

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS

MINUTES OF MEETING, MAY 30, 1999 LAKELAND CENTER 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. The secretary, called the roll. The president complimented the decorating and the sewing clinic committees on the fine job that they did for the State Convention. The guest were welcomed by the President.

A motion was made by Pee Wee Stewart and seconded to accept the minutes as written. This passed. There was a change made in the title of the minutes. The words "and Round" were deleted.

FLORIDA FEDERATION TREASURER'S REPORT 2/26/99 THRU 5/25/99

Beginning Balance All Accounts

Checking Balance
Contingency
Insurance acct.
First Union CD

Beginning Checking Balance

Receipts

511 - Florida Clogging Council

541 - USDA Insurance

521 - Interest

Disbursements

703 - Vice President

717 - Refreshments

Bank service charge

703 - Name tags

709 - Parliamentarian

705 - Secretary

713 - USDA dues (2000)

709 - Printing

Present Checking Balance

First Union CD

2/26/99

5/25/99

GAIN

Balance All Accounts 5/25/99

First Union Checking

Contingency

First Union CD

Insurance acct.

Respectfully submitted, May 30, 1999

Ken and Sandy Brasfield

Treasurer

Florida Federation of Square Dancers

The President showed the new Federation Logo that was approved several years ago. Tom Perry, Federation web site producer, gave some statistics on the number of visits and other information on our web site. There is a "learn to dance" banner on the site and it has received over 200 hits in the month of April. Tom needs the picture of all incoming presidents of each association. The web site in general has received 40,000 visits this past year.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

Central Association Report by Bruce Morgan

I am sorry to start our report off with a sad note, but in April we lost one of our friends and a great caller. Skip Smith passed away suddenly after by-pass surgery. We were sorry to see him go and wish the best for his wife Pauline and the other members of their family.

In case you haven't heard the Central Association is putting on the 45th Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention this weekend. In fact it is going on as we speak. There are lots of dance halls for every level and type of dancing. We hope you are all taking part and are enjoying yourselves. If you haven't heard about it you'd better listen up. Today is your last chance to get involved. Jim & Jan McConnaha have done an outstanding job in coordinating the weekend. I know we still have one day left but I believe they deserve a great big hand for the great job they have done.

I know that the Northeast Association will do equally well. Be sure to attend the kick-off this evening at 7:30pm in the arena. Be there early, as the entertainment will start at 6:30pm. You'll want to get a good seat. After the kick-off be sure and purchase your ribbons for the convention that will be held right here at the Lakeland Center this same weekend next year.

The Central Association will be having a large contingent of dancers attending the 48th National Square Dance Convention that is being held in Indianapolis, Indiana next month. I grew up just 60 miles west of Indianapolis so Colleen & I will be taking an extended vacation and visiting friends and family prior to and after the convention. I grew up in Parke County, Indiana. This is the Covered Bridge Capital of the United States. There are more covered bridges in Parke County than there are any other state. I grew up 1/4 mile from the longest 2 span covered bridge in the US. If anybody would like to see the area where I grew up contact Colleen or I and we will be glad to give you directions. We are planning on having a picnic at my brother's house on Monday or Tuesday after the convention. He doesn't know it yet. But if you would like to attend let us know.

Enough about Colleen & I, this is a report about the Central Association so I should say a little about the topic.

Our next meeting will be held on July 8th at Shoney's in Sanford. The meeting will start at 2:00 PM with everybody meeting at 1:00pm for lunch. We would love for everybody to come and join us. The next Central Association 5th Saturday Dance will be held at The Barn in Melbourne on July 31st. The dance will be our annual President's Ball. The dance will start at 7:30 with early rounds and alternating Mainstream & Plus from 8:00 until 10:30. The dance will be preceded by a General Meeting starting at 3:00pm and a pot luck dinner at 5:00pm. During the dance we will honor all past presidents, announce the newly elected board that will take over October 1st and announce the Central Association Couple of the Year. Be sure to attend this dance and see who will be so honored.

