#### **SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2024**



# President's Message by Gary Berke

As you may know, Carla and I went on a cruise up the Danube from the Black Sea to Budapest and then had a three day extension in Vienna, an amazing trip. As a great fan of Jean Auel, creator of the Earth's Children series that takes place 35.000 years ago, the Great Mother River is the center of two of the books; that is the Danube, so I had to take the chance

and see it. Except for a treacherous and dramatic stretch, more then than now since dams have been built, one could see how the Danube could be deemed the great mother river, surrounded by gentle, fertile land and round hills that are very welcoming. Going through the locks of the dams was also an interesting experience, and the boats were attended by hosts of swallows, which we no longer see much in this country, alas. The cities of eastern Europe all have much to recommend them, but Budapest and Vienna were amazing, with sculpture everywhere you looked. Unfortunately, I picked up Covid on the boat, so my trip was somewhat attenuated, and my secondary symptoms are feeling like long Covid now, though I tested negative for Covid and flu at the doctor on Monday.

Regarding the winter weekend, we did get a small price increase in room rate, but I am hoping to keep the increase to no more than \$20 for the whole package double occupancy. Your vote was overwhelming for Roberto Bagnoli, and I moved the weekend back a week to get him. I decided we couldn't pay for two international flights with what is happening to airfares, so the seven way tie for second place was broken by availability and location. I was very happy to get Petur Iliev, who is based in Chicago.

FFDC elections are coming up this year, and I hope some of you are considering running for office. There are still a few issues to be decided with the archives and the website, which will be ongoing, but I hope people are thinking about how they can contribute in some way. Ideas are a contribution. I've heard almost no feedback on my idea to invite our group leaders to lead the 2026 workshop, so I'll take that as a no. If you have second thoughts about this or thoughts about anything else, don't hesitate to contact me. And sorry for the short letter.

#### Message From The Editor...

All articles for the November-December 2024 issue must be isubmitted by Sunday, October27. Please send articles for insertion to <u>newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org</u> email address. Thank you



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#### Club Reports In

#### OIFDC by Pat Henderson

Bobby and I enjoyed the summer hiatus of not dancing here on Wednesdays. I continue to Zoom at least twice a week with the Chicago Argonne group on Friday and Judy Silver on Sunday. I am keeping up with the dancing that way! Also, Bobby and I visited the Gainesville group on Wednesday, August 21 and took Kelly who is recovering from surgery for a broken leg she got while hiking in NC. We look



forward to starting our new dancing season on Wednesday, September 4.

We are excited about the visit by Lee Otterholt on Wednesday, September 18. We will start at 6:30pm with a potluck supper. Please RSVP by September 16. The weekend before his visit, Lee is a teacher at the Ellen Golann Weekend in NY (where Bobby and I went last year) and then he is visiting a number of groups on his return trip to California.

A few reported travels this summer. Carla and her sister-in-law enjoyed a Danube cruise from the coast of Romania to Budapest. She then extended the trip for a few nights in Vienna. Gary was on this trip also. We look forward to some photos in a future issue.

Ruth Ann visited friends in Denmark. Her host Mother, Kirsten, from her school year in Denmark, is 97. She recently sold her big house and moved into an apartment that is walking distance to the stores downtown. Her youngest son lives in Thailand with Continued On Page 3

#### Process For Sending Group Email Blasts to FFDC Membership

Start by creating an email to be sent to:

reqmsg@floridafolkdancer.org (reqmsg stands for "request message.")

Include in that email these three items:

- 1. A Subject Line for the email you are asking to be sent.
- The body text of the email what you want it to say. We won't be editing your text, so please make sure its clear and will make sense to the recipients.
- 3. A contact email or phone number someone the recipient can contact if they want more information about the subject.

Allow at least a **one week processing time** on these distributions, though generally they go out much more quickly than that.



### OIFDC (Continued)

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his Thai wife, but was home to celebrate his 50th birthday and I baked him a birthday cake.

Frank toured the northwest coast of Michigan on beautiful Lake Michigan. He enjoyed hiking, cycling, swimming, touring small towns and cruising the country-side. He returned to his son's southern Michigan country property in the farmlands. He had a side trip to Hell, Michigan, where you can have a

letter or postcard signed with fire, snuffed out and then mailed with their postmark. He had a picture taken at the wrought iron Gates of Hell and ate lunch at the Hell Saloon. He said, "So, I've been to Hell and back!."

