



AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – JUNE 27, 2015

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!

NOMINATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

CHAIR – Rosemary Abend

VICE CHAIR – Ann McBride

TREASURER – Doris Fisher

RECORDING SECRETARY – Audrey Prest

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – Robb Quint

MEMBERS AT LARGE – Evan Avery, Dana Dunaway, Kris McGinnis, Jon Reeves

Nominations for all positions will be accepted at the AGM.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Hello Dancers,

As many commencement speakers have said, graduation is not only an end but also a beginning. I feel that the Branch has now come to that point in our history. As the 2014-2015 dance year draws to a close, we can look forward to celebrating our anniversary year beginning

with our 50th AGM on June 27.

The Committee of Management has been hard at work since July planning some special anniversary surprise activities – the first one will be at the AGM. As in the past, there will be a potluck at 5:00 p.m., the AGM at 6:00 p.m. and the dance at 7:00 p.m. Those attending the AGM

Continued on page 2

NEWS NOTES

- The date for the Branch's 50th anniversary dinner and ball has been changed to April 30, 2016, (not the 23rd).
- The Los Angeles Branch will be the host branch for this year's Interbranch Dance, Sept. 26, 2015. The musicians will be Lisa Scott and Susan Worland.
- The St. Andrew's Ball will be held on Nov. 28, 2015 (Thanksgiving weekend). The musicians will be StringFire!, who played at this year's Burns Supper.
- Deanna St. Amand's dance Acadia was not accepted for publication in the Society's Book 49. Thank you to all who submitted dances, as well as those who gave up a Sunday afternoon to try them out.
- The deadline to submit dances for inclusion in the Branch's 50th anniversary book of dances is June 27 (AGM).
- The AGM Dance will once again be free to those who attend the Annual General Meeting. Please join us at 5 p.m. for the potluck, as well.

Rosemary Abend

Continued from page 1

will have free admission to the dance.

I hope you all have read Terry Schaeffer's letter regarding volunteers to sit on the Committee of Management. A list of the nominees at press time is included in this issue of the newsletter. Nominations from the floor will be accepted.

There will be many other tasks this anniversary year for those of you who can't commit to serving on the Board but might like to contribute in other ways. Please contact me if you feel you can help with publicity, reservations, decorations, computing, etc.

I want to thank all the members of the Committee of Management for the endless hours they have spent this past year on the ordinary business of the running the Branch. Most of them also spent additional hours visiting potential dance sites throughout Los Angeles County, and they were just as willing to adjust their personal schedules when we needed to make important decisions.

Thank you so much.

Rosemary Abend

CALENDAR

LOS ANGELES BRANCH

JUNE

- 27 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

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

AUGUST

- 22 Summer Dance**, First Christian Church, 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City, 7 p.m. Music: recorded.

- 28-30 Harwood Weekend**, Harwood Lodge at Mt. Baldy. Information and reservations: Doris Fisher, doris.fisher@gmail.com or 310-782-8300 (daytime) or 310-324-2759 (evening).

SEPTEMBER

- 26 Interbranch Dance**, Tustin Area Senior Center. 7:30 p.m. Music: Lisa Scott and Susan Worland.

OTHER BRANCHES

JUNE

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

- 21 SGV Father's Day Tea Dance**, Church of Our Saviour, 535 W. Roses Road, San Gabriel, 5 p.m. Music: recorded.

JULY

- 11 OC Monthly Dance**, Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7 p.m. Music: recorded.

- 19 SGV Summer Ballette**, Church of Our Saviour, San Gabriel, 5 p.m. Music: recorded.

AUGUST

- 8 OC Monthly Dance**, Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7 p.m. Music: recorded.

SEPTEMBER

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

SPOTLIGHT ON ...

This issue's Spotlight turns on Barbara and Alan Hoff. Alan was born and raised in Marshall, Minn. He graduated from the University of Minnesota as an electrical engineer. He has worked with computer software all of his career. Why did he decide to move to California? An ice storm left 2 inches of ice on his car before leaving work!

