# Florída FolkDancer

## МАRCH, 2003

## **PAST PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

By Pat Henderson

If you talk about going out with a bang, I believe that we did just that with this year's camp. For those of you who attended, you know what I mean. The camp was so successful that it surpassed my greatest expectations. Thanks to all you who attended and supported this activity of the Florida Folk Dance Council. Thanks to the officers again for their support and dedication. Thanks the following: to Juanita Schockey, Ann Robinson, Phyllis Dammer, Joy Herndon and Dan Lampert for the beautiful decorations; Terry Abrahams for registration, name buttons, and the T-shirts; Bobby Quibodeaux for making George's CDs; Bobby Quibodeaux and John Daly for setting up the sound equipment; George Fogg for donating the profit from his CD to the FFDC; Julius Horvath for making the camp video; Eva Stunkel for letting me use her karoake machine for a mike, the Melbourne Group for the Saturday night snack; the Orlando Group for the Sunday night snack; Donna McFarland for setting up the photo gallery; Val Vonheeder, John Daly and Terry Abrahams for playing some of the English music; Carol McGinn for playing music for the instructors and the dance parties; those that volunteered to wipe tables after the meals; and of course, Lee and George for making a great team of instructors. For those that missed camp, you truly missed a great party weekend. As I told someone this week, camp is not about learning new dances; it is the fellowship of dancing with 60-90 fellow dancers. When we danced the first dance, Povoz, on Friday night and I saw everyone join in the dance with arms hooked through elbows as we filled the room, I could feel a chill run down my spine. Lee's parting remark that we were the friendliest and nicest group that he has ever taught is true. We are family and every camp is like a family reunion. If we come away with a few new dances, that is all the better. We had a few people who were at camp for the first time and I bet they will be back next year! I want to congratulate your new President, Ann Kessler. Congratulations also to Nancy Wilusz, Vice-President; J.P. Miller, Secretary/Treasurer; and Dan Lampert, Editor/Historian. We have some new blood running the council which is great. I wish them all the success and luck that I had the past two years.

## **NEW PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

Dear Fellow Folkdancers -

Who would have thought when we left on Friday, February 21st for the annual Florida Folkdance Council Week-end that I would have the honor of being your next president? The election happened so quickly and unexpectedly, but now - after the initial shock - I have settled into good and happy thoughts of being able to share with you even more of our most blessed of recreations - folkdance! I only hope that I will be able to match the magnanimously efficient and devoted job of our president, Pat Henderson and our vice-president, Bobby Quibodeau, who has proven once again that he can be just as good in the role of "being the man behind the great woman" as well as being the guy up front. With the wonderful new board of Nancy Wilusz as VP, JP Miller as secretary/treasurer and Dan Lampert as editor, I am sure it will be a good two years.

It will also be hard to match the exciting and superb scheduling of this year's camp. I am sure Pat and Bobby, and ALL those who work so hard every year to make it the success that it is, have been flooded with compliments, so I will add mine briefly - thank you. And already we have been preparing for next year. Jim Gold has been booked, and for those of you who may not know him, he is not only a linguist and master classical and folk guitarist, but his long legs will lead you into any country of dance in which you wish to go.

And still speaking of camp, it has been the custom to bring each year as many varied cultures and teachers as possible, and never one teacher two times in a row. But never have I seen or heard a choreographer get the continuous and thunderous applause as that which Lee Otterholt received, and never have so many requests been made to have a repeat performance. So I leave it up to you dear people - would you like to have Lee again this coming year? Email me at Annie8@aol.com; call me at (727) 789-6480, or drop a postcard to 3295 Gorse Court, Palm Harbor, Florida 34684 with your vote of "Yes" (or No???!!!!!!???). I will only accept votes from those who were at camp because it is easy for one to say, "I don't think it is a good idea to have a teacher twice in a row" unless one has experienced Lee. One thing I promise (geez - already sounds like a campaign speech), but 'tis so true! Lee and Jim will not only blend so well together, but because of both their charismatic personalities, sincere charm and great talents, they can only be henceforth known as the Dynamic Duo!

