

National Smooth Dancers
Dance Whispers
February 2018



February 11, 2018

Hello Fellow Smooth Dancers,

Attached is the February issue of the Dance Whispers, the first issue of 2018. It seems odd to be saying this in February, but here it goes, Happy New Year!

In this issue I enjoyed reading about all the dancing fun we have had leaving 2017 and how 2018 has already started off with incredible dancing events. The Los Angeles Coronation was a spectacular evening of dance, be sure to read and experience it on pages 1-2. Visalia chapter has already had a "Rock and Roll" social dance and a workshop for beginning east coast swing (p6). And there were awards handed out: the Bob Fragomeni and Rosalie Wolf Spirit of Service Award at Golden Gate's NYEE party (p5), and Most Improved Dancers awards at Visalia's December "Joy To The World" dance (p6). There is plenty of news to catch up on, so please read on.

We are also introducing two Queen-elects; Shirley McCloskey for San Diego (p3), and Elizabeth Li for Golden Gate (p5).

There is a listing of all the Chapter Officers and Coronation dates (pp 10-11). Remember that the San Diego coronation is Saturday March 3rd (p12) and the Boards are coming up on March 23 - 25 in Bakersfield, an event you will want to be apart of (p4,13). Also Golden Gate also has their Coronation coming up on April 14th (p14-15).

On a personal note, I would like to extend my warmest thanks to Gabrielle von Stephens who has been a dedicated Dance Whispers editor for Golden Gate, and an integral member of the Dance Whispers staff for many years. She has stepped down as editor and you will want to read her final "official" contribution on page 5. I have greatly appreciated her passionate and dedicated service to Dance Whispers. Thank you Gabrielle

I'm looking forward to seeing each of you on the dance floor.

Never Stop Dancing,

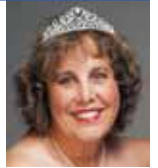
Tom Wells
Publishing Editor

National Smooth Dancers
Dance Whispers
February 2018



Los Angeles Chapter

Edited by Sandy Wells



Queen Francy Solano

Our coronation was a beautiful example of true team effort. From the beginning, everyone did a fantastic effort to bring about a great coronation; the flyers, program registration members, setup personnel, choreography skills of Victor, and the music team. We are a few but we are mighty...Now a word from our Queen;

The weekend festivities started with a wonderful hospitality event on the 19th floor, with views overlooking the city on such a glorious southern California day. What a spectacular way to meet my fellow queens and try to remember the names and faces! So fitting for the wonderful group of people who gathered for this special occasion!



NSD Queens, past, present and future enjoyed the laid back hospitality from the 19th floor lounge.



Barbara Greenlaw and Bill Steeber perform their honor dance to "All That Jazz".

The presentation of the queens by their escorts was so beautifully choreographed by Victor Lee. I'm sure each queen relished her special moment—I know I enjoyed every second.



Everyone looked so lovely as they glided across the floor for the queens waltz. And the Honor Dance performed by Barbara Greenlaw and Bill Steeber was so fun and upbeat!



The professional exhibition dance was performed by Anna Shahbazian and Genya Malko.

Our professional exhibition performed by Anna Shahbazian and Genya Malko was amazing. I always imagine myself dancing like that on the floor, until I see their mesmerizing moves... and then I can only dream!

The music playlist prepared by Tom Wells and Robert Quan, played by DJ Jonathan Quan, was perfect for the evening. Soft for the dinner, engaging for the general dancing, and encouraging all to stay and dance the night away. (We did have a few party animals who stayed to the very end! What fun!!!)

I had such fun meeting and getting to know you all. Several

Continued from page 1

Los Angeles Coronation of Francy Solano

visitors indicated they wanted to come back and join us. The smiles, laughter and dancing showed that everyone had a good time, and I feel quite special in having acquired new friends. Though we tried to keep it simple, it took the hard work of my fellow LA Chapter members to put it all together. Thank you so much to all!



San Diego Chapter

Edited by Vern Miranda



“SDSD Queen-Elect Shirley McCloskey’s Journey”

Each of us has a story – where we came from, how we got where we are, what we are doing now and why. It is our NSD tradition that the Queen-Elect, Ambassador for her chapter, will share her story with all members before embarking on her year of journeys representing the chapter. My hope is that you

will find in my story something positive, something interesting, perhaps something amusing, and definitely know more of “who I am” after reading the story I present to you.

I am fortunate to be able to say, I have been a dancer and member of NSD for 1/3 of my life. A wonderful consequence is that many of you reading this article are friends I hold dear. And sadly, there are others whom I have held dear who are no longer with us. In either case, these friendships and relationships have been the source of joy, laughter, fun, and adventures. Memories I shall forever treasure.

