

# Light and Airy



## Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

info@rscdswinnipeg.ca

www.rscdswinnipeg.ca

---

Volume 44, Number 2

November 2012

### Committee of Management 2012/13

<b>Chair:</b>	Christine Wallace	478 1026
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Joyce Cormack	224 2291
<b>Secretary:</b>	Gerri Stemler	488 7386
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Joan Curle	254 6697
<b>Light and Airy Editor:</b>	Heather Ferguson	795 2337
<b>Social Secretary:</b>	Anne Morrison	488 9548
<b>Membership:</b>	Debra Forrest	284 4667
<b>Publicity:</b>	David Kroeker	284 4667
<b>Demonstration:</b>	Agnes Brydon	837 7346
<b>Library:</b>	Reg Curle	254 6697
<b>Teachers' Rep.:</b>	Maureen Burnham	786 7767
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Sheila Careless	233 8808

### From the Chair....

Time is flying by, and it looks as though the snow is here to stay. It is hard to believe that we are more than halfway through the first term of dancing. Branch classes are progressing well, including the Introductory Class to Scottish Country Dancing. The dancers are very keen and are enjoying themselves. It was nice to see a few at the Ceilidh, as well as some members of the Transcona Seniors class.

A very successful Tea and Bake Sale, hosted by the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, was held on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. An added attraction was Grands'n'More bags which were available for sale. This event was well supported, with generous donations of food both for the Tea and the Bake Sale. I know that this is being reported elsewhere in this news letter, but I would specifically like to mention the hard work and promotion towards this event and its implementation by the Co-Chairs Debbie Forrest and Heather Colquhoun. Our sincere thanks to them and also to all the Branch members who came to help and support, as well as bring many friends. It should also be mentioned that St. Paul's Church gave us free advertising on the outside billboard, and lowered the rent for the Hall for this occasion.

With regard to the Book of Dances and CD project, the dances are in the process of being edited in preparation for printing. The competition to choose an appropriate title for the Book and CD has now closed. We have received a total of 18 interesting titles to choose from. We are also starting to plan for the cover design.

The Ceilidh organized by the Growth and Development Committee, held on Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at St. Stephen and Bede's Church Hall, was very successful with an attendance of over seventy people. Our thanks go to all who helped to make this a successful and enjoyable evening.

Notice was received from RSCDS HQ with an "Explanatory Note to Branch and AGM Delegates regarding the proposal to change the RSCDS legal form to that of a Company limited by Guarantee." This proposal was to be discussed at the Q & A session at the RSCDS AGM, held during the first weekend in November in Aberdeen. We are awaiting the report from our Branch Delegate, Irene Whyte, as to how the discussion went. This proposal will continue to be discussed throughout this coming year and will be voted on at the AGM in November 2013. If any Branch member is interested in reading this Note, please contact Gerri Stemler, our Secretary.

I was in touch with Mina Corson, who lives in Edinburgh. Mina was our Branch Delegate for many years, and was also our guest teacher at the Workshop held during our Branch's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. She is now 96 years old, keeping well and always very interested in the activities of the Winnipeg Branch. She sends her best wishes to us all.

By the time you receive this issue of the *Light and Airy*, the Fort Garry Social Class will have had an informal evening on Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, to acknowledge Clark Saunders. Clark is retiring at the end of November, and then going to Salt Spring Island for six months on a temporary placement. Clark has been an integral part of the Winnipeg Branch for many years, taking part in various Branch productions and Ceilidhs (we all love his rendition of *MacAlister*), as well as proposing "The Immortal Memory" at our Burns' Suppers. He was also the narrator in our Pageant telling the story of the journey of the Selkirk Settlers to Manitoba. We shall miss his presence and sense of humour, but look forward to his return later next year.

You will notice when you go to class that the hall baseboards and the lower wall up to the chair rail have had a fresh coat of paint. This is thanks to four volunteers from the Branch - David Kroeker, Reg Curle, Scott MacRae and Debbie Forrest. The paint was donated by the Branch and by Mel Clubb, the aerobics instructor. Our thanks go to you all.

There are a couple of events in the latter half of November. On Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, the Windsor Children Scottish Country Dancers hosted a "Pumpkin Ceilidh", at Meadowood Church, 1111 Dakota Street. I have been to a couple of these events and they are most enjoyable. Our first Branch Social of the dancing year, which is the St. Andrew's Social, will be hosted by the Fort Garry Social Class on Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm. Scotch Measure will be playing, and we all know that there is nothing like dancing to "live" music. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Happy Dancing!

