



Doings in the South

by Jo Hamilton

Summer is over and classes have begun. All the new dancers have been learning the figures and footwork that make up SCD, and from all accounts having a great time at it, too. The first Monthly party of the year has passed and with it came the first chance for new dancers to experience the fun, great music, social camaraderie and good food of the San Francisco Branch.

The Summer games have passed and a heart-felt "Thank You!" to Diana Pell, Sparky Gregory, Sara Gratiot, Doug McConnell and ALL the stage personnel who made the Scottish Country Dance presence at the games in the South Bay so much fun for all of us. The dancers appreciate all the time you spent in organizing the days so we could all dance, making sure that we all had tickets, setting up and taking down the stage, and all the little extras like convenient places to change clothes and relax. Many thanks too to Larry Wakeman and his helpers for making the Jean Patrick Dance a memorable evening.

Summer was not only the time for local Highland games but also for the Royal Scottish Country Dance Summer School at St. Andrews in Scotland. Congratulations to Paula Jacobson, who received her Teacher's Certificate, and Eileen Hsu (now in Seattle but here in our hearts), who received her Preliminary Teacher's Certificate this summer. Paula was also able to travel around Ireland and to attend the world Pipe Band Competition, which she described as outstanding! You can ask her for more details. She and Eileen were also able to visit with Alec and Eleane Tweedly while they were over on "the other side of the pond." (This reporter understands that Alec and Eleane will be in the Bay area for a while this Fall. We look forward to their visit!)

Many dancers in the South Bay took off for far reaches this summer. Ginger and Ian Harris were in Scotland, as were Olivier Lechenne and Catherine Williams. David Graves and Carol Ann Krug Graves went castle-hopping in Scotland with Ken McFarland's group, while Michael Suckow missed Pleasanton to be at his Dad's birthday in Switzerland. Jim Lyle saw the last eclipse of this century when he was in France. Denise and Elheran Francis spent time at the Gaelic Summer School on Cape Breton Island, along with Gayle Koyanagi (now in Maine but we wish she were still here). Pat Lowers was flying (literally) all over the country in several air races and she also visited family in Florida. Karen Busch had a wonderful holiday in Italy. While in Maine at a clambake this summer, Jo and Bruce Hamilton met up with former Bay Area dancers Kim Jacobs and Bob Kline who send greetings to friends here. It was fun to listen to all the exciting travel adventures.

The draw of Port Townsend and the Fort Worden Workshop was undeniable for many dancers. Tom and Karen Reid took their time driving their camper up to the workshop, while Alan Twhigg, Elheran and Denise Francis, Jim and Catherine Eick, Bob and Mary McMurtry, Terry Barron and Dave Gord, Alex and Marianna Harvey, made their way to the workshop by other means. Gayle

Koyanagi, Dave and Joanne Hanna, Jeff and Mary Tindall and Eileen Hsu also came from their far-flung new homes. Sara Gratiot was there, too, as a member of the teaching staff. Jim and Catherine Eick left for a week in Hawaii to rest and recuperate from the workshop. What a way to go!

We are so happy to welcome Ellen Campbell back to the Bay area dance scene, from the East Coast. We are also pleased to report that Bob McMurtry's Strathspey "Fiddle Sound" won the Silver Anniversary competition at the Fort Worden workshop. The dance is set to the strathspey "Earl Gaddis" by Muriel Johnstone. Congratulations, Bob!

If you are staying in the Bay area and don't have anything to do the Wednesday evening (November 24) before Thanksgiving, come and join Lyle Ramshaw, John Taylor and the Mountain View Class at the Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Esceula Ave. Work off a few calories to make room for the ones you will put back on the next day!

The South Bay classes are getting plans in gear for the December Monthly party. They have placed a booking for a visit from the jolly one and Heaven only knows what else!



Strathspey deviser Bob McMurtry

The Editor and Production Staff of the *Reel & Strathspey* apologize for the late delivery of this edition. This was occasioned by the death of Mike Hird's father, and Mike's need to return to England, to attend the funeral, and to offer support to his mother. We apologize for any inconvenience this delay may have caused.

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save the date...save the date...save the date... save the date

You are cordially invited to attend the 34th Annual

Valentine's Ball

Hosted by the
Royal Scottish Country
Dance Society
San Francisco Branch

To be Held

Saturday, February 5, 2000

at the Scottish Rite Temple

1547 Lakeside Drive
Oakland, California

Sherry reception 7:00 p.m.
Grand March 7:30 p.m.

Music by Wild Rose

Buffet to Follow

Branch Scholarships

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

2000 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 Saturday, January 15, 2000, 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!

