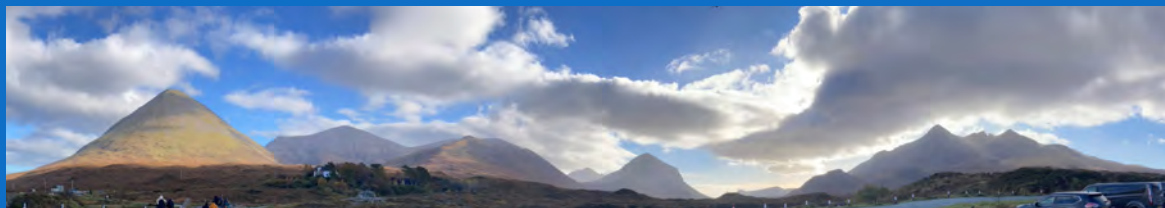




Summer  
2024

# RSCDS Calgary Branch Newsletter



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the end of May, we held our AGM where we welcomed some new members to the board. Thank you to Lorraine Girodat and Sheree Iffla for agreeing to volunteer their time to the Branch over the next year.

I would especially like to thank two board members who have served their maximum five consecutive years on the board. They have both offered to mentor new board members and help with planning events, so their work is not complete yet.

First, I would like to acknowledge Duane Martin. He has served on the board as a director with the casino portfolio. As you all know, we wouldn't be able to have all the classes and events at such an affordable price without our casino funds. Duane has done a great job of making sure that all our paperwork is submitted so that we can host the casinos as well as rounding up all the volunteers. Thank you, Duane.

Second, I would like to thank Nancy Laing. Nancy has served on the board as President, Secretary and Treasurer over the last five years, with the last year's portfolio being a combined Secretary/Treasurer position. It is safe to say that the board would not run without either the Secretary or the Treasurer and Nancy has certainly put in the hours over her term, and especially this last year to make sure that everything runs smoothly.

Please join me in thanking Duane and Nancy for all

their hard work. I would also like to thank everyone who served on the board last year. It was a busy year, and our events could not happen without everyone on the board pitching in and helping out.

Our new website is now live! I encourage you all to take a look. Cathy Turnbull has done an extraordinary amount of work to get this ready and we are indebted to her. Check it out at [www.rscdscalgary.org](http://www.rscdscalgary.org).

Just because summer is here and our regular weekly classes have finished for the season, doesn't mean that dancing or dancing related activities have stopped. The Branch is hosting summer classes at Scarboro Community Hall on Monday evenings with a variety of local teachers taking turns teaching the classes. A few of our dancers are off to week long schools to hone their technique and we wish them safe travels, great dancing, tremendous music, meeting new friends and seeing old friends. Have a great time at Australian Winter School and TAC Summer School.

Closer to home, we are looking for volunteers and dancers to help out at the Canmore Highland Games on Sunday, September 1, 2024. If you are interested in dancing or volunteering at the Games, please contact me at [president@rscdscalgary.org](mailto:president@rscdscalgary.org) and I can provide further information.

Don't forget to also sign up for a time slot at our casino on September 3 and 4. Volunteers will be



Find fun, fitness &  
friendship with Scottish  
country dance!



## Word Search - Scottish Breweries

There's nothing quite like a cold beer on a hot summer day. Here are a few Scottish Breweries.



- |             |               |               |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| ◊ BEATH     | ◊ DEVANHA     | ◊ OLD WORTHY  |
| ◊ BELHAVEN  | ◊ DRYGATE     | ◊ SHILLING    |
| ◊ BREWDOG   | ◊ FIERCE BEER | ◊ SINCLAIR    |
| ◊ BROUGHTON | ◊ FYNE ALES   | ◊ SPEY VALLEY |
| ◊ CAIRNGORM | ◊ HOUSTON     | ◊ TINPOT      |
| ◊ COUL      | ◊ KELBURN     | ◊ VALHALLA    |
| ◊ CUILLIN   | ◊ LOLA ROSE   | ◊ WELLPARK    |
| ◊ DEESIDE   | ◊ MCEWAN'S    | ◊ WILLIAMS    |

## Contest Time

Email your answers to the three questions below to [president@rscdscalgary.org](mailto:president@rscdscalgary.org) before August 15, 2024, to be entered in the contest. Winners will be announced in our next newsletter.

