



THE BLETTHERS



Ree Grisham, Chair

Laurie Walter, Editor

New Year's Ball + Brunch + Dance: The RSCDS, Chicago Branch, 19th Annual New Year's Ball weekend is fast approaching!!! You definitely do not want to be left out of the best event of the Winter!!!

First of all, there will be a walk-through on Sunday, January 3, 1999, at 6:00 at St. Josaphat Parish Hall, corner of Southport and Belden Aves., Chicago. Get those feet (and brains) ready!

The Ball itself is Saturday, January 9, 1999, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 Chicago Ave. (which is 800 North), Chicago. Reception is at 5:30 PM, dinner at 6:30, and dancing from 7:30 till we are all exhausted but happy. Music by *The Music Makars* (great music; great hugs!), consisting of Elizabeth Ozorak, piano; Etienne Ozorak, accordion; Fred Mamula, fiddle; and guest Susan Worland, fiddle.

Reservations (now) are \$42 for RSCDS members, \$46 for non-members, \$38 for non-dancers, and \$12 for persons of any persuasion under age 18. Please bring flyers to advertise upcoming events to avoid the need for lengthy announcements; local dancers are encouraged to bring contributions for the sweets table. For registration questions or if you haven't yet received a flyer, call Corinne McArdle at (708) 798-7806. Hospitality will be handled by Melissa Whitson at (708) 784-9011 or e-mail at kheinema@sprynet.com

The next day, dancers and non-dancers are invited to a Brunch and Dance at the Fermilab Barn in Batavia, IL. Potluck brunch begins at 11:00 AM and dancing at noon. The dance will be an all-request program with a goodly helping of live music. Please convey requests, as well as offers to play, either on the registration form, e-mail by Jan. 8 to folkdance@fnal.gov, or bring to the Ball and talk to Doug Jensen or Mady Newfield. A partial program and crib sheet should be available at the Ball. For Brunch and Dance questions, call Mady at (630) 584-0825 or e-mail to the above address.

Hope to see everyone the weekend of the 9th-10th of January!!!!

Yet another reminder: Reminder!!! Need goodies!!! Before you know it, the 1999 New Year's Ball will be upon us. 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 Robin Gaston to sign up your goodies. Her number is (847) 475-4589. [Robin Gaston]

Back to regular dancing: The New Year's Ball should put us in the mood to spend the rest of the Winter dancing! Silk and Thistle (Fermilab) continues on Tuesday nights without a break (ever!); call Doug or Susan Jensen at (630) 232-9089, Mady Newfield at (630) 584-0825, or Mary Helen Polensky at (815) 756-7182 for more information. Loch Michigan (St. Josaphat) will resume on Jan. 17 with an Open House, then regular class on the 24th and 31st (and on and on...) Call Ree Grisham at (773) 528-7824 or Noel Chavez at (708) 848-9218 for more information. ScotReel (Homewood) is on break until springish; information from Ingrid Kendall at (708) 957-4494.

Musings on 1998: What can I say about a year in which we lost Ken Parrott, but were able to see Marian and Kent Smith, Avril and David Quarrie, and Martin Mulligan again? It's been wonderful dancing with all of you, wonderful sharing the warmth and friendship, wonderful seeing old friends again, and sad to see friends part. I wish you all the best for 1999, including a new editor (more on that later).

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!! HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! SEE YOU AT THE BALL!!!