

National Smooth Dancers
Dance Whispers
August 2023



www.NationalSmoothDancers.org

2023 Coronation Central: San Fernando Valley Chapter Coronation - November 4, 2023.

2023 Convention:
Visalia State Convention: September 1-4, 2023



The Dance Whispers Editors (L-R): Sandy Wells - Los Angeles; Mark Chapman - San Diego; Susan Simmons - Golden Gate; Debbie Atherton & Ann Mauro - Palomar; James Baron- San Fernando Valley; Christine Conrad - Bakersfield; Lewis Griswold - Visalia; Carla Hartunian - Fresno.



Publishing Editor

Tom Wells

August 6, 2023

Hello Fellow Smooth Dancers,

Summer is here at full force and it shows with all of the summer themed dances that have been held by all of our chapters.

Be sure to check out the festivities of the Palomar Coronation on pages 2-3. You can also view the video of the coronation created by Elliott Lum by clicking on the link found on page 3.

As you read through this issue you will find a Dancesport champion on p7, proud aunts on p8 and a group of NSD members cruising together on p4,

The culmination of the summer season of dance will occur in Visalia over the Labor Day Weekend. Our annual convention will be held at the Wyndham Hotel. You will find all the information you will need on pp4, 10-13. The important deadlines are: dance weekend registrations by August 15th and special \$99/ night hotel rates require reservations by August 21st.

From Linda Gutierrez, the Visalia NSD Convention Competition Chair:

We are getting close to Convention; we have several partnerships who want to compete in categories for which we lack enough couples. I hope you will help me fill out these heats so that we can

hold them. Currently, here are the numbers of couples we're still looking for:

Also, we would like to have all our Jack & Jill competitors sign up before Convention begins in order to allow these events to move as quickly as possible. The deadline for competition registration is August 15th. [Click here for competition registration forms.](#)

In order to hold these heats;

1 Star Standard – we need 2 more couples

3 Star Latin – we need one 1 more couple

4 Star Latin – we need 2 more couples

We have no couples at all so far for:

3 & 4 Star Rhythm

2 Star Standard

1 & 2 Star Latin

I am typing this out while sitting in N. Carolina taking care of my mom while my brother, her primary caregiver, takes a break and goes on vacation. I keep thinking about how important family is. I can't help but think how important our dancing family is as well. Our annual convention is like a family reunion for our extended dancing family of National Smooth Dancers members. I'm looking forward to seeing you at our dancing family reunion, September 1-4. If you haven't made your reservations yet, please do it today!

Never Stop Dancing,

Tom Wells
Publishing Editor

MAGIC WAS IN THE AIR FOR QUEEN CAROL KIMMETT'S CORONATION!

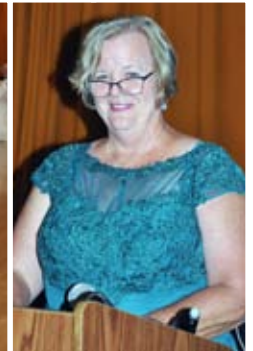
I am truly grateful to everyone who worked to make the Coronation so very... well, magical. I want to thank everyone who pitched in, cut and pasted, designed, organized, made food and did all the hundreds of other things that made the magic happen. Penny and Peggy, thank you for coordinating it all and making it work. Marion, Ann, Lynda, Peggy and Cathy, thank you for the gift of your talent and time and creativity. The ballroom looked elegant and beautiful.

Peggy and Len, the honor dance was perfect. Your dance to "When You Taught Me How to Dance" brought a tear to my eye. Carrie and Dave, your Tango and Foxtrot were wonderful and so entertaining. A special shout out to Carrie who choreographed all the dances and guided us through them.

Hospitality and Breakfast were displays of good eating and friendship. Thank you to everyone who brought goodies. eter, the music was excellent. Marsha, thank you for so many great pictures. There were so many other jobs and tasks that made the evening so awesome. So many people made it all come together. You made the magic happen. Thank you each and every one.

And to all the queens and guests who came from far and wide, thank you for joining us. You brought the magic with you. It was so good to see you all and spend some time together.

-Queen Carol Kimmett





The festivities began with an amazing HOSPITALITY at Ocean Hills Country Club. Just take a gander at all the exceptional Food & our Guests traveling from up North!
 Special Note: We were spoiled with homemade bread & rolls by Mark Chapman for our sandwiches

We are thankful for the teamwork represented by all committees from Palomar & so well organized by our Coronation Chairs: Penny Elliott and Peggy Lee!
 AND brilliantly photographed by Marsha Hanson & videoed by Elliott Lum!

