



Live Lively – Square Dance!

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

(Approved as Corrected October 20, 2024)

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

Minutes of July 14, 2024

President Merle Hall called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon at the VFW Hall in Puxico, Missouri.

Invocation: Given by Merle Hall

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Led by Larry Crisel

Roll Call: Liz Rooks. Full Quorum achieved: (5 Executive Board; 12 District Directors; 4 Staff/Past Presidents) and two others.

Thank you to the Southeast District for hosting the meeting. Bonnie Luce and Jim and Donna Barks were guests and also helped as hosts.

Approval of April 14, 2024 Minutes: President Hall asked for corrections or additions to the April 14, 2024 minutes.

Art Kruse moved to accept the minutes as corrected; motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Rosa Davis reported a beginning checking balance as of April 1, 2024 \$8,631.77. Revenue for this quarter of \$1,661.06 and Expenses of \$4,676.13. The ending checking account balance June 30, 2024 \$5,666.70. Total CDs plus interest \$41,717.46 for Total Funds on hand of \$47,384.16. The Treasurer's report will be submitted for audit.

Membership and Club Longevity: Rosa Davis reporting: 41 clubs this year.

Longevity awards were/will be awarded to Travelers (Central District) for 70 years in September and Kountry Kuzins (SW District) 55 years in August.

Correspondence: Liz Rooks reporting. Thinking of You Vicki Wittman was signed and will be sent to her.

Boundaries and Relations: Dave Byers reporting: No report

Constitution and Bylaws: Cathy Hall reporting: Suggesting in the Standing Rules Article XI, Section 4 Appointive Standing Committees, Section C1 to have the chairman of this committee be appointed by the president rather than being one of the 2nd vice president's responsibilities.

Also suggesting the deadline for submitting nominees for the Caller-Cuer of the Year and Square Dancer of the Year awards be changed to July 1 from August 1.

Both of these items will be discussed in the New Business part of the meeting.

Publications: Chris Shoemaker reporting: Edythe Weber reported in his absence the committee had met and discussed two items: 1) The committee's responsibilities in relation to the Doin's Dance and 2) how to get more clubs to be 100% clubs Doin's subscribers.

DOIN'S Editor: Edythe Weber reporting. Thank you to the dancers who write the articles for your clubs for each issue. Your job is very important in getting the word out about your club dances. And thanks for being on time! One small thing - in the coming year, I am going to pay closer attention to the word count – 150-200 words. No more.

The next deadline is August 15 for the October-December issue. It does not seem possible that 2024 is moving right along!

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

The next **BIG** deadline for the magazine and clubs is November 15 – please start sending your 2025 dance schedules as they are planned.

DOIN'S Circulation: Penny Byers reporting. Paid subscriptions 220, exchange copies 1, and 15 for staff, historian and post office for a total mailing of 236 for July – September mailing. We had 85 electronic subscriptions, 19 renewals, 8 new subscriptions and 16 student copies. We will be sending out 31 postcards to subscribers whose subscriptions expired with the July-September issue.

Financial report: The balance brought forward was \$100 with a total income of \$410.00 from subscriptions and a donation. There were no expenses for this period. A check for \$410.00 was given to the Federation. The ending balance on June 30 \$100.00.

DOIN's Advertising: Crystle Swager reporting. We had a balance brought forward of \$100.00. We took in revenue from DOIN'S ads of \$335.00 and there were no expenses. A check was given to the Federation for \$335.00; leaving a balance of \$100.00.

Promotions: Fred & Carolyn Goucher reporting via e-mail: No report

Member Services Committee: Fred & Carolyn Goucher reporting via e-mail: No report.

State Festival Site Screening: Dave Shafer reporting via e-mail: No report

Insurance Coordinator: Edythe Weber reporting. 881 dancers are insured through Missouri Federation and 177 dancers are insured through other federations for a total of 1,058 Missouri dancers in 41 clubs.

