



# NEWS FROM THE HOUSE of SCOTLAND

“Sgeoil nan Taigh”: Scots-Gaelic for  
“News From The House”

Balboa Park, San Diego, California 92101

April 2012

## Highlights from the March Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by First Vice President Courtney Wilson at 11:30 A.M. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**March celebrations:** Ben Beaty, Dianne Schultz's younger grandson will be five on March 31.

**Thoughts and prayers:** Kristi Keith's 99 year old mother is not doing well and we need to keep the entire Keith family in our prayers. Nancy Ross reports that Jessie McGhee was in the hospital with cellulites in both legs. She spent time with her son in Carlsbad while on antibiotic therapy and is now at home. Jessie is doing well but needs to stay off her feet. A moment's silence was observed for those members of the military serving in harm's way.

**Pipe Band Report:** Jeff Hahn, father of famous Andrew Hahn, gave the Pipe Band report. The Pipe Band competed in the March Medley competition at the Queen Mary festival. While the band didn't place in the competition, they did well in a field of almost 18 grade four bands. Dane Chambers won a silver medal and Andrew Hahn won a gold medal at the competition. The band's next competition will be at Costa Mesa unless they decide to go to Las Vegas for the competition there.

**Old Business:** Vice President Courtney Wilson moderates.

**Hosting:** Second Vice President, Heather Wilson (Hosting Heather) reports that the hosting calendar is full through April. May 6 and May 20 are still open.

**Upcoming Events:** The North County Scotts Casino night will be Saturday, March 31. Details for the Casino Night were also in the January news letter. The theme for the night is “Wear Green.”

Tartan Day will be observed on Saturday, April 7. The Eighth Annual Tartan Day San Diego Festival will take place on the HPR Cottages lawn and will run from 11:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. Meat pies and bangers will be sold as well as desserts and other sweet treats. A growing list of Scottish organizations will be participating. A sign-up sheet for workers as well as dessert donations was circulated.

HPR International Food Fair is Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Ceilidh Band:** There was no Ceilidh Band report.

**Housekeeping:** There was no housekeeping report.

**Other Old Business:** The members of the House of Scotland voted to move our April membership meeting to April 15, since April 8 is Easter.

**New Business:** First Vice President Courtney Wilson moderates

**New Members:** Kim Miller was attending her second meeting as a prospective new member. Lacking paper ballots, Kim was sent outside while the members of the House voted on her membership. As always, she will be notified by mail of her acceptance. And please sign up for hosting.

**New TV and Pub Crawl:** First Vice President Courtney Wilson reports that the Sony 22" TV that we were going to buy and install in the cottage has been recalled by Sony for overheating problems that were a potential fire hazard. A new date for the pub crawl is still uncertain. The proposed new date turns out to be the day before Mother's Day.

**Other New Business** James Logan provided printed information and a map for the “Swallow Day” parade taking place on March 24 in San

Juan Capistrano. This is the largest non-mechanized parade in the Western US. Anyone interested can come and march with them.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 P.M.  
Respectfully submitted

Dianne Schultz, Secretary

**Reminder:** Membership dues of \$7 are due! Dues can be paid at the March meeting or mailed to Cherie McGruer at 65 E. Shasta Street, Chula Vista, CA 91910. Thank you.



### Upcoming Events

<b>Apr. 7</b>	Tartan Day, Balboa Park
<b>Apr. 15</b>	HOS Meeting, 11:30 AM
<b>Apr. 21</b>	North County Scotts Single Malt Whiskey Seminar and Flight Tasting. 7pm at Vista Masonic Lodge, Cost \$25.00
<b>Apr. 21</b>	Kern County Scottish Games, Bakersfield, CA
<b>Apr 28 &amp; 29</b>	Caledonian Club of Sacramento Scottish Games and Festival, Yolo Cty Fairgrounds, Woodlands, CA
<b>May 6</b>	Pipe Band Launch Party 2pm. Organ Pavilion.
<b>May 27</b>	Food Fair, Balboa Park
<b>June 24-25</b>	Vista Highland Games



### Hosting

Apr. 1	James Logan & Susan Self
Apr. 8	Jean McDougal and Family
Apr. 15	David McSwain and Kathy Kough
Apr. 22	EARTH DAY - CLOSED
Apr. 29	Melissa & Andrew Keith
May 6	Diane Shultz, Holly and Seamus Stewart, and Nancy Ross
May 13	Cherie and Graham McGruer
May 20	Heather and Courtney Wilson
May 27	FOOD FAIR
June 3	Virginia Anderson and Donald Stewart
June 10	Heather and Courtney Wilson
June 17	Maureen Bennett and James Scrimgeour
June 24	VISTA HIGHLAND GAMES CLOSED

If you can host, please call Heather at (215) 421-8383 or send an email to: [scottie1956@aol.com](mailto:scottie1956@aol.com).

