

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS
Davis Bros. Lodge, Bartow, FL
Sunday, November 11, 2007

AGENDA

Call to Order 9:00 AM

Invocation Ken Brasfield

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call Paul & Cheryl Miller

Introduction of Visitors and Guests;

Whit Brown, Florida Callers Representative

Lisa & John Wall, President Round Dance Council of Florida

Minutes of May meeting

Don Slocum motioned for the minutes to be approved /George Knapp seconded.
Motion was voted and approved by delegates.

Treasurer's Report

Florida Federation of Square Dancers

TREASURER'S REPORT

May 1, 2007 – October 31, 2007

Beginning Balance – All Accounts @5/1/2007	
Wachovia Checking Balance	\$
Contingency	
Insurance	_____
Total All Accounts	\$
Checking Account Balance 5/1/2007	\$
Receipts	
Wachovia Interest (5/1/2007 – 10/31/2007)	\$
GSI Funds	
BMI Refund	
Hall of Fame Association	
Polk County Convention & Visitors Bureau	
Central Association Dues	
Northeast Association Dues	
Southeast Association Dues	
West Coast Association Dues	
Northwest Association Dues	_____
Total Receipts	_____
Checking Account Balance	

Disbursements

Newsome (Parliamentarian) Banner Tax	\$
Huddleston (Treasurer) Federation Badges	
Miller (Secretary) Tape recorder	
Knapp (Parliamentarian Showcase Signs)	
Central Association (GSI Funds)	
Northeast Association (GSI Funds)	
Northwest Association (GSI Funds)	
Southeast Association (GSI Funds)	
West Coast Association (GSI Funds)	
Brown (President) Historian Locker	
Newsome (Parliamentarian) Certificate Frame	
Northwest Association (Polk Co. Convention & Visitors Bureau)	_____
Total Disbursements	()

Checking Account Balance 10/31/2007

Ending Balance – All Accounts	
Wachovia Checking Balance	\$
Contingency	
Insurance	_____
Total All Accounts	\$

Respectfully Submitted
Ray & Elsa Huddleston, Treasurers

Motion made by George Knapp to accept the Treasurer Report / seconded by Don Slocum
Motion was voted and approved by delegates.

Parliamentarian Report

Florida was well represented with dancers at the National Convention in Charlotte in June, 2007. States were allowed only two squares of dancers to participate in the Parade of States. Florida's dancers looked nice in the Parade of States on Saturday evening, with everyone wearing the current Blue/Green & White Federation attire.

During the ceremonies following the Parade of States, Florida was presented a 25-Year Certificate of Appreciation Award for our participation in the National Convention Showcase of Ideas. Since that we have found out that the Federation has participated for 36 years and we will work to get this corrected at the National Convention.

At the Showcase of Ideas we received many positive comments about our new backdrop. A couple of people wanted to know where they could obtain one like it and we were happy to pass along the Company's name and address. We also had many people from other states stopping to write down the places to dance in the various counties. Comments were made that they liked our idea of the maps on the black boards showing the areas in Florida where the dances were. We'd asked for flyers of dances in each Association to be placed on the table in front of the black information boards and some were there -- but we could have used many more flyers of upcoming dances.

Another item of interest to passing dancers was the table drape advertising the 2008 Convention. We can't take credit for that as Don & Ann Slocum called and asked us if they

could display it in the Showcase. Since we thought it would be a great idea, we did it. Note to future convention chairs.....look at the table drape the 2008 convention has. It serves multiple purposes and sure looked nice on the Federation Showcase table. It would be nice to continue advertising our State Convention on the Federation Table at the National.

Giveaways at the Showcase were from leftovers of other years -- (1) the grapefruit magnets and (2) the engraved pencils. All the grapefruit magnets were given away, and there is approximately one and one-half boxes of pencils left. Next year, we will have to purchase whatever we give away. In addition to those items, the Northwest brought all their leftover Convention buttons and some leftover pink flamingo pens; and both went like hot cakes! By far, dancers want pins representing the various states at the National and we'd like to recommend that next year's Parliamentarian try to obtain a really nice pin of the State of Florida for our giveaways.

We experienced no problems during the Showcase time. Most tables were unmanned except for the opening morning. We continued to check our tables, keeping it clean and restocking the baskets of giveaways about 3 times daily. We had plenty of help setting up and taking down the display. We thank everyone who was there to help.

We enjoyed working with everyone on the State & National levels for the Showcase of Ideas, and thought both the Showcase at State and National was beautiful and well received. We also enjoyed being a part of the Parade of States at the National.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie & Val Newsome

PARLIAMENTARIAN INVENTORY NOVEMBER, 2007

In accordance with permission of the Florida Federation Board, we purged the inventory held by the Parliamentarian. The following inventory is currently on hand with a few starred items in question.

Storage Box #1: (Gray)

2005 - Current Year Florida Federation Parliamentarian Notebook

1990-2004 Florida Federation Parliamentarian Notebook

2 - Showcase of Ideas Plaques

2 - 25th Year Certificate of Appreciation -plaques

1 - USDA Charter Member List (framed)

1 - Statue of Liberty Award (framed) *

1 - Beige Corduroy "carrier" with handles, for transporting items.

Storage Box #2: (Green)

Florida Federation Backdrop for Showcase (in plastic sleeve) (new, May 2007)

"Please Take One" signs

Website Sign in plastic

2 Dolls in Federation Attire stands (1 male, female)

1 1/2 boxes (approximately) of pencils for giveaways

5 Toppers for Association Showcase Display

2 Old, round (painted silver) doll stands

Model cutouts .for the State of Florida & Dance Couples

Gray base to be used or _____ ????????

Shoe box with miscellaneous items (black "stop" signs; 2 wooden holders, "S" hooks for hanging backdrop, etc.

