



MAY-JUNE 2014

Special Points of Interest:

- *Details on 2015 Camp*
- *Local Club News*
- *Flagler Fling*

PRESIDENT'S NOTE BY JACK SELTZER

It's full steam ahead to "Camp" 2015 as we finalize our accounting and finances for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014. We ended up financially successful for the year due to many factors. One huge factor was the phenomenal participation of so many of you at this year's camp. Another major factor is the efforts of so many of our FFDC officers and so many of our FFDC members who gave that extra energy to the success of the weekend (see last newsletter).

Planning ahead is always an essential ingredient, so we are already gearing up for next year. With our new hotel, Renaissance Orlando Airport, we are not going to limit the number of participants because we will have a larger dance floor. Folks from out of town, flying into the Orlando Airport (MCO) can now get a free shuttle to the hotel. Accommodations will also be pretty outstanding. Due to Pat Henderson's fine efforts, the costs for the new hotel will be comparable to this year's costs. Great job, Pat and other officers! Soon, we will be able to predict next year's costs and will put out the new registration form over Labor Day weekend if all goes well.

Next year's Feb 13-16 FFDC President's Weekend Folk Dance Workshop promises to be another winner! Yves Moreau and Lee Otterholt joining us will be a blast! What more can we want than some of Lee's smooth mixture of Greek, Albanian and more unique Balkan, and Yves' always inspirational Bulgarian dances and traditions? I

hope that his wife France will join him and dance with us all weekend. Having NFO for their annual meeting and some of them joining us afterwards for our camp will add to the fun. We always hope to welcome more 'happy go lucky' folk dancers wherever they might be from.



Now I'll need to begin getting your requests for the three nights of dance parties. This year's camp programs went really well. I will never forget us all running around to check the lists to see when our personal requests were coming up! They were three spirited nights we all enjoyed. Here is my plan for next year's programs. Over the next month, I will email each of you the requests you gave me for 2014, to see if you want the same requests or want to substitute other dances. Also, please send me specific notes. For example, are your requests Yves or Lee dances? Could some of your requests be used during the late night program? Let me know if the dance is a mixer, couple or set dance. The more specifics you give, the easier it is for me. I know we'll all have some Steve and Mihai dances from this year as we practice them more consistently. Immediately after camp I fell into Mihai's Ca la Mahala with its great arm movements, and just the other day, with a little help from Bobby, we were able to hammer out the steps in Steve's Alba-

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PRESIDENT'S NOTE (CONTINUED)

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nian Vallja "Hajde Merre Furken". Of course, if you didn't give me any requests last year, please send them to me via email sooner rather than later.

Linda and I are currently relaxing on the RCL Brilliance of the Seas heading into Cobh, Ireland (for a Murphy beer and a visit to the Titanic Museum). We're on Day 10 of a cruise and will reach St. Petersburg, Russia on Day 21. We're enjoying the great entertainment each night so far. We both enjoy the musical shows the most. I'll tell more about this trip in the next news-

letter. Our best dance band has been a trio of Bulgarian men who play everything well. They play music which is very easy to dance anything to. When I asked if they'd play a Rachenitza, they all laughed. So we'll just have to stick to 'East Coast Swing' music!

I hope to see you all on the beach at Flagler Fling; June 14-15! Don't forget to send in any folk dance or travel related news or photos from this summer to our editor, Pat, to use for the next newsletter.

EDITOR'S NOTE BY PAT PIERATTE

I continue to stay busy with church work, exercise, gardening, chorale and even a little housework! My garden is doing well, and we've been eating sugar snap peas, various types of beans, edamame and cherry tomatoes. I should have some cucumbers and various squashes soon too!

In chorale, we're working on a set of patriotic songs for our June 20 concert "Let Freedom Ring". We have a short time to prepare, but thankfully many of the songs are familiar.

The day after the concert, I have an early morning flight to spend a week with my sisters and two cousins at a time share in South Lake Tahoe. I've never been there before, so I'm really looking forward to it. Then my big trip

to Ireland with one of my sisters begins on July 24, with a trip to Orlando so we can fly direct from there to JFK in New York, and then direct from JFK to Shannon, Ireland. There will be twenty of us on this Jim Gold trip, and it should be a lot of fun!

