

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS

Comfort Suites, Niceville, FL

Sunday, October 26, 2014 – 9 a.m.

1. **Call to order:** Meeting was called to order by President Paul Miller at 8:30 a.m. at the Comfort Suites in Niceville, Florida. The Minutes were recorded by Secretary Penny Green.
2. **Invocation:** The Invocation was given by Dennis Taylor.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Bud Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Roll Call:** The roll call was made by Penny Green. There was a quorum.
5. **Introduction of Visitors & Guests:**
Susan Snider (Round Dance Council of Florida), Virginia Brumbold, Gaye Feuer, Tom and Pat Herscha, Mrs. Nihart and Dave Muller (Florida Callers Association)
6. **Minutes of May 25, 2014 Meetings:**
Motion by Don Slocum that we accept the Minutes as published; seconded by Pat McMillan.
Motion carried.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** **Dennis Taylor**
The report is below. Motion by Bruce Morgan; seconded by Linda Tester that the report be filed for audit.

8. **Parliamentarian Report:** **Elsa Huddleston**
We set up two tables at the Showcase of Ideas in Little Rock. We noticed that our trifold was a lot larger than most of the others, and it was cumbersome to transport and to set up. We recommend a smaller cardboard trifold be considered. About half of the maps and buttons were taken. Because we had individual single brochures displayed, we feel that is the reason not many travel guide books were taken. It is our recommendation that only 100 maps be ordered for next year with a minimum order of buttons or maybe consider pencils again for giveaways. Since we still have half the guidebooks, we recommend not ordering additional ones, but displaying the remaining ones along with the individual brochures.

We displayed flyers of each association's fund raiser dances along with registration forms for the upcoming state convention. Many of these were taken.

We also took the Florida banner and marched in the Parade of States with about 15 other Florida dancers.

We agree with a previous Parliamentarian's recommendation that it is time for the banner to be replaced. The replacement should be made of a material that can be folded for easy transportation. The poles should be of a lightweight construction.

Ray had to climb around on the table to get the backdrop up, and this was not an easy chore and could have been dangerous. There were nice printed signs up identifying all the tables. Because of the age of most of our male dancers, and the possibility of falling off the unsteady table, we recommend that the backdrop be discontinued.

We also want to thank Don and Ann Slocum for their help in setting up and taking down the display.

Ray and Elsa Huddleston
Chairman

9. Sunshine Report:**Anita Taylor**

We have had a lot of illnesses since our last meeting. We have sent GET WELL cards to the following people: Dick Chase, cuer (illness), Judy Anderson (accident), Barbara Hoffman (knee surgery), Susan Elaine Packer, caller (knee surgery), Bobby Keefe, caller (lung illness), Jo Ann Boyd (illness), Bruce Morgan (cataract surgery), Barbara Hoffman (knee), Fred Bond (serious illness), Jack Pladdys, caller (cancer), Ann Slocum (knee surgery), Terri Little (accident), Val Newsome (fall and small car accident).

A THINKING OF YOU/RETIREMENT card was sent to Pat Hagen, cuer. She was forced to retire due to illness.

A THINKING OF YOU card was sent to Wayne and Debbie Miller, delegates from Northeast, on the accident of their daughter-in-law who is still in serious condition. A horse fell on Victoria Miller and she has swelling in her brain. I also sent a THINKING OF YOU card to Justin Miller, Victoria's husband and Wayne and Debbie's son. A GET WELL card was sent to Victoria. Justin and Victoria have taken square dance lessons.

Finally a happy card to FRANK HABERSBERGER on the occasion of his 100th Birthday. Frank is a past president of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers. Congratulations to Frank.

Respectfully submitted,
Bud and Anita Taylor, Vice-President

• Correspondence:**Cheryl Miller**

- Received a letter from NW and it will be reported on in his report.
- Keith Stevens assisted with the production of our welcome center cards. Federation sent \$100 gift card for his help. Thank you card received from the Stevens.
- Letter from Georgia asking for our support of the 2019 National Convention.
- Letter from Governor Scott's office regarding the proclamation
- Letter from the USDA regarding 501(c)3 and they continue to work on that

All correspondence will be in the secretary's documentation.

10. Florida Caller Liaison:**Dave Muller**

Keith Stevens sent his report to Dave to read. First we want you to know the Callers appreciate the work and effort that you give our activity. A special thanks to the leaders of the last convention and thanks for the Callers' share of the proceeds that Penny Green presented to us over the past weekend. The Callers Assn. is pleased to be part of the convention effort.

The FCA completed its Clinic and meeting earlier this month at which the plans for the upcoming convention were presented. The FCA is again making an effort to program the more popular callers in the prime evening hours. Callers in the evening will have a 30 minute calling opportunity. Our feedback from last year regarding the callers with longer calling slots was mostly positive.

Since we are all friends with the same goals of making our convention and whole activity better, I'm going to be terribly honest. The reactions that came to me from dancers were all positive

about the longer time slots. There were some callers who thought the schedule used too few of the callers in the longer time period, so for the next convention we shortened the period from 50 minutes to 30 minutes. In 2015 there will be a few more callers in the prime time slots. I consider all that good news.

Now, for some less than good news; for 2015 there were fewer callers volunteering to participate in the convention than in the past 10 years. One major reason is that we are losing callers. Most of us are old geezers. Several more in the past year have retired from calling. Others with some health considerations are saying the demands on energy and resources are too great and they don't wish to participate. We are in need of younger and new callers. The caller and dancer population needs to bring in new callers. The long term decline in dancing population at the convention leads to thoughts of changes in the convention program; perhaps a shorter length, different configurations of days and times. Please understand that I am not saying anything except that we need to consider all possible ideas about the convention for the future. The callers hope that considerations for the convention will be examined in an atmosphere as free from emotion as possible. The callers hope that we and you treat all ideas with hope. Well maybe that is possible and not with "well we can't do it that way because we have never done it that way." That attitude, I am happy to say, seems to be fading and I think that is good for our activity in every aspect. I encourage you to consider new thoughts and ideas for our convention and the entire world of square dancing. We all have the same goals. Let's continue to new ideas.

President Miller stated that Dave is the new vice president of the Florida Callers Association.

11. Florida Cuer Liaison:

Susan Snider

Susan Snider – she is waiting for the caller schedule from Bill Chesnut for the 2015 convention. She is also considering some things that might increase the round dance people attending the convention.

12. Association Reports:

Central – Ailene Picheco

As Editor of Keepin' Posted, Area Director VP of CFA, and also President of CFA, I thought I would be able to keep a handle on all the area clubs and know what's going on. But somehow it doesn't work out that way. I only hear part of what is going on around Central.

I do know that Marilyn and Rick Yates have started a Round Dance class in Deland. They don't have a name for their club yet, but have about 6 couples attending.

Those clubs that closed for the summer are starting up again. And all the clubs are planning themed dances to make their dances festive and fun.

A few clubs started classes in September, and others will begin in January. Orange Blossom Squares graduated about 10 couples recently.

Unfortunately, the Granada Squares have closed in Ormond Beach. With fewer dancers, it is difficult to find someone new that wants to be on the Board of Directors. The Board members keep alternating until they don't want to do it any longer, and then the club folds.

Even Caller Run Clubs cannot make it without enough dancers to keep it going, as what happened to the Allemanders in Satellite Beach.

How do we find new dancers to keep the clubs going? John & Linda Saunders and John & Mo Barrett paid for a booth at the Port Orange Family Days. It was for 2 days - morning and afternoon- and according to published estimates, 50 to 70 thousand people were in attendance.

Linda sent a thank you to CFA for supporting them financially at the event. Linda writes "We were so pleased to have had nearly 100 per cent participation from Central Florida clubs for our "Flash Mob" experiences. We were in awe of the many dancers who danced, interacted with the people and distributed information about area clubs. We were proud to display the clubs' banners; those banners were flying high and looked great in our booth. We were pleased to have distributed hundreds of the coupon key rings for the class starting at the Spindrifters Fun Time Dancers in Port Orange." Although the class started the next evening this event brought in only 4 new dancers.

