

Island Fling



March 2009

Vancouver Island Scottish Country Dance Society
P.O. Box 30123, Saanich Centre Postal Outlet
Victoria, B.C. V8X 5E1 Canada
Affiliated with the RSCDS, Edinburgh, Scotland

Web address: www.viscds.ca

Executive Committee

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Teacher Representative	Bob Anderson	250-479-6719

NEWS FLASH

With great reluctance, the Executive voted **not** to hold the Workshop and Ball weekend this year. Full refunds will be issued as soon as possible to those who have registered. This is a brief notice – full details will be provided in a later newsletter.

We have decided to schedule a **Ceilidh and Silent Auction at St. Martin Hall on Friday, March 20th at 7:30 pm**, as this date was booked in advance for the final Ball practice. Catering will be provided and we hope to have live entertainment. The Ceilidh dances will be the same program published in our January 2009 newsletter.

Joan McIntosh, President

CLASS	DAY	FINAL CLASS
Social	Monday	April 20
Daytime Social	Tuesday	April 14
Basic	Tuesday	April 14
Advanced	Wednesday	April 8
Intermediate	Thursday	April 9

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As the Executive initiates plans for our year end, I acknowledge that Annual General Meetings are not usually noted for their stimulating content, nor do they often attract a sold out audience. They are, however, a constitutional requirement of any society. This is your club and I encourage members to mark **Tuesday, April 21st** on the calendar and plan to attend. We have a nominating committee in place and nominees to fill each of the three executive positions being vacated – details follow in this newsletter. Finger food, lemonade and water will be available throughout the evening.

Further to the Valentine Social report in this newsletter, I would like to add my thanks to the Basic Class for hosting a very successful event. Congratulations – there was a wonderful, savory assortment of food, and an excellent program prepared and briefed by Gordon Robinson. Kudos to the committee who decorated and brightened up the hall in colorful theme décor.

The Society is now proud owner of a new 55 cup coffee urn. We gave it a test “brew” at the Valentine social and it was declared a keeper. A similar hot water urn will be purchased, as the ones available at St. Martin are unreliable. These will be also used at future Ceilidhs.

Cheers and see everyone dancing.
Joan McIntosh, President

EXECUTIVE COLUMN

VISCDS Annual General Meeting – Second Notice – Tuesday April 21, 2009

at St. Martin In-The-Fields, 550 Obed Avenue, at 7:30pm. All members are encouraged to attend. Please submit any business and/or proposals for the AGM in writing to Keith Wilson no later than April 1, 2009. No new business will be taken from the floor. Finger food, lemonade and water will be available and dancing will follow.

Nominating Committee

Merle Peterson and Mary Roberts have been appointed by the Executive to serve on the Nominating Committee. Thanks to each of you for your willingness to take on this role.

Nominees

Nominees to date for each position are:

1 st Vice-President and Publicity	Dora Dempster
2 nd Vice-President and Membership	Riki Sato
Treasurer	Gordon Hawkins

Life membership nominations

Please refer to January 2004 Island Fling page 2 for how to nominate a member for life membership.

Newsletter

Deadline for the next newsletter is Wednesday, March 25, 2009. Please send submissions to gael@shaw.ca

Core book

From time to time we publish corrections to the dances in the core book. If teachers or dancers have noticed any that require corrections, please provide Joan Axford with details by contacting her at jaax@shaw.ca or 250-474-1018.

VISCDS History

Merle Peterson collated the history of VISCDS up to December 2007 and if a member wishes to read or have a copy of this document, please contact the Secretary.



Valentine's Social

♥Cupid♥ came a bit later this year, but was all over the Church Hall on the 21st for the Valentine's Social for 2009. With a large excited Basic class in attendance to pitch in, the Hall was decorated to the nines in record time, love was everywhere, and the Main guy at centre stage.... no Not Gordon, but Cupid himself.

