



JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2017

Special Points of Interest:

- *Important camp “stuff” (see the President’s Message)*
- *Officer elections (see the Editor’s Notes)*

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PRESIDENT'S NOTE BY PAT HENDERSON



It is a less than two months from our dance weekend as I write this. It is 15 days from the deadline of January 10 to get a room at the hotel. Be sure to register if you have not already. Here are some last minute reminders:

1. Bring any folk costumes to wear to the nightly parties. Since the theme is Romanian and More, any costume is appropriate this year.
2. This year we will continue to have a dance program for each party. Andy Pollock has been compiling the dances requested at registration along with our traditional favorites. Once the schedule and dances are set they will be available at the website: <http://www.folkdance.org>. One of our members, John Ward, has produced a collection of possible YouTube videos on the website for you to review a specific version of some of the dances.
1. Those flying into the Orlando Airport (MCO) or the Sanford/Orlando Airport (SAN) may be able to get assistance from our local arrangements coordinator. When we get a little closer, you will be notified of a folk dance contact if you would like a ride to the hotel. Orlando International Airport does let Uber Black service the airport so that is another option. Obtaining Uber from the

hotel with a drop off at an airport should not be a problem.

2. A syllabus will be available for you on line only. It should be on the website by Friday, February 10th.
3. Donate ethnic items for the silent auction for Olga Princi Scholarship fund, or bring items for giveaway or to sell directly to other dancers.
4. Check-in time is 4:00 p.m. and the hotel has heated pools and hot tubs. You can call the hotel at: 407-396-1400 to see if you can get in your room earlier.
7. The hotel info is:
 Park Inn by Radisson,
 3011 Maingate Lane,
 Kissimmee.

Now it is time for my farewell. I will not be running for President. I am taking some time off from organizational obligations. See Terry's article about needing new officers. I have thoroughly enjoyed being the president and organizing the camps. It is very similar to planning a wedding with the arrangements at the hotel. That is mostly what FFDC does--the newsletter and the camp. I have had three terms as president all in different decades: 1991, 2001, and 2015. Every term was a great experience for me.

EDITOR'S THOUGHTS BY TERRY ABRAHAMS

I'll say one thing – when you're editor of a bi-monthly newsletter, time goes FAST! Seems like we just got the last one up and out... But – we've now had Christmas and Chanukah, dance parties, other parties, trips, illnesses, wellnesses (I know it's not a word, but I like it) – and it's time to think about camp – Really think about it! And the most important part of camp this year (besides registering) is to decide on new officers. As you read in Pat's presidential news, she is not going to run for President the next term. This leaves that office open. And the Treasurer's office is also open, as Ruth Ann is unavailable for the next term. Caroline Lanker also is not running for reelection as Secretary/Historian. So – people – it's time for you to help the Florida folk dance community by taking your turn at an office. Besides those three offices there are VP (the easiest)

and the Editor. None of these are THAT time consuming. After all, as a group, the FFDC really, in fact, does very few projects, with the most important being the camp in February. Even though there are 3 Flings, these are run by the group where they are held. So the newsletter becomes the other form of communication, along with John's wonderful website with it's side wonders (like my telling you to write your articles). If you have more detailed questions as to what is entailed for each position, we who hold those positions will be happy to talk to you. We know you like to dance, but it is a part of your responsibility to help that happen - as chair of the Nominating Committee, I'm waiting with baited breath for your offer. My phone number is 813-234-1231.



RESPONSES TO PICTURE OF CRISTIAN AND SONIA FROM LAST MONTH



Andi Kapplin: Cristian and Sonia have created a new dance, called Hora de la Bagel, in honor of their dear friend Roberto Bagnoli (Bagelnoli) OR Cristian is holding a bagel because it's a holy (holey!) dance.

Tim Sneed: Cristian is holding up that bagel because that is the Romanian way of viewing the Eclipse. Sonia is saying, "Come on, come on, lemme see, lemme see!"

Andy Pollock: Sun is shining in his eyes, he grabbed a hat that was missing the middle. OR It's a metaphor for the circle of life as expressed in dancing.

Terry Abrahams: Maybe they are Jewish and just didn't know it (or they just really like bagels!).

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS LETTERS

The following letters were sent to the FFDC Board and the Board voted to give them each full scholarships.

