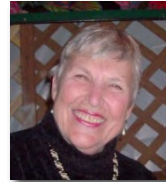




Prez Sez by Terry Abrahams

As you can imagine, I have little to say, although that's often the case, even without the virus. I am staying home, not coming out of my house as I think I am definitely on the list – 83 and many crappy things that have taken away lots of my immune system. My daughter that lives with me is in the hospital with something else, and that doesn't help matters. I can't visit her, so talk to nurses 3 times a day and hope she's getting better. But boy is my house clean!



Dance-wise – I hope you are all taking advantage of the dancing on Zoom, seeing friends thru your computers, and moving via exercise, yoga, zumba, walking your dogs, and at least enjoying the fact that we are Floridians and can sit outside and enjoy the weather.

It's sad to have missed the Spring Fling and everything else that has been canceled. I'm enjoying all the creative songs people are parodying for the Covid 19, as well as cute sayings, pictures, etc. At least it gives us a little comic relief.

Here's something to make you think -Ann Frank spent two years in one room with 8 others, and was not allowed to talk aloud, for fear of being discovered. She died in a concentration camp at age 15.

Count your blessings.

We can do this.

STAY CALM.

STAY KIND.

STAY SAFE.

If you have some time on your hands for reading history, Caroline Lanker has been busy scanning past issues of the newsletter and getting them posted on the FFDC website! Enjoy

www.folkdance.org

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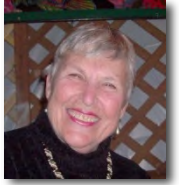
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Editor's Note: newsletter articles should be submitted using the "newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org" email address. Thank you Vicki

Club Reports In

Tampa Trivia by Terry Abrahams



Following Sarasota's lead, I'm talking about the zoom rooms that we've been to. Not the same as dancing together, but certainly better than nothing.

Andi's info is going into the Sarasota article – so I won't repeat, but she's taking good advantage of these sessions!

Andy P attended the first 3 Folk Arts Center workshops. There is one left with Zeljko and then they'll dance them all with all 4 teachers. (Ahmet, Roberto, Joe Graziosi, and Zeljko). In addition, and we are so pleased Andy is sending us a list of all virtual dances that we should be interested in – via his email blast:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1L0iD2zcmzg0TGPh5CVv-8E5iR4uMTMwLe-GCAvW9Vus/edit#gid=63575218>

He tells us "I already learned Topansko Oro from video and notes- a dance that I have wanted for a long time but is hard enough that I never had time." See folks - always think positive. Andy also attended Bobby Q. and Joe (from Orlando's) Zoom for a few minutes, did a Pilates mat class from Amazon Prime yesterday and is hoping to make it a daily habit. He's aiming to repeat it every day or every other day. Wow Andy! – he'll be buff by the next time we see him! He found a picture of George Terzieff dancing with a T-shirt that said, 'there's no business like shoep business'. The button is made and in the box for next camp.

Gary – did Orlando as well, and got to see the old gang, whom he misses. (Too bad Orlando, he's ours now.)

Vicki has just been puttering along with Jim Gold's Dance of the Week. See her article on Page 14 about Virtual Dancing.

Judith watched the CA gang, followed by a lovely Scandinavian site that played a lot of nice music, but not as much dancing. It came from the same place she went for the weekend in Etaluma, CA, where they worked on the Flang Polska over February 14th; she saw Roberto teach and Bobby's Wednesday group in Orlando. (I missed that – didn't get the invite – boo.).

Judith's second love is art (as you know), and she has also made use of her time in her house to do some painting. One of her most recent paintings is hanging in a gallery where her entry received third place in the Tampa Regional Artists show. The show was done on line instead of in person, and you can go there to see her latest pastel. Go to <https://www.tamparegionalartists.com/calendar/artinagardenshow-2020> then online exhibitions, then Art in the Garden. If you go to the one before that, she also has a work there of her and Ernesto dancing. The latest one is of her daughter. I am lucky. Years ago, at camp, she put a painting in the auction, I bought it, and have a painting of myself by Judith!

I feel like I'm 16 again
gas is cheap and I'm
grounded.

Orlando International Folk Dance Club By Pat Henderson



I last wrote about our group right before Bobby and I left for California for the NFO (National Folk Organization) Conference and the Laguna Folk Dance Festival. Little did we know then how much our world was going to change! See other articles about the events in this newsletter. Thanks to Kelly Fagan for sending photos and descriptions. I am



including a photo of myself dancing on Laguna Beach on March 9, the day before our return. We danced regularly on March 11 after our trip and we even taught our favorite dance that night from Yves Moreau from Laguna.

By the next week, our

governor had given the stay at home order, so we did not dance on March 18. We had three of our members who came over and danced with us through some of the virtual dance parties with California and with Ira. Then on April 15, we had our first virtual folk dance session on Zoom and will continue every Wednesday. I hope that by the time you are reading this that we are back to dancing regularly even if we have to limit it to 10 dancers. I also hope that we will all be happily dancing in Gainesville at the Summer Fling on June 13!

