

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

info@rscdswinnipeg.ca

www.rscdswinnipeg.ca

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Committee of Management 2018/19

Chair:	Jane Natrass	204-667-0814
Vice-Chair:	John Giesbrecht	204-489-8429
Treasurer:	Heather Colquhoun	204-888-0834
Secretary:	Agnes Brydon	204-837-7346
Social Secretary	Pat Clubb	204-774-2796
Asst. Soc. Secretary:	Barbara Lambert	204-256-8738
Publicity:	Joyce Cormack	204-224-2291
Librarian:	Sharron Bettess	204-256-2248
Membership:	Lorraine Watson	204-661-0112
Light & Airy:	Doug Durnin	204-253-4213
Teacher's Rep:	Cheryl Durnin	204-253-4213
Webmaster:	Sheila Careless	204-233-8808

Important Dates

Fall Term 2018

Thursday, September 6, 2018 – Open House 8 to 10 pm

Week of September 10 – First Term Classes begin

Monday, November 19 – St. Andrew's Social hosted by the Fort Garry Class

Week of December 14 – First Term Classes end

Thursday, December 27, 2018 – The Third Day of Christmas

Winter/Spring Term 2019

Week of January 7, 2019 – Second Term Classes begin

Saturday, January 26 – Burns Dinner at the Masonic Memorial Centre

Tuesday, March 5 – March Social - hosted by the Tuesday Class

Thursday, April 4 – Spring Social - Hosted by the Thursday Class

Week of April 16 – Second Term Classes end

Friday to Sunday, April 26 - 28, 2019 – Spring Dance Workshop

Tuesdays, May 7, 14, 21 – Spring Dancing 2019

- All dance events are at 8pm at St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall unless otherwise indicated.

A Word from the Chair of COM

How can it possibly be August already! I keep writing down July for the date! I hope everyone has had a great summer so far. Continue with the healthy, happy and re-energized for our coming dance year!

Since the last newsletter, we have been busy dancing in the park, updating some of our publicity materials and preparing for and volunteering at the Pavilion of Scotland. At the Pavilion of Scotland, RSCDS, Winnipeg Branch had a display, and we included handouts about our Open House. Please see the note below regarding volunteers and our activity at the Pavilion!

As well, at the end of July and beginning of August, Sheila Careless, our teacher candidate, went to Minneapolis to do her Level 5 exam. She has just been notified that she did very well and passed her exam! Way to go Sheila! Also, Joyce Cormack, Sharron Bettess, and Jan MacPhail attended the Minneapolis summer school program. Please look for a description of their time in Minneapolis in this newsletter. Unfortunately, Sharron sprained her ankle and Joyce had a fall while they were there! Hope you are both feeling a little better!

Several dates and highlights to note are listed below.

- **Open House** - The date for the Open House is Thursday, September 6, 2018 at St. Paul's, from 8-10. Registration will also start that evening. Please bring friends and family with an interest in dancing with you that evening.

- **Spring Workshop** – Because of the uncertainty of the availability of 17Wing, the Masonic Memorial Centre had been tentatively booked for the weekend of April 26-28, 2019.
- **Burns Dinner** – It has been confirmed that our Burns Dinner will be on January 26, 2019 at the Masonic Memorial Centre on Osborne/Corydon intersection.
- **Dancing in the Park** – Our first dance in the park was cancelled due to extreme heat, but our second went off without a hitch! There were about twelve people who showed up and Joyce and Sheila did a great job of providing dances and music that we could all enjoy. There may be one or two more chances for you to join us in August so pay attention to your emails.

Our next COM meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 7PM at St. Paul's.

Jane Natrass, Chair COM

Have you heard?

Early Notice for the Winnipeg Branch 2019 Weekend Workshop!

It seems a long way off right now but time flies, so mark it on your spring calendar! The Winnipeg Branch 2019 Weekend Workshop will take place on April 26-28, 2019. Guest Teachers will be Rebecca Blackhall-Peters and Craig Williams. Music will be provided by Ron Krug and Dennis Orr. The venue will be announced when confirmed. Lynn McClure and Shirley Tinsley
Co-Chairs Weekend Committee

On behalf of the Winnipeg Branch, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations to **Sheila Careless** on the successful completion of her final teaching exam. Sheila has been working on her teaching certificate for the past number of years. This summer she traveled to Minneapolis and spent 2 weeks working toward her level 5 exam. Having successfully completed this final part Sheila is now a fully certificated Scottish Country Dance teacher. Congratulations Sheila we are all very proud of your accomplishments and know you are a great addition to our teaching team here in Winnipeg. - Cheryl Durnin

Margaret Zadworny, an Honorary Life Member of the RSCDS Winnipeg Branch, was involved in a car/pedestrian accident in mid-June while walking near her home. She suffered several injuries (broken collar bone, broken heel/foot, and many bruises, stiffness and soreness), and was treated briefly in hospital. She is quite fortunate as her injuries could have been much worse. She is progressing slowly and remains somewhat compromised getting around, leaving her annoyed at her difficulty. In July she had a visit from long time dance

friends Ron Wallace, Gary Thomas, and Barbara Campbell, a visit already planned before Margaret's accident.

