

**FOLK DANCE FEDERATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC.  
ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES  
FIESTA DE SONOMA  
VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING  
SONOMA, CALIFORNIA  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2000**

President Craig Blackstone called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.  
Frank Bacher, Redwood Council President, welcomed everyone to the festival.

President Craig introduced Susan Kitazawa as the acting Sergeant of Arms.  
She announced a quorum was present.

Greg Mitchell moved the Assembly minutes of April 30, 2000 be approved as presented.  
Carlos Ruling voiced a second. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:**

**PRESIDENT:** President Craig reported receipt of a payment of \$882.00 on one of the annuities received from the estate of Ann D'Alvy and that the second annuity was still in process. He also reported he had received notice of the death of Carolyn Riedeman, a past president of the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., who died July 25. A notice will be put in "Let's Dance".

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Vice President Greg Mitchell reported he had convened a Council Presidents' meeting and that the next one will be held at the Treasurer's Ball in December when he will have information about the Nominating Committee Chairperson..

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Secretary Laila Messer reported she had completed the typing and copying of the new bylaws. A copy was sent to each of the 70 member clubs. A cover letter explained that the enclosed bylaws were an "...official copy of the Bylaws of the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc." She explained that the copying was done by Office Depot, a commercial copy center, because the old Ricoh copy machine does not make clean double-sided copies. The single-sided cover letter was done on the old Ricoh.

Laila also reported comments shared with her about concern over the two month period required for getting the "Let's Dance" magazine out to members. The fellow dancer had expressed concern that the two month period of when copy needed to be sent in to the time the magazine was printed and mailed was too long. Some events are not planned far in advance thereby making it difficult for a person, club, or group to get their information advertised and distributed in time in "Let's Dance".

Discussed were the various factors and time elements involved in the business of getting the "Let's Dance" magazine out to the members. Comments included the following:

1. That the printer needs copy by the first of the month in order to have the magazine ready by the 15th of the month to allow for mailing, etc;
2. That the editor, the layout person, and the printer all need time to prepare;

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3. That the mailing takes time, that it is not sent out as first class mail;
4. That there be a person responsible for knowing dates, times and places of dance events and that that person's phone number be included in the announcement of events;
5. That a person be responsible for knowing whom to call if information is not readily available;
6. That the biggest problem getting information into the magazine about groups' events is that their people do not submit their information;
7. That Council presidents be responsible for gathering information of planned events and that they have their phone numbers listed in "Let's Dance" as resource people;
8. That some people like to plan far in advance and appreciate knowing of events months, even many months, ahead;
9. That the existing Federation phone number be included in every major phone book of an area, and that the person handling that phone be responsible for answering inquiries.

The secretary will find out the prices for placing the Federation phone number in telephone white pages, yellow pages, and the cost for a simple yellow page ad and report back at the next meeting.

**TREASURER:** Treasurer Page Masson read the Treasurer's report. (Attached). She explained that the unusual amount of expenses were due to the cost of 4 scholarships for 4 students to attend Folk Dance Camp and the co-sponsoring of the Pourparler.

She reported the annuity monies were deposited into the savings account.

Frank Bacher moved the Treasurer's report be accepted as present. Jim Oxford seconded and the motion carried.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Chairperson Sidney Messer reported a total of 452 members. Associate members number 159, Clubs number 70 making a total of 229 Associate members who receive the "Let's Dance" magazine and the Assembly minutes for the \$22.50 fee. An additional 191 members receive the "Let's Dance" magazine only. Complimentary memberships number 32. At present there are 11 who are 90 days over-due in payment.

**PUBLICATIONS:** Chairperson Joel Bruxvoort reported there have been over 50 countries that have visited the Federation web site. Countries include many such as East Timor and Trinidad but the bulk of hits have been from Japan, United States, the Netherlands and Canada. The most requested information are dance descriptions. Frequently requested dance descriptions have been for Couple Hasapiko, Cotton Eyed Joe and Tarantella. Joel has a redesign of the Federation's web pages but the design is not yet on the site.

Sales of volumes in hard form totaled \$250.00 since July 2000. They were Dance Description books.

In order to sell on the Internet, a credit card account would be required which would cost \$45.00 per month in fees. Discussed were the various factors involved in opening such an account. Ideas included the following:

1. More publications could be sold if the Federation had a credit card account;
2. That perhaps the Federation could "piggy-back" on the Folk Dance Camp account;

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3. That the Federation is in a good position to sell publications because the Dance Research Committee has done such an amazing job their wonderful material can be offered for sale;
4. That there could be an Internet membership;
5. That it would be worthwhile to give a credit account a try;
6. That the existing web site has been on for about 4 years;
7. That sales resulting from the Internet were more than sales resulting from other ways;
8. That inquiries come from around the world;
9. That it is sometimes more costly to convert checks from one country into the currency of another country than the product being purchased;
10. That material other than that put out by the Federation could be offered for sale, such as books written by dance teachers;
11. That there are few sources for music;
12. That a person is needed to compile the sources for music;
13. That a new membership level, an E-member, could be provided on the Internet with restricted access to Federation materials;
14. That E-members should not get materials for less money than other members.

