



Erin, the Green Isle

by Pat Lowers

The sun gods were smiling on May 1, 2000, when forty-eight Scottish Country Dancers and musicians traveled to Ireland, to dance and frolic. A great deal of both was accomplished with gusto and good cheer over the next two weeks.

Our illustrious leader, Ken McFarland, planned a great adventure that included pony trekking, hiking, and boat rides to the Aran Islands, Skellaig Michael, and a lovely garden island near Tralee. We perched ourselves on the edge of high cliffs. Ralph even dared to 'jump' from one, nearly causing several heart attacks. It turns out he spotted a wide ledge just below the rim and decided to have a bit of fun. There are photos to prove it.

We hiked until it hurt. And we danced nearly every night to the superb music of Elke on the flying fiddle, Liz on accordion and piano (when she could find one in tune), Marty playing incredibly on the flute and piccolo, and Ralph on a very mellow cello and electric bass. Later in the trip some ladies from Cork came to dance with us. That was great fun.

Our journey started at Shannon Airport where we met our coach driver, Seamus Burke, a delightful chap who regaled us with bits of history and items of interest throughout the trip. We spent one night near Ennis (Seamus' hometown) and then went to the picturesque seaside town of Leenane. The hotel was quaint, the food excellent, the people refreshingly friendly, and the scenery breathtaking. We learned much about tides as the fjord in front of our hotel alternated between bare ground for quite a distance out from shore and blue water right up to the cement breakwater across the street.

Several of us hiked up the nearby hill to discover sheep (they're everywhere in Ireland) and short stone fences (also everywhere). The land is quite rocky and the farmers clear each field so they can plant. Because the rocks are rather heavy, they don't carry them very far, and so built thousands of walls sectioning off their property into small fields. The walls themselves are works of art as it takes some skill to place the stones correctly so they will stand for centuries. Rarely is mortar or cement used; it's simply the placement that makes them last. There were also great fields of turf, what we call peat, everywhere and usually someone cutting clods and setting them out to dry. Turf is used for fuel mostly, but there are trinkets made of it for sale in some stores. Pretty smelly stuff.

Ever in search of 'real Irish music', we wandered up to Westport one evening, to take in the scene at Matt Malloy's Pub. It was worth the \$20 taxi ride, because we met and talked to the local musicians (and many tourists), and heard some terrific music.

After an idyllic few days, we moved on to the Connemara coast, with even more breathtaking scenery. We climbed the famous Cliffs of Mohor, with artisans plying their trade along the

hiking trail up to the top. We saw the Burren, a vast barren stretch of stone carved out by the glaciers centuries ago. We walked around the town of Galway, and even ate at the Kings Head Pub (there's a namesake very near our house in California). A day was spent on the Aran Island, where our minicab driver, named Thomas O'Toole (no relation to Peter, he told us), charmed us with his stories of this nine-mile island of eight hundred inhabitants. This was our first look at the strange circular stone forts, built in pre-Christian times. It's pretty amazing that anyone lived there so long ago, because it's a very harsh environment. That's where they make the world's best wool sweaters, which we all bought (and they need!).

Next we moved on to Tralee, *via* Limerick—as you can imagine we all started composing limericks in honor of the trip, and collected quite a number of clever ones (which we'll publish another time). Once there, we visited the Crag Cave, a large underground cavern full of stalagmites and stalactites and learned something about the unusual formations from our knowledgeable guide.

Seamus scouted out a show for us one evening. It was a live performance of Irish music set in a typical country home with singing and dancing. We were very impressed with the quality of talent and came away knowing a bit more about the Irish culture. We found out later this was a national performance troupe, and the show has been written up many times as a 'must see.' We were quite fortunate to be there at the right time.

In Tralee, we found the Sean Oggs Pub, where three of our own musicians sat in for an unforgettable jam session with two fellows who are representing Ireland at an international music competition next month. We played until they closed, and even a bit after that. It was great!

During the day, most of the group took the many-hour boat ride to Skellaig Michael island, a remote, desolate bit of rock jutting up from the Atlantic Ocean. They departed in thick fog,

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disappearing after only a few minutes, like an old Sherlock Holmes film. Once at the island, it was necessary to exit the boat carefully, as the swells would raise and lower it considerably. One had to time the exit to coincide with the level of the boat matching the level of the dock – not for the faint of heart. Then there was the vertical climb up more than five hundred stone steps to the flat top of the island, where monks had built beehive-shaped huts in which to live the simplest of lives. The climbers were thankful for the fog because it meant they couldn't see the real distance back down to the sea. Everyone reported the trip well worth the extra heartbeats.

We were traveling around the Ring of Kerry, a sort of circular drive through rugged land, with occasional beautiful views of ocean and bays. The last leg was a trip over the mountains to Glengarriff which proved to be the most spectacular of all, as the road lead along the mountain ridge and through great tunnels carved out of the stone. You could see for miles in every direction. Did I mention that we had unusually clear days and sunshine for the entire two weeks? It only rained at night, and then only a few times – very unusual for Ireland. Even so, we managed to mangle our bus by scraping the ground and peeling off the front bumper. We have photos of a dejected Seamus walking back a hundred yards to retrieve the miscreant piece.

Our hotel near Tralee was also hosting a wonderful group from Wexford. Most of those people were over fifty (and many were much older), but they really knew how to party. We joined them each evening in the hotel lobby for a great *ceilidh* with lots of talented (and some not so talented) individuals singing and dancing. They had a few old guys playing music (accordion, fiddle, banjo), so naturally Marty and Liz joined in once more to jam until the wee hours. I was never able to stay awake until the very end.

One final boat journey to Garnish Island – a short ride to a well-kept garden spot, where we hiked the trails and learned of the local flora and fauna. We spotted some seals basking on rocks along the way, and managed to snag a few photos. Then a hike along a nature trail, followed by a well-deserved shopping spree in the latest shopping center of the rapidly growing area.

Our last night was a medieval banquet in Bunratty Castle – a real castle complete with mead, singing and dancing servers, and a banquet that you had to eat with a single utensil, a knife. Thus our journey to the *Gaeltacht* (the Irish speaking western part of Ireland) ended. Earlier Seamus stepped in and taught us a few words of greeting in Gaelic (none of which were understood by anyone on whom I tried them.)

It was a subdued crowd that boarded the bus for the last time, and made tearful farewells to all in the hubbub of Shannon airport, as we were all once more transported back to reality from our enchanted journey.

Observations on the Scotch Reel, with a Description of the Fundamental Steps made use of in that Dance, and their appropriate Gaelic Names

(This is taken from “Sketches Relative to the History & Theory of Dancing (but more especially) to the Practice of Dancing,” by (Mr.) Francis Peacock, who was a dancing master in Aberdeen. This was written in 1805, when he was apparently nearing the age of 80, and since he had taught dancing for many years, this actually reveals information mostly from the 18th Century. As usual, I think that what is left unsaid is just as interesting as what *is* said.—K McF.)

