



*Square and Folk Dance Federation
of Washington, Inc.*

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**State Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 15, 2018 by President Margaret Kiser at Shuffler’s Shanty in Kennewick.

Recording Secretary, Judy Ottoson Roll Call was taken; motions were read from the May meeting and minutes approved.

Treasurer, Tom Rohde: Thank you Blue Mountain Council for once again hosting of this meeting. Great to see everyone here today! Donna and I are always happy to see all the wonderful friends that we’ve made here over the years, and we’ve been keeping very busy with helping and enjoying this activity. During the period of May 1 through August 31, 2018, the State Federation received \$334.68. During that same period, we have had expenses of \$3,375.73: engraving \$169.95, postage \$163.13, supplies \$161.27, travel \$763.50, website \$107.88, Secretary of State \$10.00, two Youth Scholarships \$2,000.00 (Rachael Ulmer and Anna Freeman). As a result, the Federation has a net loss of \$3,041.05. The Chase checking account balance is \$1,355.22 and Money Market balance is \$108,873.90. Tom handed out sheets showing a full financial breakdown of income and expenses for the third part of 2017-2018 dance year. If you have any questions, please come see me afterwards.

Report for May 1 through August 31, 2018

<i>Beginning Balances</i>		
Chase Market Rate	110,844.22	
Chase Checking	2,425.95	
<i>Total Balance Forward</i>		\$113,270.17
<i>Receipts:</i>		
Interest Income	29.68	
Directory Sales	305.00	
<i>Total Receipts</i>		\$334.68
<i>Expenses:</i>		
Engraving	169.95	
Postage	163.13	
Supplies	161.27	
Web Site	107.88	
Non-Profit Sec.of State	10.00	
Youth Scholarships	2,000.00	
<i>Subtotal</i>	2,612.23	

<i>Travel & Lodging:</i>		
Officers	323.40	
Committee Chairman	362.10	
Committee	78.00	
<i>Subtotal</i>	<u>763.50</u>	
<i>Total Expenses:</i>		\$3,375.73
<i>Net Income</i>		(\$3,041.05)
	Ending Balance	
	8/31/2018	\$110,229.12

Checking & Market Rate - Account Balances

Ending Balance 8/31/2018		
		(Youth Scholarship Fund \$ 0.00)
Chase Market Rate	108,873.90	
Chase Checking	<u>1,355.22</u>	
<i>Total Ending Balances</i>		\$110,229.12

No questions; report approved.

Corresponding Secretary, Holly Gonseth: No correspondence. Directory is finished. They all have a sticker for update to Leadership registration. They're available cash-and-carry \$5.00 per book. There's no spiral binding because we took 12 pages out of the book, for a savings of \$150 they're not bound. They fit on Scott's shelf with the other 29 books. Corrections for the book can be made on the 8 ½ x 11" book – highlight edit/corrections (in pen) and leave that page in the book.

Parliamentarian, Roger Barnes: In 2017 a Motion of the floor came from a Council delegate to make a change in Standing Rule 18. The motion stated that “ **the State provide a complimentary state directory to all elected officers, standing committee chairman, special committee chairman, and area delegates. The motion carried unanimously** ”. So any of those having paid \$5 per directory is due a refund due to that Standing Rule change.

Dan Dubiak asked how many paid for the hard copy. Printed two copies for Heritage Center and Historian. Cost to mail is \$2.50 plus printing. Don't know if we can to go back to that again.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Computer Coordinator and WebMaster, Dick Beham: The State Federation Website has been updated to the current 2018-2019 State Directory. There have been changes to the information posted in June from the renewal forms and it now reflects the printed directory Holly has put together. If there are any Directory changes, don't wait four months for the printed addendums, forward those changes to me for update on the Web. Not all of the printed Directory information can be found on the State Web such as personal phone numbers and addresses for obvious reasons as the information is public. Email addresses are available on the web as are web addresses which are not listed in the Directory, so check out both the Directory and the Web to be sure your organization's information is correct. Your Membership and Insurance, Directory, and Web teams have made every effort to get your organization's information correct so make a concerted effort to review and submit updates and corrections as needed. New on the State Web are the Mount Baker Council Recruitment and Retention Taskforce Reports

available via the Link – “Square & Folk-Dance Federation Resources”. He thanked Mount Baker for submitting that link. These reports reflect discussion results of the manual by Callerlab. Non-Profit IRS Rules have been completely revised (with Kay Mahan’s assistance) and are available on the M&I pages. Reminder once again that the Web site is updated the last weekend of each month and I really appreciate inputs and support. M&I, Corresponding Secretary try to get the information correct, so the website has been reviewed and updated.

Facebook Page Administrator. Greetings from Letricia Hatch! Her apologies for not being able to attend the meeting due to work constraints. The publicity that square dancing is getting on Facebook has really taken an upswing, with a huge number of lesson flyers being posted by clubs all over the state – woohoo! We may get some idea of how much effect Facebook advertising has once lessons are in full swing. Personally, I have been contacted by at least a couple people who have seen some of the advertising and are interested in lessons, aside from recruiting friends in the real world. Since the May meeting, the State Federation page has increased by 39 followers for a total of 509, so I reached my summer goal of 500. (510 this morning.) Posts with a reach of more than 1,000 views each since May were: Circle 8 Ranch’s schedule, The Square Dance Festival Schedule, Greg Weber calling at the state festival and the After Party with Brett Kappenman at the State Festival for a total of 5.6 thousand people seeing just those four posts. There were many more posts that had smaller reaches, but we are getting a decent amount of visibility! From my personal wall, I have a video of the Flash Mob (Mob Squad) at the Puyallup Fair that has more than 14,000 views and has been shared around the world. As people see how fun square dancing is, they share it. Thank you so much to ALL of you who are sharing our posts!

As I said at the last meeting and wanted to say again, Facebook’s algorithms for feeding up pages to subscribers is foremost dependent on trying to personalize each person’s experience to their closest friends and groups. Unless a post is shared from the page that it starts on, that page is barely likely to see the light of day. That means, if you see something you like on our page, please share it so we can increase our visibility to the Facebook world. It is making a difference. Again, thank you so much!

Education & Leadership, Bruce Ottoson: We had a great meeting last night at the “Other” Applebees. We had ten members and four guests. We had 104 in attendance at this year’s Education & Leadership Seminar. There are currently 21 pre-registered for next year.

We want to thank Paul Gonseth for filling in as Friday night emcee for Bill Reid and Nina Leisi for filling in for Neva Reid as our featured cuer for the weekend.

We also want to thank Bob & Claudia Amsbury, Don Pruitt and Susan Morris for the great presentation they put on. We wish to thank Jonnie Jenquin, Tanya Currier, Marsha Sullivan and Linda Willand for typing up the presentations. This was very challenging as the only session actually recorded was the first one presented by Bob & Claudia. Thank you to Holly Gonseth for placing address labels on the back page of the 300 printed directories correcting the registration information and Glen Shaw for putting corrected labels on the next years pre-printed registration forms.

Education & Leadership Seminar will be July 12-14 next year. Our features caller and Keynote speaker will be Gary Shoemake of Sevierville, TN. Our featured round dance cuer will be Nina Leisi from Cheney, WA. Our Friday night caller emcee will be Jim Swanson.

Topics for the 2019 Education & Leadership Seminar will be: 1.) So you were elected Treasurer; now what? presented by Dick Blewitt. 2.) Club renewal process & Club insurance presented by Richard Snyder. 3.) Bylaws and standing rules; how to write them presented by Doug Schaffer. 4.) We will be asking Caleb Hatch to put on a presentation titled Recruiting youth dancers.

Festival Coordinator, Glen Shaw: We had a communication problem with meeting this morning. If you didn't attend this year's festival, you missed out – it was a lot of fun! Get registered for 2019.

2018 – Blue Mountain Council – Kim Munk from Blue Mountain would like to THANK each and every one of the dancers who attended “Dancing in the Blues” in June. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed putting it on for you. Judging by so me of the comments we received, we believe you did! We had almost 700 dancers who attended. All of the committees had a wonderful time interacting with the dancers who attended.

We would like to thank Kay and Roger Mahan for all of the hard work they put in on this festival, not only as Advisors but actually working on two different committees.

Also, a big thank-you goes to Bill and Neva Reid, Brenda and Bill Putnam, Kim and Butch Munk and Urban and Jonnie Jenquin, who put countless hours of work in on this festival. And thank you to everyone all over the state who publicized this event for us.

The financial information is not quite finalized yet, so that will be coming soon. Wrap-up books are almost done – just waiting on a couple of final reports.

So once again, THANK YOU for helping the Blue Mountain Council put on a successful and fun event for the dancers!! Merri Anne Huber.

Kay Mahan reported they're over \$14,000 to the good on that festival. Urban will be doing “final numbers” at the next meeting. Thank you all!

2019 - Rainier Council - Jackie Myers (reported by Lu Simmons) – (apologies from Tom Tomlinson; he just had his fourth surgery and has one more to go. He's not able to travel long distances. Jackie sent a message, “It is with much sadness that I will not be able to attend this month's meeting. The location of the meeting is not conducive to my September schedule. She's working 40-60 hours a week between two jobs.)

