

**MINUTES OF
FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS
SUNDAY, May 29, 2005
LAKELAND CENTER - LAKELAND, FL**

Presidents, Garland and Carole McKenzie, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Ken Brasfield gave the invocation. President McKenzie led the delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance. Sue Brown called the roll and stated a quorum was in attendance.

A motion was made by Bruce Morgan and seconded by Ken Brown (South East) to accept the minutes of the February 26, and 27, 2005 meeting – approved as published. The motion passed.

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS' TREASURER REPORT
February 26, 2005 - May 28, 2005

Beginning Balance - All Accounts			
Wachovia Checking Balance	\$		
Contingency	\$		
Insurance	\$		
Total All Accounts	\$		
Checking Account Balance			\$
Receipts			
2005 Association Dues (FASSRD)	\$		
2005 association Dues (South East Association)	\$		
Wachovia Interest (02/01/2005 - 05/28/2005)	\$		
Total Receipts	\$		
			\$
Disbursements			
Jack McKinney - Secretarial Expense	\$		
Florida Dept. of State (Annual Corp Fee)	\$		
Carole McKenzie (Traveling Banner)	\$		
Total Disbursements	\$		
Checking Account Balance 05/28/2005			\$
Ending Balance - All Accounts			
Wachovia Checking Balance	\$		
Contingency	\$		
Insurance	\$		
Total All Accounts	\$		
Respectfully Submitted			
Randy & Carol Poole, Treasurer			

The Chair introduced Guests in attendance:

Due to a commitment to address the Florida Callers meeting, both guests requested an opportunity to speak at time of introduction.

Paul Walker, a former Florida caller, and now resident of North Carolina is serving on the 2007 Convention to be held in Charlotte, NC. He urged the dancers to encourage their callers to register to call. He stated that campers would have some 400 Hook-ups at the Campgrounds. He mentioned the bus transportation which will be available. And announced the Pre-convention will be held March 26th through April Fools Day. And finally he reminded all to pre register early.

Keith and Margo Stevens, from the West Coast Area gave a summation of the Polk Senior Games.

For a first attempt it was a moderate success. Our schedule for the Polk Senior Games included the dancing for the participants and a free square dance for all who wished to attend; and an introduction to square dancing for non dancers who attended the Games to watch. There were only two squares of participants in the senior games, but there were more than 60 non dancers who attended and we were able to introduce them to square dancing. Following the Polk Senior Games we staged an introductory dance at which all spectators participated. We anticipate that some will take up the hobby. The square dancers who participated in the Polk Senior Games said they enjoyed the experience and planned to do it again next year. All said it was a positive experience. For next year we will begin promotion earlier, and encourage more clubs and dance groups to participate.

Keith Stevens

Parliamentarian Report - 29 May 2005

Paul & I would like to thank, the Associations for their outstanding efforts in this year's "Show Case of Idea's" displays, we will be very proud to take these to Portland, Oregon for the 54th National Convention on June 22-25. This will be Florida's 30th year to participate in the National Convention.

All plans for Florida's participation in the National Convention this year have been finalized, we have ordered (3) eight foot tables, submitted each of our Associations name's & Association President's phone contact information to be listed in the Program Book; as well as the Federation's President & Federation Historian. Our donated giveaways turned out exceptionally well.

I need help manning the "Showcase of Idea's" display in Portland and would like the Associations to turn in their staffing sheet or give me the names of dancers that will be attending and I will locate them tonight to make sure no one is left out in participating in the Federation Showcase Display.

We encourage everyone to attend the Nationals this year, many activities are planned for this convention; (2) Parade of States, an outdoor parade on Friday morning for everyone, wearing colorful square dance attire & comfortable shoes. The first parade is outdoors ending at the Lloyd Center for an Ice Rink demonstration featuring a

dancing demonstration. The second parade is Saturday evening at the convention center limiting to 1 square from each state, wearing our Florida State Outfit.

As for the banner, the company we originally intended to use sent us an email telling us they were no longer producing "graphical banners". They were now only producing banners that had text on them. We sent emails to the board to notify them about what happened. Presidents Garland and Carol McKenzie came through for us and as you saw last night at the Convention, we have a very nice banner. The final cost was \$153.36, less than our original quote.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul & Cheryl Miller

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION REPORT – May 29, 2005

In addition to the decline in membership, we are also feeling the decline in callers. It is also getting extremely difficult to find affordable halls in easily assessable areas. However, in an effort to keep the Southeast Association active, the Board, after much discussion of the alternatives, has voted to have four dances a year starting on Sept. 11, 2005. The Southeast Association scheduled one dance in the north, one dance in the south and two in the middle area. It is our hope that these changes will enable the Southeast Association to remain a strong and viable association for many years to come; although getting people to volunteer is another issue.