“The fondness the Highlanders have for this Quartet, or Trio, (for it is either one or the other), is unbounded; and so is their ambition to excel in it. This pleasing propensity, one would think, was born with them, from the early indications we sometimes see their children show for this exercise.¹ I have seen children of theirs, at five or six years of age, attempt, nay even execute some of their steps so well as almost surpass belief. I once had the pleasure of seeing, in a remote part of the country, a Reel danced by a herd boy and two young girls, who surprised me very much, especially the boy who appeared to be about twelve years of age. He had a variety of well-chosen steps and executed them with so much justness and ease, as if he meant to set criticism at defiance. Circumstances like these plainly evince, that those qualities must either be inherent in the Highlanders, or that they must have an uncommon aptitude for imitation.

Our colleges draw hither every year a number of students from the Western Isles, as well as the Highlands, and the greater part of them excel in this dance. Some of them indeed in so superior a degree that I myself have thought them worthy of imitation. I mention these circumstances with no other view, but as an introduction to what I am about to offer in relation to the steps most used in the Scotch Reels. To those who already know them, all I mean to say will be useless; but to others that have been wanting (lacking) in opportunities of seeing this dance well performed, a description of the steps best adapted to those lively tunes, which have obtained the name of the dance to which they gave birth, may not upon the whole be unacceptable.

Especially as it is no uncommon thing, at Edinburgh, to see men of our profession who come there with no other view but to acquire knowledge of the proper steps made use of in that dance. *It is not long ago that two of them (father and son) came from London to Edinburgh, for no other purpose²*, and as they had their own carriage, it may be presumed they must have been men of some reputation in their profession. They made application to the most fashionable teacher of dancing in that place, but as he was then too busy preparing for a ball to be of much use to them himself, he recommended to them my partner, who happened to then be at Edinburgh. On his return, he told me that (their time as well as his own being limited) he attended them two or three times a day during their stay there. I mention this circumstance, as a proof of what importance they thought a right (correct) knowledge of the dance in question might be to them on their return to London.”

The step descriptions will follow in the next column. If you don't want to wait, you can find them in George Emmerson's excel-

Branch Scholarships

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

lent “A Social History of Scottish Dancing,” where the descriptions (but not the preceding remarks) appear as an appendix.

Ken McFarland

¹The so-called “natural born dancer”?

²The Italics are mine. I cannot help pointing out that there seems to have been traffic in *both* directions across the Border, with dances being learned and carried back and forth between Scotland and England.

Letter to the Editor:

Regarding the *Reel & Strathspey* Annual Report on San Francisco Branch Activities, as it appeared in the May/June 2000 issue. Not that anyone at RSCDS would likely have much knowledge about the location of cities around the Monterey Bay, but, if we are talking about the far northern and southern reaches of the San Francisco Branch, Monterey is farther south than Santa Cruz and Soquel, by about the same distance as from Edinburgh to Stirling-as the crow flies.

Sara Gratiot

Dancing with Diana

by Jim Pell

A Summer past, a boy of nine
Was taught by friends to fix a line,
A loop of silken thread, to tie
And tether a beautiful Dragonfly.

Then, gently nudging her to flight,
He watched her sweep across the sun.
Sparkling, shining, soaring delight,
Thrilling the boy and everyone.

He gently following, held the thread.
She gaily dancing held his eye.
The captivated boy she led,
Entranced, around the Summer sky.

Memories fade as memories will,
That Summer flight forgotten, until
I took your hand the other night.
The same glad boy, the same delight.

Directory Amendments

ADDITIONS

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CHANGES

The change of address in the last *R&S* for Sandy MacNeill should have been for Sandy McNeel. Sandy MacNeill is still at 4320 Sonoma Mountain Rd, Santa Rosa. Sorry for the confusion.

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Poem

by Shari Salis

'Twas five years ago,
A new world opened wide,
Scottish dancing, you say?
I'll give it a try.

There were jigs, reels and strathspeys,
Pas de basque, pivot turns,
For a nice Jewish girl,
There was so much to learn.

It took a few years,
The memory was stressed.
Now I know the right letter order,
“RSCDS.”

Friends don't quite understand,
Try as they might,
“Oh, I saw it on television—
It's like River Dance, right?”

Ladies' Step Dance, Cape Breton,
Country dancing in lines,
So many dances,
So little time.

My kids are neglected,
They say “Give it a rest!”
The house is a wreck,
I think I'm obsessed.

“You're right, I agree,
I promise,” I tell 'em,
“Right after the next ball,
It comes up in the autumn.”

Never paid much attention to feet before this,
A few calluses and corns, easy to fix,
Now it's bunions and fractures, toe nails black and blue,
The dreaded fasciitis, if only I knew.

Ligaments, tendons,
Pronation, orthotics,
A dem for podiatrists,
Very exotic.

The doc said to me,
“Please do me a favor,
Try bungee-jumping,
It's really much safer.”

I know he means well,
But it's as folks predicted,
Too late for me now,
I'm far too addicted.

RSCDS, SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH CLASS REPORTS, 1999-2000

Dunsmuir Scottish Dancers

by *Tim Wilson*

This was a busy year, both on stage and off, for class members. In June of last year, we were delighted to participate in the SF Free Folk Festival by leading a workshop in Scottish Country dancing and then presenting a half-hour show on the main stage. As usual, Ron Wallace and Gary Thomas did a beautiful job preparing us for that performance, as well as for the Dunsmuir, Monterey and Pleasanton games. We are very fortunate to enjoy, on a weekly basis, Ron's and Gary's excellent teaching, along with the exquisite music they provide, in company with Mike Hird.

In September, some class members participated in a step dance performance in Sebastopol, and the following day joined the rest of the group for a show at the Cannery, for the Festival of the Sea. For that gig, Duncan McIntosh added his stirring fiddle to the music provided by Ron and Gary. Many of us strolled over for the SF Scottish Fiddlers performance that took place later the same day. We finished 1999 with a show at Dunsmuir House during the Christmas season.

The year 2000 started with a bang, as we presented a January 1st Hogmanay show at the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts in Berkeley. Several members of the Santa Rosa class and Ron's step dance class joined us, to make this a truly memorable experience. What a wonderful way to begin the New Year!

At the end of January, we bustled off to our annual retreat at Bishop's Ranch in Healdsburg. Last year, Margaret Zadworny taught us a beautiful medley, set to orchestral music (very grand!), and this year Mary Brandon taught several dances, which we've added to our repertoire. The weekend is also a chance to catch up (visit wineries) relax (visit more wineries) and sleep (it off).

In April and May of this year, we sent a team down to Monterey for the games, and did a show for an attitudinal healing group. Of course, we can't forget co-hosting the April monthly party with the Santa Rosa class. Once again the April Fool theme provided rich fodder for the imagination. The Santa Rosa class matched up the dance titles with the weeks in April honoring specific causes, organizations, or diseases. One of the favorites was when Emily Evans announced that "Summer Wooing" was in honor of National Wedding month and Ron quickly corrected her saying it was a "typo" and was really National Welding month.

Speaking of welding (wooing really), this past year saw commitments made by several class members. In October, Sara Weaver and Bradley Hobbs were married, in a service and reception attended by many branch members, including the Red Thistle Dancers, with whom Bradley dances. And just this May, Helen Wood and Taylor Mayes tied the knot, and Tim Wilson and Sylvain Pelletier registered as domestic partners. With all of the emphasis on partnering in SCD, I guess this should be no surprise.

