

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg
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Volume 55, Number 6

March 2024

Important Dates

Dancing in 2024

Saturday, March 16 – St. Patrick's Social 7:30

Monday, April 8 – last evening class

Thursday, April 11 – last afternoon class

Saturday, April 20 – Dance Workshop

Monday, May 6 – Wind-Up Social

Monday, May 13 – AGM

Note: all events are held at Churchill Park United Church (CPUC) 525 Beresford Ave. unless otherwise stated.

A Word from the Chair of COM

Seems like after a few days of spring-like weather that "old man winter" isn't quite finished with us yet as the temperatures keep fluctuating and today we are back to the deep freeze.

We were sorry to hear that Joyce Cormack had a most unfortunate accident on the ice recently and is recovering. She was hoping to get home soon and we all wish her a speedy return to health. Watch out for the ice!

In December 2023, a group of Scottish organizations, under the heading of Scottish Organizations in

Manitoba Summit, held their first meeting to talk about sharing information related to advancement of Scottish Culture in Manitoba. Wendy Land attended that meeting on behalf of the RSCDS but couldn't commit to any future meetings. Fortunately, James Sutherland is attending these meetings for other organizations and has agreed to be our representative for the next meeting which is on February 29/24.

Unfortunately I overlooked having the Robbie Burns portrait displayed at the Burns Social but his spirit and poetry were celebrated by the "Sutherland & Co. Drum, Drama and Bag Pipe Ensemble very effectively! Our next social is March 16.

I would like to share that COM has committed to supporting two very worthy teacher candidates to do their teacher training and exams at summer school this year. We wish Sharyl Eaglesham and James Sutherland all the very best in this endeavour, and also their tutor Cheryl Durnin, who is guiding them through this process!

All for now

Lynn McClure
Next COM meeting – March 7

Have you heard?

CANCELLATION POLICY FOR SNOW DAYS

The COM has agreed to the following policy for cancellation of classes when necessary because of inclement weather conditions:

A decision to cancel that day's class will be made no later than 3:00 pm on Mondays & 9:00 am on Thursdays.

An email will be sent out to all members as soon as possible.

IF THE WEATHER IS NASTY, PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL BEFORE HEADING OUT TO CLASS.

If you do not have access to email, please let your class teacher know and leave a phone number where you can be reached. If in doubt, please call your class teacher. If you cannot contact your teacher, then call the chair of COM.

Note: This policy will also apply to extra or special classes and socials that are not on a class day.

Passing of Marjorie Kripp

We were saddened to learn of the recent passing of Marjorie Kripp .

Marjorie was a Scottish Country dancer and teacher who was a member of the Winnipeg Branch almost from the beginning. We last saw her in Winnipeg at our 40th Anniversary Workshop where she gave a tribute speech about the early days of our branch.

Marjorie was long time Honorary Life Member and we extend our heartfelt sympathies to her family.

Burns Social

The dance social based on Robert Burns theme held January 27 was great fun. Sheila Careless had organized a programme of wonderful dances and guided the evening smoothly. We enjoyed a vast array of delightful foodstuffs after the dancing.

But a Burns event would not be complete without an Address to the Haggis.

**Fair fa' your honest sonsie face,
Great chieftain o' the puddin'-race!**

There was a surprise entrance of the Haggis with Ray Plaitin, James Sutherland, and Don Johnson parading the prized puddin'. Sheila (on computer) piped in the Haggis with May Kong Sutherland base drumming (on a table). James regaled the crowd to a lively Address. The haggis, laid out on the food table, was enjoyed by all those who partook. Sorry, no "neeps this evening though.



Upcoming

St. Patrick's Social

March 16 at Churchill Park United Church

March Social Programme

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 1. Warm up mixer | 32-J-4 single circle | |
| 2. Flowers of Edinburgh | 32-R-3 | Bk 1 |
| 3. Prairie Crocus | 32-S-3 3 cpl set | Prairie Gold |
| 4. The Wild Geese | 32-J-3 | Bk 24 |
| 5. The Shamrock Girl | 32-S-4 | Goldring |
| 6. Rory O'More | 32-J-2 | Bk 1 |
| 7. The Summer Assembly | 88-R-4 sq | Bk 35 |
| 8. The Lairds' Diamond | 32-S-2 | Prairie Gold |
| 9. Trip to Timber Ridge | 32-R-3 | Bk 52 |
| 10. Waltz | | |


Only Weeks Away

The Winnipeg Spring Workshop!


