



## **Irish Club of Regina - Executive 2018-19**

\* **President** - Debbie Beach

\*\* **Vice President** - Alice MacDougall

\*\* **Treasurer** - Gail Kruger

\* **Secretary** - Kathy Fines

### **Members at Large**

\* Shannon Hunt

\*\* Ruby Hunter

\*\* Katrina Hognerud

\* Vacant

\* Term ends at 2019 AGM

\*\* Term ends at 2020 AGM

### ***About us:***

The Irish Club of Regina is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to promoting and supporting Irish culture within Regina and area. We currently support an Irish Dance group, a Gaelic Athletic Association football team, send out a quarterly newsletter, maintain a website, host a Mosaic Pavilion and organize or support other events, workshops and activities. To become a member, please contact us! Membership rates are \$15 for a single membership and \$20 for a family membership. Membership entitles you to receive our newsletter, emails about upcoming events and allows you to take part in our events.

### ***Why become a member of the Irish Club of Regina?***

If you enjoy Irish culture in any of its many forms, the Irish Club is the place to find it. Music, dance, literature, ceilis, sport, cooking and traditional Irish handwork are all workshops that we hope to be able to offer. We need interested active members in order to provide these events.



## Past Events

# Irish Club of Regina Family Christmas Party and Potluck



The Annual Family Christmas party and potluck supper was once again held Sunday, December 2nd, 2018 in the Huston Heights party room. We had a pretty good turnout and wonderful selection of foods for the potluck. Santa and Mrs Claus showed up with gifts for the 15 or so children and a few older ones were their helpers. Thanks to everyone for a fun time.

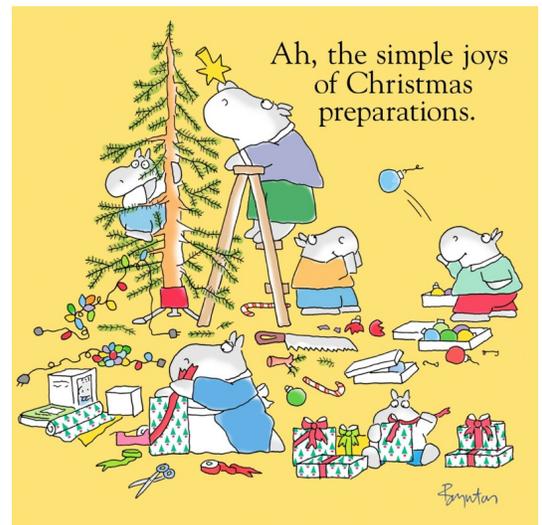








Who knew Santa lived right across the street from the hall??





# Upcoming Events

## Message from the ICR Executive

The Irish Club of Regina Executive would like to thank all those who attended the AGM in November. The executive welcomed 3 new members: Gail Kruger as Treasurer, Katrina Hognerud and Ruby Hunter as Members at Large along with Alice MacDougall moving from Past President to Vice President.

The Executive did look into planning an event for St Patrick's day this year but with St. Patrick's being on a weekend most of those that would have been involved in providing entertainment, volunteers or attending (most notably the 3 dance groups) will be busy on Friday, Saturday & Sunday. As well, planning an event like the one that was proposed at the AGM will require more time to plan.

We will be having a Family Fun Bowl on March 2nd as well as planning for a Quiz night for April or May. Please look for more information on the Quiz Night on the ICR Facebook and the website.

The date of June 9th has been set for the annual BBQ at the Senior Centre at 4:30 pm, so mark your calendars for this event.



**Family Fun Bowl**  
**Saturday, March 2nd, 2019**  
**5:00 - 6:45 pm**  
**Golden Mile Bowling Alley**  
**3806 Albert Street**



Everyone had so much fun at the last couple of Bowling parties that we have decided to plan another this year! The first ball will roll at 5:00 pm, so we will ask that you be there at least 1/2 hour early to get your shoes on and teams and instructions sorted. It is **Glow** bowling, so wear your fluorescent or white duds so you will glow in the dark. We will have pizza and pop after bowling in the party area there.

We will be collecting a small fee of \$5 per person to partially cover the costs.

