

*National Smooth Dancers*  
*Dance Whispers*  
**October 2016**



October 2, 2016

Hello Fellow Smooth Dancers,

Attached is the October issue of the Dance Whispers, "The Convention Issue". What a spectacular weekend of dance we had in Palm Springs. Los Angeles Chapter hosted a wonderful convention.

Los Angeles Chapter had several newer members in attendance and this was their first convention. Talk about "baptism by fire!" They were so in awe of the whole weekend and the club they are a member of.

I remember my first convention and feeling a little out of place. The solution was jumping in the "middle of the dance floor" and volunteering to be a part of. If you are new, try getting into the middle of the activities. If you do I am sure that feeling of "being out of place" will be replaced by a feeling of "being a part of" an extended dance family.

There were so many NSD members willing and available to help out with the convention, and we are extremely grateful to our extended dancing family for their help and support.

On a personal note, I want to thank the Gavel Club. I am extremely grateful and humbled to have received this year's Gavel Club Award.

Reading through this issue I was struck by all the chapters remembering their convention experiences. If you missed this year's convention, save the date, September 1-4, 2017 in San Francisco.

Competition was brisk this year with 17 of the 19 competition categories being run. Be sure to check out the competition results on pp 4-5.

There is plenty of dancing coming up. Palomar is holding their Coronation on Saturday October 8th. You can find their flyer on page 14. San Fernando Valley will be holding their Coronation on November 5th. Their flyer can be found on page 15. Hope to see you there.

**Never Stop Dancing,**

Tom Wells

# National Smooth Dancers

## Dance Whispers

### October 2016



## 2016 NSD State Convention - Dancing on Parade

### 2016 NSD Convention

This year's convention, held at the Renaissance Hotel in Palm Springs, was a fun and entertaining weekend of dance starting on Friday night with our buffet dinner and the Doo Dah



*The Doo Dah Parade Grand Marshals were the State Queen-elect...runner-ups: (L-R) Tom Wells, Vlad Gites, Victor Herzfeld and Chuck Johnson!!*

It was a sight to be seen.

Saturday kicked off the business portion of our convention for the Board of Directors meeting, Dance Rules Committee meeting and the Webmasters meeting. The webmasters have come up with an organization-wide website which you can now view at [www.NationalSmoothDancers.org](http://www.NationalSmoothDancers.org). On Sunday at the Delegates meeting it was voted to accept this website as our statewide website.



*(Left) Immediate past State Queen Kay Ryan with State Queen Susan Johnson at the Crown Circle Champagne Luau.*



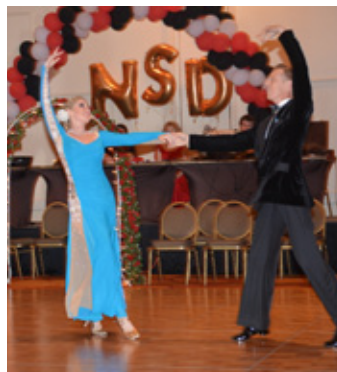
*(Right) Victor Lee and Debbie Ku perform a traditional Hawaiian hula dance at the Crown Circle Champagne Luau.*

The Gavel Club luncheon this year was a barbecue. They voted on the recipient for the Gavel Club Award for 2016. The honoree this year was our very own Tom Wells from the Los Angeles Chapter and Publishing editor of the Dance Whispers.

The Crown Circle luncheon broke from tradition by having a champagne luau in place of a plated luncheon. We had a total of 52 Queens participate and the Crown Circle champagne luau. Entertainment was provided by Victor Lee and Debby Ku who performed a traditional Hawaiian hula dance.

Parade dance. The attendees kicked off the weekend with raucous fun. The weekend theme Dancing on Parade started off with a parade in the traditional Doo Dah Parade spirit. The parade's Grand Marshals where this year's State Queen-elect runner-ups. It

The competition this year had extremely good participation with 17 competitions out of 19 being run. The Jack and Jill competitions were also robust with participation; some requiring two heats.



*Our professional dancers, Jonathan Atkinson and Lorena Bravo entertained us Saturday and Sunday evenings with moving and lively dance performances.*

line dances they had learned.

Our professional dancers, Jonathan Atkinson and Lorena Bravo, entertained us with lively and moving dance exhibitions on both Saturday and Sunday evenings. They also ran four 1 hour dance seminars throughout the weekend that were well attended too.

Something new this year was complimentary ballroom line dance lessons held at the end of each afternoon dance. The participation in these classes was impressive. It was fun to watch on the dance floor the



*State Queen Susan Johnson and Chuck Johnson.*

The Rose Parade Ball and Coronation was a exquisite night of dancing, entertainment and competition. The processional of the Chapter Queens was a choreographed entrance to a foxtrot, choreographed by Victor Lee. State Queen Susan Johnson and her escort and husband Chuck Johnson glowed with smiles as they danced the Queen's dance. And during the Queen's waltz the 4000 square foot dance floor quickly filled with those who have served as Queens for their chapters over the years. A

captivating honor dance was performed by Peter and Marsha Hanson of Palomar Chapter.

For those who missed out on this year's fun, be sure to save the date for next year's convention September 1st thru the 4th, at the San Francisco Airport Waterfront Marriott. The presentation from Golden Gate chapter on Monday morning was full of energy and excitement. Next year's convention is sure to be a lot of fun, as suggested by the theme, Viva Las Vegas!



