



Kim McGarrity

by Ken McFarland

Kim McGarrity began dancing in 1974, and left us when she passed away from cancer in July 1998. For 25 years she generously contributed her energy and talents to the SF Branch, and many dancers have enjoyed her dancing, teaching and music making.

Kim came to the Bay Area from her home in Long Beach in 1974 and began dancing shortly after. When she moved here, her close family friend Robert McOwen had already started dancing in the Berkeley class that I was teaching, and he suggested that Kim come try it out. She took to it immediately, and I remember noticing that within a few weeks she had progressed rapidly. Kim was a fan of Jane Austen's writing, and especially enjoyed the dancing scenes in those books. I have often thought that she enjoyed Scottish country dancing so much because it brought reality to the dancing scenes in the books. In them, country dancing is the vehicle through which social interaction of polite society takes place, and young women meet young men. But she quickly grew to love the music for itself, and dedicated much of her life to playing it.

Kim's contributions began when she started dancing, with, as Jane Austen might have said, "a pleasing countenance on the dance floor." As a dancer she learned quickly, and she was much sought after as a very desirable partner. She was enthusiastic and often called for encores of dances with exciting musical arrangements. She was a naturally talented dancer who worked hard on her technical skills, and within a short time was appearing in performances. She volunteered to help organize or staff dancing or social events. She took some highland and ladies step dancing classes and enjoyed doing the Scottish Lilt in early years, and occasionally performed it. She was an enthusiastic supporter of informal dancing at the Edinburgh Castle Pub in San Francisco in the '70's.

Kim had played the viola as a child and began to play the violin when she started Scottish dancing, realizing that it was a natural instrument for dance music. Kim began taking fiddle lessons, and while she kept on dancing, she also began to play. Eventually Kim decided that she would like to teach, and obtained her teacher's certificate from the RSCDS. She taught very enjoyable classes in San Francisco and Berkeley. She also donated her time and talent as an editor of the *Reel and Strathspey* for several years.

The Branch had been enjoying live music by the Berkeley Scottish Players led by Barbara Bouwsma McOwen, and when

Barbara and Robert moved to Boston in 1980 or so, Kim and Margo Leslie formed the San Francisco Scottish Players in order to continue live music in the Bay Area. They provided lovely music for some years. Eventually there was a re-arrangement and the current band of "Fiddlesticks and Ivory" (F&I) came into existence. As the director of F&I, Kim produced hundreds of musical arrangements for dances, and handled dozens of other behind-the-scenes details in order to produce music for numerous SF Branch events.

Eventually the time came when there were more musicians than could play on one night, so the Branch Committee gave Kim the job of coordinating musicians for our monthly parties. Kim also suggested that a musician be included on the special events committees so that someone was there as an advocate for good tunes. Kim had many good ideas like this that she shared throughout the years. She had a great ability to bring common sense into any decision-making assembly, and was able to identify the crux of an issue quickly.

Kim eventually ventured into composition. Her tunes appear on the Fiddlesticks and Ivory recording *Ghillies on the Golden Gate*, and on the San Francisco Branch 25th Anniversary album. Her musical arrangements on GOTGG won her admiration, especially in dance groups that rely on recorded music. Some groups will not dance to any other recorded version of J. B. Milne, even though there are many other recordings available. It

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is less well remembered that she composed a dance called Miss Givings Strathspey, to fit the music of "Snow in Summer" on a Berkeley Player's album, but it was a popular dance when she presented it.

Kim interacted with other Scottish fiddlers, and was a member of the SF Scottish Fiddlers. She was a loyal participant at the Valley of the Moon Scottish Fiddle School and taught music workshops in various places, including San Diego, Fort Worden, and Colorado. She played for many SCD weekends, institutes, balls, Highland games, and social dances in many areas. I was lucky to have Kim play for dance trips that I organized in Hawaii with F&I in 1993, and with Lyle on Dancing in New Zealand and Australia in 1994, and the Northern Lights Tour of Orkney and Shetland in 1996. She made friends and fans wherever she played around the world, and she was really fun to travel with.

It was wonderful for all of us who had known Kim for a long time to see Kim and Lyle fall in love with each other, and bring their love even more vividly into their music, which they then shared with all of us. I will never be able to hear or dance to "Miss Ogilvie" again without seeing them in my mind's eye, playing their loving piano-3-hands arrangement of the dance, sharing so openly and generously with us.

Those of us who were lucky enough to count ourselves as her friends will miss her more than words can say. As dancers we can always be grateful to have enjoyed her music, her company, and her great talent. We have all been blessed to travel and dance with Kim on her journey through life.



Kimberly Robin McGarrity
 May 23, 1952–July 11, 1998

Young McGarrity

by Bob Zuparko

Kim McGarrity was one of my dearest friends, and for her memorial service in September, I chose to reminisce in song. Once when we traveled together in New England, we saw a televised P. G. Wodehouse story about a young engaged couple wherein the chap referred to his fiancée as "young Packard." We thought this a great remark, and since that time often called each other "young Zuparko," and "young McGarrity."

To the tune: "La Bastringue" (A part only)

First met Kim in San Francisco.
 Coffee can
 in her window.
 Out to Bill's Place we would go,
 burger and drinks
 on the patio.

She and my car had a bad spell.
 Dented roof,
 I thee tell.
 Spilt coffee in the spare tire well,
 broke off mirror,
 –what the hell?

But she was a fellow Gemini
 (Maria too).
 Maybe that's why,
 we'd always see eye-to-eye
 however much time
 had passed on by.

As editor of the San
 Francisco's Peyper
 (a select clan!),
 she devised a clever plan,
 volunteered to find
 the most huggable man.

At various weddings we were.
 She played at mine,
 I spoke at hers.
 As best man and maid of honor
 for Barbara and Bob
 we happily served.

We walked on lava in Ha-wai-i,
 - met a fierce,
 big black bee.
 Lounging by the deep blue sea
 with taro chips
 and Pictionary.

Trips 'n talks, so many had we,
 backrubs and
 Dunkin' Doughnuts coffee.
 Happy times in my memory:
 of a dear friend, young
 McGarrity...



MONTHLY PARTIES

December Monthly Party

Saturday, December 5, 7:30 pm
 Alameda Masonic Temple, Alameda
 Berkeley Classes Hosting

Saw Ye My Wee Thing?	B	8x32J2		25/9
Miss Gibson's Strathspey	I	8x32S3	RSCDS Leaflet	
Reel of the 51st Division	I	8x32R3		13/10
Gramachie +	B	8x32S3	MMMI	
Muirland Willie	A	8x32J3		21/9
Cadgers in the Canongate	I/A	8x48R3		9/10
I'll gang nae mair				
tae yon toon +	I	8x40S3		15/2
I'll mak' ye fain				
to follow me +	I	8x32J3		6/10
Seann Triubhas Willichan	B	8x32S2		27/9
The Ladies of Dunse +	I	8x40R3		26/11
Mrs. Stewart				
Sinton's Reel +	B	8x32J2	Graded Book #12	
Autumn in Appin	A	4x32S4		31/5
The Lass o' Livingston +	B	8x32R3		8/6
Fair Donald +	I	8x32S3		29/4
Mr. Wilson's Hornpipe	I	8x32R3		16/10

January Monthly Party

Saturday, January 9, 7:30 pm
 Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School, Palo Alto
 Monterey, Santa Cruz & Soquel Classes Hosting

Hollin Buss +	B	8x32J2		24/8
I'll gang nae mair				
tae yon toon	I	8x40S3		15/2
The Duke of Wellington +	A	8x32R3	Drewry leaflet	
Seann Triubhas Willichan	B	8x32S2		27/9
Mr. Wilson's Hornpipe	I	8x32R3		16/10
Saw Ye My Wee Thing?	B	8x32J2		25/9
The Duchess Tree +	A	8x32S3	Drewry leaflet	
The Lass o' Livingston	B	8x32R3		8/6
Fair Donald +	I	8x32S3		29/4
The Rakish Highlandman +	I	8x40J3		19/6
The Ladies of Dunse	I	8x40R3		26/11
Gramachie	B	8x32S3	MMM I	
Muirland Willie	A	8x32J3		21/9
Miss Gibson's Strathspey	I	8x32S3	RSCDS Leaflet	
The Highlandman				
kissed his Mother +	I	8x32R3	MMM I	
+ <i>New this month</i>				

Directions

DIRECTIONS TO THE ALAMEDA MASONIC TEMPLE, 2312 ALAMEDA AVENUE, ALAMEDA (between Park and Oak Streets). FROM THE SOUTH: Take 880 North, exit at High Street (south of the Bay Bridge) and drive west across the High Street bridge into Alameda. Continue on High Street for about six blocks and turn right on Central Avenue. Go for another 10 blocks to Park Street (with traffic light, past Park Avenue). Turn left on Park Street, go one block and turn right on Alameda Avenue. The Masonic Temple is on the left about ½ block before Oak Street.

