

**MINUTES OF  
FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS  
Piccadilly Restaurant, Jacksonville, Florida  
Sunday, November 23, 2008**

Presidents Randy and Carol Poole called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Invocation** by Ken Brasfield

**Roll Call** - Elsa Huddleston called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.

**Introduction of Visitors and Guests** – The following people were introduced: Becky & John Cole, Joanne & Leon Haar, Lance and Rita Baxter, Jennifer Green, Sharon and Ron Paul, Dick & Jeanne Lysobey, and Virginia Bomhold.

**Minutes of the May 25, 2008** meeting were approved as written.

**Treasurer's report**

**TREASURER'S REPORT  
May 1, 2006 – October 31, 2008**

Beginning Balance - All Accounts - May 1, 2008

Federation Checking	\$	
Contingency Fund		
Insurance		
<b>TOTAL All Accounts</b>	\$	_____

Assets Received From Coordinating Committee, May 2008

Convention Fund Checking Account	\$	
54th State Convention Loan		
55th State Convention Loan		
56th State Convention Loan		
	\$	_____

FEDERATION CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$

<u>Receipts:</u>		
GSI - % of FI Winter Festival Profits	\$	
Polk Co. Conv. & Visitor's Bureau - Grant		
NE, NW, SE & WC Assn's Dues (\$50 ea)		
Fed. % 2008 St. Conv. Profits		
Bank Interest (May-Oct)		
<b>Total Receipts</b>		_____
<u>Account Balance:</u>		\$ _____

**Minutes - Florida Federation Meeting, November 23, 2008, Page 2**

Disbursements:

Plaque for retiring Insurance Chmn.	\$	
Tom James (USDA Display)		
Secretary's Expense		
USDA Dues		
Treasurer's Expense		
Polk Co. Conv. & Visitor's Bur. - Grant/54th		
Distribution of GSI Funds to Assn's.		
Hall of Fame (Erroneously credited to Federation in 2007)		
24-month CD purchased from Wachovia		
Total Disbursements	\$ _____	\$ _____

TOTAL CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE, 10-31-08: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Federation Convention Fund Account Balance \$  
 (Coordinating Committee Transferred these funds to Florida Federation in May, 2008)

Receipts:

Loan returned from West Coast	\$	
Account Balance:		\$ _____

Disbursements:

Loan to 57th State Convention (2011)	\$	
Total Convention Fund Account		\$ _____

24-month Step Rate Commercial CD

Purchased 8-12-08 @ 2.87%	\$	
Interest for months of Sep/Oct		
Value as of 10/31-08	\$ _____	\$ _____

\*Value as of 11/19/08  
 \$10,071.39.

Ending Balance - All Accounts, 10-31-08

Assets

Bank Accounts

Federation	\$	
Federation Convention Fund		
Insurance		
24-month CD		
Total:	\$ _____	

Outstanding Loans

55th St. Convention	\$	
56th St. Convention		
57th St. Convention		
	\$ _____	

Total Assets \$

Liabilities

Contingency Funds:

Florida Callers Association

\$

Round Dance Council of Florida

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Liabilities

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ASSETS MINUS LIABILITIES:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully Submitted,

Charlie & Val Newsome

Treasurer

**Parliamentarian Report**

We enjoyed the 57<sup>th</sup> National convention in Wichita, KS. Since we hadn't attended at 'National' in several years, we spent a lot of time reminiscing with long-time friends. The dancing was superb, and the vendors and exhibitions fantastic. Due to a flight cancellation, we missed the dance for Jack Hoffman's mother, but understand it went well.

The showcase exhibit was very well done, transported for us by Ray & Elsa Huddleston and John & Lisa Wall. We hung the banners, and displayed the five regional tri-folds. We did take the FL web-site sign to display as well. The last of the give-away pencils were taken as well as flyers. Many people visited our display and looked at the tri-folds. The large parade banner was proudly carried in the "Parade of States" by Federation officers and many dancers in the Federation costume. We were personally welcomed by members of the NEC – old friends of ours from Washington, DC. The weather was "hot!", but as Floridians, we managed.

Recommendations for future showcases are:

1. Reserve only two (2) tables.
2. Take five (5) tri-folds, hanging banner, web site sign, and the parade banner.
3. Plaques and history books are not necessary.
4. 'Give a-ways' are not necessary.
5. Staffing is not needed, just regular check-ups to 'neaten up' the area, add flyers, etc.

We'll be turning over the banners, etc. to our new Parliamentarian and the History materials to Bruce Morgan.



We will miss the 'Shamrock Swing' dance because we agreed to model at the WASCA Festival in Alexandria, VA, representing the Florida Federation. We will be glad to take Convention flyers with us.

