

DANCE WHISPERS

National Smooth Dancers, Inc.

LOS ANGELES
PARENT CHAPTER

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Publication of
N. S. D., Inc.



MARCH - APRIL

2010

Liz Bradford, Editor

Social Calendar Los Angeles Chapter

Sunday, March 141:00 PM
St. Patricks Dance El Monte
Sunday, April 111:30 PM
Spring Dance - El Monte
Sunday, May 21:00 PM
Mexican Fiesta - El Monte
Sunday, June 131:00 PM
Summer Dance - El Monte

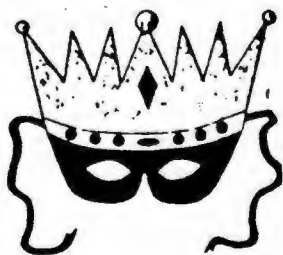
"WEARIN' of THE GREEN"

Sunday, March 14 is the date of our St. Patrick's Party at the El Monte Senior Center, 3120 Tyler Ave. in El Monte.

The business meeting will start at 1:00 P.M. followed by a dance lesson and general dancing.

Light refreshments will be served at 4:00 P.M. The price for members and guests is \$12.00. Please make checks payable to NSD and send to Susan Johnson, 2328 Loma Vista St., Pasadena, CA 91104. (626) 794-1101.

Casual green apparel will be in order.



MARDI GRAS

On Saturday, January 30, we gathered at the Courtyard by Marriott in Monrovia to honor State Queen Jodene Catterlin as she continues to represent the Los Angeles Chapter for the coming year.

With a sold out hotel, it was not possible for us to reserve a hospitality suite so we made do with three rooms on the same floor - using one for wine and soft drinks, one for sandwiches, chips, deviled eggs, and crackers and cheese and one for a lavish display of desserts. Hosting these rooms were the Catterlins, Johnsons, and Liz Bradford. There were many helping hands including the Lloyds, Russells, Scholtzes, Joy and George and Roger Lewis. We kind of took over the hall as traffic moved from room to room. It was all very sociable and fun as members from other chapters arrived.

The ballroom was transformed into a fantasy of Mardi Gras as Chuck Johnson decorated the tables with tall revolving black vases topped with fancy masks

(continued on Page 2)

2010 STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS PROGRAM BAKERSFIELD - MARCH 26, 27, 28, 2010 MARRIOTT HOTEL "UNDER A CHERRY BLOSSOM MOON"

FRIDAY - MARCH 26

2:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Registration and Hospitality.....	Restaurant
7:30 - 12:00 AM	"Sake Hop" \$50.00.....	Ballroom
	Casual Attire	
11:00 PM	Daikoku Restaurant Buffet	Ballroom

SATURDAY - MARCH 27

9:00 AM - 12 Noon	Registration.....	Ballroom Lobby
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Contestants Dance Practice	Ballroom
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Dance Rules Committee	Belridge
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Presidents Meeting	Harvest
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Board of Directors Meeting.....	Hammons
11:00 AM - 12 Noon	Dance Seminar \$5.00 At Door.....	Ballroom
12 Noon - 1:00 PM	Queen's Reception.....	Hammons Room
	(Reigning Queens & Escorts)	
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	"Dance Festival" \$25.00.....	Ballroom
	Casual Attire	
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Contests: Senior Waltz & Social Swing	
	Beginners Waltz & Cha Cha	
6:30 PM - 7:00 PM	No Host Bar.....	Ballroom
7:00 PM	Royal Dinner Dance \$80.00	Ballroom
8:30 PM	Queen's Coronation	Formal
9:15 PM	Dance Exhibition	
10:00 PM	Contests: Intermediate Smooth & Std.	
	Advanced Smooth & Standard, Champions	

SUNDAY - MARCH 28

9:00 AM - 12:00	Breakfast "Sayanara" \$30.00.....	Ballroom
	Speeches, Awards & Drawing	

PACKAGE DEAL:: \$135.00 Per Person if postmarked by March 17, 2010 (\$155.00 thereafter) Mail Package reservations to: Bakersfield Smooth Dancers; Frances Hein 6302 Broadmoor Ct. Bakersfield, CA 93306 (661) 871-3270

HOTEL; Marriott Hotel 801 Truxtun Ave. Bakersfield 93301. (661) 323-1900 Special rates for Smooth Dancers offered prior to March 12, 2010 \$98.00+ tax. Contestants required to have a package deal and must be amateur NSD member.

