

Tartan Press

Newsletter of The Manitoba Highland Dancers Association

November 2010

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Suzanne Sinclair

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Deanne Magnus

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Kathy Ramesar kramesar@mbhighlanddance.com

like this really rely on help from our dance teachers and their schools to help it succeed. So any decisions of the executive must be done in consultation with ScotDance Manitoba.

It is also important to know the opinions of our membership. I hope to have opportunity to hear from all of you on this subject as well.

One change to this year's tea is an addition of a traditional highland program for part of the show. A bit of good old highland tradition might be a nice change.

Best regards,
George Hamilton,
President Manitoba Highland Dancers' Association



2010 Tartan Tea

Saturday December 4th,
1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the St. James Civic Centre

The Tartan Tea is a lovely afternoon in which various schools combine together to provide the dancing entertainment and share delicious holiday desserts with family, friends and relatives. Every M.H.D.A. family participates by selling tickets, volunteering time, donating baked goods and making jars for the Jar Bar.

Tartan Tea tickets will be distributed in the fall through the dance schools and each family receives a minimum of 5 tickets to sell as part of their annual membership fundraising responsibility. Ticket sales are extremely important since it is a factor in the determination of government funding and MHDA's major fundraising event. The money raised from the Tartan Tea helps pay for the expenses associated with hosting our highland dance competitions.

Please mark your calendars and sell as many tickets as you can!

Additional tickets are available through dance schools.

Important Dates

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| December 4, 2010 | Tartan Tea at the Civic Centre |
| January 29, 2011 | Competition, St. Andrew's River Heights United Church |
| May 1, 2011 | Provincials at MTYP |
| June 11 and 12, 2011 | Mid-Canada Competition, the Forks |

Message from the President

I didn't think the third year of being president would seem harder than the first two. I figured the job would get easier as I go. I realize now how much easier things are when you are doing something new and different. It is important to shake things up and make them new again.

Over the past couple of years I have had lots of conversations about traditions and change. Sometimes I am the one proposing something different and being told that it isn't traditional. On other occasions I have been the person on the other side of the discussion; opposing change to a tradition that I feel is very important.

I have started to realize that traditions sometimes need to be updated and changed. An organization needs to come up with new ways to achieve its goals.

Recently discussions have focused on the Tartan Tea. Many feel that it is time that we looked at doing a different fundraiser. My opinion has been that we should do an additional fundraiser rather than a replacement to the tea. This is because I feel we need to increase our income in order to continue providing the same level of activities to our membership.

Anyway this year the tea is going ahead pretty much as usual. Then over the winter our executive is going to examine if we should keep on with it in some form or should we replace it completely with another fundraiser. Events

6 Time World Champion Simon Fraser University Pipe Band plays Winnipeg!

This coming April one of the greatest pipe bands of all time will descend on the city of Winnipeg bringing their world class concert and workshops to the center of North America.

The six-time World Pipe Band Champion, Simon Fraser University Pipe Band will be guests of the Winnipeg Highland Arts Festival from April 1st to the 3rd of 2011. Over 40 workshops will be held on Saturday, April 2nd, covering a variety of topics that incorporate every level of playing ability from the beginner to the most experienced piper or drummer. Saturday evening CanadInns Polo Park will host a Ceilidh featuring performances throughout the night. The weekend finale is a major concert performance of "SFU Live in Winnipeg" on Sunday, April 3rd at 2:00 p.m. at Winnipeg's Pantages Playhouse Theatre.

Quoting Simon Fraser University Pipe Band Pipe Sergeant Jack Lee: "We are delighted to get an opportunity to perform in our home province. Terry and I have led the SFU pipe band for 30 years and it's a big thrill to come back and perform for family and friends."

Tickets for all these events are on sale now. Please visit the events website at www.sfuinwinnipeg.com for more information and to purchase your tickets.

Discount room rates for SFU Central host hotel CanadInns Destinations Center - Polo Park are also available.

For more information please contact Karen Bowman by calling 204-895 9792

Early bird specials are on now, visit the website www.sfuinwinnipeg.com today!



Colleen McGregor dancing in the finals of the Junior World Championships at Cowal, Dunoon in August, 2010. Colleen was one of a handful of Canadian dancers who qualified for the final. Morgan Bamford from New Zealand, who is dancing beside Colleen is the current Junior World Champion.