My name is Akshay Sadeeshkumar, and I am an 18-year-old freshman at the University of Florida. During my formative years in high school, I'd always had an interest in dancing. It was one of those merry and cheery hobbies that I never experienced for myself until my sophomore year in high school, when my girlfriend, Olivia Bacallao, introduced/coaxed me into doing it. It in this case doesn't simply refer to the sole act of dancing. Rather, it refers to the other worldly jubilation and bliss that dance treats its students, including me, with something that I hadn't known. Not yet at least.

Olivia introduced me to this dance club led by our dance-expert and sponsor Ms. Lynda Fagan. She started us off with some Greek dances (mix of long strides, quick-step choreography, and odd music), Hungarian dances (quick beats, tunes, and wide-ranged motions), etc., and then moved onto more complex dances. All the while, I'd observe and look at these dances taught by my teacher and just marvel as I amateurishly mimicked them. Because you see, I was never the greatest dancer in the world (not even a great one for that matter), but I always put my best foot forward in learning them and became very involved in dancing (and my dance club, for that matter).

As time went on, Ms. Fagan would come to teach many splendid dances that she learned from many different sources, one of them being this camp. She'd go every February, around President's Day, to your camp and learn from the many diverse teachers there. She always encouraged the class to come before, but due to the untimely and finicky nature of homework in high school, I was never able to fully go for the whole weekend. But now that I'm in college, I have more time to enjoy experiences like these, and I'm very excited to be able to have the opportunity to finally go! But yet, I am a college student who's trying extremely hard to be fiscally responsible. I eat the same three meals every day (protein meal bar for breakfast, brown rice/chicken for lunch, and a chicken breast for dinner), I don't go out on many dates if any, and I try to be stingy when it comes to spending money for unnecessary activities. The University life leaves my finances spent and dry (on top of yearly tuition and monthly rent), and I'd truly hate for finances to be the reason why I don't get to enjoy and experience your camp this year with Ms. Lynda Fagan and other skilled dancers.

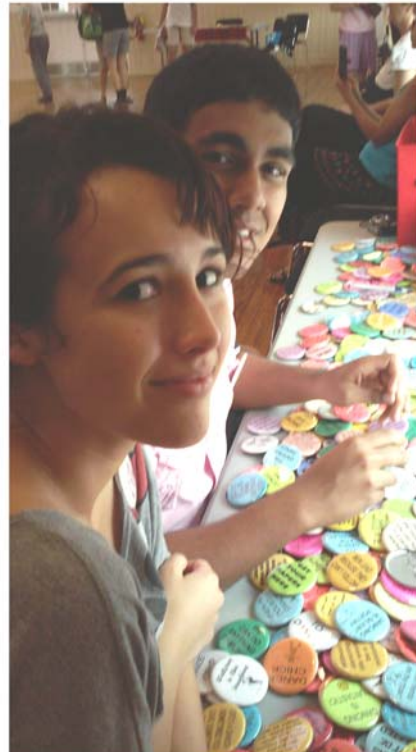
Thank you, Akshay Sadeeshkumar

From Olivia Bacallao

For the past three years I have had the incredible opportunity of attending the president's weekend workshop. In my first year, I was a fairly inexperienced dancer and I didn't know what to expect out of the weekend, but when I went home that Monday, I was sad to leave and couldn't wait for the next year to come. I would love to come again this year if possible for another chance to expand my dance experience, and enjoy the company of many great people I've met throughout the past few years. I've heard great things about Sonia and Cristian, from Kelly and Julieta, and I would love to learn from them. I can't currently afford to pay for the entire package, but if I could get around \$200, I'll try to save up the rest of the money.

I also want to thank the board for your generosity in the past few years, that has enabled me to have amazing and inspiring experiences. Thank you so much for letting me join you all, and for giving me memories I'll always cherish. If given the opportunity to go again this year, I'll make sure to make the most of it.

Thank you, Olivia Bacallao



GAINESVILLE DANCE NEWS BY JULIETA BRAMBILA AND JOYCE STORY



June woke up at 5 a.m. one morning with the thought that the Gainesville ArtWalk on the last Fridays of the month would be a good venue for folk dancing. After all, dancing is an art, too. Several of us decided to give it a whirl, and called it "the flash mob dance." It was fun. We danced on sidewalks downtown and on various spots around the Hippodrome State Theatre and one time we danced inside "The Doris" art gallery. We have participated in the ArtWalk nights several times in 2015 and 2016. Some of the special times we have enjoyed include a young family that came by and stopped to listen and then the toddlers and young school age children bounced to the music; a group of recent university graduates joined us another time,

ly that came by and stopped to listen and then the toddlers and young school age children bounced to the music; a group of recent university graduates joined us another time,

doubling the size of our dance group momentarily; and various friends have found us outside art galleries and danced with us, already knowing the dances. Some of our group that had felt a bit unsure about participating at first are now pushing for more dances with great enthusiasm. It just goes to show that we, and the music, did indeed provide a respite from

what the world foists upon us, and we all need that to make life more satisfying.



