

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS

Comfort Inn & Suites, 137 Miracle Strip Pkwy, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

Sunday, October 27, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Call to Order | Cheryl Miller |
| 2. Invocation | Bill Reid |
| 3. Pledge of Allegiance | Linda Tester |
| 4. Roll Call | Terry Wetherby |
| 5. Introduction of Visitors and Guests | Cheryl Miller |
| 6. Minutes of May 18 & 19, 2019 Meeting | Terry Wetherby |

The minutes were accepted as corrected. Motion made by Kathy McKinny seconded by Brian McDonald.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| 7. Correspondence | Linda Tester |
|-------------------|--------------|

We only received one piece of correspondence since our last meeting. We received a thank you card from Marilyn J. Peacher, daughter of Frank Habersberger.

Thank you so much for the lovely card on my dad Frank Habersberger's passing. It's so nice that he is remembered by so many square dance people. I appreciate your taking the time to send us your condolences. Sincerely, Marilyn Peacher.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| 8. Financial Report | Terri Little |
|---------------------|--------------|

BEGINNING BALANCE - ALL ACCOUNTS AS OF 4/30/2019				
Wells Fargo Convention			\$	
Wells Fargo Business Checking			\$	
Wells Fargo Savings			\$	
Insurance			\$	
TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS AS OF 4/30/2019				\$
Convention Checking Account ...2033				
Beginning Balance				\$
Receipts	None		\$	
	TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$
Disbursements	None		\$	
	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			\$
Ending Balance				\$
Business Checking Account ...3154				
Beginning Balance				\$
Receipts				
5/20/2019	65th profits		\$	
5/31/2019	Interest		\$	
6/30/2019	Interest		\$	
7/31/2019	Interest		\$	
8/31/2019	Interest		\$	
9/30/2019	Interest		\$	
	TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$
Disbursements				
5/18/2019	Ck #1058 Linda Tester (delegate notebooks)		\$	
5/18/2019	Ck #1059 Cheryl Miller (recorder)		\$	
5/18/2019	Ck #1060 Darrell Cevasco (67th benefit hall)		\$	
6/19/2019	Ck #1061 Don Slocum (Welcome Center fees)		\$	
6/19/2019	Ck #1062 Bruce Morgan (web site expenses)		\$	
7/26/2019	Ck #1063 Linda Tester (cards and stamps)		\$	
8/4/2019	Ck #1064 Gramac Printing (print rack cards)		\$	
8/4/2019	Ck #1065 Gramac Printing (mail cards to Don Slocum)		\$	
8/4/2019	Ck #1066 Don Slocum (mail cards to Welcome Centers)		\$	
	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			\$
Ending Balance				\$
Market Savings Account ...9599				
Beginning Balance				\$
Receipts				
5/31/2019	Interest		\$	
6/30/2019	Interest		\$	
7/31/2019	Interest		\$	
8/31/2019	Interest		\$	
9/30/2019	Interest		\$	
	TOTAL RECEIPTS			\$
Disbursements				
	None		\$	
	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			\$
Ending Balance				\$
ENDING BALANCES - ALL ACCOUNTS AS OF 9/30/2019				
Wells Fargo Convention			\$	
Wells Fargo Business Checking			\$	
Wells Fargo Savings			\$	
Insurance (as of 9/30/2019 per Carol Poole)			\$	
TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS AS OF 9/30/2019				\$

9. Parliamentarian Report

Cal & Ann Maki

Hello from Rome Italy.

We apologize for not attending the meeting, but we are on a cruise with caller Jack Lewis.

We attended the national convention in Atlanta this past February. We set up the federation display and spoke to many of the attendees that stopped by.

The giveaways were well received and will have to be restocked for the next convention.

We took photographs of other state convention booths. It was the consensus of some of us that attended that for next year here each Association should prepare its own "trifold" display.

If this idea is approved, it would be helpful to determine the number of tables required. This year we had one table and one table was ordered for next year's convention.

10. Sunshine Report

Linda Tester

A) Sympathy cards were sent to;

- 1) The family of Frank Habersberger for their loss.
- 2) Steve Gray for the loss of his father, Caller Doc Gray.
- 3) Penny Green for the loss of her brother.
- 4) Bob and Flo Ormsbee on the loss of their son.

