

Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation



Proudly Presents the Annual

Flora Macdonald Ball

(in conjunction with the Flora Macdonald Highland Games)

Saturday October 7, 2006 at 7:00 pm

Flora Macdonald Campus - 200 College St.
Red Springs, NC - Tickets: \$15.00

Calling and Briefing Dances

Elaine Brunken, Robert Cromartie, Louie Cromartie,
Stella Fogg, Patricia Johnston, Jack Pressley,
Eilean Yates, Barbara Youngman

For more information and to order tickets, please see
reverse of this card, visit the ball website
at www.floramacdonaldball.com or call (910) 307-0090.

Soft-soled shoes must be worn when dancing • (please see website or call for details)



Vardell Times

Newsletter of the Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation • Winter/Spring '06-'07

Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation

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Flora Macdonald Legacy Award

Vardell Award

Petronella Award

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VH: Barbara Todd Taylor
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National: Claire Cowdrey Ojeda

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Rebecca Williams Bracey
Vardell Hall
Moye Hinds Lowe
Flora Macdonald Academy
Patricia Watson Price

From the Ball Co-Chairs

Rosalynde Gibson Cowdrey (FMC '59)
Gaitley Severson-Mathews

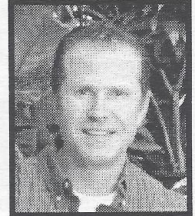
What a year! As many of you know we began the journey of producing the Flora Macdonald Ball with the creation of the Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation in November of last year. While it has taken hard work and dedication on everyone's part, we continue to be amazed and honored to

have so many people involved and so much to celebrate. In less than a year we have:

- established the foundation
- gained our nonprofit status
- created an apprenticeship program
- launched a website
- donated over \$1400 to other organizations
- and produced a ball.



Rosalynde Gibson Cowdrey FMC '59



Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews

In setting out to accomplish these goals we felt that it was

See Ball Co-Chairs, Page 2

Over 200 Attend Inaugural Flora Macdonald Ball

Over two hundred guests attended the first annual Flora Macdonald Ball held in Red Springs (NC) on Saturday October 7th. Sponsored by the newly formed Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation, the ball is intended as a homecoming for those from the region and for Alumnae and Alumni who have attended the three institutions of learning that have been housed on the Flora Mac-

Guests entered the rotunda area of the main building of the campus at 7:00 PM to the sounds of the harp played by Valerie Stancik of Pinehurst (NC). This was followed by light

See Over 200 Attend, Page 7



Several Flora Macdonald College Alumnae join descendants of Dr. Charles G. and Linda Lee Vardell in the parlor.

donald Campus. Many from the Scottish country and contra dance communities and those who were at the Flora Macdonald Highland Games were also in attendance.

Flora Macdonald College News

By Eleanor McNeill Fields (FMC '61)

The first annual Floral Macdonald Ball was a tremendous success -- in large part due to the participation of many College Alumnae. FMC Alumnae helped with the planning and coordination of the Ball, and many others were in attendance.

Mark your calendars now for the Second Annual Flora Macdonald Ball scheduled for October 6, 2007. It is sure to be a day to remember. Rebecca Williams Bracey, reunion co-chair of the 50th anniversary class and Ball

See FM College, Page 3

See inside for news on:
Vardell Hall / Flora Macdonald Academy / Scottish Country Dance / Contra Dance / Community Arts / Other News

Committee Members
Continued from Cover Page

Apprentice Program Directors

Joan McManus Barnes
Michelle Odum Black

Student Coordinators-Apprentices

Town/Region: Laura Duncan
National: Charlotte Bennett

Committee-at-Large

Patricia Baldwin
Eric Crowden
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Julia McManus Love
Mrs. Daniel L. McArthur
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Trish Bolton
Elaine Brunken
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John Dall
Susan and Fergie Ferguson
Stella Fogg
Flora Macdonald Gammon
Patricia Johnston
DeeDee Laurilliard
Mary McConnel
Jim Morrison
Jack Pressley
Moiria Turner
Eilean D. Yates
Douglas Young
Barbara Youngman

The Vardell Times

is named in honor of both Dr. Charles Graves Vardell, who founded Flora Macdonald College and served as its first president and his wife, Linda Lee Vardell, who founded the college's renowned music conservatory.

