

# *Florida Folk Dancer*

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*December, 2001*

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FLORIDA CAMP 2002  
FEBRUARY 22-25, 2002  
SILVER SPRINGS, FLORIDA

INSTRUCTORS:

SANDY STARKMAN  
Teaching International Dances

AND

THEODOR AND LIA VASILESCU  
Teaching Romanian Dances

\*\*\*\*Both will teach some couple dances

## Olga Princi Scholarship

Deadline for Nominations January 1,  
2002

Each year a few deserving dancers attend Florida Camp courtesy of the Olga Princi Scholarship. Olga Princi was a talented young folk dancer from Daytona Beach whose life was ended by a tragic automobile accident. In her memory, contributions are accepted and an auction is held to make it possible for some deserving dancers to come to camp. Over the years, a variety of people of all ages have benefited from the scholarship. Some have been new to folk

dancing, while others have been long time dancers. Some have been potential leaders of a new group. Nominations usually come from leaders of Florida dance groups. You may also make a self nomination. There is no application form. If you are interested or want to nominate someone, please send a note with a brief description of the applicant's interest in dancing. Describe how the scholarship would encourage that person to contribute either individually or as a leader to international dance in Florida.

Send to: Pat Henderson  
email: henderp@bellsouth.net  
9859 Berry Dease Road  
Orlando, FL 32825

(You will get a confirmation that the email was received.)

# WORK STIPENDS FOR CAMP DEADLINE JANUARY 1, 2002

We need two dancers to volunteer to do light housekeeping duties during camp. Duties include wiping tables after meals and sweeping the dance hall floor. You will receive a stipend that covers the cost of the camp. If you are interested, please contact Pat at the above address or call 407-275-6247.

## *PRESIDENT'S COLUMN*

By Pat Henderson

Fall Fling was exceptionally enjoyable this year. There was plenty of dancing and plenty of food and plenty of camaraderie. It was great to get away from recent events for a day or two and just have fun. Thanks to John Daly and the others in the Melbourne group for all that you did to make the day perfect. By the way, most of the music was played from MP3 files through the laptops of John and Bobby. This was a first for a fling—no tapes!

I announced the instructors for camp at Fall Fling. They will be Sandy Starkman teaching international dances and Theodor and Lia Vasilescu teaching Romanian. Both will teach some couple dances. In the survey, you wanted less couple dances, so you are going to have only 1/4 of the time or less with couple dances.

I encourage everyone who stayed at a motel in the past to consider staying at camp this year. All of the cabins have been completely refurbished from the bare walls. They look like the Holiday Inn! They have new plumbing with privacy in the bathroom. They also have heat and air controlled by a thermostat. There are new sidewalks at camp. The registration form is included in this newsletter. Please send it in as soon as possible. When the officers met at the Fall Fling, we decided to give a discount to current members and to make membership \$15. There is no difference in price between snail mail and email. We ask on the registration form if you want to receive your newsletter by email. I really encourage everyone who has email to say "yes" since you get the newsletter about a week before snail mail.

The email goes out at the time the newsletter goes to be printed. It saves time and postage for people to receive email. Also, on the registration form, you will see discounts for students. We are trying to encourage groups that have student interest (Gainesville, Orlando etc.) to promote camp. We also want to encourage the evening parties for those that may want to get a taste of what the camp is all about. You will also notice that there will be two videos this year. Theodor and Lia bring a professionally produced video that contains all the dances that they teach. We will make the usual video for Sandy's dances along with scenes from the whole camp. The advantage is that everyone who purchases the videos will go home with the Romanian tape. Therefore, if you want the videos, please prepay so I can give an accurate number to Theodor since he has to bring them from Romania.

Since I anticipate that this camp could be a "sell out", please register as soon as possible. The first registration gets a free t-shirt! The first 80 people get cabins! There will more details about camp in the next two newsletters. Remember that it is the weekend after President's Weekend--February 22-25.

## *OIFDC NEWS*

By Pat Henderson

OIFDC had a Halloween Party on Halloween. We had a great time dancing especially to the "Adam's Family" music. On November 1, a group of us performed for most of the kindergarteners at a local school. They also did the "Adam's Family" after we finished our performance. The students made a rainbow banner with their names on it and sent it to us in appreciation. On November 3, Bobby and I joined five other members of the Cultural Dance Society of VCC to perform at the banquet for a statewide convention of the Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for community college students. There were about 400 people in the audience. We received a standing ovation at the end. I later heard from someone there that we were the talk of the evening! Some students had only been dancing for six weeks so this was a big event.

On November 18, Janel Wheeler exchanged wedding vows with David Ricque. We wish them both great happiness and many years of dancing together. They met at a swing dance session!

