



FLORIDA FEDERATION of SQUARE DANCERS

The second day of the working weekend of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers' was called to order by President Frank Smith at 9:00 a.m. on January 25, 1981, at the Jamaica Inn in Orlando.

The invocation was given by Virgil Greene.

Roll call was taken by Secretary John Layne. All officers were present. Associations were represented as follows: West Coast & Central had 3 delegates; Northeast, Northwest, & Southeast fielded 2 delegates. Nine permanent delegates were ~~absent~~ seven were present. Bob Hland attended as liaison for the Florida Callers.

Chet Vetter moved we dispense with the reading of the minutes, it was seconded and passed and approved.

Treasurer's Report by Conrad Bishop showed:

Brought forward 11/2/80	\$	[REDACTED]
Receipts		
	\$	[REDACTED]
Disbursements		
Bank Balance 1/24/81	\$	[REDACTED]

The contingency fund for financing the state convention is still \$2,00.00 which results in a net worth of \$ [REDACTED] .

Correspondence: The 30th National Square Dance Convention had forwarded news Releases 9, 9A and 9B. These releases are to be copied and sent to each Association president for further dissemination. The Showcase chairman for the 30th National Square Dance Convention is to be contacted, and 2 tables are to be reserved for the Florida display.

AREA REPORTS:

Northwest by Conrad Bishop - Northwest Association appreciates the Federation's switching the date of this meeting from January 30-31 to January 24-25 in order that it not conflict with Northwest bi-monthly meeting. Northwest meeting will be held in conjunction with Panama City's Annual Festival. A subscription dance for American Square Dance Magazine was held at PASARDA Hall, Fort Walton Beach on 6 December with Stan Hurdick calling. Several clubs in Northwest hosted New Years eve parties. Perry Berg called a dance on January 10 at PASARDA Hall. The Waldorffs cued the rounds.

Northeast by Frank Hamway - The Northeast Florida Square Dancers Association has grown with the addition of two new clubs, one of them a teen-age club, the J.R. Squares and the Dixie Grands Club. The teen-age club was especially welcome to the area since it is the only teen-age square dance club at this time in Jax. A first in the Northeast, was a square dance given by round dancers. The Sunshine Sweethearts, a round dance club, sponsored the Tony Oxendine dance on January 3, and it was a big success. There are approximately 30 classes of square dancing in session in the Northeast at the present time. Most are beginners, with a few classes in Plus 1 and 2. Our class visitation

chairman reports that all classes are enthusiastic and looking forward to graduation. The Blood Bank in Jacksonville benefited by the donations from dancers attending the Blood Bank Dance, a benefit dance where the admission was to donate a pint of blood within a specified period of time or make a cash donation. The 1980 Fall Roundup was a success... showing a profit. One popular feature was a professional photographer who took many club pictures. The 1981 Fall Roundup Chairman, Fred and Claudia Groover will hold their first meeting on January 29. The 1981 Fall Roundup will be on November 13 & 14, in the Jacksonville Civic Auditorium, with Elmer Sheffield & Wade Driver and the Walcotts on the rounds. Many Northeast dancers are planning to attend the National Square Dance Convention, Frances Smith, reports there will not be shuttle buses at Seattle for the Convention. Mrs. Smith arranged for a travel agent to attend as Association meeting and give facts about trips to Seattle for the Convention plus other side trips. The price of the round-trip ticket for \$310 to Seattle was a bargain considering how air fares have been rising. Northeast is sponsoring a Caller Clinic in Jacksonville with Ed Foote. Any callers from other areas interested in attending contact Jim Morgan, Gateway Callers, (904) 771-3462. Ed Foote will call the Northeast 5th Saturday night dance, January 31. After the success of the 1980 Clogging Jamboree in Jacksonville, a larger facility will be needed. The 1981 Clogging Jamboree will be held in Civic Auditorium, October 23 & 24, sponsored by Sally Thompson. George and Judy Garland researched the cost of banners for the Federation. They report that 18" x 24" banners can be made for \$15. The Northeast Association picnic, April 26, is shaping up to be quite a shindig, with approximately 1,000 dancers from 31 clubs are expected to attend. Paul & Nita Walker, Chairman, report that there will be soft-ball, horseshoes, 3-legged race, gunny sack race, volley ball, tug of war, & other competitions plus a flea market. The picnic, if successful, will be an annual event.

