



President's Message

by Gary Berke

Hello everyone and Happy Spring.

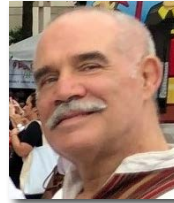
We did get a spring this year. I don't even have to have my AC on many nights yet - amazing. I have been very gratified by the many sterling reports I've had about the Spring Fling we set up in Moccasin Lake in Clearwater this year. And they liked us too, so we can go back there. I have already figured out how to make it even better.

I guess many groups are meeting normally now, each with its own take on the risks of Covid. It looks as if the latest variations have had fewer serious complications, with hospitalizations and deaths far below the new infection rate. I don't know if we'll ever get back to the way things were, but that may not be an entirely bad thing. For instance, masks allow me to visit friends who have cats and protect us against allergies, pollution, and environments in which one is most like to catch an illness: hospitals and public conveyances, especially airplanes.

On the teaching front, you may have heard that Jaap and Mea were no longer working together. Jaap will be here, but I had to get to work to find a teacher to replace Mea. After many calls, consultations, and negotiations, I engaged Andy Taylor Blenis. She promised to limit her couple dances to two, and will try to find some Ukrainian dances for our program. This is not easy for many reasons. One, is that the state sponsorship of Ukrainian dance has made it more performance oriented. And the second is that Ukrainian dances can be very strenuous. Hopak, the national dance of the Ukraine, means knee dance. You can check it out on YouTube.

Most of my time has been spent looking for alternative hotels for next year's Camp. The Ramada is still a possibility, but will cost about \$35 more per person before inflation, and many prices are subject to change without notice. So we have been looking into alternatives which Carla and an unpaid consultant have been visiting. We did vote to investigate spending more for something better. The key has been finding hotels with a big enough meeting room and dance floor. A few exist. The money we'd normally spend to rent the floor can pay for a better hotel. Carla will check out the last place this Thursday, and we'll see what kind of deal they can give us. Find the results in the next newsletter!

Yours truly, Gary



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

Articles for the July-August 2022 newsletter will be due June 27.

Thank you

Passings

Last Dance - Jan Lathi by Diana Lathi and Pat Henderson (Italics)

Janice Lillian Rockwell was born on April 8, 1938 in Syracuse, New York. She was an only child who loved her ballet classes and piano lessons. She was the first in her family to attend college at Cortland State University College of Education in Cortland, New York. She then taught elementary school and special education students. As a single woman, Jan started folk dancing as a way of meeting people who shared in her passion for world cultures and dancing. Through an international folk dancing group in Syracuse, Jan met Amarnath Lathi, a handsome swimmer from India, who had landed an engineering job at Bristol Laboratories in Syracuse after completing his masters in chemical engineering at the University of Tennessee. He joined the folk dancing group to meet other people in a setting that would be welcoming to people from different countries. They fell in love and married on July 28, 1962, and continued folk dancing for the rest of their lives.

They eventually had three children and moved to Bridgewater, New Jersey in 1975. Jan and Amar retired to Palm Coast in 1999. *They quickly started a folk dancing group in Palm Coast along with Betty Nehemias. They danced at the lovely lakefront clubhouse of Betty's condo. Jan and Amar joined the Orlando International Folk Dance Club and attended our FFDC Camps. They even went on a Folkdanceonthewater trip to Alaska. Bobby and I were their cabin mates on that trip! Shortly after that, Amar developed an aggressive brain tumor and passed away in 2004, while Jan was fighting her own battle with lymphoma. Determined through her grief, Jan completed chemotherapy and won her battle against lymphoma with the love and support of her Palm Coast and folk dancing friends in Florida. Jan and Betty kept the Flagler Beach active and hosted a wonderful Holiday Party and Flagler Fling in the summer. Jan opened her home to those of us who stayed overnight after a day of dancing and walked on the beach the next day. Somewhere in the mix, there was also time to play games over the weekend. These were some of the best of times as we look back over the years when dancers from several cities in Florida met to have a joyful weekend.*

In pandemic times, Jan hosted a Games weekend in June, 2020. Then she would come dance with the Orlando group when she was able and her knee allowed it. She would spend the night with Bobby and me and we would play games before dancing and then again on Thursday morning. I taught her a game one week and she beat me the next! This was in January, 2022 right before she was diagnosed with advanced carcinosarcoma. Jan passed away peacefully on March 9, 2022, after saying goodbye to her three children, Steven, Robert, and Diana Lathi. Her last word was "Happy."