Linda and John feel that "from this event it was a positive approach to showing the square dance activity to the public. The square dance community/dancers/callers/associations have not been pushing for more public events. The statement we hear all the time is 'Square Dancing is the Best Kept Secret.' We did learn that the Associations/dancers/callers today understand that the activity is in a big decline in Florida and are anxious to do more to correct the problem "

She goes on to say, "Due to our club members' strong support in monetary gifts that we applied toward our expenses, we are pleased to be able to return your generous donation. We appreciate what our Association does to further square dancing. We know there are other clubs in the Association who are in need of help, and it would be great if you could use the money to help some of those who are struggling."

So CFA got their money back and CFA wants our clubs to know that we are here to help. If we all work together, maybe we can come up with a plan to find those people out there who do want to learn to square dance.

Our next 5th Saturday Dance will be on November 29th in Orlando at the Whirl & Twirl.

It is difficult to find clubs that will host a dance, or even to find a hall that is not too expensive.

Carol & Richard Douget are planning our Association Dance for next March - The Shamrock Swing. We have been lucky to find a great hall in Titusville that is fairly inexpensive. It is easy to get to from anywhere in the state. Right off I-95 and FL Route 50. They have booked Mac McCall (from the Red Boot Boys fame) and Jack Lewis (from Southeast FL) on the squares and Dick Nordine will cue the Rounds. And because we can get the hall for a longer period of time, the dancing will be all day Friday and all day Saturday. Workshops, a Round Dance Teach... there will be plenty of dancing.

The 61st Florida Square Dance Convention is planning on serving lunch both days at the Shamrock Swing as a fundraiser for their convention. On Friday they will be serving hot dogs with all the trimmings, baked beans, potato chips and dessert. On Saturday it will be pulled pork, coleslaw, baked beans and dessert. There will be ice tea and water to drink.

They are asking for donations of at least \$5.00 per plate. And all proceeds go to support the 61st Florida Square Dance Convention.

Accentuate the Positive!!

Forget the length of time it takes to learn (you're dancing from the very first lesson), forget the dress code (it is casual all the time you are learning), forget "Country", (we play all kinds of music – even Rap).

There is no need to mention all these things to new dancers. They don't care about them.

Just DANCE and have FUN!

Respectfully Submitted,
Ailene Picheco, President, CFA

Northeast – Pat McMillan See page 18 for report

Northwest:

Kay Schmidt

All is well in NW Florida. 2014 is coming to a close and we are looking forward to an exciting 2015.

Roy Bernier, Miriam Merriweather & Stuart Phinney, our newest NW Callers, are really coming along. It is really exciting to see the progress they are making. Miriam calls on Tuesday nights for the Navarre Ocean Waves and on Thursday nights for the Sand Spurs in Ft Walton Beach. Roy Bernier calls for the Dancing Dolphins on Tuesday evenings in Ft Walton Beach and Stuart Phinney calls on Tuesday evenings for the Rivertown Squares in Blountstown and some Friday evenings in Tallahassee. All of our new callers are active in teaching Basic, MS and Plus level Square Dancing. Agape Squares in Niceville with Berlon Graham as their caller continues to teach Basic, MS & Plus level Square Dancing. Capital Twirlers, our fastest growing Square Dance Club in NW Florida with Elmer Sheffield as their caller dance on Monday evenings @ the Senior Center in Tallahassee. Seaside Squares & TNT Rounds continue to provide Square & Round Dancing opportunities at Ragon Hall in Pensacola. Swinging Squares with Chris Burchfield as their caller and Grand Square Rounds with Cuer Sandy Sturgis dance weekly at Grand Square Hall in Panama City.

Congratulations to Paul & Cheryl Miller, outgoing Presidents of Florida Federation, for their years of service to the Florida Federation and the Northwest Association. They have worn just about every hat possible. We anxiously await to see what you will do next!

Since our last meeting, there have been some really FUN DANCES in the Panhandle. The Billy Bowlegs Dance was held on June 7th @ PASARDA Hall in Ft Walton Beach. On August 2nd the Capital Twirlers held the Dog Days of Summer Dance at the Tallahassee Senior Center in Tallahassee. Seaside Squares held their 51st Anniversary Dance on August 16th @ Ragon Hall in Pensacola. The Northwest Association Annual Roundup was just held October 24 & 25th at Lewis School in Valparaiso, FL. The 40th Annual Round Up was a rousing success. We really appreciate all of you who traveled from around the state to attend this dance! NW Association officers for 2015 were installed at the Round Up. We are looking forward to 2015 with great anticipation.

Future dances for the remainder of 2014 to be held in the Panhandle include an Evening with Gary Shoemake on December 16th @ Ragon Hall in Pensacola and Christmas in Dixie on December 13th @ Altha Community Center in Altha, FL.

Dances coming up in the 1st Quarter of 2015 include The Blue & White Ball in Panama City, January Shine in Pensacola, and the Sweetheart Swing in Panama City.

As usual, one or more of the Northwest Clubs dances every night of the week and there are fun dances almost every Friday night at Ragon Hall in Pensacola and other sites in our area. No matter where you are this month, get out and dance!!!! If you are in the Panhandle, come see us. You can also join us on Facebook @ (Northwest Florida Square and Round Dance Association) if you like.

At our meeting yesterday, we voted to have Northwest donate \$500 to the state convention.

Alec & Kay Schmidt, Presidents

Southeast:

Steve Adler

The summer dancing season is always a little slower than winter, so we had only one SEA dance since the last meeting – our Membership Dance at the Boynton Beach Civic Center in September. Considering that few snowbirds had returned at that time, we had an excellent turnout. We had a great time dancing to our host caller, Scotty Sharrer, and host cuer, Jack Lewis, along with a number of guest callers and cuers.

The following SEA officers for 2014-2015 were installed at the Membership Dance:

President – Steve Adler
Vice President – Larry Zuckerman
Membership – Ann and Cal Maki
Secretary – Bob Dodes
Insurance – Sharon Nelson
Sunshine – Sally Galik

Sharon moved from Secretary to Insurance taking over for Esther Kalmbach who is recuperating in Georgia after breaking her hip. We all wish Esther a speedy recovery.

Focusing on dancing in Broward and Palm Beach Counties – the Boynton Beach Civic Center continues to be a hub for dancing in Palm Beach County. Monday nights Scotty has a Plus workshop followed by the Happy Squares. Graduation for attendees of the workshop will be held in mid-December. In January, the Plus workshop will be replaced by a beginner's class. The same month, Jack is starting an Advanced workshop that will meet at the Civic Center on Monday afternoons. Tuesday is Round Dance Day. Joanne and Ken Helton have three hour-long classes covering Phase III to V. They will be starting a new beginner group shortly. Joanne and Ken also have scheduled dances so that their students can get some real-time experience. Up next will be a Veteran's Day Dance and, in December, a Christmas Dance. Fridays brings the Castoffs (Plus) with Jack and Scotty alternating weeks as callers.

Of special interest – we will celebrate Al Brundage's 95th birthday at the Castoff dance on Friday, November 7th. An article from a 1978 newspaper cited Al "as the man most responsible for introducing modern western-style square dancing to the New England area".

Dancing in Hollywood has moved from the Polk Street Shuffleboard Center to the Boulevard Heights Community Center for both Chris Phillips and Jack Lewis. Chris has his Galaxy Squares (C1) on Tuesday nights and an Intro to C2 on Wednesdays. Jack follows on Thursday nights with the Jackpot Squares (Plus) and Hi-Cs (C1). Starting in January, Jack will be holding a new

beginner's class with members of the Jackpot Squares serving as "angels". The Hollywood Squares dance Advanced to Jack on Saturday nights.

