



Guth na Dannairean Voice of the Dancers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome, everyone, to a brand new season of dance. I'm sure we can look forward to a great year of activities and fun, whether it's performances, competitions, workshops, or get-togethers. It was wonderful to see such a good turn-out on registration night. If you, or someone you know, has not yet taken out a membership, it's not too late! Forms are available on the website.

As you are aware, the SHDA membership categories have been simplified. Check the website for descriptions of our membership types: Full, Associate, and Teacher. Along with the category changes, we have made a few changes to membership responsibilities. We were able to keep membership fees at the same rates. Bingo commitments have been reduced to one shift per dancer, and Folkfest volunteer hours have been increased to a minimum of sixteen (16) hours per family. Dance-out participation remains at three events for each dancer between September and June.

The reduction in bingo shifts is possible due to the continued success of the Scottish Pavilion at Folkfest as a fundraiser for our organization. This has two implications: first, it means that members should plan on completing their bingo shifts in our scheduled sessions on October 18th and November 1st. With the reduction in our bingo budget, we cannot guarantee that we will be assigned any other bingos throughout the year. Second, everyone's participation in preparing for and running the Scottish Pavilion is critical. The Pavilion is a great deal of work, but it is also a great deal of fun, as many new volunteers discovered this past August. This year, we entertained over 28,000 visitors in three days, which makes it all worthwhile! Mark your calendars for August 13th, 14th, and 15th, 2009 for another terrific celebration of Scottish culture. This year should be extra special as it is the 30th anniversary of Folkfest in Saskatoon.

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Dates to Remember:

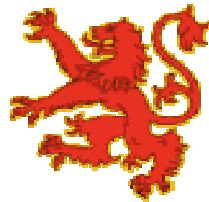
- October 25—Battleford Competition*
- October 27—SHDA executive meeting*
- November 8—Regina Competition*
- November 24—SHDA General Meeting*
- November 29—SHDA Open Competition*
- January 10—Newsletter deadline*
- February 7—Saskatoon Closed Competition*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued

Your assistance as a volunteer on one of our SHDA committees or our Pavilion committees is always welcome. Learn more at our Membership meeting which is scheduled for November 24th. Watch your e-mail for further details. The SHDA Executive meets monthly, on the fourth Monday of each month; members are welcome to attend.

I look forward to working with each and every member to make this another successful year for the Saskatoon Highland Dancing Association. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at information@shda.ca. Let's hope that 2008-2009 is a flinging good time!

Elaine Baptie
President



Tapadh Leibh

**A great big THANK YOU to our army of volunteers who helped to make
this year's Scottish Pavilion another success!
We appreciate everyone's contributions to our Folkfest event.**

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

The next SHDA newsletter deadline is January 10, 2009. Any members who would like to contribute material for the next newsletter should keep this date in mind. If anyone has any short jokes, stories, recipes, etc. that relate to Highland dancing or Scottish culture, please email them to me so that they can be included in one of the three remaining newsletters this dance year (January, March & May). Perhaps some of the dancers who travelled to Scotland this summer might have some interesting anecdotes to share with us. I look forward to everyone's participation as it makes my job of filling the pages of this newsletter a lot easier.

Vicki Streliaff
Email: vstreliaff@yahoo.com

Do You Have Items to Sell? Items You Need?

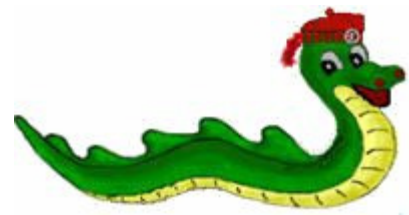
If you have Highland Dance items to sell or have items that you need, you might be interested to know that the Classified Ads section of the website is being reactivated. Members will be able to submit ads for Highland Dance-related items that they are seeking to sell or purchase. If you have some outfits just hanging around in your closet, this could be a great way to find a new home for them!

Some tips:

- Include measurements, such as chest, waist, length, and hips.
- Note how much of a hem is available to lengthen the article.
- It is very helpful if you can give an idea of the age range through which your dancer wore the outfit, and the body type for which it was made: e.g., fit a petite dancer from ages 8 to 10; fit an average-sized dancer from ages 11 to 14.
- Give an accurate description of the article: colour, tartan if applicable, the maker if known.
- Include a picture if possible. Prospective buyers especially like to see pictures of someone wearing the outfit, which does tend to show it off to its best advantage. For safety, though, please crop the head off your model, or blur out his/her face.

Please send your ads to information@shda.ca. If you have any questions, they can be sent to this e-mail as well.

Happy Shopping,
Elaine Baptie



COSTUMES FOR SALE:

One sailors hornpipe hat - size 6 5/8 - \$10.00 (contact Ronda Bolton— rbolton@sasktel.net)

White lilt dress—approx. size 6—\$8.00 and

Red/white girl's kiltie—fits a slender primary dancer from size 5-7—\$90 (contact Vicki Strelieff—vstrelieff@yahoo.com)

1 lilt dress fits size 12-14 girl with a wine Sutherland sash and pin. \$30 for all.

Shoes: ballet slippers for practice (3 B and 5 B) and highland shoes for a size 3-4 foot and a size 8.5 women's foot. \$10/pair

Dress Green Scott Kilt with matching vest and socks. Highland blouse included. Worn 4 times, in fantastic shape. \$575.(fits a size 6-8 woman).

