

**MINUTES OF
FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS MEETING
MAY 26, 2002, LAKELAND, FLORIDA**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by the President, Ken Brasfield. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mary Stewart gave the invocation. Shirley Cornett called the roll and stated a quorum in attendance.

Ken welcomed representatives of the Florida State Retail Association of Square and Round Dancers, Sandy & Ralph King and Joyce & Carl Reck.

Ken reported that Chet Vetter is at home and much improved since our last report.

The Minutes of the February 23-24, 2002 meetings were approved as published. Later in the meeting the minutes were amended to reflect that money to begin the insurance fund was advanced by the Florida Federation of Square Dancers not the USDA.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Carole McKenzie reported that the Checking Account balance was \$4574.19 on February 23, 2002. For the period of February 23-May 26, 2002 the Receipts were \$4976.19 and Disbursements were \$4480.49. As of May 26, 2002 the Checking Account balance is \$4480.49, the Contingency Fund balance is \$4000, the Insurance Account is \$1601.31, and the Total of All Accounts is \$10,081.80. The report is filed for audit.

PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT: We have been in contact with the Director Showcase of Ideas for the 51st NSDC. We reserved three tables for state of Florida. We were notified there are no table coverings or skirting. We have made arrangements to supply those. We will be transporting all the displays for the three tables.

We have acquired 5,000 small multi-colored conch shells plus and additional 1,000 shells donated by Dee Dee and Bessie Stovall. With the help of Dee Dee and Bessie Stovall and Virginia Cook we have glued posts and clasps on the backs. They will be used for giveaways at the showcase. We also have 500 Florida State maps to be given away and approximately 300 items from the Florida Citrus Commission.

We have had dancers from all the associations volunteer to be greeters at the Showcase during the convention. "We Thank You!"

We have called the Welcome Centers and as of May 1, 2002, they have the following number of Square Up brochures remaining: Approximately 200 remain at I-10 - 2,400 were delivered in November; approximately 1,500 remain at I-75 - 2,400 were delivered in November; approximately 500 remain at Highway 231 - 1,200 were delivered in November; and approximately 2,000 remain at I-95 - 3,600 were delivered in November. We checked with the printer again and the prices are still the same as quoted to us early in the year. The prices are approximately \$525 for 10,000 copies on colored paper and approximately \$685 for 15,000 copies on colored paper.

Respectfully submitted,
Jack & Kathy McKinney

ASSOCIATION REPORTS: See attached reports.

PUBLICATION REPORTS: See attached reports.

STATE CONVENTION REPORTS: See attached reports.

NEC: No report.

FLORIDA SQUARE DANCE HALL OF FAME: See attached report.

LEGACY: Bob Spence reported that it appears that Legacy will cease operations.

FLORIDA FEDERATION HISTORY REPORT: See attached report.

USDA REPORT: See attached report.

USDA INSURANCE REPORT: See attached report.

AMERICAN FOLK DANCE REPORT: Duke McClesky reported that the House Joint Bill #15 is in committee and has over 100 sponsors. We will try to push this bill through beginning January.

ASCAP/BMI: Dave Nihart reported that the ASCAP/BMI fees for the 2002 convention is computed as follows: \$.064 times the number of paid attendees, plus ½ the number of vendors. The check should be forwarded to Dave and Shirley Nihart as soon as it is available.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion was made and carried that no action be taken on the request from Caller Lab for a list of Federation members.

Murl Herbert moved that the first item of new business at the November meeting be the election of the incoming officers. The new officers will be installed at the end of the meeting. This will ensure that the business of the meeting will flow uninterrupted. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken Brasfield appointed Murl Herbert as Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the 2002-2003 slate of officers. Murl stated that Jim McConnaha and Dee Dee Stovall have agreed to serve with him as committee members. Ken also announced that the nominee for Parliamentarian will be decided by the Nominating Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joyce Reek, President of the Florida Retail Vendors Association, stated that the 48th State Convention (2002) has more full service vendors than the guidelines allow. She then stated that the vendors were very upset and think that it is wrong that the convention did not adhere to the guidelines.

Fred Cornett, General Chairman of the 48th State Convention, responded that he is responsible for the number of full service vendors attending the convention. Fred said that he does not believe that there are too many vendors based on his calculations from the 2001 attendance. However, if there are too many, he wishes to apologize to the vendor association. In closing, he said that he has spoken with the majority of the vendors and they seem pleased with their sales this year.

