



Guth na Dannairean Voice of the Dancers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bliadhna Mhath Ùr! ... which means Happy New Year! I hope you were all 'First-Footed' by a tall, dark stranger bearing a gift, to bring you and your families good fortune for the coming year.

Well, the year that we've all been awaiting is here at last! 2010 brings with it the excitement of hosting the ScotDance Canada Championship Series from July 7th through 11th, when we get to welcome the world to our city and province. Our committees have their planning well underway for all the events: the competitions at the Fieldhouse, the social events at the Bessborough and the Sheraton, and all the services to support our guests while they enjoy their visit to Saskatoon. If you haven't already registered to help out, please visit the SHDA web site, complete a volunteer form, and send it off to our volunteer co-ordinator. You won't want to miss this opportunity to be a vital part of a 'once-in-a-dance-career' event here in Saskatoon!

We had a wonderful turn-out at the Members' Meeting on November 23rd. Thank you so much to everyone who attended and also to those who passed along their regrets. The next Members' Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 17th beginning at 7:00 p.m.; this is a week earlier than the normal fourth Monday of the month since the latter falls on the Victoria Day holiday. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend – we would love to see another terrific turn-out. The next Executive meeting takes place on Monday, January 25th at 7:30 p.m. All meetings take place at the Nutana Mennonite Church at 1701 Ruth Street.

At the Members' meeting, it was decided to offer our Full Members a subsidy of \$100 per dancer to be applied toward competition fees, travel, or highland outfit expenses. Receipts need to be submitted to our Treasurer, Ronda Bolton.

The almost-final financial numbers are in for the Scottish Pavilion, 2009 edition. We were all pleasantly surprised by our successful year; despite significant increases in expenses, our net revenues also increased significantly. We hope to use some of these funds to continue improving our pavilion's appearance and program, as well as for member benefits. Stay tuned!

. . . Continued on page 2

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
President's message cont.	2
Outfits for Sale	2
Provincial Report	3
Competitions	4
Bingo Update/Muriel Boyle Award	5
Newsletter Update	6
Dance Outs	6

Dates to Remember:

- February 6—Saskatoon Closed Competition*
- February 7—Saskatoon Workshop*
- March 12—SHDA newsletter deadline*
- May 1— Provincial Day Championship and Competition*
- May 29 — Saskatoon Open Competition*
- July 7-11 — ScotDance Canada Championship Series 2010*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued

In other news, the 2010 Provincial Championships and Competition will be held in North Battleford on May 1st as a one-day event. SHDA was also asked if we wished to switch the rotation with Regina and host the 2011 event, but the members decided that we will wait for our regular turn in 2012.

Important upcoming events include the conferring of the Muriel Boyle Memorial Awards and the Closed Competition on February 6th, which includes that perennial favourite, the Cakewalk event, and the High Highland and High National events for the Premier dancers.

And ... it's never too early to pencil in the dates for the second great event of the summer: Folkfest 2010. The Scottish Pavilion will be open from Thursday, August 19th to Saturday, August 21st for another great year of entertainment, food, and fun. It will be 'all hands on deck' for SHDA members so that we can duplicate our success of 2009! Watch soon for details on how you can assist.

Best wishes for a terrific 2010,

Elaine Baptie

COSTUMES FOR SALE

Get ready for Burns' Night! Three lady's wool tartan kilts/skirts for sale. All are about size 10 or 12:

1. Knee-length (25" long) pleated skirt (lady's walking kilt), could be Hunting McKenzie tartan. \$25

2. Floor-length (39") red and black tartan or plaid, wrap-around skirt. \$25

Floor-length (41") blue and black dress tartan pleated skirt (walking kilt) \$35

Please contact Jean Goldie, 244-3955; jean.goldie@usask.ca <<mailto:jean.goldie@usask.ca>>

Create a full outfit! All were worn by a dancer with a slim build.

