

# OVER THE WATER



A Joint Newsletter of the Northern Virginia and Washington DC Branches  
of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

July

2005



<http://rscds-greaterdc.org> \* RSCDS Headquarters, Edinburgh - [www.rscds.org](http://www.rscds.org)



## New Branch Officers

If it's spring, it must be AGM time. Some new faces are on the officer merry-go-round for the next year.

### Washington Branch

**President** - Jim McCullough  
**Vice Pres.** - Dorothy Penders  
**Secretary** - Joan Rubin  
**Treasurer** - Fred Eustis  
**Teachers Committee chair** -  
Ralph Stoddard  
**Teachers Committee reps** -  
Rebecca Ramsey, Jim Mielke,  
Guy Armentrout

Members voted to increase dues to \$35 a year. They also formed committees for fundraising and to come up with ideas for increasing membership.

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## It's Official ...

### Mr. & Mrs. Evan and Rosalie Duncan



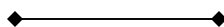
On July 28, Rosalie Langelan and Evan Duncan tied a knot for one couple at the altar of St. Michael the Archangel in Bethesda. Not to be outdone by the kilts in the crowd, Rosalie wore a traditional wedding dress from Poland, home of her mother's ancestors.

Neighbors were treated to the tunes of Dan Emery, who piped the wedding party and guests on their several-block walk from the church to the reception. The guests were undaunted at being the center of public attention, although a stray comment from a spectator on a nearby porch about someone having poor turnout did raise some consternation in the otherwise joyous group.

Liz Donaldson, Elke Baker and Marty Taylor played great music for dancing at the reception. Unsuspecting relatives of both families were dragged onto the floor to complete sets.

Evan's sporran did not attend the wedding or the reception.

## PROFILE



**Grew up in:** The suburbs of Washington, D.C.—Clinton and Oxon Hill, Maryland. When I lived there, it was as David Brinkley described it – “A sleepy Southern town on the verge of becoming a world power.”



**Started dancing:** A couple of years before I retired, Sue and I went to a conference in Charlottesville, VA. One of the activities was contra dancing. After years of an essentially sedentary lifestyle, it was just enough exercise that I thought it might be good for us. So, we decided to try it at home. One day at work, Sally Robinson was talking about Scottish Country Dance. It sounded a lot like contra, only more interesting. We went to the next class and have tried not to miss any since.

**In your other life:** I worked for HCFA, the people who bring you Medicare and Medicaid. I graduated from The Johns Hopkins University with the lowest GPA in the school’s history. I think they were glad to be rid of me. (Of course they still ask me for money every year)

**Memorable life moments:** I met Sue. OK, I met Sue while I was at Basic Transportation Officers Training at Fort Eustis, VA, and she was a student at William and Mary College. My training course lasted through the summer, so I think I was probably technically AWOL every weekend when I drove from Fort Eustis to Charlottesville and returned just in time to muster my platoons on Monday morning. We married after I returned from Vietnam.

**Favorite dance:** I love all the dances. There are two dances I will dance through, no matter how I feel — The Montgomeries Rant and Reel of the Royal Scots.

**Most memorable dancing experience:** In the first or second year I was learning to dance I learned the Irish Rover at a dance. I had no idea what it meant when emcee said “diagonal rights and lefts.” When the time came to actually do the dance, everyone in the set took part. They all looked at each other

and signaled what they were about to do and what they expected of me. I had a great time. There are also the times I have stepped to the side while dancing. A person can experience more of the universe while dancing — the physical world goes away and there is an infinity of possibility. It has happened to me



*Fred, center, ponders the knot.*

while doing the Reel of the Royal Scots and while standing in the audience of the Ceilidh at Ramblewood.

**Other hobbies:** I like to ride my bicycle. I do long distance cycling, riding in at least one organized ride a year and doing a century when Sue lets me. I plan to ride in the Cycle North Carolina in October, 300 miles from Ashville to Wilmington in 6 days. My first bicycle was a 26” Roadmaster that my father bought with his ration book at the end of World War II.



**Family:** Sue and I have three children, Sean, Sarah, and Ian, all of whom support themselves and the economy.



Branch Officers, from p.1

**Northern Virginia Branch**

- Chairman** - Jeff McLean
- Vice Chair** - Mark Priest
- Secretary** - Michelle Ryan
- Treasurer** - Barney Lawless
- Teachers Committee Chair**  
Maria Ward
- Members at Large:**  
Jay Andrews  
Carol Porter  
Susan Andersen  
Helen Lawless

Thanks to everyone who volunteered to be an officer. \*  
 (\*If you were not elected to an office in the branch or your group, it's because they couldn't find you when they were looking for candidates or you just wrapped up your term in an officer's position. Your turn next year.)

## Annual Frederick Summer Workshop

**Saturday  
August 13**

Walkersville Town  
Hall  
Walkersville Md  
Begins at 2 p.m.

**Guest Teacher  
From Boston  
Howard Lasnik**



**Dance Workshop 2 - 5 p.m.**  
**Pot Luck Dinner 5 - 6 p.m.**  
**Social Dancing 6 - 8 p.m. (Recorded music)**

**Questions: [freder-](#)**



**SEPT. 23-25  
2005**

### Teachers & Musicians

- **Mel Briscoe**, Alexandria, Virginia
- **Fiona Grant**, Bristol, England
- **Helen Russell**, North Ferriby, Yorkshire via Aberdeen
- **Elke Baker**, Guest Musician, Ellicott City, Maryland
- **Liz Donaldson**, Music Director, Bethesda, Maryland

Read more about them and the other musicians at  
<http://www.scottishweekend.org/SW/teachers.htm> .

**Specialty Classes:** Challenging Dances for Advanced Dancers;  
 Hebridean Quadrilles from South Uist; Highland for Mixed Levels

**Get your applications in now for another great weekend.**

<http://www.scottishweekend.org/>

### Direct From Scotland, Your Favorite Music

If it's pipes, dance music, Celtic tunes or just the sound of the Scottish lilt you long to hear, you can get it any time of the day on your computer, on BBC Radio Scotland — <http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/radioscotland/> . You can listen live or click to hear past shows. A sampling—Robbie Shepherd hosts 2 dance music programs—*Take the Floor* and *The Reel Blend*. There are several Celtic and folk programs. Scottish weather (Fog and more fog) - *Outdoor Conditions*. Nothing but pipes? Try *Pipeline*. (Crank it up nice and loud in the office.)

## Come dance with us at the Games !

All dancers are invited to help with a daily demonstration at the Virginia Scottish Games on the grounds of the Episcopal High School, Alexandria. **FREE** admission to the games for demo dancers. (Parking not provided).

**Saturday, July 23, 4:00 pm**

**Sunday, July 24, 3:00 pm**

**Deadline to ask for tickets: July 13**

**Directions:** <http://www.vascottishgames.org/>

**Dress: CASUAL.** Short white dress and sash for women; kilt and short-sleeved, open-necked white shirt for men; golf shirt is fine, no ties. light hose. We are dancing on the grass in the Bowl, so running shoes will be fine. No footwork will be possible, and if people want to walk in rhythm, Ellie Briscoe is happy with that! She wants **BIG** smiles and people to look as if they are having **FUN!**

**Program:** Wild Geese, John McAlpin , De'il Amang the Tailors, Seann Truibhas Willichan, Johnnie's Jig PLUS 8 bars of hands around, audience participation

### ***Over the Water***

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