



The Carolinas Branch is anticipating some changes in the year to come, 2019, with new officers to be chosen and new initiatives to help local chapters fund events. So perhaps it's a good time to think back on our founding in 2006 during that year's Thistle School. Left to right, looking a tiny bit younger than they do today, are founding members Ron Frazier, Cathy Peterkin, Rachel Peterkin, Andrew Peterkin, Bob Messner, Maggie Clarke, Debbie Palmer, Pat Young, Caroline Stancik, Stan Stancik, Eilean Yates, Mike Yates, Brenda Sleight, Mary McConnell, Barbara Youngman, Dale Sleight and Brian Youngman.

# Carolinas Branch News

Vol. 8, No. 2

Spring-Summer, 2018

Welcome to the second newsletter of 2018. Our AGM, which took place April 22, dwelt to a great extent on the coming reorganization due next year; more news is below. The next newsletter will come out after summer dance camps including Thistle School. Deadline for copy is Sept. 1, 2018. Please send PICTURES! And write LETTERS!

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To access the Website for the Carolinas Branch, visit:

[www.rscdscarolinasbranch.org](http://www.rscdscarolinasbranch.org)

## McConnell won't run again for Branch chairwoman

Mary McConnell made it official during the Carolinas Branch AGM at Loch Norman on April 22 that she will not be a candidate next year for another term as Branch Chairperson. That means the branch is in for some changes in 2019, which people should start thinking about.

The branch will need a nominating committee chairman by January, 2019, to put together a slate of candidates to lead us. Then that new slate would have votes tallied at next year's AGM, to take place again at Loch Norman in April 2019.

A total of 18 people, out of a full membership of 86, plus five associates and three young adults, attended this year's AGM. That constituted a quorum, which means decisions made at the AGM are in effect.

The group approved a plan to let groups and individual dancers, particularly young people, apply to the committee of management for funds for dance events or workshops. The branch has for several years encouraged local groups to seek branch support for local events. The money could, among other things, be used as scholarship money for Thistle School or Scottish events at Pinewoods in Massachusetts. The existing application form is below in this newsletter.

The group discussed the use of proxies at AGMs, but made no decisions. Thoughts about possible needed updating of the constitution and bylaws were referred to the committee of management for deliberations.

Treasurer Brian Youngman reported that the branch currently has a bank balance of \$5,712.50, though RSCDS due will have to be paid out of that. The deadline to renew one's membership for 2018-19 is June 30, 2018.

## Chairwoman's Letter: We want to help

The Loch Norman Highland Games weekend this year had beautiful weather both Saturday and Sunday. Perhaps that is what contributed to a quorum of Carolinas Branch



members at the Sunday morning AGM at Hopewell Church. It was agreed that individuals or groups can request funds from the Management Committee for activities consistent with the Branch goals. Careful consideration of the requests will be made to insure that we do not overspend. All five members of the Committee will weigh in on the requests made. Most of our money goes to Headquarters to pay the members' RSCDS dues. But the geographical size of our branch calls us to encourage local activities and dancers where possible.

Have you been getting extra emails from organizations asking you to opt in to stay connected? This is likely due to the General Data Protection Regulation {GDPR} now in effect for all countries within the European Economic Area {EEA}. It applies to all personal data, even if it refers to entities outside of the EEA, like the US. As a

Branch, we were required to acknowledge this. It is good to know that the RSCDS has an obligation to keep your personal information safe.

We get to vote on RSCDS management members and other issues that may arise. Our branch size determines that we get 2 votes. Most of the positions have only one candidate running for a position and these do not require a vote. Eilean Yates and I are your Delegates, and we confer with each other about how to vote. Then we send in our voting papers electronically. So far, we have never disagreed.

The magazine and the website have a wealth of information about what is going on within Scotland and around the world. So stay in touch.

Remember that we need to have a nominating committee chair by the end of the year as we vote on officers in 2019. Who will be on our next slate? Will it be you?

