

# The Tartan Times

*Volume LXVII, Number 6  
July/August 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](http://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  
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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 project of updating the Branch Policies and Procedures has been completed. The revised documents have been posted on the Branch website. • Probably, for the first time ever, the Nominating Committee was unable to find candidates to run for the two open positions on the Executive Committee. A general request for candidates was sent out via e-mail with the announcement for the Annual General Meeting but without any responses. Following the AGM, one volunteer stepped forward, but there is still another seat to be filled. Won't you please consider running? There will be a special election later in the summer, and it would be great to be able to fill both seats. • As I am writing this message, Pinewoods ESCape is underway and Scottish Sessions will be starting at the end of the week. What a great time and place to be dancing! • 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. Have a great summer! — *Respectfully submitted, Susan Haines, Branch Secretary*

# The Brunswick Maine Dance Class

Cordially invites you to join us for our

## Fall Dance Party

Saturday, October 19, 2019

Topsham Grange Hall - Topsham, Maine



Potluck Supper 5:45 PM

\$1 & a Pot

Dance 7:00 PM

Admission

\$10 for RSCDS members

\$12 for non-RSCDS members

Music by **Elke Baker** on Fiddle

& **Liz Donaldson** on Piano

### Opening Waltz

|                            |            |                                 |
|----------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| The Lady Wynd              | 32J 3C     | Goldring: Graded and Social 2   |
| The Wind Dragon            | 32R 3C     | Boyd: The Island Bay Collection |
| Fair Donald                | 32S 3C     | RSCDS Book 29                   |
| Bill Clement MBE           | 32J 3C     | RSCDS Book 47                   |
| The Craven Reel            | 32R 3C     | Haynes: Carnforth Collection 5  |
| Singing Sands              | 32S 3C set | Pridey: Silver Rose Book of SCD |
| Sunshine and Sweetie's Jig | 32J 3C     | RSCDS Book 48                   |
| Cadgers in the Canongate   | 48R 3C     | RSCDS Book 9                    |

### Intermission



### Gay Gordons



|                         |               |                                     |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Mrs Stewart's Jig       | 32J 3C        | RSCDS Book 35                       |
| Accordion Player        | 32R 3C        | Stevens: Between the Rivers         |
| Sea Tangle of Skye      | 32S 2C-3C set | Donaldson: Dances of an Island Clan |
| Scallywag               | 40J 3C        | RSCDS Book 52                       |
| The Gentleman           | 32S 3C        | RSCDS Book 35                       |
| Trip to Bavaria         | 32R 4C set    | Collins                             |
| The Silver Strathspey   | 32S 3C        | RSCDS Book 44                       |
| Reel of the Royal Scots | 32R 3C        | RSCDS Leaflet                       |

### Final Waltz

For further information contact:

Patti Tillotson

Cell (207) 841-3232    pstillotson@gmail.com



Directions: From the South: At Portland take I-295N to Exit 31. Take Rte 196 E to Rte 201S. Turn Right.



# Fairlee Autumn Social

Saturday, October 12, 2019  
Fairlee Town Hall, 75 Town Common Rd, Fairlee, VT 05045

Walk Through ~ 12-2 pm  
Dance Program ~ 2:30-6 pm  
Potluck Supper ~ 6-7 pm

For more information, dance instructions, or to arrange hospitality, contact  
Gary Apfel – (802) 439-3459 or [FairleeClass@rscdsboston.org](mailto:FairleeClass@rscdsboston.org)



## RSCDS Boston Branch Family Picnic and Dance

Sat, September 7, 1pm – 4pm  
Salem Willows Park, 165 Fort Ave, Salem, MA 01970, USA

*Led by Jen Schoonover*

Come celebrate our Scottish Culture, Music and Dance  
Adults and children of all ages are welcome  
Donations to the musician fund appreciated

Please RSVP to MaryEllen Scannell at 617-462-1925 or [weeblyets@rscdsboston.org](mailto:weeblyets@rscdsboston.org)

# Chelmsford Royal Affair

Saturday Afternoon, August 10, 2019

3 – 7 pm

Potluck dinner to follow

Chelmsford Community Center 31 Princeton St North Chelmsford



Come dance in the air-conditioned comfort of the Chelmsford Community Center!  
Dust off your crowns and tiaras and royal attire!

