



Newsletter of the San Gabriel Valley Branch, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

# The Thistle and Rose

## Letter from the Chairman

2012 is moving along at rapid pace! January's winter dance brought fun in Culver City where we danced under palm trees and snowflakes. Joining us were Jim, Lea and Jasmine Maiolo who left real winter in Seattle to travel to Los Angeles. It was great to visit and dance with them and meet one of the next generation of Scottish dancers.

Our March dance falls on St. Patrick's Day this year. Come join us at Pasadena City College to celebrate the way we know best—dancing. Of course you don't need to have a drop of Irish blood to join in. In April San Gabriel Valley Branch will join with Orange County Branch for a dance. It will be held on our date, April 21, in Orange County. If you would like to carpool, please contact me.

That brings us to May. We will have dinner, AGM and dance at St. Barnabas in Eagle Rock. At the AGM we will elect a new management committee. Please think about serving on the committee. I appreciate the dedication of current members and many of them will continue, but it is always good to have new faces and ideas. It isn't all work; we have fun as well.

As you read this issue of *Thistle and Rose* you will notice that we are spotlighting our newest teacher, Deresa Teller. Her vibrant personality comes out in her article and if you don't know her yet, look for her bright smile and introduce yourself.

I am pleased to be able to write that Anthea Macdonald is home and her recovery is going well. She thanks all of you for your calls, cards and warm wishes. We hope she is back dancing soon.

This weekend is the Scottish Festival on the Queen Mary. Many of you have signed up to dance, but if you haven't, consider going for the activities, shopping, camaraderie and of course, the audience participation.

Hope you see you dancing soon.

Pat Grivetti

## Ahoy all dancers!



### Scottish Festival on the Queen Mary Takes place this weekend! Sat. and Sun. 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> Feb.

The Orange County Branch is once again presenting a demo of Scottish Country Dancing.

#### Queen Mary Demo dances

Dancers should meet at 10:30am at the Salon on the Promenade Deck to form sets and walk through the dances. The parade at 12:00 is optional but always fun.

Reel On	4x32 Reel
Seattle Landing	3x32 Strathspey
Lady Catherine Bruce's Reel	6x32 Jig
The Sailor	8x32 Hornpipe

Audience participation dances:  
The Cumberland Reel  
Saint Bernard's Waltz

Please contact me for more information at  
714-731-2363 H, 714-318-8571 C, or  
[rpatterson.psyd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rpatterson.psyd@sbcglobal.net) *Renee Boblett*



Dancers at the January SGV dance in Culver City

Photo by Jo Solomon

## Our Newest Teacher

There's a new teacher on the block! Deresa Teller completed her preliminary teaching exam in May of last year. Congratulations, Deresa. It is wonderful to have another teacher to pass on the skills and traditions of SCD to the next generation of dancers.

Deresa put much time and effort into preparing for the exam, making regular trips to San Francisco where she would spend an intense few days taking classes and going to dances. That's dedication!

Deresa began Scottish Country Dancing 13 years ago, when her daughters were 6 and 8 years old and were taking ballet and tap classes at Simi Valley Parks and Rec. She saw an SCD class listed and wanted to give it a try. Her first teacher was David Brandon.

Dogs are also an important part of Deresa's life. The 1985 Mexico City earthquake inspired her to become involved in training Search and Rescue dogs. Her rescue dog, Bella, searched for and found 30 bodies in Oklahoma City and in New York after 9/11. They have worked rescue in hurricanes as well. Deresa has worked for the LAFD 32 years in various capacities including: Paramedic, Fire Inspector and now as coordinator of the Urban Search and Rescue Dog Team. At home Deresa has four dogs – all Border Collies - who she says are smarter than some people she knows!

In her spare time, Deresa loves to garden and has earned a first degree black belt in Tai Kwon Do. Currently, Deresa has no plans to teach a class of her own. She is content to attend classes and assist as needed. We wish her the best of luck and look forward learning from her.

*Janet Maruhashi*

## News from Sin City

The Las Vegas Scottish Country Dance class has enjoyed steady growth, an active demo team and a growing dance repertoire.

