

**MINUTES OF
FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 2003 – ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by the President, George Knapp. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mary Stewart gave the Invocation. Carole McKenzie called the roll and stated a quorum was in attendance.

Donna Hendricks mentioned that Cliff & Jean Allen had not been here in a long time and maybe they should be moved to the Inactive List. George stated we will review the attendance for the past few years and determine who has not attended in over a year and move them to the Inactive list.

George welcomed the visitors and guests.

Shirley Knapp thanked everyone for the Shower Gifts the Knapps received at the annual meeting in November.

A motion was made by Don Slocum and seconded by Jim McConnaha that the minutes of the November 10, 2002 meeting be approved as published. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Carole McKenzie reported that as of November 10, 2002 the Checking Account balance was \$5,087.55. Total receipts for the period November 10, 2002 to February 22, 2003 were \$151.81. Total Disbursements were \$131.76. As of February 22, 2003 the Checking Account balance is \$5,107.60; Contingency Fund balance is \$4,000.00; and the Insurance Account balance is \$1,579.83. The total for all accounts is \$10,687.43. The report was filed for audit.

SUNSHINE REPORT: George reported that Jerry Thomas, husband of cuer Sunni Thomas, passed away on February 4. Ron Libby's wife is terminally ill; therefore, he will not be calling the dance tonight as previously announced. Paul Place will be calling the dance at Whirl & Twirl hall. We received an e-mail from Marie McClain stating that their daughter Linda would be getting a port put in her arm so she would be able to receive dialysis. Ann Slocum reported Doc Gray's wife had surgery for a brain tumor and is doing well. Ken Brown-SE reported that Harry Taylor had passed away.

CORRESPONDENCE: Ken & Sandy Brasfield sent a card of thanks for the Presidents gift they received at the annual meeting in November.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS: See attached reports.

PUBLICATION REPORTS: See attached reports.

STATE CONVENTION REPORTS: See attached reports.

Bruce Morgan asked all Association presidents give him a list of Special Dances that will be taking place in their areas next year (May, 2003-May, 2004). He needs this information by May so he can plan the 2004 Convention Committee visitations to all the Associations.

NEC REPORT: No Report.

FLORIDA SQUARE DANCE HALL OF FAME: See attached reports.

U.S.D.A. REPORT: Duke McCleskey reported the mid-year meeting was held in Washington, D.C. in January. They met in D.C., rather than some other place, to promote the Square Dance Bill. The Bill is #645 – Promenade Turn Act. The representatives came up with this title – They like Short titles.

Duke asked all the delegates to send the form letter he has available to their Senators and Representatives asking their support of the Folk Dance Bill #645 – Promenade Turn Act.

Dave & Shirley Nihart served 3 years as Treasurers of USDA. New treasurers were elected in June; but after they got back they became ill and resigned their position. Dave & Shirley were asked to serve another term. Now the Florida Federation has to nominate them for Treasurer. Duke McCleskey nominated Dave & Shirley Nihart to be the Treasurers for USDA. The nomination was seconded by Jack Taylor and passed by the delegates.

U.S.D.A. INSURANCE REPORT: See attached reports.

Duke McCleskey announced that he and Doris were in the process of selling their house here and moving to North Carolina to be closer to their children. Duke nominated Bruce & Colleen Morgan to be the new Florida Federation State Insurance Chairmen. It was seconded by Ken Brown and passed by the delegates.

AMERICAN FOLK DANCE: Covered in USDA Report.

ASCAP-BMI REPORT: See attached Reports.

FASSARD (Florida Association of Single Square and Round Dancers): Penny Green, President reported that her goal is to make FASSARD a more active participant in the Florida Federation. She also announced that they will have a Singles Hospitality Room at the host hotel – Holiday Inn – on Friday & Saturday afternoons. This room will be hosted by FASSARD. Penny will also be selling convention ribbons at this location so the dancers won't have to stand in line at the Lakeland Center. There will be 2 after parties – one on Friday and one on Saturday. There will be a DJ at these parties with all types of dancing.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

NEW BUSINESS: Florida needs an additional delegate to the USDA. Charlie & Val Newsome are current delegates but we need an additional delegate. Jack & Barbara Hoffman were appointed to serve as delegates to USDA.