B) Get Well Cards were sent to;

- 1) Kathy McKinney
- 2) Joy Vaccari
- 3) Ailene Picheco
- 4) Penny Green

C) A 90th Birthday Card was sent to Art Spy.

11. Florida Caller's Association

Bill Boyd

No Report

12. Florida Round Dance Council

Susan Snider

No Report

13. Florida Square Dance Campers

No report

14. Association Reports

A. SouthEast

Sally Galik and Steve Adler

We held our Membership Dance and Ice Cream Social, along with the election of officers, on September 22nd. Next up, on December 8th, is our Toy and Cookie dance to which dancers bring toys and gifts for ChildNet – an organization that provides support for abused, abandoned, and neglected children in Broward and Palm Beach counties. Jack Lewis will be the host caller and Zail Greenbain the host cuer.

Our officers for the 2019-2020 season are:

- Sally Galik and Steve Adler, Presidents
- Larry Zukerman, Vice President
- Ray Huddleston, Treasurer
- Cheryl Dodes, Secretary
- Pat and Gary Bowen, Membership
- Bob Dodes, Insurance Chairman

Our annual fundraiser, the Snowflake Frolic, to be held Saturday evening, January 18th, will be supporting both the Southeast Association and the 2020 Convention. Jack Lewis and Scotty Sharrer will be the host callers; Zail Greenbain the host cuer.

We are planning two New Year's Eve celebrations in the Southeast. The Briny Breezes Square Dance Club is sponsoring a New Year's Eve dance at Briny. Chris Phillips will be the host for the evening. Mike & Patty Doughty, Scotty & Marlene Sharrer, and Chuck & Mary Ryall will be celebrating New Year's Eve in Fort Pierce at the River Walk Center.

A committee has been formed to explore ways to bring in new dancers as well as to retain existing dancers (we dare not say "old"). Members of this committee are Bob Dodes, Annie Minor, and Zail Greenbain. It's quite possible that one of them may be contacting other members of the square dance community for their input and suggestions.

Finally, we would like to thank both the Briny Breezes club for hosting our dances, which are held in the Briny Auditorium, as well as the Briny Board of Directors for their continued support.

b. Central

Carol Douget

We had our annual elections in September. Our 2019-2020 officers are:

President	Richard & Carol Douget
Vice President	Bill & Linda Reid
Secretary	Jeri & Peggy Huston
Treasurer	Randy & Carol Poole
Membership VP	Terri Little
Area VP	Ailene Picheco
Insurance Chairman	Keith & Angie Olds

Hoedowners will celebrate their 35th Anniversary and Thanksgiving with a special dinner and dance on November 24. Also, Gene and Marty McCullough will be honored at that dance. Gene McCullough has retired from calling and Rod Barngrover is now the club's caller. They will be holding an Open House today, October 27 at 1:30 for potential class members. They are offering 3 free lessons to new dancers.

Orange Blossom Squares are planning weekly dances with different callers during November. Ron Libby on Nov 3rd, Jack Lewis on Nov. 10th, Dave Mueller on Nov 17th and Rod Barngrover on Nov. 24th. December starts with their Toy for Tots dance with Bob Stern on Dec 1st, followed by Whit Brown on the 8th, and finishing with their Christmas dance with Don Hanhurst on the 15th. They will not be dancing on Dec 22nd or 29th.

Space Trackers started classes in late August and have 11 class members. They are doing great. Earle Collins will be cueing for the Space Trackers every week starting Nov 7th. They are having their annual Thanksgiving Feast on Nov 7th. The club buys the turkeys (3) and members bring side dishes to share.

Spindrifters Fun Time Squares graduated their Thursday night class on August 24th. The dancers also earned their Venus Dangle. They have started another class on Thursday nights. They have beginner lessons 7-8 PM and Plus lessons 8-9 PM.

The CFA next 5th Saturday Dance is November 30, 2019. Early Rounds with Scott Vallee at 1:30 and square dance with rounds 2-4 PM at the Crystal Ballroom in Casselberry. This is not the hall

where Whirl & Twirl dances. The address is: 1271 FL 436 Suite 147 Casselberry, FL 32707. Please come join us.

