

The Tartan Times

Volume LXVI, Number 4
March/April, 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 2018 *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 • **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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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.

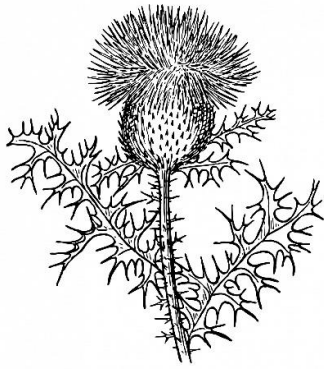
— *Laura and Meyer Billmers*

Notes for the Tartan Times from the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee held its December meeting on January 10th and approved the budgets for Pinewoods Scottish Sessions and for the Highland Ball. As you may already know, there are a few changes with this year's Highland Ball. Instead of offering a full meal, there will be a cocktail hour with substantial hors d'oeuvres, followed by the Grand March, the Ball, and dessert. A list of dinner recommendations in the Melrose area is available on the Branch website.

Another change for 2018 will be the absence of the Fall Concert. In its place will be a joint Ceilidh featuring Highland Dance Boston and the Boston Scottish Country Dancers (formerly known as the Demo Team). This sounds like an event not to be missed! Keep watching the website and Tartan Times for more information.

Exec is still planning to offer a beginner class in conjunction with an Adult Education Class. The start date will probably not be until the fall. Stay tuned for more information! — *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

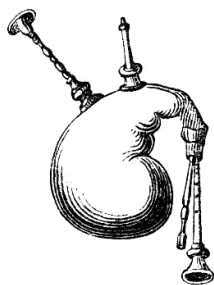
32 J 3C – RSCDS Leaflet

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>





RSCDS Boston Branch
Invites you to the annual

Welcome Dance

For the Boston Highland Ball

May 18th, 2018

8:00 p.m.

The First Parish Church in Weston
349 Boston Post Rd.
Weston, MA 02493

Musicians: Anne Hooper, Ed
Pearlman, and Beth Murray

MC: Loren Wright

The Program

Roaring Jelly	32J-3C	Foss: Glendarroch Sh.
Margaret Parker's Strathspey	32S-3C	Drewry: RSCDS Book 31
Montreal Rendezvous*	32R-3C	Birdsall: Montreal Moments
Chased Lovers*	32J-3C	Wilson: Word Wide Weavings
The Lea Rig	32S-2C	RSCDS Book 21
General Stuart's Reel	32R-3C	RSCDS Book 10
Best Set in the Hall*	32J-3C	Greenwood: RSCDS Book 46
Wells House	32S-3C	Goldring: Wells House
Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan	32R-5C set	Goldring: 14 SD for 2000
The Wild Geese	32J-3C	RSCDS Book 24
Adieu Mon Ami	32S-3C	RSCDS Book 24
The Montgomeries' Rant	32R-3C	RSCDS Book 10

*On the Saturday Ball Program

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





SDCEA Scholarship Dance



7:30 pm, March 24, 2018
First Parish Church in Weston
349 Boston Post Road, Weston, MA
Donation: \$20 (Students \$15)

MCs: Stephen Thomforde & Roberta Lasnik
Musicians: Anne Hooper, Catherine Miller, & *special guest* Natalie Haas

The Ferry Louper	8 x 32J (3C)	Goldring, 24 G & S Dances
The Bampton Strathspey	8 x 32S (2C)	The Road to Stow
Tomalena	5 x 32R (3C)	San Francisco Collection 2
Mrs. Stewart's Jig	8 x 32J (3C)	RSCDS Book 35
The Gentleman	8 x 32S (3C)	RSCDS Book 35
The Clansman	8 x 32R (2C)	RSCDS Book 32
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	8 x 32S (3C)	Golden Jubilee Dances
The Duke of Perth	8 x 32R (3C)	RSCDS Book 1

Intermission

Gay Gordons

Chased Lovers	8 x 32J (3C)	World Wide Weavings
Meyer Lover Strathspey	8 x 32S (2C)	Houston & District 30th Anniv.
Ardmore Junction	8 x 32R (3C)	Reeladelphia
The Luckenbooth Brooch	8 x 32J (3C)	Glendarroch #28
Delvine Side	8 x 32S (3C)	RSCDS Book 2
Da Rain Dancin'	8 x 32R (3C)	Whiteadder Collection

Waltz

All proceeds benefit the RSCDS Boston Branch scholarship funds.



