

Florida Folk Dancer

A Newsletter of the Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc.

May/June 2004

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Ann Kessler

My dear fellow folk dancers -

Summertime is fast approaching, and many of us will be traveling to many places away from Florida. I had my hernia operation on May 3rd (and am doing very well with hopefully no more sickness as I had experienced at Camp), and then exactly two weeks later went out to California for my annual NADE (National Association of Document Examiners) conference where I received my Board Certification in Forensics. Fred went with me, the sweet guy that he is, so I wouldn't overdo the luggage bit, and he kept busy with museums, etc., while I was in conference. We stopped off in Las Vegas for two nights and one full day before returning home where I gave my usual donation, but Fred prospered this time.

How are you doing with your designs for the t-shirts, syllabi, etc. for Camp? Pat Henderson was very thoughtful to share her valuable "history" article with me before it went to print which really solidifies the fact that it will be our 25th anniversary of Camp (I think!). It is truly amazing, as Pat also said, how so many people who worked so hard at the first inception of a unified folk dance group that are still with us today, working just as enthusiastically as they have always done. Many thanks to them for all our joys.

And speaking of Camp - I know it's early, but want to share with you about next year's teachers. Many leaders have been receiving information from a Daniel Sandu, including myself, who lives in the Netherlands, but was born in Romania and specializes in Romanian and Hungarian Gypsy Dance. You will be hearing more about him later, but he sent me his full biography along with a picture, and have decided he will be one of the teachers next

year. It will be nice to have some fresh "new" blood enter our world of dance, and he also got his "bachelor of dance" in tap dancing. So along with a super performance at one of our parties, MAYBE it might be possible to squeeze in a little fun extra workshops in tap - for those who want it. Just MAYBE! And the other teacher will be Jim Gold again. I know everyone enjoyed him, his dances, and his guitar playing, and besides - I got cheated out of his presence this past Camp, so...

Have a wonderful summer; safe trips, and then hurry back to Paradise – Florida that is!

Happy Dancing - Ann Kessler

ABOUT AMAR

by Ann Kessler

We were so saddened to hear of the news about Amar's passing - especially when things were sounding so hopeful. Unfortunately, I did not have a chance to get to know Amar better. When Jan was editor, I heard about all his amazing feats and accomplishments in swimming, but it wasn't until Camp, 2003, when Pat, our then president, had Lee Otterholt and George Fogg as guest teachers. In laughing and finding our way through the intricacies of English contra dancing, as lead by George, I often found Amar beside me, or across from me, or twirling me, and it was then that the swimmer took on a face AND a dancing body. Amar had many talents and a wonderful happy disposition, and I was looking forward to sharing many more happy occasions with him.

Fred and I pray, Jan, that you continue to find comfort in the support of your family and many friends, and that God will give you the strength to continue in the remarkably strong uplifting spirit that you have maintained through

out all the many set-backs you have had to endure, and that He restores you to good health once again.

Hurry back to us, and much love
- Ann Kessler

REFLECTIONS ON DANCE

by Dan Lampert <dan@webuniv.com>

Recently, I was reading an email from one of our fellow folk dancers, and they described dancing as "the right thing". However, I misread the words and thought it said "the ring thing" -- referring to the ring or circle that folk dancers often form on the dance floor. At first, I thought to myself "*hmmm.... that's a cool nickname for the dancing we do... the ring thing.*" Then I realized what a powerful symbol it is -- how we dance in a circle.



The circle is a powerful symbol on this planet. We have other symbols like the cross (religious) and the plus sign (the Red Cross), but the circle symbolizes the circle of life, the commitment of marriage, the cycle of the seasons, and the Earth itself. Is it merely by accident that we dance in a circle? Did our ancestors dance in a circle because they naturally moved around an open fire? Perhaps, or maybe there's a physics explanation. Perhaps our moving bodies naturally copy the movement of the planets moving around the sun. It's possible. Think about this and send a "letter to the editor" for publication in the next newsletter!

