



july 1973

ffdc newsletter



Miami's International Folk Festival

The City of Miami's Second Annual International Folk Festival, which took place from Thursday, May 31 to Sunday, June 3, 1973, introduced thousands of Miamians to the songs, dances, and foods of other countries and cultures. Nonstop entertainment on the stage of the Bayfront Park Auditorium was accompanied by exotic odors from the many food booths in the auditorium. Three different kinds of baklava, Irish soda bread, borscht with sour cream and black bread, soul food, tortillas, Cuban arroz con pollo, kielbasa, pastries from all countries--most spectators ate continuously, and miraculously it all seemed to go together.

Crafts exhibits were set up in the nearby Miami Public Library, and were open to the public on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. On Saturday night, a parade through the city ended at the auditorium, followed by a dance to which thousands came.

Among the entertainers were some of special interest to folk dancers. The St. Andrews Highland Dancers performed several dances, including a hornpipe, sword dance, and highland fling, accompanied by pipers. The Traditional Irish Dancers showed reels and jigs; their group included a singer and instrumentalists. Brendan Holland's solo brought down the house. Greek performers sponsored by the Greek Orthodox Ladies Society of Greater Miami did several dances, including a lively tsamiko.



The food booths did a brisk business



The St. Andrews Highland Dancers

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(Contributed by Helen Pelta)



NO! STEP WITH THE OTHER LEFT FOOT.

- CLEARWATER** Scottish Dancing, Sun. 7:30 p.m., Peace Memorial Church, 107 S. Osceola. Contact John Marsden, 107 S. Osceola, Clearwater 33516, (813) 447-6176.
- CLEARWATER** St. Petersburg Junior College Folk Dance Club, Clearwater Campus. Will resume in the fall.
- FT. LAUDERDALE** Around-the-World Dancers. Will resume in the fall. Contact Bea or Phil Statnick, 91 N.E. 46th St., Ft. Lauderdale 33308, (305) 771-5287.
- GAINESVILLE** Meetings Fri. 9:30-12 p.m., Norman Hall Gym, Univ. of Florida. Contact John Ward, 508 N.W. 36th Dr., Gainesville 32601, (904) 376-0224; or Barbara Klingberg, Box 228 Jennings Hall, Univ. of Florida, Gainesville 32601.
- MIAMI** Miami International Folk Dancers, Wed. beginners, 7:30-8:15 p.m.; intermediates, 8:30-10:30 p.m., First Unitarian Church, 7701 S.W. 76th Ave. Contact Harold or Helen Pelta, 16200 S.W. 87th Ave., Miami 33157, (305) 233-5916.
- MIAMI** Univ. of Miami Folk Dance Club. Will resume in the fall. Contact Helen Hyams, 449 Anastasia, Coral Gables 33134, (305) 448-5117.
- MIAMI** Scottish Country Dancing. Will resume in the fall. Contact Ken or Isis Hilton, 11600 S.W. 70th Ave., Miami, (305) 667-9059.
- MIAMI** Belly Dance Lessons, Phillis Kapp Studio of The Dance, 247 Malaga Ave., Coral Gables. Contact Karen Gillis, 711 N.W. 1st Ave., Ft. Lauderdale 33311, (305) 763-1193.
- MIAMI BEACH** The group led by Morris and Mary Urovsky will resume in the fall.
- MIRAMAR** Irish-American Ceili Club, 4th Fri. of month, Old Fireman's Hall, 7600 Venetian, Miramar. Contact Mary Borden, 700 N.W. 200 Terr., Miami 33169, (305) 625-1652; or Jack Smith, 3091 N.W. Holatee Trail, Ft. Lauderdale, (305) 587-5552.
- ORLANDO** Orlando International Folk Dance Club, Wed. 7:57-10:30 p.m., Unitarian Church, 1815 E. Robinson (at Hampton). Contact Dave Digby, 311 S. Brown Ave., Orlando 32801, (305) 894-3743; or Larry Wartell, 5706 Eggleston Ave., Orlando 32810, (305) 645-0290.
- PENSACOLA** Tzigany, c/o Student Activities, Univ. of West Florida. Will resume in the fall. Contact Jim Marsh, Physics Dept., Univ. of West Florida, Pensacola 32504, home phone (904) 438-3284; or Drew Harris, 1300 E. Tunis, Pensacola 32503, (904) 434-3744, for summer activities.
- SARASOTA** The Folksdancing, 2nd and 4th Fri. of month, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Sugar Creek Camp Resort, 3300 26th Ave. E., Bradenton. Scottish Country Dancing, 2nd and 4th Mon. at the Folk House. For specific meetings contact Cubby or Jeanie Whitehead, Rt. 3, Box 90, Sarasota 33580, (813) 755-7005 or 755-6212.
- TALLAHASSEE** International dancing, Sun. 7:30-10:30 p.m., Student Union, Florida State Univ. Contact Joe or Joyce Abbatte, 316 Conradi St., #202, Tallahassee 32304, (904) 224-1479 or 599-4237.
- TAMPA** Meetings Fri. 7-10 p.m., Forest Hills Community Center, 724 W. 109th Ave., Tampa. Contact Nelle E. Westergard, 9330 N. Highland St., Tampa 33612, (813) 932-0830; or Judith or Ernesto Baizan, 2503 Palm Dr., Tampa 33609, (813) 257-0001 or 257-1881.
- WEST PALM BEACH** Sun. night meetings. Contact Mrs. June Volpi, 251 16th Way W., Riviera Beach, (305) 848-2072.
- WEST PALM BEACH** Beginners and intermediate folk dancing, Century Village. Contact Rose or Sam Kanars, 129 E. Hampton, Century Village, W. Palm Beach 33401.

