

*"For naught can cheer the heart so weel, as a canty Highland reel." Robert Fergusson*



# orange Ceilidh county



*"For blithe and merry we'll be a', as long as we hae breath to draw, and dance till we be like to fa',"  
The Reel of Tullochgorum, Rev John Skinner (1721-1801)*

Visit our web site: [www.rscds-oc.org](http://www.rscds-oc.org)

Newsletter of the Orange County Branch of the RSCDS Volume 28 No. 4 Sep/Oct 2010

## GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Happily, our dancing year seems to have expanded to include the summer months with classes and monthly dances hosted by all three branches that are well attended. The Orange County Branch also had two special beginner classes taught by Shirley, Pat and Renee and, hopefully, we will have encouraged some of those who attended to join us on a regular basis.

Coming up on September 25 will be the Interbranch Dance. This year's host for the evening will be the Los Angeles Branch and our musicians are Calum MacKinnon and Lisa Scott. It's always a pleasure to dance to their music and we're looking forward to a wonderful evening. With this dance, the official dance year begins, and we have many wonderful events coming up in the future. Keep checking our website for information on upcoming dances.

Happy dancing, everyone!

*Jan Lauer  
Chair*

The Next Big Event:  
**INTERBRANCH DANCE**  
September 25, 2010  
Tustin Area Senior Center, Tustin

## ORANGE COUNTY CLASSES

### MONDAY

First Presbyterian Church  
146 Grand Ave., Orange  
Beg/Inter. 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
Bob Harmon (714) 774-8535

### WEDNESDAY

Columbus-Tustin Activity Center  
17522 Beneta Way, Tustin  
Beg/Inter. 7:00 – 9:30 p.m.  
Shirley Satursky (714) 557-4662

### THURSDAY

The Neighborhood Community Center  
1845 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa  
Beginners: 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Interm/Adv: 8:35 – 9:45 p.m.  
Bob Patterson (714) 731-2363

### FRIDAY

WISEPlace Event Hall  
1411 N. Broadway, Santa Ana  
Interm/Adv: 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
Shirley Satursky (714) 557-4662



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS****HERE****September 2010**

- 11** OC Branch Dance, Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7:30 p.m. (taped music)
- 25** Interbranch Dance, Tustin Area Senior Center, 7:30 p.m. Music: MacKinnon and Scott

**October 2010**

- 2** **NOTE DATE CHANGE!** OC Branch Dance, Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7:30 p.m. (taped music)

**November 2010**

- 13** OC Branch Beginners Dance, Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7:30 p.m. (taped music)

**THERE****September 2010**

- 19** **NOTE – SUNDAY!** SGV Branch New Dances Workshop #1, Lindberg Park, Culver City, 2:00 p.m.

**October 2010**

- 3** **NOTE – SUNDAY!** SGV Branch Autumn Afternoon Dance, War Memorial Bldg., South Pasadena, 3:00 p.m.
- 16** San Diego Branch 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball, Balboa Park War Memorial Bldg., Reception 5:30 p.m., Ball 6:30 p.m., Musicians: Taylor and Ramshaw
- 23** LA Branch Beginners Dance – Costume Theme, Location TBA

**November 2010**

- 12-14** Julian Retreat Weekend; Send forms to: RSCDS Julian Weekend Registration, P.O. Box 80185, San Diego, 92138
- 27** LA Branch St. Andrews Ball, TBA

**ELSEWHERE****October 2010**

- 8-10** Seaside Highland Games, Ventura
- 9** Seaside Highland Games Dance, First United Methodist Church, Ventura, Time 7:30 p.m.

**SPECIAL TUESDAY CLASSES!!**

Pat Zschoche will be conducting a "beyond-beginner-not-quite-intermediate" class from September 21 through November 16 on Tuesdays, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., in Rossmoor. In the class you will look at Scottish Country Dance steps, commonly used figures and formations, and dances that use them on the Orange County Branch dance program for this year. This class will help Pat meet her teacher certification exam requirements. Join us on Tuesdays and support her! Look for more information on the location in your regular class.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

The Annual General Meeting of the Orange County Branch was held on June 12, 2010. Highlights are as follows:

- **RSCDS:** The new RSCDS website is up and running. Any member who wants their user ID and login information should contact the Branch Corresponding Secretary.
- **Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer reported that the year-end total balance was \$7,598.23, a profit of \$1,160.30 from last year.
- **Membership:** Membership has remained constant with 37 regular and 41 associate. There was discussion on exploring ways to get new members
- **Election:** The election for the 2010-11 COM was conducted. There were no nominations from the floor. The slate was then approved by acclamation. The 2010-11 COM:  
Chair: Jan Lauer  
Vice Chair: Dianne Wilson  
Treasurer: Chuck Olsen  
Corresponding Secretary: Janet Olsen  
Recording Secretary: Barbara Voelkel  
Members at Large: Pete Anderson, Linda Boucher, Christine Grobler, Norm McCallum, Shirley Saturensky, Terri Speakman

Copies of the full minutes of this meeting are available from Recording Secretary Barbara Voelkel.

THE OC BRANCH THANKS  
COLBI TECHNOLOGIES  
FOR CONTINUING TO DONATE THE COST OF  
PRINTING THE *CEILIDH*

**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT  
(COM) MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

**Meeting of June 27, 2010**

- **Membership:** Membership is currently at 33 regular members and 18 associate members.
- **Interbranch Dance:** Los Angeles Branch will be hosting. Plans were discussed.
- **Scholarship Funds:** As few scholarships are given, the COM may explore updating the guidelines after further review.

Copies of the full minutes of this meeting are available from Recording Secretary Barbara Voelkel.

**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT  
(COM) MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

**Meeting of August 15, 2010**

- **Membership:** Membership is currently at 36 regular members and 21 associate members.
- **Burns Ball:** Planning has started for the January 2011 event.
- **Scholarship Funds:** The COM reviewed the current guidelines and continued discussions on possible updates.

The next COM meeting will be October 24. Copies of the full minutes of this meeting are available from Recording Secretary Barbara Voelkel.

**OCTOBER BRANCH DANCE - REMINDER**  
Just a reminder that the October Orange County Branch Dance will be held on October 2, 2010 so that those who want to attend the Seaside Games in Ventura will not have to choose! Mark your calendars!



**A REPORT FROM THE TEACHERS'  
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (TAC)  
AGM AUGUST 6-8, 2010  
SUMMER SCHOOL AUGUST 9-15**

After many years of non-participation in the TAC AGM, the stars aligned this year and I was able to attend not only the AGM but the following week of summer school as well. It was great being among a hundred kindred souls at the AGM which is for teachers only and among about 200 dancers who are avidly keen about SCD during summer school. It is always good to get a refresher course and this week provided ample time for brushing up on teaching points, cleaning up my technique, renewing and making friendships, as well as time for learning the newest RSCDS dances. We all met at Wilfrid Laurier University in Kitchener Waterloo, Canada. Here are my personal highlights.

At the teachers' class on Saturday, it was reassuring to see that SCD is alive and thriving globally. Everyone is having on-going membership problems, but overall even teachers with dwindling class enrollments keep coming to the AGM to renew themselves with the belief that this too shall pass. Alex Gray who is the current RSCDS Chairman taught for the weekend. In two days of classes, we managed to get through every dance from the new Book 46. The dances in this book are the ones that the OC Branch helped to evaluate. Some very good dances made the final cut.

The highlight of AGM was the Saturday night Banquet and Ball with music by Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent. The gym was transformed into a grand ballroom as the dancers were caught up in the energy of the music and the camaraderie. Almost equally as special was the presentation during dinner of the 25 year membership certificates of which Bob and I were both honored to have been among the recipients.

Summer School got off on the right foot with a Frae A' the Airts Welcome Dance. There were 60 dancers for whom this was their first summer school. The experience level in the gym ranged from 6 months to 50+ years. It was nice to see the newer dancers blending in with the more experienced dancers providing for a congenial social atmosphere.

Our mornings started with a 3 hour class. In the afternoon, participants had a choice of classes. One of the things that drew me to attend summer school this year was the RSCDS Tutor Training Course. Seventeen teachers gathered with Alex Gray to discuss and clarify the new teacher examination levels. The process of earning RSCDS teaching certificates has changed dramatically in the last couple of years. I was feeling very outdated and enjoyed modernizing my knowledge base, however, writing a detailed RSCDS lesson plan was a bit intimidating 23 years after receiving my full certificate!

