

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



Fall Classes Begin: Do Ya Wanna Dance?

Mondays

Baltimore Scottish Country Dancers: Classes meet Monday nights at Catonsville Presbyterian Church, 1400 Frederick Road in Catonsville, Maryland. For directions, see <http://www.smart.net/~snarf/bscd.html>. Fall classes begin September 10. General class meets 8-10 pm. Beginner classes also offered. Live music twice a month, and social dance evening with live music in December. Contact Fred Eustis at 410-922-6369 or feustis@starpower.net.

Scottish Country Dance Society of Washington (SCDS-W): Classes meet Monday nights at the Building T39 Aerobics Facility, National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. Fall classes begin September 10. Basic class meets at 8; general class at 8:15. Contact Betty Lee Barnes at 202-966-3595; Blaine Peet at 301-942-2831; or Mary Ann Williamson at 202-686-9591.

Tuesdays

Saint Columba's Scottish Country Dance Group: Classes meet Tuesday nights in the Greenbelt Community Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. Fall classes start September 4. Basic and General classes meet 8-10 pm. Beginners are welcome to join at any time. Live music on third Tuesdays! Contact Deidre Heyser at dh204@umail.umd.edu; or Jennifer Mayrovitz at 410-381-3948 or rjmayro@erols.com.

Charlottesville: Classes meet Tuesday nights at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Ivy, Virginia. Mixed class meets 6:30-9 pm. Beginners welcome anytime, but please give advance notice. Contact Celia or Bob Belton at 804-979-0939 or TroutO@aol.com.

Richmond: Classes meet Tuesday nights at Richmond Community School, corner of Patterson and Libbie Avenues in Richmond, Virginia. Fall classes start September 4 and meet at 7 pm (7-8 pm geared towards beginners!). Beginners may join any time. Contact Stella Fogg at 804-740-4404 or StellaF@att.net.

Wednesdays

Northern Virginia Branch RSCDS: SEE ARTICLE THIS ISSUE! Classes meet Wednesday nights at Jefferson-Houston School (next to Durant Center), 1501 Cameron Street, Alexandria, Virginia. Fall classes **tentatively** scheduled to start September 5 -- please call to confirm (the school schedules were uncertain). **NO CLASS SEPT. 19.** Classes meet 7:30-9:30 pm. Contact Carol Porter at 703-379-5779; Ellie Briscoe at 703-461-7383 or mail@briscoe.com; or David Chase at 703-780-8616 or David_E._Chase@hud.gov.

Frederick Scottish Country Dancers: Classes meet Wednesday nights. Contact Valerie Hill at 301-663-1042 or vlhill@juno.com.

[More Classes On Next Page]



Fridays

Washington Branch RSCDS: Classes are held Friday nights at the Building T39 Aerobics Facility, National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. All classes meet at 8 pm.

- **Experienced Technique:** October 5 and December 7, 2001; February 1 and March 1, 2002. Offers opportunity to work at the finer points of dancing. Open to those who have been dancing at least one year. Contact Blaine Peet at 301-942-2831.
- **Basic Technique:** September 14, October 12, November 9, 2001; January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, and May 10, 2002. Offers newer dancers time to work on Scottish country dance style and steps, and offers experienced dancers a refresher. Open to all. Contact Ralph Stoddard at 301-649-5666 or caberfei@aol.com.
- **Advanced Social:** October 19, November 16, 2001; January 18, February 15, March 15, and April 19, 2002. Offers more challenging and unusual dances. Open by permission only; contact the teacher chair of your regular group. Contact Blaine Peet at 301-942-2831.
- **Basic Social:** September 28, October 26, and December 14, 2001; January 25, February 22, March 22, April 26, and May 24, 2002. Easy and fun social dances for beginners and experienced dancers. Open to all. Live music and a party at the end of each semester. Contact Ralph Stoddard at 301-649-5666 or caberfei@aol.com.

