



The Piper

of
The Clans of Scotland, USA



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January - March 2003

COS UP FRONT FOR ALEXANDRIA SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK

Well, yes, it was colder than molasses in January, going uphill. And, the shining sun only cast a glow on the walkers, but the Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk was a success for the Clans of Scotland. There were so many from COS who also participated with their respective clans, that a count was impossible.

The walk up Pitt Street and then down St. Asaph Street moved along at a good rate - that is, not too many lengthy stand-still pauses and accordion-like expansions and contractions. The walkers were a lot warmer than the spectators lining the complete parade route. The watchers had snow-covered brickwork. The walkers were on cleared asphalt. There may be some laws of physics at work here.

Many spectators reported icicles forming from the ground up, even in front of Starbucks Coffee. And, the reviewing stand was located on a crest that moved quickly downhill toward Wilkes Street, where the pre-parade marshalling of units had been set up. That made it easy for COSians to double back and meet up with their respective clans, for yet another pass up Pitt and down St. Asaph.

Unfortunately, there was a paucity of pipes and drums this year. Re-enactors boomed their best, but the number of spectators dropped - probably due to the cold weather. For that reason, the procession was very quick.

Continued on page 11, see Christmas Walk

A KIRKIN' IS ANOTHER REASON FOR THE SEASON

With the skirling of "Scotland The Brave," the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church in McLean was filled with the echoing sound of a sole piper solemnly leading a procession of kilted members from the Clans of Scotland, the St. Andrew's Society, Washington, and Living Legacy down the aisle at 3 p.m. of a chilled and snowy Sunday afternoon. In a simple, moving and poignant ceremony, organized by Scribe Martha Walls, the heritage of Scots worldwide was brought together in that moment for a gathering of those specifically in that place at that time to pay homage to their Scottish ancestry.

Celebrant Reverend Gary G. Pinder, and with the accompaniment of a cathedral-style organ, the congregants sang of praise with Scottish and American traditional hymns and reflected on words of Scottish history. In the principal address, given by COS Chief Emeritus Larry Young, all were refreshed in the origins of the Kirkin, and the nature of their Scottishness. Anne Robertson Kennedy, from Living Legacy, spoke of the contributions of prominent Scots to the worlds of medicine, engineering and literature.

In a brief revelation of similar experiences, Larry Young humorously addressed the differences between brogues and burrs. Rev. Pinder had studied at St. Andrews in Scotland, and expressed his regret at not acquiring a brogue. Larry, as he is wont to do, gently reflected that perhaps a slight burr would have been a better expression. Such are the Scots!

At the re-dedication of the tartans, nearly fifty colorfully clan clansmen and clanswomen were present before the altar for the blessing offered by Rev. Pinder.

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Reminders

Annual Meeting - January 14th - Old Town
Burns Night Supper - January 18th - Elks Club
St. Patrick's Parade - March 8th - Old Town
Members Meeting - March 11th - Old Town

THE CHIEF'S CORNER

I hope that all of you had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year celebrating with your family and friends and, if you traveled during the holidays, that you had safe journeys.

I was glad that so many of you came to the Scottish Christmas Walk on December 7th and to the Kirkin' of the Tartan and the Christmas Party on December 8th. The parade and the party were fun as always. My wife and I were able to visit with her Great Aunt Dorothy who lives at Vinson Hall, and she was our guest at the party.

I am very happy to report that as of the end of 2002 our membership now totals 120 members. According to the records, that means this year alone we have doubled our membership, adding new members and reinstating former members who decided to rejoin Clans of Scotland.

As we begin 2003, we can look forward to a busy and exciting year beginning with the general meeting and election of officers on Tuesday, January 14th at Bistro Europa. Because the January meeting includes the elections and usually runs longer than other meetings, I must emphasize that the meeting will start promptly at 7:30PM. Regarding the elections, only those who are current members will be eligible to vote. At the meeting, the Mareschal, Aaron Kidwell, will be checking the names of the paid members from the current membership list provided by the Keeper of the Sporrán, Michael Robertson, and he will be handing out ballots only to those members whose names are on that list. The votes will be counted by John Wallace and Ed Yates of the Nomination Committee. Luckily, these are handwritten ballots, so we don't have to worry about chad problems. Ha-Ha!

Just a few days after the general meeting will be the annual Burns Dinner which will be at the Fairfax Elks Club which is being organized by John Wallace. From touring the place myself and from knowing some of the details of the event, I think it will be one of the nicest Burns Dinners we have ever had. Please bear in mind that this is a prepaid event this year, so please send your RSVP and check to John Wallace.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the January meeting and election and at the Burns Dinner.

Yours Aye,

Eric



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For more information on
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2003 OFFICER NOMINATIONS

For Chief - Martha Walls

Martha has twenty years of leadership as a naval officer and experience leading several volunteer organizations that work with disadvantaged youth and wildlife rescue at the local animal shelter. Becoming associated with COS in 1992, Martha joined in 2001 and became very active. She was elected Scribe in 2002.

Her contributions to the Scottish community include: helping to create a permanent National Tartan Day (NTD) Committee; planning an NTD Fundraising Ceilidh; promoting COS in Clan Donald, Living Legacy, Heritage Fair Committee, SAMS and Celtic Festivals. She redesigned the COS and NTD brochures and business cards; reestablished the Program/Entertainment Committee and brought Scottish related programs to COS meetings. She helped to redesign the COS Website, including a "Members Only" page and reestablished the COS Kirkin O' the Tartans.

Martha seeks to increase educational/cultural activities with more involvement in the greater Scottish community. She believes COS' pride will grow as purposes and values are addressed by encouraging family oriented activities such as the Fall Barbeque and a COS-sponsored Cup at the Virginia Scottish Games.

For Chieftain - Aaron Kidwell

Aaron has been with COS for the full 2002 season. He has actively participated in all the games, transporting the tent and furnishings on many occasions. He is currently serving COS as the Maraschal under appointment from Chief Eric Bartock.

