

FUSTA Footwork

June 2007

It is that time of year again. For many, it's high season for Highland Dance. Summer calendars can be filled by early spring with weekend Highland Games, dance competition and workshops. Those events certainly define and measure the passing of time during the summer months.

For many FUSTA members this is the season of awakening and awareness. Issues related to Highland Dance are seen in a different light. Interest is higher and concerns more intense. We see more of each other during the summer months and connections are strengthened. Many great ideas are conceived in the summer. Some never move past the idea stage while a few take hold and are developed into a finished product.

National Scrutineering Certification program developed by FUSTA is a good example of an idea that took hold, was developed and will be launched in July. This program is designed to train people interested in learning to scrutineer at Highland Dance competitions and championships.

A "train the trainers" session will be held on Thursday, July 26 at the USIR host hotel. 25 FUSTA members representing all six regions were invited to become trainers. Those who pass the class requirements will then be expected to hold certification sessions in their regions beginning this fall.

The certifications sessions will be open to anyone; membership in FUSTA is not a requirement for attendance. The aim of the program is to assist U.S. competition organizers by creating a much deeper pool of trained and knowledgeable scrutineers.

The names of those in each region who achieved certification will be stored at the regional and national level, updated frequently, and available to competition organizers upon request. However, competition organizers will not be required to use anyone from the list and will always be free to choose and train those they want to scrutineer.

Not long ago there was concern that a restructuring of the SOBHD would have significant ramifications for overseas organizations like FUSTA. At the moment, it is safe to say that plans are on hold while other 'internal renovations' are being attended to beginning with modernizing the SOBHD's office equipment, launching new webpage and email systems and the appointment of a new Director of Administration, Helen Ford.

Accessing information and communication with the Board office should be much easier due to the changes that have already been made. I would look for other well thought out changes from the new administration in the near future.

Wishing each of you the best of the 'high season'.

Ann Johnson,
FUSTA President

Editor's Notes

Happy Summer! Hope everyone is enjoying competition season and the nice warm weather. What an exciting issue we have for you this month! I apologize for the delay, hopefully next time I will have it out closer to the first.

Please remember to get me your information by the 15th of the month prior so that I have time to get everything together.

Enjoy the newsletter and your summer. Hope to see you all soon!

~ Bree Erin Brownlee
FUSTA Newsletter Editor
Midwest

USIR Update



USIR 2007

Orange County, CA

usir2007.fusta.us

2007 USIR Judges

From Scotland:

Jacqueline Aird, Rhonda Lawrench and Aileen Robertson

From Canada:

Irene Baird, Sheryl Joyner and Lorraine Symington

I am relieved to say that plans are well underway for USIR 2007!

USIR 2007 will be hosted by the Western Region at the Irvine-Marriott Hotel on July 25-29, 2007. The hotel is located two blocks from John Wayne Airport in the heart of Orange County and is minutes from Disneyland, the beach, shopping and entertainment. There are still rooms available at our secured room rate of \$114 (plus tax) per room per night (up to four people per room) for Thursday through Sunday nights. The hotel offers complimentary shuttle service to John Wayne Airport as well as to the South Coast Plaza Shopping Center for world-class shopping. All dance competitions will occur at the hotel Ballroom. Practice rooms and meeting rooms are adjacent to the Ballroom.

Dance competitions are scheduled for three days (Friday – Sunday). A Pre-premier competition, a Pre-championship, and a Premier Nationals competition are scheduled for Friday. The USIR championship is scheduled for Saturday, and an open championship is scheduled for Sunday. In addition, a special “California Laddie” dance challenge will be held on Sunday afternoon to finish the weekend’s activities.

The Dancers’ Social is scheduled for Thursday afternoon and evening at Newport Dunes Waterfront Park located about 15 minutes from the hotel. We have reserved several cabanas at the park from 10am to 10pm.

Anyone from our group is able to use the facility during this timeframe. Dinner and the evening program are scheduled to start at 5pm. We are planning a casual event with a tropical luau theme. The USIR reps will be recognized after the meal. Everyone is welcome to attend the Social! No organized transportation to/from the hotel has been scheduled. Attendees are required to make their own way to the Park. Carpools and rides will be organized by members of the Hospitality Committee upon your arrival.

Please check our website for detailed information and future updates. Merchandise and ticket orders are available through the website. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Committee for assistance.

