

# the GHILLIE CALLUM

Volume 51 Number 1

September 2019

## NEW LOGO FOR THE LOS ANGELES BRANCH

The Committee of Management adopted a new logo for the Los Angeles Branch this summer — with many thanks to the graphic artists, Ben Spyrison and Sonia Chitalia, who volunteered their time to create this updated image for LA dancers.



Ben Spyrison and Sonia Chitalia updated the LA Branch logo.

It features a pair of ghillies with a Scottish thistle and a California poppy in a circle of tiny thistles.

Plans are in the works for ordering name badges with the new look. And you can expect to see it in other important places, such as the cover of the 2019-2020 cue book.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Hello fellow SCDers — It seems like only yesterday we were contemplating “*sumer is icumen*” and now suddenly it’s time for “*seasons of mists and mellow fruitfulness*”!

However, the kick-off of our 2019-2020 dancing year will be anything but misty or mellow – we will begin with an exceptional 30th Anniversary Interbranch Dance on Sept. 28 in the Tustin Senior Center.

In celebration of this special occasion, we are thrilled to announce that the music will be provided by the very talented and accomplished

group Fiddlesticks and Ivory – musicians well known to those of you who have attended the Asilomar weekends.

Once again, Anthea Macdonald will be organizing a magnificent “white elephant” sale to benefit the Interbranch. So, please clean out your closets and garages and bring those neglected treasures to the dance.

After a well-deserved summer break, the LA teachers are gearing up to get our own dancing year underway.

**Continued on page 2**

## A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE ...

While browsing through some old copies of the Ghillie Callum, I happened upon a short paragraph in the September 1979 issue regarding our own Jack Rennie's Thistle Band.

They had had a busy year traveling to play in Banff, Atlanta, Monterey, San Diego and then our own St. Andrew's Ball.

At 20 dances per program, that means they would have had to be prepared to play for more than 100 dances! Fond memories for Jack?

In the same issue, it was reported that the Branch would continue the practice of having regularly scheduled special beginner "focused" dances!

That tradition continues.

*Ann McBride*

## Continued from page 1

Once again the teachers have compiled a selection of dances for the year, which will be exciting, challenging and — most importantly — FUN!

Mark your calendars for two major Los Angeles events. Oct. 26 will be our spooky, scary and imaginative costume Halloween dance at First Christian Church in Studio City.

And then on Nov. 23 we will celebrate the special day of the patron saint of Scotland with our annual St. Andrew's Ball at the El Segundo Masonic Lodge.

Music for the ball will be provided by favorites Susan Worland and Lisa Scott. Once again, the outstanding culinary duo of Doris Fisher and Kris McGinnis (and their merry band of helpers) will titillate our taste buds.

We will be capping off 2019 with our very popular Hogmanay Party Dance on Dec. 31. The dance will be held in the El Segundo Woman's Club.

Hope to see many of you at the Interbranch Dance.

*Ann McBride*

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## CALENDAR

### LOS ANGELES BRANCH

#### SEPTEMBER

**28 INTERBRANCH DANCE.** Tustin Senior Center, 200 C St., Tustin. 7:00 p.m. Music: Fiddlesticks and Ivory.

#### OCTOBER

**26 HALLOWEEN DANCE.** First Christian Church, 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City. 7 p.m. Optional: Wear a costume representing the name of a Scottish dance. Awards will be given! Music: recorded.

#### NOVEMBER

**23 ST. ANDREW'S BALL.** El Segundo Masonic Lodge, 520 Main St., El Segundo. Doors open 6:00 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. Grand March 7:30 p.m. Music: Susan Worland and Lisa Scott.

#### DECEMBER

**31 HOGMANAY.** El Segundo Woman's Club, Mariposa at Standard, El Segundo. Music: recorded.

#### JANUARY

**25 BURNS SUPPER & BALL.** Torrance Woman's Club. Music: Andy Imbrie and Judi and Ian Nicholson.

## ELSEWHERE

#### SEPTEMBER

**14 OC BRANCH DANCE.** Tustin Senior Center, 200 C St., Tustin. 7:00 p.m. Music: recorded.

#### OCTOBER

**12-13 SEASIDE HIGHLAND GAMES.** Ventura County Fairgrounds, Ventura.

#### NOVEMBER

**9 OC BRANCH DANCE,** Tustin Senior Center, 7 p.m. Music: recorded.

#### DECEMBER

**14 OC CHRISTMAS BALL.** Tustin Senior Center, 7 p.m. Music: Hood, Wink & Swagger.

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## 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](mailto:volleyballjerry@aol.com).

