



Wishful Thinking

Volume I

'Wishful Thinking' is the officially royal newsletter of Wish Upon A Thar, 23rd Annual IAGSDC Convention, June 30th – July 3rd, 2006, Anaheim California.

FROM THE QUEEN DYKE

*Attention All Ye Peripatetic Dancers!
Now that the Stars in the firmament of
the Silicon Galaxy have turned in a
Southernly direction, the Queendom of
Fairy Tales*

would

to

land

trees,

beaches,

ears. We

with true

welcoming you to your next great

adventure. We will amaze and fete you

beyond your wildest imaginations. We

will offer you dancing opportunities

galore. We will surprise you and

surround you with spellbinders

extraordinaire who will astound you

with their spells and incantations.

As you draw ever nearer to our land of

Fairy Tales and Fantasies, you will

receive periodic missives from our

troubadour of information, who will

herald the news of our land to one and

all. So, give your dancing feet a rest,



and

Fantasies

bid you a

safe

journey

our

magical

of palm

golden

and mouse

anticipate

fervor

*enjoy your journeys to our realm, and be
prepared to enjoy an extravaganza
beyond compare! The Queendom
Awaits You!*

NEWS FLASH

In case you missed the royal declaration at STSG. Here's the text from the pronouncement;

Queer Ye! Queer Ye!

*The Queendom of Fairy Tales and
Fantasies is hereby announcing an
invitation to a Masked Fantasy
Costume Ball and Convention
Extravaganza!*

*Commencing on June 30 and Collapsing
on July 3 in the year of two thousand
ought six, you are hereby requested to
present yourselves to that Magical Land
of Anaheim, California to partake of
fun, frolic, and
fantasy.*

*During the course of
this extravaganza,
you will be inveigled
by mesmerizing*

spellbinders (referred to by mere

commoners as Square Dance Callers);

feted by entertainers extraordinaire; and



feasted with fare beyond the ken of ordinary mortals.

Our castle of choice for this extravaganza will be the Marriott of Anaheim. Located in the beautiful state of palm trees, golden beaches, and mouse ears, you will be provided with commodious ballrooms in which to twinkle your toes; a pool in which to bathe your royal selves; dining establishments aplenty to gorge yourselves to the fullest; magnificent chambers for your repose; and a cavernous hall in which to dally between your bouts on the dance floors. As is always due and fitting, there will be a chamber reserved for the exclusive use by the Amazons amongst us and their ladies faire – The Dykes of Square Dancing (honorary dykes for the weekend also invited).

During your sojourn to the Land of Fairy Tales and Fantasies, you are invited to participate in a variety of adventures. From journeys across the sea to the Isle of Catalina, to the cliffs of the Royal Getty museum, to the wilds of our local clubs of libations and debauchery, to the Land of Mouse Ears on Thursday, June 29, where you will

dance and frolic till the wee hours of the night; your every adventurous fantasy will come true.

On Sunday, you are invited to participate in our Piece de Resistance: The Masked Fantasy Costume Ball! Come prepared to indulge your every fantastical costuming whim (within a certain degree of discretion, of course – this is a public common, after all). This is your golden opportunity to dress up and parade before your fellow conventioners as well as to dance the evening away in a Fairy Tale Dream.



So, Come One, Come All and venture forth to the Queendom of Fairy Tales and Fantasies. Your presence has been demanded and your enjoyment has been guaranteed. No excuses will be tolerated, so, if you haven't already presented yourselves to the Wizard of Registration, trot right on down and exchange your monies for a passport to the Extravaganza of the Year. It has been so commanded!

Why a Masked fantasy Ball? – See the article on page 11.

Registrar Magistrate Wizard's Corner

From the Wizard!

It was wonderful to see everyone at the Silicon Galaxy. I especially enjoyed everyone who visited my apprentices and I at the Wish Castle. We have processed over 194 passports to Wish Upon A Thar which brings us to a total of 410 Wishies! Spectacular! We also have 130 registrants for the Fun Badge Tour. Boy will that be an unforgettable experience for those travelers.

The registration level has increased to \$169.00 and will remain so until January 31, 2006. The widow's rate remains at \$85.00 until June 15, 2006.

The Counsel would like to remind everyone to stay off of the \$149.00 and \$159.00 levels on pain of death.

Anyway, I've got to run, the Wish consul is beckoning ... tahh tahh!

Martin L. Funches III
Registrar Magistrate



Getting To Know Us!

