

September 2019 News

Hello everyone.

Fall is here again and regular classes will be starting in the first week of September for many groups. As well, we have information on the Welcome Back dance. Happy reading!

HIGHLIGHTS:

TAC – final notes

Summer Dancing

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DETAILS:

TAC – final notes

Calgary Branch along with all other branches in Alberta, had loads of fun serving up some western hospitality for the TAC 2019 Summer School held at Mount Royal University in Calgary from July 26th to August 4th. The TAC Local Committee, led by Sharon Barker and made up of Calgary Branch members, did a great job making TAC 2019 an event to remember. Here's a sample of the Local Committee's hard work: free cowboy hats for everyone for the Tuesday Western Theme night; foot and calf massages from massage therapy students in the afternoons; and every night after dancing a fantastic spread of home baked goodies, as well as lots of savoury nibbles in the Hospitality Suite. In fact, the Hospitality Committee (lead by Freda Osborne) with the help of local Calgary Dance Groups and other Alberta Branches set a new standard for TAC host cities. The Board of Directors would like to thank all of those who worked on the Local Committee and all the Calgary Groups who came together to make TAC 2019 such a great success. We've had many words of thanks from TAC and from participants from across the country and around the world about the welcome and hospitality received from the Calgary locals.

And what a wonderful opportunity for our Branch members! 22 local Calgary dancers including 8 Calgary teachers participated in the Teacher's Conference Weekend and Summer School. And many other Branch members and local dancers joined in for the evening dancing and entertainment. Also, Sharon Barker took the Dancing Achievement Award (DAA) Assessor's Course and is now the only qualified DAA Assessor in Alberta.

And best of all, we get to do it all again next summer! Save the dates! July 26 - August 2, 2020!

Summer Dancing

Calgary Branch Summer dancing was well attended this year, Monday nights at North Glenmore Community Centre. Thank-you to teachers Fiona Carnie, Sheree Iffla, Sharon Barker, Debby Henderson and Jim Adamson. And a big thank-you to Gabriel and Bernie Patterson who set up, collected fees and monitored dancer sign-in and looked after the hall each Monday night all summer long.

Member News

Janyn Bertram has been nominated to receive a Minister's Seniors Service Award from the Government of Alberta. A reception is to be held on September 12th at 1:30 pm at Confederation Park 55+ Activity Center with the Minister of Seniors and Housing, Josephine Pon, on hand to honor the nominees. Congratulations Janyn!

Una Lennam (original teacher of St. Giles) passed away on August 25. A note from David Lennam & Nicole Chaland (Una's children): Celebration of the Life of Una Lennam, 2 p.m. Tuesday Sept. 24, at the gorgeous Sequoia Centre (4665 Falaise Drive in Victoria B.C., part of McCall Gardens Funeral Services). While it's not necessary to RSVP, we would like to keep track of numbers for catering purposes. Please email dlennam@shaw.ca. If you are unable to attend, maybe consider sending along some thoughts of Una, a small story or anything we can share that will enhance the memories. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Zonta Club of Victoria. Una was a long time active member of the Zonta Club which has a mandate to empower women. All contributions will be used to set up a scholarship in Una's name. Mail cheques to David at 1148 Chapman Street, Victoria, BC V8V 2T6

Membership Renewal

It's that time of year again to renew your membership for RSCDS. The cost is \$20.00 and the membership year runs from July 1st to June 30th of the next year.

If you missed purchasing your 2019/2020 membership at the AGM, you can print off a membership form from the RSCDS website (<http://www.rscdscalgary.org/membership>) and

- 1) Bring the form and \$20.00 to your local dance class or the Welcome Back dance on September 21st – cash or cheques accepted,
- 2) Mail the form and a cheque for \$20.00 per membership to:
The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Calgary Branch
P.O. Box 1471, Station M,
Calgary Alberta, Canada,
T2P 2L6
- 3) Email the form to membership@rscdscalgary.org and pay \$20.75 using PayPal on the website - \$20.00 for the membership and \$0.75 for the PayPal fee.

Why renew? Benefits of membership include:

- Voting privileges at all Branch General Meetings
- Hall Rental support for each club around the city allowing nightly fees to stay low
- Member discount rates to RSCDS Calgary Branch events
- Member support to attend workshops around Alberta
- Teacher training support to ensure dancing will continue in the Calgary area throughout the years
- Automatic membership in RSCDS Main Branch in Scotland (HQ)

In addition to becoming part of a worldwide dance community, some of the Benefits of HQ Membership include:

- 10% discount on most recordings, publications and other items available through our shop
 - A twice-yearly members' magazine, Scottish Country Dancer, packed with information and interesting articles delivered to your door
 - Access to the members' area of the RSCDS website
 - Tapping into a worldwide family of Scottish country dancers
 - Through Branches, a voice in the running of the organization
- Other, perhaps less tangible reasons for joining are:
 - Access to RSCDS-trained teachers who give classes at Branch and local levels
 - Access to the annual RSCDS Summer and Winter School and Spring Fling
 - Opportunities to advance dancing skills
 - The chance to learn to teach Scottish Country Dancing through the Society's examination and qualification system
 - Availability of courses for musicians, to encourage the continuation of live music
 - Availability of music recorded specifically for dancing
 - Promotion of the Scottish Country Dance tradition in schools in Scotland and among young people everywhere
 - Provision of graded medal tests to encourage young dancers
 - Learning and helping to preserve and foster original dances and steps
 - Conserving the present and future existence of this form of dance
 - Helping to preserve an important aspect of Scottish culture

Casino Update

We will be having another casino in the second quarter of 2020. Details on date and signing up to help will be in future newsletters.

