



The Tartan Times

Vol. LXII, No. 3

Jan/Feb, 2014

*The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Boston Branch
c/o The Folk Arts Center of New England
10 Franklin Street, Stoneham, MA 02180-1852*

WHO'S WHO IN THE BOSTON BRANCH

Executive Committee: *President:* Jean Farrington, *Vice President:* Betty Allen;
Secretary: Lance Ramshaw, *Treasurer:* Bob Littlehale, *Members at Large:* Beth Birdsall, John Crabtree, Kat Dutton, BDan Fairchild, Alex Hall, & Vickery Trinkaus-Randell, **Teaching & Music Committee:** Chair: Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, **Nominating Committee:** Chair: Gary Apfel; **Bookstore:** Dawn & Mike Little, **Pinewoods Benefit Ball '13:** Co-Chairs: Gillian Charters and Betty Allen; **Demo Team:** *Teacher:* Andy Taylor-Blenis, *Administrator:* Karen Sollins, **Highland Ball: 2014** Co-Chairs: Ed & Sara Pokrass **Membership:** MaryEllen & John Scannell; **November Concert 2013:** Robert McOwen, Artistic Director; Linda McJannet, Producer; **Pinewoods (ESS '14):** Contact: Jerome Fung, **Pinewoods '14 (Scottish I & II):** Co-Chairs: Jeremy Thorpe, Kendra Eshleman; **Archives:** Lance Ramshaw **Mailing List & Equipment:** Peter Tandy, **Website:** Laura and Meyer Billmers, **TAC Rep:** Patti Tillotson, **NH Highlands:** Contact: Roberta Lasnik. **Data Base:** Peter Tandy, **Directory:** John Scannell **Class Listings:** Barbara McOwen

The Boston Branch Website is www.rscdsboston.org

Exec Committee Class Liaisons: **Brookline:** Jean Farrington **Salem, Stow, MA, Albany NY** Vickery Trinkaus-Randall; **Nashua NH Greenland,** BDan Fairchild; **Great Barrington, Northampton** Alex Hall **Cambridge,** **Montpelier, VT, Fairlee VT** Beth Birdsall, **Brunswick, Belfast, Kennebunk:** Betty Allen,

THE TARTAN TIMES is published by the Boston Branch for its members. A free copy is sent to every North American Branch and to nearby Affiliated groups. Annual subscriptions available for \$10. Checks should be made payable to RSCDS Boston Branch (Canadians, please send a money order in U.S. Funds). Mail to Bob Littlehale,, Boston Branch Subscriptions, 12 Wigglesworth St., Malden, MA 02148-7422 . The **Tartan Times Editor: Evelyn Murray**, may be reached at 1-617-864-8945, by email: athollbrose@verizon.net or by snail mail at 37 Blanchard Road, Cambridge, MA 02138-1010

IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE WEB MASTERS Laura and Meyer Billmers

Please proofread all information submitted for publication on the Branch website very carefully. The web masters are happy to post event fliers & minicribs. However, it is considerably more work for us to have to do it more than once! If you have multiple documents to post, please try to submit them all at once, rather than piecemeal. Thank you in advance.

#####

EXEC NOTES - Lance Ramshaw

We are very grateful to Linda McJannet and Robert McOwen and to everyone involved with the Fall Show, who were able to instantly retool and mount a fine production despite learning with only a few weeks' notice that the Scottish band Blazin' Fiddles would not be able to perform as originally planned. This naturally required a complete reworking of the whole design, budget, staffing, tickets, program, and publicity, but they managed it all and put on a pair of excellent performances. We were also glad to hear that Blazin' Fiddles agreed to help cover the cost of our initial, incorrect publicity, with the result that the Fall Show is now firmly in the black.

In December, we met with the Highland Ball and Pinewoods chairs and were glad to see preparations there moving along nicely. We also authorized Peter Tandy to purchase (at Cyber Monday rates!) a new mixer and some new microphones to replace old and broken ones and bring the sound system back up to par.

The Boston Highland Ball Saturday, May 10, 2014

NEW LOCATION: Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall, Melrose, MA

Music provided by Hanneka Cassel - fiddle; Mike Block - cello
& Neil Pearlman - piano

PROGRAM

Eh3 7AF	8 x 32J	3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 40: 6
The Sheltered Cove	8 x 32S	2 cpls.	Zadworny: Aye Afloat: 6
Maxwell's Rant	8 x 32R	3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 18: 10
The Waratah Weaver	4 x 32J	4 cpls.	RSCDS 2 nd Graded Book: 4
Gang the Same Gate	8 x 32S	3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 36: 4
General Stuart's Reel	8 x 32R	3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 10: 3
Best Set in the Hall	8 x 32J	3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 46: 7
Culla Bay	4 x 32S	4 cpls. Sq. Set	RSCDS Book 41: 2
Flights of Fancy	8 x 32J	3 cpls.	Boston 50 th : 3
Catch the Wind	8 x 32R	3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 45: 5
The Spirit of the Dance	8 x 32S	3 cpls.	TAC, 50 th Anniversary: 2
John of Bon Accord	8 x 32R	3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 33: 5
Yan, Tan, Tethera	8 x 32J	3 cpls.	Haynes, Carnforth 2: 9
Moment of Truth	8 x 32S	3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 37: 2
The Irish Rover	8 x 32R	3 cpls.	Cosh, 22 SCD + 2: 22
Jubilee Jig	8 x 32J	3 cpls.	RSCDS Leaflet: 19
Linnea's Strathspey	8 x 32S	3 cpls.	RSCDS Book 47: 2
Da Rain Dancin'	8 x 32R	3 cpls.	Wallace: From the Redwood Forest: 3

The Highland Ball Weekend includes a **Welcome Dance on Friday, May 9**
at the First Parish Church, Weston, MA Music by Boston Extra Hospitality: Anne
Hooper - fiddle; Beth Murray - keyboard; and Ed Pearlman - fiddle.