Gordon Robinson set out to lead a fun filled evening of music and dance with sets designed to showcase how well our Basic class is doing as well as throwing in some dances for the experienced amongst us to also shine. Our illustrious leader and President, Joan McIntosh started off by introducing the newest beginners to the crowd and then ducked out of the way for the start of the dancing.

Starting off with Cutty Sark, the hall was filled to bursting with at least seven sets to kick off the start of a full and vigorous evening of dancing. The second dance to warm things up was a reel, Flowers of Edinburgh followed by one of my favourite Strathspeys, Northern Lights. I think that was just to lull the dancers, because the next set divided the hall into two lines of dancers, the more experienced ones dancing Muirland Willie while our Basic class danced Highland Fair, at the same time to the same music. I know I daren't look over to the Muirland side for fear of totally losing what I was doing in the Fair, but what a grand sight that was to see the two separate sides at the same time. What a wonderful idea, and "good on ya's" all around for all the dancers and to Gordon for pulling off the set. Great fun!

The evening proceeded with most excellent dancing, great food, the "New Coffee Urn" did its thing, the odd Birthday cheer included, names and dates withheld for propriety, more dancing and waayyy too much fun for these old bones.

It was great to see all of our Basic class dancers attempting advanced dances with the help and assistance of our more experienced ones, and it was overheard from one Basic dancer that "Gee, even the experienced dancers sometimes forget and mess up a bit!" but spoken and received with good humor all around. So, yes it is good to see that I am not the only one who cannot remember when to chain or turn right hand, or whatever.

Gordon and the other twenty (at least) teachers filled the evening with great dancing, and we even made time for the extra dances. The evening finished off with the Basic class dancing the final dance to a round of applause and then clean up, and home with aching legs and feet, to rest up for the next social.

Great music, great fellow dancers, great food and drink, and an all around Great Time ©.

Thanks go to Gordon Robinson for the great program, to Annette and Leona for arranging all the details of the dance, to Kathryn and Rick for the help in supply and arrangement, (sorry Rick sometimes it is not best to be the tallest guy in the class), and to all the Basic dancers for the goodies, the helping hands, and most of all, the fun.

See you next class (if I can get my slippers on).

Keith Wilson



COMING EVENTS - LOCAL

- March 20** **Ceilidh and Silent Auction** at St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall at 7:30 pm (program in January Island Fling page 3)
- Apr 18** **VISCDs Spring Fling** St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall, 550 Obed 7:30pm (program in February Island Fling)
- Apr 19** **Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service** at Knox Presbyterian Church, 2964 Richmond Road.
- April 21** **VISCDs Annual General Meeting** St. Martin In-The-Fields Hall, 550 Obed 7:30pm