Celebrating
THE LIFE OF



Janice Lathi

April 8, 1938 - March 9, 2022

JOIN US FOR FOND MEMORIES.
MUSIC & REFRESHMENTS

Tuesday, May 24, 2022, 4:30pm

GRAND HAVEN VILLAGE CENTER
PALM COAST, FLORIDA

RSVP to diana.lathi@gmail.com



Last Dance - George Arthur Fogg



George Fogg was a World War II Veteran, an English and Colonial Dance Master, and a Dealer of American glassware. He passed away on March 31, 2022 at home in Braintree, MA from a prolonged illness. Born in 1928 in Newburyport, MA, George grew up in the towns of Salisbury and Amesbury. As a young adult, he moved into Boston's South End where he resided for more than a half-century with his life partner, Francis "Frank" Maloney, who preceded him in death in 2010.

While stationed in Germany, George earned the rank of Sergeant and was awarded the Medal of Victory and the Army of Occupation Medal. After, he attended the University of New Hampshire, Durham, graduating with a degree in Agriculture. Over the decades George was employed by Clifton Pierce

Floral Grower, Grossman's Building Materials & Home Improvement, and Schumacher Fabrics & Wall Coverings. Along with Frank, he was the proprietor of Berkeley Antiques in Boston's South End for over a decade. George was a longtime member of the National Grange, being awarded the Golden Sheaf in 1992, to honor his 50 years of continuous service.

George had two great passions in life. The first was English and Colonial American Dance, which were the social dances of the nineteenth Century. He started as a student in his youth, and quickly became a leader, a teacher, and a Dance Master. For decades he would organize and call these period dances locally and across the country, even touring in England. Locally, he held annual Christmas and George Washington Balls. George not only led each dance, but, again with Frank by his side, he set-up, decorated, and prepared the formal sit-down dinners for these authentic period balls. He was a member of the Country Dance & Song Society, New England Folk Festival Association, Pinewoods Morris Men, Black Joker Morris Men, and Revels. He co-authored six collections of 18th Century dances. George stayed extremely active into his mid-eighties; he danced every set in a ball celebrating his 84th birthday! George was also an honorary member of the NFO.

George's second passion was American-made glassware of 19th & 20th centuries. He began his glass interests in the 1970's, to pick up some extra money. He, and yes Frank, would buy pieces of glass at yard sales then resell them at collector markets. They traveled throughout the Ohio Valley, setting up at the shows and sales of collecting conventions. George was an active member of many groups, authoring articles for publications, speaking at conventions, and working on museum development for the National Duncan Glass Society, the National Cambridge Collectors, the Heisey Collectors of America, the Old Morgantown Glass Collectors' Guild, the Imperial Glass Collectors' Society, The National American Glass Club, and The Museum of American Glass in West Virginia. George also co-authored two books for collectors.

George will be remembered fondly by many for his enthusiasm and spirit for life. He will be interred, later this summer, at his family burial grounds. If anyone wishes to remember George, through dance or glass, a contribution may be made in his name to either: The Traditional Dance and Music Collections Fund, at the University of New Hampshire. This is the home of the George Fogg Collection, 36+ boxes of his personal dance archives. Make check payable to: UNH, and note on the memo line: George Fogg. Mail to: UNH Dimond Library, Special Collections, 18 Library Way, Durham, NH. 03824. Or The Museum of American Glass Heritage Fund. Make check payable to: MAGWV, note on the memo line: Heritage Fund, IMO George Fogg. Mail to MAGWV, 230 Main Avenue, Weston, WV 26452

Last Dance - Sarah Zimmerman



As we noted in our last newsletter, we had just learned about the death of Sarah Zimmerman, a beautiful and graceful dancer, and leader of The Villages group. We've not located an on-line obituary, but obviously wanted to acknowledge her passing and what she meant to folk dancing.

