



# FLORIDA FEDERATION of SQUARE DANCERS

## MINUTES OF FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS MEETING OF SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1994

The last meeting of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers was held in Orlando at the Ramada Resort Maingate on February 19, 1994. The meeting was called to order by President Cliff Allen, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was given by Anneita Gilbourn. The roll was called with 73 officers and delegates present. A quorum was declared. It was moved and seconded that we dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion carried. The minutes were approved as written. Visitors to the Federation were introduced and then welcomed by the President.

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Don and Bonnye Bell

Checking Account Balance as of 14 Nov. 1993 \$

#### Receipts:

##### Account

501	State Convention	\$
511	Assoc Dues (WC&NW)	
521	Interest	
		_____
		\$

\$

#### Disbursements:

##### Account

701	President	
703	Vice President	
705	Secretary	
709	Parliamentarian	
717	Refreshments	
725	Bank Charges	
		_____
		\$

Checking Account Balance as of 31 Dec. 1993 \$

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Checking Account	\$
Contingency	
CD First Union	
	_____
	\$



President Allen thanked Worley and Nan Carrier for setting up the working weekend accommodations. He noted the Federation's pleasure at being part of the Victory Ball.

### **ASSOCIATION REPORTS:**

#### Central - George and Shirley Knapp

Central Florida Association held a most successful dance with Ed Foote at the Kissimmee Agricultural Center on 29 January 1994. The dance was very well attended and we were quite pleased that our National Chairman Worley and Nan Carrier were present to promote the National Convention. Honorary Life Membership was presented to Dewey and Donna Hendricks for their long standing contributions to Square Dancing in Florida.

Our account in the Central Florida Blood Bank has passed 100 units as of the end of 1993. It is the policy of CFA to give one free admission to each blood donor for upcoming dances. Mr. David Russell having donated a total of 67 pints as of the end of the year was presented a Certificate of Appreciation and lifetime admission to all future Central Florida Association Dances.

We are all looking forward to our annual Camping in the Woods experience. This has become a standard in our calendar of events and continues to grow in popularity. It provides a chance to spend two days and nights in fun and fellowship and is capped off by a pot luck dinner Saturday evening followed by a fun dance.

Our next dance will be held in April, the Presidents Ball, at which time we will elect and install new officers to carry us into 1995.

#### Northeast - Charlie and Val Newsome

Our annual Fall Festival, November 19th and 20th was a success thanks to our local callers and cuers and Tony DiGeorge from Louisiana, and Kit & Hoss Waldorf from Tallahassee. We averaged 25 squares per night. We also presented the Annual Dance Couple of the Year Award to Hollis & Mary Fowler for their contributions to Square Dancing.

Well, MURPHY did it again, though not quite as bad. Our Jan. 29th 5th Saturday Dance at Sandalwood High School started on a bad note with rain pouring outside. Everyone knows what the sound of "running water" can do to a person. You guessed it---only the ladies room was open and the school custodian had been called away on an emergency. After a few "anxious" moments and a sharing attitude, all turned out well and the dance didn't have to be delayed. Total relief for the 20+ squares that showed up for our FREE dance came during the second tip when the custodian returned and returned our breaks to normal.



Our next 5th Saturday Dance will be April 30th at Sandalwood High School with John Saunders, R. J. Hogan and Donna Heins. Come join us if you can.

Our annual blood drive, under the guidance of Joe & Barbara Fitzmayer of the Mandarin Marauders Club, has nearly doubled the blood donations over the last years total of 63 units. At last count we had a count of 123 units donated with the final count still in question. We could very well reach our goal of at least 126 units.

Our Annual Blood Bank Dance will be March 5th at Forest High School in Jacksonville. All blood donors are admitted free and all donations will be given to the FL/GA Blood Alliance. Thanks to our 5th Saturday Blood bank Dance Chairmen Ed & Helen Williams for setting up the dance and obtaining the services of Lon Ligon of Gainesville, Ernie Rollen of Middleburg, Sam Atkinson of Jacksonville, and Jim & Barbara Winter of Jacksonville, all of whom have agreed to donate their time and talent for this charity dance.

