



FLORIDA FEDERATION of SQUARE DANCERS

MINUTES 11/16/86

The Annual Meeting of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers was held on November 16, 1986, at the Hilton Hotel in Jacksonville, Fl. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by President, Norm Farrell.

The invocation was given by Cupie Knowlton as everyone held hands in spirit of fellowship. The roll call was taken with 52 voting delegates which determined a quorum was present.

President Norm Farrell welcomed the delegates and visitors. Visitors included; Carl & Hazel Smith and Mary & Sterling Sandlin of the West Coast Area, Paul & Nita Walker, Caller from the Jacksonville area and George and Rita Deschambeau, Caller from Central Florida Area and Editor's of Bow & Swing.

The minutes of the May meeting were suspended with one correction being noted: the name of Florence Long was incorrectly printed as Joyce Long in the previous minutes. With this correction the minutes were declared official.

The treasurer's report given by Ron Knowlton, showed a beginning balance of \$7,475.76. Receipts during this period totaled \$2,050.50 and disbursements were \$906.93 for an ending balance in the regular checking account of \$8,619.33. When the \$3,000.00 in the Contingency Fund was added, the total net worth of the Florida Federation is \$11,619.33. Net proceeds of \$1,464.65 from the 1986 State Convention made up the larger portion of the receipts. (See attachment #1) Audit was performed by ~~Dave Nihart~~, Virgil Green, and Ron Knowlton and finance records declared in order. *Frank Smith*
There had been no correspondence to the Federation during this reporting time.

AREA REPORTS

NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION - Reported by Aaron & Erma Fry

We had a dance on the Riverwalk on Flag Day, June 14, 1986, that was attended by approximately 1200 dancers in spite of the rain. Some of us spent four hours inflating balloons that contained messages about beginner classes but the weight of the water from the rain kept the balloons from rising.

Another dance was held on the Riverwalk on September 6th. The square dancers would dance a tip and the audience would participate. Quite a few students were realized from this exhibition.

Classes started in September with fewer clubs having classes this year but most classes are pretty good size.

This weekend has been our annual Fall Round-Up with Marshall Flippo and Tim Marriner doing the calling and Irv and Betty Easterday cueing the rounds.

There will be one consolidated New Year's Eve dance with six callers in two halls. Wayne and Barbara Blackford will cue the rounds. This dance is in celebration of fifty years of square dancing and the Spirit of '86.

AREA REPORTS - Continued

NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION - Reported by Ron & Cupie Knowlton

We held our summer meeting August 23, 1986, in Pensacola, Fl. at the Western Sizzler Steak House. This was held in conjunction with the Rambling Rose Square Dance Club's 3rd anniversary dance. We elected our new slate of officers for the 1986-1987 year. The 1986 State Convention Chairman Frank McCallister reported that the profit from the convention would be approximately \$1,500.00 after all bills are paid. Clubs were encouraged to hold membership dances with Northwest contributing up to \$200.00 to help with expenses.

Our last meeting was held at the National Guard Armory in Chipley, Fl. on October 25, 1986 in conjunction with our Fall Round-Up. We installed our new slate of officers which are;

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| President | - | Conrad & Belle Bishop |
| 1st Vice President | - | Tom & Jean Hancock |
| 2nd Vice President | - | Anneita Gilbourn |
| Recording Secretary | - | Mark & Lynda Kearse |
| Corresponding Secretary | - | Ron & Cupie Knowlton |
| Parliamentarian | - | Joe Vaccari |
| Newsletter | - | Joe & Joy Vaccari |
| Treasurer | - | Frank & Betty McCallister |

Treasurer, Betty McCallister reported that we now have 349 individual members and 32 clubs in Northwest. Participation in the USDA Insurance Program is 30 clubs covering 1,141 individual dancers.

The highlight of our 1986 Round-Up was a special award presentation. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Vaccari (Joy) were presented a plaque and citation for over 10 years of outstanding leadership and service to the Northwest Association. We encouraged our members to submit other dancers who have made special contributions to promote square dancing for consideration for special awards. In addition, we are formulating a program to recognize dancers each year as "Square Dancer of the Year".

Our next meeting will be in Panama City, Florida, on January 31, 1987 in conjunction with the Annual Panama City Square and Round Dance Association Festival.

