

March 2008

MULLANE HEALY O'BRIEN newsletter

What's going on in the next few months....

Lots of events happening this month - along with the upcoming months. Please take time to read the attached newsletter to get information on the upcoming events and activities with the Academy. We ask that you read these newsletters and mark your calendars of these events. If you have any questions, please ask your teacher or send an email to the Academy through our website at www.mullanehealyobrien.com

2008 MHOB FEIS

The Mullane-Healy-O'Brien feis will be held again at Benedictine University in Lisle, IL on May 3-4. Complete information about the feis can be found at www.mullanehealyobrien.com - select "2008 MHOB Feis" for all the details and then complete your registration at www.efeis.com.

We have sponsored this open feis for several years and it is widely considered one of the finest feis, from top international adjudicators, to scheduling and awards.

The teaching staff strongly encourages all enrolled dancers to register NOW - for those of you with beginners that have not yet taken your child to a feis - we offer first feis competitions.

This is the best opportunity to introduce them to a feis and we will provide you and your beginner with all the "How-to's" in advance of the feis.

Each first feis/beginner stage also has the help of an advanced dancer to help the children at the stage.

At a later date, we also will be sending volunteer forms to all families for sign-up to assist at the feis.

We are also offering new and improved services at the Feis:

Feis Results via Text Message to your phone - for all those that elect this option, we anticipate delivering the results for your child's specific competition to your cell phone - avoiding multiple checks of the results posting wall and giving mom and dad the "news". The technology has been developed and tested - we are

finalizing network access plans to enable this option at the MHOB Feis.

10 International Adjudicators giving all dancers the "best of the best" in adjudication.

We strongly encourage all dancers, especially our "first feis-ers" to register for the Feis. It may seem overwhelming, but thanks to a great Booster Club staff, and a great teaching staff - the worry of the Feis will be eased by being there and helping you and your dancer get through the day. All beginner through Open Prizewinner competitions will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2008.

For further information on the 2008 MHOB Feis, please visit: <http://mullanehealyobrien.com>



Mark Your Calendars



PARADE INFORMATION

The Academy will once again be participating in the following St. Patrick's Day parades:

TINLEY PARK PARADE

Sunday, March 2, 2008

Time: 2:00 PM

Check-in at 1:30 PM
at Central Middle School

SOUTHSIDE PARADE

Sunday, March 9, 2008

Time: 12:00 Noon

Check-in 11:15 am
at 103rd and Western Avenue

ELMHURST PARADE

Saturday, March 15, 2008

Time: 12:00 Noon

Check-in at 11:15 am
Wilson Street and Spring Road

DOWNTOWN PARADE

Saturday, March 15, 2008 Time: 12:00 Noon

Check-in 11:15 am

at Columbus and Balboa Drive

NORTHWEST SIDE PARADE

Sunday, March 16, 2008 Time: 12:00 Noon

Check-in at 11:30 am

at Onahan School 6633 W. Raven Avenue,

QUAD CITY GRAND PARADE

Saturday, March 15, 2008

Time: 12:00 Noon

Check-in: TBD

PARADE ATTIRE:

As you know, the weather for these parades have ranged from 70 and sunny all the way down to -15 and freezing.

Foremost we ask that dancers dress warm. We do however, want the Academy to be presentable and representative of the quality for which we stand.

Therefore, we ask that the dancers who are marching or riding on the float wear one of the following:

- Their school or solo costumes with black tights. To keep warm dancers should wear Irish sweater over their costume. Any school costume is acceptable.
- Black Pants and an Irish Sweater
- Black Pants and the new MHoB sweatshirt.

For all parades, parents and siblings are welcome to march behind the dancers and the float.

