

FLORIDA FEDERATION14 OF SQUARE DANCERS
Quality Inn, Orlando, Florida
Saturday, February 27, 2016

1. Call to Order. Meeting was called to order by Penny Green at 9:00 a.m. at the Quality Inn in Orlando, Florida.

2. Invocation. The invocation was given by Judy Anderson.

3. Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dennis Taylor.

4. Roll call. The roll was called by Elsa Huddleston. There was a quorum.

5. Introduction of visitors and guests. The following visitors were present:

Patrick & Joan Amarillo, Dave Seay and Susie Moon

6. President's comments

Penny introduced the new board members. She also stated that hotel reservations must be made by the required day or we don't get the comp room for the meetings. Since we did not have a comp room for this afternoon, the meeting will reconvene in the breakfast area of the hotel.

7. Minutes of November 22, 2015.

Don Slocum said Bruce and Colleen have not been appointed by the Federation to chair the national convention. Penny said the issue will be handled when we get to that specific report. Randy Pool moved to accept the minutes; motion carried.

8. Treasurer's Report – Cheryl Miller

Florida Federation of Square Dancers
TREASURERS REPORT
November 13, 2015– January 31, 2016

Beginning Balances - All Accounts (11/12/2015)

Wells Fargo Checking Account
Wells Fargo Business Savings Account
Wells Fargo CD 2 (Renewal Date 9/18/2016)
Insurance

Total all accounts as of 11/12/2015

Wells Fargo Checking Account

Beginning Balance - (As of 11/12/2015)

Receipts

Interest (Nov thru Jan)
61stth FSSRDC Profit

Reconciliation Error 10/31/15

Total Receipts
Disbursements

- Check #1580- Patty Ping (Badges)
- Check #1581- C. Miller (Engraving)
- Check #1582- Void Check
- Check #1583- Patty Ping (Badges)
- Check #1584- C. Miller (2nd order Friendship Business Cards)
- Check #1585- L. Wasserman (PA System)

Total Disbursements
Wells Fargo Checking Account Balance

Wells Fargo Savings Account

Beginning Balance - (As of 11/12/2015)

Receipts

Interest (Nov thru Jan)

Total Receipts
Wells Fargo Savings Account (As of 2/26/2016)

Wells Fargo CD 2 (Renewal Date 9/18/2016)

Beginning Balance - (As of 11/12/2015)

Interest

Total Receipts
Wells Fargo CD 2 (As of 2/26/2016)

Ending Balance - All Accounts

- Wells Fargo Checking Account (As of 2/26/2016)
- Wells Fargo Savings Account (As of 2/26/2016)
- Wells Fargo CD 2 *Maturity Date 9/18/2016* (as of 2/22/2016)
- Insurance (As of 1/31/2016)

TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS:

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Miller, Federation Treasurer, 2016

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Florida Federation of Square Dancers Convention Fund

TREASURERS REPORT

November 8, 2015 - February 26, 2016

Beginning Balance November 8, 2015

Convention Fund Checking Account

Receipts

61st State Convention Loan

Total Receipts

Disbursements

**Total
Disbursements
Convention Fund Checking Account Balance**

Other assets as of 2/26/2016

62nd State Convention Loan
63rd State Convention Loan(includes \$3000 Lakeland Center Deposit)

Total other assets

Total all assets as of 2/26/2016

Liabilities

Florida Callers Association
Round Dance Council of Florida
Florida Federation of Square Dancers

Total Liabilities

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Miller, Federation Treasurer, 2016

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Penny said the report would be filed for audit.

9. Parliamentarian Report – Linda Tester

As newly elected Parliamentarian, I hope that the Board and Delegates will help me along this new and exciting path as Parliamentarian. This is definitely a new hat for me to wear.

An email was sent to the Directors of Showcase of Ideas, Bill and Cherie Arch confirming that we will need two 8 foot tables to use for our display. Included in the email I introduced myself and gave them my contact information for all further communication regarding the Showcase of Ideas.

I have also sent an email to each Association's president along with a picture of their section of Florida's Showcase of Ideas display. I ask each president to please provide me with updated information for their Association as soon as possible. Hopefully all information will be gathered in our breakout meeting this afternoon.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Tester
Parliamentarian

10. Sunshine Report by Dennis & Nancy Taylor - Since the last Sunshine report the following cards were sent:

Get well card to Don Seay

Sympathy card to Jack & Kathy McKinney

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis & Nancy Taylor, Secretary

11. Correspondence – Penny Green

Penny read thank you note from Bud and Anita Taylor for the mantle clock they received from the board as outgoing presidents.

12. Florida Caller Liaison – Dave Muller's report given by Charlie Pergrossi.

The FCA will be having its next meeting on May 29th in Lakeland. At the meeting there will be a written vote to support or not support a bid for the 2021 National Convention in Tampa. The annual caller's clinic will be held next October 14th and 15th at the Comfort Inn & Suites in Lakeland. The clinician is Betsy Gotta from New Jersey. Betsy will also be calling the Saturday night dance (Oct. 15) open to all callers and dancers at Strawberry Square, Inc. in Plant City, Florida.

David Muller

13. Florida Cuer Liaison – Susan Snider

The Round Dance Council is doing well, and the upcoming state convention is programmed and ready to go.

14. Association Reports

a. **CENTRAL** – Ailene Picheco

Our Central Florida Association 5th Saturday Dance in January was cancelled because it would have been on the same weekend as the Florida Winter Festival. And no one should miss that!

Our yearly Association Dance, the Shamrock Swing, will be in Titusville on March 18 and 19, 2016. Dancing starts on Friday morning at 10:00 am.

Ron Libby and Larry Belcher are fantastic callers. And we are happy to welcome Don and Linda Hichman from North Carolina to cue at the rounds. You may remember them from the Winter Festival in 2015.

