

Florida Folk Dance Council

NEWSLETTER

November 1974

AVON PARK *Nelle Westergard*

When the fantastic mobile the Pritchards made for the last camp was again put up in the lodge hall, it gave Friday night the feeling of a home-coming. I, for one, was delighted to again see the happy-faced, dancing children from around the world merrily swirling over our weekend. Our Friday night snack was a birthday cake for Bernard Feder, Randi Whitehead, and Ted.

Saturday we had an interesting program, with the Baizans teaching the Sardana from Spain, Julius Horvath teaching three Hungarian dances, and Pat Jung teaching three tarantellas. Elaine Feder, in addition to doing an excellent job as camp director, gave a talk on Jewish and Israeli dance forms, illustrated by actual demonstrations of the styles and steps. Particularly beautiful was her example of some yemenite forms, which she had learned from a member of the Inbal troupe. These forms were nearly lost when Israel was first developing as a nation, which would have been a great tragedy.

The weather got refreshingly cool for Saturday night's party. Costuming had to be the best ever at a Florida camp, and the party guests even included a couple garbed in the robes of ancient Greece. There was a shortage of spoons for the ice cream that was the snack, forcing dancers to resort to various less proper methods of getting ice cream out of cups, some of which left noses smeared with chocolate and vanilla. A recent returnee from Japan generously offered the unsuspecting what looked like nice Japanese cookies, but the cookies tasted like fish--very upsetting to Westerners who expect food to taste like what it looks like. Four enterprising members of the female peasantry noticed that there was only one source of cold water and set up a toll gate to the water fountain. Appropriate tolls were collected from seven men before the last tollie dispersed the tollers by insisting on paying more than the tollers could handle. After-parties on the docks and in rooms continued to the wee hours. Some took late canoe rides; others took early walks around the lake. Some even woke up in the wrong dormitory.

Sunday, after lunch, a meeting of the Florida Folk Dance Council was held. It was decided that some membership dues would be due in the fall, so as not to make all due at once. Thus the people who joined at this camp will be renewable next fall instead of this spring. The Council voted to sponsor a Mihai David workshop in January and a committee was appointed to find a suitable place and be in charge of running it: Tom and Helen Sears, Chris Cegalis, and David Holcombe. It was also decided that the Council will sponsor a camp later, possibly in April, which would not be a one-nationality camp. A committee is to be appointed to work on it. (Any volunteers?) Support was extended to new groups and those trying to form.

The staff of Lake Byrd was extremely nice and cooperative, and added much to the enjoyment of the weekend. It was a great camp. Too bad that these facilities aren't large enough to accommodate more dancers.

ECKERD COLLEGE *Robin Beléy*

"Ouch! That was my shin!"
"I don't want her, you can have her, she's too fat for me!"
"Three-two-one step: Now . . . go down on left knee, turn, go down on right"
"It's very easy!"
"Who's she kidding?"
"Ooooooyyyy sha sha, sha sha."
"Let's see now, my left is backwards from hers because I'm facing . . ."
"Hey, I got it! I got it!"

And with this preview, we wish to announce that the Eckerd College Folk Dancers are alive and dancing!

The Eckerd College Folk Dancers gather weekly on Sunday evenings at six o'clock in Fox Hall on the campus. The size of the group fluctuates: Usually, there are between twenty and thirty in attendance every week.

The time from six o'clock until seven-thirty is allotted for instruction. Request time follows the teaching period and continues until all dancers have left.

The group plans to participate in various campus activities, such as the International Weekend, November 8, 9, and 10, as well as off-campus festivities throughout the school year.

The flexibility of the folkdancing group allows for guest instructors, who must, however, provide music for specific dances, because of the presently limited supply of records and tapes at the College. In order to alleviate this shortage, the Comparative Cultures Collegium of Eckerd College has expressed a willingness to provide financial support for the group in buying records.

The emphasis is surely on fun, and with the feeling that anyone can learn to folk dance anywhere, anytime, the possibilities are endless.

With this issue, the FFDC Newsletter will change again from bimonthly to monthly publication. All contributions received by the 20th of the month will be printed in the next issue, which will be mailed as closely as possible to the 1st of the following month. Please send all contributions to Helen Hyams, 120 N.W. 10 St., Gainesville, FL 32601.

The FFDC Newsletter is a publication of the Florida Folk Dance Council, Rt. 3, Box 90, Sarasota, FL 33580.

Officers of the Florida Folk Dance Council are:

President--Cubby Whitehead
Treasurer--Nelle E. Westergard
Secretary--Bea and Phil Statnick

Individual membership in the FFDC is \$3.00 per year. Family membership (including husband, wife, and any children under 18) is \$5.00 per year. Membership fees should be sent to Nelle E. Westergard, 9330 N. Highland St., Tampa 33612.

