

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS

Working Weekend

Quality Inn, Orlando, FL

Saturday, February 25, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.

1. **Call to Order** meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Vice President Elsa Huddleston.
2. **Invocation** was performed by Bill Reid.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Vice President Ray Huddleston.
4. **Roll Call** there was a quorum with 45 Delegates attended the meeting.
5. **Introduction of Visitors & Guests** Vice President Elsa Huddleston welcomed Visitors: Susie Moon and Richard & Carol Douget.
6. **President's Comments** Vice President Elsa Huddleston stated President Dennis Taylor will not be attending this weekend's meetings due to illness.
7. **Minutes November 11, 2016** Motion was made by Linda Reid to accept the Minutes for the November 13, 2016 with the following corrections: Under guesting present correct the spelling of last name for; Marsha Oshiro and correct the last name spelling for Ormsbee in the History Report. Motion was seconded by Bruce Morgan. Motion passed.
8. **Financial Report** Filed for audit

Savings Account

Beginning Balance		\$
Interest Pd. 11/16-1/17	\$	\$
Ending Balance		\$

Convention Checking

Beginning Balance		\$
Expenses 11/16-1/25/17	* (\$)	\$
Ending Balance		\$
*63 & 64 Center Rental		

Operational Checking

Beginning Balance		\$
Deposit	\$	\$
Interest		\$ \$
Expenses 11/16-1/25/17	** (\$)	\$
Ending Balance		\$

**Operational expenses &
C. Newsome Memorial
Submitted: Linda Tester, Treasurer

9. **Parliamentarian Report:**

Good News! Terry and I are registered for the 66th National Square Dance Convention in Cincinnati, OH. The registration process was easy. Pay and you're in. In trying to procure space for the Florida Showcase of ideas, that was another story. I sent an email to the mailbox on the website. No answer for over a month. I called Vicki Stewart, the Registration Guru. She was excellent. She asked me to send her an email and assured me she would forward it to the Convention Chair. At the Florida Winter Fiesta, I met Steve and Beverly Stoehr, the General Chairman and asked if he had received my request from Vicki. He had not. I had a nice talk with Steve, he's a great guy. I have been assured we are all set. As a result, we are registered, guaranteed space, and set to go. What frequency is WKRP?

Sincerely,

Terry Wetherby/Ed Drexel, Parliamentarian

10. **Sunshine Report** Vice President Elsa Huddleston stated: a contribution was sent to the Mandarin United Methodist Church in remembrance of Past President Charlie Newsome. Get well card was sent to Shirley Knapp. A sympathy card was sent to Dick Stevens for his wife's passing Betty Stevens.

11. **Correspondence** received by the Secretary was a "Thank you Card" from Val Newsome regarding the donation made in remembrance of Charlie Newsome. I will defer the other correspondence to when we get to "Old" and "New" Business later in the meeting.

12. **Florida Callers Assn. Liaison- no report**

13. **Round Dance Council of Florida Liaison**

Susan Snider reported; The 2017 Cuer Chairman, Joanne Helton has done a fabulous job with the programming. On Saturday, we will have Curt & Tammy Worlock almost all day. So, if you have round dancers in your area, one way to get them there is to let them know that the Worlock's will be at there.

We are going to have our Fall Weekend of Rounds to be held in Panama City, with the Blackford's. We are moving our weekend of rounds throughout the state, in hopes of getting more interest. No Spring Rounds this year due to the state Convention. Bruce Morgan requested a flyer be sent to the Federation Website to advertise the Fall Rounds.

Vice President Elsa Huddleston requested the Association President please look at their website and update clubs, locations and all information provided. Let Bruce know what you need to update, so it can be updated.

14. **Florida Square Dance Campers Liaison**

They called on me as the "liaison for the campers". I do not serve in any official capacity for the FANSDC (Florida Association of Square Dance Campers). I am President of the Square Wheels Chapter #128 of that organization and the first paragraph is a reflection of what our camping club has done recently, not all camping clubs in Florida. The chapter activities vary as much as

the activities at regular clubs throughout the state. The information I provide is based on information I gather as president of our chapter and not official information provided by the State organization.

We camped in December in Lake Oklawaha KOA RV Resort. We served 75 dinners for our Christmas Dinner, or about 36 rigs that came to the camp out. In January, we went up to Valdosta, Ga and camped with the bad weather and the tornadoes. Everyone got home safe and that was good. February, we went over to the Battle of Olustee Festival in Lake City and camped and danced. A lot of dancers from Jacksonville came over Lakeland RV Resort finally allotted 20 sites for the campers that plan to attend the Florida Square and Round Dance Convention on March 2017. All of those sites have been reserved and other campers are working on other arrangements for camping. Some have talked about camping at the Lakeland Convention Center but I do not know how many will actually camp there. Will have better idea of the camping results after the Convention and we are able to talk to the campers that attend the convention.

The Florida Campers Association is planning a Spring Campout for all campers in Florida. It is not an organized event but all camping groups have been invited to camp together the third weekend in April 21 a 23, 2017 at Blueberry Hill RV Resort in Bushnell, Fl.

