



# AGM

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – JUNE 28, 2014**

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 THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**CHAIR** – Rosemary Abend

**VICE CHAIR** – *no nominee (yet)*

**TREASURER** – Doris Fisher

**RECORDING SECRETARY** – Audrey Prest

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY** – Claudia Pedersen

**MEMBERS AT LARGE** – Evan Avery, Ann McBride, Kris McGinnis, Jon Reeves

*(A candidate for vice chair is still needed. Nominations for all positions will be accepted at the AGM.)*

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## **DUES INCREASE**

A year ago the Society raised membership dues by £1. At the time the Los Angeles Committee of Management decided not to pass this increase on to you. Last November, however, the Society raised dues by an additional £2. (Single membership now comes to £18 – about \$30). So, over the last year there has been an increase of approximately \$5. Since \$5 from your remaining dues goes toward our insurance policy, very little remains to support our Branch activities. Reluctantly, we have decided to increase our branch dues. See enclosed membership renewal form.

*Rosemary Abend*

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Congratulations and thank you to Doris Fisher and the members of the Catalina Workshop Committee for giving us such a wonderful weekend. Eric Fisher, Bill and Nancy Hartung, Mike and Kris McGinnis and Bob Harmon deserve special recognition for all their work making the weekend a success. Thanks to all of you who carted first aid kits, duct tape, cameras, etc. — we couldn't have done it without you.

On June 28 we will have our Annual General Meeting at the First Christian Church in Studio City. The potluck begins at 5, the meeting at 6 and the dance at 7. (The dance is free if you attend the AGM.) The meeting is an opportunity for me to give you a "state of the Branch" report.

The AGM is also where we elect our Committee of Management for the 2014-15 year. I enjoy being on the committee. Working with this small group of dedicated dancers as well as interacting with other branches is not only work but also great fun. If you have never been an officer in the Branch, please step forward to help us plan and carry out a full program of monthly events.

One final note ... Please renew your membership now. It helps Melinda Brown (our membership chair) if you renew before the AGM. The membership form is included in this issue. See you on the 28th.

*Rosemary Abend*

## NEWS NOTES

- There will not be a Harwood Weekend in 2014.
- Robert McOwen (Carol's son) will be in Los Angeles in October and has agreed to teach an afternoon workshop. More details will be in the September Ghillie Callum.
- Musicians for St. Andrew's Ball will be Andy Imbrie and Deby Benton Grosjean.

*Rosemary Abend*

## 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 supplied by Robb Quint.

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

## CALENDAR

### LOS ANGELES BRANCH

#### JUNE

**28 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.

#### JULY

**26 Summer Dance**, First Christian Church of North Hollywood, 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City. 7 p.m. Music: recorded.

#### AUGUST

**23 Summer Dance**, Torrance Cultural Arts Center, Torrance Blvd. at Madrona. 7 p.m. Music: recorded

#### SEPTEMBER

**27 Interbranch Dance**, Tustin Area Senior Center. Music: Peat Fire Flame Plus



## OTHER BRANCHES

#### JUNE

**5 - July 31 SGV Summer Series**, Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., St. Barnabas Church, Eagle Rock

**14 OC Branch Dance**, Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7 p.m. Music: recorded

**22 Summer Tea Dance**, Church of Savior, San Gabriel, 4 p.m.

#### JULY

**12 OC Branch Dance**, Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7 p.m. Music: recorded

**19 SGV Scottish Luau**, 7 p.m., Dabney Lounge, Caltech, Pasadena

#### AUGUST

**9 OC Branch Dance**, Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7 p.m. Music: recorded

#### SEPTEMBER

**13 OC Branch Dance**, Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7 p.m. Music: recorded

# CATALINA WORKSHOP WEEKEND



Grand march marshals  
Barbara and Mike Mackenzie



Teachers for the Catalina Workshop: Marjorie McLaughlin, Fred DeMarse and Rebecca Blackhall-Peters



Steve Bryan, with Pat Zschoche, borrowed a prop from the skateboarders who were zooming around town.



Piper John Cahill leads the march.