Lost and Found

I have lots of Lost and Found items from the Pleasanton Games. I put them out at the October Monthly Party. Most items were not claimed. They will be put out again at the next Monthly Party and at Asilomar. After that they will be given away if not claimed. The items include:

- Sun hat
- T-shirt
- Ghillies
- Eyeglasses/sunglasses
- Other items

To claim any of the lost items contact:

Susie Langdon Kass
25 Vista Verde Court
San Francisco, CA 94131
415-333-9372

Help wanted!

Branch Committee Nominations

The nominating committee will soon be recruiting members to run for election to the Branch Committee, our Branch "Board of Directors" or "Executive." Four members will be elected in May for a two-year term. If you would be interested in serving on the board, or could suggest someone else, please let us know. Contact me at susielk@itsa.ucsf.edu, or at 415-333-9372.

To find out more about the Branch Committee, why not go to a meeting? All RSCDS-SF Branch members are welcome at Branch Committee meetings. The committee usually meets at about 2:00 in the afternoon of monthly party days. Call a Committee member to find out the location.

Susie Langdon Kass, for the Nominating committee.



MONTHLY PARTIES

DECEMBER MONTHLY PARTY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1999
J. L. Stanford Middle School
 480 East Meadow, Palo Alto

Dance	Level	Type	Source
Persuasion	B	8x32 J3	LAD Too/Sigg
Casting Glances+	I	8x32 S2	Wilson leaflet
Polharrow Burn+	A	5x32 R5	Glendarroch/ Foss
The Rakes of Glasgow	B	8x32 S3	11/11
The Starry Eyed Lassie	I	8x32 J3	23/11
Mr. Hamilton's Hornpipe	I	8x32 H3	Goldring leaflet
Glasgow Lasses	I	8x32 S2	34/3
The Wee Cooper of Fife	A	8x40 J2	Foss/Song Tunes
Frae A' the Airts+	I	8x32 M3	RSCDS Leaflet 8
The Barmkin	B/I	88 R4	Goldring/24 Graded & Social
Linton Ploughman+	B	8x32 J2	5/6
Foxhill Court	A	8x32 S3	Drewry/Cana dian
Barley Bree	B	4x40 J4	13/4
Greig's Pipes+	I	8x32 S3	2/8
The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh+	I	8x40 R3	39/7
+ New this month			

JANUARY MONTHLY PARTY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2000
Temple Methodist United Church
 1111 Junipero Serra, San Francisco

Dance	Level	Type	Source
Cutty Sark+	B	8x32 J3	40/2
The Braes of Mellinish+	I	8x32 S2	25/12
Jennifer's Jig+	A	8x32 J3	Drewry/Silver City
Greig's Pipes	I	8x32 S3	2/8
The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh	I	8x40 R3	39/7
Linton Ploughman	B	8x32 J2	5/6
Frae A' the Airts	I	8x32 M3	RSCDS Leaflet 8
Polharrow Burn	A	5x32 R5	Glendarroch/ Foss
The Rakes of Glasgow	B	8x32 S3	11/11
The Saltire Society Reel+	I	8x32 R3	RSCDS Leaflet 9
Mr. Hamilton's Hornpipe	I	8x32 H3	Goldring leaflet
Casting Glances	I	8x32 S2	Wilson leaflet
Persuasion	B	8x32 J3	LAD Too/Sigg
Jim Dougal of Eyemouth+	A	3x32 S3	Ladies of Dunse Book
The Barmkin	B	88 R4	Goldring/24 Graded & Social
+ New this month			

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.

Admission:	
New Dancers, with coupon from teacher	\$2
Members	\$6
Non-members	\$8
Non-members: please join the Branch! You can join now as an affiliate member (January to May) for \$9.00. You get the <i>R & S</i> , lower Party fees, help the Branch meet insurance requirements, and support the organization. Membership forms are available from your class manager, or at Monthly Parties.	

MONTHLY PARTY SCHEDULE

December, 1999 – June, 2000

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4 JL Stanford Middle School 480 East Meadow PALO ALTO	HOSTING CLASSES: Mountain View, Stanford & San Jose
SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2000 Temple United Methodist Church 1111 Junipero Serra SAN FRANCISCO	HOSTING CLASSES: San Francisco & Burlingame
SATURDAY, MARCH 4 Anthony Chabot School 6686 Chabot Road OAKLAND	HOSTING CLASSES: Berkeley Monday & Friday
SATURDAY, APRIL 1 Park School 360 Blythedale Ave MILL VALLEY	HOSTING CLASSES: Santa Rosa & Dunsmuir
SATURDAY, MAY 6 Masonic Temple 100 N. Ellsworth SAN MATEO	HOSTING CLASSES: Stanford & General Membership
SATURDAY, JUNE 3 Soquel Grange Hall 2800 Porter Street SOQUEL	HOSTING CLASSES: Monterey, Santa Cruz & Soquel

Red Thistle Report: Winter into Fall

by Sue Anderson

The Red Thistle Dancers had an unusually busy summer, and the pace is still steady moving into the fall.