Brandon Highland Dance Competition

3rd Annual Brandon Dance Competition
Saturday, March 12, 2011
Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium

Main sponsors(to date)

City of Brandon and Royal Oak Inn & Suites

Host hotel is the Royal Oak Inn & Suites,
3130 Victoria Avenue,
Brandon,
phone # 204-728-5775

There is a block booking consisting of 25 rooms on Friday the 11th March and 25 rooms for Saturday the 12th March. All the rooms are non-smoking with 2 queen beds for a rate of \$104.99 + tax, normally the rooms are about \$25 more, and the rate if \$104.99 only applies for rooms booked before the 11th of February. When making a reservation quote event booking #008718 or MHDA.

The Family tree photographer will be in the foyer of the WMCA to take dancer pictures again.

There will be a coffee bar with little snacks in the foyer.

After the competition there will be a pool/pizza party at the Royal Oak.

The Ena Sutton Highland Dancers

The Ena Sutton Highland Dancers of Winnipeg would like to thank MHDA for allowing us to set up an information booth at the October competition. If your Premier or soon to be Premier dancer is interested in learning more please email enasuttonhighlanddancers@gmail.com



McGregor Studio of Dance Alumni Dancers

Do you as a dancer often think “how long will I continue to highland dance?” Or as a parent, do you wonder what ever happens to highland dancers who danced and competed for years and then disappeared or if your investment of time and money into Highland Dance will be part of your child’s life in the future. Well, I’m happy to be able to help answer those questions.

It’s difficult to say how long an individual will dance. A lot depends on your passion for highland dancing and if you are injury free. If you truly enjoy it, then you may dance for many, many years to come. It’s up to you. There are some dancers who are moms and still not only dance, but compete.

In January of 2009, I, along with the encouragement of former students, created an Alumni class. These former dancers, some of whom are also certified highland dance teachers, each with a story to tell and varying in age, retired from dancing because of traveling to out of province universities, work and parenting, but came back because of their passion, the great exercise and the camaraderie. Highland dance nurtured them both professionally and personally with their future aspirations. Some have wonderful careers as Certified Accountants, International Lawyers, Human Resource Managers, Air Force Captains, etc. while others are pursuing their dreams of completing a university education to move into a career.

Once a week, these dancers attend a one-hour class with me. The first ½ hour is a grueling, multi-planar core muscle workout, followed by a ½ hour stamina class made up of Highland Dance basic movements and steps. Choreography is also part of our class – Alumni are periodically asked to perform with the Winnipeg Police Pipe Band.



(left to right) Alanna Gray, Joanna MacDonald,
Laurie Bailie, Deanne Magnus, Carly Sallows, Meaghan Flook

You may recognize some familiar faces in the photo – a lot of Alumni still attend competitions to watch and encourage the younger dancers. So the next time you see one of the

ladies in the photo at a competition, you can thank them for setting the trend and standards for Highland Dancing as we know it today. Do any of these names come to mind? Alanna Gray, Joanna MacDonald, Meaghan Flook, Deanne Magnus, Laurie Bailie, Carly Sallows, Morganne Layton, Margie Stewart Reis, Lesley Gaudry, Jennifer Barbee, Natalia Anderson, Holly Dickson, Corie Miller, Maureen Brown – all of these alum dancers have joined the class at one time or another. The majority of these girls were long time members of the Manitoba Highland Dancers’ Association. Collectively, they have won every major championship and runner-up spot in Manitoba several times over. They have traveled the world competing and representing Manitoba at the Canadian Championships and even qualifying for the World Championships in Cowal, Scotland.

“I was a competitive Highland Dancer from the age of 9 years with the McGregor School of Highland Dance. Dancing was my entire life outside of school. When I moved to Vancouver to attend UBC at the age of 17, I ended up being away from Scottish community for many years. At the age of 30, we have gotten back together with the old “crew” (plus some awesome new additions), once a week for some exercise, some highland dance, some good friends, and many laughs. Sometimes you don’t appreciate what you have until it’s gone, and in this case, I don’t know how I ever managed without my extended family at the McGregor School. “.....Joanna MacDonald

“For the last two years in dance class, some of us have had the unique opportunity of re-living the years gone by. For us, dancing wasn’t part of our lives - it was our lives. We were forever in dance class or getting private lessons, hanging out with our friends from dance, and traveling the country and the world meeting new people and sharing our love of highland dance. We have now gone out into the world and experienced the wonders of life (and our early 20’s!) and we found that one thing we still want to do is dance. With our special alum class, we not only get the best exercise, but we share stories of the glory and heartache of dancing and life, we once again share our lives with friends we have had since we were little, and we dance. It is unbelievable how ingrained highland dancing is in our minds and bodies. We love it because it is what we know.”Alanna Gray

