

RSCDS, Chicago Branch

The Blethers

Greg Canfield, Chair

October 2000

Sue McKinnell, Editor

<http://www.midwestnet.com/clients/piper/branch.html>

2000 Semi-Annual General Meeting: This is official notice, pursuant to the Constitution and by-laws of the Chicago Branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, that the Semi-Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 5th. The meeting will be held in the parish hall at St. Josaphat's Church, Belden and Southport, Chicago, Illinois, starting at 6:00 p.m. The main item on the agenda will be review and approval of the treasurer's report. You must be a member of the Chicago Branch to vote at the meeting (but others interested in the Branch are invited to attend). If you have not yet signed up for membership, but would like to do so, it is not too late. There is a membership form included with this issue of *The Blethers* and you may bring it to the meeting and pay your dues there. Note that a copy of the meetings notes from last year's SAGM is also included.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
3. Chair's Report
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Adjourn

Reminders of up-coming events:

- Noel Chávez will present a Special Technique Class on phrasing Sunday, November 19th as part of the regular class schedule.
- There will be light dancing on the Sunday after Thanksgiving (November 26th).
- The Branch will hold a Holiday Party on Sunday, December 17th at St. Josaphat's at 6:00 p.m.
- The 2001 New Year's Ball is scheduled for Saturday, January 13th, 2001 at the Ukrainian Cultural Center (remember this is a date change!); there will be a musician's workshop earlier that day at approximately 10:00 a.m.
- There will be a Brunch/Tea Dance on Sunday, January 14th at a site to be named later.

The dance program and instructions for the Ball are available on the Branch website (see above).

New Year's Ball Goodies: Reminder!! New Year's Ball Goodies – Before you know it, the New Year's Ball will be here. It's not too early to plan some delicious goodies to bring for our special dessert table. The many wonderful treats are always one of the highlights of the evening and much appreciated after a vigorous night of dancing. Please call or email Robin Gaston to sign up your goodies. Her number is (847) 475-4589 and her email is robin.gaston@compaq.com.

Fall Dance: It was a great pleasure to have Hanneke Cassel play for the Fall Dance! Noel Chávez prepared a fun program and all who attended had a wonderful time. Many thanks to all who brought goodies for the tea after the dance and to Mary Lou Woods and Liz Stake who organized and set up the tea.

Frolic on the Fox 5: Silk & Thistle's *Frolic on the Fox 5* provided an entertaining evening of dancing. The music was lively, the program was fun, and a good time was had by all. Silk & Thistle would like to thank all who came from near and far, and all who helped with setup, decorating, organizing, and goodies.

Dancing Location(s) needed for Spring 2001! We are still looking for an alternate site for the Loch Mich class for Spring 2001. If you know of any other venue that may be available, please contact Greg Canfield at (773) 764-2891 or gcanfield@worldnet.att.net.

Publicity Chair needs Committee: Your Publicity Chair needs willing helpers who have enthusiasm and ideas for promoting SCD in the Chicago area and bringing in new members. If you are interested, please give Sue McKinnell a call at (630) 961-0101 or send email to her at suem18@worldnet.att.net or suem@lucent.com (email is preferred and more reliable).

Japan's Scottish Traffic Lights: From the *Strathspey* mailing list: In Japan (at least in Tokyo), at a big intersection with several crosswalks coming to and from various directions, when the green man of the traffic lights is lit, the traffic lights of each direction sound different songs to tell blind people the direction. One tune is *Coming Through the Rye*. The other is from one of the Japanese traditional nursery rhymes and the main phrase and title is *Please come, please come through the street* (in Japanese). Those two tunes were chosen because of the title words "coming/come." When the green man of the relatively wider street of the intersection is lit, it sounds the Japanese song, and when the green man of the relatively narrower street is lit, it sounds *Coming Through the Rye*. – Shoko Okamura

Top 20 Failed Haggis Marketing Ploys – by Rich Block

20. Freeze-dried Haggis – the official Haggis of NASA
 19. Haggis On a Stick
 18. Kentucky Fried Haggis – in extra-crispy or the Colonel's Original secret recipe
 17. Stove-Top Haggis – instead of potatoes
 16. <not in my copy>
 15. Mountain Exe – totally refreshing carbonated haggis beverage. Do the Ewe!
 14. Cup o' Guts – Instant Haggis
 13. Entrail Mix – Natural Snack
 12. Mix & Eat Cream of Sheep
 11. Wool-Whip – Non-dairy dessert topping
 10. H.L.T.
 9. Moo Goo Gai Viscera
 8. Haggis Joy and Mounds – Sometimes you feel like a gut...Sometimes you don't...
 7. Bleaties Cereal – breakfast of Champions
 6. Shish ke Baaaaaaab
 5. Ram-Burger Helper
 4. Chockful o' Guts Haggis Coffee – Gut to the last drop!
 3. Pedialights – Haggis for the wee bairn
 2. Two all-sheep haggis, special sauce, lettuce, cheese....
 1. Haggis Dazs – Premium Haggis Ice Cream
- (From the *SRSNH Granite Skyes Newsletter 11/99*. Thanks Noel – I think ☺)