

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello to our members, friends and family of the SSI. We are over halfway through the year of 2023. We have been busy with our society with lining up new presentations, working on the games/festival this year and much more. The society is continuing to monitor and to make sure our membership grows, so please ensure that you pay for your membership dues - they do not roll over each year. You can pay for the dues online via the SSI website, through mailing your check/form to the organization mailbox or in person at the monthly meetings.

The games committee for this year's games and festival are continuing their work behind the scenes with sponsorships and the layouts of the event as a whole. We are pleased to announce the website for the 2023 Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games and Festival is up and running - along with tickets now on sale. Please check out the website here along with links to volunteer if interested along with ticketing information on coming to the event: <https://indyscotgamesandfest.com/>.

It has been confirmed that SSI is looking for a new treasurer for the 2024 year. Dan Patton who has been our treasurer the last couple of years announces he will be stepping down after this year. The treasurer position is important to our society - this position is responsible for reports, deposits, membership and several other items. We need a backup for this role along with a few other officer positions in the board of trustees at this time. If you are interested or have an interest in being treasurer or want more details about this or other officer positions in the board, please let us know



MEETING DETAILS: Keep in mind the monthly meetings moving forward will be the return of the BUFFET. If you are interested in helping with the meat dish - please reach out to the board.

FOR AUGUST'S MEETING - THIS WILL BE A BRING YOUR OWN FOOD AND DRINK TO SHARE WITH YOUR TABLE. THERE WILL BE NO BUFFET.

We are looking for members attending the meeting to bring a side dish. 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 --- Dessert
H-M --- Veggie/Casserole
N-Z --- Salad

Appetizer Table:
Meat Dish:

We will ask if you are a member to please do the donation of \$5.00 and guests will be \$7.00. First time guests do not need to pay - after your first visit, you will need to pay the guest fee. If you have not paid your dues, please make sure you do so in person or at the welcome table.

The monthly meetings take place every 2nd

via email.

At this time, do not hesitate to reach out to our board if you have any questions or if you want your ideas heard. With the weather and seasons changing, please stay safe and healthy. Thank you! Slainte!

~ Sarah Rae
2023 Board of Trustee Member, Newsletter Editor

Next Meeting: Saturday August 12th, 2023

Note - There will be NO meeting on the 2nd Wednesday this month - the Saturday event will be that meeting.

PLEASE WELCOME NEW SSI MEMBERS:

- Jodie Minniear

NOTICES FROM THE BOARD

****MEMBERSHIP REVIEW****

The board advises that membership renewal of the yearly dues for SSI must be taken care of during the year. You can pay for your yearly membership online through the website or payments can be made in person with a form at our in-person meetings - we will have forms available to complete. Please make sure you pay your dues!

****VOLUNTEERS NEEDED****

As the buffet returns to the society meetings each month, we are looking for volunteers to help supply the meat dish - along with volunteers to supply an appetizer station during social hour. If you are wanting to volunteer - there will be sign up sheets set up at the welcome table at the Latvian Center during the monthly meetings. You can also email indyscot@gmail.com to express your interest.

****50/50 RAFFLE IS COMING BACK****

We will bringing back the 50/50 raffle for our

Wednesday of the month. Meetings start at 7:00pm and then the presentation will begin at 8:00pm.

****Special events for the year will be on a Saturday.**

All updates in regards to monthly meetings will be announced each month in the newsletter and on our social media sites.

[Click Here to Check Out Website](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA:

For more articles, updates on events and more - Like and follow us on Facebook

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

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/771893283583992>



monthly meetings after the board of trustees unanimously agreed to have it return. The money donated for the raffle will go towards the games and festival.

****ASSISTANCE IN MEETING SET-UPS / CLEAN-UPS****

With the assistance of the Board of Trustees, we will need help with set up of the meetings along with the clean up at the end. If you see one of the board members getting things ready or needing help cleaning up, feel free to step in and help out. Everyone needs to pitch in and assist.



****INDY ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING UPDATES****

August - We welcomed several new dancers to our group this summer and continue to have 10-14 dancers each Monday dance session. We'll continue with FREE Scottish country dance sessions through the month of August.

