

The Tartan Times

*Volume LXVI, Number 3
January/February, 2018*



**The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Boston Branch
c/o The Folk Arts Center of New England
10 Franklin Street, Stoneham, MA 02180-1862**

WHO'S WHO IN THE BOSTON BRANCH

Executive Committee *President:* Jeremy Thorpe; *Vice President:* Marsha Byrnes;
Secretary: Susan Haines; *Treasurer:* Cathy Crabtree; *Members at Large:* Janet Anderson,
Sue Chari, Sharon Gilmour, Cathy Goode, Jeffrey Hopper, John Salyards

Teaching & Music Committee *Chair:* Charles Liu

Nominating Committee *Chair:* Ed Pokrass • **Pinewoods Benefit Ball 2017** MaryEllen Scannell

Highland Ball 2018: *Chairs:* Cathy Fahey, Kat Dutton, Stephen & Val Thomforde

Fall Concert 2017 *Artistic Director:* Robert McOwen; *Producers:* Linda McJannet & Cathy Crabtree

Pinewoods Scottish 2017 *Co-Chairs:* Laura DeCesare and Ross Parker

Pinewoods ESC 2017 *Contact:* Meghan Murray • **NH Highlands** *Contact:* Roberta Lasnik

Demonstration Team *Teacher:* Andy Taylor-Blenis; *Administrator:* Laura DeCesare

Bookstore Dawn & Mike Little • **Equipment** Peter Tandy • **Archives** Gregor Trinkaus-Randall

Membership MaryEllen & John Scannell • **Directory** John Scannell

TAC Representative Patti Tillotson • **Mailing List & Database** Peter Tandy

Keeper of the Class Listing Barbara McOwen

Webmasters Laura and Meyer Billmers • **Back-up Webmaster** Matt Billmers

The Boston Branch Website is www.rscdsboston.org

Exec Committee Class Liaisons: *Brookline, Cambridge & Newton MA:* Sue Chari

Brunswick, Kennebunk & Belfast ME, Greenland & Nashua NH, Chelmsford, MA: John Salyards

Stow MA: Sharon Gilmour • *Burlington, Montpelier & Fairlee VT, Albany NY:* Jeffrey Hopper

Salem, Great Barrington & Northampton MA: Cathy Goode

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(Canadians, please send a money order in U.S. funds).

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Layout Editor Barbara McOwen; **Mailing Coordinators** Marcie Rowland & Cal Perham

IMPORTANT NOTE FROM THE WEBMASTERS

Please proofread all information submitted for publication on the Branch website. The webmasters are happy to post event fliers and 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.

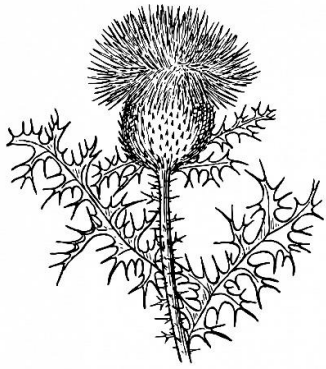
— *Laura and Meyer Billmers*

Notes for the Tartan Times from the Executive Committee

Happy New Year from the Executive Committee! Let's make it a great 2018!

As the new year is beginning, plans are underway for several annual dancing events, many of these occurring during the warm-weather months. The Highland Ball will be held on May 19, 2018 and is being organized by a team comprised of Cathy Fahey, Kat Dutton, and Stephen and Val Thomforde. ESCape will run from July 2 – 6, 2018, and chairs Dan Blim, Meghan Murray, and Kat Dutton will soon be stepping back to encourage two new chairs, Daniel Potter and April Birnie. Following ESCape, Scottish Sessions Pinewoods will occur from July 6 – 14, 2018 with co-chairs Laura DeCesare and Ross Parker. These are just a few of the many upcoming events for your dancing enjoyment. Please check the web site for other events and details.

The Executive Committee has been discussing offering a beginner class in conjunction with an Adult Education Class. The next steps are to decide on the best location (preferably with easy access to public transportation), select/ask a teacher, and get the class scheduled and posted in a catalog of events at the given location. Stay tuned for more information! As always, your thoughts and suggestions are welcome. Please feel free to contact any Executive Committee member. — *Respectfully submitted, Susan Haines, Branch Secretary*



RSCDS Boston Branch
Invites you to the annual

Boston Highland Ball Weekend **2018**

Highland Ball:

May 19th, 2018

Welcome Dance: May 18th, 2018

Family Brunch: May 20th, 2018

Music By:

Laura Risk, Hanneke Cassel, Nicholas
Williams, and Paddy League

Ball Address: Melrose Memorial Hall
590 Main St., Melrose, MA 02176



The Program

Mrs Stewart's Jig

32 J 3C – Book 36

Montreal Rendezvous

32 R 3C – Montreal Moments

Bridge of Nairn

32 S 3C – Book 13

Chased Lovers

32 J 3C – World Wide Weaving

The Sauchie Haugh

32 S 2C – RSCDS Leaflet

The Black Leather Jig

32 R 3C – Del Val Silver

Ladies' Fancy

32 J 2C – Book 13

Starlight

32 R 3C – Book 44

Holyrood Strathspey

32 S 3C – Book 51

Best Set in the Hall

32 J 3C – Book 46

**The MacPhersons of
Edinburgh**

32 S 3C – MacPherson Clan

Eightsome Reel

40 + 8x48 + 40 R Sq. – Book 2

The Duke of Atholl's Reel

32 J 2C – Book 16

Miss Milligan's Strathspey

32 S 3C – RSCDS Leaflet

Duke of Perth

32 R 3C – Book 1

Tribute to the Borders

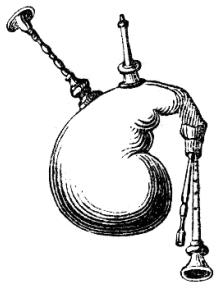
32 J 3C – RSCDS Leaflet

Neidpath Castle

32 S 3C – Book 22

The Left Handed Fiddler

32 R 3 – Lasnik



For more information, contact the ball chairs at
highlandball@rscdsboston.org or visit
<http://rscdsboston.org/event-highland-ball.html>

