

the Ghillie CALLUM

Volume 55 Number 2

September 2024

L.A. BRANCH AGM



The 2024-2025 Committee of Management, from left: Chair Kris McGinnis, MAL Jon Reeves, MAL Tony McQuilkin, Recording Secretary Audrey Ramsay Prest, Vice Chair Lisa Hancock, MAL Betty Anderson, Dem Team Director Roberta Gottfried, Corresponding Secretary Robb Quint, Treasurer Doris Fisher. Absent: Teachers' Chair Rosemary Abend and MAL Dana Dunaway.

The annual treasurer's report can be found on page 2 and photos from the AGM Dance on page 5.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Hello Dancers,

With summer coming to an end, we look forward to the start of a new season of dancing. The Interbranch Dance on Sept. 28 will start us off with a bang. Music will be provided by the SO-CAledonians, and the dance program was devised by Aase Hansen.

The event involves all four Southern California branches. The Miscellany Sale offers the chance to find something new and interesting. Donated items are always appreciated.

October brings us to the Halloween costume dance on Oct. 26 in Studio City. I can't wait to see what our very creative folks come up with for costumes to represent the names of dances.

Nov. 23, the weekend before Thanksgiving,

is the St. Andrew's Ball. Patti Cobb, James McQueen and Caroline McCaskey will be the musicians. The dance will be held at the Masonic Lodge in El Segundo.

To round out the year, we will have the Hogmanay Dance, again with the early start time. Doors will open at 4:30 for the potluck party.

I want to thank all of the teachers, Committee of Management members and dancers who have worked so hard to make the past year a fabulous one of dancing. This past year has been filled with wonderful events, which wouldn't have been possible without all of you.

Thank you all again,

Kris McGinnis

TREASURER’S REPORT

Our financial statements for the last fiscal year, which covers the period from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, have been completed and are posted on the branch website. Go to the “Contact Us” section and scroll to the bottom of that page to find them.

We ended the year with \$24,753 in cash and checking and \$261 in prepaid hall rental expenses for total assets of \$25,014. We had \$2,818 in prepaid dues for the next fiscal year, along with \$7,481 in designated funds, which was an increase of \$2,203.

Our net activity from general activities was a loss of \$508.

The final reports show all the glorious details if you are interested.

If you have any questions, ask me at Doris.fisher@gmail.com.

Also note that we have received generous donations from various members over the years that have been allocated to specific events to help keep our costs down for everyone.

If you want to make such a donation, we are a 501(c)(3) organization so such donations are tax deductible. Also, if you are old enough to be required to take distributions from your IRA and want to make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from one of your IRA accounts (and therefore avoid getting taxed on the withdrawal) we are able to receive those.

Ask your CPA or IRA manager for advice on this as there are specific rules that must be followed.

Doris Fisher, treasurer

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; mjtb1002@hotmail.com

CALENDAR
LOS ANGELES BRANCH

SEPTEMBER

28 INTERBRANCH DANCE. Tustin Area Senior Center, 200 S. C St., Tustin. 7:30 p.m. Music: SO-CAledonians. Also: Scottish Miscellany Sale.

OCTOBER

26 HALLOWEEN DANCE AND COSTUME PARTY. First Christian Church, 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City. 7 p.m. Music: recorded. Awards for costumes best representing the name of a Scottish country dance.

NOVEMBER

23 ST. ANDREW’S BALL. South Bay Masonic Center, 520 Main St., El Segundo. Music: Patti Cobb, James McQueen and Caroline McCaskey.

DECEMBER

31 HOGMANAY PARTY. South Bay Masonic Center, 520 Main St., El Segundo. Music: recorded.

OTHER BRANCHES

SEPTEMBER

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

OCTOBER

19 SGV DANCE. Location and time to be announced.

NOVEMBER

9 OC BEGINNER DANCE. Tustin Area Senior Center, 200 S. C St., Tustin. 7 p.m. Music: recorded.

DECEMBER

14 OC CHRISTMAS BALL. Tustin Area Senior Center, 200 S. C St., Tustin. 7 p.m. Music: Flindrikin.

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.

