

Florida Folk Dancer

A Newsletter of the Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc.

October 2007

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President's (Brief) Column

Not much new to report from here. By Fall Fling we hope to have the flyers and registration forms ready for (un)Camp 2008. Our instructors have gotten great reviews and it should be a wonderful weekend.

Fall Fling is one of our major chances to dance together. A flyer is on the web. October 20th at the Community House in Melbourne Village. If you can, come Friday night for our regular dance evening. Make a weekend of it and stay to dance a little Sunday morning and then help us clean up.

Told you it would be brief. See you at Fall Fling!

- John

Orlando International Folk Dance Club

by Pat Henderson

We were able to dance every Wednesday in September, in spite of the fact that it rained every one of those days. Luckily, the rain always stopped in time to make our property, where we dance, navigational. In mid-September, Juanita Schockey, her husband, Fred, and Ann Robinson enjoyed a group trip to Branson for a week. On Saturday, September 22, Bobby and I danced with the Melbourne group for their impromptu birthday party for Jean, whose birthday was that day. Apryl was also celebrating her birth month.

On October 3, we had our annual Oktoberfest along with a birthday celebration for Bobby and Eva Meyer. The photo of the event (below, right) includes some women guests from Brazil with their daughters. They have come twice now and seem to enjoy the music and the dances.

Our last event for this reporting period was the Greek Festival in Maitland (Orlando area) on Saturday, October 6. It was so hot and humid that our group of about 13 lasted a little more than three hours. They had changed the festival from the first weekend in May, since it was so hot then! *[Editor's note: it must be the mark of die-hard folk enthusiasts that three hours outdoors in the heat is considered a short time!]*

Some of us will be going to Lecanto for another Greek Festival on October 27. It should be much cooler by then, plus this one is indoors. We hope to see many of you at the Fall Fling on October 20.



Front: Bobby Quibodeaux and Minnie Berkowitz; 2nd row L-R: Eva Meyer, Palmira Mora-Valls, Jan Lathi, Joy Herndon, four young guests, Juanita Schockey, Lucy Birkemeier, Ann Robinson, Betty Nehemias; 3rd row: Joe Birkemeier, Mary Jean Linn, Pat Henderson, Manuel Mora-Valls, three guests, Emilie Brozek

Photo by Kelly Fagan

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Sharpes Assembly Weekend in Sebring

by Catie Condran Geist

The 10th annual Sharpes Assembly English Country Dance weekend was held on October 5-7, 2007 at the Kenilworth Lodge in Sebring, Florida. There were 70 dancers in attendance, including quite a few folk dancers. Willa Davidsohn, Catie Geist, Kay Hislop, Gary Lanker, Delores Lustig, Virginia Marszal (and her husband Jean), Bernice Roth, Fannie Salerno, Onie Senyk, David Thoresen, and Mary Thoresen were there and it was nice to see so many good friends at the dance sessions.

Brad Foster from Amherst, MA, was the guest teacher and caller. He's the Executive and Artistic Director of the Country Dance and Song Society. His teaching and calling was calm, clear, and concise, and he chose some exciting and some beautiful dances to present to us. He taught the morning dance workshops on Saturday and called the whole Ball on Saturday evening, plus he called a few dances on Friday night and Sunday morning and then he danced during the other dance sessions. It was a great pleasure for all of us to learn from Brad and to dance with him.

The music for the Friday evening dance, the Saturday morning workshops, and the Saturday evening Ball was beautifully played by Full Circle (Veronica Lane, Robbie Zukauskas, and Ted Lane).

A new session was added on Saturday afternoon, so Full Circle played electric instruments for the E-Ceilidh dance (English Country Dances done to exciting electric music) from 4:30 until 5:30 PM. A good time was had by all!

Veronica Lane taught an Israeli dance workshop on Saturday afternoon from 1:30 to 2:30 PM; it was attended by at least 26 dancers. Everyone who was there really enjoyed it.