- *Thank you to the club insurance people who continue to enroll dancers for your club. Thanks for your hard work.*
- **The 2024 Insurance premium is \$5.50 per dancer. This premium covers members that join your club that do not have insurance anywhere else. There is no pro-rating insurance premiums.**
- Do not make checks out to “Edythe Weber”, make them out to “Missouri Insurance”.
- **Important:** If you need to communicate with me about insurance, PLEASE use the Missouri Federation Insurance email at moinsurance@kc.rr.com . Do not send insurance info or email questions to the Doin’s email address. It just delays communication.
- Please contact me first to get answers about insurance before going around me to Elizabeth Sanders, the USDA coordinator. If I don’t know the answer, I will contact her. 95% of the time it’s a quick answer.
- You should never delete a dancer from your roster after initial enrollment, even if they move or pass away.
- Remember to send me a roster of lesson names. There is no charge until they graduate.
- If you need additional information or have questions, please contact me. If I do not know the answer, I know who to contact to get it.

Financial Report: Beginning balance April 1: 2024 \$221.21; total income of \$21.50 and no expenses leaving an ending balance as of June 30, 2024 of \$242.71.

Travel Missouri: Debbie Moffitt reporting: 100 Dangles for the Doin’s Dance were ordered and received. During this last quarter, I sent 3 dangles to the Northeast District, 15 to the Southwest District and 3 dancers received bars for their dangles.

Financial Report: Balance on hand as of April 1, 2024 of \$67.38; income \$16.00; expenses \$50.00 leaving a balance on hand June 30, 2024 of \$33.38.

Blue Bird Coordinator: Penny Byers reporting: I am still out of kits; more kits are not available until school is back in session. Two of these kits are already spoken for.

Balance on hand April 1, 2024 \$80.00; no income or expenses for this period. Balance on Hand June 30, 2024 \$80.00.

Webmaster: Dan Wheeler reporting: The website received just under 3,000 hits in July. We have had over 14,000 hits so far this year.

I don't usually post lessons on the dance Schedule pages, but St. Louis District sends me a schedule showing when lessons & workshops will be, so I post them. The reason I usually don't post lessons is that I usually know when they start, but I rarely know when they will end. I also rarely know if there will be lessons on lesson days close to holidays. If you will include that information in your lesson information or flyer, I will add your lessons to the schedule pages as well as the lesson page.

Historian: Dan Wheeler reporting: No report.

License Plate: Catherine McLemore reporting: Beginning balance on hand April 1, 2024 \$150.00; renewals received (two 1-yr renewals and three 2-year renewals) \$200.00; balance on hand June 30, 2024 \$350.00.

Expecting at least 11 more renewal requests based on the 2022 records.

USDA Report: Edythe Weber reporting: The USDA Annual Board of Directors meeting was held Wednesday, June 26 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin during the National Square Dance Convention. Our delegates, Dave, Penny, and Debbie will give a summary.

If you know of a dancer that is marking their 100th birthday, please check out the Centennial Award. Get them recognized by USDA.

If you know of a high school senior or a freshman in college in your square dance world, please make them aware of the \$2,500 youth scholarship. Deadline is February 1, 2025. They have 6 months to look it over and get all the paperwork done and submitted.

Although I am no longer secretary, I am still on several committees. USDA's next meeting will be the Winter Meeting in Tucson, Arizona, January 16-19, 2025.

Delegates report from Penny Byers: David Byers, Penny Byers and Debbie Moffitt were the 3 Delegates that represented Missouri Federation of Square 'n Round Dance Clubs at the Annual Board of Directors meeting held Wednesday, June 26, 2024, 1:00pm at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center Hotel in Milwaukee Wisconsin in the Crystal Ballroom.

Meeting was called to order at 1:02pm. Invocation and Pledge was said. Guests that gave us a warm welcome included the NEC (National Executive Committee) President & VP, General Chair of the Milwaukee, Shreveport and Texas Conventions and Teresa Berger, on behalf of CALLERLAB.

Roll Call was taken. 18 delegates required for a quorum; we had 26 present.