FROM THE NORTH: Take 880 South and exit at 23rd Avenue. When you have crossed the bridge going west, you will be on Park Avenue. Continue on Park until you come to Alameda Avenue and turn right. There is free parking after 6:00 pm in a city lot right across the street from the Temple, but accessible only from Central Avenue, one block east. You can turn right from Alameda onto Oak, right on Central and right into the lot, after about ½ block—or just drive straight

across Park Street when you are coming in on Central and turn left into the lot after about ½ block, and walk to the Temple at the far end of the lot. The party will be in the Banquet Room on the fourth floor. There is an elevator.

DIRECTIONS TO JANE LATHROP STANFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL, WAVERLEY & EAST MEADOW, PALO ALTO.

FROM 101 : Take the Oregon Expressway exit and drive west to Waverley. Turn left on Waverley. The entrance to the school is in your left just as you cross East Meadow Drive.

FROM 280 : Take the Page Mill Rd. exit (Page Mill becomes the Oregon Expressway), and go east until you come to Waverley. Turn right and proceed as above.

Brigadoon

by George Gates

From an e-mail message posted to the strathspey listserv...

Just got in from a wonderful week (August 24-30) at the Brigadoon of the USA here on the West Coast–Scottish Dance Camp at the Mendocino Woodlands. Six and a half of the most glorious days you could spend in a fantastic setting—redwood forest and rustic cabins, fog in the morning, and clear afternoons with cool, comfortable temperatures. We enjoyed wonderful companionship from fellow dancers, teachers, event staff, and camp staff. Our excellent teachers cracked the whip and made us close in third and “proper first” positions. We relished outstanding meals. All was topped off by the most marvelous music that could be had. What can you say but that it was, WOW!!!!!!

Arlene Baxter, backed by David Mostardi and a most wonderful staff of volunteers, and three sharp-eyed, sharp-tongued, quick-witted teachers—Elaine Brunken, Ellie Briscoe, and Martin Mulligan—made this event a true paradise. Mind you, at this time I am using a walker and have to install an elevator in my apartment so that I may go in and out, but I must say that I will never view a dance or position the same way again. The cooking staff at the camp was also most exceptional; they made magical meals appear and put up with our special requests with the utmost patience.

The musicians who played for all the classes, playing eight bars over and over again, being asked to slow it down or speed it up, and given music to learn in a very short time, must be given a standing ovation. Janet Kurnick, David Strong, Lyle Ramshaw, Earl Gaddis and David Mostardi not only played for the classes and every night for our dances, but also played and jammed during our after-dance parties. Hats off to them all. If you wish to learn more about this camp and the wonderful time you could have had, check out www.best.com/~tlb/mendocino. Find out about future camps by e-mailing Arlene Baxter at baxter@pobox.com.

Mendocino Scottish Camp

by Linda Baptiste

From an e-mail message posted to the strathspey listserv...

I'm just back from a magical week among the redwood and fir trees in Mendocino, California. Imagine dancing all morning to live music; eating gourmet food; field trips, treats, and special activities in the afternoons; more eating; and a dance each evening, followed by a party, with more eating. Have I gained weight? Don't ask. Am I tired and sore? Of course. Would I do it again? You bet. Can we go next week?

New friends came from all over: New South Wales, Seattle, Newfoundland, to list just a few places people call home. For one week we became a community, working together, playing together, learning together, striving for that extra something that makes Scottish Country dancing so special. It was indeed Brigadoon, a different world.

I missed the appearance of the elusive California fur snake, but the “Dancing Slug Ale,” homebrewed by the Dairikis in Berkeley, was a special treat. There were a number of memorable ceilidh acts, one of which I have been asked not to talk about.

Ahhhhh...if we wish very hard, and are very lucky, it will happen again.

A Trip to the UK, With an Emphasis on The Highlands

by Rich Calendar

Coventry

I landed in London on August 14 and was picked up by a scientific collaborator who took me to the University of Warwick in Coventry (which is NOT in Scotland). Coventry Cathedral, which looked like a factory from above, had been bombed during the war, and since it was ugly, it was not rebuilt. Instead, artists from around the world built a new cathedral, next to the ruin, and it is exceptionally beautiful. I also saw Kenilworth Castle. John of Gaunt, who was a big deal during the War of the Roses, built it. During the time of Elizabeth I, the owner was regarded as dangerously rich, so the Queen announced that she would visit him, to eat him out of house and home. He had to build special apartments for her. Cromwell, during a retreat, blasted most of the castle to bits. The stables were spared, so one eats there.

York

On August 15 we picked up my daughter, Johanna, from Sweden, at Heathrow, and on the 16th my brother Carl arrived from Oxford to meet his wife, Jody and son Shane, who is 13. They had flown in from Newark, NJ. We rented a minivan and drove to York. There we saw a hill and tower constructed by William the Conqueror. Some of us went on a walking ghost tour of the old town, while others went on a boat ghost tour on the river.

Stirling Castle

Next, we stopped at Stirling Castle, which I knew as the place where Robert the Bruce beat the English, the last time that the Scots beat the English, in 1314, just a few years after Braveheart. William Wallace, was tortured and executed. There is a William Wallace Memorial—a tower—that can be seen on a hillside not far from the Castle. Nothing remains from 1314, so we are doing a dance about nothing. The north gate of the castle was built in 1381, and the rest is more recent. The main hall was closed and covered with scaffolding, because it's being renovated. The remainder of the castle is quite beautiful, and there are many pictures of Mary Queen of Scots, who was born there.

Callander

Just north of Stirling Castle we stopped at the town of Callander. It was settled in about 1080 by a Celtic group that had emigrated from Hungary, including my Calendar ancestors. One of my ancestors left for Massachusetts in about 1650 and became the secretary to Governor Winthrop, the first Governor of Massachusetts. We couldn't figure out why he left. There is a nice river, full of ducks and kayaks, and on the near bank is a beautiful formal garden, owned by The Roman Camp, a hotel and restaurant. The restaurant is in a class with Chez Panisse, but has much more room. We got menus, and enjoyed aperitifs and hors d'oeuvres in a large drawing room with a fireplace and antique furniture. Dinner was served in a very large, circular room, with windows covering about 300 degrees. There was a lot of space between the tables, and each table had a silver candelabra with lit candles, regardless of whether the table was occupied. The central table was occupied by American military brass. Even the house white wine was out-of-sight!

Glen Coe

North and West of Callander is Glen Coe, where the Campbells massacred the MacDonalds after the routing of Bonnie Prince Charlie. We stayed at a lodge for hikers and climbers. At the desk was a plaque saying "No Highwaymen or Campbells." Ironically, the Campbell Food Company delivers their food supplies. At the nearby visitor center we saw a piper, and there was another piper at a view point farther up the valley. These were the only kilted gents that I saw during the trip. The mountains rise steeply on three sides, and the view was like nothing else that I ever saw.

Skye

Because of the dance, The Cuillins of Skye, I had suggested that we visit Skye. Since my brother had been at Oxford for the previous two weeks to hear lectures on Hamlet, The Tempest, and Henry V, he had had a chance to ask people where to stay on Skye. He chose the Rosedale Hotel on the harbor of the town of Portree. This is a fusion of three buildings built in 1880, and it has a restaurant in the class of The Roman Camp. We stayed there four nights. During this period, we drove to the north end of the Island

and saw the town of Staffin (but no Harvest). We rode horses and saw beautiful views. We went to the castle of MacLeod of Skye, and we saw a goblet owned by Rory O'More. We planned to take the short ferry ride to Raasay, an island near Skye, and to tour in a horse-drawn cart. The lady who owned the horses took ill, so we brought our minivan on the ferry and drove to Raasay House, which was constructed in parts during the 18th and 19th centuries. I had hoped to see Mrs. MacLeod of Raasay. Raasay House has high ceilings and windows; it's very large and beautiful. The last addition to the decor is a pair of mermaid statues, which caused Mr. MacLeod to go bankrupt and emigrate to Tasmania in 1846. Thus, if any Branch members visit Tasmania, I hope that they will search for Mrs. MacLeod of Raasay. Currently, the house is used as a sports center. As we arrived, one group of kids exited in wet suits, heading for their windsurf boards. Another group mounted their bikes and drove away at high speed. We drove to a trail and hiked it to the top of an inactive volcano. When we returned we ate in their excellent lunchroom, along with the sporting kids.

