

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS

Imperial Swan Hotel, Lakeland, FL
 Sunday, March 26, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.

1. **Call to Order** meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by President Dennis Taylor.
2. **Invocation** was performed by Judy Anderson.
3. **Guests attending:** Ed & Willis, Central Regional Carol Douget guests.
4. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Vice President Ray Huddleston
5. **Roll Call:** There was a quorum with 33 Delegates attended the meeting.
6. **President’s Comments:** *Thank you to Ray & Elsa Huddleston for a great Convention.*
7. **Minutes of February 25-26, 2017 Meetings: A motion was made to dispense with reading the minutes. Motion passed.** Motion was made by Jack Hoffman to accept the minutes as presented as corrected 2020 Convention spelling Reed should be Reid. Motion passed.
***Elsa Huddleston stated that the minutes should not be posted on the website prior to the minutes having been approved.*
8. **Financial Report:** Financial Report will be filed for audit.

Verification of Operational Checking Account was performed to reflect omitted deposits in the amount of				
<u>Savings Account</u>				
Beginning Balance 1/1/2017				\$
Interest Paid 1/1 -2/28/2017				\$
Ending Balance 2/28/2017				\$
<u>Operational Checking Account</u>				
				Balance:
Beginning Balance 1/1/2017				\$
Deposits 1/1 - 2/28/2017 Interest				
Deposits: Convention Fund (correct prior deposit)				
Reimbursement Convention Website (GoDaddy)				\$
* Expenses 1/1 -2/28/2017				\$
Ending Balance 2/28/2017				\$
* Secretary's Expense/Cards				
* 2018 Benefit Dance				
* Sec. Expense/Copies Minutes				
* V.P. Expense/Badges & Bks				
Respectfully,				
Linda Tester, Treasurer				

Convention Checking Account			
Beginning Balance 1/1/2017			\$
** Expenses 1/1 -2/28/2017			\$
*** Deposits			\$
Ending Balance 2/28/2017			\$
** Ck. 1017 62nd Conv. Ck Dep. In Error			
** Ck. 1018 65th FSSRDC Seed Money			
*** 63rd Conv. Seed Money			
Submitted by: Linda Tester, Treasurer			

9. Parliamentarian Report

Well the Daytona 500 was a great race, the weather was fine, and Kurt Busch won!! What more could we ask for? It's all good!!

Terry and I want to thank the members of the Showcase of Ideas team for their great ideas and for tolerating the fact that Terry and I had a significant investment in race tickets so we had to miss Sunday.

We also want to personally thank Jenny Green for her efforts in making the team report. We really appreciate her help!!

The Showcase team had great ideas, from reordering the panels, to text updates, to business cards etc.

The Showcase display is starting to show its age, but because of the great team effort, Terry was able to spruce up the display and hopefully get a few more years out of it. She replaced West Coast pictures (now she has to submit the reimbursement to the President and hope it will be approved), reordered panels, replaced text that was falling off, and solicited new content from each association. She basically got it ready for this weekend, with an eye on making more elaborate changes after the State Convention.

The Showcase is a Federation product, and team contribution was never more evident than the fact that the Showcase team came up with the idea of Federation Business cards to hand out at the Nationals.

Cheryl took it upon herself to design the card, ran it by Bruce and myself, made a few changes and now its ready to go. With that said, we would request authorization for Cheryl to proceed in purchasing the business cards to bring to Cincinnati.

We will make a few more changes to the display. We have our convention registration and are booked for 5 nights in Cincinnati. The Showcase is on its way!!

Sincerely,
Ed Drexel & Terry Wetherby, Parliamentarian

Jack Hoffman made a motion to authorize up to \$150.00 quantity 10000. Motion passed.

- 10. Sunshine Report:** Vice President Elsa Huddleston stated get well cards were sent to Dennis & Nancy Taylor and Mary Chesnut. A sympathy card was sent to the family of Carole Eason (Lehman). Currently, we have Joy Vaccari, Michael Ziegler, Sam Dunn who are on our Sunshine Report who have recently been ill and hopefully on the road to recovery.
- 11. Correspondence** President Dennis Taylor received correspondence from the USDA Central Regional VP Ed & Linda Willis, they are looking for candidates for their positions with the USDA as they have reached the end of their term and can no longer serve in that position. Anyone interested please see them.
- 12. Florida Callers Assn. Liaison-no report**
- 13. Round Dance Council of Florida Liaison-no report**
- 14. Florida Square Dance Campers Liaison-no report**
- 15. Association Reports**

Central Association

We hope everyone enjoyed the convention as much as we did. Ray & Elsa did a great job and we thank them for taking on the responsibility.

We are looking forward to our Fifth Saturday Dance next month since we cancelled the December dance. It seems like a long time since Halloween. The dance will be held in Ocala with Loretta Hanhurst cueing and the Central Florida Callers Association callers calling. We only have three or four dances a year and we have a rule of only using Central Florida Callers Association callers. It was a long time between dances for the callers. And some were feeling slighted. This solved that problem. Whoever is available comes to the dance and gets to call. We usually have three or four which is a very nice variety.