Memorial Day Weekend Party

May 26, 2018 American Legion Hall, Belfast, Maine

Pre-Dance Supper
5:45 \$1.00 plus a Pot

Dance from 7:00 until the Waltz
\$10 RSCDS members \$12 nonmembers



Music of the Macadians

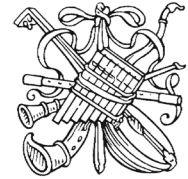
Duncan Keppie, *piano accordion*, Heather Cameron, *fiddle*,
Sandy McMillan, *small pipes*, Fraser Keppie, *bass*



SAVE THE DATE!



Full dance schedule will be available at
<http://www.rscdsboston.org/>
Dance walk through — 3:30 PM at the American Legion



Potluck Brunch & Ceilidh

Sunday, May 27, 10-2

Dawn and Mike Little's Farm

678 State Route 46
Bucksport ME 04416
207-702-9294



For Party Information:

Gayle Koyanagi
gkoyanagi20@gmail.com
207-338-6085

For Hospitality Information:

Kim Jacobs
zephyrhill@fairpoint.net
207-722-3139



save the date

*Merrill Henderson reports that the 2018
Kennebunk Downeast Fling
is scheduled for
Saturday, June 9th
at the Kennebunk Town Hall, Maine*

Music by Highland Whisky with guest Anne Hooper



The Reel & Strathspey Society of Fairlee, Vermont
17th Annual
SPRING FLING

MUSIC BY
VIVEKA FOX, , PETER MACFARLANE, & SUSIE PETROV

Saturday, May 12, 2018
Walk Through at 2:30 p.m., Potluck at 5:30 p.m., Dance at 7:00 p.m.
Fairlee Town Hall – 75 Town Common Road – Fairlee, Vermont
Admission: Adults - \$11.00 (RSCDS Members) \$13.00 (Non-members),
Under 18 - \$5.00

For more information, dance instructions, or to arrange hospitality, contact
Gary Apfel – (802) 439-3459 or FairleeClass@rscdsboston.org
Dance instructions can also be found at <http://www.rscdsboston.org/FairleeSFMinicrib.pdf>

Scottish Arts Tartan Day Weekend

Saturday, April 7- Nashua HS South 9:00-5:00

Adults-\$20.00 Children under 12-Free

INDOOR SCOTTISH FESTIVAL

All Day: Sample Scottish Foods

Learn with “try it out sessions”:

Dance the Highland Fling

Play Bagpipes

Play Drums

Play Fiddle

Vendors

8:00 Solo Piping Competition begins

9:30 Dance Competition begins

1:30 Pipe Band Competition begins

Info: nhssa.org

Also piping competitions Friday night
Reception, Dinner & Concert Saturday night
Piping & Highland Dance workshops Sunday

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

March

- 14th * Red Hot Chili Pipers in concert, p 10
- 24th *** SDCEA Scholarship Dance Party, p 5
- 24th * Cape Breton Dance Party, p 10
- 25th * Hanneke Cassel CD Release, p 10

April

- 6-8 * Scottish Arts Tartan Day w/end p 7
- 7th *** Salem Spring Party, see below
- 7th Montreal Tea Dance, p 15
- 14th ** Scottish Family Dance, p 11
- 14th Ottawa Branch Ball, p 15
- 20-22 * NEFFA - New England Folk Festival, Mansfield MA, neffa.org, p 10
- 28th New Haven Branch Kilts and Ghillies Dance p 15

May

- 1st * Rachel Reeds CD Release, p 10
- 4-6 Orange Co. CA Branch Workshop and Ball p 15
- 11-13 * New York Branch Pawling Weekend, p 15
- 12th *** Fairlee Spring Fling, p 8
- 16th * Emerald Rae CD Release, p 10
- 18-20 *** Boston Highland Ball Weekend [note change of weekend], p 3-4
- 25-26 *** Penobscot Class Memorial Day Weekend, p 6

June

- 9th *** Kennebunk Dance Party p 6
- 9th * Boston Scottish Fiddle Club Concert & Party, p 10

July

- 2-6 *** ESCape week at Pinewoods, p 6
- 6-14 *** Scottish Sessions at Pinewoods, p 7
- 8-15 Australian Winter School, p 5
- 27-29 TAC Teachers' Conference and AGM, p 8

July into August

- 29-5 TAC Summer School, p 8
- 15- 12 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.

