

Tartan Press

Newsletter of The Manitoba Highland Dancers Association

May 2007

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met and made some good friends during my tenure as president, and I am grateful to have met these people. I appreciate all their volunteer efforts.

Let's keep Highland dancing alive and well in Winnipeg and Manitoba.

Cathy Domke
President

Membership Report

Membership in your Manitoba Highland Dancers' Association remains strong with a current membership of 122 which includes Regular, New, Honorary and Associate members. We have 122 dancers registered with the MHDA. While our numbers are slightly lower than in the past, we welcome all our new families and appreciate your support as well as the continued support of long-standing members and alumni and look forward to working together to grow our association and to continue to provide opportunities for great dancing and the building of lasting friendships. If you know of anyone who would be interested in becoming a member of the MHDA, please contact me and I will be happy to forward the necessary information.

Jane Ross,
MHDA Membership Director



President's Message

As president I get sent copies of the SOBHD's (Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing) Annual Reports. How boring!! After ignoring them for a long time, I came across them while cleaning the house. I skimmed through them, and was impressed by them. The sense of dedication and love of dancing was evident throughout the document. The report demonstrated how people from all over the world could share the love of a sport, and it established how these people are all trying to "preserve this dance form for future generations."

In fact, one writer states, "Highland dancing is a wonderful art form. The benefits are vast, and the dancers gain so much emotionally, intellectually, physically. The personal learning that comes from making a commitment, working towards achieving a goal and understanding that hard work brings positive results is a "life value" as well as a dance achievement."

While we all agree with the sentiments expressed in this statement, it is clear that Winnipeg still requires more volunteers for vacant executive positions and volunteers at competitions. Without these volunteers, this sport will die! I am hoping that all of these positions will be filled by the time this newsletter is published. Being a volunteer in this organization is the best way to feel a part of it, and it helped me to meet parents from the different dance schools. I have

If you are a member of MHDA and would like to be profiled for an upcoming edition of the Tartan Press, contact Sharon at jsleonard@shaw.ca

Submissions to the Tartan Press

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

The Tartan Press is available online at the Manitoba Highland Dancer's Association Website: www.mhda.mb.ca



Dancer Profiles

Kaitlyn Clarke

Jean Thomson



Jean Thomson and You Know Who

How old are you?

[Jean Thomson] I am 4 yrs. 5 on January 16th.

When did you start dancing?

When I was 3 yrs old.

What dances do you dance?

16 pas de bas / pas de bas and high cuts/I am learning the Fling, Sword and Seann Truibhas.

What is your favourite dance?

The Hornpipe.

Why is the Hornpipe your favourite dance?

Because I like the sailor dance and the sea.

What do you like about Highland Dancing?

My friend Stephanie Ramesar...and dancing.

Who is your teacher?

Mrs. Baird and Kirsten.

What is your favourite memory or funniest thing that happened in highland dancing?

My favorite time is the Selkirk Highland Gathering..and the heavy games.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

A veterinarian.



Kaitlyn Clarke

How old are you?

[Kaitlyn Clarke] I am five years old. My birthday is August the 14th.

When did you start dancing?

I don't remember! (*Kaitlyn started dancing when she was four years old. September 2005*)

Why did you want to take Highland Dancing?

My Auntie Deb took highland dancing and she showed me how to do it in Red Deer and I didn't want to take Creative Dance. (*Kaitlyn started Creative Dance (intro to ballet for 4 years) & highland dance. She then had to choose which one she liked best*)

Why did you choose Highland dancing?

I liked it best because I learned how to dance to music. (*My sister used to highland dance and when Kaitlyn was 2 or 3, we were visiting her in Red Deer. Deb & Kaitlyn were dancing to music (because Kaitlyn loves to dance to music) and Deb just broke into some of her old highland dance steps & Kaitlyn just followed her. Deb was impressed on how quickly she caught*

on to the steps because they are difficult. I tried to find classes for her at age 3 but I could not find any information on teachers in Winnipeg. Finally, through our church we watched Zoe Wreggit perform and we found out who she took lessons from.)