Rosalie Wolf of Golden Gate was Queen five times in her lifetime and is my role model! Well, I may not be queen five times, but 2018 will be my third ad-venture and I am looking forward to sharing your chapter Coronations and renewing our friendships. My first Reign was in 1995 representing Fresno Chapter and the second Reign was in 2012 representing San Diego. Thank you, San Diego, for al-owing me as your retiring chapter president, now the honor to be your Queen.

For a full and rewarding 2/3 of my life, I have been a Pharmacist practicing primarily in the hospital setting and in home infusion. So what does a pharmacist do besides counting “pills”? I have counted a few in my career, but I have spent much more time as a pharmacist reviewing every medication order to assure it is a safe and effective therapy for the patient. This means I have spent a good part of my life learning about the patients – their diagnosis, organ function, and of course other medications. Probably that is more than you wanted to know. However, in my 50 years as a pharmacist, there are over a million people for whom I have reviewed and adjusted doses or medication regimens to assure safety and positive outcomes. I am Blessed to say I have not been bored, burnt out or tired of my pro-fess ion as a pharmacist. (Well, unless I miss a dance class because of being too busy at the pharmacy..)

And now, the most important part of my life - my family. My father emigrated from the Azore Islands and married a young Portuguese girl here in California to have five girls. There was always music in our home, but I was a very shy and asthmatic child without lung capacity for athletic activity. I pause to reflect and be thankful that I am a much more active and healthy adult than I ever was as a child!

I have a son, Will, my only child, who is actually the reason I started dancing. Being a single parent from the time he was 4 years old, I spent my time either at work or with him. Aside for a few years in his young adulthood (we parents have a tough time “letting go”), I can honestly say I loved every minute being his mother. When Will was in his “teens” he just didn’t want to spend as much time with Mom anymore so I decided to find a hobby. I joined a Business and Professional Singles Club which sponsored an “Introduction to Ballroom Dancing” class. I took the class and literally fell in love with dancing and have continued to take lessons and still do.



I can think of five other people who were in that class who are still dancing today and are NSD members. A gentleman in the class mentioned NSD, but he said we would have to learn a lot more (be better dancers!) before joining the club. Eventually I felt my dancing was acceptable and applied for

membership.

My son, Will, is now married to Melanie and together they have three beautiful daughters: Sabella Ann age 9, Hannah Pearl age 5, and Charlotte Grace age 4. We also have a baby boy William McCloskey III, who is 7 months. I am happy to say the family is travelling to San Diego in March and the three little Princesses will be part of the Royal Court for my Coronation Day March 3rd.



One of the most exceptional friendships in my life came about through dancing. I refer to my competition Dance Partner, Karl Haarburger. He is a stellar person with a passion for dancing that made all the lessons and practicing rewarding. He has returned to Germany, but he and Sigrid, his wife, remain dear friends to many of us in SDSD. I am so

happy to tell you that Karl is travelling to San Diego in March and will be my Royal Escort for the Coronation!

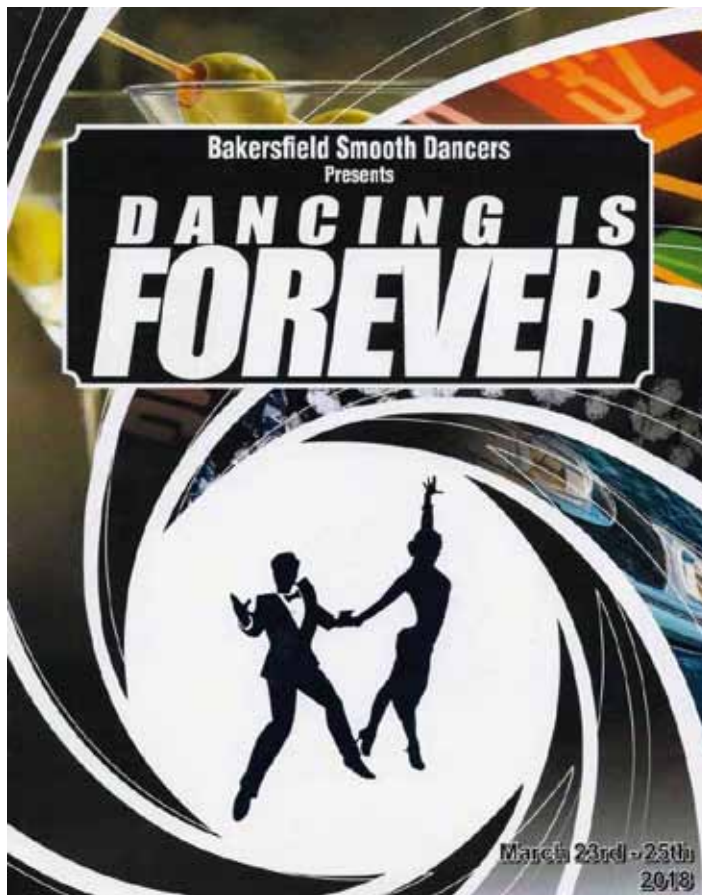
The Coronation will be a Pageant of NSD Queens. I hope you are able to join us in San Diego for the event. If not, I look forward to seeing you at the 2018 Coronation of your own chapter Queen.

