

# GRACE NOTES

Vol. 24. No. 2

February 2008

Memphis Scottish Society has celebrated Burns Night for the 25<sup>th</sup> time and if you were there the evening of January 26th, my hope is that you left with a better understanding of what a Burns Night supper is supposed to be celebrating and have taken a moment to remember the many of us “auld lang syne”. If you came because you thought it would be a chance to have good fellowship around a table with friends, some nice music, some blood stirring music, a little dancing, a chance to make some new friends, then you were in the right place.

The understanding that we are all one is one of the great lessons Robert Burns gave us, and that no matter what our lot is in life, be it great or small, it really is in the simple pleasures of life, knowing that “passions and love, family ties, patriotism, and un-hypocritical faith are the things that will last and are important. Perhaps, too, we will be reminded not to take ourselves too seriously, but learn to laugh a little at our own pomposity and inconsistencies.” as we make our way in the world around us.

The evening began for many the morning after, about one year ago, in fact the Board acts on reserving the

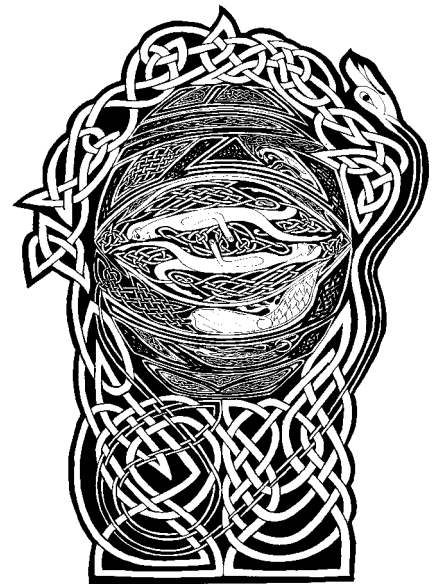
great hall at Woodland Hills usually the very first board meeting after Burns Night. This sets in motion the beginning stages of planning for the next one. It is more fun when more people share in the task. My father told my siblings and myself, ad nauseum, “light is the load, when many share in the task.” What a great way and place to serve, if not in and for a “Burns Night Supper,” then perhaps in just helping the world around us to be a better place by placing these values closer to where all can see them and by putting them out for the world around us to catch the infectious spirit of a Burns Night celebration. This then would certainly make the best Burns Night ever.

reply, the Immortal Memory, recognition of OOT and OOH winners (see page 6), the coming together to join hands and singing Auld Lang Syne one more time, the evening was simply well run, thanks Bill, and Board of the Memphis Scottish Society for a well orchestrated and enjoyable evening.

2008 Board Members, may you not forget the reasons for this celebration as you plan for the 2009 Burns Night. Good luck! It is almost time for the next one! - Sammy Rich



From the Patron’s Reception, whiskey tasting, silent auction, Wolf River Pipes and Drums, Scottish Country Dancers, piping in and address of the haggis, special music by Celtic World, poems and songs of Robert Burns, Toast to the Lassies and their



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## SCOTTISH CONNECTION

Our Sammy Rich noticed something interesting the other day: the logo for *Encyclopedia Britannica* is a thistle. His curiosity kicked in, and he began some research. It wasn't long before he discovered that *Encyclopedia Britannica* does indeed have a **Scottish Connection**.

Here is the *EB* story, in their own words, off their own website:

The *Encyclopædia Britannica* was born in 18<sup>th</sup>-century Scotland amid the great intellectual ferment known as the Scottish Enlightenment. It was then and there, in Edinburgh, that Adam Smith prepared *The Wealth of Nations*, Sir Walter Scott wrote novels, Robert Burns poetry, David Hume and Adam Ferguson philosophy, and James Boswell grew to manhood and attended the university. According to one chronicler of Britannica history, Edinburgh in the mid-1700s was "a city on the verge of a golden age, a center of learning and a home of writers, thinkers, and philosophers, wags, wits, and teachers."

It was against this setting that Colin Macfarquhar, a printer, and Andrew Bell, an engraver, decided to create an encyclopedia that would serve the new era of scholarship and enlightenment. They formed a "Society of Gentlemen" to publish their new reference work and hired the twenty-eight-year-old scholar William Smellie to edit it. It would be arranged alphabetically, "compiled upon a new plan in which the different Sciences and Arts are digested into distinct Treatises or Systems," and its chief virtue was to be, in the editor's word, "utility."

