



Live Lively – Square Dance!

The Missouri Federation of Square 'n Round Dance Clubs

www.SquareDanceMissouri.com

(Subject to Board Approval)

Missouri Federation of Square 'N Round Dance Clubs, Inc. Lebanon, Missouri - December 10, 2006

Place: Christian Health Care South, 514 West Fremont Road, Lebanon, MO
Host: Central District
Time: 12:00 PM
Call to Order: President David Shafer
Invocation: Carol Morris
Pledge of Allegiance: Dave Shafer
MO Pledge of Allegiance: Bettyrae Fluke
Roll Call: Secretary, Vicki Wittman (52 people in attendance)

Introduction of Guests: Larry and Jan Anslinger, president elect of the West Central District and a member of Trick Trackers Square Dance Club; Emily Miller, mother of Tom Miller.

Approval of October 15, 2006 minutes: The minutes were approved as written with the following corrections: Under Promotions - the last two sentences should be changed to read: Tony saw the Herchends from Silver Dollar City on TV discussing what they need to do because the needs and wants of the baby boomers are not the same as the needs and wants of seniors.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Sue Darwent. Mary Sue reported a beginning balance of \$2,235.59 + \$100.00. Income November/December of \$1,568.17; Expenses November/December of \$4,044.28. Balance on hand December 10 of \$(140.52). \$14,000.00 in CD Investments. Total funds available \$13,859.48.

Correspondence: Secretary Vicki Wittman sent a sympathy card to Jim Jefferies on the death of his brother, a get well card on Nov. 6 to Don Collier (who has since passed away), a sympathy card to Randy Potts on the death of Don Potts, and a sympathy card to Bertram (Gene) True on the death of Berniece True. A letter was received from the Clay Cooper Theatre (formerly the Moe Bandy Theatre) in Branson stating the theatre will open on March 9, 2007 with many great shows.

Committee Reports

Boundaries and Relations: Jim and Eloise Riley. No report.

Constitution and Bylaws: J. W. & Jan England. J.W. reported he has 50 packets of updates which should be inserted in the Handbook that all representatives should have on hand. These books should be passed down each year to the new representatives. He has a few handbooks in his possession. He also reported that Bob and Shirley Turner will be the chairman of the 2007 Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

License Plate: J. W. and Jan England, License Plate Chairman, reported the following: Balance forward on October 15 was \$100.00. November/December income \$50.00; refunds totaled \$20.00 and cost of checks for new account \$13.80, balance on hand \$116.20.

Membership: Mary Sue Darwent reported 49 clubs with 1,354 members have paid 2007 dues.

Club Longevity Awards: Mary Sue reported awards will go to Puxico Country Squares (began 1982, 25 years) and the Swinging Stars (began 1976, 30 years).

Promotions: Tony and Cindy Ahart. Tony said that we talk about promoting square and round dancing and how to recruit new students, but we don't talk about what happened to the dancers we graduated last

year and where they are now. He believes our clubs are like retail businesses. If you want repeat customers you have to give excellent customer service. From some training material he found, he told about some guidelines that could apply to square dancers.

Smile and make eye contact with dancers.

Speak to every dancer you see, even if it is just to say "hi".

Project a positive attitude.

Don't forget to say, "Thanks for dancing with us."

Stop and think about how your club would be rated for customer service.

We need to work on this service, and as a result of this effort we will see an increase in the number of dancers we retain. Tony reported that 13 clubs have submitted completed forms for "Toot Your Horn."

Site Screening: Bob Welch. No Report.

USDA report: Edythe Weber reported the following.

1. The winter meeting of USDA will be in West Springfield, Massachusetts the middle of January. There will be an update on the status of a new credit card at that time.
2. Response has been slow from the affiliates. As soon as we have approval from USDA, we will proceed with collection of the names for the mailing list.
3. Continue to use and support the discount prescription drug card. It will save you money.
4. Check out the new on-line shopping mall at www.usda.org. If you already shop on line, try the same stores from here. A percentage of your purchase will be donated to USDA.