The Board's retrieval of Association banners awarded at the 5th Saturday Dances is still alive. Since our last retrievals were during the Christmas season, we went "CHRISTMASY". The "NEFSARDA MINISTRALS", consisting of reindeer, candy canes, Christmas Trees, Christmas presents, a chimney (with Santa inside), and one (angel)?, went their merry way spreading Square Dance cheer. We had to literally "go over the line" to get to one club. It seems that one of our camping clubs, The Gypsy Squares were in Silver Springs, in Marion County (sorry Central). I must tell you that NEFSARDA has discovered it has "safe drinkers". While at the Silver Springs motel on Friday night after the dance, one of our dancers commented that the Coca Cola tasted "funny". After close examination of the individuals cup we discovered the cellophane wrapper STILL on the cup.

NEFSARDA started another off-cycle beginners Square Dance class on Jan. 29th. We have 2 1/2 squares under the guidance of George & Nancy Wolfert as Class Coordinators, and Eddie Milan the instructor. We have requested that each Mainstream and Plus club in the local area furnish one Angel couple for each class night (a total of four couples per class night). So far, the clubs have been cooperative and, with luck, we will provide at least two squares of new dancers to our Association clubs in the spring or early summer. While these Association classes are not large, we are able to get some people whom we feel may have not waited until next September to get into a class and we are slowly getting the clubs too realize that we are trying to increase THEIR membership and not to be in competition with them. HAPPY DANCING.

#### Northwest - Anneita Gilbourn

The Northwest Association seated their new Board in October. President Anneita Gilbourn, Vice President Dodges, 2nd VP Cable, Treasurer Scofield, Recording Secretary, Peterson, Correspondence Secretary Stewart. We have many classes going on in our area. Plans are getting underway for our annual Round-up on October 21 & 22 and for the State Federation board members & delegates visit when they will hold their fall meeting in De Funiack Springs.



Our membership has held on even though we have lost 11 dances to death since Oct. 93. Our Dancer of the Year is Bob & Elva Dodge. Our Callers Association hosted a Sweetheart Swing Dance last week and all class members were invited & they danced every other tip. It was a treat to them to hear so many voices and versions of calling especially our Englishman who has yet to learn to say Right instead of ROT. We are also very busy visiting & selling shirts, bars etc. for the Ways N Means of the '97 Nationals.

<sup>EAST</sup>  
Southwest - Garland and Carole McKenzie

In December, we traveled to Fort Pierce for our annual Holiday Cookie Dance. This dance was very well attended. Our annual picnic in January was also well attended considering the cold rainy weather we had that day. The weather did not dampen the spirits of the dancers who attended. In February, we held our first SEA dance in Miami since Hurricane Andrew. At this dance we had 14 squares.

This summer we started a Disaster Relief fund in our association. Thus far over \$500 has been contributed to the fund by caller's who place the Disaster Relief bottle out at their dances, clubs and individual dancers. One of the clubs in our area instituted a 50/50 raffle in addition to the bottle and have been able to donate over \$200 to the fund. We have made contact with the President of Associated Square Dancers of California located in the LA area. He has agreed to distribute funds to dancers affected by the quake. We sent them the first check this week. If any other association or club is interested in making a donation, we will be glad to give you the address. QUAKE DISASTER RELIEF bottles will be set up at the Victory Dance and all funds collected will be forwarded to California.

West Coast Association - Howard and Sally Hayes

Since the last report, the West Coast has held (6) membership dances at Ft. Myers, Sun City Center-Pebble Beach, Manatee R.V. Park, Pinellas Park, Sebring, and Mulberry. The number of squares has ranged from a low of (10) to a high of (31). We had a total of 112 squares for an average of 19 squares for each dance. Our membership for the year is 1310 which is 168 less than last year. Dick and Betty Stevens have done a fantastic job in bringing our membership list up to date - so the County V.P.S can use this list to contact previous members.

On Thursday, February 10, 1994, from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM, the West Coast Dancers participated in Square Dance, Round Dance and Line Dance demonstrations at the Florida State Fair in Tampa. At 2:00 PM the Fashion Show was well received by the audience. There were 180 dancers representing 15 Clubs for the demonstrations. Bob Christian and George Varney shared the calling responsibilities. Merle and Joann Lewis did an excellent job in setting up and emceeing the program. Many thanks to them as the West Coast has been invited back for next year's State Fair.