With Warm Regards to all, Shirley McCloskey

[Click or go to http://www.sdsdwebsite.com/Our-Next-Social.html](http://www.sdsdwebsite.com/Our-Next-Social.html), to get all the information for the San Diego Coronation on March 3rd.



Looking Forward to Seeing You in Bakersfield This March!!



DANCING IS FOREVER

"Come Bond With Us"
Bakersfield Woman's Club
Friday, March 23, 2018

2:30 pm - 4:30 pm 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm 7:30 pm - 11:30 pm 8:00 pm 9:00 pm 10:30 pm	Registration Evening Buffer and Early Dancing "The Spy who Danced with Me" "Dancing Spies Show" Competitions <i>Beginners Cha-Cha, Social Swing, West Coast Swing, Jack n' Jill</i> Professional Showcase #1 <i>\$80.00/per person - Spy-wear</i>	Lobby of The Marriott Woman's Club Woman's Club
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Saturday, March 24, 2018

Breakfast on your own		
8:00 am - 9:30 am 8:00 am - 9:00 am 9:00 am - 10:30 am 9:00 am - 10:30 am 9:30 am - 11:00 am 11:00 am -12:30 pm	Contestants dance practice Presidents Meeting Dance Rules Committee Editors Meeting Board of Directors Meeting Queen's Lunch \$30 per person All current & former Queens	Woman's Club Marriott Hotel Marriott Hotel Lounge at the Marriott Tea Room Woman's Club Woman's Club

1:00 pm -2:00 pm 2:00 pm -4:00 pm	Professional Dance Lesson "Live & Let Dance" 2:45 pm Dance Competitions (Beginners Waltz, Seniors Waltz, Intermediate Smooth) Casual Spy Ware	Woman's Club \$5 Per person Woman's Club
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6:00 pm - 11:00 pm 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm 8:30 pm - 11:00 pm 10:30 pm	Saturday, March 24, 2018 "Diamond's Are Forever" Ball Royale Formal Dinner, Exhibition & Formal Dance \$90.00 per person, Formal Attire NO HOST COCKTAILS QUEEN'S CORONATION Formal Dinner Social Dancing throughout the evening between Coronation, Exhibition and Competitions Dance Competitions include: Advanced Smooth, Advanced Standard, Intermediate Rhythm Professional Showcase #2	Woman's Club
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9:00 am	Sunday, March 25, 2018 "Dance Another Day" Farewell Breakfast and Dancing Available only with Weekend Package	Woman's Club
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Master of Ceremonies Introduction of Board of Directors Award Ceremony Acknowledgements Drawing-Free Package deal	Steve Peterson Ben Wilson Cezar Florin, Kay Boyer, Barbara Norcross Steve Peterson Kay Boyer
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Event Questions

Steve Peterson - Event Director - 661-487-9744
 stevenpeterson@mc.com

JoAnn Georgio - Event Registrations - 661-304-5284
 jgeorgio@bak.rr.com

Cesar Florin - Competition Registration - 661-664-8019
 cflorin@bak.rr.com

Click or go to <http://www.nationalsmoothdancers.org/bakersfield.html>, to get all the information and registration forms.

Golden Gate Chapter

Edited by Carl Chesbrough



Gabrielle von Stephens

As we start a new year, I send my sincere thanks to Gabrielle von Stephens. For those of you that read the Dance Whispers on a regular basis know, Gabrielle has been our editor from before I joined the chapter. While we may have contributions from her now and then, she will no longer be our editor. Thank you, Gabrielle!

Here is a contribution from Gabrielle that I hope you will enjoy:

(Author unknown) One thing you never want to tell a woman: "I don't want to dance." We're talking instant divorce here. We're talking a three-day fight that ends with tears and broken dishes and the closing line: "You're no fun anymore." Take it from me guys, dance! Dance every single time she wants to dance. Don't ever refuse to dance. It's not worth it. Women are born with a dancing gene. When the dancing gene starts throwing off happy-foot sparks, the girl has gotta dance. They can't help it. They either got to dance or else go to Dancers Anonymous. You're talking to a drughead. NO WAY OUT. Listen to me. You only got one defense. Just don't ever bring up the subject. Maybe they'll forget they have legs. It's your only shot, you know what I mean?



