The Tartan Times

Volume LXVII, Number 5 May/June 2019



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: Susie Petrov & MaryEllen Scannell Scottish Ceilidh 2019: Robert McOwen, Linda McJannet, 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

THE TARTAN TIMES is published by the Boston Branch for its members. A free copy is sent to every North American Branch and to nearby Affiliated groups if they send their email address. Annual subscriptions are available for \$10. Checks should be made payable to RSCDS Boston Branch (Canadians, please send a money order in U.S. funds).

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 project of updating the Branch Policies and Procedures is nearly complete, and the revised/reworded documents will soon be posted on the Branch website.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday June 3, 2019 at 7:45 PM at the Canadian-American Club in Watertown. The agenda and ballots will be sent to the membership in the very near future.

The Highland Ball occurs on May 11, and Pinewoods will be happening in just over two months. Wow!

As always, please consult the website and the Tartan Times to find information on upcoming events. Your support of the Branch and its events is greatly appreciated. — *Respectfully submitted, Susan Haines, Branch Secretary*



BOSTON HIGHLAND BALL WEEKEND 2019



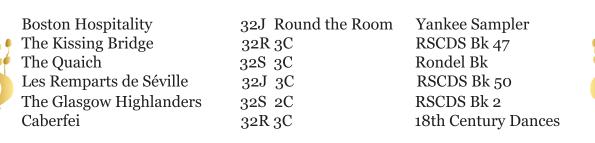
First Parish Church Weston, 349 Boston Post Rd, Weston MA 02493 Music by Elizabeth Anderson and Jerome Fung

MC Howard Lasnik

Boston Highland Ball

Melrose Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall Boston Saturday, May 11, 2019

Music by TĦISTLE ĦỌỤSE Dave Wiesler, David Knight, Dan Emery

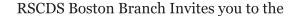


The Triumph	24R 4C set	RSCDS Bk 1
Flights of Fancy	32J 3C	Boston Branch 50 Years
My Friend Joe	32S 3C	RSCDS Bk 38
The Compleat Gardener	32J 3C	RSCDS Graded 3
Twirl of the Kilt	32S 2C	A Dozen More
Round Reel of Eight	88R 4C Sq.Set	RSCDS Bk 27

New Year Jig	32J 3C	RSCDS Bk 51
The Dancing Bees	32R 3C	24 Graded & Social Dances
Irongray	32S 3C	Galloway Album
Joie de Vivre	32J 3C	RSCDS Bk 39
The Lammermuir Hills	32S 2C	Wells House
Sleepy Maggie	32R 3C	RSCDS Bk 11

For more information contact or visit the website: Susie Petrov susiepetrov@earthlink.net MaryEllen Scannell Weebluets@rscdsboston.org http://rscdsboston.org/event-highland-ball.html

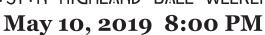






Welcome Dance







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

Admission \$16.00 Pre-sale with Ball ticket \$18:00 at the door

Music by: Elizabeth Anderson & Jerome Fung

MC: **Howard Lasnik**

~Program~

Roaring Jelly	32J-3C	Foss: Glendarroch
The Braes of Breadalbane	32 S-3C	RSCDS Book 21

Davy Nick Nack 32R-3C Campbell: Glasgow Assembly

*Flights of Fancy 32J-3C McColl: Celebrate 50
The Wind on Loch Fyne 32S-3T Dickson: Dunedin

Rest and Be Thankful 32R-3C Grampion

The Luckenbooth Brooch	oo I oC	Dielzgoni Clandonno	ah
THE Luckembooth brooth	32J - 3C	Dickson: Glendarro	CII

Up In the Air 32S-3C RSCDS Book 20

The Fireside Reel 32R-3C 18th Century Book

The Vale of Atholl 32J-3C Murray-Lenthall: Perth Book

*Irongray 32S-3C Foss: Galloway

Da Rain Dancin' 32R-3C Wallace: From Redwood Collection

Locals PLEASE bring contribut<mark>io</mark>ns to the refreshme<mark>n</mark>t table

For questions contact Ball Chairs MaryEllen Scannell & Susie Petrov at highlandball@rscdsboston.org
http://rscdsboston.org/event-highland-ball.html

^{*}indicates dance on Saturday Ball program



Preceded by pot luck supper, 5:30 p.m., at the home of Joanne Kulsey and Peter Sentner,

20 Collagewood Lane, Kennebunk Music by: Terry Traub, keyboard, Catherine Miller, fiddle

. For more information please contact Merrill 207-409-9050 or crone4702@gmail.com or consult the web site calendar listing

Come Scottish Country Dancing in in Calgary, Alberta!