Cathy spent the summer hanging out with the grandkids in Arizon



### Events

#### Fall Fling 2024!



#### Winter Workshop 2025!



#### Footnotes

### A Time To Dance, A Time To Heal by Kelly Fagan

Well, it's been an interesting few months, punctuated by shock, numbing, grieving, joy, sadness, and imposed rest due to injury. June 10, Lynda and my dear mother, Tina, passed suddenly at home, age 86. Lynda departed 8 days later for a month long spectacular hiking adventure centered around Mount Blanc with her son, Alex. Meanwhile, I began to unravel all the "things" associated with the passing of a precious loved one. July 12 a dear friend accompanied me to our place in Vilas, NC to enjoy the lovely pristine Blue Ridge. Lynda joined us upon her return from The Alps. We hiked to our hearts content, attended concerts and performances,



partook of the farmers market delights, rested, grieved, laughed, remembered. And in our very last hike to a waterfall, my foot ankle turned inward and I heard the ankle fracture. The rescue team was incredible, and I had surgery in Boone 3 days later. So... no dancing or working for me at the moment ... unable to put weight on my left leg while it heals. I am beyond grateful for all the texts, emails, calls, cards, and love. And honestly, the loss of my

dear mother is so profound, and there is so much to

do... the silver lining is the time to process and plan.

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Please know each of you are welcome to join us as we celebrate Mom's life at Blessed Trinity Catholic Church in Ocala:

Friday August 30, 6:15-8, Reception/Wake with live music/stories.sharing, Chapel

Saturday August 31, 10 am Celebration of Life followed by luncheon 11:30 in Parish Hall; note pre service music will begin at 9:45 am

We invite you to celebrate my mother by wearing bright colors which she loved, and/or international folk dance costumes or pieces.

We also request, if possible, the Ocala/Gainesville/Orlando villages bring desserts for the luncheon.

Please keep us in your thoughts/prayers. Mom loved her folk dance family. We will always be grateful for your love and welcoming of her into the International folk dance community.

### A Time To Dance, A Time To Heal (Continued)

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#### September-October 2024

# A Trip To Bulgaria by Vicki Kulifay

For my FB friends, some of this will be repeats of what you may have already read. Apologies in advance!

When I told friends I was going to Bulgaria, non-folk dancers almost always asked why. Folk dancers either told me about their wonderful trips here or told me they were jealous and they hadn't visited yet. The tour was a Jim Gold Tour, though Jim was not on the tour. But still, the emphasis was for folk dancers. A quick overview - the tour started in western Bulgaria in Sophia. Then we traveled along the Rila, Pirin, and Rhodopes mountain ranges in the south along the way to the Black Sea. We then made a u-turn back to the west, following the Balkan mountains in the north, back to Sophia. All in two weeks.

I arrived in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, a day early. Both for jet lag and my flight would have landed too late on the tour start day to meetup with the group. This early day gave me the time to wander through the Ethnographic Museum at my own pace. I love ethnographic museums, as they especially give a whole historical perspective on the culture through everyday life items.

Unfortunately, like many countries in Europe, Allied bombing in the spring of 1944 destroyed much of the city center and many artifacts were lost. But the Bulgarians carried on, rebuilt, and archivists traveled the country to collect artifacts from villages so they wouldn't be lost to history.

There were beautiful fabric examples – clothing and household items. Leather shoes and knitted socks. All so colorful.

I found the spoons exceptionally interesting. It wasn't until the middle of the 20th century that metal spoons started replacing wooden spoons. When the dinner table was set, a spoon was set for each household member. Leading to the phrase "How many spoons are you at home?." Which means "How many people are there in the family?."

Then there were the beautiful musical instruments. Their tamburas and the gaida. And so much more about agriculture and fishing and livestock. Too much to cover here.

But one key part of their history which Bulgarian's are very proud of (and should be) is that they protected their 49,000 Jewish citizens during World War II and did not allow them to be shipped off to camps. Parlimentarians, religious leaders,





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the royal family, writers, and doctors, along with citizens, came together to save their fellow Bulgarians.

