

FFDC Newsletter

NOVEMBER, 1988

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Editor: David Digby, 3303 Price Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33611
Call: (813)839-1899 - (answer machine when away dancing)

Dear Friends,

PMS; who me? Okay, so I was a little grumpy last month. Would you believe that I was practicing for a part in a play? With a little padding and the right clothing I could pass for one of the seven dwarfs...don't you agree?

Of course, I'd rather be happy, or even Snow White...but that's another story.

Anyway, I'm sorry if I burst anyone's bubble last month. Who am I to step on anyone's dreams? If you still believe in Santa, the arrival of Royalty, the lottery, or whatever, I wish only the best for you. Most days I'm right in there hoping with the rest of you...but sometimes, I do get just a touch cynical. I guess that makes me human or something. Well, enough of this...on to more cheerful news.

As you know Steve Kotansky will be joining us from New York to teach both Hungarian and Greek dances at our annual camp. We're already excited about that! One czardas, two czardas, sis, boom, bah! Hasapiko, right, rah, rah, rahi! (Hold the tomatoes please, there is more to come.)

Our second teacher has been selected. He comes from a little farther north than Steve. His dance expertise originates in a country from the same part of the globe but a tad bit more easterly than Steve's countries. So now you know that we have two men teachers coming to Florida in 1989. You also have a clue about the country of teacher number 2. Ready for more clues and a bit more guessing? Let's play Win, Win, Draw. That's right...no losers in our FFDC circle of friends.

Remember how the game goes? I draw a picture, you guess like mad...just like charades but with paper and pencil. Ok, here's your first drawing.



Boy, am I good. "Santa Claus," you say...well, keep guessing...what else could you call this? An "elf", no. "St. Nick"...you get a nod! "Nick, nick, bo, bick"...no, no. "St. Nickolas," Yes! Ok. "Some saint is coming?"...No, that's not it. "Oh, Nickolas somebody is coming?" Yes! Hurrah! We have our first word; Nicolaas.

Ready for the next set of clues, the second name is a bit harder. Let's draw on. "Fire, flames"... you scream. Keep guessing I motion.

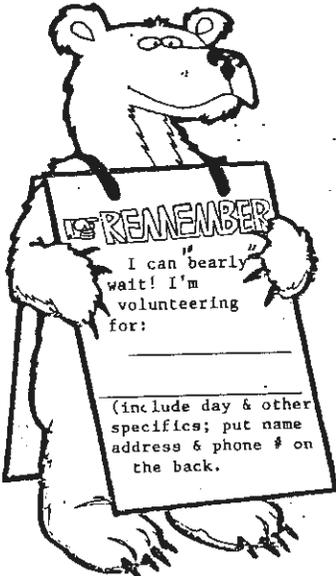


Here's another clue:  "A down arrow?" "Down with fire?" "Flaming Arrow?" "Camp fire!" "A forest fire." "Fire?" Oh, you gasp. It's the "H" word. "Hel"... Right, (I just lopped off an "l" to keep this tabloid respectable and accurate. "Nicolaas Hel...?" (Are you

really going to make me draw a picture of a skating rink?) No! Folkdancers are too bright for that. They have already guessed that our second teacher is Nicolaas Helfrink. He'll be introducing us to some Roumanian dances that will be all you could hope for. After all, he introduced the Cradle Dance into the U.S. (See what I mean?) Yes, I know that I took the coward's way out settling for two fabulous teachers again, but I just couldn't help myself.

Calm down, hold your horses. We have a few more months before this dream comes true. In the meantime, you can shine you opanci, practice your favorite Hungarian tunes, or sign up for some camp duties. Signing up will help channel these energies. I really do need lots of help. I mean you wouldn't want me to try out for another part in a play, would you? I'd hate to give Elizabeth Taylor a run for her money and out-do her rendition of "The Taming of the Shrew."

Love,
Bonnie

REMEMBER
I can "bearly" wait! I'm volunteering for:

(include day & other specifics; put name address & phone # on the back.)

Mail to the PREZ, Bonnie.

***** FOLK FEST FINALLY FLIES *****

(Maybe that's because Tiffany helped us keep them all zipped ... the flies, that is! Andy DID suggest that I use a "foolish heading" this month, but I thought we should all be more serious than that.)

WISE SAGE STRIKES OUT

Last month we had a young dancer asking: "Oh wise sage, where can I go folk dancing for three days in a row, without leaving Florida?"

By now, some of you may already know that the wise and learned kolovoda (dance leader) erred while stroking his beard. Two days, OK, come to Tampa on Saturday, November 12. Dance that night and go see the Folkfest on Sunday afternoon, and then go to the afterparty and dance some more.

But Friday is ARMISTICE DAY, and the City of Tampa insists that we take the day off ... or at least stay away from their Recreation Center. We tried to find another place to dance, but couldn't afford the ones we found, so there is NO DANCING on FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, but the rest of the schedule remains valid. (And see map on next page.)

TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

It's almost too late to order your tickets early, of course, but be sure to at least GET them! Write NOW if you want to be sure to get some. Send \$4 per ticket to: Andy Pollock, 6104 N. Webb #1102, Tampa, FL 33615. Or call him at (813) 882-4472. If you DID order them early and said you'd pick them up at the Saturday party, please don't forget to do so. (You can ask Andy for tickets that night, even if you didn't order any, but they may be all gone by then!)

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED in the SHOW:

Our guests will be St. Petersburg's Grupo Mexicana Folklorico, with wonderful costumes, concluding with the Mexican Hat Dance.

Other delights include some lesser known Portuguese dances to be performed by Sarasota, Orlando's new Bulgarian set as well as their famous "Oktoberfest" set, three (brand) New Israeli Dances, plus live music for the Yugoslavian set and part of the Norwegian set, as done by various Tampa subgroups. And yet more than this, even!

Another question to be addressed (by Tampa) is: "Will Jeff and Dylan slap themselves silly doing the (Hungarian) Szekely Verbunk?"

See you all at the party, especially you, Tiffany Teardrop. (Maybe I'll make only a prediction at the Saturday party, so as not to cause the World to LOSE FOREVER any hope of seeing "Installment O".)

-- Andy Pollock

LET'S UP THE ANTE A LITTLE!

Just to keep things interesting, I'll match Tiffany's offer (of last month) with one of my own. Should anyone correctly identify the REAL Tiffany Teardrop, thus winning "Installment O", AND should that person also agree to let me PUBLISH said Installment O, here in your newsletter, then I will reveal to that person the true identity of yet ANOTHER secret pseudonym that has been used by one of our Florida folkdancers! (although not necessarily in this newsletter.)

- David

"SPECIAL EVENT" ANNOUNCEMENTS

- November 3 - Pasco-Hernando CC W, 7pm - Tziganka Russian Gypsies sing, dance and play funny looking instruments. - (813) 847-5313
- November 10 - Tampa, 7:30pm - Birthday Party for everyone having a birthday in November. Others come help celebrate, & bring the food. 3303 Price Ave, 838-1899.

1988 FOLK FEST SCHEDULE

FRIDAY NOV.11: NO Dancing at Hunt Center - CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY -

SATURDAY NOV.12: 6- 7:30pm Potluck at Hunt Center (possible to dance during this time, too)

7:30- 11pm Free Dance Party at Hunt Center
(NOTE: This party is open to all, regardless of attendance or participation in the show.)

SUNDAY NOV. 13:

10AM- noon	REHEARSAL	(All at
1PM- 1:30	REHEARSAL	Performing
1:30-2PM	PREPARE FOR SHOW	Arts
2PM	<u>SHOW</u>	Center)

AFTER PARTY at MARIA PASETTI'S following the show.
3217 Arch, Tampa
with dancing on the deck if no rain.

- November 19 - Gainesville, Oldetime Dance - 8 pm, (Teaching at 7:30) \$3. Northeast Rec Center, 516 NE 2nd Ave. (904) 495-2243
- November 19-20 - White Springs, Fiddle & Dance workshops, \$55, Stephen Foster State Culture Center. Contact Riki Saltzman, (904) 397-2192.
- December 4 - Pasco-Hernando Community College West, 3pm, Frula, Yugoslav dance company. (813) 847-5313
- December 17 - Gainesville, Oldetime Dance - 8 pm, \$3. (904) 495-2243
- December 27-January 1, 1989 - Micanope Music and Dance Camp at Camp Ocala. Contact Micanope Music & Dance Camp, PO Box 12135, Gainesville, FL 32604 - or call (904) 495-2243.

