



# November 2020 Newsletter

## Casino

Sunday November 8th

Monday November 9th

Thank-you to everyone who volunteered to work at the Casino. Your support is very much appreciated. These events are critical for the financial health of the organization.

## **Membership Renewal**

For those of you who have renewed your Calgary Branch membership for this year - thank-you! You will continue to enjoy all that Calgary Branch and RSCDS HQ in Scotland have to offer for another year!

For those of you who haven't renewed, here's something to consider:

HQ membership privileges will expire in November if your Calgary Branch membership hasn't been renewed. Remember your Calgary Branch membership costs \$20 but includes your HQ membership which is worth £18.00 - the equivalent of more than \$30 Canadian right now. And this year, more than ever HQ is providing great value directly to each member with:

- *Dance Scottish at Home* - a bi-weekly newsletter articles, music, games, podcasts and more;
- *Online classes* (Live every Wednesday or watch the recording at your convenience) - the classes entertain and connect us with our dancing friends across the globe and keep us dancing!!
- *At Home Podcast* with an 'Album of the Week' featuring musicians playing and talking about Scottish Country Dance music.
- *Scottish Country Dancer magazine* - produced twice a year – normally this is mailed to everyone, but with COVID, the postal service is not reliable, so they have decided to make it available online to members.

We hope you will consider renewing soon and stay connected to your Scottish Country Dance community here in Calgary and around the world. **Great value for \$20!!**

Membership renewal information including online options is included on the branch website at <http://www.rscdscalgary.org/membership>.

### **Virtual Dancing**

For those of you that need a Scottish Country Dance fix and can't wait for in-person dancing to continue – there is virtual dancing opportunities as follows

**RSCDS Calgary Branch** - the Branch will be offering interactive online classes on Monday nights starting at 8pm for 40 minutes. Teachers will be Sharon Barker, Fiona Carnie and Nancy Laing. The classes will generally include a wee bit of step practise followed by a review of a formation or two followed by a dance. Meeting ID: 854 3350 1886 Passcode: 085346

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85433501886?pwd=a2dvYTgvRXpwUVNxVjlQY0FtL1JRdz09>

**Cross and Thistle** - Many thanks to Sharon Barker and her work to offer virtual classes. She has been sending weekly dance lessons and will continue into the fall. If you have not been receiving emails from Cross and Thistle, please contact Sharon at [crossandthistle@hotmail.com](mailto:crossandthistle@hotmail.com)

**Cross and Thistle - Step Classes** - Sharon Barker is also hosting Step Classes both Sunday and Wednesday night at 8pm. If you have not been receiving emails from Cross and Thistle, please contact Sharon at [crossandthistle@hotmail.com](mailto:crossandthistle@hotmail.com)

**RSCDS HQ - Wednesday Lunch time classes** - The folks at RSCDS headquarters in Scotland are offering a virtual class every Wednesday at noon our time. The link for the class is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83347845385>

**RSCDS “Dance Scottish At Home” Bi-Weekly Newsletters and Virtual Class Links** - <https://www.rscds.org/get-involved/dance-scottish-home>

### **Annual General Meeting Notes**

The AGM for the RSCDS Calgary Branch was held virtually via a Zoom meeting September 26, 2020. 22 members took part in person and 7 members were represented by proxy.

The Board of Directors slate as below was declared elected by acclamation.

The President – Nancy Laing  
Vice President – Debby Henderson  
Treasurer – Mona Baker  
Secretary – Karen McKenzie  
Directors at Large:  
Michael Begg  
Don Hunter  
Sheree Iffla  
Duane Martin

Barry Moore  
Bill Mulloy  
Graham Sewell

Results of the survey regarding interest in dancing under Covid 19 were reviewed and discussed; 25 members sent in responses.

Membership fees were kept the same at \$20/year and will still include membership to RSCDS in Scotland– a value of \$34.

### **Calgary Area Classes Update (Branch Supported)**

- RSCDS Calgary Branch Beginner's Classes – suspended - there will be no Calgary Branch in person dancing events prior to December 31, 2020.
- Calgary Scottish Country Dance Society (St Barnabas) - no classes will be held pending future update
- St. Giles Scottish Country Dance Group - no classes will be held pending future update
- Cross and Thistle Scottish Dancers General Class – In person classes are suspended until further notice. In the meantime, virtual classes will be held on Tuesday evenings until we can reconvene in person. All Calgary dancers are welcome to attend. Send an email to Sharon Barker at [crossandthistle@hotmail.com](mailto:crossandthistle@hotmail.com) if you would like to be put on the notification list. Virtual classes are held over Zoom and the technology is very easy to use. If anyone has any questions about using Zoom, contact Sharon and she will be happy to help.
- Grace Scottish Country Dance Group - no classes will be held pending future update
- Confederation Park Scottish Country Dancers - no classes will be held pending future update
- Airdrie Scottish Country Dancers – Classes have been put on hold for the foreseeable future, please contact Ann Vanderwal at [annvanderwal@shaw.ca](mailto:annvanderwal@shaw.ca) for further information

### **Other Calgary and Area Classes**

- Canmore Seniors SCD Group - no classes will be held pending future update
- St. Andrew-Caledonian Society - no classes will be held pending future update
- Douglas Scottish Country Dance Club – no classes will be held pending future update
- Confederation Park +55 Activity Centre Classes – Confederation Park does have a Friday morning class listed for their members. See their website for details.