Queen Vera Harvey presenting the 2017 Bob Fragomeni and Rosalie Wolf Spirit of Service Award to Amy and Dan Ansaldi.

Our annual NYEE party that was held at the Crowne Plaza in Foster City was again a grand affair. Dinner was great, the music was wonderful, and a champagne toast topped evening.

It was filled with lot of dancing to celebrate the end of 2017 and the beginning of 2018. A Spirit of Service Award was presented during the event. Every year, we vote on nominee(s) for the Spirit of Service Award, which was named after two members who did so much to make our chapter what it is today. The 2017 Bob Fragomeni and Rosalie Wolf Spirit of Service Award went to Amy and Dan Ansaldi. Amy and Dan worked very hard on our NSD State Convention, *Viva Las Vegas*, which was held over the 2017 Labor Day Weekend. Not only did they come up with the theme, they planned every part of the event. They and our member volunteers, together made the convention an extremely successful event. It was a great pleasure working with the two of them throughout the preparation and execution of the event. In a way, this award could have gone to everyone who contributed to the success of the convention. I hope that everyone would agree that Amy and Dan Ansaldi deserve the 2017 Spirit of Service Award.

Queen-elect introduction – Elizabeth Li



Queen-elect Elizabeth Li

I was born and raised in China. With a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, I attended graduate school in the US. I developed my career as a statistician after receiving two master degrees, one in electrical computer engineering and the other in applied statistics. My first exposure to ballroom dancing was in graduate school. However, I did not dance much until 2005, when I met Carl Chesbrough, my husband, and the love for ballroom dancing began. In 2011, Carl and I joined the wonderful family of Golden Gate Smooth Dancers (GGSD), a chapter of National Smooth Dancers (NSD). Over the years, the chapter has fostered love and friendship through dancing. We are so glad to be a part of the family.

I am excited and grateful to be elected as the 2018 GGSD Queen. It is a great honor for me to serve as an ambassador for our chapter. I am looking forward to visiting sister chapters, growing new friendships, and enjoying more dancing. I am thankful for the trust given by the GGSD members. I will represent our chapter to the best of my ability. As Queen, I will take this great opportunity to spread joy and goodwill from our chapter to sister chapters.



(L-R) Vlad and State Queen Svetlana Gites, Queen Vera Harvey and her escort Bill Swindle at the Los Angeles Chapter Coronation.

Visalia Chapter

Visalia Smooth Dancers started the holiday season with a tribute to the joyful world of Christmas, as our December Christmas theme implies, "JOY TO THE WORLD". The dinner tables were all decorated by members, each representing a different country, showing the decorator's version of how the season would be celebrated in that country. What a variety we had, from Israel to Lithuania to China and more! Visalia members are filled with creativity, and the tables displayed it at their best. The stage had scenes from around the world, including a huge world globe with children, the Roman Colosseum and the Eiffel Tower. A festive Chinese Gong was positioned next to the host's podium to ring the guests to attention. I've heard it said, when a quiet person speaks, it's best to listen. Those words rang true when Hilda Thomas so eloquently reminded us of the reasons we love our club. She expressed her experience of the kindness and friendliness of the members, and made us grateful for the opportunity of belonging to such a group. This was the touching introduction to the awards ceremony, where Robin Graves was awarded Most Improved Female Dancer, Shane Nielsen was Most Improved Male Dancer, and Mark and Adelle Martinez were awarded Most Improved Couple. Shane Nielsen was also awarded with the Achievement Award for his continuous efforts to go above and beyond for VSD. He responded by saying he just wanted to make things a little better, and maybe save a dollar or two here and there, and thanked all the members.



Award winners: Most Improved Female Dancer: Robin Graves; Most Improved Male Dancer: Shane Nielsen; Most Improved Dancing Couple: Mark and Adelle Martinez; and Achievement Award: Shane Nielsen.

We "Rock and Roll" the New Year at our January social dance. Very good turn out and our very own Caryl Creason gave our members and guests a special treat by teaching multiple ballroom dance lessons, Cha Cha, Waltz, quickstep and a line dance. Thanks a lot, Caryl! And great music from Cheryl.



We were also fortunate to have two performances by VSD members to entertain us: Sallie Holden and Tim Inouye danced a splendid Viennese waltz and Carol and

edited by Myra and Shane Nielsen

David Bixler danced a very entertaining Tango. Thank you for sharing the joy of dancing with us!



"Workshop for Beginners - East Coast Swing", sponsored by Visalia Smooth Dancers, taught by our very own members, Bill and Lona Dolan started on January 14, 2018 for 4 weeks of lessons every Sunday at 5:00pm at the West Visalia Grange Hall. The last 2 weeks' turnout was an amazing huge success. About 40 enthusiastic guests participated and are very interested in learning ballroom dancing. We are hoping that a few of these guests will sign up for membership. Bill and Lona are inspired by the good attendance that they decided to hold another 4 weeks of class, maybe Salsa. Thank

you, Bill and Lona, way to go!!

