

the GHILLIE CALLUM

Volume 51 Number 2

December 2019

HALLOWEEN DANCE



Members of the Torrance Class dressed as the dance In Mr. McGregor's Garden — complete with Mr. McGregor himself (teacher Jack Rennie), a few vegetables (that's kale third from left), several hungry rabbits and a very sparkly sprinkler.

More photos on page 3.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings fellow dancers —

The 2019-2020 dancing year got off to a truly spectacular start with the traditional Interbranch Dance in September. The music of Fiddlesticks and Ivory, a program of new dances and old favorites, treasures bought and sold at the Miscellany Sale and a best-ever attendance all served to make this a night to remember.

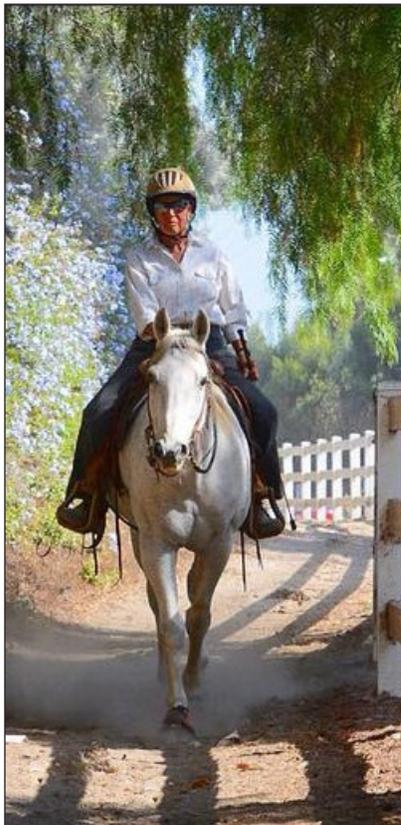
Looking forward, there are some very exciting upcoming events. On Nov. 23 our traditional St. Andrew's Ball featured music by

Susan Worland and Lisa Scott. And once again, Doris Fisher and Kris McGinnis and their happy band of helpers prepared a gourmet feast.

We will welcome in 2020 with our traditional Hogmanay Dance at the El Segundo Woman's Club on Dec. 31, and this year we will be including some easy country/ceilidh dances so that non-dancing partners and friends can join in the festivities.

Continued on page 6

HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER VACATION



Nancy Myers riding Segue.

I started riding horses in the mid-1990s and have been a student of Parelli Natural Horsemanship (PNH) since the early 2000s. PNH was started in 1982 when Pat Parelli began a program to improve the relationship between humans and horses using the concept of love, language and leadership.

In 1990, Linda Parelli joined him with the mission of popularizing this special way of interacting with horses, and they coined the name Natural Horsemanship.

Today, the Parelli Natural Horsemanship program has spread to 76 countries and over a million people, and has improved the lives of horses around the world.

On June 15, I packed up my car, horse trailer and horse, Segue, and headed for the Parelli International Study Center in Pagosa

Springs, CO, where I was signed up for two 10-day courses. The first course, taught by Linda Parelli, was entitled Happy Horse. The second featured master class instruction by Pat Parelli.

All Parelli courses have a strong focus on horse psychology and behavior in four “savvys”: two on the ground, “On Line” and “Liberty” (no ropes — think Trigger running to Roy Rogers on a whistle); and two in the saddle, “Freestyle” (loose reins — ultimately, bareback and bridle-less) and “Finesse” (precision show riding like dressage).

Both Pat and Linda are excellent teachers with very different approaches and interests.

Segue and I had a wonderful summer in beautiful surroundings and learned a lot.

Nancy Myers

CALENDAR

LOS ANGELES BRANCH

DECEMBER

31 HOGMANAY. El Segundo Woman’s Club, Mariposa at Standard, El Segundo. 8 p.m. Music: recorded.

JANUARY

25 BURNS SUPPER & BALL. Torrance Woman’s Club. Doors open 4:30 p.m.; dinner 5:00 p.m.; dancing 6:30 p.m. Music: Andy Imbrie and Judi and Ian Nicholson.

FEBRUARY

22 BEGINNER DANCE. First Christian Church, 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded.

MARCH

28 BEGINNER DANCE. Location TBA. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded.

APRIL

25 MONTHLY DANCE. Hillcrest Center for the Arts, 403 W. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks. 7:00 p.m. Music: TBA.

