JANUARY, 2003

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Pat Henderson

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

As I write this on January 9, we are only six weeks away from camp! The registrations have been slower than last year in spite of the registration form being available a month earlier than last year. I hope that all the full time people sent in their registrations by January 15 to get your discount. If you are not coming to camp, please remember to **renew** membership. About 90% of our members are paid through February so look at your mailing label if you get your newsletter by regular mail. If you get your newsletter online and you have a question about when renewal is due. let me henderp@bellsouth.net and I will check for you. For those of you coming to camp, please remember to renew your membership on the registration form.

Again we gave a discount for camp to current members. Please encourage members of your group to come to camp this year especially if they are beginners. There will be a lot of variety and opportunities for beginners. As a bonus, we have Southern Jubilee playing on Saturday evening in between request dancing. If you want to break out your vintage outfits, the Saturday dance party is the time! The Melbourne group will be providing the snack which will be fabulous. I still need a lot of help with some of the details regarding camp so I will be contacting members directly. I still need people interested in a work stipend (at least two of you!) and all your camp expenses are paid. Let me know by email (above) or by phone: 407-275-6247 as soon as possible if you are interested.

ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB

By: Pat Henderson Our club survived the holidays very well and we are back to our usual dancing. On December 12, Joe and Lucy Birkemeier joined me for two dance presentations at a local middle school. Because of inclement weather, we danced in the gym and at first, very few students noticed us dancing since there were other activities at the same time. Finally, on our last dance, one of the students decided to come dance Cuileandra with us. All of a sudden, we were surrounded by the other students! For our second presentation, we followed some other dancers and again, some of the students joined when we danced Mayim. That was the first time I have had the audience join before the planned audience participation!

Those that traveled over the holidays included: Joe and Lucy Birkemeier to Chicago to see family, Phyllis Dammer to St. Louis to see her mother, Werner Wunsch to New York to see family and Bobby and I and our two young adults took a road trip to Cajun country (Rayne, LA) for a family reunion of almost 60. We did not dance to Cajun music since his uncles who played the accordion had passed away.

On December 18, we had our holiday party with a potluck dinner before dancing. Around 25 people attended as the club presented Bobby and me a gift certificate to Best Buy. We purchased new speakers for our sound system. Now we hear all the music. It is amazing what good speakers will do for music!

Since New Year's Day fell on our regular dance night this year, we danced on Thursday, January 2. Andi Kapplin, Ursula Tison, and Terry Abrahams traveled from Tampa to join us. They made it on time in spite of spending an hour in stopped traffic on I-4. It was a great way for the club to start a new year. We are back to our regular Wednesday night dancing. Happy New Year and Happy Dancing!

MELBOURNE

Melbourne's 2nd annual Beginner's Event, which was held on January 11th, was another of Melbourne's treats to the dance community. Many

easy dances were reviewed by Florida dance teachers. Beginners as well as tried-and-true dancers enjoyed the dance experience as well as the marvelous repast which we were twice presented with. It was wonderful to meet again with Florida Dancers and welcome newcomers. Thank you, Melbourne Mob for being such wonderful hosts!

PALM COAST

By Jan Lathi

The Thursday Flagler Beach dancers meet at a new time from now on. Our sessions begin at 2 pm and last until 4:30. This means that the to and from drive to dancing is during daylight hours. We welcome visitors from other groups to come dance with us if you have that time on Thursdays free.

The Tuesday Grand Haven Dance Club has been host to visitors from the Philippine Children's Dance Group from Flagler Beach who are beginning to prepare for their dance event in October by scouting out dances from around the world. Last year's recital included many Island dances, songs, and instrumentalists. These children are GOOD! What a pleasure to have visitors who can take direction so well!

