

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society  
**Carolinas Branch News**

Winter 2026 Vol. 16 No. 1



# Carolinas Branch Officers



**Chair**

**Caroline (Caz) Freeman**

149 Westminster Blvd  
Goose Creek, SC 29445  
(843) 973-2806

[carolineannefreeman@gmail.com](mailto:carolineannefreeman@gmail.com)

**Secretary**

**Brian Carr**

12 Wiltshire Court  
Taylors, SC 29687  
(864) 444-3451

[thecarolinasbranch@gmail.com](mailto:thecarolinasbranch@gmail.com)



**Vice Chair**

**Eilean Yates**

3000 Galloway Ridge Rd  
Apt E211  
Pittsboro, N.C. 27312  
(704) 466-9757

[edgyates@gmail.com](mailto:edgyates@gmail.com)



**Treasurer**

**Shannah Steel**

[shannah.steel@gmail.com](mailto:shannah.steel@gmail.com)

*Please send submissions and advertisements of events for the Summer Newsletter by May 24, 2026 to the Editors:*

*Craig & Sherri Davis*  
[news@gsoscds.org](mailto:news@gsoscds.org)



**What's Happening  
in the  
Carolinas Branch**





# From the Chair's Desk

## *Episode 8*

A season of change is upon us. We are living in a transformative time in which Scottish dance is gaining greater recognition and appreciation. More and more dancers are choosing to spend a weeknight, a weekend, or even a week or two to improve their technique, challenge themselves, and broaden their social connections.

This spring marks the first-ever North American Competition, an event that promises to be both exciting and inspiring. It offers many dancers the chance to experience the high-level energy of competition—an opportunity that used to require traveling overseas.

As I have taken on the role of a caregiver, I have not been able to attend out-of-town events. To stay connected, I would love to hear from each of you. Please email me your favorite dance and share why it holds meaning for you.

My purpose is to share the joy that comes from Scottish dancing. I dedicate the Carolinas branch, all of our local classes, and each of us as dancers to God, and I look forward with anticipation to what He has in store for us.

As this new rhythm emerges and continues to carry us forward, may it strengthen our steps, deepen our connections, and remind us of the joy we share in this dance. I am grateful to be part of this journey with each of you.

**Caroline aka Caz**

**I feel that it is time for me to step down from Branch duties, taking a much-needed break. I have appreciated the opportunity to promote SCD in the Carolinas and hope I have done so in a competent manner. We have weathered a storm and the Branch is on good footing. We now have a class in Charlotte, people stepping up and taking the RSCDS Core Training for Instructors to learn the best techniques, and the Charleston class is growing. There is a good future for Scottish Country Dancing in the Carolinas!**

**There will be an email coming out shortly after the newsletter is out detailing the process we are to follow. Very simple and easy. Thank you again for all your support.**



**Brian**



**The Asheville Group is looking for a new location to meet.**

**We typically meet on Fridays 7:30-9:00pm, but this may change.**

**For more information, please contact Kate Mathewes  
at**

**[dancingsct@gmail.com](mailto:dancingsct@gmail.com) or 828-215-8624**

**Check us out in our [Facebook Group](#)**

**Asheville Scottish Country Dancers**



***Our Teachers:***  
**Irene Stancik and Caroline Freeman**

**We meet Mondays 7:00 – 8:30pm**  
**Studio 149**  
**149 Westminster Blvd.**  
**Goose Creek, SC 29445**

**We also meet the first Sunday of every month**  
**2:30 – 4:00pm *unless there is a conflict***  
**Northwoods Community Gym**  
**8348 Greenridge Rd.**  
**North Charleston, SC 29406**

