

**MINUTES OF
FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS MEETING
MAY 25,2003 – LAKELAND, FL**

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.

George welcomed the visitors and guests. George introduced Charlie & Kitty Holley, Central Region Vice President of USDA.

The minutes of the February, 2003 meetings were approved as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jack McKinney reported that as of May 25, 2003 the Checking Account balance was \$5,107.60. Total receipts for the period February 22, 2003 to May 25, 2003 were \$451.58. Total Disbursements were \$823.26. As of May 25, 2003 the Checking Account balance is \$4,735.92; Contingency Fund balance is \$4,000.00; and the Insurance Account balance is \$1,466.62. The total for all accounts is \$10,202.54. Jack Taylor moved and Don Slocum seconded that the report be filed for audit.

Jack has prepared a log for future treasurers to maintain showing the Association's payment of annual Federation Dues. He also suggested that each Association be sent a bill each year to remind them that their dues are due. With the transition of offices each year this information is not always passed along to the incoming officers.

SUNSHINE REPORT: George expressed sympathies to Dave Nihart, Carole McKenzie, and Charlie Newsome on the loss of their mothers and Mary Butlack on the loss of her brother

CORRESPONDENCE: Shirley Knapp reported a Thank You from Carole McKenzie. She also had correspondence from Duke and Doris McClesky that all the Insurance records had been turned over to Bruce and Colleen Morgan. The McCleskys are now permanently located in North Carolina. Shirley has their address if any would like it.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS: See attached reports.

Cheryl Miller and the Northwest Association presented Bruce & Colleen Morgan with a check in the amount of \$2,050.00 for the Special Stepper fund of the 50th Convention. Bruce announced they had now reached the \$6,000 mark.

Don & Ann Slocum presented the proceeds from the Trail-in Dance at Strawberry Squares to Bruce & Colleen for the Special Stepper fund. The amount was approximately \$1,496.

PUBLICATION REPORTS: See attached reports.

Joe Hardcastle and the Northeast Association presented Bruce and Colleen another check in the amount of \$200 for the Special Stepper fund.

Charlie Holley, USDA Central Region VP asked for everyone's support in contacting Congressmen and requesting that they Co-Sponsor HR645 "Promenade Act". The bill was introduced in January and needs 200 Co-Sponsors to proceed to enactment.

STATE CONVENTION REPORTS: See attached reports.

FLORIDA SQUARE DANCE HALL OF FAME: See attached Report

HISTORIAN REPORT: See attached Report

U.S.D.A. REPORT: Duke McCleskey reported the next meeting will be on Wednesday at the National Convention in Oklahoma City. Our delegates are Jack & Barbara Hoffman and Charlie & Val Newsome; George & Shirley Knapp alternate delegates. Duke asked that anyone attending the National Convention come to the USDA meeting to see our delegates at work. There will be an After Party hosted by USDA on Friday night at the National. Duke has invited 36 of the National Callers to come and entertain us.

George Knapp thanked Duke and Doris for all their hard work over the years.

U.S.D.A. INSURANCE REPORT: Bruce Morgan reported that Duke & Doris McCleskey turned over all the insurance records on April 17, 2003. He opened a new bank account at Wachovia on April 25, 2003 with a balance of \$1,466.62.

ASCAP-BMI REPORT: See attached Reports.

OLD BUSINESS: New State Dress – George Knapp reported that the manufacturer of the material for the dress that was selected in February was not able to provide us with the material. Therefore, he has appointed a new committee to study the situation and report back at the November meeting. They will have the sample selections ready for us to choose at the Working Weekend in February. He reiterated that the material must be readily available for 4 or 5 years down the road. The new committee consists of Kathy McKinney, Chairman; Elsa Huddleston, Barbara Hoffman and Zonie Taylor.

Ken Brasfield reported the Nomination Procedures committee met yesterday to discuss who should be on the nominating committee and how the nomination of the new Parliamentarian should come to that committee. The committee consisted of Ken Brasfield, Garland McKenzie, Murl Herbert, Dewey Hendrix and George Knapp as ex-officio.

Ken Brasfield made a motion that By-Laws Article VI, Section 2 be amended to read: The President shall appoint a nominating committee prior to the annual meeting. The Chairman of this committee will be an active Past President or an active Delegate of the outgoing Federation President's Association. The nominating committee shall receive one nominee for the position of Parliamentarian approved by the respective Association in writing. The committee shall present a slate of officers at the annual meeting. The motion was seconded by PeeWee Stewart. There was no further discussion. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

Jim McConnaha reported on the Coordinating Committee Meeting.

