

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS
Lake Morton Room, Lakeland Civic Center, Lakeland, FL
Sunday, May 27, 2012 – 9:00 a.m.

1. Meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by President Bob Spence.
2. Invocation was given by Jerry Robey.
3. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Jack Hoffman.
4. Roll Call was performed by Secretary Paul Miller, a quorum was present.
5. Introduction of Visitors & Guests were welcomed by President Maria Spence, guests present were Joe & Carol Borbas, Southeast Vice President Larry Zukerman, Jessica Green, Dick & Sarah Lee.
6. **Minutes of February 12, 2012** meeting were accepted. Motion made by Randy Poole, seconded by Ken Brasfield. Motion passed.

7. Treasurer's Report (See attached report.)

Treasurer's report was reviewed by Anita Taylor, Federation Treasurer with Delegates. Anita stated that a recent change to the Convention Fund will be noted in the upcoming future reports regarding the Disbursement to The Lakeland Center in the of \$3,000.00 as a deposit for the 59th State Convention was applied as follows:

\$1000.00 59th FSSRDC (Deposit)

\$1000.00 60th FSSRDC (Deposit)

\$1000.00 61st FSSRDC (Deposit)

Therefore, this will change the "Other Assets" as of 5/15/2012 to be:

\$3500.00 59th FSSRDC

\$3500.00 60th FSSRDC

\$1000.00 61st FSSRDC

President Bob Spence stated the Treasurers report will be filed for audit.

Treasurer Anita Taylor stated that the Wells Fargo CD will be coming up for renewal in July and she will renew it for (2) more years as well as transfer \$2000.00 from the checking account to increase the value of the CD. Currently Wells Fargo has the best rate and the bank is throughout the state of Florida for access.

8. Parliamentary Report

After some struggle, we were able to get the updated information from each of the Associations for the Showcase of Ideas display.

The display has been set up in the hallway for everyone to look at. The Hoffmans will be loading it up in their vehicle at the conclusion of this convention to transport it to Nationals in Spokane.

Penny Green, Parliamentarian

9. Sunshine Report; Vice President Barbara Hoffman reported Elvin Mahan, past President of West Coast & Madeline Augenblick, Cuer had passed away. The Federation had given Sympathy cards to both their families, as well as Get Well card to Charlie & Val Newsome. Penny Green reported that Ed Henning recently had surgery.

10. Correspondence; Secretary Paul Miller, stated that a letter was sent to Governor for the Square Dance Proclamation, we have not received the Proclamation yet, however, as soon as it arrives we will forward copies to all the Association Presidents and Publications.

11. Florida Caller Liaison - No Report

12. Florida Cuer Liaison – No Report

13. Association Reports

Northwest Association

Life is good in Northwest Florida! Capitol Squares in Tallahassee graduated 26 new dancers on May 7, 2012. Rivertown Squares, a new Club in Bristol, Fl. is growing and they just joined the Northwest Association. They recently graduated a new class of 13 dancers and are starting a new class soon. Agape Squares in Niceville graduated a class earlier this year and just started another new class as well.

We have three new amateur callers in Northwest Florida that are really coming along. It is really exciting to see the progress they are making.

There are two really FUN DANCES coming up in the Panhandle in the month of June. The Billy Bowlegs Dance is going to be held on June 2nd @ PASARDA Hall in Ft Walton Beach. On June 9th @ Ragon Hall in Pensacola, The Fiesta of Five Flags Dances will go down. There are other fun dances coming up in July & August. The Northwest Association Roundup is scheduled for the last weekend in October. We are moving the Roundup from DeFuniak Springs to Niceville this year.

As usual, one or more of the Northwest Clubs dance almost every night of the week and there are fun dances almost every Friday night at Ragon Hall in Pensacola and other sites in our area. No matter where you are this month, get out and dance!!!!

Alec & Kay Schmidt, President Northwest Association

West Coast

Since the Working Weekend, West Coast has been very busy as this has been our peak time of the year with all our seasonal clubs dancing.

On February 15th, for about the 20th year in a row, 287 dancers, 11 callers, and 3 cuers danced at the Florida State Fair in Tampa. Our dancing is always held on Wednesday on Senior Day and dancers come from far and near to dance and visit the State Fair.

On Monday, February 27th the Polk Senior Games were held in Lake Wales. Square dancing has been an event of the Polk Senior Games for approximately five years. It started out with only one or two squares and each year the number of participants has increased. The Space Coast Chicks, an all-female square which includes Judy Anderson and Ailene Picheco, won first place in Mainstream. The Baxters were a part of the second place Plus square, and the Slocums were in the Advance square. You do not have to be a resident of Polk County to participate; you just have to be 55+ and a complete square must be registered together. The competition was followed by a free square dance which was well attended.

We are researching new ways of advertising square dancing such as billboards, television spots, and ads on city buses. The first step, of course, will be to research prices for these different mediums. We hope to have more to report on this initiative at the next meeting.

