



# NEWS FROM THE HOUSE of SCOTLAND

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

Balboa Park, San Diego, California 92101

August, 2012

## Highlights from the June Meeting:

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Knight at 11:30 A.M. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**July celebrations:** Sharon Maxton admits to having a birthday on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of July. (A check of last year's minutes shows that Richard Pillsbury celebrates his birthday on July 14.) Gwenda and Marty Measel's actual 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary is today, July 8.

**Thoughts and prayers:** A moment's silence was observed for those members of our military who are serving in harm's way.

**Pipe Band Report:** Dennis Rogers, who is a new member of the Pipe band, gave the band report. The band took third place in the Saturday quick march medley Grade IV competition. The band did not compete on Sunday because they are still working on new music. Dane Chambers, Andrew Hahn, and Jeff Hahn all won solo piping awards. Dennis reports that the band was a big hit when they performed at Hennessey's before the “kitchen piping” competition. He thanked the House of Scotland for helping sell the band's CDs at the Highland Games. He also thanked David McSwain and Peggy Thomas for marching in the Coronado July 4<sup>th</sup> parade with the band. The band is also looking for people to march in the Poway Parade on September 8, 2012.

**HPR Report:** It was reported at a special HPR meeting called for June 28, 2012, Rodney Solenberg, who is acting as HPR's attorney, has reviewed the new use permit from the City of San Diego. The remodeling of the Hall of Nations kitchen will go forward. Five thousand dollars has been paid to the architect and there is still forty one thousand dollars in the remodel fund. The construction permits have been obtained and bids on the project will be obtained. The automatic

electronic defibrillator in the Hall of Nations is now in working order. It was suggested that if there were ever a need to use this device, a call should first be made to 911 before going to the Hall for the defibrillator. The House of Denmark is hosting the July Lady's Auxiliary Luncheon. The House of Scotland is scheduled to host the luncheon on September 12, 2012. Both Cherie McGruer and Sharon Maxton will be out of town on that date. Volunteers are needed to organize and host the luncheon. Arya has volunteered the use of the House of Iran kitchen for that date in the event that the Hall kitchen is unavailable.

**Old Business:** President Steve Knight moderates.

**Hosting:** Heather Wilson reports that she needs people to host in the cottage on August 19 and August 26. If you can assist, please contact Heather.

**Upcoming Events:** Our outing to see the movie “Brave” and have lunch at Applebee's is Saturday, July 14. The movie will be shown beginning at 9:30 A.M. at Regal Parkway Plaza 18 Theater. The theater is located at 405 Parkway Plaza in El Cajon. Courtney Wilson has arraigned for a portion of the money spent on food at Applebee's to be donated to House of Scotland by Applebee's. Tickets can be purchased the morning of the movie but please let Courtney know how many people are attending. Courtney is also going to let other cottages know that they can join us for the movie and lunch.

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

**Housekeeping:** James Logan reports that City of San Diego has geraniums available for landscaping. James has outlined our garden area with rocks that he purchased. He will also be installing cement pavers in front of our storage shed. That should discourage the park people

from using the area for sleeping and other purposes. James reports that he has had to clean up after those "other purposes." The members of the House of Scotland approved reimbursing James for the cost of the rocks and pavers. Graham McGruer will look into obtaining and installing a motion activated light to further discourage people from using the area around the storage shed.

**New TV:** Courtney reports that the new Sony TV with built in Blu-Ray/DVD player will be available at the end of July.

**Pub Crawl:** The pub crawl has been put on hold for the time being.

**Highland Game:** Thanks to Don Stewart, Nancy Ross, Jessie McGhee, Susan Self and Kim Miller who helped on Saturday. Thanks to Nancy Ross, Holly Stewart (and Seamus), Mike Stewart, Susan & Steve Knight, and Richard Pillsbury, who all worked on Sunday. Other House members who stopped by to visit included Kathy Kough, David McSwain, Doris Greeson and Jim Scrimgeour. And to Virginia Anderson and Courtney and Heather Wilson, who had volunteered but were unable to attend, we missed you.

**Other Old Business:** The proposal that Maureen Bennett be made a "life member" of the House of Scotland, which had been tabled at the June meeting, was approved the House members. Maureen will no longer be required to pay dues for her membership. President Steve Knight reports that La Jolla Country Day School will be having a field day in Balboa Park on Monday, August 27, 2012.

**New Business:** President Steve Knight moderates

**New Members: New Members:** Victoria and Willie Freiheit, who are friends of Cherie and Graham McGruer, were attending their first meeting as prospecting new members. Victoria says that she can talk you ear off about her recent trip to Scotland.