Because of the virus, we have several members who are out of state with their families: Cathy Holleman, Lynn Ricketts, and Susan Talcott. We wish them a safe journey home soon. One of our members, Audrey James, is a coronavirus survivor. She went to Israel, Jordan and Egypt in March and developed the disease shortly after her return. She was very ill

for 10 days to 2 weeks but did not require hospitalization, fortunately. Since we have been home bound, that is all the travel news!

The biggest news is that Bobby and I used the



opportunity of less activity to finally start on the addition to our dance studio. It was very slow at first marrying a metal building to our wooden addition. As of this writing (April 24 - our 44th wedding anniversary!), we have the base of the extension done and we plan to put the plywood on it tomorrow. Before the shutdown, we were regularly having 25-35 dancers so we were making two circles many nights. This should alleviate that overcrowding.

I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy.



Heard It From The Sarasota Grapeviners

by Lynda Harris



Many of our snowbirds are stuck here in FL “for the duration.” But June and Tom Morse escaped. As she tells it...

"In mid-March, these two snow birds headed back to Vermont, instead of being stuck in a condo with the other birds.

It was a different journey, starting by driving at night and parking at a truck stop to sleep in the car. That didn't last long- it was hot and the hatch back was open for air but the canoe on the roof still gave us privacy. Tom had already stretched out in back on the soft hanging clothes, but the front seat didn't recline from the packing. So I joined him in the back with an overnight suitcase above my head restricting my space. For an hour he was gently snoring while I was slowly sliding out the back. When the coat hangers found my rear end I put my down jacket underneath and then I braced my feet on the back window. It was a slippery slope. First my sandals fell out and then I did. I wish the girl walking her dog had taken a video of that hilarious situation. No sleeping here. I waited for the driver to wake up and try to turn over and we agreed that a hotel sounded very good. So at 4 am we were sleeping in a very comfy bed.

After that we stuck to regular hours and did our own cooking with a rice cooker and their microwave. We had all our food and only stopped for gas with lots of sanitizing. Gratefully we made it to Vermont and isolated for the duration."

Ah, home sweet home!

As for those of us still in Florida, we're finding all manner of interesting ways to pass the time these days. How many of these activities have you tried?

Some of our Grapeviners are helping to fight the war on Covid-19.

* Barbara and Sergio Zigras assemble PPEs (Personal Protective Equipment) at the Suncoast Faulhaber Fab Lab, which is located in Sarasota.

Others made masks for neighbors, family, and workers in rest homes, grocery stores and

pharmacies.

(For a giggle, check out this video on a quick and easy mask.)

<https://www.facebook.com/cagrega/videos/10109381799121384>

Some of us are using this time to learn...

* Dave Silber and Eileen are learning French and Hebrew on Duo Lingo, a free website for language learning.

* Margaret Germain participated in a virtual harp class

* Faith Kibbler tried a few yoga classes online “and I’m still planning on trying to learn how to play the harmonica.”

... Or to amuse others...

* D.A. Tyler has been making paper butterflies. “People put them on their doors, prop them on pictures, and stick them into indoor houseplants for color. They're very cheerful and are easy to make.”

* Sue Gordon sent a picture “of something that my neighbor and I do most evenings when it is dog

walking time. We love making our neighbors smile and the comments we receive from “What in the world are you doing? to “Is your dog well behaved?” My toy poodle is name Spirit and Pat's is a scotty named Ghost.”



* Not surprisingly, a fair number are dancing in their living rooms and online. “It isn't terribly satisfying,”

Continued on Page 5

Heard It From The Sarasota Grapeviners (continued)

Continued from Page 4

For some, the best part about virtual dancing is seeing and saying "Hi" to all our dance friends. Adds Andi Kapplin, "It was fun being spotlighted twice (that's where you are "featured" large on the screen) and have friends say they saw me."

* Then there are the non-folk dancing forms of exercise online: Jazzercise (On Demand), Zumba on YouTube, Classical Stretch on the local PBS TV channel.

* And of course, we're doing the predictable things, like reading, playing on the computer, watching TV and walking. Sandie Schagen says, "One thing we've been pleased to discover is the existence of 'Little Free Libraries' – no fewer than seven so far, within easy walking distance of our condo... We've found them very useful and are grateful to the people who've put them up in their front gardens!"

* There's a lot of bike-riding and swimming (a couple of people mentioned practicing their dancing in the

pool. There's been a return to doing puzzles, playing games, reading, sewing, yard work and napping during the day, as well cooking and baking at home. (To counteract the inevitable result, Varda says, "I am wearing the facial mask even in the house... Not helpful with the virus, but I eat less!")

* Some people have even resorted to cleaning and organizing – drawers, closets, garage, even the entire house.



Clearly we're all ready for this to be over soon!