The merger of Hampton Promenaders and Buttons & Bows of Lakeland has been deemed a success. Their membership has more than doubled between the merger and the last two classes. Attendance has increased due in part to the terrific job our banner chairman is doing scheduling at least two raids or

retrievals per month. Another thing that has been tried is more communication with the members through emails and phone calls. Reminder emails are sent to all the members prior to each dance and those without email receive a phone call. Other emails are sent to notify members of illness and death of current and former members, special events, and any other information that needs to be relayed to the membership. For the past two years the club has been a seasonal club, but in 2013 they will go back to being a year-round club. Two or three years ago a pictorial membership directory was created which includes birthdays, anniversaries, the dance schedule, local and summer addresses, history of the club, a list of past presidents, and a list of when members joined the club. This helps members put names with faces and also provides a central point for club history.

We were saddened by the loss of our good friends Elvin Mahan, past West Coast president, on April 24th, and Dick Fisher, husband of cuer Karen Fisher on May 5th.

The recipient of our first scholarship, Trevor Dunn, grandson of caller Sam Dunn, has graduated from college and is employed full time at Alan Jay Automotive in Sebring and part time at Red Lobster in Sebring. He works so many hours that he now doesn't have time for square dancing!

Jenny Green, the recipient of our second scholarship, has graduated from Keiser University in Lakeland and will be receiving her Associate's degree in Health Services Administration on June 8th. She will return in July to work on her Bachelor's degree in Accounting. A requirement of receiving the West Coast scholarship is to promote square dancing at the student's school. Whenever Jenny was given an assignment to write a paper or make an oral presentation, the subject was square dancing. She was unsuccessful in scheduling a demo at the school last year, but another one has been scheduled for Saturday, June 2nd. This will be done during a school sponsored event which will include several other activities.

Our membership in the West Coast Association currently stands at 520 members.

The DANCERgram has become a valuable tool in communicating information out to the dancers. The distribution list for the DANCERgram is also used to notify dancers of illnesses and deaths; send reminders about West Coast membership dances, the state convention, and the Fall Fun Fest; and notify dancers of changes in dance schedules and callers and cuers for a dance. A reminder just before a big dance seems to improve the attendance.

Our annual VIP dance will be held August 19th at Strawberry Square Dance Center in Plant City. Red Bates will be calling and Charlie Lovelace will be cueing. This is a free dance to everyone, is the kick-off for our Fall Fun Fest and we recognize all the volunteers who help keep our activity strong in our area.

Our President's Ball will be September 9th, also at Strawberry Square, with Keith Stevens calling and Jimmy and Carol Griffin cueing. We will be introducing the new officers at this dance and it appears that the majority of the Board will be staying on for a third term.

The 38th Annual Fall Fun Fest will be held in Bartow on November 9th & 10th with Jack Lewis and Red Bates calling and Charlie Lovelace cueing. Karen Fisher was originally scheduled to cue for this weekend but when her husband was diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer, she had to cancel and Charlie agreed to step in. Ribbons are available and the Slocums, Baxters, and I all have ribbons.

Our annual charity dance for the past 25 years has been to raise funds for the Parents Group of the McDonald Training Center in Tampa. Due to a change in management of the organization, they have notified us that they no longer want us to continue with this dance. A committee has been formed to identify a new charity and the first Sunday in November is being held at Strawberry Square for this dance.

If you're ever in our area, please visit one of our dances. We love having visitors!
Penny Green, President

Central Florida Association

The Shamrock Swing was a big success again this year and now we are looking forward to next years. We have Jack Pladdys and Don Hanhurst calling and Lorretta Hanhurst and Mike Hanhurst doing the Rounds. The Shamrock Swing will be held March 15 and 16, 2013, at the LaHacienda Center in the Villages. This year we are changing the format a little and adding more advance dancing in the second hall.

The Party Weekend held at the Deerhaven Retreat & Conference Center near Paisley is now history. There was beautiful weather. Yes, there was rain but no one cared. We needed the rain and it was a blessing. The rain did not hinder the activities one bit. The chefs did an outstanding job. The food was delicious. Two super callers entertained us each night. Bob Poyner & Charlie Pergrossi were so enthusiastic that everyone could not help but enjoy themselves. Several people were heard to say they hadn't danced this much in a long time. The round dancers enjoyed the cueing of Terri Wilaby. She was better than ever. Saturday night after the dance, she and Tim left for home because she had a class the next afternoon. Such dedication is certainly appreciated. The bingo game was so much fun. No one cared if they won or lost with the antics of the caller, Colleen Morgan. Everyone pitched in to help with the chores. It was a wonderful weekend enjoyed by all that attended. We thank everyone who came to share this weekend with us and the support they gave to the 2013 State Convention. With the poor camper support we have had the last two years we have no plans for a 7th Annual Party weekend to support the State Convention, However from this year's party weekend we will be giving the 2013 convention a donation of \$1,492.00.

