# CHICAGO AREA FOLK DANCE SCENE

Prepared by Mady Newfield. Please contact her at folkdancenews@gmail.com, or 630-584-0825 with updates or questions.

This printable directory is prepared with the hope that all those interested in participating in traditional dancing can find types that suit their abilities, locations and schedules, and that group leaders can make this list available dancers who might be seeking additional types of dancing to try. The groups in the day-by-day listings welcome newcomers. In some cases fees are waived for first-timers. The "other ongoing" list is a mix of classes and performance groups. The most recent date when information was confirmed is given at the end of each listing. The editor cannot guarantee that the listing is up to date, so it is advisable to call or email to verify times and locations of all events.

## SUNDAY

ALL-AGES BARN DANCE, second Sunday of the month, Oct - March, also April 19, 2-3:30 p.m., Grace Lutheran Church, 493 Forest Ave., Glen Ellyn. Live fiddle music by Jonathan and Friends; caller Meg Dedolph. Info: meg@thecosmicotters.com, or allagesbarndance.org. Facebook: All-Ages Barn Dance. Free, but donations requested. (7/19)

BALKAN BASICS Dance Class & Ensemble Balkanske Igre rehearsals, Sundays, 12-2pm, 6069 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago. \$5 donation toward room rental. Balkan Basics dance class open to the public; no partners or experience necessary; all levels from beginner to expert are welcome. Ensemble rehearsal by invitation only. Yearly Spring Festival dance and music workshop weekend at U. of Chicago, usually late March. Info: 847-858-9822, 847-331-7842, or balkanske\_igre@yahoo.com (2/19)

BARN DANCE: 2nd Sun of the month (Sept-June), 6:30 pm; and 3rd Sun of the month (Nov-Apr), 2pm; Chicago Barn Dance Company, varied bands and callers; Kuhn Village Barn at Fermilab, between Warrenville and Batavia; \$7 adults, \$4 teens & seniors (65), under 12 free. Co-sponsored by Fermilab Folk Club and Fox Valley Folklore Society. Info: Juel Ulven 630-897-3655, Lynn Garren 630-840-2061, juelu@aol.com, folkclub@fnal.gov; www.fnal.gov/orgs/folkclub; www.foxvalleyfolk.com; www.chicagobarndance.org (2/19)

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING AT FERMILAB: once a month on Sunday, 2-5 pm, (1 pm for experienced dancers) and occasional Monday evenings 7:30-10 pm, Kuhn Village Barn at Fermilab, between Warrenville and Batavia; donation. No partner necessary. All dances taught. Frequent live music by Old Fezziwig's Band. Info: Mady Newfield 630-584-0825, folkdance@fnal.gov; https://chicagolandecd.org/local-dancing/fermilab-ecd/; Facebook group: Chicagoland English Country Dancers (2/19)

ISLA PACIFIKA: Hawaiian, Tahitian, and Chamorro dance, 490 Elston, Chicago; classes Sundays, adult 10-11:30am, children 11:30-12pm. Also performing group. Info: islapacifika@gmail.com; www.islapacifika.com (8/16)

SCANDINAVIAN TURNING DANCE CLASSES: 6-9 pm; St Luke Presbyterian Church, 3910 Highland Ave, Downers Grove, or St. Paul's UCC, 5739 Dunham Rd, Downers Grove; \$10/class. Basics 6pm, intermediate class follows. Evening includes classes, live music, a snack break, and social dancing. Taught by Roo Lester & Larry Harding. No previous experience or partner required. Hard soled shoes strongly encouraged. Generally meets Sept-May. Call to verify location and if meeting. Info: Roo Lester 630-985-7192, DancingRoo@aol.com (2/19)

## MONDAY

ISRAELI DANCING IN NAPERVILLE: 7-8:45pm; Congregation Beth Shalom, 772 W 5th Av, Naperville; contact before coming. Info: Diane Toby 630-470-7921 or Brian Toby 630-327-8426, bhtoby@comcast.net (2/19)