INTERBRANCH DANCE

Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024

Tustin Area Senior Center

200 S. C St., Tustin

Hooper's Jig	B J	MMM II
Toast to the Mousies	I R	Book 53
The Library of Birmingham	A S	Book 49
Chased Lovers	I J	Book 53
The Dundee Whaler	B S	Ormskirk Scottish Dances, Vol. 1
Forty and Counting	A R	Book 52
Wild Geese	B J	Book 24
The Magic of Merrill	I R	Dances Online, San Francisco Br.
May Yarker's Strathspey	I S	Book 42
Best Set in the Hall	A J	Book 46
Flowers of Edinburgh	B R	Book 1
The Cranberry Tart	I J	Thirty Popular Dances, Vol. Two
Monymusk	B S	Book 11
J. B. Milne	A R	Thirty Popular Dances, Vol. Two
Neidpath Castle	I S	Book 22
Farewell to Balfour Road	I J	Book 52
The Reel of the Royal Scots	B R	Book 14



ST. ANDREW'S BALL

Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024

South Bay Masonic Center

520 Main St., El Segundo

Gloria's Wee Jig	NEW	B J	The Devil's Quandary
Sueno's Stone		I R	Four Dances 2008
Neidpath Castle		I S	Book 22
The Scallywag		I J	Book 52
The Falkirk Lass		B S	Book 53
Pinewoods Reel	NEW	A R	Book 53
Joie de Vivre		B J	Book 39
Smiling Lila	NEW	I R	Donald J. Bartlett online
Foxhill Court		A S	Canadian Book
Les Remparts de Séville		I J	Book 50
Flowers of Edinburgh		B R	Book 1
Niles Roberts' Farewell...		A J	Book 53
The Glengarry Homestead		I S	Kangaroo Paw
Lady Dumfries		B R	MMM I
Follow Me Home		I J	Book 38
Redwood Arbor		B S	Dragonfly
Arthur's Seat		I R	SCDs of the 18th Century

HALLOWEEN DANCE

Saturday, Oct. 26, 2024

First Christian Church

4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City

Come Under My Plaidie		B J	SCDs for Children
Flowers of Edinburgh	NEW	B R	Book 1
Slytherin House		I S	Book 52
Lady Dumfries		B R	MMM I
The Falkirk Lass	NEW	B S	Book 53
Best Set in the Hall		A J	Book 46
The Glengarry Homestead	NEW	I S	Kangaroo Paw
The Dancing Bees		B R	24 Graded & Social Dances
Farewell to Balfour Road		I J	Book 52
Hedwig's Reel		B R	2nd Graded Book
The Poppy and the Thistle		I S	L.A. 50th Anniversary
Joie de Vivre		B J	Book 39
Redwood Arbor		B S	Dragonfly
The Scallywag		I J	Book 52
The Deil amang the Tailors		B R	Book 14



HOGMANAY

Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2024

South Bay Masonic Center

520 Main St., El Segundo

Granville Market	NEW	B J	2nd Graded Book
Porchester Hall		I S	London Jubilee 1989
The Ambassadors' Reel		B R	Vienna Book
Follow Me Home		I J	Book 38
Foxhill Court		A S	Canadian Book
Scott Meikle	NEW	I R	Book 46
Gloria's Wee Jig		B J	The Devil's Quandary
Smiling Lila		I R	Donald J. Bartlett online
Redwood Arbor		B S	Dragonfly
Best Set in the Hall		A J	Book 46
Largo Law		B S	MMM1
Sueno's Stone		I R	Four Dances 2008
Farewell to Balfour Road		I J	Book 52
Gramachie		B S	MMM I
Pinewoods Reel		A R	Book 53
Mistress Mary	NEW	I S	L.A. 50th Anniversary
Les Remparts de Séville		I J	Book 50
The Deil amang the Tailors		B R	Book 14

TEACHERS' CHAIR

So, what does the chair of the Teachers' Committee do? Probably more than most dancers realize!

She (or he) chairs meetings of the Teachers' Committee and is a member of the Committee of Management.

She facilitates the selection of dances for the annual program and reviews the monthly dance programs.

She makes sure that dance notes and music CDs are distributed to dance teachers, that

cue books are made and distributed, that dance fliers are produced and she organizes periodic workshops to try out new dances for program consideration.



Deanna St. Amand

For more than 14 years, Deanna St. Amand has done all that and much more.

Deanna has been dancing for almost 40 years. After just one year of dancing, she was invited to join the branch Demonstration Team; she was a member for 18 years.

