

Entre Nous



38th CIOFF WORLD CONGRESS

167 Delegates from 55 Countries attended the 38th CIOFF World Congress in ISTANBUL between 08-16 November 2008, organized by Turkish CIOFF National Section.

Following the invitation of CIOFF Turkey, the 38th CIOFF World Congress and General Assembly took place in Istanbul from 8th to 16th November 2008. 167 delegates from 55 countries were present at this CIOFF Summit and enjoyed the excellent organization and tremendous hospitality extended to us by CIOFF Turkey.

Each evening the delegates visited different sites in Istanbul as each dinner was hosted by a different municipality, who all helped to organize the Congress. The Congress was very well publicized in local press and media.

On the last day we all had an unforgettable tour of Ayasofya and Blue Mosque, and some of the delegates had time to visit the Grand Bazaar.

The whole stay in Istanbul was a wonderful experience and we are very grateful to Savas, Muammer and their team of volunteers for their organization of the Congress and outstanding hospitality.

Olga Maloney



Edition 6

January 2009

CIOFF semi-annual Newsletter published by PR Working Group & Festivals Commission

CIOFF FESTIVALS

The benefits and obligations of Festivals with CIOFF Recognition

Read the details on Page 16

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NEW CIOFF INITIATIVE - Motivation of the National Sections to Excellence

A new scheme has been adopted and introduced by CIOFF General Assembly in Istanbul.

- Goals : Replacement of the penalties by a motivation of the National Sections to Excellence. Act on the 2 CIOFF pillars, the commitment of the NS and the development of festivals. Operative program in order to increase the average and to reward the commitment.
- Principles: The respect of the legal obligations guarantees the legal rights. Each National Section can ask for an evaluation of its level of commitment to CIOFF when presenting the Questionnaire of its annual Report. The evaluation of the commitment is based on objective criteria (yes / no) as well as on a self assessment on the items Culture, Youth movement and Internet visibility.. The recognized « status of commitment » is granted for 3 years. The evaluation is performed by the Chairmen of Commissions at their annual meeting. The recognition of the status proposed by the CC is ratified by the Council. The aim of the program is reached when 50% of the NS fulfill the level of Excellence.

1. Legal Obligations (Reminder)

- Payment of the annual fee (1)
- Sending of the annual Report of the NS (1)
- Communication of the festivals list (1)
- (1) *Within the deadlines fixed by CIOFF.*

1. Legal Rights

- Right to participate in CIOFF activities
- Right to speak and to vote at the GA of CIOFF
- Receive the official documents of CIOFF
- Financial advantage at the World Congress

2. Commitment to Excellence

Commitment above the Legal level

- + Organizes at least one festival in the Calendar
- + Sends the evaluation of groups and festivals
- + Develops a CIOFF Youth movement
- + Implements CIOFF Culture Policy
- + Develops a national visibility on Internet

2. Advantages for Excellence Commitment

Advantages above the Legal level

- + Free publications* (2x the Council Quota)
- + Receive the Reports of the Festivals Commission
- + Printing of the commitment Label in all official international publications of CIOFF
- + Advantages on the CIOFF Internet Website
- + Financial advantage on membership fee (MsF)**
- + Other advantages granted by the Council

* Festivals Calendar, CIOFF brochure, official Reports, etc.

** Discount on the basic MsF: 10% after the 1st, 15% after the 2nd and 20% after the 3rd year.

For NS recognized for a 2nd period of 3 years, the discount will continue with 20% for each year.

In case that only 4 of the 5 requirements are recognized as fulfilled, the status of Commitment will be granted, but the discount for the relevant year will be reduced by 50%.

Label:

NS recognized with the status of Excellence are identified by CIOFF international with a special Label. The label cannot be used directly by the National Sections themselves!

The assessment will be done by incorporating all of the above criteria into the new revised Annual Report Form (first page of the Form).



FOCUS ON WORLD CONGRESS

CULTURAL CONFERENCE -

CIOFF AT THE DOOR OF ORIENT

After many previous Cultural Conferences dedicated to UNESCO programs and conventions, CIOFF decided to take the opportunity of the World Congress being held in Istanbul to open the CIOFF organisation to the countries in the Arabic Region.

The Arabic culture and society where at the heart of the content of this conference, through the presentations of:

-Prof. Fikret Degerli from the Folklore Conservatory of University of Istanbul

-M. Ali Cevaz, Researcher at University of Istanbul

-Mr. Ravindra P. Jansari from Asian Sector, Retired Repre-



sentative at UNESCO and the presentation and demonstration of Derwish Turners. The members of CIOFF had the chance to experience the culture and discover examples of rituals in the Arabic Region.

By holding this conference CIOFF hoped to open the door to these countries from Arabic culture and as a result in few years time to welcome new members to CIOFF.

*Submitted by Renaud Albasini
Chairman of Cultural Commission*



FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF Israel

Meeting Place of Cultures

Following the Cultural Conference at the 38th World Congress of CIOFF in November 2008 in Istanbul, at which the influence of the Arabic Culture on Turkish Culture was discussed— CIOFF Israel would like to share with other CIOFF National Sections its experience; Israel - being a meeting place of east and west, of tension, integration, synthesis and interaction; Israel - being a very pluralistic society, kind of "social laboratory" - an emerging multicultural society; being a place in which half of the Jewish population come from the West and from Eastern-Europe and the other half from Arab countries; a society in which 20% of the population are Arabs – Israel can serve as "microcosms" of problems facing most of the multicultural societies in our "global village". The policy of CIOFF Israel is to expose the beauty and the richness of our many ethnic cul-

tures to all. One of our main efforts is to present the Arabic culture to the general public, mainly to children and youth.

Hereby some of the activities we are involved in:

-In October we had a "Beduin" – festival, which was held on Mount Carmel, presenting the traditional culture of the "Nomads shepherds of the deserts".

- In November we had in Jerusalem a festival centered on the "Ud" – a traditional Arabic musical instrument. The festival presented 15 concerts of traditional music: Arabic, Jewish-Spanish, Turkish, Regestan (North India) etc.