The Coordinating Committee Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Fred Cornett, at 10:05AM with a majority of the members present.

This year's Convention Chairmen raised some questions regarding vendors, parking and fund raising at the Convention by individual clubs. There was some discussion but no decisions made.

The upcoming Convention Chairmen gave their reports and most seem to be on track. The one thing that the 52nd Chairman is concerned with is having enough dancers to fill all required committee chairman. He advised that he may have to call upon dancers from other areas to assist them.

Chairman Cornett appointed a committee consisting of dancers, callers and cuers. They will meet during the year and report back next year to the Coordinating Committee on updates to the Convention Guidelines.

The change of Coordinating Committee Officers took place with the new Chairman, Janice Coughlin, Vice-Chairman, Don & Loretta Hanhurst and Treasurer, Charlie & Val Newsome with the Secretary, Jim & Jan

McConnaha continuing. The 47th Convention Officers retired as voting members and the 52nd Convention officers became voting members.

Fred Cornett reported the Procedure Review Committee will consist of the Cornetts, Browns, Morgans, Newsomes, McKenzies, a caller to be appointed by the Caller's Association and Conrad Protzman from the Round Dance Council. We will meet in November on Saturday prior to the Annual Meeting. There are some changes that need to be made. We will talk about them in November and will have another meeting in February. Then we will write a report and give it to the future Chairmen, Callers and Cuers to see if we can come up with a consensus of what we want to do in future years. We need to continue to have a State Convention, the dancers need to have FUN or they won't come and we need to make money on the Convention. He asked for any suggestions anyone has be submitted in writing or e-mail and sign your name to it so we know where it came from.

NEW BUSINESS: Jack McKinney suggested we use forms for people to sign supporting bill HR658. Then the list of signatures can be delivered to the local Congressman. This would speed the gathering of the signatures.

Sue Brown suggested that the Extra Mile Award be re-instituted or another award be created for the same purpose. George appointed Sue Brown, Chairman of that Committee. Jim McConnaha and Murl Herbert are members of the committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: George announced there will be a dance Saturday, November 22 at Whirl & Twirl Hall with early rounds at 7:30 PM.

The next meeting will be Sunday, November 23 at 9:00 AM at the Whirl & Twirl Hall, 6949 Venture Circle in Orlando

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Garland & Carole McKenzie
Secretary

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION REPORT

Well here we are almost through another great convention. Anna and I have been on the run every since our last meeting when we were presented with the little castle by the West Coast Association. What an idea! I must say that we have had a ball visiting our Central Florida Clubs (something we have wanted to do anyway), pitching the convention & the Special Steppers Fund. Over and over again we have watched the winner of the club 50/50 drawing deposit the winnings into the Special Steppers can. We have attended so many dances that I cannot remember how many. There are 27 pennants on our castle.

In the past three months the CFA has been very busy.

Our CFA dance at the Whirl & Twirl hall, held at the last federation meeting on 22 FEB was hosted by the Whirl & Twirl club, there was nothing lacking in the goodie department. Paul Place wasted no time showing us his energetic style. You have to move when Paul is calling. Joanne Heltons superb timing had the round dancers flowing across the floor. I hope this dance helped start George & Shirley Knapp's year as president of the Florida Federation get off on the right foot.

The third annual Shamrock Swing was held on 14 & 15 March. Tim Marriner & Whit Brown called, Jimmy & Carol Griffin did the cueing. General Chairman for this event was Randy & Carol Poole. The CFA dancer of the year award was presented to Judy Frye of the Space Trackers. Judy is CFA historian and a tireless worker she is now an alternate delegate to the Federation. Jack and Barbara Hoffman are next years Shamrock Swing General Chairman. This annual weekend dance event seems to be catching on. We are looking for another great dance in 2004.

The CFA held a well attended 5th Saturday dance 29 March at the senior center in Saint Cloud. The Wagon Wheels club hosted and what a wonderful job they did, the refreshment table looked like a banquet. This new facility is absolutely beautiful, the Wagon Wheels are very lucky to be dancing there. John Swindle kept the squares rocking and Bev Landwier was at her very best.

CFA has lost two of its leaders, Bill Poole and Howard Wilson. Both men were members of the Starlight Promenaders. Howard was the General Chairman for the 1983 and 1988 State Convention and a past president of CFA. He also served as a USDA delegate along with many other duties. Howard and Vivian were CFA Couple of the year in 1984. Bill was CFA Insurance Vice President and Area Director for West Volusia, Bill and Claire were CFA Couple of the year in 2001.