### Contest questions:

1. When and where was the Scottish Country Dance Society (SCDS) formed?
2. Who were the two ladies credited with the forming of the SCDS?
3. What year did SCDS become The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS)?
4. Bonus question: Michael Diack is shown in the picture below. How was he involved in the Scottish Country Dance Society?



## MEMBERSHIPS

It will soon be time to renew your RSCDS Calgary Branch (“Branch”) membership. Our membership year runs from July 1st to June 30th each year and we generally start accepting renewals at our AGM at the end of May. Our membership dues, which were \$20/year for many years, will be increasing to \$25/year as voted by the membership at the 2023 AGM in September 2023. Memberships for 2024/2025 will be available at summer dancing or regular dance classes when they resume in the fall. As well, the membership form is available on the website.

## Why join the RSCDS Calgary Branch?

Our Branch receives charitable gaming funds raised with the support of the AGLC. This funding is used to help with hall rentals and hall insurance for your weekly classes allowing your weekly class fees to stay low. The funding is also used to support our members to attend workshops held within Alberta – this can be a value of up to \$200 per workshop!

Another major benefit of being a Branch member is that it includes membership in The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS), the worldwide organization of which Calgary is a Branch. The value of this worldwide membership is £26 (\$44.25).

As a member of RSCDS, you are able to log into the ‘My RSCDS’ section of the [rscds.org](https://rscds.org) website. For more information on how to login, please email Freda Osborne at [membership@rscdscalgary.org](mailto:membership@rscdscalgary.org).

## BRANCH NEWS

### 2024 Annual General Meeting

We had a successful AGM on May 25th of this year with 36 members in attendance. At the meeting the policy regarding the addition of electronic banking was passed. There was also an amendment to the number of days a written notice for a General Meeting must be given to members. While this had been 21 days before the date of any General Meeting, this has been changed to 14 days to keep in line with more current recommendations.

Thank you to everyone who has either joined the board or has stayed on for another year. We are still in need of a Corresponding Secretary and a Casino Chair.

#### **Board members:**

<i>President</i>	<i>Sharon Barker</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Ann Longair</i>
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	<i>Sheree Iffla</i>
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	<i>[vacant]</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Kathy Moorcraft</i>
<i>Directors at Large</i>	<i>Don Hunter, Freda Osborne, Cathy Turnbull, Janet Newediuk, Donna Burwash, Lorraine Girodat, [1 vacant position]</i>

## Urgent Call for Additional Board Members

Although board members need to be re-elected by the membership each year, they can sit on the board for up to 5 years. In general, board members serve for 5 years, and some keep on coming back to serve again after taking a year off. We hope you'll consider joining the team. We work hard, but have lots of fun working together too!! Please contact Sharon Barker at [president@rscdscalgary.org](mailto:president@rscdscalgary.org) if you would like to take on one of these positions:

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY** – This is a new position and will be a Director at large position. The Corresponding Secretary will be responsible for keeping the membership informed – generally through email, but if your skills lie in social media, then this position could include keeping Facebook up to date as well. Emails go out to the membership with the quarterly newsletters, to announce events or ask for volunteers. If enquiries are received from the public interested in joining beginner classes, the Corresponding Secretary would respond to those as well. Skills needed include sending emails from Apple Mail or MS Outlook, and managing the contact list for members. A MacBook Air is available for the Corresponding Secretary which will have access to the contact lists of the membership.

**CASINO CHAIR** – With our next Casino coming up in September 2024, this is the perfect time to shadow the outgoing Casino chair who will continue in the position for the September 2024 Casino although he will no longer be serving on the board as of the AGM in May. The Casino Chair organizes the volunteers once Casino dates are known, is the main point of contact for the AGLC and files all the required paperwork for the current and next Casino.

The board meets monthly generally on the second Saturday of each month from 10am to noon. We do event planning including setting up for events, decorating, buying food and drink and organizing volunteers to help. We manage communications with Branch members like these monthly newsletters, maintain our website, post to social media, and take memberships. We do the governance work for the Branch such as drawing up policies and procedures, financial management and strategic and budget planning. There are a lot of ways for board members to contribute.

## Call for Casino Volunteers

The Branch's next Casino Event will be on Tuesday, September 3rd and Wednesday, September 4th, 2024. If you have already signed up – thank-you! And there are still lots of shifts to be filled.

Please email [secretary@rscdscalgary.org](mailto:secretary@rscdscalgary.org) with the position you would like to work:

*General Manager*  
*Alt General Manager*  
*Banker*  
*Count Room Supervisor*  
*Cashier*  
*Chip Runner*  
*Count Room*

and your preferred shifts (**Day, Evening, or Late Night Count Room**). Note that shifts are assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis, and we will do our best to get you the shift you want. Volunteer early!