Ann Slocum made a motion to have the President of FASSARD become a Delegate-at-Large to the Florida Federation. DeeDee Stovall stated this would require a By-Laws change. The motion was tabled and sent to the by-laws committee to discuss this afternoon and report back on Sunday.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: George Knapp went over the committee assignments and announced the time and place of each committee meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: George announced the dance tonight will be at Whirl & Twirl Hall with early rounds at 7:30 PM.

The next meeting will be Sunday at 9:00 AM in this same room.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jim McConnaha and seconded by Jack Hoffman. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Garland & Carole McKenzie
Secretary

**CENTRAL FLORIDA SQUARE and ROUND DANCERS ASSOCIATION
REPORT, 22 FEB, 2003**

I would like to welcome the federation delegates to central Florida. We are looking forward to a successful weekend.

The CFA held a well attended 5th Saturday dance November 30, 2002 at City Island Recreation Center Daytona Beach, John Saunders calling & Phyllis Williams cueing. Thanks to the Dixie Squares for hosting this dance.

Our next event is tomorrow night at the Whril & Twril Hall. We central Florida Dancers wanted to let George & Shirley Knapp know how much we appreciated them and to kick off their year as presidents of the Florida Federation, so this dance is in their Honor. As you know Ron Libby is scheduled to call. I am saddened to tell you that he has suffered a personal tragedy and will not be able to call. His wife Lorna has had surgery for aneurisms in the brain and is in a rehab center in Tampa, Ron has been with her in Tampa for the last 5 weeks. Please keep them in your prayers. Our caller tomorrow Night will be Paul Place, you will like him, Joanne Helton will be cueing, see you there.

On Feb. 9 the Central Florida Association held a practice for the 2004 State Convention kickoff, yes we did follow this with a pot luck. Another practice will be held at the Shamrock Swing on Saturday morning 15 March.

The third annual Shamrock Swing is only 3 weeks away on 14 & 15 March 2003 it will held at the Saint John Vianney Catholic Church in Orlando. Tim Marriner & Whit Brown will be calling, Jimmy & Carol Griffin will be cueing. General Chairman for this event are Randy & Carol Poole.

29 March a 5th Saturday dance will be held at the senior center in Saint Cloud. The Wagon Wheels club will be hosting. This is a brand new facility and we will be one of the first groups to use it. John Swindle will be calling and Bev Landwier will be cueing.

Dan and Anna Foust
CFA President

NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION REPORT

The NWFSRDA held its 1st Quarter meeting on February 8, at the Grand Squares Hall in Panama City. The Modern Squares of Crestview has re-formed its club (currently with 26 members). I implemented the request from the 50th Convention, to provide our clubs

with the “Donation Collection Cans” for the Special Stepper’s fund to attend the “Golden Anniversary State Convention”. A motion was made and accepted by the membership for the NWFSRDA to match all funds our area clubs are able to collect. Hopefully, this will help increase the funds needed to assist the Special Stepper’s attendance. Also, knowing a good idea when we hear one, we are taking advantage of the “Welcome to our World” theme at our 29th Annual Round-Up by offering “Intro to Square Dancing” during our weekend dance schedule. It is our hope that we will be able to bring in new dancers.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl & Paul Miller
NWFSRDA Presidents

SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION REPORT

We continue to work at promoting our wonderful hobby called square dance. We are putting an all out effort into making our dances more interesting for the dancers by using themes and enticements like door prizes and more participation on the part of the dancers themselves. We are looking at the possibility of reducing the number of dances we hold each year – just looking at it, no decisions as yet. We continue to have approximately 8 squares at the monthly dances.

Our dancers were very generous during our annual toy drive for abused children and we had a very large assortment for distribution to them. The dancer’s generosity continued on a more somber note when Al Guthrie hosted a benefit dance for Harry Taylor, a long-time caller in our area. Regrettably he passed away before the dance was held. His wife and daughter did attend and were very appreciative of the support shown for them.

Our fundraiser in January, The Snowflake Frolic, was a success once again. We wish to thank those of you who took the time to travel south (maybe it was the warmer weather) and join us for this event.

Our annual picnic was in a new location this January; but that didn’t stop our faithful, and some new faces, from participating in the bounty of good food that was present. A good time was had by all and the weather was wonderful.

We continue to struggle with halls for our monthly dances. Halls are becoming fewer and fewer. We will be hosting our March dance in a new location for the Association as a seasonal club that has never hosted a dance before will be hosting their first. We are looking forward to a good turnout for this.