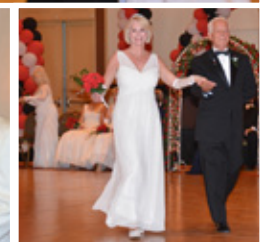
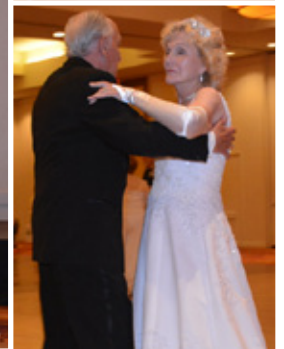
## Queen's Reflections



I wish to thank the LA chapter and all who attended the convention and my coronation. That was an exhilarating evening. I would like to thank Victor Lee for organizing the parade of Queens for their entrance—definitely unique and definitely a change. Everyone seemed to enjoy it.

I was crowned in January as the LA chapter queen and in September as the State Queen. This is quite an honor. I will be serving a two year term, and I looked forward to meeting the queens for this year and am looking forward to meeting the incoming queens for next year. It is amazing the lasting friendships you develop when you are queen, and all the people you meet going to all the coronations. I will be finishing this year by going to Palomar's and San Fernando Valley's coronations. Since I had two coronations this year, there will not be an LA chapter coronation in January. Looking for to seeing many of you at the upcoming coronations and all of next year.

**Susan Johnson, State Queen**











# Dance Competition Results



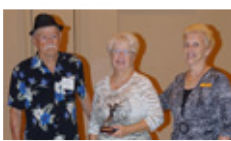
Dance	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Senior Waltz	Wilson and Carmen Wan Golden Gate	Al Folkman and Ines Plikshe San Diego	Don Hubbard and Donna Thornton Palomar
Senior Rumba	Al Folkman and Shirley McCloskey San Diego	Chuck and Susan Johnson Los Angeles	Don Hubbard and Ann Mauro Palomar
One Star Smooth	(TIE) Carl Chesbrough & Elizabeth Li (GG) and Joe Hidalgo & Deanna Stanton (SFV)	Jerry Engel and Debbie Bloom San Fernando Valley	Len and Peggy Lee Palomar
One Star Standard	Frank Lacson & Ann Vutisaksatit San Diego	Robert Quan & Frances Solano Los Angeles	Len and Peggy Lee Palomar
One Star Rhythm	Tom and Sandy Wells Los Angeles	David Morgan & Sharon Crisp Fresno	Robert Quan & Frances Solano Los Angeles
One Star Latin	Antonio & Wen Shi Rodriguez Bakersfield	Tom and Sandy Wells Los Angeles	Jack and Marilee Ragland Palomar
Two Star Smooth	Ben and Wendy Wilson Bakersfield	John and Leanne Wong San Fernando Valley	Joe Hidalgo & Deanna Stanton San Fernando Valley
Two Star Standard	Frank Lacson & Ann Vutisaksatit San Diego	Robert Quan & Frances Solano Los Angeles	Patrick and Latiffah McGuinness San Diego



1st - Senior Waltz



2nd - Senior Waltz



3rd - Senior Waltz



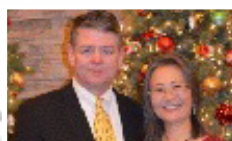
1st - Senior Rumba



2nd - Senior Rumba



3rd - Senior Rumba



1st - One Star Smooth



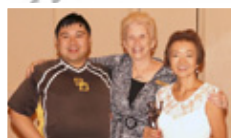
1st - One Star Smooth



2nd - One Star Smooth



3rd - One Star Smooth



1st - One Star Standard



2nd - One Star Standard



3rd - One Star Standard



1st - One Star Rhythm



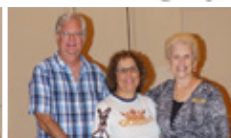
2nd - One Star Rhythm



3rd - One Star Rhythm



1st - One Star Latin



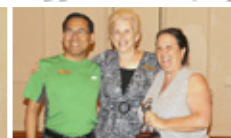
2nd - One Star Latin



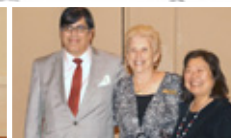
3rd - One Star Latin



1st - Two Star Smooth



2nd - Two Star Smooth



3rd - Two Star Smooth



1st - Two Star Standard



2nd - Two Star Standard



3rd - Two Star Standard



# Dance Competition Results



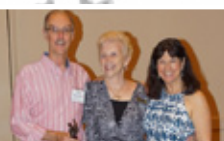
Dance	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Two Star Rhythm	Frank Lacson & Jennifer Etheridge San Diego	Patrick and Latiffah McGuinness San Diego	Doug and Jane Hammond San Fernando Valley
Two Star Latin	Tom and Sandy Wells Los Angeles	Amante and Lou Reyes San Diego	Peter and Janice Imperial Golden Gate
Three Star Smooth	Frank Lacson & Jennifer Etheridge San Diego	Douglas Giandini & Ji Kenworthy San Diego	Peter & Marsha Hanson Palomar
Three Star Standard	Douglas Giandini & Margaret Willhett San Diego	Frank Lacson & Ann Vutisaksatit San Diego	Peter and Janice Imperial Golden Gate
Three Star Rhythm	Frank Lacson & Jennifer Etheridge San Diego	Jerry Engel and Debbie Bloom San Fernando Valley	Peter and Janice Imperial Golden Gate
Three Star Latin (Non-sanctioned)	Igor and Nadia Tilinin Golden Gate	James amnd Chi Yonemoto San Fernando Valley	Armante and Lou Reyes San Diego
Four Star Smooth	Frank Lacson & Jennifer Etheridge San Diego	Douglas Giandini & Ji Kenworthy San Diego	Shane and Myra Nielson Visalia
Four Star Standard (Non-sanctioned)	Igor and Nadia Tilinin Golden Gate	James amnd Chi Yonemoto San Fernando Valley	Douglas Giandini & Margaret Willhett San Diego
Four Star Rhythm	Frank Lacson & Jennifer Etheridge San Diego	Peter and Janice Imperial Golden Gate	Armante and Lou Reyes San Diego



