



# President's Message

## by Gary Berke

As the uncertainty of life continues under the Covid pall, we are doing our best to settle everything for the next big weekend in February. It looks like there will be no additional restrictions on travel. And hopefully most of us have been vaccinated. We will be requesting participants at the camp provide at check-in either your vaccination card or a negative Covid test done within 3 days of February 11 (the camp start date). Covid tests are easily accessible these days so that requirement shouldn't be onerous.



I am very eager to rekindle our bonds at the February weekend, and Eva, our new Treasurer, is working to facilitate this by making the payment methods easier and cheaper. Information on the payment methods and the registration form will be forthcoming, so keep an eye out for those email messages.

I would very much like to open a line of communication to the leader of each group, so the leaders can consider forming an advisory committee to the FFDC, formal or informal. This was discussed at the last board meeting. We also need to get a sense of who will be attending our big weekend. We have wonderful teachers, Jaap Leegwater from Holland and Mea Nordenfelt from Sweden, whom many of you have enjoyed on Zoom.

The Fall Fling is happening, and still is in the fall, on December 4, at Ruth Ann's wonderful house in Deland. The only venue which offers swimming, four bathrooms, an amazing kitchen, and a guaranteed good time for all. Come on down! Or up!

When health permits, I'd also like to encourage groups to follow Julieta's lead and demonstrate the joy of folk dancing in the community. Many people have connections to local churches, but curiosity about any group's culture opens many doors. In my few years dancing in Florida, I have had many wonderful experiences at Greek and Serbian festivals, and it would be great to encourage their dancers as well. Imagine some of them at our events or young, fresh faces at our dance demonstrations in the community.

Another source for new interest in dance is schools. Most of us have met the great kids who Lynda Fagan brought to previous flings, and she would be the person to ask to share ideas about getting students interested.

### Inside This Newsletter

President's Message.....	1
Passings.....	2
Last Dance - D.A. Tyler.....	2
<b>Club Reports In</b> .....	<b>4</b>
Heard It From The Sarasota Grapevines.....	4
Tampa Trivia.....	4
Orlando International Folk Dance.....	5
Gainesville Update.....	6
<b>Events</b> .....	<b>8</b>
34th Annual CFU Adult TamFest..	8
Save the Date Reminder - Fall Fling.....	9
Save the Date Reminder - FFDC Camp Weekend.....	9
<b>Calendar and Tours</b> .....	<b>10</b>
Event Calendar.....	10
Folk Dance Tour Contacts.....	11

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

Articles for the January-February 2022 newsletter will be due December 27.

Thank you

# President's Message (continued)

Continued From Page 4

I'd really appreciate hearing your comments on these thoughts and any ideas you have. I know some of these things have been tried before, but revivals can work. We need to keep something we all love alive and available to future generations. Please contact me at: [ghberke47@gmail.com](mailto:ghberke47@gmail.com) or 407-595-7552, but leave a message if you call as I don't pick up calls I don't recognize. I promise to call you back.

To new beginnings...

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## Passings

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### Last Dance - D.A. Tyler by Susan Barach



It is with great sadness that I pass on the news that D.A. Tyler, an international folk dancer who danced with the Grapeviners for many years, passed away on September 19 at the age of 91. She also participated in Scottish Dancing--and oh what a fabulous, beautiful and graceful dancer she was!!

D.A. attended the University of Florida in 1947 when there were very few women and lots of GI students--this is where she learned to jitterbug. Then, leaving Florida at the ripe age of 21, she traveled over the years to Colorado, California, Arizona, and overseas where she trained, studied, danced, sang, and entertained.

For a number of years, D.A. trained with an adult modern dance group affiliated with the University of Denver. She danced in several musicals and chamber opera performances. One of her husbands introduced her to folk dancing at the weekly classes taught by Paul Kermit and his wife. D.A. later moved to Detroit and then to Arizona.

After living in Arizona, she returned to Florida to take care of her ill mother. To get some exercise and meet people, she checked out the folk dancing at the Unitarian Universalist Church, where she met Marie and John Millett. For several years she performed with International and Scottish demo teams. She also learned many beautiful dances from the Babiaks during the years she danced with them.

Continued On Page 3



# Last Dance - D.A. Tyler (continued)

Continued From Page 2

D.A. would always arrive at Grapeviners' parties in a beautiful costume from some country or another. She was also a very generous person. She donated her folk dancing items to the Grapeviners and their treasury was the beneficiary of her generosity.