- In December we celebrated an event of traditional cultural heritage, entitled "The Festival of Three Festivals"; Celebrating together three religious festivals of the season". "Christmas" "Hanuka" and "Id el Fetter".

- We have in Israel about 40 "Debbka" dance groups which

preserve the traditional Palestinian cultural heritage. The policy of CIOFF Israel is to assist these groups to participate in International Festivals.

- We recommend to CIOFF festivals to utilize our potential of about 80 dance and music groups, who preserve their cultural heritages, which are alive in Israel; such as: Arabic, Yem-



enite, Kurdish, Ethiopian, Druze's, Georgian etc.

*Submitted by Dan Ronen
CIOFF Israel*

FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF Spain -

Hispanic Map of Dance and Dances of Oral Tradition

During 2008, we have finished one of the most ambitious projects of the Spanish Section. We published and presented the "Mapa Hispano del Baile y la Danza de Tradición Oral", the work of the famous ethnomusicologist *Miguel Manzano*. It is the first volume in a succession of six that presents the richness of the Spanish dances. We hope to publish the second volume during 2009.

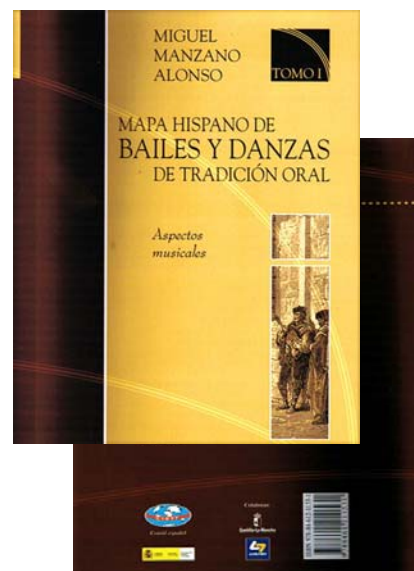
We are also organizing in 2009 the "VI Conference of Folklore and Society", which will be dedicated to children, with the title "The Children's folklore: The children's voices". From 16th to 18th April, in collaboration with the Network of Lecturers of various Universities and through an agreement with the Extremadura University (Spain) and Évora University

(Portugal), this important meeting of specialists from both regions will be held.

Another project planned for 2009 will be the inquest into the "Intercultural Dialogue" which will be aimed at the members of the groups and the audience of the Spanish Festivals. The advice and guidance of prominent specialists in interculturalism from different Spanish Universities will be available.

Likewise, together with the Extremadura University a research project on "Cultural Diversity" will be conducted, to know the degree of integration of individuals from different cultures arriving in Spain and the reaction of the host society.

Rafael Maldonado
CIOFF Spain



CIOFF UK -

Corryvreckan is a highly acclaimed Scottish dance display team, one of the longest-standing members of CIOFF UK, drawing dancers from across the UK. They have represented the UK at CIOFF festivals across the globe for more than 15 years. The team's programme encompasses not only Scottish country dances but also a range of other Scottish dance traditions including Highland, Hebridean, Hard shoe and Shetland dances.

With the support of CIOFF UK, and following their recent first place success at the prestigious Newcastle Festival, Corryvreckan is thrilled to present their first UK concert this summer. "A Scottish Spectacular" promises to give the audience a real taste of Scotland with an uplift-

ing combination dance, music and song from all regions of the country. We hope you will be able to join us for this exciting event.

And if you can make it to Somerset this summer, why not stay for a while? The UK's West Country offers visitors a wonderful mix of beautiful coastlines, delightful villages and wild countryside with several areas of outstanding natural beauty. Get in touch and we can give you more information on where to stay and what to see.

A Scottish Spectacular

Corryvreckan presents

A Scottish Spectacular

An exhilarating mix of music, song and dance from the Highlands, Islands and Lowlands of Scotland

Don't miss:

- ❖ the flash of the kilt
- ❖ the skirl of the pipes
- ❖ the magic of the musicians
- ❖ the energy of the dancers

A unique opportunity to see the dancers, musicians & singers of this internationally acclaimed Scottish display team in concert in Somerset for the first time

Saturday 20 June 2009 at 7.30pm
Sunday 21 June 2009 at 2.30pm
in Shipham Village Hall

CIOFF
Corryvreckan

www.corryvreckan.org.uk

FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF Switzerland -

CIOFF Switzerland and the UNESCO Convention for the safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

On September 12th 2006, the Swiss Commission for UNESCO launched the debate on the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH). During this forum, CIOFF Switzerland has presented the stake and perspective of this Convention. The CIOFF contribution was based on its text of reference published on Internet at the address:

www.cioff.ch/doc_fr/PCI_notre_nouveau_concept_def_F.pdf (in French or German)

Day of UNESCO' Conventions 2003+2005

On January 30th 2007, a second information and awareness meeting gathered the main actors of ICH in Berne in order to support the project of ratification proposed by the Swiss government. CIOFF Switzerland was again member of the organizing committee and chaired one of the panel discussions.



Ratification of the Convention on ICH

On March 20th 2008, the Swiss parliament approved the two UNESCO Conventions for the safeguarding of ICH (2003) and on the protection and promotion of the diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005). After the referendum expired, this past 10th of July, the documents were ratified by Switzerland and the Ambassador Ernst Iten, permanent Delegate of Switzerland at UNESCO, handed over on July 16th the relevant documents to M. Koïchiro Matsuura, Director General of UNESCO.

Obligation for the States parties

The main obligation linked to the ratification of the Convention is the realization of an inventory of the ICH. The Swiss Office for Culture currently leads the work for this national inventory. The global project

should be approved by the end of the year. CIOFF Switzerland is associated with the project and has introduced the concepts mentioned below.

