

August 2009



# The Cockade

Newsletter of the R.S.C.D.S. Windsor Ontario Branch

[www.rscdswindsor.org](http://www.rscdswindsor.org)

## Dates to Remember 2009-2010

- **Open House**  
September 9 @ 8PM  
McKenzie Hall  
First night of dancing
  - **Ball Practice**  
October 19, 2009  
Bedford United
  - **Annual Ball**  
October 24 2009  
Masonic Temple
  - **Last Evening Dance**  
December 9 or 16/ 09
  - **First Dancing 2010**  
January 6, 2010
  - **Border Cities  
Workshop**  
March 26-27 2010
  - **AGM**  
May 12, 2010
  - **Last Evening of  
Dance**  
May 26, 2010  
Request Night
  - **Pot Luck**  
End of Season  
May 29, 2010
- Social Dances**
- Tea Dance  
Scottish Club  
December 6, 2009
  - February 14, 2010

## Message from the Chair

Well, it's time to dust off the dancing pumps and ghillies and start some stretching exercises, in preparation for the first night of dancing and our Open House on September 9, 2009. It's hard to believe that we are now entering the 2009-2010 Season and it means that I am approaching my 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of entering the world of the RSCDS. You would think I might be a better dancer by now but I suppose there's always hope. (Note to self - keep working on the jeté).

Of course, those of us who have been attending Summer Classes don't need to dust off our shoes or limber up as June has been ensuring that

we do that on a weekly basis. She has been teaching throughout June and July and will be taking just a short break from the last night on August 19<sup>th</sup> till September 9<sup>th</sup>. There have been some pretty hot nights at Bedford United Church, resulting in glistening foreheads, but it's been great fun as well as excellent exercise. Kudos to June for all her hard work, stamina and expertise.

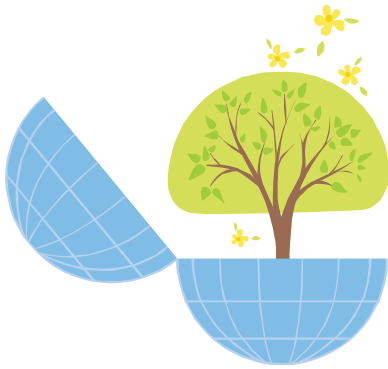
Griff completed the teaching for his Unit 4 record during Summer Classes so Pat and I will be subjecting the group to our efforts during the coming months. Don't stay away from class!!

Pat, Griff and I went over to a group in Troy during the summer months to practice our teaching and we had great fun. We hope that the dancers enjoyed it as much as we did and thank them for attending. Thanks to Margaret Sarna and the administrator, Lisa, for making the arrangements to meet in a beautiful, air conditioned facility. Lisa also joined in the dancing, although she had no previous experience, and turned out to be a natural. Let's hope she decides to continue.

Welcome back to all our membership and here's hoping for a large contingent of new dancers!

Yours aye, Isobel

## 2009 Border Cities Workshop



### ***The Memory Tree”***

*The Tree has been ordered  
Where will it grow?  
When will it be planted?  
When the city calls  
We will let you know.*

*The Executive is planning a  
dedication ceremony and  
celebration.*

**T**he new venue for this year’s workshop was a big part of its success. Two lovely floors made the day and evening less stressful for legs and feet for all of us. Rebecca and Claire were brilliant teachers who were kind and gentle while demonstrating dancing at a level not often seen in our branches; they both said that they had really enjoyed teaching us and that our enthusiasm and eagerness were something they didn’t often encounter. I always think a

comment like that should really be directed to our own teachers who inspire and challenge us to do better while all the time making our regular classes so much fun.

What a difference dancing to real music makes! Unlike branches that have musicians for every class, we are blessed with recorded music for most of the season and, consequently, a real appreciation for a “very live” Fred. Live music really does add an extra dimension to our favourite pastime.

I very much enjoyed

working with both committees. I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped out in so many capacities – the food was delicious, as always - making the day run so smoothly; special thanks, though, must go to Isobel Hunter for hosting the teachers and musician, June Dey for hosting the afterglow, Dorothy Huynh for doing all the shopping and keeping track of everything, and, most of all, to all of you who attended. Let’s see what next year brings.

Griff,  
Co-chair 13<sup>th</sup> Border

## The Annual Garden Party

**Y**et again this year, Vivienne & Julian outdid themselves with their hospitality for our annual Garden Party in July. As always, a wonderful time was had by all and Julian’s BBQ skills were unsurpassed. It is always such a treat to spend the afternoon together catching up with everyone’s summer news and having the “tour” of

Vivienne’s beautiful garden.

The day started out sunny & warm but Mother



Nature decided to send a downpour right as we were all enjoying our dessert.

Although most partygoers ran for the

shelter of the porch, the more intrepid of our dancers simply raised their umbrellas & continued to enjoy the magnificent array of desserts under the shelter of their “brollies”. Many thanks to both the Cattaneos for their kindness

Anne



## Summer School

This summer Griff and I attended the Teacher's Association of Canada (TAC) workshop and Summer School at Shawnigan Lake School on Vancouver Island. The weather was extremely hot but the dancing was fantastic! Imagine,

if you can, over 200 people, at various levels of dancing, from twelve countries dancing jigs, reels and strathsbeys, all to live music!

The daily classes were taught by experienced teachers who brought their something special to each class including

posture, foot positions, covering, phrasing and etiquette. So I thought it would be good to share a few important facts with members of our branch. Whether you are new or experienced, reminders are always good.

Thank you to June for sharing.  
Phyllis.

## Ball Etiquette ( Dance Etiquette)

1. Wait for the M.C. to announce a dance before taking to the floor.
2. Always join in at the end of a line.
3. Never walk through a set.
4. First man counts off the sets.
5. Do not change sets once they have been counted.
6. Listen quietly as the dance is being briefed.
7. Always thank your partner and others in your set at the end of the dance.
8. Men escort partners back to their seats
9. It is frowned upon to "book" several dances in advance.
10. And don't forget to smile—you're having fun!

*June Dey*

## She Retired. See the big smile?



Vivienne retired in May. We wish her many years of time to read, relax, travel, and work in her garden and of course Scottish Country Dancing. She hosted the Garden Party, along with her Julian, her husband, and we celebrated her new found freedom. Here's to Good Health and Happiness!

## Upcoming Events

### Windsor Ball

October 24, 2009

Masonic Temple Hall  
Windsor Ontario



Remember we are  
on the web at  
[rscdswindsor.org](http://rscdswindsor.org)

### Hamilton Week- end

October 16, 17 and 18, 2009

Burlington Seniors' Centre  
Burlington Ontario

### Detroit Branch 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball

November 21, 2009

American Polish Cultural Center  
Troy Michigan

Robert Beatty

The Windsor Branch lost a friend and fellow dancer June 18, 2009. Bob was a wonderful dancer and always loved a good party. Even after an extended period of poor health in 07-08 he returned to the dance floor, setting an example for all. The members of the Windsor Branch extend our sympathy to his wife Mary and their family

### Finally

This publication is being sent out late. While I enjoy putting it together I must say I struggle for content. If you have suggestions, submissions and/or would consider becoming the editor, I would appreciate any assistance offered.

Phyllis.