STSG Thanks for the Memories

On behalf of the Southern California dancers who attended this year's convention in Santa Clara, we'd like to thank the El Camino Reelers and the other area dancers, who helped make STSG so very special. To thank them and to introduce the rest of you to one of your hosts for next year in Anaheim, we'd like to share an article that a first time dancer wrote for the Golden Stater.

"I've been asked by a lot of people what I thought of my first convention. Being a generally poor conversationalist, I usually answer with an inarticulate "It was fun" or "I had a good time". But since the first convention is often seen as a big milestone in the career of a square dancer and because I'd like to encourage others to go to their first convention, I'm going to try to elaborate

on these answers. In many ways my first convention was comparable to another first I had during my youth. Five summers ago, at a small airpark in Ohio, I took my first solo flight. For those of you that don't know the intricacies of flying private aircraft, the first solo is a huge, terrifying event for any fledgling pilot. It usually occurs during a seemingly random lesson when the instructor jumps out of the plane (while it's on the ground) and says "Go, have fun!" That's when you really wish you had paid more attention to the instructor during previous lessons. Then you take off and promptly get lost over the endless cornfields that make up the Midwest and go veering off toward the airspace of a nearby Air Force base. You wonder why you ever took up this particular hobby. Eventually, you find your way home and come in for a bumpy landing. You get out of the plane drenched in sweat and shocked that you made it back to land in one piece. Then

you go home and tell everyone what a great time you had.

So, what does this all have to do with convention? Convention can be an intimidating experience for the first-timer. You're not convinced that you are prepared well enough and you make a lot of mistakes. You get lost and sometimes veer into neighboring squares. You leave some tips drenched in sweat and shocked that you made it out in one piece. But when it's all over you forget all the mistakes and realize that it was truly a unique and fantastic experience. What you tell your friends and what you remember is the great tips, the great people and the great fun. For a while you flew free and it ended all too soon.

Thanks for the memories and I'll see you all in Anaheim ~ Jennifer (Golden State Squares)"

Club Corner

Wish Upon A Thar is being brought to you by five clubs; Bloomin Squares, Empire Squares, Golden State Squares, Shoreline Squares and Tinseltown Squares. This editions' focus is on Bloomin' Squares.

Bloomin' Squares began in Pasadena over pizza and cokes on May 21, 1997. The five founding members got together at the urging of Kim Nagele, our first president. Our thought was to have a club whose dances are in a more convenient location. The constitution and by-laws were ratified on July 4,



1997 and we became a member of the IAGSDC on July 11, 1997 at Wheel & Deal in Las Vegas.

The first order of business was a name, and we had many before Bloomin' Squares was selected. Pasadena Arroyo Seco Squares (PASS) was one, but we decided the initials were all wrong. Our logo was designed with the five founders in mind, thus the five flowers. Roses were chosen for the obvious reason. If you look close, you can see the founding members' initials in the leaves. Over the course of time, we moved our dance location to the Sunland-Tujunga area and now recruit new dancers from the Foothill communities of the San Fernando and San Gabriel valleys. We are the northern-most co-sponsoring club of "Wish Upon A Thar" and proud to be involved in the rare multi-club sponsored IAGSDC convention.

Bloomin' Squares is dedicated to the idea of a democratic club whose only agenda is the enhancement of square dancing. All club members are urged to attend Board meetings and voice their opinions on how to meet our goal.

In addition to dancing, we plan social events for our members and friends. Bloomin' Squares is a warm, friendly club where you can enjoy a variety of activities, and make new friends in the process.

Travel News

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mariontravel@cs.com



Convention Schedule

Tentative – Stay Tuned for Changes!!

HEAR YE!! HEAR YE!!

It is hereby declared that, in order to promote the festivities and good humor, and permit all attendees to maximize their dance time, and to reduce the resultant 8am whining, the Council of Dignitaries from All the Kingdoms (IAGSDC Delegate Meeting) will be called to order on FRIDAY, JUNE 30th, 2006, 2:00p.m. - 6:00p.m. All officials, clubs and their delegates must note this change!

Monday - Wednesday, June 26-28, 2006

GCA Callers School*

Ceremonies

Honky Tonk Queen

Country-Western Dance

Monday - Friday, June 26-30, 2006

Pre-Convention Tours*

Sunday, July 2, 2006

Dancing at All Levels

Banquet

The Masked Fantasy Costume Ball

Thursday, June 29, 2006

Day at Disneyland® park*

Friday, June 30, 2006

Opening Day Festivities

IAGSDC Delegates Meeting

Trail-In Dance

Monday, July 3, 2006

Dancing at All Levels

IAGSDC General Meeting & Brunch

Closing Ceremonies

Saturday, July 1, 2006

Dancing at All Levels

Grand March & Opening

Tuesday, July 4, 2006

Happy Birthday America!