The following day, the tour started with a walking tour of Sophia – with Ventsi as our inimitable tour leader. We first headed to the Square of Tolerance. Clustered in this area are four places of worship, almost in sight of one another: The Saint Nedelya Church (Eastern Orthodox); St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Cathedral; the Banya Bashi Mosque; and the Sofia Synagogue. A beautiful sign of continued religious tolerance Bulgaria.

Walking in Sophia frequenting puts you on the yellow brick road! The yellow cobblestones were given as a gift in 1907 from Emperor Franz Joseph. Made of a limestone marl from Budapest, the Emperor was encouraging Budapest to pave it streets. These bricks have held up very well over the years. And I kept humming "following the yellow brick road" every time we crossed a yellow-bricked street!

Bulgaria has a plethora of Roman ruins, including many roads and gates built for the Empire city of Serdica. Portions of these roads were discovered while Sofia was excavating for their subway. Luckily, they have saved many ruins and incorporated them into a living museum you can walk on as you are traversing the city.

That afternoon, we headed out of Sofia to visit the Boyana Church - a UNESCO heritage site. This church, constructed between the 11th and 13th centuries, is considered very unique due to some of frescoes inside the church. They show perspective done in paintings, 100 years before the Renaissance in Italy. No photos were allowed inside – so only an outside shot of this tiny church.

Then we took a side trip to connect with nature at the Stone River in the Vitosha Mountain park. It should be called the "boulder" river. Over 2.2 km long and 150 m wide, it looks it was made for clambering up. Left behind by ancient glaciers, these boulders eroded into spherical shapes by water and erosion. I have never seen anything like this – pictures do not do it justice.

We finished this day in Sofia with a lovely dinner at a traditional restaurant, which included a Bulgarian dance performance. Afterwards there was participation dancing by guests in the restaurant and of course I participated!



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The next morning we headed to the Town of Bansko to visit the Rila Monastery. A very unique, still active monastery with incredible architecture and beautiful frescoes.

For dinner in Bansko, we had a real treat. We went to the home of Baba (grandma) Deshka, who welcomed us into her home. We had a cooking demonstration of banitsa (flat bread), a costume party with singing and dancing, and then a homemade dinner she prepared with the help of other local women.

And yes, we had a cellar full of Bulgarian costumes the other babas dressed us in. We danced circle dances with the babas on the patio. After the incredible multi-course dinner of Bulgarian specialties, the babas played the accordion and sang for us. A fabulous evening.

The next morning had us heading to Dobursko. Here, in a church courtyard, the Doburski Baba's gave us a private performance of traditional singing associated with weddings. They then treated us to more homemade banitsa - this time with eggs and cheese in it, along with ayran, a cold yoghurt based drink.

Back on the road, our tour guide arranged a special visit in the town of Kostandovo. We visited a carpet factory where hand-made oriental carpets are woven for British royalty and castles throughout England. The women on average do about five centimeters of carpet in an 8 hour shift. Their looms are so large they can produce ballroom size carpets.

The next morning found us heading into the Rhodopes Mountain to the Village of Rila for their annual Gaida Festival. Thousands of people, craft booths, food booths, and continuous gaida music – there were even female gaida players in the competition rounds. I enjoyed some really good roast lamb for lunch and incredible music and even some dancing.

Our next stop was Plovdiv, the second largest city in Bulgaria and it's cultural hub. It also has an Ethnographic Museum set in a beautiful baroque house from 1847. They had a vast collection of felted wool blankets and some clothing, which were really amazing to see - so colorful.

And Roman ruins galore. For example, the Ancient Stadium of Philipopolis only started revealing itself in 1923 when people were digging in their cellars. Serious excavations did Continued On Page 10



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not start until 1979. Primarily used for Roman games or chariot races, it could hold 30,000 people, and was about 160 feet wide and 820 feet long. The model is the best visual representation, as unfortunately most of the stadium is hidden under a main walkable boulevard with shops, hotels, and restaurants on either side down the middle of Plovid. The length of the stadium is so long, uncovering it would require the destruction of a vast amount of urban landscape.