We used the Grand Old Flag, which was flown over the National Convention in Baltimore in 1984 for our pledge service at the Round-Up. It will be flown over the State Capital in Tallahassee and then sent to two more states and then it will have flown over all the states in the U.S.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION - Reported by Dewey & Donna Hendricks

Being newly elected President's our year is going good, even though it has been hard to fill the shoes of our past president Howard & Vivian Wilson.

Our membership continues to increase. We celebrated Square Dance Month with a balloon release and a square dance demonstration, which got coverage from Channel 6 news media. An afternoon square dance demonstration in the park at Winter Park was also a part of our celebration. The spectators were thin due to the rain. On September 14th we held a Heart Benefit dance and donated over \$700.00 to heart research. At the end of the dance some dancers donated blood to the Central Florida Association Blood Bank account.

AREA REPORTS - Continued

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION - Continued

As a good will gesture, the Association donated \$200.00 to the U.S.D.A.

Our Annual Picnic Camping Weekend and General Meeting was held on October 3-5, 1986 and went very well. There were 23 camping rigs and more than 80 people for the covered dish dinner and dance on Saturday evening.

On November 28th & 29th, Central Florida will sponsor a weekend Holiday Dance at the Expo Centre in Orlando, Fl. As we will be using the facilities for the 1988 State Convention, we would like to invite you to join us for this festive occasion.

On January 31, 1987, we will have our regular 5th Saturday dance at the Travis Recreation Center in Cocoa. Our caller will be Frank Bedell and K.O. and Phyllis Williams will cue the rounds.

A special Anniversary Dance will be held on February 15, 1987 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Central Florida Association. This is a Sunday afternoon dance and will be held at the Loch Haven Recreation Center in Orlando.

WEST COAST ASSOCIATION - Reported by Elvin & Dolores Mahan

On Sunday, September 28, 1986, the West Coast Square & Round Dance Association elected new officers.

Gerald and Dolores Ault, out-going Presidents, had a lovely ball in their honor. There were 24 squares on the floor. Dolores and I will have big shoes to fill.

The new officers are:

| | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------------|
| President | - | Elvin & Dolores Mahan |
| Vice President | - | Mario & Lena Gatto |
| Secretary | - | Ray & Joan Corcoran |
| Treasurer | - | Len & Jean Eaton |

On November 2nd we had a membership dance at Strawberry Square in Plant City with 32 squares on the floor.

November 7th and 8th, the 11th Annual Fall Fun Fest Dance was held in Lakeland. We had two days of "top Notch" dancing with 700 dancers in attendance.

SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION - Reported by Frank Habersberger for Jim & Rosemary Davis

The Southeast Association began a new year with the election and installation of the following officers:

| | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|
| President | - | Jim & Rosemary Davis |
| Vice President | - | Garland & Carole McKenzie |
| Secretary | - | Paul & Marie McClain |
| Treasurer | - | Phil & Ceil Walk |
| Membership Chairman | - | Tiny & Alice Webb |
| Insurance Chairman | - | Frank & Georgia Trott |

AREA REPORTS - Continued

SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION - Continued

Renewal dances were held in August and September. The September renewal dance was the largest ever! At the September renewal dance, 500 balloons were released in a celebration of the "Spirit of '86". Dancers cooperated with the Southeast Callers Association by displaying bumper stickers that carry phone numbers for people to see if they might be interested in square dancing. Each county has stickers with a local phone number on it.

On September 22, Association dancers participated in the entertainment at a rally for Governor Bob Graham, at the Sunrise Musical Theatre. At the end of the rally Gov. Graham, presented to Frank and Nan Habersberger the proclamation making the family of dances including square dancing, the Folk Dance of the State of Florida. We were all so proud of the accomplishment and of Frank and Nan, who were the State Chairmen of the campaign to reach this goal.

Past Presidents were honored at the October Clinic. Regretfully the SOS (Southeast October Spectacular) had to be cancelled because of a lack of registrations. The December 14th clinic will be followed by our annual Christmas dinner.

The Association is sponsoring a New Year's Eve celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Western Style Square Dancing.

We regret that we could not attend the Federation meeting. We offer congratulations to all new officers who will be elected at the meeting. We will be representing Southeast Dancers Association at the Southeast Callers Association meeting on November 16th.

PUBLICATION REPORTS

BOW & SWING - Reported by Rita Deschambeau

Several Bow & Swing Subscription Dances will be held in the coming months. On November 22, 1986, a dance will be held at Leesburg with the Circle Weavers, December 6, at Deltona with the 4 Towne Squares and December 7, at Ft. Pierce with the Sandy Shoe Steppers. In February a dance will be held at Sebring on Feb. 1 and at Pompano on Feb. 8. We are planning a dance at Ox Bow Hall in Pinellas Park, but the date has not been set. Today, we have had an inquiry about a dance in the Jacksonville area.

