

**MINUTES OF
FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS
DEFUNIAK SPRINGS COMMUNITY CENTER, DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009**

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** by President Paul Miller at 9:00 a.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** by all, led by Ray Huddleston.
3. **INVOCATION** was given by Ken Brasfield. Before he gave the invocation, he asked for a moment of silent prayer in memory of Shirley Walker and John Wall.
4. **ROLL CALL** -- Val Newsome called the roll -- a quorum was present.
5. **INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS** -- Paul Miller introduced Tom Hancock, past-president of the Florida Federation.
6. **MINUTES** -- Val said that a secretary's note had been added to the minutes on page 17, but was just for clarification that all five associations must agree for any changes to the Articles of Incorporation.

Val then read a note from Bruce Morgan stating that During the May 24, 2009 Federation Meeting in Lakeland, FL, Jack Taylor read the Historian Job Description exactly as he, Bruce, had typed it out for him. However, there was a typo in the report, which resulted in the motion being made to add the Historian Job Description to Section 12 (Standing Committees) of the Standing Rules. Section 12 has nothing to do with the Standing Committees. Section 14 deals with the Standing Committees. We, therefore, need for someone to make a motion so stating in order to clarify the motion from the May Meeting which passed. The motion should be:

I would like to make a motion that the Historian Job Description be added as item g. to Section 14 (Standing Committees) of the Standing Rules. Jack Taylor so moved, Dave Nihart seconded it and the motion carried.

Carol McKenzie then moved that the minutes be accepted as amended, it was seconded and the motion carried.

The President asked for the president or a representative from each association to stand. He asked how their association had voted on Article III; SE, NE; WC; C and NW all voted **yes**. He stated that it was unanimous and that the word "five" would be stricken from Article III of the Articles of Incorporation.

7. Treasurer's Report -- May 1, 2009 – October 31, 2009

Maria said it had been brought to their attention there should be a \$4,000 contingency fund at the beginning of the report which would make a difference in the total; and that

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the \$3,50.00 dollars in the general checking account should actually be in the convention fund checking account.

Beginning Balance

Wachovia Checking Balance	\$	
Convention Fund Checking Account		
Insurance (9-31-09)		
CD		
Total All Accounts		\$

Federation Checking Account

Receipts

Interest Earned (Feb-Mar-Apr)	\$	
Southeast Assoc. (5-24-09) Ck #1433 voided		
Grand Sq. Inc. (5-24-09)		
55 th Convention (6-17-09)		
Polk County Comm. (7-1-09)		
Re-payment Golden Scroll (10-7-09)		
Total Receipts		\$

Checking Account Balance

\$

Disbursements

Ray Huddleston (Badges & Dangles)	\$	
Cheryl Miller (Gold Scroll award)		
Cheryl Miller (Mics & Cords)		
Bruce Morgan (Copies of Proposal)		
Jack McKinney (Extra Mile award)		
Central Assoc. (GSI Funds)		
Northeast Assoc. (")		
Northwest Assoc. (")		
Southeast Assoc. (")		
West Coast (")		
Bruce Morgan (Web site)		
55 th Sq. Dance Convention (Grant)		
USDA Inc. (2010 Dues)		
Southeast Assoc. (Replaced check #1438)		
Charles & Val Newsome (Printing & Mailing)		
Total Disbursements		(\$)

Checking Account Balance

\$

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24 Month Step Rate Commercial CD (Purchased 8-12-08)

Beginning Balance	\$	
Interest		_____
CD Total (As of 10-30-09)		\$ _____

Ending Balance – All Accounts (10-30-09)

Wachovia Checking Balance	\$	
Convention Fund Balance		
Insurance		
CD		_____

Insurance		
CD		_____

Current Total All Accounts **\$ _____**

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob & Maria Spence, Federation Treasurers

Report was filed for audit.

President Paul Miller appointed an audit committee of Joe Vaccari, Carol McKenzie, and Dave Henn. The audit will be done immediately following this meeting before the Treasurer passes the books to the new Treasurer.

8. Sunshine Report

Cheryl Miller reported that

- (1) Val Newsome had knee surgery; Maria Spence had knee replacement surgery; and Don Slocum had surgery. All are recovering nicely and all are here with us today.
- (2) West Coast delegate Shirley Walker passed away on September 24th and there is a card on the front desk for everyone to sign.
- (3) Ailene Picheco's mother died in New York on October 3rd.

9. Correspondence

Cheryl Miller reported the following:

- (1) Sympathy cards were mailed to Lisa Wall and Zuhrn Walker from the Federation.
- (2) A letter was emailed to the USDA changing the official website address for the Florida Federation of Square Dancers.
- (3) The USDA Membership Renewal was forward to the Treasurer for payment.

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10. Florida Caller Liaison

On behalf of the Florida Callers Association (FCA), I am honored to serve as their representative to the Florida Federation. I would like to assure the Federation Board and Delegates that the FCA will continue to be a dynamic partner with the Federation in promoting square dancing throughout Florida. We stand ready to assist and work with you to the extent of our resources.

I would like to report that just two weeks ago, the FCA sponsored a new caller's clinic in Lakeland, FL, with national caller/coach Tom Miller as the Clinician. This clinic was well attended by both new and experienced callers. Tom covered a broad spectrum of material and provided one-on-one coaching to each caller in attendance (including myself).

On the Sunday following, the Caller Coordinator for the 2010 State Convention (Bill Chesnut) held a joint meeting with representatives of caller's associations from throughout Florida to select and program callers for our 2010 State Convention. The 2010 Convention Chairmen, Anita and Bud Taylor, were in attendance and our goal was to program the very best convention you'll ever attend. We'll have dance programs where dancers can earn danglers and another will challenge the dancer's skills with competition dancing. There'll be Mainstream, Plus, DBD, and Advance, so spread the word, let's make this the best convention ever!

Remember..... ***SQUARE DANCING IS FUN***

Sincerely,
Charlie Pergrossi, FCA Representative

11. Florida Cuer Liaison

The Round Dance Council of Florida met in October and the officers for 2010 were elected. They are, Lisa Wall, President; Jim & Fran Soos, Vice President; Tim & Terri Wilaby, Secretary; and Phyllis Kent, Treasurer.

We continue to encourage the teachers to actively participate in the promotion of the State Convention, which includes putting an advertisement in the program book.

We have tentatively scheduled 15 cuers and 10 teachers for the next State Convention. We are striving for a more balanced program and are going to go to a percentage system on the different Phases(levels) of rounds done in each hall. As an example, here is what the hall level would be.

EASY ROUNDS HALL

20% Phase 2; 25% Phase 2+; 25% Phase 3; 20% Phase 3+; and 10% Phase soft 4.

We also would like to schedule more common classics in the plus hall.

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From now on the round dance program for the State Convention will be approved by the entire Round Dance Council board.

Ralph & Barbara Beekman from the Lake City area have now joined the Round Dance Council. We are encouraging other callers that also cue to join the Round Dance Council, so they can also be programmed to cue at the State Convention.

Thanks to all of you who came to John's funeral. It meant a lot to me. The plant is still beautiful.

