



# THE SEANACHIE

Visit us online at [www.southbayscots.org](http://www.southbayscots.org)

August 2012



## Pleasanton Highland Games 147<sup>th</sup> Scottish Highland Gathering & Games Saturday & Sunday Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>

John Dewing

A small sample of information on the Games, presented by The Caledonian Club of San Francisco:

“U.S. Marine Band & L.A. Scots Grade 1 Pipe Band together in marching & concert during Grandstand Show both days. One of only two musical appearances in the world of a U.S. Military band and a world famous Grade 1 pipe band.”

Don't miss this and more: <http://www.thescottishgames.com/>

SBSS will have a booth to meet the public and a place for members to come take a break and socialize. If you could spend some time helping in the booth, please contact Nathan Irving, Deputy Chief (info pg.2).

Please check out the maps and transportation options found on the above webpage under 'Transportation'. BART costs to ride but the free shuttle and not having to park is a good deal!

## In Response to Unanimous Demand! The SBS is Again Bringing a Halloween Party and Dance to our October General Meeting

Andy McFarlin

Be sure to make a note on your calendar NOW! Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm at the West Valley Branch of the San Jose Public Library. <http://goo.gl/maps/p5JMx> For all those who had such a great time last year, we will have our potluck dinner followed by a very short (30min max) business meeting and the Halloween Party with all sorts of games and contests (and of course prizes).



With the SBSS's own DJ and Deputy Chief Nathan Irvine, all kinds of dancing will take place. Dances such as the Monster Mash, Chicken Dance, Macarena and others will ring out.

Come and have lots of fun and an AWESOME TIME. Costumes are not mandatory but will be in order, come as you are or want to be.

2011 South Bay  
Scottish Society  
Board

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**Gov-at-Large**

Marjorie Coakley  
408.224.1508



## The SBSS Welcomes New Members

A warm welcome is extended to  
Brian & Lindy Barclay of  
Sunnyvale. Please introduce  
yourselves and give a warm and  
hearty welcome to Brian & Lindy

Aefauld welcome  
Andy McFarlin, Chief



## SBSS On-Line

John Dewing



## SOUTH BAY SCOTTISH SOCIETY

Serving the Southern San Francisco Bay Area



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See our website at [www.southbayscots.org](http://www.southbayscots.org).

Follow the society on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/South-Bay-Scottish-Society/149577291778857?ref=ts>



Check out or new full color logo t-shirt at zazzle.com

<http://www.zazzle.com/sbscots+gifts>

## Seanachie Publication Information

Andy McFarlin

Submit all materials by mail to Andy McFarlin, 1100 Ranchero Way, Apt.11, San Jose, CA 95117, or electronically to John Dewing at [SBSS\\_Newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:SBSS_Newsletter@yahoo.com). (The email account is checked on a weekly basis, well I try).

Note: All material becomes the property of the South Bay Scottish Society. Newsletter content is decided upon by Editor Andy McFarlin, representing the Board of Governors and the membership of the South Bay Scottish Society.





# Calendar of Events

Andy McFarlin

## OCTOBER

- 3 SBSS Board of Governors Meeting  
7:00pm  
Mountain Mike's Pizza Parlor  
301 E. Hamilton Ave, Campbell, CA
- 12 SBSS General Meeting  
7:00pm Potluck Dinner, Halloween Party, Dance, prizes  
West Valley, San Jose Public Library  
1243 San Thomas Aquino Rd,  
San Jose, CA
- 19 Movie Night – Lady Killers  
7:00pm  
Round Table Pizza Parlor  
1472 Pollard Rd, Los Gatos, CA
- 21 Chief's Picnic  
10:00am – 4:00pm  
"20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the South Bay Scottish Society"  
BBQ, Games, Entertainment  
WE CELEBRATE THIS SPECIAL EVENT at  
Wildwood Park  
20764 4th St., Saratoga, CA

## AUGUST

- 1 SBSS Board of Governors Meeting  
7:00pm  
Mountain Mike's Pizza Parlor  
301 E. Hamilton Ave, Campbell, CA
- 17 Movie Night – Seal Morning  
7:00pm  
Round Table Pizza Parlor  
1472 Pollard Rd, Los Gatos, CA

## SEPTEMBER

- 1-2 Pleasanton Highland Games
- 5 SBSS Board of Governors Meeting  
7:00pm  
Mountain Mike's Pizza Parlor  
301 E. Hamilton Ave, Campbell, CA
- 21 Movie Night – I'm Alright Jack  
7:00pm  
Round Table Pizza Parlor  
1472 Pollard Rd, Los Gatos, CA

