

# Reel Time

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

Spring 2009

## Class Schedules

*Greater Hartford Scottish Country Dance Class*  
Grace Episcopal Church on the Green, Windsor CT.  
Tuesday 7:00 to 9:30 pm. Contact Barbara Austen 203-630-9749 or Karen Pestana 860-298-8311.

*Middletown Scottish Country Dancers* First Church of Christ Congregational, 190 Court Street, Middletown CT. Wednesday 7:00 to 9:30 pm. Contact Joyce Chase 203-238-0694 or Lucile Blanchard 860-347-0278.

*Kilts & Ghillies Scottish Country Dancers* Millennium School of Irish Dance, 12 Old Mill Road, Georgetown, CT. Tuesday 7:30 to 10:00 pm. Contact Peter Price 203-675-9587.

*Mystic Scottish Country Dancers* St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, 310 Fort Hill Road, Groton, CT. Friday 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Contact Ruth Walsh 860-536-6265 or [www.mysticsscottishdancers.com](http://www.mysticsscottishdancers.com).

*New Haven Branch Scottish Country Dance Class*  
591 Whitney Ave., New Haven, CT. Tuesday 7:30 to 10:00 pm. Contact Dick Platt 203-878-6094 or Leslie Kearney 203-281-6591.

*New Haven Summer Class* New Haven Friends Meeting House, 225 East Grand Ave., New Haven. Class begin in June, 7:30 to 10 pm. Contact Leslie Kearney [LKDJQ@aol.com](mailto:LKDJQ@aol.com) for more information.

*Woodbridge Scottish Country Dancers* First Church of Christ Congregational, 5 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge, CT. Friday 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Contact Donna Ives 203-393-3713 or Mollie Keller 203-375-2840.

**Peter Price's Class** Second Monday of the month, 8:00 pm, New Haven Friends Meeting House, 225 East Grand Ave., New Haven. **Summer dates:** June 8, July 13, August 10.

## Upcoming Events

**Challenge Class III** Monday, June 1, 2009  
Green Street Arts Center, 51 Green St., Middletown.  
7:00-9:15 pm, \$10. Teacher, Leslie Kearney. For more information, Barbara Austen at [barbara\\_austen@att.net](mailto:barbara_austen@att.net).

**Westchester Ball**, Saturday, June 6, 2009. St. John's Episcopal Church, Larchmont, NY. \$40. Music by Barbara McOwen & Friends. [www.rscdsnewyork.com](http://www.rscdsnewyork.com)

**Northampton End of Season Party** Saturday, June 13, 2009. 5:30 Potluck (\$1 + dish), 7:30 Dance (\$10).  
First Churches, 129 Main St., Northampton, MA  
Music by Vince O'Donnell, Ken Allen. More info, Karen 413-527-3407.

**Rhode Island Scottish Highland Festival** Saturday, June 13, 2009, 9 am to 5 pm. Washington County Fairgrounds, Rt. 112 South, Richmond, RI (Exit 3, off Rt. 94 North). For more information, [www.riscot.org](http://www.riscot.org)

**SummerDance XX** at United Nations, a fundraiser for UNICEF. Saturday, June 20, 2009. \$20. 1:00 - 4:00 pm. See [www.rscdsnewyork.org](http://www.rscdsnewyork.org) for more information.

**Scottish Sessions I, II, Pinewoods** July 10-13, and July 13-18, 2009. Teachers: Stella Fogg, David Queen, Bill Zobel, Jennifer Stephenson. See [www.rscdsboston.org](http://www.rscdsboston.org)

**86th Round Hill Scottish Games** Saturday, June 27, 2009. Cranbury Park, Norwalk, CT. Come dance with CT and NY dancers. Admission \$15/\$10 for seniors. For more, see [www.roundhill.org](http://www.roundhill.org)

**New Hampshire Highlands** Friday-Sunday, Aug. 21-23, 2009. St. Methodios Faith & Heritage Center, Contoocook, NH. Teachers: Dale Birdsall, Lance Ramshaw, Joanna Reiner. For more, write Roberta Lasnick, [rlasnik@juno.com](mailto:rlasnik@juno.com).