From day one of taking on this project, I have used a famous movie quote from the movie *Field Of Dreams* to encourage, inspire, and motivate myself and my committee. That quote is... “If you build it, they will come”.

For almost three years our committee has worked at building an amazing festival for Washington State Square Dancers. Festival planning and preparation has been going incredibly well. Our committee continues to meet on the second Sunday of every month to ensure we are providing the best event possible.

The 2019 WA State Festival will be taking place June 20-22, 2019 at Washington State Fairgrounds (formally known as the Puyallup Fair). We are featuring the Ghost Riders live Square Dance band in addition to our own State callers and cuers. We are even fortunate enough to have a handful of National Callers from around the country donating their time to participate at our trails end dance and festival. The trails end dance is included in the registration fee. Randy and Marie Preskitt are our featured cuers and Michele Hill is our featured clogging instructor. Colors for our festival are red, black, and gray. We had a successful “kickoff” at this year's state festival. We had a fun time performing our skit and were happy with how our presentation was received by the dancers. Following the Pageant, we offered dancers the opportunity to register online and pay with any major credit card. Dancers also had the ability to use a paper registration and pay with cash, check, or credit card. We currently have over 250 people registered for the 2019 Festival, most of which were online registrations.

Ways and Means were also available at this year's state festival. Dancers were given the opportunity to pay with cash, check, or credit card. We will be attending Club and Council dances throughout the year to offer Ways and Means merchandise to all our dancers. In fact, we received several invitations to attend large Council dances the last weekend of this month. Ways and Means items have been

photographed and will be posted on our website at the end of this month. Online orders can be shipped directly to the customer (shipping costs will apply), or special arrangements made for delivery/pick-up. The 2019 Festival Committee put together a special fundraiser with the help of Greg Weber. This was in the form of a Golf Tournament. On June 30th of this year (2018), we hosted a golf tournament at the historic Brookedale Golf Course in Tacoma. We raised over \$1500 for this event.

During the Leadership weekend at Circle 8 in June of this year, we continued to register people for 2019 State Festival, offered Ways and Means merchandise, and provided a luncheon where we raised almost \$450 alone. Not to mention we had a lot of fun as a council.

I would like to publicly thank all committee members, mentors, and council for their continued support and participation in the planning of this event.

Finance & Audit, Thelma Swanson: Thank you for letting me be auditor this year; I'm thankful Tom is taking it over for next year. The audit for the 2018 September meeting has been done to the best of my ability. The Washington State Federation books are in order, and I accept them as they are. The Footnotes books are in order and accepted as they are. However, Leadership Seminar books were received after 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, with no spreadsheet. We were busy Thursday night. Friday x-rays were done for most of the day; so consequently, there was not enough time for me to get them done. These were all the records sent to me.

Financial Advisor, Kay Mahan: Roger's here with me. Good Morning, and thank you to Blue Mountain Council for hosting the weekend meeting. The year-end financial reporting forms have been sent to the five Federation account treasurers for filing the 990 form with IRS. The updated Tax Procedures document was distributed by email to the 2018-19 council & club presidents and treasurers. It has also been posted on the State website.

Heritage Center, Doug Keyes & Ellen Ostrum: Thank you, Blue Mountain Council for arranging the location for the Heritage Center meeting. It was very well received by the committee. The Heritage Center Committee Meeting was held at the Applebee's Restaurant in Kennewick, Washington. We had 15 Committee members and 5 Guests in attendance. Our current bank balance is \$7,710.68 and we have reinvested \$5,000 of that into a CD. The committee approved the purchase of six glass shelves to display the Dolls in their newly assigned display case. We are continuing the documentation of our processes that we use in the Heritage Center. (Urban Jenquin presented \$173.50 for Heritage Center's share of the 2018 State Festival proceeds.)

Historian & Librarian, Donna Rohde: I have enjoyed my first year as State Historian, learning more about the 11 Councils and the many clubs, as well as, getting to meet and know more of the wonderful dancers throughout the State of Washington.

I find a lot of my information for the Historian Books by researching various Clubs and Square Dancers on Facebook. Tom and I also collect flyers at the dances that we attend.

This year the Historian Books traveled to the following Dances and Events, with 187 dancers signing the Historian Book log sheets: February State Meeting in Kennewick, Alzheimer's Dance in Olympia in February, Lollapalooza Tri-Council Dance in Auburn in April, May State Meeting in Puyallup, June State Festival in Kennewick, July Leadership at Circle 8 Ranch, Plus in a Week at Circle 8 Ranch in July.

For those of you who missed our State Festival in Kennewick, check out the pictures of the Festival, along with the Parker, McNutt, MacGregor, President's Award and Teen Recipients in this year's book and don't forget to sign the Log Book.

I have not started working on the Historian Books for the 2018 - 2019 dance season yet, as Tom and I just returned home last week from a 44-day road trip to Alaska, driving over 6,200 miles visiting family and sightseeing the beauty of Alaska, Yukon and British Columbia! Enjoy our 2018 - 2019 dance year!

Membership & Insurance, Richard & Barbara Snyder: Every year we do the same thing. Clubs start their lessons; I know they don't all stay, or students may come on later. You can add those, but we really need a list of your students' names, addresses, and telephone numbers for insurance purposes in case something happens. They're covered for free as long as they take lessons, so please Delegates take it back to your clubs we Need those lists of students. Upon graduation, the student is covered for 10 more days. At that time, the student must join a club and pay the \$6.00. If they do not join a club within the 10-day period, they will no longer be covered after lessons. A new graduate joining your club would be handled the same as any person joining the club, send us their name, address, and telephone number along with the required \$6.00 per member. A club may add new members during the dance year by simply sending us the new person's name, address and their telephone number, along with a check for \$6.00 per member.

We have lost six clubs in the federation this year: Buckskin Kids, CPS Council; Forks Hoh Downers, North Olympic Council; Plus & Stuff, Spokane Area Council, Rainier Callers/Cuers/Teachers and Swinging Squares, Rainier Council; Silver Stars, Evergreen Council. That leaves us with 97 clubs, and 2,635 members as of August 31, 2018; a loss of about 90 members from last year, even with the new students this year. We have presented the state with a check for \$3,952.50, the membership dues of \$1.50 per member.

At this meeting we used to hand out all the updated membership lists. We no longer do that; we email it to each Council Treasurer. In the next couple of weeks each Council Treasurer will be receiving an updated list of all their club members. We ask each council to print off the membership list of their clubs and distribute them accordingly. Richard mentioned that Hi-Flyers in Cheney have 11 students, attributed to the great publicity in Spokane area.

We've done this job for eleven years; in those years we've lost one Council; 53 clubs, 1,665 members. Since we only have 2,600 members left . . . 15 more years if something doesn't happen.

Regarding Dick's mention of Facebook, there's a little club in the Spokane area in the town of Cheney (it wouldn't even be a town if it weren't for Eastern Washington University), but they had 11 class members show up – all from Face Book. Karen Reichardt is really pushing electronic stuff, and is really making it work; she increased attendance at our Salmon BBQ, and it remains to be seen if the rest of the clubs will be that successful. She's been getting literally thousands of responses from the different electronic media.

Dick Blewitt asked during that 11 years – how many insurance claims have been submitted? We probably get 3-4 per year; but haven't done one in the last 18 months. We spend better than \$15,000 a year on premiums, so what's that for 11 years. I know we haven't collected \$10,000 for those claims. Almost everyone carries their own insurance. We really need liability insurance; but the other half we pay is accident and medical insurance - \$7,000 for that; \$6,000 for liability.

Bruce Ottoson asked what information is needed for new students. Only name, address, telephone and email. That really helps if they join your club, then we already have that information. (Hopefully, at least telephone number.)

Past President/Nominating, Gene Currier: Nominating committee released for their meeting.

Publications (Footnotes On-Line), Kathy Chase: Good morning all. Here we are again in the “good ole” Shanty. (I still want windows; somebody got a good deal on bricks!) Thank you, Blue Mountain Council for both honoring Margaret in her Council and for hosting this meeting.

The September issue is out there for you to gander at. I apologize for it being late. September is a hard one for me to get out. With the holiday and trying to get back into the routine after a couple of months off. I know, not an excuse, but it’s all I got.

I am excited to announce that I have a Co-Editor in Training coming on board. Cynda Clark has graciously offered to take on the task. She will take the FOOTNOTES computer home and we will co-edit the rest of the year. I know she will do a great job once she gets her feet wet. Let’s give her a great big hand and thank you.

Please let all your people know that I would now prefer all articles, ads, photos, etc. to go to the FOOTNOTESonline email address. **footnotes-wa@yahoo.com**. It will make it so much easier for Cynda to also receive the “stuff” for future magazines. (Kay also needs access to that information.) We are having trouble with our analytics site, so I can’t give you any numbers. Hope to have it back up very soon so that I can let you know how we are doing.

Footnotes Financial Report, Kay Mahan: Financial Report from 9/1/2017 thru 8/31/2018

Beginning Balance \$ 1,473.31

Income: Advertising Sold \$1,922.50; Total Income \$1,922.50

Expenses: Bank Fees (Checks) \$86.35, Web Fees \$177.95; Total Expenses \$264.30

Net Income \$1,658.20; Ending Balance in Bank Account as of 8/31/18: \$3,131.51

Hopefully we can do some upgrading of Footnotes computer, because it has the old In Design and PhotoShop. Cynda commented not to expect a lot from her for a while.