Submitted by; Don MacGregor

15. Association Reports

Central Association

The Board met at our home for a pot luck planning meeting. A full tummy puts everyone in a good mood. We asked ourselves what can we do for our clubs and how can we increase our membership. As a group, we decided to visit each club. We visited two clubs in January and one in February. We averaged between 1 ½ and 2 squares. We gave the club president a packet of the USDA brochures. Also, a 2x3 business card was prepared listing the names and contact number for several of our committees: membership, joys & concerns, insurance, Keepin' Posted and webmaster. A membership table was set up and we got a couple of new members and several renewals. We were allowed mike time and made announcements not only promoting CFA but promoting the State Convention. We sold ribbons, cookbooks, & raffle tickets. Our group was large enough that we were noticed. We also had the Federation Presidents with us.

The place to be on April 21, 22, & 23 is Deerhaven Retreat Center located in Paisley in the Ocala National Forest. The Party Weekend is our next big function. The CEO's decided we would have too many hours of fun and planned a CFA board meeting and a 2018 Convention meeting to our day. You don't have to worry the fun and games will go on as usual in our second hall. We still have a few cabins available. Once again, we are lucky to have Rod Barngrover call and Susan Snider cue.

Randy & Carol Poole, CFA President

NORTHEAST FLORIDA SQUARE AND ROUND DANCERS ASSOCIATION

To begin with we want to say, we in Northeast Florida have been encouraging the new dancers to attend the state convention. We hope they all go to the state convention to enjoy the dancing they have persevered to learn! The state convention needs EVERYONE'S SUPPORT!

Since our last Federation meeting, we held our Fall Festival "A Bountiful Barn Dance"! It was one of most successful we have ever had! Don and Sherry MacGregor had some awesome ideas and put them into action at our Festival. One great idea was to have a "Harvest"! Each table held a basket that the clubs filled with canned goods for the church's food bank. They were so very thankful, especially just the week before Thanksgiving. That idea was so wonderful we are going to continue it every year no matter what our theme is! Special Thanks to Don and Sherry! Now we are on to this year's Fall Festival being Chaired by Erik & Robin Burton. Their theme is "Carnival"! Be prepared to be entering a fun world of Carnival atmosphere, with Carnival experiences. Our Caller will be Matt Worley from VA. If you have not danced to Matt, be prepared to have the time of your life! He exudes soooo much FUN! You may have seen him at the Nationals with neon lighted shoes! Our Cuers are Jimmy & Carol Griffin. I don't need to tell you how much FUN they are! If you attended our Fall Festival and saw the BIG BARN or the NE 2016 state convention room with the HUGE Candy Canes both for photo ops, you may not know they were created by Wayne and Debbie Miller! Wayne is a master woodworker and does so much for Square Dancing and especially raising money for state conventions and charity dances. They have been also doing our part of the Showcase for several years. They have been on the NEFSARDA Board for going on 4 years. In fact, they are our current Dance Couple of the Year!

The Northeast has lost a couple clubs which has made us very sad. However, we gained a new club as well! The Silver Fox Squares of Jacksonville has now become the Silver Fox of Starke, with the original "Silver Fox" Ken Perez as caller. If you are in the Starke area, stop in on a Friday night at the Senior Center and visit them! They are very excited to be forming a new club!

Speaking of the Silver Fox Squares, they had sponsored a charity dance for Dreams Come True for many years. Since the Jacksonville club closed the Gateway Callers sponsored it, they raised just about \$! Totaling nearly \$ over the years.

We in the NE take pride in raising money for charities when we can. I would like to give appreciation to these charities which sometimes go unnoticed outside our association.

Susan Snider held a benefit dance in December in Honor of Kay Walker who was tragically killed in an auto accident. The entrance to this dance was a TOY! Kay had been collecting toys for the Orange Park Clothes Closet for years. This dance was an overwhelming success with a huge amount of toys going to underprivileged children!

Yesterday the Moose Promenaders held a dance that Tim Marriner has called for annually. The money they collected was donated to his family to help with expenses.

Next month March 21st, the Seabreeze Singles are having their annual dance to benefit The City Rescue Mission. It is always a very good dance and most appreciated by the Mission.

In July Bill Chesnut has a "Christmas in July Dance" every year benefiting Shriners' Crippled Children. The Shriners helped Bill years ago and he has kept them near and dear to his heart!

If anyone is traveling through our area and can attend any of our charity dances, you will be most welcomed!!!

In closing, we hope to see you ALL at this year's state convention, AND be sure to mark your calendar for the 2018 State Convention in Daytona Beach! You will have a Magical Time! Jack & Kathy McKinney, President, Northeast FL Square and Round Dancers Assn.

Northwest Florida Square & Round Dance Association

Our January benefit dance for the Florida State Square and Round Dance Convention went well and we took in over \$600! We had 5-6 squares of dancers and round dancing in between. Classes started in Pensacola for rounds and they had a successful January Shine on the 21st. NWF callers sponsored a Sweetheart Swing at Ragon Hall in Pensacola. We had a great time and had 5 squares and lots to Round dance. Than you to all callers who participated.

Dancing Dolphins is having an open house March 18th. They are looking for a place to dance for 2 months until remodeling is completed at St. Simons. April 1st will be the annual Blue and White in Panama City. April 28th and 29th will be the Spring Fling at Ragon Hall and the Meringue Madness will be May 27th and 28th at Ragon Hall.