**Other New Business:** Jessie McGhee thanked the House members for letting a photo of her Scottish family grace the mantle in the cottage.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 P.M.  
Respectfully submitted

Dianne Schultz, Secretary



## Upcoming Events

**August 12** 11:30 HOS Monthly Meeting

**August 19** 2:00 p.m. North County Scots Annual General Meeting Brengle Terrace Park, 1200 Vale Terrace Drive. Vista. Ca. 92084  
For more information call 760-758-8096

**August 27-** La Jolla Country Day School will be having a field day - need volunteers

**September 8** @ 9:00 a.m. Pipe Band presenting at the Poway Day Parade \*\*HOS members welcome to march with band

**September 9** 11:30 HOS Monthly Meeting

**September 12** 12:30 HOS Hosting Ladies Auxiliary Luncheon - need volunteers

**September 30** 3:00 p.m. San Diego Scottish Highland Games General Annual Meeting will be held at Hennessey's Vista, CA

**October 14** 11:30 HOS Monthly Meeting

**October 13 & 14** Seaside Highland Games

**October 28** 11 - 4 HOS Lawn Program

## Hosting

Aug 12 Melissa and Andrew Keith

Aug 19 Cherie and Graham McGruer

Aug 26 **OPEN**

Sept 2 Gwenda Measel and James Scrimgeour

Sept 9 John and Kristi Keith

Sept 16 **OPEN**

Sept 23 **OPEN**

Sept 30 **OPEN**

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

## SCOTTISH DANCING

### Scottish Country Dancing San Diego, beginner class series

Details TBA



Do you love Scottish Music? Does the sound of bagpipes stir your blood? Do you want to learn how to dance to the music you love? Then come learn Scottish Country Dancing!

Scottish Country Dancing is related to Square Dancing, Contra Dancing, and English Country Dancing, and is done in sets of three or four couples. It's a great way to meet new people, get some exercise, and enjoy wonderful music in a friendly, social dance atmosphere!

Although kilts are welcome, our weekly classes are casual, and require only soft-soled, low-heeled shoes and the enthusiasm to learn, have fun, and get some great exercise in a friendly, social dance environment. No partner or experience is necessary.

**Our Friday night beginner class series begins October 2<sup>nd</sup> in Balboa Park at Casa Del Prado Room 203 at 7:15. We also have Tuesday night class in Poway.**

**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

## Hearth of the Kitchen

### Orange Salmon with Sauteed Spinach

#### **Ingredients:**

4 salmon fillets (4 oz ea)  
¼ tsp plus 1/8 tsp pepper, divided  
¼ tsp salt, divided  
½ cup orange marmalade spreadable fruit  
2 Tbsp half & half cream  
2 Tbsp reduced-sodium soy sauce  
1 Tbsp minced fresh gingerroot

4 ½ tsp plus 1 Tbsp reduced-fat butter, divided  
2 garlic cloves, minced  
1 Tbsp olive oil  
1 pkg (6 oz) fresh baby spinach

#### **Method:**

1 Sprinkle salmon with ¼ tsp pepper and 1/8 tsp salt; set aside.  
2 In a small saucepan, combine the marmalade, cream, soy sauce, ginger and 4 ½ tsp butter. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, until slightly thickened, about 5 minutes; set aside.  
3 Moisten a paper towel with cooking oil; using long-handled tongs, light coat the grill rack. Grill, covered, over medium heat or broil 4 in. from the heat for 10-12 minutes or until fish flakes easily with a fork.  
4 In a large skillet, saute garlic in oil and remaining butter for 1 minute. Add the spinach and remaining salt and pepper; cook for 4-5 minutes or until wilted. Divide spinach among 4 plates; top each with salmon. Drizzle with marmalade sauce.

Prep/total time: 30 min. Yield: 4 servings

*Nutrition facts: 1 fillet with ¼ cup spinach mixture and 2 Tbsp sauce = 346 calories, 19 g fat (5 g saturated fat), 70 mg cholesterol, 604 mg*

*sodium, 24 g carbohydrate, 1 g fiber, 21 g protein. Diabetic exchanges: 3 lean meat, 2 fat, 1 ½ starch, 1 vegetable.*

From: *Taste of Home, Healthy Cooking*, June/July 2012

## HISTORY TIP BITS:

### Scottish fact of the day: Massacre of Glencoe

Published on **Tuesday 7 August 2012 15:25**

GLENCOE, one of Scotland's most visited tourist destinations, is revered by visitors and locals alike as one of Scotland's most beautiful regions. It was also the scene of one of Scottish history's most brutal and murderous episodes.

In 1692, 38 of the MacDonald clan were murdered by soldiers sent by King William of Orange via Sir John Dalrymple, the Secretary of

State, who played a pivotal part in engineering what history now calls the Massacre of Glencoe.