Flowers have been delivered by the branch Chair and several dancers have visited her.

From the editor's desk

I have not been deposed and am back for my second issue of the Light & Airy newsletter. It has been a busy summer with several dancing events happening and we look forward to September and classes resuming. As such there are no class reports, but there are reports from summer school in Minneapolis, Folklorama, news about branch members, and other notices. The registration form is available on the branch website and hopefully included in this L&A (if technology allows).

Registration night is September 6 at 8pm at St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall. Come out with your registration and bring a friend! Classes start the following week.

If you have a favourite dance, please send the name to Cheryl Durnin. She will put together our "top ten" list to submit to Headquarters for consideration for the next book of dances.

The fall workshops are coming up in various cities. Check the list and plan a trip.

And again, keep those articles and suggestions coming.

Doug Durnin, editor

Doug.Durnin@umanitoba.ca

A Message from Headquarters in Scotland

What are your favourite dances?

In 2019, Headquarters has decided to publish a second book of popular dances. They have asked that each Branch request suggestions of popular dances from their members. They have listed the Jigs, Reels and Strathspeys that were chosen for the first book, so that new dances will be chosen. The previous newsletter contained the letter we received. We are asking you to let us know what **your** favourite dance is.

RSCDS Headquarters would like suggestions of up to 10 dances to include a mixture of Jigs, Reels and Strathspeys that are popular in your branch for consideration to be included in the book.

The dances in the original book were all traditional dances taken from RSCDS publications covering the period up to Book 27. In contrast the aim for the contents of the new book is to include a mix of traditional and non-traditional dances. The list is not restricted to dances previously published by the Society so would welcome popular dances from other sources. Please send your reply to Cheryl Durnin at durninch@gmail.com. Cheryl will collate the information received from the membership and will send our top 10 to Headquarters by the first week in September.

Thank you for your participation.

Branch Publicity

Publicity material {Posters and Handouts) are complete and have been emailed out to all members. Thanks to John H and Jane for their help in creating these very attractive items. Now it is up to our membership to be proactive in spreading the word about dancing. We encourage you to print the poster to display in public places in your neighbourhoods.

Word of mouth is a very effective way to let people know about our activity. Think about sending a copy of the handout to your email contacts and invite them to send it out to their contacts. We are hoping that you will print these handouts and distribute them to friends, family, acquaintances and people that you encounter in your daily lives. Carry them with you as you never know when you might meet a possible recruit.

Posters have been delivered to the main library which will send them off to the branch libraries. Sharron sent a notice to the Free Press for the Billboard section. If you have any other ideas - let me know.

Thank you Jane and your helpers for setting up the excellent display at the Pavilion. Lots of positive comments, especially for your sign. Thanks for setting up the schedule for volunteers to man the table and thanks to those who came out to help. Participation dancing is going well (about 16, 12 and 16 people on the floor over the last 3 nights. Thanks also to the pavilion volunteers for helping out.

Joyce

Pavilion of Scotland

Once again, Folklorama was a busy week and the Winnipeg branch participated at the Pavilion of Scotland August 5 to August 11.

Cultural Display: RSCDS, Winnipeg Branch had a display table in the Cultural area. At the display table, we had *Handouts promoting Scottish Country Dancing and our Open House on September 6th*. We had 10 volunteers at the display table over the week, and Thanks to the following individuals:

- Sharron Bettess,
- Maureen Burnham
- Darlene Cameron
- Heather and Glen Colquhoun
- Sharyl Eaglesham
- John Giesbrecht
- Jane Natrass

- Tara Newton
- Lorraine Watson

Heather Ferguson was one of the organizers of the Cultural area. Over the years, she has enlisted the assistance of Joan and Reg Curle, Debbie Forrest and David Kroeker to set up the Tartan Display. It was well worth a visit. I would like to thank Reg for his assistance in setting up our display, as well as the others for ideas of how to make it look more appealing!

Participation Dancing: Joyce Cormack has been our representative who has arranged the participation dancing in the Cultural Room. Joyce was unable to be there on the 5th and so David Kroeker agreed to organize the participation dancing on that day. He did a great job. We had two sets plus a few more, did five dances and had lots of laughter and fun. A big thank you to David for that! For many years now, Joyce has organized the participation dancing. A big thank you to Joyce Cormack for doing this every year! It truly was enjoyable.