As you can see we are off to a good start for 2017! See you all at the State Convention.
Brian and Barb McDonald Presidents for NWFSRDA

SEA Report (Southeast Association)

We've had some fun times in the Southeast since our last meeting - starting with our Toy & Cookie Dance on the Sunday of Thanksgiving weekend. Not only did we have a good time, but we collected lots of toys and other goodies for the children serviced by ChildNet - an agency whose mission is "to protect abused, abandoned and neglected children in the communities we serve". The Southeast Association has now supported ChildNet for several years.

Next up was New Year's Eve - when we had two dances - one with Jack Lewis and Joanne & Ken Helton at Briny Breezes; another with callers Mike Doughty, Gib Mattson, and Scotty Sharrer and cuers Chuck & Mary Ryall in Fort Pierce. The Southeast welcomed in the New Year with gusto!

In January, the Snowflake Frolic, our annual benefit, raised over a thousand dollars combining donations at the door, monies collected in the container that Elsa and Ray carried from dance to dance, and half of the split the pot. In addition, we thank Jack Lewis, Scotty Sharrer, and Joanne Helton who all donated their services.

And we had our post-Valentine's Day dance just last Sunday with Mike Doughty, Scotty Sharrer, and Zail Greenbain. There was indeed a hot time in the Briny Auditorium because unknown to everyone, someone (thinking that they were improving the air conditioning) actually turned

part of the system off. We still had a great time on a day that set a record for high temperature on that date.

We have a number of ongoing classes. Zail Greenbain, Joanne & Ken Helton, and Chuck & Mary Ryall are all teaching round dancing. Jack Lewis, Scotty Sharrer, and Chris Phillips all have beginning square dancing classes. In addition, Chris is running an Intro to C-2 and Jack does an Advanced workshop as part of both his Advanced dance on Monday afternoons and the Wednesday evening dances at Briny Breezes.

It's often been noted that the Southeast does not have a formal publication – and we still don't. However, I have been sending out a weekly calendar of events in the Southeast (usually with additional comments or highlighting certain special events). I've also been forwarding many of the flyers that I get as well as emailing an occasional memo or comment on square dance etiquette – for example, unnecessary roughness, unacceptable aromas, misdirection, etc. If anyone would like to be added to my email list, simply send a request to steve.adler35@yahoo.com.

I'd like to conclude with a special thank you to my special lady, Sally Galik, who unfailingly brings lots of goodies to all the dances along with decorations for all the holidays (and then some). Our storage units have something for most every occasion. I haul out the decorations and then get a few hints as to where they might look best. She has been my support, my helpmate, my sounding board. Without her, I would not be here.
Steve Adler, President Southeast Association

WEST COAST SQUARE AND ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

Since our last meeting, things have been hectic. Like that suit or dress in your closet that has gone out of style, just hang on to it for a while and it will come back into style. Same thing happens to past West Coast Presidents. Give it some time and poof, they're back in style. With that, I introduce Lance and Rita Baxter as our new West Coast Vice Presidents. The West Coast is the place to be. Everyone loves us, especially Elsa and Ray after we donated \$1000 to their effort. Don Slocum made the motion and with that, he was quick to grab the check. It is important that we all do our part to make their convention successful. We in the West Coast certainly subscribe to that principal.

Winter is in full swing. Dancers, classes, special events and fun, fun, fun! When it comes to Square dancing in Florida, the West Coast is the place to be. Everyone has settled into their normal seasonal routines and there is so many activities, it's hard to keep up. Some snow birds are even starting to prepare their return. Our window of opportunity is small.

Clubs and Callers have classes going all over the West Coast. If you missed out, check FloridaSquareDance.com for a club near you. A class will be starting soon. For new dancers, Keith Stevens and Marty Vanwart piloted the Callerlab First 50 over the Summer and it has been favorably received. More and more callers are moving to this approach to get dancers on the floor quicker. Experienced dancers have plenty to choose from as well. Plus, Advanced. and Challenge workshop/classes are going on all over the West Coast (Lake Ashton, Lakeland, Strawberry Square, St. Petersburg, SunCity and in the Port Charlotte area to name a few). In the West Coast, there's a class for everyone.

West Coast is the home of special events. Many dancers echoed in 2017 at Strawberry Square with Dave Muller calling and Charlie Lovelace cueing. The West Coast Association followed that up with our January Membership dance. 14 squares enjoyed a great dance with Ron Reardon and Marty Vanwart calling and Alice Bubel cueing. Members had so much fun they didn't want to leave. There were still 10 squares on the floor at the close of the dance. Keith Stevens and Ron Libby hosted an all day Advanced Dance at Lake Ashton. 10 squares enjoyed a full day of dancing. Everyone left tired, happy, and can't wait to come back. February kicked off with The Winter Fiesta Trail End Dance at Lake Ashton featuring Tony Oxendine and Jack Pladdys on February 2 with 116 in attendance. The February West Coast Membership dance was held February 5 with Sam Dunn and Keith Stevens calling and Jack Jenkins cueing. Twelve squares on Super Bowl Sunday with some still in Titusville recovering from the Fiesta, or boarding the Oasis for the Winterfest cruise. On February 17 – 20, the Suncoast Squares hosted their annual fly-in event, Flip the Flamingo, a four-day event drawing dancers from around the world. They broke the 100 mark for the first-time dancing Mainstream thru C1, and yes, if you're my Facebook friend, you saw my award winning picture (Most Likely to Get into a Bar Fight). Whether you are a new dancer or a veteran, there is no doubt the West Coast is the place to be. The callers, facilities and dancers make the West Coast what it is today. For Square Dancing in Florida, you gotta go West!! Sincerely, Ed Drexel, President WCSRDA

