



President's Message

by Gary Berke

Hello FFDC,

I am writing with a heavy heart. I've been visiting my sister who has been at the University of Vermont Hospital in Burlington, VT since last Wednesday with cancer that's almost certainly terminal. At first they were totally hopeless; now there might be a glimmer of hope, which means she might have long enough to ensure that her wildlife refuge is on its feet.



All notes are cheerful after this, so I am hoping that the Fall Fling flies in October. Although it would be helpful for the group leaders to give us an idea of the people who are thinking of coming should the Covid situation allows it. It will be at a new venue with better air conditioning, and the time is ripe for the wonderful party that Melbourne always hosts. I am hoping that people who have resisted vaccination will reconsider under the threat of the delta variant.

Carla and I have worked out the arrangements on a live call with Jaap, our teacher for next year's camp. He is committed to teaching traditional folk dances. Jaap specializes in Bulgarian and Mea, who is Swedish, in international, including Israeli. Jaap has become very popular with his many Zoom sessions, so most of you know how alive, enthusiastic, and accurate he is. I was equally impressed when I saw Mea in action; and she provides a wonderful contrast of personalities. It promises to be an amazing weekend. Jaap and Mea have reviewed lists of dances from our previous Camp evening parties, so there will be as little duplication as possible. They will also consider requests, which is a pretty novel idea, I think. Email the requests to me or Carla.

Eva should have a summary of the charges for the weekend pretty soon. She's working on it as we speak, and we hope the rising prices will not affect us too much. The room rates and food should not increase by more than ten dollars per person (maybe less). Though very few people have elected to go with the plated meal option, which would have balanced out the other rising costs. Pat is trying to get the floor for the same price as 2020, and I'll bet she succeeds.

Happy dancing,

Gary

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

Editor's Note: Gary hinted at his sister's passion in the first paragraph of his article, but I thought many of you would be interested in knowing more of the details (if you don't know already). The wildlife refuge is the Adirondack Wildlife Refuge, located in Wilmington, NY (upstate NY in the Plattsburg area). The website is www.adirondackwildlife.org. It looks to be a pretty amazing place.

Passings

Last Dance - J. Deanna "Dea" Browning by Joyce Dewsbury



It was with great sadness that we learned that J. Deanna "Dea" Browning had passed away recently. Dea loved life, laughter, and music. She was a talented fiddle player, and she attended and played in the Florida Folk Festival and the Florida State Fiddler's Convention. For over twenty years she hosted a weekly acoustic jam, the Half-Fasst Jam, at her home. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science in Nursing, and she was a board-certified Dermatologist Nurse Practitioner at the Malcolm Randall Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Gainesville until her retirement in 2005 after nearly thirty years of service.

Dea was not as active in folk dancing in recent years, but in the past she had been a very active participant at our weekly folk dancing sessions and she was also an enthusiastic member of the performing group. Occasionally, when she had time in recent years, she would come by to dance with us. It was always such a joy to see her as she had such enthusiasm for dancing and love for all of us. We will miss Dea very much.



Club Reports In

Tampa Trivia by Terry Abrahams



Last issue I had to do my article over, thanks to an email problem between Vicki and me. So now I remember what I forgot to put in the do-over. I have a box of records – yes, records– that someone gave me. I don't remember when or where. But they are all international records. I would imagine someone gave them to me for the Olga Princi auction, or at least to give away. If you are that person, could you let me know. I have no idea how long I've had them. I cleaned out a cupboard I forgot I had! So, let me know if it was you.

We're thinking about making next camp special since it is the FFDC's 50th anniversary. If you have any pictures of "old" times that you think would look good on a wall, start collecting. Especially pictures of friends who have passed. I'm going to update the quilt – good excuse to get going again, although I couldn't match the "decoration" in between t-shirts – so it won't look great – but it will be there. So far it's Pat, Judith, and I working the celebratory ideas. If you want in – just let Pat or I know. Or if you just have a good idea we may not have thought of – like decorations, etc. tell us that.

We're still up and dancing at Andi's on Friday nights. Thank heavens for her dining room. She's off to Vancouver, though, in a few weeks. So I guess we'll have a break, unless, by a miracle, the rec center opens again. With the Delta thing going on, it may never open. We still have Hanson and Joanne coming – what great dancers they are, and they're also so nice! A pleasure to have them. Hanson was a professional ballet dancer in Turkey way back and

his talent shows. He remembers all the dances (that he wants to) that Tineke and Maurits taught when they came to camp, so we do a number of those. Joanne is the daughter of Anna Trakis, who was the Executive Director of the St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society, Inc. (SPIFFS). She has folk danced all those years with her mom and knows lots of Greek dances and had her own Greek troop (influenced I'm sure by her father, who was Greek).

