

National Smooth Dancers
Dance Whispers
June 2025
NationalSmoothDancers.org



2025 Coronation Central: The Fresno Coronation is on June 21. The year ends with the Palomar (Oct 4) and San Fernando Valley (Nov 1) Coronations.

2025 Convention: Golden Gate State Convention: August 29 to September 1.



The Dance Whispers Editors (L-R): Mark Chapman - San Diego; Jerry Bowes - Golden Gate; Debbie Atherton & Chris Bernardo - Palomar; Mark Emanuelli - San Fernando Valley; Christine Conrad - Bakersfield; Lewis Griswold - Visalia; Leslie Rouse - Fresno.



Publishing Editor

Carl Chesbrough

Hello Fellow Smooth Dancers,

Elizabeth and I enjoyed the Visalia Coronation in May, and will miss the Fresno Coronation on June 21st. Following the Fresno Coronation is the Golden Gate Diamond Jubilee. The early bird pricing ends (or ended depending when you are reading this) on June 15. You can still get your reservations made, as this promises to be an event you don't want to miss.

Personal Update: I finished my six months of chemo on May 4th. The last two (of the eight) rounds were the hardest. After 3 weeks, we started back to our gym routine, and I am getting stronger and getting more stamina every day. We even started back taking some West Coast Swing lessons.

We are going to visit our kids on the East Coast, with a round trip 10 night cruise from New York between visits.

Cruise Central: In the last issue, I included a page with a collection of upcoming cruises from NSD members. The idea behind the Cruise Central section is to allow people to know where others from NSD are cruising. It may give people a chance to join other NSD dancers on a cruise. More dancers may make it easier to find good places to dance on the ship.

Take a look at the Cruise Central and provide your editor (or myself) your feedback. Should we add travel agent info? Would a contact name be good to be included? Anything else that may be good to be included? Should there be a section for destination of interest, to allow people to indicate where they are interested in going. I expect to have this evolve over a few publications, so any feedback would be helpful.

I hope to see you on the dance floor soon, and remember Never Stop Dancing.

-Carl Chesbrough

Publishing Editor.

Palomar Smooth Dancers News by Chris Bernardo

Message from our Queen Debbie Atherton



Queen Debbie Atherton and her Husband Michael Mihos at Visalia's Coronation



Congratulations Queen Laura! Visalia Chapter - thank you for a beautiful evening! Queen Laura was stunning in her red dress and her son, Brandon, playing the violin during her coronation and Queen's dance was so enjoyable. What talent! And! As always, The Honor Dance performed by Ben & Wendy Wilson was fabulous! Of course, the entertainment for the evening was beyond amazing. Our Palomar attendees all sat together, along with San Diego's Queen Lou Reyes & husband Amanté. We all enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner and dancing to music by Greg Uchianco.

Thank you Visalia!

Retraction for April's Whispers

Last month the choreography of the Paso Doble was incorrectly reported as being executed by Marsha Hanson instead of Carrie Kloss. My apologies Carrie.

Dance Socials

Our Easter Social was held on April 27th, cleverly decorated by Mario Lira, and included a photo booth with an Easter Bunny, very cute!!



Our chapter has been seeing consistent growth in our dance lessons but noticed very few beginners at our Socials. To encourage their participation, we let the beginners know that we were going to have a special dance at the social that was the dance they were learning with the same music played at the lesson.

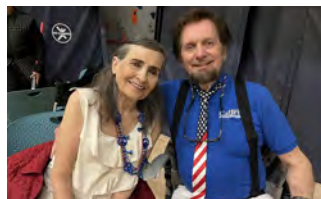
Several of them attended and felt more comfortable dancing at least one dance, then our more experienced dancers made sure they danced with them also.

At 'half time' members of the intermediate dance class danced the foxtrot in formation, with Carrie explaining the different timing changes that make this the most difficult dance.



Gerri and Mario Light Saber Fight

Penny using the Force on Mario



Jack and Merilee



Bill and Alice

Our May social was held on May 25th with a Star Wars theme. Many of our dancers wore Star Wars outfits and then had light saber fights as seen in the photos.

The weekend of the social was also the holiday Memorial weekend and several dancers wore traditional red white and blue.

Member Highlight – Mario Lira

Mario was born in Eagles Pass, South Texas and grew up there. He was the middle child of six children, three boys and three girls. At the age of 18, he joined the military and served twenty-two years as a Marine until his retirement. Mario married his wife Beverly Joyce, and they had a daughter Rhiannon Nicole who is now 35 years old and lives with them in their home in Oceanside.

During his time as a Marine, Mario worked with many charities, American Cancer Society, Red Cross and Blood Mobile to name a few. He always wore his 'Blues' to the Marines Charity Programs and this caught the eye of Crystal Carson (movie star in General Hospital) She asked for his help doing some charity work and wanted him to be in his 'Blues' when working with her.

After Mario retired from the Marines, he worked for Lightspeed Fine Arts for several years. Lightspeed Fine Arts was a sales and fine arts promotional business. He continued with his charity work and Crystal Carson became his main point of contact. Over time Mario became a familiar figure to many movie stars and helped them with their charity work, always wearing his Marine Blues. Gene Rodenberry Junior (Producer of Star Trek) also asked for his help.

Disney offered him a position in their costumery department and Mario worked at Disneyland for nineteen years. During his time with Disney he made

Palomar Smooth Dancers News Continued

Member Highlight – Mario Lira (Continued)

friends with several of the Star Trek actors, many movie stars and attended countless Hollywood parties.

During a Star Trek Convention, Mario met Josh Tietjen, our dance host. Josh encouraged him to attend the Monday dance lesson, which he did. His wife Beverly was not too interested but Mario decided to give it a try. Jumping right in, he was coached by Penny, Stella and Ann. Ann persuaded him to enter a waltz competition at the Fresno Convention and they won third prize. That was five years ago and because of his ballroom experience he has danced with Stephanie Speck (Nurse on Star Trek) Crystal Carson (General Hospital) and several other movie stars.

All in all, we are fortunate to be able to avail ourselves of Mario's creative expertise. For the last three

socials, he took the responsibility of decorating the gymnasium where we have our monthly socials. He has an incredible giving nature and still does charity work. (His 'Marine Blues' still fit him). Mario is also an accomplished ballroom dancer, I guess Penny and Ann taught him well.