16. Publications

Bow & Swing

I asked permission to go off my report, because something happened to me just recently. Recently, I mean last night. I was calling at my club and about midway through my tip a couple came in with a young woman and a 9-year-old girl. After the tip, I walked up there and the first thing someone said to me was "she's too young to dance" don't you let her in here. My comment was "How do we know, we haven't had her in a square yet to see how she acts, she may act her age, she might act younger, she might act older". At the end of the first tip, she did: grand square, pass thru, wheel around, ladies chain, plus left allemande, right & left grand and the stars. I think she is old enough. The reason I bring this up is I heard this in the past; that clubs have refused to allow children to come in and I think it is up to us to spread the word; children learn faster than adults and that is a bright letter of our future.

Bow & Swing is alive and doing well. Our paid subscription is just under nine hundred which is down from past reports. Part of this we believe is due to the fewer numbers of Square Dancers. Not really a complaint, just an observation. From what I have heard, many clubs are starting to regain numbers in their clubs. One thing that I have been told is that many dancers just want to come and dance. They choose not to belong to any club or organization. I have told some of those dancers that I do not mind as long as they keep coming to the dance. In the back of my mind I feel that if they continue having fun, sooner or later they will join. One other thing that I have observed is that many clubs are not teaching a full Mainstream list. While this may be good for your club, a question to be asked, "Is it good for the dancer"? We do not want to embarrass the dancer. That of course is for you and your club to decide. As for Bow & Swing,

we continue to publish monthly. We have no plans to raise rates either for subscribers or advertisers. At Bow & Swing we appreciate your photos. You may email them, send them snail mail or hand them to us at a dance. I will admit it is more fun without a caption. One last think, If any of you wish to hold a subscription dance, let us know. You can use your Caller or I will travel and call for your club or organization.

Respectfully Submitted, Bill Boyd

The Grapevine

Kathy McKinney reported; The Grapevine has been a publication for years, I want to give a shout out to Val and Charlie Newsome, they weren't the first Editors, but they helped make it what it is today. We have a new Editor, Mary Giera who is our new Secretary of NEFSRDA and she has agreed to publish The Grapevine online. She contacted Bruce and he helped her get the website set-up. The Grapevine is now on a website, you can access the website from the Florida Federation of Square Dancers website under "Publications". Mary is doing an awesome job!

Keepin Posted

Circulation remains about 200. In order to save on costs, the magazine is now sent by email. Many still prefer the printed copy. Articles are now due for the April issue.
Respectfully submitted, Ailene Picheco

Panhandle Press – no report
West Coast Dancer- no report

17. Convention Reports



2017 STATE CONVENTION REPORT

As we waddle toward the convention, we are pleased to report that all is shuffling smoothly along on the downhill slope, and we're all excited and raring to go!

Our finances are in excellent shape. Before we continue further with this report, we want to express sincere gratitude to all the associations for their donations! These donations helped push us over the top from red to black! The money and your show of support is very sincerely appreciated. Our committees don't need guidance; each and every one has known what to do and they each have done excellent jobs in their categories and everything is coming together!

The proceeds from the Southeast Snowflake Frolic were donated to the 63rd Convention. We want to thank Steve Adler, President of the SEA, for arranging this fundraiser for us. Jack Lewis, Scotty Sharrer, and Joanne Helton (the callers and cuers) donated their time for this dance. At the Snowflake Frolic we also pried open the penguin jug we have carried around for donations. The money from that was a whopping \$418.65!

We are hoping for a minimum of 400 dancers and feel that maybe this is on a realistic side since the snowbirds are still here – and we already have 336 dancers registered. It's good to know that out of the 75 rooms blocked at the Imperial Swan, over 100 have been reserved!

Sheila has a collection of igloos and penguins so the halls will look very “penguin-ish”!

We still have about 40 cookbooks that need to be sold. We would really like to get these sold and not have any left over. At this time, we are not planning to reduce the price to sell them because we feel that Terri did such an awesome job, and they are well worth the \$10 cost.

We reduced the price of the T-shirts at the NE dance and sold all but two. We have one ladies Small and one men’s Large still available. We’ve cut the price in half in the hopes to sell them this weekend....and maybe by the end of this meeting! A bargain at the low cost of \$7.50!

The raffle sale for the \$500 cash is going well. The raffle for the quilt is lagging a little. We know it’s unusual to have two raffles at the same cost running at the same time, but the quilt was an unexpected donation so any income from that is an additional plus! The drawing for both of these will be at the convention.

The Program Book is finished along with the Dance Schedule.

We are pleased to present the Florida Federation’s Treasurer a check in the amount of \$5,500.00 for payment of the “Seed Money” we were given.

Judy Anderson needs helpers for the “Dangle Dances” being held at the State Convention on both Friday & Saturday night. Please volunteer your time to help here. Signup sheet is available, workers will need only need to work in 30 minute increments. Anita Taylor stated she needs help with the “Door Hosts & Hostess”. Signup sheet for one hour increments for Friday evening and Saturday afternoon. We will not be covering the doors on Saturday evening.

Also, announced; there will not be a “Grand March” at the State Convention this year, with a two-day convention there is not enough time.