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/ytyq6yfhgny1a6/Kiimmitt%20Coronation.mp4?dl=0>

2023 State Convention – Visalia! Everything you need to know

The annual National Smooth Dancers convention will be held Sept 1-4 at the Wyndham hotel in Visalia.

If you have yet to register, please do so. Hotel reservations at the Wyndham Visalia must be made by Aug. 21 to benefit from the group rate of \$99 a night – a bargain.

PLEASE NOTE: There is a new location this time around. The Wyndham Visalia hotel is on Highway 198 just east of Highway 99. It's NOT in downtown Visalia as before, so use GPS as needed.

For those of you planning on participating in the 1 - 4 Star dance competitions, if you have not done so, please submit your competition registration form soon. They are available at the NSD website.

“We have beautiful trophies and we want to make sure we have everyone covered!” Co-Chair Linda Guttierrez said. “They are dance figurines you can put out and display, not something you store in your closet.”

Also, for those who wish to participate in the Jack and Jill Competitions we are requesting pre-registration this year to try and have the two events streamlined and not cause excessive delays in the events. Both Competitions are limited to 20 couples per event.

We are looking forward to the wonderful professional entertainment planned for both Saturday and Sunday nights. We are doing our best to make this a memorable weekend for all.

Our Club is working very hard to see that you have a wonderful time this year and will have fond memories of your time with us! Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions.

See you soon at this year's Fabulous 2023 State Convention – Visalia!

Dance cruise fun



Eleven people from the Visalia Chapter took a dance cruise to Mexico and San Francisco July 1 through 6. Dancers from the Fresno chapter and other dance groups were also there. Paul Stuart organized the cruise and Peter Netzley was the dance instructor. Everyone had a wonderful time dancing, going on excursions, and celebrating our dear friend's retirement – Carol Abeyta

recently retired from her teaching career this summer. We look forward to doing more trips together!

Beach Party Luau draws a crowd

Beach Party Luau was the theme for the June buffet dinner dance. Delicious food and desserts were prepared by our own

wonderful chefs John & Linda Guttierrez and Karl & Carolyn Richards, who always do such a great job.

We had good teamwork coordinating this fun dance party.

“It was such a good feeling to hear from many people that they had a wonderful time,” said social chair Somjai Cochran. “We had a great turnout with 60 attendees including 24 guests. It was delightful to see everyone put on their best luau/beach attire.”



**News from San Fernando Valley Chapter
Hello All You Smooth Dancers!**

Smooth Dancers of the San Fernando Valley holds dances in Van Nuys on the first Saturday of the month. Our next dance is Saturday August 5th from 7:30-10:00 PM. The theme is SURF'S UP!. Dances are \$15 members and \$20 non-members with Munchies, and Beverages Included. So Hang Ten all you Dudes and Dudettes and join us on the dance floor for a wonderful evening of ballroom dancing with the stylings of DJ James Woo, doing a variety of Ballroom, Swing and Nightclub styles and Mixers.

Please be sure and get these dance dates on your calendar asap: CONVENTION Starting September 1st and our **OCTOBER 7TH DANCE**.

So to reiterate, NSD Convention from 1-4 September in Visalia, CA. It's a party weekend! Please go to our website: nssf.org for more information and all the details of this and all current events.

Club News! We SFV Smooth Dancers officers are excited about several matters.

1. Our dear President, Joan Robinson just completed her move from Sunland to the Fabulous City of Camarillo and will begin to shake up the local dance scene in her new community, as well as carry on all her extremely helpful activities with San Fernando Smooth Dancers.

2. Look forward to seeing our Club Member dancers at the Visalia Convention. The Showcase is making great strides and is being polished under the fabulous direction of producer, Leanne Wong. It will tickle your fancy– AND your funny bone so don't miss it!

3. The July 8th Palomar coronation was attended by Queen Loretta and her husband and crown carrier James Baron representing the SFVSD group. It was a lovely event with excellent lunch provided by the Palomar Club at the Country Club and a smooth rehearsal followed by The Coronation of Carol Kimmitt. Queen Loretta and James were proud to attend and had a lovely time.