We're also doing a number of the pandemic dances that we learned on Zoom. Andi taught us the "crane" dance (Lubili) which is our present favorite, and Shantel (not a pandemic, but also a favorite). And we all enjoyed Zooming the Stockton camp – what a good job they did.

Judith was on AGT on June 6. They did a real short version – a disappointment, but there, nevertheless. She got all "yes's" from the judges, but has no plans to be "picked" to be in the finals – says she's had her moment of glory.

As you know, I'm a fencer and it was wonderful watching an American gal win the foil at the Olympics – first time for the USA!

Well, this column must be jinxed. Huge storm knocked out my computer and I had to stop a while. Luckily, I have a new computer that automatically saves, so I didn't have to start from scratch this time. Take care everyone – get your vax, wear your masks – we're in trouble again. Hope to see you in Melbourne.

Gainesville Update by Joyce Dewsbury



We are still dancing but the Rosa B. Williams Center is not yet open. This past month has been a down turn for all of us as the coronavirus and the Delta variant have caused such an upsurge in cases. The good news is that we are still dancing every Friday night in the Welcome Center in Hawthorne which Joyce Story kindly procured for us. Mainly due to the virus, our attendance has been much smaller than in the past. But we are hopeful that this will change once the virus has been curtailed and the Rosa B. Williams Center is again open. Following are some recent photos and a brief explanation.

And here we are on July 30. Nancy to the right joined us dancing on this evening.

Here we are on July 23. Julieta figured out a way to take a photo using an extension rod on her iPhone. Left to right are me (Joyce D.), June, Bo, Gary, Joyce S., Peter, and Heather.



June asked those of us who were able to dance at a carport sale for AAUW. This is a photo from the first time the performance occurred. Someone wrote on Facebook along with the photo that was posted.... "doesn't every carport sale have folk dancers?". Such a neat idea.



Gainesville Update (continued)

Continued From Page 4

We danced at the Welcome Center again on August 6. Left to right are June, me, Felipe, Heather, Julieta in front, Peter, Joyce S. and Nancy. I am not sure we had a birthday to celebrate but the balloon added a nice touch.



Here is the last photo from August 13. A smaller but still very energetic and enthusiastic group.



I hope everyone is able to continue dancing and also survive this continuing nightmare. May we all stay healthy and safe.

Heard It From The Sarasota Grapeviners

by Carol Spangler



I'm happy to report an update on Andi Kapplin's "life long commitment" to folk dance as her story continues. The Grapeviners teacher/leader has been invited to teach and lead Israeli dance at Mountain Playshop, the international folk dance weekend held September 24-26 in Black Mountain, NC. Playshop has provided a forum for dancers to learn new material and is a great destination for dancers to share their love of dance in the beautiful Smoky Mountains.

And, she also made the cover of The Society of Folk Dance Historians "Report To Members." The banner headline reads: "This issue is dedicated to Andi Kapplin." followed on page one with the following commendation:

ISSUE DEDICATION

"Andi Kapplin (Tampa, FL) is a pillar of the Florida folk dance and Israeli dance communities and has been a steadfast member of the Society for decades. Blessings on Andi and other such people who see beyond their own horizon—and act on what they see."

It is wonderful to see her dedication honored and appreciated by her own colleagues in the field. The Grapeviners are proud to have her as their teacher and congratulate her on her wonderful accomplishments. We also know how lucky we are to have her every Wednesday to inspire and lead us through old dances that we love and new ones that we can add to our list.



Here's a photo of Andi in "full swing"!

Now for the "[Folk Stories from Grapeviners](#)" portion of our report. The first is from Susan Barach. Susan is the Coordinator and Treasurer of the Grapeviners. Susan also has the honor of being the first person I contacted when I found the Grapeviners and made me feel welcome before I even got to my first dance session. Her story begins when she moved to Sarasota in 2000. You will hear a little echo from Andi's journey in her story. One of the first things she did was to check in with the local JCC and see if they had any dancing. There was an Israeli dance class that she joined. While dancing with the group, they asked if she went to international folk dancing on

Wednesday nights (sound familiar?). After all, she had only been in Sarasota for a week! But, international folk dancers don't waste any time when they see a prospective dancer to add to the circle. She tried it and loved it, but was afraid she would never learn all the steps and patterns. Well, 20 years later she continues to go every Wednesday and she "still loves it." In addition to her Israeli dances, she has many favorite international dances. Susan says, "To me the music is the most important element of a dance. If I don't like the music, I most likely will not enjoy the dance."

