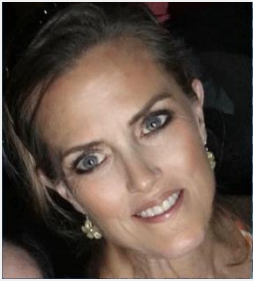


## **MB Swikard, President**



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 continue that mission in the coming year by serving as President for the club.

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.

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## **Julie Blakeley, Vice-President**



My name is Julie Blakeley and I am the 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. Now, I am taking classes with Mary Beth Swikard (MB) and with Tom Wood/Chi Lee. I enjoy dancing with all of you at the socials and workshops and look forward to serving as a board member.

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## **Carole Bennett, Treasurer**



- 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 2011 and currently attend classes with MB Swikard and Carol Stroecker. As your treasurer, I hope to help make the club activities fun and exciting.

## [Tom Wood](#), Secretary



I started line dancing in one of our local country dance clubs in San Diego over 15 years ago. I was first introduced to popular line dance at the 2016 Windy City Line Dance event in Chicago. After searching local groups that dance at the level I saw in Chicago, I discovered San Diego 'N' Line Dancers. Since then I enjoy dancing regularly at the SDNLD workshops and socials. I have served as secretary on the SDNLD board since 2020, helping out with our web site, board meetings and social media.

## [John Knapp](#), Delegate



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 was the 2nd IDA delegate for a few years and am now the 1st IDA delegate and am running again for the position.

## Jim Wellnitz, 2nd Delegate



I'd like to continue as the backup IDA delegate for the 2024 year. I've been a member of SDNLD for roughly eleven years. During this time I've been treasurer for two and a half years, president and an active participant in this club as well as the current IDA backup delegate.

Dancing has been a very rewarding hobby (bringing unknown pleasures beyond the obvious dancing). I wasn't expecting friendships and camaraderie; this was almost more rewarding than the dancing itself. If you add in the mental and physical aspects, dancing is a four-pronged pleasure for me. Other hobbies keeping me busy since my retirement in early 2022 are Racquetball, Pickleball, bike riding, hiking, and motorcycling (which I sold last year).

It has been a pleasure to be a part of SDNLD and I hope to continue helping and being a part of this club.