Music provided by Dirk Tiede and Friends

*The New Hampshire Highlands Scottish Dance Weekend will be held August 23-25 at St. Methodios Faith and Heritage Center on beautiful Clement Pond in Contoocook, NH. The teachers are Linda Henderson from Diablo, CA, Robert McOwen from Arlington, MA, and Chris Ronald from Edgewater, NJ. There will be live music for all classes and parties, led by Terry Traub, with fiddlers Barbara McOwen and Emerald Rae, piper Stephen Thomforde, and percussionist Howard Lasnik. Barbara will also 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 \$218. 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://rscdsboston.org/event-new-hampshire-highlands.html)

*Roberta Lasnik (781) 643-3977* [rlasnik@verizon.net](mailto:rlasnik@verizon.net)

*Loren Wright (603) 891-2331* [lonwright@comcast.net](mailto:lonwright@comcast.net)

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

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

Saturday evening August 31, 2019 — **Jean Patrick Dance** at the Pleasanton Highland Games. Music by Andy Imbrie and a special guest musician. Info: rscds-sf.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.

Saturday October 5, 2019 – **Fall Workshop & Dance**, Montreal, Que. Workshop in the morning, lunch, social dance party in the afternoon. Teacher: Jody Kulas (Ottawa), music by Torridon.

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

Weekend of November 1-3, 2019 – **Asilomar Weekend**, presented by the San Francisco Branch. Iconic location near Carmel, California. Teachers: Rebecca Blackhall-Peters (Canada), Ellie Briscoe (Virginia), Doug MacDonald (California), Raphaëlle Orgeret (France), Tim Wilson (California). Musicians: Fiddlesticks & Ivory, Keith Smith, Patti Cobb. Info: rscds-sf.org



### **Three notes from the Editors:**

- 1) *We apologize for the extreme lateness of this issue; the Editor and Assistant Editor were not able to coordinate their schedules very well at the critical time. We retained notices of events since July 1 in order to refer to them for next year.*
- 2) *Considerable time would have been saved if camera-ready materials can be submitted for Branch events, and thanks to the classes and event chairs who are able to create some beautiful fliers & half-fliers.*
- 3) *Got photos of Branch events and/or Branch members abroad? Send 'em in!*

### IT HAPPENED IN AUGUST

*(From Maurice Whitby's Montreal Dancer, September, 1978)*

In the year 1040, Macbeth slew King Duncan at Bothgowen, near Elgin; according to one source, this was because Duncan had himself usurped the throne, to which Macbeth had the better claim. Macbeth then reigned for seventeen years (recorded in the chronicles as being a time of plenty) and had a reputation for being just and equitable, notwithstanding Shakespeare's version. However, Duncan's son Michael Canmore, who was the only child when his father was slain, succeeded Macbeth and became Malcolm III of Scotland after he had defeated and killed Macbeth at Lumphanan - on August 15, 1057.

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

### July

|          |     |   |
|----------|-----|---|
| 1-5      | *** | ESCAPE Session at Pinewoods (English-Scottish-Contra), p 14 |
| 5-8      | *** | Pinewoods Scottish Session 1, p 14                          |
| 7        | *   | Summer BCMFest, p 10  |
| 8-13     | *** | Pinewoods Scottish Session 2, p 14                          |
| 26-28    |     | TAC Teachers Conference Weekend, p 6                        |
| 28       | *   | Rushad Eggleston at Passim, p 10                            |
| 28-Aug 4 |     | TAC Summer Dance Week, p 6                                  |

### August

|       |     |   |
|-------|-----|---|
| 10    | **  | Chelmsford Royal Affair, p 5                                |
| 10-16 | *   | Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School, p 10                  |
| 13    | *   | Visitors Day at Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School, p 10  |
| 13    | *   | Rebecca Lomnicky, Scottish Fiddle Champion, at Passim, p 10 |
| 14    | *   | Emerald Rae at Passim, p 10                                 |
| 23-25 | *** | New Hampshire Highlands, p 5                                |
| 23-31 |     | Valley of the Moon Scottish Fiddle Camp, p 10               |
| 31    |     | Jean Patrick Dance, Pleasanton, Calif., p 6                 |

### September

|       |     |   |
|-------|-----|---|
| 6-8   |     | Fort Worden Scottish Weekend, p 6                   |
| 7     | *** | RSCDS Boston Branch Family Picnic & Dance, p 4      |
| 20-22 | *   | New Hampshire Highland Games at Loon Mountain, p 10 |
| 24    | *   | Väsen at Passim, p 10                               |

### October

|       |     |   |
|-------|-----|---|
| 1     | *   | Talisk at Passim, p 10                                |
| 4-6   |     | Hamilton Weekend, p 6                                 |
| 5     |     | Montreal Fall Workshop & Dance, p 6                   |
| 11-13 |     | Calgary SCD Workshop, p 6                             |
| 12    | **  | Fairlee Autumn Social, p 4                            |
| 19    |     | Jeannie Carmichael Ball, p 6                          |
| 19    | **  | Brunswick Maine Fall Dance Party, Topsham, Maine, p 3 |
| 23-25 | *** | New Hampshire Highlands                               |

### November

|     |  |                           |
|-----|--|---------------------------|
| 1-3 |  | Asilomar SCD Weekend, 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.