But before all that, I hope to see many of you in Flagler Beach for the Flagler Fling June 14-15. See the article later in the newsletter. I heard from Terry Abrahams that she recently finished her eight days in the hospital and is recovering well, so I hope she will be able to come to the Flagler Fling also.



RADOST DANCE CLUB BY LYNDA FAGAN

As my passion for and experience in international folk dancing has grown during the last eight years, I have felt strongly the need to involve the younger generation. In my capacity as a high school teacher, I began to feel that perhaps I had the obligation to use my position to do just that. In the spring of 2013, I began to host folk dancing receptions after school in my classroom one day a week. We learned a few easy dances (the Greek Hora & Syrto), elected officers, and Vanguard High School's first international folk dancing club was born.

After brainstorming a variety of possibilities, we chose Radost Dance Club as our official name. "Radost" means "joy" in the Croatian, Czech, Serbian, and Slovak languages. We dance for the joy of the music and movement! The students felt that the word "folk" had a negative connotation that might deter students from joining, so we are avoiding use of that term in our flyers. We call what we do "international" dancing.

We've had some challenges with meeting times this year. In the fall, my involvement in Les Mis required that we meet Tuesdays instead of Thursdays. Then we missed two months in November and December due to my roller

skating accident. Some students had conflicts with other clubs and activities, but we seem to have settled on Thursdays as being the best time. We dance from 3:15 to 4:30. Of course, now I'm in Camelot so we're back to Tuesdays for our last few weeks! There is a Radost Dance Club Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/dancevanguard> which I hope you will "like". But texting has proven to be the best way to communicate with this generation!

My faithful dancers include Olivia Bacallao, Lesa McClain, Akshay Sadeeshkumar, Kayla Merritt, Jordyn McKenzie, and Kiran Lalani. Unfortunately my president Zack Calder was unable to attend very often due to his strong involvement in the school's theater program. One of my challenges of growing the dance program is that theater students are interested in dancing, but there are too many conflicts with scheduling. Zack is graduating and 2 other students are transferring, so we'll be starting with only four students next year.

There were two highlights of this past year: (1) Olivia participating in dance camp in February, and (2) five of my students attending the Duquesne University Tamburitzans' performance in Lake City in March. Olivia is quite passionate about dancing. She practiced all of the camp dances every night for weeks following camp. Refer to her beautiful article in the last issue of Florida Folk Dancer.

One of my goals for the Radost Dance Club is to start performing at nursing homes and cultural events in Ocala. We've begun to collect costumes, but we have a



Radost Dance Club dancing Malao (photo from Lynda Fagan)

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RADOST DANCE CLUB (CONTINUED)

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long way to go to reach a performance level of excellence. We'll also have some technical challenges to meet in order to splice songs and present quality sound.

We will be performing for the first time in August! Radost Dance Club just received approval to present some dances at the International Baccalaureate Orientation in August. This is a wonderful opportunity to recruit some new dancers for next year, as there will be 150 incoming IB Freshman at this event! This will be a perfect target audience, because IB students are required to have volunteer hours in the areas of creativity (culture), action

(exercise) and service. Radost Dance Club can satisfy all three requirements!

Next year I hope that perhaps three or four of my dancers will be able to attend Florida Folk Dance Camp. I'd also like to organize a couple of small workshops to be taught by some of you more experienced dancers in the area. We still don't know any Israeli dances. As would be expected, my students love the fast & crazy dances, but have also learned the value of slow dances to catch your breath.

Hopefully, I will have good news of at least ten new dancers next fall. Thank you for your support and encouragement.



Jordyn, Akshay and Kiran posing in costumes courtesy of Emilie Brozek (photo by Lynda Fagan)

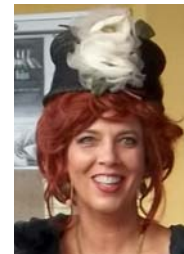


The Radost Dance Club enjoys the energetic dances best (photo from Lynda Fagan)

DELAND DOINGS BY KELLY FAGAN

Delightful DeLand hosted our last spring dance, inviting "black and white" wear and cuisine. What fun! We are happily growing, adding new friends to our seasoned folks-ers. We'll see all in the cool of fall.

