

National Smooth Dancers
Dance Whispers
February 2017



February 12, 2017

Hello Fellow Smooth Dancers,

Attached is the February issue of the Dance Whispers, the first issue of 2017. It seems odd to be saying this in February, but here it goes, Happy New Year!

While reading this issue I was struck with the realization of how much fun National Smooth Dancers have, on and off the dance floor. There have been dances galore, parties and travelling abroad. I was particularly impressed with George and Miriam Mozes who organized a Mexican Riviera cruise for Palomar NSD members and guests (p7)! I'm sure all the dance floors were filled on that cruise.

We also are introduced to three Queen-elects; Liz Tarnove for San Diego (p2), Barbara Norcross for Bakersfield (p3) and Vera Harvey for Golden Gate (p4).

There is a listing of all the Chapter Officers and Coronation dates (pp 10-11). Remember that the San Diego coronation is Saturday March 4th (p12) and the Boards are coming up on March 31 - April 2 in Bakersfield, an event you will want to be apart of (p3,13). Also Golden Gate also has their Coronation coming up on April 8th.

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

Never Stop Dancing,

Tom Wells

Publishing Editor

National Smooth Dancers

Dance Whispers

February 2017



Los Angeles Chapter

Edited by Sandy Wells



Three Health Benefits of Dancing

1. The music relaxes you. It can soothe your limbic system and your nervous system
2. It takes your mind off your troubles. Learning to move your body in a new way and memorize steps requires all your concentration.
3. Dancing releases tension. Our bodies house emotions—in our shoulders and legs, in our abdomens. Stress, anxiety, fear, and anger can cause muscles to become tight. Dancing helps you move through those feelings and past them (Prevention .com)

Now you know...why we dance..

With no coronation in January, our January dance theme was “Not A Coronation Dance”! The Chapter focused on new dances to improve our skills. We had the privilege of having Brian Yip review and teach some west coast swing choreography. Later, Victor Lee improved our line dancing skills. Thank you gentlemen.



At our January dance, Brian Yip taught the west coast swing to the chapter members.

each competing in their displays of sculptural affluence and wealth. Uruguay and Chile are also on this cruise.

The LA Chapter has now moved into the tech faze. Alice Mah Miller has promoted and produced an excellent demonstration of how to publicize our chapter. We have a Face Book (FB) presence. It is fun to see ourselves in the technology world. Thanks Alice for all your expert work. Craig and Alice went on their third cruise last year on November 12. This was a 9-night Florida and Bahamas Cruise on Royal Caribbean Grandeur of the Seas. They were happy to find a band that played Ballroom dancing.



Craig Miller (left) dancing with the ship's Activity Manager Tanya & Her Staff during the Bahamas Cruise.



Victor Lee and Debby Ku teach line dancing at the Garibaldina Italian club dinner and dance.



Vic Hertzfeld poses for a photo with our State Queen Susan Johnson at the “Not A Coronation dance.”

Victor Lee has also been an Instructor at the Garibaldina Society. (Italian Club.) My fellow Italians are learning to speak thru their feet as well as with their hands. (Italian Joke).

Victor and Debby are on a 14 day South American cruise. While in Buenos Aires, the Paris of South America, they experienced a Tango Dinner show, held in the remodeled Art Deco movie theater, it was exceptional. Another tour highlight was a visit to the Recoleta Cemetery, where Evita Peron is buried. Almost all the mausoleums are a lavish work of art,



Victor Lee and Debby Ku have been enjoying a South American cruise. One of the highlights was a tango dinner show held in a remodeled art deco theater.



Our State Queen was again on a cruise over the Holidays. The Oceania Sirena cruise to Acapulco, Manzanillo, La Paz, Puerto Vallarta and Cabo San Lucas. The white gown still fits so no major problems yet.

San Diego Chapter

Edited by Mark Chapman



Queen Alberta Valentini

Farewell from our San Diego Queen Alberta Valentini

My year as your Queen is almost over. It has been an honor to represent San Diego and I am sad to see my reign ending but excited to pass on the honor to Liz in March. I have thoroughly enjoyed this journey, starting with my own coronation. I would like to thank all who worked so

hard to make my coronation so beautiful. Also, thank you, to the past Queens for your help and advice as I started my year as Queen.

LA. did not have a coronation this year so my last event in 2017 will be our own coronation. To Liz, I am sure you will have a wonderful time during the next twelve months representing San Diego.

