

The Ghillie Callum

Volume 42 No. 2

December 2010



The whole gang (almost)!



Christine Grobler & Linda Boucher



The chief organizer, Doris!

HARWOOD LODGE REPORT

- H** Hiking to the San Antonio Falls with no injuries
Hilarious games of "Spoons" with minor injuries
- A** Aase teaches the Helix formation in Hana Strathspey
Anthea teaches the Espagnole maneuver
- R** Rich Man, Poor Man with Silly Hats
Reading a good book in a comfy chair
- W** Wine, Beer & Jon's Astounding Appetizers
Willing kitchen workers like Deborah, Dianne, Leslie & Linda & more
- O** Overseers Bob & Chris take good care of us
Only the best buttermilk pancakes ever!
- O** Obscure words in "Balderdash" mystify
Outstanding chocolate lava cake with cinnamon gelato by Jon
- D** Doug teaches "Domino 8" (his ramped-up version of "Domino 5") and then a
Dull Sword Dancing Limbo of sorts
Deborah massages kale

If this acrostic on page one doesn't make sense to you, then you needed to be there...in Mt. Baldy in late August, that is, for our 2nd annual Harwood Lodge Weekend. A small but congenial group enjoyed exclusive use of this historic and well-equipped Sierra Club Lodge. We split our time between dancing, dining and hiking. Aase Hansen and Doug and Anthea Macdonald taught us new Scottish dances and figures. In addition, we learned two Scandinavian dances taught by Chris & Bob Brooks. We feasted on gourmet food prepared by "Chef" Jon Reeves. And, we managed to fit in silly and/or fun games, mountain hiking, and opportunities to visit and get to know each other better. We were blessed with perfect weather – clear skies, light breezes and cool evenings.

Think about joining us next time!

Doris Fisher, Harwood Organizer



Scottish Dancing in Harwood Lodge

Seaside Games



Valley College Class



North Valley Class

**LOS ANGELES BRANCH
SCHEDULE OF DANCES**

2010

December

31 HOGMANAY. El Segundo Woman's Club, Mariposa at Standard. Doors open 7:30 p.m.; dancing 8 p.m. Music: recorded. Price: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.

2011

January

22 BURNS BALL. American Martyrs Church, 624 15th St., Manhattan Beach. 5:30 p.m. Musicians: Susan Worland, Lyle Ramshaw, & Michael Bentley. Dancers: \$45, non-dancers \$35.

February

26 BEGINNER DANCE. First Christian Church, 4390 Colfax Ave., No. Hollywood. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded. Members: \$10, non-members, \$12.

March

26 BEGINNER DANCE. Torrance Cultural Arts Center, Torrance Blvd/Madrona. 7:00 p.m. Members \$10, non-members \$12.

April

23 MONTHLY DANCE. Culver City Senior Center, 4095 Overland Ave. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded. Members \$10, non-members \$12.

June

25 AGM

Seaside Games



Santa Barbara Class

OTHER EVENTS

**OC = Orange County Branch;
SD = San Diego;**

SGV = San Gabriel Valley Branch.

2010

December

11 OC CHRISTMAS BALL. Tustin Senior Center, 200 C Street Tustin. Doors open 6:30 p.m.; dance 7:00 p.m.; buffet 1st intermission; dessert, 2nd intermission. Members \$25, non-members \$28, spectators \$10.

2011

January

8 OC MONTHLY DANCE. Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 250 E. Center St. 7:30 p.m. Music: recorded. Members \$8, non-member \$10.

15 SGV MID-WINTER DANCE. Caltech's Dabney Lounge, Pasadena 7:30 p.m.

March

19 SGV VERNAL EQUINOX DANCE. 7:30 p.m.

April

16 SGV SPRING BALL. South Pasadena War Memorial

May

21 SGV ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. A.G.M. Dance. 5:00 p.m.

June

18 SGV SUMMER SOLSTICE DANCE. 7:30 p.m.

July

17 (Sunday) ANNUAL PICNIC AND DANCE. Palisades Park, Pacific Palisades. 11:30 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.

