

Loch Michigan Scottish Country Dancers

December 1985

## Loch Mich 'Blethers'

The Officers of the Loch Michigan Scottish Country Dancers hope that all of you had a very Merry Christmas and extend wishes for the best of New Years. New Years' Eve, or Hogmannay, is practically a state holiday in Scotland, and although we do not (at least not yet) have a Hogmannay Party, we will be having a New Years' Ball and hope to see you there.

Our Loch Mich New Year Ball (celebrating our 6th anniversary) will be held at the Glendora House in Chicago Ridge on January 4, 1986, at 5:45p.m.. Last year's dinner-dance was so successful that we decided to make it an annual event. Dress will again be semi-formal but the fun will be completely contagious. Reservations will be accepted until December 30th, but no need to wait until the last minute. If you just can't wait until January to dance, then be sure to make plans to attend the third annual:

Christmas Dance Party at Racine: Sister Dorcas' group is having what may be its last Christmas dance at the DeKoven Foundation at Racine, Wisconsin. Dancing begins at 2:00 and supper will be served afterwards. Those who have attended in the past have always had a great time. We hope to have several cars going. For a ride, call Bill Moorhead [REDACTED] or Ingrid [REDACTED].

No classes will be held Sundays, December 29, January 5 or January 12.

Classes resume Sunday January 19th. Regular classes begin again at 6:30 as usual at the Palos Park Village Hall. Winter weather in the Chicago area can be quite treacherous, so if the weather conditions are such that class has to be cancelled, a decision will be made before 12:00 noon. On days like this, please call Ingrid after 12:00 ([REDACTED]) to find out if class is being held. In an area as large as ours, weather conditions will likely be good in one area while they are impossible in others. So call Ingrid to be sure.

Nicht Wi' Burns this January will actually be on Burns' birthday, as the 25th falls on a Saturday. Ken Schoon will again be toastmaster, Fiona's brother, Robert, will carry in the Haggis, and our demonstration team will perform. David Gordon will entertain us with stories about and songs by Robert Burns.

Tickets this year are \$21.00 and may be purchased from Ken Schoon, Ann Wood, or Fiona Robertson. As before, Scottish country and Scottish social dancing for all will follow the program.

New Addition!: Ken and Peg Schoon are pleased to announce the birth of their second son, Robert Kendall, early on Thanksgiving morning. Robert weighed in at 8 pounds 2 ounces and he and Peg are doing fine; they both checked out of the hospital Friday afternoon (the 29th).

Dues: Full membership in Loch Mich is \$10.00 a year. For those who paid \$5.00 at the beginning of the fall semester, \$5.00 more is due now. In the future, dues will be paid on an annual basis so that we don't have to ask folk for money so often.

Our Spring Party will be held Saturday, April 19th. Why not mark the date on that new 1986 calendar? Overnight hospitality will be provided for any dancers coming from out-of-town.

Workshop plans are progressing nicely. The workshop will be May 30 - June 1 again held at George Williams College at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Everyone so enjoyed the live music last year that it was decided to have a band again. The New Findhorn Ceilidh Band will be playing for us this year. Teachers will be Mary Murray from Vancouver, Geoffrey Selling from Philadelphia and Ron Wallace from Minneapolis.

Mailing Memberships: As of January, 1986, friends of Loch Mich have been invited to join our group as "Mailing Members." We have always tried to be an inclusive group, inviting members of other groups to all of our activities. As a result our mailing list kept getting longer and it became more expensive to send Blethers and party invitations to so many.

We knew that there were some on our list who enjoyed being kept up-to-date and others for whom the Blethers was possibly unwanted. So with our last mailing we invited all non-members to join us and thereby help us a little financially, while insuring that they would continue to be informed of all our programs. Dues for mailing members have been set at \$2.00 a year. (There are no discounted costs with a mailing membership as there are with full memberships.) Teachers of other groups are still given complimentary mailings. The response was terrific; we now have twenty-three new members!