The Vardell Times

is the official newsletter of the Flora Macdonald Ball and the Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation - a nonprofit 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

All inquiries should be directed to:

Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation

PO Box 484
Red Springs, NC 28377
(910) 307-0090

macdonaldball@aol.com

Or visit our website at:

www.floramacdonaldball.com

From the Ball Co-Chairs (continued from page 1)

essential to draw on the talents of several communities with a common appreciation and love for the campus and region. With this in mind the board of the Foundation was specifically designed with representatives from all three institutions of learning that have been housed on the Flora Macdonald Campus along with community leaders and those from the dance community (please see member profiles on back of insert). Without the spirit of team work created from this core of individuals coupled with the support and interest from those locally and across the nation none of this would have been possible.

In approaching alumnae, alumni, local citizens, dancers and friends about our vision for the foundation and for the annual ball we knew there was interest; but we had no idea that we would get the response that we have gotten. This has not only been encouraging but also inspiring. We felt with some certainty that with a strong board in place, a very capable ball committee assembled, and numerous volunteers on board to help pull the event off, the event would run smoothly. However, we did not know for sure whether we could declare the ball a "success" until we stood at the front of the hall on the evening of October 7th with the bagpipes playing and noted the many familiar friends and new faces as everyone processed into the hall during the Grand March. It was a joyous moment!

Our hope is that you will thumb through this newsletter, visit the

Foundation's website and contact us if you have questions about the foundation or the ball. You may find the Foundation's Mission Statement (see final page of newsletter) of particular interest. We want you to know who we all are and what the foundation is about.

Those of us on the board and those involved with the various committees come from many different walks of life and our interest in the Flora Macdonald Campus and region is varied, but we all have a common interest in the preservation of the rich history associated with Flora Macdonald and in the cultivation of arts in the region - especially as they relate to the historic structures on the campus.

We found that while dancers were primarily interested in the ball because of the dining hall's wonderful wood floor and the great music, they also enjoyed learning a little about the history of the campus; and while Flora Macdonald College and Vardell Hall alumnae were mostly in attendance to visit with classmates and friends, they enjoyed the nostalgia of the bagpipes and the Grand March; and while many who attended the Highland Games stayed on mostly for the music, or because they had learned a step or two during the dance workshops during the day, they seemed to also enjoy the wonder and beauty of the facility and the pageantry of the event. If as a foundation we can bring this kind of energy and interest to the campus on an annual basis we feel we are well on our way to

meeting a primary goal of the organization and that we will have set in motion a homecoming and celebration for years to come.

If you are not already involved in the foundation we hope you will consider joining us as either a committee member, a volunteer or patron (see insert titled Friends of the Ball).

Your generosity and support have already enabled the Foundation to make a difference (See Foundation Donates Over \$1400). Help us keep up the good work.

Sincerely,



Flora Macdonald Academy News

Flora Macdonald Academy Headmaster, Jonathon Good, reports that the academy is experiencing a period of positive growth and innovation. The historic campus holds true to 19th Century tradition as well as incorporating 21st Century technology. Flora Macdonald Academy, currently with 185 students, will be implementing a tablet PC program next year for freshmen and sophomores. This move will enable students to have constant access to technology as well as the teachers who will be utilizing the tablets in their instruction. FMA athletics will also take a huge stride next year by beginning a Pee Wee football team. For more information on these and other developments, visit the Academy's website at www.floramacdonald.org or call (910) 843-4995.

Vardell Hall News

By Barbara Todd Taylor (VH '68)

As Vardell Hall Alumna Liaison Moye Hinds Lowe says, "Never underestimate the power of the sisterhood!" And, boy was she right!

Thanks to the hard work of Moye and many of her "sisters" -- Ginny "Ginger" Powers, Lucinda Smith McClain, Lala Happ Clark, Ella "Tink" Raynor Kelly, Mary Coleman Weaver, Miriam Simpson, Cindy Howard Canning, Lynn Gray, and Julia Gaither Todd only to name a few -- the ball weekend was a great success!

Many of the Vardell "girls" chose to arrive the night before and stayed at the Country Inn and Suites in Lumberton. This gave everyone a chance to visit and get caught up before a full day of activities on Saturday. Some chose to attend the Highland Games in Red Springs and participate in the dance workshops while others went shopping or explored their old haunts such as Dairy Ranch. Yes! It's still open (See article on following page).

For those who were not able to make it down for the ball, you missed a treat on Saturday night. Not only did Vardell Hall look as beautiful as ever - especially the parlors - almost everyone marched in the Grand March and while the Scottish enthusiasts in the crowd (namely Ginny Powers and husband Maurice Robertson) danced almost every dance, others enjoyed chatting, perusing the silent auction items and hanging out --- just like the old days! Well not quite.....many had husbands in tow.

