

See p.3

Florida Folkdancer

FFDC NEWS LETTER

DECEMBER 1995

Page 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE- *Andy Pollock*

Announcing Camp 101 - - - - -

Sign up before January 15, 1996, for Florida Folk Dance Council Presidents Day Camp to be held in Silver Springs February 16-19, 1996 and save \$10.00! The flyer for camp is in this issue and it is like the one in 1992. Because of the various lodging and children's prices, the officers decided to let you design your own camp and only pay for what you use. Please send one form per person to assist us in our record keeping. Remember that space will be limited so please sign up as soon as possible to reserve your spot. I will publish in the next newsletter information about the closest motels to camp (about 1/4 mile!) for those who prefer.

Scholarship applications: Get them in by December 25.... that's 1995 of course.

A small disclaimer:

Steve Kotanski and Dick Crum are both confirmed for February camp. But.... Dick Crum occasionally gets called in for a critical job. If that unlikely event should occur, Steve will cover the shortfall.

Subject: Tammies

Bobby! I phoned Duquesne U for the Tammies schedule for 1996 and they promised to get it out "shortly". Through my friends, I did find the following date set: Duquesne University Tamburitzans 3 PM, Sunday, January 8th, 1996 George Miller Middle School, Crescent City, FL. They will be at other locations in Florida the beginning of January, but I do not know where yet. I'll mail you a copy of their schedule when I get it.

Julius.....horvath@america.com



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The Florida Folk Dance Council is a non-profit corporation which coordinates events, disseminates information and encourages education and appreciation of international folk dances and related cultural activities for group and individuals in Florida. Membership is \$10.00 per calendar year collected in January.

The editor reserves the right to edit material submitted to the newsletter. All material must be dated and signed.

DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL IS THE 15th OF THE PRECEDING MONTH

Order of preference for article formats:

- 1.) To make life much easier, send articles via Prodigy at user # RKHD58A. OR E.MAIL it to rkhd58a@prodigy.com. E.mail may be accessed through most common on-line carriers as CompuServe, Prodigy, America Online, America, any Internet carrier or connection, and others that are emerging almost weekly.
- 2.) Mail it to me via floppy disk (IBM compatible formatted disk). The density can be 360 , 720, 1.2, or 1.44. The file

formats can be almost any popular word processor. I can import Word Perfect, Word for Windows, Peachtext, Wordstar, plain text, & many others. I am using Lotus Ami Pro. I will even mail your disks back if you wish.

3. Send it to me by mail. I have to retype it into my word processor, but that's my job, I guess.

Mail information, articles, & change of address to:

FFDC NEWSLETTER
BOBBY J. QUIBODEAUX
9859 BERRY DEASE ROAD
ORLANDO FL 32825

NEW MEMBERSHIP \$5.00, July - Dec '95

EDITOR'S NOTES:

I was just started on the newsletter when a higher priority beckoned. I had to take a few days to attend a family funeral. Death does have a way of forcing its way in and resetting your priorities. She was Patricia's aunt, a lovely lady of 79. If you can measure how well you lived by the turnout at your final exit, then she indeed had a great life filled with friends. You are born with relatives. Friends you have the privilege of choosing. The service was filled with friends who choose to be there to see her off.

So now I am in a mild panic to get caught up and get to press. Onward!

--- Bobby J. Quibodeaux ---

FLINGING OURSELVES INTO FALL

A warm and happy time was had by all at the Most Excellent Dance Marathon in Deland, Saturday, November 11. The sumptuous luncheon repast also served supper amply, with a plethora of rice dishes and desserts to fill up any vacancies of the appetite.

The statewide aspect of FFDC and the event will be highlighted in the photograph taken by a Daytona Beach newspaper of four of us flying through Kreuz Koenig: Andy Pollock, President from Tampa, Edwina Scinta, Orlando, John Ward, Gainesville, and D.A. Tyler, (the only one) from Sarasota.

Marie Armstrong, visiting the Senyks from Canada, entertained us at lunch with several folk songs. I feel dancing and singing are natural companions and would like to see this combination incorporated at all our events--and not just because I know a zillion folk songs and enjoy teaching them, either!

This brings up the music end of dance. Since we in the U.S.A. have given up our birthright to sing, and would therefore never think of so accompanying ourselves as is done in other countries, we are utterly dependent upon technology to provide. It takes a lot of work to haul all those tapes and equipment from one place to another, and I'm grateful there are those who do it.

What is severely neglected, and seemingly ignored by most, is the QUALITY of the sound. Strident, blurred, scratchy, raucous noise is not music! Its jarring unpleasantness takes much of the pleasure

out of dancing. Sound is a forming force, and contributes strongly to the way we function and to our sense of well-being. It should not be sloughed off because we're impatient to dance.

