



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. St. Louis, Missouri - August 20, 2006

Place: Kirkwood Community Center, 111 S. Geyer Rd., Kirkwood, MO
Host: St. Louis District
Time: 12:07 PM
Call to Order: President David Shafer
Invocation: Bettyrae Fluke
Pledge of Allegiance: Dave Shafer
MO Pledge of Allegiance: Bettyrae Fluke
Roll Call: Secretary, Vicki Wittman

(49 people in attendance)

Introduction of Guests: Joan Frericks, Past President of Mo. Federation and Eileen Kruse, the "Mother of Square Dancing" in the St. Louis District.

Approval of June 11, 2006 minutes: The minutes were approved as written with the following corrections: Under 2006 State Festival, (page 5) the name of the Center in Sedalia is the Mathewson Center.

Under Calendar of Events (page 6) the Twilight Twirlers are in the Central District.

Treasurer's Report: Mary Sue Darwent. Mary Sue reported a beginning balance of \$6,155.18. Income July/August of \$3,599.04 Expenses July/August of \$9,024.26. Balance on hand August 20 of \$5,205.15. \$14,000.00 in CD Investments. Total funds available \$19,205.15. Mary Sue stated she got a confirmation from the bank on the CD's and there are \$14,000 in CD's and not \$19,000 as reported on last month's report. A \$5,000 CD was cashed in at an earlier date.

Correspondence: Secretary Vicki Wittman said "Get Well" cards are being sent to Bill Morris, Bob Turner and Bob Welch.

Committee Reports

Boundaries and Relations: Jim and Eloise Riley. No report. **Constitution and Bylaws:** J. W England. No report.

License Plate: Doyle Collins reported the following: Balance on hand as of June 10 was \$217.61.

No income or expenses in July/August. Cashiers check to close account for \$217.61 was given to Missouri Federation Treasurer. Doyle requested a letter be sent to him stating he was officially relieved of the duties of Chairman of the License Plate Committee. President Dave Shafer will send letter as per requested.

J. W. and Jan England, License Plate Chairman, reported the following: As of August 20, income was \$200.00; refunds totaled \$80.00, with a balance on hand of \$120.00.

J. W. presented a promotion memo to the membership asking them to consider purchasing a special square dance license plate.

Membership: Mary Sue Darwent said the Central District has 11 clubs that have paid dues with 386 members. The Northeast District has 8 clubs with 316 members, Northwest District has 24 clubs with 719 members, St. Louis District has 19 clubs with 955 members, Southeast District has 4 clubs with 92 members, Southwest District has 28 clubs with 1217 members and the West Central District has 14 clubs with 159 members giving the Federation a total of 108 clubs and 3,844 members.

Promotions: Tony and Cindy Ahart. Tony reported that at some club dances a problem exists when attendees are talking during announcements, causing others to not be able to hear them. Also, the use of cell phone numbers on flyers next to the contact person's name should be considered. If a person tries to reach a home phone contact number during dance time, that person is usually at the dance and not at home. He sold 180 pins and will hand over the money later. He attended seminars in San Antonio. One was on the subject of "attire" at dances and demos. It was reported that when doing demos, callers should do easy level calls and dancers should wear less formal attire. It would be good if two couples wore street clothes and two couples wore square dance attire. People watching tend to think that square dance attire means the dancers are professionals and hesitate entering a square for fear they will not do well.

Club Longevity Report: Mary Sue Darwent. Awards will go to the Aurora Grand Squares in the Southwest District for 25 years. Also awards go to the West County Spinners for 25 years, Ladies Mainstream for 25 years and Melody Squares for 50 years. These three are all in the St. Louis District.

Site Screening: Jim Marron stated that the committee looked at the South Valley Junior High and the South Valley Middle School which are almost connected. The site looks very promising with 5 dance halls. Further communication with the school district is needed to establish cost and to work out details. This site is being considered for the Northwest District 2009 Missouri State Festival in Liberty, Missouri.

USDA report: Jim and Edythe Weber. Edythe gave the following report.

1. The Annual meeting was held June 21st at the Menger Hotel at 1:00 p.m. in San Antonio, Texas. As usual, Missouri had the largest contingent of people in attendance very close to the first row. We hope you all enjoyed the cake and punch at break time celebrating the 25th anniversary of USDA.
2. As has been mentioned, USDA is working toward establishing a new credit card program. We will keep you updated as we get more information.
3. Continue to use and support the discount prescription drug card. It will save you money. My daughter is between insurance companies because her husband recently changed jobs. Her son takes medication for ADHD. Without any insurance, it costs \$130 each time she fills the prescription. With the USDA card she saved \$36 and only paid \$94.
4. The long term care program is slowly getting started. There are so many choices when it comes to insurance. Be sure to check the USDA program out if long term care is something you are interested in.
5. We would like to request a 6' table for a USDA display of educational materials at the State Festival. Dave Marti, Festival Chairman, said they may have the table.

