



The Petronella Paper

January - February 2010

Newsletter of

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society - Atlanta Branch, Inc.

www.mindspring.com/~atlbrnch

Remember dancing till you dropped to the irresistible music of Nicholas and Mara at Unicoi 2008? Here is your chance to do so again. They are coming back for a repeat performance, and you don't want to miss it!!!

**SAVE \$15 ON UNICOI! REGISTER BY February 1
FOR THE EARLY-BIRD DISCOUNT**

ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY
DANCE SOCIETY



Atlanta Branch

Spring Workshop

March 12 -14, 2010

Teachers:

Jeff CORRIGAN
Williamsburg, Virginia.

James KUTZNER
McDouane, Florida

Music by:

Nicholas Williams
And
Mara Shea

Unicoi State Park and Lodge
Helen, Georgia

Friday Welcome Dance

Blue Bonnets	32J2	Book 3 #5
Corn Rigs	32R2	Book 4 #12
The Byron Strathspey	32S3	Drewry/Deeside 2
Trip to Bavaria	32R4	MacGregor-Brown
The Linton Ploughman	32J2	Book 5 #6
The Minister on the Loch	32S3	Goldring/24Graded+Social SCD
Mairi's Wedding	40R3.	Cosh 22+1
Montréal Rendezvous	32R3	Montréal Moments
*** Intermission ***		
Crockett's Victory Garden	32R4	Hugh Thurston, 2 Set Dances
Postie's Jig	32J4	Cosh 22+1
Indian River Strathspey	32S3	George & Onie Senyk
The Wild Geese	32J3	Book 24 #3
The Australian Ladies	32R3	Glasgow Assembly
The Robertson Rant	80S4	Book 39 #8
Red House	40R2	Book 7 #2
Duke of Perth	32R3	Book 1 #8

Saturday Ball

Pelorus Jack	32J3	Book 41 #1 (Skelton/Dolphin #8)
Round Reel of Eight	88R4	Book 27 #7
John McAlpin	32S3	Galloway Album
Ferla Mor	32R3	Drewry/Deeside 1
The Barmkin	88R4	Goldring/24 Graded & Social
MacDonald of the Isles 5X	32S5	Montreal Moments
The White Heather Jig	40J4	Cosh 22+2
The Balgeddie Reel	32R5	Mary Brandon
*** Intermission ***		
Hooper's Jig	32J3	Miss Milligan's Miscellany Vol. II
The Pig Farmer's Wife	40R3	Holly Boyd/Here's to You
Kathy's Garden	32S3	Sandy Gallamore
The Piper and the Penguin	88R4	Scotia Suite
Feisty Women 6x	32R3	Cleveland Ohio
The Rose Garden	24S2	San Francisco Book 2
Catch the Wind	32R3	Iain Boyd/Island Bay Coll.
The Clumsy Lover	32R3	I.G. Richardson

Member Birthdays

January

04 Nancy Kidd
17 Molly Glenn
20 Lori Banissi
22 Susan Tumlin



February

01 Marshall McLaughlin
15 Rhonda Raye
20 Sylvia Chandler
28 Bill Bell

Please let Sylvia Priest know when you have any changes in your contact information by sending her an e-mail to sapriest at mindspring.com or calling 770-377-5114. Thank you for your help in keeping our membership information current.

You Are Invited to a Party!

The February Social will be held at the Union Hill Community Center and will be sponsored by Ron and Barb Gemmell to mark their 50th wedding anniversary.

Dancers are invited to join the Gemmell family and friends for a pot luck dinner in the hall after the dance. Attendees are requested to bring a covered dish if it is convenient. Drinks, water and punch, will be provided.

Ron and Barb have been collecting things for years and are just about out of space, so please: No Gifts.
Dress code will be our usual 'social' attire.

(Editor's Note: Please see the Nov.-Dec. issue of "The Petronella Paper" for the story about how the Gemmells met)



February Social Program

Saturday, February 20, 2010, 2:00 p.m.

