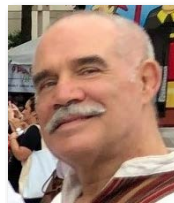




# President's Message by Gary Berke

Dear everyone,

Can you believe this wonderful weather? It's almost a consolation for my return to reality....from my two week Baltic Sea cruise with Carla and ten extra days alone in Holland, Belgium, and Paris.



On the FFDC front, I heard the Fall Fling in Melbourne was a great success - sorry I missed it. Carla and I worked hard to get the applications for camp out before we left, and they're at [www.floridafolkdancer.org](http://www.floridafolkdancer.org) waiting for you. John is looking into what's necessary to keep our national website, [www.folkdance.org](http://www.folkdance.org) going, and the board may have to vote on whether to keep it if it's too expensive or complicated. It may be difficult to access through Apple, but it's still running. Bobby and John have also been looking into new sound equipment for us, since the old stuff is big, heavy, and wearing out, but "probably good for another year." Since we have enjoyed travel journals in the past, I decided to round out this letter with a selection from mine.

9/25: "Wonderful Copenhagen" is a great Danny Kaye song, but the cruise planners weren't aware of it and made it the shortest shore leave. If you ever cruise, beware of step-on step-off buses. They all look alike, but ours was the Three Stooges Bus Line; anything you saw on their films short of actual violence occurred, and they had no marked bus stops. So every time we decided to get back on the bus, our ticket was rejected. For starters, our driver didn't open the doors when we rang to get off, rudely dumped us a few blocks beyond the Botanical Gardens, and it took ten minutes of walking to find the entrance. The rest of the day was spent trying to find various stops on the route and failing, but wonderful Copenhagen managed some nice surprises along the way.

A wrought iron "Hospital" sign spanned an arch framing a pleasant green courtyard. Nature was calling, so we explored the adjacent building, a university! Lining the gray halls were navy velvet high backed, upholstered pairs of benches facing each other, where students studied on line or held

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**Message From The Editor...January-February 2024 Articles Due by December 27**

Please send articles for insertion to [newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org](mailto:newsletter@floridafolkdancer.org) email address.

Take care, Vicki Kulifay

# President's Message (Continued)

Continued From Page 1

small meetings. We saw classes in session, and the kids were SO friendly to alien seniors invading their hallowed space. I travel to experience other life styles. Bingo!

To me, a true city is a place that offers interest wherever you turn. Copenhagen did that. One place seemed to vie with the next as the reason this city was voted #1 in Europe for quality of life. Needing a break, we stumbled into an average looking coffee shop with tempting desserts. Since we were coffee'd out, our pleasant server pointed out the free water station parked discretely below an open wood staircase. The upstairs housed the spotless WC and was invitingly decorated with two well placed trees, comfortable furniture and big windows overlooking the street - an oasis for passing sweet hours. Across the street was a formal tea house, a totally opposite vibe, but we'd already indulged. After almost four hours of braving the blustery weather and being turned away by buses, we had to take a cab back to the ship or be left behind. Monday is not the day to tour Copenhagen if you want to see the famous Tivoli Gardens. Closed, so at least we didn't miss that.

If you liked this, I can include more entries with subsequent letters. Hope all is well with you.

# Passings

## The Loss of Yves Moreau by Pat Henderson

The international folk dance world was devastated on September 8 with the news that Yves Moreau had passed away. Many of us had danced with him many, many times and had cruised with him. Not only was he a Bulgarian dance teacher but he loved the Bulgarian and French-Canadian cultures. His story started in Montreal when he started folk dancing with a Boy Scout troop. He met Dennis Boxell then, which was a connection that got him to California at a later date. His parents bought him a short-wave radio and he found a station from Sofia, Bulgaria on Radio Free Europe. He wrote to the station and ended up going there and the radio station people found a way for him to stay longer. He traveled to Bulgaria almost annually from 1966-86

and brought back authentic village dances to the folk dance world. He started traveling to many countries to spread his love of Bulgarian dance and culture. Yves came to our Florida Camp four times: 1983, 1999 (with his wife, France, who taught French-Canadian dances), 2009, and 2015. In 2009, I remember that he told his story of how he got to Bulgaria as a teenager as his Culture Corner. It was the most impressive hour of storytelling of how he was embraced by the Bulgarians which led to him becoming a Bulgarian dance expert. In 2015, Lee Otterholt was the other teacher and it was after the National Folk Organization Annual Conference and we had 150 registrants. He will live on every time that we do one of his dances.