What dances do you dance?

I know Pas de Basques & Hi cuts and a little bit of the fling. Oh ya and the Toe & Heel dance.

What is your favorite dance?

My favorite dance is the "March On" dance. (*How do you do the March On dance?*) It's where we march on in a line then we do the fling, then big kids do the Seann Truibhas then the little kids do Pas de Basques frontward then we do circle Pas de Basques, then we do spring points then we bow and blow a kiss to everyone then we walk off. (*This is the dance they prepared for the Tartan Tea.*)

Why is the "March On" dance your favorite dance?

Because you get to March on behind Amanda or another big girl.

What do you like about Highland Dancing?

I like to dance to music. I also like to go to the parties! (*Linda had a Christmas Party with games & activities for the girls just before Christmas*)

Who is your teacher?

Linda is my teacher. (*Linda Tellier School of Dance*)

What is your favorite memory or funniest thing that happened in highland dancing?

My favorite thing so far has been teaching Santa to Highland dance. And getting my first medal? (*Kaitlyn just received her first medal in the Tiny Tots section (Pas de Basques & Toe Heels)*)

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I want to be an artist. (*Why?*) They draw lots & lots of things and they are really good at it. And I love to draw. Oh ya I want to be an actor, too. (*Why?*) Because I will be on TV. I also want to be a doctor, a highland dance teacher and there is something else too, oh yeah, a builder. I want to build high structures. Wait ..And also a Dentist. I want to be lots of things don't I? Did you get all that?



For Sale

\$300. for Highland and National outfits.
Perfectly suited for a beginner dancer.
Size 8-10 years with large hems.
Call Deb at 889-5600 or 792-9491

Purple Menzies Kilt/Purple Jacket/Vest/Socks
Excellent condition - Size 7-9

Phone Sharon 982-1144 Offers accepted

Wanted: I am looking for a Pre-premier Dance outfit (Vest, Blouse, Kilt & Socks) for my 5 1/2 year old daughter. Although, she is an average height for a 5 year old. She is alot rounder than an average 5 year old. Waist:25.5 in., Chest:27.5 in., Hip:29 in., Kilt length:13 in., Vest Length:11 in. We would prefer a Blue Tartan.

Contact Lea Clarke at 256-9216 lclarke@netmedia.ca

Red Jig Shoes - Excellent Condition - Size 3 - \$35

Hornpipe Outfit age 8-11 - \$40

Blue Velvet Highland Jacket age 8-11 - \$75

Dress Nova Scotia Hose age 8-11 - \$60.

Dress Blue Erskine Highland Outfit

(Kiltie, Vest, Hose, Blouse) age 5 to 10 - \$200.00

Contact Laureen Wreggitt 231-0759 lwreggitt@mts.net

Several outfits to sell on behalf of a few member from out of town or a few whose children no longer dance.

Kilt - Dress Royal MacRae, waste 27", Hip 34", present length 22" may be altered smaller and/or longer and/or shorter

Hose- Dress MacRae hose 9" foot fully fashioned 14.5" long

Blue highland vest - to match MacRae, silver buttons and braid. 23-34" bust.

National costume - in dress Merrilees waste 32"

Black national vest - bust 35"

White hornpipe - size 10

Wine national vest - bust 31"

Green and white jig dress - bust 32"

Wine highland vest - bust 32" silver buttons and braid.

Red national vest - bust 31"

Used Black Highland Jacket - silver braid and buttons Size 10

New Red Highland Vest - Size 8 with silver braid and buttons

Brand new never been worn Billy shoes size 1.5

Brand new never been worn Billy shoes size 4

Slightly worn Billy shoes 3.5

Everything is in good repair.

Call Gail @224-9448 or if out of town call (866) 360-7753.

