

Island Fling



JANUARY, 2004

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

Executive Committee

President	James Scott	370-2359
Past President	Thelma Bell	652-5122
1st Vice President and Publicity	Ann Whittaker	478-4760
2nd Vice President and Membership	Mary Roberts	385-1082
Secretary	June Robinson	477-8317
Newsletter Editor	Christine Rushforth	477-0340
Treasurer	Merle Peterson	477-8331
Social Convenor	Jan Thorsen	380-5154
Teacher Representative	Joan Axford	474-1018

Web address: www.viscds.ca

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Anne and myself would like to wish all our dancing friends the happiest, healthiest, and safest 2004. I hope all had a great holiday season and Santa didn't forget you. Since the end of 2003 classes a number of events have taken place and are covered in this newsletter. Upon receipt of this newsletter we will have had a January open house whether it is successful or not I won't know until classes start again but regardless we must encourage new dancers for all levels. I am going to appoint a youth coordinator who will keep us in touch with the younger population out there (30-45 yr olds) and over the next couple of months the membership chair and myself will be looking at old lists and contacting members who for no apparent (e.g. illness or age) reason have stopped coming. With very few exceptions the "greying" of SCD is apparent in all branches around the Lower Mainland and the Island. Without newcomers we will have a tough time getting a half dozen sets together in total in our classes. If anyone has ideas how to solve this problem your executive would be delighted to know about it. The Status Quo does not work. VISCDs is known the length of the West Coast of North America for its Spring Ball and Workshops. Our ambassadors who go to Fort Worden and Gleneagles etc. keep our name out there but without new dancers we will be in trouble in a very few short years. See you on the floor.

James Scott, President

BALL REGISTRATIONS ENCLOSED IN THIS ISSUE

EXECUTIVE COLUMN

The Executive Committee met at St Martin's in the Fields on Thursday Nov. 20. One item on the agenda was the discussion and approval of the guidelines for offering Life Membership to honour a member who has made a significant contribution to Scottish Country Dancing. Here are the guidelines:

Parameters For Life Membership In Vancouver Scottish Country Dance Society

1. Time as a full member in VISCDs
Not less than 5 full years
2. Contribution
A significant contribution to the expansion and/or improvement of Scottish Country Dancing and/or the running of the Society.
3. Number of memberships granted
The Executive will accept only one new Life Member per calendar year.
The Executive reserve the right to accept no new nominees in any particular year.
4. Confidentiality
All nominations will be kept strictly confidential with only the name of the successful nominee being made public.
Any nominee not selected for a particular year may have his/her name put forward for the following year. (hence the confidentiality)
5. Nomination Requirement
A minimum of three (3) written nominations for any candidate is required with acknowledgements included (see paragraph 2)
Nominators must be VISCDs members in good standing for no less than 5 full years.
6. Nominations
Nominations will be brought forward by the Executive Committee and written only nominations from the General Membership.
All nominations must be into the Secretary no later than the February Executive meeting in order that the Executive have time to discuss the merits of the nominee. The successful nominee will be announced at the AGM.
No nominations will be taken from the floor.

The Membership List

During the past couple of months a few members have approached me about a new membership list for general publication (within our members) I have asked at classes for names of those who do not wish to have their information put on the updated list (no response). As of now nothing will be done until after the AGM and a motion will be made whether to carry on this list or not. If you do not wish your name on the list contact myself or Mary Roberts ASAP and we will mark you as such. This newsletter goes to all who are involved therefore no one should miss this item.

Jim Scott

Next Executive Meeting

Jan. 22, 2004. Any new business to be in to June Robinson by Jan 15 2004.

Jim Scott

GENERAL NEWS

Show your Talent and Design a Logo

One cold rainy day this last November, dancers from Seattle, Skagit, Bellingham, Vancouver, Fraser Valley and Victoria, met as a newly found Steering Committee and launched the idea of uniting for a one grand Scottish dancing experience. Whence the seed for the Pacific Northwest Ball was sown.