The other things we are working on is a possibility of having a wooden floor for camp, though probably cost prohibitive (but we can dream and try) and perhaps a better, hands-free microphone for the teachers. Let me hear from you.

See you on the dance floor - Ann Kessler

## SPRING FLING (March 22, 2003)

The directions to Spring Fling:

From I-4, turn south on I-95....

From I-95, exit at Port Orange, old exit number 85. Go east (toward the ocean) to US-1 (Ridgewood Avenue.) Turn right (south) on US-1. Go south for 6 blocks to White place and then turn right (west) on White Place. The Port Orange Activities Center is be seen on the South-west corner of White and US-1. Parking and center's entrance is in the back, behind the building.

### **NEW EDITOR: Dan Lampert**

First message from your new Florida FolkDancer Editor:

My first year at FFDC. I entered the world of folk dancing by mere chance. I used to divide my time between line dancing and ballroom dancing, and sometimes I went out five nights a week (when my business schedule allowed). However, I realized that there was nothing to do on Monday nights. So, I went to the Internet and found a mention of Israeli Folk Dancing on Monday nights at the JCC. I was surprised. I'd never heard of *folk dancing* before. So, I decided to try it. I first went on November 11, 2002, and that's where I met Pat and Bobby. After a couple weeks, I started going to Pat and Bobby's "barn" on Wednesdays, and I learned Greek and Romanian dances. I was amazed. I still am. The dance universe seems to be ever expanding!

This year was my first year at Florida Folk Dance Camp, and I had a fantastic time. Lee Otterholt taught dances from Crete, Albania, and Romania. These European dances had a lot of character (i.e. Batrineasca, the old peoples' dance), and some dances were solemn and moving (i.e. Moj Maro). Sometimes, Lee taught with sound effects, other times, with stories and humor. Also, George Fogg taught English Country dances, which were intricate. I can still hear George's Bostonian accent... (on the dance floor:) "the men and women are now *improper*" and (at dinner time:) "where's the *chowda?*". {Editor's comment: I think Dan's "hooked"!}

## GAINESVILLE

#### From Raluca:

Great many thanks are due to Lee Otterholt for introducing this dance to us and the willingness of sharing both a very well pronounced Romanian call ('strigatura') as well as an English version of it. John Ward made sure the Raluca's phonetical translation of the Romanian call is intelligible to an English speaker and Caroline Lanker provided a critical third opinion.

B• trîneasca ("The old people dance,"
Romania)
Romanian Call:
A• a juca b• trînii
Cînd înflorea pelinii
Pelinii s-au scuturat
B• trînii s-au s• turat
De b• ut • i de mîncat.
Pronounciation guide:
• (a with a boat over)=uh

 $\hat{i}=ih$  (the sound you make when lifting something too heavy for you)

• (s with a comma under)=sh au= 'ow' in cow

#### **Approximate pronunciation:**

A-sha dju-kah buh-trih-nee Kihnd ihn-flo-reha peh-lee-nee Peh-lee-nee sau skoo-too-rat Buh-trih-nee sau suh-too-rat Deh buh-oot shee deh mihn-kat.

#### **Raluca's literal translation:**

This is how the old folks danced When absinthe (a bitter plant) blossomed Now absinthe flower is dry The old folks had enough Of drinking and of eating.

#### Lee Otterholt's rhyming free translation:

This is how the old folks danced Among the hops and barley plants. Hops and barley, blended well, Made a drink that tasted swell. Gave the old folks tales to tell!

#### From Judith Baizon:

Susan (Levasseur) is delighted that you want to put her poem in the newsletter, and gives her permission "of course." ... it is dedicated to International Folk Dancers. She was inspired by memories of our local dance group to compose it....

By Susan Levasseur:

#### **To Dance** (read at camp by Terry Abrahams)

The dance flows gently down to us.

