

# Florida FolkDancer

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February 2001

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## Florida Camp 2001

Weekend after President's Day

February 23-26, 2001

Silver Springs, Florida  
(near Ocala)

Dennis Boxell

Olga Sandolowich

Visit [www.folkdance.org](http://www.folkdance.org) or call 321-951-9623 for more information or registration forms

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## Olga Princi Scholarship

There are three winners of the Olga Princi Scholarship this year.

**Pam Witte** of Sarasota is a second grade teacher who dances with Shirley Babiak's group. Her students respond positively to the dances she teaches and it's a great way to insure there will be future folk dancers.

**Deane Jordan** has danced with the Orlando group for twelve years. He is also an accomplished musician and we hope he will enjoy participating in some of the informal jam sessions at camp.

**Angie Minno** is a 16-year-old who has danced two years with Raluca's group in Gainesville. We are pleased to encourage this teenager in her love of folk dancing.

## Bring Blankets

Everyone who has registered for Camp should have received a confirmation letter with a lot of information about Camp. If for some reason you haven't received yours, please contact us as soon as possible. Call John Daly at 321-951-9623.

We do say in the information packet to bring "bed linens. Just to be clear, "bed linens" includes anything you might want on your bed other than a bare mattress. A sleeping bag or blankets would certainly be a good idea.

If you do forget something, the Camp is certainly not in the middle of nowhere. There are many nearby stores, including the ubiquitous Wal-Mart, so there will be ample opportunity to pick up anything necessary.

## 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.

President: John Daly  
779 Acacia Ave.  
Melbourne Village, FL  
32904  
321-951-9623  
Vice-President: Bernice Roth  
Treasurer: Willa Davidsohn  
Secretary: Bernice Roth

Please send all submissions to:  
Editor: Barbara Daly  
e-mail in plain text is very helpful:  
jdaly@palmnet.net

Written material:  
779 Acacia Ave.  
Melbourne Village, FL 32904

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Subscriptions are \$12 per year. Includes membership in the Florida Folk Dance Council. The membership year runs from one Annual Camp (usually in February) to the next.

### Coming Events

**Camp 2001**  
Feb 23 to Feb 26, 2001  
Balkan Bash  
Dennis Boxell  
Olga Sandolowich

**National Folk Organization**  
Feb 22 to Feb 25, 2001  
Annual Conference  
Ball State University  
Contact: Vonnie Brown  
1717 Applewood Road  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808-5912  
vrbfolk@prodigy.net

**Greek Festival**  
Mar 2 - 4, 2001  
St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church  
5965 N. Wickham Road  
Melbourne FL  
Suntree area just north of Pineda Causeway  
Contact: 254-1045

**Spring Fling**  
March 31, 2001  
Port Orange Senior Center  
Contact Julius Horvath  
904-252-5738  
julhorvath@aol.com

**Florida Folk Festival**  
May 25-27, 2001  
Stephen Foster Center  
White Springs, FL  
Dancers needed  
Contact: Jenneine A. Lambert  
home: 352-376-7473  
work: 352-351-7200 ext 6567  
Fax: 352-376-9643  
pager: 352-506-8061

**Idaho International Folk Dance Festival**  
July 25-August 6, 2001  
Ira Weisburd  
7535 La Paz Court #301  
Boca Raton, FL 33433  
561-393-9193

### Israeli Folkdance Workshop

Jewish Community Center  
Maitland, Florida  
March 17-18, 2001

Danny Uziel

\$45 Pre Registration (by March 9)  
Contact 407-645-5933 ext 247  
for more information

### Dry T-Shirt Contest

And we do have a winner! Eva Gaber from Orlando sent us the correct answer almost instantly.

Give up? Read it phonetically using the pronunciation guide. It's Salty Dog Rag.

Pat Pieratte sent a partial translation.

One foot front, drag it back,  
Then you start to ball the jack  
Just shake and you break and then you sag,  
If your partner zigs, you're supposed to zag.

Your heart is light, you tap your feet  
In rhythm with the ragtime beat  
You pack up your troubles in your old kit bag  
And dance all night to the Salty Dog Rag.