There were planned activities every evening; Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday were different themed SCD dances with live music. Old Time Dancing led by Ruth (Rings on Her Fingers) Jappy on Wednesday was my favorite. Friday was a Ceilidh. Saturday was the Summer School Banquet and Ball, Bobby Brown and the Scottish Accent once again provided spot-on tempos and lovely tunes (Miss Gibson's Strathspey was exquisite!).

All too soon it was time to pack and return home. It was a great experience, one I would highly recommend to any SCD dancer who is keen to learn more about the dance form and who wants to make global social ties. Summer School 2011 will be held in July at Bishop's University in Sherbrooke, Quebec so mark your calendars and save your loonies (Canadian dollars). This year, teachers represented both Northern and Southern California, but it would be great to have some non-teachers in attendance as well. Find out more at [www.tac-rscds.org](http://www.tac-rscds.org).

On a closing note, having spent most my life on some sort of campus or another, I always pick up local campus reading materials. Here is a tip for incoming freshmen from the campus newspaper's list of things to avoid: "The geese: Seriously, watch out! These things bite, chase, squawk, and take no mercy." A good bit of advice for anyone who comes in contact with Canadian geese which just might be you if you attend a TAC Summer School. My hard-earned piece of advice: "Always have an umbrella or rain poncho handy!" O'Canada!

*Renee Boblette*



### **WORDS FROM THE PAST...**

For me, summer has become the time to reflect on the past season of dances and try out some dances that might be considered for the new season. I also try to spend some extra time doing research on dances and dancing. When I dusted off this booklet and started re-reading my way through it, I thought it would be nice to share these words written by the Co-Founder of R.S.C.D.S, Miss Jean C. Milligan.

The booklet is called *101 Scottish Country Dances* and my copy has a reprint date of 1957. I am not among the fortunate dancers who had the pleasure and privilege of meeting and dancing with Jean Milligan. My only contact with her had been through film and her writings. As I read the Introduction and General Hints, I imagined her voice full of energy as she expressed her views on Scottish Country Dancing.

I have blended these two parts for the sake of space, but I encourage you to do your own research into the history of SCD. *Won't You Join the Dance?* and *Dance With Your Soul* are two books that any SC dancer who is keen to be informed should add to their reading list.

Jean Milligan's words will be in my thoughts as I look forward to the new season. I hope you also find them inspiring and informative.

### *Introduction*

Have you ever had the pleasure of joining in a Scottish Country Dance? If not, then indeed it is time that you experienced this jolly, lively, social type of dancing. Scottish Country Dancing has been popular in Scotland for many generations. It should never be called Folk Dancing for it is a Scottish tradition known and loved by all classes of the people. Though Scottish Country Dancing has had its ups and downs it has never died, and the dances found in this book are all truly traditional and have been saved for Scotland by dancing teachers of various periods who have written them down for their pupils.

Many people wonder how old these dances are and what gave many of them their interesting names. Unfortunately Scots were never good at writing things down, preferring to hand down their traditions by the spoken word from one generation to another. The longways type of dance is traditionally British. It is found in all four countries—England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, and also in the Isle of Man. It is really in the steps and in the method of presentation and also in some special formations that the Scottish tradition lies. Scottish technique and presentation is French in character and goes back to the days of the "Auld Alliance" and to the times when mercenary armies of France were largely Scottish. The dancing in its elegance and carefully detailed steps is closely allied to the French Court, and it is from there that both Highland and Scottish Country Dancing derived their form.

It is not necessary to be an adept to enjoy this type of dancing, but, of course the better you dance the more you enjoy it. And ability to follow formations and the power to move your feet rhythmically, and a good helpful social sense will undoubtedly make you an enthusiastic member of whatever Scottish Country Dance group you form or follow.

Never forget that the chief object of these dances is social. Happy gay movement, jollity without licence, and cordial helpfulness all go to the making of a really good Scottish Country Dance. Team work is essential. Once you begin to dance as top couple you must go on without stopping until you get to the bottom. Be ready for your turn as top couple and also join in as helping couple. Try to make your helping movements really helpful—remember you are just as important when dancing as 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> couple as you are when 1<sup>st</sup>.