Kilt: Dress Royal Cunningham (6 m. of fabric) – waist from 20" to 22+"; hips approximately 27" to 30"; length 22" [hem fully let down] – worn from age 7

\$125.00

Jacket: Royal blue velvet jacket with silver braid and buttons – fits chest size 30"; measurement across front below armholes 16"; sleeve length 17"; back length from neck to centre point 20". Hardly worn, but with tiny blemish not visible on stage. \$65

Vest: Royal blue velvet vest with silver braid and buttons – fits chest size 29"; measurement across front below armholes is 15.5"; back length from neck to centre point 17" \$45

Socks: Wool socks [match Royal Cunningham, Menzies or similar] – foot length approximately 7.5"; length from heel to top of cuff [folded] 13"; calf 6.5 unstretched \$30

Vest: Royal blue velvet with silver braid and buttons – fits chest size 25"; front measurement below armholes 13"; back length 14.25" \$35

Please contact Elaine at tartan@sasktel.net or 373-7659.

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT



The first order of the SHDA team jackets have arrived and have been distributed. They look great and we look forward to sharing our pride at upcoming dancing events. I will be placing a second order in the spring. If you are a parent or sibling or new SHDA member and are interested in a jacket please contact me — the.hannas@sasktel.net

Also: Keep the date---Provincial Day will be May 1st in North Battleford. It will be a one day event with the Provincial Championships in the morning and the national event in the afternoon. It will be a very exciting lead-in to July...

You won't want to miss it!

Christine Hanna

COSTUMES FOR SALE [continued]

Kilt Outfit \$225

Kilt: Dress Hunting Ross tartan -- waist 30.5" at smallest setting; hips approximately 40"; length 26"; comes with suspenders

Vest: Emerald green velvet with silver braid [NO buttons] – 40" bust; 20.5" across front below armholes; back length 20"

Socks: Matching wool socks, fully fashioned – foot length 9.75"; leg length 17"; calf 11" unstretched – comes with extra wool if mending required in future

Blouse: full-length, back buttoned white blouse with lace sleeves and dickey

Aboyne Outfit \$80

Skirt: dark blue cotton plaid fabric, with adjustable gathers and waistband, & matching shoulder plaid – waist 30", length 24.5" with 2" hem remaining

Vest: matching blue velvet petal vest -- bust approx. 40", measurement across front below armholes 21"

Slip: sleeveless full length slip with Velcro shoulders for easy on/off [Outfit would have used blouse included with jig outfit.]

Irish Jig Outfit \$45

Skirt: Green broadcloth circle skirt with button waistband – waist 30.5", length 25"

Overtop: green sleeveless top – bust 39", 20" across front

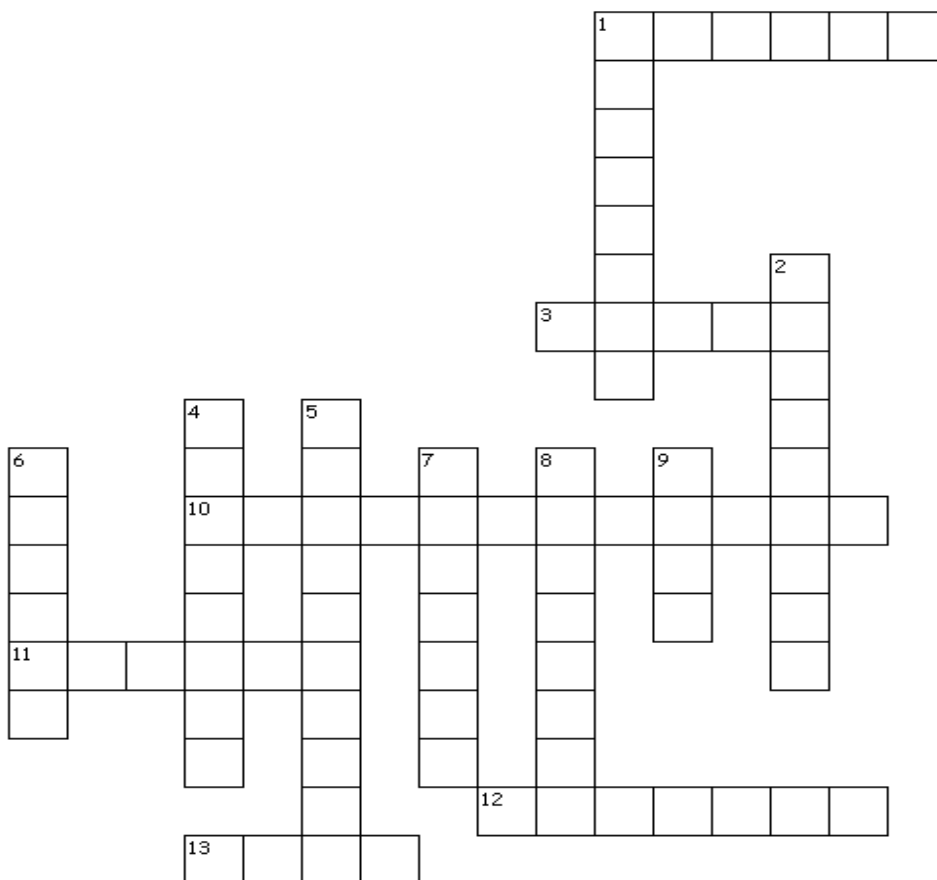
Blouse: white broderie Anglaise with elbow-length sleeves