This will be the last report to the Federation that Colleen & I will be giving. We have enjoyed the past fifteen months. If you are wondering why fifteen months, this is the year that the Central Association adjusted our calendar to match that of the Federation. Colleen & I were the lucky ones that had to work the additional months. I don't know why we couldn't have served only 3 months but the rest of the association said no we had to serve fifteen. We have enjoyed this term of office and it actually went by pretty fast. We would also like to thank our board members and volunteers. Without these people we could not have had the successful term that we have had.

Thanks to everyone and we'll see you in a square.

Northwest Florida Association Report by Cliff and Jean Allen

The next NWFSRDA meeting will be held next week on 5 June 1999 in conjunction with the Billy Bowlegs Dance in Ft. Walton Beach Florida. The Pirates and their Court will Square Dance with us on Saturday Night and celebrate their invasion and capture of the city. The next Saturday Night, a different set of Pirates will invade Pensacola and capture the city during the Fiesta of Five Flags activities and celebrate their victory by Square Dancing with us at the Fiesta of Five Flags Dance.

John Saunders will be calling for the Canoe Squares in Milton on 19 June 1999. So if any of you are in the area during this time period, stop and enjoy an evening of FUN dancing to a good caller and a bunch of Red Necks.

We have had several classes graduate during the past couple of months. None were very big but we think it may have kept the Northwest Area Square Dance Population even for the past year. That is an improvement, but we hope to increase this population by a few percentage points during the year 2000.

We are looking forward to Hosting the next FFSD meeting in the Northwest Area at Defuniak Springs on 22-23 October 1999. We are planning several special activities for this group of VIP's. North West Callers Chuck Myers, Ben Williams and Ernie Griffin will be calling squares Friday Evening and Saturday. Larry Letson will be our Caller for Saturday Evening. June Leverette will be cueing Rounds for the weekend. All Federation Members in attendance will be considered as Northwest Members \$6 each for the weekend of dancing and FUN. Wear your Federation Badge for Identification. We are positive you will all enjoy your 800 mile (+ or - 200 miles or so) round trip scenic drive to Defuniak Springs. We from Northwest get this privilege at least 3 times every year.

Northeast Report by Manny Gonzales

Benefit Dances:

Sea Breeze Singles had benefit dance titled City Rescue Mission on 6Mar99. They raised \$1335.00.

We had our Annual Blood Bank Dance on March 20th sponsored by NEFSARDA and donated \$906.00. The Chairpersons were Jack and Phyllis Herpy.

The River Ramblers sponsored a benefit dance for Crippled Children and donated \$413.00 to the Shrine Club in Poladca. This is a fairly new and small club with students still taking lessons. They felt that they wanted to do something for the children, so sponsored benefit and hosted the dance.

The Gateway Callers Association held the Graduation Ball for the new students.

We had a new club join our association: River Ramblers.

We have had six clubs that graduated students. Our NEFSARDA Board paid each club \$100.00 for the first square that graduated and joined that particular club and additional \$100.00 for the second square but not to exceed \$200.00.

We have been working on our kickoff for the year 2000: Don and Bonnye Bell will give you more information on that.

Jack and Kathy McKinney are continuing to work on the Fall Festival that is scheduled for 12-13 November. The theme is Showdown at Sundance. So if you have not purchased a button for that dance you are on the Square Dancer's Most Wanted List. Our caller is Mike Sikorsky from Mesa Arizona and the Cuer is June Leverette from Tallahassee.

Philosophy: Lets talk about recruiting and retention. We don't feel that it's worth our time when we can only bring one person or a couple in for lessons. Lessons for just one person, do we cancel and hope that person comes back? Do we know who we are turning away, their potential or their worth. Had we turned away these people sitting at the head table, the officers of this convention, where would we be today? Jack and Zonie, Past President, Tom and Jean your present President and of course our Jacksonville's own Mr. and Mrs. Stovall. Something to think about.

Kinda reminds me of a story out in Texas. I went to an ole country church, one Sunday and I happened to be the only one there. So this preacher in Texas cancelled his church service because only one person showed up. I told that preacher, out on my ranch I feed my cattle every day, at feeding time if only one cow shows up,....I feed it.