Squarely yours, Bob & Maria Spence,  
Parliamentarians for FL Square Dancers Federation - 2008

### **Sunshine Report**

Val Newsome reported on the health and wellness of the following dancers: Penny Green (back problem), John Saunders (broken leg), Ann Slocum (knee replacement), Martha Hardcastle (hip problem), Joe Vaccari (improving), Bobie Hutcheson (shoulder surgery), Shirley Nihart (heart problem), PeeWee Stewart (living with daughter in South Carolina).

**Correspondence** - Carol Poole read an e-mail from Ray Ainsworth inviting dancers to attend Lottie's Louisiana Hoedown in Ruston, Louisiana on January 30 and 31, 2009.

### **Association Reports**

#### **SOUTHEAST FLORIDA SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION**

We have been so excited all year with the response we have had to the dances, and even getting a new Board of Directors. We had our swearing in at our Renewal Dance and everyone had a wonderful time. We had so much going that same day that we barely had time to stuff all the Ice Cream and Goodies before it was time to go.

After hearing of the storage problems the Federation has had in the past, our Board voted to allow the dancers to take pictures from the albums prior to 2000. Then our past Secretary Frank Marshall took the balance of the pictures home, put them on DVD's dubbing in Jack Lewis calling and Jerry Viola cueing. It turned out very well. We plan on taking orders and selling them to anyone who would like them, the charge will be just to recover Frank's costs.

I have been e-mailing all the SEA dancers prior to the up coming dances and inviting them and asking them to share a ride by picking up a dancer or two.

Our callers have been most cooperative in distributing our flyers at other dances. We of course are doing the same. Everyone seems to want SEA to continue and are willing to put forth the effort.

We now have two beginner classes just started, Scotty Sharrer in Boynton Beach and Bud Miller in Miami. Both seem to be going well.

We have tried different ways to promote square dancing including the Florida Turnpike, but the price is out of our league. If all the Associations wanted to do a group brochure perhaps it could work. I called free papers in the area Dade/Broward, Palm Beach Counties but prices were like the national war debt. We finally decided on using the GSI funds to put an advertisement in the Fryer which is delivered weekly. We put it in South Broward/Dade and in North Broward which covers several of the Northern Counties giving both Scotty & Bud's phone numbers which were listed for 6 weeks. Scotty has had many calls and had 17 Beginner Dancers show up. We also had a student put up a flyer in the student lounge at Nova.



There were so many Halloween Parties for dancers in the area it was nearly impossible to attend them all. However, die hard dancers seem to keep up with them all. Unfortunately Bobie & I each have had shoulder surgery and have not been able to attend them, but from what we heard they were great.

I have already planned our Cookie/Toy Dance on December 14th, 2008. We are planning some surprises, including Santa. The toys are given to Children in Distress since we had a great response last year and expect no less again. We are having good response to the dances. We feel having the last hour advance dancing has helped.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobie & Carol Hutcheson SEA Presidents

### **NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION**

Aloha! First I would like to thank each of you for attending our Fall Festival and hope you enjoyed the dance. A special thanks to Joe & Martha Hardcastle and all their helpers for making the dance possible.

Our GSI monies were spent to have tri-fold pamphlets printed with each club's information listed. These pamphlets were given to each club in order to help promote square dancing. Any place these pamphlets are placed the information for each club is available. The officers are also listed and will be updated as needed.

New officers have been elected and will take over in January. They are as follows: President, Ouida Taylor & Thomas Tramel, Vice President: Mary & Sam Starling, Recording Secretary: Jack & Kathy McKinney, Corr. Secretary Walt & Dianne Syphaed, Treasurer: Jerry & Donna Robey, Immed. Past President: Anita & Bud Taylor.

The Northeast Gateway and Rural Callers Association hosted a very successful benefit dance "Christmas in July" which benefits The Shriner's Crippled Children's Hospital.

August 31<sup>st</sup> was our 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday Dance with an Olympic Theme. Many dancers dressed to represent either a country or an event. The participation was fantastic.

On September 21<sup>st</sup> Charlie & Val Newsome and their committees hosted our first benefit dance "Sundaes on Sunday" for the 2010 State Convention. It was not only fun but the cool treats were delicious. Val, I'm sure, will give more information about this dance in her report.

The Northeast enjoyed visiting many dances to promote the Fall Festival and support other Associations. One was a bus trip to DeFuniak Springs. Others include: Top of the World in Ocala, O'Leno Hoedown in High Springs, Fun Fest in Bartow, Flagler Ocean Waves in Flagler Beach, and many other local clubs. Forgive me if I left out your event or club. All are important and special.

Plans are being made to attend the Benefit Dance in Plant City that the Federation has scheduled. The Northeast and Central Associations are planning a party weekend in Paisley, FL to benefit the 54<sup>th</sup> & 55<sup>th</sup> Florida State Convention.

## Minutes - Florida Federation Meeting, November 23, 2008, Page 6

The Northeast has many other special dances planned and we hope they will be well attended. Of course they are too many to mention all of them.