September - This month is all about prep for the SSI games on September 30th. Unfortunately, this year we will be dancing only once at 1:00pm at the dance stage. Be sure not to miss us for a fun easy group dance.

October - This will be an exciting month for us as we will be hosting our first Ceilidh at the Unitarian Church in Indianapolis. Our own Barry Levitt is working with Bernadette Lange, The Turanos (professional musicians) and myself to bring this fun evening of dance to the public. All dances will be taught and led. More details and event information will be posted in next month's newsletter.

****Note:** Here is some information about The Turanos. With Annie on fiddle and Brian on piano, the Turanos is a high energy duo based in the Indianapolis area. Before moving to Indiana, Annie was a member of the west coast dance band Stringfire. She has played for monthly contra dances and weekend workshops for contra, English, and Scottish dances throughout the US. Brian

grew up playing the piano and doing Scottish country and Cape Breton step dance. He brings his strong background in traditional dance to his rhythmic piano style.

Other News - Beginning in November, I will begin transitioning the Indy Scottish Country Dancers to Barry Levitt, Bernadette Lange and as back-up to Sue Gaebler. It's time for some new group energy and ideas. I will continue to provide updates to the SSI monthly newsletter, and Dan and I will continue to dance.

Indy Scottish Country Dancers meet most Monday evenings at the Latvian Community Center at 7:00pm. All dances are taught, walked and led. We dance for fun and laughs. It's a great part of an exercise program and very social. We actually meet for dinner, go to concerts, meet for coffee and much more. Please email IndyRSCD@gmail.com for more information. Thank you.

- Jane Patton



**INTERESTED
IN HELPING
WITH 2023**

INDIANAPOLIS SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES & FESTIVAL?

If anyone is interested in volunteering, heading up a committee or wanting to put your thoughts to this event for next year, please reach out to SSI games co-chair representatives Greg Bowers (ogunquit@gmail.com) or Rebecca Lawson (vessel7productions@gmail.com) for more information. Meetings are currently being set up and will take place monthly unless noted otherwise - **the next games meeting will be coming up on a Saturday later in August - information will be provided in another email blast and also on the social media sites.** If you would like to be on the email list in getting information about the games, please reach out to Greg or Rebecca. Thanks!

ANNOUNCEMENT



SPONSORS AND

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 2023 INDIANAPOLIS SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES & FESTIVAL

Every major event or festival cannot be done without the backing of the organization, especially without the help of sponsors. We are looking for donations, companies and organizations to help be a sponsor at the 2023 Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games & Festival. There are a variety of tiers of how you can be a sponsor at the games. If you are interested in donating and/or becoming a sponsor for this event, please reach out to the following representatives: Wendy Johnson (wjohnson2000@comcast.net), Greg Bowers (ogunquit@gmail.com) or Rebecca Lawson (vessel7productions@gmail.com). They will provide a form that will be need to be completed and turned in.

Volunteers are NEEDED for this event to run smoothly and efficiently. If you would like to assist in volunteering for an hour or two at the event, please reach out to our games co-chairs for more information. All areas of the event need coverage, including set-up/tear down, whiskey tasting assistance and beer/ticket sales. All the help will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Special Request - We have a long time vendor who always brings incredible

Scottish items (unlike anyone else at the games) who is in need of a large enclosed tent (10x20, 20x20) to borrow for our games. Their tent was destroyed in a storm that hit during a games event they were attending. They can't afford to rent a tent at the astronomical costs the tent providers are demanding these days. If anyone is able to help or possibly assist, please reach out to our games vendor chair Kathy Hohman #317-831-1715. Let's show our support for our vendors still in business and to help our games. Thanks!



UPCOMING EVENTS AND FESTIVALS IN INDIANA / SURROUNDING STATES

Kilt Nights with SSI

***Next date for Kilt Night will be coming in August. More details to come soon in another email blast.

August 14-15 - Evansville Highland Games

August 31 - Cultural Diversity Fair at Indiana War Memorial - event is being promoted by the National Guard.

