



President's Message by Gary Berke

Hi Dancers,

I hope everyone has recovered from the storms. I've lost more than half of my shade, and the top two thirds of a palm tree snapped off, headed straight for my window, leaving some remnants on it. Had it been bigger, my favorite chair is right next to that window, though I may have had the sense not to sit there. After another bout of covid and very long covid, with many energy free days plus some disorientation and dizziness, I have some wonderful news.

Japan has a tradition of naming people as national treasures, and we have a few ourselves. Andi Kapplin has gotten us permission to use Dale Adamson's famous dance list to choose dances for our weekends from now on. It includes hundreds of dances, their descriptions and videos so you can learn the names of new dances and even how to do them.

The dance list link will be on our application for the weekend. The only hitch is, it contains voting lists to other festivals, so make sure you're voting for ours. Vote for a dance with one click. To make sure you've got the right name for a dance, click the video link to see and hear it. If you don't find the dance you want, you can add it. For this you might need the totally user friendly tutorial. Many thanks to Yifat Drucker, whose computer expertise led her to find it. It worked for me, and I'm pretty app phobic. People who are even more computer phobic than I am, don't worry. If there's no line on the application for you to add dances, just email your choices to me or Andi.

November 2 is our next big event and I'm hoping to be able to dance by then. The Fall Fling in Melbourne is always a highpoint of the year, and I've invited some dancers from Miami. We should also have a board meeting at lunch, so I'm hoping to be there and not to have to Zoom.

More good news, this time about the archives. Pat Henderson has volunteered to exercise her librarian expertise to help John Daly determine what is worth saving, and Alice Kazin has volunteered to digitize what will be saved. Thanks to both wonderful people! It is surprisingly rewarding to work for our organization. This is an election year, so I hope some people can psych themselves up to run.

Happy dancing



Inside This Newsletter

President's Message.....	1
Club Reports In	3
Heard It From The Grapeviners..	3
OIFDC.....	4
Balkan By The Beach.....	6
Events	7
Winter Workshop 2025!.....	7
Footnotes	8
More Travel Adventures	8
Calendar and Tours	10
Event Calendar.....	10
Folk Dance Tour Contacts.....	11

Message From The Editor...

All articles for the January-February 2025 issue must be submitted by Sunday, December 29.
Please send articles for insertion to newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org email address. Thank you



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.
2. 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.

Club Reports In

Heard It From the Grapeviners by Carol Spangler



As I was looking back on my last few submissions, I noticed that most of our news is about the passing of one season and the beginning of the next. And, that the seasons are passing at a faster rate than I ever noticed before. At first, I thought it was because I was getting older, but I get nods of agreement from all ages and stages. So, here we are at the Grapeviners staring a new season. But, since I missed our last issue, let's take a moment to recognize the folks that hold down the fort during the summer months. We had a lovely time and a fairly large circle at some sessions. Our summer season is a little more leisurely, lots of easier/older dances and a shortened session time (1 ½ hours instead of 2). However, not so leisurely for Yifat Drucker, who did so much to organize and lead all of our sessions; all be with with some help from her Grapeviners friends. The pic below is the group at our last session of the summer season.



(Back Row) Linda Harris, Andi Kaplin, Ranita Lopez, Jan Gilden, Kyle Erast, Barb Ritsema. (Front Row) Delores Lustig, Carol Spangler, Yifat Drucker, Barbara Zigras



(Back Row) Pat Becker, Yifat Drucker, Ranita Lopez, Carol Spangler. (Seated) Linda Harris, Delores Lustig, Mystery Guest, Bonnie Ryan

And here we are (above) after the break. We generally suspend sessions during the month of September because of the Jewish Holidays. October brings Andi back from Canada and we are back "in business". Our sessions return to two hours and literally non-stop dancing once Andi is leading the dancing. For example, it is not uncommon to hear her announce two more dances before a break that is about two minutes away. She gives the "energizer bunny" a run for his money every session. So, below here are the folks that are getting our new season started. A pretty good group and we haven't gotten our snow birds back, yet!