Respectfully submitted,

RAY & ELSA Huddleston

2017 Convention Chairmen **DANCE TO THE BEAT WITH HAPPY FEET!**



2018 STATE CONVENTION

The 2018 Convention will be held at the Daytona Ocean Center on February 23rd & 24th, 2018. We look forward to the fresh change of moving to the Daytona area. I would like to start by reading our mission statement; The 64th Florida Square Dance Convention will highlight “The Magic of Dance” to inspire dancers, support Callers and Cuers and promote our activities throughout Florida and surrounding areas.

Our vision is; we will accomplish our mission by being innovated while still providing the core activity which our members expect; by expanding our target audience in marketing and by providing an environment where callers, cuers and dancers can fulfill their dreams.

Our goals; we will provide an entertainment experience which will surpasses expectation and leaves attendees looking forward to the next year’s convention. We will be responsible to our budget and responsive to the square dance community. We will reach out to other communities such as college dance programs, high school yearbooks, other dance programs and empty nest groups to invite new

participants. We will explore an option of a new venue to ensure to future conventions the affordability and great experience to the dancers. We will begin sending progress reports to those who have already purchased their admission ribbons to the convention. This will be a fun, informative must have report to encourage early registration. That kind of forms the basis of what I have to talk about.

I am not satisfied with the status quo; square dancing has been declining in recent years and I would really like to find some ways to turn that around. We are going to focus for the next year on breaking down barriers, things like dress code, our dress code is going to be "clothing required". We are going to make some changes in the registration form to not have "His" & "Hers" since not all couples have he & she's and we have to acknowledge that. We are looking into different payment methods such as paypal & credit cards to make it easier for people to give us their money. The time commitment of classes; a blast class, a brief introduction to square dancing over the weekend (25 calls, Basic in the weekend) we will offer this as long as we can get 2 squares to attend. We know that trying new things are a risk. However, we hope some of the things we are trying will succeed. We need to be willing to try new things in order to keep this activity going. One of our new ideas (actual an idea from Maryland) is having a square & round dance passport. We will hand this out when people purchase their ribbons and they will take the passport to their clubs and dances they attend every week. Internal & external marketing, encourage dancers to go out and dance, you can get signatures from one club multiple times. We will give prizes for the "Most number of Clubs visited", "Most number of nights danced", with a random drawing of all the passports to ensure everyone has an opportunity to win. The purpose of this is; to encourage people to purchase early and to encourage people to go out and dance and have fun with our activity. The passport will allow us to advertise through our dancers as they travel with their passports.

At our Benefit Dance this evening we will be selling our polo shirts, coffee mugs cups. And we will have a Chinese Auction this evening. Our convention theme is "The Magic of Dance Will Enchant You" colors are blue/white, blue/silver, but there will not be a convention outfit. Our vision theme is an enchanted forest with "dragons, fairies, wizards".

We still have a couple of Chairmen positions we need to fill: Secretary, Southeast Ways & Means.

Bruce Morgan stated we have another short year and deadlines for the program dance schedule is due from the callers and cuers by December 5, 2017 and advertising for program back is due by January 15, 2018. EVERYONE NEEDS TO HELP GET ADVERTISING! We are going to have to solicit advertising from the Dayton area as well as throughout the state.

2019- Vice President Elsa Huddleston on the behalf of President Dennis Taylor appointed; Ed Drexel & Terry Wetherby as the 65th Florida State Square & Round Convention Chairmen.

2020- Vice President Elsa Huddleston on the behalf of President Dennis Taylor appointed; Terri Little, Shelia Reid, Shannon Reid, Jenny Green and Cheryl Miller as the 66th Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention Chairmen.

2021 National Convention - Final Report

FLORIDA NATIONAL CONVENTION BID COMMITTEE REPORT

The Florida National Convention Bid Committee has come to a close.....

At the last Federation Meeting in November we presented a check to the 63rd Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention for their portion of the proceeds. Since that date, Dennis

Taylor, our treasurer, issued the last payment to the 64th Florida State Square & Round Dance Convention on November 25, 2016 to Jack Hoffman, their treasurer. As soon as that check was cashed the bank account for the National Convention Bid Committee was closed. This officially brought the National Convention Bid Committee to its final end.

Colleen & I just want to thank the Florida Federation, the Florida Callers Association, the Round Dance Council of Florida and the Dancers of Florida for your trust in us to give us this opportunity to give this endeavor a chance. We are just sorry that it was not successful. Thanks again and this is our final report for the Committee.

Respectfully submitted

Bruce & Colleen Morgan, Bid Chairmen

Florida National Convention Bid Committee

Treasurer's Report

November 14, 2016 - November 25 2016

<u>BEGINNING BALANCE - ALL ACCOUNTS</u>		
Wells Fargo Bank Checking Account (as of 11/14/2016)		\$ _____
TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS AS OF 11/13/2016		\$ _____
<u>Wells Fargo Bank Checking Account</u>		
<u>Beginning Balance (as of 11/14/2016)</u>		\$ _____
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Interest	\$ _____	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$ _____
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ _____
<u>DISTRIBUTIONS</u>		
64th (2018) Florida State Convention	\$ _____	
TOTAL DISTRIBUTIONS		\$ _____
Checking Account Ending Balance		\$ _____
<u>ENDING BALANCE - ALL ACCOUNTS 11/25/2016</u>		
Wells Fargo Bank Checking Account (as of 11/25/2016)		\$ _____
CURRENT TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS 11/25/2016		\$ _____

Respectfully Submitted,
Bruce & Colleen Morgan
Bid Chairman

Facilities

The 2017 Convention is set at the Lakeland Center. We will be meeting with Brenda Day soon to go over the final details for this Convention.