# 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The RSCDS Branch Award was presented to Deanna St. Amand, left, chair of the Teachers Committee, and to Doris Fisher, past chair and current treasurer.



Special gifts were presented to Branch Chair Ann McBride and haggis maker Jon Reeves.



Certificates of appreciation were given to members of the 2018-19 board and other chairs. From left: Audrey Prest, Gail Halverson (web master), Jon Reeves, Roberta Gotfried, Bill Hartung (music), Dana Dunaway, Doris Fisher, Ann McBride, Kris McGinnis, Robb Quint, Deanna St. Amand. Missing from photo: Nancy Myers and Melinda Brown (membership).

Photos by Aase Hansen and Robyn MacGarva

## INTERBRANCH DANCE

September 28, 2019  
Tustin Senior Center  
200 C Street

The Machine without Horses	B J	Book 12
The Bonnie Tree	I S	Book 46
The Australian Ladies	I R	Glasgow Assembly
The Bees of Maggieknockater	A J	Canadian Book
Bridge of Nairn	B S	Book 13
General Stuart's Reel	I R	Book 10
The First Rain of Spring	I J	Book 49
Bohemian Reflections	B R	Book 51
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	I S	Leaflet Dances
Mrs. Stewart's Jig	B J	Book 35
Bratach Bana	A R	Bon Accord
Carlin's Cairn	I J	Alexander Dances #8
Flowers of Edinburgh	B R	Book 1
A Tribute to Peter McBryde	A S	T.A.C. 50th Anniversary
Itchy Feet	I J	Coast to Coast
Delvine Side	B S	Book 2
The Montgomeries' Rant	I R	Book 10



## ST. ANDREW'S BALL

November 23, 2019  
El Segundo Masonic Lodge  
520 Main St., El Segundo

Bow Fiddle Rock	B J	Greenburn Book Vol. 3
The Westminster Reel	I R	Book 45
Miss Jane Muirhead of Dunsmuir	B S	Dunsmuir Dances
John Cass	A J	Book 49
The Australian Ladies	I R	Glasgow Assembly
MacDonald of Keppoch	I M	Book 49
Carlin's Cairn	I J	Alexander Dances #8
Double Trouble Triangles	A R	Book 50
Delvine Side	B S	Book 2
The Aviator	I J	Book 52
Merry Bee	B R	L.A. 50th Anniversary
The Craven Jig	I J	Mag. Dances 2005-2009
The Silver Strathspey	I S	Book 44
The Cumbrae Reel	B R	Book 28
Haste to the Wedding	B J	Book 25
A Tribute to Peter McBryde	A S	T.A.C. 50th Anniversary
In Mr. McGregor's Garden	I R	L.A. 50th Anniversary

## HALLOWEEN DANCE

October 26, 2019  
First Christian Church  
4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City

The Legacy	B J	Pinewoods Coll. Vol. 2
Miss Jane Muirhead of Dunsmuir	B S	Dunsmuir Dances
In Mr. McGregor's Garden	I R	L.A. 50th Anniversary
The Silver Strathspey	I S	Book 44
The Celtic Cross	B R	First Carnforth Coll.
Haste to the Wedding	B J	Book 25
The Fusilier's Dream	I R	Jean Patrick Collection
Butterscotch and Honey	B S	Alexander Leaflets
Itchy Feet	I J	Coast to Coast
The Cumbrae Reel	B R	Book 28
Bow Fiddle Rock	B J	Greenburn Book Vol. 3
Eileen Watt's Strathspey	I S	Mag. Dances 2005-2009
John Cass	A J	Book 49
Spark o' Water	B S	Spark o' Water
Bohemian Reflections	B R	Book 51

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Here is the abbreviated financial report for the LA Branch's activities for the 12 months that ended in June 2019:

General Account: Income + \$20,577,

Expenses - \$19,269 = Net Income of \$1,308.

