

the GHILLIE CALLUM

Volume 50 Number 3

March 2019

BURNS SUPPER & BALL

Our Burns Supper & Ball 2019 was a festive occasion in a new-to-us venue with a great dance floor, the Torrance Woman's Club.

For many, the highlight of the toasting was when Mary and Roger Nisbet humorously delivered a single toast to both Lassies and Laddies — in a nod to the Me-Too movement.

Speaking in a mix of Lallans, Scots and Glasgow Patter, and drawing on Burns' poetry and their 47 years together, Mary provided advice to laddies and lassies on how to co-exist, and Roger translated the advice (with appropriate modifications) into modern American English.

Norm McCallum gave "The Immortal Memory" based on the



Roger and Mary Nisbet gave the Toast to the Lassies and Laddies.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

On Jan. 26 the Los Angeles and Orange County branches celebrated the 260th birthday of Scotland's bard Robert Burns. This was an exciting new adventure for both branches as, after many, many years at the Ports o' Call Restaurant in San Pedro, we were moving to a new venue and a new time slot.

Both new ventures garnered unanimous approval from the attendees – the earlier timing of the event was widely praised as was the lovely ambiance of the Torrance Woman's Club with its

magnificent dancer-friendly wooden floor.

As with all new venues and caterers, there were a few glitches, and we experienced some new expenses associated with the new venue and caterers. But thanks to a remarkably successful raffle, which raised over \$700, and the generous donation of one of our members, we successfully covered the increased costs.

Looking ahead, we will be having some

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Robert Burns poem chosen for this year, "To a Mountain Daisy." The image of the poet holding a bunch of "crimson tipped daisies" was used in the table decorations and on the flier and program and cue book covers. It's a stained-glass window at the Centre for Robert Burns Studies at the University of Glasgow.

To begin the evening, Jack Rennie spoke Burns' Selkirk Grace, and John Cahill piped in the haggis for Jim Bell to recite Burns' "Address to a Haggis." Margaret Chaney served as Poosie Nancy, and the Henchmen were Steve Bryan, Knox Chaney and Jon Reeves (who again prepared the haggis).

(For the record: For the toast to the haggis, there were the traditional little crystal glasses of whisky for the adult participants and sparkling cider for the underage ones.)

After the dinner and toasting, the dance floor was full the rest of the evening for the lively music of Andy Imbrie and Judi and Ian Nicol-

son — what a treat to have them play for us. The grand marshals were Aase Hansen and Shirley Saturenky, who devised the dance program. Along with Lisa Sage, they also emceed the dancing.

Many, many hours of work went into this event hosted by the Los Angeles and Orange County branches. Thanks go to Pete Anderson, Doris Fisher, Ann McBride, Norm McCallum, Kris McGinnis, Terri Speakman and Connie Walker, planning committee; Robb Quint, registrar; Aase Hansen, Lisbeth Hencke and Audrey Prest, graphics; Nancy Hartung and Kris McGinnis, table decorations and place cards; Line Anderson, Aase Hansen, Anthea Macdonald, Audrey Prest and Connie Walker, raffle baskets; Bill and Nancy Hartung, hosting and chauffeur-ing musicians; Mike McGinnis, sound manager; Jack Rennie, loan of accordion; Anthea and Doug Macdonald, sherry; Rosemary Abend, advertising; and Jan Lauer, ex-officio advisor.

Audrey Ramsay Prest

CALENDAR

LOS ANGELES BRANCH

MARCH

24 SUNDAY TEA DANCE. El Segundo Woman's Club, Mariposa at Standard, El Segundo. 4 p.m. Music: recorded.

APRIL

27 MONTHLY DANCE. Hillcrest Center for the Arts, 403 W. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded. Free admission (see flier).

MAY

25 GAMES DANCE. Tustin Senior Center, 200 C St., Tustin. Buffet supper 6:00 p.m., dancing 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded.

