

Florida Folk Dancer

A Newsletter of the Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc.

March 2004

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From: ANNIE8@aol.com

Dear Fellow Folk Dancers -

How can I ever thank ALL of you for being the wonderful people that you are? When I became ill at camp, I did not worry one bit that it would be any less of a wonderful experience at camp - only regret that I could not share it with you. I knew the teachers would do exactly what was expected of them because professionalism is just that - professionalism. And I knew that all the committee members would go above and beyond anything that was expected of them, and everything would be done efficiently and happily - I only regretted that I was not there to help. And I also knew that ALL the folk dancers would rally 'round in true camaraderie and good spirits with a determination to help and have fun at the same time, and I knew that I would never be disappointed in feeling this way, because you are all just that - the epitome of a true folk dance family.

Hate to single out anyone for accolades because I know you all did so much. But I am sure you will all agree with me on some extra special people. First of all, JP Miller, who not only fulfilled all her duties as treasurer, but took over the management of registration and saw to it that all things ran as smoothly as possible. She became a "gopher" when necessary to run to the store for extra needed supplies, and then stepped right back into a managerial position. And JP has personally asked me to remind every- one that they need not be frightened to take over the duties of treasurer (as you all know we are losing her officially as of May 1st) because she has everything in order and will help in every way the one to follow in her footsteps. And just because one is treasurer does NOT mean that you have to miss dancing because of "treasury duties". JP has knees and hip problems and could not dance, so she

chose to release her energy in the helpful manner that she did.

And Nancy Wilusz and Marie Millet handled cabin registration, etc. so beautifully besides Nancy and Terry Abrahams taking the time to run those unbelievable snack sessions where the food just kept coming and coming like manna from heaven. And snacks were only to be for Saturday and Sunday nights, but everything was so plentiful (thank you Tampa and Sarasota dancers for all your donations) that they included Friday night in the goodies. Boy - have you spoiled us!!!! And thank you to all the people who shared their talents - I understand I missed some wonderful performances. And the music department outdid itself, and at the end of camp at clean-up time our Immediate past president, Pat Henderson was right there along with husband Bobby Quibodeau to leave everything in perfect order. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

And if all of you were impressed and delighted with the teachers, it was a totally reciprocal action. Jim called me a few days ago and he was still on a high and in love and SO IMPRESSED with Florida dancers, and could not thank me enough for giving him the opportunity to experience us! And Lee and Jim bonded, as I knew they would and were truly the dynamic duo, each blending their individual talents into one cohesive learning and joyful experience. Jim also likened me to Moses (I should be so honored) - he said of me that, "I lead everyone to the Promised Land, but did not enter myself."

And speaking of Jim, he asked me to inform you of some things. In the dance notes for Platky, the Russian dance, there is a mistake: in Measures 13-16 (1c) it reads, Repeat measures 5-6! IT SHOULD READ: Repeat measures 9-10 (thanks a lot, Jim - just the night before you called in the morning, I was up until

1:00 in the morning trying to figure it out to bring to the Sarasota Wed. night group and finally gave up. I did not have the luxury of constant repetitions so thought I would have to rely on those who did or wait for the video). And my own observations - it is a perfect 4 sets of 8 - or 32 bars - without all those "and" counts. Also, my own observation in Maica: In Measure 10, Moving out of circle it should say "& repeat" at the end because there are 4 steps out - not just 2 as the notes infer. And one other thing of which Jim forgot to inform you: Maica as Introduced by Jan Aranescu, and Platky as Introduced by Dmitri Zlatov - they are both - Jim Gold! Just more of his delightful humor - his name changes to fit the culture in which he finds himself (Zlatov means gold in Russian, etc).

I will submit the amended Bylaws in next month's issue along with the minutes of our General Meeting. I have rambled quite enough and don't have the strength to redo everything right now. As for health: Fred is now fine and back on the golf course, but I am not doing as well. Without going into all details like you really want to hear... I went right to the hospital on Saturday night when we left camp and came home on Monday afternoon. Thursday afternoon, still not feeling well, I developed severe pain and went back to the hospital in an ambulance (the over fifty-five people here needed a little excitement) and then returned home again Saturday night. They did a few test procedures and have to have one more done Tuesday morn as an out-patient and am sure everything will be all right - medicine now-a-days fixes a lot of boo boos!