The weekend of June 25–27 found us at the San Francisco Palace of Fine Arts for our performance as part of the annual Ethnic Dance Festival. Friday night’s performance contained an added bit of drama when we arrived to find the theater in complete darkness, due to a local power outage. While the powers-that-be dithered about whether to cancel the show and move it to Sunday evening, dance members finished sewing last seams and buttons in place. Power was restored quite literally at the last moment, and Red Thistle opened the show only ten minutes after the scheduled time, having compressed make-up, costuming, and warm-ups considerably!

The event marked the debut of new and colorful men’s vests, as worn by our musicians Michael Bentley, Lyle Ramshaw, and David Strong. Fiddler Janet Kurnick and singer Valerie Thompson looked great too! Many thanks to the organizational and stitchery talents of our costume manager, Cecilia Grote!

Rather than take a perhaps well-earned rest, we plunged into rehearsal for a full-length program at the Capitola Theater for the Performing Arts. This is quite a leap from a ten-minute spot, but director Jennifer Kelly more than met the challenge, supported and assisted by what seemed to be a cast of thousands. The August 21 performance was to a sell-out audience, and included the talents not only of Red Thistle but also Cairngorm (ladies step), White Heather (Cape Breton), Piedmont Highland, Knotwork, Mantis, master storyteller Tom Cuthbertson, and our wonderful musicians (Michael, Janet, Lyle, David, and Valerie). Bruce Herbold was our excellent MC and intermission auctioneer, and his new wife, Patti, managed the lighting on very short notice!

Special thanks are due to Paula Jacobson for her production management skills, and to Gordon Deeg for superb stage management. Accolades also to Gordon and wife Kamrin MacKnight for the tent, which was set up in the parking lot, and saved our lives by providing nearly all of our “backstage” space. Within this tent, Rosemary Thorne was our efficient backstage mom, keeping track of who needed to change into what and when, while upstairs in tiny quarters near the old projection booth, Kay Thorne and crew managed make-up. Thanks to Cecilia and assorted assistant stitchers, this time all the men had new vests!

Upcoming fall events include completion of our second video and two weddings: one of Bradley Hobbs to Sara Weaver, and the other of musician Michael Bentley to east coast fiddler Susan Worland—they met last summer on the dance trip in Norway!

Scottish Dancing

in

Celtic Ireland

April 29 to May 12, 2000

with great live music by

Terpsichore:

- Elke Baker
- Liz Donaldson
- Ralph Gordon
- Marty Taylor

Organized and hosted by
Ken McFarland
(800) 822-3435
(907) 456-7556
(907) 456-7558 Fax
farlands@ptialaska.net

Playing Music for Scottish Country Dancing

A workshop with Barbara McOwen
For fiddlers, pianists, and other musicians

Saturday, March 4, 2000
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Workshop musicians will use their newly learned skills to play for one set of the Monthly Party Saturday evening.
Location: Anthony Chabot School, 6686 Chabot Road, Oakland, CA

Registration is \$35 and includes lunch and entrance to Monthly Party.

For information and registration form, contact Pat Lowers at 408-257-2294 or plowers@pacbell.net

Help Wanted! Volunteer needed for Publicity Committee

The Publicity Committee is looking for a publicist to handle media coverage. Do you have experience doing press releases? Are you self-motivated? Love to do something for Scottish Country Dancing? Then please consider helping to recruit new dancers by volunteering for this job.

The Committee seeks coverage of SCD and classes in local and Bay Area newspapers, magazines, and radio and TV. Please send in photos to be used in press releases or on displays. Class managers are encouraged to send notices to local and neighborhood publications.

The Committee would like to send press releases to area-wide publications and magazines such as *Sunset* and *CSAA Magazine*. Writers and photographers are encouraged to submit material to the committee for such use.

Please call Susie Langdon Kass to volunteer or to suggest someone who might be able to help. 415-333-9372.

New beginners Scottish Country Dancing Class starts in San Francisco on Sundays!

Tell your friends and co-workers! Millberry Recreation and Fitness Center at UCSF is offering a Scottish Country Dancing class for new and continuing beginners starting Sunday, January 9, 2000 at 6:15 p.m. The fee is \$60 for the 12-week winter quarter session. Bring tennis shoes or dance slippers; no street shoes are allowed in the studio. The class will be taught by Susie Langdon Kass. Register by mail, fax, or in person at Millberry Recreation and 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 Children's Ball

by Kathleen McAdam, as submitted to RSCDS Headquarters

In May of this year, the Lafayette class of the San Francisco Branch sponsored the very first Children's Ball ever held in California!

