

# Tartan Press

Newsletter of The Manitoba Highland Dancers Association

September 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 [raine-64@hotmail.com](mailto:raine-64@hotmail.com)

### 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)

forward to working with the new executive and I hope that we can continue to make Scottish highland dancing a special part of Manitoba's heritage.

As vice-president I learned that it is a big responsibility and challenge to manage the \$60,000+ budget that is needed to run the competitions. The entry costs have not actually been able to address our costs and they have been supported by money raised from Winnipeg's Canadian Scotdance Championships. This will not be able to continue; especially with a future Canadians on the horizon. We will need to look at ways that "systematic fundraising" can help to support our needs.

I would also like to encourage the Association to appreciate the positive aspects of what we have in highland dancing. Highland dancing encourages the strength, precision and stamina of the dancers - this is special in the world of sport and dance. I have witnessed how highland dancing has helped some dancers become competent in many other life disciplines. It would be nice to raise the consciousness and respect of the outside world as to the benefits of highland dance for overall fitness.

Being involved in highland dance can contribute to the overall confidence and social well-being of the dancers. Many friendships can be made but there are times when unkind attitudes, situations and events can hurt individuals and, in turn, put a negative cloud over highland dance. We can't let that happen for the sake of highland dance in Manitoba. We are a relatively small group of enthusiasts as compared to other dance forms and sports. We need to respect each other and keep everything in perspective. I would like to provide more opportunities for dancers and parents to get to know each other better outside the competitions. I would like to enhance opportunities for highland dancers to showcase the artistic and athletic skills of highland dance to the public. This could provide an option for dancers to be connected with MHDA who possibly have tired of competition or who have never been inclined to participate in competitions.

To conclude, I appeal to all of us to encourage each other to be the best we all can be to promote highland dancing in Manitoba..

Craig Oliphant, President of MHDA



## 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](mailto:lwreggitt@mts.net)

## Message from the President

I want to thank you for your support and interest in highland dancing. It is because of all of you that highland dancing exists in Manitoba. I also want to thank you for reading this message and the Tartan Press to become aware of the opportunities and responsibilities that come with highland dancing. The "Manitoba Highland Dancers Association" exists primarily as a group of parents. MHDA creates opportunities for dancers to compete with each other and be judged by experts from around the world. Competition encourages our Manitoba dancers to be the best they can be.

I became involved with MHDA when my daughter, Jessica, took an interest in highland dancing while watching the dancing at the Pavilion of Scotland. As parents, we hesitantly sought out opportunities to volunteer in a variety of ways to help the competitions run smoothly. A few years ago I put my name forward to be the vice-president of the organization. It has been a learning experience. I want to thank George Hamilton for staying president of the Association for three years and for the leadership and training he has provided me. He had to make tough decisions and received criticism for some decisions. I hope parents understand that the people on your executive volunteer their time to attend regular meetings and work very hard to make sure competitions happen as smoothly as possible. I have been impressed with the dedication that the executive has had toward highland dance. They deserve a great amount of respect and gratitude from all of us. I look

## Manitoba Dancers Shine at SDCCS



5 Manitoba dancers in the Restricted 21 & over Premier highland class on the podium at SDCCS  
Laurie Tyndall, Jessie Edmonds, Ashleigh Halpin, Terryn Shiells, Jillian Ferguson

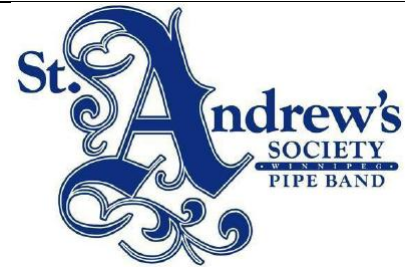
## Selkirk Settler's Parade 2011



Thank you to the handful of dancers, presidents, parents and siblings who came out to march behind the MHDA banner on a beautiful Saturday afternoon for the Selkirk Settler's Parade. As soon as we know the date for next September, you must mark your calendars and come join us for the festivities celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Selkirk Settlers. Lord and Lady Selkirk will be there as well.

