



# FLORIDA FEDERATION of SQUARE DANCERS

MINUTES JANUARY 17, 1988

The second session of the Federation Working Weekend was called to order by President Leo Richardson at 9:00 A.M., Sunday, January 17, 1988.

The Invocation was given by Nan Habersberger. President Leo Richardson welcomed all new Delegates, guests and visitors. Mary Richardson expressed her appreciation for the large attendance, as a large percentage of those attending had to drive 250 miles or more.

A card of appreciation was received from Cliff & Jean Allen.

A Roll Call was taken, with 55 voting Members present and it was determined that a quorum of voting members were present.

The following Committee Reports from yesterday,s Workshop were given:

## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Meeting was called to order by Dave Nihart, Chairman, at 1:15 P.M. Committee Members consisted of: Dave Nihart, Pee Wee Stewart, Joanne Wheatley, Joy Vaccari, Esther Stoltz and Ron Knowlton.

### Proposed Budget for 1987-1988

President's expenses	\$ 350.00
Vice President's expenses	100.00
Secretary's expenses	600.00
Treasurer's expenses	40.00
Parliamentarian's expenses	250.00
Flowers and remembrances	125.00
Meeting expenses	75.00
Promotional handouts	600.00
USDA Annual Dues	100.00
Bank Service Charge	50.00
Unforseen expenses	350.00
	<u>\$2,640.00</u>

### Anticipated Revenue

Federation Insurance Fund	\$ 100.00
State Convention	2,000.00
Association Dues	250.00
Bank account interest	300.00
	<u>\$2,650.00</u>

### Recommendations:

Use in-house Publishers such as Bow & Swing and other Publication publishers for printing documents such as minutes, etc.

We, the Budget Committee recommend that all concerned stay within the projected Budget.

We recommend the statement made in the minutes of Jan. 19, 1986 and repeated in the minutes of Jan. 17, 1987 be incorporated into the standing rules.

The Statement is as follows:

Any request for expenses not allocated in the budget be submitted in writing to the President 45 days prior to a scheduled Federation meeting.

This statement was placed as a Motion and was carried.

A Motion was placed to accept the Budget and was carried.

#### SQUARE DANCER PRESERVATION

Committee Members: Frank Habersberger, Chairman; Donna Hendricks, Secretary; Paul McClain; Betty McCallister; Julia Vetter; Jean Fults; Ken Ford; Muriel Chabot.

It was recommended that, for reaching the largest number of non-dancers, all Clubs and associations participate at State fairs, Bazaars and Festivals. Information should be made available to interested non-dancers immediately after participating, as to location and starting dates of the new Square dance Classes.

It was also suggested that Beginner Classes be staggered through the year as regards starting dates. To accommodate the Winter people, one Caller in Central Association area has a Class running between November & April of one Winter and finishing to Mainstream in the following Winter in the same time period. It was reported that Ken Anderson started a new Class in a Mobile Home Park with 5 Squares and it quickly expanded to 15 Squares. Ken has unexpectedly uncovered an area (Mobile Home Parks) that other Callers and Clubs might be well to look into. Jean Fultz received an inquiry from Buz Nocera, the Secretary of the Florida Callers Association in which he asked us to share with them our findings and any recommendations we wish to share with their Callers to improve Dancer retention. It is obvious that we are not alone in our concerns and that our Callers want to work with us to take corrective measures. Accordingly, our President, Leo and Mary Richardson has asked us to send a copy of this Report to Buz for his information and guidance.

Other recommendations are: Dancers completing Mainstream should be given a formal Graduation at that level and not be held captive to Class up to Plus level, against their wishes. When Dancers are absent for a few dances, a Club Officer or Caller (if a Caller run Club) should phone and inquire why they are not dancing. There could be sickness, and a show of concern is important. Also, to keep our fellowship alive, new Class members should be advised that there is a position ready for them when they graduate, so they can help others as they have been helped.

As these discussions developed, we realized that there is a need to have someone to carry out the above recommendations. A vote was taken to recommend to the Board that a permanent Chairman position be established by our President, and that a Chairman be appointed to follow up and act on these recommendations, to deal with the needed publicity and communication and record and report progress where made.

This Motion received unanimous approval. It was suggested that this Chairman select from each Association, their consent, a couple to be on their Committee, and to coordinate their efforts with a similar appointee from the Florida Callers association. An initial objective would be to prepare a list of Fairs, Bazaars and Festivals in Florida which provide the greatest potential for gaining new dancers and to publicize these opportunities in Bow & Swing and all Association Publications. Hopefully, an interested, effective Chairman would bring to the next Florida Federation Meeting, a report of growth and progress in recruitment of new Dancers, rather one of concern.

A Motion was made to the Board to empower the President to appoint a permanent Chairman to take care of the problem of Square Dancer preservation and it was carried.