There is no volunteer to chair the 2017 Shamrock Swing so the board has cancelled the yearly dance until further notice. The facility in Titusville is up for sale. Without a chairman and a facility reasonably priced, the board decided to fund the State Convention another way.

We had several classes starting in the fall at various clubs around Central.

New dancers need to be encouraged to attend the State Convention. They can dance in the Mainstream

Hall, meet other dancers from around the state, and gain more confidence. It is a great way to make new friends and dance to different callers.

Our CFA Dances are geared to the new dancers. They get a chance to meet folks from around Central Florida and dance to several different callers from the Central Florida Callers Association. The program is Mainstream with announced Plus so everyone gets a chance to dance.

We lost another club here in Central. The Dixie Dancers of Daytona Beach have folded after dancing for over 56 years.

The Motivators in St Cloud has also closed. Chris Phillips and Ron Libby have been calling there for years. They are both excellent callers but the dancers do not travel any more. Even on a Sunday afternoon.

We did have a class graduate Mainstream in Melbourne with seven **new** dancers; three **returning** dancers and two **girls** learning the boy's part.

Respectfully submitted,
Ailene Picheco, CFA President

b. **NORTHEAST** – Jack & Kathy McKinney

Since the last Federation Meeting we can report to you that our Fall Festival, "The Prom" was a HUGE success! Not only financially....but especially in FUN! We want to thank Tom and Pat Herscha for being Chairmen and a job well done!!! We thank all the dancers from around the state who attended as well! Supporting each other is most important!

Well, 2016 is now in full swing! Lots of us have been "swinging" our partners at various large dances.

January was a full month for northeast dancers. Many attended the Winter Festival. For those who attended it was great as usual. If you were unable to attend this year....you "may" have missed the very LAST ONE...sad because it is really a wonderful dance, right in our own state! Plus, a portion of the profits are shared with the Federation who in turn disperse it to the associations for promoting square dancing in Florida. A very good reason to support the Winter Festival! We ended the month of January with two big dances. The Circus Dance sponsored by the Silver Fox Squares was a HUGE success, raising over \$4,500 for the Dreams Come True organization. Making a dream come true for a terminally ill child is indescribable. Following the Circus Dance was our 5th Saturday Dance. This dance brought the theme "Valentine's Sweetheart". It was held at Sandalwood. It was a HUGE success. The hall was packed, The Fun & Frolic and Clay Allemanders hosted it! Bill Chesnut, Mike Akers and Ed Hauck did a fantastic job! Wayne & Debbie Miller the Vice President of NEFSARDA, who coordinate the 5th Saturday Dances ALWAYS do an outstanding job! If you were one of the very lucky people to win a "Square Dance Heart wood carving centerpiece by Wayne you know what I mean about how they make every dance special! Thank You Wayne & Debbie!

In February we had our annual Blue Grey Dance hosted by the Dixie Dancers, with the Square Wheels hosting the Friday Night Trail In Dance. They do an AWESOME weekend which we hope everyone gets to partake of! Lake City comes alive with the Civil War re-enactors, the parade, the street

vendors and entertainment! It is so much fun...mark your calendar NOW for next year. Closing out February we had the Federation working weekend along with a benefit dance for the 2017 State Convention in Orlando at Whirl and Twirl Dance Hall.

We are looking forward to the Shamrock Swing, March 19 & 20. This Central Assn Dance is always so much FUN! All of us need to support each others association dances. Let's all "swing" on down to The Shamrock Swing and get "lucky" with a very fun weekend!

Hope to see you in a square soon.
Jack and Kathy McKinney

c. **NORTHWEST** – Alec and Kay Schmidt

Since our last meeting there have been some really FUN DANCES in the Panhandle. The January Shine was held @ Ragon Hall on Jan 16 with Ted Kennedy & Terri Wilaby. The NW Association raised \$600.00 in support of the 2016 State Convention at our Luau/Benefit Dance which was held on January 23 @ Ragon Hall. Thanks to Seaside Squares for donating the use of Ragon Hall and the NW Callers & Cuers for donating their excellent calling & cueing. Thanks to all our members who helped out at this Dance. It was so much fun! The Northwest Callers & Cuers held their annual Sweet Heart Swing on February 20 @ Grand Square Hall in Panama City. The Canoe Squares Anniversary Dance is being held this weekend, February 27th @ Ragon Hall in Pensacola.

New classes are for Basic & Mainstream + Rounds Classes are being held at several of the Halls in the Panhandle. Agape Squares hosted 4 squares of prospective students at an Open House held in the Fellowship Hall at Crosspoint UMC in Niceville. We hope all of them will join us when our class starts. Roy Bernier is teaching Plus Square Dancing on Tuesday nights in Ft Walton Beach. Miriam Meriwether is teaching basic & Mainstream Square Dance on Wednesday evenings & Phase-2 Two Step on Tuesday evenings at PASARDA Hall in Ft Walton Beach. On Friday evenings, Seaside Squares hosts a basic & Mainstream SD Class with Terri Wilaby & their guest callers as instructors. Capital Twirlers in Tallahassee & Swinging Squares in Panama City also have Basic & Mainstream Classes on going. TNT Rounds & Teri Willaby are teaching West Coast Swing at Ragon Hall on Sunday afternoons. Sandy Sturgis & Grand Square Rounds dance on Sunday afternoon s at Grand Square Hall 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.

Alec & Kay Schmidt, President(s)

d. **SOUTHEAST** – Steve Adler

New classes started in January – Scotty Sharrer in both Boynton Beach at the Boynton Beach Civic Center and in Deerfield Beach. Jack Lewis' workshops are also at the Civic Center. Chris Phillips, Zail Greenbain, as well as Joanne & Ken Helton are continuing with their classes and dances. Scotty is following the "Club 50" program promoted by Jerry Story as a way to get dancers off to a relatively quick entry into square dancing. A photographer from the Sun-Sentinel attended Scotty's first session in Boynton. Her photographs have now appeared in both the Sun-Sentinel and the Boynton Forum. Jack is

reviewing A1 and teaching A2. He hopes to start a new "Advanced" club once his workshop is completed in April. It is expected that it would meet at the Boynton Beach Civic Center Monday afternoons.

