

Tartan Press

Newsletter of The Manitoba Highland Dancers Association

November 2014

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Upcoming Events

November 15, 2014 – MHDA closed competition to be held at Balmoral Hall in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Entries opened on October 18, 2014 and closed on November 1, 2014. Don't forget this time premier and intermediate dancers register at 9 a.m., dance at 9:30 a.m. Pre-premier dancers register at 12:30 p.m., dance following morning results. Good luck to all competitors!

November 16, 2014 – Workshop for Premier and Pre-Premier dancers. Premier 2015 championship step workshop with wonderful instructors Keltie Stowkowy and Sandra Bald Jones will take place from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Prairie Theatre Exchange. Pre-Premier dancers will follow at 2:30 to 4:00 p.m.

November 28, 2014 – Dance out opportunity for dancers 16 years and older. It will be at the annual St. Andrew's Men's Society dinner, further time details to follow. MHDA dancers will perform with Graeme McCombe piping for about 15 minutes. Please contact Lauren Mitchell-Lawson at danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com to sign up!

December 6, 2014 – The annual fundraising event that every member and alumni looks forward to – the Tartan Tea! All members will receive tickets, as outlined in the membership forms filled out and sent in earlier this year. Save the date for a fun time of wonderful dancing, christmas spirit, food and many more activities.

January 25, 2015 – Closed MHDA competition, listed as being held at St. James Civic Centre on the MHDA website. Watch your email for more information coming soon!

February 2015 – Open Winnipeg Scottish Festival, hosted by ScotDance Manitoba. A great opportunity for premier dancers to test out the new 2015 championship steps, and another wonderful opportunity for pre-premier dancers to compete.

March 14, 2015 – Open MHDA competition, listed as being held at St. James Civic Centre on the MHDA webpage.

July 2016 – Winnipeg hosts the 2016 ScotDance Canada Championship Series (SDCCS), including the Canadian championships. Think about volunteering for the huge event, as planning is already underway!

Missing Trophy Still At Large!

The MHDA Past President's trophy was last awarded in 2006 to the provincial champion of the 7 and under 10 years class, but has been missing ever since!

We are hoping our members can help track down this trophy, as the 2006 recipient has been contacted and they do not have the trophy. As far as we know, it also hasn't been awarded since 2006 provincials.

If anyone knows where this trophy is, please contact Janie Watt at jwatt10175@aol.com or 204-253-7154. Below is a picture of the missing trophy.



The Annual Tartan Tea Has A New Home!

Submitted by Lisa Omand, Tartan Tea Coordinator

For the Manitoba Highland Dancers Association it is a tradition that on the first Saturday of December the annual Tartan Tea is held. For many families this tradition has been carried forth by several generations and for some families this will become a new annual family event.

While the Tea itself is a tradition, it has undergone many modifications over the years. This year is one of major change. On Saturday, December 6, 2014, between 1-4pm we will be at a new location. This year's Tea is at Minto Armoury at 969 St. Matthews Avenue in Winnipeg. This venue can allow us to house 500+ people with plenty of seating and ease of movement. The possibilities are exciting. But, with change comes challenge. Many of the elements of the Tartan Tea will be the same (bake sale, Scottish Auction, Jar Bar, tea and coffee service, beautiful performances from several dance schools, door prizes, etc), however, the layout, look and methods may not be the same.

We will once again have a Jar Bar. Kids (and some adults) love the opportunity to buy a mystery jar and discover the goodies inside. We need hundreds of jars to make this station exciting and successful. So, if each family takes the time to put together 3-5 jars (or more if you can) we will have a huge variety and enough for everyone. Drop your jars off when you come to help set up or upon your arrival at the Tea. Jars are sold for \$2 each. So fill a few jars with candy, socks, hair accessories, jewellery, craft supplies, trinkets, Christmas decorations, small toys, stickers or any other imaginative selections you have, then wrap in tissue or wrapping paper to conceal the contents.

The Scottish Auction is a big part of our fundraising efforts. Many of our dance schools and local businesses donate baskets to be raffled off. Please support your dancer's school in their efforts to contribute a basket. If your school is not participating or you have additional prizes or sources of prizes, please contact Lisa Omand, Tartan Tea Coordinator.

Calling all bakers! We require thousands of pieces of baked goods. We run a Bake Sale allowing guests to purchase and take home many delicious treats. However, we also offer trays of dainties for our guests to nibble at with their tea or coffee while enjoying the wonderful performances of the day. If each family could bring at least 2 dozen items to either set up or upon arrival to the Tea we should not need to purchase goods.

All of the above would not be possible without volunteers. Each participating dance school is assigned an area of responsibility for the day of the Tea. Please sign up for shifts with your teacher. If you have additional time, family members or are not affiliated with one of the participating schools, please contact Lisa Omand. Your time and efforts

will be required and appreciated. As well, set up and take down will be a much larger task this year. We are required to set up our own stage and sound system. We will be responsible for setting up all the tables and chairs, in addition to the decorating and table settings we have always done. On Friday, December 5 between 4-8pm, the bulk of the set up will be done. Finish touches will be completed Saturday morning prior to doors opening. This is an enormous task and it can not be done alone!