Los Angeles Coronation – By Queen Sallie Holden

The dance, breakfast and hospitality were all held at the Hilton in Glendale. Hospitality was on the nineteenth floor which had a great view of the mountains. Tim, who worked in Glendale many years ago, said it was one of the clearest days he'd seen. Hospitality is, I finally figured out, an important part of the coronation event. It's a chance to chat with other people and meet new people from the hosting chapter. There were some really nice touches at this coronation. One was the fresh flower corsages carried by the queens. Another was bottles of red and white wine on each of the tables. The new queen, Franci Solano and her partner, Robert Quan, did a really lovely Foxtrot to "For Sentimental Reasons". The honor dance was performed by Barbara Greenlaw and Bill Steeber from The San Fernando Valley Chapter. They did a spectacular performance to "All That Jazz", which was the theme of the evening. In keeping with that theme, the tables were decorated with an upside down top hat filled with evening gloves, a dancing cane (a la Fred Astaire) and glittery stuff, the decoration on a rotating base. (Susan Johnson said that any of the clubs who want to borrow those rotating bases can; something to keep in mind for our own dances.)

Installation of 2018 VSD Officers

Last Sunday, January 28, 2018 at our club meeting, the 2018 VSD Club Officers were sworn in. Congratulations to Manuel Madril – President, Shane Nielsen-Treasurer, TG Thomas – Social Chair and Paul Storey-Board Delegate.

Fresno Chapter

Edited by Linda Bennett



2018 is in full swing (pun intended) and Fresno members are gearing up for Super Bowl festivities and Valentine's Day. We kicked things off with some "winter dancing; January's dance was filled with snowmen, lots and lots of snowmen! Hostess Carla has quite a collection and we look forward to her hosting our snowman-themed dances every January. We were glad to welcome Rei Marquez back to teach our group lesson. Tango was the dance of choice and, as usual, Rei did a terrific job. Following the class, we danced, by all accounts, to an enjoyable playlist. Thanks to David and the other gentlemen in attendance who graciously kept the ladies dancing.



day and even then it rained only while they were in the bus. Lynn and Shirley both highly recommend cruising in general and the Greek islands in particular! What a great way for Lynn to celebrate her retirement this past August!



Queen Jennifer and her squire, David, have been taking advantage of all the extra traveling required by a Queen, visiting family and, after last September's convention, touring some of Northern California's wine country. This photo is of Jennifer posing outside a "home" befitting a Queen, located in Calistoga.



Join us on February 18 for a Valentine Theme Dance. I'm pretty sure there will be chocolate and, of course, other goodies. We will have a Night Club 2 Step lesson with Melanie Reno. Class starts at 2:00, followed by general dancing. Remember, learning something new is good for the brain. And it is guaranteed Fun!

In March, we will "Dance with Leprechauns" as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 18, 2018. Sheila O'Connor (appropriate choice of teacher, right?) will teach an East Coast Swing lesson.



See www.fresnosmoothdancers.org for flyers.

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All third-Sunday dances are at the Clovis Senior Center, 850 4th Street, Clovis, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for guests. We would love to see you there!!

Rick and Kathy Constantino celebrated the New Year watching fireworks at Sydney Harbor, Australia, and then took off on a cruise of New Zealand!



Shirley McCloskey, San Diego Smooth Dancer and past Fresno member, and Lynn Sanders were off to Venice for a 12-day cruise of the Greek Islands and Croatia in November. They took a couple of extra days to enjoy Venice (shopping, a transit strike, and a "totally fabulous" concert in a church). November is traditionally cold and rainy but they were lucky, with only one rainy

Queen Jenifer Morgan and her husband David at the Los Angeles Chapter Coronation.



Carla Hartunian, while enjoying the Los Angeles Coronation, took time to make a presentation for the 2018 Convention being hosted by Fresno Chapter.

Palomar Chapter

Edited by Debbie Atherton and Don Hubbard



2018 Officers Installation.
One of Fred's last duties was to install our 2018 Officers. We would like to thank Fred Deutsch for all his hard work during his term as PSD President.

Outgoing President, Fred Deutsch, was asked for some reflections of his two years in office:

"We have been fortunate in gaining new members with energy, initiative and new ideas to help keep the chapter vibrant and progressive. Our enjoyable Socials, Website and online presence have also made a difference.

It's been particularly rewarding to have watched some of our new members who were very uncertain about their ability to actually learn ballroom in the beginning who are now helping guide and coach new members during our Monday night dance classes.