The other runners-up were Dave Digby and Andy Pollack.

### Dance Camp Menu

Those who attended FFDC Camp 2000 will remember the good food and style of serving. For those who didn't, here is what to expect. Meals are buffet style, serve yourself, go back as often as you like (within reason).

BREAKFAST items daily include grits, oatmeal, yogurt, biscuits, gravy, fruit, and toast. DINNER on Friday will be baked chicken with seasoned rice and assorted vegetables. LUNCH on Saturday will be meatloaf with baked potato and vegetables. DINNER on Saturday will be a Balkan Stew. LUNCH on Sunday will be spaghetti with meat or meatless sauce. DINNER on Sunday will be roast turkey with mashed potatoes, dressing and cranberry sauce. LUNCH on Monday will be a sub sandwich with chips, then home you go.

Vegetarians will have a choice of pasta dishes, in addition to the assorted fruit and vegetables available to all. If you are a vegetarian, you indicated that on your registration form, right?

Meals are served promptly at 8 am, noon, and 6 pm. For each meal at camp, you must have a meal ticket which will be in the information envelope given to you when you check in at camp..

Bon Appétit

## Dancers Needed Florida Folk Festival Stephen Foster Center White Springs, Florida Memorial Day Weekend

Hear Ye Hear Ye !!!!!

**LEND ME EARS, HEARTS, DANCING FEET, AND BODIES IF YOU CAN PARTICIPATE AS A PERFORMER AT THE FLORIDA FOLK FESTIVAL**

MAY 25,26,27

THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS THIS WEEK !!!!!!!!! 1/26/01. I am going to submit it in faith we will have participants.

I NEED PEOPLE'S NAMES TO GO ON THE REGISTRATION FORM IN ORDER TO RESERVE A CAMPING SPACE.

Anyone additional can join us for the performance, or if you want to submit you name to perform but not camp, that is fine.

The first 9 (I'm one) to phone or Email me to confirm their participation will receive two free passes (two for individual families, please).

I am going to teach a children's class of easy dance Friday. I am asking that we (either UF alone, or FFDC) dance Saturday. And I need a helper to teach adults Sunday about 10am. ALL I'M ASKING IS NAMES FOR SATURDAY'S PERFORMANCE

ALSO SUBMIT SUGGESTED DANCES. I am thinking Rustemul, Cimpoi, Sabrali Se Sabrali, Milisamu (spelling????) I am open to suggestions, even if you aren't coming.

I have 12 names to submit for 3 campsites (4 to a site permitted)

I can expand the performance list if I get more names (soon). Once I receive feedback from the voting committee that we have been selected to perform I can update them with additional names if I receive them soon.

Right now we only have UF International Folkdancers, however welcome more from FFDC.

The performance will require folk costume, nothing elaborate.

Jenneine A. Lambert, RN MN  
Critical Care Educator  
home: 352-376-7473  
work: 352-351-7200 ext 6567  
Fax: 352-376-9643  
pager: 352-506-8061  
email: [dancnaro@atlantic.net](mailto:dancnaro@atlantic.net)  
fax: 352-376-9643

## Hi from Tampa!

Camp is getting close and we're all looking forward to seeing everyone. Many of us are getting older and nursing a variety of surgeries and ouchies, but we'll be there with bells on.

In spite of my rotator cuff surgery I attended the Mechol Miami workshop over Xmas, along with Bill Schwarz - lots of young nubles there - makes it hard to look good with them all around - and they are great dancers besides. But in spite of that, the teachers were terrific (although too many people in the circle to see much of them), the dances very nice (although too many - I think 25 all told), the food good for me (although others had different comments), and lots of good friends that I love seeing at these weekends. It's interesting to go to this - in a posh hotel with hot tubs (although the weather was pukey and we hardly set foot out the door) with our rooms in the same building, maid service, fabulous, continuous snacks in the lounge just outside the ball room - I guess there's something to be said for creature comforts!

Meanwhile, we've had forever off during the holidays, even an extra week - we're just starting back now (the 12th) and it has been tough for us international dancers. Of course we always get calls from snowbirds that are down for the holidays and have nothing to offer - quite exasperating. There has been some contra though, and that helps.