February 17-20, 1989 - FLORIDA FOLK DANCE CAMP at Camp Ocala, starring Steve Kotansky (Greek, Hungarian) & Nicolaas Helfrink (Roumanian)

February 17-19 CURSES, FOILED AGAIN!

Once more, the annual St Petersburg International Folk Faire Somethingorother will just have to get along without any of the really serious folkdancers in attendance, because WE will all be up at Camp Ocala that weekend for the Annual Folk Dance Camp! (But see below)

SPIFFS DOES HAVE THEIR CLASS GOING AGAIN, HOWEVER!

- Every Sunday afternoon: 22nd St & 1st Avenue N (\$2/single, \$3/couple)
- 1:30 pm - Warm-ups/Emphasis on Rhythm, Co-ordination, Basics & Tempos.
- 2:00 pm - Easy Folk and Line Dances.
- 2:30 pm - Intermediate & Advanced Dances, Requests & suggestions.

TAMPA TRIVIA

Betty Dowd has just returned from her three weeks vacation in South America, where she visited Ecuador and Argentina. While in Ecuador, she took an exciting tour in the Amazon jungle. In Argentina she visited Iguazu, the largest waterfall in the World, which became famous after Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt saw it and exclaimed: "poor, poor Niagra Falls!"

Terry Abrahams also just returned from her trip to Australia and New Zealand ... Her daughter is married to the manager of a "pub" in Sydney, which is a bit more of a public establishment than we would use that name for here, since it includes several bars and restaurant areas and a small hotel. She also reports that food is a lot more expensive in New Zealand.

AND, she solved the little mystery about whose baby it was that we reported last month. -- Well, maybe you knew that our former treasurer, although known professionally (and to us) as Eileen Jacobs, is also married to Sherman Slone, but I certainly did not. Now that we got it straight, congratulations all over again!

(This letter from Gretel Dunsing SHOULD have made it into the last issue, but somehow it missed. A more recent note to Jacqui Davis indicates that it is still appropriate. Gretel helped us organise this crazy outfit some seventeen years ago.)

9/1/88

Dear David,

Every time I receive the FFDC newsletter I want to write and today I shall do it.

I am doing very well now, completely recuperated, first from the ill effects of Lauoxiu-Timopfic which brought me near death in Sept. '87 and then from a bad case of shingles, which gave me bad pains in May, June and July, with tolerable pains by now.

I am housebound because of my arthritis but feel happy and content. I have a housekeeper every 7-10 days, who also does my shopping. I do my own cooking, treat myself well and enjoy visits with people who "come by". Greetings to my folk dance friends.

Yours, - Gretel Dunsing

SARASOTA SIZZLERS

There's dancing here several nights a week. On Mondays, couples dance at Holmer's "Marienburg"; Tuesdays, it's Scottish with the Whiteheads; Wednesdays at the Unitarian Church with the Millets; Thursdays at St Boniface on Siesta Key with the Babiaks, the Norris girls and special instructor Jeff Flynt.

The Babiak Dance Ensemble is having a busy season with five performances completed and five more to go in October. They have been dancing at high school fairs, nursing homes, and the Opera Society and Democratic Party fund raisers.

On October 29th, the Babiaks will present a Portuguese workshop at the university in Louisville, Kentucky. During the summer they introduced Portuguese dances in Charleston, SC and Williston, VT.

In December, Dejan Simeonowski will arrive from Belgrade to complete plans for his summer tour to Yugoslavia. (See ad this issue.)

AS THE OPANCI HOP-STEP-STEP: INSTALLMENT 6
by Tiffany Teardrop

In our last installment, gorgeous Alex Arkan had been kidnapped in Bulgaria and Ethel Ann was riding in a car with none other than the VOICE who was about to tell all.

"My name is Richard Racenica. I'm with the AFF," said the VOICE.

"What's the AFF?" asked Ethel Ann.

"It stands for the ASSOCIATION for FREEDOM in FOLKDANCING. Your husband Alex is one of our agents. He's here in Bulgaria on a SECRET MISSION to retrieve some valuable information on the nature of folkdancing. Those men who kidnapped him are with the SEP. You can tell an SEP man a mile away; they always wear gray suits with narrow gray ties."

"What's SEP?" interrupted Ethel Ann.

"SOCIETY for ETHNIC PURITY. They are very anxious to get their hands on the same information so that they can destroy it. They fear it would go against everything they've ever preached."