What is accessible is the one curved entrance which shows some of the seating. And (believe it or not) a portion excavated until the H&M Store. So you enter the store, saunter through the clothing racks, go down some stairs, and find yourself amongst Roman ruins.

We were also able to visit the Bishops Basilica of Philippopolis. This museum highlights the excavated floor of the Basilica, which was made up of a layer of mosaics laid down during the fourth and sixth century. Not only were the mosaics beautiful. But the museum was constructed, mostly using floating glass floors so you were able to walk above and gaze down at the mosaic floor. Birds in the mosaics were exceptionally prevalent at this basilica.

Our exceptional day in Plovdiv ended with (wait for it...) folk dancing! Every Sunday night, Bulgarian folk dancing is held on one of the main city squares. There were people of all ages dancing, though primarily younger. From the similar tshirts many wore, it looked like there were several folk dance groups who participate. And for two hours, I tried to keep up with them! It was great to see such enthusiasm about the culture of dance in Bulgaria.

Early the next morning, we left Plovdiv on our way to the Black Sea. However, we had one quick stop before we really hit the road. This was a wholesale manufacturing location our guide was able to get us into where they manufactured traditional Bulgarian costumes. And they were willing to sell pieces of costumes - which several people on our tour did purchase. It was eye candy for costume lovers. And we also picked up Nicki, our local folk dance leader, and Ventzi, our local gaida player, at this stop.

Unfortunately some traffic accidents on the thruway to the Sea took some time away from our visit to Nessebar, a beautiful old town which sit on a narrow peninsula on the



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Black Sea, seemingly covered in 13th and 14th century churches. It is a UNESCO heritage site and one of the oldest towns in Europe (populated since 2000 BC). But leaving Nessebar, we were able to get our first real view of the Black Sea on our way to Varna.

The next morning we started with a walking tour of Varna. It is both a coastal resort and a major port. A highlight was a tour of the Archaeological Museum. In 1976, graves were uncovered in the Varna area dated around 4600 BC. What is so amazing is that one of these graves contained the oldest "processed" gold ever found - 31 gold beads.

Our next stop was the Balchik Botanical Gardens, which was the summer home of Queen Marie in the early 20th century. In 1913, this piece of land was annexed by Romania. It was returned to Bulgarian rule in 1940 (after the garden was established), bringing with it such a beautiful legacy.

Then we had a fabulous late lunch at a mussel farm overlooking Kaliakra Bay...quite good. We ended our evening with a little dancing in the hotel with Nicki and Ventzi. Nicki's passion for folk dancing shone through as he explained how Bulgarian folk dancing must come from the heart – it isn't just the steps. To feel the music inside us. He did explain about the regions of Bulgaria and the dance types from every region. However, this was only one evening for an hour in a hotel, so simply not enough learning time.

The next day found us at an ancient salt fortress in Provadia. Evidence shows that production and storage of salt started around 5600 BC. The fortress was most interesting to me because of these flying buttress type walls, which were built not only to provide fortification for the fortress walls. But also to prevent invaders from being able to attack in swarms, as they would've been separated by the buttresses. This site is an active archaeological site, so no gift shop and no salt for sale. It was abandoned around 4300 BC, when the natural salt water body dried up.

We followed this with a visit to another UNESCO site - the Madara Rider. In the 8th century, a relief of a horseman, his dog, and mountain lion were carved into the face of a cliff. It is the only rock-cut relief in Europe. The photo does not do it justice.



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Later, as we wandered among other caves and cliffs in the park, Ventzi, our gaida player, took the opportunity to take out his gaida and play for us. The acoustics were pretty phenomenal in this natural amphitheater. And of course, we danced.

Then we headed into Veliko Turnovo, where we visited Nikopolis ad Istrum, a Roman city founded in 106 AD. This city was never "lost" under an urban landscape. Instead excavations started around 1900 and some work continues today. We walked the streets, saw the incredible sewer system, saw where Hadrian's statue would have stood, and saw how the floor heating system would have worked.

As we were departing the site, we passed some headstones from the Necropolis. This poem was on one...

