

From the Chair

Early in November, ten Toronto Association members attended the Society's AGM in Aberdeen, Scotland. We cheered as Carol Skinner was presented with the Society's highest award of recognition, the Scroll



Margaret Rieger

of Honour, by Dr. Alistair MacFadyen, President of RSCDS. Keith Bark was elected for a two-year term to the Membership Services Committee, one of the key committees of the Society. At the Teachers' Association Conference, Deirdre MacCuish Bark presented an overview of the teacher examination process in North America and at TAC. Both continue to contribute to the wider Society affairs as Toronto members. Throughout this sunny weekend, at the meetings, in the classes, at the dance and Ball, we were all made welcome and felt very much part of the global community of Scottish country dancing as we met old friends and made new ones.

At home, we have had a busy November. The Workshop and Monthly Dance were well received and attended, thanks to the efforts of the covenors and their committees. Woodglen and Fallingbrook social groups sponsored a challenging pre-workshop evening with Mervyn Short, our workshop teacher from England. Social Groups are in full swing.

Santa Claus has arrived in Toronto. The Christmas season is upon us with its Christmas dances and Hogmanay Ceilidhs. Our Family Night dance is always a highlight of the dancing year. Bring a friend along on December 8 at 7:30 p.m. to Crescent School to share the fun of this evening and to be introduced to the fun and friendship of Scottish country dancing.

Along with our wishes of joy and good cheer with friends and family this Christmas season, Heinz and I thank everyone from this special community for their overwhelming outpouring of support as I recuperate from my 'mis-step'. Your concern and friendship are greatly appreciated.

Here's to a New Year of health, happiness, friendship, and lots of dancing – especially at the 50th Tartan Ball.

Enjoy,

Margaret

The RSCDS AGM Weekend: Two Perspectives

By Keith Bark

Once again Deirdre and I took our vacation in October/November so we could attend the RSCDS AGM in Aberdeen.

After a delayed flight and missed connection, we arrived in Portree, Isle of Skye, at midnight rather than 6 p.m. We vacationed in Harris and Inverness in cool but fairly pleasant weather with no gales while crossing the Minch. At the suggestion of Woodglen's Mark Derry, we took a time-consuming but picturesque route through Shildaig and Torridon when returning via Skye to Inverness and Aberdeen for the AGM.

The AGM weekend started with a Teachers' Associations Conference. Deirdre delivered a presentation outlining TAC's role in the Winter Examination Tours and the TAC Summer School Examination Courses. Precious few people realized what TAC has done over the years and were surprised to see the distances dealt with in North America. She overlaid same-scale maps of Europe on North America, showing a flight from London to Istanbul is much shorter than from New York to L.A.

Saturday's lively discussion included the possibility of the Society becoming a Company with Limited Liability (effectively Incorporated like Toronto Association). Details of the options are to be sent to each branch for further input.

At the AGM, Carole Skinner received the Scroll of Honour,* and I was re-elected to serve on the Membership Services Committee for a further two years. This means more 5 a.m. conference calls to participate in meetings with people in Edinburgh. Over the weekend, Frank Thomson and his band and Ian Muir and his band played for two excellent dances.

We had an enjoyable two weeks and met many friends.



*Keith has placed a video of the presentation to Carole on the RSCDS Toronto Facebook page.

By Jon Allen-Friend

Why on earth go to Aberdeen in November? The answer is to attend the 2012 RSCDS Annual Conference Weekend and AGM, an opportunity for Scottish dancers to manage business and add value affecting the membership at large. After last year's hospitality in Glasgow, with a Civic Reception at City Hall and dancing at the impressive Kelvinhall, the Granite City was not to be outdone.



Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen

Aberdeen's spectacular Beach Ballroom, an early 20th century architectural wonder in itself, provided the perfect setting for over 450 dancers from around the world.

As one of the Toronto delegates, I shared in the pride of seeing Carole Skinner receive her Scroll of Honour from the Society's President, Dr Alastair MacFadyen. Recognition came from the participants as her accomplishments were read out.

The main item of business at the AGM was a motion to increase the price of individual members' annual subscription by £1 to £16. Toronto voted against the motion; however, an in-depth rationale presented by the Society's Treasurer swayed the floor to adopt it, albeit with a noted reservation by the London (England) Branch, citing that continuing additional program costs are already being passed on to members with consequent negative response from its shrinking RSCDS base.