Ellie Briscoe program deviser and MC. And a **Sunday Brunch** in Lincoln, MA

Further information from Ball Co-Chairs Ed and Sara Pokrass and at

www.rscdsboston.org

New Year's Day Dance & Potluck Dinner

3:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 1, 2014
Church of the Good Shepherd
214 Main St., Nashua, NH

Music by

Katie McNally, fiddle
Catherine Miller, fiddle
Terry Traub, piano

\$13 (\$11 Boston Br. member), plus a main dish, salad, or vegetable to share.
More info? Contact Loren Wright, 603-891-2331 NashuaSCD@comcast.net

Northampton Scottish Country Dance Class New Years Day Party

First Churches Lyman Hall. Enter on Center Street across from the Iron Horse

Wednesday January 1, 2014

5:30 Potluck- \$1 plus a dish

7:30 Dance - \$10-RSCDS members, \$12-non-members

Music by

Peter Macfarlane & Peter Barnes

Dance program will be posted on the Boston Branch
website close to party date.

Info: Karen 413 527-3407



RSCDS Boston Branch invite you to join THE BROOKLINE CLASS'

*celebration of Twelfth Night, with dancing & supper
on Sunday, January, 5, 2014 6:30-10pm*

(Snow date: January 12)

*Music by The White Cockade, and MC Evelyn Murray
In the Parish House, Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth St., Brookline, MA*

Cost: \$10 for RSCDS members, \$12 non members

*Information & Program: rscdsboston.org Evelyn 617-864-8945, Heather 617-244-6914
Contributions to the refreshment table are welcome.*



2013-2014 SEASON OF ADVANCED CLASSES

Friday, January 17	Howard Lasnik
Friday, February 21	Gregor Trinkaus-Randall
Friday, March 21	TBA
Friday, May 16	Kent Smith
Friday, June 20	TBA
Dancing to Live Music Time: 7:30-9:30 pm	

These classes are open to all who are high intermediate and above and who wish to improve their dancing, and most of all have fun doing this.

Location: Calvary Church, 300 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA 02474 (a white church, between the Capitol Cinema, Lake St. & Walgreens)

Further Info: call Evelyn Murray at 617-864-8945

Cost is \$10.00 each class, students \$5.00





Cambridge Class Holiday Party

Canadian American Club
202 Arlington St. Watertown MA

Dec 23, 2013 at 8:00PM

music by *Highland Whisky*
with guest **Terry Traub** and piper **Campbell Webster**

MC: MaryEllen Scannell

Admission \$10 Branch Members
\$12 Non-members

Please enter through lower door.

Your donations of interesting items for the raffle are most welcome.
Please bring them to class ahead of the party



SOME OUT-OF-TOWN EVENTS - HAVE GHILLIES, WILL TRAVEL.....

EUROPE

RSCDS Winter School, Sun 23 Feb-Fri 28 Feb, 2014, at the Atholl Palace Hotel in Pitlochry.

Teachers: Duncan Brown, Eric Finley, Pat Houghton and Anne Smyth. Musicians: Muriel Johnstone, George Meikle, Iain Robertson and Peter Shand. Register at www.rscds.org - +44 (0)131 225 3854

Helensburgh & District Branch SCD Weekend 4th April-6th April. Teacher Linda Gaul, Musician Frank Thomson Ball Music Marian Anderson. Contact Helen Cameron tel 0143681 0605 email helencameron@hotmail.com web www.rscds-helensburgh.org.uk

RSCDS Spring Fling April 18-20 (for those 12-35 years of age) organized by RSCDS Lyon Br. Teachers include Antoine Rousseau. www.RSCDSspringfling.fr

RSCDS Summer School 4 weeks 20th July thru 17 Aug (prices held at 2013 level) www.rscds.org

NORTH AMERICA

Ottawa Ardbrae Ball Feb 8, 2014 at the Glebe Community Center, Music: Laird Brown and The Scottish Accent. Buffet dinner and Ball, \$90 dancers, \$60 non-dancing. www.ardbrae.org

Toronto Tartan Ball Feb 22 at the Fairmont Royal York. Music by The Scottish Accent, tickets from the web. or Jane Robinson janer1@sympatico.ca

Prince Edward County Tartan Tea Weekend, March 28-30 at the Picton Yacht Club, Picton, ON. Teacher Jimmy Hill, Edinburgh, Music Fred Moyes. Info Sheila Keller 613 393 2955.