While crude echoes of war cry out; we dance! We dance phrases of peace.

Holding hands in a long line; we sing!

We sing very loud!

Swaying together, ancient songs of all the world; as one.

Turning line to line, eye to eye; we conquer fear, as one.

As one. Our feet, padded paws rhythmically

striking the ground-the striking ease of lions. Lions! We give up our wars.

Lambs; we weave a circle of peace in the great, good dance.

There will be war.

We will dance!

## SARASOTA

From Marie Millett

Now, that I am sort of computer literate, I'll be sending in the Sarasota folk dance news. Thanks to Thekla Kahn for doing the reporting in the past.

Sorry I missed camp, especially after hearing the enthusiastic reports about it from the seven Sarasota Grapeviners who attended it.

Thanks to the outgoing Folk Dance Council officers and best wishes for a successful term to the incoming officers including our own Ann Kessler and Nancy Wilusz.

We are missing Doris Cook who was hit by a car in December and we are eagerly awaiting her return to dance with us. Nancy Wilusz is going to take her turn with a surgical procedure February 27th and get her shoulder in shape for those shoulder hold dances.

We really enjoy our visitors. Don Winnick and Phyliss Spiegel have been here from Chicago. Sara and Jim Osborn from Atlanta drop in

periodically.

Keep on dancin'.

## ATLANTA

From David Digby:

As our feet settle on earth, our minds redance the magic moments of Florida Camp. What a great combination- Lee and George! It was one of the best camps ever.

The live music during the day and the English party was an extra treat.

Thank you Pat, Bobby, Terry, Jan, John, Val, George, Lee, everybody else that helped with the camp, and the dancers for making these memories. We hope to see you at Rang Tang in April.

## Terry's 2003 Camp Song-

(tune) - Sestorka FFDC Camp really is a good one Mostly because of President Hen<u>-der-</u>son Yes she was the Big Gun Because of her it was fun She made the camp run Give Congratulation To her and her honey-bun

Lee Otterholt is guite a human bein' He taught minority ethnic European What the hell does that mean? Isn't he Norwegian? Anyway he was keen Chuckas very clear and clean And he is cute as a dream!

George Fogg taught English-slash-American dances

Kept us in stitches with his funny glances Showing us his prances Loved his courtly stances He had all the ansa's and Loved his tight black pantses

Now I will end by saying come back next year

I know that you will really want to be here Come from far and near Bring your dancing gear Let me make this real clear

Let's give out a big cheer

FFDC Camp!

#### From Shirley Babiak:

We sent two jpegs of our crowning glory to John Daly for the Website--here's hoping you can see them.

We reached our zenith of performances on January 20, 2002 when we had 20 dancers in various Slavic costumes on the main stage in front of the Opera House in downtown Sarasota on Arts Day. (7 of them were family members).

The audience loved the show, filming their children as they joined us on stage for audience participation.

From this high point --is it now downhill all the way?

We are still trying to interest young elementary school children in folklore. We have weekly classes with second graders at several schools and are scheduled to do Cinco de Mayo shows at nursing homes.

Since September we have had 17 Oktoberfest shows all over Sarasota, Bradenton, Northport and two in Port Charlotte. A few Latino shows are coming up and then we are planning to head out west. We had hoped to join Mel Mann in his Alaska trip, but it was cancelled. Any suggestions? Dmitri & Shirley Babiak