On Saturday, February 20, 1994, the West Coast dancers will participate in a Country Western Jamboree at Tampa Bay Downs Race Track. We anticipate having 8 squares with Sharon Short and Earl Steele sharing the calling.

Beginning in March, the West Coast will start two new programs to promote square dancing within the Association. They are the "West Coast Banner Bandit" and "Club Banner Bandit." Members of the West Coast Governing Council will visit the various clubs and steal their banner. The Club can retrieve their banners at the annual Fall Fun Fest Dance. A plaque will be provided to the Club which brings the most Club members to the dance and the Club which has the highest percentage of members attending. The "Club Banner Bandits" will be within the Clubs and the Club with the most banner bandits and most banner raids will receive plaques at the annual Fall Fun Fest Dance. The Florida Federation of Square Dancers' banner stealing guidelines will be used.

Since the West Coast only publishes the West Coast Dancer once every two months, the Association will meet at one of the Club halls or dance location on the month the magazine is not published. Have a short meeting and then attend the Club's dance. By doing this we hope to promote the West Coast and help the Club's attendance.

In between all the dances and other activities, the West Coast is promoting and signing up volunteers to work on the 46th National Convention in 1997.



## PUBLICATION REPORTS

### KEEPIN' POSTED: George and Shirley Knapp

Since our last report in November 1993 Keepin Posted of Central Florida continues to be alive and well. It still has growing pains and each issue presents some new hitches, but we are still committed to have an outstanding publication to offer our members. Our editor, Al Cody is continuing to put as much club information and personal news to interest the Central Florida dancers as he possible can. We want our members to read the publication not just receive it.

We have had to increase our distribution to 1200 copies of our June issue and 650 copies of all other issues to meet the demands of our growing membership roles. We continue to increase our advertising clients to the extent that we are close to covering the cost of each publication through the sales of advertisement. Keepin Posted still maintains the policy of accepting advertisement only from Square and Round Dance activities and individuals.

Yes, Keepin Posted is alive and well and we are sure that the quality, effectiveness, and timeliness of our publication will continue to grow.

### THE GRAPEVINE: Paul and Nita Walker

In 1953 Eddie Bowman started publishing a single sheet newsletter called THE GRAPEVINE. 1993 ends 40 years of publication. There have been 12 editors with Eddie Bowman serving the longest with seven years.

The Walker's have served as your editors from 1981 to 1983 and again from August 1989 to the present. This year starts our 8th year as your Editor. In 1982 we almost lost the use of the Grapevine name when a publication (also called the Grapevine) in St. Augustine wrote the Northeast a letter telling us to discontinue using the Grapevine name. Presidents George and Nancy Wolfert took action that allowed us to continue using the name.

In 1983 The Grapevine reached it's highest subscription level of just over 500. We now have around 315 paid subscribers. We want to thank all the dancers for subscribing and thank all those who advertise in the Grapevine.

The Grapevine supports The State Convention and The National Convention with free articles. We exchange publications with many other dancing areas.

During 1993 we have provided a Dancer Handbook for the State Federation. We also published a Northeast Club Directory which we placed on one sheet of paper. We have purchased a Computer for our personal use and we now use this to enhance the Grapevine. We have put our address listing on the computer and can now make address labels. The calendar insert is now on a computer file.



The Rollaways Square Dance Club and the Gateway Callers Association provides their members a subscription to the Grapevine as a benefit of membership.

PANHANDLE PRESS: Joy Vaccari for Gail and Ray Jones

We are still printing 500 copies. Our Panhandle Press includes two new features. One of which is a history of the NW Association which will take about two years to complete the total history. Joe is writing the articles and Gail is putting them in the paper one at a time. Each article is about 2 years and will take about 2 years total to get them all in. Gail and Ray have been experiencing some illness and they again were unable to attend this meeting. They are doing a fine job on the Panhandle Press and we certainly do appreciate it.

4 W'S: Carole McKenzie for George and Boots Oglesby

We are still here & printing 5000 copies. We have started our 29th year. Working hard to keep Square & Round Dancing going in our area.

