Light and Airy

Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

info@rscdswinnipeg.ca

www.rscdswinnipeg.ca

Volume 45, Number 2 **November 2013**

Committee of Management 2013/14

Chair:	Joyce Cormack	204-224-2291
Vice Chair:	Don Johnson	204-885-9879
Secretary:	Gerri Stemler	204-488-7386
Treasurer:	Joan Curle	204-254-6697
Light and Airy Editor:	Sheila Careless	204-233-8808
Social Secretary:	Bob Poole	204-888-3173
Assistant Social Secretary:	Betty Poole	204-888-3173
Membership:	Debra Forrest	204-284-4667
Publicity:	David Kroeker	204-284-4667
Demonstration:	Agnes Brydon	204-837-7346
Library:	Christine Wallace	204-478-1026
Teachers' Rep.:	Maureen Burnham	204-786-7767
Webmaster:	Sheila Careless	204-233-8808

From the Chair….

We are now well into our dance season and, as the days get shorter and the weather gets cooler, what better way to lift our spirits than to spend an evening Scottish country dancing! We have various social events to look forward to - the first one being the St Andrews Social Tuesday November 26 hosted by the technique class. The theme of this social is to celebrate St Andrews Day which is on November 30. The program is a mixed one which can be enjoyed by dancers of all levels including the dancers in the Basic class. We look forward to a good turnout and to extending a warm welcome to our newer dancers as they experience dancing to our wonderful band and meeting and socializing with the rest of the branch. The 90th anniversary of the inaugural meeting of the Scottish Country Dance Society (Royal from 1951) with twenty seven people present occurred on November 26 1923 and on the evening of our social we will be celebrating the 90th Anniversary to the day! Happy Dancing!

Joyce Cormack

2013/14 Dance Season

Thursday, September 5	Welcome Dance/Open House – No charge 8:00 pm
Week of September 9	Fall Term **Regular** classes begin
Thursday, September 12	Fall Term **Basic** classes begin
Thursday November 21	Last **Basic** class of Fall Term
Tuesday, November 26	St. Andrew's Social (hosted by the Technique Class)
Week of December 9	Last **Regular** classes of Fall Term
Monday, December 16	Make up class for Social Class. Open to Social & Technique class members
Saturday, December 28	Betwixt & Between Ceilidh 8-10:30
Thursday, January 9, 2014	Welcome Dance/Open House – No charge 8:00 pm
Week of January 13	Winter Term **Regular** classes begin
Thursday January 16	Winter Term **Basic** classes begin
Saturday January 18	Burns Dinner and Dance
Monday, March 3	Class Social (hosted by the Fort Garry Class)
Thursday March 20	Last **Basic** class of Winter Term
Thursday, April 3	Spring Social (hosted by the COM and Teachers)
Week of April 21	Last **Regular** classes of Winter Term
Friday-Sunday May 2-3	Workshop Weekend

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 I write this, it is snowing outside. Not much and it's not staying but it's there. Well given that all of the stores have their Christmas stuff out, maybe this will make it feel like I should start thinking about Christmas. I'm not ready yet, but it's coming! We have had a beautiful fall though. I found the article in the last Scottish Dancer magazine on communication quite interesting. I would love to dialogue with people about whether they agree with it or not. I find it is hard to know sometimes how much to say to a fellow dancer when they need help. Everyone responds differently to being told what to do or where to go next.
If you're like me, you like dancing dances devised by John Drewry. Well he celebrated his 90th birthday in July! He now lives in a nursing home in Aberdeen and still has his sense of humour.
The date of our St. Andrew's Social is also the date of the 90th anniversary of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. So the next time you have just finished a reel or jig that has your heart pounding, or are moving to an elegant strathspey, remember our persevering co-founders of the RSCDS, Miss Milligan & Mrs Stewart.
"Are you dancin'?" "Are you askin'?" "I'm askin'" "I'm dancin'" See you at the social!

Miss Jean Milligan & Mrs Ysobel Stewart, co-founders of the RSCDS.

Sheila Careless

Branch News

Prairie Gold

Just a reminder about our 2013 50th Anniversary project "Prairie Gold". This book of Scottish Country dances and accompanying CD is available by contacting us through our website. The book and CD together can be purchased for $30 plus shipping. The book alone is $15 and the CD alone is $20. Music is played by our own *Scotch Measure* who have been playing music for us for over 32 years. Since April 2013 we have sold books and CDs across Canada as well as to Japan, United Kingdom and United States. Please visit our website for more information about the CD and book as well as more information about *Scotch Measure* and the Winnipeg branch.