We accordingly announce the birth of the Pacific Northwest Ball, a gala evening of dinner and dance featuring a celebrated Scottish country dance band. The rotating host cities of Victoria, Vancouver and Seattle invite you to attend this elegant function each year at the end of May. The Pacific Northwest Ball premieres in May 2005: details forthcoming.

Join us on the ground floor by submitting your ideas for the logo to be used by the Pacific Northwest Ball. The design may have a maximum of two colours and must reproduce well in black and white. The prize for the winning entry will be a ticket to the first Pacific Northwest Ball. Contacts for the "Logo": are Kathryn Taylor 598-3490 Or Anita Mathur 382-8808. Entries to be submitted by March 31, 2004.

Anita Mathur

QUERN

Quern is a group of 14 Scottish musicians from Linlithgow who visited Victoria two years ago. They are an excellent group and like to help local organizations do fund-

raising. They will do daytime performances at seniors' residences, too. They do not charge for their performances but appreciate an honourarium to help them with their travel expenses. They put on a Scottish Variety Night that is really lively. If your group is interested in having Quern to perform, please contact Robert Bell at 477-1980 or Ian Sutherland at 382-0327. Quern will be on Vancouver Island area from May 5, 2004 until their final performance at the Union Club on May 13. Visit their website www.local.co.uk/linlithgow/quern.htm

Need a Scottish Fix?

For those of you who were interested in a "subscription" to the *Victoria Scottish News* but thought it was too expensive, there are now new cheaper rates - \$24.00 for twelve issues. You can write to Victoria Scottish News - distribution, Victoria Scottish Cultural Society, PO Box 35001 Hillside Postal Outlet, Victoria, B.C. V8T 5G2. Apparently this little paper is desperately in need of supporters (subscribers and contributors and advertisers). It is full of interesting information about Scottish culture, history, local groups and events etc. Please consider adding your support. You can email at vsned@shaw.ca.

Save your sanity, dance more often

If you needed any more justification that Scottish Country Dancing is good for you Walter Roots found this item in the Globe and Mail recently:

"A recent study by the Albert Einstein Center in the Bronx, N.Y., found dancing to be the only regular physical activity associated with a significant drop in the incidence of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease. In the research, reported in the New England Journal of Medicine, subjects who danced three or four times a week showed 76 per cent less incidence of dementia than those who only danced once a week or not at all."

Did everyone enjoy the Christmas Social as much as Mary?

The Christmas social went off beautifully. The dance program was suitable for all levels of competence. The music was outstanding, food was scrumptious and plentiful. The hall was decorated soooo beautifully that it took my breath away. If only Jan and Ruth could have been there! Thanks Ann and Jim and everyone else for a memorable social. Mary Roberts

Yes, they did

Wasn't that a party!! It was the VISCDS turn to host the annual Christmas social on Saturday December 13 at Cadboro Bay United Church.

A hearty group of members

arrived between 9:30 & 10:00 a.m. to decorate the hall and that was completed in "jig time".

Folk started arriving at 7:15 p.m. and following 5 minutes of lively warm-up by Keith and Mary, at 8:00 p.m. sharp, Joan requested us 'to take to the floor in four couple sets' and we were off for a great fun-filled evening!!

The food was incredible, the tables were sagging, but not for long as Scottish Country Dancers do have hearty appetites!

Mary Ross and Keith Malcolm kept our feet tapping and the floor full for the entire evening,(at one point 12 sets) with their lively renditions of music we all know so well from the gaily decorated stage! Joan Axford, Penny Catton and Ray Perkins briefed the dances and kept us on the straight and narrow, although I did hear "what comes first?"

- we all know, bow and curtsy!! Some found the new configuration of the dance floor a little awkward, but soon overcame that.

Before you could say "it's a braw bricht moonlicht nicht the nicht" it was 11:50 p.m. and time for the last dance! To everyone who participated in any way, whether briefing dances, playing music, decorating (lending tartans, thanks Thelma; Alice & Bob's snowman trio), working the door, bringing food, working in the kitchen, tearing down and cleaning up, and taking the garbage home - my heartfelt thanks.