Thank You,
Lisa Wall, President

12. BOW & SWING

Bow & Swing has been and will continue to make a concerted effort to promote the Florida State Convention. Realize that we are preaching to the choir as most all of you have already purchased your ribbons for the convention. The Florida Publications are all doing their jobs. Every publisher has been and will probably continue to put in all information about our upcoming convention. Now it is up to us as members of our dance community. We should be placing flyers at every dance and event we attend. We should be talking about the fun that we have had at previous conventions. We should be planning for club and association after parties. What would our attendance be if every club in Florida had at least one square of dancers? As I said, I am preaching to the choir, but sometimes a grass roots push in the right direction helps.

To the rest of my report. *Bow & Swing* is still mailing about 1200 magazines monthly. The figure varies from month to month depending on expirations and renewals. Even with all of the postage increases we will continue our same prices, \$15.00 for one year and \$20 for two years. Our "Where to Dance" listing will continue to be \$15.00 per year and other advertising rates will not change. *Bow & Swing* will continue to publish your benefit and annual association dances at no charge and will list all of your upcoming events in our calendar section. We continually ask for your photographs, but I notice many of you are now including your own captions. I can't imagine why!

Keep dancing and having fun and we will see you in a square.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Boyd, Editor

Elsa Huddleston stopped Bill's departure to tell the group that at the National Convention, Bill & Joanne Boyd, Don & Ann Slocum, Penny Green and her partner

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and she and Ray danced in the competition squares. They had a lot of fun dancing in the mainstream program, but lasted only about 10 minutes. They all had so much fun they want to try again next year.

13. Association Reports

Southeast

This has been an exciting year once again, seeing the dancers responding to all the SEA dances with enthusiasm. When we approached them with requests for raffles, or advertisements in the convention book, not only the dancers but the callers responded. Lately we have been selling both Visa and TV raffle tickets and, even with the economy in a slump, they have come through.

My request, in my email prior to our September Dance, for Square Dance Clothes was met with such response the boxes we brought were overflowing with clothes to sell to help with future conventions. Needless to say we brought our pick-up full with clothes and Elsa & Ray dropped some off about a month ago and brought more this weekend.

We are smaller than many of the other areas and a lot of our dancers are getting to the age of not being able to dance much. The Sunday afternoon Dances allow many that can no longer drive at night to attend and have the pleasure of dancing and renewing friendships. The Snowflake Frolic, our yearly fund maker was much better than we expected since there were several International callers in the area.

Bobie and I will be putting it on this year on February 20, 2010. As outgoing Presidents we know that the SEA Dancers will continue to support the new Board. You all come. You Hear!

Our DVD Sales went well which helped fund some our crazy dances this past year. Frank Marshall, a long time dancer, (with the help of Jack Lewis and Jerry Viola cueing) made the old pictures come to life. The efforts of all makes us realize that SEA will continue as long as dancing is in the area.

I continued to email all the SEA dancers prior to the upcoming dances, and snail mail those without computers. It works for us. Have you tried it?

Our callers have been most cooperative in distributing the SEA flyers at other dances. I emailed the callers and cuers to bring their flyers to the next dance and we would set up a table only for their flyers. That way the dancers would have the opportunity to take them home and schedule their time to dance. Announcements at the dances are great, but I've never seen anyone with a pad and pencil recording who, when and where. There just isn't enough time. The response was so well received we will need additional space at the next dance. Everyone seems to want SEA to continue and are willing to put forth the effort. We continue to be excited.

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We had plans to use GSI money by placing advertisements in condo, community papers, association newsletters and periodicals. However, due to requirements of a 3 month ad and that being cost prohibitive, we have ordered bumper stickers.

Scotty Sharrer is starting a new beginner class on January 4 & January 7, 2010 (Monday and Thursday Nights) at the Boynton Beach Civic Center offering a free night of fun. I have already passed this information on to Bruce. Bobie & I have been angels at the classes. He puts forth a lot of energy making it a fun learning experience. The new dancers seem to catch on very quickly. He has had a great response and is asking each couple to bring another couple. In fact two couples have joined SEA and have bought convention ribbons and are planning on attending various dances that have been advertised. We have given just a little more effort making them feel welcome and pats and hugs help.

Both Scotty and Jack Lewis have been working together on alternate Fridays and inviting the new dancers to come early and mingle with the dancers making sure that there is a new couple in every square of angels. They are working hard together trying to build up dancing in the area. Every 5th Friday they have doubled our fun by calling together.

It is with regret that Bobie and I have decided to leave the office of Presidents of SEA. But we had no problems filling our position with Sally and George Galik, long time dancers. George has been a member of SEA for 43 years. We introduced them to you at the last Federation Meeting. Our secretary, Millie Griffin, resigned due to health problems and we were able to get new dancers, Sharon and Rick Nelson, to become our new Secretaries. They have already written an article in the last Bow & Swing and plan to continue. Both Bobie & myself have offered to help them ease into their positions. By the way, they are the couple that won the cruise last year. They love dancing and will be at the convention.

Although we have stepped down from being Presidents it has been rewarding, getting to know the callers & cuers better, and just getting to know the dancers better. We will continue helping with SEA and who knows what the future will bring. We are still on the Board for Ways & Means.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bobie & Carol Hutcheson, Immediate Past Presidents

Northeast

(report read by Mary Starling)

Due to Ouida's health problems, they could not attend today, but she gave me her report to read.

The Northeast used the funds received from GSI to print informative pamphlets with

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names and phone numbers of the Northeast officers, as well as contacts for all clubs in our area. These pamphlets are also being given out at all demos.

Again, the Northeast has been very busy starting with the 5th Saturday Dance in May. The theme for the dance was "Anchors Aweigh" and was well attended. The Port of Call was Tynes Elementary School. Callers were Captain RJ Hogan and Captain Mike Akers. Irene Knapp-Smith, Cruise Director, cued the Rounds. Host clubs were Flagler Ocean Waves, River Ramblers and Joy Seas. Everyone dressed in outfits they would have worn on a cruise. There was plenty of food, which is also what you see on a cruise. Wow! They did a fantastic job and we thank them very much.

Our 5th Saturday Dance for August was held in the Beautiful Inside Showroom of Rountree/Moore Toyota in Lake City. The theme for the dance was "Are You Ready for Some Football?" The room was decorated complete with a goal post. There were also cheerleaders, if you want to call them that, referees and a few door prizes. A tailgate party was also provided with hotdogs, cooked on site, with all the trimmings. Captains (callers) were Lon Ligon & Gary Murphy. They incorporated football calls along with the square dance, which made the dance challenging and fun. The dance started with a coin toss with the callers serving as captains. Richard and Glenda Wills were referees and tried to keep the dance running smoothly, checking all penalties fairly. There was also a bake sale to support the 2010 State Convention. The host clubs were Dixie Dancers, Grand Squares and Vagabond Squares. We thank everyone who helped and attended the dance.

Classes have now started in the Northeast. Dancers were out promoting our activity of square dancing. NEFSARDA sponsored a dance at the Orange Park Mall organized by the Moose Promenaders. Many dancers showed up for this dance. Flyers were passed out to spectators. Bill Chesnut called and Lisa Wall cued. The Moose Promenaders also danced for the Morning Show on Television. The participants for this event were up and at it in the wee hours of the morning. They had to be at the TV station at 5:00 a.m. Bill Chesnut was the caller. Wow! What a dedicated caller & dancers.

