



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.

MINUTES FOR August 19, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Tony Ahart at 12:03 pm at Old St. Ferdinand Shrine Schoolhouse, #1 Rue St. Francois St., Florissant, MO 63031.

Agenda Change: There were no agenda changes.

Invocation: Vicki Wittman

Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag: Vicki Wittman

Pledge of Allegiance to the Missouri flag: Vicki Wittman

Roll Call: Ron Selfors: 25 voting positions present, full quorum achieved. 29 directors were present.

Introduction and Welcoming of Visitors and Guests: Tony Ahart welcomed visitors and guests.

Minutes of Jun 10, 2012 meeting: The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Carl Boone reporting. The beginning checking account balance as of Jun 1, 2012 was \$9,137.59. Revenue received in Jun and Jul was \$4,032.67. Expenses paid were \$3,087.18. The checking account balance as of Mar 31, 2012 was \$10,083.08. There are now four CD's totaling \$32,030.82. Total funds on hand are \$40,113.90. The report was filed for audit.

Membership and Club Longevity: Carl Boone reporting. Dues have been received from 74 of 79 clubs on the rolls. 2,651 members are reported.

Longevity awards were presented to districts for: Millstone Wheelers (Central), 30 years; and Unicorn Squares (NW), 30 years. Both clubs will have anniversaries in Sep.

Correspondence: Ron Selfors reporting. No correspondence was received or generated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

State Fair: Ed Schofield reporting. The state fair dance was an outstanding success. Over 175 dancers, four callers and a cuer participated. Billie Jean Butler was the coordinator and did a great job. We expect to be invited back again next year.

Boundaries and Relations: No report.

Constitution and Bylaws: No report.

Publications: Edythe Weber reporting. 19 readers found the donkey in the Jul/Aug DOIN's. Keney Bailey was the drawn winner.

DOIN's Editor: Edythe Weber reporting. If you have 2013 dance schedules, send them to the DOIN's. If clubs advertise in the DOIN's, they should also send their schedules to Dave and Dee Shafer. Also, check numbers in the club directory. Try to make the numbers cell phones. Next publication deadline is Sep 25. Please be on time or early.

DOIN's Circulation: Carol Morris reporting. Balance as of Jun 10, 2012, was \$100.00. From Jun 10 through Aug 19, 2012, total revenue was \$480.00, expenses were none, and total disbursement to Missouri Federation of Square 'N Round Dance Clubs was \$480.00. Balance as of Aug 19, 2012, was \$100.00. For the Sep/Oct 2012 issue, there are 419 paid subscriptions.

DOIN's Advertising: Tony Ahart reporting for Dave and Dee Shafer. Balance as of Jun 10, 2012, was \$100.00. From Jun 10 through Aug 19, 2012, total revenue was \$767.00, expenses were \$5.15, and total disbursement to Missouri Federation of Square 'N Round Dance Clubs was \$661.85. Balance as of Aug 19, 2012, was \$100.00.

Another puzzle was sold since the last report. 89 more puzzles need to be sold to reach the break-even point. If all remaining 207 puzzles are sold, a projected profit of \$1,841 will be realized.

Promotion & Recruiting: Marty Altman reporting. Marty discussed updating the "TOOT YOUR HORN" program. He presented a draft of the program guidance for discussion. After discussion, he stated he will send out new version and ask for final comments/concurrence.

Marty also discussed recruiting since fall is coming and many clubs begin lessons. He suggests clubs review the Recruiting Manual that is on the Federation's website. He pointed out that there are many empty nesters that are looking to make new friends and participate in more activities. He suggested creating a website if the club does not have one and putting square dance signs with the website address in club member vehicles.

State Festival Site Screening: No report.

Insurance Coordinator: Jim Weber reporting. For the period Jun 15 through Aug 18, 2012, program income was \$326.75, and the program expenses were \$167.95. The net income was \$158.80. 43 clubs are insured through the Federation; and 13 clubs, through the Heart of America. 1,585 dancers are insured through the Federation. Jim can be reached at moinsurance@kc.rr.com or 816-781-3598.

Webmaster: Dan Wheeler reporting. Here are some suggestions to make computers and internet more friendly.

Club Listings. Many clubs have listings that do not include a contact e-mail address. In this day and age, ALL club listings should have an e-mail contact.

