

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

P. O. Box 175, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2G9

www.rscdswinnipeg.ca

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From the Chair....

The Dance season started the week of September 12 and already the COM is busy planning events for 2012. We had a lively COM meeting on October 5, at which a motion was passed to host a special full supper and dance to celebrate Robbie Burns on January 28, 2012.

Dance Scottish Week, celebrated this year officially from November 4 to December 3, has become a 'firm feature of our Scottish Dance calendar worldwide'. This initiative, which originated from Headquarters, focuses on promoting our dancing to the general public and hopefully recruiting new dancers. RSCDS Winnipeg is joining the celebrations this year by presenting a selection of dances and music to teachers at the elementary level, at the 2011 SAG Conference in Winnipeg on October 21. The material has been prepared by our Red River/Selkirk Settlers Bicentennial Committee (a subcommittee of the COM) as part of the festivities surrounding the 200th Anniversary of the Selkirk Settlers in the Red River Valley. The Selkirk Settlers were very important in the development of the community in the Valley and Manitoba. Our Scottish Country Dance teachers (with senior dancers from the Branch) will be instructing teachers in music, dance and costumes that would have been part of the experience of the Scottish immigrants in what would become Manitoba. Thank you to the committee members, teachers, and senior dancers for your enthusiasm and hard work.

The Scottish Heritage Council will be holding its first meeting this month. The Council (once known as Scots United) acts as an umbrella organization for Scottish cultural, dance and historical organizations in Manitoba. As a member of the Scottish Heritage Council, RSCDS Winnipeg Branch has two voting delegates. Thank you, Agnes Brydon and Debra Forest, for being our representatives.

Lynn McClure has kindly agreed to be the Health and Safety representative of the members to the COM. A first aid kit will be created and made accessible to the members at St. Paul's Church. A second CPR workshop will be planned for the Spring of 2012. There is ongoing discussion regarding a defibrillator on site, for emergencies.

Remember the Special Projects Fund! The sooner your projects are submitted and accepted, the sooner we can start spending money for the benefit of the Branch members!

Jane Nattrass is the Workshop Chairperson for 2012. If you are interested in getting involved in the Workshop planning, just give her a call.

Members are welcome to attend the COM meetings. If a member wishes to speak on a specific issue, please email or phone Pat Clubb and get on the agenda for the next meeting. The next meeting is November 2, 7:00 – 9:00 pm at St. Pauls Church.

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Pat Clubb

2011/12 Dance Season

Friday September 9	Welcome Social, St. Paul's Church Hall, 7:30 pm – No charge!
Week of September 12	Fall Term classes begin
Saturday September 17	Farewell Social for Mike and Robin Lynch, 8:00 pm, \$10
Monday November 28	St. Andrew's Social (hosted by the Fort Garry Social Class)
Week of December 12	Last classes of Fall Term
Week of January 9, 2012	Winter Term classes begin
Saturday January 28	Burns Dance
Tuesday February 28	Class Social (hosted by the Technique Class)
Thursday March 29	Class Social (hosted by the Basic Class)
Week of April 16	Last classes of Winter Term
Saturday April 28	Workshop and dance
Wednesday May 16	AGM

Please note: All dates are subject to change – please check the calendar each month. All socials are at St. Paul's Church at 8:00 pm, unless otherwise noted.

From the Editor

Scottish Country Dance teacher Eileen Hsu, from Seattle, speaks of those dancers with whom you love to dance:

You know how you see a particular dancer, and you think, "Oh, I want to be in your set," or "Oh, you're so fun to dance with"? Part of that quality is, of course, the person's own sociability and personality. But part of that quality can be learned – through those details that make this form of dancing truly a team sport.

Which dancers came to mind when you read the above quote? Why are they such a pleasure to dance with? What makes them such good partners?

While the dancers' own sociability and personality add to the fun of dancing, it is the learned partnering skills that our teachers are constantly trying to instill in us – eye contact, strong arms, anticipating the next step, to name a few – that truly enhance the dancing experience for your partner.