The first edition of the Britannica was published one section at a time, in "fascicles," over a three-year period, beginning in 1768. The three-volume set, completed in 1771, quickly sold out. Encouraged this success, the

publishers issued the second edition in 10 volumes (1777-84).

The *Encyclopædia Britannica* first came to the United States in the form of a pirated edition printed in Philadelphia in 1790 by Thomas Dobson. Owners of that set included George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Alexander Hamilton.

Contributions from the leading scholars began in 1815-24. Contributors included Sir Walter Scott, Thomas Malthus, David Ricardo, James Mill, and Thomas Young, whose pioneering efforts to penetrate the mystery of the Egyptian hieroglyphics on the Rosetta Stone first saw light of day under the Britannica imprint. The ninth edition, published in 1875-89, is often remembered as the "scholar's edition." It embodied as no other publication of the day the transformation of scholarship wrought by scientific discovery and new critical methods.

### Twentieth Century

The eleventh edition (1910-11) was produced in cooperation with

Cambridge University, and though by then ownership of the Britannica had passed to two Americans, Horace Hooper and Walter Jackson, the strength and confidence of much of its writing marked the high point of Edwardian optimism and perhaps of the British Empire itself.

The addition of supplemental volumes resulted in the twelfth (1921-22) and thirteenth (1926) editions. Contributors included Sigmund Freud, Albert Einstein, Marie Curie, Leon Trotsky, Harry Houdini, H.L. Mencken, and W.E.B. Du Bois. The article "Mass Production," signed by Henry Ford, is actually believed to have been written by his personal publicist.

In 1929 the principal operations of the company had moved to the United States, and other important changes took place. Whereas previously the editorial staff would be disbanded after the completion of a new edition, the company now maintained a permanent editorial department whose job was

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*Grace Notes* is the official publication of the Memphis Scottish Society, Inc. It is published monthly. Like the Society itself, the credo of *Grace Notes* is "to foster education and promote understanding of things Scottish."

If you have something of interest to readers of this newsletter, please submit a typewritten manuscript to the editorial staff. If the article or notice is very brief (30 words or fewer), just use the telephone. *Grace Notes* will accept and publish good quality photographs (preferably black and white; no Polaroids, please).

The deadline for all submissions is the second week of each month preceding the month of publication. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with each submission, if you want the material returned.

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### Grace Notes

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to foster education and  
 promote understanding of  
 things Scottish



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to keep pace with the rapid growth of knowledge.

The encyclopedia began to undergo continuous revision when the company's headquarters moved to Chicago in the 1930s, and in 1938 the first edition of the *Britannica Book of the Year* appeared.

Late in 1941, William Benton, a former advertising executive and then a vice president of the University of Chicago obtained the offer of all rights to the *Encyclopædia Britannica* as a gift to the university. When the trustees of the university decided not to undertake the financial risks, Benton supplied the working capital and became chairman of the board of directors of *Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.*, and majority stockholder. Robert M. Hutchins, then president of the university, was named chairman of the board of editors.

Benton, later a U.S. Senator, led the company from 1943 until his death in 1973. During this time the company published the innovative fifteenth edition of the *Britannica* and *Great Books of the Western World*.

By the 1990s *Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.*, had produced or was at work on encyclopedias and other educational materials in Japan, Korea, China, Taiwan, Italy, France, Spain, Latin America, Turkey, Hungary, Poland, and elsewhere.

Britannica was an early leader in electronic publishing and new media. In 1981, under an agreement with Mead Data Central, the first digital version of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* was created for the Lexis-Nexis service. Britannica also created the first multimedia CD-ROM encyclopedia, *Compton's MultiMedia Encyclopedia*, in 1989.

In 1994 the company developed *Britannica Online*, the first encyclopedia for the Internet, which made the entire text of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* available worldwide. That year the first version of the *Britannica* on CD-ROM was also published.

Britannica Today

Today *Encyclopaedia Britannica* has a larger and more diverse line of products than ever before. Our outlook is shaped by our tradition of excellence and an understanding of what knowledge seekers need in the digital age.

New initiatives for the Web are continuously under way. In 2002 Britannica introduced *Britannica Online School Edition*, a comprehensive reference and education service specially designed for elementary and secondary schools. It underwent major upgrades in 2004 and 2005.

