

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Chicago Branch

September 1987

B l e t h e r s

Ingrid Kendall, President

Kenneth Schoon, Editor

Congratulations!! Congratulations!! Ingrid Kendall and Bill Moorhead both attended teachers summer school at St. Andrews and came home certificated. Ingrid now has her full RSCDS teacher's certificate and Bill has his preliminary certificate. The RSCDS Chicago Branch now has four certificated teachers, Dave and Avril Quarrie, Martin Mulligan and Ingrid, and two teachers with their prelims: Sandra Lamb and Bill.

International Culture Festival September 13th: Always one of the highlights of the year, our group has enjoyed and participated in this festival held at Hammond (Indiana) Morton High School for seven years. It's a great way to start out the new season. The Sunday afternoon schedule has several exciting dance groups:

12:20 Concepciones Actuales - Mexican dance group
 12:50 RSCDS - Chicago Branch
 1:25 Nitzanim - Israeli dancing
 2:00 Ukranian dancing

Besides the dancing, there will be about fifty various national food booths and a huge arts and crafts fair as well. The fair opens at 10:00.

Ken and Peg Schoon have invited one and all to their home at 4:00 or so to relax, unwind, and dance should the spirit move them, following the festivities. There is no class that evening. The demonstration team "video" will be shown that evening for any who haven't seen it yet.

Beginners' Workshop: September 19th. Now is the time to encourage all your friends to "get into" Scottish Country Dancing. The workshop at the LaGrange Masonic Temple will run from 11:00 to 5:00 with a break for lunch. The dance that evening is for all members. A flyer is enclosed; if you could use some more of them, please contact Chari Wurtzel at (312) 848-6502. Advance registrations are encouraged (and are cheaper).

Interested in volunteering your time for the workshop? Contact Chari.

The Sizzlin' Summer of 87 is nearly over. With our summer policy of cancelling class whenever the temperature (at O'Hare) reaches 90 degrees, we have met far fewer times this summer than we would want to. How could anyone know that on one Sunday it would reach 90 at Midway Airport (which is closer to Palos) but only 89 at "official" O'Hare? Perhaps we should also consider cancelling class when the rainfall (anywhere in the area) reaches 9 inches in a 24 hour period!! Ah well, autumn approaches.

Classes begin again September 27th: Our regular dance classes taught by David and Avril Quarrie will resume Sunday evening, September 27th. For that Sunday (and Nov 22) we will meet at the LaGrange Masonic Temple as the Palos Park Village Hall is not available. As usual, classes will begin at 6:30 and will end by 8:30 so that members can either be home at a decent hour, or have time for tea and a little goodie in the basement afterwards. And, speaking of:

Tea time: Marian Smith is coordinating tea this year. She will be asking for four members of our group to act as host or hostess for one Sunday each month. Said host (ess) will set up and clean up the basement, but will not be responsible for goodies. There will be a separate sign-up sheet for that. Now is the time for all good cooks to come to the aid of the party. Call 869-7803.

New officers were elected at the Branch's first Annual General Meeting last June. They are:

Ingrid Kendall, president	Chari Wurtzel, officer at large
Barbara Bowker, secretary	Kent TeVault, officer at large
Chris Day, treasurer	Kent Smith, officer at large

Members who have accepted voluntary challenges are:

Laura Keough, who will coordinate publicity
 Lynnette TeVault, our new librarian
 Kent TeVault, workshop chairman
 Martin Mulligan, demo team instructor and keeper of the record collection
 Marian Smith, already mentioned as our new tea-time coordinator
 John Collins, mailing list coordinator
 Avril and Dave Quarrie will be teaching our classes
 and, yours truly, Ken Schoon, Blethers editor

Dues are now due. Dues are more complicated now that we're a branch because all full members are also RSCDS members. The RSCDS has annual and long term memberships; branch dues are annual. Got it? The enclosed form says it all. The former mailing-membership is now called Blethers subscription.

The Homewood-Floosmoor dance class will begin its fall schedule on September 24th. Classes are on Thursday evenings. Anyone interested can call the Park District or Ingrid at 957-4494.

Sisters Dorcas and Leticia who have done so much for the Racine group and who have made our dance parties so much fun will be leaving for three years of study in Rome. Good news--they will be able to dance with us on September 19th.

