



# FLORIDA FEDERATION of SQUARE DANCERS

The regular meeting of Florida Federation of Square Dancers was called to order by Chairman Ron VanValkenberg at 10:00 A.M. May 29, 1977 at the Hilton Inn in Lakeland, Florida.

Virgil Green gave the invocation.

Roll call was taken by Secretary Joe Vaccari. A minute of silent meditation was held for Doris Vaccari and Joe Mieszalski.

Chairman VanValkenberg asked Jim Whiteman to be the Federation's liaison at the Caller's Meeting and Mori Sogolow at the Round Dance council meeting. Ray Carpenter represented the caller's association at our meeting. There was no representative from the Round Dance Council.

Chet Vetter moved that since all delegates had received copies of the minutes, that we dispense with the reading of the minutes. PeeWee Stewart requested that the minutes (Page 2-area reports (Central), last sentence) be corrected to read "...previously initiated, or initiated at the Friday evening dance." There being no other corrections, the minutes were approved.

## TREASURER'S REPORT - Jack Lascola

Balance forward, January 16,1977	\$
Income	
Disbursements	
Bank Balance	\$

### NET ASSETS

Federation Bank account	\$
Advance 24th convention	
Advance 25th convention	
Total Assets	\$

## CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman VanValkenberg gave a brief report on correspondence received by the Federation:

A new national magazine published by Square Dancers - "National Squares" was reported.

The Jerry Lewis Labor Day Marathon program for muscular dystrophy was briefed. Clubs desiring to hold a fund raising dance with proceeds going to the Jerry Lewis fund, should contact Jack Pierson for up to a 1/4 page ad in "Bow & Swing".

Letter received from the Riverside Hilton, Tampa, wishing us luck with our convention.



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News release - Resolution to make Square Dancing the National Folk Dance of the U.S.A. was briefed. Copies were provided to each association president.

Proclamation by the Governor - National Square Dance week in Florida, Sept. 19-25, 1977. Copies were made available.

## AREA REPORTS

NORTH EAST - George Garland - President

Northeast now has three exhibition groups, squares, rounds and cloggers. Cloggers have 43 members, Squares have 24 and rounds have 16. They have been performing at various functions and passing out square dance literature. Plans for square dance week are under way and they will be performing at shopping centers around the area and on TV.

Northeast now has 4 Legacy Trustee's, Chet & Julia Vetter and George & Judy Garland. They attended the Legacy meeting in Memphis in May, four days working together with callers, dancers, publishers, cuers, owners of square dance shops and owners of square dance resorts. A very good meeting. You will be hearing a lot more about Legacy as we plan to set up a Mini-Legacy with leaders in Georgia, East Alabama and Northwest Florida. A date will be set at Georgia State Convention in Sept.

Blood Bank is doing well with 75 units available.

Fall Roundup for 1977 - Ken Bower, Beryl Main & the Lovelace's. Nov. 11 & 12, 1977. Ribbons now available from George Garland or Ted Keiser.

Congratulations to West Coast on a fine convention! !

SOUTHEAST - Ann Mieszalski - President

The Southeast membership is now 698. The area dance chairmen for the October 15th dance in Milander Hall, Hialiah, are Clair and Jackie Shingler. The renewal dance will be October 9 at Jack Lasry's hall. A trip to Key West is planned for July 31st. The 1980 State Convention chairmen, Alan and Bertha Ashcroft were introduced. New Square and Round classes will start in September.

CENTRAL - Don Lutz - President

The Orlando Western Square & Round Dance Council had a very nice Pirate's Ball in April, and are looking forward to next year for a bigger affair. Arrangements for initiations can be made in advance at your local clubs. Our Central Florida Association has a big year lined up for us. The next meeting will be held July 10th, 2 P.M., at Ben White Raceway. We have a membership renewal dance scheduled for July 30th. It will be held at the Carpenter's Union Hall, 333 W. Oakridge Rd. Joe Prystupa will be calling for the Square Dance, and Phyllis & K.O. Williams will cue for the Rounds. Early rounds at 7:30. Square up from 8 til 11 P.M.



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## WESTCOAST - Ken Ford - President

West Coast Willie, and the officers and members of the Association, welcome the officers and delegates of the Federation to Lakeland. We hope all of you have had a good convention so far.

Our 1977 paid membership has reached 1,252 after 4 successful membership dances, at Lehigh Acres, Sebring, Sarasota and Tampa. Area callers and round dance leaders have been very co-operative. We are trying something new for our July 30, 5th Saturday dance in Tampa, with West Coast Association members to be admitted for half price. Our thinking is that free dances for renewals should be held early in the year, but members should get a break on later Association events.

The Ford's and Fultz's have continued our visits to the clubs, having been to 40 so far. We feel this has been instrumental in building up our membership. West Coast Willie, as our mascot, received more attention than any of us. We again remind you that our Fall Fun Fest will be held in the Conference Hall of the Lakeland Civic Center, Oct. 28th and 29th. We cordially invite you to have the fall Federation meeting here at that time.

## NORTHWEST - Marvin Taylor - President

The Northwest has had two Grand Openings of Square Dance halls. The first being in Ft. Walton Beach, with the council working hard to make their dream a reality. The various clubs are dancing in it each night of the week. The building is 50 x 72 feet, floating hardwood floor, air conditioned with RV parking.

Panama City also opened a new and bigger hall as Darryl McMillan built a 60 x 90 Ranch House which will dance 40 squares.

Coming up June 3rd & 4th in Ft. Walton Beach is the annual Billy Bowlegs Festival with Elmer Sheffield and Art Springer calling.

