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# THE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCER

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Volume 15, Issue 2

Sept/Oct 1998

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## Teacher's Tunes

Marge McLeod van Nus

We welcome back **Lisa Scott**, teaching in Vancouver this fall. It will be great to see her happy smile along with experiencing her dance and musical expertise! ☺

Marge is on sabbatical and will be in and out (or out and in?) of town for extended times. The "out of town" will be in Hawaii, so if you have never been there and would like a place to stay -- we are out in the middle of Oahu about 40 minutes from Honolulu. You all keep on "a-truckin'" and help spread the "Gospel of the Gillie." We'll join you on the dance floor every chance we have during those "in town" times.

*Marge*



## Manager's Message

*Geri Stuart*

Hello Everyone! My surgery went well and my recovery even speedier. I am fine but it will still be a while before I'm actually dancing. But I'll be there!

Hope you had a great summer and are looking forward to starting a new session of dancing. Bring someone new to enjoy it also! Board members are myself, Van, and Marge. If you (Kelso members too!) have any ideas of things you'd like to do or questions you'd like to ask, please contact one of us.

We already have plans underway for our fall dance. If you can help for it or any of our dances (even just planning), please let us know.

Hope to see you ALL on the dance floor!

*Geri*

## Miscellaneous Notes

*John Shaw/Marge Van Nus*

**A** GREAT BIG THANK YOU to **Dawn Pratt** for hosting the Summer Picnic this year! The food and the dancing were great, and the environs were Oh so beautiful. Many of us enjoyed the tour of the beaver pond and the quiet of the forest, too. Didn't it look like a wonderful spot from which to watch the woods fill up with snow?

In case you've been reading the Parks and Recreation Brochure -- DO NOT BELIEVE everything you read! ☺ but DO BELIEVE THIS -- **Scottish Country Dance classes** begin in Vancouver on Sept 9 and go to Dec 16. The beginner class is 7:45 - 9 PM, while the experienced dancers are invited to stay til 10 PM.

**The Fort Vancouver Library** has loaned us the use of a display window for the month of January, 1999. The window is 9' long, 4' high, and 2' deep. That's a lot of opportunity, er, *room* to exhibit all sorts of things Scottish. If you have ideas, materials, or would like to help, give Liza a call at 887-1888, or Susan at 576-5678. Did you know: that is the month of Robert Burn's birthday?

There is a need for a REFRESHMENT PERSON to coordinate the refreshments (that is, the beverages) at the Vancouver dances this year. (Remember, we have about 3 public dances through the year.) If you are interested, speak up at the first class, or give Geri a call at 834-3757.

DID YOU KNOW: you can find information about the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society on the World Wide Web in several places. Here are two: <http://www.scottishdance.org>, and <http://www.rscds.org>.

## *Jennifer Announces Her New Arrival!*

Jennifer Pratt-Walter

At long last, I'm pleased and proud to announce that my debut recording "Ancient Realms" is now available to one and all. "Ancient Realms" features solo Celtic harp - the CD text explains it best:

*"The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and science. -- Albert Einstein.*

*"Slip through the veil of time to the haunting strains of the Celtic harp. Experience the magic realms of the Celtic lands, medieval Europe, and Ancient Greece with music that is delightfully intimate, soulful, and deeply touching."*

Scottish music fans will particularly enjoy the "Loch Tay Boat Song", "Lament for Hector the Hero", and "Kiss Me Quick, Me Mither's Coming," the last two shared with me by Marge Van Nus.

A copy has been donated to the Vancouver USA SCD collection. If you would like your own, the cost is \$14.95 plus 1.14 tax, for a total of \$16.09. Jennifer will bring some to class, and she is also on her label's web-page at [www.soundtrack.com](http://www.soundtrack.com). Orders may also be placed by email at [customerservice@soundtracks.com](mailto:customerservice@soundtracks.com).

Jennifer welcomes your questions and comments, too! She is at [lyrica@prodigy.com](mailto:lyrica@prodigy.com).

## *On the Care and Feeding of Kilts*

FROM THE PETRONELLA PAPER, OF ATLANTA, comes this method for cleaning a kilt:

1. Spot the cloth with undiluted Woolite™ on any spots or very soiled areas (a soft brush may be needed);
2. Fill the bathtub with about 6" of cold water and add about 12 capfuls of Woolite;
3. Swish the kilt around in the water until it is completely soaked;
4. Fold the kilt and lay it face down (the apron is probably the dirtiest area) and let it soak for approximately an hour;
5. Remove the kilt and let the dirty water drip off;

6. Now securely hang the kilt on a clothesline;
7. Rinse it completely with a garden hose, making sure to remove all the soap, particularly from the inner pleats; and finally
8. Let the kilt drip-dry (out of direct sunlight).

