



**FFDC OFFICERS**

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PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS ✓  
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EDITOR FFDC 32117

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- SEPT. 8** TFOTD - second Sat contra dance  
7pm 10901 north 56th St. Temple Terrace  
Tampa, Fl 254-9988
- SEPT 13** DANY BENSHALOM in ORLANDO  
7:15 pm Winter Park Civic Center  
1050 West Morse Blvd in Winter Park  
Bob 407-275-6247 or Debbie 407-788-7277  
see Mouse Musings
- SEPT 14&15** DANY BENSHALOM in TAMPA  
Israeli Dance Workshop  
Cordelia B. Hunt Rec Center -- at  
crossing of Dale Mabry & Tampa Bay, go  
w. on T.B. to Hesperides, turn R.  
Fri, 7pm and Sat 9:30Am -- 11:00pm  
Call terry for more info 253-2090
- OCT 26-28** OLD COUNTRY WEEKEND near lake Texoma,  
Oklahoma Graham Hempel ( Russia and  
Soviet Georgia) 405-524-2826
- NOV 22-25** TIFD 43rd ANNUAL TEXAS CAMP near  
Bruceville Texas. Ahmet Luleci (Turkish)  
Germaine Herbert (French) \$135  
512-832-1360

For more information on  
any special event or if  
you have news about a  
special event please  
write to:

FFDC Editor  
728 Palm Ave  
Holly Hill, FL 32117

(904/258-6775)  
Phone

## ANOTHER OPEN LETTER TO FFDC

This letter is in response to Mark Polster's letter. "Breach of faith"? Don't you think that's a bit extreme? I don't remember our "leadership" promising our camp would be moved in 1991. I thought the possibility of another camp was to be investigated & hopefully a new camp would be found. But, if none was found, at least we still had camp Ocala for next year.

As for the "horrible conditions" at Camp Ocala: I think that's part of the fun of the weekend. After all, we're there to enjoy folk dancing, not a fancy hotel. The people whose dances we're doing don't dance under ideal conditions. So if the place isn't perfect, so what? The dances are still the dances, and isn't that the purpose of our gathering: to dance?

I think our leaders are doing fine, and wherever we dance in 1991, I will enjoy it, because of the dancing and the company. The setting will be irrelevant.

A Fellow Folk Dancer

### A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Folk dancing at Deland Middle School by Daytona Bch. Comm College will begin Tuesday Sept. 18 6:30 p.m. to 9pm and every Tues. until Dec. 4th. Cost --\$4.50 for 12 sessions. Visit us 1st or 2nd session--- we need 20 people 1st or 2nd session to continue.

Anita Holloway

THE FOLK CLUB OF SOUTH FLORIDA HAS A NEW LOCATION: CONCERTS HELD EVERY SAT. NIGHT 8PM AT TOBACCO ROAD(UPSTAIRS), 626 SOUTH MIAMI AVENUE. ADMISSION NON\_MEMBERS \$4.00, MEMBERS \$3.00. PAY UPSTAIRS TO HAVE FREE ADMISSION TO TOBACCO ROAD FOR REST OF NIGHT.



## BABIAK STYLE

We really enjoyed our six week summer tour of the eastern USA and Canada, and we can report that there are hundreds of miles of unspoiled natural beauty out there.

We have developed a travel style that is very comfortable, limiting the time in the car to 5 hours or less per day. So the first day took us into coastal south Georgia. We stayed at a small town called Darien which looks back to the days when the Georgia coast was the U.S. defense against the pirates of Spanish Florida.

The next day we taught Italian dances to our Charleston folkdancers at a party they held for us. During their Spoleto Festival in June, they do folk dances in the parks and so we added five dances to their repertory. Charleston is always a heart-warming experience for us.

We attended a four-day "Polish Camp" held at Bryn-Mawr College and did kujawiaks and Mazurs morning, noon and night. Our main purpose in attending was to meet Jerry Jumba, the only one we ever met who considers himself an expert on Carpatho-Rusyn Culture. He is a Lemko and Dmitri's heritage is Lemko. He arrived the last day and taught only one class. His politics were more significant than his dances.

We spent a week or so with relatives in New York and Maine and then crossed over into Canada and spent two days at the international folk festival that runs for ten days in Drummondville. The festival goes non-stop. Busloads of senior Quebecois and school children on vacation fill the various outdoor tents to watch performance and to dance with the performers. The biggest surprise of this event was the Inuit Troupe from the Soviet Union. I didn't even know that Eskimo dance. The women were very pretty in bright costumes with attractive headbands. Their body  
continued

movements and aspirated sounds were very unusual. The men did a comic dance about fishing through a hole in the ice.

"Le monde a votre port", the festival motto, was certainly true. We were surrounded by Poles, Moldavians, Bulgarians, West Indians, Mexicans, Israeli and Quebecois.

We went to Ottawa to visit a folk dance friend and fell in love with that city. We spent a fabulous day at the new National Gallery of Canada, getting a profound lesson on the power of nature from the exhibit of paintings and writings of Emily Carr. A dance performance occurred in the halls, up the ramp, down the stairs, along the walls of the museum building with the audience following after. About six dancers enacted a wierd struggle over the surfaces and through the spaces. It was very moving and surreal.

Most of the dance troupes at Drummondville went to a similar festival in Cornwall, which is on the New York border near Plattsburg. We spent six days at a workshop there, getting instruction from the professional choreographers, having the professional dancers as partners and attending evening performances in the luxurious college auditorium. It proved to be the best way to learn international dance styles. Receiving an hour and a half of instruction from these masters is a high privilege. By the time it is over, you know in your bones and muscles how the precision and energy of their performances is achieved, and you begin to develop the kinesthetic habits of their distinctive styling: posture, head, hands, knees and shoulders. Ives Moreau organized "Heritage 90".

The learning was a mutual exchange, the dance masters did not know what to expect from us: people who did not fit the usual category of spectator and yet were not professional performers. Recreational dancers love the folksy origins of folk dance and intend to preserve it in its original grass-roots form, but still enjoy "dance theatre".

We camped in West Virginia and Kentucky and attended evening performances at each: in Badcock Park we paid \$12 to see a dinner-theater presentation in the country's largest "log-palace" built of huge chestnut logs from before the blight. The group call themselves "Afro-Appalachian and presented songs and dances I'll never forget. At Carter Caves, KY, we heard two local Bluegrass groups do their plucking and singing.

Our son Peter and his wife Rose met us at Morehead KY with their 10 year old Jenny and Tina's 10 year old Andrea. This was their second time at Kentucky Dance Institute and we were pleased to learn that they had both been given scholarships that reduced their tuitions by \$100 each. We deeply enjoy taking them to the dances and watching them find partners and socialize. They are the youngest dancers and very popular with everyone. Andrea's natural gift for clogging amazes us.

We just announced that our folk dance classes will resume Sept 6, so I guess we'll be hanging around here for a while.....

Demetri & Shirley

### MOUSE MUSINGS

Fall is a fun time especially this fall 1990 for Florida Folkdancers. In the central Florida area we are eagerly awaiting Thursday Sept. 13 for a special Israeli folk dance workshop featuring Dany Benshalom. He is a well known guest conductor from Israel who recently was the artistic director at Blue Star camp in North Carolina. Dany Benshalom will teach beginning at 7:15 until 9:45p.m. at the Winter Park Civic Center. That is located on 1050 West Morse Blvd in Winter Park. Morse is east of 17-92 between Lee Road and Fairbanks. For this class there will be a \$5.00 charge. It is cosponsored by the orlando International Folk

Dancers and the J.C.C folk dancers. For more info call Bab and patty 407-275-6247 or Debbie 407-788-7277. Come join us! We can learn Israeli dances old and new from an outstanding instructor.

In July I went to Ontario Canada for Heritage 90 an international workshop. For the fourth year the city of Cornwall opened its heart and stages for performing groups from Bulgaria, France, Mexico, Israel, Ireland, US Virgin Islands, Tennessee and Moldavia USSR. Interpreters were everywhere even for "Lets have Lunch" as we Americans (only 15) were outnumbered by French Canadians and others. We danced with them, learned their costumes and customs and played their musical instruments. We even lived with them in the same dormitory. Kudos to Ives Moreau whose strong leadership and love of people and dance made this a memorable event.

OPA from Orlando  
Ellie Hall

### EDITOR'S ENDING

Hi folks!!! Well the summer is rounding out and here we are on the September issue. I think I'm finally half way organized after my recent move. The only thing I haven't found yet is my sanity.

So many people went to Canada this summer, I think almost one person from every group went to the Int'l Fest in Cornwall. It sounded absolutely fantastic. Thanks to those of you who wrote in for the newsletter.

The space up front was to be reserved for the PREZ but I didn't get his article. I think it may have gotten lost with my mailing switch and all. He was going to respond to the OPEN Letter to FFDC in last month's newsletter. We know all of you are awaiting that response so we hope to have it in next month's issue.

Bye for now

Deb

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