

# Tartan Press

Newsletter of The Manitoba Highland Dancers Association

November 2011

## Executive

### President

Craig Oliphant 663-1118 [jcoliphant@shaw.ca](mailto:jcoliphant@shaw.ca)

### Past President / Chair

George Hamilton [ghamilton@mbhighlanddance.com](mailto:ghamilton@mbhighlanddance.com)

### Vice-President

Keith Rempel

### Treasurer

Lorraine Morrison [MHDA-Treasurer@live.ca](mailto:MHDA-Treasurer@live.ca)

### Executive Secretary

Jennifer UnRuh

### Finance Director

Deanne Magnus

### Membership Director

Diana Simpson [dianasimpson@mts.net](mailto:dianasimpson@mts.net)

### Competition Coordinator

Zan Sinclair

### Competition Director

Annika Pineau

### ScotDance Representatives

Kathy Hopper [khopper@mbhighlanddance.com](mailto:khopper@mbhighlanddance.com)

Kathy Ramesar [kramesar@mbhighlanddance.com](mailto:kramesar@mbhighlanddance.com)

would be adequate time for the party with the younger ones but the older dancers may want to stay on for an extra hour.

### Location of "The Creative Stage Emporium"

- 100- 189 Henderson Hwy.

-just after the first set of lights (Hespeller) going north from the Disraeli Freeway

-in between the "J.C.'s Tacos and More and the "Subway" restaurants

Craig Oliphant, President of MHDA



## WANTED We Need YOU!

### Positions to be Filled

There are two vacant volunteer positions that need to be filled for MHDA: **Dance-out Coordinator and Equipment Manager.**

I would like to thank Jillian Taylor-Mancusi for doing a terrific job on our dance-outs this past year. She coordinated many dance-outs for our dancers to take part in, including the St. Andrew's Men's dinner, Tartan-Tea, and the whole week of Folkloramma, plus many more. These dance-outs provide opportunities to our dancers to display their skills in a public setting which gives them great confidence. Dance-outs are also an important revenue source for MHDA since we often receive honorariums for the performances. Most of all it is a way to share highland dancing with our community. These past few years' dance-outs have been a great opportunity for young pipers to hone their skills and also for our dancers to become accustomed to live accompaniment. I would also like to thank Sal Mancusi who provided a great deal of support and aid to Jillian, especially for Folkloramma.

**Dance-out Co-ordinator Job Description:** The Dance-out Co-ordinator will notify the membership when dance-outs will be held, collect the dancers' names and levels and create a dance program. This individual also keeps track of the participating dancers to determine the dance-out award that is presented each year.

I would like to thank Deborah and Darren Holmberg for managing our equipment for the past few years. They have stored our judge's platforms at their business and transported them to and from competitions as needed. As well they headed up the transport and assembly of our own stage from Red River College where it is stored to The Forks to be in our Mid-Canada Championship.

**Equipment Manager Job Description:** Moving the platforms and stage and judge's platforms are the largest role

## Message from the President

I hope everyone is having a great start to a new year of highland dancing. I enjoyed my time in Brandon and look forward to more events in the future that include western Manitoba dancers. It is such a nice venue. Keep in mind that it is expensive to run the competition there. Support from Winnipeg dancers helps out a lot.

At the last executive meeting we discussed the benefits of having Paypal available for registration. It may cost a little more but you enjoy the convenience of not having to buy a stamp, find an envelope and deliver it to a mailbox. Do consider using Paypal. Did you know that you can link your Paypal account to your bank account directly? It is just like using a debit card.

As announced at the general registration meeting and my first message, we are offering a **Social Evening** for interested dancers at our family's business "The Creative Stage Emporium" this **Sunday, November 20th at 5:45pm.** Check us out at: <http://thecreativestageemporium.vpweb.ca>

There will be the opportunity to dress-up in costumes and have fun together with music. We'll bring in pizza so some of dancers will be able to eat after their workshop. It makes for a busy weekend but many might enjoy it as "Closing Night Party" rather than trying to bring dancers out on a different weekend. It's worth a try. It would be great to have support for such an event. We believe that two hours

## Tartan Press

of this position but it may from time to time involve other tasks.

Although we have a minimum volunteer requirement for each member, the activities of MHDA would not continue without people who step forward and take on more. If you are the person to take on one of these jobs please email me at [g.hamilton@mbhighlanddance.com](mailto:g.hamilton@mbhighlanddance.com) or phone me anytime at 204-479-6142.

Best Regards,  
George Hamilton, Past President



## Tartan Tea

For the Manitoba Highland Dancers' Association, it is a decade's old tradition that on the first Saturday of December, the Tartan Tea is held. For many families, this tradition has been carried forth by several generations.

This year, the Tartan Tea is being held on Saturday, December 3 from 1-4pm at the St. James Civic Centre (2055 Ness Ave).

Attendees can look forward to an afternoon of consuming tea, coffee and dainties while watching both traditional and festive highland dancing and music put on by many of the dance schools. There are great prize baskets donated to the Scottish Auction by various dance schools and local businesses. Prize draws are done at the end of the Tea, but you need not be in attendance to win. Arrangements can be made for winners to receive their baskets at a later date. Kids (and adults) love the Jar Bar where they can purchase an inexpensive "mystery jar" filled with candies, treats or small toys. For many guests, the Bake Sale is an ideal way to stock up on holiday baking without all the work. There will also be a visit from Santa.

The Tartan Tea is our largest fundraiser and a wonderful opportunity for the dancers to showcase both traditional and creative dances in a non-competitive environment. The proceeds from the Tartan Tea are used to help fund the many competitions organized by the MHDA each year, including the Provincial Championship. It is also used to help determine the level of government funding and grants we receive.

There are many ways to support this wonderful event. The purchase and sale of tickets is always vitally important. Please share this event among family, friends, neighbours, coworkers and anyone that may be interested in an afternoon of Scottish culture and entertainment. Consider searching "Tartan Tea" on Facebook and finding the public event I have created. You can use this event to invite your own friends and help spread the word. Tickets have already been distributed to the majority of the dance schools. I will also have a table at the November competition or can be called 479-3021 or emailed [lomand@mymts.net](mailto:lomand@mymts.net) for additional tickets.

Teachers should already be collecting items for Scottish Auction baskets. Please provide your donations to your school first. If you have additional prize donations or if you know of a particular business interested in making a prize donation, please contact me. I can supply a donation request letter and even pick up prizes, as required.

We will also require a great deal of baking, again this year. We provide dainties to our guests, but also sell baking for proceeds at a Bake Sale table. Baking can be brought to the Tartan Tea throughout the day to be used or sold as necessary.

We will need many "Mystery Jars" for our Jar Bar again this year. Please fill an empty jar with some candies, treats or small toys and wrap the jar so the contents are hidden. Jars can be brought to the Tartan Tea when you arrive.

We will also need volunteers to help set up, work the door, serve, man tables, cut and put out dainties, make coffee and clean-up. Each school has volunteered for an area of responsibility and sign-up sheets are also being distributed through the schools. Without the hardworking volunteers, this event would not be possible. Volunteers need not be members. We always welcome and appreciate the assistance of kind grandparents, friends or new dance families. Please contact me if you need information about volunteering.

Finally, there will be 2 performances of traditional dances arranged by the MHDA again this year. If your dancer would like to participate in this portion of the program (in addition to commitments with their school), watch for the dance-out request coming soon.

The contributions made by the teachers, dance schools and volunteers have ensured the success of this annual event and we appreciate the continued support in making the 2011 Tartan Tea another great success!

Thank you  
Lisa Omand  
Tartan Tea Coordinator  
[lomand@mymts.net](mailto:lomand@mymts.net)  
479-3021

## For Your Information...

### The Women's Club of Winnipeg is presenting:

R. Lawrence Cormack is giving a talk on Robbie Burns and the ladies of the time and their connections to his poems and stories at 11 am on Jan. 17, 2012 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre; the Braemar dancers will also demonstrate Scottish dancing. If you plan to attend, RSVP to Jacqui [jdblanch@mts.net](mailto:jdblanch@mts.net) or call: 489-6960

## 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: Laureen Wreggitt [lwreggitt@mts.net](mailto:lwreggitt@mts.net)

## More Summer Travels



Lexie with her medals in Scotland

Lexie Cypurda had a great start to the summer with her first ever entry in Canadian Nationals in Antigonish, NS. During the week, Lexie won 3rd in Lilt and 5th in Sword. A most memorable experience making many new friends.

Lexie and her family then travelled to Scotland for a 3 week vacation to visit family. While in Scotland, Lexie entered into the Banchory show where she won:

4th Sean Truibhas,  
1st Jig  
5th Hornpipe

She also entered in the Turriff show where she won:

2nd Fling,  
5th Sword,  
3rd Hullachan,  
2nd Hornpipe

After competing, Lexie and her family visited Edinburgh then Glasgow to watch the World's Pipeband Competition. An amazing fun-filled trip.

Lexie is taught by Mrs. M'Liss Bunting and coached by Mrs. Irene Baird.

## Out of Town Results

### Shona McHarg School of Dance

#### **REGINA - November 5th**

Laura (Beginner)  
Sword - 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Lilt - 2<sup>nd</sup>

Heather (Beginner)  
Sword - 1<sup>st</sup>  
Flora - 3<sup>rd</sup>

Rowan (Novice)  
Fling - 1<sup>st</sup>  
Sword - 1<sup>st</sup>  
Seann Truibhas - 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Lilt - 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Flora - 1<sup>st</sup>

#### **TROPHY WINNER**

Emily (Novice)  
Fling - 4<sup>th</sup>  
Flora - 4<sup>th</sup>