Montreal Spring Ball, April 12, at the A&P downtown. Music by Laura Risk and friends with Nick Williams on accordion. www.scdmontreal.org

CALENDAR OF SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCEπ EVENTS

December

23rd *** Cambridge Class annual Christmas Party music by Highland Whisky
Dec. 28-Jan 5 RSCDS New Zealand Summer School, Cambridge, NZ

January, 2014

1st *** Nashua Class New Year Day Dance and Pot-Luck supper, p 4 & 16
1st *** Northampton Class New Year Day Potluck and dance p 4
5th *** Brookline Class annual Twelfth Night Dance & supper, p 5 & 16
17th *** Branch Advanced Class with Howard Lasnik, p 5
20th ** New York Branch Teacher's Workshop p 15
25th *** Salem Class 40th Anniversary and Burns Night

February

7-9 ** Cardigan Weekend
8th Ottawa Br. Ardbrae Ball p 6
14-16 Hawaii Aloha Winter weekend, rscdshawaii.org
21st *** Branch Advanced Class with Gregor Trinkaus-Randall
22nd Toronto Br. annual Tartan Ball at Royal York p6
23-28 RSCDS Winter School, Pitlochry p6

March

1st *** Annual Scholarship Dance
21st *** Branch Advanced Class TBA
22nd Toronto Br West End workshop with Jimmy Hill et al
28-30 Prince Edward County Tartan Tea weekend Ontario, p6

April

4-6 Helensburgh & District SCD Weekend p 6
5th *** Book 47 Workshop and Salem Dance Party
12th Montreal Br. Spring Dance p 6
25-27 ** New England Folk Festival, Mansfield, MA

SAVE THE DATES

9 - 11 May Boston Branch Annual Highland Ball [New Location] p 3
16-18 May NY Branch Pawling Weekend

Code Breaker: "****" an event sponsored by the Boston Branch. "***" other SCD events within the Branch area. "**" of possible interest (often a Scottish Concert) within the Branch area.

Please support events; the class/branch/group members work hard to put together their event, the musicians spend a lot of time preparing the music and rehearsing, the teacher(s) spend anxious hours planning programs, class material, etc. They appreciate seeing that their labours are not in vain when they look at a hall full of dancers all ready to put their best right (?) foot forward.....!

Answers to Quiz on p 13

1. The Orkney Ferry service. 2. 1739. 3. 1643. 4. Edinburgh Medical School 5. Greenoc.
6. Osgood MacKenzie. 7. Lord Kelvin. 8. Campbells. 9. Iona. 10. Robert Burns

CALENDAR FOR THE RSCDS BOSTON BRANCH 2013-14 {CLASS PARTIES, EVENTS, BALLS}

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
JANUARY 2014			
1	Northampton Class New Year'	First Churches Lyman Hall, Northampton	Karen 413-527-3407 tom.and.karen@earthlink.net
1	Nashua Class New Year's Day Party	Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Main Street, Nashua, NH	Loren Wright, lonwright@comcast.net
5	Brookline Twelfth Night Party	Church of Our Saviour, Brookline, MA	Evelyn Murray, athollbrose@verizon.net Heather Day, hmday1@verizon.net
25	Salem Class 40 th Anniversary and Burns Night	First Universalist Church, Salem	Mary Ellen Scannell, 617-462-1925 weebluets@rscdsboston.org
FEBRUARY 2014			
7-9	Cardigan Weekend	Cardigan Mountain Lodge, New Hampshire	Lance Ramshaw 978-371-8030, lance.ramshaw@gmail.com
MARCH			
1	Scholarship Dance	First Parish Church, Weston, MA	Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, 978-897-3997 Trink68@uwalumni.com
APRIL			
5	Salem Class Party	First Universalist Church, Salem	Mary Ellen Scannell, 617-462-1925 weebluets@rscdsboston.org
MAY 2014			
9-11	Highland Ball Weekend		Ed and Sara Pokrass, 508-362-5861 spokrass230@comcast.net

**[PLEASE SEND ANY CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS TO NANCY RAWSON, 781-894-7754,
nrawson@earthlink.net]**

Brookline Class Is Moving Its Location!

Yes, we are moving classes from Monmouth Street, to The Brookline Academy of Dance, 136 Westbourne Terrace, Suite #1, Brookline, MA02446, starting after the 12th Night Party on January 5, 2014. Sad, as the class was started in the early seventies by the Rev. George Blackman, then Vicar of the Church of Our Saviour. He asked Evelyn whether she would start a SCD class at his church. Sunday was his evening off, and he, his wife Meave (who is Scottish) and their sons attended for several years.

