

MINUTES OF
 FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS
 SATURDAY MARCH 11, 2006
 LA QUINTA INN – 626 LEE ROAD – ORLANDO FLORIDA

Presidents, Jack and Kathy McKinney, called the meeting to order at 9:00am. Judy Frye gave the invocation. President McKinney led the delegation in the Pledge of Allegiance. Carol Poole called the roll and stated a quorum was in attendance.

The president asked if there were any visitors. There were none.

George Knapp moved that the minutes of the November 6, 2005 meeting be approved as printed. Garland McKenzie seconded. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

NOVEMBER 05, 2005 - FEBRUARY 28, 2006

Beginning Balance - All Accounts

Wachovia Checking Balance		\$	
Contingency		\$	
Insurance		\$	
Total All Accounts		\$	

Checking Account Balance

\$

Receipts

2006 Association Dues (Southeast)		\$	
2005 & 2006 Association Dues (Northeast Association)		\$	
2006 Association Dues (West Coast)		\$	
Voided Checks		\$	
Disaster Fund		\$	
2005 State Convention Proceeds		\$	
Grand Square Inc		\$	
Wachovia Interest (10/31/05-2/28/06)		\$	
Total Receipts		\$	

Checking Account Balance

\$

Disbursements

Jack McKinney - Vice President Expense		\$	
BMI		\$	
Southeast Assoc - Disaster Relief		\$	
Total Disbursements		\$	

Checking Account Balance 02/28/06

\$

Ending Balance - All Accounts

Wachovia Checking Balance

\$

Contingency

\$

Insurance

\$

Total All Accounts

\$

Respectfully Submitted

Randy & Carol Poole, Secretary

The treasurer report was filed for audit.

Sunshine Report: Sandy Brasfield reported that Mary Lee Van Valkenburg was in the hospital.

ASSOCIATION REPORTS

SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION REPORT – March 11, 2006

On November 14, many dancers surprised Al and Betty Guthrie by attending his first club dance since Wilma struck. Al and Betty were very surprised at the number of dancers and the extra refreshments we brought, but they were even more shocked when the Southeast Association presented them with a check for the loss of their home. A few weeks later they were presented with the additional check from the Federation. Al and Betty were overwhelmingly grateful to all the dancers in the State of Florida for this unexpected support. In addition to the loss of their home, Al and Betty lost their granddaughter in December.

Our Holiday Cookie Dance in December was a great dance! We collected many toys, which were donated, to ChildNet. This is the second year we have donated to this organization, and they are always so grateful for the toys.

Our annual fundraiser, the Snowflake Frolic, was another big success! We appreciate Frank Bedell and Betty Krakehl for getting the Boynton Beach Civic Center for us at no cost. But we especially thank our very loyal board members for their help and support. Without these faithful people, the Southeast Association would not be able to stay afloat. We know these people are tired and would like someone else to take over, but since there are no other volunteers, they stay with us - and we are extremely grateful to them for their overwhelming support and dedication.

Since we have dropped our dances to four a year, we are happy that we have about eight or nine squares at these dances as opposed to the three we were having. We expect a large turnout at our dance in May since it is held in conjunction with the Singles Association dance. The dance will start at 3:00 p.m. Chris Phillips will be the caller and Conrad Protzman the cuer. Come join us!

Ray & Elsa Huddleston
President

NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION REPORT – March 11, 2006

On November 18th and 19th the Northeast had our second big weekend of 2005, our Fall Festival. We all met under the big Harvest Moon for the Harvest Moon Ball. Charlie and Val Newsome chaired this special weekend. On Friday night we enjoyed the calling of our own local callers and cuer. They did a great job. On Saturday night, our guest caller, Mac McCall did a superb job of calling. Our guest cuers Gene & Jackie Tyre kept the floor flowing.

What a terrific New Year's Eve we all had! Unfortunately, Lawton Smith, one of the callers, which we had hired for the night, had become seriously ill and was unable to call. Fortunately, two callers answered our call for help and expanded our callers on New Year's Eve to four. Bill Chesnut, Gary Murphy, John Robbins, and Ernie Rollen kept the dancing going all night. We also had guest Round Dance Cuers, Tim & Nana Eum. They did a special routine for us that kept us spellbound. The meal was delicious and not to be outdone, the snacks that followed were terrific, if you had room for them. We had a special toast at midnight, with sparkling apple cider and one more tip for the road. True to our word, the entire evening cost the dancer's just \$5.00 each.

The new year brought the installation of our officers for 2006. Returning, as President's - Bud & Anita Taylor, Vice President – Thomas Trammel & Ouida Taylor, Recording Secretary - Susan Snider & Mark Fetzer, Treasurer's - Tom & Pat Herscha, Corresponding Secretary - Frank & Barbara Meyer and Immediate Past President - Joe & Martha Hardcastle. Leaving our Board were Smitty Smith & Shirley White and Bob & Jane Raymond. We appreciated all their hard work and we enjoyed serving with them these past years. The first of the year also saw the retirement of Charlie & Val Newsome from the Grapevine and the passing of the baton, to Bob & Jane Raymond. Bob & Jane have big shoes to fill, but we know they are equal to the task.

