

DANCE WHISPERS

National Smooth Dancers, Inc.



Los Angeles
Parent Chapter

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Publication of
N. S. D., Inc.

November - December 2011

Liz Bradford, Editor



"ALL ABOARD" BY JOY MICHAELS

A bus load of happy people traveled from San Diego and picked up some passengers from Palomar and Los Angeles for a fun filled ride to Fresno. Congratulations to the Fresno Chapter for putting on an outstanding convention over Labor Day weekend at the beautiful Radisson Hotel.

The convention was kicked off Friday afternoon at Fresno's welcome hospitality party with a bountiful buffet of seafood. Friday night's theme was "Under the Sea" with fun costumes of sea creatures in attendance. A beautiful Spanish formation dance was performed for our entertainment. The Visalia Chapter hosted the hospitality with an abundant buffet.

Saturday afternoon was the Clama Cabana with a delightful show by some "local" talent - Myra Wenzel and Norma Schmidt sang a cute duet with Rick Wenzel accompanying on piano.

Saturday evening was the Coronation Ball at Neptune's Kingdom with Queen Carla Rose Hartunian being crowned as the new State

Queen. Queen Carla Rose made a beautiful and touching tribute to several dear friends and family who had passed. Her dance with partner/teacher Franco Peraza was lovely. The professional performance was beautifully done by Randy and Viktorija Dias. Hospitality was hosted by the Golden Gate chapter - another fabulous feast.

Sunday morning the Queens' lively champagne reception and Crown Circle brunch was held at Mandalay Bay with a wonderful fashion show. A combination salad was served with lemon cake for dessert. The Queens were asked to wear hats.

Sunday Afternoon was the Crab Crawl with general dancing and more "local" talent. Sue and Bob Dowell did a lovely foxtrot and George and Norma Schmidt did an emotional bolero to "And I Love You So" that caused a few tears to those witnessing the dance. Eddie Rivera and Fayvin Duffy entertained with a fabulous Latin dance exhibition. Hospitality again was a wonderful Buffet, hosted by San Fernando Valley Chapter.

Alas, the weekend had to end on Monday morning. A cute preview presentation by San Fernando Valley Chapter of their 2012 convention to be held in Palm Desert was given.

Thanks to the chairmen and the whole Fresno Chapter for a wonderful weekend.

CONVENTION COMPETITION RECAP By: Lynn Sanders

Talk about an all hands on deck effort! When Fresno sent out the word that we needed help with competition entries, every one lent a hand. Alas, the lower than expected registrations, combined with the low number of competition entries, left no choice but to cut the competitions.

We offered our competitors the opportunity to continue without judging undaunted, nearly all chose to continue and dance in exhibitions, instead of competitions. They were joined by 9 more couples who entered to support their fellow dancers.

I'm very proud to be a member of NSD and of all the people who participated. Below is a list of the participants: Planned: Don Hubbard & Deborah Kincaid (Pal) Ken & Marion Scholtz, (LA), Greg Uichanco & Barbara Porter (Vis), Bill & Lona Dolan (Vis.), Len & Peggy (Pal), Mark Chapman & Been Kao, (SD), Duane & Donna Thorton, (Pal) Kyle & Jodene Catterlin (LA) Spontaneous: Larry & Kim Johnson (Bak), Chuck & Susan Johnson (LA), Frank Trapp & Keiko Isshiki (SFV), James & Andrea Gutman (SFV), Victor Lee & Debby Ku (LA), Mark & Sally Emanuelli (SFV), Peter Hanson & Margaret Moholt (Pal/Vis) Don Hubbard & Marsha Hanson (Pal), TG Thomas & Shirley McCloskey (Bak/SD), George & Miriam Mozes (PAL)

Los Angeles Chapter Social Calendar

Sunday, Nov. 13.....1P.M.
Western Party El Monte
Sunday, Dec. 18.....1P.M.
Christmas Party El Monte
Saturday, Jan. 28.....6P.M.
Coronation Ball Monrovia
Sunday, Feb 19.....1P.M.
Valentine Party El Monte

WESTERN PARTY

Our November 13 Dance will have a Western theme at the El Monte Senior Center, 3120 Tyler Ave. in El Monte.

