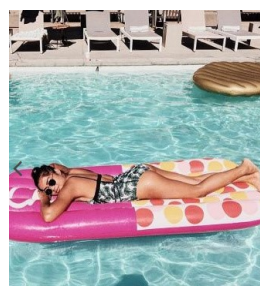




34th Annual IAGSDC Convention .. Palm Springs, California
June 30—July 3, 2017

Newsletter 8 .. March 2017



WELCOME TO OUR WOMEN CONVENTIONEERS

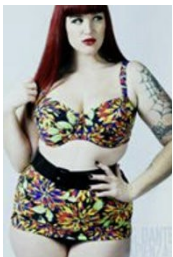
The Palm Springs Swing & Mix 2017 Organizing Committee is working to create a convention for WOMEN to embrace, enjoy and remember. We are happy that women from all over the world will be coming to Palm Springs to enjoy the entire variety of what the city and valley have to offer.

At the inception of convention planning, we developed a motto and core of values. We stand by the principle of Square Dancing -- that "square dancing is friendship set to music". "Inclusiveness" is one of our convention committee's Core Values. And as an IAGSDC convention, we abide by the organizing principle that the IAGSDC is an **LGBTQ*** organization. This means that ALL are welcome at any of our events, whether female, male, transgendered, transitioning, "queer" or any other label or designation that seeks to separate people from having fun with each other. We will not label or limit a person based on arbitrary designations, traits or conditions – that is what the asterisk/star means in the "LGBTQ*" description of the IAGSDC organization. Currently our registration percentages are 2/3 attendees designating themselves as male and 1/3 designating themselves as female.

Here is a short list of events we feel are of interest to women for consideration:

- ♦ **WOMANSPACE** — Women's Hospitality Room for all women. It is the only truly gender-specific item that we are operating. Any male entering the room would do so only upon invitation by those present in the SPACE.
- ♦ **POOL TIPS** — This event is open to any dancer who wants to enter the pool and earn a Ducky Dangle. Come splash with your sisters and brothers
- ♦ **EARLY ARRIVALS** — The next two items are pre-convention events.

- ♦ **"TIPS AT THE TOP" DINNER DANCE** — This pre-convention event is high in altitude and high in energy ... a picturesque dinner/dance event at the top of Mount San Jacinto's Palm Springs Aerial Tramway. Called by Sandra Bryant of Chicago, this all-inclusive signature event occurs on the Wednesday 28 June. Registration is via the iagsdc.org website.
- ♦ **"CHILL OUT AT CHILL" DANCE** — Terri Sherrer, caller-supreme for the Windmill Twirlers (an IAGSDC member club), the local Coachella Valley str8 clubs and adjoining areas, will be calling a FREE dance at Chill Bar on Arenas Avenue. This dance will be in conjunction with the Palm Springs Village Fest street fair. CHILL BAR is one of our convention sponsors.
- ♦ **SISTER BINGO** — The Palm Springs chapter of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence is an inclusive group of both female and male members. They will be facilitating a Bingo session where participants can win prizes.
- ♦ **POOLSIDE TEA DANCES** — Retr0-themed outdoor freestyle afternoon dances, highlighting music from the disco era (and thereafter) in homage to the dance parties at "The Dinah" (women's festival for gals) and the "White Party" (for guys). All are encouraged to experience the feel and ecstasy of these famed Palm Springs parties.
- ♦ **PUB CRAWL** — You are welcome to come out and see some of the watering holes of Palm Springs. Bars are aimed at LGBT customers. In Palm Springs, women and men drink together.
- ♦ **HUNKY TRUNKS KING** — This event is open to all who wants to wear their trunks, and do a pool side walk to strut their stuff. This event was held at 3 historic conventions, but has been on hiatus for several years. Past attendees state that there were females, ladies, women and girls at the ones held in the past, as well as, males, men, bear "gurls", queers, nellies and dandies. Come walk the walk.
- ♦ **HONKY TONK QUEEN** — ALL are welcome to enter, participate, as well as to attend and enjoy from the audience. The HTQ event is not limited to "drag", and is certainly not just a male gender event as well.
- ♦ **C/W & Contra Dancing...** open to all dancers who wish to experience an alternative to square dancing during the weekend. The convention will feature an introduction to Contra's, and the C/W Hoedown will include line dancing as well as couples dancing.



Final Note: We are utilizing female and male callers, volunteers and drag personalities who will work, or promote, or emcee all events, as part of the variety of the LGBTQ* community. We hope you enjoy our characters, our activities, and events all brought to you in the spirit of our convention motto... **"Everything you'd expect at an IAGSDC convention...with a twist!"** So in the words of Miss Flo Motion, our entertainment spokes *persona*, "Plan on slipping' on your boots, hitching up your chaps, ruffling your petticoats, and strutting your leather-n-lace cause this here dance party hoe down in the desert will include **ALL** of our square dance **family!**"

This article is brought to you by:
The Palm Springs Swing & Mix 2017 Entertainment Committee ... Bringing you "The Summer of WOW!"

From A Woman's Perspective By Terri Sherrer

Terri Sherrer is one of our women Callers at our event. She is also the Club Caller for Windmill Twirlers, which meets every Thursday in Palm Springs; and, a featured Caller at Bloomin' Squares in the greater Pasadena area.



I want to personally invite you to attend our **Palm Springs Swing and Mix** convention and welcome you to the women's community here in Palm Springs and the surrounding Coachella Valley. I'm looking so forward to meeting up with you during the convention events.

I also want to let our women conventioners know what is happening here in Palm Springs. Some of you may already know that one of the biggest worldwide attended Women's only event, **"The Dinah Shore,"** (celebrating the days around the Ladies Professional Golf Association tournament, held at our host hotel, the Renaissance Palm Springs) is held here in the Coachella Valley every April. This event, that is no-longer just about golf, is now infamously known as **"The Dinah"**.

This event brings hundreds of women into town for a raucous good old time. What you may not know is that the local businesses look forward to this event every year and offer special women-only programming.

Businesses are lesbian-friendly, not just during **the Dinah**, but all year long as Palm Springs has a very vibrant women's community. There is no shortage of women's presence here in the valley, and the valley is attractive all year round to various women's events.

We have Women-only resorts here and there is also a Lesbian writers conference that gets held here in Palm Springs at one of those resorts. Local and visiting women often check out the **Coachella Valley Lesbians** Facebook page and also the **LSpot in Palm Springs** Facebook page to find out about some of the local events.

There are ongoing dining out events for single women as well as Women entertainment events that are posted there. We will be having a **WomanSpace** (women's hospitality lounge) at the convention and yes, there will be jig saw puzzles, as well as other fun activities in the lounge.

I want you to plan on having a great time here in Palm Springs this summer. Watch for my newsletter articles highlighting events **From a Woman's Perspective** in future issues of the e-newsletter, print newsletter, our convention app on Guidebook.com, and on Facebook. Please let me know if there is anything you need more information about. See you here in July.

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