I saw this fun(d) raising T-shirt on the Chicago Israeli Dancing site. It can be ordered online. <http://www.chicagoisraelidancing.com/>

The Villages Folk Dancers by Sarah Zimmerman

Well, not much to report here. We suspended dancing after March 11, and have been in touch with one another but not dancing together. Some of us have participated in the online sessions that thankfully have been made available (thank you Bobby and Pat).

Word is that the recreation centers will be reopening here in The Villages on May 4 but there will still be

no organized events or classes there that have more than 10 people, so that leaves us out.

I'm just hoping that we will feel comfortable holding hands again in the near future. Folk dancing just ain't the same without it. Happy individual dancing to everyone!



Events

2020 Flings!

Save the Dates and Mark Your Calendars!



**Summer Fling:
Saturday, June 13**

Location:
Rosa B. Williams Center
524 NW 1st St.
Gainesville, FL

Time: 11 am - 5 pm

Pot luck lunch at 1 pm



**Fall Fling:
Saturday, October 3**

Location:
Community House
6100 Hall Road
Melbourne, FL

Time: 11 am - 10 pm

We start with the dancing and then break for a pot luck lunch. Then back to dancing and break again for dinner with the leftovers and other items provided by the Melbourne group. Sometimes, there is a breakfast the next morning with a little bit of dancing before clean-up.

Remember: Check to see if the event is

CAUTION

still happening before showing up to it!

Folk Dance Adventure to California by Pat Henderson and Kelly Fagan

California dreamin' came true in March for several of us from Florida (at least, part time). The National Folk Organization was meeting in conjunction with the 50th Laguna Folk Dance Festival, March 4-8 in Laguna Woods, California. Bobby Quibodeaux, Pat Henderson as well as Rob McCollom and Sarah Sheard arrived in time for the opening of the NFO Conference at the Wednesday night folk dance group led by Lee Otterholt. Kelly Fagan, Julieta Brambila and Joanne Erde came later for the Laguna Festival. See the article about most of the events by Kathy Bruni on Page 10. In addition to what Kathy

wrote about, Bobby, Pat, Kelly and Julieta danced on the Laguna Beach on the most beautiful and warm day, the best of trip (see photos from Kelly on Page 12). We were so fortunate that our trip was not canceled as almost everything after that weekend was. One interesting fact that Pat took away from the experience is how many of the same dances that we do are also done on the West Coast. We see the same teachers and then pick our favorite dances which turn out to be a lot of the same ones as other groups.

Collage of Photos from Laguna Festival

"Stunning Corona Del Mar... exquisite hospitality vis-à-vis Diane and Dennis Baker... breathtaking coastline walks... gardens in bloom... Laguna Festival excitement...reuniting with dear Lee, Yves, France, and many friends ... LIVE folkloric bands every night...the bone deep delight of Yves' teaching/choreo/music...energetic young college dancers on scholarship from Brigham Young... incredible meals...dancing on the beach with Lee and friends.... so much... so wonderful.."



2020 NFO Conference Report by Kathy Bruni

Editor's Note: Pat Henderson asked Kathy if she was willing to share this wonderful article with us - and she was! Vicki

The National Folk Organization (NFO) Conference in Laguna Woods, California, was held March 4–6. One thing I love about the NFO conferences is that while each one is unique, each one is also guaranteed to provide amazing opportunities that you can't get anywhere else. Of course, there are meetings involved, but those are interesting, as well. After the meetings, there are always dance events and dance instruction, lectures by experts in topics related to folk dancing and folk arts, and plenty of chances to socialize with the talented, generous people who are the bedrock of the NFO.

The 2020 conference began with the President's Reception, held this year in conjunction with the regular dance night of the Laguna International Dancers. What fun it was to dance in their beautiful dance hall and meet many of their regular dancers! The NFO contingent was warmly welcomed, and a great night of fellowship and dancing followed.

The business meetings started Thursday morning at 8:30 a.m. in the Ayres Hotel, where most of us were staying. The meetings always include reports from the various officers and committees of the NFO, as well as other business that needs to be handled. A report on Pourparler (a weekend "camp" of sorts, where attendees share dances and teaching strategies with one another) last year was presented, as well as the plans for 2020. We heard from the Grants Committee about the grants that were given out. (If you are in need of assistance to attend a folk-related dance camp or event, you can apply for a grant, even if you aren't a member. A larger sum is available to help "qualified folk arts advocates develop projects that fit in with the mission and goals of NFO." More information and applications are available on the NFO website: nfo-usa.org). New board members were elected. The full board consists of: President, Jeanette Geslison; Vice President, Cricket Raybern; Treasurer, Taunya Lund; Secretary, Tamara Chamberlain; Immediate Past President, Greg Lund; Board of Trustees: Dale Adamson, Sarah Christenson, Jo Crawford, Julie

East, Jessica Jones, Jacob Madsen, Sally Martin, Diane Vadnais, and Denise Weiss. You might notice that three of the board members are from the Northwest (Cricket, Dale, and Diane). Five are from Utah (Jeanette, Tamara, Sara, Jessica, and Jacob). Two are from the East Coast (Jo and Sally). Two are from the Midwest (Taunya and Greg). Two are from California (Julie and Denise). It's great to have input from representatives from around the country (and Canada, thanks to Dale!). The next conference was discussed, and is tentatively planned for April 2021 in Massachusetts.



