

PRESIDENT - MB Swikard



Dancing has been a life-long passion and through my SDNLD club participation I have been able to share that love of dancing- by teaching line dance classes and serving as a board member for SDNLD.

I hope to continue that mission in the coming year by serving as your President.

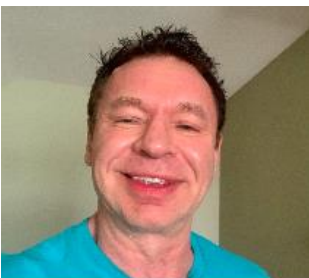
I hope we can continue to grow the club by making line dancing accessible to all levels of dancers and keeping our Socials and Workshops fun for all members. I will continue the mission of seeking more active participation in club activities by the members- the club will only continue to thrive with cooperation and volunteerism.

VICE PRESIDENT – Julie Blakeley



My name is Julie Blakeley and I am running for Vice President of SDLND. I was born and raised in Vietnam, and I am an accountant. My first experience with line dancing began with Diane Rojas' class in April 2011 when I joined for stress relief. I am now taking classes with Mary Beth Swikard (MB). I enjoy dancing with all of you at the socials and workshops and look forward to serving as a board member.

SECRETARY – Tom Wood



I'm Tom Wood. I am originally from New Jersey and have lived in San Diego for 25 years now. I started line dancing in one of the local country dance clubs in San Diego over 15 years ago. My partner Chi and I were first introduced to popular line dance at the 2016 Windy City Line Dance event in Chicago. We discovered San Diego 'N' Line Dancers after searching local groups that dance at the level we saw in Chicago. I've been enjoying dancing at the workshops and socials with SDNLD ever since. I'm grateful for classes with MB and Nancy Liskevych who have pushed my growth as a dancer. I have enjoyed giving back a little by teaching line dances at the classes and SDNLD workshops and volunteering to bring water and soda to the socials.

I retired as a full-time software engineer position for a San Diego company building software for the credit union industry. I live with Chi in our home in University Heights.

I look forward to serving on the SDNLD board for the fourth time and would appreciate your vote for Secretary. I feel I have good insight into the line dance community and can contribute to continuing our organization's positive momentum.

TREASURER – Carole Bennett



- Born and raised in New Orleans, LA
- Served one enlistment in the US NAVY
- Graduated Mercyhurst College, Erie, PA with a BA in Business
- Worked in Biotech for 20 years

I started line dancing about 11 years ago and currently attend classes with MB and Carol Stroecker.

I look forward to serving on the SDNLD Board as your treasurer to help with making the club activities fun and exciting.

IDA DELEGATE – John Knapp



My name is John Knapp. I've lived in the San Diego area since '77 courtesy of the USN from which I retired in '95. I started dancing in '79 with Israeli Folk Dancing and added International Folk soon

after. I am currently on the board of the Folk Dance Center.

I started doing Country Western dancing (couple and line) in 2006 at InCahoots then the Wagon Wheel in 2008 and joined the SDNLD's in 2009 with whom I have participated in many County Fair and IDA festival performances. I organized the SDNLD's participation in the Fair & IDA Festival in 2022. I did teach a line dance class for a few years. I've been the 2nd IDA delegate for the last few years and am now running for 1st IDA delegate.

IDA ALTERNATE DELEGATE – Jim Wellnitz



I started line dancing back in 2012 to meet new like-minded individuals. My first instructor was Diane Rojas, then Cathie Lopez with a sprinkling of a few others, and finally MB Swikard. My love of line dancing developed into a three-pronged reward: yes, I met many wonderful people; but the mental challenge, as well as physical challenge and the ability to express the love of music with dance, brought it all together.

As a former Treasurer of SDNLD (2013-2016) and President in 2017, I'm familiar with the workings of this club. Now being retired after 45 years in the publishing/distribution business, I would enjoy giving back to this club that has so richly rewarded me.