

the GHILLIE CALLUM

Volume 44 No. 4

JUNE 2013



SPECIAL NOTICE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING — JUNE 22, 2013

First Christian Church of North Hollywood,
4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City

Potluck Supper 5 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m.

Dance 7 p.m. Recorded music

Members \$10 Non-members \$12

Admission to the dance is free to members who attend the meeting.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Our new Committee of Management will be elected on June 22, 2013
at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Most of the current Committee has agreed to run for another term:

Chair: Rosemary Abend

Recording Secretary: Audrey Prest

Corresponding Secretary: Claudia Pedersen

Treasurer: Doris Fisher

Members-at-large: Kris McGinnis and Jon Reeves

Although all positions are open to nominations from the floor, we especially need
to fill three positions for which the current officers are not returning:

Vice Chair

This is the Branch's operating officer. He/she maintains the Branch calendar and makes
arrangements for all Branch dances and other activities. He/she may delegate big projects,
such as the St. Andrew's Ball, to others, often a member-at-large.

Member-at-Large (2 of 4 positions)

Participates in Committee meetings and is available for special projects.

Committee of Management meetings are generally held at Stoner Park in West Los Angeles
on the second Sunday, 1-4 p.m., in January, March, May, July, September and November.

Interested Branch members should contact:

Sandy Waddell, chair of the Nominating Committee, 805-340-0179 (cell) or sandy50m@aol.com
or Jack Rennie, Nominating Committee, 310-377-1675 or jackrennie@aol.com

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

L.A. BRANCH

JUNE

22 AGM Potluck and Dance. First Christian Church of North Hollywood, 4390 Colfax Ave. Studio City. Potluck 5 p.m., meeting 6 p.m., dance 7 p.m. Members \$10, non-members \$12. Recorded music.

JULY

27 Summer Dance. First Christian Church of North Hollywood, 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City. 7 p.m. Members \$10, non-members \$12. Recorded music.

AUGUST

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

SEPTEMBER

28 Interbranch Dance. Tustin Senior Center. Music: Hood, Wink & Swagger.

OTHER BRANCHES

OC = Orange Branch

SD - San Diego Ranch

SGV - San Gabriel Valley

JUNE

1 OC. Annual Meeting. Anaheim Downtown Community Center. Potluck 5 p.m., AGM 6 p.m., dance 7 p.m. Members \$10, non-members \$12. Recorded music.

15 SGV. Monthly Dance. Culver City. 7 p.m.

JULY

13 OC Monthly Dance. Anaheim Downtown Community Center. 7 p.m. Members \$10, non-members \$12. Recorded music.

AUGUST

10 OC. Monthly Dance. Anaheim Downtown Community Center. 7 p.m. Members \$10, non-members \$12. Recorded music.

17 SGV. Luau. Caltech's Dabney Hall.

CATALINA ISLAND WORKSHOP & BALL WILL BE MAY 2-4, 2014

Plans are now all confirmed for the Catalina Island Workshop & Ball, which will feature teachers Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, Fred DeMarse and Marjorie McLaughlin — along with music by Fiddlesticks & Ivory.

Go to the Interbranch website (www.rscds-interbranch.org) for a brochure and registration forms. We offer an E-Z payment plan that divides the cost into two equal payments (minus any pre-registration deposit you may have made.) Don't delay, as the workshop is already more than 50% filled!

Doris Fisher

NEWS NOTES

Only 49 slots remain for next year's Catalina workshop.

The Society has arranged a 20% discount for its members at the Tune Hotel (opposite Haymarket Station). The website for the hotel is tunehotels.com/Edinburgh/en/. Use the code COR-PRSCDS0 (last digit is a zero) in the "promotions" box when booking a room.

The April 2014 dance will again be held in Ventura.

The Branch will sponsor a tea on October 20, 2013, at the South Coast Botanic Gardens in Palos Verdes. This event is designed as a tribute to the Society on its 90th anniversary as well as an opportunity to recruit new dancers.

The AGM dance is free if you attend the AGM (June 22nd at the First Christian Church in North Hollywood).