The business meeting will be held at 1pm and will be followed by a dance lesson and general dancing. There will be light refreshments.

The price is \$12 for members and guests. Please make checks payable to NSD and send to Chris Lloyd, 6428 Hellman Ave. Alta Loma, CA 91701. (909) 945-2869.

Jeans, western shirts and hats would be appropriate.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

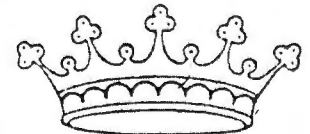
Our annual Christmas Charity Dance will be held on December 18 in El Monte. Proceeds will go to Hathaway/Sycamore Children and Family Services.

The business meeting will be held at 1pm and general dancing will begin after a dance lesson.

There will be a pot luck supper at 4pm Renee Haight will be in charge. For what to bring call her at (949) 574-2350. The price is \$12 each with a dish or \$20 without.

Checks payable to NSD should be sent to Renee Haight, 404 Prospect St. Newport Beach, CA 92663.

Dressy holiday attire will be in order.



CORONATION

Plan are being finalized for our Coronation Dinner Dance on Saturday, January 28 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Monrovia. We will be honoring Queen-Elect, Lesley Scott.



Party Line...By Liz

Convention in Fresno was great fun. Pictured above are the L.A. Chapter Queens at the Crown Circle. From left - Liz Bradford, Joy Michaels, Susan Lewis, Jodene Catterlin, Susan Johnson and Renee Haight. Some of us grumbled about wearing hats to the Brunch, but it certainly made for many "photos ops".

I had a chat with Herman Panciera, one of our members who was also formerly a member of the Golden Gate Chapter. He was a past president and Board Chairman and his wife, Mary was Queen. When she died he moved back East to be near his son. He enjoys Dance Whispers and was a good friend of Bob Fragomeni.

Steve Olowiany has a new address: CalVet Housing West LA, 11500 Nimitz Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90049. We wish him the best.

John and Genevieve Lucas spend a week in Tellaride, Colorado at a ski resort.

We are sorry to report that our long time member, Marjorie Lodwick has passed away. She and Gordon had recently celebrated their 70th anniversary with a lovely party for family and friends. They had moved to an assisted living apartment and were quite happy with it. Marjorie was always ready to lend a helping hand where needed. Our sympathy is extended to Gordon and their family.

Tina Van Zandt flew to Pennsylvania to be with family at the services for her sister.

Vera Funtsch is still recovering from hip surgery after a fall. She is well taken care of by Andy and the staff at Hollenbeck Palms. They provide all meals which is a great help.

SCHOOL DAYS

Our "Back to School" dance party was held in El Monte on Sunday, September 18. Some of the students were missing, but a loyal contingent enjoyed a lively and fun party,

The meeting following convention always has a number of committee reports so since it ran longer than usual, the dance lesson was dispensed with.

The tables were decorated by Susan Johnson as usual in the theme of the occasion with pens, pencils, crayons, erasers and rulers on the tables.

Liz Bradford played Ray's music which was nostalgic with many tunes that were popular during our high school and college years. The Paul Jones featured marches from various colleges, including, of course USC which has many local supporters. There was also a waltz mixer and a tag dance using rulers to tap a new partner.

Jan Russell took the reservations and sat on the door. She and Lesley Scott brought the bountiful buffet. Lesley and Allan made ham and turkey sandwiches and cole slaw and Jan had assorted fresh fruits and a carrot cake.

Our Sunday dances are always fun and very sociable and this was no exception.

Chuck and Susan Johnson will be taking a cruise in December to the Southwest Caribbean on the new Oceania Marina. They love Cruising!

It was great to see Gordon lloyd at our Black and White dance in his formal black vest. It was one that had belonged to Ray Bradford, It brought back memories for me.

