

The GHILLIE CALLUM

Volume 42 No 3

March 2011

BURNS SUPPER AND BALL

Calling Robert Burns the greatest writer of love songs Scotland — or the world — ever produced, Ann McBride treated us to a lesson in the love songs of our favorite poet at this year's Burns Supper and Ball.

Appropriately, she was assisted by two strong singers, Norm McCallum and Richard Juzix, who bookended her talk with charming examples. Those who've attended previous Burns events recall the poet-songwriter's fondness for women; this time Ann tallied up the assorted Jeans and Annies and others for a total of 42 women he loved or doted on.

For the toasts to the lassies and the laddies, Jim Bell and Roberta Gotfried spoke in the Burns theme as well. Jim recited an abbreviated version of Burns' Tam o' Shanter poem. Roberta followed with a clever rejoinder in the same poetic style from the point of view of Tam's hard-working wife — who gets fed up with his carousing and leaves him!



Ann McBride begins the festivities.

It was a wonderful evening in the beautiful O'Donnell Hall of American Martyrs Church in Manhattan Beach. We dined and chatted, and listened and laughed, and then danced till very late to the lively music of Susan Worland, Lyle Ramshaw and Michael Bentley. They, too, were in a Burns mood, sprinkling several of his best-known tunes into the arrangements.

Festivities opened with the presentation of the haggis, which was piped in by John Cahill and carried on a silver tray by Marisa McGinnis, escorted by Richard Juzix, Mike McGinnis and Denis Rodgers as the sword-carrying henchmen. Norm McCallum recited Burns' Address to a Haggis with great flair.



Jim Bell and Roberta Gotfried offer the toasts to the lassies and the laddies.

It was served "warm, reekin', rich" and delicious! There wasn't a speck of it left on any table. True haggis aficionados came over to our haggis maker Jon Reeves to congratulate him on a great job. Due to availability of ingredients, he'd had to adjust the recipe a little this year — and it was a hit.



The haggis is ready; from left, Mike McGinnis, Marisa McGinnis, Denis Rodgers, Richard Juzix and piper John Cahill.

Linda's decorations were elegant: tartan hearts and ribbons, silhouettes of dancers and antique-looking sheet music on the walls, plus tartan ribbon, greenery and candles on the tables.

Deanna and Shirley coordinated the dance program. Frank Ibbott provided graphic arts. Chuck Olsen was registrar. And Wilma Fee was liaison with the church and hall.

We thank them all for their dedication and work to provide a truly memorable evening!

Audrey Ramsay Prest

Wilma Fee recited the Selkirk Grace. Shirley Saturensky and Frank Ibbott were grand marshals. Dances were briefed by Shirley, Roberta and Renee Boblette.

An event of this proportion for 100 people doesn't put itself together. Many, many hours in the Los Angeles and Orange County branches went into the planning and setting up and cleaning up. Jan Laurer's hard-working committee included Linda Boucher, Bill Hartung, Janet Olsen, Deanna St. Amand, Shirley Saturensky, Dianne Wilson and John Ziegler.



Norm McCallum addressing the haggis.



Some of Linda Boucher's impressive wall decorations

GILLIE CALLUM

LOS ANGELES BRANCH SCHEDULE OF DANCES

2011

March

26 BEGINNER DANCE. Torrance Cultural Arts Center, Torrance Blvd. at Madrona. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded. Members \$10, non-members \$12.

April

23 MONTHLY DANCE. Culver City Senior Center, 4095 Overland Ave. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded. Members \$10, non-members \$12.

May

28 COSTA MESA GAMES DANCE. (sponsored by all 3 branches). Tustin Senior Center, 200 C Street. Buffet Supper 6:30 p.m., Dance 7 p.m. Dancers \$15, non-dancers \$15.

June

25 AGM. Location TBA.

July

23 SUMMER DANCE. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded. Members \$10, non-members \$12. Location TBA.

August

27 SUMMER DANCE. 7:00 p.m. Music; recorded. Members \$10, non-members \$12. Location TBA.

September

24 INTERBRANCH DANCE. (Sponsored by all four branches.) Tustin Senior Center. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded.

September-October

Sept. 30-Oct.2 HARWOOD LODGE WEEKEND. Sierra Club Lodge is reserved for an RSCDS weekend. (See notice from Doris Fisher page 4.)

OTHER EVENTS

OC = Orange County Branch;

SD = San Diego;

SGV = San Gabriel Valley Branch

2011

March

12 OC. BEGINNER DANCE. Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 250 E. Center St. 7:30 p.m. Music: recorded. Members \$8, non-members \$10.