Barbara is a local person – born and raised in Los Angeles. She graduated from CSUN and worked as an elementary school teacher for many years.

Barbara and Alan have been married for 36 years and have an adult daughter who lives in Sonoma County, where she raises a small flock of miniature sheep.

Alan is quite the musician: He plays guitar, clarinet, flute and accordion (he could be his own Scottish Country Dance Band!). He belongs to a small music group (as yet unnamed) and arranges music for them. He also flies radio-control model airplanes. Barbara hikes, does yoga and belongs to two book clubs.

They discovered Scottish Country Dancing



Barbara and Alan Hoff

through a Parks and Rec class in Simi Valley in 2000, when David Brandon was their teacher. Alan also makes all the CDs of music used in our classes as well as at the informal dances.

Rosemary Abend



DANCERS IN AUSTRALIA

Touring and dancing their way through Australia and Tasmania in April are, from left, Jon Reeves, Mary Jo Winder, Christine Grobler, Randi Kraemer, John Allen, Stephanie Meyer, Deresa Kenney and Stephen Bryan. Not shown: Dave Wilson.

ASILOMAR WEEKEND

The San Francisco Branch's Asilomar Weekend will be Nov. 13-15. Teachers will be Jimmie Hill, Ruth Jappy, Elaine Brunken, Jeff Corrigan and Alan Twigg. Musicians will be Fiddlesticks & Ivory, Judi Nicolson and Andy Imbrie

The Asilomar Conference Grounds and State Beach are located on the spectacular Monterey Peninsula in Pacific Grove.

Details and registration information are available at asilomar.rscds-sf.org. For questions, contact Weekend Chairman Patti Cobb, pkcobb23@gmail.com or Registrar Julee Montes julm-hcs@pacbell.net

SUMMER DANCE

July 25, 2015

Torrance Cultural Arts Center
Torrance Blvd. at Madrona
7 p.m.
Recorded music

Trip to Gretna Green	J B	Unknown
Scotia Sea	R I	Scotia Suite
Largo Law	S B	MMM I
Seton's Ceilidh Band	J A	Morrison Bush
The Rose Garden	S I	San Francisco Vol. 2
Flight to Melbourne	R I	Book 47
The Invitation Dance	J B	Auld Friends Meet
Glastonbury Tor	R I	Book 47
Barbara's Strathspey	S I	Book 46
The Duke of Atholl's Reel	J B	Book 16
Tomalena	R I	San Francisco Vol. 2
The Lass of Richmond Hill	R B	2nd Graded Book
Mrs Hamilton of Wishaw	S A	Book 23
Fair Jenny's Jig	J I	From Redwood Forest
Hana Strathspey	S I	Tweeddale Coll. Vol. 4
A Trip Around Salt Spring	R A	Katannuta
The Highland Lass	R B	Book 30

SUMMER DANCE

August 22, 2015

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

The Invitation Dance	J B	Auld Friends Meet
Foggy River Reel	R I	Between The Rivers
Bruce's Men	S I	Scotia Suite
Marigold	J A	Cosh 22 SCD
Her Majesty's Crown	S B	Central Kentucky
Tomalena	R I	San Francisco Vol. 2
Pelorus Jack	J I	Book 41
The Barmkin	R B	2nd Graded Book
Dear Gladys	S A	Farewell My Fancy
Rodney's Rant	J I	Q.E. Diamond Jubilee
Susan Scott/San Rafael	R B	Let's All Dance, Too
The Dalesman	R I	12 More Social Dances
St. Martin's Strathspey	S B	24 Graded & Social
The Kelloholm Jig	J I	RSCDS Leaflet
J. B. Milne	R A	Hugh Foss
Mist o'er the Loch	S I	Q.E. Diamond Jubilee
The Wind That Shakes the Barley	R B	Eight SCDs

HARWOOD WEEKEND...

Do you enjoy.....

Getting to know other dancers on a more personal level?

Dining on gourmet food in a local mountain-top setting?

