

# FFDC Newsletter

DECEMBER, 1988

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Treasurer: Rita Princi, 1017 Chippewa Trail, Holly Hill, FL 32017  
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\*\*\*\*\* YOUR EDITOR IS OFF GALAVANTING THIS MONTH \*\*\*\*\*

I WILL NOT BE HOME DURING DECEMBER. If you have something to contribute, a question, or any other need to reach me, try the following addresses and/or telephone numbers (and please try to allow extra time for the mails each way):

November 21 to the middle of December: 1180 "E" Street #309  
(and again from early January Hayward, CA 94541  
until January 9.) (415) 582-8652, 537-3239 or 794-6493  
or (209) 847-670 or 847-077  
(Send January Newsletter contributions here, in particular. I do not expect to have a computer available in Oregon.)

I will also be in contact with Nancy Bercu, off and on, so messages could also be relayed by her. She's moved again (back to a previous address): 672 Cherry Avenue, Sonoma, CA 95476, (707) 938-5361.

from mid December to early January:

c/o Sanseri, 8126 SE Ramona, Portland. OR 97206  
(503) 775-1386, or 760-7686

(There will be a few days of travelling away from ALL those places, however, especially between California and Oregon.)

Home again by January 10, 1989. Please DO NOT send any February Newsletter contributions out West.

Note also that Bonnie and Rita can deal better than I can, about anything except actual newsletter material. So call THEM, first! (Bonnie MIGHT even have more recent details about how to reach ME.)

KEEP THE FFDC GREEN - SEND MONEY !

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD MEMBERS TO RENEW. (Except for those TERRIFIC good members who have already done so!)

"How much money should I send?", I hear you ask. The answer to that question SHOULD be printed on the upper left hand corner of your address label. (I know I tried to put the right number on everybody's label.) To decode this for the curious, here's the formula:

Dues are \$8 per year for each member. (If there are TWO names on your label, you have TWO memberships, totalling \$16 per year.)

If you still owed \$2 for 1988, the total is \$10 to renew.

TAMPA TRIVIA

\*\*\*\*\* FOLK FEST FLEW HIGH, WIDE AND FANCY \*\*\*\*\*

(But nobody fingered Tiffany, so we're still waiting!) We had a terrific party in Tampa on Saturday, November 12. The Folkfest ran nearly perfectly on Sunday afternoon, and was essentially SOLD OUT. Then the afterparty at Maria's house kept everyone munching and dancing through the late afternoon and early evening. Our biggest disappointment is that no live microphone was available for the sound track of our video tape. (See Andy's WRAP-UP, below.)

BUT TIFFANY TEARDROP STILL ELUDES IDENTIFICATION

At this point, the fate of "Installation Q" is quite uncertain. Somehow Tiffany's name was never even mentioned Saturday night, to my knowledge. Nobody claims to have seen her "signal" from the stage, and Andy's prediction about Tiffany Teardrop at the afterparty was a little more vague than most folks were hoping for. The only other guesses I heard being bandied about were whispered in my ear.

Since I have no authority to judge this "detective game", or to verify the correctness of such guesses, I suppose the only possible resolution would require the presentation of a direct public challenge to Tiffany herself, and her public acknowledgement of its accuracy.

ONLY THEN would it be appropriate for ME to either verify or refute such a public claim of authorship. (And it's just possible that Tiffany will have privately asked me to "waffle" my statements, even in this situation.)

-- David Digby

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OFFICIAL FOLKFEST WRAP-UP

"Thank you", to all of you who participated, for putting up cheerfully with the many inconveniences -- such as not being able to see the show itself, and the stuffy attitude of the center staff who wanted everybody to go around the long way, etc. A special thanks to Terry & Gerry, on publicity, for all their work in filling the hall with people, and to David for doing the program insert under tight deadlines.

I think it is important that people give some thought (before camp) to the type of festival that they want in the future. I will try to list, in the January issue, some of the different points of view I have encountered.

To obtain a copy of the video tape (be aware that the tape is missing ambient sound -- applause, foot noise, and the live music that was not miked.):

Send your blank tape with your name on the tape label (not just on the case) to Andy Pollock, 6104 Webb #1102, Tampa, FL 33615. If you are from out of town, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. We will make you a copy & mail it back to you.