Chris Phillips' South Florida Mustangs has a dance at the Island Park City Reserve in Wilton Manors on Thursday evenings starting with a club-level dance (Plus & Advanced) followed by a beginner's class.

Scotty will be running a class and dance on Thursday evenings for residents of Century Village East in Deerfield. The start of the sessions was delayed until January. We look forward to having some of the dancers attend either Jack's or Chris's classes once they have completed Scotty's intro program.

It's really great to see so many classes and workshops.

The next SEA event will be our "Toy and Cookie" dance to be held on November 30th in Hollywood. The toys we collect will be distributed by ChildNet, an organization that coordinates services for children who have been abused, neglected, or abandoned and their caregivers in Broward and Palm Beach Counties.

Finally, we note the passing of four Southeast area dancers: Helen Deniston, Bob Krakehl, Rick Nelson, and Candy Shapiro. We miss them all dearly.

Steve Adler, President

West Coast:

Ann Slocum

The summer has been slow with many clubs stopping for the summer. They will be starting again in Oct, Nov, Jan. The clubs that did dance all summer had 2-4 squares. We are looking forward to the return of our snowbird friends so the attendance will improve.

At the Presidents Ball in Sept. we introduced the officers for 2014-2015.

They are: President, Penny Green, VP, Jenny Green, Treasurer, John & Lynne Scott and at this time we are still looking for a Secretary.

The first West Coast Dance of the season was held Oct 19 in St Petersburg with 5 squares and 5 new members. The entire season for the next year is scheduled and can be found at Flwestcoastdancer.com

Plans are in place for our 40th annual Fall Fun Fest with Jerry Biggerstaff and Keith Stevens calling and Karen Fisher cueing Nov 14 & 15, 2014. We are looking forward to seeing many of you there and of course we have ribbons to sell.

We added a new program to our magazine the *FlWestCoastDancer.com* so the e-magazine is easier to read and easier to print off at home. We are very thankful to Bruce Morgan for the work he does as our Webmaster and to Ed Henning for his work as Editor.

Art Springer, talented, faithful, beloved Caller, will be honored with a retirement dance at Strawberry Sq. on Dec 7.

13. Publication Reports:

The Grapevine (NE):

Bill Morgan

No report

Keepin' Posted (C):

Ailene Picheco

The October issue was sent to the printer and should be out soon. There are still a few issues that are being returned because members live in two different places during the year and the magazine cannot be forwarded.

I have extra copies mailed to me in order to use the bulk mail postage rate. We must have 200 copies mailed.

The Board may have to look at alternate ways to send out the magazine.

I need the clubs to send me their club news and pictures. I am always looking for items and information to make the magazine interesting to dancers.

Ads are also available at reasonable rates.

Respectfully submitted,
Ailene Picheco
Editor, Keepin' Posted

Panhandle Press (NW):

Terri Wilaby

No report.

West Coast Dancer (WC):

Ed Henning

If you have visited our Website you know that our Webmaster, Bruce, is using a new program that greatly improves the presentation of the Dancer. The West Coast Association officers took a poll and selected the one being used among two possibilities. Last August there were a couple of minor glitches regarding the ability to select a given page and the visitor counter decided to quit. Those were quickly corrected, so please take a look. Just go to www.flwestcoastdancer.com.

Now I have a request. If you are an officer of an association that is listed in the Dancer, please let me know when the office holder listed changes. Many times I receive this information after the fact and late for the publication. We publish quarterly and the deadline is now the 10th of the preceding month. All this information is on page 2 and 3 of the Dancer including my addresses. It would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted, Ed Henning, Editor

Bow & Swing:**Bill Boyd**

No report

14. Hall of Fame:

Nothing to report.

Bev Landwehr**15. State Convention Reports:****2014 Convention:****Penny & Jenny Green**

The 2014 Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention has come to a close. Mom and I would like to thank everyone once again for all your work to make this a success. As you know we have never chaired a convention before, but I thought it would be fun and mom didn't want me to tackle it by myself. From the beginning we had a lot of questions, but everyone was very helpful with answering them for us.

The final numbers are in; we had 556 registrations, 28 callers, approximately 14 cuers. We danced in 7 halls. There were 5 squares for Last Square Standing and we did 8 dangle dances. Our total profit was \$11,055.⁴⁵. We would like to present Jack and Barbara Hoffman and the 61st Convention with 20% of our profit, which is \$2,211.⁰⁰. We would also like to present the Florida Federation, Florida Callers Association, and the Round Dance Council each with a check for \$2,211.⁰⁰. To each of the 5 regional associations we would like to present you with a check for \$442.²².

And again, thank you everyone, the chairman and the associations for your continued help to make our convention a success.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny and Jenny Green, Co-Chairman

2015 Convention:**Jack and Barb Hoffman****61st Florida State Square Dance Convention**

"The Hollywood Scene in 2015" Preparations for the 2015 Convention are progressing and on schedule. We are slowly getting the Convention Center paid. We are about half way there.

We spent last weekend at the callers meeting getting them scheduled for the convention. Everything seemed to work well. They tried to address some of the complaints that they had heard from the other people.

As you all know we have chances for sale for the Convention Quilt at 7 chances for \$5.00 or 1 for \$1.00. We are also selling Stars for the Wall of Fame that will be on display during the convention. They are selling for \$5.00 and you may claim your star on Sunday evening after the convention.

We were asked if we would like to make some extra money during the Shamrock Swing in March by serving food for Friday and Saturday lunch. We jumped at that as any extra money is good. We will be serving Hot Dogs with all the trimmings, Potato Salad, Potato Chips, Dessert, and a drink on Friday. Saturday will be Pulled Pork, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Potato Chips, Dessert and a drink. We are asking for a donation of not less than \$5.00 per plate. All proceeds will go to the 2015 Convention.

We are starting to do the scheduling for the Convention, so we need anyone that would like a meeting during the convention to let us know. The sooner the better.

The Web site is up and running, so make sure you check it out if you haven't already done so. Bruce does a great job.

If you haven't made your hotel reservations at the host hotel best get it done soon. There will be a party each evening after the dance for those staying there. Check the back of the registration form for the phone number.

Our next meeting will be held Saturday morning November 15th at 9:00 a.m. at Mike's Restaurant, 1590 North US Highway 98 in Bartow. We will have breakfast and then the meeting. They are letting us use the room since we are eating breakfast there.

Respectfully Submitted
Jack & Barbara Hoffman
Producers 2015 Convention

2015 Program Book Advertising:**Ailene Picheco**

All the Advertising Forms are on the website at the very bottom of the page.

I have a few with me today if you need one. And others to pass out. Many of the ads will send by email.

If you want to send in Booster Names, consider doing an ad instead. This way I can add your club name also. Just write it on the form. If you collect 25 names from your club, it will pay for a quarter page ad. 35 names pays for a half page ad. And your Club Name can go in the ad also.

Don't forget to write down "Your favorite Movie Star". I will put the Star's picture somewhere in your ad.

Get your ads in early. Cutoff is April 5th.

Respectfully submitted,
Ailene Picheco, Director of Advertising

2016 Convention:***Kathy McKinney, Linda Tester, & Diane Syphard***

A general meeting of all committee chairmen was held this weekend. All committees have been filled. However, many committee chairmen will need help! Please volunteer!!!

Our Theme is "Sweet 16". Our Caller Chairman is Charlie Pergrossi, his assistant is Dave Muller. Our Cues Chairman is Susan Snider.

We have our raffles decided. The first one will be for \$116 dollars and will be on sale at the working weekend, it will be drawn at the state convention. We will have shirts available at the working weekend and at the state convention. We also are selling used square dance attire. Terri Little is our contact person to take the items to the vendor in Orlando. Please gather as much clothing as you can. Every little bit helps. Our contact info is on the Fed Roster.

