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DID WE PASS ON THE ROAD?

I went to the Pioneer Florida Old Time Music Championship in Dade City, while your president (who LIVES in Dade City) was galavanting off to the Scottish Games in Dunedin (where your editor USED to live.) Oh, well, at least we both DANCE in Tampa ... once in a while. I also checked out the Largo Renaissance Faire just one more time, on the last day of this years run. Caught the Ratcatchers "drunken last show of the season" act again. Still suckin' 'em in, 'e is!

WHAT'S A DEAD LINE DOING IN A LIVE NEWSLETTER?

Deadlines mean different things to various folks. Mine is the day when I take a look at what's available, figure out how many pages to print and start planning how to organize the space. If your input has arrived on time, it will be a part of that planning. If not, it will have to take it's chances on a spot being left for it when it does arrive. If we have everything ready to print when it gets here, it's going to take a top level, all-fired emergency to make us rip it all up to make room! And we DO have a definite aim to get the finished item IN THE MAIL before the end of the previous month. So be forewarned, one and all!

EDITORS ARE ALWAYS WRITE
(from a bumper sticker)

In this case, writing - or better yet, PUBLISHING what I write - is what keeps me going on this job, for lack of overall enthusiasm. I do try to keep it witty and informative, since I like applause as well as the next person. If I slip in a bumper once in a while, however, you'll just have to put up with it, because this may be the "real me" showing through. Or maybe not, you can't ever be absolutely sure.

BRAVA HITS DAYTONA

On September 1, 1987, four women gathered at a small restaurant. Little did they know that before the night was over, their lives would be changed forever--they would become BRAVA--a new performing group located on Daytona Beach. They have a rehearsal hall with wooden floors, ceiling fans, and mirrors (GASP!!).

Debbie Shook, Elizabeth Siers, Rita Princi, and Lisa Princi are these four women. Together they make up the board of directors for this new group:

Lisa Princi - Director
Debbie Shook - Choreographer
Rita Princi - Treasurer
Elizabeth Siers - Costume Designer

Along with our other dancers, Jennifer Toole, Gina Sartory, and Bob Pickering -- A MAN -- we have accomplished many things in our short time together; we already have three performances under our kolo belts.

Most of you know us as "Julius' Harem", and we would like to give a special thanks to him for eleven years of teaching, leadership, and friendship.

Koszonyuk szepen, Gyula, for everything.

- Lisa Princi

(editor's note - I will print the directions and lyrics to Lakodalmi Tanc if I can find them, Lisa. Does anyone have them?)

DUTCH TRIVIA

It was great to see you all at Ocala Camp and the following week in Tampa. I hope I can make it a kind of tradition, though it will probably need more than the three-shiny-dimes-a-day Bonnie suggested. (And by the way, our dimes are only half the value of yours.)

Returned home, I was pleased that all the dances Jaap taught us at camp are danced here too, so I keep them updated. Two weeks from now I will attend Easter Camp and see Jaap & Marilyn again. Together with Bulgarian dances, some Turkish and Occitane (French/Italian) dances will be taught by Turgay Bilir and Brigitte Perrimond, respectively. The main emphasis will be on styling. There will be live music!

The Rekansko Atanas taught us at camp was learned the same week by my Eindhoven group "DREZJBA", from another teacher. Isn't it coincidental? We were all surprized that we had learned the same dance at the same time. Not tho make you jealous, but Atanas is also coming to my country: he has a class April 17 in Tilburg, just a half hour away. (Now I can make up for missing his class at Ocala, due to the fact that all of you were too marvellous to gossip with.)

Two weeks ago there was a Russian dance workshop in Eindhoven with Radboud Koop. An excellent, but difficult weekend: after mastering the footwork, we tried to coordinate the hand movements, and if you thought you somehow accomplished it, another little body movement was added. The teacher did an excellent job, the other dancers - mainly leaders - were highly skilled, so I worked really hard to keep up with everyone. Timonja, the most difficult one, combined the stately rounds from the north with the lyrical Sverdlovsk quadrille. Karatchanka, Roeskaja Kadril, Kak po logoe, and Lebedoesjka were the favorite dances of all of us. And that was some trivia from this side.