## ADVANCED NOTICE

- DEC 7 Toys for Tots  
Harry's Hoffbrau
- JAN 26 Burns Supper  
Mtn. View Masonic Hall

## 2012 Highland Games Partial Listing



Pleasanton Scottish Games Sep 1-2  
<http://www.caledonian.org/games.html>  
 \*\*\* SBSS booth will be at the games \*\*\*

Dixon Scottish Games Sep 29  
<http://www.scotsindixon.org/dsca/games.html>

Stone Mountain Highland Games, GA Oct 19-21  
<http://www.smhg.org/>  
 For the traveler





The Players

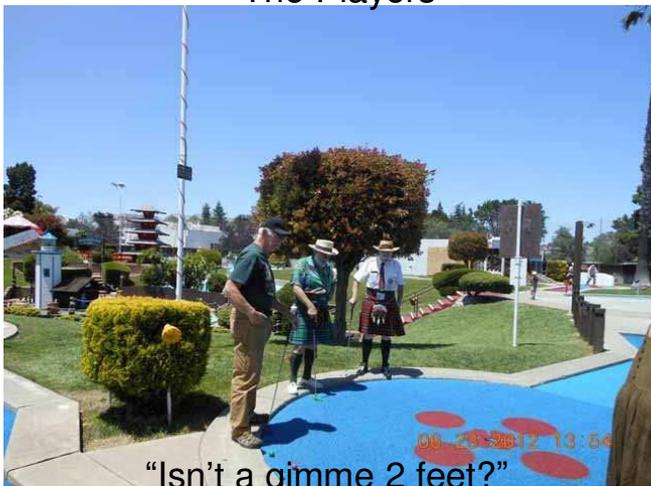
# SSBS Golf Tournament June 23, 2012

By Lori Daly

If you want to play a round of golf there is no shortage of great golf courses in California - picturesque scenery, perfectly manicured greens and challenging holes. For everyone else, there's Golfland USA in Sunnyvale. The SSBS Golf Tournament was held there on Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup> and there were 16 entrants made up of SSBS members and their families.

Sunnyvale Golfland has two 18 hole courses to choose from. Entrants tackled the "Pro" course and were met with swinging gates, ramps over water obstacles, and the shot that gives everyone the willies – the volcano holes.

The award ceremony was held directly after the tournament at the Duke of Edinburgh Pub in Cupertino. <http://www.theduke.com/>



"Isn't a gimme 2 feet?"



Best after game

Tournament standings at Golfland USA 2012: Bob Whitten's Grandson, Andy Hammond took first place overall.

Lori Daly was awarded the women's first place and Larry Slater took men's first place.

Rowland DePree 'won' last place with the highest score of all.

We would like to thank all who attended and a special thank you to Linda Findley-Slater for organizing the awards. A grand time was had by all playing Scotland's national sport while enjoying the sunshine and fresh air. Come join us at the next tournament!

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## Come Join Us and Help!

John Dewing



An organization can only be as good as its members want to make it. There is a great opportunity at the Pleasanton Highland Games to help. Hang out at the booth and talk to the public and fellow club members. Shifts are normally 2 hours and are on Saturday and Sunday. Contact Nathan Irving if you are interested (yes my sister and I have already volunteered).



# South Bay Scottish Society

## General Meeting Minutes

San Jose Public Library, West Valley Branch  
Friday, July 13th, 2012

### Minutes of the July General Meeting

**7:00 p.m.** Members arrived, socialized, shared and enjoyed a delicious pot-luck dinner

**8:00 p.m.** Quorum verified, 7 voting officers plus 5% of membership

Meeting called to order - Chief Andrew McFarlin  
Introductions of persons present, members and families, friends and guests

**Chief's report** - Andrew McFarlin - Upcoming events, Chief's picnic will mark our 20th anniversary  
Approval of April 13, 2012 General Meeting Minutes as printed - Frank Cameron moved to approve, Ed Llamas 2nd

**Communications from the Scribe** - Bob Anderson - Welcome new members Brian and Lindy Barclay

**Steward's Report** - Frank Cameron - Handed out spreadsheet and explained income, expenses, treasury balance and our recently re-established non-profit status

**Additions to the Agenda** - Chief Andrew McFarlin - Alan Keith requested an update regarding the activities survey taken by the Social Committee