Because of time restraints, we had to take two intermissions to accommodate the awards presentations. This will not be the case next year. The intermission will come a bit earlier and all awards will be

presented at the same time. While we realize some of the "Vardell Bunch" are not dance enthusiasts, we are encouraging alumnae to stay through the intermission and awards ceremony (around 9:15pm). At this point in the Ball program, special recognition is paid to Vardell Hall and we want to have a good showing.

Thanks to Moye and other organizers involved with the ball, plans are already underway for the Second Annual Ball! While some events will be done the same, we are rethinking others and expanding the activities on



Alumnae of Vardell Hall pose for a group photograph in the parlor.

Saturday night. As with this past year, our hope is that most will want to arrive the day before. Some may chose to attend the Celtic Music Concert on the Flora Macdonald Campus while others may want to get

See Vardell Hall, Page 4

Flora Macdonald College News (continued from page 1)

Liaison, is busy working with the Foundation to expand alumnae activities in association with the ball in Red Springs.

As was the case with the ball this year, the 2007 ball will include events for all in attendance as well as special events specifically geared toward FMC graduates. These will include the grand march, special gatherings in the parlors and group singing led by Jane Hobbs McPhaul '58 - including the college alma mater, the "Friendship Song" and familiar Scottish songs. In 2007 we are adding a dinner for alumnae and their guests that will be held prior to the ball. This catered dinner will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church. All alumnae are invited to a 4:30 pm social, followed by the dinner at 5:00 pm. All alumnae in attendance will be recognized, and there will be a

special tribute to the 50th anniversary class. Honorary notices will be given to the classes of '47 (60 yr), '37 (70 yr) and '32 (75 yr). Because we all need to be on the Flora Macdonald Campus by 7:00 pm for the Grand March (We are first in line.) we will need to wrap everything up at the church by 6:30. Therefore, we are asking everyone to please be on time. We don't want to miss our grand entrance!

For more information on the dinner and ball on October 6th 2007 visit the



Pat Harris Rankin (FMC '51) with her husband - Jack Rankin, son - Alex Rankin, and daughter-in-law Sharon Rankin.

Foundation's website at www.floramacdonaldball.com or contact Becky Bracey at Gurneybecky@earthlink.net or at (910) 295-1729.

Becky and class reunion co-chair Jean Sessoms Snively are also helping to coordinate alumnae events at Saint Andrews Presbyterian college for their alumni weekend April 20th and 21st. For more information on this event contact Becky Bracey (see above) or Susan Wintz at Saint Andrews: www.sapc.edu / (919) 277-5555.



Ann Jordan McNeill (FMC '51) Mary Archie Brown McNeill (FMC '56) and Gladys McCain Kerr (FMC '56)

Vardell Hall

(Continued from previous page)

together at a restaurant in Lumberton. We will make reservations in advance for those who want to attend.

Saturday we are expanding activities especially for those who only attend for the day. We are adding a catered sit down dinner in Red Springs before the ball. This catered dinner will be for the Vardell "Girls" and their guests and will begin at 4:30 PM with social time followed by the dinner at 5:00pm. There will be a special package deal offered to alumnae of Vardell Hall – Moye, Ginny, Mary or I will be getting this info to you in plenty of time to plan – but mark your calendars now (October 6, 2007).

Another area where we will be doing things a little differently in 2007 is with the "After-Party". With so many people attending from out of town we are going to officially have the Vardell Hall after-party back at the hotel so we can all crash afterwards. So, plan on a late night back at the hotel on Saturday.

All alumnae in attendance will be recognized and there will be a special tribute to the classes of '62 (45 yrs), '67 (40 yrs) and '72 (35 yrs). We need to be on the Flora Macdonald Campus by 7:00 pm so we are encouraging everyone to be on time for the dinner. This will give us plenty of time to visit before heading over to campus. The Grand March is a "kick" and we wouldn't want you to miss it!

Again, mark your calendars for the weekend of **October 5th and 6th 2007**, we look forward to seeing you at the ball!

Foundation Donates Over \$1400

The Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation recently announced that they would be making gifts of over \$1400 to the community at their Second Annual Ball Kickoff to be held on December 3rd, 2006 at the Old Gym on the Flora Macdonald Campus.

A primary gift of \$1,000 will be given to the Flora Macdonald Education Foundation – the organization that oversees the campus of Flora Macdonald and its buildings. This gift will be made in memory of Ralph L. McQueen. Mr. McQueen led in organizing the Red Springs Chamber of Commerce in 1968, chaired the Red Springs Planning Committee for over 25 years and was a member and benefactor of the Flora Macdonald Educational Foundation.