West Coast Report by Ken & Sue Brown

We can not begin to express our appreciation for the fantastic Presidents, Red, White and Blue Dance which owed its success to Don and Ann Slocum and their committee. We are looking forward to the Second Annual event which is already in the planning stage. It will be the same time, same place, and of course the same great participants. Fliers are available through Don and Ann or members of the West Coast.

During the past three months we have had the privilege of attending six graduations across the West Coast Area and learned of four others after the fact. It is obvious that the activity has been joined by a number of eager new members. In addition, the number of Anniversary events have been encouraging. Five of our area clubs have celebrated twenty plus years of existence. Banner Raids and Knothead ceremonies have increased the numbers in attendance at many of our area dances.

One of our newer groups, Promenade Squares, hosted twenty one squares recently due to the combination of Knothead and Banner Bandit participation. This is a club that has a regular attendance of eight squares and who earlier this year were without a caller and lost their hall on the original scheduled night, forcing them to change both night and club caller. Of course this required the work of the club and its officers to promote, plan, and orchestrate the entire gala. The results were far above their expectations and the sense of accomplishment has built the morale of the members.

We were pleased to learn that one of our clubs, The Rainbow Ramblers, has increased so greatly that it is moving to a larger hall to accommodate its growing numbers.

Many area organizations have closed during the summer season, due to the migration of our snowbirds and some callers and cuers as well. Most will resume during the months of October and November. If you are visiting our area you may wish to check on the Summer schedules.

Our final membership dance of the season was held in Sebring. The Spring Fling, held at the Civic Center April 11 was lacking only one thing, the absence of M.C. and caller, Chuck Leamon. Larry Gow assumed the role of M.C. Carol Leamon, with the aid of The Harmony Hoedowners, was her usual Hostess with the Mostest, welcoming the dancers and providing them with a delightful display of refreshments. The crowd enjoyed immensely the calls and cues of Larry Gow, Carl Rod, Nick Petrone, Harold Piersdorf, Jim Brown, and Dick Chase.

Our March Association Meeting brought to the floor two resignations which were accepted with deep regret. Secretaries, Richard Heinrich and Jeri Matteson due to illness and our Pinellas North Representatives, Charlie and Gladys Phillips. Charlie and Gladys have held this position for the past eight years and have been constant supporters of the West Coast. Ken and Betty Binder have agreed to carry the entire County at this time.

Southeast Report by Fred & Carolyn Chatos

Our March dance was held in Deerfield Beach at the Pioneer Park Recreation Center. April we danced at Stuart Recreation Center and in May we were at Old Davie School House. On May second the Suncats hosted a fund raiser to help the Port St Lucie area fire victims, in Stuart. On that day we had our monthly dance in Davie (the southern part of the area), and donated the proceeds of the 50/50 sales to their cause. Between the two fund raisers we raised more than \$1,000 to be used to help fire victims. We did not have any dancers lose their homes but the community is larger than just square dancers.

In our area we have a handicapable square dance club called the Left Allemanders. The Southeast Florida Square and Round Dance Association has welcomed them into the federation as associate members with badges. This will allow them to attend any of our dances as members. We have had the normal hospital stays by dancers and the ever present problems of age and activity conflicts. We pray that we can reduce these problem and keep everyone happy and healthy.

In my report of February 19, 1999, I stated that the southeast board of directors supported the concept of a single dance level below advanced. I need to make a correction. The Board had discussed this and voted to allow it to be taken to the Southeast Callers Association. We as an area association have not taken any position on this concept.

PUBLICATION REPORTS

Keepin Posted by George Knapp

Keepin Posted continues as a quarterly publication printed and distributed to our Central Florida Association members with copies to all association publications.

The April issue of 800 copies was distributed with complimentary copies to all of our new graduates along with a free pass to our CFA fifth Saturday dance.

Keepin Posted is alive and well.

Panhandle Press Report by Gary Ping

I would like to thank the dancers who submitted articles and the callers and vendors who purchased ads in the Press. The advertisements continue to offset the cost of publishing the Panhandle Press.

I would like to thank Fred and Shirley Cornett for their assistance the past three years on the Panhandle Press. They served as my proof readers, ad chairman and also reproduced the press for distribution. I cannot thank them enough for all their help.