Because so many clubs are closing down, we will be getting flyers out every where we can so those dancers will know that there are still SEA dances that they can attend in September, February and May. On a more upbeat note, our April Ice Cream on Sundae dance and our May Mother's Day dance were both very well attended.

We have decided to go forward with another fund-raiser. The Snowflake Frolic will be on January 21, 2006 at the Boynton Beach Civic Center. The callers will be Frank Bedell and Mike Doughty with Jerry and Joyce Viola Cueing. Since you now have eight months' notice, please mark your calendars!

Respectfully submitted,
Ray & Elsa Huddleston, President

NORTHEAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT – May 29, 2005

At the working weekend in February, it had been suggested that the Presidents of each Association meet and share ideas. It was a very good exchange of ideas. It was then suggested that we meet again in Lakeland at the Convention. The 51st state convention held a breakfast yesterday. We will have more to report on this at our next report in November.

The NEFSARDA Board has been extremely busy. On March 15th we attended the graduation of the Seabreeze Singles. The highlight was seeing the graduation of a 90 year young lady. On April 2nd we attended the dance of the Gypsy Squares at Pacetti's Campground. We danced to John Barrett and as it has turned out it was

probably the last dance we will get to dance to him. All of Florida is going to miss him.

We have attended 7 graduations and 2 combination graduations and anniversary dances. We also attended 2 other anniversary dances. We have a total of 70+ dancers that graduated. Everyone treated the Board great and they really seemed to appreciate that we came. We also retrieved 2 banners for our next 5th Saturday dance. We would have had to retrieve 4, but most of the board can't Round Dance and the 2 Round Dance clubs helped us out by returning their banners. We appreciate that they helped us out and we do intend to visit their club and show our appreciation.

We had a great 5th Saturday dance on April 30. The theme was "GET ON BOARD". We all wore our outfits and we had one last bake sale as a fund raiser for the convention.

We do have some exciting plans. We are going to take our 5th Saturday dance in July to Lake City. This helps to spread out our dances so the outlying areas feel a part of NEFSARDA.

NEFSARDA always does a charity dance and this year we have chosen the Donna Hicken Breast Cancer Foundation. This charity helps patients with breast cancer pay their everyday bills, that they can't meet when they are ill. Donna Hicken is a local TV personality that has twice survived breast cancer. Her organization sells the pink rubber band bracelets. We are selling them to everyone and this is going to be used as the admission to the dance instead of buttons or ribbons.

Charlie and Val Newsome are planning a great Fall Festival this year. The caller we had planned on having had another obligation so we have hired Mac McCall of the Red Boot Boys as our guest caller on Saturday. The Tyre's of Georgia will be our guest Cuer's on Saturday. The theme is Harvest Moon Ball. I really hope you will attend.

We are still planning our New Year's Eve Dance for our last 5th Saturday December 31st. We are planning a dinner and dance with 3 of our local callers and guest cuers, the Eum's, from Washington DC. We think this will be a terrific dance.

We are now turning our thoughts towards classes in the Fall, and how to attract new dancers.

One final comment, NEFSARDA and the 51st State Convention are so very glad that you chose to "GET ON BOARD" this weekend and from the bottom of our hearts we want to say THANK YOU!

Respectfully Submitted,
Bud & Anita Taylor

WEST COAST FEDERATION REPORT – May 29, 2005

The West Coast has held three very successful Association dances since the last Federation meeting in February. Our Spring Dance was on March 6th in Venice. Red & Virginia Bates did a wonderful job of hosting. Five callers and 4 cuers donated their time with 17 squares on the floor. The dance has been so successful in that area that we have already set a date for next year.

Our Easter Dance was held on March 20th in Sebring. Sam Dunn was the emcee. The Ridge Rollaways, Pine Ridge Promenaders and the Harmony Hoedowners did a great job co-hosting the dance. The Suncoast Callers and Cuers showed up in full force. The West Coast Association can't say enough about the support that we get from them. There were 14 Squares in attendance.

Our April Dance was held in Sun City Center at the Kings Point Clubhouse on April 24. It was a huge success with 20 Squares. Agnes Ariana, of the Kings Point Swingers, organized the committee, which did a fabulous job of hosting the dance. Volunteers like Agnes helps make these dances a success. Bob Barnes did a great job as the emcee and said his farewell to calling, by announcing his official retirement. He will be missed. Bob has always been very active in the West Coast and we could always count on him to be there if needed.

We attended several club graduations and anniversaries as our schedule permitted. Many of the clubs that we visited had very successful classes and they hope to continue that trend in the future.

The Suncoast Callers and Cuers Association held their annual picnic and barbecue at Strawberry Square on May 15th. The West Coast Association supplied the meat for the picnic in appreciation for all of the time the callers and cuers donate to help make our West Coast dances successful.

The "2005 Express" has made its final stop at the Lakeland Center this weekend. We hope the promoting we did in the West Coast area will help make the Northeast Associations 51st State Convention a very successful one.