Many of the activities mentioned in our previous report have now been successfully held. We delivered an unexpectedly large amount of toys, books, games, etc. to ChildNet in December and the dances held in December, January, and February were very well attended. We have one more dance this season on April 10th with Chris Phillips as host caller and Phyllis Kent the host cuer. As with the previous dances, it will be held at the Briny Breezes Auditorium and sponsored by the Briny Breezes Club.

We placed the new Federation "business" cards in several locations. No one has contacted me directly, but possibly the cards have encouraged people to access the Federation website. They have also been particularly handy when someone asks for information about square dancing in Florida. To make life easy for me, rather than hand writing each card, I printed labels with my contact information and put them on the back of the cards. If anyone is interested, Avery 8167 labels fit quite nicely in the space allotted for contact information.

e. **WEST COAST** – Bob & Flo Ormsbee

This past Monday night Feb 8, 2016 Temple Twirlers had 7+ squares dancing to Allen Snell. Charlie Lovelace cued to a pretty full floor of round dancers as well.

I did not make it to Buttons and Bows Club in Lakeland yet so I cannot attest to the crowd they had.

Wed February 10, 2015 the Florida State Fair hosted quite a few square dancers from all over the West Coast to Ron Reardon and Marty Vanwart and other local area square dance callers. Charlie Lovelace made a visit this year at the Fair to quite a large circle of round dancers. The Grand March was awesome and an award was presented to Merle Lewis and Phyllis Woodlief for their years of hosting the Florida State Fair event. A great time was had by all who attended. Some dancers were so brave after having their dinner decided to go to Strawberry Square and dance with Sam Dunn for another 2 1/2 hours. Some of us are really die hard dancers.

Thursday night Promenade Squares in Pinellas Park had five squares on the floor with Bob Ormsbee calling and at least ten couples on the floor doing rounds to Jimmy Griffin.

I understand, but I was not there, that Sun City had five squares on the floor as well as some round dancers there also. Bob was our great granddaughter's date for the Valentine Ball at her school where she is in the first grade. After that we went to waffle house for food.

Saturday was my sister's birthday and a group of friends and family who had seen each other in a while had a great time at her garden sale. Needless to say I did not make it back to Strawberry Square on Saturday but heard they had a good turnout as well.

Sunday, Valentine's Day Polk County clubs Buttons and Bows and Shufflin Squares hosted a West Coast dance with Carl Rod as emcee and other local area callers. Mike Gromely was the cuer and there were five squares on the floor with quite a few round dancers as well. The food was great, the friendship and fellowship we shared were typical square fare. Everyone left with smiling faces, full tummies and of course tired feet.

Square dancing needs willing people to come up with some new and innovative ideas to attract new dancers. The West Coast is open to all suggestions and would love to have every caller in the area to attend the West Coast meetings. I do not have the dates confirmed as yet but will post as soon as I do. Thank you for helping in whatever ways you can. Please connect with me either by email or Facebook. I am yellowrose and would love to have more friends to talk square dancing to.

Flo and Bob Ormsbee
WC Presidents 2016

15. Publication Reports

a. **BOW & SWING** – Bill Boyd

Bow & Swing is alive, well and not having as much fun as we used to. Why? Dancers are sending their own captions with their photos.

Circulation is hovering at about 1,000 which, while not bad, could be better. If your club or area want to put on a subscription dance, let us know. One difficulty, unless my schedule changes, I am still calling every Monday and Friday.

We continue to publish monthly, and while we ask for your advertising and continued support, we will not raise rates. We will continue to place your charitable fund raising dances at no charge. We at Bow & Swing continue to preach that Square Dancing is a recreation. I frequently hear dancers trying to get others into a dance class by emphasizing the physical and mental benefits. While these are great side benefits, we dance because it is fun. Although I realize I am preaching to the choir, support your local clubs. Support your local callers. Support your local periodicals. Support your state convention.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Boyd

b. **GRAPEVINE** (NE) – Bill Morgan – No report.

c. **KEEPIN' POSTED** (C)- Ailene Picheco

Beginning with the January 2016 quarterly issue, Keepin' Posted was emailed to all members. Printed copies will continue to be mailed to clubs, and all those who do not have an email address. Any member can request a hard copy.

We have very few members. Most dancers get the Bow & Swing instead or just dance at their Home club. I mail about 50 copies to clubs in Central, various Square Dance organizations and a few members. More have requested mail rather than email.

I am always looking for pictures and articles to put in the magazine. Send them to me.

Respectfully submitted,
Ailene Picheco, Editor, Keepin' Posted

d. **PANHANDLE PRESS** (NW) – Tim & Terri Wilaby – No report

e. **WEST COAST DANCER** (WC) – Ed Henning – No report

16. Convention Reports

a. **2016** – Kathy McKinney, Diane Syphard, Linda Tester

Since the last Federation meeting, we have been traveling EVERYWHERE! I MEAN EVERYWHERE! However, good things have come out of our travels. One of the best things was our “Strike Up The Music, We’ve Come To Dance” T-Shirts have been selling like hotcakes! Have you seen them? Do you have one? Many of the shirts were bedazzled in every way possible...and some were just worn as they were purchased... I believe many dancers wear them everywhere and just wanted a regular shirt to wear. That is also a good idea...however, we think you should buy at least 2 so you can bedazzle one and keep one as is for everyday wear! Our Ways and Means Chairman, Cheryl Miller gave us the awesome idea of purchasing them in several different colors so that dancers can choose their preference, for example, “club color”. The Northeast Ways and Means Asst Chairman, Joan Amarino has ordered and received our shirts. Joan has also helped Cheryl distribute and keep track of our Raffle tickets. Joan has been very busy!!! THANKS JOAN!