The third quarter issue will be published in July. Submission date for articles or ads is June 18, 1999. You can send articles to my mail address or my email account; garyping@worldnet.att.net

4 W'S report by George Oglesby

We are still here, now in our 34th year and printing 3000 copies.

Grapevine report by Charlie & Val Newsome

The Grapevine is alive and well in the Northeast. We are still printing and distributing 350 copies per issue.

Happily, we are still "on the road" quite often, with club anniversaries and class graduations. For those times when there is a class graduation and a club anniversary scheduled the same night, we try to get someone to cover for us and get the pictures and any necessary write ups. So far we have been successful, thanks to Jack & Kathy McKinney.

We are in the process of rearranging and adding pages to the Northeast's web site. Hopefully making it easier to get to the information desired without having to read thru a lot of history, etc. We have also expanded the Special Events Calendar to show all activities that have been scheduled and not just the coming two or three months.

Our special thanks to Bruce Morgan for sharing his expertise and programs for the State Convention. We will start activating our Convention sites as soon as the 45th Convention has reached its successful conclusion.

As a reminder, please send us information of your benefit dances where ALL of the proceeds go to the charity mentioned in the ad. We'll print what we have room for without charge.

We continue to welcome items from ALL associations, especially your Association dances, that will be of interest to our readers. We want to let NEFSARDA dancers know where to dance when they are on the road.

West Coast Dancer report by Ken & Sue Brown

Circulation numbers are expected to decrease somewhat for the next two issues due to the migration of snowbirds and the closing of many area clubs during the summer months. Advertising has continued to increase and is most assuredly helpful in defraying the printing

costs. We are looking forward to the 2000 State Convention promotional material. The publicity Chairman will be hard pressed to surpass the releases supplied by this years committee. Several Callers, Cuers, and Clubs have already provided us with the schedule changes and updates for the Fall and Winter Season. The prompt response is greatly appreciated. We find an increase in schedule requests as well as information has occurred due to internet connections. At the May meeting of the West Coast Association, Sue and I submitted a resignation as printers and a new contract for services was awarded to D & T Printers. Its acceptance was based upon both price and delivery. We will continue as Editors, at least until January 1, 2000. We have enjoyed the work, but feel the change will be mutually beneficial. The July 1, 1999 deadline for the August/September Issue will be adhered to in order to provide the printer with all information on a timely basis.

Bow & Swing Report by Bill Boyd

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our advertisers, subscribers and sponsors for their continuing support.

In the past few months many clubs asked for magazines for their graduates. If you know of any clubs that have not asked for magazines for their graduates, please mention to them that it makes a nice addition for the graduates.

If you know of clubs not dancing for the summer, please let us know so that instead of saying "No club news this month." we can say " closed for summer, dancing again on..." and give the date.

For those people emailing photographs we require at least 300 dpi images. And don't forget you can email any club news to rgb@gdi.net.

We would like to thank the clubs for sending more photos. It makes the magazine more interesting. Please keep it up. I have noticed more people including their own captions. What's the matter, you don't trust us?

State Convention Reports

1999 by Jim and Jan McConnaha

You can see the results on what has been going on for the last four years since we were appointed. It has been a great fun time for us. We have had some of the best people in the world working for us. The people deserving a round of applause, are our committee chairmen. We can't say enough about the help that we have received, our committee and all of you. The publications did a tremendous job of putting out the information that our publicity chairman, Duke and Doris, distributed. It has been great, the logos and all of our things like that, and the covers of the magazines, you all have given us publicity that would have cost us a fortune. We like to keep the money so that we can distribute it back to you. At this point in time it looks like we will have a dime or two to give to each association.

According to the guidelines, the publications should submit a request for your funds within 10 days. The Hall of Fame is suppose to submit a statement of your financial condition and we would like to have that. Anyone that has bills that are suppose to be paid by us, please submit them before the end of the convention. We are looking forward to the great "Kickoff" tonight.

The attendance looks like about 1800. All of the upcoming chairman and their boar are invited to breakfast at the Quality Inn at 9:00 AM to discuss any problems that have occurred.

2000 by Don and Bonnye Bell

Progress report:

The Kick-off is here and we are ready!