Day at the Beach & Fireworks*

* Optional event, not included with the regular registration.

Registration & Fees

Registration Fees include a convention pin, all dancing, the evening banquet and afternoon brunch and a Magical Square Dance experience you will always treasure.

Registration Fees

\$169 Before January 31, 2006
\$179 Before April 30, 2006
\$189 Before June 15, 2006
\$199 After June 15, 2006

Non-Dancers

\$85 Before June 15, 2006
\$95 After June 15, 2006

Fun Badge Tour \$40

All prices USD\$.

Convention Registration Cancellation

Before October 31, 2005 -- Full refund less \$30 Admin Fee
Between November 1, 2005 and March 31, 2006 -- Full refund less \$50
Admin Fee
After March 31, 2006 -- No refund

Fun Badge Tour Cancellation

Before January 31, 2006 Full refund
After January 31, 2006 No Refund

Convention registration and Fun Badge Tour reservations can be transferred to another person. Please contact us for details.

OUR CALLERS

Anne Uebelacker
Dave Rensberger
David Mee
Deborah Carroll-Jones
Jack Borgström
Michael Kellogg
Mike DeSisto

Mike Jacobs
Saundra Bryant
Tim Crawford
Tim Pepper
Todd Fellegly
Vic Ceder

OUR VENUE

Anaheim Marriott

Located only one block from Disneyland® park, the Anaheim Marriott is the perfect location for a magical and joyful convention! A constant top award-winning hotel for convention service, the Anaheim Marriott has 1030 rooms (most with balconies), and a great abundance of ballroom dance space off a common foyer.

700 West Convention Way
Anaheim, CA 92802-3483
Telephone: 714-750-8000
Toll Free: 800-228-9290

Website: www.AnaheimMarriott.com

Room Rates

Single/Double \$112/night
Triple/Quad \$132/night
Hospitality Suite \$199/night



Reservations may be made after July 26, 2005 and must be made by June 1, 2006. Ask for the "Wish Upon A Thar" group rate.

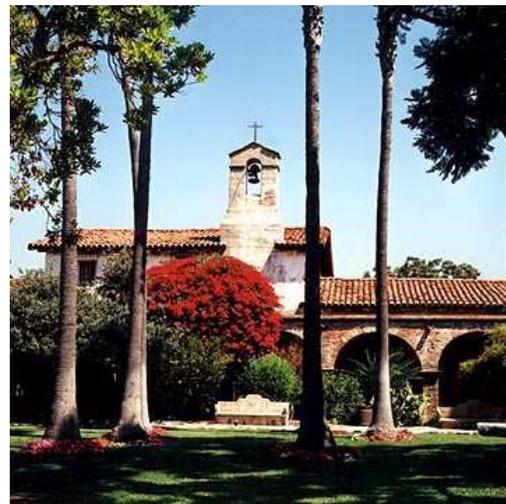
LOCAL HISTORY

Orange County History: 1400 - 1850

Early History

Orange County was first settled by the Native Indians; there were the Gabrieleños and the Juaneños. The names given to these two groups of Indians comes from the Missions that they were closest to: Mission San Gabriel and Mission San Juan Capistrano. They were peaceful people who had great respect for the land. They rarely fought each other. If they did, however, it was because of family feuds that might occur. These would be carried on through many generations. These Indians also had many sacred grounds, one of which is really close to my house:

the Bolsa Chica Mesa. I've heard that the Mesa served as a place



Mission San Juan Capistrano

where only the high religious leaders were able to go. From the Mesa, the Indians could see a great view of the

ocean as well as present day Long Beach and the Palos Verdes

Peninsula. Regular lay-people could not go to the Mesa, since it was sacred.