19 SGV. VERNAL EQUINOX DANCE. Pasadena City College, Women's Gym, Upstairs Dance Studio, 7:30 p.m.

April

16 SGV. THE SPECTACULAR SPRING BALL. War Memorial Building, South Pasadena. Music Andy Imbrie, Janet Kurnick, Sherryl Fawx, Deirdre Wood, and Elizabeth Wood. Doors open at 6:15 p.m..

May

21 SGV. AGM. Supper (5:00 p.m.) and Dance (7:30 p.m.) Saint Barnabas Episcopal Church, Eagle Rock.

28-29 COSTA MESA GAMES. (Memorial Day weekend) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Orange County Fair & Event Center.

June

18 SGV. SUMMER SOLSTICE DANCE. 7:30 p.m. Lindberg Park, Culver City.

July

16 SGV. ANNUAL PICNIC AND DANCE (Saturday). Palisades Park, Pacific Palisades. 11:30 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.

August

6 SGV. ANNUAL SCOTTISH LUAU. Caltech's Dabney Lounge, Pasadena 7:30 p.m.



**Ann McBride presents
"The Immortal Memory of
Robert Burns"**



**HARWOOD LODGE WEEKEND
RETURNS IN 2011**

We are happy to report that we have scheduled another Harwood Weekend at the Sierra Club Lodge in Mt. Baldy for 2011. The dates are Friday night, September 30th through Sunday, October 2nd, 2011. We have carefully selected these dates so as not to interfere with any other scheduled RSCDS events we know of. Space is limited, so if you would like to reserve a spot now, please email Doris Fisher at doris.fisher@gmail.com or call her at (310) 324-2759.

New members

The Branch is pleased to welcome the following new members: Heather Nicksay and Murray Bader. We hope you enjoy dancing with us.

Melinda & Frank

Demonstration Team

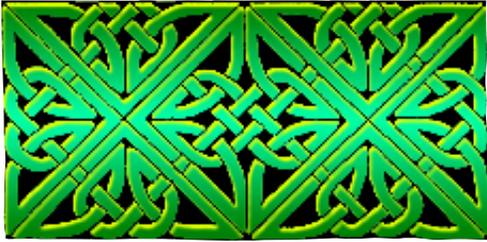
We end each year with a performance at the First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica. They are an enthusiastic audience, always get up for audience participation and feed us lunch. But the thing we most look forward to is their Holiday Jumble sale. This is one demonstration where team members come early to cruise the sale tables, especially the book sale tables. We had finished our shopping, gotten dressed and were ready for walk-through when we realized Ann McBride had not arrived.

She finally arrived, breathless and slightly flustered. As she crossed the street from the parking lot she had tripped and fallen. She insisted she was OK and ready to put us through our paces. We fortified her with tea and an ice pack for her badly swollen wrist, then tried to focus on our dancing, while worrying about her obvious injuries. Our demonstration went smoothly and the audience participation was lively.

Although Ann felt obligated to go on to the afternoon Board of Directors meeting, we convinced her to go home and take care of her "bruises and bumps." Monday she finally went to the hospital and was informed that she had broken her right wrist and two ribs! Her arm was placed in a cast and the doctor ordered her "confined to quarters" for several days. She stayed home from work, but the following Sunday she was at Stoner Park as one of the teachers of the new dances workshop. It's OK to miss work due to injury, but not Scottish Country Dancing!

We took December off, which gave Ann's ribs and wrist time to heal. By the time we returned, Ann was ready to prepare us for our Spring "double headers"-- the two-day Queen Mary Festival in February, and the two-day Irish Fair in March. We hope you will come to these events and cheer us on.

Alice Allen



Jan Lauer and Janet Olsen in front of some of the cut-outs.



Laura and Matt Husman wait for the dancing to begin!
GHILLIE CALLUM



Wilma Fee and Bill Critchfield enjoy meeting again.

**DEADLINE FOR
JUNE
GHILLIE CALLUM
April 18, 2011**

2011 MacLeod Rant

I am very happy to announce that the 2011 MacLeod Rant will take place on June 4 at the South Pasadena War Memorial. The musicians for this year's event will be Andy Imbrie and Deby Benton-Grosjean.

I have looked forward to dancing to these two talented Scottish musicians ever since I purchased their CD "The Devil's Quandary" a number of years ago.