At this time we will read the communication with The Lakeland Center pertaining to the termination of our contract for 2018 and it will be attach it to this report.

We would like to thank all of those on the Search Committee: Bill Boyd, Bill Chestnut, Susan Snider, Lewis and Linda Wasserman for their efforts to find this new Venue.

At the last meeting the FFSD approved the dates of Feb 23-24, 2018 at the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach for the FSSRD Convention with flooring over the carpet. At that time the Callers had approved the time and location without flooring. Since then, the Callers have approved it with the flooring and the Cuers also approved the change for 2018.

The agreements have been signed and the deposit made for 2018 and 2019.

A meeting is scheduled for March 20th for the '18, '19 Gen Chairmen, the Registration Chairman, the Facilities Chair, & the Assist. Facilities Chair, to meet with Jen Adams, Event Manager at the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach for a detailed review of the facility. We will be looking at the possible layout for the Convention.

Respectfully Submitted,
Don & Ann Slocum, Facility Chairmen

Don Slocum read the following correspondence regarding the cancellation of the Lakeland Center for future State Conventions:

*Brenda Day
The Lakeland Center
701 W Lime St
Lakeland FL 33815-1509*

December 8, 2016

Dear Brenda,

It is with mixed feelings, because of our good working relationship, that I have to inform you the Florida State Square & Round Convention (FSSRDC) we will not be able to use The Lakeland Center after our March 2017 Convention, for at least two years.

As you know we have to plan 2 years in advance and due to the renovations, there and the unknowns related to it we found it necessary to find another venue for the FSSRDC in the near future. The only knowns that we have been told are: that the floors were being carpeted, the Sikes Hall rooms will be an unknown amount smaller and the rent will probably go up. Therefore, the space as we contracted for will be no longer available to us and the contract, as we understand, is not viable. We respectfully expect to be released from this contract without penalties.

We would like to have the option to return to The Lakeland Center in future years if your revised facility meets our needs.

Thank you for the years that you have worked with the FSSRDC, we will always appreciate all the work you have done for us.

*Don Slocum, Facilities Chairmen FSSRDC
Ann Slocum, Facilities Chairmen FSSRDC
863-533-6665 anndonslocum@juno.com*

cc: Tony Camarillo/ It has been a pleasure working with Brenda Day

Email correspondence:

Ann and Don,

Thank you for reaching out.....it appears your email went to the wrong email address; however, Brenda sent along your letter today.

I appreciate the fact that our changes are not in sync with your plans, we are doing our best to accommodate all of our long standing customers. That being said, we are OK letting you out of the last few years of your contract without penalty. We only hope that when the dust settles we can find some common ground.

Thank you again and best of luck !

TC



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My response to the email was: Thank you for understanding and look forward possible working with you in the future. We would like to thank all those on the search committee, Bill Boyd, Bill Chesnut, Susan Snider, Lewis Linda Wasserman for your efforts to find the new venue.

The agreement for 2018 & 2019 have been signed and the deposits have been made with the Daytona Ocean Center. A meeting has been scheduled for March 20, for the 2018 & 2019 Convention General Chairmen, Registration & Facilities Chairmen to meet with Jen Adams the event Manager for a detail review of the facility we will be looking over the halls and facility for the convention.

18. Florida Hall of Fame-no report

19. History

I have received several emails since the last meeting with pictures and I have forwarded them to Bruce for the website and he has posted them on the website. Keep sending your pictures in, you can send them to me or to Bruce.

Submitted by Terri Little

20. USDA Report

Randy Poole, President of Central Florida Federation requested some on the pamphlets to take to the Central Florida clubs when the CFA visited for promoting membership. We compiled packets of the pamphlets we thought would be most useful to the clubs. These have been taken to Granada Squares Denim and Lace, Whirl & Twirl and The Villages – Orange Blossom Squares. Thank you to Randy and all CFA members in getting the information to the Clubs.

We attended The Southeast's Annual Snowflake Frolic and took a packet of pamphlets to the dance. Then we left with Steve Adler, President of Southeast Association.

We will have all of the literature on display at the 2017 State Convention. Stop by the table to pick up any pamphlets that might be helpful.

Respectfully submitted, Bill & Linda Reid, Florida State USDA Representatives

21. USDA Insurance

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS Insurance Report February 25, 2017

Beginning Balance	October 31, 2016		\$
Income			
	Central		\$
	Northeast		\$
	Northwest		\$
	Southeast		\$
	West Coast		\$
		<hr/>	
Total Income			\$ \$
Expenses			
	USDA Insurance		\$
		<hr/>	
Total Expense			\$
Ending Balance	January 31, 2017		\$

As of January 31, 2017	CLUBS	DANCERS
Central	8	325
Northeast	9	270
Northwest	1&8	237
Southeast	1	65
West Coast	8	235
Total	2 Associations	33 Clubs
		1132

Submitted by Randy & Carol Poole
Federation Insurance Chairman

USDA Insurance Report

The renewals went rather smoothly this year. The clubs that needed certificates in January or February mailed in their renewals in November. The insurance certificates were back in December. There was even time to make a correction on one certificate. Of course, this meant

more Additional Enrollments than in the past but that is less stressful than not having their certificate.