Janet Reineck

After the meetings, Thursday's agenda included the keynote address by Janet Reineck, titled "From Dance Ethnology to Humanitarian Aid: A Journey of Passion, Purpose, and Partnership." Janet extended her work from ethnic dance and connecting dance communities to funding grass-roots efforts to improve

the lives of people living in poverty in other countries (since 2013, in Rwanda). Read all about it on her website, <http://worlddanceforhumanity.org>.

Next, Al and Sharon Durtka presented information about CIOFF (the International Council of Organizations of Folklore Festivals and Folk Arts, a partner of UNESCO in preserving cultural heritage around the world) and spoke about their long involvement with the Folk Fair in Wisconsin.

Following their presentation, Martin Koenig discussed his



Al Durtka



Sharon Durtka

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2020 NFO Conference

Continued from Page 8



*Marty Koenig and
Dr. Anthony Shay*

work with the dance community in the Balkans and showed amazing video of dancing in the villages in the 1960s and '70s.

Thursday evening was capped by the

tasty banquet and awards ceremony, with folk dancing following. Marty Koenig, Bob Liebman, and Dr. Anthony Shay were recognized for their enormous contributions to world dance through their research, teaching, and understanding of dances and cultures from the Balkans to Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

And that wrapped up the first day of the conference!

Day two, held in the Laguna Country United Methodist Church, started with the ever-popular Yves Moreau speaking about folk dancing in Bulgaria and showing rare footage of village dances.

Next, something completely different: Sally Jenkins,



Yves Moreau



Finishing the lace making

an NFO grant recipient last year, talked briefly about her passion for making bobbin lace, and then, using rope as the thread and people to do the weaving—with Sally's expert guidance as the bobbin—demonstrated how it was done. It was an effective and interactive way to illustrate the process of making bobbin lace. Kudos to Sally for a creative and fabulous presentation!

Elsie Dunin stepped up next. She spoke about the Erdelezi spring festival celebrated by the Romani (also known as gypsies) in Skopje. She also showed video of the festival being celebrated over the last fifty years, and the changes that she documented as she returned to film the festival at ten-year intervals during those fifty years. Again, unforgettable and rare footage of a cultural tradition that most of us have never heard of.



Elsie Dunin

After Elsie, France Bourque-Moreau got us all up and learning about the way she teaches dancing to children, starting with a simplified form of dance and



Starting the lace making

Continued on Page 10

2020 NFO Conference Report (continued)

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France Bourque-Moreau teaching how to teach dance

adding to it as the children get older, until they are doing the authentic dance. She made it seem natural and easy to progress from one stage to the next. No wonder she is such a successful and well-loved teacher!

Dick Oakes next discussed dance resources on the Internet, including the several extensive websites he has built. The folk dance-related archives from his well-known phantomranch. Net website have been moved to <http://www.socalfolkdance.org>, so head there if you are looking for dance descriptions or dance teacher bios.

The NFO workshops concluded with a dance workshop by Marty Koenig—starting with fun dances that were quick to learn and followed by more complicated and high-energy dances. What a great way to end the conference!



Marty Koenig teaching dance workshop

As with many of our conferences, though, this one didn't really end there, because we dovetailed the conference with the 50th Laguna Folk Dance Festival, so most of us spent Friday night, Saturday, and Sunday learning great dances from Yves Moreau and Aaron Alpert, with cameo dances taught by Lee Otterholt and Tom Bozigian. Saturday night gave us the chance to dance to live music by two bands. The Sunday events ended with a folk dance concert featuring three performance troupes: DEBA (Bulgarian dances), Krakusy (Polish dances), and the Scandia



Laguna Evening Dance

Dancers of Southern California. A fabulous ending to a fabulous festival!

Every NFO conference I have been to (twelve of them, I believe) has been unique, but all have been interesting and well worth my while. In addition to enjoying fabulous presentations by experts in the world of folk dance, music, and scholarship, I have built enduring friendships from across the country and have been encouraged by the vigor of dance programs in other areas. Please plan to join us at the 2021 NFO conference; you won't regret it!

