

FLORIDA FOLKDANCER

February, 1997

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Almost ex-prex Andy Pollock

As you may have noticed, this column gets a lot less creative just before camp, as we need to use most of it to disseminate camp info. I have solved this by adding a separate camp column. Please read it if going to camp. (Surely you're not planning to skip camp??)

Beginnings

I had been dancing for several weeks when I first saw him, sitting in a corner, stroking his reddish beard. At first I mistook him for a new dancer. However I wondered why one of the 'twelve' (the 12 dancers who ran the club, did the teaching, and led most of the lines) didn't walk over to him and encourage him to join in. After a while he got up and went to the middle of the dance floor. The twelve, who usually jostled each other in an effort to get there first, parted like the Red Sea to make room for him.

As he led Ripno Mace - a popular Cetvorno (ask what that means at camp if you're uncertain), he started to add little embellishments to the dance. Just as I thought he had added everything imaginable, he began to add little doodads between the earlier embellishments. Now I understood: he was not a poor servant of the dance like I, or its uneasy equal like the 'twelve', he was its lord and master!

He led three more dances, each one done with more elan than the last. Right then I knew that I would spend a good portion of my life trying, and ultimately failing, but *I wanted to dance like that!!*

Epilogue

Epilogue

I ran into him again at a contra dance in Tampa 18 years later. He had put on some weight and was middle aged, no longer a 32 year old demi-god on the dance floor. He told me his hair had not been red back then but blonde. I felt slightly disappointed, he seemed so ordinary. The next Friday he dropped into folkdancing, but this time despite the added weight and years, the flashing feet still sped over the floor. He added wonderful doo-dads into Ratevka, afterwards reminding me that although it may be OK to add such things occasionally, it would be wrong to institutionalize them by teaching them as they are basically foreign to the dance. I felt better, my memories were real after all - and I swear there had been a bit of strawberry color in that blonde hair.

Recommended book: How to make meetings work by Michael Doyle and David Straus c. 1976, Berkeley Publishing Group, NYC. If you've ever sat in on a meeting and emerged ready to scream because the things you wanted to see accomplished weren't, and the people next to you acted like 4 year olds, this book has solutions - it will even help a dance group meeting!

**CAMP IS JUST AROUND
THE CORNER
are you ready???**

JOHN MILLETT

From Avprewitt@bellsouth.net (Vana Prewitt)

I regret to say that John Millett died this morning, Sunday January 26, in Sarasota following complications of triple bypass heart surgery. John underwent his second bypass surgery on the 14th of Jan., and by all accounts was recovering miraculously until the weekend, when he developed an intestinal blockage. By Tuesday of this week, it was necessary for the doctors to perform emergency intestinal surgery. A portion of the bowel was gangrenous and it was removed. The strain of adding a secondary surgery to the recovery process was more than John could bear. He did not recover from the second surgery and on Friday the 24th, John's kidneys failed. Dialysis was attempted without success.

Although a great risk at age 75, John and Marie decided to have this surgery rather than let him sit on a chair and wait for death to come find him. He had become so incapable of moving that he rarely left the house, even to attend church. He had not folkdanced since Sept. He said clearly to us all in December that "this is no way to live." Marie is holding up well. The memorial service was Wednesday at the church.

Editor's Note: Marie, John will be missed by all who knew him. His continuous smile, his happy energy, his commitment to dance and to life in general. Know that every folk dancer's prayers are with you. (Marie's address: 5876 Clubside Dr. Sarasota, FL 34243)

Also on a very sad note: Carol Santander (Tampa dancer) lost her father last week. We also send our condolences to Carol and her family.

TREASURER'S COLUMN

JENNEINE LAMBERT

CAMP IS ALMOST FULL - HUSTLE UP IF YOU WANT IN. BUT....

In case you aren't coming to camp (oh no!), but still want to continue your membership, below is a form to fill out and mail to me.

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name _____

Address _____

Apt. _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E Mail _____

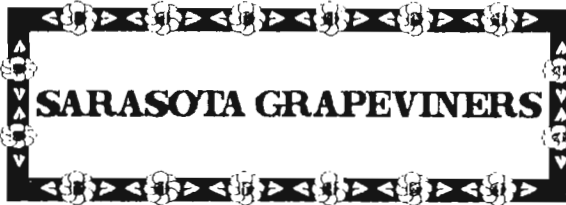
Enclose \$10 and mail to:

Jenneine Lambert, Treasurer

5310 NW 24th Place

Gainesville, FL 32606

(Note from Joy con't) Enjoy the clubs, church events, and community events; Greek and Serbian picnics, Lebanese Independence Day (church dinner and dance), Assyrian New Year parade and dance, Romanian and Turkish folk festivals, Macedonian and Albanian performances, etc. etc. among many others. Sincerely - Joy.