SCOTTISH DANCE CLASS LOCATIONS

MASSACHUSETTS

- * **Brookline:** Sept-May, Sundays 6:30 pm, new location beginning January 12, 2014: Brookline Academy of Dance, 136 Westbourne Terrace, Brookline. Contact BrooklineClass@rscdsboston.org, Evelyn Murray, 617-864-8945; Heather Day, 617-244-6914
- Great Barrington:** Wednesdays 7:15-9:15 pm, 39 Railroad St., Great Barrington (above Crystal Essence). Contact Jean Campbell, 518-672-4243 or Ted, 413-698-2944
- * **Cambridge Class at the Canadian American Club:** Year-round, most Mondays 7:45-10:15 pm, at the Canadian American Club (www.canadianamericanclub.com) 202 Arlington Street, Watertown. Beginners welcome! Contact Alex Bowers, CambridgeClass@rscdsboston.org
- Chelmsford:** First Fridays year-round, 7-9 pm at the Chelmsford Community Center at 31 Princeton St, North Chelmsford, MA. Live music. Contact Rebecca Gore at rjgore@gmail.com or 508-574-1533
- Newton:** Wednesday mornings 10:30 am - noon. Sept-May at The Hut, 69 Tyler Terrace, Newton (opposite Newton Center playground). June-Aug at the VFW Post 440, 295 California Street, Newton. Contact Heather Day, 617-244-6914
- * **Northampton:** Sept-May, Thursdays 7:00-9:30 pm, First Churches, 129 Main St. (Rt. 9), Northampton (enter on Center St. across from the Iron Horse). Contact Karen Lavallee-Tente, 413-527-3407
- * **Salem (Wee Bluets):** Year-round, Thursdays 8 pm, beginners at 7:30, First Universalist Church, 211 Bridge St., Salem. Contact MaryEllen Scannell, WeeBluets@rscdsboston.org, 781-462-1925
- * **Stow:** Sept-June, 2nd and 4th Fridays. New: childrens class 7:00, social dancing 8:00-10:30. Old Stow Town Hall, 375 Great Road, Stow. Contact Marcia Rising, 978-897-2466, marcia.mdrising@verizon.net
- Yarmouth:** Thursdays 7:30 pm, Yarmouthport Congregational Church, 329 Main St (Rt. 6A), Yarmouthport. Contact Marla Menzies, 508-432-3711

MAINE

- * **Belfast:** Year-round, Mondays 7:30 pm, American Legion Hall, 143 High St., Belfast. Contact BelfastClass@rscdsboston.org; Kim Jacobs/Bob Klein, 207-722-3139; David Thompson, 207-469-3293
- * **Brunswick:** Sept-June, Thursdays 6:30 pm, Topsham Grange Hall, Pleasant St, Topsham. Contact Patti Tillotson, 207-833-2329, pstillotson@gmail.com
- Kennebunk:** Sept-June, Sundays, 5:30-7:30 pm; Community House, Temple St., Kennebunkport. Contact Merrill Henderson, 207-839-8637, mhender1@maine.rr.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- * **Greenland (Seacoast Dancers):** Oct-June, Fridays 7:15 pm. Beginner's class upon demand. Greenland Parish Hall, Post Road (Route 151), Greenland. Contact Laurie Stevens, 603-380-2144, SeacoastDancers@rscdsboston.org
- Lancaster:** Sept-June, Fridays 7:30 pm, Lancaster Town Hall. downtown Lancaster. Contact Bill Tobin, 802-751-7671
- * **Nashua:** Year-round, Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Main St., Nashua. Contact Loren Wright, nashuascd@comcast.net, 603-891-2331

VERMONT

- * **Fairlee:** Sept-June, Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Fairlee Town Hall, 75 Town Common Rd. (just off Route 5, Main St.). Contact Gary Apfel, FairleeClass@rscdsboston.org, 802-439-3459
- Manchester Center:** Tuesdays 7-9 pm, First Congregational Church (on Route 7A, across from the Equinox Hotel). Contact Holly Sherman, 802-362-3471, hollyvalentine530@yahoo.com
- * **Montpelier:** Sept-May, Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Union Elementary School, 1 Park Ave., Montpelier. Contact Martha Kent, 802-879-7618; Art and Sandy Farnum, 802-223-7483

NEW YORK

- Albany:** Sundays, 6:30 pm, Newbitz House, 85 Mann Blvd, Clifton Park. Contact Lois New or Cecil Lubitz, 518-383-6580; loisanew@nycap.rr.com; clubitz@nycap.rr.com



- * *Indicates classes sponsored by the Boston Branch, www.rscdsboston.org. Because of occasional weather and hall variabilities, etc, it's always advisable to get in touch in advance if you're not on a class contact list. To download this flier as a pdf, go to www.rscdsboston.org/FullFlyer.pdf. For updates, please email Classes@rscdsboston.org*

MUSIC PAGE

The Strathspey & Reel Society of NH meeting dates in the New year are: January 26, February 23, March 30, April 20, May 25 and June 29. They meet at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall Street, Concord, NH. Park in the lot on Fayette St., or on the street. If you arrive late please use the side entrance, knock, and we will let you in!

From the Toronto Set & Link for Dec, 2013 we have:

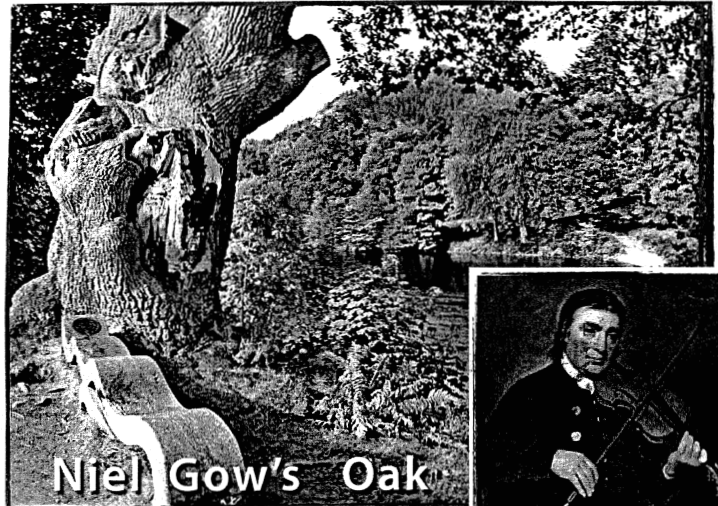
Niel Gow's Oak (submitted by John Reeves)

An ancient, gnarled oak stands on the banks of the river Tay at Inver near Dunkeld in Perthshire. Legendary Scottish fiddler, Niel Gow, often sat under the tree playing and composing tunes. Gow wrote many of Scotland's best beloved strathspeys and reels -- including many of the tunes we dance to, indeed, he was a travelling 'dancie' (dance teacher).