After the weekend of presentations, teachers' conferences, classes, and two nights of dancing, several of our delegates returned to Toronto for the workshop less

Continued on page 5 >>

January Afternoon Tea Dance

Date & Time: Saturday, January 12, 2013 2:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Place: Crescent School, 2365 Bayview Avenue
Music: The Scottish Accent
Host Groups: • St. Andrew's (Aurora) • Erin Mills (Tue.) • Glenview

(Featuring dances by John Bowie Dickson and from *Book 46*)

Mrs. Stewart's Jig	8x32 J	Book 35 / 1
* Neidpath Castle †	3x32 S	Book 22 / 9
* The Montgomeries' Rant †	8x32 R	Book 10 / 1
The Luckenbooth Brooch	8x32 J	Glendarroch Sheets
The Wind On Loch Fyne	3x32 S	Dunedin Dances 1 / 4
Pinewoods Reel	8x32 R	A Yankee Sampler / 10
INTERVAL		
Links with St. Petersburg	8x32 J	Book 46 / 10
The Bonnie Tree	8x32 S	Book 46 / 06
The Missing Turn	8x32 R	Book 46 / 05
* Argyll's Fancy †	4x48 J	Graded Book / 23
Braes of Breadalbane †	8x32 S	Book 21 / 7
General Stuart's Reel †	8x32 R	Book 10 / 3

EXTRAS

The Isle	8x32 J	Graded Book / 15
Happy Returns	8x32 R	MMM

† = Tartan Ball dance * = briefed only; not to be walked

The Monthly Dance is a scent-free and nut-free environment. Hand sanitizers will be available.

Price of Entry (incl. HST): • Members - \$22 • Non-members - \$28

• Beginners - \$10 • Student members - \$10 • Youth/Spectators - \$5



50-50 Draw
 Proceeds from the 50/50 draws held at Monthly Dances support Dancing in The Park.
 At the November 10 Monthly Dance David Booz won \$104, which he donated to Dancing in the Park.

Important News Re: Your Board

As a result of the resignation of the Communications Director, the Toronto Association needs to fill this position. It involves overseeing communication within and beyond the Toronto Association and also promoting Scottish Dancing and the RSCDS TA. Marketing skills would be an asset.

If you are interested, please contact Jane Robinson, Chair of the Nominating Committee, at janer1@sympatico.ca or 416-463-5016.

According to the Bylaws of RSCDS Toronto Association, a General Meeting must be called within 90 days of the resignation of a Director from the Board. As a result, there will be a Special General Meeting during the Interval at the January 2013 Monthly Dance to elect the Director of Communications.

For more information, please contact Margaret Rieger: margaretrieger@rogers.com or 416 467-9083.

Special Events



Stooging at Broadlands

2- 4 p.m. (optionally to 5 p.m.) ~ Dec. 2, 9, 16

Broadlands C.C. ~ 19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills

This is a Teacher Candidate year and tutor Jean Noble needs intermediate-level stooges (a.k.a dance angels) for the candidates to teach. Stooging is a great way to improve your technique, while you encourage new teachers. \$5 at the door.



Scarborough Christmas Dance

Monday, Dec. 10 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Q-Ssis Banquet Hall ~ 3474 Kingston Rd, Scarb.

Scarborough's Christmas dance is an annual favourite, with great music by The Scottish Accent. And people always like the food at Q-Ssis. Reception at 6:15; dinner at 7:00; dancing at 8:30-ish. Tickets are \$50, from Karen Bulkowski (416) 291-4745; Sheila Parnell (416) 298-8708; or Marie Duncan (416) 266-3377 Come join the fun!



Calvin Christmas Dance

Tuesday, Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

Calvin Presbyterian Church, 26 Delisle Ave.

Calvin SCD Group invites all dancers to join our holiday celebration. Come and dance to the wonderful music of Don Bartlett on piano. Your \$10 entry includes refreshments. Contact Nancy Stokes (416) 425-2195 naristo@rogers.com or Mary Baldwin (416) 485-8280 mbaldwin456@hotmail.com

Glenview Christmas Dance

Wed. Dec. 12 ~ 8 - 11 p.m.

Glenview Presby. Church, 1 Glenview Ave



What better way to kick off the festive season?

