

Reel Time

Newsletter of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, New Haven Branch

Summer/Fall 2003

Class Schedules

Greater Hartford Scottish Country Dance Class
Grace Episcopal Church on the Green, Windsor CT.
Tuesday 7 to 9:45 PM. Contact Barbara Austen (203) 630-9749 or Karen Pestana (860) 298-8311. **Classes begin September 2, 2003.**

Middletown Scottish Country Dancers
First Church of Christ Congregational, 190 Court Street, Middletown CT. Wednesday 7 to 9:30 PM. Contact Joyce Chase (203) 238-0694 or Lucile Blanchard (860) 347-0278. **Classes begin September 3, 2003.**

New Canaan Kilts & Ghillies Scottish Country Dancers
Millennium School of Irish Dance, 12 Old Mill Road, Georgetown, CT. Tuesday 7:30 to 9:30 PM. Contact Angela Montague (203) 762-9892.

New Haven Branch Scottish Country Dance Class
New Haven Medical Society, 364 Whitney Ave., New Haven CT. Tuesday 7:30 to 10 PM. Contact Dick Platt (203) 878-6094. **Classes resume at the Medical Society August 27, 2003.**

Newtown Scottish Country Dancers
St. James Episcopal Church, 25 West St., Danbury, CT. Monday 7:30 to 9:00 PM. Contact Ernie Harrington (203) 938-2881 or ech105@snet.net. **Classes start September 8, 2003. New dancers welcome September 15.**

Bethany-Woodbridge Scottish Country Dancers
First Church of Christ, Congregational Parish House, Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge CT. Friday 7 to 9 PM. Contact Jack & Doreen Johnstone (203) 393-3189. **Classes begin September 19, 2003.**

Upcoming Events

Fort Worden XXIX Scottish Country Dance Weekend. Friday-Sunday, September 12-14, 2003. Fort Worden State Park, Port Townsend, WA. Teachers Bruce and Jo Hamilton and Ruth Jappy. Music by Muriel Johnstone, Laura Risk and Calum MacKinnon. Friday evening dance and Ceilidh. Workshops on Saturday for English County Dancing, Shetland, Quadrilles and Step dancing. Ball and

champagne party on Saturday evening. Sunday morning dancing. Entire weekend registration \$90.00. Accommodation extra. Contact ftwordenregistrar@earthlink.net.

JC(Jeannie Carmichael) Ball Benefit Dance. September 12, 2003. Central Presbyterian Church, 593 Park Ave. at 64th Street, New York City. Sponsored by the Cameron Dancers and Scotia Dancers. Contact Isabelle Smith, 718-793-6238 or Sue Ronald, 212-317-9374.

Alpine Boat Basin Pavilion Sunday Picnic and Dance. September 14, 2003. Sponsored by New Jersey Branch. Parking \$4.00; donation \$5.00 for dancing goes to JC Ball benefit). Contact Cindy Carlone at 973-301-0070 or <mailto:cindycarlone@msn.com>

Scottish Country Dance Weekend with Ann Smith. Friday-Sunday, September 19-21, 2003. Swan lake Resort Hotel, Swan Lake, NY. Teacher Ellen Sears. Cost \$224.00 per person for entire weekend. Contact Ann Smith at <mailto:hplever@earthlink.net>.

New Hampshire Highland Games, Friday-Sunday, September 19-21. Hopkinton State Fair Grounds. For more information, see www.nhscot.org.

Darlington (MD) Scottish Weekend at Ramblewood. Friday-Sunday, September 26-28. Friday Night Welcome Dance, Saturday classes, Saturday Night Ball, Sunday Morning Classes. Sponsored by Scottish Weekend, Inc. Dance Teachers are: Fred de Marse, Ruth Jappy, and Marjorie McLaughlin. Music by Scottish Weekend Band plus Muriel Johnstone as Guest Musician. Contact Fred Eustis (Registrar) 410-922-6369 <mailto:feustis@starpower.net> or Betty Evans (Chair) 410-296-5537 <mailto:bettyevans@att.net>. [<http://www.ScottishWeekend.org>]

St. Andrews Games at Goshen. Saturday, October 4, 2003. Goshen Fairgrounds. Piping, drumming and Highland dance competitions, performers, SCD demonstration, vendors and good food.

Scotland Games. Sunday, October 12, 2003. Scotland, Conn.

***Middletown Fall Party.** Saturday, October 25, 7:30 - 10:00 PM. First Church, 190 Court Street, Middletown. Music by Norb Spencer and his musical crew. \$8.00. Cost \$8.00. Call Lucile Blanchard (860-347-0278) or Joyce Chase (203-238-0694) for more information.