The NEFSARDA Delegates have decided to reduce the number of meetings from 6 to 4. That will be one meeting each quarter. Sighting the ever-growing price of gas, the distance involved to attend the meetings and the number of meetings to attend, the delegates found it was time for a change. They also have passed the reduction of the issues of the Grapevine from 6 to 4. While there will be fewer issues of the Grapevine, we anticipate that the issues will be larger and will still publish as much information as before. The delegates have also decided not to hold a charity dance by NEFSARDA this year, deciding instead to let the clubs hold their own charity dances.

On January 27th the Silver Fox Squares held the first charity dance of the new year for Dreams Come True. The next charity dance will be on March 25th for the Shriner Hospitals, held by the River Ramblers. The Seabreeze Singles have come up with a unique way to raise money for their charity. They are hosting a night at the Alahambra Dinner Theater where a portion of the proceeds will be donated to their charity.

Tragedy struck the Blue - Grey dance held by our Dixie Dancers. The guest caller, Danny Robinson, collapsed on stage and was taken to the hospital. Our silent prayers went with him, but a week later he passed away. Now our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, and family. We also wish the best for Whirl & Twirl as they mend their hearts and their club.

Respectfully submitted,

Bud & Anita Taylor
President, NEFSARDA

WEST COAST ASSOCIATION REPORT – March 11, 2006

November was a busy month for about a square and a half of West Coast Dancers.

Starting off with the Federation meeting in Lake City the first weekend of November, we had over two squares from West Coast in attendance at the O'Leno Festival, with quite a few of them in attendance at the meeting.

The next weekend, the 11th and 12th, was our Fall Fun Fest in Lakeland with Sam Dunn and Jerry Biggerstaff calling and the Hanhursts cueing. We had 316 registrations and netted a profit of \$1,422.21. We had 375 boosters in the program booklet, mainly due to the efforts of one individual – Mary Dow, our Hardee/Desoto/Charlotte County Rep. She has set a goal of 400 for this year. At the last Association dance, she sold around 65 that afternoon alone. Shirley Pfeffer was the recipient of the President's Choice Award and I was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award.

We were saddened by the loss of three callers during the Christmas holidays – Joe Fioretti, Paul Campbell (caller and teacher for Temple Twirlers in Tampa) and Jim Erbaugh, a caller in the Port Charlotte area.

Strawberry Square had another successful New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance at their hall in Plant City. There were approximately 20 squares dancing to Art Springer and Charlie Lovelace after a delicious catered dinner.

The third weekend found about two squares of us at the Northeast Harvest Moon Ball. Then a square attended Southeast's Snowflake Frolic in January.

We have been averaging about 10 squares at our Sunday afternoon association dances. We actually had 20 squares on the 5th of March in Venice dancing to Red Bates. Our December dance in Bonita Springs had to be moved at the last minute because FEMA still had the building. Unfortunately, we have had to cancel our dance scheduled at Kings Point in Sun City on April 23rd due to the loss of the hall.

I have to "toot our horn" here about the phenomenal support we receive from the Suncoast Callers & Cuers Association. They donate their time to call and cue for our association dances, the West Coast president is an honorary member of their association, they send a representative to our business meetings to report on their activities, and we jointly promote student dances of which there has been one in Sebring, Auburndale and there is one coming up at Strawberry Square on April 2nd. They have started scheduling their meetings prior to our association dances, and then many of them stay for the dance.

I am proud to report that our association makes every effort to include all dance news and information in our meetings. We hear reports from the campers, the Round Dance Council, FASSRD, and even Strawberry Square. In addition to our county rep reports, we invite club reps to also report. This gives everyone the feeling that their information is important.

All of our seasonal clubs are up and running now so there is dancing any day of the week or time of day on the west coast of Florida. Unfortunately, one of our clubs is still not able to start up, as their community on Saddlebag Lake in Lake Wales is still flooded from the first summer when we had four hurricanes pass through Polk County. Many of their residents just didn't come back down this year or have moved to other communities.

The 30th and final Sunshine Festival was held in Lakeland the first week of February. There were around 1400 dancers in attendance. This dance will be replaced with the Florida Winter Festival.

On February 15th, we had 282 dancers at the Florida State Fair dancing to nine callers and two cuers from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This was the 17th year we have had square dancing at the Fair. This was started by the late Joanne Lewis and her husband, Merle, has continued the tradition. It was like a regular dance and spectators from the fair came in and out all day. A couple of times we got some of them up to dance too.

