

FFDCN September, 1982 NEWSLETTER

A Proposal From Tallahassee

There is a group based in Salt Lake City, Utah, which specializes in folkdance, music, and song. It goes by the name of "Folkdance Underground." The director of this ensemble is an ex-Florida folkdancer, Craig Miller (originally from Tallahassee, FL). His group, which features dancing and singing to live music, is currently highly regarded in Utah, where they are a regular paid artist of the Utah Fine Arts Council. They have danced before some rather prestigious audiences (such as Grant Johanneson and the New World Wind Ensemble) and at numerous art festivals and celebrations:

The group's repertoire consists mainly of Balkan music, specializing in the near-angelic music and songs arranged by the late Bulgarian folklorist, Phillip Koutev. All their material is performed with a high degree of competency, authentically, and — above all — enthusiasm. In spite of their achievements, they have managed to retain a certain togetherness — camaraderie — more commonly found amongst recreational and amateur folkdance groups.

I think it would be a boost for folkdancing in Florida if we (meaning the various groups of folkdancers around the state) were to sponsor a tour by Folkdance Underground of our state. I believe they would help towards igniting further interest in Florida folkdance by their appearances. I was very impressed when I saw them a few years ago and I believe they are instrumental in the very healthy condition of the Salt Lake City Folkdance Club.

The members (the total group numbers around 15 dancers and musicians) of Folkdance Underground could be housed by local dancers in homes cutting down costs. Performances could be priced so as to defer expenses, but not to discourage prospective attendants. Actually, the possibilities are endless. If anyone has any ideas, suggestions, support for this modest proposal please contact: Juan Dominguez, 1316 Milton Street, Tallahassee, FL 32303, (phones) (904) 224-0370 home; (904) 488-2297 office.

Thanks!
Juan

COMING EVENTS

B'HAM TOE-JAM, sponsored by The Celebration Folk Dancers, 5th Annual. September 10-12th. Still only \$15, but goes to \$18 after September 3. Make checks payable to Pearl Hawkins but mail to: Debbie Blackmon, 3424 Altamont Road, Birmingham AL 35205.

Mickey Cross has complete information with directions, schedule, and comments (including mandatory showers--sounds good to me). I will send this to anyone upon request. I have been told that they have four teachers, it is very casual, and one of the teachers is our very own Pat Bridgham. GO GO GO.

February 1983--Florida Folkdance Council Folkdancefest. Rustic campsite. WOODEN FLOORS. Put George Washington's Birthday on your calendar NOW NOW NOW NOW NOW NOW NOW NOW NOW.

TAMPA TRIVIA

Since Terry is writing President's messages these days, she is giving up the column for a while, and I'm the replacement. Now that summer's ending we have begun to gear up for fall and Oktoberfest time. If it's anything like last year's record of 12 paid performances we'll have a busy season! The Matterhorn, where we often finish out the evening after IFD on Friday nights is proving to be a fertile recruiting ground for already experienced polka-n' waltzers, of which we never have enough. Also, Joe Wadsworth, folk dancer, clogger, and musician from up Carolina way is a welcome addition to our ranks.

When we had to put a show together last month and some of our regulars were out of town, I talked Ernesto's sister, who was visiting from Barcelona and doesn't speak English into helping us out. After a teaching session in Spanish (for which my vocabulary is woefully inadequate) she put in an almost flawless performance. But in Doublebska she kept going the wrong way, and every time I called out "Al revés! Al revés!" and hoped the audience wouldn't know it wasn't an authentic Czech yell.

Our Israeli night was a whopping success, and all 52 present enjoyed Amnon and his dances, and the tasty chick pea dip and pita bread snack that Terry fixed. He has promised a return engagement next June. By the way, the watermelon was a surprise treat brought from Georgia by ex-Leesburg dancers Tom and Helen Sears who stopped over in Tampa on their way back home to California.

Judith

CLASSIFIED COLUMN

10 minute tapes (5 minutes each side) available for \$1 each or \$90/100 tapes. Avoid searching for the right dance; avoid scratching and wearing out your records. Easy carrying.

Write: Frank Simon, Inc., 1104 Churchill Road, Philadelphia, PA 19118.