***Mystic Scottish Country Dancers Fall Festive Dance.** 7:30 pm. Saturday, November 8, 2003. Christ Church Parish Hall, 7 Elm Street, Westerly, RI. Dancing from 7:30-11:00 p.m. Music by Norb Spencer and friends. Cost \$8.00. Contact Marge and Don Wills at 860-536-1981 or <mailto:dmwills1@juno.com>, or Ruth Holland Walsh at 860-536-6265 or RHWDVB@aol.com.

Jeannie Carmichael Ball (JC Ball). November 1, 2003. Thayer Hotel, West Point, Highland Falls, NY. Music by Muriel Johnstone and Alasdair Fraser.

NOMAD. Saturday-Sunday, November 15-16, 2003. *New Location!* New Haven Career High School, 140 Legion Ave., New Haven. See the web site at www.geocities.com/nomadfest. At least one session of SCD for families will be taught by Barbara A.

***Middletown Holiday Party.** Sunday, December 28, 3:00 - 6:00 PM. First Church, 190 Court Street, Middletown. Music by Norb Spencer and friends. \$8.00. A Scottish tea will be served during break. Call Lucile Blanchard (860-347-0278) or Joyce Chase (203-238-0694) for more information.
Note the change in date.

***New Haven Branch New Year's Eve Party.** December 31. New Haven Medical Society, 364 Whitney Ave., New Haven CT. Dinner at?? Dancing whenever we feel like it! Contact Barbara Austen, 203-630-9749 or beausten@worldnet.att.net.

Hogmanay in Westchester. December 31, 2003. Church in the Highlands, Bryant Ave., White Plains, NY. 9:00 pm. Music by Celtic Knot. Plus activities for non-dancing spouse or companion. Contact Judy Zingher at 914-592-5862 or Naomi Lasher at 914-941-7358.

***Robert Burns Dinner and Dance, Saturday, January 31, 2004.** Sponsored by the Mystic Scottish Country Dancers. The 245th celebration of the birth of Robert Burns will be held from 6:00 p.m. to midnight. Mystic Marriott Hotel and Spa, Exit 88 from Route 95. More information on the web site, www.99main.com/~lees/BurnsNight/

On a Personal Note

Congratulations to Skip and Joyce Chase on the beautiful wedding of their son, Chip, to his long-time friend Kayla.

Condolences to family and friends of Platt Brightwell, a dancer with the New Haven class, who died August 1. A tribute to Platt appears later in this issue.

Susan Leff recently learned that Arthur Reed, one of the founding members of the Branch, died in May of last year.

Richard Lewis' article, "Letters to Rosanne Reynolds, 1901-1909" was published in the Winter 2002 issue of the Journal of the Genealogical Society of Ireland. The subject of the article is a collection of letters that Richard's grandmother received and saved during her first eight years as a young immigrant from Ireland living in New Haven, CT.

Marge and Don Wills have a new address and phone number. Please change your membership directory accordingly. The new information is: 375 Allyn St. - Unit 9, Mystic, Ct. 06355, phone (860) 536 -1981.

A Tribute to Platt Brightwell

Platt Brightwell, a long-time dancer in the New Haven Class died at age 64 on August 1, 2003. A funeral service was held on August 4 at the Church of the Redeemer in New Haven.

Most New Haven dancers who knew him would probably agree that Platt--who was intelligent, genuinely nice, but very reserved—was someone they wish they could have gotten to know better. Five RSCDS member attended the funeral and learned many interesting things about Platt's life.

Platt was a world traveler. He visited forty-eight U.S. states and many foreign countries, including Australia and New Zealand. He once rode from China to Moscow on the Trans-Siberian Railroad. It was his custom to take two trips each year.

Two of Platt's strongest interests were the arts and sports. He played flute and piano, and was a member of his church choir for over thirty years, never missing a rehearsal or church service. Each season, Platt attended every performance of the New Haven Symphony, the Shubert Theater, the Yale Rep and the Long Wharf Theater. He was also a season ticket holder for Yale's football and hockey teams. And, as we know, Platt loved Scottish County Dancing.

Platt is survived by his father, sister, niece, nephew, great-niece and great-nephew. Gifts in his memory may be sent to the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, 70 Audubon Street, New Haven, CT 06510.

Richard Lewis

Mystic Fall Festive Dance Program

GAY GORDONS

LAMB SKINNET 32J 14:12
LADY GLASGOW 32S MMMI
JOIE DE VIVRE 32J 39:2
SHIFTIN' BOBBINS 32R Ormskirk
ASILOMAR ROMANTIC 32S San Francisco
BRATACH BANA 32R Drewry/Bon Accord

ST. BARNARD'S WALTZ

HOOPER'S JIG 32J MMMII
WIND ON LOCK FYNE 32S Dunedin
FOLLOW ME HOME 32J 38:3
CATCH THE WIND 32H Island Bay
JOHN MC ALPIN 32S Foss/Galloway
MAIRI'S WEDDING 40R Cosh/22

New Haven Says Goodbye to Class Member

For the past year, Andrea McDowell has been dancing with the New Haven class while doing research at Yale University. Andrea, a skilled and graceful dancer who also performed with New Haven's demonstration team will become a professor at Seton Hall School of Law this fall and will be moving to New Jersey. We wish her all the best and hope she'll be able to join us for next year's ball, or any other occasion that fits her schedule!