A benefit dance was held for Al & Betty Guthrie on February 26th. The Pine Ridge Promenaders in Lake Placid hosted it. A little over \$1600 was raised and personally presented to them on Al's 79th birthday. Sam Dunn and Mike Doughty called and Mark & Shelly Hilburn cued. A unique thing was done to raise some of the funds. Sam, Mike and Larry Chatos (a local cuer) auctioned their services for a club or special dance on a mutually agreeable date. Minimum bid was \$100. Pine Ridge Promenaders won the bid at \$160.

On February 28th, the Polk County Senior Games were held at Lake Ashton in Lake Wales. Square dancing was a part of the games for the second year in a row. There were four squares competing in two categories – basic and plus. The Fun Time Squares from Hampton Promenaders won the gold medal in plus, and the Shuffling Squares from Lake Ashton won the gold medal in basic. Sam Dunn, Ben Rubright and Keith Stevens called for the games and the free dance immediately following.

Our annual Fall Fun Fest will be November 10th & 11th with Tim Marriner and Keith Stevens calling and Dick and Darlene Chase cueing. We have had to move this weekend from the Lakeland Center to the Bartow Civic Center. Lakeland Center has again raised the rent and we can no longer afford to stay at that location. At the new location, we will have free parking, hotels are cheaper and more willing to work with us, and there are numerous restaurants in the area and arrangements are being made for camping right at the Civic Center. We feel these are all positive points for moving to Bartow. Bartow can be easily accessed from Highways 98, 17 or 60. Davis Motor Lodge will be the host hotel. We have ribbons and flyers with us this weekend. Please take flyers back to your dances.

We have located a club in the Chiefland area (Levy County) that we weren't aware of. Bruce Morgan found out about them when he was gathering information for the new website. I have been in touch with the caller and his wife, Charlie and Sarah Pergossi, about our association. They are interested in getting the information to their dancers. It seems this club may have been in existence for a while, but they danced in their little community and didn't really want any outsiders. They now realize this may have contributed to their declining membership and attendance, and they want to become more involved in what is going on in the state. I have offered to come to one of their dances or meetings to tell them about our association and to answer any questions.

I received word this past week that Heartland Squares in Lake Wales has voted to disband the end of April. This is a club that is less than five years old. They were unsuccessful filling offices for the new year, and the current officers have held office for three years. I have been approached by a caller about reorganizing the club into a caller's club.

The wagon has made several stops along the west coast of Florida, and has also made stops at other associations' annual festivals and many more visits are planned. Unfortunately, my company has been sending me on numerous business trips lately, which makes it difficult for me to get to all the dances I want to.

Submitted by: Penny Green

CENTRAL FLORIDA ASSOCIATION REPORT– March 11, 2006

We want to thank all of the Federation Delegates for attending this meeting and the Shamrock Swing. Your attendance is greatly appreciated and will contribute immensely to the success of the Shamrock Swing.

The CFA Couple of the Year will be awarded at the dance this evening. Be sure you are there to congratulate and find out who this very deserving couple is.

On a sad note, many of you already know of the passing of long time caller Danny Robinson on February 24th, 2006. We want to express our sympathy to Ann Robinson and family. Our square dance community is going to miss Danny very much. He was a caller for 56 years, 42 of them for Whirl & Twirl in Orlando.

We (Barbara & Jack) spent a great week with our square dance families up in Marion, Sumter and Lake Counties. We were able to get to thirteen dances in six days. We met lots of great dancers and callers. We enjoyed dancing with them and even got a few of them to join the CFA.

On March 18th, next Saturday, there will be a benefit dance for the Yellow Rock Square Dance Group. This is the Handicappable Group that is being run and taught by Rick Yates in the Daytona area. This dance will be held at the City Island Rec. Center in Daytona Beach.

On Saturday April 1, Whirl & Twirl Square Dance Club is hosting a dance to benefit the 52nd Florida State Convention. It will be Mainstream & Plus with Rounds. Bill Chesnut will do the calling with Pete & Jan Shankle on Rounds.

The next CFA 5th Saturday Dance will be on April 29th at the Masonic Hall, 200 Richey Road, in Leesburg. Don and Loretta Hanhurst will do the calling and cueing.

We want to thank the Federation for selecting this weekend and place to have the working weekend.

Jack & Barbara Hoffman
Presidents, CFA

NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION REPORT – MARCH 11, 2006

Northwest is getting ready for the 2007 State Convention. Tim and Terri Wilaby will give a report with more details later in this meeting.

On November 12, the Pensacola Twirlers hosted their 19th Anniversary Dance at the Bayview Senior Citizens Center on E. Lloyd St. in Pensacola. Ted Kennedy was the caller, and June Leverette cued. This was a great dance, as usual.

The Canoe Squares in Milton held their annual Toys for Tots dance on Monday, December 5. Dancers were requested to bring either a new, unwrapped toy, or a cash donation to buy one. This dance was a great success. The toys and money were collected by the U. S. Marine Corps, and distributed to needy children. They collected 98 toys and \$140.00 in cash.