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.

This just in! – The Salem Spring Party will be Saturday April 7th, 211 Bridge St., Salem, MA. The theme is 18th Century and the band is Saucy Bess.

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 rjgore@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; loisanew@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

EVENTS - OCCASIONAL • **Wednesday March 14** - Red Hot Chili Pipers (with Cam Webster!), Palace Theater, Manchester N.H., 7:30, info 603-668-5588 • **Friday March 16** - Jenna Moynihan - concert at Passim - passim.org • **Friday & Saturday March 16 & 17** - Hanneke Cassel in concert with Mike Block and Christopher Lewis, Marblehead Mass. & Concord N.H. - hannekecassel.com • **Friday March 23** - Get this! Emerald Rae, Katie McNally and Niel Pearlman are recording a live album, and they'd like a party atmosphere. Come along to the Canadian American Club at 8 pm, ready with clinks and hoochs (in some moderation of course). See katiemcnally.com/gigs for any additional info. • **Saturday March 24** - Cape Breton dance & concert with Andrea Beaton and Troy MacGillivray, a big time event with big time musicians direct from Nova Scotia, at the Canadian American Club, canadianamericanclub.com • **Sunday March 25** - Hanneke Cassel CD Release at Passim, 5 & 7 pm • **Due March 31** - Bobby Brown Scholarship Application - see www.tac-rscds.org. • **Wednesday April 4th** - Ryan McKasson & Eric McDonald, sensational fiddle & guitar duo at Passim • **Weekend of April 20-22** - NEFFA - New England Folk Festival Association weekend packed with tons of music and dance events - a classic - www.neffa.org • **Tuesday May 1** - Rachel Reeds CD Release at Passim - come hear a solo concert by one of the great Monday night musicians at the Cambridge Class • **Weekend of May 4-6** - Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas at Ashokan - A whole weekend retreat of Fiddle & Cello; register now at www.ashokan.org • **Wednesday May 16** - congratulations to Emerald Rae - CD Release at the Burren Back Room • **Thursday May 24** - a real WOW ensemble - Maeve Gilchrist + Nic Gareiss + Natalie Haas + Yann Falquet at Passim • **Saturday June 9** - Boston Scottish Fiddle Club Orchestra Concert, directed by Niel Pearlman, with headliner Laura Risk, followed by Ceilidh dancing, silent auction, cash bar & refreshments, square sets & session (bring instruments!) at the CanAm Club • **Wednesday June 13** - a true friend/accompanist for fiddlers, Keith Murphy is releasing his own CD at the Burren Backroom • **Sunday June 17** - Ken Perlman & Janine Randall, Burren Backroom - Cape Breton & PEI banjo & piano extraordinaire

EVENTS - REGULAR • **Fridays once a month** - Lance Ramshaw's Slow Jam in Concord, Mass., www.ramshaw.info/slowjam • **Every Friday** - The Canadian American Club open mike pub • **3rd Sundays** - Gaelic Club at the CanAm Club • **Saturdays once a month** - Cape Breton dances with local and imported talent, canadianamericanclub.com • **1st Sundays** - Boston Scottish Fiddle Club in Belmont Mass. for workshops and session • **3rd Wednesdays** - Boston Scottish Fiddle Club session, CanAm Club, www.bsfc.us • **Last Sundays** - Strathspey & Reel Society of N.H. workshops in Concord, N.H., www.srsnh.org.

From Hanneke Cassel: "So I've been working on a book of my tunes for like 1 million years... and Volume 1 is FINALLY HERE! The book has 36 original tunes from my first 3 albums -- *My Joy*, *Some Melodious Sonnet*, and *Silver*. I am forever indebted to pianist extraordinaire Dave Wiesler for transcribing these tunes and making this whole thing happen. You can order the book HERE (www.hannekecassel.com/shop/the-cassel-collection-volume-1-original-tunes-by-hanneke-cassel) and if you want a little music to go along with the book, the BUNDLE includes the CDs *My Joy* and *Some Melodious Sonnet* (sorry we are still sold out of *Silver*, but stay tuned for a sweeeeeeeet album download STICKER available very soon)." [Ed. note: perhaps Hanneke will bring some copies to the Boston Highland Ball.]