Dan from Peninsula Council was asking on a survey of how many people would pay for a printed copy of Footnotes and would Footnotes be willing to send out a limited number to people who are willing to pay? Kathy prints out a couple of issues, one for Heritage Center and one for Historian so they can use some of the pictures. We’d have to think about that; finding a printer and mailing them out (\$2.50 each), plus printing. We can discuss it, but don’t know if we want to get back into that.

Publicity & Promotion, Cheryl Pruitt: We left at 3:30 to drop off some people at the airport, and then took off. Being busy with Nationals this past week, I don’t have a written report. Kathy, I want you to know I really enjoy the Footnotes online, and especially like to go back to those older ones; just to get information. I use them a lot. Festival was great; weather was wonderful! We had a great time. It was fun to see everybody, and the crowd that was there. I’ll be glad to turn this over to Lane, because I’m going to be busy this next year or so with other things.

XPs, George Broom/Roger Barnes: Roger thanked Blue Mountain Council for Hosting this meeting.

I would like to introduce my wife Beth - Beth please stand up.

We had 18 members and 5 guests at the Cousins Restaurant in Pasco this morning. I would like to thank all the past presidents, in attendance, for being there.

We passed around a card for Scott Marriner, who was in the hospital recently for two stints to be put in. Kay Mahan had an update that each of you should have received for your White Books regarding club non-profit status and reporting to the IRS. This led a discussion on what the State needs to do regarding

the Non-profit Status of our clubs. Perhaps the financial advisors of the future need to provide some type of reminder to the clubs to complete their IRS tax reporting process.

Don Pruitt brought us up to date on the progress of the 2020 National Convention. He stated that the registration numbers for 2020 are very low for the state where the Convention is to be held. We need to get busy getting the word out and get the numbers up. We need to be aware that this may be the last National Convention we will see on the West Coast. The states around us do not have the capacity to conduct a National Convention.

Doug Keyes talked about the Square Dance License Plate Book and how difficult it is to get any information to update the information.

All XP's were reminded to be thinking about the names we will be submitting for nominations for Parker, MacGregor and McNutt awards at the next meeting.

There was a discussion of what we can do for filling the ballot for new officers in the coming years. Can we have a By-Law change to allow one name for each office? This would basically put the burden of selecting our officers each year solely on the nominating committee. Then no elections would be needed. For the coming year, a motion would have to be made at this meeting for next year's ballot.

This also brought up the fact that a 501 (c)(7) organization requires individual members voting as we do it today, but 501 (c)(3) organizations do not require individual members votes. We could simplify our processes if we were to return to a club voting yes or no as a club, instead of the members saying Roger you go to the meetings, we don't know what this is all about. "How should we vote on this?"

Our last discussion related to the XP Committee stepping up to our responsibility and leading the State Federation as a group. We need to see that our By-Laws, Standing Rules and Guidelines are updated and maintained on a regular basis. Each of us has a duty as Past Presidents to step up to the plate and provide guidance to the dancers and committees of our state.

Youth Coordinator, Caleb Hatch: Not present; no report.

Special Committees

BMI/ASCAP/SESAC, Bruce Ottoson: The payment for the 2018 State Festival to ASCAP was \$128 paid in January and is a set fee. The payment to SESAC was \$200 paid in May and is a set fee. The payment to BMI was \$243 paid after the State Festival, based on number of paid attendees and the dollar amount generated from the registration fee.

License Plate Book, Doug Keyes: Thank you, Blue Mountain Council for hosting this meeting, also for sponsoring a fun State Festival in June - A job well done! Thank you, Roger for presenting part of my report.

Doug has been in contact with the Department of Licenses for the State of Washington twice in the last couple of months trying to get a list of currently active square dance license plate numbers. They have told him during both conversations that they cannot provide even just the plate numbers for our use in a directory type listing. To his knowledge only two new plates have been added this year.

He has also spoken to several square dancers over a period of several months and have only found 3-4 people who would like to have such a list if an up-to-date version was available. He feels there is a need for our activity to "fly their colors" but doesn't feel that the promotion of encouraging the purchase and display of square dance license plate requires a special committee.

Therefore: it is his recommendation that the promotion to dancers to obtain square dance license plates be added to the list of duties for the Publicity and Promotion Chairman, and that the Special Committee/Liaison position of License Plate book chairman be eliminated.

Doug believes that he serves in the position “at the pleasure of the State President” and is requesting that the State President eliminate the position and his services. Thank you for your support in the past!

NEC Appointment Committee, Don & Cheryl Pruitt: Good morning. We would like to thank the Blue Mountain Council for hosting this meeting. We had a great time at the State Festival in Kennewick this year. First one in a while we have been able to go to that doesn't conflict with Nationals. Thank you, Blue Mountain Council, for the great job you did putting this on for all of us dancers. We may not make it to the meeting as we will be having 2020 committee meetings in Spokane on the 13th & 14th. But we will try (got up at 3:15 a.m. after dropping off Friedlanders at the airport).

Kansas City is now in the books! They had 3,169 dancers enjoying a good time. It was a good convention even though the temperature never got below 75! We nearly melted. It was a large facility and had a lot of room for everything. If you went anywhere around the area you either had to go up a hill or down one! We always thought Kansas was flat! We would like to thank Don Wood for arranging the callers for our 69th sponsored square dance after parties and Debbie Taylor for getting the cuers for the round dance after parties. They both did a great job.

Now we are on to Atlanta, Georgia. They have 2,563 dancers registered with 29 from Washington. Their convention center is attached to one of the hotels. They have published their first E-Magazine. It is full of lots of information on their convention. They do have an RV park located at the fairgrounds, with 30 & 50-amp service for \$35 a night. Thursday and Friday, they will have after parties at the camp grounds. They won't have a shuttle from there but they will have FREE parking at the convention center for those RV tow vehicles. It is only 9 miles from there to the convention center. Tony Oxendine is their keynote speaker. Their cook book is out for \$12.00. Go to their web site for more information: www.68nsdc.com.

Plans are coming along for the 69th NSDC in Spokane. June 17-20, 2020 - One week earlier than usual to avoid Hoopfest. As of now they have 505 registered with 53 from Washington. They even have 4 from Australia and 2 from Japan. If those dancers are coming from that far, what's stopping you? Pre-Convention is February 6-9, 2019. Hopefully our weather will cooperate! We will have a post-convention cruise to Alaska with Tony Oxendine and hopefully some other national callers to dance to. If you missed it in 2012, now is your chance to go. You don't have to be a square dancer to go on the cruise; bring your family and friends! We do have some new t-shirts with clever sayings on them for square dancing in a variety of colors. More information is on their web site: 69nsdc.org.

We will be in Jackson, Mississippi for the 70th National Convention. Not too sure how many they have registered as of now. They were real busy signing up dancers in Kansas City. They are an enthusiastic group. You can find out more by going to their web site: 70nsdc.com.

As for the National Executive Committee, we are doing OK. It has been interesting to see them learning how to be a chairman of a convention committee for the 69th! They are too used to being in complete control of everything!

We lost two of our members this year. Sam Margheim passed away in March and Sandy Hutchison went to be with Ray in July. They will be missed greatly.

The NEC board did pass the profit sharing of excess funds (if any) from the 69th NSDC. The volunteers who work on the convention spend countless hours and unknown amounts of their own

money to support the effort. The plan: Twenty-five percent will be for committee members-this includes Vice Chairman and the offices reporting directly to the committee chairman. These funds will be allotted to the home club of these individuals. 40 per cent will be for workers who are the individuals in the trenches during planning and especially during convention. These funds will also go to their home club. We hope this will generate more help for the 69th. We cannot do this on our own! Work for your club! It will be appreciated by all.

We said at the last State meeting we were going to present this to the NEC on sharing excess funds with the dancers' clubs. It was presented at Kansas City and well received by the NEC. They all approved it. All the Councils and members have a copy of this. Don suggests the Delegates make a copy and give it to each of the clubs' Presidents, so they can present it to the club. "The 69th NSDC is sponsored by the National Square Dance Convention - National Executive Committee, and in keeping with their basic tenet of aiding in the promotion of square dancing, we have adopted the following means to distribute the excess funds generated by the 69th NSDC. This plan sends 75% of the excess funds back to the home clubs of the dancers working on the Convention. Definition of "excess funds" is the funds left over after all the bills have been paid. The 69th National Square Dance Convention is a 501(c) (3) non-for-profit corporation and attains this non-profit status by working toward the education of dancers through their dance activity. Most of us think of the Convention as a great place to dance to different callers, but when you look at the schedules, you'll see an enormous amount of Education going on with Seminars, Clinics, Panels, Exhibition Groups, Showcase of Rounds and Showcase of Ideas. Therefore, any funds generated by the 69th NSDC must be utilized for education or something that a 501(c) (3) is allowed to spend money on. Most square dance clubs do not have a non-profit status, so any funds turned over to these groups must be dedicated for education or some effort that a 501(c)(3) can legally support. Therefore, whenever the funds are turned over to the clubs that are non-profits, they will be required to sign a Letter of Intent with the 69th NSDC to use all funds distributed by the 69th NSDC in a manner consistent with 501(c)(3) purposes. No funds will be distributed until this form is signed and approved by the 69th NSDC legal advisor. A listing of the Disbursement of Excess Funds of the National Executive Committee gets 25% (now they get 18% on any registration); the Convention board will get 10% (includes the General Chairman and positions reporting directly to the General Chairman and the General Chairmen of the seven committees. These dancers spend four years and countless amounts of their own money to plan for this Convention. These funds will be allotted to the home clubs of these individuals. No individual members will receive money. Funds will be presented for the time served by members on the Board of the Convention. Committee members 25% (includes the Vice Chairmen and offices reporting directly to the Committee Chairman). These are the people who will be spending two years, and in some cases four years in preparation of conducting the activities of the Convention. The workers - 40% - these are the people in the trenches during the planning and especially during the Convention. They will earn every penny of what is allocated here. The volunteers spend countless hours and unknown amounts of their own money to support the effort. If you figure it out, this creates the excess funds in the first place, because the Convention is not out the cost of labor. This plan funnels 75% of the excess funds back to the dancer's local clubs who will mostly benefit the people working on the Convention.