FANCY DANCE

Our annual Black and White Ball was held in El Monte on October 9 at the El Monte Senior Center.

Chuck and Susan Johnson had decorated the tables with black cloths centered by tall black stands topped by large white balls.

Just about everyone present was dressed in combinations of black and white which made for a striking background to the dance. Victor Lee and Don Haight even had black and white shoes!

Following the business meeting, we had live music for dancing by the Dolores and Bob Duo. There were two mixers and many requests played.

For refreshments the Johnsons had made croissant sandwiches of turkey and ham and cheese along with chips and delicious carrot cake made by Lesley Scott. Lesley also helped with serving.

We had many guests and they all seemed to have a good time.

DEADLINE

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

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GAVEL CLUB AWARD

Congratulations to Patricia DiSessa on receiving N.S.D's highest award - the prestigious Gavel Club Trophy for outstanding service to the state organization.

Patricia was formerly a member of the Fresno Chapter where she had held almost every office as well as registration for two State Conventions. Her professional expertise was garnered from her position at Fresno State University for 29 years as an administrator in accounts payable and receivable.

She was also Vice Chair of Delegates for two years. Since 2007 she has served as Home Office Secretary.

After marrying Chuck DiSessa she moved to San Diego and transferred her membership there. She continues to serve there wherever needed.

STATEWIDE ACTIVITES

- January 28, 2012
Los Angeles Coronation
March 3, 2012
San Diego Coronation
March 23, 24, 25
Bakersfield Board Meeting &
Coronation
April 14, 2012
San Francisco Coronation
May 18, 2012
Visalia Coronation
June 2, 2012
Fresno Coronation
July 14, 2012
Palomar Coronation
Aug. 31, Sept. 1/3
State Convention and San
Fernando Coronation

SAN FERNANDO

Joan Robinson, Editor

San Fernando Valley heralds in our "Encore Performance" Coronation Ball on November 5, where Queen Roberta LaZar will be representing our chapter for her second year. For those who have not attended our Coronations, we throw a wonderful hospitality reception at the LaZar's beautiful home. This year, we will also be holding the breakfast at the Airtel Plaza Hotel. Our dinners are superb, our dancing is great, and we're just so sorry you're getting this too late to have been talked into being there! Congratulations, however, on those who did. We were glad to see you. (Yes, it's quite a challenge to write in the present, future and past in the same paragraph!)

QUEEN'S TRAVELS

Roberta has immensely enjoyed her reign as our queen, citing only how many lovely, friendly folk she has met throughout the year. No other dance organization gives you a family of dance friends from one end of the state to the other. So, without further ado

.... Here's Queen Roberta!

"It's hard to believe that it has been almost a year since my coronation as Queen. I did not really know what to expect when I became Queen. It has proved to be an amazing experience. During this year I have traveled around the state as a member of the royal court. I have really enjoyed making new friends as I visited the various Smooth Dancer chapters. In September, I attended my first Smooth Dancer's convention in Fresno where I participated in the lovely coronation ceremony for the new State Queen, Carla Rose Hartunian. One of the highlights of the weekend was the Queens brunch where we all wore fancy hats and were entertained with a fashion show.

"Les & I have recently returned from a European Cruise. Our trip started in Rotterdam (where we boarded Holland America's Rotterdam). We made stops in England, Portugal, Spain and Italy before disembarking in Rome where we spent three days. I have enjoyed the experience of being Queen so much I have agreed to another year. I am looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones as I once again travel around the state representing the San

Fernando Chapter." (written by HRH Queen Roberta.)

THANKS FRESNO

Thank you to all those who said they loved our convention presentation at the Fresno breakfast. Yes, it will be the San Fernando Valley's turn to present to you, once again, the 2012 Convention at the five star J.W. Marriott Hotel in Palm Desert. This weekend promises to be spectacular. You don't want to miss it.