Being this is a "State-wide" Convention we are asking each association to decorate one room. Each room will have a "Sweet" Theme. Our Kick-Off will be in the same vein. We are asking each association to gather as many dancers from their association to march with them into the Grand Hall wearing something to represent their theme. They will give away goodies also representing their theme and march to their Station. Following the march, we are having a "Sweet 16 Candle Ceremony and Charlie will play "16 Candles" as the committee chairmen step forward in front of stage to be introduced.

Respectively Submitted,
Jack & Kathy McKinney
Walt & Dianne Syphard
Linda Tester

2017 Convention:**Ray and Elsa Huddleston**

Paul Miller reported that they have appointed a Chairman – Ray & Elsa Huddleston. "See and Be Seen in '17" is the theme.

Elsa reported that they have just about all the positions filled. Jack Lewis will be the caller chairman and Chris Phillips the assistant caller chairman and Joanne Helton will be the cuer chairman. The first meeting will be at the Fall Fun Fest.

16. Facilities:**Don Slocum**

The Lakeland Center Contract is set for 2015. We will need a layout of the halls by April 24th, 2015 from the Convention Chairmen, Jack & Barbara Hoffman.

We are looking into future contracts starting in 2016. We asked for estimates based on a 2 day convention and a 3 day convention. The rent for 2 days will be \$11,489.66 and a 3 day will be \$15,366.27.

We will be offering a motion under new business so this can be discussed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Don & Ann Slocum, Facilities Chairman

17. Historian Records:**Terri Little**

I am taking pictures at all Federation and Central functions and submitting them to Bruce Morgan.

I need to emphasize the importance of each Association taking and submitting pictures of their various functions. You can submit them yourselves by sending them to Bruce Morgan at brucemorgan@embarqmail.com. If you wish, you may also submit to me and I will forward to Bruce. My email is islandmom74@att.net.

18. USDA Report:**Paul and Cheryl Miller**

The USDA held their annual meeting on Wednesday, June 25, 2014. Florida Delegates attending the meeting were Dennis & Nancy Taylor, Paul & Cheryl Miller. A new Centennial Award

Program has been initiated, honoring Square Dancers who have reached their milestone of the age of 100. Our new Vice Presidents for the Central Region are Ed & Lynda Willis. The deadline for the USDA Founders Memorial Youth Scholarship is February 1, 2015.

Eleven USDA Affiliates have indicated that they are interested in participating in the IRS 501(c)(3) Group Non-Profit Exemption Program administered by USDA, upon receipt of the completed documentation of six USDA affiliates, USDA will then proceed with submission of its application to the IRS to obtain the 501 (c)(3) Group Non-Profit Exemption from the IRS. Once approved by the IRS, those Affiliates initially applying would be the first to attain this non-profit status. It is our hope that Florida will be among the six affiliates.

Respectfully,
Paul & Cheryl Miller
Florida USDA Delegates

19. USDA Insurance:**Carol Poole**

Once again we have good news. The renewal rate remains the same as it was in 2010, \$4.45. There have been six reported accidents so far this year. Three were mailed claim forms, two dancers were not insured, and one dancer did not require medical attention. Compared with last year we had ten reported accidents with three receiving claim forms.

The Southeast Association has a new insurance chairman, Sharon Nelson. All others are remaining the same. There are no new forms this year. Hopefully, everyone will use the correct form. All forms that do NOT require money may be emailed to us. The check should be included with the enrollment and additional insured forms. If it is not, I must hold them until the check arrives.

A special notice was sent out reminding us that the insurance policy ends December 31 at midnight. New Year's Eve dances need to have a new certificate for the next year. The only way to be issued a certificate is to be enrolled for 2015. Association Presidents pass the word to any of your clubs that are having a New Year's Dance. I've already notified the insurance chairman but it won't hurt to remind the clubs.

Thank you everyone for keeping this program running smoothly especially the insurance chairman.

Randy & Carol Poole
Federation Insurance Chairman

20. ASCAP/BMI:**Bob and Maria Spence**

No activity has occurred since April of 2014, as both corporations are fully paid for the 2014 State Convention by the Convention Treasurer.

Squarely yours,
Bob & Maria Spence
ASCAP/BMI Chairs for the
Florida Federation of Square Dancers
flspence@earthlink.net

20. ARTS:**Ailene Picheco**

ARTS is still working on plans regarding how to "Re-Image" Square Dancing:

- Developing support for recognizable logo and a slogan which can be used nationally to increase awareness of the activity
- Working with CALLERLAB to distribute marketing and promotion materials to the dance clubs
- Creating a Facebook page to support our work to "Re-Image" Square Dancing

ARTS promotes the You2CanDance web site; they are planning some revisions to the site and would welcome any suggestions

Everyone is invited to attend the next ARTS meeting on June 28, 2015, immediately following the 64th NSDC in Springfield, MA

Also, the ARTS web site contains a wealth of information and downloadable materials to support the square dance activity. Check them out at: ARTS-dance.com

Submitted by Ailene Picheco
for Jerry Reed, Executive Director, ARTS

21. Florida Federation Website

Bruce Morgan

Associations aren't taking advantage of free advertising on the Federation website. Clubs don't keep their information current i.e. new locations, club activities.

23. Old Business:

Welcome Center Card - This project has been completed. They were printed by Gramac Printing with cards being sent to the Welcome Stations in quantities requested by the State. There was a budget of \$1500.00. The final cost was \$1395.13.

Want to thank Keith and Margot Stevens. They did the final product; Keith took the pictures.

Respectfully Submitted
Donald Slocum

Bow and Swing Advertising - At the Working Weekend in February the History Committee made a motion that was voted on in May, that we advertise the square dance website in the Bow & Swing and the American Square Dance Magazine. The ad is 1/8th of a page and costs \$150.00 a year per magazine. The ad has been placed and will start in the October issue. The ad states: "Visit the Past, Present, and Future of Square Dancing in Florida at www.FloridaSquareDance.com. "Florida Federation of Square Dancers - The Past, Present and Future" start out small with each word being larger ending with Future being the largest word to attract attention.

Respectfully submitted,
Bud and Anita Taylor, Vice President

Square Dance Booklet - I e-mailed Cheryl a few weeks ago about the handbook. I still feel that this is a worthwhile endeavor, but have not had (or taken) the opportunity to invest any time on this project. (I have 2 daughters getting married next Spring, so am otherwise occupied!)

We discussed the possibility of continuing this project with a possible target completion date of 2016 Working Weekend. Cheryl has agreed to spearhead this, with assistance from a representative of each Association.

Here is the essence of Cheryl's reply to my e-mail:

Since this publication is very important to dancers new and old, I think we can continue to collect ideas and information for this booklet. I would like for you to ask for more volunteers to assist with ideas for changes, we need someone from each of the Associations. I will coordinate Northwest. This can be a working Committee. It will give the Committee at least another year to work on the book. I suggest that we get someone from each Association and give them a copy of the original book to take with them and they can discuss it with members of their Association and comprise a list of suggested changes & ideas. (I will make 5 copies of the book). I will act as point of contact for this until the Working Weekend in 2016. At that meeting hopefully, we will have a committee to meet and comprise & discuss everything submitted. Maybe we can utilize the Public Awareness, Publicity, Preservation and Education Working Weekend Committee to get some work done on the book in 2016. – Terri Little

501(c)3 Application - Cheryl Miller presented the revised Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, By-laws, and Standing Rules. These revisions are being made to be in compliance with the 501(c)3 application requirements. The USDA has already reviewed and approved the documents. Dennis and Nancy Taylor and Ray and Elsa Huddleston have been appointed to review all of the documents to ensure consistency between the documents.

Barbara Hoffman moved that we approve the changes; seconded by Ray Huddleston. Motion carried.

Changes in the Articles will have to be approved by each of the regional associations. After they have been approved, notify the Millers asap.

The revised documents are at the end of these Minutes.

Group Exemption – Cheryl explained that the associations and clubs will eventually be able to apply for 501(c)3 designation. They will also have to make these changes to their documents.

