

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg
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Volume 55, Number 7

April 2024

Important Dates

Dancing in 2024

Monday, April 8 – last evening class

Thursday, April 11 – last afternoon class

Saturday, April 20 – Dance Workshop

Thursday, April 25 – afternoon make-up class

Monday, May 6 – Wind-Up Social

Monday, May 13 – AGM

Note: all events are held at Churchill Park United Church (CPUC) 525 Beresford Ave. unless otherwise stated.

A Word from the Chair of COM

Just in from our morning walk March 19, and Spring is supposed to arrive later today! I am still wearing my "grippers" to help keep me upright on the icy patches and I'm afraid they will be needed for a while yet.

This is the time of year when we start to think about the next season and a big part of the planning is the search for new recruits to the COM. The committee is sort of like the underlying infrastructure for our activities of SCD and for years has been responsible for space/class rentals, recruitment of members, finances, communication networks, publicity, teaching and teacher training and social

activities we all enjoy as members. However, especially since the pandemic when our numbers declined considerably it has been difficult to recruit committee members who individually take on specific roles in addition to the collective attendance at monthly meetings to discuss and help make Branch decisions. At present we need two new COM members. Pat Clubb our Vice Chair, and her Nominating Committee, Heather Robbins and Shirley Tinsley, have been scouring the membership list, phoning and talking to people and at this point have located one volunteer willing to let their name stand for social convenor but unfortunately they have not found a Vice Chair candidate. The Vice Chair becomes Chair Person at the time of the AGM in mid May and a year later the new Vice Chair steps up to be Chair. I think many are reluctant to become Vice Chair nominees because of the future commitment required. So here am I at the conclusion of this year as Chair (not one I sought) and I appreciate having been supported very admirably by the COM, it really is a team effort.

If you are approached by members of the Nominating Committee please give it some consideration. There may be other ways we can divide up heavier responsibilities, perhaps enlist some temporary volunteer members for any special projects to make the load easier. Try to think outside the box and keep this activity we all enjoy going strong for the future. Please feel free to weigh in with suggestions!

All for now and look forward to seeing many at the Workshop on April 20/24.

Lynn McClure
Next COM meeting – April 4

Have you heard?

Teacher Candidates

I am very pleased to share that Sharyl Eaglesham and James Sutherland are our Winnipeg Branch teaching candidates who have now completed the Unit 1 exam and are now preparing to attend Summer School at Brock University in St. Catherines this summer to do the Units 2 & 3. Over the next few months there will be opportunities to support them as they continue to prepare for the Summer School classes and exams.

Emails will be sent out once the dates and times for practice teaching sessions are set and I hope you will consider coming out to be students in a class.

We can all help out.

Cheryl Durnin

St. Patrick's Social

What a wonderful evening of dancing with friends! The program was great with a few Irish-influence dances included in the programme - The Shamrock Girl and Rory O'More for two. Thanks to Peter for guiding the evening programme. We were missing a few regular dancers away for vacation, or teaching a workshop, or illness, or ???



Did I mention the snacking foods afterward? Of course there was an excellent selection of finger foods including sugar cookies with green icing.

We did have a guest from Ottawa join us. Diane Quane was in Winnipeg visiting family and came out to dance. Great to meet you Diane!

A lovely Thank You email was received from Diane.

Peter, and all the Winnipeg RSCDS members...

Thank you for a lovely evening of dancing and socializing. I enjoyed meeting everyone. The dance program and briefings were great.

I am in the city a few times in the year and hope to attend again.

Thank you again.

Diane Quane

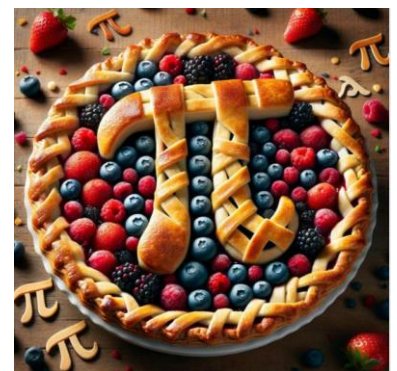
ps. In Ottawa I dance with Ardbrae Dancers and attend some Branch events. [Ardbrae Scottish Country Dancers of Ottawa](#)

March 14 - Scottish Country Dance of the Day

"Dancing in the Right Circles" for Pi Day!

"Pi makes it round, but pie makes it deliciously profound."

Pi Day is a delightful blend of mathematics and culinary traditions, celebrated each year on March 14th (3/14), which mirrors the first three digits of π (pi), 3.14. Pi, an infinite and non-repeating number, serves as the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter, a constant that has intrigued scholars for centuries. Just like a perfect pie crust encircles the delicious filling, pi wraps around every circle, connecting the mathematical world with the art of baking. If you are dancing in the right circles tonight, this might be a good evening to bring a sweet or savory pie to share for Pi(e) Day. This lovely strathspey of John Drewry ends with a circular grand chain which puts one in mind of a beautifully latticed pie crust! Yum! π 🥧🥧🥧 π



Upcoming

Only Weeks Away!

Remember To Mark Your Calendars!

RSCDS Winnipeg Branch Spring Workshop

Saturday April 20th, 2024

A blue rectangular graphic with a white border and a green glow. At the top, the text "SPRING WORKSHOP - APRIL 20, 2024" is written in a white, outlined, serif font. Below the text is a circular portrait of a man with a grey beard and glasses, wearing a black tuxedo and a white bow tie. To the right of the portrait, the text "Mark your calendar for the one-day spring branch workshop on Saturday, April 20th, 2024 at Churchill Park United Church" is written in a black, sans-serif font. Below the portrait, the text "Guest Teacher: David Booz RSCDS Toronto Branch" is written in a black, sans-serif font.

