

President's Message

Welcome to our new year. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer. Over the past month we have been getting our entertainment program established and I am looking forward to what I can see is going to be a fun year. We certainly ended last year on a high with the Ceilidh and intend to keep this momentum going through this next year.



We have included the program in this Newsletter, as it stands, so that you can mark the important dates on your calendar. Denise Duffy and Peter Gowran are looking for volunteers for the St Andrews Dinner and the Burns Supper, so please contact them at the Garavelli's meeting or contact any Board member if you are interested in assisting "behind the scenes".

The Board is very pleased to have Jim & Anne McLaren stay within the St. Louis area, and Jim has graciously retained the role of Editor for our Newsletter. I am sure Jim will be encouraging you all to participate, so please take a few minutes and jot down a story, or send him some printed material that you would like to share.

To decrease any confusion over the subscription term, the Board has decided to move our subscription year to run in tandem with our function year, rather than a calendar year. This means your annual dues for our 95 year are due now...so Peter Geery will be attempting to collect these in the next few months. We are looking forward to seeing you at Garavelli's where we intend to have some fun, play a few games and lay out the year in more detail.

Aw-ra-best, Keith

BACK IN THE EARLY DAYS

In 843 AD, Kenneth Macalpin, King of Dalriada, in collusion with the Vikings, invaded Pictland with fire and sword, claiming their throne through his mother. For the Picts, already culturally subverted by Columba, and constantly harassed for 50 years by the Vikings, it was the End. The union of the two Kingdoms resulted in what was called Scotia.

Mysterious in their beginnings, the Picts disappearance is almost as enigmatic. Although a culture and way of life vanished, even today, in the remote Northern Isles of Scotland there are a dark-skinned, black-haired people who are demonstrably neither Viking nor Scots in origin!

inside...

Events Program: Denise Duffy

Special Notes

Caledonia Corner

Wha wad ken?

Other really good stuff!

● Events Program for the coming year.....

The first event of the year is our September meeting at Garavelli's, and we look forward to seeing you all again. We have an exciting program planned for the coming year and hope you'll participate and enjoy.

September 26th: GARAVELLI'S RESTUARANT
9739 Manchester Road, in Rock Hill.

Dinner starts at 6:30pm, followed by a social evening.

*We still need
volunteers to
help make this
exciting program
happen.*

October: Halloween Party
(remember those great costumes last year!)

Please call:

D. Duffy 532-7587

or

P.Gowran 968-5429

November 19th: St. Andrews Dance

December 19th (provisional): Christmas Party

January 28th: The Burns Dinner (at Missouri Athletic Club)

February & March: we're working on it.

April 24th: Ceilidh.

May: to be determined.

June: Picnic.

Special Notes to Members

Congratulations to one of our founders and Board members, Agnes Stirrat, on her 80th birthday - Lang may ye'r lum reek (wi ither folks coal!).

Also, congratulations to Peggy Flynn on being 80 years young this month.

Our thoughts go out to Jeanne Pfeffer - please get well soon.

CALEDONIA CORNER

Roderick
MacKenzie

Culloden was the last battle fought on British soil. The *Jacobites*, who sought to restore the *Stuarts* to the throne, were badly beaten on 16th April 1746 by the well equipped army of the Hanovarian King George. The Jacobite leader, *Prince Charles Edward Stuart*, became a fugitive with a price of 30,000 pounds on his head. Although *Bonnie Prince Charlie* was taking refuge in the Hebrides Islands, the Duke of Cumberland's army sent out search patrols every day from it's temporary base at Fort Augustus.

One day in July, Roderick MacKenzie (himself a fugitive from Culloden) was spotted by a redcoat patrol. Being nervous of attack by local clansmen the patrol immediately fired and mortally wounded Roderick with a musket ball in the back. As he lay dying, he heard the English soldiers say "Look, he's got red hair!" and "Yes, he's about the right build!" The dying Roderick realized what was happening and made a last great effort to murmur ... "you've killed your *Prince*".

