

FLORIDA FOLKDANCER

March 1997

President's Farwell

First of all I would like to thank all the people who made this camp a success: Karen Boon von Ochssée and Jack Coletti for their work on the t-shirt, our scholarship people- DA Tyler, Jacek Leyton, and Jennifer Brown for their work in assorted areas, the Orlando Thursday night group for the Sun. night snack, and the staff of the conference center as well as our teachers and translator. Also a big thank you to our evening programmers-Judith Baizan, Ann Kessler, Terry Abrahams, John Ward, Pat Pierratte, and Gary Dockter. Thanks also to people like Mike Jamieson and John Daly for their help at camp, and to others who pitched in when I wasn't watching and are therefore not listed.

A special thank you to the following people: Julius Horvath, who spent many hours solving difficult logistics problems, hosted our Hungarian guests, brought sound equipment, Sat. snack, drove back to Daytona to rescue a stranded camper in the middle of camp, etc., etc., To Bobby Quibideaux, our former newsletter editor, and to Terry Abrahams for untold hours of work on the newsletter, and to Jenneine Lambert, who handled most of the registration almost single-handedly. If all of us worked as hard as these folks, I think we would have an FFDC with 5000 members, and workshops every month!

It has been a pleasure to serve this organization these last two years. I hope some day down the road perhaps you will entrust me with another term (I think I have learned some things and could do an 80% better job {of course that usually only leads to 20% better results}).

My greatest joy the last two years came at the end, at our annual meeting. It was a pleasure to see a full sized new board of mostly new (as opposed to recycled) officers.

It was an even greater joy to see people talking about building or acquiring a wooden floor, and believing we could do it. For too long we have played not to lose, instead of playing to win. Enthusiasm is not a magic cure-all for what ails our local clubs, but surely it is a necessary ingredient in any revival.

A final poem: Got no money, got no wife, but I'm out of office and I'm getting a life.

-see ya, Andy

NEEDED DANCERS FOR WHITE SPRINGS ON
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND CALL ME AT 813-882-4472
OR e-mail at RHINOCL@AOL.COM

Editor's Farwell

Camp was terrific! Good dances, good camaraderie, good food, what more could you ask for? I know, a wood floor, but we're working on that. I particularly enjoyed seeing the young people there perhaps folk dancing is not dying after all!

My only personal regret is that I'm thinking seriously of moving from my very big house and fully intended to bring a lot of my material and costumes for the auction, and in my usual mad rush to get everything done brought a mere smidgeon of what I'd hoped to bring, so still have a full attic. Perhaps I'll bring some to Spring Fling...

I pass this job on both relieved and a bit sad. I felt I knew everyone a little better by virtue of working on "The List" every month for labels. Also enjoyed being first to know news (gossip that I am!). But on the other hand the new editors are excited and will do a great job, and I will have time to do something else. Like maybe resting for a minute or two a day. And I'm relieved not to have the "Newsletter Jinx". I look forward to reading Karen and John's works of art, and congratulate all new officers who I know will make camp as good if not better than those of the past. Jenneine's excitement will also be terrific to see as plans evolve for next year. See you all at the next event.

Tired Terry from Tampa

PS. Did anyone pick up a pair of opancie at one of the last Flings? They are Maria's. Please let me know!!!!



We all missed the
Babiak's at camp!!
!!Get well soon Dimitri!!



Florida Folk Dance Council Minutes of 1997 Annual Meeting

UPCOMING EVENTS

**SPIFFS 22nd ANNUAL
INTERNATIONAL
FOLK
FAIR**

ST. PETERSBURG INTERNATIONAL FOLK FAIR SOCIETY
Heroes and Villains of the World

Friday, March 21, 2pm-9pm
Saturday, March 22, 10am-9pm
Sunday, March 23, 10am-7pm

AT VINOY PARK
Downtown St. Petersburg

Spring Fling
Saturday, 5 April 1997
11 am - 11 pm

Port Orange Senior Center on North Halifax Drive (South of Daytona Beach) Drive East off I-95 at Exit 85, the Port Orange Exit, onto Dunlawton Ave. take the first Left, one block after crossing Ridgewood Ave., or US-1, on to North Halifax Dr., just before the Bridge. It will be a little over one block on your left. WOOD FLOOR! AIR CONDITIONED.

Spring Fling is a full day of request International Folk Dancing and is, as usual, FREE! All dance instructors are asked to share a favorite dance or two to help "cross pollinate" our groups. Please invite your friends to join you in this full day of FUN! Of course bring plenty of refreshments.

