



AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
JUNE 27, 2020
VIA ZOOM

Meeting 4 p.m., no dance or potluck supper

NOMINATIONS

CHAIR — Ann McBride

VICE CHAIR — no nominee

TREASURER — Doris Fisher

RECORDING SECRETARY — Audrey Prest

*CORRESPONDING SECRETARY — Robb
Quint*

MEMBERS AT LARGE (vote for four) —

*Dana Dunaway, Kris McGinnis, Nancy Myers,
Jon Reeves*

*Additional nominations for all positions will be
accepted by write-in on your ballot.*

The 2020 Annual General Meeting of the Los Angeles Branch will take place on June 27 and will be held via the Zoom application. Prior to the meeting, an email will be sent out to all members inviting them to join the meeting and giving the email link.

All members will receive a paper copy of this issue of the Ghillie Callum along with the membership renewal form and the ballot of officers for the AGM. Members will also receive this issue via email, as they normally would. Note that the membership renewal form has a new look, including the updated logo.

Please mark your ballot and mail, together with your membership form and check, to our membership chair, Melinda Brown. Mailing deadline for membership and ballot is Friday, June 19. If you have already mailed in your membership renewal (and thank you for being early!), you may still vote.

Getting your ballot and membership in the mail well before the AGM would be helpful.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings fellow dancers,

In these strange and worrisome times, daily life as we know it has drastically changed in an unprecedented way. With all classes and dancing gatherings “on hold,” it is essential that we keep in touch with one another. A simple phone call can achieve this, an email, a text message or – in the cases of some more adventurous members – a Zoom “chat.”

Both the L.A. Branch Committee and the

Committee of Teachers are continuing to work toward the day when classes will resume and we can all get back to celebrating our favorite pastime!

The Branch Committee met in May via Zoom, which worked quite well — so we voted to hold the Annual General Meeting the same way on the regularly scheduled date, June 27. Please

Continued on page 2

KEEP YOUR CUE BOOK

Because of the suspension of classes and dances due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Teacher's Committee has voted to carry over the current program for the dance year 2020-2021.

The 2019-2020 cue book will be used for a second year. If yours has gone astray, a new one may be purchased for \$2.

Since the dances on the 2019-2020 program were only used for four L.A. dances — Halloween, St. Andrew's, Hogmanay and the February Beginner dance — this decision will allow us to introduce the remaining new dances and will give us a chance to enjoy these and other favorites from the current program when we are able to resume dancing.

Deanna St. Amand

Continued from page 1

see the AGM announcement on page 1 for more information.

With a hopeful eye on the approaching fall, let us hope that we can celebrate with a glorious Interbranch Dance in Tustin.

Thought for the day: Was social distancing created by SCD?? Many SCDers have "kitchen/bathroom" dances — those dances we dislike for one reason or another, so when they are announced, we head for the kitchen — therefore we were "social distancing" way ahead of everyone else now discovering that phrase! Just a thought.

In the meantime — be well, be safe, be in touch with one another. And — make your daily mantra: Scottish Country Dancing!

Ann McBride

"THE EMIGRANT SCOT"

"The Emigrant Scot," the final book and CD of Mary Brandon's dance trilogy, has arrived. The book was originally released in 2017, but the CD was delayed. Last year, the leader of the Bluebell SCD Trio, Akiko Kasama-Saito, worked with Murray Shoolbraid, Mary Brandon's brother who composed or selected the music for her books.

While the CDs were being produced in Japan, the book was revised to include diagrams for each dance, as well as the text and music corrections.

Now the CD, revised and expanded book, and PDF versions of the book are available through TAC Books, TAC Sound and, for European sales, the Leeds Branch Store. The other titles in the trilogy, "Memories of Fife" and "Dances with a Difference, The Los Angeles Collection," are also available in print and PDF, along with the CDs by Muriel Johnstone.

The CD for "The Emigrant Scot" is also available from Amazon, iTunes, Google Play and by download from CDBaby.

Alice Allen

CALENDAR

All events are on hold until the "stay at home" orders are lifted and our dance venues become available once again.

RALPHS RECEIPTS

Have you noticed that your receipts from Ralphs lack the line at the bottom showing the RSCDS contributions?

A phone call to Ralphs Rewards confirmed that our Community Contribution rewards are still being processed — it just isn't showing on the receipt because the company is conserving paper.

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 provided by Robb Quint.

To be added to the mailing list, contact Robb at volleyballjerry@aol.com.

Deadline for the September issue of the Ghillie Callum is Aug. 1.

70TH ANNIVERSARY

Over the years, longtime SCDers Gil and Roz Gotfried have celebrated life events with the dance community. Gil's birthday often coincides with the Burns Ball.



Roz and Gil Gotfried

And we have had some anniversary cakes at the AGM to celebrate their wedding anniversary that falls on June 25.

They were married in 1950, so 2020 brings their 70th anniversary. They are disappointed they won't be able to celebrate this year with everyone as they have in the past. They wish everyone good health and a speedy return to dancing, a hobby that has given them so many years of pleasure.

CLASSES

Ventura

Like everyone else, the Ventura Class is currently on break. However, that hasn't stopped many of our dancers from exercising, "traveling," keeping in touch or even "dancing."