Mario with Loni Anderson



Mario with Kevin Sorbo

Fresno Smooth Dancers News

by Leslie Rouse

The Fresno Smooth Dancers have been hard at work over the past few months planning exciting upcoming events. On June 21, we will host our coronation for our new queen, Cindy Wegermann. With a circus theme and the promise of lively entertainment, this is one event you won't want to miss!



In addition to that big celebration, we're also deep in preparations for next year's convention. Members are currently rehearsing for our skit presentation at this year's convention, and our committees are in full swing. Despite all the planning and meetings, we've

made sure to keep dancing and having fun! Many of our members attended our May Flowers Sunday dance, some performed at Dianna's Studio of Dance May Showcase, and others recently went on a dance cruise.

As mentioned in our last newsletter, the past month

brought a few bumps in the road, but our club has shown just how much we can accomplish when we support one another. Whether it's stepping up to teach at our Sunday dances, volunteering on committees, or donating items for big events, the Fresno Smooth Dancers continue to demonstrate the strength of our community. We look forward to seeing you all at the coronation on June 21!



Under the Big Top

Coronation Ball for

Queen-Elect Cindy Wegermann

Saturday, June 21st, 2025



Fresno Smooth Dancers News Continued

Dancing North to Alaska:

A Message from Our President, Henry Wegermann

“Dancing north to Alaska with Paul Stuart and about 70 others was an experience I will not soon forget. We left San Francisco on May 26 and returned on June 6. Every sea day included a dance lesson with Alex, followed by a dance party. Sheri Dadian, our social organizer, kept everyone moving and informed about where

the next party would be. At one point, she even arranged for Frank from Utah (Frank and Linda) to DJ at one of the ship’s bar, he had an excellent playlist! We wish Frank and Linda well as they open a dance studio in St. George, Utah, on June 15.

Covid seemed like a thing of the past, until it wasn’t. Many passengers had sniffles and mild coughs. I never thought I or anyone in our group would test positive, but after we returned home, we learned one person had. Using an old test kit from 2022, I checked myself... and to my surprise, I also tested positive. Thankfully, it was a light case, and I hope anyone else who got it had only mild symptoms as well.

So, would I do it again? Absolutely! It was a blast to spend time with Patricia, Sheri, Scott, Jerry, Lynn, Steve, Lydia, Alice, Gary, Jennifer, Larry, Nancy, Doug, Janna, Cindy... I’ll stop there before I forget someone—but I think you get the idea. Being

surrounded by such wonderful people made it an unforgettable adventure. I’d do it again in a heartbeat (though next time, I won’t forget my Ivermectin, the go-to remedy in Brazil!).”



Bakersfield Smooth Dancers News by Christine Conrad

Monthly Dances



On April 26th we held a Birthday Party Dance. The dance was hosted by Ben and Wendy Wilson as they celebrated Ben's birthday.

The Queen's Dance was held on May 25th, honoring all the ladies that have served as queen throughout the years. James and Stacey Loubey performed a spot-light dance.

Friday Night Dances

We continue to hold dances every Friday night at the Fairfax Grange from 7:00 to 9:00 pm with a cost of only \$10 per person.

Weekly Lessons at the Grange

Mondays - June 9th through July 7th Franco Peraza will be teaching Cha-Cha from 6:30-7:30 pm and Fox-trot starting at 7:30 pm.

Tuesdays – Starting on June 10th, Josh Harless is offering beginning Cha-Cha lessons starting at 6:00 pm and Intermediate Fox Trot lessons starting at 7:00 pm.

Beginning on July 8th he will be teaching Country Swing from 6:00-7:00 pm and Intermediate Cha-Cha from 7:00-8:00 pm.

Upcoming Events

Our Monthly dance for June will be held on Sunday the 22nd from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Join us for a "Return to Copacabana Dance".

Visalia Coronation (May 17, 2025)



In Memory of Charlene Miller

On May 31st the Bakersfield Smooth Dance family lost a true treasure.

Charlene loved dancing. She entered many competitions with Dan Goss as her partner. Every year she would be in charge of production of the skits that were performed at the annual Board of Directors dance. I think we all marveled at the amount of energy that she had! Charlene's obituary can be found at <https://legacy.com/us/obituaries> if you would like to leave a message or memory for her family.



Top: Charlene Miller and Dennis Acosta



Right: Charlene Miller and Dan Goss

I am sharing two messages from fellow Smooth Dancers that describes Charlene so well.

Wendy Wilson

Charlene welcomed us into the Bakersfield Smooth Dancers family with her warmth and charm. She has been an inspiration to me over the years and I always enjoyed her "cheerleader" style enthusiasm for dancing. She was such an encouragement to us in the early years of our ballroom journey. Charlene will always hold a special place in my heart. I will miss her.

James Schmitz

Very sad to learn of Charlene's passing. When first going to Bakersfield's Fairfax Grange she was the first to greet me, introduce me to everyone, and share a dance with me. There were many visits to the home she shared with Dennis Acosta on Barrington. Charlene took great pride in making sure to our Board of Directors weekend dances were planned out down to the last period. Our Dance Club appreciated how smoothly our annual BOD unfold. She had her check list and would go over it with the facility's director. The vocation we shared is teaching. We enjoyed sharing stories about our teaching experiences. May Our Lord hold and keep Charlene in his Loving Arms.

San Fernando Valley Smooth Dancers News by Mark Emanuelli

Greetings, Smooth Dancers – As I write this month's submission, San Fernando Valley is celebrating it's 64th year as a chapter!

San Fernando Valley Dance Calendar:

We hope that dancing is always on your calendar. When your travels bring you to the Los Angeles area, we hope that you will look up us and our friends:



Sun Jun 15 – Members Meeting and Tea Dance – Hollywood Academy of Dance (1pm)

Sun Jun 15 – USA Dance Social @ Veteran's Memorial Auditorium (6pm)

Sat Jun 21 – Fresno Coronation

Sat Jul 05 – Monthly Social – Hollywood Academy of Dance (7pm)

Sun Jul 20 – Members Meeting and Tea Dance – Hollywood Academy of Dance (1pm)

Sun Jul 27 – USA Dance Social @ Veteran's Memorial Auditorium (6pm)

Sat Aug 09 – Monthly Social – Hollywood Academy of Dance (7pm)

Sun Aug 17 – Members Meeting and Tea Dance – Hollywood Academy of Dance (1pm)

Sun Aug 17 – USA Dance Social @ Veteran's Memorial Auditorium (6pm)

Aug 29-Sep 01 – Golden Gate SD Convention!