**Approval of the Agenda** - Marjorie Coakley moved to approve and Nathan Irvine seconded, all approved

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Membership** - Frank Cameron - S.B.S.S. now 85 members total, 62 in good standing and 23 still unpaid for 2012

**Newsletter** - Andy McFarlin - New issue by the end of this month, editorial contributions are encouraged

**Telephone Tree** - Linda Findley - Tree is working well, one member has had to quit but Andy will find a replacement

**Website and Facebook Page** - Marjorie Coakley - John Dewing, not present - Marjorie discussed sharing our web pages with other similar societies and clubs in an exchange of ideas, events and interests and mutual participation

**Social** - Dorrie Scherer and Marjorie Coakley - Dorrie not present, Marjorie proposed we attend The Dickens Faire in Nov.

**Membership Interface and Welcoming** - Marjorie Coakley - Marjorie phoned the new members and personally welcomed them to the S.B.S.S.

**Publicity** - Nathan Irvine - Reported on the possibility staffing a booth at the Watsonville Games next year

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Reports on recent events and activities;

**Peter Daldry and Alan Keith performances** - Alan Keith, a good turnout and great show

**Golf Tournament** - Bob Anderson, a beautiful day at Blackberry Farm, prizes and drinks afterward at Paul and Eddies

**Miniature Golf** - Linda Findley, 15 players at Golfland USA in Sunnyvale, prizes and refreshments followed at The Duke of Edinburgh in Cupertino

**Ardenwood East Bay Scottish Faire** - Ed Llamas, good event and well attended

**Watsonville Faire and Games** - Nathan Irvine, nice event and location, S.B.S.S. might consider participating next year

**June Movie Night** - had record turn out

**Report on Activities Survey** - Marjorie Coakley - Sing-along's, stories, dances and bowling were the most suggested

**Membership dues notification** - We need a way to reach unpaid members that haven't responded to the reminders and notices already sent out

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**S.B.S.S. donation** of funds to San Jose School of Highland Dance

**S.B.S.S. donation** of funds to made to Andrew Manning for Drum Major Scholarship to compete in Scotland, pending communication from Andrew

**Pleasanton Games** - Persons need to staff the booth on both Saturday and Sunday, a list of volunteers was started

**October General Meeting** - Halloween Party and Ceilidh Dance again this year, October 12

**Chief's Picnic** - Wildwood Park, Saratoga Oct. 21 marking the 20th Anniversary of S.B.S.S., potluck and games

**Christmas in the Park** - Marjorie Coakley - Awaiting information and forms regarding participation/registration

**Burns Night** - January 26, 2013 - Masonic Hall, Mountain View confirmed, changing venue to The Villages in San Jose proved to be too costly

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Thank you and applause to Frank Cameron for donating the bingo equipment

The need continues for more members to step forward, get involved and help with the activities

#### **8:55 ADJOURNMENT:**

Frank Cameron moved to adjourn and Alan Keith seconded the motion

**ENTERTAINMENT** - Bingo Tournament with prizes using our fine new bingo outfit

# SBSS Celebrates it's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## Join Us at the Chief's Picnic for this Special Event

Andy McFarlin



10:30am – 4:00pm

Wildwood Park

20764 4<sup>th</sup> St., Saratoga, CA

[http://www.saratoga.ca.us/cityhall/rec/facility\\_and\\_park\\_rentals/parks/wildwood.asp](http://www.saratoga.ca.us/cityhall/rec/facility_and_park_rentals/parks/wildwood.asp)

Barbeque, bangers furnished by the Ministry of Food and the SBSS. Condiments, buns, soft drinks and desert furnished by the SBSS. Bring a potluck dish to share and any special stuff to barbeque to your own diet preferences.

Alan Keith will be providing "live" pipe music, maybe some button accordion too. Some things to do: horseshoes, bingo, games, white elephant gift exchange. There are play structures for the younger ones.

Bring a prize gift for bingo.

Come and plan to have a great day on Our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

Friends are more than welcome, of course.

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## SBSS Provides Funds for Worthy Causes

Andy McFarlin



The SBSS, in fulfilling one of the elements of its Mission Statement, recently provided a small amount of funding to two causes that the Board of Governors deemed worthy of support.

We continued our support the San Jose School of Highland Dance. This is for their ongoing support and spread of Scottish culture through the medium of Highland Dance.

