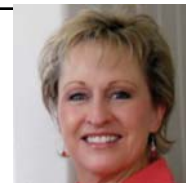


National Smooth Dancers
Dance Whispers
June 2013



Fresno Chapter

edited by Linda Bennett



A memorable and enjoyable coronation

Coronation. The Fresno Chapter again has given me the honor of being their Queen. We decorated the Holy Trinity Social Hall with a Rainbow arch and hydrangea floral arrangements from my backyard.

As our reigning queens arrived, they were greeted with a bountiful hospitality coordinated by Carla Hartunian. Unfortunately, Debbie Kincaid of Palomar had car trouble on the Grapevine and was unable to continue the journey. Fortunately, San Diego's Shirley McCloskey (past queen in San Diego and Fresno) was appropriately attired and was willing to step in for Debbie.

The evening began with a champagne reception, with background music provided by our own piano man, Rick Wenzel. Sharon Crisp gave the President's welcome, and Carla Hartunian was the mistress of ceremonies.



Queen Lorraine & Escort Franco

The coronation began with a procession to "Over the Rainbow" by Iz. My granddaughters, Lexi, 9 and Madi, 7 were my attendants. The queens carried hydrangea bouquets prepared by Carla. The Queen's dance was a waltz with Franco Peraza, my instructor and escort, in whom I had so much confidence that our dance together was a joy. The reigning queens were joined by the Fresno queens, and all other queens, and we danced "Rainbow Connection". The Honor Dance was a sizzling Tango performed by Bill and Lona Dolan.

Dinner was Shish Kebob, with baklava and rainbow sherbet for dessert. As always, the food and service provided by the Holy Trinity Men's Club was superb.

Franco, with Leah Dickerson and Hans and Vilya Kam provided the entertainment, a trio of consecutive dances. Lynn Sanders coordinated the Jack & Jill Foxtrot and Rumba contests.

All of my family was there, including my son Alec Plumb and his wife Amanda, my daughter Sarah Samuelian and her husband Bryce and my grandchildren Isabelle, Jacob, and Alexis Plumb and Madison and Ben Samuelian. Also attending were Sarah's parents-in-law, Dale and Charlene Samuelian. During the procession, Ben, who is three, pointed to each queen as she entered and said "Look, a princess". When I walked in he said "Look, it's Grandma Princess"!



The Queen's Waltz



The Queen's Court



The Crown Circle

I want to thank:

Carla for doing everything that I didn't want to do, and for being wonderfully easy to work with.

Sharon, for taking reservations, and for being a friend I can always count on.

Lynn for taking care of the reigning queens and producing the Jack & Jill competitions.

Henry Wegermann for producing the music playlist, and finding Leslie to play it.

and, Jim Escobar for setting up and taking down the arch, and just helping wherever needed.

Sunday morning at brunch, Lynn first cursed Shirley McCloskey for starting the tradition of Queen's poems, and then read the one she begrudgingly wrote. As expected, it was a literary masterpiece.

Lynn presented me with the traditional Queen crown pin, and received the Perpetual Queen's Trophy, which she will keep for the next year. The chapter gave her a lovely mirrored jewelry box, in honor of her year as Queen.

I am looking forward to my year on the road, and I want to thank all of the Fresno Chapter for the support they have given me. I will be having knee replacement surgery on June 25, but I have a plane ticket already and plan to be at the Palomar Coronation on July 27! -Queen Lorraine.



Queens Lynn & Lorraine

Queen Lynn's farewell. "I can't believe how fast this year has gone!" How many times I've read these words and now I know for myself how true they are, even though I enjoyed an extra six months accompanying Queen Carla Rose. I can't thank her enough for being my partner through all my queenly travels.

I am so grateful to all the people who made me feel so welcome while visiting and, as a single Queen, I send a special thank you to all the NSD gentlemen who were my escorts. I cannot thank you all enough for steering me (sometimes literally) through the coronation ceremonies and making them fun, too.

I am truly indebted to my fellow Fresno members for trusting me to represent our chapter and I will treasure the friendships I've made all over the state. I know that we will always feel the special bonds of sharing our queen years.

Great things happen when we dance! -Love, Lynn.

Visalia coronation. We arrived in Exeter to find good friends and good food waiting for us at the hotel. After a quick rehearsal, we returned to the hotel to change into our evening togs.

Queen Barbara Uichanco was re-crowned chapter Queen by State Queen Barbara Greenlaw. Greg and Barbara did a wonderful dance for us showing off their smooth competition style. Bill and Lona Dolan's new waltz was lovely and all the more impressive when we learned that Lona performed with a broken rib. Dancing is not for sissies! Dinner was delicious and the marvelous 5-dance entertainment was by Angus Sinclair and Dara Campbell, senior champions. The Jack & Jill dance contestants all got a box of candies.