Peter and I sure had some ups and downs traveling to the other chapter coronations. We were always glad we arrived and we were happy we made it back home. In spite of the travel mishaps the weekends were always so lovely and we loved making new friends.

All the chapter Queens and their teams of helpers were so creative with decorations, themes, colors, dinners and venues. It was so much fun to attend all of the other coronations. There was also a variety of Queens' dances: the gals branched out from waltz to now include rumba, samba and others.

It was my pleasure to get to meet the other chapter Queens and their spouses or escorts. Everyone was also so welcoming. I will look forward to attending future NSD functions and coronations so I can visit with all the people we have gotten to know this past year. Queen Alberta

Our Incoming Queen: Come Dance with Joy - Liz Tarnove

As long as I can remember, I've loved to dance. One of my earliest memories is twirling round and round to make my skirt flare out - usually followed by dizziness and a fall to the ground. But at age 3 I was pretty resilient and would soon be up and twirling again.



Queen-elect Liz Tarnove

I also remember dancing around the kitchen with my feet on my dad's. It was the only time in my life where my partner was happy to let me tread on his toes.

My sisters and I loved to dance around the living room to my mom's Broadway musical records. "West Side Story" and "Carousel Waltz" were favorites.

Alas, as a teenager two facts limited my dancing skills:

• Dancing was generally conducted standing 3-6 feet away from your partner.

• I was a bookish nerd and didn't get asked to dance a lot.

Eventually, I discovered Israeli folk dancing, English country dancing, vintage dance, contra dance, and even a brief "Highland" fling with Scottish country dancing before discovering ballroom dancing. And the rest, as they say, is history.

I've been ballroom dancing for four years now and every new step pattern mastered or dance learned is a source of joy. Some dances come more easily than others, but I always enjoy the challenge.

I love waltz, tango, cha cha, salsa, East Coast swing, and rumba the best. I have a difficult relationship with foxtrot - it looks like it should be easy, but it's not - but I keep coming back for more. I love the sassiness of West Coast swing and hope to learn it better as time goes on. I'm not sure I'll ever be able to "get" quickstep or Viennese Waltz - I always feel like I'm on a fast roller coaster when doing these.

I was a newspaper reporter and later a college instructor in journalism in the L.A. area, where I grew up. After moving to San Diego, I found the job market was almost nonexistent for journalism professors and ended up taking a hiatus to freelance as a writer and editor while I raised my two daughters. I'm now a librarian with the San Diego Public Library system. Being a librarian has been the best job ever (and I can even sneak a rumba walk or cha cha step in the stacks when nobody's looking!)

As incoming Queen, I look forward to visiting the other NSD chapters and learning more about this wonderful organization. I am passionate about ballroom dancing and wish to share that joy with others.

And did I mention that "Joy" is my middle name? Queen-Elect Liz

[Click or go to http://www.sdsdwebsite.com/Our-Next-Social.html, to get all the information for the San Diego Coronation on March 4th.](http://www.sdsdwebsite.com/Our-Next-Social.html)

Bakersfield Chapter

QUEEN-ELECT INTRODUCTION



Queen-elect Barbara Norcross

My life is like a large book, way too much to bore you with, so I will give you the highlights. I came to Bakersfield in 1989 from the L.A. area. I have a son and daughter, and 4 grown grandchildren. I am blessed with 5 sisters and 1 brother.

Life here in Bakersfield has been very busy. I worked as a Nurse for a while. Then I decided I wanted to work Real

Estate. I eventually became a Broker and had my own office. Last year I decided to semi retire. After 42+ years, I felt it was time to smell the roses.

I took up cycling with Kern Wheelman and Bike Bakersfield, and I road 105 miles for MS. Such a reward and fun!

Then I added dancing. I have been with Smooth Dancers for 6 years. They have become my other family. I thank Joan Johnson for introducing me to my new dancing life. There is always something new and exciting to learn. I find that my mind and my heart have always danced, not ever knowing there is a method to it, steps and counting, what??

Now I have the honor of representing Bakersfield Smooth Dancers as their Queen -Elect. I hope to get to know each of you better. See you on the dance floor. Keep smiling, keep the world guessing what you are up to, they will ask! Then invite them to the joy of dancing.