"I don't quite understand," said Ethel Ann.

"We have reason to believe that this information would provide documentation to prove that certain dances were not meant to be done in segregated lines..."

"You mean . . .," cut in Ethel Ann.

"Exactly! Men and women dancing together . . . holding hands in the same line, even in the tiniest of villages."

Ethel Ann gasped.

"Furthermore, we have reason to believe that the women's styling may actually be just as flashy as the men's and that the people who created these dances in the first place don't really care who dances with what style as long as everyone has fun."

"OH, wow," breathed Ethel Ann.

"Yes," said Richard, "I'm sure you can see the repercussions this information could have for the SEP if it were made known to the general public."

"But did Alex have this information yet? We've only been here two days. I don't know when he could have got it."

Richard chose not to tell Ethel Ann about the night in Lost Wages. He figured she and Alex had enough trouble ahead of them without bringing that subject up. He said, "I don't know if he had it yet or not. What matters is that the SEP thinks he has it. That's why they kidnapped him."

"What will they do to him?" asked Ethel Ann.

"First they'll search him and interrogate him. If that proves fruitless, which I'm sure it will, knowing Alex, they'll TORTURE him."

"What kind of torture?" asked Ethel Ann weakly.

"Well, first they'll probably force him to do ethnically asymmetrical dances for a 24 hour period. Every time he makes a mistake and does something symmetrical, the person in line behind him will stomp on his toes."

Ethel Ann was beginning to feel sick.

"Don't worry," said Richard, "Alex has had special training in ETHNIC ASYMMETRY. I'm sure he will survive. It's the next phases of torture that can be BRUTAL. Are you sure you want to hear about them?"

"Yes," whispered Ethel Ann.

"They'll force him to listen to 48 hours of FOLKDANCE ANNOUNCEMENTS, and if that doesn't break him, they'll tie him to a chair, force him to watch reruns of Gilligan's Island and eat artificially flavored snack cakes."

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Ethel Ann fainted. When she came to, Richard said, "Don't worry, Ethel Ann. Alex will be all right. He has PROTECTION."

"What kind of protection?"

"I'm not at liberty to disclose that at this time, but I can assure you, he will be all right. He's very resourceful. I do know he loves you. He didn't want you involved in this; that's why he never told you about it. But he wanted you with him. He couldn't stand the thought of being without you. Right now we HAVE to get you out of here. Alex would never forgive me or himself if anything happened to you. Here's the airport. We've got 5 minutes to get to the plane."

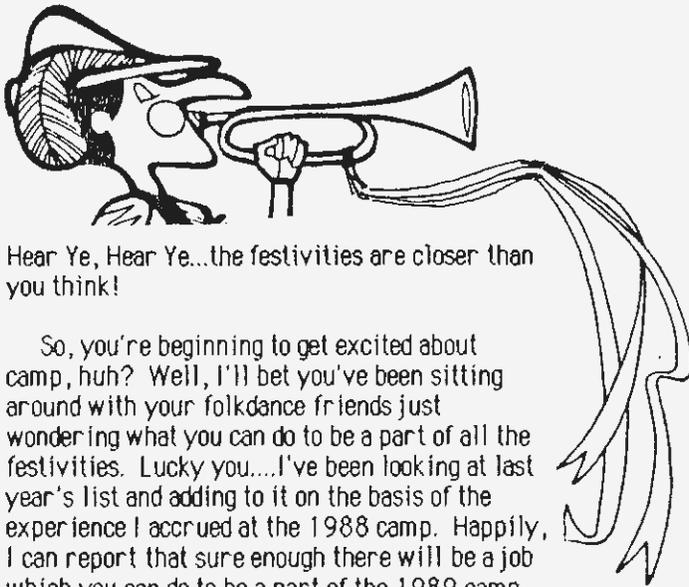
Well, Fellow Folkdancers, this is indeed SERIOUS. Will Ethel Ann make it safely out of Bulgaria? Will Alex survive the TORTURE? What kind of protection DOES he have? If he really loved Ethel Ann, WHY would he risk bringing her with him on a DANGEROUS mission? Don't miss our next exciting installment, and remember, don't talk while someone is teaching a dance, even if you already know the dance. It's not nice! I remain yours faithfully,

