

+ INSURANCE	\$
GRAND TOTAL	\$

Accounts Filed for Audit

9. Parliamentarian Report: No report at this time per Terri Little, Parliamentarian

10. Sunshine Report: A sympathy card was sent to Val Newsome on the passing of her son. Alex and Kay Schmidt and Walt and Dianne Syphard are not in attendance due to illness, Get well cards will be sent to the Schmidts and the Syphards

11. Correspondence: An email was received from someone on the USDA asking if we have an Email Tree. We do and this comes under the heading of the ARTS, Ailene Picheco will report on this in her report.

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:

a. Southeast Association:

Our "Toy & Cookie" dance, with Jack Lewis as the host caller and Zail Greenbain the host cuer, was held on November 26th. We collected a large number of toys and gifts for the children supported by ChildNet. Our next dance, "The Snowflake Frolic", Saturday evening, January 27th, is a fund raiser for both the Southeast and the 2018 Convention. Scotty Sharrer and Jack Lewis will be the host callers; Zail Greenbain the host cuer. All three of the New Year's celebration held in the Southeast were well attended and were lots of fun. Now that the "season" has started, all our clubs are now active and we have a number of classes and review sessions that have or will soon start: beginner's classes at the Sailfish, Happy Squares, Long Key Squares, and Briny Breezes; a Plus class at Long Key Squares; and an Advanced workshop/review at A-Jacks and Briny Breezes. Chris Phillips has an Intro to C-2 at the Mavericks and a Mainstream class at the South Florida Mustangs. He is anticipating starting a beginner's class at the Mustangs shortly. Thanks to the efforts of Mike Gormley, the Long Key Squares are up and running with a series of guest callers. They still have a couple of open dates and are seeking a full-time caller for their 2019 season. Anyone who is interested should take a look at their website for more information.

Of note for the future: The Briny Breezes square dancers will be holding a 70th anniversary party at their dance on March 7th. The Southeast thanks both the Briny Breezes club for hosting our dances, which are held in the Briny auditorium, and the Briny Board of Directors for their continued support.

As reported at our last meeting, cuer Phyllis Kent was in a terrible automobile accident. She is now out of the hospital and at a rehabilitation center in Pompano Beach where she is continuing to make excellent progress.

Steve Adler
President, SEA

b. Central Association:

CFA's 5th Saturday dance in March is still in the planning stages. We're hoping to dance in the Ocala area. Details will be posted on the website when they are finalized.

CFA's next big thing is the Party Weekend on April 20-22, 2018. This weekend is CFA's fundraiser for the 2019 State Convention. As in past years, it will be held at Deerhaven Retreat in Paisley. We're including the pool this year so bring your bathing suits! The pool will be open from 1-4 pm on Saturday. I've also heard rumors that we may have some Intro to Advanced sessions as well! Join us if you can...it's always a fun, relaxing weekend with good dancing and LOTS of good food!

CFA is considering moving our June 5th Saturday dance to another weekend due to the fact that most of the organizers will be in Kansas City at the National Convention. Details on this possible change will also be posted once they're finalized.

That's all for now!
Terri Little
President, CFA

C. Northeast Association

I am going to do what everyone else is doing.....encouraging you all to support and attend the State Convention. We have a brand-new freshness to our convention too! New first-time chairmen, new location, and new ideas! We in the northeast have had a lot of enthusiasm for the Blast Class! Students and new Graduates are looking forward.

We are proud to announce that we have a whole square of dancers under the age of 10! And some are able to attend the convention this year! We hope that this may be the beginning of "The New Age of Square Dancing". One of the biggest ways we got the young dancers is they are grandchildren of current dancers. All clubs should look into this opportunity!