*Sincerely,  
Christine Wallace*



*St. Andrew's Flag*

---

---

## 2012/13 Dance Season

<b>Friday September 14, 2012</b>	Welcome Dance, 7:30 pm – No charge
<b>Week of September 17</b>	Fall Term classes begin (Regular and Introductory)
<b>Friday November 2</b>	Ceilidh, St. Stephen and St. Bede's Church Hall, 8:00 pm, \$5.00
<b>Monday November 26</b>	St. Andrew's Social (hosted by the Fort Garry Social Class)
<b>Thursday November 29</b>	Last <b>Introductory</b> class of Fall Term
<b>Week of December 10</b>	Last <b>Regular</b> classes of Fall Term
<b>Thursday December 27</b>	Betwixt and Between Social, 8:00 pm, \$2.00
<b>Week of January 14, 2013</b>	Winter Term classes begin (Regular and Introductory)
<b>Saturday January 26</b>	Burns Dinner and Dance, Silver Heights United Church Hall
<b>Tuesday March 5</b>	Class Social (hosted by the Technique Class)
<b>Thursday March 21</b>	Last <b>Introductory</b> class of Winter Term
<b>Saturday April 13</b>	Wind-up Social (hosted by the COM and Teachers)
<b>Week of April 22</b>	Last <b>Regular</b> classes of Winter Term
<b>Friday-Sunday May 17-19</b>	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Workshop, Dinner and Ball
<b>Wednesday May 22</b>	AGM

Please note: All dates are subject to change – please check the calendar each month. Socials are at St. Paul's Church Hall, North Drive and Point Road, at 8:00 pm, with admission of \$10.00, unless otherwise noted.

---

### From the Editor

As we move into the last month of dancing for the Fall Term, the Branch can already look back on many accomplishments. This issue of the *Light and Airy* includes reports on the successful Tea and Bake Sale and sale of Grands'n'More bags, as well as the very enjoyable ceilidh on November 2. Information is also provided on the upcoming St. Andrew's Social, the Betwixt and Between Social, and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Workshop and Ball. Be sure to check out the fantastic new Photo Gallery on the Branch website for pictures of Branch events.

November 30 marks St. Andrew's Day - Scotland's national day, which is traditionally celebrated with Scottish food, music and dance. The Winnipeg Branch is no exception, with the first Branch social of the 2012/13 Dance Season honouring St. Andrew's Day, and promising a great evening of Scottish Country Dancing, music by Scotch Measure, and a great "repast" provided by the Fort Garry Social Class. Further information on the social and St. Andrew's Day can be found in the issue.

## Photo Gallery

The Winnipeg Branch website now includes a photo gallery of a number of Branch events, including the Diamond Jubilee Social, the Selkirk Settlers Pageant and Ceilidh, and the November 2 Ceilidh. There are also photos of the Demonstration Team performances. Photos can also be seen on the Branch Facebook page.

*Sheila Careless*  
Webmaster

## Upcoming Events

### **St. Andrew's Social** *November 26, 2012*

The Fort Garry Social Class invites everyone to come out and join us for the St. Andrew's Social on Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 pm, at St. Paul's Church Hall.

The Dance Program for the social is as follows:

<b>St. Andrew's Social Dance Program</b>		
The Hospitality Circle	32J RTR	LADT
The Highland Fair	32J2	Graded Book
Glasgow Lasses	32S2	Book 34
The Saltire Society Reel	32R3	Leaflet
St. Andrew's Fair	32J3	5 SCDs
MacDonald of the Isles	32S3	D Haynes
Intermission		
Flowers of Edinburgh	32R3	Book 1
Tribute to the Borders	32J3	Leaflet
Sugar Candie	32S3	Book 26
The De'il Amang the Tailors	32R3	Book 14
Waltz		
<i>Crib notes for the dances are available on the Branch website.</i>		

Admission is \$10. Music will be provided by Scotch Measure.

*Joyce Cormack*

## **Betwixt and Between Social**

December 27, 2011

There will be a "Betwixt and Between" social held between Christmas and New Year's (Thursday, December 27) at St. Paul's Church Hall, so mark your calendars now! Dancing will begin at 8:00 pm sharp. Guests are welcome, so invite your friends and family. The program will include dances for all levels as well as dances for our non-Scottish Country Dancing guests. The music will be provided by CDs.

Small donations to the food table would be appreciated. The charge for admission will be a "Toonie". For further information, contact Christine Wallace at 204-478-1026 or Joyce Cormack at 204-224-2291.