We look forward to greeting you in Southern California!

USIR 2008 -
Denver, CO

USIR 2009 -
Nashville, TN

USIR 2010 -
Traverse City, MI

USIR 2011 -
Spokane, WA

USIR 2012 -
TBD in East



AGE GROUP	EAST	MIDWEST	NORTHWEST	SOUTHEAST	SOUTHWEST	WEST
7 & under 12	Orlagh McKenzie	Jean Stein	Megan Palmer	Gabrielle Rosenthal	Rebekah Hawk	Georgiana Schwartz
1 RU	Maty Ennis	Kristen Falkowski	Ellen Patterson	Martha Clendenin	Hannah Gillette	Kaylee Finnegan
2 RU	Caroline Drummond	Kristen Williams	Claire Brasseur	Shona Whitfield	Julia Poe	Megan Watson
12 and under 14	Caitlin McLean	Kelly Brush	MacKenzie Ferron	Kathleen Black	Sarah Neff	Alison Ashworth
1 RU	Morgan Pell	Penelope Weiler	Sarah Sohlberg	Claire MacMillan	Haley Brogan	Madeline Cooper
2 RU	Madeleine Bownsey	Sarah Ketron	Claire Provinsal	Erin Wilshire	McKenzie Brogan	Heather Randall
BYE				Kelly Glendenning		
14 & under 16	Hillary Lewis	Leda Starkweather	Kate MacLeod	Tara Mueller	Emily Ramsey	Lauren Cooper
1 RU	Megan Shipley	Erin Brush	Emily Dietrich	Shannon Anfindsen	Rebecca Veselinovich	Devon Yip
2 RU	Lindsey Craig	Anna Falkowski	Becca Baldwin	Rachel Whitley	Madeleine Docherty	Simone Gingras
BYE						Haley Kitchens
16 & under 18	Shona Craig	Katie Crombie	Kelsey Crane	Amanda Gentry	Carla Gardner	Cosette Aguirre
1RU	Marcianne Foote	Alexa Gilbert	Phoebe Scollard	Ania Oddone	Pilar McKay	Kara Yamashita
2 RU	Alison Chase	Megan Poe	Kelsey Morrill	Lindsay Recknagel	Lindsay Lubrano	Lawren Wylie
BYE			Kinley Lally		Emily Aven	
18 & over	Laura Donlan	Kate DeGood	Jocelyn Case	Megan Kimsey	Sarah McKee	Kari McNaughton
1 RU	Leah Ruppe	Katie Goodell	Elizabeth Fishback	Susan Tapp	Hannah Burchett	Amy Hurwitz
2 RU	Emily Thomson	Trisha McConnell	Steven MacRae	Erin Higginbotham	Fiona Sampson	Erin Harris
BYE		Ashley Gentry				





Notes from the Judges Chairman

North American Judges Test:

Have just been officially notified by the SOBHD that a test is scheduled to be given by the SOBHD in Edmonton, Canada on November 1 and 2 prior to the start of the annual BATD Conference being held there, Nov.2-4. (Final details of dates and times will be available soon.) Applications from candidates should be submitted to the SOBHD office prior to the July 15 Board meeting. Check our website (www.fusta.us) for a copy of the application, instructions and further details about the test. Also, a good source of information is contained in the SOBHD Rule Book-2006. *Please let me know if you plan to take the test or re-sit in order to ensure that the Board is kept abreast regarding the number of potential candidates.* (Note that the test is subject to cancellation if there are insufficient candidates.) Candidates may contact the Board office by phone or email (admin@sobhd.net) to request the proper forms to apply for payment by credit card. I will be happy to answer any questions regarding the test that may not be contained in the referenced material.

New Judges:

- Belated congratulations are due to our newest U.S. judge, Kate DeGood, who was successful in passing the test given in Toronto last fall.

- A warm welcome is extended to Alison Gentiles, a judge from Scotland who has recently moved to the Pittsburgh area.

New SOBHD textbook:

Due out sometime before the end of the year. Stay tuned! All FUSTA members will be advised when it is in distribution. Also, there is a new guidebook for Judges which will be ready also by the end of this year.

Best wishes to all for a happy and successful summer.

