

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg
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Volume 55, Number 8

May 2024

Important Dates

Dancing in 2024

Monday, May 6 – Wind-Up Social

Monday, May 13 – AGM

Monday, June 3 – candidate practice teaching

Monday, June 10 – candidate practice teaching

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

A Word from the Chair of COM

What a wonderful workshop this past Weekend! I heard from many people during the day and well into the evening, that so many aspects of this occasion were great, best of all, that they had really enjoyed the laid back and cheerful/helpful style of teaching that David Booz from Toronto provided.

When the COM began to talk about plans for the 2023/24 dance season last summer we weren't sure whether another workshop on the heels of the 2023 Anniversary event would be feasible given our dancing numbers since the pandemic. However this Workshop Committee planned a breakeven budget for 25 participants and exceeded in all aspects. Thank you to all who attended..... it made such a difference to the occasion and future fun events are again possible. Bravo!!

All for now. Hope to see many of you at the Wind Up Social, May 6 and then at the AGM on May 13. Enjoy this nice warm weather!

Lynn McClure
Next COM meeting – May 2

Have you heard?

Teacher Candidates

Our teacher candidates are working hard in their preparations to attend the Candidate course in St. Catharines this summer.

So now it's your turn to show them your support by coming out to dance in classes where they get to practice their teaching skills.

On Monday June 3 and June 10 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at Churchill Park United Church please join in to dance in classes set up for the candidates to gain experience teaching. Guest musician Ron Krug will be providing the music on June 3 to give Sharyl and James the opportunity to work with a musician.

Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to show your support to our candidates.

See you there,

Cheryl Durnin

Workshop 2024

What a wonderful weekend!

It started with guest teacher David Booz being greeted at the Winnipeg Airport by a multitude of mascots (courtesy of Travel Manitoba). -ed

It was such a pleasure to have David Booz from Toronto come and share his love of dance with our keen dancers on April 20. David started off the morning with an unpublished three couple jig written by Barbara McNutt (David's mother) entitled Grandfather's Old Sock.

David himself described it as "hand exercises masquerading as a dance." The techniques we focused on for this dance included long and short skip-change of step and giving firm hands and strong arms - notably in the grand chain formation. While we were praised for how we executed each of these techniques separately, incorporating our good form into the dance was where the challenges began! We met these challenges head-on, recognizing the importance of thinking ahead and communication within the set when there's not much time to think between fast-moving formations.



A three couple strathspey Lady Lucy Ramsay, from Miss Milligan's Miscellany, followed. Once again, we had the chance to work on our strong hands in the grand chain - no droopy arms! With a bit more time to think, we were encouraged to engage our peripheral vision to help with our covering. Strong hands and arms were also at play in half rights and lefts, especially on the sidelines where we helped each other to remember those unexpected polite turns. David offered a lovely take on leading down the middle as the dancing couple's solo and time to shine!

One of the benefits of workshops is that we're here to be stretched out of our comfort zones, and we had the opportunity to learn an unusual dance with unusual and tricky figures and transitions to challenge our feet and brains. Kiss Me Quick My Mither's Coming is a three couple reel from Book 12, written in 1748. There was no sleeping during this dance, with third couples beginning the dance with 24 bars of reels, crossover reels of three, and first couple doing full figures of eight casting up from second place. It required stamina and teamwork, but also a sense of humour. We're here for the love of dance and the joy of being able to dance as a community, and messing up is part of learning and growing as a dancer. As David said, you get one point for doing the dance right, and two points for messing up, trying again, and fixing it!

It was wonderful to see many of the participants ask David some great questions about the dances and techniques, and equally wonderful to have such a supportive, good-humoured, and encouraging guest teacher. I'm very grateful to have had the experience to dance and learn with this terrific community.

Following the morning of dancing we had an opportunity to sit, rest our feet, and relax over a wonderful lunch spread of sub sandwiches (Hoagie Boyz), vegetable and fruit trays (Sobeys), and sweets to finish off. Thanks to Ellen and her crew for all their hard work. Our feet were certainly tired from the morning dancing so having the afternoon off (nap anyone?) was greatly appreciated.

The evening social programme was guided by Cheryl Durnin as Peter McClure was unable to attend.

Breanne Reinfort

From the Chair of COM

I want to thank the Workshop Committee who stepped up to take on the tasks of getting the workshop organized. Firstly, James Sutherland who agreed to facilitate meetings, organizing things etc. and he also had a chance to advance his "poet laureate" skills on Saturday which I am sure we will make good use of in the future! The other Workshop members were Breanne Reinfort, Registrar; Sharron Bettess, Treasurer; Peter McClure, Evening Social Program; Ellen Graham, Social Convenor assisted by Donald Graham; Cheryl Durnin, Teacher Consultant; Glen Colquhoun and Sharon Plaitin who provided assistance to the Registrar.

