

FLORENDA FOLKIDANCER



January 1999

Happy New Year!!

May your year be filled with lots of dancing friends!

Feliz Novo Anno (Portuguese)

Felice Nuovo Anno (Italian)

Heureuse Nouvelle Année (French)

Feliz Año Nuevo (Spanish)

Glückliches Neues Jahr (German)





Upcoming Events

January 16: Dance Marathon
The Newtown Chapter of Hadassah is holding this Israeli Dance Marathon fund-raiser from 7 pm to 4 am. Cost before Jan. 7, \$12 Hadassah members, \$15 non-members, then it will be \$15 and \$18. For online directions and registration visit: <http://members.aol.com/write2sell/webpage.htm> or call 215-968-3400 or 215-860-3961. Submitted by Darcy Silvers.

January 16: Highland Games
Casselberry, Traditional Field Events, Highland dancing, bagpipe competitions, sheep dog demos. Call 407-422-8226.

January 16-17: Polka Festival
Midwinter Polka Festival in Spring Hill. Features exotic foods and dancing to the Joe Fedorachak Orchestra. Call 352-754-2751.

February 12-15: Dance Camp
The FFDC's annual President's Day Weekend Camp will feature Yves and France Moreau teaching Bulgarian, French and French-Canadian Dance. Musical guest: Galat'a. To be held at the Christian Conference Center, Hwy 40, Silver Springs, Florida. Call or e-mail J. Lambert at 352-376-7473 or dancnaro@atlantic.net. Registration form in this issue.

February 12-15: Folk Fair
Returning to the Bayfront Center, the St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society (SPIFFS) will hold it's 24th Annual Folk Fair. Call (727)327-7999.

February 12-15: Medieval Faire
Gainesville's Hoggetown Medieval Faire will be held at the County Fair Grounds. The Sahnobar Dance Ensemble will be performing several shows a day both Saturday and Sunday.

July 4-23: Carmeil 99
with Dany Benshalom and Ruthy Slann. This is a folk dance tour of Israel. Contact info inside issue.

South Brevard Christmas Dance

We did it! We tell people that we dance every Friday no matter what. There were a few years when we shut down during the summer months. Other than that, we've done pretty well. But Christmas and New Year's are always a challenge. With all the Holiday activities, will people actually come and dance? You bet. We had only seven people, but yes Virginia we danced on Christmas day. What a way to celebrate. Thanks to the Henegar Center for keeping the hall open for us. If you come from any distance, it's still a good idea to call just to make sure, but if it's Friday, we certainly try to have the music playing.

We have also started an English Country Dance Group on Tuesday evenings. George and Onie Senyk, leaders of the Sharpes Assembly, have been teaching, as have Catie Geist, Kathy Anderson, and yours truly. We have always tried to include a few set dances in our International repertoire, but it's difficult to include more challenging set dances in a small international group. International dancers are, by nature, pretty diverse. You can put on say Floracica Olteneasca and if only one or two people want to do it, the rest can take a break and be confident that their turn will come. But set dances in a small group require almost everybody to get up -- even those who really don't like the dance. And if the dance is challenging, on the order of Floracica, it is really asking a lot of the group. So we still do a few easy set dances at our Friday International dance, but we reserve the more challenging English dances for Tuesday. So far it's working out very well.

John Daly

Hogtown Hyperboles Gainesville

There have been several activities the group has engaged in recently. The Sports Club has had a float in the Homecoming Parade for several years and this year five of the folk dancers in costume walked and danced behind the float. Unfortunately I missed seeing them but one of my colleagues at the library saw them and said they looked very good.

This past Saturday there was a picnic and dance party at take Wauburg which is owned by the University of Florida. The group reserved the covered pavilion and had a great time. I heard that the food was very good as well as the dancing. Andy drove up from Tampa to join them and according to the note from Raluca, the president of the group, he was inspiring and encouraging. So many thanks to Andy. In the last month and a half I have been folk dancing two or three times and had a wonderful time on every occasion. The number of people attending each Friday night I went was generally small but enthusiastic. It was a lot of fun to dance and teach again.

Many thanks to Raluca, Toshi, Sachi, John and others who have kept the group going. After having put in major time and effort over the past 30 years it is a comfort to know that there are others who are enthusiastic and are demonstrating their love of folk dancing by their commitment to the group.

Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday.

Joyce Dewsbury

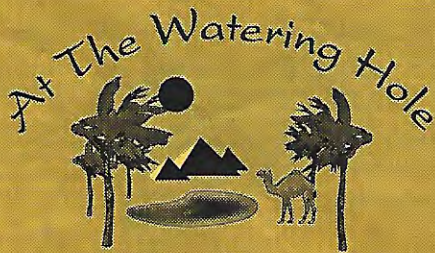


Orlando International Folk Dance Club

Bobby and I hosted a baby shower for Eva and Larry Gaber on November 21. Most of the folk dancers attended along with friends and family of Eva and Larry. They received many nice things for Baby Girl Gaber who could make her appearance any day now. We had our Holiday Party on December 16 again at our house since the college does not allow food in the dance studio. (I wonder why!) We had a pot luck dinner and then danced until after 11pm. Janel Wheeler attended and it was her birthday! During the dance, we asked each member to give one country of his/her ethnic background and then we picked a dance to match that heritage. It was great finding out the ethnic background of everyone since some of us have been dancing together a long time. During the party, Joy Herndon presented Bobby and me with checks for camp from the Club. Bobby and I really appreciate such support from our club!