The Yellow Rock Squares (Central Florida's handicapable club) is planning on going to the national handicapable square dance convention July 25-29, in Charleston SC if they can raise enough money. The ladies of the Moose have been having fund raisers to help with the transportation. The Central Association voted to donate \$500.00. If the Florida Federation would like to make a donation, I am sure that will be ok also.

Come join us at the City Island Recreation Center in Daytona Beach for our Fifth Saturday Dance on June 30 featuring the Central Florida Callers Association callers and Jan Shankle will cue. Early rounds start at 7 pm and squares at 7:30 pm.

Have a safe trip if you are going to Spokane and even if you are not.
Randy & Carol Poole

NORTHEAST ASSOCIATION

Another year of new square dancers is starting for 2012. We have gone to many graduations with just two more graduations to go. It so much fun to dance with the new dancers; look forward to dancing with them each week. Some clubs have already started with their plus classes, all the new dancers seem to be enjoying all the fellowship that goes with meeting all the members of the different clubs. I strongly suggest that the new dancers visit as many clubs as possible each week. It's great to see them at the special event dancers.

Lisa Wall will be moving out of our area in June. She has made such a big different in the square dance world and is a great cuer, she will be missed. I know she will be visiting often since her daughters will be staying. We had a good turnout for her farewell dance, and a good time was had by all. It was a good time visiting with all our square dancing friends from all over the state.

Upcoming dancers are all listed in the grapevine. You can also find them on line thegrapevine@pergrossi.com.

Hope to see you at the Nationals in Spokane, WA. There are several going from Florida, so you will meet your square dancing's friends there.

Hope to see you in a square soon. TAKE CARE & Happy Dancing
Respectfully Submitted, President of North East
Sam & Mary Starling

Southeast

The Southeast Association held 2 exciting dances recently.

The April fools day dance was also a Chinese auction (actually a silent auction) we raised money for the Association by having the dancers bring in items they no longer wanted. Almost everyone brought in many items. The only complaint was "not having enough time to raise the bid", because they were dancing. The other situation was "skunking" the caller. We tried to play an April Fool's trick on Jack Lewis. When he started calling, the last square left the room, followed by each square. Jack caught on, put down his mike, and followed them out the door. This left the square in front standing there wondering what was going on???

Our May dance was "Come Hawaiian" and almost everyone did. They helped decorate the hall the night before, and came dressed in moo-moo's and Hawaiian shirts. We also did the HULA.

Both dances were considered successful because of the themes and also because we are alternating the dances between Hollywood and Boynton Beach.

Our next dance is September 9, and will be a membership drive with a country/western theme. We will be holding it in Boynton Beach with Scotty Sharrer calling and Jack Lewis cueing. Our goal is to get most of Scotty's 32 new graduate's to join.

We now have a newsletter, which is being distributed at the dances. We made approximately \$315 on the resell of square dances clothes and that will be donated to 2013 Convention.
Zail Greenbain, President, SEFSRDA

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF SINGLE SQUARE & ROUND DANCERS

The Florida Singles is getting the finalization done for the *PARTY-RAMA DANCE WEEK-END* to be held this coming October 26th and 27th in Sebring, Florida. We are really excited about this particular dance because we do have some super great headliners to entertain us.

First off we have Tim Marriner – now how great is that, he's such a cutie. And coupled with him will be Florida's own Jack Lewis, another real cutie. They will start off both square dancing evenings with an opening duo, then Tim will remain in the Plantation Hall, the Mainstream/Plus Hall and Jack will move to the Cabaret Hall which is the Advance Hall. There will be musical highlights at 10:00 PM.

Starting off, at 7:00 PM each evening, will be Joanne & Ken Helton with an hour of great round dancing, phases II thru V. On Friday evening they will demo one of the dances they will teach on Saturday morning from 10:00 to 12:30. Then on Saturday evening they will showcase their fine dancing abilities with a round dance treat for us.

This year we have Sew-Em-Up Fashions as a vendor. Check them out here at this convention to see just how beautiful their clothes are – but wait until our dance to buy from them.

For many years the Singles have held their dances at the beautiful Historic Kenilworth Lodge in Sebring because we can stay and dance all in the same place, just walk down the hallway and there you are. No driving to another place to dance. The Kenilworth Lodge was built by George Sebring and first opened its doors in 1916. In the main entrance/lobby area there is a grand staircase which is the back drop for many a wedding picture. The ballrooms each have raised wooden floors, so easy for dancing. And each guest room has either a king bed or 2 full size beds with a TV and refrigerator. They also feature a heated swimming pool but if swimming is not your thing they have a billiards room, a ping pong table and even a shuffleboard court but, I'm sure, you'd rather dance – dance – dance. Oh yes, the Kenilworth features a nice continental breakfast, too.

