

# RSCDS SET & LINK

TORONTO ASSOCIATION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2005



## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

The 2005 Workshop was a great success thanks to the contributions made by this year's teachers, musicians and, of course, the efforts of your hard working Workshop Committee. It was a delightful day and just wonderful to see so many youth in attendance at both the Workshop and the Monthly dance which followed. I hope that they, and you, will join us again for the December Monthly Dance which is always a marvellous "Family Night" event.

The Department stores have already started stocking their shelves with Christmas goods and several of my neighbours have already turned on their Christmas lights, so it is obvious that we are heading for the "Ho! Ho! Ho!" season. Strange but it seems like only a few days ago that we were in the "Hoe! Hoe! Hoe!" season!

We have classes at Broadlands every Sunday and many of the Social Groups are actively selling tickets for their Christmas Dances. There will certainly be no shortage of events to attend over the next month. We hope that you will join in the fun and support these activities.

I am delighted to inform you that John Christie has accepted our invitation to be the Guest of Honour at the 2006 Tartan Ball, at which time he will be presented with his well deserved Scroll of Honour.

Last month we published an advance notice of a General Meeting of the members to be held at the January 14th, 2006 Monthly Dance. The purpose of this meeting is detailed on page two of this issue of your newsletter. I look forward to seeing you all there.

## Youth and Children are alive and well in the RSCDS Toronto Association

By Keith R Bark and Deirdre MacCuish Bark

Although numbers fluctuate from year to year and group to group, Toronto Association has a very good representation of Youth and Children who dance regularly at classes and events during the dancing season. There are currently five locations that offer classes for Youth and Children – Newtonbrook, Rosedale, Weston, Whigmaleeries (Mississauga), and Woodglen. Some offer a single class for all age groups; others offer separate classes for different age groups. There are also a number of youth who cannot find time to attend one of the above classes and instead attend local adult classes.

A few years ago, the then convenor of Youth Activities for the Society, Fiona Turnbull, was in Toronto and led a special workshop for all our youth and children. The workshop included both dance instruction and opportunities for dancers and teachers of the classes to discuss and offer their opinions on how Toronto could better serve our young people. As a result of that, the first **Youth Ball** was held at Newtonbrook last May. It was a huge success with 47 young people attending, not only from our own association but also from other areas such as Peterborough and Buffalo. The youth who attended wanted a repeat performance resulting in the next Youth Ball being arranged for May 6, 2006.

We have continued the tradition of having dance **Workshops** for our young dancers. Each year, two of the classes volunteer to act as host locations and guest teachers are invited together with children from other groups.

Another annual event is the **Children's Festival**, usually held in the early spring. All children's classes are invited to attend and demonstrate, by age group, a dance that they have learned. The teams are then given feedback on how they have performed. Teams can win shields and cups for such things as teamwork, music appreciation, and technique. The next Festival will be on April 8, 2006. We invite everyone to come and support the future dancers of our Society.

Children and Youth are also encouraged to attend two monthly dances. **Family Night** in December, features dances from the children's books or other dances which they may be familiar with from class. The March monthly dance, **Beginner's Night**, is geared to newer dancers or those who enjoy an easier program. Children and youth are most welcome and the admission to these two dances for those under 18 is free!

The **Toronto Association Fall Workshop** also encourages youth to attend either the basic or intermediate class to learn more technique and improve their dancing. A special rate of only \$25 includes the workshop and lunch.

**Dancing in the Park** is a great way for young people to dance together with adults in the splendid setting of Edwards Gardens during the month of June. Most of the programs have familiar dances and many of our children's groups demonstrate their dancing during the band's interval.

Contact any teacher for more information or check [www.rscdstoronto.org](http://www.rscdstoronto.org).

## January Monthly Dance

**Date:** Saturday, January 14, 2006  
**Time:** 8:00 pm - 10:30 pm  
**Place:** Crescent School  
 2365 Bayview Ave  
**Music:** Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent  
**Hosts:** Glenview, Newtonbrook, Midtown