Other items Not in Boxes:

Florida Federation Marching Banner w/pole, in brown carton

1 beige corduroy "carrier" with handles containing Florida Seal in color

2 signs used in Showcases in 2007, which have unused space on the reverse side

Old Canvas Backdrop for Showcase*

1 Round Gold State of Florida Seal on pole *

3 Bags of PVC Pipes previously used for hanging the Showcase Canvas Backdrop (1 back has SE on it) *

Gold & Back Florida Federation of Square Dancers Sign (long, wavy, in 2 pieces) **

Note: Question the items with *.....should they continue to be held by the Parliamentarian?; could they be disposed of?; or could they be transferred to History Storage?

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlie & Val Newsome
2007 Parliamentarians

Sunshine Report – Mary Stewart is very sick with lung cancer, I am sure you will remember her in your thoughts & prayers. Another sad note; Courtney Alicia Berrisford, from the Whirl N Twirler, granddaughter of Danny & Linda Courtney passed away November 5th 2007. We all express our sorrow to her family. Art Butlak, had brain surgery, he had a cancer tumor removed and he is doing well.

Correspondence – From the USDA, Lorraine Backus, is retiring from the USDA Insurance, a replacement has been appointed; Pat Ingles from Tucker, GA. We received an email from Bruce & Colleen Morgan, resigning immediately as USDA Insurance Chairman for the State of Florida. Therefore, we must accept Bruce's resignation. The Chair will appoint at this time Randy & Carol Poole, whom have had experience with doing the Insurance, until a replacement can be found.

**Florida Callers Association
Report to the Florida Federation
November 11, 2007**

It is my pleasure and privilege to be here today on behalf of the Florida's Callers Association. I have been appointed by the past President of the FCA, Don Hanhurst as liaison to the Florida Federation.

It is the FCA's desire to have and maintain a better line of communication between the two organizations. Hopefully, together we can work towards the continuance and betterment of square dancing in the state of Florida. More specifically, work toward a better and better State Convention.

We at the FCA look forward to improved communication and cooperation towards those ends.

Thanks again to the Federation for your hospitality.

Respectfully,
Whit Brown

FCA Liaison to the Florida Federation
FCA Secretary

Florida Round Dance Council Liaison to Federation

Lisa Wall, upcoming Florida Round Dance Council, President – Along with the Callers Association, we would like to have a representative at the Federation Meeting and also have someone from the Federation of Dancers at the Cuers Meetings. Our big thing this year is we would like very much to increase the number of Cuers we have, so that we can have a better State Convention. We did add 5 new Cuer members at the meeting John and I chaired this past weekend. So we are working on it, we are going to get more people out there and hopefully, offer a better dance to the dancers. We are going to attempt to make the Federation meetings as best we can.

Verbal report given by; Lisa Wall

Association Reports

CENTRAL FLORIDA ASSOCIATION

November 11, 2007

Classes have already started at a lot of the Central Florida Area Clubs. Some of them pushed their start times to early October instead of September hoping to catch some snow birds that do not realize how much fun square dancing can be. Each club member has been encouraged to Angel their clubs classes as you well know students feel more at ease if someone with experience is in their square.

Plans are in the making for another great Deerhaven Retreat week-end in support of our 2009 Florida State Convention. A fantastic time was had by all last year. There was plenty of fun and games, food, dancing and laughing, food, plenty of food. Randy Poole will tell about this later so listen carefully and plan to join us at Deerhaven.

There is a Handicapable Club in our Central Area, the Yellow Rock Squares in Daytona Beach. Their 20th Anniversary National Convention is coming up next July (2008) in Mobile, Alabama. They want so much to attend but need our support, money-wise. Not only do they need new club outfits but money for the convention itself; travel expenses, hotels, entrance fees and such. Several clubs in the Brevard County area have started a "Pitch A Pint Of Pennies" campaign to help defray these expenses. They are, hopefully, trying to raise an additional \$500.00 for these great "kids". They do accept regular silver coins and paper money, too, in case you're wondering. So if any of you would like to support this endeavor, see me after this meeting or throw your pennies into the container sitting out.

Our blood bank chairman, Jim McConnaha, reports the blood bank is in good shape and continues to grow in donations. Greatfully there have not been many withdrawals recently. And

our Membership Vice Chairman, Terri Little, has scheduled membership dances at several clubs however she is always open for more engagements.

There were many Halloween parties through out the Central Area and many clubs are planning on a Thanksgiving Dinner/Dance. Then it is on to the holidays of December with several "Toys for Tots" dances in the making. And many clubs are planning New Years Eve celebrations.

On October 17th the Wagon Wheels, of St. Cloud, held their 38th Anniversary Dance hosting to a packed house with many of their past presidents and charter members in attendance. Ron Reardon along with Pete & Jan Shankle did the calling and cueing honors for the evening. But, sad to say, I just learned that this club is closing its doors on December 26th of this year. Attendance has been so small that expenses can not be met so the decision was made to close. Howard and Thelma Bitler really have tried hard to keep this club afloat, promoting many banner raids and retrievals and special events but it was just not enough to save this club. Ron Reardon, their current caller, is also retiring after this dance.

Our Shamrock Swing Dance, scheduled for next year on March 7th and 8th, is coming along nicely. Hopefully it will be another crowded floor again, and again we are having Tim Marriner, Whit Brown and Jimmy and Carol Griffin at the helm so this can not miss being another great week-end. There will probably be a rehearsal for our Kick-off on that Saturday.

The CFA is still looking for editors for our "Keepin' Posted Magazine". Tom and Eivor Brown have graciously consented to continue on an issue to issue basis, which we truly appreciate.

Disbursement of money received from Grand Squares, Inc.

The Central Florida Association decided to purchase magnetic signs, to be place on cars, SUV's, trucks, to promote or educate people about square dancing. These will be given to the Area Directors to distribute among their many clubs and members.

The signs were made by Dynamic Seven, Inc. in Titusville, Florida, and have black lettering on a white background. They measure 4" high by 14" long. A quantity of 200 pieces were made at a cost of \$402.80, includes tax, or \$1.90 each. (A copy of the invoice is attached.) We received a total of \$355.20 from Grand Squares, Inc. but the CFA had already agreed to pay the difference up to \$400.00, if needed, to complete the purchase of our project. \$45.80 was needed from the CFA Treasury. The yearly web page maintenance fee of \$9.95 will be paid out of the CFA Treasury, also.

