



Editor's Comments

Madainn mhath,

(maden va – greetings)

Welcome to the May issue of our newsletter.

We had a change in the program for April's meeting. Connie Rodriguez was ill and couldn't give her talk, so Christyn Elliot gave a discussion on the Standing Stones found in Scotland. Connie's talk will be rescheduled for one of next year's meetings. In addition to the program, an update was given on the Society's fundraising efforts for Ronald McDonald House Charities. You can find out more by going to page 3.

May's meeting is more interactive, with members being urged to make a Scottish dessert for judging. Who can win bragging rights? This will be our last program based meeting of the season, before our final meeting get together, so we hope there will be a big turnout.

Tapadh Leibh

(Tapadh leat - Thank you)

Derek

The U.S. Celebrates Scots

All of America celebrated their Scottish background and heritage on April 6th – Tartan Day. The largest celebration was in New York City with their annual Tartan Week. This years Grand Marshal of the Tartan Day Parade was world famous Glaswegian comic, Sir Billy Connolly. Previous marshals have included 007 star Sean Connery, musician KT Tunstall, and Outlander's Sam Heughan.



The date was selected by Congress to mark the impact that Scotland has had on the world, but particularly the United States. April 6th 1320 was the date when the Declaration Of Arbroath was signed, as is recognized as the document that the American Declaration Of Independence is based upon. It is a little known fact that half of the 56 signers of the US declaration were of Scottish descent.



"for, as long as a hundred of us remain alive, never will we on any conditions be subjected to the lordship of the English. It is in truth not for glory, nor riches, nor honours that we are fighting, but for freedom alone, which no honest man gives up but with life itself" – excerpt of Declaration Of Arbroath (translated from Latin)

It is not just the US that celebrates Tartan Day. Argentina started its own Scottish *porteños* in Buenos Aires thirteen years ago. July 1st is the date Australians come out in tartan after the Scottish Australian Heritage Council had 500,000 come out in 1989. The Council has been petitioning since 2001 to make this day federally recognized. This date was selected as this was when the 1746 Act Of Proscription was repealed in 1782. Although it is generally believed that tartan was banned in this act, it was actually highland dress and not tartan that was banned.

Don't worry if you didn't wear tartan this year. There's always next year!

Upcoming CSoNO Scheduled Meetings / Events

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Venue – Christ Anglican Catholic Church,
4316 N. Woodlawn Ave, Metairie 70006

Time - 7:00 to 9:00pm.

Program- Everything You Want To Know About Tea

Speaker – Tim & Jan Lantrip

Synopsis – The proprietors of the English Tea Room in Covington will be giving a presentation on the history of The High Tea and its place in Scotland. Following the talk, they will be judging members' homemade, traditional, Scottish tea desserts. Prizes will awarded. Please note that only desserts will be at this meeting, and we are hoping that some specialty teas will be available for purchase.

(We're looking for a good turnout for entries in the competition, so start cooking! - Editor)

Saturday, June 15, 2019

Venue – 49 Stilt St, New Orleans, 70124

Time – 4:00pm

Program- End Of Year Party

Information – This year's end of year party will be hosted by Mona Bond. We have been informed that access is from the rear, but a Scottish flag will be flying to help you identify the house. There is also a pool, so make sure you bring your swimming costume! Attendees are encouraged to bring along their favorite dish as this is a pot luck event. All liquid refreshments will be provided by the Society.

Member and Society News

DUES ARE STILL DUE. Yes, that's right! Although we're almost at the end of our calendar, some members have not yet paid their dues.

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 pass the information on to me for the next newsletter.

Flowers of the Forest

The Caledonian Society of New Orleans has lost a very dear friend. Our Vice President Louis Greer passed away unexpectedly last Monday evening in

the hospital after a very brief hospitalization. His godchild has been in communication with member Ceresyntia Nagle-Alexander and we have been provided with details of the service. The Visitation will be at St Catherine Of Siena Church, 105 Bonnabel Blvd, and starts at 11:30am with the Mass beginning at 12:30pm. Membership chair Christyn Elliott is out of town, and will not return until after the newsletter is published, so we will present a proper Flowers of the Forest tribute to Louie in the June Newsletter.

