

# FLORIDA FEDERATION of SQUARE DANCERS

MINUTES, SATURDAY JANUARY 19, 1991

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE BONGO ROOM AT THE ECONO LODGE AT 3300 W. COLONIAL DRIVE, ORLANDO, FL BY PRESIDENT DAVE NIEHART.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS GIVEN BY DAVE NIEHART.

THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN BY DONNA HENDRICKS.

THE ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN WITH 53 VOTING DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES PRESENT. THE PRESIDENT DECLARED A QUORUM WAS PRESENT.

DAVE NIEHART WELCOMED GUESTS AND VISITORS.

MINUTES: MOTION MADE AND ACCEPTED FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.

TREASURERS REPORT; BY DEWEY AND DONNA HENDRICKS-SHOWING A CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE OF \$5,974.92, \$3,000 IN THE CONTINGENCY FUND AND \$5,784.56 IN A "C.D." FOR A TOTAL NET WORTH OF \$14,759.48.

CORRESPONDENCE: PENSACOLA SPECIAL STEPPERS RETURNED THE \$1,000.00 DONATION FEDERATION GAVE FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL. LETTER FROM GEORGE AND BOOTS OGLESBY ABOUT A MEETING TO REVIEW THE PROCEDURES FOR BIDDING FOR A NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION. LETTER FROM U.S.D.A. ABOUT CHANGES IN MEETINGS.

AREA REPORTS: WERE GIVEN BY NORTHEAST, CENTRAL, NORTHWEST, SOUTHEAST AND WESTCOAST.

PUBLICATION REPORTS: WERE GIVEN BY GRAPEVINE, WESTCOAST DANCER, KEEPIN POSTED, PANHANDLE PRESS AND 4W'S.

## CONVENTION REPORTS

1991 - CLIFF & JEAN ALLEN:

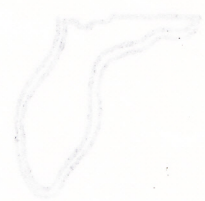
1992 - LOU & DOTTIE VOGEL: WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF ANY AREA WHERE SPECIAL DANCES ARE PLANNED, IF THEY WOULD LET US KNOW SO THAT WE COULD PLAN TO ATTEND AND ADVERTISE THE 92 STATE CONVENTION. MAIL ALL SPECIAL DANCES WITH DATES TO: MELVIN & DOROTHY MOULDIN, 795 BEAR CREEK ROAD, BARTOW, FL 33830.

1993 - LEO & MARY RICHARDSON:

1994 - DAVE & SHIRLEY NIEHART:

INSURANCE REPORT: RANDY POOLE REPORTED 9 ASSOCIATIONS, 88 CLUBS AND 5,441 DANCERS ENROLLED IN 1991. ADDITIONAL NAMED INSURED CERTIFICATES ISSUED 27, CLAIMS THIS YEAR 0. CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE 890.29.





COMMITTEE REPORTS

U.S.D.A. REPORT BY DUKE & DORIS MCCLESKEY & JOE & JOY VACCARI

THE UNITED STATES SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA WILL BE HOLDING ITS MID-YEAR EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN RICHMOND VIRGINIA DURING JANUARY 25-27, 1991, AT THE SHERATON AIRPORT INN. ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO BUSINESS AND REPORTS WHICH ARE TO BE PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING DURING THE 40TH NATIONAL IN SALT LAKE CITY WILL BE ACTED UPON, TOGETHER WITH THE FINAL READING OF THE REVISIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS, WHICH WILL ALSO BE ACTED UPON BY THE MEMBERSHIP DURING THE ANNUAL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY JUNE 26, 1991 AT THE PEERY HOTEL IN SALT LAKE CITY. THOSE INTERESTED IN THE ACTIVITIES OF USDA ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THIS ANNUAL MEETING. JOE VACCARI REPORTED ON THE TWO PRESS RELEASES. USDA SPRINT PROGRAM AND SQUARE DANCERS VISA CARD.

