

The Tartan Times

*Volume LXVI, Number 6
July/August, 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:* Sue Chari, Karen Gansz,
Sharon Gilmour, Jeffrey Hopper, Winifred McGowan, John Salyards
Teaching & Music Committee *Chair:* Charles Liu
Nominating Committee *Chair:* Rosemary Jackson
Pinewoods Benefit Ball 2018 MaryEllen Scannell
Highland Ball 2019: *Contact:* To be announced
Joint Ceilidh 2018: Robert McOwen, Linda McJanet, Cathy Crabtree
Pinewoods Scottish 2019 *Co-Chairs:* Kat Dutton, Ellen Scannell-Woods, Laurie Somario
Pinewoods ESC 2019 *Contact:* April Birnie, Daniel Potter • **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
Salem & Stow MA: Sharon Gilmour • *Burlington, Montpelier & Fairlee VT:* Karen Gansz
Great Barrington & Northampton MA and Albany NY: Winifred McGowan

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Mail to Cathy Crabtree, Boston Branch Treasurer, 3 Patriots Dr., Lexington, MA 02420

The Tartan Times Editor, Evelyn Murray, may be reached at 617-864-8945, by email at athollbrose@verizon.net or by snail mail at 37 Blanchard Road, Cambridge, MA 02138-1010

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

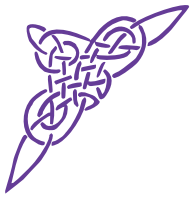


Notes for the Tartan Times from the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee held its transition meeting on June 23rd, welcoming new members Karen Gansz and Winifred McGowan. Janet Anderson and Cathy Goode have concluded their terms on the committee. Thank you to Janet and Cathy for their tireless efforts and contributions to the committee.

When the Executive Committee resumes its monthly meetings in August, they will be looking at the By-Laws and Branch Policies and Procedures to be certain that all the information is current and that the Branch is functioning within the By-Laws.

The committee hopes that everyone has a wonderful summer dancing at Pinewoods and New Hampshire Highlands and enjoying time with family and friends. Please feel free to reach out to any member of the Executive Committee if you have any questions or concerns about the Boston Branch. We also always welcome your suggestions. — *Respectfully submitted, Susan Haines, Branch Secretary*



The Boston Branch RSCDS and Highland Dance Boston Present



Joint Ceilidh

Time & Date: 6:30-10:30 pm, Saturday, November 10, 2018

Location: Irish Social Club of Boston, 119 Park St, West Roxbury

Tickets: In advance through Brown Paper Tickets: Adults \$10, Children 12 & Under \$5

At door: Adults \$15, Children 12 & Under \$8



Scottish Country Dance performances by
The Boston Scottish Country Dancers

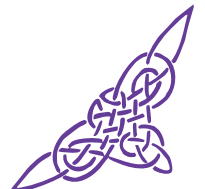
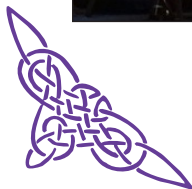
Highland Dance Performances by
Highland Dance Boston



Ceilidh Dancing for All with music by
Cam Webster and *The Celtic Beats*

Bagpipe performances by
The New Hampshire Pipes & Drums

Watch for the flier and more info in the next Tartan Times, and at
www.rscdsboston.org



The Reel & Strathspey Society of Fairlee, Vermont
13th Annual Autumn Social

**LAURA RISK (FIDDLE), NICHOLAS WILLIAMS (KEYBOARDS AND
FLUTE) AND JOANNE GARTON (FIDDLE)**

Saturday, October 20, 2018

Walk Through at 12:00 p.m., Dance at 2:30 p.m.

Potluck Following the Dance

Fairlee Town Hall – 75 Town Common Road – Fairlee, Vermont

Admission: Adults - \$11.00 (RSCDS Members) \$13.00 (Non-members),

Students/Under 18 - \$5.00

For more information, dance instructions, or to arrange hospitality, contact

Gary Apfel – (802) 439-3459 or GaryApfel@gmail.com

Dance instructions can also be found at <http://www.rscdsboston.org/event-calendar.html>

Brunswick Fall Dance Party

Save the Date!

When – Sat Oct 13, 2018 7pm – 10pm

Potluck at 5:45, dance at 7:00

Where – Harraseeket Grange Hall, 13 Elm St, Freeport, ME

From Lois New, Albany Class, Boston Branch, RSCDS:

The Frolic this year will be on October 27-28

Please save the date, and please come!