- Eveline Van der Veer

Greetings earthlings....

Isn't the next line supposed to be: "Take me to your leader?" Well, right now, this leader doesn't feel much like a leader. I still seem to be waiting for my second wind. So where is it? Is this what leaders fear the most....the dance doldrums?

Remember when you were a kid and you watched Peter Pan? Well there was this part in the play (movie) where Tinkerbell had drunk poison and all the kids had to say that they BELIEVED in order to save Tink. I can't exactly remember what it was we were supposed to believe in....but I could use one of those moments right now. If you believe in dancing, face Dade City and twirl like mad. In this way, the wind will increase and you will be sending me your collective energies to help me sail/dance out of the doldrums. Or at the very least take the time to answer the questions on this year's survey so that I can have your input concerning next year's camp.

Those of you who attended Camp Ocala '88 probably recognized some of your suggestions from last year's survey in progress. I believe that John and I tried to put most of them into effect. So now, I'm looking for more ways to improve camp and more ways to please you. I'd like FFDC Camp 89 to be filled to capacity with happy dancers and if possible packed with more fun.

Thanks a million for taking time to do this.

Now for a few miscellaneous notes:

- 1) Wow! Isn't David doing a great job? I'm impressed with the quality of our last issue as well as its timely reception. Three cheers!
- 2) If you haven't sent your dues up-date in, won't you please remember to do that? We'd like to finish setting up our new system and minimize work for the officers as soon as possible. This of course benefits you because we won't be confused as to who paid, who's due etc. (I'll ask David to indicate to those of you who still owe at the time of this printing; then it's up to you.)
- 3) David mentioned in the last newsletter that a few people had sent too much money and that we would apply that by adjusting the date....sorry, this will mess up our January renewal date system...which is the main purpose of this whole collection (aside from a dues increase). So I'll be asking Rita to return the monies to these few individuals. However, he was right that some couples forgot to send the increase for both of them...so check the info on your label this month. Okay?
- 4) Getting things in order also includes getting 1987 T-shirt problems resolved. I've once again asked Julius to address this issue and hope he'll finish this little item once and for all.
- 5) How about recruiting one new member this year! If everyone does that, we'll double our membership....could you stand the excitement?
- 6) Do you have any clip art that David can use in the newsletter...he might like to build up a bank of these goodies to use and/or pass on.
- 7) Start thinking of a T-shirt design for camp...I'd appreciate lots of entries this year. More details later when the teacher(s) has/have been selected.
- 8) We seem to be doing a great job finding out what's going on around Fla. Keep the news coming!
- 9) I forgot that I promised to let you know how camp did money wise. We made approximately \$1000 which will give us a good buffer for paying air fares in advance for next year's teachers. The Olga Princi auction also made about \$300 from which it paid \$120 for the two scholarship students.
- 10) Keep smiling & keep dancing. (Remember to twirl once or twice for me.)

Signing off...



SARASOTA SNOWBIRD SCRAMMING

The Sarasota Wednesday Night Dancers (meet at the Unitarian Universalist Church) announce that Sydelle Singer is leaving for the summer months, first for family visits and then her usual teaching folk dancing in the Catskills during the summer season. Marie Millett will keep the group going during the intervening months.

Incidentally, we like to try to influence our new people to join our Florida Folk Dance Council, so send the extra copies of the Newsletter to us (Marie and John Millett). Thank you very much! Keep up the good work -- we appreciate it!

Yours for more dancing, - John & Marie

THE TALLAHASSEE TATTLER

All is calm on the Tallahassee front, with things moving along smoothly. The performing group is busy polishing up the dances to be presented in Tifton, Georgia, May 7th, and in White Springs on Memorial Day Weekend.

We are pleased and excited to hear that "Annual Folkdancefest" will be making a long-awaited reappearance this year. We're uncertain, as yet, whether our group will be participating, but I'm sure several of us will be there to offer encouragement and support.

Sam and Michelle Tabor, long time members of our group, will be travelling to Germany the end of this month. We're all hoping they will treat us to one of their entertaining slide shows upon their return.