As Chieftain, Aaron intends to learn first hand about the history, policies and procedures that govern COS, as well as being a conservative view to the Council. He believes that improvements can be made in current programs such as encouraging greater member participation at Games and Festivals. Aaron is concerned that frivolous planning and careless execution may harm COS's member retention. He is also concerned about financial stability and the need to create and adhere to an approved budget.

Aaron is convinced that steady and sustained membership growth is essential to the future of the organization. He advocates controlled and selected communication with all of the membership for important issues and plans.

If elected, Aaron is looking to establish a long term commitment to the membership and Council in a leadership position with fresh, sound ideas and inclusion of all in the formulation of both short-term and long range planning.

For Keeper of the Sporrán - Michael Robertson

As Keeper for at least the last four years, Michael has completely automated the financial records and provided good accounting and budgeting tools for the Council. In conjunction with managing the membership database and editing the Piper, he believes that stability has been returned to several management functions. He promises to continue to provide accountability at any time, and punctually administer COS' financial affairs. And, yes, he found the COS pins in his basement.

For Scribe - Lorri Robertson

Having been the Piper editor for over eight years, Lorri is very familiar with COS goals and COS history. She brings experience and awareness of COS' corporate history. As Scribe, she promises to faithfully keep our records organized and keep our members informed of COS activities. She believes that the importance of this office is the contributions she can make as a member of the Council. To this end, Lorri pledges to support all of the membership.

Election Note for Members

This is the second posting of a slate of candidates for Officers for 2003. It has been amended from the slate presented at the November meeting and as was published in the previous issue of the Piper. Some nominees have elected to remove themselves from the slate. New additions for consideration have not been added as they announced their candidacy after November 30th. They will be nominated from the floor on election night. The election will take place at the Annual Meeting on January 14, 2003, Bistro Europa, Alexandria, VA.

Per the bylaws, the dues category in which members recently joined or renewed will determine the number of votes per household. Family memberships receive two votes, single memberships receive one vote. Check your *Piper* mailing label to determine your category.

The first character is your membership type - single (S) or family (F). Single members have one vote. Family members have two votes.

The next two or three characters are your member number. It isn't important except for keeping the records straight. Following the hyphen, you will find the last year through which your dues are paid. This is probably 2002 through 2005. To be eligible to vote, the year must be 2002 or later. For any questions, please call Michael Robertson at 703-780-2269.

PETER JOSENDALE ELECTED TO CLAN BARCLAY COUNCIL

At the Scottish Christmas walk in Alexandria, VA, Peter Barclay Josendale of Clan Barclay, an active member of The Clans of Scotland, was appointed to Commissioner of the Blue Ridge Region for Clan Barclay. His Duties will include being the conviener for games and festivals in DC, MD, and VA for Clan Barclay. Peter has been a Member of Clan Barclay since 2001 and is looking forward to serving the Scottish community in his new position. If you would like more information about Clan Barclay please email Peter at pjosendale@aol.com

THE SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK - *and, yes, it was cold!*



Was this a dedicated and spirited crew! We were fine. The spectators froze. And, yes, everyone is standing in the snow that lined the parade route. Christmas cheer was in the air...and the sporrans...and the...and later, all over the place at Klaus' Bistro.

Sporting the new banner, COS made a splash in Alexandria as 20 or so of our members paraded in the warmer, sunny streets.

KIRKIN OF THE TARTAN *at the Washington National Cathedral*

John Lumsden reminded us that the 61st Annual Kirkin of the Tartan at the Washington National Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul is planned for April 27th. This event is hosted by the St. Andrews Society of Washington, D.C. The acoustics and magnificence of the Cathedral interior make this a must-attend event. For additional information, visit Jim McGregor's *Capital Scot* website at:

<http://thecapitalscot.com/standrew/kirkinstasdc.html>

Genealogy Series Update

The extensive genealogy series that has been run in the Piper for the last three years is being interrupted. Bob McLaren wants to update his material - which was presented here from a lecture series given for the Hayfield Farms Association. Needless to say, with the advent of computers and the internet, many of the information gathering methods have changed in the last ten years. Sources that were not available when the lecture series was written have now become widely available to the general public as a result of the Freedom of Information Act.

Census indices and graphic images now abound on the internet. What was once a suspect source has become an accepted research process.

Bob would like to change and add to his articles so that our readers and genealogists will be working with the most current information. Stay tuned!

In the interim, your editor might be convinced to continue his "Web Travels with Michael" series. They are probably irreverent and of questionable professionalism. In other words, you can take it to the bank, but you can't deposit it. Do I hear a "Yes!"?



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OUR WEB SITE AT WWW.CLANSOFSCOTLAND.ORG

If you haven't been out to the website recently, there are large collections of photos and articles from our past and recent activities, some going back several years. Some of the photos are rather amusing and candid. If you attended the games or Christmas Walk this year, you will probably find yourself looking at the front end of an ambush camera.

Visit the *Members Only* page to find past issues of the newsletter and the current bylaws. You will need a member ID and password. If you have not received the ID and password information, email Deborah Wilkes at dwilkes@cox.net. As a reminder, the password changes twice yearly. It is important to keep your dues current to receive the current password. To submit articles or notes of interest, use the Webmaster link to reach Bryan by email and enclose your item as either an attachment, or in the body of the email.

As reported before, there are great links to many Scottish sites. These include games information, history and shopping websites. Make the site one of your browser favorites and check back frequently. Deborah and Bryan are constantly updating and improving the web content.

See you on the web.

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Photo by Eugenia Burkes



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Membership News

Ceud Mile Failte (100,000 Welcomes)

The *Clans of Scotland* offers a rousing welcome to all our new and returning members. We hope to see you at many of the events we have scheduled for this year.

