



*Live Lively – Square Dance!*

## ***The Missouri Federation of Square 'n Round Dance Clubs***

[www.SquareDanceMissouri.com](http://www.SquareDanceMissouri.com)

(Subject to Board approval)

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

Minutes of April 13, 2025

President Dave Shafer called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. at the Lambert Building in Laclede, Missouri.

**Invocation:** Dave Byers

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag:** President Shafer

**Roll Call:** Liz Rooks. Full Quorum was achieved. (6 Executive Board; 12 District Directors; 7 Staff/Past Presidents).

Thank you to Host District and Club: President Shafer thanked the Tanglefoot Squares of the Northeast District for hosting the meeting.

These guests were introduced: Brad and Vicky Bryant, Gary Spencer, Kenny and Debbie Bailey, Peggy and David Cassidy, and Roslie Mogerman.

**Approval of January 19, 2025, Minutes:** President Shafer asked for corrections or additions to the January 19, 2025 minutes.

Madeline Hall moved to accept the minutes as corrected; motion was seconded and carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Rosa Davis reported a beginning checking balance as of January 1, 2025, \$9,290.74. Revenue January through March 2025 \$3,492.79 and Expenses January through March 2025, \$2,740.28. The ending checking account balance as of March 31, 2025 \$10,043.25. Total CDs and interest \$42,750.00 for Total Funds on hand of \$52,793.25. The Treasurer's report will be submitted for audit.

Two CDs matured during the past three months and were redeemed and re-invested. Old Missouri Bank had an interest rate of \$4.65% APY which was better than previously available so two 7-month CDs were purchased there. There is another one maturing in May and the options available at that time will be considered.

Lee Gavitt expressed concern regarding the fact as a nonprofit and tax exempt organization we are carrying a large balance in reserved funds and suggested we need

to look at how much we actually need to operate on a yearly basis to see if that large of a balance is needed or if we could use some of it in ways to promote square dancing.

Additionally, a scholarship donation in the amount of \$151.50 (which is included in the above treasurer's report) was received from the Cross Trailers Square Dance Club to the Missouri Federation Scholarship. Rosa asked if we want to consider this as an additional donation to this fund above the \$500 that has already been budgeted?

**Membership and Club Longevity:** Rosa Davis reported we have 39 clubs this year.

Longevity awards were awarded to the Cross Trailers Square Dance Club, Northwest District, for 75 years in May and Twirl-a-Rounds, Southwest District, 40 years in May.

**Correspondence:** Liz Rooks reporting: A Thinking of You card had been sent to John & Bev Stuart and Thank You card had been sent to the Cross Trailer's Square Dance Club for their contribution in support of the Missouri Federation Scholarship. A Sympathy card was passed around for everyone to sign to be sent to Bev Stuart and family.

**Boundaries and Relations:** Dave Byers reporting: No report.

**Constitution and Bylaws:** Art Kruse reporting: No report.

**Publications:** No report as the chairmanship of this committee is open.

**DOIN'S Editor:** Edythe Weber reporting: Some clubs refuse to send in a FULL YEAR 2025 dance schedule; so, just letting you know that if I have nothing to confirm your dates with, they might not be correct in the dance schedule. If you think I might not have July to December 2025 for your club, please send.

REMINDER – PLEASE put the CLUB NAME FIRST in the subject line of your e-mails. Put anything else you want to include AFTER the club name. (Example: Ramblers: April-June article; NOT Doin's April-June Ramblers).

Our next deadline is May 15 for the July-August-September magazine.

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

**DOIN'S Circulation:** Penny Byers reporting. There were 182 DOIN'S subscribers for the April to June issue with 1, exchange copy and 15 for staff, historian and post office for a total mailing of 198 magazines mailed. We had 84 electronic subscriptions, 52 renewals, 8 new subscriptions and 13 student copies. 35 postcards will be sent to subscribers whose subscriptions expire with the April to June issue.

Financial report: The balance brought forward was \$100 with income of \$900 from subscriptions, \$218 from the SW District Doin's Dance, \$75 from Puzzle Book sales, and \$5 donation towards the Puzzle Books for a total income of \$1,198.00; there were no expenses. A check for \$ \$1,198.00 was given to the Federation. The ending balance is \$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 and caller/cuer listings of \$190.00; there were no expenses totaled. A check was given to the Federation for \$190.00 leaving a balance of \$100.00.

**Promotions:** Fred & Carolyn Goucher. No report at this time.

**Member Services Committee:** Fred & Carolyn Goucher: A letter was received from the Kounty Kuzins asking for reimbursement for the cost of the caller and hall for their lessons; receipts were attached.