CHICAGO BARN DANCE CO: 7-9:40pm; Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox, Chicago; \$7/\$5. Contras, squares, featuring live music and instruction. Info: 224-534-9173, info@ChicagoBarnDance.org; www.chicagobarndance.org (2/19)

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING IN OAK PARK: Usually 3rd Monday each month, 7-10 pm; Nineteenth Century Club Ballroom, 178 Forest Ave, Oak Park. \$10 adults/\$5 students & seniors, (more for special events) proceeds benefit Nineteenth Century Charitable Assoc. Scholarship Fund. Frequent live music. Info: Randi Woodworth 708-524-9322; chicagolandecd@gmail.com; https://chicagolandecd.org/local-dancing/oak-park-ecd/; Facebook group: Chicagoland English Country Dancers (2/19)

EVANSTON MONDAY NIGHT FOLKDANCERS: 7:30-10:30pm; Lake St Church, 607 Lake St (corner of Lake St. & Chicago Ave), Evanston (entrance through courtyard on Chicago Ave); \$5. Beginners welcome, teaching between 8-9pm. Annual Events: Regional Potluck Folkdance party in fall and Out of the Woodwork Party in December (see website for dates). Info: Michael Goff 847-867-8964; emnfdancers@gmail.com; www.EvanstonFolkDance.org (2/19)

IRISH SET DANCING: 7:30 pm; Gaelic Park, 6119 W 147th St, Oak Forest; \$3. Info: Terry Carmody 708-738-3003, carmsenior@aol.com (2/19)

## **TUESDAY**

IRISH CEILI DANCING 7 pm; Gaelic Park, 6119 W 147th St, Oak Forest; \$2. Info: Donna Killen 773-315-6145, dlkillen@yahoo.com (2/19)

IRISH SET DANCING: 7:30-9:00pm; Room 111, Irish American Heritage Ctr, 4626 N Knox, Chicago; \$5 suggested donation. Lessons for new dancers 7-7:30pm with Kate Weatherly-Cooley. Info: annodonnell2376@sbcglobal.net, info.francisoneillclub@gmail.com; www.francisoneillclub.org; Facebook group: Francis O'Neill Club - Chicago Ceili and Set Dancing (2/19)

MORRIS OLD TIME DANCES: 4th Tues of the month (2nd Tues in Nov and Dec), 7-9:30pm; Peace Lutheran Church, 101 Candlelight Lane, Morris, IL; \$6 suggested donation for adults (children free). Beginners welcome. Recorded or live music. Info: Dan Saathoff 630-780-2754, dansaathoff@comcast.net; visit http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MorrisOldTimeDance and join the group to receive regular email reminders (2/19)

ROKDIM CHICAGO: 7:30-11pm, Little Beans Café, 430 Asbury, Evanston. All levels welcome; teaching for beginner and intermediate followed by open dancing; \$10/\$5 students. Info: Bruria 773-454-7709, Yoram 847-732-7899, rokdimchicago@gmail.com; www.rokdimchicago.com, Facebook group: Rokdim Chicago (2/19)

SILK & THISTLE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING: 7:30-10pm; Kuhn Village Barn at Fermilab; donation. RSCDS Chicago Branch class. Occasional live music. Beginners always welcome. Info: Doug Jensen 630-232-9089, Mady Newfield 630-584-0825, folkdance@fnal.gov or chicagoscd@gmail.com; https://rscdschicago.org/silk-and-thistle-class/; Facebook group: Scottish Country Dance Chicago - RSCDS Branch (7/19)

## WEDNESDAY

NORTHBROOK ISRAELI FOLK DANCE GROUP: 7-10pm; Bernard Weinger JCC, 300 Revere Drive, Northbrook, \$10. Led by Jim Rust and Harriette Leibovitz. Info: Hillary Wenk 224-406-9257 or Jim Rust 847-492-9393, hwenk@jccchicago.org (2/19)