The RSCDS Twin Cities Branch has the following useful *Notes on Helping Others* on their website:

- *It's great if you are able to help your partner or other dancers in the set through a dance, but be judicious. No one likes to be bossed around, and no one wants to be pushed.*
- *Don't assume that if someone makes one mistake they need you to cue them through the entire dance.*
- *The best way to help is through subtle techniques like making eye-contact, good handing, etc.*
- *While a few quiet verbal cues from one's partner can be much appreciated, avoid getting into a situation where everyone in the set is shouting out directions.*
- *If someone is going the wrong way, avoid a crash and do your best to be where **you** are supposed to be. If everyone else is in the correct place it will be easier for the "lost" dancer to see where s/he is supposed to be.*

What great advice, and so easy to incorporate into our own dancing! Happy Dancing (and Partnering)!

Heather Ferguson

Parks Canada Award

On Sunday, October 2, 2011, the following dancers attended the Volunteer Luncheon at the Lower Fort Garry site:

Agnes Brydon
Joyce Cormack
Joan Curle
Heather Ferguson
Debbie Forrest
Jean Highmoor

Margaret Jones
David Kroeker
Betty Poole
Bob Poole
Christine Wallace

A nice luncheon was enjoyed, followed by awards for volunteers. RSCDS was honored with a plaque for hours as volunteers in entertainment and learning. The learning part refers to the hours put in by our dancers during the Heritage Days events, which involve Grade 5 students. The RSCDS Winnipeg Branch was the recipient of one of the 100 Volunteer awards being presented to celebrate Park Canada's Centennial (one of only two awarded to Manitobans).

For those who are interested, the awards, write-up and pictures can be seen on the Parks Canada website: pc.gc.ca/eng/progs/celebrations/themes/September/100 and then click on "Parks Canada – Centennial – Our 100 Volunteers." This will show you a list of the 100 volunteers recognized by Parks Canada for their 100th Anniversary. Later in October, they will have the write-ups and pictures. I will let you know when this happens.

*Agnes Brydon,
Demo Secretary*



Presentation of the Parks Canada Centennial Award to members of the RSCDS Winnipeg Branch
Lower Fort Garry
October 2, 2011

RSCDS Colouring Competition

RSCDS is once again running a colouring competition for young people aged 12 years and under, in conjunction with Dance Scottish Week 2011. The young people do not have to be a dancer or a member of a RSCDS branch. Deadline for entries is **October 31, 2011**. Winners will receive prizes of RSCDS goodie-bags.

The template/form can be downloaded from the website, at <http://www.rscds.org/news/member-news/260-colouring-competition-2011.html>.

Scottish Heritage Council

In July 2011, The City of Winnipeg Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management voted unanimously to allow Sunstone Boutique Hotels to build a 67-room hotel on Waterfront Drive, at the long-vacant Alexander Docks site, and convert the adjacent Harbourmaster Building to a 100-seat restaurant.

The Scottish Heritage Council appealed this decision on the grounds that it is inconsistent with Plan Winnipeg's requirements regarding heritage conservation, as the site is part of the headquarters of the Red River Selkirk Settlement.

The settlement was the first permanent European agricultural settlement on the northern Great Plains of North America. The site was the heart of the settlement and the very beginning of the City of Winnipeg and the Province of Manitoba.

The development was also opposed by the Friends of Victoria Park as the site is where strikers assembled during the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike. Condo dwellers who reside across the street from the site complained that the proposed hotel would block their view of the river.

The vote of the appeal committee of four councillors was tied, with councillors Paula Havixbeck (Charleswood-Tuxedo) and Thomas Steen (Elmwood) voting to deny the appeal and councillors Ross Eadie (Mynarski) and Harvey Smith (Daniel McIntyre) voting to uphold the appeal.

Under the city's rules, a tie vote means the appeal fails and the original decision to approve the hotel development is final, subject only to a possible review by the courts.

Upcoming Events

Pumpkin Ceilidh

October 22, 2011

You are invited to a Pumpkin Ceilidh, which will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2011 at St. Paul's Church Hall, starting at 7:30 pm.

The event features Scottish ceilidh dancing, old time dancing, Scottish Country Dancing, entertainment and, of course, refreshments. No dancing experience required!

This event is for all ages and has a bit of a Halloween flair to it. Costumes are optional but you must be able to dance in them. There will be a silver collection at the door, with all proceeds donated to the ALS Brummitt-Feasby House. For further information, contact Cheryl Durnin at 253-4213.

St. Andrew's Social

November 28, 2011

The Fort Garry Social Class will be hosting the St. Andrew's Social on Monday, November 28 at St. Paul's Church Hall.