The Box Office computer is down, so I will have to wait until the next issue to report on the dollar outcome.

- Andy Pollock

How to begin....that's always the most difficult thing for me when I'm writing. Oh, sometimes the words flow effortlessly, and sometimes I get a brilliantly creative idea right away, but just sometimes. Since this isn't one of them, I'll rely on our relationship and just jump right in with the news.

First, the good news. A big thanks goes to Andy Pollock for handling all the headaches, details, etc. that go along with putting on Folkfest. The Bay area was well represented with groups from Tampa, St. Pete, Sarasota, and our neighbor city of Orlando. We played to a sell-out audience (hurray!). The costumes were flashy, the selections varied, the dancing top-notch, and the after-party scrumptious and fun. Thanks to Maria Pasetti for opening her gorgeous house to us and for hosting the party. If you weren't able to be with us for Folkfest this year, we'd like you to know that the folks who danced did FFDC proud. I hope for the next Folkfest we will have more groups represented. Let's rekindle the enthusiasm. Lets do it again soon! Thanks to the dancers, the crew, and all the people who made Folkfest a success. Thanks again Andy for a super job!!! -- anyone interested in following in his footsteps? (Think about it, I'll ask again during the camp meeting in Feb.)

Speaking of camp, I guess I might as well get on with the bad news. I finally received information from Charlie concerning the camp costs. At the end of last year, he told me that there would be a price increase of probably a few dollars. Well, when the final decisions were made, that few dollars amounted to about \$20. But the bad news gets worse, he told me that he'd adhere to the prices quoted to me in his recent letter but that camp would really cost about \$99 per person next year for just food and lodging. Also in the future, it sounds like the weekend will be a package deal with no discounts for early departures, skipped meals, etc. So, whoever becomes the next president may wish to look around for some other place. However, finding another place may not be so easy. Some of you may remember how much effort it took to find this camp, or you may remember how many complaints we had regarding other facilities that we tried....bad floor, bathrooms too far from the cabins, bad food, bugs, dirt, etc. Charlie told me that Camp Ocala was booked solid from Jan. to August and that their prices are cheaper or at least comparable to other state camps. If this is true, we may not be able to do any better price wise. Anyone willing to begin researching **now** so that we can have some specific information to discuss during our camp meeting? Please be on the look out! Or please start saving more than a few shiny dimes in that old sock.

Well as long as we are talking about price, let me explain a little about the flyer. I will be calling Charlie on Jan. 5 with the exact number of campers that we will guarantee. I'll know this because all of you who are coming will have sent in your money and registration forms postmarked by Jan. 3. Charlie will send me a contract and I'll sign it. These people are guaranteed and no refunds will be given. Yipes! Now I know that there are always a few who drag their feet and can't decide for one reason or another....so I will call in any extra people on Jan. 20. If I have your check in hand, your space will be confirmed. Now the cook knows how many people to shop and to make meals for. Once again we have to guarantee the money. Well, you may be asking, what if I get sick, my cat dies, I break my leg, or some other emergency arises? The answer to that one is...sponsor someone else. Give or sell your spot to another folkdancer at whatever refund price you can get. I'm sorry but that's the best I can suggest. Just think, there is probably someone in your group that has never been to camp; you could offer them the golden opportunity to experience folkdancing at its best. You could give a scholarship to camp!

Prices for children, 4 years old and over, are covered under the "non-dancer" category listed in the flyer. Please remember that it is the parents' responsibility to supervise children at all times.

Now for some more good news. You will also notice that the registration form includes an opportunity for people to come and join us for the Friday party. You can just show up and pay your money at the door...of course you'll want to bring a pot-luck snack just like the rest of us. **The only time that drop-ins will be accepted is for the Friday evening party;** I hope that you will understand that this is a necessary decision based on the new camp rules and contract.

