

Tartan Press

Newsletter of The Manitoba Highland Dancers Association

January 2008

Executive

President

Vacant

Past President / Chair

Cathy Domke 488-1341 domke@mts.net

Vice-President

Fiona Olsen folsen@mbhighlanddance.com

Treasurer

Deb Kusano 253-9008 kusanod@mts.net

Secretary

Allison Thomson 654-4181 thomson8@mts.net

Membership

Jane Ross 222-0961 dajross12@shaw.ca

Competition Coordinator

Glenda Shiells 255-7346 shiells104@shaw.ca

Cheryl Nixon 255-1467
cnixon@mbhighlanddance.com

Competition Director

Barb Campbell 931-8497 kcampbell68@shaw.ca

Finance Director

Vacant

Volunteer Coordinator

Teri Holroyd 3335286 tholroyd@mts.net

Tea Coordinator

Caroline Spellman 453-0440 Spellman.CR@forces.gc.ca

Tea Co-Coordinator

Sharon Leonard 694.8132 jsleonard@shaw.ca

Message from the Chairperson

Happy New Year!

While I thought it started off a little rocky, the dance year is turning out great. We have had 2 successful competitions and a wonderful Tartan Tea.

While many members found the whole day competition long, it gave a larger audience to the older dancers. The older dancers tend to not get a lot of people to watch them. Also, the older dancers enjoyed watching the 'little' ones.

I am hoping to have some fun activities coming up and would welcome any suggestions or ideas. Let's keep the organization going strong and encourage people to continue dancing and bring friends and relatives. The greater the audience the more fun it will be. I found a quote I liked (just when you all thought you were saved from a quote!), it is fitting for highland with all the ambitions parents have for their children.

"We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that she is someone today."

Cathy Domke
Chair

What Highland Dancing Means to Me...

Written by Kirsten Henry:

Highland dancing has been one of the biggest (sometimes THE biggest) part of my life for the past, well forever. I was born into dancing (my cousins danced) and I took my first dancing bus trip at four months old. Highland dancing has instilled a sense of dedication and loyalty into me that has carried over to other parts of my life. I was the girl who told her friends in elementary school that I would be late for their birthday party because I had a dance class. I was also the one who picketed for the Nurses Union during their strike in the early 90's despite the 30 below temperatures "because I promised my auntie I would". I've also learned that once you've started something, you stick with it until it's finished. This has definitely helped me through trying times at school and in other areas of my life.

Some other things I've learned from dancing include respect, determination, commitment, and passion. I've adopted an attitude where "can't" is not part of my vocabulary (some might call it stubbornness, but I prefer passion, commitment and determination). Perhaps the most important things I've gained from Highland dancing is what I've missed the most since I stopped competing in championships (other than being in great shape): it's the friendships that span the city, the province, the country and the world. This is probably the first topic to come out of any dancer's mouth when they are asked what their favourite thing about highland dancing is. Highland dancing has a way of bringing people from all different backgrounds together as one community.

Someone once told me that Highland dancing wasn't "who I am". I just happen to be a girl who Highland dances. But, when I look back at my life, Highland dancing really has made me who I am. It has shaped my life, my body and my spirit and without it I don't think I'd be the person I am today. So no, I am not just a girl who happens to Highland dance. I am a Highland dancer, always have been and always will be



Tartan Press Submissions

Items to be published in the Tartan Press will be accepted up to two weeks prior to every M.H.D.A. competition.

Items may be sent by email to:

Lauren Wreggitt
lwreggitt@mts.net

Dancer Diversions...



Zoë Wreggitt (left) & Jessica Oliphant
Broadway Bound!

Besides being competitive Highland Dancers, Zoë Wreggitt (14) and Jessica Oliphant (14) are both passionate about the performing arts, including voice, musical theatre and all forms of dance. They are excited to be on their way to New York with their high school performing arts group in early February where they will participate in actor's workshops and attend Broadway shows. In order to fundraise for their upcoming trip, the two girls and a few school friends, with the creative guidance of the Oliphant family, put on "Broadway Bound" - a musical variety show based on Broadway show tunes. The show was held at the Manitoba Deaf centre and was a huge success! The picture above is from one of the dance number the girls choreographed called, "Overture".

Break a leg, girls!

Highland dancers are successful, involved, energetic people.
Let us know what you are up to outside of Highland dance.
Send email to lwreggitt@mts.net.

MHDA Website

The Tartan Press is available online at the Manitoba Highland Dancer's Association Website: www.mbhighlanddance.com

Please send any photos for the website to:
Keith Rempel
myrddin@mts.net



Out of Town Results

Donna Cram School		
Regina – November, 2008		
Premier 12 & under		
Julia Domke	3 rd	Fling
	5 th	Seann Triubhas
	4 th	Blue Bonnets
	3 rd	Special event hornpipe (13&U)
Erika Ramesar	1 st	Fling
	1 st	Seann Triubhas
	2 nd	Blue Bonnets
	1 st	Village Maid
	2 nd	Special event hornpipe (13&U)
Premier 16 & Over		
Julia Domke	4 th	Fling
	5 th	Seann Triubhas
	5 th	Blue Bonnets
	4 th	Village Maid
We apologize for omitting the following overall results in the November Newsletter.		
North American Championships – 12 Years		
Erika Ramesar	3 rd	Runner up
North American Open Championship		
Stacie Nixon	4 th	Runner up

For Sale

Blue Velvet Highland Jacket with gold braid \$75
Hornpipe outfit with hat \$40
Cherry red National vest \$20
Nova Scotia socks (from Ireland) \$65
All items fit slender 8 – 12 year old

Contact Lauren Wreggitt at 231-0759 or lwreggitt@mts.net

For Sale

Dance slippers, fits girls size 3 to 5: \$20

National Outfit in Dress Purple Cunningham; includes two black vests & two blouses; fits ages 8 to 12: \$350

Call Sandy at 470-3217

Manitoba 