The FFDC Newsletter is sent to all members. It is available to nonmembers at 50¢ per copy. Groups may be listed in the FFDC Directory free of charge. Contributions to the Newsletter should be sent to

Helen Hyams, 120 N.W. 10 St.,
Gainesville, FL 32601

ADVERTISING RATES

	One Month	Six Months	One Year
Full page	\$9.00	\$49.50	\$90.00
Half page	5.00	27.50	50.00
Quarter page	3.00	16.50	30.00
Eighth page	1.75	9.50	17.50

MIHAI DAVID Nelle Westergard

It was with much trepidation that Tampa awaited Mihai's arrival on Saturday morning, October 5. We didn't see how he could give the workshop he planned to on Friday night in Tallahassee and then drive to Tampa (5 hours) and be in shape to effectively teach all day again. He did it! He arrived only a little late; he did a good job of teaching; we did a good job of learning; and everyone left well satisfied with the weekend. There was much enthusiasm over his dances, especially the difficult Floricica Olteneasca--the jew's harp dance.

The Tampa crew was delighted to see some out-of-towners whom we hadn't seen for at least the summer. One of these was Helen Hyams, who we were beginning to think had disappeared. Thanks to all of you for coming and supporting the workshop. If you hadn't come, we would have had no one to serve our Romanian dinner to except Mihai, and that would have been disastrous. We were unable to consult with him about recipes beforehand, and so put together a menu from a cookbook, without having any idea of what the finished product should look or taste like. Fortunately, he complimented our efforts and took seconds and thirds of the Transylvanian pancakes and the Dulceata served with rose petals.

Mihai taught all the dances from one side of his long-play record. He indicated he would be in the area in January and if asked, would teach the other side of his record. We very much hope this can be arranged.

MIAMI Ginny Corwin

The Mihai David Workshop on October 9th was both exciting and exhausting. It was a wet night, but 44 diehards from our Miami area braved the elements and had a really great time.

We are now having Clarice and Bernie Adler teach three Wednesdays a month and on the last Wednesday we are running a Party.

In fact, there are quite a few parties lately. An invitation to "A Night in Greece" at the University of Miami Cultural Week brought out quite a few of our dance group and the food and live music were really good.

October 26--U.M. Folk Dance Club had its monthly party--celebrating Cultural Week--Round the World theme.

Sunday, October 27--Picnic at Crandon Park--usually a glorious day of fun in the sun--dancing from noon to 6 p.m. on the beach.

We had a big Miami contingent up at Avon Park for the October 18, 19, 20th weekend. As usual, a good time was had by all.

CALENDAR

Nov. 8-10, 1974. Folk Dance Weekend, Green Acres, Loch Sheldrake, N.Y. Guest teacher, Mihai David. For information, contact Steve Zalph, 35 E. 30 St., New York, N.Y. 10016, (212) 684-2614 or 541-7600.

Feb. 1, 1975. International Folkdance Festival, Univ. of Tampa's Falk Auditorium. Performances by exhibition groups representing folk dance groups from Florida. Public admitted free. For information, contact Judith Baizan, Festival Director, 2503 Palm Dr., Tampa 33609, (813) 257-0001.

March 15-23, 1975. 2nd Balkan Music & Dance Workshop. Reitz Union, University of Florida, Gainesville. Staff and details to be announced. For information, contact Helen Hyams, 120 N.W. 10 St., Gainesville 32601, (904) 377-7255.

TRAVELS IN YUGOSLAVIA

Boženka Bledsoe and Marilyn Rath _____

It seemed like time stood still from the time we sent our registration form to George Tomov for his first Yugoslavia Folk Dance tour, but finally the day came and loaded down with far too much luggage, film, cameras, tapes, and tape recorders, we finally climbed aboard the jet in New York for the first leg of our trip. After changing planes in Amsterdam, we arrived in Belgrade late in the afternoon and went by bus across the Danube River and into the city to our hotel. As we only had that one evening there, we walked down the oldest street of the city, lined with sidewalk cafes, open-air art galleries, and musicians playing in the streets.

The following morning very early we left our hotel with box lunches (compliments of the hotel) for the airport and our flight to Ohrid. Ohrid is a beautiful little village right on Lake Ohrid, one of the oldest lakes in the world and the home of the plasiča fish from which the Biser pearls are made. Since time did not permit a trip to Bitola and we were interested in a Macedonian costume, we asked around the shops if anyone knew of a place where costumes were available. One Gypsy assured us that at his "magazine" he had just what we were looking for. We followed him for over a mile out of the village to a tiny Muslim compound and into his little room, and from behind the couch he pulled an old pillowcase with a damp, mildewed, musty costume inside. "Complete," he insisted. After much trouble explaining that it was either "too big" or "too small," aside from the fact that it was a man's costume, we finally got it across that we wanted to look a little further.