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING IN EVANSTON: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. of the month, 7:30-9:30pm, Chandler-Newberger Center, 1028 Central, Evanston, IL 60201; \$5 (\$3 students). Occasional live music. Info: Cheryl Yenter 847-922-6586, cheryent@comcast.net https://chicagolandecd.org/local-dancing/evanston-ecd/; Facebook group: Evanston English Country Dancers (7/19)

FOLKDANCE SKOKIE: 8-10pm; Weber Fitness Center, 9300 Weber Park Place (corner Church Street and Gross Point Rd), Skokie; adults \$5/students \$2.50; first session free. Teaching during first hour. Newcomers and children welcome. Snacks provided. Party night on all major holidays. Sponsored by the Skokie Park District. Info: Dit Olshan 847-966-6888, Dit321@aol.com (8/16)

LEIKARRINGEN "HEIMHUG" NORWEGIAN FOLK DANCERS OF CHICAGO: 7:30-9:3 pm (Sept-June); Norwood Crossing (Heritage Room), 6016 N. Nina Ave, Chicago; performing group practice. Info: Barbra Kronborg-Mogil 847-823-7596, kronmo815@gmail.com (2/19)

OAK PARK/RIVER FOREST FOLK DANCERS: 7:30-10:30pm; Christ Episcopal Church, 515 Franklin, River Forest; \$6/\$4 age 12 and under. Info: Edie Spear 224-723-5054, edancemore@comcast.net (2/19)

# THURSDAY

AFTERNOON FOLK DANCING: 2-4pm The Levy Center, 300 Dodge, Evanston, in the exercise room; A/C; \$5. Taught by Edie Spear. Info: Edie Spear 224-723-5054, edancemore@comcast.net (2/19)

CHICAGO ISRAELI DANCING: usually Thursdays 7:30-11:30pm (occasional change due to holidays); Robert Crown Center, 1701 Main Street, Evanston. 7:30 teaching for beginners by Penny Brichta; 8:15-9 general teaching led by Phil Moss; 9-11:30 requests. Monthly party the last Thursday of month. \$10 (\$12 for party). Further info: Phil 847-274-1809; philip\_b\_moss@hotmail.com; Penny 847-256-4379; pjbrichta@hotmail.com. Email Phil to subscribe to newsletter. Facebook group: Chicago Israeli Dancing (6/19)

FERMILAB INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING: 7:30-10pm; Kuhn Village Barn at Fermilab (just N of Batavia Rd on the Fermilab site, near Rt. 59 in Warrenville; enter lab at either gate, ID ready); donation. Beginners & children welcome. Teaching and children's dances early, request dancing later. Info: Mady Newfield 630-584-0825, folkdance@fnal.gov; www.fnal.gov/orgs/folkdance/; Facebook group: Fermilab International Folk Dancing (2/19)

NORDIC FOLK DANCERS OF CHICAGO: 7:30-9:30pm; Norwood Park Field House, 5801 N Natoma, Chicago; open practice of performing group. Dances from Scandinavian - Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland. Info: Linda Westergren-Muhr 773-685-8851, lwestergrenmuhr@earthlink.net (2/19)

SOUTH SUBURBAN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS: 2:30-4:30 pm, St Andrew Church, 18850 Riegel Rd, Homewood; \$3. Call to verify meeting. Info: Jill Carlson 708-625-1235, angelajillcarlson@gmail.com (2/19)

## FRIDAY

ARGONNE FOLK DANCE CLUB: 8-10:30pm; St Paul's United Church of Christ, 5739 Dunham Road (corner of Dunham & Jefferson), Downers Grove; \$3. Info: Linda Schub & Jay Wightman 630-393-6565; lindaandjay@comcast.net; Facebook: Argonne International Folk Dancing: There is a blog for the group at http://argonneifd.blogspot.com (2/19)