Contact Bobbi 249-4840 or b.janzen@sasktel.net

SHDA TRAVEL BURSARY

For all fundraising SHDA members who fulfilled their requirements last year, now is the time to submit your form and receipts for the \$400 travel bursary, so please get them in as soon as possible. All out-of-province competitions between June 1 and September 30, 2008 are eligible for this funding. Look for the forms on the SHDA website. If you have any questions, email Ronda Bolton at rbolton@sasktel.net.

DANCES AND COSTUMES AT A GLANCE

STATUS	DANCES	COSTUMES NEEDED
Primary 3-6 years of age.	Pas Das Basques PDB & Hi Cuts Fling Sword	Kiltie and vest (kiltie has less material and is much less expensive) Or Plaid skirt and white blouse
Beginner 7 years and up. Earn 6 stamps to move up to Novice.	Fling * Lilt** Sword* Flora ** Seann Truihbas*	Kiltie and vest * Aboyne **
Novice 7 years and up. Earn 6 stamps to move up to Intermediate.	Fling* Lilt** Sword* Flora ** Seann Truihbas* Reel *	Kiltie and vest* Aboyne**
Intermediate 1 year max from first Intermediate competition.	Fling * Lilt** Sword* Flora ** Seann Truihbas* Reel* Johnnie* Laddie* Hornpipe*** Jig****	Kilt and vest* Aboyne** Hornpipe Sailor *** Jig Dress*****
Premier Once a Premier ... always a Premier.	Fling* Lilt** Sword* Flora** Seann Truihbas* Reel* Johnnie* Laddie* Blue Bonnets** Village Maid** Earl of Errol* Scotch Measure** Hornpipe*** Jig****	Kilt and vest* Aboyne** Hornpipe Sailor *** Jig Dress*****

MURIEL BOYLE MEMORIAL AWARDS

The Muriel Boyle Memorial Awards will next be presented at the SHDA closed competition in February, 2009. These awards are open to all SHDA dancers in three categories—pre-Premier, junior Premier and senior Premier—who have not received the award in the past three years.

For further information about the requirements and application forms, please go to the SHDA website.

BINGO UPDATE

Bingo dates: Saturday, October 18th, 2008 and Saturday, November 1st, 2008.

As the SHDA has decreased our applied bingo budget and the bingo requirements have been reduced to one shift per dancer, please sign up for these scheduled dates so that your opportunity to fulfill the commitment is not lost. There is no guarantee as to how many more dates we will be given this dance year.

SHDA Bingo Coordinator needed!

Email: information@shda.ca

WORKSHOPS

SHDA Workshops are offered after Saskatoon November and February competitions. They are an excellent opportunity to hear feedback and have instruction from the competition judges. Also, watch for details regarding our yearly Spring Tune Up Workshop held during the Easter break. All workshops are held at the Albert Community Centre this year. Registration for the November workshop can be found on the competition registration form or at the competition. Schedules will also be available at the competition. For questions, please contact Cathryn Wood at 477-0871 or thewoodsies@sasktel.net.

Irate golfer, on his way to a round of 150: "You must be the worst caddie in the world!"

Scottish caddie (dryly): "That would be too much of a coincidence, sir."

1701 Ruth Street E
Saskatoon, SK
S7J 0L7

SHDA WEBSITE
www.shda.ca



"I hear Maggie and yourself settled your difficulties and decided to get married after all," Jock said to Sandy.

"That's right," said Sandy, "Maggie's put on so much weight that we couldn't get the engagement ring off her finger."



DANCE COMPETITIONS 2008-09 *(be there or be square)*

This year we will be hosting three dance competitions:

November 29th, 2008 at the Manhattan Ballroom (Open Competition)

February 7th, 2009 at the Manhattan Ballroom (Closed Competition)

May 30th, 2009 venue TBA (Open Competition)

Some common Q & A for competitions:

- **What's the difference between an Open Competition and a Closed Competition?** An Open Competition is 'open' to all dancers whereas a Closed Competition is only for those dancers from Saskatchewan.
- **How come a dancer doesn't get stamps as an Intermediate?** This category is for a one year maximum and therefore stamps are not needed. A dancer can actually skip this stage and go directly from Novice to Premier.
- **Why are judges from out of the province?** A judge is not allowed to adjudicate a dancer if they have given him/her instruction one month prior to the competition so it makes life easier for everyone if we get judges from out of province.
- **I see two different types of aboyne costumes ~ is one better than the other?** There is no rule that dancers must have the full aboyne skirt and vest once they become Premiers. In fact it is quite legal for a Premier dancer to compete using the white dress and plaid.
- **What is a Championship Competition?** This is a special competition for Premier dancers who perform the 4 Highland dances with specific steps. At these competitions you will see all the dancers doing the exact same steps ... and you can hear a pin drop while they dance because there's so much stress in the atmosphere.
- **Why do I always see MJ Sherven wearing plaid at competitions?** Yes, it is true that MJ wears an item of plaid at every competition; sometimes even plaid underwear. MJ has been diagnosed with 'Plaiditis' ~ a condition where a person is Mad for Plaid.

