dennis Godfrey and Mike Leach. Administrative Director Nancy Leeper also attended the meeting.

The meeting was graciously hosted by Jerry and Stefni Agin. Thanks also to David and Lynette Garlan who provided several board members with well-earned sleeping space.

reduce the number of hats each of us has to wear.

The **Program Committee** now combines program and staff selection functions. Committee members are Belle Birchfield (New York City), Dennis Godfrey (Portland, OR), and our much-revered Program Director Rachel MacFarlane (Eugene, OR), and it is co-chaired by Belle and Dennis. As new board members, Belle and Dennis have jumped right in on some of the toughest work. I know you'll be impressed with the slates the committee has worked out for the upcoming workshops. Rachel is in charge of the day-to-day work of dealing with staffs, scheduling, and many other program details you campers all take for granted as you sail through another EEFC Balkan Music & Dance Workshop.

Treasurer George is chair of the **Finance Committee**, and juggling the budget to enable us to do everything on a shoestring is primarily his responsibility. Other members of the committee are Jeanne Busch (Columbia, MD) and Mike Leach. George has been working with the staff to develop consistent budgeting processes that work for both the day to day operations of EEFC and for both short- and long-range planning. Since keeping our finances on track (and out of the hole) is one of our

biggest responsibilities, George is frequently challenged by the task of figuring out how to cope with budget crises as they arise. (Fortunately, he does a considerably better job than certain persons in Washington D.C., who shall remain nameless.) Also fortunately, the budget and related issues command the attention of the entire board, and we on the committee appreciate the input and consideration of all members, as well as that of our administrative staff.

The **Development Committee**, chaired by president Mike, copes with our continued attempts to find outside sources of funding. Much of the work is done by our Development Director, Craig Kurumada (Arcata, CA), whose grant-writing genius is much appreciated! In addition to the load of grant applications and other kinds of fund raising, this year the committee (with the Long Range Planning Committee) will explore the creation of a membership organization within EEFC to increase participation and communication in the community.

The **Long Range Planning Committee**, chaired by Joe Mandell, is reviewing and updating the organization's goals and objectives and looking at how EEFC will cope



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For information about the East European Folklife Center, the Balkan Music & Dance Workshops, or to be included on our mailing list, contact us at the address above, call 541/344-6349, or send e-mail to office@eefc.org. Address all comments or submissions to this newsletter to Nancy Leeper, Editor, EEFC News.

EEFC Administrative Staff, 1995-96

Nancy Leeper,
Administrative Director
Rachel MacFarlane,
Program Director & Office Manager
Craig Kurumada,
Development Director

EEFC Board of Directors, 1995-96

Jerry Agin
Secretary
Belle Birchfield
Jeanne Busch
Dennis Godfrey
Michael Leach,
President
George Long,
Treasurer
Joe Mandell,
Advisory Liaison

Minutes from the Sept. 1995 EEFC Board of Directors meeting are available from Jerry Agin, Secretary. Contact him at 247 Main Entrance Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15228 (or e-mail: agin@cgi.com).



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From the editor

AS WE START our big push to gear up for the 1996 Workshops, we inevitably end up reminiscing about last year's camps. Overall, they were terrific. Six months away from the dust (at Mendocino) and the heat (at Ramblewood), all we *really* remember are the good times, the wonderful music, dancing 'til we dropped, and the friends we hope to see again this coming June and July.

Some of our memories of recent camps are pictured on the following pages. Belle Birchfield has collaborated with us in writing a short review of the Mendocino workshop, and the inimitable Matt Smith gives us his, well, *nocturnal* perspective on Ramblewood '95.

What are *your* favorite memories of last year's camps? We encourage you to pull out that kaval, gŭdulka, tambura, doumbek or brač, sing a song, or dance a dance that you learned last summer. Perhaps you'll conjure up your *own* best moments!

We also encourage you to read Jeanne Busch's letter from the board (page 2). As much as none of us want to admit it, the workshops don't appear by magic, but are the result of a complex team effort by board members, administrative staff, advisors, teaching staff, scholarship workers, and volunteers. Both through extensive e-mail and telephone communication and in its bi-annual meetings, the board thoughtfully addresses issues of program planning and financial development that will ensure our success long into the future. We hope that Jeanne's discussion of the committee structure sheds some light on the workings of EEFC.