The second stipend was made in contribution to Andrew Manning, a 17 year old, very talented and skillful drum major who is attempting to compete in the 2012 European Championships in Belfast this month. This competition is in the fields of piping, drumming and drum majoring. The funds will be used to help cover the costs of attending.

Andrew Manning is a drum major for three bands located in the Bay Area and has received awards in the 2012 Northern California Band Association Championship and others.

We wish him the best of luck in this competition.



## Samhain – Halloween

John Dewing

Samhain (pronounced Sah-ween). It was the biggest and most significant holiday of the Celtic year. The Celts believed that at the time of Samhain, more so than any other time of the year, the ghosts of the dead were able to mingle with the living, because at Samhain the souls of those who had died during the year traveled into the otherworld.

Samhain became the Halloween we are familiar with when Christian missionaries attempted to change the religious practices of the Celtic people. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samhain>

## Thanks SBSS

I wanted to let you know that we received the donations from Clan Cameron and the South Bay Scottish Society. We are touched by your continued support of our efforts to keep Highland Dancing alive and strong in the Bay Area. We are still the biggest highland dance school in Northern California with more than 30 dancers.



We will put the money to good use. We have to financially support several local dance competitions to keep them going and your donation will help us to do that. We may also use some of the funds to promote our fall highland classes in Bay Area Parent to ride the wave of the movie "Brave". We have seen a surge in the interest for Scottish culture and dancing after the release of that movie.

As we have done before we plan to stop by the Clan Cameron tent at Pleasanton to perform a "thank you" tribute for your clan. We will also visit the South Bay Scottish Society's tent. We have not worked out the schedule. We have to be mindful of the competition schedules for dancers and pipers. I will e-mail you later when I have heard from the pipers/band.

Please let me know if this time frame that will work for the Cameron clan and the South Bay Scottish Society.

With many thanks from teachers, dancers, and dance families.

Highland cheers,  
Susanne MacDougall (an SBSS member)  
San Jose School of Highland Dancing



San Jose School of Highland Dancing at January 2012 General Meeting, Tartan Day 2011



The school's dancers compete at Scottish/highland games at the local, regional and national level. Dancers also enjoy performing at festivals, parties, parades, demonstrations and movie premiers.

<http://www.sanjosehighlanddance.com/>

# SBSS's 'Evening of Songs and Stories with Peter Daldry'

Marjorie Coakley

Peter Daldry entertained and charmed many of our SBSS members (and their friends alike), on Friday May 4<sup>th</sup> at the West Valley Branch of San Jose Public Library, with an evening of



Scottish songs and stories. Guests were welcomed by the lilting sound of the bagpipes, played by Alan Keith, as they arrived at the event. Happily, many of our friends from East Bay Scottish Association were also able to join us for this very enjoyable event, thus adding to the extremely lively atmosphere. The evening, which was very well attended, began with a potluck dinner consisting of various delicious foods and drinks, and lots of socializing before the entertainment began.



Peter, who comes from Clydebank in Scotland, then took the floor. He sang and played a mixture of traditional tunes and contemporary arrangements as well as his own original compositions. The crowd alternated between listening attentively to Peter's own, very enjoyable personal compositions and enthusiastically singing along with the well-known songs. We were also very fortunate to get a preview of a few of the songs from Peter's new CD entitled 'Under a Leaden Sky' which he is currently working on. Occasionally, between songs, Peter would demonstrate his sense of humor by relating witty stories from his life while he was growing up in Scotland - much to the amusement and pleasure of the audience. Anyone who wishes to find out more about Peter and his current music and appearances can log on to:

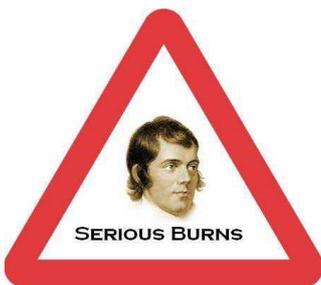
[www.peterdaldry.com](http://www.peterdaldry.com).

Alan Keith, our own SBSS member and maestro, also performed at our event on the bagpipes and button accordion. Alan played a variety of tunes to keep everyone in a lively mood with feet tapping and hands clapping. It was a really wonderful evening of fantastic entertainment, company and food. This was the first of our events which had been voted for in the Activities Survey and it was a great success! A huge thank you to everyone who helped to make this such a memorable evening!