It is wonderful to announce that the Florida Federation will hold their fall meeting on the Sunday morning after this dance. If you need reservation information there are flyers here, and please take flyers with you to promote this fun dance. In case you don't have your entrance ribbons, I have some with me now. *The FASSRD Dance is not just for Singles, we invite everyone including couples.*
Judy Anderson – FASSRD President

14. Publication Reports

The Grapevine

The Grapevine has been feeling under the weather lately due to our shrinking subscription numbers, but the Northeast Association made a bold decision at its last Delegates' Meeting which has given us reason to jump for joy. The Board and Delegates decided to provide a one year complimentary subscription to each of our new graduates. It was expressed how important it is to keep our newest dancers informed and that our regional publication is an excellent method to provide these new members with details of where to dance and the happenings in our dance community. The Northeast community also wants our new graduates to feel cared for, so we hope that this gift of information will help meet this goal. During this dancing season eleven of our regional clubs have graduated 44 new dancers and we are thrilled to see many of them in attendance at this year's State Convention.

As we enter into this period of transition from the 2012 State and National Conventions to the 2013 Conventions, *The Grapevine* will continue to print the publicity releases we receive, keeping our readers informed and encouraging their attendance. Many of our annual Association festivals are in the final planning stages as well. The Northeast is grateful to our fellow publications for printing our Fall Festival flyer, and *The Grapevine* will continue to reciprocate by publishing our fellow Associations' flyers. At our Association Meeting in April, I submitted my resignation as Editor of *The Grapevine*. The upcoming July/August/September issue will be my final publication. I will also be handing over the Joys & Concerns. At this time a new editor has not been selected nor has anyone volunteered to care for our Joys & Concerns. We feel confident that the right people will step up at the right time to fill these important roles. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve the square dance community these past 6 years. I offer my sincere gratitude to the dancers of the Northeast and the state of Florida for their support, assistance and compassion as I strived to fulfill these roles to the best of my abilities.

Sincerely,

SarahBeth & Charlie Pergrossi

Keepin' Posted	No Report
Panhandle Press	No Report
West Coast Dancer	No Report

Bow & Swing

Bow & Swing is still alive and well, most of all we are having fun. Someone recently noticed that I do not seem to take as many pictures as I used to, I don't need to, you all are sending them to us. Oh don't worry; I am still sneaking in several candid photographs for more creative captions. Speaking of captions, I notice that more and more of you are relying on your captions and for some reason not trusting our literary skills.

I would like to take this opportunity to plug the back of Bow & Swing and mention our where to dance section. As most of you know I feel that this is one of the lifeblood of our magazine. Yes, we charge \$15.00 per year for the listing. Yes, we try to keep it as current as possible. To this day I still receive calls saying, "Our club has quit dancing, I didn't know that the \$15.00 was for the where to dance." or words similar. I have had people say to me, it is the State Magazine; you should list all the clubs for free. That ain't gonna happen. My request to you is, please keep your information current. And please list your club and dance nights. We have requests from all over the United States for our magazine so when they reach Florida they can find a dance. I understand that this price will cost you three dancers a year, maybe four, but that is a small price to pay for advertising.

Commercial is over. We advertise your special charity fund raising dancers for free, send books to your new graduates for free, yes we even pay the postage. We print your club news for free and of course put in your photographs, captions optional.

Ladies and gentlemen next year let us set a goal for the equivalent of at least one square of dancers from every club, square or round dance club, in Florida to attend this Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention.

Bill Boyd, Editor

15. State Convention Reports

2012 STATE CONVENTION REPORT

WooHoo! We Made It! We would like to thank all of our committee people. We think you did a great job.

We would also like to thank the people who offered decorations from previous conventions. Originally we had not planned to have much in the way of decorations. Then we went to Mardi Gras last year and brought home a few things. We were also given items from the Camper Dancers Mardi Gras Camporee a couple of years ago and from the State Convention several years ago.

A big thank you goes out to the five Associations for their fund raising efforts. The e-bay clothing sales, Federation Benefit Dance and the Association contributions were what made it possible for us to pay the balance of the Convention Center rent. Hope we don't run out of square dance clothes to sell as those sales were almost 1/3 of the payment.

Ribbon sales were down this year going into the Convention. I did not have good data from 2011 so based on the 2010 data it appears we were down almost 50 pre-convention ribbon sales. Based on pre-Convention ribbons sales alone, even with the price increase, we would not have been able to pay the Convention Center 30 days in advance of the event. We have to keep the fund raising going. We know you don't like to hear that but those are the facts; otherwise we will have to make some drastic changes to the Convention.

On the topic of ribbons, when I ordered my ribbons I did not realize that we had lost the Vendor Badges somewhere along the way. We had them in 2006 but they did not have them in 2010 and 2011. Had I know this I would have ordered ribbons that just said VENDOR on them rather than the ones with the Convention logos. Also, for the callers and cuers I would suggest just ribbons with STAFF on them. In both cases, change the color each year. The Vendor and Staff ribbons will also be less expensive if ordered from Ribbons Galore.....can't speak for other ribbon sources.

