



# The Tartan News



## Fall 2012

*Scottish Society of Central Pennsylvania*

Website:

[www.pennscots.org](http://www.pennscots.org)

Editor:

Jim Reed ([jimreed145@comcast.net](mailto:jimreed145@comcast.net))

## Saint Andrew's Supper

Tuesday, November 27, 2012, 6:30 p.m.

Camp Hill Presbyterian Church

101 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Cormorant's Fancy will provide the entertainment.



[www.cormorantsfancy.com](http://www.cormorantsfancy.com)

Beth and Stephen Folkemer are both principal performers with this group as well as members of The Scottish Society of Central Pennsylvania.

There is no charge, but please bring a dish to share according to the first letter of your last name: **A—J**: Casserole/Main Dish; **K—O**: Dessert; **P—Z**: Salad.

Baked ham, rolls, drinks, paper goods and plastic utensils will be provided.

## Kirkin' o' the Tartan is October 14!

See article, page 2.

# **Kirkin' o' the Tartan**

**Sunday, October 14, 2012**

**11:00 AM**

**Pine Street Presbyterian Church**

**310 N. Third Street**

**Harrisburg, PA**

**This is the Sunday for asking for blessings on all the members of our various clans and upon our Scottish families at large.**

**The Scottish Society will gather no later than 10:45 a.m. in the Gathering Space, which is the large reception room just behind the Sanctuary. We will all come garbed in our clan regalia and we will each carry a small piece of our tartan fabric. At 11:00 we will proceed up the center aisle, place our piece of tartan on the font provided for this and continue to our designated pews for the rest of the church service. This service is sometimes also referred to as "Scottish Heritage Sunday," so we can expect some references to be made to the reason for our presence. There will also be a brief ceremony in which we remember our departed members Nancy Peyton and Jean Hays Dunlap. We will hear from our trusty bagpiper, Bill Gable, during the service as well. All members of the Society are requested to attend, regardless of your particular religious affiliation. This is a time to reflect on our heritage although most of us are far removed from our Scottish roots. There will be a reception after the service, provided by the church. We, however, are asked to bring a plate of shortbread. Recipes for that were given in the last newsletter. Please come and join your fellow Scots!**

**Our clan banners will be hung in the Sanctuary the day before, on Saturday, and taken down after the service. If you want to volunteer to help, send an e-mail to [HbgScotSoc@aol.com](mailto:HbgScotSoc@aol.com).**

## **Scottish Humor**

**A Scotsman was rushed to hospital suffering from splinters in his tongue. When asked how this happened, he told the ambulance crew he'd dropped a bottle of whiskey on the kitchen floor!**

**Malcolm decided to call his father-in-law the "Exorcist" because every time he came to visit, he made the spirits disappear.**

## **The Scottish Society of Central PA Board Members for 2012-2013**

**President:** Charlene Boyd Kemp  
**Vice-President:** John Goodrich  
**Secretary:** Roy MacDonald  
**Treasurer:** Dr. Jesse Weigel  
**Chaplain:** Rev. Dr. Russell Sullivan

The Board met on September 10, 2012 to prepare for the upcoming Kirkin' and St. Andrew's events. Jen Gardner, who coordinated the SSoCP tent at the McLain Festival reported on another successful year with much interest shown in clan affiliations. Dan Maresh was present to answer the many questions presented and to show tartan samples. The organization was also represented at the Multi-Cultural Day's activities at the Mechanicsburg Naval Support Activity on September 12. Jim Reed was the coordinator for this event.

John Goodrich reported that plans for the Burns Dinner are being finalized and an attempt is being made to hold the ticket prices to last year's amount. Due to a scheduling conflict, the date this year is Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, rather than the usual January date. It's still at the Radisson Penn-Harris in Camp Hill.

The Society must pay for space at the various festivals, pay for the printing of membership brochures, pay the newsletters' expenses, maintain the scholarship fund, contribute toward the library fund wherever the "Children's Hour" is held, and it's this fund that helps to maintain the very low price of the Burns' Supper. All the actual work of the Society is unpaid and carried out by volunteers. Membership forms can be found at the website: [www.pennscots.org](http://www.pennscots.org) so when you fill out your form, also decide how you, too, can become a volunteer!