LEGACY: NO REPORT

HALL OF FAME: NO REPORT

NATIONAL FOLK DANCE: DUKE & DORIS MCCLESKEY: THE (STATES) AMERICAN FOLK DANCE COMMITTEE HAS CONTINUED THEIR DEDICATED WORK, RECRUITING STATE CAMPAIGN CHAIRMEN. FRANK & HELEN CAVANAUGH, THE LEGACY CHAIRMEN ARE DOING AN OUTSTANDING JOB, WHILE DORIS AND I RENDER ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FROM THE UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA SIDE. TWELVE STATES HAVE ALREADY PROCLAIMED THE SQUARE DANCE AS STATES WHOSE CAMPAIGN CHAIRMEN ARE ACTIVELY 'LOBBYING' THEIR RESPECTIVE STATE LEGISLATURES FOR PASSAGE OF THE PROCLAMATION THIS SESSION, WHEN THESE FIFTEEN ENTER THE FOLD, OVER 50% OF THESE UNITED STATES WILL HAVE VOTED THE FOLK DANCE OF THEIR STATE AS SQUARE DANCE. WITH OVER 50% OF OUR COUNTRY DECLARING, USDA CAN BEGIN THE 'LOBBY' OF THE US CONGRESS TO PROCLAIM - SQUARE DANCE THE NATIONAL FOLK DANCE OF THE UNITED STATES. IT IS AN OBTAINABLE GOAL - THE YEAR 1991 CAN SEE THE PROCLAMATION OF THE SQUARE DANCE AS OUR NATIONAL FOLK DANCE!

ASCAP - ASCAP & BMI COMMITTEE REPORT BY GEORGE & NANCY WOLFERT, CHAIRMAN: DAVE NICHART READ A REPORT FROM GEORGE & NANCY WOLFERT THAT DIDN'T GET INTO THE LAST MINUTES. THE REPORT STATED WE WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT NOT ALL CALLERS AND CUERS ARE MEMBERS OF CALLERLAB AND ROUND-LAB. I WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT THESE ORGANIZATIONS NEGOTIATE TO COVER THESE NON-MEMBERS AS WELL AS A STATE LICENSE WOULD BE ISSUED TO CALLERLAB AND ROUNDLAB, ONLY THIS WOULD JEOPARDIZE A LARGE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER WOULD CHOOSE NOT TO BELONG TO AN ORGANIZATION. THIS WOULD ALSO ADVERSELY AFFECT ANY CLUB WHOSE CALLER OR CUER IS NOT PRESENTLY A MEMBER OF THIS ORGANIZATION. WHICH BRINGS TO MIND ALL THE GREENIE CALLERS OR AMATEUR NITES THAT ARE HELD BY ANY INDIVIDUAL CLUBS. NEGOTIATIONS AS THEY STAND NOW COULD MEAN ANY PERSON THAT PLACES A RECORD ON A CALLERS TURN TABLE AND ATTEMPTS TO ENJOY HIS OR HER MOMENT IN THE SPOTLIGHT MIGHT BE PLACING THEMSELVES IN JEOPARDY OF A LAW SUIT AND OR A HEALTHY FINE IF THE FIGURES RECEIVED IN THE THREAT BY US ARE ANY CRITERIA. ANOTHER ISSUE TO BE KEPT IN MIND IS