Exploration

[carneval 2005](#) Sometime in the 1700's, Gaspar de Portolá was commissioned by the Spanish Crown to explore and map the California Coast and to find viable trade routes. He entered Orange County along with Franciscan Monks who hoped to convert the Native Indians. Their first Baptism, performed by Father Juan Crespi and Father Francisco Gomes, came in the area near present day San Clemente, where they have an annual La Christianita Pageant celebration to commemorate this milestone. Portolá gave many of the names of rivers, mountains, and valleys in honor of Catholic Saints. For example, this party named the Santa Ana River. Its full name is Río de la Santa Ana de los Temblores, because there was an earthquake about the time they reached the river. Also, the foothill regions of South County (around El Toro, etc.) was originally given a Christian name, but it was nicknamed Trabuco because a soldier had lost his Trabuco (blunderbuss in Spanish, I think meaning some sort of gun) there. The road they traveled on later became known as El Camino Real. Today, El Camino Real still exists, and is mostly replaced by Interstate 5 for most of the county. The party continued on to Los Angeles County and later to end up in Monterey (even though they missed it and reached the San

Francisco Bay, but they got there eventually).

The Mission Era

Among the people who accompanied Portolá was Father Junipero Serra. He looked for good sites on which he could build missions to work the land and convert the Indians. He did see a good site on the San Juan



Father Junipero Serra

River, and in 1776, with the founding of the United States, he founded Mission San Juan Capistrano. Father Serra built the mission twice; the first time it was abandoned because of word of an Indian uprising. The fathers buried the church bell and returned to the Presidio in San Diego to take refuge. They came back in 1776 to rebuild the mission. Father Serra named Mission San Juan Capistrano after an Italian Saint whom he admired greatly. The mission was a great center for activity: there were thousands of Indians working the land. Few Indians converted to Christianity, however, but eventually they did because the Spanish government said that Indians could own land if they converted. However, with the independence of Mexico in the 1820's, that proclamation was also gone. The new Mexican Government was not as supportive of the Missions as the Spanish were, and the Indians were forced to leave the Missions and work the land. Before the Spanish

left, however, they divided the land into many subdivisions, known as Ranchos. Most of the Indians were not granted land ownership. The ownership was parceled out by way of Spanish and Mexican Land Grants. Among the landowners at that time were the Yorba family, the Peralta family, as well as John Forster. Forster married the sister of the last Mexican Governor, Pio Pico,

and was able to acquire large parcels of land in South County. By the close of the Mexican rule of Alta California, the Missions were in a state of disrepair, abandoned. For a while, John Forster used Mission San Juan Capistrano as his home.

Created by Kenneth Kao, Salinas, CA 93901

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ADVERTISERS

Got an upcoming special dance? Like to let the whole world know that you and your honey are celebrating your six months together? Just plain tired of seeing the same d—mned convention newsletters year after year? If you'd like to advertise in an upcoming issue of Wishful Thinking or on our webpage, contact harvey@wishuponathar.org.

WISH ATTIRE

The Wish council has declared, "NO person, human, ethereal or otherwise, shall enter our fantastical kingdom without appropriate rainment." In order to provide for this common need, the council has caused to be created three coverings for the upper body. (FYI – this is not to imply that attire for the lower body is not required!!) Here are typical specimens of these 'tops' available for purchase on the Wish Web.

Black Polo



Lavender Polo



Sizes Available

S, M, L & XL
XXL & XXXL
XXXXL

\$25.00
\$28.00
\$30.00

Black Tee



Sizes Available

S, M, L & XL
XXL & XXXL
XXXXL

\$15.00
\$18.00
\$20.00

What exactly is a masquerade ball? And why are we having one?

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

A masquerade ball (or masque) is an event which the participants attend in costume, usually including a mask.

Such gatherings were based on increasingly elaborate allegorical pageants and triumphal processions celebrating marriages and other dynastic events of late medieval court life. Masquerade balls were extended into costumed public festivities in Italy during the 15th century Renaissance (Italian, *maschera*). They were generally elaborate dances held for members of the upper classes, and were particularly popular in Venice. They have been associated with the tradition of the Venetian Carnival.

They became popular throughout mainland Europe in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, sometimes with fatal results. Gustav III of Sweden was assassinated at a masquerade ball by disgruntled nobleman Jacob Johan Anckarström, an event which Eugène Scribe wrote about in his play *Gustave III*, and which was later made in to an opera *Un Ballo in Maschera*, by Giuseppe Verdi.

A famous masquerade that was long remembered as the *Bal des Ardents*



("Burning Men's Ball") was intended as a *Bal des sauvages* ("Wild Men's Ball") a costumed ball (*morisco*). It was in celebration of the marriage of a lady-in-waiting of Charles VI of France's queen in Paris on January 28, 1393. The King and five courtiers dressed as wildmen of the woods (*woodwoses*), with costumes of flax and pitch. When they came too close to a torch, the dancers caught fire. Such costumed dances were a special luxury of the ducal court of Burgundy.

