

the GHILLIE CALLUM

Volume 44 Number 2

December 2012

THE HALLOWEEN DANCEAND THE WINNERS ARE!!



Photo by Rosemary Abend

Winners of the costume contest at the Halloween Dance are, from left: Deanna St. Amand, part of The Mathematicians; Eric Fisher, The Gentleman; Claudia Pedersen, Alice Allen and Audrey Prest, also part of The Mathematicians; Jon Reeves (kneeling), The Blue Route; Libby Hollombe, also part of The Mathematicians; Deresa Teller, The Floozie in the Jacuzzi; Robb Quint, Hawaiian Fling; Kathrine Truong, part of Trip to Gretna Green; Robyn MacGarva, part of Rakes of Glasgow; Andy Truong, part of Trip to Gretna Green; Roberta Gotfried and Jim Bell, also part of Rakes of Glasgow; and Norm McCallum, another Gentleman.

Message from the Chair

Hello, Dancers — As you read this, we will be in the middle of our holiday dancing. Our Hogmanay Party is coming up soon, as is the Los Angeles and Orange County branches' Burns Supper & Ball. Please note that the latter event is the second Saturday of January (12th), not the usual fourth Saturday. The 2013 event takes place once again at Ports o' Call restaurant (at the same prices as last year!). Peat Fire Flame will provide the music, while Norm McCallum will once again entertain us with one of Robert Burns' poems, this year "To a Mouse." The deadline for reservations is January 2nd.

I want to thank those who helped make the St. Andrew's Ball such a success — especially Linda McWade and her "food ladies": Doris Fisher, Kim Baily and Kris McGinnis. I also want to thank Bob Harmon for doing the computer work on our cue book this year. Bob has really helped us out a lot in the last few months with our computer needs. I learned at the Interbranch Meeting in September that there is an interbranch web site maintained by our Gail Halverson. Fliers for events in the four branches should be there. Check it out at RSCDS-interbranch.org.

Finally, I received an email from one of our new dancers that I would like to share with you: "Can't get over how much fun I am having and meeting all of you. You have made me feel really welcome!" Happy New Year!!

Rosemary Abend



Kathrine Truong and Eric Fisher dance together.



Blue Bonnets — such fetching chapeaux, carefully coordinated in Orange County.



HALLOWEEN COSTUMES

Guidelines for the Halloween dance suggest “costumes that best represent the title of a Scottish dance.” There were so many clever costumes this year, we haven’t space to show them all!

The Mathematicians, left, put together the right equation for a dance.

Cue Book Correction

Many thanks to all the dancers who lent a hand to produce the 2012-2013 Branch cue book, reminding us all once again how much work Frank Ibbott did for the Branch and how much we miss him.

Thank you’s to Aase Hansen, Bob Harmon, Bill Hartung, Jan Lauer, Ann McBride, Tony McQuilkin, Janet Olsen, Claudia Pedersen, Jon Reeves, Shirley Saturensky and Deanna St. Amand.

In spite of everyone’s best efforts, however, one error weaseled its way into print. Please make the following correction in your cue books: In Barbara’s Strathspey, the fourth line should read M1, M2 also W1, W3 TURN RH (1-1/2) .

Audrey Ramsay Prest



Kathrin King Segal and Steve Kaplan lead down the middle.



Scottish Country dancers are joined by some non-dancers in the “spontaneous” flash mob on Saturday at the Seaside Games.

Photos by Audrey Ramsay Prest

SEASIDE HIGHLAND GAMES

Scottish Country Dancing is hip and trendy — at least in all of our lives — isn’t it? Dozens of us had the opportunity to prove it at the Seaside Highland Games in October.

What could be more hip and trendy than a flash mob? We staged two of them on the Saturday of the games at the Ventura County Fairgrounds, each time getting a terrific response from non-SCD people who saw how easy it was and joined in with much enthusiasm.