--Barbara Norcross

2017 BOARDS - The excitement is growing over our upcoming dance weekend, "Come Dance with Me". This is all happening on Friday, March 31st through April 2, 2017. I would encourage you to get your registration packets in if you haven't already done so. We will be starting off the weekend with an evening buffet on Friday from 5:30-7:30pm and then 7:30-11:30 we will travel to Rio where we will dance the night away! You might want to practice those Samba moves! There will be several dance competitions Friday night, including beginning Cha-cha, East Coast Swing, West Coast Swing and Samba! Our professional dancers will also be performing and the Palomar Chapter will be spotlighted.

On Saturday, April 1st there will be several meetings to attend for some of us. We will also have our Queen's luncheon for all past and present Queens, always a pleasure to attend.

Then Saturday afternoon will find us in the Caribbean; while there we will enjoy a steel drum band, general dancing and dance competitions.

Saturday evening we find ourselves in Savannah; attending an Old Savannah Ball. Starting at 6:00pm, this is a formal ball and dinner. It will also include the coronation for our Queen-elect, Barbara Norcross. Social dancing will be held throughout the evening, and also includes dance competitions and our professional dancers.

Edited by Dorothy Vaughan



Sunday morning we will hold a 'Picnic in the park', this is our farewell breakfast, a time to wrap up the weekend festivities, say farewell to our NSD friends and hand out trophies to the winners of the dance competitions.

I do hope all of you can join us for this wonderful weekend, please send in your reservations as soon as possible!

Our January dance, which is the President's Ball, is always a special dance, because it honors our Past and Present Presidents, this year was no exception. The dance was well attended and everyone had a great time. There were several of our Presidents in attendance. I'm sorry to say I was unable to attend due to a prior commitment.

Our December dance 'A Nutcracker Suite' was chaired by Barbara Norcross. The music was by Dennis Acosta. The decorations were really nice, as Barbara used nutcrackers on



(Above) Harold Stelly and Marcy Aroy were awarded the Most Improved dancers at the President's Ball.

(Below) Our past presidents attending the President's Ball.



all the tables. Our December dance is when we pick our most improved dancers and this year we picked Harold Stelly for most improved male, Marcy Aroy for most improved female and Craig and Gennie Soelberg most improved couple! Congratulations to all of them!

Midnight Magic was the theme of our New Year's Eve dance and I'm sure that it was a magic evening for all that attended. Dinner was catered by Caesar's Deli, they always do a great job and the music by the Targets is always fantastic! There were 74 members in attendance to ring in the New Year, and everyone had a fantastic time.

EDITORS NOTE:

I have two corrections I need to make, the flyer for our NYE dance was 2015's instead of 2016, also our Gretchen Garretson award is awarded in May not January. I hope this didn't inconvenience anyone.

Golden Gate Chapter

Edited by Gabrielle von Stephens



Queen-elect Vera Harvey

Queens introduction - Vera Harvey

First and foremost, I want to say it is truly an honor to represent Golden Gate Chapter of NSD as Queen for 2017 & 2018. Thank you for bestowing this honor on me. I look forward to meeting members of our sister clubs and will do everything possible to represent our chapter as the caring, fun-loving organization it is. When I started the monthly drives to South SF for our Sunday dances

a few years ago, I never dreamed I could one day be asked to represent such a fabulous group of people. Now I can't imagine my life without the friendship of each and every one of you!

I began dancing at 7 when my oldest sister taught me the BOP to "Bumble Boogie" by Bee Bumble and the Stingers and I've been dancing ever since! Now happily retired from "work" for the second time, I consider myself more alive than ever through my love of dance and the wonderful people I meet on the dance floor.

Dancing on stage with performance teams and musicals has been very rewarding. In fact, the next musical I'll be in as a dancer is "Anything Goes" at the Raven theater in Healdsburg this summer. Nothing like dancing on stage!

Producing fundraisers involving dance now also occupies a lot of my time. As producer and director for Dancing with the Stars at the Raven theater for 6 years and in the same capacity for the inaugural year for our Vets with Dancing with the Stars and Stripes last year, I could not be happier! I love what I do!

I can't wait to start my journey on the "Queen's Highway", but first, my coronation! Are you all ready to venture into The Enchanted Forest? You never know what wonders await you as you venture inside! I promise it will be fun!

And remember... life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain.

It was a grand affair our NYEE party at the Crown Plaza hotel in Foster City. Over 100 people attended and we were treated to fabulous food, exceptional music in addition to a wonderful Argentine Tango routine by our frequent Sunday dance guests Lillian Ng and Ron Rosa.