[This article was sent prior to John's death]

We've been getting a nice-sized group 40+. Some are visitors but others, such as Arlene Pearlman and Herb and Florence Korchin will soon become full time residents. Welcome to the group! Ann Kessler has instituted a new system during re-quest time. This past Wednesday requests be-ginning with the letters a - e were honored. Next week letters request letter will be f - j. In this way we won't be repeating the same requests week after week.

Thirteen Grapeviners did a "mitzvah" (good deed) at the Pines Nursing Home in Sarasota. They performed Greek, Israeli, Turkish and Serbian dances for a very receptive audience. Eva Stunkel got the audience involved in the hand movements of the chicken dance. She remarked "It's amazing how some blank faces lit up after a few minutes of participating with the group". This was Marty & Pat Littman's first demonstration with the Grapeviners. They said "it was very gratifying, especially when they were holding hands with the residents going through the motions of the dance with them. Marty Littman is the folk dance teacher who taught a lovely Macedonian number, Go Pratile Dedo, at a bash in Tampa. It has been a favorite on our request list ever since. The Littmans will be with us for four months. We're certainly happy to welcome them back. Hope to see some of you at the Glendi at St. Barbara's Church in Sarasota on February 6, 7, 8 and 9th. There'll be Greek music, dancing, crafts and such delectables as spanakopita, moussaka, and stuffed grape leaves.

Ann Paige

January was the time to welcome the last of our returning "snowbird" members - Sylvia and Norm Segger and Joyce and George Smith. Now all are present and accounted for! Betty Jackson joins us for a few weeks on her annual winter visit with her mom.

This is a busy, busy month for our group. January 16th is our post holiday "Mini Ball." Invitations to attend were extended to our former members who are no longer dancing. Hopefully, they'll be able to join us for a dance or two. ALL will enjoy savoring refreshments brought bnythe many creative dessert and hors d'ouvres cooks.

Sunday, Jan. 19th, the Saint Andrew Society of Florida hosts its annual Burns celebration. Luncheon is at Michaels-on-East. As part of the program, a set of Scottish Country Dancers will give a demonstration and elicit audience participation in Gay Gordons.

Jan 25 is the date of the Sarasota Heritage Society's Annual Highland Games at the Polo Grounds. Sets of dancers will demonstrate during the day on the various stages. Cubby Whitehead will host dancing all day at our tent and platform.

February and until March 20 will be largely devoted to Let's Get Ready for Titusville. March 21 and 22 is the Space Coast SCD Annual spring fling. Many of our members attend this weekend directed by Onie and George Senyk. Lots of good dancing and excellent instruction! We look forward to this event each year and enjoy it most when we are familiar with the dances on Friday anight and Saturday night dance programs.

Gladys Wiedorn, Secretary

CAMP STUFF

Some of this stuff is reprinted from last month - some of it is new - so look at all of it - i.e. if you are coming to camp - or thinking of coming - and you better...or else...

FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING CAMP FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN TO CAMP BEFORE OR PEOPLE WHO HAVE FORGOTTEN!

TEACHERS:

SANDOR TIMOR - Hungarian
JOE KALOYANIDES GRAZIOSI - Greek

SCHEDULE:

Camp check-in will open at 4:00 p.m. on Friday. Covered dish dinner (not if you're flying, but the rest of you should bring something wonderful) will be at 6:00, request dancing will start at 7:30 or earlier if we're ready. [Some people have asked about the daily schedule. That information has never been printed ahead of time. Generally, each teacher has instruction time both morning and afternoon, we alternate so that they each get an early morning (allowing the other to sleep in). If more info is imperative to your making a decision, call Terry - she and Judith have done the schedule poetry.] Camp will end at 1:30 PM on Monday.

However, there will be a **MASTER CLASS** in harder Hungarian dances on Monday from 2pm-5pm at an additional fee to be collected then. (We must pay the camp an additional

sum, plus Sandor deserves payment for this extra time.)

If you are renting a vehicle, do so early. This is a busy weekend in this area. Look in another section for hotels if not staying at camp. (But camp is fun, and not bad at all!)