Edythe read a letter from USDA regarding the Credit Card Program. ... "At the annual USDA Board of Directors meeting, a motion was approved to request lists of dancers from their affiliates and other groups. The lists will only be used to obtain a replacement Credit Card Marketing Program. The privacy of our members is of utmost concern, and these lists will not be marketed for other purposes as per our contract with the financial institution marketing the credit card program. The member lists will remain the sole property of the USDA"...

Jim Weber made a motion to participate in the USDA program by supplying a membership list. The motion was seconded and passed. A form must be completed and sent to USDA by September 15th stating we will participate in the program. However, a list of names is not requested until January 1, 2007. Jim and Edythe Weber volunteered to set up the membership list.

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

1. Check out the ARTS website www.arts-dance.org for the continued updates on progress in working toward the common goal of increasing the numbers of dancers in our hobby.
2. We have T-shirts, ball caps, magnetic bumper stickers and lapel pins for sale. We would like to request a small table or space at the State Festival for these items as well as brochures and flyers about the ARTS. Dave Marti, Festival Chairman, said they may have the table.
3. We continue to see competitive pricing on the travel website. 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.

Publications: Bill and Carol Morris could not attend the meeting as Bill was confined to the hospital. The publications committee met and made the following motion. All names of new subscribers to the DOIN's during the festival (Friday night, Saturday and Sunday morning) will be placed in a hat. One name will be drawn and that person/couple will be awarded a courtesy pass to the 2007 Missouri State Festival. The drawing will take place on Sunday morning at approximately 11:15 AM. An ad will be placed in the DOIN's alerting everyone to this drawing. The motion carried.

Insurance: Dave and Barbara Turner. Dave reported the beginning balance on June 1, 2006 was \$115.26. Income for June was \$61.40. Expenses for June were \$61.00, Income for July was \$24.60; expenses for July were \$24.00. Ending balance on July 31, 2006 was \$116.26. Dave said the insurance records need to be audited. Jim Weber said he will get them to the auditors, Bob and Paula Bradford.

Dave Turner stated that the bill for copies to send every club an insurance packet cost \$130.00 last year. He suggested the insurance forms only be sent to the 70 clubs that subscribe to the insurance. Jim Weber suggested that a letter be sent to the rest of the clubs stating that it was time to subscribe to the insurance program and if interested they can contact Dave Turner for a packet. Dave said the cost of the insurance for 2007 will remain the same.

Historian: Linda and Doyle Collins. No report.

Blue Bird: Connie Hobbs reported cash on hand as of June 10 \$97.86. Income: sold 4 sets of bluebirds @ \$4.50 each = \$18.00, sold 3 sets of braid @ 4.50 each = \$13.50. Total income was \$31.50. Cash on hand as of August 20, \$129.36. Total bluebirds on hand - 52 sets plus 16 yards of braid.

Member Services: Ed and Sheryl Schofield. No Report.

Travel Missouri: Ed and Sheryl Schofield. Ed reported (as of August 20) there are 168 dancers participating and the Dangle total is 1306. There are no new people so this figure is the same as last report. Central has 210, Northeast has 135, Northwest has 148, St. Louis has 128, Southeast has 152, Southwest has 175, and West Central has 174. There are 168 dancers working on the 1st set, 48 working on the 2nd set, 16 working on the 3rd set and 6 working on the 4th set. Ed said they attended the Kansas State Festival and many people were interested in the program, along with some people from Nebraska.

Square Dancer of the Year: Jim Downey. Jim reported a couple has been selected for this honor and we will find out who it is at the festival in October.

Caller/Cuer Hall of Fame: Edythe Weber stated that the committee consisted of Jim and herself, as Chairman, Larry and Sharon Crisel, Carolyn Herren, John and Eleanor Stover and Marvin and Bettyrae Fluke. They met over supper Saturday evening, August 19, and reviewed the nominees for the 2006 award. Van and Elfreide Greenwood could not attend the meeting. The decision was a difficult one even though there were only three nominees. Discussion followed as to the reason only three nominations were received - mainly because 15 callers have already received this award. Also some of our callers have not called for 20 years yet or do not qualify because they have not called five out of the most recent ten years at the State Festival. The announcement of the recipient will be made at the Saturday evening program of the State Festival in Sedalia.

District Presidents Report: Carolyn Herren. The main topic of discussion was the Raiding and Retrieving Rules used by the St. Louis District to get clubs to visit each other. Each club has a banner and these banners are given to the club with the most members in attendance, and then the host club must retrieve their banner with 8 dancers. After visiting every club (20 clubs) in the district twice, the club is allowed to host a We-Done-It Dance. There is no time limit on accomplishing a We-Done-It.

Doin's Report

Editor: Jim and Edythe Weber. Edythe gave report. Please send articles early. Don't wait until the 28th to send them. Right now everything seems to be going smoothly except for the few who continue to send their articles at the last minute or late. Remember - no paid advertising or listing of dances in the DOIN's Dance Calendar for dances being held October 13 or 14, the days of the State Festival. You may talk about it in your article. As always, we would like to encourage subscribing to the DOIN'S by all dancers. Don't be one of those club members who just visits where they are told to go. You can't imagine what you are missing. If your club would like to have someone from the Publications Committee or the DOIN's staff host a table at your club dance or a special dance you are having, please contact us and we will see what can be worked out.