Our newest Raffle is a “Road Trip...Weekend Getaway.... Anniversary Celebration.... Or a Gift for someone very special! We have a “Suitcase packed and ready to Travel”! It includes a \$100.00 Gift Card to stay at any Motel (it is cash so you can use it for camping as well), along with a \$50.00 Shell Gas Card, Gift Cards for 2 FREE drinks at Starbucks, \$25.00 Gift Card for Bob Evans, \$25.00 Gift Card for Carrabbas, \$25.00 Gift Card for Cracker Barrel, 2 “Strike Up The Music We’ve Come To Dance” T-Shirts (so you can show just how much FUN Square Dancing is), toiletries, sunglasses, bottled water, snacks, wine glasses and a bottle of Wine to Celebrate your arrival. Oooops, don’t let me forget to mention there is also \$100.00 COLD HARD CASH for spending! Total Value over \$416.00!! PLEASE PLEASE Purchase many tickets to help support your state convention...and hopefully WIN BIG!

We need all associations to keep in mind Fund Raising! This is a STATE CONVENTION...it takes All 5 associations to put on a convention! There are sooooo many ways to fund raise! Selling ads “Personal” and “Business” is a huge help. It is not too late to get your Ad to Ailene Picheco! But time is running out!. Thank You Ailene for doing such a great job on a hard task!

The Northwest had a Benefit Dance on January 23rd, they raised over \$500 and we sold shirts, raffle tickets and ribbons! Thank you Northwest for supporting us. We want to thank Alec and Kay Schmidt and Cheryl Miller for putting that dance together!

The Central Association had their Party Weekend and presented us with a very generous check Of OVER \$1700. Thank You Randy and Carol Poole for putting this weekend together! The Central Assn has been a BIG supporter of the convention, with ways and means and ribbons! We Thank You very much!!!

The Southeast gave us a check for \$200 and welcomed us 2 times when we traveled down there! Steve Adler, Southeast President and his partner Sally Galick have been one of our biggest supporters in buying and selling our TShirts! Thank You Steve and Sally! You are really an asset to your association!

The West Coast gave us a donation from sale of clothing for over \$500 and have welcomed us at several dances and supported us in buying shirts and raffle tickets. Flo Ormsbee the West Coast President could not be more supportive. She is not only supporting the convention she is a firecracker in her association, going around keeping the West Coast on Fire! Congrats Flo! Keep up the good work!.

The Northeast made a donation and took their proceeds from last years convention and “paid it forward”! Thank You, Northeast!

We are still asking clubs in each association to help. Our particular club raises money by just going out to eat! (that’s what we do best..LOL) We ask the restaurants to donate 20% of our total bill for our group. Sometimes they will give a gift card which a member can purchase and donate the money. So far we have raised well over \$300 with several months to go! Last year one club sold “CandyGrams” at a 5th Saturday Dance. This was such a GREAT IDEA, we incorporated it into our convention fundraising. On Saturday night we will have a “CandyGram Dance” and recipients will receive some candy at this dance. If you haven’t purchased a CandyGram for someone you know is going to the convention...please do. We know you will put a smile on someone’s face!

All the above sound TERRIFIC AND FANTASTIC....However, the downside is....we have NOT been able to sell ribbons!!! If people don’t come, no matter what great things we do, it won’t be successful! We have told dancers that if they purchase their tickets now, it will help us pay our bills as they come in. And if for ANY REASON they can not attend, and let us know by the day of the convention, 100% of their money will be refunded! What more can we say? Does everyone in this room have their ribbon? We are now asking to please focus on selling ribbons in your association! Please.

Respectfully submitted,
Jack & Kathy McKinney
Walt & Dianne Syphard
Linda Tester

b. 2017 – Ray & Elsa Huddleston

I’m finding that there is so much to think about! Some things have slipped through the cracks. Like my not sending a copy of the Benefit Dance flyer to the Bow & Swing. I should have thought of it at the time I sent it to Bruce for the website. And I didn’t think about bringing flyers to the Winterfest. However, Bruce printed some for me and they at least got on the tables Saturday night. Another problem was that the article Cheryl wrote about the Benefit Dance didn’t get printed in the Bow & Swing. However, Jack Lewis has been actively announcing this Benefit Dance and has sent emails to all his clubs and also to all the people who have cruised with him.....and there are many!

Another factor will tell the tale tonight. We’ve felt that the fund raiser dance for the national convention held on February 7 with Tony Oxendine calling could affect our Benefit Dance. We hope we have at least 10 squares, but we just don’t think two fund raisers competing at the same time will help **any** state convention. However, Jack Lewis and Joanne Helton are a big asset and we know they are bringing at least one square from the southeast.

We do appreciate Judy volunteering her home to be a storage warehouse for us. As a result, she has a penguin play yard in her loft! And Don and Ann took pity on us when they saw all the items we had collected for the Chinese auction. They loaded up the back of their van and merrily waved goodbye. They, and Judy, know we have a small house.

Our first raffle starts tonight. It’s for \$200 cash and the winning ticket will be drawn at the convention this May.

Penguins, **of course**, will be the decorations tonight. We can’t have too many, so if you have any with you today please bring them tonight to frolic in the ocean!

Kickoff plans are coming along. The music has been selected and a small practice session for a special part with two southeast dancers is scheduled for next week. We are still asking that the 2017 committee chairmen be the kickoff participants along with the two southeast people. We would like to introduce the committee chairmen at the end. If you are unable to participate, please let me know; otherwise, I will assume that all committee chairmen have agreed to be penguins. Kickoff practice is at 8:00 a.m. Saturday, May 28.