I hope to have a surprise when I come to camp. Some of you know, as I had to wire for help, but the final product should be great, even if you do know. I also hope to come with my squeezebox, as John said - anyone else with instruments - please bring them and join us! I also have a few new buttons - so even if you've seen them many times - look again!

Enough for now - see you all at camp!

Terry Abrahams

## Balkan History

by Carol McGinn

Balkan is a Turkish word for "mountain." The Balkan nations are the former Yugoslavia (Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia, Herzegovian, Montenegro, Slovenia, Macedonia), Bulgaria, Romania and Albania. In most books Greece and western Turkey are excluded from "the Balkans" but they occupy the peninsula.

**HISTORY.** The Balkans throughout written history have been poor, backward, politically oppressed, unhealthful (malaria, plague, assassination) and self-destructive. Since the earliest history of the Balkans there has been little peace. A long history of wars, invasions, burning, pillage, misrule, corruption, treachery, betrayal, assassination, over taxation, poor peasants/serfs, rulers taking the best and leaving little for the producers, poor agrarian practice (continued use of wooden plows until very recently), illiteracy, have all contributed to a chaotic atmosphere. There has been a long tradition of vendetta, reprisals, and invasions to regain lost territory. Each country dreams of restoring its boundaries to its widest historic extent, but the population in the coveted areas hate those wanting to annex them.

Whether it was the barbarians, Turks, Germans, Italian, or Austrians stealing grain and cattle, partitioning the land, flooding the country with traders and colonists, attacking the native language and religion, and attempting to destroy the native identity, the natives fought back. Europe should be grateful to the Slavs for being good fighters. Had they not stopped the Turks in the Balkans, European history would have become extinct. Guerrilla warfare was constantly waged in the Balkans against oppressors. Often a village's entire male population was wiped out. Fighting was part of life. Early in Balkan history, villages grew up because it was not safe to live alone on farmland. Each needed the safety of numbers for defense. You unlocked the gates in the morning, drove out the sheep, tended crops, returned to the village and locked the gates at night.

What links these countries? What separates them? **Language** for one thing. The major languages are: Bulgarian, Serbo-Croatian, Macedonian, Slovenian, Albanian, and Romanian. But there are dozens of languages and dialects, many totally unrelated and incomprehensible to people a few miles away. When borders changed after a war, the losers were often forcibly removed and people loyal to the new rulers brought in, i.e. Germans were moved into Hungary, which later became part of Romania.

Romanian is a Romance language, as is Spanish, French, and Italian. Romania was a province of the Roman Empire and their language has retained Italic influence. (English is a Germanic language, as is German.)

Slavic languages are divided into South, West and East branches. The south branch includes Slovene, Serbo-Croatian, Macedonian, Bulgarian, Bosnian Herzegovian, Montenegro, and Slovenia. "Yugoslavia" means land of the south slavs. The west branch includes Slovak, Czech and

Polish. The east branch accounts for Russian.

Bulgarian and Macedonian are written in the Cyrillic alphabet, the root of all Slavic language, as is Russian. Serbo-Croatian can use either Cyrillic or Latin alphabets. Serbs use Cyrillic and Croats use Latin. The other Balkan countries use the Latin alphabet (as does English).

Hungarian is not an Indo-European language, as are those languages mentioned above. It is Finno-Ugric, which includes the languages of Finland, Lapland, Estonia, and western Russia.

Greek is its own unique language, as is Albanian. There are no other languages like these. (Armenian and Basque are also unique.)

**Religion** is another binding and separating factor in the Balkans. Moslems conquered much of the Mediterranean in the 7th century and changed the subjected territories to a culture alien to Europeans. The Balkans do not share a European history, though they technically occupy Europe. The Roman Empire split in two in the 4th Century AD. The Western Empire fell to the barbarians rather quickly, but the Eastern Empire, or Byzantine Empire, lasted another 1000 years. Then Ottoman Turks replaced the Byzantine Empire as oppressors in the Balkans for the next 500 years.

