

# DANCE WHISPERS

*National Smooth Dancers, Inc.*



Los Angeles  
Parent Chapter



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Publication of  
N. S. D., Inc.



May - June 2011

Liz Bradford, Editor



## SATIN & SPURS CITY SLICKER BALL

Once again, the Bakersfield Chapter has provided us with a fun weekend for the board of Directors Meeting in March. Upon arriving at the Marriott Hotel at the Convention Center, we were treated to a bountiful buffet for hospitality with miniature hamburgers, pulled pork, a chicken dish, salad and brownies, as we greeted members from throughout the state.

The Western theme of "Satin and Spurs" was carried out with an elaborate gate at the entrance of the corral. The Dusty Crack Saloon was the venue Friday night and featured a Wild West Review with Bakersfield members participating in a square dance routine, a "Waltz Across Texas," a lively swing number topped off with high stepping can-can girls.

Two lively mixers were interspersed with Western style dance music provided by Bob Kandarian. There was another lavish buffet at 11:00 P.M.

Saturday morning the Dance Rules, President's Meeting and Board Meetings were scheduled followed by a Dance Seminar and the Queen's Reception for reigning Queens and escorts.

That afternoon, we saddled up for fun and relaxation at the Rockin' Dude Ranch in the Lonely Dove Dance Hall. There were mixers and competitions.

Saturday evening featured the City Slicker Ball with Fancy Duds required. No host cocktails were followed by a filet mignon dinner.

The Queen's Coronation was a lovely presentation spotlighted by the Coronation of their new Queen, Wendy Wilson. Her three small children participated. The boys will love those pictures later in life. Wendy and her husband Ben did a lovely Viennese Waltz for the Queens dance.

The professional exhibition by Bill Milner and Monica Olejnik was an exciting four dance presentation with several costume changes.

General dancing, mixers, and competitions followed.

The Sunday morning breakfast was themed "Happy Trails" and was another buffet with many choices. The Board member speeches were short and humorous. Contest winners were announced and presented with medals as people said their goodbyes till next time.

The entire Bakersfield Chapter participated in putting on this event, Chairman, Charlene Miller received a standing ovation for her tireless work getting it all together.

The Fresno Chapter presented a lavish production depicting their theme for the 2011 State Convention September 2-5. It will be Neptune's Kingdom "Under the Sea" to be held at the Radisson Hotel.



## MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY

Our Spring Dance on April 10 was a fun event with many people joining the theme wearing hats of all sizes, shapes, and colors.

The tables had been decorated with multicolored tablecloths and centered with tall, striped hats, and teapots. The Johnson's were back from their cruise around Australia. Although Chuck was sick, Susan came to help decorate.

Renee Haight was in charge of taking the reservations and coordinating arrangements.

After the business meeting, dancing began to the live music of Dolores Moore. She included two mixers and played many special requests. At her intermission we were treated to a lesson by Victor Lee and Debbie Ku in a tango line dance.

At about 4:00 P.M. "High Tea" was served including dainty finger sandwiches, decorated petit fours and cookies. Marion Scholtz had made sandwiches.

There were several guests including prospective members Tom and Sandy Wells who have submitted application for membership.

It was a team effort and well done with many helpers.

## Los Angeles Chapter Social Calendar

Sunday, May 15.....1P.M.  
Mexican Fiesta, El Monte  
Sunday, June 12.....P.M.  
Summer Dance, El Monte  
Sunday, July 10, 1P.M.  
Red, White & Blue  
El Monte  
Sunday, August 14.....1P.M.  
Hawaiian Party  
Sunday, Sept. 11, 1P.M.  
School Days  
Sunday, Oct. 9.....1P.M.  
Black & White Ball

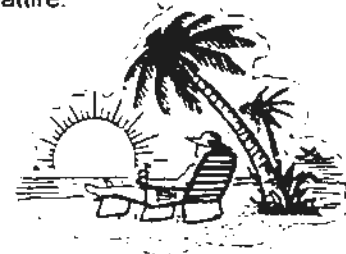
## MEXICAN FIESTA

Because of Mother's Day, we will hold our May Dance on Sunday, May 15 at the El Monte Senior Center, 3120 Tyler, St. 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 about 4:00 P.M. The cost for members and guests is \$12.00 per person. Please make checks payable to NSD and send to Susan Johnson, 2328 Loma Vista St. Pasadena, CA 91104.