ARTS report: Jim and Edythe Weber. Jim Weber reported the following:

1. The "Add A Buck" program was very successful with \$139 collected from registrations and \$12.75 collected from the railroad crossing banks. Thank you to those who made that choice.
2. The Travel website is going good. Some have found it lower, some have found it the same, and some have found it slightly higher and that's possible. But if it is close, remember that the ARTS receives a royalty of 40% of the commission when using the site. So let your travel plans give a little back to square dancing. The website address is www.arts-dancetravel.com. When asked to choose an organization you should choose USDA.
3. Magnetic signs are available for \$2.50 which has a toll free number to call about learning to dance. Individuals will be directed to the closest contact to their area using the National Square Dance Directory, USDA Affiliate Presidents list and the internet.
4. Additional information about the ARTS can be found at www.arts-dance.org.
5. Remember the National Day of Dance - "Dance across America" - February 29, 2008. We want to have several dances going on all over the state on that night.
6. Bettyrae Fluke read a letter from Jim and Edythe Weber, Treasurer of ARTS (Alliance of Round, Traditional and Square Dance). The letter expressed thanks to the Missouri Federation for their efforts in support of the Foundation. \$154.75 was received by ARTS from the "add a buck" line on the festival registration form and from the train bank.

Publications: Bill and Carol Morris. No Report.

Insurance: Dave and Barbara Turner. Dave reported the beginning balance on October 1, 2006 was \$120.16. Income for October was \$8.20. Expenses for October were \$-0-. Income for November was \$ 0 ; Expenses for November were \$114.00. Ending balance on November 30, 2006 was \$6.36. Dave said the cost of the insurance for 2007 will remain the same at \$4.10/person. Insurance packets were mailed out to all who had the insurance last year. Dave reported that a lady fell and insured herself at the St. Louis Federation picnic. Her hospital deductible was \$950.00. The square dance insurance through USDA paid the \$950.00.

Historian: Linda and Doyle Collins. Linda asked the members if there was any pertinent information they would like to see in the history of the Missouri Federation. Someone said that the callers, cuers, themes and dates of the festival should be in the history.

Blue Bird: Connie Hobbs reported there were no bluebirds sold since October. Dave Shafer said that the bluebird dresses and shirts should be worn on Friday night of the festival.

Member Services: Ed and Sherryl Schofield. No Report.

Travel Missouri: Ed and Sherryl Schofield. There are two new people with badges. Over 1,000 danglers have been given out. Nebraska, Minnesota, Kansas and Colorado are all interested in the program.

Square Dancer of the Year: No Report

Caller/Cuer Hall of Fame: No Report.

District Presidents Report: Jan Vaughn, Central District President, reported the following. Dave Turner gave insurance packets to District Presidents as there are new clubs. Those who took insurance last year were sent renewal packets. Mark Mortensen handed out a two page information sheet regarding the 2007 State Festival. You must Pre-Register to get a state festival book which will cost \$1.00 more. Ads were discussed and he encouraged us (every district) to sell ads to local businesses. Mark needs every clubs callers names, address, etc.

Holiday Inn Express is the host motel. Models are needed for the Fashion Show.

Jim Weber discussed the new "Missouri Dancers InterNet Communication Network (E-mail tree)." (See Jim Weber's report for the Information Ad Hoc Committee later in these minutes.)

The 2007 State Meeting Schedule was confirmed - February 18 - Northeast District, April 15 – Southwest District, June 10 - Northwest District, August 19 - St. Louis District, October 21 - Central District, December 9 - Southeast District.

Ed Schofield requested that the Constitution and Bylaws be put on the website. All agreed it was a good idea.

Shirley Turner requested all forms that are requested by the state to be included in the State Board Book.

Also, in the DOINs - cell phone numbers are needed for contact people.

Audit Committee: No Report.

