



February 2009

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President's Letter

Our Florida Folk Dance Camp is almost here. We have a great program again this year with Yves Moreau and Roo Lester bringing us exciting dances from the Balkans and the Basque region.

For those who haven't yet registered for the camp, there is still room in the daily workshops and the evening parties if you can find accommodations on your own. Unfortunately the registration cutoff date is past and we can no longer offer you a hotel room or dinner.

Every year we award a camp scholarship in honor of Olga Princi, a talented young dancer whose life was cut short by a tragic automobile accident. Our Olga Princi scholarship recipient this year is Nicki Wise from Orlando. Take a moment to get to know her as the weekend progresses.

The Olga Princi Scholarship is supported by contributions from the membership and by the proceeds of an auction at camp. Be sure to enjoy the auction; Kelly Fagan has volunteered to run it this year. Also, we can always accept contributions to the fund. Supporting talented dancers to come to camp is always a good thing.

I've posted the camp schedule at <http://ffdcworkshop2009.wiki.zoho.com/Workshop-Schedule.html>.

It will also be in your packets when you get to the Camp, but this will give you a chance to get an advance view.

For those interested in the additional Scandinavian dance workshop which we've scheduled, please arrive at the hotel by 1 PM on Friday. We'll start with some introductory material, and then work in more detail on a couple of interesting dances. If you don't want to come for the whole Scandi workshop, feel free to at least drop in for the last hour (4-5 PM) to see why the Scandinavian dancers are so enthusiastic about it.

I was uncertain about the cost of the Scandi workshop when the initial announcement was made, and didn't set a specific price for this special four hour event. But it is something additional to the regular FFDC Camp and I hope all will agree that those of us who participate should contribute to the cost of the room and to compensate Roo for her time. I will set out a basket and ask people to contribute \$10 if they come for the full Scandi afternoon. It will not be mandatory to contribute, and no one will know if you don't. But it will be a big help.

For the first time in many years we have a slate of officers for the election that will be held at the Annual Meeting. We'll announce the names at the meeting, and I want to thank those who have participated in the process for their help and willingness to serve. As always, nominations will be accepted from the floor as well. If you're thinking that you would like to be an officer sometime, just not this year, let me know. There are many tasks which need to be done to keep the group going, and we will be happy to find an assignment that will give you an introduction to the inner workings of the FFDC corporation.

Another issue that will be presented at the Annual Meeting is the cost of memberships. We currently charge \$10 for a regular membership and \$15 for a family membership. The Florida Folk Dancer, the newsletter of the FFDC, is distributed to members electronically. For those who want the Florida Folk Dancer sent by regular mail, we charge an additional \$5. Unfortunately, the costs of printing and mailing have risen, and it now costs us \$12 to mail the newsletter to the members. What this means is that

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Orlando News

by Pat Henderson

The Orlando folk dance community came together for three parties from December 17 through January 14. Every two weeks, we had a party that started with a pot luck dinner, followed by dancing. For New Year's Eve, we even had Bobby shooting off fireworks. The first party was our annual holiday party and about 30 people attended. The group gave Bobby and me a wreath filled with \$5 bills scattered about looking like butterflies.



New Years Eve dancing on the balcony: Kay and Tony Afonso doing a Portuguese Dance; Bobby Quibodeaux, Andy Pollock, Ken Kwo and Manuel Mora-Valls



Pat's Birthday Party

Front row: Betty Nehemias, Minnie Berkowitz, Pat Henderson, Julie Quibodeaux, Terry Abrahams. Middle row: Kelly Fagan, Ann Robinson, Larry Wartell, Kay Afonso, Tony Afonso, Kay Demos, Eva Gaber, Lucy Birkemeier, Juanita Schockey, Phyllis Dammer, Joy Herndon. Back Row: Visitors Francois Macary, Anna Orlova and Harry Solomon; Manuel Mora-Valls, Palmira Mora-Valls, Emilie Brozek, Joe Birkemeier, Jan Lathi, Wally and Joan Washington, Mary Jean Linn, Nicki Wise

Photo by Bobby Quibodeaux; other photos this page by Pat Henderson

In other news of the group, Juanita Schockey and her husband, Fred, took a southern Caribbean cruise over Christmas and New Year's, visiting Trinidad, Puerto Rico and several other ports of call.