Union Hill Community Center

MC: Ron Gemmell

Kendall's Hornpipe	32J2	Book of Graded Dances
Maxwell's Rant	32R3	Book 18
The Minister on the Loch	32S3.3	Golding/24 Graded+Social SCD
A Trip to Bavaria	32R4	James MacGregor-Brown
Fugal Fergus	48J3	Hugh Foss – The Waverly Fugues
BarbaRon	32S3	Elizabeth Lee Barnes Aug 2009
The Piper and the Penguin	88R4 Sq	Scotia #6
The Peat Fire Flame	40R3	John Drewry – Bon Accord ~intermission~
Hooper's Jig	32J3	Collins
Bonnie Ina Campbell	32S3	Book 37
Bonavista	40R4	Georgina Finlay (Toronto)
Quarrie's Jig	32J3	Book 36
Culla Bay	32S4 Sq	Book of Graded Dances
Montgomerie's Rant	32J3	Book 10
Magic of Merrill	32R3	Lyle Ramshaw, San Francisco
The Clumsy Lover	32R3	I.G. Richardson

Absolutely free! Come celebrate the Gemmell's 50th Wedding anniversary!!!

Water & punch provided.

Please bring a pot luck dish for supper afterwards.



Flowers of the Forest

by Sylvia Priest

Many of you have heard that John Middleton passed away on Thursday, January 14th. John was a workshop teacher twice at Unicoi and twice at Dillard as well as the workshop in Culloden. He tutored candidate classes, served as TAC chairman, and was a mainstay at Thistle School for many years.

Our thoughts and prayers are with J'ina and the family. Shown below is a copy of the announcement in the Hamilton Spectator. John will be truly missed by all who knew him as a friend and as a teacher.

MIDDLETON, John Moffatt

Peacefully passed away, in his 76th year, surrounded by his family, on Thursday, January 14, 2010. John will be greatly missed by his wife and best friend of 47 years, J'ina and his loving daughter Rhonda (Jon) Moore. Also missing Papa will be his only grandchildren, Seona and Andrew of whom he was extremely proud. John is survived by his three brothers, Charlie (Peggy), Sandy (Ann) and Peter (Jan) and sister-in-law Janet Johnson. John will be missed by his many nieces and nephews and their families. John was a well loved and respected school teacher for many years in Ancaster (Grange and Fessenden schools) and Burlington (Rolling Meadows and John T. Tuck schools). John was a lifelong member of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society of Hamilton and the White Cockade. He was a world renowned Scottish Country Dance teacher and taught many workshops as well as tutored dancers to become teachers. John was very active in the church where his faith was strong and unending. He served on numerous committees, proudly sang in the choir and was a church elder for many years. John was also a member of the Probuc Club of Hamilton. John had a great love for life and did not let his chronic asthma stop him from doing what he enjoyed. John loved music, dance, travel, reading and most of all his family. He was so very proud of everyone. A memorial service to celebrate John's life will be held on Sunday, January 24, 2010 at 4 p.m. at MacNab St. Presbyterian Church (116 MacNab St. S., Hamilton, Ontario). Visitation will be held at the church from 3-4 p.m. prior to the service. Please wear your kilts or Scottish attire. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Lung Association or MacNab St. Presbyterian Church would be appreciated. Special thanks to all the nurses and doctors in the CCU at McMaster who cared and looked after John so well. He spoke quite highly of you all.

Dancing in South Africa

by Becky Sager

Stick another push-pin in the map of places where roving Marietta Class members have danced. As soon as I was sure I was going to visit my brother, Peter, at his new home near Cape Town, I e-mailed Campbell Tyler who posts to the Strathspey List from down there. I was quickly invited to attend Campbell's Wednesday evening classes, and his group's "End of Season Dance" which was scheduled for the last Saturday night of my visit.

Peter and Lyn had a very full schedule planned for me. I was there for four weeks, six days of which were taken up by a road trip out to the Addo Elephant National Park near Port Elizabeth.



Buitenverwachting vineyard, Constantia region

There was a lot of eating out at good restaurants, and more culture than I experience in a decade at home. We attended three symphony concerts in the "shabby chic" old City Hall, two nights at the ballet – Romeo and Juliet and The Nutcracker, both in African interpretations, Mozart's Requiem, a fine piano recital and finally the Military Tattoo!

We've all read the program notes for Tattoos, whether at our (now defunct) Atlanta version, or in Edinburgh. We could probably all paraphrase the derivation of the name of the event, from the old Dutch "doe den tap toe". You can imagine how meaningful that seems when you experience it inside an actual old Dutch fort, the Castle of Good Hope, the oldest building in the city, which dates from 1682. It was a very good Tattoo, even though there was no dancing. Highlights included ritual locking of the Castle gate by halberdiers in period uniforms; the city Mounted Police team performing on ten sturdy horses, sometimes at high speed; a silent drill by sailors of the South African Navy; the brass band performances, with the climactic 1812 Overture featuring the Cape Field Artillery with their four 25-pounder cannons. (The Tattoo took place over three nights – the previous night we had enjoyed the gunfire during the concert at nearby City Hall, fortunately as part of the Shostakovich symphony, not the earlier violin concerto!) Three pipe bands took part, with a very moving lone piper up on the wall. They brought the evening to a close marching off to, of course, The Black Bear.

