

Florida is finally settling down after a workshop fever that filled almost every weekend for the last few months with dancing.

After Mihai David's Romanian workshop in Leesburg in January and the Folk-dancefest in Tampa on February 1, the Folksdancing and Eckerd College presented a Swiss dance workshop on February 22 (article on p. 3). Then on March 15-21 came the week-long Balkan workshop in Gainesville (article below). The following weekend, March 28-30, found Bora Özkök in Miami teaching more Turkish dances, and on April 19-20, Eckerd College ran another workshop, this time a Macedonian weekend taught by Mile Kolarov (article on p. 3). The weekend of April 27, Orlando held a Hungarian dance workshop conducted by Csaba Pálfi, and on May 9-11, Miami ran a Greek dance workshop, taught by David Henry (article on p. 3). Now it's time to absorb the dances we've learned and to plan (hopefully dancing summer vacations.

2nd Balkan Workshop

The Second Balkan Music & Dance Workshop was held this year in Gainesville on March 15-21. The same five teachers who made last year's workshop so exciting were there again this year to present new dances, give culture and music talks, and entertain at the parties and afterparties. Sam Chianis, Dick Crum, Atanas Kolarovski, Yves Moreau, and Bora Özkök used their unique talents to fill every minute of the week with learning and fun. Specialties of this year's workshop were tubing down the Ichetucknee by some hardy souls; Bora's costume fashion show; the unexpectedly great afterparties at the Longbranch Saloon where we danced on a postage-stamp-sized floor to live music; the cookout at Morningside Park; our two belly dancers (will there be three next year at the third Balkan Workshop?) with Linda and Atanas' duet showing us more of Atanas' talents, and with our photographer Bart nearly standing on his head in his eagerness to take pictures of Cathie; Ann Czompo's beautiful jazz dances; and the joy of dancing with more than 150 happy people, meeting friends from last year and making new friends. The one unfortunate specialty of the workshop was the "Gainesville Grippe," which struck down almost everyone, if not during the workshop, then when they got home. On behalf of Gainesville, we apologize. HH

Lakeland Group Formed

Lakeland/Winter Haven boasts a folk dancing group nurtured since the first of the year by enthusiasts in the area. Attendance and interest is growing and hopefully will be boosted even more with our association since May with Florida Southern College's Summer Enrichment Program with the community.

The group meets weekly; the location and other details were not set at the time the Newsletter was printed.

Come and dance with us. If you're going to be in the area join us. Last month, Earl Galitz of the Gainesville group came and reviewed Balkan Workshop material with us. His presence and interest was greatly appreciated by all.

For further information please contact: Donna Roe, 1016½ Mississippi Ave., Lakeland 33801, or call (813) 683-0320 evenings. Hope to see you when you're in our area!

DONNA C. ROE

Editor's notes

Your editor recently left home to sample dance in other places, and I am pleased to report that the dancing is good.

After driving to Miami for Bora Ozkok's workshop on March 28-30 and enjoying it immensely, as is usual with Bora's workshops, I left the next week by bus for Baton Rouge and Bratstvo Balkana, with Dick Crum. Louisiana State University's Zadruga group, run by FFDC member Vonnie Brown, is a large, enthusiastic group that acts as a focus for folk dance in that part of the country. The workshop drew people from Pensacola, Houston, and Memphis, as well as Baton Rouge and New Orleans. Bratstvo Balkana was without doubt the most beautifully organized workshop I've ever seen, without any loss of enthusiasm and enjoyment by the helpers. Dick taught with his usual style and humor, and the weekend included an ethnic buffet dinner Saturday night with what seemed like hundreds of delicious dishes; the party afterward included an impromptu rendition of "Hopa, Hopa," with the dancers all wearing enormous T-shirts with Crumisms on the back of each: "Colorful Ethnic Native," "Doris Ding Dong," "Ker-plunk," etc.

Sunday it was back on the bus, with my cassette recorder's earphone in my ear, and on to Austin, Texas, to visit friends and to dance for a week. Folk dancing is lovely in Austin; they dance four nights a week: Balkan teaching and couple-dance teaching on Wed.; international dance teaching on Thurs.; international dancing on Saturday night; and Israeli and international on Sun. Friday is temporarily a non-dance night, but the Friday I was there was "Eeyore's Birthday Party," an extravaganza that brings thousands of people to one of the parks to welcome spring, and of course there was folk dancing on the grass. Austin is a beautiful city with friendly people; I'd advise anyone who gets within range to visit and dance there.

I arrived back in Gainesville on Sunday and barely had time to unpack before leaving the next weekend for Eckerd College's Mile Kolarov workshop. We danced with Tampa's group Friday night, and drove to St. Pete Saturday morning. Mile was wonderful, and learning beautiful Macedonian dances outdoors, the fantastic lamb barbecue, and dancing Saturday night by the waterside, as well as enjoying the gracious hospitality of the Eckerd College students, made the workshop special. Three weeks later, to Miami again for David Henry's Greek dance workshop. David taught a wonderful selection of dances with style and humor; it was a relaxed, well-run workshop, where we had the opportunity to try out the new Hasapikos variations we had learned in an ethnic setting Saturday night at a Greek restaurant to live bouzouki music.