Thank-you for volunteering!

## Canmore Highland Games

The Canmore Highland Games will be a full weekend this year - Saturday, August 31st and Sunday, September 1st. Lots of fun and activities will be available. Find more information at: <https://canmorehighlandgames.ca/>

We are looking for volunteers to help staff our information tent on the Sunday. Please consider volunteering for a shift and email [secretary@rscdscalgary.org](mailto:secretary@rscdscalgary.org) and/or [fredaosborne@shaw.ca](mailto:fredaosborne@shaw.ca). Your gate pass will be either free if you work at the booth, or the Branch will cover the cost. Thank-you!

**Shifts:** 6:30 – 10:00am (*Set Up*)  
10:00 – NOON  
NOON – 3:00pm  
3:00 – 5:00pm (*Take Down*)

We have also been asked to do a dance demo on Sunday September 1st. There will be two shifts of half hour each. Nancy Laing and Janet Newediuk are putting together a simple dance program that will be practiced on Monday nights at Summer Dancing. We will also be encouraging audience participation during the demonstration.

If you can help with the demo, please email Janet ([newediuk@gmail.com](mailto:newediuk@gmail.com)) or Nancy ([nancylaing@me.com](mailto:nancylaing@me.com)) and join us at Summer Dancing on Monday nights if you are able. Otherwise, we can get you the list of dances to review at home. We need at least 8 dancers to volunteer.

## New Website

We are pleased to announce that the new website for RSCDS Calgary is up and running. Thank you so much to Cathy Turnbull for working with Digital Rose in developing this new website. On the website, you will find information about the branch, classes, activities and links to RSCDS Scotland and so much more. Please check it out at <https://rscdscalgary.org/>.

## Calgary Fall Workshop

Please save the date for our fall workshop – Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Join us for a wonderful day of dance with teachers Ron Wallace and Gail Forrester and the music of Flindrikin – Lisa Doyle and Gary Thomas. The location and times will be announced later. Check the website for the latest information.

## NEWS FROM RSCDS HEADQUARTERS



**Tuesday, May 7, 2024**

### **His Majesty The King to become Patron of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society**

We are honoured to confirm that, after receiving correspondence from Buckingham Palace, a review of the Patronages of The Late Queen has taken place and His Majesty King Charles III has accepted the Patronage of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.

The King will be the Society's second Royal Patron, succeeding The late Queen Elizabeth II, who was Patron of the Society from 1947, as HRH Princess Elizabeth until her death in 2022.

Chair of the RSCDS William Williamson said 'His Majesty The King, like the Late Queen, has always expressed his affection for Scotland and its culture. With this news, we look forward to his continued interest in the life of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. I hope you will, when the opportunity arises, raise a glass to our new Patron and the future of our Society.'

The RSCDS expresses deep gratitude to The King for his ongoing support of the Society and for assuming the role of Patron.



**Save the Date! 23rd November 2024.**

Read about the new project from the Membership Services Committee:

[Dance Around the World.](#)



Download the New Member's Membership Guide:

[New Member's Membership Guide](#)

# SUMMER CLASSES

## RSCDS Calgary Branch Summer Dancing



**Mondays 7:30 – 9:30pm from June 3 to August 26, 2024**

The cost is \$5 per class.

**Scarboro Community Centre 1727 14 Ave SW, Calgary**

**\*\* Please note: Do not park on 14th Ave, instead use the parking lot by the tennis courts on 15th Ave.**

For more information contact [secretary@rscdscalgary.org](mailto:secretary@rscdscalgary.org)

June 3	Nancy L.
June 10	Janyn B.
June 17	Nancy L.
June 24	Nancy L.
July 1	Fiona C.
July 8	Fiona C.
July 15	Fiona C.
July 22	Sheree I.
July 29	Fiona C.
Aug 5	Fiona C.
Aug 12	Fiona C.
Aug 19	Janet N.
Aug 26	Sheree I.