Deanna received the full teacher certificate in 1995. She was director of the Clan MacLeod Dancers for 18 years. In 1996 and 1997 Deanna directed the mass demonstration (50 dancers) at the Costa Mesa games.

As Deanna transitions from her leadership role, she will continue as a teacher, doing all that that involves: preparing lessons, being an emcee at dances, devising programs and selecting dance music from her vast library.

Although I will be stepping up as teachers' rep, I know I will be leaning on Deanna for guidance as I take on this new job.

Rosemary Abend

AGM DANCE



At the Annual General Meeting, we dined on delicious and interesting dishes brought by members, listened to reports and got through branch business, then cleared the tables for dancing.

Photos by Claudia Pedersen



NEW WAY TO PAY

Beginning with our October monthly dance, dancers will now have the option to pay their dance admission via Zelle (\$10 for RSCDS members; \$15 for non-member dancers).

While we will continue to cheerfully accept cash and checks, we hope that this method will be a convenience for some.

If you would like to pay via Zelle, the phone number associated with our main branch bank account is my cell phone number, 310-625-9071. Please be sure to identify what your payment is for in the "Messages" or "Memo" section of your payment.

Other dance events that have pre-registration requirements will have information on the fliers regarding the Zelle option and its availability for that event.

Additionally, if you would like to make a tax deductible donation to the branch you can also Zelle it as stated above, or if the amount is over \$250 and you would like a tax donation letter please mail a check to my home address.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Cell 310-625-9071, email Doris.fisher@gmail.com; 2021 W 177th St, Torrance CA 90504

Doris Fisher, treasurer

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the branch Wendy Banks, Grace and Gabriel White, Noa Weisberg and Sheli (Michel) Franco.

Melinda Brown, membership secretary

CLASSES

Valley College

Lots of class members hit the road — and the skies — to travel this summer.

Those lucky enough to attend RSCDS Summer School at St. Andrew's were Margaret Burnett and Jeff Altman, Elizabeth Seward and Dawn Bertani, along with her husband Nick and sons Thomas and David.

John Allen filled out the set to help them practice dances before leaving home.

Aase Hansen spent most of August visiting family in Denmark with daughter Lisbeth Hencke.

Lindsey Courtney had two great trips during her summer break from teaching high school: France and Hawaii.

Jim Bell made his annual visit home to Troon, Scotland.

Carmen Silva-Corvalán and husband Scott Dahlberg drove through New England.

Noa Weisberg went Paris to study art and fashion.



At Summer School: top left, Jeff Altman and Margaret Burnett, and at right, David, Nick, Thomas and Dawn Bertani. Below: Elizabeth Seward with the Bertanis.

Jon Reeves gathered up his costumes for both Anime Expo and Comic-Con.

Kathrin Segal and Steve Kaplan are packing up to move to Nevada. Tony McQuilkin tells us he has sold his house in Woodland Hills and is moving to Torrance.

Audrey Ramsay Prest

Torrance

The Torrance beginner class continues, but it is not Zoomed. The intermediate/advanced class continues to meet in "hybrid form" with live dancing and Zoom.

Ruth Fleming-Stephens is now a grandmother of two! Her daughter Sarah gave birth on June 7 to twins Alma Céline and Stella Brielle in Germany. Ruth was able to be present at that time; her husband Kyle joined them for a week afterwards.

Doris and Eric Fisher spent a week in Alaska on a church mission trip, helping clear fallen trees. Gabriel and Grace White moved his mother to Torrance.

Leslie Evans took a trip to Pennsylvania and Delaware. Betty Anderson went to Montana. Mike and Kris McGinnis got a new puppy, Maisie.

Lisa Hancock and Christopher Bradley went to Germany for two weeks. I (Tony) will be moving soon, perhaps to Torrance or Hawthorne. Stay tuned.

A record of each week's program is published at my.strathspey.org. Dancers and teachers are welcome to join us in person Fridays 7:30-9:00 p.m. at 1530 Cravens Ave, Torrance, CA 90501 or via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8248957840> (meeting ID, if needed: 824 895 7840). Masks are no longer required, but proof of vaccination is.

To be added to the email list, contact Kris at krismcginnis@gmail.com.

Tony McQuilkin

Simi Valley

Our class is slowly growing. We have been able to dance some three-couple dances

Deresa Kenney

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.

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 may 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: Kris McGinnis
Phone: 310-963-8829
Email: krismcginnis@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

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