Demonstration Team Account: Income + \$650,

Expenses - \$800 = Net Loss of -\$150

Interest Income +\$2

Total net income was a positive \$1,160.

Our Balance Sheet as of June 30, 2019:

Cash & Checking Accounts - \$23,784

Prepaid Expenses & Security Deposits - \$811

Total Assets - \$24,595

Payables (dues to Scotland, etc.) - \$3,637

Designated Funds - \$6,946

Unrestricted Funds - \$14,012

Total Liabilities & Equity - \$24,595

As a non-profit organization, we strive to just break even on our activities and dances.

We did a pretty good job of that last year; our "profit" of \$1,160 is primarily due to donations (Ralphs & Amazon) and rummage sale proceeds.

If you would like to see the financials in all their glorious detail, along with a breakdown of profit or loss by dance, please go to our website.

*Doris Fisher, Treasurer*

# COSTA MESA GAMES DEMONSTRATION

The Scottish Fest each May at the Orange County Fairgrounds is an ideal opportunity to share our love of Scottish Country Dancing with folks who may be there getting in touch with their Scottish heritage. We always hope that our efforts in dancing and at our information booth will draw in a few potential class members. Pat Zschoche took on the chore of wrangling two sets of dancers for two performances each day, both Saturday and Sunday. We nearly had to cancel in the afternoon Sunday because of rain, but turning the sets 90 degrees gave us two large enough patches of dry ground for the show to go on. (Those who've danced in the arena in past years and nearly scorched their feet on a sun-baked stage would have been amazed at the contrast.)

Photos by Bob Harmon and Audrey Ramsay Prest





The Southern California branches were well represented at TAC Summer School in Calgary, Canada, this summer. Among the SoCal dancers attending are, from left: Linda Silber, Lindsey Courtney, Laura Young, Cynthia Fleri, Marjorie McLaughlin, Ward Fleri, Flora Morgan, Pat Zschoche, Margaret Burnett and Jeff Altman.

Laura even has YouTube proof, appearing in a video of Shiftin' Bobbins: <https://youtu.be/VXUWnxtUVPO>

## SAVE THE DATE: BURNS SUPPER & BALL 2020

Please mark your calendars for the 2020 Burns Supper & Ball on Jan. 25, as we celebrate the 260th birthday of our favorite Scottish poet.

The ball will once again be held in the Torrance Woman's Club, and music will be provided by Andy Imbrie and Judi and Ian Nicolson!

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If your address label on the envelope for this Ghillie Callum has a ★ or if you receive your Ghillie Callum by email and an application form is included, you need to renew your membership in the Branch. Please contact the membership chair: Melinda Brown 30547 Mehrten Dr., Exeter, CA 93221 mjtbt1002@hotmail.com

**Deadline for the December issue of the Ghillie Callum is Nov. 1.**

## CLASSES

### Demonstration Team

The Demonstration Team enjoys their traditional performances at the Seaside Games (October), the Queen Mary Scotsfest (February), and the British Home (June). In addition, we had some out-of-the-ordinary events this year.

In December we entertained at a wedding celebration in Long Beach. We performed and then had a full dance floor of young, enthusiastic participants.

It was mostly ceilidh dances that they picked up quickly since the couple had met contra dancing.

It's always fun to join in a joyous celebration.

We had an exhausting but super-fun day at Pacific Palisades Charter Elementary School in June. They set aside a morning for the whole school to discover, first-hand,

the cultures from several countries.

We quickly showed about 70 children a dance, organized them into sets, and had about 15 minutes to get them to dance it.

Then the next group came in and we did it all over again. Same dance, slightly different directions, depending on their age.

We did that five times in four hours. Whew! Team members were joined by Nancy Hartung, Jeff Altman and Margaret Burnett.

Two weeks later, we were in a completely different situation at the Daughters of the British Empire Home for their annual fete. It was a hot day, but we were able to dance early enough that the dance floor wasn't a frying pan.