*Please note that Crescent School has a no-nut policy*

The Frisky	J 8x32*	Bk 26-10
Speed the Plough	R 8x32	Bk 2-4
The Silver City	S 8x32*	Silver City
The Happy Meeting	J 8x32	Bk 29-9
The Lea Rig	S 6x32	Bk 21-5
Burn's Hornpipe	R 4x32	Bk 27-4
<b>INTERVAL</b>		
The Wild Geese	J 8x32*	Bk 24-3
Corn Rigs	R 6x32	Bk 4-12
My Friend Joe	S 8x32*	Bk 38-2
Old Nick's Lumber Room	J 8x32	Bk 26-6
Auld Lang Syne	S 8x32	Bk 27-12
Reel of the 51st Division	R 8x32	Bk 13-10
<b>EXTRAS</b>		
Maxwell's Rant	R 8x32	Bk 18-10
Hooper's Jig	J 8x32	MMM2-12

\* Tartan Ball dances

## THE RSCDS TORONTO ASSOCIATION SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

**Address:** Crescent School  
 2365 Bayview Ave  
 Toronto

**Date:** January 14, 2006  
**Time:** Interval, January  
 Monthly Dance

**Location:** Cafeteria

This meeting has been called for the following purpose \*

1. Due to an unexpected vacancy occurring on the Board it is necessary to fill the following vacant positions through an election.

1.1 Vice Chair \*\*

1.2 Membership Director \*\*

2. Submission of a motion to amend the Procedures Manual.

To add the following to section 6.12 The Nominations Committee

"c) is responsible for making recommendations to fill any position[s] vacated during the term of office."

\* In accordance with section 5.2.2 in the Procedures Manual, only the two matters specified will be considered at this Special General Meeting.

\*\* The Board has appointed an interim Vice Chair & interim Membership Director in accordance with Section 3.3 By-Law No. 1.

Any member wishing to apply for these positions should do so by contacting our Secretary, Brenda Hurst 416 925 6982 [brenhurst@hotmail.com], prior to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005.

In addition to being prepared to assume the duties specified in the Job Descriptions detailed in the Operations Manual, applicants must meet the following criteria.

VICE CHAIR: Fully paid Member RSCDS Toronto Association & must have previously been a member of the Board or former Executive.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR: Fully paid Member RSCDS Toronto Association

## Thank You Irene

Irene Southwell, to those of us who attend Monthly Dances, is our "Lady in the kitchen". Irene, due to health reasons and on the advice of her doctor, is retiring after the December Monthly Dance. Irene took on the task of kitchen duties for the Toronto Branch to help out an elderly lady and the following year, as this lady did not return, Irene willingly accepted these responsibilities. Now in the thirty-third year, we still see Irene preparing the tea and coffee, and quietly and cheerfully carrying out all the other tasks involved for our refreshment break.

There was a time when Irene prepared between fifteen and twenty loaves of sandwiches prior to the dance, and in the days when the Branch did not own coffee urns, the tea and coffee were prepared in very large stock pots (stirring frequently). Irene also stored and kept well

maintained the urns, jugs and all supplies that were required.

Irene has worked with many of us throughout the years and has a wealth of stories associated with the different venues we have used. Jan has been assisting Irene for some twenty years and we are pleased that she will continue to help us at our Monthly Dances.

We wish Irene a happy and well-deserved retirement, and will welcome her as a visitor at any of our future functions.

Thank you, Irene, for your dedication to the Toronto Branch and the Association. We greatly appreciate all your efforts to enhance the sociability of our evenings, and we shall miss your friendly presence as we sit and enjoy our respite in a period of energetic activity at "the Monthlies".

~ Submitted by Gordon Hamilton

# Upcoming Events

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DECEMBER 9, 2005, 8:00 p.m., The Erin Mills Group's Christmas Dance at Cooksville United Church, Mississauga. Music by Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent. For tickets at \$18.00 each (includes light refreshments), contact the Hamiltons at 905-566-9599.

DECEMBER 10, 2005, St. Catharines Christmas Dance with Bobby Brown. Contact Jere Brubaker [brubakerjp1@aol.com](mailto:brubakerjp1@aol.com).

DECEMBER 12, 2005, Scarborough Scottish Country Dancers dinner dance at Q-Ssis Place, 3474 Kingston Road. Music by Fred Moyes. Cost \$39.00. For tickets call Margaret 416-283-4790.

DECEMBER 14, 2005, St. Andrew's of Brampton's Christmas Dance at Central Public School, Alexander St., Brampton. Cost is \$5 and programme TBA. Contact Ann Campbell 905-459-5213; [acampbell@idirect.com](mailto:acampbell@idirect.com).

DECEMBER 31, 2005, Erin Mills Hogmanay Ball 2005, Clarke Hall, Lakeshore and Mississauga Rd, Mississauga. \$65 per person. Contact Keith or Deirdre Bark 905-822-1707; [barkk@rogers.com](mailto:barkk@rogers.com).