T-shirts will be on sale tonight along with the buttons and a few other craft items. We want to thank Linda and Lewis Wasserman for making these buttons for us. They did a great job and saved us a lot of money!!

REMEMBER.... TONIGHT..... **DANCE TO THE BEAT WITH HAPPY FEET!**

Ray & Elsa Huddleston

c. 2018 – Lewis & Linda Wasserman

Linda said they want to do a survey to find out dancer interest and how to best schedule the convention, i.e., what day is best, how much to pay for tickets, should we have a weekend or three day dance? What are people willing to spend?

They are trying to input hard numbers to go forward. Kathy McKinney moved that Wassermans distribute the survey everywhere they go. Randy seconded. Penny asked that this motion be tabled until all can read the survey. Kathy said that as chairmen they can do what they want. Penny agreed to send out the survey using her distribution list. Motion was withdrawn.

Linda discussed her fund raising ideas. Fundraising ideas...such as coffee cups with their logo. A main fund raiser will be a wishing tree where a sentiment on a card to be hung on a tree at the convention.

They have a number of chairperson positions open including a line dance chairman. They are also trying to get new dancers up to speed for the convention weekend.

Linda also suggested advertising in hi school yearbooks for empty nesters.

d. 2019 – TBD

e. 2021 Florida National Bid Committee Report – Bruce & Colleen Morgan

The Florida National Convention Bid Committee has slowly been plugging along.

On November 2, 2015 Colleen & I, along with Cheryl Miller and Bob & Ann Poyner, met with Brittany Callahan, Tampa Area CVB representative and Marisa Hoffman the Tampa Convention Center representative. At this meeting John & Dimple Williford, one of our NEC advisors joined us. This was an unofficial NEC visit just to decide if the Tampa Convention Center was suitable to hold the convention. We toured the Convention Center and had a tour of the City of Tampa to see what the City could offer the Dancers. During the Convention Center portion of the tour Jack & Barbara Hoffman, Randy & Carol

Poole and Terri Hoffman join us. John & Dimple informed us that evening that the Tampa Convention Center would be suitable to hold the National Convention.

On November 22, 2015 at the Fall Meeting of The Florida Federation of Square Dancers Cheryl Miller, along with me, Colleen & Randy Poole presented the proposal of holding a National Convention at the Tampa Convention Center in June of 2021. At this time Cheryl made a motion that the Florida Federation of Square Dancers pledge their support for bidding for the 70th National Square Dance Convention® to be held in Tampa June 23 – 26, 2021. The motion was seconded by Jack Hoffman and the motion Carried. The Bid Committee would like to thank the Federation Board and Delegates in their vote of confidence.

On February 7th the Florida National Convention Bid Committee held our very first Fund Raising Event. It was a dance held at The Whirl & Twirl Square & Round Dance Center. The Caller was Tony Oxendine and the Cuer was our very own Susan Snider. Whirl & Twirl donated the hall and all the kitchen supplies. Tony and Susan were so very kind and donated their time and talents to help out the cause. We would like to express our gratitude to each for their support of the National Convention Bid process.

On February 18th Colleen & I met with Brittany Callahan and the Hotel Representatives from the Marriott Riverside and the Hilton Downtown Tampa to discuss some of the requirements of the convention and pre-convention. We had a very productive meeting.

During the 2016 Florida Winter Festival we met with the General Chairman of the 2017 National in Cincinnati, OH and the General Chairman of the 2019 National in Atlanta, GA. On different days we had lunch with each couple. They pledged their support and provided Colleen & I with a lot of useful information.

Since talking with the 2017 & 2019 National Convention General Chairman we have contacted an Event Planner to assist with the planning of the 2021 National. It is the same Event Planner that the 2017 & 2019 Conventions utilized. This event planner will do almost all the negotiating with the Convention facility and the hotels.

The first week of March Colleen & I are traveling to Cincinnati to attend the Pre-Convention of the 2017 National. During this Pre-Convention we will be meeting with the NEC and the future National Convention General Chairmen. During this Pre-Convention we will be having lunch with Venus Kent, Manager Global Accounts of HelmsBriscoe, the Event Planner that has agreed to assist us with the planning of the National Bid. Hopefully we'll be able to return home with some very helpful information.

On April 22 – 24 the Florida National Convention Bid Committee will hold their Second Fund Raising Event. This will be a Party Weekend Event to be held at the Deerhaven Resort and Conference Center in Paisley, FL. There will be a Pot-Luck dinner on Friday evening. Then later that evening will be a Casual Fun Square Dance with Mark Fitzner and Susan Snider. On Saturday we will serve a full breakfast and lunch. Saturday morning will be free to do whatever you wish. At 1:30 pm we will have a fun Bingo with Colleen as MC and number caller. You won't want to miss this event. You know how funny Colleen can be. Then Saturday evening we will serve a Pulled Pork Dinner with Square Dancing to follow with Rod Barngrover. Sunday morning before everyone heads home we will serve a full breakfast again. There are plenty of campsite sites for motor homes or campers of any type. If you do not have a camper we have motel type rooms available. Contact Randy Poole for more information. Flyers are available on

the flyer table. Come join us and support the Convention. If you cannot come for the weekend just come for the Pulled Pork Dinner and Dance on Saturday evening.

Ann Slocum asked about bank account. We opened an account under the Florida Federation of Square Dancers federal tax id under the name of the NSDC bid. Responsibility for the Convention is the convention committee, but the convention has supporting organizations. One of those is the Florida Federation. Will visit with caller and cuer at state convention for their support. If they give their support, the National Convention will be handled just like the state convention. The caller/cuers and Federation will share profit and losses. If we do have a National Convention in 2021, we will not have a state convention that year so the callers and cuers will not get any money like they would from a state convention so I don't see why they would not support it. Ann asked what if the callers and cuers don't agree. That is up to the NEC as to whether we continue. We don't need the callers and cuers, but if they don't join in they won't get any money. We need their support but it's not required. It is also up to the NEC if they allow us to have it if the callers and cuers don't agree. Nothing in written in stone until June, 2017.