The fun doesn't stop there. Ken Miller, so I was told, put square dance for sale on Craig's List. He received a response and was asked if we would perform at the Wellness Show at the Prime Osburn Center on August 22nd. He was going to be out of town for the event, but turned the planning over to Jack & Kathy McKinney. They stepped up and did a wonderful job organizing the dance. Charlie Pergrossi called for the dance and Lisa Wall did the cueing. The event was not well attended but, we were blessed with lots of dancers, as we always are, and again flyers were passed out. Several people showed an interest in learning to square dance.

I think Thomas and I were the show's best customers. We came away with a very expensive mattress. That was not our plans when we left home that morning. You

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never know what might happen when you go to a square dance. Hopefully, we will benefit from your efforts and OUR sacrifice. Again, we thank you!

Several dancers traveled to the Queen City Ball and had a wonderful time. Also, eight dancers traveled to Iowa to the Singles Dance-A-Rama. They spent two weeks dancing and sightseeing. They too, had a fantastic time. Jack & Kathy and Walt & Dianne also visited dances in other associations. I am sure others also visited and we thank you, too. That is what keeps square dance going.

It is now time to "Walk on the Wild Side" at our Fall Festival. Mary and Sam Starling, General Chairman, along with all their committees, made all the plans and it is now up to us, the dancers, to make the dance a success by attending. So, if you have not purchased your ribbon, shame on you. Guest caller is Tom Roper from Mesa, AZ and Guest Cuers are Joanne & Ken Helton from Tavares, FL. Please check out the flyer or the web site for all the details and we hope to see you there.

NEFSARDA has a new club in Jacksonville. They dance at Westminster Woods at 25 SR 13. Ken Miller is the caller for the club. They meet on Monday Nights. We welcome them and wish them great success. Also, Plus Fox which folded earlier has been revived. Bobby Keefe is now their caller. We need more good news like this. Let's help them as much as possible.

The new slate of officers for the Northeast is as follows: President, Mary & Sam Starling; Vice President, Roger & Linda Minard; Recording Secretary, Jack & Kathy McKinney; Corresponding Secretary, Walt & Dianne Syphard; Treasurer, Jerry & Donna Robey; and Immediate Past Presidents, Ouida Taylor & Thomas Tramel.

Thomas and I have enjoyed serving as President of NEFSARDA for the past three years and as delegate to the Federation. Where has the time gone? Things have been tough for us but, having your support and something we enjoy doing to keep us busy has helped tremendously. Thank you for allowing us to serve as President and delegate. We hope we have not let you down. I could have given up and stayed home when my problems started and turned into a complete invalid. I chose not to do that and I am proud of the decision I made. Thomas & I desire to continue supporting NEFSARDA and the Federation as much as possible. A good example of that is we are Chairmen of the NEFSARDA 2010 Fall Festival. As you see, our plate is still very full.

Respectfully submitted,
Ouida Taylor/Thomas Tramel, President

West Coast

Many changes are taking place in the West Coast Association:

(1) It is with sadness we report that Shirley Walker, immediate past Co-President of

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the West Coast, was killed in an automobile accident. She was a diligent worker in the quest for improving square dancing. She will be missed.

(2) It is time for the 'changing of the guard'. We wish to thank Co-Presidents Sandy & Ken Brasfield and Zurhn Walker for their exemplary leadership during our initiation year as Vice Presidents of the West Coast Association.

(3) We have a cadre of new officers that will work endlessly to benefit square dancing, membership, and the association. They are: Penny Green - Vice President, Lynn & John Scott - Treasurers, Joanne & Leon Haar - Secretaries, and Rita and Lance Baxter as Presidents.

(4) Rita Baxter and Jenny Green have been collecting square dance clothing for sale on the internet as a method of raising funds for the convention. We have several 55 gallon bags stuffed with clothes.

5) The dance season has started. The VIP and Presidents' Ball were held and were very successful. The schedule for the rest of the season is set.

(6) The Fall Fun Fest is well organized and will be held on November 13th & 14th in Bartow, Florida. Callers, cuers, prizes, auction baskets, and parties have been set up for the public.

(7) We are busy selling the TV and visa card raffle tickets to raise funds for the conventions.

(8) The West Coast Association is striving to interest the 'younger generation' in square dancing. We have established a Scholarship Fund limited to the West Coast Association Counties and membership. The rules and requirements to apply for the monies toward college are in place. The first annual scholarship fund raising dance will be held on January 3, 2010 at Strawberry Square in Plant City. Sam Dunn has graciously agreed to MC the event gratis. The admission is a minimum donation of \$5.00. It will take a couple of years to see if this idea works.

Respectfully submitted,
Lance & Rita Baxter, President

Don Slocum, from West Coast. extended a special invitation to those attending the Fall Fun Fest weekend. Sun Coast Callers and Cuers have hired a marketing company to put on a seminar for the callers and Cuers on Saturday morning. They have graciously set up for this person to come to the dance hall to talk to the dancers during their lunch break. You may have to forego your lunch break, but they will be giving their special thoughts on square dancing and you might find it interesting. We invite you to attend this session.

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Central

(report read by Donna Hendricks)

The funds received from GSI were used to purchase magnetic square dance signs, which were given to any dancer who would place it on their auto. These signs have proven to be successful in the past. Each sign consists of a square dance couple with the words "Learn to Square Dance".

Presently many of the CFA clubs are still anxiously waiting for many of our Northern Dancers to return to sunny, warm Florida. Most of the clubs have started their new club year and are reporting reasonably good attendance for this time of the year.

At our August 29th, 5th Saturday Dance we were pleased to meet Don & Brenda Whitaker, caller for the newly formed Brendon Squares. It was wonderful to meet so many of their most enthusiastic new dancers. We wish them much success with their newly formed club. This was also, our Past Presidents dance, and it was great to be able to honor those past presidents who were able to attend this special dance. Our newly installed CFA Officers for 2009/2010 were also presented to the membership.

Also at our Board Meeting that was held on August 29, the Board decided to adopt and support our plan to bring a stronger sense of unity between the CFA and CFCA groups for the upcoming year. Caller Jean Lee & husband Dick attended this meeting. Jean is the Secretary/Treasurer for CFCA. We hope to be able to have a sharing of ideas and ways to help promote square & round dancing. On Sunday October 25, as Presidents of the CFA we were invited to attend the CFCA meeting. The host couple, Caller Jim Louder and his wife, Terry, very graciously welcomed us. We found this meeting to be most informative and well attended by eight of the CFA callers and their spouses. Don Hanhurst provided a very well organized plan that he uses in teaching new dancers. There was much sharing of ideas and interaction regarding procedures from all of those in attendance. We especially would like to thank President Bob Stern for inviting us to attend this meeting. Their next meeting will be on January 16 at 3:30 at the Perkins Restaurant in Lady Lake. This will take place just before the special benefit dance that the CFCA is sponsoring. We also invited Bob & Carol Stern, or any of the other callers to attend our next meeting on January 30, just before our fifth Saturday dance.