Dance with friends old and new to the music of Fred Moyes followed by "bring and share" Christmas treats. For program and cribs visit Glenview at www.glenviewscd.org Tickets at the door \$20. Info: Liz Clunie (416) 486-6582 eclunie@rogers.com

Glenview Hogmanay Dance & Ceilidh

Dec. 31 at Grace Church-on-the-Hill,

300 Lonsdale Road, Forest Hill



Great location with wonderful wood floor! Fabulous music by Laird Brown & Donny Wood! Bring some delicious finger food for the buffet and your talents for the ceilidh. **SOLD OUT! Waiting list in case of cancellations:** Liz Clunie (416) 486-6582 eclunie@rogers.com or Nick Cheng sammyfish@gmail.com

West End Workshop

March 23, 2013 8:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Turner Fenton Secondary School, Brampton

Easy access from 401. Lots of parking. Tasty lunch! Wood floor! Teachers: Teresa Lockhart, Craig Williams, Rebecca Blackhall-Peters. Musicians: Don Bartlett, Laird Brown with Don Wood, Fred Moyes. Lunch and Tea Dance included. More details and complete registration information to come soon. Save the date.

Burns Night at the Granite Club

Friday, January 25

The Robert Burns Club of Toronto, with Scottish Studies Foundation, joins forces with the Granite Club for a rousing action-packed celebration of the birth of Scotland's Bard. We promise you an exciting evening of first-class entertainment. Info: Maggie McEwan at 905-301-5475, or by email at magmcewan@gmail.com

The Toronto Workshop - 2012

What better thing to do on a chilly November day than warm to the camaraderie of the annual Toronto Workshop and a day of Scottish country dancing! Over one hundred participants did just that – descended upon the wonderful accommodation of Bishop Strachan School for a day of instruction, music, and a little physiotherapy to boot!

Three wonderful instructors led our day of classes. Mervyn Short from West Sussex, England, brought over 30 years' experience instructing children and adults at all levels at day, weekend, and summer schools in the UK, Europe, America, Canada, and Japan. Linda Ashe Argent immigrated to Canada from Glasgow in 1980 and, amidst a busy schedule with Special Olympics Ontario, teaches children and adult dancers each week in her village hall in Hawkestone in Simcoe County. Our own Carole Skinner was also born in Scotland and is a brilliant choreographer. Carole shared with the Intermediate class *Lilibe's Strathspey*, the dance she devised for the Diamond Jubilee – a dance with which the Queen herself was very pleased!

After three classes with these talented instructors, workshop participants chose between a Combined Class/Dance to show off new skills, or a Dancers' Wellness Class. Jennifer Howey from Inside Out Physio was informative about the injuries that dancers can experience and the exercises that can ward off, as well as treat, minor injuries that could keep us from dancing – that she assured us, is one of the best multi-joint, cardio exercises we could ever enjoy!

Our amazing musicians kept us hopping, or should I say skip-changing! Playing a wonderful tune is one thing, but stepping up to the instructor's needs at a second's notice is a special talent that Laird Brown, Don Wood, Don Bartlett, and Fred Moyes have, for which we're grateful.

On behalf of the Workshop Committee, Andrew and Stella Henderson, Bill and Christy Barber, Tony Szeto, and me, be assured we appreciate those, too many to name, who supported the "new" Committee by volunteering their time and efforts to make this a successful event. Congratulations to Moira Loudoun, winner of Early Bird draw – we'll see you next year!

While everyone was left with instructional points to ponder, the main theme was this: one can get technically better at footwork with practice, but to elevate the enjoyment for yourself and even those watching, it's posture, eye contact with fellow dancers, strong, purposeful arms ...and SMILES that make each dance and our own experiences memorable.

...Nancy White

Volunteers Are Dancers in Motion!



Do you have a talent for organizing and planning? Would you like to put your skills to good use? If the answer to these questions is yes, then the *West Toronto Ball Committee* needs you!

We are currently seeking volunteers to join the committee and help with the planning of the West

Toronto Ball, a long-standing Scottish country dance tradition in Toronto's west end.

We are presently looking to fill the positions of Ticket Coordinator and Treasurer. Job descriptions are available. If your strengths lie elsewhere, that's okay too. We welcome all volunteers! Join us and be a part of planning this much anticipated annual event.