FFDC Annual Camp 2020

I Danced Until I Almost Dropped! by Carol Kolonay-Spangler

Editor's Note: I goofed. This article should have been in the March-April issue where we try to include all things "Camp." Apologies to Carol for missing it earlier. Vicki

Twenty seven thousand steps a day, about ten miles a day, twenty-two hours all totaled...No matter how you counted it, we did a lot of dancing in Kissimmee at the Florida Folk Dancers Winter Weekend. I was not sure my lower back would make a whole weekend, but I am so glad that I took up the "challenge". The list of positives was long. The Ramada Inn venue was great. I liked that everything was included and we danced, ate and socialized all in the same place. My room was close by and very comfy. The two teachers, Maurits and Tineke were absolutely wonderful. They are superb teachers, beautiful dancers and very personable. They made everyone comfortable and successful. We learned sixteen great dances and their teaching style made the learning fun.

One of the nicest parts of the weekend was getting to know my fellow "grapeviners" a little better. It was more than a little comfort to have folks at the workshop that I already knew and willing to help a "rookie" participant.

You'll notice that I did not list a single negative, so I will be signing up for other weekends in the future. One of the dancers this weekend was well into her nineties. She was a real inspiration and a reminder that I still have plenty of "steps" left in me. At one point in the weekend, I was marveling at how everyone just kept on going. Rosario said to me, "When the music starts, it just gets you up and going." By the close of the weekend, I knew he was exactly right because that began happening to me.

Mark your calendar - next year's camp (2021) - same hotel, February 5-8



FootNotes

Rules of the Folk Dance Line By Grumpy Folkdancer

In the previous column, I talked about Roles: role of Leader, Second Person in Line (you are responsible for being reliable when the leader is flashy, keeping the rhythm and the step for the others) and Last Person in Line (in particular, not letting the circle curl in). In this column, I talk about Rules. Here I get really grumpy.

1 Rule: Keep up or get out of the way!

Face it, we're all getting older. We're not going down on our knees like those young lubricated Greek dance leaders, or kicking out our legs from squats like teenage Russian ballet performers... face it, none of us are getting our centers of mass any lower than chair height any more. But we aren't all the same either. Some of us are spry or even sprightly and some of us are, well, calm. Stately.

For those who are stately... KEEP OUT OF THE WAY. Don't join the fast drmes circles! When Krici Krici Ticek comes on, which is very rarely, do NOT join it if you can't do a good fast rita step. Do you want to be the party pooper who ruins the dance for 6 or 10 people who otherwise could really have a fun exhilarating dance that they rarely if ever get to do? Don't, just don't. Instead, please come into the middle with your hand in the air saying "Slow circle, slow circle, who wants to join a slow circle?"

Don't break in to fast belt-hold dance lines (or those dance lines that would be belt holds if people wore dance belts any more). Dance behind the line.

If a line dance moves fast, don't join at the end, because your standing relatively still will cause the end to curl in to the center (see last column). Dance a slow version in your own separate line. We really will appreciate you more if you do. You've been dancing for decades. Wear your "Slow Dancer" t-shirt proudly. I'll even come dance with you.

#2. Rule. Know your local rules about joining the line

Different dance groups have different rules. Some groups insist you do not break into a line, rather that you always join at the end. (E.g. Stockton folk dance camp, and presumably groups that many of its dancers come from). As far as I can tell, this comes from trying to dance with a partner or friend, and having so many people trying to break in between the two of you that you lose touch with the person or else spend your entire dance fighting to stay connected. Join at the beginning of the dance or the end of the line! (This makes sense to me!)

Other groups don't mind too much, but they ask people to join at the end primarily. In my experience it's always ok to join at the end, provided you know which is the end: sometimes (Croatian and French dances in particular move to the left) the end is the right side.

For circle dances, there is no end, so either join away from the places where many people just joined and it's really crowded, or for fast small dances, start a small circle of your own.

In lines that are supposed to be short lines: the strongest dancers should try to space themselves 5 or 6 dancers away from other strong dancers, and break into short lines when the bulk of dancers have already joined up.

#3 Rule: Be nice to newbies as much as possible.

If we want to continue to have places to dance as we age out, we need to continue to attract new dancers and younger dancers. We have to be nice to people who don't know all the dances and don't know them as well as we do. Plus, we might even enjoy these new folks. We should explicitly invite them into

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Rules of the Folk Dance Line (Continued)

Continued from Page 12

dances that we know they can do and those that we know don't turn harder later. We should give them hints of the next steps that will be coming up. We should be precise with our steps so they can follow us. We should chat with them and help them feel comfortable and valued as participants in the activity we love.

Don't talk to newbies during instruction, period (Unless you are the teacher!). Let the teacher do the teacher's job.

Don't talk to them during a (non-taught) dance unless you can give them clear guidance, preferably ahead of time. If they are trying to learn a step by watching, many can't deal with additional input in the form of words too, and it makes it even more confusing. If you're sure you can help, say only 1-2 words. For example, remind them when a changed step is coming up, e.g., "double time."

Only do this 2-3 times during the dance. Either they got it, or your guidance isn't working, and in both cases the lesson is that it's time to stop guiding.