Sincerely, Anne Scott,

St. Andrew celebrated in style

On Saturday, November 15, 77 lively dancers saluted the Patron Saint of Scotland, Saint Andrew, at our monthly social. Setting the scene the hall was gaily decorated with

tartan and Saltire. Una Lennam and Sue Langridge, both teachers with the Lower Intermediate class, along with Gordon Robinson briefed the evening's dances with great spirit!

Although this class is few in number, we were as usual, buoyed up by our faithful friends who are also regulars on Tuesday evenings.

The refreshments were of a good variety and delicious, volunteers in ample supply and a good time was had by all!

So, to everyone who attended, participated, volunteered, brought refreshments, and especially to our teachers, we extend our most sincere thanks for making 'our Social' so successful!!

Cheers, from the Lower Intermediate Class

VISCDS 28TH ANNUAL WORKSHOP & BALL March 26,27,28, 2004

Reminding you to get your registrations in early

Mike Hanna has included registration forms in this newsletter. Priority will be given to Full Package registrations until January 31. We are limited to 150 guests (128 dancers) at the Ward Room for the Banquet and Ball but will have lots of room at the other venues so send your forms in early for all or any of the following choices. Partial registrations will be numbered as received.

This year we are pleased to be able to offer the following categories:

Complete Pkg.	\$130.00
Banquet & Ball only	\$65.00
Ceilidh only	\$15.00
Workshops only	\$40.00 (a.m. p.m. and lunch)
Lunch only	\$10.00
Afternoon Class only	\$12.00
Ball Walk through	N/C (Ball registrants only)
Brunch and Social	\$25.00

BALL DANCE PRACTICE NIGHTS

Practices for Ball dances will be held at St. Martin in the Fields Church Hall on Obed Ave., on Wednesday nights on March 3,10 and 17. There will be a \$2.00 per night charge. A schedule for the dances to be presented will be in the next newsletter.

If you have any questions please call me at 655-0235 or e-mail gjrice@shaw.ca or contact Mike Hanna at 479-4901, e-mail sainfoin@shaw.ca.

Janet Rice, 2004 Workshop and Ball Coordinator

ANNUAL BALL WEEKEND RAFFLE

We hope you have all had a great holiday season and it is now time to get started on our Tenth Annual Raffle, which is part of the festivities during the Ball Weekend, with the prizes being drawn at the Ceilidh night. We will be dropping off envelopes, with all the information, to the class reps at their classes during the beginning of January. This envelope will contain raffle tickets and a sign up sheet for prizes. A big thank you to everyone who supported the raffle last year (we couldn't do it without you!) and remember the monies raised go a long way to off setting some of the costs associated with this terrific weekend.

Heather and Ian Danks

VISCDS BURN'S SOCIAL

8:00 p.m., January 17, 2004

St. Martin in the Fields Church Hall, 550 Obed

Good Hearted Glasgow	32J3	C	B
Lady Lucy Ramsay	32S3	C	B
Duke of Perth	32R3	C	A
Kendall's Hornpipe	32J2	Graded Bk	I
The Silver Tassie	32S3	C	B
Corn Riggs	32R2	Bk 4	B
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	32J3	C	I
**"Deer" Friends	32S3	C	A
Clutha	48R4	C	I
Saint Andrew's Fair	32J3	5SCD for 82	B
Village Reel	32S2	C	I
The Bravehearts	32J4	Beach Col	B

Break

**The Haggis Hunter	128M4	Reel Friends	A
Polharrow Burn	32R5	C	A
**The Robertson Rant/	80S4	C	I
**The Homecoming		And	A
The Bees of Maggieknockater	32J4	C	A
Belle of Bon Accord	32S4	C	I
Maxwell's Rant	32R3	C	I

C= Core Book * briefing only ** no briefing or walk- through

COMING EVENTS - LOCAL

Jan 17 '04 VISCDS BURN'S SOCIAL St. Martin in the Fields Church Hall. See program in this issue.

