

# The GHILLIE CALLUM

Volume 45 Number 3

March 2014

## BURNS SUPPER & BALL

*Go, fetch to me a pint o' wine,  
And fill it in a silver tassie;  
That I may drink before I go,  
A service to my bonnie lassie.*

These traditional lines begin Robert Burns' poem "The Silver Tassie" and were the inspiration for this year's Burns Supper & Ball, co-hosted by the Los Angeles and Orange County branches. It was a wonderful celebration of Burns, his poetry and songs — with lots of dancing — at Ports O' Call restaurant in San Pedro on Jan. 25, his 255th birthday.

Large silver goblets filled with tissue-paper thistles set on silver and purple ribbons were the dinner table centerpieces, all created by Linda Boucher and her decorations committee.

In Robb Quint's Immortal Memory, titled "Robert Burns' Dream of America," we learned how it was only a series of de-

**Story continued on page 4; for more photos, see insert**



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The beginning of March makes us think that the dance year is drawing to a close, but there are still many opportunities to keep your spare ghillies in the car. We have monthly parties ahead in Torrance (March) and in Ventura (April), Catalina (of course) in May, the Costa Mesa Games at the end of May and our AGM in June. Look for information on the Games' demo coming from your teachers in April. The dances are usually simple, and it's great fun to show off in front of a forgiving audience!

And now, for a topic near and dear to my heart ... the Nominating Committee. This month we will be asking two people to sit on that committee. They will try to get volunteers to assist with the business of running the Branch. You all know we were short two members this year: a vice chair and one member-at-large. You don't have to wait for the Nominating Committee members to beg you to run for office. Step up and volunteer to help make our events happen. And if you are asked, seriously think about joining the Committee of Management. Soon we will begin to plan for the Branch's 50th anniversary; we need to have a full board.

*Rosemary Abend*

## FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

When I first started dancing, there was a tall, sweet, elderly man who always asked me to dance in class and at monthly parties. This was Forrest MacDonald. Forrest and his wife Helen were already an important couple in the world of the Los Angeles Branch.

Forrest was born in Nova Scotia. His family moved to Boston when he was a young boy. During World War II he was sent to Okinawa. A civil engineer by training, his job sent him to Costa Rica and Cuba. He arrived in California in 1952 to work in the aerospace industry.

As his daughter Lauren said at his memorial service, Forrest spent more years retired than working! It was during retirement that Forrest and Helen discovered Scottish Country Dancing.

One of my favorite memories was Forrest's ceildh act – how to tell the weather using a Scottish Weather Stone. (“If you put it outside and it's wet, it's raining.” I know it sounds corny today, but everyone loved to hear it each year.)



Forrest MacDonald  
(1915-2013)

Another favorite memory was the “bonniest knees” contest held at one of our Memorial Day Weekend workshops; Forrest won.

I always stopped at the Clan Donald tent at the Costa Mesa Games because Forrest was always there – with his wee flask!

And then there were the New Year's Eve parties

they always hosted at their El Segundo home before the Hogmanay dance ...

At his memorial service we sang the hymn “Lord of the Dance.” The last verse sums up a life well lived as a Scottish Country dancer:

*Dance, dance, wherever you may be  
I am the lord of the dance, said he  
And I lead you all, wherever you may be  
And I lead you all in the dance, said he.*

*Rosemary Abend*

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## CALENDAR LOS ANGELES BRANCH

### MARCH

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

### APRIL

27 **“An Afternoon by the Sea,”** First United Methodist Church, 1338 E. Santa Clara St., Ventura. 1 p.m. Music: recorded.

### MAY

2-4 **Interbranch Workshop**, Avalon, Catalina Island.  
24 **Costa Mesa Games Dance**, hosted by LA, OC and SGV branches. Doors open 5:30 p.m., dinner 6 p.m., dancing 6:30 p.m. Music: recorded.

### JUNE

28 **AGM, Potluck & Dance**, First Christian Church, 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City. Music: recorded.