Lewis and Harris

We took a ferry from the town of Uig on Skye to the Outer Hebridean Island of Lewis, to see the standing stones that are 4,000 or 5,000 years old. They are like Stonehenge without a top. The stones are paired and map out the shape of a cross. Where the two rows of stones cross is a chamber for the burial of ashes. The sheep graze right up to the fence surrounding the stones. At the head of the stones is a visitor center with expensive mementos and an extensive, expensive lunch menu. At the foot of the stones is a village. The nearest thatched hut, owned by an old lady, has inexpensive mementos and a short, inexpensive lunch menu. There is a 2,000-year old fort, or broch, just a few miles north of the standing stones. It is made of stones without mortar and has an outer and inner wall. One can climb it! This ancient fort allowed the residents to attend to their daily tasks without fear of a surprise attack. South of Lewis is Harris, and they are connected by a land bridge. Harris is where Harris Tweed is made. I have a Harris Tweed jacket that I bought in London in 1966. Harris has beautiful wide beaches full of birds and empty of people. To get to the beach, one drives on a grass-covered roadway through a rabbit warren. I'd like to go back there, because we ran out of time and had to drive back to the ferry.

Edinburgh

On the way back to Oxford and London on August 24, we spent two hours in Edinburgh, which is clearly just as nice as any European city, but lacks the distinctive properties of The Highlands. Small cashmere wool blankets sell for \$500 there. Maybe next time. I still haven't paid off my credit card for this trip!

The Red Thistle Dancers in Norway

by Cecilia Grote

Take 18 dancers, 5 musicians and 4 friends; toss (sometimes not so gently) into an assortment of planes, trains, ferries and automobiles, and mix well; add one country with 4 million inhabitants and almost as many lakes; alternately bake and chill for nearly three weeks and what do you get? The Red Thistle Dancers Tour of Norway.

The Red Thistle Dancers recently returned from a successful dancing tour of Norway. Thanks to the efforts of Scottish/Norwegian Dancer Mikkel Thompson, we were invited to dance at several different venues in Norway. You may wonder what connection Scottish Dancing has with Norway, but on our trip we were introduced to the many ways that Norway has influenced, and been influenced by, Scotland.

Upon landing in Oslo, we were met by our hosts who whisked us off to various accommodations. There we had two days of recovery from the long flight to get our bearings and try to wrap our tongues around some Norwegian words. Thankfully, the majority of the Norwegians we met spoke English quite well. Sunday in the park... Sue Anderson, Dave Grote and Cecilia Grote were interviewed on camera for Norwegian television at Frogner Park, home of the famous sculptures by Gustav Vigeland. Too bad for Zaza Wu, Chris Day, and friend Mike Bennett who sped along ahead of us and missed out on their 15 seconds of fame.

Our official tour began in Stavanger, a beautiful seaside city made prosperous by the oil industry. There we were joined, fresh (?) from St. Andrews Summer School, by former Bay Area dancer Coletta (Hill) Busse, husband Armin, and friend Birgit Roehricht, whom some of you may have met at Coletta and Armin's wedding. With our European contingent joining us, Red Thistle kicked off Stavanger's Celtic Festival by performing a mix of country dancing, highland dancing, and music in their Cultural Center. Because of typically unplanned travel hitches, several of our dancers didn't make it in time for the performance. Thanks to Michael Rowen, husband of Red Thistle member Calli Morrow, we were able to complete two sets of dancers to perform our program. Michael really deserves a medal for valor for jumping into unfamiliar dances at the last minute. (Michael, are you sure you don't want to be a permanent Red Thistle member?) We were fortunate to have vocalist and fiddle player Valerie Thompson on the trip. She and the other musicians provided several musical interludes for our many costume changes (down the stairs, around the corner). The generous applause and the mix of amazement and delight on the faces of the audience were more than enough to compensate for having to dance on granite floor. The venue allowed onlookers to view the dancing from one, two, and three levels above the dancing; what a great way to see the patterns of the dance. That evening, wayward travelers Paula Jacobson, Alan Twhigg, Fred DeMarse and friend from several Summer School sessions, Patrick Chamoin of Paris, finally caught

up with us.

Next we enjoyed a ferry ride to the quaint town of Bergen, and from there a second one up the Sogn Fjord to Flåm. Cecilia managed to cajole enough dancers out on the deck of the ferry for the group to devise *The Sognefjord Hornpipe*, in appreciation of the spectacular scenery we encountered on our trip. Dave suggested including 8 bars of "viewing the scenery" in the dance, and many fellow passengers enjoyed viewing us as we danced. In Flåm we finally came together as a group and enjoyed an impromptu ceilidh with fiddler Susan Worland of Boston, former Red Thistle dancer Michael Bentley (bodhran), and Larry Drummond (mandolin, guitar) of the Santa Cruz area. Larry's wife Linda also joined us on our tour. The next day several dancers took to the hills on a hike, while a few of us took the opportunity to ride Norwegian Fjord horses.

An overnight train ride (a new sensation for some, sleeping on a moving bed) took us to our next destination of Trondheim. Trondheim is the historical capital of Norway. Several of us were able to catch the end of season concert in Nidaros Cathedral, with the finale of the last piece sending waves of pipe organ music down the nave. The next day, with full complement of dancers, we had two performances. Our first, at the Trøndelag outdoor Folk Museum in Sverresborg, was forced indoors by rain. However, we got a wonderful feel of how dances must have been in centuries past when we danced in a c. 1780 Vikastua, a banquet house. The house was built by a wealthy farmer and was used for weddings and other special occasions. Several of our taller dancers had to duck each time they passed under the beam in the low-ceilinged room.

Because it was such a small space, the venue was particularly suited to the music of harpist Nancy Thym-Hochrein. Although the house only accommodated an audience of about 40, an additional 50-60 were watching through the windows and straining to see through the open door. Our special status afforded our being allowed into an 830-year-old stave church, which is not normally open to the public. That afternoon we danced in a theater, formerly a barn and stables, at the Ringve Music Museum, where we finished our visit with a private tour of the museum. Thanks to impromptu stage mom Carol McMillen for her help in directing traffic between numbers. The Soquel class can look forward to meeting Carol in days to come. We think we have a convert!

The next evening we had a potluck dinner and dance party with the local group of Scottish Dancers. (By this time we knew to anticipate the fresh seafood that is plentiful all over Norway, and the berries that were then in season.) At the party we obliged the local Scottish dance teacher Isla Ulvestad-Buchanan by trying out her newly devised dances. The following morning, after saying good-bye to our wonderful hosts, we caught the train to our next destination...

Lillehammer, the site of the 1994 Winter Olympics, where we were hosted by members of two local Norwegian dance groups. One interesting discovery we made in Lillehammer was

the abundance of plaid, yes, plaid! The local traditional clothing uses a red plaid cloth. It seems that around the year 1640, a band of Scots tried to invade this area. They didn't succeed, and the local people assimilated those that were unable to escape. We were told that there are quite a number of people with the last name "Scot."

Our morning performance at Maihaugen Folk Museum gave us the afternoon to explore the museum grounds (another outdoor museum) and receive another special tour. The next evening we enjoyed a combined party with local Norwegian dancers to show off our various dance styles and enjoy the challenge of trying out a different type of dance. Lillehammer was a special place for many of us. We made new friends whom we hope to see again when their dance group visits the U.S. After a morning touring Lillehammer and the 1994 Olympic sites we caught the afternoon train back to...

Oslo, where we began our Norwegian trip. We had a full day to explore and shop before we had a performance at another outdoor museum, this time across the bay at Bygdøy. The Norwegian Folk Museum at Bygdøy is unique in that they have gathered buildings from every region of Norway. Thankfully we were rescued from dancing on cobblestones by rainy weather, and the organizers were able to find a hall for our performance. That evening we had our last performance and party with the local Norwegian dance group and their other guests, a group from the Czech Republic. With half of us leaving early the next morning, the rest of us had just one more day to see the sights we missed, and finish shopping for those last few Christmas presents. (Yes, some of us have already finished our holiday shopping!) A few dancers decided to extend their trip and see more of Norway. John and Jennifer Kelly, Mikkel, and Calli and Michael all spent a little more time in Norway, with geologists Calli and Michael also continuing on to the Faeroe Islands and Iceland.

Several costumes had a nice trip to Norway without their owners. Many thanks to Ellen Aaron, Cathy Bertics, Elheran Francis, Bradley Hobbs, Randi Keppeler, Kevin Lesko, Barry Lewis, Ruth Mikusko, and Rosemary Thorne, for their generous loan to temporary Red Thistle dancers.

Dancing in New England

by *Susie Langdon Kass, with Sid Kass*

Sid and I are regular visitors to Rhode Island, and over the years I have fretted about the lack of Scottish Country Dancing there. It's my native state and my mother still lives there.

I have to tell you how delighted I was to discover through Eleanor Uhlinger that when Paul Hemenway moved to RI from Texas, he just had to start a class there. When planning a visit in September to help celebrate my mother's 95th birthday, I contacted Paul and said we were coming. He asked me to teach, telling me it is a small class of experienced dancers plus some who have been dancing for a year. Of course, I said yes.

When we walked into the very nice Grange hall in East Greenwich, we found that four new beginners had shown up that night. The lesson plan went out the window and I winged it.