Committee consisted of George Knapp

Terri Little

Bruce Morgan Judy Frye

Sample of magnetic sign given to the Florida Federation Secretary

Submitted by: Judy Frye, President
Central Florida Association

Northwest Association Report

Northwest held its 33rd Annual Round Up in DeFuniak Springs, FL on October 26th and 27th. The dance was very well attended and we had many guests from other Florida Associations.

Northwest installed a new board. The board members are: Paul & Cheryl Miller, President; Muriel Jones & Roger Kaushagen, Vice President; Dave Henn, Treasurer; and Tim and Terri Wilaby, Secretary.

Northwest received three nominees for Dancer(s) of the year. The selection of the 2007/2008 Northwest Florida Dancer of the Year was very close; Patty Lewis received the award.

Panama City has been hot with enthusiasm! Dancers were up and dressed at 5:30 am and were doing a demo for the television station WMBB; the demo aired at 6:30 am. The dancers continued with two scheduled television interviews with FOX and local WJHG stations. Marketing in the month of September ended with a local newspaper interview. The purpose of the advertising was to begin the Swinging Squares classes in September and Grand Square Rounds classes beginning on October 7. An update on the Square Dance Class; started with 2 squares and currently have retained 1 square of new dancers.

Pensacola has planned a "Weekend to Learn Square Dancing" and "Weekend to Learn Round Dancing" with Patti Ping in January 2008. She has been successful. After the weekend classes she will continue lessons for the dancers at the Twirlers club.

Northwest utilized the GSI disbursed funds as follows:

Purchase 125 Window Clings. The clings advertise Square Dancing using our panhandlepress@hotmail.com as contact information. We chose to use the publication's email address so that clubs from Pensacola to Tallahassee could use the "Cling On's". Interested inquires would be sent to the publication and then forward to the club closest to the individual's home address, which will be followed up with a personal call from the club representative. This will help document in what areas could possibly be class locations. And get the clubs to initiate these classes.

We also received a tri-fold sample from Panama City advertising the health benefits, fun and social activity of Square & Round Dancing. This colorful tri-fold has been reproduced by our Panhandle Press to each of our clubs. Clubs are able to design their tri-fold to advertise their areas. Pensacola is designing theirs around Five Flags and the Naval Air Station. These tri-folds maybe left in Doctor's & Dentist Offices, Chamber of Commerce, Senior Centers and Libraries. We are checking with area Visitor's Centers & Realtors for Newcomer's packages.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul & Cheryl Miller
NWFSRDA President

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

FEDERATION REPORT – November 11, 2007

We are happy to announce that the Southeast Association has a full and enthusiastic board! This board has hit the floor running with new ideas and new methods. Presidents are Bobie and Carol Hutcheson, Vice Presidents, Bob and Helen Shippee; Secretary, Frank and Gloria Marshall; Treasurer, Stan and Elaine Wyler; Membership, Ed and Marge Morrow with Ada Trott offering valuable assistance. Jerry and Helen Rhodes continue again as Insurance Chairmen. We want to thank Jerry and Helen and Stan and Elaine Wyler for continuing to serve on our board for another year.

Our September dance which was supposed to be our final dance, over 8 squares of dancers showed up. Which make us feel they want SEA and are willing to support us? The dance turned in to the renewal dance it was supposed to be, with renewals still coming. To complete the fun and excitement of the day we had Sundaes for everyone. One of the changes we have implemented is that when the association has an advance level caller present, the last hour from 4:00 to 5:00 will be advance level. We feel this is one of the factors that helped increased the attendance. Four squares of advance level dance the last hour.

We have also decided to incorporate different fun ideas and themes into the dances. Such as silly hats, crazy dress, etc.

We talked to several callers about holding beginner classes and were told they need at least 2 squares of beginners and 2 angels before committing to starting a beginners class. We are making a list of people interested so we can get a firm commitment when and where a class will be held. We feel it is promising. Flyer's will be circulated in stores, restaurants and anywhere else we can get public attention. Demonstrations have been mentioned but we have not proceeded with this as yet.

Our next dance is December 16 which will be our annual cookie dance. We will be collecting unwrapped toys for underprivileged children. The clubs in our area have always been very generous in the past with their outstanding donations.

Plans have been finalized for our annual fund raiser: the Snowflake Frolic. It will be at the Boynton Beach Civic Center on February 2, 2008. Rounds will begin at 7:30 and cued by Jerry and Joyce Viola. Square dancing will start at 8:00 p.m. The callers will be Frank Bedell and Jack Lewis. The cost will be \$8.00 at the door with no advance ribbons being sold. We hope to see many of you at this dance.

We failed to mention Helen Rhodes who had a kidney removed a couple months ago; she is not bouncing back as quickly. If you could send her get well cards, I am sure she would appreciate it.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobie & Carol Hutcheson
SEA Presidents

Northeast Florida Square & Round Dancers Association

Report for November 2007

The Northeast used the money received from the Winter Festival to purchase laminated yard signs. We spent \$500 dollars for the signs and each club, that offers new classes, was given seven signs to advertise their classes. These signs have a place for a contact number and because they are no consumable may be used each year to advertise new classes.

Some clubs did not dance during the summer or had to move their location because schools were closed. Many clubs held anniversary dances while others held theme dances. Some of the theme dances were: Watermelon Festival, Ice Cream Socials, Pink Cadillac, Amateur Calling Night, Back to School Supplies, Halloween dances and All American Night. Christmas in July,

which benefits Shriner's crippled children's hospital, was hosted by Rural and Gateway callers associations. Many campers attended The International Camp-O-Ree which was held in Awana, Iowa and the state Camp-O-Ree held in Okeechobee. The Square Wheels and Gypsy Squares hosted the O'Leno Hoedown at O'Leno State Park.