We look forward to seeing a lot of you at the Florida Folk Dance Camp in Sebring. Opa!

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Minnie Berkowitz at the Orlando Holiday Party

The second party was New Year's Eve and, since it was a Wednesday, Bobby and I invited any dancer who wished a place to hang out for the evening. We had five dancers come from Tampa and two from Palm Coast and they all stayed at our house afterward. It was a lot of fun, with about twenty people at the party. Since we had a smaller group, we danced on our balcony instead of the dance studio and watched a bonfire while we danced. We welcomed a new couple from Daytona Beach, Chic and Karen Hechtman. They previously danced in New York and New England and they plan to come to Sebring so they can meet the extended Florida folk dance family.

The last party was my 60th birthday party and January 14 was my actual birthday. About 30 people came, bringing food, wine, cards and gifts. It was a great party and my daughter danced with us most of the night as a gift to me. One added bonus was the addition of three visitors who were in Orlando for a conference. They are in our group picture. Thank you one and all who made all these events so special. We are truly family!



January 21 – the first time we ever used the heater the entire night. Bobby Quibodeaux, Juanita Schockey, Mary Jean Linn, Joy Herndon, Betty Nehemias, newcomers Ruth and Steve, Jan Lathi

Sarasota Grapeviners

by Judy Merkt

The Sarasota Grapeviners have had huge circles lately. What fun we've been having! You all know our spectacular instructor Andi Kapplin (She must be blushing right now). I'm sure her skills as both a dancer and an instructor have a lot to do with our growing organization. We are seeing new faces almost every week, it seems. Maybe word has gotten out that this group not only knows how to dance but also knows how to welcome new people and help them have a good time. And as we all know, in these days of gloom and doom, a good time is very, very welcome. And for so little money! Almost all of our regular snowbirds have returned as well, so there is much hugging and meeting and greeting going on. It's just a *marvelous* Wednesday night each week in Sarasota.

On January 7th, we had our "First Annual Snow Party" (pictures on this page). It was a blast! About 50 people came. We asked everyone to bring a small snack so that at our break (extended for the event), we could not only chat and catch up with people we hadn't seen in months, but we could also eat! Did you ever notice how we all eat as if it were our last meal? What is that? We also asked everyone to wear traditional folk costume, if they had it, or to just dress up ... or not ... whatever they were comfortable with. The dancing was great, everyone looked like a million dollars, and for a few hours, we forgot whatever troubles were in our individual lives. You can't beat that.

Speaking of troubles, we do have a couple of folks in our group who are enduring some troubles right now. Edith Iwens took a fall and fractured bones – ouch. Edith is recuperating with Sydney at her side at The Springs at Lake Pointe Woods here in Sarasota. If you know Edith and Sydney, long-time and beloved members of our group, and would like to send them a note, the address is 3280 Lake Pointe Blvd., Sarasota, Florida 34231.

As always, a warm welcome is extended to any of you who happen to be in Sarasota on a Wednesday night. Come and do what we all love to do – dance.

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Front: Andi Kapplin, Barbara Zigras, Thekla Kahn
Second row (those whose faces show): Susan Barach (in navy skirt), Kay Hislop (in sage green), Christine Vincent and Ann Kessler.



Front: June & Tom Morse, Delores Lustig
Rear (those whose faces are visible): Kay Hislop, Christine Vincent, and Janina Kozma.



Food Table at
Snow Party

Photos this page by
Caroline Lanker



Fine China for Sale

Bobbie Ward and Denise Green are offering for sale a set of fine Favolina china from Poland, with pictures of costumed Polish dancers. The items are:

Eight 9½" luncheon plates, with 8 matching 10 oz. mugs, depicting regions and/or types of dances: Goralski, Kikomyjka, Kujajak, Krakowiak, Oberek, Polka, Polonez and Zbojnicki.

Six 8 oz. glasses with Huringishe, Lausitzer, Monchsguter, Rehnaer, Spreewalder, and Tracht D. Magdeb Borde depicted.

The full set, except two glasses, is shown in the pictures below. Note that the white spots on some items are due to flash photography and are not blemishes on the pieces.

They are asking \$150 for the entire 22-piece set, or \$15 for a matching plate and mug, or \$10 per plate, \$8 per mug and \$6 per glass.



