

The GHILLIE CALLUM

Volume 36 No. 4

December 2004

RAY AND SUSIE'S WEDDING



Los Angeles Branch Chairman, Ray Tucker, married Susie Smyth in a lovely outdoor ceremony, August 14, at a hilltop church near their new home. Friends and family joined in wishing them well at the luau-style reception.

Photos were taken by Robyn George.



1

**LOS ANGELES BRANCH
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS
2004-05**

DECEMBER

31 Hogmanay. Westchester Senior Center. 8740 Lincoln Blvd. 7:30 p.m. Musicians: The Heathertones. Contact: Bill Hartung: 310.539.6921.

JANUARY 2005

22 Burns Supper & Ball. Ports O'Call, Berth 76, San Pedro. 6:00 p.m. Musicians: Thistle Band. Contact: Carol Johnson: 310.372.8535.

FEBRUAR

26 Beginner Dance. 7:00 p.m. Van Nuys/ Sherman Oaks Sr. Center. Record. music

MARCH

26 Monthly Dance. 7:00 p.m. Van Nuys/ Sherman Oaks Senior Center. Music, TB

APRIL

23 Beginners Dance. 7:30 p.m. Torrance Cultural Arts Center. Music TBA

MAY

8 Tea Dance. 2:00 p.m. Simi Valley Senior Center. Music TBA

JUNE

25 AGM and Pot Luck. TBA VN/SO Senior Center. Music, TB



DANCING AMONG PEAKS AND VALLEYS

During the summer, Tehachapi dancers hosted a BBQ and dance. It was outside in our cool mountain air at Brite Lake. We had dancers and their families come from Ridgecrest, Lancaster, the entire class from Bakersfield and some braved the journey from the San Fernando Valley.

We started with a wonderful BBQ cooked by Dean Byers. Two pipers came from the Tehachapi Mountain Pipers and played for us. The afternoon ended with dancing till it was dark. We had requests for a repeat of the event next year. If this happens, I will try to get the information to more people who may want to travel to the mountains.

Barbara Mackenzie

OTHER EVENTS

OC = Orange County Branch

SD = San Diego Branch

SGV - San Gabriel Valley Branch

DECEMBER

11 OC Christmas Ball – Tustin Senior Center

JANUARY 2005

15 SGV Burns Supper. 5 pm. War Memorial Bldg, So. Pasadena. Musicians: Calum MacKinnon & Lisa Scott.

FEBRUARY

12 OC Beginner Dance

13 SGV Basic Technique Workshop #3
South Pasadena

19 SGV Dance

MARCH

19-20 SGV Workshop

APRIL

8-10 InterBranch Camp Cedar Glen Workshop – Julian

16 SGV Basic Technique Workshop #4
Culver City

MAY

14 OC Dance

14 Thistle Ball - Vancouver, B.C., Canada. Dinner dance at the Squamish Nation's Hall, North Vancouver. \$45, RSCDS members. Musician: Marion Anderson. Contact: Barbara MacKenzie: mackenzie@csurfers.net.

27-29 USS Scottish Games – Pomona

JUNE

11 OC AGM and Dance

JULY

29-31 TAC AGM, Shawnigan Lake, Vancouver Island, British Columbia

31-August 7 TAC Summer School, Shawnigan Lake, Vancouver Island, British Columbia

SEPTEMBER

24 – Interbranch Dance – LA Host

CHANGES TO YOUR BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Circumstances have necessitated two changes to your elected Branch Board Of Management.

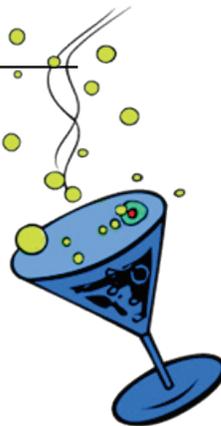
Member-at-large Robyn George has been recalled to her position with American Airlines and will be based in New York for the immediate future. She has found it necessary to submit her resignation from the Board. In keeping with our by-laws, Claudia Pedersen has been appointed by the Board to complete Robyn's term. Robyn will continue to work on our events when her schedule permits.