Southeast by Ray Williams - The Southeast Association held its annual Holiday Dinner at Valle's in Fort Lauderdale, Saturday, December 6th. Frank Bedell was our speaker this year & he gave us his idea's on the growth of square dancing, since he entered the picture some twenty years ago & where it has been & where he believes it will be in the future. On December 14th, we had our Holiday Cookie Dance at Collins Community Center in Oakland Park with a packed house. Everyone brought a few of their favorite Holiday Cookies to share with all those attending. The highlight of the dance was the surprise visit of the Cookie Monster from the TV show Sesame Street. He joined in the fun & danced with everyone on the floor so that all dancers could earn their Cookie Monster Badge. On January 11th, we had our annual Fun Day Picnic at TY Park in Hollywood. Even though it was a little cool, we had a very fine turnout for all the eats, games & some dancing. On Saturday evening, January 31st, we will be co-sponsoring with the Southeast Callers Association, our first 5th Saturday night dance. This will be held at the Pompano Beach Recreation Center. Calling the squares will be Gordon Blaum & Burt Summers with Phil & Dot Carey on the rounds. On Saturday, March 14th, we will hold our second mini-Legacy named HELP II. The subject of this session will be "The Y's & wherefores of joining Clubs, Association & Federation. The moderators will be Esther & Walter Stokes, Boots & George Oglesby & Vern Johnson. We will also have a dance in the evening with Frank Bedell calling the squares. The next regular clinic will be February 8th at Cresthaven in West Palm Beach. The Cresthaven Squares will be host at this dance as

they have done for the past seven years. The March clinic will be hosted by the Crosstrailers in Deerfield Beach & the April clinic hosted by our Vice-President's club, Hialeah Country Corners. This year, we have been fortunate in having almost all of our clinics hosted by local clubs.

West Coast by Earle Williams - The West Coast Association continues in good shape with all systems on "go" for 1981. On November 30th a very successful Association Dance was held in Sarasota with 20 + squares attending. Next week another Association Dance will be held in Tampa at which time we will "Honor The Editors" of the West Coast Dancer. More about that at our next report. The following week Sebring will be the site of another Association Dance. Our Blood Bank, under the capable direction of Joe & Ruth Estes, continues to thrive. The latest statistics are as follows: 87 donors have contributed 341 units -- 60 units have been withdrawn by 24 donees -- a present balance of 281 units. This has been one of the most rewarding programs carried out by our association. Plans for our 1981 Fall Fun Fest are continuing with Cris & Trudie Nissen carrying the ball this year. This is our annual October affair. The 1982 State Convention Committee is hard at work & we will undoubtedly hear more about that from Hugh & Jean Fultz or Ken & Mae Ford, the Chairpeople of the convention. We are now giving our support to the 28th Florida State Convention. The banner travels along with West Coast Willie when he goes visiting!

Central by Ray Holt - Our Central Association is moving ahead very rapidly. Our membership is increasing steadily, as well as our pocket book. Old members renewed & we have many new members. The first edition of our first newspaper has been published & distributed. We have had tremendous approval. We would like to thank Betty Bruce & Curtis McDowell for all their work. We had a real good response to the contest to name our paper. The next edition should be out in Mid February with it's official name. Central has started themeing our dances. The November 29th dance - Our Christmas Dance - held in Mt. Dora boosted thirty two squares of merriment, with decorations & refreshments. The next dance on January 31st on Merritt Island will be a Seetheart Dance. On March 20th & 21st at Exposition Hall in Orlando our Florida Pirates Salute to America will be a Festival Weekend. Flyers & ribbons are available now.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION by Joe Vaccari - Perhaps I should start by saying a few words about why we need a national S D Association. I wasn't at the last state meeting but from the minutes it seems there are some who believe LEGACY fills the need of square dancers for representation at a national level. I, for one, do not believe LEGACY fills this need & will attempt to explain why. First let me say that I have accepted an invitation to become a LEGACY member & plan to attend the LEGACY meeting in Denver May 14-17, 1981. (originally I was invited in 1976) I strongly believe in LEGACY objectives. LEGACY has accomplished much since its inception 1973 as an assembly of "leaders gathered for commitment and yak." LEGACY However, as a LEGACY member I cannot presume to represent the dancers of Florida since I was not elected or appointed to do so. Membership in LEGACY is by invitation only & the dancers have no voice as to who will represent them. If a LEGACY member chooses not to attend no one can attend in his or her place. LEGACY, in its present form, while open

to dancer-leaders, has been heavily controlled by square dance professionals. Fourteen states currently do not have any LEGACY members. LEGACY has members from all facets of the activity including dancer-leaders; however major elements of LEGACY also have their own national organizations including (1) Callerlab for Callers (2) Roundalab for round dance instructors (3) NASRDS for suppliers. Which leads us to the question; are dancers not a major element & why don't they have a national organization? I strongly believe we need a national organization directed by dancers for dancers through their state organizations such as proposed by the National Square Dance Ass'n. Hasn't the time come for the dancer (who after all finances the activity) to have a voice equal to other national organizations? When this happens we would be able to more effectively work together, caller, cuer, dancer, supplier, editors, and others to bring about a better square dance world.

Now, a report on the organizing committee meeting held in Oklahoma City on November 1, 1980. The purpose of the meeting was to develop an organizational structure, goals, objectives & preparation of proposed by-laws. This was accomplished & is presently being formalized for distribution sometime this month to all state organizations for their consideration. As of the meeting 28 states had responded with (20) indicating interest (5) no interest & (3) awaiting additional information. The state organizations would voice their position on organizing a national association at a general meeting to be held during the Seattle National Convention. Since, our next meeting isn't until the State Convention, I propose, with the concurrence of the chair, to send copies to each area for review. In this manner we should be able to take a formal position at our May meeting & instruct our delegates how to vote at the Seattle general meeting in June.