The majority of Albanians and Bosnians are Moslem. Slovans and Croats are Roman Catholic. The Greeks are Orthodox Christian, as are Romanians, Bulgarians, Slovakians, and Hungarians. But each country's Orthodox religion is different from the other. Religious intolerance is the rule in the Balkans. The church has not encouraged peace between peoples. The Turks showed more religious tolerance than any other conqueror. Those who did not convert to Islam paid a tax and could not be in a position of power. Many of their subjects converted to keep their land and position.

**Hatred** is another defining factor of the Balkans. Memory is long in the Balkans. Any murder must be avenged - forever. No death was considered accidental or random, but done by enemies. Paranoia stoked nationalism. There has been no period of peace and prosperity longer than 50 years in the history of the Balkans.

Boundaries between Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Macedonia, Greece, Serbia, and all the other countries of the former Yugoslavia plus Dalmatia have changed repeatedly. It is hard for Americans to understand how these people identify themselves. There are thousands of Moslems, Jews, Vlachs, Greeks and Albanians who have lived in Macedonia for hundreds of years and not

think of themselves as Macedonians, but as Moslems, Jews, Vlachs, etc.

Transylvania is currently in Romania, but it was formerly part of Hungary. There are about as many Germans and Hungarians living in Transylvania as Romanians. Towns often have a Romanian name and another in German and another in Hungarian. Nationality can depend on religion, race, culture, language, but seldom where you live.

Hungarians were forced to speak German when under Austrian rulers and they hated the Germans for it. But when the Hungarians came into power, they forced Croats, Serbs, and Slovaks to speak Magyar-Hungarian, which of course the Croats, Serbs, etc. hated. One doesn't have to look far for similar examples today: the Irish hate the English, Palestinians hate Israelis. Civilization has a thin veneer.

Misrule and corruption were more common than fair government. The Greeks administered Turkish rule during part of their reign. Certain peoples suffered under the Greeks as much as, if not more than, under the Turks. The Greeks hate the Turks; the Croats hate the Serbs; Serbs hate Croats; Germans hate Slavs; peasants hate police; Christians hate Moslems; etc., etc., etc. The worst is that Slavs hate Slavs, their natural friends, while their natural enemies (Germans, Austrians, Italians, Hungarians) wait for the Slavs to weaken each other then invade, strip the Slavs of everything and slaughter them. No one feels safe, no one feels loyalty to a state.

Time-Line of a few events in Balkan history:

BC 1300-750 ILLYRIANS, THRACIANS, DACIANS settle on Balkan peninsula

750-500 Greek colonies grow on Balkan peninsula

357-323 Philip and Alexander of Macedonia rule most of the Balkans

300-100 Rome rules the Balkan peninsula (and destroyed the great Kingdom of Illyria)

AD 330 Roman Empire splits, Constantine rules from Constantinople

330 - 14th C. Byzantine Empire rules the Balkans

3rd - 7th C. Goths, Ostrogoths, Visigoths, Huns, Avars invade, but do not settle in the Balkans

6th C. - 10th C. Bulgars (Asian people), Magyars, and Slavs immigrate

1389 - c. 1900 Ottoman Turkish Empire rules (height 1500-1566)

1912-13 First Balkan Wars (among themselves)

1918-23 World War I - Three empires fall: Austro-Hungarian, Russian, Turkish. Romania doubles in size, gets Transylvania from Austria, also Bucovina and Bessarabia from Russia. Bulgaria loses Western

Thrace to Greece.

1918-1939 - "The Balkans achieved independence but not stability. Overpopulation, lack of industry, low farm output, low standard of living, rivalry between city and country interest, all make consensus difficult. Political agendas were widely different. The Serbs wanted a strong central government, but Croats preferred their autonomy. Greece was divided between monarchists and republicans. Bulgaria neared civil war. Hungarians in Transylvania and other minorities were not happy to be under Romanian rule. The 1930's economic depression was worldwide and did not help the new states' stability. Dictators ruled in Bulgaria in 1934, Greece in 1936, Romania in 1938, Yugoslavia in 1929 and Albania in 1925." Collier's Encyclopedia, p. 487.