Join us this year at one of our workshops! The Greek emphasis at Ramblewood promises to be an exciting celebration of music and dance that you don't want to miss. Both camps will also have our regular complement of music and dance instruction from the Balkans. Remember to REGISTER EARLY!!

See you soon!

—Nancy Leeper
Administrative Director

BUY A MATTRESS

Remember those great new mattresses at Mendocino? The Mendocino Woodlands is soliciting donations to pay for our comfy new beds that were installed last summer. Your contribution of only \$35 pays for the bed you sleep in, so please consider making this much needed contribution.

Send your tax-deductible contribution to MWCA/Friends of the Woodlands, c/o Nancy Linscott, 53 Presidio Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941. *Thanks!*

New Q&A column in EEFC News

EVERY YEAR we ask all workshop participants to fill out our questionnaire. We truly appreciate your input, and find the summaries of your comments to be quite valuable in assessing our program. Some items and suggestions are easily applied, and others (though often terrific ideas) are beyond our scope. This year many of you had some concerns about issues and incidents that arose at the workshops that we would like to address here.

In the future, we invite you to submit your questions and concerns to us on a regular basis. Many of you share the same concerns, so we would like to address them in a regular Q&A column in this newsletter: *Dear John Cougar Balkancamp*. John (and his staff) will review your questions and try to answer a few in each issue. We hope you'll use this forum to help us educate the EEFC community on issues that concern all of us.

Q: *There were a lot more kids than usual at Mendocino this year, and some of them didn't have enough to keep them occupied. Does EEFC have any plans to increase the kids program?*

A: The Mendocino workshop had the good fortune to have lots of kids attending this year. Petur Iliev adeptly captured their attention during the day in his rigorous movement classes and in his much-appreciated direction on the soccer field. Also, many of the older kids took part in music classes and showed us their talented stuff at the student concert. It appeared that more structure was needed to keep the kids entertained and occupied during non-class times. Fortunately, the problems that arose were addressed quickly and the parents and kids rallied and figured out some great ways to structure non-class time, particularly the evening hours.

Your comments and our experiences in "crowd control" encouraged us to address the issue of unstructured time for kids. This year at Mendocino, we will be setting up a parents' cooperative that will be coordinated by a scholarship worker. This person will contact all the parents before camp starts and plan some activities to start the kids off. At the beginning of camp, parents and kids

will meet to coordinate their ideas for activities and set schedules. If you are planning to bring your children to Mendocino this year, and are interested in the children's activities coordinator position, please contact Nancy as soon as possible. We really want to keep kids coming to camp, and are doing what we can do to promote their participation.

Q: *We've heard rumors about a festival to be held at the end of Ramblewood next summer. Is that going to happen? And what was the deal with that annoying film crew last summer?*

A: The rumors of a *proposed* collaborative production between EEFC and the Bulgarian embassy for the '96 East Coast workshop were true. However, that project has been cancelled for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the board's concern about the potential disruption of camp by an outside enterprise.

In conjunction with the proposed event, a film crew was on site for the last day or so of camp. Unfortunately, members of the publicity film crew overstepped their bounds with insensitive taping. We can't categorically say that we will never allow outside filming of our workshops, as such exposure may, in the future, be vital to our survival. However, we will carefully screen film crews for their professional integrity, and workshop participants will be notified of any and all taping activities in advance. Such filming will be kept to a minimum, with the least possible impact on the regular activities of the workshop. —J.C. Balkancamp

Please submit your questions to the EEFC office, either through our mail address, or by e-mail.

We're sorry for any inconvenience or discomfort that either of these situations may have caused you. It's not easy to anticipate issues and incidents such as these, but we try to stay on top of things as best as we can. The good news is that, as our "villages" evolve into "towns" we can offer more in our programs and activities. The bad news is that, with this growth, we will encounter new challenges as our population changes and grows. We appreciate the input of those of you who spoke up and hope you'll continue to contribute solutions to these challenges as they occur.

