

# SSI NEWSLETTER

*"Keep the Head." | Keep calm and carry on - everything will be okay.*

## Meeting Details

Please be aware that the monthly meetings are in a buffet style. We do look for members to bring in the meat dish for the month. Please let us know if you are interested - we will reimburse you for the dish up to \$75.00.

Any or all guests are suggested to bring side dishes to share. Please bring a dish from the category based on the first letter of your LAST NAME with at least 3 servings per attending family member:

A-G – Salad  
H-M – Deserts  
N-Z – Veggies/Casserole  
Meet Dish - Mary Thompson

We will ask for anyone who is attending the meetings to please pay so we can pay for the rental space at the Latvian Community Center. Member price is \$5.00 - Guest price is \$7.00. The board has been discussing an increase with the pricing - more details soon to come with this possible change.

Monthly meetings take place ever 2nd Wednesday of the month. Meetings start at 7:00pm with announcements and dinner, then presentation will be around 8:00pm..

## Social Media

For more information on articles, updates on meetings/events and more, please like and follow us on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/indyscot.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/77189328353992>



## Letter from the Editor

Hello to all our SSI members, family, friends and fellow guests. We apologize for the lack of a newsletter for the last edition. There have been some massive changes to the website we were using and because of their security and updates, we decided to try a new format and a new system to create our society's newsletter. We hope you like this new one we will be presenting to you moving forward.

The society has been working on getting our new SSI website updated and running properly. We are hoping to roll this out soon, our IT team has been hard at work to get this website updated with new information and materials for all to view.

We also are working hard with the 2024 Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games and Festival. The games committee and sub-committees have been working very hard behind the scenes preparing and getting this event ready. Much was learned from last year and there will be many improvements for the 2024 event - some changes will include more pipe bands (currently have two); layout of the grounds will change to improve access to activities and overall appearance; main stage and entertainment will be moved to a more central area on the grounds; more tables will be available for visitors; and so much more. If you don't know, the society and games committee is working to promote the games and gain early exposure compared to last year. The Games Committee chair is Greg Bowers and the Games Committee vice-chair is Rebekah Lawson. the set date for this event is on Saturday, October 12th.

Please remember that membership dues need to be paid for as they do not run roll over each year - it helps us to see who is active and inactive with the society at this time.



### Indy RSCD Updates

The Indy Royal Scottish County Dancers have been moving into 2024 with light feet. Here are some updates from this group:

- Moving forward, Barry Levitt with now be managing this group. He will be co-managing along with Bernadette Lange who is a certified SCD instruction, James & Heidi Horton and subject matter expert Sue Gaebler.
- The Indy SCD graced the presence of the SSI organization as they demoed a few dances for the March monthly meeting.

If you are interesting in joining in the dancing or wanting to see what a class is like, you can reach the organization in two ways - one is via email:

[IndyRSCD@gmail.com](mailto:IndyRSCD@gmail.com) OR the others by phone: #317-426-1656. The group meets Monday evenings during the month. Class starts around 6:45pm and wraps up around 8:30pm.

### New SSI Members

Please welcome the following new members to SSI:

- Bernadette Lange

If you have any questions, concerns or want your ideas heard, please reach out to the board for more. With the spring season and the weather always changing , please stay safe and healthy. Thank you! Slainte!

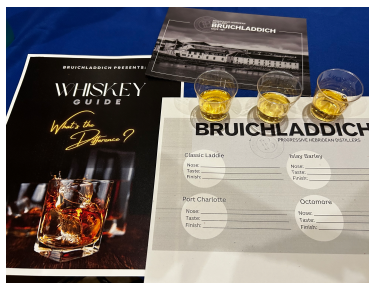
## Monthly Meeting Recap

### February 2024 - Whisky Tasting with Elite Beverages

For the month of February, it has been a tradition of having our annual whisky tasting with the assistance of Elite Beverages. This meeting took place on Valentine's Day - February 14th. We had a bigger surprise when we had sponsors from Bruichladdich join us for the evening. This brand is an Islay whisky. Here are some cool facts about this whisky - They are the ONLY major distillery to distill, mature and bottle 100% of the single malt whisky on Islay - This brand is the first Scotch distillery to be B Corp Certified - This distillery has bee on Islay since 1881.

The members and guests who attended the meeting got to sample some good product from Bruichladdich. The whiskies tasted included: Classic Laddie (unpeated), Islay Barley (semi-peated) and Port Charlotte (heavily peated). We also got to take a look at a beautiful presentation of the distillery's history and visual items.

The board would like to thank Arnie Lewin from Elite Beverages as well as the sponsors from Bruichladdich for coming in and giving a wonderful presentation.



