

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS
January 16, 1977

The mid-winter meeting of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers was called to order by Chairman Ron Van Valkenburg at 9:00 a.m., Sunday, January 16, 1977, at the Capitol Inn, Tallahassee, Florida.

Invocation was given by Walter Stoltz.

A moment of silence was observed to quietly pray for the recovery of Doris Vaccari of Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

Following roll call, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed since all delegates received a copy of them.

Treasurer's Report - Jack Lascola:

Balance forward October 1976	\$
Disbursements	
No income	
Bank balance	\$ _____
Net assets:	
Federation bank account	\$
Advance to 24th State Convention	
Total Assets	\$ _____

Chairman Van Valkenburg thanked the Northwest Association for the delightful After-Party last night and for setting up the meeting today.

AREA REPORTS:

Northwest - Marvin Taylor:

Introduced two of the new Association officers. The new square dance hall in Fort Walton Beach is nearly complete.

Northeast - George Garland:

Northeast held its first square dancing training seminar during annual Fall Roundup in November 1976 and was very successful. Representatives from all area clubs, callers and round dance leaders attended.

Vaughn Parrish also attended. George is in contact with leaders in Georgia and East Alabama and Northwest Florida to meet and set up a mini-legacy in the future.

The first class of 43 cloggers has graduated and has formed a group to work on exhibition routines. The largest round dance class in Northeast in several years will graduate in February. Ten square dance classes are being held in the area. 40 squares attended the Learners Hoedown in December. Plans are being made for Sophomore Jamboree in February and graduation ball in May sponsored by Gateway Callers Association.

N. E. dancers and callers are meeting to improve relationships and are working on rating clubs in the area according to Callerlab recommendations. These will be listed in the Grapevine so dancers will know the level to expect when visiting a club in the area.

N. E. voted to purchase film of the pageant held at the 25th national convention. The N. E. Blood Bank is active with 62 available units. The 5th Saturday dance on January 29, 1977 will feature Frank Bedell calling and Tom & Sue McRorie cueing the rounds. The 24th annual Fall Roundup will be in Jacksonville, November 11-12, 1977, with Ken Bower and Beryl Main calling and the Lovelaces on the rounds.

Southeast - Jack Lascola:

Although the President of Southeast, Joe Mieszalski, is seriously ill in the hospital, he and Ann sent the following report: The Christmas dinner for officers, past presidents and delegates was held December 10. The third annual picnic was a huge success on January 9, 1977. S. E. members were sporting new T-shirts with the emblem. The area now has over 600 members. A check in the amount of \$275.29 was presented to the Federation Treasurer as proceeds from the area dance.

Central - John Best:

Dancing is going well in Central. The next Association dance will be held January 29 at Ben White Raceway with Bill Shell calling. Harry Cassar announced that the 15th annual Pirates Ball will be held April 22-23 in the Exhibition Hall in Orlando. Frank Bedell will call with the Augenblicks and Trulocks on the rounds. Any area interested in an initiation dance should contact Harry since admittance to the dance is given only to those persons previously initiated.

West Coast - Ken Ford:

750 members have paid for 1977 dues in the West Coast Association and renewal dances have not yet been held. The first one will take place at Lehigh Acres on January 30 with Bill Shell calling. Three more are scheduled before the end of April. The 1977 Fall Fun Fest at Lakeland will be held October 28-29 with Les Main on squares and Marty Martin and Frank DuBois on rounds.

West Coast Willie is holding up well in his travels among the clubs. Fifteen clubs have been visited already and plans are made to visit five more by the end of January.

The blood bank is now a reality. A drive for donors is being planned in the near future.

Bow and Swing:

Hugh Fultz has been flashing pictures for Bow and Swing this weekend.

Grapevine:

Copies of the Grapevine are available at this meeting for delegates to take back home.

Panhandle Press:

Three northwest Florida dancers have agreed to produce the Panhandle Press during Doris Vaccari's illness. The next issue will come out in March.

West Coast Dancer:

Ken Ford advised that 2500 copies are being distributed.

Coordinating Committee Report:

The proposals which were agreed upon the Coordinating Committee were:

Florida State Callers be used for the 1978 Square and Round Dance Convention, and Two (2) Callers be used in each hall, each night, if three halls are used, we would use Six (6) Callers a night, for a total of Eighteen (18) Callers for the night programs. Callers of equal ability, possibly some of the same people to be used for the workshops, and afternoon dances. Also a Hall to be used for the exposure of New Callers to the Dancers.

The Ocotober Area Dance be called by Florida Callers. That the receipts from this function be retained by the Areas, after expenses, to be used as they so choose.

There will be three (3) way split of profits from State Conventions with equal amounts going to the Florida Callers Association, Round Dance Council, and the Florida Federation of Square Dancers. This is to begin with the 1977 Convention; however, there will be no withdrawals made until the fund reaches \$4500. This fund is being established to finance future Conventions.

A list of the proposed Callers to be used at the 1978 Convention will be sent to all Committee Members.

Johnny Walter was asked to be Coordinating Chairman for the 1978 Convention.