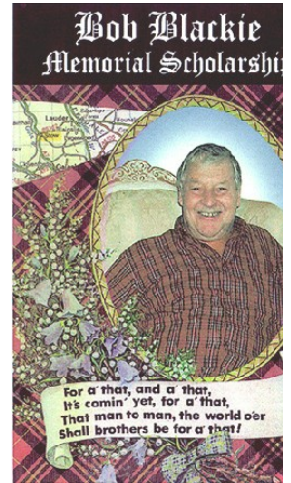




Scholarships

Bob Blackie Scholarship

- One scholarship is awarded annually to a Scottish Country Dancer.
- This full scholarship covers the cost of tuition, meals, and lodging for a full week of the Teachers' Association (Canada) Summer School.
- Information about the criteria for selection, application process, and selection process can be found on the TAC website:
<https://tac-rscds.org/index.php/tac-summer-school/bob-blackie-scholarship>
- Applications are accepted at any time before the **deadline of March 31**.
- Applications should be submitted by email to the Director of TAC Summer Events: ssdirector@tac-rscds.org



Bobby Brown Music Apprenticeship



- One scholarship is awarded annually to a musician interested in and committed to playing for Scottish Country Dancing.
- This full scholarship covers the cost of tuition, meals, and accommodation for an internship or music course at the Teachers' Association (Canada) Summer School, or another TAC-recognized Scottish Country Dance event.
- Information about the eligibility criteria, application process, and selection process can be found on the TAC website:
<https://tac-rscds.org/index.php/tac-summer-school/b-brown-apprenticeship>
- Applications are accepted at any time before the **deadline of March 31**.
- Applications should be submitted by email to the Director of TAC Summer Events: ssdirector@tac-rscds.org

Jubilee Scholarship

- Started by Wes Clindinning in 1983, the Jubilee Scholarship Fund provides financial support to candidates wishing to attend Teacher Candidate Classes at the Teachers' Association (Canada) Summer School.
- The amount granted to any individual is dependent on the number of applicants and whether other sources of support are available.
- Information about criteria, application, forms, and selection can be found on the TAC website:
<https://tac-rscds.org/index.php/teaching-courses/jubilee-scholarship>
- Applications are accepted at any time before the **deadline of April 15** in the years that a candidate course is being held.
- Applications should be submitted by email to the TAC Exam Coordinator: tcc@tac-rscds.org



Brookline Class extends a warm invitation for you to to join the celebration of

Twelfth Night, with Dancing & Supper

Sunday, January 7, 2018, 6:30-10:00 pm

Parish House, Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth St., Brookline, MA

Music by Terry Traub & Catherine Miller
MCs Heather Day, Flo Hearn & Evelyn Murray

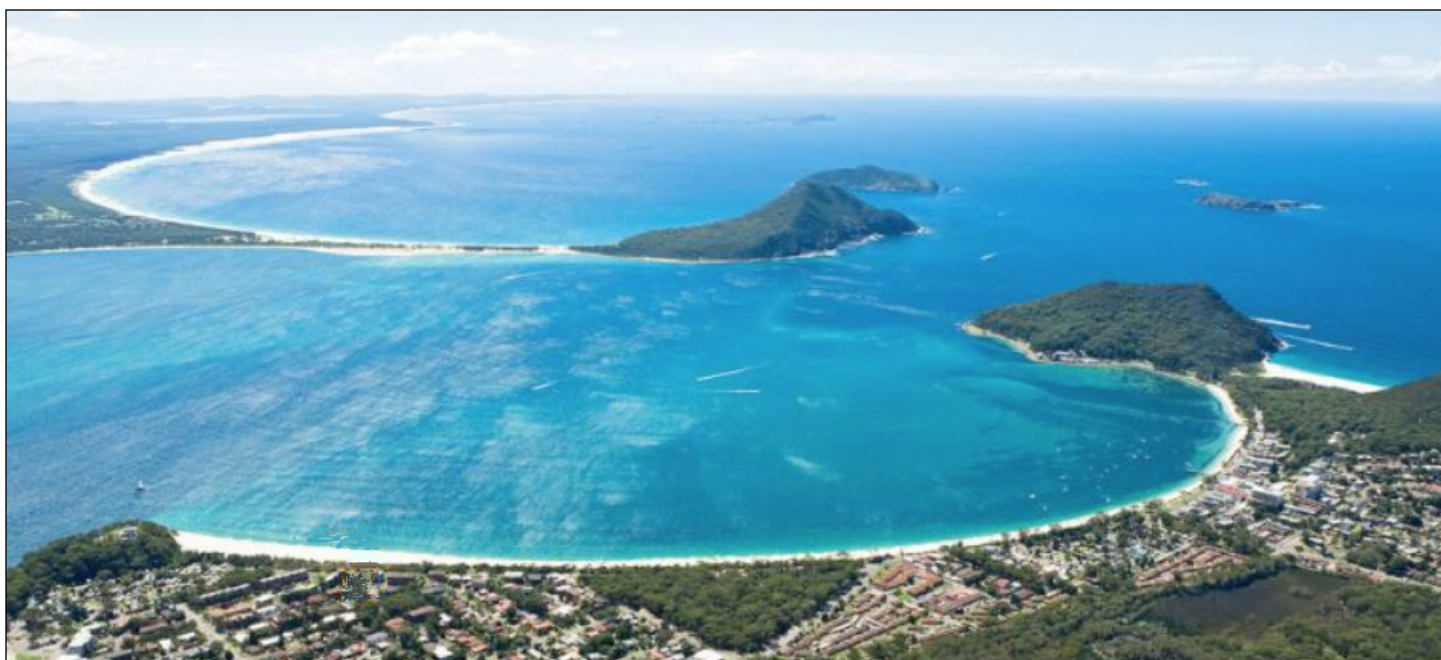
Dances: St. Andrew's Fair - 32J • Mrs. MacLeod - 32R • Holyrood Strathspey - 32S •
The Express - 40J • The Monmouth Ramble - 32S • Shiftin' Bobbins - 32R •
The New Scotland Strathspey - 40S • Woo'd and Married and A' - 32J • Scott Meikle - 32R •
The Fireside Reel - 32R; The Braes of Breadalbane - 32S • The Left-handed Fiddler - 32R •
City of Belfast - 32S • The Laird of Milton's Daughter - 32J