The Visalia Country Club provided the elegant breakfast buffet in addition to a fabulous view and perfect weather. The paparazzi were out in full force to memorialize the day. Thank you to the Visalia team for such a nice event and special thank you to Henry Wegermann for being my escort and looking after me so well. - Queen Lynn.

Social report. April. Our third Sunday social was a Spring Fling. Queen Lynn Sanders was the hostess with an amazing committee of Tony & Nancy Palazzo, Linda Bennett and Ann Phillips. Thank you!! The tables were decorated with Spring bouquets made by Nancy Palazzo. Thank You to all the members who brought such delicious food for our successful potluck. A special thank you to our music man, Jim Escobar. Franco Peraza was our dance instructor for a Tango lesson; those who took the class were able to add a beautiful pattern to their repertoire.

May. Our third Sunday social was a Fiesta! Carla Hartunian was the hostess, assisted by committee members Jim Escobar, Lynn Sanders, Patty Harris and Lorraine Tilton. The tables were decorated with Mexican hats and paper flowers. Jeff Jackson debuted as our music man – thanks for the great job, Jeff! Dmitriy Kochkin was our instructor for an East Coast Swing lesson and he taught a fancy pattern.

Next month's third Sunday June Dance is Father's Day Dancing. Come join us. Save Sunday, June 16th on your calendar. Stacy O'Neil will be teaching a Salsa Lesson starting at 4:00 p.m. Our music man will be Henry Wegermann.

New member. We welcome new member Carol Sanchez, who was sponsored by Lynn Sanders and Angie Garcia. Carol has taken ballroom dance lessons for the past 4 years but began dancing at the age of 7. Her interest in dance was renewed after watching Dancing With the Stars, and she began studying to "really learn how to dance". Welcome, Carol!

Sunshine. We were saddened to learn of the death of Ted Oba, who passed away May 25.

Third-Sunday dances are at the Clovis Senior Center, 850 4th Street, Clovis, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Cost is \$5 for members with a potluck dish and \$15 for members without a dish, and guests. See www.fresnosmoothdancers.org for flyers!



A lovely coronation

Coronation. Visalia had a spectacular coronation in May, crowning Queen Barbara Uichanco. Many of you already know Barbara and Greg, as Barbara has been VSD's queen and representative for the past year. Coronation was held at the Exeter Memorial Hall and was decorated with flowers and

butterflies with Barbara's favorite color, purple, predominating. Dinner, catered by a local company, was excellent. All but one of the state queens were able to attend and there were contingents of dancers from all over the state.

Barbara and Greg performed a waltz and Lona and Bill Dolan a waltz honor dance. Both dances were well executed and beautiful. The entertainment consisted of five dances (five!) from Dora Campbell and Angus Sinclair, one of three top ranked couples in the US following the USA Dance National DanceSport Championships in 2012 and the NDCA US National Amateur Dancesport Championships in 2013. Barbara had promised awesome entertainment and Dora and Angus were that.

Most of us don't dance as well as the professionals, but twelve couples were brave enough to participate in a Cha Cha/ Waltz Jack and Jill, organized by Greg Uichanco. Stan Medina and Carla Hartunian from Fresno won first place waltz, Alex Ortiz and Myra Nielsen won first in Cha Cha and the overall winners were VSD's Tim Inouye and his partner for the competition,

Nancy Ramentas. They had placed third in Waltz and second in Cha Cha. For pictures of the evening, please go to VSD's website.

As is traditional for a coronation, there was a hospitality event hosted by VSD on Friday, and a Queen's brunch, held at the Visalia Country Club, on Sunday.

Fresno coronation. Barbara and Greg attended the June 1 Fresno coronation and she says: "Kudos to Fresno for a successful event..the theme of Somewhere Over the Rainbow was carried out in a vibrant and fun atmosphere. Queen Lorraine Tilton and her escort performed a lovely waltz. Bill and Lona Dolan performed the honor dance....I am excited to have attended another coronation!"

Social report. The June 8th dance is themed "Fiesta" and will be held at the Exeter Memorial Hall. A salsa lesson by Robert Taylor will precede dinner and dancing. The entertainment will be Wendy and Paul Storey, who placed first in Latin at Bakersfield Boards.

July is always luau time, when dancers wear their best mumus, grass skirts and puka beads. The dance will be on the 20th, with a catered dinner. Margaret Moholt is chair of the event; reservations can be sent to her (\$25.00 per person) at 2118 Anthony Ct, Visalia, 93277 or call for information to 599-636-0643.

Our August dance, chaired by Tom and Sue Giampietro, is themed "Lazy Days of Summer".

Convention. I can't write this column without another reference to the upcoming convention. Packets were distributed at Boards and at coronation and are available from chapter social chairs. You have to come just to see the elephant! Most chapters will have formation teams performing, as will Visalia. We are in the initial chaotic mix of learning dance steps and trying to figure out what to wear. Anyone have an animal/African dance dress? Well, actually, about twelve African/animal dance dresses. Those of you in formations know the chaos I'm talking about.