—Nancy Leeper, Administrative Director,
and the EEFC Board of Directors

A look back...

As people said their goodbyes at the end of the Mendocino workshop last summer, many described their experience with the words "magic" and "warmth" and "best ever."

The sense of magic comes from both the people and the place. New faces, long-time campers, and a tremendous teaching staff all worked together to create a sense of cohesiveness that harkened back to the days before Balkan Camp outgrew camp Two. The Mendocino Woodlands is the perfect idyllic setting for such energy to take root and flourish.

So why was it the "best ever"? We'll try to tease apart the whole to find the reasons. The evening parties were varied and well organized, with lots of campers participating, as well as staff musicians. At the beginning of the week, there was the Albanian *devollice* with intertwining clarinets played by Tamar Seeman and George Chittenden. Each player added their own personality, but the piece was unified by a solid, stretched rhythm so characteristic of that region. The week continued with set after set of incredibly excellent music, notably Carol Silverman's rocking Rom set and Michael Ginsburg's brass set.

Campers as well as staff performed in the dance hall and the

MENDOCINO



Nancy Klein, Polly Tapia Ferber, and George Chittenden entertain at the lamb roast. Photo by Joanne Splivalo, 1993.

kafana. The bitov jam was a truly amazing experience. We were lucky to have an incredible group of talented musicians at camp that evening who shook the rafters with the musical genre many see as the very soul of Balkan Camp.

We had a number of new campers this year, including several NEA scholarship recipients. These folks—most of them first time participants—added greatly to the energy and generated enthusiasm to classes, the evening parties, and especially to the kafana scene.

There were also a lot of kids at

camp this year, adding their *own* kinds of energy. In spite of a few unexpected conflicts, in the balance the kids definitely heightened the experience for many of us. Petur impressed and delighted us all with his ability to focus the kids' energy in his Bulgarian dances and other energetic dance productions, not to mention his rousing daily soccer games. Many of the older kids participated in music classes and performed impressively at the student concert. It is truly a joy to watch the interest and involvement of the kids in Balkan music and dancing, and we hope their experience stays with them far into the future.

The food was outstanding! Jeff O'Connor's kitchen artistry and Ruth Hunter's bread baking were decidedly magical ingredients. Oh, how we long for Jeff and Ruth's homemade goodies!

And the kafana. It's hard to say too much good stuff about Michael Brennan's warm and friendly pub atmosphere. Although the Kurumada Kure and Brennan's local brew may inspire forgetfulness, we haven't forgotten the saz extravaganza or Bob Beer's Arootasha mania (with first-time Arootasha-er David Bilides on the floor, laughing 'til he cried). In fact, we don't want to forget any of it.

Although it's hard to put it on paper, Mendocino was nothing less than magic. Let's see what kind of spell we can cast *next* summer! 🍷

Lisa Shochat and Dennis Godfrey warming up at Mendocino. Photo by Joanne Splivalo, 1993.



WE NEED PHOTOS

We invite you to submit your favorite camp photos (b&w or color prints) for possible inclusion in the *EEFC News* or other Balkan Music & Dance Workshop publicity materials.

We especially need photos from Ramblewood!

Please send copies (you keep the original) of your photos, clearly marked on the back with your name, address, phone number. Also include the year the photo was taken, and, if possible, identify any individuals in the picture.

Thanks!

RAMBLEWOOD

I bought a great deal of ice for Balkan Camp this year. I'd estimate it was about 800 pounds. I think we put it to good use, supplying cold beer to the after-midnight crowd. And since I ran the Kafana this year, I was awake when the after-midnight crowd, and the after-one AM crowd, and the after-3:30 AM crowd finally became the let's-sleep-it-off crowd. Then it was time to clean up, and head for my own bed, where, with luck, I would remain until dinner. I can't quite say what went on at Balkan Camp during the day, but at night . . . As a result, it should surprise no one that I was asked to write an article describing the highlights of Camp this year.