May 31 is the CFA's next 5th Saturday Dance to be held at the La Hacienda Center in the Villages of Lady Lake and will be hosted by the Orange Blossom Squares. Ken Perez will be calling and Jeannette Chauvin will cue.

Our membership Vice President and alternate delegates to the Federation Don and Sharon Smith have moved to Pennsylvania stepping up to take their place is Terri Little.

CFA is looking forward to hosting next years convention. A BIG THANK YOU to Bruce and Colleen Morgan for all the work you have done and for all the work we know you will be doing for the 50th convention.

Respectfully Submitted
Dan and Anna Foust
CFA President

NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION REPORT

The NWFSRDA would like to congratulate the West Coast hosts of the 49th Florida State Convention and thank them for a fun weekend. Our association knows what hard work, headaches & backaches come with hosting a State Convention. Aspirin, Ben Gay and a long vacation works wonders.

Our Association continues to grow. The Domino Squares from Andalusia, Alabama and the Diamond Squares from Opp, Alabama have joined our Association as Associate Members. The northwest clubs continue to look for new ideas to promote square dancing in our area. As our club members continue to retire and travel, it (sometimes) makes club dances hard to square up.

Upcoming dances in our area; Grand Squares Hall, Panama City on May 31, Caller: Ted Kennedy, Cuer: Bill Bovard, the 44th Annual Billy Bowlegs Weekend, PASARDA Hall, Fort Walton Beach on June 6th & 7th, Caller: Darryl McMillan, Cuer: June Leverette. This dance is always a blast with the Billy Bowleg Crewe's arrival on Saturday. Our Association will hold it's 2nd Quarter meeting on June 7th at PASARDA Hall, at 5:00 pm. On June 14th, Pensacola Twirlers will hold its Fiesta of Five Flags Dance at Sanders Beach, Pensacola. Caller: Bob Poyner, Cuer: Jerry Buckmaster. If you can make any of these dances you will have a grand time!

Cheryl has visited the Pensacola Special Steppers several times, and they are very excited the dancers of Florida are working with the 50th State Convention in raising funds to bring them to the 50th State Convention! Northwest Florida Association members have worked very hard in the collection of donations. At this time, I would like to ask Bruce & Colleen Morgan to come up and accept this check in the amount of \$ _____, for the Special Steppers 50th Convention Fund.

To conclude this report, we would like to wish the Central Florida Association much success this year with the upcoming 50th Florida State Convention, we look forward to their "Kick-Off" this evening.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl & Paul Miller
NWFSRDA Presidents

SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION REPORT

We are pleased to report we are still alive and reasonably well at this time. We regret however that we are having to take steps to keep us this way.

We have started with a reduction in numbers of dances sponsored by the Association as of our upcoming monthly June dance. This has been "postponed" until July. We are looking at reducing our monthly dances some more for next year. We regret having to take this action but as previously reported, we are having great difficulty in locating halls that are affordable and increasing the numbers of dancers attending our monthly dances as well.

We continue to look for themes for our dances and as a result had a wonderful crazy hat dance that brought out many interesting and wonderful chapeaus. We will be doing a "sock hop" in the future and what ever else we can come up with to bring the dancers out.

We are glad to report that we were able to give a check to Bruce Morgan for the Special Steppers toward the fund to bring them to the convention next year. We hope that enough funds will be found to make this a possibility.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken & Su Brown, President

NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION REPORT

The Clubs in the Northeast Association have been busy since February with Graduations, the Hospice Dance, a 5th Saturday Dance, Anniversaries and several special dances.

The Executive Board has attended all the Graduations and awarded each club that graduated one square with 100 dollars and if two squares or more with 200 dollars' The River Ramblers Club in Palatka, Fl. graduated 27 dancers and was awarded 200 dollars. This has been by far the largest graduating class in the last two or three years and we are proud of them. Most of them attended the sophomore hoedown held in March and they will make excellent dancers.

We held our first Hospice dance on March 2, 2003 and raised over 4000 dollars, thanks to the efforts of Chairman Kim Keffer and her Committee. Every caller that was not already booked for that day volunteered to call and we had nine callers attend and call for the dance. Thanks also to the two cuers that volunteered for the dance. Kim has already booked May 1, 2004 for the next dance.

Our last free 5th Saturday Dance was held on March 29th and our regular 5th Saturday Dance will be held on May 31st. We hope that the attendance will be good since that will be the last big dance before the summer begins and some of the clubs will not be dancing and others will be changing their dance locations due to school closings for the summer or maintenance work on the schools.