We mentioned the online Grapevine Magazine published by Jim Maroldo and Laura Martin at our last meeting. They are doing an exceptional job. This magazine contains information that would be of interest to all associations. You may have some information that can be put into our magazine. Hopefully this will also encourage dancers to visit other associations. We see the huge decline in visitation between associations as well as within our own association. We believe this decline is harmful to the preservation of Square Dancing. Make one of your resolutions to visit other clubs within your association as well as supporting other associations special dances...or even just a regular night!!! Think about how happy you feel when you see visitors come into your dancehall.

We are still fund raising for charities. Susie Kirby is a hard and very efficient worker for the Silver Fox Squares. She contacted the Basketball Cop Charity in Gainesville and had a dance to collect toys for them and bring awareness to the organization. If you haven't heard of it...Google it. It is a very deserving organization. You may want to help them...even as little as donating a basketball. Susan Snider, a cuer in our association is a HUGE supporter of charities along with all her other endeavors, like state convention, etc. Susan has had an annual Kay Walker Memorial Dance in the honor of one of our dancers who was killed in an accident. This dance brings many toys to underprivileged children. Susan also is Chairman of the Circus Dance benefiting Dreams Come True. Thousands and thousands of dollars has been raised for this deserving charity. Seabreeze Singles Square Dance Club has hosted a dance for the City Rescue Mission for many years. They are now also selling square dance clothes online for this charity. Lastly, Bill Chesnut has for many years continued to hold a benefit dance for Shriners' Crippled Children. They helped his daughter and he is vastly dedicated to raise money for them each year, and the dancers are always there to make sure this is a huge success..."Christmas in July". We are asking any dancers able to help support these dances as well.

In closing...we hope to see you at the State Convention...and VISIT!
Jack & Kathy McKinney, President
NEFSARDA

d. Northwest Association:

We Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. At our October meeting and annual Roundup, we had a few changes in our officers. Brian and I are still President and we find we are still learning about NW and the Federation. Our biggest problem has been getting someone to volunteer to be a Federation delegate even though we ask people directly. We have put together a book for the Showcase for the Convention and made many more friends. Vice Presidents are Joe and Patricia McLendon from Panama City. They have been a great resource to us in our Association. We have our fliers printed for our October Roundup and they are doing great planning it. Alex Schmidt is our Treasurer and Insurance chairman so it is good to have him on the executive board because he was our president. New to our board is Roxann Morris as Secretary. We also consolidated our Bylaws and tweaked our Constitution. 2017 was a good year with lots of dances, going to TN's State Convention, benefit dances for Toys for Tots. ARC of the Bay, and the 63rd State

Convention. We look forward to seeing you at the 64th State Convention in February.
Submitted by Brian & Barbara McDonald, President NWFSRDA

e. West Coast Association:

WEST COAST SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

Hello 2018!! Happy New Year to all!!! I truly hope everyone had a safe and joyous Holiday season.

Clubs all over the West Coast prepped to bring in the New Year. We were fortunate this year to have Johnny Preston call an Advanced dance at Strawberry Square on the Friday before New Years and follow that up on Saturday with a day of Challenge dancing, again at Strawberry Square.

January began in the West Coast with the New Year's Eve dance at Strawberry Square with Johnny Preston calling and Charlie Lovelace cueing. A great time was had by all and 2018 was ushered in in style. One of the highlights of the night was the synchronized demo performance by the Flowing Figures from Shufflin Squares. Keith Stevens put together the choreography and everyone in attendance was greatly impressed with the performance. As Florida braced for the cold weather from the North and the thermometer approached freezing, the West Coast is in full operation. All areas have started up their winter classes and the snow birds are returning. Our January Association dance was Sunday January 7 at Strawberry Square with Keith Stevens and Ted Hughes calling and Tom and Cindy Bunn doing Rounds.