Fiddle & Dance Lessons: • Informal Cape Breton Step Dance Workshops - 3rd Sundays, at 12:30, before the Gaelic Club, with advance notice – email Jen Schoonover (outrageoussocks@gmail.com) if planning to come. • Cape Breton fiddle workshop with Gordon Aucoin at 2 pm, 3rd Sundays, before the Gaelic Club • Regular Saturday series in Cape Breton Step (1 pm) and Scottish Highland (2 pm), also at the Canadian American Club – email Jen (outrageoussocks@gmail.com) for questions and signups.

PEOPLE NEWS

Cal Howard has been in the Lahey Clinic a couple of times recently and is now back in rehab. Irene reports that he is not doing very well. So do contact her and see whether you can help in any way.

Gregor Trinkaus-Randall is dealing with a serious, long abdominal condition. He is currently at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and would appreciate cards and emails.

There was a confluence of **Boston Branch familiars** at the San Francisco Branch Winter Ball. Thanks to **Chris Gallagher** for the photo.



Stephen Thomforde, Charles Liu, Susan Worland, Polly Birdsall, Chris Gallagher, Susie Kinsman, Dale Birdsall, Alex Bowers, Marian Smith, Kent Smith



MORE ACTIVITIES

What about ESCape to ESC week at Pinewoods! July 2-6, 2018?

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 and step dances, songs, games, and more. It's fun, friendly, and affordable—please join us this summer! **Music** by Aaron Marcus, Terry Traub, David Knight, Katie McNally, Daniel Beerbohm, Dan Emery, and Kristen Plateaux and Andrew Taylor from The Ripples. **Classes and calling** by Joanna Reiner Wilkinson (English), Terry Harvey (Scottish), Alexandra Deis-Lauby (Contra), Lisa Haywood (Ritual). **Information, scholarships and registration** - go to cbs-boston.org/summer-dance-camps or rscdsboston.org/pinewoods-esc.html (**Thanks** to the CDS-Boston Spring 2018 Newsletter for the above.)

Scottish Family Dance to Celebrate National Tartan Day!

Saturday April 14 at the Canadian American Club, Watertown, MA. You are invited to an afternoon of dancing, music, and festive activities. It is going to be a fun event for both adults and children alike! So bring along your family to celebrate our Scottish culture - we would love to see you all. Hosted by Jen Schoonover and Friends, music by Terry Traub. Suggested donations: \$8 per person, \$20 per family. Contribution of refreshments welcome! Questions: Jen Schoonover at outrageousocks@gmail.com or 617-901-7649

Pinewoods Scottish Sessions July 6-9 and 9-14

Applications went up on the Branch website at the beginning of February, so if you haven't done so already, go to rscdsboston.org and sign up. Pinewoods is an extra special place in the woods of southern Massachusetts, in the county of Plymouth. Two fresh-water ponds for swimming, shady paths to walk to classes, and meals. Lots of parties. Dancing on wooden floors in pavilions with live music provided by musicians from far and near. Teachers include Laura Scott, Linda Henderson, Helen Russell and Andrew Smith. Younger dancers (18+), please note there are scholarships available. For questions and more information contact the co-chairs Laura DeCesare and Ross Parker, or visit the website.



NEWS from The Teachers' Association of Canada

Sharon Barker reports that: the Index of John Drewry's dances has now been posted on the website. It can be found under the "Help" menu or by going to tac-rscds.org/index.php/help/index-of-john-drewry-s-dances. This index is a work in progress. To date, we believe we have confirmed the following:

- Names of all dances that John devised
- All published sources for each dance

If you find that the index is missing any dances or sources, please contact us at drewry@tac-rscds.org. Although there is a lot of other information included in this index, the following will not be confirmed until a review of each individual dance is completed. Items still to be confirmed include:

- Type of dance (reel, jig, strathspey, etc.)
- Number of bars
- Number of couples
- Set shape
- Year the dance was devised
- Recommended tunes

Once each dance is reviewed for the above, it will be transcribed into a digital format and published as part of the John Drewry Dance Collection. As each dance becomes available, we will make an announcement through TACTalk and the index will be updated. Our goal is to have a complete archival collection of all of John's works in TAC's possession. Requests for specific items will be sent out through TACTalk and/or email. If you have duplicates in your collection, please consider donating them to TAC to help us complete our comprehensive archive of John's works. If you have any questions about this project, please don't hesitate to contact us at drewry@tac-rscds.org.