### Meetings/Festivals Coming Up

Here are some upcoming meetings and/or festivals to keep in mind and to add to calendars:

- Solar Eclipse - April 8th
- SSI Games Committee Meeting - April 20th @ 10:00AM at McCalister's Deli off of 96th St and Meridian
- Viking Fest - April 26h-April 28th in Whitestown @ Anson Park
- Columbus Scottish Festival - September 14th-September 15th in Columbus
- Riley Days/Festival - October 3rd-October 6th in Greenfield
- Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games & Festival - October 12th at Marion County Fairgrounds
- Circle City Irish Fest - November 18th in Noblesville

### Presentations Needed

Please be advised that we are needing volunteers for MONTHLY MEETING presentations. We do not have any starting from the month of May and moving forward. If you are interested in giving a presentation about something in the Scottish realm, please reach out to the SSI board of trustees to provide us a topic for the presentation. Volunteers can also email interest with a topic at [indyscot@gmail.com](mailto:indyscot@gmail.com).

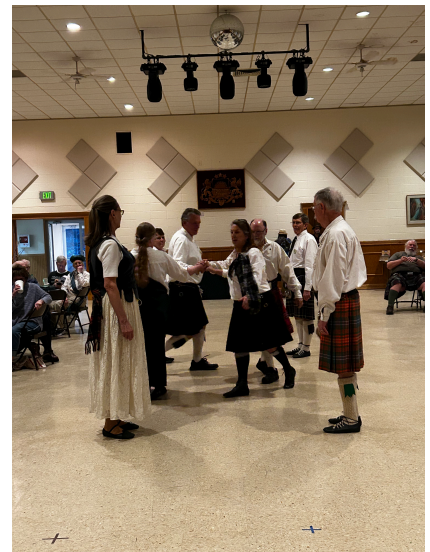
## Monthly Meeting Recap

### March 2024 - Scottish Country Dancing

For the month of March, we got ready for spring to come in. Actually, we danced our way through the night to welcome the new season. This monthly meeting we welcomed our fellow friends and dancers from the Indy Royal Scottish Country Dancers for a night of entertainment.

The members and guests who attended the meeting got to view the dancers of the group perform a couple of demo dances that were intricate and great visually. After the demo dances, it was time for audience participation. Those who came to the meeting had a great time dancing and also getting a good workout in.

The board would like to thank Barry Levitt, Bernadette Lange and the dancers from the Indy RSD for the wonderful demos and dancing experience. If anyone is interested in joining in the dancing or wanting to see what a class is like, check out the "Indy SCD Updates" section in the newsletter for more info.



Thank you to the SSI members and fellow friends who walked in the St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Indianapolis.

## Clan of the Month

### Clan MacGregor

Clan MacGregor is a highland Scottish clan that claims an origin in the early 9th century. The clan's most famous member is Rob Roy of the late 17th and early 19th centuries. The clan is also known to have been among the first families of Scotland to begin playing the bagpipes in the early 17th century.

Motto: ROYAL IS MY RACE.

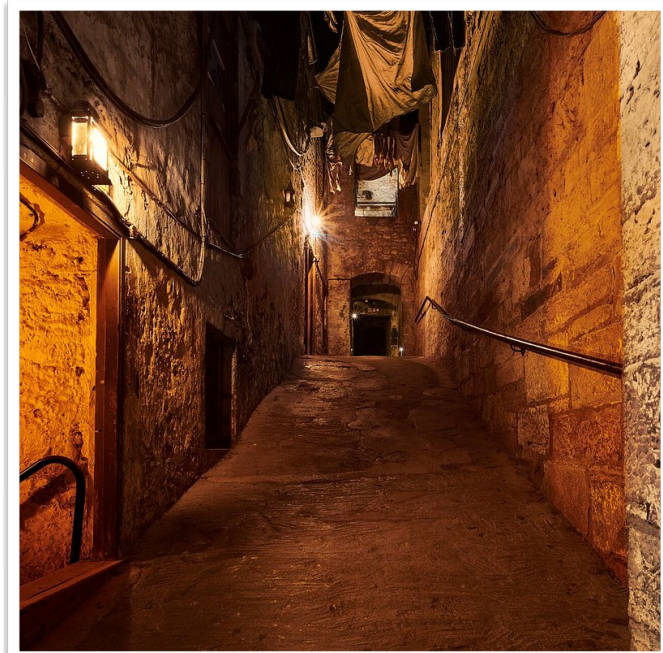


## Next Monthly Meeting

### April 2024 - Life in 17th Century Edinburgh

This month's presentation will be given by SSI member Tom Holman on Edinburgh, Scotland completed with visuals. The subject will be about "Life in 17th Century Edinburgh" based in part on the Mary King's Close historical attraction that can be viewed. This meeting will take place on April 10th, 2024.

This event takes place at the Latvian Community Center. Social hour begins at 6:00pm with announcements and dinner beginning at 7:00pm. Presentation will begin around 8:00pm.



### NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, April 10th

If you have any questions, concerns or if you would like to have input on what is put into the newsletter, please reach out to the SSI board of trustees so your words can be seen. Thank you!

End of Newsletter Edition