



Thistle 'n Dixie

www.caledoniansocietyofneworleans.com



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October 2017

President's Corner, October 2017 – October 4

Our beginning meeting in September was so much fun! We followed the traditional format of a pot-luck dinner with very little business, and what a feast we had! The three food tables were groaning under the weight of all the food members brought to share and as always, everything was delicious! While visiting and catching up on summer activities was the order of the evening, we did discuss the very serious need of help for the Louisiana Highland Games and several of you signed up as volunteers and/or attendees. The Games will be here before we know it, and we need a strong show of support, so please contact me, Wendy Grubb, Bob Grubb or Joe Campbell if you can help in any way, from greeters to manning our Society tent for a few hours or through donations. Any help is welcome.

We were so happy to see Leon Lott and Shannon Lyell in attendance and be able to express our condolences in person for the passing of Margaret Lott. I told the assembly the part that the Society played in Margaret's funeral service and how honored we were to have known her as our friend for all these years, pointing out her great love of Scotland and pride in her heritage.

The CSoNO Board met briefly at the end of the evening to approve two new membership applications. We were delighted to give a unanimous welcome to returning members Vickie and Alvin Castay and new members Jane and Leonard Caruso! See more about them in the "Welcome to New Members" section.

Our upcoming 46th year has some great events planned, so we hope you will be able to join us for some of them. See the Upcoming Scheduled Events for more details.

Hae a guid day! Christyn

Dues are Due!:

Our fiscal year runs from September to June, so dues are now due. Family membership is \$25, single membership is \$20, and full-time college students below the age of 26 may join for \$10. Send dues to Treasurer Louis Greer at 747 West William David Parkway, Metairie, LA

Upcoming Scheduled CSoNO Meetings / Events:

Tuesday, October 17, 2017 – Monthly Meeting:

7:00-9:00 PM at the Christopher Room located at 6254 Vicksburg Street. Program: Member Emma Pierson will discuss and do readings from her newly published book.

Tuesday, November 21, 2017 – Monthly Meeting:

7:00-9:00 PM at the Christopher Room located at 6254 Vicksburg Street. Program: Guest speaker Connie Rodriguez of Loyola University will present information on the ongoing archaeology project she is involved with in Scotland

Sunday, December 10, 2017 – Christmas Party:

4:00-6:00 PM at the Christopher Room located at 6254 Vicksburg Street. Details to be decided later this fall.

Saturday, January 20, 2018 – Burns Night

Dinner: Venue is Southern Yacht Club – details will be presented at a later date. Mark your calendars!!!

Member and Society News

If you have any member news to include in the newsletter, please let Christyn Elliott know at her e-mail address or home phone number.

Derek's dad passed away on Thurs, Sept. 7 and he and Myra flew to Scotland on Saturday, Sept. 9. When they arrived in Scotland, Derek's uncle passed away. Myra's son Byron was seriously injured on vacation and she had to fly home to be with him. We send our condolences to Derek and his family on their loss. Myra's son is making a splendid recovery, and we are so relieved for him, Myra and the family.

Michael went into hospital on Sept. 1 because of complications from the chemo/radiation treatments and was there until Sept. 26. He is home and doing much better, and we are forever grateful to my brother Glenn for getting us and our poor confused dog through this very difficult time.

Welcome to New Members

Leonard and Jane Allen Caruso are new members, although Jane has attended several functions this past year. Several of us know her from other historical groups in New Orleans, including the

DBE and de la Ronde Foundation. Their clan affiliation is McLeod, and they are interested in Scottish genealogy/DNA, literature, travel, crafts and clothes. The Caruso live in New Orleans.

Alvin and Vickie Urquhart Castay are old friends of the Society and we are so thrilled to have them back in membership! Vickie is the elder daughter of Virginia, Dowager Urquhart of Urquhart and the late Kenneth Trist Urquhart of Urquhart, 27th Chief of Clan Urquhart. Vickie and Alvin are the proud parents of two sons and a daughter (us older members of the society watched Vicki AND her children grow up!). They of course belong to Clan Urquhart, and their interest include singing, Scottish Country Dancing and genealogy/DNA. They reside in Harahan.

Membership Directory

The membership directory was updated this summer, and all members who receive the newsletter by e-mail should have received an e-copy by now. A hard copy will be given to those members without e-mail/printer capabilities at the fall meetings. The remainder will be mailed.

This directory is for our use only, so please do not share it with any other people or organizations!

Newsletter and Website

CSoNO members receive the newsletter by e-mail or post. A complimentary e-mail newsletter is also sent to non-members who have expressed an interest, so if you know of someone who would be interested in receiving our newsletter by e-mail, please send their information to me for inclusion in the courtesy e-mail group. All mass e-mails are sent to recipients "bcc" for privacy but one test e-mail will be sent to the membership so that everyone can check current e-mails addresses. Lapsed members receiving the newsletter by e-mail were moved to the courtesy e-mailing group.

The Society has an excellent website which includes the newsletter. Be sure to take a look!

Committees

If you are interested in any of these activities or have information for them, contact the following:

Membership: Wayne Gordon

Website: Scott Bond

Sunshine: Vilma Pinero

Publicity: Cathie Groh-Tamasi/Ren Alexander

CCCC Movie Group: Louie Greer

Refreshments: T. Diemer/Trudy Burkart

Other Upcoming Events

Scottish Country Dancing – resumed at Carrollton United Methodist Church at Freret and S. Carrollton on Friday evenings at 7:00 PM. Contact Wendy Grubb at (504) 866-2220 or wgrubb52@gmail.com.

Saturday, October 7 – Regretfully, the St. Andrew's Society had to cancel the Champagne and Wine Tasting event they had planned for this day. Stay tuned for further notices of future events. Wendy notified members by e-mail that this event had been cancelled.

Saturday, Oct. 28 - Louisiana Highland Games and Celtic Festival – at Zachary Youth Park located at 1650 Mount Pleasant - Zachary Road in Zachary, Louisiana from 10:00-5:00. The Core Committee for the Games has been hard at work over the summer to finalize plans. They are depending on the various Celtic societies for help in the way of volunteers, heritage booths, donations and attendance. If you can help in any way, PLEASE CONTACT Wendy Grubb or Christyn Elliott as soon as possible so we can get you in the schedule. **We must all pitch in if this effort is to succeed!**

You have already been sent membership applications several times, so please consider joining – all dues go directly to the Highland Games. Any donation, no matter how small, is of vital importance. Helping hands are another way you can contribute, so please consider ways to participate. Hard copies of member applications, donation forms and volunteer needs will be available at the Oct. meeting.

PLEASE PUT THIS EVENT ON YOUR CALENDARS AND MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT!!!! It will be here before we know it! It will also be the focus of attention at the upcoming October meeting.

Sunday, October 29 - St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church Heritage Sunday Service – This will take place during the 10:30 Service at the church located at 1545 State Street, corner of St. Charles. Members are invited to attend the service, and if you would like to march in the processional, please arrive by 10:15 wearing tartan and let Dave Grissett know that you are there and would like to process with the group. There will be a reception following the service and all are invited to attend.

The Caledonian Society of Baton Rouge has many exciting events coming up. Please check their website for particulars: www.csbr.org.