Submitted,
Ken & Su Brown
Presidents – SEA

Northeast Association Report

The Clubs in the Northeast Association have been busy since the last Federation meeting. The Fall Fiesta chaired by Manny and Sherry Gonzales was great fun and very successful in terms of attendance and finances. We especially thank all of the Federation Delegates for attending, supporting and enjoying our Fall Festival.

The Freshman Hoedown, sponsored by the Callers Association for new dancers was held in December with over sixty new dancers attending. All of the clubs hosted either Thanksgiving or Christmas covered dish dinners and some of them held both. All of us enjoyed much excellent food and a lot of good fellowship over the holidays. Holidays are not always happy times for some who may not have families in the vicinity and Square Dancing is an excellent way to be with friends; that's what Square Dancing is all about.

The new year got off to a good start with the annual Circus Dance sponsored by the Silver Fox Club to benefit "Dreams Come True", which was held in January. The annual Presidents Ball, in honor of all Club Presidents, was held by the Moose Promenaders in February and was well attended by all the clubs.

The Blue-Gray Dance and weekend was held on February 14th and 15th in Lake City, Florida to commemorate the Battle of Olustee during the Civil War. This is an annual affair in Lake City and thousands of people from throughout the country attend the enactment of the Battle. This is great advertisement for Square Dancing since Square Dancing is an integral part of the festivities.

Many of the Ladies are busy ordering the material to make the new Federation Dress and are looking forward to the State and National Conventions.

Graduation is just around the corner and we are planning to graduate the largest number of new dancers in the past several years. Happy dancing in the New Year!

Joe and Martha Hardcastle

WEST COAST ASSOCIATION REPORT

At our Association meeting/folding, Harriet Boggi, Vice President resigned her position since she was moving to the East coast of Florida. After much pleading, arm-twisting, and begging, we finally recycled a very loyal dedicated couple that we are sure you all know. Would our new Vice Presidents please stand. We would like you all to meet Don & Ann Slocum.

The West Coast has been very fortunate to have a wonderful group of dancers turn out for meetings/folding, thereby helping to complete the task in a timely manner.

We had a very successful December dance in Estero with a wonderful group of callers/cuers. A great dance in January at the Brooksville Shrine even though there was a playoff football game. A fantastic dance with 24 plus squares in Bartow for Valentines Day, and we will be hosting two dances March 23, at Sun City Center/Kings Point and on March 30 at the Sebring Agricultural Center. We invite you to join us if you are in the neighborhood.

Our Fall Fun Fest which was chaired by Ken & Sue Brown was very successful and the entire West Coast Membership wishes to thank them and their committee for a great event. We would also like to remind all of you that this is an annual event for the West Coast and that our chairperson for this November 14 & 15 Fest is Penny Green.

Our next important event will be the State Convention on ay 23, 24 & 25. Our very dedicated hardworking Ken & Sue Brown are also chairing this great event. I am sure they will have an updated report for all of us in just a bit. However, we would be remiss if we did not remind all of you that it takes many ingredients to put this all together, but the most important ingredient is the SUPPPORT OF ALL THE SQUARE DANCERS IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA. PLEASE HELP US TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION, BECAUSE OUR "HOBBY – SQUARE DANCING" DEPENDS ON ALL OF US.

Thank you, Bob & Jennie Courter

PUBLICATION REPORTS

KEEPIN' POSTED – Jack Hoffman reported that they are still publishing about 400 copies each quarter.

PANHANDLE PRESS – No Report

4W's – Carole McKenzie reported that the last issue of the paper under our editorship was distributed on February 13.

We are in the process of turning the paper over to the very capable hands of Craig & Karin Strickland. Their first issue will be the June/July/August, 2003 issue. It will be taking on a very different perspective. It will be online with no advertising. It will also be available on an e-mail subscription basis. For information please contact Craig at info@whowhatwhenwhere.us. You can view the previous issue at www.whowhatwhenwhere.us

GRAPEVINE – Val Newsome reported that during the last several months they have received inquiries as to how The Grapevine operates, and have decided to include some of that information in our report.

The Grapevine is a publication supported solely by Subscriptions and Ads, and it is not subsidized by the Association. The Editors, by contract with the Association, are solely responsible for meeting all deadlines and expenses. The Grapevine provides the Association with free ads and space for reports from the officers and committee chairs. Association Member Clubs are allowed to submit club new and are included in the Club Directory and Calendar of Events free of charge.

