

# FLORIDA FEDERATION of SQUARE DANCERS

MINUTES, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1994

The meeting of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers was called to order by President Cliff Allen at 9:00 AM. The invocation was given by Mary Richardson. Roll call was taken with 71 voting members present. A quorum was present. President Allen welcomed all visitors.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Finance Committee:

Chairman Don Bell, Assistance Chairman Howard Hayes, George Wolfert, Bob Dodge, Rosemary Schirmer, Frank Trotts, John Layne and Dewey Hendricks.

Finance Committee reviewed the Treasurers' books and found them to be in order.

### 1994 Proposed Budget

#### Income:

State Convention	\$
Association Dues	
Interest on Checking	
Insurance	<hr/>
	\$

#### Disbursements:

President	\$
Vice President	
Secretary	
Treasurer/Sec of State	
Parliamentarian	
Promotions	
USDA Dues	
Flowers	
Refreshments	
Miscellaneous	
Bank Charges	
Historian	<hr/>
	\$

The projected budget for '93 was \$3600. Actual expenses were \$4793.91. We have had a minus budget for the past two years. Therefore the Committee makes the following recommendations:

1. Each account be mindful of their expenditures.
2. Look at future increases in income such as Association dues from \$50.00 to \$100.00
3. Cost of refreshments at Federation meetings be offset by each association providing the refreshments on a rotating basis.
4. Each association make a contribution to offset the costs of providing "Where to Dance" brochures at the Welcome Stations.

Motion made to accept the proposed budget, seconded by George Knapp. Motion carried.

#### Public Awareness and Publicity:

Chairman, Anneita Gilbourn, Assistant Chairman Marie McClain, Jan McConnaha, Joann Lewis, Bob Schirmer, Elva Dodge, Mary Fowler, PeeWee Stewart, Esther Layne, Al Boltze, Mona and Cal Peterson, Walt and Sally Boeshle, Marcella and Grover Jacobson.

It is the consensus of the group that younger dancers need to be recruited.

Suggestions to make the public aware of our activity are:

1. Do a tape and put it on a video in the malls. It is better than demos - only 1 person has to be available for information. It can be done in smaller areas and can be made to repeat in 10-20 minutes.
2. Clubs to sponsor a singles group.
3. Put "Where to Dance" brochures in Chamber of Commerce, Senior Citizen Centers, Recreation Centers, R.V. Parks and libraries.
4. Do demos in public places.
5. Send notices to churches who don't object to our type of activities.
6. Sponsor a \$300.00 scholarship to a High School Sr. for teaching square dancing.
7. Last but not least, incorporate some Country line and Western dancing into your square and round dancing.



State Convention Procedures and Coordinating Guidelines:

Chairman, Mary Richardson, Assistance Chairman, Murl Herbert, Dave and Shirley Nihart, Stan and Jerri Hockman, Lou Vogel, Duke McCleskey, Erin Fry, Jack Lascola, Worley Carrier, Joe Vaccari, Martin Taylor, Ken Brasfield, and Chet Vetter.

The following changes are recommended:

B. Convention Procedures

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Move item 10 to be item 11.

Insert item 10.

Item 10 to read: All dancers will be in proper square dance attire at all dance sessions and this will be included in all publicity.

Motion made by committee, seconded by Dewey Hendricks. Motion carried.

E. Registration fees

To read: Registration will be free to all programed Florida Caller Association members, all programed Round Dance Council of Florida Cuer members and Host Association Convention Committee Chairmen together with their spouses.

A final decision on all free-bees will be the concern of the Convention General Chairman.

Motion made by committee, seconded by Joe Vaccari. Motion carried.

Motion from Convention Procedures Committee as handed down from the Coordinating Committee:

This committee recommends that the 1997 Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention not be held. We further recommend that West Coast Association be awarded the 1998 State Convention and that future State Conventions follow suit with normal rotations.

Motion made by committee, seconded by Chet Vetter. Motion carried.

### USDA Insurance Committee:

Chairman, Randy Poole, Carol Poole, Carole McKenzie, Emory Johnson, Joyce Johnson, Merle Lewis, Darlene Slack, Charlie Newsome, Ada Trott, Peggy Stewart, Jim McConnaha, and Byers Thompson.

We covered USDA Insurance policies and procedures and went into detail on administrative procedure to include timely actions, completeness of forms, accuracy and claim filing procedures. We discussed the importance of keeping complete, accurate records of all transactions for future use in case of a claim investigation. We discussed the duties of the association insurance chairman.

We discussed ways to get insurance information out to all clubs, ie displays and announcements at associations dances and articles in area square dance publications.

We recommend that individual clubs consider including the insurance fee into their annual dues. The secondary accident health policy portion of the USDA insurance stays with the dancer while he is a member of an insured club. He drops out and the insurance stops. One reason to stay in square dancing.

The FFSD insurance checking account was audited and found to be correct.

### Education and Services and Square Dance Preservation:

Chairman, Hollis Fowler, Jennie Courter, Janet Calary, Judi Brookover, Jean Morehouse, Dick Stevens, Doris McCleskey, Frank Habersberger, Mary Boltze, Shirley Walker, Jerry Rhodes, Edward Williams, Sally Herbert, Donna Hendricks, and Bonnye Bell.

Purpose: To discuss the problems of Square dancer attrition and the lack of recruitment of new dancers. To make recommendations for possible solutions to these problems.

Discussion: Legacy Report of a nationwide survey: People joined for fun, exercise, meet people. Dancers dropped out, too much to learn, too fast, new dancers prefer a slower pace of learning and more casual pace.