FYI - If you found this article thoughtful, you'll be happy to read Pat Henderson's article later in this issue... it's called "Reflections on Dance and Life".



FYI on future issues -- This newsletter is the May/June issue and the next issue will be for July/August. So, although the newsletters are spread out a little, please send write-ups and digital photos of your dance events.... I enjoy receiving them anytime and I will squeeze them into one of the upcoming issues!

AMAR LAHTI

from Jan <amarjan@bestnetpc.com>

Dear fellow folk dancers:

I am sorry to have to send along the news that Amar passed away on Sunday morning at 7 am. He fell on Tuesday, hit his head, and because of the Coumedin he was taking, the subsequent bleed intensified and became irreversible. Although we did not expect this so suddenly, we know that had he died later from the regrowth of the tumor, it would have been an excruciating death for him, as well as the rest of us. We cremated him Tuesday, with Indian prayers and rites of cremation to send him on his way. My children and other family members have been a wonderful support in the last week as have friends and neighbors.

There will be a memorial service for my husband on June 12 at 2 pm at the Grand Haven Village Center, here in Palm Coast.

Please pass along this information to any of the dancers - they are welcome.

Directions to get there: From Route 95 take exit 289 (Old exit 91C). Turn east on Palm Coast Parkway. (Coming from the South the turn will be a right turn). Go East about a mile to a mile and a half. Turn right on Colbert Lane. Go about 1 1/2 to 2 miles on Colbert. Turn left into "Grand Haven". Stop at the guard gate and tell them you are here for the memorial for Amar Lathi. Ask for directions to the Village Center from the guard. Park to the right of the V.C., enter the central iron gate and proceed to the right end of the pool where the Grand Haven Room is.

If you have questions, call me at: 386-447-8396 or email me at: amarjan@bestnetpc.com. Hope you can make it.

REFLECTIONS ON DANCE AND LIFE

By Patricia Henderson henderp@bellsouth.net

I have been folk dancing for 30 years and who would have guessed that a simple activity would change my life. A co-worker of mine danced with the Orlando Folk Dance Club and invited me to go with her sometime in the spring of 1974. I enjoyed it but I struggled a lot in the beginning. I did not feel like I was part of the "in" crowd. Later that year, I went to Europe and after recovering from the trip, I experienced one of life's epiphanies. My co-worker had divorced and moved to Texas and it was up to me to go to dance by myself. I remember that fateful night when I asked myself if I was going to dance and I told myself--"You're not doing anything else, so go!" I did and the rest is history. I can't imagine what my life would have been like without folk dance, without Bobby, without the two children I now have. I took the road less traveled and found a pot of gold. I also found a family of dancers and an activity which keeps me healthy and feeling alive.

Folk dancing is a mental, physical and social activity all at one time. It gives me events to look forward to as we go about our everyday life. Bobby and I are going on our second

Dance on the Water cruise down the Danube this summer and I look forward to extending my folk dance family once again. We can now travel almost around the world and have folk dance friends in each location. Now that Bobby and I are retired, we are looking forward to more travel and for folk dancing everywhere we go. We also want to go to those out of state camps and workshops. We want to go to Mainwoods, Stockton, KDI, Scandi week and others. You say, don't we have enough dances by now after dancing for so many years? Of course, we have plenty of dances but these events are not about learning a number of new dances. To me, it is about extending the folk dance family and dancing with more than the usual 15 dancers of the Orlando group. If I happen to see a dance that I like, I will make the effort to bring it back to the group.

The first dance at Florida Camp in 2002 was Povo, taught the previous year by Dennis Boxell. As the dancers joined by interlocking arms, I remember saying to myself that this was what folk dancing was all about. This was our big event of the year, just as weddings were for the villagers who were doing the same dances. Camp is the time that some of us cherish just as a social time. The meal times are my favorite as I try to sit with different dancers at each meal. This means that sometimes Bobby and I are not always together. In fact, at one of the last meals this year, I was sitting with dancers from my group and one of them asked why Bobby and I did not sit together. I said that I try to sit with different people and that tonight was their turn! In closing, I would like to say that I feel privileged to have such a large and caring family of folk dancers. I reflect on that fateful night in 1974 that changed my life and say "thank you."