This was a concern when the National Executive Committee decided to do this, that they're getting all the money, and what are they going to do with it? Well, this is how we're going to get it back to the dancers. If you haven't registered; if you haven't volunteered for a committee, or if you want to work on any committee whatsoever, now's the time. The monies will be coming back to

your club. This is not only for the state of Washington; this is for every one of our committee chairmen across the United States. Texas has got a bundle of people already signed up as committee members, working down there. They have more registrations than the State of Washington.

Don replied to a question that the documentation of the funds distributed will be handled when committee chairmen get your name to work on their committee, you will fill out a form that says your name and (one of) your club(s); and they will receive the monies, and it will be documented that your club received it.

Nina Leisi asked for an example. She is a member of Spokane Callers & Cuers Association, and also cuer for both a round dance club and several square dance clubs. I'm having a difficult time, on the spot, thinking of the kinds of activities at the "club level" for the kinds of things that would meet the requirements of 501(c)(3) requirements, because they're not technically involved in Educational type activities; would Promotional activities qualify? Don responded: Promotional and advertising classes are ok. Basically, whatever you spend your money on, other than Callers, Cuers and hall rent. In Spokane Area Council, we do a lot of our promotion through the Council, but the clubs do spend some as well. Don mentioned if you're a member of more than one club – You would have to designate which club you choose.

Jim Swanson, BMC, 501(c) (3) – each club has to be non-profit? Not necessarily. We (NEC) have to be 501(c)(3) to Give funds to a club; that a club can only spend on promotional, educational, things like that. It cannot be paying their kitchen funds out of it, or that kind of thing. Jim asked, Does each club have to be listed as 501(c)(3)? No; that's entirely up to your club. Cheryl & Don and Gene & Barbara Morton felt we would get a lot of flak. Gene came up with this, because when Oklahoma had their convention, they did this same thing for disbursing funds. They were sending checks, even back to North Carolina and Florida, because some people worked on the Convention when they arrived, or on a committee somewhere. I notice a lot of the conventions now might be in Missouri, but their computer coordinator is in California; things like that. It's not just the state of Washington, this is going to be a nation-wide convention. It's going to be The National this time. (If anybody wants copies of this, we have some available.) I think they'll put it on our 69th NSDC website (the webmaster is on a three-month cruise in Iceland). REGISTER, REGISTER, REGISTER for the 69th!

10:30 – Break.

Tom Rohde mentioned reimbursement forms need completed. In response to Question from the group: Council delegates are paid by their Council; Nominating delegates are paid by the State.

Round Dance Coordinator, Neva Reid: (read by Nina Leisi) “Yes, indeed! I’ve been told that it is time to resume work on the Rounds of the Month! June’s round was “Living Doll”, Phases II two-step choreographed by Ron & Georgine Woolcock. Here’s the plan for the September ROM. “Pink Shoelaces” is a fun and upbeat two-step that was choreographed March of 1993, and it has never been a Round of the Month for the State of WA. At that time, because the music was “pop”, it was not allowed to be an ROM. This dance has been made a Golden Classic and again, has never been an ROM for Washington. This is the one and only Round Dance created by us, that received the Golden Classic status. This dance is for all Round Dancers to enjoy, our gift to all Dancers.”

“The ROM for September 2018 is “Pink Shoelaces” by Dodie Stevens, a phase II Two-Step. “Pink Shoelaces” is available on many sites including Amazon.”

“Nina Leisi will be taking over the position of ROM Coordinator. I do hope your Council will continue with this program, and hope the Coordinators will take the few moments that it takes to do the locating of the music and the voting. With that being said, Bill and I are retiring from calling and cueing. While we do love the activity, the time has come for us to give the final bow. We love you all and wish the very best in your future endeavors. If any of you have questions, as incoming Coordinator, Nina will connect with the cuers regarding the October and November rounds of the month. Last time Nina did this was in 2004, and life had changed a lot. Still on a learning term; last time worked with Tim Marriner; this year is Gary Shumake – how bad can that be?!”

“Thank you for the Round of Month committee members who shared their time with us to continue the program. Not all members participated, but hopefully they gained some fun dances. Thank you to all the dancers and cuers who shared their thoughts with me concerning the continuation of the Round of the Month program – it takes all dancers to assist and share their thoughts. Thank you for all of you who joined the 66th Washington State Festival right here in Kennewick; we hope you had a good time. Thank you to the Blue Mountain council for hosting this State Meeting; I know you have some fun things to share, and I hope you have some great food and enjoy! Last but not least, please squeeze together and give yourself a big Yellow Rock from the Reid team. While it is time for us to give our final bow as Caller and Cuer, we will see you in a square or a round somewhere. Love and hugs! She also sent us this information. Just a medical update: I’m on the road to recovery; the stomach has been relocated to where it should be, and I just started soft foods – Yippee! Saw the ENT doctor today, and the voice is a different matter; they may take a while longer, depending on what they decide to do. The recommended procedure to correct the paralysis of a vocal chord could last up to two years. That’s what we’re hoping for now. I have very little voice and no volume - this has been going on since April and has increased during that time.”

It’s time for improvement, so keep your fingers crossed, and from Nina, send your prayers their way. With the health issues, we’ve had a bit of a snafu transferring information and materials from Neva to me and I think that will be solved this weekend. My intentions, since all of you know there has been no October round sent out to the delegates and Councils - I intend to do October and November at the same time so we’ll be caught up. Just wanted you to know to tell your Round Dancers – it’s coming, it’s just a little late. Thank you for inviting me to do this job; and thank you to the Council and club for asking me to be on stage tonight.

Sound Coordinator, Frank Chase: No report; he needs to leave by 3:00.

Area Delegate Reports

Blue Mountain Council, Kim Munk: The Blue Mountain Council is relaxing and getting back to the business of fun square dancing. We had a very successful state festival. Thank you to all the dancers that came out and supported the festival. The trails in dance was a huge success for the council. We got way more dancers than I expected. Thank you again. In other business we have revised our by-laws and are now working on the standing rules.

As most of you already know the **Muddy Frogs** are again without a caller and cuer. Bill and Neva Reid decided to retire because of health issues. I have been told that they are doing well. We will miss them, but wish them well. We are working on what to do about classes this year. They have decided to hold a dance once a month on the 3rd Sunday from 2 to 4 with guest callers. They would love to have you

come out and support them through this transition time. (If you know any callers that can help, let us know.)

The **Family A Fair** is having regular dances and doing demos. Classes will start this fall. They have had a few health issues with members but are still going strong.

The **Prairie Shufflers** are starting the year off with Steve Noseck the first Friday in Sept, the 7th. The state meeting is at the Shufflers Shanty, Sept 14 & 15. They are starting classes for new dancers on Monday, Sept 17 and Thursday, Sept 20. Classes are from 6:30pm till 8:30pm. The first two weeks are free. Families are encouraged to come out and give it a try. They are, also resuming their plus classes on Sundays from 3 to 5 pm. They danced at the Farmers market in Kennewick on Thursday, August 30th to promote our activity. They had a good turn-out of club dancers and made-contact with several interested folks. They have a good line up of callers and cuers this year for our Friday night dances.

Central Area Council, Russell Kruse: Thank you Blue Mountain Council for sponsoring this weekend. The Central Area Council will host a 5th Saturday dance Saturday September 29th from 2:30 to 5:00 P.M. at the Yakima Square and Round Dance center in Moxee with Scott and Darcy Coon calling and Debbie and Paul Taylor cueing. Mainstream begins at 2:30 with a Plus tip every 3rd tip and rounds between tips. Phases TBD. Open Break with Finger Food. Donation is \$10 per person with \$1 per person going to the caller/cuer scholarship fund.

The **Gateswingers** finish off our normal dance season strong with our fundraising event, Memorial Plus Weekend (May 25th to 28th) with Steve Noseck and Debbie Taylor. Steve and Debbie provided a fun filled 3 days of dancing. We would like to thank all our square dance friends from around the state that supported this event. It was a great time dancing with everyone.