Musicians of a variety of stripes taught an amalgam of classes, led a host of ensembles, coached a bevy



Instructors Yuri Yunakov, Ivaylo Koutchev, Seido Salifoski and Radoy Gueorguiev blow the roof off the joint at Ramblewood. Photo by Margaret Loomis, 1994.



Carol Silverman dances a wild *čoček* before the student concert at Mendocino. Photo by Joanne Splivalo, 1993.

of singers, and demonstrated the finer points of *narodni hora**. Gajdas bleated, kavals whistled, tupans boomed and takked, and prims plinked. Voices choraled, glottals stopped, and harmonies blended. Feet *pas de basque*'d, elbows bent in a double-u hold, and knees ached. All this I have on the highest authority, as I was not on hand to actually witness it.

Dinner made an excellent breakfast, I must say, and Janet Diamond Bradley did her usual fine job of making us all regret that circumstances make it impossible for us to have her cook for us the remaining 51 weeks of the year. Research continues on Project Clone-the-Cook by our team of crack biologists, and if their NSF funding holds out we can each expect personalized copies of Janet by the year 2002 (using the Congressional Budget Office figures) or the year 2005 (using the Office of Management and Budget figures).

Musicians entirely too talented for their own good played at the evening parties and later in the Kafana. Tamburitzas tamburitzed, Izgori burned, a saz followed a sax, clarinets wailed, and brass rang. The

zurlas were silenced this year, however, because of new OSHA regulations in the wake of the Kenosha Hundred Zurla Festival tragedy in April.

Extortion reared its Medusa-head later in the week as guerrilla Scandanavian musicians demanded playing time at the Kafana. "Nice place you've got here—would be a shame if it would burn, know what I mean," smarmed fiddler-terrorist Catherine Foster in a thinly disguised threat. Vowing never to negotiate with terrorists, I decided this didn't mean I couldn't just give in to their demands outright, so I allowed them to play on Saturday night. Top terrorist Sanna "The Bull" Rosengren led the group as the Swedish Chef.

Sunday I left, free from wondering who I could schedule to play that evening. Just wait till next year! 🐉

—Matt Smith

*folk dances

EEFC scrambles into the Information Age

Over the past few years, EEFC has slowly but surely become not just computer friendly, but computer dependent. To minimize expenses, our far-flung board meets face-to-face only twice a year and conducts nearly all of its communications over e-mail. The administrative staff is also able to cut costs by doing the same whenever possible. With the high cost of conducting business over the phone or even by fax, EEFC would stretch its resources to the breaking point if it had to work "the old fashioned way." Electronic mail has made it possible for EEFC to form a board that represents both the East and West Coast Balkan music scenes.

For the past few years, Rich Schultz has managed the EEFC e-mail list, a forum for discussion of EEFC activities, and topics in Balkan music and dance. Thanks to his dedication and planning, the EEFC discussion list now serves over 300 people in our community. For more information, see column at right.

Rich has also recently coordinated

all of our personal internet addresses under an EEFC alias. You can now reach anyone at the EEFC office at the address office@eefc.org.

In the near future, we hope to take advantage of exciting developments in access to the World Wide Web to increase EEFC's visibility. At this time, we have a web site, which was put together last fall by Bill Cope as a link from his *Balkan Tunes* home page. A team of nimble-fingered folks are currently planning and developing this site, which will help us keep in touch with our existing electronic community and introduce us to the world at large. This page can now be accessed through our own URL (web site address) at www.eefc.org.

Our team of volunteer web site builders, which currently includes Belle Birchfield, Bill Cope, Dennis Godfrey and Rich Schultz, has set up an alias to receive your comments and suggestions. If you're interested in working with our team of builders and have experience in HTML programming, please contact them at webheads@eefc.org. The team is

developing a home page that ultimately will have all kinds of information, including the annual brochure text, updates on staff changes, this newsletter, and general information about EEFC activities.

By next year, those of you with email or web browser capability will be able to receive workshop information on the internet, including a registration page that you can print and mail in with your registration fees. This year, however, we have to proceed the old fashioned way—by snail mail.