FLORIDA NATIONAL CONVENTION BID COMMITTEE TREASURERS REPORT

January 1, 2016 – February 27, 2016

BEGINNING BALANCE – as of 1/1/16			
CFA Checking Account (Bid Committee)			
TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS			
CFA Checking Account (Bid Committee)			
Beginning Balance			
RECEIPTS			
Tony Oxendine & Susan Snider Dance February-7-2016			
Party Weekend – April 22-24, 2016			
TOTAL RECEIPTS			
DISBURSEMENTS			
Deerhaven Resort & Conference Center - Deposit			
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			
Checking Account Ending Balance			
ENDING BALANCE – ALL ACCOUNTS (As of 2/27/16)			
ASSETS AS OF 2/27/16			
Deerhaven Resort & Conference Center Deposit			

TOTAL ASSETS AS OF 2/27/16			
LIABILITIES AS OF 2/27/2016			
Liabilities			
TOTAL LIABILITIES AS OF 2/27/16			

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce & Colleen Morgan
 Bid Chairman & Proposed General Chairman
 2021 National Square Dance Convention

Alex Schmidt made the motion that Bruce and Colleen Morgan be appointed chairmen for the bid committee. Motion passed.

f. Facilities

All we need for this year's St. Convention is the hall layouts by April 29th and the insurance certificate, otherwise all is set at the Lakeland Center

As most you know, Tony Oxidine announced at the Winterfest they would not be back at the Lakeland Center. The following Monday morning I called Brenda Day (our contact at the Lakeland Center) to see if the time was available to be able to move the FSSRDC to that weekend they had, if the FFSRD would so desire. She said GSI had canceled their contract and it was available but could not be held to wait for our meeting, however she would stall as much as she could for us.

I also heard GSI was looking for another venue in the area to hold the same dance. I called GSI and they confirmed they were looking. I checked again on Monday, 2-22-16 and they still intend to hold a dance somewhere in the Central Fl. area about the same weekend. With this in mind, my belief would be that it wouldn't be good to compete with them. The dates at the Center are still available and Brenda is awaiting my call on Monday to tell her our decision. Our current contract runs thru 2018, but Brenda was been very good to work with and we could probably work some kind of switch out.

Another concern if we change the dates is the '17 Convention has shirts already printed with the date as well as published advertising in other places.

This will be brought up in new business. Please think about it.

Respectfully Submitted
 Don & Ann Slocum Facilities Chair.

Discussion followed regarding convention date. Kathy McKinney said that instead of competing in January, take working weekend and square dance convention and swap them. The dancers are used to coming to both weekends, and it would not be necessary to move to another location. A problem would be getting ads over the Christmas holiday. Need to find out the availability of the Lakeland center in

winter. Jack Hoffman said the reason for the Winterfest being cancelled is lack of attendance so if the convention date is changed we could face the same problem. If GSI finds a cheaper place, we may be able to follow suit.

Bruce Morgan requested Association Presidents send him an update regarding active clubs in their area. He made a motion to have an organized network of information that everybody understand, i.e., a network for communication about clubs. Motion withdrawn for lack of second.

17. Florida Hall of Fame – Bev Landwehr – No report

18. History – Terry Little

Terri requested that pictures continue to be sent to her or Bruce for the web site.

19. USDA Report – Bill & Linda Reid

USDA reps were at the Winterfest and will also be at the state convention. Dennis Taylor talked to Jerry and Donna Roby who said they had just had their January meeting. At that meeting they announced that Florida was the only state that submitted documents regarding the non-profit status so it was decided not to move forward. Florida will handle their own paperwork.

20. USDA Insurance – Carol Poole

Beginning Balance		October 31, 2015	\$2,727.45
Income			
	Central		\$1,294.90
	Northeast		\$1,506.70
	Northwest		\$1,201.00
	Southeast		\$299.25
	West Coast		\$996.90
Total Income			\$5,298.75
			\$8,026.20
Expenses			
	USDA Insurance		\$5,108.25
Total Expense			\$5,108.25
Ending Balance	January 31, 2016		\$2,917.95

As of January 31, 2016		CLUBS	DANCERS
	Central	9	349
	Northeast	12	310
	Northwest	1&6	221
	Southeast	1	63
	West Coast	7	207
Total	2 Associations	34 Clubs	1150

Submitted by Randy & Carol Poole
Federation Insurance Chairman

USDA INSURANCE WRITTEN REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2016 MEETING

I made some notes of what I thought should be in this report. I pulled up last year's report and found the same items I planned on highlighting this year. Obviously, nothing has changed.

Our West Coast insurance chairman, Bob Hagaman, suffered a heart attack and had surgery. His wife Nancy hasn't been active in handling the insurance so I instructed her to just mail me anything she receives and I would handle it. The association/club enrollment form has been revised a couple of times in recent years. One addition was a club contact with house & email address and phone & email addresses. This is the first time I needed this information. I usually work through the association insurance chairmen. Several clubs are not using the most recent updated form and some that do are not filling in that information. At one time all association insurance chairmen were filling out this form but I noticed this year some of the clubs are doing it. Most likely because all the forms are on line.

This is also the first year we had a dancer die that was enrolled but before the new policy was in effect. The club asked about a refund. The policy is that once the enrollment is submitted there are no refunds. It is also not necessary to let the insurance company know when someone dies unless they die in a square. If that happens, then the same process would be needed as for an accident. This year I was able to delete someone from a roster that had died the day before I received the roster in the mail.