Other celebrations included Mike Hird and Marghie Goff's fantastic 110th birthday party ceilidh, which included a marvelous step dance by Alan Thwigg, poetry by Chris Riker and songs by Marlene Cowan and harpist Barbara Schilling. Shari Salis and John McComas held a housewarming that also doubled as a

birthday party for Shari. At John and Shari's party, it was a thrill to see Hildegard Klee, who has been on leave for the past year. Donald Robertson is also taking a short break from the team, as he completes treatment for Hodgkins' disease. We look forward to Hildegard and Donald returning to class. Sadly, we no longer greet Dwayne and Mary McQuilliams, as they moved to Oregon in the Fall. They are much missed.

To get back to birthday news, Kim and Yumi Roberts' family grew by one this past April 27th, with the birth of their 7lbs 9oz and 22 inches-long son. Kim writes "Yumi gave birth to a great strapping highland lad named Kenneth Lindsay Kadowaki Roberts. While it is still uncertain whether he will grow up to be a dancer or a piper or both, we are certain from his incredibly powerful kicks and forceful arm movements that he will become proficient in one of Japan's traditional martial arts. Who knows, he may even become the first artist to unite the sounds of Japanese Taiko with the Great Highland Bagpipe!" We can't wait to find out!

Former Dunsmuir dancers David and Susan Gold, welcomed a beautiful baby girl into their family, joining big brother Galen. Lauren Marie Gold was born on Tuesday, May 9, 2000 at 11:02 a.m., and checked in at 7 lbs. 6 oz., 19" long, with dark eyes and brown hair.

Lafayette

by *Lori Farrell*

Don't blink! You might miss one of the many exciting activities taking place at the Lafayette class. In the 1999-2000 season, there were parties, performances, and even a formal ball specifically designed for children, in addition to the many classes offered at the Lafayette Veterans' Center, for dancers of all ages and abilities to enjoy. At the center of it all was one of the longest-running classes of the branch.

Under the skillful tutelage of Eugene Bissell and Claudette Sigg, the social class continued its tradition of offering the opportunity to revisit classic Scottish country dances, to review dances on the monthly party programs, and to learn dances that were new to the Branch, including those devised by the teachers themselves. At the same time, Kathleen McAdam taught a new group of beginners the difference between fast-time and strathspey traveling and setting steps, how to maneuver through a track, and which way to go in a reel. For the last half-hour of class, beginners were encouraged to join the advanced dancers in a review of the dances the beginners had learned that evening. They were nervous in the beginning, but gradually accepted the challenge. Dances that were once peppered with hastily pointed directions and whispers of "that way" and "first corner, over there" were replaced by dances performed smoothly and well. Another class of beginners successfully completed their first year.

In the late afternoon and early evening, the Veterans' Hall overflowed with exuberance, as children and young adults gathered for their classes. Cathy Bertics and Kathleen McAdam taught three levels of children's classes for all ages, from kindergartners through

teenagers. The highlight this year was the Children's Ball, held at the Orinda Community Center. More than 90 children and young adults from as far away as Sacramento participated in the formal dance, where the theme was "Alice in Wonderland." Alice herself made an appearance to join in the many dances that the children had learned in the preceding months. The afternoon concluded with the young gentlemen inviting young ladies to waltz. Parents watched with pride from the sidelines; after all, this was a dance for the children! When the dancing was over, and the juice and refreshments were ready to be devoured, one child approached Kathleen and excitedly asked, "When's the next dance?!" With such a rousing success, the Children's Ball is sure to continue for years to come.

While the children practiced their jigs and strathspeys, and before the social class began, Claudette Sigg taught both beginning and intermediate step dancing. The class had several new beginners learning the exact positions for a *coupé* and the difference between a lilt and a country dance *pas-de-basque*. Many intermediate dancers also arrived early for this class, to perfect their technique and to encourage the beginners. In the later class, Claudette reviewed several older dances that many people did not know, and taught a new dance that she devised. Step dancers who had achieved a certain level of expertise were encouraged to join the demonstration team, which met during the last hour of class before major performances, and on other scheduled evenings.

This year, the Lafayette Scottish Country Dancers, as the demonstration team was called, put away the traditional white dresses with dance sashes and peasant shirts and adopted a new look and a new program. Under the guidance of Claudette Sigg, and aided by the dexterity of Mary McQuilliams and Linda Baptiste, the ladies created not one but two new costumes: a formal Edwardian ball gown suitable for traditional country and step dances, and a short, sleek dress for dances with a more modern tone. Not to be out done, the gentlemen changed their wardrobes as well, donning their Prince Charlie jackets and vests during the Edwardian sets, and changing to black shirts and hose for the modern dances. In addition to the costume change, the class added to their repertoire modern dances with tunes performed by bands such as the Wicked Tinkers, Brother, and Bill Whelan to the program. The dancers debuted the new look at the Pleasanton Highland Games in September and instantly distinguished themselves from other groups performing there. The dancers performed similar sets in December, in front of the Dunsmuir House, as part of the ground's annual holiday gala event, and in February for a fundraiser for Cub Scout Lodge #2795 in Hayward. The Edwardian costumes looked especially appropriate in front of the majestic Dunsmuir House.

A few months later, the sewing machines hummed to life again, as the ladies added white Gibson girl blouses to their ball gown skirts, and several dancers borrowed, purchased, or created costumes that would have been worn during California's Gold Rush era. With the transformation complete, Claudette devised a program that showcased the progression of Scottish dancing in California, beginning with miners and entertainers from Scotland taking a break from panning for gold, to the upper class Edwardian family enjoying a party, to a modern interpretation of traditional dances. The dancers performed this program at the Woodland Games and the Monterey Games, to much praise. As a special treat, the dancers performed with the Wicked Tinkers during their set at the Monterey

Games. The class looked forward to performing again, perhaps also with the Wicked Tinkers, at both the Dunsmuir Games and at the Pleasanton Games.

With all the activity in the class, it is surprising to know that there was more. Once again, Bud Wisecarver graciously opened his home to host the annual summer party, complete with much dancing. Also, each fifth Thursday of the month, the Lafayette class hosted a party, with music provided by Plaid Attitude. After an evening of great dances and lively music, the participants retired to the dining area downstairs, for tea and refreshments, including Kathleen's fantastic shortbread. But since Bud's party is only once a year and the fifth Thursday of the month happens only occasionally, the class hosted one more major celebration.

In partnership with the Berkeley class, the Lafayette class co-hosted the New Year's Eve party, held at Grace North Church in Berkeley. Again, music was graciously provided by Plaid Attitude. Both classes circulated a request form, and the teachers of both classes selected dances from the lists for the program. The dancers were prepared for any glitches that were anticipated due to the Y2K event – several people brought flashlights, and everyone brought enough food to last through a long blackout – but the only indication of anything amiss was a minor brownout at 8:00. The rest of the evening went unhindered. Balloons hovered around the perimeter of the dance floor and over the piano; streamers dangled from light fixtures. By midnight, the dancing was over, the champagne and sparkling cider were poured, and everyone welcomed the New Year in the company of good friends, dance partners, and musicians.

One evening during the social class, Virginia Bissell presented awards to several members of the class. Bill and Bonnie Wakeman were recognized for their work on behalf of the class and for Bill's role as class manager for many years. Kathleen McAdam was recognized for her many years of service to both the social class and to all the children's classes. The class has been truly enriched by their dedication, hard work, and positive outlook.