The New Hampshire Highlands

The New Hampshire Highlands Scottish Dance Weekend will be held August 24-26 at St. Methodios Faith and Heritage Center on beautiful Clement Pond in Contoocook, NH. The teachers are Martha Kent from Essex Jct., VT, Lance Ramshaw from Concord, MA, and Jen Schoonover from Rockland, MA. There will be live music for all classes and parties, led by Terry Traub, with fiddlers Elke Baker and Elizabeth Anderson. Elke will teach a music workshop.

Stay in the hotel-like retreat house in a single or double room, with private bath and linens included, or in a modern dormitory for as little as \$215. The weekend includes 5 meals, 4 classes, 2 evening dance parties, a ceilidh, a Scottish tea, and much more! ~

For more information:

- ~ [webpage rscdsboston.org/event-new-hampshire-highlands.html](http://webpage.rscdsboston.org/event-new-hampshire-highlands.html)*
- ~ Roberta Lasnik (781) 643-3977 rlasnik@verizon.net*
- ~ Loren Wright (693) 891-2331 lonwright@comcast.net*

Chelmsford Class Party

Save the Date!

When – Sat Aug 11, 2018 3pm – 4pm

Where – Chelmsford Community Center at North Town Hall, 31 Princeton St,
North Chelmsford, MA

SAVE THE DATE



March 2 - 3, 2019



RSCDS New Haven Highland Ball and Brunch

at the West Hartford Town Hall

Music provided by:

Jim Stevenson-Matthews - keyboard

Mara Shea - fiddle

Rebecca McCallum - fiddle

Contact info: Sheila Toal cstoal@sbcglobal.net or

Barbara Austen barbara_austen@att.net

Program to be announced.

Membership Application for the RSCDS Boston Branch

October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019

Branch Class eligibility is based on applications received by **Nov. 5, 2018**

You support the Branch classes you attend by becoming a member. Branch classes with a minimum of **8** members benefit from Branch Insurance & Music subsidies.

Please fill out the form below legibly (even if your information has not changed from the previous year)

Name(s) (1) _____	(2) _____
Address(es) _____	
City, State, Zip _____	
Primary Phone _____	
Secondary Phone _____	
Email(s) _____	
Age Under 25? Yes / No RSCDS Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Age Under 25? Yes / No RSCDS Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Communications Preference (please check one): (If no preference is checked, the default will be electronic only)

- All Branch mailings, including the Tartan Times, in electronic form
- Branch mailings in electronic form, but the Tartan Times in hard copy \$10/ year
- All Branch mailings in hard copy form

Supporting Memberships	
<u>Benefactor</u>	<u>Sustaining</u>
_____ \$170 Couple (same mailing address)	_____ \$125 Couple (same mailing address)
_____ \$100 Single	_____ \$75 Single

Memberships

- | | |
|---|--|
| _____ \$92 Couple Membership (same mailing address) | _____ \$55 Single Membership |
| _____ \$35 Single Membership - Student / Limited Income | _____ \$25 Youth Membership (17 & under) |

Boston Branch Class(es) you attend **“Regularly”** _____
(used to determine Class eligibility)

_____ \$20 Associate Membership - Only for members of other Branches. Primary Branch _____

Check if you would like to volunteer for any of the events listed below:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| _____ Boston Highland Ball | _____ Annual Concert | _____ Pinewoods Benefit Ball |
| _____ ESC@ Pinewoods | _____ Pinewoods Scottish Session | _____ New Hampshire Highlands |

Application information received by November 5, 2018 will be listed in the Boston Branch directory.

Make your checks payable (in US funds) to the “RSCDS Boston Branch”

Mail your application to: MaryEllen and John Scannell/ Membership
97 Birch Street
Lynn, MA 01902
Membership Questions Email: membership@rscdsboston.org