Another little known fact about D.A. is when the Sarasota Mandolin Orchestra gave a concert at a retirement and/or senior living facility, D.A. always dressed up in an Italian costume and danced with Michael LaPorta--member of Sarasota Mandolin Orchestra--at the end of the concert. I understand the residents loved that.

There was no notice about any service, etc. in the Herald Tribune.



# Club Reports In

## Heard It From The Sarasota Grapeviners by Carol Spangler



There is sad news to share from the Grapeviners. D.A. Tyler, an international folk dancer who danced with the Grapeviners for many years, passed away on September 19 at the age of 91. She was a shining example of how dancing keeps you young. We will all miss her smile, watching her dance so gracefully, her beautiful costumes, and her warmth and generosity. Please see the article on Page 2 for more information about the life of D.A. Tyler. She will be sorely missed.

### **New Participation Policies for the Grapeviners**

The Board of the Grapeviners has recently implemented the following new policies regarding attendance at their dance sessions.

- \* Vaccinated dancers need to bring their COVID vaccination card on their first visit.
- \* Unvaccinated dancers must show proof of a negative COVID test taken not more than 3 days prior.
- \* Masks are strongly encouraged.
- \* Dancers are asked to not request any couple dances at this time.

## Tampa Trivia by Terry Abrahams



We were disappointed John couldn't have the Fall Fling, but certainly better safe than sorry. Pat writes that Ruth Ann will host something at her house on December 4th and let's hope that's a go. Also thinking good thoughts for the camp.

In the meantime, we are back dancing at Kate Jackson. Ken Kwo can come sometimes now that we meet on Thursday (concerts on the weekend). Judith's son Hanson and Joanne missed a few but are back. And we are – believe it or not – getting another new person – Karen – who finally found our Israeli group and is an international dancer as well. She comes from California. Needless to say, we are thrilled – we are such a tiny group – this really makes

us feel good! And Karen is not the only new Israeli dancer. The last two weeks we have been joined by another gal – Susan – who was line dancing because she couldn't find Israeli.

It's too bad that it's so difficult to find us online. Some of the old web sites still have us at the old places. Last week we couldn't dance at the rec center (toilets were down – we offered to not use them, but...) so Andy and I went over to Judith's and we did some Zooming there. Thank God for Zoom – I've spent many a fun hours dancing all over the country, as I'm sure you have too.

This is short – no other news!



# Orlando International Folk Dance Club by Pat Henderson



We started our new season of dancing on September 1 and we have had a good two months with dancing in person. So far 27 dancers have danced as our bubble and later after vaccination. We decided to not resume Zooming the session. We do miss seeing some of you who have not returned in person. We were disappointed that we did not have Fall Fling in Melbourne as originally planned, but we are looking forward to it at Ruth Ann's in Deland on December 4.

Our amazing Kelly Fagan has been busy with her theatre shows. She was Ouiser in Steel Magnolias and she will be singing in an original show called Ladies of Liberty at the Athens Theatre in Deland the first week in November.

A few of us have traveled since I last reported. Nicki Wise is traveling to Ft. Lauderdale and Cincinnati quite often to visit with family. Cathy Holleman visited with some of her family in Arizona for a few weeks. Tami Epstein joined Bobby and me in Boulder, Colorado for a Shmulik Gov Ari Israeli dance

workshop in September. After the workshop, we traveled together to her second home in Moab, Utah and then went to Zion National Park with her son and our daughter in tow. We are looking forward to her return to Florida in November. Carla Powers visited with her new grandson in the DC area in September.

It is that season when dancers come from up north. Linda and Rich Nicoli returned in October after being with their family over the summer in Wisconsin and Washington state. While there, they had a family reunion as they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary a year late. We look forward to more of you joining us for a great time dancing.

Over Thanksgiving weekend on Saturday and Sunday, there will be the 4th Annual FusionFest in downtown Orlando. We will probably do a 15 minute performance for it. It is really a fun international festival. [fusionfest.org](http://fusionfest.org)

Terry Abrahams and Vita Hollander were talking lyrics... specifically translations into English from native languages. Terry sent this snippet along - a translation of Ne Klepeci, a sad, but lovely, Bosnian song (with choreography by Jim Gold.)