Marguerite Bellamy	Roxie Lefever
John King Bellasai	Joanne Morgan
William & Marilyn Cunningham	Sharon Park
Jennifer Donahue	Joe & Michelle Spruill
Stacey Dunlap	Owen Tharrington
Audrey Hudson	Brian & Martha Turner
Ivy Jackson	Garret Whiteside

Membership Boxscore

Counts	Memberships
Paid through 2001	98
Renewed to date	71
New in 2002	42
Total current	113
Life members	7
Total active memberships	120

OUR RECIPE COLLECTION

*Tantallon Cakes as found at
www.electricscotland.com*

This recipe comes from East Lothian and is a good shortbread variance

Ingredients:

- 8 oz plain flour
- 1 oz caster sugar
- 1 tbsp rice flour
- 1 tsp grated lemon rind
- 4 oz butter

Preheat oven to 325 deg F. Sift the flour into a bowl. Remove one tablespoonful and replace with one tablespoonful of rice flour. Add the sugar and lemon rind. Work in the butter with your hands into a lump the consistency of putty! Place on a floured board and press with your hands not a rolling pin, till it is about half inch thick. Cut into rounds about one and half inch in diameter. Place on a greased baking sheet and bake in a cool oven for about 25-30 minutes. Sprinkle thickly with castersugar while still hot.

OUR FEATURED CLAN

CLAN CAMERON WORLDWIDE



Clan Cameron has a proud and romantic history and is especially noted for its unwavering loyalty to the Stewart kings. The Clan's war-cry, which translated is "*Sons Of The Hounds, Come Hither And Get Flesh*", is one of the most ferocious and has the double significance that they will feed their enemies' flesh to their hounds and also summon the clansmen (the hounds) to come and kill. It is not surpris-

ing that General Wolfe, giving an account of the Battle of Culloden, states that the Camerons were "the bravest clan among them." There are a number of theories as to the origins of the Clan, whose first authenticated chief (but styled XI) is Donald Dubh (circa 1400-1460) and whose name is the patronymic of Lochiel - MacDomhnuill Dubh (son of dark-haired Donald).

Cam-shron, according to Celtic genealogical theory, is a descriptive adjective meaning "crooked nose", and this description (applicable to one of the early chiefs) was after the manner of the Gael, passed on to his descendants. It is probable that Donald Dubh was the leader of a confederation of tribes including MacMartins, Macgillonies and MacSorlies, although others suggest that the Camerons were descended from a family that flourished in Fife (Sir John de Cambrun signed the Declaration of Arbroath - Declaration of Independence - in 1320), or from a sister of Banquo, or even from a King of Denmark.

During the 15th and 16th centuries and without Crown Charters for their lands, the chiefs of Clan Cameron required all their wits to maintain the Clan's autonomy in the face of the expanding power of Argyll and Huntly. At the same time, a vicious feud over land ownership developed with Clan Chattan, of whom Mackintosh was chief - it was one of the longest and bloodiest feuds in Highland history, lasting over 300 years.

Clan Cameron was well served by its early chiefs. Donald Dubh's son, Alan nan Creach, was said to have made 32 expeditions into his enemy's country for the 32 that he lived and 3 more for the three-quarters of a year that he was in his mother's womb. His son was the first chief to be known as Lochiel. Clan Cameron was now the dominant clan in Lochaber and by the early 17th century (and despite the turbulence caused by the power of Huntly and Argyll) maintained its grip on the Clan lands which are still today in the hands of the chief.

Sir Ewen Dubh, 18th Chief, born in 1629, was one of the greatest of Highland chiefs. His prime concern throughout his 70 years as chief was to maintain the individuality and independence of his clan. Continuing the tradition of his grandfather, who had risen for Montrose and Charles I, Ewen supported the Stewart kings. He

Continued on page 11, see FEATURED CLAN

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS from the Kirkin of the Tartan as delivered by

COS Chief Emeritus Laurence Young, FSA Scot

Reverend Pinder, ladies and gentlemen and children. On behalf of the Clans of Scotland, USA, I wish to thank you for your gracious invitation to celebrate with you our annual Kirkin of the Tartan.

And, Reverend Pinder, you mention that, after your Sabbatical at St. Andrew's in Scotland, you didn't bring back a brogue. If you had, I would have thought you were in the wrong country. Irish have a brogue - Scots a burr.

The Kirkin of the Tartan (or, blessing of the tartan) is a joyous and colorful church occasion that pays tribute to Scottish customs and heritage and the virtues of loyalty, bravery and respect for the family. The ceremony is of American origin, though steeped in Scottish history as the legend of Braveheart itself.

Kirk is Gaelic for church, and tartan is a general name for a material design woven into woolen cloth unique to a family or clan. You will notice that I did not use the term plaid. A plaid, pronounced played is a piece of cloth worn over the left shoulder by men in Scottish dress. A plaid you will find in Minnesota Fabrics or J.C. *Pahmay* (sic).

We of Scottish descent have a strong interest in our Gaelic heritage, as the folks to the south of Scotland were well aware. Legend has it that Gaelic was spoken in the Garden of Eden. The serpent, reportedly spoke English.

In the year 563 AD, St. Columba, having discovered the tiny isle of Iona in Scotland, had succeeded in converting the previously paganist Picts to Christianity. The resulting Church soon became a primal piece in the fabric of day-to-day Scottish life.

Scots have always displayed strong Christian convictions, no matter what faiths they worship under. Moreover, they steadfastly observe Sunday as a high holy day, in accordance with the Fourth of the Ten Commandments - "Remember the Sabbath day; to keep it holy."

Now, let's learn where the tartan part of this tale comes in.

Tartans have long played a major role in Scotland's history and culture. In the beginning, the various tartans of all known Clansmen represented the people of certain districts; in later years, however, the tartans came to stand for all Scottish Clans, including their septs and families - regardless of whatever name they bore. Each clan generally had its own tartan. Clans were gatherings of families for economic or political protection, as well as social support. Members of clans were thus not necessarily related by blood ties.

The original dyes which were used to color the wool were usually made from the vegetables grown in each family's garden, whereas the fabric undoubtedly came from the wool of the sheep that they raised. In that sense, the tartan often

stood as a symbol of the hard labor and diligence of the Scotsmen.