The musicians who set the tone for the flash mob included David Key, Becky Spiro, Mike McChesney and Alan Hoff. A simple, audience-participation-level dance had been written by Linda McWade and distributed to dancers in advance. And the well-practiced Ventura class got the dancing started.

Of course, the entire games weekend, Seaside’s 10th year, was delightful, as always, with perfect weather. Each day SCD filled “our” McBride Hall with class demonstrations, introductory lessons and audience participation.

The Saturday evening dance was dedicated to the memory of Frank Ibbott, which brought an extra-large crowd. At the break the Ventura class performed the dance *Following Frank*, which Jean and Gerry McGuire wrote for Frank’s 90th birthday in 2011. We had the pleasure of dancing to the “debut performance” of a trio of musicians called *Speyside*, who earned an enthusiastic response for their lively tunes.



The Clan MacLeod Dancers performed twice on Sunday at Seaside.

Audrey Ramsay Prest

**LOS ANGELES BRANCH
SCHEDULE OF DANCES
2012**

OTHER EVENTS
OC = Orange County Branch;
SD = San Diego;
SGV = San Gabriel Valley Branch

DECEMBER

31 HOGMANAY. El Segundo Woman's Club, 541 Standard St., El Segundo. 8 p.m. Music: recorded.

2013

JANUARY

12 BURNS SUPPER & BALL. Ports' O Call, Berth 76, San Pedro, a combined celebration with OC Branch. 6:30 p.m. Music: Peat Fire Flame plus One.

FEBRUARY

23 BEGINNER DANCE. First Christian Church of North Hollywood. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded.

MARCH

23 BEGINNER DANCE. Torrance Cultural Arts Center 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded.

2012

DECEMBER

8 OC Andrew Rankine Memorial Christmas Ball, Tustin Senior Center, 7:30 p.m. Music: Hood, Wink & Swagger

2013

FEBRUARY

9 OC Monthly Dance. Anaheim Downtown Community Center. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded.

MARCH

9 OC Monthly Dance. Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded.



The Los Angeles Branch Demonstration Team performed twice on Saturday at the Seaside Highland Games.

Demonstration Team

After going our separate ways for our short summer break, Team re-assembled right after Labor Day to prepare for the Seaside Games. Right away, we found out that things were VERY different. Our regular rehearsal space at Cheviot Hills Recreation Center was being re-surfaced and the only place we could practice was the women's changing room next to the pool. Imagine doing a reel of four across the set dancing from one changing stall to another!

Our roster of active dancers is changing once again. Sara Guernsey is on the inactive list because of her work and school schedule. Jim Bell is on the backup list as he splits his time between LA and Texas. But we have welcomed John Cahill and Lindsey Weiler to the team.

John and Lindsey made their team debuts at the Seaside Games. It's always fun to share McBride Hall with all the classes. It's wonderful to see our fellow dancers strutting their stuff and showing people just how much fun Scottish Country Dancing REALLY is!

Alice Allen



Halloween creativity: Deresa Teller was The Floozie in the Jacuzzi and Jon Reeves a Blue “Root.”

Different takes on the same dance: Alyssa Kennedy as The Blue Route and Jon Reeves as The Blue Root.

The Blue Route (Interstate 476) in Conshohocken, PA

When the Mid-County Expressway in suburban Philadelphia was first proposed, there were multiple possible routes mapped out. Each of these possibilities was designated with a color to refer to it. Ultimately it was the Blue Route that was chosen for actual construction, and though Mid-County Expressway has always been the official name, it has maintained “The Blue Route” as a common colloquial reference by those in the area. The Blue Route has become part of Interstate 476, which then extends beyond the Mid-County Expressway via the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike heading north to Scranton.

Because the Blue Route runs through many locations where RSCDS Delaware Valley Branch activities take place and where its members live, its name was given to a dance.

Robb Quint



Photo by Kris McGinnis

Molly Dawes celebrated her 88th birthday at Jack Rennie’s Torrance class. She said she’s been dancing for 40 years — or thereabouts!

