



Live Lively – Square Dance!

The Missouri Federation of Square 'n Round Dance Clubs
www.SquareDanceMissouri.com

(Approved as corrected October 15, 2023)

MISSOURI FEDERATION OF SQUARE 'N ROUND DANCE CLUBS, INC.

Minutes of July 23, 2023

President Merle Hall called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m., Room 300 of the Kirkwood Community Center.

Invocation: Dave Byers

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Merle Hall

Roll Call: Liz Rooks. Full Quorum was not achieved for the purpose of voting on changes to the Constitution or Standing Rules. (4 Executive Board; 11 District Directors; 4 Staff/Past Presidents).

Thank you to Host District and Club: President Hall thanked the Singles & Doubles from the St. Louis District for hosting the meeting.

Approval of April Minutes: President Hall asked for corrections or additions to the April 16, 2023 minutes.

Dave Byers moved to accept the minutes as amended; motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Rosa Davis reported a beginning checking balance as of 3-31-2023 of \$17,057.69; Revenue of \$1,109.29 and Expenses of \$8,428.29. The ending checking account balance as of 6-30-2023 was \$9,738.58. Total CDs and interest amounted to \$30,868.98 for Total Funds on hand of \$40,607.56. The Treasurer's report will be submitted for audit.

Membership and Club Longevity: Rosa Davis reported we have 42 clubs this year. The Pioneers of Mountain Home, Arkansas is a new club.

There are no Longevity badges to present at this meeting.

Correspondence: Liz Rooks reporting. A Sympathy card was signed to be sent to Nanie Hawkins from the Southeast District.

Boundaries and Relations: Dave Byers. No report.

Constitution and Bylaws: Cathy Hall. July 23, 2023

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Art Kruse and Dave Byers, Committee members

Publications: No report.

DOIN'S Editor: Edythe Weber. Thank you to the club contacts who send articles for each issue. Their job is very important to getting the word out about your club dances; and thanks for being on time!

The next issue deadline is coming right up – August 15th – don't forget you can send early.

Some clubs do not send in articles, so it is imperative that those clubs send me any updates or changes to their dance schedule. If I do not get updates, I do not know about changes, and it could be that your club info in the dance calendar might be wrong. Also, EVERYONE, please notify me of changes in callers, locations, time, etc. if you change something after sending the original schedule, ***especially if you do not send articles.***

If there are questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or anyone on the Doin's staff.

DOIN'S Circulation: Penny Byers. Subscriptions for the DOIN'S this period were 201 paid subscribers, 1 exchange copy, and 16 for staff, historian and post office for a total mailing of 218.

We had 64 electronic subscriptions, 10 renewals, 9 new subscriptions and 12 student copies. We will be sending out 34 postcards to subscribers whose subscriptions will expire with the July-September issue.

Financial report: The balance brought forward was \$100 with a total income of \$285.00 from subscriptions. Expenses of \$78.00. A check for \$ 207.00 was given to the Federation. The ending balance is \$100.00.

DOIN's Advertising: Dave Shafer. We had a balance brought forward of \$100.00. We took in revenue from DOIN'S ads and caller/cuer listings of \$460.00 and no expenses. A check was given to the Federation for \$460.00; leaving a balance of \$100.00.

Promotions: Fred & Carolyn Goucher. No report.

Member Services Committee: Fred & Carolyn Goucher: No report.

State Festival Site Screening: Dave Shafer: No report.

Insurance Coordinator: Edythe Weber. 937 dancers are insured through Missouri Federation and 179 dancers are insured through other federations for a total of 1,116 Missouri dancers in 42 clubs.

Financial Report: Beginning balance as of 4-1-2023, of \$799.66; total income of \$184.00 and no expenses leaving an ending balance on June 30, 2023, of \$ 984.46.

Travel Missouri: Jim Marron: No report.

Blue Bird Coordinator: Penny Byers: No report.

Webmaster: Dan Wheeler: Not in attendance.

Historian: Dan Wheeler: Not in attendance.

License Plate: Catherine McLemore: Since our last state meeting in April, I have received 13 requests for 2-year renewals at \$50 each, plus a \$5 donation.

This changes my checking account balance from \$100 in April to a current \$755.

USDA: Dave Shafer: The annual meeting of the United Square Dancers of America convened at 1:00 p.m. on June 21, 2023 in the Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel, Mobile, Alabama.

Opening Ceremonies from Calling to Order to approving the minutes of the previous annual meeting were conducted.

Dues notices for 2024 will be mailed to affiliates by September 1st.

USDA Visa cards earned \$965.66 for the USDA this past year. The budget for the upcoming year was approved.

Each USDA officer and committee chairperson added to their previously submitted reports that were included in the advance USDA report provided to delegates and officers.

USDA After party on Friday was a big draw. There were 22 squares with all the top callers represented.

The Centennial Award is awarded to active dancers who attain the age of 100. There are three rules to receiving this award. 1. Be 100 years old. 2. Be active in your club. 3. Be a member of your club for a minimum of 5 years. Since 2022, there have been five (5) people added to this list of recipients.

