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Florida Folkdancer

FFDC NEWS LETTER

JANUARY 1996

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE- *Andy Pollock*

Yes, it's almost time for President's Day Weekend Camp with Dick Crum and Steve Kotansky. (registration form enclosed: if you already sent yours in, give this one to a friend). Remember camp can be strenuous so think vegetables and exercise to gain that last 10% of endurance. At this time, my mailbox is almost empty of scholarship application letters, so we may extend the deadline a couple of weeks--act now!

As we have limited time at our annual meeting, it is important that any new business be brought to my attention now so that we can prioritize the agenda. Remember we need a new editor so we can free Bobby from editor's bondage so that he can fulfill real life obligations.

Fall Fling was a lot of fun. I think that the dance program was as varied as I have seen in many years. Congratulations to John Daly and Joan & Wally Washington.

Dick Crum informed me that three folk music stores closed recently. Dance music is becoming an irreplaceable resource; please take care of it, and make provisions in your wills for a deserving home for you dance tapes and records.

On a happier note, get warmed up for camp by joining us at the World Dance-In on January 20th (see flyer inside).

Volunteers are needed to come early to camp and help move tables and chairs.

NOTE: Tampa IFDC has moved to Monday night!!!! 7:30 - 10:30

MELBOURNE SPEAKS OUT **ON FLING, DAT & DCC**

I'm certainly glad that overall people enjoyed our Fall Fling in Deland. Hopefully we'll be able to do it again next year and it will be even more fun.

Constructive criticism is always appreciated, but sometimes it can be painful, especially when true. I was really frustrated by the negative comments about the various sound systems. We certainly wanted to have good sound. Our system had sounded good in that room before, and it sounded good when the day started. But it wasn't adequate as the room loading went from 30 to 50 people. So it's hard to set up in advance and predict how it will all sound with a room full of people all talking and dancing.

I've since talked to several people (both in and out of folk dance circles) who have experience setting up sound systems. Next year we will have equipment which should, with a little care in setting up, be able to project the music onto the dance floor without strain and stridency. I hope. There's

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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 \$10.00

EDITOR'S NOTES:

Yes, I can find better things to do than to try to get out a newsletter during the holiday season. I have been doing just great attending all manner of religious & secular parties; most with an over abundance of food, drink, dance, and camaraderie.

Patricia and I even attended the Jewish wedding ceremony of Karen Bennett to Dave Cann on December 23. Great wedding, great food, and of course we squeezed in some folk dancing. We hope to see Karen & Dave at Thursday dance again after Karen completes here course work on her masters.

Countdown... you get one more newsletter from this editor. Where o where is the new one? - Bobby J. Quibodeaux -

plainly more art than science to setting up a sound system, and more to good sound than simply volume.

The second problem is source material. The best sound system is only as good as the records or tapes being played. I'm a record collector and proud of the quality of my collection of Edison cylinder records. But I had never given quite the same thought to protecting the contemporary folk dance records which I acquired. Surely there would always be a Folkdance Underground! The fatal flaw in that outlook had become obvious to me in recent months as old tapes reached the end of their service life and the gradual deterioration of records became painfully obvious. So I had been thinking half seriously about how to recapture some of this degraded material when D. Ann Tyler's letter appeared.

As a result, I went out and bought a Digital Compact Cassette (DCC) recorder. These units are being surplused off now. The system has died and that makes the equipment affordable. The quality, while perhaps not up to DAT, is still astonishing in comparison to analog cassettes or reel-to-reel tape. Analog may have superior "warmth," but, Virginia, there is no tape hiss in this system and DCC copies are noticeably better than analog copies. Yes, in the next few years it will be necessary to transfer recordings again, but then that's the problem with any tape system -- it's not archival. So the tapes would have to be copied anyway (NASA spends enormous sums doing this each year). And in the next few years it will

be possible to transfer without loss to a better medium as they become more affordable. Meanwhile I can capture what's available now.

I'm going to be contacting D. Ann Tyler and all those people who have original recordings and asking them to give me an opportunity to visit with my turntable and recorder (probably even an analog recorder as well as the digital--just so we'll have both). This could even become an FFDC project. But the plan for the next Fall Fling is to have first class copies of as much of the material as possible. Part of the fun of the Fall Fling (for me anyway) is that you can't really predict what will be danced, so there will be some dances from whatever we can find. But I want most of it to be as impeccable as possible.