In my opinion, we should not compliment newbies on their dancing. Why not? Because doing so conveys the idea that we are evaluating how well they dance. New dancers often think people are judging how well they dance, when in reality, people are judging how well they themselves dance (again, in my experience) and maybe how well people who dance better than they do, dance (I should watch David... he points his toes, not Edward, he's pigeon-toed). We should give hints and then convey the

impression that we know they can figure it out, as we have seen them and know they can and do, regularly, figure stuff out.

Allow newbies to do whatever they want with their arms. They are tense and working hard to get the feet right.

Rule #4. Just Be Nice in General

Don't say anything if you can't say anything nice. Don't say anything about someone you wouldn't say to their faces. Your grandmother used to say this. It's still true. People know if you're saying how klutzy or fat or awkward someone else is, you're saying something about them behind their backs too. So don't. Really. (One woman told me another woman's belly button was visible and it was "Disgusting." I said, "She's a nice person and a great dancer," and I walked away.). I don't trust the gossiper and don't even want to talk to her now. Why would she say that, what did she get out of that?

Try to ignore negative things and highlight positive things. It's so hard in these pandemic times and really, people learn from positive things and only hurt from negative things. Be the source of positive things. When we start dancing together again, we are going to need care and concern and compliments more than ever. "You did a really good job matching that shirt and that belt!" "Your hands are always so expressive." "I really like watching your feet." "Your voice is so beautiful." "Your handhold is always so gentle." "I really like dancing with you, I'm glad you come."

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Virtual Dancing! by Vicki Kulifay

You probably all have seen (and perhaps are participating or just enjoying) the virtual folk dance sessions happening across the spectrum. Dolores Lustig asked if we could include a list in the newsletter. By the time the newsletter is issued though, the number and type of sessions (e.g. Zoom and Facebook) continues to grow and morph so that it is almost impossible to list them.

Instead I offer up a couple of options (see below) and advise that you Google "Virtual Folk Dancing" or check the website of other groups you are familiar with or have danced with in the past. I found several groups offering virtual events with one simple search.

Dolores suggested Dale Adamson's website and he does have many listed there so definitely check that out. <https://daleadamson.com/>

The Peninsula Folk Dance Council seems to be the granddaddy of them all – check their Facebook page for updates on their next event. <https://www.facebook.com/PFDCouncil/>. You can also contact them via email at virtuallfolkdance@gmail.com.

In addition, a couple of weeks ago, the Folk Arts Center of New England presented online dance parties with reviews by four instructors: Ahmet Lüleci, Roberto Bagnoli, Joe Graziosi, and Željko Jergan. They ask for a donation to support their efforts, which definitely seem worthwhile. Check out their website at FACONE.org for the schedule as some have already occurred.

Personally, I've been enjoying practicing dance with Jim Gold who does a "dance of the week" - see Jim at jimgold.com or get on his email distribution.

With Optimism...by Dolores Brooks

The Miami Valley Folk Dancers will sponsor a Folk Dance Workshop with guest instructor, Michael Ginsburg, on October 10-11 at the Michael Solomon Pavilion in Dayton, Ohio.

Check out our website at www.miamivalleyfolkdancers.org or call Dolores at 937-212-8487.

With Heartfelt Gratitude by Kelly Fagan

For the outpouring of tangible love via cards, gifts, calls, and the presence of so many dear folk dance friends... in the illness and passing of my precious father, Larry Fagan, in February... on behalf of my family.... I humbly thank each and every one of you. So many made the special trip to Ocala for the celebrations of his life. I was completely enveloped in your kindness and love. Know you are treasured. We gather....in our joy... in our sorrow...in our delight... in our searching... in our being... and we dance.

Calendar, Events, and Tours

Look for more information on events, tours, and cruises on the FFDC website calendar:
www.folkdance.org

Calendar

CAUTION

Every effort has been made to verify the status of a workshop or festival (Thank you Pat Henderson). But this data is a moving target. Please check and recheck the status if you plan on attending or participating. Please do not rely only on what is printed below. Thank you