The next meeting will be on November 10, 9:00 am in Lakeland at the Best Western Diplomat.
The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred & Shirley Cornett, Secretary

CENTRAL FLORIDA SQUARE & ROUND DANCERS ASSOCIATION

The CFA has had another successful year. We held our own in members, showed a little profit and had a great time of fun and fellowship doing this. While we lost a club or two, we had some new ones take their place.

One of these new clubs is the Patriots of Orlando. The CFA was well represented at their first dance and they showed us a great time. This club dances on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month with Caller Whit Brown and Cuers Phyllis Williams and Joanne Helton alternating weeks on rounds. We wish them the best of luck.

Our second annual *Shamrock Swing* was a success. Attendance was up and even after having to pay more for the Orlando hall, profit was up. Tony Oxendine and Whit Brown calling and Jimmy and Carol Griffin cueing made both days a fun experience. Next years *Shamrock Swing* will be held at the same location with Tim Marriner, Whit Brown, Jimmy and Carol Griffin. If you remember our first *Swing*, this is the same team that made it such a success and we know you will join Chairman Randy and Carol Poole for a fun weekend in 2003.

Our *Picnic in the Park* to be held October 4 & 5 at River Forest Camp Ground, Deland is all coming together. Come join us for a fun weekend, Casino night on Friday, followed by a sleepover (you haven't lived until you have shared a large room with Colleen, Carol and others for the night), fun and games on Saturday and ending with a Dance with Skip Cleland and Bew Landwehr. Flyers are around and ask Randy & Carol, Bruce & Colleen or any CFA Officer for full information.

The 50th State Convention, chaired by Bruce & Colleen, had a meeting of the full committee yesterday and it appears to be on track to being a great convention. Bruce will be giving his report later in this meeting.

This is our last Federation meeting as President of the CFA, as we are finishing our second consecutive term. We have considered it an honor to represent CFA to the Federation and to meet and work and play with so many wonderful people - square dancers.

We hope to see you in a square, real soon.

Jim & JanMcConnaha, President

NORTHWEST FLORIDA SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

If the North West delegation is a bit thin on the ground this morning, it is probably because - as Shirley admitted during the Roll Call - she and Fred have brought everyone to their knees over the past couple of days.

The Association Officers and Delegates have met only once since the last Federation Meeting, at Ft. Walton Beach on April 27. Nothing out of the ordinary transpired: the good news was that we continue to be in good shape financially, thanks to all the hard work by the usual band of volunteers. The bad news was that the Nominating Committee charged with filling a complete slate of new Officers for 2003 were not having much success. I have checked with the Chairmen again here and unfortunately they confirmed that so far they do not have a single nomination for any of the positions. This is a serious situation which is approaching crisis proportions: we are just hoping that they will have better news to report on this front at our next Meeting on August 31 when, according to our Bylaws, we should be electing these Officers to their new posts.

The other bit of bad news was that the Pensacola Special Steppers, our very successful handicapable club, had declined the invitation to this Convention. We were told that this was not due to any financial reason - we would certainly have attempted to assist with this, had that been the case - but because of the difficulty of recruiting an adequate number of chaperones. Apparently they feel that they need a one-to-one ratio and this means finding quite a lot of willing volunteers.

We took note of the advice we received at the last Meeting that Tom and Jean Hancock, being Past-Presidents, could not serve as Delegates and replaced them by promoting Gene and Mary Hamilton from Alternates to Delegates. Since this is the last Meeting for this slate of Delegates, we felt that it was unnecessary to replace the Hamiltons as Alternates.

The only local Special Dance of note in recent weeks was the Panama City Beach Ball on May 2 - 4 and although we were unfortunately not able to be there, we understand that as usual this was a well-

attended and very enjoyable event with Tony Oxendine and Darryl MacMillan doing the calling and Jack and Muriel Raye cuing the rounds.