A final note for any of you who may have met John and Paula Harrison when they were dancing in Birmingham. (Marc, are you listening?) They were blessed with a son, Alex Michael, on January 27th of this year.

- Pat Pieratte

(editors note: Alex Michaels are taking over the World in about 20 years. My grandson, Alex Michael, was two years old on March 12.)

TAMPA IS NOT SO TRIVIAL THIS MONTH

Not only is there the Greek Festival, at which we hope to see many of you, but we just finished co-hosting the Olde Tyme Dance with Gumbo Limbo, trekking off to various other ethnic events and welcoming visitors from places near and far.

The big coup, however, is that my son, David Bush, has just been selected as one of the 36 participants (out of some 500 nationwide applicants) in the 1988 Space Life Sciences Training Program at Kennedy Space Center. This six week, all-expense-paid, intensive program carries 5 hours of college credit. This is a unique learning opportunity, since the students participate in various phases of NASA's space flight experiments.

David is an honors student at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, majoring in Physics. He is a native of California, speaks fluent Spanish as well as English, and has won several previous scholarship awards, including that of Florida Academic Scholar, which grants automatic admission to any State University.

- Connie Bush

"SPECIAL EVENT" ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Performances, as well as workshops & general participation!)

- May 1 - Sunday - 1 to 5 PM - Old Time Dance - Wild Harp & Gumbo Limbo
Kendall Crossings Dance Center, 12188 SW 131 Ave, Miami
Look for "DANCE" sign, rear of 2nd Bldg. Info, (305) 235-2122.
- May 1 - Sunday - Famous Safety Harbor GOAT ROAST, Come meet crazy
people from all over! Harry Reid, (813) 725-2777.
- May 6-8, John Lulias workshop - Tarpon Springs (see April ad)
- Greek workshop with John Lulias, call (813)985-8909.
- May 15 - DEADLINE - - Y'all git Y'stuff in, rot naow, Y'hear?
- May 20-22, Black Mountain Festival, (Traditional music & dance),
PO Box 216, Black Mountain, NC 28711 telephone (704)669-2456.
- May 27-30, Buffalo Gap Camp - Yves Moreau, Jerry Helt & Marilyn
Wathen, with music by Zlatne Uste. Mel Diamond, 2414 East
Gate Dr, Silver Springs MD 20906 'phone (301)871-8788.
- May 27-30, Oglebay Folkdance Camp - Jaap Leegwater, Don Armstrong
& Dan Pendergast. \$110 to Folk Dance Camp c/o Stifer Center,
1330 National Rd, Wheeling, WV 26003.
- May 27-30, Washington Israeli Dance Camp - Washington College,
Chestertown, Maryland (301) 236-9431 or 778-0160.
- June 10-17, Blue Star (Israeli) Folk Dance Workshop - NC - \$295.
Write 3595 Sheridan St, Suite 107, Hollywood, FL 33021-3608.
- June 19-26, Caribbean Folk Dance Cruise - Mel Mann, Berkeley
Travel Company, 1301 California St, Berkeley, CA 94703
telephone (415)526-4033 or 524-9901.
- June 25 - Spring Fling in Daytona Beach - FREE PARTY - Y'all Come
11 AM til midnight - dance, share videos, benefit auction, FUN.
Julius Horvath, 1018 Berkshire Rd, FL 32017 (904)252-5738.
- June 29 - July 18, Dance Tour of Yugoslavia with the Babiaks, 1742
Joyce St, Sarasota, FL 34231 'phone (813) 966-1847.
- July 8 to 18 - Drummondville Festival, Quebec, Canada
call 1-800-567-1444.
- Blue Ridge Mountain Dance Roundup - August 7 - 13, 1988 - \$301
(Lloyd Shaw Foundation camp) call (719)275-8755.
- Polish Family Camp - Buffalo Gap - August 19 - 22, 1988
call Basia Dziejowska, (617)926-8048 or (305)296-6099.
- Sept 2-5 Oglebay Folkdance Camp - Joe Graziosi, Sandy Starkman &
Bill Alkire. \$110 to Folk Dance Camp c/o Stifer Center,
1330 National Rd, Wheeling, WV 26003.
- September 15-19, Cajun Music & Dance Tour - \$275 - Diana Polizo,
2400 Sunnydale Lane, Cantonment, FL 32533. (904)968-2628
- November (early) - Folk Fest '88 - (see article elsewhere) -
call: Andy Pollock (813) 882-4472.
- December (Xmas to New Year) - Florida Heritage Center? - NEWSFLASH
Plans are underway to establish a Florida version of the Augusta
Heritage Center between Christmas and New Years at Ocala Camp.
Tentative plans include classes in fiddle with Ginny Milnes (W. Va.),
banjo with (prize winning) Floridian Tammy Murray, mandolin &
improvization with T. J. Wangerman, and dance with Larry Edelman.
The organizing force is Bill Paine, 9710 S.W. 75th Way,
Gainesville, 32608-6241, 'phone (904) 495-2243. More details when
available. - Kathie Aagaard