I think this is necessary for more than just the Flings. Several of our new people have commented that part of what attracts them is the interesting music to which we dance. Good sound may not draw people in, but bad sound will undoubtedly send them packing.

In the next few months I'll be asking for suggestions for good recordings (Who has a good recording of Horehronsky Czardas, for instance? Is the Apon 2126 recording really the best available?)

Meanwhile, let's dance!

----- John & Barbara Daly -----



HOGTOWN HYPERBOLES

(Gainesville)

Several of members are planning and organizing a folk dance party for December 28 which will be held at the Thelma Boltin Center. Tom Whitmore came up with the idea originally and thought that it might be nice to have a party to have fun, attract new members, and contact former members and encourage them to attend. Next month I shall let you know how it turned out. Our performing group has been meeting on Sundays although we took a break this past Sunday (December 10). About a month ago Margaret Tolbert taught four dances which the new folks in the group did not know. The dances were Turkman Kizi, De Doi Din Banat, Rustemul de la Intoarsa, and Dansul Fetalor de la Crihalma. Then two Sundays ago Andy Pollock came up and taught Kozangel and Giesevska Racenitza. He also reviewed Arcanul which I want to use as our new men's dance to replace Sestorka. There are two things which I had forgotten to mention before. One is that Andy had come up on the day of the Homecoming Parade and rode on the float and danced in the street with us. Also, Elaine and Bernie Feder showed up one Friday night at folk dancing about a month and a half ago. I had not seen them for a long time and had remembered seeing them at workshops. The dance lists included in the December newsletter are helpful. Some other easy

dances are: Drmes for Three, Gustav Skoal, Guzelleme, Hot Pretzels, Iste Hendek (intermediate), Konyali, Kortanc, Krecavi Ketus (easy to intermediate), Lamiita, Lum Lum Ley, Mavi Boncuk, Miteritsa, Orijent, Pilar Lan, Pinosavka, Sano Dusa, Savila Se Bela Loza, Slivenska Racenica, Sukacko Kolo (circle version), Sulam Ya'Acov, Tasino, Teen, Teton Mountain Stomp, Tragnala Rumjana, Tunska Lesa (only kidding), U Sest, Ugros, Wintergrun, and Zajecarka. Hope everyone has a nice holiday season.

----- Joyce Dewsbury -----

SARASOTA GRAPEVINERS

Welcome back Ann Kessler and Fred Miller! We threw a party in their honor and a week later, we celebrated Ann's birthday.

Busy. Busy. If we were not partying, we were performing. We did a dance demonstration at the Pines of Sarasota Nursing Home. Olga Guzy, whose husband is an Alzheimer's patient there, tells us that the residents eagerly look forward to the show. They ask her when she visits her husband, Pete. "When are the folk dancers coming back?" Olga, who just had a mishap, was unable to dance with the group. After watching, she remarked, "You all looked so professional. The timing was so perfect. I didn't realize how great you all look on the floor. I was so proud of you."

The Grapeviners were the "fun raisers" for the Fund Raiser at the Unitarian Church. Ann Kessler led the group. Two members were just recovering from dental surgery--Eva Stunkel and Lou Paige but achy Eva and puffy cheek Paige felt the show must go on.. They say half the cure is in the caring. Root canal surgery requiring 8 stitches for Lou Paige had no chance of getting him down while the Milletts were rooting for him. Mary and Fred Holmer, leaders of the Marienborg Dancers, did a lively rendition of the Russian Medley. Everyone ood and aahed, upon seeing the elaborate Polish costume worn by dashing Fred and fashioned by a talented Mary.

During the Scottish Country Dance segment of the program, Fred Wiedorn slipped twice on some spill from the dinner that was served earlier. However, Fred made a remarkable graceful recovery as we say in Scottish Country dance circles. Ann Kessler who saw it all isn't saying but she claims to know what's 'neath Fred's kilt. At the end of the program, Ann led the group participation dancing. She did such a great job and certainly showed the audience all the fun they have been missing by not religiously attending the Wednesday evening church service.