### JULY

26 **Summer Dance.**

## OTHER BRANCHES

### MARCH

- 8 **OC Monthly Dance**, 200 E. Center St., Anaheim. 7 p.m. Music: recorded.
- 15 **SGV Spring Back to Basics Workshop & Dance**, War Memorial Building, 435 Fair Oaks Ave., South Pasadena. 1 p.m. workshop with David Tague and Doug Macdonald; 2 p.m. musicians workshop (Highland Park); 5:30 p.m. supper; 7 p.m. dance. Music: Andy Imbrie, Judi Nicolson, Elizabeth Wood. Reservations: damacdonald@juno.com
- 29 **SD Spring Fling Tea Dance**, San Diego War Memorial Building, Balboa Park. 5 p.m. tea; 6:30 p.m. dance. Music: Lisa Scott, John Taylor. Reservation form: rscds-sandiego.org.

### APRIL

- 5 **OC Monthly Dance**, 200 E. Center St., Anaheim. 7 p.m. Music: recorded.
- 19 **SGV Catalina Review Dance.**

### MAY

- 10 **OC AGM Dance.** 200 E. Center St., Anaheim. 5 p.m. potluck, 6 p.m. meeting, dance 7 p.m. Music: recorded.

## AN AFTERNOON BY THE SEA

Sunday, April 27, 2014

First United Methodist Church  
1338 E. Santa Clara St., Ventura

Border Meeting	J B	24 Graded and Social
The Dalesman	NEW R I	12 More Social Dances
St. Andrews Links	NEW S A	Georgina Finley
The Kelloholm Jig	J I	RSCDS Leaflet
The Braes of Tulliemet	S B	Book 7
Tomalena	R I	San Francisco Vol. 2
Forty-Five Years On	R A	5 Dances for 2009
The Barmkin	R B	2nd Graded Book
The Gentleman	S I	Book 35
The Cocket Hat	J I	Book 44
Petronella	R B	Book 1
Christine M. Phillips	J I	Book 46
J.B. Milne	R A	Hugh Foss
Sandy's Scotch Broth	S I	Katannuta
Trip to Gretna Green	J B	Unknown
Hope Little's Strathspey	S B	Graded & Social 2
Glenalmond Gamekeeper	R I NEW	Bankhead 6

## CATALINA WEEKEND BALL

Saturday, May 3, 2014

Casino Ballroom  
Avalon

EH3 7AF	J B	Book 40
John of Bon Accord	R I/A	Book 33
Balquidder Strathspey	S I	Book 24
Ladies' Fancy	J B	Book 13
The Braes of Tulliemet	S B	Book 7
J.B. Milne	R I	Angus Fitchet
Christine M. Phillips	J I	Book 46
The Sauchie Haugh	S I	RSCDS Leaflet
Wind / Shakes the Barley	R B	8 SCD
Fair Jenny's Jig	J I	Redwood Forest
Cadgers in the Canongate	R A	Book 9
Rodney's Rant	J I	RSCDS Diamond Jubilee
Macdonald of the Isles	S I	3rd Carnforth
Scotia Sea	R I	Scotia Suite
Linnea's Strathspey	S I	Book 47
Sleepy Maggie	R I	Book 11



## AGM DANCE

Saturday, June 28, 2014

First Christian Church  
4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City

Collie Law	J B	24 Graded and Social
Glenalmond Gamekeeper	R I	Bankhead 6
Bruce's Men	S I NEW	Scotia Suite
Seton's Ceilidh Band	J A NEW	Morrison Bush
The Gentleman	S I	Book 35
Wind / Shakes the Barley	R B NEW	Duthie
Petronella	R B	Book 1
The Cocket Hat	J I	Book 44
St. Andrew's Links	S A	Georgina Finley
The Invitation Dance	J B	Auld Friends Meet
The Dalesman	R I	12 More Social Dances
Equilibrium	J A	Ian Barbour
Largo Law	S B	MMM I
Tomalena	R I	San Francisco Vol. 2
Hope Little's Strathspey	S B	Graded & Social 2
Fair Jenny's Jig	J I	From the Redwood Forest
Foggy River Reel	R I	Between the Rivers