The Dance Program for the social is as follows:

Dance Program		
It's Nae Bother	32J2	2 nd Graded Book
Barbara's Strathspey	32S3	Book 46
Catch the Wind	32R3	Book 45
Hooper's Jig	32J3	MMM 2
Delvine Side	32S3	Book 2
The Flowers of Edinburgh	32R3	Book 1
Intermission		
St. Andrew's Fair	32J3	MMM 2
Christine's Scroll	32S3	Leaflet
Maxwell's Rant	32R3	Book 18-10
Granville Market	32J3	2 nd Graded Book
<i>Crib notes for the dances are available on the Branch website.</i>		

Event Reports

Farewell Social for Mike and Robin Lynch

September 17, 2011

As Chair of this committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in making the event a success.

First of all, the phoners (Margaret Zadworny, Maureen Burnham, Anne Morrison, Jean Highmoor, and Christine Wallace) for contacting past members and friends to advise them of the upcoming social.

Next, our Social secretary, Anne Morrison, for her hard work and creative designs for the decorations. Great job for your first major event, Anne. Thank you.

Thanks go to Heather and Glen Colquhoun and Sharon and Ray Plaitin for all the support and help in kitchen duties, setting up and taking down of tables, banners, making coffee and punch, etc. Couldn't have done it without your help.

Our greeters, Margaret Zadworny, Shirley Tinsley and Pat Clubb did a very welcoming job. Thanks to you all.

Our dances could not have been so expertly done if not for the briefing of our teachers. Thanks to Elizabeth Frenette, Cheryl Durnin, Gerry Mayes, Peter McClure, Robin Lynch and Christine Wallace.

A BIG applause to our dance deviser, Liz Goossen, and musician, Ron Krug. It was a fun dance to do. Congratulations to our dancers Sharyl Eaglesham, Heather Colquhoun, Pat Wright, Glen Colquhoun, Liz Goossen and myself for doing a wonderful job. Name of the dance: *Breakfast, Lynch and Supper*. The music was named M&R B&B (Mike & Robin/ Bed & Breakfast).

Many thanks to Jean Highmoor for the lovely programmes. Robin took one as a souvenir.

Lynn – I don't know what to say about your art! The sun catcher was breathtaking – I am sure it will always remind the Lynchs of the Prairies in their new home.

Thanks to the Kenora Scottish Country dancers for their generous donation – wish you could have been here to celebrate with us.

Pat Clubb – Thank you for your presentation to the guests of honour.

Ron and Ken – no words can describe how much your music means to everyone. We all know how lucky we are to have you here in Winnipeg. Thanks.

Christine – you did a marvelous job of pulling everything together and doing the Emcee job. Well done.

Agnes Brydon
Chair, Lynch Social Committee



*Robin and Mike Lynch at the Farewell Social
September 17, 2011*

Robin and Mike can now be found at:

Moonlight Shadows B&B
672 Macklin Road- corner of West Road
Quadra Island, BC

250-285-2422
www.moonlightshadowsbb.ca
info@moonlightshadowsbb.ca

Regina Workshop Report

September 30 – October 2, 2011

The Winnipeg Branch was represented by Scott MacRae and Reg Curle at the recent Regina Workshop. Apparently, our wives had no use for us at home in Winnipeg.

Hospitality in Saskatchewan has always been a highpoint in previous visits to their fall workshop and again this year was no exception. Ken Nattrass and Ron Krug were class musicians as well as providing the music for the Saturday Ball. The teachers were the husband and wife team of Janyn and John Bertram from Calgary. There were folks from Calgary, Medicine Hat, Saskatoon, Moose Jaw as well as many Regina dancers.

We had a small beginners class and a class of about twenty four in the advanced class. We were taught a number of dances from book 46 as well as several that Scott and I had never danced before, or at least we failed to recognize them.

A great meal was served at the Officers' Mess in the Armed Forces complex, where they held the classes, and then we were treated to the music provided by Ken and Ron. The ball program was fourteen dances, including some of our favourites such as *Piper and the Penguin* and *Maxwell's Rant*. The only really obvious meltdown of the dances was *Polharrow Burn*, a five couple dance with which even the set of mainly teachers had some difficulty. Scott was one of the auction prize winners and had some gifts to bring home to his wife – Reg was not so lucky..

Sunday morning's mixed social class was just what the aching feet and legs needed. Most of the Saskatchewan dancers were still feeling the effects of the Roughriders previous loss to the B.C. Lions. At least they did not make any references to the two losses inflicted previously on our Bombers. Ken plugged our 2012 workshop and I mentioned our 50th Anniversary workshop planned for the long weekend in May 2013. The tentative plans are for Saskatoon to host the next Saskatchewan workshop.