**Golden Gate Chapter News
Monthly Dances**



July 9: Our July dance was themed, “Red, White, & Blue! We were treated to a great Bachata lesson by Melvin & Mila, who taught several patterns that had our members doing some fancy stepping the rest of the afternoon! Table decorations were provided by another Mila – Mila Stroganoff and were colorful and right on theme. Thank you, Mila!



Other Events

June 17: Several of our members attended the Fresno coronation and thoroughly enjoyed the dancing, socializing, and the gorgeous decorations. Our very own Lynn Sanders and Jerry Bowes mesmerized the audience as they danced the Honor Dance, a beautiful Waltz to the romantic “Il Cielo Una Stanza”.

Upcoming GGSD Dances

August 13: Our August dance is themed, “High Tea Afternoon Dance”, and will include a mix of International and American Rhumba taught by Willy Tsai. Get ready for some smooth moves to add to your repertoire!



News from Los Angeles Chapter



Queen Sandy and her escort and husband Tom attended the Palomar coronation. They had a wonderful time meeting up with longtime dance buddies and meeting members new to NSD. They always come down a day early in order to spend time with their nephew and his wife who live in Escondido. The outdoor hospitality was relaxing as they got to catch-up with everyone.

We were thrilled to have over 45 people attend our July 30th Tea Dance. The dance lesson was Argentine Tango taught by JD Davis. Music was provided by Robert Quan and kept the dance floor full all afternoon.



Los Angeles Smooth Dancers

 2023 Sunday Tea Dance Schedule

- 8/27/2023
- 9/24/2023
- 10/29/2023
- 11/19/2023
- 12/17/2023



Make Reservations & Pay Online at
LosAngelesSmoothDancers.com
 or Pay at the Door



San Diego Smooth Dancer's Fourth of July dance social returned to our beloved pre-pandemic Indoor Picnic tradition. We served fried chicken, potato salad, pies and all the other traditional fixings. What a treat for us all! I overheard someone saying it was one of our best socials.

But an indoor picnic requires a lot of work behind the scenes, and I'd like to acknowledge our wonderful helpers. The table movers and decoration volunteers arrived at the studio by 10 a.m. Glenn Thomson, Martin Freihofer, Jenny Liang and Joe Delvecchio did an outstanding job helping Amante and me get the studio ready for the party.

By 5:30 p.m. we were back again at the studio for food preparation. My co-host, Chuck DiSessa, along with Maria Wilson and Victoria Voro, was among the first to arrive and prepare the delicious goodies. We were later joined by Cindy Perry, Ione Bauman and Lucie Bilyavska.



An outstanding performance by the new professional partnership of Victoria Antoniuk from the Ukraine, and Martin Tomaszewski from Poland, was featured. Both pros are available for teaching and coaching.

I headed the traditional July 4th parade flanked by two patriotic pups — stuffed Snoopy dolls dressed in their 4th of July best. The Snoopy dogs happily circulated among the parade goers as we circled the ballroom. Alicia Quintero Alexander and Amante took pictures while DJ Greg Alexander played the music for the parade (and did an amazing job with his great playlist for the rest of the evening).



The chapter presented Glenn Thomson with a special recognition award for his outstanding job as chapter Treasurer for three years. He still cannot forget when I recruited him and asked him to be our treasurer to just to fill in momentarily for 6 months. He was really surprised and very appreciative of this recognition.

We are very grateful to Angela Martsof, who will be our new Treasurer. She was a Board Officer



of the United States Amateur Ballroom Dance Association (USABDA) for several years.

This evening was another joyous event with 113 dancers in attendance. I am looking forward to next month's event with a Hawaiian theme. Rumor has it some of our male SDSD members will be wearing Hula skirts. Come and join us for another festive event.

- Lou Reyes, NSD State Queen

Success at the 2023 DBDC Dancesport Championship!



Doug Giardini competed with his professional instructor, Natalia Blokhina, in July at the 2023 DBDC Dancesport Championship. This event was held at the Boston Park Plaza hotel.

Doug and Natalia competed in the Open Smooth Category. Doug placed first in all single dances and made the final as the only gentleman in a highly competitive Open

Gold Smooth Scholarship.

Natalia is based out of Glastonbury, CT, and has competed professionally in both Rising Star and Professional Smooth Competitions throughout the country.

Fresno Smooth Chapter News

Fresno Smooth Dancers are proud that we crowned Queen Oralia Fowler in the month of June with 120 attendees

viewing a spectacular coronation. If you missed this coronation, we are so sorry, because everyone who attended is still talking about Queen Oralia's chair, the dancing, the music, the dessert bar. Great memories. Congratulations to our beautiful Queen.