Cost: \$12 for RSCDS members, \$15 non members Contributions to the refreshments are welcome

Information: rscdsboston.org • Evelyn - athollbrose@verizon.net • Flo - fohhearn@gmail.com

43rd Australian Winter School at Hunter Valley, 2018

In July two thousand eighteen
Hunter Valley hosts the dancing scene.
So come one, come all and dance and play
In the blue water wonderland of Shoal Bay.



8 - 15 July 2018 • Further information at hvws2018.com

SAVE THE DATE INFORMATION:

The SDCEA SCHOLARSHIP DANCE is scheduled for Saturday, March 24th, 2018

Location is the First Parish Church, 349 Boston Post Road, Weston, MA and starting time is 7:30 pm
Donation \$20.00 (\$15.00 for students with ID)
MCs are Roberta Lasnik and Stephan Thomforde
Musicians are Anne Hooper, Catherine Miller and Natalie Haas
For further information, contact Gregor Trinkaus-Randall at 978/897-3997 or trink68@uwalumni.com

Escape to Pinewoods this summer with ESCape Week, July 2-6, 2018

[from CDS Boston News, Winter 2017]

ESCAPE offers dancers a sampling of familiar favorites and new experiences, featuring English country dance, Scottish country dance, and Contra dance, plus an assortment of ritual dances, songs, games, and more! Come see for yourself why campers are calling ESCAPE “pretty much perfect”:

- It’s “accessible and fun” with “just enough challenge!”
- Classes by “friendly and excellent” teachers who “raised the bar” for everyone!
- “Great evening programs” with lots of variety and “super fabulous music!”
- And a “relaxed atmosphere and small camp feeling” that is “very friendly to newer folks” and a chance to “meet lots of people, new friends and old!”

The only way it could be better is with you! For updates on staff, classes, and registration, check rscdsboston.org/pinewoods-esc.html or [facebook.com/groups/124470808239256](https://www.facebook.com/groups/124470808239256)

See you in July!

Comment: If you can handle most Scottish Country dance formations you can handle the English! The names of figures do change, but as every dance is called you have time to quickly memorize and translate back and forth between the two. It is not so hard on the feet, you can wear ghillies but also, if more comfortable, wear a light shoe with a slight heel for English dancing. This short week session is an excellent introduction to Pinewoods Camp, before taking on the longer Scottish sessions. – Ed.



A Thought from the Chairman of the RSCDS

[By Helen Russell, reprinted from The Rant, July 2017, Hunter Valley Branch, Australia.]

I do so enjoy visiting other Branches, meeting fellow RSCDS members, and hearing about Branch activities. Wherever I travel in the world it is like having an instant family. We all share the enjoyment of SCD and the companionship of other dancers. It is up to us, the Branch members, to ensure that more people are introduced to our favorite form of dance.

The various RSCDS committees can decide policy and strategy, but it is those dancers and teachers, who turn up every week to support their class and their Branch, who are central to the Society’s long term health. Could you recruit a neighbor? Growing the number of dancers in your area by showing them how much fun and friendship can be had, could be fun for you too!

CALENDAR OF SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE EVENTS AND CONCERTS - LOCAL AND AFAR

January

- 1st *** Northampton MA New Years Day Potluck & Dance Party, p 4
1st *** Nashua NH New Years Day Potluck & Dance Party, p 4
7th *** Brookline Class annual Twelfth Night Dance and Supper; contact Brookline Class, p 5
18-21 * Boston Celtic Music Fest, p 10
25 & 27 * Burns dinner & merrymaking at The Haven, p 10
27th * Burns Supper with the New Hampshire Pipes & Drums, p 10

February

- 2-4 * Cardigan Dance & Winter Sports Weekend, p 15
3rd * Burns Celebration with the Worcester Kiltie Pipe Band, p 10
10th San Francisco Branch Winter Ball, p 15
10-11 Ardbrae Ball Weekend, Ottawa, Ontario, p 15
16-18 Hawaii Branch annual Aloha Weekend, p 15
17th Toronto Tartan Ball, dinner & dance, p 15

March

- 3-4 ** New Haven Branch annual Ball Weekend, p 15
24th *** Scholarship Dance Party, p 6

April

- 20-22 * NEFFA - New England Folk Festival, Mansfield MA, neffa.org

May

- 11-13 * New York Branch Pawling Weekend, p 15
12th *** Fairlee Spring Fling
18-20 *** Boston Highland Ball Weekend [*note change of weekend*], p 3
25-26 *** Penobscot Class Memorial Day Weekend

Summer:

- *** 2-6 July – ESCape week at Pinewoods, p 6
*** 6-14 July – Scottish Sessions at Pinewoods, p 7
8-15 July – Australian Winter School, p 5
27-29 July – TAC Teachers' Conference and AGM, p 8
29th July - 5th August – TAC Summer School, p 8
15th July - 12th August – RSCDS Summer School at St. Andrews, p 15

Code Breaker: *** an event sponsored by the Boston Branch, ** other SD events within the Branch area, and * of possible interest (perhaps a concert) within the Branch geographic area.