## NATIONAL TARTAN DAY

THE NATIONAL HOLIDAY FOR ALL SCOTTISH AMERICANS

### History of National Tartan Day

Americans of Scottish descent have played a vibrant and influential role in the development of this country. However not until 1997 was this influence recognized by a single-year U.S. Senate Resolution that appeared in the Congressional Record of April 7, 1997. In 1998 National Tartan Day was officially recognized on a permanent basis when the U.S. Senate passed [Senate Resolution 155](#) recognizing April 6th as National Tartan Day. This was followed by companion bill [House Resolution 41](#) which was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on March 9, 2005. The passage of this bill was due to the work of the [National Capital Tartan Committee, Inc.](#), and president James Morrison.

That date commemorates the signing of the [Declaration of Arbroath](#) in 1320, which asserted Scotland's sovereignty over English territorial claims, and which was an influence on the American Declaration of Independence.

Canada has been celebrating "National Tartan Day" since 1993. The idea and motivation for creating a similar American holiday was provided by the [Scottish Coalition](#), a group of national Scottish- American cultural organizations.

[See also the Presentation of Senate Resolution to the College of William & Mary.](#)

*The following account of the creation of National Tartan appeared in the winter 1999 issue of Caledonia News, a publication of the Caledonia Foundation, and is reprinted by permission.*

### Tartan Day - April 6, 1997: A Great Success!

The first Tartan Day in the United States was observed at the national level on April 6, 1997. Previously, there had been observances by

individual states, counties and other regional entities, but the year 1997 was the first time the observance swept across the nation.

Since then, the question has been asked many times: "How did this get started?" It seems desirable, since undoubtedly the question will continue to be asked, to give the background of this historic event.

In 1995, The Caledonian Foundation invited the Scottish-American organizations operating at the national level to meet in Sarasota, Florida, for the purpose of exploring ways in which all might cooperate and advance their programs. When the conference was held March 8-10, 1996, Duncan MacDonald, a trustee and executive vice president of The Foundation, having learned of the observance of Tartan Day in Canada, placed this item on the agenda for discussion.

Neil Fraser, Secretary-Treasurer of the Clans and Scottish Societies of Canada (CASSOC), was asked by Col. John H. Napier, III, moderator of the meeting, to give an overview of this special event which has been observed in Canada since 1993. Following Neil's remarks, the project received unanimous approval as one to be further explored.

When a second national meeting was convened February 7-9, 1997, there was further discussion and plans were made for the observance in the current year. It was agreed by the six national organizations - American-Scottish Foundation, Association of Scottish Games & Festivals, The Caledonian Foundation, the Council of Scottish Clans and Associations, Scottish Heritage USA, and the Tartan Educational and Cultural Association that this observance did provide an excellent venue to give visibility to Scottish heritage.

Following the conference, ads were placed in "The Highlander" in "Scottish Life" and in "Family Tree," producing an enthusiastic response from across the country.

JoAnne Phipps, a member of Clans of Scotland, Inc. and also a Caledonian Foundation member, working with the staff of Senate Majority leader Trent Lott, took the lead in preparing materials and background information for the Senate Resolution that appeared in the Congressional

Record of April 7, 1997. We would like to note parenthetically that the Senator's staff was provided with Duncan Bruce's book, "The Mark of the Scots," which has important background information that was then included in the Resolution.

Around the country, a true grass-roots effort took place. Thousands of Scots-Americans found ways to observe the first Tartan Day in churches, on village greens, at Scottish festivals, at social gatherings, and in the home. It would seem that at last the Scots in America had found a cause around which all could rally. Tartan Day was observed on April 6, 1997, for the first time in U.S. history. And it is a day that will be observed so long as there are Scots who care about their heritage.

*Special thanks to Ms. Duncan MacDonald of the Caledonian Foundation for providing this information.*

*Provided by: <http://www.tartanday.org/history.htm>*



## Hearth of the Kitchen

### ***Caledonian Cream***

***Here is a refreshing dessert which uses marmalade, a popular ingredient in Scottish cooking since its invention in Dundee in 1797.***

#### **Ingredients for the cream:**

4oz cream cheese (about half a cup)  
4 fluid ounces double cream (about half a cup)  
1 tablespoon marmalade (thick, bitter marmalade is suggested but use what you have)  
2 tablespoons brandy or rum  
2 teaspoons lemon juice  
Sugar to taste

#### **Ingredients for base:**

4 oranges, segmented and the pith removed

#### **Method:**

Blend all the ingredients for the cream in a liquidiser till smooth. Place the oranges in four long-stemmed glasses and, if you want, add a teaspoon of brandy (or rum) to these. Add the cream on top. Garnish with some orange zest (boil for a few minutes in water to reduce the bitterness). Serve chilled.