**Jeannie Carmichael Ball** Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009. 50th Anniversary of New York Branch. With Colin Dewar Quartet, special from Scotland. For more, see [www.rscdsnewyork.org](http://www.rscdsnewyork.org).

Check [www.intercityscot.org](http://www.intercityscot.org) for similar events.

## AGM - 2009

The AGM (Annual General Meeting) for the New Haven Branch of the RSCDS was held Saturday, May 8 at First Church, Middletown. Twenty people attended. The President's report is printed below. Committee and officer reports were read. Ev Munro reported that the fundraising efforts this year brought in a total of \$695.02, less than half what we used to take in at NOMAD. The chief business was election of new officers and Board members.

The elected slate is:

President	Catriona MacAuslan
Vice President	Peter Leibert
Secretary	Barbara Garton
Treasurer	Richard Ives
Branch Class Chair	Leslie Kearney

Teacher Committee	Barbara Austen
Intergroup	Don Wills
At Large:	Joyce Chase
	Steve Rice
	Catherine Mahoney
	Sarah-Jane Ripa
	Nina Stein
	Marge Wills
Membership	Ed Davis
Newletter	Lucile Blanchard
Webmaster	David Keller

### President's Report to Branch

Ken Way served as Board President for three years. His final report sums up those years well:

I have served on the Board of Directors of the New Haven Branch since its incorporation 23 years ago, and have acted as President for the past three years. I want to thank everyone who has participated in the general success of the Branch during my presidential term, including the Branch officers, and particularly all those volunteers involved in the production of three very excellent, well-attended and fully self-supporting New Haven Balls. We have had a high quality newsletter keeping our members up to date on events, and much imagination has been addressed to fundraising activities since NOMAD collapsed. Workshops for dancers and teachers have been held, as well as a series of Challenge classes and a Dance Scottish week promotion. Participation could have been better, but the effort of the volunteers producing these events was superb.

We are an all-volunteer educational and cultural non-profit organization. As such, part of our role is to educate the public about Scottish Country Dancing, as well as teaching dance. The Dick Morrison Pinewood Scholarship is offered annually by the Branch to help educate new dancers. The Greater Hartford Demonstration team, comprised of Branch members, has also provided a liaison with the public for many years.

To my successor I make the following recommendations:

Make teacher development a high priority.

Develop ways to attract new blood.

Support every volunteer.

Remember that failure is our chief learning tool; examine our failures.

Thanks again to all the Board members. You and every one of our volunteers make dancing happen.

*Ken Way*

### New Haven Branch Highland Ball and Brunch

Another year, another Ball. And in this economy, how would it go? Would many of the dancers who usually come decide to save their money and skip it this year? We'd already committed money for the Town Hall, the Music Makars and the caterer. Ellie Toy and I, Ball co-chairs, could only cross our fingers and hope.

As it turned out, we needn't have worried. With 150 people signed up overall, attendance on Saturday, March 7th was healthy. "We love your Ball," said one Vermont dancer on the phone asking directions. "With the Music Makars playing, we wouldn't miss it," said another. We only had to get the details we'd hashed out into place.

We were at the Town Hall by three in the afternoon when Ev Munro drove up, Bob Byrne's large painting of Castle Eilean Donan on top of his car. Dave Lees came with him to manhandle their burden into the hall and onto the stage where Mary and Bob Byrne helped get it upright. It makes such a great backdrop for the band.

Meanwhile Jane Leibert and her helpers untangled the yards and yards of miniature lighting and attached them to the railing around the balcony. They then unrolled the strips of linked St. Andrews flags along the top rail. A truly festive way to personalize this space. After the caterers laid the tables with white tablecloths, Ellie and Catriona MacAuslan set out the fringed squares of tartan cloth, crossed with white ribbon and centered with glass vases holding white sand and blue candles. And you thought I was kidding about details?



George Thomson welcomed arrivals with his bagpipes on the front walk. The greeters this year were Minna DeGaetano and Sarah-Jane Ripa who was recovering from knee surgery and still not allowed to dance. They gave out the handsome name badges made by Ken Way and the ball booklets designed by Catriona.