The Central Florida Callers Association is sponsoring a benefit dance for the "New Horizon Academy – School for Autism," at La Hacienda Center in The Villages on January 16, 2010. Tickets are \$5.00 per person. Donations will be gratefully appreciated. We have also asked all of the CFA clubs to help with supplies that the school needs to help students. We are sure many of our clubs will bring a number of items that will benefit their educational program.

Our new member and member renewals are in full swing. Most clubs are making an effort to have a strong new membership drive.

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Our 10th Annual Shamrock Swing Committee has met and many new and wonderful plans are being prepared for this event on March 19 & 20 at La Hacienda Center in The Villages. It appears that once again we will use three halls during the day on Saturday March 20 to accommodate all of the dancers. There will be Round Dancing, Mainstream, Plus, Advance workshop and dances from 1:00 to 5:00. Friday and Saturday nights our dance time will be from 7:30 until 10:30. Our callers are Tim Marriner & Bob Stern and Cuers are Jimmy & Carol Griffin. Hope to see many of you in attendance for this very special event.

Respectfully submitted.
Bob & Jennie Courter, Presidents

Northwest

Northwest Association would like to thank the Federation Delegates and each of the Associations that attended this years' Annual Round Up. We hope you enjoyed the weekend. If you have good or bad comments please drop it in the appropriate Complaint box.

Paul & I were honored to present (2) Presidential Awards this weekend, our recipients were; dancers Jack & Pat Lorusso for their outstanding work within the Northwest Square & Round Dance area, as well as Caller, Berlon Graham, for his contribution to promoting square dancing in our area. At the Northwest annual meeting it was an honor to have a past Northwest President, Tom Hancock, present the Presidential Award to Joe & Joy Vaccari, for their outstanding work toward the Northwest Square & Round Dance community.

The Northwest Association is doing well. On September 10 the Dancing Dolphins graduated their 2nd class and the club continues to grow. Northwest has several clubs holding classes in Milton, Fort Walton Beach, Panama City and Niceville. Our "Panhandle Press Benefit Dance" with a clothing recycle sale was a success. Clothing that was not claimed by donors are being turned over to the 2011 Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention to help raise funds. Speaking of fund raising for future Conventions, Northwest continues to look for ideas to make fund raising fun to help empty your pockets. Did you utilize my small project for Paul this weekend? The "Picture Perfect Spot" was an opportunity for our dancers to make some photo memories! Northwest donated the 50/50 from this weekend to the 2010 Convention. Northwest turned over \$305.00 from the 50/50 sales and \$114.00 from the "Picture Perfect Spots" to the 2010 Convention Treasurer.

On March 13th Panama City will assist with a Dinner Dance to benefit the 2010 Convention. Look for our Benefit Dance next June for the 2011 Convention. Northwest has prepared a basket for the upcoming West Coast " Fall Fun Fest" Silent Auction to

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be held in November. The 2011 Convention will be downloaded with clothing for a future fundraiser.

Pensacola Twirlers will have their Anniversary dance on November 10th. Pensacola's Ragon Hall will have a dance-off between Rounds & Squares on December 19th. The "Girls Gone Wild" tour featuring Terri Wilaby and Miriam Merriweather has declared an "If Square Dancers can dance to this music, Round Dancers can too"! This is sure to be a fun filled evening! We end our year in Pensacola at Ragon Hall for Seaside Squares "Annual New Year's Eve Dance".

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul & Cheryl Miller

FASSRD
(No Report)

14. Publications

Keepin' Posted

Our fourth issue of *Keepin' Posted*, October, 2009, was successfully printed and mailed by Bill and Randy Boyd.

We did have a problem when we were not informed of a change of specifications in postage mail rates, effective on May 11, 2009. Therefore, our publication was mailed under a more expensive postage category. There will be a few minor changes in preparing *Keepin' Posted* to have it categorized as a folded self-mailer. Therefore, the rate should revert back to the one before the May 11th change. We met with Tony Gulotta, Mailing Requirements Clerk at the Central Florida USPS Distribution Center in Lake Mary who explained everything about the new specifications of preparation and mailing our booklet.

There are continued increases in club news, articles of interest, and paid ads. We expect these increases to continue and will do our best to continue to present an interesting and informative *Keepin' Posted*. We have received a few comments on the magazine, both pro and con, which shows us that people are reading the publication and show an interest in 'their' magazine.

Respectfully submitted,
Dick and Jeanne Lysobey, Editors

Panhandle Press
(No Report)

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The Grapevine

Charlie and I, along with *The Grapevine*, are pleased to announce the addition of another square dance magazine to our publishing family. The *NSDCA Times* is the official publication of the National Square Dance Campers Association. We were approached for this position as a result of the Board of Directors being introduced to *The Grapevine*. They were pleased with the format and quality, and so asked us to take on the publication in July. Our first issue was in September. While the two magazines are similar in many aspects and purpose, they also have different target audiences and circulation. It is our goal that each magazine will have a positive impact on the other, causing each to improve with every printing.

The US Postal Service has again touched how *The Grapevine* does business. The annual permit charge continues to rise, as it has each year since we became editors. The most recent change came in how each issue is tabbed for mailing. Effective September 8th, all items using standard mailing privilege (bulk mail) were to have additional tabs and placement would be altered. In reviewing the documents for this change, it was noted that the category for our magazine had also been changed. Regardless of our adherence to the design requirements for letter mail, we learned that *The Grapevine* was actually classified as a booklet, and always had been. Being a booklet holds us to a different set of guidelines for mailing. We must now keep the size of the magazine at 3 oz or below in order to keep our mailing costs at a minimum. Unfortunately, we did not learn of these new changes until the October issue had been printed and ready for mailing. Therefore, as this issue weighed more than the allowed ounces, it had to be placed in an envelope and mailed at a rate which was 3 times higher than our usual costs. The result of this change is that future issues of *The Grapevine* will contain no more than 64 pages.

We will continue to print news about the State and National Conventions, and ads for each Associations' annual festival. Our advertisers continue to be critical partners, as it's through their support that the magazine is able to remain in the black, by even the slightest margin. We will strive to keep the impact of these changes to a minimum and look to our readership for their input on whatever changes will be made. Everyone's suggestions, ideas, and comments are appreciated as we continue to produce a quality magazine for our readers. Remember, your publication can only be news worthy if the Editors receive the news!

Sincerely,
Sarah Pergrossi, Editor

West Coast Dancer

(Report given by Lance Baxter)

From time to time I've been asked, "Why do we not mail the copies of the West Coast Dancer to the members of our association?" So I took a look at what would be involved using the Postal Bulk Mailing system.

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The post office permit would cost about \$380 per year. We would have to use a printing company that has a collating, folding, and closer tab facility. Printing cost would be higher than using the current "quickie type" printer we now use. Therefore, to stay within the budget; we could only afford to mail copies to our West Coast Association members. We have about 700 members and if we assume the majority are couples, we would mail 350 copies. Since we distribute over 2000 copies during peak season, over 1500 copies would not reach the non-association members, the club guests, the snowbirds, and those who depend on the printed copy for their information.