Corresponding Secretary Susie Smyth-Tucker has decided to sit for the board exams for Advanced Practice in Pediatrics in order to better serve the children with whom she works daily. Due to the exigencies of her private practice and the time required to prepare for the exams, she finds it necessary to resign from the Board. Bill Hartung has been appointed by the Board to complete her term.

I know that you will all join us in wishing Robyn and Susie all the best in their new endeavors, and welcoming Claudia and Bill to our management team.

Ray Tucker, Chairman

Happy New Year - 2005!



❁ ❁ HOGMANAY CELEBRATION ❁ ❁

Have you made plans yet for New Years Eve? If not, come to our annual Hogmanay party on December 31st, 2004. What better way to spend New Year's Eve than dancing to lively Scottish music, sipping champagne or cider, and browsing the food tables in a festively decorated dance hall? Incredibly, you can get all this for a donation of only \$20! The doors will open at 7:30 pm and the dancing will begin at 8 pm and continue until midnight. Bring your favorite finger food to share; sandwiches and trifles will be provided. You can make your reservation by December 20th through your teacher, or call Bill or Nancy Hartung (chairpersons) at (310) 539-6921 to reserve your spot. (*Note*: Due to new Parks & Rec. Dept. regulations, we will not be allowed to accept reservation money at the door, so please do plan ahead.) See you there!

Doris Fisher

❁ BURNS SUPPER & BALL ❁

Mark your calendar for Saturday, January 22, 2005, and plan now to join us for an elegant dinner and dance at the Ports O'Call Restaurant in San Pedro. We are pleased to return to this venue for our one formal, sit-down dinner for the year. The dinner will begin with the traditional Burns elements, including the Toast to the Queen, Haggis piped in by a bagpiper, the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns, and the Toasts to the Lads and the Lasses, enjoyed while you are being served a delicious dinner (beef, salmon or vegetarian choices). The no-host bar will open at 6:00 pm, the dinner will be served at 6:30 pm, and dancing will take place from 8:30 to 11:30 pm. The six-piece Thistle Band led by Jack Rennie will provide the lively music for this occasion.

Invite your friends and family to join you for this event, as there will be a demonstration at the first break by our own LA Branch Team led by Mary Brandon, as well as demonstrations of Highland dancing. The Immortal Memory will be done in a new format, sure to inform and entertain you. The ticket price remains very reasonable: members \$40, non-member \$44, and non-dancers \$37 - a great value for a delicious meal and a night of dancing in an elegant setting! You can purchase tickets through your teacher, or call the registrar for this event, Carol Johnson at 310.372.8535 no later than January 15th, 2005. *Doris Fisher*

BURNS SUPPER

Saturday, January 22
Ports O' Call Restaurant
Berth 76, San Pedro
Music: The Thistle Band

Nice to See You	B/R	Book 40
The Rakish Highlandman	I/J	Book 19
Fair Donald	B/S	Book 29
Bonavista	A/R	Newfoundland
The Nurseryman	I/J	Book 37
Ha! Ha! The Woin' o' It	B/R	MMM I
Sands of Morar	A/S	Glasgow Branch
O'er the Border	I/J	The South Gate
Cherrybank Gardens	I/S	Bankhead 1
Noah's Ark	B/J	Book 43
The Piper and the Penguin	I/R	Scotia Suite
Wisp of Thistle	B/S	Book 37
Midnight Oil	A/J	Bankhead 3
The Celebration Strathspey	I/S	Book 43
Falls of Rogie	I/R	Alexander 1



MONTHLY DANCE

Saturday, March 26, 7 p.m.
Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Senior Center
5040 Van Nuys Blvd., Sherman Oaks
Music: TBA

Kelso Races	B/R	MMM II
The Chequered Court	I/J	Book 42
Campbell of Cawdor	B/S	Birmingham
Bonavista	A/R	Newfoundland
Tattie Bogle	I/J	Carnforth
The Royal Yacht Britannia	I/R	Book 43
Andrew's Fancy	B/S	L.A. 25 th Anniversary
Macleod's Fancy	I/J	Book 33
Sands of Morar	A/S	Glasgow Branch
The Reel of the 51 st Division	B/R	Book 13
The Glenora Ferry	A/J	An Itch to Dance
The Gentleman	I/S	Book 35
Gloria's Wee Jig	B/J	The Devil's Quandary
Cherrybank Gardens	I/S	Bankhead 1
General Stuart's Reel	I/R	Book 10
Naughty Nancy	B/J	Solstice
The Piper and the Penguin	I/R	Scotia Suite