The Northeast did not have a 5th Saturday Dance in June to allow dancers to attend the National Square Dance Convention. Again in September there was no 5th Saturday Dance. Instead, on September 30th we celebrated NEFSARDA'S 50th anniversary and that was a "HUGE" success thanks to Jack and Kathy McKinney, who served as chairmen, and all their committees for the event. The theme for the dance was "A Blast from the Past) and a blast it was. Everyone new exactly what to do and each person was busy doing their job. Retired callers did a fantastic job for our dancing pleasure and of course Lisa Wall did a super job cueing the rounds to a crowded floor. We even had one new special round dance couple, Don and Donna Graves, on the dance floor. Yes, very special. Don is blind, but is a wonderful dancer. They are an inspiration to everyone they meet. We danced some, socialized a lot, took a lot of pictures, gave away many door prizes, then after the dance we were served a delicious catered dinner. The serving of the food went very smooth. There were about 400 dancers in attendance. It was a wonderful dance.

It is now time for the Fall Festival scheduled for November 16-17. Shirley White and Smitty Smith, chairmen, and their committees have planned many special events for our week-end pleasure. The theme for the dance is "Viva Las Vegas" and the dance will be at Christ the King Catholic Church. The weekend guest caller will be Lottie Ainsworth and guest cuers are Curt & Tammy Worlock. The emcee will be Charlie Pergrossi.

Many of our clubs have started groups of new dancers. We are trying not to use the words (lessons/classes). Also, we have talked about new ways to teach square dancing that will help in recruiting and retaining new dancers. We have discussed the ABC system and the 10, 10 system. However, no decision has been made.

Happy dancing to everyone! And we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Respectfully submitted,
Ouida Taylor and Thomas Tramel

WEST COAST ASSOCIATION

THE WEST COAST ASSOCIATION IS ALIVE AND WELL! AS MOST OF YOU WERE HERE TO SEE, I HOPE, OUR SECOND SUCCESSFUL YEAR HERE IN BARTOW WITH OUR 33RD ANNUAL FALL FUN FEST.

WE HAVE HAD OUR FIRST ASSOCIATION DANCE IN PALMETTO WITH A GOOD TURN OUT OF 10 SQUARES AND OUR NEXT DANCE WILL BE IN BONITA SPRINGS WHICH IS ALWAYS A REALLY WELL ATTENDED DANCE. SO, 2007-2008 YEAR IS UNDER WAY. YES, IT IS UNDER WAY WITH RECYCLED, RECALLED, RETIRED OFFICERS. AND YES, I KNOW WE ARE NOT UNIQUE IN THE WEST COAST AS IT IS HAPPENING ALL THROUGH THE FEDERATION, AND IT IS SCARY,BUT WE WILL TALK ABOUT THAT LATER, I HOPE. YES OUR OFFICER, ALL PAST PRESIDENTS GO BACK TO 1972 WHEN MARYLEE VANVALKENBURG WAS PRESIDENT, MARYLEE AND HER FRIEND MIKE ZEIGLER ARE OUR SECRETARY'S. DICK AND BETTY STEVENS, TREASURER'S, ZURHN AND SHIRLEY WALKER, VICE PRESIDENT'S AND SANDY AND I ARE PRESIDENT'S. WE WERE ALL PAST

PRESIDENTS FROM 1993 TO 1996 . NOW, I AM NOT TELLING TALES OUT OF SCHOOL, BUT I THINK THE YOUNGEST OF THIS BUNCH IS 68, AGAIN THAT'S SCARY. SANDY AND I BOTH WANT TO THANK THESE FOLKS FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEART FOR HANGING IN THERE. WE HAVE ALSO THE HARD WORKING SLOCUMS, DON AND ANN WHO ARE PUTTING A LOT OF HOURS AND HARD WORK TO BRING TO YOU ALL "CELEBRATE IN 2008" ALONG WITH THEIR COMMITTEE'S TO ASSURE YOU ALL A GREAT TIME IN MAY,23,24 AND 25 AT THE LAKELAND CONVENTION CENTER. THERE WILL BE A TRAIL IN DANCE ON THE 22ND AT STRAWBERRY SQUARES, WILL HAVE MORE INFO ON THAT SOON.

LET ME CLOSE WITH A STORY WE USED IN OUR SOS PAMPHLET.

THE STORY OF TWO FROGS

ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE WAS A FROG WHO WAS DROPPED INTO A POT OF HOT WATER. FELLING THE HEAT, HE IMMEDIATELY JUMPED OUT AND SAVED HIS LIFE.

BUT THERE WAS ANOTHER FROG WHO WAS PUT INTO A POT OF COLD WATER- SET ON A BURNER OVER LOW HEAT. ONE DEGREE AT A TIME THE TEMPERATURE INCREASED, BUT THE FROG BECAME ACCUSTOMED TO IT, STAYED IN THE POT, AND EVENTUALLY WAS BOILED. MORAL OF THE STORY: ALTHOUGH WE COMPLAIN ABOUT SUDDEN CHANGE, IT'S OFTEN THE GRADUAL, HARDLY PERCEPTIBLE CHANGES---IN OUR LIVES, LIFESTYLES AND CHARACTER-- THAT DO US IN. I HOPE WE KNOW WHEN TO JUMP OUT!

KEN AND SANDY BRASFIELD
PRESIDENT'S WCA

FASSRD

The 28th annual Single-Rama was held in Sebring last month at the Kenilworth Lodge. Our caller was Mike Callahan from Rochester, NY and our cuers were Jimmy & Carol Griffin. It was a great dance but the attendance was low. There is a decline of dancers throughout the state and this decreases the attendance when many dances are going on at one time. We need more dancers !

The 17th Annual FUZZY NAVEL Dance, sponsored by the Florida and Georgia Singles Associations, will be March 14 & 15, 2008. The caller is Sam Dunn and the cuer is Lisa Wall, both are from Florida. You can stay and dance at the Oceanside Inn & Suites on Jekyll Island, GA. (right on the beach) From 7:00 p.m. Friday night until breakfast Sunday morning, we plan on having a great time! Visit our website at www.floridadancing.com And go to the singles page. The Fuzzy Navel and the Single Rama dances have a vendor in attendance and DJs at the after parties. And you don't have to be single to join us for a fun time.