Bobby and Pat joined the Lathis in Palm Coast on New Year's Eve for dancing with the Grand Haven Dance Club combined with the Flagler Beach dancers. The hot tub was calling to us after dinner but by the time the heat was up to the temperature we wanted, it started to pour. But in we went anyway! Bobby complained that his "dome" was feeling the cold raindrops. "Wait, Bobby!" Pat said as he was beginning to give up on the whole adventure. She ran to fetch an umbrella which she dutifully used to protect her husband's delicate head and all's well that ends well!

GAINESVILLE

By Raluca Rosca

Do you have any info for these people? Brian Messent <bmessent@tnni.net> From: Subject: Folk Dancing in Highlands County? Hello! Have discovered your site (Gainesville) and vour group does Balkan dancing! We have done Balkan dancing for many years and belong to a group in the U.K. at the University of Wales in Swansea. We are winter residents in Lake Placid. We would love to continue dancing here but have not found our any Balkan dancing in our area. Can you help?

Regards.
Pat & Brian Messent.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM TAMPA

By Terry Abrahams Hello and Happy New Year! I don't have much to tell as we haven't been meeting over the holidays, but can report that I went to Machol Miami where 25 dances were taught - egads! In spite of that, I found a couple that I really liked and will teach here; saw many old friends from my trip to Israel, from Blue Star, and from other dance workshops; food was great; theme nights were great (one was Turkish, Jodi and I wore our Turkish tribal wedding helmets and were the hit of the evening, another was African, the third a Sabbath in Israel – all very cool) and the dance floor was awful - well, you can't have everything! I had the flu two days before I went, have caught a bad cold upon my return, but happy to have had some decent moments in I also came home to do a Birthday/New Year's Eve party for my baby (turned 40 – yes, I am that old!), so I've been non-stop. In spite of the cold, Andi, Ursula and I went over to Orlando's dance last Thursday and loved seeing everyone. It was an "I can't go more than two weeks w/o dancing" party and was well attended. Thanks as per usual to Pat and Bobby for being the perfect hosts. Andi and Ursula continue to go down to Sarasota to dance there as well. Bill Schwarz was at Miami with me, as well as two gals from our Israeli group. If I recall, Judith and Ernesto zapped over to Spain for a while and that's all I know. Get your money in to me for camp – and I'll see you there! L'hit ra'ot (see ya) Terry

DELAND

From Joan and Wally Washington he directions for our new dance

Here are the directions for our new dance location in DeLand. I have to make sure that anyone who wants to visit our group knows about the parking situation.

We'll be dancing at the DeLand Police Station the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 7-9 pm starting January 7, 2003. The police station is on the corner of Howry (one block south of FL 44 or New York) and Clara (two blocks west of US17/92 or Woodland Blvd).

Coming from I-4 you would take the exit for FL 44. Take New York (FL 44) two blocks past Woodland Blvd (US 17/92) to Clara. Turn left on Clara and the police station will be at the end of that first block on your left. If you are approaching from 17/92 you would turn one block south of New York to go west onto Howry. You will pass the fire station and then you'll see the police station on your right. Clara is the street right next to the police station and if you turn right on Clara you will be on the correct side of the street for the parking spots on Clara.

Remember, DO NOT park in the police station parking lot.

RANG TANG 2003

(Just received from Liz Nunan, the organizer of the annual dance in Atlanta). Rang Tang will be held April 25-27, 2003 in Decatur, Georgia (near Atlanta) Teacher will be Boris "Kete" Ilievski teaching Macedonian dances. Kete, a native of Macedonian and long time resident of Toronto, Canada, has had a long career as a dancer, teacher, and choreographer of traditional Macedonian folk dance. Music will be provided by 5 outstanding musicians: David Bilides on kaval, Adam Good on tambura, Jerry Kisslinger on drums, Mark Levy on gaida, and Carol Silverman as vocalist. All of these musicians are heavily involved in Balkan Music scene and most have been major forces in the creation of the summer Balkan music and dance camps, or in the ongoing efforts to preserve and perform this music.

Shopping opportunities will be provided by Suze and Richie with their Opet shop of Balkan music, souvenirs, instruments, ethnic clothing, odds and ends, and "previously worn" clothing.