Pinewoods Scottish Sessions – Hold the dates July 6-14, 2018 and watch the Boston Branch website at rscdsboston.org for the due date of the application. No one likes being on “the list”!

The purpose of this Calendar is not only to provide a listing of current events, but also to note future events. This helps in planning an event to avoid clashes and conflicts. So it would be great if future planners of Branch and Class events would send to Evelyn and Barbara even just the date, name of event and if possible a contact name. When all the pieces are together then it would of course be put on the website. – *Ed.*

2018 - Teachers' Association (Canada) - 60th Anniversary
TEACHERS' CONFERENCE WEEKEND and AGM
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
July 27 - 29, 2018

Antoine Rousseau - Teacher
Terry Traub - Class Musician
Tullochgorum - Evening Musicians

Join us for the Friday Welcome dance, two morning master classes with Antoine Rousseau,
the Annual General Meeting and the Saturday Banquet and Ball

REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 2018 ON THE WEBSITE: www.tac-rscds.org

TEACHERS' CANDIDATE COURSES OFFERED FOR UNITS 2, 3 AND 5
July 22 - August 5, 2018

Unit 2/3: Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, Tutor • Ron Krug, Piano

Unit 5: Elaine Brunken, Tutor • Lisa Scott, Piano

2018 - Teachers' Association (Canada) - 60th Anniversary
SUMMER SCHOOL
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
July 29 - August 5, 2018



TEACHERS

Ellie Briscoe - Virginia, USA
Jody Poapst - Ontario, Canada
Antoine Rousseau - Paris, France
Alan Twigg - California, USA

MUSICIANS

Barbara McOwen - Music Director
Tullochgorum & Friends
Anne Hooper, Robert McOwen, Terry Traub
Campbell Webster, Laird Brown, Don Wood



Join us for a full week of
Scottish Country Dancing
for all levels of experience
to fabulous music in
dynamic Minneapolis
6 mornings of dance classes
4 evening social dances
a formal banquet and ball, a ceilidh
optional afternoon classes and
fun with old friends and new

MUSICIAN INTERNSHIP - SEE WEBSITE FOR SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 2018 ON THE WEBSITE : www.tac-rscds.org

SCOTTISH DANCE CLASS LOCATIONS

MASSACHUSETTS

- Bedford:** Tuesdays, 1:00-2:30 pm, Bedford Senior Center (COA), 12 Mudge Way, Bedford (yellow bldg. behind Town Hall). Register at Senior Center as guest. All levels welcome. Heather Day, 617-244-6914, hdshoes14@gmail.com
- * **Brookline:** Sept-May, Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm, Parish House, Church of Our Saviour, 25 Monmouth Street, Brookline. Contact brooklineclass@rscdsboston.org, Evelyn Murray, 617-864-8945; Heather Day, 617-244-6914
 - * **Cambridge:** 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:** Year-round, First Fridays 7-9 pm at the Chelmsford Community Center at 31 Princeton St, North Chelmsford. Beginner & family-friendly. Contact Rebecca Gore at rgore@gmail.com or 508-574-1533
 - * **Great Barrington:** Year-round, Wednesdays 7:15-9:15 pm, Berkshire Pulse, 420 Park St., Housatonic, 3rd floor. Contact Ted, 413-698-2944, tedfr@rnetworx.com or Maria, 413-344-3023, mariaw235@gmail.com
 - * **Newton:** Sept to mid-June Wednesdays 10:30 am - noon. Newton Lower Falls Community Center, 545 Grove Street, Newton. July-Aug at VFW Post 440, 295 California St, Newton (park in the back parking lot). Contact Heather Day, 617-244-6914, hdshoes14@gmail.com
 - * **Northampton:** Sept-May, Thursdays 7:00-9:30 pm, Florence Civic Center, 90 Park St. (enter on Cosmian Ave.), Florence (nr. Northampton). Contact Karen Lavallee-Tente, 413-527-3407, or text to 413-210-8012.
 - * **Salem (Wee Bluets):** Year-round, Thursdays, 8-10 pm, adult beginners 7:30. The Bridge at 211, 211 Bridge St, Salem. Contact MaryEllen Scannell, weebluets@rscdsboston.org, 617-462-1925
 - * **Stow:** Sept-June, 2nd and 4th Fridays. Footwork/figures: 7:15, social dancing 8:00-10:30. Old Stow Town Hall, 375 Great Road, Stow. Contacts: Vickery Trinkaus-Randall, vickery@bu.edu; Marcia Rising, 978-897-2466
- 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
- Blue Hill:** Year-round, Wednesdays 6:30 pm, The Grange, Route 15, Blue Hill. Contact Mike/Dawn Little, 207-348-9308; mjlittle2318@hotmail.com; sugarmaple111@hotmail.com
- * **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, 207-409-9050, crone4702@gmail.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- * **Greenland (Seacoast Dancers):** Oct-June, Tuesdays 7:15-9:15 pm. Beginner's class upon demand. Greenland Parish Hall, 44 Post Road (Route 151), Greenland. Contact Merrill Henderson, crone4702@gmail.com, 207-409-9050 or Laurie Stevens, 603-501-9488, seacoastdancers@rscdsboston.org
- Lancaster:** Sept-June, Fridays 7:30 pm, Lancaster Town Hall, Lancaster. Contact Bill Tobin, 802-751-7671
- * **Nashua:** Aug-June, Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Main St., Nashua. Contact Loren Wright, nashuascd@comcast.net, 603-891-2331