Summer Dance Week • For all Dancers

28 July - 4 August 2019

A full week of Scottish Country Dancing for basic to experienced dancers,

to fabulous music,

with world class teachers, in beautiful Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Join us for:

- 6 morning dance classes
- a variety of afternoon classes
- 4 evening social dances
- a ceilidh
- a formal banquet and ball
- fun with old friends and new

Teachers

Jimmie Hill - Edinburgh, Scotland, UK Linda Henderson - California, USA Geoffrey Selling - Pennsylvania, USA Moira Korus - Ontario, Canada

Musicians

Andy Imbrie - Music Director

Reel of Seven

Teachers' Conference Weekend • AGM

26 - 28 July 2019

Jimmie Hill - Teacher Deby Benton Grosjean & Andy Imbrie - Class Musicians

Dancing Achievement Award

Courses for Dancers and Assessors 29 July - 2 August 2019

Online registration opens March 1, 2019. Visit our website: tac-rscds.org



Program details and costs available now:

tac-rscds.org

Have Shoes.....Will Travel.....

Weekend of May 17-19, 2019 – *RSCDS New York Branch Pawling Weekend*, Copake, NY. Teachers are Jimmie Hill (Edinburgh, Scotland), Rebecca Blackhall Peters (BC, Canada), and Terry Harvey (Pennsylvania, USA). Laura Risk, Music Director. Info & Registration - rscdsnewyork.org.

Weekend of May 24-26, 2019 – *Stoney Lake Weekend* at Pine Vista, Kawartha Lakes, just 45 minutes from Peterborough, Ontario. Teacher is Moira Korus, music by Fred Moyes. Contact info - pscds.ca

Saturday, June 15, 2019 – *Westchester Ball*, St. James the Less Episcopal Church, 10 Church Lane, Scarsdale, NY. Music by Tullochgorum. Info - rscdsnewyork.org/westchester.html

Weekend of July 26-28, 2019 – *TAC Teachers Conference Weekend*, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Teacher: Jimmie Hill, Edinburgh. Music by Andy Imbrie and The Reel of Seven. Info: tac-rscds.org

Week of July 28 - August 4, 2019 – *TAC Summer School*. For dancers at all levels. Teachers: Jimmie Hill, Linda Henderson, Geoffrey Selling, Moira Korus. Music: Andy Imbrie & Reel of Seven. Location: Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta. Info: tac-rscds.org

Weekend of September 6-8, 2019 – *Fort Worden SCD Weekend*, nr. Fort Townsend, Washington. Teachers: Jimmie Hill (Edinburgh), Robert McOwen (Boston), and Marjorie McLaughlin (San Diego). Music by Judi Nicholson (fiddle), Deby Benton Grosjean (fiddle) and Lisa Scott (piano). New this year: Teachers' Workshop on Friday, taught by Jimmie Hill. Info: rscds-seattle.org/fort-worden-workshop-main

Weekend of October 4-6, 2019 – *Hamilton Weekend*, Hamilton Ontario. SCD Workshops & Tea Dance. Teachers: Robert McOwen & Claire Collier. Music by Laird Brown & Don Woods.

Weekend of October 11-13, 2019 – *Calgary SCD Workshop* with Janet Johnson and Robert McOwen, Canmore (near Banff), Alberta, Canada, plus other classes offered in music, art, history, Gaelic and dance. Contact info www.calgaryscots.org

Saturday, October 19, 2019 – *Jeannie Carmichael Ball* at the CITG Community House, Forest Hills, N.Y. Music by Tullochgorum. Info: rscdsnewyork.org



Last Chance

After 57 years, Mendocino Folklore Camp is announcing that this year's camp will be the last. Situated in the ancient redwood forest outside the picturesque northern coastal town of Mendocino, California, the facilities consist of a dance hall, a dining hall & lounge, several outdoor party areas, and cabins with fireplaces and balconies dotting the hillsides. The camp was co-founded in 1962 by Madellyne Greene and Stewart Smith, and features international theme days, international gourmet meals, craft and music workshops, an international band and, this year, teaching by Michael Ginsburg (Balkan), Robert McOwen (Scottish), Aaron Alpert (Israeli), Lynnanne Miller (Polynesian), Billy Burke (Folk Dance Basics), Yanika Chemerisov (Belly Dance & Yoga) and Erik Hoffman (Contra Dancing). The Music Director is Bill Cope, who has been known to play strathspeys on the gaida. If you've ever wanted a chance to combine your interests in Scottish dancing alongside the folk dances of other traditions, this would be it.