As the life and work of the Scots was depicted via the composition of the tartans, so too was Christianity and the Kirk interwoven into their family lives and traditions. How fitting, then, that the idea might come to pass that the tartan should be brought to the Kirk to be blessed before the Lord.

Over the years, as both the tartans and the Scottish Church evolved, most Clansmen and their families would explore new, innovative ways to wear their colours proudly, while simultaneously observing the Lord's Day as they saw fit. Among the most frequent of these observances was the Sunday Tartan Service, during which the Sunday or dress kilt was often worn. This was a finer-quality woolen kilt with more white wool than that of the average everyday kilt. Their Sunday best.

Now, as many of you who know your Scottish history are aware, Scotland's tartans played significant roles in the Highlanders' dress codes, as well as in their distinct battle uniforms. As the English ultimately discovered, the tartan was, more than anything else, central to the Scots' overall identity and purpose. In fact, it was, putting it bluntly, their most common link. Because of this, each year an annual service was held at which the Clansfolk, dressed in their finest tartan colors, rededicated each other to their Heavenly Father; and praised Him in eternal gratitude for His having watched over them during the year just past.

Some historians tell us that an event much like the aforedescribed took place around the time of the Protestant Reformation in the 1500's. The Jacobite Rebellion against the English starting in 1745 was crushed and the strength of the highland clan system was destroyed. The Proscription or Disarmament Act of 1746 declared it illegal to wear or even to display the tartan, much less play the bagpipes or sing Highland songs. The purpose of the Act was to forever subdue the rebellious Scottish spirit. As a result, the Rededication Service obviously could not be held.

Yet the Scotsfolk remained determined to hold fast to their ancient identities and the true meaning of their blessed rites. To that end, a sort of 'underground' Kirkin' o' the Tartans would often be held. The Clansfolk would usually walk to their nearest Kirk in an orderly fashion, sometimes carrying upon their person swatches of the material, appropriately concealed, to be 'kirked'. Then, at a time and pre-arranged signal known only to both clergy and parishioners, the Clansmen and Clanswomen would touch their tiny tartan bits, while the presiding minister blessed the cloth in Scottish Gaelic.

At this point, the history of the Kirkin' o' the Tartans becomes rather vague in terms of its continuance throughout history. Though the Rededication Sunday Service

Continued on page 8, see Address

ADDRESS, *continued from page 7*

was eventually restored, no further references to such a service are known to be recorded in any subsequent printed histories of Scotland. And so, fast forward to the mid-20th Century..... and a man named Dr. Peter Marshall.

Many historians of the Kirkin' o' the Tartans agree that it was Dr. Marshall who, on April 27th, 1941, presided over the first Kirkin' o' the Tartans ceremony ever held on American soil. The event took place in Washington, D.C., at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. At the time, Dr. Marshall - himself a native Scotsman, having been born in Glasgow - was Chaplain of the St. Andrew's Society of Washington, D.C. As a result of his pioneering efforts as Presiding Minister for this first U.S. Kirkin', Dr. Marshall was named the very first Chaplain of the United States Senate - a post he would hold for what proved to be the final three years of his life. Eventually, Dr. Marshall's widow, Catherine, recounted her late husband's life, deeds and service to his Lord in her now-classic biography, *A Man Called Peter*.

So now, you know the rest of the story.

Finally, it is fruitless to say: "Funny, you don't look Scottish." That is because we, as Scottish-Americans come in

all shapes and colors; white, brown, black and red. Through marriage over generations, Scottish blood flows in countless millions of our people.

As a prime example, honorary membership in the Coweta tribe of the Creek Indian nation was bestowed upon me by Chinnubbie McIntosh, Prince of the Wind Clan. He is the direct descendant of the 16th Chief of Clan Mackintosh. My Indian name is *Pukase en vpelku*. Translated: Master of Laughter. Chinnubbie is my predecessor as President of Clan Mackintosh of North America.

You may have wondered at my greeting to the children in my preface. The word clan in Gaelic means children and further embraces the concept of family. The members of the clan look to the Chief for succor and protection. We, as clan members look to our Father for these same gifts. And, Chinnubbie Mackintosh would look for same from Sakitomasee, The Great Spirit, while wearing his Creek tartan kilt and feather bonnet.

Funny, a lot of you don't look Scottish at first blush, then, on the other hand, maybe you do.

Again, thank you for your graciousness and our very best wishes to all of you for this holy season.

THE BIRTH OF A GREAT NATION

by Martha Walls, Clan Donald

When the Scots immigrated to America, they brought with them a great passion for liberty. Patrick Henry, of Scottish descent, so eloquently embraced this spirit for freedom in his famous quote, "Give me Liberty or Give me Death." The infamous Flora MacDonald, who helped Bonnie Prince Charles escape the British said, "My immigration to America offered a chance to begin the world again, anew, in a new corner of it."

In the American Revolution, more than half of the soldiers of the Colonial Army were Presbyterians and Calvinists, and many historians refer to the American Revolution as being 'a Scottish Rebellion,' or as one historian said, 'John Calvin was the virtual founder of America.' Once the United States was formed, Scottish Americans continued to make great contributions. Nine of the first 13 Governors, all the members of the First American Cabinet, 11 US Presidents and 35 Supreme Court Justices had Scottish ancestry.