## TAMPA TRAVELS

By Terry Abrahams

Thought I'd think of another name this month. And traveling seems to be something Tampa does so well. Ursula is back from China, Japan and ??? - (how quickly I forget) - and had a great time. It's good to get her back into the folds of both International and Israeli groups. We also have a new gal Susan who is a nice addition to our very small group - a musician who teaches voice, plays a mean guitar and has now decided to enter the "foot" world too. She also dances with Judith's Scan group. Judith was in California at a Scan weekend over T-giving.

The local contra group had a full t-giving weekend - we had a Friday night dance in Pinellas Park, then Saturday it was a covered dish, an hour of The Leather Soles of which I am a proud member - we played dance music which included waltzes, hambos, polkas, schottishes and one tango - our group is really improving and we love to play. That hour was followed by another contra. The entire weekend was appropriately called Dance It Off. Cute huh?

The next traveler is me again. I will be going to Palm Springs, CA to try and qualify for a spot on the U.S. team for the Veterans (old people) World Championships to be held in Tampa this year. I also will have to go to Reno in March, S.C. in June. It's expensive to fence on an international level, but since I wouldn't have to travel for the actual championship event, I decided to give it a shot. I don't think it will be as easy as when I went to Switzerland, as other women will also realize the bucks saved by taking place in the states and more will try to qualify. Well, I'll give it a shot!

And now once again - I have mostly talked about me. I did ask Judith why she didn't ever send any info on her very active life - she just shrugged! So you got me again!

By the way - we Tampans (not Tampons) had a fabulous time at the Fall Fling! I'm telling you - dancing with a big bunch is such a high! Dancing, eating, seeing friends, playing music - it doesn't get any better than that! Thanks again to the hosts, and it was great seeing all of you there. Belated thanksgiving greetings - start gearing up for the next round of holidays! Bye! Terry Abrahams (this is really the way it is spelled - not how Jan spells it - even if she likes it that way!)

Tampa's times have changed. We are now meeting from 7:30 to 9:30, and if we don't get larger, we'll have to change again. But for now -

the center doesn't want to stay open until 10 for 4-6 people - and we are SMALL!

The contra dancers had a double Thanksgiving dance - Fri and Sat and my new playing group - the Leather Soles were the lead-ins for Merriweather. Gettin' up there!

I'm quittin while the quittin's good!

## CASADAGA

From Myriam LeMay

### AN INVITATION

Come help us celebrate the Holidays of Casadaga's 2001 Dance Odyssey!

Please join us at 6:30 PM for a Pot-Luck dinner. Try out that holiday recipe you've been wanting to try out before serving it to that difficult-to-impress family member!

Dancing will begin at 8 PM. Alice Milmoie will be our caller, and Upsala will be our band. A combination not to be missed!

### A GENTLE REMINDER

We have been very fortunate to have landlords that are supportive of our dance and provide us with a wonderful wooden dance floor. In order to preserve the floor we need to wear soft-soled shoes and leave the boots at home or under the benches. This policy also happens to be safer for our fellow dancers' toes, insteps, etc.!

### A PLUG FOR ANOTHER EVENT

Mark your calendars for the Tamburitzans of Duquesne University. They will be appearing on Saturday, January 5 at 7:00 PM at the George C. Miller Middle School in Crescent City. To quote from their web site: [www.tamburitzans.duq.edu](http://www.tamburitzans.duq.edu): America's longest-running multicultural song and dance company, the **Duquesne University TAMBURITZANS** is a unique ensemble of talented young folk artists dedicated to the performance and preservation of the music, songs, and dances of Eastern Europe and neighboring folk cultures. **Presenters!** *If you liked "Riverdance," you'll love **The TAMBURITZANS!***

## MELBOURNE

By John Daly

Another great Fall Fling becomes history, and it's not immodest of me to say it because so many wonderful people make it happen. Thirty-eight dancers signed in. And as usual we got in lots of dancing, including the traditional Arnold's Circle and Mairie's Wedding.

It's been a while since we did a Couples Fling on Sunday, but it went well. For various reasons I hadn't really been able to coordinate a program as

I did last time. We just played it by ear starting with a light breakfast at 9:00. Terry, Val and I played some live music while the dancers finished breakfast. Then we played Heidenroslein for the dance, before putting our instruments away to join the fun.

I'd like to thank all the people who helped make the Fall Fling happen, but I would have to list all the dancers. If you were there, thanks for adding to the fun. If you couldn't come, we missed you and hope you will join us some other time. And we all owe a special thanks to the people who helped out with the meals.

