



Presidents' Message

Happy February dancers! We hope you have all remained healthy this past month during the Omicron hiatus. We have missed you all and we look forward to getting back together with you soon at the classes and dances.

The Omicron variant explosion was very rapid over the last couple of months but now appears to be abating rapidly as well. Current and former CDC officials have been expressing optimism that things could return to a more normal state very soon as long as the population "stays the course". At our February 1st Sets-in-Step Club executive board meeting we were optimistic that the reduction of COVID infection rates would allow us to resume our club activities right away. However, with the new infection rates still above 10%, we decided it was prudent to delay start-up for two additional weeks. Accordingly, we will begin our next square dance training class series on Thursday, February 17 and our regular club dances at the Knights of Columbus Hall will resume on Friday, February 18. So, get out your dancing shoes and limber up those leg muscles... 'cause we're itchin' to dance!

We also had an extended discussion about masking. Our club still requires facial masks at all of our events. We strongly encourage everyone to wear a KF94, KN95, or N95 mask. These provide the best fit and protection for all involved. We will also permit the use of surgical masks (the blue ones) provided they are well fitting. However, we understand from recent research that cloth masks do not provide adequate protection. Should you have a favorite cloth or designer mask that you would like to wear, please wear it over a surgical mask to provide extra protection.

Thank you for your patience and your willingness to follow our health protection guidelines. Your health and that of all our other dancers is our overriding priority. We look forward to seeing you all in mid-February!

Your Co-presidents

Karyn and Jim

Interested in serving on the club's Executive Board? Positions descriptions are in your Club 2021-22 directories. Nominations will be in March, and elections in April. There are lots of ways to help!

The next executive board meeting will be held via Zoom on March 1st at 7:30 pm ...reminder and link will be sent in advance

Club Dances

Here's our upcoming schedule, for club dances at the Knights of Columbus in Montrose. **NEW MASK** requirements: we recommend wearing a KN95, KF94 or N95 mask. If you cannot obtain one of those, wearing a **well fitted** medical mask is acceptable. Cloth masks are no longer sufficient, unless they are worn over a well-fitted medical mask. Sign-in, temperature-taking, and entrance will continue to be at the back door. No refreshments -- water will be provided, or you can bring your own water bottles. Drinks must remain outside.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Decorators</u>
Feb 18	Tim Pepper	Be Mine, Valentine	Joan Walker
Mar 4	Bill Gipson		
Mar 18	Rob Grisby	Irish Green	Roxane Cornelius
Apr 1	Charlie Fagin		
April 15	Paul Waters	Bunny Hop	Sandy MacLennan

Social Square Dance Class

Our class for new dancers is starting up again! Please consider coming out to be an angel and help the new folks get started with dancing. First class will be on Thursday, February 17, 7:30-9:30 pm at St. George's Episcopal Church, 808 Foothill Blvd. All class participants – angels and students – must be vaccinated, and KN95, KF94, N95, or a **well fitted** medical mask will be required.

More about masks: If you would like to read up more and learn how to effectively wear a medical mask:

<https://www.epa.gov/sciencematters/epa-researchers-test-effectiveness-face-masks-disinfection-methods-against-covid-19>

And here is a flyer from the Los Angeles Public Health Department:

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/docs/protection/MasksInfographic.pdf>

Many thanks to Ileana for providing the links, and for all her research!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Stam Hill – February 4th

Sandy MacLennan – February 5th



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Stam Hill and Marie Hadaway-Hill – February 21st

And speaking of happy birthdays: On January 10th, several Sets in Step members and friends had a nice Happy Birthday zoom call with Vance Nelson. Will and Ileana Shaw, Don Hughes and Karyn Smithson-Hughes, and others including some of Vance's bridge group friends were on the call. Vance was his usual optimistic and cheerful self. We miss seeing him, but are glad he's doing well where he is living now, in Colorado.

The following is not a Sets in Step-sponsored event, but we're including the information with our newsletter, in case anyone is interested.

**The San Diego Square Dance Association is proud to present
our 70th annual Fiesta de la Cuadrilla
March 25, 26 & 27 2022
held in beautiful Balboa Park.**

Dance on Friday night in the Recital Hall. 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. with the Callers from the San Diego Caller's Association. The dance is \$7.00. Dancers will pay at the door.

If you attend the SSD, you can visit the other halls but you cannot dance in the Plus hall unless you buy a ribbon for Fiesta. The SSD is a special dance & we hope you will come out & enjoy it. If you have a Fiesta Ribbon or intend to purchase one, you are welcome to dance in the SSD hall with no added charge.

For dancers that do get a ribbon to SSD, you are invited to come back on Saturday for our brunch and Fashion Show. The brunch will start at 9:00 and is \$3.00. **TICKETS ARE PURCHASED AT THE DOOR.** If the city or state decides to do more lock down measures, we may not be able to serve brunch.

The Fashion Show will be a display of past, present & (possibly) future square dance attire. We hope to have club dresses on display.

After brunch & the fashion show, there will be SSD dancing in our Santa Fe Room in the Balboa Park club. Your ribbon from the Friday night dance will be all you need to dance on Saturday. The dancing will be from 10 a.m. to noon.

SSD dancers are welcomed & encouraged to watch the plus dancing and visit the halls.

Suggested accommodations:

The Days Inn, Mission Valley,
call (800) 225-3297 or (619) 220-5102,
543 Hotel Circle S.
San Diego, CA 92108
Cutoff date: Friday February 23, 2022

For additional information, contact:

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