

The GHILLIE CALLUM

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CATALINA WEEKEND WORKSHOP

Putting on a Scottish Country Dance workshop takes enormous effort from many committee members. For last month's Catalina Weekend even the weatherman joined the committee — at the last minute.

The days just before our "26 miles across the sea" adventure had winds so strong that no boats were able to cross over from the mainland — but Friday dawned with only breezes. And the sunny, Catalina Island-perfect weather continued all weekend.

The rest of the four-branch committee, led by our own super-organized Doris Fisher, was even more hard working than the weatherman — pulling together a spectacular event that I'm sure topped everyone's expectations.



The beautiful art deco Casino comes into view as the Catalina Express boat nears Avalon.



Eric Fisher met each boat at the dock to direct dancers to the hotel shuttle.

Highlight of the weekend, of course, was The Catalina Island Ball in the fabulous art deco Casino, whose circular ballroom is topped with a Tiffany chandelier above an inlaid wood floor. The ballroom's acoustics are phenomenal, which was so appropriate for the wonderful music of Fiddlesticks and Ivory. Pianist Lyle Ramshaw devised many clever arrangements, including working in several bars from "Twenty-six Miles Across the Sea" during the dance Jean Martin of Aberdeen. Some of the band members even sang along with the words from the 1958 song.

While Doris oversaw the whole weekend, Marjorie McLaughlin was in charge of such details as the ball program and the workshop classes, and Nancy Hartung was liaison with the Catalina Canyon Hotel. Bob Harmon put together the art deco graphics, which really put dancers in the 1920s mood — including several who opted for flapper-look gowns and/or feathered headbands to take note of the history of that classic, gorgeous Casino building.

As we did at past Catalina weekends, the 120-plus dancers and musicians



Catalina Island and the Catalina Canyon Hotel made us feel welcome.



Marjorie McLaughlin, one of three workshop teachers, steps into the set to demonstrate with Ray Tucker.

met in downtown Avalon at the beautifully tiled fountain and grand-marched around the bay to the Casino, led by bagpiper John Cahill and drummer Bill Hartung. Needless to say, we attracted a lot of attention from Avalon residents and tourists, who waved and snapped photos.

Besides dancing almost more than our feet could manage, we also partied. Friday night was wine, cheese and a light supper coordinated by Ray Tucker, followed by casino games such as blackjack and bingo. Prizes were workshop T-shirts created by Nancy and Bill, using Bob's graphics. After the ball was the chocolate party organized by Robyn MacGarva George and Jeff Altman. With "pajama attire welcome," the dress ranged from elegant satin kimonos to flannel nighties, from a T-shirt that proclaimed "chocolate!" to moose-print shorts; there were chicken-shaped fuzzy slippers that crowed, flip-flop sandals with fake fur — one more indication of just how clever SCD folks can be. We burned enough calories dancing that we'd earned those yummy chocolate delights.

Many, many thanks to the Catalina Weekend Committee. Those not already mentioned include Eric Fisher (who coordinated transportation on the island), Jan Lauer, Anthea Macdonald, Janet Olsen and Dianne Wilson. Ball reviews were conducted by Ann McBride and Shirley Saturensky. Emcees at the ball were Anthea, Deanna St. Amand, Shirley and Ann (who filled in for Marjorie, who missed the ball due to sudden illness). Workshop teachers were Marjorie, Elaine Brunken and Eric Finley.

Article written by Audrey Ramsay Prest, who also took the photos.



Linda McWade, Deresa Teller and Jeff Altman give interviews to ecatalina.com at the ball.

**LOS ANGELES BRANCH
SCHEDULE OF DANCES
2010**

MAY

29 Costa Mesa Games Dance. Tustin Area Senior Center. 7:00 p.m. Recorded music. Dancers \$15, non-members \$12.

JUNE

26 AGM. Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Senior Center, 5040 Van Nuys Blvd., Sherman Oaks. Potluck 5:00 p.m., Dance 7:00 p.m. Recorded music. Members \$10, non-members \$12.

JULY

24 Summer Dance. Culver City Senior Center, 4095 Overland, Culver City. 7:00 p.m. Recorded music. Members \$10, non-members \$12.

AUGUST

27-29 Harwood Lodge Weekend. Mt. Baldy. Call Doris Fisher at 310.782.8300.