**We like to socialize afterwards at The Codfather or Madra Rua**

**For more information, email us at CharlestonRSCDS@gmail.com or text 843-810-7797**

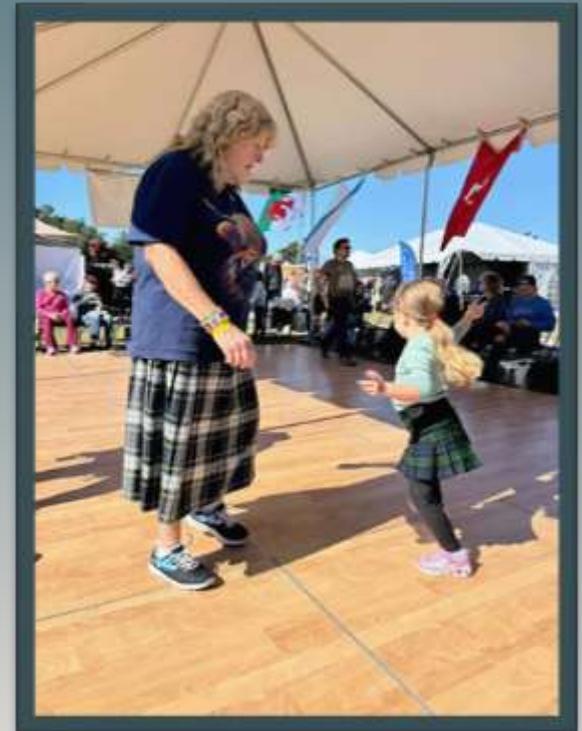
**Like us on Facebook Charleston Scottish Country Dancers**

# **Charleston Scottish Country Dancers**



*pictures provided by Caz Freeman*

# Charleston Ball



*pictures provided by Caz Freeman*

# Charleston Games



**Teacher: Arthur Baum**

**When: Weekly on Thursdays from 6:00-8:30 pm**

**Where: Providence United Methodist Church  
2810 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC**

**Cost: \$7 for adults, \$3 for students**

**New dancers and seasoned dancers are welcome.  
If you know of anyone in the Charlotte area who  
would be interested, please let them know about  
the class.**

*For more information, please email Arthur  
[arhbaum@gmail.com](mailto:arhbaum@gmail.com)*

**Charlotte Scottish Country Dancers**

**Pam Stephens is the teacher**

**We meet Tuesdays from 7:00-9:00pm at our new location  
City Well Church, 2317 Chapel Hill Rd, Durham, NC 27707**



**For more info, email us at [dancescottishdurhamnc@gmail.com](mailto:dancescottishdurhamnc@gmail.com) or call 917-763-2418**

**-or-**

**find us on Facebook [Durham Chapel Hill Scottish Country Dancers](#)**

**Durham/Chapel Hill Scottish Country Dancers**

**The Durham Chapel Hill Scottish Country Dancers would like to express our love and appreciation to Eilean Yates for devoting so many years to teaching us and sharing her vast knowledge of Scottish Culture.**

**Eilean has decided that it was time to step down from her role as teacher but will continue to dance with us on occasion.**



♥ *Thank you Eilean!*

Esther Leise is our Lead Teacher

Sam Moffitt & Jacquelyn Trost  
are also instructing, as they complete the  
RSCDS Core Training for  
Instructors (CTI) program,

We meet on Tuesday nights

7:30-8:30pm *beginners*  
7:30-10:00pm *members*

*Winter-Spring semester began on Jan 6<sup>th</sup>*  
*Our last class of the semester is June 16<sup>th</sup>*

The Guilford Grange  
4909 Guilford School Road  
Greensboro, NC 27410



For more information email us at [contact@gsoscds.org](mailto:contact@gsoscds.org)  
or  
check out our website [www.gsoscds.org](http://www.gsoscds.org)

**Greensboro Scottish Country Dancers**



Thank you to everyone that came to our St. Andrew's Dance. Four states were represented at our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary dance this year. At times we had 5 sets dancing!  
A special thanks to everyone that helped with our dance (the planning, decorations, food, set up, clean up, promotions, and our wonderful musicians (Mara Shea and Julie Gorka).  
Thank you to Esther for putting together such a great dance program, which was enjoyed by all.