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

July

27-29 TAC Teachers' Conference Weekend and AGM, p 15

July into August

15-12 RSCDS Summer School at St. Andrews, p 15

22-5 TAC Candidate Class, p 15

29-5 TAC Summer School, p 15

August

11 *** Chelmsford Class Party, p 6

12-18 * Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School, p 10

13-17 ** Wolfville, NS "Scotch on the Rocks," p 15

18 * Maine Highland Games

24-26 *** New Hampshire Highlands, p 5

September

1-2 * Capital District, NY, Highland Games

21-23 * New Hampshire Highland Games, Lincoln, NH, p 10

October

1 *** RSCDS Boston Branch Membership Renewal Due, p 7

13th *** Brunswick Fall Potluck & Dance Party (tentative date), p 4

20th *** Fairlee, VT, Fall Potluck & Dance Party, p 4

26-28 San Francisco Asilomar Weekend, p 15

27-18 *** Albany Class Fall Frolic, p 5

November

2-4 RSCDS Annual Conference Weekend and AGM, Perth, Scotland, p 15

5? *** Boston Branch RSCDS Annual General Meeting

10 *** Boston Branch RSCDS & Highland Dance Boston Ceilidh Night, p 3

Save the Date

Dec 1 *** Pinewoods Benefit Ball, Salem, MA

Mar 2-3, 2019 New Haven Ball and Brunch, p 6

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.*



Ceilidh Dancing

For ceilidh dancing, the web guide for the UK provides a rundown of local ceilidhs - www.list.co.uk/events/music/ceilidh. The spring issue of "Scottish Life" had a lengthy article on ceilidh dancing. It points out that the old meaning of "ceilidh" was "a meeting with friends for a story," although music and dance were often component parts. Today the music and dancing quite outweigh everything else.

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, fairleeclub@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

Concerts and Events

- Week of July 27 - August 5, 2018 - Members of *Tullochgorum* from Boston and *Scotch Mist* from Toronto are playing for classes and parties at the TAC Teachers Conference Weekend and Scottish Country Dance Summer School in Minneapolis, Minn. - tac-rscds.org
- Tuesday August 7th, 2018 - *Bri & Mairi Chaimbeul* at Passim - young pipes and harp duo from Skye
- Week of August 12-18, 2018: Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School. With *Anne Hooper, Bruce MacGregor, Pete Clark, Troy MacGillivray, Andy Imbrie, Eamon Sefton* - it doesn't get any better than this! Our very special local fiddle camp, most likely the last time on Thompson Island. www.scottishfiddleschool.org
- Tuesday August 14th, 2018: Visitors Day at Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School. Concert, sessions, cookout, and dancing. And if you "miss the boat," you can stay overnight for activities through Wednesday lunch.
- Wednesday August 15th, 2018 - premier Scottish band *Old Blind Dogs* at the Burren Back Room
- Saturday August 18th, 2018 - *Boston Scottish Fiddle School Redux* at Passim
- Sunday August 26th, 2018 - Annual Picnic with the Strathspey & Reel Society of New Hampshire, Concord, N.H. srsnh.org
- Wednesday August 29th, 2018 - premier Scottish band *Cantrip* at the Burren Back Room
- Wednesday September 5th, 2018 - The *Outside Track*, a Scottish band which includes Mairi Rankin, at the Burren Back Room; The Bach Project opens - 3 cellos with wildly different interpretations of the Bach Suites
- Weekend of September 21-23, 2018 - New Hampshire Highland Games with all things Scottish. *Judi Nicholson* will be the fiddle judge and will also teach workshops. Some additional performers include *Red Hot Chili Pipers, Brigadoons, Andrea Beaton & Troy MacGillivray, John Carmichael. The Strathspey & Reel Society of N.H.* will perform on Sunday - nhscot.org.
- Wednesday September 26th, 2018 - *Coig*, a young Scottish band out of Cape Breton, at the Burren Back Room

Best Kept Secret - Open mike every Friday night at the Canadian American Club. Come over for a pint and conversation and the real deal in spontaneous Cape Breton and Scottish sets played by local musicians.



Free!!! Back issues of The Highlander magazine. The Editor has back issues which can go to anyone who asks for them. If you are not familiar with the magazine, which has been going strong for many years, each issue contains a collection of historical articles relating to Scotland's history. Contact Evelyn at athollbrose@verizon.net

Flowers of the Forest - Margaret Brander, aged 92

Dancers and especially teachers have benefitted from Miss Brander's research over the years. As a reference librarian for 44 years at Tullie House, Carlisle, she uncovered a number of lost dances and interpreted steps from old manuscripts. She also served as a magistrate for the city of Carlisle, and was awarded the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society's Scroll in 1994. This was particularly for her research work as well as teaching hundreds of Cumbrians Scottish Country dancing over the years. She was an avid dancer, was on Miss Milligan's famous demo team and served for many years on what is now called the Management Committee. Atsuko Clement attended the funeral service together with members of the local Law fraternity as well as SC dance friends and colleagues from the library and family members. – Ed.