As everyone had been told, the new parking arrangement for the Town Hall meant that drivers had to bring their tickets inside to be stamped. A special stamping machine in the front hall did the job. But early on, one of our dancers going an errand found his stamped

ticket didn't open the gate. We got in touch with Terry, the building liaison who reached the guard who determined the machine at the parking lot gate wasn't working properly. So he raised the gate and left it open. A possible problem caught early and remedied.

Bill and Roslyn Brault stirred up a delicious punch and made sure the water pitchers stayed full throughout the evening. With two tables loaded with hors d'oeuvres brought by the Windsor and Middletown classes, we were ready for the Highland Ball.

After Dick Baxter read the Selkirk Grace, we had the usual tasty meal by Krause Caterers. Tables were cleared, closed and rolled away. Paul McRanor arrived with his bagpipes as Christopher Anagnostakis, devisor of this year's Grand March, divided us into two groups to enter the ballroom through separate doorways. The Grand March proceeded with some last minute adjustments and we faced the stage to sing the anthems. Don Wills, the MC for the evening, introduced the Ball briefers, Kent Smith, Brian Haeckler, and Mardene Hof, and we were off for a night of wonderful dance.



*photographs by Roslyn Carrier-Brault*

The Music Makars more than lived up to their reputation. Etienne Ozorak, Elizabeth Weiss Ozorak and Nicholas Ozorak were joined by Fred Mamula and Jack Lindberg to play the kind of music that makes it almost impossible to sit still. We're so pleased that they came all the way from Pittsburgh to play for us. The Ball program, devised by Joyce Chase, was a great combination of familiar dances and challenging ones. When the sets completed *The Piper and the Penguin*, for example, people waved their hands to have it played over so they could dance it again. A final waltz and *Auld Lang Syne* ended the evening. After clearing out the decorations, we headed home, only too aware that this was the night the clocks sprang forward for Daylight Saving time.

This year, the Sunday Brunch was held in a new place, the Medical Society building in New Haven having been put up for sale. The American Legion Hall in Madison proved to be a satisfactory alternative. Tables were set for the 90-plus people expected. Coat racks near the entrance held dozens of clothes people contributed to the Dancing Duds sale, collected by Catriona and run by Mardene. Catherine Mahoney and Angela Hill, Brunch chairs, did a great job preparing the meal and as usual, many others pitched in to help. The upright piano that

belonged to the Legion had been tuned for the first time in its history there. The Music Makars arrived to set up their equipment around the fireplace.



One of the Brunch chores

The brunch food walked in and was fully appreciated by all. Then once again, the tables disappeared as if by magic, the floor cleared and Brian Haeckler took over the microphone as MC for the morning to introduce Ken Way who briefed the program he had devised. The selection of dances were lively and fun and even losing an hour's sleep didn't keep people off the floor.



But we did get to dance

Finally by 3:00 pm, the music ended and people packed up their things. Mardene added up over \$300 in Dancing Duds sales, a very successful fundraiser for the Branch. We emptied the trash and swept our way out the door, already thinking about next year. We, the Ball chairs, thank everyone for helping to make this year's Ball weekend a truly great success.

*Lucile Blanchard*

### **Challenge Class I**

We were very pleased to see Kent Smith at Green Street Arts Center to teach the first Challenge Class of the year. It was Monday, March 16, with spring in the air. The 13 dancers did our best to learn *The Best Set in the Hall* which turned out to be the most challenging dance of the evening with its combinations of setting, turning, casting around the person behind you. After a brief rest, Kent continued with the *One o'Clock Canon* for a 4-couple set. This is literally a musical canon for dance, with two distinct parts that manage to blend as the 4-couple set works through them. Like a round (*Row*,

*Row, Row Your Boat*), the top couple starts Part A, moves down the set to dance Part B while the next couple dances Part A. Challenging? Yes. But we did it!

