

**PENNSYLVANIA SQUARE & ROUND DANCE FEDERATION**  
**Minutes of April 12, 2015**

The Pennsylvania Square and Round Dance Federation met on Sunday, April 12, 2015, at the Radisson Hotel, Camp Hill, PA. Five of the six Federations/Associations were represented. Allegany Valley Federation – 2 members; Central Pennsylvania Association – 6 members; Delaware Valley Association – 2 members; Laurel Mountain Federation – 0 member; Susquehanna Valley Federation – 12 members; Western Pennsylvania Federation – 4 members.

Call to Order: Bill Flick President called the semi-annual meeting to order at 1:00 PM. A prayer was given by Tony Rock. Tony led the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag.

Minutes of October 12, 2014: Minutes of the previous meeting were available. Bob Lawn moved and Ed Styring seconded to accept minutes as sent and posted on the PSRDF web site. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance	14-Oct-14		\$6,719.66
Income			
	Club Dues	1421.00	1421.00
Expenses			
	New Dancer Program	(\$750.00)	
	USDA Dues	(\$100.00)	
	PNC Svc Chgs	(\$12.00)	
	BMI Dues	(\$155.00)	
	Pasquerella Conf Ctr	(\$1,000.00)	(\$1,267.00)
Ending Balance	12-Apr-15		\$6,123.66

(Respectfully Submitted by Truman and Diana Hershberger, Treasurer)

Treasures report was accepted as presented.

Barb MacDonald asked if a club needs to be a member of PSRDF to apply for USDA Insurance. Following discussion the answer is no, but the club must be a member of one of the affiliated Associations, for example, Allegheny Valley Federation.

Association/Federation Reports

Allegheny Valley Federation: Read by Lou Stiles

The spring meeting of the AVSRDF was held at the home of Tom Mohney on March 8, 2015, with President Lou Stiles presiding.

ABC Dancers report a successful New Year's Eve dance and have 4 dances scheduled for 2015.

Castle Paws and Taws are dancing 2-3 sets. In April they returned to dancing every week and in May will be returning to Cascade Park for their summer dances.

Fiddle A Rounds had a fun Christmas Dance and now are looking forward to their Annual picnic in July.

Circle Eights had some poor attendance due to the severe weather this winter. They no longer have round dancing due to the death of Joe Tarr. Their new member is dancing and they are now getting 2-3 sets per dance.

Shenango Valley Sashayers are dancing 1-2 squares. Drew Loutzenhiser is hosting workshops on Monday evenings twice a month.

(Submitted by Lou & Ruthie Stiles, President AVSRDF)

Central Pennsylvania Association: Read by Ed Styring

1. In October the Central Association held a Stamp Out Cancer Dance at Devine Providence Hospital. The dance raised \$543.00 for the hospital. On April 26<sup>th</sup> a Healthy Heart Dance will be held at the Devine Providence Hospital from 2 to 5 pm. The cost is \$5.00/person and all are invited. The dance features callers and cuers from our Association who donate their time for the event.
2. November the Country Twirlers hosted a Mystery Square Dance Trip for the weekend. The trip was to Pennfield, NY, where the group danced to Tim Marriner. On Sunday they stopped at Corning Glass for a visit.
3. Our Association had two squares at the Farm Show in January this year. One of our callers also prepared a DVD to help train other dancers for the Farm Show.
4. Our club Spring Dance Schedule is as follows:
  - Centre Squares – April 18<sup>th</sup> @ Mt. Nittany Methodist Church – caller Mac McCall
  - Friendship Squares – April 19<sup>th</sup> @ Montour/Delong Fairgrounds – caller Tom Miller
  - Canyon Squares – May 17<sup>th</sup> @ Nypum Bldg – caller Ken Ritucci
  - Country Twirlers – June 13<sup>th</sup> @ Middleburg Fire Co. – caller Ken Bower
5. Twelve members of our Association attended the WASCA Festival in Alexandria, VA. Four of the members took monkey hand puppets, which were a hit of the festival.
6. The Country Twirlers are planning a square dance trip to Alaska for July 2016. They will dance at the 50<sup>th</sup> Convention in Alaska, which is being held in Fairbanks. This is the most northern club in the U.S. The club has their own poly-coated hardwood dance facility. The trip will feature a tour of Alaska and either a cruise down the coast or travel time in Vancouver/Seattle.
7. Two of our members are in the Fashion Show for the upcoming National Convention in Springfield, MA.

Federation of Delaware Valley: Reported by Ted Rotwit

Del Valley holds an annual Spring Fling Dance with popular callers so that dancers from all clubs can get together. The Charity events include a fall dance with a big name caller. An annual membership dance is held to encourage new members to come out. All the callers that hold classes participate in this dance. To encourage clubs to hold classes, an education program exists where four or more new dancers can receive a \$150 grant.