Scott MacRae and Reg Curle

Class Reports

Fort Garry Social Class

September has been a great month for the Fort Garry class, with October promising more of the same. Our attendance has been 20 – 24 dancers, with almost half of them being men! We have been introduced to new dances, including five couple dances and a six bar reel, along with

welcomed reinforcement of “W” armed circles and touch and go hands being discreetly incorporated. Our class is two hours with friendly people in a relaxed fun-filled atmosphere enjoying great Scottish dances under the direction of Peter – The Great Teacher.

Two of our dancers, Reg and Scott, attended the workshop in Regina at the end of September. Our very own Ron Krug and Ken Nattrass supplied the music for this workshop.

We welcomed Linda Cassell to our class. Linda danced with us a few years ago and we are looking forward to having her with us again.

Agnes visited Toronto recently and enjoyed spending time with her family there.

Our contribution to the *Light & Airy* will be done by Rose in November and December. Sheila will take it over for the second term.

I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving!

Betty Poole

Technique Class

We'd like to welcome Margaret Zadworny back to teaching the Level 2 Technique Class. We appreciate her knowledge, her enthusiasm, and her sense of humour, so thank you Margaret for returning to the challenge of improving our dance technique.

We are starting to do dances which will take us on a tour of Scotland, beginning in Edinburgh. We started with Grey Friar's Bobby and then Arthur's Seat, which is a hill or a mountain rising above Edinburgh near Holyrood Palace. Reg and I met up with Christine in Edinburgh several years ago and she guided us to the top for the view over the city.

Welcome back to our returning dancers after a busy summer. Jean Highmoor joined her sister in Scotland to revisit places they had enjoyed when they were children. Debbie Forrest and David Kroeker spent a week visiting London and doing day trips as far away as Bath.

Ken Nattrass is looking very well and was able to play at the Lynchs' Tribute. Congratulations to Claire McMahon who has recently retired. She hopes to rejoin dancing after Christmas.

Reg and I joined Ruth Jappy in Vancouver near Stanley Park for an evening of dancing in the park. Old shoes were needed on the concrete pad near the playground and the park drive. Usually eight sets danced to the popular dances, with many people watching who were either resting or waiting to join in a simple beginner's one. Afterwards we were invited to join a group at the Sylvia Hotel for a beverage. Other out of towners who enjoyed the evening activity were from Toronto and Calgary.

Joan Curle

Basic Class

Greetings from the Basic Class!

Our numbers are very small but, we are enthusiastic. We have been working on a variety of figures that we have been able to put into dances. Some of the figures include casting off and back, hands across, circles, figures of eight and leading down the middle and up. As necessary, you may get a phone call to come and dance with us if extra dancers are needed to help fill in the sets. If you receive a phone call, please do come and join us.

Cheryl Durnin

Demonstration Team

Upcoming demonstrations:

Nov. 14, 2011	Deer Lodge Centre
Nov. 16, 2011	St. Saviours Church – Seniors Supper
Nov. 23, 2011	Shaftsbury Park Old Timers Residence
March 24, 2012	Kildonan Presbyterian Community Church
April 6	Tartan Day
June 23	Manitoba Highland Gathering
September 1-11	Selkirk Settlers Bicentennial Celebrations

We were requested by Lower Fort Garry for a picture and write-up on Heritage Days activities and other demonstrations that have been done over the past 10 years for such events as Victoria Day, July 1st celebrations and other special events put on by the Lower Fort Garry during that time. Parks Canada (Ottawa) is going to feature us on its website as part of the September Centennial Celebration theme of "Volunteering" and the

October Centennial Celebration theme of "Learning Experiences".

We were all very excited about this exposure for RSCDS. The Demo Team and many branch members have taken part in these activities. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Anyone with two years of dancing experience is invited to come out and join the Demonstration Team. If you are interested, call Agnes at 837-7346 or email: brydona@Yahoo.com.

Agnes Brydon

Here and There

Adult Truths

Submitted for your enjoyment by David Kroeker

1. Part of a friend's job should be to immediately clear your computer history when you die.
2. Nothing sucks more than the moment during an argument when you realize you are wrong.
3. There is a great need for a sarcasm font.
4. I can't remember the last time I wasn't at least kind of tired.
5. Bad decisions make good stories.
6. Sometimes I will look down at my watch three consecutive times and still not know what time it is.
7. The first testicular guard, the "Cup", was used in hockey in 1874. The first helmet was used in 1971. It took only 100 years for men to realize that their brain is also important.