JUNE

22 AGM and DANCE. First Christian Church, 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City. Potluck Supper 5 p.m., annual meeting 6, dance 7. Music: recorded.

LOST

A back brace was lost at the Burns Supper & Ball. It is white with velcro fastenings. If found, please contact Ilse Gilbert, ilsegilbert@gmail.com.

OTHER BRANCHES

MARCH

9 OC MONTHLY DANCE. 200 C St., Tustin. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded.

30 SD WORKSHOP AND DANCE. Balboa Park Club, 2144 Pan American Road W, San Diego. Workshop featuring San Diego teachers 10:30 a.m., dance 6:30 p.m. Music: Stringfire! Information: dancescottishsd.org.

APRIL

13 OC MONTHLY DANCE. 200 C St., Tustin. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded.

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 June issue is May 1.

APRIL DANCE

April 27, 2019

Hillcrest Center for the Arts

403 W. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks

AGM DANCE

June 22, 2019

First Christian Church

4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City

Jill's Gentle Jig	B J	Measures of Pleasure	It's Not Rocket Science	B J	Delaware Valley Silver
The Countess of Dunmore's Reel	I R	Book 49	The Ruby Rant	A R	Book 49
El Camino Real	A S	L.A. 50th Anniversary	The Silver Strathspey	I S	Book 44
Carlin's Cairn	I J	Alexander Dances, Vol. 8	The First Rain of Spring	I J	Book 49
Delvine Side	B S	Book 2	Spark O' Water	B S	Spark O' Water
Double Trouble Triangles	A R	Book 50	The Cape Breton Hornpipe	I R	Ottawa 25 Dances
The Craven Jig	I J	3 Dances for 2006	A Diamond for Belfast	B J	Belfast Diamond Jubilee
Lauderdale Lads	B R	John Duthie 8 SCDs	General Stuart's Reel	I R	Book 10
The Library of Birmingham	A S	Book 49	The Library of Birmingham	A S	Book 49
It's Not Rocket Science	B J	Delaware Valley Silver	The Back o' Bennachie	B R	John Duthie 8 SCDs
General Stuart's Reel	I R	Book 10	Welcome to Dufftown	I J	Jessie Stuart Leaflet
John Cass	A J	Book 49	The Happy Dancers	I J	10 Social Dances
The Australian Ladies	I R	Glasgow Assembly	Butterscotch and Honey	B S	Alexander Leaflets
Lady Lucy Ramsay	B S	MMM II	Reel Parenting	I R	L.A. 50th Anniversary
Rendez-vous à Vichy	I J	Paris Book, Vol. 1	The Lantern of the North	I J	Canadian Book
Amanda Mae's Strathspey	I S	L.A. 25th Anniversary	Eileen Watt's Strathspey	I S	Magazine Dances 2005
Davy Nick Nack	B R	Glasgow Assembly	Bohemian Reflections	B R	Book 51

CLASSES



Redondo Beach/Torrance

Jack Rennie's Monday night class enjoyed the class tradition of a Christmas party and sing-a-long in December. Participants gathered around Jack and his accordion are, from left, Michael Herrera, Ruth Fleming-Stephens, Rick St. Amant, Mike McGinnis, Margaret Chaney, Eric Fisher, Val and Denis Rodgers, Molly Dawes, Carol Johnson, Nancy Myers and Doris Fisher.

On April 4 Kris McGinnis and Rosemary Abend will begin teaching a new Introduction to Scottish Country Dancing class at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center on Thursdays from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m.

Valley College

The Valley College class was well represented at the Burns Supper & Ball in January — great to see such enthusiasm. On the Monday before the ball, I counted 20 dancers in Aase's class and 18 of them attended the ball — plus Aase, of course.

They were Alice Allen, John Allen, Jeff Altman and Margaret Burnett, Jim Bell, Sara Clawson, Lindsey Courtney, Aase Hansen, Steve Kaplan and Kathrin King Segal, Lynnette Kay, Robyn MacGarva, Claudia Pedersen, Betty Pet-

tit, Audrey Prest, Jon Reeves, Terry Schaeffer, Deanna St. Amand and Laura Young.