Now, to change subjects: regarding the reciprocal association yearly dance ads; I think I have been receiving and printing the ads from each association. I do not want to miss any so if each editor would give me a heads-up by email I'd appreciate it.

Send the ad via e-mail or if it is on the Florida Federation website let me know and I can download it.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ed Henning, Editor

15. State Convention Reports
2009 (hosted by Central)

We weren't anxious to accept this chairmanship but thought it was our turn. We had enjoyed over twenty state conventions helping in some capacity since 1988 whenever Central Association hosted the event. We liked being involved. We discovered it is best not to be in a hurry to fill all the chairman positions. We did not coax or nag someone to take a position. Going with the theory if they want to do it they will do a better job. For the most part we let them do their own thing. For the committees that required many workers, we asked clubs to chair the committee. The president at the time usually took the job as chairman. We did give all the chairmen a copy of the last five or six final reports covering their area. Some people forgot we gave them this information and others lost interest when it was time to start working. We had individual meetings and one annual meeting at the state convention each year. This was good for the volunteers but some committees did require knowing what another committee was doing. We continually communicated by cell phone and email. Remind your chairman all accidents need to be reported to the General Chairman.

Bruce and Colleen Morgan, our Assistant General Chairman, were well rounded in all aspects of the State Convention. They were in on most decisions and willing to help with any tasks we asked them to do. They were always standing by the phone or computer ready to give advice or be of assistance.

We were fortunate to have Jim and Jan McConnaha who liked dealing with the convention center staff. So, a Facility Chairman position was developed. This

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removed a tremendous amount of work from us. He and Jan were also working with the Central Florida Visitors & Convention Bureau on pursuing a grant for our convention. This was "easy money". Just putting their logo on every piece of advertising we did. Jim & Jan did all the leg work and it brought in a tidy sum.

Ads in the program book are also an important money maker. It is suggested a letter be sent to all the hotels in Lakeland explaining that a hotel taking an ad in the program book for this year's convention will have their name and phone number printed on the next years registration form and be distributed throughout the state. Now that we are a state wide run convention; one convention would be helping the next one.

Registrations were slow coming in and the numbers were less than we had hoped, but the enthusiasm of the 815 attendees made up for those not attending.

Our Sew & Save was placed closer to the dancers in a room that could be locked. It was well visited. They held their own fundraisers to fund their giveaways and also contacted sewing businesses for anything they would be willing to donate.

We had a volunteer to be the Fashion Show Chairman. This person had a great idea. A comedy show was planned and the show was to be part of the evening entertainment. Life happens and this person was unable to continue. We decided to cancel the show altogether.

We discovered it was not possible to announce the names of the entire board for all the organizations marching in the grand march; therefore, we suggest only the organization and president and vice president's names be announced. To get more participation for the convention we asked each club to provide two couples and the club banner to be in the grand march. The participating clubs were announced from the stage. We were very pleased with the number of clubs that participated. Dancers love their club and want to be recognized. We also suggest participants should be seated for the opening ceremonies and announcements then dismissed for the grand march.

We personally feel a convention outfit, decorations and a theme are part of a state convention. The dancers get in the spirit of the weekend. It sets the convention apart from a weekend dance. We chose not to make any money from the poodles and the blouses. We wanted as many dancers as possible to be a part of the party. The 50's music put many dancers in a nostalgic state of mind and they overlooked small annoyances and problems.

We want to thank everyone who supported us by buying raffle tickets, attending the party weekend and most of all those who attended the convention.

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Now, we will present the Federation with a check. We should give them \$4,467.00, but they ran up a tab with us so they will only get \$2,867.15. We will also give them a check for \$4,500.00, which is monies the Federation, Callers and Cuers are putting into the future convention seed money.

Respectfully submitted,
Randy & Carol Poole, General Chairman

2010 Florida State Convention

The State Convention is moving right along on schedule. All the committee chairs are working very hard and we appreciate all they are doing. We are trying to visit as many areas and dances as possible. If we are not able to visit one of the special dances, please understand that it is difficult to go to everything, both for distance and financially. By the way you will be seeing the other member of our family as it is cheaper to bring him with us than to leave him at the vets, and he will have his Holiday outfits.

I want to thank all the Associations for participating in the Kick Off. We thought it was great. It was simple, but yet it got the theme across and I think the audience enjoyed it. It also served as a mini Fashion Show and I expect to see many dancers copying the costumes of the Turkey and the Easter Bunny. They were priceless.

Fund raising is going along a little at a time. Everyone knows that all of our hopes were dashed after the grocery coupons fell thru. We did not come out as bad as I thought we would. Most of the dancers were very generous and donated the money towards the Convention. We really appreciate their generosity. We refunded everyone who requested the money back. Most of the people that wanted their money back were non-dancers and I expected their requests for the return of their money. We would like to thank all the Associations for their fund raising efforts. But we still have a way to go. Cheryl has come up with some new and better ways to fund all the upcoming Conventions. If any Association has a fund raising event planned, please let us know.

One of the ways everyone can help is getting ads for the the program book. Jack and Kathy will be working with each Association to help with these ads.

We attended the Callers meeting two weeks ago and were able to sit in on the callers selection process. We were really pleased with the Callers that were chosen and the times they were given. The Callers wanted to make sure that the dancers had the very best Callers available to them. We have come up with two things that are just a little different. On Friday night we are going to let the Callers and Cuers introduce the new Green and White Badges. They get overlooked and everyone needs to know who they are and to support, and encourage them when they call and cue. The other thing is on Saturday afternoon. We will have competition dancing in the Plus Hall. Four great

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Callers will be calling continuously for an hour. There will be two sessions during this hour. Other Callers will be judges and they will be watching you. If a square makes a mistake they will have to sit down. The square that survives from each session will have a dance off to determine the winners. We hope this is fun and everyone will like to try. The official rules will be explained by the Callers.

We have the traveling artifacts to distribute today. We had a little difficulty because each box has it's own theme and that meant 5 different boxes. We would like to thank Bill Dion, Wayne Miller and their wives for all their hard work and creativity. We hope you will take them to each dance and club in your area to encourage the dancers to come to the New State Convention. Also encourage them to wear their Holiday outfits from now thru the Convention in May, where EVERYDAY'S A HOLIDAY WHEN YOU'RE DANCING.

Anita asked Jim McConnaha to update everyone on the facilities. Jim said the facilities contract has been signed for 2010. He'd hoped to put together a deal where the Federation would sign a 3-year contract and lock in prices, but did not get it accomplished. He will continue working for the 3-year contract and hopefully have it worked out by the working weekend.

Jack McKinney talked about the Corporate Sponsors program, hoping that it would get ready for 2010. But, he said we are continuing to sell ads and booster names for the program book, and passed out ad forms to all the associations. He encouraged everyone to sell ads and booster names stating that it helps greatly to raise this money to help support the State Convention.

Val Newsome advised that at the Northeast Fall Festival they would be holding a Silent Auction to benefit the 2010 State Convention. Bring your money and bid on your favorite item to help raise more funds for the 2010 State Convention.

Don Slocum advised that they would be holding a Basket Silent Auction at the Fall Fun Fest to raise funds for the 2010 Convention and would accept baskets from anyone.