#### **Syllabus Directory Corrections:**

Kay Demos - zip is 07059 George Fogg - zip is 02116; his phone is: 617-426-1048 Andi Kapplin - email is: andi@kapplin.com Ann Kessler and Fred Miller - Street address is Gorse Ct. (not Goose) Gary and Caroline Lanker have an additional address: 1963 S. Lake Reedy Blvd., Frostproof, FL 33843. Phone: 863-635-9366 Donna McFarland – email is: genoqueen@aol.com Jim and Sara Osborn - correct email to: aol.com;

correct phone to: 404-294-6627 Val Vonheeder - email is: valkenton@aol.com

## **TREASURER'S REPORT – 2002-3**

**Expenses: CAMP EXPENSES** 8,597.50 Lodging and Meals Teachers (travel and fees) 1,635.00 Band (Southern Jubilee) 300.00 Snacks 165.88 **CD** Production 62.00 **Syllabi** 206.10 Videos (copy and mailing) (@) 300.00 T-shirts (50) 318.85 Scholarships (4 @ \$141) 564.00 Buttons (name tags) @.30 27.00 Decorations 20.37 Postage (confirmations) 16.81 12,213.51 **CAMP INCOME** Registration 11,320.00 **T-shirts** 420.00 Videos (32) 480.00 CDs (31) 310.00 Olga Princi fund Silent auction 70.25 Buttons (straight donations) 135.00 Pictures from last year 10.00 Sent with registration 90.00 12,835.25

CAMP PROFIT	621.74
Memberships – 77 (@ 15.00)	1,155.00
Newsletter expenses	<u>1,419.19</u>
Loss:	-264.19

#### TOTAL YEAR PROFIT 357.55

Comments:

1. Video expenses are an estimate at time of this report.

2. Note CD profits will go into Olga Princi Fund, which totals \$553.25, we spent \$564 on scholarships, so this is good.

3. Newsletter expenses could cut down with advent of more people trying on-line mailing. However, there are people who still need to renew for this year (about 25) Are you one of them?

4. This doesn't leave leftovers for a new floor, but there is carryover from last year.

# TAMPA - THE HOME OF THE TAMPANS.

From Terry Abrahams

Well, it's hard to keep coming up with clever names....

We all had a terrific time at camp. I think it was one of the best. I even grew to like English Country Dancing, which I vowed never to do. We've had 2 reviews already, and remember all the dances except the one not in the syllabus, so we're anxiously awaiting this issue! I tried playing the tunes that George had us playing by myself, and I must say, I needed John and Van! But my group was very kind and expressed appreciation, (whether they meant it or not!) The absolutely only thing missing in our camp is that darned wood floor, and Annie's checking on it, (and it's not looking good). We need somebody to build us one. Jim here in Tampa, that used to live in CO and TX built one for CO - maybe we can do the same. He doesn't come to our camps so

it would be hard to talk him into it, but he might be available for advice.

So onto the all-about-me paragraph. I got home around 5:00 Monday after camp, went direrctly to fencing and within 10 seconds hurt my knee so bad, I'm still not fully recovered. I couldn't bend my knee at all, and I was afraid it was time to take up bridge full time. But I'm feeling better day by day; today I'm set back by the worst cough and cold I've had in eons. Just lying around hoping to be ready for Israeli tomorrow. I fenced Saturday before the cough set in too bad and qualified myself for the Nationals in TX - I might even go, what the heck. However, the World Championships are in France this year, and quite frankly, that doesn't strike my political fancy at the moment. And since you are going to see my treasurer's report, and my song from camp in this issue - that is enough! See you at Spring Fling ?!-----

#### SURGERY FOR ERNESTO

On Monday, March 10, 2003, ERNESTO BAIZAN underwent surgery for a TRIPLE BI-PASS. He is doing very very well, and expects to go home this Saturday or Sunday. He claimed to be having little tiny pains, during contra dancing and at home, resolved by a Tums; Judith felt it was happening a little too regularly and insisted upon a check-up. Luckily for both, the doctors found the problem and operated immediately. Needless to say, we are all thrilled with a happy ending.

## From Kay Demos: PARALIAKOS

Pote tha nixome pania / na katso sto timoni, (2X)

Na tho tis Leros to vouna / na mouthiathoun I poni? (2X)

A-ah, vratsera mou ella yia tho / pou echo dio loyia no sou po.

Ximerose, Anatoli / to kosmo na fotisi, (2X)

Ke ti vratsera pou'erchete / na tin kalosorisi. **(2X)** 

A-ah, paï o brouzos sta fountari / kio keros the sioundari.