## **RSCDS Winnipeg Branch 50th Anniversary Workshop and Ball**

May 17-19, 2013



Teachers: Robin Lynch, Quadra Island, BC  
Simon Scott, Vancouver, BC

Workshop Musicians: Ken Natrass, Accordion  
Ron Krug, Piano

Band: Scotch Measure

For application forms and further information, go to the RSCDS Winnipeg Branch website at [www.rscdswinnipeg.ca](http://www.rscdswinnipeg.ca).

The planning for your **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Workshop and Ball** is well underway. A group of devoted individuals did a great deal of pre-planning and detective work and our Committee is now finalizing the plan. Mark the dates on your calendars - the weekend of May 17-19, 2013.

The **Friday** evening will be our *Ceilidh*, held at Silver Heights United Church.

On **Saturday**, the *classes* will be held at St. Stephen and St. Bede's Church and Silver Heights United Church (located across the street from each other) from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, with a lunch served at 12:00 pm. Have a rest for 3 hours and get ready to dance away the evening. The reception, dinner, Grand March and Ball will be held at 17 Wing Air Force Base, with times still to be determined.

**Sunday** brings a time to rest, get up and dance again! There will be a *brunch* at 11:30 am, followed by a *combined class and Tea Dance*, held at 17 Wing Air Force Base. The afternoon will end with Tea and a celebratory 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cake!!  
Sound like fun!

Save up your coffers. We are working on the budget and will let you know the final cost of the weekend once all our numbers are in. Watch for the registration forms on our website sometime in January 2013.

**Accommodation:** We are expecting quite a number of out of town guests, perhaps as many as 30!!! A block of rooms has been booked at the Holiday Inn West for individuals requiring accommodation. We are expecting that there will be individuals who might like to be billeted. *If you have single, double or more rooms available, please contact Jean Highmoor.* She will put your name on a list to accommodate these individuals.

**Transportation:** There will be individuals who will be flying in and will require transportation to the different events over the three days. We are hoping that those who are billeted will be transported by their hosts. We will have to arrange transportation for those who are staying at a hotel. *If you have a vehicle and are willing to transport people, please contact Bob Poole.* He will compile a list of possible drivers. We are hoping that individuals staying at a hotel will stay at the Holiday Inn West, as they have reasonable rates and have set aside the rooms.

**Silent Auction and Draw Prizes:** Hey! What would you think about sponsoring and donating a prepared basket for our draw, either individually or as a small group! These items help to reduce the cost of the weekend, as the proceeds act as part of our revenue. Give it some thought – it's actually lots of fun! I have already started one, with tea, a pretty tea cup and tea pot and perhaps some homemade biscuits! It's easy!

**Pictures of the Past:** An effort is being made to collect pictures of past events (from 50 years ago), with names of individuals in the pictures, what the event was, where it was held and when it happened. These pictures would be scanned and put into a power point presentation that would run continuously throughout the Saturday evening and Sunday events of our workshop weekend.

Well, I think that is all for now!! But be prepared, there may be more in the future! Think Spring!

*Jane Natrass  
Chair, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Workshop and Ball*

## ***Event Reports***

### **Tea, Bake and Bag Sale**

*October 20, 2012*

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated baking for the tea and bake sale in October. To all those who attended the event and brought along family and friends, we thank you. It was a very successful afternoon, with over 70 people in attendance. Thank you to Anne Morrison and everyone who assisted in the kitchen and served at the tea.

The tea and bake sale raised \$703, which will go towards the Branch's 50th Anniversary weekend workshop in May 2013. The bag sale was also very successful, raising \$1,033 for Grands'n'More. Proceeds from the bag sale support the Stephen Lewis Foundation which cares for the children in Sub-Saharan Africa who have been orphaned by the AIDS pandemic.

*Debbie Forrest and Heather Colquhoun*

### **Ceilidh**

*November 2, 2012*

The Growth and Development Committee hosted a ceilidh in November, which was very successful, with over 70 people in attendance. The Committee would like to thank Christine Wallace and Joyce Cormack for organizing the program, Joyce Cormack for briefing the dances, and all those who provided entertainment - Kirby McRae, Clark Saunders, Reg Curle, Debbie Forrest, and the Reimer Family who played some wonderful Celtic music. Also, thank you to Anne Morrison and all those who assisted in the kitchen. To everyone who attended, we hope you had an enjoyable evening.



*An enthusiastic crowd dancing Riverside at the ceilidh*

Additional pictures of the ceilidh can be found in the Photo Gallery on the Branch website.

