



June 2008

Editor's Notes

Summer is here! And that means it's busy season for all of us within FUSTA and all of our dancers. And for me, personally, it's been an extremely busy time at work. Hence the delay in getting this issue out to all of you. Enclosed you will find updates on the USIR and this year's finalists, many advisory board questions/answers (keep those coming in!), and some great regional news. Keep it all coming in and enjoy this issue.

As regionals are behind all of us, we as teachers and Premier dancers prepare for the USIR and Worlds and our pre-premiers prepare for their local competitions and wait in anticipation to watch the premier dancers and for their turn at chance to qualify. Being a teacher of mostly all pre-premiers I have really noticed (this year especially) how much our younger dancers look forward to moving up, participating with the "big kids" and watching them dance. Their little eyes grow wide with excitement to watch them step on the platform and I can't help but smile as their jaws drop to the floor when they witness their footworks and even more so when they leap to the sky! That's when I realized what it really is all about - as hard as we all work to make champion dancers, host wonderful competitions, and create an amazing USIR, it really is about the experience that all of our dancers have, from primary to premier - both on and off the platform. So, take a moment this competition season to turn around...look into the stands and look at the reaction of the audience and the young dancers out there. That's what it's really all about!

~ Bree Erin Brownlee, Midwest
FUSTA Footwork Editor

FUSTA Receives Grants

FUSTA would like to acknowledge the receipt of two very generous grants. Both have been structured with long term benefits to our USIR and our dancers.

The family of Harry Farrar, IV has made a very generous donation to the FUSTA Scholarship Fund. The interest earned from this investment will be used to fund our FUSTA scholarship, increasing it from \$500 to \$1,000 per year. This scholarship is awarded to a graduating senior each year at our USIR. In recognition of the generosity of the Farrar family, the scholarship will be renamed the Harry Farrar, IV Scholarship.

In a similar vein, FUSTA has received a commitment from the New Hampshire Highland Games to donate \$750 per year toward our USIR expenses. We are very grateful for this significant donation. Thanks to Anne Donlan for working with the New Hampshire Highland Games and arranging for this grant.

FUSTA is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and donations are greatly appreciated. Donations to FUSTA are tax deductible, depending on your tax situation. Please consult your own tax professionals regarding deductibility. Kindly keep our professional dance organization in mind when making donations.

USIR Update



Congratulations to the 2008 USIR Finalists. It is quite an accomplishment to qualify for our United States Inter-Regional Highland Dance Championships! Travel safely to Denver, have a wonderful time, enjoy every experience and happy dancing!

Be on the look out for the September issue that will focus on the USIR in Denver - including regional photos, USIR results, photos from USIR events and more.

	EAST	MIDWEST	NORTHWEST	SOUTHEAST	SOUTHWEST	WEST
7 & UNDER 12	Caroline Drummond	Veronica Hill	Meghan Palmer	Martha Clendenin	Hannah Gillette	Kaylee Finnegan
1 RU	Brigid Peyton	Laura Lowe	Libby Patterson	Gabrielle Rosenthal	Julia Poe	Megan Watson
2 RU	Orlagh McKenzie	Abigail Byrne	Charlotte Severns	Alice Burks	Molly McGann	Erin MacNeil
12 & UNDER 14	Maty Ennis	Jean Stein	Claire Provinsal	Claire MacMillan	Margaret McIntyre	Madeline Cooper
1RU	Morgan Pell	Sarah Ketron	Elise Johnson	Hannah Clendenin	Rebekkah Sabados	Georgiana Schwartz
2 RU	Colleen Kelly	Summer Getty	Ellen Patterson	Fiona Whitfield	Rebekah Hawk	Alison Ashworth
BYE						Allyson Hirsch
BYE						Natasha Burgin
14 & UNDER 16	Megan Shipley	Penelope Weiler	MacKenzie Ferron	Tara Mueller	Rebecca Veselinovich	Lauren Cooper
1 RU	Hillary Lewis	Kelly Brush	Megan Abrahamson	Shannon Anfindsen	Sarah Neff	Heather Randell
2 RU	Caitlin McLean	Abigail Kuzas	Sarah Sohlberg	Celia Boyd	Haley Brogan	Simone Gingras
BYE						Mikhaila Markham
16 & INDER 18	Marciane Foote	Leda Starkweather	Kelsey Crane	Ania Oddone	Emily Ramsey	Kara Yamashita
1 RU	Rachel Matheson	Christine McQuade	Katie McLeod	Lindsay Recknagel	Madeline Docherty	Devon Yip
2RU	Alison Chase	Megan Poe	Phoebe Scollard	Lauren Peterson	Kaitlyn Neptune-Benton	Haley Kitchens
18 & OVER	Laura Donlan	Katie Crombie	Jocelyn Case	Erin McDougal	Emily Aven	Kari MacNaughton
1RU	Sandra Gribben	Katie McClintic	Steven MacRae	Amanda Gentry	Lindsey Lubrano	Ian Velasco
2RU	Leah Ruppe	Ashley Carlomusto	Melanie Turnbull	Erin Higginbotham	Fiona Sampson	Cosette Aguirre
BYE					Carla Gardner	Caitlin White