Working on your dancing skills in a workshop format?

Playing card games or word games?

Reading, hiking or napping?

If any or all of the above sounds like something that appeals to you, please join us for our next Harwood adventure in the Mt. Baldy area. We have reserved the Sierra Club's Harwood Lodge for the weekend of Aug. 28-30, 2015, and have room just for YOU!

The event begins on Friday night with dinner and ends on Sunday late morning. All meals and lodging (dorm style) included for a very reasonable \$95.

If you are interested, please RSVP to Doris

Fisher by July 31st at doris.fisher@gmail.com or call her at 310-782-8300 (daytime) or 310-324-2759 (evening).

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.

NEXT DEADLINE

Articles and photos for the September Ghillie Callum are due Aug. 1. Please email to aramsapp@sbcglobal.net.

MARY BRANDON'S BIRTHDAY

Most birthdays last only one day — but Mary Brandon's 90th birthday celebration lasted the whole month of April.

It started with the actual day, April 6, with lots of flowers, then lunch at her favorite Italian bistro. Back home we looked through a few of the more than 70 cards and messages she received, then it was time for delicious chocolate mousse cake for everyone we could entice to join in. After all that excitement, Mary wanted a nap, supper and a good night's sleep.

A few days later, Mary and I attended a performance of the Santa Barbara Symphony, which included Dvorak's "New World Symphony," a favorite for both of us. A few days after that, Deanna St. Amand and Angela Tennyson drove up from Los Angeles for lunch and a long "blither" with Mary.

It's taking Mary some time to get through the greetings she received from dancers all over the world, because each card is like a personal visit. She savors the card, its message and the personal note. Then she takes time to allow memories and thoughts come forward and reconnect her with her students and friends.

Mary now has a treasure trove of good wishes to remind her that although she has retired from dancing and teaching, she and her dances are still loved by Scottish Country Danc-

ers around the world. Thank you to everyone who took the time to sign a card, or to send their own message.

But the best gift came at the end of the month. Masako Okada Naitoh (Marchan) — one of Mary's dearest dancers and the first teacher Mary trained in Japan — was visiting family in Anaheim and was able to schedule a day for Mary. Marchan is now the linchpin of SCD for all of Japan, teaching classes and leading two demonstration teams. She was traveling with her niece, Akiko Kasama Saito, who lives in Amsterdam and plays piano for Scottish Country Dancing and dances when she's not playing.

To visit Mary, they had to take the train from Anaheim to Chatsworth where I picked them up and drove them to Santa Barbara. They had a wonderful visit with Mary. Akiko played a few selections for her, and after lunch, Marchan performed a ladies' step dance. Of course, Mary coached and critiqued, ensuring each that she could improve if she just kept with it, which Marchan and Akiko took graciously. Seeing Marchan was the very best birthday gift Mary could receive.

The email address created for Mary's birthday greetings (shoolbraidbrandon@gmail.com) is still active, and I check it regularly. I will be happy to pass along any further messages.

Alice Allen

CLASSES

Beverly Hills



Beverly Hills Class dancing Tomalena with visitors from Japan.

Ventura

Our Ventura Class was busy the month of April preparing for the tea dance. Several dancers joined us specially that month to learn dances for the event on April 26.

Madeleine Waddell and Jean and Gerry McGuire returned to class so that they could dance along with us that afternoon, honoring the memory of our local dancer, Sandy Waddell, who passed away just a few months ago.

It was a lovely afternoon, and there were delicious refreshments provided by the three local host classes. Thank you to everyone who was able to join in at the dance.

During April some local dancers went on a trip to Australia for several weeks. Deresa Ken-

ney was among those venturing out to the Land Down Under.

She came home with many interesting tales to tell and a dance she was inspired to write while there. We danced it a few weeks ago and had a lot of fun with it.

Several of our other class members have been busy with traveling, health concerns and family responsibilities. We are keeping them all in our thoughts and prayers, but are thankful that we have enough dancers available to join together and have a great time learning dances.

