FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE AND ROUND DANCERS

MINUTES OF MEETING ON FEBRUARY 27, 1999
BEST WESTERN DIPLOMAT INN
LAKELAND, FL

President, Tom Hancock, called the meeting to order. The president then led the delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States. Mary Stewart gave the invocation. Dee Dee Stovall, secretary, called the roll. The guest and new delegates were welcomed by the President.

Guest, Ted Dornfield invited everyone to the National Convention in St. Paul, Minnesota.

A motion was made and accepted to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Three amendments to the minutes of the October 18, 1998 meeting were made and accepted. The changes were:

1. The minutes stated a "suggested change" to the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention Procedures (Guidelines) Section F, Paragraph #1. The change was voted on and approved.

2. The minutes stated a "suggested change" to the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention rules and regulations page 5 of 8, attachment #1. The change was voted on and approved.

3. In the USDA report, change the first paragraph to read (Joe Vaccari made a motion to have Dave and Shirley Nihart nominated as Vice President in the Central Region of the USDA). delete (be entered as our representative.)

The minutes were accepted as amended.

Letters

- 1. Frank and Nan Habersberger resigned as Chairman of the Promotion and Expansion Committee.
- 2. Jack Taylor wrote a letter to Governor Jeb Bush to see what it would take to get a square dancer state license plate.
- 3. President Tom and Jean Hancock sent a letter to the USDA nominating Dave and Shirley Nihart to the Vice President's position for the Central Region of the USDA.
- 4. The Louisiana National Convention Committee requested the Federations support on their bid for a National Convention. President Tom and Jean sent a letter of support to them.

BEGINNING BALANCE-ALL ACCOUNTS

FIRST UNION CHECKING ACCOUNT CONTINGENCY INSURANCE ACCOUNT FIRST UNION CD

TOTAL

CHECKING ACCOUNT ANALYSIS

ENDING BALANCE OCTOBER 16, 1998

RECEIPTS

511 ASSOCIATION DUES

521 INTEREST INCOME

TOTAL INCOME

TOTAL AVAILABLE

DISBURSEMENTS

703 VICE PRESIDENT'S EXPENSES

705 SECRETARIES EXPENSE

717 REFRESHMENTS FOR MEETING

725 BANK CHARGES

727 HISTORIAN EXPENSE

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE AS OF FEB. 26, 1999

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT ANALYSIS

BALANCE 10/16/98 BALANCE 1/7/99

GAIN

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF FEB. 26, 1999

FIRST UNION CHECKING CONTINGENCY INSURANCE ACCOUNT FIRST UNION CD

TOTAL

Submitted by Dee Dee & Bessie Stovall

Treasurer

Florida Federation Of Square Dancers Inc.

February 27, 1999

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Central Report by Bruce Morgan

The central Association had a fine finish to 1998. Our last 5th Saturday Dance for 1998 was a Halloween Dance which was held at The Fran Carlton Center in Apopka. As we did not advertise this as a costume affair, no one came dressed in their worst outfits. Everyone was dressed to the nines. The members of the Pirates sponsored this dance and they went all out. I don't think that there were too many people that noticed but there was one spider on the wall that had nine legs. I think this was done on purpose to see if anyone would notice. Since we finished the year with a bang we had to start 1999 the same way. We held our first 5th Saturday Dance at the City Island Recreation Center in Daytona Beach. The Dixie Squares sponsored this dance and really did an outstanding job. The hall was decorated in an island theme and the refreshments were outstanding. Both of these dances were well attended and everyone had a great time. This dance was our last 5th Saturday dance until October when we will hold our President's Ball and the new board will be sworn in. Our nominating committee will be appointed during the State Convention in May.

Speaking of the State Convention, Jim and Jan McConnaha have been working really hard in order to make this the best convention ever. I hope you all have your ribbons. If not, please see one of them over these next 2 days and purchase them. You can save yourself a couple of bucks if you buy them now. I won't go into any of the details of the convention as Jim and Jan will be coming up here shortly to tell you all about it. But if you haven't already made your plans for the Convention you had better start. The hotels are starting to fill up.

Our classes are coming along. They may be smaller than we would like but they are enthusiastic. We are having a large number of students that are returning dancers. This is good. But it is also bad. By bad I mean that we are not getting the word out to the uneducated. If this past time, that we all enjoy, is to survive we need to get new people involved. Although it is always nice to see dancers return after being away for a period of time, we will still need new dancers to keep us going. I hope after this weekend is over we can come up with some new ways to attract new dancers.

