

**FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS**  
**Bartow Civic Center**  
**2250 S. Floral Ave., Bartow, FL 33830**  
**Saturday, February 11, 2012 – 9:00 a.m.**

1. **The Call to Order** was given by President Bob Spence.
2. **Invocation** was given by Jerry Robey.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Vice President Jack Hoffman.  
*President Maria Spence introduced the Federation Board to Delegates & Visitors.*
4. **Roll Call**-performed by Secretary Paul Miller, a quorum was present.
5. **Introduction of Visitors & Guests;** Guest attending were Smitty Smith and Julie Franciskato from Northeast and new Northeast delegates were welcomed and asked to stand up, by President Maria Spence. Special thanks was given to Lance & Rita Baxter and Ann & Don Slocum for coming in to set up and provided the refreshments.
6. **Secretary Paul & Cheryl Miller presented the minutes of November 20, 2011;** Don Slocum reported the following correction; SE Association report page 9, paragraph 5; *Snowflake Frolic is scheduled for February 11, 2012.* USDA VP Central Region pg 16, paragraph 4; *Haversbergers (Past Presidents)* and pg 18 paragraph 1 *correct the spelling of Dewey Hendricks.* Motion was made by Don Slocum to accept the November 20, 2011 minutes with the above corrections. Motion was seconded and passed. Don Slocum.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Anita Taylor noted that under disbursement check #1491 is outstanding, this check written to the Northeast Association for the GSI Disbursement, has not cleared bank. She requested the Northeast research this check. We have not received the West Coast Association of \$50.00 Dues. Penny Green noted that on the Total Disbursements amount where there is a comma that should be a period, reading "Total Disbursements" as \$187.78. On the Convention Fund, there has been no activity and we have received the request for the 2014 60<sup>th</sup> Convention Seed Money and I have not written the check yet. This check will be reported on my next report. George Knapp made the motion to file the Treasurers Report for audit. *(See attachment for report)*
8. **Parliamentarian Report:** Penny Green, stated that her "Showcase of Ideas" display will be at the State Convention and then at National's. The committee meeting will be held this afternoon. She asked for a volunteer to transport the "Showcase of Ideas" to the National's in Spokane, WA this year. *Jack & Barbara Hoffman agreed to transport the display.*
9. **Sunshine Report:** President Maria Spence reported the following: We lost Bob Courter and corresponded with Mrs. Courter; Jack McKinney has had several surgeries and he is here today. Val Newsome had hand surgery; she is here today and recovering. Bob Spence had eye surgery. We sent Congratulatory card to Dave Nihart on his Nuptials. Ray Huddleston lost his sister and we sent a card; Dewey Hendricks has been ill and is doing better. Penny Green had surgery and will have another surgery. From Central Association, Claire Poole passed away.
10. **Correspondences:** President Maria Spence reported they had received an Invitation to Lisa Wall's "Farewell Dance" at St. Paul's Church on April 29<sup>th</sup> in Jacksonville. Invitation to Button & Bows of Lakeland 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, a letter was sent from the Federation congratulating them.

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|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 11. <b>Florida Caller Liaison-</b> | No report |
| 12. <b>Florida Cuer Liaison-</b>   | No report |
| 13. <b>Association Reports</b>     |           |
| • <b>Northwest-</b>                | No report |

• **West Coast Association**

Since our last meeting, we have had two membership dances; one in Estero (south of Ft. Myers) and one in Brooksville. Both dances were well attended and we realized a profit from both dances. We don't charge members to attend our membership dances, but we charge guests \$5 per person. Try as we may, we have no luck in recruiting West Coast members in either of these areas. These dancers feel that since they are only here for three months out of the year that it's not worth it to join. It doesn't matter that it's a very low cost to join; they don't see the benefit of membership.

After 26 years of holding the McDonald Dance at Strawberry Square, it was announced at our last meeting that there will be no more dances. There has been a change in management at the McDonald Training Center and they don't want us to have these dances any more. The first Sunday in November is being held open to have another type of charity dance. A committee has been formed to research other charities and decide on the charity we will go with.

On December 18<sup>th</sup>, Art Springer held a celebration for his 50 years of calling. Over 200 people were in attendance at Strawberry Square to dance to Art and Charlie Lovelace. This was held one or two months after Art had triple by-pass surgery. He has had a good recovery and lost about 30 pounds.

