

National Smooth Dancers
Dance Whispers
June 2017



June 11, 2017

Hello Fellow Smooth Dancers,

The lazy days of Summer are upon us. For National Smooth Dancers it looks like that means dancing, celebrating, travelling and having fun!

Fresno's new Queen Jennifer Morgan's reflections on her coronation is quite touching and a wonderful reminder of the magical experience of the Crown Circle (p2). What a testament to the health benefits of dancing; Palomar's Don Hubbard celebrating his 90th birthday(p3)! San Fernando Valley announces they are trying something new, their coronation will be held on Sunday November 12th(p4). More details will follow. You will also want to read about SFV's John Wong and his community involvement with a Senior Outreach Program that brings the joy of dancing to seniors in assisted living (p4). Gavel Club Award nominations must be submitted by August 1st. See p10 to learn about Gavel Club, the award, and the nomination rules and process. There is so much more in this issue, so please take the time to catch-up with your dancing family.

Convention will soon be upon us too (pp 11-14). This year you can register and pay on-line at <http://goldengatedancers.org/Convention/2017stateconvention.html>. To find out more, be sure to read about it here and visit their website for full details.

Never Stop Dancing,

Tom Wells

National Smooth Dancers

Dance Whispers

June 2017



Fresno Chapter

Fresno Smooth Dancers have had a fabulous spring, highlighted by Queen Jennifer's coronation just this past weekend. We enjoy meeting and greeting our new and returning friends each month and were thrilled with the state-wide turnout Saturday night. It is always so fun to reconnect. Here's a quick recap:

April's theme was "Spring has Sprung," hosted by Nancy Cargill, who did a beautiful job of both decorating and food preparation. We were treated to a Bachata Lesson by an inspirational young lady, Amanda Hanes, who has never let life and its struggles get her down. This was Amanda's first time at Smooth Dancers and we were very happy to welcome her. We had a good group for the lesson and more joined us for our Tea Dance. Everyone seemed to enjoy learning something a bit out of the ordinary.

May: We find ourselves in the midst of another busy season with Mother's Day, Graduations, and Father's Day fast on their heels. But Fresno Smooth Dancers made time to dance at May's Tea-Time to Dance, hosted by Jennifer Morgan. We had Tea, Time to Dance, and a Tango lesson with Dan Goss. It was fun to watch both seasoned dancers and those newer to the floor mix and learn steps and patterns somewhat new to most. Our thanks to Dan Goss for his creative addition to our dance. New (and former!) member, Helen Scharf, was welcomed.



Welcome to our new member, Helen Scharf.

June's dance, "Stitch in Time is a Syncopation," will be held on the **FOURTH** Sunday of June, as we hope everyone will be enjoying Father's Day with their families. So, on June 25 Ms. Mata will teach us a Bolero lesson. Nancy Cargill will be hosting this event, starting at 2:00 with the lesson and general dancing beginning at 3:00.

And, of course, June means Coronation Time for Fresno Smooth Dancers. Queen Jennifer Morgan was crowned on June 3, 2017 during her "Fairy Tales Can Come True" coronation. A glorious evening, for sure!

All third-Sunday dances are at the Clovis Senior Center,

Edited by Linda Bennett

850 4th Street, Clovis, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests. See www.fresnosmoothdancers.org for flyers. We would love to see you there!!



Queen Jennifer is Crowned!

Since we joined Fresno Smooth Dancers about three and a half years ago I have viewed the Queen's world from the outside looking in. Not because it is private, but because it is so big! Big in tradition, big in numbers of past queens, and big in the scope of the experience. So big it cannot be explained until you begin your experience. In the months preceding my coronation, the sometimes-overwhelming details began to clue me in. This is BIG! Once I had written my biography, a clarity of direction filled my mind with a plan and a place to start. This would be Jennifer and David's story of dance come true. With months of effort by countless friends, advice from experienced Queens, and encouraging promises of this being the best year ever, the day finally arrived.

Hospitality was in the capable hands of our President Carla, with all her specialty dishes made ready as well as delicious additions from other Fresno Members. We talked, we ate, we rehearsed, and then it began.

President Carla welcomes our guests, we pause as Hartune Neffian gives the invocation, and Lynn Sanders prepares to introduce the Queens. All are lined up and ready, armed with a beautiful wand created for us by Queen Mum Carla. One by one the Queens and their escorts take their places. My dear Crown bearer, Rosa, and Scepter bearer, Lilia curtsey for Queen Sharon, and then there is just me and David.



Breathe, smile, enjoy, be present, and don't cry!