Carolyn Goucher made the motion to approve this request; motion was seconded and approved.

**State Festival Site Screening:** Cathy Hall reporting: No report.

**Insurance Coordinator:** Edythe Weber reporting. No report due to computer with the records on it is not currently working.

**Travel Missouri:** Debbie Moffitt reporting: No report; will have information during under Unfinished Business.

**Blue Bird Coordinator:** Crystle Swager reporting: She had received the records and funds on hand from Penny Byers, previous coordinator. There has been no activity since the last meeting; current funds on hand of \$104.00.

**Webmaster:** Dan Wheeler reporting: No report. He reported they would be out of the country for 2 ½ weeks beginning May 3; however, will do what he can while gone to post information.

**Historian:** Dan Wheeler reporting: No report.

**License Plate:** Catherine McLemore reporting: Two 2-year license plate renewals have been received; these are \$50.00 each. Ending account balance of \$200.00 as of March 31, 2025.

**USDA:** Edythe Weber reporting: Saturday, May 17, there will be a webinar "Beyond the Dance Floor – Be Prepared for a Medical Emergency". Edythe encouraged everyone to listen to it.

**ARTS:** Edythe Weber reporting: No report.

**District Presidents' Report:** Penny Byers, NE District reporting:

BNR Squares is getting ready to start lessons. Heartland Squares hosted an open house before one of their dances with approximately 20 people attending; will begin lessons in May. Another Blast Dance probably in August. NW District Dance is July 26.

Central District: Travelers Square Dance Club had lessons with 8 graduates and 2 new ones in class now.

St. Louis District: District Dance is May 3. Mainstream lessons are occurring Plus lessons are occurring with 5-6 squares each week. Square dancers were well represented at John Stuart's funeral.

Southwest District: District Dance is May 17. Lessons will be in August or September. They did a demo at a Mormon Church in Ozark, MO with 40 kids and some adults.

Southeast District: Busy working on the State Festival. Packets for the Festival were given to the District Presidents today.

Northeast District: Finishing mainstream and plus lessons. May 3 Murder-Mystery Dance Tanglefoot Squares, May 31 a dance in conjunction with the Maysville Wrangles with Dan Preedy calling; July 18-20 Macon Campout; August 15-16 WOW Dance in Warsaw; and Sept 19-21 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Route 36 Dance.

**Youth and Children's:** Connie Graham reporting: No report.

**Mo Fed Scholarship:** Bob & Shirley Turner reporting: Scholarship applications have been received and the recipient will be announced at the July meeting. Recommends putting the Cross Trailers donation in the general fund earmarked for scholarship use.

**2025 State Festival:** Sharon Crisel reporting: Have approximately 80 reservations at this point. Reminded everyone the registration information has a list of hotels that are offering a discount of some sort if booking with them; there is also a number of other hotels in the area and a list of those is also available.

Thursday night, Oct. 9, there is a benefit dance from 6:30 to 8:00 to raise funds for cancer; the funds will go to the Mercy Health Foundation which is affiliated with the Mercy Hospitals. The Sprosty twins have volunteered their time to call.

Encouraged everyone to visit the tourist spots and businesses in Cape Girardeaux and surrounding as the tourism bureau is helping support the festival.

Considering having a fashion show if there is enough interest; let Shirley Turner know if you are interested in participating.

Two raffles are planned: 1) A Square Dance Call themed quilt; tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00; 2) the basic raffle where clubs get to keep half of the money from the tickets they sell (\$1.00 each of 6 for \$5.00).

Shirts are available; please help sell the shirts.

**2026 State Festival:** Gaylynn Crosby reporting: The festival will be October 23-25, 2026, the fourth weekend in October.

The committee has met for the first time with 19 individuals currently on the committee.

The committee is putting together three sites for the Site Screening Committee to visit:

- A church in Springfield
- Working with the Branson Chamber of Commerce setting up travel packages for families to come to the festival and to attract the surrounding states as well. Working with Yvonne Long. We are looking to hold the event at the old Red Roof Mall; this is tentative currently.
- ? \_ still trying to get through the door to ask.

Them – “Show Me” dance 2026

We are asking for the \$2,500 startup money from the state to get going.

Caller is Charley Robinson out of Texas; the Tevlins from St. Louis are the cuers.

**Special Funds:** Art Kruse reporting: No report.

Caller-Cuer Hall of Fame Committee selection ballots were distributed prior to the break so folks could vote. The results will be reported as a part of “New Business

### **Unfinished Business:**

President Shafer announced the Site Screening Committee needs another member and asked for a volunteer. No one stepped up; will keep looking for someone to fill the position.

