

Pennsylvania Square & Round Dance Federation
1:00 PM, Sunday, October 8, 2017
Waynesboro, Pa and by teleconference.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:15pm by Presidents Martha Thompson and Bob Lawn

Introductions: Present in Waynesboro were Bob Lawn and Martha Thompson (SVSRDA) Ruth and Lou Stiles (Allegheny Valley), Jane Styer (Del Valley), Pete Wex and Sue Heim, (SVSRDA) Paul and Wendy Zajac, (Central Pa.) Participating remotely are, Tony Rock and Clyde Miles, (Western Pa) Diana Hershberger, (Central Pa) and Ted Rotwitt, (Del Valley)

Moment of Silence was observed in memory of those who were killed or injured in Las Vegas last Sunday.

Minutes of last meeting, 4/2/17 were distributed by email. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. They are approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Diana Hershberger

Starting Balance, \$\$9,962.16

USDA dues \$100.00

Ending Balance, \$9,862.16

Call for people willing to serve

VP's, Secretary, No one has stepped forward.

Discussion on allowing callers and cuers to serve as PSRDF officers. Consensus of the group was they should be allowed to serve. Bob will write up a proposed change to the by laws that would allow callers and cuers to serve. He will forward this to the PSRDF Board for their comments and approval.

Brief Federation Reports

Allegheny, AVSRDF report October 8, 2017

The fall meeting of the AVSRDF was held at the home of Tom Mohney on Sept 10, 2017 with President Lou Stiles presiding.

ABC Dancers – Mary Ruth McCall had indicated in March that a meeting would be held to determine the club's direction for 2017. Mary Ruth stated the club officially closed on June 11, 2107 as a result of shrinking membership and poor dancer attendance.

Castle Paws & Taws – Dick and Mary Ruth McCall stated the club has been meeting from 7:30 to 10:00 pm every Wednesday. Currently attendance averages about 7 couples. Scott Brown and Lisa Minton have been working with the club to provide a flexible dance format which would allow dancers of various abilities to participate. Len Dougherty called the club's annual Red, White and Blue Dance in July. On September 24, 2017 the annual picnic and corporate meeting was held at which time decisions were made about the dance schedule for 2018 as well as membership in the Western PA Square and Round Dance

Fiddle-A-Rounds – Tom Mohney reported that the club met on Thursday, July 13, 2017 for their annual picnic at the Monroe Community Club in Knox, PA with 6 members in attendance. There was no dance following the meal. On Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 6:00 pm the club is planning another “Christmas on the River” event at the Allegheny Grille in Foxburg, PA. The club will officially close on that same date. Since its organization in 1964, the Fiddle-A-Rounds has always done its best to keep square dancing an enjoyable, friendly and inspiring activity. Unfortunately with today’s ever changing society the club has experienced a severe decline in membership and because of limited resources will be unable to continue into 2018. If anyone would like a one page history about the club please contact Tom at 814-676-9731 or tmohney@comcast.net

Shenango Valley Sashayers – Nels Frick and Ann Taub said the club continues to dance on the 2nd and 4th Fridays from 8:00 to 10:30 pm with attendance averaging 3 sets. During the summer (June/July/August) one dance was held each month. Details will be forthcoming about a Christmas event with the Cloverleaf Squares of Brookfield, OH. Nels and Ann also announced that their club is planning to join the Akron Area Square Dance Federation starting in 2018

One role of the AVSRDF has been to provide affordable Liability Insurance for federation members. The certificate of insurance is a 3 year policy which is in its final year. In the past, insurance premiums have been paid using funds from the federation treasury, however, this is no longer possible. With only 2 active square dance clubs in the AVSRDF, the federation will not purchase liability insurance for 2018 nor will it enter into a 3 year contract for these services

Delegates discussed the Future of the AVSRDF since there were only 2 active square dance clubs within its borders. Over the years, the federation had worked to provide affordable liability insurance for its members and acted as a clearing house for activities, schedules or other matters of general interest to dancers. More recent concerns included raising funds, finding officers and promoting the activity.. **Mary Ruth McCall made a motion that the Allegheny Valley Square and Round Dance Federation (also known as the AVSRDF) be dissolved as of December 31, 2017 which was seconded by Nels Frick. Motion was approved.** A general consensus from discussions at both the March and September delegates meetings was that the needs which led to the formation of the AVSRDF have largely disappeared and the organization should be dissolved. Given the declining membership in the federation and the lack of resources, it would be very difficult for the AVSRDF to move forward into 2018.

Given the previous resolution a discussion was held regarding any remaining Assets of the AVSRDF. Often assets are distributed to other groups with similar objectives or directed to a specific need. Through a special news release from DSL Promotions and CALLERLAB, the delegates had learned of a fund raising campaign to assist Tom Miller with his medical issues. Tom is a full-time caller, so if he isn’t able to call there is no income. In addition to medical expenses, modifications may also have to be made to Tom’s home. Dick McCall made a motion to donate the remaining cash in the AVSRDF treasury to this special cause. Nels Frick seconded the motion. Motion was approved. A check for \$167.15. was sent directly to Tom Miller. Lou and Ruthie Stiles Presidents AVSRD

Central PA

Reported that John Mowry passed away recently. Paul also noted that the clubs are gaining a few new members.

