

National Smooth Dancers
Dance Whispers
December 2019



December 8, 2019

Hello Fellow Smooth Dancers,

First things first, I want to take the opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Holiday Season. This time of year can pull us in all sorts of directions, sometimes diverting us from appreciating what is most important: family, friends, service and celebration of life...how ever you choose to celebrate it.

Even though we are near the end of this year, there is still plenty of dancing to do! You can go to Fresno's Christmas Dinner and Dance on December 15th (p10); Golden Gate's New Year's Gala on December 29th (p11); and then do either the "Dance Into 2020" dance at San Diego (p12) or Bakersfield "New Year's Eve Dance" (p13) on December 31st!

Then you will want to kick off the 2020 dancing year by attending the Los Angeles Chapter Coronation of Queen-elect Shari Herzfeld on Saturday January 11th. The coronation registration flyer can be found on page 14. While we're talking about 2020, plan on attending the Fresno Leap Year Fantasy Ball with dinner and dancing on February 29th (p15).

In this issue you will read about the travels of LA Chapter members (p1), the numerous holiday dances, ranging from Halloween to New Years. Hats off to Palomar Chapter who installed 14 new members (p2) and Fresno introducing their 2 new members (p7). November was the month for honoring our veterans and you will want to meet the veterans who are members of Golden Gate (p5) and Visalia (p6). Our dancing family celebrates our joys and shares in our losses. In this issue we pay tribute to the lives of Ralph Anderson of Palomar Chapter (p2) and Queen Andrea Gutman of San Fernando Valley Chapter (pp8-9). Though we are saddened by their passing, we also celebrate lives well lived.

November also reminds us of gratitude through Thanksgiving celebrations. In this issue I was touched by the many expressions of gratitude for those NSD members who go the extra mile so we can enjoy the pleasures of ballroom dancing. Please check San Diego's page, aptly title "Unsung Heros: Dance Social Edition", a tribute to the tireless workers of their chapter. To all of NSD's tireless workers, Thank You!

I'm looking forward to seeing you on the dance floor and at the Los Angeles Coronation.
Never Stop Dancing,

Tom Wells

P.S. Please check out our NSD website for "Photo Echoes of the SFVSD Convention", which Rachel Seward compiled and Bill Steeber posted on the [nationalsmoothdancers.org website \(click on Photos\)](http://nationalsmoothdancers.org). It is a wonderful selection of photos from the 2019 convention.

National Smooth Dancers Dance Whispers December 2019



Los Angeles Chapter

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all.



Queen-elect Shari Herzfeld.

Shari Herzfeld is getting ready to put on her white gown and dance into the ballroom with her hubby Victor. **LANSD Coronation is on Saturday, January 11, 2020.** It will be held at the Glendale Hilton Hotel. See flyer for additional data. Pink Flamingos will be out in force, bringing frivolity and merriment to our celebration.

Dancing news

Robert Quan and Francy Solano competed successfully in the Amateur American at the Elite dance Competition October 12.



Robert competed successfully in his first pro-am American Smooth comp at Hollywood Dancesport, with new teacher, Anna Shahbazyan, on Oct.31.



Our Monthly Tea dance on the second Sunday of the month at Soho studio in Sherman Oaks is showing steady growth.

Social News

Tom and Sandy Wells are still cooking for the USO at LAX. Italian style PB&J and Tom's favorite, chili cheese hot dogs, eaten only with a knife and fork.



Our world travelers, Victor Lee, Debby Ku and Chuck

edited by Sandy Wells



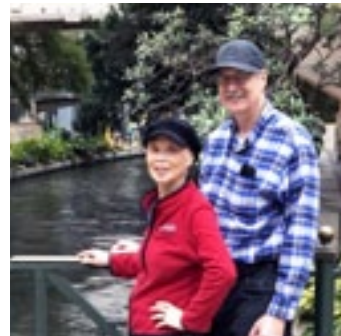
and Susan Johnson are now sailing from Abu Dhabi. They exited the Suez Canal then headed to somewhere out of Port Said then pulled into Jadhah. Now



they are heading toward Singapore. Wowza!!! One of the many highlights this trip was a visit to a Falcon rehab center. They breed, board, and sell falcons all over the world. They do nail and beak trims, yearly physicals and fix a multitude of injuries.



Marion and Ken Scholtz are now in Rome, the eternal city. They will be teaching on the Jewel of the Seas sailing from Rome to Dubai. Then they are exploring on the Azamara Quest to Mumbai where they will stay to tour India.