How delightful to walk around the room and meet eyes with so many friends. This room was full of people unknown to us just four years ago, and they are here to share this night with us. Pomp and Circumstance, Crown and Scepter, a dance with my "Prince", and an NSD kingdom of Queens and at last I settle in for the long-awaited Queen's Honor Dance by Rick and Kathy Constantino.

Beyond expectation! Funny, sweet, creative, and for me!



Pictures to capture the moment, followed by a lovely dinner, and a full night of dancing to the music, the playlist thoughtfully prepared by my handsome husband of 36 years. The dancing was interrupted by our outstanding entertainment provided by Shane and Myra Nielsen of Visalia NSD. They have always been at the top of my list and I thank them for being a part of my dream night. Thoughts of the rest of the evening still cause an eruption of tears of joy. All the efforts of Team Fresno were to create an evening that would be enjoyed by all our guests. Your generous comments, made me believe that we did succeed. As each centerpiece came to life, I hoped and dreamed that you would be caught up in a delightful world of magical music, and share the feeling that "the room had no ceiling or floor."

My induction into this Queendom has officially begun and I will tell you that it was so much more than a girl can dream. Thank you to all who made it possible by your willingness to help. Sharon Crisp was an endless source of advice and quick to fill in all the holes so nothing was left undone even when she was out of town. I'm not sure her glass slipper will fit me. But I am honored to have a chance to find my way in this amazing Crown Circle.



Palomar Chapter

Edited by Debbie Kincaid and Don Hubbard



We have been enjoying great success with our monthly dance socials – a special thanks to all of Palomar Smooth Dancers who contribute in so many different ways!

April Dance Social was titled Birds, Bees & Butterflies – appropriately welcoming in Spring! Thank you to our hosts Melinda & Joe Leddy and Jesus & Antonia Quinene for organizing another successful dance!

May Dance Social: A patriotic theme was chosen by the Host Team of Kelly & Carol Kimmitt and Juliet Cunningham. Eleven tables were decorated with red, white and blue. We welcomed a lot of new dancers to this social!



Thank you Kelly & Carol Kimmett and Juliet Cunningham for hosting a FUN dance!

This month even 11 tables was a tight squeeze. We had 115-120 dancers! Every month since we have stopped providing a full meal and have opened our doors to OHCC residents our attendance has grown.



A great night of dancing!

Irina and James continued teaching Foxtrot variations to an even larger crowd than the month before. They will be teaching a new dance next month.

Among the door prize winners were Jesus Quinene and Been Kao. Congratulations to all!!

Monday Night Dance Classes: Classes are held every Monday night except for major holidays and the month of December. Our well-received teachers are Marsha & Peter Hanson.

Classes for the month of June begin on Monday June 5:

Beginning American Tango - 7pm to 8pm

Intermediate Foxtrot - 8:15pm to 9:15pm

Classes are held at the Vista Senior Center located at 1400 Vale Terrace Drive, Vista CA 92084.



George Mozes & Queen Linda Lum present a door prize to Jesus Quinene.



Don Hubbard celebrated his 90th birthday--another testimony to health benefits of ballroom dancing!



Thank you to ANN MAURO for contributing to this month's Dance Whispers! Ann manages our website – both of us Editors depend a lot on her monthly newsletters – great job Ann! Check it out her work at www.palomarsmoothdancers.com.

Queen Linda Lum & Elliott Lum had a great time attending Visalia & Fresno Coronations.

San Fernando Valley Chapter

Hello SFV Smooth Dancers — are you ready for some dancing inspiration?

So Why do we Dance?

I can't seem to explain it — can you? Yet we all seem to know it so well that when we hear a Gershwin melody we don't hesitate to tap our feet or quicken our pulse when we hear the percussion of a samba rhythm.

I have come a long way with this newsletter and with dance! I have practiced, created, overcome some of my social awkwardness and fears, enjoyed, and most importantly, I have met such wonderful people who include dance daily in their life and believe that dance is a projection of their self-image. There are so many artistic thoughts and lessons for us all inside this world of dance. People dance for many reasons and there are many things that inspire people within this realm. Dance is the expression that makes music visible and it is the dreaming with your feet that make it come alive. Dance is quiet — yet sometimes — loud poetry.

I received a greeting card the other day and the inside message said "dance is the way we express ourselves when words are insufficient." Perhaps this is the answer to why we dance!

We're so happy to welcome; Regina Chinweze, Pamela Freirichs, Patrina Katz and Mini and Carlos Garcia to our chapter! You're already important members of our dance family and now you're also essential members of National Smooth Dancers.

There are many ways that members can get involved with our chapter and there is no further application to complete. No matter which area of interest you like, you are guaranteed one thing: the satisfaction in knowing you are making a difference.

