

Loch Michigan Scottish Country Dancers

March 1987

## Loch Mich 'Blethers'

Ingrid Kendall, President

Kenneth Schoon, Editor

**Spring Dance Party:** Our 7th annual Spring Dance Party will be held on Saturday, March 21st, at the Palos Park Village Hall. The dance program is enclosed. Live music will be provided by fiddler, John Watson of Indianapolis, and pianist, our own John Collins of Summit. Dancing commences at 7:30; there will be refreshments served.

**Workshop '87:** Reservations are coming in rapidly for our Spring Workshop at George Williams College (at Lake Geneva). If you are planning to attend and have not sent in your deposit, please do so soon so that we can save a place for you. We are limited to 88 participants, and have received 65 reservations so far, so speed is of the essence.

If you need a little more information to tempt you, just look at this: Teachers at the workshop will be Valerie Harris of Hamilton, Ontario, Bob Blackie of Toronto, and Bill Hamilton of Scotland; music will be provided by Tullochgorum of Boston (back by popular demand!). In addition there is the sylvan setting, the beautiful lake, and the good food and fellowship.

We are particularly pleased that folks are coming from so many different directions. We have received reservations from Vancouver, Kitchener, Boston, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Minneapolis, Madison and Georgia. Do we have yours?

The cost for the entire weekend is only \$115.00. This amount is much less than what the workshop will actually cost us per person, but fortunately, we have been able to raise more than \$1000 through demonstrations and the auction to keep the registration fee down.

**Auction Recap:** The auction held February 1st was a tremendous success. We were able to raise \$634.00 for the Lake Geneva Workshop. Ann Wood, the auction coordinator, sends, "a big thank you to all who participated in the auction: to those who brought items, to those who brought their checkbooks, and to those who brought goodies and made tea and coffee. A special thank you to Fiona for finding our marvelous auctioneer, Al Conrad, and also to Ingrid who was so available and supportive at all of the planning sessions." A big thanks also to Ann for chairing this event. She is already thinking of making the auction an annual event.

**Class March 1st** will be held again at the Masonic Temple on LaGrange Road in LaGrange. The Temple manager promises to have the building opened in plenty of time to begin class promptly at 6:30p.m.. He apologized for the mixup February 22nd when 30 of us waited out in the cold for him to arrive. Please let the officers know what you think of this location as a permanent place for our classes. Beginning March 8th we will be back at the Palos Park Village Hall. We have that location booked through June.

Madison's 10th anniversary Ball and Workshop will be April 10th and 11th at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Jean Redpath will present a concert Friday evening; Gregor and Vickery Trinkaus-Randall will lead a workshop on Saturday; the Madison Ceilidh Band will provide the music of the Saturday evening ball. See our notice board for more information.

Detroit Ball: The 7th annual Detroit Dinner Dance will be Saturday, March 14. "Scots Measure" from Louisville, Kentucky, will provide the music for the ball. Tickets are \$17.00 which includes dinner, dancing, and parking.

Winter weather cancellations: Even though this winter has been mild so far, Mother Nature has been known to dump a lot of snow on us in March and even April. So don't forget that if there is snow in the greater Chicago area, our teachers will make a decision before 3:00 each Sunday as to whether our classes will have to be cancelled; if so they will notify Bill Moorhead. Members are to call Bill at 848-2332 after 3 p.m.; he will leave a recorded message advising as to whether or not classes will be held. The back up phone number is Ingrid's (957-4494).

Demonstration Team News: The demo team has been very busy this winter giving demonstrations at the Burns' Nights both in Oak Lawn and in Indianapolis, the Disney School and the Itasca Country Club. The Itasca dinner, by the way, has grown from about 30 guests in 1985 to about 150 guests last week. We have received many compliments for our last several demonstrations--a lot of credit needs to be given to our coach, Martin Mulligan, for his skill, goals, persistence, and patience.

Refreshments after class are being coordinated by Jeanette Parrot. We do, however, need some volunteers to provide cookies or other wee treats. Our membership is large enough now that if everyone took one Sunday, no one would need provide goodies more than once a semester. Please see Jeanette to sign up.