*Provided by:*

[http://www.rampantscotland.com/recipes/blrecipe\\_caledonian.htm](http://www.rampantscotland.com/recipes/blrecipe_caledonian.htm)



## Scottish Guess that Phrase

1. Juist a wee.
2. Happy Hogmanay!
3. Can A gie ye a haund?
4. Naething muckle!
5. I'll gie ye a skelpit lug!
6. Mony a mickle maks a muckle!
7. Riddy
8. It's a braw bricht moonlit nicht the nicht
9. Yer aff yer heid
10. Lang may yer lum reek!

*Provided by <http://www.scotland-welcomes-you.com>*

#### **House Officers**

President:	Steve Knight	(760) 741-3909
1st VP:	Courtney Wilson	(215) 588-3544
2nd VP:	Heather Wilson	(215) 421-8383
Secretary:	Dianne Schultz	(760) 717-5108
Treasurer:	Cherie McGruer	(619) 425-3454
Trustees:	Graham McGruer	(619) 425-3454
	David McSwain	(619) 528-1940
	James Logan	(619) 252-3780



## **San Diego Tartan Day**

There's a wee bit o' Scot in everyone!

Eighth Annual Tartan Day/San Diego Festival

Balboa Park, International Cottages

San Diego, CA

Saturday, April 7, 2012

11:00 AM – 4:00 PM FREE ADMISSION

The San Diego Tartan Day Steering Committee invites you to join a celebration of Scottish heritage – and tartans, the national fabric and symbol of Scotland.

And you can find your own tartan too, at the  
Scottish Clan & Tartan Information Center

Explore displays by many Scottish organizations from all over  
Southern California, including individual Scottish clans

Eat traditional Scottish fare, including the world's best bangers, and mouthwatering home baked desserts,  
all at reasonable prices

Enjoy music and dance from 11:00 – 4:00 PM featuring some of  
southern California's most exciting Scottish entertainers:

House of Scotland Ceilidh Band  
House of Scotland Pipe Band  
San Diego School of Highland Dancing

For more information, contact [info@tartandaysd.com](mailto:info@tartandaysd.com)  
or call (619) 425-3454

Thanks to these wonderful Scottish organizations:

House of Scotland

St. Andrew Society of San Diego

San Diego Burns Club

North County Scots

42nd Black Watch Highland Society

Clans of the Highlands

San Diego Scottish Highland Games

Scottish Clan & Tartan Information Center

San Diego School of Highland Dance

SD-Edinburgh Sister City Society

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## Scottish Dance Beginner Class

**When:** Every Monday night from 7:30 to 9:30

Beginning March 5 and continuing through March and April.

**Where:** Casa del Prado, Balboa Park room 203 (northeast corner of the building, upstairs near the restrooms.) Map link: [Casa del Prado](#)

**Who:** Anyone is welcome (bring a friend!) and a partner is not required.

**What to wear:** A kilt is not required. Please wear comfortable clothes; ladies often like to wear a skirt.

**Shoes:** Please wear soft-soled shoes, preferably without heels. Flip-flops or loose sandals are not a good idea. We wear Scottish Ghillies, but if you have dance shoes (ballet or jazz shoes) you can use those as well. You don't need to buy anything special to start out with, but if you like our dancing (and we hope you will!) you'll eventually want to invest in some nice shoes. You can find information about dance shoes here:

<http://www.jamessenior.co.uk/centinal.cgi>

<http://www.scottishdanceshoe.co.uk/>

You can also find some simpler, cheaper dance shoes at a place like Capezio or any ballet/jazz supply store. Please don't wear stiff, ballroom dance style shoes.

**More information** about us, dancing, and our branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society can be found here: <http://www.rscds-sandiego.org/>

Thank you, hope to see you dancing!

--Amy Hoffman

Publicity Director

RSCDS-San Diego

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# **Explanation of the New Phone Answering System**

## **For House of Pacific Relations (IfByPhone System)**

Basically, when you call the main phone number for HPR (619-234-0739) you get a choices menu:  
For HPR Board press 1; HPR Committees press 2; Individual houses press 3; Special Events press 4; Auxiliary groups press 5; other HPR positions press 6.

When you press 3 for individual houses it takes you to a second menu:

Press 1 for Houses beginning with A through D; Press 2 for Houses beginning with E through H; Press 3 for Houses beginning with I through L; Press 4 for Houses beginning with M through P; Press 5 for Houses beginning with Q through Z;

When you press 5 for Houses beginning with Q through Z you reach a third menu giving you the choice for the houses:

For House of Scotland press 1; House of Spain press 2; House of Sweden press 3; House of Turkey press 4; House of Ukraine press 5; House of USA press 6.

When you press 1 for Scotland you get a fourth menu:

For House of Scotland President press 1; First Vice President press 2; Second Vice President press 3; Secretary press 4; Treasurer press 5.

