



FLORIDA FEDERATION of SQUARE DANCERS

Minutes of May 27 Meeting

A meeting of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers was called to order at 10:00 A.M. May 27, 1984 in conference Hall "B". at the civic center in Lakeland, Florida by President Conrad Bishop.

INVOCATION:

The opening prayer was delivered by Vice President Celeste Crawford.

ROLL CALL:

Roll Call was taken by Secretary Norm Farrell. A quorum was present.

VISITORS:

President Bishop asked each Association President to stand and introduce all first time visitors and guests. All visitors and guests were recognized by the delegates. Representing the Round Dance Council was Ted Keiser and Lawton Smith was present to represent the Florida Callers Association.

LIAISON:

President Bishop appointed, Joy Vaccari to attend the Round Dance Council meeting, and Chet Vetter to attend the Florida Callers meeting.

MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes in view of the fact that all delegates had a copy. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT:

The report was presented by Hugh Fultz. (See attachment # 1)

CORRESPONDENCE:

A. President Bishop had received correspondence concerning some problems with association boundaries within the state. Prior to this meeting he had assigned the Presidents of the Central, Northeast and West Coast Associations to come up with a solution to the problem. At this time President Bishop called for their report. The report was presented by Leo Richardson, President of the Central Association.

In regard to the boundaries of the Northeast, Central and Westcoast Associations, we the undersigned presidents, respectfully request that all present boundaries, as shown on the federation map (retained by federation secretary), remain the same. Any person or club may join the association of their choice. As a matter of courtesy, we expect no association to actively recruit any person or club outside their designated boundary.

B. President Bishop received a letter from the Baltimore Convention committee requesting state publications for their show

case. He stated that Parliamentarian Leo Richardson would coordinate this effort.

C. There will be a U.S. Capitol dance on Wednesday June 27 in conjunction with the effort to make square dancing the National Folk dance.

D. The President of the Vendors Association had requested time at this meeting to introduce the new President. The new President, Vern Olberding was recognized. He stated that the vendors would work to provide good service.

AREA REPORTS:

Northwest presented by Harry Frisbee

The Northwest Florida Square and Round Dance Association has elected to sponsor the blood bank and organ donor program in the Northwest area. Marvin Taylor has volunteered to be the chairman of this program. He will be responsible for the Panama City, Pensacola area. We are recruiting a co-chairperson whose responsibility will be the Tallahassee area.

The Northwest Association has voted unanimously to have the Pensacola Special Steppers Exhibition Group as honorary members of the Northwest Association. The presentation of their badges will be in the near future. This very special group of square dancers accomplished something no one else in our nation has. They are to be commended for their enthusiasm and many hours of hard work. This fine square dance club performed at the capitol in May at the request of Mrs. Adele Graham. Tallahassee area dancers and Governor Graham joined them in their exhibition.

The constitution and by-laws of the Northwest Association have been revised, updated and republished.

Elmer Sheffield and Daryl McMillan have been requested to call for the Northwest Fall Roundup on an annual basis and the contracts are now being signed.

Northeast presented by George Warren

The Northeast is proud to have been host for this years convention. A report by Frank Smith will be given later.

The big news in the Northeast is "Conclave 84". Paul Walker and Joe Bracewell who are co-chairman of this event are working to make this an exciting and rewarding event for all who are going to be invited. The dates for the event is the 2nd weekend in September.

Our blood bank continues to show growth as the dancers give the gift of life. The Northeast has also become actively involved in the Organ Retrieval Program, as I am sure many of you have noticed there is a table set up at the convention this year so that you may sign up. At the Northeast Blood Bank Dance over 80% of those in attendance signed donor cards.

The table in the concourse at the main arena is being manned by Sandy Spain who is a recipient of a kidney. If you have any questions please stop and talk to her. The Northeast received State and National recognition for their efforts in this program.

Central presented by Howard Wilson

At our March meeting/dance two Area Directors were installed. We now have directors for one more area and will be working on others in the near future.

During the past few weeks the officers have been visiting class graduates distributing our new information pamphlet. We are inviting

these new graduates and others to join the Association and learn more about square dancing in the state of Florida.