There will be a CFA meeting prior to the dance at 12:00.

c. Northeast

Mary Giera read by Kathy McKinney

The Northeast's Fall Festival called "Hillbilly Heaven" is fast approaching! Mark your calendars for November 15 and 16, 2019 in Jacksonville Beach. Our caller will be Jeremy Butler. Kathy McKinney and Joan Amarino both have ribbons for sale – only \$15 each person for dancing on Friday night, Saturday afternoon and Saturday night that also includes a round dance teach with Susan Snider on Saturday morning. Each of our clubs is designing an outhouse to compete in an outhouse race on Friday night, an event you will not want to miss.

We are delighted to report most clubs have a class underway. The students seem enthusiastic and are progressing.

Sadly, Jacksonville's only advanced club, Fun n' Frolic, has disbanded. It did not have a class and too many of its few members could not continue for various reasons. Fortunately for our advanced dancers we still have the Mixed Nuts/BAD Dancers in Gainesville. Incidentally, they are not bad dancers. The B-A-D stands for Bachelors of Advanced Dancing.

In addition, one of our callers, Bill Chesnut, has started advanced lessons for the 45 minutes before the start of our Thursday night club's beginner class at the Moose Promenaders.

At our last Delegates' meeting we held elections for Board officers. We had 2 people running for President! I'm delighted to introduce our next NEFSARDA President – Linda Tester.

d. Northwest

Brian & Barbara McDonald

Greetings from Northwest Association. We hope many of you enjoyed our Roundup, the food, and fun dancing. It was great to host you to our area. We had over 80 registered! A big thank you to PASARDA Hall for hosting us. Thanks to our caller Skip Cleland, Tim & Terri Wilaby the cuers and Bob Poyner our MC for the dance. You all did a GREAT job! A big thanks to Joe and Susan Shearer our chairman and all those who helped with food and decorations!

At the Roundup we gave Cheryl Miller a token of appreciation and a certificate for all the work she and Paul have done in representing Northwest over the last 15 plus years! She was Ways and Means chairmans and did an excellent job. She was apart of the State Convention planning for 2020 and helped the Federation with many important jobs. We will miss her dedication to square dancing and her sense of humor.

Over the summer the following clubs had graduation classes: Capital Twirlers, Seaside Squares, Swinging Squares, Agape and Dancing Dolphins. They started teaching plus so many of those students would feel comfortable coming to the Roundup and enjoying their new skills. Agape Squares started a new class with 8 new dancers. Other clubs plan to start classes the first of the year. T-N-T Rounds has classes on Sundays. Bob Poyner has started calling for Swinging Squares in Panama City on Fridays which is a new day for them.

Capital Twirlers are having a Christmas dance December 2ed. Along with a few other clubs having dress up Christmas parties. Swing Squares is having a New Year's Eve dance so there is a lot going on.

We are sorry to report that a couple of our clubs have declined in membership. Sand Spurs in Ft. Walton Beach did not renew their NW membership, but they still teach and dance so just check their website. We lost 2 members recently: Victor Rhodes and Wendell Murphy who supported square dancing for a long time.

At the time we wrote this we have been unable to find a delegate Representative for the Federation board and asked repeatedly for someone in our membership to volunteer. We apologize for this inconvenience.

e. West Coast

Penny Green

Our annual elections were held in August with the following results; Treasurers: John and Lynne Scott; Secretary: Deborah Pergande; Vice President: Jenny Green; and me for president. Our current membership is approximately 120 members.

Our 45th annual Fall Fun Fest is only two weeks away! Jerry Biggerstaff of North Carolina and Scotty Sharer will be calling and Judy Barnhill of Tennessee and Port Charlotte, Florida will be cueing. Judy is new to our area having moved to Port Charlotte just before we lost long time cuer Russ Collier and Cuer Dick Chase moved out of state. So she arrived just in time and has been a real asset to our area. She and her husband are big promoters of our activity, here in Florida as well as in Tennessee.