You probably have noticed we finally were forced to raise our prices. Subscriptions are now \$6.50 per year, which is still probably the most reasonable in the country for the size and quality of a magazine published monthly. Ad prices have been adjusted to reflect proportionate cost of preparing the various sizes of ads. Where to Dance listings will be \$15.00 per year. Some clubs have changes almost monthly in the Where To Dance listings, and all changes are accommodated at no extra cost.

We wish to thank the Area Associations for sending in their monthly news items.

PUBLICATION REPORTS - Continued

4-W's - Reported by Frank Habersberger for Boots & George Olgesby

We are still here! As we have mentioned before, we are scheduling the put-together at different clubs throughout our area. At the present time we have 3 locations and have one more to go.

This policy is being done with the complete cooperation of the dancers, clubs and callers. After the work is finished, we dance and socialize with the sponsoring group.

Hopefully we will see you at the Working Weekend.

GRAPEVINE - reported by "Shad" & Clarice Shadwell

With the last issue, Clarice and I celebrated our first year as editors of the Grapevine. It is hard to express the satisfaction we have received from working with and meeting so many fine people involved in this, our favorite hobby. Our thanks to all those who have encouraged and helped us.

Our subscription level is now at 394 and appears to have leveled off.

We had a subscription dance in June sponsored by caller's George Wolfert and Jerry Barrett, and cued by Barbara & Wayne Blackford. It was a huge success. We have already announced this will be an annual event.

Our new club directory, which goes out to all subscribers, was published with our last issue. This directory is divided into three reference areas: Caller to Club, day of the week to club and club location in the city with address, contact person and dance level.

We have to give a great big "Thank You" to the Gateway Caller's Association and the club officers of the Northeast area for recognizing us as being present where ever we go and allowing us to promote our magazine.

Our telephone number is listed in the Yellow Pages of the Donelley Yellow Page book under Square Dancing and Northeast Florida Square and Round Dance. We receive at least one or two calls per week.

It has been a pleasure meeting and speaking with the other editors in Florida and the Florida Federation Officers at the Fall Round-Up this weekend. We appreciate your recognition. Thank you.

KEEPIN' POSTED - reported by Leo & Mary Richardson

Keepin' Posted is undergoing further changes. With the lack of interest in paid advertisement, new avenues for funding our publication are being tried. Our next issue will feature a "Patron's Page". This is where square dancers, from all over Central Florida, send their Christmas greetings by signing their name and making a donation of \$1.00. We plan to use this method again in our June issue with the message this time being to congratulate the graduate.

Even though we have reduced the number of copies we print, Keepin' Posted is still sent to all Association members and made available to the clubs throughout Central Florida. We presently mail out almost 300 copies and printed 1,000 for our last issue. The extra 700 to be distributed by the Area Directors to clubs.

PUBLICATION REPORTS - Continued

PANHANDLE PRESS - reported by Joe & Joy Vaccari

There is no change in our last report.

WEST COAST DANCER - reported by Jack Pierson

We are currently printing 5,000 copies of the West Coast Dancer. We found some of our directories were incorrect and are proceeding to rectify this.

Our editorial staff has been newly revised; Chris Nissen is the East Editor, Al Subatch is the North Editor and Jack Pierson is the South Editor.

I would not like to operate this magazine without our complete staff. We have a fine slate of officers and with their cooperation we have the best magazine in the state.

With Ray & Joan Corcoran's computer, Gerald & Dolores Ault's computer and Jack & Marie Pierson's computer, we are almost totally computerized.

We wish you all Holiday Greetings.

CONVENTION REPORTS

1986 Convention Report - presented by Frank & Betty McCallister

This will be our final report. Our total attendance was 2,700. This was approximately the same as last year with almost no participation by the Florida Cloggers.

The final treasurers report is enclosed and shows a grand total of \$5,858.61 distributed to the four sharing agencies. (See attachment #2)

The clogging program had such a small participation that I recommend it be discontinued for future conventions.

I feel a major problem is developing in the area of caller support for the convention. The major, well-known caller attendance at the convention has been dropping off each year, and if the trend continues, it may be necessary to go out of state to obtain satisfactory support. I suggest a committee be formed at the working weekend to study this problem and that the Callers Association be invited to participate in this committee.