Our Queen Alice Mah Miller and hubby Craig were in Tom's home town of San Antonio, touring the Alamo and the river walk. So many wonderful sites in Texas to see and experience, from the Dallas Cowboy's Ford Center in Frisco, Texas to President Lyndon Baines Johnson's library in Austin.

Here's a couple of my Christmas favorites: My favorite Christmas tree - the Cannoli Tree and Gracie's Angel picture.



From the Los Angeles NSD, we wish you all a wonderful Holiday Season.

Palomar Chapter

edited by Debbie Kincaid and Don Hubbard



Our October Halloween Party was quite an event hosted by Stella Kanterakis, Penny Elliott, Mario Lira and Tom & Ann Mauro. They did an outstanding job of preparing for a scary evening! We all were “treated” by an energetic salsa lesson with Danny Caraza. Pictures below show the great time had by all! Special thanks to Geri Deutsch for her pictures!

Our Holiday Social was a festive event. Dancers arrived in all types of Christmas attire. The music had a holiday theme. A lovely dinner was supplied offering an Entree selection of Lasagna or Chicken Alfredo with salad and dessert included. Also special table settings of fresh flowers were provided by hosts for the evening Linda and Elliot Lum, Debbie Atherton and Donna & Duane Thornton. The music had a holiday touch with Christmas songs included in the evening’s playlist and by our entertainers. Our evening’s entertainment started with an elegant Waltz performed by Kao and Mark Chapman, this was followed by an athletic Fox Trot by Ann Mauro from her Coronation this year! She found her feet off the floor much of the dance with partner Danny Caraza! Peter and Marsha continued the program with a Night Club 2-Step that traveled around the entire floor. Mark and Kao returned for a finale with a lively quick step.



(L) Penny Elliott, Mario Lira & Stella Kanterakis pose in costume!
(R) Oh no! Geneva & Mike Cowlshaw are laughing even after their scissor & knife stabbing!



(L) Marion Semler & Al Harruff serving pepperoni pizza with a tasty spider! (R) Jack & Marilee Ragland joined, by Zariah (purrrr!), enjoying the festivities



Our talented entertainers for the evening take a bow, Mark & Kao Chapman, Danny Caraza & Queen Ann Mauro and Peter & Marsha Hanson. Thank you!



(L) Kelly & Carol Kimmitt just fooling around with bread sticks
(Top R) Evening’s Menu posted by our clever hosts! (Bottom R) Geri Deutsch & Mario Lira show off their elegant costumes!



Our Membership Chair, Cathy Lombardi, tells us we swore in 14 new members this year. Congratulations!

YUMI DERRY, SAJIDA GRANDE, PATTI HOYT, BARBARA & BEN MORAINÉ, VALDENE RAMRUS, ELIZABETH REMSBURG, JOHN SANKIS, JIM SHORES, JEANIE STODGHILL, VALARIE SWAISLAND , JOHN TINDELL, JACKIE TIPPLE, DEBI VAIL, MARIANNE WHYTE

Regretfully, we report the passing of long term member Ralph Anderson. Ralph and wife Mary joined Palomar NSD in June 1988. They celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary at our Spring Social this year. Many of us can remember Ralph as one who would help new members improve their dancing skills and he always had a good joke to share! He will be missed. There will be a service for Ralph on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at the Presbyterian Church, 2001 S. El Camino Real Road, Oceanside; beginning at 11:00 AM. We send our condolences to wife Mary and to her family.

San Diego Chapter

Edited by Frank Lacson and Mark Chapman



Unsung Heroes: Dance Social Edition

by Frank Lacson

In any given chapter, it is easy to spot the leaders: they run the business meetings, have their names on the website, report on the state of the chapter at the NSD Convention, and are showcased at the Coronations. However, for any organization to succeed, our members behind the scenes are the unsung heroes. This article celebrates those who have contributed to our dance socials so that we can provide the best dance experience for the San Diego dancing community; those shown in these pictures are just a fraction of our volunteers.

Hours before the dance starts, a team transforms the Champion ballroom from a teaching space to a social-ready experience. On a normal day, half of the ballroom contains two-person “high-top” tables. These need to be replaced with 8-foot tables, taking great care not to damage the (expensive) mirrors.

After the tables are set up, a decorating crew comes in to immerse the ballroom in the theme of the month. Over the years, the chapter has invested in decorations and table clothes that need to be set up (and put away afterwards).