Pensacola's Festival is June 16, 17 & 18 with Singin' Sam Mitchell, Wade Driver and Marshall Flippo calling.

Sept. 9 & 10, the Northwest Square and Round Dance Association will hold our 3rd. annual Round-up in Pensacola with Jack Lasry calling.

## BOW & SWING - Jack Pierson

Magazine is doing real well. Two subscription dances in the Northeast netted 172 new subscriptions.



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4 W's - Boots Oglesby

We are printing 6,000 copies. Two new couples added to staff, Mike and Hazel Folk and Chuck and Merle Stevens. Pushing "Little Who". Visit 12 clubs in 6 months. Have new badges. Items for the next issue covering Sept., Oct., & Nov., must be in by the first of August.

PANHANDLE PRESS - Marvin Taylor

The new editor is Marty & John Lackey, 5 Caswell Circle, Mary Esther, Fla. 32569.

WEST COAST DANCER - Ken Ford

We have gone to 20 pages in our magazine. Jack Pierson is now printing our Centerfold (dance schedule). Printing 2,500 copies.

GRAPEVINE

Doing well.

NATIONAL CONVENTION - Showcase of Ideas - Frank Smith

Frank Smith will carry display to Atlantic City. Need ideas or gimmicks. Request all areas to check with local Chamber of Commerce. If anyone has anything for Showcase, please notify.

1977 CONVENTION REPORT - Walter Stoltz

Gratified with Convention and the wonderful support and co-operation from the Convention committee. Registrations are 3,132 as of today. Cannot give a financial report yet, but can say that we have paid all the bills and have about \$4,500 to put into the contingency fund of the co-ordinating committee. Final report will be given at the Knothead meeting in September.

The Chairman stated "a job well done, Walter" and concurrence was indicated by the delegates by a loud round of applause.

1978 CONVENTION REPORT - Central - John Layne

Each association is asked to take 500 registration forms back to their areas. Registration for the 1978 Convention will start today. Johnny Walter is the official Chairman for the callers. Chairman for the Florida cuers is K.O. and Phyllis Williams. Co-chairman for cuers is Joe & Madeline Augenglick. The registration forms offer a price break this year for early registration. A money advance was received from the 1977 Convention proceeds.



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## 1979 CONVENTION REPORT - Northeast

George Garland was announced as the 1979 Convention Chairman

## 1980 CONVENTION - Southeast

Alan and Bertha Ashcroft were introduced as the 1980 state convention chairman.

## 1981 CONVENTION

Sponsoring association to be determined. Joe Blanchard, Northwest, stated a new facility, larger than the Lakeland Civic Center, is under construction in Tallahassee.

## CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE REPORT - Walter Stoltz

Members of the Co-ordinating committee:

Federation - Walter Stoltz, Len Levitt, John Layne, Marv Taylor, Frank Smith, Ron VanValkenburg, (ex-officio).

Callers Association - Pete Sansom, John Walter, Frank Bedell, John Sherley.

Round Dance Council - Frank Dubois, Frank Gilbert.

The proposals presented by the co-ordinating committee for consideration were:

All State Conventions be held in a 50 mile belt running across Central part of Florida ; Tampa, Lakeland, Orlando. Other locations in the Central part will be considered if facilities become available.

Each parent organization will appoint only one new replacement per year. This appointee will be a future co-chairman of a convention. One co-chairman from each organization will be appointed to run the State Convention. This method will provide the necessary continuity as each will serve 3 years; 2 before, 1 year after a state convention.

The Chairman of the co-ordinating committee will be the immediate past convention chairman. Term of office will be one year. Walter Stoltz is the chairman for next year.

The 1977 convention fund of \$4,500 will be deposited to a Florida S & R Dance Co-ordinating Committee bank account. \$2,000 will be taken out each year to sponsor the next convention. Any other disbursements will require the approval of the full co-ordinating committee. Checks will be co-signed by the past and present convention chairman. Each parent organization will be responsible for \$1,500 for tax purposes.



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After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by PeeWee Stewart and seconded, to accept the co-ordinating committee proposal except for that portion concerning location in the Central belt of Florida. An amendment to the motion was made and seconded to change the word co-chairman to vice chairman. The amendment motion carried 16 to 1. The primary motion carried 20 to 1.

### OLD BUSINESS

Len Levitt made a motion which was seconded, that the West Coast Association receive money from the Federation Treasury, in the amount normally received under the old split system. After a lengthy discussion, the motion was tabled until the Knothead meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS

Complimentary ribbons to the Georgia State Convention, September 16-17, 1977, in Macon were distributed to Federation Delegates. Any delegate that did not receive ribbons should contact the Federation Secretary.

George Garland urged the Federation and all square and round dancers to support the Georgia bid for the 1981 National Convention.

Evalyn Smith announced that in conjunction with National Square Dance week a special dance will be held Sept. 24, in the Governor's mansion. The Governor will lead the Grand march. Elmer Sheffield will call. All dancers were invited to attend.

John Zellner made a motion which was seconded to recognize past Chairmen of the Federation by a plaque or trophy. Motion carried.

Jim Whiteman and Mori Sogolow had nothing to report from the Caller's and Round Dance meeting. Ray Carpenter had no comments.

A standing round of applause was given to Walter and Esther Stoltz for their work in making the 1977 Convention a great success.

The next meeting of the Florida Federation of Square Dancer's will be held on September 4, 1977 at the Knothead Konvention, Tampa, Florida.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Vaccari  
Secretary