Remember...it's never too late to renew or join SFV Smooth Dancers (SO spread the word!).



We are not done creating unbelievable moments! Bakersfield or bust 2018...

Let the rhythm move you! We twirled, spun and danced the day and night away at the Bakersfield Smooth Dancers weekend March 31st –April 2nd. As you can see, a joyful time was had by all!



A wonderful thing happened on my way to the Golden Gate coronation. After checking into our hotel, my traveling buddy, Joan Robinson, asked her brother Trevor to pick us up for a dinner with my son Doug and his friend Eric (who both live in the city). While sipping on a glass of champagne,

March 1960 Vintage Magazine 25 Cents.

Edited by Rachel Seward



Eric presented me with a gift of an original copy of the March 1960's Ballroom Dance Magazine.

Receiving such a gift was a wonderful surprise, and now after reading it cover to cover numerous times I welcome the opportunity to share this exquisite and delicate magazine with all of you. Just let me know if you'd like to view the magazine. I will bring it with me to convention, coronations and monthly dances. I understand too that Eric has a couple more he is going to share with me.



Los Angeles National Smooth Dancers Chapter Welcomed Us Royally.

From L to R - Chin Lee, Joan Robinson, Queen Elect Deanna Stanton, Joseph Hidalgo, Stephen Murray, Sophia Yong, Queen Rachel Seward, Hannah Murray, Anya Murray, Brian Yip.

Our Sister Chapter - LA Smooth Dancers gave us a delightful afternoon of food and dance on May 7th. Our outing was one of friendship and support to announce Queen Elect Deanna Stanton's coronation on Sunday November 12th at the La Canada Country Club. All the details will be forthcoming so please mark your calendars now!

"Let's Hear It for the Boys" & the Girl

Only these boys play hits

and give motivation to dance lessons.

April 1st - While members of our chapter were out dancing the weekend away in Bakersfield, our host for the March evening was Yelena Chshukareva, owner of Hollywood Academy of Dance. A waltz lesson was given by resident instructor David Moutrey, and our very own Mark Emanuelli DJ'd playing every genre of dance music moving like Jagger in the DJ booth.

May 6th - Our Ballroom in Bloom was enhanced with a Rumba lesson by Justin Mercer, along with all our music favorites played by DJ Tom Mendola.

Thank you for making our dances a success!

In the community: Because so many seniors were active dancers back in the day, USA Dance Los Angeles County entertains a Senior Outreach Program. This special program gives the opportunity to demonstrate your ballroom dance skills in front of a very appreciative audience. Each volunteer dancer spends a few moments performing and socializing with these special seniors.



One of our favorite SFV members John Wong shares a dance with a lovely senior!

"I like performing with USA Dance for assisted living seniors, but I really enjoy talking to them, and making a connection. They have so much to share in return!"

"It also makes me grateful for having my health, and being part of the community. Sometimes I think it must be lonely for the seniors to have limitations on when and where they can go."

If interested in participating contact Faye Zarr, USA Board member for more information:

Faye Zarr: 310-775-7695 or fayezarr@yahoo.com

Why do we dance? Perhaps the better question is, "Why would we not??"

Los Angeles Chapter

Edited by Sandy Wells



Joke of the day..: I will no longer call my morning trips to the facilities..."The John". I am calling the facilities "Jim". So now I can tell people with a straight face, "the first thing I do in the morning is 'go to the Jim'!"

As the dust settles around the corral, our State Queen has packed and unpacked several times, Visalia Coronation of Queen Sallie Holden was a pleasant trip but, no posse was available. Ahh, then with great Armenian food waffling throughout the country, Fresno's coronation of Queen Jennifer Morgan. Queen Susan's posse grew exponentially. Tom and



Sandy and Tom Wells, State Queen Susan and Chuck Johnson, Debbie Ku and Victor Lee attended the Fresno Chapter Coronation.

Sandy Wells, Debby Ku and Victor Lee and of course the one and only VP of the LA chapter, Chuck, the ballet dancer, Johnson.



(Left) State Queen Susan Johnson being escorted by Chuck Johnson during the Fresno Chapter Coronation.



(Right) Debbie Ku relaxing during the Fresno hospitality with her new escort, Peaches; SFV Queen Rachel Sowards new puppy. Rumor has it that Victor may be in the 'dog house'?

Queen Susan and VP Chuck also squeezed in a family trip to Colorado. With two days of Snow in "April", they totally forgot to bring their California Sun with them. Celebrations were with Chuck's sister 70 years' young, Brother 66 years old

and Mom, a spry 98 years young.