Tiffany Teardrop

THE BALKAN FESTIVAL OF DANCE
 JUNE 21 — JULY 10, 1989
 \$1820 TOUR PRICE INCLUDES
 ROUND TRIP AIRFARE: New York Kennedy Airport → Belgrade
 19 DAYS IN YUGOSLAVIA: Serbia, Macedonia, Croatia
 LODGING IN FINE HOTELS: ALL MEALS: fabulous Yugoslav cuisine
 TRAVEL IN LUXURY COACH to Nis, Skopje, Kosovo, Dubrovnik
 SIX DAYS AT BALKAN FESTIVAL IN OHRID, MACEDONIA
 Classes in Serbo-Croatian for tourists & dancers
 Opportunities to purchase custom-made costumes
 THE SCHEDULE IS PLANNED TO INTEREST NON-DANCING SPOUSES & FRIENDS
 YUGOSLAV HOSTS: DEJAN & TRAJCE SIMEONOVSKI of Belgrade
 ESCORTED BY DEMETRIUS & SHIRLEY BABIAK of Sarasota
 FLIGHTS ARRANGED BY NIKI of Gulliver's Travels 813/952-0062
 SEND \$200 deposit to YUGO FOLK DANCE TOUR
 1742 Joyce Street, Sarasota, FL 34231
 Brochures and itinerary will be sent on receipt of your deposit
 If you have any questions, telephone Babiaks 813/966-1847 or NIKI
 Tour price is based on airfare quoted 9/88; departures could vary.

***** THE SHERLOCK HOLMES CORNER *****

Please notice that you saw it here first. The clue to remember for this month is that Tiffany Teardrop IS, after all, a writer of FICTION. Any resemblance to real people, events or places was PLANNED that way -- as a resemblance, that is. Why should any of us believe there actually exists such a thing as Installment 0, for instance? I haven't seen it, have you? We'll just have to wait for the party after the Folk Fest -- to see whether or not somebody wins it! - David



Hear Ye, Hear Ye...the festivities are closer than you think!

So, you're beginning to get excited about camp, huh? Well, I'll bet you've been sitting around with your folkdance friends just wondering what you can do to be a part of all the festivities. Lucky you....I've been looking at last year's list and adding to it on the basis of the experience I accrued at the 1988 camp. Happily, I can report that sure enough there will be a job which you can do to be a part of the 1989 camp. So, see, you are lucky.

Please feel free to volunteer for one or more jobs as soon as possible. You see, if I think that no one will be doing it, I will have to turn into the Little Red Hen....and personally I'd rather not be a chicken...it's bad for the FFDC presidential image.

Which of the following opportunities suit your fancy?

To keep momentum going and the majority of dancers happy with a wide variety of dances, you might use your special talents to:
 Program Friday evening (heavy on the mixers, meet, and mingle dances)
 Program Saturday evening
 Program Sunday evening

Keep the coffee pot full Fri. eve, Sat., Sun., or Mon.
 Wipe tables after meals Fri. eve, Sat., Sun., or Mon.

Bring tapes or records for evening dance parties (include index for programmer)
 Bring tape recorder and sound system - Set-up
 Bring back up recorder and sound system
 Bring record player - Set-up
 Bring portable microphone for teacher use

(Let me know if you have one in case we need one of the following)
 Slide projector Movie projector 16 mm, 8 mm
 Video camera set up

Feel hospitable? I'll need some ambassadors to:
 Pick up one of the teachers at airport
 House him if necessary and bring bedding and towels for him

Camp schedule (feel like rhyming, or showing your creative style?)
 Print syllabus at low or no cost....give me your best price if applying for this.

Bring and play instrument (which one?) This has been requested by many...can you help us?

Name tags (Bonnie)
 Auction Table set up including bid slips, etc. (Rita, I think)
 Registration Table set up (Bonnie)

Could you help us create a richer atmosphere by bring decorations for the evening meals for just one table...cloths, centerpieces, placemats, or whatever your heart desires...let your creative whims get the better of you...you'll be setting it up the way you like.

Table decorations
 Dining room decorations (?) have any ideas
 Thracian Bazaar set-up (part of dining room)
 Pot-luck set-up in dining room (arrive Fri. by 5:30)

Dance hall decorations (Bonnie) and

Record sales table set-up & decoration

Check cabins prior to camp (early arrival necessary 4:00)
 Check cabins after camp (late departure Mon.)
 Cabin assignments (Bonnie)

Set up campfire (Charlie will provide the wood, you do the rest)
 Bring marshmallows & cooking sticks or make "sommores"

Saturday Snack (money is budgeted for this)
 Sunday Snack (money provided for this)
 Bring easy clean popcorn maker and ingredients for on-going weekend snack. No one should go hungry. This can be your pot-luck contribution.