BEGINNER DANCE

Saturday, February 26, 7 p.m.
Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Senior Center
5040 Van Nuys Blvd., Sherman Oaks
Music: recorded

Noah's Ark	B/J	Book 43
The Royal Yacht Britannia	I/R	Book 43
Wisp of Thistle	B/S	Book 37
The Chequered Court	I/J	Book 42
Mr. Watson's Favourite	B/R	Graded Book
Galloping Carousel	B/J	Ottawa 25 Years
The Braes of Breadalbane	I/S	Book 21
The Royal Deeside	B/R	Book 40
Railway		
Bedrule	B/S	Book 33
The Nurseryman	I/J	Book 37
Kelso Races	B/R	MMM II
The Thornhill Strathspey	I/S	15 Social Dances
Gloria's Wee Jig	B/J	Devil's Quandary
The Marquis of Lorne	B/S	MMM II
West's Hornpipe	I/R	Five for 65
Tattie Bogle	I/J	Carnforth
The Reel of the 51 st Division	B/R	Book 13



NEW MEMBERS

The Branch is pleased to welcome the following new members: Dore Ozdy, Irene Sanders, Erin Holman, Robert Littlehale (also from Boston Branch), Elaine Light and Beatriz Marcellino-Calzadilla.

We apologize for misspelling Bonnie Waters name in the last issue. We hope that you enjoy dancing with us.

Melinda & Frank

A Scottish Toast

May the best ye've ever seen
Be the worst ye'll ever see,
May a moose ne'er leave yer giral
Wi'a tear drap in his e'e,
May ye aye keep hale and he'rtly
Till ye're auld enough tae dee
May ye aye be juist as happy
As I wish ye aye tae be.

CLASS REPORTS

VALLEY COLLEGE

Our class is back in the college's Field House, where we have met for many years. It's not as new as the dance studio, but there's lots and lots of room. Come join us— class starts at 7:30 p.m. every Monday.

A number of our dancers attended the Seaside Games in Ventura in October. A special highlight was the "ballette" on Saturday afternoon.

Christine Richard (formerly Murphy) spent two weeks in Switzerland visiting her family. Her father had surgery recently, so everyone was happy to have her there. She got a chance to get away one day and do some ice-climbing in the Alps.

Ingrid Armour went on vacation to the St. Juan Islands off the coast of Washington. She said it was beautiful, although she felt it difficult to get back off the islands. On some islands there are only two ferries a day and you may have to sit and wait for hours in line only to find out there is no room for you on the ferry.

Jon Reeves is working hard on the Burbank float for the Rose Parade, helping build the framework for all the cute creatures. Be sure to look for it on New Year's Day. Deborah Ash is delighted that the entertainment business seems to be doing better this year and she is busier than ever doing costuming for the shows.

We are delighted that Bob Littlehale from Boston is still in town dancing with us. He attended the Halifax workshop this summer and said it was great. He decided that since he has been here so much, he might as well join our branch.

Jon, Aase and Audrey attended the San Diego Branch's Julian retreat weekend in November. That is a weekend of playing games, reading, chatting, doing puzzles, hiking and generally having a good time. Aase has been going to it for over 20 years.

Aase Hansen and Audrey Ramsay Prest

For a' that, and a'that,
It's comin' yet for a' that,
That Man to Man, the world o'er,
Shall brothers be for a' that!

Robert Burns

SUMMER SCHOOL

Every summer it is possible to go to St. Andrews in Scotland and attend summer school for either one or two weeks. The summer school is held over a period of four weeks, so we are talking about a great number of people coming from all over the world to attend day classes for a week in beautiful old St. Andrews.

What is often less known is that TAC (Teachers Association, Canada) also holds a summer school but only for one week and always in Canada. Until 1998, it had always been held at different locations in the Ontario area. In 1998 it was held at a university in Vancouver, British Columbia. That was a huge success although the floors we danced on were not the best. After that summer, it went back to Ontario, namely in Waterloo.