Trips and Travel: Last April, **Victor and Debby** were on the Royal Caribbean Ovation of



Victor Lee and Debbie Ku teaching line dancing in the Princess Cruise SeaPlex, the largest indoor space on a cruise ship.

the Seas teaching dance. It was a 12-day Southeast Asia cruise from Singapore to Tianjin, China. They taught in SeaPlex, the largest indoor space on a cruise ship. On specific schedules, this hall serves as a basketball court, a soccer field, a bumper car venue or a skating rink. Over a hundred enthusiastic passengers attend their dance classes, Victor and Debby enjoyed the fun atmosphere of the crowd.



Craig and Alice Mah Miller received a bottle of champagne as first place winners of the "Twist Contest" on the Crown Princess cruise ship.

Craig and Alice Mah Miller are on the Crown Princess sailing from London (South Hampton) to the Mediterranean Sea. Several highlights include winning the treasure hunt Raffle and so enjoying Barcelona Spain.. We cannot wait for further data to come in.

Judi Van Brocklin is in Vienna for two weeks. Taking Viennese waltz lessons for fun and loving the music, art and pastries of Germany. Strauss Opera at the Rosenkavalier was "superb "

President Tom and his lovely Bride, Queen Sandy, flew to Texas for Tom's annual 'Mom's To Do List'. No pictures of the dirty boy but Queen Sandy did assist the Texas economic health, "Shopping with Mom."



San Diego Chapter

Edited by Mark Chapman



Lovely Themes from NSD Coronations, by Queen Liz Tarnove

At Golden Gate

Queen Vera Harvey's theme was "An Enchanted Forest" and several members of the Golden Gate chapter were wearing floral wreaths and fairy wings as they greeted the arriving guests. But the real enchantment was the decoration of the ballroom itself. Instead of the conventional throne and arch decorated in flowers and draping to match the theme, Vera's arch was a bower of tree branches and draping moss and her throne was a wooden swing suspended from the top branches. Tables were decorated with little centerpieces that looked like miniature scenes from a fairy tale forest. [The next day,] while traditionally Golden Gate farewell brunch guests wear hats, this year it was decided to go with floral head wreaths to carry out the theme. Recorded bird song played in the background as we enjoyed peach mimosas, waffles, and each other's company.

At Visalia

Visalia Queen Sallie Holden has been a world traveler and this was reflected in her theme, "Travel's a Dance Away: Choreographing one adventure at a time." [At the hospitality] hints of the theme were on the table decorations: exotic embroidered textiles and saris over the tablecloths and tall, cylindrical vases covered with maps and bearing wooden cutout airplanes among the flowers. [Later] the ballroom walls were covered with not only photographs from Sallie's many travels but with quilts she had made using fabrics and motifs collected during her travels. For example, an appliquéd quilt of kangaroos silhouetted against the sunset colors of an Australian sky.

In the weeks before the coronation, each Queen was asked about her favorite destination to dance. Our answers were read out as we were introduced. Most Queens answered with a physical location such as cruise ship, Hawaii, Spain, and "my backyard." The question stumped me until I realize that my non-answer was obvious: the location doesn't matter; when I dance I am transported to my happy place.

Our Ongoing Sunday Evening Classes, by Dave Saul, Dance Class Chair

The results are showing as our students learn to move seemingly effortlessly through the advanced patterns in this sequence. Effortless is, of course, more illusion than reality, but that is true in so much of ballroom dancing. Everything requires effort, but the goal is to make it appear to flow effortlessly. To achieve this, there is no substitute for hard work and quality instruction.

In June, we will be preparing for a demonstration of these dance routines at our SDSD July Dance Social. Participation is optional for students who have been regulars in the classes,

and Carrie will be conducting practice sessions during the practice hour from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. After class, there is an hour set aside for practice. As indicated by our attendance numbers, our Sunday classes are a great way to spend the hours from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., with an hour of practice afterward at no extra charge, and an opportunity to perform at one of our SDSD Dance Socials.



In Memoriam: 1999 San Diego Chapter Queen Ruby Opfer, by Dave Saul



For those of you who may have known her: Ruby spent many years as a pastor's wife in Wisconsin, Illinois, and Washington. After the untimely passing of her husband, Ruby moved to San Diego, where she worked as a secretary at what is now Shadow Mountain Community Church. She took up ballroom dancing, and enjoyed it a great deal.

In 1992, she joined San Diego Smooth Dancers and became actively involved in club activities. She served as SDSD secretary in 1996 and 1997. In 1999, she was crowned SDSD Chapter Queen. In 2000 she retired from her job and moved to Tempe, Arizona to be near her daughter. She made periodic trips to San Diego where, although no longer able to dance due to physical impairments, she often met socially with former dance friends. She enjoyed reading Smooth Talk, which was e-mailed to her regularly. Ruby passed away peacefully in her sleep on April 8, 2017 at age 92. She was truly a remarkable lady, and will be missed by all who knew her.