VERMONT

- Burlington:** Mondays, 7-9 pm; Champlain Club, 20 Crowley Street, Burlington. Contact Connie Kent, 802-355-5901, constancekent@gmail.com
- * **Fairlee:** Sept-June, Wednesdays 7-9 pm, Fairlee Town Hall, 75 Town Common Rd. (just off Route 5, Main St.). Contact Gary Apfel, fairlee@rscdsboston.org, 802-439-3459
 - Manchester Center:** On hiatus until further notice. Contact Holly Sherman, 802-362-3471, hovashe@yahoo.com
 - * **Montpelier:** On hiatus until further notice. Contact Martha Kent, mdkent@comcast.net, 802-879-7618

NEW YORK

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

* Indicates classes sponsored by the Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, www.rscdsboston.org.

NOTE: 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/pdf/FullFlyer.pdf. For updates, please email classes@rscdsboston.org

MUSIC PAGE

Scottish Fiddle Camps

Alasdair Fraser's Fiddle Camps 2018 – for dates, locations and all info – alasdairfraser.com

Sierra Fiddle Camp (Calif.), Valley of the Moon (Calif.), Sabha mor Ostaig (Isle of Skye, Scotland), Crisol de Cuerda (Spain), Stringmania (Australia), Ashokan (N.Y.), more

Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School (Mass.) – scottishfiddleschool.org

Jink & Diddle Scottish Fiddling School (N.C.) – jinkdiddle.com

Rocky Mountain Fiddle Camp (Colo.) – www.rmffiddle.com

Gaelic College (Cape Breton, N.S., Canada) – gaeliccollege.edu

Burns Celebrations

Celebrate Robert Burns with the Worcester Kiltie Pipe Band & Bywater. February 3, 2018 at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester MA. Cocktail hour starting at 5:30, dinner, concert, ceilidh band. Info and purchase tickets: wkpb.org or contact Sheila McDowell 508-754-6104

Robert Burns Celebrations at The Haven, Jamaica Plain, MA. Thursday January 25th, 2018 and two seatings on Saturday January 27th. A merry time celebrating all things Burns including a 3-course dinner, piping & highland dancing, songs & poetry. Tickets are limited - reserve online via thehavenjp.com

Burns Supper with the New Hampshire Pipes & Drums. Saturday January 27, 2018 in Manchester, N.H.

Traditional supper, cash bar, piping & dancing entertainment, ceilidh band. Info: nhpipesanddrums.org

Concerts & Festivals

Boston Celtic Music Festival - expanded days and locations, January 18-21, 2018 – passim.org/BCMFest

Burren Backroom Series - Hosted by Brian O'Donovan - burren.com

Passim - BCMFest Concert, Fri Jan 19, 7 pm; Jenna Moynihan, Fri Mar 16, 8 pm; NEFFA Preview, Sun Mar 25, 7 pm; Hanneke Cassel CD release, Saturday April 29, 5 & 7 pm - www.passim.org

Grotonwood - Pure Dead Brilliant Concert with Hanneke Cassel, Feb 15, 2018, Groton, Mass. Info - hannekecassel.com



Why Does That Tune Sound Scottish? A Mini-Review of Pentatonic Scales

[By Alan Wilson, originally published in Granite Skyes, Newsletter for the Strathspey & Reel Society of N.H.]

While the 'usual' scale has seven notes before repeating (an octave), e.g. CDEFGAB, many Scottish-sounding tunes use a gap scale of only five notes, a pentatonic scale, e.g. CDEGA. This is a C major scale, containing all three notes of the major chord triad, C E and G. The minor pentatonic scale, including the notes of a minor chord triad, is C Eb F G Bb. Notice that these scales have no notes a semitone apart.

The black keys on a piano give an easy way to find a pentatonic scale; starting on the Gb, this gives a major scale; start on the Eb, and it's a minor scale. Another way to construct pentatonic scales is to look at the circle of fifths (more on this in a future issue), rearrange five adjacent notes in the circle and you have a major pentatonic scale, e.g. FCGDA rearranges to FGACD – an F major scale, and GDAEB rearranges to GABDE – a G major scale.

So which Scottish tunes can be played with so few notes? Well how about playing Spootiskerry on just the black keys – that is what started me on this whole pentatonic thing. How about Auld Lang Syne, Amazing Grace, Loch Lomond, Skye Boat Song, Ye Banks and Braes? And the first bit of Scotland the Brave is based on a pentatonic scale, but includes additional 'passing' notes.

For more on this subject visit Jack Campin's website atcampin.me.uk/Music/Modes

PEOPLE NEWS

Message from *Eleanor Vandegift*: “Thank you, campers, for the summer greetings and good wishes concerning my hip replacement in July. I was with you in spirit - my memories of Pinewoods are all great ones. I am happy to be dancing again after a year of walking through dances. I hope some day to get back to dancing well! Please keep well, keep moving and keep in touch with each other in the coming year! Happy dancing. Carpe diem.” Eleanor adds that “We spent a month in France mid-Sept/Oct and I was fit enough to climb spiral staircases at B&Bs and leap on and off our canal boat. We did a week-long trip on the Niveranais with good friends. It is a great way to travel.”

Julie Smith and her daughter *Lucinda Smith* have wisely gone off to the southern hemisphere to visit *Duncan Smith* and grandson *Carter* in Australia. So they are missing all this cold weather!

News from Montreal includes *Laura Risk* proudly reporting that she received a very special award at the McGill Convocation in June last year. The award is the Governor General’s Gold Medal “conferred upon the most outstanding McGill graduate receiving a Doctoral degree in 2016-17 in any discipline.” Her dissertation topic is fiddling/traditional music of Quebec. Laura will be playing for the Boston Branch at the Highland Ball in May; see p 3 of this issue.