Short will be the path of light we yearn for

This eternal dwelling is home-coming for the mortals

Therefore drink and live a carefree life

You have the day light

Listen

Once your soul departs, you will be deprived of all these things

Fare thee well, stranger

That evening we had our last group dinner with Nicki (in the red shirt), our folk dance leader, and Ventzi, our gaida player (holding the gaida). They brought such as cultural flavor to the tour, it was sad to see them go.

A very interesting stop the next day was at an Ethnographic Outdoor Museum showcasing village life. Too many things to see and not enough time. But I thought the clothes' washing machine was exceptional. The sluice fed the water into that bowl with the jagged openings where water sprayed out. The bowl spun - so putting fabric items in the bowl cleansed them through the spinning action. Nifty.

And traversing the Balkan Mountain range, we would have been remiss if we missed a stop at the Lema Rose Oil production facility. This facility is located in the Rose Valley. The Rose Valley is sheltered by the mountain range and produces some of the highest rated rose oil in the world. Roses have been growing in this valley for centuries (some



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say all the way back to BC). They only use pink rose petals and the fragrance in their processing facility was amazing!

And finally we reached the Village of Koprivshtitsa, with its winding streets, town squares, a stream, a market, and a number of restaurants. Festival – here we come!

But...as for the Festival, normally on a "not big year" like 2024, it was typically held down in the Village. Well, not this year. When we arrived in Koprivshtitsa, we learned that, for some reason, festival organizers moved this off-year event out of the village square and up into the hill on the big festival grounds. So we climbed up. You can see from the photo the view is amazing – looking down over Koprivshtitsa. But, unfortunately, the crowds were sparse, vendors unimaginative, and a lot of Baba singing groups. There were a couple of dance and instrumental groups which sort of saved the day. But all told, not great. We left on Saturday early evening when they were testing the smoke machine on the stage and had a rock drummer's set pre-positioned on the stage for later entertainment.

Back in Sophia, we finished the tour as a group with a lovely dinner, sharing more stories and exchanging emails. Some of you may recognize fellow folk dancers from around the US.

There were a lot of places on the tour we visited that, in the essence of keeping this article to a reasonable length, I left out. I really gained so much knowledge about Bulgarian history. Ventsi did a great job of educating us and bringing us into the culture and history. Bulgarians have survived the Ottomans, the Nazi's, and the communists. They have such strength and are such lovely people, but being so poor, are having a tough time really finding their next steps as a country. I am so glad I visited – to both help their economy and get to know Bulgaria better.



Our tour group from left to right:

Ellen (MD) Melissa (TN) Shira (CO) Bill (TN) Ventsi (Bulgaria) Lani (WA) Vicki (FL) Peggy (CO) Ray (MD)