I am also pleased with our Chapter's participation in NSD events, that is: coronations, NSD Boards & Conventions. What made being president of the Palomar Chapter special is that although our function is to promote Ballroom Dancing, we have been able to accomplish this in a supportive and pleasant atmosphere while sharing our time with old friends and new.

I have enjoyed serving our Chapter and I am proud to pass on the gavel to our well-qualified member, Frank Lombardi."

Our January Social was a fun event. Social-co-Chairs Antonia Quinene and Stella Kanterakis with helpers Penny Elliot, Al Harruff, and Jesus Quinene prepared an excellent fare, which included hors-d'oeuvres, veggie plate, home made Valentine cookies, and waffles complete with strawberries and cream! The Valentine theme was 'Love'. Stella asked, "What is love?" She had Valentine slips of paper at each table for each person to give his or her definition of love, which was read to the group. The results were funny and amusing. Lots of dancing began with a nice lesson of the Night-Club-Two-Step by Irina and James Friedhof.



Stella presents the beautiful Valentine Buffet Table!

Queen Marion had a few words to say to Los Angeles Smooth Dancers about their lovely Coronation: "Many thanks to Queen Francy and the Los Angeles Chapter for their warm hospitality. We all had a very enjoyable evening and would like to congratulate you on a beautiful coronation."



(Left) Don Hubbard presents Queen Marion of Palomar Smooth Dancers.

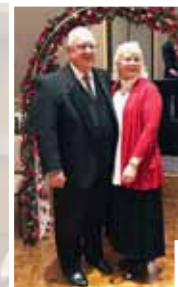


(Right) Queen Marion & Don Hubbard enjoy the Queens Waltz.

Palomar enjoyed the Los Angeles Coronation



Valentine Dancers (L-R) – Penny Elliott, Antonia & Jesus Quinene, Stella Kanterakis & Al Harruff.



Peter & Marsha Hanson



Tom & Ann Mauro



Kelly & Carol Kimmitt



Len & Peggy Lee

(Photos compliments of Ann Mauro)

San Fernando Valley Chapter

Welcome to another year of dance and performance art. These last two months have seemed unusually busy for our chapter with the embracing of a new board, selection of our 2019 convention chairs, and kick-off of our membership renewal season.

Because dance is not a competition, it's your passion, just maybe last year you had wanted to learn more about Nightclub dancing or Foxtrot footwork technique and didn't get around to it! Well, the New Year has just begun, so put your dancing shoes on and boot-scoot into a class for one-on-one or group sessions.

Get in the moment — don't delay and remember dance can also be part of your health and wellness program!

Welcome: Cynthia (Cindy) O'Donnell, Robin Mack, John Haboush, Julie B.

What is a Dance Convention? What is a NSD Dance Convention?

What is a dance convention? A dance convention can be an important component in building a strong, adaptable, and resilient dance organization or club. The experience is always unique and challenging, and, when presented correctly a highly effective and fun and beneficial opportunity to promote dance.

What is an NSD Dance Convention? It is a fun weekend of dancing, showcases, friendship, and competitions.

The year 2019 marks San Fernando Valley's turn to host this fantastic weekend. Our last turn, in 2012, introduced new ideas that were so warmly embraced by other chapters that they continued on with them. These new traditions included hiring dance hosts, holding Jack and Jill competitions, among others.

Our theme of "Night & Day, America at Work, America at Play" for the 2019 convention will also be a fun, fast paced event with the introduction of even more innovative ideas.

To quote our co-chairs, Mark Emmanuelli and Joan Robinson (whose middle name, as most of you know, is "Change") — "You will be wowed by our 2019 event which will be a Showcase Extravaganza, unlike any seen before. So hold on to your hats, dear friends, and get ready for a 'Walk on the Wild Side!' (Wheelchairs welcome too. You just have to learn to do "wheelies.")

Mark your calendars NOW — August 30th through September 2nd, 2019.

New Feature – SFV Chapter Spotlight on our members.

A new featured in our newsletter will be a spotlight on our members. We will highlight different chapter members each newsletter to give a little attention on "who they are on and off the dance floor.



Gee Gee Barden is the portrait of a lady because of her charm, grace and sharing of many talents.

Chief Executive Officer Gee Gee Barden loves to foxtrot, especially with a really excellent partner. Gee Gee dislikes hot peppers.

Edited by Rachel Seward



Sam Billimoria is charming, funny, and full of life.

Membership Associate

Sam Billimoria loves the Tango. Sam really, really, really dislikes pork or beef sandwiches.

Who will be featured in the next issue?

Salsa and Bolero make for a great Latin combination – add music – and walla!

How do you dance Salsa in December? Combine instructor Lorena Bravo with DJ Jane Hammond and you have a spicy night of dance.