Member News

Congratulations to Emma Nagle-Alexander, who will receive her Master's Degree in Leadership and Human Resource Development from LSU on May 11. We remember watching Emma as a long-legged child going through the first stages of Highland Dancing and here she is, all grown up into an amazing young woman ready to continue her dance of life in grand style. We are so very proud of you, Emma, and wish you all the best in your accomplishments!

New Members

The Society is thrilled to accept three new family applications which came to us in April. Ceud Mile Failte (100,000 welcomes) to you all!

Daniel (Dan) and Polly Henderson claim affiliation to Clan Henderson and Dan is descended from another Daniel Henderson, who lived from 1689-1720, so he has obviously delved into his family history. With that in mind, they are interested in genealogy/DNA, heraldry and archaeology as well as traveling in Scotland (in fact, they were there at the beginning of April) and enjoying its cuisine. Both are retired and reside in New Orleans.

Craig and Denise Matthews and child Fable, who is the lovely age of 5, are residents of Jefferson (that would be near the Urquhart household) and found out about the Society from the Internet. Craig has Clan Haldane connections on his mother's side and Denise has maternal Clan Fraser links. They are interested in all things Scottish and someone in the family has actually participated in Highland Dancing! We are especially thrilled to have another child in the Society and I'm sure Mairin Bond will

be glad to have a companion her age (turns out they are already friends – small world, as Craig said!).

Alan and Janice Irving Wise are already well known to some member of the Caledonian Society through our affiliation with the Caledonian Society of Baton Rouge, of which Janice is currently the President. They live in Baton Rouge and are affiliated with Clans Irwin and Reid. Special Scottish interests include genealogy/DNA, Literature, Archaeology, travel and clothes. Janice is retired and Alan is a computer programmer. They also belong to the Baton Rouge chapter of the Herb Society of America – I'll bet their mealtimes have a special bit of home-grown flavor!

Membership Directory, Newsletter and Website

Please continue to notify Christyn Elliott of any directory information changes. **This directory is for our use only**, so please do not share it!

If you are on the courtesy list, have you considered joining the Society and becoming a member? You can get more information on our website.

Newsletter, Website & Facebook

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 please send their information for inclusion in the courtesy e-mail group. All mass e-mails are sent to recipients "bcc" for privacy.

The Society also has a website with many links and gallery pictures for everything Scottish! In case you haven't seen the site yet, then all you need to do is just copy and paste the following link, (<http://www.caledoniansocietyofneworleans.com/>). The site also has a very useful resources page, where you will find almost everything you could think of needing. This has links that can help you with ancestry, heraldry, and even learning more about Scottish Gaelic(gaa-lik)



Have you looked for our Facebook page? Why not check it out? Our content is a mixture of educational, informative and humorous posts. Our most popular post in April was

celebrating Tartan Day, with 601 views. If there are particular areas of interest you would like to see, then let us know by email or message our Facebook page. You can find us by looking for "Caledonian Society Of New Orleans", and hit the like button to follow us.

Ongoing Events

CSBR Coterie meets every month. April 24th saw Tom Mungall give a presentation on "Traditional Civilian Highland Dress: What to Wear". May 22nd sees "Caledonian Cookbook Cook-Off: Best of Our Recipes and Final Plans for the Cookbook," and will be led by cookbook editors Lilly Bridwell-Bowles, Catherine Mungall and Janice Wise. The event will be held at Debbie and Jack Harris's home.

The **New Orleans Scottish Country Dance Group** holds its classes on Friday evenings from 7:00 PM until 8:30pm at Carrollton United Methodist Church on the corner of S. Carrollton and Freret – enter by Freret St. side door. For information, please call or text 504.957.0251.

Pipes and Drums of New Orleans (P&DofNO) is the oldest pipe band in south Louisiana. Operating under P&D of NO, as the performing band, is the Kilts of Many Colors.

The **Caledonian Broadsword Academy of Baton Rouge** holds lessons every Tuesday evening at 7:00 at the Broadmoor Presbyterian Church Gym. It is an active group in the Baton Rouge area that is dedicated to the study and practice of Scottish martial arts, particularly the Basket hilt broadsword, historically known as the Claymore (or "great sword"). Please look at their website <http://www.csbr.org/claymorepage.htm> or you can also check out their Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/318868152937/>

If you are a budding piper or want to learn how to play the bagpipes, then you can arrange for lessons. For more information, please contact Bob Grubb.