CIOFF Switzerland and the inventory of ICH

On request of the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences, CIOFF Switzerland wrote in May 2008 an article on *What needs to be identified by an inventory to ensure the viability of ICH?*

By referring to a relevant report of UNESCO on the content for a future project of safeguarding, CIOFF Switzerland suggested performing two inventories:

- An inventory of **identification** and
- An inventory of **documentation**.

www.cioff.ch/doc_fr/article_assh.pdf

An inventory of identification has already been implemented by CIOFF Switzerland under the name **EDELWEISS**. This inventory recognizes the essential role of the bearers of traditions and assures effective participation of the parties involved in of ICH toward safeguarding of the expressions of the ICH process.

www.edelweiss.cioff.ch

*Submitted by Cyrill Renz
CIOFF Switzerland*



CIOFF SPONSORSHIP -

Turkish Airlines Sponsor CIOFF World Congress in Istanbul

One of numerous Sponsors CIOFF Turkey managed to secure for 38th CIOFF World Congress 2008 in Istanbul was Turkish Airlines, setting a prime example of how an Airline Company can work alongside CIOFF to promote and contribute to a CIOFF Major Event. Turkish Air-



lines not only gave a discount on flights to Istanbul to CIOFF Congress Participants, but advertised the Congress by placing an editorial with CIOFF Logo in their in-flight Magazine.

CIOFF Working Group on Public Relations is preparing a Draft Letter to Potential Sponsors, which will be used to introduce CIOFF to



various commercial companies, including the Airlines, based on

CIOFF Airline survey conducted in 2006. The same letter will be sent out to all the National Sections for their use in approaching any potential sponsors.

FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF ITALY -

**34th International Congress on Folk Traditions:
“Myths, rituals and traditions in yesterday’s and today’s music and dances”
Gorizia (Italy), Aug. 30th – 31st, 2008
(with the patronage of the Italian National UNESCO Commission)**

After the welcome addresses from Sergio PIEMONTE, president of CIOFF Italy, and from local authorities, the event started with a recital of poems dedicated to universal peace.

Prof. Alberto GASPARINI (University of Trieste), chair of the Congress, briefly analyzed the concepts of “myth”, “ritual” and “tradition”.

Prof. Gioia DE CRISTOFARO LONGO (University of Rome) delivered the main speech, presenting important considera-

tions on the interconnections of the analyzed phenomena.

Examples of foundation myths and non-European rituals were discussed by Valeria COTTINI PETRUCCI and Massimiliano MARANGON.

Lucilla RAMI CECI commented on a document prepared on May 23rd, 2007, by the Scientific Committee on Cultural Traditions of the Italian Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities.

Maria Luisa STRINGA presented some considerations on the UNESCO work in the field of the cultural heritage.

Bruno RAVNIKAR (founding member of CIOFF), Peter SUHADOLC (University of Trieste), Ante CUKROV



(CIOFF Croatia delegate), Magdalena TOVORNIK (Slovenia CIOFF delegate) and some members of CIOFF Italy contributed to the discussion.

The annual meetings in Gorizia try to contribute, since 34 years, to the reciprocal knowledge and the peaceful living together of peoples, cultures and ethnic groups.

*Submitted by Sergio Piemonti
CIOFF Italy*



General Assembly - Minturno, Oct. 25th-26th, 2008



The General Assembly of the CIOFF Italy National Section was successfully held in Minturno on Oct. 25th-26th, 2008; the festival of Minturno cooperated efficiently in organizing the meeting.

The Organizing Assembly gathers up all the Italian International Folklore Festivals mem-

bers of the CIOFF National Section.

The National President, Sergio Piemonti, had once promised to involve a larger number of Italian regions and to promote the cooperation from more young people into the National Section; now the promise is kept.

19 out of 23 Festivals participated into the Assembly, two of them being new members; a total of 42 people attended the meeting.

Special attention was devoted to the first meeting of the CIOFF Italy Youth Movement, whose Committee was appointed in a separate session.

The President was very happy with the results of the meeting;

concluding with the closing ceremony - held at the Hotel Riva Fiorita, in front of the blue Tyrrhenian Sea – he thanked all the participants before the unfailing Italian speciality, the “spaghetтата”.

The next Assembly will take place in Matelica, at the end of March 2009.

*submitted by Francesco Mallozzi
CIOFF Italy*



FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF HUNGARY

Budapest Christmas 2008—“Christmas of Olde”



The Association of Hungarian Folk Arts (NESz) organized the 10th annual Traditional Christmas Fair on Vörösmarty Square - one of the most beautiful squares in the centre of Budapest. The fair is open to the public from Advent until Christmas Eve.

Apart from the obvious opportunity to pick up a few unique gifts, the fair also provides a variety of programs for visitors to get into the Christmas spirit in the Advent season.

The Nativity scene reflecting the birth of the Christ Child sets the tone, while traditional Christmas skits and wishes for the New Year entertain audiences



from the open-air stage. The scents of traditional Christmas foods tempt weary shoppers while mulled wine and honeyed pálinka help ward off the cold.

This year the Christmas Fair in cooperation with CIOFF Hungary organized a competition for children entitled “Christmas of Olde”. The ob-



ject of the project was not merely to involve children in the Christmas preparations, but for them to become familiar with the atmosphere, gift-giving and

decorating traditions of old. We turned back time to Christmas

150 years ago. Children did research in museums, libraries, ar-

chives and on the Internet to learn about the Christmas traditions of the time. They then prepared drawings, miniature models and decorations depicting elements of the Christmases of

olde. The decorating of evergreens was already widespread throughout Western Europe and had just started to replace the tradition of the “Tree of Life” in Hungary. The participating children decorated 10 Christmas



trees erected on the square with traditional decorations and toys of the period they themselves made.

It is with pictures of the festivities that we here at CIOFF Hungary wish all CIOFF members a Wonderful Holiday Season!