John James Heidegger, a Swiss count, is credited with having introduced the Venetian fashion of a semi-public masquerade ball, to which one might subscribe, to London in the early eighteenth century, with the first being held at Haymarket Opera House. Throughout the century the dances became popular, both in England and Colonial America. Its prominence did not go unchallenged; a significant anti-masquerade movement grew alongside the balls themselves. The anti-masquerade writers (among them such notables as Henry Fielding) held that the events encouraged immorality and "foreign influence". While they were sometimes able to persuade authorities to their views, enforcement of measures designed to end masquerades was at best desultory.

Masquerade balls are still held today, though in modern times the party atmosphere is emphasized and

the formal dancing usually less prominent. Less formal "costume parties" may be a descendant of this tradition.

The picturesque quality of the masquerade ball has made it a favorite topic or setting in literature. Edgar Allan Poe's short story "The Masque of the Red Death" is based on the concept of a masquerade ball in which a central figure is just what he is costumed to be.

Why a masquerade ball at a gay square dance weekend?

There has been a long history connecting masquerade balls, queer sensibility and square dancing. What - square dancing and queers! Well, actually the longest connection is to the quadrille, which is commonly taken as one of the major contributors to modern western square dancing. This connection between quadrilles and masques is shown in these references from around the world and for the last century or so.

Winfield Courier, (IOWA) January 17, 1884.

The Masquerade. The members of the Pleasant Hour Club have made the winter thus far very pleasant in a social way. Their hops have been well attended, and the utmost good feeling and harmony has prevailed. Their masquerade ball last Thursday evening was the happiest hit of the season. The floor was crowded with maskers and the raised platforms filled with spectators. At nine o'clock the "grand march" was called, and

the mixture of grotesque, historical, mythological, and fairy figures was most attractive and amusing. Then, when the quadrilles were called, the effect of the clown dancing with a grave and sedate nun, and Romeo swinging a pop-corn girl, was, as one of the ladies expressed it, "just too cute."

THE MASK by Guy de Maupassant (Paris, France before 1892)

There was a masquerade ball at the Elysee-Montmartre that evening. One of them, who had taken his place in the most famous quadrille, as substitute

From a woman's diary, Miami, Indian Territory, (OKLA) Thursday, November 24, 1904, "danced quadrilles and waltzes at the masquerade ball."

Modern day Venice, Italy
Dance Announcement
Saturday, February 05, 2005
GRAN GALA A LA BELLE EPOQUE
- "ALL'OMBRA DELLE FANCIULLE IN FIORE"

"as they guide intrigued guests through fascinating polonaises, contradances, waltzes, and quadrilles."
Dress code: you are kindly requested to disguise yourself.

In New York City, and most likely elsewhere as well, during the 'roaring' twenties, the not quite so closeted Harlem Fag/Fairy Balls were formal masquerade balls for homosexual couples. For many a New York socialite, not to mention those whose 'proclivities' needed to

be hid behind a mask, these Harlem Balls were the perfect opportunity to trot out their most outrageous costumes and let their libidos run free. In fact, the legal charge: impersonating a woman, or



Carneval 2005, Cologne, Germany

what was sometimes termed "masquerading." Although repressive social attitudes forced "fairies" and "lady lovers" underground in the '20s and '30s, prompting them to create distinct worlds separate from heterosexual culture and invisible to the untrained eye. The "Fag/(fairy) Masquerade Ball," for example, was an annual event in which 6,000 queers, "colored and white," would cavort in private at a location in Harlem, with the men dressing as women and

vice versa. Raids on these events were initially rare. It is known that the NYPD's 'policeman's beneficiary fund' had treasury deposits to guarantee the safety of the events and both the arrival and departure of the attendees. Later raids, despite continued generous donations, occurred to distract the public and press from other, and more important, New York City government scandals. (Nothing ever changes!) These hearty social pioneers were violating not only myriad prevailing social morals and customs, but laws against same sex anything, cross-dressing, mixed race events, and, we assume Prohibition. FYI - prohibition ran from January 16, 1920 to December 5, 1933.

To get an idea of what one of these events was like, picture Paris Is Burning but with the elaborate costumes of the 20's. Thousands of drag kings and queens, their escorts all dressed to kill, with the thrilling danger of arrest in the background.

How could we not have a Fantasy Masquerade Ball?