

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

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www.rscdswinnipeg.ca

Volume 48, Number 4

January 2017

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A Word from the Chair....

The new year has now begun and with it a new season of dancing. Our night of social dancing in late December went very well according to my sources and along with our new classes comes the Burns Night in January. Here's to a wonderful second half of dancing.

Scott MacRae

2015/16 Dance Season

Week of 9 January 2017	Winter term classes begin	
21 January Saturday	Burns Dinner and Dance at 17 Wing	\$50
23 February Thursday	Extra General Class	
27 February Monday	Branch social	
23 March Thursday	Extra General Class	
29 March Wednesday	Branch social	
Week of 10 April	Last Winter term classes	
21-23 April, Friday – Sunday	Weekend Workshop at 17 Wing	
27 April Thursday	Extra General Class	
24 May Wednesday	Branch AGM	Time TBA

Events are at St Paul's Hall except as noted. Events will be added to the Calendar as they are scheduled.

Class Notes

No regular reports this month, as classes don't happen over the Christmas break. The extra class December 29 was well attended, about 30 people, with family and friends almost equal in number to Branch members. All enjoyed the dance programme presented by Maureen and Joyce, and seasonal refreshments provided by the participants.

Branch News

Extra Classes

Based on the response in the first term, COM has voted to continue the Extra General Classes on Thursdays through second term – see dates on the Branch calendar above. As before, the classes will be from 8 – 10 PM at St Paul's, and there will be no charge.

Burns Dinner and Dance

Last Chance to get tickets is 11 January. If you can't make it to class, call Heather or Don – phone numbers below.

Be sure your calendar is marked for the Branch Burns Dinner and Dance on 21 January, 2017. As last year, the venue will be the base at 17 Wing. Dinner will include the traditional haggis and roast beef,

and wine will be provided. We will try to negotiate more modest dinner portions, as several people felt that servings were too large last year.

SCD dances will include Montgomeries' Rant, Silver Tassie, Talisker, Deuks Dang Ower My Daddie, The Lea Rig, and Corn Rigs, and the dance programme will be a blend of Scottish country and couples' dances, so you can be comfortable in bringing non-SCD partners and friends to enjoy the evening.

Tickets are \$50, and will be available either at classes, or directly from Heather Colquhoun (204 888 0834) or Don Johnson (204 885 9879), and must be purchased by 11 January. Once again, to comply with 17 Wing security protocol, we will need to get your name as it appears on the ID that you will use, and similar information for any guests, when you get your tickets. The list of names is forwarded to the base, and everyone must be prepared to show either photo ID, or two pieces of ID, at the gate.

We're looking forward to another very enjoyable evening; don't miss it!

Canada's Sesquicentennial

Tired of hearing about this already? Never mind, there's lots more to come. For starters, COM has decided that the Branch dance on 29 March will be Canada themed – Canadian dances, Canadian music; there were even murmurings about a cake! More celebrations in the months to come are possible; watch for announcements.

RSCDS Winnipeg Workshop and Ball 2017

April 21-23, 2017

17 Wing Air Force Base, Bldg #76

Whytefold Rd., north of Ness Ave.

Teachers:

Barbara Johnston, Edmonton, Alberta

David Booz, Toronto, Ontario

Come to a weekend filled with Ceilidh entertainment, dance instruction, a chance to wear your finery, enjoy a scrumptious meal, and then process to ***The Ball*** (*no glass slippers required!*). Delight in dancing to the live music provided by Ron Krug and Dennis Orr, more dancing on Sunday morning finished off with a yummy brunch, happening once again in the classy environment of 17 Wing.

The full weekend package is \$125 and you are guaranteed to have a wonderful time! Please show your support and commitment to Scottish Country Dancing by attending. Watch for the brochure, weekend options, and registration form which should be on the website by end of January, 2017. Put the dates on your new, 2017 calendar and get ready to boogie!