In the picture here, you can see some rattles and bells held by Diane, Everett, Arlene, Gary, Sue, and June after dancing High Green Mountain, from the highlands of Taiwan



June Littler

ArtWalk nights several times in 2015 and 2016. Some of the special times we have enjoyed include a young family



In this photo from our latest ArtWalk dance from December 2nd, you can see Jacqui, Arlene, Shana, Diane, Nancy, June, Sue and Gary. Jacquelyne Collett is a designer artist from Gainesville who works primarily with glass. You can see some of her artwork on her website at jacquelynecollett.com

JOYCE STORY'S STORY

WAIT – THERE'S MORE!!!

On Friday November 11, Veteran's Day, a cool night with a large moon, we started the night with Michael Jackson's Billie Jean, for Diane Fanara, who always helps set up and take down the works very efficiently. We reviewed three dances alternating simply with dancing for the two hours we were together. The dances we reviewed were Tsámikos from Greece, An Dro Retourne from Brittany in France, and Bufčansko from Macedonia. We had only good snacks and no

meeting, so we kept on dancing. We are getting more interested in Port Said and will be bringing bells and other noisy items tonight to accompany this easy Egyptian dance, which is done in close



I returned to Arizona in early November after an absence of nearly a year. Needless to say, I lost no time in attending the gathering of the Phoenix International Folk Dancers, with whom I had danced for many years. It was my good fortune that on that night the amazing, world class musicians that make up the Ensemble Bulgarika were present to provide live, authentic, Bulgarian music. There was a vocalist singing in Bulgarian, and the traditional folk instruments played were the gadulka (a bowed string instrument that is an integral part of traditional ensembles that play dance music), the kaval, (a chromatic end-blown flute, traditionally associated with mountain shepherds) and the tambura (a mandolin-like instrument with 8 steel strings in 4 doubled courses). The local Bulgarian community turned out in force, including the performing dance group ZharPtitsa (Fire Bird, or Phoenix) in costume. It was truly a magical night of Bulgarian dance; though the festivities took place at the Irish Cultural Center (with its wooden floor), we all felt as though we were in a Bulgarian village!

Булгарика - Bulgarika



2016 Tour

quarters, bent arms touching bent arms on our sides. We are still trying to figure out the proper style for Hora Medura, under Arlene Bargad's direction. It is a classic Israeli circle folk dance, also known as "the campfire Hora", choreographed in 1963 by Yohav Ashreil. At the end of the dance

GRAPEVINERS (SARASOTA) BY JILL LUBINER



Wow-- we have danced through another year already!! As we turn the calendar to 2017, we look forward to seeing more of our Snowbird friends. Happy reunions are taking place every Wednesday evening-- reunions accompanied by stories of summer travels, reports of low temperatures, and family updates. From the sound of things we are a well traveled, mostly cold weather averse, and happily busy group!

And there will be even more chatting and dancing at our annual Snowball dance on 1/18/17.

On a personal note, this time of year brings the announcement of my own overarching theme for the year. And this year it seems as though I might be having more company than usual as I embark on my personal "year of hygge". Hygge (pronounced hue-gah) is

a Danish word most often translated as "the creation of cozy and convivial atmospheres that promote wellbeing".

Hygge can be used as a verb or a noun and it is possible to hygge alone while warmed by a blanket and cup of tea. But the truest expression of hygge happens when a group of friends gathers in a relaxed, comfortable space enjoying their activity and each other. To me hygge sounds a lot like spending Wednesday nights with the Grapeviners!

Join us for dancing (and hygge) on Wednesday evenings from 7-9:30 pm at the Bayfront Center in Sarasota. Or reach out for some virtual hygge via our website ifdsarasota.webs.com.