Forms. Use the forms on the forms webpage on the Federation website (www.SquareDanceMissouri.com). If your form on the webpage is not current, send me a current one.

The forms on the internet are in Adobe Acrobat, and open using the Adobe Reader program. Almost all computers come with Adobe Reader. If yours does not, you can download it free. If you have questions, ask me.

If you have trouble opening a form, first, be sure that you have the latest version of Adobe Reader. If you still cannot open the form, let me know and I will work with you to get you forms that you can open.

Files. You need to remember this: All files must open in some program. If you send a file to someone, and he doesn't have the program that the file was written in, then he can't open it. There are only two types of files that I know of that all computers will open. They are "txt" files, and "pdf" files.

If you have a file that you can open, but when you send it to someone else, they cannot, send it to me. There is a good chance that I can open it, and convert it to something they can open. If you do that, it is polite to let me in on the secret about what program you use for the file. If you use Office, let me know if it is 2003 or older, or 2007 or newer. If you are still using MS Works, you need to get something else. It is no longer being shipped free on Windows computers.

Updates. Some of you have expressed a fear of letting your computer accept automatic updates. Many, perhaps all, major programs have a method of automatically updating their program on your computer. Most, but not all, will ask you during the installation of the program, to click on a box to accept updates. Usually this box is already selected, and if you don't want the updates, you would have to de-select it.

Most of these programs will send you a notice that an update is available, and ask you if you want to let them update their program on your computer. These requests to update do not come as E-Mail. They come as a pop up window in the middle of your screen. As a general rule, you should always accept these updates.

Unfortunately, most of these programs are rather vague about what program they are talking about. To make things worse, a large number of these programs are programs that you may not realize that you even have on your computer.

Some of these are Java, Sun Micro Systems, and Flash player. Some, you will recognize, such as Microsoft, or MS Office. If you get an update for Reader, it will probably come from Adobe.

It is your responsibility to know what programs you have on your computer. If you get an update notice, and are not sure about whether to accept it, say no, and then send me an E-Mail and ask me if that is a safe update to accept. If they send you an update request once, they will do it again, so you are not missing anything by saying no to a request. If you e-mail me, be sure to tell me who sent you the request. It will be on the window somewhere.

If you receive these, and are not familiar with who is sending them, I suggest that, once you know that an update is acceptable, that you add it to a list, and keep that list on your computer.

Often when you get a request to update a program, the menu that opens will have boxes to check, or worse yet, already checked. Read them carefully. Some of them you may want. Others may change your browser home page, add tool bars that you do not want to your browser, change your search engine, send information about you to the updater, etc. I often get calls from people saying that their Internet Explorer, Firefox, or Safari no longer opens in their e-mail program. They ask, "Why did they change that?" They didn't. The person asking me did. He did it, and didn't even know it.

Virus Protection. One update that you absolutely must accept is the update to your virus protection. The good thing about these is that if you have the automatic update turned on, the update happens without any action on your part. If your computer has been off for a week or two, you may get a notice about virus protection being out of date when you turn it on. If you do not have virus protection, you absolutely must get it. In addition, in spite of what you have been told, your MAC is not 100% safe.

The virus protection you got with your computer was good for only 30 - 90 days. From then on, it doesn't update to the latest profiles. There are a number of good virus protection programs available; some of them are even free. Your internet provider can provide some. If you do not know how to get one, contact me.

Travel Missouri: Jim Marron reporting. As of Aug 17, 2012, 1,158 dancers have received 2,519 sets. 36 dancers have their eighth set, 24 dancers are beginning their ninth set, and 17 dancers are beginning their tenth set. Total income this year is \$396.19. Total expenses are \$346.87. Total account balance is \$49.32.

Blue Bird Coordinator: No report.

Historian: Dan Wheeler reporting. There is now a general history of Missouri square dancing on the website. Please review. If you have corrections or material to add, please contact the historian. He puts all received material on the website.

Historian is also looking for district and club history. Please contact him if you have materials to share. More clubs have been added since last report. You may want to look at these to get idea of what can be included. There are currently over 12,000 pictures on the site. Tom Roper has 300 YouTube videos. We are also interested in clubs that are no longer active.