We have a "core group" of strong dancers learning more challenging dances, but we welcome "first timers" as well. Average size of class is 1-3 sets. We are a friendly and lively group, and we often have more gentlemen dancing than ladies! Come join us! In 2011 we enjoyed "combined" events with our local English Country Dance group. These included a

"Jane Austen Ball" and a "Pride Prejudice and Zombie" Dance. The "Zombie Ball" was a hilarious "one of a kind" event; dancers, dressed as zombies and other frightening characters, enjoyed speeding through a variety of slightly-twisted English and Scottish dances. It was such a hit that we are planning another in October 2012 and you are all welcome to come!

We are also planning our **first All-Scottish Country Dance Ceilidh** for the Saturday evening of the Las Vegas Highland Games on April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 2012. It'll feature Branch dances as well as local favorites, with recorded music, great refreshments and tons of fun. Our dauntless demo team will be performing on Sunday at the Games, morning and afternoon. More Dance info at: [mmacrae@earthlink.net](mailto:mmacrae@earthlink.net)

Taught by Marsden MacRae, this class meets every Friday evening from 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm at the Charleston Heights Arts Center located at 800 South Brush Street (near Highway 95 and Decatur Boulevard) which boasts a spectacular wood dance floor and plenty of parking. In the past, Marsden taught the Culver City class for 2 years or so.

Coming to Las Vegas? We enjoy having "out of towners" visit our class and hitting the Vegas Hot Spots for the weekend! Why not plan to leave a little early, miss the traffic, bring your ghillies, and join us? (Even if you miss the Friday class, there will be other opportunities to do English, Contra, or international dance, generally Wednesday through Saturday, in Las Vegas!)

Our class rep to the Branch is Minda Hannenberg. For more information, and to confirm class schedule, please call Minda at 702-515-0326.

*Minda Hannenberg*



Outdoor fun in Las Vegas.

## Macdonalds' Anniversary Tea Dance

We'd like to thank all of you who came to our Tea Dance on October 15<sup>th</sup> at Dabney Hall to help us celebrate our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and those who generously donated tea sandwiches and other delights! It was wonderful to see so many old friends who attended our wedding, and many new friends whom we've made since. And it was great to be back at Dabney. When we were married there, we had about 160 people in attendance, most of them dancers. We didn't have quite that many this time, but it was quite an afternoon. Doug's class was originally in Dabney, and it was where we first met, so it holds a lot of memories. This event certainly added many new ones.

This was also the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the San Gabriel Valley Branch. The founding of the branch occurred ten years to the day before we were married, on October 12, 1986. In the past we've held two joint events, marking our 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> anniversaries, and San Gabriel's 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

We're looking forward to celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with you, dancing to favorites old and new!

*Anthea & Doug Macdonald*



*Photos by Bob Harmon and Lia Abbate*

## I was on my way to the Tea dance...

After working hard on making 2 full loaves of different kinds of tea sandwiches for the party, following Anthea's requests to make sure the crusts were cut off and cut into different shapes, I got myself dressed and drove over to the Pasadena War Memorial. As I entered the War Memorial, I saw a couple of men in kilts and many women in dresses or skirts and blouses and quite a feast set up on the table as I first walked in. I placed my sandwiches on the table in their trays, and I was asked to make a card stating what ingredients I used. I neatly printed out the ingredients on 2 by 5 cards and placed them near the trays. I was then told to go sign the guest book and make a button with my name on it. After signing the guest book, I walked over to the button table. There were a couple of colored Sharpie pens and a wide variety of stickers but the only choices of stickers were of frogs. I wrote my name on the paper part of the button, looked at the selection of frogs, picked 2 amphibians that looked like they were doing the Highland Schottische and Pas de basque steps and placed them by my name. I thought to myself, "Huh, I didn't know the Macdonald's liked frogs!" I then handed my cute little button to a man who placed it into the button-making machine. When he handed it back to me, I proudly pinned it to my dress so all could admire my 2 dancing frogs. "How clever am I?" I thought to myself!

I then proceeded to the main floor area and noticed that the chairs were arranged in several large circles in the middle of the room. I chose a chair, placed my purse and sweater on it, put on my Ghillies and wondered why the chairs were placed that way. I thought that Doug and Anthea were going to put on some type of act, after all it WAS their Anniversary and we have all seen what those two are capable of (some of us have even participated) and I thought nothing of it. As I made my way to the ladies room I looked around and not only did I not recognize a single person, but I didn't even see the Anniversary couple. This was about 4:10pm and I thought that maybe those two were either running a little late, getting prepared for their "act", or they were just somewhere else. After my visit to the ladies room I began to look around more thoroughly and I STILL didn't see a single person that I knew. I saw a few tables with different frog displays on them (wow, they really must like frogs) and one table had a few photo albums too. I drifted over to the table with the albums, started looking at the photos inside one of them, and guess what??? ... I didn't recognize a soul in the album either!