Dancing in the Dark?
See the Light

... AND DANCE WITH US!
THE MIAMI INTERNATIONAL
FOLK DANCERS

First Unitarian Church
7701 S.W. 76th Ave.

Wednesday nights

CONTACT: Harold or Helen Pelta
16200 S.W. 87th Ave.
Miami 33157

FFDC Newsletter

The ffdc newsletter is a monthly publication of the Florida Folk Dance Council, Rt. 3, Box 90, Sarasota, FL 33580.

Officers of the Florida Folk Dance Council are:

President--Cubby Whitehead
Secretary--Donna Pezdek
Treasurer--Nelle Westergard

Individual membership in the Florida Folk Dance Council is \$3.00 per year. Members are entitled to receive the Newsletter. It is available to nonmembers at 50¢ per copy. Groups may be listed in the ffdc directory free of charge.

Contributions to the Newsletter should be sent to Helen Hyams, 449 Anastasia, #2, Coral Gables, FL 33134.

ADVERTISING RATES

	One Month	Six Months	One Year
Full page	\$9.00	\$49.50	\$90.00
Half page	5.00	27.50	50.00
Quarter page	3.00	16.50	30.00
Eighth page	1.75	9.50	17.50



The Greater Miami Balalaika Ensemble

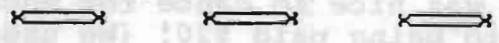


Brendan Holland

The Greater Miami Balalaika Ensemble, which included faithful Miami folk dancer Earl Galitz as violinist, played Russian songs and danced troika. The Tamburitzan Trio, which entertains frequently in Miami, contributed numbers from many lands, with a heavy emphasis on the Balkans. Miami's German-American Cultural Club, with its own band, did landlers and other dances, and demonstrated bell-ringing.

Four lovely Phillipine-Americans showed Polynesian dances. The Hungarian Church of the Reformation provided singers and musicians. And the Ukrainian Dancers of Miami performed with their usual polish and style. Bahamian limbo dancers, Cuban singers and dancers, a steel drum band from Trinidad, the American folk singer Robert Dixon--it was a full four days of entertainment.

Most of Miami's folk dancers spent at least part of the Festival there, and some came from farther away--Sam and Rose Kanars drove down from West Palm Beach. And some people interested in folk dance who hadn't known how active it is here made new contacts and will probably start dancing here. Miami felt, not like an impersonal city, but like a "village," where everyone knew each other. May the Festival prosper.