This summer we had two special dance events. The first is our Sunshine & Shade dance, with Dave and Sharron Boggs calling and cueing, at Moxee Dance Center on July 28th. This year we had a BBQ before the dance. It was HOT again, but that did not slow-down the fun. Thanks to Prairie Shufflers for making this a great event. The Gateswingers sponsored a mainstream weekend at Circle 8 Ranch August 9th to 12th with Daron Tandberg and Tom Clymer calling, with Susan Healea cueing. Circle 8 is a great place to hang out and dance during the summer and all who attended had a great time. As we start our regular dance season, I would like to remind everyone we dance on the first and third Saturdays, 7 PM to 9:30 P.M., Pre-plus on 1st Saturday and Pre-rounds on 3rd Saturday, September through May. Our club caller is Daron Tandberg and Cuer is Cyndi Silicki. This year we are adding a 4th Friday Plus Dance, 7:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. no Pre-rounds. Some dances to note on our schedule are, 10/6 50s Rock and Roll with burgers and homemade fries prior to the dance. 12/1 64th Anniversary dance, "Snow is Glistening" called and cued by Greg and Sue Weber. We are looking forward to a great dance season. Hope to see everyone on the dance floor.

The **Blue Agates** dance nights have changed. Dances will be on the 2nd and 4th Saturday night of the month. Due to conflicts with the Grange and holiday weekends, we will not dance on some Saturdays. We will post our schedule on the Blue Agate website, Facebook and also send out a schedule to the council members. September 22nd is a kick off dance. Last dance will be June 8th. Our square dance lessons will start October 21st; Paul Gonseth will be teaching. April 13, 2019 will be a special dance honoring Kay Tandberg for her Presidents Award. Flyer and information to follow.

The **Silhouette Dancers** will be dancing at the Yakima Square and Round Dance Center this year. They dance on Thursday evenings with Debbie and Paul Taylor cueing and teaching. A fall dance schedule will be forthcoming.

Central Puget Sound Council, Pat Hoot: Members here today are Dick and Earlene Beham, Kappie and Aileen Kappenman and Tom and Donna Rohde and my other half. Thank you, Blue Mountain Council for hosting the meeting.

Central Puget Sound Council officers for the 2018 – 2019 dance year are President Dick Beham, Vice President Frank Peto, Treasurer Tom Rhode, Corresponding Secretary Marsha Sullivan, Recording Secretary Earlene Beham, Director 1 Brett Kappenman, Director 2 Marion Quande, State Nominating Lewis Cato, and Area Delegate Pat Hoot.

On September 28th, Central Puget Sound Council is hosting a Fourth Friday Fun Fest at the Meridian Grange in Kent. Dave Harry is the caller/teacher for this event. He has done this in Mount Baker Council and it has been successful. We are hoping to have a good turnout to bring more people to our club's lessons. If this goes well, Brett Kappenman is going to do another one on the 4th Friday in October.

Some of the clubs participated in dance demonstrations for the different area community celebrations. CPSC clubs have been busy starting up the 2018 – 2019 dance season. Some of the clubs have started their lessons, others will be starting in October. Several clubs are hosting Back to School Dances, with the school items being donated to local schools and foster care centers; Canned Food Drive Dances to the local food banks; Toys for Tots Dances to the area fire stations; and their club Anniversary Dances. Central Puget Sound Council wishes everyone a Happy Halloween, Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Wonderful New Year!!

Evergreen Council, Elmer Toops: The Evergreen Council would like to thank the Blue Mountain Council for hosting this meeting. I would like to introduce my wife of 59 years, Betty; and would the rest of Evergreen Council please stand.

Council officers for 2018-19 are: President Colleen Relyea, Vice-President Dale Smith, Secretary/Treasurer Janet Bellcoff, Area Delegate Elmer Toops, Heritage Center Rep Carol Zellmer and State Nominating Rep Betty Toops. On Sunday November 11, the Evergreen Council will have a Military Appreciation Dance at the Hazel Dell Grange from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. with K. C. Curtis calling and Lonnie Sycks cueing.

Buzzin Bees dance mainstream on the first and third Saturdays of each month, September through the first Saturday of June at the Hazel Dell Grange in Vancouver, WA. KC (Linda) Curtis is our caller, Lonnie (Linda) Sycks is our cuer. Lessons started on September 9. Plus lessons will begin in October. The **Columbia River Dancers'** officers are President Dale Smith, Treasurer Nick Johnson and Melissa James serving as Secretary and Vice President. We dance on 2nd and 4th Saturdays and have lessons every Tuesday evening. Beginners classes start the first Tuesday of each month. They dance mainstream at the Hazel Dell Grange. The schedule for September and October is a little mixed up due to the hall being rented out the 4th Saturday each September to the clogging club for its Annual Convention. So we will be dark that evening and will visit the River City Dancers instead. Our first dance of September will feature Dan Nordbye calling and Julie Stiers cueing. Our "big deal" in November is the Turkey Burn-off on the Saturday following Thanksgiving. The first dance in October will have Mark Wheeler calling and Julie cueing again. We support the Seaside Sashay by going dark on the 27th. We will have our annual club pizza outing in Seaside that evening.

The **Happy Hoppers** dance Plus on the first and third Saturdays at the Washington Grange (new location) in Vancouver with Jim Hattrick and Craig Abercrombie alternating as callers and cuers. Lessons have started, using the four-by-eight format.

On a sad note, the Buzzin' Bees' cuer, Dorothy (Hoyt Brezeale) Lowder has retired due to health.

Mount Baker Council, Larry Long: The MBC Fall Council Dance will be sponsored by the Freewheelers and held on Sunday, September 30 from 2 to 5:30 at the Skagit Valley Grange. Callers are Steve Noseck and Brent Mawdsley. Cues are Debbie Taylor. The dance is all mainstream. \$8 pre-sale, \$10 at the door, teens ½ price. There will be a basket raffle and split the pot.

We have formed a Task Force on Promotion and Recruitment. The Publicity Chair for MBC has been vacant for over two years. After a challenge by Dave Harry to all clubs to get together and share best practices for recruiting new students, this group was formed. The group has met four times and is ongoing.

The group reviewed the manual on Square Dance Marketing written by Callerlab and published in March 2018. The information was very educational and pointed out that square dancing has an image problem, as well as a public awareness problem. It explained how marketing is different today in light of the increased digital presence and the enormous use of social media. It reminded us that a person needs to be exposed to an idea 4 or 5 times before they decide to act on it. This has become one goal of our task force; to increase the times that square dancing is front and center.

We also consulted with Karen Reichardt from the Spokane Council who has been successful with many internet sites to increase awareness and promote square dancing.

Lots of ideas have been shared and different clubs have tried some different approaches this year.

Happy Hoppers purchased fliers through VALPAK which were sent to 30,000 homes in their area the last week of August. An example is available if anyone is interested.

The **Dudes and Dolls** have issued a Groupon coupon campaign. Their data has shown 30-80 people a day looking at this.

“Ask Me About Square Dancing” buttons were purchased by the council and distributed to all clubs.

“Elevator pitches,” 20-30 second talking points, were also distributed for dancers to use.

Success of these efforts has yet to be seen as lessons are just getting under way. The Task Force will track the data and discuss at future meetings.

A Meetup.com site was setup for MBC and named “Western Washington Square and Social Dance.”

The intent of this site was for all clubs to have one place to list lessons and any no-experience necessary dances. Six clubs are participating at this time. (For the **Samena Squares**, we have 69 members and 11 who have RSVP’d.) We have subscribed for six months and will then evaluate the effectiveness. If successful, we will make it an annual expense for the council.

*We would like to invite all clubs in the western Washington area to utilize this site, and I have information on how to join if desired.

Other actions that the Task Force is working on: Defining our target audiences; Setting up a Facebook page for MBC; Looking into billboards, Scheduling a workshop for education on the use of social media. The goal of this Task Force is to develop a Marketing Plan that will serve as a blueprint for next year, and years to come. The vision of the Task Force is to work with the State Federation to promote square dancing throughout the entire state, to join efforts with all other councils, and to share best practices with everyone. My wife, Sherry Long researches all this information.

Our Council performed demonstration dances at 4 fairs this summer: Arlington Fly-In in Arlington, WA on July 6, Skagit Fair in Mount Vernon, WA on August 9, Northwest Washington State Fair in Lynden, WA on August 18, Evergreen State Fair in Monroe, WA on August 31.

Four clubs, the **Happy Hoppers**, the **Square Crows**, the **Freewheelers**, and the **Cascade Crossfires**, have made changes to their dance hall or dance dates. Please check the MBC website for updates for the next dance season.

Many of our clubs are starting lessons in September and October. Different clubs kick off their season in different ways. Some will sponsor a spaghetti dinner or a dessert buffet. The Dudes and Dolls are

using the first dance of their season as a “no experience necessary” dance and have invited representatives from all clubs to attend and share information about their clubs with anyone from their area who comes.