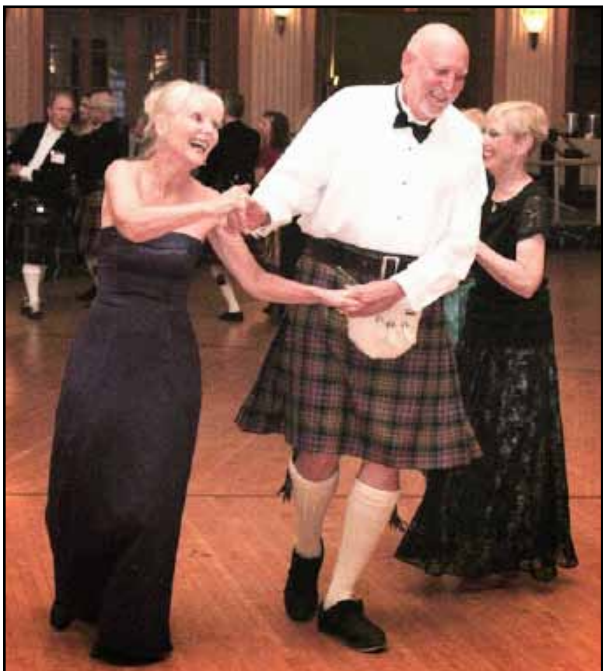


Centerpieces at the ball.

**Photos by  
Ruth Fleming-Stephens,  
Bob Harmon,  
Mike McGinnis,  
Audrey Ramsay Prest,  
Deanna St. Amand**

Wow — what a weekend! There is nothing else that quite equals dancing in that historic Casino ballroom to fabulous music by Fiddlesticks & Ivory. Catalina Workshop chair Doris Fisher somehow arranged for gorgeous island weather. That and the wonderfully sociable mood of the 130+ attendees combined with enjoyable classes to create a simply glorious event. Hotel glitches (unavailable meeting rooms, capricious room keys) were overcome by the delightful time we all enjoyed. Many thanks to Doris, her committee and all those who helped create the magic.

*Audrey Ramsay Prest*



Back at work the day after a memorable weekend on Catalina Island, that involved quite a bit of trekking back and forth to workshops, as well as dancing and partying, these thoughts came to mind while taking a lunchtime stroll.

**Memories of Catalina**  
By Bill Hartung

I took a walk around the block, to stretch my knotted legs  
Who, though it's true they could not talk, did seem to plead and beg:

"Haven't you exercised enough,  
all bloody weekend long?  
Uphill and down, and up again;  
then dancing, drink and song!"

My muscles too, it seemed to me,  
with every weary stride,  
Chimed in, "It's true, we all agree.  
Let's take a nap inside."

"Or watch a movie, drink a cup of  
tea, or read a book,  
Something with your feet propped  
up, and one more thing, now  
look:"

"That island that you took us to,  
Here's something we've all found:  
(Though puzzled how it could be  
true),  
Has more up hills than down!"



For more photos of the Catalina Workshop, see <http://www.rscds-interbranch.org/>  
For a short video of the ball, taken by Bonnie Waters: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B9n-x\\_A4hYA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B9n-x_A4hYA)



## AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND TOURS

Christine Grobler of the Orange County Branch has led four successful dancing tours of New Zealand and is now ready for Australia. She would love to take dancing friends through the gum tree-lined highways to meet the Aussies. The tour theme is primarily dancing and sightseeing. Each tour is customized as far as choices on what to see and do.

Approximate dates for the 2015 tour are March 28 to April 12. The tour will start in Sydney and end in Hobart. Stops will include the Blue Mountains, Bundanoon Scottish Festival, Canberra, Melbourne and Tasmania, with dancing at four or five RSCDS clubs throughout Australia.

Ground transportation will be in a comfortable 12-seat van. Other activities may include cultural entertainment, city and botanical tours, hiking and sightseeing. Both dancers and non-dancers are welcome.

The 2014 New Zealand tour is approximately Sept. 29 to Oct. 12. Using a van for six to eight passengers, the tour will take in both the North and South islands. Tour members will stay and dance with local RSCDS Clubs in Auckland, Rotorua and Christchurch. They will also see Queenstown and Fox Glacier and have the experience of staying on a sheep farm.

For either tour, contact Christine: 18 Oakcliff Drive, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677; 949-412-2088; [chrisgrobler@cox.net](mailto:chrisgrobler@cox.net); [www.toursbychris.com](http://www.toursbychris.com).