Brendan Holland has indicated that he is willing to teach Irish dancing in Miami next year. All those interested in forming a class in the fall, please contact Helen Hyams.

Pond Eddy, N.Y.

ROSE FREEDMAN

We are going to teach this summer at a very large resort. The name of it is Unity House, at Unity House, Pennsylvania. We have never taught at a place where they accommodate 800 people, but hopefully, only a small percentage will partake of our class. This resort is run by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, and truly it's a fabulous place. Most attractive.

Decoration Day weekend we spent at the Hotel Tesslers, in Kerhonkson, N.Y., where the Mazurs teach, and it was great dancing, but only 200 people were there. When we think that possibly four times as many will be dancing at one time--WOW! We are betting on the law of averages, it won't happen.

Tallahassee

PAT JUNG

Yes, there really is folk dancing in north Florida! We're just not as vocal as the middle and south Florida groups. I'll try to fill you in on some of our group's activities for the past year.

In other years, our group was very informal, so we decided to set up some procedures and delegate responsibilities. We have been fortunate to have quite a few people who have danced other places and know a lot of good dances, so my job as program coordinator for Sunday night dancing was to find out who wanted to teach what each week, place the dances in easy-to-hard order for the 1 1/2 hours of teaching, set up the cassette tapes for them, and then plan part of the 1 1/2-hour dance program, which included requests. Other dancers did such things as making room reservations and deciding on styling and costumes for performances. My husband Hal was the performance group leader until recently, when Joe Abbatte took over this duty. (Joe and his wife Joyce are the contact people for our group for the summer, since Hal and I will be gone, mostly camping in Colorado.) At the performance practice each Thursday we spent about an hour working on two or three dances, to make the styling more uniform and exact. As a result, we were more prepared when we were asked to do performances. Last fall we performed at the annual Market Day at the fairgrounds, at a United Nations Day program, and at the FSU homecoming fair. All these performances were well received. On February 18, we performed in the International Club Talent Show. The format was a trip around the world, stopping at different places to see what the "natives" were up to. Since there is a shortage of European students at FSU, we were a very important part of the show.

On March 11 we had the exciting experience of being paid for a performance for the first time. We danced for a business sorority, and they loved us. It was nice to dance for such an enthusiastic audience, in addition to being paid \$20! (We used the money to start a club record collection, which will probably grow very slowly--our request for funding from FSU was turned down, although we are a university-based group. We are getting some money by asking dancers to donate "spare change" each week, but we will probably have to use the personally owned tapes for quite a while before the record collection will be big enough to use.)

On April 29, we danced twice for the International Club Travel Fair, once outside and once inside. Our most recent performances were May 4 and May 6, in honor of Israeli Independence Day. Friday night we danced at Temple Israel, and succeeded in getting a few people to join in the dances. Then on Sunday we danced for the Lox and Bagel Brunch, and after doing a few performance dances, we did some easy ones and a few of the students joined in.

Our group has been active in other ways besides performances. On March 10 we had a Serbian Day, which consisted of a pot luck supper of Serbian dishes; talks by group members on Serbian history, culture, and costumes; and of course lots of Serbian dancing. Everything went very well, and we hope to have similar cultural days next year. Then on April 3 we were fortunate to have Bora Özkök give a Turkish workshop here, on his way from Miami to New Orleans. We had a pot luck supper, then the workshop in which Bora taught us five dances, and then a reception at the International Club. A few Turkish students came to the workshop, and one has been dancing with us regularly since.

Our biggest and most successful activity this year was a workshop with the Pensacola and Gainesville groups, held here on May 5 and 6. There were about 35 out-of-towners, besides about 15 locals, so we had a very nice group, including almost as many males as females! Each of the other groups taught three dances, and our group taught six, including three of the dances which Bora taught us. We were glad we could share these with the other groups, since they couldn't get here and back home on



a week night for Bora's workshop. We had three workshop sessions in the afternoon, alternating teachers and types of dances. In between the workshops were periods of program and request dancing. After a pot luck supper, we returned to dancing with a party. The groups took turns playing one dance at a time, either just to dance, or to quickly teach. We got introduced to a lot of good dances this way, as well as dancing a lot of old favorites. We had our last workshop session in the middle of the party. We danced from 1:00 p.m. Saturday until almost 1:00 a.m. Sunday, with just a few hours' break for the supper. Then Sunday morning we had a quick review of most of the 12 workshop dances, and did more request dancing until about noon, when the guests left for home.

