



Prez Sez by Terry Abrahams

Hello FFDC members! Happy New Year – it’s gotta be better than last year, and your Board is looking forward to a positive future. We had a Board meeting and assuming we will all be vaccinated by spring (!!!) here are our results:



- 1) This year’s camp cancelled (obviously!)
- 2) Hope to have Jaap for next year; dates still undecided.
- 3) Instead of a Spring Fling, Orlando is having a double celebration of P & B’s 45th anniversary, and Orlando’s 50th. Date so far: April 16-18. Where: We’re looking at possibly a hotel on a beach, if not, the Ramada we danced in last year. More to come. Note – this weekend is for everyone – not just Orlandians. It will be a total FFDC activity.
- 4) As per our by-laws, we are to have a general meeting every year, and this year is an election year. Were we to have camp, the meeting would be February 6. And so we will! 2:00 pm is the time, and you will be sent a Zoom link. Please think about becoming an officer. John and I are both trying to retire and want to see some “younger” faces out there. The Board will do some asking, but hopefully you will have come forward by then. You may contact any one of us if you think you would like to be an officer.

SAVE THE DATE: FEBRUARY 6, 2 PM GENERAL MEETING.



That’s it folks! Have a wonderful New Year. Zooming has been a lifesaver- but up close and personal – hey!

Inside This Newsletter

President's Message.....	1
Club Reports In	2
Tampa Trivia.....	2
Southeast Florida Folk Dancers....	2
Orlando International Folk Dance Club.....	3
Delightful Delandia.....	4
FFDC Annual Camp	4
No Camp In 2021.....	4
Footnotes	5
‘It symbolises the end of the year and the new one beginning’: folk dance in Romania.	5
Calendar, Events, and Tours	6
Calendar.....	6
Folk Dance Tours.....	7

Editor's Note: newsletter articles should be submitted using the "newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org" email address. Thank you Vicki

Club Reports In

Tampa Trivia by Terry Abrahams



Again, we are staying close to our homes, wearing masks, keeping our distance, but seeing each other on Zoom. We do have some sad news. Andi lost her husband in December. He was in hospice, and went peacefully. It was not Covid. Our condolences are with Andi and her daughter and family. She will have a memorial in the spring. If you want to write to her: andi@kapplin.com.

I'm having trouble keeping up my energy and my CLL is causing me concern, but I'm still here. On a chemo pill which might be helping. Then I fell off the toilet – only me – so I'm moving even less. TMI - I know.

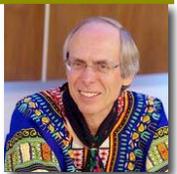
On a happier note, Vicki (I think you already know she comes from a large family), just welcomed her

13th great nephew (she has 17 nieces and nephews). Her niece, Hayley, and husband, Conor (who btw is a Congressman for the 17th District of Pennsylvania) just had a baby boy (Matthew). All are doing well, even if everyone just gets to see the baby on Zoom.

Andy is working up a bunch of dances, spending more time on dances taught by teachers who have passed. He's filming some, and will let you know if you want to see them – Zoom probably.

That's all for now!

Southeast Florida Folk Dancers by Rob McCollum



Several snowbirds are back in Florida for the winter and we have started in-person dancing outdoors. We meet every Thursday at 2 pm at a covered shelter (open walls) in Deerfield Beach for ~2 hrs. It has been marvelous to get together for socializing and

dancing. Take a look at the Balkan by the Beach Facebook page for more info. Sarah and I have been dancing with others outdoors for the last six months in Pittsburgh. A great addition to all the Zoom events happening.



Orlando International Folk Dance Club By Pat Henderson



I write this on almost New Year's Eve and what a year it has been. We started out with our camp in early February and some of us made it to the Laguna Folk Dance Festival the first weekend in March. Then our dancing world went mostly to Zoom. However, our Orlando group resisted and we danced live for those who wished to come after our lockdown of March 16 - April 30 was over. We became our own bubble. We did Zoom our dancing session in May and June. After taking July and August off as we usually do, we resumed in mid-September. Two of our dancers, Tami and Nicki, had Covid the same week and recovered quickly. We have been dancing live with masks and also doing Zoom ever since on Wednesdays. If you want to be on our Zoom list, let me know by emailing me at henderp14@gmail.com.

