



# FLORIDA FEDERATION of SQUARE DANCERS

The Meeting of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers was called to order by Vice President Ken Ford at 10:00 A.M. on May 24, 1981 at the Lakeland Civic Center. President Frank Smith was reported in good condition & recuperating from open heart surgery.

The invocation was given by Hugh Fultz.

Roll call was taken by Secretary John Layne. All officers were present except as noted above. Associations were represented as follows: each had three delegates in attendance. There were eleven permanent delegates in attendance.

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

Treasurer's Report by Conrad Bishop which was approved showed:

Brought forward 1/24/81	\$
Receipts	\$
Disbursements	\$
Bank Balance 5/24/81	\$

The contingency fund for financing the State Convention is still \$2,000.00 which results in a net worth of \$

Liaison appointed to FCA was Walter Stoltz, and to RDC was Warren Hyland

Liaison from FCA was Jim Roop. There was no message from the Fla. Callers. RDC was Pete Shankle. No messages from the Cuers.

Correspondence: by Secretary John Layne Len & Birdell Levitt had resigned as permanent delegates. The Florida Federation of Square Dancers has reserved 2 tables for the Showcase of Ideas at the National Square Dance Convention in Seattle. News releases were received about the National Convention & copies were forwarded to each Association in the Florida Federation. The National Association correspondence was filed; details are discussed later under old business.

## AREA REPORTS:

Northeast by Frank Hamwey - Northeast has a new club, The Palatka Partners, who were voted in at the May meeting. The Club gave a benefit dance in March & raised over \$1,000.00 for the retired citizens of Putnam County. Approximately 200 persons attended our First Annual Picnic held April 26. Trophies were awarded for the winners in softball, 3-legged race, horse-shoes, jarts, egg throwing contest, & other contests. A new chairman has been appointed for the '82 Picnic & is already planning some of the events. Paul & Nita Walker did a beautiful job on the '81 Picnic. Also Paul & Nita have taken over the Grapevine as editors & you will meet them later when the Grapevine report is given. Northeast Blood Bank is solvent. Blood was donated to two individuals. As you know, Frank Smith had open

heart surgery in April & received 2 pints. He is doing very well, but will not be able to travel for 8 weeks. If it seems as the Santa Claus arrived a little early it's only Northeast dancers wearing those funny little red & white hats to promote the Christmas in July dance to be held at the Morocco Temple in Jacksonville on July 25th. All proceeds will go to the Shriners Crippled Childrens' Fund, & not a penny has been spent to put on this dance. Flyers & ribbons have been donated as well as the facilities. Callers & Cuers have donated their time to keep the dancing going on 2 floors of the Morocco Temple. George Warren is the Chairman, assisted by the Jubileers Square Dance Club. Flyers are on the table & I hope many of you can attend. Also in July, a nominating Committee will be appointed to nominate officers for Northeast for the '81 - '82 year. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. The plans for the Fall Roundup are going full steam ahead! You probably noticed the new outfits worn by Committee members at the dance last night, & the display set up in the lobby by the Chairman, Fred Groover. The Roundup will be held Nov. 13th & 14th at the Civic Auditorium. An innovation this year is that there will be a separate hall for cloggers as we expect a large number of them to participate. We have flyers & a course ribbons with us. Speaking of Clogging, the 1981 Annual Clogging Jamboree will be held in Jacksonville at the Civic Auditorium in October. Contacts are being made with several individuals concerning appointment of the 1984 State Convention Chairman. Northeast, as you know, sponsors the 1984 Convention. We hope to have this person appointed by the July meeting. I attended the coordinating Committee meeting here yesterday & gathered much information to pass on to the Chairman.

Southeast by Lynn Ward - We have, due to a change of job assignment lost our President Ray & Jean Williams. The Williams' now have relocated to the Lakeland area. At our March Dance my wife Harriet & I assumed the Presidency of the Southeast Assoc. We all will miss Ray & Jean very dearly. The Association wishes them the best of luck. The Southeast monthly dance clinics have been becoming more & more popular. We have had capacity crowds at all the dances. We held "HELP II" session in March. We thank the Stoltz's, the Oglesby's & Vern Johnson for their participation in the mini-legacy. The topics that were covered were most helpful to our organization. We have a dance coming up on May 30th. We are co-hosting this Freshman Square Dancers Ball with the S.E. Callers Ass. The dance will be held at Jack Lasry's Trails End in Hollywood. Our June, July & August Clinics will be catering to the new graduate dancers. We hope to give the freshman a chance to join the Assoc. & be able to mix in with the other regular dancers. Our caller Frank Bedell & round dance cuer Clyde Kirk will be most helpful in this area. Our area dancers are looking forward to the upcoming Knothead Convention this coming Labor day. We hope to have a good crowd from the S.E. area.