We have invited the Yellow Rockers, our Handicapable Club, to our July dance. We usually do that when our dance is close to their area. They can be transported by auto and not hire a bus. We plan on having an ice cream social that night.

Our Joys & Concerns got off and running. Unfortunately, the first item was the death of a local cuer, Karen MacDonald. The second was the announcement of our third great grandson. Several of our clubs are having classes. We had to remind them to send in their student's name.

Party Weekend, CFA's support for the 2018 State Convention is just around the corner. With this convention, just over it is time to take a break, relax, and enjoy the peace and quiet of the forest and sleep with the bears and dance with the stars (Rod Barngrover and just "Susan"). Make your reservations now; call Randy 386-734-5295.

Paint Your World Purple is the theme of the Port Orange Relay for Life. The relay is to honor all square dancers who are fighting cancer. Those who are survivors, those who have lost their lives, and all family and friends who have been affected by cancer. The event is being held May 6 at Spruce Creek High School in Port Orange. The event is being sponsored by Mary Lynn Hastings a square dancer in Volusia County. She is looking for walkers and donations. We have had four dancers and the caller being treated for cancer in the last two years from our very small advanced club. I have a few flyers here with her information.

We will be in Cincinnati for the national square dance convention. Maybe we will see you there.
Randy & Carol Poole, Presidents

Northeast Association

Of course, we must start out our report by congratulating Ray & Elsa on an outstanding convention!!!!

Since our last Federation Meeting only a month ago, not a lot has happened in the Northeast Florida Square and Round Dance Convention.

The Seabreeze Singles had a fund raiser for "The City Rescue Mission". They raised over \$3000.00. They have been doing this for many years and as usual, the northeast dancers stepped up and supported it graciously and it was a huge success. It takes a lot of work to host a charity dance and we appreciate all their hard work.

Our fifth Saturday dance will be hosted by Dianne & Walt Syphard, theme is Boots & Bling".

Our Association meeting will be next week and we plan to discuss all the ideas shared at the working weekend. As usual, it was a productive weekend and we love gathering ideas from around the state about many topics.

We plan to let our dancers know about the BIG CHANGES in the State Convention next year. We are moving to Daytona Beach! This is looking to be an exciting move. The convention center is very nice and right across the street from the ocean. This could make an awesome extended vacation for many dancers in the middle of "winter"! Plan for an exciting convention NOW! The Wassermans are indeed planning lots of new ideas. First of all they are going to encourage you to purchase your ribbons EARLY! Until you chair a convention, you don't know how important this is!!! One idea I particularly like is the Blast Class. At first I thought it would only benefit the very immediate area. However, they shared their idea about asking ALL STUDENTS from around the state to come to their very first convention, before they even graduate. Then I realized that this is very exciting, especially for dancers new to our activity. What a great beginning into Square Dancing! Also, you may notice the price has gone up a tad. Before you get a negative attitude....stop and think how much it costs to just go to a movie and get popcorn and a drink!!! It is incomparable to the amount of FUN you will have at a state convention! Let's all get excited....and make this the BEST EVER CONVENTION! (So Far....:)

We have a lot of dancers in the Northeast planning on going to the Nationals in Cincinnati. I'm sure the Buckeyes will show us a good time! These are some of the true benefits of square dancing...traveling with good friends...enjoying new places.

This is the last time we gather before our Fall Festival in Jacksonville. This year Erik & Robin Burton are chairman. (Here's a novelty...it is their first time chairing an event!) Their theme is "Carnival" like in Cotton Candy and Ferris Wheels! They plan to make this a FUN FUN Festival! Their Caller is Matt Worley from Virginia (you may have seen him at the Nationals with his neon-lit tennis shoes! Just a small example of his determination to have FUN! The cuers are Jimmy & Carol Griffin. We are excited to have them up here, which we haven't had in a while! Once again it's a true "Beach Party Weekend"... Hall, Motel, Camping, Dining, etc all at the beach! Please buy your ribbons this weekend and encourage the Burtons with their endeavor.

In conclusion...we wish y'all (you won't hear that in OH...LOL) a wonderful summer!

Jack and Kathy McKinney, President, Northeast FL Square and Round Dance Assn

Northwest Association

We should all be tired after all the dancing we have done the last 3 days! It was a great convention with lots of penguins running around.

APRIL, here we come because the Blue and White ball is the 1st. It will be in Panama City so see you all there. Ragon Hall in Pensacola is having a "Spring Fling" April 28-29th. Hope we have just the right amount of spring showers but no flooding. Our second quarterly meeting is at this dance.

May 1st is May Day. Do you remember getting or giving May baskets to your best friends growing up? Boy that has been a while for us but give someone you love a call and remind them about the fun we use to have. May 27-28 is the "Merengue Madness" round dancing at Ragon Hall for all round dancers. Hope you all have a great time!

June is the beginning of summer vacations and travels but before you go please stop and go to the Billy Bowlegs Festival Dance June 3rd at PASARDA Hall in FWB to see what the pirates are doing. Rounds start at 6:30 pm and Dance at 7 pm.