Gifts were handed out to lots of our regular dance attendees and everyone had a fabulous evening, and since it was the day before the real New Years eve, driving home was not as stressful as it could have been.

At our last meeting of the year we nominated our new board and choose a brand new queen, Vera Harvey, who makes the long drive from Santa Rosa to South San Francisco to most of our dances and also teaches us West Coast Swing.



This year the Rosalie Wolf/ Bob Fragamoni award

for exceptional service beyond the call of duty was given to Chuck Talmadge, who tirelessly works for our club assuming duties such as building and tearing down special coronation decorations, helping with the set up and brake down at the dances, coronations and conventions and lends a hand wherever it is needed. A very well deserved award indeed. Chuck wanted to say the following about being given the award:

"I would like to take a moment to thank the individuals responsible for nominating me to receive the 'Spirit of Service Award'. Frankly, when I heard my name announced, I felt this emotional rush that left me speechless. The memories that I have of Bob & Rosalie flooded me emotionally.

"I would like to take a moment to thank the individuals responsible for nominating me to receive the 'Spirit of Service Award'. Frankly, when I heard my name announced, I felt this emotional rush that left me speechless. The memories that I have of Bob & Rosalie flooded me emotionally.



This year the Rosalie Wolf/ Bob Fragamoni award for exceptional service beyond the call of duty was given to Chuck Talmadge.



Bob Fragamoni and Rosalie Wolf



Past President Vlad Gites.

God has been good to me, allowing me to spend quality time with Bob & Rosalie. During the last days it was Bob & Rosalie who instilled in me many values of life. I can recall having lunch with Bob & Rosalie and Bob turned to Rosalie and said, 'Rose, I think tonight is the night.' I admired their special relationship with NSD/GGSD. Thank you again for thinking of me for the Bob & Rosalie Spirit of Service Award."

--Chuck Talmadge

As for the rest of us, the reality of convention coming up soon has set in and we are preparing and practicing and planning and practicing and we can promise you an awesome fun event.

As always, dance first, thinking can wait.



New Officers for Golden Gate chapter: Amy Ansaldi- Vice president, Carl Chesbrough- President, Liz Talmadge- Social Chair, Elizabeth Li-Recording Secretary, Elena Malta-Corresponding Secretary, Joe Malta-Treasurer.

Visalia Chapter

Edited by Melody Mar



A Splendorous Great Gatsby Christmas

Visalia Smooth Dancers has a long tradition of supporting Kids for Christmas, a Christmas party for underprivileged children in Visalia. Our members donate unwrapped toys every year,

and this year we had just as much generosity as we have come to expect!



Entertainment was provided by Franco Productions. Mat Hurston acted as MC. And each table was decorated by various members of the club, each their own interpretation of the theme. Our Dance chairs were Carol & Marivel, with Steve, Linda, Chris, Stan, Manuel, Amanda, and Matt working hard to make this an elegant and fun affair.

Thank you to everyone for making it a night to remember!



La Dolce Vita!

Our Italian dance on January 14 was an evening of great music and dancing, reconnecting with friends after the holidays, and wonderful entertainment! Thank you, Sallie and Tim, for the lively Chumba you performed for us!

I think everyone appreciates what it takes to learn a routine, practice like crazy, fine tune, and then have the guts to perform in front of a crowd. We are certainly lucky to have our own members who are consistently in that category and available to share it with us all!

Our decorations consisted of red checkered tablecloths with jars of pasta and wine bottles with roses for the centerpieces. A café table and chairs, greenery, Italian panels, and patio lights graced the stage and a large red poster board with names of Italian cities, grape vines and lights enhanced our BIG wall! Whew!

The dance was chaired by Sally & Jerry Bailey with committee members Mary & Larry Brown, Myra & Shane Nielsen, Mark & Adelle Martinez, Paul Storey, and DJ, Cheryl Levitan. We were so fortunate to have these terrific members who jumped right in to decorate, help with design, coordinate music & mixers, serve during the night and clean up!

I can't forget to mention Rei Marquez who always does an outstanding job of teaching and that night we learned some great new Salsa steps from him. What fun! We also were very happy to have Franco Peraza there as a dance host.

We hope those who attended enjoyed themselves as much as we all enjoyed coordinating it for you. This is such a wonderful club, so let's all do what is necessary to keep it going for a long time to come!