Central by Ray Holt - The Central Assoc. has been busy since the last Federation meeting in Jan. We had the Pirates Festival held March 20nd & 21st. Which was the first time the Central Assoc. has held such a large dance on their own. We had a nice turn out with Doc Gray calling on Friday night & Joe Braun calling on Sat. night & Virginia Colling on the Rounds for both nights. Our new 'Keepin Posted' newspaper has had a lot of great compliments. Bev Whitney from St. Cloud won the contest to name the paper. A special thanks to Betty Bruce & Curtis McDonell for getting this off the ground & to the press. Our next dance will be held May 30, 1981 in Eustis at the Eustis RV Park Caller Bob Bland, Rounds

Jackie Jenkins. That is our election night for new officers. We will begin at 5:30 P.M. with a pot luck dinner. Our Blood Bank Chairman, John Berger is in the hospital again. Roland Hamel is our new Co-Chairman for our Blood Bank.

West Coast by Earle Williams - First, the West Coast wishes to congratulate the Northwest for a fine convention. We really have a goal to shoot for next year. Since the last meeting of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers on January, 1981, the West Coast **Assoc.** has held a total of five dances in various sections of our area. All of these dances are free to members & are very popular with our dancers. One of the dances honored all present & past Editors & Staff of the West Coast Dancer. The first Editor of the Dancer was present & along with the others, received a bangle to wear on his **Assoc.** badge. There were 26 bangles awarded. Our Membership dances are well attended with from 150 to 300 dancers present. Our Blood Bank continues to thrive with 419 units contributed, 70 withdrawn, 349 units available. At a recent luncheon given by the Community Blood Bank, Joe & Ruth Estes, Blood Bank Chairmen, accepted an award given to the West Coast Ass. for their contribution 144 units during the past year. A Public Awareness Chairman has been appointed & results are already evident of favorable square dance publicity in our area. Thanks to Cris & Trudy Nissen for their hard work. The Fultz & Ford Combo are busy finalizing plans for the 1982 State Convention while the Nissens are wrapping up the October Fall Fun Fest, our annual West Coast **Assoc.** Dance. West Coast Willie has been busy visiting the many graduating classes in the area, helping to show the West Coast **Assoc.** picture to the many new dancers. When Willie can't make it, the County Vice-Presidents have been filling in very ably. The results are very rewarding, showing us nearing our goal of 3000 members!!!

Northwest by Frank McCallister - The Northwest **Assoc.** wishes to express their appreciation for the many hours of work devoted to the '81 convention by Marvin Taylor & a host of helpers. Special thanks are due Joy Richardson for her work on registrations. June is a month of festivals for the Panhandle with Fort Walton Hosting Billy Bowlegs, & Pensacola their annual festival. A special election was held for the office of recording secretary & many thanks to Joy Richardson for accepting the position upon completion of the State Convention. Northwest is launching a drive for increased individual memberships by sponsoring local dances in each area with the dance free with a year's membership. We hope to dramatically increase interest & membership in our association by offering these increased benefits.

#### PUBLICATIONS

Bow & Swing by Rita Deschambeau - Bow & Swing Magazine is a service owned by the Florida Callers Assoc, Inc. After 10 years of being Editor, Jack Pierson resigned, & as of the June, 1980 issue, Bill & Louise Roundtree assumed the duties of Editor & Business Manager Temporarily. In July, 1980. Bill & Louise & The Board of Directors of the FCA requested that George & I assume the duties of Editors. We have made many changes in the magazine such as changing the type style, using columns for easier reading, introduced new monthly features, & also changed the format of the magazine in order to give better exposure to all contributors & advertisers. We experienced many problems in this transition period. The mailing list of 3500 names had to be completely retyped from a computer listing which was not too current in itself.

