

TARTAN PRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Manitoba Highland Dancer's Association

Welcome MHDA's new
board members
Page 2

Upcoming events
Page 3



MHDA's Annual Tartan Tea - Dec 7

We can't wait to see all of you at the 64th Annual Tartan Tea on Saturday, December 7th! We are once again at the beautiful Petrus Hall, 2624 Inkster Blvd with doors opening at 12:30 and festivities starting at 12:45. Tickets are \$10 per person, children 6 and under are free with paid admission. Tickets can be purchased through MHDA members, by contacting info@mbhighlanddance.com or at the door. With your admission you will be entered into our door prize draws for beautiful poinsettias and an array of gifts from some of our generous supporters.

Our familiar traditions this year are the Scottish Auction, 50/50 Draw, Bake Sale and Jar Bar. Through a generous donation we do have a Grand Prize for a pair of Jets Tickets so be sure to enter that draw. The entertainment of course is our afternoon of highland dance, both traditional & choreography. We will have the Boys Mentorship Program performing, our dancers who attended this year's SDTA Scholarship Conference in Seattle will dance their solos, a collective of MHDA dancers will showcase well known traditional dances and our participating schools will put us in the festive spirit with their seasonal dance numbers.

It is also the time of year to honour some very special people and present the Walter Hagborg Community Service Award and induct our Honourary Member for this year. We will also be introducing you to our past award winners and Honourary Members as they come and take in the event, yes, they are

VIP's and we will be proud to let you know who they are as they have all made significant contributions to the MHDA.

We welcome back 'A Hint of Heather' who will be set up for you to purchase any seasonal Scottish gifts you may need. A Kid's Craft Table will be up and running to keep some little hands busy, a visit from a special guest is in the works and new this year is a photo booth with 'One Snap Photo Magnet' where you can buy a ticket to get a photo magnet as a memento of the Tartan Tea!

As always, friends & family of MHDA Members are generous in their contributions to this event. We ask for donations from each school in the form of a basket for the Scottish Auction, baking to be distributed as dainties to our guests, Bake Sale Baking to be sold to attendees, Jar Bar Packages (wrapped jars/bags filled with treasures like socks, candy, hair accessories, fun things, part of the fun being finding great items to surprise the purchaser with) and of course we welcome all donations of door prizes, additional Scottish Auction prizes, food, beverages etc.

Details about this year's program and the area each participating school is responsible for will be given through your dance teacher but please feel free to contact us at info@mbhighlanddance.com should you have any further questions or would love to donate! Our committee is working hard to have this event be a great success and we will all be seeing you on December 7th!! *submitted by Cathy Laver-Wright, MHDA Fundraising & Tartan Tea Committee Chair*

Welcome to the MHDAs new Board Members

Welcome Tamara Coutu to her new role as President. After the AGM in September, Tamara stepped forward. So, at the October board meeting, Tamara officially resigned as Secretary and put her name forward for President, which was unanimously accepted. As well, we would like to welcome Tracey Geisbrecht who stepped up as the new Secretary. To round out the Board, Joan Holmstrom remains on as Vice President. Bonnie Bain is returning as Treasurer. Christine Foulkes and Lorraine Lamb continue on as our Competition Co-coordinates. Gayle Roy is once again Membership Director. Cathy Laver-Wright returned to the Board as our latest Fundraising Director and I officially move to the role as Past President.



Board of Directors

Lisa Omand - **Past President**
 Tamara Coutu- **President**
 Joan Holmstrom - **Vice President**
 Tracey Geisbrecht - **Secretary**
 Bonnie Bain - **Treasurer**
 Christine Foulkes & Lorraine Lamb - **Competition Coordinators**
 Cathy Laver-Wright - **Fundraising Director**
 Gayle Roy - **Membership Director**

Thank you to everyone on the Board for their commitment to the MHDA and our dancers. It is a pleasure working with you all. - *Submitted by Lisa Omand*

Out of Town Results - Ottawa Championship & Regina Open Competition

Capital City Championship and National Competitions Ottawa, ON October 19-20, 2019

Championship - Premier 16 & under 20

Madelaine Baigrie: Fling - 2nd, Sword - 2nd, ST - 2nd, Reel - 2nd, 1st Runner Up

National competition - Premier 15 & under 17

Madelaine Baigrie: Laddie - 4th, Jig - 3rd, Village Maid - 3rd, Flora - 3rd



RHDA Open Highland Dance Competition Regina, SK November 2, 2019

Beginner Trophy Fling

Karys Douglas - 1st place Winner

Beginner 7 & under

Karys Douglas - Fling - 3rd, Sword - 1st, ST - 3rd, Lilt - 2nd

Intermediate

Kalli Chapman - participation and winner of the toonie toss and very graciously donated her winnings back to the Regina SDCCS fundraiser.

Premier 7 & under 12

Abby Sigurdson - ST - 5th

Emilie Mclean - Fling - 4th, Sword - 3rd, ST - 3rd, Blue Bonnets - 5th

Premier 13 & 14 years

Presley Webb - Sword - 3rd, ST - 2nd, Laddie - 2nd Flora - 3rd, Blue Bonnets - 2nd

Premier 15

Alex Finnbogason - Fling - 2nd - Sword - 1st, ST - 4th, Laddie - 2nd, Flora - 3rd, Blue Bonnets - 3rd



Rachel UnRuh performs with Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in the land down under



At the beginning of October, I had the opportunity to dance in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo on tour in Sydney, Australia. It was such an amazing experience, and totally different than the regular Edinburgh tattoo! The Tattoo Dance Company had 100 dancers, 98 girls and 2 boys, and 21 of us were from Canada. We danced in a massive football

stadium with a replica of the Edinburgh castle built behind us, and instead of concrete we danced on grass, which was a new experience for me. We did four shows, one of which we were dancing in 30 degrees with the sun right in our eyes. Over the four shows we danced for 123,000 people, with an audience of 50,000 for just one performance alone! I got to reconnect with dancers who I have danced in Edinburgh with before, as well as meet a whole bunch of new dancers from across the world. I had an amazing time, and even though our rehearsal schedule was extremely intense, I still got time to cuddle with the koalas and kangaroos. Overall, it was an absolutely unforgettable experience!



Scottish Gentleman's Club Scholarship Winners Attend SDTA North American Scholarships

Presley Webb and Laura Unruh, the recipients of the 2019 Lynn Stephens' Scholarship recipients (pictured to the right at the Banquet) attended 2019 North American Scholarship weekend in Seattle in October 2019. Laura participated in the Senior Scholarship Category and came in 4th overall in a field of 50 dancers by placing 3rd in both the Master Class and in the Tribute to JL MacKenzie and receiving judge's recognition in the written theory. Laura also came in 3rd in the choreography category. Presley participated in the Junior category receiving a 6th in the written theory test and a judge's recognition in the choreography event. Both will dance at the Scottish Gentlemen's Club dinner at the Hotel Fort Garry on November 22nd. The SGC is the sponsor of the Lynn Stephens' Scholarship and have committed to funding this scholarship for 5 years. Application forms for the 2020 Scholarship will be available through the MHDA website in the new year.



UPCOMING EVENTS

November 16, 2019 - Open MHDA competition being held at Louis Riel Arts and Technology Centre. Premier dancers register at 9 a.m., dance at 9:30 a.m. Pre-Premier, including Intermediate dancers, register at 12 noon, dance following morning results but no earlier than 12:30 p.m.

November 17, 2019 - ScotDance Manitoba is hosting workshops for dancers and professionals. Please ask your teacher for more information if you have not registered for the workshop yet.

November 21, 2019 - Dance out at the Manitoba Club, arrive at 7:40 p.m. and perform at 8 p.m. More information will be provided to those who are interested - deadline to sign up is November 16. Email danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com to sign up.

November 22, 2019 - Scottish Gentleman's Dinner dance out at the Fort Garry Hotel, arrive at 7:40 p.m. and perform at 8 p.m. More information will be provided to those who are interested - deadline to sign up is November 16. Email danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com to sign up. MHDA members who would like to attend the dinner to support the Scottish Gentleman's club can purchase tickets for the four-course meal for \$185 each by emailing scottish.gentlemans.club@mts.net - more info on page 7.

November 23, 2019 - The Thunder Bay Highland Dance Association is hosting an open competition and workshop. The entry form was emailed out to all teachers, so if you would like more information please ask your teacher.

December 7, 2019 - The Annual Tartan Tea takes place on Saturday, December 7 at Petrus Hall. Doors open at 12:30, the event runs until 4 p.m. More information is available on page one of this issue. MHDA dancers can also participate in the dance out slots - info is on page 6!

News from the MHDA Awards Locker

On behalf of the MHDA I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have contributed all types of donations for the provision of medals, trophies, and perpetual awards during the 2018/2019 dance season. During the season the MHDA awarded 1,100 medals (600 of which were awarded on lanyards), 450 ribbons, and 130 keeper trophies/plaques. Highlights of developments in the MHDA Awards portfolio include:

- The major restoration of the Dundee Shield sponsored by Madelaine Baigrie and family. This award is presented to the MHDA Premier Dancer with the highest number of points over the two-day competition in June (see the June 2019 Tartan Press for more information).
- A new perpetual award was added to the Lord Selkirk Premiership to recognize the Premier High Aggregate of the Day which was donated by Lauren Horvath (see the June 2019 Tartan Press for more information).
- We continue to receive amazing support from individuals, families and organizations for the presentation of awards. Trophies and monetary donations were provided by: The Graham-Miele Family, The Cameron Association of Canada, Gaelyn McGregor, Gayle Roy, Jenny & Blythe Shnitka, Janice Johnson, Shannon Gadbois, and Lauren Horvath & family. As always the fellows at Stewart Trophy and Engraving continue to provide us with great service meeting our very tight competition timelines as well as generous contributions to fundraising efforts.
- The MHDA Awards storage locker was moved to a larger space at Storage Solutions Self Storage and has been under development for over a year. It has finally gone from a massive number of boxes and bins collected from Janie Watt's basement, to a unit with industrial shelving, labelled bins of inventory, a workspace for the refurbishment of donated trophies, as well as a new system for the identification and storage of MHDA's substantial inventory of perpetual trophies. I'd like to thank Matthew Horvath and Deanna Pesun who have moved countless boxes and bins, installed shelving, removed plates from donated awards, clipped medals to lanyards, and made a number of trips to Stewart Trophies on my behalf when I was immobile following my ankle injury last March.
- The MHDA Perpetual Trophy Project is finally underway! The hope is that we will be able to turn the largely unseen treasure trove of beautiful perpetual trophies that MHDA has into a virtual museum located on our website. During the spring and summer an electronic data base that lists every winner of each perpetual trophy that we have was developed. This data base along with the pictorial file of the trophies that Janie Watt completed will be combined and placed on the web site over the coming year. Many thanks to Deanna Pesun who took the trophy card file and created the data base. The next step in the project is to complete the histories of each award. Who donated them? Why were they donated? Are the companies still in operation? Are the donors still alive? Is there someone who we can contact to present a trophy on the original donor's behalf? We have very little information on many of the trophies that we have in our vast inventory. This project will preserve the history of the MHDA for future generations of dancers. Although a large chunk of the work has been done using the information we have, help is required to see it through completion! If you are interested in helping to collect the historical information, have pictures of donors, winners etc. that can be scanned please contact me!

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has helped me to get the awards to the dancers and to the dancers for their patience when errors occurred. My very sincere thank you to Janie Watt for all of her assistance and knowledge so readily offered. It will take many years for me (if I ever can) to amass the amount of knowledge that Janie has with regard to the awards process and all of the perpetual awards. Thank you also to Janet McCombe for answering many of my questions as to how/why things were done in the past. The Tim Horton's medal packaging crew – you know who you are! Finally, to Rob Hollier (technically the MHDA Equipment Manager) but officially a member of the MHDA Awards "Crew" for all of his help moving awards in and out of venues, set up, clipping medals on lanyards, bringing coffee and doing it all with a smile! With the 2019/2020 dance season underway help with awards preparation is always appreciated! There are many tasks to do to get ready for competition days. If you would like to help please contact me. No offer of help will ever be refused!- **submitted by Kim Horvath Ph: 204-471-5687 Email: kjee@mts.net**

Brand new Billy Forsyth Originalz dance shoes for sale. Size 2.5. \$60. For reference, I wear size 6-7 street shoe and need a size 1.5-2 in Billy's.

Please contact Lauren McCombe in person, by phone: (204) 291-0403 or email: lauren.mccombe@gmail.com



Thank you to our sponsors

Thank you to the companies below for providing sponsorship to the MHDA for the 2019/20 dance season! If you or your company/group would like to be a sponsor this year, please contact Treasurer@mbhighlanddance.com

Van Houtte Coffee Services:



The Scottish Gentlemen's Club:



Stewart Trophies:



WANTED - Workshop Coordinator

You may recall that in late March last year, the MHDA in conjunction with the Boys' Mentorship group held a workshop with a variety of sessions for both parents and dancers. The MHDA is hoping to hold another workshop for members in early 2020 and is seeking someone to take the lead in organizing it while reporting to the MHDA executive. If you are interested in leading this initiative or being one of the worker bees behind the scenes, please let the MHDA President, Tamara Coutu know.

Seeking Nominations for Walter Hagborg Community Service Award & MHDA Honourary Membership



We are seeking nominations for Honourary Member(s) and a recipient of the Walter Hagborg Community service award for the executive to consider.

An Honourary Member should be someone that has made a long-time commitment or significant contribution to the MHDA and our Scottish Community. We prefer someone still living, but have given posthumously in the past. It could be a single member, couple, family or multiple equally deserving people. Could be, but not limited to, former executive members, long-time committee chairs, organizer of a significant/special event, etc. Please include as much detail as possible as to who your nominee is and their contributions leading to the nomination. They should be a past or current MHDA full member.

The Walter Hagborg Community Service Award is designed to recognize someone who made a special contribution to the MHDA. It could be a member, dancer, teacher, family member, or outside community supporter. This award was created to recognize & honour the importance of Walter Hagborg's (a dancer's grandfather) assistance in refurbishing several perpetual trophies. It saved MHDA a great deal of money, helped restore several damaged or full trophies and preserved some important history.

Should you have any nominations please forward them to Lisa Omand, info@mbhighlanddance.com before November 21st, 2019.

ScotDance Cards Renewal coming up!

Just a reminder that in order to compete, you need a current ScotDance Canada membership. This is the coloured card with your picture and dance category on it. Membership with ScotDance Canada is annual, running from January 1 to December 31st. This should not be confused with your membership with the MHDA which runs from October to October.



ScotDance Canada (SDC) is an arm of the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dance (the SOBHD), The SOBHD and the SDC set the competition rules and oversee who can operate 'sanctioned' competitions. They set the rules regarding various dance categories of Primary through to Premier. Your dance teacher should soon be able to give you a copy of the annual application form for you to complete and send in with the appropriate fee to the local ScotDance office (the address will be on the form). You will NOT be able to compete in 2020 unless the form has been submitted and a new card has issued. You may still register for competitions in January 2020 even though you do not yet have your new card, you just will not be able to compete on the day of the competition if you have not submitted your application before the December 31st deadline.

So, when registration for the January Competition opens in early December, do not hesitate to register even though you do not have your 2020 card yet. Just also be sure to send in your 2020 ScotDance Registration to the local ScotDance Registrar!

ScotDance "No Card" fee

Did you know that if you attend at a competition and do not have your ScotDance Card with you, you may still be able to compete but will have to pay a \$10 fee? Further, you will not be able to take any of your awards home with you that day. You will have to produce your ScotDance Card to the Competition Organizer within 10 days in order to collect your awards and to receive your stamps, if applicable. If you do not, the Competition Organizer must share your name with all other Competition Organizers who will be directed to not accept any registrations from you until the matter has been cleared up. These steps help to ensure the reliability of the dancer classification system. Please note, you cannot rely on the "no card" provisions in early 2020 if you have not yet applied for a 2020 card. These "no card" provisions relate to dancers who have a current card, but have just forgotten it on the day.

ScotDance "Lost Card"

If you have lost your card, you ought to report this immediately to the local ScotDance Registrar to seek out a replacement for \$10. For those that are in Beginner, Novice or Intermediate, getting a replacement card can change when you are required to move up to the next category. Generally, the rule is that you have until whichever of these two events occurs last: a) the date of your 6th stamp or b) the 1 year anniversary of your 1st stamp before you must move up. This provides a dancer ample opportunity to work on their skills and improve before moving up to the next level that is presumably more competitive. Dancers who lose their cards must move up within a year of the date of the replacement card to ensure the reliability of the classification system.

MHDA Performances at Tartan Tea

The MHDA would like to invite its members to perform traditional dances in the following time slots at this year's Tartan Tea on Saturday, December 7:

- 1:50-2:10 p.m.
- 3:20-3:40 p.m.

To sign up please contact Lauren at danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com

The 2019 A Scottish Gentlemen's Dinner
*The 149th Annual Gentlemen's Dinner
 In Winnipeg Celebrating St. Andrew's Day*

The Scottish Gentlemen's Club
*Supporting Our Scottish Community
 and Our Community As A Whole*

Featuring:
*A Response To "The Toast To Canada" by
 The Honourable Peter MacKay PC, QC*
*Former Canadian Minister of Justice and Attorney General,
 Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Defence*

"Address to a Haggis" by Ian Ross
 The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders Pipe Band
 Vocalist Russell Phillips
 Dancers From The Manitoba Highland Dancers' Association

Friday, November 22nd, 2019
 The Fort Garry Hotel
 222 Broadway, Winnipeg

Reception 6:00 - 6:45 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m.
 Black Tie, Highland Dress, Mess Kit, Business Suit, Decorations, Miniatures

\$160.⁰⁰ member \$185.⁰⁰ non-member
(includes 4 course meal, miniatures of scotch and entertainment)
 (\$45.⁰⁰ Charitable Receipt)

Single Malt Whisky Raffle!
 Join Us In "The Club" Downstairs After Dinner
 for a Cash Bar and Camaraderie
 "Attendance By Invitation"

*For tickets please contact:
 scottish.gentlemens.club@mts.net*

In Support of:
 Macdonald Youth Services
 THE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION
 The Scottish Gentlemen's Club Endowment Fund
 The Lynn Stephen Memorial Highland Dance Scholarship
 The Pipe Major Donald A. Morrison Memorial Piping and Drumming Scholarship
 The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders Regimental Foundation

Clan MacKay Blue Tartan

MHDA Available for Performances!

Do you know of or are you involved with a daycare, preschool, or kids program that would like to have MHDA perform traditional highland dancing?



MHDA dancers pictured above at a dance out.

Contact the MHDA at danceouts@mbhighlanddance.com and we can arrange a danceout free of charge for your daycare, preschool or kids program!

Stay In Touch with the MHDA



NEW! Follow us on Instagram: @mbhighlanddancersassoc



Find us on Facebook: @mbhighlanddance



Follow us on Twitter: @mbhighlanddance