*Debbie Forrest, Growth & Development Committee*

### **Scottish Dancing at the Transcona Senior Centre**

Beginning in September, a lively and fun-loving group of ladies, ranging in age from early 60s to 89, have been meeting Thursday afternoons from 1:00 to 2:30 pm at the Transcona Seniors Centre, 328 Whittier Avenue W. They have been learning some simple Scottish dances and have had great fun moving and dancing to the Scottish dance music that we all love. We originally started off with five ladies, and had 11 out on November 5<sup>th</sup>. There have been 15 different ladies out at one time or another. Apparently, the word has spread amongst the line dancers that "if you enjoy dancing then you will love the Scottish dancing".

Branch members who are free on Thursday afternoons are welcome to join us. The experience that you bring to the class would enable us to try dances that are slightly more complex. Should any men show up, I am sure that they would be made to feel most welcome. Who knows, maybe some of the snooker players from the back room might even take notice. Some of them just might even feel brave enough to join the ladies. One week we did have one gentleman watching us from around the corner as we did the *Progressive Gay Gordons*, but when asked, he said that he wasn't ready to join in yet.

If you are thinking about coming out, please do give me a call (204-224-2291) to make sure that we will be meeting that day. I hope to see you sometime soon.

*Joyce Cormack*

## ***Class Reports***

### **Fort Garry Social Class**

It appears that the Fort Garry Class will have to concede defeat to *The Irish Rover*. We have tackled this dance numerous times in recent classes, but despite our best efforts and Joyce's tireless coaching, we always mess up. The music for this dance is infectious to say the least, but sadly it is not aiding in our capacity to master this dance. I suppose it is the hand of providence on us, that this dance is NOT on our upcoming St. Andrew's Social, slated for November 26<sup>th</sup>. Outside of this particular dance, things are running reasonably well at Fort Garry Social with a good contingent of dancers out most Monday nights.

Our Class will host the St. Andrew's Social, with a special nod to new dancers in our Branch. The programme includes a number of easy, old favourites that even new dancers can handle, with just a few more challenging dances to keep us long-term members interested. With her characteristic proficiency, Anne Morrison has coordinated a sumptuous repast to follow the dance programme. We look forward to meeting our new dancers and old friends at this event.

As many of you are aware, Reverend Clark Saunders is retiring from Westworth United, and will be taking up an interim posting on Salt Spring Island next month. We have cherished his active participation at RSCDS Winnipeg these many years, and will especially miss him at Fort Garry Social. In recognition of his years of membership here, our class celebrated with coffee and cake on November 12<sup>th</sup>, after perhaps another shot at *The Irish Rover*. However, the Salt Spring Scottish Country Dance Club will be pleased to have him join their club.

Now speaking of "reverends", let me share the experience of another reverend. This minister goes to the dentist for a set of false teeth. The first Sunday thereafter, he speaks for only eight minutes. The second Sunday he speaks for ten minutes. The third Sunday he speaks for two hours and forty-eight minutes! The congregation had to mob him to get him down from the pulpit and they asked what happened. The minister explains, the first Sunday his gums hurt so bad he couldn't speak for more than eight minutes. The second Sunday his gums still hurt, but he was able to manage ten minutes. But on the third Sunday, he put in his wife's teeth by mistake and he couldn't shut up!

*John Giesbrecht*

## **Technique Class Report**

Reg and I are happy to be back at class to learn Cheryl's interesting dances. Last week, we did an energetic dance called the *Lassies of Dunse*, Duns being a town in the Scottish borders. It was followed by the interestingly titled *Sow's Tail*, which was not only energetic but had several turns to represent the tail. *The Sow's Tail to Geordie* was first printed as a satirical song of invective against George I and his mistress, who became the Countess of Darlington. She was so large that the English called her "the elephant". The tune features a second part in which the bow is briefly played behind the bridge producing a sound like a pig. I'm not sure if we heard the squeal or perhaps we didn't dance to the music with this name. We finished off with the Reel of the 51<sup>st</sup> Division for Remembrance Day.

Winnipeg dancers like to travel when they get the opportunity. We always take our dance shoes along in case we have the opportunity to use them. The south San Francisco area has weekly socials on Saturday so we drove 65 miles from Novato to Mountain View to dance. We were familiar with half the dances on the program so planned to do those plus the ones we could find on the internet. They did a few locally written dances which we couldn't find. People who wanted a walk through arrived forty-five minutes before the social to practice the dance patterns. They had live music with two fiddlers and a keyboard. They finished with the usual array of foods which are an important part of a social evening.

Scott MacRae and his wife Denise had a week's holiday in New Orleans with friends, listening to music and trying the cuisine. Sharon and Ray Plaitin had a two-week holiday visiting family in Calgary and Vancouver. Ron Krug will be celebrating a birthday in Tampa, Florida. We welcome Claire McMahon back to dancing after her time off last year to give her dancing feet a rest.