TAC has decided that summer school next year will be July 31 – August 7, 2005. It will be held at the Shawnigan Lake School, Shawnigan Lake, Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Shawnigan Lake is just north of Victoria. I have never been to Vancouver Island, but the ones who have tell me it is beautiful.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. The ones of us who went last time had a wonderful time. There are classes during the mornings and dances and on one night a ceilidh during the evenings. In the afternoon, you can either take a specialty class or go sightseeing. You will be having the best of teachers and musicians. Don't miss this opportunity. It may be another seven years before summer school is that close to us again.

Aase



TAC AGM

Scottish country dance teachers and members of the TAC mark your calendar now and plan to attend the AGM held before summer school next summer, on July 29-31, 2005.

We have not had an AGM on the West Coast since it was held on the Queen Mary in 1997. Make it part of your summer vacation.

Aase

Pat and I would like to thank all the members for the cards and phone calls on the death of my son, Stephen Dale Ziegler, who passed away at the age of 34 years old. He departed on Aug. 14, 2004 at 12:30 A.M. His death will leave a void in my heart and life, because Stephen was such a part of my life. Your condolences have helped ease the pain. Again I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart.

John and Pat Ziegler.

CAMP CEDAR GLEN

At the follow-up meeting after last spring's workshop at Camp Cedar Glen, Julian, it was decided that it had been so popular that we wanted to repeat it again this coming spring. The date is April 8-10. This year we will avoid having to get up an hour early because of daylight savings time.

The workshop committee is in the process of booking musicians and teachers. At this time, I can tell you that Muriel will again be our featured piano player, and her husband, Bill Zobel, will be one of the teachers. I have just heard that he did a fabulous job at Asilomar. Another of our favorite guest teachers, Ruth Jappy, has been invited and accepted. No one teaches technique better than Ruth. Her husband Alex has been invited to be her classroom musician. The ones of us who have heard Alex play have always enjoyed him. The arrangements for a fiddler and a third teacher have not been finalized.

One very important change will be that we are negotiating to have an outside caterer provide the meals. We are also trying to get special rates at some of the B & Bs in Julian.

Most of the committee from last year will repeat their jobs. Marjorie McLaughlin will continue to be the chairperson, and Pat Grivetti will be the co-chair. However, if you would like to help, please let us know. We can always use extra hands. *Aase*

Northridge

Classes resumed with enthusiasm on September 16th and participants were glad to don their dancing shoes and join in with friends to begin the 2004-2005 year.

Everyone was excited to learn that Linda Mcwade's daughter, Alison continues to make good progress. We're pleased that her recovery is going well and our thoughts were with them both throughout the summer.

A big Hooray for Laura and Matt Hussman who are expecting their second child. The baby is expected in May. This is wonderful news although we will miss Laura's enthusiasm on Thursday evenings. We'd just about gotten Matt convinced that he would thoroughly enjoy Scottish Country Dancing but now we'll have to wait a while. We hope they'll be able to stop by for a visit or two and bring us up to date.

Robyn George has learned that she will be returning to work in November. We are very happy for her but it is hoped that she will use her powers of persuasion as a Flight Attendant to get flights back to L.A. on Thursdays. Being based in New York may make that a bit difficult, but we want her to know that her smile and wonderful sense of humor will be missed by all of us!

We all shared in Erika Pedersen's excitement as she officially announced her plans to be married in the Spring. She and her fiancée, Stephen Basak, have been dating for two years and we got to meet him when he came up with her to enjoy the Seaside Games. Everyone is delighted for you, Erika!

Our class was very pleased to put on a demonstration at the Highland Games in Ventura on Sunday, October 10th. Deanna selected two dances: The Piper and the Penguin and The Fisherman's Reel as well as a medley of 12 Coates Crescent and The Tri-Mariner for the presentation. There were ten enthusiastic participants and fun was had by all.