DELAND DANCERS ON SUMMER VACATION

By Joan Washington <wjwread@hotmail.com>

Wally and I have started our summer international folk dancing here in Michigan, at the Yale Public Library, and we had five

dancers for our first dance. If we could get everyone to come on the same evening we could have eight or more dancers. Not bad for a town with a population of about 2,000. It's surprising how many dancers we are getting that have danced somewhere else in the past. The dancers aren't from Yale, just from the surrounding area.

Wally and I also did a teaching session for my friend Beth who runs an International Friends program at her church. She gets up to forty women, mostly Japanese and Indian, at her weekly meetings. We had a circle of about 20 women (yes Wally was our only male dancer as so often happens) and they were enthusiastic about learning folk dances. Then one of the Japanese women asked if we do Tanko Bushi a Japanese coal miner's dance. Unfortunately we didn't have the music with us, but that didn't stop us from doing the dance. She did a brief walk through and then several of the women sang so we could dance. A real treat and it was interesting to know that the dance is still alive. Men in Japan still do the dance.

aprons, flower headbands, straw hats and neckerchiefs.) Then the students did performances for other classes and for their parents. The second year, we repeated this project and added another school where we taught six second grade classes for only one week followed by a performance. This project was sponsored (and paid for) by The Sarasota Arts Council.



This year we were back again to these schools repeating the programs with this year's second graders. We had 134 students in each school learning line dances and couple dances and even the "Virginia Reel". The students loved this activity and coming to identify as a "dancer". After the show, the parents came up, some with tears in their eyes, expressing their gratitude and bringing us flowers.

The teachers of each class learned their special dance and rehearsed them all that the students were doubly prepared.

All in all, it was a very rewarding experience. The Education Channel came out and filmed us. We are being shown two and three times a day every day in May as part of an Excellence in Education program.

Sandwiched in between these events, during Easter Break, we took a 12 day cruise in the western Carribean on the Italian ship LIRICA. We have great photos, had great weather, but were very glad to be back!

We had a major reunion on my 80th birthday: November 1, 2003. All our children and most of

DEAR FLORIDA FOLK DANCERS

We hope all goes well with you and we want to let you know that our dancing season (September-May) has been great. Two weeks ago, six of us were performing Italian at the Ritz-Carlton in Naples. This past Friday, four of us did a Latino program at the Manatee Vocational School in Bradenton.

After the show we drove to Clermont to stay overnight with our daughter Anna and her family. The next day, Saturday, we drove to Ellie Hall's place and she took us to Julius Horvath's Spring Fling. It is great to see so many of the old-tyme folk dance friends and to do the ancient Balkan dances that we know and love but rarely do.

This was our third year of teaching folk dancing in the public school system. The first year, one of our dancers who is also a teacher wrote a grant and had us spend three weeks teaching. (The grant covered costumes: lace

our grandchildren, and our local friends and folk dancers and some from Louisville attended. We have a video of the event.

Many graduations this year: Andrew's daughter, Logan graduates from high school and plans to attend Wake Forest; Andrea graduates from the University of Florida Physician Assistant Program; and Jonah finishes medical school at the University of Florida and begins his Residency Program in South Carolina. All of these grads have performed folk dances with us...

We heartily recommend that you all get involved with teaching in the schools. The children love it; they blossom.

Dmitri and Shirley Babiak

TAMPA TABLOIDS - (OK - so I lie)

from Terry Abrahams

<terry.abrahams@verizon.net>

First, our heartfelt condolences to Jan Lathi. To think of not having Amar's smiling face at our dances ever again is so terribly saddening. Our prayers also go out to Jan for a full recovery. I hate to write anything more, but I know Amar would want us to go on...so...