January also marked the unofficial kick off of the 2019 Florida State Convention with the 2019 Benefit Dance January 13, 2018 at Whirl and Twirl. Since Terry and I are the General Chairmen, the West Coast is be strongly represented. The 2019 Convention, Green Flag Dancing from Daytona, will have a West Coast flair. Terry and I are General Chairmen, Keith Stevens is a Co-Caller Chairman, Don and Ann Slocum are the Treasurer and Lance and Rita Baxter are the Vendor Chairmen. Keith and Rod Barngrover, the other Co-Caller Chair will made their 2019 Convention debut at Whirl and Twirl last night. We certainly thank you for attending and we hope you spent a significant amount of money. Terry and I want the 2019 Convention to reflect activities of the West Coast and so far, we're off to a great start!

As we move from the holidays, there's a ton of activity going on in the West Coast. 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, WCSRDA

16. Website/Master

Federation Web Site

The Florida Web Site is due for some updates. There are 3 domain names associated with the web site. The first one is floridasquaredance.com. This is the domain that was created when we took the site over from Tom Perry who started the Florida Site originally. After we got

floridasquaredance.com up and running the 2 domains that he had established, floridadancing.com and floridadanceweb.com were transferred over to the Federation. We were, and still are, receiving hits on the pages using all 3 of these domain names. So, it is in our best interest to keep all 3 domains up and running.

All 3 domains are due to be renewed on July 6 of this year. It will cost a total of \$45.51 for a 1-year renewal. The reason that I only want to renew them for 1 year is that the Hosting Account is due for renewal on August 7, 2019 and I want to get the renewal dates as close as possible. That way it is easier to keep track of.

Another reason that I only want to renew the domains for 1 year is that when I started this job I really did not know what it would expand to be. I purchased the domains and hosting account under my personal account with GoDaddy.com. Since starting this job, I have acquired several other web site jobs and it is getting to be a little much. Therefore, shortly after the August 7, 2019 date of the hosting renewal I would like to turn this job over to someone else and let them put their own spin on it. Prior to July 6, 2019 before the domain names have to be renewed again, I will renew the domain names again and purchase a new hosting account under a Federation account with GoDaddy.com and transfer everything over to that account. At the next working weekend, I'll bring it up for a vote as to how long we want to renew everything; 1, 2, 3, 5 or 10 years. It will still maintain the floridasquaredance.com domain name and all the other domains will go with it. There will be a month where both the old and new accounts will overlap. The reason for that is GoDaddy.com will not allow you to just transfer a hosting account.

As you know, the current State Convention pays a fee to the Federation for the maintenance of the web site. When the 2019 State Convention makes their payment the current charges for the previous renewals is completely paid up. So, after the renewal this year and the renewals next year a new payment amount will be calculated and the new payment amount will start with the 2020 Convention and will continue for the number of years that the 2019 renewal is made for.

I would like to make a motion that Bruce Morgan be authorized to spend up to \$50.00 for the renewal of the three domain names for 1 year.

Motion was seconded and passed

Bruce Morgan
Web Master

17. Publication Reports:

a. Bow & Swing

Bow & Swing is alive and doing well. We have had several difficulties since our hurricane, mostly from the print shop commercial customers. We are striving to get caught up and at one time even considered publishing online only. We really did not want to do this as I have always said, "When you are done reading, leave it in any waiting room you ever attend."

This lets other individuals read about Square Dancing and may spark an interest. Our paid subscription is just under 900 which is down from past reports. Part of this we believe is due to the fewer numbers of Square Dancers. Not really a complaint but an observation. From what I have heard, many clubs are starting to regain numbers in their clubs. One thing that I have been told is that many dancers just want to come and dance. They choose not to belong to any club or organization. I have told some of those dancers that I do not mind as long as they keep coming to the dance. In the back of my mind I feel that if they continue having fun, sooner or later they will join. One other thing that I have observed is that many clubs are not teaching a full Mainstream list. While this may be good for your club, a question to be asked, "Is it good for the dancer?" That of course is for you and your club to decide. As for Bow & Swing, we continue to publish monthly. We have no plans to raise rates either for subscribers or advertisers. At Bow & Swing we appreciate your photos. You may email them, send them snail mail or hand them to us at a dance. I will admit it is more fun without a caption. One last thing. If any of you wish to hold a subscription dance, let us know. You can use your caller or I will travel and call for your club or organization.