Notes From NoVA

The renovation of our usual dancing home will make this an interesting year for the Northern Virginia Branch. We expect to be dancing at Jefferson-Houston School, right next to the Durant Center, for the next year while the Durant Center is being renovated. Our current plan is to hold two classes Wednesday night, if the space is available at Jefferson-Houston. If past experience is a guide, there will be two or three Wednesdays during the next year when we can't use the school due to school events, and so we will not hold class those nights. It will be a good idea, for the next year, to check with the Northern Virginia contacts before driving any distance to come join us. We hope to have a Web site up pretty soon, where you will be able to check what nights we'll not be dancing; watch for that announcement! Because of the uncertainty of our temporary home, we expect to form a communication network to let branch members know of any changes to the schedule.

Some Thoughts on Class Levels

Basic classes are intended for two groups of people: those new to Scottish country dancing, and those who are refreshing or polishing their skills. Weekly basic classes teach basic Scottish country dance footwork (steps) and figures, and teach you how to combine them into various simple dances. New dancers generally stay in a basic class for 1-2 years, sometimes more and sometimes less depending on a lot of factors, including previous dance experience and how often they attend class. Folks returning to Scottish country dancing after some time away should consider attending a basic class at first, to ease back in and brush up on footwork and figures. No one is ever "too advanced" to benefit from a basic class -- even very experienced dancers often attend a basic class from time to time, for a reminder of the fundamentals.

General classes are for more experienced dancers. Each group has its own "flavor" for its general class. Some may emphasize more challenging social dances, some may teach more advanced technique. Each group also has its own criteria for when a basic dancer is ready to "move up" to an intermediate or general class. In most cases, dancers in a general class can understand basic footwork and figures, are responsible for their own movement without routinely relying on other dancers to "get them through" a dance, and can connect standard formations without stopping after each one. If you have any doubt about which class you should attend, please ask your class teachers to help place you.



There's No Business Like Show Business

Quick Quiz: Dancing in demonstrations (“demos”) is

- (a) An opportunity to let the extrovert in you “perform” a bit
- (b) A way to recruit new dancers
- (c) For ladies, the most use you’ll ever get out of a white dress
- (d) For men, a chance to say it’s a kilt (not a skirt) and nothing is “worn” – it’s all in good condition
- (e) All of the above

The DC area hosts several demonstration groups. Do you like to dance in demos? Want to give it a try? Come and join! Even if you don’t want to dance, or aren’t quite ready yet, come to demonstrations to offer support, do the “audience participation” dancing, and recruit new dancers from the audience! If you know of opportunities for demonstration teams to dance, or want to help drum up new business, contact a team organizer.

Carol Porter organizes Northern Virginia branch demos, and they welcome anyone who wants to give it a try. Carol especially welcomes dancers who are available during the day – they get many requests for daytime programs from schools or retirement/nursing homes. You don't have to be "perfect" for these, just enthusiastic and able to get through a dance competently. NoVA’s next demo is Saturday morning, September 29, for Fairfax County Parks. Not too challenging: a couple of dances and audience participation. Come help recruit new dancers! Call Carol at 703-379-5779.

The SCDS-W demonstration team is active throughout the year. Performance venues include private functions, nursing homes, and public events such as the Maryland Renaissance Fair and Rockville High School Scottish Festival. Contact Betty Lee Barnes at 202-966-3595.

Saint Columba’s demonstration team meets and performs throughout the year. Contact Margaret Grandine at grandinem@nmah.si.edu.

Dale Mantautas is your contact for the demonstration group in Charlottesville. Contact Dale at 804-979-3258.

Who You Gonna Call?

If you have questions about how your local group is run, have ideas for events or fund-raisers, want to volunteer to help run the group or assist someone who does, want to compliment something that worked just right or fix something that didn’t, contact your group’s officers! Here are group officers for 2001-2002.

Northern Virginia Branch: Chairman - David Chase; Vice Chairman - Jim McRae; Secretary - Peg Collier; Treasurer - Jeffrey McLean. At Large Board Members - Teresa Allen, Patti Justice, Don McKenzie, George McPherson. The Board meets once a month, usually the first Tuesday. Contact David Chase for information.