Stay tuned: word on the street is there may be a dance-n-splash covered dish event sometime this summer. We hope to see you there!



Bobby Quibodeaux in Mexican costume (photo by Pat Henderson)



Deland group at Black and White party (photo by Kelly Fagan)

ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB BY PAT HENDERSON

Our club had two parties since I wrote for the last newsletter. The first was a belated St. Patrick's Day party on March 19. There was a lot of green food to be found! (See photo) The second party was on May 7 in celebration of World Dance Day and also a birthday party for our early May birthdays for three of our Flagler dancers: Minnie Berkowitz, Arleen Kaufmann and Betty Nehemias. The evening started early with a dinner provided by the club with food from a local Greek deli. We had gyros, dolmades, spanokopita and a Greek salad. Betty brought the cake and it had a banner with World Dance Day on the front and a panorama of us dancing at camp on the back (see photo). Her daughter had made the banner. We danced from the camp t-shirt of 100 dances, so it was a celebration of oldies that night. Terry came from Tampa and two of our newer dancers from Deland also came, so we had to make two circles at times with 27 dancers there. Oh, what a night!

Traveling since the last newsletter were Phyllis and Ed Damer on a road trip to south Florida, starting in Naples and Ft. Myers. Then they went across Alligator Alley to Vero Beach. They stayed at the historic Driftwood Inn where Phyllis had stayed once with her parents.

Bobby and I left May 8 for a trip to the Outer Banks of North Carolina. The highlight was seeing the site of the Wright Brothers' first flight and the next day going to Roanoke Island and seeing where Virginia Dare was born in 1587. She was the first English baby in the New World but unfortunately, her settlement disappeared so Jamestown is known as the first permanent English settlement.



An assortment of green goodies for Orlando St. Patrick's Day party (photo by Pat Henderson)

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Orlando Irish Party (photo from Pat Henderson)

ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB (CONTINUED)

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Birthday celebrants Betty Nehemias, Minnie Berkowitz and Arleen Kaufmann (photo by Pat Henderson)

The big trip winner this time was Barry Sieger who took a Natural Habitat trip to China by the World Wildlife Fund. The trip focused on animals (he has

some great photos and videos of the pandas on his iPad), but he also saw Beijing and the Great Wall.

We hope everyone has a safe and fun summer. Remember that we do not dance in July and August. Come see us Wednesday nights in June, but always call first, since sometimes we have to cancel due to weather.



Orlando Dance Day Cake and banner (photo by Pat Henderson)



Orlando World Dance Day celebration (photo from MaryJean Lynn)

SARASOTA GRAPEVINERS BY JUDY MERKT

Sarasota's April 16 celebration of World Dance Day was great fun, with a nice turn-out of 30+ people. A special treat was a visit from Antonia Popelieva and her daughter Alex. Antonia and Alex, native Bulgarians who now live in Linz, Austria were visiting friends in Sarasota. Richard Eddy knew they were in town and arranged for them to join us at our World Dance Day celebration. During the evening, Antonia, who performed with Ivan Dimitriev's troupe in Bulgaria, taught us a lovely Bulgarian dance (Kaba Gadji). She and her daughter, both lovely dancers, danced with us the rest of the evening.

We continue to dance every Wednesday evening, but now on our summer schedule of 7:00 to 9:00 instead of 7:00 to 9:30. We also "spread" the

teaching responsibility since Andi is in Vancouver for the summer.



This year, our teachers will be Delores Lustig, Lynda Harris, Sergio Zigras, Yifat Drucker, and me. As always, all of you are welcome. We wish everyone a great summer!



Sarasota Dance Day Committee and guests (photo from Judy Merkt)



Sarasota World Dance Day Celebration (photo from Judy Merkt)

NFO CONFERENCE IN ORLANDO NEXT YEAR BY PAT HENDERSON

The NFO Board unanimously approved holding its conference next year in Orlando in conjunction with the Florida Presidents' Weekend Folk Dance Workshop. NFO will start with its Board Meeting on Thursday, February 12 and have more meetings and programs on Friday, February 13. The Heritage Award Banquet will be 5-7 pm on Friday, since the first dance party of the weekend starts at 7 pm that night.