Respectfully Submitted,

Randy Boyd

b. Grapevine – no report

c. Keepin' Posted - This month the publication will be late. I am still waiting on information and it will be published shortly for all the members to enjoy. Respectfully Submitted, Ailene Picheco, Editor/Publisher

d. Panhandle Press – no report

e. West Coast Dancer – no report

18. Convention Reports:

a. 2018

Chairman's report for 64FSRDC, 1/12/2018

Facilities:

The Ocean Center has the schedule for each room. The inside of the rooms, and floor plan has been submitted for the fire marshal.

Things that are different from Lakeland: There are no places to sit outside the dance rooms. We will have tables and chairs set up outside the ballroom and the meeting rooms...

The concession will be open the whole time of the dance. At the Enchanted forest, we have seating for 40 people and 64 by the meeting rooms. We will have dipin' dots, salads, coffee, soda, chips, sandwiches, burgers, and hot dogs, etc.. There are drinking fountains. The vendors are spread out in the lobby and South Concourse (outside the meeting rooms).

The tables need to be decorated and table cloths. One idea is I have a lot of material that could go under clear plastic. The decoration committee can go to town. Two tables will have jigsaw

puzzles for people to work on. Outside of most rooms are table with displays. Bow and Swing, the USDA, the pamphlets for dances.

The vendors can pull up right to the area where the doors open and unload. They can stay until the end of the dance. The vendors must be out of the building by 12 midnight. Bob expects to be out of the building between 2-3 AM. We will be paying for each extra hour Bob needs to remove the floor.

The Ocean Center, is only charging for the stage, and riser - \$185, all chairs in the rooms, and tables and chairs in the hallway for our use is included in the convention hall price.. We are not charging the National convention for their tables and chairs, the Florida state convention is paying for their tables.

Extras are the flooring the convention is providing. \$705, and we passed the cost of vendor table and chairs along to the vendors.

Insurance - The insurance is still a problem. When we signed the contract, in the contract it says that the insurance binder must say, "The Lessee shall name as additional insured the Ocean Center, the County of Volusia, its officers, agents and employees for coverage set forth in paragraph 16 (a)." The issue around car insurance has been unclear, but has been waved because no vehicles will be driven into the building. You can drive a car next to the building to unload, and load. The parking garage is also their property.

We were told that the directors waved taking a percent of vendors and sales, and 50/50 ticket sales is okay. Do we have that signed addendum? Also it says broadcasting rights must be agreed to by the directors, and there may be a fee. Do we have an addendum that says we may put the kickoff onto our website? Also the insurance binder had our address, and not the address of the federation as per the legal papers, that incorporate the Federation as an legal not for profit entity.

These are issues that need to be more carefully addressed even if we go back to Lakeland because Lakeland is now RP Center and owned by different people.

Ticket sales are 483 so far.

Trail end will need table covers for long tables. Would like the associations to provide cookies, coffee, tea, plates, cups, napkins. We have the room from 1-9 PM. Will need help with clean up. We are going to have pizza from Genovese. People are signing up on line.

The after party is going to be Friday night. Lewis and I took a hotel room at the Hilton for Saturday night to be able to supervise the removal of the floor.

We need to know how Suzie Q gets paid for dangles and Bob Barr for the floor.

We need help with 50/50, with dangle dances, and selling wishes. For the enchanted forest.

The decoration committee may spend 500 dollars. This will include table covers.

Also the after party may spend 500 dollars.

Here is an example copy of the survey. We will modify this as desired by Ed and Terry.

Survey

Next year, the convention will again be at the Ocean Center. For 2020 do you want the convention to be at:

a) Ocean Center in Daytona b) Lakeland Center c) Somewhere else _____.