Bakersfield Chapter

I'm having a hard time coming to grips with the fact that winter has come and gone and the long hot summer months lay ahead!

For a lot of you that may mean looking forward to a vacation or spending more time with family, or just, perhaps like me it's looking forward to our next chapter dance, "Picnic at the Park"!

The dance will be held at our new location 401 Willow Dr. at the Riverview Park Gymnasium. Bernice Fiolle will be chairing the evening with her committee. Members are encouraged to dress casual.

The evening begins at 7:00 and ends at 9:45pm. Members are always free, guests are \$25 for couples and \$15 singles.

Please come and join us for this great evening of dancing and visiting with friends. It all happens on Saturday June 24th.

Coming up in July our dance will be hosted by Wen-Shi Rodriguez and Martha Florin. The dance will be casual and have a Hawaiian theme. The date of this dance is July 22. It all begins at 7:00 and ends at 9:45pm. The venue is the Riverview gymnasium at 401 Willow Dr. It should be a lot of fun! So, get out your hula skirts or Hawaiian outfits and join us! Aloha!

LOOKING BACK:

Our May dance was our annual Queen's dance. Chaired by Kay and Mark Boyer, and all the past and present Queen's, it was delightful! Kay gave each of the Queen's a lovely fan to carry in during the procession. We lined up according to the year we served. I feel very blessed I can count myself among the Queen's court!

Our hard working and creative decorator, Debbie Cadena, created some very beautiful table decorations for the occasion. Steve Peterson served as our music man for the evening.



Past Queen JoAnn Georgio presents Queen Barbara with the Queen's Perpetual Trophy.

A brief membership meeting was conducted by our chapter president, Ben Wilson. Ben then introduced past Queen, JoAnn Georgio who presented Queen Barbara with the Queen's Perpetual Trophy. Barbara will then be able to keep it for a year.

Edited by Dorothy Vaughan



During the evening, we were lucky to have Queen Barbara and Tony Rodriguez dance their Viennese Waltz for us! So very lovely!

Every year during our Queen's dance we present the Gretchen Garretson Award to a very deserving member. This award is always given to a member who has done an outstanding job of service to the Chapter. This year the honor went to Bill Landry. Bill has done an outstanding job in representing our club. He has also represented us well at NSD over the years! Congratulations Bill for a job well done.

Although she was unable to attend, Helen Pavich was



Bill Landry was presented the Gretchen Garretson Award by president Ben Wilson.

named as a Life Time Member to our chapter.

There were several guests in attendance and everyone seemed to have a good time!

Our April dance "Spring Swing" was a lot of fun! This dance was the first to be held at the new venue and everyone enjoyed dancing on the large wood floor! Chaired by Lindy and Neal Livingston, it was a great dance to kick off the new location.

LITTLE TIDBITS:

In other news at our annual Queen's luncheon, Kay Boyer submitted her application for Chapter Queen-elect and was widely accepted!

After several years of working, Sue Kimbrell has finally decided to retire! She will now have a lot of time to spend with her grandchildren and dancing! Congrats Sue, enjoy!

Bakersfield Smooth Dancers would like to extend a large welcome to new members; Larry Underwood, Christian and Maria San Juan, Peg Board, Maryse Freitas, Tawana Johnson, and Doug and Sharon Tudor!

Golden Gate Chapter

A fabulous love story has ended here on earth, but will be continued in heaven, for sure. Barbara and Ben Cardinalli passed away within days of each other. Please read more in our "in Memoriam" section.

After a coronation it always seems that life is just a little humdrum in our chapter, oh but not this year. Feverish is the term I would like to use, when I think of the preparations about



Amy and Dan Ansaldi

convention. We are so blessed with Amy and Dan Ansaldi, our amazing creative team, who are thinking up the almost impossible, only to manage to have it materialize thanks to all the people who have the talents and the dedication it takes to make it a reality. We will try to blow your mind at convention and live up to our reputation and beyond. You will love it!!

We are lining up many dance hosts so our goal of no lady willing and able to dance, will have to sit out a dance, of course with the help of our other chapters.

John Alanzo, our first recipient of the Rosalie Wolf/Bob Fragemoni award for exceptional service is still under the weather and we surely miss his dedication and all the extra work he did at the dances and at our meeting. Its not the same without you John.

Elena Malta, who had a knee replacement on March 12th is slowly getting better and even came to our April meeting. We were so happy to see her.