Big plans are in the making for "Rock & Roll Time" the 54<sup>th</sup> Florida State Convention, May 22-24 hosted by Central Association.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ouida Taylor/Thomas Tramel  
President of NEFSARDA

### WEST COAST ASSOCIATION

We in the West Coast are well into our year. I have already introduced to the Federation part of our new board, Leon and Joanne Haar as our new Treasurers and Rita and Lance Baxter as our new V-Presidents. They are dancers with the Shufflin' Square in Lake Wales. Dottie Fitchett and Bert Devorsett who was our Secretary in 2005 returned to their old job. The only hic-up was when it came to the President's job. We waited till the last possible minute for someone to step forward ----- no one did. It was then suggested that Zurhn and Shirley Walker and Ken and Sandy become co-Presidents, and here we are. Life goes on.

At the Presidents Ball in Plant City we honored a couple of our dancers. John Occhipinti who is our Association photographer and records everything that goes on in the W.C. He then shares it all with us via E-mail or by giving us pictures. He refused to accept money for film, processing, mileage. We made him a life time member of the West Coast and donated \$100 to a charity of his choice. We also honored Ed and Ginny Henning by presenting them with the President's Choice Award for their fine work as editors for the West Coast Dancers.

We started our Associations dances in October with a dance in Sun City with Van Coble as our M.C and have seven more Association dances going through September 2009. On November 7 & 8 we held another successful Fall Fun Fest in Bartow. A silent auction was held with the proceeds going to the 2010 State Convention. A total of \$512.50 was raised.

One more thing I would like to mention that happened in the West Coast that we are quite proud of. Don and Ann Slocum, who are our Polk county reps, were contacted by Inwood Elementary physical education teacher, Dana Truman who wanted to introduce square dancing into the physical education program in school for third, fourth and fifth grades. The Slocums contacted Keith Stevens who is part of and Past President of the Suncoast Callers and Cuers Association. Keith not only agreed but jumped in with both feet. For seven weeks every Monday he spent from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm. He also had his preparation time. It was a huge success. Not only were the children exposed to square dancing, but also the teachers and parents. The West Coast funded any and all expenses. We in the W.C Assn. appreciate Keith taking this on and making it work.

Well that's all folks, thanks for listening.

Ken and Sandy  
Zurhn and Shirley



### CENTRAL FLORIDA ASSOCIATION

We are almost two months into our term of office. To date we have had our first CFA Board Meeting, with a good attendance of officers.

The CFA has several very important events coming up:

1. Our First 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday dance of the new presidential year will be on Saturday, November 29 at Whirl & Twirl in Orlando. Our Caller will be John Swindle and our Cuer will be Phyllis Williams. We invite all to come and join us.
2. On March 20 & 21 the CFA will hold their Shamrock Swing at LaHacienda Center in The Villages. We have a very interesting program prepared starting with Friday evening at 7:30; Saturday we will have workshops from 1 – 5:30 and early rounds starting at 7:30 with dancing until 10 p.m. Advance ribbons are only \$17 per person for the two day program. We will have two halls featuring Mainstream, Plus, DBD, Rounds and Advance. Of course we just happen to have ribbons with us. Oh, did I fail to state that Bob & I are also chairpersons for the Shamrock Swing. That is a long story.....
3. CFA is also the host association for the 55<sup>th</sup> State Convention with its Rock & Roll Time. More will come from our great chairpersons Randy & Carol Poole.
4. January 31 our fifth Saturday dance will be held at the Dixie Squares Hall in Daytona Beach. Our Caller will be Bob Stern (Bob is also the local caller for the CFA Shamrock Swing) and Cuer will be Irene Knapp Smith.

GSI funds were utilized to replenish Central's supply of magnetic signs used as advertisement on cars, trucks, SUV's, etc

As of this time all clubs seem to be dancing on a steady bases and membership holding.

Bob & Jennie Courter

### NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION

Northwest Association has been very busy since our last Federation meeting.

In August we had a membership dance at PASARDA Hall. The dance started with a quiz game show with Cheryl Miller as the "Quiz Master," a barbecue lunch and lots of dancing. The dance was very successful in getting new members in our association.

Northwest Association had our Annual Northwest Florida Round Up in DeFuniak Springs on the 24th and 25th of October. Joint efforts to call this dance was Northeast Florida Callers & Cuer Lisa Wall. The association dance was very well attended. This included a bus load of dancers from the Northeast Association (who brought nearly six squares of dancers).

During the Round Up, the Northwest Dancer of the Year was presented to Sandy Williamson from the Canoe Squares in Milton. Joe & Patricia McLendon received the Northwest Presidential Award and Dave Henn received the Circle of Service Award.

All the board members have agreed to stay on for another year. Once again, the board consists of President, Paul & Cheryl Miller; Vice President, Roger Kaushagen & Juriel Jones; Treasurer, Dave Henn; and Secretary, Jerry & Sandy Williamson.