*Alison Rose* was a nice change, a lovely strathspey with an interesting crossover variation on rights and lefts. Kent had planned the class with dances that are not danced regularly, but when he announced *Haddie in the Pan*, several voices said, "I've done that one." Which just shows that over the years most Scottish country dancers get to experience a very broad range of dances.

The evening ended with *Sprig of Ivy*, a happy reel for 4 couples. It was so good to see Kent recovering quickly from his surgery and we hope he will be back to dancing soon.

*Lucile Blanchard*

### **New Haven Class Moves**

As most of you know, the Medical Society building in New Haven where the New Haven class has been held for almost 25 years was sold this spring. Happily, the class found a new dance space at the Whitney Arts Center, 591 Whitney Avenue, 6 blocks north of the old location. It's another Victorian building with hardwood floors, and the New Haven Scottish country dance class is preceded by a ballet class. So clearly the building is meant for dancing. They will be meeting here every Tuesday night at 7:30 pm through May when they move to the Friends Meeting House on East Grand Avenue for the summer schedule.

### **Sad Endings, Hopeful Beginnings**

This past summer the Doctors tired of maintaining their magnificent white elephant, the Medical Association Building in New Haven, and sold it. We had to leave our beloved dance home six months short of what would have been our 25th anniversary there. Painful as this news was, we did everything in our power to leave the place in the style it deserves, and were even able to take little pieces with us.

In accordance with the expressed wishes of the new administration in Washington that there be Inaugural Balls all over the country and with January 20th, our regular dance night, falling on Tuesday, we celebrated the new order. Using the room's beautiful balcony, Brian Haeckler mounted portraits of Washington, Lincoln, and President Obama with a red, white and blue garland. He also provided flag-inspired tablecloth and napkins. I used Scottish dance titles to tell the story (as I see it) of the last several administrations (still available electronically if you're interested). The program grew naturally from this, including *A Touch of Disblair*, *Black Black Oil*, *Liquid Assets*, and *The Twenty-First*. Bob Gregg composed *The Inaugural Ball Jig* for the occasion and Brian Haeckler composed *The Inaugural Ball*, a very challenging 80-bar strathspey for a square set. The evening's finale was a dance that will always (at least in my mind) be known as *Bratach Obama*, John Drewry's exciting reel. The refreshments rose to new heights with Bob

Gregg's caponata, Richard Ives' wines, Paula Yu Pan's elegant finger sandwiches and Ingrid Davis' Liberty popcorn. Several guests came from out of town and everyone dressed elegantly.

From September through February we wondered when we'd be thrown out. Early in March, we learned we had till the end of the month. March had five Tuesdays this year, giving us a bonus class on the 31st. The last Sunday of the month, we held a party for the whole Branch. The program was devised by the teachers. Leslie started off with *Aldebaran*, Bob Gregg's jig, *A Moment for Marilyn* and a reprise of *Bratach Bana*. Peter Price followed with *Mole's Frolic*, *Rose and Woodbine* (aka, *Asilomar Romantic*) and *The Black Craig of Dee*. After break, Christopher Anagnostakis resumed with *The Sailor*, *John McAlpine*, and *The Irish Rover*. Brian concluded with *Luckenbooth Brooch*, *Miss Gibson's Strathspey*, and everyone's favorite closer, *Reel of the Royal Scots*. We presented Richard Platt and George Thomson with gifts in appreciation for their long and uncomplaining service to the group, as well as the invisible but indispensable Laurie Mongillo, who managed the building for the entire 24.5 years. The afternoon ended with a Grand Antimarch. George Thomson piped us into Celtic brooch patterns leading OUT of the hall, upstairs through the balcony, where we got to see offices we'd never seen before, down the stairs and onto the porch.

Of the out-of-town guests, most dramatic were the Adami-Sampson family. Mary Kate Sampson and Michael Adami met at the Doctors', courted there, married there, and brought their first child there on dance evenings for many months before moving to Massachusetts. The whole family returned so their four children could see where it all started. Not many families have such a precise, graphic, and elegant image of their beginning.