The workshop was a lot of fun, and we proved that it's possible to have a good workshop without much expense. The purpose was just to exchange dances and have fun, so we didn't charge anything. Our group prepared the pot luck supper and housed the guests, and each group member fed his own guests breakfast. The guests willingly helped with last-minute preparations, a few even buying food to contribute, because ten more people than we expected came. The group leaders exchanged syllabi for the dances they taught, and anyone else who wanted a copy could Xerox them later, at his own expense. We will probably have one or more workshops like this next year, and we would like to see others do the same. Twice a year is not very often for Florida folk dancers to get together. If you want to give this type of workshop but are reluctant to have your group provide all the food, you could have everyone who came bring something, with the out-of-towners being responsible for the things which are easier to transport, or to buy or prepare when they get to town, such as cakes, cookies, the makings of punch or salads, or fresh fruit. And don't worry about having a bed or cushions for everyone to sleep on; we had everyone bring his own bedding, and we even had some couches and beds empty because people preferred to "camp out" in living rooms with their friends! So it's not always necessary to go "first-class," but let's have more get-togethers!

IRISH-AMERICAN CEILI CLUB

What is a Ceili? A Ceili is a "getting together" of people to have a good time in a traditional Irish way. The Irish-American Ceili Club meets the fourth Friday of each month in the Old Fireman's Hall, 7600 Venetian, Miramar, to dance Irish dances and have a good time. Everyone is welcome. See the listing in the Directory for further information.

Tampa

NELLE E. WESTERGARD

We had an unexpected but most welcome visitor on June 1 and 2. Zoran Pavlovic, a former member of the Frula dance troupe from Yugoslavia, took the bus down from Tallahassee, where he has been staying, and taught us different versions of Makazice and Bela Rada (authentic, he assured us), and a Serbian medley. Because of the short notice, not many could attend, but those who did were worked very hard. A native of Yugoslavia, Zoran has left Frula and wants to find work here in the United States. However, Immigration has restricted him to working in some aspect of folk dance and given him a limited time to find a permanent position. He is, as of this writing, checking out some possibilities. If anyone could offer this young dancer any assistance in job hunting, he can be contacted at 316 College East Avenue, Tallahassee, Florida, (904) 222-1205.



The Atlanta International Folk Dance group has extended an invitation to any wandering Florida dancers to visit them when in that city. Norma Huff has become a member of the Council, and possibly we can look forward to meeting some of this group at camps and workshops. Like Florida, Georgia has not been famous as a center of folk dance activities. Interchange and communication between groups of these two states can only be beneficial for dancing on both sides of the border.

The Atlanta group meets Monday evenings at 8:00 to 10:45 p.m. at the Home Park Recreation Center, 1015 Tumlin Street, Atlanta. There is a group of more advanced dancers meeting the first and third Wednesday of each month at the Garden Hills Recreation Center, Rumson Road N.E. However, during the summer the Wednesday night group does not meet and the Monday evening session may move to air-conditioned quarters. So if you are passing through, contact Norma Huff, 4520 Garmon Road, N.W., (404) 255-3005; or John Wallace, (404) 872-2807, to get directions.



In response to Dave Digby's request to exchange costume ideas, the following information might be helpful to those who are unaware of it. The California Folk Dance Federation publishes a yearly "Costume Calendar," presenting a different costume for each month. Instructions are given along with sketches and most of the selections are fairly easy to make. However, each year includes a few complicated costumes for the ambitious. These used to cost \$1.00 (may be more now--inflation) and are available any time during the year. Old calendars are also available from some years past, as each year's selections are different. Write to California Folk Dance Federation, 1095 Market Street, Room 213, San Francisco, California 94103. This organization also puts out a magazine so you might want to ask for a listing of all their publications.

Labor Day Camp

Please get your registration in as soon as possible. We expect it to be a great camp.