So much activity in all the classes, from the children's class, to the step class and demonstration team, to the social class, continues throughout the year. A new beginner's class will start in September, after Labor Day weekend. Dancers are encouraged to participate in the step and social classes, and parents are encouraged to bring their sons and daughters to the children's class. Details and contact phone numbers can be located in the back of each *Reel & Strathspey*. Join us for another exciting year!

Monterey

by Kim Jorgensen and Kathy Wendell

The Branch's southernmost class spent the last year holding class at a temporary location while our usual location, the Monterey Senior Center, is being renovated and expanded. We will probably continue holding social class at Hilltop Center throughout the summer, and plan to return to the "new, improved" senior center in the fall. Our class has three certificated teachers, Sara Gratiot, Brian Campbell, and Kathy Conley, who shared the workload this year.

Also new this year was the location of our annual Victorian-Scottish Workshop and Ball. After six years at the historic Plaza Hall in San Juan Bautista, we held the event this year at the House

of the Four Winds adobe, in downtown Monterey, while Plaza Hall underwent repair from earthquake and storm damage. The change in venue at least offered dancers who regularly attend this ball some new sightseeing opportunities. We danced Victorian-era Scottish and ballroom dances to the inspiring music of Andy Imbrie, Deby Benton Grosjean, Janet Kurnick, and Patty van Winkle. We were especially lucky to have Deby playing her first full performance since her surgery.

The Monterey Games were held at the same place this year, but two and a half months earlier, due to rescheduling by the management at the county fairground. Even though the games were scheduled in between the Sacramento and Costa Mesa Games, and on Mother's Day weekend, we had better attendance than we predicted, but not as many Scottish country dancers attended as in the past. Because of the anticipated low turnout, we did not hold a Monterey Mist dance after the Saturday night games. We hope to have a better date next year.

Our class demo team, White Heather, was busy this year, performing at our local Scottish Society's Tartan Ball, Celtic Christmas, the Santa Cruz Community Music School's annual fundraiser concert, and the Seaside International Festival.

Our class will continue to meet from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Monday nights at the Senior Center on Lighthouse in the fall (we start at 7:00 p.m. throughout the summer at Hilltop Center). We invite you to join us when you're looking for a good technique class, extra practice on upcoming dances, or any excuse to dance near the beautiful Monterey Bay.

Mountain View

by Denise Francis

The Mountain View Class meets on Wednesday nights, from 7:45p.m. to 10:00 p.m., at the Mountain View Sports Pavilion in Mountain View. Our Teachers for Fall 1999 through Spring 2000 were Jo and Bruce Hamilton, who taught the Experienced Class, Alan Thwigg and Bob McMurtry, who taught the Beginner's Class. We split the year into two semesters, changing teachers around the time of the Valentine's Ball, so that each teacher can get a semester break and assist with either class if needed.

We had a very busy Fall in 1999. We co-hosted the October monthly party with the Red Thistles, and the December Monthly Party with the San Jose and Stanford Classes. In October, Cameron McDonald, Mountain View Class Manager, and Melinda Reschke, San Jose Class Manager, hosted a tea and ball gown swap in Redwood City.

Mountain View had their traditional pre-Thanksgiving Party the Wednesday before turkey day in November. Lyle Ramshaw and John Taylor provided wonderful music. The calendar year was completed with a holiday get-together at the Hamiltons' house, the week before Christmas.

The New Year found us just as busy. Our annual Cupid's Bow Party, a relaxed dance/walk-through, was the week before the Valentine's Ball. Dancers were able to practice some of the dances on the ball program. Pre-ball jitters were soothed by the music of Andy Imbrie and John Taylor.

Our Spring fun dance this year was the "Ides of March" Party held (guess when!) on March 15th. Lyle Ramshaw and John Taylor,

again, provided the music.

We had an extra treat for the early months of 2000. We were joined by fiddler David Strong, who braved a trans-Bay commute to play for the experienced class. We nearly had to surgically remove the teacher's remote control!

Mountain View ended the 1999–2000 year with another tradition, the "End of the Season" Fling at the King's Head Pub and Restaurant in Campbell, on May 31st. We took over their fine outside deck, and danced under the stars to musicians Andy Imbrie and John Taylor.

But, we don't stop there. Dancers may join us while we "Dance in the Park" at the Rinconada Park in Palo Alto on Wednesdays during the month of June, from about 7 p.m. until dark, or the sprinklers come on. Mountain View Class will start the 2000–2001 year on September 6th back at the Mountain View Pavilion with a "Bring a Friend" Night.

The Red Thistle Dancers

by Bradley Hobbs

In June 1999, the Red Thistle Dancers performed in the third weekend of the celebrated month-long Ethnic Dance Festival. While the weekend started inauspiciously with a local power outage, the show went on, and only ten minutes off schedule. Our program consisted of country-dance medleys, highland dancing, and original choreographed pieces such as *Nine Ladies Dancing*.

Our musicians helped round out the Scottish experience and provided us with sensational music for dancing. Thanks go out to Michael Bentley, Janet Kurnick, Lyle Ramshaw, David Strong, and Valerie Thompson. The men were sporting the new colorful 18th-century style vests. Selected by Cecilia Grote, our costume manager, she made the patterns and ensured they were made in time for the festival, to the point of sewing several vests herself! They look great, and the men seem to like them.

The Red Thistle Dancers performed an extended program at the Capitola Theater for the Performing Arts in August. Joining Red Thistle in the sell-out performance was ladies' step group Cairngorm, Cape Breton dancers White Heather, Piedmont Highland, master storyteller Tom Cuthbertson, music ensembles Knotwork and Mantis, as well as our own talented musicians. Bruce Herbold joined us from San Francisco, to be our Master of Ceremonies, while his wife Patti took charge of the lighting booth. Gordon Deeg and Kamrin MacKnight rescued us from cramped costume changing areas by setting up their cavernous tent alongside the theatre, to serve as our dressing room and substitute backstage area. Thanks to spacious accommodations and talented performers, the program was a success.

In November we participated in another ethnic dance festival of sorts: "To the Dance of Tradition" held at the Cubberly Theater in Palo Alto. Here we joined with performers representing Mexico, Tahiti, Guatemala, and Brazil in an exciting evening of music and dance. We danced an array of country dances interspersed with some highland numbers. The evening concluded with an equally festive party hosted by Art Tarsa and Cameron McDonald.

Red Thistle Dancers tried out for the Ethnic Dance Festival 2000 in January. This year our audition piece featured a brilliant medley, choreographed by our director, Jennifer Kelly. The High-

land number was a spectacular progressive fling arranged by Ann Bergman. The dance was written for four men and four women positioned in side-by-side squares. The men and women danced a fling around the corners of their squares and progressively interwove into the other square. To those familiar with highland dancing, it was a flawless and stunning performance. The judges, however, had apparently never seen the Fling danced in such a creative manner and, seeing Highland dancers dance a square pattern, expected to see swords. We lost points for dancing the Highland Fling without swords! Alas, we were not invited to the Ethnic Dance Festival this year. But next year...

In March, Red Thistle was invited to dance at the Sequoias Retirement Community. This is becoming an annual engagement for us. The Sequoias has a lovely performance area that is set up with video cameras on a closed circuit system, so that residents not able to attend the performance can watch it live from the comfort of their rooms.