Cost: \$75 which includes all classes, 2 evening parties, 2 continental breakfasts, syllabus, and a guaranteed good time.

We will be in a new location, which is why the workshop is later this year .

A list of nearby hotels will be included in the final flyer.

Hope you can join us for this annual dance party! Questions? E-mail me or call 404-292-7176.

It's time to renew your membership!

Memberships are generally due for renewal in February. If this is true for you, please use the Camp Registration Form enclosed in this issue as your renewal form. Send the completed form and your check for \$15.00 to Terry Abrahams, 701 W. Idlewild Ave., Tampa, FL, 33604. Please include your email address so we can verify that our records reflect any changes.

PASSING THE GAVEL

By: Pat Henderson

As most of you know, this is the end of my second year so we will have elections at camp. I have not heard any rumors for potential replacements. We can have from three to five officers depending on interest membership. Right now, I am president; Bobby Quibodeaux (my husband) is the VP; Jan Lathi is editor: and Terry Abrahams secretary/treasurer. Each job is busy at certain times during the year or the month. It is almost imperative that the officers have a computer with Internet access since I will have a disk of files to pass on. This is so a lot of the work of president is already done for you. The president writes a column for the newsletter each month and arranges for the teachers at camp. Then the president works with the other officers on the details of camp. The VP assists the president as needed especially during camp. The editor maintains email and snail mail lists and produces a newsletter usually once a month. Summer has a combined issue. The secretary takes minutes at the membership meeting at camp. The treasurer receives and disperses all funds for the organization. This job is especially busy in the months before camp. However, we have an Excel spreadsheet with all the data on the attendees that we will pass down. This year, we are editing last year's data. So you can see that there is a lot of work needed to maintain our organization. I can truthfully say the work is worth the rewards. Without it, we would not have camp and we would not have a communication network of dance events in the state. We usually elect from those present at camp but that does not have to be

the case. If you cannot attend camp but you are interested in one of the officers' positions, please let me know. I will make sure that you are nominated. If anyone coming to camp is interested after my pitch, you can let me know in advance so I will sleep better! We are looking for a "few good dancers"!

From Kay Demos:

Just passing this along in case you know of any young person who would be interested in this great opportunity... Kay Demos

--- Darlene Fejka <<u>fejka@duq.edu</u>> wrote:

Date: Tue, 07 Jan 2003 16:23:50 -0500 From: Darlene Fejka < fejka@duq.edu> Subject: Folk Ensemble Auditions

New Year's Greetings from the Duquesne University Tamburitzans of Pittsburgh, PA . . .

On February 5 & 6, 2003, our ensemble will hold auditions for dancers, musicians, and singers for the upcoming season.

Please pass the information below to your young folk dance associates. It's a wonderful opportunity for talented folk arts enthusiasts to earn a college degree while doing what they love.

Thank you!
Darlene Fejka
DU Tamburitzans
fejka@duq.edu
412-396-4135

Dance - play - sing and tour the U.S.A. while you earn your undergraduate degree!

General auditions for the famed Duquesne University Tamburitzans will be held in Pittsburgh, PA on February 5 & 6, 2003 for the ensemble's 67th season (mid July 2003 through May 2004).

Graduating high school seniors and college undergraduates with dance, vocal or musical talent

may audition for a spot in the ensemble. If travel to Pittsburgh is not possible, a 15-minute video audition showcasing your talent may be submitted.

Based on the exciting rhythms of Eastern Europe and neighboring cultures, the Duquesne University Tamburitzans is an ensemble of 35 multi-talented performers who are all full-time students at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA.

Performing an average of 80 shows per season across the U.S. on weekends and academic breaks, each Tamburitzans student receives over \$13,000 in scholarship aid per year for up to four years (can be combined with other financial aid awards) to attend prestigious Duquesne University and work towards a degree in any of the hundreds of specialized areas of study available.