Hi Everyone,

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, we will be having our Annual Snowball Party. We will be dancing from 7 to 10 instead of ending at 9:30—the charge will be \$8. Please plan to bring a snack to share and we will supply beverages, etc. It will be an all request night with no teaching, so start thinking of your favorite dances—check out our website: www.ifdsarasota.webs.com. There will be a sheet at dance to write your favorite dances, or you can e mail them to Andi at andi@kapplin.com. Please limit your requests to 3 that are in our repertoire, and you will be guaranteed to have at least 1 played. Dress festively (or not)!!! This is always a fun evening, so please plan to join us—the more the merrier!!!! Thanks.

Susan

ORLANDO OFFERINGS BY PAT HENDERSON

Our group had a very busy November and December. We started out with Bobby and I joining Kay and Tony Afonso at the Daytona Greek Festival on November 11. Then on November 12, Terry and Andy Pollock came from Tampa and we attended the Orlando Serbian Festival. This is one that had been scheduled during Hurricane Matthew. Carla Powers and Gary Berke were there and we did some dancing to the various musicians and then watched several groups perform. Then on Sunday, November 13, we had an international show at the Albin Polasek Museum for their Heritage Day. The next day there was a picture of us and the online version had a link to a small clip of us dancing in the Orlando Sentinel (see page 8 for link to the article). Our group was followed by the Orlando Israeli Dancers and four of our international



group joined in. They were: Eva Gaber, Terry, Gary and myself. It was a beautiful setting dancing with a lake view (see photo) but the audience was sparse. Then December started with parties every week. First, Kelly Fagan, celebrated her birthday on December 7. She made her own cake and we have a picture of her with it (see photo). Her mother, Tina, joined us. Then the next week, December 14, was our annual Holiday Party. Out of town guests included Terry and Andy Pollock, Pat Pieratte, Jack and Linda Seltzer, and Bonnie Olson. We welcomed Annelies Mostert and husband from the Netherlands and they will be here until March. We had our traditional pot luck dinner upstairs in the house before dancing. The group was very generous as they presented gift cards to local restaurants to Bobby and me. The next week was Mary



Jean Linn's birthday and her age matched her birth year-very cool. The next week was Chanukah so we celebrated by doing a bunch of Israeli dances in addition to others requested. So our group had a lot of fun this month.

On Saturday, December 17, several of us made it up to Flagler Beach for their Holiday Party. Betty and Jan did a great job of providing a wonderful setting to dance. In

(Continued on page 8)



ORLANDO OFFERINGS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 7)

between our party on Wednesday and the Saturday party, I took our overnight guests (Jack, Linda, Pat P., Kelly) to Blue Spring State Park in Orange City. We saw between 30 and 40 manatees close to the river end of the springs.

One of our members, Carla Powers, became a grandmother on Christmas Eve. She was visiting family in New York when the baby came and he is beautiful. Congratulations!

We wish everyone a healthy and happy new year!



Here is a link to the Orlando Sentinel, November 14, 2016 where Ann Robinson was interviewed and there is a short video of us dancing.

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/features/os-albin-polasek-museum-heritage-day-20161113-story.html>

BATA SENDS GREETINGS

Dear friends,

We wish you a Happy New Year! Season greetings,

Rodika and Miroslav Bata Marcet

Dragi prijatelji,

Srecna Nova 2015. godina, Bozicni praznici i Srpska Nova godina! Puno zdravlja, sreće i uspeha u svemu!

Bata Marcetic sa porodicom i clanovima Akademije srpske narodne igre

TAMPA TRIVIA BY TERRY ABRAHAMS

Hi everyone – and Happy New Year! Andy and Terry went first to the Serbian Festival in Orlando with some of the Orlando group (Bata got cancelled because of the weather) and then to Orlando's holiday party and had a wonderful time – food, dancing and friendship – what a pleasure! By the time you read this, I will have attended St. Pete's Israeli group's Marathon, and we also danced there on Dec 25 –

those of us who don't do Christmas. I also did a Xmas/Channukah party that included Chinese food (a Jewish tradition on Xmas), lighting of menorahs and watching a Christmas movie! A music jam coming up on the 30th, so holidays are fun. Looking forward to reading about others' Xmas happenings. Somewhere in there, I got a chance to see 'American in Paris'

at the Straz – a friend got sick and I was given her \$535 ticket (free!) – the show was Fabulous!