Very Best Wishes to you all for an Excellent New Year!
Sally Bailey

(Below) Most Improved and Dancers of the Year



Fresno Chapter

Edited by Linda Bennett



Happy New Year to all of our fellow Smooth Dancers! We wish you all a successful, fun and dance-filled 2017, and we look forward to seeing you in March and September!

Fresno Smooth Dancers enjoyed a beautiful Christmas party on Sunday, December 11. It was a great evening that began with a champagne reception and greeting wonderful friends, followed by delicious food and fellowship, and dancing to a music playlist made up entirely of Christmas music. Everyone who attended brought an unwrapped toy; these toys were taken to King Elementary School where President Carla assists in her sister's classroom. Many deserving children received a gift.

dance format, hosted by Carla Hartunian. Her theme was "Winter Dance on a Cold January Night," and festive snowmen and women donned the guest tables sprinkled with snowflakes. The gift table was loaded with fun packages waiting for those with the lucky tickets. Our afternoon started with a dance lesson by our instructor Franco Peraza. He taught us a lively cha cha that warmed us and got our dance off to a fun start. Thank you to Hartune Neffian for being our DJ. I can't forget to mention our Queen Sharon and Vice President Lorraine Tilton, who greeted you at the door.



Lorraine Tilton, Nancy Cargill and Ann Phillips.

Our very own David and Jennifer Morgan entertained us with a delightful Foxtrot, and we installed our 2017 officers:



Our 2017 officers

- President---Carla Hartunian
- Vice President---Lorraine Tilton
- Treasurer---David Morgan
- Recording Secretary---Penny Henderson
- Corr. Secretary---Linda Bennett
- Social Chair---Jennifer Morgan
- Board Member---Hartune Neffian

January's dance took us back to our afternoon tea

Our February event, "Love Makes the World Go Round," will be held on February 19, 2017 at 2:00 p.m., when Alex Periera will teach a Waltz Lesson. Social dancing will begin at 3:00 p.m.

* * * * *

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 for flyers. We would love to see you there!!



Our Christmas Party members and guests

Palomar Chapter

Edited by Debbie Atherton and Don Hubbard



Our January Social's theme, "A Cozy Evening" was well names as 90+ dancers braved the rain for a cozy evening of dancing. Our local teachers, Irina and James Friedhof kept everyone warm with a lively Samba lesson. A supper of hot beef stew continued the process and was provided by hosts Donna and Duane Thornton, Marian Semler, Christine Fifashini, Jack and Marilee Ragland.

good music to dance away the evenings. The group enjoyed the camaraderie; the ample chances to dance, to learn from each other and to just have FUN!



Queen Linda thanks Christine Lys & Michael Murphy after their exceptional performances at our Social.

A fantastic 'Showtime' performance by Christine Lys and husband Michael Murphy was our special event and was presented in two segments. The first included a hot Samba, followed by a flirty Cha-Cha, and a romantic Rumba; later was an exciting Paso Doble followed by a very lively Jive! In addition to their respective careers in law and clinical research, the Murphys are parents of 2 young boys and are active amateur Dancesport competitors in the Senior I and II divisions of USA Dance. The Murphy's are currently US finalists. Christine is President of the San Diego Chapter of USA Dance while Michael is the Treasurer. USA Dance San Diego Chapter sponsors a Social Dance every third Saturday of the month at Dancescence Studios in Carlsbad. Michael, an excellent teacher, teaches a lesson at 7:00, dancing is from 8-11:00.

Stops at Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan and Puerto Vallarta, offered day trips for those passengers who were interested. A long time traveler to Mexico, Al Harruff, wanted to re-visit some of his previous trips to Mexico. He, followed by a few adventuresome fellow travellers, started by taking a 40 cent bus ride to the nearby city, San Jose del Cabo . With Al as a guide, they were able to visit some art galleries and have lunch at an authentic Mexican restaurant. Because of the time schedule, the bus ride back was exciting. Remarkd former Queen Gerry Deutsch," that was a real adventure". At Puerto Vallarta, for two 40 cent bus rides, Al was able to find the beach 'Misaloya'. Made famous by renowned Hollywood director John Houston when he shot his film "Night of the Iguana" in 1962. The movie featured Richard Burton, Ava Gardner and Deborah Kerr. Burton had begun an affair with Elizabeth Taylor, who was there with Burton, but did not appear in the movie. This brought worldwide press attention because both Burton and Taylor were not yet divorced from their spouses. No other scandal occurred and the film was completed and received both financial and critical success.