I suppose there is one other piece of bad news which I should report. Up to last year, we had three square dance clubs in Tallahassee but none of them were really very strong – it was not unusual for any of them to have only two squares – so when a proposal was made for some sort of merger towards the end of last year, many of us thought that this was actually a good move, even if it did mean one or two less clubs. When the idea was put to the vote at each of the three clubs, two voted in favor but one club decided to continue to go it alone. The merger of the other two clubs duly took place at the beginning of this year and they decide to keep both their weekly dance nights, using one for a formal dance and the other for a workshop. The sad fact is that the merger has not proved to be a success: the workshops were abandoned very quickly and the dances are back to two or three squares, so we seem to have lost a club and gained nothing.

The Meeting on April 27 was held in conjunction with our final meeting and rehearsal for this Convention and we are confident that by the time we present this Report you will all agree that you have just enjoyed the best State Convention in years. If not, I can assure you that it was not for lack of effort on the part of Fred and Shirley and their respective Chairmen and helpers, who have done an outstanding job over the past two or three years and particularly during the first few months of this year to make this Convention a resounding success.

This will be our last Report to the Federation and we would like to thank you all - and we must also particularly include Dee Dee and Bessie in this - for making us feel so welcome and for making what was initially an intimidating task very much less daunting. Thank you all.

Tony and Patti Gee, Presidents

SOUTHEAST SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

This has been a hard time for the Southeast Association. First our secretary had to quit for health reasons. Then our treasurer went into the hospital for surgery on his hip and foot and he will be out of action for six months or better. As we reported in the past we have gone to meeting with our board every other month, which has proved to be harder when planning our dances because we are talking three to four months in advance now.

One of our clubs folded and we had to look for another Hall for our Mothers Day Dance. In planning for another hall, the City of Fort Lauderdale had to close us down for our dance as the full city was involved with a Air & Sea Show the weekend of our dance. So Ma Bell was used and after many calls back from our board members we shutdown for the month of May. Our April dance was small in attendance but a great dance for those who made it. Our March Dance fell on the North end of the Association and on the same weekend as the big Central Dance in Orlando so we where down on dancers, but we had good food and good calling from four of the Southeast Callers.

The Southeast Callers and Dancers helped Al Guthier hold a benefit dance for his son-in-law who needs a lung transplant. All though our numbers where down, we collected over \$2500 for him. Again we had bad scheduling but had to go when we could get the hall. Lots of the Southeast Callers were there to call and the dancers had a great time. We are setting up for a raffle to be held this Fall at the beginning of our season. As hall prices go higher and dancers get fewer it gets harder to have a Monthly Dance.

Virginia Grenier, President

NORTHEAST FLORIDA SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION REPORT

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY ACTIVITIES IN THE NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION SINCE THE FEBRUARY FEDERATION MEETING.

THE BOARD ATTENDED AN ANNUAL SHRINERS DANCE PUT ON BY THE RIVER RAMBLERS IN PALATAKA, FL ON MARCH 23,2002. WE MARCHED IN THE EASTER PARADE IN ST. AUGUSTINE ON EASTER WITH OVER SIXTY DANCERS PARTICIPATING.

WE HELD A 5TH SATURDAY DANCE ON MARCH 30, 2002 WITH OVER 120 DANCERS ATTENDING.

WE ATTENDED THE RIVER RAMBLERS 4TH ANNIVERSARY ON APRIL 4TH, THE SEABREEZE SINGLES DANCE TO BENEFIT THE HOMELESS SHELTER ON APRIL 6TH, AND THE GATEWAY CALLERS ASSOCIATION MEETING ON APRIL 7TH, THE ROLLAWAYS 14TH ANNIVERSARY ON APRIL 9TH, THE JOY SEAS 11TH ANNIVERSARY ON APRIL 10, AND THE MOOSE PROMENADERS ANNIVERSARY ON APRIL 11. THE GRADUATION BALL ON APRIL 20TH, AND THE MANDARIN MARAUDERS 17TH ANNIVERSARY ON APRIL 23.

THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE HELD A WORLD FEST ON APRIL 27 WITH OVER 30 COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING. WE WERE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE AND HAD OVER 65 DANCERS PUTTING ON A DEMONSTRATION AND MODELING SQUARE DANCE ATTIRE OVER THE LAST CENTURY. WE ALSO PASSED SCORES OF FLIERS ABOUT SQUARE DANCING TO MANY INTERESTED VIEWERS. WE SPONSORED A BLOOD BANK DANCE ON MAY 4 AND HAD OVER 120 DANCERS ATTENDING.