In keeping with our tradition of short reports, Betty, Tillie, and I conclude by thanking each and every member of the Federation for their outstanding support of "Swing and Mix in '86". Without your help we would have failed.

1987 Convention Report - presented by Murl & Sally Herbert

Sally and I visited the Round Dance Council executive board at the Knothead Konvention and then visited the meeting of the Round Dance Council to outline the ideas the Executive Board of the 34th State Square and Round Dance Convention had in presenting the next convention. I was very well received and promised the full support of both groups.

CONVENTION REPORTS - Continued

1987 Convention Report - Continued

The Callers Association invited me to meet with the executive board on Friday morning October 17th and the Florida Callers Association meeting on Sunday morning October 19th. Not being able to make the Friday meeting, we did present the new ideas to the Callers Association and the response was very warm and encouraging.

Today, I want to share with you an outline of this new idea for the next State Convention. The basic philosophy of this convention is a festival for the benefit of the dancer. It will be a fun filled week-end with adequate space, good sound, and Florida's very best callers in prime time.

Hall usage will be on a continuous basis with the arena as the Mainstream hall, mixed with rounds for the basic and lower level round dancer. The Convention Hall will be split into a 3/4 - 1/4 hall giving the plus dancer 50% more room as they will use the 3/4 side of the hall. The 1/4 hall will give the A-1 dancer 100% more room than they had previously. The key to this arrangement is the sound and I am assured by Earl Steele and Ervin Gross it will be good sound. The A-2 will be in Hall A and Rounds in the theater in the evening.

The round dancer will be able to dance on nearly a continuous basis as we program the larger hall for the lower levels and the smaller hall for higher levels and in addition have a 2 + 2 program in the Mainstream and Plus halls.

"87" Musical Highlights will be all musical calls from 10:30 to 11:30 every night featuring solo's, duet's, trio's, etc. in both the Mainstream and Plus halls to cap off each evening's dancing.

The program presented by the Callers Association will be one of the best. Saturday night in the arena for example will be, Deschambeau, Mitchell, Schneider, Bennett, Wilson, Barker and Springer. The plus hall will be Lasry, Saunders, Barnes, Humphreys, Rod, Prystrupa and Bedell, just to give you some idea as the Callers Association support. Earl Steele is doing the A-1 and A-2 programming and the "87" Musical Highlights program. We have special fun type segments in both the Mainstream and Plus halls. There are no workshop type programs, only 1 1/2 hours intro to the next level on Saturday. We believe this is truly a dance designed for the dancer.

Now the dancer needs to be encouraged to come to this convention. This is where we need your help and support. We have the Round Dance Council and the Callers Association support, now, I challenge you to bring the dancer to this State Convention "A Dancers Heaven in '87".

1988 Convention Report - presented by Howard & Vivian Wilson

Most of our primary committee chairmen have been chosen and much of our background work has been started.

The average hotel rate in Orlando is higher than Lakeland, so we are spending a lot of time attempting to get the lowest price for our dancers. We are having good cooperation from hotel management so we expect to have a good selection of quality rooms available within a ten minute drive of Expo Centre.

Pee Wee and Mary Stewart have agreed to advise us on Protocol. With their experience and concern they should be able to keep us on the right track.

CONVENTION REPORTS - Continued

1988 Convention Report - Continued

We wish every success to Murl & Sally Herbert and the 34th State Convention. We know it will be a great event and we hope to learn a lot by watching their operation.

1989 Convention Report - presented by Aaron & Erma Fry

The Northeast Association will be in charge of the 1989 State Convention, with Aaron and Erman Fry as General Chairmen.

The convention will be held in Orlando at the Expo Centre. The contract was signed in April after a tour of the facilities at the Expo Centre.

Committees will be chosen in the near future.

Pres. Norm Farrell appointed Virgil Green and Frank Smith to serve on the Audit Committee. They will meet with the current treasurers Ron and Cupie Knowlton and incoming treasurers Frank and Nan Habersberger during our break time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Finance Committee - Ron Knowlton

(1) State Tax Exemption - The recent question in regards to the Federation's obligation in regards to paying or not paying Florida State Sales Tax has been investigated at both the local and state level without receiving a clear answer to the problem. Since the evidence is non-conclusive, nothing can be done at this time.

Further research is in order with the results to be brought to the Federation's attention at the Working Weekend.

It was suggested that at the meeting in January, a committee be assigned to review the findings and make a recommendation to the Federation.