28 Summer Dance. Torrance Cultural Arts Center. Torrance Blvd. at Madrona. 7:00 p.m. Recorded music. Members \$10, non-members \$12.

SEPTEMBER

25 Interbranch Dance. Tustin Area Senior Center. 7:00 p.m. Calum MacKinnon & Lisa Scott.

OCTOBER

23 Beginner Dance with costume theme. Culver City Senior Center, 4095 Overland, Culver City. 7:00 p.m. Recorded music. Members \$10, non-members \$12.

NOVEMBER

27 St. Andrews Ball. American Martyrs Church, 524 15th St., Manhattan Beach.

DECEMBER

31 Hogmanay. El Segundo Woman's Club. 8:00 p.m. Recorded music.

2911

JANUARY

22 Burns Ball. American Martyrs Church, 524 15th St., Manhattan Beach.



OTHER EVENTS

**OC= Orange County Banch
SD = San Diego Branch
SGV = San Gabriel Valley Branch
2010**

JUNE

12 OC Branch AGM and Dance. Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 5:00 p.m. Recorded music.

19 SGV Dance to Welcome Summer. Lindberg Park in Culver City. 7:30 p.m. Recorded music. Members \$8, nonmembers \$12. Please bring a solstice snack to share.

JULY

10 OC Branch Dance, Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7:30 p.m. Recorded music.

17 SGV 4th Annual Summer Picnic. Palisades Park, Pacific Palisades. 11 a.m.-5p.m.

AUGUST

14 OC Branch Dance, Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7:30 p.m. Recorded music.

21 SGV Scottish Luau. Dabney Lounge, Caltech, Pasadena. 7:30 p.m. Please bring food to share.

Below: L. A. Demonstration Team begins their presentation at the elegant Queen's Salon with a bow! From l to r: Jim Bell & Roberta Gotfried, Randy Scherer & Christine Richard (hidden), Anthea Macdonald & Larry Kanowsky, and Carol Madden & Doug Macdonald.



DANCE PROGRAMS

July 24, 2010
SUMMER DANCE

Culver City Senior Center, 4095 Overland, Culver City.
7:00 p.m. Recorded music.
Members \$10, non-members \$12.

Sally's Army	JB	Look We're Dancing
Chairman, The	RI	Dunedin Book 4
Grants' New Rant, The	SB	15 Social Dances
Rover's Rant, The	JI	Goldring - 12 More
Dancing Master of Moncton	SA	Mel Briscoe
Starlight	RI	Book 44
Mary Erskine	RB	15 Social Dances
Joie de Vivre	JI	Book 39
In Campbell Country	SI	Social Dances 2002
Blue Bonnets	JB	Book 3
Earl of Mansfield, The	RA	RSCDS Leaflet
Maitland to Manchester	JI	Wallace/Thomas
Swiss Lassie	RI	Book 39
Glasgow Lassies	SB	Book 34
Weathercock	JA	Silver Jubilee 25
Cashmere Shawl, The	SI	Strathtay Album
Catch The Wind	RB	Book 45



AUGUST 28, 2010
SUMMER DANCE

Torrance Cultural Arts Center, Torrance Blvd. at Madrona.
7:00 p.m. Recorded music.
Members, \$10, non-members \$12.

La Flora	JB	Book 27
Trip to Bavaria, A	RI	Collins SCD Book
May Yarker's Strathspey	SI	Book 42
Douro Sixsome Jig, The	JI	Peterborough 2000
Gramachie	SB	MMM1
Preston Mill	RA	Book 45
Tribute to the Borders	JB	RSCDS Leaflet
Arthur's Seat	RI	18th Century
Cabrach, The	MB	Goldring
Ferla Mor	RI	Deeside Book Part1
Lady In Red	JA	Ruby Anniversary Collection
Clydeside Lassies	RB	MMM I
Upper Tarr	JI	2nd Kirkbrae Coll
Dream Catcher, The	SA	Book 45
Pete & Marilyn's Welcome Home	JI	Delaware Valley
Casting Glances	SI	Solstice Party Bk
Pawling Porch	RB	Elaine Brunken

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DEMONSTRATION TEAM REPORT

Spring is always a busy time for the Demonstration Team, and this year was no exception. We started with a performance at a Robert Burns Supper at the South Pasadena Masonic Lodge. While a cold rain limited the audience, the team delighted those who braved the Scottish-style weather.