SHOW GUIDELINES (see next page)

The next page discusses all the different performance opportunities for the dancers. In order to have a successful St. Patrick's Day - we ask for parent cooperation and adhere to the following guidelines:

- In instances where a senior dancer or parent is the show coordinator, all parents and dancers must respect the show coordinator the same as if it was a teacher.
- For all public performance, the dancer must attend the mandatory practice on time. No excuses can be accepted.
- Please refrain from bringing non-dancing siblings and other friends to private performances.
- It is the parent's responsibility to make sure that the costume fits. Please make sure that dancers wear white socks (older championship dancers should have both socks and black tights with them at all time). All shoes need to be polished. Dancers must wear either:
 - A blue or green skirt, white blouse, white socks and shoes (for Tots and Beginner levels).
 - Beginner and Tots are not required to have a wig and can perform in their natural hair tied back. Dancers who do wear wigs - must have them secured on prior to check-in
 - For boys: Black pants, any shirt, and tie - and a vest if they have one.
 - Any school costume that is cleaned, and fitted properly.
 - A solo costume.

St. Patrick's Day Performances 2008

SIGN-UPS SHEETS WILL BE POSTED AT all STUDIOS ON MONDAY March 3rd AT 4 PM



Public Performance information

The Academy is one of the few that encourages dancers to participate in our public performances. This year we have 4 scheduled different public performances planned along with a number of local private performances (retirement centers, parish parties, various St. Pat's event).

Each of the public performances are listed below, along with who can participate and the costume and practice requirements. We ask for all your cooperation to make this work and be a great time for all the dancers and parents. **PLEASE SIGN-UP USING THE SIGN-UP SHEETS AT YOUR STUDIO.**

We ask that dancers choose on one of the following performances. Championship level dancers can elect to participate in more than one performance. However, priority should be given to class time for those who are attending the upcoming World Championships.

Thursday March 13 "Ireland on Parade" at Gaelic Park

Show Time: 7:00 pm Check-in Time: 6:15 pm
Mandatory Practice Date and Time: March 3 and 10, 2008 at 5:00 pm. (solo class will then be held 6:30 - 8:00 pm)

Dancers: Open to all Gaelic Park and south side MHoB Dancers provided they attend the mandatory practice. Beginners and Tots are welcome to perform in a blue or green skirt and white blouse, along with their white socks and dance shoes. All other dancers will wear their solo costumes, or their school costumes. The Senior Choreography will also perform.

Friday, March 14 "Dance Chicago" Irish American Heritage Center

Show Time: 9:15pm Check-In Time: 8:30pm
Mandatory Practice Date and Time: Friday 3/14 at 6:45 pm (Edison Park Studio)

Dancers: Open to all MHoB Dancers. Beginners and Tots are welcome to perform in a blue or green skirt and white blouse, along with their white socks and dance shoes. All other dancers will wear their solo costumes, or their school costumes.

Saturday, March 15, 2008 Irish American Heritage Center

Show Time: 6:00pm Check-In Time: 4:45pm
Mandatory Practice Date and Time: 3/13 from 5:45 - 7:00 pm Edison Park Studio)

Dancers: Open to all MHoB Dancers. Beginners and Tots are welcome to perform in a blue or green skirt and white blouse, along with their white socks and dance shoes. All other dancers will wear their solo costumes, or their school costumes. The Junior World Choreography will also perform.

Saturday, March 15, 2008 Mercy Home Show at Chicago Hilton

Show Time: 3:30pm Check-In Time: 2:15pm
Mandatory Practice Date and Time: 3/13 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm (Edison Park Studio)

Dancers: Open to all MHoB Dancers. Beginners and Tots are welcome to perform in a blue or green skirt and white blouse, along with their white socks and dance shoes. All other dancers will wear their solo costumes, or their school costumes.

Private Performance Information

In order to accommodate all who would like to perform, please sign up for no more than 3 shows.

Please note that due to the large number of Beginner and Tot dancers, these dancers can only perform in one private performance, along with one public performance (and their parish show if on the list). If additional dancers are needed, then Tots and Beginners will be invited to perform in additional shows. Please note that siblings who are Beginners and Tots are welcome to perform at all the same shows as their brothers/sisters.

Please note that all times listed as "Meet" are the times that dancers need to be prepared to dance. Arrive early if you need time to dress, do hair, shoes, etc. Latecomers will not be able to participate if line-ups are set. **ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE AT ALL.**

Please make note of the days you sign-up for shows and make sure to attend. Any no shows may be prevented from future show considerations. If your child is ill and cannot attend a show you have signed up for you must notify a teacher in advance (Gary for Elmhurst area performance, Mike, Mary or Peggy for other performances).