The Fall Fun Fest will be held on November 8 - 9 at the Carver Recreation Center in Bartow. This will be our second year at Carver. We were kind of bumped over there last year and we had so many positive comments about the location, we couldn't leave. We have a nice wood floor in the main room where Mainstream, Plus, and Rounds are alternated. There is a separate hall for Advanced dancing where computer squares are utilized. There are still about ten free camping spots available for us at the Bartow Civic Center, which is only a couple of miles from Carver. Ribbons are \$20 per person in advance and I have them with me this morning. Attendance at our FFF has been dropping yearly. Last year we would have been in the hole, except that we weren't charged rent on the Carver Center since they overbooked that weekend and we had to move. The 2019 FFF chairman resigned in early October and Jenny agreed to chair the 2019. Jenny was supposed to serve as assistant chairman of 2019 so she could learn what she needs to do for 2020. With this resignation, she and I have assumed chairmanship of the 2019. The committee met last weekend and we are discussing ways to not only increase attendance, but to raise most funds. After all, it is supposed to be a fundraiser!

Club updates:

1. Most of the clubs in Lee County (Ft. Meyers) have folded.
2. Citrus Park in Estero was sold over the summer and it's up in the air whether they will be able to continue the club under the new owners.
3. Temple Twirlers in Tampa had a slump a couple of years ago, but they have been successful in bringing them in. They do a good job of advertising dances and classes, do numerous demos, and one-time last year had a local television station do a spot for their station. We had to meet them very early in the morning (it was still dark) for the

filming. The male reporter put a crinoline on and danced a tip with us, which was filmed as part of the segment.

4. Suncoast Squares in St. Pete, a LGBTQ club, attends all kinds of fairs and collects names. They have good attendance at classes and dances. They are a fun club, they're really into theme dances and costumes, they do things together away from the dances like eating out, celebrating birthdays, and traveling together.

5. Buttons & Bows of Lakeland was unable to dance through the summer this year. They've only had about two squares since they started back up. This is one of the oldest continuously operating square dance club in the state of Florida. It has been projected that it won't last until the end of 2020.

6. Palace Promenaders of Arcadia has the good fortune to be located on the north end of southwest Florida and on the south end of the west coast of Florida. When all the clubs in southwest Florida shut down for the season, the year-round people go to Arcadia to dance.

7. Strawberry Squares has been partially closing for the summer for about two years now. The mainstream/Easy Plus Wednesday night dance continues through the summer as long as there are enough people to hold it. Everyone is asked to contact the caller or a designated person to let them know if they will or will not be coming. If it ends up that not enough people are planning to come, they cancel the dance and let everyone know. The A-@ on Friday nights usually start the summer but end up having to close part way through due to lack of attendance. Strawberry has started having social dancing on Saturdays; every Saturday during the summer and once or twice a month during the season. They brought in Tom and Cindy Bunn a couple of years ago to replace Jack and Nell Jenkins.

8. Stardust is another dance hall in Plant City that mostly focuses on Rounds and Ballroom dancing. Last year they brought in Pamela and Jeff Johnson to teach Phase 2-4 and hold special dances focus on round dancing. They not only have dances, but they have classes and workshops from phase 2. The Bunns, Johnsons, Lovelaces, and Jenkins all know each other so there is a little more cooperation between the two halls.

In spite of all this, we have two new clubs starting up this fall! Ron Reardon has been teaching a class in Wesley Chapel (hwy 54) and is now starting a club called Trinity Squares. Mike Gormley has been working with a class in Avon Park/Sebring area and they have started a club called Tropical Twirlers. Sam Dunn and Mike Gormley are planning to bring Advanced dancing back to Sebring if there is enough interest. For approximately 20 years, we have square danced at the State Fair. This was started by Merle and Joanne Lewis, Joanne passed away several years ago and we lost Merle a few months back. We lost Doc Gray in July. He was a longtime and well-known caller in the New Port Richey area. Unfortunately, we don't have any new and upcoming callers or cuers. Caller and cuer Carl Rod retired earlier in the year. What's going to be our downfall? Lack of dancers, lack of callers and/or cuers?