ETHNIC DANCE CHICAGO: 7:30-midnight; Chicago Latvian Community Center (usually 1st floor ballroom), 4146 N Elston Ave, Chicago - NW corner of Elston (NW Diag) & Hamlin (3800W); last Fridays, same location but 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, beginning 8:30 pm; \$6/\$5students/\$4 under 12. Info: Paul Collins 847-846-8139, info@ethnicdance.net; www.ethnicdance.net; www.facebook.com/ethnicdance (fan page); www.facebook.com/groups/ethnicdance (discussion group) (2/19)

EVANSTON SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS: 7:30-9:30pm, Winnetka Community House, 620 Lincoln Ave, Winnetka; \$5; (Sept-June). Info: Frances Gillan 847-564-2459, sackrag@aol.com (2/19)

IRISH CEILI AND SET DANCING: 8-11pm, Rm 111, Irish American Heritage Ctr, 4626 N Knox, Chicago, \$5; 1<sup>st</sup> Fri of the month, Céilí Mór, 8:30pm, in Fifth Province Room, \$20, Lessons 7:30-8:30 with Dan Cahill. Info: annodonnell2376@sbcglobal.net, info.francisoneillclub@gmail.com; www.francisoneillclub.org (2/19)

UCHICAGO CONTRA DANCE usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month [Oct-June], 7 pm lesson, 7:30 dance, Ida Noyes Hall, University of Chicago, 1212 E 59<sup>th</sup> St, Chicago; \$8/\$5 students. Live music. Info: ndlustig@uchicago.edu, http://uchicagofac.wixsite.com/contra; Facebook: UChicago Folk Arts Community (2/19)

## SATURDAY

CHICAGO QUEER CONTRA: generally one Saturday each month, 7-9:30pm, with lesson 6:30-7pm; Second Unitarian Church, 656 W. Barry, Chicago. Rotating live band and caller. Requested donation of \$10 (but sliding scale \$0-10), payable at the door. Info: Michael Maloney 312-465-8604, mmaloney83@qmail.com; https://chicagogueercontra.wordpress.com/; Facebook: Queer Contra Chicago (2/19)

## OTHER ONGOING

#### FLAMENCO:

- --Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater, in-residence at Northeastern Illinois University, 5500 N. St. Louis Ave, Chicago, IL 60625; classes for adults and children, Tuesday evenings, taught by Irma Suarez Ruiz, Artistic Director and Professional Company Dancers; Info: Josephine DiCesare, 773-442-5916, info@ensembleespanol.org, www.ensembleespanol.org (2/19)
- --Flamenco Chicago, 2914 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago; group classes, private lessons, and performance opportunities at all levels. Info: admin@flamencochicago.com, www.flamencochicago.com, Facebook: Flamenco Chicago LLC (2/19)
- --Melody Vasquez, Flamenco classes held at Dovetail Studios, 2853 W. Montrose, Chicago Info: 773-583-9392, melodance@yahoo.com; melodyvasquez.strikingly.com (2/19)

# GREEK FOLK DANCING:

- -- Orpheus Hellenic Folklore Society, 606 Greendale Road, Glenview, IL 60025; classes for adults and youth. Info: 847-657-0958, orpheus@ohfs.org; www.ohfs.org (2/19)
- -- Neolea Hellenic Dancers, Chicago south suburbs. Youth group available for performances. Ongoing youth and adult classes. Info: office@neoleahellenicdancers.com, www.neoleahellenicdancers.com (8/14)

INDIANAPOLIS CONTRA DANCES: Tuesday 7:30pm, Grove Haus, 1001 Hosbrook Ave., Indianapolis, IN. Also occasional Saturday nights and special events. Info: 317-759-4863; indycontra@gmail.com; www.indycontra.org (6/19)