Delaware Valley

Here is what is new from our Federation. We have a new board Jeff and Susan Kaufman as Co-Presidents, Ed Esler Vice, Ted Rotwitt Treasurer and Gail Kluskiewicz is our Secretary.

Our board purchased Learn How to Square Dance signs for our clubs to post in their areas. We also set up a new website just for clubs hosting new classes which is also on our new signs. We are really trying to work with our clubs so they can all stay strong and prosper.

We are also working on getting a few more clubs to join our Federation in the near future. More details to follow. Respectfully submitted by, Jeff and Susan Kaufman Presidents of DVSRD

Laurel Mt. No report

SVSRDA

SVSRDA currently has 13 active clubs

Visitation program continues with 8 clubs participating

Our Presidents Ball will be held in April 2018 with Mac McCall the caller Flirts & Skirts

October 28th, Gad Abouts 60th Anniversary, Joe Saltel and Tom Miller

Feb 18th, Heart Fund Dance sponsored by DoPasO

May 26, Gettysburg Festival, Bill Harrison, Mark Franks, Dan Prosser, Art LaVigne

Submitted by Bob Lawn, Secretary, SVSRDA

Western PA

We have updated and printed our Directory for all of our clubs. Cost to members was \$2.00 each.

A vote was taken in June on our Visitation Program and Friendly Squares, Franklin Squares, Happy Go Lucky Squares and Mountainview Squares are going to do this program. WPSRDF will donate \$100.00 to the pot for the first year.

The Fall Festival was held September 30, 2017. Howard and Donna Williamson called and cued. A great time was had by the 67 attendees. This was a 2 for 1 dance sponsored by the WPSRDF. All clubs are starting new student lessons. Respectfully submitted, Clyde & Judy Miles President, WPSRDF

Reports

Membership (Joe Nardi) Phone call to Tony report, No changes since last meeting. Information for next year will be sent out soon.

WEB Masters Report (Kenton Adams) PSRDF Web masters Report October 2017

The following changes were made over the last 6 months.

☑ Updated SVSRDA calendar page.

☑ Updated PRSDF officer's page.

☑ Updates to Home page.

☑ Did requested updates for the Central PA federation pages

☑ Updates to the LMSRDF Pages

☑ Other corrections as requested.

The average daily visits reported by the Web site host for the last three months is 181 visits per day .Submitted 10/06/2017 Kenton Adams PSRDF Web master

Flooring (Bob Lawn & Paul Zajac) The flooring worksheet was approved previously. It was suggested by Paul Z. that there should be a line for trailer rental when needed to get the flooring to the desired location. Bob will add that and attach the updated worksheet to the PSRDF web site. Flooring rental will be available for \$250 for affiliated clubs and \$500 for non-affiliated.

Incentive Programs (Ted Rotwitt & Bob Lawn) Restarting the incentive program was approved at the last meeting with a maximum expenditure of \$2,000 per year. A motion was made by Tony, second by Clyde to make the re-start retroactive to dancers who graduated in 2016 and become members of PSRDF in 2017 and to continue this in subsequent years. Approved by all. For the time being applications will be sent to the President who will forward to the Membership Director to confirm the new dancers are members of PSRDF, and then to the Treasurer for payment.

Proposal for State Dance (Pete Wex)

Pete commented that he and Susan were disappointed that the state could not host a convention. They concluded that what might work was a state Festival. He would focus on providing a best quality product that would draw dancers from Pennsylvania as well as other states. He mentioned the Tennessee festival which drew 1,260 people this year. Pete stated he would be willing to consider being chair of the festival if he was able to start from scratch to set up the festival. He would be asking for \$1,000 from PSRDF as seed money. Any money made from the festival would go back to PSRDF to further square dancing in Pa.

He will present a detailed plan to the executive committee for their endorsement in about one month. His proposal would probably be for a two day festival with 2 featured paid National Callers (callers who make their living calling) and selected State callers who would donate their time but would get a comp room at the hotel and festival registration. There was a question about losing money on the Festival. There are no guarantees with any dance. A tentative budget would be provided for approval. Pete said he would accept help and suggestions. The state callers for the first year will be selected by the committee, future years will be selected by the dancers at the year before dance. A Sunday morning dance was suggested. Pete would plan on having rooms for mainstream, plus, advanced and rounds. Pete made the above a motion and it was seconded by Clyde and approved by all.

Other Reports

State License Plates: It was noted that you need to be a member of PSRDF to obtain as state square dance license plate. Information and the registration form are available at the PSRDF website.

Del Val; Ted noted that they have raised their dues by \$2 to cover the cost of PSRDF registration and in that way insure all Del Val members are members of PSRDF. He also noted we should emphasize to all our dancers that they can telephone in the future meetings.

Tony made a request for Nominations for any office. As we know VP and secretary are open. No nominations were received.

Benefits of Membership in PSRDF that we all need to promote to our various associations and clubs.

- Access to the web site
- Flooring rental at a reduced rate
- Incentive Program for new dancers
- Insurance Program
- License plate program
- State Festival

Adjournment motion by Tony/Clyde at 1:25.

Next meeting: About April 8, 2018.