West coast has approximately six membership dances a year. This year we have applied themes to each dance i.e the president's ball was changed to President's Black and White Ball. Everyone was asked to wear black and white. Instead of only recognizing the WC officers that are installed at that dance, we also recognized the presidents of all the WC clubs and camping groups in attendance. Our officers are brainstorming ways to recruit more members and dancers. I hope to have some success stories for my next report.

15. Publication Reports

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------------------------|
| a. Web Site | No Report | Bruce Morgan |
| b. Bow & Swing | No Report | Bill Boyd |
| c. Grapevine (NE) | No Report | Laura Martin & Jim Maroldo |
| d. Keepin' Posted (C) | | Ailene Picheco |

The October issue has been sent out. It is the start of another year.

I will accept articles any time for the next issue which is due out January 1, 2020.

Please send me any changes in your club information.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| e. Panhandle Press (NW) | No Report | Tim & Terri Wilaby |
| f. DANCERgram/West Coast Dancer (WC) | | Penny Green |

I have been very busy since the merger of the West Coast Dancer and the DANCERgram! The design and layout are a moving target trying different things; sometimes they work and sometimes they don't.

As part of my work on the DANCERgram, I have created a list of all the publications we should utilize for our advertng, along with the publication deadlines and contact information. I provide copies of this list to the Federation officers, regional association presidents, publication editors, convention chairman, and the convention publicity chairman. I also maintain a list of all the clubs and area dances in the West Coast Association area and a list of deadlines for publications and award nominations. I have also started a file of head shots of callers, cuers, prompters, and dancers so we have the pictures for flyers, obituaries, etc. and bios. I work with Mike Gormley on the Suncoast Callers & Cuers website and Skip Cleland on the FCA site to collect pictures and bios. I am on the distribution list for all the Florida area associations, Bow & Swing, National Square Dance, and Square Dance News. Receiving all these publications helps me keep in touch with what is going on out there.

16. Convention Reports

- | | |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| a. 2020 | Little, Miller, Reid, Green & Reid |
|---------|------------------------------------|

Sheila and I (Terri were able to attend the Caller Programming meeting held at Strawberry Square on Sunday, October 20. Bob Poyner and Charlie Pergrossi are working on finalizing the schedule and getting it approved by FCA President, Bob Ormsbee. Once it is approved, it will be sent to Bruce Morgan for publication and posting on our website.

We also met yesterday with 4 of the 5 chairmen, Bob and Ann Poyner (Caller Chairman), Jack and Barbara Hoffman (Treasurer), and Linda Reid (Secretary). We discussed Jenny's list of about 50 points that needed attention.

Here are the pertinent results of that meeting:

- Room Sponsors – We will ask each of the 5 associations and Bow & Swing to sponsor one of the 6 dancing rooms. The Associations are encouraged to bring their banner to hang in “their” room.
- Grand March – Each participant in the Grand March (Federation, Callers, Cuers, Associations, Clubs, etc.) will be encouraged to carry their banner during the Grand March.
- Color Guard – We are looking to ask one of the local high schools JROTC to participate as our Color Guard on Saturday night.
- Dangle Dances – There will be 3 dangle dances on Friday afternoon and 3 different ones on Saturday afternoon, all in the Fun Hall.
- Program Book – We need all ads in ASAP. Deadline is 12/30/19.
- Youth – Remind your areas that any youth under the age 16 dances free with a paying adult.
- Dance on the Beach – Saturday morning at 8 am
- Bottles of water – The Ocean Center has agreed to allow each dancer to bring in 2 bottles of water
- Singles – No “meet & greet” hall, no singles area in the dance halls. Solo ribbons will be available (free) at the registration booth
- Last Square Standing – Saturday afternoon at 3 pm
- Classes - Intro to Plus, Intro to DBD, Intro to Adv, Intro to Hex, Line Dancing, Round Dance teaches.
- Display tables – Be sure to let us know if you have a group that needs a display table ASAP. We have to let the OC know how many tables we need. We will also need to verify that we have room for all the display tables along with the vendors and Ways & Means tables for the conventions.
- Pop Tops – continue to collect your pop tops and bring them to the convention!
- Get your ribbons, hotel rooms, quilt and Ring tickets, shirts, buttons
- Reminder – At the last meeting, each Association was given a Greeter sign-up sheet package. Please be sure to get volunteers for this easy job! The completed sign-up sheets need to be turned in to Judy Anderson.