If you have any bills to be paid please get them in to me today if you have them or as soon as possible. We have to prepare a "final report" on our finances to be submitted to the Central Visitors Bureau by the 15th of July.

We did have some issues with the Convention; the biggest issue was with the floors in the (2) Round Dance Halls and areas of the Plus Hall are very slippery. Don Slocum has been working on that to try and get it resolved. We suggest we let the Convention Center know not to wax the floor 2 weeks prior to our dance, to eliminate the shiny floors. We had a snap-foo with the "Program Books" they were not here on Friday and had not been printed Friday. Apparently, the "Insert (Schedule)" had been submitted as Program Book on the cover, so when the "ads Program Book" was sent for printing the cover stated "Program Book" and was overlooked as being printed. Bill & Randy Boyd went home Friday evening and the Program Books were here on Saturday morning. We have a lot of "Program Books" here this morning and I personally feel that everyone that sold a "Commercial Ad", please take a book and deliver it to the advertiser, so you can thank them for placing an ad and the advertiser can see their ad. As you patronize the advertisers personally thank them for their ad. This will help when we go and solicit ads from them in the next upcoming year.

We are now less than 12 hours from completing our reign. We have enjoyed the opportunity to do this again. We will work on a committee in the future but PLEASE do not ask us to be the Chairman.....The Answer is NO!

And now we would like to present the Federation with checks for our \$3500.00 seed money and the \$3,000.00 deposit on The Lakeland Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Garland & Carole McKenzie
2012 Convention General Chairmen

President Bob & Maria Spence presented Garland & Carole with a Thank you gift from the Florida Federation of Square Dancers; presented was an "Engraved Clock" at the State Convention Saturday evening. However, another gift had been purchased prior to the clock and we would like to present this gift to Garland & Carole McKenzie. Gift presented was a framed "Happy Mardi Gras" poster with their name & the date of this Convention.

2013 FSSRDC Report

Cheryl & I would like to thank Garland & Carole for a successful 58th State Convention. You both have taught us well; so we'll be able to carry the success to the 59th Convention.

Central Association, we enjoyed the fabulous "Party Weekend", it was the relaxation we needed prior to coming to the Convention.

Our Convention has begun. Our website is ready to be activated on Monday after this Convention. Cheryl has been working on a "Timeline" to keep us on track. This timeline was drafted on information received from Jim McConnaha & assistance from Carole McKenzie. Our Committees met on Saturday

and we are all headed in the right direction. The Kick Off rehearsal went well this morning (even for the sleepy heads!) We hope you will plan on attending our "Kick Off". We will have a special performance by the "Florida Boys". Don't forget to purchase your ribbons after our "Kick Off". Presales are \$30.00 per person and we still offer the MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

We ask that each Association President or representative please take the packets we have prepared for you. Each Association's packet includes "Convention Registration" forms, "Convention" flyer, "Trail In" flyers and Convention "Buttons". We ask that each Association purchase the buttons to be sold within your area. Our Convention "Registration Forms & Convention Flyer" have something new. We are giving the opportunity to dancers who love our hobby and can't travel any longer to the state Convention, to make a "Donation" to the Convention. Each donor will be listed in the Convention website & Program Book as "Convention Supporters". We are not asking for a certain amount for a donation and the amount of the donation will not be published (unless the donor requests that their donation be published). Of course, \$1.00 donations will be listed as "Boosters".

Publications please pick up your designated "Registration Forms" for insertion in (2) editions. Cheryl sent an email out to each of the Association publications to include a small "Registration" form in any monthly, quarterly editions between; September 2012 – February 2013. We received responses from each of the Association publication Editors, only 1 publication will be charging for the small registration form. We would like to thank the Publication Editors who agreed to publish the form at no charge to our Convention.

We would like to welcome Ailene Picheco as the 2013 Advertising Chairman and Lorraine & Vinnie Picora, as our Campers Liaisons and Jack McKinney as Photographer. We currently have positions available in Publicity, Entertainment and Northeast Ways & Means.

Paul & Cheryl Miller, 59th FSSRDC Chairmen

Registration Chairman Carol Poole came up and announced the 59th FSSRDC would like to give each of the (5) Associations and the Florida Singles Association (2) Convention complimentary ribbons to be used at their annual Association dances to promote the upcoming "2013 Life's a Beach" state Convention.

2014 FSSRDC

The initial kick-off meeting was held on Saturday, May 26 at 10:00 a.m. in the Lake Morton Room here at the Lakeland Center.

Committee members were introduced. Most of the positions have been filled. We are still in need of an assistant chairman, assistant cuer chairman, and a grand march chairman.