The Imperials (our 6 trophy winning couple at Bakersfield) went on a well deserved cruise through the Panama canal starting out in San Francisco with a well appointed room and even a bottle of champagne upon checking in. They traveled with some dance friends from 10 years ago who might come to our dance in June. They danced every night to some of their favorite tunes and listened to their favorite entertainer play and

Edited by Gabrielle von Stephens



sing Nat King Cole songs to standing ovations. The professional entertainers on board were 19 times European Champions Iлона and Wilfried Dickers from Germany.



Peter and Janice Imperial



Svetlana and Vlad Gites

On another happy note, Svetlana and Vlad Gites are expecting heir first grandchild and our former members Bea and Herb Chow are now reinstated. Welcome back!!

Queen Vera Harvey went on her first excursion to the Visalia chapter and will be going to Fresno this month. We are looking forward to her report at our upcoming meeting.

As always, dance first, thinking can wait!

In Memoriam



**Barbara and Ben
Cardinalli**



Ben grew up in San Francisco and while attending Commerce High School he became interested in sports, playing baseball and football and received the "All City" honors. With some nostalgia he skipped his senior year when being accepted at Stanford University, making the varsity baseball team as a freshman. After enlisting in the service at Naval Officers training he was commissioned to serve in the Western Pacific until the end of the war. Upon his return he returned to Stanford to play baseball and a little football until he graduated in 1948. After a year of professional baseball in the minor league, Ben went to work at the San Rafael Military Academy as an assistant coach and math teacher and then taught at the Cleveland Elementary school in San Francisco for 42 years.

His darling wife Barbara with her disarming smile, whom he married at the beautiful Old St. Mary's church in San Francisco, volunteered during their marriage at St. Mary's Help Hospital for 34 years, eventually becoming co-chair of the gift shop.

Barbara was born in San Rafael and since her father was assigned as "captain of the guards" at San Quentin, she grew up in San Quentin village attending Elementary school there, then moving on to San Rafael High School and Marin Junior College. Barbara worked at the Federal Reserve Bank in the War Bonds Department. After the war she graced the Marin Water Districts front desk, solving problems with her charming manor and disarming smile. Barbara and Ben joined NSD in 1989 and she became Golden Gate chapter queen in 1995 which she views as a very special time in her life. They enjoyed their retirement being members of several social clubs and loved to cruise. She was our corresponding secretary for many years and sends out all those sweet notes some of you may have been fortunate to receive.

Every time I saw her, I was always so impressed at her impeccable grooming, beautiful hair and coordinated clothes, and then there was Ben with his amazing talent to create and build things. You were an inspiration to all of us.

When Barbara took ill Ben would bring her in a wheel chair to all our Sunday dances. He took care of her to the best of his ability and when she past away on March 12th, Ben had a massive heart attack and followed his beloved Barbara a few days later. They are now reunited for eternity, dancing with the angels.

NATIONAL SMOOTH DANCERS, INC.
GAVEL CLUB
2017

Dear Fellow NSD Members,

In preparation for the 2017 "Viva Las Vegas" State Convention hosted by the Golden Gate Chapter, I writing this letter to remind you that nominations for the 2017 Gavel Club Award are now open.

What is the Gavel Club Award: The Gavel Club Award is the highest honor bestowed on a member of the National Smooth Dancers.

What is the Gavel Club: The Gavel Club, made up of all past and current Presidents, is the body that recognizes and rewards outstanding and exemplary service.

Who can be nominated: To be nominated for this high honor, an individual must be a member in good standing and have performed Outstanding service for the National Smooth Dancers Organization at both the Chapter and National levels. The ordinary functions that many perform, while not unimportant are not the criteria for nominating an individual for the Gavel Club Award. The Gavel Club is searching for that exceptional member who is dedicated to the ideals and traditions of NSD and does not recognize chapter boundaries.

How to nominate someone: Nomination letters must contain a description of the qualifications that the nominee possesses. Due to a rule change passed at the 1997 State Convention, only an individual may be nominated (Nominations made for joint candidates are no longer accepted). Any member of the National Smooth Dancers may nominate an individual for the Gavel Club Award. Additionally nominees do not need to be from your own Chapter-feel free to nominate any individual from any of the 8 NSD Chapters whom you feel deserves this recognition. The name of one nominee from 2016, Marsha Hanson-Palomar Chapter, has been carried over and is in consideration along with any new nominations.

When are nominations due: Nomination letters for the 2017 NSD State Convention Gavel Club Award, must be received by August 1st, 2017. Please email them to me at daniel.ansaldi@yahoo.com (preferred method) or mail them to the street address below. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at Convention!