Britannica is also expanding its line of printed products. We continue to publish the 32-volume *Encyclopædia Britannica*, the oldest reference work in the English language. A new, revised printing was issued in 2005. In recent years Britannica has introduced several other reference sets for students and young children, including *Compton's by Britannica*, *My First Britannica*, *Discover America*, and *Britannica Discovery Library*.

Our line of product has grown, the media of publication have changed, but Britannica's basic mission has not. It's the same as it was in 1768: to be the worldwide leader in reference, education, and learning.

So, next time you consult the mighty volumes of *Encyclopedia Britannica*, whether in print or on-line, remember its **Scottish Connection**.

## TIME TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT!!!!

**Martyn Joseph**, a brilliant, award-winning, Welsh singer-songwriter, on tour across Canada and the US, to be presented in a rare opportunity, up-close-and-personal house concert, chez Dr. Nancy A. Chase.

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008, at 7PM, preceded at 6 pm by a social hour with a light supper.*

**Place:** 450 River View Road, Memphis, TN 38120

**Ticket** donation (100% to performer): \$15 in advance, with seating guaranteed,

\$20 at the door, seating, expected (possibly standing room only) \$12 for students with a valid ID

**Time:** 6 pm light supper, 7 pm Concert **RSVP:** [ChaseNan@AOL.com](mailto:ChaseNan@AOL.com), office phone number: (901) 287-415

Check MARTYN JOSEPH's agent's website: <http://www.flemingartists.com/artists/details.php?id=27> or Martyn's:

<http://www.piperecords.co.uk/martynj/tour%20dates.htm> **DON'T MISS THIS CONCERT!!!**

To set confirmed reservations and purchase tickets at the advance purchase price: 1. RSVP by e-mail or phone

2. send a check made out to "Nancy A. Chase" or to "cash" for the appropriate amount, i.e. \$15 per person (\$12 for students), as well as a list of the names of the attendees to: Nancy A. Chase, M.D., 450 River View Road, Memphis, TN 38120

3. **After I receive payment, I will e-mail a voucher to trade for an actual ticket and a chance to win a free CD when you arrive at the house on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, so be sure to send your preferred e-mail address when you send your check.** 4. If there are any questions, please call the office, 9-3, Monday thru Friday.



*TWA SISTERS*



*MASTER OF CEREMONY*



*TRES AMIGOS*



*UN FAMILY OF QUATRE*





*WOLF RIVER PIPES AND DRUMS AND THE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS.*





## Order of the Heather Inductees Dick and Pat Bevier

Pat & Dick Bevier are the very epitome of long-time members who are still actively supporting the Society, the hallmark of the Order of the Heather. Let's start with their near perfect attendance at all MSSSI meetings and functions. Ever seen a SAMS color guard? More than likely Dick was one of them. Need a Scottish recipe whipped up for a Clanjamfry talk? Pat's your girl, even if she never made a haggis in her life. Need a hurry-up presenter for a member meeting? Call on Dick. Need two hams for Christmas Party skits? Pat & Dick will be right there, even if it means he has to wear a bow & ribbon on top of his head and Pat has to speak "off-stage" in full sight of the audience. For their long-term



and continuing support of Memphis Scottish Society, Dick and Pat Bevier are herby inducted into the Order of the Heather.



## Order of the Thistle Cheryl Noland.

I don't know if you've noticed, but whenever we have an event, Cheryl is working behind the scenes to make sure everything goes off as planned. She does a superb job with the Burns Nicht Silent Auction and her latest save for the society was finding us a place to hold our annual Christmas Party. We were wondering if there would even be a party, when Cheryl came to the rescue with a venue for the party. She not only made the suggestion, but found out all the particulars and tentatively booked it for us. And although I was unable to attend, I heard that it was a great Christmas party. Thank-you, Cheryl, for all you do for the society.



## A Word from our President Friends of our Society

I noted with sadness the passing of the County Trustee, Bob Patterson. Some of the members who go back to the early years of the Scottish Society would remember that for several years Bob was a member of the Scottish Society and attended several Burns Nicht suppers and meetings.

