



December 2012 - January 2013

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## Prez Sez

This is the last issue of the newsletter before camp. And it's getting down to the nitty gritty. Here is what's important for you to consider:

**Snacks.** We have some volunteers to do snacks, but could use more. Snacks do not have to be extensive, do not even have to be ethnic, although ethnic would be nice. In this case, ethnic should be Turkish or Serbian. Serbian snacks would be Saturday night, Turkish on Sunday. Friday night can be anything your heart desires.

**Elections.** I have not heard from anyone considering an officer position. It wouldn't hurt to have some new blood running this organization, so give this some thought. Most importantly, Caroline is no longer going to be the editor of the newsletter. If you have any leanings in that direction and would like to give it a go – please contact me ahead of time, or even surprise us at the noon meeting on Saturday. (See [From the Editor](#) for more information or contact Caroline for more details about the job.)

Next most importantly – the position of Vice President, whose main duty is publicity will also be open, as Judy is unable to continue at this time. You could also offer to be President, Corresponding Secretary, or Treasurer.

**Olga Princi Scholarship.** We will have two Olga Princi scholars at camp this year. One is Shristi Thoresen, recommended by Caroline and Gary Lanker. Some of you have met her, along with other members of her family, at the Lankers' occasional dance parties or at Fall Fling in Melbourne, or perhaps at the English Country Dance Sharpes Assembly in Sebring in October. She is a student at Warner University in Lake Wales and has introduced other students to folk dancing at the Lankers.

Valerie Dorr was recommended by the Sarasota Grapeviners. Valerie started dancing as a child, but missed dance in her busy professional life in recent years, until she found the Grapeviners. Valerie has been a consistent attendee each Wednesday and is a full-time resident of Sarasota with involvement in the community.

Please give our two Olga Princi scholars a warm welcome at Presidents' Weekend Camp.

**Auction and Sales, Trades, and Giveaways.** We are not going to have the big live auction we had last year. This year we will revert back to our silent auction with a table for showing items, which will end Sunday after lunch. Bring your items with you. There will be tables set up for the Olga Princi Silent Auction and for private sales and giveaways. If auction items do not sell in the auction, they may be reclaimed, sold or given away by the owner. All items left over on the sales tables will be given to the Salvation Army.

BTW – I will bring the drawing Judith did of me from last year's live auction. I love it! Other items that were purchased at last year's auction will show up at camp in various ways. Look out for them!

**Help.** If you are coming in early and would like to help with registration, or set up of music and speakers etc. please do so. If you know ahead of time, let me know. You can also help with the silent auction, help play music for the teachers and anything else that comes up.

## Other Details.

- Times and places: see [Schedule for FFDC Presidents' Weekend Camp](#) and [Address and Directions to Camp](#).

- Dance registration will be open at 6:00 PM or before. Check into the area upon your arrival – if I (or someone) am there, you can register. If you ordered a T-shirt, it will be waiting, as well as your button with your name on it and a schedule. Syllabi will be available for \$5.00. Hopefully they will also be online before camp starts, and you can run your own for free.

- You needn't bring any bedding, towels, flashlights, etc. But bring dancing shoes and maybe a light sweater if you aren't dancing every dance. Do bring swimsuits for the pool and the hot tub.

- Costumes are a plus but not a necessity for the parties.

- Friday dinner and Monday lunch are not included in your price. You can eat at the hotel, or there are restaurants everywhere (this is Orlando after all – OK, Kissimmee, but plenty of restaurants).

- If you are bringing a non-dancing spouse, there will be a table in our lobby for game playing. I will bring some games, but if you have one you like, bring it too. Puzzles? I'll try to make a space.

OK – questions? Call me or email me: 813-234-1231; [tabrahams@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:tabrahams@tampabay.rr.com). See you at camp!



### Purrfectly Wonderful Mews

Kelly Fagan is stunned. She has been cast as Grizabella the Glamour Cat, the female lead in CATS! The production opens a three week run April 5 at the Athens Theatre in DeLand.