Last night we sold some Early Bird tickets for the ones who were leaving early today. But tonight after the kick-off, we will begin to sell the Early Bird tickets for \$14.00, tonight only! Do not take Early Bird slips with you and send them in later, the \$14.00 price is only good for tonight. Also, booster buttons will be on sale for \$1.00 each.

Money is always the top concern of all Convention Chairmen. We are working with a deficient of 6000.00 (the Convention Center fee) over our last Northeast Convention. Presently, the count is around 1800 and Northeast last convention count was 2,300, so we could be light there. Basically, the net proceeds from our convention will not be as lucrative next year as in the past conventions.

I know it's Northeast's responsibility for putting on the Convention and it will be done. But I also believe that it is the responsibility of every dancer in Florida to get as many dancers to the Convention as they can. The 46th National Convention had 4,200 dancers attend from Florida and I would be tickled to death to get 2,400 dancers to attend the 46th State Convention. Is this asking too much?

We want this kick-off to be a surprise for you, so we are asking the Presidents of the Associations to come to the stage after the kick-off, to pick-up your buttons, registration forms and traveling banners. And at the same time, leave me a list of the big dances in your area.

There is one banner for each association and each banner has a pen attached. We would like for you to start it off at a club and display it. Then write the name of the club on it. Then pass it on to another club. Bring it back to the next State Convention and it will go on display and it will be there for everyone to see where it has been. It will be fun. Just something to promote.

2001 by Fred and Carolyn Chatos

The executive committee has met and the planning is started. Suggestions are coming in and I am having fun trying to consider all ideas.

The Lakeland Center has been contacted to insure that we have the dates for the year 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 kick-off is in the planning stages, as are the logo and slogan.

Now that we have only the year until we have our kickoff we are going to start to really get busy. The kickoff is in the planning stages and we will be finalizing the needs for the 2001 convention. All of the committee is looking forward to this year of work and we pledge a fantastic time at the 2001 convention.

2002 by Fred and Shirley Cornett

During the past three months we reviewed the 1996 and 1998 Convention notebooks. There is a wealth of important information in these documents that will help us be more effective in our planning.

To date we have filled six committee chairs and are negotiating several more.

We sent a letter to the Florida Callers Association nominating Bob Poyner of DeFuniak Springs as our Caller Chairman. The letter nominating June Leverette of Tallahassee as our Cuer Chairperson will be sent to the Round Dance Council of Florida in early June.

The initial meeting with the Director of the Lakeland Center was held on May 28th. The meeting went well and another meeting will be held before the end of 1999.

The first organizational meeting to select the theme and dress and to come up with a couple of fund raising ideas will be held in the next ninety days.

The time is really flying by. We know that we have a big job to do, but we are pleased with the support that our association members have offered us. With their help, we're confident we'll everything done on time and have a great convention.

2003 by Ken and Sue Brown

We must admit we are excited, delighted and scarred to death. Since our appointment, we have been preparing a time line and calendar of events for use in setting goals for our committees and ourselves.

Arrangements are being made to hold our first planning meeting during the weekend of the Fall Fun Fest to facilitate attendance for those members who reside at a distance. A presentation will be made at that time for a theme suggestion and opened to additional ideas from the group. Then work will begin for an appropriate costume design. But, don't expect to hear about the costume until you attend the State Convention 2002.

Appointments have been made for 70% of our total board. We are thrilled at the response, and look forward to working with all of the West Coast Association on this endeavor.

Caller and Cuer Chairmen have been chosen, and have accepted; and we are waiting for the approval of The Florida Callers Association and The Florida Round Dance Council. Hopefully these appointments will be confirmed during the two organizations meetings this weekend.

Arrangements with The Lakeland Center have been delayed pending a decision by The Coordinating Committee and The Florida Federation concerning the date of future Conventions. This facet will be attended to immediately upon our return from the National Convention in Indianapolis in June. Plan now to attend the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention in 2003!

NEC National Report by Worley and Nan Carrier

The emergency telephone number at the National Convention in Indianapolis is 317-262-1634.

The registration at the 48th as of May 8th is 8,388 and they are down quiet a few from our convention. Florida has 462 registered at this time. Florida is in fifth place in attendees and Florida has been in the top five for many years.