See all the detail on the following page.



Queen Barbara

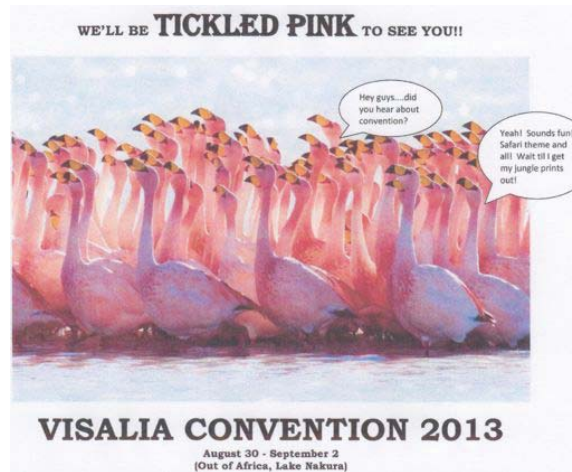


Queen Barbara



Dora & Angus

Convention



Yvette



Lotti

WE'LL BE TICKLED PINK TO SEE YOU!! at the **Out of Africa** NSD dance Convention to be held in Visalia from August 31 through September 2, 2013. And we hope you will be tickled pink as we take you on this African safari adventure that includes a stop off at the world-famous Lake Nakura where thousands of pink flamingos gather. You may want to "think pink" and "wear pink" to blend in.

The plans for the 2013 NSD Convention being hosted by Visalia Chapter are well underway and we have something for everyone! Great dancing, mixers, competitions, Jack & Jills for members and non-members, Formation Team exhibitions and more.

You won't find a better bargain anywhere. The convention registration **package price of \$155** includes a sumptuous welcome hospitality, a Friday night "safari" dance, Saturday and Sunday afternoon dances, dining and dancing Saturday night at a Formal Ball and a final formal dance on Sunday night. The two formal dances will be highlighted by professional dance shows. Each evening dance will be followed by a hospitality event hosted by the Fresno, San Fernando Valley and Los Angeles chapters. The convention ends with a Farewell Breakfast and awards presentation on Monday.

You can register at the **package price of \$155** until **July 1st** when the package price increases to \$165. So send in your registration now!! For a nominal fee of \$5 per lesson, you can enjoy the optional group dance lessons taught by visiting pros.

The rooms are going fast at this **\$99 per night rate**, guaranteed only until **July 31st**. Come early or stay longer, this rate is available 3 days before and after. Take the shuttle to Sequoia National Park, or spend a morning visiting the murals in Exeter (a 10 mile drive) which boasts that it is the Mural Capital of the World. Then have lunch at the local Wildflower Café, well known for a variety of light fare & delicious desserts. Or make a quick visit to Yosemite, its about a 2.5 hour drive to the southern entrance.

Especially for the Ladies, back by popular demand and thanks to the assistance of Joan Robinson from SFV, **dance hosts** will be available for your dancing pleasure. This translates into shorter lines during the mixers, more dancing opportunities for the single ladies and gives our wonderful male club members a little time to rest their feet.

For the NSD amateur members who plan to compete in our sanctioned competitions, your **Pre-registration** forms must be postmarked or hand delivered by **August 10, 2013** and you must purchase the full registration package to be eligible. All competitor information is included in the registration packages available from your club Social Chairs. For additional information on competitions, please contact John or Linda Guttierrez at (559 799-0487 or 799-0488 or email guttlin@chrobinson.com or guttlin384@yahoo.com.

We are looking forward to seeing you "**Tickled Pink**" at the 2013 **Out of Africa** dance convention!! For information call or email: Yvette Haworth 559-561-3604, starfire1@hughes.net or Lotti Carr, 55999-732-1831, lcarr08@comcast.net.

- Yvette & Lotti

Palomar Chapter

edited by Debbie Kincaid & Don Hubbard



Coronation plans and people news

Queen-Elect Darlene Drury, is so excited & honored about planning her Coronation, "Under the Stars", at the beautiful Ocean Hills Country Club in Oceanside. Darlene has been around dance all her life. Born and raised in Chicago, her parents were champion dancers. Dancing is in her blood! Darlene came to Palomar Smooth Dancers in 2010 and quickly jumped right in helping out where she could. She has four children – 2 boys, 2 girls, 8 grandchildren and one great-grand daughter. She retired from UCSD Hospital after working in the medical field, behavioral health, for 20 years. When she is not dancing, her favorite pastimes are walking the beach, discovering new restaurants and playing with her grandchildren who live in Cardiff by the Sea.



Darlene Drury

Please join us on Saturday, July 27th. Doors open at 6:00 PM and the ceremony will begin at 6:30 PM followed by dinner and dancing. "I am looking forward to having a fun and memorable evening with all my friends from NSD", indicated Darlene, "you won't want to miss my two adorable grand children, ages 2 & 4, in the ceremony!"