## Medal & Trophy Donations

Janet McCombe, Medals and Trophies Chairperson, is accepting donations of used keeper trophies and medals (not medals with the names of other places on them like Regina for example.) These donations greatly help us keep the cost of our awards manageable. If you need me to pick them up please let me know. [rjmccombe@shaw.ca](mailto:rjmccombe@shaw.ca) or 888-9729. Thanks for your help.



The St. Andrew's Society Pipe Band is seeking boys and girls ages 7-18 interested in learning to play bagpipes or to drum with their youth band



- Instruction is done individually and in group setting with instructors who play with the Grade 2 Band and have many years of pipe band experience
- Bagpipe, snare drum, tenor drum and bass drum instruction is available
- Band practice is held every Monday (with the exception of Stat holidays) at General Byng School, 1250 Beaumont Street at 6:30 pm

For more information visit their website

[www.saspb.com](http://www.saspb.com)



# Summer Travels!



Lauren McCombe started her summer dancing in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. She had a great time with all the other Manitoba dancers. The McGregor School danced a fun jig and placed in the large group choreography. Judging by the applause, it was a crowd pleaser. Then Lauren won 6th place in the Sword at the full Premier level - a great start to the week. Next she won 5th in the Jig, 8th in Blue Bonnets and 8th in the Village



Maid in Nationals. She finished the week with a 6th in the Sword, 5th in the Seann Truibhas and 4th in the Reel, resulting in winning 4th Runner-up in the North American Championship. First Nova Scotia, next on to Scotland!

To celebrate grade 12 graduation, Premier dancer, Lauren McCombe and her brother, piper Graeme McCombe, along with dance friends Colleen, Alia and Kelsey,



travelled to Scotland this summer and had a great time touring, dancing and piping.

Lauren won 120 pounds and brought home 8 medals from Scotland. Graeme was employed as the solitary piper at the Brodick Games on the Isle of Arran. Only one competition had National dances, so the girls left their Aboyne costumes at home to keep their luggage

manageable. People at the competition kindly provided them with "loaners" to wear which made them look a bit like highland dancing street urchins because of the poor fit!!! However, the girls managed to pull off some first place medals in spite of their appearance! They had a terrific time, great experiences and made lasting memories. Prior to going to the World's Pipe Band Competition with Graeme and the St. Andrew's band, Lauren won:

| Durness Highland Gathering | Halkirk Games              | Brodick Highland Games |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Fling 2nd                  | Seann T 5th                | Fling 3rd              |
| Sword 2nd                  | Jig 4th                    | Sword 1st              |
| Seann T 3rd                | Tied for 6th place overall | Seann T 3rd            |
| Jig 4th                    |                            | Reel 5th               |
| Hornpipe 4th               |                            | Johnny 5th             |
|                            |                            | Laddie 4th             |
|                            |                            | Lilt 3rd               |
|                            |                            | Flora 1 <sup>st</sup>  |



## Dancer Diversions

### Young Bison swimmer breaks old record



By: Allan Besson

The Bisons Swim Club's Kelsey Wog broke a 33-year-old provincial girls' 11-12 category record in the 200-metre individual medley preliminaries Thursday in a time of two minutes 31.03 seconds at the ManSask Long Course Open Swimming

Championships, which were held over the weekend at the Pan Am Pool.

Then, in Saturday's final, Wog broke it again when she won in 2:30.40.

Dawn Gilhooly (St. James Seals) set the previous record of 2:31.63 in 1978.

Wog also won the 200 breaststroke (2:56.61), 4x50 freestyle relay (2:03.24), 100 freestyle (1:02.53), 200 backstroke (2:34.73) and the 4x50 IM relay (2:17.14).

Swimming with Wog in the freestyle relay were Sydney Glover, Allison McCormick and Kala Roy. Her teammates in the individual medley relay were Mariah Hanslip, Roy and McCormick.

Republished from the Winnipeg Free Press print edition July 11, 2011



## Dancer Awarded \$11,000 In Scholarships

WINNIPEG, MB – Zoë Wreggitt's graduation ceremony from Grant Park High School today came with a bonus - an award valued up to \$5,000 to attend The University of



Zoë Wreggitt receives her UWinnipeg award from Dan Hurley, Associate Vice-President External Affairs, June 29, 2011.

Winnipeg, covering her first year of tuition, books and fees. Now the 18-year-old, who is an accomplished dancer, entrepreneur and community volunteer, will be able to focus on her dream of studying for a Bachelor of Arts in the senior professional program with Contemporary Dancers as well as working towards her Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies.

Wreggitt won the free year of tuition by entering UWinnipeg's VIP Card contest which is open to high school students. Dan Hurley, Associate Vice-President External Affairs, UWinnipeg, was on hand at her grad ceremony at the Centennial Concert Hall today to present her with the award.

"I am really excited, especially to be studying at the new (Richardson College for the Environment and) Science Complex, which I've driven by many times," said Wreggitt. "I really like learning so it's exciting to be heading off to university."

Although this tuition win came to her by luck, Wreggitt is no stranger to hard work. She has received several monetary awards from Grant Park and a \$2,000 Loran scholarship based on leadership, character and community. She runs her own Highland dance school because "it is tons of fun teaching children", she said, and she is a long-time volunteer with the Canadian Cancer Society.

The VIP Card contest is a year-long contest for prospective students who express interest in attending the University of Winnipeg during their grade 12 year. The contest winner is drawn in April, and approximately 4,000-4,500 grade 12 students enter the contest each year. To be eligible to win the draw the student must have applied to and been accepted to the University of Winnipeg

~ Reprinted from The University of Winnipeg News

Zoë has received the following scholarships: Loran, Folklorama, George F. Skinner Memorial, Grant Park Dance, Manitoba Youth Leadership, U of W Academic, U of W VIP and Contemporary Dance JPP scholarship. Congratulations Zoë!

## Out of Town Results

~ Shona McHarg School ~  
Regina Highland Games

### Primary - Zoe Forest

Pas de Basque - 5th  
Pas de Basque and Highcuts - 5th

### Beginner - Bryanna Forest

Sword - 4th

~ Donna Cram School ~  
Regina Queen City Open Championship & open  
competition - May 21, 22 - Regina, SK

### Championship results

#### 12 to 14 years - Kelsey Wog

|         |         |      |        |
|---------|---------|------|--------|
| 1 Fling | 2 Sword | 4 ST | 5 Reel |
|---------|---------|------|--------|

1st Runner up to the 12 to 14 year champion

#### 14 to under 16 - Julia Domke

|         |         |      |        |
|---------|---------|------|--------|
| 3 Fling | 3 Sword | 3 ST | 3 Reel |
|---------|---------|------|--------|

2nd Runner up to the 14 to under 16 champion

#### 16 & under 17 - Erika Ramesar

|         |         |      |        |
|---------|---------|------|--------|
| 3 Fling | 2 Sword | 1 ST | 1 Reel |
|---------|---------|------|--------|

1st Runner up to the 16 & under 17 champion

#### 18 & over - Veronica Domke

|         |         |      |        |
|---------|---------|------|--------|
| 4 Fling | 2 Sword | 3 ST | 6 Reel |
|---------|---------|------|--------|

3rd Runner up to the 18 & over champion

### Open competition results

#### 12 & under - Kelsey Wog

|      |      |
|------|------|
| 1 BB | 5 VM |
|------|------|

1st runner up trophy winner

#### 15 & under - Julia Domke

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| 3 Lilt | 3 BB |
|--------|------|

#### 16 & over - Erika Ramesar

|        |      |      |
|--------|------|------|
| 1 Lilt | 1 BB | 4 VM |
|--------|------|------|

Overall aggregate trophy winner

#### 16 & over - Veronica Domke

|        |      |
|--------|------|
| 4 Lilt | 2 VM |
|--------|------|