JANUARY 9, 2006, 6:45 - 7:45 p.m., St. Clement's new Monday night beginner class. General class to follow until 9:00 p.m. Teacher is Teresa Kowalczyk. Series of 6 classes cost \$42. Contact Grace Harris 416-431-9653; [grace\\_colin50@hotmail.com](mailto:grace_colin50@hotmail.com).

JANUARY 20, 2006, 8:00 p.m. Erin Mills Burns' Social at Cooksville United Church. Music by "The Reel Thing" (a.k.a Jim Darge and Gordon D. S. Hamilton). Tickets at \$15.00 will include haggis, neeps and tatties. Contact the Hamiltons at 905-566-9599.

JANUARY 28, 2006, Highlands of Durham SCD's Burns Supper and Dance at Scugog Community & Recreation Centre, Reach Street, Port Perry. Contact Marjorie Mason 905-649-3532; [mmason@bellnet.ca](mailto:mmason@bellnet.ca) or Stewart Bennett 905-985-6573 or [tartanshop@on.aibn.com](mailto:tartanshop@on.aibn.com)

FEBRUARY 11, 2006, St. Catharines Valentines Dance with Fred Moyes. Contact Jere Brubaker [brubakerjp1@aol.com](mailto:brubakerjp1@aol.com).

FEBRUARY 25, 2006, The Oakville Scottish Country Dance Group's 50th Anniversary Ball at Le Dome in Oakville. Music by Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent. Contact Liz

Walton 905-338-0798; [mjewalton@sprint.ca](mailto:mjewalton@sprint.ca).

MARCH 3-5, 2006, Belleville Scottish Country Dancers 22nd Annual Workshop and Ball. Teachers are Jim Ray, Lockerbie, Scotland and Jean Noble, Toronto. Music by Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent. Contact Bill and Jan Cunningham, 613-965-4212 or Mike McCarey, 613-967-1827.

MARCH 24 - 26, 2006, Vanisle 30th Anniversary Weekend and Ball, Victoria. Teachers are Mary Murray, Vancouver, BC; David Queen, England; Gary Thomas, Santa Rosa, CA. Music by Muriel Johnston and Keith Smith. Registration forms available in January at [www.viscds.ca](http://www.viscds.ca). Contact Rosemary Balfour 250-598-6456; [rpbalfour@shaw.ca](mailto:rpbalfour@shaw.ca) or Janet Rice [gjustice@shaw.ca](mailto:gjustice@shaw.ca).

APRIL 8, 2006, Toronto Association Children's Festival.

MAY 6, 2006, Toronto Association Youth Ball, Newtonbrook United Church.

MAY 13, 2006, The Thistle Ball in Victoria, BC. Contact Kathryn Taylor 250-598-3490; [kathryntaylorthomson@shaw.ca](mailto:kathryntaylorthomson@shaw.ca)

MAY 26-28, 2006, 4th Annual Youth Weekend West in Victoria, BC. A weekend of Scottish Country Dancing for youth and families. Contact Brenda Hurst [brenhurst@hotmail.com](mailto:brenhurst@hotmail.com) or [tubafrank@yahoo.com](mailto:tubafrank@yahoo.com) or visit [www.youthweekendwest.com](http://www.youthweekendwest.com)

July 16 - August 13, 2006, RSCDS Summer School at University Hall, Kennedy Gardens, St. Andrews, Scotland. There is a range of scholarships available. Scholarship application forms are available from Brenda Hurst [brenhurst@hotmail.com](mailto:brenhurst@hotmail.com) or by the Society's Bulletin or [www.rscds.org](http://www.rscds.org).

## RSCDS Dance Books

Wishing you could look up dance instructions? The Toronto Association has the RSCDS books available for purchase. Complete your set! Contact Jane Robinson 416-463-5016; [janer1@sympatico.ca](mailto:janer1@sympatico.ca).

## Tartan Ball 2006

Not only is Christmas fast approaching, so is the 2006 Tartan Ball! It seems like February is a long way off and I have lots of time to get everything in place for the big night, but time is just flying by. So much to do, so little time.

Why not take a moment to send in your ticket application? Perhaps you could slip a ticket in that special someone's Christmas stocking this year.

The 2006 Tartan Ball will be held on Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at the Fairmont Royal York. Ticket prices are \$91.00 for members and \$107.00 for non-members. Application forms are available on the web site.