Laurel Mountain Federation: No Report

Susquehanna Valley Association: Read by Bob Lawn

Square dancing continues to do very well in the Susquehanna Valley. We continue to have 14 active clubs. Most of the clubs report that classes are going well so far this year with graduations in the near future.

A number of SVSRDA clubs, as well as, some from other regions in Pennsylvania, participated in the Annual Square Dance competition at the State Farm Show in Harrisburg in January. There were over 500 dancers participating in squares and rounds in this event that was televised on PCN throughout the state. The most exciting part is that several thousand people were in the stands of the big arena watching us dance.

SVSRDA will sponsor four summer dances this year, in order to encourage new class graduates to continue dancing thru the summer. Dances through the summer are funded by the SVSRDA. Different Callers from SVSRDA conduct the dances with hopes that the new dancers will remain active until fall and experience different caller styles.

The 46th annual Presidents' Ball dance recognizing the Clubs Leadership will be held on Sunday afternoon, April 26<sup>th</sup> with Betsy and Roy Gotta doing the calling and cueing. It is held at the Valencia Ballroom in York PA. If you have never been to this location it is worth the trip just to see this hall where the Big Bands used to play back in the 20's and 30's. Dancing is from 2 to 5pm, and then a sit-down dinner and following the dinner the SVSRDA business meeting. The President or representative of each club is recognized and awards for our visitation program are presented during the dance. Dancing only, is \$10 per person.

The SVSRDA Visitation program continues to be a very strong program attracting many dancers to clubs throughout SVSRDA. The current years program ended at the end of March. As of the end of February 218 dancers have made 703 visits to various SVSRDA clubs.

The Graduation Dance to honor our graduates from the just completed classes will be held on May 17, Sunday, at the WACHOU grange in Hagerstown, MD from 2:00 to 4:30 PM. It is co-hosted by the Gad Abouts and Panhandlers dance clubs. The new dancers are honored by this special event and seasoned dancers come and support the event. Again, South Central PA Callers and Cuers Association will provide all Callers and Cuers. Last year we had over 70 dancers attend.

We anticipate a great finish to our dance year with many of our clubs planning dances with guest callers including Bill Harrison, Hunter Keller, Tim Marriner, Johnny Preston, Tom Miller, Gary Shoemake, Mike Sikorsky and others.

Several of our clubs hosted dances for New Years Eve around the region with a great turnout. (Submitted by Bob Lawn and Martha Thompson, Presidents SVSRDA)

Western Pennsylvania Federation: read by Barbara MacDonald

With the cancelling of a lot of dancing dates because of bad weather, there was not a lot going on.

Looking ahead, North Hills Squares has Rick Gittleman from Tucson, Arizona coming on April 28, 2015. The dance will be held at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 1965 Ferguson Road, Allison Park, PA 15101. Dancing 8:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. Claire Miller on rounds.

The Pittsburgh Area Callers & Cuers Association presents their Fifth Annual Spring Fling. It will be held Saturday, May 16, 2015 at Good Shephard Lutheran Church, 4503 Old William Penn Highway, Monroeville, PA 15146. Two halls will feature: Mainstream, Plus, Advanced, DBD and Rounds. Two sessions, one starting at 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., \$7.00 per person and one at 7:00 p.m. – 10:30 p.m., \$7.00 per person. Both sessions \$10.00 per person. There will be 15 callers and cuers for a great day of dancing, plus used square dance clothing will be on sale.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual WPSRDF Fall Festival location has changed. The new location is Pine Richland Youth Center, 5554 Community Drive, Gibsonia, PA 15044. Same date Saturday, September 26, 2015. Callers will be Tom Miller and Norm Shaffor with Cuers Nathan Parrott and Carla and Rich Eilenfeld. Two sessions, one starting at 2:00 p.m. – 5 p.m. and one at 7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Dances will include: Mainstream, Plus, Rounds, DBD and Advanced 1 and 2. Cost for two dancers: \$18.00 all day or \$10.00 afternoon only or \$12.00 evening only. (Submitted by Clyde & Judy Miles, President WPSRDF)

### **Committee Reports**

22nd Convention Report – 2015 Read by Barbara MacDonald & Gary Vioral

We completed a mailing to over 700 addresses across Pennsylvania federations including the 2<sup>nd</sup> newsletter and a registration form to the State Convention. Across WPSRDF, newsletters were distributed to clubs. Some were mailed and some hand delivered, since February was bad for dancing, some delay may have occurred. We are hoping this approach will reach all square dancers to invite them to the convention. We are hoping this will be a great convention.