Brain Teaser

Give a single letter which expresses each of the following:

- blue and white bird
- lowest note on the piano
- a large body of water
- a girl's nickname
- a vegetable
- an exclamation
- a beverage

Answers are at the end of page 8.

Out of Town Events

Medicine Hat, AB

October 28-30, 2011
RSCDS Medicine Hat Branch
36th Annual Workshop, Banquet and Ball
Teachers: Gail Michener (Picture Butte, AB),
Simon Scott (West Vancouver, BC), and
Irene Townshend (Edmonton, AB)
Music: Ken Nattrass, Ron Krug and Dennis Orr
Contact: Anne Baxter (403-529-5146 or
annes.letterbox@gmail.com)

Windsor, ON

October 29, 2011
RSCDS Windsor Branch
Annual Dinner and Ball
Music: The Scottish Accent
Contact: Tara Fuerth (tara.fuerth@geccdsb.on.ca)

Houston, TX

October 29, 2011
Houston & District Branch Workshop and Ball
Teacher: Elinor Vandegrift
Music: Muriel Johnstone and Judi Nicolson
Contact: Mike Glisson (832-758-6086 or
mikeraquel@gmail.com) or Raquel Scarone (832-
293-5409 or mikeraquel@gmail.com)
[www.HoustonRSCDS.org]

Pacific Grove, CA

November 4-6, 2011
RSCDS San Francisco Branch
Asilomar Workshop Weekend
Teachers: Pat Coyle, Mary Murray, David Queen,
Duncan Smith and Tim Wilson
Musicians: Catherine Fraser/Duncan Smith
(Friday) and Reel of Seven (Saturday)
Contact: Fred DeMarse (510-522-3013 or
fred1314@sbcglobal.net) or Julee Montes
(650-722-0473 or julm-hcs@pacbell.net)
[www.rscds-sf.org]

Toronto, ON

November 12, 2011
RSCDS Toronto Association
2011 Toronto Annual Workshop
Teachers: Helen Russell (UK), Ian Souter
(Hamilton), Deirdre MacCuish Bark (Toronto)
Music: Don Bartlett, Laird Brown and Jim Darge
Application deadline: November 8, 2011
Contact: Valerie Fisher (416-497-4186 or
v.fisher@sympatico.ca) or Tony Szeto
(416-566-9328 or aszeto2010@gmail.com)
[www.rscdsToronto.org/workshop.html]

St. Andrews, Scotland

January 27-29, 2012
RSDCS Edinburgh Branch
2012 Weekend Away
Teacher: Muriel Johnstone
Pianist: Peter Shand
Bands: Gary Donaldson (Friday) and David
Cunningham (Saturday)
Contact: weekend@rscdsedinburgh.org or
telephone +44 (0) 131-652-0057

Ottawa, ON

January 27-29, 2012
Ardbrae Dancers of Ottawa
Ardbrae Ball Weekend
Music: Laird Brown & The Scottish Accent Band
Contact: Elaine Hoag (613-729-6198 or
elaine.hoag@gmail.com) or Anne Taylor
(613-731-9270 or avtaylor2@gmail.com)
[www.ardbrae.org]

Honolulu, HI

February 17-19, 2012
RSCDS Hawaii Branch
Aloha Winter Weekend
Teacher: Eileen Hsu (Seattle)
Music: Humuhumunukunukuapua'a & Strathspey
Society Band
Contact: Melissa Lindsay at 808-256-3347 or
MLindsay@hawaii.rr.com

Be sure to check the Inter-City Scot website for
more information on dancing events in other cities
(there is a link on the Winnipeg Branch website).

Important Dates

COM meetings: the first Wednesday of the
month from October to May.

Next L&A: Deadline for the November 2011 issue
is **November 4, 2011.**

Members are encouraged to submit articles,
pictures or information of interest to Branch
members. Contributors are requested to send
their submissions either in Word (.doc) or .pdf
format, or typed directly into an email message.

This and the past 11 issues of the *Light and Airy*
are posted on the Branch website (rscdswinnipeg.ca).

Answer to the Brain Teaser on page 7

J - A - C - K - P - O - T.