If any of you remember Cassandra (Marian) Kersting, she passed away on July 13. She and daughter Kira used to dance with us in Tampa, but they moved away quite a few years ago to Sequim, WA. Her former husband Don is still here, but doesn't dance any more (says he's awful), but I play mu-

sic with him every Monday morning (he plays the flute).

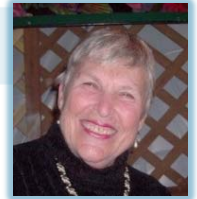
Ken Kwo played for Jen Velt's Israeli dance class for the American Teach-in (see picture) and was well received - of course. He seldom dances with us on Fridays, as he plays viola with the Florida Orchestra, but is a wonderful dancer and always comes to Israel dancing. He's in Germany at the moment – visit-

ing a friend and seeing the country. It is wonderful having Andi back, even though she disappears on occasion to check in on her granddaughter.

Vicki managed to squeeze in some dancing while visiting family in Pittsburgh over Thanksgiving—first an evening of line dancing with her sister at a local community center.

The next night, though, they hooked up with a group of Croatian folk dancers at a church on the south side. There always seems to be folk dancing in Pittsburgh on any given night of the week.

Judith and Ernesto still hanging in – and that's us! Looking forward to seeing you all at camp (especially as I will have my new knee by then! [January 24])!



CHOREOGRAPHER'S DILEMMA BY ANDY POLLOCK



(Editor's Note: I think Andy has too much time on his hands!)

Warning: involves math!

Cory The Choreographer is arranging a Pentozali for his beginning performance group. The basic step is always the same on cts 1- 3 (step L, L hop, step back on R) and ct 8 is always a hop in place on the R. He has 3 two beat elements to insert on cts 4 & 5 and 6 & 7: Pas de Basque, Step-slap, and Scissors.

He knows that each time through the dance he can either insert two of the same elements on beats 4-7 or use two different elements. Cory wants to know how many variations he can build with just these 3 elements. After he gets the answer he will want to know how many variations he can build for his advanced group if he can find 8 different elements to build with.

Hint:

To solve we need to address the instances of using the same element in measure 3 and 4 separately from the instances where we use different elements in mm 3 and 4.

Solution:

First we need to look at the case where the two elements are the same. We want the combination of 3 things taken 1 at a time. Of course the answer is three.

Secondly we need to look at the case where the elements are different. Since the order matters here we want the permutation of 3 things taken 2 at a time.

The formula is:

$${}_n P_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!}$$

$$3! = 6$$

$$3-2=1$$

$$1!=1$$

$$6/1=6$$

So our answer is three (from step 1) plus six or NINE!

So for eight elements the answer would be:

8 plus the solution of 8! divided by 6!

$$40320/720 = 56$$

$$56+8= 64$$

2017 FFDC PRESIDENTS WEEKEND FOLK DANCE WORKSHOP PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

FRIDAY

- 4-6 pm—Room registration & dinner on your own
- 6-7 pm—Dance registration opens
- 7-11:30 pm—Dance Party & Meet the Teachers Sonia and Cristian
- 9 pm—Snacks
- 11:30-? pm—Late night dance

SATURDAY

- 7-9 am—Breakfast
- 8:45 am—Warm ups
- 9-10:15 am—Instruction
- 10:30-11:45 am—Instruction
- 12-12:45 pm—Lunch
- 12:45-1:30 pm—FFDC Meeting and Election
- 1:30-2 pm—Break
- 2-2:45 pm—Culture Corner
- 2:45-3:45 pm—Instruction
- 4-5 pm—Instruction
- 5-6 pm—Hot tub with the President
- 6-7pm—Dinner
- 7:30-11:30pm—Dance Party and Dance for David
- 9:30 pm—Snacks
- 11:30-? pm—Late night dance

SUNDAY

- 7-9 am—Breakfast
- 8:45 am—Warm ups
- 9-10:15 am—Instruction
- 10:30-11:45 am—Instruction
- 12-1 pm—Lunch
- 1 pm—Silent auction ends
- 2-5 pm—Instruction and Review
- 5-6 pm—Hot tub with the President
- 6-7 pm—Dinner
- 7:30-11:30 pm—Dance Party
- 9:30 pm—Snacks
- 11:30-? pm—Late night dance