**A hearty Loch Mich welcome to these, our new members:**

Full Membership:	Jack and Gayle Baker	Chicago
	Marion Black	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
	Mildred Frank	Evanston, Illinois
	Joyce Harper	Geneva, Illinois
	Ross Nankivell	Chicago
Mailing Membership:	Lois Bernbeck	Middleton, Wisconsin
	Tom and Elizabeth Cox	Williams Bay, Wisconsin
	Jackie Glidden	Carthage, Illinois
	Thelma Guilboard	Evanston, Illinois
	Jerry and Pauline Haverkate	North Aurora, Illinois
	Carolyn Hobart	Evanston, Illinois
	Kevin Lesko	Berkeley, California
	Lynn MacLeod	Totowa, New Jersey
	Patricia Morrow	Chicago
	Marion O'Connell	Des Plaines, Illinois
	Charles and Rose Mary Pruett	Madison, Wisconsin
	Karen B. Quinn	Oak Park, Illinois
	Victor Raynoha	Madison, Wisconsin
	Patricia Sanford and John Stott	Madison, Wisconsin
	Janet Schaefer	Charleston, Illinois
	Douglas E. Schneider	Belmont, Massachusetts
	Tony and Ruby Trela	Evergreen Park, Illinois
	Barbara Wollman	Highland Park, Illinois

Jack Baker is the Chicago Commissioner for Clan Donald--U.S.A.; he and Gayle put out the Clan Donald Mid-West Newsletter. He has offered to put announcements for our activities in their newsletter. Thanks.

**Personals:** Many of our new mailing members are former members who have moved. Some of them sent letters with their dues and excerpts from these follow:

**From Lynn MacLeod:**

Greetings from New Jersey. It was good to see so many of you at Kathy's wedding. I'm sorry to say my mother passed away last week; as my father died some years ago, I must take care of many details here. I won't be returning to Chicago until October, but I do want to keep up with you folk since I'd like to come back when I'm in the area again. Tell everyone I said hello.  
Sincerely, Lynn MacLeod

**From Kevin Lesko:**

First my greetings and invitation to you all to come and visit whenever in the San Francisco area. My trip west was uneventful . . . once in the Bay Area I fought off the scores of U. C. students and found a place to rent. From my office I look out onto the Golden Gate Bridge.

I very much like the research and the people here at the 88" cyclotron. The emphasis of my work is now nuclear astrophysics and weak interactions rather than the heavy-ion research I did at Argonne.

I'm dancing 3 days a week; highland on Wednesday, demo-practice Thursday, and social on Friday [plus] monthly parties and weekends. In highland I've competed twice; at San Jose winning a 2nd place in swords and 3rd in fling.

My legs and feet are continually tired!

Finally, I am planning on attending a conference in Germany next summer and hope to go to St. Andrews afterwards in July.

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and spirits.

Yours, Kevin

**From Ross Nankivell:**

I hope I shall get to some dances next year. With my bride to be (29th November 1985) in Urbana and my teaching here [Chicago] each week, including Wednesday nights, weekends have been precious.

After the wedding I fly home to Australia, Elizabeth joining me a fortnight later to spend Christmas and New Years with my parents and family. Looking forward to seeing you all mid-January.

Sincerely, Ross

**From Kerstin Anderson (in Sweden):**

Merry Christmas to you all. It's amazing how quickly time flies. It's almost Christmas again. Here in Stockholm you can really feel it. The last days we have got about two feet of snow and it's really beautiful. People light the first advent candle everywhere. Yes, I'm looking forward to spending Christmas with my family this year.

I hope everything is fine with you all too. Margareta and I are both living in Stockholm but not in the same apartment this time. I am doing substitute teaching. It's fun sometimes and everything but fun other times. Best weekend we had an "American influenced" party; we were about fifty people and had a lot of fun. The day after we showed our three-hour long slideshow. I've tried to start dancing here but it hasn't worked out so good. Mondays isn't a very good evening. I miss you wonderful people. Margareta also sends her love.

Kerstin

**From Kathy Welch Yukishige (in Japan)**

We received a letter from Kathy just before going to "press." She included several pictures of her new home. We will have these out at class.

COMING UP:

December 28	Christmas Party at Racine, Wisconsin	2:00
December 29	No class	
January 4	NEW YEAR'S BALL--Glendora House Reservations required by December 30th	5:45
January 5 and 12	No class	
January 17	Classes resume--Palos Park Village Hall	6:30
January 25	NICHT WI' BURNS--Oak Lawn Hilton	6:30
April 19	SPRING PARTY	
March 22	Mid-Winter Ball at Madison, Wisconsin	
May 30 - June 1	WORKSHOP AT LAKE GENEVA	

Loch Michigan Scottish Country Dancers  
K. J. Schoon

████████████████████  
████████████████████

Address Correction Requested