*photograph by Brian Haeckler*

Then it was March 31st, our final dance evening. A joint effort between Brian and Leslie, most of the night's dances were composed by present or former members: *More for Four*, a reel for 4 dancers by Jane Lataille; two selections from the original New Haven Collection of 12 Dances – *Purple Heather Jig* by Ted Skeen and *Once I Loved a Maiden Fair* by Marty Briggs; Peter Price's *Dick Morrison's Reel* in memory of another dear friend, and *Dancie Day*, a jig dedicated to our founders, Peter and

Sue Day. We also danced *Sugar Candie* and *Haggis Tree* and ended with *De'il Amang the Tailors*. Our break featured Veuve Cliquot champagne with a lot to toast.

When we learned they were selling off pieces of the Medical Association Building, almost of us bought at least one of those nice wooden chairs. Pat Morrison got a beautiful wingback chair. I got the oak table that the mailman threw mail on every morning; the next time you eat at my house, it will be on that table. Alice Marsh bought wine glasses and some platters which she generously donated to the group, so every week our refreshments will be served on little bit of the old place.

Leaving the Doctors' was, frankly, awful. But the final celebrations revived treasured friendships and memories. We celebrated birthdays there: Peter Price's 40th, Brian Haeckler's and my 50th, Bob Gregg's 90th and 91st! My going away party when I was dragged kicking and screaming to Indiana was there – but then I refused to stay gone. We remembered people we've lost, temporarily or permanently – Dick Morrison, Platt Brightwell, Isobel Voytek and the other "Scottish Ladies," Geoff and Pat Walshe, and the wonderful dance Pat gave in Geoff's memory there, Ralph Stevens, who was the only person to have attended every single New Haven Ball before he moved to Florida. Also, Kippy Liebler, the Adami-Sampsons, Jane Lataille, Brian Phillips, Mary Mac Thompson, Christine Tattersall, too many to mention; our beloved teachers, Bob Frew, Ellen Warren Faller, and the incomparable Peter and Sue Day.

We were reminded how hard we worked to learn this lovely art form and how many laughs we had in the process. This place was truly a welcoming home where everyone could find us. Ironically, it was on the old rotary dial phone in the Doctors' hallway where I learned that my bid on the house I now live in had been accepted. When I moved, I knew I wanted to stay in this house forever. I wanted the same for my dance home. As Brian reminds us, we were lucky to have it for this long. So many good things began and grew and flourished there. Our days of dancing at the Doctors' have come to an end, but we'll make sure those things never do.

*Leslie Kearney*



Who's the red-haired man? See \*

### **Challenge Class II**

Chris Ronald came from New Jersey on Monday, April 6th to teach the second Challenge Class of the year at Green Street Arts Center. Working with two three-

couple sets, he began with two of his own dances, *Trip to Fanwood* and *Green Street*, a strathspey he devised last year in honor of our dance place. These were lovely and we did pretty well, so he started us on *Mrs. Stuart Linnell*, a 40-bar reel and that was indeed a challenge. However, we mastered the half reels of 4 and turning the end people in, then changing positions pretty well. So he tried us with *Stooges' Salute*, a 120-bar medley for a 4-couple square set. Chris and his wife Sue had devised this dance in honor of the stooges at the TAC summer school. It contains the Schiehallion Reel which looks like a tangle of spaghetti but dances quite well. The class ended with *Immigrant Lass*, a 4-couple set reel that contains some fugue figures. Everyone was quite pleased with themselves and all hope that Chris will teach another Challenge Class next year.

*Lucile Blanchard*

### **Kilts & Ghillies Ball**

On April 25th we held the 21st Annual Kilts and Ghillies Spring Dance. Since our traditional day coincides with NEFFA, the attendance was down, but otherwise everything went well. People enjoyed the music of the Mary Morrison Trio, and the catering by Michael Ries, supplemented by hors d'oeuvres and desserts brought in by the Woodbridge and Kilts & Ghillies classes.

A welcome addition were several teachers who attended a teachers' workshop, arranged by Barbara Austen, in the same hall during the day. An unwelcome feature was the unprecedented heat, which had us drooping by the second half! Next year's dance has tentatively been set for April 17th, a week earlier, so we don't conflict with NEFFA or The Boston Ball. Thank you to all who have been supportive and encouraged us to continue this event.