Three Bay Area dancers are members of that class! Kevin and Eleanor Uhlinger, formerly of Sebastopol, and Ellen Campbell, formerly of San Jose. Small world. Eleanor was out of town at a conference in Iceland that night. Sorry we missed you, Eleanor.

We also did more SCD in New England. Howard and Roberta Lasnick of the Boston Branch, who dance in the Berkeley and San Francisco classes once or twice a year when visiting Howard's mother in Albany, celebrated their 25th anniversary with a great party in Weston, Massachusetts. The MC was Marianne Taylor, and Barbara McOwen led the band, with Robert McOwen and others, playing wonderful music. What a treat!



Ken McFarland's New Zealand tour group, November 1997, including Ned and Janis Dairiki, Mimi Mueller, Jim and Marion Logie, Linda Turner, Alasdair Brown, John and Joyce Taylor, Bill and Marilyn Stocker, Andy Imbrie, Sherryl Faux, and Sherryl's niece, Gina Lane.

The 1998 Pleasanton Games

by Doug McConnell

This year the Games, especially the Celtic Heritage Program which showcases Scottish Country Dancing, were a resounding success. The adjudication event and the performances on the lower stage organized by Ron Wallace, Jo Hamilton, Sara Gratiot, Claudette Sigg, and Ed Johnston are a Scottish Country Dance spectacular without equal. Everything went extremely smoothly, thanks to the joint efforts of so many. I hardly know where to start.

My thanks go to:

* The teachers and the dancers who performed and entertained so capably and professionally over the two days of the Games, all 260 of you, along with 55 fiddlers, 22 harpers, and two vocalists.

* The volunteers who raised our stages and tents in record time on Friday and tore them all down again on Sunday evening, also in record time. These included, but were not limited to, Gene Bissell, Gale Holladay, Alastair Brown, Harry Butler, Bud Wisecarver, Larry Wakeman, Richard and Sandy Welsh, David Gord, and Joel Theriault.

* The MCs for the lower stage, Bob McMurtry, Bill Stocker, and Glenn Wildman; the judges, Mary Murray and Gloria McConnell, and their scribes, Marilyn Stocker, Suzanne Bailey, Julee Montes, and Marva Morris.

* The East Bay dancers, led by Marjorie Henry, and including Virginia Bissell, Guy Armantrout, Mercina Cotton, Vicky Grant, Carolyn Hunt, Anne Smith, Bonnie and Bill Wakeman, and Judy Wisecarver, who provided the set-up crew with their usual gourmet picnic lunch.

* Kathy Conley, who masterminded the Country Dance cameo for the closing ceremonies on both days.

* We are also indebted to John Burton and his staff, who had the ARF and the bleachers in place for us by Thursday evening, along with the Branch equipment box.

* Susie Kass was her usual wonderful self, not only organizing the tent, but also helping with participation dancing, along with Bob McMurtry and Ed Johnston.

No other Scottish Country Dance festival or event comes close to what we have, and I am indebted to everyone who helps to make it possible. I know that I have omitted naming a large number of hard workers, and to them I apologize. Please attribute it to my less than efficient memory and forgive my oversight.

My heartfelt thanks to everyone for a superb job well done!

Post-Pleasanton Blues

by George Gates

From an e-mail message posted to the strathspey listserv...

It's Monday morning and there is nothing to do. The people have gone home and the booth and stages have been struck. Yesterday evening at around 5:00 p.m., the closing ceremonies of the Pleasanton Highland Games put an end to this wonderful time. As usual, it was a fun and extremely busy weekend. Most of us know that right about now someone is asking, "What can we do to make it better next year?" To which I say, "Hey, take a break."

We here in the San Francisco Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society had a wonderful time making our contributions to this weekend. Much of the work started earlier—the planning and phone calls—but physical labor started Friday morning with setting up two stages for dancing and our information booth. Then some were off to the school where the Saturday night dance would happen with Fiddlesticks and Ivory playing for us.

Both days the air was thick with music, both traditional and wonderful new sounds by bands like Tempest and Seven Nations, who I'm sure found some new fans. The booths were full of wonderful colors and fine goods for us to buy for our bodies or our homes.

On Saturday, I danced in two adjudication sets, for the closing ceremonies, and a dance demonstration for a clan dinner. On Sunday, I danced in three more sets. I'm not counting the dance Saturday night, which I sat out, although I did help with the set-up and food. I had still not quite recovered from the week of Scottish dancing in Mendocino and I thought I had best take it a little easy.

I am sure that next year I will do it all over again: I'm just a glutton for punishment. I will be there again helping out where needed and dancing, although in only one adjudication set. To those who were there this weekend, I will see some of you during the year and some only next year at the Pleasanton Highland Games in California; plan your Labor Day Weekend vacation now.

Branch Scholarships

Scholarships are available for all kinds of dance/music workshops and events. Contact Paula Jacobson at (408) 688-8295 for more information.

Angel in the Wings

In memory of Kim McGarrity, fiddler for the Scottish Dance Band, "Fiddlesticks and Ivory"

Lyrics By Jim Pell

Music by Sandy Gordon

D A D A

It's Sat-ur-day eve-ning, the first of the month, And the dan-cers ar-rive loo-king

Gmaj7 A D A D A D A7

fine.— Our men in braw kilts, our lad-ies in sash-es, Chat-ter-ing gai-ly in

D D G D A D A

line.— We turn in our tick-et and scam-per in-side; On the stage the band sets up their

Gmaj7 A D G D G D A7

things,— With our spir-its so high that no-bo-dy sees There's an an-gel that waits in the

Bm/D D D A

wings.— Kim, play us your hea-ven-ly fid-dle!— The danc-ers are fill-ing the

G A7 D G D A7

hall.— Kim, tell me I won't have to leave here a-lone, Who's tak-in' ye home from the

Bm D A7 D

ball? Who's tak-in' ye home from the ball?

©1998 Jim Pell & Sandy Gordon

Angel in The Wings

Lyrics by Jim Pell

Music by Sandy Gordon
©1998 Jim Pell and Sandy Gordon

It's Saturday evening, the first of the month,
And the dancers arrive looking fine.
Our men in braw kilts, our ladies in sashes,
Chattering gaily in line.
We turn in our ticket and scamper inside,
On the stage the band sets up their things,
With our spirits so high that nobody sees
There's an Angel that waits in the wings.

*Kim, play us your heavenly fiddle,
The dancers are filling the hall.
Kim, tell me I won't have to leave here alone,
Who's takin' ye home from the ball?*

Now the band is tuned up, and it's "Ivory and 'Sticks!"
And the dancers are called into sets.
The talking dies down to occasional laughter.
This is as good as it gets!
Someone calls out a dance, and we bow at the chord,
And we leap at the call of the strings,
And our hearts are so gay, we give nary a thought
To the Angel that waits in the wings.

And for dance after dance, the air filled with romance,
We jig and we strathspey and reel.
With a wink and a squeeze and a meaningful glance,
We're all just as young as we feel.
We stop, and join hands, and we sing "Auld Lang Syne,"
Ah, what love her sweet fiddlin' brings!
Then we turn to applaud, but our hearts skip a beat
As the Angel steps in from the wings.

Kim puts down her fiddle and bow, and she stands,
And she smiles at us all, full of peace.
There's a lump in each throat, and a tear in each eye,
As she tells us the music won't cease.
She holds out her hand to the Angel,
As a heavenly choir then sings.
She turns towards the song, and our fiddle is gone,
And two Angels float into the wings.

*Kim, play us your heavenly fiddle,
The dancers are filling the hall.
Kim, tell me I won't have to leave here alone,
Who's takin' ye home from the ball?*

In memory of Kim McGarrity, much-loved fiddler with the Scottish Country Dance band, Fiddlesticks and Ivory.

Kim McGarrity's Farewell to Tobacco

© Lyle Ramshaw 1998

First system of musical notation for 'Farewell to Tobacco'. It consists of two staves of music in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff has a melody with notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The second staff has a melody with notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Chords are indicated below the notes.

Chords: Dm Am Dm Am Dm

Chords: C Gmin7 C Asus7 Dm Am Dm

Briar Rose

© Kim McGarrity 1995

First system of musical notation for 'Briar Rose'. It consists of four staves of music in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is more complex, featuring triplets and sixteenth notes. Chords are indicated below the notes.

Chords: Dm Bb A7 Dm F Dm Gm A7

Chords: Dm Edim A7 Dm F Gm A7 Dm

Chords: Dm Edim A7 C C A7

Chords: Dm Gm A7 Dm Dm/F Gm A7 Dm

SCD Workshops, Institutes & Events

SAT, NOVEMBER 7

Jeannie Carmichael Ball, West Point (NY), Thayer Hotel. Music: Alasdair Fraser and Muriel Johnstone. Contact: Sheila Wilson at (212) 744-1470.

