

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

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www.rscdswinnipeg.ca

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Committee of Management 2014/15

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A Word from the Chair....

I trust this finds you well and enjoying the glories of a Manitoba summer. I hope that for you this has been a time of relaxation and refreshment, of renewal and recreation, of travel or of hosting visiting family and friends.

During the summer many of us have been involved in the Folklorama Pavilions of Scotland and of the United Kingdom. My time was spent supporting our new commitment to the UK pavilion, and I am very aware of the tremendous investment of time and energy several of us made in the days leading up the Folklorama week, and in fulfilling our commitment during that week. Special thanks goes to Christine Wallace and Agnes Brydon for keeping us organized and, literally, for keeping us in step with the ongoing changes and challenges of dancing in an unfamiliar venue with a very different form of music and at times, inconsistent musicians. My thanks are also extended to my fellow dancers and to those who maintained our booth. We presented the dignity and joy of Scottish Country Dancing very well I believe, and hopefully we have encouraged others who saw and spoke with us to come join the dance. And, I might add that as more mature dancers we provided a nice and healthy contrast to the children, youth and young adults who made up the remainder of the mainstage show.

I am also aware of, and grateful to, those members of our Branch who served in various ways and who so faithfully represented the RSCDS at the Pavilion of Scotland. Dancing every night but one in the stage show at the UK pavilion kept me from attending the Scottish pavilion, but I know we were well represented by our members who volunteered there. I am also aware of the strain of trying to find sufficient volunteers for two pavilions held during the same week. Hopefully the scheduling will be different in the coming years.

This recent Folklorama experience has proven to me, once again, the intense loyalty and commitment our members have to Scottish dancing and to supporting the aims and encouraging the future of the RSCDS. Thanks to all of you for your time, energy, and passion so freely offered for the good of our Branch.

I look forward to seeing you at the Open House on September 4th as we begin another year of wonderful dancing.

Don Johnson

2014/15 Dance Season

Thursday, September 4	Welcome Dance/Open House – No charge 8:00 pm **St. Paul's 830 North Drive
Week of September 8	Fall Term Regular classes begin
Thursday, September 11	Fall Term Basic classes begin
Tuesday, November 25	St. Andrew's Social (hosted by the Technique Class)
Week of December 8	Last Regular classes of Fall Term
Sunday, December 28	Betwixt & Between Social – Afternoon Tea Dance
Week of January 12, 2015	Winter Term Regular classes begin
Saturday January 24	Burns Dinner and Dance
Monday, March 2	Spring Social (hosted by the Fort Garry Class)
Wednesday, April 1	Wind-Up Social (hosted by the COM and Teachers)
Week of April 13	Last Regular classes of Winter Term
Friday-Sunday May 1-3	Workshop Weekend

Please note: All dates are subject to change – please check the calendar each month. Socials are at **Silver Heights United Church - 199 Garrioch**, at 8:00 pm, with admission of \$10.00, unless otherwise noted.

From the Editor...

Where has our summer gone??? It seems like a week ago that we were wrapping up our classes for the summer! However, the dancing hasn't stopped for the summer. There was the Commonwealth Ceilidh, dancing at the Millennium Gardens and of course, Folklorama. Now we're getting ready for our Open House. The fun never ends! Please keep in the back of your mind that we need a Light & Airy rep for each class. Speaking for myself, I love to read the reports from the other classes. We don't get to see everyone except for special events like socials so it's good to be kept up to date with what's happening in the other classes. Also, if you have any interesting articles for the Light & Airy, please feel free to send them to me at careless@mymts.net.

See you on the dance floor!!

Sheila Careless

Commonwealth Ceilidh 2014

People from across the world were invited to join a 24-hour Commonwealth Ceilidh which aimed to span the globe

The Commonwealth Ceilidh began on Saturday 21 June 2014 with events in New Zealand at 7.30pm local time; the next events began two hours later in Australia, then in Japan and onwards, with the dancing beginning at 7.30pm in Scotland, 12 hours after the Ceilidh started. It then continued over to the Americas with the final event taking place in Hawaii 24 hours after the first ceilidh call was made.