WHAT TO BRING:

1. Bedding: pillows, sheets, blankets, or sleeping bag - your call. It may be cold - lots of blankets.
 2. Towels, wash cloths, your own toothbrush and other toiletries. Don't forget your deodorant. A towel is better than a hair blower (more on this next month).
 3. Suggested: flashlight, more than one pair of shoes, a costume or two for the parties (Greek or Hungarian would be timely but not imperative, anything you love and are comfortable in and want to show off will do), warm things, just in case, swim suit, just in case, rain gear, just in case. Plenty of dance clothes. Extras hangers are helpful. Extra shoes in case your feet hurt, which they will.
 4. Instruments - we may jam if we get more than one! I'll bring my accordion. Your voice in case we sing.
 5. Do NOT bring pets, liquor is frowned upon.
- (Added) 6. Bring the map in this newsletter so you don't get lost.
7. Extra trash/laundry bag for sweaty clothes.
 8. Webbed cotton belts dry out in 3 hours, not 3 days like leather ones.
 9. Please bring a **delicious**

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP (Continued)

contribution to Friday's potluck unless you are flying or your car is full from other junk we talked you into transporting.

10. Also bring neat stuff to contribute to the **Olga Princi auction** (remember your junk may be someone else's treasure, but in some cases, junk is junk - leave it at home) We're trying a different schedule for the auction - watch for it during the weekend!

11. BRING MONEY!!

Sale attractions include:

SUZE STENTZ - 'OPET' from North Carolina with costumes and lots of folk stuff;

THE FAZEKAS - with their fabulous boots;

THE OLGA PRINCI AUCTION

TERRY'S BUTTONS

AND ANYTHING ELSE SOMEONE THINKS OF

**CAMP PHONE NUMBER FOR EMERGENCY USE ONLY IS:
352-236-2302**

(area code wrong on last month's map)

Let's all go for
Joe and Sandor
(or if you prefer)
Everyone go
for Sandor and Joe

REQUEST FROM JULIUS

Is there anyone who would be willing to pick up campers at the airports, in particular, Orlando and Daytona. In addition, a few will be coming in a day or two early and would appreciate someone giving them **sleeping bag space** until camp. This is the same weekend as the running of the Daytona 500 car races, so hotel rooms are very expensive and flights almost booked solid. Out of town campers have to take what few flights are still available even if it means coming in early. I'm hoping we can offer them the same hospitality we receive when we visit their area for workshops. Please call me if you can help out at 904-252-5738 Thanks. Julius

Andor Czompo..Orlando. 14 Feb. 5:45 PM.
Airtrain#651

Yoshimi Masuo..Orlando 12 Feb. 9:35 PM.
Southwest #410. needs somewhere to stay until camp (two nights)

Richard Graber. director "Csardas Ensemble" of Cleveland..Daytona Beach, US Air.

Vonnie Brown no specific info yet...Orlando
[Yep - that's how good these teachers are!]

REQUEST FROM ANDY

I need a couple of **volunteers** to help set up early on **Friday afternoon**. If you can get there at two-ish - please call Andy and volunteer. Thanks.

PLEASE CALL US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS. ANDY, TERRY OR JEANNINE - OUR NUMBERS ARE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS PIECE OF PAPER.

Let's all start thinking rounder circles,

NEW MEMBERS ETC.

Change of address:

Edwina Scinta (newer than last month even)
P. O. Box 7924
Saipan MP 96950-7924

New members:

John McEwen
3411 W. Bay Ave.
Tampa, FL 33611

E-Mail: Evalina Vanderveen:
E.van.der.veen@med.RUG.NL

New Clubs:

International (Collier County)
1st & 3rd Thursdays
East Naples Community Park
3500 Thomasson Dr.
Contact: Helen Marks 793-4414

New Greek/International group formed. (28 dancers at first dance last week) [Daytona Beach I think - Julius sent this info] Meets 7:30 PM, Mondays, Athen's Restaurant, Edgewater. StevePhotiades, teacher.

Note from Joy Mershimer, Chicago, whom we see at FFDC camp: Been on a trip to Morocco with the Miami Women's Travel Club, experiencing considerable and varied Berber (folk) music and dance as well as Arabic music - bought lots of tapes. Enjoy reading the newsletter, fondly remembering my participation at camp. Again not coming this year as have opted for a trip to Bolivia to witness indigenous pre-Lenten Carnival festivities, primarily around Lake Titicaca. We're really blessed here in Chicago with a rich ethnic community, as you no doubt know. *Cont somewhere else...*

COMING EVENTS

RALPH PAGE LEGACY WEEKEND

January 17-19. Cambridge Call 617-354-1340

IRISH CEILI: Date: **January 31, 1997** Time: 7:30 PM until 10 Cost: \$5 per person or \$15 per family Music by: Friends of Reilly Caller: Sheila Butler (Butler Irish School of Dancing) Location: Sts. Peter & Paul Apostles Catholic Church 2850 75th St. W. Bradenton, Fl. Interstate 75 highway take exit 42 heading west towards the beaches. Continue W until 75 St. W. Take a left, go to light in front of the church and follow signs to the Ceili. If you need different directions please call 941-747 3275.