The following are tributes and photos shared by FFDC members.

Yves was certainly an icon in our folk dancing world and will be missed.

### ***From Sarah Sheard***

In the 70s, I was in Rochester NY, which wasn't that far from his home in Montreal. Our college group scheduled him to teach a workshop. We sent out flyers, arranged to have a Balkan restaurant cater Saturday dinner, etc. Unfortunately, the day before, he let us know he had come down with, get this, Chicken Pox, and wouldn't be able to come!

I was so disappointed as I had never met this legend.

However, some of the group got on the phone and called in some favors and we had a successful weekend workshop anyway, as we were able to persuade Andor Czompo and Dick Crum to fill in. It was the only time I ever met Dick Crum and didn't realize until later how much of a legend he was. We did have Andor back for a weekend by himself later.

Decades later, after I had moved to LA, got married (to a non-dancer!), raised 2 kids, divorced, moved to Pittsburgh, and married again, this time to a dancer, I finally met Yves. He barely remembered the "Chicken Pox Caper." I'm sorry it took me so long to meet him the first time, as he sure was a great guy, great teacher, and great dancer.

# The Loss of Yves Moreau (Continued)

Continued from Page 3

## ***From Jack and Linda Seltzer***

It's been a few weeks now for me to digest the news of Yves' passing. I feel so sad for him not being here to give us another dance as he always taught so beautifully. I loved his consistent four count rhythms from Bulgaria. So easy to remember and share with others.

Yves was a great leader. A man who will be missed. I knew Yves from workshops over the last 40 years. And a two-week cruise over the Atlantic to Barcelona in 2016. His persona of giving and open-mindedness was exceptional. Of course, his wonderful in-depth awareness of folk dances, mostly Bulgarian, was extraordinary. As France, his wife, told us his last wish was for 'us to keep dancing.' Yes, Linda and I will do that!

Dzangurica, Tropanka, Dospatsko Horo, Sitna Zborenka, and Takanata were just a few names of his four count dances. I remember doing a French-Canadian tune (An Dro?) on a small Milwaukee stage with at least 60 others and continuing the singing of the melody and dancing for 10 minutes after the music ended. Just plain inspiring fun!

Thanks Yves and may we continue doing all your fabulous dances for the next many years.

## ***From Pat Henderson and Bobby Quibodeaux***

Yves Moreau is the reason Bobby and I went to our first NFO Conference in Salt Lake City in 2007. We enjoyed it so much that we have been to many conferences afterward. I became involved with the organization after that and served as a board member and Secretary for four years. Also, I was the local contact for their conference in 2008 and 2015. Yves was one of our teachers in 2015 when NFO was again in Orlando. My involvement because of Yves had come full circle.

My other remembrance of Yves was at that 2015 workshop when we had the shock that went around the circle of 100+ hands. It was the coldest morning of the winter and the static electricity built up and shocked everyone. After that, we didn't close the circle!

I also have fond memories of the transatlantic cruise from Ft. Lauderdale to Barcelona in April 2016. The night of our 40th anniversary, Bobby and I were invited by Yves and France to visit in their cabin before dinner. Then we sat at the table with the teachers for dinner. The other two were Steve and Susie Kotansky. It was a memorable evening on a special day. There were six members of our club on that cruise and we had several of us on the Boston to Montreal cruise in 2011, which was also a Moreau cruise. Yves always created a wonderful atmosphere in all his endeavors.







# Club Reports In

## Heard It From The Sarasota Grapeviners by Carol Spangler



It's Fall and the "new season" has officially begun. The Grapeviners know this because Andi, our favorite teacher, has returned from Canada. Smiling faces in the pic below attest to the fact that we are happy to have her back. Our "snow birds" are also arriving and rejoining our dancing circle. Before closing out the summer season, special thanks go to Yifat Drucker, with some help from brave dancers willing to lead, who managed to keep us dancing through the summer.

In addition to organizing our summer sessions, Yifat also took on the task of creating a new website for The Grapeviners. So, we have a fresh new digital look, hoping to attract some new members and supporting all of the dancers with videos for extra practice.