Seaside Squares hosted the New Year's Eve dance at Ragon Hall in Pensacola. This has become a tradition in our area, and there is no better way to start off the new year than with a good square dance.

On January 7, the 53rd Convention Committee hosted a chili and stew supper as part of our fund raising efforts. The callers were Patty Ping and Bob Poyner, and the cuers were Sandy Sturgis (a new cuer in our Association) and Brian Gerdes. We thank them for donating their time and talents for our fund raising. As usual, there was plenty of delicious food for everyone's enjoyment. Mike Bair's chili and Cheryl Miller's stew were judged the best in each category. This was another great way to start off the new year.

The Swinging Squares held their annual Blue and White ball at the Grand Square Hall in Panama City on January 14. Darryl McMillan was the caller, and Bill Bovard cued. February was a busy month in our Association. We started off with our annual Mardi Gras dance on February 4 at Grand Square Hall in Panama City. Tim and Terri Wilaby were crowned King and Queen, and there were King Cakes, a parade, and tons of beads, of course. The caller was Ted Kennedy, and the cuer was Bill Bovard. We also held our quarterly Association meeting then. On the next Saturday was our popular Sweetheart Swing, sponsored by and featuring our Northwest Florida Callers' Association and Cuers, at PASARDA Hall in Ft. Walton Beach. This, as always, was a great dance, too.

The Canoe Squares in Milton held their 22nd Anniversary Dance on February 25 at the Santa Rosa County Auditorium. Callers were Willis Simmons and Bob Poyner, and the Cuer was June Leverette. This is also always a great dance, with great door prizes and fabulous food (and we wonder why it is so hard to keep our resolutions to lose weight!). On March 4, Diamond Squares in Opp, AL had their annual Spring Dance. Willis Simmons and Larry Belcher were the callers, and June Leverette cued.

Dave Henn, President

FASSRD REPORT – March 11, 2006

FASSRD is alive and well but is struggling just like everyone else.

As you know, we had to cancel our last Single-Rama and annual meeting due to the impending arrival of Hurricane Wilma. Then we lost Joe Fioretti, who had called for us for several years. The Board decided this was a good time to step back, take a deep breath and make some changes. We only had 45 registrations three days before the last scheduled Single-Rama, and we decided it was time for some changes.

We have booked Sam Dunn of Sebring to call and Phyllis Williams to cue. Sam is the president of the Suncoast Callers & Cuers Association and calls for several clubs in the Highlands County and Polk County area. Phyllis Williams is the cuer for Orlando Singles and Space Trackers in Titusville. We will be dancing at the historic Kenilworth Lodge in Sebring on October 20th & 21st. Having DJ's at our after parties has always been well received by our membership, so we will continue with that program.

The 15th Annual Fuzzy Navel is in two weeks in Jekyll Island, GA. Florida is hosting this year and we have booked Jim Cosman, who is the caller for the Seabreeze Singles in Jacksonville, and Misty Hannah who is a cuer from Alabama. This is our second year to dance at the Holiday Inn Beach Resort; however, we have been notified that it will be torn down around Labor Day Weekend, so while we are in Jekyll Island the Georgia and Florida officers will be meeting with another hotel to book for 2007, which will be hosted by Georgia. The West Coast wagon will also be making a stop in Jekyll Island!

FASSRD will be staying at the Best Western Diplomat for the 52nd Florida State Convention to do their part supporting the convention and to help fill the block of rooms.

The SSDUSA Dance-A-Rama will be in Rochester, NY Labor Day weekend. Some of the callers and cuers that you probably know are Tim Crawford and Jim Lee from Canada, and Wayne & Barbara Blackford, from Florida and Arizona.

We welcome all dancers – married or solo – at our dances. We need your support too!

Penny Green, President

PUBLICATIONS

Keepin' Posted: No report

Panhandle Press: No report

THE GRAPEVINE

This is our first report to the Federation since taking over as the "NEW" editors of The Grapevine. Unfortunately no one in our association was willing to step forward and continue to publish what through the hard work and over 11 plus years of dedication to square dancing Charlie & Val Newsome have made one of the best magazines dedicated to square dancing in the whole country. We had no experience to take on a task of this proportion, but we were not going to let The Grapevine" die on the vine"

We stepped up and with the help of Charlie & Val we now feel confident that we will continue to publish and maintain the same quality that the past Editors delivered to the subscribers. We also wish to thank Bruce Morgan who not only recommended Microsoft Publisher but without whose help I would still be trying to get it out of the box.

Jane and I have been encouraged by the fact that "our" square dancers continue to renew their subscriptions and we have also received several new subscribers. In conclusion we plan no major changes to The Grapevine, if it ain't broke, don't fix it. The one change approved by NEFSARDA is that we will publish quarterly, January, April, July and October. This reason is we will be in line with the quarterly NEFSARDA Delegates meeting. With our subscriptions steady and cost reduced we feel that this publication is in good shape. To date we have found our job as editors both challenging and rewarding.