The Central Association is getting a number of hits on our web site. A number of clubs in our area also have web sites. If you go to Tom Perry's FloridaDancing.com and look at the list of clubs and halls, Central has the most of each on the web. I would like to challenge all the other areas to get more clubs and halls listed on the web. If you don't have anybody that is HTML literate just call Tom Perry. For \$25.00 he will create you a web page and host it on the FloridaDancing.com site free of charge. It is really worth it. We are getting quite a few calls from our Northern visitors asking where the closest place to dance in relation to where they are staying. We have referred them to the other areas if that is appropriate. Speaking of FloridaDancing.com, there is only one other association that has a web site referenced on the Florida Federation Page and that association is the only one that has the e-mail addresses for their contacts listed. I would like to ask the presidents of the other associations to contact Tom Perry and ask him to include the

Don Hanhurst and most were still home in time for the kick-off. If you happen in to Hanhurst Hall do ask Don to point out his "Yellow Turkey".

Once again Merle and Jo Ann Lewis did an excellent job in organizing and orchestrating the 7th Annual Square Dance Promotional Day at the Florida State Fair. Activities included Square Dance Calls by Janice Coughlin, Contra Prompting by Eric Harris, a Grand March with 229 dancers representing 24 clubs, Square Dance Vendor Nikki Brooks, entertainment provided by popular Country Western Singer Eddy Rivers, and Bill Boyd of the Bow and Swing. Merle and Jo Ann look forward to seeing you next year at the Florida State Fair.

"Cupids Caper", held February 14th (of course) at the Bartow Civic Center was a definite success with a terrific trio of callers, namely Allen Snell, Roland Blanchette and Clyde Stocker; and for the round dancers the delightful cues of Charlie Hearn. The Hampton Promenaders of Auburndale provided refreshments which added to the festivities.

At a recent meeting, the Association launched a campaign to circulate the petition to get the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee to the U. S. Post Office, to issue a commemorative stamp honoring 50 years of National Square Dance Conventions. I feel certain that most of you have seen it at least in part on the Web sites or in your E-mail. I do hope you have taken the time to consider the wide range of contact a Postal Stamp makes in our country, the promotional impact such a stamp would make upon the public, and it won't cost us more than a stamp and an envelope in which to return the petition once it is signed. If you have not already copied the material, we have envelopes for each Association containing 25 copies each to get you started. Please take them with you, obtain as many signatures as possible, and follow the directions for returning them to the proper persons.

We certainly do not wish to minimize the contributions of the Callers, Cuers, West Coast Officers and County Representatives: however, without the dancers there would be no program. From a French Proverb, "Gratitude is the heart's memory". This year we are filled with memories of all the new and renewed friends who have shared these occasions with us and we are grateful for all.

PUBLICATION REPORTS

Keepin Posted by George Knapp

The Quarterly issue of "Keepin Posted" is being prepared and will be arriving at book stands all over the country by the first of April....just checking to see if anyone really cares.

The Central Florida Association has changed its calendar year to coincide with the Federation year and we changed the dates of our publication to conform to the calendar year of the association. Now if we could just get all of the clubs in our area up to speed, the club news might be more up to date when it's published. It's difficult to change old habits when it's been done that way for years.

This is our new graduates issue and Central Florida has had some mighty fine classes this year. We hope to see them at the State Convention this year dancing in the Basic and Mainstream Halls.

Keep an eye out for them, they will be the ones with all that enthusiasm.

Our home page that was established by Bruce Morgan for Keepin Posted is doing well. It is located in the Florida Dance Web Page and has been receiving lots of hits. Keepin Posted is alive and well.

Panhandle Press by Cliff Allen

Panhandle Press is still going great with over 300 copies being printed. Our local club news items are increasing to help dancer interest in the Panhandle Press. Any item to be published in the April -June 1999 issue needs to be submitted to Gary Ping before March 15, 1999.

Grapevine by Charlie Newsome

The Grapevine has undergone a slight change in its publication schedule. We are NOW publishing in the ODD months to coincide with the fiscal year of the Association. The last December issue was for December thru February. The next issue, March-April, went in the mail the 25th and should have started hitting the mail boxes the 26th.