Flowers of the Forest - James Lomath

A few Boston Branch members may remember James Lomath's visit to Pinewoods in 1976. He made quite an impression! He also attended the Boston Highland Ball several times. He was a colleague of Stewart Smith, residing in Los Angeles most of his life. He and Barbara McOwen met in 1972, and he became Robert McOwen's first Highland dance teacher in 1974. Barbara and Robert had lunch with Jimmie on New Year's Day, 2016. He was recently hospitalized for a heart condition but he died at home. He was approximately 72 years old. He leaves his sister, Allison Hansen. Jimmie was a gifted dancer and teacher and made everyone around him feel special. – Asst. Ed.

From Jimmie's friend, Fred DeMarse, FUSTA:

On June 16, 2018, the Scottish community lost a very special advocate of Highland and Scottish Country Dancing. James Lomath, lovingly known to many as "Jimmie," passed away quietly in his sleep (probably choreographing another dance!). He began dancing at an early age in London, England under the instruction of renowned dancer and teacher, Jack McConachie, until his family emigrated to California in the 1950s. After moving to California, Jimmie met and began to take Highland lessons from John Hynd. It was during this time that Jimmie saw Stewart Smith teach

a Scottish Country Dance class, and as they say . . . the rest was history. Jimmie went on to become a champion Highland dancer, a respected Scottish Country Dance teacher and the director of the "Scottish Dance Ensemble" and later "Celtic Spirit" performance groups based in the Los Angeles area.

Jimmie encouraged and mentored many dancers – both Highland and Scottish Country Dance – for many years. His love for Scottish Dancing was evident by just observing him at a Highland Dance competition or at a Scottish Country dance. His love and passion for Scottish dance and music was increasingly infectious the more you were around him.

It was Jimmie's hope to be remembered as having made a difference in the world of dance. There is no doubt that Jimmie left his mark in both the Highland and Scottish Country Dance worlds. Thank you, Jimmie, for sharing your love of Scottish dance and music with so many of us, thank you for being an inspiration to all dancers, thank you for having faith in those who could not find faith in themselves, thank you for the many trophy and monetary contributions you donated in the name of love to Highland and Country Dance organizations all over the world, and thank you for the honor of knowing you!

Flowers of the Forest - Lou "Torf" Torfuson

Torf died July 22nd, 2018 in Austin, Texas. He leaves his wife Sarah Harriman and a million stories.



From the July/August Orange County Newsletter we have a revised version of how this dance was devised.

Reel of the 51st Division* – *by Norm McCallum*

The movie “Dunkirk,” coinciding with the appearance of “The Reel of the 51st Division” as a demo dance and popular dance on our social calendar, brought up questions about the connection between the 51st Highland Division, the dance and the “miracle of Dunkirk.” The 51st Highland Division was formed with soldiers from Scotland’s regiments such as The Black Watch, The Seaforth Highlanders, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, The Cameron Highlanders and the Gordon Highlanders. They were part of the British Expeditionary Force sent to France in 1940 to stop the German invasion of France. However, by May the Allied forces were in full retreat towards the French coast. And miraculously, in about seven days between May 27 and June 4, 1940, 350,000 British, French and Belgian troops were evacuated from the French port of Dunkirk in some 800 military and civilian vessels sent over from England.

The 51st Division were not so lucky, for it was attached to the French army 40 miles west of Dunkirk near St. Valery and, following the collapse of the French Army, some 10,000 soldiers of the 51st were forced to surrender to the German Army. It is thought that the 51st could have been evacuated five days earlier, but Churchill thought that the Germans could be stopped and did not want to give the impression that we were abandoning the French.

Many of the officers from the 51st Division ended up in Laufen POW camp near Salzburg. A number of them had been active in Scottish Country dancing in civilian life and Highland dancing and country dancing was common in the Highland Regiments.** Among the prisoners was 27-year-old First Lt. Jimmy Atkinson of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who thought about creating a dance to symbolize Scotland and the Highland Division using the diagonals of St. Andrews Cross on the 51st badge. At Laufen, he met Lt. Col. Tom Harris Hunter, former Chairman of the Perth Branch of the Scottish Country Dance Society and Lt. Peter Oliver of the Seaforth Highlanders, who had started a reeling club which danced on the roof of the prison hospital.