GENERAL CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING;
Charlene Miller, 2600 Barrington #15 Bakersfield, CA 93309 (661) 831-0877.
Contest Chairman: Larry Johnson (661) 399-4824



SPRING DANCE

Our annual Spring Dance is set for Sunday, May 2, 2010. The earlier date was scheduled to avoid conflict with Mother's Day which is always the 2nd Sunday in May. The event will take place at the El Monte Senior Center.

A short business meeting will be held at 1:00 P.M. with a dance lesson and general dancing following.

Refreshments will be served about 4:00 P.M.

Admission is \$12.00 for members and guests. Make checks payable to NSD and send to Susan Johnson at the address above.

The Spring Dance is a dressy event and is a long standing tradition of the Los Angeles Chapter.



Gordon and Marjorie Lodwick celebrated their 70th Anniversary in January. After 5 straight days of rain, the sun came out and brightened the day of the lovely luncheon put on by their family. Several people spoke of how generous they are and what good friends they had been. In spite of some health problems, they have continued to support the club for many years.

I enjoyed a Caribbean cruise on the Crystal Serenity calling at Grand Turk, Grand Cayman and Key West. It was fun dancing with the hosts on the big, beautiful floor of the Palm Court to our style of ballroom music by a rhythmic sextet. At 900 passengers, it has a very friendly atmosphere, especially for dancers.

Lorraine Rohloff is not only a beautiful dancer, she is also an accomplished artist with a recent showing of her paintings in Ventura which included animals, landscapes and portraits.

It was great to see Angela Camilton at our "Mardi Gras" Queen's event. She was wearing a lavish feathered and sequined mask as was Joy Michaels.

We were dismayed to learn on the morning of the event, that Susan Lewis had fallen and bruised her toe. She was unable to attend, but sent her deviled eggs for the hospitality anyway. She was greatly missed. This complicated their plans to fly back east in February for her granddaughter's wedding.

It was my pleasure to have Jon Gatyas as a guest for the dinner dance. Many of you have attended his dance tours in the past. He still teaches and has Sunday night dances at his Long Beach studio. He is thinking about organizing a dance cruise from Los Angeles. I'll keep you posted.

Tina Van Zandt and Steve Olowiany enjoyed attending his granddaughter's Debutante Ball at the Universal Sheraton Hotel.

(continued from Page 1) and silver streamers. Purple and gold fan folded napkins added to the decor.

After Jodene made her entrance, all chapter queens were introduced by Emcee, Roger Lewis to music by David Moorhouse who played for dancing throughout the evening. After the traditional Queen's Waltz, they exited to the lively tempo of "All That Jazz".

David played many requests and two mixers. The highlight of the evening was the professional exhibition by Elena Krifuks and Maks Kapitanchuk from the "You Can Dance" Studio in Hermosa Beach operated by Jonathan Roberts and Anna Trebunskaya from Dancing with the Stars. Their performance included a cha cha and bolero and after a costume change a lively jive. The audience was very appreciative and applauded accordingly.

Earlier in the evening we were entertained by two round dances performed by the Catterlins friends and professionally called by David Moorhouse.

Over 100 people enjoyed the dinner and entertainment for the evening. We thank all of the out of town guests who supported this special event.

Sunday morning we gathered in the hotel lobby for a lavish breakfast buffet as members socialized and said their goodbyes till the next Coronation event in San Diego, on March 6.