After World War II Communists took over in every Balkan country except Greece. Though the dictator Tito kept the various ethnic groups in Yugoslavia under control, he did not resolve any of the thousands of year old problems and hatreds that exist there. The first Battle of Kosovo was in 1389 and is still being fought today.

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## Babiak Dance Ensemble

Once a year, Sarasota holds an Arts Day in January to celebrate all the different groups who make this city a cultural center. The Babiak Dance ensemble has participated in it since the beginning, but this year, for us, was the BEST.

The Arts Council, panicky about the cold weather and the ballerinas who cannot dance in the cold, asked us to fill-in for them on the Main Stage for a one-hour show: Great Sound. Great Space, Great Audience.

We entered with Bukovina Stroll and as I looked back at our line, our costumes were magnificent, and the "backdrop" was the brand new library with its exotic columns.

We have been blessed with a troupe of dedicated dancers. Twelve of them made it to this event: Juan de la Sierra and Cindy Harrison of International Productions, Niel and Pat Valanty of Fort Myers, Mary Finegold (who teaches dance at Booker Elementary--Sarasota County's only official dance teacher), Sharon Woerner and Pam Witte (school teachers), and the Babiak Heritage: daughter Cristina and granddaughters Andrea and Logan.

We began folk dancing as performers at Bicentennial Celebrations in Louisville, Kentucky in the 1970's and have amassed a vast array of costumes, records and information that we are eager to pass on to the next generation of dance teachers.

And we keep learning. Our most recent discoveries are: (1) Mistakes are as interesting for the audience as Perfection (2) the Audience wants to get into the Act.

At Arts Day, we had forty people join us on stage for Troika and Korobushka and Savila Se Bela Loza. Kids were ecstatic to be on stage and their parents were clicking photos to document the event.

Neil Valanty set up his video camera and by chance was referred to a very talented young lady (12 years old) who had studied filmmaking. She produced an excellent video of the whole show, the audience and the setting.

Now we have two more shows this week and then ---- Florida Folk Dance Camp! See you there.

Shirley & Dmitri Babiak

## Spring Fling !

The Port Orange Folk Dancers and the Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc. will hold their annual Spring Fling from 11am to 11pm, on Saturday, March 31st at the facilities of the Port Orange Senior Center, Halifax Drive, Florida.

New suspended wood dance floor.

Spring Fling is a full day of request folk dancing with area leaders teaching a dance or two to help cross-pollinate our groups. Plenty of refreshments!

Everything is FREE !

Again this year, an ethnic flea market. Please tag your items with name and price before the sale.

For additional information call or write: Julius Horvath, 904-252-5738, [julhorvath@aol.com](mailto:julhorvath@aol.com)

Join us for a full day of folk dance fun!

## A few final thoughts on Camp, the FFDC and life.

**Camp** registrations are coming along nicely. All the upgraded cabins have been taken, but there's still room for more in the regular cabins. And of course a major rationale for moving Camp to the weekend after Presidents's Day was that local motel rooms would be more readily available and more reasonable. So if you're still wavering, please come. We'll all have a great time.

**Karen's Wedding:** A really major disappointment to me is that we'll miss Karen's wedding. Many of our readers know Karen, possibly as SunRay. For those who don't, she is indeed a ray of sunshine who brightens any gathering, folk dance or otherwise. She and fiancé Jack are planning a February wedding. Through one of those colossal misunderstandings, I did not manage to communicate to her that the Camp dates had been moved. She carefully planned this very special event for what she thought would be the weekend after Camp--at the same time we were planning the Camp for the weekend after the usual time. I'm sure all of their friends in the FFDC wish them both all of the very best.

**Florida Folk Dance Council.** This is my last issue before Camp and the start of a new administration. After two years as co-Editor (with Karen) of the Florida FolkDancer and two more years as President, it's going to seem strange not to have an FFDC deadline coming up. I'm really going to miss the connection with all of you. Many I know only as names on a mailing list, but it's always exciting to meet someone and put a face to the name.