Please reply ASAP with names of bowlers and ages of kids. We will collect the money that evening. Contact person: Laura Popoff [lpopoff@sasktel.net](mailto:lpopoff@sasktel.net) or call 306-543-3253



## Upcoming Events (Cont'd)

### Quiz Night

Plans are being made for another fun pub quiz evening in April or May. Get a team together and start gathering some useless information to win.



### Mosaic - A Festival of Cultures

Dates for 2019 - May 30, may 21st & June 1st.



Although there will be no Irish Pavilion again this year due to difficulty getting an affordable and suitable venue, we have a tentative booking of the Caledonian Club for 2020 and hope to be able to have an Irish Pavilion at that time.

We would encourage you to plan to attend this great Festival this year and support the other cultural pavilions around Regina on that weekend. Taste some great food and enjoy the music and dance of other cultures represented there.

### Family Summer BBQ

Sunday, June 9th @ 4:30 pm

Seniors Centre Elphinstone

More details to follow in May newsletter or email.



# Irish Club of Regina Dancers

The Irish Club dancers celebrated Christmas just how you expected they would; by dancing! The whole troupe was together and did some traditional ceili dances that you can't do in smaller groups. They had a lot of fun doing some dances that they've never done before and some old ones that they just do for fun.

The dancers also got together to make a donation to the YWCA where they dance; everyone came together to bring 57 pairs of socks with hot chocolate and tea packets to give to the women who were staying at the shelter over the holidays. The women there were very appreciative, and the dancers were happy to be able to give back to their community.

Now that the dancers are back in their second semester of dance, the learning of new dances is over, and the practicing for performances begin! The dancers have already had one performance, at the fundraiser for the Blakey dancers. The next holiday up is of course the most Irish of all the holidays, St. Patrick's day! What kind of Irish holiday would that be without some Irish dancing?

The dancers are looking forward to more performances in the coming months, as they work on and perfect the dances they learned in the fall. We hope to see you at some of our performances soon!

Submitted by Jessica Bott

Website: <http://www.irishclubofregina.org/dance/>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/icrdancers/>



# Irish Club of Regina Dancers (Cont'd)



# ***Irish Club of Regina Dancers (Cont'd)***

## **Meet Your Dancers (Rinceoiri)**

You've probably seen our dancers perform at Mosaic, but that's not all they do. The Irish Club dancers have performances throughout the year, representing the Irish club and Irish dance at community centres, care homes, dance events and even restaurants!

Your dancers are a wonderful group of women, but it's the women as individuals that make the troupe such an awesome group to be a part of!

We hope to feature a few of your dancers in each newsletter, answering a few short questions so you can get to know these lovely ladies.



### ***Meet the Dancer: Tanya***

#### ***What made you take up Irish dancing and how long have you been dancing with the Club?***

This is my 9<sup>th</sup> year dancing with the Irish Club. I joined because I was looking for a fun activity that I could do on Wednesday nights. I saw the advertisement that said Wednesday nights; adult beginner Irish dance; no experience needed. I used to Highland dance, so I figured I could do this as it would be very similar. It's not!

#### ***Most often heard at class...***

Point your toes!

#### ***Funniest ICR dance memory...***

Demonstrating to the class how not wearing 2 bras in a performance could be problematic for some of us!

#### ***What is something interesting that many people might not know about you?***

I am a marine biologist in a landlocked province!

#### ***What Irish symbol best represents you and why?***

The Claddagh ring: friendship, love and loyalty.....the golden rule pretty much.

# Irish Club of Regina Dancers (Cont'd)

## *Meet the Dancer: Megan*

### *What made you take up Irish dancing and how long have you been dancing with the Club?*

8 years, I believe. My sister and I saw the ICR adult dancers at Mosaic. She joined right afterwards and danced for a year. The following year I joined with her. I had to take a break to go to school and rejoined when I finished my courses.

### *Most often heard at class...*

Get off your heels!

### *Funniest ICR dance memory...*

So many funny memories with this group! Since Maria already mentioned, in the previous newsletter, about the elbow-to-the-head incident we were involved in ....I'd have to say the time when Tanya proudly and loudly stated that she was a "working lady"! It happened when we were surveying the group to establish who danced in what position. Taken out of context, it is hilarious. We still joke around about that one.