As the decorating crew works, another team prepares the food



Teylia Johson and Lou Reyes in the Kitchen.

and drink. Fresh fruit and desserts are the very minimum that’s provided to our guests, with the more involved parties involving a light dinner. Although we have a food budget for the staples, some members go above and beyond, donating food to the cause!



All this flurry of activity occurs before anyone walks through the door. When a dancer arrives at our socials, the welcoming committee is ready for you to check in. The Queen is often there to greet you, and at some of our bigger events we have folks to escort you to your seat.

We have two tiers of pricing: NSD Members and Guests. The high level of quality and consistency that we provide at the socials has not gone unnoticed in the San Diego Ballroom community, as many of our dances host more non-members than members. This provides a great opportunity for prospective members to see what the Smooth Dancers is all about!



When not escorting our Queen across the state, Greg Alexander enjoys being part of the DJ team.



Judy and Vern Miranda with the Playlist.

As the dance proceeds, the DJ, emcee, and other floaters (such as me) make sure that the music, lighting and temperature are just right. The kitchen crew keeps everything stocked and cleaned, gracefully switching from appetizers to dessert as the night goes on. All this occurs quietly in the background, ensuring that your attention is focused on the dancing.

As the party ends, another team packs the decorations, with guests from our sister chapter at Palomar often lending a helping hand. Food is put away and folks volunteer to wash the tablecloths for the more formal parties.

The next time you are at one of our dance socials, seek out the folks that help (many of whom are not pictured here) and give them a big THANK YOU. They are the backbone of our club and allow us to fulfill our mission of spreading the joy of ballroom dancing.

Please plan on joining us for our Dance Into 2020 New Year’s Eve Dance. Complete information is on the flyer at the end of this edition. Or visit our website at <http://www.sdsdwebsite.com>.

(Left) Nancy Ross, Queen Alicia Alexander and Linda Hammerton on the Greeting Team.

Bakersfield Chapter

edited by Liora Malicdem



We say farewell to 2019 with an introduction to the last of our “Most Improved Dancers” of 2019, **Jack Breech**. Jack began dancing with Bakersfield Smooth Dancers in 2013. Although he now lives across the country, we are fortunate to see him occasionally at a monthly dance or Tuesday lesson. He offers particularly good advice for anyone who wants to improve on the dancefloor.

What are some of the things you enjoy about dancing?

What I enjoy most about dancing is its social aspects (meeting people) and that it is a mild form of exercise.

What do you still find challenging about dancing?

Dancing is challenging because it offers continual improvement whether learning new patterns in a favorite dance, learning a new dance, or hearing new songs.

What advice do you have for people who want to improve their dancing?



Jack Breech with Dance Partner Barbara Norcross.



New members Joan Schiewe and Nam Park take on the Samba!

I would advise people who wish to improve to a) take videos of their lessons b) subscribe to Dancevision, c) take private lessons and have a dance partner.

What is one thing people might be surprised to learn about you?

An item people may be surprised to learn is I have traveled extensively in the USA and internationally; Australia, Asia, Europe, and South America.

National Smooth Dancers is a member-based organization, and in 2019 we welcomed 13 new members into our dance family. **Nam Park, Calvin Paschal, Tracy Whitney, Steve & Nancy Hwang, Cruz & Erica Fernandez, Estela Hughes, Joan Schiewe, Clara Chang, Theresa Mawson,**

and Mark & Deborah Nystrom. Each of you enriches the Bakersfield dance community. For those of you able to attend the Tuesday lessons, it's been wonderful to see your progress! Your joy and enthusiasm light up the dance floor.

As a member-based organization we could not survive and thrive without the volunteer hours of many people. In November, we elected officers for 2020.

President – **Kay Boyer**

Vice President – **Steve Peterson**

Secretary – **Wendy Wilson**

Treasurer – **Joann Georgio**

Social Chair – **Barbara Norcross**

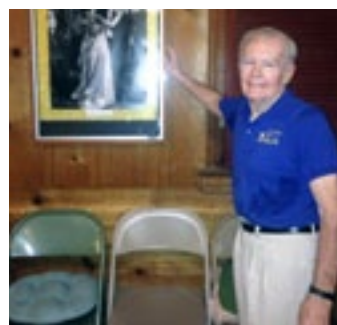
Membership Chair – **Lindy Livingston**
Corresponding Secretary – **Debi Cadena**
National Smooth Dancers Liaison – **Ben Wilson**

National Smooth Dancers Delegates – **Steve & Jeanette Rogers, Bill Landry**

Thank you for your dedication to Bakersfield and National Smooth Dancers.