Dancing the country medleys were Ellen Aaron, Sue Anderson, Elheran Francis, Cecilia Grote, Dave Grote, Bradley Hobbs, Jennifer Kelly, John Kelly, Ann Lawson, Barry Lewis, Calli Morrow, Mikel Thompson, Rosemary Thorne and Alan Twigg. Alan, Jennifer, Elheran, and Calli were joined by Ann Bergman and Clare Lawson for a variety of highland dances, including a Broadsword dance (with swords). Thanks to Andy Imbrie, piper Tim Huntly and vocalist Valerie Thompson for giving us wonderful music to dance to.

Last, but certainly not least, The Red Thistle Dancers announce the release of their second video. Appropriately titled "Performance Dancing with The Red Thistle Dancers," this video is intended as an aid to those who find themselves taking on the role of choreographer for a Scottish Country dance performance. The tape contains over eleven medleys including several new or unpublished dances. A booklet with dance directions and notes is included, which makes this a great package for dancers, as well as choreographers. The music CD features original works by Alasdair Fraser, Andy Imbrie and Kim McGarrity (to whose memory the video is dedicated), as well as traditional standards in a fabulous collection of dance tunes. The complete package (video, CD, booklet) is available through Red Thistle members, or the Branch bookstore. Subscribers to the *Reel & Strathspey* who live outside the Greater San Francisco Bay area may prefer to order it directly from Zaza Wu (zazawu@yahoo.com).

San Francisco

by Linnea Johnson

The San Francisco class went through another year of fun classes and great dancing. Bruce Herbold has continued his teaching of the experienced group upstairs group at Noe Valley Ministry, while, in the fall, Susie Langdon Kass worked downstairs with a small group of beginners.

During the summer of 1999, we continued our enjoyable tradition of having classes taught by a series of great guest teachers, and Trina and Susie worked with an adjudication team that performed at the Pleasanton Games. In the fall, Bruce continued instruction as our teacher for the experienced class upstairs, and Susie started a new beginning class in the downstairs studio. The beginning dancers were so quick and their class so small that, in

January, we combined the upstairs and downstairs classes.

As always, this season we've had fantastic live music in class from our musician, David Strong, as well as some friends and guests who have sat in on occasion. We were concerned when David injured his shoulder, and was out for several weeks, but he seems to have healed completely, and is back to giving us great dance music.

Our classes have included not only dances from the monthly parties, but other interesting dances as well. Some weeks, Bruce created special classes; for two weeks this spring we worked through dances from the Boston Branch 50th Anniversary book, dancing to music from a marvelous matching CD.

We threw two successful Solstice parties with wonderful live music and a lot of great dancing. As is usual for our class parties, both events included a dance written by a class member; for the December party, the new dance was written by Tom Winter: for this Summer Solstice party the dance was written by Russ King. Because there have been so many fantastic dances devised by San Francisco class members, we decided to publish a book of dances from previous Solstice parties. We'd like to give out a big "Thank you!" to Tim Wilson for spearheading the assembly of the book, and to Bruce, Susie, David and all those class members who proofread, advised and massaged the book into shape.

In February, the San Francisco class hosted our annual Valentine's Ball review, with dances taught by Bruce and Susie. This event also serves as a fund-raiser for our class. It was well attended, with many dancers coming from all parts of the Bay Area. Of course, many of our class members attended this year's Valentine's Ball.

Our financial situation seems to be on an even keel this year. We have had regular attendance of a great core group and a few extra donations. The payment by series plan instituted last year not only has been appreciated by the class members who come regularly, but also keeps a regular schedule of support coming in. As always, drop-in dancers are still welcome. We look forward to another summer of variety with our guest teachers and our new beginners class in the fall.

San Jose

by Pat Lowers

The San Jose class is managed by Sparky Gregory, Jonathan Lovell, and Pat Lowers. Martha Denning is the treasurer. We opened our season with a 'First Night' party and then proceeded to host a Holiday Party, a Burns Night to remember, with Jim Pell and Marva Morris singing, and Alex Harvey addressing the haggis. We ended our season with a final dance featuring the wonderful music of John Taylor and Lyle Ramshaw. We also co-hosted a Monthly Dance.

We were fortunate to have Don Pettingill, who passed his prelim. exam, as one of our instructors. In addition, Coletta Busse stepped in for Marianna Harvey while she and Alex were in Hawaii. We offered two demo teams for the Monterey games. Many of our members traveled this year – Sparky and Pat participated in a Scottish Country Dancing Tour of Celtic Ireland. The many new students we had this year advanced rapidly, and are all doing quite well, under the fine tutelage of Marianna Harvey and Lin Pettingill.

Santa Rosa: A Book, A Quilt, A Wild Wild Rose, A Limerick, A New Teacher, and A Class on Its Toes

by Karen Robotka

That’s the Santa Rosa class report in a nutshell. The Book is the recently published *Too Late for the Festival* by class member Nancy Roberts (pen name Rhiannon Paine) which chronicles her sojourn in Japan as a “salary woman” working for Hewlett Packard. This spring, several class members took a trip to the Avery Brundage Museum in San Francisco to hear Nancy/Rhiannon interviewed by Sedge Thompson on the radio show West Coast Live. Viewing the cherry trees abloom in the Japanese Tea Garden next door and touring the museum’s amazing Japanese basket exhibit completed our Pacific Rim experience.

The Quilt....If you are interested in the art form, you may have heard the name of Judy Mathieson, an international award-winning quilt maker, who is also a member of the Santa Rosa class. Her recent gem has garnered \$8,000 in prizes so far and was featured on the cover of Quilter’s Newsletter Magazine.

The Wild Rose....You’ve heard them play at the Valentine’s Ball and elsewhere at branch events. Our class has had the pleasure of dancing to their lively music every Monday night for years, but as others discover their sound they have been playing for parties and balls as far away as Texas. Which brings us to the Limerick. Few people may realize that amidst Wild Rose’s garden there grows a thorny poet by the name of Duncan Mackintosh. He has been known to rise up from behind his music stand in the middle of class and favor us with one of his pithy rhymes. We never know what will inspire him, be it the length of a skirt or the name of a tune. Here’s an example concocted on a night when the gender balance was a bit uneven:

There’s a dance called, “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice,”
That we love with a passion intensest
But a counting of noses
In our class Santa Rosas
Shows ladies, but far too few gentses

Our New Teacher....Emily Evans who received her credential last year and has been honing her skills teaching the second half of the Monday class. With her eloquent hand gestures (she teaches Italian at Santa Rosa J. C.) and infectious playfulness, she has led us through some delicious Roy Goldring and John Drewry dances. Brava, Emily! We like your style!

A Class on Its Toes....Other Santa Rosa activities included our annual dance retreat at Bishop’s Ranch in January, co-hosting the April Fool’s monthly branch party in Mill Valley, and putting on the Beginner’s Ball last June in Petaluma (the class is working hard on the upcoming third annual Beginner’s Ball as I write). The Santa Rosa Scottish Dancers performed at the Pleasanton Games, the Mill Valley Fall Arts Festival, the Sebastopol Celtic Festival, First Night in Santa Rosa, and gave performances for busloads of school children in Rohnert Park in April. It’s been a full year, and it isn’t over yet. Many of our class members are packing their bags for a trip to Scotland, led by Ron Wallace, in July. We look forward to hearing glorious tales of the Borders, Highlands, and Islands when they return. “Bon Voyage!” to the travelers, and a happy summer to all!