Respectively Submitted,
Fred & Jan Smith

**CENTRAL FLORIDA SQUARE & ROUND DANCERS ASSOCIATION –
CFA Presidents report to FL Fed. At the State Convention – May 2005**

The 2005 Shamrock Swing was a great success, although we would like to have had more dancers attend. There were about 21 squares in attendance. Nick Hartley did a great job of calling and the Griffins did a great job of cueing and those that were there had a very enjoyable dance. Many, many thanks to Donna & Dewey Hendrix and all of their committee members; for organizing and managing such a great dance. We are looking forward to the 2006 Shamrock Swing and are sure that Jim & Jan McConnaha will do a superb job. Look for flyers!!!

The CFA 5th Saturday Dance was held on April 30th at the Clerbrook RV Park and sponsored by the Clermont Squares. About 15 squares were there. Whit Brown and

Joanne Helton did a wonderful job of calling and cueing. Thanks to all for a great dance.

Our next 5th Saturday Dance will be held in St. Cloud at the Senior Center and sponsored by the Wagon Wheels. This will be our Presidents Ball and new officers will be elected and installed to take office on October 1, 2005.

An additional 3 dancers were presented with \$500 each from the disaster fund to help with hurricane damage. This makes a total of \$2,500 donated to 5 different dancers from the disaster fund.

A benefit dance was held at the Whirl & Twirl club in Orlando to benefit John Swindle and Joe Fioretti on April 24th. They were both in attendance and looking good. **OVER \$6,000 WAS RAISED FOR THEIR BENEFIT!!** Thanks to all who attended and donated to this cause. An anonymous donor matched the total amount that was collected for the half & half and the winner of the half & half donated it back. This is what square dancing is all about.

Jack & Barbara Hoffman, Presidents, CFA

NORTHWEST FLORIDA SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION REPORT – May 29, 2005

Northwest is getting ready for the 2007 State Convention. Tim and Terry Wilaby will report further on this later in this meeting.

On March 11 the annual Charlie Polk Memorial Dance was held at Tagon Hall in Pensacola, with local callers and cuers. Charlie was one of our most faithful and active dancers until he passed away.

PASARDA Hall hosted a Mainstream, Plus, and Advanced square dance on March 19, with Bob Poyner calling.

Patty Ping held another weekend beginner square dance class on March 11, 12, and 13 at East Pensacola Heights.

The 28th Annual Weekend of Rounds was held at Ragon Hall in Pensacola April 15 & 16. The cueing was done by Jerry & Barbara Pierce.

The annual Spring Fling was held April 22 & 23, also at Ragon Hall. Larry Belcher and Willis Simmons were the callers, and Sue Corley cued the rounds. This is always a good dance and was well attended. These callers and cuer are from Alabama, so this dance provides a great way to meet and dance with our friends and neighbors across the state line.

Patty Ping held a Plus workshop April 2 at East Pensacola Heights Community Center. These workshops are a great help in getting our newer dancers further along in their dancing skills.

For May, things were pretty quiet on the Northwestern front.

Two major dances are slated in the Northwest Association in June. The 46th annual Billy Bowlegs Festival Dance will be held June 3rd and 4th at PASARDA hall in Ft. Walton Beach. The Caller will be Darryl McMillain, and Cuer will be June Leverette.

The quarterly Northwest Association meeting will be held there on June 4th.

On June 11th, the Pensacola Twirlers will host their annual Fiesta of Five Flags dance at the Bayview Senior Citizens Center, when they will entertain Don Tristan de Luna and his court. Willis Simmons will call, and Bill Bovard will cue. This is always a spectacular event, with a lot of pomp and circumstance along with the fun. De Luna was the Spanish explorer who founded the first settlement in the Pensacola area. Every year, as an integral part of Pensacola's Fiesta of Five Flags, a prominent citizen is designated Don Tristan de Luna.

I am pleased to report the PASARDA Hall is becoming more active, after a dry spell. They will have dances twice a month on the second and fourth Saturdays.

Unfortunately, three of our callers, Robert Funderburk at the Quincy Curley Q', Peter Richardson at the Whirlaways, and Sammy Lee at the Chautauqua Squares are having serious health problem. Please remember them in your prayers, and let's hope that the will be back calling soon.

We do have a new caller in our area, at least for a while. He is Paul Bischoff. Since he is serving in the Air Force, his length of stay in the Northwest area is totally dependent on Uncle Sam's shims. He will be calling primarily for Seaside Squares at Ragon Hall.

Dave Henn, President

FLORIDA SINGLES – May 29, 2005

Good Morning,

Fuzzy Navel was in March. We had 96 dancers registered and we had a small profit from the weekend. We were at a new hotel this year, which everyone liked & we will be there again next year. Changing weekends may have had some affect on attendance. Adding finger foods thought a plus.