(2) Tax Filing Procedures - To assist the treasurer of each State Convention, when filing the final report of the finances of the convention, a Schedule A form has been devised. This form lists the receipts and expenses in the format needed for filing the Internal Revenue Service Form 990 by the April deadline.

A motion was made by Ron Knowlton to add to the Job Description and Duties of Federation Officers under the office of treasurer a section #7 which gives the outlines for filing the Internal Revenue Form 990 and that a copy of the Schedule A format be included. Motion was seconded and carried. (See attachments #3 & #4)

President Norm Farrell requested that the treasurer be responsible for obtaining the necessary 990 forms for filing since they are not automatically mailed to the Federation. Schedule A is a form that is filed with the Internal Revenue Form 990 and should be provided to the State Convention treasurer for reporting income and expenses of the convention.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Continued

b. American Folk Dance of the State of Florida - Frank & Nan Habersberger

With surprising speed and within ten days of each other's decision, the Florida State House of Representatives on May 14th and the State Senate on May 20th, passed Resolution HCR-740 in unanimous decisions. This resolution designated the six related dance forms: Square Dancing, Round Dancing, Clogging, Line, Contra and Heritage Dances as the "American Folk Dance of the State of Florida".

Because of the Governor's busy campaign schedule, a proposed Celebration Dance, to be held behind the old State Capitol at Tallahassee, with the Northwest Association as Host, was postponed. It was later rescheduled for Southeast Florida, some 500 miles to the southeast. The Host Association was now the Southeast Association, under the very capable leadership of President Jim and Rosemary Davis.

The public presentation of the signed resolution took place on September 22nd at the Sunrise Musical Theater in Sunrise, Florida. Southeast Association dancers put on a square dance exhibition with 7 squares (all the small stage would hold). Dennis Humphreys, representing the Florida Callers Association was the caller. Chris Rawls, representing the Florida Clogging Council, was the clogging instructor. He and his Magic City Cloggers of Miami put on a lively clogging exhibition. Both exhibitions were flawless and the audience loved them. There were 2,000 people in the audience and they kept time clapping to the beat of the music. Phil and Dot Carey, representing the Round Dance Council of Florida, were ready to cue a few rounds, but the time schedule did not permit this exhibition.

Later, Nan and I, joined on stage by representatives from every Florida state organization involved in the six dance forms, received the signed Resolution HCR-740 from Governor Bob Graham. The whole campaign took just 6 months and this speedy victory was attributed to the keen interest, support and cooperation of all Florida state organizations, their regional member associations, the state square dance publication, Bow & Swing, and all five area association publications. Everybody worked and everybody won!

Florida is the 6th state to have achieved this designation. State victories are important as they are building blocks for victory at the national level.

c. National Folk Dance Campaign - Frank & Nan Habersberger

The progress report, unfortunately, is not good. We learned on Wednesday November 5th from George and Ann Holser, Co-Chairmen of the National Folk Dance Committee, (of California), that we lost the National Campaign in the U. S. House of Representatives on October 11, 1986.

This defeat is especially disturbing to Nan and me, as we have been appointed to be the new National Chairmen starting in January 1987, when the new campaign and committee will be under the jurisdiction of United Square Dancers of America.

There will be some changes made in strategy after January 1st. This past campaign is the last one to be run by a state. The new National Folk Dance Committee will be composed of appointees from every national organization involved in the six dance forms shown in the resolution and all 50 states will have a representative on our committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Continued

c. National Folk Dance Campaign - Continued

We won in Florida because we all pulled together and worked for our victory. That is the way it has to be at the national level. And that is how we are going to win in 1987. We are in the process of formulating our new strategy and will discuss this at the upcoming workshop meeting of the Florida Federation.

d. Florida Showcase of Ideas - Frank & Nan Habersberger

We thank all Association Presidents and their members for their very excellent participation in manning the Showcase, and for bringing in the 200 pounds of sea shells. The shells were a great hit and brought large numbers of dancers to the Florida Showcase.

The following figures reflect the large attendance at our Showcase:

4,000 - 1987 Florida State Convention stick-ons.
1,000 - "Raise Cane" stick-ons (from sugar industry)
100 - "Sunshine" stick-ons from Ft. Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce
400 - Florida Map pins
5,500 dancers received stick-ons or pins

Of over 200 pounds of sea shells, only 3 pounds were left at the end of the convention. No actual count was made of dancers who collected these shells.

