

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg
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Volume 53, Number 7

April 2022

Important Dates

Dancing in 2022

March 3 to May 19 – Thursday afternoon class at Churchill Park United Church 1:30 – 3:30

May 18 - AGM at Churchill Park United Church at 7:00

A Word from the Chair of COM

As I write this month's Word from the Chair, the temperature outside is close to the freezing point and the piles upon piles of snow are slowly beginning their transition to water. This has been a winter to remember, albeit not with fondness, and I for one will be happy to see the end of it.

The same holds true for the Covid pandemic. These past two years have been so disruptive, at times destructive, and we all have our own stories and memories of how we endured this strange and at times deadly virus. But like the melting snow outside, we can hope that Covid is winding down in its intensity and power.

If Covid continues its transition and we are able to safely lift the health restrictions, we can look forward to restarting our dance schedule in September. And how great will that be when we are able to return to the dance floor for our classes and socials.

Meanwhile, we have been able to secure space at Churchill Park United Church for Thursday afternoon classes. Please come out to Churchill Park for this opportunity to reconnect with fellow dancers and to wake up your dancing muscles.

The calendar tells us that spring begins on March 20th. Let's all hope that the weather cooperates with the calendar to bring about a glorious and snow free springtime.

All the best to you and yours.

Happy Spring!

Don Johnson

Have you heard?

JEANNE KELLAS

1929 - 2022

Jeanne, a long time member of the Winnipeg Branch, passed peacefully at the Riverview Health Centre on January 25 following a very short hospitalization. She was taking phone calls right to the end. Jeanne passed at the age of 92, on Robbie Burns' Day. Those 92 years were full with a life well lived.

Jeanne, with her daughter Audrey, joined Robin's basic class in 1979. From there, Jeanne joined the Fort Garry class and her true talents appeared for which the Branch is forever grateful. Jeanne was an organizer, a leader, a supporter, and a friend to all. She initiated the Fort Garry class end of the year pot luck dinners and then the New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance at St. Paul's... she loved to decorate and host events and was very good at it.

Jeanne was on the COM as chair several times, plus as Branch Social Convenor. Plus Mug Pub- and the list goes on.

Jeanne and her then husband, Ed Hildebrand, went on to join in with the Scottish Entertainers. And, somehow, Jeanne managed to volunteer with a myriad of organizations. A very organized lady indeed!

Jeanne's greatest love was her granddaughter Michele who is a choreographer on Toronto. Jeanne's other love? GOLF!!

Miss you, Jeanne.

Maureen Burnham



From the Classes ...

Thursday Afternoon

Thursday afternoon, March 3rd, with the promise of Spring?, RSCDS Dancing 2.0 recommenced, and yes we are dancing. Peter McClure and Sharyl Eaglesham are sharing the teaching duties. Sharyl is challenging us with great warmups and exercises, and of course dances, including The New Year Jig (because it is our New Year) and a particular favourite for me is the beautiful new strathspey Between Yews and Willows. Thank You Peter.

We are pleased to say that we have welcomed 14 members each week and we hope that those of you who can come out in an afternoon will join us as you feel comfortable. The class starts at 1:30pm-3:30pm. Protocols are still in place at CPUC and we expect updates after March 17th.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.
Shirley Tinsley

From the Front of the Class – Sharyl Eaglesham

The Thursday class of two sets of enthusiastic dancers is underway. Yay! The big difference for me, is I am not only dancing, but standing at the front of the class learning how to teach?!? Now, it needs to be said that I am not a certified teacher. But with 40 years of dance classes lead by some of the best teachers in RSCDS, I have some experience. More importantly I have a passion for the dance.

Dancing with you is my strength but teaching dancing.... I must confess that getting what's in my head and feet, out in words that are logical dance instructions, is not my super-power. Truthfully, I don't feel awesome teaching - it is extremely humbling, and I feel the weight of the responsibility. On top of that, I fret over the future with the uncertainties of the last two years and find it hard to plan too far ahead. Right now, I will take one skip-change of step at a time. I will stand at the front of the room with a great teacher Peter McClure so that our RSCDS friends can dance, laugh and reconnect every Thursday afternoon. If you are able, I hope you save some time on Thursday afternoons.