Several clubs have turned in applications for Associate USDA Membership. One organization from Arizona applied for Affiliate membership. Clubs from KY, MI, GA, AZ, 2 in CO, CA & OK. Voted to accept them as members.

A donation of \$5,000 was received from a private donor for the Youth Scholarship.

Parliamentarian talked about a change in the Bylaws & Standing Rules, but it was just an administrative clean up. USDA online magazine is a great publication to place ads for dances in. Handicapable Dancers would like help starting more clubs in different areas.

Kaylia Avila, from Independence OR, is the winner of the Youth Scholarship of \$2,500. She is a Square Dancer & Round Dancer, a member of 2 clubs and loves several other kinds of dancing. See the letter from Kaylia that is included at the bottom of the minutes). They are always looking for donations for the Scholarship. They received \$1,000 from various groups in Wisconsin this year.

Centennial award was given to 2 members this year. They now have over 30 members. (Criteria – 100+ yrs young & still involved in square dancing)

USDA News publication is only \$6 per year. It comes out quarterly. They have all state & regional conventions in it for the next 9 months.

The USDA After Party was Friday night with 40 callers in the Live Band Hall.

Join the USDA Facebook page. They have to approve anything that gets posted because of hackers.

Edythe Weber was recognized for 30 yrs of service!!

Officers elected & installed: President Ellery & Karen Gulbrand, Eastern Region VP is open, Central Region VP Scott & Sandy Ebright, Plains Region VP Mark & Bina Krebsbach, Western Region VP Nina Grigsby, Secretary Marilyn Schmit, Treasurer Jim & Judy Taylor.

There were several Education Seminars offered.

ARTS: Edythe Weber reporting: The ARTS annual meeting was held Sunday, June 30 in Milwaukee following the Nationals.

The educational seminars done in Milwaukee were well attended.

Those short videos made by doctors on the benefits of square dancing are up online and available to use. https://www.arts-dance.org/Promotion_Videos.php. The sixth video was premiered during one of the two seminars. Michael Streby is planning another series so watch for them.

Dan has a link on the Missouri Federation home page. Just click and watch. They are well done and useful to recruit new dancers. And they are FREE.

District Presidents' Report: Bob Turner reporting: Did have some discussion about the Doin's and more will come on that in New Business.

St. Louis Annual Benefit dance is the afternoon of November 3; Southwest District is moving its Doin's Dance to the Sunday following the Superbowl game; Northeast District has 2 clubs sponsoring the Route 36 Dance weekend in September and also announced a benefit dance for Joe Saltel on August 30 in Cameron, Missouri that is being coordinated by the Stewartsville Cut-ups. Northwest District Dance is August 10.

Youth and Children's: Connie Graham reporting via e-mail: In the last several months I have done dance parties in Smithville, Holt, Atlanta and the local library in Stanberry. I am scheduled to do one in Troy MO next month and then my FFA season will start. I have had great attendance and much enthusiasm.

Mo Fed Scholarship: Bob Turner reporting: Maren Benz of Raymore-Peculiar High school in the Kansas City area is the recipient of this year's scholarship. Have a nice picture of her for the website and the Doin's.

2024 State Festival: Cathy Hall reporting:

Bank balance as of June 30 - \$8,898.72

Received \$3000 from Wallace Foundation and \$500 from City of Sedalia

Thank you to Dave Byers and Liz Rooks for working to get these funds.

Registrations: Paid- 130; Free caller/cuer/partner - 30; Total registrations - 160.

T-shirts:

Total ordered - 160; 80 remaining in inventory; purchase cost has been covered by sales; future sales are total profit. Anticipated profit to be around \$1000

Local callers/cuers

All slots are full, will be hard to schedule everyone

10-minute slots like last year, similar schedule to last year

19 signed up to call/cue *including* 3 groups - Mink Ladies, & SH3, & duo with both groups

No response from 9 who called/cued last year (had 19 individuals last year)

3 cuers plus 2 want to do lines

Raffle Tickets

1st=\$300; 2nd=\$150; 3rd=\$50 Do not need to be present to win

Clubs keep 50% of the ticket sales

Clubs could purchase some tickets and if they win would go into their treasury

Have few extra packets of tickets available today

Turn money into Carol Kilzer at festival or mail prior to festival

Resale shop and Silent Auction - Kruse & Kilzer

Bring clothing Friday, pick up Saturday after 5 or will be donated to thrift stores

Food

No catered meals; will have ice cream for sure and working on having pre-packaged snack foods available Saturday afternoon; water dispensers and cups will be available, bring your own water bottles.

