



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 of July 27, 2025

President Dave Shafer called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. at the Springfield Library Center in Springfield, Mo.

Invocation: Art Kruse

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: President Shafer

Roll Call: Liz Rooks. Full Quorum achieved: 6 Executive Board; 9 District Directors; 7 Staff/Past Presidents.

Thank you to Host District and Club: President Shafer thanked the Southwest District for hosting today's meeting.

The following guests were introduced: Stan Plummer, Shirley Winnans, Marsha Verna, Karen Sullivan, Lois Crockett, and Sherri Meeker.

Approval of April 13, 2025 Minutes: President Shafer asked for corrections or additions to the April 13, 2025 minutes.

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

Treasurer's Report: Rosa Davis reported a beginning checking balance as of April 1, 2025 \$10,043.25; Revenue (April through June) \$2,085.97 and Expenses (April through June) \$5,144.50. The ending checking account balance as of June 30, 2025 is \$46,984.71. Total CDs amounted to \$42,235.59 for Total Funds on hand of \$49,220.31. The Treasurer's report will be submitted for audit.

The Academy CD has been moved to OMB. There are three CDs with OMB all with 4.65% APY.

The IRS 990N report and USDA annual report have been filed. The Missouri Biennial Registration report has been completed

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

Longevity awards were awarded to Little Dixie Squares (NE District) for 55 years since September 1970 and Dandy Dancers (St. Louis District) for 60 years since October 1965.

Correspondence: Liz Rooks reporting. No correspondence received and no cards sent.

Boundaries and Relations: No report.

Constitution and Bylaws: Art Kruse: While getting ready for the July meeting, I discovered the copy of the Standing Rules I was using did not include some of the recent changes. I have researched the meeting minutes found on the Federation's website starting with October 2022 continuing through the April 2025 minutes. Updates have been made to the Standing Rules that were approved by the Missouri State Federation's Board of Directors.

An updated copy of the Standing Rules will be provided to the webmaster to post on the website.

Publications: No report. Dave Shafer asked if anyone would like to be chairman of the Publications Committee.

DOIN'S Editor: Edythe Weber reporting: REMINDER – PLEASE put the CLUB NAME FIRST in the subject line of your emails. Put anything else you want to include AFTER the club name. (Example: Ramblers: July-September article NOT Doin's July-September Ramblers.)

Our next deadline is August 15 for the October-November-December magazine.

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

DOIN'S Circulation: Edythe Weber gave the following report in Penny's absence. Subscriptions for the DOIN'S this period were 207, exchange copies 1, and 15 for staff, historian and post office for a total mailing of 223. We had 94 electronic subscriptions, 25 renewals, 7 new subscriptions and 18 copies went to new students; 24 copies were taken to the NSDC in Shreveport. We will be sending out 28 postcards to subscribers whose subscriptions expire with the July to September issue.

Financial report: The balance brought forward was \$100 with income of \$480 from subscriptions and \$55 from puzzle books for a total income of \$535. There were no expenses for this period. A check for \$ 535 was given to the Federation. The ending balance is \$100.00.

DOIN's Advertising: Edythe Weber gave the following report in Crystle Swager's absence. We had a balance brought forward of \$100.00. We took in revenue from DOIN'S ads and caller/cuer listings of \$315 and there were no expenses for this period. A check was given to the Federation for \$315.00; leaving a balance of \$100.00.

Promotions: Fred & Carolyn Goucher. No report.

Member Services Committee: Fred & Carolyn Goucher: No report

State Festival Site Screening: Cathy Hall reporting: The Festival Site Screening Committee (Cathy Hall, Art Kruse, Dave Shafer and Liz Rooks) in addition to representatives from the Southwest District (Catherine McLemore, Lee & Pam Gravitt, and Stan Plummer) toured Glendale Christian Church on Saturday, July 26 to assess its suitability as the site for the 2026 State Festival. It was the consensus of the committee this location/facility would suit our needs very well. The Doin's Dance and Federation Meeting will need to be held elsewhere as the church will need the spaces used for their Sunday activities.

Insurance Coordinator: Edythe Weber reporting. As of July 27, 2025, 963 dancers are insured through Missouri Federation and 236 dancers are insured through other federations for a total of 1,199 Missouri dancers in 39 clubs.

- The 2025 Insurance premium is \$6.00 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 moinurance@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.

- Don't forget to send me the new roster and appropriate funds when you add new members after initial enrollment, like after lessons or people who joined the club late.

• 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 as of January 1, 2025, was \$221.91 total income January through June \$503.50 and expenses of \$531.00 resulting in a Net Income for this period of -\$27.50 leaving an ending balance on June 30, 2025, of \$194.91.

Blue Bird Coordinator: No report.

Webmaster: Dan Wheeler reporting: Both Edythe & I have mentioned this several times, but the information just doesn't seem to get out to people. So, please repeat this to your clubs - loudly.