Those Mexican dresses and shirts you bought on your cruises will be appropriate attire.



## SUMMERTIME

On Sunday, June 12 our dance for June will be held at the El Monte Senior Center starting at 1:00 P.M.

According to our newly revised by-laws we will elect a full slate of officers for the coming year.

After the meeting there will be a dance lesson and general dancing. The price for members and guests will be \$12.00 per person. Checks should be made payable to NSD and sent to Susan Johnson at the above address. Phone (626) 794-1101.

Dress will be cool and casual in keeping with our Summertime theme.



## Party Line ...By Liz

Shun and Dottie Ling are off on the Diamond Princess for a cruise in Asia calling at Singapore, Vietnam, Hong Kong, and other ports.

Bea Gaspar enjoyed a week in her time share at San Juan Capistrano with her niece. They took the train to San Diego for a day outing.

We have missed Steve Olowiany who has been laid up with heart problems. He is a recipient of a heart transplant.



We are saddened by the passing of Emil Rosa last month. Emil and Adelpha had been married for 69 years. Many NSD members attended the services held at the Calvary Cemetery in Los Angeles followed by a luncheon in Pasadena. Emil was a happy person, always smiling. He loved traveling and cruises. He was a great dancer, especially in waltz and freestyle fox trot. Our sympathy to Adelpha and family. He will be missed.

We were sorry to hear that Vera Funtsch had fallen and broke her hip. Hollenbeck Palms where she lives has rehab facilities on the premises which make it easy for Andy and their son to visit her. We wish her a speedy recovery. For many years she and Andy faithfully mailed out Dance Whispers to all chapters.

Kyle and Jodene Catterlin will be traveling to England then to Russia on the Jewel of the Seas. They will teach dancing.

John and Genevieve Lucas attended the tennis championships at Indian Wells in March.

Gordon and Chris Lloyd went to Westchester, Ohio to attend their granddaughters' graduation from college at Miami Oxford. They will miss our May dance.

Hope everyone had a nice Easter. We had a family gathering at my daughter's home in Newport Coast. My great grandson will be one year old in May.

## NEW MEMBER

The Los Angeles Chapter is happy to welcome new member - Brian Hamilton who lives in Westlake Village. Brian is a computer consultant. His hobbies besides dancing include playing the piano and sports history. He belongs to the Lads and lasses Square dance club and he is a member of Kay's round dance formation team.

He received his bachelors degree at Cal State Northridge and is now working on his Master's.

Brian was born in Tampa, Florida and has also lived in New York, Arizona, and California.

He was sponsored by Kyle and Jodene Catterlin and Ken Scholtz.

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Wearin' of the Green was the order of the day on March 13 at the El Monte Senior Center as we celebrated St. Patrick's Day.

Jodene Catterlin had decorated the tables with green tablecloths along with tall green and white hats.

In Chuck Johnson's absence, Vice President, Kyle Catterlin conducted the business meeting. He reported that a special committee had reviewed our Bylaws and standing rules and proposed some changes which would be voted on at our next meeting.

After the meeting we had a dancing lesson in basic waltz given by Kyle and Jodene.

Music for dancing followed by Susan Lewis who had many Irish tunes in all dance tempos for dancing and two mixers.

Chris Lloyd had taken the reservations and also provided super refreshments of turkey and beef pinwheel sandwiches, fresh strawberries, ice cream and a cake provided by George Zimmerman in honor of Joy's birthday topped off the buffet. Joy and Ken Scholtz did a birthday cha cha exhibition.

We were happy to welcome two new guests, Tom and Sandy Wells who we hope will return and become members.

It was a fun afternoon.