Washington Branch: President - Jim Mielke; Vice President - David Gilliam; Secretary - Joan Rubin; Treasurer - Fred Eustis. The rest of the board are representatives from constituent groups.

SCDS-W: President - Mary Ann Williamson; Vice President - Laura Gilliam; Secretary - Blaine Peet; Treasurer - Denise Peet; Trustee - John MacLeod; Non-Teaching Rep to Teachers' Committees - Sally Beth Buckner. The Committee of Management meets quarterly. Meetings are open to SCDS-W members, and the next meeting will be in late October or early November.

Saint Columba’s: President - Deidre Heyser; Vice President - Jennifer Mayrovitz; Secretary - Danni Downing; Treasurer - Michael Newman; Trustee - Jay Andrews; Non-Teaching Rep to Teachers' Committees - Linda Newman. Reps to the Branch board - Robert Cameron, Heather Pierce, and Janet Simmon.



Fall Frolics: Upcoming Workshops and Parties

♫ Scottish Weekend 2001 **Friday September 21 – Sunday September 23**

Camp Ramblewood, Darlington, MD (about ½ way between Philly and DC).

It is NOT too late to register!!! It is best to register at least a week in advance, for food planning and so your nametag will be ready, and they want payment **in advance**. But they have accepted one or two folks who called on Thursday and showed up on Friday!

And Scholarships Are Available: As we went to press, 5 half scholarships and 1 full scholarship were available. Applicants do not have to fill out special forms or reveal financial information. Just ask for a scholarship in a note with your registration form (send to Fred Eustis, 2118 Pine Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21244 or feustis@starpower.net), stating that you can't go without a scholarship. You'll do a few light tasks to help run the weekend, but most duties don't interfere with classes or dance parties. Scholars who can come early to set up or stay at the end to tidy up are appreciated.

Dance teachers: Catherine Shaw, Bob Grant, and Elaine Brunken; music teacher/guest musician: John Taylor. Dance to the Scottish Weekend Ensemble (Liz Donaldson, Dan Emery, Earl Gaddis, Ralph Gordon, Paul Henle, Steve Hickman, David Knight, Marty Taylor, Susie Petrov, Dave Wiesler). See www.ScottishWeekend.org for General Info (including info on scholarships), registration forms, **ON-LINE REGISTRATION**, cheat sheets, etc!! Or contact Pam Stephens at 301-587-2687 or pam-victor@dellnet.com.

♫ Frederick Scottish Country Dance Party **Sunday, October 7 at 2:30 pm**

Walkersville Town Hall, 21 W. Frederick St, Walkersville, MD. Music by Alexander Mitchell, Becky Ross, Liz Donaldson. \$12.00. Contact Valerie Hill at 301-663-1042 or frederickscd@mindspring.com. Web: <http://www.mindspring.net/~frederickscd>. Afters at Rick's China Garden Buffet Restaurant.

Hooper's Jig (32J3C MMMII)

Balquidder Strathspey (32S3C Bk 24)

Ha! Ha! The Wootin' o' It (32R2C MMMI)

MacLeod's Fancy (32J4C Bk 33)

Blithest Lass That Ever Was Seen (32S3C MMMII)

Major Ian Stewart (32J3C Bk 35)

Seann Truibhas Willichan (32S2C Bk 27)

The Eightsome Reel (4CSq Bk 2)

Swashbuckling Iain (32J2C San Fran II)

The Royal Deeside Railway (32R3C Bk 40)

Miss Milligan's S'spey (32S3C RSCDS Leaflet)

Mary Erskine (32H3C Goldring, 15 Social Dances)

Celia's Jig (32J3C Ternes Leaflet)

The Balmoral Strathspey (32S4C Bk 22)

Mairi's Wedding (40R3C Cosh, 22 Dances)

♫ Richmond Highland Games

Saturday, October 27, 1-3pm

Dance on the field at the Richmond Highland Games and Celtic Festival. Music by David Knight and David Wiesler. Contact Stella Fogg at 804-740-4404 or StellaF@att.net.