Sixty-five dancers, aged 7-19, took part in a lively program of traditional dances, responding with great enthusiasm to the fantastic music of the Andy Imbrie Ensemble. The Lafayette class was delighted to welcome dancers from Sacramento, Livermore, and Berkeley.

The afternoon began with a Grand March, leading into the *Dashing White Sergeant*, followed by fourteen well-loved favourites. The highlight of the afternoon was undoubtedly *The Reel of the 51st Division*. Even after a full encore, there were still calls of "Again, again!"

Once the dancing was over, the children all pitched in enthusiastically to help set up the tables for tea. And no wonder! Who could resist the wonderful array of scones, sausage rolls, lemon tarts, Dundee Cake, Helensburgh toffee, etc., all provided by a committee of parents and adult dancers.

Perhaps the success of the day was summed up best by two young dancers, who, as they were leaving asked, "Can we have another Ball next month?"

WWW Teacher's Resource

by Mike Hird

Alan Paterson's DanceData database is a most useful source of information related to Scottish Country Dancing. It contains a wealth of entries describing dances, tunes, people, publications, recordings and albums, all interconnected.

A free-standing version, allowing complex queries of the database, is available from Alan Paterson's website, www.scottap.com/dancedata. The application is for Windows 95/98/NT only, and is downloadable from the website. It's fairly large, about 5.2 mb. Alternatively, the database can be queried directly on the 'Net by using the WWW search engine at www.tm.informatik.uni-frankfurt.de:8000/dd/.

New Teachers' Pack

The Teachers' Committee has put together a **packet** of useful information for new teachers, whether they are newly qualified or have just moved to the Bay area. The packet contains a welcome letter and other information, including information on classes in the area, a copy of the Branch Newsletter, the monthly party schedule for the year, a class manager/contact list, a Branch membership application form and the TAC (Teachers Association of Canada) application form.

If you are interested in receiving this packet, or know of a teacher who has just moved to the area, please get in touch with the Teachers Committee Chair, David Quarrie, drquarrie@lbl.gov.

Letters from Edinburgh, written in the years 1774 and 1775, containing some observations on the diversions, customs, manners, and laws of the Scotch Nation, during a six months residence in Edinburgh by Captain Edward Topham.

Respectfully submitted by Ken McFarland

Letter 32, "On the Scotch Dances," written to Mrs. F——r at Bath, April 30, 1775

Dear Madam,

If you have been informed that the Scotch dance well, I beg that you will retain your favorable opinion of them, without asking for mine, for on this point I am by no means partial to them. The Dances of this country are entirely void of grace, which appears to me to be the first principle, unless we consider it, as the savages do, merely as an exercise.

The general Dance here is a Reel, which requires that particular sort of step to dance properly, of which none but people of the [this] country can have any idea. All the English whom I have seen attempt it were very deficient in their imitations, and though the Scotch were too polite openly to laugh at them, they saw and felt the ridicule of grown gentlemen learning to dance.

The perseverance which the Scotch Ladies discover in these reels is not less surprising than their attachment to them in preference to all others. They will sit totally unmoved at the most sprightly airs of an English Country Dance, but the moment one of these tunes is played (which is liquid laudanum to my spirits), up they start, animated with new life, and you would imagine they had received an electric shock or been bit by a tarantula. A lady, who for half an hour before, has sat groaning under the weight of a large hoop and a corpulent habit of body, the instant one of these tunes is applied to her ear shall bounce off her seat and frisk and fly about the room to the great satisfaction of all the spectators.

These tunes were originally performed on the bagpipe, but you will naturally be surprised how so drowsy an instrument should be capable of inspiring such uncommon ardour. The effect which these national Dances have, and the partiality which many nations discover for them, is certainly a matter of great surprise to a stranger. An ingenious writer says, "That the fury and violence which the Spaniards discover in dancing the Fandango, the original dance of their country, can only be compared to the fire and eagerness of the Italian horses before the barrier is let down for their running. This violence, making an allowance for the different heat of the different climates, is equally discoverable in the Scotch."

The young people in England, you know, only consider Dancing as an agreeable means of bringing them together, and was not gallantry to be of the party, I am afraid we should most of us think it a very stupid sort of a meeting. But the Scotch admire the Reel for its own merit alone, and may truly be said to dance for the sake of Dancing. I have often sat a very wearied spectator of one of these Dances, in which not one graceful movement is seen, the same invariably, if continued for hours. How different is this from the Allemande! A Scotchman comes into an assembly-room as he would into a field of exercise, dances till he is literally tired, possibly without ever looking at his partner, or almost knowing who he dances with. In most countries the men have a partiality for dancing

with a woman, but here I have frequently seen four gentlemen perform one of these Reels seemingly with the same pleasure and perseverance as they would have done had they had the most sprightly girl for a partner. The Reel is the only thing which gives them pleasure: if the figure is formed, it appears, no matter with what, and they give you the idea that they could with equal glee cast off round a joint stool, or set to a corner cupboard.