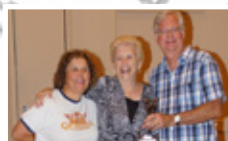
1st - Two Star Rhythm



2nd - Two Star Rhythm



3rd - Two Star Rhythm



1st - Two Star Latin



2nd - Two Star Latin



3rd - Two Star Latin



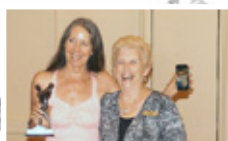
1st - Three Star Smooth



2nd - Three Star Smooth



3rd - Three Star Smooth



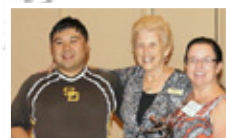
1st - Three Star Standard



2nd - Three Star Standard



3rd - Three Star Standard



1st - Three Star Rhythm



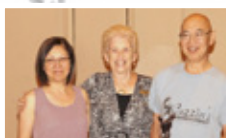
2nd - Three Star Rhythm



3rd - Three Star Rhythm



1st - Three Star Latin



2nd - Three Star Latin



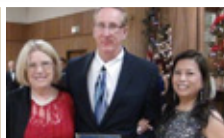
3rd - Three Star Latin



1st - Four Star Smooth



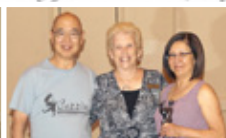
2nd - Four Star Smooth



3rd - Four Star Smooth



1st - Four Star Standard



2nd - Four Star Standard



3rd - Four Star Standard



1st - Four Star Rhythm



2nd - Four Star Rhythm



3rd - Four Star Rhythm



# Los Angeles Chapter

**Thank You!** Thanks to all who helped make the NSD “Dancing on Parade” weekend a success. With everyone pitching in, we got it done. The Los Angeles chapter worked tirelessly from 6 am to midnight every day. We all got home tired but happy. I was going to name names but surely I will forget someone (that is why I moved to the “home”) so I would like to thank all 267 participants most of whom bought full packages.

Thanks to Victor Lee and Debby Ku who fixed food, kept the hospitality stocked, taught dance classes, took all your package registrations. Thanks also to Ken and Betty Cheung who didn't make much noise but were there at 6 am to midnight fixing and serving food, cleaning up, cutting vegetables and watermelons and dancing when they could.

The music men from various chapters who shared their music with us, the Lewis family kids who helped decorate, change table cloths, take money at the door run competition music and still keep smiling and they aren't even members!

Thanks to my sister Cheryl who came from Colorado just to dance with Rick Wenzel. She also assembled all the centerpieces in the Pueblo room before each “Parade.” Thanks to Susan's sister Barbara Browning for coming down to be the crown bearer.

Thanks to Tom and Sandy Wells who organized the Doo Dah Parade and got our weekend off to a good start. Thanks to Tom and Sandy and Frances Solano and Robert Quan for representing us in competitions

Thanks too, to Ken and Marion Scholtz who took the competition registrations and recorded the competition music. Unfortunately they were unable to attend but did a great job from home.

Thanks to Doug and Yueh-Shen Failing for greeting at the door and just doing what had to be done.

Thanks to Vic and Shari Hersfeld for doing “other duties as assigned.” His dress with the ribbons was “just darling” and it went well with the Birkenstocks and red toenails.

To Craig and Alice Miller for playing the practice music and doing whatever needed to be done.

To Joan Robinson for organizing the dance hosts and to Doug and Jane Hammond for their expertise in Jack and Jills.

To the John and Linda Gutierrez for their expertise in dance rules and Kay Ryan and Al Folkman for their scrutineering.

Thanks to my wife Susan who kept me from going completely nuts and is now the State Queen so we hope to see most of you throughout the year ahead.

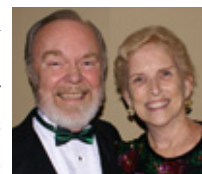
I know I have forgotten to thank someone but please feel you are thanked even if I forgot to name you by name. It takes a lot of planning and work to pull this off. The LA chapter is small but mighty! See you all in San Francisco at “Viva Las Vegas!”

## Chuck and Susan Johnson, Convention Chairs

Although the convention occupied most of our time, we did manage to enjoy ourselves at our August dance.

In August we had our Hawaiian dance with food supplied by one of our newest members Victor and Shari Herzfeld, music by Tom Wells. We had our final practice of line dances that Victor and Debby were going to teach at the Convention.

edited by Chuck & Susan Johnson



We are so pleased with two of our newer members, Robert Quan and Frances Solano, who represented us in competition and won 3rd place in 1 Star Rhythm and 2nd place in both 1 Star and 2 Star Standard. We are also proud of Tom and Sandy Wells who brought home two 1st place trophies for 1 Star Rhythm and 2 Star Latin along with a 2nd place in 1 Star Latin. Chuck and Susan Johnson secured a 2nd place finish in Senior Rumba. Congratulations, job well done.