## SUMMER DANCE

July 26, 2014  
 First Christian Church  
 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City  
 7 p.m.  
 Recorded music

Granville Market	J B	2nd Graded Book
Maxwell's Rant	R I	Book 18
New Abbey	S B	Graded & Social 2
Seton's Ceilidh Band	J A	Morrison Bush
Bruce's Men	S I	Scotia Suite
Bauldy Bain's Fiddle	R I	Lothian Collection
The Invitation Dance	J B	Auld Friends Meet
The Dalesman	R I	12 More Social Dances
St. Andrews Links	S A	Georgina Finlay
The Brudenell Jig	J B	2nd Graded Book
Tomalena	R I	San Francisco Vol. 2
The Barmkin	R B	2nd Graded Book
Mrs. Hamilton of Wishaw	S A	Book 23
The Kelloholm Jig	J I	RSCDS Leaflet
The Gentleman	S I	Book 35
Forty-Five Years On	R A	5 Dances 2009
Wind/Shakes Barley	R B	Duthie

## SUMMER DANCE

August 23, 2014  
 Torrance Cultural Arts Center  
 Torrance Blvd. at Madrona  
 7 p.m.  
 Recorded music

The Invitation Dance	J B	Auld Friends Meet
Glenalmond Gamekeeper	R I	Bankhead 6
The Valentine	S I	5 Dances 2009
Links/St. Petersburg	J I	Book 46
Her Majesty's Crown	S B	Central Kentucky
Forty-Five Years On	R A	5 Dances 2009
The Brudenell Jig	J B	2nd Graded Book
The Dalesman	R I	12 More Social Dances
St. Andrews Links	S A	Georgina Finlay
Lass of Richmond Hill	R B	2nd Graded Book
Maxwell's Rant	R I	Book 18
Wind/Shakes the Barley	R B	Duthie
Bruce's Men	S I	Scotia Suite
Seton's Ceilidh Band	J A	Morrison Bush
New Abbey	S B	Graded & Social 2
Foggy River Reel	R I	Between The Rivers
Pelorus Jack	J I	Book 41

## SUNDAY AFTERNOON IN VENTURA



The Branch's April dance was held on our usual fourth weekend of the month, but it was on Sunday afternoon instead of Saturday evening. It was hosted by the Santa Barbara, Thousand Oaks and Ventura classes at the Methodist church in Ventura. We had lovely weather, a pleasant drive and lots of great food.

## SPOTLIGHT ON ...

In this issue I put the spotlight on Sarah Stelck of the Santa Barbara class. Sarah is one of those rare individuals with dual citizenship: Canadian and U.S. She was born in Detroit while her father was serving as Canadian consul. His next postings were to Paris, The Hague, London and then Malaysia.

The first language she learned to read and write was Dutch. It was in London that she perfected her English! After returning to England, her parents retired to British Columbia and Sarah stayed in England for one more year. She then moved to Canada and after finishing high school in Victoria attended a vocational college to become a dental assistant.

Sarah met her husband Doug through a mutual friend, and in 1978 they moved to Santa Barbara so he could attend the Brooks Institute of Photography. Doug retired in December 2013 after 32 years of providing video and media support to the scientific, engineering, leadership and management teams of Santa Barbara Research Center and then Raytheon Vision Systems.

Sarah worked as a registered dental assistant for 10 years and then for the Sansum Clinic in the Patient Service Department and Managed Care area for 21 years. Currently she is working in the reservation department at Lo-



Sarah Stelck dances in the Santa Barbara and Ventura classes.

tusland ([www.lotusland.org](http://www.lotusland.org)), a 40-acre estate that became open to the public in 1993. With more than 3,000 different plants from all over the world, Lotusland has been ranked as one of the top 10 gardens in the world.

Doug and Sarah have a 28-year-old son who graduated from Humboldt State in forestry. He is working up in the Stanislaus National Forest at 5,600 feet in Pinecrest, very near Sonora, as a staff member for the UC Berkeley Alumni Association in the Family Camp programs.

Sarah is a real outdoor person, enjoying mountain biking, hiking and camping, as well as yoga. (When we were roommates at Asilomar two years ago, Sarah was off on an early

morning walk each day.)

When I asked her how she got started with Scottish Country Dancing, Sarah said she was always a dancer, especially ballet. While living in London she did some English Country Dancing but never felt it was challenging enough. Since her father was part Scottish, her parents always threw a great Hogmanay party, which, of course, included SCD.

When she moved to Santa Barbara, she saw a small ad for the local class and quickly found a passion she shares with the rest of us.