August

20 SGV ANNUAL SCOTTISH LUAU

**DEADLINE
for
March Ghillie Callum
January 17, 2011**

The Seaside Games Weekend

The Clan
MacLeod
Dancers



The L.A.
Demonstration Team



Norm and Carol Auslander lead down the middle for the Beverly Hills Class.



Jim Bell and Deanna St. Amand start off.



Audience participation



Ventura Class



Melinda Brown and Gerry McGuire at the Scotch Hop on Saturday night

HALLOWEEN DANCE



Tony McQuilkin as *The Hazel Tree* surrounded by hazelnuts

To the right: Alexandra McLennan, Lauren McLennan,
Lisa Letzel and Lynsey McLennan as
De'il Among the Tailors



Jon Reeves as *The Chairman*, with
help
from Steve Kaplan (vice chairman?)



The Mathematicians,
Roberta Gottfried & Jim Bell



Karen Kerman as
Johnny Walker



Jo Solomon as
The Lady in Red



Pat Zschoche, Janet Olsen, Dianne Wilson,
Edie Archibald and Linda Boucher as
A Trip to Bavaria.

HALLOWEEN DANCING



From The Internet

Trivia, for what it's worth: While talking with a friend recently about the late Catherine Cookson and how much I enjoyed her books, she suggested I should try to find Evelyn Hood's books here in the U.S. She was a sort of Cookson for the Glasgow area and environs. Imagine my surprise when I Googled this prolific author to find that she is the same Evelyn M. Hood who wrote "The Story of Scottish Country Dancing – the Darling Diversion."

Ann McBride



DANCE PROGRAMS

January 22, 2011

BURNS BALL

**American Martyrs Church
624 15th St., Manhattan Beach**

5:30 p.m. Worland, Ramshaw, Bentley

Burns Night	JB	Boston 50th
Scott Meikle	RI	Book 46
Glasgow Lassies	SB	Book 34
Major Ian Stewart	JA	Book 35
The Silver Tassie	SI	RSCDS Leaflet
Mrs Stewart/Fasnacloich	RA	RSCDS Leaflet

A Capital Jig	JJ	RSCDS Leaflet 2009
Clydeside Lassies	RB	MMM I
The Spirit of the Dance	SA	TAC 50
Tribute to the Borders	JB	RSCDS Leaflet
J. B. Milne	RI	Foss

Jennifer's Jig	JJ/A	Silver City Book
The White Cockade	RB	Book 5
Dancing Master/Moncton	SI/A	Bankhead Book I & II
Joie de Vivre	JJ	Book 39
Asilomar Romantic	SI	San Francisco Coll.
Reel of the Royal Scots	RB	RSCDS Leaflet

March 26, 2011

BEGINNER DANCE

**Torrance Blvd. at Madrona
4390 Colfax Ave., No. Hollywood**

7:00 p.m. Recorded music

Sally's Army	JB	Look We're Dancing
The Chairman	RI	Dunedin Book 4
Muse Cottage	SB	Let's All Dance Too
Major Ian Stewart	JA	Book 35
Gramachie	SB	MMMI
Mrs. MacPherson/Inveran	RI	Bon Accord

Reel On	RB	Reel On
The Bramble Bush	JB	Book 25
The Spirit of the Dance	SA	TAC 50
The Blue Route	RB	Delaware Valley
The Golden Apple Jig	JJ	Chris Ronald

The Pawling Porch	RB	Elaine Brunken
The Cashmere Shawl	SI	Strathtay Album
Blue Bonnets	JB	Book 3
Balmoral Strathspey	SB	Book 22
Jennifer's Jig	JJ	Silver City Book
Mary Erskine	RB	15 Social Dances

**Deadline for
March
Ghillie Callum
January 17, 2011**

February 26, 2011

BEGINNER DANCE

**First Christian Church
4390 Colfax Ave., No. Hollywood**

7:00 p.m. Recorded music

Tribute to the Borders	JB	RSCDS Leaflet
Sueno's Stone	RI	RSCDS 4 for 2008
Gramachie	SB	MMM1
Burns Night	JB	Boston 50th
Argyll Strathspey	SA	Book 35
The Blue Route	RB	Delaware Valley