Now some of us are lining up to get our vaccines. In fact, I will get mine on December 31 since they were made available to residents 65+ of Orange County this week.

We have two sad events to report. First, Lynn Ricketts moved to California to be with her family - we miss her. Then, recently, one of our newer dancers, Bonnie Jardaneh, lost her battle with colon cancer. They were both a lot of fun to be around and both picked up the dancing really well.

For happy news, Carla Powers welcomed her

second grandson in December and traveled to the DC area to be with him and the rest of her son's family for Christmas. In other news, Linda Nicoli was in Little Women at the Cocoa Beach Playhouse. It was held over for an extra weekend. More good news is that Norma and Dave Harrison are wintering in their home that they recently bought in Edgewater. The rest of the year they live in Maine.

It is nice to finally have some news to write about. Happy dancing new year to all!



Ann Robinson's 90th Birthday Celebration
 March 27, Saturday, 11 am - 6 pm
 Location: Ruth Ann's at 1790 Windham Ct, Deland

OIFDC's 50th and Bobby & Pat's 45th Anniversary Weekend
 April 16-18, Friday-Sunday
 Location: TBD but hopefully on the beach (East Coast)

Delightful DeLandia by Kalista (Kelly Fagan)



A craving for “different” upon different led the Fagan ladies to beautiful Ormond-By-The-Sea for 5 enchanting nights lullabied by the rhythm of the surf....fed delectable delights a la Lynda’s culinary prowess....this was Christmas... cradled by each other’s love....and me, nursed through two surgeries for kidney stones in 8 days.... my sweet mother and generous sister....I am well on the mend.... and as for dancing, I continue to help facilitate Wednesday nights with Pat and The Great Bobboo ...seeking to maintain the interpersonal connection on Zoom with our community....knowing I will melt into

tears the day we can all freely, safely rejoin hands and celebrate in dance....get your vaccines sweet friends..... hugsz



FFDC Annual Camp

No Camp Planned for 2021

At this point, the FFDC Board has decided to forgo planning on a camp for 2021 - either virtual or an in-person variety. Too many unknown variables. But let us all remain optimistic that by 2022 it will all be different.

FootNotes

‘It symbolises the end of the year and the new one beginning’: folk dance in Romania

From The Guardian newsite: "Our series on evocative travel photographs continues with Alecsandra Raluca Drăgoi documenting traditional Romanian folk festivals"

Published December 25, 2020

This article is courtesy of the Guardian News & Media Ltd. Their website can be found at theguardian.com.

Alecsandra Raluca Drăgoi is a photographer based in London. See more images in this series on Instagram

Watch a video of the dance on https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFUWAUwkUAY&ab_channel=iulianmaxim.

The photograph is part of a personal project called Ritual, which documents costumes and traditions across the north-east of Romania. In 2018, I spent the winter travelling to various festivals where I set up a mobile studio to photograph the participants in their costumes in front of a black backdrop. These festivals are unique and have an incredible energy – everyone has a great time dancing and singing. This particular image was captured at a festival in Botoşani.

It's different from the rest of the series because of the colourful costumes and the size of the group. And getting them to stand against the snow created a good contrast. First, I asked them to pose, but after a few seconds I asked them to dance so I could capture more of the detail in their costumes, which have been very well preserved over the years.

The boys are from a village called Cerbul de la Buhalniţa Cepleniţa (The Stag from the Buhalniţa Cepleniţa). They come prepared with a song and dance, which they perform in front of a judge and the public. They present the traditional tale of the stag, and sing and dance in a ceremony which includes a drama with mystical echoes. Even though the stag is not present in this image, and usually takes your focus from the rest of the

group, I was fascinated by the other dancers and their uniquely detailed costumes.