When you send us information, tell us who you are and the club you belong to. You can blame it on my age (I'm not speaking for Edythe here) but I simply can't remember the club that goes with every name. And when you also leave off your name it can be a real puzzle; this actually happens. This is a particular problem when I get a text. Often all I have for identification is a phone number. I really don't remember the names & clubs that go with every one of your phone numbers.

I have started a new web page. It is a "Welcome" page to aim prospective dancers to. It is meant to draw prospective dancers in. It is intended to be simple and inviting. This is something I am not good at. I would appreciate suggestions of ways to make it simple and inviting.

Its address is: www.Welcome.SquareDanceMissouri.com. Its use would be to appear in print when you do anything that appears in print that is not specific to your club or a specific dance.

Newspaper articles
Handout flyers
Anything in print going to the public

Again, it is: www.Welcome.SquareDanceMissouri.com.

I have been posting quite a few pictures & videos, and they are not all from the Northwest district. Quite a few of them are from the St. Louis Metro.

Pictures: www.Pictures.SquareDanceMissouri.com,

Videos: www.Videos.SquareDanceMissouri.com.

The state festival website is up to date although I expect there will be changes and additions: www.Festival.SquareDanceMissouri.com.

Now is not too early to send me your club's 2026 Schedule.

Historian: Dan Wheeler reporting: No report

License Plate: Catherine McLemore reporting: License plate renewals are due in July. Since our last meeting, 12 2-year renewal requests at \$50 and three 1-year renewals at \$25.00 have been received. Forty postage stamps costing \$29.20 were purchased. The current account balance is \$795.80.

USDA: Dave Shafer, Missouri Federation Delegate to the USDA meeting reporting: Edythe Weber was recognized for 31 years on the USDA Board and Dan Reedy was elected as the vice-president for the USDA Plains Region.

USDA Prescription Program has been cancelled.

Louise Tippet from St. Charles was recognized as a new member of the Centennial Club for being over 100 years of age and still dancing.

Caller Lab is working on a program policy revision for how lessons will be conducted with more specific information coming in the near future.

Edythe Weber reported USDA received a proposal from a generous donor who wants to establish a means of USDA being able to continue supporting and promoting youth square dancing in a variety of ways. The donor is willing to donate \$5,000 per year for this cause. This money would be in a Youth Dancing Fund Program which will be separate from the Federation scholarship program. Grants would be awarded in various amounts depending on financial need. The program would be administered by the USDA Youth Advisory Committee which was established during the meeting in Shreveport. Hopeful of having the program up and running in a short time frame. More information will be forthcoming.

ARTS: Edythe Weber reporting: No report at this time.

District Presidents' Report: Stan Plummer, Southwest District member: Northwest District: Three clubs either have lessons currently happening or are about to start. They had to cancel their Blast Dance due to conflicts, but a new date will be announced shortly. Had their District Dance last night (July 26).

Southeast District: Working on this year's State Festival. A fashion show has been added to the list of activities. The block of hotel rooms has all been taken, however, may be able to get the Square Dance rate if rooms are still available; be sure to ASK.

Northeast District: Three clubs are starting lessons in the near future. A number of special dances are planned for the remainder of the year. Will have a float in State Fair Opening Day Parade with dancers dancing all through the parade route. Remember the Day of Dance on Wednesday, August 13.

St. Louis District: Will be having a benefit dance on November 2. Four clubs have lessons starting in the fall. Their district dance is scheduled for May 2, 2026.

Southwest District: Four clubs with lessons already happening or ready to start.

Youth and Children: No report:

Mo Fed Scholarship: Bob & Shirley Turner reporting: Joshua Crites from the Neosho, Missouri area was announced at this years Federation Scholarship recipient. He will be attending a trade school; this is the first time we've had someone attending a trade school.

2025 State Festival: Sharon Crisel reporting: Be sure to get registered and purchase a festival shirt. Pay attention to the deadlines given in your packet. There is a benefit dance on Thursday night to raise money for cancer. A fashion show has been added to list of activities in honor of John Stuart. Food will be available for purchase at the Osage Center. There are no water fountains; need to bring your own or plan to buy it at the food area. There is a quilt raffle and a 50/50 raffle. There will be a resale shop.

2026 State Festival: Catherine McLemore reporting: She and Gaylynn Crosby are the Festival co-chairmen. Looking for volunteers to help in a number of areas. Will be taking credit cards as well as cash and checks. Festival will be held at the Glendale Christian Church, 2110 Blackman Road. Theme has been chosen and they are working on a shirt design. Three non-square dancing related vendors have been secured. A dinner will be served. Have verbal acceptances from the caller and cuer; will be finalizing those now that the venue has been selected and approved. The host hotel is the Hampton Inn at Battlefield and 65 Highway; Super 8 and Baymont Suites which are both in that same area also have rooms blocked.

Special Funds Committee: Art Kruse reporting: Drew McCoy, St. Louis District, has attended a caller's school conducted by Curt Braffet and Jack Pladdys in April 2025. He has submitted receipts for expenses of \$436.90. Copies of the receipts are being submitted via a separate pdf file. A summary of the expenses is provided below.