How would you rate the quality of the venue? 1. to 5. 5 is outstanding _____

Please tell us why you gave that rating _____

How would you rate the quality of your hotel or RV park? 1-5 _____

Where did you stay? _____

Did you have enough room to dance comfortably? Yes No

Which hall did you spend most of your time in? _____

What did you like about the convention? _____

What needs improvement? _____

b. 2019

65th FSSDC REPORT (aka 2019 State Convention)

Here we are, the morning after our Benefit dance and one month before our official Kick Off...Woa !!! Time flies when you are having fun!! The GREEN that took over the dance floor last night was great. Thanks! Some people last night looked like they could be on the cover of GQ.

Our All-Star team is ready to go!! We still have a few slots available. Remember, this is the convention you all want to be part of!! It's gonna be huge!!

We want to give a special shout out to Cheryl Miller for her Ways and Means efforts. This year we have a very special honor, the chance to be a 'gold sponsor of the 2019 Convention'! With a donation of only \$25, you get to wear a Gold Badge showing you are special. You also get your name in the BMOC portion of the Convention book as well as FREE admission to our Trail End dance. The best part of the badge is that when you are wearing it at a dance, no one can hassle you to buy!! Yes, for only \$25 , you get relief from Cheryl, me, Terry, or whoever has the 'goods and services'. Sounds like quite a bargain to me.

I would also like to thank Bruce Morgan for his help. Bruce does a super job and is extremely responsive whenever Cheryl or I need help. Thanks Bruce!

We are beginning to get rolling, picking up speed each day. We have our Polo's in stock. Tee's on order. Ribbons on order. Our registration form is in process. We are proceeding as if we are buying some amount of flooring.

We have received a gorgeous quilt donated to the 2019 Convention by Jeff and Diane Hissong.

It's ready to go to the winning ticket.

We are busy planning our Kick Off. We do have concern about when we can practice. We think before 7:00am or during lunch is ridiculous. That said, once we 'kick off', we're going to be ready to go. We certainly need your help. You guys are the experts. Any ideas or suggestions you may have, we encourage you to bring them forward. We are all in this together. Whatever money we make or don't make, effects us all. The State Convention is the prime revenue source for the Federation, the Callers and the Cuers. We all have a vested interest in the success of the 2019 Convention.

We want the 2019 Convention to be high energy, loud and fast, and most of all FUN!! “GREEN FLAG DANCING FROM DAYTONA”, “START YOUR ENGINES FOR HIGH ENERGY FUN!”

One thing for sure the 65th FSSDC in February 2019 will be the PLACE TO BE!!! It's gonna be huge! Mark your calendars now!!

Sincerely,
Ed Drexel & Terry Wetherby
Chairman

c. 2020

66th FSDDC 2020 State Convention

We have not officially met since our last federation meeting. We are still up in the air regarding when and where. Those decisions will probably be made after the 2018 convention. We still have some empty slots on our roster; secretary, publicity, ways and means, 50/50, decoration and after party. We have received our seed money from the Federation and just need to get our account established. We do have a logo proposed by Shannon Reid. We are meeting this afternoon to see where we are on our timeline. Respectfully Submitted The FIRM

D. 2021

67th FSDDC 2021 State Convention

Although we don't know where or when our convention will be in 2021. We do have a theme. Lighting The Way To Friendship And Fun In 21., and our decor will be lighthouses and our colors will be red and white. We have recruited some committee members, we still need lots! Richard & Carol Douget,- Chairman, Bob and Mary Gibson - Secretary, Dennis and Nancy Taylor - Treasures, Ailene Picheco – Program Book & Advertising, Earle and Carol Collins - Cuer Coordinator, Susan Snider and Mark Fetzer - Assistant Cuer Coordinator, Bruce Morgan - Web Master, Randy and Carol Poole – Housing Chairman and the Keith and Angie Olds – Decoration Chairman. We have 2 raffles planned. The first is a Lighthouse Quilt made by Terri Little and the second raffle will be 2 Lighthouse structures which are about 5 feet tall which are made by Richard Douget and his friend Tom Leaf. They will be used on each side of the stage as décor and then will be raffled off at the end of the convention. If anyone has any suggestions please let us know Respectfully Submitted, Richard and Carol Douget.

