

KOLO KALENDARA

Croatian

PRONUNCIATION: KOH-loh kah-lehn-DAR-ah

TRANSLATION: Dance of the calendar

SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance from John Filcich who learned it from Zdenka Politeo, a member of *LADO*, the Croatian Song and Dance Ensemble. John introduced the dance to folk dancers in the United States in 1952. Dick Crum also taught the dance; he learned it in 1952 and taught it in 1956.

BACKGROUND: Kolo Kalendara, from Slavonia, is also known as Kalendara Kolo and simply Kalendara. *LADO* was founded in Zagreb, Croatia, to preserve and further the folk culture of Croatia. Slavonia is a historical region of Croatia between the Drava and Sava rivers. Originally part of the Roman province of Pannonia, it became a Slavic state in the seventh century and has long been allied with Croatia. Slavonia was invaded by Serbia in 1991 following Croatia's declaration of independence from Yugoslavia. Croatia regained control of western Slavonia in 1995 and eastern Slavonia in 1998.

MUSIC: Atanas Kolarovski (LP) AK-004, *Songs and Dances of Yugoslavia*, Side A, band 6, *Kačerač*
Slobodan Slović 1987 (cassette), *Serbian Folk Dances*, Side B, band 5, *Kačerač*

FORMATION: Closed cir of mixed M and W in a front-basket hold, joining middle fingers with the second dancer on either side, with the L arm under and body bent slightly fwd.

METER/RHYTHM: 2/4

STEPS/STYLE: This dance is one of the "drmeš" or "shaking" type of Croatian dances. In the second figure, on cts 2&, the straight knees transmit a vibration throughout the body to produce the shaking.

MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION

None.

I. STEP-SWING

- 1 Facing ctr, small step L swd (ct 1); swing R leg across in front of L with R knee slightly bent as L heel slightly raises and lowers (ct 2).
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1 to R with opp fwtk.
- 3 Repeat action of meas 1.

4 Step R across in front of L (ct 1); pause (ct 2).
5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4.

NOTE: Instead of a hold on ct 2 of meas 4 and 8, the L leg may swing across in front of R with L knee slightly bent as R heel slightly raises and lowers. This variant should be done by the entire cir; otherwise it makes the dance look "ragged."

II. STEP-BOUNCE-BOUNCE (DRMEŠ)

1 Facing ctr, step on full L ft with heel slightly out (ct 1); with knees straight, step R next to L in place (ct 2); with knees straight, step L next to R in place (ct &).
2 Repeat action of meas 1 with opp ftwk (cts 1, 2&).
3-8 Repeat action of meas 1-2 three more times.

Repeat entire dance from beg.

KOLO KALENDARA Croatia

// Meni kažu kalendari,
da s'u kolo svi bećari. // Calendars tell me
That in the kolo all men are cocky young fellows.

// Meni kažu stare knjige,
Da s'u kolu sve nebridge. // Old books tell me
That in the kolo everyone is carefree.

// Meni kažu star ljudi,
Da s'u kolu dobo sudi. // Old men tell me
That in the kolo one can judge well.

// Meni kažu stare babe,
Da s'u kolu sve barabe. // Old women tell me
That in the kolo all are scoundrels.

// Meni kažu mlade snaše,
Da s'u kola šuše plaše. /// Young wives tell me
That nerds are afraid of the kolo.