Barbara Bowker, who just completed her doctorate, has accepted the invitation of the Racine Group to be their teacher this year. She, and they, would love to see any folks from the north side (south side too) who would like to join them.

Woodlands Hike October 17th: And now for something completely different! Mary Ellen and Tomy Endo are coordinating a walk near McKinley Woods along the National Heritage Corridor's I and M Canal. Fall colors should be at their best. Two hikes will be available, one of two miles and one of ten. Details and maps will be available at class.

Madison Dance: The Madison group will have a Sunday evening dance at the U of W Union building September 20th. Chuck Snowden has information (608) 238-3547.

Scottish Fair--October 24-25. The editor has no more information yet but details will be available at class. The demo team has been asked to perform.

Semi-annual General Meeting will be November 8th before class.

Fall Dance Party November 14th will be at the Masonic Temple in LaGrange. Myrtle Herman is the coordinator. More information will be in the next Blethers.

The Highland Games this year were quite successful in spite of the heat. Barb Bowker would like to thank all those who helped especially the TeVaults, Endos, Cheri Wurtzel, Catherine Blair, Susie Kinsman and the demo team.

Country Dancing and Danish husbands were the topics of the day last June when J. Andres, the morning disk jockey on WNIB "classical radio" read a postcard from Claudia Snow Gronveit. Claudia, who sent the card while vacationing with Jesper in Copenhagen, requested some favorite Danish music after she returned to the USA in order to go Scottish Country Dancing. So, to a not-quite awake Chicago audience, Andres wondered aloud whether Claudia and her Danish husband had met at a Scottish Country Dance. [They met at a Loch Mich dance class.] Thanks for the free publicity.

Greetings received from Japan:

Dear Folks,

[from Yoshi] How have you been treating yourselves in that muggy summer in Chicago? How's Loch Mich class going? Is everybody in good condition? Osaka Summer is extremely muggy and we have many nights when the temperature doesn't go down below 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

We've been dancing SCD and Highland dances in different groups. The other day, we were interviewed by a local paper, so I hope, through that we can expand the circle of SCD.

This summer means a lot to us. August is the memorial month for World War II and recent Toshiba COCOM incident embarrassed me a lot. I hope Japan and the United States will keep the good relationship in the future and with the rest of the world.

[from Kathy] Hello from me too! I hope that you're all dancing up a storm. Hope that you're all healthy and happy too. Today was the last day of our Summer vacation. We (including my middle sister, Patti) spent a few days with Yoshi's family in Oita. We had fun being members of a big extended family. Spent some time sightseeing but seemed to spend more time sitting around tables in various houses eating, eating, eating. Now, back to work for both of us.

My sister has been with us for four weeks now. She's been a great visitor and we'll be sorry when she returns to the U.S. next Saturday. I'll be crushed. Take care.

Love, Yoshi and Kathy

Dale and Jan Trela have just moved back to the Chicago area after two years in Texas. Welcome back. (Anyone know of a good house for sale?)

David Pattison has accepted a position with the University of Calgary's department of Geology and Geophysics. Congratulations! --but sorry to see you leave.

Jack and Gayle Baker proudly announce the birth of their new son, Ian Alexander, Friday, June 12th. Watch for him on the dance floor twelve years from now.

Ann and Hank Wood are both nicely recovering from recent surgeries and looking forward to an October vacation in Door County, Wisconsin. Ann hasn't been able to dance recently, but has volunteered to coordinate our:

Auction '88: Save all your white elephants, crafty items and Scottish goods for our auction benefitting our workshop at Lake Geneva next Spring. The auction will be January 31st.

Calendar:

September 6, 13 and 20 No Sunday classes

September 13 International Culture Festival 10:00 to 6:00 Hammond, Indiana
Gathering at the Schoons about 4:00 or 4:30

September 19 Beginners' Workshop with evening dance for all members

September 27 Regular Sunday classes resume 6:30 LaGrange Masonic Temple

October 4 Classes return to Palos Park

October 17 Walk along the I and M canal

October 24-25 Scottish Fair

November 14 Fall Dance LaGrange Masonic Temple

November 20 The Gordon Highlanders Rosemont Horizon

November 21 Feast of the Haggis

January 2 New Year Ball Glendora Ballroom

January 31 Auction

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Address Correction Requested