The guest "sign-in" book contained the following: 406 couples and 111 singles for a total of 923 signers.

We had a good location and our Showcase was very well attended. We also had some very nice comments from the dancers.

e. Square Dancer Preservation - Chet Vetter

There is not much to report at this time. We do hope to get reports from the clubs on classes and Mainstream dancing. I would like to have people from all over the state send me a short note telling me what they are doing in regards to classes and mainstream. The information we need is how many classes are being held and the number of students in the classes. This information will be published in the national magazine about every 6 months so we can keep a better check on the programs.

f. Square Dance Insurance - Joe Vaccari

We continue to have activity in the 1986 insurance program well into October. Since our last reporting period, May, 1986 the financial statement shows a beginning balance of \$388.39 with receipts in the amount of \$677.40, disbursements of \$672.41, leaving a current balance in the account of \$393.38. These funds are a sub account of the Florida Federation treasurer, using the same federal tax number.

The 1986 enrollment is as follows:

| <u>Area</u> | <u>Assn's</u> | <u>Clubs</u> | <u>Dancers</u> | |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------|
| Northwest | 2 | 28 | 1141 | |
| Northeast | 1 | 22 | 1034 | |
| Southeast | 1 | 10 | 506 | |
| Central | 1 | 4 | 317 | |
| West Coast | 1 | 3 | 313 | |
| | <u>6</u> | <u>57</u> | <u>3311</u> | Totals |

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Continued

f. Square Dance Insurance - Continued

During 1986 we have issued 61 insurance certificates to clubs or associations. There were 26 certificates of additional insured issued and no claims processed. Education of the insurance program has been a problem. I am pleased to report that we will have a committee meeting of insurance chairmen, and anyone else who is interested, at the Working Weekend. We hope that when we meet together, we can review the program to see if any changes are needed. Also, there will be a panel workshop at the 1987 State Convention in Lakeland.

The 1987 insurance program is as follows:

1. Information on the 1987 insurance program was sent to all Association insurance chairmen and presidents on October 15, 1986. The letter urged that enrollments start immediately to obtain maximum benefits, that is for the full calendar year.
2. The 1987 program is identical to the 1986 program except for the following:
 - a. General liability has been increased to \$4,000,000.
 - b. Affiliate member cost will be \$1.85 per dancer.
 - c. Minimum fee for clubs will be \$25.00.
3. Additional informational packets that include a detailed explanation of the program have been provided to all associations at this meeting.
4. I cannot overstress the importance of a club having insurance:
 - a. More and more owners of dance facilities are requesting that they be named on the Insurance Certificate. In 1986 we had 25 and expect an increase in 1987.
 - b. Liability coverage was provided to all association functions and to the State Convention at no additional cost.
 - c. We have seen an increase in some association's membership because of the additional benefit provided by the Association (Insurance).
5. In summary, I urge that all associations actively promote the insurance program. To assist in promotion, the association should include the name, address, and telephone number of their insurance chairman in the Bow & Swing listing of association officers.

Many telephone inquiries for additional insured have been received too close to the time the insurance is needed. Please get your request in at least 30 days before the event for which insurance coverage is needed. It takes about this long to process the paper work. This is a national problem. Since dance calendars are set up well ahead, please contact me as soon as you know you will need this additional insurance.

President Norm Farrell stated that the new president of the Florida Callers Association was George Deschambeau. George was invited to give his report.

George reported that the Florida Callers Association had done some extensive research into their records to see if any caller had ever been named an honorary member of the FCA. Finding none, he was proud to announce that Frank and Nancy Cherry, caller for the Pensacola Special Steppers, was the first caller to be so honored. A certificate and badge will be presented at the State Convention.

UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA - reported by Howard Wilson

Membership in USDA has reached 180,000 square dancers in 22 states from Massachusetts to California. These figures were announced at the annual meeting held in Indianapolis, Indiana on June 27, 1986. No update has been announced since that time.

Named as treasurer for the second year are Frank & Nan Habersberger. Also, effective January 1, 1987, they will assume the duties as Chairmen of the National Folk Dance Committee. Joe & Joy Vaccari have assumed the responsibility for the USDA Showcase of Ideas display at National. All this, in addition to overseeing the USDA insurance program for the whole state of Florida. All of us owe these two fine couples a lot of gratitude for their extra efforts and dedication.