Around March 15<sup>th</sup>, a note was sent via the google groups to remind dancers to register by the end of March to save money.

Current attendance rate is:

Committee:- 16  
Callers and Cuers with partners:-58  
Complementary Registrations:- 1  
Paid Registrations:-160

**Total: 235**

**Hotel nights now at 142, need 240 for complimentary ballrooms.**

Our next meeting is June 7. We will meet with the hotel on June 17. We will send out another newsletter electronically in June.

In the absence of an assistant chairperson-we need help with these roles (may take one to three hours during the convention time)

Parade of Banners-someone to help organize dancers to march in

Education-someone to advertise, to provide raffle tickets and to auction of prizes for Saturday morning and early afternoon seminars

Help organize dancers and judges for the competition dance on Friday night.

Other assistant chair roles are to organize for 2016 convention in Johnstown. We are still looking.

Barb and Gary are attending the PSRDF meeting in Camp Hill on April 12<sup>th</sup> to promote the convention. We will be taking: Cover letter, Booster Sheets, and Ad forms

We are asking clubs and federations to provide auction baskets and have Showcase of Ideas to the Convention. We would like to remind folks to bring banners for the parade of banners.

We are also asking the state to help provide an incentive to promote new dancer attendance at the convention. Currently, we only have one mainstream dancer signed up.

Since, they are still in lessons--We would like to give new dancers the opportunity to register at the \$30 price when a club or federation as a group to verify that they are just graduating submits the registrations. They would need to register by July 15th. We would like to charge them the \$35 and then have the state rebate them the \$5.00 or however that will work best. We would share this information if approved by the state through the various federations. Can you give us any ideas?

Suzie Q will not be doing badges. Should we try another vendor or just order the needed danglers from her? We are still in need of someone to do sewing, any suggestions?

We wish to **thank** our committee for all the work they are doing to promote and advertise this dance as well as completing their to-do lists. We appreciate that the committee members did say yes to helping with this convention. (Submitted by Barbara MacDonald & Gary Vioral General Chairmen 22<sup>nd</sup> Convention)

Mike Matsko discussed the upcoming Education programs that will address ideas to improve dancer retention. He also appealed for dancers to step into leadership rolls and to encourage social connections intended to promote successful dancing.

The Board discussed the reduced rate for convention registration and it was decided to do this and advertise as such.

Bill Flick deviated from the planned agenda and reported that the Trail Thru Dance that will precede the 64<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Springfield MA, June 24-27, 2015, will be held at the Allentown Fairgrounds. Jay Haines ([sdcaller@jbhaines.com](mailto:sdcaller@jbhaines.com)) is co-chair for this event. Dry camping for 300 campers will cost \$30./night. A few spots are available which provide electricity and water.

Bill Flick asked for some to help setup the PSRDF Showcase Wednesday AM prior to the 64<sup>th</sup> Convention.

23<sup>rd</sup> Convention Report: Will be delayed till later in the meeting since there is no General Chairman for the Convention at this time - Tony & Diana Rock

Caller/Cuer Report: No Report.

Showcase of Ideas: Needs Chairman and Bill Flick discussed need for transporting and setting up Showcase at the Springfield National Convention. Anyone willing should contact Bill Flick or Tony Rock

Web Master and Membership: Read by Ruth Buehler

The following changes were made over the last 6 months.

- Updated information for the convention and added news letters.
- Updated the PA Plate application with the current version of the PA form.
- Requested updates for the Central PA federation pages.
- Added information for the Trail Thru dance for the National convention.
- Other corrections as requested.

The average daily visits reported by the Web site host for the last six months is 197 visits per day.

Full Statistical report for the past 12 months attached to report.

Membership List Report

Membership data gathered and reports completed.

Kenton Adams PSRDF Web master

**Usage Statistics for pasquardance.powweb.com**

<https://pasquardance.powweb.com/stats/4/9/2015>

Membership List Report: Preparing for the next membership data gathering and report.

(Submitted by Kenton Adams, PSRDF Web master and Membership Chairman)

Historian: If anyone is interested, Bill Flick has historical materials and would be glad to pass it on, since he is preparing for a move.

License Plates: Read by Mike Matsko

Since the October 2014 PSRDF meeting there has been one application processed for the Federation's Specialty Square Dance License Plate Program.

