

FLORIDA FEDERATION of SQUARE DANCERS

MINUTES OF FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS
MEETING OF SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 19, 1995

The meeting of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers was called to order by President Paul McClain at 9:00 AM. Mr. McClain led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was given by Nan Habersberger. Roll was taken with sixty nine Delegates (47 1/2 voting Delegates) in attendance. A quorum was present. President Paul McClain welcomed all guests and visitors.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman - Jack Taylor, Assistant Chairman - Howard Hayes, Aaron Fry, Frank Trott, Robert & Rosemary Schirmer, Ed Williams and Donna Hendricks.

1995 Proposed Budget

Income:

State Convention
Association Dues
USDA Insurance
Interest on Checking

Disbursements:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Parliamentarian
Promotions
USDA Dues
Flowers
Refreshments
Miscellaneous
Historian

Chairman Jack Taylor reviewed the proposed 1995 budget predicated on income of . Jack recommended that a motion was in order to accept the proposed budget. Chet Vetter made the motion to accept the budget proposed. Seconded by Donna Hendricks. Motion passed.

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PUBLICITY:

Chairman - Anneita Gilbourn, Vice Chairman - Ada B. Trott, Ken Brasfield, Sally Hayes, Chuck Riggs, Walt and Sally Baechle.

The committee recommends:

1. Put notices in Post Offices, Campgrounds and Libraries on where to dance and the type of dancing, along with someone's name to contact.
2. Purchase and use square dance labels on the back of our mail.
3. Along with other signs on the outskirts of towns add a square dance sign if a club dances in that town.
4. Adopt a mile to clean up the roadside. A plaque will be provided with your club name to put along the road.

We had an opportunity to look at a film made by Zurhn Walker and Al Boltze on Square Dancers dancing. The committee recommends that each Association purchase a tape to use in the Malls, Department stores and even Checkers. Also, have pamphlet on who to contact or make application for lessons.

Joe Vaccari recommended that square dancers could publicize square dancing by using the Square Dancer VISA card.

STATE CONVENTION PROCEDURES - COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Chairman - Jerry Reed, Secretary and acting Treasurer - Stan Hockman, Jerri Hockman, Sunni Thomas, Jim Runnels, Henry Arsenault, Dick and Betty Stevens, Dave and Shirley Nihart, Duke and Doris McCleskey, Worley Carrier, Cliff and Jean Allen, Val Newsome, Jim and Jan McConnaha, Sandy Brasfield, Merle and Joann Lewis, Marvin Taylor, Dell Reed, and Helen Williams.

Treasurer's report by Stan Hockman reported current bank balance of \$6,206.55 with seed funds out to 42nd Convention in the amount of \$3,500, 43rd Convention \$2,500 and total funds held by Coordinating Committee of \$12,206.55.

There was no Secretary's report.

Florida caller John Saunders asked for decision on callers need to purchase ribbons or would callers be given free entrance - as he would like to take information back to callers. After much discussion about cuers having purchased ribbons and who would be able to get in, a motion by John Saunders, seconded by Jim Runnels stating: All callers and spouse, cuer and teaching partner, programmed for the Convention will get admission and any dancer committee members okayed by the Convention Chairman starting with '95 Convention. All others must pay. Voted on and passed by

Coordinating Committee with ribbons to be picked up at Convention only when arriving.

A motion by John Saunders, seconded by Jim Runnels "for discussion only" F.C.A. would like to change Convention date to some time in Jan., Feb. or March in order to have more people attend while snowbirds are still in Florida. Vote taken and defeated unanimously.

A third motion by John Saunders, seconded by Jim Runnels stating that all three groups, F.C.A., FL Round Dance Council, and Federation must vote and pass 3 - 0 to be binding. Vote taken and defeated unanimously.

After much discussion, it was agreed by all present that a letter be sent to each group stating that the function of the Coordinating Committee should be binding when resolving any differences that may exist among the three participating organizations in the FL State Square and Round Dance Conventions. As recorded in the January, 1991, Guidelines under Responsibilities #4.

A motion was made to have a person from any one of the three groups to set in a new position to be called "Secretary" for a term of three years to provide continuity to the Committee, send out meeting notices, and act as Parliamentarian, a non-voting position. Vote taken and passed unanimously. Motion to adjourn, seconded at 3:00 PM.