As we were looking back over some of the last reports The Grapevine made to the Federation, we got the feeling not much really changes:

- We still print somewhere between 300 and 325 copies on a bimonthly basis six times a year.

- Our primary goal continues to be to promote square dancing.

- We continue to include articles on the Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention, National Conventions, all Associations' special events or dances, and of course, the pertinent information on all dances within our own Association. We write – or research and include – articles which are of interest or are educational to our readers. We cover Square Dancing, Round Dancing, Contra, Country/Western, Lines & Clogging. We encourage the Camping Dancers and the Singles to share information for publication with us – and they do. There are usually always articles written by and/or for a Caller and/or Cuer. Several months ago we approached both Northeast Callers Association offering them free space for news from their Callers' Associations – thus far only one article has been submitted. Dances or events where proceeds go directly to a specific charity are publicized free – no matter who sponsors them. Articles on Classes and Graduations are included off and on throughout the year. Our Feature Article, Sewing & Cooking articles

all get positive comments. We try to always include some humor for our readers. There is a directory with instructions on who dances when and where, with a contact: there are two pages titled Calendar of Events listing theme dances, and special events within our Association, and other Association-sponsored events.

-We attend many special dances and dance weekends, Anniversary Dances, Class Nights, Demos, and Graduations, and write a short report on each for The Grapevine. We give to each graduating couple or single complimentary copies of The Grapevine, Bow & Swing, and American Square Dance Magazine, along with our WELCOME to Square Dancing Yellowrock!

In our last issue we had a short column devoted to Federation News and (if we can get the news) we hope to keep this up. You'd be surprised how many dancers don't know that there are five associations and a Florida Federation in the State.

However, when we continue to see the number of dancers declining, we feel that there must be something else we should be doing. We've always solicited comments and suggestions. We hope you will talk with us or write to us with any fresh new ideas you have for the support and promotion of square dancing.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie & Val Newsome

WEST COAST DANCER – Jennie Courter reported for Ed & Ginny Henning

Ginny and I moved from Sarasota to Plant City a year and a half ago. It's great living there especially because we are very close to our favorite square and round dances. However, we feel that all the worst drivers in south Florida followed us there.

The West Coast Dancer magazine, which is available free, over 16 counties, continues to maintain about the same level of circulation and size as in the past several years. Paid advertising contributes to a little more than 50% of printing costs. The balance comes from proceeds of the West Coast Fall Fun Fest which we encourage every one to attend including the newer dancers.

We have noticed the number of new dance listings has not kept pace with the number of closings. The Welcome to Our World committee for the 2003 State Convention has new and entertaining Convention programs which have and will be publicized in the West Coast Dancer. These programs as you know are aimed at introducing non-dancers to our dance activity. We hope this effort will help reverse the present trend in dance attendance and in turn may result in more listings for the dancer to consider. In addition the 2003 Convention Publicity committee has supplied us with numerous items for publication to help further this cause.

The West Coast Association has had some anxious moments the past couple of months with several of our most active members having health problems. Fortunately, we understand all are on the way to a full recovery.

We want to remind the other Florida Associations that our magazine welcomes the opportunity to exchange printed Ads and news of their association dances.

Respectfully submitted, Ed & Ginny Henning

BOW & SWING – No Report.

STATE CONVENTION REPORTS

2003 CONVENTION – Ribbon sales have picked up since the first of February, we assume this is due to the end of the holidays. A special “Thank you” to the person or persons promoting in the Ocala area. Our Registration Chairmen have noted that a large percentage received recently have been from that region. During the Caller Clinic last October, Don & Loretta Hanhurst distributed packets of ribbons to each caller present. Those callers have been extremely helpful in the promotion and sales. We are truly grateful to all who have assisted in the promotion of the 49th Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention. The total sales, which have been sent to our registrar, number 575, with more arriving daily.

Plans now include a Trail End Dance to be held Thursday, May 22, 2003, 7:30 to 10:00 PM, at Strawberry Square – 4401 Boot Bay Road – Plant City, Florida. Those donating their time and talents include; Bob Poyner, Skip Cleland, Mike Doughty, Patty Ping, Art Springer, John Swindlle, and Ben Williams on Squares – with Janice Coughlin, Sharon Roberts, and Pat Hagen cueing Rounds. Donations are \$5.00 per person. All proceeds to assist the Special Steppers Handicapable Dancers attending the 50th Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention in 2004. In charge of all arrangements are Don and Ann Slocum. Flyers are available.