Continued on Page 7

Heard It From The Sarasota Grapeviners (Continued)

Continued From Page6

Next, we have a great story literally “from another country.” I love this story from Jan Gliden because it shows the way folk dancing creates deep connections even among strangers. It is a wonderful way to visit a country and leave your “tourist badge” at the door. Jan describes folk dancing in another country as “One of the most memorable events for myself as a folk dancer and a traveler.” In the summer of 2018, she was visiting a friend in a small town near Norwich, England. They found out about a dance and decided to attend. Because she had done some English country dancing, she thought that’s what she would be doing, but she was in for a big surprise. The type of dancing that they did that night was a mélange of Contra, Scottish, English, folk and barn dancing. It was done with partners, and the dances were all called and easy to follow. Of course,

it included a lovely tea break half way through with real china dishes that the ladies washed in the kitchen. (That might be my favorite part of the story.) How wonderful to meet the townsfolk in that way and participate in local activities that didn’t involve sight seeing. She has also done Scottish dancing in Scotland and had a fabulous time without knowing how to do the dances ahead of time; a real feat in itself. Because of these experiences, she encourages any folk dancers going overseas to check out the dance possibilities in the local areas. Her final comment - “You will really create more memories, and maybe make some new friends along the way!” In the photo below, Jan is in the front row to the left of the woman in the olive green dress. She looks like she fits right in!



Events

Mainewoods Folk Dance Camp from the Eyes of a First-Timer By Pat Henderson



I had the great pleasure to attend the first week of Mainewoods Folk Dance Camp August 15-21 this year. My husband, Bobby Q. and I wanted to go where there would be dancing in person as soon as we could, so this fit the bill. They required everyone to prove vaccination. We flew into Manchester, NH from Orlando and rented a car that we drove to Fryeburg, ME. The venue was Indian Acres Camp for Boys, a camp dating back to the 1920s. The cabins were rustic and the dance hall building had a nice wooden floor. It was on the Saco River and a few ventured down the sandy cliff to enter the river.

The camp started on a Sunday with a reception before dinner. We had a dance party with the Pixton-Poirier Band from Boston who played for awhile before we switched to recorded music. They were absolutely incredible and a lot of fun. Each of the teachers taught an introductory dance that evening. The teachers for the week were: Penny Brichta (Israeli), Tom Bozigian and Sheree King (Armenian), and Michael Ginsburg (Balkan). Each taught for an hour each morning, Monday through Thursday and also did Once Over Lightly after dinner before the night party. On Friday morning, they did their review and they had an extra 15 minutes although some did

not need that much time. In the afternoons, there were music and singing lessons, advanced dancing, ethnic committee meetings, and Scottish dancing with Patricia Williams. The dance party ended around 11 pm when a snack was served and that was followed by Late Night Dancing.



On Wednesday night, they had Binge dancing to see how late dancers would stay and this year, it was only 1 am! This was the night that locals could crash the night party and we had a few. Each night had a theme so Monday was Scottish, Tuesday was Armenian, Wednesday was Israeli, Thursday was Balkan,

and Friday was international with a 14 item dinner smorgasbord. We had special decorations and activities to go with each theme. The food was ethnic and fantastic. There was a kitchen crew of dancers who assisted the chefs. It was surreal to meet in

person a lot of dance leaders that we knew on Zoom. We also met Tom and Barbara Pixton and Julia Poirier who were on our Flying Tomatoes CD, one of the first folk dance CDs. We had a very enjoyable week and would recommend it to other folk dancers. However, first we had weather too cold, particularly overnight and then it was too hot. So put in an order for moderate weather when you go!



Save the Date Reminder - Fall Fling Flyer

FFDC FALL FLING

**OCTOBER 2, 2021
MELBOURNE VILLAGE HALL
535 HAMMOCK ROAD
MELBOURNE VILLAGE**

11:00 - ???

BRING A DISH



Save the Date Reminder - FFDC Camp Weekend Flyer



LIVE AND IN PERSON!