Submitted by Aileen Picheco

Publications

Keepin' Posted (No report)

We had a very successful time getting the clubs to submit articles for the last issue of the Press. Of the 11 clubs on the roster, 7 gave us articles. Now we need the pictures to go with them. That will be our next focus.

With the convention being so close to the deadline for the Press, we were not able to complete the issue and also visit clubs for delivery, so the cost of producing and delivering the Press was more than we took in for advertisements. This issue looks to be better as we already have several advertisements for this issue.

We are looking to do something special for the holidays. In the past, there as been a "Christmas Card" section and we would like to begin that again. There is a flyer on the table showing some examples and pricing. If we get enough, we will publish a separate "Holiday Issue".

Frank and June have changed internet providers, and as a result we have lost the "panhandlepress@att.net" account. So we have set up a new account on Hotmail that can be passed from editor to editor. The new account is "panhandlepress@hotmail.com" and it can receive files up to 10 mg in size. This should accommodate most submissions.

If anyone has any suggestions for changes or improvements to the Press, please let us know.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim & Terri Wilaby

The Grapevine

Official Publication of the Northeast Florida Square & Round Dancers Assoc.



The Grapevine Report
Florida Federation
November 11, 2007

Sarah & Charlie Pergrossi, Editors
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Our subscriber list has remained stable this past quarter. We continue to pick up new subscriptions from dancers both within and outside our association. As Charlie and I travel the state for dances and events, we carry our Grapevine display and encourage folks to check us out both in print and online.

We've found that our camping dancers are eager to read the news of clubs outside their own region since they tend to travel farther from home each month with their camping club. With this in mind, we encourage each camping club to send along highlights from their gatherings for publication. It is our intention to keep all dancers informed of the events that involve square dancing, in all its forms, throughout the state. Our state camping clubs are facing similar issues of declining membership and low dance attendance as are the regular clubs. We can all benefit and continue to enjoy our dancing hobby by supporting each other.

Our October issue ran, free of charge, the Northwest ad for their Fall Roundup and the West Coast ad for their Fall Fun Fest. We also carried the dates of the weekends in our Calendar of Events, even though the dates may have been in conflict with a Northeast function. It is our firm belief that the dancers should have a choice and we publish the dates of all known weekends for that reason. We have the ad for Central's 2008 Shamrock Swing already in place for the January issue and waiting on the Southwest ad for the Snowflake Frolic. We wish to publicly thank those publications which ran our ad for the Fall Festival "Viva Las Vegas".

Remember we still publish your ad free if it's a benefit dance with ALL proceeds going to a charity. We would like the ad camera ready if possible. We have several such dances coming up early in 2008. The Circus Dance hosted by Silver Fox in January, a Cancer Research Dance hosted by Plus Fox in early March and the Shriner's Dance hosted by River Ramblers later in March. Also the City Rescue Dance hosted by Seabreeze Singles in April. These and so many other events can be found on our Calendar of Events updated monthly online at either floridasquaredance.com or pergrossi.com.

We send out a complimentary copy of The Grapevine to the president of each association and an exchange copy to the editor of their publication. Please keep us informed of any changes to the persons in these positions for your association. Our contact information is included on the Federation roster. Like the editors before us, we think this is a good way to continue a cooperative line of communication between associations.

We have recently changed the deadlines for submitting items for publication. As noted in our October 2007 issue, the first of the month preceding an issue will be the deadline. This means that December 1st is the deadline for the January issue, March 1st for the April issue, June 1st for the July issue and September 1st for the October issue.

As usual, we invite comment, pro and con.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah & Charlie Pergrossi

West Coast Dancer

November 11, 2007

I'd like to bring you up to date on the latest changes regarding the West Coast Dancer. For many years, round dance cuer Pat Hagen, has been our Circulation Manager. She had to discontinue that position for personal reasons. It was great working the Pat.

So, if there are any changes or additions to you present requirements for copies of the Dancer, you will now have to contact me. Unless of course there is someone who feels they just have to take over.

Thank you, Ed Henning, Editor

Bow & Swing (no report)

State Convention Reports

2007 Northwest Wrap Up

Introduction for Tim & Terri Wilaby, was made by Association President Paul & Cheryl Miller; Tim & Terri did a fantastic job with the 53rd State Convention. They walked into a difficult job (with only three years to plan) and turned it into an extremely imaginative and fun convention.

Northwest Association was unable to fill all our chairmen positions within our association. We feel that if it wasn't for the volunteers from other associations, we would have been overwhelmed to complete the many tasks needed to bring the dancers the weekend of dancing enjoyment they have come to expect.

We believe the help we received by other association members increased the success of this year's State Convention. Publicity, Advertisements, Convention Webmaster, Singles, Campers, Signs, Sew & Save and Program Book were filled by members from other Associations. We can not say thank you enough to the individuals who took time away from their associations to fill these positions.

2007 53rd Florida State Convention Report

I know you have heard it before, but I would like to say it again Thank you to everyone. It has been a wonderful experience getting to meet everyone and work with you across the last few years. Tim & I have made many friends that we otherwise might not have, if not for this major project.

I would like to say that we have finished with the convention, however there is one thing left to do. Give our "FINAL REPORT"?!

Our registration people really worked to spread the word and sell ribbons with much success. A total of 860 ribbons were sold.

Across the last year, we were really pushing our Ways & Means chairperson to come up with new and profitable ideas, because we just knew that there was not going to be enough money to cover expenses. So Cheryl and Paul buckled down and came up with some really creative ideas.

Add our registrations to Paul & Cheryl's imagination, add in that we were able to receive some money from Lakeland Chamber to offset the cost of printing, and that we were able to benefit from the Polk County visitors grant and something wonderful happened. We made a profit! We would like to present Florida Federation of Square and Round Dancers, the Florida Callers Association and the Florida Round Dance Council each a check in the amount of \$3,264.61.

Respectfully,
Tim & Terri Wilaby

Thank you all for your support. It is nice to see all the red shirts out there.

On Nov. 10, 2007 a 2008 -54th State Convention meeting with all the committee chairmen was held. The committee reports showed very good progress with their plans laid out to carry them through.