Buttons & Bows of Lakeland celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary on January 24<sup>th</sup> with 130 people in attendance. Twenty-five of these dancers were first time visitors. The Circle of Service Award was presented to three individuals. Beverly Germain has been a member of Buttons & Bows since 1977 and she was worked hard to keep the club running; working in several capacities. Jim and Sue Pier have been members since 1996 and have served as presidents or co-presidents several times. Jim was also instrumental in negotiating the merger of Buttons & Bows and Hampton Promenaders of Auburndale. As a result of the merger and the last class, which was the first class in Lakeland for many years, 37 new members joined Buttons & Bows in 2011. A new class started on January 8<sup>th</sup> with 30 new dancers attending the first class. They are in the sixth week of class with approximately 25 students still attending.

Three Honorary Lifetime Memberships were awarded to Art and Martha Springer, Charlie and Leona Lovelace, and Gary and Linda Brown. Art has called for Buttons & Bows 35+ years, Charlie has cued for the club for 25+ years, and Gary was the club caller for many years and has assisted with numerous demos.

On February 5 the third annual Scholarship Dance was held at Strawberry Square with 137 registered dancers in attendance and a net profit of \$788.11. So far we have not had any applicants for the scholarship, so these funds will be held for future applicants. Jenny Green, the most recent scholarship recipient, was at the dance to report on what she has accomplished to promote square dancing at Keiser University in Lakeland. She will be receiving her AA degree in Health Services Administration in May and plans to start her BA in Accounting in July.

Caller Jimmy Lee of Canada had several dates booked at Strawberry Square in March but had to cancel due to several personal losses through the holidays, to include his mother and a month later his partner of three years. Bill Harrison has been scheduled to replace him. The Fall Fun Fest is busy planning for the next weekend on November 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> at the Bartow Civic Center. Jack Lewis and Red Bates will be calling, and Karen and Dick Fisher will be cueing. Karen Fisher is new to the area and hails from Texas and winters at Strawberry Square. She's a lot of fun to dance to and with. We have flyers and ribbons with us this weekend. For 2013 we have the Blues Brothers (aka Sam Dunn and Jack Pladdys) booked for a return visit.

A small group of us are investigating the options available to make a square dance video for use on cable television, and possibly other venues such as the television screens on gas pumps and message boards in restaurants.

We will be having our next West Coast membership dance tomorrow afternoon here at the Bartow Civic Center. Keith Stevens is the MC and other area callers and cuers will be joining him on stage. I have heard that Sam Dunn will be one of those callers. Early rounds are at 1:30 p.m. and alternating Mainstream and Plus squares are from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Please plan to stay for a fun afternoon of dancing.

Penny Green  
President

#### • **Central Florida Association Report**

Central dancers supported The Central Florida Callers annual Benefit dance for the Vitas Hospice. They raised over \$1100.00. CFA missed their January issue of Keepin' Posted. But it wasn't the fault of the editor. I received the issue for editing and updating the where to dance section. I emailed it to be published and while waiting for it to be delivered my computer got a bug and I lost everything on my hard drive. When I checked on the January issue I found that it had been lost in cyber space and I could not reconstruct it. I hope to have better luck on the upcoming issue.

The next three months will be very busy for us in Central. Starting with our big dance of the year is The Shamrock Swing. This year's dance will feature Tim Marriner and Ron Libby calling the squares and Jimmy and Carol Griffin cueing the rounds. The Shamrock Swing will be held March 16 and 17, 2012, at the La Hacienda center in the Villages. There are two hotels within walking distance, the Holiday Inn and the Comfort Inn and Suites. We will have 2 halls all the time and 3 halls on Saturday afternoon. There will be something for all levels from mainstream to advance.

One month later, 20, 21 and 22 April will be the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Party Weekend and all profits will go to the 2013 State Convention. Bob Poyner and Charlie Pergrossi will be calling both Fri and Sat nights and we will have our Bingo on Sat Afternoon. Also there will be a 2013 convention meeting at 10 o'clock Sat morning. We have 23 motel rooms and 30 camping spots with 30 and 50 amps service. For \$90.00 you can get 2 nights in the motel, 4 meals, 2 dances and 10 games of bingo and it all goes to support the convention. The Millers have attended all 5 Party Weekends supporting the previous conventions so PLEASE come out and support their convention.