A Letter from Susan Mills

Greetings,

As various Branch members travel about and report back as to the things they have seen and the dances they have attended, the opposite seems to have happened to me this year, at least so far. Everybody seems to have come here.

Since 1987 when I moved from San Jose, CA to Rolla, MO, I have had to travel a bit for workshops. There is a class in St. Louis (two hours each way) on Saturday afternoons that I can make, but the workshops are usually much further. So where is this “opposite” referred to above? Read on:

February: Kansas City (complete with Tornado Watch) with Bruce Hamilton as guest teacher.

March: Ames, Iowa with Brenda Burnell-you’ll see her at Asilomar.

May: Chicago with David and Avril Quarrie (once from Chicago) and Robert McOwen. Music was by Barbara McOwen, once with the Berkeley Scottish Players.

June: Ames, Iowa. A Teachers’ Workshop with Ron Wallace. He also did one in Galveston, TX six to eight years ago.

Jo Hamilton did a workshop in Little Rock, AK in October, 1998. The Class Teacher is Patsy Corrigan, a former Sacramento Branch member. People wondered how Jo and I knew each other.

Because of a heavy school load this fall, I have to pass up Asilomar. Not that I attend often—I’ve never been. But I was toying with the idea since I knew all of the teachers listed. Ramblewood Weekend is only one weekend. My family would disown me if I did that for Asilomar, i.e., not spend time visiting.)

And for all those who haven’t made the pilgrimage to the Mid-West /Mississippi Valley, you’ll just have to wait until I get out there.

Happy Dancing and always pack your ghillies.

Susan Mills

P.S. I even had the pleasure of giving a tour of the Mapping Center to a couple of SCDers from Yorkshire, England!

Class Managers, Teachers & Event Committee Chairs:
2001 Facility Location Information for Branch Insurance Certificate, due September 30, 2000
 Please send all year 2001 Class and Party location information to our Insurance Contact Person, Jim Pell, 1995 Garden Bing Circle, San Jose, CA 95131, 408-263-7902, <jimpell@sjm.infi.net>. Send your information even if you think we already have it. Facility name and location, day of week of class or date of event must be submitted to the agent for each calendar year. All street names must include the designation ‘street,’ ‘avenue,’ ‘drive,’ or ‘blvd.’ In addition, if your facility requires it, we must have the Name as Additional Insured and the correct address.
 Please send information on changes for your class as soon as you know a change will be made. Please don’t wait until the last day. A long lead-time is needed to get documents back from the insurance agents. If you are changing your class schedule, planning a party or special event that will happen on a different day, or at a different place than your regular class, be sure to let Jim know in advance or you may not be covered.
 All Branch classes and event committees must send in information each year about regular classes or events. If you do not have a form in your Class Manager’s packet, please request one or simply send in the information.

Dance Party, Friday, September 22, 2000

Put the date on your calendars, and bring a love of Scottish music and dance to this celebration. Alex Harvey should (but can't tempt Fate!) be seventy by then, and wishes to share with everyone his love of 'the dance.'

The Party will be held at the Greek Orthodox Ascension Community Center, Lincoln Ave., Oakland, on Friday, September 22, beginning at 8 p.m. Music will be provided by Alasdair Fraser and Muriel Johnstone. We are delighted that they can both be there.

The program of old and well-loved dances will be published soon. We hope that our friends will help the festivities by providing the snacks for the menu at the end of the evening. Help would also be appreciated for set-up before and clean-up afterwards.

Flyers will be out towards the end of June, providing directions and the program for the evening. All are welcome; it's a wonderful hall. Many of the dances will be well-known, and they will ALL be briefed.

Start the dance year with another taste of that incredible energy generated between Musicians and Dancers, and congratulate Alex at the same time!

Questions? Marianna Harvey (650) 967-8475 or aharvey240@aol.com.

Music for Dance Performances

by Paula Jacobson

While enjoying the dems at the Monterey games, I noticed something that I notice every time we do demonstration dancing – the poor quality of much of the recorded music to which we dance. Some of it is truly awful: distorted, warbled, whiney (Are there really no decent recordings of traditional ladies step dances?). Throughout most of the ladies step dems, we heard the same old slowed-down wavering recordings we usually hear. But suddenly, in the middle of the Lafayette performance, Claudette used some new music on CD–The Wicked Tinkers–followed by another terrific group unfamiliar to me, but really great! What a difference it made! It was exciting, it drove the dance, and I could see the dancers responding, as well as the audience. We all know how dancing to live music improves our spirit, and in turn, our dancing, but we seldom have that luxury at a dem. Even so, we should try to produce the best music we possibly can. We all spend so much time and effort on the dancing aspect of our dems, it only makes sense to give the same attention to our music.

Some suggestions for improvement are:

Seek out good recordings to begin with; if a tune needs to be slow, find the slowest original to use. Try to find clean, clear recordings. Always check the record levels; this reduces distortion. Buy good tape! Use Normal bias tape, **without** Dolby; you never know if you will have to use a machine that can't accommodate high bias tape or noise reduction. Use short tapes, preferably 60's, and NEVER 120's. Clean the tape heads with alcohol on cotton swabs before starting to record. Ordinary 70% household alcohol is fine, but make sure not to use any of the rubbing alcohols that contain oil. With a bit of effort and care, our performances can be as stunning to the ear as they are to the eye.

Mad Hatter Tea Party and Ball

by Kathleen McAdam

Was that a Mad Hatter, clanging a cow-bell, that was spotted one Spring Saturday evening in Orinda? Perhaps you could ask one of the eighty young dancers, aged seven to nineteen years, who attended the second annual Children's Ball. They danced to the music of The Andy Imbrie Ensemble (Andy, Sherryl Fawx, Jane Kurnick, Susan Worland, and Duncan Mackintosh), responding with an energy and enthusiasm that was contagious. Piper Jeff Campbell was followed by Grand Marshal Jo Hamilton, who made quite a picture, in her tall hat and polka-dot coat, with a dormouse tucked under her arm, and a large tartan umbrella as a staff. The children happily marched in after her for the first dance.



Dancers came from Berkeley, Lafayette, Livermore, Sacramento, and San Francisco. It was so heart-warming to see teenagers dancing with the wee ones and to watch the socializing between the groups.

During the intermission, our Junior Piper, Heath Burton, entertained the dancers. The one hundred and fourteen spectators also enjoyed themselves and then helped set up the tables for tea. The delicious tea was prepared by parents, teachers, and friends. June Christie ably guided the kitchen crew.

Jimmy Lomath of Los Angeles very generously donated a pair of Gandolfi ghillies. The names of all the dancers were put in a hat and the lucky winner was Kaitlin Sands of Lafayette.

I would like to encourage more teachers to start children's classes, and as our Branch Youth Coordinator, I would be very happy to discuss ideas on how to go about this. It is so rewarding to work with children and see their incredible progress. Please call me at (925) 934-6148.



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

If you have any concerns about the S.F. Branch, or you'd like to attend a Branch Committee (Board of Directors) meeting, please contact one of the members. Branch Committee meetings are usually held on the 3rd Tuesday before Monthly Parties.