Beginning with the September 2013 issue, the Ghillie Callum will be emailed to all members unless a \$6 mailing fee is paid.

Next year's Burns Supper will be held on January 25th at Ports o' Call restaurant. Hood, Wink & Swagger will provide the music.

Rosemary Abend



“Spotlight On ...”

This issue’s “spotlight” is on Jean and Gerry McGuire (Ventura Class). Both were born and raised in Detroit, growing up in Irish-Scottish families with a love of music and Scottish dancing. Jean and Gerry were very busy young people: athletes, a bridge painter, a gandy dancer, a singer, an actress, Miss DSR (Detroit’s rapid transit system) and a Marine officer serving in Michigan, Canada, Alaska, Korea and Japan.

Having five children wasn’t enough for these two, who also taught guitar to jailed youth, worked as a marketing manager for GM, a banking executive, a lay theologian and Appalachian square dancers. They also owned their own business (The McGuire Group, a management consulting firm).

Jean and Gerry have been dancing since 1987, having spotted a sign in a park in Westchester. Between them, they have devised four dances (two published), written two Scottish plays and various short stories.

They are now semi-retired and happy to be living and dancing in Ventura.

Rosemary Abend

**THE DEADLINE
FOR THE SEPTEMBER
GHILLIE CALLUM IS
JULY 15, 2013**

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Hello, Dancers –

As the dance year comes to an end, I want to recognize those who have helped the Branch over the last 12 months. First, I want to thank the members of the Committee of Management: Linda McWade (vice chair), Audrey Prest (recording secretary), Claudia Pedersen (corresponding secretary), Doris Fisher (treasurer), Deanna St. Amand (teachers’ representative), Ann McBride and Roberta Gotfried (Demonstration Team directors), Bill Hartung (past chair), and the members-at-large: Kim Baily, Kris McGinnis, Jon Reeves and Denis Rodgers.

A big thank you goes to our teachers: Ilse Gilbert, Roberta Gotfried, Aase Hansen, Bill Hartung, Barbara Mackenzie, Ann McBride, Jack Rennie, Lisa Sage, Deanna St. Amand and Deresa Teller.

There are several others who have contributed to the smooth functioning of the Branch: Melinda Brown (membership chair), Jon Reeves (membership database), Carol McOwen and Audrey Prest (Ghillie Callum), Gail Halverson (webmaster), Audrey Prest (printer) and the members of the Demonstration Team.

Thank you all for providing us with many wonderful dance opportunities this year, as well as getting out the word that Scottish Country Dancing is alive and well in Southern California.

I hope to see many of you at the AGM dance – remember, the dance is free if you attend the AGM.

Rosemary Abend

CONGRATULATIONS, ILSE!

When Frank Ibbott became too ill last year to continue teaching the Santa Barbara class, Ilse Gilbert stepped in to keep the class alive. Not only has the class survived, it is flourishing. After several months of teaching, Ilse decided she enjoyed having a class and would benefit by going through the teacher training process.

Over the past year she has successfully passed a written exam, a dance proficiency test, and a demonstration of her teaching. This testing completes Unit 3 of the exam, which was formerly known as the preliminary pass. Now, Ilse spends two more years teaching and compiling a dance portfolio before she can take the final exam.

Thank you to all those dancers who gave so generously of their time to act as “stooges” for Ilse. Thanks, too, go to teachers Aase Hansen, Deanna St. Amand and Rosemary Abend, who helped to prepare Ilse for the exam.



Photo by Alan Hoff



Photo by Audrey Ramsay Prest

AN AFTERNOON BY THE SEA

April 28th saw a most enjoyable dance in Ventura at the First United Methodist Church. It was perfect weather, perfect venue and perfect dancing ... with four sets on the floor most of the time. Called An Afternoon By the Sea, it took the place of the usual Los Angeles Branch dance on the fourth Saturday of the month.

The host classes — Santa Barbara and Ventura — welcomed dancers from several areas: the San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles, the South Bay, Thousand Oaks and even Kern and Tulare counties. Some folks made a weekend of it, enjoying Ventura and the surrounding area.