Richard Lewis

Two Celtic Gift Shops in Connecticut

There are two new (to me) Celtic gift shops within an easy drive for most of us. So, when you or your guests get a hankering for a real "tea" or need to find a tinned haggis, you can visit:

Celtica, Specialty Gift Shop and Tea Room
260 College Street (Opposite the Shubert Theater)
New Haven, CT 06510
Open Monday-Saturday 10-7, Sundays 12-5
203-785-8034

O'Reilly's Irish Gifts
248 Main Street
Farmington, CT 06032
Open Tuesday-Friday, 10-5:30, Saturday 10-5,
Sunday 11:30-5
<http://www.gotirish.com>
860-677-6948

De-Mystifying the Sash Rosette (reprise)

See next page.

RSCDS New Haven Branch Officers:

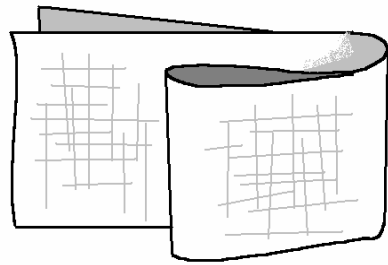
President Dick Baxter (203) 735-5079
Secretary Ena Baxter (203) 735-5079
Treasurer Brian Haeckler (203) 732-1017
Branch Class George Thomson (203) 230-8551
Teacher Comm. Ken Way (860) 653-5258
Intergroup Don Wills (860) 434-0415
At Large Mary Byrnie (860) 635-4056
Bob Byrnie (860) 635-4056
Catriona MacAuslan (203)
421-4060
Membership Ed Davis (203) 264-0870
Newsletter Barbara Austen (203) 630-9749
beausten@worldnet.att.net

Editor's Note

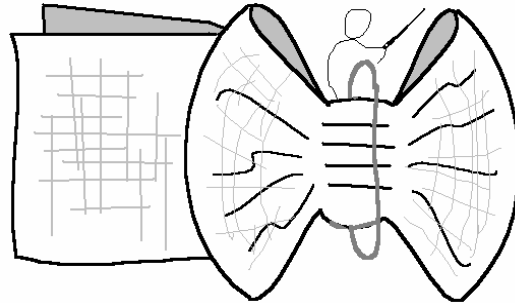
Deadline for the next newsletter is **November 15** for publication toward the end of the month. Please get your stories (class and personal tidbits), and calendar listings to me by then. My home address is 70 Pearl St., Meriden, CT 06540, and my email address is beausten@worldnet.att.net.



The Rosette Sash

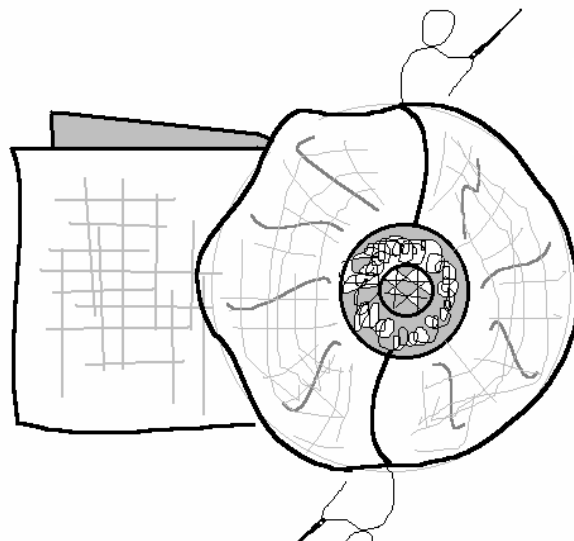


To make a rosette of a lady's sash, it must be folded double, and the folded end turned back on itself. (A.) The free ends may be equal, but if not, the one on the bottom should be the longer one. The longer the turn back, the larger the rosette, but if the turn back is more than $\frac{2}{3}$ the width of the sash, the rosette cannot be made to lie flat. Midway of the turn-back must be one of the turning points of the sett of the



tartan. That is, a mirror set across the sash at the midpoint of the turn-back should see the same pattern both ways.

Now the turned-back portion must be gathered into pleats, and a heavy rubber band put around to hold it. The pleats must be adjusted under the rubber band so that it is exactly at the midpoint.



Finally, the corner of the turned-back portions are brought together to complete the rosette. They may be pinned, or if the rosette is to be permanent, they may be sewn. A decorative Celtic pin hides the rubber band.