For more information, or to schedule an audition, call (412) 396-5185, fax (412) 396-5583, e-mail tamburitzans@duq.edu, or visit the Tamburitzans web site at www.tamburitzans.duq.edu to download a PDF application. Deadline for all submissions is February 4, 2003.

Julius forwards this:

DanceSpots Network, the Internet's largest dance directory, offers free advertising for dance teachers, dance spots, and dance events. We feature over 60 dance styles for the recreational and competitive dancer.

We're currently visited by over 12,000 dancers per month, and with over 3,300 listings, we're the "yellow pages" dancers go to when they're looking for teachers, dance spots, and dance events.

If you're a teacher, dance spot, or dance event promoter and would like a little extra free publicity, please feel free to enter your listing with us. Yes, it's free.

DanceSpots Network is a self-registration site -teachers and dance promoters (not us) may enter
their own listings. To enter your free listing -please visit http://www.dancespots.net and click
the orange "Enter Your Listing" button at the top
right. For a visual tour, please see
http://tour.dancespots.net.

DanceSpots Network was built by dancers for dancers. We welcome your listing. Ken Greer

DanceSpots Network

http://www.dancespots.net

"Helping Dancers Locate Teachers & Dance Spots"

From Carol McGinn:

Just noticed the sign today at the church for our local Greek Festival. Here's the information for the next newsletter:

GREEK FESTIVAL Feb. 29, March 1 and 2 at St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, 5965 N.

Wickham Road, Melbourne, FL. Church office phone is 321-254-1045. Times: [?? No one answered the phone at the church. Seems like 11 am 'til 10 pm on the weekend and maybe 5 till 10 pm Friday. Sorry not to get specific times, but wanted you to get this in time for the next Newsletter.]

Live music, dancing for all, dance performances by the church youth in authentic Greek costumes about every 2 hours, food, some Greek related items (clothes, music, misc.) for sale.

If coming from the North, use Exit 73 off I-95 onto Wickham Road (same exit as Brevard Zoo-it's a nice zoo). Turn East onto Wickham. The church is about 4 miles from the I-95/Wickham exit, on the East side of Wickham. Wickham goes due East for about 2.2 miles then turns South. It's all 4 lanes so you won't lose it. If you get to the Pineda Causeway and Wickham red light, you've gone too far South.

If coming from the South, use Exit 72 off I-95 onto Eau Gallie Blvd. Go about 2.2 miles on Eau Gallie Blvd. and then turn North onto Wickham and continue about 6 miles. The Church is on the East side of Wickham.

(Read on)

From Joy:

This is the one of the best Greek Festivals. We will be going.

Schedule and location information for UF International Folk Dancing is at: http://plaza.ufl.edu/swhitmor/FDsched.htm
Our UFIFD Club webpage is posted at: http://grove.ufl.edu/~folkstep/

From Vonnie Brown:

January, 2003 Dear Friends,

In 1995 I and my two colleagues and friends in Slovakia (Dr. Jarmila Palickova and Jaro Ševcik) launched the first dance seminar and folklore tour ever organized in Slovakia. It was highly successful and since that time many of the 1995 participants have requested another such event. Because of my increased work load (teaching at Louisiana State University and serving as Vice President and President of the National Folk Organization of the U.S.A. for the last five years) I simply have not had time to do so. However, I am now collaborating with another colleague and

friend in Slovakia, Palo Pitonák, and we are planning two interesting events this summer of 2003. Palo is actually doing all the organizing and I am acting as a consultant and coordinator/contact in the U.S.A. and Canada. Last summer I also worked with Palo in this capacity and the event was of very high quality.