So together they devised the “Reel of the 51st Division,” incorporating elements of “Scottish Reform” and “Hamilton House,” and it was first danced in 1941. The Germans had destroyed their bagpipes, so the dancing was first done to clapping and whistling; but eventually chanters, whistles and an accordion were acquired. In time, after some problems clearing German security, the dance instructions made their way back to Scotland and Harris Hunter’s wife, who was secretary of the Perth Branch, distributed a few copies. Demand for it quickly increased as there was scarcely a community which had not been affected by the loss and capture of so many men of the Highland Division. Early titles of the dance were the “St. Valery Reel” and the “Laufen Reel,” and it was devised as a five-couple dance once with some birling. However, it was given its present and more fitting appropriate name to honor the men of the 51st Highland Division.

Amazingly, the SCDS was reluctant to publish it, as at that time they did not publish new dances. But the then-Queen Elizabeth (Queen Mum to the current QE II) became aware of the dance and its importance to morale and expressed a wish that it would be published, so together with public pressure the Society published it in 1945 in Book XIII, the Victory Book.

In 1945, Jimmy Atkinson came home to Alloa in Clackmannanshire, raised a family and on St. Andrews Day 1996, watched a BBC documentary on the dance. In an interesting side note, actor Hugh Grant’s grandfather was in the reeling club at Lauren.

* Although this is the correct name of the dance, I like to refer to it as the 51st Highland Division to emphasize its Scottish roots

** Scottish Country Dancing is featured in the stirring movie “The Tunes of Glory” about the struggle for leadership in a highland regiment after WW2, with outstanding acting by Alec Guinness and John Miles

Editor’s note: as the RSCDS only received its “Royal” descriptor in 1951 I have kept the references to the Society as it was in that time period, namely SCDS.

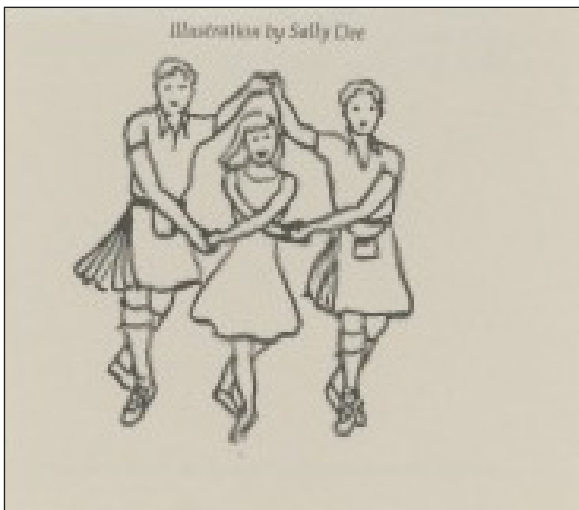
RSCDS Week at Pinewoods

As another successful Pinewoods ends, this report in the 1991 Pinewoods annual report of that year epitomizes what Pinewoods means to those who have participated in one way or another each year. – *Ed.*

RSCDS – by Sally Dee, PCI Board Member and Teacher of Scottish Dances in Salem, MA

Ah, the memories! The mystique of Scottish dance at Pinewoods is such that we have waiting lists every year. People from all over the United States rally to this most special place. Remember the sound of the bagpipes drifting through the pines in the early morning? (And right in your cabin door if you ever make a disparaging remark!) The sound of the vireos, ovenbirds, and occasional scarlet tanager singing in the treetops? During the day one hears the lilting music and shuffling feet from all the dance pavilions. The classes are taught by teachers from the far corners of Scottish dancedom, showing us new dances from these far corners and polishing your old favorites. “Turn those toes out! Stand tall! Don’t look at the floor, it won’t go away: look at your partner! watch the handing; right shoulder reels. Four-bar lefthand turn, the other left hand!” – and so on. A beginner doesn’t go home a beginner.