Lisa Sage

Demonstration Team

The Demonstration Team has said goodbye to the Cheviot Hills Recreation Center. This has been our practice space since David and Mary Brandon led the team. Though it's sad to leave the old one that many of us went to for such a long time, we are looking forward to trying a new place.

And that is 1508 18th St. in Santa Monica (just south of Broadway). Yes, Scottish Country Dancing is returning to Santa Monica.

So if you are an experienced dancer who has been wishing there was a place to dance near the beach (well, not THAT close to the beach), come dance with us. We are always looking for experienced dancers who enjoy dancing challenging dances and working with dancers in a collegial atmosphere.

RSCDS-LA Demonstration Team performs several times a year at various types of events, including Scottish fairs and private parties, to share our love of Scottish dance and culture with the SoCal community, as well as reaching potential new dancers. Contact Roberta Gotfried, 310-490-9594 if you want to know more.

Roberta Gotfried/Alice Allen

Long Beach

During the Spring Session, the Long Beach Class has been on hiatus. However, this by no means suggests that there is inactivity by the members. We've sampled other classes and

taken advantage of the many dancing opportunities each month.

Roberta, serving as a teacher with Bob McMurtry, journeyed to Portland, Ore., for that branch's annual workshop March 14. There was ample time to visit friends and sightsee before taking the train on to Vancouver, B.C., for that branch's 50th Anniversary Ball. Needless to say, she's been busy dancing, traveling and managing the LA Demo team!

Connie Walker, one of our beloved members, fulfilled a life-long dream and moved to live in Bishop, CA. Consequently, we'll miss her company but wish her the best in her new endeavor. It's fairly certain she took SCD with her!

Meanwhile, several members participated in the Costa Mesa Scottish Fest demos on Memorial Day weekend, again showcasing everything Scottish and having fun, too.

Our break continues through summer. After that we'll reconvene in September for the beginning of the crowded dancing season.

Keep active and remember all the AGMs and summer dances. Happy dancing!

Karen Kerman

Redlands

I would like to thank Brenda McGlasson, Renee Boblette and Ginger Moore (my wife) for their invaluable assistance in getting this class started. I met Brenda and Renee at the Annual Apple and Thistle Festival at Snow-Line Orchard in Oak Glen last September.

Renee was there with a group of dancers from Orange County demonstrating and inviting people to participate in ceilidh dancing. Brenda was at the Scottish Society Inland Empire (IEScots) booth. She told me there were quite a few members of the IEScots who were interested in SCD.

With Renee getting people interested in dancing, Brenda helping me find IEScots members interested in SCD, and Ginger helping me research venues in and around Redlands, we were finally able to put a class together.

The Redlands class had its first meeting March 18 in the Redlands Recreation Center. We had 19 dancers. Although we have some members with SCD experience, the majority are be-

ginning SCD dancers. We are working on basics.

On May 6 we had a Dance Class Social with 14 dancers attending. We danced all seven of the dances we learned in the previous six weeks. We will have our next Dance Class Social on June 10. We will take a two-week break the last half of June and resume classes July 1.



Tim Harrison

The Branch's newest class, Redlands, held its first social dance May 6.

Thousand Oaks

It seems that travel always takes first billing in these reports, and it is a significant component once again, but as first item I would this time like to express a hearty Thousand Oakie welcome to Janet Forney, a not-so-much-any-more beginner. Our class does not typically have beginners, but owing to a series of serendipitous flukes o'er several weeks, Janet has become well ensconced and is doing very well indeed (sometimes quite amazing us actually)!

Now to the travel, which during the springtime has been all international and exceedingly widespread. While these several-week junkets certainly do widen our dancers' horizons, both literally and figuratively, and we always wish them a sincere bon voyage, the travel does nonetheless take them away from us, and so we are always most happy to have them back.

