



# MACHINE WITHOUT HORSES

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society—Detroit Branch

May - June 2013

## ▫ **BORDER CITIES' WORKSHOP**

A good time was had by all. Not being actually in class the full day, I can only comment on a few aspects of the day's events.

First, we love having Doug & Anthea Macdonald. From the minute they arrived Wednesday till they left Sunday afternoon, having them was a delight. In the Level One morning class, Doug taught Domino Five, a good dance to know for evenings when turnout is low or when there's an odd number like 10 dancers. The raffle earned income for both Detroit and Windsor branches which helped subsidize the weekend. We also like hosting afterglows. It was one good time, what with Fred playing and folks singing along, not to mention the imbibing and noshing. Kelly Cook and Diane Bell delighted us with some high-level Highland dancing.

A wee bit of snow made the Macdonalds' trip all the more interesting to them. Not being Michiganders, they're not sick of it by March like the rest of us (:). I'm sure they'll be invited back to another workshop in the future.

Margaret Sarna



▫ Above: Doug teaching the combined class, with music from Fred Moyes.

Left: Doug and Anthea with Derek Simmons, future chair of the Detroit Branch of the RSCDS. ☺

## SARNIA DANCE

The Sarnia dance was fun as usual. The dances were very thoughtfully selected and were both approachable and enjoyable. Fred Moyes was in prime form, and dancing to live music is always a treat. Mentioning treats, the food selection at the interval provided by the Sarnia group was great, with plenty for seconds. All in all, a great evening well attended by our Branch (including one of our newest members Judy Anderson). Glenna Washburn

We have just had the sad news of the passing of our immediate past chair, Don Johnston. A written appreciation will be in the next Newsletter.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Sue Boczek (248) 398-2921

Past Chair: Don Johnston (586) 228-7370

Vice-Chair: Rhett Heberling (248) 540-1377

Treasurer: Don Sarna (248) 637-2824

Secretary: Carrie Carnes (313) 554-0002

Members at Large:

Rachael Harrer (248) 544-9231

Joan Hellmann (734) 769-1052

Margaret Sarna (248) 637-2824

Membership: Bonnie Cook (248) 626-2340

Demonstration: Glenna Washburn (248) 647-7347

Publicity: Margaret Sarna (248) 637-2824

Music, Webmaster: Don Sarna (248)-637-2824

Newsletter: Carrie Carnes (313) 554-0002

Teachers: Laurel Paterson (586) 294-4329

Robin Warner (734) 426-0241

Helen Welford (734) 426-0241

We would like to help advertise the services of our auditor, Renée Floer.

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## DANCE ETIQUETTE

This has been reprinted in several newsletters; we took it from the Oakville, Ontario, newsletter. We hope that these rules can be observed at all times.

1. Scottish Country Dancing is the ballroom dancing of Scotland. The elegance and dignity natural to the ballroom are shown in the movements and manners of Scottish Country Dancing. For this reason, the correct apparel for ladies is a dress or blouse and skirt and for men the kilt. Slacks or jeans should not be worn by ladies in class or on social occasions. For a ball, the dress is formal if this can be arranged.
2. Arrive on time whenever possible.
3. Sets should not be formed until after the MC or teacher has announced the dance.
4. When sets are being made up, always join AT THE END of the line; never break into the middle or join at the top. It is considered bad manners to walk through a set or to pass by a set needing a couple. Do not leave a set once positions have been established.
5. Do not dance with the same partner all evening. In fact, try to dance with many partners. In this way, your dancing will have a better chance to improve, and you will enjoy the socialising much more.
6. Be alert while a dance is in progress, and be ready to step up or down when so required. Also, be prepared to use hands properly.
7. Listen quietly during any or all instructions from the MC or teacher. If you are an average, good-hearted soul and know the figures being explained, resist the temptation to explain them to others in the set while the MC or teacher is talking.
8. There is no acceptable excuse for rough handling of fellow dancers. Roughness is the mark of ignorance, whether by chance or by choice.
9. There is no place in Scottish Country Dancing for extra flips and loops, birling turns, superfluous high cuts, and the like. While these capers can undoubtedly be executed neatly by an accomplished dancer, you will not find such a dancer performing them at all.
10. At the end of every dance, you should thank your partner and others in the set—they DID contribute to your enjoyment. The gentlemen should escort the ladies back to place.
11. Friendliness is a part of good manners. Scottish Country Dancing promotes friendliness and offers endless opportunities for friendship. If you are not continually making new friends, you are not getting the most out of Scottish Country Dancing.
12. Be well informed Scottish Country Dancers—review these rules of etiquette often.

▫ **CLASSES**

**Detroit Branch - Troy**

Thursday PM 6:30 - 7:30 Basic  
7:30 - 8:30 Combined  
8:30 - 9:30 Experienced  
Troy First United Methodist Church,  
6363 Livernois Road, Troy MI  
Laurel Paterson (586) 294-4329

**Roseville - "Red Hackles"**

Tuesday PM 7:30 - 9:30 Experienced  
Erin Presbyterian Church  
Gratiot at Common Rd. (12 1/2 Mile)  
Roseville, MI  
Laurel Paterson (586) 294-4329

**Ann Arbor - "Tartan and Thistle"**

Monday PM 6:30 - 7:30 Basic  
7:30 - 8:30 Combined  
8:30 - 9:30 Experienced  
Please phone Helen Welford for  
directions to summer venue.  
Helen Welford (734) 426-0241  
Joan Hellman (734) 769-1052

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Thursday, June 20 -- Summer session in Troy, 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 11 -- Summer session in Troy, 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 18 -- Summer session in Troy, 7 p.m.

Thursday, August 1 -- Summer session in Troy, 7 p.m.

Thursday, August 22 -- Summer session in Troy, 7 p.m.

Saturday, October 5 -- Cincinnati Branch 55th Anniversary Ball

Friday-Sunday October 18-20 -- Hamilton/St. Catharines Weekend

Saturday, October 26 -- Annual Windsor Ball

▫ We try to put out the Newsletter at least every three months but sometimes wait until we collect enough pictures, articles, etc., before we do. And sometimes we have a lot to share, so we put the Newsletter out more often. We welcome suggestions, photos, stories, poems, and other items connected with Scottish country dancing and Scotland.

Carrie Carnes, Editor