Bud Taylor wound up by encouraging all associations to visit clubs in your area and help us in getting registrations. If you'll help us get the people there, we promise you'll have a good time.

Respectfully submitted
Bud & Anita Taylor, General Chairman

2011 Florida State Convention

All of our Chairmen positions are filled.

Fund raising is the big push right now:

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One of our main fund-raising efforts is the square dance clothing and the response has been OVERWHELMING! We were expecting a single outfit from each dancer, but we have received bags and boxes full of clothing from all over the state. Everyone must be cleaning out their closets. Lorraine Walton has been listing the clothing on E-bay for sale. So far, we have received a check for about \$300. Hopefully, this will continue and will prove to be a good fund-raising effort.

The grocery and gas coupons were a bust, as they were for all concerned. However, the 57th got involved late, so our losses were low.

We are selling raffle tickets for a \$500 pre-paid VISA card to be given away at the 2010 convention.

At the Working Weekend in February, the dance on the 27th will benefit the 57th FSDC and will be held at Whirl & Twirl. Bob Stern and Roland Morin will be calling with Phyllis Williams cuing. We are hoping to have other callers and cuers offer their services also.

The Fun Weekend will be held April 16, 17 and 18. The callers are Bob Stern, Roland Morin and Bill Chesnut. Dick and Darlene Nordine will be cuing.

One of the biggest challenges is when and where to hold meetings. With folks coming from all over the state, we have been trying to hold meetings when we'd all (or most of us, anyway) be together for another event. Therefore, our next meeting will be held in Lakeland during the Winter Fest in January, place and time TBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Captains Terri Little and Ailene Picheco
AAAAAARRRRRRGGGGG!!!!

2012 Florida State Convention

Planning for the 2012 Convention is underway. We have many of the critical positions filled; but we can always use additional help. We still have some positions open and would ask anyone that would like to participate with us to please let us know your wishes.....we are not mind readers.

We have our logo and are working on badge designs and hall sign designs.

Respectfully submitted,
Garland & Carole McKenzie, General Chairman

16. Florida Square Dance Hall of Fame (No Report)

Shirley Nihart questioned the amount paid to the Hall of Fame out of the Convention

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funds. She said they had turned over the records to the new Chairman in April, but as of September 30th, they were still receiving the bank statements, indicating the records had not been changed. Is the correct amount \$156.88, and where did the figure come from. **A motion was made by Dewey Hendricks that before the working weekend and before any further reimbursement is made to the Hall of Fame, this matter be resolved. It was seconded and motion carried.**

17. Historian Records (report read by Val Newsome)

The scanning of the area publications is complete with what was stored in the History Storage Room. There are still a lot of issues missing. The Grapevine, The Panhandle Press and the 4 W's are complete and the Northeast and Southeast Associations have searched to no avail for copies of the missing issues. The West Coast is complete and, as far as I know, there are no issues missing. The Keepin' Posted is the last of the Association publications that I did. There were very few in the Storage Room. We are missing the March & April issues of 1990, the March issue of 1989 and all issues 1988 and before. The Bow & Swing was the most time consuming of all the publications. However, all issues in the storage room are now completed. We are missing quite a few issues. Here is a list of what I need. There are 2 issues from 1951 that I am missing. I do not know what the months are. I have March & June but I do know that there were 4 issues that year. I am also missing the following issues: November 1953, all of 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1988, 1989, 1990 & 1991. Also missing are January thru May of 1980, January thru August of 1992, October of 1995 and March of 1996.

There is still a lot of stuff in the Storage Room. I have no idea what you want to do with it. Most of the items I have no idea of how to put it out on the web and, at this point, I am not planning to do that. I have requested from Ray & Elsa, our incoming presidents, that we form a committee that will visit the Storage Room during the Breakout session of the Working Weekend and inventory what we have. They will then report at the Sunday Meeting with their suggestion as to what we should do with the remaining items. The Storage Room is paid for through May of 2010 and I do not see any need to have it any longer than that. But that can be decided at the Working Weekend Meeting after the Storage Room visit.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Morgan

18. Florida Website (report read by Val Newsome)

The web site is running along fine. As I reported at the Federation Meeting at the State Convention this past May, I converted the Federation Web site over to a yearly payment from a monthly payment for a savings of \$2.00 per month. I paid for the year at the rate of \$119.40. I paid for that and, as of yet, have not been reimbursed. I would

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normally have been reimbursed this coming May by the 56th Florida State Convention. That was in May. In June, I was having problems uploading some of the publications and I called Yahoo to inquire as to what the problem might be. I was told that although we had unlimited storage they reserved the right to limit the speed that we could grow that storage. Since I was exceeding that growth limit, they were stopping me from uploading but a few files a week. At the speed that they were limiting me, it would have taken me about 5 years to get all the issues on the web site. In addition, during the conversation, they learned that some of the files that I was uploading to the site were just being put there to store them for archive. That, I found out, is against their policies. They asked me to find another location to host www.floridasquaredance.com. Therefore, I contacted the board and asked their permission to switch over to GoDaddy.com for our hosting site. It was approved and on July 6th I contracted with GoDaddy.com to host our site. In order to get the cost down close to what we were paying with Yahoo I had to sign up for a total of 4 years. The total cost for this was \$513.00 for the 4 years. Since I did not want to fund the \$513.00 for a total of 4 years the Federation paid this bill. The main problem was that Yahoo's policy was that no matter when you cancelled their service there would be no refunds. Since we had just paid in May and it was the middle of July by the time that I got all the files transferred over to GoDaddy there was 10 months left on the Yahoo account that we did not use. Since we have paid for two different service providers, the invoice for the Web Account that will be delivered to the 56th Florida State Convention will be the \$119.40 from Yahoo that will be paid directly to me and ? of the \$513.00, or \$128.25, that will be paid to The Federation. Each of the next three year's Conventions will receive an invoice for the \$128.25. At that time we will have to renew the contract with GoDaddy and the price will probably increase just like everything else in this economy. Since we moved over to GoDaddy Annette Conk, the web master for The Dixie Dancers in Lake City, says that the upload speed is a lot faster and she is more satisfied with the service. I know that I am happier with the upload speed. Lisa Wall is having problems that we have not been able to work out as of yet. However, we are still working on it.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Morgan

19. USDA Report

Ray and I, along with Don & Ann Slocum, attended the USDA Board of Directors Annual Meeting in Long Beach, California on June 24, 2009. Highlights of this meeting are as follows:

Following various reports, the subject of competition square dancing was discussed at length. A resolution was proposed by the USDA Board of Directors recommending the initiation of organized competition dancing through the combined efforts of USDA, the National Square Dance Convention, Callerlab, education and recreational entities,

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homeschoolers, 4-H clubs, etc. The USDA Board also recommended encouraging affiliates to sponsor and promote competition dancing at local, regional and state levels and to support competition dancing during the National Square Dance Convention. Several delegates gave opinions either for or against the resolution. Some encouraged competition dancing hoping it would entice younger dancers and might allow for more media coverage. Those opposed rejected competition because it has never been done before and felt that square dancing was never intended to be a competition dance. They were also afraid competitive dancing would cause dissention within squares. Further discussion followed regarding removing the word "youth" from the proposed resolution where it referred to "youth" dance competition. A motion was made and accepted to remove the word "youth" from the proposed resolution. Following a vote of delegates present, the resolution was accepted which incorporated the omission of the word "youth."