Stan Hockman made the following motion which was seconded by Murl Herbert "All Callers and spouses, Cuers and teaching partner programmed for the Convention will get admission and any dancer committee member okayed by the Convention Chairman starting with the 1995 Convention. All others shall pay."

After some discussion by Frank Habersberger pertaining to Cuers receiving money for using their equipment. President Paul McClain called for the question and the motion was passed. (35 - 7)

There was considerable discussion on the other points which were reported in Stan's report with no further motions.

Murl Herbert advised the members that the 1991 State Convention Guidelines had been approved by the Federation but not by the Callers and Cuers, therefore; the 1989 State Convention Guidelines are still in effect.

U.S.D.A. INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman - Randy Poole, Carol Poole, Carol McKenzie, Joe Vaccari, Murl Herbert, Linda Riggs, Dee Dee Stovall.
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 FFSD Insurance checking account was audited and found to be correct.

EDUCATION AND SERVICES/SQUARE DANCE PRESERVATION

Chairman - Bonnye Bell, Frank Habersberger, Sally Herbert, John Layne, Peggy Stewart and Julia Vetter.

Function: Develop guidelines each year on one or more worthwhile projects that will aid in the enjoyment of Square Dancing or the enlightenment of Square Dancing. To discuss the problem of square dance attrition and the lack of recruitment of new dancers. Make recommendations for possible solutions to these problems.

Recommendations:

1. Keep Square Dancing fun.

Enlighten all dancers to the importance of the fun level of dancing and maintain a fun level in their clubs. Encourage and support mainstream clubs.

2. Exhibition Dances.

We would like to suggest that there be exhibition dances at the State Convention. This would open a new area of interest and fun for the dancer and clubs. We would like to recommend that the Federation sponsor an Awards Program for Exhibition teams throughout the state thereby encouraging participation and promoting square dancing.

3. Save Our Squares

We suggest to the Area Associations that they set up an SOS team. This groups' primary function would be to meet with and assist clubs that are having difficulties. At the clubs invitation they would listen to their problems, go over possible solutions and work with them to stay solvent. Possibilities are endless. Clubs could work together with their Callers and become very active again. This has been working quite a few years in the West Coast and has been very successful.

4. Co-Ordinating Committee.

We recommend establishing the Co-Ordinating Committee

as a viable way to deal not only with conducting the State Convention but as a means to provide a common solution to any square and round dance problem requiring actions of all three organizations, ie, Dancer, Callers, and Cuers. The problem of square dance attrition and the lack of recruitment of new dancers are not new. These same problems have existed for years without solutions. We feel that it is time to understand that what is important to the dancer is equally important to the callers and cuers. We would like to see the Coordinating Committee be a means to a solution, thereby having everyone work together on a solution. With that in mind we make a motion that the Coordinating Committee guidelines be amended to include area of square dance attrition and lack of new dancers. Seconded by John Layne. After much discussion, the vote was called for and motion denied.

5. Dancer Handbooks.

We recommend reprinting of the Dancer Handbooks, if needed.
We welcome any motions from the floor.

SHOWCASE OF IDEAS

Chairman - Tom Hancock, Assistant Chairman - Jean Hancock, Wilma Scofield, Erma Fry, Zurhn and Shirley Walker, Ester Layne, Dewey Hendricks, Bessie Stovall, Grover and Marcella Jacobsen, Nan Carrier, Garland McKenzie, Mary Stewart, Don Bell, and Muriel Chabot.

The same uniform backdrop, tablecloths and skirts will again be used for the tables. Each Association will provide a hat with the silhouettes of square dancers emerging from them.

1. Each backdrop to contain the word "MAGIC".
2. Each table:
 - a. Hat - silhouettes.
 - b. Map of Florida with That Associations attractions highlighted.

While the plan is to retain current colors and backdrops, we will change the theme somewhat to "Discover the Magic of Central FL" or "Northeast FL, etc. concentrating on the natural wonders or historical parts, leaving each Association to choose what they wish to emphasize. suggestions were as follows:

- Southeast.....The Keys, fishing.
- West Coast....Busch and Cypress Gardens
- Northeast.....St. Augustine, Jacksonville Riverwalk.
- Northwest.....Navy history, Pensacola, Tallahassee
(capital)
- Central.....Rivers and Springs, parks and shuttles.

Each table will feature a map of the area to show areas of interest in each Association.