FESTIVALS AS WELL AS STATE AND NATIONAL CONVENTIONS. THESE EVENTS COULD BE SUBJECT TO FINES FOR EXCEEDING AN INCOME BY THE EVENT, EVEN IF ONE NON-LICENSE CALLER OR CUER SHOULD APPEAR ON THE PROGRAM. I SUPPOSE THESE LAST REMARKS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CALLER LAB RATHER THAN STATE ASSOCIATION OF DANCERS. BUT WHEN I THINK OF PANDORAS BOX BEING OPENED, THE TRICKLE DOWN THEORY, AS WELL AS THE EFFECT OF OUR INDIVIDUAL POCKET BOOKS AS WELL AS THOSE OF OUR CALLERS AND CUERS. AS OF JANUARY 1, 1991 AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF ASCAP/BMI AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM CALLERLAB/ROUNDLAB. IN OCTOBER OF 1990, THE PRESIDENT OF USDA REQUESTED THAT A USDA REPRESENTATIVE BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND THE STRATEGY SESSIONS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF CALLERLAB AND ROUNDLAB TO VOICE THE INTERESTS AND CONCERNS OF THE SQUARE DANCERS IN THE MATTER BEFORE THEM, PRIOR TO THE FINAL NEGOTIATIONS BEING ENTERED INTO. HOWEVER, AN INVITATION TO ATTEND THE STRATEGY SESSIONS WAS NOT ISSUED. AS A RESULT OF THERE BEING NO INPUT FROM THE DANCERS HAVING BEEN CONSIDERED IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS, THE FINAL AGREEMENT (ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT SEEN A COPY) CONTAINS SEVERAL POINTS THAT ARE NOT TO THE ADVANTAGE OF THE DANCERS. USDA ALSO REQUESTED A COPY OF THE CONTRACT AGREEMENT IN ORDER THAT COPIES OF IT COULD BE DISTRIBUTED TO AFFILIATES TO FORESTALL ANY HARASSMENT BY AGENCIES OF ASCAP OR BMI. AS OF MONDAY, JANUARY 14, THIS FINAL CONTRACT AGREEMENT HAD NOT BEEN RECEIVED. AS PREVIOUSLY STATED, WE HAVE NOT SEEN A COPY OF THIS CONTRACT BUT INFORMATION RECEIVED BY US INDICATES THAT CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS MAY HAVE TO PAY ADDITIONAL LICENSING FEES TO ASCAP AND OR BMI FOR REGIONAL, STATE-WIDE AND OTHER SPECIAL DANCES HELD, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE CALLERS OR CUERS HIRED FOR THESE EVENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN LICENSED THROUGH THEIR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATIONS. IN VIEW OF THIS REQUIREMENT, AS CHAIRMAN OF THIS COMMITTEE WE DO NOT FEEL THAT WE CAN OR SHOULD HONOR THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT NEGOTIATED BY CALLERLAB/ROUNDLAB. HOWEVER, WHEN WE HAVE READ THE FINAL AGREEMENT WE WILL BE BETTER ABLE TO DETERMINE OUR NEXT COURSE OF ACTION. WE ONCE AGAIN STRONGLY URGE THAT NO INDIVIDUAL OR ASSOCIATION REPLY TO ANY CORRESPONDENCE FROM EITHER BMI OR ASCAP NOT ENTER INTO ANY NEGOTIATIONS WITH EITHER OF THESE AGENCIES. THE ORIGINAL INTENT OF THE COPYRIGHT LAW AS PERTAINS TO MUSICAL WORKS WAS TO PROTECT THE ORIGINAL ARTIST OR COMPOSER FROM THEFT OF THEIR WORKS BY ANOTHER PERSON WHO IN TURN WOULD CLAIM SUCH WORKS AS THEIR OWN. IT IS OUR OPINION THAT ASCAP AND BMI HAVE GONE BEYOND THIS ORIGINAL INTENT BY DEMANDING PAYMENT OF FEES FROM NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS FOR USE OF THESE WORKS. WE THEREFORE REQUEST THAT AREA PRESIDENTS ASK THEIR DANCERS TO CONTACT THEIR U.S. SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ASKING THEIR ASSISTANCE IN REINSTATING THE NON-PROFIT EXEMPTION AS EXISTED PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 1978 IN THE COPYRIGHT LAW. A UNITED EFFORT IN THIS DIRECTION MAY BRING ABOUT RESULTS THAT WILL BENEFIT OUR ENTIRE ACTIVITY. AFTER REPORT FRANK HABERSBERGER ADDED BY STATING THAT ON BEHALF OF USDA AND AS FAR AS FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS THERE IS ONLY ONE CHAIRMAN AND THAT IS GEORGE & NANCY WOLFERT AND IF ANYONE HAS ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THEM. ONLY THOSE CHAIRMAN ARE AUTHORIZED TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THIS BOARD AND THAT ANY REPORT THAT HE MAY HAVE IS TO RECAP THAT THE AGREEMENT ARRIVED AT BETWEEN ASCAP/BMI, CALLERLAB AND ROUNDLAB IS THIS. CLUBS THAT HIRE CALLERS AND CUERS WHO ARE LICENSED ARE