"July Jamboree is the 15th with workshops and dance. There are dances in August and September with our round up October 27-28th, 2017 at Ragon Hall. Be sure and check out the flyer with dance schedule on the federation web site.

We hope you all have a safe summer! Brian and Barbara McDonald Presidents

Southeast Association

We came, we saw, we danced. Everything has been moving along briskly, but unfortunately will slow down a bit as the northern migration takes hold. The beginning class run by Jack Lewis had its last session this week. Scotty Sharrer's class will be graduating soon. As additional support (or incentive) Jack and John LeGrow, President of the Briny club, have invited all students to the dance at Briny Breezes next Wednesday evening. Jack will have several student-level tips and any student from any class may attend the dance free of charge. Additionally, Scotty is offering alternating Mainstream and Plus tips at the Castoff's dance this coming Friday. The goal at both these dances will be to call at a level that will keep everyone moving – hopefully, without breaking down the squares. The last Southeast dance of the season will be

held on April 9th in the Briny Breezes Auditorium with Chris Phillips as the host caller. Phyllis Kent will be the host cuer. It, too, will feature alternating Mainstream and Plus tips.

Plans are in the works for next season. Jack will again be having a New Year's Eve dance at Briny Breezes. All the Southeast dances have now been scheduled and will continue to be held in the Briny Breezes Auditorium – hosted by the Briny Breezes club. With thanks to Bruce Morgan, these dances are now listed in the calendar section of the Federation website. Our first dance of the next season, our Membership Dance & Ice Cream Social, featuring Scotty and Jack, will be the afternoon of Sunday, September 24th. It's also a special year for the Briny club – its 70th season of dancing. I suspect that there will be a celebratory dance sometime during the season. Finally, I would like to thank the Briny club and its officers, as well as the Briny Breezes Board of Directors, for their continued support of square dancing in Southeast Florida.

Steve Adler, President
Southeast Association

Elsa Huddleston stated Steve Adler has been the President for the Southeast for the past 4 years, he sends out a periodically, he was presented the Dancer of the Year award at our Snow Folic in January.

West Coast Association

Winter is winding down. Dances, classes, and special events are winding down as well! Even though our beloved snow birds are starting to head home, the West Coast remains the place to be for Square dancing in Florida. Clubs and Callers have their classes finishing up and are busy planning the next round. If you missed out, check FloridaSquareDance.com for a club near you. A class will be starting soon as we have classes running year-round. The WCSRDA wants to remind clubs and callers of the Associations \$100 reimbursement for new dancer classes. We have a committee looking at increasing this amount to \$150. We want to do everything we can to promote this great activity that we all love.

The West Coast Association completed their 6 Association dance year with the final dance March 5 in Arcadia. Despite our lead caller being hospitalized, we still had 7 squares on the floor who had a great time with Robert Arias and Marty Vanwart calling. Membership in the West Coast Square and Round Dance Association remains the best value in Square Dancing. Our membership of \$12 for a new dancer including badge, or \$6 for renewal includes admission to all 6 Association sponsored dances. Not a bad deal!! Compare that to the last time you filled your gas tank, or the pricing of the 2018 Convention Ribbons. We beat them, hands down. The Association is busy finalizing our 2017–2018 dance schedule. This year we have moved to a process very similar to the one used in the Northeast (special thanks to our friends in the NE who helped us). We have eliminated our 'Open Mike' dances and are scheduling 2 callers and one cuer per dance that have clubs and give lessons. Once again, we are trying to promote lessons as one more way to get new dancers.

National caller Jack Pladdys just finished up 5 dances in the West Coast (Lake Ashton and Strawberry Square) in 4 days. Dancers were able to dance Plus, Advanced and C1 to Jack. From all reports, every session was amazing. On March 19, the SCCA hosted the Freshman Frolic at Strawberry Square. This dance represented the first official dance for our new dancer classes. It's a great way to get new dancers on the floor and make new friends. We all just enjoyed a great

weekend of dancing in the West Coast! From the 63rd FSSDC Trail End dance at Strawberry Square, the premier dance facility in Florida, to the 63rd FSSDC Convention itself held at the Lakeland Center, I think we all realize the West Coast is the place to be. A little secret that I can now share, those dancers coming out of the story book in the 2018 Kick Off, may look very similar to dancers that you see regularly at Shufflin Squares. In addition to the around the clock square dance activities in all parts of the West Coast, Round dancers are contributing greatly to the growth in the West Coast. At Strawberry Square alone, Round Dancers account for the bulk of their class activity and contribute significantly to their bottom line.

As the 2018 FSSDC gets rolling, I can also report that the 2019 State Convention will have a West Coast flair, as Ed Drexel and Terry Wetherby have been appointed General Chairman.

Whether you are a new dancer or a veteran, there is no doubt the West Coast is the place to be. The callers, facilities and dancers make the West Coast what it is today. For Square Dancing in Florida, you gotta go West!!