USDA needs the support of all square dancers in order to finance all their activities to promote our activity on a national scale. The following promotional items are available at low cost to help finance projects. If all dancers participate we should have ample funds for our activities.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Decals | \$ 1.50 |
| Membership Badges | 2.00 (all Florida dancers are considered members) |
| USDA museum badge dangle | 1.00 |
| White windbreaker | 25.00 (jackets are lined, postage is extra) |
| 8" X 11" banner | 2.00 (plus postage) |
| 24" X 26" banner | 9.50 (plus postage) |

Hopefully all 5 associations will encourage and set the pattern for all their area clubs to participate. As chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, we have many of these items on hand for you. If you need more we will be glad to re-order and supply you. Come and get them!

The mid-year meeting of the USDA will be held January 23-24, 1987 in Rochester, New York. All meetings are open and all interested dancers are encouraged to attend and contribute.

HALL OF FAME - reported by Leo Richardson

The names of nominees for the Florida Hall of Fame should be submitted by January 1st to George and Rita Deschambeau. Qualifications for nomination are:

1. Ten or more years involvement in the dance activity in the state of Florida.
2. Nominee can be dancer, caller cuer, promoter, organizer, teacher, vendor or publisher.
3. Nominee must have had a SIGNIFICANT effect on the activity STATEWIDE.

Resumes received are sent to the Selection Committee composed of 19 couples (whose names are kept secret - even one from the other), and are a good mix of callers, cuers and dancers from all areas of the state. It takes a 2/3 majority vote of the Selection Committee for election to the Florida Hall of Fame.

We hope to have a Hall of Fame Dance in the St. Petersburg area in mid-winter. The financial report of the Hall of Fame shows a balance of \$382.85 which has been turned over to Leo & Mary Richardson, new treasurer of the Hall of Fame committee.

HISTORIAN- presented by Jean Fultz

At the request of our president, I have purchased an album, holding 200 pictures, with refill available, to serve as a pictorial record of Federation activities.

With this, the Ford's and I have contributed some pictures for consideration, and hopefully many of the rest of you will do likewise. If you have any pictures of your induction into the Federation as president or officer, please contribute it to the future historian.

I shall pass this, along with some early Federation records, loaned by Chet Vetter, to the new historian. These records, Bow & Swing, etc. should be returned to Chet as they are the only copies available. Additional materials may be also obtained from Chet.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Presidents Norm and Joyce Farrell selected the Liver Foundation as the recipient of the \$100.00 President's Charity Fund award.

b. Nomination Committee Report - given by Joe Vaccari for Chairman Celeste Crawford

The nominating committee of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers recommend that the following names be placed in nomination for the respective offices for the year of 1986-1987:

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| President: | Jean Fultz |
| Vice President: | Leo & Mary Richardson |
| Secretary: | Ron & Cupie Knowlton |
| Treasurer: | Frank & Nan Habersberger |
| Parliamentarian: | Dave & Shirley Nihart |

There were no nominations from the floor. Virgil Green moved the nominations be closed and a unanimous ballot be cast for the slate of officers as presented. Motion seconded by Frank Smith and carried.

Jean Fultz accepted the office of president and thanked everyone for their vote of confidence. She stated there were a couple of items to be brought up under new business.

NEW BUSINESS

a. State Convention Callers - Conrad Bishop

The problem of callers at the State Convention was brought up by Frank Mc-Callister in his 1986 convention report. Murl Herbert has attacked the problem and we are pleased and hope it answers our questions. These questions are:

1. Originally the Florida Federation hired out-of-state callers for the state convention.
2. Florida Callers Association requested that they call for the convention at no cost.
3. The Federation accepted this proposal.
4. For about 10 years the Florida Callers Association has provided callers.
5. In recent years (5-8) the better Florida callers have been signing up to call out of state and other events within the state at state convention time, leaving our dancers with only a select few. The rest of callers at convention were average or poor.