License Plate: Jim Marron reporting. Balance as of Jun 10, 2012, was \$196.70. From Jun10 through Aug 18, 2012, total revenue was \$850.00, and rebates were \$340.00. \$650.00 was transferred to the Federation. Balance as of Aug 18, 2012, was \$56.70.

United Square Dancers of America (USDA): Edythe Weber reporting. The annual meeting in Spokane was great. Edythe and Jim are now vice presidents for the Plains Region. The next meeting will be held in Kansas City in January.

Alliance of Rounds, Traditional and Square Dancing (ARTS): Edythe Weber reporting. Please check your club listing in the club database at www.you2candance.com. Make sure all info is correct. Let Jim know if something is wrong.

Use the You2canDance website for recruiting and answering questions for potential new dancers.

Youth and Children Dance: Sharon Crisel reporting. This committee has been active since 2006. Every year the committee has presented a workshop on square dancing at the annual convention of the Missouri Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (MoHPERD). Last year Gene Wilson, Dave and Dee Shafer, Sharon Crisel and several other square dancers presented the program. 38 DVDs and curriculum guides were given to teachers or mailed to them. MoHPERD has invited us back for this year's convention.

We know the curriculum has been across the state. School districts using the program include Clinton, Kansas City, Leopold, Moberly, Springfield, and Waynesville. Southern Missouri State University has also used it.

We have used all of the grant funds (\$500) we received from USDA for the program. We need additional funding to continue the program. \$200 could fund 33 more material sets.

The form is available on website for youth scholarships.

District Presidents' Meeting Report: Vicki Wittman reporting. The committee selected the Square Dancers of the Year from six applications. They discussed the ways clubs are using the \$250 for recruiting. The deadline for using the funds is Jun 2013. They discussed new dancer lessons.

Jim Weber shared insurance information. He will mail out packets in September. If a club is starting lessons in September, an insurance form should be filled out now.

2012 State Festival: Sharon White reporting. Planning for the 2012 Festival is going well. The festival will be held in Lebanon, MO at the Cowan Center. The theme is "Cruisin' Round the Square". The colors are Burgundy and Teal. Tom Manning will be the featured caller. Need folks to register. Local photographer has been selected. Sell the raffle tickets – clubs get half.

2013 State Festival: Ed Schofield reporting. The 2013 Festival will be hosted by West Central District and will be at the Sedalia State Fair Grounds, 11-13 Oct. The theme will be "Roaring Ragtime Express." The colors are red, white and black. A highlight of the festival will be dancing on the Katy Trail.

Planning is progressing on schedule. Flyers are made, and badges, ribbons and T-shirts are ordered. As an incentive for early registration, there will be a \$5 discount for every ticket bought at the 2012 Festival. The deadline for early registration has been moved to Sep 1 instead of Oct 1. Registration per adult will cost \$25 before Sep 1, and \$32 after.

Caller/Cuer of the Year: Tom Miller reporting. Two applications were received. A selection was made.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Festival Profit Sharing: Bob Turner reporting. A motion was made at the Feb meeting to establish a policy that districts hosting a state festival will be allowed to retain 10 percent of net profits from the festival. The policy would start with 2011 festival and continue for at least seven years so all districts have a chance to profit. Policy will promote maximizing income and reducing expenses. After discussion the motion was approved.

Finance-Related Resolution: Carl Boone reporting. Carl asked that a resolution be passed that would authorize the establishment of a new insurance bank account and the cashing of a maturing certificate of deposit at the Versailles Bank. Carl made the motion; it was seconded and approved.

National Square Dance Conventions: Carl Boone reporting. At the last Federation meeting, a motion was approved to allow Carl and Cindy to announce Missouri's intent to pursue the 2018 convention in Kansas City. Carl and Cindy made the announcement at the Spokane Convention. A request to allow Missouri to bid a year early was not accepted by the Square Dance Convention Executive Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Youth Committee Funding: Jim Weber made a motion to provide \$400 to the Youth Committee to continue their program. It was seconded and approved.

CLOSE

Tony Ahart recognized the St. Lewis District hosts and the Missouri Promenaders Club that provided the hearty lunch at the meeting. Many board members also attended a great dance the night before.

The next meeting will be hosted by Southwest District following the State Festival and the DOIN's Dance on Sunday, Oct 21, 2012, at 12 noon, at the Cowan Center in Lebanon.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 pm.

Ron and Marie Selfors

Secretary