The mother of a famous movie star heard that her daughter had married a titled gentleman in Europe. She hastily phones her lawyer. “What’s a markee?” she demanded. “It’s one of those things,” he explained, “which you hang in front of a theatre to keep the rain off the customers.” “My God!” cried the good lady, “Helen married one of them this afternoon!” *[It seems that most Scots pronounce “Marquis” as “MAR-kwiss. - Asst. Ed.]*

## People News

**Sue Chari**, who is a member of the Boston Branch Executive Committee, is also a fiddler, and the President of the Boston Scottish Fiddle Club. She often plays for the Cambridge Class and is a member of the Boston Scottish Fiddle Orchestra. She will be joining up with other fiddlers from around the world and will be playing at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Princes Street Gardens in August.

A group of our Branch dancers/fiddlers are going to Fiddle Frenzy in Lerwick, Shetland, this month, and another group is going to Blazin in Beaulieu (north of Inverness) in October. Happy trails to all!



## Scenes from Travels, from Chris Gallagher



Sally & David Grubb at the International Branch school,  
Utrecht, Netherlands



Dancers at the Penobscot Memorial Day Weekend  
Party enjoying their dessert



Patti Tillotson, Elke Baker & Terry Traub,  
Penobscot, Maine



# 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](http://www.canadianamericanclub.com)) 202 Arlington Street, Watertown. Beginners welcome! Contact Alex Bowers, [cambridgeclass@rscdsboston.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:tedfr@rnetworx.com) or Maria, 413-344-3023, [mariaw235@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mjlittle2318@hotmail.com); [sugarmaple111@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:crone4702@gmail.com), 207-409-9050 or Laurie Stevens, 603-501-9488, [seacoastdancers@rscdsboston.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:fairlee@rscdsboston.org), 802-439-3459
  - Manchester Center:** On hiatus until further notice. Contact Holly Sherman, 802-362-3471, [hovashe@yahoo.com](mailto:hovashe@yahoo.com)
  - \* **Montpelier:** On hiatus until further notice. Contact Martha Kent, [mdkent@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:loisanew@nycap.rr.com); [clubitz@nycap.rr.com](mailto:clubitz@nycap.rr.com)

\* Indicates classes sponsored by the Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, [www.rscdsboston.org](http://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](http://www.rscdsboston.org/pdf/FullFlyer.pdf). For updates, please email [classes@rscdsboston.org](mailto:classes@rscdsboston.org)

## MUSIC PAGE

### Concerts and Events

**Sunday Evening July 7, 2019** - Summer BCMFest (Boston Celtic Music Festival) - at Passim

**Week of July 14-19, 2019** - Fiddle Frenzy in Lerwick, Shetland; workshops, concerts, fun, founded by Kevin Henderson

**Sunday Evening July 28, 2019** - Rushad Eggleston at Passim

**Week of August 10-16, 2019** - Boston Harbor Scottish Fiddle School on Thompson Island for an Encore Presentation. Judi Nicolson, Patsy Reid, Bryan Gear and Jamie Laval teaching fiddle on 4 levels; and Eamon Sefton - guitar; and Ian Muir - accordion.

**Tuesday Evening August 13, 2019:** The Fire, featuring Rebecca Lomnicki, champion Scottish fiddler, at Passim

**Wednesday Evening August 14, 2019:** Emerald Rae at Passim

**Week of August 23-31, 2019:** Valley of the Moon Scottish Fiddle Camp

**Weekend of September 20-22, 2019** - New Hampshire Highland Games at Loon Mountain, N.H., featuring a fiddle competition and all things Scottish. The fiddle judge will be Calum Pasqua; also performing - the Red Hot Chili Pipers, Katie McNally & Neil Pearlman & "Alias" Alexander, Brigadoons, Albannach, John Carmichael, Strathspey & Reel Society of N.H., Charlie Zahm, more - nhscot.org