October is also the month that the Grapeviners Board meets to review the state of the organization and address any concerns. Happily, the treasurer's report was encouraging and member attendance has been steady. The decision was made to continue to have the first week of the month free for all.

Susan Barach welcomes back Andi Kapplin for the new season.



Two of our snow birds, June and Tom Morse, have rejoined the circle.



# Heard It From The Sarasota Grapeviners

Continued from Page 6

The Grapeviners Board hard at work. Susan Barach, Yifat Drucker, Andi Kapplin, Carol Spangler and Dolores Lustig.



A happy visitor who came for another senior activity and stayed just to listen to the music and watch the dancers. Next time, he might try a dance.





# Gainesville Update by Joyce Dewsbury



This photo was taken on September 13. Most are holding sunflowers. It was the last time the group met and danced at the Wellness Center in Hawthorne, FL. Again we all thank Joyce Story for her having found this location for us to dance when nothing else was available and the Rosa B. Williams Center was closed.



We are continuing to perform at Alz Place. Joyce S. and June organize this effort. June coordinates the dates we dance which is now a Tuesday afternoon and Joyce S. takes care of arranging what dances we will do and the music. She sends out the list prior to our performance and then we have a short rehearsal of the dances just before we perform. It works well. This photo was taken on September 26. Pictured are (left to right) - Joyce S., Gary, June, John, and me (Joyce D.). John Ward led our group for a number of years and it is nice to have him joining us to dance at Alz Place.

Now for some wonderful news. We are now dancing again in the Rosa B. Williams Center in Gainesville. It is such a joy to be back there. Joyce Story deserves all the credit for filling out the application so that we could return there. Apparently doing all the paperwork was a difficult procedure. We can dance there for three months but then the application has to be renewed again to allow us another three months to dance at the Center. This next photo was taken on September 20, the first Wednesday back at the Rosa B. Williams Center. Take note of the elaborate painting on the wall.



Continued on Page 9



# Gainesville Update (Continued)

Continued from Page 8

The next photo is of the folks who danced at the benefit for UNICEF on September 30. June is active in this effort and helped to arrange that the folk dancers would perform. Joyce S. again helped a lot with the dances and the music. Pictured left to right are Joyce S., Gary, June, Felipe, Melinda, and Nancy.



The last photo is from October 18. Again we are at the Rosa B. Williams Center. We want to welcome back J.R. who took a break from folk dancing but now is back. J.R. is to the right. Again all hold sunflowers. They seem to be Gainesville's thing.



It is important to thank Julieta and Joyce S. who are the ones who keep our folk dance group active. Julieta brings all sorts of percussive things which we can use during dances, and she also sets up a table with an attractive table covering with various items which relate to music or dance. And she takes most of the photos.

We are living in a particularly dangerous time. The war in the middle east is having repercussions of violence right here in America. Keep well and dance a lot and reach out to people to help when and where you can.



# OIFDC by Pat Henderson



In September, our club has been dancing in the studio behind our house for 25 years! We had a birthday celebration for Bobby on October 4 and also celebrated 25 years in the studio. The following week we danced from our club's "top dance of the year" for the past 25 years. It is amazing how many of them we still do regularly. We celebrated other birthdays of Susan, Ruth Ann, and our newest member, Debbie, on October 18.



We enjoyed having Tami visiting from Utah in October for Bobby's birthday party and Fall Fling. Sadly, we did not have a strong showing from our group to Fall Fling on October 7. Bobby and I enjoyed hosting Pat from Tallahassee while she was here for the fling and also Folk Dance Games Day on October 8.

We had our Halloween party on October 25 and welcomed Barry back since he sold his home in Winter Park and moved to Boca Raton in August. Now he has four opportunities a week to dance. He enjoyed visiting friends in the Orlando area while he was here.