## Burns Night 2013

Andy McFarlin



Mark your 2013 calendar. Look for a more detailed announcement in the next Seanachie.  
Don't be caught holding an empty sporan.  
Saturday, January 26 2013  
5:30pm – 10:30pm  
Mtn. View Masonic Hall



Traditional Burns Night Entertainment - Tasty Hors d'oeuvres - Great food - Wonderful raffle prizes -  
Out of this world Ceilidh dancing - Have a celestial evening at the SBSS Burns Night

Robert Burns was born on January 25, 1759 in Alloway, Ayrshire, Ayrshire in Scotland and died on July 21, 1796. Though his life was short, his impact on poetry and his beloved Scotland are felt to this day, so it is not surprising that people continue to celebrate his life and work over two hundred years after his death. For more info, go to the SBSS website: <http://www.southbayscots.org/burns.htm>

## July General Meeting Introduces Bingo Andy McFarlin

With a good turnout of members and friends, all enjoyed one of the best ever potluck dinners. Such variety and such quantity! We were also able to meet our two newest members to the SBSS, Brian and Lindy Barclay.



Bingo Prizes



Members at the July General Meeting

After our business meeting we all adjourned to try out the new bingo outfit that our Steward, Frank Cameron, so generously purchased and donated to the SBSS.

A table full of great prizes awaited those with lucky cards. The position of caller was filled by our redoubtable Ed Llamas. I think most everyone playing walked away with a prize by the end of the evening. Everyone agreed that the evening was

greatly enjoyed.

If you were not able to attend, be sure and mark your calendar. Our next General Meeting, October 12<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a potluck, Halloween Party and dance.

Come and bring a friend or two. (see pg 1 for more info).

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## Santa Cruz Scottish Festival

Nathan & Lyn Irvine

The Santa Cruz Scottish Festival- No matter what your pleasure may be, there's something for everyone!!!

You enter into a 16th century Scottish market fair. You may shop for unique arts & crafts through dozens of booths. You will enjoy live theatre and stage shows such as, comedy and sword fighting with The Duelists, interactive comedy with Broom, or improvised Shakespeare with Um...Gee...Um. You will interact with hundreds of costumed entertainers in the streets, and have the chance to meet Her Royal Majesty, Mary Stuart.

If that isn't enough, perhaps you'll enjoy the culture and heritage represented by the Loch Lomond Highland Games & Celtic Gathering, where bagpipe music permeates the air, men and women compete in traditional Highland athletics, and modern clans share their rich and extensive knowledge of Scottish culture and heritage.

When you need a break from all your wondering around, simply settle down and watch some of the finest modern and traditional Celtic bands and soloists. Acts included Chris Caswell, harpist; Glenn Morgan, Hammer Dulcimer; Sean Folsom, Bagpipes; Stewart Tartan Pipes & Drums of San Francisco; Santa Cruz Pipes & Drums; Innisfree; Doris Williams & Karl Franzen; Elektra Gypsy Band; Lacey Ravens; Leather & Tweed; Peter Daldry; Black Irish; Brother; and Tempest.

I highly recommend that the South Bay Scottish Society bring our booth next year.



<http://santacruzscottishfestival.org/>



## To celebrate victory, we must reflect on defeat

Harry Reid



**It seems almost certain Scotland's independence referendum will be held in 2014, a year when Scotland should be a particularly vibrant, busy and confident country.**

We shall be hosting both the Commonwealth Games and the Ryder Cup, and there will be another Homecoming.

There will also be the 700th anniversary of our greatest ever military victory, Bannockburn, when the Scots, led by the brilliant if enigmatic King Robert the Bruce, routed a larger invading English army. There is every reason why Bannockburn should be commemorated with enthusiasm, but there is also every reason why these commemorations should have nothing whatsoever to do with the independence referendum.

Bannockburn, understandably and quite properly, has special significance for the SNP. Indeed Scots of all political persuasions have every right to take enormous pride in this landmark victory which, even if it did not guarantee Scotland's independence, at least helped us along the way. It led directly to the Declaration of Arbroath, one of the most noble enunciations of responsible nationalism in world history. What was particularly impressive about the Declaration was its demotic integrity; it made it clear that the king was answerable to his subjects.

The coming independence referendum will be about integrity, too. The Scots have every right to contend for their independence and I for one would like to see us fully independent. On the other hand, it is vital that we progress to full independence as partners with our friends and neighbours to the south. I've always thought Scottish independence would be a boon to the English as well as the Scots; it would let the English define themselves, and work out what it is to be English rather than British, something that they often seem confused about.