Dance Whispers is the publication of the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Smooth Dancers, a nonprofit 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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Deadline for the next issue of Dance Whispers is June 15. Send copy to Liz Bradford 9904 Norlain Ave. Downey, CA 9040. (562) 928-5505 or FAX (562) 927-2858

## BAKERSFIELD CONTEST WINNERS

### Dance of Champions

1. Bill & Lona Dolan  
Visalia
2. Mark Chapman & Been Kao  
San Diego
3. Brian Yip & Joan Robinson  
San Fernando Valley

### Intermediate Standard

1. Brian Yip & Joan Robinson  
San Fernando Valley
2. Vern & Judy Miranda  
San Diego
3. Lin & Pam Eng  
San Diego

### Beginner Cha Cha

1. Gerry Cusick & Nancy Cargill  
Bakersfield/Visalia
2. Don Hubbard & Debbie Kencaid  
Palomar
3. James Messner & Peggy Amato  
Bakersfield

### Beginner Waltz

1. Lin & Pam Eng  
San Diego
2. Ken Graham & Shirley McClosky  
San Diego
3. Victor Lee & Debby Ku  
Los Angeles

### Senior Waltz

1. James Messner & Peggy Amato  
Bakersfield
2. Kyle & Jodene Catterlin  
Los Angeles
3. Ken Graham & Shirley McClosky  
San Diego

### Social Swing

1. Brian Yip & Joan Robinson  
San Fernando Valley
2. Lin & Pam Eng  
San Diego
3. Ken Graham & Delcie Feller  
San Diego/Bakersfield

## STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES

May 21, 2011  
Visalia Coronation  
June 4, 2011  
Fresno Coronation  
July 16, 2011  
Palomar Coronation  
September 2-5, 2011  
State Convention and  
Coronation-Fresno  
November 5, 2011  
San Fernando Valley  
Coronation





## QUEEN KIM JOHNSON'S FAREWELL

It took many years to agree to become Queen of the Bakersfield Chapter.

I was very nervous in the beginning but now I am glad I did it. I had a wonderful year.

Thank you so much to those who said a friendly "hello" to me even if I didn't know your name, thank you so very much to the Bakersfield Chapter members who have supported me.

My wish to our new queen "Wendy" is to have the best of luck and to hope you have a lot of fun during your reign.

## APRIL DANCE

Our April dance, "Spring is in the Air" will be held on April 23, 2011 at Rasmussen Center, 115 E. Roberts Lane from 7:00 to 10:30 P.M. Members: Free, Guest: Singles \$15, Couples \$25. The mode of dress is Casual.

This dance will be chaired by Kay and Mark Boyer and their committee. Phil and Sue Kimbrell have agreed to do a spotlight. I'm sure it will be a great evening, so be sure and be there.

## MARCH BOARDS

Bakersfield Smooth Dancers has so many talented performers and it was all on display Friday night March 25th at the Boards. Our talented Dwight Rollins sang "Waltzing through Texas" while several members performed a lovely team waltz. Dwight also sang "Forever and Ever: a little later to our delight! And then there was Rose and Steve Peterson who wowed us with a west coast swing routine, and the Virginia Reel Dancers. Lastly, our Bakersfield cancan dancers.

Saturday night our new queen, Wendy Wilson was crowned. Wendy and her husband Ben performed a beautiful Viennese Waltz.

Monica Olejnik and Bill Milner were breath taking as they performed 3 dances.

A first place in beginner cha cha was won by our own Jerry Cusick and Nancy Cargill from Visalia. In the beginner's social swing, our own Delcie Feller and Ken Graham from San Diego chapter won a third place! Way to go everyone!

All in all a wonderful weekend and our hats off to Charlene Miller who puts so much of herself into making the "boards" a fabulous and successful weekend for everyone. Charlene we, and all of the NSD members appreciate everything you do every year to put these boards on! Last, but not least, a big thank you to Frances Hein, and Lyle and Jan Mills for all their help in making the boards the success they always are, and to Judy Evans who has such creative ideas for decorations. We don't want to forget the men who built the props for the weekend and put them all together for us. Larry Johnson and Bill Landry had a big hand in that. Sadly, because of his death, Wayne Chapman was not here to assist in the making of these props this year. I also overheard Kim Johnson say she did some painting of the props too. I just know there was a lot of help putting the entrance to our Rockin' W Dude Ranch together, and it looked like everyone helping was enjoying themselves.

Lastly, the members of Bakersfield Smooth Dancers appreciate the best music men in NSD, Dennis Acosta and Bob Kandarian, so gentlemen take a well deserved bow.