Many dancers are staying in touch by reading Robb Quint's daily SCD-SoCal emails. Many are also watching dance videos and listening to favorite dance tunes.

Marta Freixas reads digital magazines from the library, including travel — "Vicarious travel is better than no travel at all!" Donna Ingram has resumed harp lessons on Zoom.

Christina Harris has been a tech assistant for her husband, Scott, who has been joining multiple remote music sessions a week with Jam Kazam (sort of like Zoom, for musicians). Christina and Scott Harris have been hiking.

Several dancers have joined in with the RSCDS Zoom class. I hope we can see each other on the dance floor soon, but in the meantime take care!

Lisa Sage

STAYING DANCE READY

Every day I try to take a walk while I listen to reels on my iPod. (Reels have a nice steady beat, ideal for walking.) I've added jog for 32 bars, rest, jog for 32 bars. My goal is to get up to 64 bars, twice through a dance for couple 1.

You could also try doing pas de basque, a real killer for 32 bars! (Or you could dance "Petronella" which has 24 bars of PDB.)

I also try to do warm-up exercises every day. You all know the routine for your class.

Finally, we have the dance lessons each Wednesday offered by the RSCDS. The lessons are also posted on <https://www.rscds.org/get-involved/dance-scottish-home>, so if you miss one or want to repeat a lesson you can do so.

I know we all miss dancing as well as seeing our friends. Hopefully, social distancing will be over in weeks not months.

Rosemary Abend

Valley College

Back in March, our class was on a roll. We had just hosted a very successful dance in February, where everyone had a great time.

After that event we had one class to prepare for the San Diego Sapphire Ball. Nine of us went: Jeff and Margaret, Betty, Audrey, Lindsey, Laura, Jon, John and myself.

I had no idea that the next Monday night would be the last class of the dancing year!

My daughter Lisbeth and I were going to go to Denmark, but that will not happen, so instead Lisbeth is growing a vegetable garden. Tove Olafson, who used to dance in my class, has gone to Norway for the duration of the virus.

To all my class, I miss you and look forward to being back with you again but it doesn't look promising for a while.

All I can say is stay healthy and keep moving; there will be class again.

I am staying inside my house. I am at an age where the doctor might say she has danced her last dance, so make room for a younger one. I won't let that happen!

Aase Hansen

Torrance/Redondo Beach

As a way to keep in contact, many of the members of the Friday and Monday night classes contributed to a dance devised by email. The 96-bar medley is called The Corona Lockdown. Dancers would write four to eight bars, then the next dancer was tagged to add to it. Bill Hartung edited some wonderful music for the dance.

Kris McGinnis

Dem Team

In lieu of performances, here's what we have done instead: lots of walking (Carol Madden, Larry Kanowsky, John Cahill, Mike and Kris McGinnis), yoga (Roberta Gotfried, Connie Walker and Alice Allen) and even running (Grant Clark).

The break is allowing some of our dancers to mend: Martina Hanson's foot has healed enough to take walks. Jim Bell is getting his energy back after surgery. Dana Dunaway is recovering from the coronavirus.

Alice Allen

Santa Barbara

We cancelled the Santa Barbara class on March 12 and have not met in person since. However, the next week we met up in a Zoom session, with 16 people joining in! We've been meeting every week at class time. Each Zoom window comprised a set of one or two people, with the requisite number of ghosts filling out the set.

Everyone danced from first position twice, the music ending after 64 bars. We danced a jig, a reel and a strathspey — and it worked! We've had 10 sets (with 66 ghosts)!

Ilse Gilbert

OBITUARY

Murray Shoolbraid, younger brother of Mary Brandon and Roger Shoolbraid, has passed away in Canada. He played piano with Scottish dance bands and composed hundreds of dance tunes, many of them for dances Mary wrote.

Alice Allen

MEMORIAL FUND

The branch has money in a Memorial Fund, to be used for equipment purchases or special events. It can be used for scholarships to help members attend a workshop or something related to Scottish Country Dancing but who cannot afford the whole cost on their own. Applications are available from branch teachers.

AMAZON SMILE

The branch has yet another opportunity to earn donations. AmazonSmile will make a contribution when you shop using our account number. Learn how by going to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0205054>.

RALPHS REWARDS PROGRAM

The branch earns a contribution from the Ralphs Rewards Community Contribution Program when members register to benefit the Branch, while they continue to earn their own Ralphs Rewards points. Pick up a flier and learn how to register or call 800-443-4438. **You still need to re-register every September.** Our Organization Number is AV732. Then use your Ralphs Rewards card (or phone number) every time you shop.



RSCDS, Los Angeles Branch Inc.

P.O. Box 90871, Los Angeles, CA 90009

chair@rscds-losangeles.org

Branch chair: Ann McBride
Home phone: 818-841-8161
Email: annmcbride1024@gmail.com

Membership chair: Melinda Brown
Address: 30547 Mehrten Dr.
Exeter, CA 93221
Cell phone: 805-368-7057
Email: mjtb1002@hotmail.com

Ghillie Callum Editor: Audrey Ramsay Prest
Home phone: 818-708-8125
Email: aramsapp@sbcglobal.net