Another of the national Dances is a kind of quick minuet, or what the Scotch call a Straspae. We in England are said to walk a minuet: this is galloping a minuet. The French one is esteemed by all the people at the Opera, as peculiarly elegant and affording the greatest opportunity possible for a fine woman to display her figure to advantage. In this [dance] of the Scotch, however, every idea of grace seems inverted, and the whole is a burlesque; nothing of the minuet is preserved except the figure. The step and the time most resemble a hornpipe, and I leave you to dwell upon the picture of a gentleman full dressed, and a lady in a hoop [skirt], lappets, and every other encumbrance of ornament, dancing a hornpipe before a large assembly.

To those who may be fond of these dances what I have said will be called prejudice. I flatter myself you will not think so, for I should esteem myself infinitely below your regards, could I be carried away by so ridiculous a passion upon any subject, much less upon such a one as this, where one may truly say, "Le Jeu ne vaut pas la Chandelle."

But without any partiality to our own or any other country, I shall not hesitate to say, the Scotch dance more ungracefully than any other people I have yet seen. The Swiss, who dance naturally in the most graceful style imaginable: two young peasants with no other ornaments but cheerful, healthy looks and sprightly countenances, shall discover in a little rural Allemande as many expressive and striking attitudes, as many fine inclinations of figure, as would be applauded on a stage. The Scotch however have nothing but their enthusiasm and activity to recommend them. It is not civility to attempt to show them anything new: they hold their dances sacred and will bear no innovation on that point. Cotillions, and other French dances, have not traveled so far north, and you may tell them (for I suppose you are at present in the midst of them) that they might as well stay where they are.

The ladies however, to do them justice, dance much better than the men. But I once had the honour of being witness to a reel in the highlands where the party consisted of three maiden ladies, the youngest of whom was above fifty, which was conducted with gestures so uncouth and a vivacity so hideous, that you would have thought they were acting some midnight ceremonies or even enchanting the moon.

The gravest men here, with the exception of the ministers, think it no disgrace to dance. I have seen a professor who has argued most learnedly and most widely in a morning, forgetting all his gravity in an evening and dance away to the best of his abilities.

The lower class of people here are as fond of dancing as their betters: they have their little parties and private rooms, where they indulge themselves in this pleasure and frequently when the labours and fatigues of the day are over, they refresh themselves by a Dance. This is an odd custom, but they are not singular in it: a French Peasant does just the same.

I have exceeded the usual bounds of a letter and it is full time to

put an end to this. I am much afraid (to use a common expression), "That I have led you such a dance," and you will not wish to hear from me again soon. I owe you more than I can express to you when I remember that in the midst of gaiety and diversion and surrounded by admirers, you could find time to cast a thought upon a man who is at present four hundred miles from you. If I can be happy enough in future to give you any more information on subjects more calculated to entertain you, it will in reality be conferring a pleasure on me in the opportunity it will afford of perusing your letters.

I have the honour to be, Dear Madam, etc.

Learning the Grace and Elegance of Scottish Dancing

by Lori Farrell and Michael Howard

Imagine attending a Scottish ball. You have been looking forward to this dance for weeks. The delicate notes of your favorite strathspey waft through the air, mingling with the fragrant aroma of orange blossoms set in vases around the room. The floor is filled with classmates, acquaintances from other branches, and strangers with whom you are eager to dance. You find a partner and line up for a dance that you have practiced, know, and enjoy. As you and your partner dance down the middle and back, you notice that your partner is watching dancers in a set across the room. Or staring at the back wall. Or talking to someone along the side of the set. Suddenly, a beautiful dance has lost its luster and become just a group of steps.

Now imagine the same figure in the same dance. This time, your partner is turned slightly toward you, paying attention to you, perhaps even smiling. When you return to top of the set, your partner deftly guides you back to the sideline. If you are the gentleman, your partner graciously accepts your guidance as she returns to place. What was an ordinary, everyday dance movement has become a delightful partnership between two dancers.

The art of dancing with your partner, not just dancing the same steps in the same set with them, was the focus of Berkeley's Grace and Elegance class this summer. For eleven weeks, teacher Fred Macondray drilled us on various aspects of Scottish dancing. Some weeks, the emphasis was on phrasing: phrasing four-bar turns, phrasing grand chains, and the challenge of phrasing a four-bar rights and left figure. Other weeks, we practiced allemandes: graceful and sweeping for a strathspey, or quick as a whip for a reel. In all of these figures, the emphasis was on teamwork, both with our partner and with the other dancers in our set.

Footwork, of course, could not be overlooked. Fred dissected the pas-de-basque, skip-change-of-step, and strathspey setting and traveling steps as part of the warm-up and to develop our technique. Most of us are accustomed to learning these steps from many teachers. But few of us were prepared for the dreaded "Track 13," a strathspey that seems to run about as slow as molasses in January. Ouch!