A financial report and budget were presented by our treasurer, Don Slocum. The seed money has been received from the Federation and the checking account has been established.

Don also reported on the three-year contract he has negotiated with the Lakeland Center for the 2013, 2014, and 2015 conventions.

Details of our convention were given to those in attendance. Two suggested variations of skirts for the convention were displayed and fabric was available for sale. Jenny has the fabric you can buy some or get a swatch from her. Ken & Sue Brown will be our Decorating Chairman and they have requested bubble wrap to make our diamonds, minimum size is 1'x1', any size bubbles can be used.

Our next meeting will be at the West Coast Fall Fun Fest in November. The time and location will be announced at a later date.

Penny and Jenny Green, Co-Chairman

2015 FSSRDC

Chairman to be named.

Facilities Report

All final arrangements were made with The Lakeland Center for this year.

A contract is signed for 2013, 2014 & 2015 for \$13,738.27 per year including sales tax. This number reflects;

(1) the base facility and equipment rent which will not change.

(2) the labors based on previous hours and current labor rates. Any variances in hours or rates will be reflected increasing or decreasing the final billing.

There is a \$1,000.00 deposit for each year advanced by the Federation, to be reimbursed at the end of each Convention. The Lakeland Center asked that we make some payments throughout the year leading to each Convention with the final payment due 30 days before the Convention. The room layouts are also due 30 days before the Convention.

To help avoid confusion all communications with the Lakeland Center are to go through the Facilities Chairman or Assistant, this includes the days of the Convention, Don's available by cell phone # 863 - 259 9877.

Currently: Don & Ann Slocum, Facilities Chairman

Lance & Rita Baxter, Assistant Facilities Chairman

Respectfully Submitted,

Don & Ann Slocum

The issue with slippery floor is being addressed with Brenda Townsend

16. Florida Square Dance Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame Committee met on Saturday, May 26th at the Hyatt. Those in attendance were Penny Green, Mary Chesnut, Donna Hendricks, Jerry and Donna Robey, Mary Lee Van Valkenburg and Michael Ziegler.

A Hall of Fame presentation will be made Sunday night, May 27th.

A review was conducted of the list of Hall of Fame committee members and the list of Selection Committee members. There was a poor response from the Selection Committee this year so we made phone calls during the meeting and have talked to current members to ascertain if they are still interested in serving on the Selection. Some have dropped off and others are still willing to serve.

A review of the By-Laws was conducted with several changes being made.

For 2012/2013 I will continue as president and the Robeys will be secretaries.

The Hall of Fame Wall at Strawberry Square is current however we will have to do some re-arranging shortly in order to make room for new inductees.

Penny Green, Chairman

17. Historian Records

There have been several pictures submitted recently to the Federation for our web-site. Those that should have been sent to Bruce have been and are now posted under that Associations Federation site.

There were a couple of class graduation pictures received that were not forwarded as these pictures should have been sent directly to Bruce by that clubs historian to be used under their Clubs heading. They were returned to the sender with this notation. But at least historians of our individual clubs are getting the message of what to send to the Federation Historian and what should be forwarded directly to the web master.

Submitted by: Judy Anderson

18. New Historian Appointments

a. *President Maria Spence stated that we have two new Historians Sandy Brasfield who will handle the Historian & Terri Little will be Co- Historian taking the pictures.*

b. Bruce Morgan – Web Site No Report

18. USDA Report

a. USDA Report from the Central Region

As the Vice Presidents of the United Square Dancers of America for the central region, it has been our pleasure to represent Florida on the National Executive Committee of USDA. We continue to travel throughout the twelve states of the Central Region as representatives of Square Dancing at the National level. In the past 12 months we have attended 10 State Conventions and Festivals.

In March we traveled to Mississippi for the State Square and Round Dance Convention in Brandon, MS. From there, we went to Mobile, AL for the 59th annual Azalea Trail Square and Round Dance.

In May, we traveled to Akron, OH for the 52nd Ohio State Square Dance Convention at the beautiful John S. Knight Convention Center. The convention this year was sponsored by the Akron Area Square and Round Dance Federation and was entitled, “Akron Fantasy Dance land”. We made a brief presentation about USDA at the annual meeting of the Ohio State Corporation.

Then, we went on to Shepherdsville, KY for the 51st Derby City Festival at the Paroquet Springs Conference Center. Since this was our second visit to Shepherdsville, we enjoyed renewing friendships made last year at the Kentucky State Square and Round Dance Convention. While there, we presented a seminar about USDA.

The day after we returned to Gainesville from our road trip, we headed south for the 58th Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention in Lakeland, FL. Congratulations to Garland and Carole McKenzie and their many committees for a job very well done!

We’re looking forward to seeing many of you in Spokane, WA in June for the 61st National Square Dance Convention. We will be greeting delegates from our affiliates in the Central Region at the USDA annual meeting on Wednesday, June 27th at 1 PM. The annual meeting will be held at the Red Lion at the Park Hotel in Ballrooms B & C. We hope to see you there. It promises to be a super convention this year.