### *General Hints*

Remember that since the man always has his partner on his right hand, so, in a longwise set, he will have his left shoulder to the top of the room. Make your sets as wide as the space allows. You dance with much more ease and spirit if you have room to move. Always be ready for your turn—either as helping or as new top couple. Remember to step up to leave a space into which the working couple progress. Give hands firmly and helpfully. Nothing is so unpleasant as, or more disconcerting than, to be given a flabby loose grasp. Men should not fix their hands above the head or at the waist. Since in Country Dancing the man must be on the alert all the time to help and guide his partner, he must keep his arms easily at his sides. Only when doing a Highland setting step as in the Foursome Reel, or in the middle of the Eightsome Reel, or if such a step is used for setting in Glasgow Highlanders, does the man put up his arms. The woman holds her dress when in a long skirt. All Scottish Country Dances begin with a bow and curtsy. This should be done in a simple and natural fashion. It is just a sign to your partner that you are dancing together and are going to have a good time.

Never dance too fast. Speed does not really give spirit. Real spirit and liveliness come from within the dancer, and quick music often ruins much of the pleasure of dancing, because it is apt to turn the dance into something of a riot. To dance well one needs time to think of what is coming next, and time to use all the bars of music given to each formation.

*Renee Boblette*

**THE TWO-SEX SCOTTISH DANCER**

I'm a two sex Scottish Dancer and may seem  
rather dim,

But I never spend one evening as a full time  
her or him,

I change my sex from dance to dance, my  
corners always alter

It's really not surprising I occasionally falter.

The old and simple dances I can manage very  
nicely

And I can learn a new dance and do it most  
precisely,

But when it comes to next week I don't know  
if I can

For I learnt it as a woman and dance it as a  
man.

And so you men who have the luck to always  
stay the same

When female gentlemen go wrong be sparing  
with your blame.

I'll add a postscript to this tale - one comfort I  
have got

When both the women change their sex it  
doesn't show a lot!

**MEDLEY - RR**

Lady Maxwell's Reel	B	Book 26
Alison's Round Reel	I	Gray
Frae A' the Airts	I	RSCDS-L

**REELS**

Clydeside Lassies	B	MMM 1
Pawling Porch, The	B	Brunken
Reel of the Royal Scots	B	Goldring
Reel On	B	Goldring
Round Reel of Eight	B	Book 27
Royal Deeside Railway	B	Book 40
White Cockade, The	B	Book 5
Foggy River Reel	I	Blue
J.B. Milne	I	Foss
Lady Susan Stewart's Reel	I	Book 5
Minard Castle	I	Book 22
None So Pretty	I	Book 19
Scott Meikle	I	McLean
Starry Night	I	Harmon
Sueno's Stone	I	RSCDS-4/2008
Crossing the Line	A	Drewry
Irish Rover, The	A	Cosh
Mathematicians	A	Gray

**LIST OF DANCES****O.C. BRANCH 2010-2011****JIGS**

Berwick Johnnie	B	Graded Book
Campbell's Frolic	B	Book 15
Jubilee Jig	B	RSCDS-L
Kendall's Hornpipe	B	Graded Book
Lady Catherine Bruce's Reel	B	Graded Book
Laird of Milton's Daughter	B	Book 22
Postie's Jig	B	Clowes
Roaring Jelly	B	Foss
Tribute to the Borders	B	RSCDS-L
Capital Jig, A	I	RSCDS-5
Compleat Gardner, The	I	Paterson
Last of the Lairds, The	I	Book 22
Seton's Ceilidh Band	I	Fordyce
Spiffin'	I	10 Dancers-L
Whistler's Jig	I	Tague
Glavya	A	Drewry
Jennifer's Jig	A	Drewry
Major Ian Stewart	A	Book 35
Weathercock, The	A	Hughes

**STRATHSPEYS**

Balmoral Strathspey	B	Book 22
Delvine Side	B	Book 2
Hot Butterbeer	B	Lockwood
Sandy O'er the Lea	B	MMM 2
Seann Truibhas Willichan	B	Book 27
Seattle Landing	B	Vandegrift
Castle Douglas	I	Goldring
Dunsinane	I	Drewry
Little Strathspey, The	I	Drewry
May Yarker's Strathspey	I	Book 42
Sandy's Scotch Broth	I	Sibley
Silver Tassie, The	I	RSCDS-L
Valentine, The	I	5 for 2009
Aberdeen Hunt	A	Wallace
Argyll Strathspey	A	Book 35
Dancing Master of Moneton	A	Briscoe
Gang the Same Gate	A	Book 36
Spirit of the Dance, The	A	Paterson