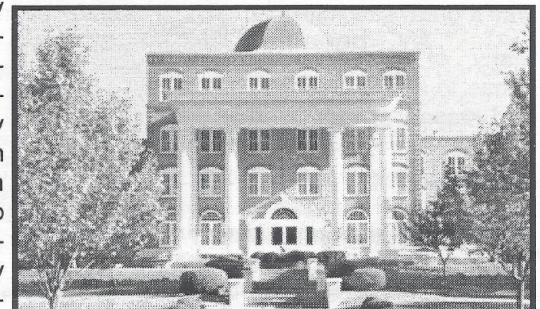
Gifts of \$100 each will be given to Red Springs High School and Flora Macdonald Academy to be applied to scholarships and student

enrichment through the arts.

In line with the Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation's purpose of encouraging organizations that serve and enrich the community, additional "appreciation" gifts of \$75.00 each will be made to the Red Springs Museum for their building fund, to the Red Springs Arts Council to underwrite a portion of the expenses related to producing their spring contra dance, and to the Cape Fear Valley Clans (CFVC) to help defray expenses related to developing a Scottish country dance class in the region. In response to interest in Scottish country dancing generated by the Flora Macdonald Ball, the Fayetteville-

based CFVC has been hosting classes since August of this year.

"It's exciting for us as an organization, to not only be making an impact on the preservation of the historic structures on the Flora Macdonald Campus, but also to be making a small contribution to the development of arts in the region," stated Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation Board Member and College alumna Eleanor McNeill Fields (FMC '61).



\$1,000 donated by Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation to help maintain historic structures and grounds of the Flora Macdonald Campus.

Dairy Ranch Alive and Well!

Many alumnae, alumni, dancers and friends visiting Red Springs for the first time in many years to attend the Flora Macdonald Ball were pleased or rather THRILLED to see that the Dairy Ranch was not only still open but



Luke McDonald has been running Dairy Ranch since taking over the helm from Garland Arrington in '99.

thriving! A Red Springs institution since it was opened by Garland Arrington in 1966, the Dairy Ranch continues to serve pork bar-b-q, soft serve ice cream and "the best tater tots in town" - according to Vardell Hall Alumnae and Scottish country dancer Ginny Powers.

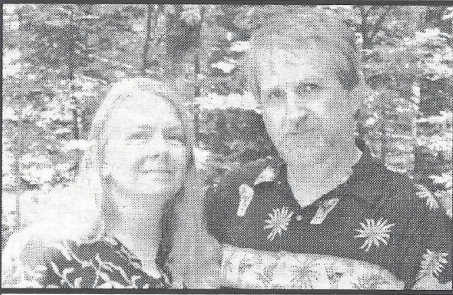
The Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation encourages patrons to visit many of the area restaurants, businesses and cultural centers in the area.

More information:
Town of Red Springs (910) 843-5241 or www.redsprings.org;
Red Springs Chamber of

Commerce (910) 843-5441;
Red Springs Museum (910) 843-7300 or (910) 843-4654;
Red Springs Arts Council - check local listings; **Flora Macdonald Highland Games** - (910) 843-5000 or www.floramacdonaldball.com;
Red Springs Garden Club - check local listings; **Givens Performing Arts Center-UNC Pembroke** - (910) 521-6287 or www.uncp.edu/gpac;
Historic Mill Prong House - www.bbtynner.com/millprong;
Lumberton Area Visitor's Bureau - (800) 359-6971 or www.lumberton-nc.com;
Robeson County Museum-Lumberton - (910) 738-7979
Scottish Heritage Center-Laurinburg (910) 277-5236 or www.sapc.edu/shc/shc;
Museum of the Cape Fear-Fayetteville (910) 486-1330.

Contra Dancing in the Carolinas

By Emma Baudey



Louie and Robert Cromartie called the contra dances at the 2006 Ball

From across the Carolinas contra dancers joined in on the fun at the First Annual Flora Macdonald Ball. Many attended the various dance workshops during the day and enjoyed the spirited calling of Robert and Louie Cromartie that evening. The Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation encourages those interested in learning more about contra dancing to attend one of the many groups in the area.