On June 10, 1984 at 3:00 P.M. we will hold our annual meeting with election of officers at a picnic at Big Tree Park near Longwood. The June 30th dance will be held at the Sanford Civic Center with Jack Hatfield calling.

Starting with our new fiscal year July 1, 1984, membership dues will be only \$2.00 per year, per person with these members receiving a discount at Association dances. All others will be provisional members and pay full admission.

In September we are teaming up again with the Central Florida Callers Association for a month long celebration of National Square Dance Month. Area malls and shopping centers will have booths set up with square dance materials and will be attended by square dancers whenever possible. Each area will plan a celebration dance near the end of the month.

On the fifth Saturday in September, there will be two dances instead of one. This is also a new trend for Central Florida, in that we plan to hold two dances every other fifth Saturday. This will give more people an opportunity to avail themselves of membership and participation in the various Association activities.

Mamie Langrick will be editor of Keep' Posted.

Southeast presented by Marilyn Walther

The Southeast area is actively promoting the new Florida State outfit. Many were worn in Lakeland at the Convention as will be worn in Baltimore in June. We have several area dancers who will be dancing on the steps of the Capitol to promote Square Dancing as the National Folk dance.

Southeast is having there 5th Southeast October Spectacular on Saturday October 5, 1984 with Joe Patti from Louisiana on squares.

Westcoast presented by Carl Smith

The membership of the WCA as of May 23rd was 3000 members. To date we have had 8 membership dances throughout the west coast area from Brooksville to Naples and St. Petersburg to Sebring, using various callers and cuers from the west coast area, with some donating their time and others only receiving token fees. The attendance has been very good.

We still have a full blood bank with many donors.

We have just printed a combined issue of the Westcoast Dancer for June, July and August, which will give us a much needed rest and vacation from collating the magazine and our executive board meetings. We will continue in August. Chris Nissen is our new Westcoast Dancer editor with Jack Pierson remaining as editor publisher.

We are recognizing Walter and Esther Stoltz for distinguished and dedicated service to the WCA. They have contributed to the promotion and betterment of the WCA and the entire state. We recently held our second annual planning meeting with the executive board and past presidents attending. Several committees were appointed as a result of the meeting, including promotion of round and square dancing and a goals committee. The WCA gathered 1385 signatures for the petitions to help make square dancing the national folk dance.

Our Fall Fun Fest chairman has plans well under way for our festival which has been changed to Nov. 9 & 10. We expect a successful dance with Johnny Wykoff and Bob Barnes on squares and Lovelace and Martin on rounds.

The WCA has joined together with the Sun Coast Callers Association to update banner stealing guidelines for our area which we expect to complete in the fall.

We have distributed many patterns for the state outfit and seem to have much response from our area.

CONVENTION REPORTS:

1984, presented by Frank Smith

The attendance (dancers only) is 3640. We feel that this is a very successful convention.

We will return \$2,500.00 to the coordinating committee today. All properties, will be turned over to the '85 committee as of tonight.

1985, presented by Frank Habersberger

Our Kickoff Program is ready and our Convention Chairmen and performers promise to make this a memorable occasion to capture the interest of all Square & Round Dancers and Cloggers present to come again to another great State Convention, on the Memorial Day Weekend in May, 1985.

We introduce our full Convention Committee at this time. They are as follows:

Vice Chairman	-	Fred & Celeste Crawford
Square Dance Chairman	-	Frank & Connie Bedell
Round Dance Chairman	-	Bill & Dorothy Britton
Clogging Coordinator	-	Chris Rawls
Kickoff Program Chairman	-	Alan & Bert Ashcroft
Registration Chairman	-	George & Angie Mason
Hospitality Chairman	-	Gunther & Marilyn Walther
Secretary & Publicity	-	Jim & Rosemary Davis
Treasurer & Vendor	-	George & Boots Oglesby
Housing Chairman	-	Ellie Rose
Convention Outfits	-	Harry & Liz Workman

We express our thanks at this time to Howard & Vee Wilson for the continuous help they have given us and which enabled us to establish and meet the important timetables and deadlines for action. And we thank Frank & Frances Smith for their timely assistance to us in matters concerning our Kickoff Program during their Convention.