Florida will be hosting in 2006 with Jim Cosman of Seabreeze Singles calling & Misty Hannah from Alabama cueing.

The weekend was marred by the loss of one of our Florida dancers from the West Coast.

The Singles Hall this weekend was well attended with 6 to 7 squares. We experienced very light attendance at both after parties due to the difficulty of dancers finding the Diplomat in the dark. We held a "mini grand march."

National Singles Dance-A-Rama will be in Columbus, Ohio over the Labor Day Weekend which I plan to attend. The Yellowrock Directory is being updated.

We have signed contracts from Joe Fioretti, Whit Brown & the Griffins for our Single Rama in October. Two back up callers are on standby if Joe can't make it.

Orlando Singles is trying to bounce back from decreased attendance, based in part to the several moves they have had to make due to rent increases. They are now dancing at the College Park Presbyterian Church.

Seabreeze Singles in Jacksonville is one of our most active clubs. They are always well represented at the weekend festivals and conventions.

Spairs & Pairs in Pinellas Park near Tampa has been struggling. They recently moved & changed dance nights.

Swingin' Singles in Ft. Lauderdale & Miami is also struggling. They only dance once a month.

Suncoast Squares of St. Petersburg is a new gay/lesbian club. They have been attending our West Coast Folding Meetings. Four representatives attended the last meeting. They are also members of the National Organization. They just went on their first banner raid. Some of them are new to Florida and have never been on a banner raid. They are excellent dancers and their average is a lot younger than most of our other dancers.

Penny Green

PUBLICATIONS

Keepin' Posted Semi-Annual Report

Thanks for a good convention. Ray, you can turn back around now. Personally, I thought we out-shined the mousey folks last night next door. Thanks to all you editors who share their plunder and pillage.

I believe we are getting the word out; I'm not so sure the audience is hearing it. But this is the frustration of the job.

The numbers stay the same; so I'll not repeat them. Articles and stories from our clubs seem to come and go, fewer this month but more next month. Maybe it's the weather. It almost appears that interest flags then peaks. But the why is perplexing.

But, till then, we'll keep huffing and puffin' on our merry way. Changing something here; tweaking something there; all while trying to better our product.

Respectively,

Tom & Eivor Brown

May 29, 2005, Florida Federation Meeting

Panhandle Press

We are still up and running 4 issues each year.

Our membership is stable but club articles are down.

Submitted by

Frank Leverette , Editor

THE GRAPEVINE

A N E F S A R D A P U B L I C A T I O N

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THE GRAPEVINE REPORT

FEDERATION MEETING - May 29, 2005

The Grapevine continues to print approximately 300 copies six times a year.

During the last two months we have attended every Class Graduation in the Northeast and have presented the graduates with free current copies of The Grapevine, the Bow & Swing, and the American Square Dance Magazine. We'd like to thank Bill & Randy Boyd for the free copies of their publications so that we could make this presentation to the graduates. The last graduation we attended was the night before we left for this Convention. By attending these events it gave us a chance to meet the "new dancers" and welcome them into our activity. We were greatly impressed with our graduates this year – most of them are younger than in past years and they were all extremely enthusiastic. Our next issue will include pictures of some of these events and the names of all graduates – it is what we call our "Graduation Issue".

Since its inception the "Feature Article" continues to be one of our most popular items in The Grapevine. Our May-June issue's Feature was dedicated to Larry & Margie Heffner. Central Association's latest Dance Couple of the Year; and who helped so much in the Northeast Kick-Off.

We continue to print any news about the State and National Conventions, and any Ads for Benefit Dances for any Associations. Our Calendar of Events continues to include dances within the other Associations – when we know about them. We will be including ads for the Fall Fun Fest and our own Fall Festival in the upcoming issues. We also hope to include the ad for the Fall Roundup in Northwest, but need an ad copy from them.

Being Editors of a publication gives us the chance to promote Square Dancing to its fullest potential, and that continues to be our goal. The material contained in any of our publications may be used by any other publication, however we do ask only that you give The Grapevine credit for any article used.

As usual, we invite anyone's comments and suggestions.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie & Val Newsome

MAY 29, 2005

SUBMITTED TO:

**FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE AND ROUND DANCERS
MEETING REPORT FOR THE WEST COAST DANCER MAGAZINE**

The Dancer continues to publish and distribute free of charge to all dancers.

The circulation still varies between about 1700 and 2800 copies seasonally. Despite much talk of Clubs disbanding, we have noticed our listings include several new clubs or dances forming. In fact many new listings are for dances taking up where Clubs are closed for the summer season. In addition, many new dances are being planned for beginners and workshops for more experienced dancers, when the fall season starts.

