

September 2010

The Cockade



Newsletter of the Royal Scottish Country Danced Society, Windsor (Ontario) Branch

Dates to Remember 2010/11

- September 8 2010
Registration
- September 15 2010
Open House
- October 25 2010
Ball Practice –
Bedford United
- October 30 2010
Annual Ball
- December 15 2010
Tea Dance –
Scottish Club
- December 15 2010
Last Evening of Fall
Session
- January 5 2011
Open House Winter
Session
- February 20 2011
Tea Dance
- May 25 2011
Request Night
- May 28 2011
End of Season
Pot Luck
- July 18 2011
Garden Party

Hello There from the Editor

This Cockade is very late in coming, I do apologize. I have been having some health problems and hoped to become enthusiastic and put out a fabulous August version.

Well, the month is quickly coming to a close so you may find some things missing, like the opening address from our new Chair, Jennifer Levack.

Previously I have asked if there was anyone else who would be willing to take over the position of Editor but to date no volunteers. Over the next few months I am going to have some limitations, I anticipate will be short term but I really think other dances might find this as much fun as I have

and be able to do a fantastic job. I am willing to assist anyone who will take on the challenge, it you really are allowed freedom as to the format and others supply most of the content.

Please consider taking on this role, the next edition is due in December.

Thank You.

Phyllis

2010 Border Cities Workshop Report

It was just what a workshop should be:-

Great teaching
Live music
Lovely dancing
Delicious food
And Good Company.

Thanks to all the volunteers on both sides of the border for making everything run so smoothly.

The Detroit Branch did a super job with the location; and it was a pleasure working – and dancing – with Lisa from the church. Both Branches even made a slight profit.

We'll just have to do it all again next year.

Griff



Permission obtained to reprint the following article

Nigel & Lourdes: Tribute to the Borders



"An example of just how much Scottish Country Dancers are willing to go through to learn and have fun."

Recently, we drove *The Winding Road* to the Border Cities Workshop (Windsor-Detroit Branches). *Crossing The Line* into the USA should have been tediously routine but, for us, it was not. The Guardians of the great republic found our purpose (Scottish Country dancing) rather suspicious: "You don't look Scottish!" we were told. (Nigel's Scottish granny would be highly offended!) The Guardian, steely-eyed and stony-faced, with a rather large gun on his belt, demanded a phone number to confirm Lourdes' employment with the Toronto School Board. They didn't appreciate our humorous remark: "The best of British luck – phoning an educational establishment late Friday afternoon as March Break begins." We were cross-examined as to our purpose in America. We produced the workshop brochure and even the Map Quest printout to the Troy church hall where we

were dancing. The Guardian was not impressed. "How do you know dancers in Detroit?" and "Can you give me the name and number of the organizers so they can vouch for you?" Alas, we had neither name nor number to offer. Finally, given our inability to satisfy his inquiries (which by then felt more like an inquisition), we came to the "piece de resistance." Since we claimed to be experienced dancers, the Guardian demanded proof. He invited us, with a smug "Gotcha!" smirk, to take the floor. If we wanted to enter the USA we would have to dance our way in! So, right there, in the Immigration Hall, to the amazement of public and staff alike, we displayed our prowess by dancing *Petronella* – Dance 1 in Book One. Was the Guardian pleased? Did that grimace mask a smile, or a disappointment? Who knows! However, he then permitted us to sign declaration papers and we were released – having spent more than 3

hours under scrutiny and questioning. By contrast, the workshop itself was *The Happy Meeting*. Our hosts welcomed us, Fred Moyes played wonderful dance music, the hall had a springy wooden floor, and the 'afterglow' at the man-*Lourdes & Nigel* – *Subversive dancers?* scion-like residence of one of the organizer's went into the wee sma' hours, enlivened by Fred's sing-along music. Our journey home was uneventful. At the suggestion of our new American friends, we ducked the Bluewater Bridge and instead took the Sombra Ferry which tramps across the St Clair River 30 km south of Sarnia. Brilliant! Total border crossing time: about 6 minutes! Canadian border guardians, sadly, did not require us to affirm our dancing prowess but, just in case, we had polished *Macdonald of Sleat!* . . . *Lourdes Genosa & Nigel Keenan.*

Announcements

Spring 2010, Bill and Isobel Patterson became millionaire grandparents when 2 of their sons became parents, one with a daughter and one with a son.