Holly Boyd together with *Don Nemiroff* danced from Ocean to Ocean across Canada this past summer. In the spring they attended the RSCDS International Week in Cyprus, including touring ancient sites and dancing in a stone amphitheater.

Flowers of the Forest

Heinz Duewell, Hunter Valley Branch, Newcastle Australia. Heinz passed away 21st September, 2017 aged 97 years. He was the founder and teacher of the Branch, “His contribution to Scottish Country dancing in the Hunter Valley has given the region a sound foundation on which this vibrant community was built and his legacy will live on in the activity that we all so much enjoy. Heinz also led an active academic career and held the position of Associate Professor of Chemistry before he retired. Deepest sympathy to Heinz’s daughter, Moira, her husband Michael and their three children.” – Kim Nolan, Editor of *The Rant*

Heinz’s speciality was studying the chemical composition of the red resins exuded by grasstrees. He designed the Branch badge, served as chairman for several years and as Editor for *The Rant* for many years. Under his editorship it was the most influential SCD publication in Australia in the 70s. He received the RSCDS’s Scroll of Honor for his many contributions to the Hunter Valley Branch.

Daan Troost, Kennebunk Class, ME, October 16, 1932 - November 30th, 2017. Daan was the husband of *Morven Donald Troost*. Daan was very supportive of the Kennebunk Class for which Morven was the essential glue in forming the class. Evelyn Murray started the teaching and later passed that responsibility to Iain Goddard; now Merrill Henderson teaches the class.

Daan was born in Holland and lived through WWII under the German occupation, which must have been a very difficult time. Later he emigrated to the USA, where he met Morven. They married and had three children, lived for a time in Colorado, but loved Cape Porpoise and came back there to live the rest of their lives amongst family and friends - when they were not traveling. A memorial service was held at the Bibber Memorial Chapel, Kennebunk, which a number of the dancers from the Branch attended. We heard an old friend give a fascinating account of Daan’s life. Anne Hooper played several pieces of Daan’s favorite music.



Cookies in the Canongate by Martha Kolman

[From "Won't You Come into the Kitchen?" or "101 Ways to Change Your Figure," arranged by Mary Anne Schofield and Jim Gaffney, published by the Delaware Branch]

A 24-bar Jig for 2 couples. Tune 350-degree oven, 8-15 minutes long, depending on size.

- Bars
- 1-4 First Couple, setting, cream 1 cup of butter or margarine until fluffy, and cast off to 2nd place
- 5-8 Right hands once round first couple picking up 3 oz cream cheese, and one cup of sugar
- 9-16 Down the middle and up (1st couple), until the mixture is smooth and creamy
- 17-25 Reel of four with first man and second lady passing left shoulders, to beat in one egg yolk, 1/2 teas. vanilla and 2 1/2 cups sifted all-purpose flour. Repeat to the bottom of the set, by dropping dough from spoon, or putting through cookie press, or chilling until firm, rolling, and cutting with cookie cutters. Bake as described above.

THE BEST RUM CAKE EVER!

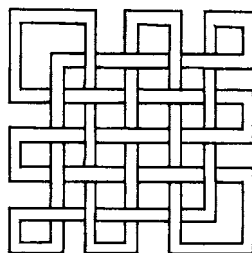
[This recipe was taken from the Clan Borthwick Association Newsletter.]

1 tsp of sugar	1 to 2 quarts rum
1 cup of dried fruit	brown sugar
1 tsp baking soda	1 cup butter
2 large eggs	1 tsp baking powder
lemon juice	chopped nuts

Before starting, sample rum to check quality. Good, isn't it? Now proceed. Select large mixing bowl, measuring cup, etc. Check rum again. It must be just right. To be sure that rum is of proper quality, pour one level cup of rum into a glass and drink it as fast you can. Repeat.

With electric mixer, beat one cup of buttering large fluffy bowl. Add 1 seasspoon of thugs and beat again. Meanwhile, make sure rum is still alright. Try another cup. Open second quart if necessary. Add leggs and 2 cups of dried fruit. Beat until high. If dried gets stuck in the betters, pry loose with a drewsciber. Sample rum again, checking for tonscisticity. Next sift 3 cups pepper or salt (it really doesn't matter). Sample rum.

Sift 1/2 pint lemon juice. Fold in chopped butter and strained nuts. Add 1 babblespoon of brown thugar - or whatever color you can fine. Wix mel. Grease oven. Turn cake pan to 350 graydeces. Pour mess into boven and ake. Check rum again and ... bo to ged.



A Short History of the RSCDS

By the end of the First World War the national dances of Scotland were either in the process of being forgotten, or were being performed in such an incorrect manner as to lose their true character. In the ballroom, too, the friendly social spirit, the hallmark of Scottish gatherings in the past, was also disappearing. It was with these things in mind that Mrs. Ysabel Stewart of Fasnacloch and Miss Jean C. Milligan determined to recreate an interest in Scottish dancing in its best and traditional form.

The Scottish Country Dance Society was formed in 1923. Its main objectives were:

- to preserve and practice country dances as danced in Scotland;
- to collect old books and pictures illustrative of Scottish dances;
- to publish descriptions of country dances with diagrams and music.

It was fortunate that there were still many older people who knew how these dances should be done and who could give authentic information on the correct forms of dance and technique. The first book was published in 1925 and was a collection of twelve well-known dances, each of which was still danced in some part of Scotland. Forms of technique were then standardized and whenever possible the oldest form has been adopted by the Society.