Marketing Chairman, Harriet Boggi has moved from our area; therefore, we request all advertising contracts be mailed to Don and Ann Slocum. We are still able to accommodate Program Book advertisements and will be pleased to provide you with the necessary form. We are adding a page for Patrons for a nominal charge of \$1.00 per persons name in print. You are invited to show your support in this way if you wish to do so.

The “Welcome to Our World” Program is attracting attention, and is designed to introduce outsiders to our activity. We have been advised of a couple from Georgia who are planning to attend the weekend event. Thanks to the World of Cyberspace, the news is traveling. Please take flyers to your friends, co-workers, and the like, and add a personal invitation of your own. Remember, the entire weekend will cost potential dancers only \$5.00 per person to present them with an overview of what it is that keeps us active.

Friday evenings entertainment and opening remarks will take place in Exhibit Hall West. We have not reserved the Arena until Saturday.

Vendors will be found in the East end of Exhibit Hall East.

Be sure to pick up a Program Book. You will find tickets for prizes from the Sewing Center tucked inside. Our Sewing Chairmen have obtained outfits from small to x-large, capes, petticoat bags, and many more. Demonstrations will take place at frequent intervals, and will include sewing helps as well as craft ideas for both Lords and Ladies. An emergency repair booth will be open at scheduled periods inside the sewing room to handle those last minute tucks, tacks, hooks, and the like as a service to our dancers. Hours and services will be posted. Patterns will be available for tracing.

Our Fashion Show Chairman reports a few spots are still open. We invite Tailors and Seamstresses to model their outstanding work in original design, detail, and craftsmanship. If interested, please pick up a flyer, and contact Denise Sherman. Rehearsal will take place Saturday morning, May 24, 2003 at 9:00AM and the Show is scheduled for 1:00 PM.

The 49th will have a table set up at the Florida Federation President's Ball to be held at the Whirl & Twirl Hall. We will have flyers on all the Convention Special Events, Raffle Tickets for the Cruise, Ribbons and items from our Ways and Means projects. Please stop and say hello, and feel free to ask any questions you may have.

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

By order of the Royal Lords and Ladies of the Kingdom of Folkdance Keys; it is decreed that all Florida Association Presidents and/or their Representatives accept the Castle presented to them this Twenty Second day of February, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Three.

It is the intention of the Court that you in turn, share this castle with all your loyal subjects throughout your realm.

We realize that you personally will be unable to physically attend the dances individually; but, we suggest the following plan of attack to accomplish the goal in the three months remaining before the Grand Gala in Lakeland. (If you have forgotten the date, it is May 23, 24 and 25th, 2003 at the Lakeland Center, Lakeland, Florida.)

Please transport this castle to the next dance in your area. Display it in a prominent location in the Hall. Request the Club President, or his or her representative lower the drawbridge and remove a flag from within the castle walls.

Next, have this lord or lady scribe the Club name and date upon the flag chosen with the quill provided and insert the banner in any of the four outer spires which are provided for this purpose.

Announce to the throngs that Registration forms are provided for their convenience as well.

Request that one of the guests in attendance take the castle with him or her and repeat the procedure which you have followed, at his or her next club dance.

A scroll, which has been scribed with these instructions, has been included within the walls of the castle and should be returned to its place as a means to explain to each Lord or Lady, the purpose and procedures for circulation of this artifact.

On, or before, the Eighteenth Day of May, in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Three, the person, or persons possessing the Castle at that time are requested to contact a Member of the Association who will be attending the Grand Ball and arrange for the Castle to be transported to the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention; where it will be placed in a position of honor in the Great Hall for all to View. Of course, it is assumed that all Lords and Ladies of the realm are planning to attend.

And now ... We'll see you May 23, 24 7 25 at the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention; Remember, Folk Dance the Key in 2003.

2004 CONVENTION – 50TH FLORIDA STATE SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE CONVENTION, MAY 28, 29 & 30, 2004

February 22, 2003 Florida Federation Working Weekend Meeting – Hilton Garden Inn, Orlando, FL

Before I get started I just want to wish Ken & Sue luck with their upcoming convention. They have been very busy and I know they have everything under control so they really won't need any luck. Colleen & I have all the confidence in the world in them and we know that this will be a great convention. We hope to see you all there.