*Congratulations to our competitors: (Top Left) Robert Quan & Frances Solano, (Top Right) Tom & Sandy Wells and (Left) Chuck & Susan Johnson. (Bottom Left) Tom Wells receiving the Gavel Club Award from Dan Ansal di.*



We are also quite happy for Tom Wells, who was selected to receive this year's Gavel Club Award, a well deserved honor.

The weekend after the Convention, we all got together and had a potluck barbecue at Tom and Sandy's house and discussed everything again and just had a good time. On September

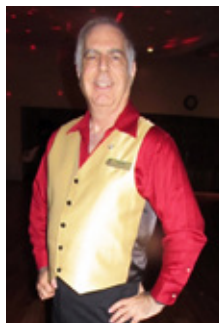
17th Victor and Debby and Chuck and Susan took a one week “recovery” cruise. We flew to Vancouver and sailed down to LA—so nice not having to fly home.



*The chapter members relax and unwind after the convention with a post-convention backyard barbecue at Tom and Sandy Wells' home.*

# San Fernando Valley Chapter

**Did you know National Mustard Day** is the 1st Saturday of August? We did, and on August 6th, our chapter celebrated the nationwide holiday by decking the halls with yellow, and yes- MUSTARD! It was a fun evening for all dancers. There were games and lots of yellow food. And, FREE mustard of course.



We'd like to give our chapter a pat on the back for the largest group in attendance at the convention, along with gold, silver and bronze medals for our dance competitors' style and performance on the dance floor.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR MEDAL CHAMPIONS:

**1 Star Smooth:** 1st Place (tied)- Joe Hidalgo & Deanna Stanton , 2nd Place - Jerry Engel & Debbie Bloom. **2 Star Smooth:** 2nd Place - John & Leanne Wong and 3rd Place - Joe Hidalgo & Deanna Stanton. **2 Star Rhythm:** 3rd Place - Doug & Jane Hammond. **3 Star Rhythm:** 2nd Place - Jerry Engel & Debbie Bloom. **3 Star Latin:** 2nd Place - James & Chi Yonemoto (non-sanctioned) **4 Star Standard:** 2nd Place - James & Chi Yonemoto (non-sanctioned).



**Impacting Our Communities. Wheelchair Dancing Touches Lives!** Hello All! I have been busy and loving it. August 19th. Eight of us introduced Wheelchair Dancing to Portland for a Roll, Walk 5k – 10k Groovy Run Event. Sept 16th I moved to Lakeside in San Diego County and love it. For the last 6 months I have been traveling every week to San Diego to Wheelchair Dance so I am a Happy Dancing Lady. I just got certified to teach "Dance It Out," (It's a dance exercise program that we are working on modifying to make it wheelchair friendly. I am working with [Wheelchairdancers.org](http://Wheelchairdancers.org) on a Dance Ability Showcase at Balboa Park Club in San Diego, Nov 12th 12:00 to 4:00 this is a free event so

edited by Rachel Seward



if you're in San Diego give a call 562-631-9494 or email [DancinFoole@hotmail.com](mailto:DancinFoole@hotmail.com). I am looking forward to coming up most months to dance with you all. Smiling & Dancing Karma

Special Thanks to "Dance Now" for volunteering to perform at Solheim, a retirement and care facility where I work part time, on September 23rd. The residents were all smiles with not only the dancing but your pleasing personalities and colorful costumes.

**Introducing Queen-Elect Rachel Seward.** With my year as



queen coming to a close, it is with pleasure that I introduce SFV's queen-elect Rachel Seward.

Hello! It is an honor to be the SFV's queen-elect. I truly look forward to visiting each chapter and to dancing many dances with you!

As queen-elect for the SFV Chapter, I invite you to feel the rhythm and enjoy the music at our coronation on Saturday, November 5th at 6:30 pm. It will be held at The Hollywood Dance Academy and my theme "Just Dance" I hope will bring you enjoyment and a memorable evening.

My dearest friend, Joan Robinson, and her partner Brian Yip will start our evening of dance with their Honor Dance. Later in our evening a special professional performance by Lee Mei Wang and David Moutrey will delight you.

I am a native of my beloved Arizona and now live in the San Fernando Valley with my husband, John. My younger son, Nicklaus, my daughter-in-law, Marina, and my adorable granddaughter, Kristina, also live in the valley. My older son, Douglas, lives in the beautiful city of San Francisco and is looking forward to being my escort at convention next year.

Prior to entering the real estate and loan business in LA with my family, I worked in the fields of community relations and special events for Lockheed Martin IMS. I also worked in the not for profit arena as an advocate to communicate the needs of children through research, publications, campaigns and advocacy, and in fund development for the preeminent organization for girls "Girl Scouts—AZ Cactus-Pine Council" and the "Girl Scouts—Greater Los Angeles, Arcadia office."

I am thrilled to be joining the Crown Circle. I look forward to the opportunity to meet and greet all of you in our dance community.

I look forward to you joining us for an evening of friendship and dance at our coronation in November!