The dates are June 15-22, 2019. Info: mendocinofolklorecamp.com

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

May		
1		Tony McManus performs at Passim, p 10
3-5		Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas at Ashokan, p 10
4	**	Reel & Strathspey Society of Fairlee Annual Spring Fling, p 8
4	*	Hanneke Cassel in Concert, p 10
8	*	Scottish Fiddle Concert with Ryan McKasson, p 10
10-12	***	Boston Branch Highland Ball Weekend, p 3, p 4
17-19		NY Branch Pawling Weekend, p 8
17-19	*	Pinewoods Work Weekend I
21, 22	*	DuoDuo Scottish Concert, p 10
24-27	*	Pinewoods Work Weekend II
25	*	Cape Breton Concert & Dance, p 10
25-26	***	Belfast Memorial Day Weekend Party & Sunday Brunch, p 8
24-26		Stoney Lake Weekend, p 6
June		•
1	*	Boston Scottish Fiddle Club Gala, p 10
3	***	Boston Branch Annual General Meeting, p 2
8-9	***	RSCDS Teacher Candidate Exams, p 13
15	**	Downeast Fling, p 5
15		Westchester Ball, p 6
15-22		Mendocino Folklore Camp, p 6
July		- 1/1
1-5	***	ESCape Session at Pinewoods (English-Scottish-Contra), p 14
5-8	***	Pinewoods Scottish Session 1, p 14
8-13	***	Pinewoods Scottish Session 2, p 14
26-28		TAC Teachers Conference Weekend, p 5
28-Aug	4	TAC Summer Dance Week, p 5
_	T	The Summer Dance Week, p 3
August	ale.	
10-16	*	Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School, p 10
13	*	Visitors Day at Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School, p 10
23-25	<u> </u>	New Hampshire Highlands

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.



Memorial Day Weekend Party

May 25, 2019 American Legion Hall, 43 Church St., Belfast, Maine

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

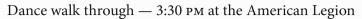
Dance from 7:00 until the Waltz \$10 RSCDS members \$12 nonmembers





SAVE THE DATE!

Briefs, Dance Diagrams, & Flyer will be posted to the Boston Branch Calendar http://www.rscdsboston.org/eventcalendar.html





Potluck Brunch & Ceilidh

Sunday, May 26, 10-2 Hosted by Jane Strauss 794 Shore Road, Northport ME 207-338-6567 Dancing at the Bayside Community Hall (walking distance)



For Party Information:

Gayle Koyanagi gkoyanagi20@gmail.com 207-338-6085 (h) 207-322-7727 (c)

For Hospitality Information:

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

The Reel & Strathspey Society of Fairlee, Vermont 18th Annual SPRING FLING

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

Saturday, May 4, 201
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

v.bmco.3/12/19

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-JuneWednesdays 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: 7:30, 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, fairleeclass@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

- Wednesday Evening May 1, 2019 Tony McManus, Celtic guitar star www.passim.org
- May 3-5, 2019 Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas at Ashokan A whole weekend retreat of Fiddle & Cello; with Emerald Rae. Register now at www.ashokan.org
- Saturday Afternoon, May 4, 2019 *Hanneke Cassel*, in concert, 4 pm, at First Calvary Baptist Church, North Andover, Mass. Info: hannekecassel.com.
- Wednesday Evening May 8, 2019 McKasson, McDonald & McLane world-class Scottish fiddler Ryan McKasson headlines this group www.passim.org
- Tuesday & Wednesday May 21 & 22, 2019 *The DuoDuo Quartet* consisting of Maeve Gilchrist & Nic Gareiss with Natalie Haas & Yann Falquet, on celtic harp, rhythmic dance, cello and guitar respectively www.passim.org
- Saturday Evening May 25, 2019 *Ian MacDougall & Janine Randall* playing for a traditional Cape Breton Concert & Dance www.Canadianamericanclub.com. See below for flier.
- Saturday Evening June 1, 2019 **Boston Scottish Fiddle Club Concert & Dance** with the Orchestra led by Neil Pearlman, and special guest fiddler Katie McNally, and dance music with The Scottish Fish www.bsfc. org. See below for flier.
- Wednesday Evening June 21, 2019 Emerald Rae Opens for a lovely bluegrass duo www.passim.org

Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School - Takes place on Thompson Island in Boston Harbor. Dates: August 10-16, 2019. Music Director is Judi Nicholson; Teachers are Bryan Gear & Judi Nicholson- Shetland Fiddle; Patsy Reid & Jamie Laval - Scottish Fiddle; Eamon Sefton - Guitar; and Ian Muir - Accordion. Tuesday August 13 will feature the traditional Visitors Day; other evening activities include sessions, dancing, a Ceilidh, and an auction while days feature 3 class periods per day and additional elective activities. Sponsored by the Folk Arts Center of New England - facone.org



Ian MacDougall with Janine Randall For a Cape Breton Dance & Concert





202 Arlington Street, Watertown, MA Saturday, May 25, 2019, 8:00 -11:30 PM Doors open at 7:30 PM/Tickets \$16 /Cash Bar

Canadianamericanclub.com
Canadianamericanclub@gmail.com



People News

Anne Hooper was the guest instructor for the NH Strathspey and Reel Society this past Sunday, 28th April, in Concord, NH. It was a well-attended meeting, and she used a couple of tunes from John Campbell's repertoire of Cape Breton music. As she explained, the reel music is for dancing, so much emphasis comes from the strong bowing of the fiddle players to help the dancers with their footwork.

Irene Howard and *Tina Stoner* helped Evelyn at NEFFA with her vendor table of dance ghillies, hose, and other items. Irene had many visits from old friends who were happy to catch up her news. There were two SCD classes during the weekend, and word came back that the *Boston Branch Demonstration Team* was a great success on the Sunday.







From the Archives: The Boston Branch Report to the RSCDS

Written by Judy Reynolds, who was Branch Secretary at this time, October 1976

The Boston Branch has run a Music Weekend in the autumn for the past two years. Musicians interested in learning how to play Scottish Country Dance music get an opportunity to get lessons from a professional and to play at a dance party held on the Saturday night. In this past year they had enough musicians to form three bands. (Editorial Note: We are delighted to hear of this emphasis on Scottish Country Dance Music.)

The week session at Pinewoods Dance Camp is becoming ever more popular. This year's Highland Ball held in May had a Bi-Centennial theme, with dances and many of the outfits from the period. As it was held at a yacht club most of the dancers arrived by boat.







A Thought from the Editor

by Evelyn Murray

Teachers be more aware:

I've just watched a film of an excellent Highland Dance team giving a most elegant demonstration of their skills, all beautifully dressed in coordinating kilts etc. However, what was of most concern to me was to see them in their fine Highland dance ghillies on what must be a concrete floor covered with tile at a Shopping Mall. Their wonderful clean high cuts and highland steps were spoilt for me as the dancers had no business dancing on such a surface. Many of these young girls and women will suffer damaged hips, knees and ankles, not to mention their spine, in the future. It is very important for their future health, that dancers or all types, only dance either on a wooden floor suitable for ball room dancing or on a stage but not on these modern concrete floors. "I have been there and done that" is my personal experience – two replaced hips, and knees, and fused lower spine later; it is not necessary for others to follow this path if suitable precautions are taken. It is wiser to refuse a demo if it means dancing on an unsuitable surface, or having the dancers wear sneakers. This last especially if dancing on grass in the summer, when the ground is probably rock hard.

The Scotch-Irish: Who Were They?

by Merle Baker, Associate Professor of History, Abraham Baldwin College, Tipton, Georgia [When you have a last name like mine – Murray – and live in Boston, frequently one is mistaken as Irish instead of Scottish. So who were/are the Scotch-Irish? This article might help. — Ed.]

Genealogy and local history research is much easier when you know about the origins of the people. One group of people who have contributed much to the south is the Scotch-Irish. These people were an unique group, because the Scotch-Irish are different not only from the Highlanders of Scotland but also from the Lowlanders of Scotland as well as Irishmen and women.

The Scotch-Irish were a group of people of about 200,000 who left the lowlands of Scotland after 1607 and went to a place called Ulster in the north of Ireland. They were encouraged to go to Ireland by the King of England. He hoped to bring the people of Ireland under control by having the Scotch and English settle in Ulster in Ireland.