And, yes, I did manage to fit in two nights of dancing. I got to one class, very similar in size to the Marietta Class very similar in the mix of age, sex and experience, and like us, concentrating on learning dances from the upcoming Dance program.

The Dance was at a country club with a sit-down dinner. Dancers from other local classes attended. There was booking, in spite of Campbell having passed on to his group the consensus of Strathspey that booking is a Bad Thing and has the result of excluding visitors. This visitor decided that if I couldn't beat them, I'd better join them and managed to get a good number of names on my dance card during the cocktail hour on the terrace.



Warthog, buffalo, lion and elephant in the park at Addo

There were also any number of day trips, some for pure sightseeing: Table Mountain, where cable cars whisk you up from 1180 ft to 3560 ft in three minutes while the floor of the circular car rotates 360°; Cape Point – the tip of the Cape Peninsula, not to be confused with the Cape of Good Hope which is the most southerly point on the peninsula, nor with Cape Agulhas, the most southerly point in Africa; Cape Town waterfront, where the tourists congregate, and the District Six Museum where the pain of the apartheid era is memorialized.

We made several trips for the purpose of wine tasting, to the Stellenbosch area and up the West Coast, and just around the corner from Peter and Lyn's home in the seaside town of Hout Bay you'll find the Constantia vineyards. We tasted a lot of wine, bought a lot of wine, drank a lot of wine...

Music for the dancing was provided by Campbell's iPod, with the addition of a splendid young, live, fiddler who accompanied about half the tracks. Remember the name James Hall, you may well hear more of him in the future!



At the Dance with Campbell

I was happy that many of my favorite dances were on the program. The internet facilitates the sharing of dances that have been enjoyed on one continent with dancers on another. Campbell had also recently led a dancing expedition to Scotland. I was surprised to see Never at Sea included, a dance the Gemmells and I encountered for the first time last March in Florida and brought back to Atlanta (it's the 48-bar hornpipe for a 6-couple set, with 12 bars of the Trip to Bavaria figure) The South Africans danced it with great enthusiasm and demanded an encore.

The only thing I didn't like about the trip was having to leave early summer below the equator and come home to dreary early winter here!



The Real Elephant Walk



Dancing in California

by Marilyn Blashke

Ted and I have returned from an expensive but inspiring trip to the Whitaker Wellness Institute in Orange County, CA. It was an inspiring experience to be among the patients who were improving and even becoming cured with diet, exercise, water, vitamin and mineral supplements, and treatments (many that are only found together at this one place).



While there, we visited many old friends in the San Diego and LA areas. RSCDS is quite alive there. We could have gone dancing every night including 2 balls (which we declined- too much of a good thing). We did dance with Shirley Saturensky's class in Tustin, Bob Patterson's class in Costa Mesa, and Jack Rennie's 2 classes, one in Redondo Beach and the other in Torrance. We came home tired, happy, and fit.



Arkansas Workshop

from Judy Robertson

The Arkansas dancers are planning a workshop for February 27, 2010. That's the last weekend in February, so put it on your calendar! Keith Bark will be the instructor and Elke Baker will provide the music for the workshop and ball. Hope you can come!



Gatlinburg Scottish Games and Festival – May 15 & 16

from Cynthia Atkins

Plans are still being finalized and I will let everyone know the details in the upcoming months. There will be a dance Saturday night, May 15. The musicians are David Knight and Dave Wiesler. The dance will start at 8pm and will be held at the Gatlinburg Community Center which is on the same grounds as the games. Dancing should last to around midnight.

On both Saturday, May 15 and Sunday, May 16 there will be demonstrations during the games. Sunday is considered the featured day for dancing. The board would like to point out an event to draw people to the games on Sunday. We are going to have our own platform and won't have to share with the highland dancers as in previous years. If anyone would like to assist with the demo tent, please let me know. Hopefully, people who have not attended the games in a while because there has been no dancing will be able to join us once again!



ROBERT BURNS DINNER – Athens, GA

Enjoy an evening of traditional Scottish fare, spirited toasts, bagpipes, live music and dancing celebrating Scotland's favorite bard, Robert Burns.