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- March 7** **Port Alberni Club St Patrick's Dinner Dance** United Church, Port Alberni
- March 14** **Portland Branch 30th Workshop & Ball**
- April 4** **Oceanside (formerly Nanoose) SCD 4th Annual Spring Gala** 644 Memorial Avenue, Qualicum Beach. Alistair McVey 250-752-1980 lamcvey@shaw.ca www.oceansidescd.net
- April 3-5** **Lethbridge SCD & Music Workshop** at Lethbridge Lodge Hotel. Contact Fiona Miller 403-329-3582 or Joanna Fraser 403-320-0357 jo-jo@telus.net.
- April 18** **Nanaimo Workshop and Tea Dance** Teachers: Ruth Jappy and Rebecca Blackhall-Peters; Musicians: Alex Jappy, Julie Smith and Deborah Jones. Contact: Marguerite 250-756-9836 mhjbelle@telus.net or Hazel 250-758-6224 kirco@telus.net
- May 2** **Winnipeg Branch Annual Workshop & Ball** Teachers: Rebecca Blackhall-Peters and Margaret Zadworny; Class Musicians: Ken Natrass and Ron Krug; Evening Social Music by Scotch Measure. Churchill Park United Church, 525 Beresford Avenue, Winnipeg 204-254-3208 www.rscdswinnipeg.ca
- May 3** **White Rock 55th Anniversary Celebration** The White Rock Club will celebrate 55 years of dancing and 30 years of teaching by Maureen Lyon with a special Tea Dance Anniversary Celebration. Music by John Carmichael, accordionist from Glasgow, Scotland. Star of the Sea Hall, 15262 Pacific Avenue, White Rock, BC. Wine and appetizers 4:30pm. Dancing 5 - 8pm. Buffet tea to follow. \$20 Janicelowe@shaw.ca 604-536-7660
- May 9** **Cowichan Valley Scottish Country Dance Club May Social**, Roberts Street, Crofton at 7:30pm, \$10
- May 23** **Fort Langley Voyageurs 10th Anniversary Gala Celebration Dance** The Fort Langley Voyageurs invite you to their 10th Anniversary Gala Celebration Dance, featuring the music of Bobby Brown and the Scottish Accent. Mountain Secondary Gymnasium, 7755 - 202A Street, Langley, BC. Doors open at 6 pm, Dinner at 6:30 pm, then Grand March, Dancing, and Dessert. \$55. Tickets: Larry or Maureen 604-576-6371, or lonotera@shaw.ca
- June 12-14** **Saltspring Island Simply Scottish** at Harbour House. Teachers: Jean Dodds, Simon Scott & Bill Zobel. Musicians: Muriel Johnstone, Calum MacKinnon & Mary Ross. Contact Rita Robertson struan2@telus.net or <http://saltspringsscottishdancers.org/>
- Jul 26–Aug 2** **TAC Summer School** at Shawnigan Lake School see <http://www.tac-rscds.org>
- Dec 28 2009** **New Zealand Branch Summer School**, AUT, Akoranga Campus, North
- Jan 5 2010 Shore City, Auckland. <http://ssakl.rscdsnz.org.nz> organiser.ssakl@rscdsnz.org.nz

NOTE: Dance Programs for many of the listed events are available from the VISCDs newsletter editor or the listed contact/websites.

Two Dances for the Spring Fling

Most of the dances for the April Social are in the core book but the following two are not and are less familiar.

Dancing Dolphins

A 32 Bar Jig for 3 couples in a 4 couple set

Bars

- 1-8 1C cross RH and cast off one place, 2C step up on bars 3-4. 1C turn LH $1\frac{1}{4}$ times to finish facing the lady's side, man with his partner on his right.
- 9-16 1C dance a tandem (dolphin) reel with 2L and 3L giving RSh to 3L.
- 17-24 1C dance a tandem (dolphin) reel with 2M and 3M giving LSh to 3M.
- 25-32 1C in promenade hold dance out between 2L and 3L and down around 3L. 1C dance up the middle, drop hands and cast off on their own side around 2C and finish in second place.

Repeat having passed a couple.

Devised by Barry Skelton, Auckland, New Zealand

Note: The tandem reels are full eight bar reels but are similar to Pelorus Jack in that dancing couple change lead position each time they curve around at the end of the reel.

The Celtic Cross

A 32 Bar Strathspey for 4 couples in a square formation

Bars

- 1-2 All set advancing to partners passing LSh and ending back to back.
- 3-4 All turn the person they are now facing 2H ending facing partner.
- 5-6 All set advancing to partners passing LSh and ending back to back.
- 7-8 All turn the person they are now facing 2H ending ladies in original positions and men in the centre facing partners.
- 9-16 "THE SQUARE KNOT"
9-10 All turn partner RH $\frac{1}{2}$ turn into allemande hold facing clockwise (ladies on inside, men on outside).
11-12 Advance one position clockwise
13-16 Drop RH, ladies dance in front of their partner and turn LH to finish one position CW from original place.
- 17-20 Side couples (1C & 3C now in side positions) dance into the centre passing the person opposite RSh, pulling back RSh and dancing RH across halfway.
- 21-24 1L followed by 1M dance between couple in 3rd place and chase to their left (counter clockwise) to 2nd place. 3rd couple dance similarly passing between the couple in 1st place.
- 25-32 Grand Chain (one bar per hand)

Repeat from new positions.

Devised by Ron Arrowsmith, Vancouver, BC