Meow!

*[See dates and times and purchase tickets on the Athens website [www.athensdeland.com](http://www.athensdeland.com) or contact the box office: 386-736-1500, open Thursday – Saturday 1 – 5 PM and one hour prior to events. Ticket prices are \$10 (for children) to \$25 and there is a \$16 group rate for 8 or more. Thursday, April 11 will be the BOGO (buy one, get one) night; use BOGO as the coupon code to get two tickets for the price of one.]*

### From the Editor

Gary and I traveled to Oregon after Christmas. We enjoyed visiting Gary's son and his family, skiing with them, and, of course, dancing. We went to two square dances and danced twice with a small international group in Albany, Oregon. We saw some new dances and found that their "village" does some familiar dances a little differently than we do. So "When in Rome..." We were happy to find that they are doing some of the same new dances we are, like *Hora Vecci*, and have retained or resurrected dances that we did years ago, like *Ya Abud*. What fun it is to remember enough of those old dances to do them again!

On the home front, FFDC Presidents' Weekend Camp is coming up – February 15-18. I hope you will be there. As of camp, I will step down from the job of newsletter editor. This is the last issue I will produce. I want to thank all the people who have supported my efforts over the past seven years. At first Arleen Kaufmann and later Judy Merkt have gotten each issue printed and mailed. A few years ago, Pat Henderson took over the maintenance of the online FFDC calendar, which was, for a time, part of the editor's job.

Pat has also kept me straight by proofreading almost every issue I have produced. John Ward, Terry Abrahams, and my husband, Gary, helped with specific issues by organizing and editing some text and photos. Terry has shared her library of clip art, as well. The FFDC website, maintained by webmaster John Daly, is a constant source of information about our members, groups and events. And, last but not least, a great big thank you to all of you who contributed material – articles, photos, poems, recipes, puzzles, links to websites or YouTube clips, etc. The newsletter could not exist without your contributions.

So far, I don't think anyone has volunteered to be the new editor. If no one person wants to take on the editorship, perhaps a small team could do it.

The editor's job could be split up. Soliciting material, editing articles or photos or events, layout, creating the pdf, posting on the website and sending out the email notifications to members are all separable tasks. If you could do one or more of those tasks, but don't want to take on the whole job, please contact Terry Abrahams at [tabrahams@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:tabrahams@tampabay.rr.com) to express your interest.

– CL



## Folkdancers of Gainesville United!

by Jack Seltzer

When Gainesville folkdancers dance and party, they aren't kidding around. It's a wonderful experience. Closing out 2012, on December 7, we all began by dancing around the tables, chairs and people trying to digest their meal at the local Greek restaurant, Sandy's. Sitting down for some fresh made moussaka and pastitsio didn't put a damper on our enthusiasm – witness the photos below.



**At table at Sandy's: around the table, left to right, are Linda, Mireille, Julieta, John, Juanita, Nancy, Arlene, and Jack.**

*Photo by Jualene. Other photos by Jack.*



**Dancing at Sandy's led by John and Jack**

The local Greek group, Embros, led by the father and daughter team of Leo and Eleni Polopolus, gave us the great sounds of his clarinet and her soprano voice. I'm always amazed by the electronic violin of Anne, now joined by David on bouzouki. They have a very unique sound. Check them out online at [www.embrosorchestra.com/bios.html](http://www.embrosorchestra.com/bios.html).

Come join us next time. We go to Sandy's every three months or so, before our regular Friday night dance. Check the calendar on our website, [www.gifd.org](http://www.gifd.org), for dates.

Moving on to December 31, Jualene brought us over to her magnificent home for the all nighter (until 12:15 AM, actually) of food, fun, music, dancing, lots of chit-chat and some serious talk. We began the festivities fairly early and, with singing and toasting to Auld Lang Syne, at midnight we smilingly welcomed in the New Year. What more can you ask?