Saturday, January 30, 2010
6:30—10:00 pm
Classic Center
Empire Room/Foundry St.
Athens, Georgia

In life, Robert Burns was a farmer, excise man, and ladies man. Before he died in 1796 he produced hundreds of songs and poems. Some of the more familiar quotes still used today are:

*My love is like a red, red rose
The best laid plans of mice and men oft go astray
O would some Power the gift give us to see
ourselves as others see us!*

Robert Burns' works were rousing celebrations of the common man and the joys of human friendship.

Burns dinners have been a part of Scottish culture for nearly 200 years. There are thousands of Burns dinners held throughout the world each year on or near the poet's birthday, January 25. The basic format for the evening has remained unchanged over the years.

The program begins with piping in the haggis and a dramatic recitation of Burns' address to the haggis, followed by humorous toasts to the lassies and laddies, and readings from Robert Burns' poetry.

Live entertainment will include

- Robert Burns songs and music performed by various local acoustic musicians..
- Scottish band performance by the North Atlanta Pipes and Drums
- Scottish dances by the Athens Scottish Country Dance group,
- and of course — the sounds of the great highland bagpipes.

The evening concludes with all singing Burns' classic song "Auld Lang Syne".

RESERVATIONS:

Tickets for the Burns Dinner and evening entertainment can be reserved at the Classic Center Box Office. Price is \$35 per person. Phone the Box Office Mon-Sat 10 am—6 pm, 706-357-4444 or go online at www.ClassicCenter.com. Tables for 10 guests can be reserved when purchasing tickets at the box office. Tickets will not be available at the door. Deadline for reservations is January 25th. Make your reservations early – this has been a sold-out event for the past 4 years.

Traditional Scottish attire is encouraged (for kilt rentals contact www.AtlantaKilts.com). Cash bar will be available. Catering is by Center Stage. Location is the Empire Room in the Foundry Street Building of the Classic Center. Complementary parking is provided in the parking deck.

For more information about the Robert Burns Dinner, see our Website at www.thistleandkudzu.net or email us at info@thistleandkudzu.net

Robert Burns Dinner – Rome, GA

Hello Fellow Celts,

Reservations are now being accepted for the 5th Annual Robert Burns Night Dinner celebrating the 251st birthday of Scotland's national poet hosted by Lochs and Hills Celtic Association of Rome. The event will be held Saturday, January 30, 2010, at the Rome Civic Center at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person. Call Janet Baltzer at 706-234-6317 or email reservations before January 28. A new six course menu is being planned. You may bring your own alcoholic beverage. This year's program will feature a musical tribute to the bard presented by the five member Ceilidh Celtic Ensemble complemented by slides from the Baltzer's trip to Burns Country. The slides will show Burns' birthplace, the Bonnie Doon, the Globe Inn where the first Burns Dinner was held, his mausoleum, and other Burnsiana sites. Lauren Riley, Shorter College Rotary exchange student from Scotland will perform several Highland dances accompanied by Joe Dunaway on bagpipes, and add other special Scottish touches to the evening. Celtic attire is encouraged! Join us for an evening of feasting, toasting, poetry, and music and Scottish fun! Bring your friends. Hope to see you there! Janet Baltzer

Irish Supper – Rome, GA

Save the date: Saturday, March 13, will be the 2nd annual "Pot Luck o' the Irish Supper" at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Hope you can join the fun! Janet Baltzer

Christmas Social 2009



photo contributed by Linda Lovejoy

Old Scottish Joke

(submitted by Werner Linz)

It seems this Scotsman had some sad news to impart by telegram. He was told the minimum charge was for ten words, more would cost him extra and he would save nothing if he sent fewer. After some cogitation he came up with the following:

Bruises hurt stop Erased afford stop Erected stop Analysis hurt too stop Infectious dead stop (for you youngsters, the word, "stop" was used in place of a period)

Signed, Angus

Can you read it so it makes sense?

(The answer can be found at the bottom of page 6.)

Atlanta Area Scottish Country Dance Classes

Wednesday

Social Class: 7:45-9:30 p.m.