The Catterlins were excellent hosts throughout the weekend providing many extra touches. Susan Johnson was Chairman and took care of all hotel arrangements, reservations, seating and hospitality. George Camilton designed the beautiful programs. Chris Lloyd was in charge of the Queen's entrances. It was indeed a "Crowning Moment".

The Queen's program along with Dance Whispers is so important to maintaining communication between the chapters. It is especially fun to have the two statewide weekends to renew friendships.

DANCE WHISPERS MAILING

Any member of any chapter who would like to receive their copy of Dance Whispers as soon as possible, may send self-addressed and stamped envelopes to Liz Bradford, 9904 Norlain Ave., Downey, CA 90240. Phone (562) 928-5505.

Papers are usually in the mail before the first of the month in January, March, May, July, September and November. The bulk mailing goes to the other chapters and then must be distributed to their members which can then result in delays.

You may access Dance Whispers by using our web site: www.nationalsmoothdancers.com

On our home page, click the word "Whispers" which will take you to the first page. At the bottom of this page is a series of boxes from 2 to 6. You can click on one of these and it will take you to the corresponding page in Whispers.



CUPID'S CAPER

The El Monte Senior Center was colorful with red and white tablecloths and tall red vases with either cupid or heart cutouts by the Johnsons.

It was wonderful to see some of our long time members in attendance including Margie Bradstock with her partner, Gene Taylor; Andy Anderson with Marla, Al and Genny Green and Tony and Dee Dee Novak.

After an informative meeting, we had a fun dance lesson in swing from the Johnsons.

Susan Lewis had prepared a special program of music covering just about every dance tempo with almost every title including the word "love". It was time consuming for her and much appreciated.

At refreshment time, we were treated to a gorgeous array of pastries to suit any taste highlighted by big pink heart shaped cookies. Chris Lloyd assisted Susan Johnson and provided baggies for take home.

Dance Whispers is the publication of the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Smooth Dancers, a non profit organization devoted to the preservation and promotion of ballroom dancing, and is published bimonthly in January, March, May, July, September and November.

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www.nationalsmoothdancers.com

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STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES

March 6, 2010
San Diego Coronation
March 26-28, 2010
Board Meeting Bakersfield
April 10, 2010
Golden Gate Coronation
May 15, 2010
Visalia Coronation
June 5, 2010
Fresno Coronation
July 10, 2010
Palomar Coronation
September 3-6, 2010
State Convention
San Francisco

Hello dancers, we here in the San Fernando Valley hope that you are staying warm and dry this winter, and that you are dancing up a storm. We've got a lot to report on here in the Northern-Southern California (I just love writing that).

First up is the continuation of our monthly social dances at the newly renamed "Hollywood Academy". We love the new name, and now with the heat turned on, it's an even better place to dance. At the February 2nd dance, even with rainy days on both sides, and a chilly night - we ran out of chairs for folks to sit on - dancers filled the floor for everything from waltzes to salsa and everything in between. If you are in town, join us on our dances the first Saturday of every month - (www.nsdsv.org). Any NSD member from ANY chapter always pays the MEMBER prices.

Next up is our queen's report from the really fun Los Angeles Coronation - we had two full tables of San Fernando dancers at the event, and Sally Emanuelli rose to the occasion and danced and carried on with the queens in a celebration of Jodene Catterlin's continuing reign as queen and State Queen. The Mardi Gras then extended to the women's masks, as well as beads for the escorts. It was really a fun evening, and we had a great time.

No News is Good News

Fortunately for our dance club (but unfortunately for their Whispers editor) there really hasn't been much drama over the past couple of months. Things have kind of quieted down to a dull roar, with simple logistics of hosting the monthly dances taking over.

Advertising and marketing continue to be our challenge with the industrious and unstoppable Joan Robinson leading the way. She continues to press forward with our fliers and advertising (and I hear that

for a reasonable fee, she will advertise for you as well (just kidding). Joan, we don't put it down enough, congratulations on a job well done; and thanks!