After we are approved the documents will have to be revised again to change us from a non-profit to a not-for-profit.

Nomination: Kathy said all the current officers have agreed to move up. Northwest Association nominates Paul and Cheryl Miller. Jack Hoffman moved that the nominations cease; seconded by Don Slocum. Motion carried.

24. New Business:

Installation of officers conducted by Don and Wanna Caverly.

Parliamentarian: Paul and Cheryl Miller

Treasurers: Ray & Elsa Huddleston

Secretaries: Dennis & Nancy Taylor

Vice President: Penny Green

President: Anita & Bud Taylor

Anita presented a gift to Paul & Cheryl Miller

Future State Conventions – Don Slocum – tabled to the next Working Weekend due to lack of quorum.

Bid for 2021 National Convention – Cheryl moved that the Florida Federation put in their intent to bid for hosting the National Square Dance Convention in 2021 at the 2015 National Convention to be held in Springfield, MA; seconded by Terri Little. Cheryl withdrew the motion; Terri withdrew her second due to lack of quorum.

Cheryl moved that an explorative committee be established. Anita suggested having someone from each association serve on the committee.

Working Weekend committee sign-up sheets were available. Everyone was asked to sign up for a committee of their choice. There was a short discussion about the length of the Working Weekend.

The **USDA reps** for 2015 will be Don and Ann Slocum and Dennis and Nancy Taylor.

The next meeting will be the Work Day at the Comfort Inn & Suites at Lee Road in Orlando.

22. Announcements

None

23. Motion to Adjourn: Motion made to adjourn; seconded. Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Penny T. Green
Secretary

NEFSARDA Florida Federation Report October, 2014

Northeast seems to stay busy. We, 50+ dancers from Northeast, arrived Friday afternoon from Jacksonville by bus and have enjoyed the opportunity to share our love of square and round dancing with Northwest and other fellow dancers during their 40th Annual Round Up. We hope to see many of these same super fellow dancers at our Fall Festival in Jacksonville November 21-22, 2014.

We are in full recruit and retention mode and encourage all dancers and callers to continue asking friends, relatives and neighbors to join us for food, fun and friendship. Please remember to leave business cards everywhere you go. The recruit numbers are coming in. We have 7 of 13 clubs reporting 52 new recruits so far.

In the years 2012 and 2013 we graduated a total of 54 dancers.

Our goal for 2014 is 100 new student dancers. This is a lofty goal but as of August 1, 2014 we have graduated approximately 89 new dancers. All 13 clubs held a club graduation.

For 2014 we offered an additional \$100.00 to any club that held an additional graduation, no strings attached. We had 3 clubs take us up on that offer adding 22 additional dancers, (2 3/4 squares). We considered \$300.00 a small price for such a wonderful investment. We will offer this incentive for 2015 also.

Our Association, NEFSARDA, held a "Free" Appreciation Dance Sept. 13, in Lake City, Florida. Most 100 + dancers had a minimum of a one hour drive to attend. We had many callers and cuers. They gave freely of their time and talents. This was a wonderful tribute for all the hard work of our clubs.

Lastly, Lamar & I have been given the honor of representing Northeast, NEFSARDA, for our 3rd year as Presidents. We do not take this task lightly but embrace it knowing that achievement takes purpose and diligence. We are very fortunate for strong leadership within the clubs. All Northeast works together cheering each other on, sharing recruiting tips, planning trips, parties and dinners, never uttering criticism, but best of all smiling, eating and dancing together. This is what we think square dancing is all about. One for all, all for one.

Hope to see you on the dance floor.

Respectfully,

Lamar & Pat McMillan

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF THE
FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS, INCORPORATED**
AMENDED ~~MAY 29, 2011~~OCTOBER 26, 2014

We, the undersigned incorporators and founders, do hereby mutually agree to unite and assemble for the purpose of founding a body corporate not for profit under the laws of the State of Florida, and to that end do make, execute and adopt the following articles of incorporation to be known as the "Charter."

ARTICLE I

The name of this corporation shall be the Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc., a corporation not-for-profit, and its location shall be at 5150 Mt. Plymouth Road, Apopka, FL 32712.

ARTICLE II

The general nature and object of this corporation shall be as follows:

1. Organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes tTo promote the extension of square and round dancing in the State of Florida by informing-educating the general public of the ~~moral and~~ healthful and recreational opportunities in square and round dancing. This includes the making of distributions to organizations that qualify under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
2. To encourage the formation of square and round dance clubs.
3. To serve as clearinghouse for information among the unaffiliated dance groups and as an instrument of liaison with square dancers elsewhere in the world.
4. To bring about a spirit of cooperation among the callers, teachers and dancers of the State of Florida and elsewhere in the world.
5. To sponsor an annual Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention on Memorial Day weekend in cooperation with the Florida Callers Association and the Round Dance Council of Florida.

ARTICLE III

The qualifications of members and the manner of their admission to membership shall be as follows:

All persons who hold membership in good standing in any of the regional associations in the State of Florida affiliated with the Florida Federation of Square Dancers shall be members of this Federation.

ARTICLE IV

The term for which this corporation shall exist shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE V

Officers and organization:

1. The same as By Laws, Article IV, Section 1.
2. As long as they remain active square dancers and attend at least one Federation meeting each calendar year, all Past Presidents of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers shall have the privilege of permanent delegates. An absence of more than one year, unless due to health reasons, will result in permanent loss of voting privilege.
3. The Board of Delegates shall choose from among themselves a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and parliamentarian. All of these officers shall retain their vote from their respective regional association.
4. A technical representative, to be named by the Florida Callers Association and the Round Dance Council of Florida, shall be invited to sit with the Board of Delegates. Such representatives shall not have voting privileges but shall serve advisory and liaison functions.
5. The President of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers shall appoint one delegate to serve in a liaison capacity with the Florida Caller's Association and one delegate to serve as liaison with the Round Dance Council of Florida.
6. Each person appointed as Federation delegate will have one vote. Permanent delegates would have 1/2 vote per person.
7. Regular delegates shall be named by the regional affiliated organizations not later than December 15 of each year and shall hold office for a term of one year beginning with the annual meeting of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers. If, for personal reasons, the appointed delegate is unable to serve his full term, a successor shall be appointed by his regional President to fulfill the unexpired term until the next annual meeting of the Federation. Regular delegates may succeed themselves in office, but no person shall succeed himself as President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Parliamentarian of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers.
8. When unable to attend a meeting of the Board of Delegates, a member shall notify the president of his regional association who shall name another dancer member in good standing to serve as alternate delegate for that meeting.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings of this Corporation shall be as follows:

1. Announcement of the time and place of meeting of the Board of Delegates shall be made in writing at least 30 days in advance to all delegates and representatives. Those Regular and Permanent Delegates in attendance at an officially announced regular or special meeting shall constitute a legal quorum.
2. Any person interested in square dance activities may attend the meetings of the Board of Delegates. They may address meetings of the Board of Delegates but may neither move that the Florida Federation of Square Dancers take a particular action nor vote on any such motion.
3. The annual meeting at which new officers shall be elected will be held between October 15 and the weekend prior to Thanksgiving on a date selected by the President.
4. On all matters not specifically covered by these Articles of Incorporation, the Board of Delegates shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

5. A copy of the Federation minutes shall be provided to each member of the Board of Delegates, to the secretary of the Florida Caller's Association and the Round Dance Council of Florida at least 30 days prior to the next meeting.