*Submitted by Eva Hera
CIOFF Hungary*



FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF MEXICO -

Meeting of Executive Board of CIOFF MEXICO



The Executive Board of CIOFF MEXICO met on 13th and 14th of December of 2008 in the City of Puebla. Among the most important agreements of this meeting was the emphasis on the modifications in the structure of the Executive Board, due to which Mr. Arthur H. Cueto is now in charge of the new functions as Vice-president of Festivals and Mr. Alejandro Camacho was elected as the Vice-president of Groups. Another

important election was for Mr. Victor Barriga as General Secretary. Mr. Rafael Zamarripa continues in the position of President of CIOFF Mexico. Other functions such as those of Commu-

nication, Legal Affairs, Indigenous Affairs and Education were integrated into the structure of the Executive Board, and distinguished Directors of Folkloric Groups and Directors of Festivals were elected to those positions. Another impor-

tant subject of this meeting was the creation of new festivals and promotion of the existing festivals, in general terms CIOFF Mexico informs to all the CIOFF Sections that its agenda covers the following seasons, dates and festivals of

the year 2009:

- 22-28 March, Mitote Folklórico of Monterrey, Monterrey, N.L.
- 17- 28 May, International Folklore Festivals (Puebla and Morelos)
- 26 July - 9 August, International Folklore Festivals (Zacatecas and Potosí San Luis)
- 20 September to 25 October,



the International Festival of Santa Lucia, Monterrey, N.L.

- 18 October - 20 November, International Folklore Festivals (Hidalgo, Tec of Monterrey, Guadalajara, Querétaro, Nayarit, Tlaxcala)

Interested National Sections should communicate directly with:

Mr. Arturo H. Cueto Juárez
Vice-president of Festivals, CIOFF Mexico

CIOFF Announcements

Due to the huge success of the 1st CIOFF International Photo Competition in 2006, the Council has decided to hold another Photo Competition, which was launched at the CIOFF World Congress in Istanbul and will finish in September 2009. To receive a copy of Competition Rules and Entry Form please e-mail photocompetition@cioff.org



ACTION / PERFORMANCE PHOTO



PHOTO COMPETITION 2009

IN 3 CATEGORIES

FOR DETAILS PLEASE VISIT:

WWW.CIOFF.ORG

PORTRAIT IN NATIONAL COSTUME



FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN NATIONS PHOTO



FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF Paraguay -

New Achievements

The new Folklore Event of CIOFF Paraguay achieves full success

The new Folklore Event of CIOFF Paraguay was crowned with ambitious goals in the city of Hernandarias, located in the Eastern area of the country. On Saturday, December 6 representatives of the groups associated with CIOFF Paraguay met at an early hour in the "Club Nautico," located on the shores of Lake Italpu. After breakfast and some moments of integration, an assembly of members took place to deal with the following points:



01. The Cooperative of members of CIOFF Paraguay (coopercioffpy). It was disclosed that the judicial structure was officially recorded in the Register of the National Institute of Cooperatives (INCOOP), which is the official organism that regulates and controls the functioning of all cooperatives in the country. This was warmly celebrated by the participants, because it constitutes the accomplishment of an important goal after months and months of intense negotiations.

02. Calendar agreed upon among all the groups and individual members of CIOFF Paraguay for the year 2009 and looking forward to 2010, including festivals, courses, workshops, etc.

03. International travel for the year 2009.

Youth Forum

The meeting of the Youth made possible the establishment of the basis for a new structure of organization. Representatives of each one of the 17 associated groups now constitute "The National Youth Board of CIOFF Paraguay." The said committee will have executive functions. Previously, all the representatives of the groups made up the committee, which made it very difficult to organize meetings, for reasons of cost and time for the travels of so many youth from various locations in the country. Now the National Board will normally meet twice each year and will set the overall outline of action. Between meetings, the work will be carried out by the Committee of five members, which is committed to normally meet every two months and to meet in extraordinary fashion as often as necessary.

Colorful and enthusiastic Parade

The principal avenue of the city of Hernandarias was the site of the colorful and enthusiastic parade of the participating groups. An interesting fact, which was the highlight of the parade, was the special ornamentation featuring traditional features presented by some homes and business fronts. The ornaments with traditional elements of the country were evidence of support of the community for this cultural event. At each building decorated in this manner the groups in the parade danced with renewed energy to demonstrate gratitude to the people for their positive support for this traditional celebration.

At the end of the parade a mass was held in the Guarani lan-

guage, during which the officiating priest emphasized the importance of the work of CIOFF, not only in Paraguay but also at the worldwide level.

Presentation of Indigenous Culture

Afterwards, at the National College "Takuru Puku," a festival took place, starting with a phase dedicated exclusively to children and new values, given a full hour of time to express themselves. Then, the central phase of the festival started with the song "Somos del CIOFF," which was proclaimed as the official hymn of the Youth of the Latin-American Sector of CIOFF at a meeting of the youth leaders of the continent, which took place in the city of Passo Fundo in Brazil. Then, an indigenous ceremony took place, "Jeroky Nuembo'e," which is the ritual dance of the "Pai tavytera" (Guarani) region, performed by "Takuru Pucu," which is the group that organized this year's Folklore Event. Thereafter, the participating groups presented their dances and songs.

In this manner, CIOFF Paraguay continues its support of the UNESCO Proclamation of the "Decade of Aborigine People." Various groups associated with this organization are developing a deep relationship with communities of our aborigine people. Results have already been achieved, certainly with fully positive signals.

*Submitted by Mario Garcia Siani
Delegate CIOFF Paraguay*



FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF Paraguay - GUAIRÁ - "WORLD HARP CAPITAL"

continued

A hundred years ago the greatest harpist of all times, Felix Perez Cardozo was born in a small town called "Hy'aty", Paraguay. From a very early age he became an excellent "tañedor" (player) of the instrument, which by that time had 32 strings made of monkey or dog gut. His excellence as a composer and interpreter enabled him to be successful very soon in the South America artistic centre (mecca) of that time: Buenos Aires, the Argentina capital. There he dazzled with his wonderful art. He composed 200 works, in various rhythms, as a Paraguayan polkas, gallops, songs, zambas, chocareras and so on. He dedicated a composition called "The 60 Grenadiers", of high historical value, to the Argentine people who always applauded. He composed for his beloved land, Paraguay, more than a hundred works, covering a wide variety of subjects, some of them descriptive of beautiful landscapes, others full of feelings of tenderness expressed in the strings of his harp for his beloved mother, his family, his friends, and others, about facts, figures and even objects. Among his creations that have transcended at the international level are the transcript that he made for the harp of the song "The bell bird" (today in process



of extinction), as well as "Dream of Angelita", "Milk - In you I found consolation" "Cotymy" (dedicated to the small room or bedroom where he was born) and many others.