Sep 06 – Monthly Social – Hollywood Academy of Dance (7pm)

Greetings from Queen Rachel



The Coronation of Queen Elect Laura Encinas was a regal affair from the procession to the recessional. The royal court and guests were graced by the presence of Queen Laura's son, Brandon, a professional musician and entertainer. His lovely violin accompaniment added to the elegance to her Wine & Roses Coronation theme.

For the Queen's Dance, Her Highness danced a lively foxtrot with her teacher, Franco. The dance,

lyrics, and music all merged seamlessly, creating a memorable dance performance.

The evening was also filled with other memorable events. The ever-delightful and charming Ben and Wendy Wilson Honor Dance captivated all of us. And there was that sumptuous dinner featuring a beautifully decorated and delicious dessert cake made by Queen Laura's daughter, Sonya, followed by general dancing and a professional dance performance from one of my favorite pros, Artemi, and his celebrity partner, Anna. Their joyful performance was a highlight of the evening, showcasing their exceptional talent and adding to the festive atmosphere.



I was overjoyed to have SFV Queen-elect Roberta LaZar by my side and was deeply honored to have Les as my escort. Despite my inability to wear my ruby red slippers due to an upcoming surgery, Les's support allowed me to participate in the Queen's processional and recessional and dance the Queen's waltz. I am grateful to Queen Mum for making adjustments to accommodate me. Against the doctor's orders, I had the pleasure of grooving with Queen Margaret on the floor.

For me, the excitement of the Coronation did not end that evening, as we honored the lovely Queen Margaret Moholt at the Queen's Breakfast. I am so privileged to serve as SFV's Chapter Queen and now to have the pleasure of knowing Queen Margaret. I have truly enjoyed getting to know my new friend, who has a pleasant and engaging personality.

The Visalia Coronation was another inspiring moment during my reign as SFV Queen. The excitement, joy, and sense of community I experience are feelings that I will remember and cherish for a long time to come. Congratulations Queen Laura!



More San Fernando Valley Smooth Dancers News

President's Notebook:

After taking some time to attend to family matters (my son's High School graduation, and my daughter's first car!) and other hobbies (emceeing for the Western Edge Open – a robotics championship held in Long Beach), we're back to dancing!



The June Anniversary Dance was amazing, with another full ballroom. The Social Committee, under their committee-elected chair, Sherry Thomas, continues to exceed expectations, becoming a flexible team that takes care of the dance's decor, theme, and snacks. I'm really impressed by their camaraderie, and the way they communicate and work together. They continue to grow their ranks, and everyone seems to really enjoy contributing to the dance.

Despite competition in neighboring venues, the Smooth Dancers 1st Saturday Socials continue to build an increasing following by offering great music, a great floor, and a focus on getting people up on the dance floor.



Lastly – I'm really looking forward to the 2025 Convention – I can't wait to enjoy the San Francisco area with our dance friends, and see you all again on the dance floor.

BIRTHDAYS!

Happy Birthday to our birthday dancers:

JUN: Dai Liu, Holly Scott, Bill Steeber, Judy Lee, and Cora Bucklin

JUL: Edwin Craig, Rachel Seward, Raymond Shum, Wendy Banks, and Judith French

See you on the dance floor!

- SFV Smooth Dancers

Visalia Smooth Dancers News

by Lewis Griswold

Queen Margaret's year of 'Friendship and Dancing'

One of a queen's main duties is to attend coronation ceremonies from San Francisco to San Diego. Queen Margaret attended them all.

"My theme for the year was 'Celebrate Friendship and Dancing,'" Margaret said. "Our former queens — Myra, Carol, Wendy and Sallie — told me the best part of being queen is the happy time to reconnect with other chapter members, to get to know them better and dance with them."



At the Queen's breakfast last month following the coronation of her successor, Margaret shared the words of wisdom of her late husband Tom: "National Smooth Dancers needs queens. Queens and their coronation ceremonies are what hold the clubs together." So true.

At this point in life Margaret prefers not to

drive at night, so she asked her many dance friends to come with her and do the driving to the other clubs. They were happy to oblige.

"I'm very grateful," she said. "It made my journeys easier and brought us closer. I feel a heartfelt gratitude to my dear friends for their unwavering support and encouragement."

Margaret's favorite dance is the waltz, and there's a lot of waltzing at a coronation ceremony. "I got to dance with a lot of 4-star champions because they were my escorts at the coronations," she said.

Margaret has been dancing for 32 years. Her advice to all smooth dancers: "Please smile when you dance."

Visalia gives \$5 dance lessons

Every Sunday, we offer dance lessons for only \$5 for non-members (\$3 members.) The idea to introduce newcomers to social dancing. Maybe some will join the club. Well, it's working.

We now have three new members this year. All attended the lessons and now they are members.

Visalia Smooth Dancers News Continued

Laura's coronation was a family affair

Queen Laura dons the crown in Visalia. On a lovely spring evening in May, Laura Encinas was crowned the new Queen of Visalia Smooth Dancers.

Queen Laura was absolutely radiant in her flowing red dress. She was positively glowing in the love of family and friends.

A feeling of elegance filled the dance hall due to the sheer number of visitors from other clubs and the evening attire of attendees. The wine-and-champagne social hour was abuzz with chatter and laughter.

Her son Brandon, a professional musician in Los Angeles, played the violin for everyone. He played during social hour. He played for the coronation ceremony. He played as the queen's court dancer. He didn't just "play the violin" – he dazzled with his artistry. It was truly captivating.



Laura and Brandon

Queen Laura's coronation was made even more memorable because her grandchildren Calum and Olive participated in the royal affair. They could not have been cuter.

Queen Margaret Moholt crowned the new Queen Laura, ending her own reign.

"We now have the beautiful Queen Laura representing our chapter," Margaret said afterwards. "She is an elegant dancer and the youngest reigning queen statewide."