***Come celebrate 50 years
of Florida Folk Dance Council***

FEBRUARY 11-14, 2022

ORLANDO FLORIDA

**JAAP LEEGWATER &
MEA NORDENFELT**

"Bulgaria and Beyond"

FOLKDANCE.ORG

**SAVE THE
DATE!**



Foot Notes

Folkdance Footnotes Beyond Choreography Blog Site by Terry Abrahams

For those of you who haven't yet subscribed to it, the website blog *Folkdance Footnotes Beyond Choreography* (created and run by Don Buskirk) is a plethora of well-written, interesting, creative, informative, and unusual articles on folk dancing. It would be easy to spend hours perusing all the different articles. It is also easy to sign up to receive notifications of new blogs when posted - just scroll down on the home page until you find where you can enter a valid email address, enter yours, and hit return. You'll need to confirm you signed up - an email from Folkdance Footnotes will be in your inbox - use it to confirm.

If you want to first check out some of the possibilities, click this link to read *[A new approach to recreational folk dancing – Phase 4?](https://folkdancefootnotes.org/begin/a-new-approach-to-recreational-folk-dancing-phase-4/)*: <https://folkdancefootnotes.org/begin/a-new-approach-to-recreational-folk-dancing-phase-4/>. Note that the "Terry" mentioned in the article is not me! If you want to sign up after reading this, click on this icon at the top of the site to get to the home page, then scroll down for where to enter your email address.



Calendar and Tours

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

Event Calendar



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

- ✿ We continue to owe a debt of gratitude to Pat Henderson for maintaining this event list. Remember this data is a moving target. Many, but not all events, are no longer virtual. Check and recheck the status if you plan on attending or participating. Please do not rely only on what is printed below or on the FFDC website.
- ✿ For the below list, those events which are scheduled to be **virtual** are indicated with a "V" after the date.

- 2021-09-02 V Karmiel USA - Israeli Folk Dance Weekend, Highlands, NC, karmielusa.com
- 2021-09-03 Balkanalia, Corbett, OR, www.balkanalia.org/, Balkan Festival Northwest
- 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, CA, www.scanfest.org/
- 2021-09-17 Enon Valley Folk Dance Camp, Enon Valley, PA, www.folkdancepittsburgh.com/
- 2021-09-23 Tamburitza Extravaganza, Cleveland, OH, www.tamburitza.org/, Tamburitza Association of America
- 2021-09-24 Boulder International Folk Dance Fall Workshop, Boulder, CO, www.boulderfolkdancers.org,
- 2021-09-24 Mountain Playshop, Black Mountain, NC, www.mountainplayshop.org/
- 2021-09-30 World Camp, High View, WV, www.worldcamp.us, World Music & Dance Institute
- 2021-10-02 Fall Fling, Melbourne Village, FL, No web information, South Brevard Dancers
- 2021-10-08 Oktoberfest International and Dance Weekend, Fairlee, VT, www.facone.org/oktoberfest/oktoberfest.html, Folk Art Center of New England
- 2021-10-15 Greek Festival, Lecanto, FL, www.stmichaelgoc.org/festival.html, Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church
- 2021-10-15 Greek Festival, St. Augustine, FL, www.staugreekfest.com/, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
- 2021-10-21 Pourparler, Dummerston, VT, www.nfo-usa.org/pourparler, NFO
- 2021-10-29 TamFest 2021, Seven Springs, PA, cfu.org/event/34th-annual-cfu-tamfest-2021/, Croatian Fraternal Union
- 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
- 2021-11-12 Fall Camp, Simi Valley, CA, www.fallcamp.org/
- 2021-11-25 Texa- Kolo Festival, Bruceville, TX, www.tifd.org/
- 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
- 2022-02-11 Florida Folk Dance Council Winter Weekend Workshop, Kissimmee, FL, folkdance.org, FFDC
- 2022-03-25 Chicago Spring Festival, Chicago, IL, www.balkanskiigri.com/schedule-of-events.html
- 2022-05-19 California Statewide Folk Dance Festival, Petaluma, CA, www.socalfolkdance.com/statewide.htm
- 2022-06-05 International Folkfest, Murfreesboro, TN, www.mboro-international-folkfest.org/
- 2022-07-08 Montana Folk Festival, Butte, MT, www.montanafolkfestival.com/

Give Credit Where Due by Vicki Kulifay

I recently learned that the website of virtual dancing we've been attributing to Dale Adamson was really created (and continues to be updated) by Judith English (from Ottawa, Ontario). We know Dale is very supportive and helpful (especially in hosting the site), but kudos really belong to Judith for the data. Judith graciously said I didn't need to point this out – just correct the attribution in the newsletter. But I felt recognition and correction were both needed in this case.

Judith English has 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/>

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

Folk Dance Tour Contacts

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 Moisisdis, 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!)

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