### *What is something interesting that many people might not know about you?*

I'm a Wilton certified cake decorator.

### *What Irish item best represents you and why?*

Baileys, because I'm sweet and smooth.....and I always go better with coffee!



Irish Club of Regina  
Dancers

# Blakey School of Irish Dance

Our dancers had a special performance at the Mackenzie Art Gallery Holiday Celebration on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The dancers performed to Christmas favourites as well as traditional Irish music. The dancers also had another holiday performance on December 21<sup>st</sup> at the Wascana Country Club for the ER Doctors which was enjoyed by all those who attended.



After a break over the holidays, several of our dancers attended the first feisanna of the 2019 dance season in Calgary at the Western Canadian Winter Championships on January 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>. We had 6 Regina Blakey dancers participate in the competition. There were 9 podium placements for the Regina Blakey team along with several medals !! As well, one of our dancers, Aly Woolsey, attended the Salish Sea Feis in BC on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Aly did very well at this competition.

Our dancers had a performance at the Renaissance Retirement home on January 30<sup>th</sup>. The residents enjoyed having our dancers perform for them.

Our dancers were invited to participate in 2 performances at “In It Together – Global Arts Fest” on Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at the Regina Performing Arts Centre. This event was in conjunction with Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation (SCIC) to celebrate international development week. Our dancers, as well as several groups from other cultures, provided entertainment to those attending.

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual “Irish Fun in 40 Below” was a great success again this year. The weather was 40 below which is the first time since our inaugural event that the night lived up to its name !! This year’s event took place on February 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Martin’s Parish Hall. The entertainment this year included a return performance by Tilted Kilts as well as performances from our Blakey Irish Dance – Regina dancers and the Irish Club of Regina Dancers. Our Regina TCRG, Ben Abelseth was our MC for this year’s event as well as organizing our dancers backstage. As well, our head instructor Luanne Schlosser, TCRG was able to join us for the event. We again had an overwhelming response from the community for raffle donations this year and would like to thank all those that supported us and attended the event this year.

Some of our dancers are getting ready for the Possak-Hampshire Feis on March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, as well as preparing for several performances before and on St. Patrick’s Day.

Blakey offers both competitive and non-competitive dance classes. We accept registrations throughout the dance season. For more information about our classes or to book a free trial, please contact us by email at [contact@ridpa.ca](mailto:contact@ridpa.ca) or Luanne Schlosser, TCRG directly at [luanne@blakeyschool.com](mailto:luanne@blakeyschool.com). You can also visit the Blakey Website [www.blakeyschool.com/saskatchewan](http://www.blakeyschool.com/saskatchewan) or Facebook: Blakey School of Irish Dance – Regina/RIDPA.

# Blakey School of Irish Dance (Cont'd)



Mackenzie Art Gallery - Dec. 9th



Wascana Country Club - Dec. 21st



Renaissance Retirement



Western Canadian Winter Championship  
- January 2019

5th Annual Irish Fun in 40 Below -  
February 9th, 2019



# Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance

We at Prairie Gael have kept busy this winter and are NOT letting the cold get us down!!

Two great Christmas parties filled our studio first with delicious cookies and tons of icing and sugar, then with popcorn and other great snacks while we snuggled in to watch the classic *The Santa Claus!* Thanks to our fabulous dancers, especially our assistants for helping out, for coming out and celebrating the season with us!



2019 began with a bang! We had 21 dancers attend the first feis of 2019 in Calgary and we couldn't be prouder of how they performed:

- \* Huge congratulations to Emily who won double Treble Jig Trophies and has advanced to Preliminary Championships!
- \* Congratulations to our first feisers: Abby, Hailey, and Jenny.
- \* Collectively, our dancers brought home over 100 medals, 32 trophies, and 5 sashes - well done ladies, we are unbelievably proud of you!

We are practicing rigorously for the upcoming feis season (one per month until June!) and our busy St. Patrick's Day performance season. Keep an eye open for our dancers at a pub or senior's home near you as we bring the celebration of St. Paddy to the residents of Regina! Our St. Paddy's Schedule will be available soon, so stay tuned!

To help with our strength, flexibility, balance, and overall athleticism, we have our monthly yoga classes. We enjoy these chances to get a little silly with ourselves and have fun experiencing new poses and learning together!