At first the dances were collected from living sources. Then old manuscripts were deciphered and the dance collections of the 18th century and early 19th century were studied. The selection of dances for publication has been guided by the forms of dance found in authentic Scottish manuscripts.

The fact that Scottish country dancing has never died is greatly due to the social pattern of Scotland. In England, Wales, and Ireland, although the country dance was, as in Scotland, a ballroom dance, it became unfashionable. In Scotland this did not occur. Here the clan system ruled, and as the Chief did, so did all of his followers and family. Thus, Scottish dancing belongs to all levels of society and does so to this day.

Each Chief had his piper, and when the pipes were banned after the 1745 Jacobite Rising, they were replaced by fiddlers – the most famous of whom, Niel Gow, was fiddler to three Dukes of Atholl. Like the pipers, these fiddlers composed music not only for the Duke's family but, it is thought, for dances also. These were called after members of the family or were composed to commemorate great events in national or clan history.

The Scottish people seem, however, to have been adverse to writing down their dances. In fact, their folklore and songs, music and dances have been handed down from generation to generation by mouth only. This makes any real historical data scarce. Many of the dance names excite curiosity and seem to promise interesting stories, but stories do not accompany the descriptions of the dances, even in their ancient form, and must be accepted as lost forever.

The Society, formed in Glasgow in 1923, began to spread. Town after town in Scotland formed Branches. Soon England became interested, and classes and, then, Branches were formed. Scots all over the world were beginning to hear of the revival of one of Scotland's most delightful heritages for, as the dances became known, so did the national music. Scotland has thousands of splendid melodies, many of which had quite gone out of use, and in recording this music the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society has done a great service.

To prevent any straying from tradition during the Society's expansion, and to form a definite centre of knowledge, a Summer School was established at St. Andrews in 1927. The school now lasts for four weeks and is attended each week by around three hundred people from all around the world.

The title "Royal" was bestowed on the Society by King George VI shortly before his death in 1951. It is a matter of great pride and satisfaction to the Society that the Queen became its patron in 1947. For many years the Society has sent demonstration teams abroad which have done much to publicize Scotland's dances. Worldwide there are now some 126 Branches of the Society and well over three hundred Affiliated Groups. In recognition of her work with the Society the late Miss Jean C. Milligan was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Law by Aberdeen University in July, 1977.

[The above was written during the time Miss Muriel Gibson was Secretary to the Society, and published as a leaflet for publicity purposes. I have no other reference as to date, and author. – Editor]

Scottish Country Dancing in New England

It all began in Boston with Jeannie Robertson Buchanan Carmichael, born in Edinburgh, who came to the USA in 1923, the year the SCDS was founded. Jeannie, a mathematician, eventually worked in space rocketry at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, before retiring in 1960.

In 1947, while attending English Country Dance classes in Boston, Jeannie was asked by several of the dancers, among them John McDougall, David Bridgeham, Duncan Hay, Fred Newcombe and Irvin Davis, if she would start a Scottish Country dance class. Through her affiliation with the Country Dance Society, she obtained the use of a small room in the facility they shared with the Girl Scouts at 87 Beacon Street, Boston. Thus the Monday night classes began and continue to this day for 70-plus years.

It was difficult to obtain the proper attire, especially for the men. Dying athletic socks in appropriate colors was the solution for the men's hose. Cut off tail coats and white waiter's jackets were worn for formal affairs. One of the early members was Emily Hartman who was on the staff of Sergeant College of Physical Education. She arranged for the fledgling group to use their gymnasium, just north of Harvard Square, in return for putting on demonstrations. This was a big step forward and the class began to grow. In 1949, the group gave its first demonstration at NEFFA. The dancers included all those previously mentioned with their partners, Kay Jacobs, Helen Spalding, Emilie Hartman, Theora Morrison and Anne O'Brian.

About this time, Irvin Davis suggested the formation of a proper organization with legal status. He soon formulated bylaws and a plan for the annual election of officers. In April 1950, Boston was granted the first overseas Branch status by SCD Headquarters in Scotland. There were 23 charter members, adding to those already listed above were Florence Brunnings, Leonard Hooper, Barbara Little, Agnes Brown, Barbara Chisholm, Miriam Cochran, Larry Collins, Arlene Dow, Susan Goodale, Ruth Hunt, Ted Sannella, and Jean Staples. In 1957, Miss Milligan, under the sponsorship of the Boston Branch, visited North America for the first time.

Dancing continued at Sergeant College until the 1958-59 season. During that year the Branch danced at Orange Hall, Somerville, and at Old Cambridge Baptist Church. In June 1959 the Monday night classes moved to the YWCA in Central Square, Cambridge. The Boston Branch may be unique in holding simultaneous classes at three levels (Basic, Intermediate, Advanced) for more than 40 years. (This changed when the class later moved to Springstep in Medford and then to the Canadian-American Club in Watertown, when the classes became Experienced and Basic only.)

The Stow group had its beginnings in 1966 when Alistair Duncan began teaching a group of friends and neighbors, meeting in the homes of members in Sudbury twice monthly. In 1967 the group became a Branch class and met in the Sudbury Grange Hall.

In 1968 they moved to Stow, dancing in a barn and subsequently to the Stow Town Hall where they danced under the able direction of Jeanetta McColl, and now with Gregor Trinkaus Randall, and sometimes guest teachers. The Brookline group was started by Evelyn Murray in 1973 when she was asked by the Rev. George Blackman to teach at his Church of Our Savior on Sunday evenings. He, his wife and sons, all with a strong Scottish background, danced with the group until his retirement. The original teachers were Evelyn, Julie Smith and Isolde Lamont. It became a Branch class around 1975.

[This article was compiled by several teachers for the RSCDS, for publication for the 75th Anniversary of the RSCDS and updated a little by the Editor.]