Claudia Pedersen





DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY HAS AWARDED THE

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS COMMENDATION MEDAL

(WITH COMBAT DISTINGUISHING DEVICE)

TO

SERGEANT JAMES A. TUCKER
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

SSgt TUCKER RECEIVES COMMENDATION

SSgt James Tucker (who is Ray Tucker's son) has been awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, with V for valor, "for heroic achievement while serving as a vehicle commander...in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II on June 7, 2004...Although wounded in the back and jaw, Sergeant Tucker debarked from his LAV, to check on his wounded Marines and returned effective fire against the enemy using the rifle of another wounded Marine. Until he was medevaced, he continued to coordinate interunit fires, engaging the enemy and providing assistance to the platoon commander...Sergeant Tucker's courageous actions, initiative and complete dedication to duty reflected credit on him and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service." Sergeant Tucker also received the Purple Heart.



Another photo of the practice of dances from Book 45.

Demonstration Team Auditions

As a result of a decision made at the September board meeting, open auditions for the Branch Demonstration Team will be held twice yearly in early Fall and in February. Dates for the February auditions will be announced soon. If you are interested, please contact your teacher or a team member.

Ray Tucker

ST ANDREWS BALL

Looking for a way to burn off some calories after Thanksgiving? If so, come to our annual St. Andrews Ball the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 27th, 2004, at the Masonic Temple in El Segund. The hall will open at 6:00 pm. A delicious dinner catered by Maddie Rackley will be served buffet style at 6:30 pm, along with snack and dessert at the breaks. The dancing will begin at 7:30 with a grand march. Our musicians will be the talented Calum McKinnon on fiddle and Lisa Scott on piano. So, come prepared to dance your socks off! For tickets, contact your teacher or call chairperson Doris Fisher at 310.324.2759 by November 19th. Members are \$25, non-members \$30, and spectators \$15.



Deanna St. Amand announcing the dances for the Clan MacLeod Dancers at the Seaside Games Sun. Oct. 10th, taken by Claudia Pedersen

SEASIDE GAMES

Scottish Country Dancing was a major presence at this October's Seaside Highland Games in Ventura. With dancing nearly all day long, both days, in a roomy indoor space all our own, we entertained and reached out to lots of people. And all of us dancers had a great time.

Three enthusiastic "ambassadors" — Michi and Norm White and Edward Lozano — greeted visitors, handed out class fliers and schedules, showed off our branch scrapbook and encouraged folks to come in and see what it's all about. Their work has already paid off, as new dancers have come to at least three classes: Ventura,

Agoura Hills and Lancaster.

The highlight of the games for most of us dancers was the Tartan Ballette on Saturday afternoon. Four sets were up for most of the "user-friendly" program, even spilling off the parquet dance floor. We had a wonderful time, which we hope we conveyed to our receptive audience.

The L.A. Branch Demonstration Team, directed by Mary Brandon, performed twice on Saturday and the Clan MacLeod Dancers, directed by Deanna St. Amand, twice on Sunday. Individual classes also giving demonstrations included Simi Valley, Ventura and Northridge. Introductory classes were taught by Ann McBride, Lisa Krause, Leone and Robert Burger and Kathy Higgins. And Ann conducted a ball review class as well.

The oh-so-hardworking chairman behind all the SCD at the games was Donna Ingram, who did a fantastic job of bringing it all together. Donna also created a clever starfish logo that said, "I love SCD." She and Lisa hand-cut hundreds of lapel-pin-size starfish to wear and to hand out.

Of special note, too, were the life-size figures of dancers made by the creative Barbara Evans of the Ventura class. Large posters of photos from dances, classes and parties were made by the computer-adept Lathon Wells of the Northridge class.

Audrey Ramsay Prest

(While Robyn George was still dancing with us, she began writing a series of biographies of active RSCDS members. Here are two! I'll add one or two when I have room).

Frank Ibbott - Biography

Frank Ibbott is a familiar figure in Scottish Country Dance circles. At first glance we see a handsome, distinguished man, with a lovely English accent. Of course, if you actually attend classes with Frank, it is immediately obvious that the distinguished part is a shallow facade at best, and that he is very often doubled over, and helpless with uncontrollable fits of laughter. Despite the fact that he has recently gone through the quite grueling task of taking (and passing) his preliminary teacher's exam, it is apparent that he believes that fun should be an integral part of the dancing experience!

Frank was born in North London, and is possibly the only one growing up in England who managed to get through an entire British childhood without learning at least the Gay Gordons. He did love to listen to the regular Saturday night broadcasts of Jimmy Shand on the BBC, so at least he was familiar with and fond of the music.