Calgary Branch Class News

Here are the start-up dates for the fall classes. The information will also be posted on the RSCDS Calgary branch web site.

- Monday – St Giles SCDC, Scarboro United Church 7:30 pm – Sept. 9th
- Monday – Airdrie youth, Airdrie United Church Hall, 5:45 pm – Sept. 9th
- Monday – RSCDS Beginners class, Capital Hill Comm. Hall, 7:30 pm - Sept 9th
- Tuesday - Cross and Thistle, North Glenmore Park Hall, 8:15 – Sept. 17th
- Wednesday – Grace SCDC, Grace United, 7:30 pm – Oct. 2nd
- Thursday – St. Barnabas SCDC, St. Barnabas United Church 7:30 - Sept. 5th
- Thursday – Confederation Park SCDC, 6:30 pm – Sept. 12th
- Saturday – Airdrie Adult class, Airdrie United Church Hall, 7:00 pm – Sept. 7th

Other Area Classes:

- Tuesday – St. Andrew's class, Northmount Baptist Church, 7:30 – Sept. 10th
- Tuesday – Confederation Park, 7:30 pm – Sept. 10th
- Friday – Confederation Park, 10 am – Sept 13th

Upcoming Calgary events

Welcome Back Dance – September 21st

This year in addition to welcoming everyone back to the new season of dance for 2019/2020, we will be recognizing the 45th anniversary of the St. Giles Dance club. As part of this, the St Giles Jig will be on the dance program for the evening.

Location: North Glenmore Park Community Center – 2231 Longridge Drive SW

Time: Doors open at 7:00, dancing to start at 7:30

Musician: Mary Ross

Cost: \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members.

The dance programme can be found on the website at:

<http://www.rscdscalgary.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Welcome-Dance-Programme.pdf>

Scots Gathering – October 11 – 13, 2019 – Canmore

The Annual Scots Gathering, presented by the St Andrew-Caledonian Society of Calgary is coming up for Thanksgiving Weekend in Canmore. There are many class offerings for the weekend but of particular note for dancers is that there will be Scottish Country Dance Classes offered. Registration can be described as “free range” with those who are interested able to stay in Canmore for the weekend and sign up for the full weekend beginning with the Ceilidh on Friday evening and finishing with classes early Sunday afternoon or you may choose to just travel for a day to Canmore to attend a small selection of classes. Please visit the website for complete information and to register. <https://calgaryscots.org>

Workshop reimbursement:

Workshop reimbursement will be available to members again this year. If you are attending an out of town workshop within Alberta, you may be eligible for up to \$200.00 to cover the cost of the workshop itself and accommodation. However, given the need for fiscal prudence, all RSCDS Calgary Branch members may submit only twice within a year, (\$400.00 per year). If you wish to attend more than 2 workshops in the same year, you are encouraged to send in the required paperwork and if there are sufficient funds left over, reimbursement may be made. For more information please see the RSCDS Calgary website under Member Support. In an effort to keep the reimbursements within the current fiscal year, (May 1-April 30), please have all reimbursement claims into the board for consideration by April 15th 2020

Board of Directors Update

Finally, we welcome three new members to the board of directors this year - Nancy Laing, Debby Henderson and Duane Martin - although all their names may be familiar from serving on the board previously. If you have any questions or concerns to bring to the attention of the board, their names, roles and contact emails are shown below. The Board welcomes any and all feedback.

President	Nancy Laing	president@rscdscalgary.org
Vice President & Newsletter Editor	Ann Longair	a.longair@hotmail.ca
Treasurer	Freda Osborne	treasurer@rscdscalgary.org
Secretary	Karen McKenzie	secretary@rscdscalgary.org
Membership Secretary	Sheree Iffla	membership@rscdscalgary.org
Website Editor & Teacher Rep	Sharon Barker	crossandthistle@hotmail.com
Other Board Members:	Michael Begg	Mona Baker
Debby Henderson	Duane Martin	Graham Sewell

Feedback is welcome - please let me know if this information is useful to you and/or if there is anything you would like to see added or any corrections needed. Thanks.

Happy Dancing!!

Ann Longair, Vice president

RSCDS Calgary Branch

Cell: 403.818-5216

Newsletter@rscdscalgary.org