

Florida Folk Dancer

November 1999

Tom Bozigian
Armenian

Celest DiPietropaolo
Italian

Florida Camp

2000

President's Day Weekend

Feb 18 - 21

Christian Church Conference Center

Silver Springs

Florida

Armenian and Italian for Camp

We're pleased to announce that Tom Bozigian will present Armenian dances and Celest DiPietropaolo and Marie DiCocco will present Italian dance for Camp 2000.

Tom Bozigian and Armenian dance, or course, will need no introduction as Florida dancers do many of his early dances. We'll present more information on his program in later issues.

Celest and Marie will present a program of traditional Italian dances which will demonstrate that there is more to Italian dance than our usual fare. Take a look at the background material presented in this issue.

The format for the Camp will be very similar to the last few years. We are going to try to move the Culture hours into the daytime as we noticed that some people were having serious difficulties enjoying the presentations when they were presented soon after supper.

Glenda, the Camp director, has promised more salad bar, fruits and meals generally more geared toward health oriented active dancers rather than teen-age campers.

All in all, we are excited about having Tom, Celest, and Marie with us this year and hope that all our dancing friends will be equally enthused..

John, Bernice, Willa, Barbara, Carol, and all the others working to put this together.

Celest DiPietropaolo & Marie DiCocco

Celest DiPietropaolo has over 25 years experience as a professional musician, and has researched traditional village music and dance from the mountains of southern and northern Italy for the past 15 years. He has exhibited this music at all of the major festivals in the Washington, D.C. area, including those sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution, Folklore Society of Washington, and the Italian Embassy. Celest has 30 years experience dancing international folk dance, including dancing and playing with italian, Balkan, Scandinavian, polish, Bulgarian, and Swiss performing groups. He has taught italian traditional dances for the past 20 years all over the United States—7 regions, 16 states, and 25 cities, including Florida Folk Dance Camp, Friends of International Folk Dance Weekend in New Orleans, Annual Mendocino Folklore Camp 1994, and Annual Chicago Festival of Folk Dance. He founded the Italian Folklore Group of Washington and was its director of dance for 18 years. He, also, was one of the founders of the Italian Folk Art Federation of America and served as its chairman of folk dance for many years. Celest, mathematician and linguist, born and educated in Chicago, working as a computer specialist for the U.S. Navy, spends his free time researching, teaching, and exhibiting italian traditional music and dance.

Marie DiCocco has over 25 years experience as a professional musician, including performing with italian, Austrian, Balkan, and Bulgarian groups. She has ten years experience in training and arranging music for choral groups in the Washington, D.C. area. Marie has been an indispensable and integral part of the planning, research, and analysis of the italian traditional music effort conducted by Celest since 1983. She has 15 years experience researching, teaching, and exhibiting italian traditional music, including dance workshops in 10 states across the United States. Marie spends her free time working as a professional musician and a researcher, teacher, and exhibitor of traditional italian music.

Scholarships

We are open to suggestions on scholarships this year.

We will offer at least one and possibly two partial "work" scholarships for someone to devote themselves to running the sound system.

Olga Princi

Traditionally the primary scholarships have come from the Olga Princi fund. It should be no secret that the annual auction doesn't generate enough income to support the fund in the long term. Fortunately, generous donations also support this scholarship program.

This year we have provided a line item on the registration form for donations to the Olga Princi fund. If you are inclined to encourage dancers who might not otherwise come to camp, please make a contribution.

Nominations

Nominations for a scholarship may be made by letter or e-mail to the Editorial address.

Italian Dance Background

For many years the commonly held belief in this country has been that the body of Italian folk music contains little more than "THE" tarantella, Santa Lucia, and a few other choreographed dances and songs in proper Italian (i.e., not traditionally in dialect).

A richer tradition, still very much alive today, exists in the mountain villages of Italy and can be observed by those who wish to come in contact with a culture undominated by tourism or television. Artisans still craft their zampogne (bagpipes), ciaramelle (oboes), and organetti (small diatonic accordions), to mention only a few traditional instruments. However, almost everywhere, traditional folk dress has long been abandoned. Traditional songs are still sung in the local dialects at the table after dinner, at the wedding feast, in the osteria (tavern), or in the fields. This is the true folk heritage for Italian-Americans — the music of the immigrants.

Italian traditional dances are the most varied of any country in Europe, because they reflect the influence of many conquering or migrating peoples over a span of three thousand years (Greeks, North Africans, Spanish, Albanians, Normans, Austrians, French, Germans). You name them — the Italians dance them. Line dances, couple dances, improvisational dances, carnival dances, courtship dances, social dances, wedding dances, religious dances, dances of competition, game dances, and singing dances indicate some of the classifications.

The original definitions for tradition and folklore were once identical as one can see by examining dictionaries of American English. However, in practice and in modern times, their meanings have diverged as well as their Italian equivalents, *tradizione* and *folclore*.

What is "traditional" has basically not changed with regards to music and dance. It still refers to the body of knowledge, including customs and habits, passed down from generation to generation. Traditional dances are those dances danced by all members of a community as part of family rites, such as weddings, baptisms, courtship, religious festivals, holidays, and recreational events. Any changes that occur in these dances are determined by the community. Sometime these dances are called original dances.