Sincerely,
Ed Drexel, President

16. Publications Reports

Bow & Swing

Bill & Joanne just got back from a "Dude Ranch". After arriving home Bill said he went out and purchased a "doxin puppy". I asked him why he had bought a doxin? He said when they left the Dude Ranch someone said, "get along little doggy".

I have always considered this one of my more interesting editorials. We "had" a great time at the Florida Square and Round Dance Convention. Of course, as all my readers know this column is written in advance so, "how do I know?". I have yet to attend a festival or convention where I failed to thoroughly enjoy myself. I go with the expectation of having fun. I go expecting that somewhere along the way problems may arise - so what. In everything we do, nothing is perfect. There are those who chose to "go with the flow" and those who can find fault with anything. I choose to have fun. Our state convention draws some of the greatest talent in the world. We have Callers and Cuers who have called all over the world. We tend to forget because they are from Florida and we hear them often just how skilled our Florida Callers are at their craft. Our conventions are, inexpensive, fun and there are many after parties. We get to see old and new friends, dance with new couples and different squares. We get to choose our dance programs from Fun, Mainstream, Plus and Advanced. We get to Round Dance at many different levels. How can we not have fun...

Speaking of fun. Now that we have completed our convention, how about the National Square and Round Dance Convention in Cincinnati this June. We already have about one hundred Florida Dancers registered. Visit us at the American Square Dance Booth in the Vender area.

On to next year. Next year our Annual State Convention will be in Daytona Beach Florida. The convention will be held in February. Linda and Lewis are working hard to make this a success. It is early enough so "snow birds" will still be here and we will be dancing on wood floors. Register early, invite your friends and if you have non dancing friends, invite them as there will

be a blast class to introduce them to our square dance world. We will see you in Cincinnati and we will see you next February in Daytona and we hope to see many of you in a square soon

Bill Boyd

Grapevine (The)-Kathy McKinney reported that Mary Giera, our Grapevine Editor now publishes our magazine online every month on the Federation website.

Keepin' Posted-no report

Panhandle Press-no report

West Coast Dancer-no report

Don Slocum ask that the Association Presidents to remember please get your Editors to submit for their invoice \$200.00 payment for publishing articles for the Convention.

17. Convention Reports



2017 STATE CONVENTION REPORT

Chairman Elsa Huddleston stated we would like to be included in the Convention Procedures to assist with looking at the procedures to help future chairman. The positions of the Chairman should have a detailed description and listed of their duties. We used the timeline. Wasserman should be Convention Procedures Review committee jobs. The total attending the convention was 609 paid and 690 total. The checks will be distributions to the between July-August.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! We are so proud of all our committees who worked so hard to make this convention the success that it was! And what a success!! Thank you all so much for all your hard work over the last two years.

It seemed that everyone enjoyed the penguin theme! The callers and cuers did an outstanding job, and all the comments we heard have been extremely positive! We had hoped for 400 dancers – and we got 609!!! It certainly appears that the best time to have the convention is before the snowbirds fly away for the summer.

We want to thank the Associations again for their generous donations!

Our Final Report will contain more details.

Respectfully submitted,
RAY & ELSA Huddleston
2017 Convention Chairmen

DANCE TO THE BEAT WITH HAPPY FEET!



2018

Linda Wasserman stated that the Convention Procedures should allow for adjustments. Credit cards were very successful. We sold over 100 ribbons last night, along with T-Shirts, cups. Boxes of Ways & Means supplies are here for each association to take back with them. No trail end dance place has been found so it has been scheduled as of yet.

We are looking at several locations. We need more information on what to expect. Jack Hoffman stated; The Convention Center rental payment is due in full on January 31, as well is flooring payment expecting to be \$10,000.00 or more. We want the advertisement in our program book to be "Why is square & rounding dancing enchanting to you or your club. Hotels in Daytona book up quickly make your reservation now. Check on the website for hotel information. Hotel prices for our event are very reasonable.

This was an "update" of the 64th Convention. Lewis and Linda Wasserman kept their committee informed of happenings and expectations of this convention.

Linda talked about the selling of ribbons. When ribbons are purchased they will receive a Passport. This is to be taken to all the clubs and dances you attend during the year! A prize will be given to the one who gets the most signed! There will also be a random drawing for all others! The first threshold for an increase in ribbons costs is nearing. We need to impress dancers the need for early bird sales. We need to know how much flooring is needed and we need money for this flooring.

Speaking of flooring...Lewis and Linda are requesting "volunteers" to help install and remove flooring to keep costs lower. It will take a lot of manpower to meet the deadlines. Total flooring is estimated at near \$10,000. If dancers want to be dancing on wooden floors, help will be needed for installing and help needed in fund raising to pay for the cost. Susan suggested that there just be one large hall open for all dancers Friday morning. This will allow extra time for installing. Also, a LOT more FUN to have many dancers dancing together.

Jack Hoffman gave a brief Treasurers Report. At this time there is approx \$8,000 in the bank. However, estimated liabilities are \$11,000 NOT including \$10,000 for flooring! Therefore almost 2/3 more revenue will be needed.