Remember the wild escapades? The disappearance of Hamish (the mouse, embalmed and elegantly framed) and his startling return in the middle of the ball, dropped from the rafters of C#? And the elaborate Turkish baths, desserts served on the raft (with soft violins playing), the stolen dinner bell and subsequent frantic search search and restoration? How can we ever forget the time two young Plymouth police officers drove into camp (looking for the Girl Scout camp) and were enlisted in a prank involving the “arrest” of our guest teacher from Scotland! The policemen had such a good time (even though kissed by Torf) that they returned to watch the evening dance. Did you know a Scottish dance was once performed by canoes? And of course by swimmers, lending new meaning to the phrase “once and to the bottom.” Remember the singing on the camp house porch, storytelling in Cottey House, and all the fun of the ceilidhs. Some skits will never be



forgotten, like the opening of a tomb in ancient Egypt, and unwrapping the mummy only to have “Miss Milligan” come to life – Miss Milligan our revered RSCDS founder and teacher, of whom it is reported that when she passed on out of this world she appeared before almighty God. God asked her gently what her name was, and she replied, “You know perfectly well who I am, and furthermore you’re sitting in my chair.”^a

Remember the early morning and midnight swims? How grateful those overworked feet and knees were to feel the cool water. We have our elegant times also: full-dress dinner with candles and flowers before the ball, liqueurs on the camphouse porch before the grand march, following the piper through the woods in all our colorful garb of tartans and lace.

It would take a lot of space to describe all the parties: the “welcome to camp” party, the “before lunch” gathering, the “before supper” wee dram, the “after dance” packing Hudson with music, and “car wash.” And sometimes the “party after the party.”

We all know it is truly another world, away from the awful news stories. It’s a chance to see old friends, make new friends, and even to remake oneself into a more relaxed, renewed body and soul. Thank God for Pinewoods!

HAVE SHOES WILL TRAVEL

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.

Top Opera - Lynch Park Shell, Beverly, MA. Friday, July 27, 7 PM. Choruses and Solos you love from Opera and Broadway. FREE – BYO chairs.

TAC Teachers' Conference Weekend, Minneapolis, MN, July 27-29. Teacher - Antoine Rousseau; class musician - Terry Traub; evening musicians - Anne Hooper, Terry Traub, Campbell Webster, and more. 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, Musical Director, with Anne Hooper, Terry Traub, Robert McOwen, Campbell Webster, Don Woods, Laird Brown, and more. Info: tac-rscds.org

Scotch on the Rocks – Dance week at Wolfville Nova Scotia. August 13-17. Go to their website for more information – www.2018ScotchonRocks.pdf

RSCDS Ottawa Special Workshop and Weekend – October 12-14, 2018. Workshop, Gala Dance, Teachers' Class and Concert. Two locations - events split between Parkdale United Church and Almonte Old Town Hall. Teachers are Geoffrey Selling and Terry Harvey; Musicians are Keith Smith and Peter Shand. Hospitality is offered, or the alternative is at a local motel (Holiday Inn Express). Registration deadline October 5. Full weekend costs \$160, can also sign up for portions. Contact: email registration registrar@rscdsottawa.ca or Jody Kulas, 1572 Old Wellington St., Kars, Ontario K0A 2E0, phone 613-869-4296

New York Branch 46th Jeannie Carmichael Ball – Saturday, October 20th, 2018 at the Forest Hills Community House, 15 Borage Place, Forest Hills, NY 11375, citgch.org. Music by Parcel of Rogues, cost - \$95 dinner and dancing; \$70 dancing only. Schedule: "Sherry Hour" 6 pm, Dinner 6:30-7:30, Grand March 7:40 pm and Dancing 8-11 pm. This is a new location and comes highly praised by Isabelle Smith, and much less expensive.

San Francisco Branch Asilomar Weekend – October 26-28, 2018, Pacific Grove, CA, 120 miles south of San Francisco, contact Asilomar.rscds-sf.org

RSCDS AGM Conference Weekend – November 2-4, at the Bell Centre, Perth, Scotland. Registration thru HQ - www.rscds.org

Northern Virginia Branch annual Argyle Weekend – November 9-11, 2018. Workshop and Ball with teaching by Jim Stott and Kate Nelly and music by Terpsichore (Elke Baker and Liz Donaldson) with David Knight. Location is St. Stephen's and St. Agnes Lower School, 400 Fontaine St., Alexandria. More info at Argyle-Weekend.org; 703-569-3090 or argyle@rscds-greaterdc.org



Hunting for the Duchess' Slipper

A 2-bar Jig for 3 couples in 4-couple longwise set

Devised by Evelyn M.E.Murray, FSA Scot.