The people from Scotland were poor, Presbyterian and stubborn. They were a plain people who had a lack of aesthetic sensibility. They remained aloof from the Irish, even more than the English. Their Presbyterianism remained as it had been in Scotland. They made the best of conditions and prospered in the linen business and the raising of sheep for wool.

These Scotch-Irish were so prosperous that they began to compete with the English by shipping their products to England. The rents which they had paid on the land were raised by the English government, but no improvements were made to the land. So, the Scotch-Irish proved to be assertive, energetic and less provincial. These staunch Presbyterians were also forced to give more recognition to the Church of England (also known as the Anglican Church). The Test Act was passed in 1704. This required officeholders to take communion in the Church of England. The Scotch-Irish Presbyterian ministers had no legal rights. Even their marriages were not recognized. These infringements on the Scottish independence caused this group of freedom-loving people to look to America as a possible home. By this time economic conditions were bringing many hardships. Consequently, after nearly a century of emigration to Ireland, this group began flocking to America from Northern Ireland.

There were five emigrant ports in Ulster from which they left. They were Belfast, Londonderry, Neway, Larne, and Portrush. The Scotch-Irish entered the United States at Philadelphia or Charleston and scattered throughout the colonies. Prior to the American Revolution, there were five major arrivals of Scotch-Irish into America: 1717-1718; 1725-1729; 1740-1741; 1754-1755; and 1771-1775. The first three groups went into the Middle and New England colonies. Cumberland, Lancaster and York Counties Pennsylvania were strongholds for early Scotch-Irish. In other words, Pennsylvania had the largest number of Scotch-Irish by 1717.

By 1738 they were moving in to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. In 1745-55 the fourth wave of Scotch-Irish arrived in America and moved into North Carolina and South Carolina. The fifth wave came between 1771 and 1775. This group scattered from New York to Georgia.

The feisty Scotch-Irish were staunch Presbyterians, so there were Presbyterian churches in every American colony. The English government looked upon them as dissenters and they were often persecuted and harassed for not accepting the Anglican religion. Eventually, many Scotch-Irish became Baptist or Methodist. Lack of preachers as well as churches caused this. Reading the Bible was very important. Therefore the majority of the Scotch-Irish were able to read. Learning to read was very important.

They moved to the frontier areas of America. They are given much credit for fighting the Indians. The Scotch-Irish were accused of squatting on any land which they found desirable. It didn't matter who the legal owner was. The Scotch-Irish were stockmen. This gave them another opportunity to move against the frontier. They were sometimes classified as rovers, because they could move their sheep, cattle or hogs from pasture areas to greener pastures. Therefore, they were often not interested in permanent homes. Their homes were very simple, often with a dirt floor.

These people faced many hardships. It became part of their heritage. So they could face the problems of America, and make the best of it. They were well-prepared to fight in the American Revolution. Later they furnished ten Presidents for the new nation as they became Americans.

Scottish Messages List

[Before the website became active, Beth Murray (no relation to our esteemed Editor) decided to promote communication within the membership of the Boston Branch by sending out Scottish Messages every week or so. Here is Beth's message about how to get added to the list, and some of the recent messages. – Asst. Ed.]

Message from Beth Murray

You do not need to be an RSCDS Boston Branch member to receive email notices about Scottish and related dances and events. Please help by announcing at classes, dances and events the availability of these email communications, and encourage people to sign up by emailing me: bethpiano@rcn.com. Please email your name and your own email address, and I will gladly add you to the Scottish Messages list. Feel free to forward the email notices to as many Scottish enthusiasts that you know.

Message from Heather Day

June and Tom Morse, folk dancers from Danville Vermont, are arranging a one week trip to Scotland in June next year, through Jim Gold (jimgold.com/folktours), and are looking for more dancers to join with them. For more information, please contact June by phone, 802 684 2048 or email junemorse3m@gmail.com

Message from Susie Petrov and MaryEllen Scannell

We are thrilled to announce that fiddler Hanneke Cassel will be joining Dave Wiesler and the Thistle House band for the Boston Highland Ball on May 11, 2019. Hanneke and Dave are one of the most sought-after duos in Scottish Country dancing circles. Their inspired selections and wonderful energy will lift our feet! Please help to spread the word by informing your members! You are invited to spend one of the most beautiful spring weekends in Boston with us.

