

FUSTA Footwork

December 2006

Our Past is our Future.

The United States has been blessed with many who have given back to Highland Dance and appear to have taken very little in return. They have selflessly given of their time, talents, and resources to an activity that means so much to its participants.

After two years of planning, FUSTA is now able to recognize and honor members who have contributed to the growth and development of Highland Dance in the United States by making them members of FUSTA's Hall of Fame.

Eight grand ladies of Highland Dance—givers all— became the first class of inductees into the Hall of Fame and were honored at the USIR Finalists' dinner where the past, the present and the future were gathered.

The first class of honorees included Jeanne Brauns, Margaret Callendar, Florence Hart, Betty Lawrence, Sheila Mittig, Vera Miller Patterson, Marguerite Reid, and Mary Stewart. Their collective passion and devotion to Highland Dance has made an impact hard to measure in words. Four were honored posthumously; four were in attendance. In body and in spirit, they formed a double reel team of unwavering commitment to keep alive the traditions of Highland Dance in the United States and to actively foster its growth.

They coaxed a higher standard of dance, encouraged teacher training and mentored any who sought their guidance. Their vision and dedication laid solid foundations for us to build upon. The biographies of these remarkable ladies are on the FUSTA website under Hall of Fame.

It is very easy to become focused on the present and the future without knowing what went on before 'our time'. It then becomes easy to adopt the mistaken belief that Highland Dance started the very day each of us became personally involved. By recognizing and honoring the past, we can relish the present and insure a future.

A well-known actor responded to a question about his success with this answer: "When you drink from the well, remember those who dug it." Each of the eight ladies helped dig the well from which we drink. As we drink from the well, we in turn must assume the responsibility to become diggers of the well.

Each year FUSTA's Hall of Fame will grow as more are recognized for their contributions to Highland Dance. Our past will continue to be our future.

Ann Johnson, FUSTA President



Information for the Hall of Fame and the criteria and nomination forms for this coming year can be found on our website at www.FUSTA.us.

Editor's Notes

Well, it's been a busy fall for me. Hope everyone is enjoying the winter and getting ready for Christmas. Here in the midwest it is just now turning cold (it was actually over 60 degrees the day after Thanksgiving in Michigan).

I'm personally looking forward to having a few more months to get my dancers ready for the next competition season. Hopefully, I will get to meet many of you at competitions this next summer, if I don't know you already.

Please let me know if you have any news and/or articles for our next issue, scheduled to come out in March. Please send me all information by April 15th to QOSDA@hotmail.com.

Happy Holidays! Best Wishes for 2007!!

~ Bree Erin Brownlee
Midwest

USIR Update



FUSTA EASTERN REGION DONATES \$2000 TO ALEX'S LEMONADE STAND

This year the USIR 2006 Finalists dinner and silent auction was held at the historic Canfield Casino in Congress Park in Saratoga Springs, New York. Over 50 items were donated by local businesses, Highland Dancing vendors, and Scottish Organizations. FUSTA Eastern Region has donated the proceeds from this silent auction to Alex's Lemonade Stand for Childhood Cancer Research.

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) is a unique not for profit organization that has evolved from a young cancer patient's front yard lemonade stand to a nationwide fundraising movement for childhood cancer. This young cancer patient was Alexandra "Alex" Scott.

For four years, despite her deteriorating health, Alex held an annual lemonade stand to raise money for childhood cancer research. Following her inspirational example, thousands of lemonade stands have been held across the country by children, schools, businesses, and organizations, all to benefit ALSF. To date, her national campaign has raised over eight million dollars for childhood cancer research.

Alex passed away in 2004. Her giving spirit remains the driving force behind the foundation she established. Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, guided by Alex's parents, will continue the fight for all the families who are currently battling childhood cancer, until a cure is found.

As many of you know, Saratoga Springs is the home of the world renowned Saratoga Racecourse, the oldest continuously operating race course in North America. Champion thoroughbred, Alfeet Alex, 2005 winner of Belmont and Preakness Stakes and winner of the Hopeful and Sanford Stakes at Saratoga in 2004, has been linked to Alex's Lemonade Stand. The horse's owners donate a portion of the proceeds from the sale of Alfeet Alex Gear to ALSF.

This amazing horse was not been named after Alex Scott, but embodied her determination and strength as he went on to triumph in the 2005 Preakness by more than 4 lengths after miraculously recovering from a collision with front-runner ScappyT. This Preakness finish undoubtedly was one of the most dramatic in the race's 130 year history.

For more information on Alex's Lemonade Stand, visit www.alexslimonade.org.

HOME TOWN HEROES RECOGNIZED

On November 15, the Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau held its 22nd annual Thanksgiving Reception to recognize their 2006 Home Town Heroes. A group of individuals from Saratoga County who have brought their organization's convention/meeting "home" to Saratoga Springs during 2006.

Anne Donlan, Chairman of the 2006 USIR, was nominated and selected as one of this year's Home Town Heroes for hosting the United States Inter-Regional Championship Weekend at the Saratoga Hotel and Conference Center.

Gavin Landry, President of the Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau, introduced the 12 Home Town Heroes for 2006 and presented each if then them with a certificate and gift from Symmetry Gallery in Saratoga Springs. Business owners from throughout Saratoga County attended the reception which was held at the Saratoga Springs City Center. Special Guests included Joseph Dalton, President of the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce and Marcia White, Executive Director of the Saratoga Performing Arts Center.