Later in the day we took a boat to the Sveti Naum Monastery for the blessing of the animals. The natives brought their animals and marched them around the monastery most of the afternoon until the animals were too tired to go another step. One Macedonian woman carried her sheep when it became too tired to go another round. There were many musicians playing on the hillside and we got the opportunity to join the dancing. Božie followed the tradition of sticking a "dinar" bill on a musician's forehead as an incentive to keep the music going. That evening we met Jonce Hristovski, who wrote Makedonska Devojce. We visited the Ethnological Museum, St. Sophia Church, and attended two performances of the Ohrid Festival, one of which was also attended by Joyce and Joe Abbate from Tallahassee. They were leaving the following day to attend a 25-day workshop nearby. It sure was great seeing someone from Florida, and even nicer as the Abbates had stayed at Marilyn's home during the Balkan Workshop last year.

From Ohrid we bused to Skopje and the highlight of our stay there was the picnic that George Tomov's relatives gave our group at Saraj Park on the Vardar River. We gorged ourselves on roast lamb, cole slaw, and red and white wine. We danced a good part of the afternoon until a windstorm drove everyone to their cars and buses. The Macedonians were terrified, as they remembered too well the earthquake of 1963 which nearly leveled Skopje. The following day we attended the Heroes' Day Celebration in Belčetza, with dramatic poetry recitation by university students, Montenegrin and Macedonian dancing, and a very long hike up to the top of the hill and back down. That afternoon George Tomov and Blaze Veleviski (a member of TANEC) gave a workshop on the hotel patio and taught three dances.

(to be concluded next month)

FFDC Directory

- CLEARWATER Scottish Dancing, Sun. 7:30 p.m., Peace Memorial Church, 107 S. Osceola. Contact John Marsden, 107 S. Osceola, Clearwater 33516, (813) 447-6176.
- DAYTONA BEACH International Dancing, Sat. 8-11 p.m., YWCA, 344 S. Beach, Daytona Beach. Contact Susan Jane Horvath, 528 Bostwick Ave., Daytona Beach 32018, (904) 255-5767.
- FT. LAUDERDALE Around-the-World Dancers, Sat. beginners, 1-2 p.m.; intermediate-advanced, 2:30-5 p.m., Holiday Park Social Annex, 844 N.E. 7th Ave. Contact Bea or Phil Statnick, 91 N.E. 46th St., Ft. Lauderdale 33308, (305) 771-5287.
- FT. LAUDERDALE Folk and Round Dance Class, beginners and intermediates, Fri. 2-5 p.m., Sunrise Recreation Center, 1720 N.W. 60 Ave., Ft. Lauderdale, (305) 739-2142. Contact Abe or Vivian Halpern, 8447 N.W. 10 10 St., Ft. Lauderdale 33313, (305) 791-8833.
- GAINESVILLE Univ. of Florida Folk Dance Club, Fri. advanced, 8-9 p.m.; beginners, 9-10 p.m.; requests, 10-12 midnight, Norman Hall Gym, Univ. of Florida. Contact John Ward, 1503 N.W. 10th Ave., Gainesville 32605.
- HALLANDALE Intermediate and advanced workshop, international folk dances, Hallandale Community Center. Contact Charles or Bea Kaufman, 920 S.W. 10 Terr., Hallandale 33009, (305) 929-5359.
- HALLANDALE International Folk Dancing, Wed. beginners, 7-8 p.m.; intermediate-advanced, 8-10 p.m., Hallandale Community Center, 500 S.E. 1st Ave. (at 5th St.). Contact Clarice or Bernie Adler, 11253 S.W. 172 St., Miami 33157, (305) 233-3117.
- MIAMI Miami International Folk Dancers, Wed. beginners, 7:30-8:15 p.m.; intermediates, 8:30-10:30 p.m., First Unitarian Church, 7701 S.W. 76th Ave. Contact Ginny or Manny Corwin, 4410 S.W. 13 St., Miami 33134, (305) 444-3730.
- MIAMI Belly Dance Lessons. Contact Linda Hyams, P.O. Box 010506, Miami 33101, (305) 573-7956.
- MIAMI Scottish Country Dancing, beginners, Fri. 7:45-9:45 p.m., Palmetto Senior High School, South Cafeteria, 7460 S.W. 118 St., Miami. Contact Ken or Isis Hilton, 11600 S.W. 70th Ave., Miami, (305) 667-9059.
- MIAMI Israeli Dancing, Tues. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Hillel Foundation, Univ. of Miami, 1100 Miller Dr., Coral Gables. Contact Yosef Yanich, 4200 Biscayne Blvd., #3F, Miami 33137, (305) 576-4330.
Saturday evenings, 8-10:30 p.m., there is a Coffee House at Hillel, basically for students. Contact Yosef Yanich.
- MIAMI BEACH Israeli Dancing, Fri. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., for students and young adults, the "Hamifgahsh" (The Meeting Place) Coffee House, Youth Center, Temple Beth Sholom), Arthur Godfrey Rd. & Chase Ave. (entrance from alleyway in rear). Contact Yosef Yanich, 4200 Biscayne Blvd., #3F, Miami 33137, (305) 576-4330.
- MIAMI--FT. LAUDERDALE Belly Dance Lessons, Ron Daniels Academy of Dance, Dade: (305) 759-1182; Broward: (305) 763-6128. Contact Karen Gillis, 711 N.W. 1st Ave., Ft. Lauderdale 33311, (305) 763-1193.
- MIRAMAR Irish-American Ceili Club, 4th Fri. of month, Old Fireman's Hall, 7600 Venetian, Miramar. Contact Mary Borden, 700 N.W. 200 Terr., Miami 33169, (305) 625-1652; or Jack Smith, 3091 N.W. Holatee Trail, Ft. Lauderdale, (305) 587-5552.
- ORLANDO Orlando International Folk Dance Club, Wed. 7:57-10:30 p.m., Unitarian Church, 1815 E. Robinson (at Hampton). Contact Dave Digby, 311 S. Brown Ave., Orlando 32801, (305) 894-3743; or Larry Wartell, 5706 Eggleston Ave., Orlando 32810, (305) 645-0290.
- PENSACOLA Tzigany, c/o Student Activities, Univ. of West Florida, Fri. beginners, 7:30-8 p.m.; intermediate-advanced 8 p.m. on. Contact Jim Marsh, Physics Dept., Univ. of West Florida, Pensacola 32504, home phone (904) 438-3284; or Drew Harris, 1300 E. Tunis, Pensacola 32503, (904) 434-3744.