Although we missed Amar, it was so good to see that Jan Lathi could make it to camp, but I was saddened to hear of her newest plight with her own sickness. Let God give them continued strength and renew them both in good health.

And thank you one and all for your many emails and telephone calls with concern for Fred and myself besides your great enthusiasms for a great weekend. I still can't believe I missed most of it - but the pleasure has come to me vicariously through your own expressed joy.

Yours always in dance - Ann Kessler

REFLECTIONS ON DANCE

by Dan Lampert

Some have asked me to print our camp's logo and poem in the newsletter this month. I do it for them and because it expresses one of the simple ideals of dance.



*They are poised perfectly,
each reaching for the other's
one saying here take my hand,
the other saying there you are,
I'm reaching for you*

MARCH EVENT

Near St. Pete, from Pat Henderson

SPIFFS 29th Annual Folk Fair March 19-21 at the Pinellas Expo Center, 10601 US Highway 19 North, Pinellas Park. "Travel the world at the SPIFFS Folk Fair, enjoy traditional ethnic foods, music and continuous entertainment, all indoors in temperature controlled arena. Look up your heritage and enjoy more than 38 ethnic groups as you stroll through the many villages, enjoying the flavorful foods, market places, and cultural displays. Sit in one of the cafes along the Avenue of Nations as you watch the performances on the main stage. Visit the folk stage for a lesson in international dancing or listen to a legend told to you as they have been passed on from generation to generation." Prices are \$8 for adults, seniors \$6, and children \$5. More information at (727) 552-1896. See also the UFIFD Club web page:

<http://grove.ufl.edu/~folkstep/>

SPRING FLING!

Julius Horvath is once again sponsoring the annual Spring Fling! The date is May 1, 2004 and the location is the Whirl & Twirl Square

Dance Club located in Orlando. This gorgeous facility has a suspended wooden floor. Spring Fling is a day of request folk dancing with group leaders teaching a dance or two to help cross-pollinate our groups. Julius will provide his famous crock-pots and sandwich makings. Everything is free! Please bring your items for the ethnic flea market already tagged with name and price. Join us for a day of folk dance fun!

Date: **Saturday, May 1, 2004**

Time: **1 pm -9 pm**

Location: **Whirl & Twirl Square & Round Dance Club**

6949 Venture Circle, Orlando, FL 32807

For directions online, visit the club's website:
<http://www.geocities.com/whirlandtwirl/>

Directions: Whirl & Twirl is located in NE Orlando approximately 7 miles from the intersection of I-4 and Colonial (Hwy 50). Coming from the west on Colonial, turn left on 436 (Semoran). Go about a mile and turn right on Hanging Moss. The first right turn is Venture Circle. Coming from the east on Colonial, turn right on Forsyth. Go for about a mile and turn left on Hanging Moss. The first road to the left is Venture Circle. For additional information, call or write Julius at: 386-252-5738 or julhorvath@aol.com

For accommodations in Orlando, call or write Pat Henderson at: 407-275-6247

Or henderp@bellsouth.net

RANG TANG, April 16,17, &18, 2004

Steve Kotansky teaching mix of Macedonian, Rom, and Bulgarian dances Music by Trio Slavej(Mark Levy, Carol Silverman, and Kalin Kirilov), Paul Brown, and Seido Salifoski.

Mark and Carol played last year for Rang Tang, but this year the music will be different - wild and exciting! Suze Stentz and Richie Leonard will bring their ethnic bazaar for your shopping pleasure.

Cost: \$75 for the whole weekend (\$50 if you travel from more than 300 miles away)

Info: liznunan@hotmail.com or 404-292-7176

Hey fellow dancers!

The ever popular and best loved Swedish polska dances will be covered in the POWER POLSKA ONE and POWER POLSKA TWO workshop pairs now coming up (see below).

These are wonderful dances. With a good partner they are the best heaven on earth I know of. NOW is the time to let me know you plan to come on Mar 27! --Judith

SCANDINAVIAN TURNING DANCE WORKSHOP SERIES POWER POLSKA ONE

TWO WORKSHOPS \$5.00 each

When: MARCH 27, 2004 and APRIL 3, 2004, 1:00 TO 4:30 PM.