Pafse Vouria mou na fisas / ta kimata n'afrisis, **(2X)** 

Ke ti vratsera pou'erchete / na mi ti foverisis. (2X)

A-ah, paï o brouzos sta fountari / ke tou spasi to kontari.

O-oh....

#### TRANSLATION:

When will we set sail / so I can sit at the tiller, So I can see the mountains of Leros / so that my pains will subside?

A-ah, my little fishing boat come here / since I have something to tell you.

Bring the dawn, oh Eastern Sky / and shine your light on the world,

And welcome my little fishing boat that is approaching.

A-ah, the breeze is getting stronger / and the weather is not subsiding.

Oh North Wind stop blowing / and making foam on the waves,

And do not frighten my little fishing boat that is approaching.

A-ah, the breeze is getting stronger / and it will break the mast.

O-oh....

## MAVROMATA

Aryia ke pou yia na vrethi / mavromata ke xanthi.

Ego ti vrika, vre pedia, / etho konta sti yitonia. **(2X)** 

Ke'apo to parthiro mou / leme loyia trifera,

Perno ke k'ana filaki / kapou, kapou petachta. (2X)

Tis manoulas mou tis to ipa / tha ti paro dichos prika.

Ti ta thelo ta chorafia / pros sta dyo tis mavra matia? (2X)

#### TRANSALTION:

Although it took me a while, / I found a blondhaired girl with black eyes.

I found her, my friends, / here next to my neighbor's house.

And from my window / we speak tender words to each other,

And I steal a kiss from her / quickly every now and then.

I've told my mother / that I will marry her without a dowry.

Why do I need growing fields / when I have her two beautiful black eyes?

## Air and Polish your Balance

On Fri March 21, 830-11 pm, UF International Folkdance Club invites you to Spring to Equinox following the Polish dance directions of Sharon and Gary Dokter and Ron Tomocik's accordion. Join us at Student Recreational and Fitness Center, Aerobics Rm.#2, Gainesville, FL. For details/driving instructions call 352 264 1269 or see the flier

<<u>http://grove.ufl.edu/~folkstep/polish</u> work.htm>

## MINUTES OF MEETING

FFDC 2003

February 23, 2003

The meeting was called to order by President, Pat Henderson.

Minutes which had been printed in the newsletter following 2002 camp were approved.

Treasurer's report: Terry Abrahams explained that since the majority of our report is camp, the actual figures can't be given until after camp is over and all bills paid. She will report in the next newsletter, as in previous years.

Newsletter report by Jan Lathi: many people used e-mail this year, saving us quite a bit of money. It was suggested that since she sends it in 3 different versions, more people should try to avail themselves of the newsletter in that manner, as it also comes earlier than by snail mail.

Officers and scholarship recipients were introduced and thanked.

Election of officers: President: Ann Kessler (Palm Harbor, leader of Sarasota group, ran her own groups for years, owns her own business), Vice-President, Nancy Wilusz (Sarasota, a great organizer, with great energy), Treasurer, J.P. Miller (Melbourne, big financial background, is a contract negotiator in real life), Editor, Dan Lampert (Orlando, very new dancer, owns his own computer business, well experienced in publications). Old business: Wood floor: Seth Tepfer was not coming to Florida this year with his floor, so negotiations came to a halt. Suggestions were made that we look into the possibility again, as this is the one drawback of our present location.

Dates for next year: it was agreed that we would continue to hold the camp one weekend after President's weekend.

Historian: Do we need one? Julius has a website: www. Folkdance.org. Various people have syllabi, newsletters, etc. Dan suggested we put all our information on discs. He will help. No one is specifically responsible at this time.

Changes at this camp: Dancing will not stop during evening parties for snacks, it will be announced when snacks are ready, and people may go in and eat at any time. Those that want to keep dancing can.

A camp collage of last year is available through Pat.