Other Events

International Day Festival was celebrated at Ridgewood Preparatory School with the assistance of Society members Bob Grubb and T. Diemer.

This day was an opportunity for people to experience different cultures, foods and music. While Bob and fellow piper John Rode opened the festival with the sounds of bagpipes, T. led the Serbian line dance Gori Mori, performing alongside the Crescent City International Dancers.

Silk Road Restaurant & Wine Bar at 2483 Royal St, New Orleans, 70117, has an open music night called “Music Mondays”. These sessions begin at 7pm, so why not bring your Celtic instrument of choice and give everyone a treat. If anyone is planning to play then why not contact us and we’ll let everyone know. Hopefully we can get a good crowd.

Stone Mountain Highland Games celebrates it’s 47th year October 18-20 in 2019. This is one of the larger games held in the US and is closer than most, being held at Stone Mountain Park, which is just outside Atlanta. If you are interested and want to get more information, please visit their website at <http://www.smhg.org/>

Ronald McDonald House Charities Of South Louisiana recently invited the Society to participate in its yearly fundraiser,



Ronald McDonald House Charities
of South Louisiana

Keeping families close

“Men In Kilts”. Several of our members are participating to help raise funds. We ask everyone to make a donation to this cause. Every vote is made by way of a \$10 donation, and we are aiming for 500 votes to raise \$5000.

Although 557 people viewed our initial post regarding this fundraiser, we had only accumulated 25 by the morning of April 6th. Our group’s participants spent most of the day on Tartan Day at the Freret St Festival promoting the charity and appealing for donations. After a long day in the sun, we secured \$390 for the charity and 39 votes for our team. As of May 6th, we have 185 votes, which equates to \$1850 of donations. Unfortunately, we are still trailing behind the leaders, The Haggerty Brothers, who have secured 233 votes. Help our team out by going online to <https://kilts.rmhc-sla.org/contestants/the-caledonian-society-of-new-orleans/> and making as many donations as you like. Lets get the Scots in

New Orleans crowned as “King Of The Kilts!” Although Scots are known for deep pockets and short arms, we are a very charitable nation, so help us reach our modest target.

The RMHC fundraiser ends May 11th with an event at **Children’s Hospital Conference Center from 6-9pm**. This is an open event and will be the last chance to cast a vote or two before the winners are crowned “Kings Of The Kilts” at the end of the night. The winning team will win a trophy, bragging rights and a foursome in the **RMHC Golf Tournament** in October. There is no charge and food, drink and music will be available. We’re hoping some of you can make it, and hopefully see us crowned winners?

Time For Gaelic



As we explained last month, Scottish Gaelic has only 18 letters in it’s alphabet. This results in various letters being combined to form the sounds that would normally be made from the missing letters. What’s missing from the Gaelic alphabet? J, K,

Q, V, W, X, Y, and Z. That’s a whopping 31% of letters missing from the English alphabet! It is estimated that up to 70,000 people worldwide speak the language. With 57,000 in Scotland, and another 7,000 in Nova Scotia, that doesn’t leave too many anywhere else. Wouldn’t it be great if we could add to those numbers?

Last month, we started with a few basics. Hopefully you’ve been practicing last month’s words for the next meeting. This issue, we are adding numbers.

<u>English</u>	<u>Gaelic</u>	<u>Phonetic</u>
One	Aon	Eun
Two	Dha	Ghah
Three	Tri	Tree
Four	Ceithir	Kay-hir
Five	Coig	Coe-ig

Six	Sia	Shee-a
Seven	Seachd	Sheck
Eight	Ochd	Ochk
Nine	Naoi	Niy
Ten	Deich	Jay-chk

We hope that this is a nice easy way to start off. It's best to speak a language you're learning on a regular basis, so why not try it out at our monthly meetings? Who knows, in a year the entire meeting could be in Gaelic!

Castles Of Scotland

In our new section, we are going to be giving you a brief history of Scottish Castles. Rather than pick favorites, we will begin alphabetically. This means that we may never get to the end!

Name : Aberdour Castle
Location : Easter Aberdour, Fife
Year Built : Around 1200

Originally built as a manor house, it wasn't until the Douglas Earls Of Morton added on the building 200



years later to make it a castle. Building finally ended in 1635, which at that point now included walled and terraced gardens. A fire ultimately led to the Douglas' family moving to nearby Aberdour House, with the castle being allowed to crumble away.