Where: KATE JACKSON REC CENTER, 821 S. ROME TAMPA, FL 813 259-1704.

Please register in advance by email to judithbaizan@juno.com or phone 813 254-3359

----- **ORLANDO INT'L FOLK DANCE CLUB**

By: Pat Henderson

On January 24, many of you joined me as I celebrated my birthday and retirement. We hosted over 60 people, dancers and non-dancers alike. We had a great time dancing and then eating Bobby's Cajun food and my Greek dishes. Then we danced into the evening. It will be a day that I will always treasure.

In February, Ellie Hall had emergency hernia surgery. She is now recovering at home and she hated to miss camp. Then we heard that Joe Terrence, Claudia's husband, had hernia surgery also. It looks like hernias are contagious recently since Bobby had his in December!

Annette Brand from Ottawa visited our group around camp time and she attended camp also. It is always great to see Annette.

About 15 dancers from our group attended camp. We took this picture of us on Saturday morning.



else). My son, Steven, will arrive tonight do drive me to and from St. Luke's where the biopsy will be performed. Wish me luck!
And dance a dance for us!

Fondly, Jan

AUGUSTA DANCETOPIA

Jenneine <dancnaro@atlantic.net>

Bonnie Olsen from Ocala and I drove up to Augusta the last week in Feb for a Croatian Dance workshop with Jelko. It was only \$65.00 for dance, breakfast and lunch. The motel was \$45.00 a night and close by. The teacher was fabulous: Jelko Zergan. He is a musicologist, previous national dancer from Zargrad and has coached the Tamburitzans. He taught at the Florida camp several years ago. His dances were delightful. He taught 10 dances of several Croatian clusters from Hungary, near Italy, Kosavo, Bosnia, and even Austria. The gym floor at the St. Mary's school was the best I have ever seen, it moved with every bounce. It was great fun.

CAMP REVIEW

by Sylvia Gruber <SylviaRoslyn@aol.com>

Camp this year was super good. Lee was an inspiration to watch and try to emulate.... Jim was a delight to be with at every level, teacher, dining companion, etc. The food was good, the weather balmy. Just sorry that our president who had put so much time into preparing for camp was ill and unable to enjoy what she had wrought. On a scale of 1 to 10, this year was a 27.

NEWS FROM JOY <JFH333@WEBTV.NET>

I had to leave camp early because my son of 48 had a heart attack....he had 2 bi-pass surgery Friday...got the news as soon as I got to camp.

A good friend from the Orlando folk dance group was going to Ocoee Saturday morning...

NEWS FROM JAN LATHI

Hi, dancers!

I am so glad that I had a chance to see y'all over the weekend - what a wonderful distraction from all that is going in our lives. Great dances, great teachers, grand dancers! Thank you for sending so many good wishes for Amar.

Yesterday's ultrasound gave us the new news that he, in fact, has a blood clot in his left leg and phlebitis so will add blood thinners to his growing daily dose of pills. He is in good spirits otherwise and is not uncomfortable except for being bored. His strength is ever so gradually returning. We still do not know how much brain power will return. Today he goes for his MRI of the brain which will show any tumor activity 4 weeks after his last radiation.

And yesterday, three doctors at Mayo Clinic informed me they are pretty certain that my spleen and some lymph nodes nearby are involved with probably lymphoma. They were suggesting that I undergo a splenectomy sooner rather than later but then pow-wowed with each other and came up with an alternate plan.

Tomorrow, Thursday, I will undergo a biopsy of the tumor on the spleen to determine just what kind of lymphoma it is, and then undergo an aggressive course of chemo therapy to shrink the tumor and any cancer cells in the body. A PET test revealed that at this time there is no significant cancer activity anywhere other than the spleen area. I am looking at all this as good news (no surgery for now, time to get Amar on his feet, no cancer anywhere

her name is Pam. She drove me from the camp to the hospital...(Thank God for cell phones)

He said he had chest pains for 2 days; just thought it was food poisoning....but no, no...that was a heart attack. He is lucky he is still alive. Some people that have heart attacks don't make it through.

