

# Reel Time

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

Winter 2015

## Class Schedules

*Greater Hartford Scottish Country Dance Class*  
Grace Episcopal Church on the Green, 311 Broad St.,  
Windsor CT. Tuesday 7:00 to 9:30 pm. Contact Barbara  
Austen 203-630-9749 or Karen Pestana 860-298-8311.  
Dancing resumes on September 9, 2014.

*Middletown Scottish Country Dancers* First Church of  
Christ Congregational, 190 Court Street, Middletown  
CT. Wednesday 7:00 to 9:30 pm. Contact Lucile  
Blanchard 860-347-0278 or Barbara Link 860-345-  
8925. Dancing resumes on Wednesday, September 3 at  
7:00 PM>

*Wilton Country Dancers* Millennium School of Irish  
Dance, Top Floor, 9 Ethan Allen Highway [Route 7]  
Wilton, Connecticut. Between Keogh's Hardware and  
Dunkin' Donuts North of Routes 57 and 107, South of  
Route 1102. \$5.00 for adults and \$2.00 for dancers 21  
and under. Contact Sandra Bethray 203-322-8341 or  
Angela Montague 203-762-9892.

*Mystic Scottish Country Dancers* St. Andrew  
Presbyterian Church, 310 Fort Hill Road, Groton CT.  
Friday 7:00 to 9:30 pm. Beginners, 7-8 pm;  
Intermediates, 8:15-9:30 pm. No charge for classes.  
Contact Ruth Walsh 860-536-6265 or Linda Scent 860-  
464-9081. Classes resume September 5, 2014.

*New Haven Branch Scottish Country Dance Class*  
Whitney Arts Center, 591 Whitney Ave., New Haven  
CT. Tuesday 7:45 to 10:00 pm. Contact Leslie Kearney  
203-281-6591 or [newhavenscottish@gmail.com](mailto:newhavenscottish@gmail.com).  
New Haven Class begins Sept 9, 2014.

*Peter Price's Class* Fourth Monday of the month class,  
New Haven Friends Meeting House, 225 East Grand  
Ave., New Haven. From 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Note: This  
class will only take place if there are 8 dancers who have  
confirmed with Peter that they are coming. Contact  
Peter Price 203-675-9587 or  
[Peter.price1672@gmail.com](mailto:Peter.price1672@gmail.com)

*Summer Dancing in New Haven*  
Tuesdays, June 24 - August 26, 2014. New Haven  
Friends Meeting House, 225 East Grand Ave., New  
Haven. From 7:30 to 9:30 pm  
Contact Leslie Kearney 203-281-6591 or  
[newhavenscottish@gmail.com](mailto:newhavenscottish@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Events

### New Haven Highland Ball Workshop

Saturday, February 21 2015 2-5 PM. First Church of  
Christ Congregational, 190 Court Street,  
Middletown, CT 06457.  
Teacher – Ken Way

### New Haven Branch Highland Ball –

Saturday, March 7, 2015, 5:00 pm to midnight. West  
Hartford Town Hall Auditorium, 50 South Main Street,  
West Hartford, CT 06107. Music by Saucy Bess.  
Applications are available on the New Haven Branch  
website at [www.nhrscds.com](http://www.nhrscds.com). Please send in your  
reservations as soon as possible. The fee is \$70 for the  
ball and brunch if you register before February 23<sup>rd</sup>.  
After February 23<sup>rd</sup>, the fee will be \$75.

### Sunday Ball Brunch -

Sunday, March 8, 11:00 AM at the High Lane Club, 40  
High Lane, North Haven, CT for brunch and dancing.  
We will again be holding the "Dancing Duds" sale at the  
brunch, so please bring any gently used clothing to sell  
as this is a major fund raiser for the branch. New Haven  
Branch dancers, please bring a pot luck dish to the  
brunch if you are attending.

### Kilts and Ghillies Tea Dance

Saturday, April 11 3 PM to 7 PM.  
South Britain Congregational Church,  
693 S Britain Rd,  
Southbury, CT 06488

### Boston Highland Ball

The year 2015 marks the 59th anniversary of the RSCDS  
Boston Branch Highland Ball.  
The Welcome Dance is Friday, April 17, 2015 8:00 PM  
at the First Parish Church, 349 Boston Post Road,  
Weston, MA.

Check <http://www.intercityscot.org> for similar events

Take a look at the New Haven Branch website:  
[www.rscdsnewhaven.org](http://www.rscdsnewhaven.org)

Things are pretty quiet in the winter season (especially this one) but there are always die hards out there to keep things going.

### **It Has Been A Bleak Cold Winter**

No one can deny that this has been a cold, bleak winter (and there is more to come...). Nevertheless the Mystic Scottish Dancers managed to have a Robert Burns Supper on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> in Norwich, Connecticut.