George and Miriam Mozes invited the entire Palomar NSD to join a Mexican Riviera cruise the first week of December. Organized by Miriam's brother, Morris Stroz a group of 18 Palomar NSD members and 12 other non-members boarded the 'Westerdam' in San Diego and sailed the coast. Morris made arrangements for rooms, a dining place for all to eat dinner together, a special room for late morning and early afternoon dancing workshops, led by Miriam & George and Len & Peggy Lee. Of course, there were also venues with

PSD would like to welcome some of our recent new members: Bob & Soon Seals, Terry & Jeanne Wilson, Morris Stroz, Christine Foschine, Jacqueline Nowak and Mariko Turner. See you on the dance floor!



San Fernando Valley Chapter

Edited by Rachel Seward



There is something I've been struggling to understand lately. It's this idea that dancing can bring such immediate gratification in the midst of it being so exciting, compelling, and enthralling. How does dancing affect you? When and where do you enjoy dancing? Do you prefer dancing with friends or a significant other? How does dancing make you feel? Do you associate it with good times with dancing like me?

In asking these questions of myself I have realized that for me the enjoyment of dancing is heightened by:

SPARKLING LIGHTS AND HOLIDAY MAGIC

Nothing says "It's the most wonderful time of the year to dance!" more than a beautiful ballroom decorated for the holidays with a sparkling light display and a glowing tree, along with yummy food, drink, and lively conversations with like-minded, energetic, cheerful people.

Our holiday dance, held in December at the Hollywood Dance Academy, provided just this setting. It was a fantastic celebration of ballroom glitz, with dancers dressed in festive attire and moving to joyful music.

I think my questions were all answered!

With the assistance of dedicated members and great friends - Joan Robinson, Hannah, Anya, Sara and Stephen Murray - the Hollywood Dance Academy was adorned with the holiday spirit that gave each of us that extra joy for what we love to do — dance!

A CHEER FOR THE NEW YEAR. From the bottom to the top, bringing in the New Year was done with pizzazz.

2017 is our year to shine and just DANCE during monthly classes, workshops, coronations, conventions, showcases, competitions, and much more!!!

The start of New Year also marked other important milestones. We have implemented PayPal to make it easier for guests to pay their entrance fee and annual dues. We've introduced showcase performances to be held throughout the year, made enhancements to our dance studio, and are in talks of possibly establishing a SFV Smooth Dancers formation team.

Additionally, we are pleased to announce that our SFV Chapter started this New Year with a membership of 92, and we are happy to introduce our 2017 SFV chapter officers and appointed positions.

Elected Officers:

President: Bill Morey
Vice President: James Gutman
Board Member: Joan Robinson
Rec. Secretary: Deanna Stanton
Treasurer: John Wong
Corr. Secretary: Leanne Wong
Social Chair: Hannah Murray

Appointed Positions:

Whispers Ed.: Rachael Seward
Equipment Mgr.: Frank Trapp
Dance Rules: Joseph Hidalgo
Webmaster: Bill Steeber
Queen: Rachael Seward

Congratulations and thanks to all of you for your commitment to our SFV chapter.

NEW MEMBERS - San Fernando Valley chapter welcomes two new members — Delia Flores & Jesse Flores.

We are glad to have you as part of our dance family!

PARTICIPATING IN GROUP LESSONS

- Makes learning how to ballroom dance fun and interactive.
- Allows people to get to know one another.
- "Switching partners" is great because everyone learns from each other.

All in all group classes are a great way to become more social and

learn something at the same time.

Each month our free lesson focuses on a different dance, and we give special thanks to the talented and enthusiastic teachers who instruct and coach us each month:

- In December Brian Fortuna taught us the Night Club Two Step, sometimes called the California two step. This dance was initially developed by Buddy Schwimmer in the mid 1960's and is one of the most popular forms of contemporary social dance today.

- In January, we had a special treat! Jonathan Atkinson & Lorena Bravo taught the vibrant Cha Cha, which originated in Cuba in the 1940's and was developed by composer and violinist Enrique Jorrin.

Our 2017 dance lessons will once again feature a variety of dance styles, tentatively including Samba, East Coast Swing, Quick Step, Hustle, Argentine Tango, American Tango, West Coast Swing and Rumba.