Ne silazi sa cardaka  
i ne pitaj gdje sam bio  
zasto su mi oci placne  
zbog cega sam suzio  
Stajao sam kraj mezara  
i umrlu majku zva  
nosio joj dar od srca  
ali joj ga nisam dao

## Refrain

Ne klepeci nanulama  
kad silazis sa cardaka  
sve pomislim moja draga  
da silazi stara majka

Don't come down from the stabbur  
And don't ask where I was  
Why I've got teary eyes  
Nor why I've shed tears  
I stood next to her grave  
And called for my mother who passed away  
I brought her a gift from my heart  
But I didn't give it to her

## Refrain

Don't rattle with your wooden slippers  
When you come down from the stabbur  
I keep thinking, my dear  
That my old mother is coming down the stairs

## Gainesville Update by Joyce Dewsbury



We have continued to dance every Friday night thanks to Joyce Story who signed up to have us dance at the Welcome Center in Hawthorne. It is a bit of a drive and possibly that is why fewer of our usual crowd are attending. Also, some folks are still worried about going out or being in close contact with others. Hopefully things will get better in time.

All of the photos were taken during our interval between dancing when we have some social time and some refreshments.

This photo shows us on September 3. I took the photo and you can see me reflected in the mirror. June looked very attractive. She decided that she wanted to dress up that night.



This photo is from September 17 and Melinda is to the right. She has recently returned to dance with us.



Here we are on September 24. This photo turned out very nicely and Julieta posted it on Facebook.



Here is the happy group on October 8. Notice the wood Turkish spoons that Julieta is holding. I cannot recall the name of the dance we have been doing recently which involves using Turkish spoons. I actually have two sets of them from long long ago and recently I have been relearning how to use them. So far it is going well.





## Gainesville Update (continued)

Continued From Page 6

Photo taken October 15. Why is Felipe wearing a party hat you might ask. Well, it was his birthday and Julieta always wants the birthday person to wear a party hat to highlight them.



We all wish to thank Joyce S. and Julieta who have continued to teach and review dances and keep folk dancing alive and well in Gainesville. There are many dances done with great joy each Friday night.

Take care everyone!

***Dance like no one  
is watching...***

They're not...

They're checking their phones.



## Events

### 34th Annual CFU Adult TamFest by Vicki Kulifay

The 34th Annual CFU Adult TamFest (sponsored by the Croatian Fraternal Union of America) took place October 29-31 at Seven Springs (in the Laurel Highlands just east of Pittsburgh, PA). Participating this year was the Croatian American Cultural Center Tamburitza Orchestra - and one of its members is FFDC's own Debbie Lazarovic. And through an interesting series of events, Tony Kambic (my brother) is also a member of the group. They've been practising via Zoom all these months. I heard from a good authority they were one of the best groups there and most enjoyable to listen to.

In the photo, Debbie is second from left in the middle row. Tony is just over her left shoulder.





# Save the Date Reminder - Fall Fling Flyer



## Fall Fling

**Attention: New Date And Venue**  
December 4, 2021  
Ruth Ann's Home  
1790 Windham Ct., Deland, FL 32724

**Starting Time: 11:30 am**  
**Bring A Dish for Lunch**  
**Ending Time: When We're Done!**

***Vaccinations Encouraged***



# Save the Date Reminder - FFDC Camp Weekend Flyer



***LIVE AND IN PERSON!***

***Come celebrate 50 years  
of Florida Folk Dance Council***

**FEBRUARY 11-14, 2022  
ORLANDO FLORIDA**

**JAAP LEEGWATER &  
MEA NORDENFELT**

**"Bulgaria and Beyond"**  
**FOLKDANCE.ORG**

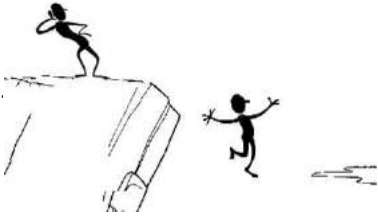
**SAVE THE  
DATE!**



# Calendar and Tours

Look for more information on events, tours, and cruises on the FFDC website calendar: [www.folkdance.org](http://www.folkdance.org)

## Event Calendar



### *Look Before You Leap... Or Go Dancing...*

- ✿ We continue to owe a debt of gratitude to Pat Henderson for maintaining this event list. Remember this data is a moving target. Many, but not all events, are no longer virtual. Check and recheck the status if you plan on attending or participating. Please do not rely only on what is printed below or on the FFDC website.
- ✿ For the below list, those events which are scheduled to be **virtual** are indicated with a "V" after the date.