March 4, 2008

Show time 7:00pm Sacred Heart Parish (Lombard) Check-in 6pm

March 5th, 2008

Show time 8:00 pm Incarnation 5757 12th Street Palos Heights

March 7th, 2008

Show time 8:00pm Senator Cronin Fundraiser - Drury Lane Oakbrook

Saturday March 8th

Show time 2:00pm Gross Point Manor Check-in time 1:15 pm
Show time 7:30pm IC Parish (Chicago) Check-in time 6:30 pm
Show time 8:00pm Sacred Heart Parish Check in time 7pm

Monday March 10th

Show time 7:30 pm Resurrection Retirement Check in time 6:45 pm

Friday March 14th

Show time 2:30pm St Matthew Center for Health Check in time 1:45pm
Show time 8:00 pm Irish Fellowship Club Dinner (closed performance)
Show time 8:30pm 2nd Annual Citizens for Ladesic St. Patrick's Day Party Morton Arboretum Performance Check in time 7:30 pm

Saturday March 15, 2008

Show time 10:00am D4 Bar (closed performance)
Show time 6:30pm St Mary of the Woods Parish Check in time 5:45 pm
Show time 7:00pm Chief O'Neill's
Show time 8:00pm Divine Infants Parish Dinner Check in time 7:00 pm

Sunday March 16, 2008

Show time 4:00pm Downers Grove Assisted Living Check time 3:00 pm
Show time 6:00pm Chief O'Neill's

Monday March 17, 2008

Show time 2:45 pm Lee Manor Retirement Center Check in time 2:00 pm
Show time 3:45 pm Resurrection Life Center Check in time 3:15 pm
(Show time 6:30pm Casa San Carlo (Northlake) Check in time 5:30 pm

mullane-healy-o'brien

Booster Club Enrollment



Booster Club Charter

The Booster Club, which has been organized as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Illinois and within the definition of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, shall have the following purpose:

■ Promote

To establish and maintain an organization that utilizes the talents and abilities of its members to support the social, educational and competitive dance experiences of the students of the Mullane- Healy-O'Brien Irish Dance Academy and their families.

■ Communications

To maximize communication between and among its members and the Mullane- Healy-O'Brien Irish Dance Academy.

■ Financial Assistance

To provide financial assistance to its members for expenditures, such as, but not limited to competition entry fees, transportation, lodging and workshops.

■ Support

To aid the Mullane- Healy-O'Brien Irish Dance Academy through the receipt and distribution of supplies, goods, services and money via fundraising for the foregoing purposes.



The Mullane Healy O'Brien Booster Club was established to support the dancers within the Academy in many different ways.

Proceeds from hosting the annual Mullane Healy O'Brien Feis (page 1), the Halloween Feis, the Night of Shenanigans, and other fundraising events are used for the sole purpose of providing for our dancers and promoting school unity. Just look at some of the financial assistance and events that the Booster Club provides and will be providing for the dancers in the Academy:

Annual Christmas Party
St. Patrick's Day Parades
School Parties
Beginner Assistance at Feises

End of the Year Pool Party Performances
Picnics
Travel Stipends

This year we are asking all families to join the Booster Club. The annual dues for a family is \$25.00 which is remarkably less than many other Irish Dance Academies that are the same size and stature of MHoB. It is important that the Booster Club includes the support of all the families of the Academy not only through your dues but also through your participation in helping create great memories and friendships for our dancers. Please complete the following information and forward payment as indicated below:

Booster Club Enrollment

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING
 SO THAT WE CAN UPDATE OUR RECORDS

FAMILY NAME: _____

DANCERS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, ST, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Check Credit Card: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Elmhurst: Return to Kathy Dale's folder
Edison Park: Return to Mailbox or to Kelly Murphy
Gaelic Park: Return to Erin McClintock
Quad Cities: Return to Shannon Maloney

In order to take part in any Booster Club organized activity or receive a travel stipend, your Booster Club dues must be current.

CLASS SCHEDULE

There will be no classes in Edison Park / Gaelic Park as follows:

The week of March 16 - March 22

The week of March 23 - March 29

There will be no classes in Elmhurst as follows:

The week of March 23 - March 29

The week of March 30 - April 5