We are throwing 3 great parties all with excellent programs to some of the most popular musicians around. Dave Wiesler and Thistle House will keep our feet light on the ballroom floor and our own Scottish Fiddle champion Elizabeth Anderson will head up the bands at the Friday night Welcome Dance and the Sunday Brunch. Choose to come to one party or to all three.

Our website is live and dancers may register and you can pay online or with paper, check and stamp. rscdsboston.org/event-highland-ball.html We hope to see you in May!

Message from Karen Sollins

We invite you to help this year's RSCDS Teacher Candidates prepare by being a dance volunteer for practice teaching. We are seeking volunteers for the following dates/times/locations:

Saturday, May 18, 1 – 5 pm, Salem Sunday, May 19, 10am – 2 pm, Salem Saturday, June 1, 3:30 – 8:30 pm, Salem

We want to thank those who have volunteered for the Candidate Class. It would be great to have more sets for the candidates for future classes. Candidates are working at both the Beginner and Intermediate levels. These classes are free and you are welcome to come for part or all of the afternoon. You do not need to contact me ahead of time to come. Everyone is welcome.

The exam is the weekend of June 8-9. Please contact Robert McOwen at rmcowen@comcast.net in advance if you are interested in volunteering for the exam.

Notes

- 1. The Salem location is 211 Bridge St., Salem (where the Salem Class meets).
- 2. May 18 & 19 will feature guest tutors Jen Schoonover and MaryEllen Scannell.
- 3. Saturday, June 1 will be the final wrapup for the candidates.

Pinewoods Scottish Sessions 2019

Scottish Session I: July 5-8, 2019 • Scottish Session II: July 8-13, 2019

Join us in 2019 in the woods near the historic town of Plymouth, just south of Boston, for Scottish dancing beneath the tall pines. You'll enjoy dance and music classes during the day and a dance party every night, plus afterparties, auctions, ceilidhs, swimming and more!

Applications received before March 1 will be given priority in the event a lottery is needed to determine acceptances. Applications received after March 1 will be filled based on availability of spaces. The online application form will prompt you as to whether you wish to send a check or pay electronically.

2019 Teaching Staff

- Special guest teachers from the RSCDS
- Katherine Giacoletti, Wyncote PA Lance Ramshaw, Concord, MA (Session 1)
- Howard Lasnik, Arlington, MA (Session 2) Lois New, Clifton Park, NY (Session 2)

2019 Music Staff - Elke Baker, Music Director

- Special Guest from Scotland
- Elke Baker fiddle Anne Hooper fiddle Elizabeth Anderson fiddle
- Liz Donaldson piano Beth Murray piano Dave Wiesler piano
- Dan Emery pipes Lary Unger bass & guitar

For more information and updates, check the website - rscdsboston.org/pinewoods-scottish-sessions.html - or contact the chairs, Laurie Somario, Kat Dutton, and Ellen Scannell. See you at camp!



C# Minor Hall, Pinewoods Camp, Plymouth, Mass. July 2018, B.McOwen

Pinewoods English-Scottish-Contra Session

ESC: July 1-5, 2019

ESC Week is the place to be! We bring you the best of English Country, Scottish Country, and Contra dancing—and much more. Come enjoy your favorite traditions while perhaps sampling something new in a fun and friendly session. From the energetic to the elegant, ESC offers a unique and satisfying mix of music and dance in daily classes and mixed evening programs.

In 2019, ESC returns with an exciting line up of dance, music, and other fun! This year's staff includes: Melissa Running (English), Katherine Giacoletti (Scottish), Carl Levine (Contra), and David Roodman (Morris) leading our dance classes; and Dave Wiesler, Aaron Marcus, Susie Petrov, Nora Smith, Susie Lorand, Josh Burdick, and Laurie Tupper playing music and leading workshops, plus Dan Emery on pipes!

ESC is a rare opportunity to bring together dance communities in one magical setting—who knows what surprises you'll find! So ESCape to the Cape this summer for the English Scottish Contra ESCperience!

For more information and updates, check the website - rscdsboston.org/pinewoods-esc.html - or contact the chairs, Daniel Potter, April Birnie and Kat Dutton.

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Sir Walter Scott Meets John Drewry

John Drewry's dance Netherby Hall tells the story by Sir Walter Scott in his poem 'Lochinvar.' – Ed.