A great thank you, also, to all the wonderful people of our Fresno Chapter who worked to put on that spectacular fun weekend - especially to Kathy Sachse & Kevin McCready who have always been everywhere every time I get close to the Fresno chapter. And I loved their "Thanks for the Memories" page in the brochure. Who was that young debonair couple pictured in 1987? I bet there are a lot of our members with great photos of earlier days when our clubs were in their heydays. I'd love to get a collage of them together for a bill board at our next convention. Would any one like to orchestrate that for us? Don't be shy. I know there's some retired member out there, who knows lots of original members, who would love to gather up photos of their earlier years at NSD. You know, those photos that you can actually touch? They were shiny, usually 3"x5", and you could physically hand them over to another person instead of emailing them?

Anyway, thanks too, to Steve Moore and Kevin McCready, the Convention Chairmen, and I saw buzzing around getting things done. And I immensely admire the elegant State Queens like Carla Rose Hartunian who can be incredibly regal one night and picking up the garbage the next day. It's just the sign of the times. Good help is hard to get, your Royal Highness, and we thank you. Running a Convention is indeed a labor of love and we greatly appreciate it. And, next year, when we are doing the work, we will appreciate you even more! I mean, not just you Carla, but all the great NSD folk who will be adding to our work force next year. After all, we are the smallest chapter and we are very grateful to you all.

BAKERSFIELD

Dorothy Vaughan, Editor

I want to start this newsletter off by thanking Fresno Smooth Dancers for putting on a great convention! In spite of some setbacks for them it all came together for a really fun convention. This convention was bittersweet for me as the last time I was there, so was my husband. That was in 2006. I remember how wonderful all the Bakersfield Smooth Dancers were to him as he struggled to find his way around the hotel. Someone was always there to point him in the right direction. While I'm on this "bent", I want to also give kudu's to the wives in Bakersfield Smooth Dancer's who so generously allow their husbands to ask us single ladies to dance so we can participate in the joy of dancing. A big thank you also goes out to the husband's that make the effort to ensure each of us get a chance to dance. Of course, all this is in addition to the great dance mixer's that Fresno had.



HALLOWEEN PARTY

Our upcoming October 22 dance, 'Costume Capers' will be hosted by Bob and Karen Kandarian. Ken Silber will spin the music. It will be held at the Rasmussen Senior Center, 115 E. Roberts Lane, From 7-10:30pm. Members \$5 donation, Non-members \$15/person, \$25/couple so get those skeletons out of your closet, grab your brooms and come on out and help 'brew' up a fun evening.

WE GIVE THANKS

The November dance will be hosted by Margaret Keith, and she is planning a great evening for us. The tentative theme is 'We Give Thanks'. The dress code will be holiday casual. This dance will be

held on SUNDAY, November 20, from 6-10. Put on your Sunday best and meet us at the Rasmussen Center.



Our December dance 'A Shiny Smooth Black and Red Christmas Ball' will be chaired by Francis Hein and her great committee. It will be held on December 17th from 7-10:30. Formal attire will be the dress code for the evening. Here's your chance to get into the Christmas spirit, wear something red or glittery!

Plans for our New Years Eve dance are in the works, it will be chaired by Ben and Wendy Wilson and a list of wonderful people. This is your opportunity to bring in the New Year with all your great BSD friends. So get your tickets early and be there! This dance is held at the Women's Club located at 2030 18th St.

Our September dance 'New York, New York' was a lot of fun. Steve Peterson was the master of ceremonies. Bob Kandarian was our music man, and Phil and Sue Kimbrell were our wonderful entertainment. Phil and Sue performed a sexy rumba; it was a great dance with some great moves! There were 98 people in attendance.

CRUISE SHIP THEME

Our August dance was well attended. It had a cruise ship theme, and everyone had a great time. Adding to our enjoyment was a wonderful Tango performed by Paul and Irene Leung. Also performing were Dr. Sze and Chiuyee Ho. They performed an inspirational waltz to the song 'Whispering Hope', a great tribute to his recovery from cancer. Dr. Ho has written articles about his 'journey' through cancer.