## **Membership Renewals**

If you have not paid up your membership dues, please do so ASAP!!!

Following a recent board action, all members who are 4 years, yes, that's **FOUR YEARS** in arrears will be dropped from membership immediately. Several members have failed to keep up with this and although the economy is difficult right now, a four year window seems more than generous. So, please check your mailing labels on this newsletter to see if you have paid up for the year. The membership continues at \$15.00 for an individual and \$20.00 for a family. You may send your dues to our Treasurer at:

PO Box 1006  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Please make your checks payable to:  
**The Scottish Society of Central PA**

## **Failte a Chairde**

*(Gaelic: Welcome Friends)*

The Scottish Society would like to welcome and recognize the Member that have recently Joined and those who have renewed their Annual Membership:

**Jonathan L. Mansch**  
**Dan Maresh**  
**Charles Elliott Nelson**

## **2012 Calendar**

- Oct. 14** Kirkin; O Tartan, Pine Street  
Presbyterian Church,  
Harrisburg PA
- Nov. 27** Saint Andrew's Supper  
Camp Hill Presbyterian Church
- Feb. 2, 2013** Burns Dinner, Radisson's  
Convention Center, Camp Hill

# **Kilts, Castles, Scotch and MUSIC**

By Dr. Mark O. Hagenbuch

Thanks to my great grandmother Hannah MacWilliam, I own the DNA right to have an affinity for all things Scottish. And, one of my dream trips was to tour Scotland especially to visit Edinburgh, the Blackwatch Museum in Perth, Balmoral, Culloden, Glencoe....well, most places in Scotland would do!

When Jim Malcolm, Scottish folk singer from Perth, performed in Dillsburg last fall (which was sponsored by our Scottish Society and the Northern York Co. Historical And Preservation Society), I found out that he and his wife Susie were taking folks on a musical tour of my dream and would be visiting all the places I mentioned above, plus many, many more. AND, each evening there would be special music from many different Scottish artists. AND, that each day of the tour a new scotch would be sampled and rated. AND.....need I say more!

In early May after lots of planning and packing, our small group which included my wife Linda, my brother and his wife, and two of my Highland reenactor friends and their wives, flew from Newark to Edinburgh, met up with Jim and Susie and 30 other people from across the U.S. Traveling by bus and staying in mostly three and four star hotels, breakfasts (oh, what breakfasts!) and elegant evening meals included, the Malcolm family took us on a circular route from Edinburgh to St. Andrew's to Perth, Balmoral, Culloden, Inverness; on through the Great Glen, Loch Ness, Glencoe, the Isle of Mull, Iona; to Burns' Ayr and finally Glasgow.....during ten glorious days.

It would take several installments in this newsletter to give all the details. Even now my mind is overloaded with all the sights, sounds, smells and tastes that I experienced. Folks have asked, "What did you like most?" My usual comment, as cliché' as it sounds is, "Everything!" Who can dismiss the music which we had every evening. Three evenings we were at local "sessions" in Edinburgh, Dunkeld, and Glasgow where 10 or more local musicians "jammed" for hours in a pub. Several nights we had well known Scottish musicians who have played for the Royal Family and are known around the world for their expertise with fiddle, pipes and voice. Every day we really did experience a different scotch provided by Jim and Susie; and we did "indepth" tasting at the Glen Grant distillery!

I could never forget the scenery: the sheep, the heather, the gorse, the mountains with Ben Nevis in the background, the mist, the stone cottages, glens and lochs; the Isles and surrounding seas, small fishing villages like Tobermoray, the River Tay flowing beside our hotel near Perth, and the steep cliffs rising to Roslyn Castle near the mysterious Chapel.

I will always hold close to my heart the spiritual experiences which are difficult to write about: walking the streets of Edinburgh, the thrill of Holyrood, the Castle, the Stuart apartments, the Stone of Scone and Crown Jewels. In Perth at Castle Dalhousie, our small group of reenactors were treated to a special tour of the Blackwatch Museum. Our reenactment group, Muskets of the Crown, donates to the preservation of this museum each year, so our tour was very personal with special commentary from a retired sergeant on particular artifacts. Afterwards, Jim Malcolm took the few of us on a tour of historical Perth pointing out buildings related to John Knox and Bonnie Prince Charlie. While we reenacting men were with Jim, our ladies took the local train to the small village of Pitlochry and shopped, having some special adventures of their own!