b. 2021

Richard & Carol Douget

The 67th Florida State Convention will be held February 19 – 20, 2021 at the Ocean Center in Daytona. Our theme is “Lighting the Way to Friendship and Fun in ‘21”. The colors are red and white and the décor lighthouses. We have some raffles planned – a Florida Lighthouse quilt by Terri Little and 2 lighthouse structures by Richard Douget and Tom Leaf. The two lighthouses will be used as part of the décor and the raffle will be held the last night of the convention. We will also have polo shirts and buttons for sale.

We had a meeting with Bob & Flo Ormsbee, Bill & Mary Chestnut and Earle & Carol Collins to discuss our kick-off. The meeting went well, and the kick-off will be grand.

Sadly, our secretaries had to resign due to health reasons. So we need a secretary in addition to various chair people. We need:

- Secretary
- Way & Means –Chairperson
- Way & Means – All associations
- Vendor Chairperson
- Hospitality Chairperson
- Camping Chairperson
- Flooring Chairperson

Please consider volunteering for a committee. We all need to work together to make the Convention a success.

c. 2022

TBA

d. Facilities

Don & Ann Slocum

The contract for The Ocean Center, Daytona Beach 2020 and 2021, St. Convention are set. I will need to have the room layouts for 2020 by Dec 15, 2019.

This is the response I got from Ocean Center regarding March 4&5, 2022:

” I have you guys in there currently. I am not permitted to book events in smaller space this far out, so we just need to hold off a bit on the agreement”.

As soon as I hear more from the Ocean Center about this, hopefully by the end of the 2020 St. Convention, I will then I let Linda Tester know.

We will need to know if the Non-Profit status is confirmed so we can let the Ocean Center know so as not to charge us the tax.

We sent Cheryl Miller our letter of resignation effective March 1, 2020. We have enjoyed doing this job and have appreciated everyone that has helped us along the way. Now it is time to turn the task over to someone else.

We would like to work with the new Chairmen at this upcoming Convention to make it an easier transition

17. Florida Hall of Fame

Ailene Picheco

The Hall of Fame is financed through funds derived from State Conventions. The three sponsoring associations, Florida Federation, Callers Association and Round Dance Council, each contribute one-third (1/3) of expenses. Our account is maintained at \$1500. We have no nominations at this time.

More info is on the Federation website.

18. History

Penny Green

I have been working with Bruce Morgan gathering head shots of Hall of Fame inductees and past presidents.

I seem to have been drafted to be the keeper of West Coast history information, but I draw the line at accepting clothes and accessories! If I receive anything that should be added to the Florida site, I forward it to Bruce.

Temple Twirlers it all on YouTube. I have been given some CDs of photos from the Bay Area Twirlers (BATS), which folded several years ago, will also be uploaded Michael Craft and some Whirl & Twirl members have been busy uploading all their stills and videos and there will be or is a link to the Florida site.

I have come into possession of all the historical stuff from Buttons & Bows and am digitizing as much of it as I can.

I have discovered there is a square dance museum in the northeast, so if I receive anything that can't be digitized i.e. Caller Roland Blanchette's record collection of 33 RPMs and 45 RPMs, I send them to the museum with Caller Marty Vanwart.

19. USDA Report No Report Bob & Flo Ormsbee

Linda Reid read this report from the National USDA reported by Carol Poole

UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA

68TH NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE

WAVERLY HOTEL ATLANTA

JUNE 26, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Presidents Paul & Sally Schmidt at one o'clock. The Secretary called the roll. Thirty-two out of 53 voting members were in attendance. The most in four years. In our packet was the Treasurers Profit and Loss Budget and the proposed budget for 2020.

Due to having a two-hour time limit on the use of the room, the president asked the Regional Vice Presidents to only highlight their report. Tom and Tina Wilkins are the Vice President of the Central Region of which Florida is in. During their term they attended 12 state conventions out of the 13 states in their area. They noted all states are down in their dances.

It was requested the names of the delegates be sent in when the state receives the request.