Deadlines – all forms on the website

Dancer of the Year – August 1st; send to Carol Hershey
Program book ads - August 15th; send to Cathy Hall
Memorial Recognition – Sept. 1st; send to Cathy Hall
Caller/Cuer Hall of Fame – past date; see Dave Byers

Advertising

Push with your clubs

Ad boards were passed out at last meeting to be displayed at dances; being used???

Push t-shirt sales; they are nice to wear for years because no date flashing “old”

Was prominent at the Showcase of Ideas at Nationals

Halls going to HASSDA in AR in 2 weeks to promote

Halls will try to get to more dances around state with shirts available

2025 State Festival: Nanie Hawkins, Festival Chairman reporting: The colors, theme and caller and cuer are set; the dance is October 10 -12, 2025.

Special Funds: Art Kruse reporting: A caller has requested assistance with the cost of attending Caller School; this will be discussed under New Business.

Unfinished Business:

Facebook Report - Karen Israel reporting for Carol Hershey: A committee was appointed at the April 21st meeting to make a Facebook page for the Missouri Federation. Carol Hershey volunteered to Chair the Committee. Karen Israel, Liz Rooks and Merle Hall are also on the committee.

A Facebook page was set up separate from my personal account. It has its own identity, email WeSquareDanceMO@yahoo.com and my phone number which can be changed. This account can be handed over to anyone very easily without having to remove it from my account. The WeSquareDanceMissouri.com website is referenced on the page.

The page has been up and running since April and has had postings daily on clubs and events happening in the state of Missouri. Postings are made of any dance event in the state of Missouri whether it is a member of the Missouri Federation or not. Also, Festivals and Special dances from other surrounding state have had posted flyers. It was felt by the committee that the page was to increase interest in dancing anywhere, not just Federation clubs

If anyone has a flyer or wants to pass on a message, if you have a Facebook page and post it from your club page, I will pick it up as I run through the clubs looking for their Facebook page and friending them. You can also go to @Missouri Federation of Square 'n Round Dance Clubs and it will come into the feed on Facebook. You can always message or send me an email. We want to get as much information about what is happening in the state of Missouri as possible

All suggestions are welcome as Facebook is a growing page and we want it used in the best manner to promote dancing.

Missouri Federation of Square 'n Round Dance Clubs' Facebook Purpose

1. To promote and stimulate interest in square dancing as a recreational activity of the highest standard.
2. To provide clubs with promotional assistance.
3. To maintain communications with clubs, dancers, callers, and cuers within the square dance community.
4. This page will support square, round, line and contra in Missouri whether they belong to the federation or not; and other states which belong to the Federation. (There are Missouri Federation clubs which are not in the State of Missouri, which need to be supported)
5. Support dance demonstrations and special dance events within the state.
6. Support states that surround the state of Missouri by posting special dances.
7. Support the Missouri Federation of Square n' Round Dance Clubs website (WeSquareDanceMissouri.com).

New Business:

Nominating Committee – Penny Byers reporting: President – Dave Shafer, 1st Vice-president – Cathy Hall; 2nd Vice-president – Art Kruse; Secretary – Liz Rooks; Treasurer – Rosa Davis. This slate will be voted on at the October meeting.

Cathy Hall presented the request received by the Special Funds Committee from a caller who requested assistance covering his expenses of \$274.38 for attendance at Caller School; these expenses were documented by his receipts.

David Israel made the motion to approve this request; motion seconded and approved.