Ten days later we will have our 5<sup>th</sup> Sat Dance in Cocoa Beach on 31 March.

Randy & Carol Poole

• **Northeast Federation Report**

The Northeast has had a very busy end of year and first couple of months of 2012. With all the holiday dancers and special dancers. A good time was had by all. Our circus dance on January 20<sup>th</sup> was a great success. It's a benefit dance for dreams come true. All money raised goes directly to a critically ill child to make his dream come true. This is a local organization in Jacksonville. It was sponsored by Silver Fox Squares and over \$3,500.00 was raised. Callers were Gary Murphy, Earnie Rollen & Mark Fetzler. Cuers Lisa Wall & Susan Snider. The Clowns were in town and a great time was had by all.

We are all looking forward to our Sadie Hawkins Dance. There may be another shotgun wedding on the horizon; Marrying Sam will be there if you need to get hitched. Date February 21, 2012. The Dawg Patch café opens at seven.

There are several valentines' dances next week. The 33rd annual Blue and Gray Dance is at Round Tree-Moore Toyota Indoor Showroom Lake City Fl. Caller Bubba Mingus Cuers Lisa Wall & Ralph Beckman. Date February 18, 2012

SeaBreeze Singles is holding a Charity Dance on March 3, 2012.

President's Ball – Tony Oxedine called. The place was packed and we all had a great time. We will have our 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday dance on March 31. Spring Fling at Jax Hts Elementary. Callers will be Bill Chestnut & Jim Cozman, Cuer Susan Snider. There will be several other great dancers coming up. If you in the area check the web site and join us for a dance or two.

We already had one graduation and are looking forward to many more in the next few weeks. It's great to meet the new dancers, they add a lot to our origination and without them what would happen to square dancing. It would end.

Take Care and I hope to see you in a square.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam & Mary Starling

• **Southeast Association**, not present and no report given.

• **FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF SINGLE SQUARE & ROUND DANCERS**

It is nice to report that our only "Singles" club, the Seabreeze Singles in Jacksonville, is still very hale and hearty. Ailene and I attended their Anniversary Dance last September and had a terrific time. It was nice to notice that everyone danced with everyone and not with a "set" partner all evening. They have a great caller in Jim Cosman – by the way we got him with the "red bloomers" which he thought they were great gangs of fun.

Now we are starting to gear up for our *Party-Rama*, as it is being called this year, scheduled for the week-end of October 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> at the Historic Kenilworth Lodge in Sebring, Florida. Ribbons and flyers are available here and now (hint-hint). Some have already been distributed or mailed to area clubs but please pick up more flyers today, and some ribbons too, to take back to your Association dances and various clubs. Help us promote this dance.

Just a friendly reminder, this dance is not just for “singles” but is an open dance to everyone - - - married, solo, coupled. The *Party-Rama* is sponsored by FASSRD and is our yearly “money making event”.

This year the Federation will be holding their fall meeting at the Kenilworth which is especially exciting for us since we have a great program planned. We have extended our dancing program to include two great callers, using two halls and we have great cuers too. Tim Marriner and Jack Lewis will be calling in the different halls, one being the usual Mainstream/Plus hall and the other will be an Advance hall. They will alternate between the two halls. Then we have Joanne & Ken Helton cueing the rounds both evenings. All you round dancers know what great cuers they are. We feel this will be a hard trio of entertainers to beat for a week-end of fun and laughs and all around good times, so you all must come.

As a note, during the day on Saturday there will be a round dance teach by the Helton’s and some fun-time workshops of square dancing featuring both Tim and Jack.

This year we have as a vendor, Sew ‘Em Up Fashions from South Carolina. They have been to the last several State Conventions and were at the Winter Festival this year, too. They design and make the matching skirts and blouse outfits they sell.

After Parties. FASSRD is known for their “after parties” because we have tons of food and skits and jokes and dancing and all sorts of tom-foolery, both nights. This is when we let our hair down and feast on cookies and pies and cakes or whatever shows up on our refreshment tables. A nice way to wind down a fun day of dancing. Plan on joining us in October.

Judy Anderson  
President, FASSRD

#### 14. **Publication Reports**

Grapevine (The) (NE)	No report
Keepin’ Posted (C)	No Report
Panhandle Press (NW)	No Report

#### **West Coast Dancer Report**

Good Morning.