There are extra t-shirts.

Syllabus contains a list of participants at camp, as well as credits.

Terry read a poem by Susan Levasser, a member of the Tampa group.

Meeting was adjourned.

## ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB

By: Pat Henderson Our club had a busy month with all the preparations for camp. We had twelve of our members attend camp and everyone really enjoyed it. We enjoyed both teachers immensely. Bobby and I had the privilege of housing both the instructors so they knew each other before camp started. They both danced with us at our regular meeting on Wednesday, February 19. We had a great time with them that evening so we knew that camp was going to be great. The next night, we had a group dinner at the Olympia, a Greek restaurant. When the belly dancer put her scarf around Lee's neck and asked him to dance with her, she was not prepared for what was about to happen. Lee showed off his Greek dancing skills and she was amazed when he went down on the floor on his knees. We could have watched them longer, but she moved onto another dancer. In other news of the busy month, we sneaked in a Valentine's dance party on February 12.

## From Kay Demos:

I had a wonderful time at the workshop. I feel so comfortable with the people there...they are so welcoming. After coming three years in a row, I know quite a few by name. The camp is very well-organized...something I can appreciate, since I was involved with Mainwoods Dance Camp for 7 years and I know the effort that goes into making everything work smoothly.

Jim and I visited Silver Springs for a couple of hours that Monday and then headed out for Panama City, which we reached about 8 PM. The next day we meandered over to Pensacola to stay with my apartment mate from when I was stationed in Tehran in 1976. I poured buckets the following day, so Harriette suggested we visit the Naval Air Museum, which was fascinating and extremely interesting. We finished off our sightseeing with a couple of days in Nashville, where the highlights of our stay were visits to the Parthenon, the Country Music Hall of Fame, the Grand Ole Opry and the Opryland Hotel. All in all, it was an excellent 3 weeks. We drove 3200 miles and Jim saw FL, SC, GA, WV and TN for the first time. We loved the old-time charm of Charleston and Savannah, and Jim was enthused enough to say that he would like to come back down some time. Guess I hooked him! Take care, It was great seeing you ... again, Kay

## PALM COAST

#### By Jan Lathi

Our Tuesday group at Grand Haven has been cancelled until further notice. Golf activities had begun to take precedence over dance activities so the time was right to suspend dance classes. The Thursday group at Flagler Beach will continue and will welcome any of the Grand Haven folk to come dance with them.

Amar and I have recently returned from Destin, FL, where our son and family live. We did the gymnastics routine, opening ceremonies for Little League for the whole town, visited the zoo, and had a marvelous boat ride on the Choctawhatchee Bay. We're pooped!

## 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:

Ann Kessler 3295 Gorse Court Palm Harbor, FL 34684 Phone:

Vice-President: Treasurer/Secretary:

Please send all submissions to:

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Deadline: 1st 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

Send your items for ethnic and dance happenings by emailing or mailing to the editor by the 1st<sup>h</sup> of the month deadline for inclusion in the following month's newsletter. **Spring Fling 2003,** March 22, 2003, Port Orange Adult Activities Center, 4790 South Ridgewood Ave., Port Orange. Info: Julius, 904-252-5738

**16<sup>th</sup> 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 <u>dmeitin@cfl.rr.com</u>. Flyer included in this issue.

**Rang Tang, April 25-27, 2003,** in Decatur, Georgia. Info: Call 404-292-7176.

**Buffalo Gap Camp,** June 28-July 5, 2003. Norwegian and Swedish Music and Dance at Buffalo Gap Camp. email: <u>fiddlesandfeet@aol.com</u> or visit: <u>www.nordicfiddlesandfeet.org</u> (865) 522-0515. \$555.

**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 <u>3art@3art.sk</u> www.3art.sk/folktrip.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 6<sup>th</sup> 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

#### Mark Your Calendar:

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

**First Class** 

# Don't miss the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Israeli Dance Workshop, March 29-30, 2003 (see flyer inside)