Gow who died in 1806, was a musical prodigy, apparently much appreciated by his patron, the 4th Duke of Atholl, who paid Gow a retainer so he could devote his time to music. Atholl spent many an hour sitting on the opposite bank, enjoying

Gow's fiddle music as it drifted across the Tay from the shade of the tall oak.

Niel Gow's Oak is Scotland's entry in a contest to find Europe's best loved tree.



“Dance Music for the Future” Competition

One of the Saturday morning sessions at the RSCDS AGM Weekend last November, was the results of this international competition. We listened first to the contributions from the three finalists. However, not all the finalists could be present. David, Muriel Johnstone and George Meikle were the judges, and George announced that the winners were D.u.K. This is a group of 7 or 8 young fiddlers, originally from Newcastle, who are now based in Denmark. Their music was immediately obvious as dance music, a comment also made by one of the judges. I think this feeling was felt by many in the audience, as toes began to silently 'tap' whilst their piece was played. Apparently all of the band are dancers, and perhaps this showed in their playing. Only one of their band could be present on this day, Kevin Lees, who is from north-east England. He gave a short concert, first of all, solo, then with Muriel on the keyboard.

The second place went to **The Parcel of Rogues**, this band includes Boston branch member and teacher, Susie Petrov, piano & accordion; Glenfiddich Fiddle Champion and US Fire Champion, Calum Pasqua on fiddle; Dan Houghton, Bagpipes, and James Gray, piano & accordion.

The American contingent of the Rogues just gave their Boston branch performance this season at the highly successful dance party for the Fairlee, VT. class. They performed for the New York branch at the Jeannie Carmichael Ball the first weekend in November. They are scheduled to play for New Haven branch at their annual ball the first weekend of March, 2014. David Cunningham wrote: “All three judges - George Meikle, Muriel Johnstone and myself - were very impressed by the high standard and quality of your entry.” [last paragraph written by S. Petrov, updated where needed by TT editor]

EDITOR'S PEOPLE NEWS

There is a wonderful article in the Fall 2013 issue of NEFFA NEWS: **Angela Taylor is 98 Years Young**, by Robin Clifford for the Bangor Daily News.

Angela, or Angie as she is probably better known, is Andy Taylor-Bemis aunt, and the connection goes further and earlier as her brother married Boston Branch SCD teacher, Marianne Taylor. It is worth a read to be encouraged by this extremely alert and smart lady, whom I must admit I have admired for many years. You can also obtain a copy from the Bangor Daily News, as NEFFA reprinted the article with permission from that source.

While thinking NEFFA the **70th New England Folk Festival is scheduled for April 25-27, 2014** at the High & Middle Schools, Mansfield, MA

Flower of the Forest ---Jane Ellen Watts Heineke May 11, 1937 - July 1, 2013 Most people won't remember her, but Jane started to SCDance whilst living in the YW Cambridge way back in the early seventies. She married Col. Richard Heineke and went to live in Amherst, NH. Dick passed his Preliminary certificate (Miss Milligan was his examiner) and he and Jane started the Nashua class. As with many start-ups, it was a struggle at times, but the end result is that the Nashua class is flourishing under Loren Wright's leadership. I heard of Jane's illness and passing through contact with Jean Grant and Peggy Power, and attended an afternoon of remembrance on November 23rd. their daughter Sarah was there, and it was a bitter-sweet time, but good to see familiar faces, and remember Jane.

PINEWOODS CAMP

Don't forget Pinewoods Camp when you are preparing your end of year donations. The Camp always has needs, and of course an unwelcome storm can require considerable expense to clear up the resulting mess. You may also consider making a bequest when you are preparing your will. Contact Judy Savage, Executive Director, Pinewoods Camp Inc., 80 Cornish Field Road, Plymouth, MA 02360. This poem published in the recent Pinewoods Gazette says everything so well:

Walking Down the Path at Pinewoods

There is always music at Pinewoods
Even when no one is there,
For the wind in the pines is singing,
While the rippling of the waves of Long Pond
Rock the reeds and purple iris in a gentle lullaby

Pinewoods is a land of enchantment,
In the midst of breathtaking beauty,
Everyone is welcomed, with love,
And whenever I return to Pinewoods,
I know that I have finally come home.

Walking down the path at Pinewoods,
Underneath a canopy of pines,
Dappled light reveals blueberries,
As I smell the fresh water of Long Pond,
And the Day Lilies planted by the stairs.