The Bramble Bush	JB	Book 25
Mrs. MacPherson of Inveran	RI	Bon Accord
Glasgow Lassies	SB	Book 34
Jennifer's Jig	JJ	Silver City Book
The Pawling Porch	RB	Elaine Brunken

The Rothesay Rant	JB	Birmingham Book
Asilomar Romantic	SI	San Francisco Coll
The Dancing Bees	RB	24 Graded and Soc
Jean Martin of Aberdeen	SI	3 For 2006
The Hazel Tree	JA	Brodie Book
Mary Erskine	RB	15 Social Dances



Seaside Games: Agoura Class

NEW MEMBERS

The Branch is pleased to welcome the following new members: Gerri Whaley, Ani Haigazian, Diane de Avalle-Arce, Christine Orum, Bonnie Lassen, Ann McWilliam, and Becca Mackenzie.

We hope you enjoy dancing with us.

Melinda & Frank

CLASSES

LONG BEACH

The word is out! Long Beach is the place to be for SCD class! We started the session with 10 new beginners, joining a core of six devoted returnees. Each week has varied slightly in number, but we stay very close to two 4-couple sets or one of 3 and one of 4. Needless to say, Roberta is delighted and inspired. Everyone is catching on quickly and has progressed well.

The new dancing season began in a mad rush with the main focus at Ventura and the Seaside Highland Games, October 9 and 10. This included practically non-stop dancing both days with the Scotch Hop sandwiched between. Long Beach was well represented by seven participants—both dancers and observers. Christina Butler and Kathryn Renton—two of our beginners—got their first taste of Highland festivities and SCD demos and workshops. Of course, Roberta and Jim danced with the LA Demonstration Team and the Clan MacLeod Dancers while Karen represented Long Beach in a demonstration that combined participants from Roberta's classes. John and Mary Cahill also attended. Everyone enjoyed the demos and the chances for audience participation. Maybe we won some over to our great passion?

Christina, who lives and works on Catalina Island, is a "commuter," staying in Long Beach on the weekends. As she put it, SCD sounded like a fun thing to do on Saturdays. "I didn't know I'd like it so much, and I can't wait to learn more!" she enthused. After one class meeting she persuaded her friend Kathryn to attend. "You'll love this," Christina told her, and she did. Both are fast learners and

musically inclined. Kathryn, enrolled in the UCLA PhD program in history, is a fiddler, and in the past both were involved in contra dancing.

One factor that really makes our crop of beginners phenomenal is that four are from the same family. The McLennans—John, Alexandra, Lynsey, and Lauren—are from Scotland, and they were always somewhat interested in SCD. Mom Alexandra grew up dancing, and Lynsey remembers some exposure from her early childhood.

However, it is Lynsey's upcoming wedding December 18 that really motivated the "clan" to get more instruction. After seeing the information table at Costa Mesa ScotsFest in May, they "picked a day convenient for all" and registered for Long Beach. Happy day all around when they decided to join us! Such a fun group and an enthusiastic addition to the class! Lynsey explains that they plan to stay involved; not a one-shot deal just for the wedding. "I love it and am excited to come every week. An added bonus is the camaraderie. I've met so many nice people," she commented.

Come to find out, Long Beach's John Cahill will be the piper at the wedding. Any connection to SCD and/or Long Beach, was unknown to both parties until they met at our first class in September.

This is just a glimpse of a few of our newest class members. Stay tuned. More introductions and more activities to come.

Karen Kerman

NORTH VALLEY

The North Valley class began the year's activities at the Seaside Games. We had an all-woman set led by our teacher, Deanna St. Amand: Laura Husman, Linda McWade, Claudia Pedersen, Audrey Prest, and Angela Tennyson. We were joined by Barbara Mackenzie, who came down from Tehachapi with her husband Mike for the weekend.

A large group got up for the audience participation ranging in age from exuberant children to excited seniors.

