

# the GHILLIE CALLUM

Volume 54 Number 2

December 2022

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear dancers –

As we approach the end of 2022, I reflected on the many opportunities we have had to dance together this year, including our regular monthly dances and summer get-togethers. Once again, the Halloween Dance heralded the beginning of fall in the L.A. Branch, and our dancers displayed creativity and innovation in their costumes.

At our St. Andrew's Ball this year, we were treated to a sumptuous dinner created by Doris Fisher and Kris McGinnis and their dedicated band of helpers. The musicians — Andy Imbrie, Janet Kurnick and Patty Van Winkle — transported us through a well-balanced program of dances old and new.

Our Hogmanay celebration will have a new and innovative approach this year. We will have the usual full program of dances and games, but this year we will be timing our event on Eastern Standard Time, with doors opening at 4:30 p.m. Pacific time and dancing beginning at 5:00 ... thus heralding in 2023 at 9:00 and ensuring an early start on the journey home.

The Burns Supper & Ball of 2023 will be a three-branch event with Orange County, San Gabriel Valley and Los Angeles joining together to present a worthy tribute to Rabbie himself. The ball on Jan. 28, 2023, will again be held at the Torrance Woman's Club. The music will be provided by our favorite return musicians, Judi and Ian Nicolson and Andy Imbrie. (Special thanks to Jack Rennie for loaning his accordion so that Ian didn't have to buy an extra seat on the plane to bring his!!). Please mark your calendars for this elegant event.

In the meantime, happy, healthy and safe holiday celebrations to everyone and I look forward to seeing many of you on the dance floor soon.

*Ann McBride*

## RSCDS BRANCH AWARDS



Ann McBride, center, presented the Branch Awards to Robb Quint and Melinda Brown during the October Halloween Dance.

Way back in the spring, Ann had requested the awards from the Society — but the certificates did not arrive in time for the AGM in June. The honorees were not able to attend the July dance. Then Ann had to miss the August dance.

Melinda has served as branch membership chair for more than 25 years. Robb, who has been a member of our branch for 16 years, inaugurated and taught an SCD class in the Thousand Oaks area for more than 40 years. Robb serves as the Branch's corresponding secretary.

## 1923 — THE FLYING SCOTSMAN

Here is your update on the RSCDS centennial celebrations. Next year's Interbranch Dance will be on the 5th Saturday in September as the Society has designated that as a world day of dance.



Headquarters selected 10 classic dances (one from each decade) that could be on the dance program.

The Society has also asked branches to film

dancers doing The Flying Scotsman in an iconic place in the branch. The clips will then be part of a compilation video they will produce. Hopefully, this will be released in February.

What shouts "L.A." more than the Hollywood sign? Our Demonstration Team provided the dancers for our video submission. Thanks to Bill Hartung for editing and sending in the video.

On the local level, we will be celebrating the Society's 100 years with a dance



Wearing oh-so-Hollywood sunglasses, the LA Branch Demonstration Team was videotaped dancing The Flying Scotsman in front of the iconic Hollywood sign. Dancers from left: Connie Walker, Jim Bell, Bill Hartung, Kris McGinnis, Roberta Gotfried, Mike McGinnis, Carol Madden and Grant Clark.

in April. The dance will be in the afternoon at the El Segundo Womans' Club. (We wanted to hold it in a building that predates 1923.)

1920s costumes will be encouraged and the food (hopefully) will be dishes popular in the 1920s.

*Rosemary Abend*

## CALENDAR

### LOS ANGELES BRANCH

#### DECEMBER

**31 HOGMANAY DANCE.** El Segundo Masonic Lodge, 520 Main St., El Segundo. As if we're in New York, doors open 4:30 p.m., dancing 5 p.m., sparkling cider toast to the new year 9 p.m. Music: recorded.

#### JANUARY

**28 BURNS SUPPER & BALL.** Torrance Woman's Club, 1422 Engracia Ave., Torrance. Doors open 4:30 p.m., dinner 5 p.m., grand march 6:15 p.m. Music: Andy Imbrie and Judi and Ian Nicolson.

#### FEBRUARY

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

#### MARCH

**25 BEGINNER DANCE.** Torrance Cultural Arts Center, Torrance Blvd. at Madrona Ave. 7 p.m. Music: recorded.

#### APRIL

**23 RSCDS CENTENNIAL DANCE.** Celebrating 100 years of the RSCDS with a Sunday afternoon dance. El Segundo Woman's Club, 541 Standard St. 1 p.m. Music: recorded.

### OTHER BRANCHES

#### DECEMBER

**10 OC CHRISTMAS BALL.** Tustin Area Senior Center, 200 S. C St., Tustin. 7 p.m. Music: Flindrikin.

#### JANUARY

**14 OC BRANCH DANCE.** Tustin Area Senior Center, 200 S. C St., Tustin. 7 p.m. Music: recorded.

#### FEBRUARY

**11 OC BEGINNER DANCE.** Tustin Area Senior Center, 200 S. C St., Tustin. 7 p.m. Music: recorded.

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

# HALLOWEEN DANCE



For the best team representing the name of a dance, above: Norm McCallum, Pat Zschoche, Karen Kerman and Flora Morgan as Kamo (camo) Karousel.



At right, Jon Reeves won the best costume award as Fair Donald, wearing a beak and a judge's wig. And, yes, he danced in those duck feet!



Tying for best woman's costume were Callan Edwards, left, as Dancing Bee(s) and Dana Dunaway as Gypsy Dreams.



Eric and Doris Fisher, left, were the best couple as Forty and Counting.

The best man's costume was won by Jeff Altman, who was Arthur's Seat.

Judging the costumes for the best representation of the dance name, detail of costume and cleverness were Christine Carlin, Robb Quint and Ingrid Van Dorn.

## BURNS SUPPER & BALL

January 28, 2023  
 Torrance Woman's Club  
 1422 Engracia Ave., Torrance

|                             |     |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----------------------|
| Mrs. Stewart's Jig          | B J | Book 35               |
| The Birks of Invermay       | B S | Book 16               |
| Forty and Counting          | A R | Book 52               |
| Chased Lovers               | I J | World Wide Weavings   |
| The Flower of Glasgow       | I S | Book 46               |
| Flowers of Edinburgh        | B R | Book 1                |
|                             |     |                       |
| Joie de Vivre               | B J | Book 39               |
| The Silver Strathspey       | I S | Book 44               |
| Diamonds are Forever        | A J | L.A. 50th Anniversary |
| A Tribute to Peter McBryde  | A S | TAC 50th Anniversary  |
| The Montgomerie's Rant      | I R | Book 10               |
|                             |     |                       |
| Bohemian Reflections        | B R | Book 51               |
| MacDonald of Keppoch        | I M | Book 49               |
| Farewell to Balfour Road    | A J | Book 52               |
| A Summer Meeting            | I S | Book 48               |
| The Reel of the Royal Scots | B R | RSCDS Leaflet 27      |

## BEGINNER DANCE

February 25, 2023  
 First Christian Church  
 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City

|                           |     |                           |
|---------------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| Bow Fiddle Rock           | B J | Greenburn Book Vol. 3     |
| Bea's Delight             | I R | Book 43                   |
| Gramachie                 | B S | MMM I                     |
| Diamonds are Forever      | A J | L.A. 50th Anniversary     |
| The Silver Strathspey     | I S | Book 44                   |
| Lady Dumfries             | B R | MMM I                     |
|                           |     |                           |
| Fair Enough               | B J | Book 51                   |
| The Inimitable Derek      | A R | Magazine Dances 2005-2009 |
| Spark o' Water            | B S | Spark o' Water            |
| The Aviator               | I J | Book 52                   |
| The Provost Wynd          | B R | 2nd Graded Book           |
|                           |     |                           |
| Napier's Index            | B J | Book 45                   |
| The Poppy and the Thistle | I S | 50th Anniversary Book     |
| The Cumbrae Reel          | B R | Book 28                   |
| Chased Lovers             | I J | World Wide Weavings       |
| Arniston Glen             | B S | Lothian Collection        |
| Arthur's Seat             | I R | 18th Century              |

## DANCING IN IRELAND



Most of the dancers on the tour, along with a few extras.

Sometimes great minds do think alike. That seems to be the case when an opportunity arose for a fall getaway. Mike and Kris McGinnis, Bill and Nancy Hartung, Doug and Anthea Macdonald, Lisa Hancock, Connie Walker and John Allen all signed up for a guided coach tour of Ireland. They even gathered friends and family to make a total of 15 travelers from the LA area.

They started by spending an evening with the Dublin Branch of RSCDS. The tour had three coaches, with properly glib tour hosts who entertained them with "... as legend has it" stories. The tour went from Dublin to Kinsale, Cork, Killarney, Dingle, Galway and back to Dublin.

"We had an optional day trip to a farm,

## BEGINNER DANCE

March 25, 2023  
 Torrance Cultural Arts Center  
 Torrance Blvd. at Madrona Ave.

|                         |     |                         |
|-------------------------|-----|-------------------------|
| The Legacy              | B J | Pinewoods Coll., Vol. 2 |
| Bea's Delight           | I R | Book 43                 |
| Gramachie               | B S | MMM I                   |
| Les Remparts de Seville | I J | Book 50                 |
| MacDonald of Keppoch    | I M | Book 49                 |
| Lady Dumfries           | B R | MMM I                   |
|                         |     |                         |
| Joie de Vivre           | B J | Book 39                 |
| Chuck's Strathspey      | I S | L.A. 50th Anniversary   |
| Diamonds are Forever    | A J | L.A. 50th Anniversary   |
| Arniston Glen           | B S | Lothian Collection      |
| The Cumbrae Reel        | B R | Book 28                 |
|                         |     |                         |
| It's Nae Bother         | B J | 2nd Graded Book         |
| Foxhill Court           | A S | Canadian Book           |
| The Rambling Pitchfork  | B R | All Kinds of Everything |
| The Craven Jig          | I J | Magazine Dances 200     |
| Redwood Arbor           | B S | Dragonfly               |
| Trip to Timber Ridge    | I R | Book 52                 |

with a lovely tea and local musicians who came and entertained us," said Kris McGinnis. "Had it not been raining so much, we could have cut peat. Only tourists do that now."