The Grapevine web page is constantly being revised and updated and we expect a major revision to it in the near future (as soon as I learn a little more HTM Language). The address is www.geocities.com/Nashville/Opry/7238 or it can be reached thru the Florida Dancing web pages constructed by Tom Perry. From the Grapevine page you can reach all of the sites for NEFSARDA (our second NEFSARDA web page, the Happenings page and the Association Officers page). Again, all of these are tied back to the Florida Dancing Home Page. The Camping News article, titled "Camp N' Dance" by writers, Gerry and Dale Fredrickson of the Gypsy Squares, is receiving positive comments from our campers. In relation to this, we received a call from a camper in another part of the State requesting camping information for yet another part of the State. Hence, we have been able to obtain a list (thanks to Gerry) of the Florida Chapters and will be including this on our subsequent issues starting with the current issue. Anyone with news about camping can contact Gerry & Dale Fredrickson thru the Gypsy Squares Web Page. Just click on the Gypsy Squares on our Happenings page and presto! We have also started a piece on Contra and are working on getting a "reporter" for this.

We periodically get request for address, etc. for individuals and/or dancers in other Associations. Therefore we have started including a listing of the various Association contacts.

Please don't forget to send us information of your benefit dances where ALL of the proceeds goes to the charity, etc. mentioned in the ad. We'll print what we have room for without charge!

We continue to welcome items, especially your Association dances, that will be of interest to our readers, from ALL associations. You can send input by Email, by FAX or by "snail mail". While we would prefer it be typed, it's not a requirement. We want to let NEFSARDA dancers know where to dance when they are on the road.

West Coast Dancer by Ken Brown

During the past few months we have an increase in the requests for The West Coast Dancer. We printed 3,100 copies of the February/March issue and we have requests for an additional 300 plus copies. We attribute this to the influx of snowbirds and visitors in the area.

We continue to receive new as well as repeat advertisements each month. We are pleased to receive these for they have been helpful in defraying the printing cost. We are continuing to print promotional material for Mardi Gras Time in '99 (the 45th Florida State Convention) as well as the 48th National Square Dance Convention (to be held in Indianapolis, IN.)

We are requesting schedule updates at this time for we are aware that many of the events across the state close during the months of March through May and do not resume until November or shortly thereafter.

Bow and Swing by Bill Boyd

Bow and Swing is alive and well. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your many years of support.

Bow and Swing strives to provide current and timely information about square dancing activity

Two items of note:

- 1. Send photos- we like to use pictures with your captions-or your pictures with our captions
- 2. Send club news-note-if your club is closing for the season, send us the dates, and we will put your closing dates, both in the where to dance section and below your club news heading.

Not news but call our offices at 886-7151 or E-mail at Rgb@aol.net and request magazines for your graduates. We will send them.

Again thank you for your support.

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN REPORTS

1999 Convention by Jim McConnaha

Since our last report much has happened in preparing for "Mardi Gras Time in '99". We have been visiting many special and regular dances around the state to enhance interest and to sell registrations. Speaking of registrations, as of yesterday we have over 800. While we would like to have more, they are now beginning to come in at a faster rate.

The CFA Insurance Chairman Bill & Claire Poole are starting the process of getting our insurance coverage and the state contact for BMI & ASCAP has been contacted and will have taken care of by convention time.

Halls at the Lakeland Center have been assigned and the Callers have had their programming meeting. They advise that the callers have been programmed and they are just about ready to give it the final approval for printing. The Cuers are just about done with their programming, as are the contra prompters. Hospitality has a

large number of volunteers (still recruiting) for their committee and they will be ready to greet all of our dancers.

The Style Show Chairman reported that the other regional associations have given them names of volunteers to be models in the style show. They also reported that

all of the plans are shaping up nicely.

Our Publicity Chairman continues to send out material every month to the various square dance publications and I am happy to report that publications are using these articles regularly. We hope you are also reading them and passing on the information. We are preparing to mail registration forms to all of the volunteers who worked on the 46NSDC. We think these are the most active dancers in the state and we will ask them to pass on the registration forms to anyone who has not yet registered. A meeting of our entire committee was held before the CFA January 5th Saturday Dance. This was to update everyone on the progress of the committees and to find any areas of concern.