It was great to see Bong Anderson back on the dance floor after a long recovery from her broken ankle, also seen was Janice Benson back dancing again after her recovery from a serious life threatening illness.

IT'S CANDY CANE TIME

The VSD Annual Holiday Party **Dancing Down Candy Cane Lane** will be held December 3rd at the Sons of Italy Hall in Visalia. A no-host reception begins at 6:30pm accompanied by delicious appetizers prepared by Club members. The 7pm dinner is followed by a sumptuous dessert buffet provided by VSD members. Dancing begins at 8pm on a huge wonderful wooden dance floor.

Entertainment is provided by two local ladies performing with their instructors. Mary Short will perform with Franco Peraza who has fanned Mary's passion for dance as her primary instructor for 20 years. She is a Pro-Am Competitor, assists with classes and has done some student teaching particularly with Wedding Dance. Mary, a retired teacher, is a member of Fresno Smooth Dancers.



Mary Short

Franco Peraza has well over 20 years experience as a professional ballroom & Latin dance instructor, coach and choreographer of productions for stage, TV and commercials. Franco founded Studio 65 Dancesport in Fresno before relocating to New York City in 2004 to instruct at NYWeddingDance and later he became Dance Director of SteppingOut Dance Studio in Manhattan. He recently returned to Fresno

and now teaches ballroom out of Studio 65.

Lotti Carr and her instructor Dmitriy Kochkin have been dancing together for seven years. Lotti began social ballroom in the early-80s and competed in NSd as well as Pro-Am with Hugo Villanueva and now Dmitriy. Dmitriy Kochkin was classically trained as an International Style dance competitor in Russia before he was recruited to teach by the Fred Astair Studio in Fresno. He now teaches American style ballroom and Latin from the studio he owns and operates - Ballroom Live.

For more information or reservations for the Holiday gala, call David and Carol Bixler 559-688-0302.

ANNIVERSARY BALL

The "Black, White & Roses Ball" celebrated VSD's 36th Anniversary with an elegant evening of dining and dancing October 15th. The black-on-white and contrasting white-on-black theme was stunningly carried out on the walls, the state and the tables, with centerpieces of elegant tall crystal vases filled with fresh long-stemmed roses and greenery. The hosted wine reception, poured by VSD bartenders Jaime Aguet, Bob Helm & Tom Giampietro, preceded the catered buffet dinner. Formally attired gents and ladies (many keeping to the black & white theme) whirled around the floor to the magical music of Greg Uichanco.

Master of Ceremonies, Tom Giampietro, kept the evening running smoothly and assisted by our lovely Queen Dorothy Sims, made special presentations to two VSD "Grande-dames" and past Queens Stella Yocum and Lillian Lewis. Amazingly, Stella has attended every State Convention since 1975/6 except for one when she was sick.

NSD's 2010 Four Star American Standard Champions Lona and Bill Dolan entertained with a terrific foxtrot, a beautiful waltz and a bolero.

CONVENTION 2011

As convention co-chair I would like to thank all of our members who participated in making our convention a success. I would like to recognize particularly our contest chair Lynn Sanders for taking a lemon and turning it into lemonade. Lynn has written a report which appears elsewhere. A special thanks goes out to Barbara Crawford of the Golden Gate Chapter for the donation of cuff links and studs which became a special item in the packages for all the men.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Our next Formal Event will be the Harvest Ball to be held on November 5, 2011 at the Holy Trinity Armenian Church Social Hall it will start at 6:30 and run to 11pm. The cost is \$35 for Fresno members and \$40 for guests. Entertainment will be provided by Franco and Company.

Our 3rd Sunday event will be November 20 and will be a salute to all Veterans. It will be hosted by Lynn Sanders with help from Bob & Sue Dowell, Queen Carla Hartunian, Tony & Nancy Palazzo and Rick & Kathy Constantino. Dance lessons in Tango & Rumba will be taught by Dmitriy Kochkin. Recorded music by Sarah Vigen.