Jan 24 '04 BURNS DINNER AND BALL sponsored by the Sons of Scotland and the St. Andrew's Caledonian Society. To be held at the University Club. Cocktails at 5:50 p.m., dinner 6:30 p.m., dinner, entertainment, dancing. Dress highland or semi-formal. Cost: \$40.00. For tickets/information call Bob Brown 478-0746, Tim Hale 1-250-715-0559, Alex Reid 370-9226

Jan 24 '04 RSCDS BURNS POTLUCK SUPPER AND DANCE at St. Martin-in-the-Fields for information contact Roger Walker at 598-3055 or check the web page www.rscdsvictoria.org

Jan 25 '04 BURNS MEMORIAL TEA AND CONCERT AND WREATH LAYING sponsored by the Victoria Joint Scottish Council. Wreath Laying at the Burns Memorial in Beacon Hill Park at 2:00 p.m. followed by Concert and Tea at 2:30 p.m. approx. at St.

Andrew's Presbyterian Kirk Hall. Please bring a plate of goodies to share. Additional info call Irene Feir at 652-5773 or kifeir@shaw.ca

- Feb 21 '04** **VISCDS VALENTINES SOCIAL** St. Martin in the Fields Church Hall
Feb 28 '04 **SONA SOCIAL** 7:30 p.m. at Duncan United Church
Mar 6 '04 **ANNUAL CEILIDH** sponsored by the Canadian Scottish
Mar 26/28 '04 **VISCDS BALL WEEKEND** (see details this issue)
Mar 28 '04 **KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN** - sponsored by the Victoria Joint Scottish Council. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Kirk
Apr. 3 '04 **TARTAN BALL** Edelweiss Hall, 108 Niagra St. Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dancing at 7:00 p.m. Music by Denis Jackson Trio. Cost: \$35 per person. Info from Jerry and Katie Dunn 598-6547 or Irene Feir 652-5773. Note: the TARTAN BALL in 2005 will be held on April 2.
Apr 12 '04 **BEGINNERS BALL** Cadboro Bay United Church Hall
Apr 22 '04 **VISCDS AGM** 7:30 p.m. at St. Martin in the Fields. Dancing after the AGM.
May 1 '04 **VISCDS SPRING FLING**
May 12 '04 **VICTORIA GAELIC CHOIR ANNUAL CONCERT** 7:30 pm, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Tickets available from choir members or at the door.
July 3 '04 **SCOTTISH FIDDLE ORCHESTRA** trip postponed until July 2005.

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- Jan. 10 '04** **NANAIMO SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S BALL** Nanaimo Yacht Club Music by Alex Jappy. Doors Open from 6 pm--Dinner 6:30 pm--Dancing 8 pm. Tickets \$30.00 each. Contact David Handley, Secretary, 2401 Lynburn Crescent, Nanaimo, B.C. V9S 3T3 Phone: (250) 758-7228.
Jan. 17 '04 **RCSDS SEATTLE BURN'S NIGHT** Congregational Church of Mercer Island. Contact Kay Morrison 425-746-6388 or Adeline Crinks 425-823-7845.
Jan 24 '04 **BURNS NIGHT DINNER** sponsored by Chemainus Valley Cultural Arts Society Senior Centre Hall, Chemainus. Cost: \$25.00 for tickets/information call 1-250-246-1512 or 1-250-246-9102
Jan 25 '04 **SONA SOCIAL** St. John's Hall, 486 Jubilee St., Duncan at 7:30 p.m. Cost \$6.
Jan 31 '04 **VANCOUVER BRANCH BURNS SUPPER** 6:00 p.m. Scottish Cultural Centre, 8886 Hudson St., Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra. Traditional Scottish meal with haggis. Info: Hazel Mackie 604-913-0762.
Feb. '04 **PITLOCHRY WORKSHOP**, If enough dancers are interested, a party might go from Van Isle to the workshop. I would welcome expressions of interest from dancers. We'll need about 20 or so to approach Air Canada for special group status. *Alex McAuley* (595-1607 or amcauley@uvic.ca)
Feb 7 '04 **COMOX VALLEY VALENTINE DANCE** Music by Alex Jappy.
Feb 14 '04 **NANOOSE SOCIAL** St. Stephen's Hall, Qualicum Beach at 7:00 p.m. Cost \$5.
Feb. 14 '04 **LOVE TO DANCE WORKSHOP - Back to Basics Workshop and Beginner's Ball** Vancouver Branch workshop. Teachers: Coordinator and Contact: Wendy Swaine 604-984-6998 swainew@telus.net Peter McClure from Winnipeg and Liz Gray from Victoria and Fran Caruth from Vancouver.
Feb. 21 '04 **SEATTLE SPRING WORKSHOP AND DANCE** Congregational Church of Mercer Island. Teacher: Sarah Harriman, Music: Lisa Scott and Calum MacKinnon. Contact Irene Paterson 425-438-8977.
Feb 22 '04 **SEATTLE TEACHERS' WORKSHOP** 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Richmond Highland Recreation Centre, 16554 Fremont Ave. N., Shoreline. Contact Irene Paterson 425-438-8977.
Feb. 22 '04 **SONA SOCIAL** 7:30 p.m. at Duncan United Church