Recently our past queens got together for a special luncheon honoring our queen-elect Darlene at Ciao's Restaurant in Vista. Each queen personally gave Darlene a bit of "royal advice" for her upcoming year. She also received special advice from our Court Jester, George Mozes. "Be nice to your escort!" She plans on taking his advice.



Past Queens

Queen's Report. On our way to Visalia's coronation, Michael and I stopped in Bakersfield on Friday to a pre-planned dinner at a local Chinese Restaurant owned by Bakersfield Smooth Dancer, Helen Wong. She so graciously honored her friend Queen Been Kao (SDSD) with a complimentary meal for all! What a surprise! We then joined the Bakersfield Chapter for some fun dancing at The Grange. We arrived in Visalia that night and the next afternoon took in a little wine tasting & wonderful lunch at The Schoolhouse Restaurant nearby. The Coronation was beautiful as were Queen Barbara and Greg's dance performance. The next morning we were treated to a beautiful and extensive breakfast as Visalia Country Club. We thoroughly enjoyed every moment with our new wonderful friends.

Two weeks later Michael & I set out for another fun weekend, this time in Fresno. Everything was going smoothly...until we started going over The Grapevine. All of a sudden the car lost all power and a warning light came on! We pulled over to the right side and called Toyota, then AAA. Well...3 hours later and in 90-degree weather, the tow truck arrived. The nearest dealer was in Bakersfield 48 miles away! We had to rent a car at the airport. Needless to say we never made it to the coronation! Thank you to Queen-Elect Darlene for filling in for me at the rehearsal and to former San Diego Queen Shirley McCloskey for representing Palomar at the coronation. What an experience!

Joyce & Don Radesky were honored at the Sunday Social for their 22 years of service to Palomar Chapter. Joyce had just retired from her position as arranger of music, a position she filled for many years, ably assisted by her husband Don. Her long term service included the office of Treasurer and three terms as Queen! The Radesky's accomplishments included First Place finishes in their division of the 1998 Championships at Weymouth, England, the 1992 US Amateur Championships, and eight times Senior Olympic Dance Champions. They are still active dancers in the club, frequently assisting new members. The Palomar Smooth Dancers commend you!



Don & Joyce

New members. Barbara Andrews came to us through PSD Monday night dance classes. She enjoyed the friendly Monday night group and our teachers George & Miriam. She took line dancing, two step, waltz & east coast swing in the 90's for several years. "I got away from it for a while and realized how much I missed it. Now I want to learn ballroom dancing and make friends I can enjoy while dancing" said Barbara. She has worked in the healthcare field all her adult life. The past five years she has been specializing in hepatology caring for liver cancer patients at UC San Diego Medical Center. Born & raised in Texas she moved to San Diego area in 1981. Barbara has one married daughter and a 2 year old grand daughter living in Santee. She loves dancing, hiking, exercise, knitting, music and going to the movies.



Barbara Andrews

Michael Mihos came to us through me, Debbie Kincaid. Yes, he is the man in my life! Yes, he is new to ballroom dancing! He has been watching me for years and recently decided it was time to join in, so we're taking lessons together. Michael was born in Hollywood and raised in Los Alamitos CA. He owns his own construction company and is involved with many types of projects both commercial



Michael Mihos

and residential. He was one of the pioneers in revitalizing The Gaslamp District in San Diego where he gained a lot of knowledge in historic restoration. He has two children, daughter Rikke at the University of Florida, Jacksonville, and son Zach attending college in San Diego.

World traveling is infectious in Palomar! Sharon Tate just completed a two-week cultural tour of Central Europe. Highlights included viewing the ballet Swan Lake in Prague, the opera Barber of Seville in Munich, the Gutenberg museum in Mainz and the Mozart Museum in Salzburg. Her tour leader, a 21 year member of the Philharmonic Mainz, arranged for a performance at a private home by 5 orchestra members. "It was amazing watching and listening to these accomplished musicians in such an informal and close setting!", stated Sharon when asked about the most memorable even of the trip.



Sharon Tate

George and Miriam Mozes have just returned from a 27 day cruise on Emerald Princess. They were teaching ballroom dancing on the first leg Ft. Lauderdale to Copenhagen, and continued on the second leg as paying customers Copenhagen to the Baltic, including St. Petersburg. "It was our first teaching assignment on a cruise ship," said Miriam, "and we thoroughly enjoyed it. We had one 45 minute class every sea day, which usually turned into one hour, and the organizers had to chase us out to clear the room for another activity." Added George, "we had lots of positive comments and praise." "In fact," said Miriam, "a good number of people talked to the Cruise Director to let him know

how much they enjoyed our lessons."

They were asked to perform one dance on the big stage in the Princess Theater. They did a rumba at three different performances each having about 600-700 spectators. This was totally unexpected, unprepared, and utterly nerve-wracking. But it came out all right because George kept reminding Miriam: "Just remember sweetheart what we always tell our students... dance like nobody is watching!"