However, the number of Advertisements has fallen, particularly for out of area or out of state dances. I suspect this is due to dancers being unwilling or unable to travel some distances as much as they used to. Thus those dances are not getting sufficient support from our area. Perhaps this will change in the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Henning, Editor

BOW & SWING

Bow & Swing is alive and well and having fun. I guess some people are reading this magazine; some of the captions on my photographs have brought complaints. I seem to be poking fun at Square Dancing. No apologies, I think Square Dancing is a fun activity and we should all have a sense of humor.

Our circulation is holding at about 1200 subscribers. I would like to thank the National Convention for once again recognizing the Bow and Swing as one of the top magazines in the Nation. May I reiterate at this point, Florida is fortunate to have several magazines rated as some of the best in the Nation. As you have heard from the other publishers, these magazines are published for the love of Square Dancing and its related activities.

Send us your information on charitable fund raising dances; we publish these ads for free. If your club is moving from one location to another hall, the first ad notification is free (up to a quarter page). Send us an E-mail or letter and we will send magazines for your graduates. Send us your photographs with or without caption at your own risk.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Boyd

The chair announced a 15 minute break.

STATE CONVENTION REPORTS
FLORIDA STATE SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE CONVENTION

MAY 27, 28, 29, 2005

REPORT TO FEDERATION MEETING

May 29, 2005

The 2005 Express traveled around the State and arrived on time at the Lakeland Center Friday Night. We want to thank each and every6 one of you for "GETTING ON BOARD".

Before we get into the report we also want to thank everyone from the entire state who has helped us in any way... we've had people in every Association who have sold Ribbons, distributed registration forms and flyers, and helped in various other ways. It truly is a State Convention when the whole State promotes it! THANK YOU ALL!!

Our last "formal" promotion was at the Northeast 5th Saturday "Get On Board" Dance in Jacksonville, but we continued to get "mike" time everywhere we went until we arrived at the Lakeland Center. We've gotten a lot of registrations from "graduates" because we passed out flyers telling them there would be a place for them to dance. We thought of it too late to include the entire state...so listen up, future Chairman, don't forget to make a big push at graduations throughout the State. We thought the Association Publications and the Bow & Swing did a great job getting out publicity. Bill Boyd printed our Program Book – and as usual when it comes to Square Dancing "lost his shirt" but gave us an excellent book with extra copies of the Program Insert.

As usual, we had a hard time getting with our contact in the Convention Center to finalize the requests we had requested earlier in the year. We finished that task by email and several phone conversations on Friday one week before our Convention opened.

Our anxiety level was hitting about 150% about the Saturday and Saturday evening use of the Plus Hall for the Kick-Off Practice, Un-Fashion Show Practice, the Show itself, Opening Ceremonies with a very Mini-March, and still gets in some dancing. We had no formula to go by...just hit and miss. Now that it's over, we could have done some things a little different perhaps, but maybe next year's Convention will have a chance to change it all.

We came into the Convention with only 754 paid registrations. We had our bills paid before we entered the Center on Friday...even with the LOW registrations we've had. Let's give credit where credit is due...the Northeast Dancers', Callers' and Cuers' efforts at FUND RAISING were OUTSTANDING. Without that dedication and support to the Convention, we would not be in a positive monetary situation. We SALUTE THEM! We also THANK everyone throughout the State for their support. Even though not as large as last year, we do expect to make a nice profit!

We hope everyone is experiencing what we envisioned this Convention to do – to have fun dancing and socializing with your friends throughout the State. From the moment we asked you to "GET ON BOARD", our goal for the Convention was FUN and we hope we've accomplished that for all of you.

There will be a breakout meeting at the Holiday Inn North (Host Hotel) at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, May 30th. Our Committee Chairman will be in attendance and we hope future Chairmen will join us. No one can do everything right all the time, but this exchange of ideas and comments might help in some areas of your Convention.

We would be amiss if we did not ask our Committee -those of you who are at this gathering- to stand and be recognized. There has never been a greater, more hard-working, dedicated and supportive Committee ANYWHERE! We were just the engineer of the train – the people who were working in the cars behind us kept everything on track for your enjoyment!

If anyone has any questions, we will attempt to answer them at this time. Our Final Report will be ready for the next Federation Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie & Val Newsome

52nd FLORIDA STATE SQUARE & ROUND DANCE CONVENTION

May 26, 27, 28, 2006

May 29, 2005

2006 Convention Report Federation Meeting

Well, the big day is here. We had a good rehearsal on Saturday and are prepared for our Kickoff tonight. Before we get started, we want to thank Charlie & Val Newsome for all their input and to Bruce Morgan for all his computer help. Bruce did all our logo work and our registration forms. A big thank you goes to Colleen Morgan for allowing Bruce to help out.