'He took her soft hand, ere her mother could bar –

So the dance starts with a reel across the dance, for 1st man and 2nd couple. At the end of bar 4, the 1st man "picks up the 1st woman" and with hands crossed in front they dance the second half of the reel together. Still together they dance a further half reel, with the 2nd couple, before dropping left hands but retaining right-in-right they dance down the centre with the 2nd couple following. The rest as they say is history! Here is Sir Walter Scott's poem:

O young Lochinvar is come out of the west, Through all the wide Border his steed was the best; And save his good broadsword he weapons had none, He rode all unarm'd, and he rode all alone. So faithful in love, and so dauntless in war, There never wtas knight like the young Lochinvar.

He staid not for brake, and he stopp'd not for stone, He swam the Eske river where ford there was none; But ere he alighted at Netherby gate, The bride had consented, the gallant came late: For a laggard in love, and a dastard in war, Was to wed the fair Ellen of brave Lochinvar.

So boldly he enter'd the Netherby Hall, Among bride's-men, and kinsmen, and brothers and all: Then spoke the bride's father, his hand on his sword, (For the poor craven bridegroom said never a word,) "O come ye in peace here, or come ye in war, Or to dance at our bridal, young Lord Lochinvar?"

"I long woo'd your daughter, my suit you denied;— Love swells like the Solway, but ebbs like its tide— And now I am come, with this lost love of mine, To lead but one measure, drink one cup of wine. There are maidens in Scotland more lovely by far, That would gladly be bride to the young Lochinvar." The bride kiss'd the goblet: the knight took it up, He quaff'd off the wine, and he threw down the cup. She look'd down to blush, and she look'd up to sigh, With a smile on her lips and a tear in her eye. He took her soft hand, ere her mother could bar,—"Now tread we a measure!" said young Lochinvar.

So stately his form, and so lovely her face, That never a hall such a galliard did grace; While her mother did fret, and her father did fume, And the bridegroom stood dangling his bonnet and plume; And the bride-maidens whisper'd, "'twere better by far To have match'd our fair cousin with young Lochinvar."

One touch to her hand, and one word in her ear,
When they reach'd the hall-door, and the charger stood near;
So light to the croupe the fair lady he swung,
So light to the saddle before her he sprung!
"She is won! we are gone, over bank, bush, and scaur;
They'll have fleet steeds that follow," quoth young Lochinvar.

There was mounting 'mong Graemes of the Netherby clan; Forsters, Fenwicks, and Musgraves, they rode and they ran: There was racing and chasing on Cannobie Lee, But the lost bride of Netherby ne'er did they see. So daring in love, and so dauntless in war, Have ye e'er heard of gallant like young Lochinvar?



The Low Road

An old Celtic belief – current still in Scotland, and not only in Scotland, but in Ireland, too, and in Wales and Brittany – has it that when a man meets death in a foreign land, his spirit returns to the place of his birth by an underground fairy way – The Low Road.

In 1745, during the retreat of the Scottish (Jacobite) army following its invasion of England, several of the wounded had, unfortunately, to be left behind in Carlisle as they could not struggle further. Many of them fell into the hands of the English and were flung into Carlisle gaol. The song *The Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond*, which undoubtedly was written at the period, tells of two Scottish prisoners – one of whom was to be released, and who would take the High Road home to Scotland, whilst the other, who was to be executed, would take the Low Road. As the release of one and the execution of the other were timed for the same hour, the Dead, traveling by the Low Road naturally would be in Scotland before the Living, who would have to tramp several weary miles of the High Road before he could hope to cross the Border.

[&]quot;Now tread we a measure" said young Lochinvar'

From: RSCDS BOSTON BRANCH

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

 COPY DUE DATE FOR THE JULY/AUGUST 2019 ISSUE IS JUNE 10TH CAMERA-READY MATERIAL FOR YOUR SPRING & 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

Recipe: RUMPLEDETHUMPS

This particular dish is called Rumpledethumps in the Borders, Colcannon in the Northeast and Aberdeenshire, and Kilkenny in the Highlands.

1 lb cold boiled potatoes 1 lb cold boiled cabbage Cooked onion 2 oz. butter 4 Tablespoons chopped chives 1/2 teaspoon salt 1/2 teaspoon pepper

Mash the potatoes, chop the cold cabbage and onion and mix with the potatoes. Add chives and beat in the butter and salt and pepper. This mixture can either be turned into a saucepan and heated over a low heat until the fat is melted and blended in with the vegetables, or turned into a greased pie dish, covered with grated cheese and baked in a hot oven for about 25 minutes or until brown on top.