Most of us know Jerry & Donna Robey from the Northeast Florida Association. They are past presidents of USDA and have been on the board for eight years. They are now the Chairman of the Travelers Committee. They have continued travelling the nation working on their third Traveler Badge. For those that may not have heard of the Traveler Badge. A badge and a bar are awarded to the dancers after they have visited at least 12 states. The goal is to dance at an event in all 50 states.

The Parliamentarian moved to amend the rules (Article 2 - Section 2) to change the quorum needed from 50% to 1/3 of the affiliates. The vote passed.

The President requested any discussion from the floor. Most of the discussion was on solo dancers. One delegate had a class of 60 students and 35 were solo. Suggestions from the floor we already use here. Only two were different. If more ladies than men, the ladies line up and the man takes the next one in line or a Sadie Hawkins tip where the ladies ask the men to dance.

All committees gave reports or had them included in the packet.

Education and Publications: All of their material is free for the dancers.

Prescription card and Showcase of Ideas: The Showcase was set up at the convention and very well attended. USDA initiated the new Enhanced Benefit Card Program in 2017. Only 35 prescriptions have

been filled. Besides medicine this card has hearing benefits. They asked all affiliates to promote and market it and encourage the dancers to use the card. Cards are in our packets.

Insurance: The financial report is in the packet. The affiliates have done well with the new Portal system. There are two Insurance Seminars during the convention. Insurance information and how to enter data to the Portal will be discussed. Everyone is encouraged to attend. The current director has held the job for 12 years. A new Insurance Director, Elizabeth Sanders, will take over sometime this summer.

Facilities/After Party: USDA will host the Mainstream After Party Friday night.

Youth Advisors: Presented two scholarships this year. One for \$1000 and one for \$500. One wants to be a Veterinarian and has started cueing. The other a Sonographer. One delegate gave a donation and challenged the affiliates to donate to the scholarship fund.

Ways & Means: Was pleased to see so many blue shirts in the audience. The current fundraisers are license tag frames with the words live lively square dance, iron on patches and window stickers attend the national convention.

The nominees for the board of Directors, the Traveler Program, USDA has a Centennial Award Program and a Handicapable Program. The Centennial Award is awarded to square dancers 100 years old that are still active in their dance clubs. They receive a framed certificate, a lapel pin and are featured in an article in the USDA NEWS. The Handicapable Program allots funds for handicapable dancers that are members of a handicapable club to the coming year were introduced. A vote was called, and all were elected. The Central Region will once again have Ed & Lyndia Willis from Wilmington, N.C as our Vice President.

News on the 501C3 – The Group Exemption Program. USDA sent in the forms necessary but the government shutdown in December caused a delay in getting everything finalized in 2018. USDA resubmitted in May 2019 and have not heard anything yet. Three affiliates are riding on this exemption Florida, North Carolina and Louisiana. If my notes are correct, USDA saved money with the delay. In 2018 the cost was \$2000; in 2019 only \$100 and renewals are \$50 a meeting year. After the Installation of Officers, the meeting was adjourned. The Winter Meeting will be held in Wilmington, N.C. on January 24 & 25.

Bob & Flo Ormsbee and Randy & Carol Poole attended the Carol Poole

20. USDA Insurance

Carole Poole

Beginning Balance	April 30, 2019	\$
Income		
Central	\$	
Northeast	\$	
Northwest	\$	
Southeast	\$	
West Coast	\$	
Total Income	\$	\$
Expenses		
USDA Insurance	\$	

Total Expense	\$	
Ending Balance	September 30, 2019	\$
As of September 30, 2019	Association/Clubs	Dancers
Central	/ 13	503
Northeast	/ 10	306
Northwest	1 / 7	187
Southeast	1 /	57
West Coast	/ 7	260
Florida Federation		6
65th Florida State Convention		3
Total Federation, Convention & two Associations & 37 Clubs		1322

The latest information for the 2020 Insurance year is a slight increase of ten cents per dancer. That brings the new price to \$4.85. The last increase was in 2015 for the 2016 coverage. We can start the renewals around November 1. The 2020 portals will have all the information submitted this year. When we renew all we need to do is update it. I have not received any specific instructions yet. I was hoping I would have for this meeting.