Education and Publications Chairman noted three publications were reviewed and updated at the winter meeting. They are:

IS-012 – Bylaws for Square Dance Clubs, 02-23

IS-010 – Club Incorporation, 02-23

IS-011 – Sample Articles of Incorporation for Square Dance Clubs, 02-23

These publications were available at the national convention.

USA Traveler Program slowed down during the COVID 19 pandemic, but it is rebounding. The program was created to encourage dancers to visit regular club dances, festivals and state or national square dance conventions in all 50 states. Each participant is awarded a badge and bar after visiting at least 12 states (Red bar); 24 states - White bar; 36 states - Blue bar; 48 states - Silver bar; 50 states - Gold bar. No duplication of states is permitted. Participants who visit 49 or 50 states will also be awarded paid admission(s) to the next National Square Dance Convention®.

There were no scholarships awarded this year. We need to promote our scholarship program so our youth have knowledge of it. One Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$2,500.00 is awarded each year to deserving high school seniors or college freshmen who are active square, round, contra or clog dancers, and have a record of volunteer service in square dancing, and/or school, sporting or other social organizations such as church, 4-H, FFA, scouting or similar groups and have outstanding leadership potential and communication skills. Scholarship applications must be received by February 1st.

Forms for the 73rd National Square Dance Convention Showcase® of Ideas are being passed out and several have already been returned. This year's Showcase had 41 tables.

As of this meeting, the USDA Group Nonprofit Exemption Program has fourteen participants. We have added seven new groups this year. It has been decided that groups participating in this program will pay the annual dues of \$50.00 for the first two years, maximizing the group's total investment to \$200.00. In subsequent years, it is only necessary to pay annual dues to the USDA.

Remember that to post to the USDA Facebook page, the post has to have approval from the USDA Social Media Chairman.

The new officers of the USDA were elected. Edythe Weber was reelected to the position of Secretary.

Roslie Mogerman, Dave and Penny Byers and I were the delegates for the Missouri Federation.

ARTS: Edythe Weber: Our annual meeting was held Sunday, June 25, 2023 at 9 a.m. in Mobile, Alabama.

ARTS had two seminars during the convention about the history of ARTS and debuted several short videos made by doctors on the benefits of square dancing. At the meeting on Sunday there was discussion on how to best distribute these free videos to clubs to be used in promotion and marketing square dancing. A number of ways was discussed. Michael Streby, the video project coordinator, is setting several ways up so that people can download them. As soon as everything is ready, I will make sure everyone knows how to get them. I believe that we might be able to set up a link off the Missouri website to download from, but since I'm not a tech-savvy person, I am not sure how all that will work.

The Round Dance After Party that ARTS hosted on Friday night had 5 cuers and about 50 round dancers. They felt it was very well attended.

Our Showcase table did not have much on it, one info page/combo membership application form and the Fact Sheet, so at the meeting a committee was appointed to work on a better display for next year.

District Presidents' Report: Cathy Hall: Four of the five districts were represented (Southwest was absent). The Northeast District talked about the Route 36 Dance hosted by the Peppy Promenaders and Tanglefoot Squares. Dave and Penny Byers, chairmen of both the Square Dance of the Year Committee and the Caller-Cuer Hall of Fame committee reminded the district presidents nominations for both of these awards are due by August 1. They also have a trailer available to use in parades; contact Dave and Penny.

Bob Turner reported for the Southeast District that the Little Dancers are raising money for a square dance float. He also asked if any of the federation clubs are incorporated.

Cathy Hall asked if anyone had the original letter/form from the IRS assigning our federation E.I.N.

All of the districts indicated lessons are being started.

Northwest District has had a second Mainstream Blast Dance and their district dance on August 12.

She also reported the group discussed ways the Promotions Committee could get funds to the clubs to help promote square dancing.

Youth and Children: Connie Graham reported via e-mail read by e-mail: I have done two presentations so far this year. In early spring did a presentation at the Kearney Elementary School for 400 K thru 4 kids and teachers. The students were divided into two groups of about 200 each. This was sponsored by members of the Shooting Stars, however several clubs were represented. We did some demo dancing, a Q and A session and some circle dancing. The kids and teachers were wonderful and really enjoyed themselves. I was really struck by the great questions that the kids asked.

Last month I did a program for a church camp in Moberly. I had again, great assistance from the Little Dixie Squares. We had over 9 squares of kids and teachers in the Middle School age of kids. Wonderful participation and enthusiasm from all who were there.

I have several more programs lined up this fall and winter in Independence: Maysville, Burlington Junction and King City. I will also be contacting groups and schools in the area when the fall semester begins. If anyone has any groups that are interested please contact me at eldon_graham2000@yahoo.com or 660-783-2011.

Mo Fed Scholarship: Bob & Shirley Turner: No report.

2023 State Festival: Carol Hershey: A Committee Meeting is set for August 23 to finalize activities the different committees have been working on for October. I have been working with most of them and I think we are on target.