Unlike some of the politicians that have darkened our doors to say "Hi" and quickly leave, if Bob came, he stayed until the event was over. -- John Schultz

# Calendar of Events

## Mondays

Caledonia Chorale 7 pm  
Church of the Holy Communion,  
Walnut Grove at Perkins,  
272-7159

## Thursdays

Sgt. W.K. Singleton Pipes & Drums  
6:30-8:30 at Bethel Pentecostal  
Church, Stage Road in Bartlett;  
call 386-2052 for info.  
Wolf River Pipes & Drums,  
6:30-9:30 at St. Luke's Lutheran;  
Germantown Parkway. 753-9494

## MSSI Board Actions

*A Trial Run at Jason's Deli*

The Board has decided that we should have a trial of Jason's Deli as a meeting site **for the MARCH meeting**. We will still meet at the Holiday Inn Express at Poplar & I-240 for the February meeting. (And, yes, you **DO** need to make reservations for the February meeting.)

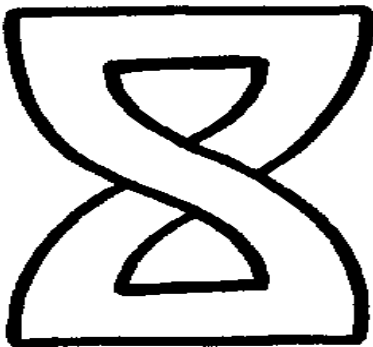
Be sure to feedback to any member of the Board your comments and opinions regarding your meeting site.

## Scholarship Committee

Here are people that have accepted being on the scholarship committee.

Can we get that in the Feb. Grace Notes? - John Schultz

Sammy Rich  
Emily Smith  
Allan Simpson



## Fridays

Dancing: 7:30-10 pm, Idlewild  
Presbyterian; 1750 Union Ave,  
West Entrance  
1st, 3rd & 5th Friday  
Scottish Country Dancing.  
274-1889

## Monday, February 11

Monthly Meeting Holiday Inn at  
Poplar and I 240. For directions  
call 757-4200 or go to  
**memphiscots.com**.

6:00 pm Dinner (reservations  
required the Thursday before)  
7:00 pm Program: Lex Carnie  
will speak on his days of service  
over seas.

## Tuesday Februar 12

Martyn Joseph in house concert  
at Dr. Nancy Chase's home.

## Monday, February 25

Board Meeting: Perkins at  
1340 S. G'town Rd. 5:30 pm.



## February 7 / On the Road

Itinerant work ways are celebrated this week in traditional songs, while today's working musicians offer us contemporary verses of the travelling musician's lifestyle. The hour includes music from The Easy Club, Malinky, Ossian and Dolores Keane.

## February 14 / Song Beat

Hebridean tweed workers' songs, rowing songs, hiking songs, mouth music – their lyrics take a back seat to their integral rhythms, lightening the work and keeping the singer going. Get into the rhythm of the song this week with Catherine-Ann MacPhee, Ossian, Christy Moore and many more.

## February 21 / Easy Does It

It's not all high-energy reels and jigs, this Celtic music business. Kick back with some soothing voices (Maire Brennan, Dougie MacLean, Karen Matheson) and some free-spirited instrumentals (Davy Spillane, William Jackson, Michael McGoldrick).

## February 31 / The Witness

Jamie Jauncey's novel "The Witness" is set in the Scottish Highlands at a time in the not-too-distant future when people are caught up in a bloody conflict over who should own the land. Fiona talks about the role of music in the story with Jamie Jauncey who introduces compositions inspired by the book and other music of the sort that gives "The Witness" its strong sense of place.

## Scottish/Celtic RadioMusic

Sundays, 6-7 p.m.

"The Thistle and Shamrock"  
WKNO-FM 91.1

Saturdays, 10 a.m. -1 p.m.

"Strands of the Celtic Knot"  
Robert Campbell, host  
WEVL-FM 89.9

Sun and Mon 6 p.m. and

Fridays, 7 p.m.

"The Thistle & Shamrock,"  
WMAV-FM 90.3



I just don't mind admitting it a bit when I take a good picture that borders on great. I would rank this one right up there. You should see the full size picture. These two ladies, Sue Malone and Mary Clausi just glow! Thanks to all of our Board Members for another Great Burns Nicht!  
- Sammy Rich

Next Monthly Meeting - February 11<sup>th</sup> - Monthly Meeting (reservations required for dinner),  
757-4200 or online [www.memphisscots.com](http://www.memphisscots.com) - Holiday Inn Poplar & I-240,  
Dinner at 6:00, Program at 7:00 is Lex Carnie on his days in service.  
Board Meeting, Monday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30, Perkins @ 1340 S. Germantown Rd.



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