Nan and I have been in contact with a lot of State Conventions in other states and Florida puts on one of the best and one of the most attended. You should be very proud of your leaders in the Federation and people who put on the State Convention because you do a find job comparing to other states.

The opening ceremonies for the National will be at 5 PM Wednesday on the East side of the Convention Center. The Parade of States will be 6 PM Saturday. There will be no dancing going on during the Parade of States.

The next biding city for the year 2003 will be Oklahoma. They will be the only ones.

Nan and I were appointed as advisors for New Orleans. They decided that they did not have the support from the square dancers in the federation and they backed out in Baltimore during the pre-convention. It got a little hot in New Orleans for Nan and myself so the NEC sent Nan and I to Indianapolis so we could cool off.

Florida Square Dance Hall of Fame by Mary Butlak

The Hall of Fame Committee has met twice in 1999, once to review the resumes presented and again to count the ballots.

Four couples will be inducted into the Hall of Fame during the awards ceremony tonight, May 30, 1999 at 7 P. M. They are Cliff and Jean Allen, Worley and Nan Carrier, Art and Martha Springer and Marvin and Olena Taylor. Marvin Taylor's will be posthumously, due to his death in 1997. Olena Taylor cannot be with us this evening. Their plaque will be accepted by Cliff and Jean Allen on behalf of Olena. Northwest Association will present the Taylor's plaque at a meeting of their association.

Please join us this evening at the presentation ceremony

Chet Vetter has already installed the large plaque at the Hall of Fame display at the Strawberry Squares.

I would like to thank Chet for his assistance on the purchase of the plaques and for keeping the cost down. The lettering was done for free by Simmons Engraving.

Due to the number of inductees, the cost will be pro-rated over a period of three years. This will spread the expenses and avoid a large out lay of money from one convention's proceeds.

We are planning a meeting in the fall so that we can work on next years possible inductees. Please get your resumes in early for your nominations. We have our meeting in February so have the information to us by January 15th.

Legacy Report by Cliff and Jean Allen

Jean & I, as LEGACY Trustees, attended the LEGACY XIV meeting in Cleveland Ohio on 14-16 May 1999. Peg & Doc Tirrell are the Chairman of Legacy and conducted the weekend meeting. The primary item of interest at this meeting was the meeting being held in the next room with the National Square Dance Committee of Organizations (NSDCO). This brand new organization was discussed at the FFSD meeting in February and described in the USDA report just given. As I understand its purpose is to come up with recommendations for solving our problems of a declining world population of square dancers. I was somewhat amazed to find out that our major problem is the square dance dress code being too strict in regards to the square dance activity's image for attracting new prospective square dancers. Again, I understood that the major subject of the whole days meeting was square dance dress code. I believe the end result of the meeting was to take a recommendation of a very relaxed dress code back to each of their respective organizations (10-15 different organizations) for a vote of approval or disapproval. The relaxed dress recommended was like men could wear short sleeve shirts and women could wear slacks.

Several LEGACY committee reports were given and further directions to be pursued were discussed at the LEGACY meeting. These included the Folk Dance Bill to be submitted by congress as discussed by Duke McClesky earlier, square dancer recruiting and retention seminars to be given by LEGACY at the National Convention in Indianapolis.

Federation Members that are Legacy Trustees Include Cliff & Jean Allen, Joe & Joy Vacarri, Frank and Nan Habersberger and I believe Jack & Zonie Taylor.

I have heard some complaints from members of the FFSD that the Legacy Trustees don't represent any square dance organizations since they join as individual organizations. There are several State Square Dance Associations (e.g., Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, etc.) that are Legacy Affiliates and do represent their State Organizations at the LEGACY meetings. I would like to recommend that the FFSD join LEGACY as an Affiliate Member and designate the FFSD President as its representative.

Motion Made

Cliff Allen made a motion that the Florida Federation of Square Dancers join Legacy as an Affiliate Member.

This motion passed.

USDA REPORT (Supplemental) by Duke and Doris McCleskey

I would like to report that the USDA National Committee was enlarged to four couples, which by chance includes three of the couples being from Florida. Guess we're (Florida) still classified as "Workers". This committee is now approaching a 'push' through the US Congress and has established 'guidelines' for this campaign.