In February, Jackie Johnson of the Lakeland Convention & Visitor Bureau advised us that they had closed their printing facility as of the end of 2004. She said they would try to reimburse us for our printing costs. After calling several printing facilities and Bow & Swing, we settled on a local printer. This printer also happened to give us the lowest bid. The total bill for printing and folding was \$940.40. We gave him a list of the publications and how many they needed either flat or folded. I asked if he could put a blank sheet about every thousand so we didn't have to count out so many. When we picked up the order, he had them boxed separately for each publication and labeled. We were delighted! If you haven't already gotten your package for your publication see us at the break. I contacted Jackie Johnson regarding reimbursement for printing. They were not able to cover the whole bill, but we did get a check for \$350.00. That beats footing the whole bill. Future conventions need to consider this expense in their planning.

We started selling ribbons Saturday afternoon. We have kept the pre-registration price the same as last year at \$15.00 per person. Youth, under 16 will be half price at any time prior to April 30, 2006. Please encourage the youth in your area to attend the state convention. We did increase the registrations \$5.00 per person over the last couple of years. We will also make refunds if notified prior to the opening of the doors on Friday, May 26, 2006.

We have packages of registration forms and buttons for each Association President. In an effort to simplify record keeping, we are asking the Associations to forward Button Money from their funds. When they sell a button, they can repay their own treasury. We want to thank Ken & Sue Brown and the West Coast Dancers for putting most of our buttons together. West Coast – Ken & Sue have also committed to chairing the Sewing & Craft Room and the Fashion Show. Ken is also working on the design for the traveling artifacts. We are deeply grateful to these two dedicated people and several others on our committee from around the state. This convention is evolving to a True State Convention.

Our last fundraiser was a Flea Market sale held at one of the local Flea Markets. Although the hurricanes delayed it from our original date in October, we did well in spite of its late timing. Besides, it gave us time to get our STUFF out of storage and get rid of many unneeded items. The remaining items were taken to Good Will or Telephone Pioneer's Garage Sale. Thanks go to Joe Fik for coordinating the Flea Market.

We have several more fund raising projects in the works. We had a Seraphim Classics Limited Edition Angel – Hope "Light in the Distance" donated for a raffle. The angel drawing will complete at the convention in May 2006. We also had another afghan donated by Betty Guthrie. The drawing for it will be at our Snowflake Frolic in January. We have polo shirts at \$25.00 each. Pocket shirts are available by special request at \$28.00 each. If you haven't already purchased a polo shirt, see me after the meeting. We are also selling Mia Bella Scent Candles for \$18.00 each. These candles are a vegetable base and therefore burn cleaner and do not contain petroleum products or lead as do regular candles. Purchase some and you'll be prepared if we get some unexpected visitors again this year. We hope not; but be prepared anyway.

We will be holding a fundraiser dance in conjunction with the Federation Annual Meeting. The dance will be on Saturday, November 5, 2005 at the Boynton Beach Civic Center. Bring lots of money; we plan to do a silent auction. We are also working with AmeriSuites for a hotel raffle.

Hotels have been difficult to deal with. Since the Holiday Inn North has been difficult this year and was reluctant to give Randy Poole a contract for next year, we are not having a "Host Hotel". After 5 attempts to get information for some of the hotels we chose to drop them from the list on our registration form. Also the hotels are changing hands and managers all the time and do not honor the prices they told us we could have. In talking with Bruce, Charlie and Val, we feel that in the future, we should only list the hotel and telephone numbers because of the complaints when the rates have changed.

We are still working with Brenda Townsend to get a contract for the Lakeland Center. We have been advised that due to the situation that developed after last years hurricanes, the City has instituted a rule that no contracts will be issued prior to one year before the event. We don't understand their reasoning, because they would still be renegotiating with us if Charlie and Val had only gone to contract last May. We thank Charlie and Val for being the First convention to do without the Arena. We feel

that is working well. We hope the cost of Plus Hall set ups are well below the 2-day costs for the Arena. We are closely watching the work involved this year.

After the State Convention this year, you will be our number one promoters. We will be asking all Square Dance leaders around the state to help us get registration forms distributed and sell ribbons at dances in their area where a representative of the 52nd Convention is not in attendance. If the caller or person in charge at the dance does not mention the convention, ask to have the mike for a minute or two. We need all dancers to know about the convention. Right now we are committed to be somewhere every weekend in October and November. AI guess we'll be glad to see Thanksgiving weekend come! If we kept this pace up for the entire year, we would have total burn out before February, therefore we need everyone's help. If you would like to take ribbons to sell, please let us know how many you think you can sell and we will have them ready for you this evening after the kickoff.

Our last request this weekend is for help getting ads for the program book. If you can place a personal ad, business ad or club or association ad, it will be greatly appreciated. If you can sell ads to other merchants in you areas, we would appreciate that help also.

See you tonight at the Kickoff and along the Trail to next year's convention.

By the way, did you get a ticket from the person with the TOP SECRET bag? If you did, you better be at the kickoff because that ticket could be worth 2 free ribbons!