“Highland dancing has been the most significant thing in my life since I was 9 years old. Since I started there has only been a 3 month period that I did not take regular lessons and that was because I was at university in England. Highland dancing has taught me self discipline, drive, focus, and the value of hard work. These qualities have helped me immensely throughout my life; especially in academics and career development. Highland dancing has also enriched my life with friendships. The people who have taught me, danced with me and the people I have taught all hold a special place in my heart. Highland dancing will remain a part of my life even though I am no longer seriously competitive. I plan to continue to dance at lessons but have also continued my involvement through volunteering, performing and teaching.”Deanne Magnus

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Hopefully, sometime in the future once you have retired from competitive Highland Dance or have moved away to pursue your career, you, too will at some point come back to the comfort of the Highland Dance world that was a major part of your life.

If you are interested in joining the Alumni class, contact Gaelyn, ballater@mymts.net

We hope this story is an inspiration to all.

Gaelyn McGregor
Principal

McGregor Studio of Highland Dance



Colleen McGregor and Graeme McCombe both who earlier in the day competed at the Helmsdale Highland Games, pose in front of the Settler's Monument. Colleen won her class at the Helmsdale Games and Graeme of Winnipeg's St. Andrew's Society Pipe Band won a placing in the solo piping Reel event.

Out of Town Results Shona McHarg School

Regina Highland Games -- May 23rd 2010

Neesa Walowetz ~ Primary

Pas de Basque - 3rd

Pas de Basque and Highcuts - 3rd

Sword - 2nd

4

November 2010

Rowan Balchen ~ Beginner

Fling - 4th

Lilt - 3rd

Flora - 3rd

SDCCS 2010

Rowan Balchen ~ Beginner 9&10

Fling - 1st

Sword - 6th

Seann Truibhas - 8th

Lilt - 8th

McKenna Angus ~ Beginner 9&10

Sword - 5th

Seann Truibhas - 3rd

Strathspey and Highland Reel - 7th

Lilt - 2nd

Flora - 3rd

McKenzie Duke ~ Novice 9&10

Sword - 8th

Seann Truibhas - 6th

Lilt - 4th

Flora - 5th

Brandi Duke ~ Restricted Premier 12

Fling - 7th

Village Maid - 7th

Sword - 8th

McGregor Studio of Dance

Celine Richardson

Abernethy Highland Games, August 14th,

NethyBridge, Scotland, Intermediate, 10yrs & Over, 3rd

– Highland Fling & Highland Laddie, 4th – Sword, 1st –

Sean Triubhas, 2nd – Irish Jig

Alanna Flom

Aberlour Highland Games, August 7th, Aberlour,

Scotland, Premier 13-15yrs, 5th – Highland Fling &

Hornpipe, 6th – Sean Triubhas

Christina Thomson

Scotdance Canada Championship Series, July 7th –

11th, Saskatoon, City of Bridges Small Group

Choreography 16yrs & Over, 5th Place, ScotDance

Canada Open Championship, 13yrs, 6th – Highland Fling

Jean Thomson,

Scotdance Canada Championship Series, July 7th –

11th, Saskatoon, Intermediate Highland 10yrs & Under,

6th – Highland Fling, 3rd – Sean Triubhas, 5th – Flora,

5th – Scottish Lilt, Intermediate Reel Event, 10yrs &

Under, 6th place.

Madison Leonard

Scotdance Canada Championship Series, July 7th –

11th, Saskatoon, Premier, 13yrs, 5th – Sword

Colleen McGregor

Scotdance Canada Championship Series, July 7th –

11th, Saskatoon, Premier Small Group Choreography

16yrs & Over – 5th place. July 8th, Premier 17yrs

Highland, 2nd – Highland Fling, 4th – Sword Dance, 6th

– Sean Triubhas. July 9th, 16 & under 18 Canadian

Championships, 6th – Highland Reel. July 10th, Premier 17yrs Nationals, 3rd – Scottish Lilt, 4th – Village Maid, July 11th, ScotDance Open Championship 17yrs, 3rd Runner-Up.

Glenisla Highland Games, August 20th, Glenisla, Scotland, Premier 16yrs & over, Overall National Winner and Special Trophy Winner for the Strathspey & Highland Reel

Helmsdale Highland Games, August 21st, Helmsdale, Scotland, Premier 16yrs & over, Overall Highland Winner and Best Overseas Dancer

Argyllshire Highland Gathering, August 26th, Oban, Scotland, Adult Open, awards in various Highland events.