Miriam & George

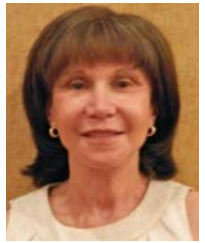
NSD 2013 Statewide Event Calendar

July 27 Palomar Coronation

August 30 Convention - Visalia

November 2 San Fernando Valley Coronation

The Palomar coronation is close at hand, and an exciting Labor Day weekend Convention follows by only a few weeks.



Chapter news and reports

Chapter news. We welcome our newest chapter members, Laura Rockwell, Meredith Stern and Roger Heaton, bringing our total membership to 60. Attendance at our dances has been steadily rising. In fact, we've had to purchase more chairs and tables to accommodate our guests. We love having great, enthusiastic crowds at our events. So come join us, dancers. We have a venue that keeps getting better and many partners waiting to take the floor with you.

Speaking of venue, we're pleased that the air conditioning unit has undergone improvement. Our venue coordinator, Joan Robinson, has been overseeing the repair, while also providing decorative lights for the studio walls and tables. Add to that, the artistic talent of Andrea Gutman, who decorates the tables with lovely flowers and leaves from her own garden. Gradually, a former warehouse is starting to look and feel like a first class dance studio.

Sad to note that Dorothy Krambo sustained a fall on May 21, resulting in a broken pelvis. She is recovering in the Oak Park Convalescent Hospital at 9166 Tujunga Canyon Blvd., 91042, 818-352-4426. Cards and phone calls would bring a bit of cheer.

Joan Robinson suggested that we give Get in Free cards to potential NSD members, and Bill Morey designed a beautiful card for that purpose.

Monthly socials. Our May dance was quite a success. Renowned teacher, Andre Fortin, taught a class before the dance. Jane and Doug Rollins were our DJs. As usual, they played a great variety of dance music to suit everyone's taste. We were privileged to have a wonderful performance by the USC Ballroom Dance Team. Their graceful moves and lively dancing thrilled the entire audience. We hope they come back soon to entertain us again.



USC Ballroom Dance Team

Later in the evening, they entertained us with a beguiling tango routine. Awesome! Throughout the evening we danced to a wonderful array of music provided by our very own Mark Emanuelli. In addition to helping with just about everything that needs to be done to make our chapter a success, Mark is a great DJ. The spin starts there and we never want it to end!

State Queen's report. What a lovely way to spend springtime, celebrating the gala coronations of our three most northern chapters. April saw Queen Shulamit Rabinovich begin her reign for the Golden Gate Chapter. The Crowne Plaza was a great location for this coronation. After a short flight from LAX, Bill and I were welcomed by wonderful friends with lots of hugs, greetings, and picture taking.

Elegant, touching, and grand in style – these words only partly describe the coronation of Queen Shulamit. She was radiant as she and husband Boris danced their Queen's Waltz to Billy Preston's "With You I'm Born Again." Queen Shulamit takes over her reign from the nine lovely Queens: Rosalie, Amy, Ana, Donna, Gabrielle, June, Liz, Mary, and Maurine, who all served jointly as the 2012 Reigning Queens. That is quite a lot of royalty to follow and Queen Shulamit will do it in her beautiful fashion.

After a delicious dinner DJ Joe Malta provided a great assortment of music for lots of fun dancing. Golden Gate members Igor and Nadia Tilinin added their personal tribute to Queen Shulamit, performing a beautiful International Rumba. Welcoming Queen Shulamit into the Reigning Circle of Queens was a great pleasure. I know her year will be rich, full, and rewarding. Thank you, Golden Gate, for a coronation that once again celebrated the joys of making good friends, sharing, and enjoying our passion for dance together.

May was a special month for Queen Barbara Uichanco as she began her second reign for the Visalia Chapter with a lovely and gracious ceremony. As State Queen it was my privilege to crown Queen Barbara as she began her royal year. "My Heart Belongs to You" was the sentiment and title of Queen Barbara's waltz, which she danced with her dashing husband, Greg. Bill and Lona Dolan of Visalia then took to the floor and performed their elegant waltz in honor of Queen Barbara.

It was a fabulous evening as Queen Barbara and husband Greg created an aura of fun and friendship with dinner, a jolly Jack and Jill contest in Waltz & Cha Cha, and, of course, much dancing. A dazzling performance by Angus Sinclair and Dara Campbell brought us all to our feet. Angus and Dara are on their way to competing in the Senior Division at Blackpool. We can certainly see why!

At our June dance, we celebrated our chapter's 52nd anniversary. Champion dancers David Moutrey and Lee Mei Wang taught an American Tango lesson.



David & Lee Mei

Visalia's weather was perfect for the breakfast held at the Visalia Country Club. Queen Barbara said she was honored that her chapter selected her to serve as Queen again this year. She and Greg are looking forward to enjoying more festivities and deepening old friendships while visiting NSD chapters during her second reign. Barbara knows, "It's Good To Be Queen!"

