

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS  
BEN WHITE RECREATION CENTER  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  
JANUARY 23, 1972

The meeting was called to order by chairman, Chet Vettters at 10:30 A.M. Caller liaison, George Hinkle, Round Dance liaison, Bill & Betty Beattie. The minutes of the last meeting was read and accepted. Secretary announced minutes were sent to all past chairmen. Roll call was made with 58 couples present. Alternates representing South East- Ray Peck and Ray McElhaney, North East- Bruce Young, Central- Ralph Davidson. Guest present, Foots and Jean Reynolds- President of Round Dance Council; Chuck and Kathy Heiss- Vice-President of Round Dance Council; Lou and Peg Winters- 1970 Convention Chairman; Jack and Marie Pierson- Managing Editor of Bow and Swing.

Treasurer's report read and approved. Pending Bills: (1) Delegate dancer fees to Callers Clinic not paid. (2) Owe Callers Association \$ for 1971 Convention. (3) Owe North East Association \$ for 1971 Convention. (4) Round Dance Council owes \$ to Federation, over paid 1971 Convention. Waiting for this reimbursement before paying item (2) and (3).

Chet Vettters announced that immediately following the meeting the callers and round dancers would meet with convention chairman. Vettters ask for Jack Pierson's, Managing Editor of Bow and Swing, report. Most all clubs in the state have been visited or contacted personally. He gave thanks to all for their cooperation to Bow and Swing. The "Where to Dance" programs has a total of 15,000 copies in Welcome Station in Florida. The "Where to Dance" new brochures should say, Florida Federation Association, Clubs, Caller's Association and Bow and Swing Presents. He had attempted to delete all dead wood. All new Knotheads were presented with three month's subscriptions. There is over 1200 now. He is still receiving inquiries from all over the country asking for copies. August is the month for any club to list any changes. Jack led a lengthy discussion on "Why Clubs Get Into Trouble." Main reasons are financial or lack of membership. It is important for clubs to notify the association before they fail or get in trouble. These are the differences in clubs operations, such as (1) regular caller clubs (2) dancer run clubs with regular caller vs. visiting callers (3) value and disadvantages of clubs running classes (4) disadvantages of challenge clubs (5) clubs depending on visitor (6) visiting caller clubs. Suggestions given: (1) Clubs should turn to association and federations for advice before they get into bad shape. (2) We find that regular caller clubs survive better than the visiting caller clubs. (3) High level closed clubs seem to lack strength. (4) Open clubs are a necessity. (5) All clubs should support area square dance lessons regardless of sponsor. (6) Unity of class instruction.

He apologized for errors made in January issue. The proofreading was his and Marie's responsibility. Explanation given was, they were called away due to illness in family. He assured that errors in dates, place or time could easily be corrected if given at least 1 week with flyers or post cards. If time permitted, correction could be in the next issue of Bow and Swing. At the present time, Bow and Swing has 1876 paid subscriptions. The magazine is a non-profit magazine. The 1972 convention publicity was being publicized. Any convention programs publicity could be handled very easily by Bow and Swing.

#### 1972 Convention Report

Hollywood Diplomat. Boots and George Oglesby. 584 registered, 35 North East, 72 West Coast, 30 Central, 4 Round Dance Council, 69 caller & wives, remaining total South East. Very disappointed in over-all registration. Round Dance Council cue list due by March 1st. Delegates must send in registration by mail. Top and bottom must be filled out completely. No ribbon in bulk can be sent to any clubs. This is in order so that control of registration can be handled by the necessary committee. 300 rooms must be filled so that convention committee can get halls free, otherwise halls would be \$1000 per day. Registration must be through convention committee to get special room rates. However, when checking in, you may select meals with rates if desired. (Breakfast and dinner for \$7 per person, per day.) Travel trailer arrangements had to be arranged separately in order to secure special room rates at hotels. Information for trailers will be made in Bow and Swing. The trailer park that is available is Holiday Park in Hallendale, 3 miles from convention sight. \$4 per day up to 20 trailers. More than 20 trailers, rate will be cheaper. People with trailers will have to pay hotel parking when they come for dancing. Guests at Raquet Club will

be issued stickers for parking, however, there will be a shuttle bus from Raquet Club to hotel.

Boots reminded everyone to promote the fashion show. Street wearing apparel would be modeled by professionals. Square dance apparel would be furnished by the exhibitors. Tickets would be on sale at the Trails End Dance only. After that, no one could buy tickets for the fashion show. Men's wear would be feasible and an investigation would be made to see the possibilities. On Saturday, May 27th, three rooms would be made available for square dancer, caller and round dancer panel discussion. Chairman would be Vettters, Cliff Hendrix, representing callers, Morris Sogalow, moderator.

Announcement of no morning dances. Grand March on Saturday and Sunday nights 7:30 P.M. Reminded all clubs and association, banners must be displayed before dance time. She encourages all delegates to wear ribbons to advertise convention and push registration.

Morris Sogalow attempted to console convention chairman, Oglesby, by commenting why early registration was low due to seasonal club dances, and calendar time for big dances in all areas. He felt that now registration returns would come in faster and in abundance since the convention time is coming closer.

#### CONVENTION REPORTS

1973- Reported by Ron Valkenburg, Tampa Curtis Hixon Hall. Dates May 25, 26 & 27. Possibility of Holiday Inn being headquarters. Having problems of getting places for after party dances. Slogan-"West Coast Free in '73".

At this time, George Oglesby, presented loan check of \$300, loaned to South East for 1972 convention promotion. Oglesby made motion that Tampa be advanced this money amount of \$300 to be used on 1973 convention. Seconded by Warren Hyland. Motion carried.

1974- Reported by Pee Wee Stewart. Introduced 1970 convention chairman, Lu and Peg Winter. Arrangements to be made with new Howard Johnson Motel, I-4 and Colonial Drive. Slogan-"More in '74". Dates May 23, 24 & 25, Memorial Day Weekend.

1975- Letter presented by Chet Vettters.

#### ASSOCIATION REPORTS

South East- Working on convention. More members attending meeting now. Pushing visits to other clubs. Average of 18 squares attending clinics. Membership over 500. Dade County Youth Fair; Association dancers will be on exhibition. Good square dance promotion and Dade County finances event. Suggestion tip: Have convention registration blanks with club treasurer at the door, convenient for dancers to sign up.

Central- Record attendance at Association meeting and dances. Pee Wee Stewart encouraged all delegates to inform their clubs of association activities. Membership over 300. Informs all members by placing releases on bulletin board. Harmony in 1972 & 1973. Appreciates cooperation of delegates.

West Coast- Ron Valkenburg spoke on responsibilities of members just wanting to dance. Have different type clubs in area. Help is needed when the problem is diagnosed not when clubs are folding.

North East- Jim Whitman reported that new program for classes, clubs joining together resources for one large class rather than individual clubs sponsoring classes.

Len Levitt, treasurer, explained the booths for exhibitors at convention was \$40 for anyone desiring space. Size of booths 8'X10'. Excellent space was great for exhibitors, convenient for dancers to browse and shop. Encouraged everyone to solicit exhibitors. His suggestion also was to have association blanks available at clubs so dancers could join association.

Chet Vettters, Chairman, pointed out the federation by-laws was in need of study, perhaps revision. Informed all that it had been six years since they were revised. He appointed Morris Sogalow chairman with the

4 area association presidents, by-law committee. Suggested meeting at Knothead Convention or even before, if possible.

George Oglesby moved meeting adjourned, Ben Hamilton seconded. Veters reminded, callers, round dancers, that their meeting would immediately begin.

Submitted,  
Pee Wee & Mary Stewart  
Secretary