ARTICLE VII

The Amount of indebtedness, which the corporation may incur at any time, is the sum of \$10,000. The corporation shall be financed as follows:

1. Each regional association shall pay to the Florida Federation of Square Dancers an initial fee of \$25.00 and annual dues of \$50.00. Payment of such monies shall be made on or before the annual meeting.
2. The Florida Federation of Square Dancers shall have the power to raise and disburse monies from such other sources and activities as may contribute to the purpose of this organization.
3. ~~In the event of dissolution of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers, remaining funds after payment of outstanding debts shall be donated to a non-profit public organization selected by the Board of Delegates. Upon majority vote of the Board of Directors to dissolve the Corporation, the Executive Committee shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation exclusively for the benefit of the Corporation to any exempt corporation or entity organized for purposes similar to those set forth under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law) as the directors shall determine.~~

ARTICLE VIII

Amendments to this Charter shall be by the following methods:

1. Amendments to these articles may be initiated by two-thirds vote of the Board of Delegates, or by petition of members, such petition to state exactly the proposed amendment and to be signed by 250 members in good standing. When an amendment is initiated by petition, such petition shall be submitted to the Board of Delegates, which body shall not debate the matter or take any action upon it, but shall cause the amendment so initiated to be forwarded to the regional associations for ratification.
2. Ratification shall be accomplished by unanimous vote of the regional dancers association affiliated with the Florida Federation of Square Dancers.

ARTICLE IX

The Corporation shall adopt a seal with the words in the center circle: "Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc." and in the inner circle a "Corporate Seal."

The Corporate Seal of the corporation shall be kept in the custody of the Federation Secretary and shall be necessary to give validity to all contracts of the Corporation in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the same.

ARTICLE X

The names of the officers are submitted in the annual report to the State of Florida.

Revised Articles of Incorporation Approved May 29, 2011

Revision Committee: Ray & Elsa Huddleston

Don & Ann Slocum

Revised Articles of Incorporation Approved October 26 2014

Revision Committee: Ray & Elsa Huddleston

Bruce & Colleen Morgan

**STANDING RULES
OF THE
FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS**

AMENDED ~~FEBRUARY 27, 2011~~OCTOBER 26, 2014

- Section 1. Standing Rules may be adopted, amended, or rescinded at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Delegates. Prior notice is not required to alter these Standing Rules. They may be changed by a majority vote of the delegates present and voting, provided a quorum is present.
- Section 2. An initial fee of \$25.00 and annual dues of \$50.00 is charged each Area Association. Payment of such dues shall be made on or before the annual meeting.
- Section 3. The Executive Board may approve a badge or badges that will indicate membership in the Florida Federation of Square Dancers and will be made available to incoming delegates.
- Section 4. Individual delegates that wear an approved badge imply their approval of the aims and purposes of the Corporation.
- Section 5. Representation and voting will be by the certified representatives of the Federation. Voting will be in person.
- Section 6. The Area Associations referenced in Article II of the By-Laws are further defined as the Northwest, Northeast, Central, West Coast, and Southeast Associations.
- Section 7. State Convention procedures are outlined in the latest issue on file of the "Suggested Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention Procedures."
- Section 8. The State Convention Contingency Fund shall be controlled by the Federation Treasurer as a separate line item. The Federation President shall approve the issuance of the convention seed money for the upcoming convention. All named upcoming State Convention Chairmen shall report committee activities at each Federation meeting.
- Section 9. The proceeds from the State Convention will be divided equally between the Federation, Callers, Cuers and the Associations. Each Association would receive a share from each convention, an amount equal to one-fifth of the Association share, which is one fourth of the total.
- Section 10. The Federation shall exhibit the "Florida Showcase of Ideas" at the Florida State and National Square and Round Dance Conventions.
- Section 11. The Federation shall be a co-sponsor of a Florida Square and Round Dance Hall of Fame.
- Section 12. The Federation is a member of the United Square Dancers of America, Inc., and is entitled to four (4) votes. Delegates to represent the Federation will be appointed by the President not later than the "working weekend" meeting each year. Annual dues of \$100.00 are due not later than July 1 of each year.
- Section 13. The Contingency Fund cited in Article XVIII of the By-Laws is currently set at \$4,000 from each: Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Florida Callers Association, and Round Dance Council of Florida.
- Section 14. Each voting delegate shall be assigned to a Standing or Special Committee throughout their tenure. The current standing committees are as follows:
- a. Finance
Prepare a Federation Budget each year. Make recommendations to the board of Delegates concerning financial matters.
 - b. Public Awareness, Publicity, Preservation and Education
Make recommendations in which the Federation might achieve favorable coverage or public awareness of the benefit of square dancing. Discuss the problems of square dancer attrition and the lack of recruitment of new dancers. Make recommendations for possible solutions to these problems. Develop guidelines each year on one or more worthwhile projects that will aid in the general education and promotion~~enjoyment of square dancing or the enlightenment~~ of square dancing.

c. State Convention Procedures

Review each year and make recommendations on changes concerning the state convention procedures.

d. Square Dancer Insurance

Coordinate the business of the Federation insurance program. To act as the liaison with the USDA National Insurance Chairman concerning all insurance matters. Familiarize association chairman with State Federation insurance program.

e. Federation Document Review

Receive all suggested changes to the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, By Laws and Standing Rules and review the changes for correctness and compatibility with all documents and the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act. After review the suggested change is submitted to the Executive Board.

NOTE: The purpose stated herein should in no way limit the scope or efforts of committee members.

f. Chairman of the History Committee

The Federation History Chairman will be the focal point for all information dealing with the History of Florida Square and Round dancing and related activities. The Chairman will be responsible for gathering and collecting information and pictures dealing with history of the Federation and forwarding the information to the Federation Web Master. The Chairman will also make a report at every Federation meeting, updating the status of the history of the Federation.

Each Association President will be requested to appoint a history representative to take pictures of their Association's activities and events and will forward those pictures, together with appropriate write ups, to the History Chairman. The Chairman will use his or her discretion on which pictures he or she forwards to the Federation Web Master.

g. Showcase Committee

Coordinate and be responsible for developing the Florida Showcase and its display at the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention and the National Square Dance Convention and such other events as directed by the President.

Section 15. Flowers or a donation to charity are to be sent to the Board members, active Past Presidents and their husband, wife and children living at home, in the case of death. All others will receive a card.

Section 16. Duties of the Executive Board members:

a. PRESIDENT

1. To act as the Executive Officer and the official representative of the Federation.
2. To preside over all Federation meetings and to conform to Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised Edition.
3. To schedule meetings and arrange for meeting places. The President must hold a minimum of one meeting a year. Notify the Board of Delegates at least thirty days in advance of all meetings.
4. To prepare an agenda for each meeting in coordination with other Executive Board members as deemed necessary. The Working Weekend Agenda will include a listing of delegate assignments to standing or special committees.
5. To invite the Florida Callers Association, the Round Dance Council of Florida, to sit with the Board of Delegates to provide representation at Federation meetings. Such representatives shall not have voting privileges, but shall serve in an advisory and liaison capacity.
6. To appoint standing and special committees, special Federation representatives as required, one member each as liaison to the Florida Callers Association and

the Florida Round Dance Council when practical, and a special audit committee to perform an audit of the Federation financial records at the annual meeting.