From looking through past newsletters, we were able to put together a little bit of her dance history in Florida.

Sarah started The Villages group in 2013 with Milan Kutanovski. Within five years, she had grown the group to 40 strong. They not only danced recreationally, but a performance group shared the joy of dancing both within and outside The Villages.

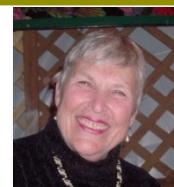
Unfortunately, Covid had a severe impact over the next few years in keeping the group going (though Zoom helped!). Then in 2020, Sarah was diagnosed with Esophageal cancer. She was ever optimistic and hopeful, and by spring of 2021 was "cancer-free." Sarah even went on to have both knees replaced!

But we all know how insidious cancer can be, and back it came, and took her in March of this year. RIP Sarah.



Club Reports In

Tampa Trivia by Terry Abrahams



Hope everyone had a Happy Passover or Easter. I (Terry) participated in the 17th annual Greater Seder, where we wrote and produced a Musical Comedy about Moses. It's a full fledged seder, but funny – this one was a takeoff on Little Orphan Annie, the orphans being the slaves, Miss Hannigan the Pharaoh, Moses, little orphan Mannie, etc. We did it for the Jewish Community and even with the covid scare, we had 225 people attend. Two years ago we had 300, and hope to get to that number again next year. I designed the T-shirt (surprised?) and wrote the Haggadah (the book with seder directions, songs, prayers and ads), and of course we had rehearsals etc. And all of a sudden I have nothing to do!

So back to the routine of dancing on Tuesdays (Israeli) and Thursdays (international). (I also play pickleball and am still fencing – sorta – on a very limited basis.)

Andi leaves for Vancouver next week, and we may have to cancel Israeli until she comes back (she stays 6 months). We have been meeting at her house, and the synagogue where we usually dance is still closed. We've been very sparse though, and maybe we'll just zoom Ruthy in NY and leave it at that.

International is going much better. We have our new gal Karen, whom you met at the Spring Fling, with her mother; Judith's kids; and now Judith is back, having successfully received a new hip and is without pain! She's painting again too! She's 97 now and we are SO proud of her.

We're hoping Vicki may start coming, since she came to the Fling...wouldn't THAT be nice...

So that's it for us. Wish we had the busy life of Orlando dancers, but, we all do the best we can. Take care everyone.

Gainesville Update by Joyce Dewsbury



Gainesville International Folk Dancers are continuing to dance at the Hawthorne Wellness Center. We dance from 7 pm to about 9:30 pm. And, of course, we take a social/snack break. Teaching is done by Joyce S. and Julieta and very occasionally by Joyce D. We have a nice repertoire of dances that we do. Sometimes we resurrect dances from the long ago past such as Horehronsky Czardas or Somogyi Karikazo and others. At some point I want to reintroduce Godecki Cacak. The photos are those taken during our social/snack time.

Incidentally the person who knows about the Rosa B. Williams Center was called, and we were told that “they” are trying to decide what to do with the building which has those three dance studios with nice wood floors. The other dance groups and our group happily danced there one evening a week for several years prior to the Pandemic so it is difficult to understand why the building might be reassigned to some other functions.

The first photo is from March 2, 2022. Tina is holding most of the sunflowers that Julieta had brought. The Sunflower is Ukraine’s national flower and Joyce S. recently taught us a lovely Ukrainian dance.



The second photo is from March 16, 2022 and some wear hats or hold percussive instruments.



The third photo was from March 30, 2022 and was a celebration of Gary’s birthday. Julieta keeps track of our birthdays and makes certain that they are recognized.