I just want to let you know that there have been no major changes to the Dancer although there are some ideas being contemplated for reducing our printing costs. As you know we do not charge for the copies and any means of reducing the cost of operation is investigated.

We had three club dance sessions permanently cancelled this week and for some reason some contributors to the Club News section did not write. Although I can get to a dance only occasionally, it’s fun and something usually happens that could be written up. We do not encourage Club News to be only a statement of where and when they dance but of current activities. Dancers know where and when you dance from the listings but need to be encouraged to come to your dance.

Ads are always welcome and we do not get enough especially from local clubs and leaders. We sure could use their support.

Thank you. Ed Henning

Bow &amp; Swing

No Report

## 15. State Convention Reports

### 2012 CONVENTION REPORT

Plans for the convention are taking shape. We had a committee meeting on January 28 at Fred's Southern Kitchen in Lakeland. We currently have 175 paid registrations. Jennie Courter asked that if you have any sold ribbons that you send her the registration forms and the checks. A few registrations came in during January but we did not expect a big surge at this time of the year.

Tickets for the \$500.00 raffle have been selling well. Central reported that they did not have any tickets to sell as Dewey and Donna are apparently out of town. Anita Taylor has tickets with her and will be glad to assign some of them to you.

Randy Poole reported that 16 rooms have been reserved at the host hotel. He has a block of 75 rooms on the 3rd floor. Please make your reservations soon. If you are campers, Lakeland RV is offering Full Hookups for the Convention at \$19/night. Whether you book at the hotel or the campground you need to tell them you are with the Square Dancers to get the special rates.

The caller program has been established and received final approval from Roland Morin, President of the Caller's Association. Charlie & Ted are holding the schedule for a couple more weeks to be sure nothing comes up to change it and then it will be sent to us to distribute copies for placing in the program book, placing on the website and printed in Bow & Swing. Lisa Wall is working on the cuer program and will have it submitted by March 1. The final combined schedule will be developed once we have both the caller and cuer schedules.

All the ads for the Program Book need to be sent to Jack McKinney ASAP. We asked that if you had any to bring them to this weekend and we will see that they get to Jack. We need everyone to do their best to get these ads as they are a large part of the funding for the convention.

Randy Poole will be our Grand March coordinator on Saturday night at the Convention. We are asking all the Associations to provide their board members or a substitute to lead the march with clubs to follow. The clubs should provide two couples in club outfits and with their banner if at all possible. Association Presidents should notify the clubs in their Association of this request. It will also be printed in the Bow & Swing.

Randy Poole is also coordinating the 50/50 sales. He will have the tickets and the bags in the VIP Room opposite the Caller/Cuer Room. He will need people to donate an hour or so during the evening dancing to sell tickets. Let Randy or Carol know which night you would be available to help with 50/50.

We will be paying the balance of the rental fee 30 days prior to our convention. At the same time we need to provide Don Slocum with hall layout, vendor area layout and a list of the tables we require in the hallway. If you need a table for advertising your special Association dance, please let us know if we have not already contacted you at Winter Fest. With new fire regulations, the center says we cannot have tables on both sides of the hallway. We asked Don to check to see if we can have tables in the alcove outside the Plus Hall if the tables do not extend beyond the pillars in the hallway. This is where we normally put the upcoming conventions pre-sales.

Ken & Sue Brown and Terri Little are coordinating the After Party at the Host Hotel on Saturday night. Sue will be providing you with invitations.

We have asked the Convention Committee to be on hand at 8 AM on Friday to help decorate the halls. Although we do not have elaborate decoration displays we do need to get all the caller tables skirted and all the other tables covered. We will have a minimal amount of other decorations to place in the halls so if anyone is available on Friday morning to help out we would greatly appreciate it. Many hands make everybody's work lighter.

There will be a Trail In dance at Strawberry Square on Thursday night prior to the Convention. This will be the last fundraiser event for this convention. We have some fliers available so please take them back to your areas and encourage the dancers to come.

Anyone who has any bills, for the 2012 Convention, that need to be paid need to get them to us at the Convention or sooner. Give them to us or mail them to us. Do not give them directly to the treasurer. We need to approve all bills before he will cut the checks. Don Slocum needs to have our final financials by the middle of July for the Central Florida Visitor's Bureau for our grant money. He will also need the Registration List by ZIP codes at that time. Ray will be leaving on vacation so we have a very short timeframe to get this information turned around.