## CUE BOOK CORRECTIONS

Even with three proof readers, the 2013-2014 cue book has errors. Corrected versions:

### THE COCKET HAT

(40-J, 3 Cpls, INT) Book 44

Cpl 1 SET, CAST; DANCE DOWN BETWEEN Cpl 3: CAST UP/  
W1, Cpl 2 & M1, Cpl 3 1/2 LS REEL-3 ACROSS;  
continue into 1/2 RS REEL-3 on opp side/  
W1, Cpl 2 & M1, Cpl 3, RH ACROSS  
(Cpl 1 end facing 1st cnr **person**);  
Cpl 1 1/2 DIAGONAL REEL of 4 with 1st cnrs  
(pass RS); REPEAT with 2nd cnrs  
**(both cnrs on opp sides)/**  
W1, Cpl 2 & M1, Cpl 3 RH-ACROSS;  
Cpls 2, 1, 3 6H-ROUND, PIVOT; CHASE CCW/.

### THE KELLOHOLM JIG

(32-J, 3 Cpls, INT) Leaflet 32

Cpl 1 SET, CAST (stay on sidelines);  
SET to 1st Cnrs: CHANGE PLACES-RH/  
W1, W3, also M2, M1 SET to each other, CHANGE  
PLACES-LH; Cpl 1 TURN-RH (1-1/2) to own side/  
On the sidelines Cpl 1 SET to 2nd Cnrs, CHANGE  
PLACES-RH; M1, M3, also W2, W1 SET:  
**CHANGE PLACES-LH/**  
Cpls 3, 1, 2 ADV & RET; 6H-ROUND (1/2) to the left/.

## SPOTLIGHT ON ...

This issue the spotlight turns on Jon Reeves (aka “Swiss Lassie,” “The Blue Route (Root),” “The Chairman” and other winners of the Halloween costume competition).

Jon grew up in the Detroit area and attended Michigan Tech. A “hard core computer geek,” Jon has lived in Minneapolis, Atlanta and New Hampshire working mostly on “big hardware,” as he termed it. He was one of 20 founders of Internet Movie Database (IMDb), which started as a hobby and evolved into a full-time job. In 1998 it was bought by Amazon.com.

His major recreation at that time was “orienteering” (a sport where you follow a route using only a map and a compass.) During a week-long orienteering event in Scotland in 1996 Jon p was introduced to SCD. He signed up for a class at home and, when work brought him to Los Angeles in 1999, he found Aase’s class – and that was the end of orienteering!

Jon has many hobbies now. You probably all know that he builds the Burbank Tournament of Roses float. He also enjoys watching movies (especially animation), cooking, costuming, visiting food trucks (more than 350 and counting) and photographing graves, especially in Forest Lawn Glendale, for the web site FindaGrave.com.



Jon Reeves

Jon currently serves as a member-at-large on our Committee of Management. And let me add that Jon drives a silver Corvette!

*Rosemary Abend*

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### Burns Supper continued from page 1

laid ships and illnesses and the sudden critical acclaim for Burns’ first book of poetry that kept him from his planned immigration to Jamaica.

He’d published the book to raise money for his passage but was caught up in the literary circle of Edinburgh before he could depart. As Robb said, if all that hadn’t occurred, we wouldn’t have been there that evening celebrating Burns’ life and work.

The festivities began with the Burns poem known as the “Selkirk Grace,” recited by Anne Clarke. And, as always, the conclusion was the singing of his “Auld Lang Syne.”

The haggis, made by Jon Reeves, was carried in by Edie Archibald as Poosie Nancy, led by piper John Cahill and accompanied by Henchmen John Allen, Jeff Altman and Mike McGinnis. Jim Bell recited Burns’ “Address to the Haggis,” the familiar lines that honor the humble dish as “great chieftain o’ the pudding race.”

