

# Florida Folk Dancer

April/May, 2002

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Pat Henderson

On March 23, a great number of dancers convened on Port Orange for Spring Fling. It was a great time to dance together and also see how many camp dances that we remembered. It was interesting that out of 11 dances taught by Theo and Lia, groups concentrated on remembering the same three or four dances. Bobby and I hope to work on more Romanian dances for the Orlando group as time permits. We owe our gratitude to Julius Horvath for providing the facilities and the food and for being the DJ!

As part of this newsletter, Terry Abrahams has the Treasurer's Report. Unfortunately, we did realize a deficit this year and it is all my doing. I was over zealous with the discounts giving over \$1100 in discounts! However, the treasury was built up from past camps so perhaps this was the year to make a correction. The base price for camp will have to go up next year. Also, the camp charges about \$10 more a night per person than before the cabin renovations. If we can figure out how to get that wood floor to camp, I believe that we will have the perfect facility!

Bobby and I attended our first Rang Tang April 5-7 in Atlanta. We had a great time seeing Nicolaas Hilferink again. He came to our Florida Camp in 1990 and we are still doing a few of his dances from then. He taught several mixed Romanian dances such as Serbian, Greek and Yiddish along with traditional Romanian dances. It was a delightful weekend and we met people from about ten states. Other Florida dancers who attended were Jenneine Lambert, Julieta Brambila, Samuel Austin, Slagjana Jakimovik, Carol McGinn and Sheila Balsdon.

The 50th annual Florida Folk Festival in on despite being pulled from the Department of State's budget last fall. It was transferred to the Stephen Foster Park to produce and sponsor. You will have the opportunity to dance for ad-mission if you let me know by May 10. There are usually motels available in Lake City. Camp sites are also available in the park with reser-

vations ahead of time. Read more about the festival elsewhere in the newsletter.

## ORLANDO INT. FOLK DANCE CLUB

By: Pat Henderson

We enjoyed Spring Fling immensely with around 12 from our group attending. We enjoyed seeing and dancing with everyone.

A few people traveled during the past month. Bobby and I went to Rang Tang in Atlanta after picking up Jenneine Lambert and Julieta Brambila in Gainesville. Bobby and I enjoyed our first Rang Tang with more Romanian dances and a live band for the evening parties. Atlanta was gorgeous with the dogwoods and azaleas in bloom. Juanita Schockey traveled to Phoenix for a family visit while Joy Herndon visited family in Sacramento. . Lucy Birkemeier traveled to Virginia to take care of her nieces.

Bonnie Kaplan from New Haven, Connecticut, visited our group at the beginning of April.

Bobby had a scare this month when he failed the stress test as a follow up to his bypass surgery. Upon further testing, it was determined that the stress test was wrong but we did find out that all 5 bypasses look great and are working fine.

Joe Birkemeier, Palmira Mora-Vals, Phyllis Dummer and I performed for the ESL students at a local elementary school on April 19. The kids were great and loved doing the Mexican Hat Dance and the Macarena with us.

## Limerick Contest winners from Camp were:

(for those who got a newsletter version which omitted the \*s)

If people would dance from their birth  
With love, and with joy, and with mirth  
We all could agree

It's easy to see

There'd be much greater peace on the earth.

Eva Stunkel \* (Continued on page 3)

(cont'd from p. 1)

There's a tale that a dancer named Alice  
 Often tangoed with partners from Dallas.  
 If they stepped on her toe,  
 She struck them a blow,  
 That dispatched them with anger and malice.  
 David Digby \*  
 Congratulations to both of you!

*TREASURER'S REPORT*

This report is for camp +/- only.

**Camp income:** including camp fees, t-shirts, memberships, videos and contributions (including Olga Princi contributions from Spring Fling)

**\$13,392.50**

**Expenses:**

Camp	\$9,406.00
Tip to camp	100.00
Vasilescus - Fee, Airfare, Videos -	2,526.00
Sandy Starkman	700.00
Syllabus, supplies, CDs, snacks	536.86
Tshirts	300.40
Sunday Snack	25.00
Flag	18.00
Camp video and mailing	274.69
Buttons (name tags)	20.00

**Expense total** **\$13,906.95**

**Balance:** - \$514.45

As you see, we had a deficit this year. The executive board has discussed this and has suggestions to make for next year. Pat discusses some of this in her president's message. If you have any questions, address either her or me.

Our general FFDC balance in the bank as of 3/31/02 is \$5,976.90 even with that deficit, and a few memberships have come in since that time as well. So we are not hurting by any means. We are going to take out a CD and let it make us a little money before next camp.

Terry Abrahams, Secretary/Treasurer

*PORT ORANGE*

By Julius Horvath

**IT IS A BLACK DAY IN DAYTONA BEACH/  
 PORT ORANGE FOLK DANCE LAND !!!!!**

I have just been informed that the beautiful Senior recreation center where we regularly dance and hold our Spring Fling is to be temporarily converted to a day care center and in two years torn down to make room for a huge "River Walk" park. They bought all the land in

the area including the next door trailer park to provide the space. They say it will be an asset.

Meanwhile, kids will destroy that beautiful floor and we will be moved to another facility with a terrazzo floor a few blocks away. It seems nothing we say or do can change their minds. **\*\*sigh\*\***

There is no plan (or money) to put in a new wood floor there in the future and no plan for a wood floor in the brand new community center planned to be built nearby in three years. The members of the town council are just not dancers and do not understand the benefits of a wood floor.

I accepted the Spring Fling date and facility so as not to loose everything in these volatile times. Please let me know your thoughts... In memoriam to our wood floor.....Julius

*CAMP COLLAGES  
 AVAILABLE*

By Pat Henderson

At Spring Fling, several people brought their pictures from camp and we composed a collage which is now available. The cost is \$4.00 which includes mailing (\$3.00 if not mailed which would mean you coming to Orlando or the Florida Folk Festival). The color picture is on glossy photo paper and is ready to frame. The money collected will go toward the Olga Princi Scholarship fund. Send money for the collage to: Pat Henderson, 9859 Berry Dease Road, Orlando, FL 32825. (Email recipients will get a separate file which is a copy of the collage).

*NEWS  
COURNATIONS  
WORKSHOP*

By Christina Wetherington

Date: Tuesday, April 16, 2002, 8:50 AM

We are in Wilmington, North Carolina. The workshop is going to be June 7th-9th. The cost is \$70 per person (dancers over 12) this includes about 14-15 hours of workshop, dinner/mixer on Friday night, lunch and dinner/dance on Saturday night and brunch on Sunday. The hotels we have blocked off rooms at are \$75 per night for single, double, triple or quad occupancy (all are double rooms) and both offer free continental breakfast. So anyway, more details are available from Pat or Jan.

*JACKSONVILLE*

By Pearl F. G. Roth

We are back dancing again after taking a break for Passover and Taxes.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who came to help celebrate Passover with us. We had a wonderful time. If you didn't make it this year we hope you can join us next year.

We will be dancing on Wed. 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm starting today 4-17-02 and on Sundays 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. There is of course no charge.

We will be studying Russian, Greek and Bulgarian dances and start working on K'mu Sira Trufa on Wed. and on Sun. we will work on basic Belly dance movements, ballet warm up, bulgarobics and review basic beginner and previously taught dances.

If you can make it please come. I NEED the exercise after sitting around doing nothing but TAXES since Passover.

Dancingly yours, Pearl F. G. Roth

**THE 50th ANNUAL FLORIDA FOLK FESTIVAL**

will be held in White Springs on May 24-26. The Florida Folk Dance Council is organizing a show on Saturday, May 25th. I am looking for volunteers for the show. If you dance, you and your family get free admission. If you do not want to perform, please consider going to the festival since it is always a worthwhile event. If you volunteer to perform, please send me a list of dances that you would like to perform. I will look over the requests and get a dance list out in about two

weeks. That will give us a month to prepare. We usually meet on Saturday and run the show together before the performance. If anyone needs a costume, I have plenty extra for both men and women. If you perform, I believe that you can get free camping onsite as long as there is room. I know that Jenneine is setting up an international campsite with the Gainesville group. The Gainesville group has a separate slot for performing but some of them may want to perform with the state group--the Florida Folk Dancers! Let me know as soon as you decide if you or anyone in your groups would like to join us. I do know that I would like to do Hora de la Tulnici, Yolanda, and Ani Ma-Amin from camp so that is almost half the show there.

Pat

*PALM COAST*

From Jan Lathi

We are delighted at the prospect of having Arleen Kaufmann from Gainesville share dancing experiences with the Palm Coast International Dancers who meet Thursday evenings in Flagler Beach. Arlene will spend a few months in Flagler Beach beginning some time in May.

Amar Lathi made the top ten in **short course** (25 meters long pool) in 50, 100, 200 meters Butterfly , 50 meters Backstroke, 200 meters Freestyle and Medley Relays; and the 400 meters Freestyle Relay for the year 2001 in his age group of 65-69 years . He also made an "All American " in the 400 meters Medley Relay by setting a new US national record as a member of the Florida Mavericks relay team and thereby being rated no.1 in the top ten. Hats off, Amar!

*ST. AUGUSTINE*

*ENGLISH COUNTRY*

*DANCERS*

By Charlie Dyer

Our English country dance band "Jubilee" and the the St. Augustine English Country Dancers have been invited to the 50th annual Florida Folk Festival. You can find our acceptance letter at: <http://chdyer.tripod.com/fifolk1.jpg>

The web site for the Folk Festival is: <http://www.floridastateparks.org/folkfest/>

Although details have not been worked out, my hope is that we will have a 90 minute slot at the dance stage (in years past this was next to the bell tower) for a participatory English Country Dance. When I made my submission to the Festival

organizers, I made it clear we were expecting to do a participatory dance and that we are not a performing group. However, I would expect that perhaps the first 20' minutes of our time might be a demonstration of 2 or 3 English dances- perhaps a longways dance to show the general format and 1 or 2 dances like Winter Solstice that would be too difficult to teach in this setting.

Those of you who have gone to the Festival in recent years have seen an increase in participatory dance. Contra has been a mainstay in addition to Cajun and Israeli dance.

The Festival takes place Memorial Day weekend; I believe it opens on Friday May 24 and runs through Sunday. In the past, Monday has been used for clean-up. Right now, I have no idea what day or time we will be allotted.

I certainly hope that English country dancers from all over Florida will attend and show how much interest and support there exists for this great activity. Please send me your comments and suggestions.

I will update you as I can.

Note: Next Eng. Country Dance in St. A:  
FRIDAY, April 26, 2002, 8 PM to 10:30 PM,  
beginner lesson at 7:45. St. Augustine Art  
Association, 22 Marine St., St. Augustine, FL. Live  
music with Jubilee; calling by Charlie Dyer,  
Donation of \$7 per person. Ask about a family rate.  
Bring a food or beverage item to share and take a  
\$1 off the suggested donation. Beginners  
welcome! All dances are walked through and  
called. Contact Charlie Dyer 904-731-7058;  
website- <http://chdyer.tripod.com>  
See the website for directions and a map.

Contra mailing list- Pam Linder maintains a contra  
dance mailing list for the Jax dance. If you did not  
get notice of the last Jax contra dance and  
want to be on Pam's list, contact her at:  
[linderpj@aol.com](mailto:linderpj@aol.com)

Thanks. Charlie Dyer

*From Sandy Starkman:*

March 25, 2002: Greetings from cold Toronto –  
brrr! ...I just remembered that people were  
interested in the words to Moj Dragane – so here  
they are. ...Sorry it is so late but as we get older it  
takes time to remember things! Right?

I really enjoyed the camp – the atmosphere,  
friendliness and dancing were super. I hope I get  
invited back!

When we went to Texas the weather got even  
colder than Florida which is very unusual. I've  
been there many years for the festival and never

experienced weather like that. Please give my love  
to ... the other dancers I met...Always, Sandy  
Starkman (Thank you Sandy!)

### **Moj Dragane:**

Moj dragane, moj nevene kako zivis ti bez mene,  
Moj dragane, moj nevene kako zivis ti bez mene.

Ja bez tebe kako tako ti bez mene bas nikako,  
Ja bez tebe kako tako ti bez mene bas nikako.

Oj divojko zuta krusko bil' volila da si musko,  
Oj divojko zuta krusko bil' volila da si musko.

Bil' volila da si momce da poljubis ti djevojce,  
Bil' volila da si momce da poljubis ti djevojce.

(My dearest, my blossom, how can you live without  
me? Me without you, so, so, you without me, no  
how. Hey you beautiful girl, would you rather be a  
man? Would you rather be a man so you can kiss  
beautiful girls?)

*GAINESVILLE*

By Raluca Rosca

Please join the Gainesville group congratulating  
Tom Whitmore on the occasion of his wedding!  
We could not dance for the wedding party in  
Connecticut, but we sent our best wishes up north.  
Tom was instrumental in transferring the music  
used by UFIFD from tapes and LPs to CDs, as well  
as in introducing some of us to the pleasure of  
Ballroom and Latin dancing. Long, happy and  
healthy life together, Tom and Melanie!

From Raluca Rosca:

How to (not) import a taragot... (RE: Carol Mc  
Ginn's note in the March issue on the funny  
instrument heard in 'Hora Vlaha'): First built by V.  
J. Schunda of Budapest in late 1800s, the taragot  
or 'torogoata' has been since taken up  
enthusiastically by Romanian musicians (and  
produced locally as well). Dumitru Farcas is  
Romania's most famous virtuoso on taragot; you  
can hear him on WDR LC 6759 (Dumitru Farcas,  
Taraf Mociu et al., Wild Sounds from Transylvania,  
Wallachia & Moldavia, Network Medien, Germany  
1997) or EDC 160 (Dumitru Farcas, Tresors  
Foklorique Roumains, Electrecord, Romania 1995).  
I bought the first CD on Amazon.com, Suze Stentz  
of Opet has for sale the second one.

**Our "Hero of the Day" is Julius Horvath, who  
diligently, every year, hosts one of the best folk**

dance events around. He cooks, announces,  
replenishes the punch, DJs and just plain

provides a wonderful bash. Thank you for  
Spring Fling!

## Florida FolkDancer

The Florida FolkDancer is a monthly publication of the Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc., a non-profit corporation whose purpose is to further knowledge, performance, and recreational enjoyment of International Folk Dance.

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Subscriptions are \$15 per year and include membership in the Florida Folk Dance Council. The membership year runs from one Annual Camp (usually February) to the next. Members can receive the newsletter electronically if desired.

Check the following website for further information on folk dancing in Florida: [www.folkdance.org](http://www.folkdance.org)

Send your items for ethnic and dance happenings by emailing or mailing to the editor by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month deadline for inclusion in the following month's newsletter.

## Mark Your Calendar:

**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Israeli Dance Workshop**, sponsored by the JCC of Greater Orlando will be on April 27 and 28, 2002, with Ruth Goodman instructing. Info: 407-645-5933. \$45 for full workshop.

**Maitland Greek Festival**, May 17-19.

**Diamond Dance Circle Memorial Day Weekend Int. Folk Dance Festival**, May 24-27. Cherry Hill Park, College Park, Maryland. Info: the Diamonds, 301-871-8788 or [diamonddancecircle@comcast.net](mailto:diamonddancecircle@comcast.net).

**Florida Folk Festival**, May 24-26. Stephen Foster Park, White Springs.

**Dance on the Water**, 18<sup>th</sup> annual folk dance cruises. June 10-24, 2002 – Galapagos/Ecuador, July 23-Aug 6, 2002 – Alaska Inside Passage. Contact Mel Mann, 510-526-4033 or [meldancing@aol.com](mailto:meldancing@aol.com) or [www.FolkDanceOnTheWater.org](http://www.FolkDanceOnTheWater.org). (Several Florida folk dancers plan to go to the Alaska trip. The more, the merrier, so check this out and join us for fun, education, and dancing enjoyment!)

**Nordic Fiddles and Feet**, week of Norwegian and Swedish Music and Dance. June 29 – July 6, Buffalo Gap Camp. Info: [fiddlesandfeet@aol.com](mailto:fiddlesandfeet@aol.com), web site: [nordicfiddlesandfeet.org](http://nordicfiddlesandfeet.org); 4401 Alta Vista Way, Knoxville, TN 37919, 865-522-0515.

**Israeli Folk Dance Weekend, camp Coleman, Cleveland, GA.** Aug. 30-Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2002. Info: Ruthy, 864-654-3511, email: [kibbutz@slann.com](mailto:kibbutz@slann.com)

**Sharpes Assembly**, Oct. 4-6, 5<sup>th</sup> annual contra and English Country Dance Festival, Sebring, FL. Info: George Senyk, 321-636-2209.

**Autumn Leaves XIX Folk Dance Workshop**, Oct. 25-27. Yves Moreau, Bulgarian. Email Tim Murphy, [timkmurp@earthlink.net](mailto:timkmurp@earthlink.net) or Janet Epstein, [Depst98336@aol.com](mailto:Depst98336@aol.com) for info.

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## **First Class**

*FLORIDA  
FOLK  
FESTIVAL*

*MAY 24-26, 2002*

Stephen Foster Park, White Springs, Florida

Don't miss it! Come dance for people or with people,  
eat wonderful things, and be sure to bring a friend!