Our Hospitality Committee could also use some help. If you can donate an hour or two throughout the weekend please let us know. We will need people at the front and rear doors throughout the weekend.

We are working on the Program Book. If anyone needs to have a meeting and has not already told me, please get with us so that we can work you into the schedule.

Respectfully submitted,  
Garland & Carole McKenzie  
2012 General Chairmen

*Jack McKinney, 2012 Advertising Chairman reported that Program Ads are about \$800.00, this is 20% of what they should be. We have about 2000 dancers registered for the USDA Insurance. I have 26 Booster names from my club. The Association Presidents are responsible for getting the forms filled out with Booster names from their Association Clubs within their area. We are way behind. Convention Chairman Carole McKenzie stated she had Northwest Boosters, as well as some from various dances they had attended.*

### **2013 Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention Report**

Our Convention is rolling along. Our Convention Budget has been finalized. The Lakeland Convention Center's Contract has been negotiated; we are very pleased with the price. However, with everything comes a price and our Convention will be downsizing our rooms. We will have to cut down on Vendor space. We met with 2013 Vendor Chairman Dee Dee & Bessie Stovall & Facility Chairman Don & Ann Slocum and I think we have it all planned out. We will be placing our Vendors in the Center area of Sikes Hall.

We have designed our Registration Form and soon will be sent to the printers. Convention Ribbons have been ordered are in. Buttons, Totes & Shirts are here and ready to be sold.

Our Convention decided on our Ways & Means Raffle to begin at tonight's upcoming Benefit Dances the "Beach Bonanza". The winner receives a Beach Pail filled with \$100.00 of gold one dollar coins! This raffle will be awarded on Sunday after our Kick Off. You will only have (3)

chances to purchase these tickets; Federation Working Weekend, Party Weekend and at the 2012 State Convention. Don't miss out on this raffle.

Also, being sold at these Benefit Dances are the Florida Federation of Square Dancers logo shirt & windbreakers. We only purchased a limited supply of these items so, please if you're holding back for a "FIRE SALE", there will not be one on these items, so get them while you can.

We are very excited; we have a Registration Chairman, thank you to Carol & Randy Poole for taking on this huge task. Assisting them will be Carole & Garland McKenzie. We still need an advertising Chairman.

We still have Convention Costume Shirts that we're selling at cost \$9.00 for small, medium, and large, \$10.00 for X-large and 2X-large. We are encouraging all dancers to wear a "Beach shirt & long shorts or clam digger pants" on Friday Evening of the 2013 Convention. These shirts are sold at cost only. This style of outfit will be worn by the participants in the 2013 "Kick Off". We will need each Association to provide 5 men or ladies for the "Kick Off". We will also take extra's to assist with filling in for other Associations. If you are not already assigned a position in the "Kick Off", please consider volunteering for your Association.

We would like to thank the Florida Federation of Square Dancers and President's Bob & Maria Spence for planning tonight's 2013 Convention Benefit Dance. We look forward to seeing you tonight.

Respectfully,  
Paul & Cheryl Miller  
59<sup>th</sup> FSSRDC Chairman

### **2014 State Convention Report**

We are still looking for a cuer chairman and assistant chairman. With no luck on our own we have asked Tim Wilaby for some assistance from the Round Dance Council of Florida. Their next meeting is not until March so hopefully at our next meeting in May we can announce our cuer chairmen

Since our last meeting Ken and Sandy Brasfield have volunteered to do hospitality. Bud and Anita Taylor will be our ways & means coordinator. Terri Little has agreed to do ways & means for Central. At the last West Coast Meeting in January a quilt was donated to our convention that we can raffle off. We are still discussing our fundraising activities.

Mom & I have emailed out a form to a few of the previous convention chairmen asking for information about what items they sold, how many they ordered, and how many they sold. If you haven't already please send those to us as soon as possible so that we can have an idea of what we should order.

We have emailed a letter to the Callers Association requesting approval of Sam Dunn as our caller chairman and Mike Doughty as our assistant caller chairmen. We have also emailed a letter to the Federation requesting the Convention "seed" money.

There are still several positions on the convention committee that need to be filled – Secretary, Program Advertising, Ways & Means for Southeast and Northeast Associations, Publicity, Grand March, and Singles.

Our first committee meeting will be at the Lakeland Center on Saturday, May 26, 2012, in the Lake Morton meeting room at 10am. We will have the convention outfit ready for anyone that would like to see it.