This year the FFDC workshop attendance was around 90 with dancers from at least ten different states, so we negotiated to get a larger venue. The new location is the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel which has a free shuttle from the Orlando International Airport (MCO). Every room has a refrigerator and microwave and free Internet available and we have a 4200 square foot

ballroom. The meals will be served in the large foyer outside the ballroom and then we will dine in the ballroom.

FFDC and NFO will have a joint registration form in paper and online and you can register for both, just one or parts of both. You can also book three days before February 13 and three days after February 15 at our conference rate but you must book through your registration. This dance weekend will be our 35th "camp" and it promises to be a big one. Two of our favorite teachers are coming: Lee Otterholt for Balkan and Beyond and Yves Moreau for Bulgarian dances. So save the date and mark your calendars for NFO and FFDC weekend, February 12-16, 2015!



FLAGLER FLING BY JAN LATHI

The Ocean Marina Social Committee and international dancers invite you to the sixth annual Flagler Fling at Ocean Marina Clubhouse, Ocean Marina Drive, Flagler Beach, FL, June 14th, 2014, 11 am to 7 pm. The event is "potluck" so bring a beverage or food to share. Microwave, fridge, and oven are available.

Everyone is welcome! Come to watch or participate. Call Betty Nhemias (386-439-1424) or Jan Lathi (386-447-8396) for further information.

Plan to stay over in the community so you can join us Sunday morning for a walk (or dip) on the beach, followed by brunch at Maggie's European Café at 11:30 am, and come to Jan's for a swim in the pool afterward.

Directions: from north or south I-95: Take the Flagler Beach exit and go East on Rte. 100. At the end (Ocean) turn left on A1A. Immediately after 23rd St. turn left on Ocean Marina Dr. Go to the end. The clubhouse is opposite the flagpole on the left. Park in a non-numbered spot and come on in and have some fun!



EVENTS

June 14-15, Flagler Fling

Sponsored by: Flagler International Folk Dance Group
Place: Ocean Marina Clubhouse, 600 Ocean Marina Drive, Flagler Beach
Information: Jan Lathi, amarjan1@bellsouth.net or 386-447-8396

June 14-21, Scandia Camp Mendocino

Place: Mendocino Woodlands, CA
Information: www.ScandiaCampMendocino.org or roo@scandiacamp.org

July 18-27, Folkmoot USA

Place: several towns in western North Carolina
Information: www.folkmootusa.org

August 29-September 1, Karmiel USA - Israeli Folk Dance Weekend

Sponsored by: Dany Benshalom and Ruthy Slann
Place: The Mountain Resort, 3872 Dillard Road, Highlands, NC
Information: <http://karmielusa.wix.com/dance-camp> or Ruthy Slann at kibbutz@slann.com or 864-650-2009

September 12-14, Mountain Playshop with Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu

Place: YMCA Blue Ridge, 84 Blue Ridge Circle, Black Mountain, NC
Information: www.mountainplayshop.org

September 26-28, Fandango Dance Weekend

Sponsored by: English Country Dance Atlanta
Place: Morningside Baptist Church, 1700 Piedmont Ave NE, Clarkston, GA
Information: caller: Joanna Reiner; band: Bare Necessities.
See <http://www.ecdatlanta.org/fandango-2014-dance-weekend>,
or contact chrstnmckay@comcast.net or 404-275-0419

October 10-12, St. Augustine Greek Festival

Sponsored by: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
Place: Francis Field, U.S. Route 1 (Ponce de Leon Blvd.), St. Augustine
Information: \$3.00 admission. See www.stauggreekfest.com, holy3goc@gmail.com or (904) 829-0504

October 10-12, Sharpes Assembly English Country Dance

Sponsored by: South Brevard English Dancers
Place: Kenilworth Lodge, 1610 SE Lakeview Drive, Sebring
Information: Caller: Sharon Green; see http://home.earthlink.net/~full_circle_band/id19.html or contact catiegeist@att.net, 321-427-3587

October 10-12, Serb-Fest 2013 (Orlando)

Place: St. Petka Orthodox Church, 1990 Lake Emma Rd, Longwood
Information: http://gobop.com/events/Serb_Fest/34864.htm (also www.serb-fest.com for last year's festival),
407-831-7372