Cathy Hall proposed two changes to the Standing Rules:

Article XI, Section 4 Appointive Standing Committees, Section C1,

Current Wording: The 2nd Vice President shall be the chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

Recommended Wording: The chairman of the Bylaws Committee shall be appointed by the president of the Federation.

Following discussion, Liz Rooks made the motion to table this matter until the October meeting when the committee would come back with a written proposal after considering the comments from this meeting; motion seconded and carried.

The second change was concerning changing the date nominations are due for Caller-Cuer Hall of Fame and Square Dancer Hall of Fame from August 1 as stated in the current standing rules in Article IX, Section 5 – Selection of Caller-Cuer Hall of Fame Nominee and Article X, Section 3 – Selection of Square Dancer of the Year to July 1.

After discussion, Crystle Swager made the motion to keep the due date of these submissions as August 1; motion was seconded and approved.

Bob Turner stated he felt it was time to review the appropriateness of the criteria for awarding the Mo Fed Scholarship.

After discussion, President Hall appointed Bob Turner, Carol Morris, Nanie Hawkins, Crystle Swager, and Dan Reedy to conduct this review and come back to the October meeting with a proposal.

Edythe Weber reminded everyone two flyers were posted online regarding workshops (one in St. Louis and one in Independence) on Parliamentary Procedure that are open for people to attend.

Cathy Hall complimented Dave & Penny Byers on the great job they did with the Showcase of Ideas at the National Convention in June.

Cathy Hall gave everyone a small card from the Showcase of Ideas with a QR code on one side and website site address printed on the other side where individuals can find information about square dancing. These cards are an excellent way to help promote square dancing.

The next state board meeting will be Sunday, October 20 in Sedalia, Missouri hosted by the St. Louis District.

Edythe Weber mentioned the national convention in Shreveport will be the last one with the traditional Showcase of Ideas; beginning with the national convention in Waco, there will be another way for groups and states to have information available regarding their square dance activities.

Dan Weber reminded everyone there are a number of QR codes for a number of pages on the website and if anyone wants a QR code for a flyer or other purpose to contact him.

A motion was made by James Shaw to adjourn, motion was seconded, and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Rooks
Secretary

Kaylia Avila
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503-480-5225
Justsaynototurkeyjerky@gmail.com

Hi, my name is Kaylia Avila. I was born and raised in Oregon's Willamette Valley with my parents. I have been homeschooled since middle school through various co-ops.

I've been Square Dancing for a year and a half and Round Dancing for a year. I am a member of two clubs; Salem Swingin' Stars and Silver City Squares. Currently, I dance both at the mainstream level and plus level. I have also recently learned two-step, waltz, cha cha, rumba, and slow two-step. During the 2024 Mid-Winter Square Dance Festival, my friends and I were able to participate in a Phase 4 Cha Cha Showcase. I had my first opportunity in competing at the Pacific Northwest Teen Square Dance Festival through Silver City Squares with all my friends this year. I found that I love competing! I won 1st Place in Novice Cueing, 2nd Place in Novice Rounds with my dance partner, Sophia, 3rd Place with my Junior (Mainstream) Square, and 3rd Place with my Senior (Plus) Square.

Outside of square dancing activities, I also enjoy: English Country Dancing, Line Dancing, archery, hunting, watching movies (the old westerns are my favorites), hanging out with friends and family, and spending time on my grandparents' property. I love chickens and turkeys (yes, turkeys), since I have helped raise them with my grandparents for years. I have two dogs: Olive, a Chihuahua, who loves to sleep and Archer, a Sheltie who loves fetch, agility, and snuggles.

Before ageing out, I used to be involved in 4-H shooting sports where I participated in rifle, pistol, and archery. I was chosen to be one of the spokespeople in the Toxophilite Archery Group for an interview with a reporter from the Polk County Itemizer Observer. After this, my friends and I qualified for the Oregon State Archery Competition. I participated in the Polk County Archery Shootout, winning the 2023 Champion Senior in Compound Bow and the 2023 Overall High Score Champion.