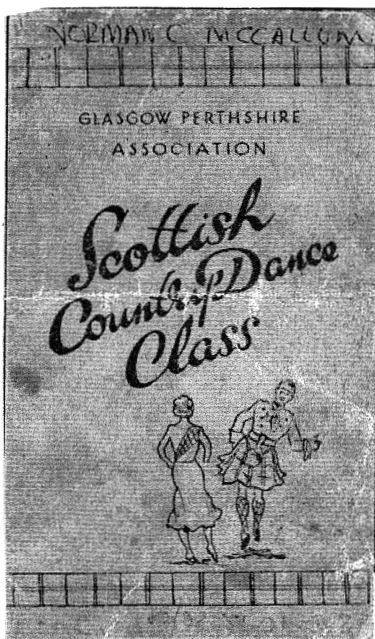
- Jennifer Barron Southcott
October 14, 2013

An organization which has had a significant impact on the surroundings to Pinewoods Camp is **The Wildlands Trust**. This is also non-profit, dedicated to conserving land and preserving the natural heritage of Southeastern Massachusetts. They work to permanently protect and steward important habitats and landscapes, including woodlands, ponds, etc. They are celebrating their 40 years, in which they have protected 6766.3 acres from development and damage by over use. One of the benefits of joining is that frequently they have organized walks within these properties. For more information contact them at www.wildlandstrust.org or P.O. Box 2282, Duxbury, MA 02331

Before the internet and associated formats, items that needed to be remembered were actually written down! An example to this is an article in the Orange County Ceilidh July/Aug 2013 by Norm McCallum. He grew up in Glasgow where he learnt SCD.....

60 Year Old Cue Book

I thought our readers would be interested in my SCD dance cue book from the 1950s. I was a teenager into all kinds of dancing, ballroom, swing and Scottish Country Dancing. You will note that the instructions are printed by hand and that it contains many favorites, including "The Cumberland Reel", and "The Flowers of Edinburgh". Interestingly the "Waltz Country Dance" directs "The same again, The same again, the same again." The classes were given by the Glasgow Perthshire Association near the Broomielaw on the Clyde. Amazingly I have kept the book intact for some sixty years and thought our readers would be interested in the handwritten instructions. Any reader wishing a copy of the entire book should contact the editor and I will send via email. [www.rscds-oc.org] Interestingly, it just occurred to me that I still have a Gaelic song book from those years when I sang with the Glasgow Perthshire Association Gaelic Choir.



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The CUMBERLAND REEL

A.

MOVEMENTS

First and second couples give right hands to one another and dance round. Four hands across (FIG. A)

Turn, and giving left hands, dance back to places.

First couple, down the middle and up again.

First woman casts off, turning to the right behind the woman, while first man, casts off, turning to the left behind the men. The other men and women following (FIG. B) for six steps, then come up the middle to places for six steps.

Partners all join hands, forming an arch, while the first couple dance down the middle under their arms.

The first couple remain at the bottom of the dance, and the second couple now take their place at the top, and repeat the figure.

EIGHTSOME REEL PAGE 7.

CONTINUED

MOVEMENTS B.

The principal or first woman now goes into the centre of the dance and dances alone.

The other 7 all take hands and dance around her.

EIGHT slip steps by the left. EIGHT steps back to places. First woman sets to partner, and turns him.

First woman sets to opposite man N°3, and turns him.

Reel of three - First woman with first and third man. First woman stays in the centre, dancing alone.

The other dances round her eight slip steps, the way of the Sun. EIGHT steps back to places. First woman sets to the man on her right N°4, and turns him.

First woman sets to opposite man N°2, and turns him.

Reel of three - first woman with fourth and second men.

The first woman retires to her place, and the next woman N°2 goes into the centre. Repeat all B.

When each of the four women has had her turn in the centre of the dance, the men have their turn, beginning with N°1, each man dancing with the women in the same manner as described in B. When each of the four men has had their turn, then repeat all A.

NOTE - when dancing round in a circle, eight slip steps to the left, and eight slip steps back to places; other wise the Pas-de-Boutique step and change of a step are used. The woman or man when dancing alone in the centre, may do any reel he or she pleases, in place of the Pas-de-Boutique.

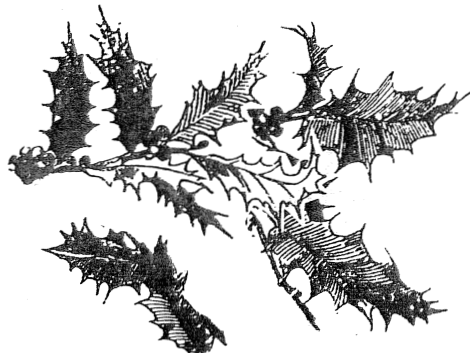
As it is the Christmas/Hogmanay season a quiz seems an appropriate diversion:
 [Taken from the Jan/Feb 2013, Scottish Heritage USA, Inc. Newsletter.]

1. Dutchman John de Groot performed what service in the 15th century?
2. In which year was the Black Watch regiment founded?
3. In which year was the Solemn League and Covenant signed?
4. Where did Dr. Robert Knox work when he employed the body snatchers Burke & Hare?
5. Where was the famous pirate, Capt. Kidd, born?
6. Which sportsman-laird founded Inverewe Garden in 1862?
7. What is the better known name of physicist William Thomson?
8. Which clan massacred the Lamonts at Dunoon in 1646?
9. Which Abbey did Queen Margaret re-found?
10. Who coined the term 'Lallans' to describe the Scots tongue?

Answers on page 7



CHRISTMAS IN OLDEN TIME



Heap on more wood!—the wind is chill;
But let it whistle as it will,
We'll keep our Christmas merry still.
Each age has deem'd the new-born year
The fittest time for festal cheer:
Even, heathen yet, the savage Dane
At lol more deep the mead did drain;
High on the beach his galleys drew,
And feasted all his pirate crew;
Then in his low and pine-built hall,
Where shields and axes deck'd the wall,
They gorged upon the half dress'd steer;
Caroused in seas of sable beer;
While round, in brutal jest, were thrown
The half-gnaw'd rib, and marrow-bone:
Or listen'd all, in grim delight,
While Scalds yell'd out the joys of fight.
Then forth, in frenzy, would they hie,
While wildly loose their red locks fly,
And dancing round the blazing pile,
They make such barbarous mirth the while,
As best might to the mind recall
The boisterous joys of Odin's hall.