How do you calm the spicy Salsa? In January have David Mourtey teach the slow-tempo Latin Bolero and invite the serene music of DJ Mark Emmanuelli for a charming January dance event.



Crown Circle - by Queen Deanna Stanton

My very first appearance as our chapter Queen was at the Golden Gate — "New Year's Eve Bash." Joe and I received a fantastic welcome from everyone in the Bay area, as we danced our way into the New Year.

With heartfelt enthusiasm, I attended my first coronation as San Fernando Valley Queen on January

20th. The Coronation of Queen Francy Solano hosted by the LA Chapter was beautiful and lively. The Coronation theme "All That Jazz" featured our SFV star couple Barbara Greenlaw and Bill Steeber. Their Honor Dance performance was flashy, sassy and a real crowd pleaser.

It was so much fun to dance and mingle with friends. Joe and I are now looking forward to the San Diego Coronation in March.



As the New Year unfolds, we send our best wishes for the year ahead, Rachel Seward, Editor

The San Fernando Valley Chapter of Smooth Dancers
"WHY WALK WHEN YOU CAN DANCE"

Los Angeles Chapter Officers

President	Tom Wells
Vice President	Chuck Johnson
Treasurer	Victor Lee
Board Member	Chuck Johnson
Board Member	Craig Miller
Board Member	Judi Van Brocklin
Delegate	Doug Failing
Corresponding Secretary	Open

Coronation - January 26, 2019

Recording Secretary	Shari Herzfeld
Social Chairman	Alice Mah
Dance Rules	Kyle Catterlin
Dance Whispers Editor	Sandy Wells
Music Coordinator	Chuck Johnson
Publicity	Chuck Johnson
Queen	Francy Solano
Webmaster	Victor Hertzfeld/ Tom Wells

San Diego Chapter Officers

President	Frank Lacson
Vice President	Greg Alexander
Treasurer	Kay Ryan
Board Member	Caron Schattel
Corresponding Secretary	Linda Hammerton
Recording Secretary	Linda Hammerton
Social Chairman	Denise White
Sunshine	Linda Hammerton

Coronation - March 3, 2018

Dance Rules	Patrick McGinness
Dance Whispers Editor(s)	Vern Miranda
Music Coordinator	Rose Madrid
Queen	Liz Tarnove
Queen-elect	Shirley McCloskey
Webmaster/Publicity	Liz Tarnove
Dance Class Chair	Dave Saul

Palomar Chapter Officers

President	Frank Lombardi
Vice President	Carl Jeffries
Treasurer	Kelly Kimmitt
Board Member	Peter Hanson
Corresponding Secretary	Mark Chapman
Recording Secretary	Penny Elliott
Social Chairman	Antonia Quinene and Stella Kanterakis
Ways & Means	Ira Gregory
Dance Class	Marsha Hanson

Coronation - October 13, 2018

Dance Rules	Penny Elliot
Dance Whispers Editor(s)	Don Hubbard / Debbie Atherton
Music Coordinator	Peter Hanson, George Mozes, Len Lee
Publicity	
Queen	Marion Semler
Queen-elect	Cathy Lombardi
Webmaster	Ann Mauro
Membership	Cathy Lombardi

Golden Gate Chapter Officers

President	Carl Chesbrough
Vice President	Amy Ansaldi
Treasurer	Joe Malta
Board Member	Dan Ansaldi
Corresponding Secretary	Elena Malta
Recording Secretary	Elizabeth Li
Social Chairman	Liz Talmadge

Coronation - April 14, 2018

Dance Rules	Igor Tilinin
Dance Whispers Editor	Open
Music Coordinator	Gordon Robinson
Queen	Vera Harvey
Queen Elect	Elizabeth Li
Webmaster	Carl Chesbrough
Parliamentarian	Rita Parma

San Fernando Valley Chapter Officers

Coronation - November 2018

President	Gee Gee Barden
Vice President	Andrea Gutman
Treasurer	John Wong
Board Member	Joan Robinson
Recording Secretary	Deanna Stanton
Corresponding Secretary	Leanne Wong
Social Chairman	Hannah Murray

Dance Rules	Joseph Hidalgo
Dance Whispers Editor	Rachel Seward
Queen	Deanna Stanton
Webmaster	Bill Steeber
Equipment Manager	Frank Trapp
Membership	Sam Billimoria

Bakersfield Chapter Officers

Coronation - March 24, 2018

President	Steve Peterson
Vice President	Kay Boyer
Treasurer	Jo Ann Georgio
Board Member	Ben Wilson
Corresponding Secretary	Debbie Cadena
Recording Secretary	Lindy Livingston
Social Chairman	Wen-Shi Rodriquez