The Toast to the Lassies and Reply to the Laddies were humorously conducted by Doug and Anthea Macdonald. “Spontaneous” choirs of lads and lassies alternated singing lines from “Do-Re-Mi” to illustrate how everything is better when we all work together. Local singers were

joined by some of our dance friends visiting from Northern California and Texas.

The dance program, devised by Shirley Saturensky and Deanna St. Amand, had a nod to Burns’ songs, with the inclusion of Corn Rigs and The Silver Tassie. John Cahill piped the grand march; grand marshals were Audrey Prest and Deanna St. Amand, who directed dancers right and left with ribboned purple wands.

Musicians were Hood, Wink & Swagger; the dances were briefed by Robb Quint, Shirley Saturensky and Pat Zschoche. Mike McGinnis handled the sound system.

Dancers and guests were welcomed by Rosemary Abend and Jan Lauer, chairs of the Los Angeles and Orange County branches. The committee included Linda Boucher, Janet Olsen, Deanna St. Amand and Dianne Wilson.

A very successful raffle was chaired by Dianne Wilson. Registrar was Kim Cunningham. Linda Boucher and Bob Harmon handled graphic arts.

From those who worked so hard on the evening to all those to attended for the dancing and Burns Supper traditions, thank you for your contributions to an event we’ll long remember.

*Audrey Ramsay Prest*

## CLASSES



Attending the Lomita/Redondo Beach Class Christmas party are, standing from left, Jack Rennie, Rosemary Abend, Tana, Val Rodgers, Ruth Fleming-Stephens, Kris McGinnis, Marisa McGinnis, Tony McQuilkin, Carol Johnson, Evan Avery, Marion Reeve, Mike McGinnis; and sitting from left, Anneliese Grohs, Doris Fisher, Denis Rodgers, Michael Herrera, Nancy Hartung, Molly Dawes, Nancy Myers and Ann Dwyer.

### **Redondo Beach/Lomita**

After a good summer class with excellent attendance, we were welcomed back to the American Legion Hall after Labor Day. Everyone seemed glad to resume and start learning the new dances on the Branch program.

Molly Dawes celebrated her 89th birthday and dances as well as she did as one of the founding members of the class 30 years ago.

We missed Anneliese Grohs while she visited family in Germany, and then returned with a sore foot from lots of walking there. Carol Johnson also traveled to her home-away-from-home, Norway, with her sister. Roz and Gil Gotfried did another of their jaunts to the East Coast. Doris and Eric Fisher vacationed on Catalina.

We were favored with a visit by two dancers from the Boston Branch, who fit right in with our friendly class.

Our usual potluck Christmas party featured Christmas music for all the dances. Ceilidh performances were contributed by Anne Dwyer and Tony McQuilkin.

Post-holiday visitors were Nikki-Sara Mitchell and Preston Park, who taught a nice strathspey that he wrote. He stayed long enough to attend the Burns Supper.

Also attending Burns were a couple from Leeds, England, Michael and Kathryn, who've

recently moved to Palos Verdes Estates. We feel sure that she'll remember everything she learned on the Leeds demonstration team.

*Jack Rennie*

### **Thousand Oaks**

For the dancers of the Thousand Oaks Class, back to skip-changing after a six-week holidays break, it's been weeks and months full of adventure.

For some, like Sandy and Madeleine Waddell, adventuring has meant traveling. They journeyed to Kyoto to celebrate their son's 40th birthday, and on the way they were able to experience life in a Japanese home and tour Tokyo by staying with their daughter-in-law's Uncle Michio. A side trip brought them to beautiful Mount Fuji, and then with Uncle Michio they were speeding to Kyoto for the birthday festivities on the famous Shinkansen bullet train.

During the class break Christa Wilk was off to Sri Lanka and India for an exciting trip with husband Bill. They traveled by plane, train, bus, camel and tuk-tuk (a.k.a. auto-rickshaw) and experienced all sorts of new sights, sounds and foods, even a tea plantation. Bill commented on the sharp contrast of old and new that they witnessed and sees a trying time ahead for India's 1.2 billion.