Juanita Schockey missed the Holiday Party since her granddaughter was married on a cruise. We hope that she and the wedding party had a great time. We wish all the folk dancers a very happy new year.

Pat Henderson



If you missed seeing the Tammies at the beginning of this month, check out their web site:
<http://www.duq.edu/tamburitzans>

Some other web sites to check out:

<http://www.polioid.hu> (this is a Hungarian site, provided by Julius, THANKS)
www.sapphireswan.com/dance (here you will find many forms of dance)
www.vol.cz/DVORANA/ (specializes in Slovak)
206.20.13.1/~jeff/tomov/ (The Tomov Folk Dance Ensemble)
fox.nstn.ca/~blee/dans/index.html (Dance Nova Scotia)

Karen Boon von Ochssée is teaching classes in Middle Eastern Belly dance again. Classes are being offered at the St. Petersburg YMCA (116 5th St. So.) every Wednesday, 6:00-7:30 pm. For more info call the Y at 727-895-9622 or Karen at 727-864-3427. She is also selling dance supplies, music and video.



Sahnobar Dance Ensemble Co-Editor



Well, it has been many months since I put out an issue. It feels good to be back for the next couple of months. I must first say a big thank you to John for carrying the weight of producing the issues during my long summer absence.

I had the great fortune to go on tour this summer with a Polynesian troupe out of Orlando. We toured all over the country in an RV. Our performances were mainly at fancy Country Clubs, Fraternal type clubs and a Casino. I felt like I had my dance final exam. I had all of two days to learn the whole show while we were traveling in the RV. I did not put the movements to my whole body until I got on stage and heard the band play for the first time! The first week we did five shows a day, each with about five, really fast, costume changes. I did not even know if the costumes were going to fit me until 20 minutes before we went on. I had inquired about this before going on the tour, the director very calmly replied, "Oh, the girls just use lots of pins". Boy, did I do a lot of pinning. They even taught me a couple of songs on the electric bass which I played during the show. I was the only non-islander on the tour, but they took me as one of their own. It was like traveling with a bunch of kids who like to have fun and play.

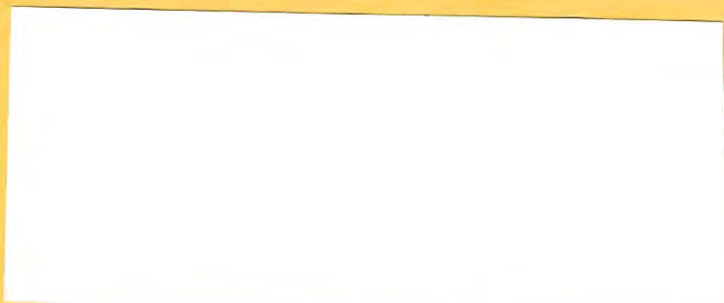
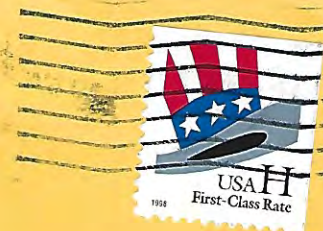
Now, with it being winter (sort-of), I am doing more Middle Eastern dancing. Sahnobar is getting ready for the Hoggetown Medieval Faire which will be taking place on the same weekend as dance camp. So I will not be able to attend this year unfortunately. I have been in demand as a soloist in various places. I performed at the German-American Society in Pinellas Park on New Year's Eve. Once again I am teaching due to the persistent proding of my students. My studio is very cozy. It is in desperate need of more mirrors. Several people have donated mirrors of all sizes. So if anyone out there has any mirrors they are getting rid of, let me know. I am beginning to have serious folk dancing withdrawals. It seems like forever since I danced some good 'ole European dances.

My best wishes to everyone for the New Year. Hope to see you on a dance floor somewhere.

page 5

karen sun ray

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The Florida Folk Dancer is a monthly newsletter from the Florida Folk Dance Council. A non-profit organization. Our purpose is to facilitate communication among Florida International folk dance groups, to educate and inform individual international folk dancers and other interested persons, to organize international folk dance seminars, and to undertake from time to time such projects as may be put forth by the Executive Committee to further knowledge of, appreciation for, and participation in international folk dance and related cultural activities in Florida.

Membership/Subscribing:

The subscription year runs from March 15 to March 14 of each year. Discounts are available for mid year subscriptions. As a member/subscriber you are entitled to receive the monthly newsletter, workshop discounts and free flyer and listing placement in the newsletter. To become a member/subscriber:

Send \$12
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Please print your full name, address, state, zip code, phone number and e-mail address.

Submissions:

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month. All reviews, articles, news, flyers, listings, etc. should be sent to:

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Advertising and Event Listings:

We are happy to list upcoming events for our subscribers. However, if you are not a member and wish to have a full page flyer placed in the newsletter, there will be a separate charge to do so. This is to cover our production costs. We are going to determine a price for this in the near future. Below are advertising options per issue for everyone:

Business Card (2" x 3.5")	\$ 5.00
Quarter Page (3.75" x 5")	\$ 7.50
Half Page (3.75" x 10.5 or 8" x 5")	\$15.00
Full Page (8" x 10.5")	\$30.00

These prices are for camera-ready ads. There will be an additional charge for ads that are not camera-ready.

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