There is still a problem with some clubs procrastinating renewing. I'm writing this report on February 6 and still waiting on several clubs. One club sent in their renewal in November. They paid for 18 dancers but included 41 dancers insured through other clubs. We had to hold this club until all the other clubs mailed in their renewal. We cannot mail in a renewal until all dancers have paid.

Neatness and correctness counts. We must be very careful when a facility wants to be named on the insurance certificates. Find out from the facility exactly how they want the wording. Also, this information must be on the forms the club submits every year. One cannot expect the association insurance chairman or myself to remember what each facility requires.

Almost everyone is doing a good job. I personally appreciate it and I thank you.

Last year we had five reported accidents. Three claims were submitted. So far this year, two reported accidents and one claim submitted.

Randy & Carol Poole, Federation Insurance Chairman

22. ASCAP/BMI

The 2017 **ASCAP** bill of \$125.00 was paid by Bob & Maria Spence on February 1, 2017.

The 2017 **BMI** bill of \$155.00 was paid by Bob & Maria Spence on February 1, 2017.

The bills had been forwarded to Don Slocum for reimbursement from the 2017 Convention Treasurer, and **were paid** on February 6, 2017.

Squarely yours,

Bob & Maria Spence

ASCAP/BMI Chairs for the Florida Federation of Square Dancers

flspence@earthlink.net

Susan Snider reported, we need to check into seeing if we now need to submit payment to SESAC which also is now collecting royalties on music possibly utilized at the state conventions.

23. Old Business

a. Contact (Business) Cards

"We would like to invite you to our circle of Friends!" Friendship set to music. Have they been productive for the associations? Do I need to order more? I currently have 5 boxes of 250 cards per box remaining so each association is welcome to take a box each. *It was decided that the 5 boxes were enough at this time and we would not order any more at this time.*

b. Tax Status

Email correspondence regarding USDA Group Exemption;

On Fri, Feb 24, 2017 at 6:41 AM, Jim Maczko <jmaczko@san.rr.com> wrote:

Cheryl:

No decisions have been made yet – we are again reaching out to all of the USDA Affiliates to determine their level of interest – so far Florida is the ONLY Affiliate that is ready with all of your governing

documents being in order (with the exception of your fiscal year) to submit to the IRS. California is in the process of changing its fiscal year to coincide with the USDA's fiscal year (calendar year).

At this point, it is hard to predict the level of interest for USDA to proceed with this program – we are optimistic, but it has now been almost 5 years since we initiated this effort, and still only very limited response.

Jim Maczko – Patty Wilcox – Parliamentarian
UNITED SQUARE DANCERS OF AMERICA, INC.

From: Marvin Robey <jdrobey2@gmail.com> Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 7:30 AM

Jim and Cheryl,

It has been great to see the strong interest that Florida has shown to take advantage of this opportunity. Personally, Donna and I would like to see this program proceed; however, we must follow the majority. We are optimistic, that USDA will in fact proceed with the program. An intensive effort is being made to see what the affiliates, that have been silent on this subject, are thinking.

For what it is worth, we have made this the focus of our article in the upcoming April issue of the USDA News. Cheryl, we will still be in Florida for the state convention in MARCH, so we'll look forward to seeing you then.

Yellow Rocks,

Jerry and Donna Robey, USDA Presidents

As you can see we are still uncertain when the USDA will move forward with the 501c3 Group Exemption.

Convention Procedure Review

Committee has been put on hold at this time while the current changes of future Convention location and dates have been finalized and determined. With the way current changes evolving it is to our best interest to wait on changing the Convention Procedures.

Federation Document Review

The document review committee, Bruce & Colleen Morgan – Chairman, Judy Anderson, Penny Green and Steve Adler have delved into the documents and have concluded, because of the necessary changes that are required to the Florida Federation of Square Dancers meeting schedules and because of the recent changes to the dates concerning the State Convention, we cannot re-write the documents until these changes have been finalized. Therefore, the only document that we will be presenting for approval will be the Standing Rules.

Most of the changes to the Standing Rules are cosmetic. The title of the original document is “Standing Rules of the Florida Federation of Square Dancers. Since the Official Name of the organization is The Florida Federation of Square Dancers, Inc. we are proposing that this be changed. Most of the other changes are just to correct the capitalization of the wording. Another change is to correct the spelling of the word Bylaws. Some places it is By-Laws, others it is By Laws. The official spelling of the word is bylaws. We are proposing that the capitalization and spelling be corrected in all locations.

In Section 12 we are proposing that st be added after July in the following sentence. Annual dues of \$100.00 are due no later than July 1 of each year. Making it read Annual dues of \$100.00 are due no later than July 1st of each year.

In Section 13 we are proposing that the contingency fund amount be corrected from \$4,000.00 to the current amount of \$5,500.00 from each of the sponsoring organizations.

We also propose that in every location, and there are several, where a number is written out that the actual numeral number follow in ().

In Section 16 a 5 we propose to correct the punctuation. Right now it says, To invite the Florida Callers Association, the Round Dance Council of Florida, to set with the Board of Delegates. It should read, To invite the Florida Callers Association and the Round Dance Council of Florida to set with the Board of Delegates.