One of the northwest callers, Bill VanHoesen, is leading a joint effort between the Northwest Association and the Northwest Callers Association to obtain copies of a video series called "Friendship Set to Music." These are a series of club dances that have been taped and are airing on some television stations in Minnesota. The idea is to obtain the videos and coordinate with local northwest cable providers to have them air the series in time slots where they are in need programming. We'll report more on this after we've obtained the videos and started getting the shows on the air.

In November, the Pensacola Twirlers had their Annual Club Dance with Charlie Pergrossi calling the dance.

Northwest is very excited. We have a "Caller-in-Training," a young lady with a great voice. Miss Miriam Meriwether. She has been occasionally joining Caller Berlon Graham on stage to harmonize with him on some songs. Expect to see more on her.

**Classes:**

The Dancing Dolphins of Fort Walton Beach have a class that should graduate in December. The Dance-a-Rounds started a round dance class in Panama City in September.

**Upcoming Dances:**

The Canoe Squares of Milton will have their annual toys on December 1st. Ragon Hall in Pensacola will host its Annual New Year's Eve Dance on December 31st.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul & Cheryl Miller

**FASSRD Report**

The 29th Single-Rama was held the weekend of October 24th at the Kenilworth Lodge in Sebring. Although we had a markedly decreased attendance, the small group that was there had a very enjoyable time dancing to Mike Doughty of West Palm Beach and Charlie Lovelace from Dade City. We feel the economy was the main reason for keeping people away and we hope they will join us next year on October 23 - 24, when we will have Sam Dunn of Sebring and Lisa Wall from Jacksonville.

We were pleased to have special guests with us; Ted Wright, SSDUSA (our national singles organization) past president, who drove all the way from Albuquerque, NM; Bill Highsmith, SSDUSA Southeast Area Rep, from Jessup, GA; and two of our friends (unattached men!) from Georgia Singles decided to make a visit for the first time. Someone in Georgia was kind enough to mention our weekend in their state newsletter. Many of us go to the Georgia Singles dances and it's nice when they come down to ours once in awhile.

We were celebrating the 30th anniversary of our organization and the past presidents in attendance were recognized. We also held our annual meeting where we had the election of officers for the new year. The new officers are: President - Penny Green (West Coast Association); Vice President - Virginia Barnes (Central Association); Secretary - Ailene Picheco (Central Association); Treasurer - Mary Lou Pelz - Northeast Association.

Our next big weekend will be the Fuzzy Navel in Jekyll Island, GA on March 27 - 28, 2009, which will be hosted by the Georgia Singles. Bud Witten (Georgia) will be calling and Shirley



Wilson (Georgia) will be cueing. This is always a fun weekend; we stay at the Oceanside Inn & Suites, which is right on the beach, and we also dance there. If you would like a flyer, please feel free to contact me. If this weekend isn't better attended than it was in 2008, this may be the last Fuzzy Navel we have.

We were pleased to hear that there will be a Friday night get-acquainted dance for the "dancers without partners" at the 2009 State Convention and that Virginia Barnes, Orlando Singles President, will be the Singles Chairman. Virginia has been president of Orlando Singles for three or four years and works very hard to keep that club going.

"Dancers Without Partners" is the new name for the Solo Sections in each of the halls. This was introduced at the last State Convention and I believe it was well received. The sections are marked off better with a large banner strung between two high poles that are set at the front of each section. We hope that this will make it easier for the couples to see that the section is set aside for dancers without partners and they won't sit there. Ailene is making arrangements to have larger banners printed to make it even easier for everyone to see. This has been a real problem for the singles; there are so many couples sitting in the Singles Section that there aren't any seats for the singles and you can't tell who needs a partner and who doesn't.

I will again be writing articles for all the association publications and the *Bow & Swing* as I did when I was president before. We also have a brochure that explains about FASSRD and our national organization and it contains membership applications for both. Please take some of these back to your clubs for your single members.

Dancing single in a couples activity is not easy, and your support and understanding would be greatly appreciated.

Penny Green  
FASSRD President

### **Publications**

**PANHANDLE PRESS**  
Northwest Association

No report.

**GRAPEVINE**  
Northeast Association

Our subscriber numbers are down a bit from July, and our expenses have risen slightly. The increase in postal charges are the main reason for our rise in expenses. We continue to search for cost-saving ways to print and distribute our magazine. We have found ourselves in a 'good-bad' situation. The size of each issue continues to rise due to the amount of news shared by our square dance community. This is GOOD news! It's a BAD problem as it causes our production costs to rise.