## FEBRUARY DANCE

Our February dance party "Celebrating Valentine's Day with the Bakersfield Smooth Dancers" was a semi-formal affair. Margaret Hawkins and her great committee ensured us a romantic inspired evening with a valentine theme prevailing throughout the room; starting with red tablecloths and white lace placemats and lovely centerpiece of red and white roses on every table. A buffet of delicious sandwiches and cookies was served. There were 85 members in attendance including six guests. A great evening with the best music in town.

Finally, we wish to acknowledge all our members who are experiencing health issues this year from the mildest illness or injury to the more life threatening, we pray that you have a speedy recovery and can join us again soon in the joy of dancing.

BAKERFIELD -- Gosh darn, you did it again. What a fun weekend. All that cow toting, gun slinging, Virginia reels, yee hawing - and yes, you don't need an Englishwoman to try to reinvent cowboy language.

THE SFV FORMATION TEAM recently performed at the Palm Springs Pavilion, a beautiful facility with a huge floor. They had a great time and really enjoyed meeting all the dancers out there who appreciated their performances. The team members' schedule continues to be very heavy although they are taking a long break in April. Andrea and James just got back from vacation in Lone Pine in the Eastern Sierras. Bill and Gee are currently on a bike and barge trip to the Netherlands and Belgium, followed by a visit to England. Bill and Barbara are in China and Keiko and Frank will attend the graduation of her son, Taka, in Michigan. The team is composed of: Bill Steeber/Barbara Greenlaw, James & Andrea Gutman, Bill Morey/Gee Gee Barden, Frank Trapp & Keiko Isshiki.

The team continues to have numerous commitments as they spread the joy of NSD ballroom dancing around various communities. They will be performing next in Las Vegas on May 12th for a Japanese ballroom dance group coming over from Hawaii. The team all recently acquired tee shirts—black with the country of Japan in red and the Japanese characters for "Hope" on the front—in support of the people of Japan during this time of great tragedy for them.

## Golden Gate Coronation

I was privileged to represent our chapter at the recent GG Coronation. I stuck out my thumb on the freeway and Peter and Marsha Hanson were kind enough to take pity on me and pick me up as we did a round trip in 30 hours. It was lovely to see so many friends again so soon after Bakersfield. Our Queens seem to be getting younger and lovelier with our Aimee and Wendy. The Coronation of Queen-Elect Liz Talmadge was quite delightful as we visited the "Old South at the Tara Plantation." So many lovely Southern Belles were dressed traditionally to delight us all. Queen "Elizabeth" is truly a bright spark and she and her husband, Chuck, bring new energies to GG. Between Bakersfield and Golden Gate,

I'm learning a lot about American history and culture. I was also able to see my brother as I can't coerce him to ever come down south.

The Crowne Plaza has now made me an honorary member all the years I've been traveling north to GG. I feel quite at home there now - except when I have to change rooms at 2 a.m. Who would have thought that San Franciscans would be such party animals?

## "Royal Highness's" UPDATE

by Roberta Lazar:

"My royal duties have kept me busy in March. I missed our chapter dance in March since I was in San Diego attending the coronation of Queen Mary King. Les & I arrived in time for the afternoon hospitality where we enjoyed the chance to visit with the other chapter Queens and their escorts and several members of the San Diego Chapter. In the evening, we attended the Coronation at the beautiful downtown dance studio used for San Diego Chapter dance events.

At the end of March, I joined several other members of our chapter in Bakersfield for the annual Board of Director's meeting and Coronation. Les was unable to join me in Bakersfield so Bill Morey kindly volunteered to serve as my escort for the coronation ceremony. New Queen Wendy Wilson danced a beautiful Viennese Waltz with her husband followed by an excellent professional dance exhibition. I am really enjoying my travels around the state and the chance to meet the great people who make the National Smooth Dancers who they are today."

"In addition to my travels on behalf of SFVSD, Les & I also spent a fabulous week in Baja California. The first two days were spent in the lagoons on the Pacific side among the grey whales. I have been on many whale-watching trips, but I have never seen so many whales at one time. One whale got so close to our boat that I was able to reach out and touch it...an awesome experience. The rest of the week was spent at a wilderness resort on the Sea of Cortez. We stayed in Yurts on a beautiful beach, 15 miles from the nearest road."