2021-11-05	Greek Festival, Maitland, FL, <a href="http://www.orlandogreekfest.com/">www.orlandogreekfest.com/</a> , Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
2021-11-11	Greek Festival, Daytona Beach, FL, <a href="http://stdemetriosdaytona.org/greek-festival/">http://stdemetriosdaytona.org/greek-festival/</a> , St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
2021-11-12	Fall Camp, Simi Valley, CA, <a href="http://www.fallcamp.org/">www.fallcamp.org/</a>
2021-11-25	Texa- Kolo Festival, Bruceville, TX, <a href="http://www.tifd.org/">www.tifd.org/</a>
2021-11-25 V	Texas Camp (with Kolo Festival from CA), Bruceville, Texas, <a href="http://tifd.org/">http://tifd.org/</a>
2021-11-25 V	Kolo Festival (with Texas Camp), <a href="http://www.kolofestival.org/">http://www.kolofestival.org/</a>
2021-11-25	Bannerman Folk Camp, Black Mountain, NC, <a href="http://www.bannermanfolkcamp.com/">www.bannermanfolkcamp.com/</a>
2021-12-04	FFDC Fall Fling, Deland, FL, No web information, See flyer on Page 8
2021-12-26	Christmas Country Dance School, Berea, KY, <a href="http://www.berea.edu/ccds">www.berea.edu/ccds</a>
2021-12-25	Machol Miami, Miami, FL, No web information
2022-01-14	Orange Blossom Ball, South Daytona, FL, <a href="http://www.orangeblossomcontra.com/">www.orangeblossomcontra.com/</a>
2022-01-21	Florida Snow Ball, Gulfport, FL, <a href="http://www.floridasnowball.com/">www.floridasnowball.com/</a> , Tampa Friends of Old-Time Dance
2022-02-11	Florida Folk Dance Council Winter Weekend Workshop, Kissimmee, FL, <a href="http://folkdance.org">folkdance.org</a> , FFDC
2022-02-25	Greek Festival, Melbourne, FL, <a href="http://www.saint-katherine.org/fest_info.html">http://www.saint-katherine.org/fest_info.html</a> , St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church
2022-03-25	Chicago Spring Festival, Chicago, IL, <a href="http://www.balkanskiigri.com/schedule-of-events.html">www.balkanskiigri.com/schedule-of-events.html</a>
2022-03-31	NFO Annual Conference, Evanston, IL, <a href="http://www.nfo-usa.org/">http://www.nfo-usa.org/</a> , National Folk Organization (NFO)
2022-05-19	California Statewide Folk Dance Festival, Petaluma, CA, <a href="http://www.socalfolkdance.com/statewide.htm">www.socalfolkdance.com/statewide.htm</a>
2022-06-05	International Folkfest, Murfreesboro, TN, <a href="http://www.mboro-international-folkfest.org/">www.mboro-international-folkfest.org/</a>
2022-07-08	Montana Folk Festival, Butte, MT, <a href="http://www.montanafolkfestival.com/">www.montanafolkfestival.com/</a>
2022-11-04	Autumn Leaves, Nashville, TN, <a href="http://www.nifddance.com/">http://www.nifddance.com/</a> , Nashville International Folk Dancers



## Event Calendar (continued)

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Judith English has created a calendar for virtual dancing:  
 Use this link to access the calendar: <https://daleadamson.com/events-calendar/>  
 Use this link if you want to submit something to the calendar:  
<https://daleadamson.com/event-submission/>  
 Use this link to access various other items (including Andy's calendar!): <https://daleadamson.com/other-online-event-calendars-of-interest/>

Andy Pollock has created a calendar for virtual dancing:  
<https://tinyurl.com/andyscalender>

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## Folk Dance Tour Contacts

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

For Seminars of Greek Dance with Kyriakos Moisidis, contact [moisidiskyriakos@gmail.com](mailto:moisidiskyriakos@gmail.com).

For tours with Sonia and Cristian, see <http://www.soniacristian.net> or contact Sonia at [sonia\\_dion@hotmail.com](mailto:sonia_dion@hotmail.com).

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

For tours with Zeljko Jergen, contact Fusae Senzaki Carroll at [fusaec@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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!)

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