Motion made by Chet Vetter, seconded by Ken Ford, that the above three proposals be accepted.

Summary of discussion regarding above motion:

The proposals be effective on a one year (1978) trial basis.

Discussed a 4-way split of proceeds from the conventions to enable hosting Association to receive an equal share. However, since host area callers and round dancers will also be participating, the recommended 3-way split of profits seemed more feasible with the Federation making a split to be worked out later with the host Association.

Following the 1977 State Convention, there will not be a split of proceeds. Instead the profits will go into the contingency fund. Following the 1978 convention, it is anticipated that the profits will bring the contingency fund close to the \$4500 level and a 3-way split can then be made. In the interim, it was suggested that the 1977 West Coast host area be compensated in an amount to be agreed upon between the Federation and the Association from the account of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers.

Concern was expressed that there had not been a continuity of same people on the Coordinating Committee and that a 2 or 3 year commitment should be made by the other organizations to support whatever proposals were agreed upon.

The actual number of State callers to be selected to call for the convention will depend upon the number of halls available for dancing. The FCA should determine the number of callers available

(Summary of discussion of motion continued)

to participate in the 1978 convention. This list should be presented to the Coordinating Committee as well as the Chairman of the convention who must agree with the selection.

The convention chairman should be from the Dancers' Association with co-chairmen from the other organizations.

Whether or not an area holds a mini-clinic is a decision of the area.

Following the above discussion, a roll call vote was taken. Sixteen (16) delegates voted FOR the proposals and two (2) voted AGAINST the proposals. Chairman Van Valkenburg declared the three proposals presented by the Coordinating Committee accepted by the FFSDA.

Walter Stoltz requested permission to explain past procedure for split of convention proceeds. In the past, the Round Dance Council has received 10% off the net top; then 45% went to Florida Callers and 45% to the Florida Federation of Square Dancers. The Federation, in turn, split its share in half with the Association hosting the convention. Stoltz proposed that the 1977 host Association (West Coast) receive an amount equal to 22-1/2% of net proceeds and that the disbursement be made to them by the FFSDA from funds of the Federation. This format is suggested for continuation until the \$4500 contingency fund is established. After the contingency fund of \$4500 is reached, changes will be made in the manner of the split with the hosting Association. The general concensus of the delegates appeared to indicate that the percentage of the split should be determined by the Federation after the 1977 State Convention is held. Discussion, therefore, was tabled until after the '77 convention.

Showcase of Ideas:

Frank Smith has sent a \$25 deposit for the Florida Federation's reservation in the Showcase as requested by the National Committee. The deposit will be refunded when the display arrives in Atlantic City in June.

1977 Convention Report:

Walter Stoltz asked the delegates to take back to their Assocs. the word that facilities are available for 500 campers around Lakeland. Also, any group who would like to exhibition should contact Mori Sogolow. Exhibitions will take place tweeken 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. Great plans are being made for teens and singles groups. Dancing in one hall will be devoted only to mainstream dancing. Walter will suggest to the callers that they put out a bulletin to their dancers detailing list of mainstream, mainstream plus, etc. movements. Halls will be labeled with level to be called therein. Workshops will be given by each of the two national callers. Registration must be made through the convention committee in order to

receive the special rates, Walter urged the delegates to push early registration.

1978 Convention Report:

John Lane reporting that the advertising package is being held in abeyance pending action taken at this meeting. National callers previously contacted will be released. John has a tentative list of Florida Callers which Central Association prefers for the '78 convention. The logo, format, and colors will be presented at the next Federation meeting.

1979 Convention - no report.

Old Business:

Copies of the Articles of Incorporation are available for the delegates. Changes are:

* ARTICLE V, delete Paragraph 3 and renumber remaining paragraphs of Article V. (Presented October 6, 1975 and adopted January 18, 1976.)

New Paragraph 3 shall read: The voting delegates shall choose from among themselves a chairman, vice chairman, secretary, treasurer, and parliamentarian.

New Business:

Jack Lascola asked how the proceeds sent to the Callers Association (derived from the mini-clinics) could be used (whether for mini-clinics, to help square dancing, or received by the dancers' associations to help square dance clinics. The question was answered that it is up to the area callers to request from their State Callers Association 50% assistance in defraying the cost of the mini-clinics. The mini-clinics should be approved by the Callers Association prior to holding the clinic. The clinic would be for the continuing education of the callers.

Legacy is the counter-balance for the dancers in much the same manner as Callerlab is for the callers.

George Garland announced plans for buses leaving from several points in Georgia for the inaugural ball in Washington, D. C. on January 21.

Pee Wee Stewart made a motion that the proposals from the Coordinating Committee previously adopted during the meeting be limited to two (2) years (1978 and 1979 State Conventions) to assure that the format is successful. Motion was seconded by John Lane and unanimously carried.

The next meeting of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers will be held on May 29, 1977, at the Hilton Inn, Lakeland, Florida.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bunny Whiteman
(For Joe and Doris Vaccari,
Federation Secretary)