### Sochachi-Stachura

2010 US & World American Smooth Dance Champions Slavic Sochachi and Marzena Stachura will bring their dance magic on May 21st when they perform at VSD's "Feel the Magic of Dance" coronation of Queen-elect Dorothy Sims.

The regal event begins at 6:00 p.m. with Coronation at 6:30 followed by dinner & Dancing. Reservations are required. Price before May 10th is \$45, after May 10th is \$55. Black tie optional (men coat & tie required).

Queen Nancy's farewell brunch will be held on May 22nd at Visalia Country Club. Cost: \$25. Go to: [www.visaliasmoothdancers.com](http://www.visaliasmoothdancers.com) For flyers or RSVP to Nancy at (559-786-9629).

\* \* \* \* \*

### Queen Nancy's Farwell

As my reign is coming to an end, I would like to thank everyone for the privilege of representing the Visalia club. It is truly an honor. I thought when I became queen, it would give me an opportunity to travel around the State and to visit new places. It never occurred to me the friendships I would develop.

Since Gerry (Cusick) was my escort, I didn't have my lovely queens Joanie, Lottie and Yvette there to steer the way, and believe it or not, I was at a loss for words. Yes, me. So Gerry took the lead and let me sit back and listen. With every coronation, I felt more at home with these lovely people. I feel close now to many couples that I just knew by sight before.

I was told, "Once you're in the Queen's circle things will never be the same", and they were absolutely right. At State Convention they had a queen's luncheon and we all wore hats, the golden Gate coronation gave me another opportunity to again wear a hat. It's so much fun to get dressed up and pretend to be high society for the day. The big question was, should I wear gloves too?

I am excited for Dorothy as her coronation approaches and I am sure she will be treated as royalty as I have been. Thank you, Queen Nancy Cargill.

\* \* \* \* \*

Thank you Bakersfield! Boards get better every year!

\* \* \* \* \*

Although Gertrude hasn't been well, Gertrude & Alex Jasmann are congratulated on their 60th Anniversary.

\* \* \* \* \*

Thank you Dee Peterson who continues as our terrific webmaster.

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### QUEEN'S REPORT

By Kathy Constantino

Rick and I traveled down to San Diego to attend the Coronation of Mary King. The festivities started with a hospitality at the Marriott Hotel. We sat out by the pool and enjoyed delicious food and visited with friends from other chapters. That evening we went to the Champion Ballroom to participate in the Coronation. It was a lovely ceremony! The honor dance was performed by Brenda Gettig and Karol Czaczka.

We had a delectable buffet dinner and were pleased to visit with Patricia DiSessa and Shirley McCloskey, both former members of our Fresno chapter. They are doing well and send their "hellos".

We were entertained with a foxtrot to "All that Jazz" by Cathy O' Hara and Chuck DiSessa. Later that evening they had a Jack and Jill waltz and Cha Cha contest, which I had the honor of helping to judge. There was also a presentation of a Viennese Waltz by San Diego's formation team.

Sunday morning we attended the Queen's farewell brunch, honoring Terry Ghianni. After many hugs and goodbyes we headed back to Fresno filled with many wonderful memories of a great weekend.

### STATE BOARD Queen's Report

Rick and I attended the State Board meeting and the Coronation of Wendy Johnson. It was a great theme and everyone seemed to get into the Wild West spirit with music, entertainment and costumes. The coronation was elegant. It was time for Kim Johnson to give up her throne to Queen-Elect Wendy.

The Queens carried lovely red roses and we were delighted to see Wendy's entourage of their precious children. Elizabeth, Caleb, and Philip made their parents very proud the way they participated in the ceremony. Wendy and her wonderful husband did a Viennese Waltz that was fantastic! They are such a delightful couple.

We were entertained by professional dancers, Bill Milner and Monika Olejnik. What an incredible evening. It is indeed "Good to be Queen".

### UNDER THE SEA Convention Corner

Before the Sunday morning breakfast our troupe of performers repeated the show we did at the Golden Gate Convention last Labor Day Weekend.