John Hynd, Chairman
FUSTA National Judges Committee

Secrets to Success:

Preparing for the SOBHD Judges' Test

Facilitators: Christie Freestone, Bill and Elizabeth Weaver, and Kate DeGood

Our research based study guide provides candidates with extensive information and innovative study techniques to improve their odds of passing the SOBHD Judges' Test. We offer:

A complete National Dances guide encompassing all 3 Associations' methods for executing steps

A condensed study outline for all dances

Test taking strategies to maximize success

Twelve practice tests to assess individual progress

Study at your own pace

Scheduled practice judging at actual competitions in your region

A full practice test including mock judging, an oral and dancing section, and a written paper

For more information contact:
weave1wt@mail.cmich.edu

Regional News

East

Emma Trentman was awarded a five-year University Distinguished Fellowship from Michigan State University to complete her PhD in Second Language Studies, focusing on Arabic language acquisition. She will start the program in August 2007.

Melissa M Miller, a Premier dancer from Richmond, VA, graduated from University of Richmond on May 13th and will begin a new career with her Business Degree in Richmond VA working for a promotions company.

Reva Lillie Fredricksen was adopted April 4, 2007 by Rob and AmyBeth Fredricksen of Graniteville, Vt. Reva is 8 years old, enjoys Highland dancing, and loves dogs (though they have 5 cats). She was baptized on Easter Sunday, and her favorite piper played with the organ for the ceremony.



Heather Sutton's son, James' adoption has been finalized. He is now legally and lovingly James Ferris Sutton. He was born July 20, 2006 and is pictured to the right at 9 months old.



Midwest

Congrats to Christy Charles, from the Mid-Michigan Highland Dance Academy who graduated from high school this spring and will be attending St. Xavier University in Canada.

Intermediate dancer Elizabeth Greco is finishing her eight grade year with a perfect record of ALL A's for her entire four years of middle school! She will be receiving a signed letter of recognition from the President of the United States for her outstanding accomplishments. Congratulations!



Sara Alison Gilchrist, has opened a dance studio in Bay Village, Ohio. Sara's highland dance program, Studio723, enjoys a 400 square foot L'Air dance flooring system. In addition to the dance studio and highland program, Independent Studios also includes two music studios where piano and guitar instructors work tirelessly to keep their students from playing with the swords in the dance studio.



Dancer Jennifer Haag of Cleveland Hts., Ohio has been named Valedictorian of her graduating class at Beaumont High School. Earlier this year, Jennifer also achieved a perfect score on the math portion of her SAT test. Jennifer plans to attend Duke or Northwestern University in the fall and major in biomedical engineering and French. Jennifer is a student of Jenny May Caronchi.

Congratulations to Sheena Moes who got married to Trent Priest on April 14, 2007.

Katie Goodell is getting married to Jeff McClinitic on June 22nd, 2007.

Kate DeGood and Trisha MacConnell graduated from Alma College in May with honors. Kate with a major in Biology and minors in Chemistry and Psychology, and Trisha with a major in Exercise and Health Science. Trisha received the Outstanding Senior Award for high GPA. Kate was admitted to 3 medical schools and received a full tuition scholarship from Wayne State University. Trisha is attending Duke University Physical Therapy school next year.

Bree Brownlee's dance studio, the Queen of Scots Dance Academy will be walking in the American Cancer Society, Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk again this fall to raise funds for the cause. After Bree's battle with breast cancer at 23 years of age, the dancers wanted to do something to give back. For more information, or to donate, see their site at www.QOSDA.com and click on philanthropy.

Southeast

Bridget Boswell rode her bike 150 miles in the MS Bike Ride on June 2-3rd. With the support of her school, friends, family and past and present business associates she has raised almost \$1,500 dollars to help fight MS. If you would like to make a donation you may do so on-line at www.nationalmssociety.org or email Bridget and she can send you a direct link to the site.

After 7 years, it's a done deal. Mary Recknagel finally completed her Master of Aeronautical Science (triple specialization; Aeronautics, Human Factors, and Aviation Safety Systems), March 2007 from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Her motto "Never give up! Never surrender!"

Southwest



Emily Murer has completed her graduate coursework and is relocating to Texas where she will complete a six month internship in music therapy at Children's Medical Center of Dallas. Emily is looking forward to meeting fellow teachers and dancers in the Southwest region, so drop her a line if you're in the Dallas Ft.Worth area!