At the breaks, there was a pleasant outside patio and a comfortable lounge ready with easy chairs and an exceptional table of tasty sandwiches and goodies. Dancers relaxed there as they either peeked at their cue books or chatted with friends, including Mary Brandon and Eileen Gray. We must do this again!

Gerry McGuire

SCOTTISH DANCE MUSIC

The Society has launched a competition for musicians “who can put a new spin on Scottish dance music.” Aiming to widen the public perception of Scottish dance music, the Society is looking for “new and interesting music interpretations, which also retain all the ingredients that make you want to dance to our traditional music.”

Entries will be judged by a panel of dance and music professionals and experienced teachers. Finalists will be invited to perform live in Perth, Scotland, in November. The prize includes a recording contract. Further information and application forms are available from RSCDS.org (click on News). Send the form with a demo CD by June 14 to RSCDS, 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH3 7AF.

Audrey Ramsay Prest

DANCING IN CHARLESTON



Wilma Fee and Rosemary Abend visited the SCD class in Charleston, S.C.

While vacationing in Charleston, S.C. recently, Wilma Fee and I managed to fit in a visit to the Charleston SCD class. The class was preparing for a demo where they were going to do On the Quarterdeck, Mary Erskine, Scott Meikle, Domino Five and City of Belfast. We were warmly welcomed to the class and not allowed to sit out just because they needed to practice their program. It reminds you how universal and friendly SCD is. Many thanks to the Charleston class for making us a part of their evening.

Rosemary Abend

DANCE DEVISORS

Ever think you could be the next John Drewry? Here is your opportunity. The Society has invited each branch to submit one dance for consideration for Book 49. We would like to participate in this process. The Society's main criteria is that the dance never have been published either in print or electronically. We are adding an additional requirement: Only two dances per individual may be submitted.

All dances should be submitted to Rosemary Abend by July 15th. A dance-off will be held in August at Stoner Park. Anyone may attend the dance-off, and, using a scoring sheet previously provided by the Society, assign a score to each dance. The highest scored dance will be sent on to the Society. The next step would be an international dance-off to select the 10 or 12 dances for Book 49.

So, do you have a dance everyone said should be published? Send in those notes and you, too, could become famous.

Rosemary Abend



BOOK 48

Once again the L.A. Branch has been asked to evaluate a selection of dances for the Society's next book of dances, Book 48.

Unlike the past few years when we were sent 10 dances to evaluate, this year we have been sent only five jigs for our consideration. As a consequence, we hope to combine this project with something else, possibly the dance competition for Book 49 (information at left).

Please watch for fliers announcing the date, time and location for the try-outs.

Deanna St. Amand

SUMMER DANCE

July 27, 2013
 First Christian Church
 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City
 7 p.m. Recorded music

Trip to Gretna Green	JB	Unknown
Sueno's Stone	RI	RSCDS 4 for 2008
The Gentleman	SI	Book 35
Major Ian Stewart	JA	Book 35
Rakes of Glasgow	SB	Book 11
The Peat Fire Flame	RA	Bon Accord Book
Jennifer's Jig	JI	Silver City Book
Reel On	RB	Reel On
Lochindorb Strathspey	SB	An Aberdeen Coll.
The Golden Apple Jig	JI	Chris Ronald
John of Bon Accord	RA	Book 33
On The Quarter-deck	RB	Harbour City
Bauldy Bain's Fiddle	RI	Lothian Collection
Largo Law	SB	MMM I
Fair Jenny's Jig	JI	From Redwood Forest
Mrs. Hamilton of Wishaw	SA	Book 23
The Pawling Porch	RB	Elaine Brunken

SUMMER DANCE

August 24, 2013
 Torrance Cultural Arts Center
 Torrance Blvd. at Madrona
 7 p.m. Recorded music

The Pawling Porch	RB	Elaine Brunken
Scotia Sea	RI	Scotia Suite
Strathcare	SI	Skye Collection
The Hazel Tree	JA	Brodie Book
The Robertson Rant	SA	Book 39
The Highland Lass	RB	Book 30
Todlen Hame	JI	Book 16
Forty-Five Years On	RA	RSCDS 5 For 2009
The Gentleman	SI	Book 35
Christine M. Phillips	JI	Book 46
The Rothesay Rant	JB	Birmingham Book '73
Reel On	RB	Reel On
The Golden Apple Jig	JI	Chris Ronald
The Stoorie Miller	SB	Book 21
Equilibrium	JA	Ian Barbour
Barbara's Strathspey	SI	Book 46
Mrs. MacPherson/Inveran	RI	Bon Accord