BURNS SUPPER & BALL

January 12, 2013

Ports O' Call Restaurant, San Pedro

Music: Peat Fire Flame Plus One

Corn Rigs	RB	Book 4
Fair Jenny's Jig	JI	Ron Wallace
Barbara's Strathspey	SI	Book 46
Links with St. Petersburg	JI	Book 46
New Abbey	SB	Graded & Social 2
A Trip Around Salt Spring	RA	Katannuta

Christine M. Phillipps	JI	Book 46
The Lass of Richmond Hill	RB	2nd Graded Book
Mrs. Hamilton of Wishaw	SA	Book 23
The Brudenell Jig	JB	2nd Graded Book
The Peat Fire Flame	RA	Bon Accord

Granville Market	JB	2nd Graded Book
Scotia Sea	RI	Scotia Suite
The Little Strathspey	SI	Bankhead I & II
The Bees of Maggie Knockater	JA	Canadian Book
Lochindorb Strathsey	SB	Aberdeen Coll.
Bauldy Bain's Fiddle	RI	Lothian Coll.

FEBRUARY BEGINNER DANCE

February 23, 2013

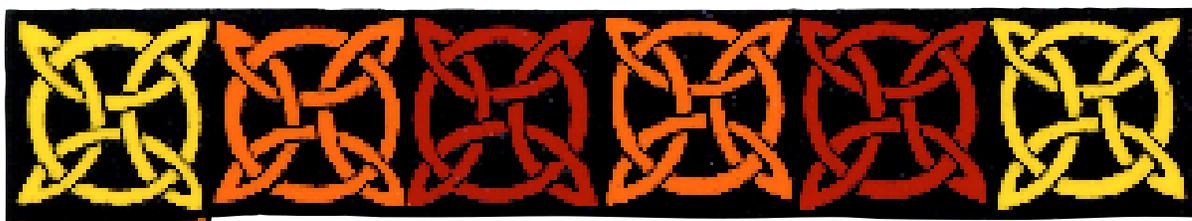
First Christian Church of North Hollywood

7:00 p.m. Recorded music

The Brudenell Jig	JB	2nd Graded Book
Maxwell's Rant	RI	Book 18
Rakes of Glasgow	SB	Book 11
Blue Bonnets	JB	Book 3
Mrs. Hamilton of Wishaw	SA	Book 23
The Pawling Porch	RB	Elaine Brunken

Laggan Bay	JB	2nd Craigievar Bk.
Foggy River Reel	RI	Between The River
The Stoorie Miller	SB	Book 21
The Golden Apple Jig	JI	Chris Ronald
The Highland Lass	RB	Book 30

The Rothesay Rant	JB	Birmingham Bk. '73
Her Majesty's Crown	SB	Central Kentucky
John of Bon Accord	RA	Book 33
The Little Strathspey	SI	Bankhead Book I & II
The Invitation Dance	JB	Auld Friends Meet
Scott Meikle	RI	McLean Laurieston



MARCH BEGINNER

March 23, 2013

Torrance Cultural Arts Center

7:00 p.m. Recorded music

Laggan Bay	JB	2nd Craigievar Book
Scotia Sea	RI	Scotia Suite
The Stoorie Miller	SB	Book 21
Jennifer's Jig	JI	Silver City Book
Largo Law	SB	MMM I
Scott Meikle	RI	McLean Laurieston Coll.

The Invitation Dance	JB	Auld Friends Meet
The Blue Route	RB	Delaware Valley Silver
The Valentine	SI	5 for 2009
The Rothesay Rant	JB	Birmingham Book '73
Maxwell's Rant	RI	Book 18

Trip to Gretna Green	JB	Unknown
The Robertson Rant	SA	Book 39
On the Quarter-deck	RB	Harbour City
Her Majesty's Crown	SB	Central Kentucky
Fair Jenny's Jig	JI	From the Redwood Forest
The Lass of Richmond Hill	RB	2nd Graded Book

SPOTLIGHT ON...