## Recommendations:

1. Combine mainstream and plus level of dancing.
2. Request each Association compile a list of dancers, contact those dancers, find out why they are no longer dancing and make arrangements for classes that will encourage them to return to dancing.
3. Recognize that it is the dancers responsibility to provide fun and fellowship in their clubs and dances. Keeping in mind that most people join for fun.
4. Promote recruitment by offering line dances and Country western dancing in the dancing program. Welcome singles by allowing and encouraging singles to dance male parts. Recruit youth dancing.
5. Recommend that we reorder dance folders to place in Welcome Centers.

## Breaktime.

Joe Vaccari to present at May meeting of the Federation a clarification of Constitution - Delegate rule.

## Showcase of Ideas:

Chairman, Jack Taylor, Sally Hayes, Wilma Schofield, Erma Fry, Shirley Knapp, Sandy Brasfield, Val Newsome, Linda Riggs, Nan Carrier, Murial Chabot, Pam Buchers, Nan Habersberger, Paul McClain, and Garland McKenzie.

The following was discussed: First, that we use the backdrop that we used last year with basically the same theme. The Federation table would have a large hat with square dancers coming out of it. A banner saying "The Magic of Square Dancing Is" would be over the top of the Federation table. It would also include some sticks or wires in the hat with square and circles and the themes of the Associations. The square dancer outlines will be made of wood by Garland McKenzie and given to the Associations by March 15. The Associations will paint the dancers in colors of their choice, and their dancers will be smaller then the ones on the Federation table. The table location at Lakeland will be the same.

Discussion on the increase costs of the handouts for the National Convention.

Motion made to purchase 6000 state lapel pins to give away at National Convention. Motion seconded by George Knapp. Motion carried.



Request approval for funding of Square-Up brochures that are placed in the Welcome Stations. Bill Boyd of Bow and Swing gave a cost of \$320.00 for 10,000 copies, camera ready. Motion seconded by Chet Vetter. Motion carried.

Historian:

Chairman, Zonie Taylor, Betty Stevens, Nancy Wolfert, Helen Williams, Olena Taylor and Roy Black.

The best news about our history effort is the Backdrop that was painted by Tom Saville. Zonie asked him to paint something representing our development of Square dancing and this was the result. We recommend that he be presented a plaque from the Federation in appreciation.

We have completed the 1993 Convention Book and the 1994 Dance Shore to Shore is in the process. We need to have material submitted to us so it can be put together. The Bid Book for the National Convention is completed and we have started a large binder for the 1997 National Square Dance Convention. Again all the flyers, pictures, letters or anything of interest about the convention will be appreciated. Zonie has also added more of the President's Messages to the Book. This is a continuing process. I am still writing on the History from the material in the Bow & Swing magazines and it is complete from 1951 to 1970.

We are still compiling the area publications and it is starting to be a nice record of the different areas.

The Committee had the following recommendation: Keep doing what we are doing in compiling the History of Florida Square Dancing.

Publication:

Chairman, Paul and Nita Walker, George Knapp, Joy Vaccari, Helen Rhodes, Zurhn Walker, Betty Lee Talmadge, Lou Cabot, Ken and Sue Brown, Bill and Joann Boyd.

Recommendations:

1. Would it be possible for publication deadline and issue dates be the same for the purpose of publicity releases?

Result: Publicity releases should be issued monthly and each editor will decide how to use the information.



2. What do you need from the Dancers, Association, and Clubs to include articles addressing the problem of declining number of dancers?
  - A. More printed information needs to be given to class participants.
  - B. Magazines go to dancers - maybe we need to publish information to the non-dancer.
  - C. Each Association could use a publicity chairman to establish a plan.
  - D. We need to share articles.
  - E. Did not want articles to be "Finger Pointing" but articles with a constructive message.
  - F. All publications appeared willing to print articles from all sources for enhancing our recreational hobby.
3. The Bow & Swing Editor, Bill Boyd, will include information for dancers to subscribe to every associations publication.
4. Welcome Stations: Bill Boyd has received a letter from the Welcome Stations stating that the cost to place the Bow & Swing will cost \$100 per location. It was suggested that since Florida considers Square Dancing our State Folk Dance our information should be placed free of charge. The State Federation would have more influence with the State and we suggest the Federation follow-up on this item.

Chairman Paul Walker commended all the publications for the great job they are doing in publishing articles about the upcoming convention.

President Allen asked Parliamentarians, Jack and Zonie Taylor to follow up on this proposal for placing the brochures in the Welcome Station free of charge.

Old Business: None

National Convention:

Worley Carrier reported that \$6493.00 was raised at the Victory Dance on Saturday night. There were approximately 1000 dancers , 120 squares.

Recommends that Florida sponsor the afterparty at the National Convention as they did last year. We will receive the names of the Callers as soon as they are in and requests that we make up 5000 small cards to pass out. Cost should be approximately \$50.00.

Will donated approximately 2000 items to Showcase of Ideas.

New Business: None

Discussions:

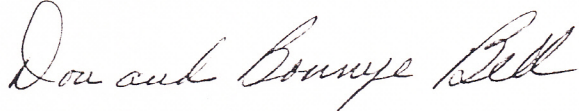
November meeting to be held in October in DeFuniak Springs.

Next meeting to be held at the State Convention, Sunday, May 29th at 9:00 AM in Hall A.

Discussion followed on Youth Dancing. Frog stickers available to place on badge indicating you are willing to dance with youth. National Chairman for Youth is Deborah Mills, 5102 New Mexico Lane, Cypress, CA 90630.

No other business, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don and Bonnye Bell". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

Don & Bonnye Bell,  
Secretary