Tickets are \$7 per person. Five tickets were distributed with your MHDA membership. Additional tickets will be available at the next competition on Nov 15 at Balmoral Hall. They will be at the canteen. Many of the teachers are taking additional tickets or contact Lisa Omand any time before the Tea.

The Tartan Tea is MHDA's major fundraiser so both ticket sales and purchases made at the Tea are important. However, it is so much more than a simple fundraiser. It is also important for the friendship, memories and sense of community it fosters. This is one of the signature events of the MHDA. We are known for this event. So please encourage your friends and families to attend and help support our organization.

As coordinator, I pour my heart and soul into this event each year. It is my pride and joy. My goal is to create an enormously successful event, not only financially, but the atmosphere and reputation too. Making a major venue change will bring so many new opportunities for growth and improvement, but there will be a learning curve involved. So please, come with an open mind, a willing hand, some patience and suggestions and I promise you an event you won't forget!

I am the coordinator, but I don't work alone. The contributions made by the Teachers, Dance Schools, MHDA Executive and Volunteers have ensured the success of this annual event and I appreciate the continued support in making the 2014 Tartan Tea a Timeless Tradition!

See you in 3 weeks!



Pre-Loved Costumes Looking For New Homes

Special Dress Red Lennox Kilt \$350.00
15 in. waist, 45 in. stretched out
22 in. top to hem (has a 4 in. hem for let down) 4 in. growth pleat.

Matching socks. Two sizes. Small set 14 in. heel to top(cuffed)7 in. foot (toe to heel) \$30.00
Larger set 14 in. heel to top(cuffed) 9 in. foot (toe to heel) \$50.00

Black St. Kilda made vest Size. 36/38
21 in. top to back point 18 in. across chest
Hook and eye closure with a strip of velvet behind \$125.00

Brand New Black Vest – Never Worn Size. 34/36
22 in. top to back point 20 in. across chest
Hook and eye closure \$225.00

White tops
Tank top Size. M \$15.00
Sport Bra Size. 34(child's) \$10.00

Photos below, to try on or purchase contact Darlene at deadeyedar@mymts.net.

Jig shoes are size 1 [newer with clackers] and 2 [older without clackers]

Red eyelet highland shoes size 1 1/2

Various costumes, about sizes 8-10 and 12-14 slim
Vests - black size 8-10 and blue is about a 12-14 All are mainly home made.

Please contact Dianne at to try on, or purchase if interested.
See photos below. dianneoakley1@gmail.com



MHDA Trophy Trivia

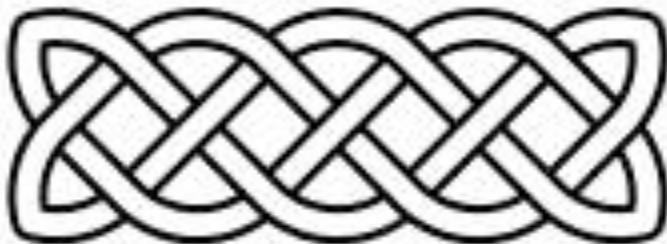
Submitted by Janie Watt



DID YOU KNOW?

- That MHDA has an inventory of approximately 130 perpetual trophies, plaques and shields.
- That MHDA will be refurbishing approximately 18 perpetual trophies during the 2014/15 dance season by replacing missing name plates, adding an additional base and/or consolidating the names of winners to extend the life of the trophy.
- That YOU can help maintain MHDA perpetual trophies by ensuring that loose name plates are reattached to the trophy, any damage is repaired and the trophy is returned in good condition.
- That YOU can support MHDA by donating new or recycled keeper trophies for upcoming competitions.

If you have any questions or would like to donate a perpetual trophy, keeper trophies or funds to assist with refurbishing existing perpetual trophies, please contact Janie Peterson Watt, Medals and Trophies Chairperson, at 204-253-7154 or jwatt10175@aol.com. Thank you!

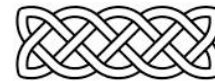


Tartan Press Submissions

Thank-you to everyone who sent in items to be published in the Tartan Press for this edition, it was greatly appreciated and I know the members appreciated reading your results, stories and successes.

If anyone dances out of town, please send me results, or a photo, or a story of how the experience went. Any other success stories, we love to know what our dancers are doing outside of MHDA and highland dance.

Again, thank you to everyone who contributed, watch your e-mail for a reminder for submissions for the next issue.



Fill Up For MHDA

Don't forget that MHDA has a Co-Op number that you can use next time you fill up at Co-Op gas bars. This is greatly helpful for the organization, as it is another way to fundraise so we can keep running competitions for all of our dancers. So, next time you fill up remember our number:

346810