USIR 2008

Denver, CO



We are working on the final plans for USIR 2008 with excitement! We are hearing from the finalists and their families, and pleased to be welcoming them all to Denver in July. Please keep checking the USIR 2008 website for updates as they become available (usir2008.fusta.us).

Reminder to Finalists and Teachers: Your Event Order Form, Merchandise Order Form and Good Luck Wishes must reach us by June 5th. Mail them with your check made out to RMHD (Rocky Mountain Highland Dancers) to Lynn McCulloch, 10757 E. Dorado Place, Greenwood Village, Colorado 80111-3925. Forms available on the USIR 2008 website.

Hotel Bookings: Our host hotel is the Marriott DTC at 4900 S. Syracuse Street, Denver, Colorado 80237. The last day for making reservations at the special \$99 rate is July 2nd. Go to the USIR 2008 website for a link to make reservations and to get our group code.

Attention Teachers and Judges: The following is an event schedule for your meetings. See the USIR 2008 website for a complete schedule of all events.

Wednesday 7/16 at 7:00 pm FUSTA Board meeting
Thursday, 7/17 at 8:00 am Scrutineering class & test
Thursday, 7/17 at 3:00 pm Judge's meeting Aspen Amphitheater
Friday, 7/18 at 8:00 am FUSTAAGM, Aspen Amphitheater
Friday, 7/18 at 8:00 pm Teacher's & Judges Hospitality , Suite 550

Scrutineering Class & Test: Tentatively, FUSTA will be offering a scrutineering class and test on Thursday, July 17th from 8:00-11:00 am. The class will be taught by Anne Donlan and Liz Weaver. Check the USIR 2008 website or with your regional rep for further details.

Trophy & Medal Set Sponsorships: We still need sponsors for trophies and medals sets for the Premier Nationals competition and a few for the North Americans. If you would like to make a donation, see the USIR 2008 website and download the Trophy Sponsorship Form, or contact Lynn McCulloch at (303) 741-3341 or lynnmc848@comcast.net.

Volunteers Needed: This event requires a lot of volunteers in order to run successfully. If you are interested in helping out during some part of the weekend's events, please contact Lynn McCulloch at (303) 741-3341 or lynnmc848@comcast.net.

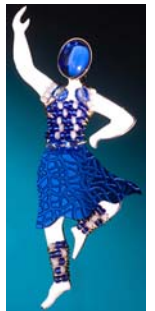
USIR 2010

Traverse City, MI



Things are well underway for a great USIR in Northern, MI. To help us have a wonderful event, the Midwest region is holding a few fundraisers that you can participate in. Check out our new website (coming very soon) at usir2010.fusta.us.

LizTech Pin - for only \$40 (plus \$5 shipping), you can own one of only 250 specially designed LizTech pins. Please contact Mindy Hamilton at mindyhamilton1977@yahoo.com to place an order. Checks or money orders should be made payable to Fusta-MW.



FUSTA Advisory Committee

If you have any questions to submit to the FUSTA Advisory Committee, please submit to Liz Weaver at eweaver@edzone.net

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS JUNE, 2008

1. What is the starting position of a shuffle in the jig? —The book says “front of leg.” The majority in attendance at the meeting agreed it should be from 3rd aerial, but some dancers are starting the shuffle from 3rd aerial low.

****ANSWER:** The general consensus of the Advisory Committee concerning the positions of shuffles is that jig shuffles start in the front at 3rd aerial position.

2. Since hornpipe shuffles start and finish in the front, is this starting and finishing position 3rd aerial? In order to get the foot down the back, should this be taken around to the back in what would be similar to a round the let movement? Or would this affect the rhythm of the step, so that the dancer should not do an obvious “shedding” movement?

****ANSWER:** For the hornpipe, the shuffle starts in the front of the leg and finishes at the front of the leg. When taking the foot to the rear, as for the shuffle over the buckle movement, it should not be an obvious “shedding” type action, but more of a blended movement to get to the rear of the leg.