*pictures provided by Melody Glick & Patty Kinkade*

# 40<sup>th</sup> St. Andrew's Day Dance



**Our teacher is Brian Carr**

**We continue to meet on Tuesday nights  
at St. James Episcopal Church  
6:30pm to 8:30pm**

Find us on  [acebook](#)

**For more information please  
contact:**

**Brian Carr [gvillesc@yaho.com](mailto:gvillesc@yaho.com)**

**Greenville Scottish Country Dancers**

Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>



**We had 3 sets with people from Greenville, Columbia, Charlotte and Greensboro.**

**Thank you to everyone who came and all the good food we had to fuel our dancing.**

*pictures provided by Brian Carr*

**We want to thank Fran and Peter Taylor for sponsoring the dance. They have been long time SCD dancers and, though can no longer dance, they do support us here in Greenville and beyond.**

# Greenville Holiday Party

**Our Instructors:  
Colleen Walker & Jory Fleming**

**We meet on  
Mondays 6:00-8:00pm  
at**

**Eastminster Presbyterian Christian Life Center  
3200 Trenholm Rd,  
Columbia, SC 29204**

**Our group can now accept class fees using the  
'Cash App'. This will be an alternate way to pay  
our \$3 class fee without paper money.**



**For more information contact Michelle Wilcox  
at [5mmw5a@gmail.com](mailto:5mmw5a@gmail.com)**

**Palmetto Scottish Country Dancers**

# COME JOIN US FOR SOME "REEL" FUN



Tuesday nights

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

The Dance Space  
6004A W. Broad Street,  
Richmond, VA 23230

For more information about class or an event  
please contact:  
[scdrichmond@gmail.com](mailto:scdrichmond@gmail.com)

Please visit our website for more information at  
[www.richmondscottishcountrydancers.org](http://www.richmondscottishcountrydancers.org)

# Richmond Scottish Country Dancers

# *Carolinas Branch Scottish Country Dance Groups*

## **Asheville, NC**

*Looking for a new location*

Fridays 7:30pm-9pm (*may change*)

Kate Mathews

[Dancingsct@gmail.com](mailto:Dancingsct@gmail.com)

828-215-8624

## **Charlotte, NC**

Providence United Methodist Church

Thursdays 6pm – 8:30pm

Arthur Baum

[arhbaum@gmail.com](mailto:arhbaum@gmail.com)

## **Greensboro, NC**

The Guilford Grange

7:30pm-10pm Tuesdays

Esther Leise *lead teacher*

[contact@gsoscds.org](mailto:contact@gsoscds.org)

<http://www.gsoscds.org>

## **Barnwell, SC**

*Taking a break from classes*

## **Columbia, SC**

Eastminster Presbyterian Church

6pm-8pm Mondays

Colleen Walker

[5mmw5a@gmail.com](mailto:5mmw5a@gmail.com)

## **Greenville, SC**

St James Episcopal Church

6:30pm-8:30pm Tuesdays

Brian Carr

[gillescd@yahoo.com](mailto:gillescd@yahoo.com)

## **Charleston, SC**

Studio 149 Mondays 7:00-8:30pm

Northwoods Community Gym

1st Sundays 2:30pm – 4:00pm

Irene Stancik & Caroline Freeman

[CharleslestonRSCDS@gmail.com](mailto:CharleslestonRSCDS@gmail.com)

843-810-7797

## **Durham/Chapel Hill, NC**

City Well Church

7pm-9pm Tuesdays

Pam Stephens

[dancescottishdurhamnc@gmail.com](mailto:dancescottishdurhamnc@gmail.com)

917-763-2418

## **Richmond, VA**

The Dance Space

6pm-8pm Tuesdays

Moira Turner

[scdrichmond@gmail.com](mailto:scdrichmond@gmail.com)

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



# Remembering

Laurence Maxwell "Larry" Long

July 2, 1932 — October 9, 2025

Clan Maxwell

Obituary



# Remembering

**David Andrew Mathewes**

**September 22, 1931 — October 22, 2025**

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Clan Menzies.