Editor's Note: We have all danced to many of John Drewry's dances - The Silver Tassie, etc. So it is exciting to hear about the compilation of an Index of all his dances. John was a computer chap who lived near Aberdeen, Scotland; he devised dances which vary from intermediate to advanced in difficulty, about people and places he met as he travelled about the world. He also enjoyed Robert Burns' poetry, sometimes quoting lines to introduce the dance if appropriate. He introduces *The Silver Tassie* in the Bon Accord Book where it was first published, with this quote from Robert Burns:

Go, fetch to me a pint o' wine,
And fill it in a silver tassie,
That I may drink before I go
A service to my bonnie lassie.

The Jacobites

This word is bandied about freely, often without much explanation, especially when talking about dances and dance tunes. It was a period in Scottish history which ended with pivotal consequences for the nation which still reverberate today. It started in 1688 when King James VII of Scotland and II of England, had made himself so unpopular by his despotic methods of government and his attempts to ensure freedom of worship for his fellow Roman Catholics, that he was compelled to flee the country. William of Orange and his wife Mary accepted the crown, jointly, in his stead. Mary was a protestant daughter of James VII & II from his first marriage to Lady Anne Hyde.

But not everyone disapproved of the exiled king. Those who supported him were known as Jacobites, from Jacobus, Latin for James, and they were to play an important part in British history for the next sixty years. On the Continent, James was welcomed by the French King Louis XIV; a chateau was placed at his disposal, and he was given funds to maintain a court. Louis' motives were simple, to use James' presence to cause trouble for his enemy, William of Orange.

The first attempt to restore James to the throne was almost immediate. It was led by John Graham of Claverhouse, Viscount Dundee (the "Bonnie Dundee" of the song). He won the Battle of Killiecrankie on 27 July, 1689, but was fatally wounded and, without his leadership, the rising petered out. When James died in 1701, King Louis sent heralds to the chateau to proclaim his 13-year-old son King James VIII of Scotland and III of England. This boy was to grow up to become known to history as the "Old Pretender" (Pretender: meaning claimant); his son became the "Young Pretender" and was Prince Charles Stuart, aka Bonnie Prince Charlie.

The following year William of Orange died. His horse stumbled over a molehill and threw him. Jacobites secretly toasted "the little gentleman in black velvet" [*referring to the mole that frightened the horse; cf. the dance "The Moudiewort." - Ed.*]. They also had their own version of the loyal toast, passing their wineglasses over water – a silent token that it was to the king over the sea that they drank to. It was never easy to estimate the strength of Jacobite support. William of Orange had been unpopular, especially after his wife died; exile inevitably increased attractions of the Stuart Monarchy. There were Jacobites in all parts of Britain and they plotted continuously. But history was to emphasize the wide gap between the numbers of those who drank to the "king over the water" and those prepared to fight to restore him to the throne.

When it did come to real military effort, however, it was the Highlands of Scotland which consistently provided the largest part of the Jacobite armies. But at no time were all Highlanders Jacobites. There were factors, however, which led them to favor the exiled dynasty more than most. One was simply loyalty to a king of Scottish descent; another was that since the clans were run on patriarchal lines, with chiefs whose word was law, they found nothing untoward to the idea of a despotic king; and those who were Catholic or Episcopalian had not been repelled, as Protestant clans had been, by attacks on their religion.

In 1708, James II's son, now aged 20, made his first bid for the crown. With 6,000 French troops in 30 vessels, he set out from Dunkirk. The fleet anchored at the mouth of the Firth of Forth. It was the young man's intention to present himself to the Scots as James VIII, and ask them to break the Treaty of Union with England, which had been arrived at only the previous year. But a superior naval force under Admiral Byng appeared, and the French fleet fled north, to return in disorder to Dunkirk, by way of the North of Scotland and Ireland. Seven years later, James tried again. At his instigation, and in his absence, the Earl of Mar raised the Stuart Standard at Braemar on 6 September 1715, proclaiming James, King of Scotland, England, Ireland and – rather tactlessly in the circumstances – France.