3. I noticed in the new Jig book, that the arm position that the girls used as described below is not an option. Somewhere one or two years ago, I read that since the boys may use the position, the girls may use it, too. Did that get edited out or what??

See Male Arm Positions #3 - the last sentence. Girls used to have one arm raised above head and could bring other hand in front of body either holding skirt or with clenched fist similar to this male position. According to the last 2 versions of the Jig printed, girls may not have an arm raised above the head while they bring the other hand in front of the body.

****Answer:** On page 4 Girl's arms it states that in # 2 - one arm is raised above the head as in 2nd highland arms the other hand is holding the skirt either extended to the side or as in 1st highland position. It looks like this is where the hand could come in front of the body with arm raised.

4. Are females ever required to hold their skirt in 1st position?

****Answer:** The note on page 4 says that when using 1st position of the arms, the skirt may or may not be held.

5. In the hornpipe (page 13 - Accented Rhythm - bar 2) where is the working foot on count 5? Which re-extension may or may not be done? Bars 3 to 6 - if you are repeating bar 2 (which is actually bar 1 of the first step but starting with a hop) there is no re-extension that I can find on count 8 of the bar before the break.

****Answer:** Count 5 is the extension to 4th intermediate aerial. The re-extension on count 4 just prior to the step on count &5 may or may not be done. There is no re-extension prior to the break as it is omitted.

6. FYI - at a workshop a prominent judge/teacher told the kids that girls in particular are not strong enough to do the correct timing on the double leaps in reel and end of Trews - so they should forget it and just leap. Teacher may have been kidding, butI thought it odd to hear that comment. Are the teachers/judges in Scotland taking note of incorrect timing on the leaps - or do they care??

**Answer: Even though timing is tough to do properly, all dancers should be aiming for correct timing.

7. For the National Dances (excluding the Jig and Hornpipe), there are books of dance descriptions available from each of the professional teaching bodies (i.e. BATD, SDTA and UKA). In some cases, there are different versions of the same step depending on which teaching body you are following. When competing in a National Dance, must you strictly follow one method during the entire dance? Or may a competitor use different methods during the dance?

***Answer: Yes, you must be consistent within a step, but may vary methods within the dance.

8. There are a couple examples in the National Dances (excluding the Jig and Hornpipe) where there are different versions for the same step as well as different methods of dance introduction and endings, depending on the professional teaching body whose method is followed. For example, in the Flora there are two methods for the introduction and for the first step - a BATD version and an SDTA version. Presuming you must be consistent (use the same method) within an individual step in the dance (which we think is the answer to the above question), must the method used in the introduction match the method danced in the first step? Similarly for the last step and ending of a dance (e.g. the last step and ending of the Blue Bonnets), must the method danced for the last step match the method used for the ending?

***Answer: Since the introduction of dances are not part of the first step, you may do a different method of introduction. But in the last step of the Blue Bonnets, the ending of the step must match the method chosen for the rest of the step (BATD, SDTA or UKA).

FUSTA Footwork Advertising

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 February 1st, May 1st, August 1st and November 1st) Late entries will be submitted in the next available issue. Please note if this is a 1 time ad, or yearly placement in your e-mail
- Once approval of your ad is received from the FUSTA VP, Bree will contact you
- After e-mailed approval is received, send your payment to Bree at 11555 Maple Creek Court, Washington Township, MI 48094. Ads are \$35.00 per quarter page ad per issue or \$125.00 per year. Checks should be made out to FUSTA

All ads are quarter page in size and need to be of topics related to Highland Dance.



Regional News



East

- Katie Cameron will be attending Drexel University in the fall, working towards a Masters in Creative Arts in Therapy specializing in Dance Movement Therapy.
- Casey Anne Drummond graduated from Shippensburg University on May 10. Following graduation she spent two and a half weeks backpacking through Europe. Congrats Casey Anne.
- Lisa Mays and her husband Bill would like to announce the birthday of their daughter, Erin Brielle born February 12.
- Marciane Foote recently traveled to Hong Kong. As a member of the Pennsbury High School marching band they participated in the opening of a new Disneyland.
- Sandra Weyman and her husband Bruce enjoyed their Thanksgiving eating fish and chips on a beach in New Zealand.

Maggie Carchrie and her husband Thomas Leigh gave birth to their second child, Mairi Ealish Carchrie-Leigh, on February 16th at 3:08 AM. She weighed 9 lbs 10 oz and was 20 1/4" long. Her name means "Mary Alice" in Gaelic for those who were wondering!