Larry Wakeman, CHAIR: 925-676-1058, lwakeman@nettelnetworld.com (99-09)

Paula Jacobson, VICE CHAIR, SCHOLARSHIPS: 831-688-8295, PJacobson@uclb.org (99-01)

Alastair Brown, TREASURER, SCHOLARSHIPS: 510-222-0871, alastair@centum.com (99-07)

Nancy Page, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: 510-835-5853, fax: 510-839-5417, (no email) (99-02)

Greg Reznick, RECORDING SECRETARY, WEBSITE MANAGER: 925-484-2620, greg@reznickfamily.com (99-01)

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

Dan Scapira, SCHOLARSHIPS: 650-854-3785, dgs@leland.stanford.edu (99-02)

Patti Cobb: 415-826-2257, patticobb@cs.com (99-01)

Miriam Mueller: 415-648-8562, miriamueller@janix.com (99-01)

OTHER RSCDS-S.F. BRANCH VOLUNTEERS

you may want to contact:

MEMBERSHIP/DIRECTORY/CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Eigel & Bisell: 101 Via Lucia, Alamo, CA 94507; 925-837-9453

REEL & STRATHPEPPER (S.F. Branch Newsletter), **EDITORS:** Victoria Williams: 1234 Perata Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94706; 510-526-5854, victoria@uclink.berkeley.edu, **PRODUCTION:** Mike Hird: jmhird@pacbell.net

MONTHLY PARTIES COORDINATOR: George Gayer: 925-252-1018, dmcgafco55@earthlink.net

ASSISTANT COORDINATOR (MINUTES): Linda Papritz: 510-886-5647, lindapap@bays.com

MONTHLY PARTY PROGRAMMING CONTRIBUTOR PERSON: Alan Whigg: 650-962-1539, alane@net.com

MUSIC FOR MONTHLY PARTIES: Andy Imbris, 106-216-9495, andy-sherry@rainspring.com

BOOKSTORE: Jane Muirhead: 510-782-0315, jane@sat.berkeley.edu

BRANCH ARCHIVES: Virginia Bisell: 925-837-0483

TEACHERS' COMMITTEE CHAIR: Arnie Busse: 408-384-6218, arniebusse@hotmail.com. *Teacher's information packet

TEACHER TRAINING TUTOR: Ron Wallace: 707-753-2188, RonWallace@cs.com

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

CHILDREN'S CLASSES LIAISON: Kathleen McAdam: 925-934-6168

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

WEBSITE MANAGER: Greg Reznick: 925-484-2620, greg@reznickfamily.com, Website: www.rscds-sf.org

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: program ads, brochures, info tent: Susie Langdon Kass: 415-333-5372,

msielc@itsa.co.sf.edu; publicist: *volunteers needed!*; for classes: Class Managers.

CLASSES LIST & VOLUNTEERS LIST (R & S): Susie Langdon Kass: 415-333-5372, susiek@itsa.co.sf.edu

SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE: Paula Jacobson: 831-688-8295, PJacobson@uclb.org; Alastair Brown: 510-222-0871,

alastair@centum.com; Dan Scapira: 650-854-3785, dgs@leland.stanford.edu

NOMINATING COMMITTEE/BALLOTS: Susie Langdon Kass, Greg Reznick, Jim Pell, Larry Wakeman, Nancy Page

WEEKEND WORKSHOP #1 ASHIMAE: Marianne Harvey: 650-267-8475, mharvey240@aol.com

VALENTINES BALL: Cindy Sobiera: 925-417-0739; Cecilia Grate: 510-247-9266; Melinda Reschke: 408-515-7179.

PLEASANTON GAMES DANCE (Jean Patrick Memorial): Larry Wakeman: 925-676-1058

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES: Monterey (May): Sara Gracie: 831-384-4783, SEGracie@uclb.com; Campbell (June):

Campbell (June): Sparky Gregory, KENTL_Gregory@yahoo.com or Lin Pettengill, lin@scugill.org; Oakland/Danmar:

Hunk (July): Lori Farrell: 925-334-1928; Oakland/Oldmanir House (July): Lou Barrett: 925-934-1928;

Pleasanton (September): Doug McConnell: j.Douglas@eCourseL@compuserve.com, 650-495-5974; Informa-

tion tent: Susie Langdon Kass: 415-333-5372.

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SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLASSES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO BRANCH CLASSES

Berkeley

FRIDAYS Youth class 7:00 pm. Call Kathleen Haddad 565-054-6148. **Beginners:** 8:00 pm. Grace North Church, 2120 Center at Walnut. **Experienced/Technique:** 7:30 pm. Social. 8:00 pm. All Souls Episcopal Church, 2790 Center at square. Call George Geyer 424-742-1048 or John Knight 925-524-7376. **Teachers:** Yvonne Catherine McAdam, A-111; Annaloune, David Ussarie, guests. **Beginners & Adults:** 7/14.

Berkeley

WEDNESDAYS: **Intermediates:** 8:00 pm. St. Clement's Episcopal Church, 2837 Claremont Blvd. at Russell, near Ashby. Call Heather Morley 415-228-2669. **Teacher:** David Hewitt. **Repeats monthly, resumes 9/11.**

Burlingame (affiliated class)

TUESDAYS: **Basic:** 7:00 pm. **Experienced Social:** 8:00 pm. Burlingame Recreation Center, 460 Huxford Ave. Call Anne MacTier 558-347-5850 or Reception Desk 916-666-1770. **Teacher:** Anne MacTier. **Beginners:** 1/8.

Lafayette

THURSDAYS: **Basic & Social:** 8:00 pm. Call Bill Walker 424-745-3008. **Step:** **Beginners:** 6:00 pm & **Experienced:** 7:00 pm. San Francisco Sign 519-526-8192. **Children's Classes (3 levels):** 6:00 pm. Call Kathleen Haddad 525-054-6148. **Veteran's Hall, 1491 Mt. Diablo Blvd. at East Street. Teachers:** Eugene Bissell, Claudette Sign. Kathleen Haddad, Cathy Beckler. See 8 Children 9/14.

Livermore

MONDAYS: **Beginners & Intermediates:** 7:30 pm. Call Bob McHenry 925-447-5771. **Family Class:** **FRIDAYS:** 7:00 pm (one session, starts in January). **Children's Class:** **MONDAYS:** 6-9 pm. Call Sharon MacQueen 925-447-4325. **Lutheran Presbyterian Church, 2090 Fifth Street at L Street. Teachers:** Anne MacTier, Sherron MacQueen, Tom MacQueen. **Beginners:** 9/11.

Monterey

WEDNESDAYS: **Beginners:** 6:30 pm. **Experienced:** 7:45 pm. Monterey Senior Center, 280 Dickson at Lighthouse. Call Kathy Woodell 831-652-3227 or Brian Campbell 831-652-3222. **Teachers:** Sara Gaudet, Brian Campbell. **Beginners:** 9/11 (call to confirm location).

Mountain View

WEDNESDAYS: **Beginners & Intermediates:** 7:00 pm. Mountain View Sports Pavilion, 1128 Castro Avenue. Call Denise Haron 415-703-7821. **Teachers:** Alan Tully, Annia Busse, Bob McHenry, Bruce Hamilton. **or** Hamilton. **Beginners:** 9/6.