Other English Country Dance teachers/callers in Florida, Tara Bolker, Catie Geist, Colette Moore, Pam Russo, Onie Senyk, and Ed Swan, added their talents to the weekend by calling dances on Friday night, Saturday afternoon, and/or Sunday morning.

The refreshments after the evening dances and the lunch on Saturday were absolutely fabulous. Bernice Roth, Willa Davidsohn, and Fannie Salerno brought all of the food for Saturday lunch and set it up so well! It was a lovely assortment of delicious fare. They have been doing that for many years and they are so good at making all of the lunch arrangements!

It was a delightful weekend for all who were there and if you missed it, you really missed a wonderful time.



Full Circle: (l. to r.) Veronica Lane, Ted Lane, Robbie Zukauskas, and caller Brad Foster

Requests

from the Tampa Tuesday night Israeli dancers

I Can't Remember the Name of the Dance, but.....

1. You know, the one that starts with the right foot.
2. You know, the one that goes in a circle.
3. You know, the one with the grapevine step.
4. You know, the one that has the claps in it.
5. You know, the one that ends with "HEY".
6. You know, the one with all the turns.
7. You know, the waltzy one.
8. You know, the name starts with a C.

9. You know, the one that goes real fast in the middle.
10. You know, the one they taught at camp.
11. You know, the one with the hand movements.
12. You know, the one that Charlene likes.
13. You know, the one I had trouble learning.

Andi Kapplin, one of the group's leaders, adds, "The crazy thing is, sometimes in spite of the meager info, we know what dance they're thinking of!!"

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We Have Come to be Danced

by Jewel Mathieson

We have come to be danced

Not the pretty dance

Not the pretty pretty, pick me, pick me dance

But the claw our way back into the belly

Of the sacred, sensual animal dance

The unhinged, unplugged, cat is out of its box
dance

The holding the precious moment in the palms
Of our hands and feet dance.

We have come to be danced

Not the jiffy booby, shake your booty for him
dance

But the wring the sadness from our skin dance

The blow the chip off our shoulder dance.

The slap the apology from our posture dance.

We have come to be danced

Not the monkey see, monkey do dance

One two, dance like you

One two three, dance like me dance

but the grave robber, tomb stalker

Tearing scabs and scars open dance

The rub the rhythm raw against our soul dance.

We have come to be danced

Not the nice, invisible, self-conscious shuffle

But the matted hair flying, voodoo mama

Shaman shakin' ancient bones dance

The strip us from our casings, return our wings

Sharpen our claws and tongues dance

The shed dead cells and slip into

The luminous skin of love dance.

We have come to be danced

Not the hold our breath and wallow in the shallow
end of the floor dance

But the meeting of the trinity, the body breath
and beat dance

The shout hallelujah from the top of our thighs
dance

The mother may I?

Yes you may take 10 giant leaps dance

The olly olly oxen free free free dance
The everyone can come to our heaven dance.

We have come to be danced

Where the kingdoms collide

In the cathedral of flesh

To burn back into the light

To unravel, to play, to fly, to pray

To root in skin sanctuary

We have come to be danced.

We have come.

Tampa News

by Terry Abrahams

Hi all! Some failed attempts at dancing here. Ursula and I were coming to the English Country weekend, but her mouth and my body decided not to attempt it. Am sure it was great and we missed you all, but hope to see you at Fall Fling! Some contra dancers went to a folk fest in St. Pete this weekend; I went, but not on the day of the dancing, nor did anyone else I know, so there goes that one... Bill Schwarz, Wanda and I attended a local ballroom dance competition – Dancing with the Stars it ain't! Wanda and I went to see *The Jane Austen Book Club* – the dance they do in this movie is Hole in the Wall!