Our teachers and parents are working towards our upcoming Recital; our studio's annual chance to show off the wonderful material our dancers have worked on so diligently throughout the year! Our annual Recital Showcase is the perfect opportunity for family and friends to see the fabulous dancers we have at Prairie Gael. The recital will be Saturday, May 25th at the Regina Performing Arts Centre. Tickets \$5.00/ticket will be available sometime in March.

If you are, or know of, a dancer who is interested in learning Irish dance we accept students at any point throughout the year. Connect with us for a free trial class; this is a great opportunity to meet our teachers and learn more about the programming we offer. If you have a question about classes, contact us at [emily@prairiegaeldance.com](mailto:emily@prairiegaeldance.com) or 306.530.8545. We offer certified competitive and performance-based programming for dancers aged 3 and up! More information about our classes and instructors can be found at [www.prairiegaeldance.com](http://www.prairiegaeldance.com)

Our Cookie decorating Party; Such a Sweet Fun Time !!



Our Cookie decorators



Prairie Gael School  
of Irish Dance

Finished handiwork of our  
little one's decorating skills!

Cookie decorating magic in progress



Fab results from these preliminary champions: Emily 3rd, Aliyah 4th, and Kailey 2nd  
- Well done ladies!!



Well done ladies: Abby & Hailey were fabulous first feis'ers, and Jenah with her Treble Jig Trophy and Emily with the first of her two Treble Jig trophies of the weekend!!





Congrats to Jenny on winning her Slip Jig Special and to Selena for her first feis back after welcoming wee Jillian (Who looks adorable on the podium might we add!!

Adding some balance to our Practice



Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance



When old friends come to "Bring a Friend Night"!

# Regina Irish Set Dancers

We took a little break over the Christmas & holiday season and now are back to our Thursday evenings 7:30 - 9:00 pm at the Westminster United Church (Cameron and 13th Avenue) in the lounge in the basement.

We have concentrated on learning a couple of new half set and enjoying brushing up previous half and full sets. We are planning on performing at the Spring Free From Racism event at the Italian Club on Sunday, March 24th. It is a wonderful day of performances from many cultural groups in Regina and we hope folks drop by to enjoy it. We also hope to once again join the Scottish Country Dancers at some performances around town in the Spring.

We would love for others to join our group and since the classes are \$5.00 for a drop in each time, no prior sign up is necessary, If you want to see what Irish set dancing is all about, just drop in and join us. (we will let you have the first one for FREE) Great exercise and lots of fun for any age and level of dancing ability.

If you or anyone you know is interested in joining our group, please contact us!!

Respectfully submitted by Laura Popoff

Contact Laura Popoff @ [lpopoff@sasktel.net](mailto:lpopoff@sasktel.net)  
or call (306) 533-5091

or visit our facebook page to see a few videos of us dancing  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/192728960882181/>



## Contact us:

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Landmark Shoppers  
Regina, Sk. S4S 7K4

### email:

[information.icr@gmail.com](mailto:information.icr@gmail.com) or  
[irishclubofregina@gmail.com](mailto:irishclubofregina@gmail.com)

### website:

[www.irishclubofregina.org](http://www.irishclubofregina.org)

If you are a **Facebook** user, please 'LIKE' our club's page at

[www.facebook.com/Irishclubofregina](https://www.facebook.com/Irishclubofregina)

If you have an interesting bit that you would like included in the newsletter, send submissions to:

[lpopoff@sasktel.net](mailto:lpopoff@sasktel.net)

## Other links and interesting facebook groups and websites:



- \* Irish in Regina
- \* Irish Club of Regina Dancers
- \* Regina Gaels GAA football league
- \* Regina Irish Set dancers
- \* Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance
- \* Blakey Irish Dance
- \* Bushwakker Brewing Company
- \* Shannons Pub and Grill

Irish Club of Regina Dancers

<http://www.irishclubofregina.org/dance/>

Blakey School of Irish dance

<http://www.blakeyschool.com/Saskatchewan>

Prairie Gael School of Irish Dance

<http://www.prairiegaeldance.com>

Irish Central.com

<http://www.irishcentral.com>