Franco and Laura

Our newly crowned Queen Laura danced to "You Are Under My Skin" with Franco Peraza, dance instructor. It was a masterpiece of smooth dancing. With every turn, Laura demonstrated both grace and love of dance.

Ben and Wendy Wilson of Bakersfield did the queen's honor dance with the skill of dance champions, which they are (four star.)

For entertainment, Artemi Okunev and Anna Trebunskaya – she's a regular on Dancing With The Stars – gave a whirlwind performance that took one's breath away with its vigor.

Anna took the microphone to give her heartfelt praise to the entire dance community for everyone's



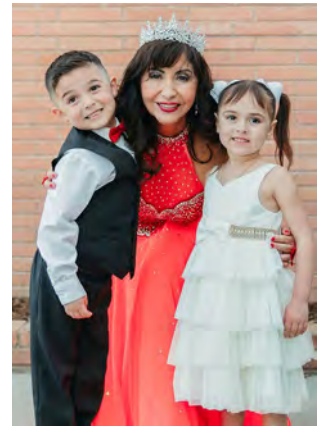
Laura and Queen Court

inspiring enthusiasm and sincerity. Her unexpected praise added yet another special moment to an already special evening.

Meanwhile, another family talent was waiting in the wings. Daughter Sonya created a lovely and mouth-watering homemade cake.



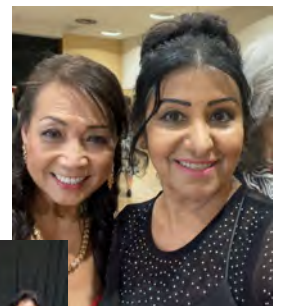
Sonya's Homemade Cake



Laura and Grandchildren



Linda and Maria



Somjai and
Suhkdeep



Maria and Stan



Greg and Barbara Uichanco
with Margaret

Golden Gate Smooth Dancers News by Jerry Bowes

Home Games: GGSD Monthly Dances

Recent GGSD Chapter Dances

Our Jun 8 dance was Days of Wine and Roses where we enjoyed a Waltz lesson taught by Ylva Wintzell.

Our May 11 dance had the theme of April Showers Bring May Flowers and we enjoyed an International Rumba lesson from Giovanni Leanza. To encourage participation in competitions at Convention and have fun with our guests, we hosted a Jack 'n Jill East Coast Swing competition. Many of the participants had never competed and never done a Jack 'n Jill and everyone had a lot of fun. We found our destined partner, introduced themselves, and went to strut our stuff in two heats to find the three winning couples. Half of the participants and 4 of the 6 winners were guests. One of our guests, Lana, won third place but could not accept her trophy as she had left for her Mothers' Day celebration with her family. How good a Mothers' Day can a woman have? Dance with someone new, meet a friend, win a prize in a dance contest, and have a celebration with kids!



East Coast Swing Jack and Jill Competitors Show off Their Moves

It was a great mixer and a total blast. I think many of us look forward to the next one whether at Convention or not.

On April 27th, we enjoyed our chapter annual Members Appreciation Brunch at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. Among many awards, our Queen Elect, Vera Harvey, received the Most Improved Dancer award for this last year and Stella Wong received the 2025 President's Award in recognition of Exceptional Contributions to the Golden Gate Smooth Dancers.

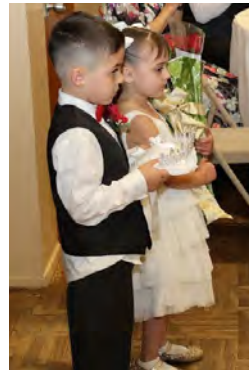
Our April 13th dance had the theme of April in Paris. We enjoyed a Foxtrot lesson from James Kleirath.

Upcoming GGSD Dances and Fun

July 13 dance will be the Red White and Blue Celebration with a night club two-step lesson provided by Michelle Kincaid.

Away Games: Visalia and Fresno

Visalia: May 17, Welcome Queen Laura Encinas



Twelve members of the Golden Gate chapter sojourned to Visalia for Queen Laura's Coronation. A double dose of cute was provided by her two grandchildren, Olive and Calum as flower and crown bearer. All went well for the young ones in the overwhelming duties of protocol, and at the last part of the ceremony, Olive finished her official duties as they walked out with a great twirl making it clear to all present she is one of our dancing tribe. We showed up with our Diamond Jubilee shirts and entertained the guests during the evening dance with a Diamond Jubilee fashion show to entice any who had not been at Bakersfield to sign up to join us at Convention.



Golden Gate Members at Visalia Coronation
and Visalia Queens Breakfast

Fresno: June 21, Welcome Queen Cindy Wegermann

Golden Gate will be heading to our sister chapter, Fresno, on June 21. Queen Lynn will of course enjoy both the Coronation and friendship among her 'first chapter' members, but will also love reminiscing about the recent cruise with many of the chapter members and friends. This will be the last Coronation attended by Queen Lynn in her official 'Queen Ambassador' role as we all look forward to Convention and the crowning of Vera Harvey as State Queen.

Goings of the Queen

Queen Lynn, a dual citizen of the Fresno (where she 'grew up' into dancing) and Golden Gate chapters just returned from 11 days as a member of a 65 member dance cruise on the Ruby Princess. She met the Fresno contingent as they got off their chartered bus in San Francisco. With her Fresno friends and dance partner consort, they all started their excursion to Alaska. With a day at Glacier Bay it was better than she had hoped. Having Alex Periera, her very first dance teacher, there still teaching classes was delightful. A very special treat was a lecture from Libby Riddles, the first female winner of the Iditarod, a 1000 mile sled dog race. How inspiring! Another treat was social time getting to become better friends with the Fresno Queen Elect, Cindy Wegermann. We learned that Cindy is a barber-shop singer and actually performed in the Princess Pop Choir to the delight of all.



Ruminations from the State Queen Elect

Vera Harvey, the Queen Elect for Golden Gate and NSD State Queen has a wealth of experience as an NSD Queen and a chapter board member. This is a continuation of an interview from the last issue. I asked Vera to share some of her perspectives of being Queen and how approaching being State Queen differs from her prior reign as Chapter Queen. She gave me these thoughts.

In April of 2017, it was my honor to be crowned GGSD's Queen and I have to say, it is an amazing feeling to be so honored. A few years later, I was one of the queens in the GGSD Crown Circle and on Aug. 30th, I will have the opportunity to again be crowned, but this time representing all of our NSD chapters as State Queen. This is such a huge honor for me.