All of our groups are preparing for a performance October 28 for the Carrollwood Culture Center; we've combined the International, Scan, Israeli and some Flamenco friends. I'm calling it the ABC's of international dance, starting with Albania, Bulgaria and Croatia. We might even be good! I got a little note from Bart Carpenter, who hooked us up with the teacher who couldn't get here last year (Aron Szekely) – said he finally saw him and that he was well worth the effort, should we try again, so that was sorta interesting.

My second chemo caused the hair loss we all hear about and dread, and it WAS pretty awful. I look like an ugly little gnome. I'm sorry, bald is NOT beautiful! But I dug out my old hat that says "Bad Hair Day" and I'm showing up in public. You'll all get to see me at Fall Fling – now there's an exciting thought. Wanda says to think of myself as a Buddhist Monk (I did see some female ones in Tibet, and their heads were shaved, so there's a thought!). Well, the important thing is I'm able to dance for the most part. I'm modeling myself after Bernice – if she could do it, I can do it! See everyone soon!

From the Editor

This sure has been a slow news month! I had a tough time scraping together enough for six pages, but Terry came through for me again. She sent the poem, "We Have Come to be Danced." It took a while to track down the author to get permission to reprint. (I try to do that for anything not sent by the author.) The poem is published in *This Dance: A Poultrice of Poems*. Jewel Mathieson calls it a book of "dance love poems" and it's available from her – see her web site, www.jewelmathieson.com. -CL

Dance Step Name Game

Find each of the listed dance step names in the grid below. Names may be backward, forward, up, down and diagonal.

L W T W O Z F K Q A T P Z V A A
 N C U P P Q A I I U W H W W E X
 Q W A I S S E K R E H C T J B J
 K B J M Z O N N J W V S F B S S
 L Z J N V M Y T I M R D U C D V
 Q U V U S V C J I V P E U R G S
 E T V B E S H B J Z E I E O B I
 T G C N R O P G K C T P K S C L
 J R U S U A D Y C S I T A S H P
 L Z O P R Y T F I L N B P R U N
 T J Z M K L A W K I E A E O G C
 O S O U I G T H O D M L T S N A
 Y D R J B Y O P S E E A S S I Y
 X O E I C L A A C A Y N O I W L
 D U E Y D E P M A T S C W C S S
 P A L S L A G P O H P E T S Z Z

BALANCE
 BRUSH
 BUZZ
 CHUG
 CROSS
 GRAPEVINE
 HOLD
 JUMP
 KICK
 LEAP
 LIFT
 MAYIM
 PASDEBAS
 POINT
 REEL
 RIDA

RUN
 SASHAY
 SCISSORS
 SKIP
 SLAP
 SLIDE
 STAMP
 STEPHOP
 SWING
 TCHERKESSIA
 TURN
 TWIST
 TWOSTEP
 WALK
 YEMENITE

Events and Tours

October

October 20-21 Fall Fling

Hosted by the South Brevard International Dancers

Place: the Community House, 6200 Hall Road,
 Melbourne Village

Time: Saturday -11 AM to 11 PM; Sunday 9 - 11 AM
 Come for regular Friday night dancing, too – same place

Price: \$4 (Saturday)

Saturday lunch: pot luck – bring a dish; supper: left overs plus

Directions: New Haven Ave (U.S. 192) from I-95 or U.S. 1 to Dayton Blvd. (near the Home Depot). North on Dayton to Hall Road, which is marked with a sign "Historic Site Community House". East on Hall Road to the white building that looks like an old barracks.

Contact: John Daly 321-482-6818 or Jean Murray 321-952-7025

October 26-28 Serb Fest

Featuring the Firebrass Trubači Orchestra from Arizona and the children's folk dance ensemble from Miroslav Bata Marcetic's *Academy of Serbian Folk Dancing* (performing on Saturday).

Place: St.Petka Orthodox Church, 1990 Lake Emma Rd, Longwood, FL 32750, 407-831-7372.

More information at www.serb-fest.com.