The **Fidalgo Fogcutters** will sponsor their annual Prawn Dinner and Plus Dance on October 19, with Brent Mawdsley calling and Caron Grasso cueing. Information can be found on the MBC website. In order to accommodate dancers who don't like to drive at night, who work evenings, or who just want to dance in the afternoons, Steve Noseck will offer mainstream afternoon dancing with Phase II rounds at the Cedar Valley Grange in Lynnwood, WA on the second Wednesday of the month. These will begin October 10.

For the remaining club dances for this season, please see the MBC website.

North Central Council, Jackie Chase: Noelle Miller reported that **Wheatland Whirlers** have had a busy summer attending many of the summer dances around the state. We are starting Round dance lessons are being held (through the Park & Recreation in Ephrata) on Wednesday nights starting on Sept 19th at 7:30 pm. Marilyn Holman and Noelle Miller are instructors. Cost is \$5 a single, \$10 a couple. You have to go register at the park, they take the money and then they don't have to pay rent for the building. We have been saying prayers and having good thoughts for all the fire fighters fighting fires in our area and over much of the state. Also, for those that have lost their homes. We will be starting the dance season with our first dance on September 8 with Jim Compton will be calling and Noelle Miller cueing. We are collecting school supplies for the local schools. They were very appreciative of our donations last year. September 22 dance is cancelled for Winthrop Days. This is always a good weekend of dancing and sightseeing. October 7th we will be hosting the NORTH CENTRAL COUNCIL meeting at the Ephrata Senior Center. October 13th we will be cancelling our dance to help **Appleland Promenaders** celebrate their anniversary. Happy Dancing!

Sandy Briggs reports **Cascade Twirlers** are looking forward to fall and a seeing all our friends on the dance floor. We will begin the dance season on Saturday, October 6 at the East Wenatchee Grange. This dance is a special tribute dance dedicated to our long-time club cuer, Marilyn Holman. Don Jackson will be the caller. Everyone is invited to a potluck at the grange prior to the dance at 6:30 PM. We hope to see many of you as we show our love and appreciation to Marilyn. Another highlight will be our 70th Anniversary Black Light Dance on March 16, 2019. Greg and Sue Weber will be calling and cueing. Mark your calendar now and come celebrate with us. In addition to these special dances we will have our Wild and Crazy Dance the first Saturday in April. We are planning a few trips to visit other clubs and we hope to see many of you at our dances also.

Patti Roberts reported that **4x8's** had a booth at the Grant Co. fair again this year. We passed out flyers names and talked to many people both young and old about square dancing and upcoming classes. We gathered potential dancers' names and phone numbers, and showed them video and pictures of the fun we have enjoying this activity. We have begun a new set of square dance lessons and had 11 new students on the first night and are hoping for a few more Saturday evening. We are doing a “No Experience Necessary” dance tonight before our club dance. A few club members are looking forward to Winthrop again this year. That is always a fun time of dancing and socializing and camping.

North Olympic Council, Robin Ostlund: George Broom reported that **Rhody O's** had their first lesson with their new caller, Thell & Jennifer Rooney. They had 36 members the first night and 35 students, for five squares of varying age. Last year was the first time they'd had five squares with Spike. They have very large 4' by 8' posters for promotion on the way to Sequim, Port Townsend, Port Hadlock, Port Ludlow, and they get a lot of students from the posters and word of mouth. They're doing

a good job. Dan Dubiak mentioned that Thell was a member of Round Squares and is a new caller. He's really working hard at recruiting.

Peninsula Council, Dan Dubiak: Peninsula Council would like to thank Blue Mountain council for hosting this meeting. The clubs in Peninsula Council have had a busy summer. **Paws and Taws** graduated 24 mainstream students in June. In July Square Steppers hosted an all plus weekend. Greg Weber and Adam Christman were the featured callers and Sue Weber handled the cueing for the weekend. It was so much fun that we're going to do it again next year. Adam Christman will be joined next year by national callers Kip Garvey and Don Wood. Marie Wood will be cueing. This is all happening on July 12, 13, & 14, 2019. Come on over to KSDA and join the fun in the summer. Remember we have over 50 campsites with water and power, all large enough to accommodate any size RV. August found the **Round Squares** hosting their one hit wonder night. Seven first time amateurs braved the microphone and sang (including me). Everyone had a great time and one young, new amateur is exploring the possibilities of calling more regularly. Peninsula Council hosted a summer B51 dance class as an experiment and had 17 students. We are hopeful this approach will be fruitful in teaching new dancers. Now the fall is upon us and that means beginning classes. Paws and Taws has started mainstream lessons on Monday the 10th of this month. Tuesday the Callers and Cuers have workshops to hone their skills and challenge dancers. Peninsula Council will sponsor lessons starting on Wednesday the 19th of September and will continue the B51 style classes. Round dance classes start on Thursday September 20th. You can see something is happening almost every day at KSDA. Our regular dance schedule resumes now that fall is here. Paws and Taws dance on the 1st and 3rd Fridays, **Gig Harbor Twirlers** dance the 1st and 3rd Saturdays. **Square Steppers** dance plus without rounds on the second Saturday. Round Squares dance the 4th Saturday. Every Monday afternoon **Dudes and Dolls** dance at 1:30. On March 30th, 2019 KSDA is pleased to be hosting the 3rd annual tri-council dance. Peninsula, Rainer, and Central Puget Sound Councils will be dancing to Ray Brendzy calling and Roxanne Boelter cueing. It's gonna be fun!

Council President report on Grant funds: I want to thank the state federation for their support in our campaign to market square dancing to the community. With the grant monies you gave us we have been able to get the word out about our wonderful activity. We hired a marketing expert who taught us to use social media like Facebook and Twitter. She improved our website and taught us how to keep it up and make it user friendly and in the public eye. We also learned to use many of the traditional methods of marketing as well; such as roadside signage, posters, handouts, news media and business cards. The most important part of any marketing is "word of mouth". Because we are quickly exhausting our immediate families and friends, we needed to find new outlets to spread our word. Entries into the local fairs and festivals have provided that outlet. Over the past two seasons we have been very successful in getting people to our lessons. September 2016 – more than 50 people attended our open house; January 2017 – over 40 people attended; September 2017 – over 40 people; and January 2018 – over 35 people. Even our summertime experiment resulted in 17 students Our newest endeavor: Fun Night happens Friday, September 14. We are very hopeful that we will once again have a large group of new people to introduce to Square Dancing. One more time - Thank You for your support!! Sheila Blackburn.

Rainier Council, Gail Johnston: Thanks, Blue Mountain Council for hosting this wonderful day! Council and clubs are continuing to work on our Festival preparations at the fairgrounds in Puyallup. That again will be June 20-22, 2019. It's going to be a lot of fun, so sign up early and save some money.

The Rainier, Central Puget Sound, Peninsula and possibly SouWester Councils will hold their 3rd **Lollapalooza** on Saturday evening, March 30, 2019.

Rainier Council with the **Young Bunch** hosting will hold the annual Trimble Youth Fund Dance on Saturday, September 29, 2018 located at Collins Grange with Greg Weber Calling and Sue Weber Cueing. Collins Grange 3404 120th St. E Tacoma, WA 98446. The event begins with a spaghetti dinner, with Pre-rounds are at 7:30pm and Mainstream is 8-10pm. and is prepared to show our attention to the Trimbles who had done an exceptional job in promoting square dancing so many years ago. Every year the award is given in recognize a couple, single or family who have done an outstanding job of promoting/supporting square dancing in our very own Rainier Council. The Young Bunch will be having a spaghetti dinner starting at 7 PM with the cost of \$5 per plate. We would be honored to have you join us for dinner. Cost for dancing is by donation and the proceeds will go to the Trimble Youth Fund.

Rainier Council will be holding a pre-New Year's Eve dance Saturday, December 29 at Collins Grange; details to follow.

Rainier Council Clubs: Rainier Council Clubs are participating in demo dancing at the Washington State Fair. The next demo will be at the Education Building on Sunday, September 23rd. Clubs are starting classes in September and October. On a sad note the **Rainier Callers and Cuers** are no longer an organization within Rainier Council. The next Big Dance in Rainier Council will be on October 13th at the Sumner Hall with the **Roamin Tacomans**. Plus will be from 7-8pm and Mainstream from 8-10pm. The Theme is Hob Goblin Boogie Bones Bash. The **Swingnuts** will hold the Big Dance on December 15th at the Sumner Hall. White Christmas is the theme. Plus is from 7-7:30pm and Mainstream from 7:30-9:30pm. Other Big Dances: January 26: **Bonney Lads and Lassies**- Collins Grange, February 2: **South Sound Squares**- Collins Grange, March 8: **Young Bunch**- Collins Grange, April 5: **Spinners**- Buckley Hall. Our clubs' dances are listed on <https://www.wheresthedance.com>

Sou'Wester Council, Tanya Currier: Greetings everyone. Thank you, Blue Mountain Council for hosting this meeting. Would all Sou'Wester Council members please stand. I thank my husband, Gene Currier, for driving us over for this meeting. Several clubs have been enjoying the summer by attending other clubs within the Council.

Cougar Squares attended the Washington State Festival held in Kennewick. They celebrated their 57th anniversary on June 2nd. They had their hamburger feed on August 23, with a hall full of dancers. They also did demo's at the Southwest Washington Fair August 16 & 19th. **Double A's** dance every Sunday at Lac-a-do Hall in Olympia.