OIFDC by Pat Henderson



Our Fall Season of dancing was met with too much rain to dance here on September 4 and 11. We had our fingers and toes crossed that Wednesday, September 18 would not be the same. It was a miracle that it dried up enough so that we could host Lee Otterholt for a one night dance party. We were happy that Judith, Hansen, and Joanne Baizan and also Karen Snyder, all from the Tampa area, could join us. We started the evening with a potluck supper an hour before our regular dance time and it was a great feast. Then Lee played dances from his computer. We did mostly the dances that we had learned from him dating back to 2002 and he taught two - Hora din Giurgiuilesti and Bracno Oro. We also did Dospatsko as a tribute to Yves Moreau. A good time was had by all.



The arrival of Hurricane Milton on October 9-10 canceled another Wednesday night of dance. Bobby and I were lucky in that we did not lose power and no damage to our A-frame. Ruth Ann had power out the longest which was the Monday after the storm at the house where we dance in DeLand. I hope that our dancing friends who have property on the west coast of Florida came through the storm okay.



OIFDC (Continued)

Continued From Page 4

On October 16, we had a joint birthday party for all of our September and October birthdays. Bobby, Manuel, Debbie, Gilda, and Susan were there and Nicki brought a birthday cake with candles for them to blow out. Another good time was had by all. Ruth Ann missed that night but we celebrated her birthday the following Wednesday.



Now for traveling news: Bobby and I went to Colorado to visit our daughter, who lives up the mountain from Boulder, from September 6-14. A highlight was going to the Scottish Highland Games and Irish Festival at Estes Park. We also enjoyed going to Indian Springs pool in the town of Idaho Springs. Ann went to John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, NC, as a student. This time she took two new students to the school and they did all the driving for her. Carla went to visit her son and his family in the DC area from October 15-22. Her grandsons are getting so much bigger every time she sees them.

The Orlando Holiday Party will be Wednesday, December 18 at 6:30 starting with a potluck dinner. Happy Holidays to everyone in November and December. And Happy New Year 2025!

We had our Halloween Party on Tuesday, October 29, so look for our photo in the next newsletter.



Balkan By The Beach by Robin Brigaerts



A small but dedicated group of dancers kept Balkan by the Beach going through the summer. Robin Brigaerts led the sessions and Paul Brigaerts provided the tasty snacks.

Food, like dance, is an important feature of our group. After dancing up a storm for two hours, most of us are eager to stick around for another hour so we can catch up over lunch. We're eating in the back of the room right now, but once the weather improves we'll move to the picnic tables outside.

After a four-week break we're excited about meeting again this Friday to welcome back the first of the snowbirds. Janet Higgs will be arriving in November and she and Robin will take turns leading the group this season.

Balkan by the Beach draws dancers from all over the United States and even a few from Canada. While we keep abreast of each other's goings-on through a weekly newsletter, there's nothing like seeing everyone in person, on the dance floor and off!



***Balkan by the Beach meets Fridays from 11 am to 1 pm
at Veterans Park, 802 NE 1st Street, Delray Beach 33483***

Events

Winter Workshop 2025!

Florida Folk Dance Council

2025 Winter Workshop

January 31-February 3

Orlando, FL

Roberto Bagnoli
International

Petur Iliev
Bulgarian

*All Those Dances...
...And Only Two Feet!*

Footnotes

More Travel Adventures by Vicki Kulifay



It has been an exciting couple of months. It started for me with the two week tour of Bulgaria. I returned to Florida for two weeks, then Bernie and I flew off the France and Spain for four weeks. We returned three days before Helene, which was then followed by Milton. Our power was out for six days. We had to replace our roof (it was 14 years old – so it was time). Lots of tree debris and we lost some plantings. But things are almost back to normal.

But I did want to take the chance to share some of our France/Spain trip. Our four weeks was composed of two back-to-back Rick Steve's tours. The first part was the Basque Region of France and Spain, followed by the Best of Spain.