We have two associations that insure their dancers. This is good and bad. More dancers can be covered but the clubs do not have liability insurance. That said, one association pays for their members insurance. They hold the club rosters until most of the clubs have sent in their rosters and most of the dancers have joined the association before they send in the enrollments usually very late in December or sometime in January. The clubs are insured because their rosters have been sent in. The problem here some clubs need their certificate before the first of the year.

We received two accident reports and one claim was filed last year. So far this we have received one accident report.

Two reminders: All club rosters must be signed when submitted. And a club enrollment is HELD until ALL dancers listed on the Insured Through Another Club Form have been paid for.

Randy & Carol Poole,
Federation Insurance Chairman

21. ASCAP/BMI – Bob & Maria Spence

The 2016 ASCAP bill of \$123.00 was paid by Bob & Maria Spence on February 15, 2016. The 2016 BMI bill of \$150.00 was paid by Bob & Maria Spence on February 15, 2016. The bills have been forwarded to Jack Hoffman for reimbursement from the 2016 Convention Treasurer.

Squarely yours,

Bob & Maria Spence
ASCAP/BMI Chairs

22. ARTS – Ailene Picheco

During the past several years the ARTS has been working on major project to "Re-Image" square dancing. The goal of this project is to improve the non-dancers' perception of square dancing.

A new modernized logo and slogan has been approved and has received wide spread acceptance throughout the activity. Many clubs, festivals, conventions, and other dance events have been using the new logo for publicity.

The project will not address any dance program issues.

As part of the Re-Image effort marketing and promotion ideas and materials will be developed and made available to clubs and organizations to be used for promotion. The CALLERLAB Marketing Committee will be working closely with The ARTS on marketing and promotion ideas and materials.

There are other tasks which will be identified and volunteers will be needed to help.

The next ARTS meeting is Sunday, June 26, 2016 at 9:00 AM; immediately following the NSDC in Des Moines, IA. All are invited. For more information, please contact Executive Director, Jerry Reed: DirectorARTS@aol.com

Jerry Reed
Executive Director, ARTS

23. Old Business

Elsa read the following statement in an effort to clarify an issue brought up at the November Federation meeting.

In the West Coast report that Penny Green read during the November Federation meeting, she report that 10 years ago the Southeast Association refused to allow the Mustang Club (a gay club) to join the

Association. Ray and I were very shocked over this accusation because we were the SEA presidents at that time and knew nothing about it!

First of all, the Southeast's membership is composed of dancers – not individual clubs - so the Mustangs, as a club, could not join any way.

Upon returning home, we contacted Chris Phillips, the club founder and caller. Both Chris and Tom, his partner, were as shocked as we were. They brought this matter up at their club board meeting. No one knew anything about it!

The proper action would have been to bring up the matter at the time it occurred – not wait 10 years! Also the facts should have been verified with Ray and me or another Southeast official before we were inappropriately blindsided at a Federation meeting.

One good thing did come from this.....at our last Southeast dance, among the new members who joined were three from the Mustang Club.

Ray & Elsa Huddleston
Former SEA Presidents

a. Contact (Business) Cards – Cheryl Miller. The first business cards have been distributed, and additional 5,000 were ordered.

b. Tax Status – Cheryl Miller said that in January the USDA had their winter meeting. Because they did not get six states to participate, they will not be pursuing the tax exemption documents so Cheryl will look into the Federation doing its own. The application fee is \$850. She said that our financial information will be more open, and bank information will be disclosed since she will need to provide four years of financial records. Cheryl made the motion that the federation pay the \$850 application fee to pursue the tax exempt status. Bruce seconded. Motion passed.

c. Sound System – Lewis Wasserman announced there was a new sound system, which is working very well.

24. New Business

a. Committee Assignments, times and meeting locations were announced. Committee chairmen will bring back reports after lunch when the meeting will reconvene.

25. Announcements

Web Site Report

The Web Site, www.floridasquaredance.com, is doing well. The Domain Names are paid up through July 6, 2018 and the Hosting Account is paid up through August 7, 2019. Next week I will forward to the 62nd Florida State Convention treasurer the payment amount for the web site hosting that is due by the State Convention Weekend. I will also copy the Federation treasurer so that they will know what amount to expect and what it is for. That amount is \$120.54. We have 2 more years at that amount and then it will change as we will have to pay for an additional period of time for the domain names and/or hosting account.

There is very little activity on the web site from clubs. I get a few flyers but not very many. The Calendar of events is almost void of anything except for what I put out there pertaining to the Federation, Florida National Convention Bid Committee or Central Association. It just seems that nobody is interested in promoting their dances and/or events. I get flyers from a few of the Associations, not all, but very few from their clubs.

The Map Program on the Web Site is way out of date. I get emails almost daily from dancers from around the world saying that the web site is way out of date. They have contacted clubs that are listed on the map program and they are no longer dancing. This needs to be corrected. I am requesting that each Association President create a list of the clubs in their area and forward it to me so that I can update the web site. Not just the ones that belong to their association but ALL clubs within the boundary of their Association. We need to promote square dancing at all clubs no matter whether they are a member of the Association or not. When you create that list please add their web address if they have one, the facility name and address of the place where they dance, the days of the week where they dance, the name, telephone number and email address of the contact number. Also include the Caller and Cuers names, phones and email addresses. Hopefully we can get the web site back up to the level that it should be.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Morgan
Web Master

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. for committee meetings and lunch.

Afternoon Committee Wrap Up Reports

1. The meeting was reconvened by Penny Green at 2:30 p.m.

Discussion followed regarding changing the date of the Federation meeting in February, 2017. Penny said NASCAR events scheduled for that weekend could pose a problem in hotel reservations. Randy will check with the hotel. Further discussion was tabled until the next Federation meeting.

Penny said Terri needs to coordinate procedure with the woman in Jacksonville who is selling recycled square dance clothes to make sure she understands how this should be coordinated with the Federation.