Under the discussion concerning the lapel pins to be used for hand-outs at the National Convention, we thought it important to promote our Convention. Therefore, we thought it best to order as many lapel pins as we can according to the budgeted monies.

Tom has requested (seven) 7 tables for the State Convention and will request a table for the Campers.

HISTORY OF THE FEDERATION

Chairman - Zonie Taylor, Vice Chairman - Nan Habersberger, Olena Taylor, Nancy Wolfert, Pee Wee Stewart, Chet Vetter, Art & Mary Butlak.

The better half of the Historian committee has been hard at work. Zonie has completed the 1994 Convention Book, but we would welcome additional material for a more interesting history of the Convention. She has updated the 1997 Convention History Book and is adding photos, memos and anything that will be of interest in the future. This will be more than one two inch binder by the time she finishes. The plan we have now is to dedicate one binder for the Pre-Convention. Hopefully this will work out all right. Lastly, she has continued to add pictures to the main History Albums.

We think we have a lead on getting the History painting on postcards. We will continue to pursue this.

Nancy Wolfert presented a history of N.E. Association. The History committee recommends that Association Past Presidents meet with Nancy Wolfert to see how she is forming a history of the NE Association. Feel that it would be a boost for the Federation if all Associations appointed a Historian if they do not already have one.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairman - George Knapp, Vice-Chairman - Joy Vaccari, Ken and Sue Brown, Lou Chabot, Bill Boyd, Shirley Knapp, George Wolfert, Charlie Newsome.

Function: Discuss Area Publications and exchange ideas for improvement.

The committee met at 1:00 PM to discuss the function of the respective area publications as well as other publications and publicity responsibilities. Absent was Southeast 4W'S.

representative.

Topics discussed:

There is a great diversification of backgrounds among square dancers with a shared point of interest, that is square dancing. More articles need to be published concerning these backgrounds and how these individuals come onto the square dance scene and what they feel it has to offer.

We heard discussion on the pros and cons of promoting square dancing to the young people. It was felt by the members that the young people be encouraged to join a round dance group. That this seems to be a natural for young people and should be promoted in our publications.

Some areas of distribution where square dance publications do not appear and copies could be left such as doctors/dentists offices, local libraries, high schools and even send a copy to the local newspapers would help promote the square dance activities to readers who would not otherwise see them.

Finally, we must get our word out to the newest dancers, and we felt this could best be accomplished by directing some portion of our publications to the newest dancers. We make an effort to bring these people into the square dance program, we need to make them feel a part of what is happening in their club, their area and their state by directing articles that would peak their interest.

I would like to thank the members of this committee for their input and hope we can incorporate as many of these suggestions as possible into our publications.

FINANCE: Jack Taylor

The books were audited by Aaron Fry and his committee. The books were found to be in good shape.

PUBLICITY: Howard Hayes

Howard commented on the tape which had been made by the West Coast to use in getting new dancers. Anyone interested in seeing the tape could do so after the meeting.

Worley thanked Randy and Carole Poole for obtaining the Penthouse for their use.

OLD BUSINESS:

President Paul McClain reported on the voting of Delegates. Four (4) Delegates received 19 1/2 votes. Five (5) Delegates received 24 1/2 votes. One (1) Alternate received eleven (11)

votes.

Two (2) Alternates received 30 votes.

To have a quorum as in the Articles of Incorporation to be a 51% majority. There were 10 1/2 votes.

A quorum as it is in the Constitution, there were 28 1/2 votes. President Paul McClain asked for a motion to the effect that the wording in the By Laws - Constitution - Articles of Incorporation be updated and clarified. They will be brought back in May, '95. Motion made, seconded and passed.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The first lady, Marie McClain, reminded those who wanted to be in the Fashion Show '95 should send in their application and send them to Betty.

Charlie Newsome commented on the corrections to the list of Officers/Delegates with the correct telephone number for the Grapevine - 904-260-9435.

Bill Boyd for the Bow and Swing.

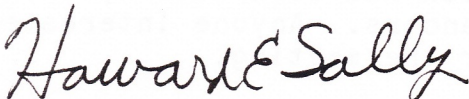
George Knapp for Keepin' Posted.

Next meeting to be held in Lakeland, Ramada Inn. Located at I-4 & 98. May 28, 1995. 9:00 AM. Sunday morning.

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

A special thank you to all who submitted their written reports as it is a great help in reconstructing the minutes.

Respectfully submitted:



Howard and Sally Hayes
Secretary