Bob & Jane Raymond, Editors
1846 Alberta Court N, Middleburg, FL 32068

Phone: 904-282-7857
email: neflgrapvine@comcast.net

WEST COAST DANCER

As you may know, the West Coast Dancer Magazine has an average circulation of about 2000 and is distributed at no charge. Over the past year we have seen inflation having more and more of an impact on the Association's finances. Printing costs have risen due to increased shipping costs of materials and rising wages.

Therefore steps are being taken to help alleviate this problem. Beginning with the issue now in printing, the circulation has been reduced by nearly 50 percent from last year's circulation for the same month. It is anticipated that all dancers in the West Coast area from April through the summer will still have access to the Dancer. In addition, there are a couple of other plans in the works to help the situation but they will need board approval.

On the other hand, the West Coast Dancer has seen an increase in the number of clubs or dances in the area and that is encouraging. This puts some pressure on the available space in the Dancer but so far has not been a problem.

We look forward to having the Dancer meet the needs of the Dancers during the coming summer and the coming fall and winter season regardless of any forthcoming changes.

Respectfully submitted: Ed & Ginny Henning, Editors

Bow & Swing: No report

CONVENTION REPORTS

52nd FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION REPORT (2006) – MARCH 11, 2006

The Committees have been hard at work on their individual responsibilities. The Programming of all dancing modalities has been completed, the schedule has been typed and was delivered to Bow & Swing for printing. Since our original Program Book Chairman resigned, Bruce Morgan has picked up the ball and is doing a great job of keeping the pressure on to meet the deadlines. The McKinneys have done a great job obtaining ads for the Program Book. We still have room for a few more ads. So, if you haven't submitted yours yet, we will be glad to take them this weekend. We thank all the Associations and individual dancers who have already submitted ads. Our next project is to finalize the entertainment and ceremonies portion of the program. Our vendors will have an expanded area this year. We still have a couple of spaces available for specialty vendors. Full service vendors desiring to come to the convention have contacted us; but we are unable to accommodate additional full service vendors. The Sew & Save program and the Fashion Show preparations are proceeding well under the directions of the Browns(#1).

The benefit dance we had scheduled in Southeast was cancelled due to a visit from Hurricane Wilma. Our benefit dance is now scheduled for April 1, 2006 at the Whirl & Twirl in Orlando. This venue was chosen in hopes to draw dancers from more of the state and to capture the attendance of the snowbirds. As you all know by now, a couple of weeks ago we got a very disturbing call from Bruce advising us that the caller who was donating his time for this dance had been rushed to the hospital with a stroke and suggested we try to obtain another caller as quickly as possible. We were beginning to wonder if this dance was ever going to materialize. After a few calls by Bruce and ourselves we were able to find a caller who wasn't already committed to calling on that date. Bill Chestnut graciously agreed to do the calling for us. We know Bill will do a great job for us and hope the dancers will support the dance. Please announce this dance at all your clubs and Association functions. We also plan a silent auction and are in need of donations for the auction. We will accept any donations from clubs, associations or individuals.

Our Program Book is coming along as we are forwarding items to Bruce as we get them. He is waiting on me to give him some items but I will get them to him soon. I just need a week breather after spending 3 to 4 hours each night trying to complete the dance program and get it ready for printing.

We appreciate the help from those of you who are out there selling registrations. Last week I got an email from Anne Skinner advising that Bob Sorensen was in intensive care in the hospital in Miami. On Wednesday night we spoke to Anne again and she advised that Bob had been moved to another hospital. There is no indication at this time when he will be released. They are our Registration Chairmen and Bob was doing all the record keeping.

As of our January meeting, he advised that a few registrations were starting to come in. Our Treasurers have also been out of the country for a month and were unable to give us any information.

They returned on March 3 and will advise as soon they can catch up on the jet lag. We ask that you keep trying to sell ribbons up to the April 30 deadline and then return all monies and unsold ribbons to us by May 5. We will take any sold registrations this weekend if you have them with you.

We met with Brenda during the Sunshine Festival. We still have a few items to finalize, like the skirting of the caller tables in each hall. Brenda suggested that we do our own skirting. She advised that the setup is now on an hourly basis rather than a set fee for setting up each hall. Our contract is for a set fee so she will try to make the hourly fee come close to what we contracted.

We also met with Cynthia Williams, the Manager of ARAMark Concessions, regarding the fact that the concession is not open in the evening. She advised that they were losing money by opening and that it seemed that the most sales occurred during the daytime sessions. If we wanted to have them open at another time we would have to contract to pick up the loss if they did not cover expenses during a particular session. We are not inclined to put the convention into that position. It is hard enough to meet our existing expenses without taking on concession losses. We advised her that their limited selection was contributing to lack of purchases from the dancers.