19. Facilities:

I arranged for a visit for the Callers and Cuers to be able to sound check the Halls so as to strategically locate the stages. Unfortunately, some of the Halls were occupied with workmen, so it didn't go well.

Lewis made arrangements for the extra time that will be needed to take up the flooring and turned in the hall configurations so as to get the needed approval of the Fire Marshall

I have left messages to contact the Caterer at the Ocean Center so as to set up some hours for the concession stand to be open and discuss what they will offer.

It is crucial that we decide at the Feb 25 meeting on the location of future Conventions so the 2020 committees can be planning. If there is to be a change of venue it will require the approval of Callers, Cuers and Federation.

Currently we have the Ocean Center on hold for the last weekend of Feb. 2020 & 2021. If we want to guarantee the dates we will have to make a deposit by the end of Feb., so I will need a deposit check at the Feb 25th meeting.

For planning purposes, I would recommend that we have 3 yrs. under contract so that the future committees can do their planning.

Respectfully Submitted.

Donald Slocum

Side note not included in written report. There has been a change of planes at the Lakeland Center. They had to spend a lot of money on the Arena to bring it up to ADA code ie installing elevators etc. Don is trying to get the information but it has been difficult. He hopes to have an answer by our February meeting. We are hoping carpet was not installed in Sikes Hall.

20. Florida Hall of Fame Report:

Our committee will meet tomorrow afternoon.

When I leave the committee after the state convention, I will choose someone to replace me. Sometimes a member drops off the committee early and they do not have a replacement. We are short one member. If anyone knows of someone who would qualify to be on our committee, please let me know.

It is a five-year commitment.

We only meet once or twice a year.

They must have danced long enough to have a good idea of what our hobby is all about so as to appraise the applications that come in.

Respectfully submitted,
Ailene Picheco

NOTE FROM AILENE

Honor Guard

Ailene Picheco is looking for any square dancer who has served in the Military to participate in the Honor Guard on Saturday. Association Presidents please ask your dancers and have them get in touch with Ailene.

21. History Report:

Nothing earthshattering to report. Pictures are being sent to Bruce Morgan to put on the website as I get them. I air-dropped the Federation installation pictures to Bruce last evening. I'm sure he'll have them posted before the weekend is over.

Pictures can be sent to me at islandmom74@att.net or directly to Bruce at brucemorgan@embarqmail.com

Respectfully submitted, Terri Little

22. USDA Report:

Central Region Vice Presidents WINTER REPORT January 2018

We were excited to take on this position with the USDA at last year's National Convention. We thought we would be a good fit since we already attended many of the state conventions in our region. Unfortunately, since taking the position, we have had some last-minute circumstances causing us to miss three conventions already. Hopefully the New Year will bring us better luck.

In September, we contacted all Delegates in our Region (via email) to update our contact information. Many of the Associations were holding elections in November, and we have some we need to follow up on; to ensure we have any new information. The first weekend in August we attended the 43rd Tennessee Square and Round Dance Convention along with Larry Dunkel. The third weekend in August, because of a death in the family, we missed the 28th North Carolina State Convention. We also missed the 55th Michigan Square & Round Dance Convention which was the same weekend. The last weekend in August, we attended (and chaired) the 39th Alabama State Convention. In September the Hurricane kept us from attending Georgia's 46th Annual Convention. The last weekend of September we made it to the 9th Annual Kentucky Square and Round Dance Convention. This was our first time attending this dance. The first weekend in November, because of a work conflict, we missed the chance to join Milene McCall at the 28th Indiana Square and Round Dance Convention. In February, we will not be attending the 64th Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention. Unfortunately, they moved their dance to the same weekend as another big dance that we support. In March, we will not be able to attend the 63rd Annual Mississippi Square and Round Dance Association State Festival because we will be at Pre-Convention in Atlanta. In March, we plan to attend the Louisiana State Square

Dance Associations 49th Annual State Convention. This dance is not in our Region, but we enjoyed it so much last year we plan to go back. In April we plan to attend the 43rd Annual South Carolina Square and Round Dance Convention in Columbia. This is a new date and location, so we hope it goes well for them. In May we plan to attend the 58th Ohio Dance Convention. This will be our first time attending this dance.