Danny Caraza as an escort for Queen Oralia. He was a perfect gentleman. I also came to Palomar and had fun seeing all my Palomar friends.



In July, Queen Oralia has traveled to Palomar for her first coronation of Queen Carol Kimmitt. Her traveling partners were outgoing Queen Nancy Cargill and her friend Yvette Haworth. Thank you to Palomar chapter for assigning



July 16, third Sunday was "All American Red White and Blue," hosted by Carla Hartunian. We showed our American Spirit with flag table clothes and a shower of red, white and

blue everywhere. The food table was overflowing with yummy snacks. Although the weather was hot outside, we enjoyed the air conditioning and fans inside and our dancing. Everyone who attended loved the raffle prizes. A special thank you goes out to Ruth Galvante our social chairman for all her help with our third Sunday dances.

Carla and her sister, Deborah spent 6 days in Oceanside to celebrate our great nephew, Theo Ripa's first birthday. Happy Birthday Theo. Your Great Aunties love you.



News from Bakersfield Chapter

Message from our Social Media Manager, John Harrer

Hi BSD Members,

I hope you're all doing well and embracing the captivating world of ballroom dance! I'm John Harrer, one of the Social Media managers for our club. There are exciting things happening with the Bakersfield Smooth Dancers and the Fairfax Grange, and I wanted to remind you about the incredible power of social media in promoting our group and spreading the joy of dance. Let's make the most of it together!

Join our Public Facebook Page: Step into the spotlight! Our public Facebook page is the perfect platform to showcase our events, performances, and updates to a wider audience. Head over to <https://www.facebook.com/BakersfieldSmoothDancers>, like, and follow our page. Don't forget to invite your friends to join the rhythm!

Engage in our Private Facebook Group: Let's create magic within our BSD community! Our private Facebook group is where the real dance happens. Connect, share tips, plan gatherings, and stay in touch with fellow members. If you haven't joined yet, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1710703529158093> and request to be added. Let's keep those conversations flowing!

Connect and Collaborate: It takes two to tango, and social media opens doors to boundless connections and collaborations. Follow other local dance groups, instructors, and enthusiasts on Facebook and Instagram. Engage with their content, share our upcoming events, and foster a strong sense of camaraderie within the broader dance community. Together, we can inspire and expand our dance horizons!

Share the Joy: Ready to strike a pose? Let's radiate the joy of ballroom dance! Tag our BSD Facebook page or use the hashtag #BSDance on Instagram to showcase your remarkable moves and unforgettable experiences. Your contributions will help us create a vibrant online presence that reflects our shared passion.

"Get Up and Boogie"

Gail Buckle and her team hosted a 1970's themed dance complete with a Hustle line dance. Paul Leung was a hit with his "bell bottom" pants!