NEW BUSINESS - Continued

a. State Convention Callers - Continued

6. The largest numbers of dancers attending the convention are at low levels (new dancers) and dancers who have been told how great it is to attend a state convention (ABSOLUTELY WONDERFUL). These dancers have been and continue to be the very backbone of the convention. Without them there would literally be no convention, since they make up such a large proportion of the attendance.
7. The better callers at the convention are almost always assigned to call for smaller groups who are dancing at higher levels. They may call in the main arena for one tip, two tips or not at all.
8. This year it was wonderful to see all squares dancing, without breaking down, immediately following the Grand March. They had 2 or 3 excellent callers. But, if you had waited until these callers left and other callers came in, you could have seen number of breakdowns, as well as smaller numbers of dancers.
9. The present system of scheduling callers is not working satisfactorily. A convention of this nature should be planned to afford the greatest number of dancers the better callers --- not for the benefit of the much smaller groups of dancers.
10. Advanced and challenge dancers are only a small fraction of the dancers attending the State Convention, but an overwhelming number of our better callers are assigned to these groups. They have callers for three levels, while there are only two for the average and less talented dancers. This is not to say that these groups should not have good callers. It is simply stating that they should not have them to the near exclusion of the other dancers.
11. The Callers Association should be made aware of our concern regarding the EXODUS of the better callers at State Conventions. We could give the callers a year or two to correct this situation or go back to hiring out-of-state callers who would call for hours at a time. Remember that the Florida Callers Association gets 25% of net preceeds.
12. We are losing many new dancers and older ones too, who are unhappy with the calling. They say the State Convention is not fun - - and they can dance to better callers at home.
13. It is my suggestion that his problem be scheduled for discussion and possible action by the Florida Federation at the Working Weekend.

Pres. Jean Fultz asked Conrad Bishop to chair a committee which will be formed for the Working Weekend. She suggested George Deschambeau or another caller from the Florida Callers Association attend the committee meeting. Several Federation delegates volunteered to serve on this committee. President Fultz will take their offer under consideration when setting up the various committees for the Working Weekend.

George Deschambeau requested permission to speak. He informed the Federation that in addition to having prime callers for the Saturday evening dance at the 1987 convention, the Friday evening agenda would also feature the better callers. The dancers in the Mainstream and Plus halls WILL be treated to good callers in the prime times at the convention. He stated that many of these callers have not been with us for a couple of years but will be a part of the convention in 1987. We are proud of the kind of program we will have during prime time at the next convention. George stated that he would be at the Working Weekend.

President Fultz reminded everyone that this coming year's schedule is not typical. The problem has been going for several years.

NEW BUSINESS - Continued

b. Video Tapes for Showcase of Ideas - presented by Chet Vetter

Those of you who attend our National Conventions and look at the Florida Showcase, have found Florida probably has been one of the top dispalys since the Showcase started in Louisville several years ago. We find Florida is being rapidly overtaken by a number of states. This is excellent.

I have come up with an idea that might help our image and improve our Showcase. Video tapes is the rage today. Florida has a tremendous number of excellent festivals with Florida callers, some of the top callers in the country. These festivals could be taped. However, editing of the tapes will cost. It has been suggested this editing be turned over to a professional.

One of the problems of hiring a professional, he/she might not be a square dancer and therefore would not really know what should be shown. What I am looking for is, someone, who is even a semi-professional, who does this for a hobby, to give us a hand. This is just my idea and I have thrown it out for discussion, maybe not at this meeting, but could be brought up at the Working Weekend.

Rita Deschambeau stated that Jim Louder, a caller in Central Florida, does video tapes for a hobby. She was given permission to ask Jim to attend the Working Weekend in January and bring his ideas and lend his voice to our plans.

President Fultz announced the Working Weekend will be held on the weekend of January 17 and 18, 1987 at the Strawberry Squares in Plant City. She has arranged for the Federation to stay at the Holiday Inn for a cost of \$33.00 per night per couple. There will be a dance on Saturday night at Strawberry Squares with Ed Foote calling. Following the dance, Carl & Hazel Smith have generously invited the Federation members to their home for an after-party.

Dewey Hendricks announced that 1,000 dancers are needed to participate in the half-time show at the Citrus Bowl in Orlando on New Year's Day. He has flyers to be given to each area association to take back home to invite dancers to lend a hand.

This performance will be on national television. It is being choregraphed by Danny Robinson and will be a part of a square dance, western & patriotic show featuring the Gatlin brothers.

Dancers will be treated to a meal and a special dance as they will not be able to see the game due to a sell-out crowd. Anyone who can help is urged to phone the number on the flyer to arrange for their participation.

Ron Knowlton announced that all area association have paid their 1986-87 dues.

President Fultz presented out-going presidents Norm & Joyce Farrell with a gift and plaque in appreciation for their achievements as presidents for 1985-86.

Norm And Joyce accepted the gifts and thanked all Federation delegates and officers for their support. They also thanked everyone who came to Jacksonville for this meeting. He had been concerned about changing the meeting place.

There being no further business, President Fultz, declared the meeting adjourned.