Sincerely,



Dan Ansaldi, Golden Gate Chapter
Gavel Club Chairman

1524 Broadway
Alameda, CA 94501
Phone: 415-378-1769
Email: daniel.ansaldi@yahoo.com

*Golden Gate Smooth Dancers
Presents*



Hello NSD Members! We have one question for you... Are you feeling lucky? Well then it's time for you to hop on a jet plane and head to the 2017 "Viva Las Vegas" NSD State Convention, September 1st-4th at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel.

The Golden Gate Chapter is working hard to bring you a weekend packed full of dancing, competition, professional showcases, first class dance seminars, and so much more, all taking place on a gorgeous 4,000 square foot dance floor.



Friday evening, you'll fuel up at a legendary Vegas buffet before hitting the town ready to do a little stargazing. You never know who you might meet, 'cause everybody knows: "The Stars Come Out at Night"! Come dressed as your favorite celebrity. With so many stars in one place, this is sure to be a great photo opportunity!



Saturday afternoon, we are "Going to the Chapel of Love". Do you dare to wear white head to toe? We would love it if you do, because we are throwing a white party! Our Minster of Love will be on hand. Bring along that special someone, and a band of gold. We will take care of the rest...



Saturday evening, your presence is requested at the "Casino Royale" Coronation of our State Queen-Elect, Svetlana Gites. Please come dressed in your most elegant formal attire. Ladies, tonight is the night to showcase your finest baubles. However, we must offer a word of caution... there are reports that a notorious jewel thief is due in town this very evening! Keep a close watch over your valuables.



Sunday afternoon, set your watches for swing time.... Sin City Swing! The music is cool and the ladies are hot. We are throwing it back to the glory days of Vegas. Don your Smoking jackets, Rat Pack vintage, Polka dots and poofy skirts or Showgirl couture. We will have a sinfully good time!



Sunday evening, you'll be holding the hottest ticket in town. Keep a close eye on the man on the stage.... a tip of the hat, a sleight of hand....and Abracadabra.... we have Magic! Come dressed for a formal night out, Vegas style.

This is sure to be a memorable weekend, which you don't want to miss! If you have yet to do so, make your reservations now! For all Convention related forms and information, go to: www.goldengatedancers.org. We're looking forward to seeing all of you at Convention!

We promise, What Happens in Vegas, Stays in Vegas!

Amy and Dan Ansaldi, Convention Co-Chairs



Golden Gate Smooth Dancers

Invites you to join us for

VIVA LAS VEGAS!



2017 NSD CONVENTION

Package and Ticket Registration

(For Online Registration go to: www.goldengatedancers.org)

	Gentleman	Lady
Name	_____	_____
Address	_____	_____
City	_____	_____
State/Zip	_____	_____
NSD Chapter	_____	_____
Telephone	_____	_____
E-mail	_____	_____

ORDER

QTY PACKAGE

- _____ Package Plans @ \$199 each (\$219 after June 15, 2017) _____
- _____ Gavel Club (Saturday-Current and Past Presidents) @ \$45 each _____
- _____ Crown Circle (Sunday-Reigning and Past Queens Only) @ \$45 each _____
- _____ Dance Seminar - Saturday (2 seminars - \$5 / person / seminar) _____
- _____ Dance Seminar - Sunday (2 seminars - \$5 / person / seminar) _____
- _____ Single Event Tickets as shown on reverse side (please place total here) _____
- _____ Commemorative Merchandise Pre-Order (please place total here) _____

Total _____

Saturday Night Dinner Selection

Fish _____ Beef _____ Vegetarian _____

Notes Regarding Special Dietary Needs:

Deadline for Package Plan is June 15th to be eligible for Early Bird rate of \$199 and to be automatically entered into the drawing for a free 2017 Convention package.

Cancellations after August 15, 2017 will receive a pro-rated refund. No refunds will be made after August 26, 2017.

Make checks payable to Golden Gate Smooth Dancers, Inc. and mail to:

Rita Parma, 251 Wicklow Dr., So San Francisco, CA 94080. For questions, call (650) 455-2402 or email rita.parma51@gmail.com. An email acknowledgement will be sent within 10 days of receiving your registration. Please contact Rita Parma if you do not receive your acknowledgement.