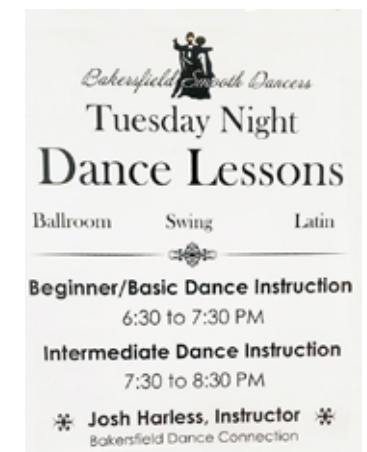
Fresno and Palomar Coronations



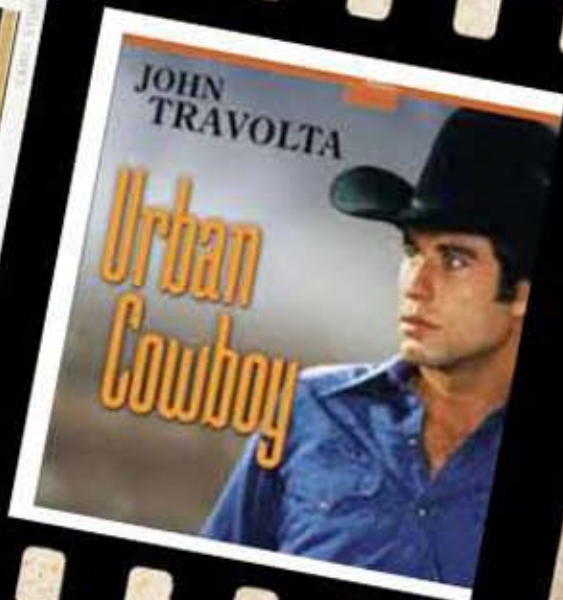
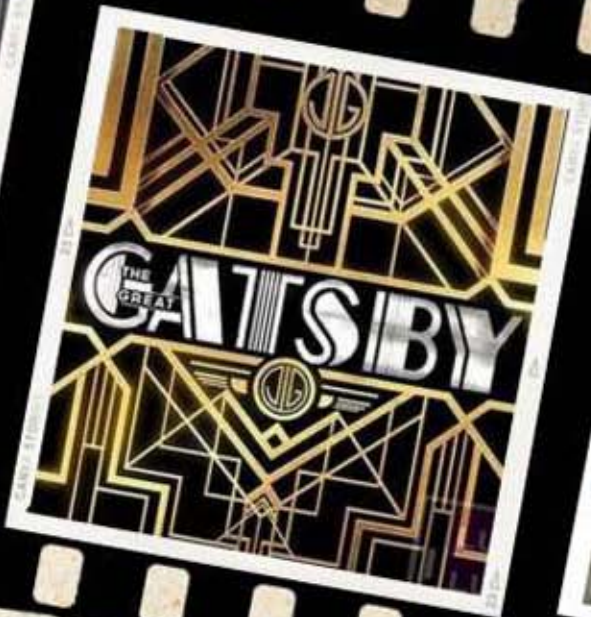
A few of our members were able to attend the coronations of Queen Carol Kimmit of Palomar and Queen Oralie Fowler of Fresno.

Friday Night at The Grange

Check out the new signs at the Fairfax Grange. And remember, there is still plenty of floor space at the Grange on Friday nights!



TX 5063
Visalia Smooth Dancers Proudly Presents:



**2023 National Smooth Dancer's
CONVENTION**

GOES TO THE MOVIES

SEPTEMBER 1ST - 4TH, 2023

VISALIA WYNDHAM HOTEL

Join us for an unforgettable weekend
and take your dance to the next level!

For More Information and Registration Forms go to:

www.nsd-convention.herokuapp.com

Visalia Smooth Dancers invite you to celebrate our

2023 STATE CONVENTION

“NSD GOES TO THE MOVIES”



Sept. 1-4, 2023

Package & Ticket Registration

Mr. _____ Ms. _____

Address _____ Address _____

City / Zip _____ City / Zip _____

Email _____ Email _____

Chapter _____ Chapter _____

Phone Number _____

Your Choice:

_____ Full Package @ \$265.00 each (285.00 if paid after 7/15) \$ _____

Full Package includes: Friday Evening Dance, Saturday Afternoon Dance, Saturday Evening Coronation Dinner and Formal Dance, Sunday Afternoon Dance, Sunday Evening Dance, and Monday Morning Breakfast and Awards Presentation.

_____ Saturday Gavel Club Luncheon @ \$45.00 \$ _____

_____ Sunday Crown Circle Luncheon @ \$45.00 \$ _____

_____ Dance Seminar (Saturday) (Sunday) \$5.00 ea. \$ _____

_____ Sunday Night Dinner (Not included in Package) \$ 40.00 \$ _____

_____ Friday Dance only \$ 45.00 \$ _____

_____ Saturday Afternoon Dance only \$ 40.00 \$ _____

_____ Saturday Coronation and Dinner Dance only \$105.00 \$ _____

_____ Sunday Afternoon Dance only \$ 40.00 \$ _____

_____ Sunday Evening Dance only \$ 45.00 \$ _____

_____ Monday Morning Buffet Breakfast & Awards only \$ 45.00 \$ _____

_____ 2023 Printed State Roster \$10.00 \$ _____

Want to use PayPal (5.00) \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

The Crown Circle Luncheon is open to all Queens from all chapters.

Gavel Club is composed of present and past Chapter Presidents.

Saturday Coronation Dinner Choice:

Filet Mignon _____ (G/L) Pacific Salmon _____ (G/L) Lasagna W/Veggies _____ (G/L)

Sunday Night Dinner Choice: (note: not included in package)

Lemon Pepper Chicken _____ Pork Loin _____ Mindful Chik'n & Mushroom _____
(Vegetarian dish)

Deadline for Package plan is 7/15/2023 to be eligible for the **free package** drawing for Convention 2023. Please note that NO package or dinner dance tickets will be available after 8/15/2023 due to hotel's contract. After 8/15/2023, meals will be deducted from any refunds.