## IRISH:

- -- Trinity Academy of Irish Dance, 747 N. Church Rd, Elmhurst, IL. Classes in Chicago, Elmhurst, Palatine, and Western Springs. Info: 877-326-2328, 262-705-1465, cynthia.oblein.trinity@gmail.com; www.trinityirishdancers.com (8/16)
- -- Geraldine Foy, Foy School of Traditional Irish Dance, TCRG, 773-777-3069, 312-720-3069; gfoy@foyirishdancers.com; www.foyirishdancers.com. Classes for children & adults, available for performances (Chicago, Batavia, Des Moines, IA). (8/16)
- -- Barbara McNulty T.C.R.G, traditional and competitive Irish Dance for both youth and adults, including solo, teams and ceili dancing; locations around the Chicago suburban area as well as in Rockford, Galena, and Dubuque Iowa. Info: 224-639-8644; McNultyDancers@aol.com; www.mcnultyirishdancers.com (2/19)
- -- Mullane Healy Godley Irish Dance Academy. Classes in Westmont and Edison Park, Chicago. Info: 312-286-7704, 630-908-0792; hornpipe99@aol.com, www.mullanehealyobrien.com (8/16)
- -- O'Hare School of Irish Dance. Classes in Lake Forest, Chicago, Des Plaines. Info: 773-230-4158, info@oharedancechicago.com; www.oharedancechicago.com (8/16)

# MEXICAN DANCE:

- -- Ballet Folklorico Huehuecoyotl, 1700 Spartan Dr, Elgin, IL 60123. Children and adults. Info: 847-612-8300, www.bfh.org (8/14)
- -- Mexican Dance Ensemble, Studio located at 5824 W Roosevelt Ave. Chicago IL; traditional Mexican Dances (known as Folkloric), classes for all ages. Info: (872) 239 8478, mairamdechicago@gmail.com; www.mdechicago.org (8/16)

## MORRIS DANCE:

- -- Fox Valley Morris: West suburban mixed Morris dance team, occasional practices in the Geneva or Downers Grove area.
- -- Pullman Morris and Sword: Sunday 7 pm, weekly practice, far South Side neighborhood of Pullman in Chicago. A mixed Morris side. Info for both Morris teams from Meg Dedolph, 773-960-9364, meg@thecosmicotters.com (2/19)

## NEAR EAST DANCE AND BELLY DANCING:

- -- Pure Raks with Jasmin Jahal, classes at Oasis Studio, 4705 W Lawrence, Chicago. Info: 773-777-5351, JasminJahal@hotmail.com; www.PureRaks.com (3/19)
- -- Raksanna Larcher, classes in Middle Eastern dance and belly dance in Naperville, Joliet and Sugar Grove, also performing troupe and private lessons. Info: 630-689-3611, raksanna@raksanna.com, www.raksanna.com (3/19)

OLD TOWN SCHOOL OF FOLK MUSIC DANCE CLASSES: 4544 N Lincoln Ave and 909 W Armitage, Chicago. Variety of world dance classes offered year-round, in 8-week sessions; 773-728-6000; https://www.oldtownschool.org/classes/adults/dance/ (2/19)

## SCOTTISH HIGHLAND DANCING:

- --Thistle & Heather Highland Dancers Classes in North Riverside, Glen Ellyn, and Highwood for ages 4 adult. Info: Nancy Strolle, 630 967-8623, thhd@comcast.net, www.thistleandheatherhighlanddancers.com (8/16)
- -- Gillan School of Highland Dancing, Cas Dannsa performing group, Winnetka and Chicago, 847-372-8513, casdannsa@gmail.com (8/16)

## SERBIAN FOLK DANCING:

- -- Sloboda Serbian Adult Folklore Group, performing group, practice Friday night 8-10 pm; 3062 W Palmer St, Chicago, IL 60647, Info: Nikola Krcadinac 630-290-2813 or 630-313-9039, Slobodafolk@gmail.com; http://slobodafolk.wixsite.com/home1 (2/19)
- -- Srbadija Folklore Ensemble, performing groups pre-school to college age, practice Fridays 6:30 pm at St. Sava Serbian Church, 9191 Mississippi Street, Merrillville, IN 46410. Annual Intercultural Dance Festival will be held on Saturday, May 18, 2019. Info: Karen Knezic 219-406-7910, srbadijafolklore@yahoo.com (2/19)