Just another 3 months. That is what we have left until our kick-off. We had our first official Kick-Off practice on February 9th. It really went well. We have a few items to iron out but we'll get that done and you'll never be the wiser in The Lakeland Center Arena come the evening of May 25th. Our next practice will be on Saturday, March 15th at 9:00AM during The Shamrock Swing. And our final practice will be at 7:00AM on Sunday, May 25th at this year's convention. The kick-off for the 2004 convention will be a history making event. It will be the first time in the history of State Conventions here in Florida where there has been a representative from all 5 Associations in the kick-off at the same time.

Our badges and ribbons have arrived. Duke & Doris McCleskey are busy contacting the hotels and motels in the Lakeland area so that they can be included on the registration form. Jacqueline Johnson from the Lakeland Area Chamber of Commerce has agreed to print the registration forms free of charge.

Our next big fund raiser will be the concession stand and silent auction at The Third Annual Shamrock Swing which will be held March 14 & 15, 2003 at St. John Vianney Catholic Church on South Blossom Trail in South Orlando. We know that you are all planning on coming back to Orlando for this very special dance weekend. I can tell you if you haven't purchased your ribbons Randy & Carol Poole surely will be glad to sell them to you today. The details about The Shamrock Swing and the host hotel can be obtained from Randy & Carol, any other CFA Board Member or on the Central Association Web Site. If anybody has any items that they would like to donate to the Silent Auction Colleen & I will be glad to accept them. Please contact us and let us know what the item is and then just bring it to The Shamrock Swing. We would love to have anything that you would like to donate.

Another topic that you have heard me talk about is our History Room. We are trying to collect as much history about the State & Florida Sponsored National Conventions as possible so that we can showcase it all in our History Room. We would love to borrow anything that any of your dancers might have stashed away. We will make sure that you get it back. Judy Frye is heading up this portion of the History Room. If you have anything that you would like to loan you can contact Judy and she will make arrangements to get it from you and see that you get it back after the convention. Judy can be reached at 321-268-4450. and her e-mail address is judyjudyjudy20@juno.com. If you don't know Judy please contact me and I'll get her telephone number and address to you. We have a lot of dancers in Florida that have never been to a State or National Convention and some that have only been coming to the conventions for a few years. We believe it will be interesting to see all this stuff from past years. Once it is all on display I think some of you that have been to a large number of the conventions will also enjoy it. So let's all pitch in and get those items to Judy so that all the dancers from Florida can enjoy them.

One last thing before I let the mic go. The donations for the Pensacola Special Steppers have been slow. We need to start stepping it up. It will take a lot of effort from all the leaders here in Florida in order to collect the \$7,500 needed to assure that they are able to attend our convention. They will need approximately 14 rooms for 3 nights, a bus for the weekend, meals and other items. A couple of the Associations have donated to this fund. I would like to ask the other associations to donate. You know who you are. I don't want to mention the names. Please, at your next association meeting please ask if they will donate. The others have donated \$200 but any amount that you can afford will be greatly appreciated. We would also like for all you leaders to take this back to all the clubs in your area and talk this up. Put a donation can out at every dance. I have contacted the callers and cuers with the same request. I really want the Special Steppers to attend this Golden Anniversary Celebration. Please help! In order to collect enough money we will need donations from all the dancers as well as the associations. I have a coffee can here that I will place on the table and anybody that would like can drop money in. If we don't get enough money to bring the Special Steppers to the convention the money collected from the sources that can be identified will be returned. Since this money was voted on and donated with the specific purpose of bringing the Special Steppers to the convention it is only right that this money be returned as we would not be able to use it for the purpose it was given. The money in the form of cash that cannot be identified will be donated to the Special Steppers no matter what. Please send all money collected to Colleen & I. Make any checks out to 50FSDC and note that it is for the Special Steppers. That way we will know what account it is to go into. None of this money will be used to fund the 2004 convention. As I said before it will go to the Special Steppers or be returned to the organization that donated it. Thanks for all your support on this matter and we hope it all works out for the best. The West Coast Association has really sepped up and helping with this fund. They are holding a Trail-end dance on Thursday May 22nd at the Strawberry Squares Hall. All the callers and cuers in Florida have been asked to participate. The entrance fee is \$5.00 per person and all proceeds go to the Special Steppers Fund. Colleen & I would like to thank the West Coast Association and especially Don & Ann Slocum for organizing this dance. We really appreciate it. Let's see if we can really pack the Strawberry Squares hall that night.