I love reading about all of our groups. Everyone is so active. Tampa on the other hand, is hanging on by our toenails, but nonetheless hanging on. Sometimes there's only 3 or 4 of us, 7 on our best night, but we keep on chuggin'. Andi has left us for the beauty of Vancouver for 4 months, where she is actively participating in Israeli and International dance groups, including a nifty special day celebrating Israeli dancing for the public (i.e. non-dancers) at the JCC and a workshop coming up. Perhaps she will write her own article on these events! (Andi - Hint) Ursula, Andi and I went to Rang Tang where Florida had the most out of state representatives - we really ruled! The weekend was great as per usual - with Steve Kotansky in his usual fine fettle and there were TONS of men - all good dancers - it was almost gender equal - I may go back again next year just for that reason! It was

great seeing other Floridians as well as people we've met at other camps, such as Playshop. Don't you just love the dance community? I left early (actually late Sat night) to get back to Orlando in time (Sunday morning) for my latest love - my class in Stage Combat - if there is ever a part for an old lady doing a scene with sword and dagger - I'm in line for that! Andy Pollock is swinging his way around the state, dancing with the young chicks, Bill Schwarz spends much of his time country dancing - we all keep busy! Susan (whom you haven't met because she gives voice lessons on Saturdays) is now playing in a contra band, and we all hit contra dances whenever possible. Judith's scan classes are going great - she is running special workshops on Saturdays and drawing quite a crowd. And of course - seeing everyone at Spring Fling was another high! What a floor, what a space, what food, what dances!! Thanks Julius and thanks Orlando. Yeah!!! We were all there except for Judith and Ernesto - we may be small, but we try hard! I'm getting ready for my summer trip which will include a week in Poland with my travel bud; we will connect with Jim Gold's Hungarian/Prague tour and following that I will wander for 11 days before landing in Austria for the World Championships Sept 3-5. Hungary is the host country for a once-ever-five-year international festival and that is reason enough to be there! Jim's plans sound quite exciting - I look forward to traveling with him. And that about does me in again for this month. I swear I wrote my usual drivel last month, but I keep losing things and my mind seems to be one of them! Bye! Terry

MORE FROM GAINESVILLE IN MAY

By Raluca Ioana Rosca <rarosca@ufl.edu>

I can probably pick up exactly from where I left, John's retirement party. It was a very nice event, bringing together the dance and the painting parts of John's life. Says he: "Thanks so much for showing up at my opening Friday and bringing the dances along. I had thought about having folk dancing as part of the

activities, but didn't quite know how to work it in. But since they had had a dinner for me in the gallery on Tuesday and since some of the students had already left town and other people who came to the opening had left by the time you showed up, there was a good space to dance, and I had a great time. It was a great way to retire. And special thanks to Max and everyone else involved in putting together the cd of my favorite dances." Thanks also to Margaret and Dea for coming up with the event idea. We were very glad to see out-of-town guests: Tom and Melanie from Tampa, Karen from St. Petersburg, as well as a lot of local dancers who came out of their hiding places for this special event. Toshi was not able to participate in the party, as he was honored as Teacher of the Year for College of Engineering, but joined us afterwards. It was so good to see the new generation participating: Karen's daughter, Eilia, is 2 years old and she was ready to go dance with her mom, Toshi and Jenna's daughter, Talia, is almost 6 months now and surely growing and very interested in watching people around her, dancers or otherwise.

If the month started very happy, it continued with a bag of mixed news. Amar's passing away was a very sad one. Sad on a very different level is that our club's status quo on UF campus is once again changing. Starting July 1st, the Folk Dance Club is not a Sport Club anymore but just a student club and as such will no longer be permitted to have non-instructors community members in its assigned practice times at the Rec Center, and can have only PAID instructor community members on Rec Center facilities (if the story is of interest to you, please write me for details, especially if you want to know how you can be a "paid" instructor). So starting July 1st we'll probably move the Friday meeting in Weaver Hall Rec Room, where everyone is welcome to enjoy the plastic floor, and we'll keep the wooden floor in the gym just for the performance rehearsal group. Other constructive ideas are welcome.