*Mary McConnell*

## **Loss of a Friend (and a big hint)**

We were saddened this season to learn of the loss of one of our valued friends, Someone Else. Someone's passing creates a vacancy that will be difficult to fill. Else has been with us for many years and for many of those years, Else did far more than a normal person's share of the work. Whenever there was a job to do, class to teach or meeting to attend, one name was on everyone's list: "Let Someone Else do it." Whenever leadership was mentioned, the wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results. "Someone Else will work with that group."

It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the most liberal givers in the organization. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone assumed that Someone Else would make up the difference.

Someone Else was a wonderful person, sometimes appearing superhuman. But were the truth known, everybody expected too much from Someone Else. Now Someone Else is gone! We wonder what we are going to do. Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do the things that Someone Else did?

When you are asked to help this year, remember: We can't depend on Someone Else any longer.

*Author unknown, but reprinted in an awful lot of club newsletters!*

## **And a bit more about this Newsletter . . .**

The newsletter is currently coming out three times a year – in the winter to preview the year, in the spring to report on the AGM and to preview the summer, and in the fall to preview what's coming through the winter. To anyone who's interested: I have other things I want to do,

but I don't intend to stop writing for it. That should, I hope, help take care of the problem all letters like this have of not being able to get people to contribute. Tom Dillon

## How to contact the officers

Here are names and addresses for the Carolinas Branch officers:

### Chair

#### **Mary McConnell**

3715 Bontura Drive  
Greensboro, N.C. 27455  
(336) 282-6507 or [marymcconnell@bellsouth.net](mailto:marymcconnell@bellsouth.net)

### Vice-chair

#### **Eilean Yates**

3000 Galloway Ridge Road, Apt. E211  
Pittsboro, N.C. 27312  
(704) 466-9757 or [edgyates@gmail.com](mailto:edgyates@gmail.com)

### Secretary

#### **Karen Becker**

38 Highland Avenue  
Fishersville, Va. 22939  
(540) 941-3494 or [sec.rscds.carolinasbranch@gmail.com](mailto:sec.rscds.carolinasbranch@gmail.com) or [krn.bckr21@gmail.com](mailto:krn.bckr21@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

#### **Brian Youngman**

702 Newport Circle  
Cary, N.C. 27511  
(919) 467-3390 or [bayoungman@att.net](mailto:bayoungman@att.net)

## Flowers of the Forest

- We regret to announce the passing of Georgia dancer and teacher **Dawn Warlick Dorsey**



on February 27 in Atlanta. A native of Boston, Mass., and graduate of Valdosta State College, Dawn was a regular at Thistle School for many years, assisting with Bob Messner in just about every facet of the operation. She would have turned 60 on August 2 this year. She is survived by her husband, Callaway, of Tucker, Ga.; her mother, Claudette

Warlick of Savannah; sisters Katheryn Douberly of Crawford, Sarah Warlick of Clarkston and Amy Smith of Atlanta. Services took place March 10 at Floral Hills Funeral Home and Memory Gardens in Dawn's home town of Tucker.

■ We also regret to note the passing of **Sharon Ollison** of Rockville, Md., another Thistle regular, on Feb. 22. Sharon was 74 and was known for her skill at performing on the harpsichord and the virginal, a small harpsichord-like instrument of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries that she brought to Thistle several times. She held a Master's degree in sacred music from Union Theological Seminary in New York and before retiring had served as organist/choirmaster at several churches in Washington, D.C., and its suburbs.

## Bits and Pieces



■ Branch vice-chair and longtime Scottish dance teacher **Eilean Yates** completed 25 years organizing and leading the Loch Norman dances in April at the Loch Norman Highland Games. She will be turning over the duties next year to **Brian Carr**, leader of the Greenville, S.C., group, but she assured everyone at the Saturday night Gala on April 21 that she will be around to help with the many details that go into organizing the event, securing the hall, bringing in musicians and the like. For her efforts, the games and the staff of Historic Rural Hill presented her a 25-year plaque and a statuary showing Eilean and her late husband **Mike**. Eilean was also the founding president of the Carolinas Branch in 2006 at Thistle School. See that picture on Page 1.