Entertainment: Other members of the Winnipeg Branch who were involved in entertaining in the Cultural area included the Celtic Trio (Lynn and Peter McClure and Shirley Tinsley) and the Lads and Lasses. Thanks to everyone who loves Scottish Country Dancing and was able to commit their time and effort to showing others how much fun it can be and encouraging them to participate.

Submitted by Jane Natrass

Report from Summer School 2018

From our teacher candidate Sheila

Candidate class in Minneapolis this year was almost as exhausting as the one in 2014 but since I was not dancing the 12 dances for the first exam, just filling in for practices when needed, it was a little easier physically. However, the teaching side of it was much more work (as it should be) which meant many short nights lesson planning. There were 8 of us in the combined class (5 - unit 2/3 and 3 - unit 5) under our tutor Elaine Brunken. If you ever see her name on a workshop program as a teacher, GO. She is excellent. We told her she needs to have a YouTube channel. There was more information that we could soak up in the 2 weeks. I couldn't believe the details of a dance or a formation that she thought of. She is also very funny and she cared for each of us. Lisa Scott was the musician. She was also the pianist in 2014 when I did my unit 2/3. She was so good to work with and very patient with those of us that don't work with a musician in class. It is quite different. She spoiled us really. We didn't have to keep running to the table to hit the play button! All it took was '8 bars please Lisa - ready and' and the music would start. There were moments during the class that I wondered if the home course is better than the 2 week residential course. They both have their place and when we had meetings until 10 at night regarding some part of the course Elaine was required to teach us and then we had to go to our rooms to plan our lesson to teach the next day, I was thinking the home course would be better. However, the night before the exams we were all in the club room with our laptops typing out our lessons for the exam. All of a sudden someone would say 'I need 3

bodies' and some of us would get up and walk something for them and they would say 'thanks' and go back to planning. It was so helpful to have people there to walk through things so we would could see the tricky bits and be comfortable teaching them to the stooges at the exam. Sharon Barker was in there with us as we could not talk to Elaine once we got our exam dance. She was very helpful for all of us. Sharon and Fiona Miller were very helpful especially to the unit 5s as we all had tricky twists to our formations.

So I have been very fortunate to have had 2 very good tutors on this journey (Ron Wallace for my 2/3 & now Elaine), but I also had so much support from the home base here in Winnipeg. I'm thankful that Bruce was willing to hold down the fort at the store while I was gone. Thank you to Cheryl who has been my mentor these last few years. I have learned so much from you. Thank you to the other teachers that have helped me out with tips and answering my questions. Thank you to the branch as a whole. Not only for the financial support, but some of you have made comments in humour and kindness that have reminded me that I may have missed something or taught something incorrectly. You have all been very kind and patient with me since I started dancing down this road to become a SCD teacher. Now that I have passed (phew!), I will continue to learn and develop my skills as a teacher and a dancer. As Elaine said 'teachers should never stop learning'.

Thank you!!!!

Sheila Careless

From our summer school students Joyce, Sharon and Jan

Early on the morning of July 29 Sharron Bettess, Jan MacPhail and I departed for Minneapolis for a week of dancing. It was quite the pleasant ride listening to Sharron's favourite Scottish band "RUNRIG" We also enjoyed a lovely picnic lunch at one of the beautiful rest stops.

Sharron ably navigated us to the parkade and residence and we were directed to our dorm rooms. Comfortable but very chilly, as the whole time we were there the air conditioning ran on high to the point where we needed up to 3 blankets. Off to the dining room for delicious food (cafeteria style) but ample, in fact too ample.

Off to the welcome dance (a 15 min walk) with great music performed by talented musicians. A bit of an after party and off to bed.

So the routine was breakfast, dance class, lunch, optional afternoon class, dinner, dance and after party. Wednesday evening was devoted to Contra dancing and Thursday was the Ceilidh with acts performed by very talented people. Our feet got a bit of a break.

There were a couple of mishaps. On the Tuesday night, after the dance, Sharron fell down some stairs and injured her foot. We did not think it was too serious but the next morning she was advised to go to the hospital. How fortunate that it was less than 5 mins from the dorm and we experienced valet parking and the American health care system. It was a pleasant experience and for most of the time she was in a bed in a cubicle, seen by a doctor and had an xray, which thankfully showed no broken bones.



The whole process lasted just over 3 hours. Although she could not dance she attended the classes (pushed in a wheel chair) and thankfully she was able to get up for some of the dances at the Saturday ball. The Reel of the 51st Division to the music of the band and pipes was amazing!

The other mishap occurred on the dance floor at the ball when I lost my footing doing John

Cass and fell on my left hip. A bit of pain, embarrassment and limping, but have fully recovered.