Respectfully Submitted
 Tom & Tina Wilkins
 Central Region Vice Presidents
 United Square Dancers of America

USDA Representative

We are in need of a USDA Rep. The responsibilities would be to attend the Meeting on Wednesday before the National Convention and attend the Association dances and set up the USDA display. Please see Elsa and Ray is interested.

23. USDA Insurance Report:

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS
 INSURANCE FINANCIAL REPORT
 January 13, 2018

Beginning Balance	October 31, 2017	\$
Income		
Central		\$
Northeast		\$
Northwest		\$
Southeast		\$
West Coast		\$
Total Income		\$
Expenses		
USDA Insurance		\$
Carol Poole Postage		\$
West Coast Over Payment		\$
Total Expense		<u>\$</u>
Ending Balance		<u>\$</u>

As of December 31, 2017	Association/Clubs	Dancers
Central	7	331
Northeast	8	235
Northwest	1 & 7	170
Southeast	1	67
West Coast	5	123
Total	2 Associations 27 Clubs	926

Randy & Carol Poole
Federation Insurance Chairman

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS

Insurance Report January 13, 2018

We got off to an early start this year with the clubs needing special wording and having special dances in January. Only to find out the Insurance Company had a surprise for us. This was also news to Pat Inglis, the USDA Insurance Director who had no input into the change. The insurance company realized they had been doing it wrong all these years. The club will still receive a certificate for their facility. They will also receive two extra sheets with further information. The club will be listed as the Certificate Holder and their dance halls. It also has Pat Inglis as the contact person and her address to report a claim. This is not correct. Pat does not want anything sent to her except from the state insurance chairmen. Club paperwork will still go to their association insurance chairman who will forward it to me. A good change the current certificate will no longer have the date and/or time printed on it. The certificate will be good for the entire year.

Since the November meeting there hasn't been an accident report.

Clubs that have not renewed are not insured now.

Randy & Carol Poole

24. ASCAP/BMI Report:

The 2018 ASCAP bill of \$128.00 was paid by Richard & Carol Douget on January 11, 2018.

We did not receive the invoice from BMI. However, we went online to BMI.com and the 2018 BMI bill of \$160.00 was paid by Richard & Carol Douget on January 11, 2018.

The receipts will be forwarded for reimbursement.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard & Carol Douget

25. **ARTS Report:**

ARTS sends out information periodically. They have set up an email tree to filter this information down to the dancers in all 50 states.

If anyone would like to receive the information they send out on a national level, please contact me Ailene Picheco, 321-652-0680, apicheco@att.net

Or Penny Green, 863-224-3393, sgdncfan@gmail.com and one of us will add you to our list.

Respectfully submitted,

Ailene Picheco

26. **Old Business:**

a. **USDA Tax Status**

Cheryl Miller is continuing to work on the Federation's tax status.

b.

Flooring Committee

No report until after the afternoon breakout meeting. We will be looking at alternative options during this meeting.

27. **New Business:**

a. **Working Weekend dates and location**

Due to the fact that the Federation will be holding all 3 yearly meetings (General Meeting, Working Weekend and Convention Meeting) within a 4-month period (November 2017, January 2018 and February 2018, respectively), it is necessary to revisit this schedule in an attempt to "spread the wealth", so to speak.