*Rosemary Abend*

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## RETIREMENT PARTY

Deresa Kenney, co-teacher of the Ventura class, is retiring from the Los Angeles City Fire Department, and she's inviting her dance friends to celebrate June 29. The party will be at 2 p.m. at her home, 3296 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley. There will be a taco bar and non-alcoholic drinks – but please bring your own chair.

Also known to dancers as Deresa Teller, she is retiring after 35 years with the department as inspector, paramedic and K-9 search specialist. Please RSVP by June 15 to 805-526-8920. (No gifts, but contributions welcome for the Australia/New Zealand dance trip in 2015.)

## NEW MEMBERS

The Los Angeles Branch welcomes new members Alyssa Kennedy, Michele Moreno and Dana Dunaway.

*Melinda Brown*

## CLASSES

### Long Beach

We had a real treat on April 26: Michiko Sasase from Shizuoka, Japan, danced with us. Michiko, active in folk dancing of all ethnicities, was visiting a relative in Rancho Palos Verdes. She wished to visit a class here and needed one that met on the weekend. Jack Rennie referred her to Roberta, and we were delighted to welcome her. Once again, Scottish Country Dancing is a universal language!

This session also started with an interested beginner, Malinda. She has participated in “almost ballet” and other forms of dance. Plus, she is active in Zumba. Sounds like she’s all in shape to fit right in! Since we won’t be meeting this summer, we’ll hope all interest continues until September, when we resume.

Three class members and two regular visitors are venturing to the UK in June, participating in one of Christine Grobler’s “dancing tours.” This includes six nights of dancing with various groups as their van journeys from London to Edinburgh. When they stop in Troon for a dance, maybe they’ll catch a glimpse of Jim Bell. Much history, beautiful countryside and great social opportunities are on hand to be absorbed!

At least six of us attended the tremendous Catalina Workshop. Great fun, and, of course, we always enjoy the music of our resident piper, John Cahill.

*Karen Kerman*

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### Ventura

The Ventura Class spent most of March and April getting ready for the Ventura Tea Dance. We are always so excited about and appreciative of having a dance out our way. We had four to five sets on the floor dancing most of the afternoon and plenty of yummy treats.

Thank you so much everyone who drove north and to everyone who helped organize and put things together. It was a great afternoon!

We are also excited about the return of Heather Nicksay to dancing and that we have been joined by Trisha Donat. Both ladies are very eager to learn and have been a welcome addition to our Friday night group. We are also

very happy to announce that Sandy Waddell has been able to start back to dancing after dealing with a long illness.

Several of our class members attended the Catalina Workshop and went on trips and far off adventures. Donna Ingram traveled with her family to Hawaii. Anna Spanopoulos went to Scotland, and many others visited family and friends. Deresa Kenney watched her daughter graduate from college. I continue to teach kindergarten and have spent time with my family going to Legoland and camping at the local beaches.

Several dancers have asked about our class schedule this summer. Deresa and I are both working through some knee and ankle issues and may have surgeries in the next month or so. Therefore, we are unsure about the summer. However, if you are interested in joining class on a particular Friday, please feel free to contact us and we will let you know what the plan is. Regardless of what happens in the summer though, we are all planning on being back to dancing in late August or early September, so that we can start getting ready for the Seaside Highland Games in October.

Michael Tiffany, longtime Scottish Country dancer and owner of the fencing studio where our class is held, recently installed a new dance-quality floor. To celebrate, our class helped organize, advertise and put on a dance party in January. We joined with six other local dance classes to put together a fun afternoon of dancing.

*Lisa Sage*

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### Beverly Hills

We’re going back to Roxbury! The Beverly Hills class is thrilled to be returning to the newly refurbished Roxbury Park (471 S. Roxbury Drive, between Olympic and Pico) starting the first week in June.

And in honor of our return, we’ve decided to hold class through the summer so we can enjoy the new hall as much as possible. Our new digs include a bright new dance studio with wooden floor. Summer session starts June 4.

*Roberta Gotfried*





To celebrate the April birthday of Robb Quint, his students showed up at class that night in plaid shorts — copying Robb’s standard class attire. From left: Linda McWade, Donna Ingram, Murray Bader, Deresa Kenney, Robb, Barbara Hoff, Carolyn Williams, Claudia Pedersen, Angela Tennyson, Alan Hoff. Ken Evans and Marta Freixas were behind the scenes snapping photos.