Respectfully submitted  
Penny & Jenny

### **2015 Convention**

No Chairman has been appointed.

### **Facilities Report**

The Slocums and the Baxters met with Brenda Townson of the Lakeland Center and agreed to a contract, subject to Federation approval. The contract is for \$12,282.50 +\$859.78 state sales tax for a total of \$13,142.28 per year for 2013, 2014, 2015. This is our base contract. The rent will not change for three years. As always the labor portion is variable depending on the actual hours used and the current labor rate. The hours were based on our previous use and the City of Lakeland controls the labor rates so if a raise is granted the price goes up. Also if we add space of course that changes the price. Additional Florida sales taxes would also be added to any increases.

This contract includes the **Exhibition Hall West, all of Sykes Hall**, all of Lake Parker, the Ticket Office and the VIP Room. *We will no longer be renting the "Lake Morton" room, instead the "Lake Parker Room" is actually 2 rooms C & D we usually rent Room C for our Callers Room and we will also be renting the back part Room D to be used for all our meetings at the State Convention.*

I make a motion that we accept this three year agreement with the Lakeland Center for \$13,142.28 for 2013, 2014 and 2015. *Motion was made, Ken Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Don & Ann Slocum

### **16. Florida Square Dance Hall of Fame**

Nominations have been received for this year's Hall of Fame inductees. The first step of the approval process is to send ballots to the Hall of Fame Committee. The nominations that are accepted by the Committee are then forwarded to the Selection Committee for their votes. The Selection Committee is comprised of representatives for the dancers, cuers, callers, vendors, and publications. The members are unknown to each other or anyone outside of the Hall of Fame Committee.

The inductee(s) will be introduced on Saturday at the next Florida State Convention. They will receive a small plaque and another plaque will be placed on the Hall of Fame wall at Strawberry Square in Plant City.

Penny Green  
Chairman

### **17. Historian Report**

None of the Associations has submitted any pictures of Federation activities to me since our last meeting so there has been nothing placed on the Federation Website with Bruce.

Please remind each Association and their historians that only “Federation Associated Activities” are to be posted on our website. Some have submitted some very nice pictures to me that should have gone directly to their own clubs web pages or they could have sent them directly to Bruce to be posted under “Association News”.

Submitted by: Judy Anderson

## 18. **USDA Report**

### CENTRAL REGION VICE PRESIDENT FEBRUARY 2012

We were proud to have been elected Vice President of the Central Region at the annual meeting in Detroit last June. Since that time, we have made contact with the Presidents of the affiliates in the Central Region. You may be aware Central Region is made up of 12 states. So, we are responsible for 12 states from Florida to Michigan and the states in between. Our goal is to attend as many of the State Conventions as possible where we can set up our display of educational materials and make a brief presentation about USDA to the affiliates at their annual meetings of their respective Federations.

Since June, we attended the Wisconsin State Convention, Alabama State Convention, National Dance-A-Rama sponsored by the Single Square Dancers USA in Indianapolis, IN, and then on to Birmingham, AL for the “Birmingham Blast”. We then proceeded to Macon, GA for the Georgia State Square Dance Convention and then to the Kentucky State Convention.

In October we represented USDA at the Grand Square International’s Daytona Beach Ball. In November, we represented USDA at the Florida West Coast Square and Round Dance Association’s 37<sup>th</sup> annual Fall Fun Fest in Bartow, FL and at the Northeast Florida Square and Round Dance Association’s Fall Festival in Jacksonville, FL. While in Jacksonville, we were able to make a USDA presentation at the Fall meeting of the Florida Federation.

We made arrangements for the Winter Meeting of the USDA Executive Committee in Lakeland, Florida for January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center. The meeting coincided with GSI’s Winter Festival at the convention center in Lakeland where we set up the USDA display of educational materials.

We’re looking forward to attending the Mississippi Convention in March, the Ohio Convention, the Kentuckiana Convention and the Florida Convention in May. Finally, we’re looking forward to the USDA Annual meeting and 61<sup>st</sup> National Square Dance Convention in Spokane, WA in June.

It has been a very busy year and we have really enjoyed it. It has been an honor to represent Florida and the Central Region on the USDA Board. Again, we thank you for the nomination to the USDA Central Region Vice President this past year. This positions term is for one (1) year and we can serve up to three (3) years. We look forward to the Florida Federation of Square Dancers nominating Donna & I for another term as Central Region Vice Presidents at the upcoming USDA Annual meeting to be held in June.