October 26-28 Lecanto Greek Festival

St. Michael the Archangel Church, 4705 W. Gulf to Lake Highway (SR 44 West), Lecanto, FL
www.stmichaelgoc.org, (352) 527-0766

Wednesday October 31 Orlando International Folk Dance Club Halloween Party

Place: the home of Pat Henderson and Bobby Quibodeaux, 9859 Berry Dease Rd. Orlando

Time: 7:30 PM

Wear a Halloween or international costume and bring finger food to share.

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November

November 2 - 4 Bare Necessities English Country Dance Weekend

Music by Bare Necessities; caller Jacqueline Schwab. Sponsored by the Fairfield Folks Arts & Dance Co-op.

Place: Morning Star Studio, 51½ S. Court, Fairfield, Iowa

Friday, November 2 is also the Fairfield First Friday Art Walk, with art, food and entertainment .

More information at: www.fairfolk.org.

Contact: Freya Schafer, Fairfolk Dance and Song Society, PO Box 1321, Fairfield, IA 52556, 641-472-6003 ext 1, FairfolkSF@somastream.net

November 8-11 Daytona Beach Greek Festival

St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, 129 N. Halifax Avenue, Daytona Beach FL
www.saintdemetriosdaytona.org/festival.htm,
386-252-6012

Sunday, November 11 Israeli Dance Workshop with Moti Alfassy

Place: Jewish Community Center of Greater Orlando, Aerobics Studio, 851 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland, FL 32751

Time: 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Price: Register by 11/5: \$20 per person, after 11/5: \$25 per person; lunch is included

Contact: Julie Varkonyi, 407-645-5933 x238 or juliev@orlandojcc.org for information and registration form.

2008 February

February 15-18 Florida Folk Dance Camp

Place: Kenilworth Lodge, 836 SE Lakeview Drive, Sebring, FL 33870

More information in future newsletters.

Please note: The Florida Folk Dancer prints information on folk dance tours, camps and other events that may be of interest to our readers. This does not imply an endorsement or recommendation of any tour or camp (except our own FFDC events!).

February 28 - March 2 National Folk Organization Conference in Orlando

Featuring a dance workshop by Lee Otterholt

Times and places: Thursday, Feb. 28, daytime – pre-conference visit to EPCOT.

Thursday, Feb. 28, evening through Sunday, March 2, noon – conference, at the Holiday Inn Select Orlando East/UCF Area, 12125 High Tech Avenue, Orlando, FL 32817 (across the street from the University of Central Florida).

Saturday, March 1 – Lee Otterholt workshop, banquet and dance party at Whirl & Twirl Square Dance Hall, 6949 Venture Circle, Orlando, FL 32807.

You can register for the whole conference, including lunch on Friday and banquet dinner on Saturday, with a discount for NFO members. Separate admissions to the dance activities. More information and a registration form are available on the NFO website:

www.nfo-usa.org

Contact: Pat Henderson, henderp@bellsouth.net, 407-275-6247

Jim Gold Tours, 2008

The following is Jim Gold's tour schedule for 2008. See his web site, www.jimgold.com for complete itineraries and other details. Or contact Jim Gold International at (201) 836-0362, jimgold@jimgold.com

March 21-30, Budapest: Easter/Spring Festival Tour

Led by Adam Molnar

May 3-17 Poland

Led by Richard Schmidt

May 14-24 Norway

Led by Lee Otterholt

June 8-19 Serbia: Boljevac Folk Festival

Led by Jim Gold and Cheryl Spasojevic

July 26 - August 5 Hungary: Jaszbereny and Matyo Folk Festivals

Led by Adam Molnar

August 4-17 Bulgaria

Led by Jim Gold

September 6-20 Poland

Led by Richard Schmidt

October 19-31 Greece and the Greek Islands

Led by Jim Gold and Lee Otterholt

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FIRST CLASS

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.

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FFDC Website: www.folkdance.org