Hotel Reservations (See separate page for Hotel Information)

San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel located at 1800 Bayshore Highway, Burlingame, CA 94010

Tel (650)-692-9100

2017 NSD CONVENTION SINGLE EVENTS

Date	Time	Event	Individual Event Price	Order QTY	Extended Cost
Packaged Events					
Friday, September 1	5:30 - 7:30pm	<i>Buffet</i>	<i>Available only to buyers of the package plan</i>		
Friday, September 1	7:30 - 11:30 pm	<i>The Stars Come Out at Night</i> Celebrity Impersonators	\$25	_____	_____
Saturday, September 2	2:00 - 4:30 pm	<i>Going to the Chapel White Party</i> with competitions	\$25	_____	_____
Saturday, September 2	6:00 - 11:30 pm	<i>Casino Royale Coronation</i> Including formal dinner, professional dance show and competitions.	\$90	_____	_____
Sunday, September 3	2:00 - 4:30 pm	<i>Sin City Swing</i> with competitions	\$25	_____	_____
Sunday, September 3	7:00 - 11:30 pm	<i>Abracadabra – A Night of Magic and Illusion</i> Including professional dance show and competitions.	\$55	_____	_____
Monday, September 4	9:00 - 11:00 am	<i>What Happens in Vegas, Stays in Vegas - Farewell Breakfast</i>	\$45	_____	_____

Total of single events purchased (please post the total on the reverse
side of this form under the heading Single Event Tickets) _____

Cancellations after August 15, 2017 will receive a pro-rated refund. No refunds will be made after August 26, 2017.

SPECIAL EVENTS (Tickets for dance seminars can be purchased at the door)

Saturday, September 2	10:30 - 11:20 am	<i>Dance Seminar 1</i>	\$5	_____	_____
Saturday, September 2	11:30 - 12:30pm	<i>Gavel Club Luncheon</i>	\$45	_____	_____
Saturday, September 2	1:00 - 1:50 pm	<i>Dance Seminar 2</i>	\$5	_____	_____
Sunday, September 3	10:30 - 11:20 am	<i>Dance Seminar 3</i>	\$5	_____	_____
Sunday, September 3	11:00 - 12:30 pm	<i>Queen of Hearts - Crown Circle Luncheon</i>	\$45	_____	_____
Sunday, September 3	1:00 - 1:50 pm	<i>Dance Seminar 4</i>	\$5	_____	_____

Upcoming National Smooth Dancers Chapter Dances

Dean Martin's 100th Birthday LA NSD Dance

Please RSVP to Sandy Wells at
310-649-2573 or SSitico@CA.RR.Com

Food by Judy Van Brocklin

Dress in 1950's or 1960's or?

Music by Lee Jin Chan

Dance Instructors Victor Lee and Debby Ku

San Gabriel Elks 1373 E. Las Tunas Dr.
San Gabriel, CA 91776
\$12 per person Members of NSD Guests \$15
1PM Meeting, food to follow



Sunday June 18, 2017



A Stitch in Time is a Syncopation

Syncopate with
Fresno Smooth Dancers
Sunday, June 25, 2017

Hosted by
Nancy Cargill

Bolero Lesson
by Miss Mata
at 2:00
Dancing
3:00 to 5:00

Clovis Senior Center
850 Fourth Street
Clovis, California

Fresno Members- \$5.00
Guests- \$10.00

For More Information call
559-269-9491
www.fresnosmoothdancers.org



San Fernando Valley Smooth Dancers

Pre 4th of July Dance Party

Saturday, July 1, 2017
7:00 - 11:00 PM



6732 Van Nuys Blvd.
Van Nuys, CA 91401

Schedule

Members Meeting 5:30 pm
Formation Team 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Doors Open 7:00 pm
Dance Lesson 7:15 pm
Dancing 8:00 - 11:00 pm

Snacks Provided
Alvers

Future 1st Saturday Dancers
August 5th

Dance Extravaganza
Bay Area CA
Sept 1st - Sept. 4th



Dance Teacher

Jennifer Robinson
Quickstep

Music by

Dr. Jane Hammond
All your favorite dance styles:
Ballroom, Latin, Nightclub,
Swing

Donation (per person): \$12 MEMBERS (\$6 if attend business meeting and assist with party);
\$16 OTHERS (DR USA Dance SHDC G/VNC \$2 discounts with presentation of card)
Become a member at the dance or on the web site at: www.svnsfd.org
For additional information contact Andrea Gutman at 818-333-5974 or Social_Media@svnsfd.org

SDSD INDEPENDENCE DAY INDOOR PICNIC & DANCE

Saturday July 1st
Champion Ballroom
4255 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123
7:30 - 10:30 pm



Dress: Patriotic Attire
Food: Chicken, Baked Beans, Rolls
Green Salad, Apple Pie, Ice Cream
Beverages: Coffee, Tea & Punch
\$15 (\$10 Members) Reservations not required

Questions?
Call Kay: 619-994-4303
Or Al: 619-299-4062