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Gainesville Update (continued)

Continued From Page 6

The fourth photo is from April 6, 2022 and it was a night when Joyce Story's birthday was celebrated. She wore a very pretty yellow dress. Notice the sunglasses and hats.



We hope all of our fellow folk dance groups are doing well. Little by little we are emerging from the Pandemic and things are opening up or starting up. Voices Rising Community Chorus has been rehearsing (after two years), and we even have a concert on May 14, 2022. June has been in contact with a staff member at Al's Place where we used to dance once a month and perhaps that will become a part of our community service again.

Take care, be safe, and dance as much as you can.

The fifth and final photo is from April 17, 2022 and shows the happy group having a good time.



Orlando International Folk Dance Club by Pat Henderson



Our club enjoyed two months of dancing every week and celebrating birthdays for four weeks in a row. Two were even on Wednesdays. We first celebrated Cathy Hollerman's St. Patrick's Day birthday on March 23. Then Ann Robinson on her birthday, March 30 and Nicki's Wise's on her April 6 birthday. Next came Carla Powers on April 13, one day after her birthday. We have done one big party in the past, but this year we spread out the celebrations.

Several of our members attended the Spring Fling in Clearwater on March 26. A good time was had by all. See article on Page 9.

We continue to play games at least once a month which is becoming quite a tradition for our group. It all started with playing games at Flagler Fling. Thank you, Jan!

On April 26, Barry Sieger, Carla, Cathy and I performed for a Polish dinner at a local restaurant sponsored by Orange County Recreation

Department, the same folks that do FusionFest. We danced W Moim and then to show support for Ukraine, we did Oj Maju, Maju. Bobby and Ann attended and said that we looked great.

On May 1, several of us, including Pat Peiratte from Tallahassee, attended Ragtime: the Musical at the Athens Theater in Deland. Kelly played Emma Goldman, the anarchist.

We have many folks traveling this month. Nicki took a birthday trip to St. Maarten and Carla took a trip to the DC area to see family right before her birthday. Then Tami Epstein and Eva Gaber took Passover trips to visit family. Tami went to Israel and Eva to the San Francisco area. Then Rich and Linda Nicoli went to New Orleans for the NOLA French Quarter Fest. They also visited the World War II Museum.

Perhaps, we might sponsor a Summer Fling!



Dancing in New Orleans!

Events

2022 Spring Fling by Pat Henderson

We celebrated the start of spring and danced together again at Moccasin Lake Park in Clearwater on Saturday, March 26. It is a Pinellas County park that Gary found for us. The park had hiking trails to a big and small lake along with a sanctuary for injured birds of prey. A few of us enjoyed the park before the dancing began at 11:30 am.

We had about thirty people and had a fabulous spread of food for lunch. The meeting room had a long granite counter where we displayed all the food, except the desserts which were on their own table. There was a wood floor and the wall's ceiling was also wood angled in the shape of the roof. Andy Pollock was our DJ and originally he hooked up to the sound system in the room. However, Bobby had brought our computer and speaker as a back-up and he ended up using it since it had better sound quality.

We had dancers from the Tampa, Orlando, Ocala, Tallahassee, Palm Bay and Sarasota areas. We were very happy to dance with Judith Baizan again. She had her hip surgery 4 weeks previously at the age of 96. It went well and she is not feeling any pain, so she danced beautifully at the Fling - now at the age of 97.

I contacted Ann Kessler, past FFDC President and teacher for the Sarasota group for many years, before the fling since she lives nearby. She came and danced up a storm. I presented her with the certificate that was given to the past presidents at the FFDC 2020 camp.

We enjoyed each other's company and kept dancing until we had to leave at 5 pm!



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2022 Spring Fling (continued)

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Footnotes

New Fight Against Cancer - by Joe Davis

Way too many of us have been impacted by cancer and my family is no exception. Today we are doing something about it!

My father, Dr. Elliot Davis, founded Cancer Antibodies Inc, a non-profit cancer research foundation based on a method he developed for finding unique targets on cancer cells that are not on normal cells. This is what is missing in the treatment landscape today. Finding unique targets means you can kill cancer cells without harming the person.