As a special treat, Fred devoted the last fifteen minutes of class to waltzing. What a thrill it was to learn the secret of such an elegant dance! But what a challenge to keep up with the beautiful but quick

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CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Mountain View Class Thanksgiving Party, 7:45 p.m., Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela, Mountain View.
Call (510) 713-7813 or (650) 365-5574 for more information.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

December Monthly party, 7:30 p.m., Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School, 480 East Meadow, Palo Alto.
Hosting classes: Mountain View, Stanford & San Jose.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

Berkeley 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.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11-12

Austin (TX) St. Andrews Ball Weekend at Texas Federation of Women's Clubs, 24th and San Gabriel. Music by John Taylor and Andy Imbrie.
Contact Ari Pettigrew, 512-451-7420, apettig42@aol.com.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

London (ON) Christmas 1999-Celebrating the Millennium at RSCDS London Canada Branch, The Great Hall, University of Western Ontario.
Contact Bill Crawford, 519-453-1336, WCrawford@fanshawec.on.ca.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

Winter Solstice Party, 7:45 p.m., Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez at 23rd Street, San Francisco. Music: David Strong and friends. Save the date; look for the flyer!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1999

Vancouver (BC) Millennium Hogmanay Celebration at Mickey McDougall Recreation Centre, 123 East 23rd Street, North Vancouver. Contact Denise Cunningham, 604-261-0162, fax 604-261-2118, stewartc@bc.sympatico.ca; or Fran Caruth, 604-224-6838, fax 604-224-6834, acaruth@axionet.com. <http://www.intergate.ca/personal/angelag/>.
Pawling (NY) Holiday Hills, Pawling, NY. Music by Bobby Brown & the Scottish Accent. Contact: Mary Zagami, 718-823-0119, mzagami@aol.com

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2000

Dunsmuir Scottish Dancers perform at the Julia Morgan Center in Berkeley. Look for the flyers!!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8

January Monthly party, 7:30 p.m., Temple United Methodist Church, 1111 Junipero Serra, San Francisco.
Hosting classes: San Francisco & Burlingame.

FRIDAY-MONDAY, JANUARY 14-17

Mt. Cardigan (NH) Ski & SCD Weekend AMC Cardigan Lodge. Contact Lance Ramshaw, 978-371-8030.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

Mercer Island (WA) Burns Night Celebration at Congregational Church of Mercer Island, 4545 Island Crest Way. Contact Elizabeth Miller, 206-782-8345, brmiller@gte.net, or Elinor Vandegrift, 425-488-7643. <http://www.SeattleRSCDS.org>.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9

"Cupid's Bow", a Valentines Ball preview, hosted by the Mountain View Class, 7:45 p.m. Call (510) 713-7813 or (650) 365-5574 for location.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

Music Workshop with Barbara McOwen. Contact Pat Lowers at 408-257-2294 or plowers@pacbell.net.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

"Ides of March" party, hosted by Mountain View Class, 7:45 p.m., Mountain View Sports Pavilion, Castro and Miramonte in Mountain View. Call (510) 713-7813 or (650) 365-5574 for more information.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

Mountain View Class final party, 7:00 p.m., King's Head Pub, Campbell. Call (510) 713-7813 or (650) 65-5574 for more information.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 14, 21, 28

Dancing in Rinconada Park, Palo Alto, hosted by the Mountain View Class, from about 7:00 p.m. 'til dark. Call (510) 713-7813 or (650) 365-5574 for more information.

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music, to keep your feet from tangling with your partner's, and, most importantly, to keep from getting dizzy!

Overall, the class was very successful. We learned so much, and had a good time doing it. Thank you, Fred, for making this possible!

Watch the announcement flyers. We hope to offer another Grace and Elegance class this winter, at All Soul's Church on Fridays before the social class.

✂ Cut out to fit inside Branch directory ✂

Directory Amendments, November/December 1999

ADDITIONS

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Jerry & Eve Lubin S evelu@earthlink.net

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RSCDS-S.F. BRANCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS 1999-2000

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.