CRANKING UP THE MUSIC - We greatly appreciate all of our DJs, including our own Mark Emanuelli, who is scheduled to DJ three of our dances as well as our coronation in 2017. We all enjoy dancing to the variety of music that Mark plays. His energetic, yet laid back, sense of style brings a delightful touch to our dances and special events.

There's hardly any room on the dance floor, with everyone dancing the night away!

Thank you so much DJ Mark for your thoughtfulness in always putting together such a great playlist for us to dance to!

CROWN CIRCLE — Social Ambassador Rachel Seward

I am delighted and honored to be participating in my first coronation as Queen.

My new white dress is hemmed, and gloves and tiara are all ready for my trip to the San Diego coronation honoring Queen-Elect Elizabeth Tarnove. The event will be held March 4th at the Champion Ballroom Academy — then it's off to Bakersfield and San Francisco!

IN THE COMMUNITY - Let's continue to come together to provide support outside our chapter, and go the extra mile for our members with feel good events and surprises.

NEW YEAR'S EVE...a feel good dance event organized by Joan Robinson

In part to help promote the studio where we hold our dances, a New Year's Eve Dance, a non-SFVSD event, was held at our studio by members Joan Robinson, Hannah Murray, Anya Murray, and others. It was a huge success!

The studio was magnificently decorated, including a Christmas tree. The food, catered by the Murrays, was superb. There was wine and champagne (all inclusive), and lots of party favors for both 11 p.m. and midnight celebrations. Mark Emanuelli provided the music and mixers, and there were plenty of hugs, kisses, good cheer, champagne and Auld Lang Syne to bring in the New Year.

Our members are being encouraged to support the studio by attendance at the Wednesday group classes there given by David and Lily Moutrey and at the Saturday dances put on by the studio owner. Including our "first Saturday" dances, there are now dances at the studio every Saturday.

Strive to constantly make new discoveries about dancing...

Come dance, dance, dance w/SFVSD every 1st Saturday of the month!

IN MEMORIAM



John E. Martin

John E. Martin, a long time member of NSD passed away one month short of his 100th birthday. John and his wife Jeannie joined LA NSD somewhere in the 1970's while they were demonstrating at the Glendale Civic Auditorium for dance teacher Gene DeWald.

John was one you didn't want to ask "what time is it? As he would tell you how to build the watch and where to buy the parts and the cost of each part.

John once calculated that having belonged to 6 or so dance clubs, he and Jeannie had danced at least 997.15 miles in the 45+ years of dancing. (This didn't count dance lessons or teaching.) If you asked John a question, and he had an answer, you knew it was researched and was correct. I will miss my friend of 45+ years, John Martin.

Chuck Johnson

Los Angeles Chapter Officers

President	Tom Wells
Vice President	Chuck Johnson
Treasurer	Victor Lee
Board Member	Chuck Johnson
Board Member	Ken Scholtz
Board Member	Craig Miller
Delegate	Doug Failing
Corresponding Secretary	Frances Solano

No Coronation in 2017

Recording Secretary	Robert Quan
Social Chairman	Alice Mah
Dance Rules	Kyle Catterlin
Dance Whispers Editor	Sandy Wells
Music Coordinator	Chuck Johnson
Publicity	Chuck Johnson
Queen	Susan Johnson
Webmaster	Victor Hertzfeld/ Tom Wells

San Diego Chapter Officers

President	Shirley McCloskey
Vice President	Cindy Perry
Treasurer	Kay Ryan
Board Member	Caron Schattel
Corresponding Secretary	Cathy O'Harra
Recording Secretary	Cathy O'Harra
Social Chairman	Denise White

Coronation - March 4, 2017

Dance Rules	Patrick McGinness
Dance Whispers Editor	Mark Chapman
Music Coordinator	Rose Madrid
Queen	Alberta Valentini
Queen-elect	Liz Tarnove
Webmaster	Liz Tarnove

Palomar Chapter Officers

President	Fred Deutsch
Vice President	Frank Lombardi
Treasurer	Kelly Kimmitt
Board Member	Peter Hanson
Corresponding Secretary	Ann Mauro
Recording Secretary	Marion Semler
Social Chairman	Antonia Quinene