And a belated thank you to the rest of our board, who continue to sacrifice their time and effort to keep our little troupe functioning. Another special thanks has got to go out to James Gutman and Frank Trapp, who, armed solely with their wits, and some spare wood - created a cart big enough to carry almost 50 chairs at a time, with which we have significantly decreased our setup efforts. The XI model debuted in February, and Frank will be mass marketing the designs soon.

That's about it - we're wrapping up our information and reports for the Board meeting in Bakersfield, and I'm really excited about going up - I think that there are some great changes being discussed and even ones that may soon happen. NSD is evolving with the changing environment, and while that can be scary, I know that this club will persevere and last it out!

See you all at Boards, and Never Stop Dancing!

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- Board Member Mark Emanuelli
- Dance Rules Brian Yip



QUEEN ELECT Kim Johnson

I was born and raised in Japan. In 1967, I met Larry Johnson at Camp Zama and we were married in September of 1968. In November we went to the United States. We have two sons. I retired from the State Compensation Insurance Fund in December of 2004 after 18 years of service. Larry and I enjoy dancing, traveling and baby-sitting our grandsons. I am looking forward to meeting all of the other chapter queens.

MARCH BOARDS

Registration is well under way. The theme is "Under a Cherry Blossom Moon". The beautiful geishas are hot and ready to entertain on Friday evening. Reserve now and don't miss out on this very interesting 3-Day event.

MARDI GRAS FESTIVAL By Charlene Miller

Jim and Claudine Kephart, Irene and Paul Leung, Dennis Acosta and I drove to Monrovia to help honor Jodene Catterlin, our State Queen. What a lovely evening.

The Mardi Gras decorations, colorful programs and food were wonderful. We enjoyed the evening with Jill Calcaterra, our Bakersfield Queen, and Ty Upshur. What a wonderful family of dancers we belong to.

PRESIDENTS' BALL

The annual ball took place on January 23, 2010. President TG Thomas, along with seven of our past queens escorted the

Presidents. They danced the President's Waltz and later the rest of the membership joined in to participate.

An award was given to Stephen Brown for his term of office as President in 2008.

We were treated with a large cookie bearing the symbol of the President's Seal imprinted in the center. We also had a variety of ice cream cups to choose from.

NEW YEARS DANCE

We were honored to have a large group of dancers from the Visalia Chapter join us. Two of Visalia's best dance couples. Cheryl and Dean Levitan and Lona and Bill Dolan, entertained us with their impressive dance moves.

Bill Landry, co-chair Larry Johnson and one of our newest and valuable members - Susan Kimbrell, did a fantastic job organizing this event.

Sadly to say, Bill Landry is turning over his chairmanship to someone else for the next New Years Dance.

Kephart's 60th Anniversary!



Jim and Claudine Kephart

Congratulations to Jim and Claudine Kephart. Jim is one of our past presidents and Claudine our Queen in 2006. They enjoy dancing, socializing traveling, and keeping up with 13 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. They are hoping to go to Hawaii some day soon. Best wishes to a very wonderful couple.

VISALIA

Carol Bixler, Editor



Queen Elect Nancy Cargill

I was born in Visalia and have lived in Visalia all my life except two years in Fresno. I've been a court reporter for the past 30 years and work in Tulare County Superior Court. We run a drug and alcohol rehab program on Monday and felony trials the rest of the week. Last year our department held more trials than any other court in the County.

I have a son, Jake, who lives in Boston with his wife, Amy, and their children, Anthony, the twins Hope and Faith, and Joseph. My daughters live in Visalia. The oldest, Becky, and her husband Andrew have Evan and Abigail. Audra, my youngest, and her husband Corey have Attie, Cassie, Ethan and Eleanor. Yes, that's 10 grand babies and that's exactly what they are. Becky says I'm addicted to dance and I must confess I am. I started out line dancing about 8 years ago and then one day a man asked me if I'd like to learn to couple dance and I've been trying to learn ever since.

As queen I'm looking forward to the new adventures in store for me and am excited about traveling to the clubs and meeting all of you.