The costumes, the music and the dance may change from area to area, but the storyline stays the same. These ceremonies are like plays, in which the main character – one of the magical animals, in this case the stag – dies and revives, symbolising the end of the present year and the beginning of the new one. The ritual, which makes amazing use of masks, is mainly based on the eternal fight between good and evil or life and death. It is a truly authentic folk creation.

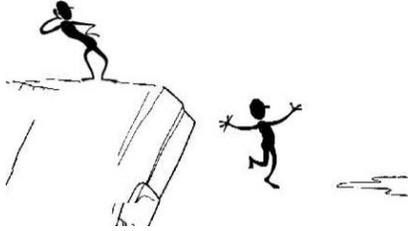


Boys taking part in a traditional stag festival in Botosani, Romania.

Calendar, Events, and Tours

Look for more information on events, tours, and cruises on the FFDC website calendar: www.folkdance.org

Calendar



Look Before You Leap... Or Go Dancing...

- ✿ The listing of workshops and other events below will only show those that we understand at time of publication will occur in person. We continue to thank Pat Henderson for maintaining this. Remember this data is a moving target. Check and recheck the status if you plan on attending or participating. Please do not rely only on what is printed below.
- ✿ For virtual events, we are providing two links to calendars which are attempting to track everything virtual.

Andy Polluck has created a calendar for virtual dancing:
<https://tinyurl.com/andyscalender>

Dale Adamson has also created a calendar for virtual dancing:
Use this link to access the calendar: <https://daleadamson.com/events-calendar/>
Use this link if you want to submit something to the calendar: <https://daleadamson.com/event-submission/>
Use this link to access various other items (including Andy's calendar!): <https://daleadamson.com/other-online-event-calendars-of-interest/>

- 2021-01-15: Orange Blossom Ball, South Daytona, FL, www.orangeblossomcontra.com/
- 2021-02-05: Greek Festival, St. Petersburg, FL, www.facebook.com/supergreekfest
- 2021-02-12: Greek Festival, Lecanto, FL, www.stmichaelgoc.org/festival.html. Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church
- 2021-02-26: Greek Festival, Ft. Myers, FL, www.greekfestfortmyers.com/, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
- 2021-03-05: Greek Festival, Sarasota, FL, www.stbarbarafestival.org/, St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church
- 2021-03-05: Laguna Folk Dance Festival, Laguna Woods, CA, www.lagunainternationaldancers.com/
- 2021-03-11: San Antonio Folk Dance Festival, San Antonio, TX, www.safdf.org/
- 2021-03-12: Ocala Greek Festival, Belleview, FL, www.greekfestivalocala.com/, St. Mark Greek Orthodox Church
- 2021-03-27: 90th Birthday Celebration for Ann Robinson, Deland, FL, No web information, OIFDC
- 2021-04-07: NFO Annual Conference-Virtual, www.nfo-usa.org/, National Folk Organization (NFO)
- 2021-04-16: Orlando's 50th/Bobby & Pat's 45th Anniversary Weekend, No web information, FFDC and OIFDC
- 2021-04-23: Lyrids Folk Dance Festival, Vancouver, Canada, www.lyridsfolkdancefestival.org/
- 2021-04-23: New England Folk Festival- Virtual, www.neffa.org/What_is_Festival.html, New England Folk Festival Association (NEFFA)
- 2021-05-07: International Folk Dance Camp, Hopewell Junction, NY, www.ifc-ny.com/IFC.flier.pdf
- 2021-05-21: California Statewide Folk Dance Festival, Petaluma, CA, www.socalfolkdance.com/statewide.htm
- 2021-05-28: Florida Folk Festival, White Springs, FL, www.floridastateparks.org/FloridaFolkFestival, Florida State Parks

Continued on Page 7

Calendar (continued)