**Dancing New Years Eve: John, Julieta, Joyce D, Leslie, June, Juanita, Mireille, Linda, and Arlene**



**Welcoming 2013 – standing: Juanita and her husband, Linda, Arlene, Diane and Max, Mireille, Nancy, Jan, June, and Margaret. On the floor: Jack, Jualene, Leslie, Barbara and Julieta. Others who were there but didn't quite make it to the midnight hour photo were John, Joyce D, Ruth, Joyce S and Grace.**

**Linda and hostess Jualene on New Year's Eve**



## Sarasota Scottish Country Dancers Dance in the New Year



Heads appearing from L to R: D.A. Tyler (back), Jill Davidson, Bonnie Jean & Michael Durning, Lou Ann Treichel, Katie Green, Circe Davenport, Don Emery, Catherine and Malcolm Byrne, Cal Lloyd, Delores Lustig, Kathryn MacDonald

Photo by Ann Lloyd

by D.A. Tyler

At 7:15 pm, Dec. 31, 2012, the first wave of dancers trickled into the Bayfront Community Center ballroom to set up buffet tables for hearty snacks and to deck the hall with tartans, Scottish flags and banners.

Not only dancers from Sarasota and Dunedin, but Don and Barbara Emery, Mary Baird and Elspeth Day came through the doors to swell our ranks. Other than several Dunedin regulars, we rarely get out-of-town visitors, so it was a special treat for us that they made the long trip from the center of the state. By 8 pm, with the tables now crowded with food, over 20 dancers took their places in sets to begin dancing in the New Year.

Several new dancers have recently joined the Sarasota Country Dancers, so Ellen McRanor, Dance Mistress, planned an evening that allowed walk-throughs for every couple on the floor. It made for a stress-free evening and was encouraging for those new to the complex game of remembering what is a first corner and, "Where do I go in a reel of three?"

Other dancers arrived – with more food – to total 26 as we continued to dance our way to a break for refreshments. Such talking! Not a dour Scot in the bunch! And then - we danced some more!

By the time we were ready to tackle the food a second time, it was creeping toward midnight, champagne, toasts and Auld Lang Syne. Even with all the people having those clever little electronic gadgets that do everything in their pockets, we were so busy having fun only Ann Lloyd remembered to take the time to take a photo as we were pouring for the New Year's Toast.

The city cooperated to complete our dance party with a grand finale of 20 minutes of fireworks easily viewed on that balmy night from the elevated porch surrounding the ballroom. A jolly time was had by all, and if you haven't considered taking up Scottish Country Dancing before – now's the time to start and be primed for our next New Year's party!

Addendum: The Dunedin Ball is Sat. Feb. 9; potluck dinner at 6 pm. The Sarasota Ball is Sat. Feb. 23. See [www.sarasotascd.org](http://www.sarasotascd.org) for applications and dance notes and more information.

*[Editor's note: a number of FFDC dancers enjoy Scottish Country Dance. If you are interested in SCD, but don't live near Sarasota or Dunedin, the FFDC website, [folkdance.org](http://folkdance.org), lists Scottish Country Dance groups in several places — see "Places to Dance in Florida". Some of the information may be out of date, so check with the group contacts. If you can provide corrections to the website, please send them to webmaster John Daly.]*



## Sarasota Grapeviners

by Judy Merkt

Winter season dancing is in full swing here in Sarasota. Our attendance is almost at its highest, since most of our snowbirds have returned. Our dance circle sometimes ends up as one and a half or two ... what a problem to have, right? We continue to learn, dance, sing, and laugh every Wednesday night. A couple of new additions to our group appear to be "hanging in", so that is encouraging as well.

In addition to our wonderful snowbirds – Ron and Kathy Fico, Sue Gordon, Andree Juneau, Ivan and Annette Krakowsky, Tom and June Morse, Maureen Pride, Alice Schwartz, and Chris Vincent – we enjoyed a three-week visit from Sonna and Mars Longden, from Chicago. They are always a joy to have with us. We've also enjoyed several visits from Nancy Wilusz, and some of our Tampa friends – Terry Abrahams, Bill Schwarz, and Andy Pollock. A Sarasota welcome to all whenever you can get here.