We have achieved a tremendous breakthrough and were accepted for publication and presentation at the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)



Annual Meeting, happening June 2022. ASCO is the largest and one of the most prestigious oncology organizations in the world, with its annual conference attended by cancer researchers and clinical oncologists from around the world.

The abstract will be published by ASCO on May 26 and we will be presenting at the conference on June 5. I will be sharing more information as it becomes available.

I'd be honored to have anyone join us who wants to come along for the journey ahead. Please help me share this.

Website:

<https://www.cancerantibodies.com/>

Pat Pierette Singing!

Pat is in the upper left side, singing with the Tallahassee Community Chorus their recent concert "I Shall Give Peace"



Calendar and Tours

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

Event Calendar

Check and recheck events to make sure of their virtual or in-person status before participating.

2022-05-12	Kochavim Israeli Dance Camp, Wimberly, TX, www.kochavim.net
2022-05-13	International Folk Dance Camp, Hopewell Junction, NY, ifc-ny.com
2022-05-13	English Country Dance Weekend, Dodgeville, WI, www.folklorevillage.org
2022-05-20	California Statewide Folk Dance Festival, Petaluma, CA, www.socalfolkdance.com/statewide.htm
2022-05-22	Ontario Folk Dance Camp (half day only), ontariofolkdancecamp.ca
2022-05-24	Celebration of Life for Jan Lathi, Palm Coast, FL, (See Page 2)
2022-05-27	Florida Folk Festival, White Springs, FL, www.floridastateparks.org/FloridaFolkFestival
2022-05-27	Northwest Folklife Festival, Seattle, WA, www.nwfolklife.org
2022-06-02	June Camp: An International Folk Dance Weekend, sites.google.com/site/junecampifd
2022-06-02	Tamburitzans Celebrate 85 Years, Pittsburgh, PA, www.thetamburitzans.org/events/celebration
2022-06-05	International Folkfest, Murfreesboro, TN, www.mboro-international-folkfest.org
2022-06-10	Scandia Camp Mendocino, www.scandiacampmendocino.org
2022-06-27	West Coast Balkan Music and Dance Workshop, Mendocino Woodlands, CA, eefc.org/balkan-camp/west-coast
2022-06-23	Folk Dance and Music Weekend and Folk Days, Plymouth, MA, www.facone.org/pinewoods/pinewoods.html , Folk Arts Center of New England
2022-06-23	International Dance and Music at Pinewoods Camp, Plymouth, MA, facone.org/pinewoods , Folk Arts Center of New England
2022-07-05	Nordic Fiddles and Feet, Lyman, NH, www.nordicfiddlesandfeet.org
2022-07-08	Montana Folk Festival, Butte, MT, www.montanafolkfestival.com
2022-07-17	Stockton Folk Dance Camp - Week 1, Stockton, CA, www.folkdancecamp.org
2022-07-17	KDI Dance Camp, Murray, KY, www.knibtiger.com
2022-07-21	Hardanger Fiddle Music and Dance Workshop, Dodgeville, WI, www.folklorevillage.org
2022-07-24	Stockton Folk Dance Camp - Week 2, Stockton, CA, www.folkdancecamp.org
2022-07-25	World Folkfest, Springville, UT, www.worldfolkfest.org
2022-07-28	Folkmoort USA, several towns, Western NC, www.folkmoortusa.org , Folkmoort USA
2022-07-28	New Mexico August Camp, Socorro, NM, www.swifdi.org , SW International Folk Dance Institute
2022-08-03 Virtual	Lark Camp, Woodlands, CA, www.larkcamp.com
2022-08-07	Ti Ti Tabor Hungarian Folk Camp, Gig Harbor, WA, www.tititabor.org
2022-08-14	Mainewoods Dance Camp Week 1, Fryeburg, ME, www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org
2022-08-21	Mainewoods Dance Camp Week 2, Fryeburg, ME, www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org
2022-09-02	Karmiel USA - Israeli Folk Dance Weekend, Highlands, NC, karmielusa.com/
2022-09-02	Balkanalia, Corbett, OR, balkanalia.org/ , Balkan Festival Northwest
2022-09-02	Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods, Plymouth, MA, www.facone.org/labor-day-weekend/labor-day-weekend.html
2022-09-04	Scanfest, Budd Lake, NJ, www.scanfest.org
2022-09-09	Space Coast Scottish Country Dancers Annual Fling, Cocoa Beach, FL, No web information
2022-09-16	Enon Valley Folk Dance Camp, Enon Valley, PA, folkdancepittsburgh.com
2022-09-21	Tamburitza Extravaganza, Independence, OH, www.tamburitza.org , Tamburitza Association of America
2022-09-29	World Camp, Rock Hill, NY, www.worldcamp.us , World Music & Dance Institute
2022-10-07	Super Greek Festival, St. Petersburg, FL, www.facebook.com/supergreekfest
2022-10-13	Pourparler, Dummerston, VT, www.nfo-usa.org/pourparler , NFO
2022-10-21	Fall Swedish Music and Dance Weekend, Dodgeville, WI, www.folklorevillage.org