HARWOOD WEEKEND

August 3, 2013
 Sierra Club's Harwood Lodge
 (see information at right)
 Recorded music

On The Quarter-deck	RB	Harbour City
Links With St. Petersburg	JI	Book 46
Mrs. Hamilton of Wishaw	SA	Book 23
Fair Jenny's Jig	JI	From Redwood Forest
Largo Law	SB	MMM I
John of Bon Accord	RA	Book 33
Maxwell's Rant	RI	Book 18
The Hazel Tree	JA	Brodie Book
Hana Strathspey	SI	Alex Gray
Trip to Gretna Green	JB	Unknown
Bauldy Bain's Fiddle	RI	Lothian Collection

HARWOOD SIERRA CLUB LODGE SUMMER EVENT

Do you have any plans for the week-end of Aug. 2-4, 2013? If not, consider joining with other hardy dancers at the Harwood Sierra Club Lodge.

This is a fun and rustic weekend in the Mt. Baldy mountains, which includes munching on Jon Reeves' fabulous cooking, card games, hiking and dance workshops led by San Diego teacher Jeanne Moody and San Gabriel Valley's Doug and Anthea Macdonald and our own Aase Hansen. We are hosted by the gracious Bob and Chris Brooks, members of the Sierra Club.

If you are interested, please send an email to Doris Fisher at doris.fisher@gmail.com by **June 30th**. Price will be \$90 per person and will include meals from Friday night to Sunday breakfast. Non-dancers are welcome to join us!

Doris Fisher



TORRANCE REDONDO BEACH

On May 11, dancers from Jack Rennie's two classes performed at the Torrance Senior Faire at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center. Participating were, from left, Denis Rodgers, Mike McGinnis, Rosemary Abend, Carol Johnson, Val Rodgers, Tony McQuilkin, Marion Reeve, Bill Hartung, Jack Rennie and Nancy Hartung.



90th ANNIVERSARY TEA

Help celebrate the 90th Anniversary of RSCDS by coming to
The South Coast Botanic Garden
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
Palos Verdes Peninsula, 90274

Sunday afternoon, Oct. 20th, 2013, 1 to 3 p.m.

We will be serving tea (both iced and hot) along with typical tea favorites, such as scones, tea sandwiches, cookies, cheese and crackers, etc.

The main reason for this event is to promote Scottish Country Dancing, so please bring as many non-dancing friends as you can. The L.A. Dem Team will demonstrate several dances, and there will be multiple opportunities for audience participation. We need experienced dancers to participate by both bringing food and friends to this event.

Cost of the event is only \$10 for members (to cover the cost of the hall rental) and is totally free to all guests. The event will take place in the spacious Frances Young Hall just inside the entry gates and does not require admission to the garden to participate. However, if you would like to stroll through the garden before, during or after the event, admission is a mere \$8 cash or \$6 for students and seniors (62 years+) paid directly to the Botanic Garden when you arrive. The garden is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**COME HELP PROMOTE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING
AND BRING A FRIEND OR TWO**

Doris Fisher

CLASS NOTES

Ventura

The Ventura Class continues to meet on Friday evenings at the fencing studio owned by Mike Tiffany, not far from the 101 Freeway and Victoria Avenue in Ventura. We usually have a couple of sets and plan on going through the summer. If anyone wants to come join us, please feel free to contact one of the teachers or just stop on by. We are always happy to have more dancers.

In March, eight dancers traveled to the school where I teach kindergarten to put on a brief demonstration at the final class of a mini Scottish Country Dance class that I taught there. The 24 kindergarten through second grade students really enjoyed getting to see them dance, and I really appreciated the dancers coming out on a Friday afternoon in all of their Scottish finery. The entire event was a big hit.