**Tuesday Evening September 24, 2019** - Väsen (Swedish string trio) at Passim

**Tuesday Evening October 1, 2019** - Talisk, award-winning band from Scotland, at Passim

**Tuesday Evening October 1, 2019** - Side Street, featuring Bob Littman on fiddle, at the Burren



## 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  
with

#### 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](http://tac-rscds.org)



Program details and costs available now:

[tac-rscds.org](http://tac-rscds.org)

## **The Story Behind the Dance: Hamilton Rant**

*[reprinted from the December 1968 Hamilton Rant]*

The Hamilton Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society was first founded in 1951 as the Hamilton Scottish Country Dance Society, with Miss Jean Matheson as its certificated teacher. The first class was held in October 1951 and the first dance ever taught to the group was the reel “Triumph” from book No. 1 of the RSCDS.

By 1954 the group had progressed to the point of applying to become an official Branch of the Society and this status was granted December 6th, 1954. On the 7th birthday of the Branch, one of the members, Mr. Robert Campbell of Oakville, composed and presented to the Branch a magnificent 40-bar reel in honor of the occasion. The dance he named “Hamilton Rant.” A short time later Mr. Stan Hamilton composed an original tune for the dance which he named “Dr. Bob Smith” in honor of the founder of the group. “The Hamilton Rant” fast became a favorite with Scottish Country dancers the world over and, when Stan Hamilton and the Clansmen presented the music on their ‘Scottish Dance Time’ record, the success of the dance was assured. Official blessing and approval of the dance and music came in 1963 when the RSCDS published them in Book 22 of the Society’s Dance Books. Since then the dance has become one of the most popular choices in every country where Scottish Country dances are performed. Other musicians and bands have included the music in their repertoires and it has been broadcast on many national and local radio programmes.

The Hamilton Branch was so proud of this dance that it voted to have the Branch publication called “The Hamilton Rant” and it has become the official voice of the first Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society in Canada.

## **The Story Behind the Dance: The Gentleman**

*[by Norm White, Los Angeles Branch, The Ghillie Callum, December 1990]*

“The Gentleman,” a popular strathspey which was published by the RSCDS, was devised by Roz Huxley and inscribed to her father, the late Group Captain David Huxley, who was Master of Ceremonies for the first-fortnight ceilidhs at St. Andrews Summer School for twenty-six years. At Roz’s request, her close friend and world-recognized pianist and prolific composer of Scottish Country dancing music, Muriel Johnstone, wrote the music that so beautifully fits the dance. Muriel entitled her composition, “The Ceilidh Umbrella,” in memory of Group Captain Huxley’s favorite Master of Ceremonies stage prop, the traditional English umbrella.

## **Historical Note**

*[from Travels in Scotland by Louis-Albert Necker de Saussure (1786-1861)]*

They [the Scots] are passionately fond of dancing. The Scottish reels are remarkable for vivacity of movement; the music is purely national, and a well-marked rhythm animates the dances. The greater part of the ladies display much talent and grace.

Dancing in Edinburgh, is the most general pleasure, and they hardly renounce it until an advanced age. Nothing is more common, than to see father and son, mother and daughter, figure in the same country dance. This cannot take place but where dancing is considered an amusement, rather than an art requiring study, and by which the people see for applause.

## **The word CEILIDH**

“Ceilidh” (pronounced KAY-lee) has found its way into English dictionaries, but its original meaning is just “visit.” Sometimes those ceilidhs were arranged, but more often than not you would never know ahead of time who would walk in. No one ever knocked, no need to, there was no lock on the door.

The ceilidh house was undoubtedly the stage for many a Highland tale. Townspeople gathered there to relate and listen to stories, sing songs, swap news or gossip, and perhaps to dance and play cards.

## NEITHER SNOW, NOR ICE, NOR GLOOM OF NIGHT

*[by Iain MacClintoch. This happened back in the winter of 1989; at the height of summer it is sometimes good to think of winter! .... – Ed.]*

Once again the intrepid members of our demonstration team have emerged unscathed from their daring escapades and unexpected adventures. Herein shall be presented a brief account of the startling events connected with the now-famous Melrose Campaign or St. Valentine's Day demonstration.