Until July 1st, we are still enjoying the rec room floor on Fridays, between 5:30 and 9 pm, as well as the dance organized by Jack on

Sundays, 7-10 pm in Weaver Hall. As always, updates on meeting times are posted on our web-page <http://grove.ufl.edu/~folkstep>; as always we are looking for a web-master. For the third year in a row Raluca asked for help and/or a heir/ress to the web-mistress position; she found help in the person of Richard Walker, the husband of folkdancer Connie Walker from Pensacola. Richard kindly agreed to host some of our photo-gallery pages on his server, see <http://grove.ufl.edu/~folkstep/GalleryEntry.html> and the links from there on.

In an interesting turn of events, our newest facility crisis coincided with the start of Gainesville Dance and Music Association (GDMA), an umbrella organization formed to preserve and promote participatory dance and music in Gainesville. A primary goal of the group is to provide space (in the form of a single dance and music center) and programming support to its member groups and individuals for classes, workshops, community dances, lectures, rehearsals and related special events. The association wants to repeat the experience of the Tapestry group in Minnesota (www.tapestryfolkdance.org) where different groups of dancers got together, bought and transformed a building into a dance center. A similar example of the power of organization is the story of Orlando's 'Twirl and Swirl' club, where Spring Fling took place this year. Anyhow, the GDMA initiative is very exciting and you'll hear some more about it close to September, when they plan a one-day event with Contra, international folk, swing, hustle, tango, Ballroom, Country, Scottish, Morris, Irish dance and anything in between. If you live in greater Gainesville area and/or want to support this idea, please take a minute to fill in the survey at www.rostudent.com/survey/1.php For more timely updates, mark the group's web-page at www.afn.org/~qdma

On a more personal note: once again I totally enjoyed the Spring Fling experience (great event as always, great many thanks to Julius for organizing this event year after year). Does anyone have notes for *Batrineasca din Vicov* (per Andy P's notes, was taught by Nico Hilferink at the Florida camp in 1990)? I have

known its music for a long time, as the singer, Sofia Vicoveanca, is one of my favorite interprets, but this year in Orlando was a first time to dance on it!

Well, I can write another page on misc. traveling dancers and their adventures (Margaret went to Turkey for a month, and as such the flamenco/bulerias group meetings are suspended, Yang Mu to Cape Canaveral, Arleen to Flagler Beach, Joyce went to her son's wedding) but I'll better stop before I start putting words in their mouths.

See you all dancing, Raluca

UPCOMING EVENTS

TOURS FROM JIM GOLD

From Jim Gold

July 1-10: Tour of Canada (Quebec) with Jim Gold and Yves Moreau!

August 4-15: Tour of Bulgaria including the famous Koprivshtitsa Folk Festival led by Jim Gold.

For more info, write to jimgold@jimgold.com

MOUNTAIN PLAYSHOP Aug 6,7,8

From: TMaynard <rustym@main.nc.us>

Dear Florida Folkdancers,

Just as you have a February camp of some 25 years known to northward neighbors, there is an escape for you all in August 6,7,8. The 19th Annual Mountain Playshop in Swannanoa NC. <http://main.nc.us/ifaa>

Erik Bendix, Mary Garvin and others will be teaching from Bulgaria, Armenia, India and the region of Klezmer along with a musical mix from live musicians and lively DJ's and lots of dance recovery review. We might also just relax at times. We would welcome Florida dancers to test out a newly installed suspended dance floor, the good food, and friendship. Since we are approaching our 20th year we would also like some advice from you all on how we can celebrate our milestone year.

Where: Swannanoa, NC 4H Camp

When: August 6, 7 & 8, 2004

For more info, contact Rusty Maynard at 828-298-4824; email: rustym@main.nc.us
Or Beth Zweigoren at 864-458-8582; email: zcat@ix.netcom.com



a Dance From last year's Mountain Playshop

NORWEGIAN AND SWEDISH MUSIC AND DANCE

Nordic Fiddles and Feet is pleased to present a fabulous lineup of some of the best Scandinavian Dancers and musicians in the world. Immerse yourself for a whole week in this enchanting folk music and dance in the beautiful West Virginia Hills.