ORMOND ODDS AND ENDS

We welcome back Blanche Ferne to dance after her hospital stay for open-heart surgery. She feels and looks great. Unhappily, we announce the sudden death of Fred Reinfeld, who passed away last month as the result of a heart attack. He will be greatly missed by all his folk dancing friends. Our sincere condolences to Blanche for her loss.

The City of Ormond Beach recently purchased a very large church complex to be converted to a recreational facility. Scheduled for early completion is a dance hall with a wood floor. We are planning a "Fling" to celebrate its completion. Watch for an announcement.

SPRING FLING: We asked many of you when we should hold our Spring Fling and most strangely, many said "in the Spring" (Weird!!) Yielding to your wishes, we will hold it in Spring (almost), on Saturday, June 25th, from 11 AM until midnight or ???

We will use the small annex behind the Granada Recreation Center, Grenada at US-1, in beautiful Ormond Beach. There will be no charge, but leaders are asked to be prepared to teach a dance or two, to help cross-pollinate our groups. (We are still dancing "Roumanian Medley" taught to us by Pat of Tallahassee at our first Spring Fling.) We will duplicate tapes for out-of-print music used. In addition, folk dance videos will be shown. We got some home-made videos of a group in Yugoslavia with some nice variations of BMK Kolo. Bring yours to share. Copies can be made.

If you have some odd ethnic junk you wish to get rid of, La Presidente will hold her now famous "Auction" to benefit the Olga Princi Scholarship Fund.

All-in-all, it should be a great weekend. Join us, and bring your friends. (And you MIGHT hear the last chapter of the 1987 "T" shirt mystery and see it resolved!)

See you in Ormond June 25th.....

- Julius Horvath

MOUSE MUSINGS

It pays to advertise! Most every week brings us a newcomer or two who "saw it in the newspaper calendar" (Some even come back again!)

"Thanks" to John Karris for a job well done as "Head Quibodeaux" while Bobby and Pat vacationed out west.

We are happy to have had Sharon Witmen (and her dog, Honey) with us these past few weeks. She should be back for a few more weeks in a month or so, but mostly she dances with the Durango International Folk Dance Club where she lives - in Durango, Colorado. The Durango IFDC meets Friday evening at the Park School, and no doubt would be listed in the new "People's FD Directory" ... if there was a new directory.

Our performing group gave out with a sudden burst of activity in mid-April when they danced at a church Spring Festival Friday night, and the following afternoon appeared at the Mead Gardens Strawberry Festival, staying long enough afterwards to cheer as Teresa Borker successfully changed from her international guise to participate with another group as a genuine castenet-clacking Flamenco dancer. Then all dashed to the other end of town where we were part of an international festival. The best part was the grubbing for the crazy chicken, English beef pie, and French chocolate mousse pudding.

- el Larry loco

CAJUN ARTICLE ADMIRER AFAR

The Lloyd Shaw Foundation has asked for permission to reprint Diana Polizo's article from last month, "Allons Danser: The Cajun People and Their Dancing." We have granted their request, of course, and it is expected to appear in the June issue of their publication, The American Dance Circle. Watch for it! Diana's article is certainly pertinent to the motto of The Lloyd Shaw Foundation: "To Recall, Restore and Teach the Folk Rhythms of the American People."