I may need to make changes to the website but right now we are still using the old forms. Especially for a new club enrolling for the first time.

Several things that we all need to be doing now. Every association and club must use their assigned number. This is your official ID number. It must appear after the name of your association and club every time you use it on an insurance form. Every insured club in the nation has been assigned a number. Also, I only need one copy of the forms you mail to me. Please proofread your work and check the spelling of the dancers' name with the dancer. When I typed the names this year, I found two different spellings for the same people. The first name received was not always the correct spelling. We must be correct on this new system. Three Associations have started using the portal system successfully.

Everyone seems pleased with the turnaround of certificates requested. During the off season, it only takes a day or two.

There were five reported accidents this year no one submitted a claim.

Randy & Carol Poole, Insurance Chairman

21. ASCAP/BMI

Richard & Carol Douget

They had nothing to report.

22. ARTS (Alliance of Round, Tradition & Squares) Ailene Picheco

2020 DANCE ACROSS AMERICA The ARTS, like most non-profit organizations receives operating funds from donations. There are several ways to donate including donations from individuals. The ARTS Board is inviting clubs to join an effort to host a benefit dance on Saturday, February

29, 2020. The nationwide theme for these dances is "Dance Across America." Please consider hosting a dance to benefit the ARTS. A downloadable flyer is available on our web site at www.arts-dance.org click on: "DANCE ACROSS AMERICA ARTS Benefit Dances"

BENEFIT DANCE Saturday, February 29, 2020

Please contact Jerry Reed, Executive Director at: ExecutiveDirector@arts-dance.org

PLEASE CONSIDER SPONSORING

a "DANCE ACROSS AMERICA"

DANCING INFORMATION RESOURCE We have provided this information many times in past issues of our newsletter, however, we believe it is very import, so we include it here. The Canadian Square and Round Dancing Society (CSRDS) has developed a Pinterest account that groups together resources relating to square dancing. The site features 33 boards or files on subjects right across the spectrum of the dance forms supported by the CSRDS. There are 2,800 links. The boards cover everything from the best promotional ideas, the best videos to square dance history, traditional square dancing, to a nostalgia board, to youth square dancing, to rainbow dancing, to quirky square dance videos. You need to set up an account to access these Pinterest resources, but that account is free. The site is:

<https://www.pinterest.com/canadiansquarea/boards/> INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION One of the major goals of the ARTS is to establish a communications network to publicize and distribute information to entire activity. To meet this goal The ARTS has established an electronic system to disseminate information to all dancers. This system includes email tree representatives who have agreed to serve as contact points for the ARTS Email Tree. The goal is to have the information delivered to all dancers in the USA within two weeks. If you would like to help, please contact the Executive Director, Jerry Reed: ExecutiveDirector@arts-dance.org

INVITATION TO THE ARTS MEETING You are invited to attend the next meeting of the ARTS Board. The meeting will be held Sunday, June 21, 2020 immediately following the 69th NSDC in Spokane, WA. All persons interested in supporting the activity are invited to attend. For more information including meeting time and location, please contact Jerry Reed, Executive Director at: ExecutiveDirector@arts-dance.org

Jerry Reed
Executive Director
Phone - 321-794-9645
Email - DirectorARTS@AOL.COM

23. Old Business
a. Email Tree

Penny Green

There hasn't been any activity since the last meeting has taken possession of all the stills and videos taken by our West Coast photographer, John Occhipinti. My webmaster is in the process of downloading

b. Nomination of Executive Officers

Chairman Kathy McKinney

24. New Business

a. Installation of Executive Officers

Kathy McKinney

President: Linda Tester

Vice President: Ed Drexel & Terry Wetherby

Secretary: Terri Little

Treasurer: Cal & Ann Maki

Parliamentarian: Barbara McDonald

b. Extra Mile Nomination Deadline

Linda Tester

The deadline is January 1, 2020

b. Any New Business from the Delegate Floor?

25. Announcements

Next meeting will be held at the Homewood Suites, 165 Bill France Blvd., Daytona Beach, FL., in conjunction with the 66th Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention on Sunday, February 23, 2020 at 9:00am

New officers were installed

26. Adjourn