The massacre had come about against a backdrop of simmering tension between the ruling William and the Highland clans, all of whom had previously professed loyalty to the deposed King James Stuart.

To stave off rebellion and outright civil war - especially with the prospect of the French joining forces with the Highlanders - William bribed Highland clan chiefs to buy their loyalty, but this had little discernable effect.

In 1691, William's tactics to get the Highland clans onside took a far more aggressive turn. He ordered the chiefs to take an oath of allegiance to William by 1 January 1692. Failure to do so would result in any clan not signing the treaty being treated as outlaws, and the repossession of their land by the Government.

All chiefs had taken the oath in time except Alexander MacDonald, chief of the MacDonald clan. He rode to Fort William to take the oath, but was turned back and told that the nearest place that the oath would be received was Inveraray. The treacherous conditions of the route, coupled with MacDonald's frailty in old age, meant that the trip took much longer than he had anticipated. He arrived five days after the deadline, and eventually took the oath, and was told that it would be accepted despite his late arrival.

At this point, Dalrymple, a Lowlander who was contemptuous of the clans - the MacDonalds especially - sought to make an example of the MacDonalds, and made William sign what was known as a 'Letter of Fire and Sword' - essentially, an executive order to kill or take prisoner the subject or subjects of the letter - withholding the fact that MacDonald had in fact signed the oath.

Soldiers numbering 120 were then dispatched to Glencoe to carry out the order, many of whom were Highlanders, and some of whom belonged

to the Campbell clan, sworn enemies of the MacDonalds. The MacDonalds accepted the soldiers as guests, and the soldiers lived amiably among the clan for around a fortnight.

Early one morning, officers gave the order to slay every single MacDonald, but the dark winter morning gave shelter to escaping MacDonalds who scattered after the chief and his wife were among the first of the 38 to be murdered.

Rather than emasculating the clans, the incident made William's enemies all the more bitter towards him. Dalrymple's deception had certainly exacerbated matters for William, who had not intended the order to be carried out in such a brutal fashion.

• Excerpts taken from *A Short History of Scotland* by Peter Hume Brown, published by Hard Press. [Available to buy from Waterstones.com](http://www.waterstones.com)

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## IT'S ABOUT TIME:

### Irish lose their friendliest nation title...to the Scots

Wednesday, 13 June 2012



Not so friendly any more

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The world's friendliest people, the Irish, are no longer the world's friendliest people after a survey revealed that the Scottish are more friendly.

"We have been sending the Scottish people on a friendliness course," said Hamish Bacon, Scottish Friendly Minister. "For a lot of Scots this has been part of their work in one of the many call centres, but for others, it's just to make them more friendly."

These Friendliness Courses, have been running every day for the past two years, and slowly they are working.

We have given council staff, such as traffic wardens, powers to send people on a Happiness Course," said Bacon. "Of course, all the traffic wardens have already been on it, and are friendly and happy."

"It's been noticeable," said Lucy Vowels. "When I go in for me fish and chips on a Friday, the staff are all so nice now. They used to be grumpy. Now they are happy. I just thought it was a change of dwarf."

All across Scotland, as people get more friendly, tourists are being friendly back.

"I really liked Scotland," said one American visitor. "I'd been told that London was quite unfriendly, but it wasn't! I found it very friendly, especially that Borough of Edin."

There are still some people to reach with the hand of friendship.

"It's a bloody liberty," said Jack McJack. "I wanna stay bloody miserable. Who are they to tell me I should be happy? Eh? Although, if they let me be miserable, that's going to make me happy, the buggers, they got me if I do or if I don't."

Additionally, the Irish are said not to be happy about it.

Make [IainB's](#) day - give this story five thumbs-up (there's no need to register, the thumbs are just down there!)

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**Well HOS members of old – here is a very well known passage of the bible – I showed this to some friends and I really got a laugh at them attempting to say it out loud:**

### **23rd Psalm in Broad Scots ©**

by John Moir  
Banchory, Scotland

Wha' is my shepherd weel I ken  
The Lord himsel' is he:  
He leads me whaur the girse is green  
An' burnies quiet that be.

Aft times I fain astray wad gang  
An wann'r far awa':  
He fin's me oot, he pits me richt  
An' brings me hame an' a'.

Tho I pass through the gruesome cleuch  
Fin' I ken He is near:  
His muckle crook will me defen'  
Sae I ha'e nocht to fear.

Ilk comfort whilk a sheep could need  
His thoughtfu' care provides:  
Tho' wolves an' dogs may prowel about  
In safety me He hides.

His guidness an' his mercy baith  
Nae doot will bide wi' He -  
While fallded on the fields o' time  
Or o' eternity.

#### **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