*Donna Ives*

### **Teachers' Workshop**

A teachers' workshop was held prior to the Kilts & Ghillies Ball on Saturday, April 25. Fourteen teachers and dancers who are considering or are already doing some teaching attended. They included local teachers as well as people from New York and New Jersey.

The workshop leader was Jenny Beer from Philadelphia who teaches both English and Scottish Country Dance and provided a lively, thought-provoking and entertaining day. The first exercise was to describe the implied "contract" between teachers and dancers. For example, students expect the teachers to teach technique, figures and dances, to be well prepared, and to instill confidence in the class. The dancers expect to learn, are willing to work, and don't interrupt the teacher (unless the teacher doesn't mind being reminded of a missing 2 bars, etc.). One of our first discussions was examining how each of us learns a dance – verbal cues, creating a map, having to walk the dance, or watching others. It is something all teachers usually are aware of, but it never

hurts to have it reinforced.

In the RSCDS, there is a strong classroom model where the teacher is in charge. Jenny challenged us to think about how to enable the class members to "own" the class through annual reviews in which dancers are asked what worked this year, what would you like to learn or focus on next year, and to engage in participatory learning. Of all of her suggestions, this one may be the hardest and yet the most fun to implement. One example is to teach a dance, and then let the sets brief the dance to themselves in groups of four. When they are ready, start the music! Another is to teach or demonstrate a figure or technique, then let the class work on that figure or technique, without teacher interference, until the class feels it has it mastered.

Finally, we discussed how, in RSCDS, we as teachers are trained to look for what goes wrong in a dance. (It is how the teaching exam is structured.) Jenny's suggestion was to leave off value judgments. Instead of saying "good recovery" or "nice phrasing," figure out exactly what happened and why, without using blame, and let the class figure out how to fix or even how to repeat it. In other words, "good recovery" is not a learning experience.

The workshop was an excellent mix of discussion and dancing, and we used our own dancing as part of the learning experience – it was not just dancing for dancing sake. The Branch plans on making this a regular event, once every two years to complement the workshop run by the New York Branch.

*Barbara Austen*

### **RSCDS Dancer Named Olympic Torchbearer**

David Grant, who pledged to continue his life-long dedication to Canada and his community by volunteering and giving freely of his time and talents, is RBC's first Ontario Torchbearer. "It is exciting to be part of something so extraordinary as the Olympic Torch Relay and I want to thank RBC for this opportunity."



Grant served in World War II for the Royal Canadian Air Force and on his return wanted to make sure that others would see the positive side of human nature. Through Canada's Department of Veterans Affairs, Grant studied at the University of Toronto to become a lawyer. He has also volunteered his time as an executive for the Junior Board of Trade, the United Way, the Boys and

Girls Clubs of Canada and the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. At 86 years of age, Grant continues to actively participate in Scottish dancing groups across Toronto.

The Olympic Flame is lit in a traditional ceremony in Olympia, Greece, and will then be transported to Canada. The 2010 Olympic Torch Relay will begin its cross-Canada journey from Victoria, British Columbia, on October 30, 2009, and will travel from coast to coast through every province and territory - spanning 45,000 kilometres and 1,000 communities over 100 days. It will end in Vancouver, on Feb. 12, 2010, with the lighting of the Olympic Cauldron, signaling the start of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

*from a news report*

### **Tartan Day, New York**

On Saturday, April 4th, a group of people, mostly dancers from the New Haven Branch, took a bus to New York City where they were signed up to participate in the official Tartan Day parade. Arriving before noon, the 35 people scattered into the city, visiting museums and stores, buying lunch, then coming together at 1:30 to prepare to watch or march.



The New Haven Branch was given a spot at the very end of the parade, behind the dozens of pipe bands, the clusters of people showing off their Scottish and West Highland terriers, the members of St. Andrews and other Celtic societies, and clan groups.