I have been blessed with a wonderful set of officers, any President should be so lucky. Willa Davidsohn has contributed her kitchen table, her artwork, and a great deal of time.. Bernice Roth is the hostess with the mostess who has put a lot of effort into coordinating meal plans with Glenda Harper, the manager of the Christian Conference Center. Carol McGinn, though not officially an officer, brings a strong sense of purpose and a great deal of knowledge to our endeavor. Barbara quietly reminds us of all that can and cannot be done, plus finding really neat recipes and costume patterns and generally picking up on all the last minute drudgery that has to get done. Joan and Wally Washington have contributed their superb organizational skills to Camp Registration.

To the extent that our two Camps have gone well, I give credit to these people who have made it all possible. In addition, I thank all of you because it is the positive attitude of our member dancers which makes the Camp such a special and enjoyable experience. And special thanks to those who contribute articles.

Many things I hoped to do have gone undone. They are past. I have never deliberately slighted anyone, but know full well that there are those for whom I have failed to do something important. My sincere apologies and I hope that all in all the last two years have been as good for the FFDC and its members as it has been for me.

John Daly

**Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc**  
**Florida Camp**  
**Weekend after President's Day**  
**February 23-26, 2001**

**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**(One per Person please)**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**FFDC Membership** (one per household) = **\$ 10.00**

**Camp Fees:**

**Full Time**

\_\_\_ on campus (Three days, nine meals) \$170.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ off campus (Three days, nine meals) \$125.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Part Time**

\_\_\_ Two days, six meals, ON campus \$130.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ One day, three meals, ON campus \$90.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Two days, six meals, OFF campus \$100.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ One day, three meals, OFF campus \$75.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival: Fr: \_\_\_ Sa: \_\_\_ Su: \_\_\_ Mo: \_\_\_ First Meal: B \_\_\_ L \_\_\_ S \_\_\_

Departure: Fr: \_\_\_ Sa \_\_\_ Su: \_\_\_ Mo: \_\_\_ Last Meal: B \_\_\_ L \_\_\_ S \_\_\_

**Tents** = full OFF campus fee + \$6.00 each day per person \_\_\_ days x \$6 = \_\_\_\_\_

**RV's** = full OFF campus fee + \$20.00 each day per vehicle \_\_\_ days x \$20 = \_\_\_\_\_

**T-shirt(s)** Small \_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_ Large \_\_\_ \$10.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Camp Video:** \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Contributions** to Olga Princi Scholarship are appreciated (but not required) = \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL PAYMENT** = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Diet Preference** (check one) Regular (with meat) \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

**Cabin Preference:** Men \_\_\_ Quiet Women: \_\_\_ Rowdy Women: \_\_\_ Couples: \_\_\_

Upgraded cabins are all taken for this year

**Please Note:** Remember that dancing, like any physical activity, carries the risk of injury. We dance on a concrete floor. The Camp environment is rural with limited lighting and rough walkways. Neither Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc., or its members, officers, or directors have the resources to cover the costs of injuries or illness. While we don't want to discourage anyone from coming to Camp, your attendance is your respresentation that you have adequate insurance or other resources to cover your medical costs, lost wages, and pain and suffering without recourse to the Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc. or its officers, directors, or members should you suffer any injury.

Make check payable to "FFDC"

Send To:

Joan Washington

311 S. Montgomery St.

DeLand, FL 32720-5122

Any questions about registration call

John or Barbara Daly at 321-951-9623

email to: [jdaly@palmnet.net](mailto:jdaly@palmnet.net)

web pages: [www.folkdance.org](http://www.folkdance.org)



# MEMBERSHIP FORM

FLORIDA FOLK DANCE COUNCIL

Membership in the Florida Folk Dance Council keeps you in touch with Dance events through the Florida FolkDancer. Even if you're not coming to Camp, please renew your membership. Only \$10.00 through February. After March 1<sup>st</sup>, \$12.00

**\$10.00**

Please complete one form for each family:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send \$10.00 to:

Willa Davidsohn  
Treasurer, FFDC  
1643 Old Colonial Way  
Melbourne, FL 32935

Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc  
c/o Daly  
779 Acacia Ave.  
Melbourne Village, FL 32904  
**Address Service Requested**



**FIRST CLASS**