Jerry & Donna Robey  
USDA Central Region Vice President

*Comments: Florida has 2 USDA Delegates; Roger & Linda Minard and Don & Ann Slocum allowing Florida to have 4 votes at the USDA Annual meeting and they will be traveling to the 61<sup>st</sup> Nationals in Spoken, WA. The Slocum's have volunteered for one year and will need to be replaced next year, so anyone interested please let the Federation Board know. The Federation Delegates thanked Jerry & Donna Robey for their excellent job.*

### 19. **USDA Insurance**

Since the last report there was one accident report filed and a claim has been submitted. All of the insurance forms are on the Florida Federation Website. Each Association has its own forms with their Association name already printed on the form. We have tried to make it as simple as possible.

All checks should be made to the Florida Federation of Square Dancers. For some unknown reason we are getting an assortment, some have had to be returned to the writer of the check.

There is no fee for class members but their name must be submitted on the Club Sponsored Class Form. The class is for new mainstream dancers. *(See attachment for report)*

Submitted by Randy & Carol Poole  
Federation Insurance Chairman

*Comments; On FASSARD we usually wait until after the initial enrollment is submitted, before insuring them since the Singles are all over the state. Approximately 4 clubs and 10 dancers down from last year.*

### 20. **ASCAP/BMI Report**

We are currently up to date with ASCAP until the Convention in May. A bill from Broadcast Music, Inc. was just received and will be paid from the Convention funds (\$145.00 for 2012). This allows our callers and cuers to use copyrighted music legally.

Squarely yours,

Bob & Maria Spence  
ASCAP/BMI Chairs

### 21. **ARTS Report**

The ARTS website has a wealth of information. [ARTS-dance.org](http://ARTS-dance.org)

- It has their Mission Statement.
- It lists the Officers and Governing Board of Organizations.
- It has Copies of all their Meetings.
- It has the Survey Data they have collected.

It has a Travel website for discounted travel.

There is a Link to the You2CanDance website (don't forget to list your club!)

They have the ARTS Backgrounder which is a great flyer to pass out to non-dancers showing the history of square dancing. Very colorful.

They have teaching tools for Square Dancing or Contra:

These are sets of workbooks and CDs designed for teachers or youth group leaders who want to teach Square Dancing or Contra to their class or youth group. While targeted at a younger audience, this manual can be utilized by any age group wanting to learn the basic square dance movements! The sets can be ordered on line.

The next ARTS meeting is scheduled for 9:00 AM, Sunday March 4, 2012 in conjunction with the NEC meeting in Oklahoma City.

Visit their website for more information. [ARTS-dance.org](http://ARTS-dance.org)

## 22. Old Business

- **Extra Mile Award-** *No nominations were received by the deadline of February 1<sup>st</sup>, we have extended the deadline to March 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have a nomination please submit your form by March 1<sup>st</sup>.*
- **Federation Nomination Chairman;** *President Bob Spence appointed Charlie & Val Newsome, Chairman. Randy Poole & Ken Brasfield have volunteered for the Committee.*
- **Other Old Business;** *no other Old Business was presented.*

## 23. New Business

- a. **Nomination of USDA Delegate;** *Jack Hoffman made a motion; "I would like to make a motion to nominate Jerry & Donna Robey for another year as USDA Central Region Vice President." Motion was seconded by Donna Hendricks, motion carried. Letter & Resume will be sent to the USDA by Presidents Bob & Maria Spence.*
- b. **Committee Assignments (Time/Room #)** *Each Working Weekend Committee was assigned rooms & locations for Break Out meetings. Meetings will be held at 1:30 pm today and will report back to the Federation Delegates at tomorrow's meeting, Sunday, February 12 to be held at the Bartow Civic Center at 9:00 am.*
- c. **Any New Business;** *no other New Business was presented.*

24. **Announcements:** *Charlie & Val Newsome stated that they had sent a "Thank You" card to the Florida Federation expressing their "Thank you" for the gift they received at the last Federation meeting as they left the Federation Board. They have really enjoyed the Clock presented to them so much that they would like to take this opportunity to, once again, thank the Federation.*

25. Next Meeting will be held in this room tomorrow morning, Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, at 900 a.m.

Motion to Adjourn