If it is necessary to touch up the pleats, you should use a steam iron with a pressing cloth or an iron with one of the new sole plates (which do not require a pressing cloth).

What about removing, say, *motor oil* from a kilt? One fellow gently scrubbed the area with a waterless hand cleaner to remove the oil, and then used Woolite and the method above to remove all traces of the hand cleaner.

Why not take the kilt to a dry cleaner, you might ask. According to the article, the mechanical action of the dry cleaning is detrimental to the fiber surface.

AND THE JUNE/JULY 1998 ISSUE OF THE FAMILY TREE had this suggestion for packing a kilt for traveling: roll the kilt and put it into a woman's nylon stocking. Kilts packed this way will arrive wrinkle free.

## ***Come One - Come All!***

Attention Dancers: It's that season of the year! Time to post flyers and recruit new dancers for our fall classes. Please TAKE flyers and POST them or GIVE them TO FRIENDS! If everyone helps post and distribute, we'll get lots of nice new dancers. The Branch yellow brochure is available at class, or from Van at 699-2174. Places to post flyers: Dance studios - Laundromats - Hardware stores - Grocery stores - Cleaners - Variety stores - At church - College campuses - At work - Bulletin boards everywhere - Bookstores - Libraries - Coffee houses - Bakeries - Ice cream stores - Music stores - Record stores - Bike shops - Gyms.

Take along a stapler, tacks or pushpins, and tape. Ask permission to post when necessary. Keep a supply of flyers in your purse and car. Get more at class or call Van at (360) 699-2174.

## Calendar of Events

- Sept 1 Kelso fall class starts ~ Catlin Hall, 7-9 PM
- Sept 5-7 Kelowna (BC) Weekend - Contact Brenda Ward (250) 764-8208
- Sept 9 Vancouver USA SCD fall class starts ~ Marshall Center, 7:45 PM
- Sept 11-13 Fort Worden Workshop ~ (deadline for signup was July 1<sup>st</sup>) Contact: RSCDS Seattle, PO Box 2084, Seattle, WA 98111
- Sept 12-13 Kelso Highlander Festival - Tam O'Shanter Park, Kelso, WA. For info, call Leah Wheeldon (360) 425-6232
- Sept 14 First day of Portland SCD class ~ Tigard Grange, Tigard, OR. For info, call Don (503) 692-5963
- Sept 26 Dance at Vancouver Waterfront - fundraiser for Capt Vancouver statue; west of Double Tree 12-7 PM (2 half-hour sessions)
- Oct 10 Portland SCDance Party
- Oct 10-11 Pumpkin Festival at the Pomeroy House; there will be a dance ~ details in class
- Oct 16-17 Victoria (BC) 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Workshop and Dance. Register by October 9.  
Contact: Dorothy Williams (250) 727-6395 or Alexandra Boyle (250) 479-0357
- Oct 17 Fall Dance, Vancouver SCD ~ if you'd like to help plan, call Van at (360) 699-2174

### Travel Ideas

*John Shaw*

FARLAND'S MCTRAVEL has two Scottish Dance trips "on the drawing board". The first is a *Scottish Dance Week in Hawaii*, March 28 to April 4, 1999. This week will feature new dances presented by the well-known dance composer Iain Boyd of New Zealand; optional classes of Cape Breton & Ladies Step dancing, presented by the energetic and inspiring Ron Wallace of California; and in the late afternoon, an optional hour of English Country Dancing.

There is still plenty of time during the rest of the day to explore the many sights of the Big Island -- nearby rainforests, lava fields, nature trails, and native birds. In the evenings, the best Scottish Dance musicians from North America play good music with feeling and spirit.

Although this promises to be a great trip, Ken McFarland himself advises: this trip is NOT for beginners. *Scottish Dance Week in Hawaii* has no beginning classes or any beginning level instruction at all. The Week offers new composed dances created specifically for the event -- an intermediate dancer with a good working knowledge of Scottish dancing would feel comfortable.

The second trip currently in the planning stage is

*Dancing in Scottish Castles.* Mr. McFarland writes about this trip: "I expect to offer that from May 30 - June 13, 1999, after a hiatus of 6 years (I last ran it in 1993). There is a lengthy list of folks who have already asked to sign up, so it may be full before I even print the brochure. I may offer a second group in early August."

If you are interested, contact :

Farland's McTravel  
3875 Geist Road E323  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Email: farlands@ptialaska.net

Phone: (800) 822 3435

Fax: (907) 456 7558

International phone: (907) 456-7556

*Do you have an item of Celtic interest you would like to see in print?*

You can contact me in any of the following ways:

By mail:

John Shaw - SCD  
PO Box 2438  
Battle Ground, WA 98604-2438

By email: bcjs@pacifier.com