WE ATTENDED GRADUATION DANCES OF THE GRAND SQUARES IN GAINESVILLE, FL ON MAY 14 AND OF THE RIVER RAMBLERS AND THE JEYKEL ISLAND SQUARES ON MAY 16. AS YOU MAY SEE WE MAKE AN EFFORT TO ATTEND ALL GRADUATIONS, ANNIVERSARIES AND SPECIAL DANCES BEING HELD IN OUR AREA. THIS REALLY PRESENTS A CHALLENGE TO THE BOARD BUT IS VERY HELPFUL IN GETTING TO KNOW THE DANCERS AND CALLERS IN THE NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION.

WE HAVE BEEN GREATLY SADDENED DURING THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS IN THE LOSS OF THREE OF OUR VERY ACTIVE DANCERS NAMELY, TOM THORNTON OF THE MOOSE PROMENADERS, REX MCCAUL OF THE PLUS FOX, AND LARRY RAMSEY OF THE MANDARIN MARAUDERS, EACH OF THESE WERE VERY ACTIVE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE CLUBS AND WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND SOMEONE TO TAKE THEIR PLACE IN SQUARE DANCING.

WE ARE NOW LOOKING FORWARD TO ATTENDING THE NATIONAL CONVENTION IN ST. PAUL, OUR 5TH SATURDAY DANCE IN AUGUST AND OUR FANTASTIC FALL FIESTA IN NOVEMBER.

JOE & MARTHA HARDCASTLE, PRESIDENT

WEST COAST SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

John is pulled by the ear, by Paula, to the microphone (as always). Paula mentions that in order to get him up there he must be tugged!!

The W.C. has had a good year over all. Many clubs have been having lessons with at least 2 squares and as many as 6 squares. The spring has brought closings of course, like all of us here, our region has a great number of winter residents. But we have only had a few clubs disband altogether. To take their place we have had two clubs start up this spring. So we are alive and well!!

We have had many club demonstrations throughout the Association. Our State Fair allowed us again this year to hold a day of Square Dancing in one of the main halls. Attendance was in the hundreds with a very large audience coming and going all through the day. Some participation on the part of the audience was included. Many thanks were given to our area callers and cuers for the donation of their time.

Our Association dances have been attended with from 10-20 squares. However our membership has dropped a little from last year, but that could still increase.

This is our last meeting with you as Presidents of the W.C. we have had a lot of fun and met some very fine people. We will be turning over the Presidency at our Presidents Ball in September to Bob and Jenny Courter who we know will do a great job.

John & Paula Bouseman, President

KEEPIN' POSTED

1. Circulation is currently 400 copies consisting of 40-48 pages.
2. President requested more support for our advertising.
3. Items of personal interest:
 - A. Relay for Life - dancers raised over 44000 for American Cancer Society
 - B. Donated canned goods.
 - C. Toys for Tots - collected over 200 toys
4. Would really like to have more advertising for our publication.
5. October deadline is August 25.

Tom & Eivor Brown

PANHANDLE PRESS - No Report.

WHO-WHAT-WHEN-WHERE

We are still holding our own. We are not printing 1800 copies and they are still free to the dancers.

If I retire in June due to a down sizing, I plan to convert the paper to a new printing and distribution process by the end of the year.

Garland & Carole McKenzie

THE GRAPEVINE REPORT

Due to the cost of printing and the decline in ads, we have adjusted our printing down to 325 from 350. We just don't have as many copies left over from our subscribers and exchange customer list. We are now making a concentrated effort to bring in new ads from all sources in order to keep our subscription and ad rates low.

We have been busy since February attending graduations. Some pictures marking these occasions and the names of all graduates will appear in the next issue. Thanks to Bill Boyd at Bow & Swing, and the American Square Dance Magazine for furnishing us with free copies to give to all our graduates. We hope this gets them off on the right track as to where to find information about square dancing events.

We have brought with us ads for our Fall Festival for each of the other Association publications. We hope they will again exchange ads with us for our festival dances this year. Publication Editors, if you have not gotten your copy of our ad yet, please see us after the meeting- We'd also like to know when to expect your ad for your Festival.

Our goal has been to keep the quality of our publication up, and keeping our dancing readers informed of all aspects of square dancing. We always encourage comments and suggestions for the betterment of our publication.