For further info, contact Lorraine Janes lorrainejanes@sympatico.ca



Association Classes

All classes run for 10 weeks, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$100 (HST included). Cheques or cash preferred, payable to RSCDS Toronto. Contact: Sue Ann Bryce, 416 266 5423, sueann2@sympatico.ca

Level 1 Beginner Classes: for inexperienced dancers

Mondays: St. Leonard's Anglican Church,
25 Wanless Ave., 2 minutes from Lawrence station
Jan. 07 - Mar. 25, 2013 (No dancing on Family Day,
Feb. 18 and on Mar. 11).
Teacher: Jean Noble.

Thursdays: Eastminster United Church,
310 Danforth Ave., 2 minutes from Chester station
Jan. 10 - Mar. 14, 2013.
Teacher: Deirdre MacCuish Bark

Level 2 Classes: for dancers wishing to improve knowledge of basic formations, and expand their dance experience

Thursdays: Eastminster United Church,
310 Danforth Ave., 2 minutes from Chester station
Jan. 10 - Mar. 14, 2013.
Teacher: Teresa Lockhart

Level 3 Classes: advanced level for experienced dancers

Thursdays: Swansea Town Hall,
95 Lavinia Ave., 7 minutes from Runnymede station
Jan. 10 - Mar. 14, 2013.
Teacher: Fiona Philip

50TH TARTAN BALL NEWS

Tickets for the 50th Tartan Ball are selling quickly. Many out-of-town dancers will be joining us this year. Whether you are a newer dancer, a seasoned dancer, or a retired dancer, plan to come and enjoy the food, the fun, and the camaraderie of the ball. We especially encourage our newer dancers to attend the ball. This will be a spectacular ball and one not to be missed.



The head table of the 1977 Tartan Ball. Carole Skinner is third from the right, Duncan is at the end.

The Fairmont Royal York Hotel is the ideal venue for this ball. As some of you may know, HRH Queen Elizabeth II, our Patron of the RSCDS, always resides at the Royal York when she visits Toronto. I do not know if this was the reason this hotel was selected as the venue for the Tartan Ball 50 years ago, but it was an appropriate choice. Call it serendipity.

There will be many special guests attending the ball. We are pleased to be honouring one of our own. Carole Skinner, our Scroll of Honour recipient, will be one of our special guests at the head table. This will not be the first time that Carole has been seated at the Tartan Ball head table. Carole recounts memories of her very first Tartan Ball:

Memories of My First Tartan Ball

In February 1977, I was invited to my first Tartan Ball. It was a very exciting experience. I was attending with Duncan, my husband-to-be, who just happened to be treasurer of RSCDS Toronto, and we were to sit at the head table. I searched for the perfect ball gown, studied my dances (there was no briefing in those days), and was soon ready to go. One of the first people to come up to me at the ball was the late Dr. Bill Stoddart, who kissed my hand, and said I was a vision of loveli-

ness. Most of the rest of the event is a blur. I do remember the lights being turned down, then the flaming Baked Alaska being piped into the dining room, quite a spectacle from the heights of the head table and the Canadian Room filled to capacity with over 600 dancers. I am looking forward to this year's ball, where after all these years I will celebrate the 50th anniversary from the head table once again. Hope to see you there.

...Carole Skinner

Call for Volunteers – This year's ball will be bigger than most and we are looking for volunteers to help make the ball run smoothly.

Line Marshals - Bill Barber, our Chief Marshal, is recruiting line marshals to assist on the evening of the ball. Contact Bill if you are interested in helping: william.barber054@sympatico.ca

Decorations - We require help decorating the ballroom on the morning of the ball. Please contact Irene Bailey if you are willing to help with the decorations: 2irenebailey@rogers.com

See you at the ball.