RELIEVED OF THE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS. IT CARRIES ONE OTHER PASSAGE THAT WE BELIEVE THAT GEORGE & NANCY AREN'T IN AGREEMENT WITH, AND THAT IS THAT REGIONAL, STATE WIDE AND OTHER SPECIAL DANCES MAY REQUIRE LICENSES. LICENSES REGARDLESS OF THE CALLER AND CUERS THAT ARE HIRED. FRANK STATED THAT USDA CONTACTED THE USDA ATTORNEY AND ASKED TO INVESTIGATE IF IT IS LEGAL FOR ASCAP/BMI TO ATTACH AN ADDITIONAL LICENSING FEE TO THE ORGANIZATION WHILE AT THE SAME TIME BEING PAID A LICENSING FEE BY THE HIRED PERFORMERS, CALLERS AND CUERS FOR THE SAME EVENT. ALL INCOME FOR THE CALLERS AND CUERS COME FROM THE DANCERS AND THEY PAY THE LICENSING FEE FROM THAT INCOME. FRANK STATED THAT HE HAS AIR EXPRESSED THIS INFORMATION TO THE ATTORNEY AND HE EXPECTED A REPLY SOON. AS SOON AS HE GETS THAT REPLY HE WOULD PASS IT ON TO GEORGE & NANCY WOLFERT. JOE VACCARI MADE A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE FLORIDA FEDERATION DO NOTHING UNTIL A REPORT COMES FROM THE USDA ATTORNEY. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JOE VACCARI THAT THE FLORIDA FEDERATION IS TO DO NOTHING UNTIL A REPORT CAN BE OBTAINED FROM USDA ATTORNEYS. SECONDED BY AL SUBATCH. MOTION CARRIED. PRESIDENT, DAVE NIEHART, READ A NOTICE FROM BOOTS OGLESBY. THE BASES OF THE NOTE WAS TO INFORM THE DANCERS OF WHAT THE CALLERS FEES ARE THROUGH THESE NEGOTIATIONS. THE FREQUENCY OF UP TO 50 DANCERS PER YEAR AND ALL APPRENTICES THE FEE IS \$52.50. INSURANCE IS \$15.00 AND DUES IS \$60.00, TOTAL \$127.50. FOR MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS UP TO 150 DANCES PER YEAR. CALLERS FEE WILL BE \$75.00, INSURANCE IS \$15.00 DUES IS \$60.00, TOTAL \$150.00. FOR A MEMBER OR SUBSCRIBER WITH 151 TO 300 DANCES PER YEAR HIS OR HER FEE WOULD BE \$105.00, INSURANCE \$15.00, DUES \$60.00 MAKING TOTAL FEE \$180.00. FOR MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS WHO CALL OVER 300 DANCES PER YEAR \$140.00, INSURANCE \$15.00, DUES \$60.00, TOTAL FEE \$215.00. THESE ARE FOR U.S. CALLERS. THEY ALSO HAVE FEES FOR CANADIAN AND OVERSEAS ASSOCIATES. THEIR RATES ARE \$60.00 DUES, TOTAL FEE \$60.00. ASSOCIATES \$45.00, TOTAL FEE \$45.00. IF A LIMITED LICENSE DESIRED CANADIAN CALLERS FEE IS \$52.50, \$60.00 DUES, TOTAL \$112.50. ASSOCIATES \$52.50 CALLERS FEE \$45.00 DUES \$97.50 TOTAL. AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS FIRST YEAR \$100.00 DUES, TOTAL FEES \$100.00. AFFILIATE ORGANIZATION AND RENEWALS \$70.00 DUES, TOTAL FEE \$70.00. THESE ARE THE FEES THAT CALLERS MUST PAY NOW THAT THEY HAVE SETTLED WITH ASCAP/BMI.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

THE FOLLOWING DELEGATES HAVE NOT ATTENDED A MEETING IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS AND THEREFORE WILL BE MOVED TO NON-VOTING MEMBERS. THE SECRETARY WAS INSTRUCTED TO SEND LETTERS TO: BUNNY (WHITEMAN) SCOTT, MAE FORD AND FRED & CELESTE CRAWFORD.

INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL - SPECIAL STEPPERS - THEY HAVE RETURNED OUR CHECK DUE TO NO FOREIGN TRAVEL.



NEW BUSINESS:

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE PROGRAM OF OCTOBER 27, 1990.