Bruce & Colleen Morgan
General Chairpersons
50th FLORIDA STATE SQUARE & ROUND DANCE CONVENTION

2005 CONVENTION – 51st STATE CONVENTION REPORT

We continue to talk with the Convention Center and are set (we hope) to meet with our contact during the State Convention in May.

Fund Raisers continue – at the present time we are raffling a handmade afghan in the Navajo Indian Pattern. The drawing will be held at our 5th Saturday Dance in May. Following close behind that we will be raffling a handmade quilt hanging – or it could be used as a lap robe. You do not have to be present to win either raffle. Both items have been donated by ladies in the Northeast. There are several more fund raisers still “on the drawing board” and they will get underway as details are finalized.

Committee Chairman are on board; theme has been chosen; fabric and pattern for convention attire has been decided; and the material is on order. We are excited about it.

Plans for the Kickoff are underway – now if we can just get it to work! Our Caller & Cues Coordinators who are really “in charge” of this event are very enthusiastic. They are, of course, ably assisted by their Assistant Coordinators.

We just held a full Committee Meeting and went to Tony Roma's for dinner afterward. There was almost electricity in the air – we were extremely pleased with the response and enthusiasm from everyone! If that meeting is a sign of how our convention comes together, you are in for a treat! We feel very lucky to have such dedication and talent from all the members of our Committee.

We knew it was a big undertaking when we took the job, but we never imagined all the knowledge, experience, and assistance that would be shared with us by other Convention Chairmen. It has been most helpful and we hope that in some small way we can lend assistance wherever it is needed.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie & Val Newsome
General Chairmen

2006 CONVENTION - We held our first committee meeting on Sunday, February 9 following the Southeast Dance. The meeting was held at Fuddrucker's in Ft. Lauderdale to discuss ideas for slogans and logos. The theme has been decided and outfit design is in the works.

We held our first fundraisers at the Snowflake Frolic on January 18. The TV raffle was won by Ann Skinner of Miami. A Chinese Auction was also held but had very limited results.

We are still looking for some key people to complete our committee.

Our next meeting is planned for Friday afternoon prior to the State Convention. It will be held at 4 PM in our room at the AmeriSuites.

Garland & Carole McKenzie
General Chairmen

2007 CONVENTION – Wanna Caverly reported that they are just in the very early planning stages and a Chairman has not been selected at this time. She stated the Fred & Shirley Cornett did such a great job that nobody wants to volunteer to follow them.

HALL OF FAME REPORT

February 23, 2003

The Hall of Fame Committee met in February and had a productive meeting. We are doing very well financially.

We discussed the matter of by-laws and have a new set of by-laws that will be discussed by the full committee at the next meeting in May at the State Convention.

We have new brochures to be passed out. This is a guideline for submitting and following up on a resume for a candidate for nomination into the Hall of Fame.

Respectfully

Jack and Zonie Taylor

Chairman Hall of Fame Committee

HISTORIAN REPORT

Florida Federation History Report

February 23, 2003

The History committee, Zonie, is doing just fine. She has been working on the State Convention Book for this year 2003.

We still have a serious shortage of pictures for this volume. We want any pictures and notations on these pictures explaining what the occasion is, and the people involved.

We attended Stan Crowhurst's 100th year party and took a number of pictures to be inserted in the History Albums. He is in the Central Florida Association. Will be great in a few years and see these pictures. He did not start dancing until he was in his 80's. He dances most squares and almost all the rounds.

Still receiving copies of the state publications and want to thank the publications editors for sending them to us.

Zonie is collecting material for the 2004 State Convention and Judy Frye is doing a great job helping and we should have a very nice display.

Respectfully Submitted

Jack and Zonie Taylor

Federation History

U.S.D.A. INSURANCE REPORT

Respectfully submitted,
Duke and Doris McCleskey
FFSD Insurance Chairman

ASCAP-BMI REPORT – dues for BMI are due at this time. The dues are \$110.00 this year. This reflects the same rate as the previous year. ASCAP dues have increased from .062 cents per attendee to .064 cents per attendee and one half of the vendors or a minimum of \$70.00. The increase is based on the Consumer Price Index.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave & Shirley Nihart