



Thistle 'n Dixie

www.caledoniansocietyofneworleans.com



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May 2018

President's Corner, May 2018 – May 2

My goodness, what a busy month April was:

Virginia, John, T., Glenn and I set up our usual Tartan Day display on Tuesday, April 3rd at the East Jefferson Library on W. Napoleon and it looked very nice. It was located in the foyer area this time, using the large cabinet and a couple of tables. Thanks to all of you. Pickup was on Tuesday, April 17th just before the meeting and Emma Nagle-Alexander went over there early to meet me and Glenn. God bless her sweet soul, she had everything picked up and packaged before we even got there, so we were able to grab and run to the meeting. She was the reason we actually made it on time! Wonderful job, Emma! Thanks again to T. Diemer for arranging the space. Tartan Day itself was on April 6th, and we hope all of you observed it in your own way.

The April meeting was well attended, and the Nominating Committee presented the slate of officers. There were no further nominations from the floor, so the nominations were closed and the candidates will be elected by acclamation at the May Annual Business meeting. Our new officers are:

President – Bob Grubb

Vice-President – Louis Greer

Secretary – Trudy Burkart

Treasurer – Wendy Grubb

Parliamentarian – Lance von Uhde

Historian – Virginia Dowager Urquhart of Urquhart

Members at Large – T. Diemer / Connie Rodriguez

Immediate Past President – Christyn Elliott

We deeply appreciate the service of those who are retiring from the Board of Directors – Beverly Hall and Glenn Raby – and thank those new and continuing Board Members for taking on that responsibility. Business being concluded, the meeting went on with a discussion of the upcoming Tartan Day presentation at Trinity Episcopal Church on April 29th. Rick whetted our appetites by delivering his inimitable “Address to the Haggis” and Laurie demonstrated songs on the dulcimer and explained the origin and use of the instrument. The other acts were discussed as well. Thanks to all who once again brought a wonderful repast, and the fellowship was splendid. A quick post-meeting

Board meeting approved our newest members Tim & Ysonde Hobbs.

On April 29th, the special presentation spearheaded by Virginia took place. Everything went very well and we all had a really good time. Thanks to Wendy & Bob Grubb, Hugh Robertson, Rick & Laurie McConnell, George & Beryl Guelfo, Michael & Laura Grubb, John Urquhart, Steve Brownlee & daughter Morgan, and Rubin, Starling and Corrine (Coco) Saenz for sharing their talents in the performance. Special thanks to Albinas Prizgintas of Trinity for arranging the set-up and accompanying Hugh. Monumental thanks go to Virginia Dowager Urquhart of Urquhart, who tirelessly gathered all of the talent together and made it all happen. She is just amazing and the CSoNO is so fortunate to be the benefactor of her seemingly boundless energy and organizational skills!

We were pleased to see several of you at Derek Ewart's lecture on Abraham Lincoln at the Nunez Community College Lecture Series on April 9th. Quite an eye-opener and amazing amount of research! Excellent job, Derek (and Myra!).

Hae a guid day,

Christyn

Dues are OVERDUE!:

Please remember that you cannot vote in the upcoming election in May if you have not paid your dues for this year. You can either bring your dues to the May meeting or send them to Treasurer Louis Greer at 747 West William David Parkway, Metairie, LA 70005. Thanks to those who have paid since the last reminder.

Upcoming CSoNO Scheduled Meetings / Events:

Tuesday, May 15, 2018 – Monthly Meeting:

7:00-9:00 PM at the Christopher Room located at 6254 Vicksburg Street. **Annual General Meeting and Election.** Program: Treasurer Louis Greer will present “Musicians of Scottish Descent”

June End-of-Year Party – TBD

The party will be on either the first or second weekend in June. We'll let you know once details are finalized. We will go into summer hiatus following this gathering.

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. so that she can include it in the next newsletter.

New Members

Please give a hearty welcome to long-time friends of many of us in the CSoNO Tim and Ysonde Hobbs. Michael and I met them on our honeymoon trip with Danny O'Flaherty and we have enjoyed many of Danny's house concerts at their lovely home. Tim attended high school in Scotland and is a retired university faculty member. He has an antiques booth on Magazine St. and is a tour guide on the American Queen. Ysonde is a nurse practitioner for the VA who has McDermott ancestry. They are a wonderful, fun-loving couple and we are thrilled to have them join us! Their contact information will be sent separately for you to add to your directory.

Membership Directory, Newsletter and Website

Please continue to notify me of any directory information changes. **This directory is for our use only**, so please do not share it with any other people or organizations! A new directory will come out in the fall with the start of our 47th year.

CSoNO members receive the newsletter by e-mail or post. A complimentary e-mail newsletter is sent to interested non-members. If you know someone who would like to receive it please send their contact information to me for inclusion in the courtesy e-mail group

Thanks to Derek Ewart, who has agreed to take over the newsletter at the end of my term. I am deeply grateful to him for stepping forward!

The Society has an excellent website maintained by Scott Bond. He does an amazing job, so be sure to take a look!

Committees

New committee chairs will be named once the incoming officers begin at the end of summer. 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 – held 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 for an updated schedule for May.

Friday, May 18 – DBE Fundraising House Concert for Mountbatten House at 5:30 in Covington. Contact Carolyn Herre at (904) 400-1127 for details and to see if there are any spaces left.

May 26-27 – 2nd Annual Magnolia State Feis and 29th Annual NO & La. State Championships at NO Airport Hilton. Held by Ryan School of Irish Dance. Contact Board President Mimi Gorman at (504) 715-0020 or gormanmm@yahoo.com for additional info.

Saturday, June 9 - DBE Tea at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on Canal Blvd. Details will be forthcoming or check with member Jane Caruso.

Saturday, June 23 – **St. Andrew Society of Louisiana Whiskey Tasting** – details will be forthcoming at a later date or contact Bob Grubb, who is the liaison for the CSoNO with the St. Andrew Society.

The Caledonian Society of Baton Rouge still has many exciting events planned. Check out their website at: www.csbr.org

Doug Johnstone update: Many of you remember the exciting young author who had a book signing with us in the fall of 2016. His newest book, Fault Lines, has come out and is available as an e-book on line through May for £.99 or for purchase at £8.46 at <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Fault-Lines-Doug-Johnstone-ebook/dp/B078GYSHDQ> . I'll forward his e-mail to you all. If any of you happen to be in Edinburgh on May 24 (don't we wish!!!), you can attend his launch event.

NOTE: If I've forgotten anything, please let me know so I can e-mail those of you who receive e-mail and call those who don't. I will be doing one final newsletter for June before I turn over newsletter duties to Derek. Thank you so much for all of your help and support during this very difficult year, especially Virginia and Wendy. These two ladies are the backbone of our Society and I really couldn't have made it through this year without them.

I'll be traveling to Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in July to deliver Michael's archives and memorabilia to Chief Margaret Elliott, who is honored guest this year. Anyone else going up there? Let me know!