See the attached flyer for more information about our coronation. Please contact Barbara Greenlaw at [bgreenlaw1@att.net](mailto:bgreenlaw1@att.net) for registration assistance.

The coronation flyer with reservation form is also available on our website: [www.nsdsfv.org](http://www.nsdsfv.org). We look forward to seeing you there!

Last but not least, we are happy to introduce Anya Murray, Karma LaDonna, Glorya Dixon, and Roger Seastadt to our SFV chapter of Smooth Dancers.

Come Join Us The 1st Saturday of Every Month!



# Palomar Chapter

edited by Debbie Kincaid and Don Hubbard

**ALOHA!** We are looking forward to our upcoming Coronation of Queen-Elect Linda Lum on Saturday October 8th at Ocean Hills Country Club (flyer attached). It will be a unique affair as we also honor their Hawaiian connections and 50 years of marriage! Hospitality will be from 2-4 in the pool area of Ocean Hills Country Club, with delicious Hawaiian themed hors d'oeuvres (Pupus) put together by our remarkable committee. That evening we will also enjoy a Hawaiian-themed meal. I know you all will be excited with Linda's delectable choices! Of course, Hawaiian attire is welcome for Hospitality and Breakfast the next morning at El Camino Country Club in Oceanside. – 9:00 AM.

**The 2016 NSD Convention**, held in Palm Springs over the Labor Day weekend, was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thank you Los Angeles Chapter for providing us with lots of great dancing, good food, workshops, competition, and professional entertainment! President Fred Deutsch and Queen Geri Deutsch thank the 34 fellow Palomar NSD members and guests attending for their support at the Convention. Palomar dancers Peter and Marsha Hanson performed the Honor Dance, a beautiful Night Club Two-Step with precision and style. Next day they returned to the dance floor as contestants in the Three Star Smooth and won a bronze trophy for their efforts. Other Palomar winners were Len and Peggy Lee for a silver and bronze, One Star Smooth and One Star Latin. Jack and Marilee Ragland, bronze, Standard Latin, Don Hubbard with Donna Thornton, bronze, Senior Waltz, and Don with Ann Mauro, bronze, Senior Rumba.



*Palomar's Doo Dah Formation Team*

**Farewell Christiane Lannes.** Palomar members gathered at the Ocean Hills Country Club on September 25 for a special party. It was for farewell to Christiane, 6 year Palomar NSD member, French lady, ardent dancer, friend. With her VISA, Christiane is able to spend six months of each year in the United States. She has chosen Carlsbad, CA, and the Palomar Dancers as her overseas home. She has been an active supporter of all club activities and dancing in San Diego as well. She and her partner George Plante could be seen at many of the dancing venues through out the County these past four years. One notable achievement was her winning the Sanctioned One Star Smooth competition at the NSD 2014 Convention with fellow Palomar dancer Don Hubbard. She has found it necessary to spend the rest of her time with her children and

grandchildren in France; so it is with love to all of her American friends she says 'au revoir'.



*Christiane Lannes surrounded by club members L-R Penny Elliott, Lara Gregory, Queen Geri Deutsch, Ann Mauro, Donna Thornton, Queen-Elect Linda Lum & Merilee Ragland. You will be missed!*

**Our annual Palomar Queen's Luncheon** was held at Hacienda de Vega Restaurant in Carlsbad. Our tradition is to give Queen-Elect Linda Lum individual "Queenly Advice" for her upcoming year. Queen Geri Deutsch provided each Queen with a beautiful sheet of Plumeria stationery to express their best story on. We each read our story to Linda which sparked a lot of laughter & more stories throughout our luncheon. Thanks to Queen Geri for putting together a perfect luncheon!



*Palomar Queen's all enjoyed giving advice to our Queen-Elect Linda Lum at a luncheon held in her honor.*

**"Hot Latin Nights" was the theme of our August Social,** and many of the dancers gave their version of fiesta "Latin Dress." In keeping with the theme, teachers Irina and James Friedhof taught some intermediate Rhumba patterns. The highlight of the evening was the 'Doo Dah Parade' performance by our own 18 dancers Formation Team. This performance was repeated at the NSD Convention. The Doo Dah idea and the costumes were the creation of Queen Geri Deutsch. Penny Elliot choreographed and directed the dance which told the humorous story of the problem of a dance group with many women and not enough men. It was well received at the Social as well as at the Palm Springs Convention. Many thanks to Social hosts Darlene Drury, Sharon Tate, John Taliaferro, and Frank and Cathy Lombardi.



# San Diego Chapter

## From President Shirley McCloskey

Thank you Los Angeles Chapter for presenting this great Convention weekend of Dance to all of NSD. As part of our contribution to the festivities, San Diego Chapter sent Bo Peep, some sheep, and a wolf to the Friday night Doo Dah Parade. After a march and a Teaberry shuffle, the wolf in sheep's clothing added to the drama and the fun! I think the convention audience was delighted with this fun presentation, and I know we had a great time putting it on for everyone.



Thank you Anthony Wood for the design and choreography, and thank you especially to Cindy Perry and Denise White for creating the costumes...40,000 cotton balls went into making these costumes! And of course, thank you to the twelve participants who rehearsed six times prior to the performance to make sure everything went smoothly: Bo Peep—Al Folkman; Wolf—Anthony Wood; and Sheep—Cindy Perry, Cathy O'Hara, Denise White, Chuck DiSessa, Joe Goldhammer, Liz Tarnove, Steve Martsof, Jennifer Fan, Frank Lacson, and yours truly, Shirley McCloskey.