2. Committee Reports

Cheryl raised the question of whether or not a quorum was present to continue the meeting since some of the committees were still in their meetings. At that point, the remaining members appeared, and it was agreed that a quorum was present.

a. Finance – Cheryl Miller presented the proposed budget as detailed on the following page with a total of \$2,703.25. Cheryl moved that the Federation delegates accept her proposed budget. Motion passed.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2016

Florida Federation of Square Dancers

Prepared for Approval 2/27/2016

Working Weekend Finance Committee:

Chairman: Cheryl Miller

Jenny Green, WC

Dennis & Nancy Taylor, Central

David & Donna Seay, NE

	<u>2015 Actual</u>	<u>Proposed 2016</u>	
<u>INCOME</u>			
Association Dues (5 @ \$50 each)	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	
State Convention Profit	\$ 2,441.19	\$ 2,332.25	
Internet Reimbursement from Current Convention	\$ 120.54	\$ 120.00	
<i>Interest</i>	<i>\$ 1.37</i>	<i>\$ 1.00</i>	
<u>Total 2015 Income</u>	\$ 2,813.10	\$ 2,703.25	<u>Total Proposed Income</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
President	\$ -	\$ 100.00	
Vice President	\$ 203.07	\$ 250.00	
Secretary	\$ -	\$ 75.00	
Treasurer	\$ -	\$ 70.00	
Parliamentarian	\$ 5.75	\$ 100.00	
USDA	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	
Corporate Tax	\$ 61.25	\$ 61.25	
Honorariums	\$ 300.50	\$ 250.00	
Historian	\$ -	\$ 50.00	
PA System	\$ -	\$ 199.00	
Delegate Badges	\$ 35.49	\$ 70.00	
"Friendship " Business Cards	\$ 104.47	\$ 107.00	
VISIT Florida Welcome Center Cards	\$ 870.59	\$ 871.00	
Working Weekend Benefit Dance Rental	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	
Advertising Federation "Past, Present, Future"	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	
<u>Total Proposed Expenses</u>	\$ 2,081.12	\$ 2,703.25	<u>Total 2015 Expenses</u>
<u>Total Surplus/(Deficit)</u>	\$ 731.98	\$ -	

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Miller, Federation Treasurer, 2016

b. Public Awareness, Publicity, SD Preservation, History & Education – Terri Little

Attendees: Terri Little, Ida Guthrie, George Garich, Bill & Linda Reid, Flo & Bob Ormsbee, Sheila Reid, Susie Moon, Ailene Picheco and Charlie Pergrossi

Ideas discussed:

Church groups

Learn to Square Dance small flyers (Flo Ormsbee provided samples)

T-shirts – Learn to Square Dance...Ask Me How

Get on the web, Chamber of Commerce, Welcome Wagon, Federation Handbook,

Craft Fair

Wear Square Dance clothes? – In situation where we are approaching prospective dancers (like handling out flyers at craft fair or other event) it may be better to wear “normal” clothing...like the Start up the Music t-shirt and jeans. When the prospective dancers are approaching us (out to dinner and other diners ask why are you dressed like that where are you dancing?) the square dance clothes invites outsiders to ask us questions.

Get students involved in club activities from the start; makes them feel like they’re part of the group; invite them to stay for the first club tip and call to their level

Blast Classes, Home School, Flash Mob

Encourage students to buy recycle clothing to dress up as they learn; they feel more part of the group

Boy & Girl Scouts – get them to take class together...built-in partners

4H groups

With the kids’ groups, you need to get the adults involved first

Different areas have different results with the various ideas

Facebook – create a club group and use to post special dances, dance pictures, invite all your square dance friends to become a member of the group, if not the club. Social media is the wave of the future for publicity, history and preservation. Non-dancer “friends” will see your involvement in dance activities and may encourage them to give it a try

Church youth groups

Dangle dances are popular and may appeal to younger dancers

Line dancing

Zumba

Post pictures and videos

c. Association of Presidents & USDA Insurance – Kathy McKinney said they incorporated USDA insurance, and after the insurance information was discussed, there was no time for discussion among the Association Presidents. Carol informed the committee of liabilities, forms, etc. She reviewed how the forms should be completed; this year she received many forms with mistakes or they were late; some had not renewed. She discussed how to fill out the forms correctly.

Penny asked for two volunteers to audit the insurance account.

d. Showcase of Ideas – Linda Tester said she will set up the showcase so everyone can see it. The committee felt it was rather drab, so she is requesting each Association to redo their section, and for it to be very colorful. We want to people to recognize immediately that it is Florida. It needs to be easy to transport. She will look for something made out of paper or other substantial material that is easily transportable. She gave out picture albums to be updated. Handouts will be little alligators and oranges, and possibly some coins for a later convention. Will keep the dolls and update them if necessary.

e. State Convention Procedures – Linda Tester reported that square dance attire was discussed. What do we want people to wear? Each convention chairman has the option of what they want their convention to be. Suggestions were square dance attire at night; no shorts and tank tops. Susan Snider will discuss with round dancers. Men should be requested to wear long sleeves.

Badges – transfer vs. new ones each year. Each convention can make up their own badge with their name and keep them as souvenirs. Nothing to be passed on because it's too much responsibility for chairman to collect them all.

Don Slocum discussed changing date of convention a time when the snowbirds are here, and/or possibly drop the exhibition hall.

There was further discussion regarding selling square dance clothes through eBay and what dates cover which convention year, i.e., June 1, 2016 to June 1, 2017 will go to 2018 convention fundraiser. Since nothing would go to 2017, the two years of 2017 and 2018 will share the income.

Bruce Morgan moved to give the board authority to change the date of the 2017 working weekend if it conflicts with the NASCAR events. Motion carried.

3. Announcements

a. Next meeting is Sunday, May 29 at 9:00 a.m. – at the Ramada.

4. Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray & Elsa Huddleston, Secretary