We hope to have all unresolved issues completed by April 30 so we can come to the convention having had a few days to rest up for the final push. We will be having dinner at Fred's Market on Thursday evening prior to the convention with all the committee who are in town at that time. It will be at 6PM in the back room of the restaurant. Dutch Treat of course.

Respectfully submitted,
Garland & Carole McKenzie
General Chairmen

Hospitality Chairman, Val Newsome requested six couples from each association to work one hour of the convention. She passed out a sheet to each Association President.

Garland McKenzie thanked past Convention Chairmen Charlie & Val Newsome and Bruce & Colleen Morgan for their advice and help with the convention. He also thanked Jack & Kathy McKinney for their help.

Carole McKenzie informed us the contracts with the Lakeland Center do not include labor increases. Jack McKinney stated when confronted with extra expenses you have to look for extra income coming in. We should all try to get an ad or two for the convention program book.

53rd FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION REPORT (2007) – MARCH 11, 2006

We have filled all our committee positions with the exception of signs. We are now recruiting for people to help the various chairmen with the work ahead of us over the next year.

Our kick off show guest stars Ralph & Pinky are almost ready to go for the kick-off show. Most of their dialog is in place and their controllers are ready. Kick off practice will be at 7:30 am Sunday morning and we are looking for a square from each association to give us a hand.

Convention outfit kits, which contain your fabric & pattern, are made to order based on size and color. Terri will be taking orders for these kits this weekend and will design an order form that can be posted on the convention website along with photo's of the outfits.

Speaking of the website Bruce Morgan has been working to get us up and running. The site will launch the Monday after the 52nd convention. It has a countdown timer, our registration forms along with the above mention outfit order forms and this will be the place for new information as it becomes available.

Tim & Terri Wilaby, General Chairman

54th FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION REPORT (2008) – March 11, 2006

The Ways & means Committee had another successful year selling the Enjoyment books. We made \$1600.00. They are looking into sources for polo shirts. They will be having a silent auction again at the Fall Fun Fest.

We have finalized the logo. The dress design is ready.

We are still looking for a Cuer Coordinator.

Don & Ann Slocum

55th FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION REPORT (2009) – March 11, 2006

Since our last report we have added a couple more committee chairman. We now have most of our major chairman positions filled. Our new ways and means chairman has some ideas for fund raising and we hope to get started on that soon. As soon as we get some money we will open a checking account. We don't have any problems. (YET)

Randy & Carol Poole
Convention Chairman

Hall of Fame: No report

HISTORIAN REPORT

Happy New Years – 2006 – our first meeting of the year.

Welcome to the new delegates of each association. Your job will be both challenging and rewarding.

We request that the Presidents of each association appoint or assign someone from your association to be responsible for gathering/collecting photo's, new articles, award presentations and any special events that your clubs are involved in and forward them to the Historian for preservation into the history books.

Central Association has appointed Judy Frye and I would like to recognize her for jumping into a good start. She has provided us with around 80 photos and articles from 1990 to present. Good Job.

Now we request the other associations follow suit. Please let us know after the meeting on Sunday who your representative will be for your association.

We would appreciate if each association sends a representative to the history breakout meeting in room 445 today.

Manny & Sherry Gonzales, Florida State Historian

U.S.D.A. INSURANCE REPORT

USDA Insurance Financial Report
February 28, 2006

Checking Account

Balance Forward as of 11/1/2005

\$

Receipts 11/1/2005 thru 2/28/2006

Central

\$

Northwest

\$

West Coast

\$

Southeast

\$

Northeast

\$

Singles

\$

Cloggers

\$

Total Receipts

\$

Sub-Total

\$

Disbursements 11/1/2005 thru 2/28/2006

USDA Premiums

\$

Administrative Expenses

Checks

Envelopes

Phone/FAX

Copies

Postage

\$

Total Disbursements

\$

Balance on Hand as of 2/28/2006

\$

As of February 28th we had a total of 2466 dancers from 61 clubs insured.

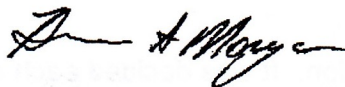
Most of the clubs have already sent in their paperwork and payment. The Singles just got their paperwork to me a few days ago. They usually wait until just before their big dance and then send it in. That way they take advantage of all their members that belong to other clubs being paid for by that club. They almost waited too long this time. Their big dance is March 16th & 17th in Jekyll Island, GA.

We have a problem with the Cloggers. Over the last couple of years we have only had the Florida Clogging Council and the Kickin' Country Cloggers subscribing to the insurance. The Insurance Chairman, Margaret Hockenull just sends in the paperwork and payment for the Florida Clogging Council and Michelle Roberts sends it in for the Kickin' Country Cloggers. Well, this year Carolyn Pullock called me and wanted to know about insurance since she has not heard from Michelle Roberts this year. I told her about everything and she stated that she had insurance for the past 10 years for her club the Tropical Cloggers. When I checked my records I found out that she did not have insurance.

