

# THE SOCIETY OF FOLK DANCE HISTORIANS

a non-profit educational corporation: transforming information into movement since 1987

---

1506 Rainbow Bend \* Austin TX 78703-3108 \* USA  
E-mail: SFDHist@gmail.com

## **REPORT TO MEMBERS**, at December 31, 2023

Dear Friends,

As you know, we ceased the annual and quarterly publications a year ago. I do not miss the quarterly humiliations at the bulk mail acceptance unit of the post office, or the incessant struggles with computers and printers. I DO miss, however, the correspondence with members, the research, and the writing.

The work load has diminished a bit during 2023, but not disappeared. We now spend most of our spare time processing the tremendous backlog of donated library and archival material. In addition, we have:

answered 26 questions relating to folk dances and folk dance history, questions such as "How do you classify the American-made dances done to European or Asian ethnic music?" or "How does Mazurka relate Mazur?"

answered 10 directory-type requests for information about groups or people from 'Eastern Europe' to 'Michigan'.

processed at least 9 donations of library or archival material ranging from single items to multi-carton nightmares.

received \$1,852 in grants, gifts, and memberships (some folks insist on paying for memberships even though membership is now free).

sold two copies each of the Mexican and German dance books, which led to this reply: "I only wish you had more supporters, but such is the nature of our avocation, which appears to be a product of the particular circumstances of our generation, and not easily passed down."

So thank you all for your support of our efforts to preserve information about the history and practice of international folk dancing while we quietly continue with our fundamental mission, the Folk Dance Archive.

Sincerely,



Ron Houston, Ph.D., Trustee