### HISTORY OF THE FEDERATION

The Meeting was called to order by Cupie Knowlton at 3:00 P.M. on Saturday Jan 16, 1988. Committee Members were: Cupie Knowlton; MaryLee Van Valkenburg; Jack Taylor; Marjorie Powe; Anneita Gilbourn.

Function: To arrange for both written and pictorial record of the Federation, utilizing all possible sources including personal recollections.

It was decided that each member will take about six years of the past minutes and research for the significant events like when the Federation started, why, who the governing body was, etc., and compile a recap of important events of each year.

- (1) List all past Presidents, dates, date of death for those deceased.
- (2) How many Associations when started & date when additional Associations joined.
- (3) Level of dancing.
- (4) Ways & Means of Callers chairmen.
- (5) Copy of the original Charter, Constitution & By-Laws.
- (6) Conventions: date, place, Chairman & CoChairman, Host Association Caller & Cuer Chairman. Number of admissions. Admission cost, Cost of putting on the Convention. Profit, etc. Picture of promotion outfit, buttons, ribbons, Flyer.
- (7) Showcase of Ideas at the National Convention.

All committee members agreed to meet again sometime during the State Convention in May and compile information gathered. We ask that anyone having any historical information please talk with or write to these members.

MaryLee Van Valkenburg will be gathering information for the year 1957 or beginning through 1963.

Jack Taylor	1964	thru	1970
Marjorie Powe	1971	"	1977
Cupie Knowlton	1978	"	1983
Anneita Gilbourn	1984	to	present.

It is recommended that the Federation arrange for a photographer hopefully a volunteer to be responsible for getting pictures for the History and designate what shots we want, Like one of the Executive Board at the installation of Officers meeting, a large one of the entire delegate body at the working weekend, new Delegates, etc.

Our goal is to have the entire History compiled by the November, 1988 Meeting and thereafter each year's events can be compiled and added. We recommend laminating the History for preservation when completed. A Motion was placed with the Board to use a Photographer to take pictures for the History and it was carried.

### PUBLICITY

The Meeting was called to order by Winnie Subatch, Chairman. Committee Members included: Ed Powe; Merle Alexander; Lori Pumphrey; Carol Poole; Ed Pierce.

Area Publications are our most available asset. They should be placed with all Chambers of Commerce and Hotels. All Clubs and Associations should put notices of events in each of the five Publications in the Calendar of Events section. Advertisements free or paid could also be placed in these booklets.

Make an effort to get more articles into the newspapers and more public service announcements on TV. Get to know your news people. Take TV employees to lunch.

The Florida State Fair held in Tampa the beginning of February each year invites Clubs from all over the state to put on demonstrations.

The best publicity to attract new dancers is still word of mouth. Also, demonstrations held at Church fellowship country nights, Malls, etc. These demonstrations should bring the audience into the Squares for a feel of the dance.

P.S. ED Powe states - Square Dancing is instrumental in stopping the cigarette habit.

### SHOWCASE OF IDEAS

The Meeting was called to order by Sally Herbert, Chairman. Committee Members were George Wolfert; Bill Wheatley, Ed Pumphrey; Dottie & Lou Vogel; and Pat Peardon, Secretary.

The Committee decided to use the same theme as the last 2 years, which is a 5 ft. high by 20 ft wide mural of various Florida highlights providing we can ship or have someone volunteer to take it. We all agreed not to have sea shells or sand as California is a coastal state. Five tables 30" X 96" have been requested.

We would like to use stickers as handouts as they were well received in 1987. The orange stickers will not be used as California is known for their oranges. The 1000 remaining stickers will be retained for the 1989 Showcase in Oklahoma City. A sticker similar to those used by the 1987 state Convention committee, will be used, except they will be solid green without the year. We estimate about \$350.00 to \$400.00 for 10,000.

Each association will be responsible for their material to and from the Convention. We will also need help in the transportation of items. If we cannot find willing dancers to take the items there will be a shipping expense.

The lighted badge board needs to be revised and Jim Peardon and Lou Vogel have volunteered to do this.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) The map with pins is in poor condition and we ask for permission to discard this item.

(2) We ask for approval to spend a maximum of \$400.00 for handout stickers.

(3) We ask for funds to repair and update the lighted badge board - Maximum \$50.00.

The above three recommendations were placed before the Board in separate Motions. Motions on (1) and (2) were carried. However, the Motion on (3) was tabled for the May, 1988 Meeting.

#### INSURANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Meeting was called to order by Joe Vaccari, Chairman. Committee Members were Harvey Shriver; Randy Poole; Jean Allen; and Jim Peardon.

The purpose of the Committee was to review the insurance program as administered within Florida. The program as discussed in detail and it was agreed that the program is operating satisfactorily. Several questions on procedures were resolved with one question concerning definition of the 100% Membership requirement as it relates to an Association deferred pending further investigation.

The Committee determined that an insurance panel at the State Convention will not be required this year since information on the program is considered to be widespread.