In this month's issue of the FFDC newsletter I've included information about applying for a camp scholarship. Next month I'll print the Do's and Don'ts list for camp including what to bring. Maybe I'll even be able to list the volunteers...we already have offers from John Karris, Craig Whitehead, Pat Henderson, Jeff Flint and Terry Abrahams. (Hope I didn't forget anyone.) I've provided a space for you to list the job(s)--opportunities(s) of your choice. Thanks for pitching in and for your wonderful attitude about camp. Less than 3 months to D-day (Dance-day).

#### Camp Scholarship Information:

Camp Scholarships will be awarded to one or two individuals who apply and who are selected by the FFDC Committee. Scholarships may be for full camp cost or for half cost depending on the number of applicants and the decision of the committee. Scholarship winners will be expected to "pitch in and help" at camp...duties will not interfere with dancing sessions. If you are interested in applying, you must be a member of FFDC and must submit the following information to **all three** FFDC officers; applications must be postmarked by Dec. ~~26~~, 1988.

- 1) A completed camp Registration Form...(mark applying for scholarship across the top).
- 2) A brief description of your dance history.
- 3) Reasons that you feel that you'd be deserving of this scholarship (both financial and philosophical ones.)
- 4) A reference from your local group leader.
- 5) A reference from a fellow dancer.
- 6) Future folk dance plans.

We are looking for individuals who have need for a scholarship, are able to get along with fellow dancers, have a desire to increase their dance repertoire, and plan to add in some positive way to their Florida group.

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#### List of Members of Florida Folk Dance Council Paid through 1989:

Frank Cross, David Digby, Kathy Dudek, Millicent W. Goins, Sue Harper, Nicolaas Helfrink, JoAnne Kordas, Steve Kotansky, Jenneine Lambert, David Leone, Joy C. Mershimer, Marie Nelson, Barbara Nicholas, Maria Pasetti, Mary Quayle, Lorrie Schumpf, Jack & Linda Seltzer, Connie Walker, Dorothy Wolski, and Donna Young.

(Some of these folks have been paid up LONG in advance. Thanks again!)

"SPECIAL EVENT" ANNOUNCEMENTS

- December 4 - Pasco-Hernando Community College West, 3pm, Frula, Yugoslav dance company. (813) 847-5313
- December 17 - Gainesville, Oldetime Dance - 8 pm, (Teaching at 7:30) \$3. Northeast Rec Center, 516 NE 2nd Ave. (904) 495-2243
- December 27-January 1, 1989 - Micanope Music and Dance Camp at Camp Ocala. Contact Micanope Music & Dance Camp, PO Box 12135, Gainesville, FL 32604 - or call (904) 495-2243.
- January 21 - Gainesville, Oldetime Dance - 8 pm, (Teaching at 7:30) \$3. Northeast Rec Center, 516 NE 2nd Ave. (904) 495-2243
  
- February 17-20, 1989 - FLORIDA FOLK DANCE CAMP at Camp Ocala, starring Steve Kotansky (Greek, Hungarian) & Nicolaas Helfrink (Roumanian)
  
- February 17-19 - the annual St Petersburg International Folk Faire
- June 21-July 10 - Yugoslavia Tour with the Babiaks (813) 966-1847
- July 15-22 - Seven day Folk Dance Cruise on the St Lawrence Seaway
- July 30-Aug 13 - Fourteen day Alaska Folk Dance Cruise (both via Melvin Mann, (415) 526-4033

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AS THE OPANCI HOP-STEP-STEP: INSTALLMENT 7  
by Tiffany Teardrop

The airplane landed smoothly on the runway at the Port Snodhill International Airport. Ethel Ann Arbuckle-Arkan, still clutching her purse and the pair of opanci which were all she had with her when she left Bulgaria, deplaned and made her way to the parking garage. In the exact spot where she and Alex had left his car that fateful July morning Ethel Ann found her car waiting for her just as Richard Racenica had promised. In the glove box was money to pay for the parking. As Ethel Ann drove out of the airport, she wondered momentarily how her car had gotten to the airport, what had happened to Alex's car, and who had put the money in her glove box. As she was still in a daze from everything that had happened, she did not dwell on these questions for long; she simply drove home, fell into bed and slept for 48 hours.

When Ethel Ann awoke, she decided to spend a few days at home just thinking about what she was going to do with her life. Since she and Alex had run off without so much as a "seeyoulater", Ethel Ann assumed quite rightly that she was now among the unemployed, so she would have plenty of time for thinking.

Three weeks later, Ethel Ann decided that the time had come to face up to reality and get on with life. She was bored with sitting at home and was sick of pizza. Besides, the Checkers delivery man was a little strange and she didn't want him coming to her door anymore.

Ethel Ann managed to get a job as a waitress at a greasy spoon called "Aunts and Uncles." This wasn't much of a job, but it paid the rent and would put food on the table until she found something better. She was even thinking of going to back to college although she wasn't sure what she would study.

The next Friday, Ethel Ann decided it was time to return to folkdancing. The opanci that Alex had given her were still in her car and were almost begging to be used. Ethel Ann couldn't figure out what it was, but there was something SPECIAL about those opanci--- something other than the curly toe or the fact that Alex had given them to her.

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Everyone at the Opaville Folk Dance Club was glad to see Ethel Ann. They had been worried about her. There had been all kinds of rumors going around since she and Alex had run off together. These rumors ranged from the typical ALEX WAS A JERK WHO MADE HIS CONQUEST AND DUMPED HER IN BULGARIA, or the variation of this that ETHEL ANN WAS A JERK WHO MADE HER CONQUEST AND DUMPED HIM IN BULGARIA, to the bizarre that ALEX WAS A PSYCHOTIC WOMAN HATER WHO HAD KIDNAPPED POOR ETHEL ANN AND WAS DOING UNSPEAKABLE THINGS TO HER, or its variation that ETHEL ANN WAS A PSYCHOTIC MAN HATER WHO HAD KIDNAPPED ALEX AND WAS DOING UNSPEAKABLE THINGS TO HIM. In any event, they were glad that Ethel Ann was back so that she could clear up this mystery. Unfortunately, Ethel Ann wasn't talking. She was just dancing. She really danced well in her new opanci, too. Everyone noticed that there was something SPECIAL about them.

Later on that evening, Annabelle Arkan arrived with Norbert Noodlenodder. "They've become quite an item since you've been away," explained Miriam Mayim to Ethel Ann. "Annabelle told Vivian that after all that time in the Yukon, she was ready for a serious commitment. It looks like things might work out for her and Norbert."

"That would be nice," said Ethel Ann.

Just then, Annabelle came up to Ethel Ann. "It's so good to see you," Annabelle said. "What beautiful opanci you have!"

"Thank you," said Ethel Ann, "Alex gave them to me." She felt awkward. She wanted to tell everything to Annabelle, but didn't know where to begin. She just felt she owed Annabelle some explanation.

She wasn't going to have a chance to do much explaining, however, because Annabelle suddenly became very excited and said, "Alex gave them to you?! Quick! Come with me!" She then dragged a very much astonished Ethel Ann to the bathroom. "Hurry!" she whispered, "Give me the left opanci." Ethel Ann, in a stupor, obeyed and watched in horror as Annabelle pulled a penknife out of her purse and began splitting the seam of the beautiful curly toe.

"What are you DOING?" cried Ethel Ann.

"SHHH," said Annabelle, "Here it is." She pulled a tiny roll of film out of the toe as Ethel Ann's eyes widened. "Please don't say anything to anyone," said Annabelle. "You see, I work for the AFF, too. I received a message from HQ that you would have this information, but that you wouldn't know where it was. As soon as you said Alex had given you the opanci, I knew that had to be the hiding place."

Ethel Ann was stunned.

"Come on," said Annabelle, "Let's go back and dance. We've got to act like nothing has happened."

"Oh, sure," said Ethel Ann. "Like no one's going to notice my ripped up opanci."

"Wait here," said Annabelle. She went outside and came back with another pair of opanci. "I always keep a spare pair in my car," she said, "You never know when you might need one." It even had a CURLY TOE.

That evening during the last dance, everyone received a big surprise. Who should come staggering in but none other than ALEX ARKAN himself. Ethel Ann broke out of the line and ran up to him. She noticed that he was somewhat plumper than when she had seen him last, and he looked very bedraggled, but he was still the ABSOLUTELY MOST GORGEOUS HUNK she had ever seen.