The cause of our tribulations was the carcass of the blizzard which had ravished the Northeast less than a week before. The main roads were clear enough to get to the Wyoming (Masonic) Temple in Melrose without much trouble. Side streets and parking lots were something else entirely. Wendy Parker, in Cambridge, had been unable to get her car off of the ice sheet on which it was parked: desperately she located a taxi which would take her to a prearranged rendezvous in Somerville with Evelyn Murray and Doris Possi. But the taxi got stuck behind two other becalmed vehicles. The foremost happened to be a taxi of the same company as Wendy's cab. Wendy's driver, a rickety old bodice, enlisted his compatriot's aid and at last succeeded in heaving his vehicle into a satisfactory set of ruts. By the time he had gotten underway, Wendy had decided that she was too late for the rendezvous: she assures me that the ride to Melrose was quite enjoyable.

The rest of us straggled into Melrose by twos and threes, tardy every one. Evelyn, having lost her way once or twice, at last parked her car in a lot near the Masonic Temple. When she got out of the car, her attendant gremlin undid the catch on her faithful suitcase, necessitating the recovery of diverse safety pins and handkerchiefs from the snow. She quickly repacked, and after a slippery circumnavigation of the Temple, she and Doris finally discovered the door and were able to ready themselves for the show.

The demonstration, capably handled by Marilyn Wild, went off quite well, especially considering that we had had only twelve days' notice. We were, however, a bit late getting through, and all decided that the sooner we got home, the better. The Titanic was the farthest thing from my mind as I booked passage home with Evelyn, Doris and Wendy. We piled into the car, blew on fingers, and started off. After going twenty feet we had stopped again - involuntarily. With resignation we got out of the car and began our experiment. Just as we had demonstrated the futility of sand placed around tires, the efforts of six arms, and gentle pleading, a gallant young fellow drove up in his Volkswagon. He managed to rock the car out of its ruts, only to have the back wheels slide into the polished grooves so lately occupied by the front wheels. Even his skill was no match for this new entrenchment, and he left with a suggestion that we seek help from one of the nearby snow removal units.

We spread out, Evelyn found the sanitation department foreman, who promised to send round the correct equipment as soon as possible. We piled back into the car, chafed our hands, and settled down to wait; then we discovered that Doris was no longer among us. In the midst of our conjectures as to her whereabouts, a pair of headlights loomed up behind us. The aging lady driver got out, came up to us and pleaded with us to get out of her way. We assured her that we would be only too happy to oblige, but that at present the matter was quite out of our hands. She went back to sit in her car and, I imagine, to blow on her fingers.

Just then a great confusion of shadows on the building ahead caused me to whirl around; a cry escaped my lips. "Waugh!" said Cuts-His-Hand, "Here comes an army!" A dozen stalwart Freemasons marched up to the car and at their head, like the Maid of Orleans, strode our noble Doris Possi. The brothers set their shoulders to the wheels; with a great shout they raised the car out of its pitfalls and sent it on its way. Overcome with joy at our release, Doris warmly rewarded each of her recruits. With spirits once more high, we again embarked for Somerville and points south. The remainder of our journey was pleasantly uneventful.

[See commemorative dance, next page]

### *Doris Possi at Melrose, a 48-bar reel for 4 couples*

- 1-8 1st and 2nd couples rights and lefts.
- 9-16 1st and 2nd couples Allemande while 3rd and 4th couples dance 4 hands round and back.
- 17-24 1st and 2nd couples dance 4 hands round and back as 3rd and 4th couples dance 4 hands across and back.
- 25-32 1st couple lead up to the top (3rds stepping up), cast to the bottom and lead up to 3rd place.
- 33-40 All 4 couples dance a grand chain (top and bottom couples - i.e. 2's and 4's start by dancing across the dance).
- 41-48 1st and 4th couples pousette.

Dance devised by Evelyn Murray; see story on previous page  
Tune: Jessie Brown of Lucknow, or Murray's Welcome to the 79th



### Scenes from Pinewoods, from Robert McOwen



The Adelaidians: Jean Dodds & Norielle Tarca



Jean's Highland class performing - Jessi Kittel & Mathias Ferber, with Dan Emery, piper



The Auction, with Debbie Jarvis, Terry Harvey, Xiaowen Yu, and transfixed onlookers



Jessi Kittel & Elizabeth Holtan

## MUIRLAND WILLIE by John Cooper

[Note from the Editor: I believe the origins of this poem date back to the 1970 Hamilton Branch Weekend booklet. It was brought to mind when the Kennebunk class danced it at the Downeast Fling this past June.]