...Louis Racic, Tartan Ball Convenor

An Illustrious Guest of Honour



The Honourable Lincoln Alexander, PC CC OOnt CD QC (Jan. 21, 1922 - Oct. 19, 2012), seen here with Jean and Gordon Hamilton, was the Guest of Honour at the 1989 Tartan Ball when he was the 24th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. Gordon was the chair of the RSCDS Toronto Branch. ...Photo submitted by Sharon Wood

Unheard of: Memoirs of a Canadian Composer

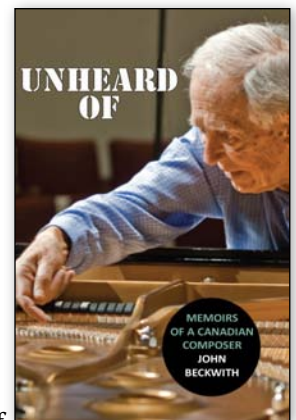
John Beckwith, OC, is a long-time dancer with the Trinity SCD group. His book *Unheard Of: Memoirs of a Canadian Composer*, published this past spring, reveals what hidden depths there can often be to the lives of those we know only through dance classes.

Fellow Trinity dancer Barbara McNutt has reviewed the book for us.

“John’s memoir is weighted toward his musical career – early years of reviewing concerts; teaching and administration at the U of T Faculty of Music including a stint as dean; composing for instruments singly and in groups, for voice and for choirs, and notably operas with his good friend, poet James Reaney; and preservation work with the Canadian Heritage Musical Society.

“The book begins with John’s years of childhood and music study, preceded by great stories of his earlier family. The second part tells of his marriage and children, and meeting Kathleen McMorrow, who introduced him to bicycle touring and Scottish country dancing more than thirty years ago. Most Thursdays they still bike over to Trinity for class.”

Barbara says, “I was very glad to read the book and have enjoyed discussing it with John and Kathleen.”



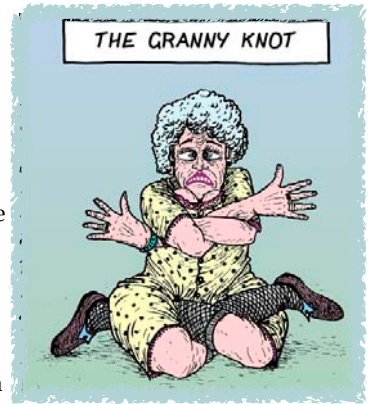
What's in a Name? *The Granny Knot*

As a tenderfoot (rookie) Boy Scout at the age of eleven, I successfully tied my first granny knot. Truth be known, this was hardly a success because when one did tie this useless and unreliable knot, it was always the result of having made a mistake while one was actually learning to tie a reef knot correctly. In this sense, the word "granny" had a nautical connotation and was probably a sarcastic reference to the less than nimble fingers of an aged person. Nautical? Well, going back to the days of sail, long before Boy Scouts came on the scene, sailors were required to create all kinds of different knots with competency.



Barry Pipes

Who remembers how to do square and diagonal lashings? One thing that I do remember is that to make it as a First Class Scout one had to learn, among many other things, how to splice ropes. But enough about that; the complexity of splicing also reminds me of my first attempts at calculus. A knotty problem indeed!



Back to SCD. There is indeed a dance called *The Granny Knot*.

Worth mentioning is that, in fact, there is not just one, but two completely different dances with that name, a reel devised by Marie Boehmer and a strathspey devised by John Drewry. I am not sure which came first, but isn't that unusual in SCD? I wonder whether these dances might include a built-in mistake to be consistent with the knotting world.

The Granny Knot as a reel has recently appeared at an event run in the Orillia area involving one of our own RSCDS Toronto teachers, Linda Ashe Argent. SCD certainly seems to be alive and well in those areas to the north of the GTA. As for devising dances that might share the characteristics of knots, I'd like to see one of our devisors take on something like *The Möbius Strip*... but that is hardly a knot, is it?

...Barry Pipes, aka BP (BeePee) mccallum.pipes@sympatico.ca

When Lord Baden-Powell who was always fondly referred to as BP (as in BeePee), founded the Scouting movement in 1908, knotting became a useful part of his outdoors program. Shortly thereafter of course, BP's missus (Lady Olave St Clair BP) took the same action to create Girl Guides. I don't doubt for a moment that many RSCDS members worldwide spent some time in their earlier days either Scouting or Guiding, and like me, sometimes found themselves stuck with a "granny" when they were trying to achieve a proper reef knot.

As all you folks who were into Scouting and Guiding as pre-teens and later will know, it was not just the reef knot at issue. Who remembers the sheet bend, the bowline, the sheepshank?