The River Ramblers held a charity dance for the Shriners of Palatka on March 22, 2003, the Seabreeze Singles held a charity dance for the Homeless in Jacksonville on March 5, 2003 and we held a square dance fashion show and demonstration at the World of Nations Fest at the Metropolitan Park on April 26, 2003 where it came a storm during the demonstration and spectators flooded the pavilion to keep dry. This was the most watched demo we have had. The Moose Promonaders held their annual Pirates Ball on May 8 2003 with over 10 squares on the floor. A good time was had by all.

We have had a very busy spring and enjoyed many good dances. We are now planning a big turnout at the State Convention and wish everyone happy dancing though out the remainder of the year.

sincerely,

Joe and Martha Hardcastle, President

WEST COAST ASSOCIATION REPORT

The 49th Florida State Convention is just about over and after a long five years the members of the West Coast will take a big sigh of relief at approximately 10 or 11 P.M. this evening. It has been a great convention and we wish to thank Ken & Sue Brown for all their hard work and devotion to this convention and in particular to our Association.

During the past five years we have had many laughs, much hard work, some sadness, maybe some tears, but most of all we have seen a great deal of good will and fellowship come from all of the Association members, as they offered their kindness and support. Now the West Coast Association wishes the Central Association good luck and success with the 50th State Convention.

Many of our clubs have closed for the season and will return to dancing starting in the fall. However, we still have a number of clubs that continue year round and we know the West Coast members will support them.

The West Coast will host the VIP dance on August 17 and the President's Ball on September 28 at Strawberry Square. New officers will be installed at the President's Ball. Our next big event will be the Fall Fun Fest on November 14 & 15 at the Lakeland Center. Chairperson Penny Green and her committee hope to see all of you in attendance.

PUBLICATION REPORTS

KEEPIN' PSOTED

Our circulation remains at 400 with 40 to 64 pages per issue. After concerted effort, club inputs have increased and our small advertising base has fallen to zero. Our Pot Luck Recipes Fell out of favor, the column was not supported. We have seen increasing interest in "People Directed" articles. We continue to ever so slightly change our path to find what our audience desires.

Tom & Eivor Brown, Editors

PANHANDLE PRESS – No Report

4W's

To all Callers, Cuers, Club Representatives and interested dancers:

Upcoming 4W's Deadline: Tuesday 27 May at 12:00 noon
Print Edition Available: Friday 30 May
Sunday 1 June

The preliminary electronic edition of the 4W's (Who What When Where) Square & Round Dance Directory is ready to go "live". If you are a caller, cuer, club representative or other interested individual that has responsibility for getting a dance listed in the 4W's, please visit the brand-new web site and register.

This replacement publication for the original 4W's will enable dancers to find your dances in several ways. As in the past, they'll be able to pick up a quarterly paper edition at their local dance. Additionally, as the web site becomes more fully-featured in the coming weeks, dancers will begin to be able to view the listings on-line, and search for dances by location, caller/cuer, level and other details. Listings will be compact, but the on-line edition will allow for web hyperlinks that will enable dancers to be taken to any web site you choose, whether it be details for a caller/cuer, a club, or a special event.

Over time, you'll see more features appearing on the web site, and eventually, the entire process of adding/updating your listings will be fully automated and instantaneous. When you click on an "Update" button, dancers will see your altered dance listing immediately.

Clubs will be able to send on-line notices of special events to club regulars. Dancers that wish to locate a favored caller/cuer will be able to do so by searching "by caller", and by subscribing on an "alert me when this caller is having a dance" basis.

Our goal is for 4W's to become almost entirely automated and require no human intervention (except for resolving any problems that arise). Simply put, we just don't have the time to devote to this publication, but feel that the dance community needs a resource like this. Similarly, we neither have the time to do the sales/marketing efforts to solicit advertisers, perform the unpleasant task of collections, nor to deal with the business and tax consequences of accepting money for advertising space. As part of our decision to produce this version of the 4W's, we accept the cost of the web site operations, and we've committed to covering the cost of the first year's printing expenses. Therefore, the publication does not accept advertising.

The paper edition will be printed quarterly on approximately the same schedule as the prior 4W's. The "updates" page will always display the upcoming deadline at the top of the page, but you can submit updates at any time throughout the month. Once the web site is fully operational, your updated listings will appear on-line immediately.

You'll be able to download a printable edition (in PDF / Adobe Acrobat

format) at any time to distribute additional print copies locally. Dancers will be able to subscribe to receive the electronic edition E-mailed to them. They'll be able to elect to receive it on a regular basis (weekly, monthly, quarterly) or on a "alert me when there's a change" basis.