What has to be avoided at all costs is any nasty anti-English spirit besmirching the referendum campaign, a potential danger of having the referendum in the year of the Bannockburn anniversary. There is a further point. Before we get to the Bannockburn anniversary we have, as I've mentioned before, to mark the 500th anniversary of our worst ever military defeat. In September 1513, at Flodden Field, a few miles into England just south of Coldstream, the Scottish nation suffered its greatest single catastrophe.

One of the many tragedies was that this was wholly unnecessary. Bannockburn was about the Scots dealing with invaders; Flodden was about an unnecessary and provocative large scale Border raid led by an over confident, reckless and vainglorious king, James IV, who was less militarily astute than he thought he was.

James died in the battle, as did most of his aristocracy and much of the cream of Scottish manhood. Between 6000 and 10,000 of them – no-one is sure exactly how many – perished in just three hours. The king's mutilated remains were taken south; the story goes that eventually his head was severed and used by some yobs in an improvised game of football.

To compound the mortification, the Scots were defeated by England's second army; the first one was in France, led by the King Henry VIII. The English at Flodden were led by a geriatric second rank general, the Earl of Surrey, but he was experienced and wily – far too wily for James.

Flodden was every bit as significant as Bannockburn, albeit in a negative way. The Scots were left impotent, bereft and isolated, and a generation later proved unable to defend themselves when Henry VIII launched his wicked "rough wooing," laying waste to much of lowland Scotland.

I think it would indicate depressing national immaturity if we chose to celebrate Bannockburn with enormous enthusiasm but the year before tried to pretend Flodden never happened. Even worse would be to allow the humiliation of Flodden to induce any feelings of anti-English spite. The incredibly sad debacle of Flodden should be marked next year in a spirit of quiet but deep reflection and reconciliation.

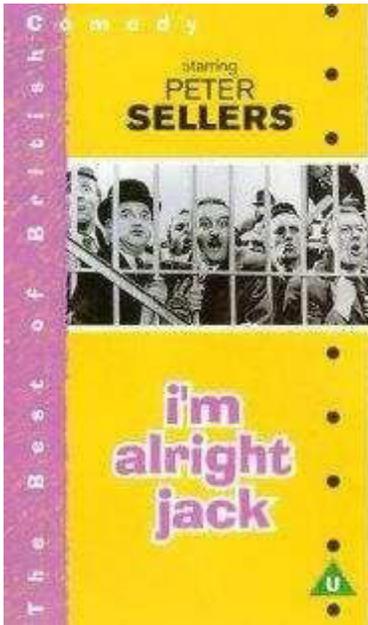


## SBSS Movie Night, Last Three Films of 2012 Come Enjoy the Fun, Entertainment, Good Food and Good Company Andy McFarlin

Come and enjoy the great films. Join us once a month February thru October at 7:00pm at:  
Round Table Pizza Parlor  
1472 Pollard Road  
Los Gatos, CA 95032  
map: <http://g.co/maps/gew8c>

After some questions asked at the July Movie Night about when it first started, I looked it up in my back files of the Seanachie. This is our 10<sup>th</sup> year of presenting films for the enjoyment of our members.

This past June we had a new record turnout of 18 members for "Young Victoria", if we attract many more attendees we shall have to look for a larger venue.



### Aug 17<sup>th</sup> → Seal Morning

An orphaned girl and her lonely aunt living in 1930s England attract the attention of a handsome naturalist when they decide to raise an abandoned seal.

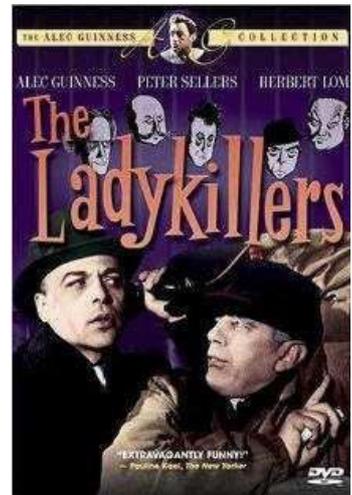


### ← Sept 21<sup>st</sup> I'm All Right Jack

A naive aristocrat in search of a career becomes caught up in the struggles between his profit-minded uncle and an aggressive labor union.

### → Oct 19<sup>th</sup> The Lady Killers

Five diverse oddball criminal types planning a bank robbery rent rooms on a cul-de-sac from an octogenarian widow under the pretext that they are classical musicians.



A nominal donation is requested to help defray the cost of our annual permit to show these films publically.