The two events for summer 2003 are:

FOLKLORE & HERITAGE TOUR IN SLOVAKIA JULY 3-14, 2003

- Dance classes with renowned instructors
- Východná and Detva Folk Festivals
- Meetings with village folklore groups
- Concert by the famous Železiar Ensemble
- Museums and historical sites
- Transport from Bratislava or Vienna Airports, air-conditioned bus, full board, 3-4 star hotels

Slovak Director: Palo Pitonák

<u>3art@3art.sk</u> <u>www.3art.sk/folktrip.htm</u>

U.S.A. Coordinator/Contact: Vonnie R. Brown

<u>vrbfolk@prodigy.net</u> (225) 766-8750

1717 Applewood Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70808

FOLKLORE & HERITAGE TOUR IN SLOVAKIA & POLAND AUGUST 7-16, 2003

Information is basically the same as above event except the folk festivals will be at different sites.

This is the first time that a seminar and tour has been organized to Poland so this should be an attraction of interest.

Final details on this event are still being worked on and will soon be available on the website.

Note: The website www.3art.sk contains information about all of Palo's activities (including both of the above events). www.3art.sk/folktrip.htm is the direct site to the first event (Folklore and Heritage Tour in Slovakia)

If you do not have computer access, I can send you a hard copy of detailed information by snail mail. Registrations can be done on line or through me.

Palo is a very talented, knowledgeable young man. He has been both an amateur and professional dancer in Slovakia, will soon graduate from the Performing Arts University in Bratislava, and has choreographed works for a number of excellent folk ensembles in Slovakia. He is the son-in-law of the esteemed Vladimir Urban who many of you know. His wife Andrea, also a talented and knowledgeable person (Vladimir's daughter) assists Palo. Both Palo and Andrea are excellent teachers and organizers and very nice people. Vladimir Urban will also be teaching us along with various other dance masters. I know you will be more than satisfied with all aspects of the events and I would not associate myself with anything less than excellence.

Please feel free to e-mail or call me if you have any questions. It would be a pleasure to have you join us this summer for one or both of these events!

Warmest regards, Vonnie R. Brown

BASKET DILEMMA

By Jan Lathi

It is amusing to watch folk dancers prepare for a front basket hold dance. The "know-it-all" old time folk dancer spreads the arms out waiting for others to do the same. The newcomer crosses his/her own arms in front of him/herself and looks thoroughly confused. For some reason, the two tallest dancers stand on either side of the shortest of the bunch, and minutes are lost determining whether the right arm should be above or below one's neighbor's.

Phyllis S. Weikart reminds us in <u>Teaching Movement & Dance</u> that generally, "the underneath arm corresponds to the traveling direction." So, if the dance uses a Rida step which progresses **left** (as in Somogi Karikazo), the left arm should cross **under** the right arm of your left neighbor. In reverse basket, hands are joined behind your neighbor's, top arm corresponding to traveling direction.

There are times, of course, when this just won't work. A tall/short neighbor combination is one of those times. If this occurrence can't be avoided or it's too late to do anything about it, make the adjustment so that the taller person's arm is above – please! It is more important to be comfortable and avoid embarrassing moments than to be "folklitically correct".

WHAT TO BRING TO CAMP:

- 1. Bedding: pillows, sheets, blankets, or sleeping bag. It may be cold so do not forget blankets. (Cabins now have a new heater/AC with a thermostat.)
- 2. Towels, washcloth, bath mat, soap, Kleenex, toothbrush and other toiletries.
- 3. Flashlight, more than one pair of shoes, a costume or two for the parties (English or Balkan if you have one!), umbrella. Bring clothes for warm or cold weather--we have seen it change midstream!
- 4. Instruments--if you play one. Terry and John need company.
- 5. Bring the map to camp if you do not know how to get there. (Remember the Belleview turn onto Hwy 25 if you are coming from the south on Hwy. 441.)
- 6. Bring ethnic items or costumes for the Olga Princi silent auction.
- 7. Bring money: Olga Princi auction, Terry's buttons, and other costumes individuals may be selling.
- 8. Bring a colorful bandanna or handkerchief and a large belt nice addition for certain dances.