It was announced that the discount prescription program was not strongly supported by dancers, and USDA only receives 25 cents for each use. Delegates were requested to urge dancers to compare prices in an effort to get dancers to use this benefit.

It was also announced that long term care insurance was no longer feasible. A motion was made and passed that this program be discontinued.

We were advised that due to minimal use, the on-line shopping mall was being discontinued.

New officers were elected and installed, but there was no secretary to replace the outgoing one. Our own Tom and Miriam James were acknowledged for the great job they have done for the handicapables in putting together a new handicapable tri-fold.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray & Elsa Huddleston and Don & Ann Slocum

20. USDA Insurance

Beginning Balance April 30, 2009 \$

Income

Central	\$	
Northeast	\$	
Northwest	\$	
Southeast	\$	
West Coast	\$	
FASSARD	\$	
Total Income	\$427.35	\$

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Expenses

USDA Insurance	\$	
Admin Expense	\$	
Central Assn. Overpayment	\$	_____
Total Expense	\$	\$

Ending Balance September 30, 2009 \$

As of 9/30	Clubs	Dancers
Central	20	889
Northeast	16	513
Northwest	1 + 8	274
Southeast	1 + 1	90
West Coast	10	446
FASSARD	1	18
Totals	3 + 57	2230

Four accidents have been reported for the year. No claims have been filed.

We have a new Insurance Chairman serving the Northeast Association, Linda Tester from Jacksonville Beach.

Most of the Insurance Chairman are trying to do more through email to save on printing and postage.

The new rate will be \$4.45 per person.

Submitted by
Randy & Carol Poole
Federation Insurance Chairman

21. ASCAP/BMI

We have not received an increase above the .078 per attendant from ASCAP, however, the minimum amount has been increased to \$90.00. Cost to BMI should be received sometime in January 2010.

I will inform ASCAP and BMI of the new Federation contact before January 2010, and all future information will be received by them.

Respectively submitted,
Dave & Shirley Nihart

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22. ARTS (report read by Cheryl Miller)

The 2009 Fall ARTS meeting was held in Newark, NJ on Sunday, October 11, 2009.

Following are the highlights of that meeting:

(1) Election of officers - the following were elected as the officers for the next year:

Chairman - Jim Weber - Member USDA

Vice Chairman - Ron Holland - President – SSDUSA

Treasurer - Edythe Weber - Member USDA

Secretary - Jerry Reed - Member CALLERLAB and also ARTS Executive Director

(2) The ARTS information Backgrounder was briefly discussed. This is an information sheet for Dance organization, clubs and Dancers to use in promoting our dance activities. The file is available for download from the ARTS web site:

<http://www.arts-dance.org/>

(3) The Web Site & Video Project. This project will result in a web site featuring the three forms of dancing under the ARTS umbrella: 1) Rounds, 2) Traditional (Contra), and 3) Squares. There will also be three 2-minute videos (DVDs), one for each facet of the activity. The web site is designed to attract non-dancers to the activity and to provide information about each facet. Roy Gotta reported the web site template is complete, so that input of data can begin. Filming for the videos will begin Monday, October 12th in a studio in New Jersey. The plan is to complete the project by the end of the year.

(4) Each of the organization reps attending the meeting provided a status report of the activity from the perspective of their organization. These reports will be available with the minutes of the meeting. Overall, the reports were positive.

Submitted by Ailene Picheco
as documented by Jerry Reed (ARTS Secretary)

23. Old Business

Federation Nomination Committee

Dewey Hendricks, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, called on Dave Henn who read a letter from the Northwest Association board nominating Paul & Cheryl Miller for the position of Parliamentarian on the Federation Board. Dewey then advised that the Nominating Committee consisting of Val Newsome (NE), Dave Henn (NW), with Dewey Hendricks as Chairman (C), were happy to present the following persons as nominees for 2010 Federation Officers: President, Ray & Elsa Huddleston; Vice-President, Charlie & Val Newsome; Secretary, Bob & Maria Spence; Treasurer, Jack & Barbara Hoffman; and Parliamentarian, Paul & Cheryl Miller.

President Paul Miller asked for nominations from the floor. **Donna Hendricks moved that the nominations be closed and the secretary cast one ballot for each nominee. It was seconded, and the motion carried.**

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24. NEW BUSINESS

a. INSTALLATION

The newly elected officers were installed by Tom Hancock, assisted by Jack Taylor.

b. PRESENTATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

Elsa Huddleston presented the outgoing presidents, Paul & Cheryl Miller, with a special gift and a picture plaque in appreciation for all their dedicated service to square dancing.

Paul & Cheryl then presented each of the board members with gifts in appreciation of the many years spent together working for the Federation.

Elsa Huddleston recognized Carol & Bobie Hutcheson for their years of service as delegates and in appreciation of all their help.

c. Anita Taylor said she'd been approached by several ladies about the possibility of a new State Outfit in time for the next National Convention. Elsa asked her to chair a committee and get two or 3 people from other associations to work with her and bring a proposal to the working weekend. Guidelines need to be set, but if you submit an outfit that would also be okay.

d. Randy Poole stated that he had found the missing money for the Hall of Fame. He had asked the Treasurer what they'd paid, and had used that amount of \$156.88, which he discovered was for a plaque. The Hall of Fame spent \$142.00 so the Federation owes them that amount.

e. It was reported that the Treasurer's books were audited, found to be in order and passed to the new Treasurer.

25. Next Meeting will be at the Florida Federation "Working Weekend", to be held Saturday & Sunday, February 27th & 28th, 2010 at 9:00 a.m., in the LaQuinta Inn in Orlando, FL.

26. Meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie & Val Newsome, Secretary



DANCE YOUR WAY TO A BETTER LIFE

All forms of physical activity are good for the mind, body, and soul, and Square Dancing is no exception. DoSaDo on a regular basis contributes to the following:

- **Cardiovascular Fitness** - Dancing, (Round, Contra/Traditional or Square Dance), is a safe way to exercise. The moves are interesting, but the level of exertion is up to each participant. Rev up for a high intensity workout or take it slow and easy for a relaxing, yet beneficial workout. Dancing regularly can lead to a slower heart rate, lower blood pressure and an improved cholesterol profile.
- **Heathly Environment** - Square Dancing clubs are smoke and alcohol free. This allows the participants to concentrate on the calls and socialize in a safe environment.
- **Body and Brain Boost** - Square, Round and Contra/Traditional dancers react to the calls as they are given. This forces the body and brain to be tightly coordinated. A number of calls are memorized which helps keep the mind sharp.
- **Calorie Burn** - Dancing burns between 200 and 400 calories in thirty minutes of dancing - that's equivalent to walking, swimming or riding a bike.
- **Distance** - The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports recommends 10,000 steps per day to maintain physical fitness. It is estimated that a typical dancer can expect to clock 9,000 to 10,000 steps per dance.
- **Sturdy Bones** - The side-to-side movements of dancing strengthen weight-bearing bones, (tibia, fibula, and femur), and help prevent and slow the loss of bone mass.
- **Rehabilitation** - Square Dancing is a great way to get back in the swing of things if you are recovering from an injury. Dancing keeps your joints moving, and is a nice alternative to jogging or other high-intensity activities.
- **Social Aspects** - You never know who you're going to meet on the dance floor. Some types of dance, such as Contra, require you to switch partners every dance, so it's very easy to make friends. Lifetime friendships are formed and some even meet the love of their life. There are dancing groups for everybody - handicapped people, gay and lesbian groups, youth, singles and married couples.