# FALL CLASSES

## Branch Supported Classes

### Tuesdays



**CALGARY BRANCH BEGINNERS CLASS** - 7pm – 8:15pm



**Starting September 17<sup>th</sup>**



Haysboro Community Centre - 1204 89th Avenue SW



Contact: [secretary@rscdscalgary.org](mailto:secretary@rscdscalgary.org)



**CROSS AND THISTLE SCOTTISH DANCERS** - 8:15pm – 10pm



**Starting September 17<sup>th</sup>**



Haysboro Community Centre - 1204 89th Avenue SW



Contact: Sharon Barker 403-701-3218 [crossandthistle@hotmail.com](mailto:crossandthistle@hotmail.com)



**DOUGLAS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** - 7pm – 9pm



**Starting September 10<sup>th</sup>**



Cambrian Heights Community Hall - 600 Northmount Drive NW



Contact: Janyyn Bertram 403-585-3842 [douglasscdclub@gmail.com](mailto:douglasscdclub@gmail.com)

### Thursdays



**CALGARY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY (St. Barnabas Group)** - 7:30pm – 9:30pm



**Starting September 5<sup>th</sup>**



St. Barnabas Anglican Church Hall -- 1407 7th Ave NW



Contact: Jim Adamson 403-271-1208 [dancie@shaw.ca](mailto:dancie@shaw.ca)



**CONFEDERATION PARK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** - 7pm – 9pm



**Starting September 12<sup>th</sup>**



Cambrian Heights Community Hall - 600 Northmount Drive NW



Contact: Janyyn Bertram 403-585-3842 [confedparkscdclub@gmail.com](mailto:confedparkscdclub@gmail.com)

### Fridays



**AIRDRIE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS** - 7pm – 9pm



**Start date September 6<sup>th</sup>**



[TBD] Airdrie United Church Hall, 212 1 Ave NE, Airdrie



Contact: Ann Vanderwal 403-912-8086 or see: [www.airdriescottishdancers.org/](http://www.airdriescottishdancers.org/)

## Other Classes



**ST. ANDREW-CALEDONIAN SOCIETY**



For more information see: [standrewcaledonian.ca](http://standrewcaledonian.ca)



**CANMORE SENIORS ASSOCIATION**



Contact: Margaret Boyle [mboylecanmore@gmail.com](mailto:mboylecanmore@gmail.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### *Within Calgary – Branch Events*



**CALGARY ONE DAY WORKSHOP – Saturday, October 19 2024**



Hosted by: RSCDS Calgary Branch



Planning in progress...

### *Within Alberta*



**LETHBRIDGE SCDC 2025 WORKSHOP & BALL – April 4 – 6 2025**



Hosted by: Lethbridge Scottish Country Dance Club



For more information see: <http://www.lethbridgescottishcountrydance.org/workshop-and-ball-2025.html>

### *Outside Alberta*



**RSCDS SUMMER SCHOOL - July 14 – August 11 2024**



Hosted by: RSCDS in St. Andrews, UK



For more information see: [www.rscds.org](http://www.rscds.org)



**TAC SUMMER SCHOOL - July 28 – August 4 2024**



Hosted by: TAC at Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario



For more information see: <https://tac-rscds.org/index.php/tac-summer-school/>



**NARAMATA SCD 20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY DANCE & WORKSHOP – September 6-7 2024**



Hosted by: Naramata Scottish Country Dancers, Penticton, BC



Instructor: Rebecca Blackhall-Peters



For more information see: <https://www.facebook.com/ScottishDancingPenticton/>

(scroll through their Facebook posts to find the details)



**FORT WORDEN WORKSHOP – October 4 – 6 2024**



Hosted by: RSCDS Seattle Branch



For more information see: <https://rscds-seattle.org/fort-warden/>

## FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

It is with deepest sympathy that we offer our condolences to the family and friends of a long-time member of the Calgary Branch and the Calgary dancing community.



*Jean Whitelock – October 12, 1936 – May 11, 2024*

Jean was an integral member of Calgary's Scottish community, actively participating in various organizations and social events, including The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Calgary Scottish Country Dance Society and St. Andrew Caledonian Society. Together with her husband John, they were the original owners of The Scottish Shoppe, with stores in Calgary and Banff. For the full obituary, please go to

<https://mhfh.com/tribute/details/49533/Jean-Whitelock/obituary.html#tribute-start>

## SEE YOU ON THE DANCE FLOOR!



Charitable gaming funds raised with the support of



We gratefully acknowledge the support of  
the Province of Alberta through



*Royal Scottish Country Dance Society  
Calgary Branch*

[secretary@rscdscalgary.org](mailto:secretary@rscdscalgary.org)  
[www.rscdscalgary.org](http://www.rscdscalgary.org)