Cowal Highand Gathering, August 27th, Cowal, Scotland, Qualifying Heats for the Junior World Championships, Qualified!

Cowal Highland Gathering, August 28th, Cowal, Scotland, **World Championships**, 3rd judge's placing in Sword Dance in the Junior World Championships

Kelsey Watchman

Scotdance Canada Championship Series, July 7th – 11th, Saskatoon, Premier Large Group Choreography, 4th place. July 8th, Restricted Premier Highland 16 & 17 yrs, **OVERALL TROPHY**, July 10th, Restricted Premier Nationals 16 & 17 yrs, 2nd – Scottish Lilt, 4th – Blue Bonnets, 6th – Village Maid, July 11th, ScotDance Pre-Championships 16 & 17 yrs, 4th – Highland Fling, 2nd – Sean Triubhas, 3rd – Reel

Alia Cappellani

Scotdance Canada Championship Series, July 7th – 11th, Saskatoon, Premier Large Group Choreography, 4th place. July 9th, 14 & under 16yrs Canadian Championships, 5th – Highland Fling, July 10th, Premier 15 yrs Nationals, 6th – Blue Bonnets, July 11th, ScotDance Open Championship, Premier 15yrs, 5th – Sean Triubhas, Judge's placings in the Reel.

Laura Unruh

Scotdance Canada Championship Series, July 7th – 11th, Saskatoon, July 8th, Beginner 7yrs. Highland – **OVERALL TROPHY WINNER**, July 10th, Beginner 7 yrs Nationals – **OVERALL TROPHY WINNER**, Beginner Reel Event – 3rd.

Allison Unruh

Scotdance Canada Championship Series, July 7th – 11th, Saskatoon, July 8th, Premier 10 yrs Highland, 7th – Sword, July 9th, Premier 10 yrs Nationals, 7th – Village Maid, 8th – Blue Bonnets, July 11th, ScotDance Open Championship, Premier 10yrs, Judge's placings in the Highland Fling, Sword Dance & Sean Triubhas

Rachel Unruh

Scotdance Canada Championship Series, July 7th – 11th, Saskatoon, July 8th, Premier Highland 12yrs, 5th – Sword Dance, 8th – Sean Triubhas, July 10th, Premier Nationals 12yrs, 6th – Blue Bonnets, 7th – Scottish Lilt,

July 11th, ScotDance Open Championships, Premier 12yrs, 6th Sword, 6th Sean Triubhas.

Deanne Magnus

Scotdance Canada Championship Series, July 7th – 11th, Saskatoon, July 9th, Restricted Premier Nationals, 6th – Blue Bonnets

For Sale

One pair of green Jig shoes
Approx size 3-31/2

Canadian - Angelo Luzio's

Good condition - mostly scuffed where heel clicks.

~ Asking price \$40.00. ~

One Dress red Menzies kiltie

Approx size 6-8

Includes red velvet vest and white blouse.

~ Asking price \$100.00. ~

Please email me at mursch@mts.net for further details or picture of kiltie.

MacIsaac's Black velvet Highland jacket Mint condition

Youth Size 12 ~ Chest 29 inches ~ Arms 23 inches

Front 12 inches (from top clip to bottom)

Front 20 inches (from neck to bottom)

Underarm to hem 12 inches ~ Chest 29 inches

Back 29 inches (from neck to bottom)

Shoulder to Shoulder 12 inches

Neck to top of sleeve 3 inches

~ Asking \$175 ~

Tartan Town Black Vest - Brand New

Size 10 Slim ~ Front neck to hem = 13 inches

Under arm = 12 inches ~ Neck to shoulder = 3"

Back neck to hem = 19" ~ Shoulder to shoulder = 12"

Bust = 28 "

~ Asking \$100 ~

White Hornpipe

Top

(baby blue collar)

Sleeves 22.5 inches ~ Underarm - 14.5"

Shoulder to hem = 21 " ~ Shoulder to shoulder = 13 "

Bust = 28 "

Pants

Outer seam = 32.5 inches

Inseam = 23

Elastic waist band for extension

~ Asking \$30 ~

I also have a **kiltie/vest/socks**, approximate size 5, purple in color that I'm willing to offer to a dancer who needs one; however, I would like it returned at some point. (I want to keep it for sentimental reasons, it was Madison's first costume).

Contact: J. Sharon Leonard 204.694.8132