February is traditionally the Queen Mary Festival. This year the team presented a program of seven (yes, seven) dances in four separate performances. The room was filled for each performance, and many audience members complimented the team for one of the best presentations they had seen. Their response made all the hard work worthwhile.

In March, the team traveled to Pomona for the Irish Fair. Once again, Scottish weather followed, and the team had to improvise to be able to dance safely on the outdoor stage. Despite the technical problems, the dancers performed enthusiastically and the audiences responded warmly.

We have one more demonstration on the schedule: our annual visit to the Daughters of the British Empire retirement home in Sierra Madre. It's a fundraising event with entertainment and lots of booths put together by the members to sell hand-crafted items, as well as homemade sweets.

Team Director Ann McBride is again extending an invitation to experienced dancers to come to our regular classes on Tuesday night at the Cheviot Hills Recreation Center during the summer. The classes will focus on dance techniques and "test driving" new dances. For details, contact Ann McBride at 818.841.8161.

Article written by Alice Allen who also took the photographs.



SPECIAL NOTICE!!
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JUNE 26, 2010

Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center, 5040 Van Nuys Blvd.
Potluck Supper 5 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m.

Dance 7 p.m. Recorded Music
Members \$10 Non-members \$12
Admission to dance free to members who attend the meeting.

EVERYONE WELCOME

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

This year's Nominating Committee consisted of Frank Ibbott and Valerie Rodgers. They have nominated the following for the Management Committee for 2010 – 2011.

Chairman Bill Hartung
Vice Chairman Doris Fisher
Treasurer Sandy Waddell
Corresponding Secretary Deborah Ash
Recording Secretary Linda McWade
Four Members-at-Large Barbara Hoff, Meg Hume, Marion Reeve, Kristine McGinnis.

In addition, nominations from the floor at the Annual General Meeting will be accepted for any of the above offices. If you believe you could help manage the Los Angeles Branch affairs by giving just a few hours of your time each year, please come forward. Send an email to frankibb@aol.com or call 805.373-9905. The Committee meets six times a year on Sunday afternoons at Stoner Park in West Los Angeles.



The L.A. Branch Demonstration Team performed in the sumptuous Queen's Salon on the Queen Mary. From l to r: Ric Simmons and Christine Richard, Larry Kanowsky and Carol Madden, Jim Bell and Roberta Gotfried and Doug and Anthea Macdonald dancing "Because He Was a Bonnie Lad." Their shadows are so beautifully reflected on the polished wood floor.

CLASS NOTES

Simi Valley

After a loss of one semester of dance, due to lack of students, the Simi Valley class is roaring back, thanks to the enthusiastic participation of three high school students. These students were in a summer class and come from a high school whose nickname is Highlanders. They are members of the marching band and use kilts and tartans in performances. They fit right in and are most welcome. Also, they are fast learners. Ah, to have young brains!

Some have even participated in at least one monthly dance, and enjoyed the experience. The other usual suspects (Linda, Barbara & Alan, Deresa, Phyllis and Don) are holding strong. Phyllis's husband, Ed, had knee replacement, but we are hopeful he will return. Some of us oldsters are limping but game. Say a prayer.

The Simi Valley class will continue until July 26 so if your class closes for the summer, come join us. Sign-up date is June 14.

Don Cutler (aka Fairdonald)



Santa Barbara Class: dancers are: Robert Winokur, John Gilbert, Bonnie Lasses, Deedy King, Charles King, Eileen Gray, Rachel Watkins, & Polly Holcombe. Ilse Gilbert also danced. Frank is in the background doing nothing in particular.

Santa Barbara

Shortly after the successful Tea Dance that the class put on in wonderful Serra Hall last August, we lost the use of the hall when responsibility for it was taken over by the Mission. The class has now moved to the conveniently located Gustafson Dance Studio where we seem to be very comfortable.

We have entertained the Santa Barbara Scottish Club on an annual basis, either at their Burns Supper or

St. Patrick's Day meeting. This year, we could not oblige with a Burns Supper performance as the date coincided with the LA Branch's event, but we were there for the St. Patrick's Day celebration. Our half-hour performance was well received and as a result, one member of the audience has joined the dance class and returned regularly each week thereafter.