June was "busting out all over" at Fresno with the bountiful hospitality and the hugs and greetings of so many treasured friends. Lorraine Tilton, Fresno's delightful new Queen, accepted the honor for a second reign. Her family attended her coronation, and two of her young granddaughters served as crown bearer and flower girl. Queen Lorraine and her escort, Franco Peraza, presented a gracious waltz. Then all the Queens and their partners joined Lorraine and Franco in dancing to "Rainbow Connection", a song that was apropos since rainbows represent Lorraine's colorful theme. Bill and Lona Dolan of the Visalia chapter performed a scintillating and dramatic tango to honor Queen Lorraine.

A delicious dinner was served at tables beautifully decorated with fresh flowers. The large dance floor and great music made for some wonderful dancing throughout the evening. Among the lively events and entertainment were Jack and Jill contests and an outstanding Latin medley performed by Franco and Company.

Queen Lynn Sanders concluded her reign at the Sunday breakfast with smiles all around while she recited her personally composed poem, which is a Fresno chapter tradition. The poem was charming, warm, and very entertaining. Carla Hartunian presented Lynn with the queen's perpetual trophy. There were pictures and more pictures and hugs and warm wishes for a great year to come for Queen Lorraine. Queen Lynn may have yielded her crown but "Once a Queen, Always a Queen!"

Words of Wisdom: Dancer Vicki Baum said, "There are shortcuts to happiness, and dancing is one of them." Vicki, I couldn't agree more!

NSD Means Never Stop Dancing

Los Angeles Chapter

edited by Joy Michaels



Comings and goings

Club news. The May business meeting/dance "Flower Power" again had a low attendance with many of our regular members away. Nonetheless, those who were there had a fun time. Sandy & Tom Wells furnished the food and music and Victor Lee & Debby Ku gave a rumba lesson. The dance was sponsored by Patty Rohrer in honor of Don Russell's 94th birthday.

Since our last "tea" dance was a rousing success (over 100 in attendance), another is planned for July. Pre-sales are looking good for that one too. With our members' attendance shrinking, these dances have proven to be a big help to our treasury.

Our June dance "When You Wish Upon a Star" was well attended, both by members and guests. Our new officers were elected and sworn in. Two new members, Ken and Betty Cheung, were also sworn in by new Vice President, Victor Lee. The change in the NSD



Ken & Betty

Constitution was approved by a 2/3 membership vote. Roger and Susan sponsored the dance to honor their 48th Anniversary and also furnished the food and music. Victor and Debby taught the routine for our participation in the team dance for Convention.



2013 Officer Team

Other news. The Johnsons and Lewis's had a wonderful time on their Hawaiian cruise. One night they went into the Explorers Lounge and met Michael Moyle and Patricia Taniguchi from Fresno NSD. On the return trip the ship came across a life preserver and the ship turned around to see if it had a person attached. Evidentially not, as the cruise continued on home. Celebratory parties were held for Susan Johnson's birthday and Susan & Chuck's anniversary. While on the cruise the Lewis's were notified that they had their first great granddaughter, Leola Rey. They also have two great grandsons.

George & Angela Camilton were on the same cruise, leaving a day prior to the Johnsons & Lewis's. Even though they left a picture trail, the folks didn't connect.

Ken & Marion Scholtz had a wonderful time on their teaching cruise to Australia and New Zealand, continuing to Thailand, Singapore and Viet Nam. A highlight was riding an elephant in Thailand. Back home, they are hosting a dance for the Nightlighters ballroom dance club, performing a tribute to Fred Astaire, dancing a foxtrot to "Putting on the Top Hat".

Chuck and Susan Johnson attended the Visalia coronation with Queen Sandy & Tom Wells. They are planning to attend a family reunion with Chuck's family the end of June.

Queen Sandy & Tom Wells, as well as Victor Lee & Debby Ku, along with George Zimmerman & Joy Michaels attended the Fresno Coronation. Queen Lorraine Tilton made a lovely queen for the second time.

Jodene Catterlin is fast on the road to recovery after her second back surgery. We're hoping to see her back on the dance floor by Convention.

Queen's report. We have been having too much fun. Let's start with Golden Gate Coronation. Queen Shulamit Rabinovich exhibited her floral talents, as every table was adorned with a magnificent arrangement. She was presented to us with a background story of how she immigrated to America. Boris Rabinovich then presented to us a beautiful Queen who danced with winged feet. Dinner and dancing followed, and more beautiful gowns and handsome gentleman. The queens' breakfast was a display of wonderful hats.. A new addition for me to adorn my outfits with.

Tom and I took extra days to enjoy the city. Fisherman's Wharf is filled with beauty, smells and great fish. A visit with my twin sister was included into our schedule.