We'd like to see ALL the dances throughout the area listed. Dancers have expressed their frustration with not being able to find dances except by word-of-mouth. Dance organizers have been caught in the dilemma of not having enough dancers to justify the cost of a listing, but unable to attract more dancers WITHOUT having a listing.

To alleviate this problem, we've eliminated the cost of listing your dance. Therefore, we encourage you to list any and all dances that you organize.

We have already entered all of the dances that appeared in the last edition of the 4W's (March/April/May 2003), so those dances that remain the same as previously listed do not require any action - other than it's very important for you to please check each of your entries for completeness and accuracy (typographical errors MAY have occurred).

Visit www.WhoWhatWhenWhere.org and scroll down to see the listings as of the last print edition. Viewing the "live" listings directly from the database will be available in upcoming days.

For any other dances that you're responsible, please register and then enter the details for those dances, so we can make sure they are listed in the print edition.

Visit www.WhoWhatWhenWhere.org and click on "Submitting Updates" to register for an account. This preliminary edition of the 4W's does not yet provide full functionality for editing your listings, but WILL allow you to submit all the details for a new listing. To make changes to a dance already listed, please be sure to include enough details that will allow us to uniquely identify which dance listing is to be altered.

When we are fully operational, individual logins will be issued so you can update your information.

Previously, the Put-Togethers served a dual purpose. First, the print edition of the 4W's was collated and stapled by the entire assembly of dancers, getting the job done quickly and saving the cost of having this done by the printer. Secondly, as people left at the end of the evening, each group took several "clumps" of 4W's for subsequent distribution to the clubs, almost like the 4W's were "hitching a ride" to get closer to their final destination.

We have eliminated the Put-Togethers since the print edition is now a single sheet of paper that doesn't require collating or stapling. That has not eliminated the need for the print edition to continue to be distributed, just like before. Clubs, callers and cuers originally came to pick up their copies, or had a "chain" of others that would allow their copies to "hitchhike" and eventually make their way into all the dancers' hands.

That same "bucket brigade" is still needed for the copies to wind up where the dancers will find them. It is just as if we now have Put-Togethers at a fixed location (instead of one that migrates), but where nobody has to do any work on Putting It Together. Thus, distribution of the paper edition will remain largely the same as it was.

We will be making the print edition available at 2 locations where club representatives, callers, and cuers can obtain the copies for their dances. The locations were chosen both for their geographic location

(central Palm Beach County, southern Broward County) and also because each location has several dances throughout the week, increasing availability.

Boynton Beach Civic Center
128 E Ocean Ave
Boynton Beach, FL 33435-4515
Caller: Frank Bedell 561/734-0162

D.A.V. Lodge (Disabled American Veterans)
2118 Scott St
Hollywood, FL 33020-2309
Caller: Chris Phillips 954/525-8365

During the Put Togethers, the number of 4W copies that each club received had been determined by a collaboration of callers and cuers into a "4Ws Distribution List". We'll be printing 1,000 copies per the most recent (Mar/Apr/May 2003) distribution list, scaled back proportionately to reflect the summer printing. A copy of the list will be available with the printed editions at the drop-off locations.

Please note that there is no charge for any services of the new 4W's edition. Our commitment to the dance community is to ensure that dances find an audience, and dancers find a venue. Our hope is to help spread the fun around.

Craig & Karin Strickland

GRAPEVINE

The GRAPEVINE continues to publish approximately 325 copies on a subscription basis, bimonthly. The deadline for the next issue is June 10th.

The subscription and advertising rates have not changed since December 1991. However, at the March NEFSARDA Delegates Meeting the Delegates voted to increase the subscription price to \$9.00 annually (up from \$7.50). At the same time, advertising rates increased approximately \$5.00 for each size ad. Hopefully, this increase will help keep the quality of the publication the same (or better), and will keep the Editors from supplementing the cost of printing.

Our readers have shown interest in the new columns in the last issue – Federation News, written by George & Shirley Knapp, Presidents of the Florida Federation; and FASSRD News written by Penny Green, President of the Florida Association of Single Square and Round Dancers. Thanks to George & Shirley and to Penny! We eagerly look forward to receiving your articles for the next issue.

