

Join us in the
Virtual Dance Room

**Post-Dance Discussion for Session #64
Friday, June 11, 2021 – 11:00pm-ish CDT**

Post-Dance Discussion Topic: Bulgarian Minority Groups and Wedding Customs
(Bring Snacks, Drinks and a Sense of Humor)

Now showing Dance / Music Videos As Time and Interest Permits

Ethnic Dance Chicago / Door County Folk Festival

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/8478468139>

subscribe to get password: www.virtualdancerroom.net



For links to other virtual dance activities, playlists, subscriber lists, humorous aspects of social isolation, etc., visit the Virtual Dance Room website:

www.virtualdancerroom.net

Next Week – General Discussion – No Specific Topic

Support the Virtual Dance Room with Online or Offline Donations!

Visit: www.virtualdancerroom.net/donate/

Thank You for your participation and support!

Virtual Dance Room

Discussion for Session #64

Friday, June 11, 2021 – 11:00pm-ish CDT

Times are approximate – Schedule Subject to Change

Zoom Session ID: 8478468139

See newsletter for password and session invite link

Subscribe to get password: www.virtualdancerroom.net/subscribe/

Post-Dance Discussion: Bulgarian Minority Groups and Wedding Customs by Catherine Rudin & Marvin Moehle

• 11:00pm-ish - Discussion begins after Dancing

- For a small country, Bulgaria is quite ethnically diverse. The largest minority groups are Turks and Roma; other minorities include Pomaks, Gagauz, Vlachs, Karakachans, Macedonians, and various subgroups of ethnic Bulgarians, among others. This discussion will start with a very brief introduction to the Muslim and Christian ethnic groups of Bulgaria, before focusing in on Muslim and Christian weddings. Catherine will talk about engagement and wedding traditions she has seen among the Turkish minority, illustrated with family photos and other items. Marvin will compare these with parallel traditions of Christian groups. Everyone is invited to jump in with comments.

• About Catherine Rudin

- Catherine Rudin began folk dancing in California in 1967, but her real dance roots are in Madison, Wisconsin, where she danced through junior high, high school, and college and still returns when she can. She has been associated with international, Scandinavian, Balkan, and/or contra groups in all the many places she has lived, and for the last 30 years has been a core member of the Omaha International Folk Dancers. She taught Folk and Recreational Dance (in addition to her actual academic field, linguistics) for many years at Wayne State College in Nebraska, and has taught at SNOFA, Appleton, and the annual Omaha Pink Party workshop, among other venues including workshops for music educators and for children. Catherine has both family and linguistic research ties to the Balkans, especially Bulgaria. Balkan music and dance are her roots ... but she loves and participates in other traditions as well, from swing dance to mariachi violin.

• About Marvin Moehle

- Marvin Moehle was born in and lives in Granite City, IL (old Macedonian Immigrant settlement). As a young kid, he began to record Immigrants, walking from house to house collecting folk songs, dances and customs from the early Immigrants. Marvin started collecting folk costumes in the early 1980's. To date, he has collected costumes from Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, China, Greece, Hungary, Macedonia, Poland, Serbia and Turkmenistan. While the majority of his collection is from Macedonia and Bulgaria, he also has costumes of minority groups living in the Balkans including: Aroumanian, Roma, Vlachs, Albanians in Macedonia, Turks in Bulgaria, Pomaks, Torbeshi, etc. He has several hundred costumes and artifacts. One artifact includes the large outside cross, from the first Macedono-Bulgarian Orthodox church in America. He also has collected books and document archives, record collection including old ethnic 78rpm's. His book collection includes rare books published and printed in Granite City, IL in the Bulgarian language. Marvin's vision is to eventually open a small private Ethnographic museum.

- **New feature continues. We'll show dance & music videos (now a regular feature of open discussions) as time and interest permits.**

• Next Week's Discussion Topic

- **General Discussion – No Specific Topic**