(top left) President, Kay Boyer. (above) Swashbucklers and officers Ben and Wendy Wilson. (bottom left) Social Chair, Barbara Norcross and Treasurer, Joann Georgio are all smiles at the Tuesday lesson



James at the Grange

James & Claudine Kephart and James Schmitz make sure the doors are open and the heat or air is on. Dennis Acosta and Steve Peterson keep us moving with a variety of music – and they take requests! If you are in Bakersfield on a Friday night, come join us. Cover is only \$5, and you might even win a free pass for another Friday night at the end of dance drawing. The floor is fantastic, and the people are even better.

From our chapter to yours – May 2020 bring you peace, happiness and dance.



Golden Gate Chapter

edited by Gabrielle von Stephens



As my daughter had to have an operation, I decided that it was time for me to spend a few weeks close to her in Germany and on my way visited my friend, Karen, who lives 10 months out of the year in the south of France, just a hop away from Germany.

Karen was to pick me up from the plane, but since her car was in the shop, we had to take the train for just a few minutes to where she lives. Along with my heavy suitcases, Karen and a few Gypsies, the train was packed with commuters. I had had a sleepless 12 hours on the plane, was very tired and perhaps not as alert as I usually am. Luckily for the Gypsies who made off with my credit cards, all my money, my iPhone and my passport.

My passport was later replaced by the American Embassy, so at least I could come home. The black cloud lifted when I got to Germany and I had a wonderful time with my sweet family and my grandchildren now 18 and 20. My daughter has recovered and is well again.

Can't wait to go back to see them next year, without any detours.



Honor Two of the GGSD Members Who Served in US Military by Elizabeth Li

Due to limited space allocated to GGSD, we presented two members who served in the US military in the previous issue of the Whispers near the Veteran's Day, November 11th. This issue presents two additional members from our chapter. In future issues of Whispers, stories of other veterans from our chapter will be presented.

Patrick Jude has been a member of GGSD for 10 years. When asked why he joined our chapter, he immediately responded:



Young Patrick Jude.



Patrick Jude dancing with Marcia Nelson.

“because of the people of GGSD”. Over the years, Patrick has contributed his artistic talent to our chapter's coronations, State Convention, and New Year's raffles. He made exquisite crochet dolls, quilts, jewelry Christmas trees, just to name a few. All of his beautiful work raised funds for our chapter. We thank him for his contributions to our chapter and more importantly his service to our country. Before he joined the US Navy, he studied fashion design and attended beauty school. When he was 21 years old, he enlisted himself, left his home in Minnesota, and went to a bootcamp in San Diego. He served in the US Navy as a radio man, second class, with top secret clearance during the Vietnam War. He was deployed in Guam and Japan. While in Guam, he made a wedding dress for the bride of his roommate when he got married. Due to his skill of hair styling, the commander at the base in Japan wanted Patrick to work close to the base office and fix hair for his wife. After retiring from the Navy, the commander was the chief of police in Fresno years ago. Patrick had many fond memories while serving his military duties. After his service, he went back to school and finished his fashion design degree. He was fortunate to work for a wealthy lady, designed and made evening gowns for her. Patrick loves ballroom dancing. He and Marcia Nelson competed at State Convention in 2017 and won first place in both senior Waltz and senior Cha Cha.

Oswaldo Guinto has been a member of GGSD since June 2008. Our chapter queen, Emma Steed, introduced Ossie and his wife, Gloria, to our chapter. He loves GGSD, because he loves dancing, meeting new friends and catching up with old friends. Over the years, we have seen Gloria and Ossie at Sunday dances and our chapter coronations. Ossie was working with the U. S. Postal Service as a letter carrier, he joined the military as a U.S. Air Force reservist. At age 33, he and his fellow reservists transported military equipment, including missiles and bombs, using C17 airplanes. He served in the Air Force in different parts of the world: Japan, South Korea, Germany, Guam, Hawaii, and the Philippines. During his service, he met different people and learned different cultures. The Air Force taught him to work with different people as a team, to carry out temporary duty assignments until the missions are accomplished. When he transitioned to civilian life, he continued his outstanding work ethic. His life lesson is to do your job well and take care yourself. He keeps in touch with his military fellows at picnics and reunions. He shares his wisdom with our GGSD members: Life is not a competition, be happy, keep dancing, and keep brain and body healthy. We thank him for his service to our country.