We enjoyed the visitation to our Association Monthly Dance and to one of our local clubs, Hialeah Country Corners, by Frank & Frances Smith, Chairman, Norm & Joyce Farrell, Vice Chairman, Colleen Ponsell, Secretary & Treasurer, and Bob & Sarah Hare, Decoration Chairman, of the 1984 Convention Committee. They had travelled a great distance to help publicize their Convention, and Southeast Association is making every effort to get its dancers to attend.

We trust that, at this writing, Northeast Association will have been successful in providing us with another great State Convention.

Association Publishers, please pick up your bundle of Registration inserts from our Registration Vice Chairmen, Tony & Joan Hein. Association Presidents, please pick up your bundle of Registration pamphlets & booster buttons for distribution to your club.

1986, presented by Frank McAllister

The Lakeland Civic Center has been selected for the 33rd State Convention.

No caller representative available for convention from Northwest. Will begin search outside area. Bobby Bland has pledged assistance.

Received seed money from coordinating committee.

1987, No report presented.

President Bishop called on Harry Moore to address the body. Harry Moore made some remarks and thanked everyone for the honor that was bestowed upon he and his wife by the "Hall of Fame".

President Bishop also asked Loren Long to report on the National Convention. He stated that as of the present there were 18,000 registered for Baltimore. He also handed out registration forms for Birmingham. Clogging will be available at Birmingham.

PUBLICATION REPORTS:

Bow & Swing, presented by Rita Deschambeau

Thank you for your continuing support of Bow & Swing. The monthly reports of some of the local associations are sporadic lately. Please remember our deadline is the 1st of the month preceding the month of issue.

We would like to have more subscribers. One way is to introduce the magazine to new graduates. When you have a graduation we will be happy to send you a supply of Bow & Swing to present at the graduation ceremony. We need 30 to 60 days notice to send these.

Bow & Swing is one of the most reasonably priced magazines for its size and quality in the United States, and it is not subsidized in any way at the present time. Advertising pays for approximately 2/3 of the magazine, and subscriptions pay for 1/3 of it. If we have more subscribers and more advertisers, we can increase the size of the book proportionately.

Grapevine, presented by Jean Julian

There are no changes in the Grapevine since we took over. The Grapevine publishes 500 copies bi-monthly.

We have purchased a computer with word processing capabilities in order to make the Grapevine better.

Panhandle Press, no report.

Keepin' Posted, no report.

4 W's, presented by Boots Oglesby

We are requesting that the future conventions please send us 5000 copies of registration forms instead of 4000. We have been short 1000.

We are working on our where to dance booklet with Southeast Dancers & Callers Association and this should be ready in the fall.

West Coast Dancer, presented by Chris Nissen

The West Coast Dancer is now entering its 17th year of publication, ten issues a year. This last issue we printed 5,000 plus as this is for June, July and August and we needed additional copies for the State and National Conventions. Starting this year our Dancing Schedules are now on a computer, which makes it a lot easier especially when there are so many changes, deletion and corrections. As all the past schedule editors will testify, progress is beautiful. The Dancer welcomes all club news in the West Coast area. Articles are printed from the State Convention Committees, Round Dance Council, the Caller Associations and the Florida Federation of Square Dancers. We have Feature Editors that, at times write, what could be considered controversial square dance articles. Also give a complete rundown on our Blood Bank activities. Every fourth

Wednesday the Dancer is collected, we have about 40 volunteers who we call our Dancemblers and as they work the 60 minutes to the hour it does not take too long. The Dancer does not accept any paid advertisements, the magazine is free and is distributed at the various dances. At this time our staff is taking a well earned rest and getting ready for a challenging year ahead.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT:

President Bishop appointed, John Layne, May Ford, Carl Smith, Jack Lascola as the nominating committee for the 1984/85 executive board officers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Finance, Hugh Fultz

The budget is set.

B. Education & Services, Jean Fultz

No Report.

C. External Affairs

No Report.