We visited Bayonne (Basque culture) and St Jean Pied de Port (the start of the French Camino) in France. In Spain, we visited Pamplona (running of the bulls), Camino de Santiago (we walked about five miles on the pathway), Abadino (made yogurt from sheeps milk), San Sebastian (incredible beach town), Guernica (where we saw Picasso's masterpiece,

Guernica, represented on tile outdoors in the city), Bilbao (the Guggenheim Museum!), Girona (Game of Thrones sites), Calella de Palafrugell (Costa Brava seaside village), Pals (a Costa Brava medieval village), Barcelona (Park Guell and The Sagrada), Madrid (where we saw Picasso's *Guernica* in the Museo Reina Sofia), Segovia (the most incredible Roman Aqueduct with 160 arches), Toledo (famous for its metal work), La Mancha (windmills), Granada (The Alhambra), Ronda (the three bridges over gorges), Arcos (Andalusian horses), Cadiz (olives and olive oil), and Sevilla (flamenco and Alcazar).

We saw magnificent churches, fortresses, and palaces. The combination of Moorish, Jewish, and Western architectural styles is awe-inspiring. We ate tremendous food - a lot of paella (both styles - rice or noodles), ham, roasted pork, and drank Tinto de Verano's or Sangria. All in all, a wonderful experience.



More Travel Adventures (Continued)

Continued On Page 8



Calendar and Tours

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

Event Calendar

- 2024-11-01 - Autumn Leaves, Nashville, TN, www.nifddance.com, 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-dance-workshop.html
- 2024-11-01 - Tapestry International Dance Workshop, Minneapolis, MN, www.festivalofnations.com, Tapestry Folkdance
- 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
- 2024-11-08 - Greek Festival, N. Miami, FL, www.annunciationmiami.org, Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation
- 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 - 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 Multicultural Festival, Orlando, FL, www.fusionfest.org/
- 2024-12-18 - Orlando Holiday Party, Orlando, FL, No web information, Orlando IFDC
- 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
- 2024-12-28 - Machol Miami Lite, Miami, FL, www.facebook.com/macholmiami
- 2025-01-24 - Folk Ball Festival, Madison, WI, <http://www.facebook.com/people/Madison-Folk-Ball/100080154913514>, Madison Folk Dance Club
- 2025-01-24 - Florida Snow Ball, Gulfport, FL, www.floridasnowball.com, Tampa Friends of Old-Time Dance
- 2025-01-31 - Florida Folk Dance Council Winter Workshop, Kissimmee, FL, No web information, FFDC
- 2025-01-31 - Virtual Stockton Winter Folk Dance Camp, None, Virtual, www.folkdancecamp.org
- 2025-02-14, Flurry Festival, Saratoga Springs, NY, www.flurryfestival.org
- 2025-02-15 - Lunar New Year Festival, Cerritos, CA, www.socalfolkdance.org/calendar.htm, Folk Dance Federation of California, South
- 2025-02-21 - Greek Festival, Sarasota, FL, www.stbarbarafestival.org, St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church
- 2025-02-21 - Greek Festival, Ft. Myers, FL, www.greekfestfortmyers.com, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
- 2025-02-21 - Greek Festival, Melbourne, FL, www.saint-katherine.org/fest_info.html, St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church
- 2025-03-01 - Veselo Festival, Eugene, OR, www.veselofolkdancers.org
- 2025-03-07 - Laguna Folk Dance Festival, Laguna Woods, CA, www.lagunainternationaldancers.com
- 2025-03-28 - San Antonio Folklife and Dance Festival, San Antonio, TX, www.safdf.org, SAFDF
- 2025-04-07 - World Fest at Silver Dollar City, Branson, MO, <http://www.thousandhills.com/branson-attractions/area-attractions/silver-dollar-city/world-fest>
- 2025-05-02 - California Statewide Festival, Arroyo Grande, CA, www.socialfolkdance.org
- 2025-05-09 - Lyrids Folk Dance Festival, Vancouver, Canada, www.lyridsfolkdancefestival.org/
- 2025-06-12 - June Camp: an International Folk Dance Weekend, Lake Forest, IL, www.sites.google.com/site/junecampifd

Event Calendar (continued)



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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