WHAT I REALLY WANT TO BRING TO YOU IS THE FOLLOWING E-MAIL WHICH I RECEIVED THIS PAST THURSDAY (MAY 20TH 1999), AND I QUOTE....IN AN EFFORT TO ENHANCE THE SQUARE DANCE ACTIVITY, THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SQUARE DANCE ORGANIZATIONS AT ITS MAY 15TH 1999 MEETING HELD IN CLEVELAND OHIO, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BIENNIAL MEETING OF LEGACY, VOTED TO RECOMMEND TO THEIR MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS TO EXPAND THE DEFINITION OF PROPER SQUARE DANCE

ATTIRE, WHICH FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS HAS INCLUDED PRAIRIE SKIRTS, TO NOW INCLUDE DRESS SLACKS AND DRESS JEANS FOR MEN AND WOMEN AND SHORT SLEEVE SHIRTS FOR THE MEN. ORGANIZATIONS PRESENT AND REPRESENTED AT THE MEETING WERE: CALLERLAB, CONTRALAB, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GAY SQUARE DANCE CLUBS, LEGACY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE SUPPLIERS, NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION, NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CAMPERS ASSOCIATION, ROUNDALAB, USA WEST CONVENTION POLICY BOARD, UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA ORGANIZATION, A MEMBER, BUT NOT PRESENT, AMERICAN CALLERS ASSOCIATION.

FFSD (USDA) INSURANCE ACCOUNT REPORT by Duke and Doris McClesky.

CHECKING ACCOUNT:

Balance Forward as of 02/12/99

Receipts since 02/12/99

Florida Cloggers

Central

Northwest

Northeast

Total Receipts

Disbursements since 02/12/99

USDA Insurance Little Rock

Florida Federation

Total Disbursements

Balance On Hand as of 05/30/99

NOTE: The item of \$100.00 to Florida Federation is to pay Florida's 1999 dues to USDA, which each year is deducted from the Insurance Account.

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Folk Dance by Duke and Doris McClesky

I want to thank each one of you for helping out, sponsoring and featuring as a theme the form of the American Folk Dance for this year's convention.

I know that I am suppose to report on the progress of The National Folk Dance, which remains at 30 States proclaiming. We have formulated plans and a set of goals that have been published nationally and when we get 8 more states we will go to the Congress and get this thing passed nationally.

History Report by Jack & Zonie Taylor

History of the Federation is still being complied by Zonie. The 1999 Convention Book will be completed when we receive the final report to include in the book as a final item. We have gotten a good start on the 2000 book. We are compiling material to be included in this book. Again we ask the Convention Chairman that any pictures that are sent to us have information on the back. This information should include the names of the people and the event that was taking place. This will help as we compile the book. Again thanks to publication editors for sending us copies.

ASCAP-BMI

No report

Old Business

State Convention Procedures Committee by Murl Herbert

Changes to the State Convention Procedures were voted on and passed by the Coordinating Committee and now go to the three bodies for vote. The changes were

- 1. Took out the requirement that the State Convention General Chairman had to be approved by the Federation. Each Association will appoint their own General Chairman.
 - 2. Unspecified house keeping changes.

Motion made by Murl Herbert to make the above changes in the procedures was passed.

The Round Dance Council made some changes in the procedure for their Vice Chairman and the Callers Association will do the same for their Vice Chairman and those changes will be incorporated into the procedures.

The State Convention Coordinating Committee, the group that controls the convention procedure, put forth a motion to change the convention to Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the 3rd weekend in March, starting in the year 2004. This motion was made as a vehicle to make a decision on the matter. The Round Dance Council, the Florida Callers Association and the Florida Federation of Square Dancers all have to vote on this. The majority will prevail.

Murl brought this motion to the floor of the Federation.