Some advertisers were used to Jack Pierson automatically putting in certain ads in certain issues & did not realize we did not have this information in our hands, & smaller problems. However, the enthusiastic support we've received from Associations, Advertisers, Clubs, & subscribers has been heartwarming, & the complaints are now few & far between. Your Federation Presidents have been faithful in sending in their reports monthly, & we are always glad to have reports from the local dancer associations to publish. Most of our club contributors had read our suggestions on how to submit club news, but we still have a few who don't understand about deadlines. (It takes more than "magic" to put together a 68-page magazine -- it would take another half-hour of your time to tell you what goes into it.) We still have a few who still send their news to the old address in Palmetto, & it takes weeks for the post office to forward it first to the Wilton Manors address, & for them to forward the mail to us. Some neglect to give us their club name with their news, or where they dance. We play "detective" on these, & sometimes can find out who they are. Some clubs still try their best to get an unpaid "ad" in the magazine, telling us the same information that is in, or should be in, the WHERE TO DANCE section. We don't have the space to include this kind of thing. What the readers want to read about are the clever things YOUR club is doing, or has done, or something unusual (NEWSWORTHY) that has happened within your club. We look forward anxiously every day for the mailman to bring us thought-provoking articles or letters from dancers, callers, or club leaders that we can include in the magazine. We have no statistics available, but it appears that BOW & SWING is probably one of the lowest priced magazines of its size & quality as far as subscription prices go -- & its ads, too, are very low priced. We are trying our best to keep it that way, but with postage & other costs skyrocketing, we don't know how long we can hold this line without the FCA having to subsidize the magazine, or raise its subscription rates. We hope more & more people will think of BOW & SWING as THEIR magazine & will use it as a sounding board for their thoughts, complaints, or suggestions. We feel it will then serve the purpose for which it is intended -- for the betterment of the world of Dancing.

Grapevine by Paul & Nita Walker - The transfer of editor responsibilities were completed in March 1981. The new editor will be Paul & Nita Walker & assisting them as Co-editor will be Ernie & Ruby Hole. Our subscriptions have increased from 333 to 403 since our first issue in April. The Grapevine will be used as a vehicle of education & exchange of information. We encourage clubs & leaders of all functions of our hobby to submit articles for publication. We hope to begin publishing monthly in Jan. We will serve as an avenue for club news & exchange of ideas. We will support the State Federation & The Northeast Association. We will SPOT-LIGHT one club each issue with pictures & history of that club. We are changing our method of mechanical addressing to a more cost effective stick on label addresses. We plan on visiting every club in our Assoc. to promote the Grapevine. We already have two subscription dances scheduled. Our major goal is to produce a publication which will be desirable enough to cause every dancer to subscribe. We encourage all association editors to exchange publications on a complimentary basis. An exchange of ideas between associations will make our hobby stronger in Florida.

4 W'S by Boots Oglesby - We are still here! With this issue for June, July, & Aug. 1981, our prices have gone up. If you need a new price list write to our Post Office Box, & we will send a price list to you. On the night we put the paper together, we now have one of our callers come to help call a few tips when the work is done.

Keepin Posted by Betty Bruce - As most of you know, we published our first edition of Keepin' Posted in Nov. 1980 & the second edition in Feb. 1981. We distributed 1,000 copies of the first issue & 1,500 copies of the second issue. Because of the printing expense involved, we began with our third edition in May to mail each issue only to our current members with complimentary copies going to our local callers, the Fed. President, the other four Florida Assoc. Publications, & those persons who contribute in some significant way but do not fit into any of these categories. Our next edition is planned for August 1981. However, at our next Dance on May 30th, we will be electing new officers for the '81-'82 year. What form our publication will take & who will edit it will be a matter for the new officers to decide when they take office July 1st.

West Coast Dancer by Hugh Fultz - The West Coast Dancer is embarking on a new publishing schedule with 10 issues this. We are producing one summer book encompassing June, July & August, with a press run of 4,250 copies. This new schedule will allow vacation time for staff & helpers to recuperate. We have been printing 4,000 copies per month these last few months & find that there is an ever increasing demand for more.

Panhandle Press by Joe Vaccari - "It's going just great"

#### CONVENTION REPORTS

1981 State Convention by Marvin Taylor - I think we are having a good convention. Am not sure if we will top Southeast, but we are trying. There has been a few complaints but the good time everyone is having over comes a few minor problems. I want to thank my Committee for all the work they have done because it sure takes a lot of ideas & cooperation. Also thank all of you for promoting the Convention in your areas. Now go have a good time!

1982 State Convention by Hugh Fultz - All plans & actions have been taken that are necessary at this point in time. We have had four meetings of the entire committee & three meetings of the executive board to formulate policy & determine progress. Our main concern at present is publicity & registration. Fliers have been printed, ribbons ordered, hotels contacted, signs & placards painted & a comparatively inexpensive outfit has been designed which will be worn Sunday evening May 24th for the promotional demonstration in the arena. A budget has been prepared based on a paid attendance of 2250 persons which will provide an expected profit of \$7,500. We have had an advance from the coordinating committee of \$2,000 of which we have spent \$1,010 leaving a balance of \$990. As your chairman we plan to attend as many festivals & clubs around the state as time & energy will permit. We expect to be welcomed & recognized at these functions & we invite anyone so inclined to accompany us on our travels.

1983 State Convention by Howard Wilson - Anticipating a big dance in 1983 I have not signed up a convention site yet. Yesterday, the coordinating committee insisted that I take \$1,000. I do have an appointment for next week concerning the site, & I expect to make some announcements concerning the 1983 convention. We do have some plans, & we will work hard to keep the banner flying high in '83.

