

# THE SOCIETY OF FOLK DANCE HISTORIANS

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

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## **REPORT TO MEMBERS**, at December 31, 2025

Dear Friends,

During 2025, the Society was quiet, but not at all inactive. Work on the Folk Dance Archive continues to take precedence. In other matters, we:

answered 19 research questions sent in by people from across the US, Australia, England, and Germany. Questions ranged from deep, deep research into the dance Korobushka to the true name of a Jimmie Shand tune for which the questioner had only a rough transcript of the melody line. I do not believe that any other library in the world could have answered all of the questions that we answered.

answered 11 other questions, such as where to dance on Kilauea, or what are the rules on copyright.

accepted and processed seven donations of archival material, sound recordings, and publications.

received seven gifts and grants totaling \$1,670, much of which went toward the purchase of a wonderful new scanner.

continued to expand the Society website during 2025 under the direction of Webmaster Dick Oakes. Our increased internet presence may account for the wide range of questions that people now send.

January, 2026, wasn't even a week old when we received a request for information about the history of folk dancing. That request will result soon (I hope) in a well-documented (112 endnotes and we're only a third of the way through!) article that should satisfy the questions of anyone willing to wade through it.

So 2025 was a good year. I know I speak for the board in thanking all of you who continue to send messages of support and appreciation, and special thanks to those who sent archival donations and financial support.

Sincerely,



Ron Houston, Ph.D., Trustee