Now, the patrol soldiers wanted the reward but didn't want to carry the body back to the base so they cut of Roderick's head and buried the body under a grassy bank by the river. The head was duly returned to Fort Augustus, but the authorities were frustrated because none of the clan prisoners would make any comment to confirm or deny the identity.

The Duke of Cumberland was ready to return to England, and he had the head placed in brine to preserve it, and took it with him. A former aide to *Prince Charlie*, who was being held in Carlisle, was ordered to London to identify the head. Needless-to-say, by the time all of this happened the head was not in a recognizable state. Back in Scotland the search for the *Prince* lost momentum with the rumors of the head and a claim having been already made on the reward.

Some years later, at that lonely spot in Glenmoriston, a cairn was erected on the site where Roderick MacKenzie had died, and a simple wooden cross placed where his body had been buried.

Today, that cairn still stands and a simple wooden cross still marks the grave. Each time the cross has rotted away it has been replaced by those who find time, even in this modern age, to honour a hero of a long-lost cause.

Such are the memories that roll with the mist through the Highland glens.

Today, that cairn still stands, and a simple wooden cross still marks the grave.....

Wha wad ken?

First to answer all three wins one of the Society flag pins.

1. How many lakes in Scotland?
2. What does SNP stand for?
3. A Scottish decorative product:

C _ _ T H _ _ S _ _ L _ S _

All replies to Jim McLaren
2214 Stoneridge Terr Ct,
Chesterfield, MO 63017
or phone: (314) 532-5986

Congratulations to Alistair Sutherland for the correct answers last time!

1. Greyfriar's Bobby — In Edinburgh.
2. Granite City — Aberdeen.
3. Underground transit — Glasgow.

Please send in any interesting questions, with your name / phone number.

GREAT SCOT!

Scotland has produced some great people over the years, here's a few:

John Logie Baird (1888-1946): Born in Helensburgh. Invented television.

Alexander Graham Bell (1847-1922): Born in Edinburgh. Invented the telephone while a professor at Boston.

Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919): Born in Dumfermline. Richest man in the world.

John Boyd Dunlop (1840-1941): Born in Dregghorn. Invented air-filled tyres.

Alexander Fleming (1881-1955): Born in Darvel. Discovered penicillin.

John Leslie (1766-1832): Born at Largo. Made the first artificial ice (in Edinburgh)

Sir Harry Lauder (1870-1950): Born in Portobello. Top music hall entertainer.

David Livingstone (1818-1873): Born in Blantyre. Great African missionary.

John Macadam (1756-1836): Born in Ayr. Developed waterproof road surfaces.

Charles MacIntosh (1766-1843): Born in Glasgow. First waterproof fabrics.

Kirkpatrick MacMillan (1810-1878): Born in Dumfries. Made the first bicycle.

John Napier (1550-1617): Born in Merchiston. Math genius - invented logarithms

Mungo Park (1777-1806): Born near Selkirk. Great explorer in West Africa.

Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832): Born in Edinburgh. World famous writer/novelist.

Sir James Simpson (1811-1870): Born in Bathgate. First to use chloroform.

Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894): Born in Edinburgh. World famous writer.

Thomas Telford (1757-1834): Born in Eskdale. Built the suspension bridge across the Menai Straits.

James Watt (1736-1819): Born in Greenock. Invented the steam engine.

Recognize any relatives that you might want to claim??

**The
Selkirk
Grace**

The Selkirk Grace
*Some hae meat and canna eat,
And some wad eat that want it,
But we hae meat and we can eat,
And sae the Lord be thankit.*

We really do need your participation and help..

Know anyone who'd like to join the Society? Ask them to call:
Peter Geery at (314) 227-2785(H) or (314) 891-3300(W).

Enjoy reading our newsletter, the Thistle Times? We need you to send in stories or jokes or even printed material of interest. Suggestions and ideas are also welcome — we want to do the best job possible for everyone!
*Jim McLaren, 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Court, Chesterfield, MO 63017
or call (314) 532-5986.*

Let's be hearing from you.....