Larry Wakeman, **CHAIR**: 925-676-1058, lwakeman@clarify.com (98-00)

Paula Jacobson, **VICE CHAIR, SCHOLARSHIPS**: 831-688-8295, Paula_Jacobson@KTEH.PBS.ORG (99-01)

Alastair Brown, **TREASURER, SCHOLARSHIPS**: 510-222-0871, alastair@centum.com (98-00)

Nancy Page, **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**: 510-835-5853, Fax: 510-839-5417, (no email) (98-00)

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Jim Pell, **INSURANCE**: 408-263-7902, jimpell@sjm.infi.net (99-01)

Dan Shapiro, **SCHOLARSHIPS**: 650-854-3789, dgs@leland.stanford.edu (98-00)

Patti Cobb: 415-826-2287, patticobb@aol.com (99-01)

Miriam Mueller: 415-648-6062, mimimueller@juno.com (99-01)

OTHER RSCDS-S. F. BRANCH VOLUNTEERS

you may want to contact:

MEMBERSHIP/DIRECTORY/CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Eugene Bissell: 101 Via Lucia, Alamo, CA 94507; 925-837-9483

REEL & STRATHSPEYPER (S.F. Branch Newsletter), **EDITOR**: Victoria Williams: 1224 Peralta Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94706; 510-526-5854, victoria@uclink.berkeley.edu. **PRODUCTION**: Mike Hird: mikehird@best.com

MONTHLY PARTIES COORDINATOR: George Gates: 925-709-1046, dancingfool56@home.com;

ASSISTANT COORDINATOR: Linda Baptiste: 510-886-5947, landwork@home.com

MUSIC FOR MONTHLY PARTIES: Andy Imbrie, 408-246-9495, andy-sherryl@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. • *New teacher's information packet.*

MONTHLY PARTY PROGRAMMING CONTINUITY PERSON: Alan Twhigg: 650-962-1939, alant@net.com

TEACHER TRAINING TUTOR: To be determined.

CLASS MANAGERS' COMMITTEE COORDINATOR: Marva Morris: 408-255-9648, dhmorris@best.com

CHILDREN'S CLASSES LIASION: Kathleen McAdam: 925-934-6148

INSURANCE CONTACT: Jim Pell: 408-263-7902, jimpell@sjm.infi.net

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: Susie Langdon Kass: 415-333-9372, susielk@itsa.ucsf.edu; for classes: Class Managers.

Volunteer publicist needed! Please call Susie.

CLASSES LIST & VOLUNTEERS LIST (R & S): Susie Langdon Kass: 415-333-9372, susielk@itsa.ucsf.edu

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510-222-0871, alastair@centum.com; Dan Shapiro: 650-854-3789, dgs@leland.stanford.edu

WEBSITE MANAGER: Greg Reznick: 925-484-2629, greg@reznickfamily.com, Website: www.rscds-sf.org

WEEKEND WORKSHOP AT ASILOMAR: Fred Sommer: 650-341-5161, SommerFred@aol.com

VALENTINES BALL: 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): Larry Wakeman: 925-676-1058, lwakeman@clarify.com

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES: Monterey (May): Sara Gratiot: 408-384-4783, SEGratiot@aol.com; Campbell (June):

Diana Pell: 408-263-7902 and Jo Hamilton 650-328-0474; Oakland/Dunsmuir House (July): Sara Weaver: 415-

648-1464; Pleasanton (September): Doug McConnell: 514-493-5974, JDouglasMcConnell@compuserve.com;

Information tent: Susie Langdon Kass: 415-333-9372; **Helpers needed**. Other games: Sacramento (April);

Modesto (June); Incline (July); Loch Lomond (October).

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SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLASSES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH CLASSES

Berkeley

FRIDAYS: Youth Class: 7:00 PM. Call Kathleen McAdam 925-934-6148; **Beginners:** 8:00 PM; Grace North Church, 2138 Cedar at Walnut. **Experienced; Technique:** 7:00 PM; **Social:** 8:00 PM; All Souls Episcopal Parish, 2220 Cedar at Spruce. Call George Gates 925-709-1046 or John Kadyk 510-524-7376. Teachers: Youth: Kathleen McAdam, Pat O'Brien, Trina Merriman, Adult: Avril Quarrie, David Quarrie, guests.

Berkeley

MONDAYS: Intermediates: 8:00 PM; St. Clement's Episcopal Church, 2637 Claremont Blvd. at Russell near Ashby. Call Heather MacKay 510-528-2669. Teacher: David Newitt. Parties monthly.

Burlingame (affiliated class)

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

Lafayette

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

Livermore

MONDAYS: Beginners & Intermediates: 7:30 PM; Call Gale Holladay 925-447-5171. **Children's Class:** 6:30 PM; Call Sheena MacQueen 925-447-1833. Livermore Presbyterian Church, 2020 Fifth Street at I Street. Teachers: Sheena MacQueen, Anne MacIver.

Monterey

MONDAYS: Beginners: 6:30 PM; **Experienced:** 8:00 PM; new temporary location: Hilltop Park Center, 871 Jessie Street. Call Kathy Wendell 831-663-3221 or Brian Campbell 831-656-9923. Teachers: Sara Fratrot, Kathy Conley, Brian Campbell.