These last few issues have been devoted to giving our readers a lot of information about the Florida State Convention and the National Convention in Minnesota. We hope to see a lot of you at both of these events.

We still solicit information from other associations that promotes square dancing. Our deadlines are the tenth of February, April, June, August, October and December. We would love to hear from you.

Charlie & Val Newsome

WEST COAST DANCER MAGAZINE

Good Morning:

The free publication, the West Coast Dancer, continues to maintain a seasonal circulation of 1000 to 3000 copies. Paid advertising contributes from 50 to 90 percent of the printing costs.

We encourage other Florida Associations to send notices and Ads for their special events for inclusion at no charge as a means of supporting the Square Dance movement.

Each year we print as many notices about the National Sq. and Rnd. Convention as we can. However, this year we were dropped from their computer system and did not receive timely press releases. This was of some concern because we wanted to have our Dancer displayed and also qualify for the Press Breakfast. Fortunately it was straightened out and at least three issues containing National Convention news were submitted in time. This qualified us for the Press Breakfast and now our #1 Ken and Sue Brown will represent the West Coast Dancer at the National Convention Press Breakfast.

Over the past 3 years we have had 3 printing companies print the Dancer. This June/July issue is the first issue printed by the latest company. Although they did a very good job, they may not have used the best photo reproduction process for our publication. We hope to have this corrected by the next printing.

Ed & Ginny Henning

BOW & SWING

Florida State Square & Round Dance magazine is alive, well and still publishing. We mail over 1200 subscriber issues each month. We work in concert with all local publications sharing ideas.

We work to support all square and round dance activity and especially our state convention. We like your club photos with or without captions.

If you would like to have sample copies of the Bow & Swing, just let us know.

Benefit dances are always listed or advertised at no charge.

Your club news letters are always published.

Bill Boyd

PS If your purpose in life is to leave the world a better place, shouldn't we consider making and leaving the square dance world a better place for our being here?

48th FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION - 2002

Thanks for coming to the convention. We want to thank ALL of the associations for their help in generating interest and the favorable publicity in the convention. The various publications really supported this convention and we are very grateful to the editors.

The books are not yet closed, but we feel confident that we will end up with a net profit of about \$8000. Each participating unit, callers association, cuers association and the Federation, should get about \$2000.

We will hold a Breakout Meeting tomorrow, May 27, at the Holiday Inn, North (just across the street from the Diplomat) at 9:30 AM. Light refreshments will be furnished. We will be available as long as you have questions that you would like us to answer.

Be sure to attend the 49th Convention's Kickoff tonight. You don't want to miss this really great show!

Fred & Shirley Cornett, General Chairmen

49TH FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION - 2003

The Kick Off underwent it's fine tuning this morning at 7:00 AM. It is now up to the spectators to determine how successful we have been. We will not be able to place any blame upon our caller Chairmen Don and Loretta Hanhurst. Their continued planning and timeless hours of rehearsal along

with the use of the hall are sure to pay off. Rounds under the direction of Sharon Roberts, have held six practices during the past month and a half. We are grateful to Curt and Tammy Worlock, who generously permitted the use of their hall for these sessions. Backdrops and scenery are largely credited to the artful designs and ingenuity of Bob and Maria Spence, with assembly provided by Dick Stevens and Zurhn Walker, helped by several other couples. Dick has done all of the layout work for our staging as well. We are extremely fortunate to have so many dedicated and creative members serving on our staff.

The badges are at hand and ready to distribute and ribbons will be sold following the kick-off this evening. We ask that each Association Editor pick up their registrations for insertion, Association Presidents please pick up forms to distribute as needed, and buttons to help us promote and advertise. We hope the leaders brought schedules for special dances with you.

Many of the West Coast are helping this weekend with hall monitoring to determine if hall assignments require any changes during the coming year. We are meeting with our counterparts whenever possible.

It is obvious that the Northwest has put a great deal of time and effort into this years event. The outcome speaks for itself. We will be hard pressed to equal or exceed their accomplishments. All of their staff have been of great help to our volunteers; answering questions and adding suggestions. Thank you Northwest.

We are holding a New Dancer Promotion which will occur on Sunday afternoon during the Convention. We hope to include all associations by providing tour bus options and side trips for the non-dancers to fill in the hours the dancers wish to be on the floor. We wish to eliminate the dread of the long drive which many have, compounded by the heavy traffic which occurs during the Holiday weekend. Look for our flyers which will further explain these additions.