The dance will be at the Clovis Senior Center, 850 4th Street in Clovis starting at 4pm and ending at 8. Cost is \$5 for members with a potluck dish and \$15 for members w/o a dish and guests.



CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Our Christmas social will be held on Sunday, December 18, 2011 at the Clovis Senior Center, also. The times

are from 6pm to 10pm and will include a champagne reception, a catered dinner, dancing and entertainment by Guy Ashby & Kathy Page and the Franco Babes. Dress is semi formal.

The cost is \$25 for Fresno members and \$30 for guests. Reservations are required by December 13th and should be sent, with a check to Fresno Smooth Dancers, to Cissie Vigen, 5056 N. Van Ness Blvd., Fresno 93711. (559) 917-7488 or email cvigen@live.com

We ask that those who attend bring an unwrapped toy appropriate for a 3-5 year old for the "Clovis Adult Ed Even Start Program".



IN MEMORY

Our condolences and prayers go out to Erna Bonetto and family on the loss of David Bonetto, who passed away in early October. Both Erna and David have been long term members of Fresno Chapter. Many NSD members knew him from the Sunny Side Dept. Store and as show vendors at Boards and Conventions.

Our thoughts are with Lorraine Tilton whose mother passed away Friday, October 7th.

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CONVENTION NOTES

As circumstances prevented me from attending our yearly convention. I asked our lovely queens Amy and Liz to give me an account of the festivities.

Here is a synopsis of their reports:

Fresno chapter had spared no effort to transform the hospitality space to an underwater "Bounty of the Sea" paradise where king Neptune himself tended bar.

The Friday night Tango exhibition by some of Fresno's members left us inspired and awed. Saturday afternoon the "Clama Cabana" rocked with dance exhibitions, a thrilling tribute to Michael Jackson and a highly entertaining song/dance/and piano numbers by Myra and Rick Wenzel, as well as Norma and George Schmidt.

For Saturday evening the ballroom had been transformed into a magical underwater kingdom fit for a queen, and an elegant dinner was followed by the crowning of incoming State Queen Carla Rose Hartunian, who celebrated her royal status in grand style. Our chapter was represented by outgoing State Queen

Amy Ansaldi and Chapter Queen Liz Talmadge. State Queen Carla dedicated her Queens Waltz to loved ones no longer with us including our own Bob Fragomeni, which touched us deeply.



An incredible Queens champagne reception where all the queens were asked to wear hats, was followed by brunch along with a fashion show by Fresno's own Supermodels.

Some of Fresno's extraordinary dancers treated us to a top notch performance called the "Crab Crawl" and the talent and technique of the professional performers Eddie Rivera and Fayvin Duffy were a treat to watch. San Fernando Valley hosted hospitality that night and treated us to a preview of next years convention in Palm Desert.

We took wonderful memories with us of an extraordinary weekend filled with great friends, lots of dancing, and a deep appreciation for all the work that went into making this Convention so successful.

Golden Gate Dance Notes

September 18th we were treated to a Waltz lesson by Monica Olejnic at our monthly dance as Bill Milner could not make that Sunday lesson and this month the lovely and talented teacher Erin Pick taught us a very energetic Cha Cha. We so much appreciate having these professionals teach at our monthly dances, as it helps all of us improve our technique and ability. Though we wish all of our monthly dance attendees would become members, we are grateful for the support they show by being there to enjoy our offerings every month.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS GEORGE AND ANA DAYEH

It all started when in the State of Palestine George was born on February 23, 1948, two months before, on the land of

Palestine, the State of Israel was created. He attended high school in Amman Jordan and completed his Civil Engineering degree at the University of Zagreb in Croatia. Ana entered the world on March 3rd a few years after George, in Sovici, Croatia where she completed her primary and high school education before attending the University of Zagreb to obtain a degree as a teacher for special education.