INAUGURATION BALL **By Bill & Lona Dolan**

What a great way to start the New Year! The dance hall was decorated with a patriotic red, white and blue theme. Table's centerpieces were marble and water filled vases with under-

water candle lights that were the brainchild of Lona Dolan.

Flags and Stars complimented these beautiful pieces. The stage was presented with a huge 4'X8' sign, donated by Bob and Maria Helm, depicting our Flag and the words "God Bless America", and Eagle and our Smooth Dancers Logo smartly placed in the lower right hand corner. What a great display!

The evening started with a fun and energetic Lindy Hop lesson taught by Chris Pulhar and Kellie Townsend from Studio 65 In Fresno. By the end of the lesson the crowd was swinging with the best of them! Next came our famous buffet. What a spread put on by our members, plenty of food and desserts were enjoyed by all.

The inauguration of Yvette Haworth as President, Bill Dolan as Treasurer and June Aguet and Sue Giampietro as Co-Social Chairs for 2010 went smoothly. As if the gathering of friends and fellow dancers to dance to terrific ballroom music wasn't enough, our entertainment was outstanding. George and Norma Schmidt from our sister Fresno Chapter graced us with a beautiful and moving Waltz. Next came an exciting and trick filled, high energy, acrobatic Lindy Hop performed by Chris and Kellie. Great job and a big THANK YOU to both couples for gracing our floor. We finished the evening by dancing till 11:00 P.M.

Special thanks go out to the wonderful officers who worked together to make this such a great way to start our VSD year.

COMING EVENTS

"The Lollipop Hop" is the theme of the March 13th Social to be held at the Exeter Memorial Hall chaired by Carolyn and Karl Richards. April events include "Butterfly Kisses" Social in Exeter on April 10 and an April 25 Tea Dance chaired by Tom and Margaret Mohoit.

FRESNO

Kevin McCready, Editor

JANUARY SOCIAL

January social started the year off on the right foot. Carla Hartunian continued her decorating flair with her large collection of snowmen on each table and around the hall. At our Christmas Party she had done the same thing with Nutcrackers.

The Social was chaired by Carla with help from her committee Sharon Crisp, Michael Mikhail, Steve Moore and Jun and Venus Cleofe. Music was played by Sarah Vigen.

During the evening Queen Ann Phillips provided a cake to honor the 90th birthday of Bill Hirata, who had celebrated in Las Vegas with his family.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Fresno Chapter has changed its meeting schedule. We now have a Board Meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 followed immediately by a general meeting. At the first general meeting of this year 6 members were nominated to become Life Members. They were Joe and Lucille LoFreso, Bill and Mary Hirata, Helen Kimura and myself.

I would like to give tribute to the first five of the above. They were all either charter members or joined Smooth dancers in the first few months. Lucille LoFreso was the chair of our first Anniversary Dance, An Affair to Remember, held in August 1986. All of the five were actively involved in the promotion of the event. We had an attendance of 287 persons. These five people were the major source of ticket selling along with Kathryn Qualls, our only other Life Member.

The Kimuras and the Hiratas, over the past 25 years, have furnished much of the fruit that we have served at hospitalities and conventions. They all have gone above and beyond whatever was asked of them! We will be having a ceremony in the near future to publicly acknowledge them.

Los Angeles Coronation

Los Angeles had a beautiful Mardi Gras Festival for the Coronation of reigning State Queen Jodene Catterlin and honoring all chapter Queens. It started with a hospitality in the afternoon where we met with many friends.

Fresno's Queen, Ann Phillips was in attendance and was escorted by Bakersfield's TG Thomas. The Queens and their escorts were presented traditional beads to wear during the Coronation ceremonies.

Jodene and her husband Kyle performed a beautiful waltz, which was followed by the traditional Queens Honor Dance. An exhibition of round dancing was part of the evening's faire. A professional exhibition by long time dancers Elena Krifuks and Maks Kapitanchuk, who have been in a partnership of only four months, included a Cha Cha, Rumba and lively Jive.