When you press 1 to get to the House of Scotland President the caller hears a message that they are being transferred to that person. The call is transferred to the number listed in the HPR directory for that person. In this case it is 760-741-3909 (Steve Knight). When Steve answers his phone he hears a "whispered" message that the call is being transferred from the HPR phone and is then connected.

Before this was set up someone had to be at the Hall of Nations to answer the phone or the call would be recorded on the office answering machine and someone had to go in to find out who had called and who they were trying to reach. Then it was necessary to notify the intended recipient and give them the name and number so they could return the call.

As you can see it is critical that all the information in the HPR Directory be accurate so that the calls go to the correct person. When the 2012 HPR Directory comes out I need everyone to notify me by email of any changes or corrections ASAP so I can get them implemented right away.

I plan to suggest that everyone update me with the changes for 2013 by email as soon as they complete their elections in 2012. Then I can get the changes implemented and put in place so they will be active on January 1, 2013.

I also plan to implement as quickly as possible another part of the system that is included in the current price. We can set up the phone number on the website so you will need only to click on the phone number listed on the website and it will automatically dial the number and connect you. (That is if you are using a device that can dial the number from the internet and has sound output and audio input enabled).

I hope this explanation helps. The system has a lot more capabilities but this is all we are using at present. Most of the other services have some additional charges associated with them. One capability is to send out a "marketing type email" to everyone. Which is a very good capability for getting our short notice changes to all our members, not just the presidents. It also saves the presidents a lot of work since they are not the only ones receiving such notices.

Melvin Weekley      [mlweekle@cox.net](mailto:mlweekle@cox.net)

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# COLLEGE OF PIPING CALIFORNIA SUMMER SCHOOL OF PIPING AND DRUMMING



JUNE 15TH TO THE 22ND, 2012

AT THE ARMY AND NAVY ACADEMY  
CARLSBAD, CALIFORNIA



SMALL CLASSES • BEGINNING PÌOBAIREACHD  
ADVANCED PÌOBAIREACHD • INSTRUCTOR RECITALS  
PUB NIGHT • NIGHTLY LECTURES • BAND WORKSHOPS



Dugald MacNeill

A fine former competitive piper and a very experienced teacher. Principal of the College of Piping, Glasgow.



P/M Bruce Hitchings MBE, BEM

Formerly the assistant director of the Army School of Bagpipe Music and Highland Drumming, Edinburgh Castle. Director of the Las Vegas International Tango.



D/S Andrew Hoinacki

Gold Medalist in drumming. Nationally renown judge and instructor. Former lead stroke for the U.S. Scots Grade 1.



Robert Watt

A former member of Field Marshall Montgomery and a world renowned professional solo composer as well as a piping teacher.



Aaron Shaw

One of California's top professional pipers, who won the 1998 Strachan Cup in London. An excellent instructor who is back by popular demand. Piper in the Wicked Thinkers.



P/M Iain Macey

Winner of many competitions both at home and abroad. He was Pipe Major to the Sultan of Oman's Air Force and Pipe Major of RAF Halton Voluntary Pipes and Drums. He now lives in Texas and teaches.

VISIT WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION, FEES AND REGISTRATION  
[WWW.BAGPIPESUMMERSCHOOL.COM](http://WWW.BAGPIPESUMMERSCHOOL.COM) | JOHN KEYS (760) 271-4823

Kern County Scottish Society presents  
17th Annual

# SCOTTISH GAMES

and Gathering  
April 21, 2012  
Kern County Museum



**NEW  
LOCATION**

9AM to 5PM  
Heavy Athletics  
Live Music Stages  
Food and Beverages  
Scottish Dancing  
Children's Glen  
Clan Tents  
Genealogy  
Expanded Vendors

### Wicked Tinkers

- Banshee in the Kitchen • Molly's Revenge
- California Celts • WTL • Scottish Fiddlers of LA
- Wrenwood in the Tea Room



The Wicked Tinkers



Banshee in the Kitchen



Molly's Revenge



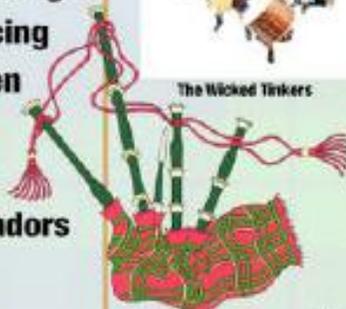
California Celts



World's Tallest Laprochann



Scottish Fiddlers of LA



Ceilidh requires separate ticket purchase or combo purchase

**CEILIDH \$15**  
**Celtic Music Party**

6PM to 10PM

**\$15** General Admission **\$12** seniors 60+, military, students

Children under 10 free

**\$25** combo ticket, includes games and Ceilidh

Tickets available at World Records and [www.kernscot.org](http://www.kernscot.org) w/Pay Pal