Back home, we frantically rehearsed for local performances--there were four in one week--and I unhappily concentrated on work.

CORRECTIONS TO FFDC DIRECTORY

LAKELAND/WINTER HAVEN Folk dancing, Tues. night. Contact Donna Roe, 1016 $\frac{1}{2}$ Mississippi Ave., Lakeland 33801, (813) 683-0320 evenings.

MIAMI International folk dancing, Tues. night. Contact Ira Weisburd, 862 W. 47 St., Miami Beach 33140; or Abraham Kugel, 10642 S.W. 77 Ave., Miami 33156.

SARASOTA New College Folk Dancers now meet on Monday, from 9 to 10:30 p.m.

TAMPA The address of Forest Hills Community Center, mistakenly reported as 724 W. 109 Ave., should be 224 W. 109 Ave.

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--Nolia Stephan
Secretary--Bea and Phil Statnick

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 STREET
GAINESVILLE, FL 32601

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 Nolia Stephan, 3500 Bayou Louise Lane, Sarasota 33581.

ADVERTISING RATES

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Eighth page	1.75	9.50	17.50

Swiss Dance Workshop

On February 22 in Fox Hall at the Eckerd College campus in St. Petersburg, Erika and Fredy Singer taught seven lively Swiss folk dances to about thirty couples. Some of the dances were "Der Fulenbacher," "Buendner Siebenschritt," and "Hirschebraebler." Most included the well-known waltz and schottisch steps. The steps themselves were easy to learn, thanks to the Singers' adept teaching, but the combinations took some remembering, so we all felt pleased with ourselves when we had successfully completed each dance.

The Singers were here in the United States for the first time, as guests of Gretel Dunsing, herself an instructor here in the Bay Area. The workshop was sponsored by the Folksdancing Group of Sarasota and the Eckerd College Folkdancers.

ANTONIA E. BROWN

Mile Kolarov Workshop

The Eckerd College Folkdancers culminated this year with their Macedonian folk dance workshop held April 19 and 20. Through the efforts of our coordinator, Robin Beléy, we were able to get Mile Kolarov to fly down here from Philadelphia, where he is the guest of the folk group Novo Selo, and teach us several Macedonian dances.

About eighty folk dancers from all over Florida took part in the workshop. Mile wore his traditional Macedonian costume and played for us on his gajda, a set of bagpipes, the bag of which is made out of a goatskin, and his kaval, a long, thin flute. He taught us five line dances, some harder than others, but each with its own unique beat and beautiful music that had us enthusiastically involved in every one. Mile's pleasant and affectionate personality, and his infinite patience, made him a wonderful teacher and endeared him to all of us.

Mile speaks very little English, so we had as our interpreters the Bobinecs, a Yugoslavian-American couple who live here in St. Petersburg. Mr. Bobinec made it possible for us to have a delicious lamb barbecue on the evening of the 19th. We ate and danced all evening. Sunday morning we ended the workshop with a review of the dances we had learned.

It was hard to say goodbye to Mile--he had given us such a wonderful weekend. He told us as he was leaving that he had enjoyed Florida more than any place he had visited in this country, and that he looked forward to returning within the next few years.

ANTONIA E. BROWN

David Henry Workshop

May 9-11, Miami's folk dancers sponsored a workshop of lesser-known Greek dances, taught by David Henry. David teaches at Columbia University and Queens College, and has traveled extensively in Greece, researching and collecting dances, and performing. Unlike many workshops, this one attracted dancers of all ages, and there was something to please everyone. The dances from Epiros, Rumelia, Thrace, Macedonia, Thessalia, Rhodes--14 dances in all--ranged from the simple to the complex, but all were enjoyable, with memorable music. David is an excellent teacher, as shown by the fact that we remember all those dances, and is knowledgeable and humorous. In addition to teaching, he showed films of Greece. Saturday night's afterparty was held at the Golden Greek, a restaurant-nightclub, where "the world's best bouzouki player" entertained us and accompanied our dancing. We finally left at 2:30 in the morning, after a very unusual evening.

HH

CALENDAR

July 12-16 Balkan Workshop, State Univ. of New York at Binghamton. Sam Chianis, Dick Crum, Andor Czompo, Yves Moreau. For information, contact Robin Ackerman, c/o 413 Corey Ave., Endwell, N.Y. 13760, (607) 748-1101, 754-1671, or 798-2591.

August 8-10 Vyts Beliajus workshop in Tampa. Details to be announced.

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"Circle: A set of all dancers equidistant from a given instructor."
-- Linda Zeitlin

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