Drew McCoy		
3433 Wright Avenue		
St. Ann, MO 63074		
25-26 Apr 25	Clinic Fee	\$50.00
27-Apr-25	Hotel	\$232.96
26-Apr-25	Meals	\$17.72
26-Apr-25	Meals	\$36.83
27-Apr-25	Meals	\$17.72
25-Apr-25	Fuel	\$32.21
28-Apr-25	Fuel	\$49.46

	Total	\$436.90
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This request for reimbursement in the amount of \$436.90 is submitted in accordance with Article XX of the Standing Rules as provided.

Financial Analysis Ad hoc Committee: Merle Hall reporting. Has been talking with Mike Hogan who indicates the \$50,000 we are looking at using for broadcast media advertising is not nearly enough. With Broadcast media, you can post in their “Community Service Announcements” for free, however, we would need someone to contact them to make sure the ads are created and broadcast.

He suggested purchasing advertising an ad package on Social Media such as YouTube, Facebook, Tik-Tok, Instagram, etc. targeted to a specific age range and geographic area.

YouTube and Facebook have similar programs (purchase a certain number of clicks for a specified dollar amount); generally runs \$500 to \$1,000. Mike shared the clicks only result in ½ of 1% of people going further than just looking.

With a social media campaign it is best to work with someone, hopefully someone in our organization, who already knows about that and would be willing to take control of it. They would need to contact the relevant radio stations to make arrangements, create the announcements, and make sure they are broadcast.

Mike also suggested we could direct folks to go to livelively.com to learn about square dancing or click on their “Where” link which could take them to squaredancemissouri.com and click on “Lessons” to see where lessons are being held; however, lessons scheduled have to be scheduled.

An ad campaign should focus on informing non-dancers about why square dancing is good instead of focusing on existing square dancers.

Caller Lab or Round-a-Lab: Merle Hall reporting. Caller Lab has begun working on revising their curriculum, but I don’t have any specific information.

Has not had any contact with Round-a-Lab yet.

Unfinished Business:

Springfield Multicultural Festival: Lee Gavitt, SW District President, reported he had contacted them and there are 2 events happening. One in August and the other in January 2026.

The first one is August 23, at 5:30. a fund raiser at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. They anticipate 200 to 300 people in attendance from the Springfield area and from all around the area. They have room for two squares so Kountry Kuzins is planning to go. Their

301 caller, David King, has agreed to call for the exhibition, however, he would like to
302 receive \$50.00 for his time and setting up/taking down his equipment. Would the
303 Federation be willing to cover the \$50.00?

304
305 Kountry Kuzins has a dance that afternoon until 4:30 and will be going to the church
306 from there.

307
308 The second event is in January 2026 somewhere around the middle to the end of the
309 month. Will be getting further information about that.

310
311 Cathy Hall made a motion for the Federation to cover the \$50.00 for David King. The
312 motion was seconded and approved.

313
314 **New Business:**

315
316 Nominating Committee Report – Merle Hall: Liz Rooks would like to step down from the
317 secretary's position at the end of the year. Have not been able to find anyone
318 interested in filling the position. If you or someone you know would be interested, let
319 Merle know.

320
321 Caller-Cuer Hall of Fame Nominations: No candidates have been submitted and the
322 deadline has passed for submitting candidates. There will be no Hall of Fame Caller-
323 Cuer this year.

324
325 Carolyn & Fred Goucher, chairman of the Member Services Committee, have received
326 a request from the Rambler's for \$350.00 (half of the rental cost of the location of their
327 lessons). All appropriate paperwork has been received. The request was approved.

328
329 She has also been contacted by one of the St. Louis Metro clubs regarding the
330 information they need to submit for a request asking for financial assistance as they
331 didn't understand what they needed. Carolyn thought it might help if someone were to
332 read over our Standing Rules regarding this to make sure they can be easily
333 understood.

334
335 Art Kruse, shared information regarding Trail Through Dances to celebrate the 100th
336 anniversary of Route 66 leading up to the NSDC in Waco in June 24-27, 2026. Two
337 legs of the dances; one starting in Los Angeles and the other in Chicago with the two
338 legs coming together in Oklahoma City and going on to Waco. The group doing this
339 would like help locating a possible dance location in St. Louis and Joplin since these are
340 mentioned in the Route 66 song.

341
342 Special Funds Request Committee from Art Kruse for Drew McCoy to be reimbursed for
343 his expenses to attend caller school. Request approved.

344 Merle Hall reported Dana Schirmer is planning to have a caller school with Jerry Junck
345 in the Kansas City, Missouri area the third week of July 2026. Currently the closet caller

346 school to the Kansas City area is in Colorado and most of the others are in the NE part
347 of the United States.

348
349 Merle made a motion that the Federation support Dana in some way in this endeavor
350 (helping him find a place, finding financial support, etc.). After discussion, it was
351 decided to table further action on this matter until the October meeting.

352
353 The next state board meeting will be October 12 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri hosted by
354 the Southeast District.

355
356 President Shafer adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

357
358 Respectfully submitted,
359 Liz Rooks
360 Secretary
361

DRAFT