Donald Gore, my oldest son, is doing good. He is supposed to be out of ICU today. – Joy :-)

SWEDISH AND NORWEGIAN DANCING

On February 28th and March 6th Tampa enjoyed workshops on Swedish and Norwegian dancing taught by Judith Baizan. At the latter workshop we learned a number of Norwegian dances from simple ones like Norwegian polka to more advanced figure dances like Rorospols and telegangar (some attempted to try telespringar for 3). We had about a dozen people at these workshops, a mixture of beginners and those who are more experienced at Scandinavian dancing. With Judith's excellent teaching we have made great progress in these beautiful turning dances. Half way through the workshop we stopped for light refreshments, including some of Kevin's fave Scandinavian drink, glogg. On March 6th, we enjoyed three beautiful demonstrations of different springars by Judith and Bard--who is visiting from New Jersey. More workshops are scheduled for the end of March and we're looking forward to them. For information call Judith Baizan (813) 254-3359. See you soon.

Suzanne & Kevin

NY CITY! WINTER DANCE COMPANY

By Jenneine <dancnaro@atlantic.net>

Spirou (an MD of radiation therapy @ Sloan Kettering) headed up a great dance weekend. 275 Hellenic youths attended; actually all generations were actively involved. Probably 10 folk dancers attended the classes. One lady from Germany came, a great dancer. Lots of Greek dancers(~18) from West Palm Beach were there. Of course John Lulius helped out, keeping the instructors well informed. There

were 6 instructors from Greece, great teachers. They made it known from the start that they were serious about dance and no disruptions would be tolerated. 6 dances were taught in each session, starting out with easy then more difficult. The Greek was interpreted and I picked up a few more words.

The instructors also gave the history of the Macedonian "Carnival" and how the festival has been passed down from generation to generation ever since the 1500's. I was able to purchase a book written (in English) by one of the instructors. I hope to read it soon. I also hooked up with one beautiful :(young) Greek man living here in Gainesville going to law school. I hope to get him more involved in the Greek dance we provide. Yes, it was cold, a high of 20 degrees with snow on the ground. After one dance, however, you wished you had worn a short sleeve t-shirt. It was hard to keep up with all the gloves, scarves and layers. Instead of dancing at the motel in Manhattan, we took a bus or the train to Astoria where there are LOTS of Greek bakeries and tavernas. The social center had two stories of wood floors. The Saturday night party was at a church hall with a wood floor, large stage, 5 bands and about 500 people. It started at 8 and had large lines of dancers steadily on, till 1am and beyond. Joe Grazeosi is still so wonderful to watch dance! I left early at 1am and the "kids" came back about 3 and played music in the hotel lobby till 5am, so I'm told.

Winter Dance Conference is rumored to be planned for Clearwater next year. Granted it is not your typical "folk dance" fare, but then again it is not meant to be, yet it is a valuable dance experience.

CAMP IS OVER (YEAH)!

CAMP IS OVER (BOO)!

by Terry Abrahams

What a terrific weekend! I don't think any of us wanted it to end. Random thoughts:

1. We all hope Ann is in full recovery by now. Thanks to her the camp went great – even though she couldn't see her plans come to

fruition. Thanks to J.P. and Nancy for keeping everything going.

2. The “poetry” she added on a separate page from the schedule was to have been plugged into her schedule, I divided them by ‘topic’ – not by time, so if you wondered.... and you probably didn’t. But I wanted to say it.

3. Having Suze (Opet) give a talk at the beginning of the camp was excellent. A good way to know more about her and the way her shop works. Just hope we bought enough to keep her coming back! She and Richie are a fun and ethnic addition.

4. The combination of the guys – Lee and Jim – couldn’t have been better. Humor abounded, great dances abounded (is there even one dance you wouldn’t want to keep?), friendship abounded. Truly a dynamic duo.

5. And in case you weren’t at camp, they put heads together and are working on a trip to Norway. Now that would truly be a hoot! Food was decent, not great.

6. Could have used that wood floor!

7. Snacks were great- thanks to Nancy’s: a) organization, and b) her display and care in putting it out in a timely fashion. From now on

I’ll bring chopped liver to every activity! Who knew????

8. Loved seeing some new people there, whom I think were truly enjoying themselves, and of course seeing old friends is one of the main reasons we like this camp. What a treat to see you all again.

9. Hope the T-shirt snafus were not too damaging, have no idea what happened.

10. Ron T. was a lovely addition to the camp – what an accordionist! Thanks especially for knowing the song we were parodying and playing for us.