Garland & Carole McKenzie
General Chairmen
52nd Florida State Convention

**53rd Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention
May 26, 2005**

The pace is starting to pick up for us and the planning phase is under way. I am meeting with the few committee chairmen I have about once per quarter. Our next meeting will be in July.

We have chosen our theme and fabric for outfits. Patty Ping has accepted Caller Chairman and June Leverette has accepted Cuer Chairman. Bob Poyner has stepped up and is working as Vice-Caller Chairman and Entertainment Chairman. Bob is also working on a theme song for our kick off.

Brenda Townsend from the Lakeland Civic Center has actually returned one of my many phone calls and assures me that we are penciled in for Memorial Weekend, 2007. As of yet we have to discuss prices.

Our Ways and Means Chairmen, Cheryl and Paul Miller have started our association on a couple of fundraisers. A quilt has also been donated for raffling off.

I have filled 11 Chair positions but I am still short on a few key positions. They are:

General Vice-Chairman
Vendor Chairman
Publicity/Promotion Chairman
Fashion Show Chairman
Singles Chairman
Housing and Camping Chairman

Working from the farthest corner of the state, I would greatly appreciate it if anyone could help me recruit a few local volunteers from the Lakeland area. They would need to be able to help with the coordinating hotels; selling ads to local businesses or possible take on one of the vacant Chairman positions. I would be grateful for any help.

Respectfully,
Tim and Terri Wilably
2007 Convention General Chairmen
1416 Little Creek Drive, Pensacola, FL 32506 (850) 712-0490

**54th Florida State Square Dance Convention Report
May 29, 2005**

We have filled most of the Committee Chairman positions and are talking to others to fill the remaining openings.

The dates have been reserved with the Lakeland Center for the same space we are currently using. This is subject to change with current attendance experience.

Howard Cole has agreed to be our Caller Chairman and a letter has been sent to the FCA for approval. We are still looking for a Cuer Chairman and hope to fill that position soon.

The Ways and Means Committee under the leadership of Fred and Jan Smith has raised \$2510.00. The sale of "Enjoyment Books" has been very successful and we plan on selling them each year as available. We have also had various auctions w\that were successful.

Now that we are three years away we will start picking up the activity.

Respectfully Submitted
Don & Ann Slocum, Gen Chair.

**2009 Florida State Convention Report
May 29, 2005**

We have appointed our executive board and caller chairman. We also have a volunteer to be the Fashion Show Chairman. Judy Frye has volunteered to be the liaison to the Federation Historian. We have written the Florida Caller Association requesting approval for the caller chairman.

This weekend we made an initial contact with the Convention Center.

Randy & Carol Poole
Convention Chairman

Callers: Whit Brown & Paul Place Cuer: Phyllis Williams
Judy Fry Liaison Historian

FLORIDA SQUARE DANCE HALL OF FAME

The announcement was made that Mary Lee VanValkenberg will be monitoring the Hall of Fame at the Strawberry Square in Plant City.

HISTORY REPORT – May 29, 2005

We've had a great state convention thanks to the hard work of Northeast Association during the last few years. Charlie and Val did an excellent job of orchestrating the convention and are to be highly commended. It will certainly go down in the history books as one of the best.

If you haven't visited the History table please do so, and you can see all of the hard work that has been done in the last 15 years. You will see that all of the Associations are represented in the archives. It is an excellent way to maintain, display and preserve the Florida state square and round dance history.

However, it takes all hands across the state to make this possible. With the modern technology in our electronic world it has become easier to obtain and share those "Kodak Moments" and provide copies of these moments with your Historian.

First we had the Pony Express and that took months, it was soon replaced by the singing wire known as the telegraph.

Then they invented the Post Office, what a mistake, and that took years, it was soon provided competition by the telephone and now our e-mail. You can now send letters, documents and yes even pictures to your Historian through e-mail, isn't that fantastic???

Now you are going to have to invent new excuses for not providing documents and photos for the history books.

History can be made but not always recorded.
History that is made and not recorded is lost as soon as memories die.
History can live forever if we take steps to preserve it.

Manny and Sherry Gonzales, Historians

U.S.D.A.

Charlie and Val Newsome announced their resignation as U.S.D.A. Representatives. Paul and Cheryl Miller agreed to serve as Delegate for the Convention in Oregon. It will be necessary to check throughout the state to find a new Representative to fill the vacancy.

Florida has been fortunate to have the excellent representation in the past.

FLORIDA FEDERATION INSURANCE REPORT – May 29, 2005

As of April 30th we had a total of 3110 dancers from 75 clubs insured. Last year at this time we also had more dances at 3183. We lost a few clubs this year, but we also gained the same number so we kept the total of clubs constant at 75. We have one additional club that will enroll before the insurance year is over. That is the Singles. At this time I know of possibly 26 additional dancers from the Singles. They will renew when all activity for other clubs cease which should be at any time now.