The Northeast Association is supportive of *The Grapevine* and has offered a few suggestions to keep the publication in the black. For a second time in as many years, one of our 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday Dances will be a Subscription Dance for *The Grapevine*. This dance will be held on Saturday,

January 31, 2009. Dancers will be able to dance for free by either renewing or taking a new subscription to *The Grapevine*. Of course, if they prefer not, they can dance for the usual donation at the door. This type of support was very successful in 2007, so we expect similar results in January. At the October meeting, the Association took a bold move and unanimously voted to increase the annual subscription price to \$12.00. The price increase became effective November 1<sup>st</sup>. This is the first increase in 5 years. We, as editors, are most appreciative of the support of the Northeast.

We continue to print all news reports we receive about the State and National Conventions, and ads for each Associations annual festival. Our Calendar of Events continues to include dances within the other Associations. We send out a monthly email newsletter called Grapevine Notices. This provides an opportunity for updates regarding new dance events, changes in dance events, and important notices for the dance community. We have added to our web site, the Publicity Releases for the 2009 State Convention. This allows the news of the convention to reach the dancers as it is published in addition to including these releases in each issue.

We thank the other publications for running the ad for our Fall Festival, and we reciprocated with ads for the festivals of the other Associations. We hope to continue this exchange of Ads for major festivals with the other Associations. Our thanks also to Bill Boyd (*Bow & Swing* and *American Square Dance*) for his support of the Association and Club activities.

We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving – a Merry Christmas – and a Great 2009!

Sincerely,  
Sarah & Charlie Pergrossi  
Editors of *The Grapevine*

**WEST COAST DANCER**  
West Coast

No report.

**KEEPIN' POSTED**  
Northeast Association

Since we have become the new editors of Keepin' Posted, a Central Florida publication, there are some things which are in the process of being updated, like central Florida club listings. Also, we are planning to introduce some new informative articles, current news on comings and goings, etc.

This is an entirely new venture for us, never having been editors before, and we will do our very best to present an interesting, readable, and fun publication to central Florida, and with help from our CFA members, we are confident that this will be accomplished. Thanks.

Dick and Jeanne  
Keepin' Posted Editors



**BOW & SWING**

Let me start by saying that Bow & Swing is alive and well. I would also like to add that this weekend has been great fun and we can not wait to come back next year.

First order of business is to say that Bow and Swing still has about 1400 subscribers; this number has held constant for several years now, and we would like to thank you for your continued support. We would also like to extend our appreciation for the clubs that advertise in the "Where to Dance" section in Bow and Swing. Especially for this as sometimes when we are traveling, it is nice to find a dance in your local area and those Bow and Swing listings are really helpful. (Especially for those of us who rely on others to look things up in the computer).

Leesburg held a successful subscription dance, their suggestion, with a new twist. During the dance, all subscriptions were reduced to ten dollars for a year. Their dancers seemed to like the idea. The only bad part was I had to get up and call a tip, following Ron Libby, which is like tiny Tim following Pavarotti.

Although it is not actually part of the Bow & Swing report, I have to mention that at every dance JoAnn and I attend, we mention and discuss the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention. I do this every week at the Garden Patch Square Dance Club and use words like, "When we get together at the state convention and when we have our dinner at the state convention and when we dance together at the state convention, etc." This is not anything new; it does seem to be something that dancers, callers and people making announcements keep forgetting.

As always I have to mention that we encourage photographs; we keep getting them from the same clubs. I also encourage you to send along captions or include photos at your own peril.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Boyd

**State Convention Reports**

**2008 WEST COAST (54th)**

After 4 plus years of planning and with a fantastic committee that has worked hard for this Convention we feel it has been a success.

We want to thank all of those who contributed their time & talents; the Callers, the Cuers, All Committee Chairmen, the committee members & all other workers from across the state.

Total attendees was 878

The ribbon sales = \$ 17,650.50

Total Expenses = \$ 36,458.67

Total Income = \$ 54,901.56 Proceeds = \$18,442.89

See financial report for details

Many changes were made this year and we feel at least most were successful. The extended dance time was well received. However we would suggest not starting until 10:00 and stop the afternoon at 5:00 on Saturday as most halls were quite empty early. I only had one person ask about Contra and no one asked for lines or country. This year the Plus DBD and advanced halls

## **Minutes - Florida Federation Meeting, November 23, 2008, Page 12**

were not as well used as last year. The Youth hall has not been well attended, and we would welcome suggestions from the Callers or anyone as to how to improve this. The expanded Easy Round hall was well used.

There were two vendors that had to back out at the last minute for health and death in the family reasons. Since the attendance has dropped two full service vendors should be considered and looking for vendors with other specialties is suggested.

The Crafty Dancer went over great. Many came by to check out their crafts and the demonstrations were well attended. We contribute the success to the committee headed up by Shirley Walker and Betsy Curts. We believe the change was welcomed due to the fact that only a few dancers are still sewing. The change in the location saved money in floor space and gave good exposure.