Young Oswaldo Guinto.



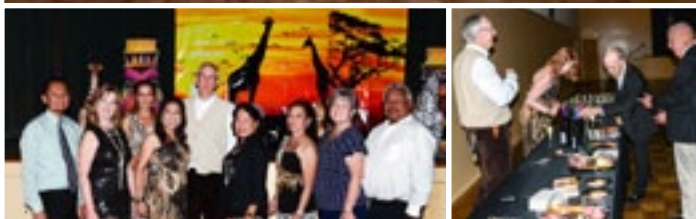
Gloria and Oswaldo Guinto.

Visalia Chapter

On behalf of Visalia Smooth Dancers, we would like to wish you all, (our dancing family) a **Happy Holiday Season!**

Thank you for another fabulous year. Excellent turnout on all of our monthly Social Dances; attendance from both our members and guests was higher than the previous years. Thanks to all the Chairs and committee members that made all the dances enjoyable and the friendships we share to our guests. We had 9 new members sign up this year. Special thanks to Bill and Lona Dolan, Dave and Carol Bixler, Wendy and Paul Storey for continuing the Sunday Workshop, this really made a great contribution for recruiting new members and having good attendance at our Social Dances. Also, we are very indebted to Johnny and Linda Guttierrez for catering our three formal Social dances, the food was always delicious and plentiful.

Visalia Smooth Dancers' **44th Club Anniversary Dance** which was held on October 19th turned out to be a very happy occasion and well attended by members and guests. The highlight of the night was VSD's Roaring 20's presentation. We enjoyed the delicious dinner prepared by Johnny and Linda Guttierrez. The dance floor was vibrating and full of enthusiastic dancers also because of the great music that Greg Uichanco played for us. Overall, it was a splendid night of dancing and everyone had so much fun.



edited by Myra and Shane Nielsen

Our November Social dance themed, "An Autumn Affair" was held on November 9th and was chaired by Stan Medina and co-chaired by Marivel Villareal. The stage, walls and tables were decorated to celebrate the "Fall Colors" of the season. The evening started off with a Waltz lesson by Dance Instructor Susan Morelock. Johnny Guttierrez played music to Foxtrot, Rumba, Cha Cha, East & West Coast Swings, Salsa, Merengue and other American and Latin styles. A group picture was taken involving all Military Veterans in attendance standing in front of a large American Flag to honor their service to our country. New members: Florence Kabot, Jennifer McNees and John Forest were sworn into the club as new members by President David Bixler. Glad to have them aboard.



Veterans honored at the November Dance



Jennifer McNees, John Forest, Florence Kabot and President David Bixler.



Lona Dolan's surprise birthday celebration on October 6th arranged by Bill and attended by their family, friends and VSD members.

VSD's Christmas Party will be on December 7th at the PPAV Hall in Visalia. The theme for the night will be "Christmas Bells are Ringing, Are you listening?" Chaired by Carolyn Richards and Somjai Cochran. Entertainment by Professional Dancer Jeffrey Garza and his partner Faye Hung, plus Dan Goss and our own Margaret Moholt.

Fresno Chapter

edited by Linda Bennett



Happiest of Holidays to you all! Members of Fresno Smooth Dancers have been dancing, dancing, dancing! Several of us joined in Visalia's anniversary celebration in October, we celebrated Halloween (Spooky Spooky), several of us performed in Dianna's Studio of Dance semi-annual Showcase, and we celebrated the annual pistachio harvest in November. We now anticipate all the Christmas and New Year's Eve dancing opportunities, and give thanks for the blessing that is DANCE!

Fresno Smooth Dancers was well-represented at Dianna's November Showcase: Linda Bennett, Lori Clanton, Ruth Galvante and Janice Kebo all performed in various freestyle dances and in Mel's Belles, Melanie Reno's women's group. Photo credit goes to David Morgan – THANK YOU, DAVID!

New Members! Diane Dimon (October) and Greg Smith (November) were welcomed as our newest members, and we are thrilled to have them join us!



Carla with Diane and Lynn.



Queen Ruth with Greg.

Carla Hartunian hosted October with Halloween spookiness. Black and orange ruled the day, and we enjoyed a Cha Cha lesson by Dan Goss, several Halloween-appropriate dance tunes and a festive Halloween table.