Deby is a fiddler immersed in the many facets of Celtic music as a performer, teacher, workshop clinician, conductor, publisher, producer, competitor, composer and fiddler for dances. She combines the precision of classical technique with the freedom of traditional music. An award-winning Scottish fiddler, Deby has been on the faculty at Alasdair Fraser's Valley of the Moon Scottish Fiddling School and can be heard on more than 30 recordings.

No stranger to Southern California dancers, Andy Imbrie always brings to our events his very own musical magic. Andy began studying classical piano as a child and started playing for Scottish Country Dancing in 1984. He plays regularly for dances throughout the US and Canada. In addition to playing and teaching piano, Andy is also a dancer and holds the preliminary pass teacher's certificate.

As a special treat for this year's Rant we will be introducing another exciting dance by Walt Metcalf, deviser of Skye Lights and The Stable. This dance, The Sea Gate, is a team favorite and, I'm sure, will become a favorite of yours as well. Notes for the dance will be printed on our Rant fliers.

We hope that you will join us on June 4, for a magical evening of fabulous music, fun and, of course, your favorite MacLeod dances.

Deanna St. Amand



Piper John Cahill is followed by Marisa McGinnis carrying the haggis as Poosie Nancy.

Photo by Jon Reeves

DANCE PROGRAMS

APRIL 23, 2011
CULVER CITY SENIOR CENTER
 4095 OVERLAND AVE.
 7:00 p.m.
 Music: recorded.
 Members \$10, non-members \$12

JUNE 4, 2011
MacLEOD RANT
 7:30 p.m.

Music : Andy Imbrie and Deby Benton-Grosjean
WAR MEMORIAL 435 S. FAIR OAKS
SOUTH PASADENA

Blue Bonnets	JB	Book 3
Lochalsh Reel	RI	Skye Book Vol.2
Argyll Strathspey	SA	Book 35
A Capital Jig	JI	RSCDS Leaflet 2009
Muse Cottage	SB	Let's All Dance Too
Sueno's Stone	RI	RSCDS 4 for 2008

Blue Bonnets	JB	Book 3
Angus MacLeod	RA	Queen
Byron Strathspey	SI	Drewry
MacLeod's Fancy	JI/A	Book 33
Strathcare	SI	Skye Collection
Reel of the 51st	RB	Book 13

Joie de Vivre	JI	Book 39
The Blue Route	RB	Delaware Valley Silver
May Yarker's Strathspey	SI	Book 42
Laggan Bay	JB	Second Craigievar Bk
Preston Mill	RA	Book 45

Machine Without Horses	JB	Book 12
Sea Gate	RI	Metcalf
Spirit of the Dance	SA	TAC 50
Roaring Jelly	JB	Glendarrach
Skye Lights	RA	Metcalf

The Golden Apple	JI	Chris Ronald
Reel On	RB	Reel On
The Little Strathspey	SI	Bankhead Book I & II
Major Ian Stewart	JA	Book 35
The Grants' New Rant	SB	15 Social Dances
Mrs. MacPherson of Inveran	RI	Bon Accord

Jennifer's Jig	JI/A	Silver City Book
Peat Fire Flame	RA	Drewry
Delvine Side	SB	Book 2
Bees of Maggie Knockater	JI	Drewry

MacDonald of the Isles	SI	Foss
The Reel of the Royal Scots	RB	RSCDS Leaflet



AGM
JUNE 25, 2011
 Music: recorded
 Location TBA

May 28, 2011
COSTA MESA GAMES DANCE
 Tustin Senior Center, 200 C Street
 Buffet Supper 6:30 p.m., Dance 7 p.m.
 Dancers #15, non-dancers \$10

Burns Night	JB	Boston 50 th
Anniversary Reel	RI	Book 36
The Little Strathspey	SI	Bankhead Book I & II
Pete & Marilyn's Welcome Home	JI	Delaware Valley
Muse Cottage	SB	Let's All Dance Too
The Earl of Mansfield	RA	RSCDS Leaflet

The White Cockade	RB	Book 5
Maitland to Manchester	JI	Thomas - Wallace
Castle Douglas	SB/I	R Goldring
Joie de Vivre	JI	Book 39
Mrs. Stewart of Fasnacloich	RA	RSCDS Leaflet

Laggan Bay	JB	2nd Craigievar Bk
Sueno's Stone	RI	RSCDS 4 for 2008
Strathcare	SI	Skye Collection
The White Cockade	RB	Book 5
The Weathercock	JA	Silver Jubilee 25