And he's more than made up for his lack of dancing since! He is currently a regular member of Aase's Monday night class, teaches his own class in Agoura Hills, co-teaches the Santa Barbara class with Eileen Gray, as well as the Ventura class with Mary Brandon. He also manages to attend most dances and events, makes all the cue books, fliers and wall programs, helps keep track of store inventory, maintains Branch membership records, prints the address labels for the Ghillie Callum, and takes care of the Branch Music Library, including making audio tapes and CDs! I hope you didn't read that all in one breath!

You might think, knowing something of his schedule, that asking Frank what he does in his spare time would be...well, just silly really. But for years I've thought Frank raised rabid cats, so naturally I had to ask. As it turns out all the scrapes and scratches and scars on his legs come from tending his roses, and presumably his inability to get the hang of long pants. He is also the president of the California Institutional Review Board, an organization whose goal is to protect the health, welfare, and interests of human patients who have consented to be the subjects of clinical trials of new drugs (anyone out there who has an interest of six letters or less.....you're next on my list).

Frank loves literature and is currently making his way through the works of Sir Walter Scott, after giving a short talk on him at the Seaside Games last year. Frank moved to California in 1968, and in 1977 was inadvertently introduced to dancing by one of his colleagues in the lab where worked as a clinical chemist. He innocently attended the man's Christmas Party, expecting the usual work crowd, only to find the place rife with Scottish Country Dancers.

The evening 'took,' and Frank's wife Josephine (Jo), and later Frank himself, joined Jack

Rennie's class, and then later added Margaret Roche's class at the Valley College dance studio. He reports that as a new dancer he picked up the patterns of the dances quickly, but that it took him a while to master decent technique, especially the pas de basque. I had a similar experience, Frank. Except for the part about picking up the patterns quickly.

You can see that Frank is an integral part of our branch. We wouldn't even know what the next dance was without him! Next time you see him at an event, be sure to say hello, but if you intend to dance with him try to avoid saying anything amusing until the break.

Robyn George



Biography - **Doris Fisher**

Doris Fisher is impossible to dislike. I occasionally try, with especially nice people, just for the sport of it. But with Doris I didn't even bother. I could see from the start that she was just too darn likeable. Which might explain why Eric refers to their thirty-year marriage as 'a good start!' Doris is our new Vice Chairman. And so far has the entire board in awe of her organization and efficiency. I believe she has the dances and balls planned for the rest of this year, and next, down to the minutest details. Her number is in the directory if you want to call her at home to find out what you're wearing.

Doris discovered dancing when she saw it advertised in the Parks and Recreation Reporter for Torrance. She was looking for a fun way to get some exercise. She got that, and then some, as most of us find to be the case! She practically got a whole other lifestyle!

She started in Jack Rennie's class and reports that he was amazingly patient though, by her own estimate, it took her three weeks to master skip change, and a year for the poussette. (Don't worry Doris. I'm still working on my pas de basque seven years later!)

Her first few years of dancing she was on her own, but husband Eric agreed to give it a try if Doris would take bridge lessons in exchange. Six years later they're both dancing, and still bridge partners! And on the dance floor at least, she's no dummy!

Doris was born close by in Santa Monica, and grew up in Manhattan Beach and Lomita. She got a degree in English, and teaching credential from Long Beach State, and taught while her kids were in elementary school. She switched to accounting (her part-time job during college) when she and Eric bought their own accounting practice; Eric is a CPA, and Doris is his office manager, doing payroll taxes, sales tax, book-keeping, and tax returns. It must be true what they say, that a couple who juggles numbers together stays together. This couple juggles, shuffles and strathspeys together. That must work too!

I asked Doris what made her decide to serve on the board and this is what she said: "What made me decide to serve on the board, (besides not realizing what was involved!!) was the fact that I love the dances and balls, and want to help make sure they continue. Where else do you get an excuse to wear a ball gown anymore!?"

Beautiful gowns, men in kilts, great music, good company, delicious food....No wonder Doris is glad she passed up the kick boxing to dance with us! Kick boxing's loss is definitely our gain!