We really enjoyed the teaching of Ellie Briscoe (Virginia), Jody Kulas (Ottawa) and Antoine Rousseau (Paris). I also enjoyed meeting Mel Briscoe and Helen and Malcolm Brown whose names are often noted on discussions about SCD. Malcolm goes to Russia (where SCD is very popular) to teach SCD and he shared his dances and experiences in Russia.

It was truly an international event with dancers from around the world and from as far away as New Zealand.

Up early Sunday morning and an uneventful ride back home with Sheila joining us, having completed her exam. Congratulations on becoming a certified SCD Teacher Sheila! Hooray!

Submitted by Joyce Cormack

Here and There...

SCD Books and Music

Anyone interested in buying books of Scottish country dances or recordings of SCD music should be aware of TACBooks and TACSound, two services maintained by Teachers' Association Canada (TAC). You can look at their catalogues on the TAC web site www.tac-rscds.org. If you want to order any items, please do it via the Branch Librarian, as there are discounts available to Branches, but not to individuals. In the past, the Librarian has sent in Branch orders two or three times per year.

Scottish Country Dance Ghillies and Pumps

www.avriel.com Shoe shop for dancers.

Clan Info and Scottish Shop

www.scotclans.com

SCD Online

In case you didn't know about these sites:

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Edinburgh, Scotland: <https://www.rscds.org>

A great site to link to other branches and everything in the world of Scottish Country Dancing.

[The Inter-City Scot](#) - lists events across Canada and the United States. For other parts of the world, use the link to SCD groups on the Strathspey site www.strathspey.org to find contact information.

[RSCDS Winnipeg Branch](#)

[RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch](#)

[RSCDS Calgary Branch](#)

[RSCDS Edmonton Caledonian Branch](#)

[RSCDS Medicine Hat Branch](#)

[RSCDS Vancouver](#)

[RSCDS Toronto Branch](#)

[RSCDS Ottawa](#)

[RSCDS Montreal Branch](#)

[RSCDS St. John's \(Newfoundland\) Branch](#)

[Teachers Association Canada](#) : for teachers of Scottish country dancing.

Strathspey www.strathspey.org has a database where you can search for info about dances (including cribs and videos when available), music (some clips), people and more. Also, there is a link to the Strathspey e-mail list, in case you'd like to join an online mailing list about SCD.

SCD Dictionary www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com has info about steps and formations.

We don't really need that, we get it in our classes; however, sometimes a video may help, and SCD dictionary has videos for steps and formations. Also, there is info about dances, as on Strathspey.

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.

September 28 – 30, 2018 - Saskatchewan RSCDS - 36th Workshop, Banquet and Ball,
Moose Jaw, SK. workshop@rscdssask.org
See info sheet for more info (L&A editor has registration form)

October 5 – 7, 2018 - RSCDS Calgary - Scots' Gathering in Canmore, AB
<http://www.calgaryscots.org/>

Travelling west? - Medicine Hat Branch dances on Wednesdays!

L&A Submissions

Next L&A: October

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

Deadline for submissions: early August. This and past issues of *Light and Airy* are at:

www.rscdswinnipeg.ca

For a great weekend, email/call Mike



RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch Weekend

***Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Saskatchewan Branch***

Moose Jaw Scottish Country Dancers

Dear Friends,

The Moose Jaw Scottish Country Dancers are hosting the 36th RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch Fall Workshop. The workshop is a full weekend event which begins with a welcoming Ceilidh on Friday evening. Classes for beginner thru advanced level dancers are being taught Saturday morning and afternoon as well as Sunday morning. Saturday evening is our banquet and ball. The busy weekend winds-up with a farewell lunch on Sunday. Details of the event are as follows:

- Date:** September 28th, 29th, 30th
- Location:** Heritage Inn Hotel & Convention Centre
1590 Main St. N
Moose Jaw, SK S6J 1L3
- Theme:** Harvest Moon Dance Spectacular
- Purpose:** To enhance our knowledge of Scottish Country Dances and to celebrate Scottish traditions with all our workshop participants who are from all backgrounds. To encourage good health and friendship.
- Attendance:** We are expecting attendees from throughout our Western Provinces and hopefully from outside of Canada.
- Our Request:** Please consider this a personal invitation to join us and enjoy Scottish country dancing with our talented teacher Fiona Miller from Lethbridge, Alberta and a beginners class taught by local teachers Bev Will and Mike Blanchard.
- Musicians** Ron Krug from Winnipeg, Man.; Dennis Orr and Doug Major from Medicine Hat, Alberta
- Contact Person** **Mike Blanchard 1150 3rd Ave. NW Moose Jaw, Sask S6H 3V2**

Sincerely,

Mike Blanchard micblanchard@sasktel.net phone 306 690 5182
Moose Jaw Country Dance Workshop Committee Member; RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch Secretary