Then comes the July, Isobel and Lawrence Hunter welcome a new member to their family when their son and his wife delivered their second child, a daughter, in London.

On May 25, William "Bill" Proctor passed away. Members of the branch send our deepest sympathy to Val and her family on the passing of this special husband, step-father, father-in-law, brother-in-law and friend.



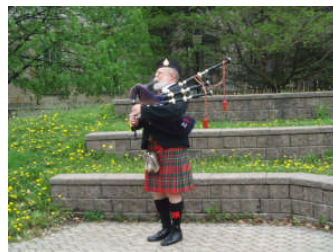
Remembering Those Who Loved the Dance

The date was finally chosen, the date for the dedication of the Memory Tree at McKenzie Hall, May 2, 2010. Over the past few years the Branch lost some long standing members who were special not only to their family but also us.

The Executive had decided it would like to have a permanent reminder of them and the proposal was presented to the membership. The membership supported the idea and then had an opportunity to participate in the words to be inscribed on the plaque at the base of the tree. It was very encouraging when we received over twenty suggestions. The final decision was "Remembering Those Who Loved The Dance". The next step was the type of tree and where to plant it. Linda Edwards persisted in dealing with the city and the tree was finally planted. The location of McKenzie Hall seemed so appropriate that I think everyone was satisfied.

A committee came together to plan a celebration and I must say they did a fantastic job. They contacted family, arranged for the Hall, packed their own teacups, made lists for food, arranged for a piper as well as an afternoon of dancing. Our branch is very fortunate to have a core of dedicated people willing to give of their time for benefit of the rest of us.

We thank the family members of Rosina Doolan, John Dey, Terri Murphy and Anne Slawik who attended and made our celebration complete. When you are at McKenzie Hall take a minute to stop and see the tree dedicated to Those Who Loved The Dance.

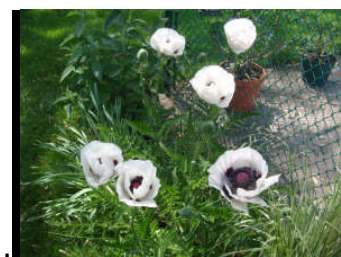


The Garden Party

Summer in Windsor is all about the fire works, heat, humidity, summer dancing at Bedford United and of course the Garden Party hosted by the Cattaneos. This summer was that kind of summer and Julian and Vivien were the wonderful host and hostess, as always.

The weather looked threatening but that did not keep the hearty members of RSCDS Windsor home, including Colin visiting from Poland. They came to see the beautiful gardens, we had lots of rain in July, and so nobody was disappointed. The food and conversation was enjoyed by all and other than a few sprinkles that rain held off

for another successful Summer Garden Party. We thank Vivian and Julian for sharing your time and expertise with us.



Executive for 2010-2011

Chair – Jennifer Levack

Vice. Chair - Tara Fuerth

Treasurers – Anne Hammond and Dorothy Huynh

Secretary – Phyllis Oxley

Past Chair – Isobel Hunter

Member-at-large– Linda Edwards

Member-at- large – Valerie Wright

Social Convener – Jean Rook

Teachers – June Dey, Joyce Smith, Pat Dupuis, Griff Evans, Isobel Hunter

The Annual Ball

The planning committee of Jennifer, Tara, Rebecca , Heide and Alexandra have Bobby Brown and The Scottish Accent booked, the dance program has been planned by June, the caterers for the dinner organized and the programs ordered. Now all we need is some instruction, practice and you to purchase you ticket to the Annual Ball. The dance floor at the Masonic Hall is forgiving so it will be a good time to join us.

Look for the briefs for the dances on the website.

Applications will be available at class and off the website

Tickets are \$65.00 for Dancers, \$45.00 for Non Dancers.



We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.rscdswindsor.org