Chapel Hill NC – The Triangle Country Dancers hold dances in Durham, on the 4th Friday of each month, at the Pleasant Green Community Center on Pleasant Green Community Road, Durham, NC; and on the 2nd Friday of each month at the Carrboro Century Center at 100 N. Greensboro St, Carrboro, NC. Dances begin with a dance lesson at 7:30 PM, with dancing at 8:00 PM, usually until 11:00 PM. Special events include the Spring Dance Romance in late April in Danbury. They also sponsor Advanced Dances (no lesson and no walkthrough) on any 5th Friday at Pleasant Green. For more information visit their website at : www.tcdancers.org. **Columbia SC** - The Columbia Traditional Music & Dance Society holds contra dances on the 2nd Saturday of each month. New dancers' workshop is at 7:00; dancing begins at 7:30 p.m. Dances are held at the Arsenal Hill Park Building at the corner of Lincoln & Laurel Sts., across from Finlay Park. Contact: <http://www.contracola.org>. **Red Springs, NC** - Red Springs Arts Council periodically sponsors

Contra Dances at the Old Gym on the Flora Macdonald Campus. Check local listings for events.

West End / Southern Pines NC - The Sandhills Contra Dancers hold dances on the second Saturday of each month at the Old West End Gym, 106 West End School Road (off 211 across from Vancannon Drive) at 7:30 PM. An introduction workshop usually starts 30 minutes before the event. For information contact: Gloria Moore at (910) 638-4314, or visit their website at: www.geocities.com/sandhillscontradancers. **Wilmington NC** – Cape Fear Contra Dance holds dances on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 8-11 PM. A brief beginners' workshop is taught at 7:30 PM. All Saturday dances (except Feb '07 and Aug. '07) are held at: Riverside Park Community Building, Old Bridge Site Road, Castle Hayne. Contra dances are now on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at: 5th Avenue United Methodist Church, 409 S 5th Ave (at Nun St) in downtown Wilmington from 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM. Special events include the Salty Swirl all-day dance in mid-February, the Salty Splash in August and other events during the year. For more details about upcoming events, call (910) 270-3363 or 791-5206, or check the website at: www.mediwriter.com/CFCD.html. **Winston Salem and Greensboro NC** - The Fiddle and Bow Country Dancers sponsor a contra dance every Tuesday night from 8 until 10 at the Vintage Theatre located at the corner of Vintage Street and South Main Street. They also sponsor a dance from 8:00 to 11:00 PM the first and third Saturday (usually) of each month in Greensboro, NC at The Grange. The Grange is located on Guilford School Road off of Lindley Rd. Feet Retreat - an annual dance weekend – is the last full weekend in September. For more info call Carol at (336) 272-3245 or Jim at (336) 996-7666.

ers danced throughout the evening.

Scottish Country Dancing in the Carolinas and Virginia

By Libit Woodington

Scottish country dancers from across the eastern United States, Canada and Great Britain were in attendance at the First Annual Flora Macdonald Ball held in Red Springs (NC) on October 7th, 2006. Highlights of the evening included a demonstration of "Sailor Hector" - a new dance devised by Stella Fogg and Moira Turner with tune by John Turner in honor of Sailor Hector McNeil, the founder of Red Springs; and the presentation of the Petronella award to Pat Johnston of the Raleigh Scottish Country Dancers. Jack Pressley with the Charlotte Scottish Country Dancers kept things moving as Scottish country and contra danc-

ers danced throughout the evening.

For those interested in learning more about Scottish country dancing there are many existing and expanding opportunity in the region. Because of interest spurred on by the Flora Macdonald Ball in Red Springs the Cape Fear Valley Clans has begun offering monthly classes in Fayetteville and the Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation has been working with the organization to encourage participation.

A newly established resource for Scottish country dancers in the area is the Carolinas Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS).

See Scottish Dancing, Page 6

Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation

Proudly Presents the



Second Annual

Flora Macdonald Ball

Saturday October 6, 2007 at 7:00 pm
Flora Macdonald Campus - 200 College St.
Red Springs, NC

Tickets \$15.00 if postmarked or purchased on-line prior to September 1st and \$18.00 after this date. Advance tickets only available through October 1st. Those interested in attending are strongly urged to purchase tickets prior to this date.

For more information and to order tickets
Please visit the ball website at:

www.floramacdonaldball.com

or call (910) 307-0090

Scottish Country Dancing in the Carolinas and Virginia

(Continued from page 5)

For more information contact the branch's secretary Brenda Sleight at: Dalbren@mebtel.net.

As you will see from this roster of dance groups there are also weekly opportunities throughout the region for this form of dancing. Often described as the social dance of Scotland, Scottish country dancing is enjoyed around the world! Please note that beginners are always welcome at these groups and one does not have to have a partner to participate. For more information please contact the groups directly.