MONDAY

- 7-10 am—Breakfast

EVENTS

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

2017-01-13	Orange Blossom Ball	South Daytona, FL	Event Web Page	
2017-01-18	Sarasota Snow Ball	Sarasota, FL	Event Web Page	Grapevine Dancers of Sarasota
2017-01-27	Folk Ball Festival	Madison, WI	Event Web Page	Madison Folk Dance Club
2017-01-27	Florida Snow Ball	Gulfport, FL	Event Web Page	Tampa Friends of Old-Time Dance
2017-02-09	Greek Festival	Sarasota, FL	Event Web Page	St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church
2017-02-17	Greek Festival	Lecanto, Florida	Event Web Page	Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox
2017-02-17	FFDC Presidents Weekend Folk Dance Workshop	Kissimmee, FL	Event Web Page	Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc.
2017-02-18	International Festival	Melbourne, FL	Event Web Page	Florida Institute of Technology
2017-02-24	Ocala Greek Festival	Bellevue, FL	Event Web Page	Greek Orthodox Mission of Greater
2017-02-24	Greek Festival	Ft. Myers, FL	Event Web Page	Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
2017-02-24	Greek Festival	Melbourne, FL	Event Web Page	St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church
2017-03-03	Laguna Folk Dance Festival	Laguna Woods, Califor-	Event Web Page	
2017-03-04	Tamburitzans Show	Tarpon Springs, FL	Event Web Page	
2017-03-04	Boston Playford Ball	Framingham, MA	Event Web Page	Boston Country Dance Society
2017-03-05	Tamburitzans Show	Tarpon Springs, FL	Event Web Page	
2017-03-08	Tamburitzans Show	Boynton Beach, FL	Event Web Page	
2017-03-09	Tamburitzans Show	Palm Beach Gardens,	Event Web Page	
2017-03-17	San Antonio Folk Dance Festival	San Antonio, TX	Event Web Page	
2017-03-19	Israel Tour with Jim Gold and Joe Freedman	Jerusalem, Tel Aviv,	Event Web Page	Jim Gold
2017-03-24	Chicago Spring Festival	Chicago, IL	Event Web Page	
2017-03-31	Spring Oak Ridge Folk Dancers Workshop	Knoxville, TN	Event Web Page	Oak Ridge Folk Dancers
2017-03-31	Playford Ball Weekend-Nashville	Nashville, Tennessee	Event Web Page	Nashville Country Dancers

Note that most events are weekend events. The date shown is generally the beginning date of the weekend.

FOLK DANCE TOURS

Tours and Cruises with Yves Moreau, see www.folkdancecruise.com or contact info@bourquemoreau.com or 450-659-9271.

Dance on the Water Folk Tours, see <http://folkdanceonthewater.org/> or contact David and Marija Hillis at folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com or 510-459-0092 .

Seminars of Greek Dance with Kyriakos Moisidis, see <http://www.moisidis-dance.gr/en/> or contact moisidiskyriakos@gmail.com.

Tours with Sonia and Cristian, see http://www.soniacristian.net/workshop_schedule.ws or contact Sonia at sonia_dion@hotmail.com.

Jim Gold Folk Tours, see <http://www.jimgold.com/folkTours.htm> or contact Jim Gold at jimgold@jimgold.com or 201-836-0362.

Tours with Zeljko Jergen, contact Fusae Senzaki Carroll at fusaec@aol.com or 916-798-4675

Alachki-Tours, organized by **Goran Alachki (a premier accordion player)**, see www.alachki-tour.com or contact David Golber, dgolber@aol.com, 781-396-2323.

Dance With Israel, Contact Naomi Taussig for more info: naomitaussig@gmail.com or 604-568-4771 or contact ARZA WORLD at 1-888-811-2812



"Folk dancing brings joy and happiness to the heart, and brings peace to the world one step at a time." Swami Catskill Moses, Owner, Catskill Deli, and folk dance sage

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

Florida Folk Dancer is published six 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.

2015-2016 FFDC OFFICERS:

President: Pat Henderson
president@folkdance.org, 407-492-3006

Vice-President: Nicki Wise
vicepres@folkdance.org

Secretary/Historian: Caroline Lanker
secretary@folkdance.org,

Treasurer: Ruth Ann Fay
treasurer@folkdance.org

Historian: Caroline Lanker
historian@floridafolkdancer.org

Newsletter Editor: Terry Abrahams
editor@floridafolkdancer.org, 813-234-1231

Immediate Past President: Jack Seltzer
seltzerj1@gmail.com, 352-359-2903

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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FFDC Website: www.folkdance.org



701 W. Idlewild Avenue
Tampa, FL 33604