Ways and Means was discussed at great length. The Wassermans are open to suggestions for raising money! One item that was brought up by Linda Tester was tote bags. These have been popular in the past and they are now on the list to be purchased. The selling of shirts was discussed. If clubs want to "special order" certain colors, that can be done in batches of 12 or more. However, the cost is strictly \$15 each for special orders. The mugs are being sent to each association. They make good gifts and/or door prizes for your clubs.

Each association needs to work on the sale of Ads. This is a great way to raise money. Let businesses in your association know that many dancers from their area will be receiving a program book with their Ad and will patronize those businesses when returning from convention. Linda stressed that each club put an Ad in the program book telling about their club! She noticed many Ads in the past just "congratulated" the chairmen...she does not want that! She wants each club to take the opportunity to promote their club especially for dancers who may be traveling in that area. She wants to see all the "Magical and Enchanted" reasons you should visit your club!!! Perhaps there are Square Dancers that have private businesses that will advertise. The Raffle tickets for "Google Home" are selling well. It is a very unique Raffle never done before. And a really FUN item to have in your house! Plans are being made to have at least one...maybe more "Wish Trees" constructed by the Olds. "Wishes", such as good health to a friend or family member, happy and safe travels, good luck on new endeavors, etc. will be sold for \$2.00 a piece and place on the Wishing Trees! Lewis and Linda will be traveling/working in AZ and Pensacola

this summer. While in Pensacola they plan to visit clubs in the NW to promote the convention. They encourage all dancers who travel out of their area to promote our convention. Another source of fund raising they are investigating will be to see if the Florida Hospital in Daytona will help sponsor our event. They intend to present to them the “health” benefits of square dancing.

Grants like we used to receive in Lakeland will not be available in Daytona. Another source of income would be to increase the amount of Vendors we have. This facility has a LOT more room for Vendors. If any one knows of new Vendors please let them know. Different types of ware may entice dancers to “shop”. One idea was to go to Craft Fairs and ask the Vendors if they would like to attend our convention.

Decorations were discussed about turning the center into a magical enchanted forest! Both Linda Wasserman and Terri Little have many donations in their own homes! See them if you have donations.

The After Party was discussed. It was brought up the Chairmen and helpers won’t be able to get to Party before it is over. Susan Snider suggested we have the Federation After Party on Friday. A GREAT suggestion that was approved by all!

Paul and Marilyn Scott have been working on Camping in the area. They have gotten contracts for a couple campgrounds already and are still looking for others. Bruce Morgan will be putting this information on the website.

Randy Poole told about the oceanfront Hilton Hotel directly across the street from convention. He also talked about the “Host Motel”, the Homewood Suites. He has 1 bedroom King and Dbl Queen Suites as well as King Efficiency Suites. CALL NOW! Price begins at \$99.00 there is a link to motel on Federation website. Randy already had to increase the amount of rooms at the Hilton and Homewood. However, he doesn’t know how many more will be available. BOOK NOW! YOU CAN ALWAYS CANCEL. LET DANCERS IN YOUR AREA KNOW! Approximately 80 rooms or more have already been booked!

Carol Poole read statistics for registration last year. They totaled 692. Over 600 paid! So far this year Dennis Taylor stated they have sold over 175 ribbons. This is higher than last year at this time! If you don’t want to pay higher amounts...buy now! You can always get a refund. This year because of “medical status requirements” Spectators will NOT be allowed! Anyone coming and not dancing MUST see registration to see about filling out a registration form.

Linda said she really doesn’t feel the need for “greeters”. However, they will need volunteers to help with Security, for example during lunch time in the Vendor area and possibly other times and areas to be determined.

Plans are not yet finalized for Trail End Dance. There are a couple of halls that may fit our requirements. At this time the cost will be significantly higher than we paid at Strawberry Squares. If anyone knows of an option, please contact Lewis Wasserman.

Lewis and Linda intend to do another survey at convention to find out how dancers feel about all the changes. This will help the next years Chairmen, Ed Drexel and Terry Wetherby.

In closing...the focus was on FUND RAISING to help make this new change including the wood flooring a HUGE SUCCESS! PLEASE CONTRIBUTE ANY IDEAS AND FUNDS YOU CAN TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN!~ We have a long way to go in a short time!

Report provided by: Kathy McKinney, Secretary, 64th FSSRDC

2019

65th FSSDC REPORT

Here we are, less than a month old!! Like any newborn, we spent our first month watching, listening and learning. I am sure not unlike every convention before us, we are in the 'hurry up and wait' stage. We need to put together the infrastructure and have everything in place to go beginning in January 2018 for our benefit dance, and in earnest February 24, 2018.

We have started to put together an All Star team!! This is the convention you all want to be part of!! It's gonna be awesome!! Just ask me!!