## After the Ball—Fond Reminiscences of a Great Weekend by Dave Saul

Stars of the Friday night's Doo Dah parade were SDSD's own Bo Peep and her woolly flock of parading lambs. Anthony Wood's creative talents once again brought our members into the limelight by combining originality and showmanship in a marvelous display of unexpected delights. There was nothing sheepish about this show! See it on YouTube by searching for

edited by Mark Chapman



"Bo Peep and her Prancing Lambs."

During L.A.'s Convention, in between the exciting planned events and then after hours, our "Hostess With the Mostest," Ines Plikshe, entertained SDSD attendees in her room with her traditional and well-attended wine parties. At times at least twenty of us were entertained by an abundance of refreshments and good cheer, and of course by Chuck DiSessa's ample repertoire of jokes. As attendance swelled, Anthony Wood volunteered his somewhat larger suite to accommodate overflow crowds as Ines's space was pressed to standing room only. Special thanks to Ines for adding this special touch to our convention experience.



## A Rousing "Thank-You!" from San Diego Chapter

All of our San Diego members who enjoyed a fantastic weekend at L.A.'s 2016 Convention send their combined hurrahs (with perhaps a few "bleats" and "baas" mixed in) to their hosts for a fabulous event with many memorable moments to look back upon. They were pleased to have been involved directly with some of the entertainment, and as you probably guessed from the number of cookies San Diego showed up with, a good many of our members enjoyed providing their favorite recipes for the light night Hospitalities. To close with our President's own words, "Thank you Los Angeles Chapter for presenting this great weekend of Dance to all of NSD. And Golden Gate – we can hardly wait for 'Viva Las Vegas' in 2017!"





## Bakersfield Chapter

I love this time of year, the days are slowly getting cooler and the leaves are slowly losing their grip on the tree branches, can our holiday dances be far behind?

**This being so, the October dance will be chaired by Danny Rangel;** and it most definitely will have a Halloween theme. Time to get into the spirit of the holiday and get those ghosts, goblins and witches out of the closet!

The dance will be held at Riverlakes Community Center, 3525 Riverlakes Dr. on Sunday, October 23, from 6:45-9:45. Members are always free; guests are \$25 for couples and \$15 for singles.

I hope all of you will plan on attending our Halloween dance and be prepared for a “spooky” good time!

**November is the month of Thanksgiving and our dance this month will not deviate from that theme.** Susan Salvucci our chairperson for November has chosen a “Thank you Dance” for her theme! Susan has been our social chair for this past year, and she wants to be able to thank all the members that hosted our dances this past year. It should be a great dance and I hope all our members will attend.

This dance will be held on November 19 from 6:45-9:45 at the Riverlakes Community Center. Because of Thanksgiving, please note the change of date for this dance.

We will also hold a general membership meeting at this dance. We will be voting on new board officers for the upcoming year, so if you would like to find out more about the inner workings of your club this is a good way to do it. If you would be interested and/or willing to step up please consider volunteering to serve for the upcoming year. You can contact JoAnn Georgio for more information!

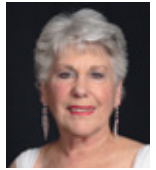
**The month of September held two great dance events.**

First, the State Convention that found 32 of our members



*Ben and Windy Wilson won 1st place in Two Star American Smooth at this year's convention.*

edited by Dorothy Vaughan



attending and having a great time.

Competitors Ben and Windy Wilson won a first place trophy in two star American Smooth. Tony and Wen-Shi Rodriquez won a first place in International Rumba. Congratulations to our winners and to the many other winners from the other chapters!



*Wen-Shi and Tony Rodriquez won 1st place in International Rumba at this year's convention.*

A big thank you to the LA Chapter as the whole convention week end was fantastic, and I hope more of our members will be able to attend next year!



*Joan Johnson and Susan Salvucci were our Back To School, Dance School themed Seotember dance.*

Our September dance held on September 24th, with the theme “Back to School, Dance School” was a really fun dance. The decorations were really cute, going along with the school theme. The dance was hosted by Joan Johnson and Susan Salvucci. Dennis Acosta was back helping spin our music. It was also great seeing Charlene Miller again. Charlene has been very ill and hopefully she is now on the mend.

Plans are coming together nicely for our annual dance weekend, “Come Dance With Me.” Save the date March 31 to April 2, 2017 and plan on attending!

### IN MEMORIAM

Former long-time member Dr. Tony Don Michael has passed away recently. Dr. Michael and his lovely wife Sharmini were wonderful dancers. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Sharmini and her family and friends.



# Golden Gate Chapter

It was a balmy 107 degrees in Palm Springs when we arrived after only 8 hours of driving. Easy ride down the avenue of the queens on a Thursday early morning from Napa.

The hotel, gracious as always gave us a room close to the elevator which eliminated about 120 miles of walking for the weekend, leg miles which are much better used for dancing.

Los Angeles put on an incredible weekend for us with lots of dancing, lots of Jack and Jill competitions, lots of regular competitions which seem to have grown in numbers with many new couples now participating. There were a few glitches along Friday evening and our chapter was almost forgotten in the Doo Dah parade (and we made such efforts), but in the end we did get to parade around the dance floor and won many prizes.