After the interesting conversation and exploration of the various ideas, Carlos Ruling moved that we empower Joel to set up a credit card merchant account for the Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc.. Frank Bacher seconded. Motion carried.

Joel also reported that there will soon be a new Federation publication, the "Index & Pronunciation Guide, Part II", which should be available by the beginning of the new year. Joel said a committee is needed to help with the Internet projects such as dance descriptions, events and music.

President Craig pointed out that since volunteers no longer help with the mailing of the "Let's Dance" Magazine, The Federation pays a labor cost of \$148.00 per month per issue to get the magazine mailed. He said a motion was needed to approve the monies for that purpose. Fran Ajoian moved and Frank Bacher seconded that the Federation continue to use the printer of "Let's Dance" magazine for mailing. Motion passed.

**HISTORIAN:** Chairperson Mel Mann had no report.

**PUBLICITY:** Chairperson Michael Norris had no report.

**STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**DANCE RESEARCH:** Chairperson Ruth Ruling announced the next meeting will be held October 8 at Joyce Uggl's home to discuss assignments and the results of the folk dance poll done by Frank Bacher. She also reported that the work on the "Index & Pronunciation Guide, Part II" will be completed following the end of December 2000.

**INSURANCE:** Frank Bacher reported that 64 of the 70 member clubs are insured through the Federation. Because the insurance company needs 45 days to process applications, Frank

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said clubs must start organizing their insurance information in October so they can be covered by the beginning of the year 2001.

TEACHERS COMMITTEE: Absent

COSTUME RESEARCH: Absent

ROTATING COMMITTEES:

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: No report.

INSTITUTE: Ruth Ruling reported that Barbara Bevan is the Institute Committee Chairperson. The October Harvest Festival will have an Institute but it will not be a Federation sponsored institute.

FINANCE: Absent

NORTH/SOUTH: Chairperson Irene Oxford reported the next North/South meeting will be held October 22 in Fresno at the Harvest Festival at 10:30 a.m.. The Assembly meeting follows beginning at 11:45 a.m..

STATEWIDE: Chairperson Fran Ajoian reported that Statewide 2000 income was \$5071.00. Expenses were \$4673.44 which resulted in a profit of \$397.56 and that the Committee came under budget.

Greg Mitchell is making inquiries about Sacramento as host for the next Statewide.

Upcoming festivals and events include:

Pourparler in Sacramento, September 14, 15, 16.

The Autumn Harvest Festival in Fresno, October 21 and 22

The Kolo Festival in San Francisco during the Thanksgiving Weekend

The Treasurers Ball in Sonoma, December 3

The Peninsula Festival in January, 2001

The Sweetheart Festival in Napa, February 10, 2001

The Festival of the Oaks in Berkeley, February 27, 2001

The Camellia Festival in Sacramento, March 10 and 11, 2001

Greg Mitchell moved the meeting be adjourned. Frank Bacher seconded.  
Meeting adjourned at 12:51 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Laila Messer, Recording Secretary

GENERAL FUND BEGINNING BALANCE \$ 30,277.96  
Expenses

<u>Income</u>			
Federation dues	\$ <u>104.00</u>	Let's Dance	\$ <u>1,954.68</u>
Let's Dance Subscriptions	\$ <u>883.25</u>	Social Events	\$ <u>964.26</u>
Advertising	\$ _____	Educational Events	\$ <u>4.75</u>
Publications	\$ _____	Taxes	\$ _____
Social Events	\$ <u>1,224.00</u>	Office	\$ <u>174.34</u>
Educational Events	\$ <u>15.00</u>	Telephone	\$ <u>81.27</u>
Interest	\$ <u>76.62</u>	Misc.	\$ <u>1,890.00</u>
Misc.	\$ <u>101.25</u>		
	\$ _____		
TOTAL	\$ <u>2,404.12</u>	TOTAL	\$ <u>5,069.30</u>

NET GENERAL FUND ~~(A-)~~ \$ 2,665.18      ENDING BALANCE \$ 27,612.78

INSURANCE BEGINNING BALANCE \$ 4,897.20  
EXPENSES

<u>INCOME</u>			
Premiums & Admin. fees-FAX	\$ <u>440.50</u>	Insur. Premiums	\$ <u>282.10</u>
		Admin. costs (dupl, tele, postg, FAX, refunds)	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ <u>440.50</u>	TOTAL	\$ <u>282.10</u>
NET INSURANCE (+/-)	\$ <u>158.40</u>	ENDING BALANCE	\$ <u>5,055.60</u>

RECAP OF ACCOUNTS

Checking - General	<u>6,508.15</u>
Checking - Insurance	<u>5,055.60</u>
Savings	<u>2,836.60</u>
CD - Lets's Dance Trust	<u>7,021.11</u>
CD BUSINESS	<u>11,246.92</u>
TOTAL	<u>32,668.38</u>