I would like to thank those who participated and recognize them here. First, Kathy Sachse, who was our author and director. Then, in somewhat the order of their appearance, King Neptune, Steve Moore, his fearless dolphins, Ori and Dolores Reed. Our Friday afternoon hospitality hosts, with their large fork and spoon, were Norma & George Schmidt at Convention and Rick & Myra Wenzel at Board.

For Friday evening we had the mermaid, Ariel (Sarah Vigen) being lectured by the lobster Sebastian (Kathy Sachse), then our "School of Fish", with the professor, Carla Hartunian and the fish, Bill & Mary Hirata with Sharon Crisp, and our "Jaws", Ann Phillips.

Representing Saturday were our other mermaids, Cissie Vigen, Pat Ramirez and Lorraine Tilton with their "Conch Line."

Saturday night we had our Dancing Queen and escort, dressed as jellyfish, Bob & Sue Dowell at Convention and Rick & Kathy Constantino, at Board.

Sunday afternoon we had Barbara & Robert Strickler doing a "Hot, Hot, Hot" crab crawl. Then came Pat Taniguchi & Mike Moyle as our Seahorse hosts for the Optional Dinner.

To represent Sunday night, again, we had Nancy & Tony Palazzo at Convention and Lynn Sanders & Hartune Neffian, at Board. And, for our finale, we brought back Sue & Bob Dowell, in "Washed Ashore."

Behind the scenes with me were Jim & Irene Christie, Tahani Elhag and Stephen & Shirley Pietrzyk.

## SOCIAL EVENTS - Queen's Coronation

The Coronation of our Queen-Elect Carla Rose Hartunian will be held on June 4, 2011 at the Holy Trinity Armenian Church Social Hall. For additional information, please go to our website [www.fresnosmoothdancers.org](http://www.fresnosmoothdancers.org), or call Lorraine Tilton at (559) 227-9372

## MONTHLY SOCIALS

March 20th was our St. Patrick's Celebration which I hosted with me Irish lassies, Kathy O'Sachse, Ginna O'Bearden, Linda O'Bennett, Patty O'Harris and Stella O'Ruckman. The lessons were the Tango & the West Coast swing taught by Hugo Villanueva. Music was played by Dennis Drew.

April 17th was hosted by Cissie Vigen, with Music played by Sarah Vigen. The lessons were taught by Dmitriy Kochkin. They were the Meringue & the Quick Step.

We thank all those who contribute their time and effort to make our events successful.

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Frankly my dear...it was a coronation to remember. Our new Queen Liz and her charming husband Chuck definitely outdid themselves with the help of all our volunteers, who tirelessly set up, assembled, tore down, and did all the behind the scenes chores that makes this production run flawlessly.

The set from "Gone with the Wind" was the theme for the evening at the Tara plantation, complete with candelabras on every table as well as Magnolia blossoms. Huge vases of fresh Calla Lilies from Patrick's garden flanked her throne. Liz and Chuck started their dance with a waltz and then she tore down some of the curtains (just like Scarlet) from the large window backdrop that Chuck built, and the two of them delighted us with a Confederate Polka.

Even our dear Elizabeth Hage was back on the dance floor for the evening, along with John and Gail Sellaro but we still missed our God father Bob Fragomeni as well as a few others due to illness. Frankly my dear...it was definitely a coronation to remember.

The "Charlene Miller Production" at our board of directors meeting was as usual a delight to watch. We were treated to a Western theme complete with line dancers, hustling and west coast swinging cowboys and cowgirls. We are always asking ourselves, how on earth they pull all that off every single year and add a beautiful coronation on top, this time crowning truly beautiful Wendy Wilson escorted by her husband Ben. The pro couple was my favorite teacher Bill Milner and partner Monika Olejnik who are just awesome dancers and really nice people. A special congratulation goes to Lona and Bill Dolan for winning the dance of Champions. They have worked so hard on improving their dancing, with great results.

They do deserve this special award, as do all the other competitors who delighted us with their performances.

Getting to know our long time members:

## Irene Borelli

"Mom Irene," as she is affectionately called by Elena, married Elena's father after her mom passed away and raised her and her brother Gene, then added three more siblings, Carla, Janet, and Larry to the Borelli household, always treating all the children with equal love and affection.

Acting ability seems to run in that family and she was featured in many movies over a 20 year period. You can find her in "Maude, Bullet, 48 Hours, The Streets of San Francisco" as well as many other SF TV series.