Coronation - October 14, 2017

Dance Rules	
Dance Whispers Editor(s)	Don Hubbard / Debbie Atherton
Music Coordinator	Music Committee
Publicity	
Queen	Linda Lum
Webmaster	Ann Mauro

Golden Gate Chapter Officers

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

Coronation - April 8, 2017

Dance Rules	Igor Tilinin
Dance Whispers Editor	Gabrielle Von Stephens
Music Coordinator	Joe Malta
Queen	Emma Steed
Queen Elect	Vera Harvey
Webmaster	Carl Chesbrough
Parliamentarian	Rita Parma

San Fernando Valley Chapter Officers

Coronation - November 4, 2017

President	Bill Morey	Dance Rules	Joseph Hidalgo
Vice President	James Gutman	Dance Whispers Editor	Rachel Seward
Treasurer	John Wong	Queen	Rachel Seward
Board Member	Joan Robinson	Webmaster	Bill Steeber
Recording Secretary	Deanna Stanton	Equipment Manager	Frank Trapp
Corresponding Secretary	Leanne Wong		
Social Chairman	Hannah Murray		

Bakersfield Chapter Officers

Coronation - April 1, 2017

President	Ben Wilson	Dance Rules	Cezar & Martha Florin
Vice President	Kay Boyer	Dance Whispers Editor	Dorothy Vaughan
Treasurer	Jo Ann Georgio	Queen	JoAnn Georgio
Board Member	Steve Peterson	Queen-elect	Barbara Norcross
Corresponding Secretary	Debbie Cadena		
Recording Secretary	Lindy Livingston		
Social Chairman	Wen-Shi Rodriquez		

Visalia Chapter Officers

Coronation - May 20, 2017

President	Jerry Bailey	Dance Rules	John Gutteriez
Vice President	Manual Madril	Dance Whispers Editor	Melody Mar
Treasurer	Myra Nielsen	Webmistress	Melody Mar
Board Member	Paul Storey	Music Coordinator	
Corresponding Secretary	Debbie Renfro	Publicity	Jim Renfro
Recording Secretary	Debbie Renfro	Queen	Wendy Storey
Social Chairman	Carol Abeyta/Sally Bailey	Sunshine	Joan Dewey
Parliamentarian	Paul Storey	Sgt of Arms	Garry Paden

Fresno Chapter Officers

Coronation - June 3, 2017

President	Carla Hartunian	Dance Rules	
Vice President	Lorraine Tilton	Dance Whispers Editor	Linda Bennett
Treasurer	David Morgan	Music Coordinator	
Board Member	Hartune Neffian	Queen	Sharon Crisp
Corresponding Secretary	Linda Bennett	Webmaster	Lorraine Tilton
Recording Secretary	Penny Henderson	Historian	
Social Chairman	Jennifer Morgan	Sunshine	

San Diego Smooth Dancers
Cordially invites you to a Coronation Ball

“Dance with Joy”

Honoring Queen-Elect

Elizabeth Tarnove

Saturday, March 4, 2017

Champion Ballroom Academy

4255 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123

- Doors open 6pm - Champagne reception
- Coronation Ceremony 6:30-7pm
(No seating during the ceremony)
- Catered Buffet Dinner 7-8pm
- Dance 8-11pm

Coronation \$60 per person ❖ Black Tie Optional

Plenty of your favorite ballroom dances plus two mixers

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

Queen's Brunch: Sunday, March 5 at 9 a.m.

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

Hotel (for out of town guests): Courtyard Marriott, 8651 Spectrum Center Blvd., San Diego, CA 92123

Call 888-236-2427 or 858-573-0700 for reservations and give the booking code “San Diego Smooth Dancers” for the room rate of \$119 a night. Hotel Reservations must be made by February 10, 2017 to get the group discount.

Coronation/Brunch Reservations are Required by February 23, 2017

Please detach and mail to Kay Ryan at 4303 Coronado Ave, San Diego, CA 92107

All checks must be made to **San Diego Smooth Dancers**.

Reservations must be RECEIVED by 2-23-17!

Name(s) _____

Chapter (non-members leave blank) _____

Coronation/Buffer Dinner: _____@ \$60 Queen's Brunch _____@ \$34 Total Amount _____

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





Bakersfield Smooth Dancers
Presents

COME DANCE WITH ME

March 31–April 2
2017

Click or go to www.bakersfieldsmoothdancers.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Come-Dance-with-Me-Brochure-2017.pdf, to get all the information and registration forms.