Ann would like to thank Los Angeles for making the evening a "Crowning Moment" and is looking forward to San Diego's Coronation.

Kathy Sachse and I joined Ann at the Coronation and were particularly happy to see Joy Michaels back dancing after two years of waiting, treatment and recovery. But, we were sorry to hear of Susan Lewis' toe injury which kept her away from the coronation. We wish her a speedy recovery.

TRAVEL AND OTHER

Patricia Taniguchi and Mike Moyle missed us over the holidays. They were sailing with Holland America on a 21-day cruise to the Panama Canal. They enjoyed seeing the cities of Central America. I guess that's a good way for Pat to rehabilitate after her rotator cuff surgery. Get well quickly Pat!

We send our sympathy to Lorie Navarro whose father passed and to Jan Mitchell who lost her mother. We send "get well" wishes to Nancy Palazzo.

CHAPTER DANCE DATES

GOLDEN GATE CHAPTER

William Hage, Editor

LOS ANGELES

Usually 2nd Sunday at El Monte Senior Center, 3120 Tyler Ave., El Monte CA. Contact Susan Johnson (626) 794-1101

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

1st Saturday night of month. Hollywood Academy 6615 Valjean Ave., Van Nuys, CA Contact Joan Robinson (818) 951-1516 or Mark Emanuelli 562 633-7022

BAKERSFIELD

4th Saturday, 7:30-11:00 P.M. Rasmussen Center 115 E. Robert Lane, Bakersfield, CA Contact Colleen Herring (661) 392-8345

VISALIA

Usually 2nd Saturday and 4th Sunday, Exeter Memorial Bldg. 324 N. Kaweah, Exeter or Odd Fellows Hall 118 Court St. Visalia, Contact June Aguet (559) 592-4473

FRESNO

3rd Sunday, 4:00 PM Holy Trinity Armenian Church 2226 Ventura Ave. Fresno, Contact Lorraine Tilton (559) 227-9372

GOLDEN GATE

Usually 2nd Sunday 2:00-7:00 PM So San Francisco Municipal Bldg. 33 Arroyo Dr. South San Francisco Contact Rosalie Wolf (650) 697-2763 or Bea Chow (415) 751-3607

SAN DIEGO

1st Saturday, 8:00 PM Champion Ballroom 3580 Fifth Ave., San Diego, CA Contact Melissa Dennison 619 988-1227

PALOMAR

4th Sunday 5:30 P.M. Ocean Hills Country Club, Cannon Road, Oceanside, Contact Helen Kerger (760) 941-4027

DEADLINE

Deadline for the next issue of Dance Whispers is April 15. Send copy to Liz Bradford 9904 Norlain Ave. Downey, CA 90240. (562) 928-5505 or FAX (562) 927-2858.



Our New Years' Eve Eve dance this year was a grand party. All of the 79 persons who were fortunate enough to attend had a fabulous time. The highlight of the evening was the Raffle Drawing and the first prize winner was a member of the Bakersfield Chapter, Jane Cuellar. She was absolutely shocked when our President, Elena Malta telephoned her to tell her she had just won \$500. George Dayeh won one of the lesser prizes and graciously donated his winnings to the club, but then George is that kind of a gentleman.

Earlier in the evening we had a special dance performance, a graceful waltz and a spirited tango by Carmen and Wilson Wan which was extremely well received. They are long time attendees at our dances and have performed at the San Mateo General Hospital where Carmen is a Charge Nurse and also in Macau where they are active in civic and business affairs. They said the reason for their performance was that they wished to give something back to the Club for the pleasure they have received from the many afternoons and evenings they have spent dancing with us.

Kudos to our Chapter's first Queen, Marty Oscarsen who turned 88 years young the 27th of January. May she and her gallant husband, Captain Erik Oscarsen have many more wonderful years together. We particularly appreciated the lovely large cake which she provided at our business meeting on February 1st. But then they are a most generous couple.