- 1 – 8 1st man with his partner on his right and promenade hold, dance behind 2nd woman straight across the set, behind 3rd man and dance up to 1st place, staying in the centre of the set facing up. On bars 7-8 2nd and 3rd couples step in behind them, ready for
- 9 – 16 1st, 2nd and 3rd couples dance the Promenade, 1st couple casting to second place on bars 15-16, 2nd couple dance up to 1st place, and finish facing out,
- 17 – 24 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples dance mirror reels of 3 on their own sides, 1st and 3rd women (and similarly 1st man and 3rd man) passing left shoulders to start. 1st couple finish facing their first corners.
- 25 – 32 1st couple dance corner pass and turn with their first corners, ending facing their 2nd corners. They repeat corner pass and turn except that on bars 31-32 at the end of the first round they pass by the right to finish curving around to meet in the centre of the set facing the women's side with promenade hold. At the end of the second round the 1st couple dances into second place own side, stepping down into 4th place at the start of the next round.

Music: any traditional 6/8 jig, preferably by Niel Gow

I have always been fascinated by the name for the dance in Book 9, *The Duchess of Atholl's Slipper*, there has to be a story behind such a title! That dance is a stately strathspey, befitting the period, circa 1775, and the people involved; but here we are searching high and low, so a jig fits the actions involved whilst looking for something. — *Ed.*



Scottish Country Dancing, by Nancy McLaren

Few national dances are better known than those of Scotland. Who has not heard of the Highland Fling or the Eightsome Reel? These are two of the chief kinds of Scottish dancing - the Highland dances and the reels. The former are mostly display dances requiring a technique approaching that of ballet, while the reel is the old Scottish social dance popular among all classes. Besides these, Scotland has its folk dances - but few now survive. The most important type of all Scottish dancing is Scottish Country dancing.

This, too, might not have survived had it not been for the formation of the Scottish Country Dance Society in 1923 and the fantastic work done then and ever since by Miss Milligan. In 1951 King George VI granted the Society the title of "Royal" and it is proud of its right to be called "The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society"

Scottish Country dancing is the Ballroom dancing of Scotland. It is not folk dancing. Why is it called "Country dancing"? Because these dances are "contra" dances and are danced by all levels of Society. The dances would originally be danced at court but because of the demographic nature of the Scottish society what was danced by the Clan Chief was danced also by the peasant. The influence of the court and of the "Auld Alliance" is obvious to even a spectator of Scottish Country dancing, but it is the wonderful music, of which no other country has such wealth, the true social spirit and obvious gaiety of these dances that compels these same spectators to become participators.

From: RSCDS BOSTON BRANCH
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

**• COPY DUE DATE FOR THE SEPT/OCT 2018 ISSUE IS AUG 10TH •
CAMERA-READY MATERIAL FOR YOUR AUTUMN 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**

Scotland's Cursed Card

(originally published in the Scottish Banner, Nov 1991 and found in the Aug/Sept 1992 issue of The Thistle, which is produced by the Scottish Society of Central California)

The Nine of Diamonds is often referred to as the "Curse of Scotland." Although the true reason for this is unsure, a number of tales and legends in connection with the somewhat sinister title continue to surround this card. For instance, one legend claims that every ninth King of Scotland has been a tyrant and a curse on the people.

Another legend tells of a Scots thief by the name of George Campbell, during the reign of Mary, Queen of Scots, who attempted to steal the twenty diamonds from the "Honors of Scotland." Only nine were removed before Campbell lost his nerve and took flight. In order to restore the jewels, a heavy tax was levied on the country, so the replacement of the nine diamonds was felt to be a national curse.

The Massacre of Glencoe is part of another story: it was John Dalrymple, who became Earl of Stair, who acquiesced to the Glencoe massacre and earned the hatred of many Scots. His family arms were: "Or on a Saltire azure, nine lozenges of the field," or in layman's terms, nine diamonds.

Lord Justice Clerk Ormiston, who helped put down the Jacobite Rebellion of 1715 with the utmost severity, had the card named after him; the nine of diamonds was called "The Justice Clerk" in those days. After the Battle of Culloden in 1746, William, Duke of Cumberland wrote down the order "No quarter to be given" on the back of a playing card – the nine of Diamonds.