The Ventura class was also thrilled to be able to help host the April dance up in our area. We were very pleased that so many dancers were able to come and join in the afternoon tea dance.

Many of our dancers have also had exciting times in their own lives. Sandy and Madeleine Waddell continue to be very active in Scandinavian dancing and had a great time at Scandinavian Days at Cal Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks in April.

Carolyn Williams recently completed her dissertation defense and was awarded her Ph.D. She now



Deresa Teller, Murray Bader and their friend, Joe, left, walking the Los Angeles Marathon.

is a doctor of philosophy in mythological studies with an emphasis in depth psychology from Pacifica Graduate Institute in Carpinteria. Barbara Evans treated herself to a few days in Waikiki to celebrate her birthday in May and celebrated again later in the month with a garden party.

Deresa Teller, Murray Bader and their friend Joe walked the L.A. Marathon on March 17 in just over seven hours. Deresa also has a new search dog named Huck. Together they passed the FEMA tests.

Lisa Sage

Santa Barbara

The Santa Barbara class has been well attended with between 6 and 15 regular class members, who keep the class going strong.

We've enjoyed the addition of two experienced dancers, new to our class but experienced in a variety of folk dance genres. Vickie Miller and David Heald from Solvang have been coming regularly to class until this month, when David went off to hike in Nepal, and Vickie to tour Italy with her son.

We also enjoyed a visit from a couple from Vancouver, Neal and Jacquie Wilkie, who joined us for several weeks in February both last year and this. We hope they continue to include us in their annual southern migration.

And we've had several delightful classes that

included Eileen Grey's twin college-age grandchildren, Althea and Waylon. Our numbers swelled in March to an unheard-of 17, when Rosemary Abend came to teach!

Rosemary has taught the class several times this year, in part to supervise Ilse's training to become an RSCDS certified teacher. To support this effort, L.A. teachers (Rosemary, Aase Hansen and Deanna St. Amand) and dancers from the Santa Barbara and Ventura classes staged two day-long practice sessions for Ilse to practice teaching the steps and formations for her Unit 3 exam. Ilse took the exam in Phoenix on April 20th with a candidate class tutored by former L.A. teacher Joan Baker.

Ilse Gilbert

Demonstration Team

March is always a busy month with our annual “triple-double” at the Irish Festival. That means three performances a day for two days, plus the commute to Pomona. Randy Scherer joined us again, and Jim Bell “commuted” from Texas to fill out the men’s side of the set. This year we shared the stage with the Belles of Bedlam, a great group of women who sing Renaissance and pub songs. They have a loyal following, many of whom stayed to watch the dancing.

As we were preparing for the Irish Festival, we had a visit from Karen Sollins of the Boston demonstration team. It was fun to have her in the set and learn about the Boston team. We hope to see her again on her next visit to the area.

Sara Guernsey may currently be on hiatus from the team, but she’s still in our thoughts. She arranged an evening of Scottish dancing for the UCLA Ballroom Dancing Club and the International Folk Dance Club at the start of May. Rather than a traditional demonstration, Roberta chose the format the Branch uses at the Highland Games, inviting people from different classes to demonstrate dances and lead audience participation. Several classes were represented, including Orange County and San Gabriel Valley! Their enthusiasm gave the students confidence and we hope this will result in an infusion of new Scottish Country dancers.

Alice Allen

New
Beverly
Hills
Class
location
at
Beverly
Hills High
School.



Beverly Hills

The Beverly Hills class is now meeting in the dance studio (Room 754) at Beverly Hills High School (241 S. Moreno Drive, 90212) while Roxbury Park Community Center is being redesigned and rebuilt. We love the new location with wood floor, bright lighting and even a piano yearning for a pianist. We are all hoping that the new Roxbury location will be even more suitable when it’s complete in a year or so.

The class is run through the Beverly Hills Parks and Recreation Department, and we are always happy to have new dancers. Class is held on Wednesdays and starts at 7:30; and 7-7:30 is devoted to review of basic steps and figures to accommodate newer dancers. If you know someone interested in the central part of L.A., don’t hesitate to let them know about the class.