In years past, it was accepted that we would hold our General Meeting in November, date and location determined by current President. Our Working Weekend was typically held the last weekend in February with locations moving back and forth between Orlando and Lakeland. This weekend was when the Benefit Dance was held for the "Out" Convention (in other words, not the current year's convention, but the following year's convention.) The Convention Meeting was held, oddly enough, on Sunday morning the weekend of the Convention, typically in May over Memorial Day weekend.

This provided a nice interval between meetings allowing for gathering of necessary information and recovery for all of us from the travel and duties necessary (reports, meetings, committees, etc.).

This year, due to the fact that our convention is now the last weekend in February (as is the 2019 convention, with a good chance that those dates will hold for 2020 and 2021), we are left with little time to get all the stuff done that needs to be accomplished from one meeting

to the next. Once the convention is over, we won't meet again until November...almost 9 months!

In order for us to repair this situation and make our jobs easier, it appears we will need to have a 2nd Working Weekend this year in order to get back on track with our meeting schedule.

Our typical schedule is

November – General Meeting

February – Working Weekend

May – Convention Meeting

I propose that we switch our Working Weekend Meeting and Convention Meeting in order to spread our meetings more evenly through the year.

That being said, we would need to have our 2019 Working Weekend meeting (and subsequent Benefit Dance) in May (Memorial Day weekend? Not necessarily!). Then our General Meeting would be in November (same as it is now). And our Convention Meeting would be Sunday morning after the convention (which, in 2019, is the last weekend in February).

Our new schedule would be:

May – Working Weekend for the FOLLOWING year – this is where we would do all of our planning for the FOLLOWING year...budget, audit, breakout meetings, etc.

November – General Meeting

February/March – Convention Meeting

With the exception of this year (to get back on schedule), we would still have 3 meetings per year and the spread between meetings would remain as it has been in the past.

Now...there are some things that may have to be adjusted/moved from one meeting to another. For instance, the Showcase of Ideas...that should probably be addressed at the Convention Meeting in February/March so that the associations can update their boards and bring new pictures, flyers, etc. BACK to the Working Weekend meeting in May so that it can be taken to the National Convention in June. Maybe the convention's final report and profit dispersal could/should be moved from the General Meeting in November to the Working Weekend in May. These are just a couple that occurred to me as I was writing this report. I'm sure there may be others.

Another thing that needs to be taken into consideration is the availability of either Whirl & Twirl (Orlando) or Strawberry Square (Plant City), depending on whether we hold the Working Weekend in Orlando or Lakeland. We'd also have to get the hotel whisperer (Randy Poole) to speak with the hotels in each city to determine if they have rooms

available and what our rates would be. That may be the long pole in the determination of the location of our next Working Weekend.

That being said, I move that future meetings for the Federation be held utilizing the following schedule:

May – Working Weekend

November – General Meeting

February – Convention Meeting

Terri Little

Motion was seconded and passed

c. Trail End Dance date and location

Action cannot be taken until the convention dates have be decided.

So we will pass on this item.

- d.** Don Slocum received a request for 1,000 brochures for the Welcome Center on I10. After much discussion, a motion was made for us to order enough brochures for the year. Motion was seconded and passed.
- e.** Penny Green ask what the status was for the update of the booklet for new dancers, what’s it all about, etc. A hand book to give to graduate dancers. This will be readdressed in the future.
- f.** Document Revisions. The documents were revised, however with the new changes made today, another revision will need to be made.
 - 1. Standing Rules. New Delegates be welcomed at the first meeting of the year. Bruce made a motion to accept that change to the Standing Rules. Motion seconded and passed.
 - 2. By-Laws. Add the development of a budget for the following year will be made at the Annual General meeting. Also remove the wording “the first meeting of the year will be the working weekend.”
The committee will revisit this.

27. Announcements: Resume meeting at 9:00 a.m. Sunday 1/14/2018

28. Break for lunch and committee meetings

Prepared and submitted by
Linda Tester, Federation Secretary