As part of the Glasgow 2014 Cultural Programme, the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS) was commissioned by **Get Scotland Dancing** to create the

Commonwealth Ceilidh. RSCDS worked with dance centres in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen to create new 'fusion' dances performed along with existing dances in a worldwide event on Saturday 21 June 2014.

Each Commonwealth Ceilidh was unique to its location, with an interval in every event giving the chance for groups to showcase their national or local dance style.

Winnipeg held their Ceilidh at Silver Heights United Church at the allocated time. Nearly 50 dancers attended including members of our basic class, the English Country Dancers, and MIFDA. We also welcomed out-of-town guests from Drayton, North Dakota. Our thanks go to Margaret Zadworny who briefed the dancing, Glen and Heather Colquhoun who demonstrated the old-tyme dances, our musicians, Ken Nattrass and Ron Krug, and Scott MacRae and Ray Plaitin for their musical interlude and leading of the sing-along. The evening ended with refreshments and socializing.



❖ Branch News

Thank you!

I wish to thank the Branch for the lovely fruit basket delivered to my home by the Branch Chair on July 2nd. The gift was very thoughtful as well as very tasty and healthy!

As some of you may know, I had surgery for a hernia repair on June 23rd, two days after the

Commonwealth Ceilidh. I was pleased that it could be delayed until after our season-ending event. The timing worked out well as I am not allowed to lift anything over 10 pounds for the next few weeks.

Having been rendered rather useless at home, my recovery period has allowed me time to watch the FIFA World Cup and Wimbledon. There's always a silver lining!

Thanks again for your care and concern.

Ken Natrass

Summer School 2014

My 2 weeks at Summer School in Greeley, Colorado were an adventure! My feet and legs had to adjust to dancing all day, every day (pas de basque practice at 4:30 in the afternoon? Sure, why not?) for the first week and my lungs had to adjust to dancing at 5000 feet! However, I am so thankful that I had the opportunity. I learned so much from Ron Wallace, my tutor, and our group of 11 candidates got along very well right from the start. I made some wonderful friends (the bonding that happens when you're all stressed together!) and met a lot of great people that were attending the regular Summer School. The ball programme on the last night was great and what a thrill to dance in such a large hall with so many people! All the candidates were together for the 2 weeks (units 2, 3 & 5) as they only had one tutor. It was really good because those of us in the lower units got to see what unit 5 looks like. I have very fond memories of my 2 weeks there and will keep in touch with my group and will work hard to remember and practice what I learned.

Thank you to the branch and my family for their support and encouragement. Bruce and I just became business owners on July 1st so he had to carry the load of his own full time job plus running our business for the two weeks I was away (thank God for Skype!).

I thought I would have to wait 5 weeks for my results but I was informed the week after I got back that - Hallelujah! I passed both units!! Now look out - here I come!

Sheila Careless

Fall Class Schedule – Registration forms on our website

Mondays – Fort Garry Social Class

Term 1: Christine Wallace & David Kroeker

Term 2: Joyce Cormack

Tuesdays – Technique

Term 1 & 2: Margaret Zadworny

Thursdays – Basic Class

Term 1 & 2: Cheryl Durnin

❖ Upcoming Events

MUG PUB CEILIDH

The Branch is hosting a **Mug Pub Ceilidh** on Saturday, October 18, 2014, at Silver Heights United Church, 199 Garrioch Avenue. With doors open at 7:00PM, and the Ceilidh beginning at 7:30PM., many of the entertainers that were on the original Mug Pub stage will be there to sing, dance and play for you.

Tickets are \$20.00 per person, including a traditional Scottish sampler plate.

There will be NO tickets sold at the door, so to ensure you don't miss this entertaining ceilidh evening, please place your order now with Agnes at 204-837-7346 or Debbie at 204-284-4667 before they are all gone. Tickets will also be available at our Open House on September 4th.

❖ Here and There...