Roberta Gotfried

Long Beach

Big things are brewing in Long Beach! February’s Queen Mary Festival saw John Cahill dancing both days with the L.A. Dem Team under the guidance and direction of our Roberta Gotfried. She also filled in when the “informal” demonstrations need one more dancer. Connie Walker, Steve Bryan and Karen Kerman participated in these demos.

March was the big month. Roberta’s son Eric was married March 2, and the mother-son dance was Gay Gordons. What better way to honor a mom who is passionate about SCD as well as her son! “The wedding was just beautiful, and I love my new daughter-in-law,” reported Roberta.

Moving on to March 9-10 and the Irish Fair, the L.A. Dem Team was again busy with John and Roberta representing Long Beach.

In order to cultivate interest in SCD and an awareness of Scottish culture, Sara Guernsey masterminded a “Scottish Culture Night” at UCLA, where she is a student. The evening included a program of both Scottish country and ceilidh dances. Roberta served as the guest instructor for SCD.

Our group continued into April, when we concentrated on some fun dances and honing our technique.

Karen Kerman

I hope everyone had wonderful Easters and Passovers! I'm sure lots of matzoh, chocolate bunnies, and eggs were consumed! I used to do such a good job hiding them that we'd still be finding them when we decorated for Christmas!

The OC Anniversary Dance was wonderful and well attended. Dance friends from San Diego were there, and Jeff Altman's friend Margaret Burnett from the San Francisco Branch, as well as dancers from all our local branches. I think I can safely say a good time was had by all.

Fortunately Aase was feeling well enough to attend! She and her whole family had had colds, but in the end she turned to that tried and true "feel good" method of getting over the final stages of nearly any illness: She got her hair done.

Jon Reeves is busily floating once again ... building trains and planes and buffalo brains, or something along those lines. I guess the day when a float involved dressing up your dog in a tiara and tutu and driving it around town in the back of a pick up truck are gone ... or was that just a small town thing in Canada?

Dave Dreker took a couple of mini vacations to Hawaii and Palm Springs. I was, coincidentally, there too :). There was paddle boarding (that was me), fruity drinks with flowers and umbrellas (that was me, too), and golf (that was both of us :). We also climbed Diamond Head, and in Palm Springs met up with some flight attendant friends.

Audrey Prest is spending a lot of time researching her family history. While visiting the big family history library in Salt Lake City she found a photo of her grandfather in a book on Scottish military history from the Boer War in South Africa in 1902.

We've happily welcomed back Claudia Pedersen, Paul and Libby Hollombe, and Steve Kaplan and Kathrin Segal. Also, Caitlin Gomez is back, and sharing photos of her new baby!

Spring is here and I see it in the dance steps of all my SCD friends! Looking forward to meeting you all at classes and dances soon. And remember, you can't duck me forever. It's much easier, and less painful, just to dance with me and get it over with.:)

Robyn MacGarva

After being acquainted for several years in Scottish Country Dancing, Gail Halverson and Terry Schaeffer have discovered that they're related. I was telling Gail about my trip to the big family history library in Salt Lake City and mentioned that I was disappointed not to have found a book on Terry's family since she has a distinctive maiden name, Trosper.

Gail replied that Trosper is a name in *her* family tree. Once she and Terry shared their information, we figured out that the two of them are third cousins once removed.

Audrey Ramsay Prest



The official newsletter of the Los Angeles Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. Published quarterly and distributed free of charge to current members of the Los Angeles Branch. There is an annual subscription fee of \$6 for those who are not members of the Branch (outside USA - \$10).

Chairman: Rosemary Abend
Address: 23920 Anza Ave. #224
 Torrance, CA 90505
Phone: 310.373.1985
email: RABEND7731@verizon.net

Membership Chairman: Melinda Brown
Address: 30547 Mehrten Dr.
 Exeter, CA 93221
Phone: 559.594.6985
email: mjtb1002@hotmail.com

Ghillie Callum Editor: Carol McOwen
Address: 111 S. Orange Blvd.#310
 Pasadena, CA 91105
Phone: 626.793.8096
email: carol.mcowen@yahoo.com

Web page: www.rscds-losangeles.org