We have been quite busy these past two months as we attended graduations and club anniversaries. We always take pictures at these to functions. In the July issue we run the names and as many pictures as we can of the graduates. In addition to welcoming the graduates to square dancing with the appropriate "Yellowrock", we present them with complimentary copies of THE GRAPEVINE, BOW & SWING, and AMERICAN SQUAREDANCE MAGAZINE. This year, due to the illness and subsequent death of Charlie's mother, we missed attending some of these dances. But, let us hasten to add...not a graduate missed receiving this presentation of complimentary copies. Square dancers came forward volunteering to take pictures, or present the books. One club called and told us to stay home & rest, they'd cover the anniversary for us. Several took pictures at the anniversaries or graduations and got the pictures to us. The evening Charlie's mother was rushed to the hospital, we called a couple and asked their help. They picked up the books from our front porch, presented them to the graduates, then called and left a message saying everything was taken care of. Someone else met us to pick up books and presented them at another graduation. We've said it before and we'll say it again, Square Dancers make the best friends. Which

brings us to our point. How many friends do you have who are missing out on this type of friendship? Ask them to take lessons—better yet, take them to square dance lessons. Let them experience this FUN & FRIENDSHIP in this activity we love called Square Dancing! Don't leave it to Editors, Leaders, Callers, Cuers—we ALL need to work hard to keep this hobby we love so much alive. Let's put the FUN and FRIENDSHIP back into square dancing and see how contagious it is. We would not have gotten thru these past two months without the help of our Square Dance Friends! Let's all promote this wonderful activity!!

Remember, we exchange Festival ads with the other association publications—we have our fall festival ad with us. Editors: if you haven't gotten yours yet, see us before you leave.

We received our June issue of the AMERICAN SQUAREDANCE MAGAZINE just before we left to come to the Convention. We'd like to say Congratulations to Bill Boyd for the great looking publication. We liked the size of it—we liked the sharper, larger print. And, yes, we liked the contents as well. Keep up the good work, Bill!

Charlie & Val Newsome, Editors

WEST COAST DANCER

First I would like to thank the Presidents of the West Coast Association for reading my report at the last meeting in February. My throat was so sore from a cold that it would have served no purpose for me to try and speak.

I don't have any bad news and the good news is that nothing has changed for the Dancer since the last report except the normal seasonal downturn in advertising and dance activity. This means we still seasonally publish 1200 to 2800 free copies of the West Coast Dancer.

This is a great convention. I hope the advertising in each of the Association Publications helped in some way to get the message out that this is indeed a special convention.

Respectfully submitted. Ed & Ginny Henning, Editors

BOW & SWING

BOW & SWING is alive, well and having fun. Circulation is holding steady at about 1100 (it has been to 1240 and as low as 1071). We at BOW & SWING continue to honor our commitments to charitable dances and other fund raising activities. We still want photographs, but we have noticed that most everyone is sending captions – “chicken”. We continue to promote the idea we are selling & promoting fun – using square dancing and round dancing to achieve that fun.

So, keep dancing – have fun!
Respectfully submitted, Bill Boyd

CONVENTION REPORTS

2003 – 49TH STATE CONVENTION

On May 30, 1999, we submitted our first report to the Florida Federation of Square and Round Dancers. At that time we opened with the following statement; “We must admit we are excited, delighted and scared to death.” We are waiting now for our final figures, from registrar and treasurer; and we are still excited, delighted and scared to death.

The registration as of 8:50 this morning is 1134, and the projection of profit is ^{now} not \$8,000. In addition we can report as of 8:30PM last evening, there were 27 registered for “Welcome To Our World”, which totals \$135. Attendees have registered from Winter Garden, Jacksonville, and one visiting from Newfoundland.

When we give our report during the wrap up tomorrow morning, we will present both positive, and not so positive issues which have occurred during the planning and orchestration of this event.

Our final report will include individual summaries from each committee chairman as well as their expenses. We hope this will be of some help to future Conventions. If all goes well, it should be available before September 1.

We intend to present the items that have worked well and we would recommend to continue; as well as several problems which we encountered and possible solutions. Those which we are most concerned include; vendors, parking, Convention food service and newly carpeted rooms which are not conducive to our dance program.

We have been on a Roller Coaster for the past four plus years, and it is now time to get off. We have enjoyed the greater portion of the ride, although there have been some rocky stretches in the tracks.

Without a great committee, as well as many West Coast members this would not have been possible. We have renewed many friendships and met some great new friends.

Will all those who have worked on this year’s convention please stand. These, as well as many others, deserve credit for the 49th Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention. And, without the Federation, Callers, Cuers, and Five Associations it would not have happened. As always the credit is due to the dancers. Thank you for all of your support.