The meaning of "folklore" or "folkloristic" dances has changed to mean those dances danced by a relatively small group of dancers for the purpose of exhibitions or competitions. These dances are not required to reflect any tradition. Any changes that occur in these dances are determined by the dance master or influenced by the spectators. These dances are usually called folk dances danced by folklore groups.

In order for a dance to be "authenticated" as traditional, one must say what it represents: where the dance comes from, who dances it, when they dance it, and why they dance it. Since folklore dances are unrestricted, they are not subject to authentication. In summary, folklore is not better than tradition and tradition is not better than folklore. They are just different

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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Gainesville News

The recent workshop on Saturday, October 30 with Nicholas M. Gavallas which was held in the Florida Gym on the University of Florida campus was excellent. Despite the small number of participants there was a lot of enthusiasm. The dances, which were island dances of the Aegean, were very nice. Nicholas is a very good teacher and in addition is such a warm, friendly person. Everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed him and his dances. Sharon Doktor asked me to add the following note. "M. Jacek Leyton after eight years with the US Airforce, the last two having been spent in Misasa, Japan, is back among the living and dancing". I would like to add that all of us in the Gainesville group are very happy to have Jacek dancing with us. The group incidently has been slowly but surely growing. Raluca, the student president, has done a very fine job of keeping the group together and trying to get new members. It is also encouraging to us oldtimers to see that along the way she and Kim and others have turned into good dancers as well as very responsible members of the group who thoroughly enjoy folk dancing. Joyce Dewsbury

Coming Events

December 23-26
Machol Miami
Contact Peggy Elimelech (formerly Byer)
Phone 305-690-4343
Fax 305-690-4342
E-mail Dancemiami@sprintmail.com
To register online visit our website at
www.israelidance.com/macholmiami

December 31, 1999
7:00 pm till ?????
Year 2000 Party
Pat & Bobby's Home
9859 Berry Dease Road
Orlando, FL
Contact: Bobby Quibodeaux or
Pat Henderson
407-275-6247

Jan 7, 2000
7:00 pm
Tamburitzens
Crescent City

Feb 18-21, 2000
President's Day Camp
Ocala
Contact John Daly
407-951-9623

March 2-5, 2000
National Folk Organization
Annual Conference
San Antonio
Contact Vonnie Brown
NFO Vice President and
Conference Chair
1717 Applewood Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70808-5912
Tel-Fax: 225/766-8750
e-mail: DUWARD2prodigy.net

Great Greek Workshop in Gainesville

Thanks to all the people who helped made it a success of spirit, if not one of numbers.

Nikos Gavallas proved to be an energetic and methodical teacher, and it was a pleasure to dance with him. We are looking forward to see him again in Tarpon Springs for the Epiphany festival (January 7-9, 2000, John Lullias is the organizer, stay tuned for more news).

As an extra treat, the workshop included two couple dances: Zagarakia--a version of the Syrto/Kalamatiano-- and Ballos Nisiotikos--a 'flirtatious couplet dance'.

We plan to teach/review them in the coming weeks ,if enough interested people show up on Fridays, 8 30 pm in Norman Gym (hint,hint).

If you want a copy of the workshop program, please let me know. I still have extra copies.

And the final acknowledgements:

- Jenneine-for selling me into the workshop idea, and for giving me that extra-push, and for all the phones she made, and for all the help in the workshop day;
- Nikos Gavallas--for driving all night to come to us and for wonderful teaching;
- Toshi--for waking up early on Saturday and setting up the sound system in Florida Gym
- Tom -for putting direction fliers around Florida Gym (that place is just too large!)
- John - for stopping the writing of his book one more day and coming to dance with us;
- Andy Pollock and Terry Abrahams --for driving all the way from Tampa and still making it for the morning session;
- Joyce, Max&Diane and Kim--for staying after workshop and helping with the cleaning of the Florida Gym and return of sound equipment in Norman Gym;
- all the participants in the workshop -- for finding some time in their busy day and coming to dance so joyfully!

See you all dancing!
Raluca

Corrections to Places To Dance

It's time, even past time, to update the Places to Dance list which is on the Web Page and appears every so often in the Florida FolkDancer. If your group has changed its meeting time or place in the last year or so, please let your Editor know.

Here are two corrections:

DeLand International Folk Dancers

1st & 3rd Tuesdays 6:30 to 8:30
Classy Composition Dance Studio
739 S. Spring Garden
Deland, FL

Contact: Joan or Wally Washington 904-738-4391

Greek Kefi Hellenic Dancers

Lost Island Restaurant
Castaways Beach Resort
2043 S. Atlantic Ave
Daytona Beach Shores
Thursdays

Contact: Steve Photiades, 904-788-2749

International/Israeli

Lauderdale West Condo
One day per month
Contact: Vivian Halpern
954-473-6161

Address Changes

Joyce Dewsbury
4520 NW 15th Place
Gainesville, FL 32605



YEAR 2000 PARTY

**WHEN: DECEMBER 31, 1999
7:00 PM TIL?**

**WHERE: 9859 BERRY DEASE ROAD
ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

**WHAT TO BRING: YOUR FAVORITE FOOD OF
THE MILLENNIUM FOR A MIDNIGHT BANQUET!
SLEEPING BAGS OR TENTS OPTIONAL**

**HOSTED BY: BOBBY QUIBODEAUX &
PAT HENDERSON**

PHONE: 407-275-6247

DIRECTIONS:

