

The GHILLIE CALLUM

Volume 37 No. 4

JUNE 2006

KUDOS TO ANN McBRIDE

Kudos to Ann McBride for the outstanding job she did on our Fortieth Anniversary Celebration! Ann had a vision for a birthday for the branch and she carried that vision out perfectly. It was just the right blend of flavorful food in a elegant setting with the appropriate amount of reminiscing and acknowledgements, combined with outstanding music and dancing. And, Ann carried this all out with her usual dignity



and grace.

At the same time as all this planning was going on, Ann also stepped seamlessly into the position of Team Director and led them in their first performance under her direction at our Burns Supper. In addition to all this, she organized a successful ceilidh for the Burns.

Thank you Ann, for all you have done and are doing for our branch!

Doris Fisher, Vice Chair

Our Anniversary Chair, Ann, as she announces the scroll awards to Mary Brandon, Frank Ibbott and Jack Rennie.

40TH ANNIVERSARY BALL

The founders of the Los Angeles Branch would have been pleased with how we celebrated our 40th anniversary! Under the very capable chairmanship of Ann McBride, we dined and danced and honored some long-time members' contributions on April 29. Scrolls citing their considerable efforts on behalf of the Branch went to Mary Brandon, Frank Ibbott and Jack Rennie, plus another to Jack noting his Thistle Band's parallel history of 40 years.

Many former dancers joined in the festivities at Ports o' Call restaurant. We totaled 132 - with a place card for everyone, thanks to Frank's printing and Linda McWade's work as reservations chair.

We danced to fabulous music by the Music Makars, a four-piece band brought from Pennsylvania, thanks to a very generous donation by one branch member. Ann put in a lot of time coordinating with the band, including rental of a baby grand piano.

Everyone could take home a very personal souvenir: a photo in an L.A. Branch 40th anniversary frame. Aase Hansen underwrote the cost, Frank designed and printed the frames and Linda's daughters snapped the Polaroids.

Linda created the table decorations: Into vases of flowers and twinkle lights, she tucked long lollipop sticks bearing photos from past dances and cute conversation-starter questions. There was a lot of reminiscing, with the help of those photos, plus a huge collage of others and many years' scrapbooks that Rosemary Abend arranged to have on display.

Helping us celebrate were dancers from Orange County, San Diego and San Gabriel, the three branches that have spun off from L.A. Visiting dancers also came from Seattle, Michigan and Troon, Scotland; among the non-dancers were two of Ray Tucker's Marine sons, handsome in their most formal dress uniforms.

Thanks to all who participated in making the anniversary ball a grand event!

Audrey Ramsay Prest

THANK YOU

Now that the 40th Anniversary Ball is just a wonderful memory, I wanted to publicly thank a lot of people for the tremendous help they provided, making my role as chairman so much easier.

First, Linda McWade who took care of the ticket registration and the table decorations; thanks to Mary Brandon whose generous support made the music for the evening possible. Nancy & Bill Hartung for opening up their home to accommodate the musicians and John Ziegler and Ray Tucker who served as willing chauffeurs; thanks to Aase Hansen for underwriting the cost of the keepsake photographs, and to Linda McWade's daughters for giving up their Saturday evening to act as photographers. Thanks to Deborah Ash, Claudia Pedersen, and Linda Silber who helped at the registration table and in so many other ways. Special thanks to Marion Reeve for many trips to the restaurant and overseeing the table set up. Then to Pete Kier and his son, Tom, for handling the music sound requirements so professionally, to Terry Schaeffer for putting the cue books together, and to Audrey Prest for supervising the door prizes.

And for all those who brought scrap books and memorabilia - Thank you. And to Rosemary Abend who came up with the idea of bringing the scrapbooks.

Last, but not least, special thanks to Frank Ibbott for his patience in doing and re-doing the flyers, programs, the cue books, the tickets and wall posters. His tireless good humor made my job so much easier.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU
THANK YOU THANK YOU!!

Ann McBride



LOS ANGELES BRANCH SCHEDULE OF DANCES 2006

June

24, 2006 - **AGM.** Canoga Park Senior Center, 7326 Jordan Ave, Canoga Park. Potluck: 5:30pm, meeting: 6:15 pm, dance: 7:00 pm.
Musicians: *Heathertones*. \$10 Member, \$12 Non-member.

July

17 **Deadline for September Ghillie Callum**
22, 2006 - **Summer Dance** Culver City, 4095 Overland Ave. Room B45. 7:00 pm. Record-

ed Music. \$8 Member, \$10 Non-member.

August

26, 2006 - **Summer Dance.** Canoga Park Senior Center. 7:00 pm. Recorded Music. \$8 Member, \$10 Non-member.

September

23,2006 - **Interbranch Dance.** Tustin Senior Center. Details to be announced.

Mark these dates on your calendar and we'll look forward to seeing you there!

OTHER EVENTS

**OC = Orange County Branch;
SD = San Diego;
SGV = San Gabriel Valley Branch.
2006**

June

3, 2006 - **MacLeod Rant.** Beverly Hills Women's Club. Grand March: 5:45 pm. Musicians: Andy Imbrie, Deby Benton Grosjean. Advance \$30., at door \$32., spectator \$15.

10, 2006 - **OC-AGM.** Downtown Community Center, 250 E. Center St. Anaheim. Potluck dinner: 5:30 pm, meeting: 6:30 pm, dance: 7:30 pm. Member \$7., non-member \$8.

16, 2006 - **Easter Vacation at Orkney, Scotland:**
<http://orkneydancefestival.co.uk/orkneydancefestival/index.htm>

17, 2006 **Spring Dance** 7:30 pm Pasadena City College.

July

7-10 1st Session, 10-15, 2006- **Boston Branch Pinewoods, Scottish Session.** Contact: 1st Session, Bob Littlehale, 781.774.5783 or email; Bob_Littlehale@comcast.net, 2nd Session, Jane Angstrom 978.774.5783 or email jangstrom@verizon.net

September

1-10,2006 - **Scottish Country Dancing - Russia Summer Dance.** Contact: Fiona Grant, at fiona@dancetour.co.uk or Dance Tour Ltd, 7 Maurice Road, St. Andrews Park, Bristol, BS6 5BZ, UK and Ilona Velichko: ilona@dancetour.co.uk

November

25-Dec.7, 2006.- **Scottish Dancing on the Nile River in Egypt.** Contact Ken McFarland: ken-mcfarland@earthlink.net or FAX 907.456-7558.

December

9&10, 2006 - **Bonnie Rideout - Christmas Concert.** (Robert McOwen & friends will **NOT** be dancing.) Pasadena, CA.

CATALINA WORKSHOP UPDATE:

If you are a member of either the LA, OC, SD, or SGV branch, you should have received a colorful flyer in the mail back in January with preliminary information about the Catalina Workshop & Ball planned for May 2007. We are happy to report that we have had a good response to the event with people already planning to attend from as far away as the east coast and England! If you are interested in the workshop, please return the “response form” ASAP. (These forms are available on the LA website). There are only a few remaining slots available for the workshop. There is a possibility of chartering a boat over to Catalina just for the afternoon and the evening ball (approximate cost \$150 per person to include transportation and ball), IF there is enough interest. Please email or call Doris if you would be interested in that option. If you have already made a reservation for the workshop, you will shortly be receiving a packet with final details. All reservations that have been made have been acknowledged by email or phone. If you have any questions, or your reservation has not been acknowledged, please call Doris Fisher at (310) 782-8300 or email her at “doris@esfcpa.com”.

The rough burn-thistle spreading wide
Among the bearded ear –
I turned the weeding heuk aside
An’ spared the emblem dear!
Robert Burns

Helen MacDonald is at home, recuperating from an operation on Tuesday, May 2nd. She would welcome cards and calls from Scottish Dance friends. Her phone number is (909) 625-6101 and her address is 421 Champlain Dr., Claremont, CA 91711

THE BAKERSFIELD CLASS



From left to right: back line, Carey, Sheryl, Daniel, Mike Dan, Kimberly, Walter.
Middle line: Nancy, Becky, Eleanor, Lois, Dorothy, Heather. Front line: Barbara and Cody.

JULIA SPACKMAN IN HER IRISH DANCE COSTUME FOR THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION



Julia Spackman came to the Manhattan Beach Dance Class to join the St. Patrick's day celebration in her Irish costume. Julia has been coming to MB class since she was born - 11 years ago. She danced in her Irish dance costume. She had been coming to the Manhattan Beach Children's SCD class under Irene Patterson. It was Jim and I who introduced Julia to Irish dancing about 4 years ago, and now she is a beautiful Irish dancer, with numerous trophies and medals and, I think she is on her way to becoming a world champion dancer.

Wilma Fee

"Nemo me impune lacessit"

This Scottish motto meaning "No one provokes me with impunity" has been associated with the thistle since the defeat of a Danish raiding party in ancient times. The Scots were alerted to the presence of the raiders by a cry of pain when one of the marauders stepped on a thistle. The 'guardian thistle' thus had a great influence on the history of the nation.



FLOWER OF THE FOREST

The Branch was very saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Jim Fee on February 4, after he suffered a massive stroke. Jim was the husband of one of our teachers, Wilma Fee.

Jim was a stalwart member of the LA Branch for 33 years. He and Wilma traveled to many different countries and states to attend dance weekends and workshops. For some years, Jim (an audio/visual technician by trade) took care of the Branch's record players and tape players for the teachers, keeping them in good working condition. Also, we depended upon Jim as one of our regular entertainers at the many ceilidhs, held during the Branch's dance weekends. Jim will always be fondly remembered for his rendition of "Donald Where's Your Troosers."

Jim was born and educated in Glasgow, Scotland, and came to the USA in 1967 and found the love of his life while visiting friends in Toronto, Canada. He married Wilma in 1969, bringing Wilma from Canada to the USA. A year later, they moved to California, where Wilma introduced Jim to Scottish Country Dancing, which he continued to enjoy until 1999 when he suffered a stroke and his dancing and singing activities stopped. However, Jim continued to attend many of the Scottish events to the delight of his many friends who enjoyed his wonderful sense of humor and his jokes that never failed to produce a smile or a hearty laugh all round. Thanks for the memories Jim!

Wilma Fee

Annual General Meeting

June 24, 2006

It is time once again for our annual meeting of the minds and officer elections, aka A.G.M. This is your opportunity to make your opinions known both by your presence, your vote, and your comments. Mark you calendars now to be at the Canoga Park Senior Center, 7326 Jordan Ave, Canoga Park on June 24th, 2006 at 5:30 pm.

We will start off with the potluck dinner, and we request that you bring either a main dish or salad to share. (Desserts will be provided by the teachers and the Demonstration Team.)

This will be followed by the A.G.M. (including elections) at 6:15 pm. The board reports and minutes will be printed and available for all to read ahead of time.

The dancing will begin at 7:00 pm. Live music will be provided by the Heathertones. See you there!

Vice Chair - Doris

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

This year's Nominating Committee consisted of Frank Ibbott and Rosemary Abend. They have nominated the following for the Management Committee for 2006-07.

Chairman	Ray Tucker
Vice Chairman	Bill Hartung
Corresponding Secretary	Deborah Ash
Recording Secretary	Audrey Prest
Treasurer	Russell Ham
Four Members-At-Large	
Claudia Pedersen	
Linda McWade	
Irv Cohen	
Jackie Sargent.	

In addition, nominations from the floor will be accepted for any of the above offices.

**July 17, 2006
Deadline for
September
Ghillie Callum**



To the left: **DANCE ON THE QUEEN MARY** in February with members of the local branches performing at the **Queen Mary Festival** in February.

Photo by Aase Hansen

CLASS REPORTS BAKERSFIELD CLASS

On April first, the Bakersfield group danced at Kern County Scottish Society's Highland Gathering and Games. These are held the first Saturday of every April in Bakersfield. It's a beautiful day if the weather is fine. There's jousting and sword fights and creative role playing as well as the usual fare. Since the publicity man in these parts always seems to be behind on getting the word out, please plan on looking on kernscot.org or put it on your calendar for next year.

The dancing group had nine couples on the stage for one of the dances and everyone did very well. We started out with the eight most experienced dancers doing Cranberry Tart, then everyone up for the next four dances including audience members. It was a good idea to show what less experienced dancers can do on such occasions and I believe we will have a couple of new recruits.

Three of our new members are in the Tehachapi Pipe Band: Rob and Carey Verdon, and Walter Baldwin. His lovely wife Kymberly also dances with us.

Barbara and Mike Mackenzie have been traveling again to Canada. They simply love to dance and we're so glad to have them in our group especially since Barbara teaches along with me.

John and Dorothy Hill are off to Australia for a couple of weeks. Since John had a knee replacement in January he has been out of commission but is anxious to dance again by summer's end.

Right now it's raining a lot here, however, the Spring flowers are lovely and I'm sure the desert will be blooming soon. *Dorothy*

MANHATTAN BEACH

Valerie Rodgers and Wilma Fee received "Atta' Girl Awards" from Mattel when they helped a five-year-old girl. Valerie took the call from the girl's mother who wanted Mattel to make a Barbie with glasses and hearing aids. It seems that her daughter did not want to go to school because the other children made fun of her. Working with Research and Development, Wilma and Valerie managed to come up with such a Barbie. Mattel rewarded them because their good deed made the national news!

Several class members have 'gone under the knife' recently. Denis Rodgers is still recovering from shoulder surgery. Bonnie Waters had foot surgery but plans to be back dancing in May. Irv Cohen had cataract surgery.

Rosemary Abend's dreams of fame and fortune came to a crashing halt when she took the Jeopardy contestant test. (Only 15 were selected from about 100 who took the test. Only one woman was in the selected few – sex bias?) Neither will Scooter, her dog, become a star. He had an "interview" with a trainer who pronounced him "awesome." However, there was that time Scooter bit Rosemary's mother, sending Rose to the ER.

And, of course, there are the travelers. Chris & Bob Brooks finally made it to the rain forest of Costa Rica. Wilma visited her sisters in Toronto. Jacquie Sargent is planning a trip to Sydney in June. Ginger Moore spent Easter vacation in Austin.

Rosemary Abend

NORTHRIDGE

Our Northridge class is enjoying having three dancers back among us! A return welcome to Norm Plotkin who recently recovered from foot surgery, Claudia Pedersen from arthroscopic work on her left knee and Robyn George who has arranged her flight schedules to include us more and more often. By the way Norm, Thursday nights just weren't the same without those fancy red socks!

We also welcomed Mike McChesney who came to take photographs of our class "in action." We look forward to seeing the slide show he's putting together for presentation at the MacLeod Rant.

Congratulations were sent to Deborah Graham on the birth of her twin granddaughters. We have missed her since her move back East and hope things are going well for her and her family.

To Alice Allen and Kathy Higgins: we hope you are feeling better soon and look forward to having you back and dancing with your usual enthusiasm!

Claudia Pedersen

VALLEY COLLEGE

We have had a busy spring practicing the dances for the Anniversary Ball. Not too many people have been out of town except for Robyn George who flies all over the U.S. as a flight attendant. Even she has been coming to class more often, because she is now stationed in L.A.

Aase Hansen did take off for five days in March to join Barbara and Mike Mackenzie who were already in Vancouver, B.C. It was fun to be able to attend two classes there, one taught by Ruth Jappy who has often been a guest teacher in our branch. She has a very large class that ONLY had five sets in it that night. Then we were off to Vancouver Island to attend a weekend workshop in Victoria. It was lots of fun.

In April, Christine Richard decided to drive to Sacramento with Kathy Byers and attend their workshop. While there they met Richard Fox, a former member of our branch and demonstration team, and also his son, William. Both were still dancing.

And Deborah Ash went to Washington, D.C., with friends and spent two weeks exploring the Capital. She is finally getting the proper therapy for her knee and hopes to be back dancing very shortly. She walked 4-5 miles a day while on

vacation as part of her physical therapy.

So there was more traveling than I first thought of.

We have had a visitor. Kathleen Thomas from Troon, Scotland, has once again come to visit her brother in Encino. She planned her vacation so she could attend the Anniversary Ball.

Aase

LANCASTER

Some of the adult dancers have been busy with other things this spring but we added a few more teenagers, so the class has still been going strong. Three of the teenagers will be moving to Alabama very soon. We will miss them. Two of them are young brothers and it is always nice to see that we can entice boys to Scottish dancing as well as girls.

We have also gained one new lady, who has been doing contra dancing. She is coming along very well.

While Kathy Byers was at the workshop in Sacramento, Dean Byers took his two daughters, Megan and Allison, to Ridgecrest for the workshop and dance Frank Wu had arranged.

Barbara and Mike Mackenzie had planned to attend the dance in Ridgecrest but Mike got sick. They were able to attend the music workshop by Laura Risk in So. Pasadena. *Aase*

LANCASTER CEILIDH

The children's class and the family class in Lancaster, which are taught by Kathy Byers, will have an end of the year combined party on June 9, at 7 PM. The party is open to all and will be held at the regular class location at the Lutheran Church of the Master. For more information contact Kathy: Kathyb@osioda.com.

It will be the final meeting for both classes. The family class, which has only been going for one season, has been very successful. Attendance has sometimes been as high as 53 although a number in the 20s is more common. All ages are welcome but most of the kids who join in the dancing are five and over.

Both classes will resume in September.

Aase Hansen

CANDIDATE CLASS

The Los Angeles Branch has not held a candidate class, a teacher training class, for three years. It was the spring of 2003 when we last had the exam for the class that had met that winter. We will have a candidate class this fall if there is enough interest for one.

Since we last held the class, the Society has changed the method of how the exam is done. We no longer have exams to become a preliminary teacher and a fully certificated teacher but rather candidates have to pass Teaching Certificate Part 1 (which consists of Units 1, 2 and 3) and Part 2 (Units 4 and 5).

To start the training for Unit 2 and 3, which is the dancing part and the teaching part of the exam, the dancer has to have passed Unit 1, the written exam. We have a number of dancers who have been preparing themselves this spring to take the written exam in May. The exam is taken

locally and you can prepare for it by studying the Manual, a book of detailed instruction in Scottish country dancing. The candidates this spring have had help by one of our teachers, Rosemary Abend.

We are hoping that some or all of the candidates who pass the written exam in May will go on and take the candidate class in the winter. To make it a viable class we do need more candidates. There will be another opportunity to take the written exam in October before the training for Units 2 and 3 starts.

For anyone who already has the preliminary certificate and would like to go for Part 2, please contact me and I will check whether we can do Units 4 and 5 at the same time.

Please contact me as soon as possible, if you are interested in becoming a teacher. We do need more teachers in our branch therefore we encourage you to go for it. *Aase*

To the right and below, photographs taken at **San Gabriel Valley Tea Dance** in April. Right: Branch members enjoying the San Gabriel Valley Tea Dance in April. Below: Children from the Lancaster children's class joining in on the dancing.

Photos by Aase Habsen



**DEADLINE
FOR
SEPTEMBER
GHILLIE CALLUM
JULY 17, 2006**



SUMMER DANCE

July 22, 2006

4095 Overland Ave. Room B45. Culver City
7:00 p.m. \$8 Member, \$10 Member

Lady Home's Jig	J/B	MMM 1
The Tri-Mariner	R/I	Ann Dix Bk 2
Bonnie Ina Campbell	S/A	Book 37
Haste To The Wedding	J/B	Book 25
General Stuart's Reel	R/I	Book 10
Ways in New Hall	R/B	Book 42
Cherrybank Gardens	S/I	Bankhead 1
The Glenora Ferry	J/A	An Itch to Dance
Jimmy's Fancy	S/B	Book 14
Bonavista	R/A	Newfoundland Bk.
Noah's Ark	J/B	Book 43
The Silver Strathspey	S/I	Book 44
Founders' Reel	R/A	Dances/Difference
Andrew's Fancy	S/B	L.A. 25th Anniv.
A Trip to the Drakensberg	J/I	Book 38
Miss Welsh's Reel	J/B	Graded
West's Hornpipe	R/I	Five for 65



SUMMER DANCE

August 26, 2006

Canoga Park Senior Center
7:00 p.m. \$8 Member, \$10 Member

Ladies' Fancy	J/B	Book 13
The Tri-Mariner	R/I	Ann Dix
Sands of Morar	S/A	Book 45
Mr. Watson's Favourite	R/B	Graded Bk
Knotwork	J/I	Book 44
The Royal Yacht Britannia	J/I	Book 43
Andrew's Fancy	S/B	L.A. 25th Anniv.
Fifty Years On	J/A	Book 43
Glasgow Country Dance	M/I	Book 23
Lady Home's Jig	J/B	MMM 1
General Stuart's Reel	R/I	Book 10
Lady Lucy Ramsay	S/B	MMM 11
Trip to the Drakensberg	J/I	Book 38
A Miss Milligan's Strathspey	S/I	RSCDS Leaflet
Bonavista	R/A	Newfoundland Bk.
Miss Welsh's Reel	J/B	Graded
The Falls of Rogie	R/I	Alexander Bk 1

JUNE 2006

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DEMONSTRATION TEAM

The demonstration team is looking for a few good members!!! Are you interested in perking up your pas de Basque or stretching your strathspey? What about sharpening up your skip change?

Won't you consider joining the Demonstration Team? We are looking for new members and would love to have you come along on Tuesday, June 20 at 8:00 pm.

The Team meets at Cheviot Hills Park and Recreation Center, 2551 Motor Avenue off Pico Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064.

The only qualifications are to have been dancing for at least three years and be willing to make a commitment to participate in performances. We work hard, but we have a lot of fun too.

So, why don't you think about it and if you have any questions, give me a call at (818) 841-8161 (evenings) or via email at: mcbridea@cshs.org.

Ann McBride, Team Director

LEONA'S POTATO SALAD

If you liked the wonderful potato salad Madeleine Rackley served at the St. Andrew's Ball last November, here it is:

6 lbs. White Rose potatoes
1 dozen extra large or large eggs
1 pint mayonnaise (not salad dressing)
1/2 cup finely diced onion
2-3 Tbsp vinegar
1-1/2 to 2 tsp salt
1/4 cup (about) milk

Boil the potatoes with skins on until tender. Drain and cover with cold water. When they are cool enough to handle, remove skins, cube the potatoes and place in a large bowl. Hard cook and peel the eggs. Cut up the peeled eggs and add to the potatoes. Mix the potatoes and eggs together. In a medium mixing bowl, stir together the mayonnaise, onion, vinegar and salt. (Leona prefers cider vinegar, and that is what I used.) Stir in milk to thin the mayonnaise to about the consistency of thick batter. Pour over the potatoes and eggs and mix in. Taste for seasoning and consistency. If the salad seems too dry, thin a bit more mayonnaise with milk and add to the mixture. If you want to add more vinegar or onion, it is easiest to do so by mixing it with a bit of thinned mayonnaise.

Aase Hansen

GILLIE CALLUM



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