We all know that Scottish country dancing is enjoyed all over the world, and because of the standards developed by the RSCDS, can be enjoyed by anyone, anywhere there is a dance group. However, when we live in a place where the nearest "other" dance group is a long way away (a good day's drive), it is easy to lose sight of the bigger world. We see the same people, and hear the same teachers, every week.

That's why workshops are so important. Remember meeting friends from far and wide - Mieko, from Japan in 2019, and the Wood family from Quebec last year, for example? Not to mention, getting fresh insight from teachers we may never have met before. Sometimes, instruction on the same step or formation, but worded differently, can cause one of those "light bulb" moments. For most of us, who can't travel long distances to other workshops or summer schools, it's those fresh faces, and new insights that make workshops worthwhile.

We hope to see you on 20th April!



RSCDS Winnipeg Branch
One Day Workshop
April 20, 2024
Churchill Park United Church
525 Beresford Ave Winnipeg R3L 1J4



David Booz

Instructor

David began Scottish Country Dancing as a child in Toronto with Betty Thompson of Newtonbrook. After taking a few years off to get an engineering degree, he returned to SCD as a young adult and danced with the Finlay Scottish Country Dancers demo team for many years. He earned his Teacher's Certificate in 1999.


David has taught a number of social groups and Association classes in Toronto and at workshops and dance schools across Canada. Most recently he taught Basic and DAA classes in Toronto.

David believes that dancing should above all be fun, and that you shouldn't take it too seriously - it is, after all, only dancing. On the other hand, David believes that since SCD is a "team sport", it is most enjoyable when it is done well, with particular attention paid to phrasing, covering, handing, and enjoying interacting with the other dancers.

Programme

Class plus Social	\$55.00
Class Only	\$50.00
Social Only	\$10.00

Class registration deadline is April 12.

<p>Morning Class</p> <p>Classes are for all levels of dancers Recorded music</p> <p>8:30 am Doors Open</p> <p>8:30 - 9:00 Registration Coffee will be available</p> <p>9:00 - 10:15 Class</p> <p>BREAK</p> <p>10:30 - 11:45 Class</p> <p>12 noon - 1:00 Lunch Sandwiches, fruit platter, goodies</p>	<p>Evening Social</p> <p>Social is open to everyone, class registration not required</p> <p>7:15 pm Doors Open</p> <p>7:30 - 9:30 Dance Program</p> <p>9:30 - 11:00 Socializing, snacks will be available</p> <p>Application forms and Social dance program are available at:</p>  <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">www.rscdswwinnipeg.ca/workshop2024</p>
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TAC Summer School

[Registration](#) is now open for Summer School July 28 – August 4 in St. Catharines, Ontario at Brock University. Full registration and NEW this year, half-week attendance options are available to help with time, money, and energy budgeting. For more information about summer dancing speak with Cheryl Durnin or email durninch@gmail.com.

Mark your calendar and consider attending this summer dancing experience!

Summer Dancing in Canada!
July 28 – August 4, 2024
 Registration opens mid February
Full and half week attendance options



Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario
*Only 20 minutes from Niagara Falls
 and 90 minutes from Toronto*

Teaching Staff
 Graham Donald, Las Palmas, Spain
 Barbara Johnston, Edmonton, Canada
 Jennifer Schoonover, Boston, USA
 Rachel Shankland, Edinburgh, Scotland

Music Director
 Elke Baker



tac-rscds.org
Sponsored by Scottish Country Dance Teachers' Association (Canada)

From the Library ...

The library with its cd's for sale, books for loan, and box of free items will be set up at the St. Patrick's Day social on March 16.

We have had more shoe donations. If you need a pair of gently used ones we may have your size.