----- Ann Paige -----

ORLANDO NEWS--OIFDC

We are finally getting used to dancing in the mall. We are dancing in a side corridor that is cozier than at the main crossroads. On December 7, we were happy to have Andi Kapplin of Tampa and Kathy Dudek from Cherokee, North Carolina join us. They were in town for a national speech therapy conference. Then on December 21, we had our annual Holiday Party with about 40 people attending. We almost were short on space. We dance between a phone stand and two large trees. Shirley and Demetrius Babiak and extended family joined us and taught one Czech couple mixer. On December 8, Deane Jordan, Pat Henderson, Betsy Elliott and Karen Cann performed at a local high school. All the non-chalant faces were turned into happy smiling faces by the time they had their turn to dance. We wish everyone a very happy and prosperous New Year!

----- Pat Henderson -----

CALENDAR

- Jan 20 World Dance-In
- Feb. 16 - 19 Presidents' Day Weekend
- Mar. 15 - 17 SPIFFS (after 2:00 PM 15th)
(all day 16 - 17)

For those who do not wish to stay at the camp site, here is a list of motels close to the workshop location. Call the motels directly for rates. These motels were culled from the 1994 AAA book, page A341. Silver Springs is a tourist attraction so we suggest you call now for your reservations.

FULL	DAYS INN	5001 E. Silver Springs Blvd	(904) 236-2891
	ECONO LODGE	5331 N.E. Silver Springs Blve	(904) 236-2383
	HOLIDAY INN	5751 E. Silver Springs Blvd.	(904) 236-2575
	HOWARD JOHNSON	5565 E. Silver Springs Blvd	(904) 236-2616
	SPRING SIDE MOTEL	5440 E. Silver Springs Blvd	(904) 236-2788
	SUN PLAZA MOTEL	5461 E. Silver Springs Blvd	(904) 236-2343



January 12-14 **River Forest Frolic**. Weekend of hiking, fiddling, contra dancing and storytelling. River Forest Camp, 43 miles NW of Orlando at the southern tip of the Ocala National Forest. \$5.00 per person (does not include food). Contact David or Kim Lippy at 8611 Bay View Court, Orlando, FL 32836-6309. e-mail Wildtreker@aol.com

January 23 **Veryovka Ukranian National Dance Company**. University of Florida Center for the Performing Arts. Gainesville. \$19.00. 904-392-2787

February 17 **"A Ukranian Montage."** Jim Davidson Theater at Walter C. Young Resource Center in Pembroke Pines, FL. 7:30 PM. Contact: Irene Palkaninec 954-480-9550



WORLD DANCE-IN

A Day of Easy
Dance Workshops

Saturday, January 20, 1996
at Pinellas Park Auditorium

All Day Admission
\$4.50

Marty Littman
of New Jersey
Macedonian

Maureen Patrick
of Ballet Madrid
Flamenco

Andy Pollock of Tampa
Festival Folk Dancers
Cajun, French

Andi Kapplin of Tampa
Israeli Dancing
Israeli

Cal Buck of Spring Hill
Greek & Palestinian

10 am - Noon

Noon - 1:15 pm

1:15 pm - 5 pm

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

6:30 pm

7:30 pm - 10 pm

Workshops

Closed for Lunch

Workshops

Potluck (Bring a Food Item)

Dance Performance

Dance Party

Sheila Butler of Butler
School of Irish Dance
Irish

Judith & Ernesto Baizan
Scandinavian

Ann Kessler
of Sarasota Grapeviners
Romanian

Karen Boon von Ochsee
of SPIFFS
Hawaiian & Tahitian

Terry Abrahams of Tampa
Festival Folk Dancers
Bulgarian

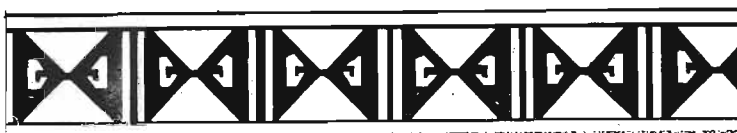
7690 59th St. N, Pinellas Park: From I-275 take exit 15, go west on Gandy Blvd., continue over US 19 (34 St. N) onto Park Blvd. (74 Ave. N), go over Railroad Tracks, turn right onto 59 St. N, cross tracks again, and the auditorium will be on your left.

For more information, Call Andy 813-882-4472

FFDC Newsletter Jan. '96
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(send her all checks, moneys, receipts, etc.)

Secretary (last I heard we are still looking for a volunteer)

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