D. State Convention Procedures, Esther Layne

Esther stated that Norm & Joyce Farrell deserve credit for a good job on putting together the changes to the State Convention Procedures from the last meeting.

E. Dancer Contact Brochures, Ken Ford

Since the January meeting, Hugh & Jean Fultz have produced and distributed 12,500 copies of the revised Dancer Contact folders. Another 5,000 copies have recently been ordered, mainly for the Showcase at National. I would like to note that responsibility for this project is no longer ours. At the meeting on Jan. 23, 1983, a motion was passed, "The Federation President shall appoint a chairman each year, whose job will be to revise listings and re-order brochures as necessary". Also, at that meeting President John Layne appointed Hugh & Jean Fultz.

I would like to move that this job be added to the duties of the Parliamentarian when he is seated.

Virgil Green seconded the motion. The motion carried.

F. Vendors

No Report.

G. Coordinating, Ted Keiser reported for Frank Smith

Elections were held and Ted Keiser is the new chairman.

H. Showcase of Ideas, Leo Richardson

Still need more workers for the showcase at Baltimore. Leo displayed copies of the showcase theme banner that will be displayed at Baltimore.

I. IRS & Legislative

No Report.

J. State Outfit, Bell Bishop

The outfit committee is pleased to report that a large number of square dancers were wearing the State outfit at the Friday night session of our 31st Florida Square and Round Dance Convention.

With the enthusiastic support of the five association Presidents and their area workers, we overcame most of the many problems which beset the implementation of the outfit in such a short time.

I wish to express the heartfelt appreciation of the committee to the many who worked hard and long to make our effort succeed.

Florida should make a truly outstanding showing at the Parade of States in Baltimore.

Let's continue our efforts & encourage many more dancers to obtain the outfit for our '85 convention as well as the National.

LIAISON REPORTS: No Report
HALL OF FAME:

Mori Sogolow thanked Frank and Frances Smith for time that was given for the Hall of Fame presentations.

Beginning next year the Hall of Fame will accept resume's on all candidates.

The Hall of Fame and West Coast Association will host the next Federation meeting at Plant City. Everyone is invited to come and see the Hall of Fame. The Econo Lodge has been notified and will hold rooms for delegates at \$26.00 a day. Reservations are not required. There will be a dance and after party on Saturday night.

George Warren was recognized and reported that the Northeast publication "Patter Call" was available for any delegate who wanted a copy. He also explained further about the Northeast's plans to put on a conclave in September.

President Bishop thanked Chris and Trudy Nissen for helping with the refreshments.

U.S.D.A. REPORT, presented by Frank Habersberger

Re: U.S.D.A. Meeting Jan. 27 & 28, 1984, Dillard, Georgia
Connie & Belle Bishop and Frank & Nan Habersberger attended this Executive Meeting as invited guests. Many objectives were discussed, with particular emphasis on how to best increase Membership in the uncommitted States. As many Square Dance Associations have indicated good interest, it was agreed to seek their membership first and then, hopefully, interest will spread to the State Federations. We recall that this is how interest grew in Florida.

Each Regional Vice President gave their Report and indicated that the potential for future growth looks very promising. Mac and Mary McClure gave their Progress Report on the National Folk Dance Campaign and they were pleased to say that there is now considerably more involvement from the Dancers and that letters, phone calls and signed petitions are literally flooding the Post Office and Civil Service Committee where our Bill, H.R. 1706 is being evaluated. So that there will be no distractions or dilution of effort, it was agreed that the Campaign to have a Commemorative Postage Stamp for Square Dancing, be placed on the back burner until a decision is reached on the National Folk Dance. Also, as there has been no reply or any communication from Corrina Roth Studios regarding their Commemorative Statuette, it was decided that U.S.D.A. will rescind its support of this concept.

A request was made by the President of "Pensacola Special Steppers" for the establishment in U.S.D.A. of a "Committee on Disabled Dancers" (CODD) for the purpose of conducting a survey among existing Clubs, in coordination with member clubs of U.S.D.A. for the purpose of assisting in and supporting Square Dance Programs for the disabled. There was unanimous approval and Mac MacKenzie and Frank Cherry granted the right to speak for U.S.D.A. and were given Official Stationery for their use.