**Volunteers are needed for this event - need to hand out brochures and promoting the upcoming games/festival.

September 9-10 - Columbus Highland Games in Columbus, IN. **Volunteers are needed for our SSI booth.

October 7-8 - Feast of the Hunters Moon in Lafayette, IN

Note: The Indy Irish Fest has been CANCELLED this year. This was confirmed and announced by the organization.



MEETING RECAP - July 2023 - History of the Ulsters Scots

For the month of July, the members and guests of SSI got a glimpse of a great group of people. These individuals descend largely from Scottish and northern English settlers who settled in the north of Ireland in the 17th century. Our SSI Board Member, Armand Hayes discussed some history of the Ulster Scots. The term Ulster-Scots has, for nearly 400 years, referred to people, not place - the people who migrated from the Lowlands of Scotland to Ulster, and to the Ulster-Scots communities that they established right across the nine counties. It is important to recognize that migrations between the two coastlines have been ongoing for thousands of years, but it is generally accepted that it was the Hamilton & Montgomery Settlement of May 1606 that saw the floodgates open. There is much more history of this group of people and it is highly recommended you look into this group of people and learn more about them.

The board would like to thank Armand Hayes for the presentation and for the great history given. It was very informative.

NEXT
MONTHLY
MEETING -
AUGUST



2023 - SSI Summer Celebration

On Saturday, August 12 - the SSI will be having our annual Summer Celebration at the Latvian Community Center. We will have a picnic along with a silent auction. For the silent auction, we are looking for donations, baskets and/or items that are Scottish themed. Here are the details:

The Annual Picnic and Charity Auction will be held at the Latvian Community Center - Patio area on August 12th, 2023. Each table is to bring their own food and drink to share - there will be NO BUFFET. There will be numerous Scottish items for sale to benefit events like the Indy Scottish Highland Games & Festival and the SSI St. Andrews Dinner. Please join us for an enjoyable time with all of our SSI friends. The event will take place between 3:00-7:00pm. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to SSI Secretary Paula Hardesty #317-409-3150.

We will also have yard signs for sale to help advertise the games and festival. The signs are plastic, 2-sided with metal legs. They are \$22.00 each. To order a sign, please call SSI Board Member Kathy Hohman #317-831-1715. Be a mini-sponsor in advertising our event in September.



COMING IN SEPTEMBER 2023 - Rally Meeting for Indy Scottish Highland Games & Festival

As many of you know, our Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games & Festival is at the end of the month on Saturday, September 30th. For the monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 13th, we will be having a rally meeting. This means we will be finalizing and doing one more push to get volunteers to help out - and to get items packed up in vans/trucks to transport for set-up at the Marion County Fairgrounds. We are looking for volunteers who have large vans and/or oversized trucks who can load and transport our items for the event that weekend - please notify the board or respond to the newsletter so we can get your name to our games co-chairs and committee.

Meetings take place at the Latvian Community Center every 2nd Wednesday of the month - if it is a special event, those take place on Saturdays and will be announced in the newsletter. Social hour will be before 7:00pm with announcements following shortly after. Information about what to bring for the buffet will be provided in the next newsletter. Presentation will start around 8:00pm or earlier if needed. The board will announce any changes prior to the slated meeting.

SSI 2023 MEETINGS - WHAT IS COMING UP?

Note: Subjects/Topics are subject to change.

- August 12th 2023 - SSI Summer Celebration with Picnic/Silent Auction (this event is on a Saturday)
- September 2023 - Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games & Festival on Saturday, September 30th (presentation may not occur, TBD at this time)
- October 2023 - The Jacobite Uprising with SSI Historian Carson Smith
- November 2023 - SSI St. Andrews Dinner at Ft. Harrison State Park Inn
- December 2023 - SSI Holiday Gathering with Celtic Rain

****If you would like to present or have a topic that would be good for our monthly presentations, please reach out to the board at indyscot@gmail.com.**

We will advise if the meeting topic will change via an update email or through the SSI social media. If you are interested in presenting a topic during the 2023 year, please reach out to the board members and we will discuss. Thank you!

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