Our next Coronation was Visalia Chapter. Queen Barbara Uichanco knows how to organize and execute an event. She and husband Greg danced with style and grace. It was championship quality. Queen Barbara's theme was "No matter what life gives you-Just Dance. We then feasted on a wonderful dinner and as Queen Barbara would say "Just Dance".

At Fresno Queen Mother Carla Hartunian showed us a hospitality room with all home made goodies..Wow! It was scrumptious!.The Coronation of Queen Lorraine Tilton was beautifully done. Tables were decorated with her own hydrangea and the MC was Queen Mum Carla. We were in awe of Queen Lorraine dancing with her instructor Franco Peraza. The Dolans entertained with a wonderful tango. The farewell breakfast, honoring Queen Lynn, featured her original poem, which was enjoyed by us all.

Socials. The regular July dance will be July 14 at the San Gabriel Elks Lodge, 1-4 pm. Cost, \$12. The Tea Dance is on July 8, also at the Elks Lodge, and is almost sold out. See Victor Lee for tickets.



All the chapter news

Queen's report. I want to apologize to our Visalia chapter and specifically to queen Barbara for not being able to come to her coronation. Dee Peterson was kind enough to send a magnificent DVD of the event, so I could see the grandeur of it all. What a beautiful waltz Barbara and Greg performed and the honor dance by Bill and Lona Dolan was fabulous. The professionals Angus Sinclair and Dara Campbell danced five dances and she had a different gorgeous gown for every dance. It was nice to see "real" ballroom dancing again, after all those show numbers we see on TV that leave us wondering if the pro's taught their stars any basic steps and if they would recognize a waltz from a paso doble.

Chapter news. Queen Rosa Lin and husband Les took a trip to Hong Kong to welcome their new granddaughter Izumi into this world. They spent 30 days there and were happy to return to much cooler temperatures here at home. The egg in the photo means that her skin is as smooth as that of an egg. She is truly beautiful!

Elizabeth and Bill Hage will be traveling to Santa Barbara in June for the graduation of their dear grandson, Jonathan, from UCSB. Along the way they will be stuffing themselves with Danish pastries at the exquisite Danish Village of Solvang and have a good night's sleep before driving the rest of the way to Santa Barbara. As you can see from the photo, neither of them will be affected by all that pastry. The ceremonies are on Saturday, followed by the celebrations. His family is very proud of their young scholar as he already has a job lined up at Oracle.



Elizabeth & Bill

We are sorry to report that Elena Malta's mom, Irene Borelli, is not feeling so well and needed some help with the daily chores. Elena and her sister Janet, along with a caretaker provided by Ana Dayeh, have taken over to help make her life easier. We are sending healing thoughts and prayers her way. When Irene gets better Elena and Joe Malta are planning a trip to Austria in mid September.

Ana and George Dayeh just returned from a cruise to Alaska and I have not had a report yet, but will do some investigation when I see them at our meeting next Monday.

Bea and Herb Chow are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. Their children and grandchildren are celebrating with them, with a Chinese/Hawaiian dinner, and entertainment. Can't wait to see what all is in store for them and us to experience.



Bea & Herb



Then & Now

As for myself, I am feeling much better though not yet up to my usual speed. My new electrical system is awesome and the technology that goes with it is mind boggling. I WILL be at the Convention, I promise!

As always, dance first, thinking can wait.



Rosa & Les



Izumi



Irene Borelli

Bakersfield Chapter

edited by Dorothy Vaughn



All the social news

Socials. Our June dance will be held on the 22nd at the Rasmussen Center, 115 E. Roberts Lane. Guests are \$15 for singles and \$25 a couple.

Jill Calcaterra will be our chairperson for the evening, aided by a great committee. Jill informs me that this will be a baseball game theme. So wear your favorite team jersey and join us from 7:00 to 10:30pm. Come on everyone, don't strike out, be sure and grab your dance shoes and take yourselves to the ballroom!

Our May dance, "All that Jazz" was a delightful function. Featuring the Shafter Jazz Band playing our music for most of the evening, it was absolutely wonderful! The band has played for us before and we are lucky we can get them for an evening, thanks to our President Ben Wilson, who also performs in the band.



Queen Honorees

to all our Queens, who are in an elite circle. Tony and Wen-Shi Rodriquez performed a lovely waltz for the Queen's honor dance.

Our May dance is also when we announce the winner of the annual Gretchen Garretson award for outstanding service to our club. President Ben Wilson introduced this year's winner who is Dennis Acosta. A well deserved honor! President Ben presented Dennis with a lovely



Dennis Acosta

plaque. Dennis is one of our Targets and can always be counted on to produce great dance music. He works hard at getting our music together each year for the Board of Directors' meeting, which takes him countless hours to do. He is at the Grange on Friday nights to play the music for us and plays the music at our monthly dances in between our other two Targets! He also can be counted on to dance with all the ladies who don't have a dance partner. Congratulations Dennis, you join a wonderful group of outstanding recipients! A delicious anniversary cake was served for refreshments. It was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all who attended.