On the administrative end of things, we asked for a volunteer to act as our group's historian – someone to clean up and maintain our binders of pictures, articles, and such – and Lynda Harris accepted the job with enthusiasm! Susan Barach and I are thrilled. Lynda is doing a great job and the "in progress" binders will get a showing at our annual Snow Ball on January 30th. As usual, it is an all-request night, a festive evening with a nice long break to allow time for refreshments and socializing – and perusing the group's history.



Photo by  
Judy Merkt

**Lynda Harris**

Lastly, I would like to take this time to give a huge thank you to Caroline Lanker for all of her many hours making our newsletter one of the best I've seen. Caroline has always aimed for perfection and she has gotten it most of the time. She has encouraged us to give her news, pictures, events, etc. month after month for I don't know how many years. Caroline, I salute you my friend, and thank you.

## Orlando International Folk Dance Club

by Pat Henderson

Our club breezed through the holidays with our Holiday Party on December 12. It started with a pot luck dinner before dance and was enjoyed by all. We do the Western Trio Mixer to Jingle Bells and Juanita brings bells for all the ladies to shake during the dance. It is always a lot of fun.

It was the time for cruising: Fred and Juanita Schockey, Phyllis and Ed Dammer, Joan and Wally Washington, and Bobby and I all went on different Caribbean cruises in December and January. Manuel and Palmira Mora-Valls visited her family in Puerto Rico over Christmas. They had not been there in 20 years and said that it has changed for the better.

Jan Arcari sang at the Community Chorus Christmas at the Movies show. Kelly Fagan performed in Scrooge: the Musical at the Athens Theatre in DeLand in December. She was delightful as Mrs. Jollygood. We welcomed Annelies Mostert from the Netherlands back to dance; she is wintering in Florida now that she retired. We are all looking forward to seeing everyone at camp.

### Best in Show



Orlando-area dancer Ann Robinson was a winner at the "Great Day in the Country" arts and crafts show in Oviedo on November 10. The annual show, sponsored by the Woman's Club of Oviedo, draws artists from all around central Florida. The 2012 show featured 350 artists' booths. Entries are judged in various arts and crafts categories, but Ann's charming ceramic elephant teapot won the overall, combined Best in Show prize. Congratulations, Ann!

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## Julius Horvath

Long time dancer Julius Horvath was found dead in his home on January 24. Julius was one of the founders of the Florida Folk Dance Council and a life member. The news was received too late to include a full article about him in this issue of the newsletter.

A memorial service will be or was held on Feb. 2 at the First Presbyterian Church of Daytona Beach.



Julius Horvath

In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations be made to the Olga Princi Memorial Scholarship Fund. The FFDC board is planning a memorial ceremony to be held during Presidents' Weekend Camp 2013.

The Daytona Beach News-Journal published Julius' obituary on January 27. Read it online and sign the guest book at [www.legacy.com/obituaries/news-journalonline/obituary.aspx?n=julius-otto-horvath&pid=162656881](http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/news-journalonline/obituary.aspx?n=julius-otto-horvath&pid=162656881)

*Photo taken at Presidents' Weekend 2012 by Caroline Lanker*

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### Schedule for FFDC Presidents' Weekend Camp

Here is a brief schedule to help you arrive at the right time for everything you want to attend – be it all or part of the weekend.

Friday, Feb. 15:

- 4 PM Room registration (hotel front desk)
- Dance registration (Cyprus room)
- Dinner on your own
- 7 PM to ? Dance party

Saturday, Feb. 16:

- 7:30 – 9 AM Breakfast
- 9 AM – noon Dance Instruction
- 12:15 PM Lunch
- 12:45 – 1:30 PM FFDC annual meeting
- 2 – 4:15 PM Dance instruction
- 4:15 – 5:15 PM Culture corner – Bata
- 6:30 PM Dinner
- 7:30 PM Special surprise performance to ? Dance Party – Serbian

Sunday, Feb. 17

- 7:30 – 9 AM Breakfast
- 9 AM – noon: Dance Instruction
- Noon: Lunch
- 1 PM Silent auction ends
- 2 – 4:15 dance instruction
- 4:15 – 5:15 Culture corner – Ercument
- 6:30 PM Dinner
- 7:30 PM Special surprise performance to ? Dance Party – Turkish

Monday, Feb. 18

- 7:30 – 9 AM Breakfast
- 9 – 11:30 AM Review
- Check out of hotel by Noon!