Respectfully Submitted  
Don & Ann Slocum, General Chairmen

### **2009 CENTRAL (55th)**

Today I will bring you up to date on the 55<sup>th</sup> Convention

1. We have all of our Committee Chairman and committees appointed, except one. Our Fashion Show Chairman resigned. I am thinking about not having a fashion show, unless someone wants to volunteer to be the chairman.
2. We have a contract with the Lakeland Civic Center.
3. We have our registration forms, ribbons and buttons printed.
4. Our communication chairman is putting out monthly news releases about our convention.
5. Jim McConnaha has applied for a grant from the Visitor Bureau and received approval.
6. We have had a few successful fund raisers and another one coming up April 17-19 2009, Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Party weekend. We also have an on going raffle of a 17 in, top of the line laptop computer. We have 2009 calendars featuring some of Florida's finest callers for sale. We also have a couple of other fund raisers.
7. We have the hall layout and Whit Brown is in the process of scheduling callers and Bev Landweir is scheduling the cuers.
8. We have convention Tee shirts for sale. If you haven't got yours yet please see Carol.
9. Registrations are coming in very slow, but things will pick up after the first of the year.
10. We have a list of upcoming dances, we will make as many as we can.

2009 calendars with callers and cuers available for sale along with

Randy & Carol Poole, General Chairman

Jack McKinney discussed the contents of the packets being given to each association president and the procedures for securing advertisements for the program book. In addition to each association buying ads, callers, cuers, and clubs should be approached about working to sell the ads as well as buying them. Everyone should start getting the ads as soon as possible. He needs to know by the end of January how each association is progressing.



2010 FLORIDA STATE (56th)

The Convention is moving right along. We have made some of the decisions for the rooms to use at the Convention. Jim McConnaha has already contacted Lakeland Convention Center and they seem really happy to discuss the details with someone they have dealt with before and not have to break in a new person, like us. We really thank Jim for taking on this job as we prefer to bow to experience.

We have already met with Cheryl and Paul Miller. They are in charge of the Vice Chairman. They are handling the fundraising. We have discussed in great detail how we are going to handle the Benefit dance on February 28, 2009. We are going to ask for the participation of all the Associations in decorating, supplies we will need, and so forth. We are going to request each association bring at least one and maybe two theme baskets to be auctioned. Each association will hear about this thru their Vice Chairman.

We also discussed the Party Weekend that we are sharing with the 2009 Convention. There are still rooms and campsites available, and if you are interested, please see Randy and Carol Poole for reservations. I have not been to this weekend before, but we are looking forward to it. There will be lots of fun and a lot of dancing on Saturday night.

The Northeast had their first fundraiser on 9/21/08. It was a Sundaes on Sunday dance. Most of the Callers and Cues of the Northeast donated their time to call and cue and there was continuous dancing. We asked all the clubs to donate a basket to auction. The clubs really came thru. We had about 15 baskets and everyone enjoyed seeing what each club came up with and then bidding, being over-bid and then re-bidding. Finally we started serving ice cream about 3:00. Everyone could have as much ice cream as they wanted and all the toppings were there to make each ice cream Sunday unique to the person who made it. Big Yellow Rocks to the Callers and Cues for their time. We also thank Val and Charlie Newsome and their committees for all their hard work. After all the expenses, we cleared \$1,094.00. The Northeast really loves Ice Cream. I promise next time it will run even more smoothly, now that Bud, and Charlie learned from Smitty how to handle Dry Ice.

We now think that there need to be plans for all the future conventions to help the next conventions with fundraising since you will only basically have one year for each association. For example, some of the profits from 2010 should be given to the 2011 Convention, and then the 2011 Convention can help the 2012 Convention a little more and so on. This is just a thought, but a necessary thought. The Caller and Cues will also have to help financially. Thanks to Sarah Pergrossi and Bruce Morgan we now have a logo, and you will start to see it on the flyers for the dance in February. We have tried to pick something that says it all, but is simple. We are beginning to think about T-shirts and other items that we may be able to sell.

Although I feel that we are on track with the Convention, we can always use help. Everyone can help by wearing Holiday outfits everywhere after the kickoff in May 2009. Do take advantage of the sales of Holiday material, as there is no limit to how many or what kind of outfits that you have. So please feel free to "SHOP TILL YOU DROP."

Respectfully Submitted,  
Bud and Anita Taylor  
2010 State Convention Chairman



Discussion followed regarding ways of defraying convention expenses. Suggestions were to add \$3 per year to association club membership, the Registration Form to have line "I would like to donate \$5 to the state convention" so that even if dancers are unable to attend, they could complete the form and donate. It was also stated that each association should have a fundraiser every year or contribute a minimum of \$500 toward convention expense. Others need to get more involved in fund raising – not just square dancers. It was suggested that the profit (or a portion thereof) from one convention be put back into the convention fund, and not sent to associations. Colors and themes for the 2010 convention are as follows:

West Coast:	Valentine & St. Patrick's Day	Northwest:	Halloween/Thanksgiving
Southeast:	Red, white & blue (Patriotic Days)	Central:	Christmas
Northeast:	Easter		

At kickoff, plans are for four couples from each association to participate in their specific outfit. These outfits can be made in any style they want. These outfits should be worn to all statewide activities after the kickoff.