Their club has not subscribed to insurance for some time. I only went back to 2000. That was the last year that they had insurance. She stated that Michelle Roberts had been sending her a certificate of insurance each year. I asked her to send me a copy so that I could see it. The certificate that she sent was only a portion of the certificate. The different dates on the certificate she was sending are of different type fonts and the policy number on it is one that has not been used since 2000.

It seems that someone is taking an old certificate and changing the dates to look like they have insurance when they do not. I don't know what has happened to their money. I assume that whoever is forging the certificates is pocketing the money. As of this time we have not been able to check this out any further as we have not been able to get in touch with Michelle. I have talked with Margaret but I am sure that she isn't doing it. It is my guess that Michelle is the one that is forging the certificate but I cannot prove it at this time. The only club in the Cloggers organization that has insurance this year is the Tropical Cloggers. Once we can sort this out completely I'll let you know what the outcome is. I have asked Carolyn Pullock to attend the Florida Clogging Council next meeting and see if she can figure out what is going on. I have offered to attend with her if she would like. She will contact me when she finds out where and when it is being held.

Respectfully submitted,



Bruce & Colleen Morgan
FFSD Insurance Chairpersons

ASCAP/BMI

We have received notice that BMI dues have increased to \$125.00 for 2006. These dues have been paid on 1/20/06. ASCAP dues remain at \$.068.

Respectfully,
Dave Nihart

Extra Mile Award – Jack McKinney reported receiving four nominations. The presentations will be made at the state convention.

Old Business

THE FLORIDA WINTER FESTIVAL – Sue Brown

The Florida Federation officers met with Tony Oxendine, Linda Saunders, Kim Curlee (representing GSI) on Saturday February 4, 2006.

Tony Oxendine reviewed the information that was presented by Bruce Morgan.

Discussion included the responsibilities expected of the Federation member volunteers. The initial request was to man the registration booth and promoting the Florida Winter Festival. In addition we have been asked to handle the "share the wealth" (50/50 or half the pot).

As discussed during the November Federation Meeting it was determined that we (the Federation) would accept the proposal for at least 2 years. Prior to 2008 we will revisit this issue.

It was determined that 10 couples would cover the assigned responsibilities. Linda Saunders will be our advisor. GSI presented the Federation \$1000 to show "good faith". The funds are to be earmarked for education and promotion of square dancing. We have been asked to submit a brief report declaring the use of the funds. Tony Oxendine will attend this meeting before we adjourn.

Kathy McKinney: Basically, there is no contract. They can back out if they feel we are not doing a good job. We can back out if we feel they are not living up to their end of the bargain. There is no financial expense for us. If we take a vote and if the Federation does not want to do this, we can return the money. We will take a vote after Tony O. makes his presentation. Linda Saunders told us it would take 9-10 couples. There are three sessions morning, afternoon and night. Our plan is to rotate workers and use all the associations. We feel honored they wanted us to be a part of it. We know they want the Florida dancers behind them and our promotion of the dance. The ten couples would receive free dance ribbons. After all expenses the callers get 90% and we get 10%. If we don't like it, we can quit. They request us to use the money for recruitment of new dancers. Grand Square is a 501C3 organization. It is non-profit. We will divide our money equally among the five associations. Each association will be required to report back on how they used it.

Bruce Morgan: The Federation has to write a report to GSI on the use of this money and it has to fall in the 501C3 guidelines. (Education)

Sue Brown: This will be a duty of the Vice President of the Federation. It was decided each of the Board Members, Bruce Morgan, (from Central Association who spear headed the committee) and one couple from the other four associations will work the booth. If an association cannot provide a worker, one can be pulled from another association.

We may be asked to sell 50/50 and help tear down.

WEB SITE – Bruce Morgan

At the October meeting the Federation voted to establish a web site of their own. The website has been established and is large enough to host a web site for every club in the state. Any web site hosted on this site will be free of any advertising and also free of charge. All you need is someone that is familiar with creating and updating web sites, FTP software and a Yahoo ID. Contact Bruce Morgan for access to your free site.

Bruce demonstrated the web site. He went into detail on what is available and what will be available. He needs help from all the clubs in the state to update their information and to have a map to each club on the website. There is a request form to be filled out on line. Please visit www.floridasquaredance.com/maps/, click on the county of your choice. If you do not see your club(s) listed please send Bruce an update form using the Club Request Form. You can find this form at the bottom of the county page. Bruce needs the name of the building where your club dances, the street number & name, city and state. If you have the zip code that would help too. Please fill out the Club Request Form with all information that is pertinent to our club. Just skip anything that doesn't pertain to your club. Please provide as many e-mail addresses that you can. Make sure that you provide area codes for all telephone numbers.

All counties in the state have been verified by the associations. At least one county was not being recognized in any association until this project was started. Now, all counties are represented by an association.