7. To be ex-officio member of all committees. The President may attend committee meetings as deemed necessary.
8. To appoint the General Chairman of the state convention three years ahead.

b. VICE PRESIDENT

1. To aid and assist the President in his Federation duties as required or requested.
2. To arrange for tokens of appreciation for proper recognition of the outgoing president and to make presentation at the annual meeting.
3. To assume the duties of the president in their absence.
4. To welcome the new delegates to the Federation. Ensuring that each couple or single delegate has a "Delegates Handbook" that contains all required information (as outlined in Article XV of the By-laws), and each delegate is briefed on the operational procedures of the Federation. This shall be accomplished prior to the convening of the working weekend meeting.
5. To make arrangements for facilities for the Working Weekend to be held the last weekend in February of the out-year subject to approval by the Executive Board. Work with the out-year State Convention chairman in coordinating a Saturday night dance to benefit the out-year state convention.
6. To be responsible for ordering new delegate badges and delegate association bars.

c. SECRETARY

1. To serve as recording and corresponding Secretary of the Federation.
2. To record all minutes of meetings and to provide a copy of the minutes to the officers, delegates and alternates of the Federation, President of the Florida Callers Association, President of the Florida Round Dance Council, Delegates At Large and Editor of Bow and Swing, at least thirty days prior to scheduled meetings.
3. To maintain a complete and up-to-date roll of the membership and as a first duty, prepare a new roster of the Board of Delegates for the coming year, and distribute a copy of said roster to all delegates.
4. Send new Florida Federation of Square Dancers Executive Board Officers list to the Bow and Swing.
5. To recommend to the Board of Delegates the deletion from the active roster of the names of Past Presidents who have not attended a meeting for a period of one year, as provided by Article IV of the By-Laws.
6. To obtain a copy of a Square Dance Proclamation obtained each year from the State of Florida. This document will proclaim a specified month as National Square Dance month in Florida and will be signed by the Governor. It shall be distributed to all Associations not later than 60 days before National Square Dance Month.

d. TREASURER

1. To be custodian of all Federation funds, collect all dues, and pay all properly approved bills.
2. To keep complete current financial records and provide a report on the financial status of the Federation at each meeting or upon request of the president.
3. To file a charter renewal each year with the Florida Secretary of State, prior to May 1.
4. To act as chairman of the annual budget committee.

5. To obtain bank resolution forms and bank signature cards prior to the Annual meeting to facilitate the orderly transfer of the office of Treasurer.
 6. To ensure the financial records for the complete year are in audit form at the Annual meeting or any other meeting after the close of the financial year as directed by the President.
- e. PARLIAMENTARIAN
1. To interpret and counsel the Executive Board on all points of parliamentary procedure which may come into controversy.
 2. To have a copy of Robert's Rules of Order, Revised Edition, at all meetings, and be familiar with its contents.
 3. To be coordinator and be responsible for the Florida Showcase and its display at the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention and the National Square Dance Convention and such other events as directed by the President. He shall make reservations of sufficient space at each convention as soon as notice is received by the Federation, of the dates and location of each convention.
- f. IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
1. Shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Board for the purposes of continuity.

Revised Standing Rules Approved February 27, 2011

Revision Committee: Ray & Elsa Huddleston, Chairman

Don & Ann Slocum

Revised Standing Rules Approved October 26, 2014
Revision Committee: Ray & Elsa Huddleston
Bruce & Colleen Morgan

**BY-LAWS
OF THE
FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS**
 AMENDED ~~NOVEMBER 20, 2011~~OCTOBER 26, 2014

ARTICLE I

Name and Location of Office

The name of this corporation shall be the Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc., a corporation not for profit, and its location shall be 5150 Mt. Plymouth Road, Apopka, FL 32712.

ARTICLE II

Members

All persons who hold membership in good standing in any of the area associations in the State of Florida affiliated with the Florida Federation of Square Dancers shall be members.

ARTICLE III

Term of Corporation

The term of this corporation shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE IV

Board of Delegates

Section 1. The area Associations affiliated with the Florida Federation of Square Dancers shall provide a maximum of five couple representatives (one of which should be the Association President and one of which will be the elected officer on the Executive Board). They will serve as the regular delegates. Two additional couples shall be named as alternate delegates. The term "couple" includes two single persons.

Section 2. All Past Presidents of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers shall become permanent delegates as long as they remain active square dancers and attend at least one Federation meeting per year. Any absence of more than one year, unless due to health reasons, will result in loss of their voting privilege and they shall be placed on the inactive list.

Section 3. Delegates at Large shall be:

- Chairman of the History Committee
- Chairman of the Insurance Committee
- Present Florida State Convention Chairman
- Manager of the Square Dance Hall of Fame
- President of the Florida Association of Single Square Dancers
- Convention Facilities Chairman
- Convention Facilities Vice Chairman
- President or their designated representative of the Area Associations not seated on the Florida Federation of Square Dancers' Board
- ARTS Representative
- USDA Representatives

Section 4. The Delegates established by Sections 1, 2 and 3 shall be known collectively as the Board of Delegates.

Section 5. To avoid conflict of interest, no caller, cuer or vendor shall be eligible to serve as a Regular, Permanent, or At-Large Delegate to the Federation.

Section 6. Regular delegates shall be named by each Area Association not later than December 15 of each year and shall hold office for a term of one year beginning with the working weekend meeting. If for personal reasons an appointed delegate is unable to serve a full term, or is unable to attend a meeting of the Board of Delegates, the President of that area association shall appoint an alternate delegate to serve as required.

ARTICLE V

Voting

Section 1. Regular delegates will have one vote per person.

Section 2. Permanent delegates will have one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) vote per person.

Section 3. Delegates at Large shall be eligible to vote only on issues which come under their respective committee responsibilities (i.e., History, Insurance, State Convention, etc.). They will have one vote per person.

ARTICLE VI

Elections

Section 1. The Board of Delegates shall choose from among themselves a governing body of officers that shall be known as the Executive Board.

Section 2. The President shall appoint a nominating committee prior to the annual meeting. The committee shall present a slate of officers at the annual meeting. The nominating committee shall request approval for the Parliamentarian position from the Executive Board of the nominee's Association.

Section 3. At the annual meeting each year, the first item of old business shall be the report of the nominating committee, and after which there will be a call for nominations from the floor for each office (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Parliamentarian).

Section 4. The President will cause an election to be held for each office, and the candidate receiving the majority of votes for the office will be elected.

Section 5. At the conclusion of the election process the new officers will be installed by a person appointed by the outgoing President.

ARTICLE VII

Executive Board

Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Parliamentarian. All of these officers shall retain their vote in the Federation.

Section 2. Each office shall be held by an elected couple or by a single individual.

Section 3. No more than two (2) elected couples of the Executive Board shall be from the same Area Association.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the other Executive Board members to keep the President informed of activities and/or problems in the association and recommend persons who would qualify to serve on committees.

Section 5. An officer who has served more than one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of a term shall be considered as serving a full term.

ARTICLE VIII

Duties of Officers

The duties of each Executive Board member shall be outlined in the Standing Rules.

ARTICLE IX

Meetings

Section 1. Procedures

- a. The Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc. shall be operated on a representative basis and parliamentary procedures will be followed at all meetings.
- b. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority that shall prevail at all meetings except such rules as may be adopted, modified or changed by the Corporation.

Section 2. Schedule

- a. Announcement of times and places of regular meetings of the Board of Delegates shall be made in writing, at least 30 days in advance, to all delegates and representatives.
- b. Special meetings of the Board of Delegates may be called at the discretion of the Executive Board, provided there is such business that requires their immediate attention and cannot be delayed until the next regular meeting. Announcements of the time and place of a special meeting should be given with as much advanced notice as possible.
- c. Any person interested in square dancing activities may attend the meetings of the Board of Delegates. They may address the meetings of the Board of Delegates but may neither move that the Florida Federation of Square Dancers take a particular action nor vote on any such motion.
- d. The annual meeting, at which new officers shall be elected, will be held between October 15 and the weekend prior to Thanksgiving, on a date selected by the President.
- e. The first regular meeting of the Federation each calendar year shall be a "Working Weekend." The weekend shall be devoted to developing plans and programs for the year, including a Federation Budget and resolving problems, in addition to routine business. The working weekend will be the last weekend in February, at a location set by the Federation Vice President for each out-year subject to the approval of the Executive Board. The Vice President will work with the out-year state convention chairman in coordinating a Saturday night dance to benefit the out-year state convention.

ARTICLE X

Vested Rights

The Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc. shall be a not-for-profit incorporated entity, and no member, association or individual delegate shall have any vested interest in any funds, property, or assets of the Corporation, nor shall any funds or assets of the Corporation be allowed to accrue to the benefit of any member, association or individual unless they are authorized by the lawful activities of the Federation. No funds of the Corporation will be expended for any purpose other than the furtherance of the stated purpose of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers.