Those traveling recently include Susan who was at the University of Nebraska football stadium for a women's volleyball game on August 30. It set a record of 92,003 in attendance and set the world record for a women's sporting event. Bobby and I attended the Ellen Golann Weekend in the Hudson Valley of New York September 29-October 1. It was our first time



## OIFDC (Continued)

Continued from Page 10

going and it was very enjoyable. Erica Goldman (Israeli) and Bianca de Jong (international) were very good teachers and presented some fun dances. However, the weather flooded NYC that Friday and closed the subways, which prevented some dancers from coming to camp. They came the next day, but Ellen was not able to make it on Saturday as she had planned. Nicki spent most of September in Sicily and Italy. Then in October, she went to Dayton, Ohio for her granddaughter's wedding and it was a black-only wedding with only the bride in white. Also, in October Ann went to the John C. Campbell

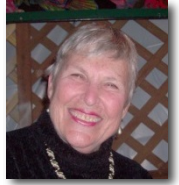


Folk School in Brasstown, NC and also Penland School of Craft in Spruce Pine, NC. She was a teacher at one and a student at the other. Linda and Rich returned from their summer up north which included a trip to the Canadian Rockies before visiting a son and family in the Seattle area. Carla Powers went on a Baltic cruise and then visited Holland with friends afterwards (Editor's Note: see her travel article on page 17).

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and Happy New Year!



## Tampa Trivia by Terry Abrahams



We've been short-handed (or is it short-footed) for a month now. Gary was traveling over a month (I'm sure he's mentioned it in his article) and Hansen and Joanne went to Greece for two weeks, followed by conflicts the next two. Lucky for Judith and I, Andi came back from Canada so then we were three! Well Gary is back, but fighting a cough, but still we're four! I think we're the smallest group in the state, but we still dance, and we still love it.

We are playing a plethora of Yves' dances and realize there are many we don't know. But memories of him are still with us. He was not only a great teacher with great dances, he was the nicest guy in the world. Having him and France together was perfect. Sense of humor, kindness, and an ability to remember names was incredible. He sat and shmoozed as if we were all his best friends – and I think we were! All of us – all over the world.

Loved seeing old friends at the Fall Fling – a good reason to dance in Melbourne, since they aren't coming to other events. John's girls, MJ and husband, Janiene and a few others...I can't remember names. The food was even better than usual. If one didn't dance, it would be worth going just to eat! Nice room to dance in, nice weather, and John and I got to play outside for a while – always a pleasure.

Vicki hasn't made it dancing in a bit, but has had a busy fall. Her and her husband headed to Pittsburgh

at the end of September for a "Cousins Gathering" (which side note - she organized). There were about 100 relatives and families who attended (Vicki has 44 first cousins). Also that weekend was Vicki's 50th High School reunion...so a hectic time!

A highlight for Vicki during that trip was a dinner with four of her siblings, a niece, and spouses at Mary's Vine Restaurant in Rankin, PA. Mary's Vine used to be St. Mary's Croatian Roman Catholic Church - and was the church where her parents were married in 1941. That evening was topped off by a visit to Hrvastka Dom - the Croatian Home in Rankin where Vicki first folk danced. This was in 1960 with the Rankin Junior Tamburitians (who are still based in the Hrvastka Dom). Hrvastka Dom also houses a small museum dedicated to the Croatian heritage in Rankin.



# Events

## Orlando Serb Fest by Pat Henderson



The Orlando Serbian Festival was held October 13-15 at the St. Petka Serbian Orthodox Church in Longwood. Several members of the Orlando group enjoyed the dancing and the food. The church is finally completed after being under construction for about 15 years. Four cities:

North Port, St. Petersburg, Clearwater, and Jacksonville in addition to the local Serbian dance groups performed and some



cities had more than one age group. It was probably the most crowded that we have ever seen. Different children's groups performed during the late afternoon on Saturday and then

at 6:30 was their main event.

Different groups performed until 9 pm and there was even an adult group from

Jacksonville in the mix.

There were a couple of opportunities before the main event to dance the Serbian kolo in the grass to the band. There must have been about 75 of us dancing among the crowd.

The event is usually the second weekend in October so mark your calendars for next year.

It was heartwarming to see so many young people enjoying Serbian dance.



# Fall Fling by John Daly



About two dozen dancers came together October 7 for our traditional Fall Fling. We danced, we ate, we had a great time. The afternoon featured a wide variety of dances selected by dancers from all over the state. John and Terry played music on the patio. The Melbourne Village Hall is a convenient venue for the Fall Flings, although we all miss the wood floor at the Community House.

Thanks to all who came, especially all who shared their pot luck dishes, those who helped clean up at the end of the day, and Bobby for use of his bluetooth speaker. From Melbourne, thanks to Fannie Salerno, Doris Gonzalez, Judy Aijala, Barbara Daly, and Bernice Roth for putting it all together.