Circulation: Annette and Terry Thornhill. Annette stated the beginning balance 5/31/06 was \$100.00. Income for June/July/August \$1,329.00. Expenses June/July/August \$64.18. Check #1015 was sent to the Missouri Federation for \$1,264.82. Ending balance 8/20/06 \$100.00. Petty Cash \$6.00. Balance carried forward Columbia Post Office for postage due \$20.80. 699 DOIN's will be sent in September.

Advertising: Dave and Dee Shafer. Dave gave the following report. Balance brought forward June 11, 2006, \$100.00. Income was \$494.00, Expenses \$11.01. Check to the Missouri Federation for \$382.99 leaving a balance on hand as of August 20, 2006 of \$100.00.

Unfinished Business

2006 State Festival: Dave and Mary Lou Marti. Dave has a new e-mail. It is ddmmlm@hotmail.com. Dave Turner has the information to request insurance coverage for the State Festival. There will be a KATY TRAIL "IN" DANCE on Thursday, October 12 at the Mathewson Center at the State Fairgrounds in Sedalia. Casual Attire-Red Shirts requested, \$5.00 a person donation, time 7:30 til —. Send flyers for the "Goody Bag" to Dave by September 1st. The Chamber of Commerce is stuffing the bags. There is plenty of seating in the halls, vendors will be on dance level, and there is a concession stand.

There is a quilt raffle and a money raffle. The quilt won a red ribbon at the State Fair.

Ed Schofield said there will be a "Wall of Honor" to remember those people who are presently or have served their country in the military service. All square dancers are invited to post a photo of any loved one or friend so that they may be remembered and honored during the festival. If a photo is not available, then their name may be listed. The display will be centered around a U.S. flag that was with some of our troops for 18 months in Iraq. If you shake it, it will still provide you with some Iraqi sand and dust.

There was a discussion on the large number of officers from adjoining states who are usually invited free to the festival. The Bylaws should be studied to adjust changes to this policy. (See page 15 of Bylaws, section 9).

Dave asked about organizations needing tables at the Festival. Many responded- USDA, DOIN'S, St. Louis #2 table to split with Dave Shafer, Wichita 5 tables, Caller-Cuer & Square Dancer of the Year, Historian, Showcase of Ideas, & several more.

2007 State Festival: Mark and Rosalee Mortensen. Mark said the festival will be in Lebanon on October 19-21. Each club should designate one or two club callers and these callers will be asked to call at the State Festival. Mark said they have T-Shirts, and will have a quilt and money raffle. He made a motion, which was seconded, for \$2,500.00 for start-up expenses. Motion passed.

Audit Committee: Bob and Paula Bradford. No report.

2009 Caller/Cuer Nominees. Barbara and Dave Turner. Barb reported there is a signed contract from Jerry Junck to call at the 2009 state festival for \$750.00.

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

New Business

Jim and Edythe Weber presented Carolyn Herren with a "Circle of Service" Award.

Dave Shafer reported there will be an Educational Seminar for the Missouri Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (MOAHPERD) at Lodge of the Four Seasons on November 11. There will be a one-hour workshop on how to teach students. The plan is to help teachers have the most current materials and methods to teach square dancing in the school districts. The California book with a CD and instructions on every call will be changed to reflect a Missouri contact. The music is very upbeat. It is very important to promote square dancing to young people.

Dave has been in contact with Joan Zeller, the coordinator of Operation: Military Kids for Missouri 4-H. Seventeen organizations are State Partners in this program, one of which is the American Legion. She works actively with programs to help children of deployed serviceman. Operation: Military Kids may be interested in helping introduce square dancing to the youth in the program.

Dave Shafer appointed Sharon Crisel as chairman of an Ad Hoc Committee pertaining to children and youth programs. Sharon is a former school teacher.

Dave appointed Jim Weber as chairman of an Ad Hoc Committee to design an information tree which will help to disseminate information from the state level to the district level to the club level and then to the members level.

Mark Mortensen, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee to work on setting up guidelines for hosting a state festival, reported that they were looking through past Festival reports and books to assist in preparing this guideline book.

Square Dance attire was mentioned and Eileen Kruse said that in 1948 when she started dancing, the dresses went all the way to the floor. Mark Mortensen said it was in 1956-1960 that the short full skirts with petticoats appeared. Now, prairie skirts are in style.

Calendar Of Events

Katy Trail "In" Dance, Thursday, October 12, Time 7:30 p.m., Mathewson Center, Sedalia, casual dress (red shirts requested), \$5.00 donation.

Mark Mortensen reported that 301 dancers attended the Twilight Twirlers dance on July 15. There were approximately 16 young people dancing.

The next state meeting will be on October 15, 2006 at the Hotel Bothwell in Sedalia in the Ballroom. The West Central District will host the meeting. The meeting will start at 1:00 PM.

Recognition of Hosts:

Thanks to the St. Louis District for hosting the August dance and meeting. Hosts for the dance and meeting were Carolyn Herren, Dave and Barb Turner, Chuck and Linda Evans and Ray and Vicki Wittman.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

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