Registrations since the *Kick-Off* are few as expected, but we feel, as in the past, many ribbons will sell after the first of the year.

Fred & Jan Smith, Ways & Means Chairman, continue to do an outstanding job, thus far having sold 133 shirts. The basket auction at last night's Fall Fun Fest raised \$ 881.50. To date \$ 12383.50 has been raised.

Our treasury has \$11623.84 in the checkbook and a CD for \$5241.19, giving us total funds of 16865.06.

Bob & Maria Spence/ Fashion Show has a good program to honor the hard working Dancers in the State and are still needing dancers for models. Please send your suggested dancers to Bob & Maria Spence. The information on this has been in the Associations publication and the Bow & Swing.

Bob & Jan Friend/After Party has a plan that is going to be a surprise and are going to area businesses to ask for donation of goods or money to help defray the expenses.

Jack & Kathy McKinney/Program Book, have prepared ad request based on last year's ads and will be giving each Association the paper work to collect ads in their areas.

Ken & Sue Brown #1/Decorations, showed us a beautiful example of some of the colorful decorations for the Lakeland Center and have prepared the *Traveling Artifacts* to be distributed today to all the Assoc. presidents.

We are still having a problem getting a contract from The Lakeland Center. We have received a proposal which we responded to and now are waiting for their final contract. The rent will be about \$13,000.

Shirley Walker & Betsy Curts/The Crafty Dancer Committee have plans for give aways and will offer classes in making various projects.

The dancing program will be Halls with: Mainstream, Plus with Rounds (Rounds only in the evening sessions due to lack of Cuers), Plus DBD, Advanced Squares, Easy Rounds, Advanced Rounds, and a General Hall. This General Hall will be for: Singles on Fri. night, Sat. morning intros offering 3- 30 minute sessions of intro to Plus, 3- 30 minute session of intro to Advance. Then starting Sat. afternoon and after it will be for Youth with high energy dancing, Please encourage all the youth to come.

All Halls will offer thirty minute sessions with the same Caller or Cuer except for the evenings in the Plus Hall when each 30 minute session will be 20 min. of squares and 10 min. of Rounds.

We will be taking breaks for the Fashion Show on Sat afternoon, the Grand March Sat. evening, and the Kickoff on Sun. evening. Dancers will take their meal breaks as desire.

Howard Cole/Caller Chair -The Callers have been scheduled with just needing to fine tune the program because of time conflicts.

Bev Landwehr/Cuer Chair - The Cuers will be scheduled early next year.

Promotion – With the help of fellow committee members, so far we been to Plant City, Boynton Beach, Hollywood, Ft Lauderdale, Middleburg, Palmetto, Sebring, DeFuniak Springs, O’Leno, Stuart and Bartow to promote the Convention. Next week we will be in Jacksonville and Dec. 2 we will be in Bonita Springs. After the first of the year we will look for other dances around the State, one of which will be the Shamrock Swing. We ask that all Caller & Cuers and anyone else that has control of the microphone to always mention the St. Convention.

We will have a Trail In Dance May 22 at Strawberry Square.

We are collecting Booster names at \$1.00 ea..

The table cover we bought has a removable logo on it so it can be passed on to future Conventions.

Now we all need to go out and **Promote, Promote, Promote** so we will have a grand Celebration next May.

Respectfully Submitted
Don & Ann Slocum

2009 Central 55th Florida State Convention Report

We are on schedule. We have been working on our kick-off and have it all worked out, now we just need to put it together.

We have our second Party Weekend fund raiser scheduled for April 4-6 2008. Everyone is invited to enjoy in the fun and fellowship. We have flyers for anyone interested. We only have 12 motel rooms available, but we still have plenty of camper sites. Another fund raiser we have is a 42 inch, plasma, high definition tv to be given way after our kickoff this year.

We have ordered our tee shirts and will have them available at this year's convention.

Randy & Carol Poole, General Chairman

2010 56th State Convention Report

November 9, 2007

We have started filling some of the positions for the 56th State Convention. Since this is the first true state convention, we are looking for committee chairman from all over the state. We have a good start with volunteers, but there is always room for others to help.

So far we have the following people assisting us:

Jack & Kathy McKinney	Assistant Chairman
	Ads
Charlie & Val Newsome	Advisors
Dave & Shirley Nihart	Treasurers
Garland & Carole McKenzie	Registration Chairman
Bill & Mary Chesnut	Caller Coordinator
Ernie & Frances Rollen	Assistant Coordinator
John & Lisa Wall	Cuer Coordinator
Charlie & Sarah Pergrossi	Publicity
Bruce & Colleen Morgan	Program Book
Thomas Trammel & Oujda Taylor	
Frank & Barbara Meyer	Afterpartys
Paul & Cheryl Miller	Volunteer help

We now find that we have new issues, such as how to fund the Convention. Of course we will have a Ways and Means Committee with things to sell, but we still find that we will need more money to insure a great Convention. The Callers and Cuers will have to do more each year to help with this, especially since they will have a higher stake in promoting the Convention.

We are torn between whether it is better to raise the price of the admission or to ask each association to provide an equal amount of money from fund raising each year. If we go with the former, we have heard negative comments that people will not pay anymore for the admission and some will choose not to come at all. If we choose the latter, it will mean a commitment of about \$2000.00 for each Convention from each Association,. Now that may not be a change from what has and is going on, since each association has had to fund raise for about 4 years before each time they had a convention. Each association will also share in the profits each year, but may only re-coup \$300.00 to \$400.00 each year.

I know we do not have the time to debate this issue today, but we would like to have this issue taken up at the working weekend in March under Convention Procedures. Remember this issue is going to affect all the future conventions.

One final thing, we would like each Association President to do, is ask your members how they feel about this and let us know in March.

Respectfully submitted,
Bud and Anita Taylor
Chairman 56th State Convention

2011 Convention

No Report

Florida Square Dance Hall of Fame

As you all know the Hall of Fame is at Strawberry Squares, in Plant City, in their hall and it is getting very crowded. Mary Lee Van Valkenburg has been the Custodian there and she says she does need some help there with some carpentry work. Plaques for each of the Associations are getting full and the hall is running out of room. So we need to make some new square plaques to be able to get more plaques on them. So if you have any ideas or know of someone who can help. Please let us know about them.

