

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

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www.rscdswinnipeg.ca

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Committee of Management 2015/16

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A Word from the Chair....

I just want to say hi to everyone as the new Chair of the Branch. At this point in the dancing year it is time for everyone to take a break from dancing and look forward to the upcoming summer, wherever you will be. The past year has been a pleasure working with and for Don Johnson in the Committee of Management. Don now gets a well-earned retirement as the Chair but has committed to working in the position of Social Secretary for the next dancing year. I look forward to carrying on in Don's footsteps.

The new Committee of Management (COM) has now met and will meet again in early July to set things up for September and possibly later in the summer depending on the decisions made. Our budget and finances are still on the table but everything will be in place for the dancing year. As far as costs are concerned, I do know that the COM members are committed to getting the best value we can to keeping fees down. As well, the COM is looking at the next dancing year with an eye to enhancing and increasing the dancing experience if at all possible. Everything is still at the embryonic stage but I clearly see the commitment by the COM members to see what can be worked out for next year re classes, socials, the Workshop and Robbie Burns. It's a solid group.

I want to remind everyone about Anne Taylor's visit and our special dancing class on Wednesday, July 6 (8:00 St Paul's) where she will work with us. I hope many of you can make it.

Meanwhile, I wish everyone a good summer. We will keep you up to date on anything that comes up.

Scott MacRae

2015/16 Dance Season

6 July Wednesday Class with Anne Taylor, St Paul's, 8 PM no charge

Events will be added to the Calendar as they are scheduled.

Branch News

From COM

The Committee of Management met on 8 June. Here are a few items that may be of interest.

The Branch has again been invited to participate in the show at the UK pavilion. A letter has gone out asking about individual availability, and a decision will be made after 24 June.

A committee has been formed to review the contents of the storage locker at St Paul's. It is suspected that there are a number of items that are no longer useful.

COM approved a donation of \$1000 to the Scottish Heritage Council in support of the Council's hosting of the Scottish Diaspora Tapestry during the month of June. Our contribution is in recognition of the contribution of several of our members to the sewing of the local panels, and represents a small fraction of the cost of the event.

COM approved provisional booking of 17 Wing for a Workshop after the end of classes in April of next year. There was discussion about seeking another venue, although several members of the Workshop Committee present thought any such move would entail either significantly higher costs, or a much reduced workshop.

Following a request from members at the AGM, results of the Survey of Members carried out last year will be sent to members. As anonymity was guaranteed to those completing the survey, individual comments will be removed.

COM will meet again on 7 July to set next season's Branch calendar, and to finalize a budget for the season.

Special Class With Anne Taylor

Mark your calendar for a special class on 6 July. Anne Taylor comes from Buckie in northeast Scotland and belongs to the Banffshire Branch of RSCDS. She will be visiting Winnipeg with a group of Highland dancers in July, for the 2016 SCOT DANCE Highland dance competition. She is also a SCD teacher with a wide experience, including the RSCDS summer and winter schools in Scotland. She has kindly agreed to take a class with us on Wednesday 6 July; usual time and place (St Paul's Hall, starting at 8 PM). The Branch Executive has decided that there will be no charge for this event, and there is a rumor that there will be refreshments! Another opportunity not to be missed.

The Branch on Facebook

Did you know that the Branch has a Facebook page? If you're on Facebook yourself, why not visit us at RSCDS Winnipeg, and "like" us.

Here and There...

Scottish Country Dance Ghillies and Pumps

www.avriel.com

Your one stop shoe shop for all your dancing needs.

Clan Info and Scottish Shop

www.scotclans.com

SCD Here and There

At the AGM, there was a suggestion that the L&A might report on web sites that would be of interest to members. Here's a first cut at that: the Strathspey web site www.strathspey.org

The site includes general information about SCD, a database of dances, music etc., and links to many other sites of interest. For example, if you follow the link to SCD groups, you can find your way to our own web site – among many others from around the world.

There's a start. The editor will welcome suggestions for other sites to list in this column.

Out of Town Events

24-26 June 2016

Beloit College, Beloit, WI
Midwest Scottish Weekend

Info at

<http://sites.google.com/site/midwestscottishweekend/>

9 July 2016

Leeds, UK

Leeds White Rose Festival

If you might be in the area at that time, and would like to experience a SCD festival as they are held in UK, visit the web site www.whiterosefestival.uk for more information, programmes, and booking forms.

44th TAC Summer School - Bishop's University

Sherbrooke, Quebec July 31st to Aug. 7th.

Dance Teachers: Fred DeMarse, USA; Mary Murray, CAN; Janet Walker, USA; William Williamson, UK

Musicians: Ian Muir, UK; Judi Nicolson, USA;

Laird Brown, Fred Collins, Kathy Fraser-Collins, Don Wood, CAN

Where can you go to get instruction from top notch teachers (other than Winnipeg of course ☺)? Where can you go to enjoy dancing to a band every evening? Where can you go to experience dancing in a ballroom with over 100 other dancers? Summer School!! Not only do you get to experience what's already been mentioned but there are options of other classes in the afternoons and if you have the energy, the after party every night. It's great to meet with other dancers from all over North America (and sometimes other parts of the world). You can find out what's happening at other branches of RSCDS and see the talent from others at the Friday night ceilidh. I'm going and I can hardly wait. Who's coming with me? More info at www.tac-rscds.org

Sheila Careless

15-19 August 2016
Wolfville NS
Scotch on the Rocks: dancing and excursions!
Info from Duncan Keppie keppie@eastlink.ca

30 Sept – 1 October 2016
Saskatoon, SK
Saskatchewan Branch 35th Workshop & Ball
Teacher Elinor Vandegrift, music Ron Krug

Details at www.rscdssask.org

7-10 October 2016
Canmore, AB
Calgary Scottish Cultural Gathering
Dance workshop and more!
Whisky tasting, or celtic knotwork, anyone?
Details at calgaryscots.org

28-30 October 2016
Asilomar, CA, USA
RSCDS San Francisco Branch
Asilomar Weekend
Details and forms at www.asilomar.rscds-sf.org

Important Dates

COM meetings: Next meeting tentatively 7 July 2016.

Next L&A: Deadline for the August - September issue TBA

Members are encouraged to submit articles, pictures or information of interest to Branch members. Please send submissions for the *Light and Airy* to Peter McClure john.mcclure@umr.umanitoba.ca. This and several past issues of the *Light and Airy* are posted on the Branch website www.rscdswinnipeg.ca