The dance schedule has been sent to the callers/cuers and is posted on SquareDanceMissouri.com. The Committee tried to balance the levels of dancing, to involve everyone. There will be calling through dinner hour on Saturday for dance and entertainment. The Smoked Chicken dinner will be going on in the back of the hall. If you haven't made your reservations for the dinner, please do so before October 6, so Fred will be able to have food for everyone. Reservations can be made online on the registration form and can be paid by credit card online; or if you catch Liz or some other representative, you can make your reservation.

The program has been setup for Friday and Saturday evenings. Carol Hershey will welcome dancers on Friday evening and Merle Hall will handle the opening ceremony for Saturday evening. The Little Dancers will do a Demo again on Saturday. Dress for these two evenings – square dance attire preferred, but casual is welcome. Friday evening Blue Bird dresses can be worn or whatever dancer wants. Saturday open to dancer.

Make sure your clubs sell the raffle tickets. The prizes are: First Place - \$300, Second Place - \$150 and 3rd Place- \$50. We are working on getting other prizes. The price of the tickets is \$1 each or \$5 for 6 tickets. The club keeps half the money and the other half is turned into the State at the Dance. If you want tickets, Edythe Weber has some she will be glad to give you.

We have received a few ads for the Program book. Districts and clubs can put an ad in the Program Book. We are working on an overhead projector presentation where ads

can be shown during the dances. The form for ads is at SquareDanceMissouri.com on the Festival page. Send your ad to Edythe Weber.

A food truck will be present on Saturday. Vendors: Ma and Pa Engraving will be returning. Clothing vendors in most cases have closed their doors, thus we do NOT have a clothing vendor. The Caller/Cuer Hospitality room Committee has been meeting and is ready. Caller/Cuer Luncheon with pulled pork is ready. We are selling Ice Cream Bars on Friday and Saturday evening at the Corner Café. Water will be available at the Corner Café.

Plaques, etc. for Caller/Cuer Hall of Fame and Square Dancer of the Year will be taken care of by the Byers who are Committee Chairmen of those committees.

As of last week, there were 126 dancers, callers, & cuers registered and reservations for 22 meals.

2024 State Festival: Cathy Hall reporting: The 2024 festival is scheduled for Oct. 18 & 19 with the Doin's Dance on the 20th at the Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia. Ken Burke is the featured caller and Fred & Cathy Fisher the featured Cuers.

Unfinished Business:

Day of Dance: Liz Rooks: Order for tickets and parking passes has been sent to the Fair and will be mailed out around the first of August. An anonymous donation was received to increase the size of the ad for the souvenir booklet from ¼ page to ½ page.

President Hall thanked everyone who attended the National Square Dance Convention® and represented Missouri.

Shirley Winans reported she had sent information to Bob Turner regarding the 18" x 24" yard signs; had one quote for 75 signs @ \$11.75 each. Bob had obtained these 2 quotes: 50 signs for \$11.40 each and 100 signs for \$10.25 each with frames and included shipping.

An additional suggestion was made to check with schools, etc. who might also be able to do the signs; they can usually do them less expensively.

New Business:

Cathy Hall, Constitutions & Bylaws Committee chairman presented proposed Constitutional and Bylaws updates found at the end of these minutes. These will be voted on at our October meeting.

Nominating Committee Report: The Nominating Committee recommends that the current officers serve another term for 2024.

President – Merle & Madeline Hall

1st VP – Dave Shafer

2nd VP – Cathy Hall

Treasurer – Rosa Davis

Secretary – Liz Rooks

Nominating Committee members: Dave & Penny Byers, Fred & Carolyn Goucher, John & Bev Stuart, and Dan Reedy.

Calendar of Events

August 12 – Northwest District Dance

September 30 – Western Twirlers having a 75th Birthday Dance

September 15-16 – Route 36 Dance

The next state board meeting will be October 15, 2023 in Sedalia, Missouri. Northwest District will host.

A motion was made by Penny Byers to adjourn, was seconded, and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Rooks

Secretary

PROPOSED UPDATES TO THE CONSTITUTION

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Art Kruse and Dave Byers, Committee members

First Reading – 7/23/2023

Second Reading – 10/10/2023

CURRENT

Throughout the Constitution, there are six (6) references to the annual Missouri State Festival.

PROPOSED

To better align with standard terminology in use throughout square and round dance, the committee proposes to change the name of the Missouri State Festival to the Missouri State Convention. This aligns with dance terms in use in other states and better describes the nature of the dance.

There are 6 terminology changes to be made to the Constitution to replace the term “festival” with the term “convention”.

Only terminology is changing, no other changes are included with this proposal

July 23, 2023

PROPOSED UPDATES TO THE STANDING RULES
Missouri Federation of Square ‘N Round Dance Clubs, Inc.

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CURRENT

Throughout the Standing Rules, there are multiple references to the annual Missouri State Festival.

PROPOSED

To better align with standard terminology in use throughout square and round dance, the committee proposes to change the name of the Missouri State Festival to the Missouri State Convention. This aligns with dance terms in use in other states and better describes the nature of the dance.

There are 113 terminology changes to be made to the Standing Rules to replace the term “festival” with the term “convention”.

Only terminology is changing, no other changes to rules are included with this proposal. This terminology change is effective 10/15/2023 when the constitution changes will take effect (after a second reading).