1984 State Convention - No Report

Legacy Report by Chet Vetter - Nine couples from Florida attended Legacy V. Two changes were made in our organizational procedure.

1. Instead of 10 years dancing and/or 5 years in leadership now it is 5 years dancing with 3 years as a leader with more emphasis placed on leadership. 2. Any person or Assoc. can now go on our mailing list & receive Legacy Logs & other correspondence by paying membership fee of \$20 for 2 years. Dates for Legacy have been permanently set as beginning on the Thursday after Mother's Day on odd years. Anyone not completing questionere please do so. Discussion topics this year were 1. Club Leadership - how to make it more appealing, effective & rewarding. 2. The social aspect in Square Dancing. 3. The auxiliaries including mixers, contra etc. 4. Recruitment & retention. In Leadership it was recommended we double our efforts in conducting training seminars & urging assoc. to get more involved. It was felt the social part of square dancing has declined over the years & we are urged to return toward more social activities. As an aid to recruitment & retention we fully support Callerlab's action on classes & urge clubs & callers to follow it close as possible. The auxiliary program could not reach an agreement. Florida was represented in the meeting programming with Boots Oglesby recorder for Publication panel. George Oglesby on registration desk, Chet & Julia Vetter on program committee & Chet Vetter a panelist on Club Leadership brain storming sessions. For the next two years George & Boots will be the Southeast Region Coordinator for Mini-Legacies. Chet & Julia are appointed members of the Board of Directors serving as Vice Chairman on Leadership ' Educational Aid Committee of which they have been members since Legacy III in 1977. They also will remain on the program committee. We felt it was an excellent meeting & as is the case in new organization it takes awhile to get a line on how you act & operate, we have graduated from Jr. High into Sr. High. We have completed a leadership manual. I brought two copies for anyone who is interested. They are \$5.00 apiece. They will be advertised in the National Magazine.

Coordinating Committee by Hugh Fultz - They have \$500 left which I may ask for. They gave out \$1,000 to the 1983 Convention Chairman. We should note that we the 1982 convention rent this facility (Lakeland Civic Center) for \$2,460. They are asking the 1983 Chairman for \$5,410. Another thing there was an election of officers: Norma Smoyer is chairman, Art Springer is Secretary, & Mr. Wilson is Treasurer. That's it.

Showcase of Ideas by Ray Williams - Florida has always been head and shoulders above the rest with the Showcase of Ideas - thanks to the efforts of those in this room who have been associated with it for years This year we decided to pull our horns back a bit & we are going to ship our display items to Seattle. I sent a letter to all associations about this so we can ship the items for display. Please see me after the meeting, so that we can take care of this.

National Square Dancers Assoc by Joe Caccari - The organization of the National Assoc. was discussed in length at the January meeting. A package was sent to each Assoc. (Florida) concerning the National Organization. Joe read a summary from the Central Florida Assoc. publication "Keepin' Posted" for those who did not attend the January meeting. Two items were added after the summary. 1. All actions taken in Seattle would not be binding on any State organization until those actions were ratified by that State's organization. 2. Dues will not be necessary

until the states decide - within a year- and then still be classified a charter member. I would like to emphasize that Florida as a leader could contribute much to a National Organization.

Old Business: Motion made by Joe Vaccari that the Florida Federation of Square Dancers endorse the movement to make a National Square Dance Assoc. and elect or appoint 2 voting delegates and alternates to represent the square dancers of Florida at the formation meeting held in Seattle during the 1981 National Convention. Motion seconded.

A rebuttal by Chet Vetter was made. After much discussion a roll call vote defeated the motion.

Joe Vaccari made a Motion that The Florida Federation send two representatives to the organizing meeting of the National Association for the purposes of bringing more information back to the next State meeting.

Motion seconded

Discussion followed by Chet Vetter, Esther Layne, George Oglesby and Barbara Holt. Motion carried.

New Business: Ken Ford read the letter of resignation from Ray & Jean Williams addressed to President Frank Smith. The Williams resigned effective with the date of the May meeting in Lakeland, & recommended Phil & Marion Fenster to fill their office. A nomination of Fred and Celeste Crawford was made & seconded. A nomination of Phil & Marion Fenster was made & seconded.

Fred & Cleste Crawford were elected by secret balot as the Parliamentarian of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers.

Liaison Report: Walter Stoltz brought a comment from the Florida Callers meeting that the Callers Chairman to the State Convention would appreciate a job description or list of his duties.

The next meeting will be the Sunday before Labor Day at Knothead.

Meeting adjourned by Ken Ford.

Respectfully submitted,

*John & Esther Layne*  
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Secretary