As you can see from the photos, we got dressed up for all the different parades, but the highlight was really our presentation the morning of our fair well breakfast on Monday. I do believe we had the crowd roaring and they were almost ready to book their stay at the Marriott in SF, for next years convention, on the spot. What fun it will be.



The coronation of our state queen Susan Johnson on Saturday night was a very special affair as was the crown circle luncheon for all our queens.



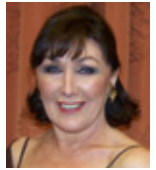
Our chapter had a rather large contingent of competitors and we won many trophies. Carmen and Wilson Wan who competed for the first time in Senior Waltz won first prize.

Elizabeth and Carl Chesbrough tied for 1st place in American Smooth

The Imperials won 3rd in two Star Intl Latin, 3rd in three Star Rhythm, and 2nd in Four Star American Rhythm.

The Tillinins as always won 1st place in Three star Intl. Latin and Four star Intl. Standard.

edited by Gabrielle von Stephens



Gabrielle von Stephens won 1st place in the Jack and Jill Cha Cha with talented partner Doug Giardini from San Diego.



Vera Harvey won 2nd place in the West Coast Swing Jack and Jill with awesome partner John Wong from San Fernando Valley.



## Illness in our family and other news.

It is as always so fun to see Ben Cardinalli bring his lovely bride Barbara to our dances. Elizabeth Hage is going to go home this coming week to recover faster and Elena Malta had to miss our Sunday dance because she broke her wrist.



As always, dance first, thinking can wait.





# Visalia Chapter

## Mexican Riviera Cruise Dance - August 2016

By Stan Medina



*Our Mexican Riviera Cruise August Dance was a roaring success thanks to our Cruise Dance Committee.*



*Mexican Riviera Cruise Marivel Villarreal and Stan Medina.*

Our club's Mexican Riviera Cruise Dance in Exeter was another run-away success. First, thanks to the work of Cruise Director Marivel Villarreal (Co-Chair), Mary and Larry Brown, Diane Sellers, Amanda and Matthew Thurston, Harry and Mickie Frame, Suzie Carlson, Linda Gutierrez, and last but not least, our "Cruise Music" DJ for the evening, John Gutierrez.

The evening was enjoyed by all who attended our "Cruise down the Riviera Coast" dance. Our committee readied the hall with inviting beach chairs, beach towels, swaying Palm trees and an actual beach with waves brushing the sand. Evidence of our traveling down the coast confirmed by looking out the port holes of the cruise ship on the west wall or Bulkhead (Navy term for you land lovers). I had to look away because I was getting seasick from the wave action! I guess I lost my sea legs long ago from my time in the Navy! The majority of the decorating ideas and props came from "Event" Director Marivel and other members. Theme decorated stage and walls and "local beach bar" tables set the stage to whisk our visitors off to an evening of cool breezes, a beautiful sunset and tasty Margaritas in tall, decorated glasses with little stick umbrellas.

The evening started off with a Cha-Cha lesson by Rei Marquez. By the sounds of the participants and Rei's positive cheering and encouragement, I'm sure everyone came away with happy memories and sand between their toes.

Of course we must mention the delicious food and deserts prepared by all. The buffet covered the tables with inviting sights and smells and invited all to partake. Some of us made more than one trip! Obviously, this added to the atmosphere of the "cruise" evening and brought delight to our taste buds. Much thanks to all who brought the tasty dishes!

The evening continued with more dancing, introduction of the committee and guests, announcements of future dances and the door prize raffle with help from Chapter Queen Wendy Storey.

edited by Melody Mar



Again, much thanks to the ship's crew for their hard work and help and to all who helped in the clean up. And I apologize to anyone I might have missed in my acknowledgements. And my thanks to all who attended and made our "Cruise down the Mexican Riviera" a success. See you all back at the port for our return drive home! Hope the traffic isn't too bad for you!!

## Message in the Bottle Dance - September 10, 2016

By Cary W. Winslow, Your Captain and Chairman



*Our first and second mates Jaime and June Aguet greeted our "Message in a Bottle" attendees.*

The nautical night, Message in the Bottle attendees were greeted by first and second mates, Jaime and June Aguet. The evening set sail to gentle waves of a Bolero lesson taught by Sheila O'Conner. The tables were decorated with blue and white striped runners along with fishing net and shells. The stage anchor kept us from unnecessary drifting away from our position of dance. The scene was accented by a V formation flight of seagulls across the sunset. The members provided their distinctive sumptuous food, variety of salads, hot dishes, and exquisite desserts that everyone enjoyed.



*Entertainment at our "Message in a Bottle" dance was provided by Bart and Nancy Ramentas.*

Lotti Carr (Co-Chairwoman) took the lead and planned and organized our successful evening, she also was very creative with decorating the hall. Thank you Lotti.

General dancing started after dinner to variety of splendid music played by our DJ John Gutierrez. Thank you John. Entertainment was provided by Bart and Nancy Ramentas, choreographed by Dan Goss. They performed a vibrant Tango and playful Cha-Cha. Thank you Nancy and Bart for your performance.

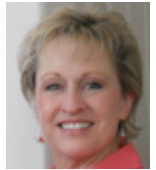
Our Committee members were Lotti Carr, Jaime and June Aguet, Becky Paschall, Mia Garcia, Joe Maciel and John Guiteriz, DJ. Paul and Wendy Story also helped with a special decorating project. Thanks to all the committee members for making this dance possible, from decorating to cleaning up, and helping throughout the evening. Thank you all for attending, you made the dance a success.