Lorraine Tilton brought us "Nuts to You" in November, and there were pistachios aplenty, thanks to member Steve Moore! Franco Peraza taught a Bolero lesson and we were delighted to welcome many familiar faces. We also collected toys for our annual toy drive.

Our annual Christmas dinner dance will be on December 15; **your reservation must be in by December 11!** Carla will host our first monthly event of 2020 on January 19 with her large collection of snowmen. And, attached is a flyer for our February Leap Year Day Fantasy Ball, on February 29. This formal event is also by reservation only.

Our Members:



Baby Natalie.

Carla is so proud to introduce Natalie Joy Ripa, her great-niece and the first grandchild to be born to the Hartunian family. Natalie was born on October 7, 2019 weighing in at 8 pounds 12 oz. Carla and her sister, Deborah, spent Thanksgiving week in Oceanside with niece Alyson and her husband Todd and precious Natalie.



* * * * *

All third-Sunday dances are at the Clovis Senior Center, 850 4th Street, Clovis, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$10 for all NSD members and \$15 for guests. **Members from other Smooth Dancers chapters will pay Fresno's member cost of \$10!** We would love to see you there!!



San Fernando Valley Chapter



Gee Gee Barden

President's Message Thank You and Farewell

As I end this 2nd year as president of our chapter and step down from that responsibility, it seems like the end of an era for me, as I and Bill Morey, who was president for 5 years before me, will not be assuming any other role with SFVSD in 2020. Regretfully, the time has come when we must very seriously devote most of our time and energy to getting organized for the next phase of our lives, which among other things will involve extreme downsizing and probably a move to a retirement community. This will be a huge undertaking for us, and I worry that we may have waited too long to accomplish this.

It has been my honor to serve as president of our chapter for two years, and I am very thankful to all of those who have supported me during this time. There have been a number of challenges, the most major of course being our convention this year, which thanks to the hard work of so many was a success.

I am reminded of the first convention I attended, which was in 2007 and hosted by the Visalia chapter. I was in awe of everything that weekend but also very seriously worried during the entire time about how our little chapter would be able to manage something so grand. I have since learned that it takes dedication from many people, help from sister chapters, and at least in our chapter extreme dedication on the part of some in order to put on one of these events, which are consistently amazing year after year. Thank you to all involved for these spectacular weekends and to the Bakersfield chapter members for putting on a mini-convention every year!

Our SFV area dance scene has been undergoing some major upheavals, many of which have at least the potential of impacting our chapter. Our incoming president, Joan Robinson, keeps very much in touch with local dance happenings and as always will be working to position our chapter and our monthly dances to remain relevant and appealing to area dancers. She and the other officers and members in appointed positions will I believe be effective in carrying our chapter forward in 2020, including likely instituting some changes which should help make our dances more enjoyable for our hardworking core members who put them on.

Thank you to all for your support for our chapter and our amazing NSD organization. I firmly believe that "We (dancers) are the lucky ones." I am most grateful to have found ballroom dancing and for all of my SFVSD and NSD friendships formed and experiences enjoyed.

*-Gee Gee Barden
President, SFVSD*

edited by Rachel Seward

IN MEMORIAM Andrea Gutman



*Queen Andrea and James at the
2015 Convention*

It is with a very heavy heart that I write this. Unexpectedly and shockingly, Andrea Gutman, one of our core SFVSD members, passed away on November 25th after a heart attack which she suffered on November 5th, followed by 3 weeks of procedures and complications in the hospital. Her many friends in our chapter and beyond are left stunned and almost unbelieving that such a thing could happen. Our hearts are

broken.

Andrea served as social chair and as vice president for our chapter. For many years as social chair she provided the floral decorations for the tables at our dances, always managing to find something in bloom or special greenery from outside her home to bring. Andrea was crowned as our chapter's queen in 2014. She needed some persuading but in the end agreed to accept the responsibility and honor, and as the outgoing queen I had the pleasure of crowning her. Her Queen's Dance with James was an ambitious and beautiful waltz routine.

A few months ago Andrea pointed out to me that the sign displayed at our dances listing Benefits of Membership did not include the opportunity for female members to become a queen and travel around the state, acting as an ambassador to the other chapters, which she rightly felt was a serious omission. I was able to correct this just before our convention, at which she volunteered to talk to any attendees interested in joining our chapter.

Among other things, at conventions Andrea and James would usually be the ones to make the run to Costco for food for hospitalities, etc. At our convention they provided the horse trailer in which much of the décor was transported and assisted with the loading and unloading before and after. Among the group of members who regularly put on our dances, Andrea was in charge of the coffee.