We want to welcome Ossie and Gloria Guinto as our newest members. They have been coming to our dances for

several years, and luckily they were seated next to Emma Steed who convinced them to join. Emma is always working for our Chapter.

It was great to have Rita and Floyd Parma return to our dance in January. Floyd was helping spin the music, but most of all it was such a great pleasure to see them gracing the floor as if they were in Seventh Heaven elegantly dancing away, oblivious to all around them, and surely one of the most accomplished couples in our Club. We were also very fortunate to see a superb solo waltz performed by Igor and Nadia Tiinin during the time the rest of us were enjoying an afternoon snack. All of this after the dance lesson by Mila Ragual and Norman Ballantyne showing us how to do a fabulous waltz. What a lovely afternoon and evening.

Our Club has had a tradition dating back some ten years that the Queen and the past Queens host a special luncheon for the Queen-elect to welcome and to inform her and to provide such advice and assistance as she may request. Our Queen Sue Robinson arranged and hosted this special event which was held on February 6th at Ana and George Dayeh's beautiful and spacious home. Sue with the help of Rita Parma set up the gorgeous table decorations to the red and black theme and the effect was quite grand. Three lucky escorts were handpicked to serve as waiters, Dan Ansaldi, Gordon Robinson and Floyd Parma, with the rest of the escorts treated to a glass of wine when they arrive to pick up their lady after the party. And a piece of Gabrielle Von Stephen's fabulous chocolate cake, which comes in two varieties, dark chocolate and also in white chocolate, both absolutely divine, just like the lady herself.

Our charming President, Elena Malta, is one of the proudest grandmothers around. Her

grandson Kevin, to fulfill a school speaking assignment, selected her as his subject for the person who has most effected his life for the better. Then he listed Elena's accomplishments including her activities at our dance Chapter, her duties as Eucharistic Minister for her Parish and many others and then closed with the following: "The giving (my grandmother) does on a regular basis astounds me and has provided me a road map to become a better person with my family, friends and community." Don't you wish you had a grandson that said that?

We were saddened to learn that Lucia and Duke Edwards will not be renewing their Club membership. Their resignation included their deep thanks for all the wonderful times they spent dancing at our events. We will miss them.

We also wish to acknowledge Doris Malstrom's resignation. She and her partner Lou Morelton, now deceased, were stalwarts of our organization going back a number of years and brought much cheer and pleasure to our Chapter. Doris attended many of our dances until recently, enjoying the activities and the company of our members.

The Foster City Crowne Plaza Hotel will be the location for our Annual Brunch to be held February 21 at 10:00 A.M. Of course we all appreciate an excuse for a party, especially in the company of our dance friends. And speaking of grand parties,

Amy Ansaldi's Coronation will take place at this very same hotel on Saturday, April 10th starting at 6:00 P.M. This promises to be an extraordinary event so don't miss it. The Queen's Breakfast will be the following morning at 9:00 A.M. to allow the out of town guests to have both breakfast and catch their planes. We hope to see all of you there on that weekend.

I have to begin this article by congratulating the Los Angeles chapter for putting on a first rate coronation in January. Once again the faithful, tireless core of the mother chapter rolled up their sleeves and put on a major event, so soon after hosting the 2009 Convention. It was a wonderful venue for seeing all our friends again for our last official road trip as San Diego's Queen and yours truly. The excellent afternoon hospitality was set up very conveniently right there in the hotel, and we enjoyed wandering from room to room eating the hearty food, drinking the wine and wondering aloud if we were going to be able to eat again that night after so many luscious desserts.

The evening venue was comfortable and cozy, with a wonderful job of decorating by Chuck and Susan. The usual crowd of NSD "coronation goers" was augmented by a good number of Queen Jodene and Kyle's round dance friends, who gave us a demonstration of two very entertaining round dances, a Fox Trot and a West Coast Swing number. Their performance was a very pleasant addition.