The Committee reviewed the FFSD Insurance Program books and bank account and found them satisfactory. Attached is a copy of the Insurance report dated January 15, 1988, which is made a part of this report.

The FFSD Insurance Chairman announced that a new Chairman should be appointed to administer the 1989 program. This appointment should be made by the May 1988 Federation Meeting.

After the general discussion on USDA Insurance coverage by the Members of the Board following this report, Joe Vaccari informed all that the five Association's Insurance Chairmen were well informed on all matters concerning this Insurance and invited individuals and Clubs wanting to join, to contact them.

Square Dance Insurance Report: See Attachment #2.

#### EDUCATION AND SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

The Meeting was called to order by Nan Habersberger, Chairman. Committee Members were: Marie McClain; Marcy Hamel; Mae Ford; Mary Stewart; Nancy Wolfert; and Zonie Taylor.

The first item discussed was the idea of having consolidated Classes.

One Association has had a good experience with this type class, but others have tried it, and it did not work out well. The main problem seems to be with the competition between Clubs at the end of the classes, as to who is going to get the new Graduates in their Club.

It is recommended that if several Clubs would like to sponsor one Class that they get a neutral Caller and that each Club take turns sending Square Angels to help the Class.

Mixers: The Committee agreed that it is a good idea to use mixers at least once during each dance. We must educate the Callers to do this. Some mixers to be used are:

- (1) Computer Squares
- (2) Progressive Squares
- (3) Either Single or Couple tag dances
- (4) Ending the dance in a circle and saying good-night as they do a grand right & left.

Unattached Men & Women:

We need to promote Square Dancing in places having both Couples and Single Men & Women, such as:

- (1) Retirement Centers
- (2) Mobile Home Parks
- )3) Churches

We challenge our Men dancers to get their Single Men friends and acquaintances into Square dancing through personal invitation.

Youth: The best place to reach the youth is through the School systems, if possible. Some Callers are working toward establishing Clubs for teen-age Square Dancers in the schools.

Another possibility for enlisting youth in square dancing is through contacting youth Leaders in Churches and having them plan a Square Dance for the young people. It could be that a Class would evolve out of a one night stand such as this.

STATE CONVENTION PROCEDURES & COORDINATING COMMITTEE COMBINED.

This Meeting was called to order by Howard Wilson, Chairman. Committee Members were: Virgil Green; Lou Chabot; Murl Herbert; Cliff Allen; Eddie & Ann Millan; Ella Shriver; Joyce Farrell; Aaron & Erma Fry; Carol & Carl Rod; and Howard & Vivian Wilson.

Recommendations from the Committee on Convention Procedures are as follows:

The Convention General Chairman shall request a member of the Florida Callers Association and Round Dance Council to serve as Vice Chairmen of the Convention Committee, subject to approval of their respective Organizations no later than 2 years prior to their Convention.

The Florida Callers Association and the Round Dance Council shall reply to the Convention Chairman no later that 30 days following their next Meeting.

CENTRAL HALL FEASIBILITY

This Meeting was called to order by Norman Farrell, Chairman. Committee Members were: Chet Vetter; Roland Hamel; Ron Van Valkenburg; Shirley Nihart; Al Subatch; Bill Alexander; Walter stoltz

The purpose of this Committee was to study the feasibility of building a permanent Hall large enough to accommodate a State Convention; location, fund raising and further study.

Our Committee arrived at the following conclusions:

(1) Location

- a. Such a Hall would have to be in a central location situated

near adequate Motels in order to attract as many Square Dancers as possible, also so that it could be rented to other than Square Dance functions. We would recommend a site near Orlando or Plant City.

(2) Cost of Hall and Land

a. Space requirements - as a minimum, five (5) separate Halls to accommodate the various types of dancing for 5,000 dancers and parking for 2,000 cars.

b. Cost of building estimated at \$40.00 per sq. ft.

c. Land - 20 acres at \$25,000 per acre.

d. \$6,500,000 total cost of building and land.

NOTE: After initial building and land cost, there will be continuing maintenance and operating cost that is not possible to calculate at this time.  
Rental of the Hall on a seven-day basis would hopefully cover these costs.

(3) Fund Raising

a. We feel that the most logical method of raising funds for such a venture would be to issue bonds.

EXAMPLE: With an estimated 10,000 dancers in Florida, each dancer would be required to purchase a bond at \$650.00 or \$1,300.00 per couple for a total of 6.5 million dollars. The payback on these bonds would come from hall-rental revenue.

This Committee does not feel that such a venture should be undertaken at the present time; However, if at some later date it became feasible, we would recommend that the Coordinating Committee be the driving force behind such an ambitious project.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: By President Leo Richardson - The next meeting of the Florida Federation will be Sunday May 29, 1988 at the State Convention, Expo Centre, Orlando. Meeting will start at 10.00 A.M. in the large Meeting room, Room A, 2nd Floor

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by: Frank & Nan Habersberger  
Secretary