The Financial Report would lead you to believe that the insurance account makes a lot of money. But it is a little misleading. I have received a check for \$45.00 from a club in the West Coast Area for their insurance. All of that money will eventually be sent to the USDA for premiums but I cannot send it until I get all the proper paperwork. Penny Green is working with the club to get this information. So if all the premiums had been paid as normal the Financial Report would be \$45.00 less than it shows. This was paid after the April 30th date of this report.

We don't make a lot of money. But we don't spend as much money as Duke & Doris used to either. I distribute a lot of the paperwork via e-mail. Plus we don't have any long distance phone bills. Our long distance calls are now free. So we don't get charged for phone calls and FAXes. Because of this I call Lorraine Backus, the USDA Insurance Chairman, a lot more now than I used to and I FAX her a lot more paperwork instead of mailing it. If I don't have to send a check or one of the multi-part forms I will FAX the paperwork to her. It costs us nothing and saves a lot of time waiting for the mail between Florida and Arkansas.

American Folk Dance (HR 645) Report - 5/30/2005

At this time I have no report on the H.R. 645. I will be attending the USDA meeting in June at the National Convention in Portland, OR and at that time will have the latest information regarding the American Folk Dance bill.

I currently have representatives from Central - Ailene Picheco, Northeast Kathy McKinney, West Coast Fred Smith, and still need a representative from Southeast.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl Miller

ASCAP-BMI REPORT – May 29, 2005

Dues for ASCAP have increased from \$.065 per paid attendee to \$.068 per paid attendee plus ½ vendor personnel. They have also increased the minimum to \$80.00.

Respectfully,
Dave and Shirley Nihart

EXTRA MILE AWARD

Carole McKenzie announced that nominees (Selected from Florida Callers and Cuers) for the Extra Mile Award are to be submitted before February 1, 2006 to any member

of the board. This will allow the Board an opportunity to select the recipient so that a presentation may be made at the Florida State Convention.

OLD BUSINESS

REORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

May 28, 2005

Present at the meeting were: George & Shirley Knapp, Chairman

Ray Huddleston, Southeast

Jack Taylor, Central

Murl & Sally Herbert, West Coast

Dave & Shirley Nihart, Northeast

Paul & Cheryl Miller, Northwest

Jack & Kathy McKinney, Northeast

As reported at the last meeting, this committee was formed to investigate and recommend to the Federation Board a course of action in the event that an Association should dissolve for whatever reason.

After a preliminary clarification of the role of this committee, discussion centered upon three critical items:

1. Management of the State Convention.
Responsibility of the Federation in the event a Convention Chairman cannot be named by an Association.
2. Responsibility of the Federation to fill the Executive Board when an Association has no one to name for the position.
3. The coordination of action involving the Federation, the Callers Association and the Round Dance Council.

First we discussed the viability of the Associations and their role within the Federation. It was agreed that as long as the Associations can maintain a board of at least three officers it should remain an active Association i.e. (President, Treasurer and Secretary) The makeup of the Federation Board should remain at five couples as long as each Association can nominate a couple to the board.

Since one of the major concerns is when an Association can no longer host a State Convention because of a lack of workers, the responsibility must fall back upon the Federation. We recommend beginning in 2010 after Central, the Federation President assume the responsibility of naming the future chairmen for the convention regardless of the Association. The chairman would draw upon all of the dancers of Florida to make up the Convention workers. (The incoming Parliamentarian would know when he assumes a position on the board that he will be required to start looking for a chairman to host the State Convention in five years.)

In the event that an Association cannot place a nominee on the Federation Board, the makeup of the board will have to be changed. A provision for this change should be written into the by-laws. To maintain a five couple member board it is recommended that more than one couple from the remaining Associations be allowed. E.g., if only three Associations remain the board would be made up of two member couples from two Associations and one member couple from one Association; if four Associations

remain three Associations with one member couple and one Association with two member couples. The total voting members would still remain the same: Five voting couples per Association.

It is further recommended that in coordination with the Callers and Cuers all proceeds from State Conventions be disbursed equally among remaining Associations, the Federation, the Callers Association and the Round Dance Council.

A copy of this report will be forwarded to the Coordinating Committee for distribution to the Callers and Cuers.

Finally it is recommended that the Federation appoint a committee to investigate the possible relocation of the Florida State Convention to a more suitable area within the central Florida corridor from Tampa to Daytona.

NEW BUSINESS:

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The chair announced that the nominating committee would include the following:
Dee Dee Stovall - Ken Brasfield – Jerry Rhodes

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next meeting – Sunday, November 6, 2005 – 9:00 AM
Boynton Beach Civic Center – Boynton Beach, Florida

Entertained a motion to adjourn
Motion made by George Knapp and 2nd Jack Hoffman