The Scottish and the Irish have been closely connected through the years; physically as they are only 12 miles apart at their closest points and they have a shared Celtic history. My Munro ancestors as well as many other people originally came to Scotland from Ireland. St. Patrick was a 5th century Christian missionary born in Scotland who brought Christianity to Ireland. People celebrate the anniversary of his death.

Many thanks to people who have donated to our nearly new table. All the money raised from sales except for a few items sold on commission goes to the branch to support our activities.

See you at the social.

Tartan or Plaid?

Congratulations to Ellen Graham for identifying the last tartan in our Plaid or Tartan contest. It was the Maple Leaf tartan which shows the colours of the maple leaf through the changing seasons. It will be available for sale at the social. The maple leaf tartan became an official national symbol in 2011 and highlights the many contributions that people of Scottish heritage have made to the founding of Canada. Canada is the only country in the world with a maple leaf on its flag. The maple leaf tartan was designated in 1964 to commemorate the new Canadian flag.

Joan

From the editor's desk ... or day lounge

Cold Front Warning!

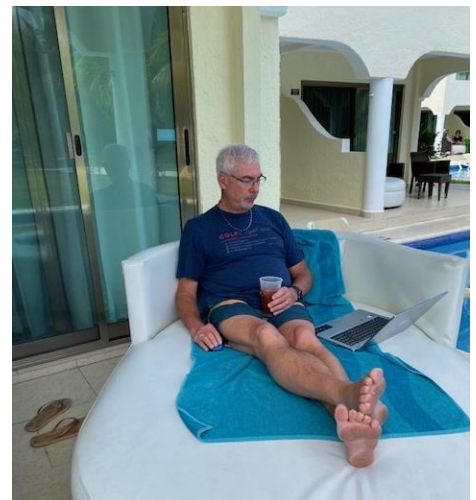
Severity: Extreme!

"El frente frío No. 35

La masa de aire ártico"

Urgency of this alert is not known.

It's been a trying time on the Mayan Riviera. An arctic cold front swept through giving a day of showers and cooler morning temps (17°C). Still sunny with highs in upper 20's. Locals wearing jackets while tourists sunning in swimwear.



The internet is a wonderful thing, allowing me to finish the prep and send out this issue of the L&A from Mexico.

I hope all are doing well in this winter that has lacked bite for many areas. Spring is approaching and with it our Winnipeg Workshop on April 20. Register soon to attend and get in on the fun.

And then ... gardening season!

Doug Durnin, Editor
Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca



Here and There...

Time to think ahead to July 2024 and Summer School!

Some Out of Town Events

March 16 – Calgary – One-Day Workshop with Wpg. Teacher Cheryl Durnin

April 13 – Minneapolis – Grand Ball

July 28 – August 4, 2024 – St. Catharines, ON – TAC Summer Dancing in Canada

October 20 – 24, 2024 – Hortonville, Nova Scotia – Scotch on the Rocks music & dance festival

Planning to travel? If you have an internet connection, browse for RSCDS & city for dancing where you are going. For instance, RSCDS Toronto hosts workshops and monthly dances and has links to dancing events all over the world. Almost every city in Canada has an RSCDS group. Many have a Facebook site as well.

Here are links to some branch sites:

[RSCDS Winnipeg Branch](#)

[RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch](#)

[RSCDS Calgary Branch](#)

[RSCDS Edmonton Caledonian Branch](#)

[RSCDS Medicine Hat Branch](#)

www.lethbridgescottishcountrydance.org

[RSCDS Vancouver](#)

[RSCDS Toronto Branch](#)

[RSCDS Ottawa](#)

L&A Submissions

Next L&A: April 2024 Deadline for submissions: March 23.

Members are encouraged to submit articles, pictures or information of interest to Branch members.

Submissions for the *Light and Airy* can be sent to the Branch e-mail address: info@rscdswinnipeg.ca or to the editor at Douglas.Durnin@umr.umanitoba.ca

This and past issues of *Light and Airy* are available at: www.rscdswinnipeg.ca