♫ Saint Columba's Halloween Party

Tuesday, October 30 at 8:15 pm

Greenbelt Recreation Center, Greenbelt, MD. Music TBA. Costume Optional. \$12.00. Spectators free. Bring goodies to share. Contact Deidre Heyser at 301-407-2002 or dh204@umail.umd.edu or Ward Whitlock at 301-758-6631 or wardw@erols.com.

The Hollin Buss (8x32J2 Bk 24, #8)

Up in the Air (8x32S3 Bk 20, #2)

J. B. Milne (8x32R3 Angus Fitchet)

McDonald of the Isles (6x32S3 Glendarroch, #8)

Ellie's Jig (8x32J3 Slip Knot Collection)

Ferla Mor (8x32R3 Deeside Book)

Catch the Wind (8x32H3 Island Bay)

Miss Milligan's Strathspey (8x32S3 RSCDS L)

Pelorus Jack (8x32J3 Dolphin Book)

Sleepy Maggie (8x32R3 Bk 11, #5)



♪ **Argyle Weekend**

Friday, November 2 – Sunday, November 4

Trinity Presbyterian Church in Arlington. Friday night Welcome Dance with Findhorn (Steve Hickman, Marty Taylor, Liz Donaldson, Ralph Gordon, joined by Earl Gaddis). Saturday night Ball with Terpsichore (Elke Baker, Liz, and Ralph, joined again by Earl).

Excellent music, excellent teachers, variety, good programs, friendly faces -- just some aspects of Argyle Workshop! John Middleton, our imported Canadian teacher, is a transplanted Scot who has been Scottish dancing nearly all of his life. He has taught hundreds of dancers, and tutored dozens (if not hundreds) of RSCDS teachers. Mel Briscoe, known to many of us locally, is also in high demand for workshops across North America. Both John and Mel stress the joy and fun, while helping us learn to dance better.

Saturday morning features Basic and General classes. Saturday afternoon, Brad Saylor, a well-known English country dance caller, will introduce us to that low-impact, fluid dance form, to the *magical* music of Earl and Dave Wiesler. There's a review session to go over dances for the Ball. Then put your feet up and relax at the after party hosted by Maria Adams, and the Sunday morning Brunch hosted by the Hicks. John Middleton will teach a Sunday teachers' class.

New dancers get a reduced price! We don't expect dancers with under 6 months' experience to be able to dance EVERYTHING in the evenings, so you get a discount. Everyone who registers before October 20 gets a discount and a name tag. If you can't attend the entire workshop, register for the parts you CAN come to. Another way to enjoy the weekend is to offer to host an out-of-town dancer. A few fun folks always travel a long way to dance with us. If you can help (you don't have to be a NoVA branch member), contact Elizabeth Harmon at 703-521-1436 or elizabeth_harmon@watsonwyatt.com. Pick up a flier at class, or check the Web site at www.argyle-weekend.org for details, registration form, and cheat sheets. If you need a flier mailed, contact Ellie Briscoe at 703-461-7383 or mail@briscoe.com.

♪ **Alexandria Christmas Walk Dance**

Saturday, December 1 at 2:30pm

George Washington Middle School, 1005 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA. Music by Tally Ho. Look for fliers at your local class.

♪ **Richmond Christmas Tea Dance**

Saturday, December 15 at 2pm

Church of the Epiphany, Richmond, VA. Contact Stella Fogg 804-740-4404 or StellaF@att.net

The Young and the Restless

Interested in a new Scottish country dance class for children and teens? Know someone who might be? Scottish country dancing is great fun for kids and young adults – after all, why should the grown-ups get to do all the good stuff? Washington Branch has asked Ralph Stoddard to serve as Youth Coordinator, and plans are in the works for a high-energy class for teens and kids, to meet Sunday afternoons at NIH (tentative schedule). Are you interested? How about your kids? Nieces, nephews and grandkids? Scout troop? Church youth group? Home schooling group? If you have ideas to share, want to sign up, or want to get further information as these plans take shape, contact Ralph at 301-649-5666 or caberfei@aol.com.