Thanks to the FCA fast action, our Co-Caller Chairman have been approved. Keith Stevens and Rod Barngrover will work together to give us a great Convention. I really wasn't too worried as Rod is the FCA President next year so I figured we had some pending clout with the FCA. Not to be out done, the Round Dance Council stepped up to the plate with a Cuer Chairman as well. Terri Wilaby has been nice enough to accept our offer. Don and Ann Slocum have agreed to serve as Treasurer. Dennis was quick to give up a letter to open a bank account (which is now open) and Linda quickly sent the requested \$2500 seed money. We have funds!!

In putting together an All Star team, it is our goal to get the best!! That means the people we request are the people that obviously have done it before. They are great at what they do and I need their help. Our team is fast filling up, but don't worry, we have additional spots .. We may be talking to you very soon.

We want to thank:

Keith Stevens/ Rod Barngrover – Co-Caller Chair (a Technical Wizard and Mr High Energy)

Terri Wilaby - Cuer Chair

Don/Ann Slocum – Treasurer

Carol Poole – Registration

Randy Poole – Housing

Jack Hoffman/ Randy Poole – 50/50

Ailene Picheco – Ways and Means, Program Book

Kathy McKinney – Ads

Suzy Moon – Publicity

Rita and Lance Baxter – Vendors

We have come up with a few theme ideas that we have 'test marketed'. Basically, Terry and I am are high energy, loud and fast dancers who want to have fun. Our theme reflects this. It is focused on a NASCAR flavor. We foresee our convention appealing to both the technical end and high energy end of the spectrum, as well as newer dancers with fun activities sprinkled in.

Our theme is “ GREEN FLAG DANCING FROM DAYTONA” with a lead in of “START YOUR ENGINES FOR HIGH ENERGY FUN!” We are also evaluating the recent conventions with regard to revenues, purchasing, ordering supplies etc. to position us as we move forward.

As I said, we are less that a month old and we are just starting out. We have a lot to learn, but one thing is sure. The 65th FSSDC in February will be the PLACE TO BE!!! It’s gonna be awesome! Make your plans now!!

Sincerely,
Ed Drexel & Terry Wetherby
2019 General Chairman

2020

President Dennis Taylor stated that the Federation has spared no expenses and have hired a high price “Law Firm” to run our 2020 Convention. The “Law Firm” is Little, Miller, Green, Reid & Reid.

Our Chairmen met extremely informal a couple of times, throwing around lots of different ideas, we have five different decades represented with our General Chairmen’s; 20 something, 30 something, 40 something, 50 something & 60 something. We are playing around with the generation thing. Our chairmen will meet again and we will keep you posted as things progress.

Terri Little, 2020 General Chairman

Facilities

All went well this year, our last year (for now), at the Lakeland Center.

On to the 2018 St. Convention; Seventeen of us visited with Tim Buckley, Director and Jen Adams, Event Coordinator, at the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach on Monday March 20th. As a whole, the group was very impressed with the facility. The purpose of the trip was to familiarize everyone with the facility and consider how the different groups, Callers, Cuers and Vendors would use the space.

There is a ballroom and 4 meeting rooms which can be divided to suit our needs. There is a very large beautiful space for vendors with electric available in most areas.

Security was discussed and we were told as soon as we leave, the building will be secured for the night. Therefore, there should be no concern for the vendors’ goods and the Sound equipment.

Concessions will be available for lunch. We will discuss what and the time as we get closer to the convention.

An insurance issue arose, Carol Poole will this work out.

Respectfully Submitted
Don & Ann Slocum

18. Florida Hall of Fame-no report

President Dennis Taylor stated last night at the 64th State Convention Ailene Picheco and Penny Green were inducted into the Hall of Fame. We thank you for all you do.

19. History

We received an email and pictures from the West Coast and Bruce has already put them on the Federation website.

Respectfully, Terri Little, History Chairman

20. USDA Report- no report

USDA Central Regional Vice Presidents, Ed & Linda Willis were introduced and gave the following report.

The USDA winter meeting was held in San Antonio, Texas in January. One of the key things brought out was something your organization is very interested in was the 501c3. Jim Mascko asked that we amend our original package of interested organizations from 6 to 2 or 3. The USDA voted to postpone that until the June meeting. However, since then we know that Florida, California & North Carolina have shown interest in this program. We hope that in June the program will move forward. We are looking for your replacements on the USDA Board. Reminder have your USDA Delegates for the upcoming meeting.

21. USDA Insurance

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS
Insurance Report March 26, 2017

Beginning Balance	January 31, 2017		\$
Income			
	Central		\$
	Northeast		\$
	Northwest		\$
	Southeast		\$
	West Coast		\$
Total Income			\$ \$
Expenses			
	USDA Insurance		\$
Total Expense			\$
Ending Balance	February 28, 2017		\$

As of March 1, 2017	CLUBS	DANCERS
	Central	440
	Northeast	304
	Northwest	237
	Southeast	78
	West Coast	244
Total	2 Associations 39 Clubs	1303

Submitted by Randy & Carol Poole, Federation Insurance Chairman

Report continued page 14

We are almost 100% renewed for this year. Now, it would be nice to enroll some uninsured clubs.