For our ladies who have never been a chapter or state queen, I'd just like to say that you are missing out on an amazing network of wonderfully talented, sensitive women who bond together within the "Queen sisterhood". We watch out for each other, we "fix" each other's tiaras, and zip up what needs to be zipped! In fact, "What happens in the dressing room, stays in the dressing room and we ladies are stronger for each detail". Many of us have that panic-relief memory of when we needed help with what reared its head as a potential disaster and were taken care of with ease and a smile that NSD queens do with such grace.

I thank each lady, queen or not, for your contributions to NSD as each of you is vital to our organization's survival! Ladies...get out there on the dance floor and enjoy yourself...like nobody's watching! Big hugs to each of you! And give a big hug to your biggest fan...yes, that handsome gentleman you're dancing with tonight! He truly is proud of you every time you step on the dance floor.

Vera Harvey, Golden Gate Smooth Dancers
State Queen Elect, 2025



Come join us at for our
Diamond Jubilee
Celebrating our
75th anniversary
2025 Labor Day Weekend
August 29 through
September 1
www.goldengatedancers.org



Fresno Smooth Dancers invites you to a night of
ELEGANCE and Whimsy

Under the Big Top

Coronation Ball for

Queen-Elect Cindy Wegermann

Saturday, June 21st, 2025



Formal Ball

6:00 pm Champagne Reception

6:45 pm Coronation Ceremony

7:15 pm Dinner

8:00 pm General Dancing

And Entertainment

10:30 pm Last Waltzes

Holy Trinity Church
2226 Ventura Ave
Fresno, CA

Farewell Breakfast

Sunday, June 22nd, 2025

Doubletree International Café

No Host

Hospitality 2-4 pm

Reservations by **June 6th**

Doubletree Hotel

2233 Ventura St.

(559) 268-1000

“Smooth Dancers”

Rate \$169.00 + tax

RSVP by June 15th -CKS payable to Fresno Smooth Dancers, Inc.

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ # _____ NSD Members @ \$75.00 \$ _____

Email _____ # _____ Non Members @ \$85.00 \$ _____

Mail to Ruth Llorente 90 Anderson, Clovis, CA 93612

Total Due \$ _____

Diamond Jubilee 2025 NSD Convention

August 29th to September 1st

...celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Golden Gate Smooth Dancers!



MISSED THE EARLY BIRD DEADLINE?

- **Weekend Package price now \$290:** Includes admission to all 5 dance events, Friday Buffet Dinner, Saturday Formal Dinner, and Monday Buffet Breakfast
- **GET the VIP EXPERIENCE!** (Through July 15th):
 - For Only \$50 More, Purchase the "Brilliant Diamond Package"
 - Includes everything in the Weekend Package, PLUS: Custom Ballroom Dancers Name Badge, Commemorative Diamond Jubilee T-Shirt, Admission to all 4 Dance Seminars, Printed NSD Roster, 1 Entry for Free Base Weekend Package Drawing, 5 Raffle Tickets for the Diamond Jubilee Raffle
- Click Here to register online [DIAMOND JUBILEE](#)

We Have an Exclusive Hotel Deal!

- SF Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel
- Only \$150/night and Discounted Parking of \$10/day!
- Free Airport Shuttle Service
- **Rooms Are Filling Up-Book Now!:** Go to <https://book.passkey.com/go/smoothdancers>
 - Or Call the hotel directly at (650) 692-9100

Mention National Smooth Dancers Association for our special rate

- Book by August 7th
- Pending availability rate can be extended 3 days pre and post event
- Interested? Contact Dan: daniel.ansaldi@yahoo.com

Competition Time-Step Up and Shine!

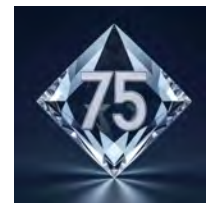
- Calling all performers, movers, and shakers-It's your time to sparkle on the floor at our Diamond Jubilee Convention!
- NSD Competitors: [Online Competition Registration](#) Now Available!
 - Registration Deadline August 4th
- We are also offering 3 Jack & Jill Competitions Open to All Attendees
- Don't miss out on the Diamond Jubilee Formation Team Showdown, an epic event 75 Years in the Making! Which Chapter will rise to the challenge and be crowned Champion?



Golden Gate Smooth Dancers

Invites you to join us for

Diamond Jubilee



...celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Golden Gate Smooth Dancers!

2025 NSD CONVENTION August 29th to September 1st

Package and Ticket Registration

	Attendee 1	Attendee 2
Name		
Address		
City		
State/Zip		
NSD Chapter*		
Phone Number		
E-mail		

*If not a NSD Member, please indicate which Chapter you would like to sit with

ORDER

QTY EVENT SELECTIONS

_____	Full Package Plans @ \$290 each (Includes admission to Fri Night buffet dinner and dance party, Sat and Sun Afternoon dance parties, Sat Night Coronation dinner dance and Pro show, Sun Night dance party and Pro show, and Mon Morning breakfast)	_____
_____	" Brilliant Diamond " Package @ \$340 each (only available through July 15, 2025) (In addition to Full Package plan above, includes Commemorative T-shirt, Custom Ballroom Dancers Name Badge, 4 Dance Seminars, NSD Roster, 1 entry for free base package drawing, 5 raffle tickets for Diamond Jubilee Raffle)	_____
_____	Gavel Club Luncheon (Saturday-Current and Past Presidents Only) @ \$50 each	_____
_____	Crown Circle Luncheon (Sunday-Reigning and Past Queens Only) @ \$50 each	_____
_____	Dance Seminar Saturday (2 seminars - \$5 / person / seminar)	_____
_____	Dance Seminar Sunday (2 seminars - \$5 / person / seminar)	_____
_____	Single Event Tickets as shown on reverse side (please place total here)	_____
_____	Commemorative Merchandise Pre-Order (please place total here)	_____
_____	Name Badge Pre-Order (please place total here)	_____
_____	NSD Roster \$10 (Only Available for NSD Members)	_____

Saturday Night Dinner Selection

Chicken _____ Fish _____ Vegetarian _____

TOTAL:

Notes Regarding Special Dietary Needs:

Deadline for Package Plan is June 15th to be eligible for Early Bird rate of \$270 and to be automatically entered into the drawing for a free 2025 Base Convention package.