FOLK FEST NEWS PROLIFERATES !

Andy Pollock, chairman of Folk Fest 1988, is still aiming at early to mid November. Andy has heard from only a few of you, so far. John Karris has promised a Scottish set, and Julius is putting together a Transylvanian set. Andy was spotted recently trudging around downtown Tampa looking at halls. Let's hear from the rest of you. If you would like to direct a performance segment, or feel even remotely in the mood to participate, please tell him what you want to do & how many people. Write or call him with your thoughts: 6104 N. Webb #1102, Tampa, FL 33615. or 'phone (813) 882-4472.

THANKS FOR THE HELP

We have not been doing this entirely alone. Several others have helped in various ways, but the following folks have done too much not to be publicly acknowledged:

Mark Polster played publisher for the March issue, printing, duplicating, folding and stapling all 200-some copies.
Grant Logan, another editor on a larger scale, and not even a dancer, loaned us his computer printer for April and May.
Wanda Conway has supplied us with recipes and collected the artwork we have been sprinkling around so freely. She also found the printers with terrific service for good prices.
Nancy Bercu contributed the masthead this month & more artwork.

MORE ADDITIONS TO THE WEEKLY DANCE SCHEDULE

Julius didn't mention it, but Rita thinks his group is still dancing every Wednesday evening at the Granada Recreation Center. (Neither one told me where or when his Cifra Ensemble dances every week, however.) We still need meeting details from Tallahassee, Key West and any others who haven't been listed recently.

Some of the Olde Tyme Dance groups can't meet on exactly the same schedule, so they'll have to tell us explicitly, each month. If you DO meet regularly, however, let us know soon. It is almost time for another complete listing, so get us the dope before it's too late!

PROMOTIONAL COPIES TO GROUPS

Your group should be on our promotional mailing list if it is open to new members, meets every week, and has a contact person who is a member of FFDC. This still means we send two extra copies of this newsletter for "instant gratification" to new members when they join.

We are also keeping track of this policy by sending these copies to the actual contact person. If your promotional copies didn't come last month, it may be because we didn't hear from you. We omitted a group whose address we couldn't identify - sorry!

--- Happy recruiting!

IS FOLKDANCING A WASTE OF MY TIME?

Folkdancing always used to work for me. I've had to move quite a few times and I always found a group of compatible friends that way. The one time I had to start my own group took a little longer, but was most rewarding of all later on. Now it's not working. I'm finding it hard to justify spending so much time at events where I seldom meet a new friend. Actually, I only need to meet ONE new person if she's the RIGHT ONE. What if folkdancing is keeping me AWAY from some place where that could happen? (If I knew where there WAS such a place, of course, this would be a much more serious question.)

SPRING HAS SPRUNG, THE GRASS HAS RIZ,
I KNOW NOT WHERE MY PARTNER IS.

Let me know how YOUR group is doing, but we don't seem to be attracting too many new women lately. I know, I know, everybody says there are too MANY women. Maybe there ARE on the dance floor, but from a more personal point of view, if that RIGHT ONE doesn't seem to be there, then the ones that ARE don't count. Sure, there are good partners eager to dance, but all the time there's that nagging feeling that maybe something else would be more worthwhile.

There are about seventy two hours in a week, after you subtract out the time everybody is supposedly working or sleeping. Folkdancing might account for ten hours if you include three dances, and maybe an hour or two of eating out as a group. Just try to find one of those eager dance partners when you want to socialize during the leftover sixty two hours. All those "extra" women must have a man hanging around someplace ELSE, or they're not interested, because they sure as hell disappear quickly enough after the party!

("Equal time" for the women next month! Any volunteer writers?)

Jim Gold International

Get all yor "carats" on

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April - December, 1988



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AD Rates (Send ad
and fee to FFDC Editor)
\$15 full page
\$ 8 half page
\$ 5 quarter pg.
\$ 3 eighth pg.
2 lines free (for Fla. event.)

Initial Membership Rates
If you join in:
Jan. Feb. Mar. \$8
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