LaGrange School of Ballet
212 Bull Street, LaGrange

Teachers: Myrtice Adcock – (706) 882-9655
[m41m33 at wirelesshometown.com](mailto:m41m33@wirelesshometown.com)
Randy Allen – (706) 663-2545
[raallen at mindspring.com](mailto:raallen@mindspring.com)

Contacts: Anne Short – (706) 845-0503
Werner & Catherine Linz
[walinz at mindspring.com](mailto:walinz@mindspring.com)

Thursday

Beginner/Intermediate: 7:30-9:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church
189 Church Street, Marietta

Teachers: Walt Ligon
[wligonmd at bellsouth.net](mailto:wligonmd@bellsouth.net)
Becky Sager
[bsager3 at juno.com](mailto:bsager3@juno.com)

Contact: Sylvia Priest – (770) 377-5114
[sapriest at mindspring.com](mailto:sapriest@mindspring.com)

Beginner/Advanced: 7:00-9:30 p.m.

Covenant Presbyterian Church
2461 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta

Teacher: Andrew Smith
Contact: Trish Bolton – (770) 442-5423
[tabhome at mindspring.com](mailto:tabhome@mindspring.com)

Please call or e-mail for details/schedule.
Novice dancer instruction is scheduled in
September

Beginner/Intermediate: 7:00-9:00 p.m.

(The Thistle & Kudzu Dancers)

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Athens
780 Timothy Road, Athens 30606 (off of Loop 10)

Teacher: Jesse Behmke
Contact: Carrie Slayton 706-255-1010

For more information, please email [info at thistleandkudzu.net](mailto:info@thistleandkudzu.net)

Friday Evenings (First and Third of Month) :

Beginner: 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Heritage Baptist Church
1070 Douthit Ferry Rd., Cartersville, GA

Teachers: Dawn Dorsey
Bob Messner

Contact: Susan Tumlin (H) 770-386-3656
[susantumlin at yahoo.com](mailto:susantumlin@yahoo.com)

Before attending a class for the first time, or for more information, please contact the person(s) indicated.

You don't need to bring a partner.

Flat, soft-soled shoes are recommended!



RSCDS Atlanta Branch Committee of Management

Chairman	Dawn Dorsey	770-934-1561 bionicelt at comcast.net
Vice-Chairman	Rhonda Raye	770-606-0356 Rstarthistle at gmail.com
Hon. Secretary	Sylvia Priest	770-377-5114 sapriest at mindspring.com
Hon. Treasurer	Becky Sager	770-427-4642 bsager3 at juno.com
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The Atlanta Branch Committee of Management meets on the first **Thursday** of each month at **6:30 PM**, at First Presbyterian Church, 189 Church Street, Marietta. All members are invited to attend and may speak on any issue. The next meeting will be held on Feb. 4, 2010.



The Atlanta Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society publishes *The Petronella Paper* six times a year. Full-year subscription (mailed to US address) is \$6.00; half-year is \$3.00. The newsletter may be accessed on the Branch website. Articles, subscription requests and other correspondence regarding *The Petronella Paper* should be addressed to:

Editor, *The Petronella Paper*
RSCDS – Atlanta Branch
P.O. Box 33905
Decatur, GA 30033

Articles for the March/April issue should be received by the editor **on or before Feb. 24** and may be of any length: typed, neatly handwritten, or e-mailed to **rstarthistle at gmail.com**. Any material submitted becomes the property of *The Petronella Paper* and will not be returned. Anonymous contributions will not be accepted. All letters must be signed. All articles may be edited (as required by limitations of space and appropriateness) before publication.



Answer from page 5: Bruce is hurt. He raced a Ford. He wrecked it. And Alice is hurt, too. In fact, she's dead.

Please keep this page handy for future reference.

Upcoming Events

January

- 30 Social – Athens – 1pm
- 30 Burns Dinner – Athens – 6:30pm
- 30 Burns Dinner – Rome – 6:30pm*

February

- 20 Gemmels' 50th Anniversary Dance – Union Hill
2:00pm
- 20 Sarasota Ball – Sarasota, FL
- 27 Arkansas Mid-Winter Workshop and Ball –
Little Rock, AR

March

- 12-14 Unicoi Workshop & Ball – Helen, GA
- 26-27 Space Coast Spring Fling – Cocoa Beach, FL

April

- 16-18 Atlanta Dogwood Festival
- 16-18 Loch Norman Highland Games – Charlotte, NC
- 30-May 1 Triad Highland Games – Greensboro, NC

May

- 15-16 Gatlinburg Scottish Games & Festival – Gatlinburg, TN

June

- 12-13 Richmond Silver Thistle Ball – Richmond, VA

July

- 4-9 Thistle School – Banner Elk, NC

October

- 15-17 Stone Mountain Highland Games

* denotes events with no Scottish Country Dancing



If undelivered, return to:
The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Atlanta Branch
Post Office Box 33905
Decatur, GA 30033
U.S.A.