And well our Christian sires of old
Loved when the year its course had roll'd,
And brought blithe Christmas back again,
With all his hospitable train.
Domestic and religious rite
Gave honour to the holy night;
On Christmas eve the bells were rung;
On Christmas eve the mass was sung:
That only night in all the year,
Saw the stoled priest the chalice rear.
The damsel donn'd her kirtle sheen;
The hall was dress'd with holly green,
Forth to the wood did merry-men go,
To gather in the mistletoe.
Then open'd wide the Baron's hall
To vassal, tenant, serf, and all;
Power laid his rod of rule aside,
And Ceremony doff'd his pride.
The heir, with roses in his shoes,
That night might village partner choose;

The Lord, underogating, share
The vulgar game of 'post and pair.'
All hail'd, with uncontroll'd delight,
And general voice, the happy night,
That to the cottage, as the crown,
Brought tidings of salvation down.

The fire, with well-dried logs supplied,
Went roaring up the chimney wide;
The huge hall-table's oaken face,
Scrub'd till it shone, the day to grace,
Bore then upon its massive board
No mark to part the squire and lord.
Then was brought in the lusty brawn,
By old blue-coated serving-man;
Then the grim boar's head frown'd on high,
Crested with bays and rosemary.
Well can the green-garb'd ranger tell,
How, when, and where, the monster fell;
What dogs before his death he tore,
And all the baiting of the boar.
The wassel round, in good brown bowls,
Garnish'd with ribbons, blithely trowls.
There the huge sirloin reek'd; hard by
Plum-porridge stood, and Christmas pie;
Nor fail'd old Scotland to produce,
At such high tide, her savoury goose.
Then came the merry maskers in,
And carols roar'd with blithesome din;
If unmelodious was the song,
It was a hearty note, and strong.
Who lists may in their mumming see
Traces of ancient mystery;
White shirts supplied the masquerade,
And smutted cheeks the visors made;
But, O! what maskers, richly dight,
Can boast of bosoms half so light!
England was merry England, when
Old Christmas brought his sports again.
'Twas Christmas broach'd the mightiest ale;
'Twas Christmas told the merriest tale;
A Christmas gambol oft could cheer
The poor man's heart through half the year.

—SIR WALTER SCOTT



Taken from a Tartan Times dated March 18, 1957, Vol. 2, No. , editor John Murphy:

Upcoming Ball -

----- The Committee has arranged an interview for Jeannie Carmichael with Duncan MacDonald on "Yankee Home and Food Show", on WNAC on Friday March 22 at 1:15. Jeannie is also going to be interviewed by Carl Moore on "Bean town Matinee", on Monday March 25, at 4:30, on WEEI in Boston.

The program of dances has been completed. There will be sixteen dances, Scottish alternating with American ballroom. At the Ball each guest will have a printed program, with space to write in partners -- be sure to fill them up! Elsewhere in this issue, the Staff Humorist has more to say on this subject. Exhibitions, during the intermission, will include the Highland Fling, the woman's highland dance "The Graces" and one or two country dances.

Eleanor Poor.

To Whom It May Concern!

A Rumour has come to me yat yere is just a smidgen of Worry in Quarters yet in yis East Age yere may bee too little General and Specific Familiarity with Balles, Formal and Publick, in inshure yat no Embarrassments resulting from some Triviall or even Catastrophick *Faux pas* will be felt by yose of Delicate Sensibilities attending the forthcoming Highland Ball. Yis suggests yat some Cautionary Remarks may be deemed Not Un-Reasonable. It is hoped yat Guests will arrive at ye Ball with the Expectation of Locating yeir Tables, and yon Mingling with Other Guests and Particular Friends in order to Enjoy ye Society and Also to Arrange for Partners for ye Dances on ye Programme. Ye Foyer of ye Balle Roome will be Useful to yis Meeting of Friends, since ye Grand March will commence from ye Foyer shortly after.

A Special Caution: Do Not Neglect, in ye Excitement of Pleasurable Anticipation, to Clean and Polish yr Gillies. Ye Editor Himself has been guilty of yis Negligense and has assured me yat it does not go Unnotised!

yr Obdt Svt.

Ye Staffe Humourist.

From the same issue a portion of a letter written by **Hugh Thurston** to the Branch. He had moved back to England after living in for a while in the Boston area.

.....We have just had an inter-university folk-dance festival in Bristol. Each English University except Oxford and Cambridge (which rarely take part in inter-university activities) sent a team from each of its dance-clubs. Three Scottish Universities took part, but although one Irish and one Welsh University were due to come, both had to withdraw at the last minute. There were about thirty teams altogether. each doing one, two or three dances. We saw a very good rapper sword-dance by Newcastle, and a fine performance of a morris dance ("Shooting") by Leeds. The Scottish dancing on the whole was not as good as the English, but what surprised me was that the English Universities nearly all had Scottish dance-clubs, and their dancing was quite as good as that of the Scottish Universities. In fact, I thought the best Scottish dancing came from Leeds and Liverpool. Mrs. MacNab's dances were very popular - MacKenzie of Seaforth, MacLaine of Lochbuie, the Hebridean weaving-lilt, etc. A special treat was a performance - and a very fine performance too - of the Papa Stour sword-dance. It is a long-sword dance, of the same general type as the sword dances of Yorkshire, England. The team were dressed in dark turtle-necked pullovers and trousers, and boots. The dance is a very vigorous one, going at a relentless run throughout.....