That ended in a rather messy defeat. Finally in 1745 Bonnie Prince Charlie landed at Glenfinnan with a handful of men (eight including himself). Some clans rallied to his banner, and following some early wins and a march south as far as Derby, they retreated back into Scotland. The site for the final battle was totally unsuitable for Highland Clans, being flat and open, with no cover. The defeat at Culloden resulted in the breakup of the clan system. Some fled across the Atlantic to Canada and the United States. In the latter case it wasn't very long before they faced King George's armies again in the Revolution of 1776. The Hanoverian dynasty descended from James VI and I's daughter Elizabeth, whose daughter Sophia married the Elector of Hanover, a Protestant whose son, George I, was offered the British throne in 1714. In 1837 his great-great-granddaughter Victoria was proclaimed Queen of Great Britain.

For dancers and musicians the best thing that came of all this intrigue and fighting was some great dances and even better music of Niel Gow and others. Think "The Duke of Perth"!

Haggis – The Why about this Exclusive Beastie or Should It be “Whatever”??

[First an article found in my archives submitted by Maurice Whitby, originally found in The Sunday Post, January 24, 1988: Haggis O’ The World Unite! – Ed.]

Noo, whit maks a man that widnae hurt a flea become a vicious bloodthirsty monster? These fiends, these Scots. They’d dae anything tae get their hauns on a haggis! An’ where can a respectable haggis hide? Ah’m a chieftain, after a’. It’s no’ right fur me tae be scurrying about closes or down dunnies. You might think that’s funny. D’ye no’ think we’ve got feelings? Hiv ye ever looked at it frae the haggis’ point of view? It’s bad enough getting chased a’ over the place till they catch ye. But then they lull ye intae a false sense o’ security.

They carry ye in for a start. Guest of honour. Escorted by a piper like the chieftain ye are. They even sit ye at the tap table. Then they hiv the cheek tae toast your sonsie wee face! An’ when we’re ready to hiv a wee dram yersel’ – oot comes the knife! So you sit there, glaikit like, lookin’ about ye fur the silverside and roast chicken. Then it dawns on ye at last – you’re the main course! Whit sleekit mind ever thought up sic a thing? Wan slice and yer rich reckon’ innards are spillin’ oot a’ o’er the table.

We hiv tried to fight back. We’ve tried tae put ‘em aff us for a start. Ah mean, d’ye think onythin’s naturally this colour? Naw. Haggis scientists worked night and day to find just the right disgusting shade. And whit about the stuff we’re made o’? Any self-respecting gourmet wid throw us oan the midden.

Everywhere else in the world, it works! The very sicht o’ haggis is enough tae scanner them. So, whit is it wi’ the Scots? The worse we look, the mair vile we taste, the mair they seem tae enjoy us. Mind ye, they’ve got tae hiv quite a few wee drams in them first! But how long can this go on afore they wipe us from the face o’ the earth?

Well, if Ah survive, Ah’m taking oor case tae court. Haggis o’ the world unite. Make Scotland safe fur haggis. And if that disnae work, maybe we haggis will hae the last word and haud a Burns supper oorsels. Ah hear humans are verra tasty!

On the other hand we have:

Haggis? More nonsense is talked about the Scottish haggis than anything else in the world. Some joke that it is a small animal in tartan, running about the Highland mountains! Scotsmen tell Englishmen that it is something that can only be shot by the light of a full moon in January. Or that, when young, it must be fed nothing but porridge! Hundreds of haggis stories were spread around the globe by Scots. The conventional nickname for Scots serving with English troops was “haggis”! A South African radio station announced, in all seriousness, that the haggis-shooting season had opened in Scotland!

Take your pick.....



Presentation/Lecture

“The Great Halifax Explosion of 1917.” Saturday, March 10th, 7-9 pm, at the Canadian American Club, Watertown, presented by Historian Dave Read. Advance tickets at Brown Paper tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3333349. *[This is the event which resulted in the tradition of Halifax giving a huge Christmas tree to Boston each year - Ed.]*

HAVE SHOES WILL TRAVEL

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 Branch Ball, April 14 at the Ottawa Conference centre. Banquet at 6 pm, Ball 8 pm Music by Torridon Scottish Dance Band. Go to the Branch website for cost, and dance program. To register or ask about hospitality contact Hugh and Rosy Carter 613-830-3393 carterr@rogers.com

Rerr Terr, Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey, April 14. Music by Thistle House. Info: rscdsnewyork.org

New Haven 2018 Kilts and Ghillies Tea Dance, Saturday April 28 from 3-7 pm at the South Britain Congregational Church. Musicians are Peter Macfarlane and friends. There are two workshops associated with this event scheduled for Saturday, March 24th in New Haven and Saturday, April 7 in Stamford, details on the Workshops Flyer, more info at nhscds.com.