This issue the spotlight is on Grant Clark of the Beverly Hills class. Grant was born & raised in Winnipeg, Canada. He earned a B.A. from the University of Manitoba and later an M.A. from CSUN. Grant has been teaching kindergarten with the Santa Monica School District for 18 years. He became involved with Scottish Country Dancing 10 months ago when his wife discovered our web site and gave him lessons as a birthday gift. Now, they are both enthusiastic dancers. In his spare time Grant restores old cars.



The writing on Grant's shirt says, "RIGHT shoulder" with the image of a cute Scottish gentleman!

Rosemary Abend

CLASS REPORTS

Long Beach

Long Beach started the new season and newest session of classes with two new dancers — Nikki and Helen. Nikki discovered SCD at Scotsfest, Costa Mesa, in May and was captivated by the fun it offered. She enjoys both Scottish and Irish music and “thought it would be cool to learn to dance to it.” The LB Parks, Recreation, and Marine publication led her to El Dorado Park and us. She registered because “it was something...different that I always wanted to try.”

Nikki, a June graduate from UC Irvine, comes to us with no previous dancing experience, but we all know that isn't necessary to enjoy SCD. Nothing to unlearn before embracing it with a passion! “So far, I'm enjoying the class, and I can tell that once I get a little better hang of it, it will be even nicer,” she states. Furthermore, “I like that it's formal with the bowing. I also really like the high-energy music, and ... I have a good time because it's so lively.” We must encourage her, for she feels “it would be cool to go to one of the dances to see large groups do it in unison”.

Helen is a former Highland dancer, who wants to keep her hand (and foot) in Scottish dancing. There will be a more detailed introduction in the next issue.

We are gearing up for the busy season, and one of the first events was the Seaside Highland Games. Advertising rates these October Games in Ventura as the “premier Scottish festival on the West Coast,” and this year was no exception. Scottish country dancing played a featured role as this year celebrated the games' 10th anniversary. Saturday October 13 at 1 p.m there was “dancing in the streets” (on the fairgrounds, that is) as a “flash mob” performed an especially devised dance. Watch some of the Long Beach class members take part via these links: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XHE5en6ziEU&feature=related> and /or <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oExVF6N9Ub0>. Alan Hoff posted this latter link.

As usual, there was practically non-stop dancing in McBride Hall both days. John Cahill and Roberta Gotfried danced with the LA Demonstration Team twice on Saturday, and Karen Kerman participated in demonstrations by a group from mixed classes both days and the Chatsworth class on Sunday. In attendance to lend their support were Joyce, Stephen, Mary, and Connie. Attendees enjoyed the Frank Ibbott Memorial Dance on Saturday night. Great time, great weather, great weekend!

We know Roberta and all who attended the Asilomar workshop had a marvelous time, and all benefited from her teaching. As we all prepare for two of the season's big events, the Christmas Ball and the Burns Supper & Ball, come join us Saturday mornings in El Dorado Park for fun times.

Karen Kerman

Valley College

The Seaside Games are over for another year, and a great time was had by all! Aase's class demo group was a wonderful combination of dancers joining a few of us who dance together on Monday nights: Karen Kerman from Long Beach class, Pat Zschoche from Orange County, Jeff Altman and his friend Margaret from San Francisco, Jim Bell, Claudia Pedersen, Audrey Prest, Dave Drecker and me. I was the only one who actually seemed to be dancing a different dance than everyone else, but they managed to rope me in and it all worked out in the end! I think it's important that demo dancing illustrates the fact that absolutely anyone can do it. :)

Sue Higgins is toying with the idea of resuming her reign of terror on the roller derby circuit, where in the recent past she struck fear into hearts and bruises onto buttocks. You may remember her better under her blood-chilling nom de plume: “A Bit Out of Sorts Sue.”

Our class has had a “walking wounded” feel to it lately. Kathrin Segal and Bruce Redack have been out with bad backs, and Alison McAlpine sprained her ankle. However everyone's much better now and ready to dance up a storm at all the fall/winter dances that are coming up.