### **SCD Events**

**Calgary Area Events** - All in-person branch events prior to New Years have been cancelled.

- TAC Teacher Candidates Course – July 18 – August 1, 2021 – Mount Royal University, Calgary
- TAC Summer Teachers' Conference Weekend – July 23-25, 2021 – Mount Royal University, Calgary
- TAC Summer School – July 25 – August 1, 2021 – Mount Royal University, Calgary

### **Out-of-Town Events**

- RSCDS Summer School – Mid July – Mid August 2021 – St. Andrews, Scotland

### **Online Events**

- RSCDS HQ – AGM – November 7 at 2pm GMT (that's 7AM Calgary time). You need to register for this event. You can find further information and the link for registration at <https://www.rscds.org/events/rscds-agm-2020>.
- RSCDS HQ – Dance Scottish An Autumn Evening – November 7 at 7:45pm GMT (that's 12:45pm Calgary time). Please see the DSAH newsletters of October 30 and November 6 for further details. Included in the October 30 newsletter was – *"A playlist of 9 popular dances to RSCDS recorded music accompanied by videos of dancing moments from RSCDS events with photos and background dance information."* The links will be provided in the November 6 newsletter.
- RSCDS North Virginia Branch – Argyle Weekend Workshop – November 13-15 – Online SCD workshop, ball and music appreciation class - <http://www.argyle-weekend.org/index.html> - All events are free of charge (although, they are accepting donations). SCD teacher is Raphaelle Orgeret from France, ball musician is Dave Wiesler and music appreciation teacher is Hanneke Cassel from the US. This is a great opportunity to meet and dance with people from all over the world!

### **Cancelled Events**

Events further afield that have been cancelled:

- Gleneagles Ball has been cancelled for 2020.
- New Zealand Summer School in December/January 2020/2021

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.

Acknowledgements: We gratefully acknowledge the support of The Province of Alberta through Alberta Foundation for the Arts funding and Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission casino funding.

Happy Dancing!!

Bill Mulloy RSCDS Calgary Branch  
Newsletter@rscdscalgary.org

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## Webpages

RSCDS Calgary Branch: <http://www.rscdscalgary.org/>

RSCDS Headquarters: <https://www.rscds.org/>

Teachers' Association (Canada): <https://tac-rscds.org/>

Strathspey Server and the Scottish Country Dance Database: <https://www.strathspey.org/>

RSCDS Ottawa Branch: <https://rscdsottawa.ca/rscds/> - They have a blog called "Dance-A-Day"

## Youtube

RSCDS Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2mNV40nY6C2akB5Z8yE27w>

RSCDS Archives Channel: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpTmBx4w6Lt\\_doXdI8jkbyg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpTmBx4w6Lt_doXdI8jkbyg)

Pas d'basque Practice: Scottish country dancing in everyday life -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YtMW6Z0st-c>

Or do a search of Newcastle Festival – there are many great examples of dancing being done at a competition in Newcastle

RSCDS Edinburgh – <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaZediRLF7-Jqy3x10mzZiQ> - check out their "Bite Sized Lessons"

RSCDS Aberdeen - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC79tY82gxTC5pnCmJfpd0-A>

RSCDS Paris - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6uiCPNy3qGxbO8cQUAyxwQ>

RSCDS Lyon - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgd3QkrXFKAxufxF1ySRWg> - check out The Toilet Roll Reel

Here is a video of Derek Haynes doing a step dance called Come Ashore Jolly Tar -

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YK9cxGJ\\_YQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YK9cxGJ_YQ) – he wrote many dances including

MacDonald of the Isles, Gaelforce Wind and It's Nae Bother

## Music

BBC Scotland's "Take the Floor" a weekly broadcast of Scottish Music with more than half of the programme being dedicated to SCD music: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07y72yv>

Denis Snowdon's "A Little Breath of Scotland" a weekly Canadian broadcast of Scottish Music of all genres: <http://www.denissnowdon.com/blog/>

Facebook (here are just a few, there are tons – just search for Scottish Country Dance and there will be no shortage of things to look at)

Groups:

Cross and Thistle Scottish Dancers -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/147490665289793/?ref=bookmarks>

Scottish Country Dance Teachers - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/5808618015/> (anybody can join – you don't have to be a teacher)

Pages:

RSCDS Calgary Branch - <https://www.facebook.com/RscdsCalgary/>

RSCDS Headquarters – <https://www.facebook.com/RSCDS/>

Teachers' Association (Canada) – <https://www.facebook.com/TAC-Teachers-Association-Canada-214700221929380/> (anybody can like the page – you don't have to be a teacher)

Tunes in the Hoose - <https://www.facebook.com/TunesInTheHoose/>  
Ian Robertson Music - <https://www.facebook.com/Ian-Robertson-Music-113581186750478/>  
Scotscores (Muriel Johnstone) - <https://www.facebook.com/scotscores/>  
Highland Wellness and Strength - <https://www.facebook.com/highlandwellness83/> - for  
strengthening exercises