We have two more demos lined up, one at a school and another at an eldercare home that is still to be scheduled.

Frank Ibbott

North Valley

Family, travel, and a dance demonstration have been important in the worlds of North Valley dancers. Over Easter Deanna St. Amand welcomed her son Mike and grandson Tyler. Angela Tennyson had a visit from daughter Elizabeth and two grandsons, and Claudia Pedersen's son, Chad, and his wife and daughter joined her for the weekend.

Audrey Prest enjoyed a weeklong cruise in the Caribbean with a friend she's known since high school. Claudia spent two months in Guam welcoming a new granddaughter, Brynna Rose.

Mary Brandon enjoyed a demonstration by the MacLeod Dancers in her honor on April 18th. Linda McWade, Alice Allen, Angela Tennyson, and Lathon Wells were among those who participated in a dance written especially for her by Deanna titled the Mary Brandon Strathspey. We all join these dancers in thanking Mary for all she has contributed to our Scottish Country Dancing world.

A special welcome back to Linda McWade who is dancing with us again and we are pleased to have Deresa Teller sharing our Thursday nights.

Claudia Pedersen



Valley College

It's been a busy time for Aase's class. Jeff Altman has been sorting fanatically through his bunny slipper and jammies collection to find just the right outfit for the after-ball chocolate/pajama party on Catalina. I was in on the chocolate buying expedition and I can vouch for the quality and variety of the chocolate — though I have some doubts about the chocolate mussels.

Kathrin Segal's been out this spring with a persistent and annoying ear ailment. Her presence at class is sorely missed. And it's throwing off the blonde balance ... the rest of us are having to take up the slack and it's

exhausting! Hurry back, Kathrin!

Jon Reeves was one of the many people inconvenienced by that pugnacious volcano in Iceland. He was supposed to travel to England on business, the Internet Movie Data Base (IMDB), but didn't make it due to all the flight cancellations. He's considering suing the mountain.

Audrey Prest went on a fabulous Caribbean cruise (a dirty job, but somebody had to do it). She said everything was wonderful except the weather, which was sometimes a very un-Caribbean cool and wet! One rainy day she unfortunately took a fall while leaving Black Beard's Castle on the island of St. Thomas. She suspects it wasn't an accident: She had passed on a tour of the rum factory and is pretty sure she was tripped up by the ghost of a peeved pirate.

Also perusing their pajama wardrobes for the aforementioned post-ball chocolate party at the Catalina weekend were Deborah Ash, Alison McAlpine, Meg Hume, Judy Fey, Audrey Prest, Caitlin Gomez, Jon Reeves, Terry and Jim Schaeffer and me!

Another class member traveling to exotic locales was Claudia Pedersen, who has been in Guam to welcome her new granddaughter, Brynna. Claudia's clan has filled out considerably in the last few years. Babies abound!

Terry is back at class, sort of, after being out for a while with an Achilles heel problem. She still has to take it easy but it's nice to have her at least walking some of the dances.

Tove Olafsen went on another of her ski trips ... she was the host, which involved preparing the dinner for Saturday night. She made some Norwegian (of course) dishes (herring, salmon, etc. plus dessert) and got rave reviews. And a very funny mention in her ski club newsletter suggested that one of Tove's distant relatives actually invented the stove, and that is where her name originates! (sTove ... hmmm ... I see their point!) And I must admit it would be interesting to try the saute'd perma-frost moss the next time she brings snack.

Aase Hansen missed the Catalina workshop this year due to a plethora of other travel plans. She had a wonderful time in Vancouver with Mike and Barbara Mackenzie ... lots of dancing and partying, as well as sightseeing in the city, and in the beautiful mountains. Plenty of fun, and not much sleep, was had! Her trip to Norfolk, Va., for her son-in-law Rick Hencke's change-of-command ceremony conflicts with the Catalina weekend. Lisbeth and Rick have left Corpus Christi, Texas, and will spend the next two years in Norfolk. Rick is assigned to the

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Naval Warfare Center there. Congratulations to Rick! Aase will also miss the Costa Mesa Highland Games this year due to a conflict with a Danish Sisterhood event. We'll miss you, Aase!

Congratulations to Caitlin Gomez on her graduation from UCLA Medical School. It'll be so convenient to "have a doctor in the class."