# FFDC 2024 Winter Workshop

Register now at :

[www.floridafolkdancer.org](http://www.floridafolkdancer.org)



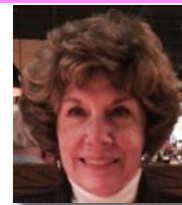
**FFDC 2024 WINTER WORKSHOP**

**Michael Ginsburg - Balkan, Intl**  
**Bata Marcetic - Serbian**  
**Orlando, Florida**  
**February 2-5 2024**

The graphic is enclosed in a dashed black border. It features a central archway containing the text 'FFDC 2024 WINTER WORKSHOP'. Below the archway are silhouettes of four people (two men and two women) in a line, holding hands or in a dance pose. The entire graphic is decorated with several snowflake icons of varying sizes and orientations.

# Footnotes

## Well I Am Mystified!!!! by Nicki Wise



I am mystified! On a trip to Italy, we stayed in a very big cave city. The "Sassi" as it is called, is located in the southern part just above the heel of the boot. It was designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in December 1993. Founded by the Roman Lucius Caealius Metellus in 251 BC and inhabited by Lombard in 7 and 8 centuries, and then Islamic rule, Arabs, and Normans until 1041. The Sassi originated in a prehistoric troglodyte settlement thought to be among the first ever human settlements in what is now Italy.

The Sassi are dug into rock like caverns. We stayed in a cave hotel within the city. The view is beautiful at night with the lights and of course a church on the top of the town. The area is limestone on a slope of a rocky ravine built into the rock.

In 1927, it became a new province of Matera, Italy called Sassi di Matera (ancient town) with international fame. The residents were forced to relocate in the 1950's because of extreme poverty. Now it is mostly a tourist destination.

### Editor's Note...

Like Nicki, I also had the privilege of staying in Matera during a trip to Italy in 2019. An amazing place. I've added a few of my photos from that trip to enhance Nicki's article. Vicki Kulifay



# Folk Dancing and Friendships by Carla Powers



Recently Gary and I returned to Amsterdam from our 14 day Baltic Cruise on Holland America's Rotterdam.

Fortunately, when my sister-in-law, who I planned this trip with was unable to go because of health problems, my friend, Gary Berke, stepped in to take her place. I first met Gary 9 years ago at Pat and Bobby's studio in Orlando (Orlando International Folk Dance Club). We became great friends! We enjoyed cruising together and didn't end up killing each other as some may have expected, LOL!

As planned, we would stay another 10 days in Europe. Gary spent some time in Amsterdam, Brugge, and Paris, and I with friends in my home country, the Netherlands, where I hadn't been since 2012.

So, referring to the title of this piece, folk dancing and friendships, most of my friendships have come through folk dancing. It all began in 1964 when a couple of friends and I started our international folk dance group, we named Shalom, in our home town, Almelo. We were lucky to get a certified NEVO (Dutch Folk Dance Organization) teacher and we became a close-knit group. We joined the NEVO, attended their dance workshops and weekends, often with foreign teachers. We performed at local events in costumes we made ourselves (actually our moms!), and got written up in the local newspapers quite often as well. To this day I have saved all the clippings and photos!

One big highlight during this time was our week with Atanas Kolarovski in March, 1965. He had just finished his first solo US teaching tour. We had workshops and a folk dance weekend with him and I even taught him some English and he gave me a nickname: calla calla cadillac.

I was in the process of arranging my one year abroad in the US (New York) and since Atanas was scheduled to do another US tour in 1966, we made plans to meet in New York. Alas, we did not meet again until 15 years later because, although I moved

to Long Island in January of 1966, at that time I was not able to get a ride to where his NY workshop was held. But subsequently, I danced with him many times at NY folk dance weekends and workshops and we became good friends.

The year before I moved to the States, a friend from my Shalom group, Alfred Jacobs, and I decided we wanted to become folk dance teachers and we signed up for the NEVO teacher course. Alfred finished the course, but I could not because my visa came through and I had to leave before completing the course.

Folk dancing had become my passion and I was determined to continue dancing however and wherever I could. Prior to my move, my US sponsor put me in contact with Kenny Spear in NY who was very surprised to hear from me. He gave me a lot of information regarding his dance classes and dances they were doing. When I first moved to Long Island, I was able to get to one of his classes in Queens, NY for a while, but transportation was a problem. So when I met and married my husband, George, who was not a folk dancer, I did not dance for a number of years.