■ For a handy **Membership Form** to join or renew your membership in RSCDS and the Carolinas branch, go to the Branch Website (at the top of this newsletter) and click on Membership Application. Dues are \$40 for single memberships, \$66 for two adults at the same address, \$33 for young adults age 18 to 24, and \$5 for associate members from another branch. Send forms and dues by June 30 to Brian Youngman, 702 Newport Circle, Cary, N.C. 27511.

■ We hope that everyone in the branch is receiving the newsletter. If you're not, you will have to get this notice second-hand, of course, but we still hope you will respond. If you're not getting the newsletter, please let either the editor or branch secretary know. **If you don't have email**, telephone the editor (see the number at the top) and let him know. We'll be glad to print out copies and send them to you by U.S. mail.

# Need help?

Remember that the Branch has funds to help with individual group events, Here again is the form for requesting that help. Feel free to print it, cut it out and mail it in:

■ Request for funds from the Carolinas Branch for the support of special activities of member groups; e.g., hall rental or music for dances and workshops. Requests are to be approved by the Committee of Management prior to disbursement.

■ Name of the group (check payable to)



■ Name and mailing address of organizer of event



■ Name of the event \_\_\_\_\_

■ Date of the event \_\_\_\_\_

■ Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

■ Purpose of the event \_\_\_\_\_

■ Use of these funds for the event \_\_\_\_\_

■ Amount requested \_\_\_\_\_

■ Contact telephone number or email \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2018 Calendar

June 9-10	Blairsville Highland Games*	Blairsville, Ga. <a href="http://www.rscds-atlanta.org">www.rscds-atlanta.org</a>
July 2-6	English-Scottish Sessions	Plymouth, Mass. <a href="http://www.rscdsboston.org">www.rscdsboston.org</a>
July 6-9, 9-14	Pinewoods Scottish Sessions	Plymouth, Mass. (518) 316-1234 or <a href="http://www.rscdsboston.org">www.rscdsboston.org</a>
July 8-13	Thistle School XXXVIII	Banner Elk, N.C. <a href="http://www.thistleschool.com">www.thistleschool.com</a>
July 12-15	Grandfather Mountain Games	Linville, N.C. <a href="http://www.gmhg.org">www.gmhg.org</a>
July 15-August 12	RSCDS Summer School	St. Andrews, Scotland <a href="mailto:info@rscds.org">info@rscds.org</a> or <a href="http://www.rscds.org">www.rscds.org</a>
July 29-Aug. 5	TAC Summer School (Canada)	Minneapolis, Minn. <a href="http://www.tac-rscds.org">www.tac-rscds.org</a>
August 18	22 <sup>nd</sup> annual Frederick Workshop	Walkersville, Md. <a href="http://www.rscds-greaterdc.org">www.rscds-greaterdc.org</a>
August 25	Carol Porter Celebration Dance	Alexandria, Va. <a href="http://www.rscds-greaterdc.org">www.rscds-greaterdc.org</a>

August 24-26	New Hampshire Highlands Dance	Contoocock, New Hampshire <a href="http://www.rscdsboston.org">www.rscdsboston.org</a>
September 14-16	Timber Ridge Scottish Weekend	Highview, W.Virginia (301) 622-5945 or <a href="http://www.scottishweekend.org">www.scottishweekend.org</a>
October 19-21	Stone Mountain Games/Dances	Atlanta, Ga. <a href="http://www.rscds-atlanta.org">www.rscds-atlanta.org</a> or <a href="http://www.smhg.org">www.smhg.org</a>
October 26-28	Asilomar Weekend	Monterey, Calif. <a href="http://www.rscds-sf.org/events">www.rscds-sf.org/events</a>
November 9-11	Argyle Weekend	Alexandria, Va. <a href="http://www.rscds-greaterdc.org">www.rscds-greaterdc.org</a>
November 2-3	Charleston, S.C. Games & Dance	Charleston, S.C. (843) 810-7797 or <a href="mailto:charlestonrscds@gmail.com">charlestonrscds@gmail.com</a>
November 17	35 <sup>th</sup> St. Andrews Ball	Greensboro, N.C. (336) 282-6507 or <a href="http://www.gsosclds.org">www.gsosclds.org</a>

Web sites and phone numbers are those available to the editor at the time of publication.

\*Dancing on the field only