We need to have every club in the state of Florida listed on this site. This will be a great tool for anybody to locate your club if they happen to be in your portion of the state and looking for a place to dance. Clubs can also have their own domain name for about \$10 a year if they wish. A domain name is your club name in the address, i.e. www.starlightpromenaders.com. We need you to help us promote every club in the state of Florida. Go to www.floridasquaredance.com and browse around. There you can find past presidents of the Federation, Florida Hall of Fame Inductees, State Convention Chairman, contact names and emails. Some information is missing. Bruce only put in what he knew was correct. Please help him find all the correct information.

Google has a tool bar that is very helpful. With this tool bar loaded you can instantly find a map to any address that is listed on any web site. If you don't have the Google tool bar installed you can download a Google tool bar for free. Just go to www.toolbargoogle.com and download your copy today. Once you have the Google tool bar installed you can click on AutoLink on the tool bar and it will show you a link to every address on the page that is open in your browser. This is a great tool no matter what page you are visiting.

If you have any questions about the Florida Federation Web Site please contact Bruce Morgan @ 407-339-3121 or brucemorgan@earthlink.net.

FLORIDA WINTER FESTIVAL – Tony Oxendine

Tony Oxendine was invited to this meeting to talk about the Federations part in GSI's winter dance.

Grand Square Inc. wants to start a fund all over the country using state or regional organizations where they hold special dances. The goal is to use the fund to get new dancers into the activity. The money can be used for advertising in the newspaper, radio ads, billboards, etc. (He doesn't feel newspaper ads do any good) The money is not to be used to pay callers, hall rent, or to help clubs in financial trouble. Mailings are ok. GSI can mail 4 pieces of paper for .09 under their non-profit 501c3 designation. You can hire a guest speaker to help people get into lessons. Bottom line "new people".

A little on Grand Square Inc. Two couples set up GSI to help square dancing Everette & Genny Curlee and Kim & Craig Russing. Tony is on the Board but receives no money. They have funded caller schools in different areas. Tony is working on hosting one in Lakeland. GSI gave the Florida Federation a check for \$1000 to start the fund after that the fund will be funded by 10% of the Net Profit from the Florida Winter Festival. GSI has flooring for 100 squares. It is stored in Charlotte. They will lend it to us. But, we have to pick it up. We would need a "duel wheel" style truck to pull the trailer.

Tony said, "Lakeland is one of the best facilities for square dancing anywhere". Florida is the test market. Florida is the first state to receive money from GSI.

Tony O. covered other items. Silicone Spray works on low pile carpets. You need to wear leather shoes and not tennis style shoes. The spray can be purchased at Walmart for about \$2 a can. You must spray the day before because of the odor. The spray will stay on the floor until it is vacuumed. The dancers must be careful when they leave the carpeted area, as they will slip on other types of flooring.

Tony graciously purchased a 2006 State Convention Shirt before leaving.

New Business

USDA

The delegates to attend the USDA meeting in San Antonio are Paul & Cheryl Miller and Jack & Kathy McKinney. Manny & Sherry Gonzales are the alternate delegate.

UNITED STATES SQUARE DANCE/ARTS REPORT

Paul & I have not attended a meeting with the USDA, since the June meeting in Portland. The next meeting we will attend will be in San Antonio, Texas on June 21, 2006 at the 55th National Convention. I obtained the following information from the USDA website: ARTS Toll-Free Number: ARTS Dance Foundation (Alliance of Rounds Traditional and Square Dance) recently introduced a new Toll Free telephone number 1-866-445-ARTS. All Clubs and Associations should use this number when marketing dance lessons to non-dancers in your area. The number can be called by anyone wanting to learn to dance. The caller will be given local contacts & numbers to call in their area.

ARTS Travel Website: ARTS is sponsoring a Travel Website. Similar to most other travel websites, reservations are made through, where users have a menu of choices to select their Dance Organization, and then a web page to select your specific travel needs.

Upon selection and payment, up to 8% of the total purchase will be donated to the ARTS-Dance to fund marketing and other projects to meet the ARTS goals. There is no additional charge to users of the site and in most cases the rates at arts dance travel.com are comparable or even lower than those found on such sites as Expedia®, Travelocity® or Orbitz® as they use similar travel search engines. Users can do routine purchase like airline, hotel and car reservations, and vacation and cruise packages. Joe Vacarri recommended that we go to the www.usda.org and select "ARTS Travel" and choose the USDA as your organization and the USDA will receive a portion of the profits.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul & Cheryl Miller
USDA Delegates

Kathy McKinney asked for a volunteer to be the Federation Representative for ARTS. All information would come to them. They in turn would pass it onto the five associations. The associations would appoint someone to receive the information. Hopefully, then each club would receive it. Ailene Picheco volunteered for this position.

Committee Assignments: The committees would meet by 1:45 pm.

The next meeting will be in this same room tomorrow morning at 9:00 am.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy & Carol Poole
Secretary