At some point I found myself at the Kissina Blvd Y in Queens where I met not only Danny Uziel and Moshe Eskayo, but more importantly for me at that time, Ellen Golann. Ellen's international folk dance group met at a location on Long Island very close to where I lived. It was a hallelujah moment for me! I danced with Ellen for 35+ years. She became, and is to this day, a special and close friend as are a number of other friends I met at her groups.

Around 1980, I met Jaap Leegwater for the first time at George Tomov's studio in New York City. Jaap was there with his folk dance band, Ranja (not yet as a folk dance teacher). Then, in 1982, he brought Bianca de Jong with him and from then on we became good friends. Ellen often had Jaap as one of her guest teachers at her bi-annual weekends in upstate New York. Sometimes Jaap stayed with me



## Folk Dancing and Friendships (Continued)

Continued from Page 17

and we also met when we both happened to be in Holland.

I usually visited my mom in Holland once a year. She was also an avid folk dancer and belonged to several 55+ groups. That's where I first met Els Mulder who was one of my mom's folk dance teachers. Els and I hit it off instantly and we became great friends and have been for more than 40 years. She is a certified gym, folk, line, and ballroom teacher and works mostly with older people.

In 2014 my husband and I decided to move to Florida to be near the only family (his) we had left.

I, of course, needed to keep dancing, so I researched folkdancing in Florida. I found and read all the back issues of the Florida Folk Dancer! And I found the wonderful Orlando Folk Dance Club!! I still remember checking out the dance location and thought, omg, I have to drive so far, mostly in the dark and in the "boondocks" to go folk dancing? But, oh, it was worth it!! I found the most wonderful group of people who have become my second family! Now I can't wait to happily drive an hour to Pat and Bobby's place every week and it doesn't even seem so far any more!

It was also at Pat and Bobby's studio that I met another person who has become a great friend. That is Annelies Mostert, who's Dutch and who, with her husband Bert, rents a place at a 55+ community, Fairways, in Orlando for three months in the winter

every year. Years ago, someone at Fairways invited Annelies, who was a folk dancer in Holland, to join them to go dancing at the OFDC. Annelies and I had an instant connection and I look forward to seeing her and Bert every year!

When the internet took off, I came across a Dutch woman, Bep Kleinheerenbrink, who is one of the folk dance teachers of Halmata, an international folk dance group in my home town, Almelo. This group was started in the early 80's, I believe. Bep had no idea that there had been an earlier international folk dance group in Almelo and so I copied all my newspaper clippings and photos and mailed them to her. We sort of stayed in touch periodically but really connected again during the Covid/Zoom time. Oh, the Zoom time, what a blessing during such a trying time! The Global folk dance community really came together in a spectacular way. We could dance with all the famous master teachers, sometimes even talk with them, and get to know them better. Dancers from all over the world danced together attending Zoom dance sessions and camps! I saw that Bep also was present at many of these events, often very late at night and sometimes early morning for her! We chatted here

and there and she invited me to dance with her group if and when I was going to be in Holland again. I know she had previously danced in person with Ira Weisburd in Holland when he was on one of his European tours and I saw she was often present at his Zoom (later and now YouTube) sessions.



Continued on Page 19

# Folk Dancing and Friendships (Continued)

Continued from Page 18

And now we come to my recent trip. Since I have no family left in Holland (at least, ones that I know), I was invited to stay with my friend Els and my friend Annelies and her husband Bert. The plan also included a visit with Alfred, Bep, and Jaap. I spent five days with Els, and since she had to work a couple of times during my stay, I went with her to two of her folk dance classes and one line dance class. I used to do this when I visited my mom and I got to know quite a few of her dancers, some of whom, amazingly, I met again this time!

Unfortunately, I wasn't able to attend Bep's dance class in my home town, but we finally did have a chance to meet in person for a coffee get-together at a hotel. We had so much to talk about and so little time I totally forgot to take a photo of us together. She told me about Ira's weekend she attended two weeks ago in south Holland. She had also invited me to join her at a Bianca de Jong workshop in Hengelo (where I used to dance with my Mom) on October 14. Alas, I was not in the area at that time so had to miss that too. Coincidentally Bianca was a guest teacher just two weeks earlier in the New York area at Ellen Golann's weekend which Bobby and Pat attended! Small folk dance world indeed!!