Team tested music for "Laich of Moray" that has been recorded for the CD supporting Mary Brandon's book "The Emigrant Scot." The recording is being made by a group in Japan.

We've taken off most of the summer, though director Roberta guest-taught in San Francisco during our hiatus.

*Alice Allen*

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## **Ventura**

The Ventura class started back to dancing in early August after a two-month summer break. It was great to see our fellow dancers and catch up on everyone's goings and comings. The first class after any break always feels like a family reunion with all of the laughter, visiting and welcoming embraces.

I have always said that when you go to a Scottish County Dance class you go to dance and leave with a family. It is truly one of my favorite parts of our Scottish Country Dance community.

This summer Roger and Mary Nisbet and Carolyn Williams traveled to Scotland and had wonderful times and adventures.

Marta Frexias and Ken Evans visited the Land Down Under. Betsy Lewis and Kasia Lisowska participated in numerous folk dance classes and events. Deresa Teller was able to dance at the Ojai Weekend and said it was fantastic.

Others, such as Murray Bader and Yukari Hirayama, spent time helping take care of family members. Donna Ingram's son married in Au-

gust, and she is glad for a little respite after the months of wedding preparations.

Happily, Sarah Stelk has been able to re-join us for dancing after knee surgery more than a year ago. We have a couple of class members nursing injuries, but we're hoping that they will be back on the dance floor very soon.

As fall approaches, we look forward to the Seaside Highland Games and all the fun and dancing associated with this annual event in our county. We hope that many of you will be able to attend the games, participate in the dancing and maybe even make it to the Saturday night ceilidh. October is always such a lovely month up here in the Ventura area and the games always make for a great weekend!

*Lisa Sage*

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## **Thousand Oaks**

While the small but loyal band (a dozen or so) of Thousand Oaks regulars was away on summer break, an experiment was going on back at the usual T.O. dance room on August Tuesday eves.

Seeking to increase interest and numbers, teacher Robb Quint with little initial hopefulness ... for similar had been attempted several times decades ago ... decided to offer a beginner-only introductory class for four Tuesdays in August.

Though the ongoing class is not so with the room merely rented by the teacher, it was necessary to run this intro class as a full-fledged Conejo Recreation and Park District class in order to get the citywide advertising in the summer-offerings catalogue.

And the CRPD staff was most encouraging and helpful and even produced a very spiffy full-color flier that was distributed to the other CRPD facilities and the two city libraries.

The wording of both the catalogue's class description and on the flier stressed the idea of continuity (as opposed to just something to do for four weeks in the summer): "Participants can continue Tuesday evenings from September on-going with the Conejo Valley Scottish Dancers at the same location."

And well, lo and behold, the enrollment starting in April gradually grew and grew until it finally reached an incredible 17 ere class began

on Aug. 6.

Though The Ghillie Callum will appear just after the final class has been held on Aug. 27, at the time of this writing only one of the four classes has been held, and it is absolutely impossible to predict how many ... if indeed any ... of these 17 will want to actually continue on beyond the four-week class and join the ongoing class when it resumes on Sep. 10. Weeeeeee!l seeeeee!

*Robb Quint*

## OBITUARIES

### Steve Wyrick

Steve Wyrick passed away Aug. 17 following a protracted battle with cancer. Steve ... as well as the musical duo of Steve and Julie ... was and remains beloved by the Southern California SCD community, for many of whose dance events the Wyricks provided flawless music with great verve.

Julie and Steve had just released a new recording of SCD dance music. He also played for many years with the Bay Area group Hood, Wink & Swagger.



*Robb Quint*

### Carol Goller

Former SCD teacher Carol Goller passed away May 19, on her 63rd wedding anniversary. She and husband Ed were among the earliest members of the Los Angeles Branch and both received their teaching certificates from RSCDS founder Miss Milligan.

They taught in the Westminster area in the early 1970s. Branch Chair Ann McBride recalled that Carol was one of her instructors when she was an SCD teacher candidate in 1972/73.



*Gail Halverson*

### Linda McWade

Just at press time we learned of the death of Linda McWade, a former LA Branch board member. More details next issue.

## 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.

## 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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