San Francisco

THURSDAYS: **Beginners & Experienced:** 8:00 pm. New City Ministry, 1001 Sanchez Street at 28th Street. Call Diana Johnson 415-847-6434 or Sue Langdon 415-835-6632. **Teachers:** Sue Langdon Kass, Bruce Hultell. **Beginners:** 9/14.

San Francisco (affiliated class)

SUNDAYS: In September: **Advanced** (call for permission) 6:00 pm. **Teacher:** Bruce Hultell. In January 2001: **Beginners:** 6:15 pm. **Teacher:** Sue Langdon Kass. **Millham Recreation & Fitness Center at 1051, 530 Promenade Avenue. Call Sue Langdon 415-415-379-5772.**

San Jose

MONDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:30 pm. **Experienced:** 8:30 pm. **Arden Legion Hall, 1934 Minnesota Street. Call Sandy Govey 408-257-2238 or Jonathan Crowl 408-685-8743. Teachers:** Marizma Clavey, Lin Pelley-Jill, Don Pettingill. **Beginners:** 9/11.

Santa Cruz

THURSDAYS: **Intermediate/Beginners:** 8:00 pm. First Congregational Church, 800 High Street. Call Karen MacDonell 351-675-1414. **Teacher:** Howard Leach. **Resumes:** 2/7.

Santa Rosa

MONDAYS: **Beginners:** 6:00 pm. **Intermediates:** 8:15 pm. **FRIDAYS:** **Advanced** (call for permission). **Santa Rosa Service Center, 704 Bennett Valley Road. Call Emi, 707-574-2542. Teachers:** Emi, Denis, Gary Thomas, Ken Walker. **Beginners:** 9/11.

Soquel

FRIDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:00 pm. **Intermediates:** 8:15 pm. Sequoia Village Hall, 1800 Porter Street. Call Mary or Bob McHenry 931-335-7456. **Teachers:** Maria, anonymous, Bob McHenry. **Resumes:** 9/15.

Stanford

TUESDAYS: **Basic & Experienced Social:** 7:30 pm. **WEDNESDAYS** (once a month): **Team:** **Teachers:** Bill Juliet, Karen 408-733-2025, J.L. Stanford Middle School, 480 West Meadow Drive. Call Min Johnson 408-946-6777 or Craig or Gloria McConnel 408-420-2874. **Teachers:** Doug McConnel, Glada McConnel, Janet Dawson, Barbara Davis. **Beginners:** anytime.

DEMONSTRATION TEAMS

Dunsmuir Scottish Dancers

THURSDAYS: 7:30 pm. **Advanced** (by invitation only). Call Sheri Sells 424-248-8244 or Don Walker 707-705-2135. **Teacher:** Bob Walker.

Red Thistle Dancers

THURSDAYS: 8:00 pm. **Advanced** (by invitation only). Call Jennifer Kelly 925-327-1900. **Teacher:** Jennifer Kelly.

SACRAMENTO BRANCH CLASSES

Sacramento

FRIDAYS: **Beginners:** 6:30 pm. **Combined classes:** 7:30 pm. **Intermediates:** 8:00 pm. Call Jill McCreep 916-454-9257. **Technique & Demonstration Class:** **SUNDAYS,** 7:30 pm. Call Lynn Lockwood 516-491-4037. **Youth classes:** **SATURDAYS:** **Beginners** (10 yrs.-16yrs.), 9:00 am. **Experienced:** 10:15 am. **White Heather Dancers:** 11:45 am. Call Lynn Lockwood 916-491-4037. **Call:** 17th Street, 1400 27th Street. **Teachers:** Lynn Lockwood, Peggy Hamilton. **Beginners:** 9/5.

Stockton

WEDNESDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:00 pm. **Experienced:** 7:30 pm. Unitarian Church, Bristol & Pacific. Call Charles Wood 209-468-8871. **Teacher:** Carolyn Hunt. **Resumes:** 2/6.

Truckee

THURSDAYS: **Basic:** 7:00 pm. **Intermediates:** 7:30 pm. Call to confirm! **Truckee-Danner Recreation Center, Church Street. Call Marlene Sullivan 531-344-4200. Teachers:** Dave Wilson, Nancy Wilkins.

OTHER CLASSES

Arcata

FRIDAYS: 4:30 pm. **SATURDAYS:** 10:00 pm. **Experienced Social:** **Amara Presbyterian Church, 11th & G Streets. Call Helen Kuehner 707-837-3362 or Virginia Rowell 707-827-2854. Teacher:** Sam McClay. **Resumes:** 9/8.

Berkeley (North)

SUNDAYS: **Beginners/Intermediates:** 7:15 pm. Call to confirm! **Northlake Community Church, 541 The Alameda. Call Sam or Kathy Kennedy 519-523-1391. Teachers:** Don Kennedy, Kathy Kennedy.

Grass Valley

MONDAYS: **Beginners/Experienced:** 7:00 pm. Call Ed Johnson 429-624-1911. **Teachers:** Ed Johnson. **Beginners:** anytime. **Resumes:** 8/10-September.

Merced

WEDNESDAYS: **Beginners/Experienced:** 7:00 pm. **Merced High School. Call Merced Recreation & Parks Department 209-386-5850 or Lisa Kayser-Straf 209-384-9715. Teacher:** Nancy Davis. **Resumes:** 2/20.

Mill Valley

FRIDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:30 pm. **Experienced Social:** 8:15 pm. Alvarado Hall, 1700 Alvarado Way at Alvarado. Call Mike and Maggie Hoff 415-444-7770. **Teacher:** Maggie Hoff, guests. **Resumes:** 9/4.

Redding

THURSDAYS: **Beginners & 30+:** **Intermediates:** Call Bill Kingard 916-846-6464 or Lisa 916-846-6464. **Teacher:** Margaret Anne Schlobelus. **Resumes:** anytime.

Reno, Nevada

TUESDAYS: **Beginners:** 7:00 pm. **Experienced:** 7:30 pm. **Children's building (lower) Park, 1000 Silverado Drive. THURSDAYS:** **Beginners:** Call Martha Harris 775-829-6681. **Teacher:** Martha Harris. **Beginners:** anytime.

STEP DANCING CLASSES

Palo Alto

TUESDAYS: **Beginners:** **Carrizo House, Alhambra. THURSDAYS:** **Intermediates:** **Tapscott. FRIDAYS:** **Twosome:** St. Mark's Church, 500 Colorado Avenue. Call Jo Hamilton 558-328-0474. **Teacher:** Jo Hamilton.

Petaluma

2nd SUNDAYS: **Scottish Step & Cape Breton:** 12:00 noon. **Herzman Scovs Hall, 800 Western Avenue. Call Sam Wallace 707-792-2165. Teacher:** Sam Wallace.

Scottish Step or Cape Breton Step classes are held also in Lafayette, Napa, Sacramento, Stockton and Santa Rosa. Call Claudette Sign 516-526-8192. Stock Street 831-382-4721. Jo Hamilton 558-328-0474. Don Sullivan 209-743-5002, or Don Wallace 707-792-2165.

Class Managers & Teachers:

CHANGES FOR AUGUST 1

Contact: Susie at 415-383-9372

susie@itsa.ucsf.edu

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