Dance Rules	
Dance Whispers Editor	Dorothy Vaughan
Queen	Barbara Norcross
Queen-elect	Kay Boyer
Delegates	Steve Rogers, Jeanette Steck, Susan Salvucci

Visalia Chapter Officers

Coronation - May 19, 2018

President	Manual Madril
Vice President	TG Thomas
Treasurer	Shane Nielsen
Board Member	Paul Storey
Corresponding Secretary	Myra Nielsen
Recording Secretary	Myra Nielsen
Social Chairman	TG Thomas

Dance Rules	Johnny Gutteriez
Dance Whispers Editor	Myra and Shane Nielsen
Webmaster	Manuel Madril
Publicity	Jim Renfro
Queen	Sally Holden
Sunshine	Joan Dewey
Sgt of Arms	Garry Paden
Historian	Greg Uichanco

Fresno Chapter Officers

Coronation - September 2, 2018

President	Carla Hartunian
Vice President	Lorraine Tilton
Treasurer	David Morgan
Board Member	Hartune Neffian
Corresponding Secretary	Linda Bennett
Recording Secretary	Ruth Galvante
Social Chairman	Jennifer Morgan

Dance Rules	Kathy Constantino
Dance Whispers Editor	Linda Bennett
Music Coordinator	David Morgan
Queen	Jennifer Morgan
Webmaster	Lorraine Tilton
Historian	
Sunshine	Dolores Reed

San Diego Smooth Dancers Coronation 2018
A Chapter of National Smooth Dancers Invite You To Attend

A Pageant of NSD Queens

Honoring Queen-Elect

Shirley McCloskey

Saturday, March 3, 2018

Champion Ballroom Academy

4255 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123

- Champagne reception: 6 p.m.
- Coronation and Honor Dance: 6:30-7 p.m.
- Dinner and Dancing: 7-11 p.m.

Professional Entertainment

Jack & Jill Contests: Waltz & Cha Cha

Coronation \$60 per person

BlackTie Optional

Hospitality: March 3 at Champion Ballroom
Academy 2-4 p.m.

Queen's Brunch - All Are Invited: Sunday, March 4 at 9 a.m.

94th Aero Squadron, 8885 Balboa Ave, San Diego, CA 92123

Accommodations may be made at Courtyard Marriott, 8651 Spectrum Center Blvd, San Diego 92123.

Call (888) 236-2427 or visit www.marriott.com/sancy for Reservations. Use Code **ssdssdc** for discounted room rate of \$119 which is valid if reservations are received by February 20, 2018.



To attend the Queen's Pageant, please write your check to San Diego Smooth Dancers and mail to Kay Ryan at 4303 Coronado Ave, San Diego, CA 92107 by February 23, 2018.

Name(s) _____

Chapter (non-members leave blank) _____

Coronation/Buffer Dinner: ____ @ \$60 Queen's Brunch ____ @ \$36 Total Amount ____

For more information, please call Shirley McCloskey at (858) 677-9003 or Kay Ryan at (619) 994-4303

Bakersfield Smooth Dancers
Presents

DANCING IS FOREVER



March 23rd - 25th
2018

Click or go to <http://www.nationalsmoothdancers.org/bakersfield.html> , to get all the information and registration forms.

*Golden Gate Smooth Dancers
Invites You To Our Coronation Ball*

Celebration of Love

Honoring Queen-Elect

Elizabeth Li

Saturday, April 14th, 2018

Crowne Plaza Hotel

1221 Chess Drive, Foster City, CA 94404

Hotel Reservations: (650) 570-5700

Room Rate: \$139.00+Tax, Booking Code: GZG

(Rooms available at this rate until March 30th, 2018)

Hospitality 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Coronation & Ball: \$95.00

Dress: Formal

5:00 PM

Cocktail Hour (No Host)

**Ladies: Evening Gown/
Cocktail Dress**

5:30 PM

Registration

**Gentlemen: Tuxedo/
Dark Suit & Tie**

6:30 PM

Coronation Ceremony

8:00 PM

Dinner

9:00–11:30 PM

Dancing

For information & reservations call Liz Talmadge @ (415) 265-7063

Please See Reverse Side

Queen's Champagne Brunch: \$35.00

Date: Sunday, April 15th, 2018

Place: El Torito 388 Vintage Park Drive (Across the street from the hotel)

Time: 9:00 AM

Reservations must be received by April 6th, 2018

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

**Mail to: Liz Talmadge
759 Grand Avenue
So. San Francisco, CA 94080**

Saturday, April 14th, 2018 Coronation Ball _____ @ \$95.00 = _____

Sunday, April 15th, 2018 Queen's Brunch _____ @ \$35.00 = _____

Total: = _____

Please check choice of entrée:

- Chicken**
- Fish**
- Vegetarian**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____