Teacher's Workshop in New York City, January 20, 2014 - Chris Ronald

The New York Branch is pleased to announce that a teacher's workshop led by **Bruce Hamilton** of San Francisco will take place in New York City on Monday, January 20, 2014. (Note: this is Martin Luther King Day). Bruce will focus on teaching technique that can help increase everyone's enjoyment of Scottish country dancing, whether in class or at a social dance, with a view to attracting new dancers while retaining existing dancers. Participation is open to all RSCDS-certificated teachers and others who are interested in becoming teachers.

Further information may be found on the New York Branch website: rscdsnewyork.org

Alasdair Fraser's Summer Fiddle Camps 2014

Sierra Fiddle Camp - June 14-22, Nevada City, CA

Applications and information at www.sierrafiddlecamp.org or call 530-478-9004

Applications open 12/15/13 priority deadline 3/1/14

Valley of the Moon Scottish Fiddling School, August 22-30, Boulder Creek, CA

applications and information at www.valleyofthemoon.org or call 707-537-8677

Applications open 01/01/14, priority deadline 3/1/14.

In Europe: Sabhal mor Ostaig, Isle of Skye, Scotland July 26-Aug 2, 2014

<http://www.smo.uhi.ac.uk/en/cursaichean/cursaichean-goirid/aldasair-fraser-2014>

and Crisol de Cuerda, Spain: Aug 3-10, 2014 www.crisoldecuerda.com

It's All Relative!

In the UK average distance between Branches is between 40 and 60 miles, and many are even shorter distances apart. In Boston we have classes in Albany (175 miles from Boston), classes in Maine the furthest is about 225 miles north and then the Fairlee, Vt. class which is about 200 miles north west.

We do cover a large area. But we are not alone in having far flung classes. The Hunter Valley Branch which is centered on Newcastle, New South Wales, in an article about running Unit 0 Courses stated that Coffs Harbour is 400 km to the north, Stuart Town 400 km to the west, and Gosford 80 km to the south. Very similar distances. This keeping in touch and helping when needed is more complicated by these travel distances. Hunter Valley taught two Unit 0 courses in Stuart Town and Gosford, as the groups had almost no contact with main stream SCD and the course gave them some insight as well as confidence to provide more in depth instruction and develop their strengths to grow their groups. Unit 0 is a kind of add on to the units 1-5 which is used for the training of teachers, whereas Unit 0 can give a good introduction to the RSCDS, its history, style of teaching, etc. to groups who have little experience of SCDancing.

From: RSCDS BOSTON BRANCH
The Folk Arts Center
10 Franklin Street,
Stoneham, MA 02180-1852
781/438-4387

FIRST CLASS MAIL

COPY DUE DATE FOR THE MAR/APR 2014 ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 1st. PLEASE SEND MATERIAL FOR YOUR SPRING EVENTS TO THE EDITOR BY 2/1/14. DATES OF FUTURE EVENTS SHOULD ALSO GO TO NANCY RAWSON FOR THE BRANCH CALENDAR
Note: Class Events flyers are limited to 1 half page: 8 1/2" wide by 5 1/2 " deep.
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PROGRAM FOR THE NASHUA NEW YEARS DAY DANCE

St. Andrew's Fair, 32J 5 for 1982; The Gentleman, 32 S RSCDS Bk 35;
Netherby Hall, 32 R, Drewry; The Quarries Jig, 32 J RSCDS Bk 36; Wells House, 32S, Goldring; The Left Handed Fiddler, 32 R Lasnik unpub.; Ellie's Jig, 32J Slip Knot Coll.; The Braes of Breadalbane, 32S RSCDS Bk 21; Angus MacKinnon's Hornpipe 32R Lothian; Light and Airy, 32 J RSCDS Bk 4; Neidpath Castle, 3x32S (Set) RSCDS Bk 22; Currie Mountain, 32R New Brunswick Coll.; EH3 7AF 32J RSCDS Bk 40; Castle Douglas, 32S Goldring; Da Rain Dancin, 32R Whiteadder Coll.

PROGRAM FOR THE BROOKLINE TWELFTH NIGHT DANCE, Jan 5th

Good Hearted Glasgow, 32J Collins p212; The Perthshire Highlanders, 32S RSCDS Bk 17; The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, 40R RSCDS Bk 39; Crockett's Victory Garden, 32J Ways - Bicentennial; Monmouth Ramble, 4x32S Charters-Celebration; The Black Mountain Reel, 5x32 R Haynes, Carnforth 3; The Silver Tassie, 32S Drewry RSCDS Leaflet; The Rev. John MacFarland, 4x32R RSCDS Bk 37; Pelorus Jack, 32J RSCDS Bk 41; The Duchess Tree, 32S Drewry Leaflet; Mason's Apron, 32R Border Bk 18; The Hunting Horn, 32J McBride, SD Archives; The Flower of Glasgow, 3x32S (set) RSCDS Bk 46; The Gates of Edinburgh, 32R RSCDS Bk 15