If you know of someone to be nominee for the Hall of Fame, please see the criteria for submitting your nominee, these criteria are in the publication nomination form. We encourage you to submit nominees whom qualify for the Hall of Fame.

Verbal Report by Ann Slocum

History Artifacts

As of now the artifacts are still in storage. I have spoken with Randy this weekend, and at the upcoming Working Weekend we will have a committee meeting and decide what we will be doing.

Verbal Report given by Sandy Brasfield

U.S.D.A. Insurance

Florida Federation of Square Dancers USDA Insurance Financial Report November 11, 2007

Checking Account

Balance Forward as of 5/1/2007 \$

Receipts 5/1/2007 thru 10/31/2007

Central \$251.10

Northwest

West Coast \$

Southeast

Northeast \$

Singles

Cloggers

Total Receipts \$

Sub-Total \$

Disbursements 5/1/2007 thru 10/31/2007	
USDA Premiums	\$
Administrative Expenses	
Checks	
Envelopes	
Phone/FAX	
Copies	
Postage	\$
Total Disbursements	\$

Balance on Hand as of 10/31/2007 **\$**

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce & Colleen Morgan
FFSD Insurance Chairpersons

Florida Federation Insurance Report
November 11, 2007
Florida Federation Meeting - Fall Fun Fest - Bartow, FL

The 2007 Insurance year is about over. We have had a pretty good year. There will probably be no more updates for the 2007 Calendar year insurance.

The good news is that the Southeast Association is the first one to submit their paperwork for 2008.

I will not be reporting on the number of clubs or members we insured this year. I have but one thing to say.

Because of personal reasons, effective immediately Colleen and I will be stepping down as Florida Federation Insurance Chairman. This will be our last report.

Randy & Carol Poole have agreed to handle the USDA Insurance until a replacement can be found.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce & Colleen Morgan
FFSD Insurance Chairpersons

Carol Poole stated that next years Insurance Rate will be the same as this year. She encouraged all the Insurance Chairman from each of the 5 associations to attend the Working Weekend and sit in on the Insurance Committee.

U.S.D.A. Report

The annual USDA meeting was held at 1pm on June 27, 2007, before the National Square Dance Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina. 129 delegates signed in. Executive Committee Members: 28. Guests: 23. Total number of attendees signed in 178. This record of attendance at the USDA meeting I obtained from the USDA secretary.

During the past year, we have been promoting the United Square Dancers of America by displaying Publications and Literature and attending special dances in and out of Florida. The USDA President gave us permission to do the two education material displays. (filling in for a sick person), outside of Florida.

USDA has produced four new tri-folds during the last year: one on parliamentary procedure, entitled Parli Pro; How to conduct a meeting; one on the On-line Shopping Mall; Youth Competition Dancing Information; and Dancers Code of Ethics & Conduct.

69,787 visits to USDA Home page between May 8, 2006 and April 30, 2007. Lowest one was on-line shopping 185. The most was Publications and Educational material 10,582.

Next topic: ARE YOU DANCING UNINSURED

This appear in all the publication of the USDA (reference USDA NEWS Volume XVIII, Issue 4 Oct. – Dec., 2007 “ARE YOU DANCING UNINSURED”). There is a lot clubs that are dancing as Caller Clubs, these clubs are questionable if they are dancing insured or not.

At the National Convention I was talking to the USDA President about caller clubs not having USDA insurance coverage for the Square dancers. If the caller only has Callerlab Group Liability Insurance, the dancers are not covered by this insurance. I was talking at this meeting to Bob Barnes, and he was saying that there is an additional insurance that a Caller can have to cover the dancers. But here is what I got from the USDA President, who contacted the Callerlab, who sent this to the USDA President who forward it to me (reference CALLERLAB GROUP LIABILITY INSURANCE (July 2007) Coverage Highlights:) Dancers are not covered by this insurance. If a caller has additional insurance, I would like to see this insurance. I am the PASCO County Rep. and we have Caller run clubs and I would like to be able to inform these dancers if they are covered by insurance or not. If you would like a copy of this, that the USDA President sent me, it is available.

Tom and Miriam James USDA Florida Delegates

Holiday Shopping is around the corner. Why not access the **USDA Dancer Shopping Mall**? As you purchase your holiday gifts, you will be supporting your dance activity. Give the website address to all your friends and relatives. How hard is it to use the website? It's simple; here are pamphlets that give you all the information you need. Please take some back to your clubs. Please look for our USDA articles in Bow & Swing and your association publications. Association Publications we send you an article each month and are aware that publications do not publish monthly so, publish 1 of your choice or all of them if you have space. We write the articles to get information out to dancers and we thank you for your help.

Paul & Cheryl Miller, USDA Representatives

Statement from the floor – John Wall; Lisa and I have two Cuer run clubs that are covered through the USDA Insurance, because the clubs are members NEFSRDA and NEFSRDA requires the USDA Insurance, so if you are having a problem with your Caller or Cuer run clubs, maybe the Association should invite these clubs to join your association. This might solve your problem.

ASCAP-BMI Report (No Report)

ARTS

ARTS-Dance

ARTS is planning a Nationwide Benefit Dance on Friday, February 29, 2008. Dance Across America. They hope to raise enough money to help improve and expand all areas of dance activities through research, marketing and education. You can go to their website and have them list your dance in their log for Dance Across America. And order some brochures to pass out at the dance so everyone can learn more about ARTS. Many dances are already scheduled across the country.

ARTS will request each dance to play “God Bless America” or “God Bless the USA” at specified times across the nation during the dance so that it will be sung and/or danced to at the same time across America.

Everyone who attends will be asked to sign in and these sign-in sheets will be sent with the donations to ARTS so that ARTS can apply for the Guinness Book of World Records. The premise is to get recognition across to the general public of our Traditional dances. Any club that already dances on Friday night can participate by collecting a donation for ARTS and sending it in along with their sign-in sheets. There is still time to plan a dance in your area.