The last few days of my Holland stay I spent at Annelies and Bert's place in Zwolle. No folk dancing there, but some wonderful places to visit.

So, back to Folk Dancing and Friendships. On this trip, I finally got to see my oldest folk dance friend



Alfred again. He now lives in Amsterdam and he met Gary and me at Schiphol Airport where we spent a little time catching up and getting a bite to eat before heading for the cruise port, to which Alfred accompanied us. Then, after the cruise, my friend Els picked us up at the port, we dropped Gary off near the Amsterdam Central Station, and Els and I proceeded to Borne in east Holland where she lives. Then, as mentioned before, I stayed with my friends

Annelies and Bert until the next to last day of my trip. I had arranged with my friend, Jaap Leegwater, to pick me up from Annelie's place and drive me to the airport hotel Gary and I had booked for our last night in Holland. Gary wasn't due to arrive at the hotel until 10 pm and since Jaap really wanted to see Gary again, he also booked a room at the hotel so we could all have breakfast together the next morning before our flight home. Jaap drove me to a lovely little town where we had lunch and after checking into the hotel we had a wonderful Chinese dinner nearby. It was great catching up, reminiscing, and of course we talked about our 2023 FFDC

weekend where he was one of our guest teachers.

So, not long after I returned home, it occurred to me that all the friends mentioned here are friends I had made through folk dancing, and, actually as said before, most of my friendships are! I am so grateful and thankful for that! These friends light up my life and I hope with all my heart they will continue to do so for many more years to come!!



# Calendar and Tours

Look for more information on events, tours, and cruises on the FFDC website calendar: [www.folkdance.org](http://www.folkdance.org)