FRI-SAT, NOVEMBER 13-14

Bellingham (WA) Ceilidh, Workshop, and Dance. Teachers: Bruce Hamilton (San Francisco), Tracy Antley-Olander (Seattle), and Liz Gray (Victoria). Music: Mary Ross (Accordion) and the Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra. Contact: Tom and Rosemary Read at (360) 734-1295.

SAT, NOVEMBER 28

Cleveland (OH) St. Andrew's Ball Dinner/Dance. 6:00 p.m., Slovenian National Home, E. 65 and St. Clair. Sponsored by the Cleveland Group of the RSCDS. Music: Sandy Hain and the Clansmen, the Cleveland Kilty Band, and The Outlanders. Ticket price is \$27.00. Contact: Sandra Utrata at (216) 228-3265 or sutrata@en.com, or Willie Cunningham at (216) 671-5646.

SAT-SUN, DECEMBER 5-6

Austin (TX) St. Andrews Ball Weekend. Contact: Linda Mae Dennis at (512) 346-5177.
<http://www.main.org/austinscd/events/1998StAndrewsBall.html>

SAT, DECEMBER 5

Boston Branch Pinewoods Benefit Ball (MA). Hamilton Hall, Salem. Contact: Sally Dee at (978) 745-2229.

FRI, DECEMBER 11

Mercer Island (WA) Christmas Ceilidh. 7:30 p.m. at Congregational Church of Mercer Island, 4545 Island Crest Way. Sponsored by Seattle RSCDS. Refreshments: Dinner. Dress: Semi-formal. Contact: Elizabeth Miller at (206) 782-8345 or brmiller@gte.net, or Douglas Wilson at (206) 524-4016, douglaswilson@msn.com, or <http://www.SeattleRSCDS.org>.

SAT, DECEMBER 12

Orange County (CA) Branch Rankine Memorial Christmas Dance at Tustin Area Senior Center, 200 South C St., Tustin, 7:30-11:00 p.m. Music: Marty Morrissey and Friends. Contact: Shirley Saturensky at (714) 557-4662.

1999

SAT-SUN, MARCH 28-APRIL 4

(HI) Scottish Dance Week in Hawaii 1999, Kalani Honua Retreat Center. Introduces new dances written by Iain Boyd to 18th Century Scottish Dance music. Optional Step and Cape Breton dance sessions. Special class in interpreting 18th Century Scottish dance manuscript. All meals included in price. Teachers: Iain Boyd (New Zealand), Ron Wallace (USA), other TBA. Music: Susan Worland, Earl Gaddis, Ralph Gordon, and Dave Weisler. Contact: Ken McFarland, 1-800-822-3435, farlands@ptialaska.net.

FRI-SUN, APRIL 9-11

Washington (DC) Capital Weekend 1999 at the National Cathedral School, Wisconsin Ave. Sponsored by the Washington Branch of the RSCDS. Friday Night 8-11, Saturday Classes 9-12 and 1-2:30, Ball 7:45-12:30 am, Sunday Brunch 9-1pm. Teachers: Sandy Bain of Calgary and Margaret Grandine of Washington, D.C. Music: Friday-Music Makars, Saturday-Terpsichore with Ralph Gordon and Calum MacKinnon. Dress: Semi-formal for Welcome Dance, Formal for Ball. Refreshments: finger buffet and punch for both dances; Lunch extra on Saturday; Sunday Brunch. Package (Welcome Dance, Classes, Ball): \$50 if received before 4/3/99. (Welcome Dance \$15, Classes \$15, Lunch \$5, Ball \$25, Brunch Free!). Contact: Denise and Blaine Peet at (301) 942-2831 or tempest@aol.com.

FRI-SUN, MAY 7-9

Boston Branch (MA) Highland Ball Weekend. Nevins Hall, Framingham. Contact: Bob Schecter at (508) 877-1670.

SF Branch Monthly Party Schedule

December, 1998 - June, 1999

Saturday, December 5, 1998

Hosting Class: Berkeley (Mon/Fri)
Alameda Masonic Temple
2312 Alameda Avenue
Alameda

Saturday, January 9, 1999

Hosting Classes: Monterey/Santa Cruz, Soquel
Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School
Waverley Street at East Meadow
Palo Alto

Saturday, March 6, 1999

Hosting Classes: Livermore/Lafayette
Alameda Masonic Temple
2312 Alameda Avenue
Alameda

Saturday, April 3, 1999

Hosting Classes: Santa Rosa/Dunsmuir
Park School
360 E. Blithedale
Mill Valley

Saturday, May 1, 1999

Hosting Classes: Stanford/Red Thistle
Mountain View Masonic Temple
840 Church Street (corner of Franklin)
Mountain View

Saturday, June 5, 1999

Hosting Classes: Teachers/Branch Committee
San Mateo Masonic Temple
100 N. Ellsworth
San Mateo

Directory Additions

Laura K Outsens (H): 415-564-1678
447 Castenada
San Francisco CA 94116-1910

Elizabeth Hamilton-Harris P (O): 408-725-8034 a
Lee Harris (O): 650-321-2183
155 California Ave G202 (H): 650-327-9856
Palo Alto CA 94306 grtscot@aol.com

Ellen C Campbell (O): 401-752-4668
271 Foreman Parkway
Providence RI 02906 ecampbell@eps.inso.com

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1022 W Knickerbocker Dr (H): 408-773-0455
Sunnyvale CA 94087 tterada@ros.com

Lisa Strouse (O): 707-545-4388
5625 Occidental Rd (H): 707-525-1029
Santa Rosa CA 95401

Sandra S Schultz (O): 510-748-6676
78 Starview Dr (H): 510-549-9224
Oakland CA 94618

Eldon W Kelley 1-800-274-3758
PO Box 2249
Redwood City CA 94064

Fred DeMarse S (O): 310-615-4107
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Edith Black (H): 925-254-2499
50 La Encinal
Orinda CA 94563

Fred Macondray T (H): 650-965-8515
111 N Rengstorff Rd #112 fred@fmacondray.com
Mountain View CA 94043

Ruth De Coux (H): 408-269-0348
2398 Westgate Ave
San Jose CA 95125

Donna M Weidenfeller (H): 415-731-6517
2421 Judah #1 dweidenfeller@hotmail.com
San Francisco CA 94122

Hilda M Gotcher S (H): 415-388-7031
745 Alta Vista Rd
Mill Valley CA 94941

Directory Changes

Jane Kelley jkelley@library.berkeley.com

Cloyd Duncan (O): 310-662-8020
(H): 310-704-2719 Sun-Thurs eves

Michael Howard (H): 925-934-1928
101 Linda Ln
Pleasant Hill CA 94523

Tom Cuthbertson Area code 831
Colleen Brokaw

Anne Miller-Bagwell annem@ssl.berkeley.edu

Dorothy Carr

by Elizabeth Busick and Gail Erwin

Reprinted, with permission, from the Sacramento Branch newsletter, *Am Feile Beag*.

Dorothy Carr began Scottish Country Dancing in 1976, under Jean Patrick, a fully certificated RSCDS teacher. She gained her own Teacher's Certificate at St. Andrews in Scotland in 1980 and enabled Sacramento to apply for branch status. After the sudden death of Jean in 1981, Dottie nurtured and expanded the Sacramento dancers. She has taught all levels of classes to children and adults in Sacramento and Stockton, and has been guest teacher at Asilomar and in Truckee, Davis, and Berkeley. Her youth classes have grown from 2 dancers in 1987 to more than 35 in 1988, with a teen/young adult demonstration team called the White Heather Dancers.

In 1986 Dottie enthused local musicians to form a band, which now plays with surrounding area musicians for our Branch parties and Balls, as well as many other Scottish events. In the same year she organized a demonstration at Sacramento's old Memorial Auditorium which combined the Sacramento and San Francisco Branches. This involved 120 dancers in formal Scottish attire, live music, a group of Highland dancers, and a Pipe Band.

Dottie chaired Sacramento Branch Workshops from 1987-92.

During this time, attendance grew upwards of 200 and included teachers from throughout the United States and Western Canada. She also organized 2 Youth Workshops in 1997 and 1998.

Dorothy has had dances published in the San Francisco Branch's books called "Let's All Dance" and "Let's All Dance, Too." She had also written booklets called "Sowing the Seeds of the Sacramento Branch 1957-1991" and "Nurturing the Seeds of the Next Generation of Scottish Country Dancers." For 12 years she set up party and Ball programs with the help of fellow teacher Bruce Herbold. She has worked with teams of adult and youth dancers as well for adjudication at Scottish Games in Santa Rosa, Dixon, Roseville and Woodland.

Since 1978 Dottie has taught Scottish Country Dancing with emphasis on the high standards of the Society, often without monetary recompense. She has devoted the last 20 years to thorough and proper teaching, as instilled and desired by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. Join us in honouring her at an open house/tea reception on Nov. 22, at the YLI, 2-4 pm.