Boone, NC: The Boone Scottish Country Dancers have a class every Wednesday from 7:15-9:00 PM at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in downtown Boone at 170 Council St. (behind the Earth-Fare). For further information and to confirm class times, please contact Lee or Joann Ryan at (828) 264-2871 or email us at ryanlf@bellsouth.net or lfryan@hughes.net or jlpryan@earthlink.net.

Charleston SC - The Charleston Scottish Country Dancers meet on Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Felix Davis Community Centre, Park Circle, North Charleston. Sometimes the location is changed because of city functions so call Irene Stancik at (843) 797 2275 or e-mail charlestonscds@gmail.com. They also hold a dance the night of the Charleston Highland Games which are on the 3rd Saturday of September. **Charlotte NC**

- The Charlotte Scottish Country Dancers sponsor a class every Tuesday evening from September to June at the Selwyn Avenue Presbyterian Church, Selwyn Ave., Charlotte from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm. Scheduling conflicts will occasionally result in class cancellation or change of venue; therefore, if attending class for the first time please call ahead. Upcoming events include Christmas Dinner and Dance Party on Saturday, December 2nd at Quail Hollow Presbyterian Church, 8801 Park Rd. Charlotte at 6:30 pm and other events throughout the year. For more information on classes, events or performances contact Jack Presslesy at (704) 814-9647 or Doreen Gibbon at (704) 366-9260, visit their website at <http://hometown.aol.com/dancingscotclt/cscds.htm> or e-mail Jack at jpres79334@aol.com.

Columbia SC - The Palmetto Scottish Country dancers meet every Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM at the Shandon Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC. The church is located at 607 Woodrow Street on the corner of Woodrow and Devine. Please contact Myrna Beaton at (803) 791-7716 or Bill McCullough at billmac85@yahoo.com to be sure classes are being held. **Durham-Chapel Hill, NC** - The Scottish Country Dancers of Durham/Chapel Hill sponsor a class every Thursday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at the Triangle Dance Studio, 2603 South Miami Blvd, Durham NC. For

more information on classes, contact Barbara Youngman at 919-467-3390 or visit their website at <http://www.ibiblio.org/scottish-dance/>. **Fayetteville NC** - The Cape Fear Valley Scottish Clans sponsors a monthly class on a Friday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Fayetteville. For more information about specific date of class and loca-



Patricia Johnston of the Raleigh Scottish Country Dancers receives the inaugural Petronella Award.

tion or any other events of the Cape Fear Valley Scottish Clans please contact Maurice Robertson at (910) 484-3977 or nvmykilt@yahoo.com. Class schedule information is also available at www.floramacdonaldball.com. See page titled Area Events and Dances. **Greensboro, NC** - The Greensboro Scottish Country Dancers have class every Tuesday from 7:30 until 10:00 September thru June. Classes meet at The Grange on Guilford School Road in Greensboro on all Tuesdays except the 2nd Tuesday of each month when they meet at Lewis Recreation Center on Pisgah Church Road in Greensboro. Their St. Andrew's Day dance will be held on November 18th at Redhead Hall, First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC. For more information on classes, events or performances contact Mary McConnell at 336-282-6507 or visit their website at: www.gosocds.org.

Raleigh NC - The Raleigh Scottish Country Dancers sponsor a class every Monday evening from 7:30-9:30 PM at Jo Moore's School of Scottish Dance, 1401-G SE Maynard Road in Cary, NC. Upcoming events include Burns Night Celebration on January 27, 2007 at the Country Squire Inn in Warsaw NC and 25th Anniversary Celebration and Weekend Workshop (February 9-11, 2007) at Matthews House of Cary. For more information contact Patricia Johnston at patriciatj@aol.com or visit their website at <http://home.nc.rr.com/rscd>. **Richmond VA** - The Scottish Country Dancers of Richmond sponsor a class every Tuesday evening from 6:45 to 9:15 p.m. in The Richmond Community High School Gym at the corner of Patterson & Libbie. Weekend Technique and Demonstration Classes are held on 2nd & 4th Saturday

afternoons at The Thistle & Shamrock Dance Academy on Patterson Avenue. Upcoming events include a Christmas Dance to be held on December 9, 2006 at 2 p.m. featuring A Sheep at the Wheel; a St. Patrick's Day Dance on March 17, 2007; and The Silver Thistle Ball Weekend in June 2007 with John Turner and Terpsichore. For more information on classes, events or performances contact Stella Fogg at 804-282-5482, Moira Turner at 804-778-4708 or visit their website at www.scd-richmond.org. **Shelby NC** - The Shelby Scottish Country Dancers sponsor a class most Fridays from September to June at the Council on Aging-Senior Center at 1266 Fallston Road, Shelby from 7:15 pm to 9:30 pm. If attending for the first time please check in advance at (704) 482-8253 since schedule conflicts, out of town events and vacations can result in cancellation of classes or change of venue. Upcoming events include the Friday Welcome Dance and Saturday Gala at the Loch Norman Highland Games (April 20 & 21st 2007) and other events throughout the year.

The Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation encourages everyone to attend next year's
Flora Macdonald Highland Games
 October 5-7, 2007
 For more information please call
 (910) 843-5000 or visit their website at
www.capefearscots.com

Over 200 Attend Ball (continued from page 1)

refreshments provided by the Gibson family. At 7:30 all guests lined up for the Grand March with music by bagpiper Bill Caudill. The March was led by co-chairs of the ball, Rosalynde Gibson Cowdrey and Gaitley Stevenson-Mathews. Behind the ball co-chairs were seven of the descendants of Dr. Charles Graves Vardell (college founder) and his wife Linda Lee Vardell (founder of the music conservatory). Margaret Vardell Sandresky, matriarch of the family, led the descendants of this "first family" of the campus and they were joined by their spouses and

communities.

At intermission three awards were presented: the Flora Macdonald Legacy Award was presented to Tommy and Jean Ammons (FMC '59) of the Flora Macdonald Highland Games and to Frances S. McNeill, alumna of Flora Macdonald College; the Petronella Award was presented to Patricia Johnston of the Raleigh Scottish Country Dancers and to DeeDee Laurilliard of the Triangle Country Dancers; and, the Vardell Award was presented to the Vardell family.

The recipients were presented with plaques bearing the image of Flora Macdonald, and their names have been added to perpetual plaques which will be housed at the Red Springs Museum with future recipients' names added to these plaques.



2006 Recipients of the Flora Macdonald Legacy Award: (L-R) Tommy Ammons, Frances S. McNeill (FMC '32) and Jean Ammons (FMC '59).

other family members. Behind the Vardells were graduates of Flora Macdonald College, Vardell Hall and Flora Macdonald Academy. These alumnae and alumni were followed by members of the Scottish country and contra dance communities and by many other friends and guests. As is the tradition of a Grand March, the procession formed a Saint Andrews cross and ended facing the stage for the singing of the National Anthem. At the close of the anthem couples formed sets to dance a series of folk and ballroom dances taught by leaders from the local dance

Flora Macdonald Academy alumna Todd Buie Weaver coordinated the refreshments along with Flora Macdonald College alumna Gussie McDonald, Vardell Hall alumna Ginny Powers, and Marjory Jones of the Raleigh Scottish Country Dancers. Many others from the community also provided items for the table.

Organizers of the silent auction included Flora Macdonald College alumna Rosalynde Gibson Cowdrey, Vardell Hall alumna Barbara Todd Taylor, Red Springs resident Terry Powers, and New York resident, Claire Cowdrey Ojeda - daughter of ball co-chair Rosalynde Cowdrey.



Karen Chandler from Winston Salem & Brian Youngman from Raleigh.

During the evening alumnae and alumni were invited into the parlors for group singing that included many Scottish tunes, the Alma Maters of the three institutions of learning that have been housed on the campus as well as the Red Springs High School song in recognition of those from the region who attended that school. The singing was led by Flora Macdonald College graduate Jane McPhaul and by Scottish folk singer, Flora Macdonald Gammon.

The Masters-of-Ceremony for the ball were the ball co-chairs along with Jack Pressley of the Charlotte Scottish Country Dancers leading the dance portion of the evening. Flora Macdonald College alumnae Gale Simpson Lewis and Rebecca Williams Bracey sponsored a pre-ball dinner. Musicians for the evening were fiddler Mara Shea and pianist Dave Wiesler and sound was provided by Ron Ammons. Sonny Patterson, who has been an employee on the campus for more than 40 years, oversaw the facility during the evening. Legacy Foundation Board members, Patsy Conoley and Karen Poppele, served as coordinators for the evening's festivities and Debra Duncan of Red Springs and her daughter

and Ball Apprentice Laura Duncan oversaw decorations.

Alumnae liaisons for this year's ball were Rebecca Williams Bracey for Flora Macdonald College, Moye Hinds Lowe for Vardell Hall and Patricia Watson Price for Flora Macdonald Academy. Refreshments for the Post-Ball reception were provided by Vardell Hall graduates and were coordinated by Mrs. Lowe. Others involved in the evening included Janette Hopper, Jean Marie McManus, Gladys McCain Kerr, Eleanor McNeill Fields, Mary Coleman Weaver, Richard Gay, Tim Rumph, Lesley Covington, Cynthia Boyles, Jeannette Tiemissen, Doug Frazier and Libit Woodington.

The Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to preserve the historical significance of the campus and region while also promoting arts in the area. If interested in supporting the foundation, learning more about the organization or viewing more photographs from the recent celebration you may visit the ball website at www.floramacdonaldball.com. Gifts can also be made using the form enclosed. Next year's ball is scheduled for October 6, 2007, and a kickoff celebration and dance will be held on December 3rd of this year on the Flora Macdonald Campus.



Flora MacDonald Gammon and Jane Hobbs McPhaul (FMC '48) lead singing.



The Vardell Times

Winter/Spring '06-'07 / Newsletter of the
Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation
and the Flora Macdonald Ball
PO Box 484
Red Springs, NC 28377

Mission Statement Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation

The Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization whose mission is (i) to preserve and promote the rich history of the famous Scottish heroine Flora Macdonald, who came to the Cape Fear region of North Carolina in 1774, (ii) to encourage through education the study of Scottish culture, especially in the Arts, and (iii) to explore how this culture was influenced and continues to be influenced and expanded by the rich tapestry of cultures existing in the region. Through the work of this Foundation, special attention will be drawn to the historical significance of the Flora Macdonald Campus and to the individuals and institutions that have been and continue to be associated with it.

The Vardell Times

Named in honor of both **Dr. Charles Graves Vardell**, who founded **Flora Macdonald College** and served as its first president and his wife, **Linda Lee Vardell**, who founded the college's renowned music conservatory, *The Vardell Times* is the official newsletter of the **Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation** and the **Flora Macdonald Ball**.

2006 Promotional Postcard Paid for in part
by a grant from the
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**THE FLORA MACDONALD
LEGACY FOUNDATION**
is a proud member of the
**Red Springs
Chamber of Commerce**

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT:
WWW.FLORAMACDONALDBALL.COM

***Dancing, Dancing and MORE Dancing!
Photographs inside from the First Annual Flora
Macdonald Ball - October 7, 2006 - Red Springs, NC***

**Congratulations to Patricia
Johnston & DeeDee Laurilliard**

The Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation was pleased to honor Patricia Johnston of the Raleigh Scottish Country Dancers and DeeDee Laurilliard of the Triangle Country Dancer with the inaugural Petronella Award at this year's ball.

Appropriately named in tribute to a dance popular among both Scottish country and contra dancers, the Petronella Award recognizes outstanding contributions on behalf of teachers and leaders in these communities who have provided support, guidance and expertise in promoting dance throughout the region.

In setting out to develop a new dance venue in the region to serve contra and Scottish country dancers, the board of the Flora Macdonald Legacy Foundation soon noticed outstanding individuals in the community-- individu-

als who were committed to working together and encouraging new dancers. To show appreciation for their contributions to the community and to shine a light on their talent and commitment, the Foundation enthusiastically named DeeDee and Pat as the 2006 recipients of the Petronella Award.

Always ready to hear a creative idea, DeeDee Laurilliard, president of the Triangle Country Dancers, has not only worked to create new opportunities for dancing in her own group, but has also made a point of reaching out to other groups in the region. And, as head of the Raleigh Scottish Country Dancers for more than twenty years, Pat Johnston, has introduced countless people to Scottish country dancing. She has inspired dancers through the Ra-

leigh class, and she has gone the extra mile by traveling to distant regions where there are fewer teachers trained in the dance form.

It is thanks to Pat's efforts and those of the organizers of the Cape



Patricia
Johnston



DeeDee
Laurilliard

Fear Valley Scottish Clans in Fayetteville (NC) that we now have a monthly class in the Southeastern part of the state. While the class was initially created to help those in the region learn some of the more basic Scottish dances in preparation for the Flora Macdonald Ball in neighboring Red Springs, inter-

est in the dance form has flourished and they continue to meet on a regular basis.

While the recipient of the 2007 Petronella Award will not be announced until the spring, those serving on the nomination committee are already accepting nominations for consideration. To submit a name please visit the Awards Page on the Foundation's website to familiarize yourself with the award criteria and submit a paragraph in writing to Dance Community Liaison Member and head of the Charlotte Scottish Country Dancers-Jack Pressley at jpres79334@aol.com or to Foundation Board Member and contra dancer - Karen Poppele at lettperfect@earthlink.net.

Save the Date

Second Annual Flora Macdonald Ball - Saturday, October 6, 2007

WWW.FLORAMACDONALDBALL.COM