### Address and Directions to Camp

The camp is held at the Holiday Inn Main Gate East, 5711 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy (US 192), Kissimmee, FL, 800-672-9601.

There are several ways to get there. Here are three:

Coming from the west on I-4, take Exit 64, (Hwy 192). Take 192 East. The hotel is one mile on the left across from Old Town Amusement Park in Celebration.

From the east or the Orlando Airport, take SR-417 (Greenway) south/west bound. Exit at Celebration exit and take US 192 east. The hotel is 1/4 mile, on the left.

If you come from the south via Florida's Turnpike, northbound, there is an exit at US 192, but that is a long way from the hotel and US 192 is a slow, congested road. Another way is to continue north on the turnpike to exit at Osceola Parkway (a faster road), go left (West) to the Poinciana/Vineland exit, then take either Poinciana or Vineland left (south) to US 192 and go right (west) about a mile to the hotel. A map and/or a GPS is recommended.

## Tampa to Sponsor Spring Fling

by Terry Abrahams

Things change, and so has Spring Fling. Tampa will sponsor the Spring Fling this year. The date is Saturday, April 27th; time – 11:30 AM to 6:30 PM. The place – Pinellas Park Auditorium at 7690 59th St., Pinellas Park 33781. Those of you who have contra danced in the Tampa Bay area have probably danced there and will recognize it as the cute little auditorium next to the Fire Department in Pinellas Park.

It is a relatively convenient place in central Florida – farther away than Orlando for Melbourne, Orlando and Gainesville, but closer for Tampa and Sarasota. There will be a \$5.00 charge to help pay for the building.



Pinellas Park Auditorium

There is a kitchen, so we will have our usual covered dish lunch. There is a wood floor! We are very excited to sponsor this event and hope to see tons of people there!

This will be a good time to review all of the camp dances – of course you will be at camp too! More information about the auditorium can be found at [www.pinellas-park.com/pinellas/residents/events/city\\_auditorium/uploads/Auditorium\\_Brochure\\_d.pdf](http://www.pinellas-park.com/pinellas/residents/events/city_auditorium/uploads/Auditorium_Brochure_d.pdf)

## Events

### February 14 – 17 Greek Festival – Sarasota

Place: St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church, 7671 N Lockwood Ridge Rd., Sarasota, FL

Time: 11 am – 9 pm Thursday – Saturday, Noon – 8 pm Sunday

Information: [www.stbarbarafestival.org](http://www.stbarbarafestival.org)

### February 15 – 18 FFDC Presidents' Weekend

Place: Holiday Inn Main Gate East, 5711 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy (US192), Kissimmee, FL

### February 21 – 24 Greek Festival, Lecanto

Place: Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church, 4705 W. Gulf to Lake Hwy, Lecanto, FL

Time: 11 am – 8 pm Friday and Saturday;  
11 am – 5 pm Sunday

Information: [www.stmichaelgoc.org/festival.html](http://www.stmichaelgoc.org/festival.html)

### February 22 – 24 Greek Festival – Winter Haven

Place: St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church, 1030 Bradbury Rd., Winter Haven, FL

Time: 11 am – 9 pm Friday and Saturday;  
11 am – 6 pm Sunday

Contact: 863-299-4532

Information: [www.saintsophiawinterhaven.org](http://www.saintsophiawinterhaven.org)

### February 23 International Festival

Place: Panther Plaza, Florida Institute of Technology, 150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL

Time: Noon – 5 pm

Information: [www.fit.edu/iss/international-fest.php](http://www.fit.edu/iss/international-fest.php)

### March 1 – 3 Greek Festival Ft. Myers

Place: Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, 8210 Cypress Lake Drive, Fort Myers, FL

Time: 11 am – 11 pm Friday and Saturday;  
Noon – 5 pm Sunday

Information: [www.greekfestfortmyers.com](http://www.greekfestfortmyers.com)

### March 2 World Culture Folk Dance Competition at the Azalea International Folk Fair of Valdosta, GA

Place: James Rainwater Conference Center, #1 Meeting Place, Valdosta, GA

Time: 10 am – 5:30 pm

Information: [www.gainternationalfolkfair.org](http://www.gainternationalfolkfair.org)

### Duquesne University Tamburitzans Shows:

#### March 2 and 3 Tarpon Springs

Tarpon Springs Performing Arts Center, 324 Pine Street

Time: 7:30 pm Saturday; 2 pm Sunday

Contact: Box Office 727.942.5605

Information for all Tamburitzans shows:

[www.duq.edu/tamburitzans](http://www.duq.edu/tamburitzans)

#### March 5 Sarasota

Glenridge Performing Arts Center on Palmer Ranch, 7333 Scotland Way, Sarasota, FL

Time: 7 pm

Contact: 941-552-5325

#### March 7 Delray Beach

Center for the Arts at Old School Square  
Time: 7:30 pm

Contact: the Tamburitzans 877-826-6437

#### March 8 Palm Beach Gardens

Eissey Campus Theatre, 11051 Campus Drive

Time: 8:00 PM

Contact: Box Office 561-207-5900

### **March 8 Greek Festival – Melbourne**

Place: St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church,  
5965 N Wickham Rd, Melbourne, FL

Time

Information: [www.saint-katherine.org](http://www.saint-katherine.org)

### **March 9 – 14 Hungarian Folk Dance and Folk Music Camp, "Napraforgok"**

Place: Camp Frontier, 18050 U.S. 301 Wimauma, FL, in the Sarasota area

Contact: [napraforgoktabor@hotmail.com](mailto:napraforgoktabor@hotmail.com)

Information: [napraforgoktabor.org](http://napraforgoktabor.org)

### **March 15 – 17 San Antonio Folk Dance Festival**

Place: Our Lady of the Lake University,  
San Antonio, TX

Contact: [info@safdf.org](mailto:info@safdf.org)

Information: [safdf.org](http://safdf.org)

### **March 21 – 24 National Folk Organization (NFO) Annual Conference**

Place: several venues in Las Vegas, NV

Information: [www.nfo-usa.org](http://www.nfo-usa.org)

### **March 22 – 24 Playford Ball Weekend**

Place: Cohn Adult Learning Center, 4805 Park Ave.,  
Nashville, TN

Contact: 615-385-1129, [wilkinsoned@comcast.net](mailto:wilkinsoned@comcast.net)

Information: [www.nashvillecountrydancers.org](http://www.nashvillecountrydancers.org)

### **March 22 – 24 Chicago Spring Festival**

Place: International House, 1414 E. 59th St.,  
Chicago, IL

Contact: 847-331-7842

Information: [www.chicagospringfestival.org](http://www.chicagospringfestival.org)

*Look for more event, tour and cruise notices on the calendar of the FFDC website.*

## **Folk Dance Tours**

### **July 28 – August 11 Jim Gold trip to Bulgaria, Macedonia and Greece**

Led by Jim Gold

### **July 30 – August 12 Jim Gold Hungary Tour**

Budapest, Folk Festivals and Jászberény Folk Dance Camp

Led by Adam Molnar

Contact for Jim Gold tours: 201- 836-0362,

[jimgold@jimgold.com](mailto:jimgold@jimgold.com)

Website: [jimgold.com](http://jimgold.com)

*Please note: The Florida FolkDancer 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!)*

## **FLORIDA FOLK DANCER**

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FFDC Website: [www.folkdance.org](http://www.folkdance.org)