Christa Wilk and husband Bill took a long double trip, first a tour of Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe, then after a few days' calm in Lisbon a second tour of southern Iberia. Deresa Kenney joined Christine Grobler's latest SCD/sightseeing tour, this time to Australia. Carolyn Williams and husband Barney literally circled the globe (with the air travel included) for an Indian Ocean cruise from Singapore to Dubai. Ken Evans and Marta Freixas flew to Istanbul for a few days, followed by a rental-car tour of Greece and a side trip flying off to Santorini in the Aegean Sea. And Eunice Udelf took a month-long cruise to South America but had a bad fall in

port on the return voyage and has not yet been able to return to dancing.

Murray Bader has a new job, now with a law firm in Oxnard much closer to his Ventura home. While we no longer lie along his direct route homeward, we are most gratified to know that Murray will still be joining us in class. Murray's new job should also afford him considerably more free time, "perhaps even to attend more dances," quoth he.

The class wishes to particularly recognize with its sincere appreciation two very long drives to be with us, one from the west, i.e. Santa Barbara-Goleta, bringing us on some Tuesdays Christine Carlin, Dana Dunaway, Phyllis Gibson, Mary Nisbet and/or Sarah Stelck; and the other from the southeast, i.e. from Pacific Palisades, bringing us longtime loyal class member Christa Wilk and relatively new class addition Carmen Silva-Corvalán, a gem of an addition, whom we are delighted to have with us. The visits from Santa Barbara are also relatively recent and seemingly have become increasingly frequent, much to our delight as well!

We have a couple of class bakers who from time to time bring us goodies from their kitchens, viz. Angela Tennyson and Deresa Kenney, whose efforts for us in that respect we greatly appreciate. And also in the baking department, Donna Ingram not only most kindly arranged a surprise class party for me on the eve of my April 15th birthday (and we'll not mention the age) but also baked a delicious cake for it.

It was a joy to see so many of our class

folks at the branch's April dance in Ventura, held in memory of a longtime class member now lost to us, Sandy Waddell, whose absence has been palpable and a great sorrow to us.

The Thousand Oaks class is now on its usual summer break, and we typically reconvene on the Tuesday evening eight days after Labor Day, but in the meantime we'll be seeing you at the summer dance events. If you should e'er find yourself anywhere near the Conejo Valley on a Tuesday, visitors are always most welcome.

Robb Quint

Reseda

The Reseda Class has witnessed a flurry of interest in creating dances for a book celebrating the 50-year anniversary of the Los Angeles Branch of RSCDS.

Laura Husman, Audrey Prest, Alice Allen and Deanna St. Amand brought dances for us to try out in class. This has given all of us an insight into the creation of a dance with focus on its planning, timing, flow and the actual wording of the instructions.

Alice also spread the word about Mary Brandon's 90th birthday, which was celebrated with cards and good wishes from around the world.

Matt Husman and his older son Glen visited Washington, D.C., Gettysburg and Philadelphia over spring break. A highlight was the Air and Space Museum located in Washington, D.C. Matt and Laura's younger son, Peter joined our class for warm-up exercises and a couple of beginner dances. He has been an occasional class participant since before he got his first kilt and we're always glad to have him.

Claudia Pedersen

WHEN YOUR CLASS HOSTS

What does it mean when the class you attend is listed as a host class for a dance? It means you have two responsibilities: 1. bring a "substantial" dish (such as sandwiches) and 2. assist in the set-up and clean-up. That way we all share in putting on our informal dances.

MEMORIAL FUND

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.

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.



Branch chair: Rosemary Abend
Address: 23920 Anza Ave. #224
Torrance, CA 90505
Home phone: 310-373-1985
Email: rabend7731@verizon.net

Membership chair: Melinda Brown
Address: 30547 Mehrten Dr.
Exeter, CA 93221
Cell phone: 805-368-7057
Email: mjtbt1002@hotmail.com

Ghillie Callum Editor: Audrey Ramsay Prest
Address: 19136 Hamlin St.
Reseda, CA 91335
Home phone: 818-708-8125
Email: aramsapp@sbcglobal.net

Website: RSCDS-losangeles.org
Facebook: Los Angeles Branch -rscds