Then, the real treat of the evening was a hot Latin show by Elena Krifuks and Maks Kapitanchuk, who have been dancing together only a short time but who clearly have an exciting career in front of them as partners. Their routines were truly top-notch and dynamite. Kyle confided in me that it took some extra networking and a little luck to book them for the coronation, and I can well believe it – it was certainly worth the extra effort to have them perform for us. Thank you, Los Angeles, for giving us such a great weekend!

During the Coronation itself, I fear that Queen Kao and I caused an unexpected wave of confusion. A year ago when Kao was Crowned queen of our Chapter, Dave and Anne Saul went out of their way to support

her, in particular, Dave spent a lot of time putting together and printing programs that Kao requested for her coronation. So way back then, Kao and I thought it would be fun to have Dave escort her for one of her out of town coronations. We knew that the Los Angeles coronation was one that Dave and Anne liked to attend, so we were very pleased to ask Dave to do the honors that night.

As it turned out, we didn't realize how much confusion this would generate. When people saw Dave escorting Kao, many of them assumed that I hadn't been able to make it for the weekend and that Dave was standing in for me on an emergency basis. Then when they saw me during the rest of the evening – well, I'll say that we had to explain the situation a few times. So no, I wasn't ill that weekend, and I was indeed there to enjoy the ceremony and the party. Thanks, Dave and Anne!

We had a very nice Valentine's Day social in February. The men in our chapter traditionally put on this event in honor of our great ladies, and we were happy to see so many people show up for the evening. At first it looked as though the rain would keep people away, but the dance floor was happily crowded before the evening was very far along. With candy and roses for the ladies, the evening was a great success, and we were happy to have so many NSD guests join us from Palomar and beyond.

We're busy preparing the coronation that will close out Kao's very pleasant reign as San Diego's Queen. I am truly glad that my responsibilities are limited primarily to escorting services, since I know how much work our dedicated committee of past queens goes to by way of preparing for this event. March will be a very exciting month, as always, with our own Coronation coming up March 6th and Bakersfield March 26-28.

QUEEN-ELECT



Pat Roesti

Queen-elect Pat has chosen for her theme "Dancing for the Stars with Joy".

Pat's family, originally from Saskatoon, Canada, moved to central California when Pat was in high school. She attended San Jose State University and was the first woman to graduate with a major in Industrial Relations.

She worked for Sylvania until the arrival of the first of her 3 daughters. When all the daughters were in school she continued her education, earning a degree as a registered nurse.

She has progressed rapidly in her dancing skills with the assistance of her dancing partner, Bill Duley. She is looking forward to the challenge given her as queen-elect of the Palomar Chapter.

Her correct phone number is (760) 806-4737. There was a misprint in the last list of officers.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Newly elected president Duane Thornton expressed his wish to increase the club participation in the monthly meetings. "The meetings are an important part of Membership, this is where the good ideas come from" said Duane. 40 members turned out for the February meeting in response to his efforts.



DANCE SOCIALS

Please note another new format! Members and guests are directed to provide their own snacks and beverages as these will not be offered by the club.

The March social has been moved up to March 21, to allow members to attend the Board of Director's Meeting in Bakersfield.

NEW MEMBER

Welcome to new member Vern Nelson of Escondido. Vern, a retired locomotive engineer, spent his working years in International Falls, Minnesota. Vern's two sons live in Southern California which caused him to spend his winters in San Diego for the last five years. He recently became a resident of Escondido and states "I don't intend to go back". He enjoys dancing, hiking, fishing and traveling.

GOINGS ON

Two of our new members, Don Hubbard (your new editor) and Sharon Clark recently announced their engagement. Sharon, a joint owner of a hair salon and gift shop in Vista, is a long time friend of Don's family. In a conversation last year, Don mentioned that he had begun ballroom dancing. Sharon replied "that sounds like fun" and the two became dance partners.

MONDAY DANCE CLASS

The beginners' dance classes held at the Vista Senior Center under the direction of veteran dance instructor George Mozes, have recently had record attendance. Over 40 students have turned out each week in January for tango lessons. A different ballroom dance is selected for instruction each month.