This Scottish tradition to excel, can be seen in several disciplines that contributed to the birth and development of the United States of America:

Education: John Witherspoon - Princeton; Benjamin Waterhouse - Harvard; Reverend George Junkin - Lafayette College

Business and Philanthropy: Andrew Carnegie - Industry; Andrew Mellon - Banking

Authors: Washington Irving

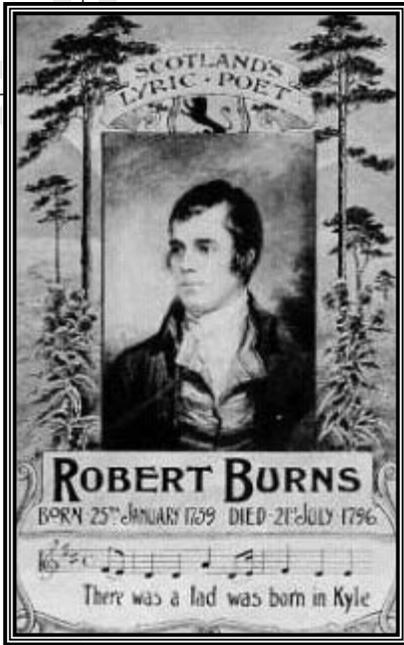
Inventors: Thomas Edison

Environmentalists: John Muir and Theodore Roosevelt

Margaret Junkin Preston, the sister-in-law of Stonewall Jackson and later known as the poet laurette of the South, captured Scottish patriotism in many of her poems. In one such poem of the Civil War, she wrote:

*Only a private - and yet I know
When I heard the rallying-call
I was one of the first to go,
And...I am one of the many who fall:
But, as here I lie, it is sweet to feel
That my honor's without stain,
That I only fought for my country's weal,
And not for glory or gain.*

A new Nation was born, the United States of America, created through great sacrifices of those Scottish Americans who have passed before us. Their dedication to the principles of freedom and justice for all are the cornerstones of the United States of America.



The Clans of Scotland, USA

Cordially invites you to attend the

27th Annual Burns Night Supper

Joining in a worldwide celebration of
the 243rd Birthday of Scotland's Immortal Bard

Scottish pipes, classic Burns poetry, toasts to the Haggis, the
Laddies and Lassies, the Country we are from and the Country we
are in...

Classic Scottish and contemporary American foods
and beverages enough to satisfy Robbie, himself

Dinner Entertainment by The Circle of Friends
and featuring a Celtic program by
Kevin James

Saturday, January 18, 2003
Arlington-Fairfax Elks Lodge
8421 Arlington Blvd.
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Cash Bar 6:30 p.m.

Program and Buffet starting at 7:30 p.m.

\$37 per Person

Scottish Dress or Business Attire Please

For further information, please contact John Wallace at 703-212-7064

Preferably, detach and mail this reservation slip and payment to:
John Wallace, 53 Skyhill Road #104, Alexandria, VA, 22314

Name _____ Number Attending _____ Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Clans of Scotland, or COS, USA

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 12TH MEETING *submitted by Martha Walls, Scribe*

Report from the Council Officers. Chief Eric Bartock called the November 12, 2002 General Members' meeting to order at 7:38PM. The Chief asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of past Chief and Lifetime member, Robert Wise. The Chief introduced the new members and visitors.

The minutes of the September 10, 2002 were unanimously approved by the membership with changes in the minutes to the Keeper of the Sporrán report and the Membership Committee report.

The Keeper of the Sporrán, Michael Robertson, financial/membership report was approved by the membership. The Keeper of the Sporrán also indicated that the membership is now 107 vice the 102 as indicated in the report.

The membership approved the following people to the positions listed below:

Mareschal: Aaron Kidwell.

Dominie: Father Roger Hunter Hall.

Program/Entertainment Chair: Ramsey Reed.

Communications Chair: Deborah Wilkes.

Report from the Committee Chairs. Membership Chair Randy Gregory, reported over 10 new members since September 2002. More COS brochures and business cards with the new 2002/2003 schedule are available for the membership to hand-out to prospective new members.

Communications Chair Deborah Wilkes, reported two new website developments: A new "Members Only" page. The login name is: "clansofscotland" and the password is: "bagpipes". The website has been redesigned to include an interactive calendar, a new look to the Photo Album page, a new search engine and several new links.

The Program/Entertainment Committee report was given by the Scribe. A handout was prepared and given out to the membership with details on the upcoming November/December 2002 COS activities. A summary of the activities are:

- Bonnie Rideout Benefit Concert for the Scottish Heritage Fair on Friday, November 15th at 8:00 PM.
- Old Towne Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk on Saturday, December 7th at 10:30 AM.
- COS Social after the Walk at Bistro Europa.
- Kirkin' o' the Tartan on Sunday, December 8th at 3:00 PM.
- COS Christmas party on Sunday, December 8th at 5:00 PM.

The Nomination Committee, which is comprised of Lorri Robertson and John Wallace, gave the following slate of officers for the 2002 Election:

Chief: Mr. Vernon Gardner and Ms. Martha Walls.

Chieftain: Mr. Aaron Kidwell.

Keeper of the Sporrán: Mr. Michael Robertson.

Scribe: Ms. Lorri Robertson.

Vernon Gardner withdrew his name for consideration as Chief. Eric Bartock submitted his name for consideration for Chief for a second term.

New Business. Chieftain Vernon Gardner invited the membership to a Social on Friday, November 15, 2002 at Portner's, Alexandria, Virginia, for the unveiling of the new ly donated COS banner. Contributions will be taken at this time to subsidize his personal cost of the banner. Another Social will be held at Bistro Europa following the Bonnie Rideout benefit concert.

John Wallace gave his report on Burns Night. Two locations, Fort Myers Officer Club and the Elks Club in Fairfax, Virginia, were discussed. The membership voted to have the 2003 Burns Night Dinner at the Elk's Club in Fairfax, Virginia. It is now scheduled for Saturday January 17, 2003. Circle of Friends will provide entertainment. Cost per person is estimated between \$34.00 - \$38.00.

The COS sponsored NTD Banquet on April 5, 2003 was voted by the membership to be an annual COS activity on the COS Calander.