For those of you just discovering the World Wide Web, Dennis Godfrey has compiled a short list of sites for you to explore (see box at bottom of this page). This list is by no means comprehensive, but just a point of entry for novice browsers.

We'll try to publish a few interesting Balkan-music oriented sites in each issue, so send your suggestions for fun and interesting places to visit on the 'net, along with a short description of the site to webheads@eefc.org.

GET ON THE 'NET

The EEFC e-mail list is for discussion of all issues concerning the East European Folklife Center, and the events it sponsors, including the Balkan Music & Dance Workshops and EEFC fundraisers. We also encourage general discussions of Balkan music and dance. If you have any questions about the EEFC list, send them to:

rich@ccrwest.org

To subscribe, send the message

subscribe eefc

to:

majordomo@eefc.org

Feeling adventurous? Check out these web sites

You have a computer, an internet connection and have heard about the World Wide Web or have seen the letters WWW. You're interested. Now what?

First, you need a Web Browser. There are three ways to obtain a browser. *Netscape Navigator*, one very popular browser, can be purchased for about \$25 to \$35 from many mail order catalogs that specialize in computer software. Browsers can also be found bundled with other software: I found *Netscape* on the install disk for *WordPerfect*. *MacWeb*, another browser (for the Mac), is included with "Internet Starter Kit," a two-inch thick book that will tell you more than you ever wanted to know about the internet. Finally, a *free* browser can be downloaded from the net.

OK, let's go explore (I'm assuming you have a current internet connection active). I'll use *Netscape*, as that is the browser with which I am most familiar.

Click the Open button. Try typing:

<http://ASUdesign.eas.asu.edu/Plamen.Bliznakov/Bulgaria/BabaMarta/>

That long string of characters is called a URL, or Uniform Resource Locator.

Pretty cool, huh? Here are a few other URLs to try:

<http://www.mhs.mendocino.k12.ca.us/MenComnet/Business/Retail/larknet/larkhp.html/>
Lark specializes in hard to find musical instruments. This online catalog includes descriptions as well as pictures of various instruments. While exploring this site, look for:
<http://www.mhs.mendocino.k12.ca.us/MenComNet/Business/Retail/Larknet/ArtBagpipeOverview/>

Oh, before you call it quits, check out *Balkan Tunes* at:

<http://deepthought.armory.com/~cope/balkantunes/>

and our own EEFC home page at:

<http://www.eefc.org/>

Now that you're on your way, if you see anything cool, send the URL our way and we'll spread the word.

—dennis godfrey

From the EEFC board continued from page 2

with the challenges ahead. Joe is most interested in developing a membership organization for EEFC.

To streamline the committee structure, the **Administrative Committee**, chaired by yours truly, Jeanne Busch, has incorporated publicity responsibilities into its task list this year. We attempt to assist our able Administrative Director, Nancy Leeper (Eugene, OR), in the ongoing work of supporting the organization's activities, getting information out to all of you, and preparing for our annual workshops. Though you may not notice too much of Nancy outside camper registration, hers is the skill and sweat behind literally thousands of little details that make the EEFC camps run so smoothly and professionally, including advising the board on all matters of the ongoing administration of EEFC.

This year, as in the past, the board's biggest struggle is with the sticky question of how to navigate the road between rising costs and expectations, and changes in the Balkan music and dance community that have affected our attendance levels. Each board member has ideas, and we're working on these in the various committees. The Program committee has juggled teacher slate sizes and compositions to try to present complete and balanced programs without breaking the bank. We've struggled with the issue of teacher honoraria (how we would *love* to pay our dedicated teachers and administrative staff what they're really worth!). We struggle with the issue of camp tuition (how we would *love* to let our enthusiastic and loyal campers in for little or nothing!). We worry about a lot of things. We worry that community support is waning (particularly at the East Coast camp). We work hard at maintaining variety in our programs while not straying too far from our focus. And we worry about the weather and dozens of other variables over which we have little or no control. Ultimately, our biggest concern is the *survival* of the East European Folklife Center and the Balkan Music & Dance Workshops.