October 17-19, Greek Festival, Lecanto

Sponsored by: Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church
Place: 4705 W. Gulf to Lake Highway, Lecanto
Information: www.stmichaelgoc.org/festival.html or 352-527-0766

October 24-25, Greek Festival, Tallahassee

Sponsored by: Holy Mother of God Greek Orthodox Church
Place: 1645 Phillips Road, Tallahassee
Information: <http://hmog.org/festival> or (850) 878-0747

November 1, Fall Fling (11 am to 9:00 pm)

Sponsored by: South Brevard International Dancers
Place: Community House, 6300 Hall Road, Melbourne Village
Information: \$5.00 admission. Dance on the hardwood floor of the Historic Community House for a fun day of all request dancing, plus potluck lunch and supper. Contact John Daly at: john@dalypreservation.com or 321-482-6818

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

EVENTS (CONTINUED)

November 6-9, Greek Festival, Daytona Beach

Sponsored by: St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church

Place: 129 N. Halifax Avenue, Daytona Beach

Information: <http://stdemetriosdaytona.org/greek-fesitval/> or (386) 252-6012

November 7-9, Greek Festival, Maitland

Sponsored by: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Place: 1217 Trinity Woods Lane, Maitland

Information: watch <http://www.yasas.com/greek-orthodox-details.asp?cid=514> for more details, or see www.orlandogreekfest.com for last year's festival

December 26-29, Machol Miami

Place: Sheraton Ft. Lauderdale Airport Hotel

Information: watch www.macholmiami.com for more details, or contact dancemiami@hotmail.com or 305-690-4343

2015

January 23-25, Ocala Greek Festival

Sponsored by: Greek Orthodox Mission of Greater Ocala

Place: 9926 SE 36th Avenue, Belleview, FL

Information: watch for information at: www.greekfestivalocala.com

February 11-16, NFO Annual Conference

Sponsored by: National Folk Organization (NFO)

Place: Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel, 5445 Forbes Place, Orlando

Information: This will be held in conjunction with the Florida Presidents' Weekend Folk Dance Workshop with Lee Otterholt and Yves Moreau teaching.

Watch <http://www.nfo-usa.org/ConferenceAnnual.htm> for more information.

February 13-16, FFDC Presidents' Weekend

Sponsored by: Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc.

Place: Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel, 5445 Forbes Place, Orlando

Information: Teachers: Lee Otterholt, International and Yves Moreau, Bulgarian. See

www.floridafolkdancer.org/Camp2015/index.html, or contact Jack Seltzer at seltzerj1@gmail.com or 352-359-2903

FOLK DANCE TOURS

For **Tours and Cruises with Yves Moreau**, see www.folkdancecruise.com or contact info@bourquemoreau.com or 450-659-9271. The remaining choice for 2014 is a New Zealand/Australia cruise in November. A new tour to the Mediterranean has been added for September 2015.

For **Dance on the Water Folk Tours**, see <http://folkdanceonthewater.org/> or contact David and Marija Hillis at folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com or 510-459-0092. Choices include the Adriatic Coast including Croatia and Slovenia in June and July, and Madrid, Moorish Spain, and Portugal in October.

For **Seminars of Greek Dance with Kyriakos Moisisdis** in July, see <http://www.moisisdis-dance.gr/en/> or contact moisisdiskyriakos@gmail.com

For **Tours with Sonia and Cristian**, see http://www.soniacristian.net/workshop_schedule.ws or contact Sonia at sonia_dion@hotmail.com. There is a Japan tour scheduled for September and October. (The Transylvania tours are both full).

For **Jim Gold Folk Tours**, see <http://www.jimgold.com/folkTours.htm> or contact Jim Gold at jimgold@jimgold.com or 201-836-0362. Remaining choices for 2014 include: Greece and its islands in June and July, Ireland in July and August, and Balkan Splendor and Dubrovnik extension in October. Choices so far for 2015 include Cuba in February, China in March, an Italy Eco tour in May, Poland in June, Bulgaria and the big Koprivshitsa Festival in August, French Canada in September and Albania in October.

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!)

FLORIDA FOLK DANCER

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Submissions: Send event notices for the calendar or the newsletter to Pat Henderson. Send all other newsletter submissions to the Editor.

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