Old Business. Randy Gregory gave a report on the following activities for the National Capital National Tartan Day committee:

- Kirkin o' the Tartan at the Basilica, Baltimore, - March 30th
- Benefit Concert by Singer John McDermott at the Carpenter Center, Richmond - April 3rd
- Ceilidh at Lulu's, Washington, DC - April 4th
- Scottish Contingency in the Cherry Blossom Parade, Washington, DC - April 5th
- Scottish entertainment at the Jefferson Memorial, Washington, DC - April 5th
- Guest Reception at Fort McNair, Washington, DC - April 5th
- Banquet at Cafe Europa, Alexandria - April 5th
- NTD Celebration on the Mall, Washington, DC - April 6th
- Elke Baker, Fiddler at the Kennedy Center - April 6th

The Scribe gave a report on the Ceilidh to be held on Friday, April 4, 2003 to the Membership. The membership voted to make this a COS sponsored event. This year's Ceilidh is planned for Lulu's, Washington, DC from 7:00 PM until midnight. The Jeff Greer Band will entertain. Estimated cost is \$10.00/pp. Appetizers and a private room will be provided for attendees

Continued on page 12, see Minutes

CHRISTMAS WALK, *continued from page 1*

The parade stepped off promptly at 10:30 a.m. and lasted just over an hour. So, with a brisk walk (or two) under their belts, COSians repaired smartly to some of the pubs and restaurants along King Street and proceeded to talk, as they are wont to do. Most popular was Bistro Europa where COSians and Kilgores (and quite a few other kilted entities) joined forces in filling the upper floor bar area. There was a continuous ebb and flow between Murphy's Pub, Ireland's Own (Scottish? Not at first blush!) and Bistro Europa, where Klaus Keckeisen bravely flew the Rampant Lion flag from the middle second floor window sill (and it thus remains even today). The festivities carried on into the late afternoon. To use an oft worn phrase, a good time was had by all.

The only issue of the day was the parade route, designed by the Campagna Center, that kept the walk away from the vendors of middle and lower King Street, far from Market Square and City Hall, where it had ended up until three years ago. Without being an obvious advocate, it's probably time to go back to the tried and true formula to keep the spirit and intent of the Scottish Christmas Walk alive.

SEASON, *continued from page 1*

In a dedicated ceremony, remarkable for its singular purpose and generous attendance, the Kirkin was unanimously viewed as an excellent example of Americanism (with a traditionally conservative Scottish flavor, and without any hyphenation). Extending 45 minutes, everything that needed to be said, was appropriately said.

And, so, the tartanists adjourned and spent a bit of time acquainting themselves with one another, and attending congregation members, in the large, airy and warm vestibule. The choice of Lewinsville Presbyterian Church is exceptionally appropriate for future Kirkins.

THE TREASURE SHOP at Vinson Hall

by Marilyn Ross

Vinson Hall, the site of our Annual Christmas Party, also has a wonderful Treasure Shop. Located inside the building, the shop has a large selection of personal treasures of which the residents of Vinson Hall find that there either is no storage space, or, it's just time to simplify their lives.

The address: 6251 Old Dominion Drive, Room 115, in McLean. The shop hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. Starting in January 2003, the shop will also be open on the second Saturday of each month, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Contact the Vinson Hall office at 703-970-3722, or the shop at 703-970-3721. For other information, contact Marilyn Ross at 703-533-0767.

FEATURED CLAN, *continued from page 6*

fought a guerrilla campaign against Cromwell's occupying forces, supported Charles II and rallied behind John Graham of Claverhouse. 'Bonnie Dundee', at Killiecrankie.

With the strong Jacobite tradition of the clan, it was natural that Prince Charles Edward Stewart expected Lochiel and his clan to support him when he landed in Scotland in 1745. In the 1715 rising, the Clan had fought for the Stewart cause under John, the 18th chief, who having been exiled subsequently made over the estate to his son Donald, later the 19th chief and known as 'the Gentle Lochiel'. After his distinguished part in the '45 he escaped to France with Prince Charles, but his brother, Alexander, Jesuit chaplain to the Young Pretender, was captured after Culloden and died in a prison hulk on the Thames. Another brother, Archibald, was a doctor and an ADC (aide de camp) to the Prince. He escaped to France but returned to Scotland, was betrayed and executed in 1753, the last man to die for the Jacobite cause.

In 1784 the General Act of Indemnity was passed and the 22nd chief was able to buy back his forfeited estates. Clansmen looked forward to his coming and to the return of the old ways, but 40 years had passed and times had changed. The Gentle Lochiel had left Lochaber as the father and protector of his people; his grandson returned as a landlord. Clan Cameron in its old form had ceased to exist and clansfolk were scattered far and wide. However, clan loyalties and traditions were given a new life when the Clan Association was formed in 1889. There are now branches of the Association in nearly all the countries where Camerons are found.

The Camerons have continued to be well served by their chiefs. Donald XXIV was a Member of Parliament and also Lord Lieutenant for Inverness-shire and both his son and grandson (the present chief) were created Knights of the Thistle and Lord Lieutenants of Inverness-shire.

The Clan's armorial bearings are gules (red), three bars or (gold). Until 1745, the crest was an arm holding a sword with the motto *Pro Rege et Patria*. Another crest then emerged, five arrows with the motto *Unite*. The present Lochiel uses both with mottos in the Gaelic form.

The plant badge of the Camerons is the oak.

There are four tartans associated with the clan: Cameron of Lochiel (the personal tartan of the chief and his immediate family), Clan Cameron, Hunting Cameron and Cameron of Erracht. This last was devised for the 79th Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, a regiment which was raised by Alan Cameron of Erracht in 1793.

! Alba Gu Brath !

Text Source:

<http://www.macbraveheart.co.uk/cameron/>

Badge:

<http://members.aol.com/clancam1/>

GAMES CALENDAR

The Clans of Scotland cannot attend all the Games held within any one Games Season. However, we thought the members would like to know when some of these additional events will be held. They are close enough to our area to qualify for a simple, easy day trip. There will NOT be a COS tent at these events, but it would be helpful if you could let us know what you found there. If there is enough interest in a certain event, and our budget allows, it will be taken under consideration for addition to our schedule.