At this time it appears the 45th Florida State Square Dance Convention is on

schedule.

2000 Convention by Don Bell

All committees are in place and ready to go into action when cued.

Northeast as a whole is ready to Square Up in our kick-off this May. Rehearsals are scheduled. Our theme, badges and ribbons are ready to change partners right after kick-off.

We will be giving out Early registration slips on Saturday night, so these can be filled out and turned in right after kick-off Sunday night. Booster badges and ribbons will be on sale Sunday night.

Our theme will be announced at the kick-off.

2001 Convention by Fred Chatos

The Executive committee has met and the planning is started. Suggestions were made as to couples to add to the chairman list. These people have been and will be contacted.

The Lakeland Center has been contacted to insure that we have the dates for the Year of 2001. I have asked that we have the same areas as are currently being reserved. This includes the Arena. A contract will be mailed to me and signed just as soon as I get it. Our kickoff is in the planning stages, as are the Logo and Slogan.

As we get closer of course these reports will get longer, as we try to answer all of the questions.

2002 Convention by Fred Cornett

We have been General Chairman for the 48th State Convention for a week. During this time, we have selected several chairman for the various committees. Several theme ideas have been received and several folks are working on kick off ideas and the dress.

We will have a more complete report for you at our May meeting.

OTHER REPORTS

NEC National Report by Stan Hockman

If you would like to have a room at the headquarters hotel in Indianapolis for the National Convention, call Worley or Nan.

Hall of Fame Report by Mary Butlak

The Hall of Fame Committee has received 5 resumes of prospective inductees into the Hall of Fame.

We will be meeting this coming Friday night, March 5, 1999, to review the resumes and forward our findings to the Selection Committee. These resumes consist of 3 which were presented in 1997 and 1998. Two others came later in 1998. One item that I neglected to bring up in October is that the Hall of Fame Committee wishes to request the Federation to allow the committee to use their Federal Tax number. We are presently using my social security number, which means that I have to report this income on my tax return. The interest income for 1998 was \$21.64. Once we have this tax number, we can turn over the funds to the new treasure, Joe Augenblick.

Currently we have a bank balance of \$1485.06. In 1998 we had only one expense of \$30.94 for the name plates for displays at the Hall of Fame in Plant City, Strawberry Squares. We had an income of \$21.64 for interest earned.

Legacy Report by Cliff Allen

LEGACY XIV will meet May 14-16, 1999 at the Holiday Inn Airport - Cleveland, Ohio as an International Assembly of "Trustees" of the Square Dance Activity. LEGACY has their International Meeting every two years. Cleveland, Ohio is the birthplace of LEGACY, where LEGACY I was held 26 years ago. The present Chairman of LEGACY is Doc and Peg Tirrell from Vermont. LEGACY is represented by leaders from all facets of the square dance activity. This includes Square Dance Associations, Caller Associations, Round Dance Associations, The National Square Dance Convention, Square Dance Publications, Record Companies, Square Dance Suppliers, Lloyd Shaw Foundation, CALLERLAB, Special Groups representing handicapped, etc. The LEGACY mission is to provide communication, knowledge of, and education for, the operation of all facets of square dancing in order to promote, protect and perpetuate the future of the activity through mutual understanding and cooperation throughout the world.

Anyone interested in becoming a Trustee of Legacy please contact Cliff Allen or Joe Vaccari.

U.S.D.A. Report by Marie McClain

One of the most important things done at the last U.S.D.A. meeting in Charlotte, was to pass a resolution, providing a Round Table discussion in Baltimore, to arrive

at a master plan for enlisting greater interest in square dance and to stop the decline in our beloved activity.

The U.S.D.A. feels so strongly that something needs to be done, that they were willing to underwrite the cost of lodging for one couple from each affiliation. This meeting was held on Jan. 20th & 21st and it will be very interesting to hear the results. We know that there is nothing wrong with the product (square dancing) but perhaps the packaging of our product needs help.

I'd like to remind you about the U.S.D.A. News which is published quarterly. It is

\$5.00 per year and well worth it.

I have brought along, today, a copy of the list of booklets and pamphlets that are available through the U.S.D.A. These are most helpful. All you have to do is send for them. Many of them are free. The most expensive one is \$3.00. So look over the list and see what might help your club.

