

**Square Dance Association of Wisconsin - Quarterly Meeting**  
**Prairie Hill Waldorf School - Pewaukee Wisconsin – January 27, 2019**

**2018 Officers** President - Karen Gulbrand (**Absent**) ; Vice President - Bob Dahnert;  
Secretary - Lucy Mattson; Treasurer - Charlie/Jan Bitter; Publicity - Sharon Albright (**Absent**)

**Call to Order** Vice President: Bob Dahnert @ 10:35 am

**Roll Call - Delegates** Secretary: Lucy Mattson

Delegates Present:

NW Central Area Callers

Sharon Albright (**Absent**)

Alternate(s): **To be determined**

NW Central Area Dancers

Terry Prust & Jack Franklin (**Both Absent**)

Alternate(s): **To be determined**

Southeast Area Callers

Wayne Irwin

Alternates: Ted & Doris Palmen)

Southeast Area Dancers

Wayne & Lucy Mattson

Alternate: Elaine Irwin

Southwest Area Callers

Kathy Nickel & Tom Nickel

Alternates: Dave & Betsy Schulz

Southwest Area Dancers

Bob Dahnert & Barb Gugel

Alt: David Lust & Sharon Schmidt

Wolf River Area Callers

Charlie & Jan Bitter

Alternate: **Mike Seurer (Absent)**

(Mike Seurer absent for roll call but joined meeting later.)

Wolf River Area Dancers

**Karen & Ellery Gulbrand (Absent)**

Alternates: Ron & Janelle Mueller

**Secretary's Report**

Lucy Mattson: November meeting minutes were distributed.

**\*Approve November minutes as distributed**

Motion: Ron Mueller

Second: Kathy Nickel

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

**Treasurer's Report**

Jan Bitter (see attached report)

**Checking Balance =** General Fund **\$3,019.62**

+ Promotion Fund **\$1,456.45** (includes \$200 for scholarship)

**\$5,220.74**

Note donation of \$20.00 from Wayne Irwin

Many transactions for scrip cards – receipts and disbursements.

**Savings Balance =**

**\$3,179.70** (corrected: only change is + \$0.28 interest)

**Investment Balance (Thrivent) =**

**\$10,057.15** (Quarterly loss of \$569.48)

**\*Approve Treasurer's Report**

Motion: Wayne Mattson

Second: Sharon Schmidt

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

**Flag Foundation**

Bob Dahnert

- Prior Balance \$280.98: No change. Still no vendor found to make flags. Foundation may disband, as few dancers use antenna flags now. Decals are available.

**Historian**

Bob Dahnert

- Bob would like pictures of older conventions and older convention letterhead.
- Historian was thanked for providing information about the 10<sup>th</sup> convention in Waukesha.

**Publicity**

Sharon Albright - Souvenir Book ad presented (from e-mail) for review.

Discussion: ad to be same as last year – full page in color

\*Approve purchase of ad as reviewed and discussed for the Convention Booklet

Motion: Wayne Mattson

Second: Charlie Bitter

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

**Here 'Tis/"Where to Dance"**

Scott Deal – Absent – Bob Dahnert notes that some corrections to WTD have been made.

**USDA Insurance**

Marilyn Kittle

- Renewal forms were returned from seven clubs by the end of 2018.

**Caller/Cuer Scholarship**

Tom Nickel

- No applications received. There is money available.
- Scholarship requirements and application forms are on the SDAW web site.
- In response to a question, the caller scholarship program was explained.

**Convention Exec. Sec.**

Bob Dahnert (for Karen Gulbrand)

- Financial documents from 2018 have been finalized.
- Met with tax accountant to prepare taxes
- Invoices for BMI/ASCAP have been received
- Raffle License applications will be submitted
- Insurance to be renewed in May

**Dancer Hall of Fame**

Bob Dahnert (for Scott Deal)

- Some applications have been received and referred to committee.

**Webmaster**

Scott Deal – Absent – No report.