And I'm still flying, golfing (badly), hiking (slowly) and looking forward to my daughter Jess coming home from school for the summer — at least for a while before she heads back over to Jordan to work on another dig. She's also hoping to do considerable traveling this summer, before she heads to England for graduate school. Sigh. It's not easy having a daughter with wanderlust!

Robyn MacGarva George



Long Beach

As we began the spring term, the Long Beach class gained two new members—Denise Beaudoin and Joey McCallum, Norm's daughter. Mary Cahill introduced Denise to SCD, while Joey needed no introduction other than her father's influence and example. Pat Ritchie joined us at midterm in April. This is a re-introduction to SCD for Pat who was born in Glasgow, Scotland, and immigrated as a teenager. Once again, Mary Cahill's enthusiasm stimulated her interest. Welcome, Denise, Joey, and Pat, and may the SCD influences grow on all of you.

At the Queen Mary Festival in Long Beach, February's major event, Roberta and Jim danced with the LA Branch Demonstration Team, and Karen participated in a joint-branch demonstration of three dances. Mary and John Cahill attended.

Early March sessions prepared us for the March Beginner Dance in Torrance, which four members attended. Then the same four helped pay tribute to the three Orange County couples at the Silver Anniversary Ball, April 10. John Cahill piped for the Grand March that evening. Further class reviews led up to the Catalina Island Interbranch Workshop and Ball at the end of April where we were represented by Roberta Gotfried, Jim Bell, Mary and John Cahill.

Excitement builds as we prepare for the Costa Mesa Games on Memorial Day weekend.

Karen Kerman
June 2010



Val and Denis Rodgers and Anne and Ian Clarke visited Marsden MacRae's Las Vegas class.

LAS VEGAS EXPERIENCE

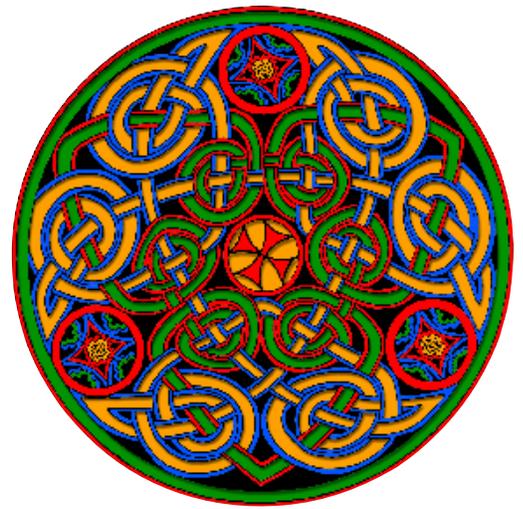
In March, Denis and Valerie Rodgers celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary (congratulations!), which happens to be on the same day as Ian Clarke's birthday. So the Clarkes and the Rodgerses gave up their annual ski weekend and headed for Las Vegas. After the long drive, what could be better to get some exercise than to go to a Scottish Country Dance class at the Charleston Heights Art Center in Las Vegas!

It has a wonderful wooden floor, and the hall is so spacious. They were welcomed to class, taught by Marsden MacRae, and were impressed by how well the beginners did, getting through several dances. The youngest in the class was a 13-year-old named Andrew, who was there for the first time. Minda, who was the contact for the class, had started in Santa Monica in the '70s with Jack Rennie's class and remembered the Clarkes being there, too.

After the evening's welcome exercise, the two couples headed to Fremont Street to view the "Tunnel of Lights," which Denis had worked on years before, but he'd never seen the project after installation in Las Vegas. It was good to see the fruits of his labor. Very impressive!

After exploring their surroundings on Saturday, it was time for another fun evening. This started off with a gourmet meal in the Palazzo Terrace, before heading to the theatre to see "Phantom of the Opera." What a wonderful performance, especially since the seats were in the middle of the second row! It was a great way to end the weekend. They headed home Sunday morning, back to reality!

Anne Clarke



THE DEMONSTRATION TEAM AT THE IRISH FAIR



Turning first corners: Randy Scherer (standing), Alison Divall and Doug Macdonald, Linda McWade and Larry Kanowsky, and Carol Madden (standing).



The reel of three includes: Doug Macdonald (standing), Alison Divall, Randy Scherer, Anthea Macdonald and Larry Kanowsky.