Without meaning to leave anyone out, I especially thank Willa, Bernice, and Barbara who have consistently made all our dance events so much fun. You are very special people.

*SARASOTA*

*GRAPEVINERS*

From Thekla Kahn

We love parties! And on Halloween Ann Kessler treated us to her wonderful birthday party - what a happy occasion! A record crowd for the season came to share in the festivities and we all stayed and danced to the end - 9:45! Some came in costumes, and some wore lovely dance outfits!

Yea, I know it's early, but in April (6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>) the Grapeviners invite ya'll to a weekend of workshops, dance party, food & fun with Don Schillinger from Philadelphia. Don is a leading Israeli Dance Teacher who has received national attention as a guest teacher in St. Louis, Kansas City, Chicago, Dallas, Atlantic City. He runs Master Classes and performs throughout the PA, NJ area. He also teaches and leads a performance troupe of children. The venue is located conveniently near I-75 and University Parkway in Sarasota. Sleepover space is available at Grapeviners' homes! So, mark your calendar and send check for \$35 to Nancy Wilucz, 3880 El Poinier Ct, Sarasota, FL 34232. This covers all dance & food! Include your phone #, address, e-mail so that directions can be sent!

*FROM ELANDIA*

*FERRACE.*

The Greek Kefi Hellenic Dancers had two performances in October. On the 26<sup>th</sup> we danced at the Aberdeen, an active adult community in Ormond Beach. After the performance, we invited members of the audience to join us in a fast Hasapo Serviko and a lively Ziftetelli. The next day we participated in the International Festival at

Galaxy Middle School in Deltona. It was a beautiful day for dancing as we performed outdoors on the patio to an appreciative audience of middle-schoolers and their parents.

The group, led by Steve and Barbara Photiades, practices on Wednesday evenings at the Castaways Resort in Daytona Beach Shores. We do dances from Greece and Latin America, and lately I have been teaching the dances of Armenia and other countries. Contact Steve at (386) 788-2749.

*Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> Contra Dance*

Happy Holidays!

I hope everyone makes this Jacksonville Contra Dance! (12/21, at the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church at the corner of Stockton and Park Sts. from 7:30 -11 PM.) Richard Hopkins and the Briarpickers! If you have Christmassy/holiday decorations to contribute for the dance or want to help set it up or a special snack you'd like to show off, bring it too. There'll be eggnog, unspiked of course, and hot cranberry cider and a holiday raffle with 12 gifts, good grief!!!! And first winner picks first gift and no one person wins but one gift! Most of all, bring friends!!!!

This will be a wonderful Christmas dance. The Briarpickers have converted many holiday tunes into contra dances. You will love it!!!! Can't wait to see and dance with you all again!

What do you think about having record-breaking dances (attendance wise) be followed by a price break on the following dance? email me any news! Or for further information: [Linderpj@aol.com](mailto:Linderpj@aol.com)  
Pam

*PALM COAST*

By Jan Lathi

First of all, I want to thank all of you who sent messages to me and prayers to Heaven regarding my son, Rob, in New Jersey who recently was hospitalized with a blood clot in his lung. He had a bout with pneumonia after leaving the hospital, and is slowly recovering from the original injury to his leg from a roofing nail gun, but will be fine.

The only other thing I have to add is that I am looking for directions for Romanian Medley, Du-Tam Serbian Medley, and Vlashko II. If any of you might have these directions and would be willing to share them, I'd appreciate it. Send them to the return address for this newsletter. Thanks!

*GAINESVILLE GIG*

From Pat Henderson

I know a lot of you are wild for Cajun. Bartman is back and ready to boogie, join him Dec. 8th for a great time: "Hello - I wanted everyone to know that I've moved back to Gainesville and am starting up right where I left off - DANCING!!! The first event is Friday, Dec 7 - so mark your calendars now. Here's the scoop... Dec 7, Cory McCauley & His Evangeline Aces (from Mamou, LA), NE 1st St Music Hall, 619 NE 1st St., G'ville, 7 pm Dance Lesson; 8pm Dance \$10 at the door info (352) 472-7762.

If you have an e-mail list or friends who might be interested in Cajun music and/or dance, or coming to a very fun event just to listen and enjoy friends, please forward this to them. Please direct any questions or comments to Bart at the above number or [the\\_bartman@mindspring.com](mailto:the_bartman@mindspring.com).