Cezar Florin

Our April dance "Around the World" was a wonderful dance. Everyone was encouraged to dress in costume to celebrate their heritage. Norberto Tan was the Master of Ceremonies for the evening and he introduced Cezar Florin who sang two wonderful songs for us, Around the World and Besame Mucho.

Norberto also introduced Veda Cruickshank and her dance teacher, Dmitriy Kochkin who danced a Tango and Waltz for us. They were very delightful to watch. Marietta and Norberto Tan had a wonderful committee to work with for this dance and they did a great job. A delicious buffet was served, the music for the evening had an international feel and was very danceable, there were 75 people in attendance and everyone had a great time!



Veda Cruickshank

In Memoriam. It is with great sadness I report the passing of Rosemary Duffy. Rosemary and her husband Jack had been long time members of our Chapter. They could always be counted on to be in one of the dance numbers for our Board of Director Friday night programs. They loved to dance and practiced very hard to learn the dance steps. They also participated in several of Dan Goss and Robert Allgeyer's Curtain Call productions. Rosemary served as our chapter Queen in 1999. Rosemary was our news editor for many years, she did a wonderful job as editor, and I often look back on her newsletters for inspiration. She was 86 years young. Rosemary will be missed, and we ask that you keep Jack in your prayers through this difficult time.

This dance is our anniversary dance and honors all our past and present Queens. Steve Peterson was our Master of Ceremonies and introduced our Queens and their escorts. We had fifteen of our Queens in attendance. Our past Queen, Kay Boyer, presented our current Queen Sue Kimbrell with a lovely Queens Trophy. Congratulations



Queens Sue & Kay



Wen-Shi & Tony with Queen Sue



Honors and events

Honorary member receives an honor. Ms. Mary Murphy, owner of Champion Ballroom, honorary member of SDSD, and a permanent judge on So You Think You Can Dance, where she was given the title of Queen of Scream, flew to London in February for three days to meet Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales, at Buckingham Palace at a Thank You dinner given in honor of those who support one of his charities.

The invitation for the event read: "The Prince's foundation for Children and the Arts present a Gala Performance at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday Feb 5, 2013, in the presence of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales." The Prince wrote in the program: "I have always felt that the Arts should be part of everyone's life and that the rich heritage of our literature, music, theater, and visual art needs to be available and accessible to every child in our nation. It's about returning a bit of magic into our children's lives."

Mary said she was proud to be able to invite Nigel Lythgoe to this grand affair, after all he's done for her. He'd never met Prince Charles. This is from an interview with Mary Murphy by Polly McDonald and Mark Chapman, members of SDSD.

Queen's report. Mark and I had a wonderful, busy weekend at the Visalia Coronation for Queen Barbara Uichanco, traveling over much of California's Central Valley over four days. In keeping with our plans to turn this year's string of coronations into mini vacations, we began our newest adventure Thursday afternoon, so that we would have Friday to visit Sequoia National Park. As always, we enjoyed the excitement of getting on the road again, and after a stop in Bakersfield for a relaxing prime rib dinner, and to take a breather after the traffic through L.A., we arrived safely at our motel in Exeter.

We had a great time visiting with other NSD members during Hospitality. It's always nice catching up with what's been happening in people's lives in between NSD events, and the two hours passed very quickly. In no time at all we were all at the Veteran's Memorial Building, lining up to begin an elegant evening.

Barbara's theme was Dance, Love, Sing, Live and her music for the Queen's entrance was Louis Armstrong's What a Wonderful World, which set a perfect tone for the evening. Barbara and husband Greg performed a lovely waltz, and it was easy to see that they are fast becoming confident performers within NSD. Later in the evening, Senior National Finalists Angus Sinclair and Dara Campbell performed for our pleasure. Watching them was a real treat, especially as we benefitted from their preparations for the Blackpool competition, their next destination.

On Sunday morning the Visalia Country Club brunch was just as good as I remembered it being three years ago. The delicious breakfast buffet made for the perfect ending to a fabulous weekend as we wished everyone well until the next coronation. It was an especially nice touch to find fancy goblets with crown stem tags at our place settings that we were able to take away as mementos of the morning.

Back on the road for home, Mark was certain we could make it to that service station down in Tulare on the gas we had left in our tank. We did, barely! Traveling "on the edge" is fun. Next week we're taking off for Fresno with a side trip to San Simeon and Hearst Castle, which are so easy to find Mark isn't even going to check the map ahead of time. Submitted by Mark Chapman.

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of SDSD; Mark Eskandar, Vice President; Alberta Valentini, Secretary; Kay Ryan, Treasurer; and Chuck DiSessa, Dance Class Chairman.

Well wishes. Best of health and well wishes for a speedy recovery to Ken Graham, who is currently undergoing chemotherapy.

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