TALLAHASSEE

As I predicted, the tubing trip to Ichitucknee was a lot of fun. Our only question—Kathy where were you? We got there a little later than anticipated—I hope we didn't just miss you. It was cool and cloudy as we left Tallahassee and didn't seem to improve as we drove (we even stopped midway to take a vote as to whether to continue) but the sun came out when we arrived and the tubing trip itself was very pleasant.

Our group is missing our Activities Coordinator, Sam Tabor, as he is off galavanting around Europe. I'm sure he'll return with many wonderful stories and pictures. Hopefully I will be able to get him to commit some of those wonderful stories to paper for the newsletter!

I hope you will all seriously consider Juan's proposal concerning Folkdance Underground. It's always exciting to see a well-done performance. Remember that even if your group doesn't have the means to sponsor this group, there are sometimes other groups that might be willing to help (universities, arts groups, foreign student associations, etc). It would be great if we could get this tour going!

Patti McDonald

FLORIDA FOLKLORE SOCIETY BECOMES OFFICIAL

It's official. The Florida Folklore Society is now an incorporated society fully recognized by the State of Florida as a nonprofit, educational organization. As such, the Society will be able to serve the scholars, folklorists, and interested citizens of the State by providing a vehicle for the exchange of ideas and information as well as formal study of folk cultures and history, particularly our own. In order to preserve Florida lore for future generations, the Society today aims to provide a central means of collecting and studying Florida folklore through research, fieldwork, and meetings of the Society membership, just to name some of the planned activities for the coming year. To become a Charter Member, you must send in your membership application and dues prior to the Annual Meeting in February 1983.

Cut and send to: Florida Folklore Society, Pat Waterman, Treasurer, Department of Anthropology, University of South Florida, Tampa FL 33620. Please make the check payable to the Florida Folklore Society, Inc. (Dues to professional societies are tax deductible).

Please list me as a member of the Florida Fololore Society. My check for 1983 dues is enclosed:

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual membership	\$ 5.00	Name: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Family membership	\$ 7.50	Mailing Address: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional membership	\$ 10.00	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Life membership	\$100.00	_____

Interests in Florida folklore projects underway, or publications in preparation, briefly listed: _____

ORLANDO MOUSE MUSINGS

Like the rest of you, our Oktoberfest season is warming up, and we must have DONE GOOD last year as we are getting return engagements. Orlando suffered a burn-out after the combined trauma of Camp in February and Folkdancefest in April, and really are only just getting the juices flowing again. We have been getting good groups at our new dance location. A lot of people come to watch us dance and are very encouraging. (We are dancing at a retirement apartment building.) You know how you always dance better with an audience; well, anyhow most of us do!! I'm going to pull a "Terry" and get someone else to write this. Putting together the newsletter with my various and sundry editorial comments is enough. Kathy was doing great, but took some time off. Maybe Raynette would do it. Speaking of Raynette, and all of our new officers. They have proved to be gems every one, and have us very well organized. Love it. Hate to miss a Wednesday, and don't often any more. Thank you-all for being willing to serve and for really working at it.

And I'm going to sign that, LOVE,
Mickey

Membership in Florida Folk Dance Council is \$3 annually for individual or \$5 for family membership. The newsletter is monthly. If you wish to subscribe, send check to FFDC, in care of Kathy Dudek, Treasurer, 613 Bourne Pl., Orlando FL 32801. For other information call Terry Abrahams, President 717 S. Edison, Tampa FL 33606 (813)253-2900/253-3070.

Editor of newsletter is Mickey Cross, 2713 Timberlake Drive. Send copy for newsletter to her. Oh yes, Orlando, Florida 32806. If you are getting close to the deadline (20th) 305-851-4928.

SEND ALL MONEY TO KATHY DUDEK, 613 BOURNE PLACE, ORLANDO FL 32801. SEND ALL MONEY TO KATHY DUDEK, 613 BOURNE PLACE, ORLANDO FL 32801. SEND ALL MONEY TO KATHY DUDEK, 613 BOURNE PLACE, ORLANDO FL 32801. SEND ALL MONEY TO KATHY DUDEK, 613 BOURNE PLACE, ORLANDO FL 32801.