May 15-17 ~ Gatlinburg Scottish Festival & Games

PO Box 1487
Gatlinburg TN 37738

May 30-June 1 ~ Glasgow Highland Games

119 E Main St
Glasgow KY 42141

June 7th ~ Highland Festival Garrett County, MD

PO Box 160
McHenry MD 21541

July 10-13 ~ Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

PO Box 1095
Linville NC 28646

September 5-6 ~ 44th Ligonier Scottish Festival -

Idlewild Park, Ligonier, PA
(for info: 1-412-851-9900)

September 27 ~ 25th Williamsburg Scottish Festival -

Williamsburg Winery, Williamsburg, VA (for info: PO Box 866, Williamsburg, VA 23187)

October 4 ~ Tallahassee Scottish Highland Games and Celtic Festival -

Tallahassee, Fl (for info: 1-850-894-6270)

October 11 ~ Radford Highlanders Festival - Radford

University, Radford, VA (for info: 1-540-831-5324)

October 25-26 ~8th Annual Richmond Scottish Festival - State Fair Grounds (Strawberry Hill), Richmond, VA (for info: 1-804-228-3200x225)

If there are other games, festivals or other events you wish to see listed, please contact the editor at

mike.robertson@mindspring.com.

We will be glad to list them as information for all of COS.

Jim MacGregor

-jim@thecapitalscot.com

The Capital Scot

<http://thecapitalscot.com/>

“Ask me about Scottish stuff!”

MINUTES, *continued from page 7*

Other announcements. Connie McLaughlin inquired about establishing a Fundraising Committee. After some discussion, Ms. McLaughlin was voted by the membership to head up this committee and research some ways for raising additional funds for COS.

The Scribe noted that the Battlefield Band would be playing at the Barns of Wolftrap on November 20 and 21, 2002.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Post Meeting Program. Scottish dancing lessons from Robert Cameron and viewing of Photo Albums of the members trips to Scotland.



A participant who was just hanging around at the post Scottish Walk gathering in Bistro Europa became a little caught up in the festivities, sporting a warm woolen tartan scarf while passively viewing the revels around him.

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The annual meeting of the Clans of Scotland will take place at Bistro Europa in Old Town Alexandria on January 14th at 7:30 p.m. Results of the activities from 2002, the election of officers for 2003, the annual Burns Night Supper and planned events for 2003, including the St. Patrick's Day parade and National Tartan Day, will be discussed. Please mark your calendar for this important event.



Clans of Scotland, USA

2003 Calendar



Revised December 2002

The Clans of Scotland is pleased to bring you our calendar of events for 2003. As we receive more information during the year, the *Piper* will update this listing. We encourage your input & participation. Call Ramsey Reed at (703) 897-9633 for information or to find out how you can help out.

★ **January 14th ~ Annual Clans of Scotland Meeting -**
Bistro Europa, 715 King St, Alexandria, 7:30 pm

January 18th ~ Annual Burns Night Supper -

February 6th ~ Organizational Council Meeting -
Location & Time TBA

March 8th ~ St. Patricks Day Parade - Old Town
Alexandria

★ **March 11th ~ Clans of Scotland Meeting -** Bistro
Europa, 715 King St, Alexandria, 7:30 pm.

March 31st ~ Deadline for Yearly Dues !!!

April 6th ~ Tartan Day - Wear your tartan today!

**April 26th ~ Southern Maryland Celtic Festival &
Highland Gathering -** Jefferson Patterson Park,
St. Leonard, MD.

May 10th ~ Beatty-Cramer Celtic Festival - Frederick,
MD. Details to follow.

★ **May 13th ~ Regular Clans of Scotland Meeting -** Bistro
Europa, 715 King St, Alexandria, 7:30 pm.

June 14th-15th ~ Potomac Celtic Festival -
Morven Park International Equestrian Center,
Leesburg, VA.

★ **July 8th ~ Regular Clans of Scotland Meeting -** Bistro
Europa, 715 King St, Alexandria, 7:30 pm.

July 25th-27th ~ Virginia Scottish Games -
Episcopal High School, Alexandria, VA.

★ **September 9th ~ Regular Clans of Scotland Meeting -**
Bistro Europa, 715 King St, Alexandria, 7:30 pm.

**September 13th-14th ~ Maryland Renaissance Faire
Scottish Weekend -** Crownsville, MD.

September 22nd ~ Alexandria Scottish Heritage Fair -
Fort Ward Park, Alexandria, VA 9am-5pm

October 11th ~ Anne Arundel Highland Games -
Anne Arundel Fairgrounds, Annapolis, MD

★ **November 11th ~ Regular Clans of Scotland Meeting -**
Bistro Europa, 715 King St, Alexandria, 7:30 pm..

**December 6th ~ Scottish Christmas Walk
Parade -** Old Town Alexandria, VA, 9:30 am.

December 7th ~ Kirkin' o' the Tartans -
Location & Time TBA

December 14th ~ Clans of Scotland Christmas Party -
Vinson Hall, McLean, VA 5 - 8pm.



Please note: All dates for Year 2003 events are best available.
This calendar will be updated as new information becomes available.

The above graphic is the colorful, weatherproof COS bumper sticker. They are available for \$5 at every festival or meeting.

ROBERT BURNS, SCOTLAND'S BARD

by Martha Walls, Clan Donald

Robert Burns was born in Alloway, Ayrshire on January 25, 1759 to a poor tenant farmer. Although he spent most of his youth working the farm, Robert Burns was strongly encouraged by his father to pursue his education. At the age of 15, Burns penned his first poem, which began the career of Scotland's most favorite bard, who wrote over 500 poems and songs in his lifetime. Many of his poems were verses to his most favorite subjects, whiskey and women.



The Bard was notorious for his wild escapades and many of the women's names, which he had given his favors to, appear throughout his poetry. Several of his writings were suppressed and Robert Burns was advised to tone down his tales of romance so as not to offend Scotland's 18th century gentry. But, almost in protest of the strict Calvinistic teaching of the Victorian times, Robert Burns continued to write of his passions for the ladies, dancing, music, and the drink. Combined with the ability to be a great conversationalist and a personality of considerable charm, Robert Burns' unique literary skills would become a thing of Scottish legends.