Those traveling within the U.S. included Claudia Pedersen, who traveled to Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge near Socorro, N.M., for a wildlife photography class. Claudia enthusiastically described to some of us how she learned to snap a “blur” of a flock of birds suddenly rising from the ground. And they even managed to get snowed in, needing to carefully follow in the tracks of a four-wheel-drive vehicle in order to begin the homeward drive.

Also remaining within California for a traveling-cum-dancing adventure were Linda McWade and Deresa Teller, who flew together to the Bay Area for the San Francisco Branch’s Valentine’s Ball Weekend. Linda has also been making the four-hour round-trip drive from Camarillo to Corona most weekends to help out with her recently born granddaughter.

For some dancers, adventures were focused on things other than travel. Carolyn Williams installed a new wood floor downstairs, which she thinks could double as a dance floor. Angie Outmesguine and husband Mike have recently embarked on the substantial adventure of home-schooling their two middle-school children. Their son is studying rocket science with his dad, and their daughter is heavily into reading and writing. Angie and Mike are particularly enjoying “extra family time and a chance to spend quality time with the kids.”

Donna Ingram has been busy with the Ventura Botanical Gardens, helping to prepare for the upcoming spring garden tour and Wizard of Oz-themed garden party. Her grandson Ian received a chanter (learning pipe without the “bag”) for a recent birthday, and she is hoping to have a piper in the family sometime down the pike.

And speaking of adventures with musical instruments, class (and branch) “Music Man” Alan Hoff has recently acquired an accordion, which he has begun learning to play.

For class teacher Robb, the big adventure continues to be the newness of being a teacher in the Los Angeles Branch, which I can say with good authority that he is thoroughly enjoying. And as for the rest — Angela, Barbara, Ken, Marta and Murray — they all exclaim in unison: “No news is good news!”

*Robb Quint*

## **Long Beach**

Long Beach has reconvened after the holiday season and is chugging along with its core group and regular visitors. The Queen Mary Festival was our last event for which to prepare this winter. Roberta guided the LA Demonstration Team both days, and some of us participated in the more relaxed demonstrations.

However, the big news this winter is Roberta’s retirement from work. As of December 2013 she is officially ready to devote her “day job” hours to teaching and directing SCD. Of course, there will be some relaxation in there, as well, but we all know that SCD is part of her “relaxation.” Congratulations, Roberta, and full speed ahead! In fact, the first two weeks of February were spent attending a workshop in the UK. Word is that her second son is engaged. Lots of fun times ahead!

Stop by any Saturday morning at El Dorado Park and join us as we have fun preparing for the spring events and experiment with new, challenging dances.

*Karen Kerman*

## **Valley College**

Well, another glorious Burns is behind us. They are always special, and always great fun with wonderful music, delicious food, and our fabulous community of friends. Many thanks to all those who made this one such a festive evening, including our chef-in-residence Jon Reeves with his annual and always delicious haggis! And, of course, our local henchman Jeff Altman!

Speaking of Jeff, he has made a remarkable recovery from his knee operation and was even up treading the light fantastic at the Burns ... or was it a jig? At any rate, it is certain that Margaret’s nursing skills had a great deal to do with his amazing healing powers, and we look forward to her being a regular at our Monday night class very soon!:)

Aase had her daughter Lisbeth and son-in-law Rick visit in February this year instead of Christmas because their dog Annie got seriously ill just a week before they had meant to leave. It turned out to be a blessing in disguise because

the whole family here came down with bad colds for the holiday season — so not merry!

Terry and Jim Schaeffer spent Christmas week in the San Francisco Bay area enjoying visits with their numerous family and friends there. And, happily, not getting wet, thanks to the cooperative dry weather. :)

Dave and I spent a fun three nights and four days in Cabo where we enjoyed sunny warm beach walks, bike rides, pool volleyball games, and the company of our fellow resort dwellers, most of whom were Canadian and Scottish! It was all inclusive, which includes the bar. Enough said...