Both George & I would like to say we are sorry we aren't with you this weekend as we both enjoy the working weekend. But it is too close to my next chemo. I would like to thank all of you those who called and the rest that dropped cards. Every one was really appreciated. The Doctors are saying that I am on the road to recovery. How long that will take, who knows. But the good Lord willing and the creek don't rise--we will see you at State.

West Coast: Ken and Sue Brown

On a personal note: We would like to express our sincere appreciation for your cards, notes and words of encouragement during Ken's recent period of recuperation, and we are delighted to report that he has been released by the doctors and has returned to work.

Plans for printing the West Coast Dancer have been hampered some what, but, we are now back on target.

Communication with callers, cuers and clubs has greatly improved, but continues to require constant attention.

Our goal is an error free edition.



### Bow and Swing: Whit and Sue Brown

For the last few months Bow and Swing has been a nice quality, on time, issue. Circulation is going up. In the last month a decision was made to contact all the Associations and we printed an article in the Bow and Swing, encouraging all to join their local associations with applications. And they can subscribe to their magazine right through there if they are not getting them. The emphasis is to support your local Associations as well as your dance Associations.

We are working for an error free magazine.

## CONVENTION REPORTS

### 1994: Dave and Shirley Nihart

All of our committees are working hard and we feel that everything is on tract for a great state convention.

We visited the Lakeland Civic Center the weekend of the Sunshine Festival and were very pleased with the arrangements that were made.

We are to receive 300 welcome bags from the Chamber of Commerce with the listing of restaurants and other points of interest in and around Lakeland.

The caller's schedule has been received and we are working on the program book. Hopefully within the next two weeks we will receive the round dance program.

So far there have been 830 ribbons sold and 919 buttons. We would like to meet our goal of 1000 buttons and 3000 ribbons.

Our next meeting will be held February 26th and a report will be given by each committee chairman so we will know what progress is being made and what needs to be done yet.

### 1995: Stan Hockman

All plans are on target at this time. We have received our ribbons. Badges are being made. We have had several practices through out the Southeast area and several more are planned.

We have added Jim and Jennie Runnels as are cuer chairperson.



1996: Cliff and Jean Allen

The '96 Convention Planning and Activities is on course with most of the Committee Chairman filled with volunteers; colors, motto, logo, and dress selected. Planning for the '95 Kick-off underway; and most of our money received from the Coordinating Committee.

President Allen welcomed the Callers and Cuers that were in attendance.

'97 National Square Dance Chairman: Worley and Nan Carrier

Recommended that everyone going to the Victory Ball double up because of the parking. There will be shuttle busses from the Convention parking lot to the Convention Center. He gave directions to the center. Grand March will be at 7:30 PM.

Mark your calendar for December 2 and 3 for a Booster Dance/Flea Market in Kissimmee.

Hall of Fame: Mary Richardson

We have received four resumes for consideration into the Hall of Fame. The selection committee will be receiving these shortly. If you have someone in mind to be nominated into the Hall of Fame please get their resume to me today or tomorrow. This is your last chance for 1994. One of these days soon we should schedule a dance in Plant City so we can see the improvements that were made and we can honor all the inductees. Chet Vetter has been keeping everything nice and neat and we should thank him for all that he has done.

Legacy: Frank and Nan Habersbuger

A very informative Report was given by Walt and Louise Cole, Chairman of the Legacy Survey Committee on "New Dancer Longevity." We brought some extra copies of this report for those interested in reading it. A brief summary of the Survey plan and the findings is as follows:

There was a 10% sampling of Contacts in 1992 of 6,079 Clubs in the United States and 660 Clubs in Canada. This involved sending a Form to be distributed to all drop-outs, asking three questions. These questions and the typical answers are as follows:

1. Why did you enroll in a Square Dance Class?

Answer: For fun, exercise and to meet people.

2. Why did you not continue in this Class?

Answer: Too much to learn - too fast, and too much commitment required.



3. What are your comments?

Answer: The majority preferred a slower pace in learning the Square Dance. They preferred a more casual approach to learning. They ask: Let new Dancers get their feet wet without a heavy commitment of time.

What this all adds up to is that a greater commitment should be on the part of the Club Leadership and the Instructor to let the Square Dancers pace their own progress, and once they decide that the Square Dance is their principal form of recreation, to let them decide what level and where and how often they want to dance.