Sixteen Premier and Intermediate members of the Rocky Mountain Highland Dancers (Colorado) spent the months of January - March rehearsing numerous choreographies for the March performances of Brass, Bagpipes & Co. Mandy McCulloch was the principal choreographer. The concert, produced by The Denver Brass, sold out nearly all 4 nights of the show to an audience of 2,000+ each night! The dancers all did a great job and "wow"ed the crowd with their fancy footwork and leaping legs!



Congratulations to Colleen Rose of DeSoto, MO who recently passed her Associate teacher exam and in the fall will be going to Lyon College in Arkansas. She also has a scholarship for arts, one for academics, and one for Scottish Heritage.

note: no news provided from the Northwest

West



The Hawaiian Scottish Association welcomes Highland Dancers to Honolulu on April 5 & 6, 2008 for a two day competition at Kapiolani Park as part of our annual Hawaiian Scottish Festival. Watch our website (www.scotshawaii.org) in October 2007 for an entry form.

Jessica Kraus (Jones) and her husband are happy to announce that they will be having a **little boy** with due date on September 15th. They don't yet have a name for him, but plan on him competing in the 2011 primary class!

Daniel Ambler is getting married to Sara Gause on July 6th in San Diego, California. He is the son of Chrissy Ambler and the sister of Peggy Gross.



For over 25 years McLane High School in Fresno, California has offered an elective class to learn Scottish piping, drumming and highland dancing. Vera Miller Patterson was instrumental in starting the dancing program. The "Highlanders" as the class is called perform at many local multicultural events, schools, retirement homes and anywhere else they are requested. Many teachers throughout California have continued to assist the program throughout the years. The program led to three dancers becoming teachers themselves. These teachers are now trying to restore the program to its former glory. Their goal is to have many of these dancers register with FUSTA and participate in competitions again. This has been difficult as it is an inner city school and many families have limited finances. Clans of the Highlands and many teachers and dancers throughout California have recently donated ghillies, so the dancers had shoes to perform in. The school and assisting teachers greatly appreciate all the help. For more information contact Hannah at Hannah@FresnoHighlandDance.com.

FUSTA Footwork Advertising

The FUSTA BOD has decided to allow for ads to be placed in our newsletter! If you or a company you know of are interested in submitting an ad, please follow the below instructions.

- E-mail FUSTA Footwork Editor, Bree Brownlee at QOSDA@hotmail.com, your camera ready artwork (jpeg preferred) by the 1st of the month prior to issue date. (due August 1st, November 1st, February 1st and May 1st) Late entries will be submitted in the next available issue. Please note if this is a 1 time ad, or yearly placement
- One approval is received from the FUSTA VP, Bree will contact you.
- After e-mailed approval is received, send you payment to Bree at 12966 Watkins Drive, Shelby Township, MI 48315. Ads are \$35.00 per quarter page ad per issue or \$125.00 per year. Checks should be made out to FUSTA

All ads need to be of topics related to Highland Dance.

FUSTA Directory

Updates on members for your directory

Margaret M Howard
727-812-9319

Linda Vinson
Estates At Saint Annes
42 West Kilts Lane
Middletown, DE 19709
443-206-3854

Marcelle Ross (NW)
801-568-6730

Former name Jacquie Horanburg
New name Jacquie DeNee
1824 Shirlane Place NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112
Home # 505-332-8199
Cell # 505-573-5845
ABQHighlandDance@msn.com

Susan Jeffrey-Borger
susanjb2@gmail.com

Emily Murer
4507 West Pioneer Drive #914
Irving, TX 75061

A poem written by 8 year old Emma Rogerson, a student of Diane Dubock in Florida

"I Am"

By Emma Rogerson

I am a Highland Dancer.
I wonder what I'll be when I grow up?
I hear bagpipes piping a Highland Fling
I see me Highland Dancing the Highland Fling
I want to Highland Dance all my life.
I am a Highland Dancer.

I pretend I am a professional Highland Dancer
I feel my wool kilt.
I touch my velvet vest.
I worry that I will break my leg and not be able to Highland Dance.
I cry when I am tired.
I am a Highland Dancer.

I understand when I can't Highland Dance because I have to do something else.
I say I am a good Highland Dancer a 100 times in my head.
I dream Highland Dancing - the Sword Dance.
I try to be a better dancer.
I hope that my child does Highland Dancing.
I am a Highland Dancer.