The Band - Cory seeks out the old masters as teachers and has an incredible repertoire. These are great songs which have lasted many years and Cory plays them with heart and emotion. He has recorded with Mitch Reed and Randy Vidrine, DL Menard and Hadley Castille among others. His wife Lisa plays guitar and sings as well and has recorded with Ann Savoy and the Magnolia Sisters. Jason Frey is on vocals & fiddle and has a tremendous wealth of experience including playing and recording with Dewey Balfa and his latest CD won a 2001 CFMA (Cajun French Music Association) award. Mike Rougeau on bastringue (triangle), drums and vocals makes his living farming outside Eunice, La. and supports the Evangeline Aces with a drumming style of the '50's.

They claim to be a back porch band but Cory just returned from 3 weeks in France on tour. They are a very fun energetic band and you don't want to miss this one!!"

### *Biographies of Camp Instructors:*

#### **SANDY STARKMAN**

Sandy comes from Toronto, Canada where she taught special education. Since retiring, she teaches several weekly folk dance classes. She has been the teacher on nine of Mel Mann's Dance on the Water Cruises and teaches every year at the Kentucky Dance Institute. She has taught at the Oglebay Camp and the Roberson Folk Dancers Oquaga weekend. Sandy also has taught at many workshops and camps in Eastern Canada and the United States as well as in Australia and New Zealand. She has been on the staff of Maine Folk Dance Camp since 1980 and is the current President of the Mainewoods Board and also the President of the Ontario Folk Dance

Camp Committee. Sandy is well-known for the easy way she breaks down dances, for getting everyone moving quickly and her fun way of teaching.

#### **THEODOR AND LIA VASILESCU**

Theodor and Lia Vasilescu have sparked renewed excitement for Romanian dance with audiences worldwide. His extensive background ranges from pioneering research in remote regions of his native land to Chief Choreographer of *Rapsodia Romana* (the professional Romanian State Folklore Ensemble). Theodor's workshops, in conjunction with his charming wife Lia, have endeared him to many dance communities, with a style that is bubbly and swiftly paced, yet attentive to the details which bestow each dance its unique character. Theodor Vasilescu, a choreographer, teacher, researcher, performer, lecturer and author, is considered to be the fountainhead of Romanian folklore and dance. Although he has a degree in chemical engineering, he left the profession in 1964 to follow dance as a full-time professional career. From 1964 to date, beside being the principal teacher of Romanian folklore and character dance at annual professional courses for instructors in Bucharest, he has taught at workshops and master lessons throughout Europe and in Japan, the United States and Canada. His choreographies, dance suites and folklore tableaux are still in current performing repertoires. He has also written and edited books on dances and on methods of teaching folklore dance. Theodor is the head of the Choreographic Section at the National Center for the Preservation and Promotion of Folklore. He is the leader of the Folklore Dance Academy and the President of the years in the *Cununa Carpatilor*"(Carpathian Wreath) Folk Dance Ensemble National Association of Folklore Choreographers of Romania. His dance notation system known under the name of Romanotation is widely used by choreographers not only in Romania but also in other countries. Theodor's wife, Lia graduated from the Philology Faculty of the University of Bucharest and she danced for 25 years in the *Cununa Carpatilor*"(Carpathian Wreath) Folk Dance Ensemble.

## Florida FolkDancer

The Florida FolkDancer is a monthly publication of the Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc., a non-profit corporation whose purpose is to further knowledge, performance, and recreational enjoyment of International Folk Dance.

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Deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication

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Subscriptions are \$15 per year and include membership in the Florida Folk Dance Council. The membership year runs from one Annual Camp (usually February) to the next. Members can receive the newsletter electronically if desired.

Check the following website for further information on folk dancing in Florida: [www.folkdance.org](http://www.folkdance.org)

Send your items for ethnic and dance happenings by emailing or mailing to the editor by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month deadline for inclusion in the following month's newsletter.

## Mark Your Calendar:

**Cajun Dance, Dec. 7,** Gainesville, Cory McCauley & His Evangeline Aces (from Mamou, LA), NE 1st St Music Hall, 619 NE 1st St., G'ville, 7 pm Dance Lesson; 8pm Dance \$10 at the door info (352) 472-7762.

**Contra Dance,** Dec. 21, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church at the corner of Stockton and Park Sts., Jacksonville, FL, 7:30 -11 PM. Info: [Linderpj@aol.com](mailto:Linderpj@aol.com), Pam

**Machol Miami 2001,** Dec. 21-24, Sheraton Ft. Lauderdale Airport Hotel.  
[www.israelidance.com/macholmiami](http://www.israelidance.com/macholmiami).

**Terpsichore's Holiday 2001,** an intergenerational dance event, December 27. All ages. Information: Bob Mathis, 2705 Spencer Rd., Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3822 or [talibob@starpower.net](mailto:talibob@starpower.net).