I first came to know Andrea through SFVSD, and she became a very good friend. She and James have been faithful members of the Dance Now formation team dance group, of which Bill and I were team members for about 10 years, along with Barbara Greenlaw, Bill Steeber, Keiko Isshiki, and Frank Trapp, and more recently Loretta Kalan and James Baron, performing at nursing homes, senior centers, etc. She and James were still going strong with this group, and they regularly took private lessons to improve their dancing and

IN MEMORIAM



Andrea and James at Her Coronation, 11-2-14



Andrea at the Carrizo Plain National Monument, 3-24-19



Trying on Glass Slipper at Bakersfield's "Once Upon A Time" Weekend, 3-23-19



Andrea Playing Charades, 12-25-18



develop new routines, which they performed at the shows that the team put on.

Bill and I were occasionally able to do nature walks with Andrea and James, the most recent being a stop at the Carrizo Plain National Monument right after the Bakersfield Spring Dance weekend last March. For the second time there we were treated to gorgeous displays of wildflowers painted across the plain and on the mountains beyond. On our nature walks both Andrea and I were always eager to try to identify each wildflower that we encountered, a process involving many stops and deep consultation with the wildflower books of the area that we had brought. This of course held up the forward progress of the walk but was indulged by James and Bill, who walked on ahead.

Andrea was among the group of friends who gather at our home for Christmas dinner, and she was always the most enthusiastic participant in the carols and other songs around the piano after dinner and also in the games such as charades afterwards. This year will be sadly different, although I expect that her radiant spirit will be very much present with us.

Andrea loved all her animals - her dogs, her horses, and

her cockatiel. They, along with her beloved James, were her family that she treasured very deeply. They and we will need to adjust to life without her, but I know that her presence will be strongly felt even in her absence. A quotation said to be from the Chinese communicates the following: "I measure my life by your presence, which your absence does not take away". I will miss Andrea so much and will always keep her in my heart.

At my request James supplied the following list of organizations to which anyone who wishes could contribute in Andrea's memory: Sea Shepherd, Earthjustice, Turtle Island Restoration Network, Center for Biological Diversity, Mountain Lion Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, and the International Fund for Animal Welfare. This list reflects the strong support which Andrea and James have actively given to ensure that our natural world can be saved and passed on to future generations. At the end of September this year they traveled to Provincetown on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, to volunteer with the IFAW. Contact information for James is James Gutman, 10511 Mahoney Dr., Sunland, CA 91040.

- Gee Gee Barden

Fresno Smooth Dancers Presents

*Christmas Dinner Dance and
Installation of Officers
Sunday, December 15, 2019*

Champagne Reception

6:00 pm

Catered Holiday Dinner

6:30 pm

*Dancing and
Entertainment*

7:30 pm

Farewell

10:00 pm

Semi-Formal

Tux Optional

Please RSVP by Dec 11

Open Seating



*Clovis Senior Center
850 Fourth Street
Clovis, California*

www.fresnosmoothdancers.org

Mail to Lorraine Tilton
2727 E Hampton Way
Fresno, Ca 93726

Contact:
lorraine@etherwalker.com
559-269-9491

Name(s) _____

Address or email _____

Phone _____

NSD Members @ \$30.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Guests @ \$40.00 x _____ = \$ _____

Total Payment \$ _____



**GOLDEN GATE SMOOTH DANCERS, INC
PRESENT OUR:**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29TH
NEW YEAR'S GALA



DINNER DANCE

\$95/PERSON

5:30 P.M. - 11:00 P.M.



ELEGANT THREE COURSE DINNER



CHAMPAGNE TOAST



DJ MUSIC



DANCE HOSTS



COMPLIMENTARY PARKING



SPACIOUS DANCE FLOOR

CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL

1221 CHESS DRIVE FOSTER CITY, CA

5:30-P.M. REGISTRATION & NO HOST COCKTAIL RECEPTION

6:00-7:00 P.M. DANCING

7:00-8:00 P.M. DINNER

8:00-11:00 P.M. DANCING

FORMAL ATTIRE REQUESTED

Hotel Rooms Available at Group Rate of \$129.00 Plus Tax

(Rate available through December 13th)