Once again, as Chairman of the PSRDF Specialty Plate Program, I am requesting that you join me in promoting this program to dancers, in your region, that are members of the PSRDF. I would appreciate it if each regional group would include this item on your next meeting and explain the program to your club delegates. This program is a way to promote square dancing. To obtain a license plate, through this program, you will need to do the following:

1. Applicant must be an active member of the PSRDF.
2. Applicant must be a registered owner of a vehicle as indicated on the registration credential. If the vehicle is a leased vehicle, Form MV -1L, "Application for Lessee Information" is needed. This form is available on the website at [dmv.state.pa.us](http://dmv.state.pa.us)
3. Complete the form MV-904SO {1-15}, Application for Special Organization Registration Plate. This form can be obtained at the PSRDF Website, [psrdf.org](http://psrdf.org).
4. Fee required with the application is \$25.00. Payment by check or money order made payable to "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania".
5. Specialty plates are restricted to passenger vehicles and trucks with a gross weight of not more than 10,000 lbs.
6. Send the completed application, along with your payment, to Mike Matsko, Chairman, PSRDF Specialty Plate Program, 219 Mason Lane, Selinsgrove, PA. 17870
7. Should the person cease to be a PSRDF member, the plate must be returned to Penn DOT.

(Submitted by Mike Matsko, Chairman, PSRDF License Plate Program)

Caller Selection: Reported by Bob Lawn

Mike Callahan will be calling at the Thursday trail-in dance and Johnny Preston on Saturday night for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Convention. No callers have been secured for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Convention, Tim Marriner might be available for the Thursday Evening this year.

## **Special Reports**

USDA: Read by Mike Matsko

The USDA Annual Board of Directors Meeting is scheduled on Wednesday at 1:00 PM, June 24, 2015, prior to the start of the NSDC in Springfield, Massachusetts. This is the meeting all Affiliate members are expected to have their assigned delegates, with alternates, to attend the meeting. PSRDF is an affiliate member with 4 votes. These

delegates may be represented as 4 couples or 4 individuals as single voters.

Our recent attendance at these annual meetings has not fulfilled our qualifying compliment. At the last annual meeting, held at the Little Rock NSDC, there were no attending PSRDF delegates. Forty PSRDF dancers attended this convention.

We hope that there are registered dancers for the Springfield, Massachusetts NSDC that will serve as delegates and attend the USDA Annual Board of Directors Meeting. These meetings offer attendees the opportunity to meet the Executive Committee members and become familiar with the various USDA Support Programs and Educational Publications that can be useful in managing club leadership activities.

So, we ask you to help our President in locating the persons that will be willing to serve as PSRDF Delegates for the USDA Annual Board of Directors Meeting scheduled at Springfield, Massachusetts on June 24, 2015.

(Submitted by Mike & Pat Matsko, USDA Presidents)

Bill made an appeal for delegates for the Wednesday afternoon USDA meeting. Lou and Ruthie Stiles agreed to serve.

### **Old Business**

Promotional Programs: read by Diana Rock

Listed Clubs (see complete Treasurers Report for list) that graduated 51 new dancers.

We had 4 clubs submit requests for graduation classes in the "New Dancer Program". They are:

- 1.) Do-Pas-O Square Dance Club 2/28/15 (8 dancers)
- 2.) M R Square Dance Club 1/04/15 (5 dancers)
- 3.) Centre Squares 12/17/14 (4 dancers)
- 4.) Perky Promenaders 10/22/14 (3 dancers)

This makes a total of 20 new dancers as of the date of this report.

We also received 2 requests (one for 2013 and one for 2014) for reimbursement from the Promotional Fund Program from Do-Pas-O Square Dance Club for 2 promotional dances and 1 demo dance for each year. These requests were discussed at the executive board meeting.

(Tony & Diana Rock 1st Vice Presidents PSRDF)

Diana Hershberger stated that seed money for the Trail Thru has not been requested of the Treasurer, even though the Board previously approved this payment.

23<sup>rd</sup> State Convention: Tony Rock explained that a General Chairman needs to be secured. Discussion followed. It was moved by Mike Matsko that Pete Wex be nominated. Pete stated that he would consider this job if the Board of Directors would write a letter to Tom Miller. The Board voted unanimously to write such a letter.

### **New Business**

Nomination of and Election of New Officers:

Tony and Diana Rock are only nominees for Presidents. Motion was made to close nomination and cast ballot. Motion passed. Nomination was made for Diana and Truman Hershberger for Secretary, the Board voted in favor.

Nomination was made for Naomi Fisher for Treasurer, the Board voted in favor.

Nomination was made for Bob Lawn and Martha Thompson for first Vice President, the Board voted in favor.

Nomination was made for Pete Wex for Second Vice President, the Board voted in favor.

Announcement

**Next Meeting: Sunday, October 4, 2015, 1:00 P.M., at the Holiday Inn Downtown, Johnstown, PA.** Executive Committee Meeting at 11:30 A.M.

Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

*Bill and Ruth Buehler*

Secretary PSRDF