Cancellations after August 15, 2025 will receive a pro-rated refund. No refunds will be made after August 26, 2025

Make checks payable to Golden Gate Smooth Dancers and mail with this form to:

Rita Parma, 251 Wicklow Dr., So San Francisco, CA 94080. For questions, call (650) 455-2402 or email

rita.parma51@gmail.com An email acknowledgement will be sent within 10 days of receiving your registration. Please contact Rita Parma if you do not receive your acknowledgement.

2025 NSD CONVENTION SINGLE EVENT TICKETS

Date	Time	Event	Price	Order Qty	Total Cost (Price x Qty)
Friday, August 29	7:30 - 11:30 pm	<i>Shine Bright Like a Diamond</i> 80's Neon Dance Party	\$45		
Saturday, August 30	2:00 - 4:30 pm	<i>Diamond Head Luau</i> with competitions	\$40		
Saturday, August 30	6:00 - 11:30 pm	<i>Diamonds are Forever</i> Including Coronation, formal dinner, pro dance show and competitions	\$110		
Sunday, August 31	2:00 - 5:00 pm	<i>Diamond Heist</i> with competitions	\$40		
Sunday, August 31	7:00 - 11:30 pm	<i>Denim & Diamonds</i> Including pro dance show and competitions	\$65		
Monday, September 1	9:00 - 11:00 am	<i>On the Diamond - Farewell Breakfast</i>	\$50		

SPECIAL EVENT TICKETS (Dance Seminar Tickets Can also be purchased at the door)

Saturday, August 30	11:35am - 12:25 pm	<i>Dance Seminar #1</i>	\$5		
Saturday, August 30	1:00 - 1:50 pm	<i>Dance Seminar #2</i>	\$5		
Sunday, August 31	11:35am - 12:25 pm	<i>Dance Seminar #3</i>	\$5		
Sunday, August 31	1:00 - 1:50 pm	<i>Dance Seminar #4</i>	\$5		
Saturday, August 30	11:30 - 12:30pm	<i>Golden Gavel Club Luncheon 50th Anniversary</i>	\$50		
Sunday, August 31	11:00 - 12:45 pm	<i>Diamonds are a Queen's Best Friend Crown Circle Luncheon</i>	\$50		

Total of single event tickets purchased (Please transfer this total on the reverse side of this form under the heading "Single Event Tickets")

TOTAL:

Cancellations after August 15, 2025 will receive a pro-rated refund. No refunds will be made after August 26, 2025.

Hotel Reservations (See separate page for Hotel Information)

San Francisco Airport Marriott Waterfront Hotel located at 1800 Old Bayshore Highway, Burlingame, CA 94010
Tel (650) 692-9100

Online Registration also available: www.goldengatedancers.org

National Smooth Dancers, Inc.

2025 State Convention "Diamond Jubilee"

Competition Pre-Registration

	Leader	Follower
Name		
Chapter		
Address		
City		
Zip		
Phone		
Email		

Please check all events in which you are pre-registering:

One Star	Smooth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rhythm	<input type="checkbox"/>	Latin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Two Star	Smooth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rhythm	<input type="checkbox"/>	Latin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Three Star	Smooth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rhythm	<input type="checkbox"/>	Latin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Four Star	Smooth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Standard	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rhythm	<input type="checkbox"/>	Latin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senior	Waltz	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cha Cha	<input type="checkbox"/>				

(For Senior Competitions, contestants must be at least 65 years old and not competing in any other event; Music will be provided for One Star Competitions)

- *Expect an email acknowledging your registration in the correct contests within ten days of receipt. If you do not receive an email or it is not correct, email the Diamond Jubilee Competition Committee: nsdcompetition@googlegroups.com*

Waiver of Liability

I certify that I am a member in good standing with the National Smooth Dancers Chapter indicated. I have held membership since May 15, 2025 and I have purchased a complete "Package Deal" for the 2025 Convention. As a condition of participation in the dance competitions, I understand and agree that the Golden Gate Smooth Dancers, Inc. shall not be held liable for accidents or injuries sustained by persons competing in any event and shall not be held responsible for loss or theft of articles during the Convention. I hereby irrevocably give and grant the Golden Gate Smooth Dancers, Inc. the right to produce, use, refer to, and/or reproduce any video tape or audio tape recording of any competition.

Leader Signature:	Date:
Follower Signature:	Date:

Mail completed form to: **Diamond Jubilee Competition Committee, 39270 Paseo Padre Parkway, #102 Fremont, CA 94538-1616**

For Online Competition Registration: www.goldengatedancers.org

Deadline for Competition Registration is August 4th, 2025



2025 Diamond Jubilee Formation Team Showdown

Entry Forms: Entry forms must be returned to Dan Ansaldi, Formation Team Coordinator, by email: daniel.ansaldi@yahoo.com, or standard mail: 1395 E 32nd Street, Oakland, CA 94602. Completed forms must be post-marked or received by July 14th, 2025.

Size of Team: Teams must have a minimum of four members. There is no limit to the maximum number of members who make up your team.

Team Makeup: Teams may be made up of any combination of certified NSD Chapter members, with no restrictions to the makeup of the team, i.e., partners/couples, individuals, or a combination of individuals and partners/couples.

Music: There is no restriction on the type of music. Please have two copies of your music CD or a down-loadable version (flash drive), clearly marked with Chapter name. At the time of your rehearsal, provide any special instructions to the Music person present. It is recommended to keep a separate copy of music and have it with you at the time scheduled for your performance, just in case.

Time: Routines are limited to a maximum of 4 (four) minutes.

Rehearsal: Teams will be notified of a private rehearsal time in advance of arrival. Rehearsals will take place either Saturday or Sunday morning.

Performance: The Diamond Jubilee Formation Team Showdown will take place on Sunday afternoon, August 31st, from 4:25-5:00pm.

Note, the Golden Gate Chapter will perform a Team Dance, but will not be eligible to win.

Judging: Formation Teams will be judged by their fellow NSD members, with members voting for their favorite performance. You are not eligible to vote for your own Chapter.