Dottie Carr Honored

by Susan McHale

The Sacramento Branch will host a reception for member Dorothy Carr on Sunday, November 22, 1998. For her years of outstanding service to the RSCDS, Dottie has been selected to receive the Society's "Scroll of Honour." The Scroll has arrived from Scotland and will be presented during the afternoon. Friends are welcome to attend the event. For information contact Elizabeth Busick at (916) 456-9922 or Susan McHale at (916) 421-5652.

The 1999 Valentine's Ball

by Trina Merriman

The Valentine's Ball is coming up! Save the date: **February 6, 1999**. The committee, ably headed by Dwayne McQuilliams, has gathered to plan an enjoyable event for us all. Mary McQuilliams will again provide us with a midnight supper and punch. This year, we'll be using the Scottish Rite Center's in-house caterer for the first time. Trina Merriman (that's me...) will be doing publicity and decorations, with the usual wonderful help and support of Robert Sanborn. This year, the committee welcomes three new members. Cindy Sobrero, from Pleasanton, will be responsible for "hiring" all Ball personnel and registration. Diane Turechek, from San Ramon, will be our coordinator of Ball-day volunteers, making sure the willing hands are where we need them, when we need them! And Judith Sims, from San Leandro, will assist Cindy with registration. Together we have a great combination of fresh ideas and experience.

Among the many new things at this year's Ball will be a new approach to dance briefings. In this Branch, the current preference is to use the formal "no briefings" style of dance introduction at our formal balls (although in recent years this has been softened with little first-8-bar hints). After careful consideration of both the value of this tradition (It sets a nice formal tone for the Ball) and the feedback from past years regarding "no-briefings" (It is too intimidating), we will try something this year that we hope will strike a balance. In the interest of encouraging less-experienced dancers to attend and enjoy the Ball, we will plan to brief a few of the more accessible dances. *It is still expected that people come to the ball prepared and knowing the dances.* The briefing will, indeed, be brief, intending only to relax and remind ALL the dancers on the floor of the dance. At this point, we plan to brief four dances: The Happy Meeting, The Reel of the 51st Division, Miss Hadden's Reel, and The De'il Among the Tailors. These dances will be noted in the dance booklets as "To be Briefed." Any change in these plans will be communicated to teachers. We ask everyone to suspend judgment until we see how well this really works out. We DO welcome your feedback on this and any other issue, after the event.

Another new thing this year will be more active recruitment of helpers at the Ball. There are a lot of little things that need to be done, from early-in-the-day set up and decorations, to post-Ball clean up. If you would be willing to pitch in a little or a lot, please contact Diane Turechek at (510) 938-0994, and she'll set you up with a task to call your own! For dancers who have been dancing for a year or less, there is a special dancer-worker rate. You may attend the Ball for \$15.00, dance a few of the dances that you know, and spend the rest of the time enjoying watching the Ball and helping out with tasks as needed. Diane will be in touch with you, as the date draws near. (This special rate applies ONLY to first year dancers who are willing to work as needed on the day of the ball. All others should pay the regular rate.) A flyer is included in this issue of the *R & S*, and they will also be available at monthly parties in the coming months.

1999 Ball Gown Sale and Tea Party

The annual pre-Valentine's Ball tea party and ball gown swap, to be held again at Susie Langdon Kass' home, is tentatively set for Sunday, January 17, from 2:00–4:00 p.m. Tea and good food will be provided by hosts Susie Langdon Kass, Colleen Fawley, and Helena Ivatt. As we did last year, we are inviting the English Country Dancers too! Look for the flyer.

Come and join us for a good time selling, buying, trying on, or just browsing. You're sure to find some great bargains! In the past we've had fun admiring and commenting on dresses others were modeling. If you can't make it, you can still send in garments for possible sale.

The proceeds of each sale go to the seller, but the entry fees (\$3 per person) will be donated to the scholarship fund.

Susie's house has lots of space and a huge mirror. So don't get rid of that gown that doesn't fit or no longer seems to be the right color! Bring it to the Ball Gown Sale! Look for flyers with directions to Susie's house and SAVE THE DATE!

New Beginners Scottish Country Dancing Class Starting on Fridays in San Francisco!

Tell your friends and co-workers! Millberry Fitness Center at UCSF is offering a Scottish Country Dancing class for new and continuing beginners starting Friday, January 8, at 8:15 p.m. The fee is \$60 for this winter quarter, 12-week session. Bring tennis shoes or dance slippers; no street shoes are allowed in the studio. Susie Langdon Kass will teach the class. Register by mail, FAX, or in person at Millberry Fitness Center, 500 Parnassus. Call (415) 476-1115. Experienced dancers welcome, too! It's nice to have some "angels" to help out in a class for beginners. Call Susie at (415) 333-9372 for more information and directions.

A New Committee Forming

by Paula Jacobson

Asilomar as we know and love it may be changing drastically. New management has been making changes, some of which could force us to look for a new venue for our Fall Weekend (e.g., They may carpet over some of the wood floors). At the request of Anne MacIver, the Branch Committee has established a group to be headed up by Anne, and including myself, to research new ideas and places for our weekend. We are looking for more people to get involved in this venture. If you want to join us, please call or e-mail Anne or me soon (amaciver@usa.net, Paula_Jacobson@KTEH.pbs.org). We all want to stay at Asilomar for as long as possible, but we must be prepared for what may come.

Dancing in Auld Scottish Castles, Great Houses, and Assembly Rooms

by Ken McFarland

In 1988 I had a vision that it would be a highlight of my life to be able to do Scottish Country Dancing in the auld ballrooms of Scotland where it had evolved. So in 1989 I took my first group of dancers to dance there, and until 1992 many other groups followed. The idea was good enough that since then other groups have had dances at Blair Castle, such as the one described in the last *R&S*. (It was also gratifying to hear that the sightseeing and detailed land arrangements that I made for Ron and Gary's group trip to Scotland were enjoyed!)

Next summer I'm taking two groups of dancers to Scotland to dance again in beautiful old castles and ballrooms. The first group was offered to dancers who had gone on previous trips and is sold out, but there are a few evening balls that will be open to pre-booked visitors only. They are: Blair Castle, June 4th; Menzies Castle, June 5th; Haddo House (near Aberdeen), June 11th; and the Edinburgh Assembly Rooms, June 12th. Important: to attend you must book space with me in advance, please. Space is limited, is on a first-come basis, and is available by pre-booked ticket ONLY.

The second time period will be from July 24–August 8th, and will use similar ballrooms. I am in the process of making arrangements for that group now, and if you are interested in a complete Scottish Castles tour within those dates, contact me soon. Both trips will include an evening dinner and dancing at Lennoxlove House, home of the Duke and Duchess of Hamilton, as well as other historically important castles and ballrooms. Contact me for more information!

Ken McFarland

(800) 822- 3435, M-F

e-mail: farlands@ptialaska.net

Briefing Dances

by Avril Quarrie

To brief or not to brief, that is the question. Well, almost!

The Teachers' Committee is interested in hearing from dancers in the Bay Area about their preferences for briefing or no briefing of dances at formal events. This is purely for informational purposes. The choices are:

A. No briefing

B. First 8 bars only

C. Complete dance (VERY brief), e.g., Duke of Perth: Turn, cast, turn/corner, partner, corner, partner/set and turn corners/reels of three.

Please send your preference and any comments you may wish to add to Avril Quarrie at alquarrie@lbl.gov, call evenings at (510) 233-3359, or write to 6050 Monterey Avenue, Richmond, CA 94805.

In Memoriam: Charles S. McDonald

by Hilda Gotcher

Mr. Charles S. McDonald, who had been a member for many years of both the Mill Valley class and the San Francisco Branch, died on August 27, 1998, after a long struggle with cancer. In recent years his attendance at the Mill Valley class had been limited because of his illness. We will all miss Charles; he was such a kind and gentle man. It was a privilege to have known and danced with him. Charles and his wife, Louise, also danced in the Lafayette Class, prior to Louise's death some years ago, and they are remembered with fondness by some of the old timers there.

Poem

by Helena Ivatt

We grieve for the dead
 But those remaining
 Stand before the veil uncomprehending
 They have fought long and hard
 To comfort through the pain and calm the panics of fear
 And now at the moment of release
 They are shut out

They must go on alone
 But not the same
 Those who pass through fire
 Cannot come out unscathed
 Struggling to face a new life
 Infant-like at the moment of birth
 They need support
 Our help to grow back into the world
 Whether they will or no

The San Bruno International Festival

by Anne MacIver, with photos by Terry Barron

I'd like to give credit where credit is due, for although I arranged for the demonstration dancing at the San Bruno International Festival, it was the seventeen dancers who gave up their precious free time on such short notice (only a week and half) to put on a great performance. It made me very proud to be a member of this dance community.