Thanks to Ray Plaitin for technical expertise with his sound system. It really makes a difference to the instruction given by the teacher, and the richness of the recorded music! Someone (the chair elves) had kindly set up chairs (and replaced them) around the Gym, arranged seating/tables in the Lounge and was at the door to greet people as they arrived. I suspect it was the Grahams and a few others who looked after this.

A special word of Thanks to Ellen Graham, her husband Donald, and other helpers provided us all with a delicious lunch (locally sourced on Osborne St.). The after-Social party in the church Lounge, benefited from the lunch leftovers, plus many tasty contributions from members. A lot of planning,

running around, conferring with others and dealing with the little but important details had to happen this year as it is the first time in many years that we have had a one day Workshop. Thanks very much to Ellen and her trusty assistant for taking charge and carrying out this challenging task so well!

A very heartfelt thanks to the Committee and other helpers who worked so hard to make this Workshop a wonderful success!

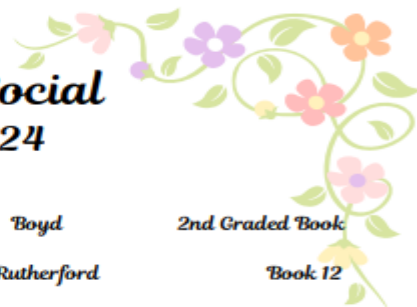
Lynn McClure
Chair of COM

Upcoming

Windup Social May 6

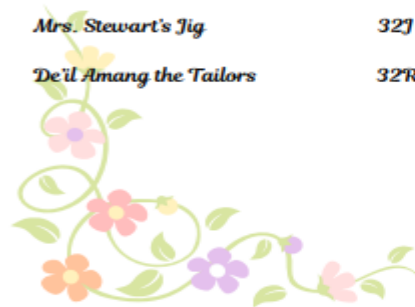


Wind Up Social May 6, 2024



<i>Warm up Dance - Loch Ness Monster</i>	Circle	Boyd	2nd Graded Book
<i>Machine Without Horses</i>	32J - 3-4	Rutherford	Book 12
<i>Minister on the Loch</i>	32S - 3-3	Goldring	Thirty Popular Dances
<i>Pelorus Jack</i>	32J - 3-4	Skelton	Thirty Popular Dances
<i>Lady Lucy Ramsay</i>	32S - 3-4		MMM 2
<i>Mairi's Wedding</i>	40R - 3-4	Cosh	Thirty Popular Dances
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<i>Galloping Carousel</i>	32J - 4-4	Chastelain	Book 53
<i>Orchards of Co. Armagh</i>	32S - 3-3	Anderson	Book 53
<i>Summer Wooing</i>	32R - 3-4	MacPherson	Book 38
<i>Fair Donald</i>	32S - 3-4		Book 29
<i>Mrs. Stewart's Jig</i>	32J - 3-4	Lightmans	Book 35
<i>De'il Among the Tailors</i>	32R - 3-4		Book 14

Waltz



AGM May 13

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF MEETING

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
WINNIPEG BRANCH, ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

WILL BE HELD ON

MONDAY, MAY 13, 2024

AT CHURCHILL PARK UNITED CHURCH,

525 BERESFORD AVE

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

STARTING AT 7:30 PM

Doors open at 7:00 p.m.

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 suit your time, money, and energy needs. For more information about summer school 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)

An evening of fun with the Morris Men & Women's Morris

VILLAGE GREEN MORRIS MEN

THE BIG SHOW



Saturday, May 11, 2024 - 7:30 P.M.
Crescent Fort Rouge United Church
525 Wardlaw Avenue

General Admission-**\$12** Student/Senior-**\$10** Children-**\$5**
At the door

Featuring
Morris and Sword Dances
and the Traditional Original Mummers Play
"Alice in Morrisland"

With: Hell's Belles Women's Morris

From the editor's desk ...

Wow! What a great workshop on April 20 to help wind down the dance season. Guest teacher David Booz brought us new ideas and finer points of dancing to think about to help us enjoy the sociability of SCD.

Now get out your potting soil ... it's **gardening season!**

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

Be Safe on the Road!!
My car just slid into the
garden center's parking lot!
Again!!

Here and There...

Time to think ahead to July 2024 and Summer School!

Some Out of Town Events

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: June / July 2024 Deadline for submissions: June 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