ELSEWHERE

DECEMBER

14 OC CHRISTMAS BALL. Tustin Senior Center. 7 p.m. Music: Flindrikin.

JANUARY

11 OC MONTHLY DANCE. Tustin Senior Center. 7 p.m. Music: recorded.

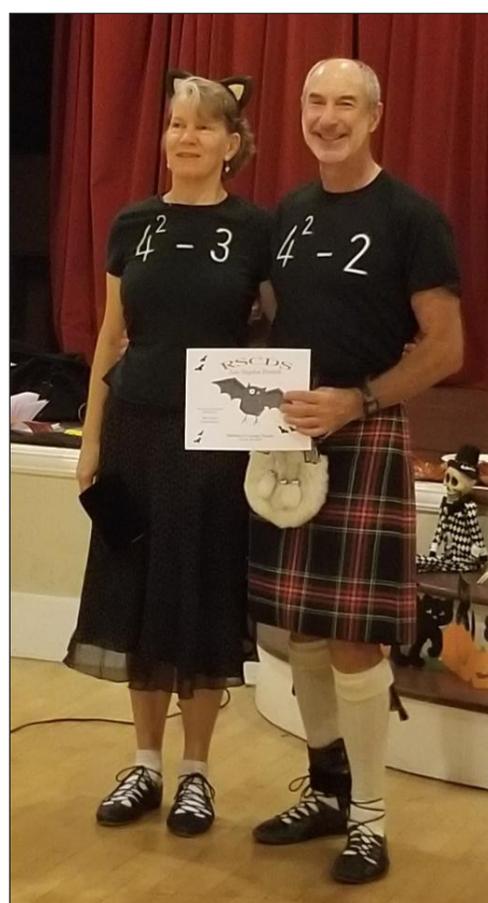
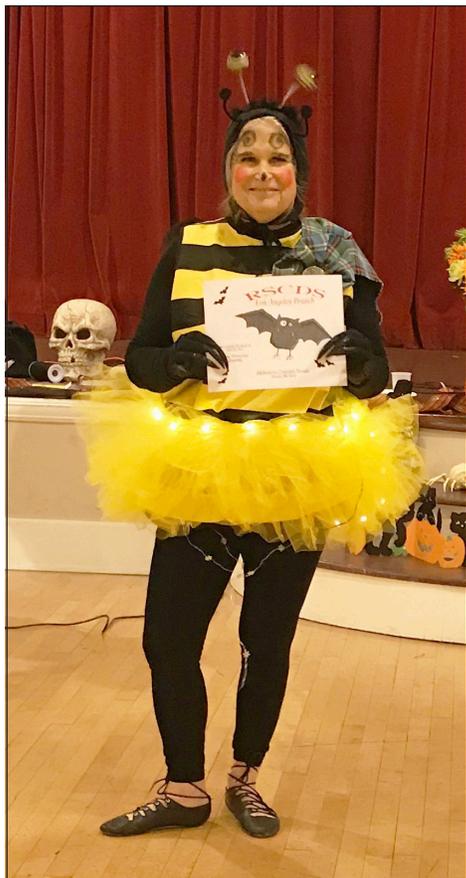
NEW MEMBERS

The Los Angeles Branch welcomes new members Lisa Hancock, Carol Dela Cruz, Lynette Kay, Carolyn Shouse and George Williams. Also a welcome back to Andrew Lund, Pamela Morgan, Virginia “Deedy” King and Donna Pinckney.

Melinda Brown

Deadline for the March issue of the Ghillie Callum is Feb. 1.

HALLOWEEN DANCE



Photos by Rosemary Abend, Heather Chaney, Bob Harmon, Robyn MacGarva George, Audrey Prest, Deanna St. Amand

HOGMANAY

December 31, 2019
El Segundo Woman's Club
541 Standard Street

The Legacy	B J	Pinewoods Coll. Vol. 2
The Fusilier's Dream	I R	Jean Patrick Collection
A Summer Meeting	NEW I S	Book 48
Chased Lovers	NEW I J	World Wide Weavings
The Library of Birmingham	A S	Book 49
Merry Bee	B R	L.A. 50th Anniversary
The Aviator	I J	Book 52
Spark O' Water	B S	Spark O' Water
The Inimitable Derek	A R	Magazine Dances 2005-2009
Bruce Frazer of Strathkinness	I S	St. Andrews 75th Anniversary
The Celtic Cross	B R	First Carnforth Coll.
Carlin's Cairn	I J	Alexander Dances Vol. 8
The Westminster Reel	I R	Book 45
Butterscotch and Honey	B S	Alexander Leaflets
Twa Rogueish Een	A J	Rondel Book
Eileen Watt's Strathspey	I S	Magazine Dances 2005-2009
It's Nae Bother	NEW B J	2nd Graded Book
The Australian Ladies	I R	Glasgow Assembly