**Tamburitzans,** Wed., Thurs. January 2 & 3 at the Tarpon Springs Performing Arts Center. 7:30pm  
Call: 727-942-5605

**Tamburitzans,** Saturday, January 5 in Crescent City at the George C. Miller Middle School. 7pm. Buy ticket at the door (usually \$10).

**Camp Weekend,** February 22-25, 2002. Ocala, FL. Save this date!

**Israeli Dance Weekend** with Don Schillinger, April 6th & 7th, 2002, Sarasota, FL. \$35.00 covers dance & food. Sponsored by the Sarasota Grapeviners. Send check to Nancy Wilucz at 3880 Poinier Ct, Sarasota, FL 34232  
e-mail contact Thekla at [warka@home.com](mailto:warka@home.com)

**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Israeli Dance Workshop,** sponsored by the JCC of Greater Orlando will be on April 27 and 28, 2002. Teacher to be announced.

**Dance on the Water,** 18<sup>th</sup> annual folk dance cruises. June 10-24, 2002 – Galapagos/Ecuador, July 23-Aug 6, 2002 – Alaska Inside Passage. Contact Mel Mann, 510-526-4033 or [meldancing@aol.com](mailto:meldancing@aol.com) or [www.FolkDanceOnTheWater.org](http://www.FolkDanceOnTheWater.org).

Florida Folk Dance Council  
c/o Lathi  
38 St. Andrews Court  
Palm Coast, FL 32137

## **First Class**

*HAPPY HOLIDAYS,  
EVERYONE!*

Diwali, Ramadan, Hanukah, Winter Solstice, Christmas, New Year:  
Celebrate dance, life, health, happiness, friends and family, and not only  
wish for peace on Earth, do something to contribute toward reaching it!

**Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc.**  
**Florida Camp**  
**February 22-25, 2002**

**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**(One per person please)**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to receive your newsletter by email? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Camp Fees:**

**Full Time**

___ On campus (Three nights, nine meals)	\$185.00	= _____
___ Off campus (Three nights, nine meals)	\$135.00	= _____

**Part Time**

___ Two nights, six meals, ON campus	\$140.00	= _____
___ One night, three meals, ON campus	\$70.00	= _____
___ Two nights, six meals, OFF campus	\$100.00	= _____
___ One night, three meals, OFF campus	\$55.00	= _____

**Tents** = full OFF campus fee \_\_\_\_\_

**RV's** = full OFF campus fee + \$20.00 per vehicle \_\_\_\_\_

**FFDC Membership** (one per household) \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**T-shirt(s)** Small \_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_ Large \_\_\_ XLarge \_\_\_ \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Camp Videos (2 videos this year; one is prerecorded):** \$25.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Contributions** to Olga Princi Scholarship are appreciated (but not required) = \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a **current** member, take a \$10.00 discount ..... = ( - ) \_\_\_\_\_

If postmarked by January 15, 2002, take a \$10.00 discount (**Full time only**) = ( - ) \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW: Student discount of \$10 per day** = ( - ) \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL PAYMENT** = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Night parties are on a walk-in basis: \$10 (\$5 students) per night**

**NOTE: First meal is supper on Friday; last meal is lunch on Monday**

Arrival: Fr \_\_\_ Sa \_\_\_ Su \_\_\_ Mo \_\_\_ First Meal: B \_\_\_ L \_\_\_ S \_\_\_

Departure: Fr \_\_\_ Sa \_\_\_ Su \_\_\_ Mo \_\_\_ Last Meal: B \_\_\_ L \_\_\_ S \_\_\_

**Diet Preference** (check one) Regular (with meat) \_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_ Lactose Intolerant \_\_\_

**Cabin Preference:** Men \_\_\_ Quiet Women: \_\_\_ Rowdy Women: \_\_\_ Couples: \_\_\_

**ALL CABINS HAVE BEEN UPGRADED THIS YEAR!**

**Please Note:** Remember that dancing, like any physical activity, carries the risk of injury. We dance on a concrete floor. The Camp environment is rural with limited lighting and rough walkways. Neither Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc., nor its members, officers, nor directors have the resources to cover the costs of injuries or illness. While we don't want to discourage anyone from coming to Camp, your attendance is your representation that you have adequate insurance or other resources to cover your medical costs, lost wages, and pain and suffering without recourse to the Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc. or its officers, directors, or members should you suffer any injury.

**Make check payable to "FFDC"**

Send To:  
 Terry Abrahams  
 701 W Idlewild Ave.  
 Tampa, FL 33604

**Any questions about registration?**

Call: Terry at 813-234-1231 or  
 email to: terry.abrahams@verizon.net  
 Web page: www.folkdance.org