Your clubs need to be reminded to send in their class rosters. The class is only insured when the insurance company has the list of students. The insurance ends when they graduate. Then, the enrollment must be paid. This is a service the insurance company is giving us. The students are covered at no cost to the club. There have been students to fall in a class.

A Notification of Event Form needs to be filled in and forwarded to the association insurance chairman when a club does a demo or visits a nursing home.

We've had two reported accidents and one claim submitted.

The Dayton Ocean Center has requested that our organization have Automobile insurance. This request has been forward to the USDA Insurance Chairman and we are awaiting a response.

Randy & Carol Poole

22. ASCAP/BMI

The new ASCAP/BMI representatives are Richard & Carol Douget. Carol stated she had received all the information from the Slocum's and everything has been done for this year.

23. Old Business

Convention Length

At the Saturday, February 28, 2015 Federation meeting during the Working Weekend under New Business the following was reported and approved by the Federation:

Special Exploratory Committee 2 Day Convention – (Minutes from the 2/28/15 Federation Meeting)

The convention exploratory committee met on Saturday, February 7, 2015, with the following present: Linda Tester, the McKinneys, the Hoffmans, the Slocums, the Millers, the Syphards, and the Huddlestons. The purpose was to discuss the pros and cons of reducing the number of convention days from three to two and to make a recommendation to the Federation.

I received only two responses to the email sent by Anita Taylor to all association presidents requesting them to poll their dancers for comments regarding this issue. I verbally summarized both responses. The majority of the dancers polled were in favor of reducing the number of days to two. Although I did not receive a response from Central, the Hoffman's said most dancers were in favor of keeping the convention at three days. The Slocum's said the West Coast was in favor of two days. We discussed these comments and other important factors relating to dropping a day.

After much discussion, it was the agreement of the committee to recommend that the Federation consider reducing the convention to the Friday and Saturday prior to the Memorial Day holiday with the trail-in dance on Thursday. It is also recommended that this change be considered a trial basis for 2016 and 2017. It is recommended that we all pay close attention to the dancer comments regarding this change.

Although our charge as a committee was completed as above, other factors were also discussed, and I am including them here for information purposes only.

1. Opening ceremonies, introduction and awards would be held on Friday night.
2. The kickoff for the upcoming year would be held on Saturday night.
3. Eliminate the Grand March.
4. Discount or discontinue free ribbons to workers.

5. Programmed callers be given 10 ribbons each to sell at pre-registration prices.
6. The possibility of a free hotel stay be considered for the caller selling the most ribbons.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray & Elsa Huddleston

*Motion made 2/28/2015: Linder Tester made a motion that for the next 2 years the Florida State Convention will be for 2 days only. Don Slocum seconded. There was considerable discussion concerning this matter. The results of the voting were 14 votes for a 2 day convention and 13 ½ votes for a 3 day convention. **Motion passed.***

Bruce Morgan stated: This motion was to change the convention for the **next 2 years only**. That would encompass **2016 & 2017**. In order to officially have the 2 day convention in 2018 & 2019 which we already have contracts for with the Daytona Beach Ocean Center we must vote to approve this.

If we want to continue with 2 day conventions we must vote to make the change permanent or go back to the 3 day convention in 2020. This needs to be done immediately as the 2020 & 2021 conventions have just started their planning and they need to know immediately as to how many days to plan for.

Since we really cannot legally change the number of days from 3 days to 2 days without the approval of the Florida Callers Association and the Round Dance Council according to the Convention Procedures that were just approved, a committee needs to be formed to work with the other 2 sponsoring organizations, the upcoming conventions and the Convention Facilities Chairman to come up with a plan for the future State Conventions. Since the Callers and Cuers only have one meeting a year, at the State Convention, it is too late to change the documents now. So the 2020 & 2021 State Conventions will probably have to stay at 2 day conventions. But by the next State Convention meeting a change to the State Convention Procedures on the number of days needs to be presented to all three organizations.

Bruce Morgan
Convention Procedures Review Committee

Anita Taylor made a motion; That the current schedule of a 2 day conventions be for Friday and Saturday, Walt Syphard seconded. 28 for; 14 opposed. Motion passed. There was considerable discussion concerning this matter.

Convention Procedures Review Committee

Anita Taylor is Chairman of the Convention Procedure Review Committee but the Convention Procedures Review Committee is basically at a standstill. With the uncertainty of the future format of the Federation's meeting schedule and other matters that are being worked out, we are unable to rewrite the document in a manner that will not cause it to be rewritten each and every year. Therefore, we have decided to hold off for a little while longer to see what happens with the format of the Federation.

We do have one change that needs to take place immediately. If you remember at the Fall Meeting last year at the West Coast Fall Festival in Bartow there was a lot of discussion about the date change of the State Convention. Penny Green, the president of the Federation polled the Federation Delegates and she had the current presidents of the Florida Callers Association and

the Round Dance Council of Florida as to what dates that would be best suited. Dates of March 24 & 25 and another date that I cannot remember were offered. It seems that the Federation delegates and the Callers selected the March date. The Round Dance Council did not want the March date as it interfered with their Spring Fling that they hold each and every year. But they were told that it did not matter that 2 out of 3 of the sponsoring organizations had voted for the March date and their vote did not matter. Well, that did not set well with the Round Dance Council so they did some research. They found out that nowhere in the Convention Procedures does it state that in order to make any changes to the Convention Procedures that it only takes 2 out of 3 of the organizations to agree. In fact, it doesn't even mention how the changes take place.