**Convention Reports****2019****SWA**

- Convention to be held at the Madison Marriott West Hotel in Middleton on August 9 -11, 2019.
- 313 registered to date.
- Colors: Royal Purple and Silver and White with 'Bling'. Make it 'sparkle'.
- New Promotion (Kathy Nickel): Raffle tix for 2 nights in the Marriott Presidential suite.  
All who are registered by June 15<sup>th</sup> are eligible and now additional chances may be purchased.  
Also, those who sell ten tickets will be entered for another chance as well.
- Marriott hotel rooms are still available.

**2020****Wolf River Area – Janelle Mueller, Assistant General Chair**

- Location: Horace Mann, North Fond du Lac School. Registration begins Feb. 1.
- Dates: August 15-16-17, 2020. Available dates limited due to other major events in August with limited lodging availability and increased rates, so could not schedule earlier.
- Theme: "Set your Sights on 2020" - Colors Black & White
- Featured Caller: Caller couple, Jon Jones & Deborah-Carroll Jones, from Arlington, TX.
- Still need Fashion Show, Services, and Showcase Chairs. Contact Mike Seurer.

**2021****Southeast Area**

- General Chairs to be approved later today at Convention Board meeting.

## Old Business

1. Publicity - Wayne Mattson: There was good discussion and there were some ideas presented at the dancer education meeting this morning about the proposed state-wide and ongoing square dance awareness program, and how it is to differ from local club promotion. For example, Tracy Nickel proposed reimbursement of expenses for a traveling exhibition group, if that could be established. **(See attachment)**

Re the marketing effort - from Sharon Albright e-mail: As discussed and approved previously, a group is to be formed to establish guidelines for the appropriate use and approval of funds earmarked for the state-wide and ongoing square dance awareness program. Sharon requests participation of dancers and callers from each area. Contact Sharon Albright if interested in giving input: [sla13bjt@outlook.com](mailto:sla13bjt@outlook.com)

## 2. Shortened square dance teaching program

Eric Tangman: As discussed previously, the intent of shortened teaching programs is to make it easier for new people to get into square dance & begin involvement in club activities sooner than they do currently in most cases. These are 12-week programs that enable **(not require)** clubs to offer lessons multiple times per year and have new dancers begin participating in club dances at some level after about 6 weeks. They would not have to wait months to start (as has often been the case), and also then get to enjoy quickly the fellowship that the square dance community offers.

Such shortened teaching programs have existed for some time in different areas of the country and generally work well, especially in "islands" of dancers where dancers do not travel a lot. In other areas, such programs would not work well if all clubs in the area do not work together and coordinate lessons and dance level. There are certain Mainstream calls that would not be taught in a shortened program, so all clubs in an area would have to agree on dance level. The mainstream calls not taught initially could be workshopped after the initial set of lessons or folded into the PLUS program. There would be a transition and implementation period to coordinate all of this. This program (SSD) would not affect PLUS dancers at all.

The request is for the SDAW to endorse the Callerlab shortened teaching program or "Sustainable Square Dance" (SSD) program and its associated teaching materials as the preferred teaching program for new dancers in Wisconsin.

Much discussion and feedback from areas ensued about: (1) how this would affect dancers going to state or national conventions, etc.; (2) the point at which new dancers would learn the remaining Mainstream calls; (3) remarks about current dances now being called at the SSD level with no problems; (4) callers learning to enrich choreography with fewer calls; (5) what this level of dance would be called at convention or elsewhere.

All of these issues would be dealt with by a group commissioned to develop an implementation strategy that would span some appropriate period of time. A good deal of planning and coordination would be needed. The state organization (SDAW) must lead the way by endorsement and education, as the SDAW cannot force any club to change its policy. Most agreed that some change in approach is needed, as current trends and practices do not bode well for the future of Square Dance in Wisconsin.

\*SDAW - Endorse the concept that Callerlab SSD be the preferred teaching program in Wisconsin for new dancers with implementation plan to be determined.

Motion: Wayne Mattson  
In Favor (Show of Hands) All

Second: Barb Gugel  
Opposed: None

Jan Bitter noted that a workshop will be offered at the 2019 convention for callers and dancers about the SSD program.