Respectfully, Jerry and Donna Robey

19. USDA Insurance *(see attached Financial Report)*

*Chairman Carol Poole reviewed the Financial Report with the delegates. She stated: **It is important for the clubs to know, your class graduates are not insured until you pay the insurance for them. Anyone we do not get the \$4.45 for is not insured. Our agreement with the Insurance Company is “every***

member of an Insured Club must be insured". Your Association representatives need to be checking with your Clubs who are graduating new dancers; let them know when the dancer joins their club after classes to be sure to send in the dancers name & insurance money for each dancer. As always, Students attending classes are covered at no charge however, their name must be submitted on a Club Class Roster form. Again, once they graduate they are no longer covered under the insurance. This requirement is only for "Mainstream" classes. Plus & Advanced class dancers should already be covered dancers.

We have received (3) accident reports and (1) claim this year. We have (4) clubs who have not renewed yet this year and are down 4 dancers compared to last year. All the Insurance forms are located on the Florida Federation website. Each Association has their own forms, located under "Select the area of the State you are interested in".

20. ASCAP/BMI

The Florida Federation will be filing reports with ASCAP and BMI with the attendance figures for this May 2012 convention.

BMI was paid in February and ASCAP will be paid from the 2012 Convention funds this month.

BMI = \$145.00 - 2012 annual fee (ck # 1077)

ASCAP = \$90.00 - 2012 annual fee.

Squarely yours,
Bob & Maria Spence

21. ARTS

ARTS-Dance is an IRS 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit/Charitable Foundation

The ARTS Alliance is made up of many nationally recognized dance organizations.

Its purpose is to provide an image of unity among diversified dance groups.

ARTS can be used for effective public education and awareness, as well as a tool in seeking institutional and corporate contributions and sponsorship.

They have one meeting during March each year in conjunction with the National Pre-Convention meeting. Their website is ARTS-dance.org

On another note:

There is a topic going around about "Re-Branding Square Dancing" and advertising on a national level.

Ed & Su Evans, Vice Chairman for Panels at the 61st NSDC, have scheduled a SESSION in Room 202 C, at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday -- June 30th.

This will give attendees time to think about the topic during the early days of the convention....and be motivated to attend this session.

Ken Ritucci will be the Moderator.

Several articles expressing concern for our activity have been in recent publications of the American Square Dance Magazine. These articles were written by callers at all levels of our activity. Hopefully something will come out of this.

Respectfully Submitted

Ailene Picheco

22. Old Business

a. Federation Nomination Committee – *Chairman Val Newsome reported that Randy Poole, & Ken Brasfield will be working on this committee. Central Association will be submitting a nomination, resume for the position of Parliamentarian on the Florida Federation of Square Dancers Executive Board.*

b. State Convention Procedures Doc. Revisions

Copies of the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention Procedures as well as continued in the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention Requirements and Procedures were handed out. The proposed changes are highlighted on each respective reference. These changes were discussed in the State Convention Procedures Committee meeting held at this past February 11, 2012 at the Working Weekend, suggesting a change to the “Grand March” under Convention Procedures item (8.). During my review it was noted that Finance item (5.) & (6.) were basically the same requirement only worded differently making them duplicated. Our Convention Caller Chairman brought to our attention that our document under “Caller Chairman” item (1.) did not agree with the FCA documents. I have reviewed the documents to present the following changes to the delegates for approval.

CALLER CHAIRMAN

1. (PREVIOUSLY) FCA President will send out invitations to callers to attend the State Convention, which includes the caller profile sheet. Profile sheet should include a block showing callers equipment availability.

1. (REVISED) 1. On behalf of the FCA President, the Caller Chairman shall send out invitations to callers to attend the State Convention, which includes the caller profile sheet. Profile sheet should include a block showing callers equipment availability.

CONVENTION PROCEDURES

8. (PREVIOUSLY) The Grand March shall be organized in the following order:

- 1) The Florida Federation President*
- 2) The Florida Callers Association President*
- 3) The Round Dance Council of Florida President*
- 4) The Convention General Chairman*
- 5) Officers of The Florida Federation*
- 6) Officers of The Florida Callers Association*
- 7) Officers of The Round Dance Council of Florida*
- 8.) Out of State Groups and International Dancers*

8. (REVISED) It is suggested, the Grand March shall be organized in the following order:

- Convention General Chairmen & Executive Board
- Officers of the Florida Federation
- Officers of the Florida Callers Association
- Officers of the Florida Round Dance Council
- Officers of the Central Association
- Officers of the Northeast Association
- Officers of the Northwest Association
- Officers of the Southeast Association
- Officers of the West Coast Association
- Officers of the Florida Singles Association
- Officers of the Florida Camper Dancers Association
- Florida Clubs

FINANCE

5. (PREVIOUS) The State Convention General Chairman shall make a financial final report and distribute one copy each as follows.