INTERNATIONAL: PRESIDENT'S CAMP February 14-17. Sponsored by FFDC. Sandor Timar and Joe Graziosi. (See rest of newsletter)

CONTRA: 1st Anniversary, Lake Worth, call Joyce 561-622-2312, Ali 968-2255

CONTRA: Vernals All Night Equinox Dance and Music Weekend. 4th weekend in March. Call Susan Marynowski 352-481-9922. No walk ins.

TRIP TO GREECE: May 19-23. Jim Gold, 497 Cumberland Ave. Teaneck NJ 07666 201-836-0362

TRIP TO HUNGARY: Call Jim Gold (See above)

TRIP TO ISRAEL: including Carmiel 97: July 6-21. Ruthy Slann needs to know if you're interested by end of month: 119 Houston St. Clemson SC 29631, 864-654-3511, e-mail: kibbutz@clemson.campus.mci.net



If you're not sleeping at camp...

Below are motels previously listed. It may be too late by now, as it's a busy weekend in the area. Call Julius if you need help at 904-252-5738.

Holiday Inn, P.O. Box 156, Silver Springs 33489
352-236-2575 \$75 (double)

Howard Johnson, P.O. Box 475, Silver Springs 33489
352-236-2616 \$85(dbl) \$65(single)

Sun Plaza Motel(AAA) PO Box 216 Silver Spgs, 33489
352-236-2343 \$36 (dbl)

Scottish Inns, 5401 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Silver Spgs. 33489 352-236-2782 \$48 (dbl)

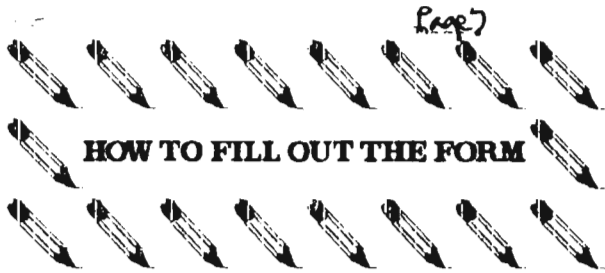
Econolodge, P.O. Box 277, Sil. Springs. 34488
352-236-2383 \$55.12 (dbl), \$44.52 (single)

Days Inn, 5001 E. Silver Springs Blvd SS. 34488
352-236-2891 \$45 (dbl), \$40, (single)

Villager Lodge, 5131 E. Silver Springs Blvd. SS, 34488
352-236-2501 \$50 (dbl)

If these are filled you may find rooms in motels in Ocala a few miles further out on SR-40 or SR-27 about 8 miles from camp. Register early!

(Note: Even tho this is a camp, it is far from rustic. there is heat and a/c, bathrooms in the cabins, hooks, closets, carpeting, lights. Cabins are relatively close to the dancing and food. Food is quite decent! However, we are also close to motels and civilization if you are tres pickee.



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HOW TO FILL OUT THE FORM

THIS IS A SPACE!

(Another Reprint) Hopefully by now you've already done this, but in case you haven't...

1. Fill out in **pen, print** so Jenneine can read it and I can make your name tag from it, fill **one** out for **each person** coming (you too can go to Kinko's and have copies made).
2. Note you can either: **a)** take a package deal (top half of page) or **b)** go a la carte and take what fits your schedule and sleeping arrangements. (If you don't want to be in a cabin look at article next to this one).
3. Also note you can order your **T-shirt** ahead (take a chance and order - it will be a good one - and there will be only a few extras if you decide at camp).
4. After you pick your peck of pickled peppers, put the appropriate numbers in the farthest right hand column, then **total** them at the bottom, remembering that if you send your \$ in time for the discount to give yourself that price. **Note: Discount does not apply unless you are at camp for at least Sat and Sun.** Note if you are in the package deals, your **membership** is paid for automatically. (Certainly you want to receive the newsletter).
5. If you aren't staying at camp remember you have to pay the \$3 a day grounds fee anyway because the camp charges us that.
6. Questions: call Andy, Jenneine or Terry

**THIS IS IT -
LAST ISSUE BEFORE CAMP
EVERYTHING YOU NEED
TO KNOW AND MORE-
READ AND ENJOY!!!!**

FFDC NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 1997
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**ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED**