



# President's Message by Gary Berke

This has been a month of major birthdays and parties, where I was delighted to see my friends from all over the state. We had milestone birthdays for Ann and Carla, and the long awaited 50th anniversary of Pat and Bobby, plus the 55th for the Orlando group at the El Carib Hotel in Daytona Beach. Pat orchestrated the weekend with heavy duty help from Kelly, Cathy, Carla, Jennelle, and others. Amazingly detailed planning went in to make this the great experience it was.



With the receipt of our second teacher's signed contract, I have completed the arrangements for next year's winter weekend. which will be February 5-8. The floor contract is signed, the hotel is waiting, and all that remains is to adjust to the new food prices. They were actually raised this year, but the Dena and Sean, the managers, like us so much they waived them. 2027 will bring increases for food, for an additional hotel room since our teachers are not married, and for more complicated flight arrangements, with one teacher coming from the Netherlands.

Our teachers, Konstantin Marinov and Effie Derksen, have some new ideas for the weekend. Konstantin has proposed involving the local Balkan group if we can find a way, and Effie will bring us some long awaited Bosnian dances and a celebrated film for her culture corner, which will require a small adjustment to our schedule.

This will definitely be my last year as President. I pride myself on having set up solid systems, with a good relationship to the hotel and the floor people. Our check-in system went smoothly this year with only one reminder to the front desk. We will use the hotel's sound system next year for half their usual rate, so worries about music will be minimized, especially as Tim Sneed seems happy playing the music. That means there should be smooth sailing for my successor. So please think about running.

Gary

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# Passings

## The Last Dance - Elliott Davis



We regret to inform you that Elliott Davis recently passed away. He was laid to rest on April 24th at Ohev Shalom Cemetery in Orlando.

No other obituary information is available at this time. We will update if more information becomes available.

## FFDC HELP STILL WANTED!



Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes the membership to run the FFDC. This section, "Help Wanted," will include one-off tasks that someone could step up and assist the Board with them. Some could be one-time, others associated just with Camp (for example, someone could have assisted Gary in finding a dance floor for future years - a one and done action), and others could be on a more regular basis. Monthly, bi-monthly, or as needed.

Please contact Gary if you are interested in helping the team.

- (1) FFDC still needs a Historian. Responsibilities would be "digitizing" old copies of the newsletter, Camp historical records (e.g. dances taught), and other key documents donated to FFDC. The goal is to have them electronically stored. So someone with a printer who can scan the documents is needed. The electronic versions will then be stored on the website by John.

*Need is on-going, but there is not set schedule as this is a continuous activity.*

### Message From The Editor...

All articles for the July-August 2026 issue must be submitted by Saturday, June 27. Please send articles for insertion to [newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org](mailto:newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org) email address. Thank you

# Club Reports In

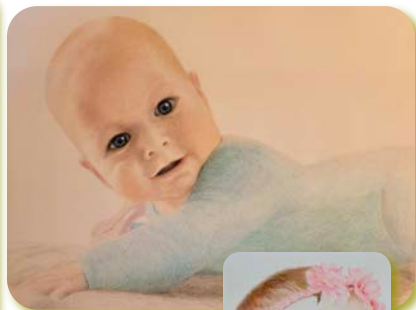
## Heard It From The Grapeviners by Carol Spangler



It is no surprise that many of our dancers have other artistic talents. And, they can come in pairs. In past articles, I've written about our resident carillonneur, Wylie Crawford. It turns out that his wife, Erica is an artist, too. Instead of making music with bells, her talents shine on the easel. Each year, the Pelican Cove development, where Erica and Wylie live, sponsors an Art Show. Erica's medium is colored pencils. Here you can see what wonderful portraits you can create with such a humble medium. The titles are perfect.



Erica Karp



PeekaBoo



Stars In Her Eyes

Along with the first rains, we know it is spring in Florida when our snowbirds leave us and travel north. It is especially bittersweet for the Grapeviners, because one of the snowbirders is our teacher/leader, Andi Kapplin. The Grapeviners "gang" gathered to wave goodbye on Wednesday, April 8th and sent her on her way to Vancouver to reconnect with her northern family.

Our Board met on the same day and planned our summer schedule. We have an abbreviated schedule and several of our members will keep us dancing. Ron and Kathy Fico will get us off to a smooth start by taking care of the month of May.



Ron and Kathy Fico

## Heard It From The Grapeviners (Continued)

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Yifat Drucker will pick up most of the planning and leading (with a little help from her friends) for the rest of the summer, when we will meet the last two weeks of each month. That will keep us dancing until Andi returns in October.



Yifat Drucker

## Orlando International Folk Dance Club by Pat Henderson

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Elliott Davis after many years of fighting cancer. He was laid to rest on April 24th at Ohev Shalom Cemetery. Our condolences to Debby and Joe during this difficult time. The last time that he came to dance with us, he led a dance as usual.

We've been celebrating birthdays in March and April like crazy. On Wednesday March 18th, we celebrated Cathy's birthday which was St. Patrick's Day. Of course we had our St Patrick's Day party that night also. Cathy had just gotten back from Italy and the Olympics, since she had a niece snowboarding for Germany. Her niece just missed a medal coming in 4th.

Then on Sunday March 29th, Kelly organized a birthday party for Ann's 95th birthday at Nicki's condo clubhouse. A good time was had by all.



Then on Wednesday April 8th, we celebrated Nicki's birthday at dance. She had just returned from a trip to Washington DC, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. She visited Revolutionary and Civil War sites to celebrate 250 years of our country. Then on Wednesday, April 15th, we celebrated Carla's 80th birthday. She makes the fourth person in our group that age.

Then Spring Fling this year was called SeaDance: a celebration of anniversaries. It was 55 years for OIFDC and 50 years for Bobby and I being married. Read about this celebration in a separate article.

Then Bobby and I left for Hawaii on April 23rd for Maui, the Big Island, and Honolulu. Ellen, a folk dancer, joined us on the Big Island and then she had a dance party for us in Honolulu before we left. I'm recording this article on my phone, looking out at the Pacific from my Maui window. More next issue.

# Gainesville International Folk Dancers by Joyce Story



GIFD continues to have a good turnout for weekly sessions, where new dances are taught and old ones reviewed on a regular basis. Here Heather leads us in Ach Eleni.



Smaller groups offer warmly received monthly performances at Gainesville adult care centers and retirement communities. Here are June, Julieta, Joyce, and Lilia at the Atrium on St. Patrick's Day.



Several members of GIFD made the trip to Daytona Beach for Spring Fling and Bobby and Pat's 50th wedding anniversary party. It was a wonderful weekend!

Many GIFD members and supporters came to Joyce's home (her grandparents' house, which was originally a church) to help celebrate her 85th birthday. Festivities included Joyce's telling of an original and totally unscientific story about Spanish moss and, of course, folk dancing— in the shade of an old oak tree with Spanish moss, no less. Non-folkdancing attendees were fascinated by Enino Horo and our other dances.



Donna, Joyce, Lilia, Chris, and Julieta

# Events

## 2026 Summer Fling

# FFDC Summer Fling

**Saturday, August 8**  
**11 am - 5 pm**  
**Potluck at noon**

**Cuscowilla Nature and Retreat Center**  
**210 SE 134 Avenue**  
**Micanopy, FL 32667**

**\$7 donation towards rent**  
**is greatly appreciated.**

**Hosted by**  
**Gainesville IFD**

**Cuscowilla is 12 miles south of**  
**Gainesville, opposite Lake Wauburg**  
**off US-441.**

**It combines natural landscapes with**  
**modern facilities, including a lodge**  
**and kitchen. There is lots of parking.**

# Sea Dance Anniversary Celebrations: 55 Years of Orlando IFDC and Half-a-Century of Pat & Bobby Being Married by Chris Webber



Pat Henderson planned and executed a two day long funtastic celebration of the Orlando International Folk Dance Club's 55th Anniversary. Kelly Fagan, organized and carried out Pat Henderson and Bobby Quibodeaux's 50th wedding anniversary program. The better part of a hundred folks participated in the celebration, which was held at the beachfront Caribe Royale Hotel in Daytona Beach. The east wall of the banquet room consisted of large windows showing the Atlantic. It doesn't get more picturesque than that. Available for perusal were two thick 3 ring binders of random documents pertaining to the chapter and the "couple of the weekend," both of which were fascinating. From consulting the cutouts and photos of the club's binder. I learned that there were in the 1970s (and perhaps may still be) clubs "for" "Afro-Americans," "Greek Americans," "Syrian-Lebanese-Americans," "Danish Americans," etc. in or near Orlando. And not only that, but there was also an Annual Central Florida Folk Festival held in Apopka that seemingly started in 1967.

In one dance photo of Bobby, he was decked out in some Eastern European folk garb. I saw a darling photo of Pat wearing a very snazzy ensemble consisting of a white sun bonnet and white sleeveless dress with crossed straps. She very well could have been a Chanel model.

The celebration started on Friday evening with dancing and snacking. The floor was wooden, flat, level, spacious, and neither sticky nor missing a piece. What a blessing. The music was handled by Tim Sneed, a swell dude who played a few funny DJ jokes on everyone... such as looping a song so it had no end. He traveled hundreds of miles as a volunteer, so that makes it okay.

After breakfast the following morning, folks folk danced. There was an hour of only Israeli dancing, as well as an hour for only non-Israeli dancing. Regardless of the programming, there was mirth and

if people weren't dancing, they were nevertheless engaging in good-fellowship.

Lunch arrived in the form of grilled chicken, baked plantains, salad, and black beans with rice from Pollo Tropical. These were most welcome vittles. Shortly thereafter Pat and Bobby ceremoniously renewed their vows. True to the name. the vows read were the same vows spoken half a century prior. John Daly served as officiant. Perhaps the most interesting component of this anecdote is that the renewal was neither planned by Pat nor by Bobby, and yet they followed the suggestion! Kind (and true) words were spoken by the Quibodeux children (Brian and Julie) as well as by friends of the couple. These included Frank Canty, Gary Berke, Debbie Meitin, and Kathy Dudek. Kelly Fagan, also participated in the lionization by singing the Beatles' "Hey Jude," "When I'm 64," and "Here Comes the Sun," but with lyrics she wrote to commemorate Pat and Bobby's all-around awesomeness.

Afterwards some folks sunbathed, swam, danced, and/or viewed the looping PowerPoint presentation that projected family photos onto a screen near the dance floor. Whereas lunch was Caribbean, dinner was Peloponnesian or perhaps Aegean, which is to say supper was Greek. Opa! Greek food is like the music and dance of Greece: classic. Everything was made by the restaurant Stavro's, except for the baklava dessert, which Pat made herself. Yes, it is better that what one gets in a store or restaurant. Chef Pat also prepared the dolmades. There were plenty of gyros, salad, pitas, and spanakopita to go around. I heard no complaints.

After the wedding anniversary party, folks danced off some or all of their dinner calories, especially Pat and Bobby's elementary schooler granddaughter who did very well. Within a few days after the event, Pat and Bobby traveled to Hawaii where they are no doubt living it up.

# Sea Dance Anniversary Celebrations (Continued)

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# Youthful Beautiful Ann Celebrates 95! by Kelly Fagan



We celebrated a delightful gathering in honor of our lovely, talented Ann Robinson in late March for her landmark 95th birthday. A beautiful yummy covered-dish buffet punctuated by delicious pies, sweet toasts, and hours of dance with dear friends was enjoyed by all



# NFO Conference 2026 by Pat Henderson

## Edited by Jeanette Geslisonn, Utah

The Annual NFO Conference was held March 5-8 in Durham, North Carolina. The attendees were immersed in Appalachian culture including singing, dancing, pottery and storytelling. It was a preview to spring for many with temperatures in the 70s and the dogwood trees in bloom. The venue was the Old Murphey School, which is now a crafts center and meeting place. We had a large room with a wooden floor which was perfect for dancing. It was about 10 minutes from the conference hotel - Hilton Duke University. Bobby, Julieta, Kelly, Rob McCullom, and I attended from Florida.

The conference began Thursday evening with the Welcome Reception. Dancing was programmed by local dance groups and followed by dances picked by NFO dance leaders. Sherry Cochran was the DJ for the entire conference.

Friday morning began with the annual business meeting with Greg Lund presiding. Rob McCullom was the secretary. There were committee reports and the budget to approve for 2026, with many additional agenda items. The election resulted in the following elected to the NFO Board: Pat Henderson, Gigi Jensen, and Stacy Rose.

Lunch followed which was a delicious catered meal (as were all lunches and dinners the rest of the conference). Thank you to Taunya Lund and Alice Thacher for organizing the wonderful food.

Friday afternoon started with Debby Szajnberg reporting on the Folk Arts Grant she has received to fund her project on global rhythm games. She collected 23 rhythm games from 19 cultures. Next was storyteller, Sheila Kay Adamsm accompanied by Sarah Elizabeth Whitehead, also known as Songbird by Sheila. Sheila is a ninth-generation storyteller and ballad singer and told stories about people in North Carolina. Sheila is the recipient of the nation's highest award in the arts, The National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship Award, which recognizes folk and traditional artists for their artistic excellence and efforts to conserve America's culture for future generations. In 2016, Sheila

received the North Carolina Heritage Award, the state's highest award for the arts.

The next presenter was another significant dance and music practitioner - researcher and scholar on Appalachian dance, Phil Jamison. He presented a workshop on Appalachian flatfooting accompanied by The Blue Star Travelers Band. Those participants with leather soled shoes were easier to be heard than those without. After dinner, we were entertained by the Apple Chill Cloggers, again accompanied by the Blue Star Travelers. That evening Phil called more Appalachian dancing with the band, followed by international dancing led by NFO dance leaders.

Saturday started with Balkan dancing with Erik Bendix from the Asheville, NC area. The dance floor was full, as a variety of Balkan dances and styles were presented. This was followed by a video about Pourparler from last fall with Mady Newfield adding commentary. We then had the honor of hearing from local pottery artist, Ben Owen III, a third generation potter. He has a pottery studio in Seagrove, about an hour and a half from Durham. He presented on the detailed process of his craft, from digging the clay himself, to the final firing process. He brought some of his beautiful pieces to sell. Coincidentally, last year, we had William Dentzel III give a program on carousels which has been in his family since his grandfather, giving NFO members opportunities to learn from artists who are carrying on living arts traditions.

After lunch, Phil Jamison presented on the history of Appalachian dance, a subject he has been researching and practiced for many years. He brought his book for sale - *Hoedowns, Reels, and Frolics: Roots and Branches of Southern Appalachian Dance*, which is also for sale online (see Page 11). This was followed by Erik Bendix with another dance workshop of Balkan dance minorities.

That evening featured the NFO Awards Banquet Dinner. After a fabulous meal, the NFO Service Award was presented to Sally Martin. The NFO Preserving Our Heritage awards were presented to

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# NFO Conference 2026 (Continued)

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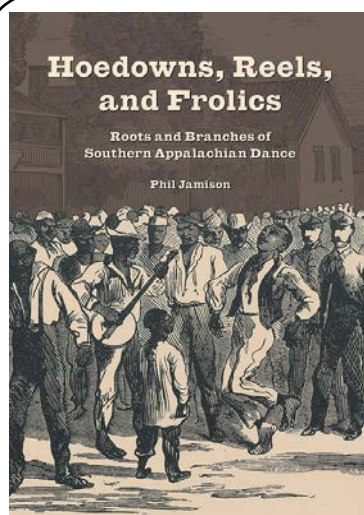
Phil Jamison, Erik Bendix, and Andy Taylor, longtime contributors to traditional dance. The awards committee surprised Roo Lester, who was also awarded the Heritage Award for her significant contributions to the Scandinavian dance communities in the US. Congratulations to Roo and the other honorees! The evening party commenced with Erik Bendix calling for Klezmer dancing with the Bandana Klezmer Band. Then there was international dancing led by NFO dance leaders.

Sunday started with a session on making Balkan martenitsa, a bracelet or doll made out of red and white yarn to be worn the month of March until one sees signs of spring. It is an old tradition that signifies health and strength. This was led by Daniela Stoyanova and Svetia Nikalova. Then Erik Bendix led a review session of his dances from his previous sessions. After lunch we were given a lesson on shape note singing from The Triangle Shape Note Singers, a communal, acapella musical tradition dating back to 19th century America. After a quick lesson, we sang first the cords from reading the shape of the note and then sang the song, many of them being hymns. Then Andrew Walker, Kirby Spencer, and Kelley Breiding presented a session on Appalachian music culture. In this session, they

described how music evolved in Appalachia. They showed the difference between old time music and bluegrass music styles. As an alternate afternoon activity, conferees could join a fiddle workshop that Andrew Walker led. Simultaneously, Sheila Kay Adams and Sarah Elizabeth Whitehead presented more storytelling and ballad singing

After dinner, the evening program began with a mini concert of two tunes from the afternoon fiddler's workshop, with at least 10 musicians playing. That was followed by more Appalachian dance calling by Phil Jamison with the music provided by Andrew, Kirby, and Kelly. More music groups included Bulgarian Gaida music for dancing, followed by Scandimonium for Scandinavian and Nordic dancing, and then ending the evening with international dancing led by NFO dance leaders.

Monday morning ended the conference with a postmortem meeting including plans for next year's conference in the Twin Cities. The 2027 conference will be in conjunction with International Festival of Minnesota – iFest-MN (NFO was last there in 2011). The conference will take place April 7-10, 2027. Mark your calendars now!



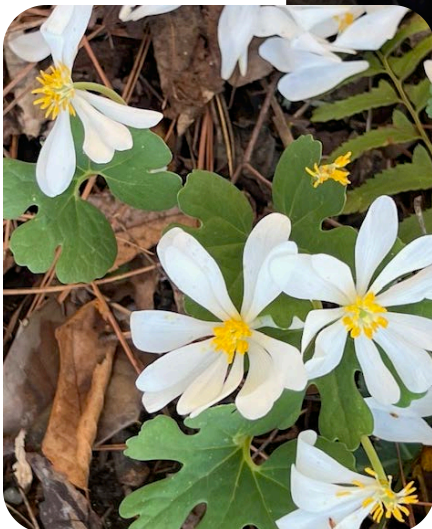
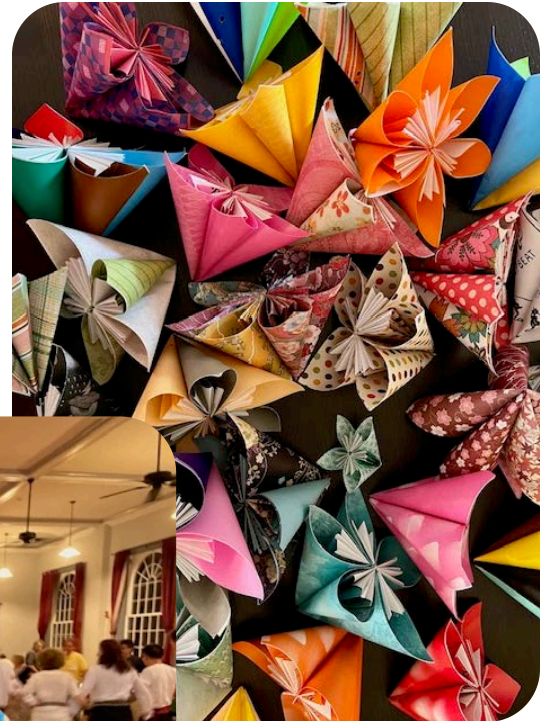
If you are interested, this book is available through the University of Illinois Press. It is available in hard cover, paper cover, and ebook.

[University of Illinois Press](https://www.press.uillinois.edu/books/catalogue/9780252036226)

# NFO Impressions By A Newbie by Kelly Fagan

Appalachia... draws me with magnetic intensity... and the delightful program did not disappoint... richly diverse... storytelling... flat footing... square dancing... shape note singing... pottery making... the gorgeous paper flowers adorning the banquet tables... original songwriting... all blended with Bulgarian folk art doll making, ethnic minority dancing, international dance nights, a Scandinavian

band, a blue grass band, children's worldwide clapping games collected by an expert... And a special shout out regarding the incredible menu... attention and sensitivity to ALL participants... I am still full to the brim with hapsy juice ... yes, hapsy :). Thank you, thank you, thank you to all who made this tremendous weekend unfold... see you next year!!!!



# Footnotes

## A Treat At 2027 Workshop by Pat Henderson

We're in for a treat next February at our workshop. Tom Pixton and Ralph Iverson will be playing for our Friday and Saturday night parties. Anonymous donors are bringing them to Florida for the first time. Tom and Ralph are from the Boston area and have been playing at June Camp since 2013. Bobby and I saw them at Mainwoods Camp in 2022 and again last year at June Camp, so I'm very happy to make

this announcement. They are from the Boston area and Ralph actually visited the Orlando group many years ago and brought his instrument. Their tunes are recognizable and easy to follow. I knew at least 100 from their repertoire, so we will select what they play after we vote on our party dances. They will play two 45 minute sets each night so get ready to be amazed!

## Who Are The "Folk" in Folk Dance?

*Credited to Folk Dance Footnotes - Beyond Choreography: [www.folkdancefootnotes.org](http://www.folkdancefootnotes.org)*

Only 100 years ago, most people on the planet lived outside of a money economy. They did not have jobs, clocks, mass communications, representative government, science, transport systems, or public education. They did have taxes, usually in the form of produce, but they seldom knew where the proceeds went, even more seldom did any benefit return to them.

The people of Southeast Europe and the Middle East were no exception. They spent most of their time trying to make enough food, clothing and shelter to get them through the coming winter, and raising enough children to keep the family going for another generation. They dreamed of a better life, but had no expectation of it. Almost everything they needed, they made themselves, including entertainment.

Society was organized along family lines. An extended family of up to 4 generations lived under the same roof, with the oldest male usually, but not always, being the leader. Everyone, including children, was expected contribute to the welfare of the family as a whole. Each had their assigned role – there was little choice, nor was there agonizing over a career path. Men and women ate and slept under the same roof, but most of the time worked separately.