In case you missed the kind words in the SCD-SoCal-Mail back at the beginning of January, Burbank's float in the Rose Parade won the Animation Award. Class members contributing to that success included Alice Allen, Audrey Prest, Jon Reeves, Terry Schaeffer and Laura Young.

Those traveling about the country recently include John Allen and his wife Judith going to Florida to visit family. Lindsey Courtney spent

her winter break from teaching at Walt Disney World and then with a friend's family in Kentucky. Terry Schaeffer and her husband Jim visited family in Arizona and the Bay Area.

Jeff and Margaret went north for the San Francisco Branch Valentine Ball. Jim Bell, well, we can't keep track of all his trips to see family in Las Vegas, Texas and elsewhere. Aase enjoyed

having her grandchildren Freya and Magnus visit for an entire week after Christmas, and they even attended the Hogmanay dance with her. Magnus (age 8) knew the words to "Auld Lang Syne" for it had been part of his holiday program at school.

Audrey Ramsay Prest

Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara dancers and friends filled a table at the Burns Supper & Ball this year. We didn't know ahead of time that Mary and Roger would do the Toast to the Lads and Lassies, so we were surprised — and happy to be part of their new fan club. Hope the video goes viral!

Ruth Steinberg was thrilled to win the china tea set in the opportunity prizes at her first Burns night. It was also fun having her husband Carl join us for the evening. He posed with us — and Robbie Burns — in the photo. We trust he'll catch the Scottish dance fever!

Christine Carlin at-



Santa Barbarans attending the Burns Supper & Ball are, from left: Mary and Roger Nisbet. Ruth and Carl Steinberg, John and Ilse Gilbert, Dana Dunaway and Christine Carlin.

tended the Burns Ball for the first time in several years, and it was great to have her back with us. Dana Dunaway, one of our star dancers, completed our set.

We all had a great evening, and the new location and time made it a lot easier for us all to attend.

Ilse Gilbert

Thousand Oaks

Scottish country dancers are very familiar with the term "Hello-Goodbye" and its SCD figure, and that as well has been somewhat the theme of the Thousand Oaks class of late.

A literal "Hello-Goodbye" to Angie Outmesguine. Angie came back to us after several years' hiatus between her previous participation in the class and her return last September. We were very happy to see her then but now saddened by her need to once again withdraw after the past holidays break for an indefinite time owing to substantial family responsibilities. Angie has mentioned her hope to return again at some unspecified time, so we hope that it will be not too far down the pike when she is able to be with us

regularly again. So far only the "Goodbye" portion of this for Magda Simonini, who withdrew after last summer's break under similar circumstances, also with a hope to return to SCD some day, and of course we hope so too!

Always happier with the "Hellos" than the "Goodbyes," it is indeed a great pleasure to have experienced dancers Jennie and Terry Baker of Camarillo with us since the last Seaside Games in Ventura.

Another couple of much applauded "Hellos" are those of Lisa Sage and Carmen Silva-Corvalán! Lisa, teacher of our sister county class in Ventura, had been away for several months following foot-and-ankle surgery during the summer but now is back with us. Carmen had

sustained an extremely serious and slow-healing injury from (of all things!) a fall while playing with grandchildren, but now she's back with us dancing on a somewhat limited basis, and we're so very glad to be seeing her regularly again!

Another rather literal "Hello-Goodbye" applies to Val Lykes, who has been a wonderful addition to our class for the time that we have been able to have her with us. She joined us a year ago September but now will be moving away this March to Havertown, Pennsylvania. We'll certainly miss you, Val!

If "Goodbyes" must come, then we always hope that they're temporary!