Where: Buffalo Gap Camp

When: July 3-10, 2004

For more info, email: fiddlesandfeet@aol.com

Or visit the website:

www.nordicfiddlesandfeet.org

THE 9th ANNUAL ISRAELI FOLK DANCE WEEKEND

Come enjoy three full days and three long nights at this beautiful, relaxing, rustic camp in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Where: Camp Greenville, SC

When: August 26th – 29th, 2004 (Pre-Labor Day Weekend)

For more info: contact Ruthy Slann at 570-331-3069; email: kibbutz@slann.com

Or visit the web site:

www.geocities.com/Athens/Thebes/3898/ruthy



The Lovely Kenilworth Lodge in Sarasota, FL

THE SHARPES ASSEMBLY
SEVENTH ANNUAL CONTRA & ENGLISH
COUNTRY DANCE FESTIVAL

Where: The Historic Kenilworth Lodge in
Sebring, FL.

When: October 1st – 3rd 2004

Applications must be in by August 15, 2004. For
more info, contact George or Onie Senyk at
321-636-2209; email: geoandoni@aol.com

OIFDC UPDATE!

By: Pat Henderson <henderp@bellsouth.net>

Our club, Orlando International Folk Dance
Club (OIFDC), is flourishing this spring with a
few new members. Jean Finks and her
daughter, Mary Bernard, have been attending
the past month. Jean is the music librarian at
Stetson University in Deland. They have quite a
distance to come, as does New Englander
transplant, Don Pauley who lives in Leesburg.
Don especially enjoys English, Scottish and
also goes to the area contra dances. We did not
see Don for a month and then he comes in with
a broken arm and other injuries from falling off a
bicycle. This was before it was the thing to do
as experienced by Bush and Kerry!

Travelers the past few months include:
Phyllis Dammer to Lake Tahoe for a family
vacation and then to Kansas City where her
mother is ill; Eva Gaber to California on
business and pleasure where she and girls
visited relatives in Palo Alto and then she went
to a conference in Anaheim while the girls

stayed with the relatives; Lucy Birkemeier to
Chicago where her son opened an art gallery
and then she and her husband, Joe, went to
Amelia Island for their big Shrimp Festival. We
heard from Larry Wartell and he is once again
working at Yellowstone National Park this
summer. His contact info is: P.O. Box 2209,
Yellowstone NP, WY 82190. We were happy to
see Annette Brand again in March when she
came down for the Israeli Dance Workshop.
Annette is going on Mel Mann's Danube Dance
on the Water cruise in July along with Ann and
Danny Robinson, Bobby and myself. There is
still room if anyone wants to join the fun!

Orlando was the host city for Spring Fling
and it was a smashing success. A lot of dancers
came during the 8-hour period. We thank Julius
once again for his generosity for this event. Our
group sorely missed the annual Maitland Greek
Festival this May since the church is building a
new facility where it will be held in the fall so
we had our own Greek Night on May 19. We wore
our Greek clothes and brought Greek food. We
had a surprise guest, Bob Monaghan, from New
Jersey. Bob danced a lot with us in the 1970s
and 1980s. We also were glad to see Claudia
Terrence and Ruth Ann Fay along with Jean
Finks and Mary Bernard from Deland. It was
good to see our editor, Dan Lampert, again
also. We received very sad news in May from
Jan Lathi about Amar's passing. They were
occasional visitors to our group and we will
surely miss him and his inspiration to the group.
We offer our collective condolences to Jan.

RANG TANG REPORT, April 16-17

By: Patricia Henderson
<henderp@bellsouth.net>

Rang Tang is Atlanta's annual workshop
usually held within a month or two of our
February camp. Bobby and I went this year for a
second time with the first time being two years
ago. This year, the teacher was Steve Kotansky
teaching Balkan dances and was held at a
Presbyterian church in Stone Mountain.