Not only do we need to replace old tapes (there are those who keep masters and would be happy to make copies), but the sound systems should be placed and balanced for the hall before the event to prevent the excruciating noise that often passes as accompaniment.

The same goes for microphones. They are different. Some need to be held close; others will blare and fog the voice at too-close range. Learn how the one to be used is most effective and show everyone who uses it how to hold it so dance instructions can be easily heard.

These are important and, in my experience, very often neglected aspects of every event or performance. Discipline might improve and people be more inclined to listen politely when taught. One will certainly dance better and with enhanced energy when accompanied by beautiful sound. Let's do it! It's worth working for. Here's to more and even better dance parties!

---- D.A. Tyler ----

P.S. Who has the sing-along sheets made for camp several years ago? They could be generally incorporated.

Subject: Hi

I hope this message reaches you. I've tried to get a message to Pat. The E-mail address she gave me is hender@mail.firn.edu but when I sent her a message, it was returned. Have I made a mistake? It was great seeing you both. It was great dancing with such a large group of enthusiastic dancers. I'm looking forward to my visit on 12/7 (to Orlando). Any special advice on where to park? One end of the mall? Also, can you tell me a back way from International Drive, so that I can avoid the interstate. Thanks! Hope to hear from you soon. Love, Andi

---- Andi Kapplin Supermom ----

Try : henderp@mail.firn.edu

Reply: Where to park? The easiest is the main entrance located at Lee Read and 17-92. Looking forward to seeing you.

HOGTOWN HYPERBOLES

(Gainesville)

Our float for the annual University of Florida Homecoming Parade was a great success due to the efforts of a dedicated group of folks. Toshi used his garage and living room as a workspace for the props on the float which included a large globe of the world, a satellite dish, and a satellite relay. Then he had the flatbed trailer in his driveway about a week before the parade so that things could be assembled. All went well and at 11 o'clock the day of the parade, we

went to the main parking lot at the O'Connell Center and waited to "go on". Those who assisted with the float included: Toshi, Tom, Rob, Jenna, Karen, Toni, Cynthia, Rosellen, Dea, Sarah, and me. I hope I haven't forgotten anyone. There were about 20 who rode on the float during the parade and about 8 of us who jumped on and off the float to dance in the street beside the float. It was an exhilarating experience. As our placement in the parade was better this year we had a much larger audience. Incidentally the Homecoming Parade theme was "Calling All Gators" - not very unique. Our float theme was "Calling International". Pam lent us some old phones and we made many "calls" as we rode down University Avenue. The very fine banner we had on the float was due to Karen's and Jack's efforts. Karen took our banner from last year back to St. Pete and Jack made up a new one (well designed) of the same size and then Karen Federal Expressed the new banner to Toshi.

Barbaros came into Gainesville at 11:30 p.m. on October 26. Margaret, Wanda, two of his former students, and I met him at the airport. He looks wonderful and has not changed much since he was here about 12 years ago. He joined us dancing on Friday night and afterwards a small group went to Margaret's where we sat around her dining room table and reminisced and caught up. Barbaros is still a fantastic dancer and it was a pleasure to see him lead his favorite dances such as Radomirsko Horo. We shall miss him

but all of us will keep in touch via E-mail.

We had another surprise visitor on Friday evening. Shiow-Min Lin who danced with our group about three years ago was in Florida doing consulting work and he stopped by to folk dance and visit. He lives and works in Washington, D.C. Andy also came by this same Friday night. All in all it was a festive evening. Pam Cole had a house warming/Halloween party at her new home. Her home is very nice and all of us had a lot of fun dancing, eating the great food (folk dancers always seem to be great cooks), and talking. Tom Whitmore, who has been dancing with us about a year now, started teaching the tango to interested members of the group. The lessons have been very successful. Tom is a good teacher and folks are very enthusiastic about learning this dance form. John Ward, Arlene Fradkin, and I attended the Fall Fling in DeLand this past Saturday. All three of us had a marvelous time and I kept wondering why I hadn't tried to attend more of these "flings" in recent years. It was so enjoyable to see old friends such as Myriam Lemay and John and Barbara Daly who used to dance with us. I only wish more of the Gainesville group had attended. I kept passing out flyers almost every week. We are telling everyone how much fun we had so perhaps we can persuade more to attend in the future. Bye for now.