HAVE SHOES WILL TRAVEL

Mt Cardigan Weekend, Feb 2-4. This is a weekend of Scottish Dance and Winter Sports, and is a decades-old tradition for many Boston Branch dancers. Lance Ramshaw runs it, and the Music Coordinator is Barbara McOwen. For more info go to ramshaw.info/cardigan

San Francisco Branch Winter Ball, February 10th, at the Orchard Pavilion, Sunnyvale. Music by Fiddlesticks and Ivory with Lyle Ramshaw, Janet Kurnick, Susan Worland, John Taylor. Comment: this is John Taylor's last SCdance performance.

Hawaii Branch annual Aloha Winter Weekend, Honolulu, Feb 16-18, with guest instructor Mary Murray, and music by Humuhumunukunukuapua'a and Strathspey Society Band.

The RSCDS Winter School 2018 will take place 18 - 23 February, in the Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry, Scotland. Teachers are Mervyn Short, Helen Russell, Lindsey Ibbotson and Paul Plummer. Musicians are Ian Muir, Judith Muir, Muriel Johnstone and Judith Smith. See rscds.org/article/courses for more info and registration. Come and join us in stunning Pitlochry for 5 days of dancing, music and fun.

March 3-4, 2018 – New Haven Highland Ball Weekend, New Haven, CT. Saturday dinner and ball at the West Hartford Town Hall, Sunday Brunch with dancing at the High Lane Club. Saturday Ball dances include Shetland Shepherdess, Miss Gibson's Strathspey, Davy Nick Nack, The Cupar Jig, City of Belfast, Crocket's Victory Garden, The Frisky, Linnea's Strathspey, Bohemian Reflections, Ellie's Jig, The Bonnie Tree, Whigmaleeries, The Happy Meeting, The Triumph, Twinbairns Reel, The Walled Gardens. Music by Terry Traub and Millbrae. For the whole packet of info, go to nrhscds.com/new-haven-highland-ball

Montreal Branch: The A&P Social is scheduled for March 10th, and the Spring Tea Dance for April 7th. See scdmontreal.org.weebly.com for more info.

Ottawa Ardbrae Ball Weekend is February 10-11, Saturday Ball with Torridon Scottish Dance Band, and Sunday Brunch. More info available at ardbrae.org

Toronto Tartan Ball, February 17, to be held at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Reception, dinner and dance with music by Scotch Mist. More info at dancescottish.ca/TartanBall

Orange County Branch Workshop and Ball on Catalina Island May 4-6. Teachers are Antoine Rousseau, Elaine Brunken and Marjorie McLaughlin, music by Andy Imbrie, Judi Nicolson and Ian Nicolson. Cost \$295.00 for dinners, Workshop and Ball (this does not include lodging and rest of meals). Contact info at rscds-interbranch.org

New York Branch Pawling Weekend, May 11-13, Berkshire Hills, Copake, NY. Join us for a weekend of classes, balls, and parties. Our teachers this year are Willie Williamson (Scotland), Linda Henderson (California), and Ellie Briscoe (Virginia). Music Director is Hanneke Cassel. Welcome dance - casual attire, Ball - formal attire. All meals provided. Info - rscdsnewyork.org

RSCDS Summer School 2018! Four week-long courses, July 15 - August 12. Come and join us in beautiful St. Andrews for another fun-packed month of Scottish music and dancing in July and August! The Summer School has been an annual event (and our largest) for more than 80 years (excluding the years during WWII). Classes for all levels, plus the following courses: Starters and Re-Starters, Class Musicians' Course, Musicians' Course, Junior Summer School, Social Dancing Skills, Teaching Certificate, Tutors' Course, Teaching Skills, and the Dancing Achievement Awards at 3 levels. See rscds.org/article/summer-school-2018 for more details.

Dancing Tour of New Zealand with Kiwi-born Christine Grobler for 10-12 days on the ground in October 2019. Small group 6-8 people in a minivan. Fly LAX to Auckland, dance in Christchurch, Invercargill, and Dunedin, plus items such as bush walks, waterfalls, cliffs, lighthouses, seals and sea lions. Contact Christine at chrisgrobler@cox.net, cell 949-412-2088.

From: RSCDS BOSTON BRANCH
The Folk Arts Center
10 Franklin Street
Stoneham, MA 02180-1862
(781) 438-4387

FIRST CLASS MAIL

**COPY DUE DATE FOR THE MAR/APR 2018 ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 10TH.
PLEASE SEND MATERIAL FOR YOUR WINTER/SPRING EVENTS TO THE EDITOR.
DATES OF FUTURE EVENTS SHOULD BE SENT TO THE EDITOR.
Note: Class Events flyers are limited to a half page: 8 1/2" wide by 5 1/2" long**

Robert Burns

On January 25th, we celebrate Robert Burns Birthday. He is Scotland's preeminent poet and we all need some poetry in our lives. There are Burns suppers all over the world celebrating his poetry and contribution to humanity that All Men and in 2018, we add "and Women" are equal. Read "A Man's a Man." He disliked pomposity so wrote a poem "To a Louse" which he saw on a wealthy ladies bonnet! He felt for the poor and homeless and wrote "To a Mouse" which is the story of how he disturbed a mouse's home when ploughing a field. He also loved life and women in particular, but he also respected them and wrote some very beautiful poems about that aspect of his life. "My Love is like a Red Red Rose," etc., etc. We dance to many of the tunes he used for his songs: "Corn Rigs," "Ha! Ha! The Wooing' o' it," and many more.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne!

For auld lang syne, my dear,
For auld lang syne.
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

- from Robert Burns' *Auld Lang Syne*

[Helpful hint: The "s" in "syne" is pronounced like the "s" in "since."]