Debbie Moffitt, Travel Missouri Coordinator, reported on her efforts to gather information from other states who might have a similar program. She had not found any other states in our proximity with similar programs. She also reported there is only one district participating and some districts have their own program.

Based on her findings and discussion that ensued, she made the motion to amend the Standing Rules to disband the Travel Missouri program by deleting Article XVII and renumbering the remaining paragraphs. The motion was seconded and passed.

**New Business:**

President Shafer shared information he received from Merle Hall regarding Fine Arts Education Week in April sponsored by the Missouri Alliance for Arts Education, a nonprofit group. The focus of their work is to promote fine arts, which includes square dancing, in the public school curriculum. The schools already have curriculum available to them for including square dancing in their offerings. No action was taken one way or the other as to whether or not this was something the Federation wanted to participate in.

President Shafer also shared information for a Multi-Cultural Festival January 19, 2026; noon to 4 p.m. in Springfield. Groups have 15 minutes to perform; can also have an area to have a display, hand out information, talk with attendees, etc. There are no fees to participate. Response is needed by October.

Recordings of music with a caller are available to be able to do a demo if a live caller is not available.

Following discussion, the recommendation was made to ask the Southwest District if they would be interested in coordinating this. Lee Gavitt, SW District president, said he would add it to the agenda for their next meeting and report back at the July Federation meeting.

President Shafer reminded the districts of the need to look at their information on the Federation website and update as necessary as much of the information is not current.

Merle Hall, Chairman of the Caller-Cuer Hall of Fame Committee, announced the results: Carol Hershey (NW District), Art and Wanda Kruse (St. Louis District), Larry and Sharon Crisel (SE District), and Tony & Carolyn Ahart (SW District).

USDA Meeting Delegates: President Shafer asked for volunteers to be Delegates at the USDA meeting during the upcoming National Convention. The Missouri Federation is eligible to have 4 delegates. Dave and Penny Byers and Debbie Moffitt volunteered.

If anyone else is interested in being a delegate, they should let President Shafer know as soon as possible as the names need to be turned in soon.

President Shafter then asked for a volunteer or volunteers to be responsible for managing the Missouri Federation display for the Show Case of Ideas. Dave and Penny Byers said they would be willing to do that.

2024 Audit Committee Report: Carol Hershey, Chairman reporting:  
The Audit Committee was made up of Carol Hershey, Chairman; Claude Burch; and Karen and David Israel. The committee met March 31<sup>st</sup> and reviewed the books of the State Treasurer, State Festival, DOIN'S Circulation, DOIN'S Advertising, Insurance Coordinator, and reports of Blue Bird, License Plates and Travel Missouri coordinators.

All expenses and income were examined and were found to be correct. Bank balances were checked against the report to the Missouri Federation of Square 'n Round Dance Clubs and found to be true and correct. No errors were found or actions needed.

The committees submitted their reports on Excel spreadsheets and all were correct.

Rosa asked for guidance on what the amount of the Federation's memorial should be for John Stuart. Bylaws say memorials should not exceed \$75.00 for a past state president or a caller or cuer. John was a past state president and caller.

Merle Hall made a motion for the Federation to send a memorial donation of \$150.00 (\$75.00 as a caller and \$75.00 as a past state president) in honor of John Stuart to the American Cancer Society. Motion was seconded and accepted.

Merle Hall, in response to the concern regarding the large amount of reserved funds we have, proposed a committee be appointed to investigate how much we need to operate for a two-year period and other ways we might be able to support and promote square dancing on a larger basis.

President Shafer asked for volunteers to be on this ad hoc committee with the following volunteering: Merle and Madeline Hall, David Israel, Fred and Carolyn Goucher, and Cathy Hall.

Madeline Hall made a motion to advance the Southwest District \$2,500 for start-up expenses for planning the 2026 State Festival. Motion was seconded and approved.

Merle Hall shared he would like to see the Federation have a representative from Caller Lab or Round-a-Lab at our meetings to give a report on what they are doing.

Edythe Weber made a motion to reimburse Dave and Penny Byers for their registration fee to attend the National Convention since they will be responsible for the Show Case of Ideas material and display. Motion was seconded and passed.

The next state board meeting is July 27, 2025, at the Library Center, 4653 S. Campbell Ave. in Springfield, Missouri. Southwest District will host and the Kountry Kuzins will have a dance on Saturday afternoon, July 26, 2025, from 2-4 p.m. at the O'Reilly-Taft Gym.

There being no further business President Shafer adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Rooks  
Secretary