Reg Curle

Fall class information

The teachers for classes starting in September 2013 are as follows:

Fort Garry Social Class (Mondays):
1st term: Maureen Burnham
2nd term: Peter McClure
Technique Class (Tuesdays):
1st term: Joyce Cormack
2nd term: Cheryl Durnin
Basics of Scottish Country Dancing (Thursday nights):
1st term: Cheryl Durnin
2nd term: Maureen Burnham

Our condolences…

go out to Sharyl Eaglesham on the passing of her father, John Carmichael, on October 25, 2013. The service was held on Nov. 2, 2013. Our thoughts are with you and your family.

Class Reports

Fort Garry Social Class (Mondays):

The Fort Garry Social class is alive and well, despite the fact that we didn't manage to get a report in last month; let me rephrase that, I didn't get a report in because of preoccupation with family events and house guests. Under the direction of Maureen Burnham, we have been treated to a wide variety of dances and formations, apparently at the request of social class members who put forward their personal favourites.

Sometime ago we started with a dance titled "Aging Gracefully"; I'm not sure whether that was a hope or a statement on our collective well-being !. Then we got a bit naughty with one titled "Kissing Bridge" , and soon we were off to our usual wild antics with "Hooper's Jig". We have also tackled some unfamiliar dances such as "The Falls of Rogis" and " The Black Mountain Reel". I believe those were just an effort to prove that there are some dances that even Fort Garry Social can't , and

shouldn't do. Lately, we have tried some lovely dances such as "The Laird of Milton's Daughter" and "Mistress Mary" written in honour of a former class member and well known teacher, Mary Nixon. Another class favourite we hauled out was "Shifting Bobbins" which met with great delight. As for formations, some of the first ones feisted on us were of Spanish origin and I can't remember the names of them. I do however, remember we worked hard at those, and did finally manage a reasonable execution of same. More recently, we did the "tourmillion"; a figure of progression that we accomplished without too much practice.

Our class is looking forward to the St. Andrew's social coming up on November 26th; the program includes one of my personal favourites "Montgomeries' Rant".

In closing, let me share a wee chuckle. Granma is teaching her only granddaughter, aged eight, the art of baking. As a preamble Granma shows the granddaughter all her baking utensils and ingredients in the pantry. Granma says, "After I go to the nursing home, all of this will belong to you, so take heed and learn". After a few moments of quiet reflection, the granddaughter pipes up "and will that be soon Granma?" Apparently Granma's baking cupboard and utensils were quite a delight.

John Giesbrecht

Technique Class (Tuesdays):

When leaving for class on Tuesday nights, one must, of course, remember to take their dance shoes and maybe a water bottle. Well, they also need to remember to bring their thinking cap given the dances that Joyce has been teaching us! They are usually quite interesting with sometimes a unique twist thrown in. For example, a dance called Cranberry Tart where the lady is always 2 bars behind her partner. Now that messed with my little mind! Our numbers have been steady at 7 couples the last few weeks. There seems to be someone away every week but the numbers remain pretty consistent. We're getting really good at borrowing! Peter taught our class last week as Joyce was away. We had the pleasure of dancing "Annie Douglas" which is one of the dances in our 50th anniversary book *Prairie Gold*. It's a beautiful strathspey written by Monique Henderson and the music is lovely to dance to. Given that it was Guy Fawkes Day, we danced Roaring Jelly. What a fun way to end the evening.

Sheila Careless

Basics of Scottish Country Dancing Class (Thursdays):

Well the faithful attendees of the Thursday night class keep coming back for more and seem to really enjoy themselves. They mastered the reels of 3 in quick time very well last week. They learned a couple new dances, one of which is on the programme at the end of the month, "Lady Lucy Ramsey". With members of the branch to lend a hand (always at shoulder height!), we've been averaging 6 couples. Last week we had a nice neat 8 couples so that worked out well. We missed 2 classes in October so if feels as if we haven't seen each other much. This is a fun class to be a part of and no matter how tired I am when I leave the house, I'm always glad I made the effort to go.

Sheila Careless

Upcoming Events

St. Andrew's Social

Hosted by the Technique class. Tuesday, November 26, 2013. St. Paul's Church. 830 North Drive. 8pm. Cost is $10 for members and $5 for Basic Class dancers. Live music by Scotch Measure. Crib notes are available on the website.