Doin's Report

Editor: Jim and Edythe Weber. Edythe gave report. Please send articles early - before the 28th of the month. There are approximately 110 clubs in the Missouri Federation. Edythe received 15 club articles by e-mail on November 28th. Prior to that date, she had only received 4 by mail, 2 by fax and 42 by e-mail. She is sorry if your article did not reach her in time to be printed in the January issue. She is requesting that e-mailers "PLEASE put your club name FIRST in the subject line." If 50 use the month or DOINs as the first word, she has to do a lot of searching.

It's been over a year since Jim and Edythe started using doins@kc.rr.com, but one or two folks still use the old e-mail address.

Something new this year will be an article updating you on the progress of the State Festival – reminding you of deadlines and informing you of important items regarding the festival.

Edythe is hoping the pull-out Location section is helpful. There are a number of locations not listed because clubs did not send them anything. There are some listed, but no directions. If you don't like how your location is listed, you have 6 months to send changes. Cell phone numbers that can be reached by dancers during the dance are very helpful.

Circulation: Annette and Terry Thornhill. Annette stated the beginning balance 10/15/06 was \$106.00. Income for November/December was \$2,376.00. Expenses November/December, \$100.25. Check #1021 was sent to the Missouri Federation for \$2,170.50. Ending balance 2/10/06 \$100.00. Petty Cash \$5.25. 656 December DOIN's were sent. There are 616 paid subscriptions with 40 free DOINs mailed. There were 13 renewals this month with 1 new subscription.

Annette said that it costs 75 cents to mail a DOIN's. But if the address is wrong, then it costs \$1.11 more to mail a second one. Please notify her if you move. When your new dancer class graduates, send names and addresses to her and she will send them a free copy of the DOINs.

Advertising: Dave and Dee Shafer. Dave gave the following report. Balance brought forward October 16, 2006, \$100.00. Income was \$953.00, Expenses \$50.91. Check to the Missouri Federation for \$902.09 leaving a balance on hand as of December 10, 2006 of \$100.00. Ads must be received by the 28th of each month or they will not be in the book.

Unfinished Business

2006 State Festival: Ed and Sherryl Schofield (West Central District) reported that the 2006 Festival Committee has returned the start-up money of \$2,500.00 to the Federation Treasurer. Also, an additional check for \$9,500 was given to the Treasurer as profit from the Festival. There is still \$600 left in Festival funds, which will be turned over as soon as all bills are paid. The total profit should be a little over \$10,000.00. The shirts and caps left over were reduced and brought in \$100.00. The rest of the caps and shirts were given to the Clinton United Methodist Church for their Falmouth Jamaican Mission Project. Bettyrae Fluke read a letter from the church expressing their gratitude for donating this merchandise.

2007 State Festival: Mark and Rosalee Mortensen. Mark said the 48th Annual Festival would be in Lebanon at the Cowan Center on October 19-21, 2007. The featured caller will be Tim Tyl and cuer will be Pat & Joe Hilton. Mark said to call him for any District special dances, so someone from the committee can try and be there. The Holiday Inn Express for \$75/night will be the headquarters hotel. Super 8 is \$72. The beautiful Route 66 Quilt will be raffled for \$1.00 per chance. Jan Vaughn is chairman of the Fashion Show - models are needed. Larry Dudgeon will be the narrator. Booster ribbons are 50 cents each or \$1.00/couple. Mark would like each club to bring three attendance gifts. If this is done, almost every pre-registered dancer will get a gift. He needs to know each club's designated callers with addresses, e-mails, etc. You must pre-register and pay \$1.00 extra in order to get a souvenir Program Book. Ads are needed for the Program Book.

2009 Caller/Cuer Nominees. Barbara and Dave Turner. Barb announced that cuers Pam and Tom Young from Topeka, KS have been contracted for 2009 for \$410.00 which includes travel and meals. The Missouri Federation pays for lodging.