As in previous years, Georgina Finlay will be holding practices at Weston Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, February 8 and Wednesday, February 15, 2006.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

~Sandra Scott, Convenor  
[setandlink@hotmail.com](mailto:setandlink@hotmail.com)

## Volunteer News

Last June, the Volunteer Committee announced its intent to initiate a Volunteer Recognition Plan. With approval of the Board of Directors, we are now kicking off that Plan.

Each Social Group in the GTA, plus the Toronto Board, will be asked to nominate individuals who deserve recognition. Nominees are to have been volunteering over the past five years, actively supporting both the dance and the music of Scottish Country Dancing.

Once nominations are received, the Volunteer Committee will refine the list so that the Board can approve the top five. Award presentations will be made at the Association's Annual Meeting next April.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization, driving the success of our many activities. We are delighted to help recognize these key individuals through our first annual Volunteer Recognition Plan.

~The Volunteer Committee

# Upcoming Association Classes

Starting in January, Jean Noble, tutor, will be teaching a Level IV Advanced class on Sunday afternoons, based on a solid knowledge of formations and good footwork. Dancers for this class will be expected to have progressed from Level 1 and completed Level 2, and should be competent in the following formations:

1. Allemande (for three and four couples)
2. Promenade (for two and four couples)
3. Promenade for two or three couples followed by cast off for first couple
4. Petronella setting (in strathspey, reel and jig)
5. Ladies' chain: half ladies' chain
6. Set to corners
7. Set to and turn corners
8. Set to corners and partner
9. Double figures of eight
10. Double triangles
11. Half reels of three: half reels of four
12. Six bar reels of three with correct entries and from all positions
13. Diagonal reels of four: half diagonal reels of four
14. Poussette right round (strathspey): half poussette (strathspey)
15. The knot (for two or three couples)
16. The rondel
17. Corners chain
18. Four hands across (3 bars) back (3 bars) cast off (two bars)
19. Grand chain (3 couples)
20. Set and link

Members of the Teacher's Panel will adjudicate at the first class to determine eligibility for the Advanced class. Three dances - a reel, strathspey and jig - will be briefed and each one walked through once. The dances will include some of the formations listed above.

The class will be held at Broadlands Community Centre, 19 Castlegrove Ave., beginning Sunday, January 29, 2006 from 2-4 p.m. for 10 weeks.

We are very pleased that Carole Skinner has agreed to teach our third Level 1 class for new and inexperienced dancers at St. Leonard's Church at Yonge and Lawrence. This new location will enable us to better serve current and potential dancers in North Toronto.

## Winter Association Classes Schedule

Time of all classes (except Advanced) is 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. All classes (including Advanced) cost \$80.25 (including GST) and run for 10 weeks. Enrolment is ongoing and will be accepted after the start date.

At Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth Ave., 2 minutes from Chester station

LEVEL 1: Teacher Lorna Larmour, starting Thursday, January 12.

LEVEL 2: Teacher Kathleen Kynoch, starting Thursday, January 12

At Swansea Town Hall, 95 Lavinia Ave., 7 minute walk from Runnymede station

LEVEL 1: Teacher David Booz, starting Wednesday, January 11

LEVEL 3: Teachers Deirdre and Keith Bark, starting Thursday, January 12

At St. Leonard's Anglican Church, 25 Wanless Ave., just north of Lawrence station

LEVEL 1: Teacher Carole Skinner, starting Monday, January 16.

At Broadlands Community Centre, 19 Castlegrove

ADVANCED: Teacher Jean Noble, starting Sunday, January 29, from 2-4 p.m.

For information on all classes, please contact Carole Bell at 416-221-1201; carolewbell@sympatico.ca



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## 2005-2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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dcouttsca@hotmail.com

## don't forget...

•Deadline for January Newsletter is December 16<sup>th</sup>, the January Issue will be mailed after the holidays.

•Monthly Dance December 10<sup>th</sup>

### EDITOR'S NOTES...

Nollaig Chridheil  
agus Bliadhna Mhath Ur !

It is with sadness that we note the passing of the following:  
Miss Muriel Gibson, former Secretary of the Society and Honorary Vice President  
Ian Cameron, member of Glenview and Calvin social groups  
Julie Stephen, member of the Toronto Association and wife of Jimmie Stephen, former member of the executive.  
We extend our condolences to their families and friends.