SPRING WORKSHOP - APRIL 20, 2024

Mark your calendar for the one-day spring branch workshop on Saturday, April 20th, 2024 at Churchill Park United Church

Guest Teacher: David Booz
RSCDS Toronto Branch

Most of the preparation is done.

Sign up to enjoy a great day of dance, comradery and fun with friends and family.

Your Workshop Committee

Workshop 2024

Social Dance Program

	Warm up mixer		
1.	Joie de Vivre	32J3	Bk 39, 30 Popular vol 2
2.	John T	32S3	Prairie Gold
3.	Shiftin' Bobbins	32R3	Ormskirk, 30 Popular vol 2
4.	Granville Market	32J3	2nd Graded Bk
5.	Macdonald of the Isles	32S 3 cpl set	30 Popular vol 2
6.	Montgomery's Rant	32R3	Bk 10
7.	The Golden Boy	32J3	Bankhead, Prairie Gold
8.	The Portincaple Oak	32S+32R Sq	Bk 53
9.	The Lairds' Diamond	32S2	Prairie Gold
10.	Maxwell's Rant	32R3	Bk 18
	Waltz		

TAC Summer School

[Registration](#) is now open for Summer School July 28 – August 4 in St. Catharines, Ontario at Brock University. Full registration and NEW this year, half-week attendance options are available to help with time, money, and energy budgeting. For more information about summer dancing speak with Cheryl Durnin or email durninch@gmail.com.

Mark your calendar and consider attending this summer dancing experience!

Early Bird savings end April 15!

Summer Dancing in Canada!
 July 28 – August 4, 2024
 Registration opens mid February
Full and half week attendance options



Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario
 Only 20 minutes from Niagara Falls
 and 90 minutes from Toronto

Teaching Staff
 Graham Donald, Las Palmas, Spain
 Barbara Johnston, Edmonton, Canada
 Jennifer Schoonover, Boston, USA
 Rachel Shankland, Edinburgh, Scotland

Music Director
 Elke Baker



tac-rscds.org
 Sponsored by Scottish Country Dance
 Teachers' Association (Canada)

From the Library ...

The branch library table and Nearly New table were set up at the St. Patrick's Day social. The Nearly New table is a good place for people to send a few items when downsizing their Scottish collections which can become other people's treasures. We sold several sashes at the social--perhaps dancers are looking to spruce up their outfits for the workshop social. For her prize for naming the Maple Leaf tartan correctly for the previous Tartan or Plaid contest Ellen selected a tea towel with rules for household etiquette for proper 18th century living. (Pay attention Donald!) The tea towels are linen which when washed should be good for what they were originally intended. I have several pinned up in the basement as decoration.

Tartan or Plaid?

Here is the tartan or plaid for this month's contest. Any ideas?

The kilt skirt for this month's contest will be for sale. It has a 36" waist and is 29 inches long. The button has been moved over so the skirt waist can easily be taken in by moving the buttons back.

The kilt skirts, like the sashes, sell for \$15.00 if they are in good shape.

There are a few websites which can help with finding the names of tartans. Remember all tartans are plaids but not all plaids are tartans.

I think Joan is indicating outside resources can be consulted to name the tartan. -ed

Joan



From the editor's desk ...

May I repeat myself? The internet is a wonderful thing, allowing me to send out the March issue from Mexico. This month's issue comes to you from the Rio Grand Valley in Texas where I am visiting a friend to play golf and return with him home to Winnipeg.

March the saying goes "in like a lion, out like a lamb". Winnipeg had a storm system go through in the first few days of March. There was enough snow to get the snow blower out and clear a few driveways. The ides of March were rather cold. Perhaps we'll have a pleasant transition into April. Spring is approaching and with it our Winnipeg Workshop on April 20. Register soon to attend and get in on the fun.

And then ... **gardening season!**

And be sure to check your pots before planting!

Doug Durnin, Editor

Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca



Here and There...

Time to think ahead to July 2024 and Summer School!

Some Out of Town Events

April 13 – Minneapolis – Grand Ball

July 28 – August 4, 2024 – St. Catharines, ON – TAC Summer Dancing in Canada

October 20 – 24, 2024 – Hortonville, Nova Scotia – Scotch on the Rocks music & dance festival

Planning to travel? If you have an internet connection, browse for RSCDS & city for dancing where you are going. For instance, RSCDS Toronto hosts workshops and monthly dances and has links to dancing events all over the world. Almost every city in Canada has an RSCDS group. Many have a Facebook site as well.

Here are links to some branch sites:

[RSCDS Winnipeg Branch](#)

[RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch](#)

[RSCDS Calgary Branch](#)

[RSCDS Edmonton Caledonian Branch](#)

[RSCDS Medicine Hat Branch](#)

www.lethbridgescottishcountrydance.org

[RSCDS Vancouver](#)

[RSCDS Toronto Branch](#)

[RSCDS Ottawa](#)

L&A Submissions

Next L&A: May 2024 Deadline for submissions: April 23.

Members are encouraged to submit articles, pictures or information of interest to Branch members.

Submissions for the *Light and Airy* can be sent to the Branch e-mail address: info@rscdswinnipeg.ca or to the editor at Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca

This and past issues of *Light and Airy* are available at: www.rscdswinnipeg.ca