

LOCH MICHIGAN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS

MARCH 1986

## Loch Mich 'Blethers'

SPRING DANCE PARTY--APRIL 19TH: Loch Mich will hold its annual Spring Party on Saturday, April 19th at the Palos Park Village Hall. The dance program which is enclosed includes many old favorites and some new dances as well. There will be a walk-through of many of the dances on Sunday, April 13th, at the Village Hall at 4:00. Come if you can and you'll enjoy the Saturday party even more. Then stay, of course, for pizza and then class at 6:30.

April 6th class will be held at the Berrie Playground Centre in Oak Park at the corner of Garfield and Lombard. The Village Hall in Palos Park is being used by another group that day. There is plenty of nearby parking and the centre is next door to the train station. Directions to the location at Oak Park are on the bulletin board.

No class will be held Easter Sunday on April 20th, the day after our Party.

Workshop applications are beginning to come in, and although May 30th is still a long way off, now is the time to apply if you haven't done so yet.

All this in one weekend: Two nights lodging the ambience of Lake Geneva and the wooded campus of George Williams College, meals cooked by their resident Scottish Baker, our own Loch Mich member, Thomas Cox; a dance party Friday night, instruction Saturday and Sunday by Mary Murray of Vancouver, Geoffrey Selling from Philadelphia and Ron Wallace of Minneapolis; a ball and ceilidh Saturday night; and music provided by the New Findhorn Ceilidh Band.

Many Brown is accepting applications and will gladly accomodate those who would like to make partial payments, monthly payments, or even total payments. All that is needed now to reserve a place for you at the workshop is a deposit. The cost for the entire weekend, ambience included, is \$105.00.

Congratulations to Sandra Lamb who gave birth to a daughter, Jennifer Mary, early Monday morning, March 3rd. Jennifer weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and she and Sandie are doing very well. Can't think of a better reason to miss class on Sunday night!!

Janet Boden and Dale Treia have announced that they will be married May 25th. Congratulation and Best Wishes to you both. Hope two you are planning on a honeymoon at our Lake Geneva Honeymoon and SCD Resort May 30 - June 1st!

A Big Thank You from Fiona Robertson to all those who helped her make the after-party-party at her home last January such a success. "The contributions of food, drinks, music, sparkling personalities all helped to extend an already delightful evening. Would the person(s) who brought a bottle of Canadian Club please make himself known." Fiona wants to acknowledge.

Another Thank-You from Ken and Peg Schoon to all those who contributed to the basket of goodies for their new son, Robert. "We really appreciate the thoughtfulness that went along with each of them. Although we were sorry that we could not open them in front of you all--we did have a great time opening them once we got home. Thank you so much."

Sister Dorcas' Racine Group will have its Summer Dance, June 28th at 2:00 p.m. with a potluck dinner following. More details on all this later.

Prospective members' names should be given to our new Publicity Coordinator, Greta Telford. She'll contact them and send some information about our group. Have you seen the Loch Mich notice in the Tribune's "Friday" Section?

The Madison Mid-Winter Ball will be held March 22nd in the Great Hall of the Union Building at the University of Wisconsin. Music will be provided by the All Dane County Championship Scottish Country Dance Band featuring fiddler, Alastair Fraser. The event is the Madison group's highlight of the year and we hope to have several car-loads going up. Mr. Fraser will be giving a concert Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m.. Overnight hospitality will be provided by the Madison dancers for anyone desiring it.

The Alexander Brothers will be in Chicago for a performance at the Auditorium of the Museum of Science and Industry on Saturday, April 5th. Their concert is sponsored by the Illinois St. Andrew Society and is a benefit for the Scottish Home in North Riverside. Tickets are \$10.00 each and can be purchased from Ann Wood or Fiona Robertson.

The Detroit Tartan Ball will be held Friday, May 2nd at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. Guest of Honor will be Miss Muriel Gibson, Secretary of the RSCDS in Edinburgh. (One of the dances at the ball will be, of course, Miss Gibson's Strathspey.) A reception begins at 7:00, dinner at 8:00, and dancing will follow. Ingrid will be going, so anyone interested should see her. Reservations will be necessary.

SCD in Japan: Bob Blackie is planning a Scottish Country Dance tour of Japan from October 11 through the 31st, 1986. Kathy and Yoshi would love to see any of us who can attend. This would be a terrific way to see good friends, tour Japan, and have a good time dancing for anyone who can arrange to go.

Membership in our group is continuing to grow! A record class attendance (to the knowledge of the Blethers Editor) was made last month when we had 34 dancers on February 16th. John Collins is working on a new Membership Directory which will be available soon. Be sure to pick up a copy at class.