2025 NSD Convention Formation Team Entry Form

Chapter	
Team Contact	
Phone Number	
Email	
Team Name	
<p style="text-align: center;">Provide a short introduction for your team that the MC will announce prior to your performance</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Please list all members of your Formation Team</p>	

Order Your *Diamond Jubilee* 2025 NSD State Convention Commemorative Merchandise ...and Make the Memories of this Fantastic Weekend Last a Lifetime!

A) T-Shirt

B) Poly-Canvas Tote Bag with Zipper

C) Canvas Tote Bag



Pre-Order and Receive with Your Convention Welcome Packet!

Name(s):								
Product	Quantity	Small	Medium	Large	XL	XXL	Price	Total
A) T-Shirt*								
Unisex Size							\$35	
B) Poly Canvas Tote Bag							\$45	
C) Canvas Tote Bag							\$45	

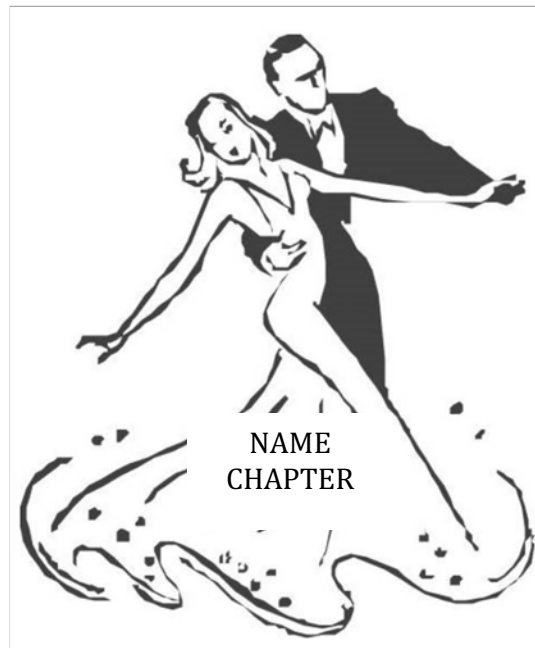
Grand Total =\$

- Transfer Grand Total Amount to the Convention Registration Form
- Return this Form when you mail your Convention Registration
- **Orders Must Be Placed by July 28th** to receive your Commemorative Merchandise with your Welcome Packet at Registration
- A limited amount of merchandise will be available for purchase on site

*For those purchasing the “Brilliant Diamond” Package, we will reach out to get your T-Shirt size

Purchase Your Custom Ballroom Dancers Name Badge

We are offering the opportunity to purchase your own custom ballroom dancers name badge!



- The name badge is 2.5" wide and 3" tall, made of durable plastic, comes with a magnetic attachment and will be die-cut to the shape of the ballroom couple.
- The cost per name badge is \$23. Please add the number of name badges ordered and the total amount due to your Convention Registration form and include it in your total Convention payment.*
- Please return this form with your Convention Registration and indicate:

NAME_____

NAME_____

NSD CHAPTER_____

NSD CHAPTER_____

- If you are not a member of National Smooth Dancers, your name badge can be ordered with your name only.
- **Orders Must Be Placed by July 28th** to receive your name badge with your Welcome Packet at Registration.

*For those purchasing the "Brilliant Diamond" Package, the cost of your name badge is included

NATIONAL SMOOTH DANCERS, INC.
GAVEL CLUB
2025

Dear Fellow NSD Members,

In preparation for the 2025 “Diamond Jubilee” State Convention hosted by the Golden Gate Chapter, I am writing this letter to remind you that nominations for the 2025 Gavel Club Award are now open.

What is the Gavel Club Award: The Gavel Club Award is the highest honor bestowed on a member of the National Smooth Dancers.

What is the Gavel Club: The Gavel Club, made up of all past and current Presidents, is the body that recognizes and rewards outstanding and exemplary service.

Who can be nominated: To be nominated for this high honor, an individual must be a member in good standing and have performed Outstanding service for the National Smooth Dancers Organization at both the Chapter and National levels. The ordinary functions that many perform, while not unimportant are not the criteria for nominating an individual for the Gavel Club Award. The Gavel Club is searching for that exceptional member who is dedicated to the ideals and traditions of NSD and does not recognize chapter boundaries.

How to nominate someone: Nomination letters must contain a description of the qualifications that the nominee possesses. Due to a rule change passed at the 1997 State Convention, only an individual may be nominated (Nominations made for joint candidates are no longer accepted). Any member of the National Smooth Dancers may nominate an individual for the Gavel Club Award. Additionally, nominees do not need to be from your own Chapter—feel free to nominate any individual from any of the 7 NSD Chapters whom you feel deserves this recognition.

When are nominations due: Nomination letters for the 2025 NSD Gavel Club Award, must be received by August 1st, 2025. Please email them to me at daniel.ansaldi@yahoo.com (preferred method) or mail them to the street address below. I’m looking forward to seeing all of you at Convention!

Sincerely,



Dan Ansaldi, Golden Gate Chapter
Gavel Club Chairman

1395 E32nd Street
Oakland, CA 94602
Phone: 415-378-1769
Email: daniel.ansaldi@yahoo.com



Bakersfield Smooth Dancers Present

RETURN TO COPACABANA DANCE

SUNDAY June 22, 2025 - 4-7pm

Farifax Grange, 4 Fairfax Road, Bakersfield

Free to members, \$20 per person for nonmembers
Refreshments will be served ~ Casual dress
Music by The Targets

Cha Cha
6:30-7:30



New Monday
night dance
series starts
June 9th - July 7th

BASICS-FRAME-FORM
FOOTWORK-CONNECTION

Foxtrot
7:30-8:30



\$60 One Class
\$100 Both Classes
\$20 Drop in Class

Instructor: Franco Peraza
francoproduction11@gmail.com
4 Fairfax Road, Bakersfield



Step Into Friday Night Fun!