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. 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, Ball. Info at rscdsnewyork.org

Youth Weekend West in the San Francisco area, May 25-27. Teachers are Linda Henderson and Marjorie McLaughlin. For ages 12ish to 35ish. For more info contact sryouthworkshop@gmail.com, or visit yww2018.wordpress.com.

Levi Bailey Peterborough Stoney Lake Weekend at Pine Vista Resort, May 25-27. Teacher is Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, and music by Fred Moyes.

Westchester Ball, Rye, N.Y., June 2. Music by Tullochgorum. Info: rscdsnewyork.org/westchester.html

43rd Australian Winter School, July 8-15, 2018, hosted by the Hunter Valley Branch. Teachers are Tom McKinlay, Raphaëlle Orgeret, Debbie Roxburgh, Bill Unger, Ros McKie and Anne Kennedy. Musical Director is Iain McKenzie, with Chris Duncan, Anne-Marie Forsyth, Sharlene Penman, Lynne Scott, Catherine Strutt. Comfortable accommodations at the Ramada Resort, Shoal Bay, NSW. See info at hvws2018.com

TAC Teachers' Conference Weekend, Minneapolis, MN, July 27-29. Teacher - Antoine Rousseau; class musician - Terry Traub; evening musicians - Tullochgorum with Laird Brown & Don Woods. Friday welcome dance, two morning master classes, AGM, evening banquet & ball. **Teachers' Candidate Courses** are also offered, July 22 - August 5; Units 2 & 3 tutor is Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, with Ron Krug, piano; Unit 5 tutor is Elaine Brunken, with Lisa Scott, piano. Info: tac-rscds.org

TAC Summer School, Minneapolis, MN, July 29 - August 5. Join us for a full week of Scottish country dancing for all levels of experience to fabulous music in dynamic Minneapolis. Teachers - Ellie Briscoe, Jody Poapst, Antoine Rousseau, Alan Twhigg. Musicians - Barbara McOwen, Music Director, with Tullochgorum, Don Woods, Laird Brown, more. Info: tac-rscds.org

RSCDS Summer School 2018 - Four week-long courses, July 15 - August 12. Come and join us in beautiful St. Andrews, Scotland, 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. 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.

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 MAY/JUNE 2018 ISSUE IS APRIL 10TH.
MATERIAL FOR YOUR LATE SPRING AND EARLY SUMMER EVENTS,
AND 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**

Ecclefechan and Cats

[Taken from an article in the Orange County Newsletter written by Karen Kerman]

Ecclefechan is a village east of Dumfries, famous for the Ecclefechan tart and also as the birthplace of Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881), philosopher and historian. The tarts consist of a butter pastry filled with dried fruit and ground almonds, although there are several variations of the recipe.

Scottish country dance is also linked to Ecclefechan. Devisor Bob McMurtry seems to have an affinity for cats since many are on the prowl in his dances. (At least in the titles!) Most remarkable is "Ecclefechan Feline" with its intertwining figure-of-8 on the sides and then the mirror reel of 3. The felines lurk, rub, and circle twice (hands across at each end) to make sure the place is right.

The published collection *Le Petit Chat Celtique* includes this 32-bar jig plus 23 other McMurtry dances. Of these 24 titles, seven contain the word "cat", and four others indicate connections with cats and their habits. No total number of dances devised by him was found, but it can be safely said there are many! Some examples are "Rite of Spring," "Ye Ken It Well," "Gloria's Wee Jig," and a recent one "Inimitable Derek."

Rich history formed a basis to build on, and tradition created a delectable dessert. What an unique place to single out! Typical of many locations in Scotland, Ecclefechan is not just an unusual name, but it carries all that shaped and made it, from Rome to sleepy times today. "It is often said that you are a true Scot if you can pronounce Ecclefechan." Actually, cartoon character Oor Willie once was rewarded for correctly spelling it. Undoubtedly, he wouldn't have known its history, derivation, and links to cats and dances. Probably more familiar with the tart angle?