BEGINNER DANCE

February 22, 2019
First Christian Church
4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City

Alan J. Smith	B J	Book 45
MacDonald of Keppoch	I M	Book 49
The Cumbrae Reel	B R	Book 28
The Lantern of the North	I J	Canadian Book
Spark O' Water	B S	Spark O' Water
Rendez-vous à Vichy	I J	The Paris Book, Vol. 1
It's Nae Bother	B J	2nd Graded Book
Double Trouble Triangles	A R	Book 50
Lady Lucy Ramsay	B S	MMM II
Welcome to Dufftown	I J	Jessie Stuart Leaflet
The Provost Wynd	B R	2nd Graded Book
Napier's Index	B J	Book 45
Orwell Lodge Strathspey	NEW I S	Q.E. Diamond Jubilee
Trip to Timber Ridge	NEW I R	Book 52
Butterscotch and Honey	B S	Alexander Leaflets
Chased Lovers	I J	World Wide Weavings
Merry Bee	BR	L.A. 50th Anniversary

BURNS SUPPER & BALL

January 25, 2020
Torrance Woman's Club
1422 Engracia Ave.

The Legacy	B J	Pinewoods Coll. Vol. 2
Catch the Wind	B R	Book 45
A Tribute to Peter McBryde	A S	TAC 50th Anniversary
Napier's Index	I J	Book 45
Miss Jane Muirhead of Dunsmuir	B S	Dunsmuir Dances
Whigmaleeries	I R	Imperial
Alan J. Smith	B J	Book 45
Bohemian Reflections	B R	Book 51
The Silver Strathspey	I S	Book 44
Itchy Feet	I J	Coast to Coast
Bratach Bana	A R	Bon Accord
A Diamond for Belfast	B J	Belfast Diamond Jubilee
Gypsy Dreams	I S	An Itch to Dance
The Inimitable Derek	A R	Magazine Dances 2005-2009
A Summer Meeting	I S	Book 48
The Aviator	I J	Book 52
The Deil Amang the Tailors	B R	Book 14



BEGINNER DANCE

March 28, 2019
Location TBA

Bow Fiddle Rock	B J	Greenburn Book Vol. 3
Trip to Timber Ridge	I R	Book 52
Bruce Frazer/Strathkinness	I S	St. Andrews 75th Anniversary
The Back o' Bennachie	B R	John Duthie 8 SCDs
Orwell Lodge Strathspey	I S	Q.E. Diamond Jubilee
The Rambling Pitchfork	NEW B R	All Kinds of Everything
Haste to the Wedding	B J	Book 25
Forty and Counting	NEW A R	Book 52
Delvine Side	B S	Book 2
Rendez-vous à Vichy	I J	The Paris Book, Vol. 1
The Celtic Cross	B R	First Carnforth Coll.
The Westminster Reel	I R	Book 45
Redwood Arbor	NEW B S	Dragonfly
A Diamond for Belfast	B J	Belfast Diamond Jubilee
Eileen Watt's Strathspey	I S	Magazine Dances 2005-2009
Welcome to Dufftown	I J	Jessie Stuart Leaflet
Bohemian Reflections	B R	Book 51

OJAI WEEKEND

The Los Angeles and San Gabriel Branches co-hosted our second Ojai Dance Retreat Weekend on Aug. 16-18 in the small town of Ojai, inland from Ventura. The teaching was ably done by our own local teachers, Aase Hansen of L.A. and Doug & Anthea Macdonald of S.G.V. They kept the weekend lively and fun with a range of new and old unique dances, along with just a bit of step practice.

Friday night began with a review of the dances for Saturday night, followed by a Papa Stour Sword Dance display, led by Doug. The participating dancers were proud that no swords were dropped!