OLGA PRINCI AUCTION SALE

Each year, many interesting folk dance items, costume items and other ethnic collectibles are donated to add to the Olga Princi Fund. The account is rapidly building so that the interest will pay for camp scholarships. Private contributors also make donations. Bring your donated items to the lounge and get an auction ledger pinned or taped to your item(s). Items will be sold to the highest bidder at the end of lunch on Sunday.

RUMMAGE SALE

Bring items you wish to sell to the southwest corner of the dining hall. Please mark each item with size, price and your name. Those who wish to purchase items, please contact the seller. Please consider donating to the Olga Princi auction.

CAMP EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER: 352-236-2302

CAMP ADDRESS: Christian Conference Center. 6455 N.E. State Road 40, Silver Springs, FL.

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.

President: Pat Henderson

9859 Berry Dease Rd. Orlando, FL 32825 407-275-6247

henderp@bellsouth.net

Vice-President: Bobby Quibodeaux Treasurer/Secretary: Terry Abrahams

Please send all submissions to: Newsletter Editor: Jan Lathi

38 St. Andrews Court.

Palm Coast, FL 32137

amarjan@bestnetpc.com

Deadline: 1st of the month prior to publication

Articles in the Florida Folk Dancer are a copyright of the Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc., or of their individual authors.

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

Send your items for ethnic and dance happenings by emailing or mailing to the editor by the 1st^h of the month deadline for inclusion in the following month's newsletter.

Mark Your Calendar:

Florida Folk Dance Camp, Feb, 21-24, 2003. (See information elsewhere in this issue.)

Tammies, March 8, 2003. Crescent City, George C. Miller Middle School Auditorium, 7 pm. Contact Jean Labonte, Crescent City YMCA. 386-698-2342

Spring Fling 2003, March 22, 2003, Port Orange Adult Activities Center, 4790 South Ridgewood Ave., Port Orange.

16th Annual Israeli Dance Workshop, March 29-30, 2003 – with guest teacher Dany Benshalom, JCC of Greater Orlando. For additional information please contact Debbie Meitin, 407-788-7277 or dmeitin@cfl.rr.com.

Folklore and Heritage Tour in Slovakia, July 3-14, 2003. Dance classes, Vychodna and Detva Folk Festivals, meetings with village groups, folk concert, museums, historical sites. Transport from Vienna (Schwechat) or Bratislava airports, airconditioned bus, full board, hotel accommodations. Slovak Director: Pavol Pitonak 3art@3art.sk/golktrip.htm U.S.A..

Coordinator/Contact: Vonnie R. Brown, 1717 Applewood Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70808 vrbfolk@prodigy.net Tel/fax: (225) 766-8750

Sharpes Assembly 6th annual contra and Eng. Country dance festival, Oct. 3-5, 2003. Contact: Geo. Senyk, 4300 N. Indian River Dr., Cocoa, FL 32927, 321-636-2209

Attention: A new deadline date for newsletter input will be the first of each month. Expect publication on or around the 15th of the month.

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

First Class

HAPPY 2003! Be sure to register for Florida Dance Camp, February 21-24, 2003.

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Florida Folk Dance Camp with George Fogg and Lee Otterholt February 21-24, 2003 in Silver Springs, Florida

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Expect to share a cabin with other dancers. Cabin maximum is 8 people.

Please Note: Remember that dancing, like any physical activity, carries the risk of injury. We dance on a concrete floor covered with linoleum tiles. The Camp environment is rural with limited lighting and rough walkways. Neither Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc., nor its members, officers, or 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

FLORIDA FOLK DANCE CAMP 2003

FEATURING:

LEE OTTERHOLT FROM NORWAY
TEACHING DANCES OF EUROPEAN
ETHNIC MINORITIES

GEORGE FOGG FROM BOSTON TEACHING ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCES

LIVE ENGLISH MUSIC

FEBRUARY 21-24, 2003

CHRISTIAN CHURCH CONFERENCE CENTER

SILVER SPRINGS, FLORIDA

INFO: www.folkdance.org