Her daughter Carla was acting in "Falcon Crest, Another World, Texas, Days of our Lives." One of her sons is one of the finest spinal doctors in the world, and the rest of the siblings are successful in business and their personal lives.

Mother to 5 children, grandmother to 12 and great-grandmother to 13 children, her life is filled with love, making the greatest spaghetti sauce and biscotti in the country. That's what you do when you are Italian. Acting has been replaced by sewing, jewelry making, baking, and taking care of her large clan which now includes all of us at Golden Gate Smooth dancers.

We will all be busy renting movies looking for Irene and John.

## Maureen ad Phil Brown

After meeting at UCLA in 1956 and dating various other people at first, Phil came to his senses after knowing Maureen for six years and after being released from the Army. He called her on the phone from LA to SF and asked her to marry. Fortunately for him, she said yes, though it is not clear whether or not he was on his knees when making that phone call.

How lucky a man to marry a woman who makes all of her own clothes, knits sweaters, scarves and now hand bags (some of our queens have been the lucky recipients of those), covers the walls of the house with handmade quilts, AND knows how to cook. In addition she is an excellent skier and she dances.

Phil on the other hand, swings a mean tennis racket since high school and is an awesome photographer and writer. His travel stories have been published in the New York Times, American Airlines in-flight magazine, as well as lesser publications. He also, of course, dances and he cooks.

Together they have one (now grown) male child. Their passion is travel and the places they have been such as London, Scotland, Paris Provence, Rome, Venice, St. Petersburg, Moscow, in addition to river cruises from Basel to Amsterdam and from Budapest to Prague, make any of us envious. They also love to entertain, have season theater tickets and they love to dance.

They will be celebrating their 50 year anniversary this year. Now we know what it takes to have that long of a marriage...knitting, sewing, St. Petersburg, Rome, tennis, Paris, quilts, Amsterdam, dance...

Editor's note: I am continuously fascinated by the life stories of our members and wish there was more space to write it all. When you see them next ask them to tell you "the rest of the story." You will be amazed at the rich lives, the talents, as well as the tragedies they have experienced.

Unfortunately I have run out of space again for my travel stories and other important tributes. We will have to wait till June for the rest of the stories.

I would encourage all of you to send prayers for those among our little groups who are not well, or are suffering personal losses.

## CHAPTER NEWS

Congratulations to members who performed a formation team dance at the Balboa Park Dancers party on March 11th.

If you are looking for a roommate or a ride to the NSD Convention in September, contact Anthony Wood. He will coordinate this.

If you haven't received your roster yet for 2011, contact Caron Schattel. Pat Winter is our new Dance Rules Chair.

\* \* \* \* \*

Kay Ryan requested that Al Folkman audit the club's financial records for 2010

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Svetlana and Olga, two women who have been attending the club socials and classes, applied for membership. Each spoke briefly about their reasons for joining the club. Voting will take place at the April meeting.

\* \* \* \* \*

Volunteers are still needed to host certain months for the socials. Talk to Anthony if you are able to host one of the available months. Decorations are provided by the club.

## BAKERSFIELD WEEKEND

San Diego was well represented in Bakersfield with many of our members participating in the competitions.

Mark Chapman and Been Kao placed 2nd in the Dance of Champions.

Vem and Judy Miranda were 2nd and Lin and Pam Eng were third in the Intermediate Standard, and 1st in Beginner's Waltz.

Ken Graham and Shirley McClosky were 2nd in Beginner's Waltz and 3rd in Senior Waltz.

Lin and Pam Eng placed 2nd in Social Swing and Ken Graham with Delcie Feller were 3rd.

Congratulations to all.

## QUEEN MARSHA'S REPORT

Time flies! Before I know it my reign as Palomar's Queen will be over. It has been great being Queen again. We enjoy driving to all of the chapter coronations and enjoy seeing California's varied and beautiful scenery this time of the year, especially the snow covered mountains and the fields and hills covered with splashes of colored flowers.