Of course, by now we've all heard about, and hopefully congratulated, Jon and Audrey on the Fantasy Trophy won by Burbank's Rose Parade float they work so hard on! Well done, guys!

And last but not least don't forget the upcoming Catalina Workshop in May. Jeff and I will once again be doing the after-ball chocolate soiree/pajama party. So make sure all your cutest flannel cozies with coordinated bunny slippers are in ship-shape condition for this delicious last stop before bed. :)

Happy dancing! And don't forget to save me one!

*Robyn MacGarva*

### **Torrance**

The Friday night class in Torrance celebrated its 25 years in September. For the eight-week winter session, we welcomed a few new beginners, who joined those who carried over from the previous session.

The winter session will end in March, when the class hosts the Branch March beginner dance. To register for beginner or intermediate in the session beginning April 7, call 310-618-2720.

*Jack Rennie*

### **North Valley**

The members of our North Valley dance class seem to have almost fully recovered from the season's liabilities of colds, flu, sore knees (well maybe not that one) and getting holiday

decorations re-boxed and put away.

Attendance in class has been good as dancers prepared for the Burns Supper. Two of our own —Deanna St. Amand and Audrey Prest — had the honor of presiding over the evening's grand march as grand marshals.

Also attending were four others of our dancers: Alice Allen, Terry Schaeffer, Angela Tennyson and Claudia Pedersen. The supper was good, the music inspiring and the company superb! A toast to Scottish Country Dancers and Dancing!

Our teacher Deanna wrote a dance titled Acadia, which was chosen to be submitted to the Society for its Book 49. Since then we've been revisiting other dances she has written over the years.

*Claudia Pedersen*



### **Demonstration Team**

The Demonstration Team started the year with two long-awaited visits by guest teacher David Tague and his wife Rosie. David was invited to help us take our setting steps into more complex combinations based on Highland steps. He is a very patient and helpful teacher, which we all appreciated. We look forward to adding more complex steps into our demonstrations thanks to David's tutoring.

During January, team practices sometimes felt like a tag team match. We started the year with Martina Hanson returning from her holiday in Germany, where she introduced her husband John to all the German traditions for Christmas and New Year's celebrations. Larry Kanowsky took some time off for minor surgery. Alison Divall and her husband took a mid-winter trip to Cancun and she came back hobbling with a badly bruised toe.

Roberta Gotfried took the first of three trips to Chicago this year connected with her son's upcoming wedding. And in February she took a "research" trip to Harrogate and the New-

## 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 used 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 your store. You need to re-register annually, beginning Sept. 1. Our Organization Number is 93159.



Guest teacher David Tague visited the Demonstration Team class two evenings to teach Highland steps. Dancers from left are Jim Bell, Martina Hanson and Alice Allen.

castle Festival to get inspiration for our repertoire.

David Tague was not our only visitor. Former Dem Team member Jim Bell danced with us when he came from Texas for the Burns Supper & Ball. While Roberta was on her February trip, Anthea Macdonald and Ann McBride put us through our paces. It was very nice to have both of them with us for the evening.

Spring is festival season for the Dem Team, beginning with the Queen Mary weekend in February. We always look forward to sharing the Royal Salon with other dancers from LA and Orange County. We will also dance at the Fairplex in March for the Irish Festival.

*Alice Allen*

## NEW MEMBERS

The Los Angeles Branch welcomes new members Roger Nisbet and Christel Bochar.

*Melinda Brown*



**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:** mjt1002@hotmail.com

**Ghillie Callum Editor:** Audrey Ramsay Prest  
**Address:** 19136 Hamlin St. #8  
Reseda, CA 91335  
**Home phone:** 818-708-8125  
**Email:** aramsapp@sbcglobal.net

**Web site:** RSCDS-losangeles.org  
**Facebook:** Los Angeles Branch -rscds