Apron: white broderie Anglaise, ties in back

Outfit comes with matching hair scrunchie

Please contact shda@shda.ca

COMPETITIONS REPORT (from M.J. Sherven)



Across

1. a competition in highland dance where only dancers from our province can compete.
3. one of two national dances a beginner can perform.
10. a dancer can compete in this status for a maximum of one year.
11. the status of dancer that is just prior to Intermediate.
12. the youngest status for a highland dancer.
13. the most awesome parent-run highland dance organization.

Down

1. partner dance performed at the February closed competition.
2. the city hosting the SDCCS July 7-11, 2010.
4. the name given to the shoe worn in all highland dances with the exception of the jig.
5. the city hosting provincials on May 1st, 2010.
6. the costume worn for National dances.
7. the highest status a dancer can obtain in highland dance competitions.
8. the status of dancer that is just prior to novice.
9. one of two national dances a beginner can perform

BINGO UPDATE

Happy New Year to all of our SHDA members and their families. I hope that everyone enjoyed their Christmas season. Just a short note to say thank you to everyone who has come out and worked their bingo shifts. As of right now, we don't have any further dates. However, there are several spots left to fill in the second shift of the Sunday, February 14, 2010, bingo. I realize that most people have to get up and go to work the next day, but these are the shifts that we've been given for our fund raising. It would be greatly appreciated if you would sign up to work one early shift and one late shift thus making it a little more fair for everyone. One last note - if you know that you will be sending someone else to work your bingo shift, would you please let me know when you sign up? This is mainly so we know about assigning jobs ahead of time. Once again, thanks for doing your part with the bingos!

Take care.

Lynn Wagner, Bingo Co-ordinator

MURIEL BOYLE MEMORIAL AWARDS

Since 2004, the Muriel Boyle Memorial Awards have been presented to a dancer in each of the categories of pre-premier, junior premier and senior premier. Thanks to generous bequest made by Muriel Boyle to the SHDA in 2003, this former dancer, teacher and judge is able to pass on her lifetime love of Highland dancing to new generations of dancers.

The deadline for award applications was January 15, 2010, and the recipients will be announced at the SHDA closed competition on February 6. For those eligible for next year's award, look for further information regarding the requirements and forms at the SHDA website.



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WORKSHOPS

Sign up for the February 7th SHDA workshop on the Sunday following the competition. It will be located at the Albert Community Center, and schedules will be available at the registration table on the 6th. A great way to hear feedback from the competition judges!

Also, look for further updates on the website and the March newsletter on the upcoming Spring Tune-up during Easter break.

Cathryn Wood, Workshops Coordinator



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NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Happy New Year to everyone. I am sure that after the Christmas break from dance classes and with all the extra calories consumed that it was hard to get back into the old routine. With 2010 now here, it is going to prove to be an exciting year for all our dancers with Canadian Championships, Folkfest, and not to mention all of the other competitions and dance outs coming up. In order to keep everyone informed about all of the upcoming events, there will be two more newsletters for this dance year—March and May (submission deadlines March 12 & May 21 respectively). There is always room in the newsletter for costumes for sale/wanted, and if anyone is a budding writer, short articles relating to Highland dancing or Scottish culture are also welcome additions.

I look forward to everyone's contributions in March and May.

Vicki Strelieff

Email: vstrelieff@yahoo.com



DANCE OUTS

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Festival of Trees dance out a success.

January 16 has dancers performing at the Circle Drive Care Home. April 17 has another dance out opportunity.

Don't forget to let us know the new dances you learn as the year progresses.

Terrie G. & Gwen J.

Dance Out Coordinators, SHDA

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