## Fresno Chapter

edited by Linda Bennett



**August.** In August, Nancy Cargill hosted "Don't Worry, Bee Happy" with a West Coast Swing lesson by Sheila O'Conner, and music played by Hartune Neffian. The décor was "beezy" and the snacks were yellow.

**Convention.** Thirteen Fresno members attended the NSD State Convention in Palm Springs, hosted by the LA Chapter. On Friday night we dressed in rain gear for the Doo Dah parade and marched to "Singing and Dancing in the Rain." Saturday we saw the Coronation of Queen Susan Johnson at the Rose Parade Ball. Sunday we officially bid (and won) the 2018 State Convention. Our own David Morgan and Sharon Crisp took 2nd place in the Star 1 Rhythm competition.



**September.** On September 18 we celebrated Joe Lofreso's 99th birthday, and many of us got to dance with him to his favorite song, "It had to be You." Kathy Sasche brought the cake (and Joe), Steve Moore provided pistachios for snacks and door prizes, and David Morgan played the music. Franco Peraza taught the rumba lesson.



**October.** On October 16, Kathy and Rick Constantino will host "Spooky Sunday." Sharon Crisp will play music and Dan Goss will teach a waltz lesson.

\* \* \* \* \*

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. See [www.fresnosmoothdancers.org](http://www.fresnosmoothdancers.org) for flyers. We would love to see you there!!

(Top) Joe Lo Freso & Kathy Sachse  
(Bottom) Joe Dancing with Granddaughter



Joe Celebrating 99 years!



Joe and Family

Fresno Smooth Dancers presents  
*Spooky Sunday*  
October 16, 2016



PALOMAR SMOOTH DANCERS  
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE CORONATION BALL



HONORING QUEEN-ELECT  
**LINDA LUM**

*A Lifetime of Dancing*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2016  
OCEAN HILLS COUNTRY CLUB  
4701 LEISURE VILLAGE WAY, OCEANSIDE 92056

Hospitality 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Pupus (Hawaiian Appetizers) – Ocean Hills CC/Pool Area

**Doors Open 6:00 pm**  
**Coronation followed by dinner/dancing 6:30 pm**

Honor Dance – Mike & Lorrie Chun  
Entertainment – Carrie Kloss & Mike Cowlshaw

Hotel: Hyatt Place, 2645 S. Melrose Drive, Vista, Ca 92081  
Special room rate: King \$125 / 2 Queens \$135 plus tax (good Fri - Sun)  
held for PSD until Friday, September 22, 2016  
760-814-8879 or online at [www.hyattplacesandiegocarlsbad.com](http://www.hyattplacesandiegocarlsbad.com)  
Code: ask for PSD Group rate

QUEEN'S BREAKFAST SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016 AT 9 A.M.  
EL CAMINO COUNTRY CLUB  
3202 VISTA WAY, OCEANSIDE 92056

RSVP by Saturday, October 1, 2016 – Payable to Palomar Smooth Dancers  
Mail to: Geri Deutsch, 5016 Nighthawk Way, Oceanside CA 92056, 760.630.3402

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_ Guests @ \$55 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Email (required for receipt) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Queen's Breakfast # \_\_\_\_\_ Guests @ \$23 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*The San Fernando Valley Smooth Dancers Chapter  
cordially invites you to a Coronation Ball*



*honoring Queen-Elect*

# *Rachel Seward*

*Saturday, November 5, 2016  
6:00 PM – 11:00 PM*

*Hollywood Dance Academy  
6732 Van Nuys Boulevard, Van Nuys, CA 91401*

*Coronation Dinner Dance \$53 per person  
Black Tie Optional*

<i>Hospitality</i>	<i>1:30 – 4:00 PM</i>
<i>Buffet Dinner Dance</i>	<i>6:00 – 11:00 PM</i>
<i>Coronation Ceremony</i>	<i>6:30 PM</i>
<i>General Dancing</i>	<i>7:00 PM</i>
<i>Dinner</i>	<i>7:30 PM</i>
<i>Queens' Breakfast</i>	<i>8:30 AM (Daylight Savings Time ends)</i>

*Hospitality at the Home of Les & Roberta LaZar  
4417 Bergamo Drive, Encino, CA 91436*

*Hotel Accommodations, & Queens' Breakfast:  
The Airtel Plaza Hotel – (818) 997-7676  
7277 Valjean Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91406*

*Lodging \$119++ by Oct 15 Parking \$10  
Mention San Fernando Valley Smooth Dancers.*

**NOTE: Maps and directions on the reverse**

**Reservations required:** Detach & send check payable to San Fernando Valley Smooth Dancers to be received by Oct. 21.  
Mail to: Barbara Greenlaw, 400 W California Ave, Unit 308, Glendale, CA 91203, (818) 243-6838 bgreenlaw1@att.net.

NAME(S).....CHAPTER.....

TELEPHONE.....EMAIL.....

BUFFET DINNER \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$53.00 \_\_\_\_\_

VEGETARIAN ALTERNATE \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$53.00 \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

HOW MANY ATTENDING THE QUEENS' BREAKFAST \_\_\_\_\_ BREAKFAST PRICE IS INCLUDED FOR GUESTS OF HOTEL.

NON-OVERNIGHT GUESTS: BREAKFAST BUFFET \$16.00 PAYABLE AT HOTEL, OR A LA CARTE.