## another adventure in Deresa's life!

So I asked a couple of people who were next to me if this was the Macdonald's Anniversary Dance and they told me that it was not. I then said "I'M AT THE WRONG PARTY", put my street shoes and sweater back on, gathered up my purse and tea sandwiches, (only down a few), and someone said "Hey, where are you taking those?" I told him "to the Macdonald's Party" and got into my car. I was certainly hoping it was at Cal Tech and on the drive over I called Linda McWade, Linda Boucher and Pat Grivetti, not expecting any of them to answer (and no one did) since it was well past 4 at this time and I was sure they were all dancing. I made it to Cal Tech by about 4:30pm and I couldn't believe that I had made it in time for the first dance.

During the second break I checked my phone and saw that Linda McWade had called me about 30 minutes prior. I thought something must have come up with her because she wasn't at the dance and I know how much she had wanted to attend. I listened to my voice mail and the message from Linda went something like this; "Well, you get the dummy award # 1 for going to the wrong place but I get the dummy award # 2 because I thought their party was tomorrow!"

So in conclusion; first of all why were there a couple of men wearing kilts at the War Memorial? and secondly, if you want to know where and when a Scottish Dance event is, be sure to look in the Thistle and Rose or check the flier. However, looking on the bright side, I now have a cute little button that I will proudly wear to some dances. By the way, Doug and Anthea, Do you like frogs?! Ribbit, Ribbit

*Deresa Teller*



*Photo by Murray Bader*

## Winter Beginner's Dance



**Left;** Baby Jasmine enjoys the dance music in the arms of her mother Lea.

**Below:** The Winter beginner's dance was enjoyed by all.



*Photos by Jo Solomon*

## April Dance (OC and SGV)

April 21<sup>st</sup> 2012 at 7:30pm  
Anaheim Downtown Center, Anaheim  
\$8 RSCDS, \$10 Non - members

Laird of Miltons' Daughter	BJ	RSCDS Book 22
Saltire Society Reel	IR	RSCDS Leaflet
The Gardener's Fantasia	IS	RSCDS Book46
The 51 <sup>st</sup> Travellers	IJ	RSCDS book 44
Gifts	BS	Many Happy Hours
The Pinewoods Reel	IR	J B Dickson
The Jubilee Jig	BJ	RSCDS Leaflet
Crossing the Line	AR	J Drewry
Castle Douglas	IS	R Goldring
The Waggle O' the Kilt	AJ	J Cosh 22SCD
Sandy's Scotch Broth	IS	J Drewry
The Peat Fire Flame	AR	J Drewry
Tribute to the Borders	BJ	RSCDS Leaflet
The Maids of Curry	BR	Children's Book
Blackadder House	IS	Johnson/Zobel
Seton's Ceilidh Band	IJ	Morison Bush
Bauldy Bain's Fiddle	IR	JB Dickson

## St. Patrick's Day Dance

March 17<sup>th</sup> 2012 at 7:30pm  
Pasadena City College, Women's Gym  
\$8 RSCDS, \$10 Non-members.

The Jubilee Jig	BJ	RSCDS Leaflet
Sandy O'er The Lea	BS	MMM 11
The 51 <sup>st</sup> Travellers	IJ	RSCDS Book 44
Johnnie's Welcome Hame	IR	RSCDS Book 32
Sarona	AS	Leaflet/Drewry
Irish Rover	IR	Cosh SCDS & 1
Laird of Milton's Daughter	BJ	RSCDS Book 22
Seton's Ceilidh Band	IJ	Morison Bush
The Lammermuir Hills	IS	Goldring
The Waggle O' the Kilt	AJ	Cosh 22&2
The Gardener's Fantasia	IS	RSCDS Book 46
Cadgers in the Canongate	AR	RSCDS Book 9
Mary Erskine	BR	Goldring
Blackadder House	BS	Johnstone/Zobel
The Last of the Lairds	IJ	RSCDS Book 22
Sandy's Scotch Broth	IS	Katannuta/Sibley
Bauldy Bain's Fiddle	IR	J B Dickson

## Spring Fling Workshop and Dance (SD)

March 31<sup>st</sup> 2012 at 1:00pm  
War Memorial Building, Balboa Park, San Diego.  
Please see page 5 for times and pricing.