Peter and I attended the Coronation of Mary King in San Diego at the beginning of March, and the Coronation of Wendy Wilson of Bakersfield at the end of March. I remember an old Girl Scout saying: "Make new friends and keep the old; one is silver the other is gold." This time as Queen, I know many more members from other chapters than I did when I was Queen in 2000, so it has been great sharing time with these "gold" friends again and meeting new "silver" friends. Although my reign will be over in July, I look forward to seeing all of my "silver and gold" friends at future NSD events again.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Bakersfield Chapter was a wonderful host for the 2011 Board of Directors Meeting. The two and 1/2 day party included the Coronation of Queen Wendy Wilson, entertainment, competition, and lots of dancing.

Palomar members attending the festivities were Queen Marsha and her husband, President Peter Hanson.

Heading the Palomar group was Director Duane Thornton, accompanied by his wife Donna. The Thorntons having traveled to Scottsdale, Arizona and back after enjoying a pleasant visit with their grandchildren from Minnesota who had met them here.

Despite the long journeys, Duane was able to give a well received and entertaining introduction of our Palomar group.

Congratulations go to dance partners Debbie Kincaid and Don Hubbard who won the silver medal in the beginning cha-cha.

San Diego's Mark Chapman, dance instructor for our Palomar socials, and his wife Kao, gave an elegant and stylish performance.

## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome two new members Frank and Cathy Lombardi of Oceanside. Both are retired East Coast transplants. Cathy moved West from Massachusetts in the early 70's and relocated to San Diego in 1980. Frank moved from New Jersey in 1997. Providence brought them together and they wed in 2000. Frank, a Rutgers University chemical engineer, moved to San Diego after a 32 year career with 3M in manufacturing, engineering, and management. Cathy has had a 26 year career as Executive Director in residential care facilities for the elderly. Ten years specifically was for the care of individuals with Alzheimer's disease. She keeps a busy schedule volunteering in four separate Support Groups. When asked about dancing, they replied: "We were looking for an activity that we could enjoy together that would challenge us both mentally and physically; dancing filled the bill. Then we found Palomar Smooth Dancers, and everyone was so friendly and helpful that we just had to join."

## PALOMAR CORONATION

The Palomar Smooth Dancers' 2011 Coronation Ball will be held Saturday, July 9, at the Ocean Hills Country Club, Oceanside. It will honor Queen Elect Miriam Mozes who has chosen the theme "Faraway Places." Bill Steeber and Barbara Greenlaw will provide the entertainment. Tickets will be \$45.00 for the dinner, \$22.00 for the Farewell Breakfast on Sunday.

For information and reservations please contact Ralph Anderson, 1913 Vineyard Ave. Vista, CA 92081. (760) 727-8180. Please RSVP by June 30, 2011.

## CRUISE

Helen Kerger and Merlin Woesner took a 14 day Cruise on the Queen Victoria that included Mexico and four stops in Hawaii. They received a surprise at the beginning when their key would not open their assigned cabin. Upon questioning the steward, he replied: "Some changes have been made." Whereupon, they were transferred to a penthouse on Deck 7. Other privileges included dining at the Queen's Grill, and dancing at the spacious Queen's Ballroom with a 7 piece orchestra. A highlight of the trip was a whale watching excursion aboard a 60 foot catamaran. At home Helen was asked if she missed all of that luxury. She replied: "I do miss not having my own personal Butler."



Mary King

## Queen's Message By SDSA Queen Mary King

I want to give a BIG "thank you" for all your support for my coronation. The next twelve months should become fabulous as my white gown and I travel my kingdom representing San Diego, dining and dancing. My fellow Queens tell me that I will meet many new people and form extraordinary friendships. I say bring it on!

My first outing was in January with Queen Terry. We traveled to the LA Coronation with Bob and Iris Steele, stopping as necessary. Bob kept us girls grounded along the way. The LA Coronation was beautiful and Queen Joy was crowned for the 3rd time. As beautiful as it was, it did not prepare me for my coronation.

The San Diego Queens should be congratulated again and again for "presenting" San Diego and all of California with such a wonderful night. If we need a fundraiser, we can hire our Queens out as "party planners" and make a lot of money.

My "Moon River" night was truly magical and I want to stay as excited the entire year, as my journey begins "wider than a mile" and drifting down the road to coronation and conventions.

(Reprinted from San Diego's "Smooth Talk").