## CLASSES



Santa Barbara dancers donned costumes for the annual class Halloween party in October.

### **Santa Barbara**

The Santa Barbara class carried on under the leadership of Mary Nisbet and Dana Dunaway for the month of October, while Ilse and John Gilbert spent time on the East Coast. Class met every week, alternating between dancing at the studio and getting together for dinner at Harry's at class time. On dance days, Mary and Dana had the class practice our Halloween party program, as well as some favorite ceilidh dances.

Ilse returned just in time for the class annual Halloween Party on Oct. 27, where the beautiful Marilyn Monroe, several witches, a traveler, an alien, some spidey people, an Aviator and an Ecclefechan Feline were seen to dance a scary jig or two.

*Ilse Gilbert*

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### **Torrance**

The Friday Torrance class continues to meet in "hybrid form" with live dancing and Zoom. Since June of 2021, we have covered a great number of dances (over 200 at last count), some of which might not have been included on a regular program.

For two weeks in October, several dancers were on a tour of Ireland. The "Irish Rovers" included Mike and Kris McGinnis, Bill and Nancy Hartung, Anthea and Doug Macdonald, Lisa Hancock, Connie Walker and John Allen. While they were gone, one class was taught by Doris Fisher and Jim Bell.

Unfortunately, several travelers tested positive for COVID, so the class scheduled for their return had to be canceled. Ruth Fleming-

Stephens and her husband Kyle were scheduled to go on a fall foliage tour of Atlantic Canada, but when they got to Halifax, it was canceled.

In addition to our online and Zoom class, we now have a beginner class starting at 6:30. Beginning dancers include Betty Anderson, and Bill and Marie Reichert.

*Tony McQuilkin*

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### **Dem Team**

We came back from our short summer break ready to focus on the Seaside Highland Games in Ventura in October.

We had an opportunity to preview our program at the Torrance Public Library, where we presented a short demonstration with audience participation. Several of our South Bay SCD friends were in the audience, and they helped get people up and dancing.

We were thrilled to have the Seaside Highland Games back after the pandemic closures. We had a new stage location, in the first vendor hall.

Our director for the day was Ann McBride, stepping in for Roberta Gotfried, who found out the night before that she would not be able to be with us. Thankfully, Ann knows us and our dances, and she has an unending supply of tidbits and trivia to entertain the audience.

Once again, we had audience participation. Ann chose The Flying Scotsman — and even got them toot-tooting as they wound through the "hills." Thank you, Ann, you got us through — twice! Then she returned on Sunday to lead the ceilidh dancing.

*Alice Allen*

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### **Valley College**

We started classes in September a week late because our teacher, Aase Hansen, came down with COVID — two days after coming back from her vacation in Denmark.

That didn't dampen the spirit of the class, for more people have been coming to class this fall than we have had in many years. We have been up to two sets plus a few.

Aase didn't let COVID stop her from yet another trip, this time to visit her daughter in Maryland. Lisbeth was in charge of a Danish

Christmas items booth at a bazaar for the Danish American Club of D.C. This is something Aase enjoys, so off she went.

Audrey Prest also took time off for a trip to Arizona to visit her daughter. Carmen Silva-Corvalán and husband Scott spent a number of weeks visiting children across the United States, so she started class about a month late but is happy to be back with us.

We have a lady rejoining Scottish dancing after many years. Elizabeth Seward used to dance at Miles Playhouse and decided now was a good time to pick it up again. She already attended her first dance. We have had a few others try out the class, so it is continuing to grow.

After many years searching for the right car, Jon Reeves now has his brand-new Corvette in a beautiful blue color. We checked it out and there is still room for the branch sound equipment but some will have to go in the trunk in front, which Jon says is called the "frunk."

John Allen joined what may become an infamous trip to Ireland in October. Of the small group that went, more than half came back with COVID. But all are improving, and John said the trip was well worth the trouble although he and his son were among those getting sick.

Claudia made a short trip to Carson City to visit her daughter and family. She had a great time.

*Aase Hansen*

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### NEW MEMBERS

The branch welcomes new members Callan Edwards and Elizabeth Seward. And we welcome back Emily Aaronson.

*Melinda Brown*

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### SCD-SoCal-mail

Regular e-mails about all local dance events, links to videos of dances, commentary about newly introduced dances and occasional tidbits of Scottish history, geography and culture are provided by Robb Quint.

To be added to the mailing list, contact Robb at [volleyballjerry@aol.com](mailto:volleyballjerry@aol.com).

### MEMORIAL FUND

The branch has money in a Memorial Fund, to be used for equipment purchases or special events. It can be used for scholarships to help members attend a workshop or something related to Scottish Country Dancing but who cannot afford the whole cost on their own. Applications are available from branch teachers.

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### AMAZON SMILE

The branch has yet another opportunity to earn donations. AmazonSmile will make a contribution when you shop using our account number. Learn how by going to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0205054>.

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### 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 may 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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