Make checks payable to Visalia Smooth Dancers and mail to Margaret Moholt, 2118 Anthony Ct., Visalia, CA 93277

All dances, meetings, and meals shown on the registration page will be held at the Visalia Wyndham Hotel.

Hotel Reservations: The Wyndham Hotel, 9000 W. Airport Dr., Visalia, CA

Telephone (559) 651-5000

Group code: 090123VIS

HOTEL INFORMATION

National Smooth Dancers 2023 Convention

FRIDAY TO MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 1ST - 4TH, 2023

Special Room Rate: \$99 plus tax

NSD Group Code: 090123VIS

Book by: 21 August 2023

WYNDHAM HOTEL VISALIA

9000 West Airport Drive, Visalia, CA 93277

Front Desk Number: (559) 651-5000

Lodging and all events are at the Wyndham.

Complimentary parking.

EV vehicle hookups.



SADDLE UP & GALLOP ON OVER

to dance

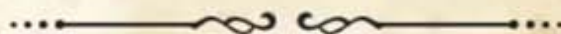
VISALIA SMOOTH DANCERS

Saturday, August 12, 2023

From 6:00 - 10:30PM

Exeter Memorial Building

324 N. Kaweah Ave, Exeter, CA



Members \$10 Guests \$15

Music by Cheryl Levitan

Questions? Carolyn 288-3654

Lesson by Susan Morelock



GOLDEN GATE SMOOTH DANCERS, INC. PRESENTS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13TH 2023

South San Francisco Municipal Building, 33 Arroyo Drive, South San Francisco

"High Tea Afternoon Dance"



\$25.00 Admission includes

- 1:30 – 2:30 PM.....Mix of Int'l & American Rhumba Lesson by Willy Tsai
- 2:30 PM.....Refreshments following dance lesson
- 2:30 PM – 5:00 PM.....Open dancing to CD music

Make reservations at: goldengatedancers.org before 4:30 PM, Aug 9th.

Walk-ins cannot be accommodated.

Questions? Contact Stella Wong (650) 255-5522. stellwong@hotmail.com

Make checks payable to Golden Gate Smooth Dancers, Inc. & mail to: 3171 Susan Dr, San Bruno, CA 94066

Golden Gate Smooth Dancers, Inc. and the city of South San Francisco shall not be held liable for injuries or illness (including Covid-19) sustained by persons attending this event. Proof of vaccination must be presented as a condition of admission to this event. Please watch our website for updates to our mask policy as we get closer to this event date.

Find us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/goldengatesmoothdancers/>

August 20th, 2023

2:00 to 5:00

Fresno

Smooth

Dancers



Mad Hatter's Sunday Social

Cha Cha Lesson from 2 to 3

Taught by the Beautiful Berkeley Hayes

Hosted by

Queen Oralia Fowler And Nancy Cargill

All Dancers Not in attendance Are Subject to



Off With Your Heads!!"

Bring your whimsical goodies for our Mad Feast

Where? Clovis Senior Center

Guests \$15

850 Fourth Street, Clovis

NSD Members \$10



More info? Call

Ruth at (559) 240-6005

Or www.fresnosmoothdancers.org



The Garibaldina Presents

Hosted by the
Los Angeles National Smooth Dancers



Sunday



Ballroom Tea Dance



Dance
with your
heart
and your feet
will follow



Sunday, August 27th
1:00 - 4:00pm



Dance Lesson at 1:30pm

The Garibaldina M.B. Italian Society Hall

4533 N. Figueroa St.

Los Angeles, CA 90065

\$12 - NSD and Garibaldina Members

\$18 - Non-Member Guests

Light Refreshments Served

Toxtrot Dance Lesson by Elliot Christian

Music by Tom Wells



DANCE HOSTS

Share the pleasure of dancing with a dance pro.

You may book dances through Dancing with the Pros -- DWTP. (Accompanying DWTP dance hosts are admitted at no charge.)

Contact Judy at 818.378.4055 or email heyjude91202@yahoo.com.

For further information, please contact Francy at LosAngelesSmoothDancers@gmail.com or call 626.725.4185 (leave message).

Pre-pay thru PayPal at:

LosAngelesSmoothDancers.com

or pay at door, cash only (no credit cards); tables for parties of 6 or more may be reserved by e-mailing LosAngelesSmoothDancers@gmail.com