ARTICLE XI

Personal Liability

No officer or member of the Executive Board shall receive a salary. The elected officers of the Corporation shall be entitled to reimbursement for expenses incident to the handling of the affairs of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc. upon the approval of the majority of the Board of Delegates.

ARTICLE XII

Funds of the Corporation

Section 1. Funds shall be maintained in the name of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc.

- a. The depository in which the account(s) is/are maintained shall be insured by the Federation Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation (FSLIC).
- b. All funds shall be deposited in such account(s).
- c. One (1) or more accounts may be opened in one (1) or more depositories as designated the Executive Board.

Section 2. The funds of the Corporation shall be used and expended under the direction of the Executive Board with the approval of the Board of Delegates.

- a. The Executive Board shall, from time to time, authorize signatures for withdrawal of funds of the Corporation. Funds may be withdrawn on the signature of the person or persons so designated.
- b. The Executive Board may require that all persons authorized to sign be bonded.

ARTICLE XIII

Ratification

All organizations applying for affiliation in the Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc. shall be deemed to have ratified by a majority vote of their members, the Constitution, By-Laws, Standing Rules, and policies of this Corporation, and by the application, such organizations agree to be bound and governed by the terms and conditions thereof.

ARTICLE XIV

Committees

Section 1. Standing Committees

- a. Shall be established as required.
- b. Name and purpose shall be recorded in the Standing Rules.

Section 2. Special Committees

- a. Appointed by the President
- b. Approved by the Executive Board.

Section 3. All committee reports shall be made a part of the minutes of the Corporation.

- a. The president shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

ARTICLE XV

Official Documents

Section 1. The official documents of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc. shall consist of the following:

- a. Articles of Incorporation
- b. Constitution
- c. By-Laws
- d. Standing Rules
- e. Minutes of all meetings of the Corporation.

Section 2. These aforementioned papers shall become the official papers of the Federation and shall be passed on to the succeeding delegate or Board Members.

ARTICLE XVI

Corporation Indebtedness

Section 1. The corporation shall not exceed a total indebtedness of \$10,000.

Section 2. The Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc. shall have the power to raise and disburse monies from any legal source or activity as required to further the purposes of this organization.

ARTICLE XVII

Seal

The Corporation has adopted a seal with the words in the center circle: "Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc." and in the inner circle a Corporate Seal of the Corporation shall be kept in the custody of the Federation Secretary and shall be necessary to give validity to all contracts of the Corporation in accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules.

ARTICLE XVIII

Contingency Fund

A contingency fund to sponsor the annual Florida State Convention shall be maintained by the Florida Federation Treasurer as a separate line item. The fund shall be reimbursed annually from the net proceeds of the State Convention prior to the division of the proceeds. In case the convention has a loss and cannot repay the seed money, all three organizations (Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Florida Callers Association, and the Round Dance Council of Florida) shall repay the loss equally.

ARTICLE XIX

Permanent Delegate Reinstatement

Permanent delegates who have lose their voting rights due to in activity may be reinstate to full membership in the Federation by accomplishing the following:

- a. Become active square dancers.
- b. Support square dancing activities.
- c. Request in writing to the Federation Executive Board a desire to be reinstated to the Board of Delegates.

ARTICLE XX

Dissolution

Upon majority vote of the Board of Directors to dissolve the Corporation, the Executive Committee shall after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all of the assets of the Corporation exclusively for the benefit of the Corporation to any exempt corporation or entity organized for purposes similar to those set forth under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law) as the directors shall determine.

ARTICLE XXI

Affiliation

The Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc. is an Affiliate of the United Square Dancers of America, Inc. (USDA) and agrees to abide to the USDA Bylaws and Standing Rules and further agrees to subscribe to the United Square Dancers of America Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct.

ARTICLE ~~XXXXII~~

Amendments

Section 1. By-Laws may be adopted, amended or rescinded without previous notice, by a majority vote at any regular meeting of the Board of Delegates.

Section 2. A By-Law continues in full force until it is rescinded.

Revised By-Laws Approved November 20, 2011

Revision Committee: Ray & Elsa Huddleston
Don & Ann Slocum

Revised By-Laws Approved October 26, 2014

Revision Committee: Ray & Elsa Huddleston
Bruce & Colleen Morgan

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS

ADOPTED AS AMENDED ~~MARCH 2009~~ FEBRUARY 28, 2015

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this corporation, not-for-profit, is the Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Incorporated, organized under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes and IRS Code Section 501 (c)7, Social and Recreational Clubs, and shall be known as "the Corporation" in the Constitution. The office location shall be 5150 Mt. Plymouth Road, Apopka, FL. 32712

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of the Corporation shall be as follows:

Section 1. Organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes to promote the extension of square and round dancing in the State of Florida by ~~informing-educating~~ the general public of the healthful and recreational opportunities in square and round dancing. This includes the making of distributions to organizations that qualify under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Section 2. To encourage the formation of square and round dance clubs.

Section 3. To serve as clearinghouse for information among the unaffiliated dance groups and as an instrument of liaison with square dancers elsewhere in the world.

Section 4. To bring a spirit of cooperation among the callers, teachers and dancers elsewhere in the world.

Section 5. To sponsor an annual Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention on Memorial Day weekend in coordination with the Florida Callers Association and the Round Dance Council of Florida.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Membership and representatives will be defined or provided for in the By-Laws and Standing Rules of the Corporation.

ARTICLE IV

Privileges and Responsibilities

All members shall enjoy the rights, privileges, and responsibilities as defined in the By-Laws and the Standing Rules.

ARTICLE V

Officers and Their Election

Section 1. The Executive Board of the Corporation shall consist of the following officers:

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer
- e. Parliamentarian

Section 2. The nomination and election of the Executive Board shall be as described in the By-Laws and the Standing Rules.

Section 3. Duties of the Executive Board shall be defined in the By-Laws and the Standing Rules.

Article VI

Organization and Voting

Organization and voting shall be as provided for in the By-Laws and Standing Rules.

Article VII

Meetings

Meeting shall be as provided for in the By-Laws and Standing Rules.

Article VIII

Quorum

Section 1. The same as Articles of Incorporation, Article VI 1.

Section 2. The business of this Corporation shall be conducted in open meetings with the minutes recorded and made a part of the official records of the Corporation and distributed to each voting member as provided for in the By-Laws and the Standing Rules.

Article IX

By-Laws and Standing Rules

By-Laws and Standing Rules shall be written, approved, and published to further define the scope and purpose of this Corporation with duties, responsibilities, and obligations of members and officers.

~~Article X~~

~~Dissolution~~

~~Section 1. In the event of the dissolution of this Corporation, after payment of all obligations, the remaining assets shall be distributed by the Executive Board as follows:~~

- ~~a. To any recognized not-for-profit organization in any proportion deemed advisable.~~
- ~~b. In no event shall the assets be distributed to any officer, delegate or employee of the Corporation.~~

ARTICLE XIX

Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended or changed by 2/3 vote of the Board of Delegates at any meeting provided the proposed changes have been submitted to the Board of Delegates at a prior meeting.

Section 2. This Constitution may also be amended or changed by a petition of members, such petition to state exactly the proposed amendment and to be signed by at least 250 members in good standing. When an amendment is initiated by petition, such petition shall be submitted to the Board of Delegates, which body shall not debate the matter or take any action on it, but shall cause the amendment to be forwarded to the regional associations for ratification. The petition must then be ratified by unanimous vote of the regional dancers associations affiliated with the Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc.

Ray & Elsa Huddleston

Revised Constitution Revised May, 2009

Reorganization Committee: Bruce & Colleen Morgan
Paul & Cheryl Miller
Ray & Elsa Huddleston
Don & Ann Slocum
Charlie & Val Newsome

Amended Constitution Reprinted February 26, 2011 (Title conformity and font change only)

Revision Committee: Ray & Elsa Huddleston
Don & Ann Slocum

Revised Constitution Approved October 26, 2014

Revision Committee: Ray & Elsa Huddleston

Bruce & Colleen Morgan