2010 Caller/Cuer Nominees: Jim and Eloise Riley. No Report.

Youth Ad Hoc Committee Report: Sharon Crisel. There was an Educational Seminar for the Missouri Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (MOAHPERD) at Lodge of the Four Seasons on November 10-12. Approximately 900+ teachers attended. Caller Jerry Routh presented a program to 50+ teachers and children. There were at least 5 squares dancing for one hour. The teachers wanted more information. Handouts were given out about square dancing. Sharon Crisel and Dave Shafer felt it was very successful and they may get to do it again next year.

Dave Shafer met with Joan Zeller (University of Missouri /Department of Education Extension Program at Jefferson City) on October 28th. Dave Shafer and Sharon Crisel will have a meeting on December 11 at Missouri Extension office in Waynesville with Joan Zeller and a Youth Specialist from Pulaski County. Work is still being done on the Missouri program. Volunteers and suggestions for this program are needed.

Information Ad Hoc Committee Report: Jim Weber. Jim talked about "Missouri Dancers InterNet Communication Network (Email tree)." We need to get information from the top to the bottom. He needs the e-mail addresses of all seven district presidents. As State Email coordinator, he will need to maintain only the e-mail addresses of the seven district presidents and the State officers. District presidents will maintain an e-mail list of club presidents or club contact. Those club presidents or contact will maintain the e-mail list of club members. District Presidents should start work on getting this information down to the clubs.

New Business

Jan Vaughn presented a request to revise the criteria for the selection of the Square Dancer of the Year Award. Jim Weber made a motion that an AD HOC committee be appointed to review this request. Motion was seconded and passed.

Carol Morris made a motion to give a \$100 gift certificate to John and Jewel Rogers. They are a member of Trail Blazers and their house recently burned to the ground. After a short discussion, Carol withdrew her motion in favor of "passing a hat." \$242 was received in the hat, which will be turned over to the Rogers.

Nominations Committee: Jim Riley announced the following nominations for office for 2007:

J.W. & Jan England from the West Central District for President
Bob & Shirley Turner from the Southeast District for 1st Vice President
John & Eleanor Stover from the Central District for 2nd Vice President
Don & Joann Miller from the Southwest District for 3rd Vice President
Pat & Tom Miller from the Northwest District for Secretary
Chuck & Linda Evans from the St. Louis District for Treasurer

There being no further nominations from the floor, Jim Weber made a motion to close the nominations and the slate of officers be elected by acclamation. Motion was seconded and passed. Dave Shafer said that financial record books should be brought to the February meeting for audit. He has appointed John & Eleanor Stover, Jan Vaughn & Bruce Gilder, and Mark & Rosalee Mortensen to the Audit Committee. (See Standing Rules, Article X, Section 4, A.)

2007 President J. W. England spoke and stated that "self should be taken out of the Federation. He wants to continue the AD HOC committee on youth and has appointed an AD HOC committee to review the guidelines for selection of the Square Dancer of the Year. The committee will be Jan Vaughn & Bruce Gilder, John & Eleanor Stover, and John & Debbie Melcher. If anyone has any ideas, they should be presented to the committee by January 15.

J. W. England appointed the following as committee chairmen for 2007.

Boundaries & Relations Don & Joann Miller
Constitution & Bylaws Bob & Shirley Turner
License Plate J.W. and Jan England
Membership Linda & Chuck Evans
Promotions Tony & Cindy Ahart
Site Screening Bob & Shirley Turner
USDA Report Jim & Edythe Weber
ARTS Jim & Edythe Weber
Publications Carol & Bill Morris
Insurance Dave & Barb Turner
Historian Linda & Doyle Collins
Bluebird Connie & Kenny Hobbs
Member Services Ed & Sherryl Schofield
Travel Missouri Ed & Sherryl Schofield
Caller/Cuer Hall of Fame Dave & Dee Shafer
Parliamentarian Barb Turner

Calendar Of Events

The next state meeting will be on February 18, 2007. The Northeast District (Capital City Squares in Jefferson City) will host the meeting. The meeting will start at 12:00 noon.

Recognition of Hosts:

Thanks to the Central District (Levis & Laces) for hosting the December meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vicki & Ray Wittman, Secretary
Missouri Federation of Square & Round Dance Clubs Inc.,