On 20th November past, the centenary of his birth was celebrated. The night before, 19th November, from the town of Villarrina, a group of admirers went on a pilgrimage of more than half an hour on their way, to the village where he was born that today bears the name of Félix Perez Cardozo. Hundreds of people were joined by the artists who gathered in the house that belonged to this great creator to pay an emotional musical tribute and then returned to the centre of Villarrica to start a marathon of 24 hours of playing the harp uninterruptedly. Not a second was left without hearing the magic sound of the Paraguayan harp from 00.00h to 24.00h on that day. In groups of four harpists at a time, the interpretations were going on without interruption. When one harpist finished the chosen theme (most of them of Felix Perez or other composers of that area named Guairá), the harpist who was sitting beside began to play immediately and thus the continuity was maintained, with the participation of nearly a hundred players of different ages and styles, from a prodigious seven years old child to an old man of 80.

The event was favourable to promote Guairá as "The Harp World Capital", taking the steps with the UNESCO to validate such title. The proclamation is sustained on these

factors:

- In the Guairá were born



the greatest harpists, such as Felix Perez Cardozo, Cristino Báez Monges, Enrique Samaniego, Abel Sánchez Giménez, Albino Quiñónez, Alejandro Villamayor and hundreds more. Nowadays there are almost two hundreds harpists born in the Guairá who perform in different parts of the world.

- In the Guairá were created (by guaireños authors) the most beautiful and famous compositions for the harp.
- Artists and luthiers from Guairá are the ones who made the most important physical transformations from the instrument that remained from the Franciscan and Jesuit missions era, reaching the achievement which currently is identified by its characteristic shape and sound as "Paraguayan harp" which makes it universal.

All these events were attended, encouraged and verified by CIOFF Paraguay.

*Submitted by Mario Garcia Siani,
CIOFF Paraguay*

FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF Colombia

First American Dual Nations Circuit—Colombia & Venezuela

During the year 2009 the INTERNATIONAL FOLKLORE CIRCUIT: BICENTENARY ROUTE will take place, organized by the National Sections of CIOFF Colombia and Venezuela. It is the first American dual national circuit, and this circuit joins, in a cultural journey, people and places which had a significant role in the independence of Latin America and the Caribbean. The circuit starts on June 1st, in the city of Cartagena, Colombia, from where the groups will



Me tangere (Monument to the Independence of Cartagena) Colombia -

leave. The groups will go through Mompox (first neogranadina city which declared its complete independence from Spain), and other Colombian cities; the groups will enter in the territory of Venezuela to reach Maracaibo (Battle

of Maracaibo Lake), Valencia (Battle of Carabobo) and finishing in Caracas, the liberator Simón Bolívar's hometown. During the circuit the participants will pay tribute to people, battles and events, which remain in the collective memory of both countries and which played a significant role in the struggle for the independence. The FOLKLORE CIRCUIT BICENTENARY ROUTE organization is headed by Maria Fernanda Grisel, CIOFF Venezuela President and Enrique Jatib Thome, CIOFF Colombia President who have planned to include new countries, such as Ecuador, which will be included in 2010.

Third CIOFF Colombia Youth Camp and International Show Of Traditional Dances In Couples

The Colombia National Section offers to the CIOFF youth movement, in the CIOFF Colombia youth camp, which annually takes place in the city of Pereira, a permanent meeting area to share experiences and establish lines of action and cooperation for the construction of dreams.

The third camp organized by the national youth commission of the National Section, will take place from January 29th to February 2nd 2009 and during the same the youth people will enjoy an academic day specially designed for them and to them. Likewise the commission will submit its general report, adopt the Plan of Action 2009 and elect its new members and representatives for the National Section Board, Also within the organizational diagram and for the sake of strengthening fraternity ties with the Latin-American people, an autonomous space will be



Pareja Grupo Ekobios

assigned for delegates to share experiences and set up lines of action and cooperation. The third **International Show of Traditional Dances in Couples** will take place in the framework of the camp. **COLOMBIA: THE ONLY RISK IS THAT YOU WILL WANT TO STAY** Submitted by Enrique Jatib Thome, CIOFF Colombia Photos by Wilfer Arias



Grupo Tradiciones Folclóricas de Bolívar

FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF USA

Honoring the Past, Launching the Future: Celebrating Milestone Moments

Milestone anniversaries provide communities with opportunities to celebrate. These moments create enjoyable experiences and generate a sense of continuity with previous generations and cultural identity. They honor those who volunteer and the audiences who experience the performance. These moments of cultural exchange highlight contributions that increase understanding and respect for others and build world peace one friendships at a time; they encourage the preservation, conservations and transmission of folklore and traditional knowledge and skills.



The celebrations of milestone moments

Folk moot USA - 25th Anniversary

In 1973, Dr. Clinton Border, a Waynesville surgeon, accompanied a local square dance team to a folk festival in Sidmouth, England. There began the dream that would, 11 years later, become Folk moot USA.

Border was convinced that Western North Carolina, which was already steeped in tradition and dedicated to the preservation of its own heritage, was the perfect location for an international folk festival in the United States. During the next few years, Border traveled to other festivals in Poland and France, gathered information and developing contacts.

By 1983, Border presented his

vision to Haywood County's community leaders. He believed something invaluable occurs when cultures rich in tradition come together to share their folk arts and their lives.

In 1984 a proposed board of directors launched the first Folk moot USA festival, coinciding with the state of North Carolina's 400th birthday celebration. It is recognized as North Carolina's official international folk festival. The name Folk moot, an Old English word meaning "meeting of the people," was borrowed from a folk festival that was once held in Newcastle upon Tyne, England. Now, 25 years later, more than 200 groups from 100 different countries have participated in this annual festival. 2008 celebrated this world cultural exchange anniversary with two weeks of performances, sharing of folk music and dance, workshops, a 5K run and International Festival Day.