It was Jeff Forsythe who first mentioned the possibility of

our dancing to me. I followed up with the San Bruno 21st International Festival Director. She will suggest to the San Bruno Chamber of Commerce that next year we be given a spot. I invited the Mountain View and San Jose



classes, as well as the Cairngorm Dancers to perform. Jo Hamilton, in her inimitable fashion, did a lot the hard work: she put together the program and music for the Mountain View class and Cairngorm Dancers performances, while stalwarts Martha Denning and Diana Pell put in the same effort organizing the San Jose class. But I myself have to admit responsibility for the inline skater part! I want to thank all the dancers, who are so used to courtesy and fine footwork on the dance floor, for handling the situation of dancers with "wheeled ghillies" so graciously, and efficiently using all 8 bars of music. They were marvelous!



(The audience participation dancing at the San Bruno International Festival was notable because Anne MacIver convinced a few teenagers on inline skates to join in. As far as I know, this is a first for Scottish country dancing. And

as you can see from the photos, the kids on roller blades even had pretty good turnout! —Terry Barron)

Calendar

SAT, NOVEMBER 14

Sacramento Branch Monthly Party and Potluck, 7:30 p.m., Young Ladies Institute (YLI), 27th and N Streets, Sacramento

SUN, NOVEMBER 22

Reception for Dottie Carr, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Young Ladies Institute (YLI), 27th and N Streets, Sacramento. Call organizers Elizabeth Busick at (916) 456-9922 or Susan McHale at (916) 421-5652 to find out how you can help with the event.

SAT, DECEMBER 5

December Monthly Party, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Temple, 2312 Alameda Avenue, Alameda

SAT, DECEMBER 12

Branch Committee meeting 1:00 p.m., Dan Shapiro's home, Menlo Park. Call (650) 854-3789 for more information.

SAT, DECEMBER 12

Sacramento Branch Monthly Party and Potluck, 7:30 p.m., Young Ladies Institute (YLI), 27th and N Streets, Sacramento

THURS, DECEMBER 17

San Francisco class Winter Solstice Party, 7:45 p.m., Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez, San Francisco. Call (415) 647-5176 or (415) 333-9372 for details.

SAT, DECEMBER 19

Berkeley Class Holiday Party, Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m., dancing at 8:00 p.m. Contact Heather at (510) 528-2669.

1999

FRI, JANUARY 8

Beginners Class, Millberry Fitness Center, UCSF. Fri-days 8:15-10:00 p.m. Call Susie at (415) 333-9372.

SAT, JANUARY 9

January Monthly Party, 7:30 p.m., Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School, Palo Alto

SUN, JANUARY 17

Ball Gown Sale and Tea Party, San Francisco, 2:00-4:00 p.m. For more information, call Helena at (510) 881-0133 or Susie at (415) 333-9372.

SAT, JANUARY 30

Valentine's Ball Preview Session, 1:00-5:00 p.m., Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez, San Francisco. Call Linnea at (415) 647-5176 or Susie at (415) 333-9372.

SAT, FEBRUARY 6

Valentines Ball, Scottish Rite Center, Oakland

SAT, MARCH 6

March Monthly Party, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Temple, 2312 Alameda Avenue, Alameda

SAT, APRIL 3

April Monthly Party, 7:30 p.m., Park School, 360 E. Blithedale Avenue, Mill Valley

SAT, MAY 1

May Monthly Party, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Temple, 840 Church Street, Mountain View

SAT, JUNE 5

June Monthly Party, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Temple, 100 N. Ellsworth, San Mateo

Lost and Found

I have a collection of dozens of Lost and Found items left at the Pleasanton Games tent on Sunday. I have 3 pairs of shoes, a pair of ghillies, 2 pairs of eyeglasses, 2 shirts (one I washed because it was damp), a roll of film, a notebook, 2 fans, a pin, a hat, etc.

I have gotten only 3 calls about lost stuff. I urge you to PUT YOUR NAME ON YOUR BELONGINGS!

I still have a pair of red princess pumps, size 6.5, made by Billy Forsyth, that I found at the 75th Anniversary Gala on May 30. If you think they are yours, call me and tell me where you left them, and anything else about them to identify them.

Susie Langdon Kass
415-333-9372
SusieTLK@aol.com

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLASSES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA 1998-1999 Schedule

■ SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH CLASSES

Berkeley

FRIDAYS: **Basic:** 8:00 P.M.; Grace North Church, 2138 Cedar at Walnut; **Experienced Technique:** 7:30 P.M.; **Experienced Social:** 8:00 P.M.; All Souls Episcopal Parish, 2220 Cedar at Spruce. *Call John Kadyk 510-524-7376.* Teachers: Avril Quarrie, David Quarrie, Dwayne McQuilliams.

Berkeley

NEW LOCATION **NEW DAY**

MONDAYS: **Intermediates:** 8:00 P.M.; St. Clement's Episcopal Church, 2837 Claremont Blvd. at Russell near Ashby. *Call Heather MacKay 510-528-2669.* Teacher: David Newitt & guests.

Burlingame (affiliated class)

TUESDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:00 P.M.; **Experienced:** 8:00 P.M.; Burlingame Recreation Center, 850 Howard Ave. *Call Anne MacIver 650-347-5850.* Teacher: Anne MacIver.

Lafayette

THURSDAYS: **Basic & Social:** 8:00 P.M. *Call Bill Wakeman 925-283-3908.* **Step:** Beginners: 6:00 P.M. & Experienced: 7:00 P.M. *Call Claudette Sigg 510-526-8192.* **Children's Classes** (3 levels): 6:00 P.M. *Call Kathleen McAdam 925-934-6148.* Veteran's Hall, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd. at First Street. Teachers: Eugene Bissell, Claudette Sigg, Kathleen McAdam, Cathy Bertics.

Livermore

MONDAYS: **Beginners & Intermediates:** 7:30 P.M.; *Call Gale Holladay 925-447-5771.* **Children's Class:** 6:30 P.M.; *Call Sheena MacQueen 925-447-1833.* Livermore Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street at L Street. Teachers: Sheena MacQueen, Anne MacIver.

Monterey

MONDAYS: **Beginners:** 6:30 P.M.; **Experienced:** 8:00 P.M.; Monterey Senior Center, Lighthouse & Dickman Avenues. *Call Kathy Wendell 831-663-3227 or Brian Campbell 831-656-9923.* Teachers: Sara Gratiot, Kathy Conley, Brian Campbell.

Mountain View

WEDNESDAYS: **Beginners & Intermediates:** 7:45 P.M.; Mountain View Sports Pavilion, 1185 Castro Avenue. *Call Denise Francis 510-713-7813.* Teachers: Alan Twihigg, Bruce Hamilton, Jo Hamilton, Bob McMurtry.

San Francisco

THURSDAYS: **Beginners & Experienced Social:** 8:00 P.M.; *Call Linnea Johnson 415-647-5176 or Susie Langdon Kass 415-333-9372.* Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez Street at 23rd Street. Teachers: Susie Langdon Kass, Bruce Herbold, Trina Merriman, guests.

San Francisco (affiliated class)

NEW DAY

FRIDAYS: **Beginners:** 8:15 P.M.; UCSF Millberry Fitness Center, 500 Parnassus Avenue. *Call Susie Langdon Kass 415-333-9372.* Teacher: Susie Langdon Kass. (Starts January 1999)

San Jose

NEW LOCATION

MONDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:30 P.M.; **Experienced:** 8:15 P.M. American Legion Hall, 1504 Minnesota Avenue. *Call Diana Pell 408-263-7902 or Martha Denning 408-259-2788.* Teachers: Ellen Aaron, Marianna Harvey, Liz Harris, Lin Pettingill.

Santa Cruz

THURSDAYS: **Intermediates/Beginners:** 8:00 P.M.; First Congregational Church, 900 High Street. *Call Karen MacQuarrie 831-479-1615.* Teacher: Howard Leach.

Santa Rosa

MONDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:00 P.M.; **Intermediates:** 8:15 P.M.; 1st FRIDAYS: **Advanced** (call for permission). Santa Rosa Senior Center, 704 Bennett Valley Road. *Call Emily or Derek Evans 707-874-2512.* Teachers: Gary Thomas, Ron Wallace, Emily Evans, Robert Sargent.

Soquel

FRIDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:00 P.M.; **Intermediates:** 8:15 P.M.; Soquel Grange Hall, 2800 Porter Street. *Call Mary Judd or Bob McMurtry 831-335-7459.* Teachers: Bob McMurtry, Paula Jacobson.

Stanford

TUESDAYS: **Beginners, Technique Development, & Social:** 7:30 P.M.; WEDNESDAYS: **Team:** 7:30 P.M.; J.L. Stanford Middle School, 480 East Meadow Drive. *Call Doug or Gloria McConnell 650-493-5974.* Teachers: Doug McConnell, Gloria McConnell, Juliet Davoren, Rebecca Davis, Vicki Wildman.

■ DEMONSTRATION TEAMS

Dunsmuir Scottish Dancers

TUESDAYS: **Advanced** (by invitation only): 7:30 P.M. *Call Ron Wallace 707-795-2185 or Victoria Williams 510-526-5854.* Teacher: Ron Wallace.