In a note, Bobbie provided some background:

The Polish china belonged to Barbara [Barbara Ward Donovan, Bobbie's twin sister and Denise's mother. Barbara passed away in May 2008 - obituary in the July/August 2008 Florida Folk Dancer]. I hope to find someone who would really appreciate the dishes before I put the set up for auction in St. Petersburg with an antique dealer.

This set was purchased in Chicago, Illinois when Barbara lived near "the loop", circa 1968. She danced there with a group that included Felix Kaminski. For those that might remember Felix, he would come to Florida and stay with my mother during the winter months, and loved it. My mother convinced Felix to buy a home here in Tampa, in a (then) new subdivision in Brandon. Felix was kind and generous. He passed away in December, 1984.



Interested? Contact Bobbie J. Ward, 5701 S. MacDill Ave., Tampa FL 33611-4448, 813-831-5378, BobbW8@aol.com.

International Dance Group of Ocala

The following is from a note from Jan Hathaway to John Daly. Have any of our readers been to this group? We'd love to know more about them.

Hello!!

I am contacting you today on behalf of the International Dance Group of Ocala, sponsored by the Armenian American Cultural Society.

The group meets on Monday nights at the Armenian Hall on Baseline Road at 7 PM. Dances currently performed are Greek, Armenian, German and Hispanic.

Contact: Jan at 208-8061 or Vi at 286-7209. Email: jhatmil@aol.com

Events

February

February 13 - 16 Florida Folk Dance Camp

Place: Kenilworth Lodge, 1610 Lakeview Drive, Sebring, FL 33870

Instructors: Yves Moreau, Balkan and Roo Lester, Basque, plus Scandinavian Workshop/Party, Friday 1-5 PM

Information: www.folkdance.org

See [Directions to Camp](#), page 4.

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International Folk Dance Tours

Notices of selected tours are published in the newsletter and changed with each issue. A more complete list of tours can be found in the calendar on the FFDC website.

June 10 – 22 Romanian Tour

with Theodor and Lia Vasilescu and Marin Barbu.

Starting in Bucharest, travel through Muntenia, Moldova area of Romania, Bucovina and Transylvania.

Includes dance lessons, performances, village visits, sightseeing.

Contact: Ping Chun, 49 Junard Drive, Morristown, NJ 07960, 973-539-7020, ping.chun@att.net.

More information on FFDC Calendar at www.folkdance.org.

June 24-30 Summer Folk Dance Week

by Dvorana Dance

Place: Strážnice, Czech Republic

Includes four days of lessons in Czech and Moravian dancing plus the Strážnice folk festival Friday evening and all day Saturday. (Apparently, the Czech dance teachers teach in English; the Moravian dance teacher in German.)

Contact: phone - +420 235 318 279, email - dvorana@dvorana.cz

Information: <http://dvorana.cz/dance/2009/folk>

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!).

Renew Your FFDC Membership

Now is the time to renew your membership with FFDC, if you haven't already done so. If you don't renew, March will be the last month you will receive the Florida Folk Dancer, if you get a mailed copy, or receive email notification of its availability on the website and significant announcements by FFDC. FFDC members will also receive a copy of the FFDC membership list. Please continue to support FFDC, the vital glue that cements together our small and sparse community of international folk dancers in Florida and nearby areas.

Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

If you include an email address, will receive an announcement when the FFDC newsletter, the Florida Folk Dancer, has been posted on the website, before it is mailed, as well as other notifications to members. You may choose to receive a mailed copy of the newsletter instead of or in addition to the email announcements.

FFDC Membership	<u>Without paper newsletter</u>	<u>With paper newsletter</u>
Single	10.00 _____	15.00 _____
Family	15.00 _____	20.00 _____

Make check payable to: FFDC

Any questions

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Palm Coast, FL 32137

Call: Jan at 386-447-8396
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Web page: www.folkdance.org

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FLORIDA FOLK DANCER

Florida Folk Dancer is published six to eight times a year by 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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Submissions: Send all newsletter submissions to the Editor.

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Subscriptions for printed and mailed copies are \$15 per year per person (\$20 per family) and include membership in the Florida Folk Dance Council. Membership without printed newsletters is \$10 per person or \$15 per family. The membership year runs from one annual Florida Folk Dance Camp (usually February) to the next. The newsletter is posted on the FFDC website and members with e-mail addresses are notified of its availability.

FFDC Website: www.folkdance.org