USIR 2007

Orange County,
CA
usir2007.fusta.us

USIR 2008 -
Denver, CO

USIR 2009 -
TBD in Southeast

USIR 2010 -
TBD in Midwest

USIR 2011 -
TBD in Northwest

USIR 2012 -
TBD in East

2007 USIR - Regional Selection

Southwest	April 28
Southeast	May 5
East	May 12
Northwest	May 12
Western	May 26
Midwest	May 27

2007 USIR Judges:

From Scotland:
Jacqueline Aird, Rhona Lawrence and
Aileen Robertson

From Canada:
Irene Baird, Sheryl Joyner and
Lorraine Symington

NEW Travel Requirements



New Requirements for U.S. Travelers to/from Canada

FUSTA would like its members to be able to travel back and forth between the U.S. and Canada with as little difficulty as possible. To help ensure this we are posting this information regarding required travel documentation for your use. Please read it carefully.

Department of Homeland Security Timeline

In the proposed implementation plan, the requirement will be rolled out in the following phases:

- On **January 8, 2007**, **U.S. citizens traveling by air** between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda will be required to present a **valid U.S. passport**, Air NEXUS card, or U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Document.
- It is anticipated that on **January 1, 2008**, U.S. citizens traveling between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda **by land or sea** (including ferries), may be required to present a **valid U.S. passport or other documents** as determined by the Department of Homeland Security. While recent legislative changes may permit a later deadline, both the Departments of State and Homeland Security are working to put all requirements in place by the original deadline. Advance notice will be provided to enable the public meet the land/sea border requirement.

Travel Documents for U.S. Citizens

Under the proposed implementation plan, the following documents will be acceptable to fulfill document requirements under the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative:

- **U.S. Passport:** U.S. citizens may present a valid U.S. passport when traveling via air between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda, and may also use a U.S. passport to when traveling via sea and land borders (including ferry crossings).
- **The Passport Card (also referred to as the PASS Card):** This limited-use passport in card format is currently under development and will be available for use for travel only via land or sea (including ferries) between the U.S. and Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda. Similar in size to a credit card, it will fit easily into a wallet.
- It is anticipated that these documents will continue to be acceptable for their current travel uses under WHTI: SENTRI, NEXUS, FAST, and the U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Document. As proposed, members of the U.S. Armed Forces on active duty traveling orders will continue to be exempt from the passport requirement.

Regional News



East

- 🌿 Congratulations to Lynda Maxwell for her marriage to Martin Graham. They were married in Scotland during August.
- 🌿 The Delco workshop, is now accepting entries online - www.delcoworkshop.com



Midwest

- 🌿 Bree Erin Brownlee's dance studio, Queen of Scots Dance Academy put their feet to work in new ways by participating in the American Cancer Society's *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk* in October. Together their raised over \$8,000 for the ACS's fight against breast cancer. For more information, log onto their website at www.QOSDA.com.



- 🌿 Mary-Elizabeth Chaney and Kerry Monzo passed their Members exam at the Alma Highland Festival, fall competition in October. Congratulations ladies!
- 🌿 Louise Reed's baby boy was born on Sept. 5th at 11:44pm. His name is William Robert Harrison Reid and he weights 8lbs 13oz and was 22" long. He is doing great.
- 🌿 Melissa Volck delivered her son almost 5 weeks early on Sept 13th at 7:47am. His name is Henry Wyatt Philip Volck and he weighed 4lbs 15oz and was 18-3/4" long. He was able to go home on Monday the 25th and is doing well.



Southeast

- 🌿 Judy Hackett's students placed at the North American Sadie Simpson Highland Scholarships in San Antonio on Friday, November 3rd. Claire MacMillian won first place in the Junior Highland Scholarship and Lindsay Recknagel won sixth place in the Senior Highland Scholarship.

- 🌿 At Stone Mountain Highland Games held in October in Stone Mountain Georgia, scholarships were awarded by "Friends of Steve Langston" in his honor. Steve, who recently passed away, had been fighting cancer for the past year. He had been a long time friend of dancers, a popular announcer, and firstly a dance dad (father of Valerie Langston) for many decades. This year a group developed a scholarship fund to be awarded in his honor for many years to follow. "Friends of Steve Langston" awarded three pre-premier scholarships and two premier scholarships. The recipients were Shona Whitfield, Martha Clendinin, Alice Burks, Claire Macmillan, and Gabrielle Rosenthal.

- 🌿 Emily Kirkton was married on March 25. She had a beautiful Celtic wedding, piped in by David Coulter, and an eagle flew overhead during the ceremony.
- 🌿 Robin Kalat was transported by horse and carriage to her wedding on Sept 9. She is now a 2nd grade teacher in Raleigh.
- 🌿 A couple truly brought together by Scottish dancing, Greg Graf married Carissa Koontz on Aug 12. Greg will be attending graduate school at Georgia Tech University.
- 🌿 Katie McDaniel has announced her engagement, but no date has been set yet. It's been a banner year for weddings!
- 🌿 Laura Johnson is in her second year of medical school at Emory on a full scholarship. She was joined at Emory this year by Cameron Oddone in her freshman year.



Northwest

- 🌿 The NW Region was excited to have Bill Troock down for a Professional Development Day on October 28th. We had a wonderful hornpipe and jig lecture in the morning followed by a 2007 set step lecture in the afternoon.



Southwest

- 🌿 Katie Neptune-Benton from Colorado placed 3rd in the Jr. BATD Scholarship class.
- 🌿 Carla Gardner from Texas won the Sr. BATD Scholarship class and Choreography and Lindsey Lubrano from Texas placed 5th in the BATD Scholarship class.

note: no West news provided