SQUARE DANCE: Information for all Chicago area square dances can be found at the Metropolitan Chicago Association of Square Dancers website: www.squaredancechicago.com. Also, Batavia B&B 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays, Fox Valley Mixers, 2nd & 4th Saturdays, Baker Community Center, 101 S 2nd St, St. Charles. Info: Jan Morse 847-909-8064, janmorse@sbcglobal.net; www.foxvalleymixers.org. (2/19)

## LOCAL YEARLY EVENTS

FOLK BALL FESTIVAL at Union South in Madison, WI, Jan. 24-26 in 2020. Internationally known teachers, live music parties. Info: Michael Kuharski 608-241-3655, mk@mailbaq.com, www.madfolkdance.org/folkball (2/19)

BALKANSKE IGRE SPRING FESTIVAL, March 20-22 in 2020, International House at the University of Chicago, 1414 E 59th St, Chicago. Workshops, concert, culture sessions with master teachers in the dance, songs, and music of Eastern Europe and Mediterranean. Info: Galia Kuo 847-858-9822, 847-331-7842, balkanske\_igre@yahoo.com (72/19)

FOLKLORE VILLAGE FARM in Dodgeville, WI hosts weekend workshops and festivals in many kinds of dance. These usually include Cajun, Norwegian, English country dance with Bare Necessities, Contra, Swedish, Midwinter Festival between Christmas and New Year. Info at 608-924-4000, staff@folklorevillage.org, www.folklorevillage.org (2/19)

REGIONAL "JUNE CAMP", Midwest regional international folk dance weekend, Held May 16-19, in 2019, with Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu, at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL Info: Mady Newfield 630-584-0825, junecampifd@gmail.com; junecampifd.googlepages.com (2/19)

DOOR COUNTY FOLK FESTIVAL July 2020, in Sister Bay and Ephraim, WI. Info: Paul Collins 847-846-8139, info@dcff.net; www.dcff.net, www.facebook.com/dcfolkfest (fan page), www.facebook.com/groups/dcffmail (discussion group) (72/19)

MACHOL MERKAZ Midwest Israeli Dance Weekend, Sept. 19-22, in 2019, at Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute, Oconomowoc, WI. Advance registration only. Info: 847-274-1809, macholmerkaz@gmail.com; www.macholmerkaz.com, Facebook at Machol Merkaz (2/19)

FALL FOLK DANCE CAMP in Oconomowoc, Oct. 4-6, in 2019, at Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute (OSRUI), 600 Lac La Belle Drive, Oconomowoc, WI. Local teachers, private rooms with bath, daytime teaching, parties at night. Sponsored by Lake Geneva Folk Dancers. Info: Dit Olshan 847-966-6888, dit321@aol.com or Jill Carlson 708-625-1235, angelajillcarlson@hotmail.com (7/19)

HARVEST MOON (English Country) DANCE WEEKEND. Oct. 4-6 in 2019, at the Baker Community Center in St. Charles, IL, with Kate Barnes, Earl Gaddis, Jonathan Whitall, and caller Graham Christian. Sponsored by Chicagoland English Country Dancers, ChicagolandECD.org, chicagolandECD@gmail.com, Info: 630-584-0825; chicagolandECD@gmail.com; https://chicagolandecd.org/specialevents/harvest-moon-dance-weekend-2019/ (7/19)

BREAKING UP THANKSGIVING (contra dance weekend), usually the weekend following Thanksgiving, Lake Street Church, 607 Lake Street, Evanston, Info: breakingupthanksgiving@gmail.com; www.breakingupthanksgiving.com (2/19)

## GENERAL INTEREST FACEBOOK GROUPS

Folk Dance Discussion Group (started by Paul Collins): www.facebook.com/groups/stuff.folkdancers.say Contra Dance Discussion Group: www.facebook.com/groups/270712876346690

Updated 7/12/19; further updates will be posted at https://orgs.fnal.gov/folkdance/FolkDanceScene.pdf
To amend or update information, please contact: Mady Newfield, 630-584-0825; folkdance@fnal.gov