The event draws people from all over the southeast but Florida was the state that had the most attendance outside of Georgia. The dancing begins with a Friday evening dance party. This year Liz Nunan provided two bands: a Bulgarian band made up by members on one family (parents and children) and a band composed of musicians from various U.S. cities and Canada. Steve was a great leader for the music that the bands played. Sometimes it was a pravo or another simple dance that he led. Many times we ended the dance by making a spiral. During the evening, Steve taught a couple of easy dances. We danced until midnight and then found a place to stay for the night. Some out of towners stayed in motels while others stayed in the homes of the Atlanta dancers.

Steve's workshop continued during the day on Saturday after the Atlanta dancers provided a breakfast complete with Easter eggs. In the late afternoon, one of the band members led a singing session while Steve conducted a culture corner. He shared insights on his involvement with youth in folk dance. He has been successful in this arena. We had dinner on our own and then had another evening party going until midnight again. Family members of the Bulgarian band attended and were inspirational in their dancing. There is always an after party in the home of an Atlanta dancer but Bobby and I did not go. We had our own after party in the home of David and Dorothy along with Jenneine, Julieta and Yang from Gainesville. We had breakfast at the dance hall on Sunday morning and then we had a review by Steve, which was videotaped. We were saying our farewells by 1 pm. It is exciting to see some truly incredible dancers, from Atlanta and points north. Folk dancing is alive and doing very well up there. If you get a chance to get away, put this event on your calendar each year.

SPRING FLING REPORT

By Patricia Henderson henderp@bellsouth.net

On Saturday, May 1, the annual Spring Fling was held in Orlando. Julius Horvath was our gracious host and sponsor. When Julius had

trouble finding a facility in the Port Orange area, Ann Robinson reserved the Whirl & Twirl Square and Round Dance Club's hall for the event. The beautiful dance hall has a suspended wooden floor. It also has a kitchen which Julius used to keep a variety of food flowing. We had a very good attendance with dancers coming from Deland, Melbourne, Tampa, Sarasota, Gainesville, Orlando and Daytona Beach. Some dancers stayed a short time while others stayed the whole afternoon and evening. In all, I believe that there were more in attendance than in previous years. The hall is very large so there was room for many more dancers. Julius and Bobby kept the music coming from requests and a few dances were taught by some of the group leaders. It was great to see and dance with everyone who attended. Thank you to Julius for your generosity in sponsoring this event. I see that John Daly has already booked Fall Fling for October 23-24 in Melbourne. Put that on your calendars now!



Ethnic Performers from Rang Tang 2003

FLORIDA FOLK DANCER

Florida Folk Dancer 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: Ann Kessler
3295 Gorse Court
Palm Harbor, FL 34684
Phone (727) 789-6480
annie8@aol.com

Editor /
Historian: Dan Lampert
PO Box 151719
Altamonte Spgs., FL 32715
dan@webuniv.com

VP: Nancy Wilusz
3880 El Poinier Court
Sarasota FL 34232
edwardnan@webtv.net

Secretary / We are now seeking a
Treasurer: new secretary/treasurer.

Committees: Advisors to the Board:
Pat Henderson
Terry Abrahams
John Daly

Nominating Committee:
Terry Abrahams

Send all submissions to the Editor by the **15th of the month** prior to publication.

Copyright: articles in the Florida Folk Dancer are copyright of the Florida Folk Dance Council, Inc., or of their individual authors.

Subscriptions are \$15 per year and include membership in the Florida Folk Dance Council. The membership year runs from one Annual Camp (usually February) to the next. Members can receive the newsletter electronically if desired.

Check our web site for further information on folk dancing in Florida: www.folkdance.org

Return Address

FFDC Newsletter Editor
Post Office Box 151719
Altamonte Springs, FL 32715-1719
USA

FIRST CLASS