### **2011 - FLORIDA STATE (57th)**

We're still working on filling our Committee Chairman positions. If anyone would like to help out, please let us know.

We've received our seed money. (Thank you very much!), and have opened our account at Riverside Bank. They gave us 200 checks, so I guess we'd better get started using them!

We're well on our way and looking forward to an exciting 2-1/2 years.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Little  
Ailene Picheco

**Hall of Fame** - Nominations for the Hall of Fame has been submitted to the Bow and Swing for the December issue. All nominations need to be sent to us by January 15, 2009 to be eligible for consideration to be presented as the State Convention in May.

Respectfully,  
Dave & Shirley Nihart, Chairman

**Historian** – Bruce Morgan reported on the status of scanning the various Federation documents for the web site. Each publication will be put on the Web after it is one year old. He requested help from all the associations by furnishing him a list of their Hall of Fame recipients. He suggested everyone review the various web pages, and send him an e-mail of any missing information.

**Florida Federation Web Site** – Bruce Morgan said he has received complaints from various sources that Tom Perry is not updating the website and the information is outdated. He said Tom still owns [www.FloridaDancing.com](http://www.FloridaDancing.com). The Federation web site is [www.floridasquaredance.com](http://www.floridasquaredance.com). It is possible for people to be in the Federation web site and a club web site link could take you to Tom Perry's web site. He requested members to review the Federation web site at [www.floridasquaredance.com](http://www.floridasquaredance.com), and send him any corrections or update



## **Minutes - Florida Federation Meeting, November 23, 2008, Page 15**

information. When you send the e-mail be sure and let him know the page that should be corrected.

### **USDA**

UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA, INC. (USDA) was formed in 1981. The USDA is the largest square dance organization in the world. Joe and Joy Vaccari were the second President and the first Treasurer of the USDA. The USDA has eight elected positions and eleven appointed positions.

It was no surprise when we lost the election for USDA Vice President Central Region in June at the Annual USDA Meeting in Wichita, Kansas. However, it was quite a surprise when we saw the written report of the Educational and Publication Chairman and read, "Tom James from Florida is one of our biggest customers, as he dispenses our materials wherever he travels."

When we returned home from our summer RV trip, we received a phone call from the President of USDA asking us if we would consider accepting the appointed position of Handicapable Dancers. USDA BYLAWS states that no elected officer or appointed officer may simultaneously serve as a USDA Director. So now we cannot serve in both positions.

We would like to thank the Florida Federation for the opportunity of being your USDA Florida Directors for two years. Having a USDA educational display was not a requirement for this position, but we enjoyed doing this. The USDA President and the Federation President has given us permission and also encouraged us to continue having our USDA displays - so we will.

Joy Vaccari has sent our HANDICAPABLE DANCERS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN badges and we wore them for the first time at the Fall Fun Fest November 7 & 8. Joy told us we could give our two Florida Director badges to the Federation.

January, we will be flying to Minneapolis, St. Paul, for the USDA Winter Meeting.

Tom and Miriam James  
Handicapable Committee Chairman

### **USDA**

The USDA Annual Meeting was held on June 25, 2008 in Wichita, Kansas in conjunction with the 57th National Convention. Florida delegates, Tom & Miriam James and Paul & Cheryl Miller were in attendance.

New board Directors were elected: President, Len & Connie Houle; Vice Presidents are as follows: Eastern Region, Dick & Shirley White; Central Region, Charlie & Kitty Holley; Plains Region, Mike & Mary Strub; Western Region, Jim & Kay Rogers.

The 2009 USDA Founders Memorial Youth Scholarship deadline is February 1, 2009. Amanda Roberts from Oregon received the 2008 Young Scholarship.

The United Square Dancers of America was formed by the dancers, and is run by the dancers. The vast information they provide to our officers and dancers can be found at [www.usda.org](http://www.usda.org).





**Minutes - Florida Federation Meeting, November 23, 2008, Page 17**

Ending Balance October 31, 2008 \$

2008	CLUBS	DANCERS
Central	21	1092
Northeast	16	550
Northwest	1 + 7	303
Southeast	1 + 1	65
West Coast	10	435
FASSARDA	1	36
	2 + 54	2481

  

2009	CLUBS	DANCERS
Southeast	1	61

We had 4 accidents in the first three months of the year.  
Only one dancer submitted a claim.

Submitted by  
Randy & Carol Poole, Federation Insurance Chairman

**ASCAP/BMI** – Our latest correspondence from ASCAP was \$0.75 for 2008. We have not received any rates for 2009 from ASCAP or BMI.