We plan to hold our next meeting during August. This will allow our committee the necessary time to formulate their ideas and suggestions which they have observed during the last few days.

Will the 2003 Convention Board please rise.

We invite you to join us May 23, 24, 25, 2003 at the Lakeland Center to enjoy the Florida State Square and Round Dancers Convention.

Ken & Sue Brown, General Chairman

50TH FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION - 2004

Just another 12 months. That is what we have left until our kick-off. Just like the 49th Convention committee are doing this morning, we will be practicing for our kick-off next year at this time. We had a meeting with our whole committee yesterday afternoon. We went over the kick-off preparation and everything seems to be going along fine. Along with the Kick-off chairpersons, all other committees gave a report and asked all kinds of questions. The chairpersons are walking around this weekend asking questions and taking notes. I think we'll be ready for the 50th in two years.

Colleen & I had a meeting with Brenda Townson, our Lakeland Client Services Coordinator. We went over all of our and her requirements. We has some special requests that she is going to be working on and she will get back with us hopefully very shortly. We think you will be pleased if it all works out.

Our last big fund raiser was the refreshment stand and the silent auction at the Second Annual Shamrock Swing. As you heard from Jim McConnaha this was the place to be this past March 8th & 9th. The Third Annual Shamrock Swing will be held March 14 & 15, 2003 at the same place, St. John Vianney Catholic Church on South Blossom Trail in South Orlando. We had a lot of fun this year and raised some well need funds for the convention. Our next big fund raiser will be our "Picnic in the Park". This will be a 3 day - 2 night affair the first weekend in October. Friday night will be a Casino Night. We will have all the gambling games that you all are familiar with. Breakfast will be served on Saturday and Sunday mornings for a nominal charge. Saturday night will be a dance. Skip & Jennifer Cleland will be calling and Bew Landwehr will do the cueing. The dance is casual. Come and join in the fun. If you have a camper you can come and camp with us for only \$10.00 night. If you don't have

a camper you can come and sleep on the floor of the pavilion with Randy & Carol Pool and Colleen & I. You don't know what you're missing until you have slept with Randy & Carol Poole. You should have been there last year. There wasn't much sleeping but we really did have a ball. Oops!

Colleen has been working hard on the Convention Outfit. We showed the Convention Outfit to the dancers of the Central Association for the first time at our last 5th Saturday Dance in March in Deland where the Starlight Promenaders dance. We started selling patterns that night and we sold quite a few. But we are a long way from our goal of selling enough for all the dancers that we will require in our kick off. Colleen and I, along with some of our committee will begin traveling to all the clubs in the Central Area promoting the Convention and selling dress kits as soon as we get home from the National Convention & Vacation trip in July.

I have been in contact with Jacqueline Johnson from the Lakeland Area Chamber of Commerce concerning help in printing the registration forms. In July when we return from vacation I will be contacting her again and giving her all the details like paper colors and quantities.

We have also completed the design of our badges and ribbons. These will be order within the next 3 or 4 months.

Things are shaping up and we are doing pretty good. I think we will be ready when the time comes I want to thank you all for coming to the 48th Florida State Convention and I hope you will continue to support the future Conventions. Plus, we need you to help promote all the conventions so that we can keep this great weekend activity going for a long time to come. Keep up the good work and we'll see you all in a square shortly when we start selling ribbons one year from yesterday.

Bruce & Colleen Morgan, General Chairpersons

51ST FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION - 2005

One meeting of the Executive Committee only has been held to discuss the direction we were going to take to bring an exciting and successful State Convention to the dancers in Florida. Progress was made in both a theme and colors to be used. While a final decision has not yet been made, the field has been narrowed somewhat.

Fund raisers were also a big part of the discussion and we are hoping to get a big one ready for the fall. After vacation times are over we will try to get the entire Committee together and some decisions will come from that meeting.

We are also looking forward to attending the Coordinating Committee Meeting while in Lakeland, and also meeting for further discussions with the Lakeland Center. All in all, we feel we are on schedule. Initial plans have been discussed with the Center for what we expect to require in 2005, and the Center has been reserved for the appropriate dates.