National Council of Square Dance Organization by Jack Taylor

Eleven different square dance organizations were invited to a meeting in Baltimore to discuss the concerns of square dancing. Eight organizations attended and presented their ideas. They came up with four major goals to work on:

1. The image of square dancing.

2. Recruitment of new dancers.

3. Retaining of dancers.

4. The dance program.

They formed a committee to meet at the Legacy meeting in Cleveland with the four ideas in mind and try to come up with some good proposals. It was reported that the Gay and Lesbian organization is increasing ten fold. They get a name and address of a person interested in square dancing and then contact this person seven times before classes start. Their classes last for forty weeks and the students pay for all of their lessons.

USDA INSURANCE REPORT February 12, 1999

1. Checking Account:

Balance Forward as of 09/30/98

Receipts since 09/30/98

Central
Northeast
Northwest
Southeast
West Coast
Cloggers

Total Receipts

Balance

Disbursements since 09/30/98 USDA Insurance Little Rock Administrative (Supplies)

Total Disbursements

Ending Balance as of 02/12/99

2. Enrollments 01/01/99 thru 02/12/99

Association	Clubs	Dancers	LAST YEAR (1998)
Central	33	1,835	30 Clubs - 1,772 Dancers +3/+63
Northeast	15	618	17 Clubs - 691 Dancers -2/-73
Northwest	19	467	20 Clubs - 494 Dancers -1/-27
Southeast	08	419	05 Clubs - 301 Dancers +3/+118
West Coast	13	670	13 Clubs - 745 Dancers 0/-75
Cloggers	12	338	07 Clubs - 385 Dancers +5/-47
Totals	100	4,347	92 Clubs - 4,388 Dancers

Net Since January 01, 1999 Gain of 8 Clubs BUT Loss of 41 Dancers

HOWEVER have enrolled an ADDITIONAL 48 Dancers and 2 Clubs not reflected in this reporting period! There are still a whole lot of Clubs dancing, out there, **WITHOUT INSURANCE**

Duke and Doris McCleskey FFSD Insurance Chairmen

Classic Fius	Chasis Dis	Angel Squares	Surf Country Cloggers	Sea Turtle Tappers	Pony Express Cloggers	Klassi Taps	Gator Country Cloggers	Florida Sunshine Cloggers	Florida Cloggers Council	Cross Country Cloggers	Buccaneer Dancers	Discourse Coggers	Big River Clongers	Ancient City Cloggers	Busy Boots Cloggers	Orange Blossom Cloggers	Yellow Rockers	Wagon Wheels	Swinging Eights	Swinging bears	Sunnis Routideis	Steppin Out	Illelladela		Space Hackers		ders		Pr	epper Shakers	Pirates	Dance Club		enaders		om Garden Sqs		unds		quares				ont Squares		ð	3	uares			wners		CLUB A		
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USDA National Folk Dance Report by Duke McCleskey

The United Square Dancers of America, Executive Board, held their "Working Weekend" in the C-O-L-D environment of Baltimore, Maryland on January 22nd and 23rd of 1999, however the fellowship was warm and much work was accomplished. The National Folk Dance of these United States is Square Dancing. The committee adopted a set of guidelines for accomplishing this legislative agenda, which were approved by the Board.

There are still 60 per cent of the States who have proclaimed Square Dancing as their State Folk Dance. The dancers of Indiana are busy in their attempt to get a legislative bill passed in time to make an announcement during the Wednesday evening 'opening ceremonies' of the 48th National Square Dance Convention in Indianapolis.

G-O H-O-O-S-I-E-R-S!

ASCAP-BMI Report by Dave Nihart

After our yearly dues of \$100.00 was deducted from our credit with BMI, we still have a credit of \$233.20 with them.

We have received a notice from ASCAP of a 1.48% increase in our yearly rate to them, beginning in January 1, 1999. This will increase our cost to \$0.059 per attendee instead of \$0.058.

State Convention Change Survey Report by George Knapp

The poll concerning changing the State Convention from Memorial weekend to the last two weeks in February through March and having it from Thursday through Saturday or Friday through Sunday will be taken to the Coordinating Committee. There the Round Dance Council, the Florida Callers Association and the Federation will make the decision as to making the change. The decision will be announced at the State Convention in May.

President Hancock stated that if anyone wished to order the new Federation badge, see Stan or Jerri Hockman. This will be at the delegates expense.

Meeting adjourned.