Aase Hansen's family has had medical issues of their own! Both of her grandkids ended up in the hospital with pneumonia, and the parents and grandparents were taxed to the point of exhaustion taking turns doing 12-hour stints in their hospital rooms. Fortunately, everyone is well and at home, but the grownups are still trying to catch up on their sleep!

Terry Schaeffer and her husband Jim did a “family and friends tour” of the Midwest, visiting a long list of places. Deb Ash has been dancing all over the country ... her latest foray was in Oregon. She'll tell you all about it if you ask her!

Dave Drecker has started a different kind of self-defense class, called control and restraint, which he's offering free to Scottish Country Dancers. You can find out more about it and sign up for a class on his website: rct.ph1s.com. It takes a minimum of four people for a class, which is about an hour with an optional practice time following, and he's flexible regarding location. Having taken the class, I highly recommend it!

Jon Reeves and Audrey Prest are going full-out on Burbank's Rose Parade float. Audrey says Jon puts in at least three full days a week at this point. I don't think he worked this hard before he retired! Can't wait to see the result! I think I'll send them a nice bouquet. :)

Jim Bell bid for a contracting job in Dallas and got it, so he'll be absent from class for a while. I'm sure he'll miss us. We're adorable!

Robyn MacGarva

North Valley

The Seaside Games have been part of a great beginning for the 2012-13 dance year, and our class demonstration took place on Sunday afternoon. Laura Husman, Audrey Prest and Claudia Pedersen were joined by three guests: Jan Allen, Karen Kerman and Mary Nesbit. We were pleased to have Jan's parents present to cheer her on. Several of these dancers took part in demonstrations with other classes both days and all were present at the Frank Ibbott Memorial Dance on Saturday night.

The audience participation dances, which followed our demonstration were enjoyed by people of all ages, and this year found two of us with verrry young enthusiasts as partners. We're all for starting dancers early! Deanna said she is going to be prepared with a children's dance next year.

Saturday's "flash mob" was a great success as well with widespread participation shown by both dancers and enthused on-lookers. Among the many taking part were Matt and Laura Husman and their younger son Peter. Afterwards, they were off to find a new kilt for him. By next year's games, his knees will definitely be showing.

North Valley dancers have made some new acquisitions. Linda McWade has newly repaired left knee. (We wish her the best and know that she will up and dancing ASAP.) Deanna St. Amand and Alice Allen are enjoying a new iPad and laptop respectively and will soon be called upon for advice as other class members make similar purchases.

And last, Audrey Prest has come into possession of a very large printer and a collection of computer software, which will allow her to carry on Frank Ibbott's list of services to the Los Angeles Branch. She has "danced up to the plate" and has printed the 2012-13 cue books, wall programs for the summer, Halloween and St. Andrew's dances, fliers for upcoming events and is currently at work on the Branch Membership Directory. Let's hear a large vote of appreciation for Audrey!

The North Valley class must say good-bye to one of its members. In January, Orisja Sarles is moving up to Medford, Ore., where she will be nearer her son who lives in Portland. Her enthusiasm will be missed, but I have it on the best authority that she is already checking out Scottish Country Dance classes up north.

Claudia Pedersen

**Deadline for
JUNE
Ghillie Callum
March 15, 2013**

NAME BADGES

If your magnetic LA Branch name tag has gone missing, replacements are available. Cost will be approximately \$8-10. Please email Kris McGinnis by Dec. 10 to order: kris@andreshairstudio.com.

Audrey Ramsay Prest

NEWS NOTES

● Roberta Gotfried has taken on the job of North American West Coast reporter for the Scottish Country Dancer (headquarters' magazine).

● Orange County dances have a new starting time – 7:00pm.

● The deadline for Burns' Supper reservations is January 2, 2013.

● Doris Fisher is investigating the possibility of having a Catalina weekend in 2014.

● Kris McGinnis has offered to create a Facebook page for the Branch. Anyone willing to maintain the page should contact Rosemary: rabend7731@verizon.net .



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