After much discussion, Frank Smith asked everyone to study the feasibility of the National Association for voting action at the next meeting in May.

PUBLICATIONS

Bow & Swing - No report

Panhandle Press by Joe Vaccari - We are printing 500 copies. We have copies here of the current issue for anyone who would like one.

Grapevine by Frank Hamwey - One project of the Grapevine at the present time is to have each club in the Northeast Association subscribe 100% to the Grapevine. We are receiving good cooperation from Club Presidents in bringing this before their membership. One club has raised its dues 75¢ to include the cost of the Grapevine. The minutes of the Association meetings are now being printed in the Grapevine. We have received very favorable comments from the dancers on this, since not all delegates to the Association take back the information to their clubs. The editors of the Grapevine, Mary Jo & Jim Wright are having to give up the Grapevine due to Mary Jo's poor health. We are looking for someone to take over as editor, and have a few good people in mind.

West Coast Dancer by Hugh & Jean Fultz - The West Coast Dancer is presently printing 4250 copies of the magazine monthly. The West coast Association has authorized us to combine the June, July and August

issues into one magazine which we will do this year! We want to take this opportunity to welcome the new Central Association magazine into the wonderful world of square dance publishers. We were very favorably impressed with their first edition & wish them the best of luck.

Central by Betty Bruce - We are very pleased with the tremendous positive response we have received from our dancers & the Square Dance community as a whole. To date we have distributed 1,000 copies of the first edition & we are still getting requests for more copies. We are particularly grateful to the other four Associations in our Federation. They have been lavish in their praise & generous in their offers to help get our publication off to a good start. We needed that kind of support. "Central's own" has been a long time coming. Long may it live and flourish!

Convention Reports

National Convention transportation was arranged by Francis Smith by bus to Seattle.

1981 State Convention by Marvin Taylor - Program will be ready by February 15th. Callers & Round Dance Leaders are sending their schedules. The fashion show & sewing clinics are done & all we have to do is put it together. We are thinking of getting some average dancers to attend a round table discussion of Square Dancing. Chet Vetter & Mori Sogolow amplified some thinking on the panel type discussion as opposed to a "Legacy type" meeting or lecture. The theater was cancelled & the cloggers are scheduled to use an area away from the civic center; buses will be used to give safe transportation for the youngsters & families involved. Conrad Bishop gave a detailed explanation concerning the Grand March, complete with a diagram & positions for all groups & Individuals. Copies were furnished to lead couples.

1982 State Convention by Hugh & Jean Fultz - The 1982 Convention committee met at Lakeland on Oct. 18th at which time all section heads reported that although little of a positive nature had been accomplished they were all busily planning their parts of the festivities. The convention kick-off presentation under the direction of Ron & MaryLee Van Valkenberg and George & Dena Burcham is progressing very well. The next meeting of the committee will be Sat Jan 31 at Tampa & a subsequent meeting will be scheduled in April, date & place to be announced.

1983 State Convention by Howard Wilson - It is very possible a convention facility will be completed & available in the Orlando area for the 1983 convention. This will be considered since the rates in the Lakeland area have been increased by such a large amount.

Coordinating committee by Alan Ashcroft - About 14 people attended the meeting including 2 callers & 1 Round Dance leader. There was considerable discussion on the organization officer rotation & make-up of the coordinating committee for the benefit of new members. Art Springer advised that beyond current contracts, Lakeland is planning substantial increases in rent - possibly double. H. Wilson was asked by the committee when negotiating for 1983 to look into an agreement for future years either as a "first refusal" bases or "option contract". While relationships with Lakeland is good, there

is nothing that would stop them from denying us future use if they had a good rental prospect. Financial Report:

Loans outstanding: 1981 Conv.	\$	
1982 Conv.		
Balance in bank	\$	
Total	\$	
There are expenses from 1980 which were not paid by the 1980 Convention	\$	

At the request of the Florida Callers Assoc., it was recommended that the Convention guide lines be modified to include a requirement that the Vice Chairmen of the Convention representing the callers & the cuers be approved by their respective organizations before any announcement is made of their appointment. At the request of the FCA, the suggestion (which was presented at the Federation meeting in Sept. 80 and later at the Callers meeting in Oct. 80) for preparation of a film for promotion of square dancing in Florida, was discussed. It was decided that since FFSD Awareness Committee is doing some work on this, the Coordinating would wait for their report before taking any action.

Showcase of Ideas by Ray Williams - Ray requested that those driving to Seattle with any space to spare to please contact him for carrying articles for display in the Florida booth.

Legacy by Chet Vetter - No activity before meeting in May at Denver, Colorado.

Old Business: Mori Sogolow made a motion to procure five traveling banners (one for each Association) for approximately \$15.00 each (Total \$75.00). Motion seconded and carried. A larger banner will be discussed at the next meeting in May.

New Business: None

Next meeting to be held at the state convention in Lakeland on May 24, 1981.

Meeting Adjourned by the President Frank Smith.

Respectfully submitted,

John & Esther
John & Esther Layne
Secretary