During our Saturday night dance, we videotaped Carlin's Cairn while dancing to an excellent tune composed and played by Steve and Julie Wyrick on their recently released CD. It was a poignant moment, of course, as we had just learned of Steve's passing, and they had originally planned to be with us for the weekend.

Everyone participated by bringing at least one food item. There were some mighty delicious appetizers for the "happy hour" each night along with salads and desserts contributed to the din-



Dancers at the Ojai weekend: standing, from left: Walter Ranger, Deresa Teller, Doris Fisher, John Allen, Eric Fisher, Chris Brooks, Kris McGinnis, Lynette Kay, Mike McGinnis, Jeff Altman, Paula Hock, Pat Zschoche, Connie Walker, Steve Bryan, Melinda Brown, Terri Speakman, Jon Reeves, Margaret Burnett; seated: teachers Aase Hansen, Doug and Anthea Macdonald. Not pictured: Martina Hanson and Betty Pettitt.

ners. We enjoyed the view from the patios and our comfortable rooms and got a chance to get to know each other better in a social setting. We even had time for some late night game playing.

Doris Fisher

DEMONSTRATION TEAM

Did you notice something very different about the Dem Team's performances at the Seaside Highland Games? For the first time in a very long time, Larry Kanowsky wasn't in the set. He was recovering from not one, but two abdominal surgeries. But the rest of the guys all stepped up to fill Larry's big ghillies. Thankfully, Larry was back shortly after the Games.

Another difference in our Seaside Games performance was the absence of our director, Roberta Gotfried. She was deep in family mode, helping her parents and checking the progress of grandchildren. We were happy to welcome back Ann McBride to get us ready for Seaside Games, which is one of our favorite events.

As a reward for our Seaside performance, Roberta invited Don MacQueen, an instructor

from the Bay Area, to lead us in an evening of dances from the programs at Asilomar. It was fun to spend the whole evening with unfamiliar dances, doing our best to dance accurately with minimal instruction and walk-through.

But we weren't done! We were invited to present an afternoon of Scottish dance and culture at a family event in Topanga. It was part of a series of international dance workshops. We danced a bit, then got the families up to join us. Everyone had a good time, according to Winter Reign, the event coordinator, who wrote to Roberta, "You should be happy to know that my children have been looking up "Scottish country dance music" on Spotify and dancing away!"

Now it's on to ScotsFest at the Queen Mary in February.

Alice Allen

SEASIDE HIGHLAND GAMES



Scottish Country Dancing at the Seaside Highland Games included the Demonstration Team, above, and a group from the Lancaster and Valley College classes, left.

INTERBRANCH DANCE



Nearly every woman on the dance floor was wearing a tartan sash on her left shoulder as part of the festivities at the 30th annual Interbranch Dance.



Photos by Rosemary Abend and Bob Harmon

Continued from page 1

The theme for the 2020 Burns Supper and Ball is a little different – it's not about red roses, mice, daisies, bonnie lassies or silver tassies! This year it is "The Twa Dogs" – Burns' epic tale "of those who have and those who have not – the question is which group is which"!

Robert's own hard-working collie named Luath represents the working class, and the second dog, Caesar, the pampered pet of a local landowner represents the ruling classes. Caesar is described as a breed probably having come from Newfoundland since the poet describes his origins as: "was none of Scotland's dogs ... but from some-place far abroad where sailors gang to fish for cod."

And so, with a lot of dancing and music ahead, I am sure it will be a very happy holiday season. Happy Holidays to everyone ...

Ann McBride

CLASSES

Torrance and Redondo Beach

Both of the South Bay classes experienced a successful summer. In spite of the odd hot night, attendance was favorable. The Torrance class, of course, enjoyed comfortable air conditioning during its nine-week summer session.

One of our most senior dancers, Molly Dawes, celebrated her 95th birthday with us at the Monday class on Oct. 28.

Ruth Fleming-Stephens, flutist with the El Segundo Community Orchestra, performed in a special concert titled "To the Moon ... and Back," presented in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the lunar landing.

Knox Chaney was awarded a full merit scholarship from Los Angeles Fifes and Drums to attend the Company of Fifers and Drummers Junior Camp in Ivoryton, CT.

Roz and Gil Gotfried are gradually improving after both were hospitalized following an otherwise wonderful trip back east to see their great-grandchildren.

Fall classes for both locations are proceeding well. Rosemary Abend, Kris McGinnis and Jack Rennie are co-teaching the new dances selected for this year's dance program. We have enjoyed the company of Betty and Evan Avery, who have recently returned to the Torrance class after settling into a new home in the area.

