



The Transcona and District Pipe Band January 2008 Newsletter

Welcome back everyone and Happy New Year! It looks like another busy year for the band. If at any time you have suggestions or want to have something put in the newsletter please don't hesitate to contact me (Maureen) and I will gladly do that for you.

Robbie Burns Dinner and Dance – February 2nd

Everything seems to be in place for the evening. Denise has worked her magic once again!

Hey! Guess what? We have struck gold this year! Everyone can leave their potato peelers at home that Saturday morning! Wayne Aastrom (our cook) has ordered potatoes that come already peeled!

Denise will have the duty roster sheet out by next practice so please sign yourself up to take a turn at doing a couple of jobs throughout the evening. This will spread the jobs out and give **everyone** a chance to enjoy the evening.

Competitions for 2008

Winnipeg Scottish Festival – February 16th

We will be setting up a table at the festival with information about our band. We will need people to sit at the table throughout the day to answer anyone's questions.

Moose Jaw/Regina Highland Games, May 16th-19th. The bus is booked and Rob will once again be our driver. He enjoyed driving the band around so much that he wants to purchase a band hoodie!

The hotel we are staying at is the Travelodge Regina on Albert Street which has a pool and waterslide and has many restaurants and services nearby.

Calgary/Canmore, Aug. 28th – Sept. 1st. The bus is booked for this weekend as well and this year we will leave Winnipeg on Thursday, August 28th and return on Monday, September 1st. Friday will be a free day with a practice in the early evening as usual.

Workshop

As of now, our workshop is still planned to be held at Minto Armouries on St. Matthew's Avenue on Sunday, February 16th from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

The instructors are as follows: Ian MacDonald – pipes
Andrea Reed – mid-section
Reid Maxwell – snare.

We will confirm all details as soon as everything is in place.

Grading cards

Don't forget! Each competing band member MUST have a grading card for 2008. Cards are \$10 each and have been prepurchased by the band along with it's registration for the 2008 season. Please make your payment to Ted prior to the Winnipeg Scottish Festival on 16 Feb 08.

2008 Tim Horton's Brier (repeat from last month's newsletter)

The Canadian Men's Curling Championship will be held at the MTS Centre from March 8-16. Our band has been invited along with other Winnipeg Pipe Bands to participate in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies plus the daily draws.

The Opening Ceremonies are at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, 8 Mar 08 and the Closing Ceremonies are Sunday, 16 Mar 08 and are immediately following the final game that starts at 5:30 p.m. There are at least 20 draws during the week which require 2 pipers and we are required to provide pipers from our band for at least 4 of these events.

The band will be paid a \$1000.00 honorarium and there will be passes made available for band members and their families if they wish to watch the curling following any performances.

Details regarding parking, passes and other issues are still being worked out by the Brier organizing committee, and will be forwarded when available.

Update:

There is a meeting this week regarding the Brier and all the events. We hope to have the dates on which our band requires 2 pipers to play at the individual

draws available by next week. We require all band playing band members to attend both the opening and closing ceremonies.

Fundraising

Cheese & Pizza – order forms will be handed out this week and due in on Tuesday, January 29th. The delivery date is Tuesday, February 12th.

Mordens Chocolate Easter Bunnies - Bunnies will be handed out at the Semi-annual AGM on Wednesday, March 5th. Each family will be given 25 bunnies to sell at \$3.75 each. This is the one fundraiser that we require every family to sell all their bunnies as there is no returning of the chocolate to Mordent's. Some families are able to sell more than 25 so if you are having trouble selling yours please ask around.

Bud, Spud, and Steak - Anita has booked the CanadInn Transcona for Friday, April 11th. Tickets will be \$15.00 each with half the proceeds going to the band. We will sell 50/50 tickets and the major money maker of the night is of course the silent auction. We will need volunteers to sell these tickets and to sit at the door and take the tickets as people arrive.

Last year the Bud and Spud was a great success with a \$2600 profit so I'm sure this year will be just as successful!

Phone Books - start date is Sunday, April 27th.

Yes, the phone books are coming up again. It's definitely a lot of work but it's a great money maker for the band. Everyone, and we mean everyone, needs to help with this fundraiser to make it work. Ideally, we need to be finished before we leave for the Moose Jaw/Regina competition on Friday, May 16th. The more people help, the quicker we get finished.

Bingo at Club Regent Casino - Anne and Pat are currently working on an application to submit to the Manitoba Community Service Council. If we are accepted it means that we will need people to work a bingo at the casino for one night. Many organizations do this as a fundraiser and it requires only a few hours of work with a great return.

The application process is quite involved and Anne and Pat have already put in many hours trying to get it just right. Once the application is sent it could be 3 – 4 months before we hear if we have been approved. Keep your fingers crossed!

General information

- Keith would like to purchase some Ross canister bags for the pipers and is checking out different suppliers.
- Ian is currently looking into pricing for a new bass drum as well as ergonomically correct harnesses for all drummers.

Dates to remember:

Robbie Burns Dinner and Dance	Feb. 2
Winnipeg Scottish Festival	Feb. 16
Band Workshop	Feb. 17
Semi- annual AGM	March 5th
Manitoba Brier	March 8-16
Bud, Spud and Steak	April 11
Brandon Highland Games	April 26th
April 27 – May15	
Regina/Moose Jaw	May 16-19
Transcona Hi Neighbour Festival	TBA
Transcona Legion Memorial Parade	TBA
Belgian Legion Parade	TBA
Selkirk Highland Gathering	June 28
Bands on the Boardwalk	June 29
Altona parade	July 26
Winkler parade	August 9
Morden parade	August 23
Calgary/Canmore	Aug. 28 – Sept. 1
Last practice before Christmas	December 9

Note: all these dates are on the calendar sent out last week by Anne.

2007-2008 BAND EXECUTIVE

President	Dave Stewart
Vice President	Anita Bihun
Treasurer	Ted Rennie
Secretary	Maureen McFarlane
Special Events	Denise Stewart
Membership	Pat Fritschij
Quartermaster	Anne Rennie