The Federation voted on this and defeated the motion by a vote of $45 \frac{1}{2}$ to $13 \frac{1}{2}$. Some of the reasons:

Against the change were:

- 1. Not being on a holiday, the dancers would have to take two days off from work and the people working on the convention some of them would have to take three days off.
- 2. The motel and camping accommodations would be more expensive and less available, as this is the peak season for tourist, partly due to spring training for baseball. Also restaurants and other public facilities are more crowded.
- 3. Some feared that if we moved the date that we possibly could not get the Convention Center back on Memorial Weekend if things did not work out.
 - 4. The Convention could fall on Easter Weekend.

For the change:

- 1. To draw the snowbirds before they go back North.
- 2. There are no love bugs at this time of year.

The results of the survey that was conducted to determine when the majority of the dancers wanted to hold the State Convention, revealed that the majority of the dancers that responded favored the change. There were 718 responses, 645 for the change and 73 against. Of those responding 190 were part time residence and 528 were permanent residents. 40% wanted Friday, Saturday and Sunday and 60% wanted Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

New Square Dance Outfit by Elsa Huddleston

At our last meeting I reported that appliques could be made from the yellow dress fabric. I did this on my dress and it did not show up at all. I could also see that if any of the women did this incorrectly it could ruin the entire outfit. I discussed this problem with Tom and Jean and as a result I got estimates from the same company that made the previous Florida emblem we used on the national outfit. They prepared a sample using the pastel colors and sent us a work up which we thought looked very good. Since the Southeast Association was having a board meeting the next day after I received it, I took it to the board meeting. We wanted the emblem available as soon as possible before too many women tried to put the yellow fabric applique on their skirts, so the Southeast board voted to approve the purchase of 1,000 emblems and have 200 distributed to each Association at the meeting today. The cost for this is \$1,562.15 which means each emblem would cost \$1.56. It is our suggestion that each association be given 200 emblems to sell to their dancers and return to the federation either \$1.56 for each one sold or the unsold emblems.

A motion was made for the Federation to reimburse the Southeast Association for the cost of the emblems and to determine a price to be charged for them.

This motion passed.

Prez announcement

The President announced that he would send the list of all of the e-mail address to all of the people having e-mail.

The static cling decals have arrived and each association is to pick up 200 each.

Showcase of Ideas

George and Shirley Knapp, Chairman of the Showcase of Ideas, need names of those that would be willing to man the showcase at the National Square Dance Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.

New Business

President's Breakfast May 30, 1999 by Bruce Morgan

Yesterday morning the presidents of all 5 associations met at the Quality Inn. All the vice presidents were also invited. We had a very nice breakfast followed by a productive meeting.

If you all remember from the last Federation meeting the board approved Colleen and I, the interface between this Federation and Tom Perry of the Florida Dance Web. With the idea of making the dance web consistent throughout. Because of this appointment I requested all associations to return to their areas and during their next meeting and for all future boards to appoint a web liaison that will forward all changes slated for their associations to Colleen and I or whomever our replacement will be in the future. Since the web is a valuable new advertising tool and is here to stay, all presidents will see that this is a permanent position in each association.

This was followed by a general discussion where we all suggested ways to increase awareness of what is happening in each other's areas.

If each area would forward their flyers for their special dances to other area's publications, they would be printed and maybe we all could help support each other by visiting each others special functions.

It was suggested that each convention could forward some ribbons to the other area presidents and have their board assist in ticket sales, it might be a way to get more ribbons sold and save the convention board some road trips. Just a Thought.

There were quite a few other items discussed which are too numerous to mention here but each area will try to implement the items that interested them the most.

All in all, we had a very productive meeting and everyone went away ready to dance some more, but there was one very big suggestion by Manny, President of the Northeast Association. Not really a suggestion but a promise, next year when he hosts this meeting, it will not start at 7:30 A. M. but more like noon.

Nominating Committee appointed

President, Tom and Jean Hancock appointed the following to the Nominating Committee for the upcoming election.

Chairman Cliff Allen Pee Wee Stewart Jack Taylor

Announcements

Next Meeting:
Sunday, October 24, 1999
0900 at the Community Center, Defuniak Springs, Fl.

Host motel is the Best Western Defuniak Springs Rate is \$45, identify yourself as a Square Dancer 850-892-5111

There is a dance Friday and Saturday night, golf on Friday and other activities planned. A flyer will be sent to you.

Adjourned

Secretary:

Dee Dee and Bessie Stovall