- 05/01/2020: English Country Dance Weekend, Dodgeville, WI, <http://www.folklorevillage.org/>
- 05/01/2020: English Country Dance Weekend, Dodgeville, WI, <http://www.folklorevillage.org/>
- 05/08/2020: International Folk Dance Camp, Hopewell Junction, NY, <http://ifc-ny.com/IFC.flier.pdf>
- 05/08/2020: Redbud Romp: Folk Dance workshop with Daniela Ivanova-Nyberg, Knoxville, TN, <http://www.oakridgefolkdancers.org/>, Oak Ridge Folk Dancers
- 05/15/2020: Ontario Folk Dance Camp, Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, <http://www.ontariofolkdancecamp.ca/>
- 05/22/2020: Florida Folk Festival, White Springs, FL, <http://www.floridastateparks.org/FloridaFolkFestival>, Florida State Parks
- 05/22/2020: Northwest Folklife Festival, Seattle, WA, <http://www.nwfolklife.org/>
- 05/22/2020: California Statewide Folk Dance Festival, Petaluma, CA, <http://www.socalfolkdance.com/statewide.htm>
- 05/28/2020: June Camp: an International Folk Dance Weekend, Deerfield, IL, <http://sites.google.com/site/junecampifd>
- 06/09/2020: International Folkfest, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, <http://mboro-international-folkfest.org/>
- 06/13/2020: Scandia Camp Mendocino, Mendocino Woodlands, California, <http://www.scandiacampmendocino.org/>, Scandia Camp
- 06/13/2020: Gainesville Summer Fling, Gainesville, FL, <http://www.floridafolkdancer.org/Flings/GainesvilleSummerFling2019.pdf>
- 06/20/2020: West Coast Music and Dance Workshop, (CANCELLED FOR 2020) Mendocino Woodlands, California, <http://eefc.org/balkan-camp/west-coast/>
- 06/25/2020: Folk Dance and Music Weekend and Folk Days, (CANCELLED FOR 2020) Plymouth, MA, <http://www.facone.org/pinewoods/pinewoods.html>, Folk Arts Center of New England
- 06/26/2020: Toronto Israeli Dance Festival, Toronto, Canada, <http://www.israelidancetoronto.com/>
- 06/28/2020: Nordic Fiddles and Feet, Lyman, NH, <http://www.nordicfiddlesandfeet.org/>, Nordic Fiddles and Feet
- 07/10/2020: Montana Folk Festival, Butte, Montana, <http://www.montanafolkfestival.com/>
- 07/10/2020: Door County Folk Festival, Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin, <http://www.dcff.net/>
- 07/16/2020: Hardanger Fiddle Music and Dance Workshop, Dodgeville, WI, <http://www.folklorevillage.org/>
- 07/19/2020: Stockton Folk Dance Camp - Week 1, Stockton, California, <http://www.folkdancecamp.org/>, Stockton Folk Dance Camp
- 07/19/2020: KDI Dance Camp, Murray, Kentucky, <http://www.knobtiger.com/>
- 07/23/2020: New Mexico August Camp, (CANCELLED FOR 2020) Socorro, New Mexico, <http://www.swifdi.org/>, Southwest International Folk Dance Institute
- 07/26/2020: Stockton Folk Dance Camp - Week 2, Stockton, California, <http://www.folkdancecamp.org/>, Stockton Folk Dance Camp
- 07/27/2020: World Folkfest, (CANCELLED FOR 2020) Springville, UT, <http://http://www.worldfolkfest.org>
- 07/31/2020: Lark Camp, Woodlands, California, <http://www.larkcamp.com/>
- 08/02/2020: Ti Ti Tabor Hungarian Folk Camp, Gig Harbor, WA, <http://www.tititabor.org/>
- 08/02/2020: Czech Folk Dance Week, <http://dvorana.cz/uvod/dance/folk-dance-week>
- 08/08/2020: East Coast Balkan Music and Dance Workshop, Rock Hill, New York, <http://www.eefc.org/>
- 08/16/2020: Mainewoods Dance Camp Week 1, Fryeburg, Maine, <http://www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org/>
- 08/23/2020: Mainewoods Dance Camp Week 2, Fryeburg, Maine, <http://www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org/>

Calendar (continued)