- Feb. 26/Mar 2 RSCDS WINTER SCHOOL PITLOCHRY, SCOTLAND**
- Mar 13 '04 MUSIC WORKSHOP AND DANCE** Albany California. Featuring Muriel Johnstone and Alasdair Frase. Info at hmackay@sbcglobal.net
- Mar. 5-7 '04 WINNIPEG WORKSHOP** Teachers: Ruth Taylor and John Middleton. Music: Ron Krug and Ken Natrass. Contact Christine Wallace 204-489-4595.
- Mar. 20 '04 DELTA BORDERS SPRING FLING** Gizeh Temple, 3550 Waybourne, Burnaby. Music: Bobby Brown. Contact: David Blakemore 206-524-6685.
- Apr 2-4 '04 INTERBRANCH WEEKEND WORKSHOP** Camp Cedar Glen, Julian, California. Muriel Johnstone and John Taylor. Details later.
- May 1 '04 WORKSHOP FOR BASIC AND INTERMEDIATE DANCERS AND TEA DANCE** sponsored by the Nanaimo Scottish Country Dancers. Dover Bay High School, Nanaimo. Teachers: Ruth Jappy and Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, Music: Alex Jappy. 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Contact David Handley 758-7228.
- May 1 '04 SKAGIT BALL** Mount Vernon. Music Muriel Johnstone and Calum Mackinnon.
- May 1 '04 SAN DIEGO SPRING BALL**
- May 3 '04 NSCD WORKSHOP AND TEA DANCE**
- May 7-9 '04 PEARL HOLMBERG WORKSHOP** hosted by the Vancouver Branch.
- May 14-16 '04 YOUTH WEEKEND WEST** The second annual Youth Weekend West will be hosted by the Western Washington University SCD club in Bellingham. Contact Sophia Yeckley email: summer_solstice@hotmail.com
- May 23 '04 HYACK FESTIVAL CEILIDH DANCE** 8:00 p.m. Arenex, Queen's Park New Westminster.
- June 4-6 '04 MONTREAL WORKSHOP** St. Anne de Bellevue. Contact Peter White 514-488-2509 scdmtl@yahoo.com
- June 19-20 SAN DIEGO SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES** Brengle Terrace Park Vista.
- June 19 '04 PUGET SOUND CROSSROADS DANCE** Friday Harbour. Contact Elinor Vandegrift 425-488-7643 or Bill Paterson 360-378-4992.
- July/Aug '04 RSCDS SUMMER SCHOOL** at St. Andrews, Scotland. Check details on the website www.rscds.org
- July 28-Aug 1 HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL** Dalhousie University. Teachers: Ron Wallace, Elaine Brunken, John Drury, Jane Smarzik, Colleen Putt and Margan Dawson. Music: Keith Smith, Elam Grech, Jim Aulenbach and the Macadains. Contact Lydia Hedge 902-827-2033 lydiahedge@accesswave.ca
- Aug 4-16 '04 DANCING IN SCOTTISH CASTLES AND WALKING SCOTLAND** Contact Ken McFarland 1-800-822-3435.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWS LETTER, Feb. 1, 2004

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