George & Ana Dayeh

Though they never met at the University, lucky for George, the University had their meeting arranged at a night out with friends at a local dance club and the wedding followed 4 years after graduation, on March 5, 1977. As Ana's mother was counting, 363 days after the wedding day, they welcomed their first son Elias, gifting him a playmate in 1980 with son Mihael. In 1986 George decided to move his young family to the US where some of his extended family already resided.

Always the dreamer, George had visions of dancing with both his wife and his beautiful future daughter-in-law at her wedding to his son, and of course to impress all the guests. Lessons ensued at the parks and recreation center in Redwood City and at Arthur Murray and continue today at the Imperial dance club in Redwood City. They had a ball dancing on cruises where they met a couple who told them about Golden Gate Chapter Sunday dances. Impressed with the warmth and the friendship they were given, especially when they met Mila and Jim Ragual who encouraged their membership in our chapter, they accepted and joined.

George, now an architect, tirelessly sets up and prints all our fliers, did all the printing for our convention last year, turned himself into a biker with tattoos and regularly serves the dinner at our monthly dances.

Ana who now runs a caregiver agency and owns residential care homes, sets up, breaks down and helps where she can with all the chores that go into making a successful business meeting and Sunday dance. They made their beautiful home available for our incoming queens luncheons and she delights us with her incredible baked goods. Ana was our chapter queen in 2009. Now, if we could only get George to smile on a regular basis..

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES (OTHER THAN DANCING) AT OUR CHAPTER

The members of the Activities Program for 2011 were John Anzalone, Maurine Brown, George Dayeh, Vlad Gites, Sue Robinson, Rita & Floyd Parma. The purposes of this committee was to enhance comradeship among newer and seasoned members by providing venues for social activities that would be affordable, local and simple.

In all 4 activities were planned and executed starting with a day at the races at Golden Gate Fields, a walk in the park at Purisima Creek culminating with lunch, Beach Splash which included watching the waters and the beautiful view of San Francisco and it ended with a picnic at Red Morton Park where some of our members played Bocci ball. Those who participated would like to continue these activities next year, hoping to attract more of our membership to join in.

IN MEMORY

I am saddened to report that George Rosko has passed away on Sep. 3rd. He was a police officer while here on this planet receiving many merit awards during his career. George was fighting Alzheimer's disease for the last 3 years. He is survived by his sweet wife Donna, who is slowly getting her smile back.

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

Denise White, Editor

PALOMAR

Don Hubbard, Editor



Queen Mary King

Queen's Note

Queen Mary King's quote of the month: "You have achieved success if you have lived well, laughed often, and loved much." (author unknown) I'm sure all Smooth Dancers would agree that "danced" should be included in that sentence as well.

New Members

The chapter would like to welcome three new members: Pennie and Earl Davis, and Elizabeth Kingman. We're so glad to have you!!

San Diego at the Convention

Seventeen members from the San Diego chapter, joined by another seventeen members of the Palomar and Los Angeles chapters, took a chartered bus to and from Fresno. Everyone had a great time chatting, snacking, and enjoying Chuck DiSessa's unending store of jokes.

Once there, everyone had a fabulous time.

Even though there were no competitions, Been Kao and Mark Chapman didn't let their preparations go to waste but thrilled everyone as they performed in the exhibitions held on Saturday and Sunday.

At Monday morning's award ceremony, Patricia DiSessa received the Gavel Club Award and Ann Meador received the Perpetual Trophy. Richly deserved, Ladies! Thank you for your service to the club.

Jump, Jive An' Wail on the Midway

Chuck DiSessa was part of a fantastic performance on board the USS Midway Museum. The Christian Community Theatre group performed a musical entitled "Jump, Jive An' Wail" from August 5th through the 14th. The show was a musical revue of swing music and swing dancing throughout the

Twentieth Century. Chuck and his two lady partners did a fabulous job, as usual.