The last years of Burns' life were devoted to penning some of his greatest poetic masterpieces. But, his life was cut short at the young age of 37 on the July 21, 1796.

On the day of his burial more than 10,000 people came to watch and pay their respects. However, his popularity while he was alive has increased tremendously since his death. Today on the anniversary of the birth of Scotland's most famous bard, Scots both at home and abroad, celebrate with a traditional supper, where they toast the haggis, the ladies and whisky: a celebration that would have made Robert Burns proud!

Editors Note: Martha has managed to synthesize Robert Burns' life into an amazingly few short paragraphs. This is astonishing. You, the readers, may as I did, view this as a really great thumbnail sketch. But, I have to admit, I thought the graphic of Robbie that came with it said a whole lot too.

The Christmas Party theme at Vinson Hall this year was a celebration of the completion of COS' 40th year as an organization. Many members brought or sent scrapbooks and other memorabilia to be enjoyed by the party-goers. Martha Walls organized the theme and was able to contact many of our past chiefs, including those no longer living in the area. The wealth of memories on display was amazing in its variety. As COS enters its 41st year, we look ahead to many more good times and growth in our basis as educators in all things Scottish.



The Rev. Gary Pinder and Piper Greg Hicks stand before the altar at the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church as the clans begin their walk into the sanctuary at our annual Kirkin of the Tartan.



At COS' largest Christmas Party in memory at Vinson Hall, our members gathered for a photo op. Show are John and Mary Lumsden, Jim and Ali McGregor, and Martha Walls and Randy Gregory.



Gathered as a group are several of COS' past and present officers. Front row, left to right: Chiefs Roger Brow, Vernon Gardener, Eric Bartock, Larry Young and Johnny Harris. 2nd row, left to right: Randy Gregory, Martha Walls, Jim Nimmo, Peggy Brow, and Iris Nimmo. Back row, left to right: Jim MacGregor, Deborah Wilkes, Joe Snyder, and Michael Robertson.

A SCOTTISH NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

The celebration of the beginning of a new year is a tradition in Scotland that has survived from earliest times. Probably originating in pagan custom, it dates from the pre-Christian past and became a fixture due to the superstitions that emerged in the Dark Ages. Despite the growth of the popular celebration of Christmas, the celebration of the beginning of the new year will always remain rooted in the hearts of all Scots throughout the world.

Hogmanay (December 31st) and New Year's day (January 1st) are so closely associated with Scottish tradition that it may surprise visitors to Scotland to learn that before 1600 the New Year officially started in Scotland on March 25 (Lady Day). In 1599, James VI, King of Scots, and his Privy Council resolved to bring Scotland more closely into line with other countries.

The change reflected the adoption of the Gregorian calendar by European states in the 1580's and shows the Scots international outlook. England did not change the official start of the legal year to January 1 until 1752. The Privy Council was a powerful legislative and administrative body, useful to the King because it was more easily influenced and controlled than the Scottish Parliament, The Three Estates. No celebration of a Scottish Hogmanay would be complete without this recipe from www.electricscotland.com. Black Bun is a must! Black Bun is a rich and delicious fruit cake formerly eaten on Twelfth Night but now served at Hogmanay. It should be made several weeks before it is needed, like a Christmas Cake, so that it can mature.

Black Bun

Ingredients -

For The Casing : 8 oz flour; 4 oz butter; 1/2 teasp. baking powder; a little cold water; 1 beaten egg for finishing

For The Filling

2 lb seedless raisons; 3 lb currants; 1/2 lb chopped blanched almonds; 3/4 lb flour; 1/2 lb sugar; 2 teasp. Jamaica pepper (allspice); 1 teasp. ground ginger; 1 teasp. ground cinnamon; 1/4 teasp. black pepper; 1 flat teasp. cream of tartar; 1 flat teasp. baking powder; 1 tablesp. brandy; 1/4 pt milk

To make the casing - rub the butter into the flour, add baking powder and mix to a stiff paste with water (about 4 table-spoons). Put on to a floured board, and roll out to a thin sheet. Grease a loaf tin 8 in by 4 in by 3 in and line with the pastry, keeping back enough for the lid.

To Prepare The Filling - mix all the filling ingredients together except the milk. Then add just enough milk to moisten the mixture. Put it into the lined tin and put the pastry lid on top, damping the edges well to make it stick. Prick all over with a fork, and with a thin skewer make four holes right down to the bottom of the cake, brush with beaten egg and cook in a slow (225 deg F) oven for about three hours. It will keep for a year in an airtight container.

From www.electricscotland.com

Do you know someone who is interested in joining the Clans of Scotland USA? Have you moved?

Please check one:

New Membership _____

Change of Address _____

Name _____

Spouse/Partner _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone H (_____) _____ W (_____) _____

Fax (_____) _____ Clan Affiliation(s) _____

E-mail _____

New Member Amount Enclosed:

Prorated Dues _____ + \$10 Fee = _____



The annual dues are \$20 for a single or \$30 for a family membership, plus a one-time registration fee of \$10 (single or family). If you are joining after March 31, the following prorated membership fees apply:

	Single	Family
Jan-Mar	\$20.00	\$30.00
Apr-Jun	\$15.00	\$22.50
Jul-Sep	\$10.00	\$15.00
Oct-Dec	\$ 5.00	\$ 7.50

If you have any questions, please contact Michael Robertson, Membership Chairman, at (703) 780-2269 or mike.robertson@mindspring.com

Send to: Clans of Scotland, USA
P. O. Box 411
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Eric Bartock

CHIEFTAIN

Vernon Gardener

KEEPER OF THE SPORRAN

Michael Robertson

SCRIBE

Martha J. Walls

THE PIPER STAFF

EDITOR

Michael Robertson

WEB SITE

www.clansofscotland.org

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Special Events

January 14th ~ Annual Membership Meeting

January 18th ~ Burns Night Supper

March 8th ~ St. Patrick's Day Parade