Since Folk moot's start as a "meeting of the people" in 1984, Rolf Kaufman has generously volunteered countless hours with CIOFF, CIOFF-USA and Folk moot to "bring the world a little closer."

Holiday Folk Fair International - 65th Anniversary

The Holiday Folk Fair Interna-



The Fosøyengen Lodge 62 Sons of Norway celebrating its 100th anniversary

tional, which attracts more than 50,000 each year, had its hum-



The 25th anniversary of Czech coffins desserts offered at the Holiday Folk

ble beginning in the dark days of World War II when a small group of volunteers met to provide a way to the community that people of different background and ages are able to work together in harmony. The concept of the Holiday Folk Fair emerged, an island of intercultural friendship and unity in a world at war, a place where people could share their heritage with others. Fourteen ethnic



The Czech Moravian Dance members celebrating their 140th anniversary

communities decided to hold this festival at a time in the year when the world focuses on peace. And 50 years ago the date was set for the weekend before Thanksgiving.

Under the leadership of Alexander Durtka, the festival has grown in size and scope with greater emphasis placed on authenticity in food preparation, outfits, dance techniques, cultural exhibits and the importance of education. The 2008 festival was Al's 25th as director.

FOCUS ON NATIONAL SECTIONS

CIOFF USA -

continued

Honoring the Past, Launching the Future: Celebrating Milestone Moments



Delight in finding her special postage stamp

The Holiday Folk Fair International celebrated its sixty-fifth anniversary of bringing together more than sixty diverse ethnic communities to celebrate and share their cultural heritage. The festival is a constant reminder for the communities that they are the keepers of culture and that these communities have the great responsibility of passing their heritage on to the next generations. By celebrating both similarities that bind us together and differences that make us unique adds variety and fullness to our lives. Education continues to be the mission of the Holiday Folk Fair International; for it is through learning about other cultures that we begin to know those with whom we share the global neighbourhood. This concept of understanding, tolerance and respect has been and continues to be the focus of the Holiday Folk Fair International but on its celebration as well.

This celebration brings the world to Milwaukee through



Touch a Stone - young and old

music and dance, language and demonstrations of traditional skills, crafts and food preparation featuring potatoes and honored the 160th anniversary of the Irish potato famine that brought Irish immigrants to North America and Australia. This year's photo exhibits supported by UNESCO brought the world of Bangkok's urban refugees, Yann Arthus-Bertrand's Earth from Above (inspiring people to



The Irish Children's Dance group honouring the International Year of the Potato and the 160th anniversary of the Irish Potato Famine

think globally about sustainable living.) and the End of the Earth (views of the international research teams formed during International Polar Year) into the audience's backyard.

Touch a Stone – Touch the World was a popular exhibit with stones, pieces of your countries, that have immigrated to Wisconsin. Each stone had a story to tell about the homeland it left. So people were able to touch a piece of their own homeland and that of their ancestors. Postage stamp exchange also brings much interest as children collect stamps and meet people within the festival from these very same countries. These tiny pieces of paper are icons of your countries as well as reminders of events and achievements.

The anniversary milestone also provided an opportunity to see

time in a traditionally crafted dugout canoe made from a 168 year old tree, timelines and the celebration of the milestone moments of Holiday Folk Fair ethnic communities – the 10th anniversary of Syrenka Children's Polish Folk Dance Ensemble, 30th of Thai-Am Association of Milwaukee, 35th of Turam Turkish Folk Dance Group, 40th of Nefertari African Dance Company and of Na Lesa Bulgarian Dance Group, 45th Serbian St. Nikola, 50th of Iberian Spanish Dancers, 55th of Polanki - Polish Women's Cultural Club of Milwaukee, 100th of Fosselyngen Lodge #82 Sons of Norway and 140th of Sokol Milwaukee (Czech.)

Other milestone celebrations were marked during this year including the Spring 25th Anniversary performance of Wici Song and Dance Company & Male Wici Children's Group, one of CIOFF USA's newest members, that has performed in Europe and North America.

Milestone moments remind us of how fragile heritage is and how important it is to honour the



keepers of traditions.

"...Touch a World with stones from places around the world ... symbolic and concrete at the same time for people to be aware of the fact that they are also part of the world and they have to know another on earth." Valeria Vu

Submitted by:

Alexander P. Durtka &
Sharon Rae Landergott Durtka,
CIOFF USA

FOCUS ON SECTORS

South European & African Sector

Meritoriuos Person

During the General Assembly of the South Europe and Africa Sector, agreement was reached to propose Anka Raic from Bosnia and Herzegovina as a meritorious person, for her great labor and effort in the creation of the National Section; for her good example of work and contribution to the good image of our organization.

Forum of discussions

In order that there be a better exchange of opinions and experiences of the National Sections, the decision was reached to dedicate some time of the spring meetings to organize forums on

questions of interest for all.

Conferences and Seminars meetings

A Conference on the topic of Transfers of Traditional Cultures to the Stage was held in France during the Gannat Festival.

CIOFF-Spain together with Extremadura's University will organize Conference: The Children's Folklore: The Voice of the Children, from 16th to 18th April, within the cycle: Folklore and Society.

CIOFF-Africa

The continuous absence of the African countries in our meetings is a reason of worry for the

Sector. These countries benefit neither from the work of the Sector nor from CIOFF work. Information about problems, activities, etc, that exist in the African associate countries are being compiled in order to reinforce the relations.

CIOFF Italy

The Sector regrets that a response has still not been given by the Executive to the offer presented by CIOFF Italy and supported by the Sector.

*Written by Rafael Maldonado
CIOFF Spain*

*Submitted by Jean Roche
On behalf of South European and
African Sector*

FOCUS ON PEOPLE IN CIOFF

Professor Egil Bakka (CIOFF Norway)



Egil Bakka Commander of the Royal Norwegian Order of St. Olav.