One of the most enthusiastic dancers from the audience was Glen, Laura and Matt Husman's older son. He got up on the dance floor with his mother as his father and younger brother Peter looked on. Later in the day, after helping his father look for a kilt, Peter informed his parents that he wanted his "very own" kilt and fell in love with a Wallace tartan complete with regimental pleating. A very successful day was had by all!



Peter Husman

Speaking of family, we have a new member in ours. While he does not dance in the Royal Scottish Country Dance tradition, he does have a title: Lord Wellington. He is a 4-month-old white, standard, purebred, French poodle. He is the answer to a dream Angela Tennyson has had for years, and she is thoroughly enjoying playing the part of "mother"



Lord Wellington

once again. He's even had a dance written in his honor by Deanna, and it was one of the dances used in the audience participation at Seaside.

We have a new dancer with us on Thursday evenings. Her name is Linda Borregales, and her enthusiasm is enjoyed by all. She brings musical experience from the days in her high school marching band and this is proving to be an asset.

We are glad to have Chris Orum dancing with us again this year. She is currently experiencing difficulties with a sore shoulder but plans to attend class and become familiar with new steps and patterns so she'll be ready to dance up a storm when everything heals.

Claudia Pedersen



The Valley College class moved outdoors when a power outage caused classes to be canceled one Monday night in October. The back of Aase's Subaru was used for a tailgating party — couldn't let the refreshments brought by Caitlin Gomez go uneaten!

VALLEY COLLEGE

It's so nice to be back dancing after our summer break! Doesn't seeing all those friendly, familiar faces every week just brighten life?

Sometimes it's like pulling teeth to get people to "share" for the newsletter, but after some subtle strong arm tactics (I had to rough her up a little but there's no visible bruising), Deb Ash mentioned that she's been busy working at her friend's costume shop making Victorian men's tailored apparel (trousers, weskits, capes and coats) for the Dickens Faire up in San Francisco. She's also planning to put together some of her own designs for him to take along. (eg: leather spats for women, and leather top hats...). I know a lot of you have seen Deb's incredible designs. I'm in awe ... let alone trying to take in the fact that some people can actually make trousers, coats, etc. I kind of think of them as springing to life

fully formed in Bloomingdale's or Macy's!

Alison McAlpine spent two weeks hiking in Utah's canyon lands "absorbing the crystal blue skies and red rock giants that keep watch over that land"... that's her poetic description, though I was tempted to take credit! They went to most of the parks in southern Utah and stayed in remote lodges and inns. It was "quiet, huge, and awesome," and she saw the Milky Way every night "like a huge starry arch crossing the sky." Anyway it sounds pretty darn perfect! Easy on the eyes and good for the soul. I hope she took pictures!

Terry and Jim Schaeffer spent three and a half lovely, cool, damp days in the Portland area in mid-September. Terry was attending a meeting for two of the days while Jim played tourist, and then they went to Timberline Lodge on the side of Mount Hood for a day. (Did everyone but me have wonderful wilderness experiences this summer?) Terry describes the Timberline Lodge as "a

wonderfully massive WPA hotel with good food, and spectacular location.” She says there’s nothing like a giant mug of gourmet hot chocolate in a warm lodge lounge on a stormy night to warm the cockles of a Scottish Country Dancer’s heart! Hard to argue with that, Terry!

Tove Olafsen sent me a nice blurb from her ski club newsletter. It congratulates Edelweiss members including Tove, who participated in the Amtrak Century, a 100-mile (one hundred mile!!!!!!) bike ride that started at the train station in Irvine and ended in San Diego. This was their first Century and their average speed was 14 miles per hour. That means they spent 7.5 hours (seven and a half hours!!!!!!) on a bike seat! The event included four rest stops and an Amtrak “party train” ride back to Irvine. I’m not trying to one-up you here, Tove, but I think it should be noted that when I came to dance class on Monday I parked way out by the road...