December Newsletter Deadline

*Submissions for the next issue of Over The Water go to Jenn Stoddard at SawinJ@sec.gov (specify "Newsletter" or "O-T-H2O December" in the header), or by USPS to 1709 Alberti Drive, Silver Spring MD 20902. Email in Microsoft Word preferred. Items for the December issue must be received by **Friday November 8, 2001 (earlier deadline due to the holidays)**. As always, thanks to Jay Andrews for the Calendar and distribution.*

CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT DESCRIPTION <i>(NOTE: details for many local events are elsewhere in this issue)</i> For more, see the Inter-City Scot at < http://members.tripod.com/~InterCityScot >.
Sept. 4, 2001	Classes Resume in Richmond, 7:00 pm.
Sept. 4, 2001	Fall Classes Start in Greenbelt at St. Columba's, 8:00 pm.
Sept. 5, 2001	Classes Resume in Alexandria, 7:30 pm
Sept. 7, 2001	Ligonier Games Welcome Dance, 8:00 pm Mountain View Inn, 1001 Village Dr. Greensburg, PA. Sponsored by Pittsburgh SCDS. \$5. Contact James Chatham at jameschatham@aol.com or James Harland at piperjim@scottishcorner.com . Web site: http://www.contrib.andrew.cmu.edu/~jm5h/pscds.html .
Sept. 7-9, 2001	Ligonier Highland Games Idlewild Park, 3 miles west of Ligonier, Pennsylvania and 45 miles east of Pittsburgh. Entertainers: Clandestine, Ed Miller, and Elke Baker Web site at www.ligoniergames.org .
Sept. 10, 2001	Classes Resume in Bethesda at SCDS-W
Sept. 10, 2001	Classes Resume in Baltimore
Sept. 14, 2001	Washington Branch Basic Technique Dance Class, 8:00 pm NIH Aerobics Center, Bethesda, MD. Teacher: Ralph Stoddard and others.
Sept. 15-16, 2001	Maryland Renaissance Festival Scottish Celebration Crownsville, MD. For information call 800-296-7304, http://www.rennfest.com .
Sept. 21-23, 2001	Scottish Weekend at Camp Ramblewood, Darlington, MD. ** See article in this issue ** Contact Fred Eustis at 410-922-6369, feustis@starpower.net . Go to www.ScottishWeekend.org for registration forms, on-line registration, cheat sheets, etc!!
Sept. 22, 2001	Alexandria Scottish Heritage Fair Fort Ward Park, 4301 West Braddock Rd, Alexandria, VA. Call Russ Henderson 703-683-5849.
Sept. 22, 2001	Williamsburg Scottish Festival Williamsburg Winery, Lake Powell Road, Williamsburg, VA.
Sept. 28, 2001	Washington Branch Basic Social Dance Class, 8:00 pm NIH Aerobics Center, Bethesda, MD. Teacher: Ralph Stoddard and others.
Sept. 29, 2001	Northern Virginia Demo for Fairfax County Parks Come help recruit new dancers! Call Carol Porter for details, 703-379-5779.
Oct. 5, 2001	Washington Branch Experienced Technique Dance Class, 8:00 pm NIH Aerobics Center, Bethesda, MD. Teacher: TBA.
Oct. 6-7, 2001	Chesapeake Celtic Festival Furnace Town Historic Site, Show Hill, MD (near Salisbury)
Oct. 7, 2001	Frederick Scottish Country Dance Party, 2:30 pm Walkersville Town Hall, Walkersville, MD. ** See article in this issue ** Web site: http://www.mindspring.net/~frederickscd .
Oct. 12, 2001	Washington Branch Basic Technique Dance Class, 8:00 pm NIH Aerobics Center, Bethesda, MD. Teacher: Ralph Stoddard and others.
Oct. 13, 2001	Anne Arundel Scottish Festival Anne Arundel Fairgrounds, Annapolis, MD, 410-849-2849.

CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT DESCRIPTION <i>(NOTE: details for many local events are elsewhere in this issue)</i> For more, see the Inter-City Scot at < http://members.tripod.com/~InterCityScot >.
Oct. 13, 2001	Radford Highlander Festival, Radford, VA Radford University and downtown. Call 540-831-5021 or http://runet.edu/festival .
Oct. 19, 2001	Washington Branch Advanced Social Dance Class, 8:00 pm NIH Aerobics Center, Bethesda, MD. Teacher: Betty Lee Barnes. Class open by permission/invitation only; see your group's teacher chair.
Oct. 19, 2001	Stone Mountain/Atlanta Workshop & Gala, workshop 9:00 am-2:30 pm, Gala 7:30 pm. Mountain Park United Methodist Church, 1405 Rockbridge Road, Stone Mountain, GA. Teachers: Bill Zobel, Margaret Adam. Music by Muriel Johnstone. Contact Nancy Kidd at 770-448-2197 nskidd@bellsouth.net or Christine Transue at 770-952-3704 ctscot1@aol.com . Web site: http://www.mindspring.com/~atlbrnch/ .
Oct. 26, 2001	Washington Branch Basic Social Dance Class, 8:00 pm NIH Aerobics Center, Bethesda, MD. Teacher: Ralph Stoddard and others.
Oct. 27-28, 2001	Richmond Highland Games and Celtic Festival Strawberry Hill, Richmond, VA. Dance on the field Sat. Oct. 27 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Music by David Knight and Dave Wiesler. Contact Stella Fogg at 804-740-4404 or StellaF@att.net
Oct. 27, 2001	Waxhaw Highland Games Scottish Country Dance, 7:30 pm Selwyn Presb. Church, Selwyn Ave., Charlotte, NC. Music: Hector McFadyen's Band (Oban). \$15. Contact Jack Pressley 704-814-9647, JPres79334@aol.com . Web: http://www.wshg.org .
Oct. 30, 2001	Saint Columba's Halloween Dance, 8:15 pm Greenbelt Community Center, Greenbelt, MD. ** See article in this issue **
Nov. 2-4, 2001	Argyle Weekend Trinity Presbyterian Church, Arlington VA. ** See article in this issue **
Nov. 3-4, 2001	Jeannie Carmichael Ball and Brunch Dance West Point , NY. Music by Alasdair Fraser & Muriel Johnstone. Contact Sheila Wilson info@rscdsnewyork.org . Web site: http://rscdsnewyork.org/ .
Nov. 9, 2001	Washington Branch Basic Technique Dance Class, 8:00 pm NIH Aerobics Center, Bethesda, MD. Teacher: Ralph Stoddard and others.
Nov. 9-11, 2001	Albany, New York Workshop & Dance Weekend Contact: Lois New 518-383-6580.
Nov. 16, 2001	Washington Branch Advanced Social Dance Class, 8:00 pm NIH Aerobics Center, Bethesda, MD. Teacher: Harry Ways. Class open by permission/invitation only; see your group's teacher chair.
Dec. 1, 2001	Alexandria Christmas Walk Parade, 10:00 a.m. – Noon (approximate) Tea Dance, 2:30 pm at GW Middle Sch, 1005 Mt Vernon Ave., Alexandria. Music: Tally Ho.
Dec. 7, 2001	Washington Branch Experienced Technique Dance Class, 8:00 pm NIH Aerobics Center, Bethesda, MD. Teacher: TBA.
Dec. 14, 2001	Washington Branch Basic Social ** Holiday Party **, 8:00 pm NIH Aerobics Center, Bethesda, MD. Teacher: Ralph Stoddard and others.
Dec. 15, 2001	Richmond Christmas Tea Dance, 2:00 pm Church of the Epiphany, Richmond, VA. Contact Stella Fogg 804-740-4404 or StellaF@att.net

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