Respectfully,  
Dave & Shirley Nihart

**ARTS** - ARTS is made up of nationally recognized dance organizations. Its purpose is to provide an image of unity among diversified dance groups. The ARTS can be used for effective public education and awareness, as well as a tool in seeking institutional and corporate contributions/sponsorship.

They have recently set up a **Grant Program** which provides financial assistance to clubs, associations, or other groups which host meetings to bring dancers, callers, cuers, and others together to discuss various aspects and concerns facing the dance activity. The guidelines and application forms for the Grant program are on the website. [ARTS-dance.com](http://ARTS-dance.com)

Also on the website is their **travel program** – You receive the same low rates as other travel websites but this site helps support your dance activity. Part of the proceeds goes back to a dance organization of your choice.

During the 2008 June meeting Roy Gotta submitted a proposal to the Board for a **Web Site and Video Project**. The main points of this project are:

- 1) Establish a dedicated web site to our activity,
- 2) Create professional, upbeat videos for each segment of the activity, and

3) The videos would be accessed through a web site.

ARTS has received two proposals for this project with a vast difference in costs. Extensive discussion of this item resulted in agreement that ARTS will ask both companies to attend the 2009 February ARTS meeting to present their proposal and be ready for discussion by the Board.

To date, nearly 2,000 Dancers participated in **Dance America** last spring. There were 20 Dances in Ten States generating nearly \$10,000 to aid the ARTS Foundation. These Funds will be utilized to further the ARTS Mission. This will be a yearly event which clubs and/or associations can schedule at their convenience in the spring of each year.

Visit the ARTS website ([ARTS-Dance.com](http://ARTS-Dance.com)) for more information on:

Teaching Youth Square Dancing

ARTS newsletters

Join their e-mail discussion group

ARTS next meeting will be Sunday, February 8, 2009 in Louisville, KY immediately following the Pre-Convention meeting for the 59th NSDC at the host hotel.

Aileen Picheco

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Federation Document Review - DeeDee Stovall reported that he had reviewed the Federation minutes for the last five years, and determined that numerous issues relating to the official Federation documents had been voted on, but those specific official documents had not been revised to include the approved changes. He said in February, 2003 a motion was made to add the Florida Association of Single Square and Round Dancers a Delegate at Large in the By-Laws. He said the by-laws should be amended to make the **President** of the Florida Association of Single Square and Round Dancers a Delegate at Large and not the entire singles association. Therefore, DeeDee made the motion to replace the Florida Association of Single Square and Round Dancers as Delegate at Large with the President of that association as delegate at large. This motion was seconded by Jim McConnaha. Discussion followed regarding making the singles president a delegate at large or a designated member as a delegate at large. After a question was called, Jim McConnaha withdraw his second. DeeDee restated his motion, it was seconded and the motion passed.

Donna Hendricks made the motion that we table the remainder of his report until the working weekend. This motion was seconded and passed.

Convention Procedures - Jim McConnaha reviewed the main points of the procedures, but said they are a work in progress. The original guidelines were reviewed with individual changes such as changing it from an association convention to a statewide convention. General chairman is appointed by the president of the Federation. Appointments will be for every three years and not every five years. There will be five vice chairmen; one from each participating association



participating associations. Don Slocum moved to accept the procedures as presented. Motion passed.

Extra Mile Award – Val Newsome said a new nomination form has been developed, and Bruce Morgan will put it on the web site making it easier to access and complete. Once it has been completed and printed, it can be given to any board member. Don Slocum asked for list of past recipients.

### **Nominating Committee Report**

President: Paul & Cheryl Miller  
Vice President: Ray & Elsa Huddleston  
Secretary: Charlie & Val Newsome  
Treasurer: Bob & Maria Spence  
Parliamentarian: Jack & Barbara Hoffman

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee,

Dewey & Donna Hendricks,  
Jack & Zonie Taylor  
Ken & Sandy Brasfield

Jack Taylor read resume of Jack & Barbara Hoffman for Parliamentarian. Randy Poole asked for nominations from the floor. There were none, and Carole McKenzie moved that nominations be closed. Motion passed.

Ann Slocum moved that the whole slate be accepted. Motion passed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

George & Shirley Knapp conducted the Installation of new officers.

Lisa Wall said the current board of the Round Dance Council is rolling over. She emphasized the need for cuers to become more active and attend major dances held throughout the year.

The next Federation meeting will be the working weekend on Saturday, February 28, 2009 at the Stardust Dance Hall, 1405 South Collins Street, Plant City. The hotels are Red Rose Inn and Suites, 2011 North Wheeler Street, Plant City. (Phone: 813-752-3141) and the Best Western at 2003 South Frontage Road, Plant City. (Phone: 813-707-6000)

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ray & Elsa Huddleston  
Federation Secretary