



## The Newsletter of the Robert Burns Club of Milwaukee

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\*All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are at the "wee but and ben" of Pete Kucik: 2965 N. Bartlett Ave., # 4, on the east side of Milwaukee, one block west of Oakland Avenue, one block north of Locust Street. Telephone number (414) 332-2036. There are steps in front of the building and you ring the doorbell for #4. Handicap access (of sorts) is in the back. Park on the Linwood side of the street, in the middle by the garbage containers. It's about 1/3 block to the back door through the alley (not wide enough for a car). There's no doorbell in back so call on a cell phone to have someone come and open the door. **Regular meetings ONLY in April, May, October and December.**

**PLEASE save this info for 2013**



### October, November, December 2013

#### A Wee Word Frae the President

On July 8, 2013, I gave a talk on Robert Burns as part of the Osher (Learning in Retirement Guild at UWM) summer lecture series. Tony Palese piped in the 60+ attendees, much to their delight and to the dismay of the "important" UWM meeting taking place in the adjacent room. It was a good opportunity to showcase Robert Burns and to give the Club more public exposure. People really seemed to enjoy the poetry and the background information on Robert Burns (as well they should...)

The Wisconsin Highland Games on Labor Day weekend competed with Harley Davidson's 110th anniversary. The programs had a bagpiper on a motorcycle and the tag, "Our pipes are louder". The day was hot and humid. Our club had a prime real estate location and made a nice presence. As usual, the Games were fun.

The next event for us is the Kirkin o' the Tartan on September 29 (information in this issue).

Aye,  
Pete

Maurice Lindsay's THE BURNS ENCYCLOPEDIA edited by David Purdie, Kirsteen McCue and Gareth Carruthers. Sept. 2013. ISBN 10-0709174x; 13-978-070909143. \$32.58 through Amazon. This is an update of the 1959 ed.

**Seamus Heaney**, billed the "Irish poet of Soil and Strife" died this past August at the age of 74. To tell you the truth, I never heard of him until he died. I was curious about him because he was a great lover of language, nature and the oppressed. I wondered if he had any Burns connection. In fact he did. The 1995 Nobel laureate in literature wrote a poem dedicated to Burns for a Burns supper he attended on January 2008. I encourage Burns club members to find a resource and read the whole poem. It will be worth your while. Here's a snippet from "A Birl for Burns" by Seamus Heaney,.....

For Rabbie's free and Rabbie's big,  
His stanza may be tight and trig  
But once he sets the sail and rig  
Away he goes  
Like Tam-O-Shanter o'er the brig  
Where no one follows.

And though his first tongue's going, gone,  
And word lists now get added on  
And even words like *stroan* and *thrawn*  
Have to be glossed,  
In Burns's rhymes they travel on  
And won't be lost.



## Calendar

Sunday, September 29, 2013 - 2PM - Kirkin o' the Tartan at the "wee white church on the hill) in Big Bend, Wis. Kilts and tartan welcome but not required. Contact Pete Kucik or Ian Day for directions

October 5th, 2013 The Milwaukee Scottish FALL HIGHLAND GATHERING Traditional Scottish Ceilidh and Solo Piping Competition. Klemmer's Banquet Center 10401 West Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI. Hosted by The Milwaukee Scottish Pipe Band and features performances by Ceol Cairde, Caledonian Scottish Dancers, Madison Pipes and Drums, Greater Milwaukee Fire & Police Pipes & Drums, Clan Donald Pipes and drums Please see separate email sent September 3, or contact club member, Tony Palese.

Wednesday, October 16, 2013- regular club meeting at Pete Kucik's house. "Robert Burns in the Ukraine" by new member Theresa Staab, newly returned from twenty years in the Ukraine. 7 PM, 2965 N. Bartlett Ave., #4 on Milwaukee's east side.

Note: this is not for certain, but they usually do this every Halloween.

Wednesday, October 31 - Samhain (Halloween/) celebration at UWM's Hefter Center. 6-9 PM  
Food, film, entertainment. BUT--be careful, because the fairies will try to drag you away. So, wear your jacket inside out, have iron in your pocket so if you hear their music you can (like Finn McCool did (in old times) stab yourself in the forehead to distract yourself. For more information, (414) 229-6520 or [Gleeson@uwm.edu](mailto:Gleeson@uwm.edu).



Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2013 - annual Christmas potluck - note EARLIER meeting time of 6:00 PM. Bring a dish to share (food-food, not dessert food unless you also bring potluck dish too). See meeting place information at the top of this newsletter.

### 2014

No meetings in January, February or March.

Mark your calendars for the next club Burns Supper - Sunday, February 9, (the weekend before the Super Bowl and the Sunday AFTER Valentine's Day this year )

Wednesday, April 16, 2014 - club meeting and annual elections meeting.

Wednesday, May 21, 2014 - club meeting Program: not chosen yet

Facebook Page for RBANA. <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/groups/421081437959283/>