Obviously, with only seven board members, we each wear a number of hats and serve on more than one committee. Along with the inval-

able assistance of our administrative staff, some of our committees are aided by advisors and volunteers from the community whose interests and expertise are of great help to the organization. We welcome your input, and encourage you to attend our Lunch With the Board sessions at each workshop this summer, where we can try to answer your questions about the organization, and address your concerns about Balkan Camp.

Being an EEFC board member is a lot of work. Our big reward, however, is the success of our workshops each summer. Part of what makes them successful is your participation. Thanks for your support in the past, and we truly hope to see you again this summer. Here's hoping 1996 will be another good year for EEFC! 🍀

—Jeanne Busch

MORE FROM THE MENDOCINO WOODLANDS . . .

Dear Balkan Campers,

Friends of the Woodlands is a support group for the Mendocino Woodlands Association, which focuses on the preservation of the Woodlands camps.

Please join us in realizing our goals for the coming year:

- constructing a new bathroom in Camp 1 between the dining hall and dance hall;
- obtaining three new stoves; &
- obtaining National Historic Landmark status for the Woodlands.

Friends of the Woodlands is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Please send your tax-deductible contribution to:
MWCA/Friends of the Woodlands
c/o Nancy Linscott
53 Presidio Ave.
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Include your name, address, phone, and indicate that you attend Balkan Camp.

thank you!

PLEASE READ THIS LETTER!

Dear Friend of Balkan Music and Dance:

The Balkan Music & Dance Workshops are unique opportunities to learn, share and enjoy the wealth of music and dance traditions of the Balkan people and of Balkan ethnic communities in the U.S. and Canada.

We are asking for your financial support to ensure the continuation of the Balkan Workshops. We are committed to providing campers of all ages and levels with balanced and diverse class selection. But, each year our expenses are formidable and our financial resources continue to be very limited. We depend on workshop tuition fees, fund-raising auctions, benefit concert/dances, grants and donations. Overall cutbacks in government grant programs makes the competition for private sources more difficult than ever.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please consider a donation of \$25 or more. The EEFC is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization, so your donation is tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

We also accept donations of supplies and materials. Office supplies, sound/video equipment, and consumables (such as kafana beverages and supplies) are welcome. Currently, one of our big priorities is the acquisition of two small photocopiers. Please contact me or the EEFC office if you have any questions about what you might be able to contribute.

You may also consider sponsoring a fund raising event in your area to benefit the EEFC and the Workshops. An event such as a concert, dance or film showing could raise funds, publicize the workshops, and can be great fun, too! Let us know if you are interested; we can help you in a number of ways.

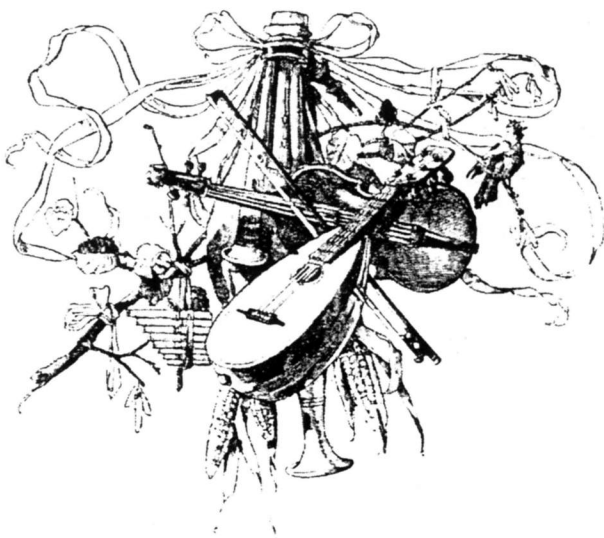
To those of you who are regular participants at our workshops: Thanks for your ongoing support! Thanks especially to those who continue to contribute so generously to our fundraising auctions. By simply telling people about Balkan Camp, you provide encouragement and information to more and more new campers.

—Craig Kurumada
Development Director

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1996 BALKAN MUSIC & DANCE WORKSHOPS

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Camp Ramblewood, Maryland: July 20–28