SCD in Homewood-Flossmoor continues at 7:30 every Thursday evening at the new Marie Irwin Community Center, Highland Avenue at Ridge Road in Homewood. Ingrid is teaching the class for the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District. Her classes have grown to about 16 members, but she says there is plenty of room for more.

The Alexander Brothers are back again this year for another concert at the Auditorium of the Museum of Science and Industry, Saturday, May 9th, at 7:30 p.m.. Tickets are \$12.50; there will be a cash bar and door prizes. You can enter the Museum at the NW end for direct access to the auditorium. This enjoyable concert is a benefit sponsored by the Illinois St. Andrew Society; proceeds will go to the Scottish Home.

Thanks to the St. Andrew Society for including an announcement about our auction in their latest newsletter.

Branch Status: The membership vote on Branch status was 25 in favor, 5 opposed and 5 abstentions. The opposing votes and abstentions were cast primarily because of the long term commitment involved and the fact that we are still a young and fairly small group. (Some branches have over 100 members.) However those voting in favor seemed willing to make that commitment. The officers will now begin the process of our becoming a Branch of the RSCDS. More details later.

Nicht Wi' Burns: Anyone with comments or suggestions concerning the Nicht Wi' Burns should forward them to Fiona, Ann, Ken or Peg before March 8th.

Personal notes:

Allan Michaels had triple bypass surgery this last January. He had to miss the Nicht Wi' Burns, but was at the Itasca dinner last week looking as fit as ever.

Ann Wood has received an all-clear from her foot doctor to begin dancing again.

Dave and Avril Quarrie spent a number of days on a working vacation in California last month. They brought back greetings from Kevin Lesko.

Jeff and Amy Roth are the proud parents of a new baby girl, Hannah Fay, born December 21, 1986. Congratulations!! (We'll meet her at Lake Geneva.)

Kathy and Yoshi spent the Christmas holidays in Boston spending time with Kathy's family and Loch Mich members, Dan and Joan Rawson. Although they didn't get a chance to visit Chicago, they did call Glendora during our Dinner/Dance and talked to several of us then. They are now back home in Osaka. In their Christmas Card to us, they wrote:

Dear everyone,

Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year. Thank you for keeping in touch with us. Letters, cards, Blethers, and your voices have made us feel always with you and happy. We wish all of you a wonderful Christmas and hope that Loch Mich keeps expanding its circle of Scottish Dancers.

Please come to visit us.

Their address is: Kathy and Yoshi YuKishige  
14-1 Terauchi 2-chome, #613  
Teyonaka, Osaka 560  
Japan

Did you know that it's been almost four years since David and Avril agreed to teach our group? Since that time we've grown from a class size averaging one-and-a-half sets to nearly four sets today. (We had 32 in class again last Sunday.)

The Invermich Pipe Band will be off to Scotland this summer to compete in the world championship competition in Glasgow. Good Luck to you all.

The Midlothian Pipe Band has just cut a record. Copies may be purchased from any member.

Planning a vacation? Perhaps you can do some Country Dancing while you're out of town. The best way to find out what is happening in the SCD world throughout North America is to subscribe to the bimonthly Inter-City Scot. Included is an invaluable contact list giving the names of persons associated with each group. For subscription information, see John Collins.

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Notice to other groups. We are more than happy to include announcements for other Scottish organizations. Please send particulars to the editor. --Ken

CALENDAR:

March 1	Class held at the Masonic Temple, LaGrange	6:30
March 8	Classes resume at the Palos Park Village Hall	6:30
March 14	Detroit Ball	Detroit, Michigan
March 21	Spring Dance Party	Palos Park Village Hall 7:30
March 22	No class	
April 10-11	Concert/Workshop/Ball	Madison, Wisconsin
May 9	Alexander Brothers Concert	Museum of S & I Auditorium 7:30
May 29-31	Chicago Area Workshop	George Williams College, Lake Geneva
July 18	Scottish Home Picnic	North Riverside, all day

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Address Correction Requested