**SEPTEMBER BRANCH DANCE****September 11, 2010, 7:30 p.m.**

Anaheim Downtown Community Center

250 E. Center St., Anaheim

Cost \$8 Member; \$10 Non-Members, Taped Music

Lady Catherine Bruce's Reel	B J	Graded Book
The Royal Deeside Railway	B R	Book 40
Gang the Same Gate	A S	Book 36
Whistler's Jig	I J	Tague
Alison's Round Reel	I R	Gray

Campbell's Frolic	B J	Book 15
The Spirit of the Dance	A S	Paterson
The Mathematicians	A R	Gray
Delvine Side	B S	Book 2
Seton's Ceilidh Band	I J	Fordyce

Roaring Jelly	B J	Foss
None So Pretty	I R	Book 19
Seattle Landing	B S	Vandegrift
Jennifer's Jig	A J	Drewry
Minard Castle	I R	Book 22

**EXTRAS:**

The Reel of the Royal Scots B R Goldring

Waltz Country Dance

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**INTERBRANCH DANCE****September 25, 2010, 7:30 p.m.**

Tustin Area Senior Center

200 C Street, Tustin

Cost \$20 Member; \$22 Non-Members

Music: Calum MacKinnon and Lisa Scott

The Machine Without Horses	B J	Book 12
Starlight	I R	Book 44
Balmoral Strathspey	B/I S	Book 22
The Hazel Tree	I J	Drewry
Jean Martin of Aberdeen	I S	3 for 2006
Cadgers in the Canongate	A R	Book 9

Maitland to Manchester	I J	Thomas/Wallace
The White Cockade	B R	Book 5
Neidpath Castle	I S	Book 22
The Weathercock	A J	Hughes
Invercauld's Reel	B S	Book 11
Lady Susan Stewart's Reel	I R	Book 5

Blue Bonnets	B J	Book 3
J.B. Milne	I R	Foss
Argyll Strathspey	A S	Book 35
A Capital Jig	I J	5 for 2009
The De'il Amang the Tailors	B R	Book 14

**OCTOBER BRANCH DANCE****October 2, 2010, 7:30 p.m. (NOTE DATE!)**

Anaheim Downtown Community Center

250 E. Center St., Anaheim

Cost \$8 Member; \$10 Non-Members, Taped Music

Alison's Round Reel	I R	Gray
Lady Catherine Bruce's Reel	B J	Graded Book
The Royal Deeside Railway	B R	Book 40
Dunsinane	I S	Drewry
Jennifer's Jig	A J	Drewry
None So Pretty	I R	Book 19

The Complete Gardner	I J	Paterson
Aberdeen Hunt	A S	Wallace
Starry Night	I R	B. Harmon
Seattle Landing	B S	Vandegrift
J.B. Milne	I R	Foss

The Jubilee Jig	B J	RSCDS-L
Sandy's Scotch Broth	I S	Sibley
The Mathematicians	A R	Gray
The Spirit of the Dance	I S	Paterson
Seton's Ceilidh Band	I J	Fordyce

**EXTRAS:**

Whistler's Jig I J Tague

The Reel of the Royal Scots B R Goldring

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**NOVEMBER BRANCH BEGINNERS DANCE****November 13, 2010, 7:30 p.m.**

Anaheim Downtown Community Center

250 E. Center St., Anaheim

Cost \$8 Member; \$10 Non-Members, Taped Music

Campbell's Frolic	B J	Book 15
Reel On	B R	Goldring
Sandy O'er the Lea	B S	MMM II
Roaring Jelly	B J	Foss
The White Cockade	B R	Book 5
Seattle Landing	B S	Vandegrift
Scott Meikle	I R	Book 46

Kendall's Hornpipe	B J	Graded Book
Lady Maxwell's Reel	B M	Book 26
Hot Butterbeer	B S	Lockwood
Round Reel of Eight	B R	Book 27
Dunsinane	I S	Drewry
The Jubilee Jig	B J	RSCDS-L

Whistler's Jig	I J	Tague
Balmoral Strathspey	B/I S	Book 22
The Reel of the Royal Scots	B R	Goldring

**EXTRAS:**

The Boston Two Step (will be taught)

Waltz