Professor Egil Bakka has become the Commander of the Rooyal Norwegian Order of St Olav for his scientific and practical work with the Norwegian dance traditions. Prof. Egil Bakka is highly acknowledged both in Norway and also abroad. The Norwegian Council for Traditional Music and Dance and The Norwegian National Committee of ICTM, who both were behind the application, celebrated this achievement together with NTNU with a dance performance and an International Research Seminar on No-

vember 18th and 19th 2008. The Special Ceremony and a fantastic concert in his honour took place in Trondheim. The University institute where prof. Egil Bakka is working, is a member of CIOFF Norway.

The International Seminar, which took place on 19th November was entitled "Dance heritage - aspects of safeguarding and research". It included such discussions as "Place of Dance in Heritage" presented by Professor Theresa J. Buckland, De Montfort University, UK; "Case Study of Swidish Dance", presented by Mats Nilsson, Phd, Gothenburg University, Sweden, "Case Study of Romania Dance", presented by Senior researcher Anca Giurchescu, from Denmark/Romania; and the Panel discussion: "Intangible Cultural Heritage: Mediation of knowledge or National Competition" with the following panel members: Professor Laszlo Felföldi,

Szeged University, Hungary, Professor Andrée Grau, Roehampton University UK, Professor Geogianna Gore Université Blaise Pascal, France, Professor Egil Bakka NTNU.

*Submitted By Tone Eidsvold,
CIOFF Norway*



*Egil Bakka and Tone Eidsvold
(President of CIOFF Norway at the
Celebrations*

FOCUS ON PEOPLE IN CIOFF

Udomsak Sakmunwong & Savas Tugsavul



MOTIF Folklore Foundation that has been established in 1988, is making awards every

year to individuals who are serving the Culture. This year, the biggest of these awards has been given to our President of CIOFF Dr. Udomsak Sakmunwong on 21st Dec. with a ceremony for his great support to World Culture. At the same ceremony, the President of CIOFF Turkey Mr. Savas Tugsavul also received a

special award for his contribution to the international festivals organized in Turkey and his support of the promotion of Turkish Culture.

Submitted by Muammer Arslan, Representative of Asian & Oceanian



Bernd Schaefer -

The end of an Era



Norbert Mueller (left) is handing over the Certificate of Appointment as Honorary President of CIOFF Germany to Bernd Schaefer
Photo Norbert Gessner, Schlitz (www.pictugrapher.de)

From 19th to 21st of September 2008 CIOFF Germany had its General Assembly in Schlitz. Bernd Schaefer was delighted to welcome 40 members. The Mayor of Schlitz attended the meeting to welcome the participants.

After the reports on national

and international meetings, the main part was the reelection of the board. After 33 years of work for CIOFF Bernd Schaefer retired from presidency of CIOFF Germany. In his report he referred to the inaugural meeting which also took place in Schlitz in 1978. So his era ended in the same place where it started. Furthermore he reminded us that in 1984 Schlitz was given the right to hold CIOFF World Congress in competition with Russia, which was one of the highlights of his work.

Norbert Mueller, former Vice President of CIOFF Germany thanked Bernd for his tremendous work for CIOFF Germany and for the International CIOFF. One of his main duties was to edit and to publish the CIOFF Festivals Calendar every year from 1989 to 2005, as member of the CIOFF Festivals Commission. As special thanks for his 33 years work for CIOFF, Norbert Mueller had prepared a photo book with photos of Bernd during this period. Numerous delegates - the members of CIOFF Germany handed over presents to Bernd to say thank you. Bernd Schaefer was unanimously nominated as Honorary President of CIOFF Germany. Norbert Mueller from Heppenheim was elected as the new President of CIOFF Germany, Vice President is now Klaus Hohmeier from Schlitz.

Submitted by Norbert Mueller, CIOFF Germany

CIOFF Announcements

CIOFF FESTIVAL VIDEO CLIPS

CIOFF Festivals Commission and CIOFF Working Group on Public Relations, following the publication of the CIOFF Presentation Brochure, are currently preparing a CIOFF PC Presentation on CD for potential CIOFF Sponsors, which will include PowerPoint Presentation, Photo Slide Show and a Video Clip. To enhance the presentation all the CIOFF International Festivals are invited to send a promotional video of their festival to be edited and included into the overall CIOFF PC Presentation. For further information please e-mail newsletter@cioff.org

FOCUS ON CIOFF FESTIVALS

CIOFF International Festivals: Benefits and Obligations

At the 38th CIOFF World Congress in Istanbul, Turkey another five International Folklore Festivals received CIOFF recognition:

- *Celebrations Interculturelles de la montagne-Evolène (CIME)* -, Switzerland

- *Folk Cantanhede – Semana Internacional de Folclore*, Portugal



- *Anseong Baudeogi International Folklore festival*, Republic



of Korea

- *Holiday Folk Fair International Children's Festival*, USA

- *Holiday Folk Fair International*, USA

We would like to specially mention the incredible achievement of CIOFF Portugal, as all 13 of the International Festivals in Portugal are now recognized by CIOFF.

What does it mean for an International Folklore Festival to be recognised as a CIOFF International Festival?

CIOFF recognition is in certain terms a "quality guarantee" of a certain high level of artistic, technical and organizational

standard of the festival for participating groups.

"Absolutely Legless (members of CIOFF UK) have been performing at CIOFF International Festivals for a number of years now," says Dianne Newman, the Group Leader - **"and there are many advantages to CIOFF International Festivals compared to festivals, which do not have CIOFF Recognition".**

When we go to a CIOFF International Festival, we have the confidence to know that we are provided with a standard of accommodation suited to our requirements, and also know that we will have sufficient food throughout our stay.

With regards to the performances, CIOFF International Festivals always provide excellent facilities, which enables us to showcase our dancing to its best potential. The concerts are always marketed very well which is an important motivation factor for any dance group - knowing that we will be performing in front of enthusiastic crowds who will appreciate our culture.

When we attend a CIOFF International Festival, we do not have to worry, and can just enjoy each performance to its maximum."