## **Kilts, Castles, Scotch and MUSIC (cont'd)**

Those of us who reenact the Jacobite years hold the ground of Culloden sacred. After we walked the battlefield and viewed the fantastic museum pieces, about 15 of us held a ceremony at the Cairn. As the quaich of whisky moved around the circle, I distinctly saw a St. Andrew's cross framed in the clouds above. I'll say no more about this.

The glen where the MacDonalds were massacred by the Campbells was beautiful and forboding at the same time. One of the tour members played her harp as Jim and Susie sang the sad words of "Glencoe". Edinburgh, the Blackwatch Museum, Culloden and Glencoe are just a few of the places where the hair rose on the back of my neck.

I can go on and on: about Loch Ness, Castle Urquhart, the religious aura of Iona, the WW I monuments found in every village, the mist and rain at St. Andrew's and the sadness that surrounds the destruction of that great cathedral. But, with all the sadness and spirituality of the Scottish past, I keep coming back to the complete joy of being there, of wearing a kilt most days and every evening, of Jim and Susie's genuine pride in their country, of hearing the pipes in Glasgow and talking to the lad playing who was wearing my clan Gunn tartan, of the wonderful foods, and.....Robert Burns' Ayr!!

I have left out so many details from this "short piece" because of space (Greyfriar's Bobby, the retired Blackwatch soldier I met, the Highland games, Jim and Susie's whole family who toured with us, Bothy songs, Falkland Castle.....); but I must mention one of the highest points of the tour. As most folks know, I am a Robert Burns affectionado. We, of Scottish blood, should celebrate his exceptional poetry even more than once a year! And, I could not wait for the tour bus to pull in to Burns' home of Ayr. It did not disappoint me.

We toured his boyhood house and the museum dedicated to his life, walked in the churchyard and crossed the Bridge o'er the Doon where the epic Tam O'Shanter takes place. Robert Burns, himself, came back from the mists of time to join us (Jim does a great impersonation of Burns, in correct garb, funny, imformative, historical...a real hoot!).

The high point was our noon meal, a Burns supper with haggis (best I've ever had), neeps and tatties, in the pub where Burns spent much of his time. My reenactor friends had told Jim and Susie that I could do justice to the Address to the Haggis. So, I was asked to recite this classic before our tour group enjoyed the haggis. Words do not describe the thrill of it all; giving the Address in the very pub where Robert Burns enjoyed haggis and whisky (and being praised by Jim and Susie as never hearing it recited with such passion).

I find it difficult to end this writing. I would continue with descriptions and my hopes that all of you would take the opportunity to not just visit Scotland, but to take Scotland to heart with my good friends Jim and Susie Malcolm. No tour, ever, will measure up to the ten days Linda and I spent with true Scots! Alba Go Braugh!

And, we are fortunate that Jim will be in concert at Dillsburg again on April 6 of next year. Jim's music is magical, lilting, and truly Scottish. The love of his country and people is evident in his songs and tours. [www.jimmalcolm.com](http://www.jimmalcolm.com)

**From:**

**The Scottish Society of Central PA  
PO Box 1006  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**

**TO:**

**Scottish Society of Central Pennsylvania Membership Form**

For additional information please go to : [www.pennscots.org](http://www.pennscots.org)

To become a member of SSoCP, or to renew an existing membership, please complete and return this form with your payment to:

SSoCP  
PO Box 1006  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Membership Dues: July 1, 2012-June 30,2013

\$15 for individual membership

Please note if you are making a payment for the past year (s).

\$20 for family membership

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_for \_\_\_\_\_year(s) [ ] Individual [ ] Family Membership.

Check one of the above)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

I am most interested in the following: [ ] Scottish Art/Music [ ] Scottish Dance [ ] Bagpipes

[ ] Genealogy [ ] Scottish Cuisine [ ] Local History [ ] Committee Work [ ] Event Planning

[ ] Cooking/Baking [ ] Writing for Newsletter [ ] Membership Services **(Check ALL Areas of Interest)**