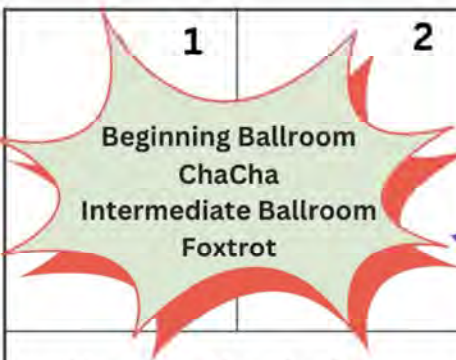


7 to 9 pm ~ Only \$10

Light Refreshments | Friendly People

Everyone Welcome

Fairfax Grange, 4 Fairfax Rd – Bakersfield

Every Friday · Bring a friend or come solo — you'll be dancing in no time!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1  <p>Beginning Ballroom ChaCha Intermediate Ballroom Foxtrot</p>	2	3 6 PM Beg Ballroom 7 PM Int Ballroom 8 PM Int Night Club 2	4 6 PM Int Country 2 7 PM Int WCS 8 PM Karaoke	5 6 PM Beg Country 2 7 PM Beg Night Club 2 8 PM Beg WCS	6	7
Ventura Monday's with Jay Byam  <p>the monday club SWING DANCING & SOCIAL! Lessons 6:00pm Beg-Int East Coast Swing 6:30pm Int-Advanced West Coast Swing 7:45pm SOCIAL DANCING & FUN *UNDER 21 WELCOME! Join The Fun on Mondays! with Jay Byam INFO TEXT YOUR HOST JAY: 805-405-2946 MASONIC LODGE: 482 E Santa Clara St, Ventura \$5 FOR STUDENTS \$15 LESSONS & SOCIAL OR \$5 @ 730PM NOTE: WE ARE CLOSED THE 2ND MONDAYS</p>	10 6 PM Beg Ballroom 7 PM Int Ballroom 8 PM Int Night Club 2	11 6 PM Int Country 2 7 PM Int WCS 8 PM Karaoke	12 6 PM Beg Country 2 7 PM Beg Night Club 2 8 PM Beg WCS	13	14	
		17 6 PM Beg Ballroom 7 PM Int Ballroom 8 PM Int Night Club 2	18 6 PM Int Country 2 7 PM Int WCS 8 PM Karaoke	19 6 PM Beg Country 2 7 PM Beg Night Club 2 8 PM Beg WCS	20	21
22	23	24 6 PM Beg Ballroom 7 PM Int Ballroom 8 PM Int Night Club 2	25 6 PM Int Country 2 7 PM Int WCS 8 PM Karaoke	26 6 PM Beg Country 2 7 PM Beg Night Club 2 8 PM Beg WCS	 <p>BAKERSFIELD DANCE CONNECTION COUNTRY SWING Workshop Saturday, June 21st 21 WORKSHOP 2:00 PM \$15 DANCE 3:00 PM \$15 BOTH \$20 Featuring JOSH HARLESS BAKERSFIELD DANCE CONNECTION.COM 4000 EASTON DR #9</p>	28
29	30					

TUESDAYS: BALLROOM & Night Club Two Step @ The Fairfax Grange: 4 Fairfax Rd, 93307
WEDNESDAYS: Swing, Country, & Karaoke @ Junction Lounge 2620 Buck Owens BLVD
THURSDAYS: BEGINNING DANCE @ Studio X661: 4000 Easton Drive Suite #9, 93309

Private Lessons available by appointment. Call or text Josh @ 661-619-1003

Follow us on
Social Media



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

Red, White, and Blue Celebration!



AFTERNOON DANCE
Sunday July 13th



\$25 Admission



Dance Lesson



DJ Music



Free Parking



Dance Hosts

South San Francisco Recreation Center
901 Civic Campus Way, South San Francisco



1:30-5:00pm



Questions? Reservations? Contact us:

Stella Wong (650) 255-5522 or
stellwong@hotmail.com

Reservations can be made online at:
<https://goldengatedancers.org/reservations>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/goldengatesmoothdancers/>



\$25.00 Admission

Includes

1:30-2:30 PM

Night Club Two Step Lesson
w/ Michelle Kincaid

2:30-5:00 PM

Dancing

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED
by July 11th at 4:30PM

Please Make Checks Payable to
“Golden Gate Smooth Dancers,
Inc.”

Mail To:
Stella Wong
3171 Susan Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066

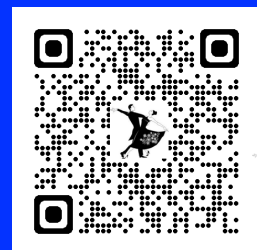
ONLINE RESERVATIONS ARE
ENCOURAGED AT:

[https://goldengatedancers.org/](https://goldengatedancers.org/reservations)
[reservations](https://goldengatedancers.org/reservations)

CREDIT CARD, CHECK, AND
ZELLE PAYMENTS ACCEPTED

*Golden Gate Smooth Dancers, Inc shall not
be held liable for injuries or illness
(including Covid-19) sustained by persons
attending this event.*

Scan QR code with phone for website



Fresno Smooth Dancers presents
All American
Red White & Blue Dance
Hosted By: Carla Hartunian

Wear Red White and/or Blue



Sunday, July 20, 2025

Foxtrot Lesson by Franco Peraza

NSD Members- \$10.00
Guests- \$15.00
First time guests Free

Lesson 2:00
Dancing 3:00 to 5:00



Clovis Community Center
850 Fourth Street
Clovis, California

For More Information call
Nancy at 559-786-9626
www.fresnosmoothdancers.org

Cruise Central

A Collection of Upcoming Cruises from NSD Members

Many of our National Smooth Dancers members love to cruise. In Fresno's case, they changed their coronation weekend to later in June as many people had booked a cruise to Alaska. Golden Gate Queen Lynn found out and was able to join the festivities. I got some positive feedback about adding information about upcoming cruises that have been booked by NSD members. Some may not be an organized group dance cruise, but if you are interested in the destination, it may be good to know others on a cruise. Maybe it will turn into an unofficial dance cruise. Reach out to your Dance Whispers editor, or myself, if you are interested in any of the cruises. Also, if you want to see more detail in future DW editions, let us know.

Cruise Line/Ship	Start/End Date	Departure/ Arrival Port	Destination	Chapter	Notes
Island Princess	June 24, 2025 July 4, 2025	NY City / NY City	Canada, New England	Golden Gate	
Ruby Princess	Sept 24, 2025 Oct 5, 2025	SF / SF	Mexican Rivera	Golden Gate	Dance Group
Celebrity Silhouette	Nov 15, 2025 Nov 23, 2025	Fort Lauderdale/ Fort Lauderdale	ABC Islands (Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao)	Golden Gate	