Do-Si-Do's are celebrating their 69th Anniversary on Oct. 13, with a "Do Wop" themed dance. **Flutter Wheels** held their annual Barn Dance again on August 4th with eight squares attending. A fun time was held by all. It was where they raised horses and trained them. The **Harbor Haylofters** held their Strawberry Dance on June 9th. They held their Cranberries by the Sea dance and campout July 27 & 28th. Randy Carlson is the caller and Lonnie Sycks is the cuer. This might be the last year for their campout. OASDI resealed the floors at Lac-a-do Hall in June. The Memorial Day Weekend had a lot of dancers attend and the weather was great. They also replaced the sign for the hall. **Prairie Steppers** had a great turnout for their Chicken Dance. Every year they give a donation to Camp Leo for Diabetic Children. They donated \$700 this year. They also did a demo at the Southwest Washington Fair on August 16 & 19th. They lost a Prairie Stepper dancer, Skip Manes on September 2nd. **R-Square-D** will be celebrating their Octoberfest weekend on Oct 12-14 at the Rose Valley Grange. Craig Abercrombie and Adam Christman will be the callers and Susan Healea will cue. They have their German dinner Saturday night and they will also feature the River City Riders from Portland. **Ruff & Ruffles** will be

holding their Annual Pie Dance in November. This is always a fun time with lots of bidding going on. A few members attended the Washington State Festival in Kennewick. **Salty Sashayers** attended the Boeing Flight Museum and enjoyed the trip. There were five people who had unexpected car problems and couldn't make it. Maybe another time. The Saltys held a picnic at one of the parks at Lake Cushman and had a great time. The Saltys lost two past square dancers this summer. Sandra Mortenson passed on August 11th and Frency Bouchey passed in June. **Square One's** will start Plus lessons in January 2019. They will be hosting the New Year's Eve Dance on December 31st at Lac-a-do Hall. They also lost a past member, Rosalie Ballew, on July 15th.

Spokane Area Council, Joshua Strickler: Spokane Area Council would like to thank Blue Mountain Council for hosting this weekend.

Summer has been crazy busy, but the dancers of Spokane have still been busy dancing. There have been many special dances, workshops and festival dances that our members have supported. Notable dances are Montana, Idaho and Washington States festivals; Demo dances at Hillyard Days, Spokane Interstate Fair, Northtown Mall (postponed); the annual Salmon Bar-B-Cue held at the Western Dance Center - Dwaine and Peggy Brown were Hall of Fame recipients.

We were really saddened to learn of the passing of our friend and caller Don McPeak suddenly on June 6th. There were several dances held in his memory to help raise money for his family.

Spokane is also excited to congratulate the recipients of the MacGregor award, Dave & Karen Reichardt and the recipients of the Parker Inspirational Award, Doug & Priscilla Davis. It is such an honor to have two award winners in our council at the same time. Thank you to Dave, Karen, Doug and Priscilla for all that they do for our area and the square-dancing community.

At the Spokane Area Council meeting held last weekend, we were honored to have Don & Cheryl Pruitt join us to let us know more about the 2020 National Convention being held in Spokane. Our dancers were worried about what was going to be asked of them for 2020, but Don was able to relieve most of the worries by telling us that dancers are only expected to do what they want to do. He talked to us about the extra incentive that the National Executive Committee has done by splitting up the revenue to the clubs that have members helping out at the Convention. Spokane is excited to have the world's dancers coming back to our area again in 2020.

Lastly, I would like to let you know about the blast class that I had mentioned this past spring. For those of you who don't understand what a "blast class" is, it is normal square dance lesson all put into a short period of time. Our students learned all mainstream maneuvers in just seven short weeks. We had several younger students who jumped on board to be a part of this class with 23 of them graduating at the end of the high energy, high speed class this summer.

Under new business, I will be making a bid for a future state festival.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Youth Scholarship Research Committee hasn't met yet. Caleb Hatch submitted no report.

Margaret Kiser disbanded the members of By-Laws committee.

Holly Gonseth – The election to change the By-Laws passed; Articles of Incorporation passed, and on the Advisory vote to restore also passed, but off the top of my head I don't have the numbers.

Pat Hoot moved to destroy the ballots after counted; Tanya Currier seconded and the motion passed.

Sharon Boggs has youth pins to purchase at \$2.00 each.

(Break from 11:45 – 1:10) Lunch options were explained.

The kitchen workers were requested to come out to the front so the dancers could show appreciation for the delicious lunch. Cynda and Jonnie co-chaired this weekend.

Holly has given free directories to the delegates, officers per the motion that was read right before we convened for lunch.

E05 23:13 – 34:30 George and Sharon Broom re-installed the officers for the new term. (recycled airline nuts & hats were given to the “incoming” board members.)

Margaret and Kris Kiser distributed certificates and gift bags to board and committee members.

NEW BUSINESS

Doug Keyes recommended that the “**License Plate Booklet**” be reassigned to Publicity and Promotion, since it’s difficult to get information from the State. The license plates are still available to purchase. Margaret Kiser dissolved the License Plate position.

Nina Leisi requested that someone from each Council tell her (today) who their **Round Dance** representative will be this dance year.

Sou'Wester Council, Dick Blewett: I’ll be representing Sou’Wester Council for the next two years. I’d like to introduce my wife Bonnie Blewett who has been putting up with me for 59 years. I’d also like to thank Blue Mountain Council for hosting this meeting and for putting up with our bickering. Sou’Wester clubs managed to endure the summer heat and smoke with beach trips, a barn dance, ice cream, strawberries, and hamburgers. We promoted square dancing by dancing in parades and at fairs. But now school has started and most clubs have started teaching their students Square Dancing 101.

Lane Johnston, Publicity & Promotions: I’ve heard some very encouraging things from a number of you about things that relate to publicity and promotion today. There’s a poster, along with business cards to sign up and register early (on-line available); and promote the Rainier Rendezvous. We have 250+ registrations; should be over 5-600 by now. If you haven’t already registered, do so. Thank you, Blue Mountain Council for having us all back to Kennewick so soon after the State Festival! My wife, Gail is Rainier Council’s delegate. Thanks Margaret for encouraging me to take another bite at the promotions and publicity apple.

Another knee-jerk reaction to anecdotal evidence that we need to change direction promoting our activity to both our existing square dance community and to those we’d like to attract to square dancing. I’ve begun to realize perhaps for the first time, just how important publicity and promotions is to the health of our hobby. And how low on priority list effective promotion and publicity initiatives seem to be, with some notable exceptions: at the Club, State, Council – Reichardts. Lac-a-Do hall, Mt. Baker Council – very positive efforts in promotion. Attire, music, level – Having Fun. Virtual, online – technology – less costs. When faced with dwindling numbers, discussion on what to do about it invariably have led us down the path of seeking solutions for what, in my opinion, are granular or rather

small ball issues. We obsess about whether tradition or casual attire is the answer. If it's not that, then it must be that we need updated music or ten-week lesson plans or revised call lists, or Basic, Mainstream, Plus and Advanced dance levels. We have lost sight of the most important reason we participate in square dancing in the first place – to Have Fun! I'm suggesting that publicity, while being physically visible to the outside world is more important than advertising. I've come to believe being seen having fun in public is the most effective way to attract dancers. Regardless of attire or music wouldn't matter much. Being seen dancing requires coordination and time commitment. Let's find ways to be seen in the virtual, online world as often as possible. That's where we'll find the next generation of dancers. Let's leverage a little technology where it costs very little to implement.

Post photo or video showing square dancing having fun on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, etc. With use of hashtags, the volume of people seeing square dancers would be tremendous. Even non-dancers would stumble onto such posts. This could grow across the internet in fairly short order. Funds weren't allowed (no budget). Lane suggested there be a budget for publicity. Margaret Kiser requested Lane bring his recommendation to the next meeting. Unique versions of this club begin with (one to three hashtags) ### to get more "views", i.e.: #clubname, ##SeenHavingFun or ###SquareDancing. If you post to any of the sites, and put the "hashtag" #SquareDancing somewhere in your post – that appeals to the entire breadth of square dancing. To make it important to your group, refine it such as #yourclub. Then in search, you can type #SwingNuts and #squaredancing in the search field and they'll pop up instantly. Find a unique version of your club's name. We're appealing to square dancers, mostly. Non-square dancers don't have a clue; we want them to find us by accident and see that "that looks like something I might be interested in" and explore it further. The "hashtag" is a way to reach out to people who might be looking for an activity. There are very few of this hashtag: #seenhavingfun – if people associate what picture they see with that hashtag, it might trigger something within that person about "having fun". Hopefully when they click on that hashtag, they'll see hundreds of pictures of square dancers having fun. That brings us together, promoting our activity. This is a grass-roots effort. I've sent request out to 65 clubs. The next group of dancers are on Twitter, Instagram; Facebook and email are getting old. Reach out and find them; the # in social media will do that. CAUTION: don't over-use hashtags; they are useful for filtering results. I challenge you to go to Facebook, up at the very top put in the #seenhavingfun and Search. #squaredancing is a filtering technique with #seenhavingfun. If you want to see just your own club or State, put in #Washingtonsquaredancing. As chair of Promotion and Publicity, I plan on using Footnotes to ask our Federated Club to adopt the use of these hashtags. Obviously, it's optional; but the more clubs and councils that consistently use it, the better our changes will be of being seen more broadly to the people in the outside world. We need other people seeing us dance and having fun. I plan to submit a Footnotes article each month about a variety of publicity and promotion topics, including leveraging some of the more useful technology tools, where they can help us attract new dancers.