Questions or comments may be directed to Jane Nattrass, Coordinator of the Workshop Committee.



Kilt Skate

Once again, the Scottish Heritage Council is sponsoring a Kilt Skate, in memory of Sir John A. Macdonald. This year's event will take place the afternoon of 28 January at The Forks. For further information, contact the Branch secretary, Agnes Brydon, one of our delegates to the Council.

Editor's musings: Did Sir John A. ever wear a kilt? Ever skate? Ever do both at the same time?

Name Tags

Branch members should have name tags, with their name and Branch affiliation. New members receive these tags **at no further charge** after their first membership is paid. A returning member who has misplaced their tag can get a replacement by contacting the Registrar, Sharon Plaitin. The charge for replacements is \$8.

It is a courtesy to wear your name tag in any situation where not everyone may know you, e.g., when attending an "extra class" or a social.

Dancing Achievement Award

We recently received the following from TAC (Teachers' Association Canada). As we have published reports on TAC Summer Schools in past issues, we thought this might be of interest to some of our members. The next TAC Summer school will be in Vancouver 23-30 July 2017.

- Have you been dancing for a while and wonder what level you are dancing at?
- Do you enjoy a challenge and want to improve your dancing technique?
- Do you enjoy working towards and achieving goals as a team?
- Have you ever considered taking the RSCDS Teaching Certificate but are not sure if your technique is good enough?

If you answered yes to any of these questions then the Dance Achievement Award Test is the class for you. Join us at the TAC Summer School in Vancouver, British Columbia and attend an intermediate DAA course next July. The class will run for three afternoons followed by the assessment on Friday afternoon.

Participants are expected to know the six prescribed dances prior to arrival so that they can concentrate on "polishing the finer points of their performance" while working together as a team.

You do not need to be a member of the RSCDS and this opportunity is open to any dancer.

For more information and to read the requirements and expectations check the RSCDS website:

www.rscds.org/article/dancing-achievement-award-daa

Registration for this course will begin on February 15, 2017 in conjunction with the TAC Summer Events registration. The application form and more information will be available on the TAC website:

www.tac-rscds.org/index.php/tac-summer-school/summer-school-2017

The Branch on Facebook

Did you know that the Branch has a Facebook page? If you're on Facebook yourself, why not visit us at RSCDS Winnipeg, and "like" us.

Here and There...

Scottish Country Dance Ghillies and Pumps

www.avriel.com

Your one stop shoe shop for all your dancing needs.

Clan Info and Scottish Shop

www.scotclans.com

SCD Online

In case you didn't know about these sites:

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.

Inter-city Scot www.intercityscot.org for travellers; lists of classes and events in places that you might be visiting in North America. For other parts of the world, use the link to SCD groups on the Strathspey site to find contact information.

There may be other useful sites that I don't know about. Let me know!

Peter

Out of Town Events

10-12 February 2017

Edmonton, AB

Annual Workshop and Ball

www.rscdsedmonton.com for details and forms

17-19 February 2016

Honolulu, Hawaii

Aloha Winter Weekend

Details at www.rscdshawaii.org

7-9 April 2017

Lethbridge, AB

Dance and Music Workshops and Ball

Details at www.lethbridgescottishcountrydance.org

6-8 October 2017

Dartmouth, NS

NS Branch 35th Anniversary Workshop and Ball

Details at www.rscdsnovascotia.ca/35th-Anniversary.htm

Note that this is the beginning of Celtic Colours week in Cape Breton.

Late 2017

Dancing tour of New Zealand

Visit www.toursbychris.com for contact info.

Important Dates

COM meetings: Next meeting 4 January 2017.

Next L&A: Deadline for the next issue 6 January 2017.

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

Please send submissions for the *Light and Airy* to Peter McClure john.mcclure@umr.umanitoba.ca.

This and several past issues of the *Light and Airy* are posted on the Branch website

www.rscdswinnipeg.ca