Continued from Page 6

- 2021-05-28: Northwest Folklife Festival, Seattle, WA, www.nwfolklife.org/
- 2021-06-03: June Camp: an International Folk Dance Weekend, Deerfield, IL, www.sites.google.com/site/junecampifd
- 2021-06-06: International Folkfest, Murfreesboro, TN, www.mboro-international-folkfest.org/
- 2021-06-12: Scandia Camp Mendocino, Mendocino Woodlands, CA, www.scandiacampmendocino.org/, Scandia Camp
- 2021-06-25: Toronto Israeli Dance Festival, Toronto, Canada, www.israelidancetoronto.com/
- 2021-06-27: Nordic Fiddles and Feet, Lyman, NH, www.nordicfiddlesandfeet.org/, Nordic Fiddles and Feet
- 2021-07-09: Montana Folk Festival, Butte, MT, www.montanafolkfestival.com/
- 2021-07-18: Stockton Folk Dance Camp - Week 1, Stockton, CA, www.folkdancecamp.org/
- 2021-07-25: Stockton Folk Dance Camp - Week 2, Stockton, CA, www.folkdancecamp.org/
- 2021-07-30: Lark Camp, Woodlands, CA, www.larkcamp.com/
- 2021-08-01: Ti Ti Tabor Hungarian Folk Camp, Gig Harbor, WA, www.tititabor.org/
- 2021-08-15: Mainewoods Dance Camp Week 1, Fryeburg, ME, www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org/
- 2021-08-22: Mainewoods Dance Camp Week 2, Fryeburg, ME, www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org/
- 2021-09-03: Labor Day Weekend at Pinewoods, Plymouth, MA, www.facone.org/labor-day-weekend/labor-day-weekend.html
- 2021-09-05: Scanfest, Thousand Oaks, California, www.scanfest.org/
- 2021-09-17: Enon Valley Folk Dance Camp, Enon Valley, PA, www.folkdancepittsburgh.com/
- 2021-09-24: Mountain Playshop, Black Mountain, NC, www.mountainplayshop.org/
- 2021-10-09: Workshop with Michael Ginsburg, Dayton, OH, www.miamivalleyfolkdancers.org/, Miami Valley Folk Dancers
- 2021-11-05: Greek Festival, Maitland, FL, www.orlandogreekfest.com/, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
- 2021-11-05: Autumn Leaves, Nashville, TN, www.nifddance.com/, Nashville International Folk Dancers
- 2021-11-25: Bannerman Folk Camp, Black Mountain, NC, www.bannermanfolkcamp.com/
- 2021-12-26: Christmas Country Dance School, Berea, KY, www.berea.edu/ccds
- 2022-01-14: Orange Blossom Ball, South Daytona, FL, www.orangeblossomcontra.com/
- 2022-01-21: Florida Snow Ball, Gulfport, FL, www.floridasnowball.com/, Tampa Friends of Old-Time Dance

Folk Dance Tours

For Dance on the Water Folk Tours, see <http://folkdanceonthewater.org> or contact David and Marija Hillis at folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com or 510-459-0092.

For Seminars of Greek Dance with Kyriakos Moisidis, see <http://www.moisidis-dance.gr/en/> or contact moisidiskyriakos@gmail.com.

For tours with Sonia and Cristian, see <http://www.soniacristian.net> or contact Sonia at sonia_dion@hotmail.com.

For Jim Gold Folk Tours, see <http://www.jimgold.com> or contact Jim Gold at jimgold@jimgold.com or 201-836-0362.

For tours with Zeljko Jergen, contact Fusae Senzaki Carroll at fusaec@aol.com or 916-798-4675

For tours with Tineke van Geel (sometimes assisted by Maurits), contact them at <http://www.tinekevangeel.nl>.

For the Macedonian and Bulgarian Folk Tour, please contact Vlasto at sunstagecompany@gmail.com or visit <https://sunstagecompany.wixsite.com/arts>

Please note: The Florida Folk Dancer prints information on folk dance tours, camps, and other events that may be of interest to our readers. This does not imply an endorsement or recommendation of any tour or camp (except our own FFDC events!)

Florida Folk Dancer is published six times a year by 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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Send all other newsletter submissions to the newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org email address.

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