Obituary



*Loving husband of Maggie Mathewes and father of Kate Mathewes*

David began dancing in 1989 and continued until 2015



# **Upcoming Events**



# **Valentine's Day Tea Dance**



**Saturday February 14, 2026**

***Sponsored by the Durham Chapel Hill Scottish Country Dancers***

***Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church***

***314 Great Ridge Parkway***

***Chapel Hill, NC***

**<https://my.strathspey.org/dd/list/63390/>**

***For more information, please email***

**[Dancescottishdurham@gmail.com](mailto:Dancescottishdurham@gmail.com)**



**Dances**



# LOCH NORMAN

## FRIDAY WELCOME DANCE

## SATURDAY GALA

April 17, 2026  
8:00 PM

April 18, 2026  
8:00 PM



Hopewell Presbyterian Church  
10500 Beattie's Ford Road  
Huntersville, NC

For more information contact: [thecarolinasbranch@gmail.com](mailto:thecarolinasbranch@gmail.com)

DANCE DETAILS & HOTEL INFORMATION

**ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY  
DANCE SOCIETY  
Atlanta Branch**



*Spring Workshop & 50th  
Anniversary Celebration*

**March 6-8, 2026**

**Teacher:**

**Blaine Peet  
Bremerton, Washington**

**Musicians:**

**Dan Emery on Pipes  
& Wooden Flute  
David Courret-Knight on Fiddle  
Dave Wiesler on Piano**

**Aubrey Street Gym  
133 Aubrey Street  
(Wooden Floor)  
Cartersville, Georgia**



**CATEGORIES**

High Impact  
Social  
Improvers  
13 & Under - 18 & Under  
MacNab  
Display

Day of Festival followed  
by an energetic evening  
of dance open to all!

**Saturday 4th April 2026**

Philadelphia, PA, USA



**FESTIVAL REGISTRATION FEES**

US\$40/team/entry  
Visitor: US\$10  
Visitor under 18: free

**EVENING DANCE TICKET**

Sliding scale US\$40-60  
Student/Low Income: US\$20  
Under 18: US\$10

<http://tac-rscds.org/NA-Festival>



**Appalachian State University  
Boone, North Carolina**

## 2026 Teachers



Fred DeMarse



Deb Lees



Jeanne Moody

## 2026 Musicians



Julie Gorka



Mara Shea



Tom Pixton



*Click on pictures of events for more information*

# Scottish Country Dance-at-a-glance

2026

Date	Event	Location	More information
February 14	 Valentines Day Tea Dance	Chapel Hill	<a href="mailto:dancescottishdurhamnc@gmail.com">dancescottishdurhamnc@gmail.com</a>
February 15-20	RSCDS Winter School	Pitlochry, Scotland	<a href="https://rscds.org/events">https://rscds.org/events</a>
March 6-8	Atlanta Branch Spring Workshop	Cartersville, GA	<a href="https://rscds-atlanta.org/spring-workshop">https://rscds-atlanta.org/spring-workshop</a>
April 4	North American Festival	Philadelphia, PA	<a href="https://tac-rscds.org/index.php/na-festival">https://tac-rscds.org/index.php/na-festival</a>
April 17 & 18	Loch Norman Dances	Huntersville, NC	<a href="mailto:thecarolinasbranch@gmail.com">thecarolinasbranch@gmail.com</a>
July 5-11	Blue Ridge Scottish Dance School	Boone, NC	<a href="http://www.blueridgesds.org">www.blueridgesds.org</a>
November 21	St. Andrew's Day Dance	Greensboro, NC	<a href="https://gsoscds.org">https://gsoscds.org</a>

Like to know about more events?

Go to: <https://southhouse0.wixsite.com/carolinas-scd>

*Please verify all events / dates before traveling*