Fred & Shirley Cornett, this year's Convention Chairmen, as well as Ken & Sue Brown, 2003 Convention Chairmen, have passed some valuable information our way. We appreciate and thank them for their input. While each Convention is different in many ways, we must continue to work together to bring great dancing weekends to the dancers in Florida.

We feel we have a great Committee - all dedicated to and excited about planning and hosting a great Convention in 2005.

Charlie & Val Newsome, General Chairmen

52ND FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION - 2006

Planning for the 52nd Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention is continuing slowly. We have a majority of our key positions filled but we are still in need of a few good men and women to complete our committee.

We have requested the Caller and Cuer associations to approve our selections for caller and cuer chairmen.

We plan to start having meetings this fall after everyone returns from their summer vacations.

We congratulate the Northwest Association and especially Fred & Shirley Cornett for a great convention.

Garland & Carole McKenzie, General Chairmen

FLORIDA HALL OF FAME

The Hall of Fame Committee is proud to announce the induction of John & Linda Saunders and Loren & Florence Long into the Florida Square and Round Dance Hall of Fame.

At our meeting on Friday, it was decided to rotate our offices. Beginning at the conclusion of this convention, Jack & Zonie Taylor will serve as Chairman, Mary & Art Butlak, will be Secretary and Bill & Mary Chesnut, Treasurer.

We are also proud to welcome Dewey & Donna Hendricks to our committee. Ken & Joanne Helton completes our committee of five couples.

Presently we are in the process of updating our brochure and also formulating a set of by-laws for the Hall of Fame.

Mary Butlak, Chairman

USDA

I am here this morning to remind you of some important things, and since I have been known to be forgetful, I have brought some strings to remind me of what I want to remind you. If that is just as clear as mud, we will proceed. This is like the string around the finger, only I needed something bigger, so these ribbons will be my strings around the neck.

This first string, ribbon is to remind me to tell you that the next USDA meeting will be in Minneapolis on Wed., June 26th. All of you are invited to attend as guests. You may not vote, but it is interesting to observe what is going on at the general meeting.

The second ribbon is to remind me to remind you that you are cordially invited to the USDA after party. There will be several national callers present to present the finest in square dance calling. This will be at the Convention Center on Friday evening, June 28th. Plan on being there. This is your after party.

This third ribbon is to remind me to tell you about some of the services that the USDA provides for you the dancers, and just a little of the history of USDA.

1. An economical insurance for dancers and clubs
2. A Credit Card Program
3. Educational materials for dancers and leaders
4. a quarterly National publication- USDA NEWS
5. Active programs for the handicapped dancers and for the youth
6. a PRESCRIPTION discount program for dancers.

The United Square Dancers was started at the National Square Dance Convention in Seattle in 1981 by a group of square dancers. This organization was organized by dancers for dancers and is controlled by the dancers. Now there are 310,000 members in the United States. We appreciate all that USDA does for the dancers.

Now, let's see—Did I remember everything? This one is for reminding you about the annual meeting in Minneapolis. This one is for the USDA after party at the convention and this is to remind you of the many services that USDA provides for the dancer. Thanks for your attention.

Paul & Marie McClain

FLORIDA FEDERATION HISTORY REPORT

The History of Florida is in good hands. Zonie has been working on the albums and they are in good shape. We have loaned two of the albums to Bruce Morgan so a project for the State Convention in 2004 can be put together. We will loan other albums as required for this project. Bruce may have a few words about this later.

The 2002 album is really in good shape with the amount of pictures given us and as usual Zonie picking up things and making copies of the information in the various publications. She has added another album about the Federation dresses. We have had three so far and the information is updated for now.

Again thanks to the publication editors for the copies of the various pubs we appreciate them. Folks we need pictures and information on all of the activities involved in getting ready for the Convention. Making sure that you put notations on the back of the activity involved. It sure helps. I'll have to stop aggravating Zonie because she is doing just right on the History.

Jack & Zonie Taylor, Historian

USDA INSURANCE REPORT

The checking account balance as of 02/02/02 was \$1537.37; receipts totaled \$1158.24; disbursements for USDA Premiums totaled \$1094.30. The balance as of 05/01/02 is \$1601.31. The complete financial statement along with the participating clubs is on file.

Duke & Doris McCleskey, FFSD Insurance Chairmen