- 09/04/2020:** Balkanalia, Corbett, OR, <http://balkanalia.org/>, Balkan Festival Northwest
- 09/04/2020:** Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods, Plymouth, MA, <http://www.facone.org/labor-day-weekend/labor-day-weekend.html>
- 09/11/2020:** Mountain Playshop, Black Mountain, North Carolina, <http://folkdancepittsburgh.com/>
- 09/11/2020:** Enon Valley Folk Dance Camp, Enon Valley, PA, <http://folkdancepittsburgh.com/>
- 09/25/2020:** Fandango Dance Weekend, Decatur, GA, <http://sites.google.com/site/englishcountrydanceatlanta>, English Country Dance Atlanta
- 10/03/2020:** Fall Fling 2019, Melbourne, FL, No web information, South Brevard Dancers
- 10/09/2020:** Greek Festival, St. Augustine, FL, <http://www.staugreekfest.com/>, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
- 10/09/2020:** Oktoberfest International and Dance Weekend, Fairlee, VT, <http://www.facone.org/oktoberfest/oktoberfest.html>, Folk Art Center of New England
- 10/09/2020:** Serb-Fest (Orlando), Longwood, FL, <http://www.serb-fest.com/>
- 10/16/2020:** Greek American Festival, New Port Richey, FL, <http://stgeorgetampabay.org/>
- 10/16/2020:** Greek Festival, Lecanto, FL, <http://www.stmichaelgoc.org/festival.html>, Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church
- 10/22/2020:** SPIFFS International Folk Fair, St. Petersburg, FL, <http://www.spiffs.org/>
- 10/23/2020:** Fall Swedish Music and Dance Weekend, Dodgeville, WI, <http://www.folklorevillage.org/>
- 11/05/2020:** Pourparler, Dummerston Center, VT, <http://www.nfo-usa.org/pourparler>, NFO
- 11/06/2020:** Autumn Leaves, Nashville, TN, <http://www.nifddance.com/>, Nashville International Folk Dancers
- 11/26/2020:** Texas Folk Dance Camp, Bruceville, TX, <http://www.tifd.org/>, Texas International Folk Dancers
- 12/04/2020:** Fall Folk Dance Camp in Honor of Beverly and Irwin Barr, Brandeis, California, <http://www.socalfolkdance.org/calendar.htm>, Folk Dance Federation of California, South
- 12/26/2020:** Christmas Country Dance School, Berea, KY, <http://www.berea.edu/ccds>
- 12/28/2020:** Folklore Village Festival of Christmas and Midwinter Traditions, Dodgeville, WI, <http://folklorevillage.org/>
- 01/15/2021:** Orange Blossom Ball, South Daytona, FL, <http://orangeblossomcontra.com/>
- 02/05/2021:** FFDC Florida Winter Folk Dance Workshop, Kissimmee, FL, No web information, Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc.
- 03/11/2021:** San Antonio Folk Dance Festival, San Antonio, TX, <http://safdf.org/>
- 04/23/2021:** Lyrids Folk Dance Festival, Vancouver, Canada, <http://lyridsfolkdancefestival.org/>
- 05/07/2021:** International Folk Dance Camp, Hopewell Junction, NY, <http://ifc-ny.com/IFC.flier.pdf>
- 05/28/2021:** Florida Folk Festival, White Springs, FL, <http://www.floridastateparks.org/FloridaFolkFestival>, Florida State Parks
- 05/28/2021:** Northwest Folklife Festival, Seattle, WA, <http://www.nwfolklife.org/>
- 06/03/2021:** June Camp: an International Folk Dance Weekend, Deerfield, IL, <http://sites.google.com/site/junecampifd>
- 06/06/2021:** International Folkfest, Murfreesboro, TN, <http://mboro-international-folkfest.org/>
- 06/12/2021:** Scandia Camp Mendocino, Mendocino Woodlands, CA, <http://www.scandiacampmendocino.org/>, Scandia Camp
- 08/01/2021:** Ti Ti Tabor Hungarian Folk Camp, Gig Harbor, WA, <http://www.tititabor.org/>
- 09/03/2021:** Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods, Plymouth, MA, <http://www.facone.org/labor-day-weekend/labor-day-weekend.html>

Folk Dance Tours

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.

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

For tours with Sonia and Cristian, see <http://www.soniacrastian.net> or contact Sonia at sonia_dion@hotmail.com.

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

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

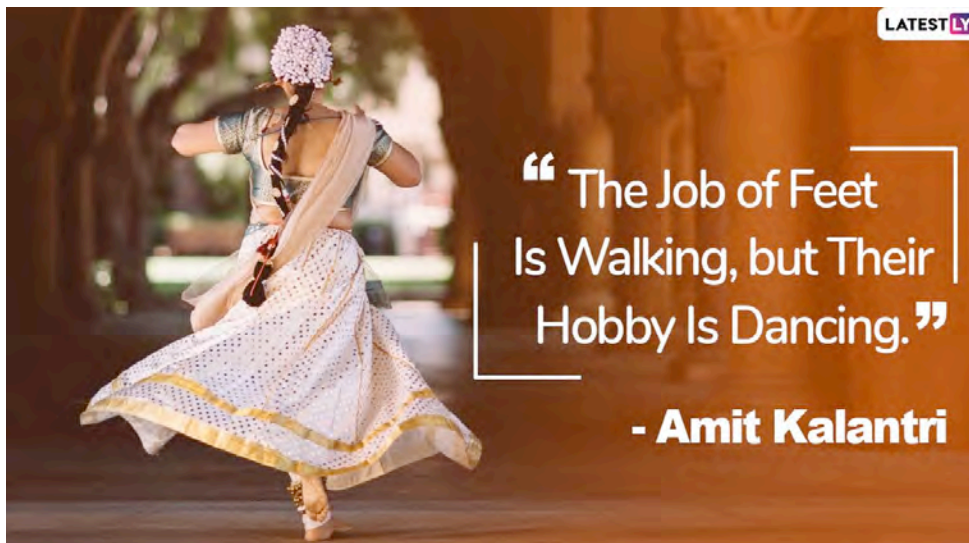
For tours with Tineke van Geel (sometimes assisted by Maurits), contact them at <http://www.tinekevangeel.nl>.

For the Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tour, please contact Vlasto at sunstagecompany@gmail.com or visit <https://sunstagecompany.wixsite.com/arts>

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!)

In celebration of International Dance Day, which was April 29, 2020.

International Dance Day is celebrated globally on April 29 as it is the birthday of famed French dance artist Jean-Georges Noverre, who was born in 1727, a French dancer, ballet master, and a great reformer of dance.



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