Shirley Coleman needed to be away for



Jennie and Terry Baker, our newest "Hello" dancers in Thousand Oaks.

a few weeks while entertaining waves of visitors, but she's now back with us. Later in the spring Dana Dunaway, Deresa Kenney and Mary and Roger Nisbet will be away for multiple weeks vacationing in different parts of Europe, but they'll all happily be back for our local Thousand Oaks dance on April 27.

Christa Wilk we can perhaps name our queen of the "Hello-Goodbye," as she and husband Bill make frequent multi-week trips around the world rolling steadily from one to the other.

We're always sorry to say "Goodbye" to Christa but then very glad when that "Goodbye" is eventually followed by a "Hello."

Robb Quint

Ventura

Despite fires and heavy rains, we continue to dance as much as we can in the Friday night class in Ventura.

For our last class of 2018, we had a special holiday pie celebration. Years ago when David Brandon taught the Ventura class, he was always wanting to go out for pie and coffee after class. So during the holiday season, we make sure to have pie night at our class as a way to remember David and other former teachers.

This Dec. 21, we enjoyed time dancing and preparing for Hogmanay, then ended dancing a little early and sat down to enjoy a feast of tasty pies and desserts. In years past we have gone out for pie as a class, but this time we all brought something. Dancers were able to try lots of different kinds of pies and even take home extra slices. We had chocolate cream, coconut cream, apple, pumpkin, berry, and many others I'm sure I am forgetting. Thank you again to everyone who brought food, paper goods, coffee and tea and helped with the set up and clean up. I truly appreciate your support.

We quickly started back to dancing Jan. 4 — after all, we had lots of pie and desserts to work off. :-)

We also had the additional motivation of the upcoming Burns Supper & Ball to



Enjoying the Ventura holiday pie night are, from left, back row: Ken Evans, Roger and Mary Nisbet, Jean and Gerry McGuire, Betsy Lewis, Kasia Lisowska, Yukari Hirayama; seated: Dana Dunaway, Barbara Evans, Christine Carlin, Donna Ingram and Robb Quint.

prepare for. Several of us attended the ball and lent support to class members Roger and Mary Nisbet, who gave the toasts to the lads and lassies. The Nisbets did a fantastic job, and the whole event was simply wonderful!

We also had the extreme pleasure of welcoming Peter and Joanne White from Montreal, Canada, at our class on Jan. 25. They visited on their way to see friends up north. They are lovely dancers, and we thoroughly enjoyed having them dance with us.

Now, spring is just around the corner and with that we will be looking forward to the April dance in Thousand Oaks. We always appreciate a dance closer to the Ventura County area and

are grateful so many dancers are willing to drive the extra distance to join us that evening.

We hope to see you on the dance floor soon!

Lisa Sage

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very special diversions for our monthly dances beginning with our first beginner dance of 2019 on Feb. 23 at the First Christian Church in Studio City; the March beginner dance will be an elegant "Sunday Afternoon Tea Dance" at the El Segundo Woman's Club – with a competition for the best fascinator or hat.

Then on April 27, the dance in Thousand Oaks will be free to all courtesy of Robb Quint, who is celebrating more than five years of participation in Los Angeles Branch activities. Thank you, Robb – a wonderful way to celebrate your fifth birthday!!

Happy dancing everyone! In a couple of weeks your chair will be heading off on an extended visit to Australia and New Zealand to visit family and friends. So, TTFN!

Ann McBride

Dem Team

For the Demonstration Team, winter means our annual two-day presentation at the Queen Mary Scots Festival. For our demonstration this year, the team wants to thank Bob Harmon, of course, for handling the sound; Marisa McGinnis for stepping in for Martina Hanson, Ann McBride for leading us on Sunday, and John Cahill whose piping drew in our audience.

And thank you to all the dancers who cheered us on. We love representing you.

Alice Allen

NEW MEMBER

The Los Angeles Branch welcomes new member Claire Marie-Peterson.

Melinda Brown

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 NEW Organization Number is AV732. Then use your Ralphs Rewards card (or phone number) every time you shop.

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>.

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.



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