SARASOTA The Folksdancing, 2nd and 4th Fri. of month, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Sugar Creek Camp Resort, 3300 26th Ave. E., Bradenton. Scottish Country Dancing, 1st and 3rd Sun., 7:30 p.m., at the Folk House. For specific meetings contact Cubby or Jeanie Whitehead, Rt. 3, Box 90, Sarasota 33580, (813) 755-7005 or 755-6212.

SARASOTA New College Folk Dancers, Fri. 8:30-10 p.m., during school term, New College Music Room. Contact Elaine Feder, 615 Waterside Way (Siesta Key), Sarasota 33581, (813) 349-6413.

ST. PETERSBURG Eckerd College Folk Dancers, Sun. instruction, 6-7:30; requests, 7:30 on. Fox Hall, Eckerd College, St. Petersburg. Contact Robin Beléy, EC Folkdance Coordinator, Eckerd College, Box 86, St. Petersburg 33733.

TALLAHASSEE International Dancing, Sun. 7:30-10:30 p.m., Student Union, Florida State Univ. Contact Joe or Joyce Abbate, 316 Conradi St., #202, Tallahassee 32304, (904) 224-1479 or 599-4237.

TAMPA Meetings Fri. 7-10 p.m., Forest Hills Community Center, 724 W. 109th Ave., Tampa. Contact Nelle E. Westergard, 9330 N. Highland St., Tampa 33612, (813) 932-0830; or Judith or Ernesto Baizan, 2503 Palm Dr., Tampa 33609, (813) 257-0001 or 245-1881.

WEST PALM BEACH Sun. night meetings. Contact Mrs. June Volpi, 251 16th Way W., Riviera Beach, (305) 848-2072.

WEST PALM BEACH Beginners and intermediate folk dancing, Century Village. Contact Rose or Sam Kanars, 129 E. Hampton, Century Village, W. Palm Beach 33401.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA International folk dancing, Mon. 8-10:45 p.m., Home Park Recreation Center, 1015 Tumlin St., Atlanta. Contact Norma Huff, 4520 Garmon Rd., N.W., Atlanta, (404) 255-3005; or John Wallace, (404) 872-2807.

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA International Folk Dancing, beginning, intermediate, and advanced instruction followed by request dancing, Sun. and Wed. 7:30-11:30 p.m., Catholic Student Center, LSU campus on Highland and Dalrymple. Contact Vonnie R. Brown, 4431 Blecker, Baton Rouge 70809, (504) 926-5659.

Israeli Dancing, beginning, intermediate, and advanced instruction followed by request dancing, Tues. 7:30-10 p.m. Liberal Synagogue, 260 S. Acadian Thruway. Contact Vonnie R. Brown.

Helen Hyams
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