I forgot to tell you -- I did apply to the Florida Folk Festival, and we were turned down this year. They said they had too many possibilities and were using others; so we won’t be performing, having a workshop, or anything else either. I don’t think this was because it was me sending it in instead of someone else, I certainly hope not. It was a form letter. So this year, if you go, you are going strictly as an attendee and will have to pay your way in and you won’t be able to camp in the performers’ campgrounds. It’s a terrific time, plenty, plenty, plenty of dancing anyway, lots to see, lots to eat, lots to buy. -Terry



Our teachers at the Florida Folk Dance Council Camp 2004, February 20-23, 2004. Lee Otterholt (left) and Jim Gold (right). Photo by Pat Henderson.

Minutes of
Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc
February 21, 2004

The meeting was called to order by President Ann Kessler at 12:48 p.m. Minutes for the 2003 annual meeting were approved as printed in the FFDC newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer reported that the 501(c)(3) exemption status with the IRS was reestablished and confirmed via IRS letter in May. The file will be retained in the Council books and a Form 990 should be filed as appropriate in future years. The annual profit/loss statement for 2003 reflected a \$1,294.84 profit.

Compliments to J.P. for a wonderful job. We accepted her resignation with regret and hope she has a rewarding retirement. Anyone wishing to volunteer as replacement treasurer, please contact Ann Kessler.

Ann reported that camp costs will undoubtedly increase slightly next year. She also indicated that the registration forms will be altered.

Bernice Roth made a motion that persons joining FFDC after Sept. 1 will pay one half price of membership dues and receive all privileges. The motion was seconded by Marie Milett.

Ann announced:

- 1) that full time camp registration paid by Jan 20 would be eligible for a drawing granting free registration the following year.
- 2) A design contest will be held to be used on t-shirts, buttons, syllabus cover. The entry is due by Jan 1. Winner pays one half camp fees and receives two t-shirts.
- 3) Advisors to the Board will be "at the discretion of the President".
- 4) Terry Abrahams will chair the nominating committee – contact her if you are interested in a board position or wish to nominate someone. Permission from nominee required.

We have received very favorable comment on camp food, music and decorations -- GREAT!

Julius Horvath discussed venue and date for "Spring Fling".

Julius made a motion that the meeting be closed. Doris Wolman seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Wilusz

Profit & Loss Statement
1/1/2003 Through 12/31/2003

Page 1

3/9/2004
Category Description

INCOME

Camp 2004	2,475.00
Camp Fees 2003	9,295.00
Dues	230.00
Dues 2003	1,145.00
Interest Inc	12.75
Scholarship Fund 2003	98.00
T-Shirts Ordered 2003	200.00
Video Orders 2003	255.00
TOTAL INCOME	13,710.75

EXPENSES

Bank Charge	15.00
Buttons	27.00
Camp Expense 2003	8,567.50
Camp Fees Discount 2003	185.00
Camp Refunds	55.00
Camp Snacks	179.84
Camp Teachers	900.00
Cash	571.00
Dues Discount 2003	65.00
Legal Fee	70.00
Misc	190.00
Newsletter	601.61
Postage	157.04
Printing	250.56
Supplies	5.19
T-Shirts	318.85
Video Tapes	257.32
TOTAL EXPENSES	12,415.91

OVERALL TOTAL **1,294.84**

FLORIDA FOLK DANCER

Florida Folk Dancer 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 (727) 789-6480
annie8@aol.com

Editor /
Historian: Dan Lampert
PO Box 151719
Altamonte Spgs., FL 32715
dan@webuniv.com

VP: Nancy Wilusz
3880 El Poinier Court
Sarasota FL 34232
edwardnan@webtv.net

Secretary /
Treasurer: We are now seeking a
new secretary/treasurer.

Committees: Advisors to the Board:
Pat Henderson
Terry Abrahams
John Daly

Nominating Committee:
Terry Abrahams

Send all submissions to the Editor by the **15th of the month** prior to publication.

Copyright: articles in the Florida Folk Dancer are 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 our web site for further information on folk dancing in Florida: www.folkdance.org

:

Return Address

FFDC Newsletter Editor
Post Office Box 151719
Altamonte Springs, FL 32715-1719
USA

FIRST CLASS