# Calendar and Tours

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

#### Event Calendar

2024-08-18 - Mainewoods Dance Camp Week 1, Fryeburg, ME, www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org 2024-08-25 - Mainewoods Dance Camp Week 2, Fryeburg, ME, www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org 2024-08-30 - Balkanalia, Corbett, OR, www.balkanalia.org, Balkan Festival Northwest 2024-08-30 - Karmiel USA - Israeli Folk Dance Weekend, Highlands, NC, www.karmielusa.com 2024-08-30 - Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods, Plymouth, MA, www.facone.org/labor-day-weekend/labor-dayweekend.html 2024-09-06 - Space Coast Scottish Country Dancers Annual Fling, Cocoa Beach, FL, No web information 2024-09-13 - Ellen Golann Folk Dance Weekend, Hopewell Junction, NY, www.tinyurl.com/Golannweekend 2024-09-13 - Enon Valley Folk Dance Camp, Enon Valley, PA, www.folkdancepittsburgh.com 2024-09-18 - Folk Dance with Lee Otterholt, Orlando, FL, No web information, OIFDC 2024-09-19 - Tamburitza Extravaganza, Seven Springs, PA, www.tamburitza.org, Tamburitza Association of America 2024-09-20 - Fandango Dance Weekend, Decatur, GA, www.ecdatlanta.org, English Country Dance Atlanta 2024-09-20 - Mountain Playshop, Black Mountain, NC, www.mountainplayshop.org 2024-09-26 - Pourparler, Provo, UT, www.nfo-usa.org/pourparler, NFO 2024-09-26 - World Camp, Rock Hill, NY, www.worldcamp.us/, World Music & Dance Institute 2024-10-04 - Super Greek Festival, St. Petersburg, FL, www.ststefanos.org 2024-10-11 - Serb-Fest (Orlando), Longwood, FL, www.serb-fest.com 2024-10-12 - Greek Festival, St. Augustine, FL, www.staugustinegreekfestival.com, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 2024-10-12 - Oktoberfest International Dance and Music Weekend, Marlboro, VT, www.facone.org/oktoberfest/ oktoberfest.html, Folk Art Center of New England 2024-10-18 - Greek Festival, Lecanto, FL, www.archangelmichaelgoc.org/festival.html, Archangel Michael Greek **Orthodox Church** 2024-10-19 - SPIFFS International Folk Fair, St. Petersburg, FL, www.spiffs.org 2024-10-25 - Fall Swedish Music and Dance Weekend, Dodgeville, WI, www.folklorevillage.org 2024-10-25 - Greek Festival, Tallahassee, FL, tallahasseegreekfoodfest.com, Holy Mother of God Greek Orthodox Church 2024-11-01 - Autumn Leaves, Nashville, TN, <u>www.nifddance.com</u>, Nashville International Folk Dancers 2024-11-01 - Greek Festival, Maitland, FL, www.orlandogreekfest.com, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 2024-11-01 - Greek Festival, Tampa, FL, www.tampagreekfestival.com/, St. John Greek Orthodox Church 2024-11-01 - International Dance Workshop, Minneapolis, MN, www.tapestryfolkdance.org/international-danceworkshop.html 2024-11-02 - FFDC Fall Fling, Melbourne, FL 2024-11-07 - Greek Festival, Daytona Beach, FL, www.stdemetriosdaytona.org/greek-fesitval, St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church 2024-11-15 - Triangle International Folk Dancers, 60th Anniversary, Chapel Hill or Raleigh, NC, www.trianglefolkdancers.org/events 2024-11-22 - Fall Camp, Brandeis, CA, www.fallcamp.org, Folk Dance Federation of California, South 2024-11-28 - Bannerman Folk Camp, Black Mountain, NC, www.bannermanfolkcamp.com 2024-11-28 - Texas Camp, Bruceville, TX, www.tifd.org/, Texas International Folk Dancers 2024-11-29 - Kolo Festival, San Francisco, CA, www.kolofestival.org 2024-11-30 - Orlando FusionFest, Orlando, FL, www.fusionfest.org/

#### Event Calendar (continued)

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2024-12-26 - Winter Dance Week, Brasstown, NC, www.folkschool.org/, John C. Campbell Folk School

2024-12-28 - Folklore Village Festival of Christmas and Midwinter Traditions, Dodgeville, WI, www.folklorevillage.org

2025-01-31 - Florida Folk Dance Council Winter Workshop, Kissimmee, FL, No web information, FFDC

2025-04-07 - World Fest at Silver Dollar City, Branson, MO, <u>http://www.thousandhills.com/branson-attractions/area-attractions/silver-dollar-city/world-fest</u>

2025-05-09 - Lyrids Folk Dance Festival, Vancouver, Canada, www.lyridsfolkdancefestival.org/

#### Folk Dance Tour Contacts

For Dance on the Water Folk Tours, see <u>http://folkdanceonthewater.org</u> or contact David and Marija Hillis at <u>folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com</u> 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 <u>http://www.jimgold.com</u> or contact Jim Gold at <u>jimgold@jimgold.com</u> 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 <u>http://www.tinekevangeel.nl</u>.

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

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 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.

#### 2022 FFDC Officers

President: Gary Berke <u>ghberke47@gmail.com</u>

Vice-President: Carla Powers vicepres@folkdance.org

Corresponding Secretary: Pat Henderson secretary@folkdance.org

Treasurer: Eva Gaber treasurer@folkdance.org Historian: Vacant historian@floridafolkdancer.org

Newsletter Editor and Publisher: Vicki Kulifay newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org

Immediate Past President: Terry Abrahams

Submissions: Send event notices for the calendar to Pat Henderson. Send all other newsletter submissions to the <u>newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org</u> email address.

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408 Glencairn Circle Dunedin, FL 34698