Jon Allen-Friend's report on the AGM, continued from page 1.

than a week away. For me, however, I travelled south with the London Branch contingent, looking forward to more dancing in the capital for two weeks before flying home to attend the St. Andrew's Charity Ball.

It was a busy time but well worthwhile. The 2013 AGM will be held in Perth. Will ye nae come back again?

Toronto delegates and supporters at the AGM included: Margaret & Heinz Rieger, Carole & Duncan Skinner, Keith & Deirdre Bark, Jon Allen-Friend, Peggy Frye, Muriel Nicoll, and Anne Evans.



Dr Alastair MacFadyen presents the Scroll of Honour to Carole Skinner

Mail Dear Editor...

Geneva Park

I quite enjoyed Carole Bell's article on Geneva Park; it kindled many happy memories. Because it was a popular weekend, it was necessary to return the application form promptly, usually by return mail. We had so many superb teachers! Those from afar included Anna Holden, Robert McOwen, Mary Murray, and David Tague. Those from Toronto and southern Ontario included Jean Anderson, Sandy Bain, George Emmerson, Georgina Finlay, Jean Hamilton, John Middleton, Bob Millar, and Jean Noble. The weekend was also a wonderful social time. We seemed to party and dance all weekend! Where did we get the energy?

I associate two dances in particular with Geneva Park, both devised by the late Bob Campbell from Oakville: a lively 40 bar jig, Geneva Park, and the ever popular Davy Nick Nack, both originally published in The Geneva Park Dances, Part I, 1970 and also included in the Glasgow Assembly, 1976.

...Sharon Wood

Travelling T-Shirts

Maureen McLeod
at the Craigard Hotel, Barra
(of *Whisky Galore* fame)
overlooking Kisimul Castle.

Upcoming Events: NEAR

DEC. 8 **A Family Christmas Dance** at Crescent School, dancing starts promptly at 7:30. Music by The Scottish Accent. (see page 2)

DEC. 10 **Scarborough Christmas Dance** at Q-Ssis Banquet Hall, 3474 Kingston Rd. Music by The Scottish Accent. Tickets \$50 (see page 2).

DEC. 9 & 16 **Stooging** at Broadlands Community Centre, Don Mills. 2:00-4:00 (and optionally to 5:00 p.m.)

DEC. 11 **Calvin Christmas Dance** at Calvin Presb. Church 26 Delisle Ave. Dance to Don Bartlett on piano. \$10 entry. (see page 2)

DEC. 12 **Glenview Christmas Dance** at Glenview Presbyterian Church, 1 Glenview Ave. 8 - 11:00 p.m. Music by Fred Moyes. Tickets \$20 at the door. Info: Liz Clunie (416) 486-6582 (see page 2).

DEC. 29 **White Cockade Auld Year's Dance** 8 p.m. at MacNab Presbyterian Church, 116 MacNab St. South, Hamilton. \$10 for dancers, \$5 for non-dancers. Advance tickets required: no tickets available at the door. Info: Ruth Mueller (905) 529-9098 r.mueller@sympatico.ca

JAN. 12 **Afternoon Tea Dance** at Crescent School, 2:30 - 5:00 p.m. Music by The Scottish Accent.

JAN. 19. **White Cockade Dance** 8 p.m. at MacNab Presbyterian Church Hall, 116 MacNab St. South, downtown Hamilton. \$5 for members of the White Cockade, \$7 for non-members. Ruth Mueller at r.mueller@sympatico.ca or (905) 529-9098.

JAN. 25 **Burns Night at the Granite Club** features the 48th Highlanders, Stefanie Hutka, and ceilidh dancing led by David Booz. Info: Maggie McEwan at (905) 301-5475, or magmcewan@gmail.com

FEB. 2 **Robert Burns Dinner & Dance** hosted by Highlands of Durham at Sikorski Hall, North Oshawa. Reception at 6:00 dinner at 7:00. Tickets \$60 from Marjorie Mason mmason@bellnet.ca (905) 649-3532.

Demo Pool Practices

Sundays: 2 - 4 p.m.

At Broadlands CC, 19 Castlegrove Blvd, Don Mills

• Jan 6 & 13 • Feb 17 • March 10 • April 14 & 21

The Demo Pool welcomes interested dancers familiar with the basic formations.