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Event Calendar (continued)

Continued from Page 12

2022-10-21	Greek Festival, Lecanto, FL, www.stmichaelgoc.org/festival.html , Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church
2022-10-22	SPIFFS International Folk Fair -Postponed, St. Petersburg, FL, www.spiffs.org
2022-10-28	Clearwater Greek Fest, Clearwater, FL, www.clearwatergreekfest.com
2022-11-04	Greek Festival, Maitland, FL, www.orlandogreekfest.com , Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
2022-11-04	Autumn Leaves, Nashville, TN, www.nifddance.com , Nashville International Folk Dancers
2022-11-10	Greek Festival, Daytona Beach, FL, www.stdemetriosdaytona.org/greek-fesitval , St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
2022-11-11	Tamfest, Las Vegas, PA, www.cfu.org/event/35th-annual-cfu-tamfest , Croatian Fraternal Union
2022-11-11	Fall Camp, Brandeis, CA, www.socalfolkdance.org/calendar.htm , Folk Dance Federation of California, South
2022-11-11	Fall Camp, Simi Valley, CA, www.fallcamp.org
2022-11-13	CFU TamFest, Las Vegas, NV, cfu.org/event/35th-annual-cfu-tamfest , Croatian Fraternal Union
2022-11-24	Texa-Kolo (virtual and inperson), Bruceville, TX, www.tifd.org , Texas International Folk Dancers
2022-11-24	Virtual Kolo Festival (with Texas Camp), www.kolofestival.org
2022-11-24	Bannerman Folk Camp, Black Mountain, NC, www.bannermanfolkcamp.com
2022-11-26	Orlando FusionFest, Orlando, FL, www.fusionfest.org
2022-12-28	Folklore Village Festival of Christmas and Midwinter Traditions, Dodgeville, WI, www.folklorevillage.org
2023-01-27	Folk Ball Festival, Madison, WI, www.madfolkdance.org/folkball , Madison Folk Dance Club
2023-02-17	Dance Flurry, Saratoga Springs, NY, www.flurryfestival.org
2023-03-24	Chicago Spring Festival, Chicago, IL, www.balkanskeigre.org
2023-06-04	International Folkfest, Murfreesboro, TN, www.mboro-international-folkfest.org

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 Pollock's calendar!): <https://daleadamson.com/other-online-event-calendars-of-interest/> - Andy's calendar also resides here: <https://tinyurl.com/andyscaler>

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 or 510-459-0092.

For Seminars of Greek Dance with Kyriakos Moisidis, contact moisidiskyriakos@gmail.com.

For tours with Sonia and Cristian, see <http://www.soniacristian.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!)

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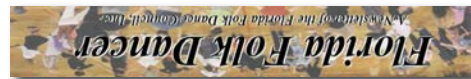
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Submissions: Send event notices for the calendar to Pat Henderson.

Send all other newsletter submissions to the newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org email address.

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