Wild Geese	J	RSCDS Book 24
Fair Donald	S	RSCDS Book 29
Bauldy Bain's Fiddle	R	J B Dickson
Inchmickery	J	Goldring
Braes of Tulliemet	S	RSCDS Book 7
Hyperactive Reel	R	2nd Graded Book
Cranberry Tart	J	T Glasspool
The Robertson Rant	S	RSCDS Book 39
Duke & Duchess of Edinburgh	R	RSCDS Book 39
Mrs. Stewart's Jig	J	RSCDS Book 35
The Pinewoods Reel	R	J B Dickson
Sugar Candie	S	RSCDS Book 26
Equilibrium	J	I Barbour
West's Hornpipe	R	5 for 1965
Flower of Glasgow	S	RSCDS Book 46
A Capital Jig	J	5 for 2009
Highlandman Kissed His Mother	R	MMM 1

## EVENTS

### San Gabriel Valley Events

#### January 28<sup>th</sup> Beginner's Dance

Lindberg Park, Culver City, 7:30 pm.

#### March 17<sup>th</sup> St Patrick's Day Dance

Pasadena City College, Women's Gym, 7:30 pm.

#### April 21<sup>st</sup> April Dance\_(SGV &OC)

Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7:30 pm

### Other Events

#### February 25<sup>th</sup> Beginner's Dance (L A)

Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 7 pm

#### March 10<sup>th</sup> Beginner's Dance\_(OC)

Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7:30 pm.

#### March 24<sup>th</sup> Beginner's Dance\_(LA)

First Christian Church 4390 Colfax,  
N. Hollywood, 7pm

#### March 31<sup>st</sup> Spring Fling (SD)

San Diego War Memorial Bldg. Balboa Park.  
Workshop: 1pm – 3pm. High Tea: 3:15pm – 4:45pm.  
Tea Dance: 6pm. Reserve by March 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### April 2<sup>nd</sup> Branch Dance (LA)

First Christian Church, No. Hollywood, 7pm

#### April 21<sup>st</sup> April Branch Dance\_(OC &SGV)

Anaheim Downtown Community Center, 7:30 pm



Dorothy Bimber-Worley and her granddaughter, Bethany, celebrating Bethany's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday at the November dance.

*Photo by Janet Maruhashi*

*Sketch by Mary Ellen Clark*

## SGV Classes

### Tuesday

Culver City 7:30-9:45

Teacher: Pat Grivetti [pgriv@earthlink.net](mailto:pgriv@earthlink.net)

Place: Lindberg Park Recreation Center

Thousand Oaks 7:30-9:30

Teacher: Robb Quint [Volleyballjerry@aol.com](mailto:Volleyballjerry@aol.com)

Place: Hillcrest Center for the Arts

### Wednesday

Pasadena 7:30-10:00

Teacher: Doug Macdonald [damacdonald@juno.com](mailto:damacdonald@juno.com)

Place: Westminster Presbyterian Church

### Thursday

Eagle Rock 7:30-9:30

Teacher: Anthea Macdonald [damacdonald@juno.com](mailto:damacdonald@juno.com)

Place: St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

### Friday

Las Vegas 6:30–8:45

Teacher: Marsden MacRae

Place: Charleston Heights Arts Center

Call Minda Hannenburg at 702-515-0326 for details.

### Sunday

South Pasadena Beg 6-7:30, Int/Adv 7-9:00

Teacher: Anthea Macdonald [damacdonald@juno.com](mailto:damacdonald@juno.com)



## Scholarship Fund

The Scholarship fund was established in memory of Jeanne Weston and Willie Woods. It is available to qualified members who need financial assistance to attend dance or music related events. Scholarship is not to exceed \$150.00. All inquiries are strictly confidential. To apply, please contact Pat Grivetti at [pgriv@earthlink.net](mailto:pgriv@earthlink.net) .

## The Next Thistle and Rose

Please submit articles for the April issue of the Thistle and Rose by April 15<sup>th</sup> to me at [jisally5@ca.rr.com](mailto:jisally5@ca.rr.com). Any material received may be edited for clarity and space. Your letters and feedback are also welcome.

*Janet Maruhashi*