WHEREAS, square dancing evolved from the various national and folk dances brought to America by the first settlers and the immigrants that followed; and

WHEREAS, square dancing has provided recreational opportunities for Americans while contributing to social interaction between people of differing backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, composed of basic moves called and performed in varied combinations, square dancing promotes physical activity, friendship, and goodwill among participants and spectators; and

WHEREAS, square dancing continues to appeal to people of all ages, walks of life, and backgrounds.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 2004 as

SQUARE DANCE MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to celebrate this truly American recreational folk dance and the positive effect it has on our quality of life.