Robyn George

BOOK 45

Once again we had a chance to review dances under consideration for an upcoming Society book of dances. In September we held a workshop where we danced through the six unnamed dances in group C. There were a couple of very nice dances in the group. We hope one or two will make it into Book 45. Of the dances we did last year, none of them made it into Book 44, but I understand there was a much larger pool of dances that year. Thank you for coming out and supporting the workshop.

Aase

(You can see examples of this review in the photographs that Phyllis Larsen took, which I have placed here and there in this issue.)



SCOTTISH MUSIC

As a service to our dancers, the Branch has for many years had a Branch Store. We sell books with instruction for dances, videos and CDs. Although it is understandable that not too many might be interested in buying the books, it is surprising to me how few regular dancers buy the CDs. They are mainly bought by teachers.

What I don't understand is how anyone who loves to dance to the wonderful Scottish country dance music wouldn't also like to listen to it at home, either while reading or working on the computer, or in their car. If you have a down day, there is nothing more invigorating than putting on a Scottish CD. Next time you see the Branch Store at a dance, go and have a look and bring home some of that beautiful music. You won't regret it.

Aase

NO CANDIDATE CLASS

We did not have enough interest to hold a candidate class this year. To be an examination center, we need six candidates. These candidates can come from our branch as well as any of the other local branches.

We can hold a candidate class in the years that the Society sends examiners, so we will now have to wait another two years before considering it again. In the meantime, any dancers who are interested can go to summer school and take the course and the exam. It takes two weeks at summer school to cover what we otherwise cover in about 40 hours during a winter session of several weeks. A candidate class is offered every summer at St. Andrews, Scotland. TAC (Teachers Association, Canada) holds a candidate class every other year, the year there is no examination tour. Therefore, they had a class this summer and will not have a class again until the summer of 2006.

Plan ahead and think about one day taking your teaching certificate. It is a lot of fun to be a teacher and very rewarding.

Aase



Ken McFarland presents,
**SCOTTISH DANCING AMONG
THE FARTHEST HEBRIDES.**

JUNE 2 - 15, 2005

WITH ROBERT AND BARBARA MCOWEN

Ken writes in his brochure: "The overall isolation of these outer islands is similar to that of Orkney & Shetland, except that the dialect is influenced by Morse. The islands still speak Gaelic as their daily tongue, and you are likely to hear it during your visit. The sense of existing at the far end of the world is much like the Northern Isles.

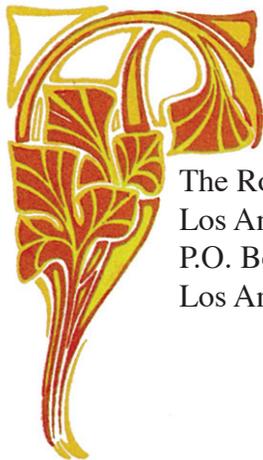
"And like the Orkney Islands, the Outer Hebrides are filled with mysterious Standing Stone, Stone Circles of different styles, Medieval monastic and religious churches and castle ruins. Some of the are ruins unique (such as Callanish Circlez), and the question asked elsewhere: why is it placed here? raises as much interest as at other pre-historical sites. Seeing these similar other developments increased my appreciation for the spread of the culture that produced all of them."

And there's Scottish dancing and music, too. In fact, the tour group is limited to *dancers only*. Contact: email, ken_mcfarland@earthlink.net or farlands@ptialaska.net

The two photographs to the left were taken by Audrey Prest at the Seaside Games of a demonstration by the Valley class. We can see the wonderful decorations of the life-size figures of dancers made by the creative Barbara Evans of the Ventura class. Large posters of photos from dances, classes and parties were made by the computer-adept Lathon Wells of the Northridge class.

BRANCH COMMITTEE DECISION

To encourage new dancers to come to their first dance, the Branch Committee decided that we should print up some tickets for free admittance to a dance. Any new dancer, whether they have become a member or not, will get a ticket for free admission to their very first dance. We have already had three people use their free tickets, which means we have three brand-new dancers. We hope to see them many times in the future.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Los Angeles Branch, Inc.
P.O. Box 90871
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This photograph was taken by by Phyllis Larsen with her new camera. The assortment of photos were taken at a special practice for Book 45.