It was heartening to walk along the streets around 44th, 45th and 46th and hear so many pipers rehearsing, to see so many men in kilts, women with tartan clothing of all kinds, some even wearing the Scottish flag, the white cross on blue, as a shawl. Scotland lives!

Finally we got into line to march up 6th Avenue, parading straight up the canyon between the skyscrapers. We were surprised to find such crowds on the sidewalk behind the barriers the police had set out – raising their arms, cheering, waving Scottish flags. With all the pipe bands ahead of us, we were lucky to have our own George Thompson playing his bagpipes, and as we progressed, some of our couples danced the *Gay Gordons* along with the music. When George took a break, Peter Leibert then filled in with his squeeze box, keeping us moving to music.

Six Highland dancers from the New York Celtic Dancers in costume, carrying swords and wearing ghillies were just ahead of us. They had two pipers and when we neared the end of the parade where a kind of reviewing stand had been set up, the announcer introduced them. We stopped to watch along with the crowd as they performed the beautiful Sword Dance. Oh, for young legs like those.

Then the announcer turned to us. Oops. A quick gathering of three couples with George's pipes playing and they performed a rough version of *De'il Amang the Tailors*. Marching another block, we faced Central Park. Once our banners were folded up, we scattered, some going into the Park which was on the verge of spring with daffodils and forsythia making bright spots of color. Finding ourselves near the carousel, several dancers even took a ride.

We had arranged to meet for supper at the St. Andrews Restaurant and Bar on 46th Street which advertises itself as the only Scottish restaurant in New York City. It was mobbed, but after refreshing ourselves at the bar, we took the room they prepared and had a delicious pub supper. Even better, our bus pulled up outside at the right time and we were heading home with the greatest of ease.

Ev Munro came up with the idea of hiring a bus as a fundraising event. We didn't fill the bus, although we did end up with some funds for the Branch. Catriona MacAuslan made the meal arrangements with the restaurant. Both of them deserve our deepest thanks for a very special adventure in New York.

*Lucile Blanchard*

## Dance Books for Sale

At the AGM, we were reminded that the Branch has a carton of dance books that were printed up to sell. The New Haven book costs \$5; the Nutmeg Collection, \$6; both sold together are \$10. If you're interested, get in touch with a Board member.

\* The red-haired man is Everett Munro who dances with Mystic and Middletown classes. Facing his 70th birthday, he decided on one last fling in honor of his passing youth and dyed his hair. The shade is raspberry.

**Minutes of the New Haven Branch Board** meetings are available to all Branch members. If you want a copy, let Barbara Garton know ([barbaragarton@earthlink.com](mailto:barbaragarton@earthlink.com)).

\*\*\*\*\*

### RSCDS New Haven Branch Officers:

President	Catriona MacAuslan (203) 421-4060
Vice President	Peter Leibert (860) 887-9184
Secretary	Barbara Garton (860) 871-0321
Treasurer	Richard Ives (203) 393-3713
Branch Class	Leslie Kearney (203) 281-6591
Teacher Comm.	Barbara Austen (203) 630-9749
Intergroup	Don Wills (860) 536-1981
At Large	Joyce Chase (203) 238-0694 Steve Rice (203) 630-9749 Catherine Mahoney (203) 879-6000 Sarah-Jane Ripa (646) 523-0868 Nina Stein (203) 757-2539 Marge Wills (860) 536-1981
Membership	Ed Davis (203) 264-087
Web Master	David Keller <a href="mailto:david.keller@janussystems.com">david.keller@janussystems.com</a>
Newsletter	Lucile Blanchard (860) 347-0278 <a href="mailto:lblanchard@wesleyan.edu">lblanchard@wesleyan.edu</a>

### **Editor's Note**

Deadline for the next newsletter is **August 15** for publication by the end of the month. I will welcome all of your stories or reports, and particularly all calendar listings. My home address is 1061 Millbrook Road, Middletown, CT 06457.

The internet address for the New Haven Branch web site is: [www.rscdsnewhaven.org](http://www.rscdsnewhaven.org)

Note to Readers: If you would rather receive *Reel Time* by e-mail, please send an e-mail message to me so that I will have your preferred address