CALLER'S CORNER

A Caller is a person who directs the dance pattern for Square and Contra Dances by calling the figures. This requires knowledge of the calls, a good sense of rhythm and an outgoing personality. Calling Square Dances can also involve singing. Years of training are needed to perfect calling skills.

A Cuer is a person who directs the dance patterns for Round Dancing. The Cuer must be able to deliver the cues in time for the Round Dancers to start on the correct beat or phrase of the music.



DANCING IS FOR EVERYONE

If you can walk, you can dance. The activity of Square, Round and Contra/Traditional Dancing welcomes all ages and ethnicities.

Community dance groups can be found all over the world.

Anyone with the desire to dance simply needs a little motivation to move and to find fellow dancers. Square Dancing has become so popular and well-liked that 33 U.S. States designated it their official state dance. Whether you are interested in Square, Round or Contra/Traditional, local dance groups are waiting for you to join the fun.

For information, check on the internet at www.arts-dance.org, or call toll-free, 866-445-ARTS, (2787)



WHAT WE STAND FOR

Individuals passionate about the Dance activity formed a coalition called ARTS, (Alliance of Round, Traditional, and Square Dance), to promote awareness and growth of contemporary Square, Round, Contra and Traditional Dance.

We invite you to join us in this fun, healthy and affordable activity. See for yourselves how worry and depression fade into the background along with the day-to-day stress of modern life.

WE HOPE YOU DANCE!

DANCING DEFINED

Round Dancing -
A ballroom type dance characterized by revolving movement where all dance the same steps in time with the music.
www.roundalab.com

Square Dancing -
Modern Square Dancing in which four couples form squares and dance as a group.
www.dosado.com

Contra/Traditional Dance -
Several folk dance styles in which couples dance in two facing lines, and other formations.
www.contralab.net

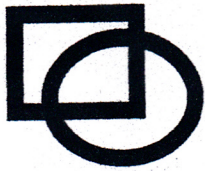
To locate fellow dancers in your area and learn how to dance, please call 1-866-445-ARTS (2787), visit www.arts-dance.org or contact _____

HISTORICAL TIMELINE

1400's and 1500's	Round and Square Dancing appear in all parts of Europe.	1600's	Across all levels of society dancing groups were abundant under the name "English country dance."
1651	The first book about Square and Round Dancing, - "The English Dancing Master", - Plain and easy rules for the dancing of country dances, with tunes of each dance was published in 17 editions between 1651 and 1728, and contained 918 dances.		
1700's	Contra Style Dancing becomes the most favored form of dancing.		
Early 1800's	Square or Quadrille becomes the most popular form of dancing and a mainstay of the upper class.	Late 1800's	Western Dance s disrupted by Ragtime and Jazz and is only performed by laggards in New England, Appalachia and the American West.
1920's	Henry Ford revives the old style of dancing and builds a ballroom in Michigan. There he hires a dancing master, Benjamin Lovett, to run classes.	1926	Henry Ford and Benjamin Lovett publish "Good Morning", a book that provided inspiration and material on dancing.
1939	Dr. Lloyd "Pappy" Shaw publishes the first definitive book on Western Square Dancing, "Cowboy Dances".		
1916 - 1951	"Pappy" Shaw is Superintendent of Cheyenne Mountain School in Colorado Springs and teaches his students to dance. A talented group of his students tours the United States, thus creating great interest in Square Dancing. Square Dancing finally takes off and grows like wildfire.		
1952	The first National Square Dance Convention is held in Riverside, CA drawing more then 5,000 dancers.		
1974	CALLERLAB, The International Association of Square Dance Callers holds its first convention.	1976	The national convention is held in Anaheim, CA and attracts nearly 40,000 dancers.
1977	ROUNDALAB, the International Association of Round Dance teachers is organized.		
1981	The United Square Dancers of America is formed to serve the needs of dancers throughout the United States.		
1986	CONTRALAB, The International Association of Contra Callers, is formed.	2003	The Alliance of Round, Traditional and Square-Dance, Inc. (ARTS-Dance) is formed.

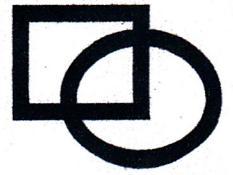
FUN FACTOIDS ABOUT SQUARE DANCING

- Benjamin Lovett, a master of dance, was the first caller to be recorded.
- The first Square Dance record producer was Thomas Edison (Henry Ford requested he record Benjamin Lovett calling Square Dances).
- One of the first musicals to feature Square Dancing was "Let's Dance."
- America's favorite family, The Bradys, Square Danced several times in their living room.
- Square Dancing has been featured on television cartoons; Bugs Bunny is a noted example.



Northwest Florida Square & Round Dance Association

Clubs located in: Fort Walton Beach, Milton, Niceville,
Panama City, Pensacola and Tallahassee.



September 12, 2009

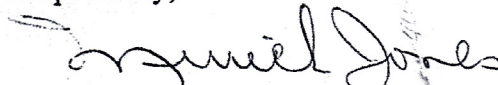
Florida Federation of Square Dancers
Attn: D. ey Hendricks, Nomination Chairman
5150 Mt. Plymouth Road
Apopka, FL 32712

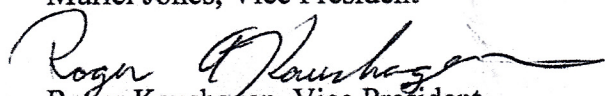
Re: Northwest Florida Nominee for the
Federation Board

Dear Mr. Hendricks and the Florida Federation of Square Dancers,

Northwest Florida Square & Round Dance Association would like to nominate Paul & Cheryl Miller for the position of Parliamentarian on the Federation Board. This couple is dedicated to the success of square and round dancing in Northwest. They have served as Presidents of Northwest for 6 years as well as completing their previous 5 year term on the Florida Federation Board.

Respectfully,


Muriel Jones, Vice President


Roger Kaushagen, Vice President

cc: Sandra & Jerry Williams, Secretary
Northwest Florida Square & Round Dance Association.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
NOVEMBER 1, 2009

PRESIDENT	RAY & ELSA HUDDLESTON
VICE-PRESIDENT	CHARLIE & VAL NEWSOME
SECRETARY	BOB & MARIA SPENCE
TREASURER	JACK & BARBARA HOFFMAN
PARLIAMENTARIAN	PAUL & CHERYL MILLER

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY
THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

DEWEY HENDRICKS, CHAIRMAN
VAL NEWSOME & DAVID HENN