New Loch Mich members are:

John R. Ellis	Chicago
Kent and Lynette TeVault	Liste, Illinois
Hank Ottdeveries	Itasca Country Club
Lane and Holly Trueblood	Villa Park, Illinois
Laurie and Debbie Trueblood	
Kirsten Seising	Oak Forest, Illinois
Ann Werthman	Batavia, Illinois

Mailing Memberships:	Ann Sunn	Chicago
	Dan and Joan Rawson	New Towne, Connecticut
	Tom Roby	Cambridge, Mass.
	Russ and Kris Browne	Beverly, Illinois
	Stanley Oke	Brookfield, Illinois
	Jack and Jean Blakeley	Chicago
	Nancy Konczal	Chicago

Unfortunately we have some members who have not paid their dues. We certainly hope that this is an oversight because we would hate to lose them. If you are not sure of your dues status, please check with our treasurer, Chris Day. Membership dues are \$10.00 a year per person for full membership and \$2.00 a year per address for mailing membership. Those dancers who paid \$5.00 in September, of course, need contribute only another \$5.00 now.

Kathy and Yoshi couldn't make it to our Anniversary Ball in January but certainly were thinking of us. We really appreciated the telegram they sent. They have moved from Yoshi's bachelor apartment to a larger, and newer one, still in Osaka. Their new address is:

Yoshi and Kathy Yukishige  
 [REDACTED]  
 Toyonaka, Osaka 560 Japan

\* \* \* \* \*

Reprinted from Chemical and Engineering News, January 6, 1986

#### Hazard Associated with Scottish Country Dancing

David Todd of Worcester, Mass, saw in Lancet from Nov. 23, 1985, a report of a "dermatological curiosity" in adults as a result of Scottish Country Dancing. The authors are A.Y. and I.G. Finlay of Glasgow and E.L. and W.G. Paton of Edinburgh. The curiosity was antecubital fossa peteshiae, or minute hemorrhages that show as purplish spots in the bend of the elbow.

The authors note that dancing, although generally considered safe, is actually "fraught with hazards." They include "the specific injuries associated with roller discos, breast disease in tassel dancers, and subconjunctival hemorrhages after 'pogo' dancing, which requires repeated bouncing movements for long periods."

In the case at hand, two couples attended the Scottish National Orchestra ball in Glasgow, where they indulged in Scottish country dancing. Twelve hours later, one of them noticed purple spots inside the elbow, and all four were examined immediately by a dermatologist, a general practitioner, and a nurse. Both women had the problem in both arms, and one of the men had a minor case. The spots faded within 24 hours, according to Finlay, Finlay, Paton and Paton. Six weeks later, one of the women came down with similar lesions after another evening of Scottish country dancing.

Such lesions have been associated with clothing (contact purpura), the authors say, and the unprotected skin of the women did contact the rough tweed of the men's jackets. But they believe the more likely cause was trauma to unprotected skin. The women wore short-sleeved dresses, the man who was slightly affected wore a shirt, but no jacket, and the man who was unaffected wore a jacket.

Trauma in the area of the elbow is greatest in dances called Strip-the-Willow, The Dashing White Sergeant, and the Eightsome Reel, the authors report. These dances entail repeated birling--swirling around of couples using the antecubital fossa as a pivot. Alcohol may have contributed to the symptoms because of its effect on the small vessels of the skin. The Finlays and the Patons point out that "the lesions could be avoided by using a different linking grip when birling or by wearing thicker clothing. "Dancing naked," they say, "would remove the risk of contact purpura, but we are not necessarily recommending that course."

No immediate problem for Loch Mick: The three "most dangerous dances" noted above will not be on the program at our Party on April 19th. --Ed note

Coming up:

March 22	Mid-Winter Ball	Madison, Wisconsin
March 30	Easter Sunday--No class	
April 5	The Alexander Brothers	Museum of Science and Industry
April 6	Class at Oak Park	
April 13	Spring Party walkthrough	Palos Park Village Hall 4:00
April 19	Spring Dance Party	Palos Park Village Hall
April 20	No class	
May 2	Tartan Ball	Detroit, Michigan
May 30-June 1	CHICAGO AREA WORKSHOP	Williams Bay (Lake Geneva), WI
June 28	Summer Dance Party	Racine, Wisconsin 2:00
July 25	Scottish Dance Party	Chicago Hilton
July 26	Chicago Highland Games	Grant Park, Chicago

Loch Michigan Scottish Country Dancers  
K. J. Schoon

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

Address Correction Requested