Again this year, an Ethnic Flea Market! Bring those items you wish to sell: costumes, collectibles, books, music, videos, etc. You keep all the proceeds!!! This is not for the Olga Princi Scholarship Fund. (Please tag items with your price and name before you place them on the sale table)

Julius Horvath (904) 252-5738
horvath@america.com

April 11-13:
Rang Tang in Atlanta
April 12:
SPIFFS International Singers and
Dancers Annual Spring Concert

The following are highlights of the meeting:

1. They agreed to a \$50 ad in the SPIFFS program, feeling that people who attend this event should be a good target population for folkdancing newcomers.
2. Treasurers Report: None at this time, as Jenneine must get camp information together. The report will be published in a future newsletter. Camp fee may be going up.
3. Dues: It was decided not to raise dues, that the newsletter is covered at this point, and there is extra money for possible workshops and camp seed money.
4. Olga Princi Fund: scholarships are up to the discretion of the officers of the year. How many, how much, (full camp or just camp fees, not instructor fees).
5. Camp schedule: is there enough dancing? Too much resting? Agreed to leave as is.
6. Technology Committee report: John Daly has bought CD equipment and is making CD's from old tapes. Long discussion as to legality of copying, whether we should each do our own, have John do it, just buy CD's from vendors. Interested people should contact John for further discussion.
7. New officers: By unanimous vote: President - Jenneine Lambert; Vice President - Sal Tufekci Treasurer - Jack Seltzer; Secretary Toshi Nishida; Co-Editors: Karen Boon von Ochssée, John Daly.
8. Non Profit Status: still in tact. John will double check.
9. Camp Report: 115 participants were in attendance, a few got sick and couldn't come. Camp prices may go up next year.
10. Suggested coordination with other dance groups in the area.
11. Wood floor: Floor committee to check into possibility of buying, storing, transporting, etc. Terry Abrahams, Andy Pollock.
12. Camp syllabus with songs will be sent either separately or with next newsletter. If interest in sheet music sources, call OPET.
13. Coming events announced: Rang Tang in Atlanta.

Meeting adjourned. Terry Abrahams (acting secretary)

Friends From Afar

Dear Everyone in FFDC,

Camp will probably be over when you get this post card. Mail is taking at least ten days from the mainland. Hal and I are having fun in Micronesia. I've started classes towards a teaching certificate. Hal is teaching ballroom dancing for free on Friday evenings. We hope to start folk dance soon.

Love,
Edwina and Hal Jung

SPIFFS

Mary Krueger and three of her SPICE (St. Petersburg International Children's Ensemble) kids attended camp for the first time this year. They had a great time! They all say hello.

I was hoping to have some of my dancers from the adult dance group there, but you know how people get busy. Maybe next year. Of course i had a great time. This was my first time ever being able to attend an entire camp uninterrupted! What a thrill. There were things to learn around EVERY corner!

As you can see, this newsletter looks a bit different. We are going to do some experimenting on the format. Comments and suggestions are welcome. Hope to see everyone real soon.

karen sun ray

FOLKSWINGERS

The show must go on! On February 5 we performed for the Florida Fair at the Lee Civic Center in Ft. Myers, a charity event. I have a severe phobia of snakes, and just before we went on, I noticed a young man walking around with a huge snake around his neck. I turned for comfort to two other dancers, but they were phobic too. As we went on stage, we noticed a table across from us, filled with many tanks of snakes! If a group of phobic folk dancers can get through a performance, that's dedication. Rhumba Maria, Tracinarci, Neapolitan Tarantella, Hava Nagila and Zorba are indeed in our feet. Pat & Neil Valanty have been joining us Tuesday evenings at the Alliance of the Arts to teach Italian dances they learned in their Pennsylvania group, Ballarini Italiani. Katy Sturgis, a lawyer in town, taught us the policemen's version of the Macarena. Florence Nalven from Lakewood, N.J. has joined us for a few weeks, teaching some dances from her group which performs 40 weeks a year.

Lynn Badagnani

Orlando News - OIFDC

Dear Terry,

ON THE ROAD AGAIN! On February 20, the club decided to change our location to become the night time edition of the Cultural Dance Club at Valencia Community College, East Campus. We also voted to change nights from Thursday to Wednesday. The East Campus is located close to the East-West Expressway and the Greenway. You can always call at 407-275-6247 to get directions.

On the same night, we elected a new vice-president, Juanita Schockey. After being treasurer for over ten years, she agreed to back up Bobby in his absence by becoming our new vice-president. We thank all the outgoing officers for a great camp. We always enjoy it so much every year. Kudos to Andy, Terry and Jenneine. Also, thanks to all the new officers mainly from Gainesville. I can say from experience that having most or all the officers from the same city is definitely an advantage.

