

## Saskatoon Scottish Country Dancers President's Communique



One thing that was brought to my attention was sometimes information and communication was missed throughout the year. My goal is to keep the communication flowing throughout the season. We lead busy lives and everyone must choose their priorities. I enjoy writing. Thus, I am initiating a short regular, communique. It will include upcoming events, interesting facts related to what we do, and anything else that might be appropriate. I need a title. Let me know your ideas. Like this bird, I have a mouthful of things to say today. – **Marian Holmes**

### 2016-2017 WRAP UP

The 2016-2017 dance season officially ended on Wednesday night with a wonderful potluck and AGM. A new executive was established. They are:

**Past President:** Bill Pollock  
**President:** Marian Holmes  
**Vice President:** Tara Zrymiak  
**Treasurer:** Robert Clark

**Secretary:** Diane Cross  
**Librarian:** Bob McNaughton  
**Demo Team Convenor:** Diane Davis  
**Teacher's Representative:** Jean Gibson

A special welcome to new members, Diane Cross and Tara Zrymiak. Thank you to Eliza Meggs, the outgoing Past President for her dedication, hard work and all she has done for the club. Eliza took some time off this year. We wish you well and hope to see you back this autumn!

### OPEN HOUSE: SAVE THE DATE



The 2017-2018 dance season begins with the annual Open House at St. Mark's Hall, Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Introduce a friend. Growing our membership will help us thrive and stay active, healthy and vibrant. Joining in September is ideal as the dances start simple and progress gradually but definitively.

Jean Gibson and Bev Will are expected to once again teach. In other words, we may start as goslings, but come May we will be Wild Dancing Geese!

### FRIDAY NIGHTS

The Demo Team, coached by Jean Gibson, practices at St. Mark's Hall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month.

The basic class will return in September, with Bev and Jean splitting the teaching. New members are encouraged to come. All are welcome. It is small class and the teachers can spend more time teaching the techniques and dances. Much of the material in the basic class piggybacks on, or

prepares us for the Wednesday lessons. I can say from my personal experience, it has helped me grow as a dancer and succeeded in stretching my comfort zone.

## MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees were established at the AGM on Wednesday. New this year: membership categories (based on Saskatchewan Branch categories), applicable only to returning members.

New Members (includes Friday basic class) - \$110.00



### Returning Members (includes RSCDS Branch membership):

Individual - \$110.00

Youth (aged 12-17) - \$92

Youth (aged 18-24): \$103

Joint (two persons at the same address): \$103 each

Drop-In: \$5.00 per night

## LIFE MEMBERS

Life members are chosen periodically at the discretion of the executive to honour their commitment and dedication to our club. Currently we have 9 life members. These are:

Jean Gibson, Jim MacDonald, Greta McDougall, Barbara McEwen, Don McEwen, Mary Jean Roy, Edith Shannon, George Slater and Nell Van Meer.

## COMMUNITY



I end this by saying thank you to everyone who make the Saskatoon Scottish Country Dancers so special. I started dancing because I wanted a fun way to exercise, and dancing was the only way I could think of that would fit the bill. I found Claude Hutton's lessons at the City Park Collegiate. I remember taking Scottish Country Dance in Toronto years ago but didn't remember any of it. My father had recently passed away. Scottish Country Dancing was a small way to honour him and learn about my heritage.

Bev Will assisted Claude with the children's classes just before mine began. She invited me to the Saskatoon Scottish Country Dancers – right across the street from where I live. I attended my first Ceilidh and heard Bob McNaughton sing a duet with Wendy (last name eludes me). “Skye Boat Song” was so powerful, I felt my father's presence. It gave me chills. I never looked back. I consider the Saskatoon Scottish Country Dancers my family – my community. We take care of each other. Thus, it is with deep honour that I now serve you as President.

Have a safe, happy and healthy summer! See you in September!

*All photos by Marian Jennifer Holmes ©2016-2017, except photo of Marian, by Kathleen Pollock*

**Scottish Proverb: Feather, by feather, the goose is plucked!**