## Event Calendar

- 2023-11-09 Greek Festival, Daytona Beach, FL, [www.stdemetriosdaytona.org/greek-fesitval](http://www.stdemetriosdaytona.org/greek-fesitval), St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
- 2023-11-10 Tamfest, Pittsburgh, PA, [www.cfu.org/event/36th-annual-cfu-adult-tamfest](http://www.cfu.org/event/36th-annual-cfu-adult-tamfest), Croatian Fraternal Union of America
- 2023-11-10 Greek Festival, N. Miami, FL, [www.annunciationmiami.org/](http://www.annunciationmiami.org/), Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation
- 2023-11-10 Fall Camp, Brandeis, CA, [www.fallcamp.org](http://www.fallcamp.org), Folk Dance Federation of California, South
- 2023-11-23 Texas Camp, Bruceville, TX, [www.tifd.org](http://www.tifd.org), Texas International Folk Dancers
- 2023-11-23 Bannerman Folk Camp, Black Mountain, NC, [www.bannermanfolkcamp.com](http://www.bannermanfolkcamp.com)
- 2023-11-24 Kolo Festival, San Francisco, CA, [www.kolofestival.org/](http://www.kolofestival.org/)
- 2023-11-25 Orlando FusionFest, Orlando, FL, [www.fusionfest.org](http://www.fusionfest.org)
- 2023-12-20 Orlando Holiday Party, Orlando, Florida, No web information, Orlando IFDC
- 2023-12-23 Machol Miami Lite, Miami, FL, [www.facebook.com/macholmiami](https://www.facebook.com/macholmiami)
- 2023-12-26 Winter Dance Week, Brasstown, NC, [www.folkschool.org/](http://www.folkschool.org/), John C. Campbell Folk School
- 2023-12-28 Folklore Village Festival of Christmas and Midwinter Traditions, Dodgeville, WI, [www.folklorevillage.org/](http://www.folklorevillage.org/)
- 2024-01-14 Israeli Dance and Workshop with Shmulik Gov-Ari, Delray Beach, FL, No web information
- 2024-01-19 Virtual Stockton Winter Folk Dance Camp, *Virtual*, [www.folkdancecamp.org/](http://www.folkdancecamp.org/)
- 2024-01-26 Folk Ball Festival, Madison, WI, <http://www.facebook.com/people/Madison-Folk-Ball/>, Madison Folk Dance Club
- 2024-01-26 Florida Snow Ball, Gulfport, FL, [www.floridasnowball.com](http://www.floridasnowball.com), Tampa Friends of Old-Time Dance
- 2024-02-02 Florida Folk Dance Council Winter Workshop, Kissimmee, FL, No web information, FFDC
- 2024-02-02 Florida Folk Dance Council Winter Workshop, Kissimmee, FL, [www.floridafolkdancer.org/](http://www.floridafolkdancer.org/), FFDC
- 2024-02-16 Flurry Festival, Saratoga Springs, NY, [www.flurryfestival.org/](http://www.flurryfestival.org/)
- 2024-02-16 Greek Festival, Sarasota, FL, [www.stbarbarafestival.org/](http://www.stbarbarafestival.org/), St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church
- 2024-02-16 Greek Festival, Ft. Myers, FL, [www.greekfestfortmyers.com/](http://www.greekfestfortmyers.com/), Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
- 2024-02-17 Lunar New Year Festival, Cerritos, CA, [www.socalfolkdance.org/calendar.htm](http://www.socalfolkdance.org/calendar.htm), Folk Dance Federation of California, South
- 2024-02-23 Greek Festival, Melbourne, FL, [www.saint-katherine.org/fest\\_info.html](http://www.saint-katherine.org/fest_info.html), St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church
- 2024-03-01 Laguna Folk Dance Festival, Laguna Woods, CA, [www.lagunainternationaldancers.com/](http://www.lagunainternationaldancers.com/)
- 2024-03-09 Boston Playford Ball, Melrose, MA, [www.cds-boston.org/](http://www.cds-boston.org/), Boston Country Dance Society
- 2024-03-15 Spring Norwegian Dance Weekend, Dodgeville, WI, [www.folklorevillage.org/](http://www.folklorevillage.org/), Folklore Village
- 2024-03-22 Playford Ball Weekend-Nashville, Nashville, TN, [www.nashvillecountrydancers.org/](http://www.nashvillecountrydancers.org/), Nashville Country Dancers
- 2024-03-22 San Antonio Folklife and Dance Festival (SAFDF), San Antonio, TX, [www.safdf.org/](http://www.safdf.org/), SAFDF
- 2024-04-04 NFO Annual Conference and Solar Eclipse and Kochavim, Bruceville, TX, [www.nfo-usa.org/](http://www.nfo-usa.org/), National Folk Organization (NFO)
- 2024-04-05 English Country Dance Weekend, Dodgeville, WI, [www.folklorevillage.org/](http://www.folklorevillage.org/)
- 2024-04-05 Kochavim Israeli Dance Camp, Bruceville, TX, [www.kochavim.net/](http://www.kochavim.net/)
- 2024-04-12 Springdans Northwest, Seabeck, WA, [www.skandia-folkdance.org/](http://www.skandia-folkdance.org/), Skandia Folkdance Society
- 2024-04-19 Cajun and Creole Music and Dance Weekend, Dodgeville, WI, [www.folklorevillage.org/](http://www.folklorevillage.org/)

# Event Calendar (continued)

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2024-04-19	New England Folk Festival, Malborough, MA, <a href="http://www.neffa.org/What_is_Festival.html">www.neffa.org/What_is_Festival.html</a> , New England Folk Festival Association (NEFFA)
2024-04-19	Lyrids Folk Dance Festival, Vancouver, Canada, <a href="http://www.lyridsfolkdancefestival.org/">www.lyridsfolkdancefestival.org/</a>
2024-05-17	California Statewide Festival, Fremont, CA, <a href="http://www.folkdance.com/event/statewide-2024">www.folkdance.com/event/statewide-2024</a>
2024-06-08	Scandia Camp Mendocino, Mendocino, CA, <a href="http://www.scandiacampmendocino.org/">www.scandiacampmendocino.org/</a> , Scandia Camp
2024-06-13	June Camp: An International Folk Dance Weekend, Lake Forest, IL, <a href="http://www.sites.google.com/site/junecampifd">www.sites.google.com/site/junecampifd</a>

## 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](mailto:folkdanceonthewater@gmail.com) or 510-459-0092.

For Seminars of Greek Dance with Kyriakos Moisidis, contact [moisidiskyriakos@gmail.com](mailto:moisidiskyriakos@gmail.com).

For tours with Sonia and Cristian, see <http://www.soniacristian.net> or contact Sonia at [sonia\\_dion@hotmail.com](mailto:sonia_dion@hotmail.com).

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

For tours with Zeljko Jergen, contact Fusae Senzaki Carroll at [fusaec@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto: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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