2004 – 50TH STATE CONVENTION

Bruce & Colleen Morgan
GENERAL CHAIRMAN

Dan & Anna Foust
ASSISTANT
GENERAL CHAIRMAN

Dewey & Donna Hendricks
CONVENTION SECRETARY

Jack & Barbara Hoffman
CONVENTION TREASURER

50th FLORIDA STATE SQUARE & ROUND CONVENTION

May 28, 29, 30, 2004



May 25, 2003 Federation Meeting

Well, tonight’s the big night. But before I get started I have some great big thank yous that I must do. As most of you know, there was a dance at Strawberry Squares on Thursday evening. All funds from this dance went to the benefit of the Pensacola Special Steppers. As you know we have been trying to raise money in order to get the Special Steppers to next year’s Convention. With the money raised on Thursday evening we helped this cause a long way. We still have a ways to go. I would just like to

say Thank You to Don & Ann Slocum for a job well done. They organized the whole thing. Stand up and take a bow. You deserve it. The west Coast Association deserves a great big thank you also. They were one of the biggest contributors to last night's dance. They paid the hall rent and probably other things that I don't know about. So I say thanks to the West Coast Association as well.

Then there was the Northwest donation from a little bit ago. That \$2,050 will go a long way towards getting the Special Steppers to Lakeland next year. I cannot go on without adding the Northeast and their donation. Plus all the other Associations and dancers that have given so freely over the past 7 months.

We just want to give a big thank you to Ken & Sue Brown. They, and their committee, have put on a great convention. It will be a hard act to follow. But if we must we must. Just think of it, in less than 12 hours the Central Florida Dancers will be on the floor of the arena showing you what is in store for you next year. It seems like a long time ago that we were just trying to think up a theme and now we are about to kick-off our year of convention. We had a great rehearsal this morning. It was the first time that all the pieces were actually done together. All went well and I know that we will do a great job tonight.

Colleen and I pick up the registration forms from Jackie Johnson of the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, May 15th. They really look good. Jackie even agreed to fold them for us. This saved a lot of time. It would have taken a long time to fold all those forms. Speaking of the Registration Forms, I have a package of forms and buttons here for each of the Association Presidents. If you would come forward I'll give you your package and we would appreciate if you would assist us in distributing the registration forms throughout your area and selling the buttons for us. All that we ask is that you return the funds to us as soon as you have sold all your buttons.

From here on out, you, the Square Dance leaders throughout this great state, are our best sales persons. At every dance or festival that you attend please ask for the microphone and talk up the convention. Ask the dancers to purchase their ribbons for next year's convention. By purchasing the ribbons early they will save money over the box-office price. Plus, as with past conventions, we will have a "No questions asked" refund policy up until the start of the convention on May 28, 2004. Since they will be going to the convention anyway they might as well get their ribbons early. It will help us fund the convention and it will save them some money.

Our last fund raiser was the refreshment stand and the silent auction at the Third Annual Shamrock Swing. Both of these items raised some well needed funds for the convention. From now on we are on a continuous fund raising campaign. We have already begun selling registrations and we will start selling buttons and shirts this afternoon. We are also selling tickets on a Husqvarna Viking Huskylock Serger. This is a \$800.00 value. It will be given away in the Sew & Save Room on Sunday afternoon during our convention. The tickets are \$1.00 each. Who doesn't know someone that loves to sew that wouldn't want one of these. Get your tickets today. Another fund raiser is tickets on a 3-night stay at the Holiday Inn North during next year's convention. This will be the host hotel and the home of the Central Association. Along with the 3-night stay you will get a hot breakfast buffet each morning. If you don't wish to stay at the Holiday Inn that's OK also. We will give you the money and you can stay wherever you wish. The tickets for this prize are \$5.00 each. For \$5.00 you can't really lose. Get your tickets today. The 50th Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention will also sponsor a dance on November 22nd of this year. This is the Saturday night just prior to the Federation Meeting. Joe Fioretti will be doing the calling and Phyllis Williams will be cueing. You won't want to miss this one. I have flyers if you would like to pick some up to take back home with you. This dance will be held at Whirl & Twirl. You all know where that is. And then on Sunday, November 23rd George & Shirley Knapp will hold their last Federation Meeting as President right there in the same hall. We will also be holding a silent auction that night. Please bring lots of money so that you can participate in the silent auction and also buy those tickets on the hotel stay and the serger. If you haven't purchased your shirts yet we'll have those too.

After the State Convention this year you will all be our number one ribbon sales persons. We will need all the help we can get. There are a lot of clubs in Florida and we need to hit as many as we can. There are also a lot of Special Dances between now and the State Convention next year. We will be attending as many of these as possible. But, as you all know it is almost impossible to make them all. As I mentioned before, please help us out by assisting in the ribbon sales when you attend a dance where someone from the 50th is not in attendance. Thank you.

That is about all right now.

See you tonight at the kick-off and next year at the Golden Anniversary State Convention.