The men worked outside the house plowing, herding and butchering livestock, cutting lumber & firewood, making and maintaining tools, building shelters, hunting or fending off livestock predators, traveling to town to buy, sell or barter supplies, or traveling to participate in work bees or temporary employment.

Women bore, nursed and raised children and did whatever they could while keeping children safely nearby. They raised and tended gardens, fields, and poultry, spun thread, wove fabrics, made and embellished clothes, washed clothes, cleaned the house and courtyard, preserved food, ground flour, prepared meals, gathered kindling, helped with the planting and harvest, and attended work bees with other women.

Entertainment was often something you did to pass the time while working. For men it was making and learning to play a musical instrument while minding a flock, or while walking to a town, forest, or field. The most common instruments were drums. Wooden flutes and shawms were simple to make, and sometimes to play. A step up in sophistication was a bagpipe – a goatskin bag with a hole to blow it up, and a hole with reeds and pipes attached to play notes. More sophisticated yet were bowed or plucked string instruments. As each made their own instrument,

## Who Are The "Folk" in Folk Dance (Continued)

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little thought was given as to whether his notes were in the same pitch as someone else's instrument, so usually a "band" could only consist of a drum and something else.

For women, whose hands were always busy (they spun thread while walking and carrying a baby), entertainment took the form of singing. Women sang while doing most tasks, and sang while working together. Their repertoire was vast – a woman might know a hundred songs, each with many verses. Songs would tell of family legends, of tragedies, funny events, secret loves, morality tales, family tensions, magic potions, unjust deeds, separation from a lover, heroic deeds, martyrs, suffering in a foreign land, encounters with fairies, devils, and other supernatural beings, etc. Each woman had a different repertoire, learned from her relatives or friends.

Once a week the people would gather to attend a church service. After church they would assemble at a nearby open space and pool their talents to create an afternoon social, which included food, exchange of gossip, bartering, and especially dance. A musician would know some tunes, and everyone would dance to those tunes. A woman would sing a song all could dance to. Women could sing & dance at the same time. A Romani band might show up to play for tips.

The village and its surrounding family units had a collective repertoire of 20 or more dances. Most were of a 'generic' type, similar to our waltz, swing, salsa. A particular rhythm and tempo was needed to execute a dance (like a waltz requires  $\frac{3}{4}$  time, medium tempo). Each musician had their own collection of tunes or songs, and these were set to specific dance formulas. The people listened to a rhythm & tempo, recognized it as, say a pajduško, and started dancing a basic pajduško, with maybe some fancy variations to spice it up.

There were many other occasions throughout the year that featured dancing – See Special Occasions under Culture. Dancing was usually something to do as part of a larger event. One danced at a wedding as a way of being in unison with the group while hearing special songs, of witnessing the goings on, of getting some exercise after sitting, of joining two families who may not know each other well. In other words the footwork was often incidental to the greater purposes of the event.

World War II devastated most of southeast Europe and the Middle East, including the rural way of life. Many countries came under the control of Communist governments, who sent rural people to work in factories; remaining country people were reorganized into industrial-scale collective farmers. Recognizing its propaganda value, governments began taking control of folk culture by organizing professional touring folk dance performance groups, schools to train performers and musicians, academic departments to study folk culture, and then setting standards of performance, determining which dances fit into the government's idea of the image it wanted to project to the world.

After the fall of Communism, people associated folk dancing with other failed government policies, and seized upon Western dance styles to imitate. Now that Capitalism has not been the success the people hoped for, people are reviving interest in their folk traditions.

Meanwhile, over the centuries, people left their native lands, emigrating to Western Europe, North & South America, Australia, etc, setting up immigrant communities that held on to their traditions. In some cases, such as the Jews, Armenians, & Assyrians, the expat communities are more numerous and have more financial clout than their homeland.

So today, few cultures represented by "folk" dances are living the "folk" lifestyle. Yet for millions, folk dance is cherished as a way of affirming oneself in a dehumanizing world, and as a source of community pride. Dancing your culture's dances is showing the world the essence of your heritage, like speaking in your native tongue, only with your body as well as your mind.

# Sing-A-Long - All The Lyrics From Pat & Bobboo 50th by Kelly Fagan

**WHEN I'M 64**  
 Early in 74  
 Pat she was single  
 Bob had a gal  
 They took hands with folk  
 Dancing just for fun and just  
 to socialize  
 Not first sight love. Well  
 that's a surprise  
 They were were so young then  
 Both had great hair  
 Many years ago  
 Little did they know  
 What was in store so  
 Many years ago  
 Living their lives as  
 Singles so bright  
 Such good times were had  
 Skiing on the water or upon  
 the snow  
 Tennis balls and racquets in  
 tow  
 He tickled her fancy  
 She laughed at his jokes  
 Two minds extraordinaire  
 Little did they know  
 What was in store so  
 Many years ago

## HERE COMES THE SUN

**Here comes Bobboo  
 Deedle deedle  
 Here comes Pattoo  
 Let's all say  
 It's alright  
 Dadadadadadadadadadadsdaaa  
 At leu gardens  
 Bathed in the sun and posies 'round them  
 Friends and fam'ly  
 Their own cool vows  
 expressed to guide them  
 That seventies vibe  
 Deedle Deedle  
 We felt alive  
 Let's all say  
 It's alright  
 Dadadadadadadadadadadsdaaa  
 Fun fun fun ....begun  
 Build ...sow ....grow ....as one  
 Dance through life .... Have fun**

## HEY JUDE

Hey Pat, My names Bobboo Take a cool dude And make life better Patricia, your cortex gives me the chills Tall, lovely, kind hearted, your energy fills	Oh then there's skiing down the slopes Traveling the world and dancing with friends we draw together We'll build our lives up brick by brick And beam by beam Reaching the skies Beyond forever
Hey Bob. It's me Pattoo Let's go grab that boat and go skiing We'll dance every night of the week Raise children plant veggie build dreams are you ready?	Hey love You fill my tank With your charm, wit, your focused passion It's fifty Our YES created our dreams Children friends family Joy busting the seams
Ready ready ready ahhhhhh....Dadada da dada ... etc .. hey Bobboo ... repeat ... hey Pattoo...	

# Calendar and Tours

Look for more information on events, tours,  
and cruises on the FFDC website calendar:  
[www.floridafolkdancer.org](http://www.floridafolkdancer.org)

## Event Calendar

- 2026-05-08 - **English Country Dance and Music Weekend**, Dodgeville, WI, [www.folklorevillage.org](http://www.folklorevillage.org)
- 2026-05-15 - **Cajun and Music and Dance Weekend**, Dodgeville, WI, [www.folklorevillage.org](http://www.folklorevillage.org)
- 2026-05-15 - **International Folk Dance Camp**, Hopewell Junction, NY, [www.ifc-ny.com](http://www.ifc-ny.com)
- 2026-05-15 - **Ontario Folk Dance Camp**, Waterloo, ON, [www.ontariofolkdancecamp.ca](http://www.ontariofolkdancecamp.ca)
- 2026-05-21 - **Folk Dance, Music and Cultural Heritage Festival**, Great Barrington, MA, [www.maayan-neurim.org](http://www.maayan-neurim.org)
- 2026-05-22 - **Northwest Folklife Festival**, Seattle, WA, [www.nwfolklife.org](http://www.nwfolklife.org)
- 2026-06-07 - **International Folkfest**, Murfreesboro, TN, [www.mboro-international-folkfest.org](http://www.mboro-international-folkfest.org)
- 2026-06-11 - **June Camp: an International Folk Dance Weekend**, Lake Forest, IL, [www.sites.google.com/site/junecampifd](http://www.sites.google.com/site/junecampifd)
- 2026-06-12 - **California Statewide Festival**, Chico, CA, [www.folkdance.com](http://www.folkdance.com)
- 2026-06-25 - **International Dance and Music at Pinewoods Camp**, Plymouth, MA, [www.facone.org](http://www.facone.org), Folk Arts Center of New England
- 2026-06-27 - **West Coast Balkan Music and Dance Workshop**, Mendocino Woodlands, CA, [www.eefc.org/balkan-camp/west-coast](http://www.eefc.org/balkan-camp/west-coast)
- 2026-07-04 - **Nordic Fiddles and Feet**, Moultonborough, NH, [www.nordicfiddlesandfeet.org](http://www.nordicfiddlesandfeet.org)
- 2026-07-09 - **Door County Folk Festival**, Sturgeon Bay, WI, [www.dcff.net](http://www.dcff.net)
- 2026-07-10 - **Montana Folk Festival**, Butte, MT, [www.montanafolkfestival.com](http://www.montanafolkfestival.com)
- 2026-07-12 - **KDI Dance Camp**, Murray, KY, [www.knobtiger.com](http://www.knobtiger.com)
- 2026-07-16 - **New Mexico Camp**, Montezuma, NM, [www.swifdi.org](http://www.swifdi.org), Southwest International Folk Dance Institute
- 2026-07-19 - **Stockton Folk Dance Camp - Week 1**, Stockton, CA, [www.stocktonfolkdancecamp.org](http://www.stocktonfolkdancecamp.org)
- 2026-07-26 - **Stockton Folk Dance Camp - Week 2**, Stockton, CA, [www.stocktonfolkdancecamp.org](http://www.stocktonfolkdancecamp.org)
- 2026-07-29 - **World Folkfest**, Springville, UT, [www.worldfolkfest.org](http://www.worldfolkfest.org)
- 2026-07-31 - **Lark Camp**, Woodlands, CA, [www.larkcamp.com](http://www.larkcamp.com)
- 2026-08-02 - **Ti Ti Tabor Hungarian Folk Camp**, Gig Harbor, WA, [www.tititabor.org](http://www.tititabor.org)
- 2026-08-08 - **East Coast Balkan Music and Dance Workshop**, Rock Hill, NY, [www.eefc.org/balkan-camp/east-coast-balkan-music-dance-workshop](http://www.eefc.org/balkan-camp/east-coast-balkan-music-dance-workshop), East European Folklife Center
- 2026-08-16 - **Mainewoods Dance Camp Week 1**, Fryeburg, ME, [www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org](http://www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org)
- 2026-08-23 - **Mainewoods Dance Camp Week 2**, Fryeburg, ME, [www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org](http://www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org)
- 2026-09-04 - **Balkanalia**, Corbett, OR, [www.balkanalia.org](http://www.balkanalia.org), Balkan Festival Northwest
- 2026-09-04 - **Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods**, Plymouth, MA, [www.facone.org/labor-day-weekend/labor-day-weekend.html](http://www.facone.org/labor-day-weekend/labor-day-weekend.html)
- 2026-09-18 - **Enon Valley Folk Dance Camp**, Enon Valley, PA, [www.folkdancepittsburgh.com](http://www.folkdancepittsburgh.com)
- 2026-09-18 - **Fandango Dance Weekend**, Decatur, GA, [www.ecdatlanta.org](http://www.ecdatlanta.org), English Country Dance Atlanta
- 2026-09-24 - **World Camp**, Rock Hill, NY, [www.worldcamp.us](http://www.worldcamp.us), World Music & Dance Institute
- 2026-09-25 - **Mountain Playshop**, Montreat, NC, [www.mountainplayshop.org](http://www.mountainplayshop.org)
- 2026-10-08 - **Fall Dance Weekend**, Brasstown, NC, [www.folkschool.org](http://www.folkschool.org), John C. Campbell Folk School
- 2026-10-23 - **Fall Swedish Music and Dance Weekend**, Dodgeville, WI, [www.folklorevillage.org](http://www.folklorevillage.org)
- 2026-10-22 - **Pourparler**, Jefferson, MD, [www.nfo-usa.org/pourparler](http://www.nfo-usa.org/pourparler), NFO
- 2026-10-30 - **Fall Camp**, Brandeis, CA, [www.fallcamp.org](http://www.fallcamp.org), Folk Dance Federation of California, South
- 2026-11-06 - **Autumn Leaves**, Nashville, TN, [www.nifddance.com](http://www.nifddance.com), Nashville International Folk Dancers
- 2026-11-26 - **Bannerman Folk Camp**, Black Mountain, NC, [www.bannermanfolkcamp.com](http://www.bannermanfolkcamp.com)

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# Event Calendar (Continued)

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2026-12-28 - **Folklore Village Festival of Christmas and Midwinter Traditions**, Dodgeville, WI,  
[www.folklorevillage.org](http://www.folklorevillage.org)

2027-02-05 - **Florida Folk Dance Council Winter Workshop**, Kissimmee, FL, [www.floridafolkdancer.org](http://www.floridafolkdancer.org), FFDC

## 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](mailto:folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com) or 510-459-0092.

For Seminars of Greek Dance with Kyriakos Moisisdis, contact [moisidiskyriakos@gmail.com](mailto:moisidiskyriakos@gmail.com).

For tours with Sonia and Cristian, see <http://www.soniacristian.net> or contact Sonia at [sonia\\_dion@hotmail.com](mailto:sonia_dion@hotmail.com).

For Jim Gold Folk Tours, see <http://www.jimgold.com> or contact Jim Gold at [jimgold@jimgold.com](mailto:jimgold@jimgold.com) or 201-836-0362.

For tours with Zeljko Jergen, contact Fusae Senzaki Carroll at [fusaec@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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!)

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

Start by creating an email to be sent to:

[reqmsg@floridafolkdancer.org](mailto: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.

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Send all other newsletter submissions to the [newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org](mailto:newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org) email address.

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