Won't you join the dance? There is someone at the front of the class waiting for you! Details below:

Thursday afternoon dance classes are held at Churchill Park United Church at 525 Beresford Ave. 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm. **To ensure we have lots of dance time, warm-ups will begin right at 1:30 pm.**

With the Province of Manitoba easing Covid-19 restrictions, the branch will continue to meet or exceed the required health orders to ensure the safety of our members. Classes will be held with the following safety precautions:

- You must wear a mask during class.
- Proof of vaccination will be requested for first time participants
- Bring your own water bottle.
- If not feeling well, please stay home.

Teachers are adapting classes based on numbers. **Please confirm your attendance by return email before each class** (info@rscdswinnipeg.ca).

Classes for this term will run March 3 – May 19 (12 weeks). **The fee for this term, for those who have paid their 2021/22 membership fee, is \$60.00** or the option of a \$10.00/class drop-in fee (to a maximum of \$60.00). Note: If you have not already paid your \$60 membership fee in the fall this would also be owing. COM realizes the afternoon class does not work for all, and evening class(es) will be scheduled again for the fall season.

Regards,
Committee of Management

Upcoming dancing ...

Summer School at St Andrews

24 July ~ 14 August

**Three weeks of dancing fun and instruction in beautiful St Andrews, Scotland.
Directors Jim Stott & Janet Johnston.**

**Morning classes at all levels, optional afternoon classes,
evening social dances, and serendipitous ceilidh evening fun.**

<https://www.rscds.org/events/summer-school-2022>

2022 TAC Summer School is scheduled for July 24 -31, 2022 at Mount Royal University in Calgary. A great line-up of teachers and musicians is organized.

Registration Opens Early March!



Get ready ... get set ... and plan to join the fun at

2022 TAC Summer School
Mount Royal University, Calgary, Canada
July 24-31, 2022

Welcoming, supportive classes
For dancers of all levels
Basic | Intermediate | Advanced

Daily classes | evening social dances | formal ball and banquet |
evening after parties | ceilidh | silent auction

Teachers
Raphaëlle Orgeret (France)
Robert McOwen (USA)
Jeanne Moody (USA)
Barbara Johnston (Canada)

Musicians
Judi Nicolson, Fred Collins,
Ian Muir, Kathy Fraser Collins,
not pictured:
Terry Traub, Mary Ross

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

From the editor's desk ...

It was great to be back dancing in class! It's so good to see fellow dancers and their smiling eyes. No grins visible yet. I could certainly feel my leg muscles the next day, reminding me it has been quite a while since we kicked up our heels. Or should I say skip-changed of step!

Sad to report the passing of another long time fellow dancer, Jeanne Kellas. I have also included a photo of "The Girls" who have been mentioned in some past issues of the L & A.

I received this from a friend and thought I would share the smiles.

Just had to share.

Now That I'm Older...

1. My goal for 2020 was to lose 10 pounds.

Only have 14 to go.

2. Ate salad for dinner. Mostly croutons and tomatoes. Really just one big round crouton covered with tomato sauce, and cheese. FINE, it was a pizza...OK!?

3. A recent study has found women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

4. Kids today don't know how easy they have it. When I was young, I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV channel.

5. Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero outside they closed school? Yeah, Me neither.

6. I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented. I forgot where I was going with this.

7. I love aging, I learn something new every day and forget 5 other things.

Pass this along to anyone who could use a chuckle today

Stay safe, and stay healthy!

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

Here and There...

Some Out of Town Events

If you have an internet connection, browse for RSCDS & city. 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.

Spring, 2022 - dance classes hopefully resuming/continuing in various centers. Check local branch websites for specific details as restrictions permit dancing together in person.

Going to be in Toronto? – check their newsletter Set & Link for possible dance evenings.

April 22-24 – Minneapolis, Minn. – RSCDS Twin Cities Grand Ball Weekend

June 10-12, 2022 – Beaver Dam, Wisconsin – Midwest Scottish Weekend

July 3 – 10 – Appalachian State University, Boone NC – Blue Ridge Scottish Dance School

July 8-16, 2022 – Boston, Mass. – Pinewoods Scottish Sessions

July 17 – July 30, 2022 – Mount Royal Univ. Calgary – TAC Teacher Candidates Course

July 22-24, 2022 – Mount Royal Univ. Calgary – TAC Summer Teachers' Conference Weekend

July 24 – 31, 2022 – Mount Royal Univ. Calgary – TAC Summer School

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: May 2022

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 Deadline for submissions: April 12. This and past issues of *Light and Airy* are available at: www.rscdswinnipeg.ca