"The CIME – Intercultural Celebrations of the Mountain in Evolène – is in keeping with the perspective of globalization and its focus on the mountainous regions of the globe. This thematic festival organized every two years, has recently been recognized as "CIOFF International Festival". The CIOFF organization brings a precious help to emerging festivals by providing an access to a quality network extended to the whole world and reliable contacts between festivals."-says Eric Vuignier, Festival Director of CIME - **"In addition to the ease of international**



communication, the status of "CIOFF International Festival" brings with it an advantage when searching for sponsors and public awareness. The objectives of CIOFF are also shared by the organization of CIME who is fighting for the safeguard of traditional culture and regional heritage as well as for peace in the world. The organizers of the CIME feel honoured by this recognition, even when the festival exists only since 2006. The recognition of the CIME festival as "CIOFF Festival" is more than a practical advantage; it is the success of all the volunteers who worked for the implementation of this festival."

But along with main benefits of CIOFF Recognition comes an obligation of a CIOFF International Festival to maintain the high level of its organization, which is responsibility of the Festival and the CIOFF National Section.

All the CIOFF International Festivals receive their recognition for 10 years and after 10 years need to re-apply to renew their CIOFF Status. The Festival Commission is currently preparing for the re-evaluation of all the CIOFF International Festivals, which received their certificates in 2001 and will be due for renewal in 2011. In 2010 each National Section will be notified by the Festival Commission of the list of festivals and the procedure involved.

FOCUS ON WORLD CONGRESS

OPEN FORUM -

Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage - Possibilities for CIOFF

The discussions at a CIOFF Open Forum held during the World Congress resulted in the following conclusions and recommendations:

The acceptance of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and its ratification by over 100 states is a historic turning point for folklore and traditional culture as it prescribes a new aspect or approach, stemming from the recognition that traditional culture is the basis for modern society and for the culture of the future.

The many decades of work of CIOFF in bringing nations together, showcasing and disseminating various elements of traditional culture - primarily through festivals - now receives new recognition and opportunities to continue its work.

The ideas and practices that were discussed fall into the following general categories:

- participation in the work of

UNESCO National Commissions and expert bodies

- greater inclusion of performers in the various different domains of intangible cultural heritage (such as storytellers, shamans, rope dancers, etc.) in the CIOFF Festival network

- international cooperation with the exchange of methods, experience and the compilation of best practices

- achieving greater publicity especially through programs targeting young people and serving to educate the general public

- organising training programs among others for the representatives of communities maintaining the elements on the intangible heritage representative lists; increasing their awareness of the importance of their culture, providing the historic sources, transmitting knowledge and facilitating the methods of re-teaching, reviving and sustaining their heritage.

The general consensus of attendees at the Forum was that the topic of the

Convention should be continued at a future forum with a discussion of best practices and methods that we in our National Sections have implemented and experienced.

We also recommend that those CIOFF National Sections whose countries have not ratified the convention – and there are many – continue to persist in establishing contact with their respective UNESCO National Commissions and find ways to work together with other relevant bodies i.e. universities, institutions and other NGO's dealing with folklore to increase their presence through the organisation of events or in an advisory role.

Those CIOFF National Sections whose countries have ratified the Convention have a duty to work together with their UNESCO National Commissions – as their states are obliged to implement the elements of the Convention.

*Submitted by Eva Hera
CIOFF Hungary*

FOCUS ON OTHER SIDE OF CIOFF WORK

After hard work and delicious dinner at CIOFF World Congress ...

...having lots of Fun...



Turkish Dance performed at the Closing by CIOFF Youth members



Fashion Show
Turkish Style



FOCUS ON CIOFF FUTURE EVENTS

CIOFF CONGRESS, COUNCIL & SECTOR MEETINGS 2009

39th CIOFF World Congress 2009

Habana, Cuba—8th-15th November 2009

CIOFF EXCO & Council Meeting

24th—30th March 2009

SECTOR SPRING MEETINGS:

Asian & Oceanian Sector

Hanzhou, China—23rd-27th April 2009

Central European Sector

Schlitz, Germany—23rd-26th April 2009

Latin American Sector

Northern American Sector

Canada—May 2009

Northern European Sector

Vilnius, Lithuania—May 2009

South European & African Sector

Lisboa, Portugal—7th-11th May 2009

COMMISSIONS & WORKING GROUPS

MEETING:

Legal Commission

Minturno, Italy—20th-24th May 2009

Joint Meeting of Festival Commission & Working Group on Public Relations

24th March 2009

40th CIOFF World Congress 2010

Tahiti, November 2010

CIOFF Working Group on Public Relations would like to thank everyone who sent their contribution for this edition of the Newsletter, and especially to thank CIOFF Spain, Cyrill Renz and Rolf Kaufman for their help with the translations. CIOFF, PRWG & FC bear no responsibility for the content of the articles received from CIOFF members and published in this Newsletter.

NEXT PUBLICATIONS OF CIOFF NEWSLETTER

www.CIOFF.org

The CIOFF Newsletter "Entre Nous" is published twice per year: after the Spring Council Meeting and after the CIOFF annual Congress.

The seventh edition of CIOFF newsletter will come out in June 2009 with the deadline for information submission of 15th May 2009.

If your Festivals, National Sections, CIOFF Sectors, Commissions or Working Groups have any interesting or important information, which you would like to submit to be included into the next CIOFF Newsletter, please send it to:

CIOFF Working Group on Public Relations by e-mail:

newsletter@cioff.org

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2001-2010

INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE
AND NON-VIOLENCE FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD
为世界儿童建设和平与非暴力文化国际十年

DECENNIE INTERNATIONALE DE LA PROMOTION D'UNE CULTURE
DE LA NON-VIOLENCE ET DE LA PAIX AU PROFIT DES ENFANTS DU MONDE
العقد الدولي لثقافة السلام واللاعنف لأطفال العالم

МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ ДЕСЯТИЛЕТИЕ КУЛЬТУРЫ МИРА
И НЕНАСИЛИЯ В ИНТЕРЕСАХ ДЕТЕЙ ПЛАНЕТЫ

DECENIO INTERNACIONAL DE UNA CULTURA DE PAZ
Y NO VIOLENCIA PARA LOS NIÑOS DEL MUNDO