Pat Henderson

Sarasota Scottish Country Dancers

At the beginning of this month we had an influx of new dancers. How nice! To accommodate these dancers and some almost-new dancers Cubby Whitehead has started a program where the first hour is devoted to footwork (from which all can benefit)

formations and introduction of some easier dances.

January 25th was a fun day at the Sarasota Heritage Games until a typical Florida thunderstorm about 2:30 PM sent everyone scurrying to the nearest shelter. END OF DANCING and many other activities. Many dancers will be attending the Dunnedin Ball on March 8th. There are some dances to review for this as well as the ones for the Spring Fling at Titusville. Many of the Scottish dancers who are also international folk dancers will be attending Folk Dance Camp. We'll be anxious to hear reports from the great weekend. We are grieved at the loss of our dear friend John Millett. Although he hadn't been able to dance with us for a while, the hope had been for the future in post-op health. John you are in our hearts.

Gladys Wiedorn, Secretary

TAMPA TALK

Camp is over and Tampa folks agree it was a good one. Of course some of us are more prejudiced than others, and we are also more relieved than some others! It was great seeing old friends making new ones, dancing ourselves silly, etc. etc.

Judith and Ernesto are off to Spain again. Maria was highly responsible for a big Hispanic Day in Ybor City, which is why she never gets to camp - but she certainly is doing a related subject. She and Bobbi and Barbara do a lot of performing and helping in that area. They have a "Golden Girls" Spanish performing group, which is really super and they are asked to perform very often. They did a couple of numbers for us at the International Day that Andy had here in Tampa. Ursula's husband is on an upswing and we are all praying that it continues. We were saddened by the death of Carol's father, and of course John Millett. Many of us attended the Contra Sno Ball sponsored by the Friends of Old Time Dance. Some of us will be performing with other groups at SPIFFS Folk Fair [see flyer elsewhere] (I couldn't help myself - I know the editor should have made that note - but it helped my withdrawal symptoms). John Chambers and Shelly Drowns, in town for their wedding, played at Judith's Scan group last week. They used to play for our International group when they lived in Tampa. [see next article next month for a review of the most amazing and unusual wedding].

Terry Abrahams



Melbourne, FL 32904
779 Acacia Ave.
c/o John Daly
Florida Folk Dance Council



Camp Notes

(The following is my vague recollection of a conversation with Sandor Timar on Mon. evening following camp, losing his elegant Hungarian answers, and Andor's fine translation, and phrasing it into the short sentences that my memory could handle at that time.) Andy-"As someone who has worked with a lot of performing ensembles what advice would you give for how to improve an ensemble that is not up to par?" Sandor-" When you are working with groups you must not dwell on what has already happened, but on what can be in the future, you want to build people up and encourage them, not grind them down." Andy-" I guess I was looking for something more specific, not how you work with them, but what to work on. Are their one or two things that can make a bad group better, like better costumes, faster music...?" Sandor- " Oh I see what you are asking, usually when a group does not look good the answer is to simplify. If the elements they are using are too hard for them, you can usually find simpler elements from the same region that will convey the idea of the dance just as well... but its not enough to be technically perfect , you must have soul, I have had some dancers who are technically perfect and lack soul. andy-"and are you able to help those people?" Sandor-" yes, of course, I tell them to look at the background of the dance, to study where it came from, to understand it more. Andy-"Is soul just expressed in the dancers' faces, or does it go beyond that." (andor answered this part himself) "It goes beyond that, obviously facial expression is a very important part, but even if you are sitting in the back of a hall and can't see the dancers faces, you can tell the difference." -- Andy Pollock

NEW INFORMATION

Hello! This is a brief note from (karen) one of your new Co-Editors. Please snail mail or e-mail all future articles, photos, flyers, etc. to: John Daly, 779 Acacia Ave. Melbourne, FL 32904 or (72300.757@compuserve.com). Phone: 407-951-9623.

We also would like to have a list of who the spokespeople are for each of the different groups that send articles.

Here is the info on all the new officers:

President: Jenneine Lambert, 5310 N.W. 24th Place, Gainesville, FL 32606 (352) 376-7473

Vice-President: Sal Tufekci, 2220 S.W. 34th Street #180, Gainesville, FL 32608 (352) 378-2548 (tufekci@ise.ufl.edu)

Treasurer: Jack Seltzer, 5805 S.W. 89th Terr., Gainesville, FL 32608 (352)373-1876

Secretary: Toshi Nishida, 2256 N.W. 5th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32603 (352) 335-2637 (nishida@pine.circa.ufl.edu)

Co-Editors: see above for John Daly's info.
Karen Boon von Ochssée, 4258 Cardinal Way So., St. Petersburg, FL 33712 (813) 323-8327 (sunray101@aol.com)