Shop for miscellaneous grocery items for camp. We are looking to save money at the base or at a discount grocery/warehouse. I will need some paper/plastic type items, hot chocolate, wine, and some special cooking ingredients for the cook for our ethnic fare. A specific list will be provided.
 You'll need to shop and bring items to camp Friday.

Design T-shirt (HELP>>>>>>>>>>!)
 T-shirt ordering & selling, set up your own spot, advertise in the FFDC newsletter, etc.

Red-cross water safety certified card carrying person to be available for canoeing time. We'd schedule such time during the non-dance period.

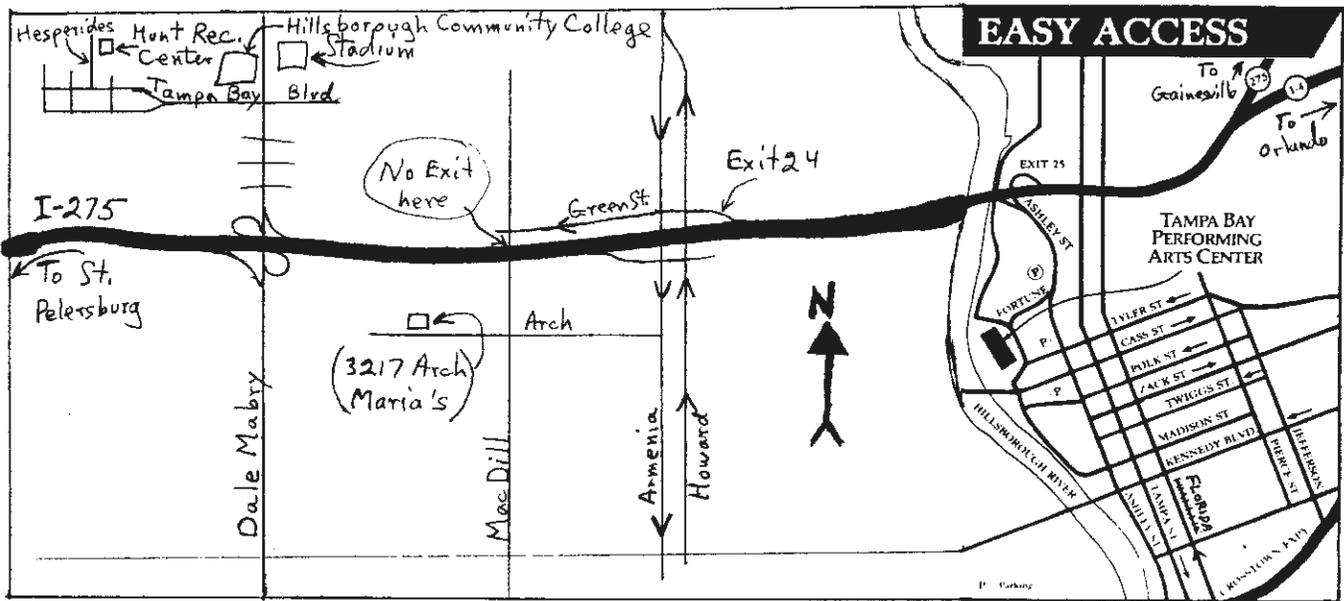
Game for meal-time, or party time. Should not interrupt the flow, but add to the fun.

Design flyer (Bonnie)
 Design ad for Yiltis (Bonnie)
 Map to Camp Ocala readable and easy to reproduce (about 1/2 page)

Handle complaints...of course there may not be any...imagine that!
 Postive atmosphere ambassador.
 Support the President's sanity committee.

And of course Run for FFDC office (which one?)

MAP TO FOLKFEST ACTIVITIES



FLORIDA FOLK DANCE COUNCIL
3303 PRICE AVENUE
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33611
(address correction requested)

Membership is \$8 per year.

To join now, pay \$10 for the rest of 1988, plus all of 1989.

All renewals come due at the end of each year thereafter.

(Next month we plan to run a list of those folks who have already paid for 1989, so need not renew.)