--- Joyce Dewsbury ---

ORLANDO NEWS, OIFDC

About a dozen dancers from Orlando enjoyed the Fall Fling in Deland. We were happy to share our new sound system with a CD player with 40 watts a channel. Dancers who had never danced to music on CDs have done so now! Bobby and I have collected three folk dance CDs--a Bulgarian one by Jaap and Atanas, an international one, and one called a Greek Party. Hopefully, someday soon, groups will be making their own CDs as we make tapes now. Digitizing music will preserve the quality (as long as the original is a good one!) and may address some of the problems D.A. referred to elsewhere in this newsletter.

We welcomed Annette Brand from Canada back for the month. She found plenty of dancing between Israeli, international, and the Fall Fling. She also joined Frank and Mickey Cross, Deane Jordan, and Pat Henderson for a show and teaching at a middle school on November 8. Other group news includes bidding farewell to Larry Wartell for a month as he visited family in New York before joining his son in England for a few weeks.

---- Pat Henderson ----

South Brevard International
Folk Dancers

The Fall Fling is history and we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. More people got there early and more people stayed late than in past years. Wonderful dance floor! The food was great! I hope you all got a chance to request and do your favorite dances. I hope you renewed old friendships and started new ones.

It takes a lot of cooperation on everyone's part to have a successful dance party and we want to thank you all for making it a tremendous success. It takes the advance planners and publicity people, it takes courtesy and consideration on the request board, it takes someone to run the equipment, it takes kitchen helpers to get the food on the tables and put it away afterward, it takes volunteers to set up and take down the tables and chairs, and it takes a lot of cleanup and rearranging to get the hall back into shape at the end of the evening. Everyone was very generous in volunteering and making everything go smoothly.

One of the unexpected highlights for me was when Marie Armstrong played her guitar and sang "Didn't I Dance in my Day". It reminded me that you have to create those dance memories while you can. It was a treat to have her there with us.

Interested in the statistics? We had 49 dancers this year and I think that is a new record for Fall Fling. We did about 155

dances. If there's room in the newsletter, I'll include a list of what we danced.

We had two items left behind this year. I have a container of blue ice and a nylon jacket. Please let me know if they're yours and we'll make arrangements to get them back to you.

---- Joan Washington ----

OLD ~ TIME DANCE

The Tampa Friends of Old Time Dance will offer a contra dance on Saturday, Dec 9, 1995, from 7:30 - 11:30 PM, at the USF University Center Ballroom, 4202 East Fowler Ave., Tampa, Fl. In addition,, there will be an Advanced Contra Dance Workshop from 6:30 - 7:30 prior to the contra dance.

Admission is \$8.00 for both events; \$7.00 for the dance only; \$5.00 for students and seniors. Live music will be performed by Sawdust Stompers from Orlando. The special guest caller will be Kathy Anderson of Ohio.

All dances are taught, and no experience or partner is necessary for the dance. Newcomers are welcome and should come for beginners instruction from 7:30 - 8:00 PM. For more information, call 685-6984 or the Dance Hotline at 852-9150.

The Tampa Friends of Old Time Dance offer regular contra dances on the second and fourth Saturday of every month.



WORLD DANCE-IN



Saturday, January 20, 1996
at Pinellas Park Auditorium

A Day of Easy
Dance Workshops
All Day
Admission
\$4.50

7690 59th St. N., Pinellas
Park: From I-275 take exit
15, go west on Gandy Blvd,
continue over US 19 (34 St.
N) onto Park Blvd (74 Ave
N), go over Railroad Tracks,
turn right onto 59 St N,
cross tracks again, and the
auditorium will be on your
left.

Mary Litman of New Jersey
IFD

WORKSHOPS

10 AM - NOON

CLOSED FOR LUNCH

NOON - 1:15 PM

WORKSHOPS

1:15 PM - 5 PM

POTLUCK (BRING A FOOD ITEM)

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

DANCE PERFORMANCE

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

DANCE PARTY

7:30 PM - 10 PM

Sheila Butler of Butler School of Irish Dance
Irish

Terry Abrahams of Tampa Festival Folk Dancers
IFD

Andy Pollock of Tampa Festival Folk Dancers
IFD

Maureen Patrick of Ballet Madrid
Flamenco

Ann Kessler of Sarasota Grapevines
IFD

Karen Boon von Ochsee of SPIFFS
Polynesian

Andi Kapplin of Tampa Israeli Dancing
Israeli

For More Information Call Andy 813-882-4472

FFDC Newsletter Dec. '95
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(if the Prez's answering machine is full, try Terry for sympathy)
- Treasurer** Jenneine Lambert 5310 NW 24th Place, Gainesville FL-32606 904-376-7473
(send her all checks, moneys, receipts, etc.)
- Secretary** (last I heard we are still looking for a volunteer)
- Editor** Bobby J. Quibodeaux 9859 Berry Dease Rd, Orlando FL-32825 407-275-6247
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