Reserve Online: <https://book.passkey.com/gol/GoldenGate2019> **Code: ZGG**

Reserve by Phone: 888-233-9527 **Ask for: Golden Gate Smooth Dancers**

**\$95.00 ADMISSION
INCLUDES
THREE COURSE DINNER**

CHOICE OF:

**PRIME RIB
OR
SEA BASS
OR
BUTTERNUT SQUASH
RAVIOLI (V)**

CHAMPAGNE TOAST

**Reservations and Entrée
Selection Required by:
December 10th @ 4:00 PM**

No refunds after December 18th

**NO WALK INS CAN BE
ACCOMMODATED.**

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS
PAYABLE TO "GOLDEN GATE
SMOOTH DANCERS" & MAIL TO:
Liz Talmadge
759 Grand Avenue
S. San Francisco, CA 94080**

**Please include entrée selection on check
or return the below form.**

Qty _____ @ \$95.00= _____

Entrée(s): Prime Rib _____

Sea Bass _____

Butternut Squash Ravioli (V) _____

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Address : _____

Email : _____

San Diego Smooth Dancers Social
Dance Into 2020

Tuesday, December 31

8 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

**Champion Ballroom Academy
4255 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123**

- ★ Dress: Formal Attire
- ★ Music by Greg Alexander
- ★ \$50 (NSD Members \$35)

- ★ Light dinner and hors d'oeuvres
- ★ Noise makers, party favors,
and champagne provided

For information contact: Ji at (760) 888-7427, Les at (848) 774-2885, or Lou at (858) 652-9374

Reservations strongly encouraged ★ Seating/attendance is limited

New Year's Eve Reservation

All checks must be made to **San Diego Smooth Dancers**. Reservations must be RECEIVED by 12-28-19! Absolutely no refunds after 12-28-2019! If you wish to reserve an entire table, you must pay in full and provide the names.

Name(s) _____

Address/City/Zip _____

Number of Persons _____ Total Amount _____ (NSD Members \$35 each/Non Members \$50)

Check one: Open seating or Reserve a table of eight

Detach and mail to: Linda Hammerton, 1394 Blue Falls Drive, Chula Vista, CA 91910

Happy
New
Year

As the Ball Drops in Times Square

Bakersfield Smooth Dancers Presents

New Year's Eve Dance

December 31, 2019 7:00 pm—midnight

Bakersfield Women's Club

2030 18th Street

*Come Dance the night away!
Ring in the New Year and enjoy a
great time with friends.*

Formal Attire

*Ticket includes a Full Catered Dinner and Beverages:

Tri-tip, Chicken, Cheese Ravioli, Salad, and Roll
Iced Tea, Sodas, Coffee, Wine and Champagne Toast

Tickets

\$55 before December 14

\$60 after December 14

Contact JoAnn Georgio

661-304-5284 or

jgeorgio@bak.rr.com



Flamingo Ball

*Los Angeles Chapter Coronation
For Queen-Elect
Shari Herzfeld
Saturday, January 11, 2020*



Hotel NSD Rates \$129
Self Parking \$10.00

Glendale Hilton Hotel
100 W. Glenoaks Blvd.
Glendale CA 91202
818/956/5466

Hospitality 2:30 pm
Reception 6pm, Dinner 7pm
Presentation of Queens 6:30 pm
Dinner and Dance \$65.00
Black Tie Optional
Breakfast for 2 included with room

Please make Checks payable
to: "NSD" and Mail to:
Susan Johnson
1420 Santo Domingo Ave.
Duarte, CA 91010

Please RSVP by Jan. 4, 2020

Names _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Chapter _____
Email _____

Dinner Choice: Chicken___ Fish___ Vegetarian___ Dinners @\$65 _____

Fresno Smooth Dancers

invites you to our

Leap Year Day Fantasy Ball

Entertainment
TBA

At the Social Hall of the
Holy Trinity
Armenian Church
2226 Ventura St
Fresno Ca



No Host reception 6:30 pm
Dinner 7:00 pm
Dancing 8:00 pm
Entertainment 9:30 pm
Farewell 10:30 pm

Saturday February 29, 2020

Formal Attire

www.fresnosmoothdancers.org

Mail to Lorraine Tilton
2727 E Hampton Way
Fresno, Ca 93726

Contact:
lorraine@etherwalker.com
559-269-9491

Please Reserve by Tues Feb 25, 2019

Name(s) _____

All NSD
Members @ \$45.00 x ____ = \$ ____

Email _____

Guests @ \$55.00 x ____ = \$ ____

Phone _____

Total Payment \$ ____