"Alex, I'm so glad you're safe! What happened?" asked Ethel Ann.

"I'll tell you later," he replied, "It's a LONG story."

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This concludes another installment, Fellow Folkdancers. And as we end this installment, we wonder, what could all those other folkdancers be thinking as they watch Ethel Ann and Alex's reunion? What other rumors will be spread as a result of this evening's events? What happened to Alex in Bulgaria? And what about Annabelle and Norbert? Will things really work out for them? Don't miss the next exciting installment, and remember, always keep a spare pair of opanci in your car. You never know when you might need one. I remain yours faithfully,

Tiffany Teardrop

(And we can also wonder just what IS the singular form of "opanci", anyway? Any linguists out there? After all, this is not Latin or Greek or some other language that simply EVERYONE understands! - Ed.)

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WE'RE ALL GOING CAMPING, TRA LA, TRA LA  
(to an old, familiar tune)

We're all going camping, tra la, tra la,  
We're going out camping, tra la, tra la,  
There's Nic-o-laas Helfrink, Steve Ko-tansky,  
and a lot of good food, and old friends to see.

You won't want to miss it, so start right now,  
collect all your para-pherna-lia,  
your costumes, pajamas and sleep-ing bags,  
and a good healthy dose of nostal-gia!

(Homework assignment: Everyone write another verse. We'll sing them all at the midnight campfire. Hopefully, we'll recover our right minds by morning!)

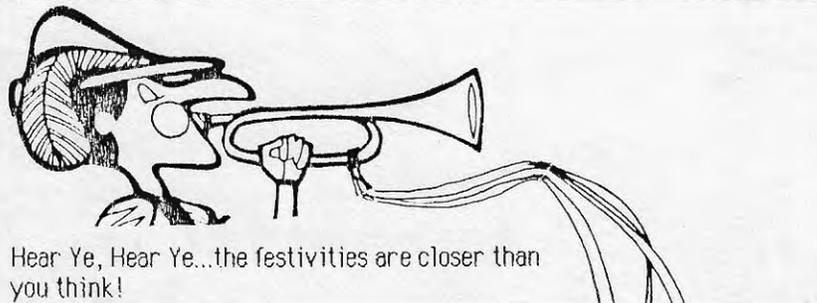
Yes, the secret is out. Start packing your opanci and kolo belts!

SHOULD WE PLAN THE AGENDA FOR THE 'CAMP MEETING'?

Andy has suggested that we collect our ideas about future Folk Fests, and Bonnie has asked for some research about new places to hold camp. Please do some thinking ahead of time, so we can get more done in less time at our one "official" annual meeting. Are there other plans, problems and/or suggestions that would also benefit from advance exposure and discussion before the meeting? Please send all such stuff to me (in California) in time for the December 15 deadline.

In the meantime, get busy and send in your money for camp and membership renewal. If you renew in time for camp, YOUR name will appear in the next membership roster, to be published in the March issue. Then you can look up all those new friends you are going to make at camp!

- David



THE TALLAHASSEE TATTLER TELLS ALL

Those of us at the Tallahassee Folk Dancer's Club bid you greetings. We wish to let you know of some recent changes in the club's operations:

New place of meeting: FSU Union (The Florida Ballroom)  
(We still sometimes meet at the Lafayette Community Center)

New officers were recently elected:

President	Michael Lobato
Drava Director	Pat Pierratte
Program Coordinator	Lee Burgess
Treasurer	Bob Weinstein
Asst. Treasurer	Michael Redig
Secretary	Glenn Stewart
Costume Manager	Nancy Redig

Best regards - Glenn Stewart

(We presume it's still Fridays, from 7:30 to 10 PM, right? - Ed.)

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MOUSE MUSINGS

The threats of bodily harm if I don't send in a column for this month have now outnumbered the theats of harm if I do, so here goes again.

Orlando has had its busiest performance season ever, with shows just about every weekend, from September through November, and several weeknight events as well. And we're tired.