We were lodged at Best Western Motel instead of at Copecrest due to so many broken pipes resulting from the below zero temperatures that occurred during the Christmas, New Year's Holidays. We were given an afternoon tour of Copecrest, and of the proposed site for the National Museum and Hall of Fame, just across the border near Franklin, North Carolina. There are 100 & some acres of

natural, unspoiled wooded area. George and Judy Garland are in charge of this project and are seeking to get the land as a grant from the State of North Carolina.

Nan Habersberger accepted the assignment of distributing and selling all Officer's and Member's Badges and Dangles and distributed considerable to all area (Regional) Vice Presidents before the Meeting adjourned. Florida is well represented on the Executive Board, with Joe & Joy Vaccari as President and Walter & Esther Stoltz as Historian. We and the Bishops left with the warm feeling that this National Organization is well organized and will get the support of all Square and Round Dancers in the United States. The next meeting will be during the National Convention at Baltimore, Md. this June.

President Bishop asked U.S.D.A. directors, Norm Farrell and Frank Habersberger to consider nominating Joe Vaccari for another term as President of U.S.D.A.

Norm Farrell reported that the U.S.D.A. insurance was saving Square Dancers and dance organizations of the Northeast considerable money, both on liability insurance expense as well as paying off on medical cost claims.

Joe Vaccari, President of U.S.D.A. presented the Federation with a certificate of charter membership.

OLD BUSINESS:

George Warren inquired about the current status of the President's charity fund. President Bishop stated that it will be taken up at the next meeting.

National Folk Dance Campaign, presented by Frank Habersberger

We received a request, along with the Officers of the Federation, to reply to the Statements in the March 20, 1984 letter from Congressman William D. Ford. Howard & Vee Wilson sent us their copy and we replied. Questions shown by Congressman Ford were raised by what he termed "experts" in dance matters. They were a collection of contradictions and revealed that his experts knew little or nothing about the aims and objectives of the Square Dance Movement.

In our reply, we addressed ourselves to each of the three major questions and enclosed a History of the beginning of the early forms of Square Dancing in New Jersey in 1651, which was 125 years prior to 1776 when the United States was born. It would be too time consuming to read this correspondence now, but anyone interested can borrow same or request copies from the Secretary.

In our Petition Campaign for Florida, the following number of signatures were sent to the Post Office & Civil Service Committee as of April, 1984.

Sunshine Festival	-	1004	from those attending
Southeast Association		2100	
Northeast	"		
Northwest	"		
Central	"	800	
West Coast	"	1385	
Total			

We now have 260 Co-sponsors of Bill H.R. 1706. The National Folk Dance Committee has again scheduled an exhibition the the West Terrace of the U.S. Capitol. It will be on June 27, 1984 between 11:00 A.M. abd 1:00 P.M. There will be Square & Round Dancing, Clogging, Line Dancing, Contras and Solo. Nan I will be attending and we invite all of you who are attending the National Convention in Baltimore, to come a day earlier and attend in support of our Campaign.

We have just learned from Mac & Mary McClure, Chairman of the

National Folk Dance Committee that opposition has surfaced from the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress. A letter of January 20, 1984 was sent by Mr. Gerald E. Parsons, Jr., Reference Librarian of the Archive of Folk Culture to Mr. George Omas of the House Post Office/Civil Service Committee, giving eight pages full of reasons why that Committee should not rule favorably on our Petitions. It is apparent that the American Folklife Center has no desire to relinquish regulation and control of any form of Dancing in the U.S.A. A Public Hearing has been requested and we will keep you all informed as to the outcome. We did not know where the opposition came from a few months ago, but we know now.

NEW BUSINESS:

Secretary Norm Farrell presented a proclamation signed by the Governor of Florida proclaiming the month of September as square dance month in Florida. Copies of proclamation were available for each association and publication.

Secretary Norm Farrell also presented new dancer recruiting leaflets to each of the associations.

The next meeting of the Federation will be held at Plant City on Sunday, Nov. 4th at 10:00 A.M.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 P.M.