So, at the end of the Fall Meeting in Bartow a committee was formed to add a clause to the Convention Procedures outlining exactly how the Procedures were to be modified. Since the presidents of all three organizations were present; Bob Stern – Callers Association, Susan Snider – Round Dance Council and Dennis Taylor – Florida Federation; a committee was formed with Bob Stern and Susan Snider from the callers and cuers and Dennis Taylor appointed myself as the representative from the Federation.

Our committee met a few times via email and we came up with the following change to the Convention Procedures.

AMMENDMENTS

1. These Convention Procedures may be amended or changed by agreement of all three (3) sponsoring bodies (The Florida Federation of Square Dancers, The Florida Callers Association and the Round Dance Council of Florida).
2. Any requested change may originate within any of the sponsoring bodies.

The Callers Association and the Round Dance Council are all voting to accept this change to the Convention Procedures during their annual meeting this weekend.

I would like to make a motion; that the AMMENDMENTS section that I just read be accepted and become part of the Convention Procedures. Don Slocum seconded motion. Motion passed.

Bruce Morgan
Convention Procedures Review Committee

Convention Procedure Review

Standing Rules Document Revision / Federation Document Review

The Florida Federation Document Review Committee is basically at a standstill. With the uncertainty of the future format of the Federation's meeting schedule and other matters that are being worked out, we are unable to rewrite most of the documents in a manner that will not cause them to be rewritten each and every year. If we did, then as soon as they would be approved they would be out of date again. Therefore, we have decided to hold off for a little while longer to see what happens with the format of the Federation.

We do have one of the Documents that we can change. It is the same document that we approved at the last meeting in February; ie. Standing Rules.

If you remember during the breakout session for the Public Awareness, Publicity, Preservation and Education committee it was recommended, moved and approved by vote to combine this committee with the History Committee and to rename it as the History, Education, Public Awareness and Preservation (HEPP) Committee. I have made these changes. This caused Section 14f (Chairman of the History Committee) to be removed and 14g to be numbered 14f. Also, part of this rewrite, the wording from the History Chairman was moved into the HEPP section. Hence the first letter of the name.

Bruce Morgan
Chairman of the Document Review Committee

I would like to make a motion; Section 14f (Chairman of the History Committee) be removed and 14g to be numbered 14f. With this change the description of the History committee will be included in the History, Education, Public Awareness and Preservation Committee. Motion passed.

Welcome Center Brochures

I received the information for this year right after the last meeting.

The annual rent space at the 5 Welcome Stations will be invoiced in May for \$870.58.

I have shipped 2000 rack cards to the I-10 center. We felt there was a lot of interest in continuing and the quantity cost difference in printing was brought up. Time was of the essence as the I-10 Station was going to run out and they were having a lot of request.

Therefore, we went ahead and had the 8,300 printed instead of just 1,000 because of the cost savings difference. 1000 cards was requested and approved before we could find out the savings on the quantity price.

We are requesting for another full round of 8,300 rack cards. The printing cost is \$473.00 + \$30.75 tax = \$503.75. Compared to 1,000 cards was to cost \$228.86.

After the fact we are asking for approval of the purchase of 8300 rack cards.

Respectfully submitted
Don & Ann Slocum

Don Slocum made a motion; We continue the rental of the 5 Welcome Stations for one more year and approve the printing of 8,300 rack cards. Motion passed.

Working Weekend Date 2018 – Set for January 13th & 14th Quality Inn, Benefit Dance for the 65th FSSRDC at the Whirl & Twirl. Room rate will be \$89.00 + tax.

Extra Mile Award Due Date - December 1, to the Federation Chairman

Any Other Old Business

Trail End Dance Location 2018-

24. New Business

a. Appointment of Nominating Committee: Kathy & Jack McKinney appointed.

b. Executive Board Spending Authority: Don Slocum stated that there is a little concern regarding the distance between our now current scheduled Federation meetings and the possible delay in handling financial expenditures.

1. Is there any authority for the President and the Executive Board to authorize the spending of a certain amount of money for the benefit of expenditures on behalf of the Federation of Square Dancers? *President Taylor stated now there is not.*

Don Slocum made the following motion: That the Federation President be authorized up to a \$100.00; and the Executive Board be authorized up to \$500.00 to act on the behalf of the Federation to ensure that necessary expenditure can be met between meetings. Motion passed.

Additional New Business:

25. Announcements:

a. November Meeting: Will be held in Jacksonville in conjunction with the Northeast Association's Fall Festival. Meeting will on Sunday, November 19, 2017 at 9:00 am at the host hotel Hampton Inn Oceanfront .

26. Adjourn

Prepared & submitted by,
Cheryl Miller, Federation Secretary