Red Thistle Dancers

THURSDAYS: **Advanced** (by invitation only): 8:00 P.M. *Call Jennifer Kelly 650-327-1350.* Teacher: Jennifer Kelly.

■ SACRAMENTO BRANCH CLASSES

Sacramento

FRIDAYS: **Beginners:** 6:30 P.M.; **Experienced:** 7:30 P.M. *Call James Robinson 916-369-7479.* **Technique & Demonstration Class:** MONDAYS, 7:00 P.M. *Call Carol Ann Bannell 916-457-2310.* **Youth classes:** SATURDAYS: **New** (10 yrs.-Teens): 9:00 A.M.; **Experienced:** 10:20 A.M. *Call Dottie Carr 916-922-9351.* YLI Clubhouse, 1400 27th Street. Teachers: Peggy Hamilton, Elizabeth Busick, Dottie Carr.

Stockton

WEDNESDAYS: **Experienced Social:** 7:30 P.M.; Unitarian Church, Bristol & Pacific. *Call Charles Wood 209-465-8871.* Teacher: Carolyn Hunt.

Truckee

THURSDAYS: **Basic:** 7:00 P.M.; **Intermediates:** 7:30 P.M.; Truckee-Donner Recreation Center, Church Street. *Call Nancy Wilkins 916-587-4336.* Teacher: Nancy Wilkins and guests.

S. F. Branch website:
www.rscds-sf.pair.com

■ OTHER CLASSES

Arcata

SATURDAYS: **Beginners/Intermediates:** 10:00 A.M. *Call Virginia Rumble 707-822-1854.* Teachers: class members and guest teachers.

Berkeley (North)

SUNDAYS: **Beginners/Intermediates:** 7:00 P.M. *Call to Confirm;* Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda. *Call Don or Kathy Kennedy 510-523-1397.* Teachers: Don Kennedy, Kathy Kennedy.

Merced

WEDNESDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:00 P.M.; Merced College. *Call Barry Lewis 209-892-5229.* Teacher: Barry Lewis.

Mill Valley

FRIDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:30 P.M.; **Experienced Social:** 8:15 P.M.; Almonte Hall, Wisteria Way at Almonte. *Call Mike Hird or Margbie Goff 415-884-2716.* Teacher: Margbie Goff, guests.

Rancho Cordova, Roseville, Grass Valley

MONDAYS: Grass Valley; WEDNESDAYS: Roseville; THURSDAYS: Rancho Cordova. **Beginners/Experienced:** 7:30 P.M. *Call Ed Johnston 916-622-1519.* Teacher: Ed Johnston.

Reno, Nevada

NEW LOCATION

MONDAYS: **Beginners/Experienced:** 7:00 P.M.; New location: TBA. *Call Martha Norrie 702-829-8680.* Teacher: Martha Norrie, guests.

St. Helena

WEDNESDAYS: **Beginners/Experienced:** 7:30 P.M.; First Presbyterian Church, 1428 Spring Street. *Call Charlotte Williamson 707-965-2256.* Teacher: Ron Wallace.

San Leandro/Hayward area

TBA. *Call Ailya Rose 650-424-3876.* Teacher: TBA

Tracy

NEW LOCATION

TUESDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:30 P.M.; Joe Wilson Recreation Center, 1141 Adam Street. *Call Carolyn Hunt 925-443-7471.* Teacher: Carolyn Hunt.

■ STEP DANCING CLASSES

Palo Alto

TUESDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:00 P.M., Carriage House, Atherton; THURSDAYS: **Intermediates:** 7:00 P.M.; **Experienced:** 8:00 P.M.; FRIDAYS: **Twosome:** 7:30 P.M.; St. Mark's Church, 600 Colorado Avenue. *Call Jo Hamilton 650-328-0474.* Teacher: Jo Hamilton.

Petaluma

2nd SUNDAYS: **Scottish Step & Cape Breton:** 12:00 NOON; Hermann Sons Hall, 860 Western Avenue. *Call Ron Wallace 707-795-2185.* Teacher: Ron Wallace.

Step classes are held also in **Monterey, Sacramento, Stockton** and **Santa Rosa.** *Call Jo Hamilton 650-328-0474 or Ron Wallace 707-795-2185 for information.*

← CHANGES DUE BY

DECEMBER 5

CONTACT: SUSIE AT 415-333-9372
SUSIETLK@AOL.COM

S.F. BRANCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS 98-99

If you have any concerns about the S. F. Branch, or would like to attend a Branch Committee (Board of Directors) meeting, please contact one of the members. Branch Committee meetings are usually held in the afternoon before Monthly Parties.

Susie Langdon Kass, **CHAIR, PUBLICITY, R & S CLASS LISTS**: 415-333-9372, SusieTLK@aol.com (97-99 term)
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Larry Wakeman: 925-676-1058, lwakeman@clarify.com (98-00)
Patti Cobb: 415-826-2287, patticobb@aol.com (98-99—remainder of Eileen Hsu's term)

OTHER RSCDS-S. F. BRANCH VOLUNTEERS

you may want to contact:

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EDITOR, REEL & STRATHSPEYPER (S.F. Branch Newsletter): Victoria Williams: 1224 Peralta Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94706; 510-526-5854, victoria@uclink.berkeley.edu
MONTHLY PARTIES: Mary Tindall: 707-878-2539, MTINDALL@aol.com new coordinator needed
MUSIC FOR MONTHLY PARTIES: Andy Imbrie, 408-246-9495, andy-sheryl@mindspring.com
BOOKSTORE: Jane Muirhead: 510-782-0519, jane@stat.berkeley.edu
BRANCH ARCHIVES: Virginia Bissell: 925-837-9483
TEACHERS' COMMITTEE CHAIR: David Quarrie 510-233-3359, drquarrie@lbl.gov
MONTHLY PARTY PROGRAMMING CONTINUITY PERSON: Alan Twigg: 650-962-1939, alant@net.com
TEACHER TRAINING TUTOR: Ron Wallace: 707-795-2185, 103020.3161@compuserve.com (New class: Fall 98)
CLASS MANAGERS' COMMITTEE COORDINATOR: *Marva Morris: 408-255-9648, dhmorris@best.com*
INSURANCE CONTACT: Nancy Page, 510-835-5853, Fax: 510-839-5417, NPageLaw@aol.com
PUBLICITY: Susie Langdon Kass: 415-333-9372; Sandy Welsh: 408-453-7418; **FOR CLASSES**: Class Managers
SCHOLARSHIPS: Paula Jacobson: 831-688-8295, Paula_Jacobson@KTEH.PBS.ORG; Moira Theriault: 408-370-6310, gr8scot@earthlink.net; Alastair Brown: 510-222-0871, alastair@centum.com
WEBSITE MANAGER: Greg Reznick: 510-484-2629, greg@reznickfamily.com
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WEEKEND WORKSHOP AT ASILOMAR: Anne MacIver: 650-347-5850, amaciver@usa.net
VALENTINES BALL: Dwayne McQuilliams, Mary McQuilliams: 415-902-3902, boldmary@aol.com; Trina Merriman: 415-759-1916; Cindy Sobrero: 510-417-0739; Diane Turechek: 925-867-8776; Judy Sims: 510-613-0606.
PLEASANTON GAMES DANCE (Jean Patrick Memorial Dance): Larry Wakeman: 925-676-1058, lwakeman@clarify.com
SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES: Campbell (June): ??? new coordinator needed; Oakland/Dunsmuir House (July): Sara Weaver: 415-648-1464; Monterey (August): Sara Gratiot: 408-384-4783, SEGratiot@aol.com; Pleasanton (Labor Day Weekend): Doug McConnell: 514-493-5974; Loch Lomond (October): Bob McMurtry: 408-335-7459; Information tents: Susie Langdon Kass: 415-333-9372. Other games: Sacramento (April); Incline (July); Modesto (June).

Revised October 1998 • SLK

The Reel & Strathspey is a bi-monthly publication of the San Francisco Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, a nonprofit educational organization. Annual subscription is \$6.00, third class mail. Add \$3 for 1st class. For changes of address, please contact Gene Bissell, 101 Via Lucia, Alamo, CA 94507.

The editor reserves the right to alter or edit any material submitted for publication for reasons of taste, space, style or clarity. All materials for publication should be submitted on diskette in a word processing format, or sent by e-mail prior to the deadline (the 1st of even-numbered months). Exceptions will be made for last-minute notices, or on a space-available basis, when the editor is notified prior to the deadline.

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Design & Production Mary Margaret Judd

Distribution Robert Behling, Alan Kaplan,

Hildegard Klee, Taylor Mayes, Anne Miller-Bagwell, Bob Sholtz,

Victoria Williams & Helen Wood

JMH fecit 10/25/98

Next deadline: December 1, 1998

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