Contact: Deirdre MacCuish Bark
905-822-1707 barkd@rogers.com

RSCDS Toronto Association Board of Directors

Chair: Margaret Rieger 416.467-9083

Vice Chair: John Clark 416.266-3609

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Treasurer: Wendy Fulton 416.951-5029

Membership Director: Tom Clark 416.225-5222

Program Director: Jean Lindsay 416.413-9418

Communications & Promotion Director:

TBA

Director at Large, Social Group Liaison/Volunteers:

Nancy Duffy 416.915-1417

Director at Large, Special Events:

Stewart Bennett 905.985-6573

Upcoming Events: FAR

DEC. 15 **RSCDS London Christmas Dinner & Dance** at the Polish Combatants' Association Hall, 80 Ann Street, London. Cash Bar 6 p.m., dinner 6:30, dancing 8 p.m. Music: Laird Brown and the full Scottish Accent Band.

Info: RSCDSLONDONCanada.org

DEC. 28- JAN. 5 **New Zealand Summer School** Christchurch, South Island. Classes for all levels, including youth. A range of optional afternoon classes, five semi-formal night dances, and two formal balls. More info: Doug.Mills@RSCDSnz.org.nz or www.rscdsnz.org.nz

JAN. 25-17 **Ardbrae Ball Weekend, Ottawa** At our Saturday evening ball in the Glebe Community Centre's Heritage Ballroom we'll dance to the music of Laird Brown & The Scottish Accent. Hospitality is available. Tickets \$75. Info: avTaylor2@gmail.com or www.ardbrae.org

FEB. 15-17 **RSCDS Hawaii's Annual Aloha Winter Weekend** at the Palladium Ballroom at the Ala Wai Golf Course, Waikiki. Teachers: Bruce Herbold, David Newitt, and Patti Cobb. Music: The Humuhumunukunua'pua'a and Strathspey Society Band. Info: www.RSCDSHawaii.org

FEB. 24 - MAR. 1 **RSCDS Winter School** based in the Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry. The Winter School Ball is in the Ballroom at Blair Castle. www.rscds.org/events/

MAY 17-20 **Make Merry in Kerry** with RSCDS International Branch at the Gleneagles Hotel, Killarney, Ireland. Teachers: Malcolm Brown, Tim Wilson, and Raphaele Orgere. Music: Nicol McLaren. Info: Pia Walker pia.walker@intamail.com or www.rscds-ib.org

LADIES' STEP DANCE CLASSES

Come out and learn some traditional Scottish Ladies' Step Dances. No experience needed, but knowledge of Scottish Country Dancing is helpful.

Saturdays Jan. 12 - Mar. 21 ~ 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

Queen Elizabeth Park Cultural Centre,
2302 Bridge Road, Oakville

\$10 per class (depending on numbers)

Alma Smith: (905) 845-0649 asmith26@cogeco.ca

Batteries for Life

We'll be collecting batteries again at the

December 8 Family Night

Monthly Dance. These tired batteries can save lives!

www.zincsavestives.com



Nominations for a Volunteer Award

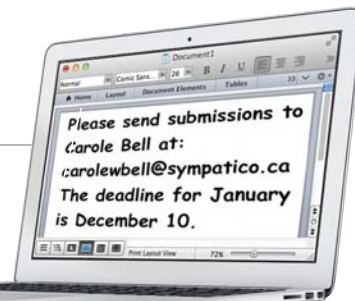
The many Toronto Association activities including monthly dances, workshops, and the newsletter as well as the social groups themselves would not exist without the volunteer service of many of our members who toil quietly behind the scenes. The Toronto Association asks the social groups to show your gratitude to individuals who have given extensive and exceptional unpaid service by nominating them for a Volunteer Award.

A letter and nomination form have been sent to the social group leaders and teachers asking them to submit up to two nominees who they feel warrant recognition. The board is also permitted to add up to five additional nominees. No more than five awards are made in any one year; however, anyone who is not selected may be submitted again another year.

Please note the nominees must be members of Toronto Association, they may be dancers or non-dancers, and cannot be current board members, current convenors, past board members within the last two years, past chairs or anyone paid for their services. A list of previous recipients can be viewed on the website - members' homepage under VIPs.

Please send your nominations to Nancy Duffy, Director for Volunteers, via e-mail: duffy-scdancer@rogers.com

Deadline for submissions is **January 26, 2013.**



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