We are delighted to have among us Carol Dela Cruz, who is an enthusiastic new dancer. Also, we are so pleased that new member Lisa Hancock and partner Sean Falvey have happily been adding to our Torrance numbers.

Thanks to Nancy Myers for her artistic vision and unparalleled performance as a garden sprinkler and to Nancy Hartung, theatrical make-up artist extraordinaire, in securing our winning class portrayal of In Mr. McGregor's Garden at the Halloween Dance in Studio City. Jack Rennie successfully channeled his inner Mr. McGregor. Thank you to all involved for the convincing method performances by the plentiful toothy bunnies and leafy greens.

And five of our class members attended the Asilomar Dance Weekend in San Francisco.

Heather Chaney

Reseda

In September, I was forced to make the very difficult decision of closing the Thursday night Reseda class because of my increasing difficulty with driving after dark.

Instead, the class meets on the first Sunday of each month for an afternoon of dancing. It focuses on favorites from the past, MacLeod Rant favorites and newly discovered dances.

The Reseda Sunday class is open to all intermediate/advanced dancers. All dances are taught, and special attention is given to unusual or seldom-danced formations.

We meet at Marge Patka Dance Studio, 7215 Tampa Ave., Reseda (just north of Sherman Way), from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The donation per class is \$6. For further information, please contact me at dgsa@pacbell.net.

Deanna St. Amand



Thousand Oaks

Seven of the Thousand Oaks Class beginners are continuing on from the August four-week introductory class.

From left to right, they include Elaine Lawrence, Luca McDonnell, Maureen Holm,

Mona Fagarasanu-McDonnell, Eoin (pronounced Owen) McDonnell and Kathryn Walters.

Inset: Janet Forney.



Photos by Lisa Sage, Christa Wilk

Santa Barbara

Halloween fell on class night this year, and Santa Barbara celebrated with a party: costumes, homemade snacks, weird music and fun dancing! Dana Dunaway reprised her award-winning Merry Bee costume from the Branch Halloween dance, surrounded by a butterfly (Carolyn), a gypsy (Teri), an Army officer (Andrew), Morticia Addams (Rachel) (and Thing), spiders (George), pumpkins (Carol), and crystals (Ilse), and dancers in costumes from Denmark (David and Jo), Hawaii (Christine and Phyllis), even Scotland! (Ruth and Robert).

Earlier in the month, some of the Santa Barbara dancers performed in a demonstration on the first morning of the Ventura Seaside Games. Attendance was small, but we were delighted when one of the audience members afterwards asked for a list of the classes in the L.A. area — success!!

Ilse Gilbert

Valley College

Lindsey Courtney has been traveling so much it might be shorter to list the places she hasn't been this year. (I don't believe she was in Greenland.) If you aren't on Facebook you have missed some lovely pics of her adventures, but I'd be willing to bet her phone has a few she'd show you if you asked her.

Aase's son, his wife and two kids have moved out of state. I'm sure she misses them ... we all miss those adorable children, but we hope they will turn up now and then. And I'm sure Aase has some travel plans in her future.

It would seem from all the T-shirts around that Burbank's float for the Rose Parade has lots of dancers working on it, or at least they like the design a lot!

See you on the dance floor!

Robyn MacGarva

Ventura

Happy December, everyone, from up north in Ventura! I can hardly believe that Christmas and Hogmanay are just around the corner!

This September two newer dancers, Bill Barclay and Peg Strobel, joined our class. They

are musicians with Pint of Irish.

We also recently welcomed another international folk dancer, Valerie Daley. The more dancers, the merrier!

Unfortunately, the latter half of October and early November our local area was plagued by several fires. We had to cancel class on three Fridays simply because the air was too smoky and unhealthy to dance.

As the holidays approach, many of us are looking forward to dancing with friends, spending time with family and enjoying our annual class pie night.

Lisa Sage

RALPHS REWARDS PROGRAM

The branch earns a contribution from the Ralphs Rewards Community Contribution Program when members register to benefit the Branch, while they continue to earn their own Ralphs Rewards points. Pick up a flier and learn how to register or call 800-443-4438. **You still need to re-register every September.** Our Organization Number is AV732. Then use your Ralphs Rewards card (or phone number) every time you shop.



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