- Congratulations to Ashley Davidson who graduated on June 2 from St. Johnsbury Academy in St. Johnsbury, Vermont. She received the Headmaster's Award for outstanding work, integrity and responsibility and the Oddfellows Award for scholarship, friendliness, honesty and enthusiasm for the school. Ashley will attend Alma College, Alma, MI in the Fall.
- Laura Donlan recently received the Kappa Delta Scholarship for the third consecutive year. She is in her final year of the DPT Program (Doctor of Physical Therapy) at Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York.



Midwest

This past May, the Queen of Scots Dance Academy under the direction of Bree Erin Brownlee held their annual "Queen's Ceilidh" fundraiser, where they were honored to have Miss. Michigan, Gina Valo present for the evening!



- Jenny May Caronchi was recently inducted into the Scottish American Hall of Fame. She was chosen for induction by the Scottish Heritage Association of Northeast Ohio (SHANO) and received the award at SHANO's Robert Burns Dinner in January. The Hall of Fame recognizes those who, for more than 15 years, have made outstanding contributions and achievements to promote and instill pride in Scottish culture.
- Theresa Mihalic graduated Summa Cum Laude with Honors from Niagara University. Where she was recipient of the Thomas H. Morton Award for Excellence in Biology. She will be attending the University of North Carolina for her Master's Degree in the fall. Theresa was also accepted to Glasgow University but decided to stay States side!



Northwest

- Congratulations to Meghan Palmer of Spokane, WA who is the first U.S. Dancer to win the Western Canada Open Championship Age Group 11/12.
- Elizabeth Fishback currently studying in Australia and Lindsay Recknagel (SE) were both very successful (and the only two US dancers) at the Festival of Tartans Championship, New Castle, Australia in March. Elizabeth – 2nd RU 18 & under 20. Lindsay – 4th RU 16 & under 18.




- Kendra Kostresh married longtime sweetheart Travis Roettjer March 22 on beautiful grassy knoll in Maui, Hawaii. It was a fun week of sun and relaxation for the couple and their guests. Following the wedding, they honeymooned in Kauai.





Southeast


Pat Johnston is a grandmother! Her daughter Wendy delivered Devon Mark, a healthy 7 lb 14 oz boy on April 18! Congratulations to all.

- Susan Walmsley Hyams and her husband Collier had their first child, a daughter named Juliet Claire Marie Hyams born February 15th.


 Jillian Howard-Abramowski graduates from the University of South Florida with a BS in Business Finance and minor in Economics. In May she and her husband Ryan, who is stationed in Korea, toured Asia. They visited Hong Kong where Elizabeth Constantine is living with her husband.

 Megan Kimsey graduated from UNC Chapel Hill with highest honors in May and will be returning to UNC in the fall for physical therapy school.


 John Boehles of Richmond, VA received his Eagle Award on Feb 24th. During the event, John honored his highland dance teacher, Bridger Boswell with the Eagle Award Mentor Pin.

 On May 31st and June 1st Bridge Boswell once again rode in the Richmond MS Bike Tour to Williamsburg and back to Richmond, a 150 mile trek. In addition to preparing and fund raising for this event, she also collaborated with another Highland Mom and biking buddy to present a Benefit Concert in mid May in Richmond to raise funds to stamp out MS.



 Emily Murer received a Master of Science in Music Therapy from Radford University, VA in December 2007. She is now living in Coppell, Texas, with her husband, Michael and 3-year-old son, Gabriel where she is working as a contract Music Therapist. She is dancing with Murphy Highland Dancers (Plano), and looking forward to becoming active in the region. Gabriel often comes to dance class to watch mom, and loves doing Pas de Basques around the kitchen.



 Former dancer, Daniel Ambler graduated from Bethel Seminary in San Diego with a Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree on June 14th. He is now under the care of the Presbytery and will become Rev. Daniel Ambler in the near future. To obtain this degree the student attends 4 years past his undergraduate degree obtaining a minimum of 144 quarter credits with knowledge in both Hebrew and Greek. He is currently employed at Fletcher Hills Presbyterian Church as Director of Student Ministries.

Bruce Farrar married Angel at Sharon Farrar's home on Saturday June 14th. The wedding was wonderful. It became a blend of Scottish and Greek culture with lots of music and dance, (Angel is a talented musician and singer). Congrats Bruce!



Americans in Scotland



Guidelines

Each year in our September issue, we publish the names of any American dancers who place in Scotland. Names and placings will be published according to the below guidelines. It is each teacher's responsibility to submit placings to the editor no later than September 5th

Royal Scottish Pipe Band - overall top 6
British Open - overall top 6
British Overseas - overall top 6
Rothesay - overall top 6
Commonwealth - overall top 6
World Finals - overall top 6, finals medal placings & all finalists

**no judges placings will be listed*