Section 16 b 5 we propose to made this statement more generic. At present time it reads, 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. It will now read, To make arrangements for facilities for the working weekend to be held at a location, date and time subject to approval by the Executive Board.

Section 16 c 2 we propose the following changes. At the present time it reads, To record all minutes of meeting 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 Round Dance Council, Delegates at Large, and Editor of Bow & Swing at least thirty days prior to the scheduled meetings.

It will now read, To record all minutes of meeting 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 Round Dance Council, delegates at large, editor of Bow & Swing and the web master of the floridasquaredance.com for the history files at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled meetings.

Bruce Morgan made the following motion; I would like to make a motion that all of the proposed changes as presented be accepted. Don Slocum seconded; Motion passed.

Thank you,
Bruce Morgan

In the future, the organization title will need to include Incorporated on the Constitution, By-Laws and Standing Rules, currently the name of organization just states; Florida Federation of Square Dancers.

It is also noted on the Articles of Incorporation state: the office of the corporation, Dewey & Donna Hendrick, the registered agent. The Articles of Incorporation.

When I review the State of Florida Division of Corporations official website I noticed that the registered agent for the Corporation name and address was changed to 2166 Middleton Dr. , so the state must have automatically changed this when Treasurer Cheryl Miller filed the "Amendment to Articles of Incorporation".

We will not be making any changes to the Federation Documents until the appropriate time the Federation has changed permanently made changes to state convention, registered agent, etc.

While looking at the Division of Corporation website; it was noted that: The Federation, Northwest, West Coast, Northeast, Central and Southeast Associations each have their own Federal Id numbers and should be utilizing their number. If any of the associations, choose to use the Federation Tax ID they need to forward their financial reports to the Federation

treasurer to be included in the Federation minutes and tax filings. (PS after the meeting it was determined and verified that all 5 association have each their own Federal ID#).

The Central Association pays Sales Tax on their Association Dances and State Convention. I don't think any of the other Association pays sales tax on the entrance fees to your dances. It is the law. It is my opinion that when Cheryl applied for a change in tax status for the 501c3 organization that the IRS is, or should be, aware of all the associations. Just be aware of this fact and do not be surprised if they check.

24. New Business

a. USDA Reps

USDA Representatives for the 2017 USDA meeting to be held Wednesday, June 21, 2017 in Cincinnati, OH will be; Bill & Linda Reid, Ed Drexel & Terry Wetherby with Don & Ann Slocum serving as Alternate Delegates.

b. Welcome Center Brochures

I have a request from the Welcome Center at I-10 for 1000 more copies. I have a quote for printing 1000 Rack cards in the amount of \$216.00. *Don Slocum made a motion to purchase 1000 more rack card utilized at the Welcome Centers.* Jack Hoffman seconded motion. Motion passed. *Discussion on the cost of the rental cost paid to the Welcome Center. It is like any advertising you don't always get immediate response. Our Website is advertised on the rack card. Don stated he wanted to see if this motion was approved before moving forward with the Welcome Center renewal.*

c. Support for Jackson MS 2021 National Convention

I have received a letter from Dan & Glinda Torvik who are the Proposed General Chairman for the 2021 National Convention to be held in Jackson, Mississippi.

They are requesting a letter of support from all the Dancer, Caller and Cuer organizations within the State of Florida be written and forwarded to them so that they can be included in their Bid Package to the NEC. Their bid will be presented to the NEC at the 2017 National in Cincinnati, this June. But the letters are requested by March 1st of this year so that they can be included in the Bid Package.

The letters of support are to be addressed to Butch & Ampie Hayes, President of the NEC. But they are to be mailed to Dan & Glinda Torvik so that they can make sure that they are part of the Bid Package.

These letters help the Jackson, Mississippi committee proved to the NEC that they have enough support of fellow dancers, callers and cuers to actually make the national convention a reality. I have sample letters that can be used for model your actual letter from. If all the Association Presidents would come up and get a copy of the samples and take them back to your area and make sure that all the square & round dance organizations receive a copy I, and the Torviks would appreciate it.

Thank you, Bruce Morgan

d. Working Weekend Date 2018 & 2019

Tentatively, the 2018 Working Weekend will be held on the 2nd weekend in January 13th & 14th 2018, the date of the Convention will be February 23 & 24, 2018. *Randy stated he had spoken with this hotel and the currently have those dates available. We must check with Whirl & Twirl if you want to have the Convention Benefit Dance. Question was asked if the Working Weekend could be moved to May? The documents stated the first meeting of the Federation will be the Working Weekend. It was suggested that we make the decision tomorrow after we have spoken with Whirl & Twirl.*

e. Trail End Dance Location 2018 & 2019

Linda Wasserman stated she was checking with Ormond Beach and other facilities. The determination will be the cost.

f. Extra Mile Award Due Date

Next year's Extra Mile Award will be determined when the Working Weekend has been confirmed.

g. Additional New Business-none

h. Committee Assignments – Each of the Working Weekend Committees will meet at 1:30pm in the appointed locations stated.

25. Announcements

a. Resume meeting 9:00 am Sunday

b. Next Meeting: The Working Weekend Committees will report back at 9:00 in this room on Sunday, February 26, 2017.

Prepared and submitted by:

Cheryl Miller, Federation Secretary