Mountain View

WEDNESDAYS: Beginners & Intermediates: 7:45 PM; 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: 8:00 PM: Beginners & Experienced Social. Call Linnea Johnson 415-841-9456 or Susie Langdon Kass 415-333-9372. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez Street at 23rd Street. Teachers: Susie Langdon Kass, Bruce Herbold, Trina Merriman.

San Francisco (affiliated class)

SUNDAYS: Special Technique Session (Fall Quarter only): 6:00 PM; Millberry Recreation & Fitness Center at UCSF, 500 Parnassus Avenue. Call Bruce Herbold 415-826-2287. Teacher: Bruce Herbold. **Beginners:** January 9, 2000. Call Susie Langdon Kass 415-333-9372. Teacher: Susie Langdon Kass.

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San Jose

MONDAYS: Experienced: 7:30 PM; **Beginners:** 8:15 PM; American Legion Hall, 1504 Minnesota Avenue. Call Malinda Reschke 408-615-7179 or Sparky Gregory 408-257-2294. Teachers: Ellen Aaron, Marianna Harvey, Liz Harris, Lin Pettingill.

Santa Cruz

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

Santa Rosa

MONDAYS: Beginners: 7:00 PM; **Intermediates:** 8:15 PM; 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.

Soquel

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

Stanford

TUESDAYS: Basic & Experienced Social: 7:30 PM; **WEDNESDAYS: Team:** 7:30 PM; J.L. Stanford Middle School, 480 East Meadow Drive. Call Mike Janousek 408-946-6777 or Doug or Gloria McConnell 650-493-5974. Teachers: Doug McConnell, Gloria McConnell, Juliet Davoren, Rebecca Davis. *Beginners: anytime.*

DEMONSTRATION TEAMS

Dunsmuir Scottish Dancers

TUESDAYS: 7:30 PM: Advanced (by invitation only). Call Ron Wallace 707-795-2185 or Tom Winter 415-239-1605. Teacher: Ron Wallace.

Red Thistle Dancers

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

SACRAMENTO BRANCH CLASSES

Sacramento

FRIDAYS: Beginners: 6:30 PM; **Combined classes:** 7:30 PM; **Intermediates:** 8:00 PM. Call Rick Juzix 916-447-1797; **Technique & Demonstration Class:** **TUESDAYS, 7:00 PM.** Call Lynne Lockwood 916-491-4032; **Youth classes:** **SATURDAYS: Beginners (10 yrs.-Teens):** 9:00 AM; **Experienced:** 10:30 AM; **White Heather Dancers:** 11:45 AM. Call Dottie Carr 916-922-9351. YLI Clubhouse, 1400 27th Street. Teachers: Peggy Hamilton, Lynne Lockwood, Dottie Carr.

Stockton

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

Truckee

THURSDAYS: 7:00 PM: Basic; 7:30 PM: Intermediates: Truckee-Donner Recreation Center, Church Street. Call Barbara Sullivan 530-587-5919. Teachers: Dave Wilson, Nancy Wilkins.

OTHER CLASSES

Arcata

SATURDAYS: Experienced Social: Call Virginia Rumble 707-822-1854. Teachers: class members and guest teachers.

Berkeley (North)

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

Grass Valley, Rancho Cordova

Beginners/Experienced: Grass Valley: **MONDAYS: 7:00 PM.** Rancho Cordova: **THURSDAYS: 7:00 PM.** Call Ed Johnston 916-822-1619. Teacher: Ed Johnston. *Beginners: anytime.*

Merced

WEDNESDAYS: 7:00 PM: Beginners/Experienced; Merced High School. Call Merced Recreation & Parks Department 209-385-6851. Teacher: Barry Lewis.

Mill Valley

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

Redding

THURSDAYS: Beginners: 6:30 PM; **Intermediates:** 7:00 PM. Call Margaret Anne Schlobohm 530-472-1154. Teacher: Margaret Anne Schlobohm. *Beginners: anytime.*

Reno, Nevada

THURSDAYS: Beginners: 7:00 PM; **Experienced:** 7:30 PM; California Building, Idlewild Park, 1000 Idlewild Drive. Call Martha Norrie 702-829-8680. Teacher: Martha Norrie. *Beginners: anytime.*

STEP DANCING CLASSES

Palo Alto

TUESDAYS: Beginners: Carriage House, Atherton; **THURSDAYS: Intermediates; Experienced; FRIDAYS: Twosome;** 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.

Scottish Step or Cape Breton Step classes are held also in Lafayette, Monterey, Sacramento, Stockton and Santa Rosa. Call Claudette Sigg 510-526-8192, Jo Hamilton 650-328-0474, Ron Wallace 707-795-2185, or Bob Schultheisz 209-465-9063.

Class Managers & Teachers:

CHANGES DUE DECEMBER 1

Contact: Susie at 415-333-9372

susielk@itsa.ucsf.edu

Visit the S. F. Branch website at:

www.rscds-sf.org

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