Those interested in participating in implementation committee, contact Eric Tangman. Several persons expressed interest. Others in the areas may also be interested. Further info in May.

3. Mike Seurer added to the to 2020 convention report that, in addition to positions previously stated, also needed is a Squares Programming chair. Registration form has been approved.

### **New Business**

1. Alternate Delegates needed for USDA meeting at National Convention  
Pat & Dennis Faherty (Hartland Hoedowners) volunteer. (Thank you Pat & Dennis)

\*Approve Fahertys as WI Alternate Delegates to USDA

Motion: Wayne Mattson                      Second: Charlie Bitter  
In favor: All                                      Opposed: None

2. Purchase of marketing trinkets for handout at Showcase in Atlanta:  
Discussion: Consensus to approve same amount as last year. Amount: up to \$200.00

\*Approve purchase of marketing materials for National Convention as discussed

Motion: Kathy Nickel                      Second: David Lust  
In Favor: All                                      Opposed: none

3. Prep Bid for 2024 National Convention to be held in Wisconsin  
Discussion: Intent to bid approved in November, but if we are agreed to present an “intent”, we need to allow start of preparation now.

\*Proceed with bid prep for National Convention to be held in Wisconsin

Motion: Jan Bitter                      Second: Lucy Mattson  
In Favor: Most                                      Opposed: One (Ron Mueller)

4. Exhibition Group for promotion                      Tracy Nickel  
See Proposal attached  
- Tracy seeks permission to proceed with recruiting dancers/callers interested in forming a traveling square dance exhibition group. More than eight dancers would be needed, to include some younger dancers and participants from all areas. Tracy will present ideas at other clubs.  
- A committee to oversee would be formed.  
- Use funds available to reimburse for travel, marketing, videoconferencing, etc.  
- Take back to clubs to determine interest.  
- Funding will come under purview of state marketing group.  
  
**- Consensus is that Tracy may proceed with seeking interested parties. Further discussion or decision about this is tabled until the May meeting.**

5. Tri-Fold brochure printing  
Discussion: The tri-fold brochure has been very useful in reminding dancers to ‘save the date’ for future WI conventions. Kathy Nickel noted that the cost for this should go under promotion budget

\*Approve cost of printing tri-fold brochures as in past years.

Motion: Kathy Nickel                      Second: Wayne Mattson  
In Favor : All                                      Opposed: None

7. USDA Secretary for 2019 – 2020  
Ellery & Karen Gulbrand have agreed to serve as USDA Secretary for 2019-2020.

\*Approve Ellery & Karen Gulbrand to be USDA Secretary for 2019-2020

Motion: Charlie Bitter                      Second: Kathy Nickel  
In Favor: All                                      Opposed: None

7. USDA Youth Scholarship Fund

Discussion: SDAW donate to fund in amount same as last year

\* SDAW donate \$100.00 to USDA Scholarship Fund

Motion: Kathy Nickel

Second: Charlie Bitter

In Favor : All

Opposed; none

**Announcements/Other**

1. - Jimmie Burss introduced his son Daniel, who will be applying for Youth Scholarship and may have some interest in learning to call.

- As part of a school project, Daniel is organizing a benefit dance for the Heart Association and a Food Party Drive for St. Mathias Church: April 28<sup>th</sup> - St. Mathias Parish Hall in Milwaukee - Flyers available – First hour of dance will be Intro to Square Dance for new dancers.

2. SDAW Website

Tracy Nickel will be re-programming the SDAW website. She requests pictures of officers and delegates for the site.

3. Kathy Nickel: Petunia City Squares Sweetheart Dance – Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> – Flyers and advance discounted tickets are available.

4. Jan Bitter : Benefit Dance for Organ Donor Awareness - May 19 in Oshkosh - DeeDee calling - Flyers available.

**Adjourn**

12:10 pm

**Next meeting** – **Wolf River Area** – May 5, 2019 at Valley Packaging in Appleton.

Flyers available.

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**Respectfully submitted,  
Lucy Mattson, Secretary**