Margaret Speers was recently in Vancouver visiting friends after attending a continuing medical education meeting. Unfortunately, she did not have a chance to dance while she was there.

Lynn and Peter McClure spent the Remembrance Day weekend in southern Ontario. Lynn attended a music therapy conference, and took the opportunity to visit the Toronto family. On Remembrance Day, as the big snow event was winding up in Winnipeg, they were walking on the lake shore, in balmy 15 degrees weather.

*Joan Curle*

## **Introductory Class**

Our session is coming to an end, with November 29 being the last class.

Again, this is a most delightful class, and we appreciate the assistance of Branch members who are able to attend.

*Maureen Burnham*

## **Demonstration Team**

The Demonstration Team has completed the following demonstrations:

October 20	North Kildonan United Church
November 16	Fred Douglas Lodge

Upcoming demonstrations include:

December 9	Festival of Trees and Lights
January 2013	Irene Baron Eden Care home

*Agnes Brydon*

## ***Here and There***

### **St. Andrew's Day**

St. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland, as well as several other countries, including Greece, Romania, Russia and Ukraine. He is also the patron saint of fishermen, fishmongers, rope-makers, golfers and performers.

St. Andrew's Day is celebrated each year on November 30, the date on which St. Andrew was crucified in Patras, Greece in 60 AD. The Scottish flag, the Saltire, is based on the X-shaped cross on which St. Andrew was crucified.

According to legend, a monk called Regulus brought relics of St. Andrew to Scotland, where he was given land to build a church by a Pictish king. The settlement grew into the town of St. Andrew's, where the cathedral became a place of religious pilgrimage and the university, the oldest in Scotland, was founded in 1413.

St. Andrew's Day is Scotland's national day. In Scotland, and many countries with Scottish connections, the day is marked by a celebration of Scottish culture, with traditional Scottish food, music and dance.

Schools across Scotland hold special St. Andrew's Day events and activities, including art shows, Scottish Country Dancing, lunchtime ceilidhs, dance festivals, storytelling, reciting and writing poems, writing tall tales, cooking traditional Scottish meals, and bagpipe playing!

In Scotland today, the day is also seen as the start of a season of Scottish winter festivals encompassing St. Andrew's Day, Hogmanay and Burns Night.



*This beautiful stained glass window from a church in Innerwick depicts St. Andrew as a fisherman, draped in tartan, against a background of the Scottish highlands and the saltire cross.*

## ***Out of Town Events***

### **Christchurch, NZ**

*December 28, 2012 – January 6, 2013*

RSCDS New Zealand Branch

Ilam Summer School

Dancing classes, Teacher's Preparation Class, Musicians Course

Teachers: Gaye Collin (Wellington) and Mechthild Timmins (Adelaide)

Contact: Doug Mills ([doug.mills@rscdsnz.org.nz](mailto:doug.mills@rscdsnz.org.nz) or +54 3 356 2698)

### **Honolulu, HI**

*February 15-17, 2013*

RSCDS Hawaii Branch

Aloha Winter Weekend

Teachers: Bruce Herbold, David Newitt, Patti Cobb

Music: Humuhumunukunukuapua'a & Strathspey Society Band

Contact: Melissa Lindsay (808-256-3347 or [MLindsay@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:MLindsay@hawaii.rr.com))

### **Ottawa, ON**

*January 25-27, 2013*

Ardbrae Dancers of Ottawa

Ardbrae Ball Weekend

Welcome Dance, Ball, Sunday Brunch

Music: Laird Brown and the Scottish Accent Band

Contact: Anne Taylor ([avTaylor2@gmail.com](mailto:avTaylor2@gmail.com))

## **Halifax, NS**

*April 13-14, 2013*

RSCDS Nova Scotia Branch

Halifax Spring Workshop

Teachers: Alicia Manson (Oakville, ON) and Maggie Keppie (Kentville, NS)

Contact: Lydia Hedge (902-827-2033 or [lydiahedge@accesswave.ca](mailto:lydiahedge@accesswave.ca))

## **Plymouth, MA**

*July 12-20, 2013*

RSCDS Boston Branch

Pinewoods Camp

Dance and music classes, evening dances

Session I: July 12-15    Session II: July 15-20

Contact: Kendra Eshleman (617-987-0198 or [scdPinewoods2013@gmail.com](mailto:scdPinewoods2013@gmail.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:** COM meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month from October to May. Exceptions are Tuesday, November 6, 2012 and Thursday, January 10, 2013.

**Next L&A:** Deadline for the December 2012 issue is **December 7, 2012.**

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

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