Our regular Thursday night sessions are going strong, the attendance level has remained consistantly double last years numbers. We are looking forward to some building renovations, including rewiring. Who knows -- maybe even air-conditioning that works!

This was written on FolkFest Sunday, so that it could be given to David in time for the deadline, before David and the deadline wander off to Oregon and California for the holidays. It was great seeing old friends again, meeting new friends, having our spirits uplifted on and off the best stage ever, and just having fun.

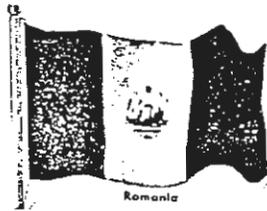
We missed many folks from Pensacola to Pennecamp and points in between. This is supposed to be our annual statewide gathering, and if distance does keep some groups away, let's at least hear from them on these pages.

Thanks to David for putting me up overnight at the Digby Hilton, Maria for her party, and all the other great hosts in the Tampa area.  
- Larry Wartell

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SARASOTA SIZZLERS

Dejan Simeonowski is still expected to arrive in December, from Belgrade, to complete plans for his summer tour to Yugoslavia.



# 1989 Florida Folk Dance Council Camp Ocala

Steve Kotansky presenting and Nicolaas Hilferink

February 17, 18, 19 & 20, 1989

Registration: Fill out this form and return it (postmarked) by January 3, 1989. (According to Camp Ocala's new guidelines, we must guarantee the number of folkdancers who will be attending camp. Yup, this means NO REFUNDS after Jan. 2.) I will call in late registrations on Jan. 20.

**Mail to Bonnie Dupuis, P.O. Box 1755, Dade City, Florida 34297**

Your confirmation will appear in the Feb. Newsletter along with a map and other important information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Fees: Circle the ones that are appropriate

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

The Total Experience

Fri. eve to Mon. 5 p.m.      \$ 115.00

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Nearly Nirvana

Fri. eve to Sun.  
(no overnite Sun.)      105.00

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Print; this info. will be used for our directory.

\_\_\_ Check here if its okay to list your phone #.

Savory Sampling

Sat. only      45.00

(no overnite)

Sun. only      45.00

(no overnite)

\_\_\_\_\_ Roommate preference

Encourage your friends to submit their fees at the same time so housing assignments will be possible; I will not be able to promise to hold space for people...so register early and when possible **with** your roomies.

Just a Taste

Fri. Eve party only      5.00

\_\_\_ Check here if you wish vegetarian meals  
(no red meat).

Non-dancer

Total Camp      85.00

Thru Sun.      75.00

One Day Only      35.00

\_\_\_ Camp T-Shirt Size Sm M Lg. XL

"Shut up and Dance"

\_\_\_ Purple or \_\_\_ Lavendar

Late Registration

(after Jan. 3 postmark)      135.00

T-Shirts (\$ 6.00 each)      \_\_\_\_\_

Renewed membership

(\$ 8.00 each)      \_\_\_\_\_

I'd love to volunteer to \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed      \_\_\_\_\_

Bonnie Dupuis  
P.O. Box 1755  
Dade City, Florida 34297

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(Fold this completed registration form in thirds, with Bonnie's address showing, put your return address in the upper left hand corner, attach the proper postage in the upper right hand corner, AND TAPE YOUR CHECK INSIDE! Then tape all the open edges and mail.)

THIS IS the end of the year, so EVERYBODY is due to renew, except for recent new members and those few prudent folks who have already paid for 1989 (all of whose names appear on the list to be found somewhere in this issue.) The amount of YOUR renewal is to be found on the upper left corner of your address label. The above mentioned folks should say "\$0", some few others should say "\$10"; couples should say "\$16" for the TWO memberships, and EVERYBODY ELSE should show "\$8". If you think yours is wrong, please tell us about it RIGHT AWAY!

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FLORIDA FOLK DANCE COUNCIL  
3303 PRICE AVENUE  
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33611

(address correction requested)

Membership is \$8 per year.  
To join now, pay \$8 for 1989.

All renewals come due at  
the end of each year, which is  
RIGHT NOW, this very month!

<YOUR RENEWAL AMOUNT IS>