### Thousand Oaks

The Thousand Oaks class began its summer break on Memorial Day Weekend; our Tuesday evening classes will resume on Sept. 9.

What dancers are up to beyond dancing always seems to begin with the most obvious: travel. Christa Wilk and husband Bill were off to Indonesia, a distant land that took them 20 hours of flying time to reach. They visited the islands of Java and Bali, braving the heat and humidity to see beautiful lush landscapes, plenty of temples, even local farms.

Not quite as far in the same direction, not only Donna Ingram but also Sandy and Madeleine Waddell enjoyed trips to Hawaii. Linda McWade helped put together her granddaughter’s first birthday celebration and then headed off to that other distant Pacific state, Alaska, for a springtime cruise. She had previously visited all of the other states, and now she has been to all 50, a specific goal of hers.

Enjoying California travel were Claudia Pedersen, who was “kidnapped,” as she put it, for her birthday by her daughter and son-in-law and taken to Disneyland with grandchildren in tow; Angela Tennyson, Barbara Hoff, and Deresa Teller, who sailed to Catalina for the SCD weekend there; and Angie Outmesguine, who recently enjoyed a family trip to Lake Tahoe.

Moving on from the travel reports, Carolyn Williams took a writing class with expectations

of having some fun with historical fiction, a nice change from the scholarly research and writing.

“Music man” Alan Hoff is taking lessons and working toward mastering his relatively new accordion, declaring that trying to make both hands work together is like trying to pat one’s head and rub one’s stomach at the same time! Alan will ere long be again producing teachers’ recordings of all the newly chosen dances added by teachers this spring to the annual branch dance list.

As a major life-changing event soon upcoming, Deresa Teller will be retiring after 35 years with the Los Angeles City Fire Department. Deresa was among only the second training class including women to be hired and now has the distinction of being the very first woman to have worked for the department for 35 years. Congratulations, Deresa!

And finally, I myself was treated to a birthday surprise when my April 15 birthday happened to fall right on a Tuesday class night. Most of the class conspired to wear tartan shorts to class, as they always find me clad in class. They met outside (while I was wondering where on earth they all were!), and entered en masse thusly dressed exclaiming “Happy Birthday!” A tad silly perhaps, but meant and taken as a tribute by this greatly appreciative teacher.

*Robb Quint*

The spring quarter has seen North Valley class members taking part in many activities. For the dance in Ventura, Terry Schaeffer, Audrey Prest, Deanna St. Amand and Claudia Pedersen carpooled for the afternoon. Terry, Audrey and Deanna were joined by Angela Tennyson and Alice Allen for the Catalina weekend.

Deanna coordinated a special occasion in Santa Barbara for Mary Brandon's 89th birthday. Angela and Alice performed with the Clan MacLeod dancers.

Remember the saying, "Don't let the bed bugs bite!"? Well, the Husmans have found out that's easier said than done. Matt and Laura and their two boys have been staying out of their house, doing extra loads of laundry, and even freezing books to avoid future encounters with the little critters.

*Claudia Pedersen*

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### **Demonstration Team**

Most of you have read articles about the Los Angeles Branch Demonstration team right here in the Ghillie Callum, along with photos from our various performances. Have you ever wondered about the who and why of the Team?

The Demonstration Team was formed to raise awareness of the Scottish Country Dance form. We perform at community, public and private events across Southern California.

Members of the team love to dance and to share their love of dancing. They also enjoy challenging themselves by tackling more interesting dances as an ensemble and working to improve their individual dancing and dancing as a "team" (remember, it is social dancing after all, isn't it?).

We are looking for new dancers to join our friendly group. If you think you might be interested, please contact Team Director Roberta Gotfried: [rgotfried@alum.vassar.edu](mailto:rgotfried@alum.vassar.edu).

*Roberta Gotfried*

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### **NEXT DEADLINE**

Articles and photos for the September Ghillie Callum are due Aug. 1. Please email to [aramsapp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aramsapp@sbcglobal.net).

The L.A. Branch has money set aside in a Memorial Fund, to be used for special equipment or special events. It can also be use for scholarships to help members attend a workshop or something else 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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### **RALPHS REWARDS PROGRAM**

The Branch earns a contribution from the Ralphs Rewards Community Contribution Program when members register to benefit the Branch, while continuing to earn their own Ralphs Rewards points. Go online to register or pick up a flier to take to to your store. You need to re-register annually, beginning Sept. 1. Our Organization Number is 93159.



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