ST ANDREWS SOCIAL PROGRAM
NOVEMBER 26, 2013

ST ANDREW'S FAI	32J3	5 SCDs 1982
LADY LUCY RAMSAY	32 S3	MMM 2
REEL OF THE ROYAL SCOTS	32R3	Leaflet 7
SCOTTISH REFORM	32J2 (6X)	Bk 3
SANDS OF MORAR	32S3	Bk 45
THE WHITE COCKADE	8x32	Bk 5
	INTERVAL	
CATCH AS CATCH CAN	32J4	LAD
CA' THE EWES TAE THE KNOWES	32S2	BK 16
THE MONTGOMERIES' RANT	32R3	Bk 10
GOOD HEARTED GLASGOW	32J3	Collins Pocket Ref

Here and There

Children's Scottish Country Dance classes

Children's classes are held Sunday afternoon at 1:30 pm in the Windsor Community Club 99 Springside Drive in St. Vital. Classes are for children and teens. Fall term begins October 6, 2013. Registration dates at Community Centre are September 11 & 14.

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

Kilt for sale
Hunting Chisholm
Waist: 48"
Bottom: 72", pleated, 17' open/flat
Width: 32"
Please contact Anne Lindsay at malindsay@shaw.ca if interested.

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.

15th Annual Manitoba Tourism Awards

"Event of the Year "Bicentenary of the Red River Settlement is recognized as a finalist in this category for commemorating the historic milestone of the 1812 arrival of settlers in Winnipeg through a series of events. These events, driven by a dedicated corps of volunteers, included participation from the Scottish, Aboriginal, Metis and Francophone communities, highlighting this as a truly Manitoban celebration.

The other 2 finalists are the Festival du Voyageur and the Lockport Dam Family Festival. For more information visit the website at http://www.manitobatourismawards.com. Festival du Voyageur was the winner. Below is a picture of the Bicentenary committee accepting the finalist plaque.

MANITOBA TOURISM Award FINALIST

Out of Town Events

Twin Cities (Minneapolis/St. Paul) MN
November 15-17, 2013
RSCDS Twin Cities
Scottish Country Dance Workshop
Guest teacher: Robert McOwen of Boston, MA
Music: fiddle player Katie McNally, also of Boston, MA.
www.rscds-twincities.org/workshop2013.html

Vancouver, BC
December 8, 2013
RSCDS Vancourver
50th Annual Gleneagles Ball
Fairmont Hotel Vancouver
24 Piece Vancouver Fiddle Orchestra
Susan Haug at normhaug@shaw.ca or (604) 984-7458.
www.rscdsvancouver.org

New Zealand Summer School – St. Peter's School, Cambridge
Dec. 28, 2013 – Jan. 5,, 2014
RSCDS New Zealand
Contact: Wayne McConnel
wayne.mcconnel@rscdsnzb.org.nz
www.rscdsnzb.org.nz

Honolulu, Hawaii
Feb. 14-16, 2014
RSCDS Hawaii
"Palaka" Aloha Winter Workshop 2014
Guest instructor: Jack Raines
Music: Humuhumunukunukuapua'a & Strathspey Society Band
Contact: Melissa Lindsay (808-256-3347 or MLindsay@hawaii.rr.com)

College Park, MD
March 28 - 30, 2014
RSCDS Washington & North Virginia
Capital Weekend 2014
Musicians: Thistle House
Cherry Hill Park Conference Center, College Park, MD

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

Bannockburn Live: A feast of food, music and history

700 years after Scotland's most famous battle, experience the biggest ever re-enactment of the Battle of Bannockburn at Bannockburn Live.

The National Trust for Scotland's three day spectacular takes place on **Saturday 28, Sunday 29 and Monday 30 June 2014** and, as well as a brutally realistic re-enactment of the battle, features an array of themed villages, where visitors can enjoy everything from Scottish food and drink to sports, crafts and literature, exciting outdoor activities, an action packed children's programme, a main contemporary music stage and more. See, taste, smell, hear and discover medieval life in the historical encampments, then watch Robert the Bruce and Edward II lead their armies to battle at Bannockburn Live.

Further information for groups and clans can be found here.For more information and to buy tickets, visit www.bannockburnlive.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.

Next L&A: Deadline for the December issue will be December 7, 2013.

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@mts.net

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

On the Lighter Side…

A Scots boy came home from school and told his mother he had been given a part in the school play. "Wonderful," says the mother, "What part is it?" The boy says "I play the part of the Scottish husband!" The mother scowls and says: "Go back and tell your teacher you want a speaking part."