Kathrin Segal writes that husband Steve Kaplan is continuing his “whirlwind seminar tour,” which took him to Australia and New Zealand this summer. He’ll be presenting his Comedy Intensive workshop for screenwriters, actors, producers, and directors in Los Angeles, Chicago and Winnipeg this fall. Winnipeg should be nice and brisk this time of year! I think it’s a scientific fact that the corner of Portage and Main is one of the windiest places on earth! And I’m not talking tropical breezes here!

Kathrin has returned to singing after a six-month hiatus due to a virus-caused sudden deafness that knocked out the hearing in one ear and caused numerous acoustic problems. She says there’s been some improvement, and she’s learned to

“hear differently.” That is really good news, Kathrin! And hopefully it bodes well for the annual Christmas concert! In September, Kathrin and Steve enjoyed a two-day trip to Vegas where Steve actually won at the slots! You guys are on a roll ... it may be a good time to head to the 7-Eleven for a lottery ticket!

Aase Hansen reports that the class has been busy. Deb Ash, Audrey Prest, Jon Reeves, Alison and Aase went to the Harwood Weekend, where they did a lot of dancing, along with card playing and games. A month later was the Interbranch, and then there was another great Seaside Games with dancing in McBride Hall. Soon after it was time to head to San Diego to help friends in that branch celebrate their 35th anniversary. Aase, Audrey, Meg Hume and Jeff Altman made the trip and enjoyed a wonderful dance! And from the sound of it, an even more wonderful after party, something I hear the San Diego branch is famous for! And now we’re looking forward to the Halloween dance, which will have happened before you read this. I wonder what Jon went as ... and the Julian weekend!

Aase coordinated the class demonstrations of Scottish Country Dancing at the Seaside Highland Games in October. Our class presented a demonstration of three dances, plus audience participation. Tove, Audrey and Claudia Pedersen were joined by Barbara and Mike Mackenzie from Bakersfield, Sheryl Ferguson from Bakersfield and Pete Anderson, Linda Boucher, Janet Olsen and Pat Zschoche from Orange County filling out the set. Terry Schaeffer and her husband Jim helped out at the booth where we try to recruit new dancers.

I just got back from London where I helped

daughter Jess move into student residence at UCL for her grad year. She's in Camden, which is a great area, and, thanks to the tube, she's minutes away from every other great area of London as well! She's having a wonderful time, and I'm already looking forward to her coming home for Christmas on December 17th! Yay! But there's a lot of fun things happening before then! Asilomar, Thanksgiving, the St. Andrews Ball ... is there ever a bad time to be a Scottish Country Dancer?

Until next time,

Robyn MacGarva George



The official newsletter of the Los Angeles Branch of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. Published quarterly and distributed free of charge to current members of the Los Angeles Branch. There is an annual subscription fee of \$8 for those who are not members of the Branch (outside USA - \$10).

Chairman: Bill Hartung
 Address: 1616 Juniper Ave.
 Torrance, CA 90503-6027
 Phone, home: 310.729.6904
 work: 310.308.5578
 email: bill@hartung.com

Membership Chairman: Melinda Brown
 Address: 30547 Mehrten Dr.
 Exeter, CA 93221
 Phone: 559.594.6985
 email: mjtb1002@hotmail.com

Ghillie Callum Editor: Carol McOwen
 Address: 111 S. Orange Blvd.#310
 Pasadena, CA 91105
 Phone: 626.793.8096
 email: cmcowen@aol.com

Web Page: www.rscds-losangeles.org

BEVERLY HILLS

The Beverly Hills class is happy to welcome several new dancers to the midtown fun – 2 UCLA grad students, Keziah and Heather, and newcomers Gina and Leah. You probably saw Leah out on the dance floor – she has already ventured to the Interbranch dance and the Halloween dance. Ann Clarke has brought along friends Lesley and Lorna, whose smiles brighten the room. And we welcomed back Gerri and Martina (Martina used to dance with us when we were dancing in Santa Monica).

You may have seen the class dancing a demonstration at Seaside Games in Ventura. Deanna, Jim, Randy, Norm and Carol were joined by Karen, Anthea and Doug in a collection of dances and audience participation. Join us on Wednesdays at Roxbury Park if you're in the area.

Roberta Gotfried



Alice's "hearts"