Selkirk Settlers Parade and Manyfest

ManyFest is promoted as "a celebration of Community, Arts, Entertainment, and Healthy Living in the Heart of Downtown Winnipeg" and as "Downtown's Biggest Street Festival". Check out the website <http://www.manyfest.ca/>. It occurs on the same weekend as the parade, so the fit is we are celebrating the very beginning of Winnipeg and therefore of Downtown. This could become a great new opportunity to promote more broadly the Scottish heritage and beginning of Winnipeg in conjunction with ManyFest. The annual parade is intended to commemorate the first arrival of the settlers August 30, 1812 and the reading of Lord Selkirk's proclamation on September 4, 1812. This year, ManyFest will run from Friday, September 5

to Sunday, September 7. The initial concept is that the 2014 parade would begin on Saturday, September 6 at noon or 1:00pm at Upper Fort Garry. They are looking for a parade coordinator. If you are interested please contact John Perrin at jdperin@mts.net or Tel: 204 489-9235.

Note from Headquarters:

Headquarters has decided to postpone the vote regarding the re-structure until November 2014.

Scottish Country Dance Ghillies and pumps
www.avriel.com

Your one stop shoe shop for all your dancing needs. H11's and H splits are on sale now.

Scottish Screen archive of the Nat'l Library of Scotland

<http://ssa.nls.uk/film> (Note that there is no "www" in the url.)

A huge archive of historical videos on all things Scottish. Some, but not all, can be viewed on your screen.

To see a particular film, you add a number to the url above. For a general film about Scottish dancing, add /2224 to the above; I think this is something some of us have seen before.

To see Rakes of Glasgow, add /0313.

To see The River Cree, add /0850.

And for a short look at The Duke of Perth, add /3270. This also shows a really nice view of a formal ball "back in the day". Note the speed of the music!

There may be other SCD clips as well, but it will take some searching to find them. There are also SCD references, e.g., Mrs MacLeod, for which the video is apparently not available on screen.

❖ **Out of Town Events**

Canberra, Australia - Winter School

Sept. 28-Oct 4, 2014

RSCDS Canberra & District Branch

Teachers: Eric Finley (Scotland), Doug Mills (New Zealand), Martin Mulligan (Canada), Jeanette Stephen (Sydney)

Musicians: Jane Ellis (New South Wales), James Gray (Scotland/Norway), George Meikle (Scotland), Bob McInnes (New South Wales), Kate Scott (Canberra)

Contact: Jack Arthur - jarthur@apex.net.au;
www.rscds-canberra.org

Regina, Saskatchewan - 34th Annual Workshop, Banquet & Ball

October 3 to 5, 2014

RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch

Victoria Club, Regina SK

Teacher: Ruth Jappy from Delta, BC

Music: Ron Krug & Ken Nattrass

Contact: workshop@rscdssask.org

Fall Workshop Weekend

Oct 18-19, 2014

RSCDS Nova Scotia

A half-day workshop with Marjorie McLaughlin (San Diego, CA) and Maggie Keppie (Wolfville, NS) followed by an afternoon social with live music; Sunday afternoon Challenge Class with Marjorie.

www.rscdsnovascotia.ca

Medicine Hat, Alberta – 39th Annual Workshop, Banquet & Ball

October 24 to 26, 2014

RSCDS Medicine Hat Branch

Medicine Hat Lodge, Medicine Hat AB

Teachers: Fred DeMarse from Alameda, CA & Alan Twigg from Mountain View, CA

Music: Ron Krug, Ken Nattrass, Dennis Orr from Seven Persons, AB

Contact: rscdsmh@gmail.com

❖ **Important Dates**

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

Next L&A: Deadline for the September/October issue will be **October 11, 2014.**

Members are encouraged to submit articles, pictures or information of interest to Branch members. Please send submissions for the *Light and Airy* to Sheila Careless at careless@mymts.net This and the past 11 issues of the *Light and Airy* are posted on the Branch website (rscdswinnipeg.ca).