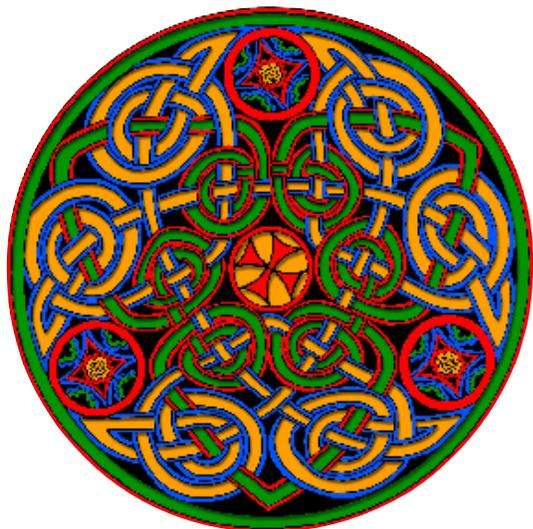
Machine Without Horses	JB	Book 12
Jean Martin of Aberdeen	SI	3 for 2006
Scott Meikle	RI	Book 46
Seann Truibhas Willichan	SB	Book 27
Jennifer's Jig	JI/A	J Drewry - Silver City

Maitland to Manchester	JI	Wallace/Thomas
Clydeside Lassies	RB	MMM I
The Dancing Master of Moncton	SA	Mel Briscoe
Joie de Vivre	JI	Book 39
The Grants' New Rant	SB	15 Social Dances
Mrs. MacPherson of Inveran	RI	Bon Accord

Roaring Jelly	JB	H Foss - Glendarroch
Dancing Master of Moncton	SA	M Briscoe
Starlight	RI	Book 44
The Spirit of the Dance	SA	I Paterson
Lady Susan Stewart's Reel	RI	Book 5

A Capital Jig	JI	RSCDS-5 dances 2009
The Reel of the Royal Scots	RB	RSCDS - Leaflet

CLASS REPORTS LONG BEACH



Another of Long Beach's newest dancers is Khue Duong, although he is not new to Scottish country dancing. He first discovered ceilidhs and ceilidh dancing as an exchange student in Edinburgh during the 1995-6 school year. He then began practicing SCD with a group at Edinburgh University and traveled to many different places to dance —“from Newcastle to Glasgow”, as he put it.

Returning to the U.S. and specifically California, Khue briefly danced with Jerry Rubin's group in Culver City and then for a few years in the San Jose area. Recently he found his ghillies in storage, dusted them off, and resumed an activity which he enjoys immensely and holds many memories for him. The most memorable of which was dancing in Brittany, France, with RSCDS dancers. He found our class in Long Beach through the listing of RSCDS events in Southern California on Bob's Dance and Music website <www.dancin-fool.com> and then contacted Roberta. He enjoys the communal, social aspects of SCD. “As a group, one has to be in tune with other dancers, smiling and maintaining eye contact with everyone. Plus, it's a bit mathematical,” states Khue. Welcome aboard, Khue, and thank you for joining us.

Long Beach was well represented at some of the end-of-the-year events as the McLennan family, Roz and Gil Gotfried, Sarah, Karen, John, Jim and Roberta attended the Halloween Dance. Alexandra, Lynsey, and Lauren dressed as tailors with their friend Lisa Litzel as the de'il (“The De'il Among the Tailors”) to take first place in the costume contest. Sarah attended as “Glasgow Lasses” while Jim and Roberta were “The Mathematicians”. Karen won third prize as “Johnnie Walker”.

Twice this last term we had the pleasure of being taught dances and steps by Barbara Mackenzie who is working toward her certification as a teacher. Thank you, Barbara, and good luck with all your future endeavors.

December 18 ended the fall session with a party as well as marking Lynsey's wedding. Christina and Kathryn joined Mary and John Cahill, Karen, Roberta and Jim at Hogmanay as we danced and toasted in the new year. Happy 2011!

Karen Kerman



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 \$8 for those who are not members of the Branch (outside USA - \$10).

Chairman: Bill Hartung
Address: 1616 Juniper Ave.
Torrance, CA 90503-6027
Phone, home: 310.729.6904
work: 310.308.5578
email: bill@hartung.com

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

GhillieCallumEditor: CarolMcOwen
Address: 111S.OrangeBlvd.#310
Pasadena, CA 91105
Phone: 626.793.8096
email: cmcowed@aol.com

Web page: www.rscds-losangeles.org