Be there!

Bruce & Colleen Morgan
General Chairman
50th Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention

2005 – 51st STATE CONVENTION

We met with Brenda, our contact at the Lakeland Center on Tuesday, April 22nd, and we now have a contract. We've discussed with our Caller Coordinator and our Cuer Coordinator the rooms to be utilized for our Convention and everyone is in agreement.

Our theme and convention attire has been introduced to the Northeast Delegates. We are in the process of getting the material cut, placed in a bag with instructions, and to the committee and dancers. We are getting our "logo" finished so that buttons, tee shirts, etc. can be ordered. This weekend has reminded us that it's not too long until we will be in the midst of our Kick-Off, and we are sure the time will fly from that time until the convention opens in 2005. At this time, it appears that we are on schedule – with no known problems at the moment.

Fund raisers continue in the Northeast – we'll be drawing the winning raffle ticket for the handmade afghan at our next 5th Saturday dance on May 31st. And, we've already got another fund raiser ready to take off. The Northeast dancers, callers & cuers have been most supportive of all our efforts so far. It sure makes our job a little bit easier. We've tried to make the work on and for the convention "FUN" with plenty of "FELLOWSHIP" thrown in and it seems to be working – at least we've not heard of anyone getting bored or discouraged yet.

Our next scheduled meeting will be sometime in August with all committees making a report at that time.

We appreciate the continued input and support from other Convention Chairman – past, present, and future.

Respectfully submitted, Charlie & Val Newsome – General Chairmen

2006 – 52nd STATE CONVENTION

First of all we want to congratulate Ken & Sue Brown on a great convention and wish Bruce and Colleen Morgan a successful kick-off tonight.

We had a meeting on Friday, May 23 to hand out hall monitoring forms for this convention. We hope that by monitoring the usage of each hall during the next 3 conventions we will be better able to make hall assignments.

Since our last report we had our Kick-off Chairman resign. We have asked 2 of our local callers to Co-Chair this job and they have agreed. We are also asking our Caller & Cuer Chairmen to assist them so that we can provide the dancers with a great kick-off like Southeast has produced in the past. We are still looking for a few major chairmen but we are sure the dancers of Southeast will come forward to fill these spots in the near future.

We attended our first official meeting of the Coordinating Committee on Saturday. We will need all the input we can get from the upcoming chairmen. We know we have a big job ahead and with a rapidly declining dancer population in Southeast the job gets bigger.

We are working on a fundraiser for the decorations committee. Betty Guthrie, Chairman, donated a hand made afghan that will be raffled off at the Snowflake Frolic in January. All proceeds will provide materials for decorations.

Respectfully submitted,
Garland & Carole McKenzie, General Chairmen

2007 – 53rd STATE CONVENTION

Paul Miller reported that Northwest is still in the early planning stages. We have not selected a Chairman as of yet. Our next quarterly meeting will be in two weeks and maybe some decisions can be made at that time. No one is jumping up to volunteer because they are not sure they can measure up to Fred & Shirley.

HALL OF FAME REPORT

May 25, 2003

The Hall of Fame did not have a nominee year.

We will be leaving the Hall of Fame Committee as of this meeting. We are pleased to announce that Don and Ann Slocum will be taking our place.

The Hall of Fame account is in good shape with \$ 1205.62 in the checking account.

We will have a small bill for the Convention Chairman to increase our monies to the amount needed to reach our \$1500 maximum.

Remember when you submit someone as a nominee to the Hall of Fame. The candidate should have impacted more than just one association. It has been our pleasure to have served on this committee.

Thanks for all the support we have received and we have tried our best.

Sincerely Submitted

Jack and Zonie Taylor
Chairman, Hall of Fame Committee

FLORIDA FEDERATION HISTORY REPORT

May 25, 2003

We have been collecting material for the next State Convention. It is adding up and promises to be a great display.

Zonie has all the albums up to date and she will have a great display for the State Convention.

We do not carry a large number of albums to the National Square Dance Convention. We are sure the Parliamentarian will be glad of that.

As always many thanks to the editors of the State publications for sending us copies. We appreciate it.

My normal plea now, please identify people, places and event so we can caption the pictures.

You may want to caption pictures yourselves. That would be great. Thanks

Jack and Zonie Taylor
Florida Federation Historians

ASCAP-BMI REPORT

Dues for BMI have been paid for the year 2003 and ASCAP will be due on completion of the State Convention. Dues for ASCAP will be \$.064 per paid attendee and one half of the vendors or a minimum of \$70.00

Respectfully,

Dave & Shirley Nihart