- A. Florida Federation of Square Dancers
- B. Florida Callers Association
- C. Round Dance Council of Florida
- D. The General Chairman of the next two conventions

6. The State Convention General Chairman shall make a written report using the Convention report outline and distribute as follows.

- E. Florida Federation of Square Dancers
- F. Florida Callers Association
- G. Round Dance Council of Florida
- H. The General Chairman of the next two Conventions

5. (REVISED) DELETE (6.) WITH THE FOLLOWING REVISIONS TO (5.):

The State Convention General Chairman shall make a written report (including a financial report) using the Convention report outline and distribute one copy each as follows.

- I. Florida Federation of Square Dancers
- J. Florida Callers Association
- K. Round Dance Council of Florida
- J. The General Chairman of the next two Conventions

The template for the “written report” as well as the “Vendor Procedures” will be included with the documents, which will be available on the Federation website.

I would like to make a motion that we approve these changes to the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention Requirements and Procedures. Motion was passed. Now that we have accepted the changes, we will need to submit these changes to the FCA & Florida Round Dance Council for their approval.

The next item that affects the Convention Requirements and Procedures that was discussed at the Working Weekend regarding:

ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION – (1.) The services of each of the Area Associations Publication/Newsletters shall be reimbursed in the amount of two hundred (\$200) dollars and Bow & Swing shall be reimbursed in the amount of three hundred (\$300) for providing published Convention information.

A request from the DANCERgram to be included in the reimbursement for promoting the State Convention. This request was discussed and the “discussion was tabled” at the State Convention Procedures “break out committee meeting”. At the Executive Boards meeting last night the request was brought up and the Executive Board would like to bring forth the request to the delegates:

I would like to make a motion that the DANCERgram be included to receive the reimbursement of \$200.00 that give to the Association Publication as stated in the “Advertising & Promotion” section (1) of the Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention Procedures. Motion was seconded. Discussion between “Internet” and Association printing costs. Don Slocum asked that a “committee” be appointed to research this item. Jim McConnaha made a motion to table the motion until as stated a committee could review this. Motion passed. President Bob Spence appointed Jim McConnaha to Chair committee and Carole McKenzie, Paul Miller and Don Slocum volunteered to serve on this committee.

c. Other Old Business – No other old business was reported.

23. New Business

a. President Bob & Maria Spence appointed Ken Brasfield Audit Committee Chairman. Serving also on the committee will be Ray Huddleston & Randy Poole.

b. GSI – FL Winter Festival – *President Maria Spence reported, a letter addressed to the Federation was received from the John & Linda Saunders on the behalf of the GSI Winter Festival thanking the Florida Federation for their participation, we are happy to present a check in the amount of \$320.00 as the agreed 10% share of the profit for 2012 Winter Festival. Each Association will receive a portion of \$64.00.*

President Maria Spence commented; For those of you that don't know, your Federation Board members work for the Winter Festival during the weekend so that we as an organization can receive the 10% of the "net profit" from the weekend. We received a \$1000.00 the first year and the next year our amount was \$500.00 and last year we received \$200.00. This has become an obligation to the Federation Board members, we receive free ribbons. However, we still have to pay for hotel & food accommodations during the weekend.

Treasurer Anita Taylor made a motion that the Florida Federation discontinue working at the Winter Festival for GSI. Motion was seconded. Discussion; Terri Little stated she was uncomfortable about not supporting a Square Dance function. We were not doing it to make money, we were doing it to support Square Dancing. Ray Huddleston asked if the money could be given to the State Convention. According to the GSI requirements the money must be used to promote classes to bring in new dancers. Each Association has to report back on how the money was used to promote Square or Round dancing in their area. Kathy McKinney suggested that the money be given to the State Convention and the Convention would promote the "Welcome to our World" or something familiar to promote Square Dancing statewide. Jan McConnaha asked if the agreement with GSI could be renegotiated. Ray Huddleston made a motion to table the discussion and form a Committee to review and discuss the possibilities with GSI. Motion was seconded, motion was opposed and a formal count was taken; motion passed. Committee will be President Bob & Maria Spence & Vice President Jack & Barbara Hoffman.

c. **Installation** of 2013 officers in October will be handled by Sandy Brasfield.

d. Other New Business:

Vice President Jack Hoffman made a motion that the Florida Federation of Square Dancers donate \$500.00 to the Central Florida's Handicapable Club to assist the club with the cost of going to the National Handicapable Square Dance Convention July 25-29, in Charleston SC. Motion passed.

24. Announcements

Proclamation letter has been sent to the Governor and the Secretary will get it to each publication and Association when it arrives.

Next meeting – October 28, 2012 9:00 am @ Kenilworth Lodge, Sebring, FL – "Party-Rama" - FASSRD

25. Motion to Adjourn