“Tae start ye off we’ll ha’e a dance  
Sae simple it’s downright silly.  
So take yer partners and form yer sets  
We’re gonna dae ‘Moorland Willie’.  
The first couple cross and go below third  
And cast up tae second place,  
While the seconds set and cross over tae third,  
Just watch ye don’t fa’ on yer face!  
At the same time, the thirds cast and sprint up the back,  
And cross at the top, Ain’t this gay?  
The fourth couple staun’ like twa pieces of stookie,  
And try no’ tae get in the way.  
By now ye’ll have noticed we’re on opposite sides,  
So set and cross back tae, tae’ yer ain.  
The seconds are not in the third couple’s place,  
Ye’ll see this if ye’ve got half a brain.  
So they bash up the back, and cross at the top,  
Just like the third couple did yince.  
As ye undoubtedly see, it’s a very fast dance,  
No’ tae be done after eating tattoos and mince.  
Meanwhile the seconds, who are really the firsts,  
Set and cross over tae the third.  
The thirds ye’ll remember, were last in first place,  
It’s sae simple it’s really absurd.  
So they cross below third and cast up into second  
And hurry ye huvnae a’ day,  
And the fourth couple staun’ like twa pieces o’ stookie,  
And try no’ tae get in the way.  
Then a body sets, and cross back tae yer sides,  
This dance is yin o’ for best yins.  
Ah’ll just carry on and tell ye the rest  
As I’m sure ye’ll no ha’e any questions,  
So now the first couple, wherever they are,  
Lead up tae the top and then set,  
Then the first and the seconds all do a formation  
That’s commonly called a pousette.  
Can anyone tell me how tae do that?  
If you can, then we’re really a winner —  
Which one o’ yes said a pousette us a cat  
That’s recently finished it’s dinner?”

Translations of some dance titles:

*Duran Ranger* is a corruption of the name Durham Ranger, the name of a popular artificial fly used by salmon anglers. The tune and dance were collected in the Borders in the 1930s.

*Tribute to the Borders*: Devised in 1979, it is a tribute to the Carlisle and Borders Branch of the RSCDS and a recognition that the Borders are the first part of Scotland reached by travelers from the south.

*Deukes Dang O’er My Daddie* is from the song “The bairns got out wi’ an unco shout, The deucks dang o’er my daddy O!” etc..... The interpretation for deukes according to Emerson is that it probably means a “dram” of spirits; the alternative title for this dance is *Just As I was In the Morning*, confirming his assumption.

*This is No My Ain Hoose* was reconstructed from the Homain MSS (1730-50). The tune to this dance (circa 1709) is best known by the name of its verses:

O, this is no my ain hoose  
My ain hoose, My ain hoose,  
This is no my ain hoose,  
I ken by the biggin O’t, etc....



# Membership Application for the RSCDS Boston Branch October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020

Branch Class eligibility is based on applications received by **Nov. 4, 2019**

**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  Yes

Age Under 25? Yes / No  
RSCDS Teacher  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                    |   |
|---|---|
| <b><u>Benefactor</u></b>                  | <b><u>Sustaining</u></b>                  |
| _____ \$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 4, 2019 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](mailto:membership@rscdsboston.org)

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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- **COPY DUE DATE FOR THE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2019 ISSUE IS AUGUST 10TH •  
CAMERA-READY MATERIAL FOR YOUR LATE SUMMER AND FALL 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**
- 

### **Fossil Shows that Quebec and Scotland Were Once Linked**

*[From the Saint John Telegraph-Journal, August 2nd, 1990]*

Marius Arsenault likes to talk about two things: paleontology, which is the study of fossils, and politics. Sometimes he mixes the two. Ask him if Quebec should separate, and he replies it already has, "It separated 185 million years ago and not from Canada, but from Scotland." says Arsenault, who is director of Miguasha Provincial Park in the Gaspé region.

Geologically speaking, he is right. Some 185 million years ago, according to geologists, the world consisted of one large continent that was splitting up into several smaller ones. According to fossil evidence, Quebec and Scotland were neighbors. Announced is the discovery in Gaspé Bay of a fossil that represents the earliest evidence of animal life in what is now North American soil. The fossil, which dates back some 370 million years, is of a millipede, a crawling insect with numerous legs that qualifies as part of the animal kingdom.

It is very similar to another millipede fossil discovered in Scotland that paleontologists identified as the earliest-known land animal ever to walk on earth. The Scottish fossil has been dated at 410 million years. Since similar forms of life only existed in the same concentrated regions 400 million years ago, the Scottish and Gaspé Bay discoveries further confirm the ancient Quebec-Scotland geographic connection.

*[Editor's note: for anyone touring in Scotland, the National Trust for Scotland Visitor's Centre in Glencoe has a very nice display of the splitup of the original continent into its constituent parts we are used to seeing today.]*