The premises has seen it's fair share of misfortune by fire. It is while Government troops were stationed here during the 1715 Jacobite Rebellion that it suffered it's final demise, with the family moving out the residence in 1725. The castle is now administered by Historic Environment Scotland, and is open all year to the public.

Distilleries Of Scotland

Whether you call it Scotch or even spell it whiskey(!), we know it all originates in Scotland. At last count, there are over 130 distilleries producing either malt or grain whisky. In the first of our series we look at a new arrival on the scene.

Name : Aberargie Distillery
Location : Perth
Whisky Area : Lowlands



In terms of age, this distillery is a baby after filling the first cask in November 2017. Operated by the industry known Morrison family – previously owning Bowmore – they will not be expecting to bottle anything for several years. In an attempt to create a rich single malt taste they are maturing the whisky in a mixture of first fill Sherry butts, first fill Bourbon casks, and second fill Sherry/Bourbon casks.

The distillery has a capacity to produce 750,000 liters of pure alcohol each year. In other words, it's what New Orleanians would call Mardi Gras!!

Just For Fun

Once again it's time to get your brain in gear. Before we give you some new questions to test your knowledge, here are the answers to last month's quiz.

1. What is Scotland's largest native wild land mammal?
Red Deer
2. In 1967, who became the first Scottish Nationalist MP to be elected to Westminster?
Winnie Ewing
3. Which town has hosted the annual Scottish Grand National horse-racing steeplechase since 1965?

4. Charles Stuart, also known as Bonnie Prince Charlie, died in the same European city in which he was born; can you name the city? **Rome**
5. Name the famous tweed cloth handwoven by islanders at their homes in the Outer Hebrides?

Harris Tweed

We think this month's teasers are easier, so we expect five out of five for from everyone!

1. Which well known American Revolutionary naval commander was born in the historic county of Kirkcudbrightshire in 1747?
2. Which anthem refers to the victory of the Scots, led by Robert the Bruce, over England's Edward II?
3. What is the name given to Scottish mountains above 3000 feet?
4. What is the longest river in Scotland?
5. In which year was the Battle of Bannockburn?

I'm Fixin' To

When you live in Louisiana you know that a favorite topic here is either eating, talking about eating, or talking about eating while eating, and not necessarily talking about what you're eating! As we prepare for May's meeting, which includes a dessert competition, we thought we'd include an old Scottish favorite!

Shortbread

There are as many recipes for shortbread as there are people. Although particularly associated with bringing in the New Year it is popular in Scotland throughout the year.



Ingredients:

- 6oz Plain flour
- 4oz Soft butter
- 2oz caster (granulated) sugar
- 1 oz cornflour (cornstarch)

Method:

Mix the butter and sugar together (preferably with a wooden spoon) until it is pale and creamy. Sieve both the flour and the cornflour into the bowl and mix well. Put a small amount of flour on your working surface and place the dough on this. Shake a little flour on top and roll out about quarter inch thick. Prick with a fork and cut into rounds with a cutter or, if you want one large shortbread round, pinch the edges with thumb and finger all round.

Use a palette knife to lift the shortbread onto an oiled baking tray and bake for 25 minutes in a pre-heated oven at 325F/170C/Gas Mark 3. If the biscuits are ready, they will be pale brown and crisp; if not, return to the oven for 5 or 10 minutes. Shake a small amount of caster/granulated sugar on the top of the shortbread immediately after they have been removed from the oven. Use a palette knife to move them to a cooling rack and store in an airtight tin once they are cold.

We hope these recipes are going down well, and would love to see pictures of our members attempts, whether it's successes or failures. Rome wasn't built in a day! As always, we want to ensure a nice mix of recipes for you to try. If you're worried about trying any, we recommend cooking with whisky. After three glasses we usually can't remember what was being cooked anyway!

We hope you have enjoyed this month's newsletter. In the near future, we are hoping to add additional sections, with the aim to educate and entertain, as well keeping our members informed and up-to-date on all events going on. If you have any suggestions on what you would like to see, then please send me an email to shawfield27@gmail.com.

gus an ath mhios

(goos en a vee-us)

(until next month!)