USDA; Paul and Marie McClain

Nothing new from last report. There are still some copies of the material that we have received from USDA for anyone who wants one.

Joe Vaccari reported on a Nation Survey being conducted at the request of and in coordination with the American Callers Association and also Callers Lab. This survey asks two questions of the dancers:

1. Do you like the current programs and levels?
2. Would you prefer to see one level of dancing called square dancing? If you want your thoughts recognized on what square dancing will look like in the future you need to respond to this survey. I hope the magazines throughout the State will print this survey so the dancers can respond.



USDA Insurance: Randy and Carol Poole

Checking Account

Balance 14 Nov 1993

\$

Receipts

Central

\$

FCC

Northeast

Northwest

Southeast

West Coast

Total Receipts

\$

TOTAL

Disbursements

USDA Insurance

\$:

Admin Expenses

Refund

Total Disbursements

\$

Ending Bal 14,94

2. Enrollments 1994

	Associations	Clubs	Dancers
Central	1	30	1932
FCC	1	6	366
Northeast	1	19	799
Northwest	3	24	814
Southeast	1	5	529
West Coast	1	16	1193
Totals	8	100	5633

3. Other Information

Additional Named Insured Certificates Issues: 35

Claims this year: 0



### Folk Dance: Duke and Doris McCleskey

I am very happy to report that several states are hard at work on the American Folk Dance Campaign.

South Carolina is closest to number 18, having passed the bill through the Senate and has been reported out of committee in the House. Laverne and Barbara Harrelson called last tuesday to report that all that remains is passage by the House, which is almost assured. Barbara reported that seventeen square dancers and their caller performed for the joint legislature, on the floor of the House. They brought the house down...That's no pun.

North Carolina is pushing hard, so they can be declared in time for the 1998 Charlotte National.

Missouri is reporting a task force working their legislative bodies with excellent results thus far.

There are additional campaigns going onward in Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Iowa, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky,

Maryland, Nebraska, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

The 17 states who have declared are Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Massachusetts, Montana, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia. 34% of our goal has been reached!

### NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of backdrop for Historian Table by Jack Taylor. Tom Saville of Titusville designed and painted the backdrop. It depicts the history of square dancing. It is so beautiful that it received a round of applause along with many ahhh's.

Revisions of By-laws by Frank Habersberger:

In the November meeting a motion to change the registered agent for the Federation from Chet Vettters address to that of Dewey Hendricks was made and carried. Frank has been looking at the Constitution, By-laws and Articles of Incorporation to bring them up to date at this time. Just one change in the Articles of Incorporation is required and that was a change in the registered agent to be Dewey Hendricks and his home is to be the office of the Florida Federation. The second change to the Constitution and By-Laws, the change in the registered agent, was also to be applied to these governing rules. We have one other change in the By-laws and that was to change the designation of a chairman of the Bid Committee to now be the Chairman of the 46 National Square Dance Convention, Worley and Nan Carrier. We would like to place now this confirming vote. The last vote was called by in the language of the Constitution the prior leading vote. Today we are asking for ratification of the same votes. I'll take these one at a time:



1. We are asking your vote to approve the change in registered agent address to apply to the Articles of Incorporation.

Motion by Frank Habersberger.

Motion seconded by Jim McConnaha.

Motion carried.

2. The changes be applied to the Constitution and By-laws of the same name, Dewey Hendricks and his home to be the office of the Florida Federation with the change of the Chairman of the Bid Committee to know be shown as the Chairman of the 46 National Square Dance Convention.

Motion seconded by Jim McConnaha.

Motion carried.

Master copies to will be distributed by the Secretary at the May meeting:

President Allen would like to establish a permanent date for the Working Weekend so the Associations could work around it. Letters were sent out and two Associations responded. Discussion.

Motion by Murl Herbert that the Working Weekend be held the 3rd weekend in February.

Motion carried.

Requested Association Presidents to review their roster to have 3 delegates plus President and alternate. Will review.

National Square Dance Meeting to be held following this meeting.

Reminded everyone to send in their recipes for the cookbook.

Committee and room assignments made by President Allen for the afternoon session. Guests invited to attend any meetings. Meeting adjourned.