Wild, Wacky and Wonderful

October's social was indeed wild, wacky and wonderful. Many of our members and guests came dressed in costume and color. The tables were decorated Halloween-style, the food alcove dripped with (fake) spider webs, and one corner of the room was an eerie graveyard scene, just waiting to welcome new visitors. The social was put on by the "W's": Pat Winter, Margaret Willette, Maria Wilson and Denise White. You did a great job! Thanks also to DJ, Rose Madrid, and to all our helpers.



Upcoming Socials

Please join us for our Black and White Anniversary Ball on November 5, the Yuletide Ball on December 3, and the New Year's Eve Dance on December 31.

From Chuck DiSessa

When you've got your health, you've got everything! Ever heard that expression?? Personally, it means more to me now than it ever did.

With a total of five stents having been placed in two of my coronary arteries in mid-August, I've got more energy for dancing now than I've had in months.

So please, do whatever it takes to ensure good health for the future.. your dancing depends on it!!

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER 2012 OFFICERS

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Our NSD National Convention was a great party! The party started early Friday for some members of the San Diego, Palomar and Los Angeles Chapter members on a charter bus to Fresno. Thanks to Kay Ryan and other members from San Diego, food & service were provided to the travelers.

On Saturday Chuck & Patricia DiSessa hosted a pre-dinner party for the San Diego & Palomar members. Sunday, Debbie Kincaid responded with an early party before the festivities.

Fresno Chapter canceled the dancing competition because of a lack of entrants in the competition. Lynn Sanders, Chairperson of the competition, using her ingenuity and energy devised an appropriate alternative. Dancing exhibitions were performed using the same format as would have been used in the competition only lacking judges and medals.

Palomar had the distinction of providing more dancers for this event than any of the other seven chapters. They included Len & Peggy Lee, International Smooth & Latin; Don Hubbard & Debbie Kincaid, one star Waltz & Cha-Cha; Donna & Duane Thornton. Senior Waltz & Cha-Cha; George & Miriam Mozes, one star Cha-Cha; Marsh Hanson & Hubbard, and Peter Hanson paired with Margaret Molhoit of Visalia in the Senior Waltz.

In business matters Palomar President, Peter Hanson, developed an online format which will allow the eight chapter presidents to correspond as a group. Palomar was selected to host the 2014 NSD Convention.

In Memoriam

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of our highly thought of member Sarah Nolan. A four year member, Sarah served as Membership Chairperson for the past three years. A diligent worker, Sarah was responsible for bringing in many new members. She also served as assistant instructor at our weekly beginner's lessons. She will be sorely missed.

A Special Honor

Ralph Anderson was honored, when selected by a private funded organization, Honor Flight, for a trip to the National Capital to view the Veterans Memorials. He traveled with a group of 16 WWII veterans who were treated to an all expense paid tour. The group was met at the airport by large groups of military personnel who

were applauding or standing at attention at the honored veterans as they entered the terminal buildings. At the memorial he met Senator Bob & Elizabeth Dole. When asked about the trip Ralph said, "I received the most honor and respect I ever received as a veteran."

New Members

Christiane Lannes is a 15 year part-time resident of Carlsbad, who shares her time in her native Marscilles, France. She is a retired hospital administrator. She has been dancing for just two years, but her statement, "I love to dance!", adequately describes how she has taken to ballroom dancing. Her pride is her family of 3 sons, 3 daughters-in-law and 7 grandchildren.

A.J. Magar is a 10 year resident of Carlsbad. He attended dental school in St. Louis and has established a dental practice in Las Vegas. He has been dancing for 10 years. His family includes 3 daughters and a son.

Chapter Activity

The Annual Holiday Party will be held Saturday, December 10, 2011, at Ocean Hills Country Club. Direct any questions to Amiel Sharon at (760) 721-9001.

Travels

Len & Peggy Lee flew home to Taipei, to celebrate his monther's 90th birthday, which happened to coincide with the annual Moon Festival. All family members gathered for a nice dinner party for his mother at a local Thai Restaurant. In addition to spending time with their relatives they also enjoyed time shopping, dancing and golf!

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