WE HAVE RECEIVED MANY PHONE CALLS AND LETTERS FROM THE SQUARE DANCERS AND SQUARE DANCE CAMPERS IN FLORIDA AND FROM THOSE AS FAR AWAY AS ILLINOIS, COLORADO AND CALIFORNIA, IN REGARDS TO THE SLANDEROUS, DEGRADING PORTRAYAL OF THE SQUARE DANCE ON THIS PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY. THE CALIFORNIA SQUARE DANCE COUNCIL AND THE COLORADO FEDERATION HAVE REQUESTED THEIR MEMBERS TO SIGN PETITIONS AND SENT THESE PROTESTS TO NBC. THEY ALSO WROTE TO THE SPONSORS OF THAT PROGRAM, ADVISING THEM THAT THEY WOULD NOT BUY THEIR PRODUCTS UNLESS AN APOLOGY IS FORTHCOMING. AS THIS BROADCAST WAS NATIONAL IN SCOPE, WE RESPONDED FOR USDA TO SHOW OUTRAGE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL AND WE USED THE SERVICES OF THE USDA ATTORNEY FOR LEGAL GUIDELINES. MUCH OF THE PROBLEM LIES IN THE FAILURE OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO REGULATE BROADCASTING AND THERE IS EVIDENCE OF THIS IN OTHER BROADCASTS. WE REMINDED FCC THAT, WITH EXISTING LAWS, IT HAS THE POWER TO REVOKE OR REFUSE TO RENEW A STATION'S LICENSE IF THE STATION VIOLATES ITS STANDARDS TOO MUCH. WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY REPLY FROM NBC ON OUR REQUEST FOR AN APOLOGY AND A STATEMENT THAT IT WILL DESIST FROM MAKING ANY FUTURE PORTRAYAL OF THE SQUARE DANCE IN SUCH A DEGRADING, UNTRUTHFUL MANNER. WE HAVE HOWEVER, RECEIVED AN ENCOURAGING REPLY FROM OUR CONGRESSMAN, LARRY SMITH, REGARDING THE FCC'S RESPONSE, IN WHICH HE HAS ASKED FOR A REPORT FROM THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS AND WILL SEND US A REPLY WHEN RECEIVED. THIS SUBJECT IS ON THE AGENDA OF THE MID-YEAR MEETING IN RICHMOND, VIRGINIA ON JANUARY 25 & 26, 1991 AND THE SEVERAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE USDA ATTORNEY, MR. JAMES W. HYDEN, WILL BE REVIEWED. USDA AND ITS AFFILIATES HAVE MAILED OUT SOME HEAVY NEGATIVE PUBLICITY AGAINST NBC AND ITS IS DOUBTFUL IF THEY WOULD ENGAGE IN SUCH A RECKLESS EXCURSION AGAIN, OF DEGRADING THE SQUARE DANCE IN ANY FUTURE BROADCAST. WE HAVE PROVIDED THE PRESIDENT, DAVE & SHIRLEY NIEHART, WITH COPIES OF CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND SENT ON THIS SUBJECT, AS RESOURCE MATERIAL FOR ANYONE WHO WISHED TO PURSUE THIS MATTER FURTHER. WE DO HOWEVER, CAUTION AGAINST MAKING ANY THREATS AGAINST NBC, BUT CONFINE YOUR DEMANDS SOLELY TO REQUESTING AN APOLOGY AND A PROMISE TO DESIST FROM MAKING ANY ADDITIONAL SLANDEROUS PORTRAYAL OF THE SQUARE DANCE IN ITS FUTURE BROADCASTS. WE SHALL KEEP THE FEDERATION INFORMED ON ANY NEW DIRECTION USDA MAY TAKE IN THIS MATTER.

MURL HERBERT MADE A MOTION TO EXPEDITE AND SIMPLIFY THE MINUTES. HE MOVED THAT DISPENSE WITH THE REPRODUCTION OF THE PUBLICATIONS, AREA REPORTS AND CONVENTION REPORTS IN THE MINUTES EXCEPT THESE ITEMS THAT ARE VITALLY IMPORTANT DETERMINED BY THE PERSON GIVING THE REPORT OR BY THE SECRETARY. SECONDED BY AL SUBATCH. QUESTION ON THE MOTION FROM GEORGE OLGESBY SUGGESTED THAT AREA REPORTS BE PHOTO COPIED AND ATTACHED TO THE MINUTES TO HAVE A WAY TO REFER BACK. BOOTS OGLESBY ASKED THAT THEY NOT BE DELETED BUT CONDENSED DUE TO THE FACT THAT THEY ARE THE BACKBONE OF THE ORGANIZATION. MURL REPLIED THAT VITAL INFORMATION WOULD BE INSERTED. MURL WAS ASKED IF HE WOULD LIKE TO