There was plenty of snow coming down in the days before the scheduled Burns Supper. Nevertheless the Mystic Scottish Country Dancers practiced dancing on the Friday before the Burns Supper and set up for the event on Saturday, the 7<sup>th</sup> of February. There was a lot of anxiety in preparation of the event with the weather being so unpredictable. Nevertheless the Burns Supper ran as schedules.

In the words of Ruth Walsh.....

We made it!!! Despite the fact that there were illnesses within our ranks and in our families.....Burns Night 2015 was a smash hit and everyone had a wonderful time! !!!

THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE IT HAPPEN!!! Thanks for the outstanding raffle baskets and "nearly new" frocks that went like hot cakes. The "put-ter uppers.....and the take'er downers worked magnificently.....everyone smiled - everyone danced.....and we did indeed had a superb time of it...

The musicians - dancers - pipers - drummers - speakers -hosts and hostesses - ticket and reservation personnel and ALL participants did their outstanding best.....and words fail as we try to extend thanks to you all. It was indeed a Night to Remember.....and you made it so!!! I know some of our "family" had health issues.....Even so.....no one would have known that there were any problems - others "stepped in" to assist - smiles abounded.....and we had a ball!!!

I was mighty proud of Annabella when she toasted the Queen.....and was clear as a bell in her presentation!!! CHEERS!!

It was a fine evening....and just needed to tell each one of us YOU ARE THE GREATEST!!!

Thanks...my love.... Ruth

The following are a series of photos taken by Lucille Blanchard and I am very grateful for her efforts... I spent most of the evening running around trying to stay on schedule.



'Left foot, right foot.... So far so good...'



Hey... how come they get to dance on the carpet?



Check out the slick moves in 'Mairi's Wedding'





‘Ahhhh.... the sweet melody of bag pipes’



Ahhh.... Dinner is on the way.



‘Hey! Check me out! I am on a roll!’



How in the world do they manage to float like that?



Smile.... It is almost time to eat.

### **What It Takes To Be An RSCDS Teacher**

Few people realize how much work goes into become a RSCDS teacher 3 members of the New Haven Branch George Thomson, Sandra Bethray ( in the picture ) are currently training to become certified .



Peter Price is continuing his training. All three recently spent a week end on retreat in Cromwell on the Hudson for some intense training. They will be testing in May. The classes are being sponsored by the New Jersey Branch with candidates from Connecticut, New Jersey , New York , and Pennsylvania. Sue and Chris Ronald Are running the classes.

*Catherine Mahoney*

### **RSCDS New Haven Has a New Website**

The New Haven branch of the RSCDS has a new website located at <http://www.rscdsnewhaven.org/> The website has (hopefully) all the information that you need to keep up to date on what is going on.

The website is very easy to use and contains links to just about anything that you need to know and expect to see on a website (Pictures, Forms, Event schedules, Newsletters, Contacts...). This website is an excellent tool for keeping track of what is going on and you can subscribe to BLOGs via email. If you don't how everything works on the website just grab the nearest Computer Geek and you are in business.



This paving stone was donated by the Branch to the Culloden Battlefield Visitor's Center as a contribution to the improvements. It can be found in the walkway leading from the car park

*Karen Pestana*

**Minutes of the New Haven Branch Board** meetings are available to all Branch members. If you want a copy, let Susan Leff know ([etdavis4@netzero.net](mailto:etdavis4@netzero.net)).

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The internet address for the New Haven Branch web site is: <http://www.rscdsnewhaven.org>

**RSCDS New Haven Branch Officers:**

President	Catherine Mahoney 203-879-6000
Vice President	Stephen Rice 203-630-9749
Secretary, rec	Susan Leff 203-264-0870
Secretary, cor.	Karen Pestana 860-298-8311
Treasurer	Catriona MacAuslan 203-421-4060
Branch Class	Leslie Kearney 203-281-6591
Intergroup	Everett Munro 860-501-0649
At Large	Mary Byrnie 860-635-4056
	Alice Hencir 203-245-7051
	Peter Leibert 860-887-9184
	Judy Locker (860) 688-8037
	Elizabeth Muir 860-345-8403
	Karen Pestana 860-298-8311
	Nina Stein 203-757-2539
	Marge Wills 860-536-1981
Membership	Ed Davis 203-264-0870
Newsletter	David Lees 860-715-3261

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**Editor's Note**

Deadline for the next newsletter is **Nov15** for Publication of the document by the end of the month. The editor will welcome all of your reports, and particularly all calendar listings. David Lees' email is [david.g.lees@pfizer.com](mailto:david.g.lees@pfizer.com) or [dglees@comcast.net](mailto:dglees@comcast.net)

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