Question from the floor (unintelligible); response Yes, you can post quite a few. There's a danger in posting a lot of hashtags, because people get overwhelmed. Keep it related to your club, council, state, town. That will help refine the thousands of results to a specific area/club. But it will tie together the entire community of square dancing. We need to support each other. Ask your clubs to start doing this right now and doing a better job of that.

Lane also mentioned the State should put the money where their mouth is. I have no budget; that tells me something. Mrs. Reichardt is doing it free, and getting a lot of good results. I think the Federation needs to establish a budget for publicity. I'm asking you to consider that, so somebody could make a motion to spend \$X for publicity and promotion this year, and each succeeding year.

Margaret asked that Lane have a recommendation for the next meeting.

Margaret mentioned that the board members received an email from Cheryl Long (Mt. Baker Council) regarding the \$100K left from 2012 National Square Dance Convention. Several people have asked about accountability and would like it to be on the agenda Saturday.

Tom Rohde mentioned the Grant Committee; his experience with 2012. Because of the 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4), I got to be treasurer for two additional years. We could not use the funds because of the Federation's 501(c)(3) situation. I looked at other records to find old records of the Seattle Convention. As a new dancer since then, it was reported that everybody who square danced came to Seattle. Since then we've been struggling to keep "X" in the account until the National. It fluctuates from \$30K to \$60K. The 100K plus from 2012 National – some was donated to Youth Scholarship Fund annually. The committee was dissolved, so the State now has those funds. Tax issues are involved; the funds need to be used according to IRS guidelines. The Youth scholarships were increased from \$500 to \$750, and then to \$1,000. We have used a portion of those funds. The State Festivals are working hard, and hopefully everyone will support the festival. Festivals are the main reason we have \$40-50K, at best.

Audience - Is someone looking at a plan to make proper use of this money, or will it just sit in the account year-after-year? I'm asking that we look at a plan to start using this money for publicity or education.

Tom Rohde commented that Publicity should allow \$500 promotions each year. The Grant committee is required to follow IRS regulations for 501(c)(3) organizations. The funds are not fully distributed. We couldn't get people to donate for the Youth Scholarship fund. We can help councils or clubs; there are strict guidelines. Kay Mahan mentioned that there was a cap put on funds available for clubs and councils; when we reached that cap the Grant Committee was dissolved. That doesn't keep clubs and councils from coming to this body and requesting funds. We set up Guidelines, and those would need to be followed.

Audience How do we learn about that? I've not heard that before. Response: It should have been throughout your Council. Kay can get her the information. For the State to give to clubs, they need to have the same 501(c)(3) status. Companies wouldn't donate to Youth Scholarship because it would not be fully taxable. The NEC is trying to give the people (who are helping) more funds - We can help with Councils or clubs, but there are strict guidelines.

Doug Schafer mentioned the need to amend Articles of Incorporation with the IRS required language to state that our mission was to promote the art and culture of traditional American dances, square dancing in particular, and to educate, etc. There was a \$20 fee for Secretary of State; application filing was \$275 for Rainier Council and Young Bunch Club. Within 30 days we had an IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter. It's much easier; would be simple for any council, because the mission is promoting and facilitating education. Doug isn't sure individual clubs could get a 501(c)(3); but don't call yourself a club; call yourself an "academy" or "association" in the formal name, and indicate that your mission is promoting the art and culture of American dance forms, etc. Don't say "square dance club" on the application, because it will trigger the reviewer to think "social club".

By-Laws and Standing Rules Committee: Margaret Kiser appointed Chair Roger Barnes (SAC), with Tina Allaway (BMC), Holly Gonseth (CAC), Karen Reichardt (SAC), Doug Shafer (RC), Madalyn Cato (CPS), Roy and Janet Bellcoff (EC), Tom Corney (MBC), Del Chase (NCC), George Broom (PAC) and (SWC) tbd on the committee.

Future Festivals: Joshua Strickler moved that Spokane Area Council bids to host the State Festival June 17th and 18th, 2022 to be held in Spokane, Washington. We have a young team

ready to chair this festival and will have more details about location and events that we will hold soon, if this is awarded. Pat Hoot seconded; motion passed.

Good of the Order

Jim Swanson - Each year Caller Lab goes through all the levels of square dancing and change things as they see fit. This year they moved $\frac{3}{4}$ tag from Plus level into the Mainstream level and added $\frac{1}{4}$ tag as well. (Clarification by Dave Boggs: they are recommending a Set hand hold in lines or circles – Right hand Up; Left hand Down. It's to accommodate same-sex dancers, all position choreography where gentlemen will find themselves next to each other. They also brought the whole "Tag" family into Mainstream. You've already danced $\frac{1}{4}$ tag when you "pass the ocean".)

Our Youth Clubs had a meeting in Mt. Vernon. We need to help educate the youth callers. Teens in the PNTSDF will now be able to receive a Memorial Scholarship named after Andrew Huber for full tuition for the caller's college of their choice. Funds available for College of their choice.

Fliers will be out in a month for the State meeting in Yakima on May 15th.

Advisory vote passed; so now we need to proceed with that. Holly repeated: Advisory vote to determine the persons empowered to vote in the State Council (the governing board). The Articles of Incorporation passed and was re-filed with the State.

Dick Blewitt asked Holly if the new Articles will be added to the White Book. Yes.

**Future meetings: February 16, 2019, North Spokane Dance Center, Spokane
 May 15, 2019, Yakima Square & Round Dance Center, Moxee**

Joshua is finalizing some things before getting the fliers out for February's State Meeting. It will be sent out within the next month.

Don Pruitt mentioned Tony Oxendine had 63 new callers for his New Callers School (tuition free) with ten National Callers in Kansas City; he has 57 already enrolled for Atlanta. If you know anybody who wants to get practice - when it comes to Spokane, we will have the Callers School Sunday-Tuesday before the convention. In Kansas City they rented a hall of their own Thursday night to call for the squares who show up; Atlanta is thinking about doing the same thing; also planned for Spokane. It's tuition free if you're Registered for the Convention. They learn from the best. We'll have a table set up for Ways & Means for the 2020 Nationals in Spokane. Register for the Nationals, please; we need some people from the State of Washington so at least we can save face.

Sharon Broom thanked the dancers for those collecting aluminum tabs for Kidney Dialysis Research. Just a note – there are aluminum tabs (75¢) and metal tabs (35¢) per pound – Please keep them separated because if they're mixed, they will want them; if they find metal, you get the 35¢ per pound. (Metal tabs come from soup/fruit/veggie/meat cans.) She has five large bags of tabs, so she will take out the metal tabs before turning them in.

Sharon mentioned that Spike Reid's McNutt recognition dance will be October 13, 2018 at the Gorst Hall, near Bremerton.

Bruce Ottoson mentioned Wild Rose Ramblers have their first dance with Dee Dee Dougherty-Lottie from Minneapolis, Minnesota on October 6. She is cueing line dances from 2:00-4:00 p.m.; then 7:00-8:00 Plus, 8:00-10:00 Mainstream, with Rounds by Genie Parrill at North Spokane Dance Center.

You guys have all heard about the pastor visiting the parishioner at the hospital and ate all of his nuts, and went to apologize. The guy said that's okay, I already sucked the chocolate off. George and Sharon, some of us would like the chocolate on those peanuts – HA!

Joshua Strickler announced that Diamond Squares will host the MacGregor dance for Dave & Karen Reichardt on November 10 (our regular Veterans dance) at the Western Dance Center.

Final Officer Comments:

Holly – Look, the Directory!

Glen – Nice job, Holly. Thanks again Blue Mountain Council for a great weekend. Come on back and have fun tonight at the dance. If you're here for the BBQ, I hear it'll be a good one. We had a great time last year, and this year can only go forward. Let's go back to clubs, councils and be enthusiastic about what we're doing. I know we've got lessons starting up in a lot of clubs now, so let's get some more dancers. We need to fill our halls again. Support each other; we're one big family.

Tom – Donna and I went out four different nights in our council, and danced a little bit in Alaska. We appreciate you all being here today; see you tonight!

Judy – Thanks again for hosting the meeting. The dance last night was a blast, and I expect tonight's to be just as good. Thanks for all your time and focus on this meeting. We got some important stuff taken care of.

Margaret – Frank I'm almost done and it's almost 3:00. I work well under pressure. Kris is here through thick and thin. Thanks, Blue Mountain Council, Cynda and Jonnie and all their helpers for doing what they do so well. Come back at 5:00 – if you didn't reserve for the BBQ, I understand we have an extra 10-12 servings. Come back tonight for the Prairie Shufflers dance with Daron calling and Nina cueing. Thanks to the delegates, my board, George and Sharon for doing the install, and I look forward to a wonderful year.

Meeting adjourned 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Ottoson

Recording Secretary