ARTS has received a couple of significant donations. They received \$1,000 from NEC. It was their share of the raffle at the 56th National Convention in Charlotte, “Share the Wealth”. ARTS also received a \$10,000 donation from the Playground Area Round & Square Dance Organization in Fort Walton Beach upon the dissolution of that organization. The Alliance of Round, Traditional, and Square-Dance (ARTS-Dance) is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt corporation. At the last meeting I attended, the Federation in Iowa had setup a way to help clubs get back on their feet was by giving clubs grants to help with classes. The guidelines for the money were very specific and very equitable. Possibly our Federation could look at doing this or the Association in the clubs area could assist the clubs with grants. It is something to think about. I have all the information on it if anyone is interested in this.

Submitted by Aileen Picheco

Website (No Report)

Old Business

Convention & Visitors Bureau Grant Report

The 2007 Convention Committee got their information to me on time and I completed the C& VB paperwork and submitted it. In due time, I received a check from Polk County for \$2400 made out to the Florida Federation of Square Dancers. I sent this to the Federation Treasurer who then sent a check to the 2007 Convention. It felt good to be able to accomplish this.

While this was going on, I completed the application for a grant for the 2008 Convention. It was approved for \$2400 if all the requirements of the C& VB are met. This should not be a problem. The 2008 Chairman is using the C&VB logos on his ads, program book and flyers. This, with the paperwork showing the advertising and the attendees are mostly from outside Polk County are the main requirements.

Preliminary work has been started on applying for a grant for 2009.

Jan & I continue to come to Lakeland and meet with the various parties involved with the Convention & Visitors Bureau. At this point in time, it looks like this will be an ongoing source of income for the Conventions. It is not a sure thing until the grant is approved in the year before the individual Convention. So don't spend the money until you see the check.

Jim & Jan McConnaha

Coordinating Committee

I have been asked to make a motion to disband the Coordinating Committee, before I do that I would like to give you a little background information. At the May 2007 Coordinating Committee meeting there was a motion made and seconded to eliminate this committee and transfer its function to the Federation. After much discussion this motion was voted to be tabled until the May 2008. This will give the three organizations time to take this motion to their respective organizations, since that time, the Callers have meet and decided to discontinue, the Cuers have also agreed. The guidelines require two of the three organizations approving the change for it to take effect.

George Knapp made the following motion;

The motion is to disband the Coordinating Committee and move the funds of the Coordinating Committee to the Federation Treasury as a separate line item.

Federation President shall approve the issuance of the convention seed money for the upcoming convention. In case a convention has a loss and can not repay the seed money, all three organizations shall repay the loss equally. Federation Treasurer will issue seed money at the direction of the Federation President and Treasurer will receive repayment from the convention.

Motion was seconded by Jack Taylor; after discussion with the delegates, the motion was called for vote and passed.

Mr. McConnaha stated that he just received the check to the Coordinating Committee for this year's convention and also received a letter from Bud & Anita Taylor requesting the 2010 Convention Seed Money from the Coordinating Committee. I will be disbursing the money to the 2010 Convention.

Nomination of New Officers

Sue Brown thanked, the Nomination Committee, Jack & Kathy McKinney, Mary Lee Van Valkenburg and Garland & Carole McKenzie whom represent three of the five associations.

Report from the Nomination Committee Chairman Jack & Kathy McKinney;
We received by email confirmation that each of the Board Members will graciously move up to their next position. We received a nomination and resume from the West Coast President. All nomination committee members approved the nomination of Bob & Maria Spence as Parliamentarian for the Florida Federation of Square Dancers.

Jack & I would like to present the slate of Officers for the year of 2008 as;
Randy & Carol Poole, President
Paul & Cheryl Miller, Vice President
Ray & Elsa Huddleston, Secretary
Charlie & Val Newsome, Treasurer
Bob & Maria Spence, Parliamentarian

Verbal report given by;
Jack & Kathy McKinney
Nominating Committee Chairman

Jack Taylor motion to accept the slate of officers, motion seconded by Don Slocum. There were no nominations from the floor. Delegates voted and motion was passed.

Installation of New Officers

An Impossible Mission was made possible by Sandy & Ken Brasfield.

New Business

State Convention Procedures

With the changes that we have made in the past year in the Convention Procedures and the Coordinating Committee dissolving, we need redo the State convention procedures. We have made big changes on how the State convention is put on by the dancers. We need more guidelines than just saying that the Federation Presidents will appoint a chairman and he can draw from the whole state. Many of the convention procedures no longer apply.

I am going to appoint a committee to rewrite the convention procedures. It will be made up of a past or present General Chairman from each of the Association.

I think that we have taken the Associations out of the responsibilities and say about the state convention. We need to get all associations involved if they are going to share the wealth.

I suggest that they look at making a general chairman and four assistant general chairmen. (One from each other association). Possibly dividing the convention tasks into five groups and each association will be given the responsibility for a group.

The committee members are:

Jim & Jan McConnaha (Chairman)

Charlie & Val Newsome

Tim & Terri Wilaby

Don & Ann Slocum

Garland & Carole McKenzie

This committee will work during the next few months and will meet again at the Working Weekend to come up with some new procedures to present to the delegates, at which time we may vote on it or table it until the May meeting. I would like a Caller Representative & Cues Representative to be at the Working Weekend State Convention Procedure Committee meeting.

Address change to the Articles of Corporation and By-Laws

Donna Hendricks brought forth that the Corporate Address needed to be updated to her new address; 5150 Mt. Plymouth Road, Apopka, FL. Secretary contact the State to make the change.

Change to the By-Laws

Shirley Nihart brought to the floor, a discussion on the Working Weekend date being added to the By-Laws to indicate when the Working Weekend will be held for future reference. Kathy McKinney made a motion "that the Working Weekend shall be held the same weekend as the Shamrock Swing". Motion was seconded by Ann Slocum. Delegates voted and motion passed.

Next Meeting Saturday March 8 & 9, 2008, at the LaQuinta Inn, Maitland, FL.

Adjournment