

THE COLUMBUS FOLK DANCERS PRESENT

LEE OTTERHOLT

TEACHING BALKAN DANCES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2009
7-10 PM

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
30 W. WOODRUFF AVE.

Admission \$5.00 for members of Columbus Folk Dancers
\$10.00 for nonmembers

Born in the U.S. of Norwegian-American parents, Lee Otterholt has worked most of his adult life in Norway as a professional dancer, dance teacher and choreographer. In Norway he founded the Center for International Folk Dance and was a professor of folkloristic dance at the Norwegian National College of Ballet and the University College of Oslo. He also produced teaching materials (videos, books and CDs) on folk dance for use in the Norwegian school system.

In 1994 he was one of the choreographers for the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer. Now based in Laguna Beach, California, Lee teaches locally in Southern California and at festivals and workshops in the United States and Europe and leads folk dance tours all over the world. Lee has devoted most of his international career to Balkan dance, especially the “often overlooked” folk culture of European ethnic minorities such as Serbians in Greece, Albanians in Croatia, etc.

His Web site says, “Lee’s teaching emphasizes style: dancing *well*, not just ‘getting the steps.’ Whenever he can, he also tries to bring improvisation, self-expression and spontaneity back into the folk-dancing traditions where these elements are a central part of the tradition. And he never loses sight of the fact that we recreational folk dancers dance because it is fun, and because these dances mean something to us – just as they were fun and meant something to the village dancers before us!”

Dances taught will include Çobankat (Albanian) and Opa Cupa (Serbian Gypsy).

Directions and a map to St. Stephen’s can be found at the Columbus Folk Dancers website:
www.geocities.com/cfd4folkdancing