



Montreat Scottish Society Newsletter

Spring 2004
Vol. 15 No. 1

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Published by the
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Memorial Weekend Activities

Annual Meeting & Kirkin'

The Society's annual meeting will be held at noon on Saturday, May 29th, in Montreat to elect officers for those terms expiring in 2004.

On Sunday, May 30th, at 11 am the 23rd Kirkin' o' the Tartan service will be held in Anderson Auditorium.

The Reverend Dr. Pete Peery, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Asheville will be the preacher.

The Montreat Scottish Pipe Band will give a concert on the

Auditorium lawn at 10:15 am and will lead the procession of about 100 tartan banners into the sanctuary to open the service.

At present there are 114 tartans in the Montreat Scottish Society's collection. Those that donated the banners will be invited to carry them. However, we always need volunteers to assist in carrying tartans in the Kirkin'.

Montreat Scottish Society Chaplain, the Rev. Stratton Peacock is chairing this year's program.



Montreat Scottish Society Gala Attracts A Sold-Out Crowd

Members of the Montreat Scottish Society gathered on Saturday, March 27, 2004, at the Biltmore Forest Country Club for the second Annual Scottish Gala. (See photos on pages 4-5)

Hosted by society and club member David Cogburn and chaired by Bill McCaskill, the black-tie or formal Scottish attire evening featured a reception, welcoming pipers at the country club, a gourmet dinner and entertaining presentations.

"Because of a sold-out situation," Bill McCaskill noted, "we are making the following changes for next year:

1. When the invi-

tation is mailed in the fall describing the 2005 Scottish Gala plans, it will only be sent to those MSS members who are current and have paid their 2004 dues as of September 1st.

2. You will only be able to make reservations for current members. If you would like to bring some non-member guests, then we will start a waiting list with those guests' names. If we have accommodated all of our members, then we will start contacting the guests waiting list.

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At the Scottish Gala, Pipe Major Joe Bailey, Bill and Susanne McCaskill & MSS President Jack McCaskill



2004 Robbie Burns Tea

Saturday, Feb. 7th, was a perfect day to celebrate the 245th birthday of famed Scottish poet Robert (Robbie) Burns at Bill & Susanne McCaskill's home. Snow held off as the Montreat Scottish Society joined Scots worldwide in celebrating the man who brought the world poems and songs, such as *Auld Lang Syne*, *The Selkirk Grace*, *Tam O'Shanter* and, of course, the famous (or infamous) *Address to the Haggis*.

From the first celebration in 1800 of 9 men in Scotland, annual Burns gatherings now are held from Edinburgh to Fiji to Montreat.

About 100 attended the 11th Annual Montreat Robbie Burns Tea, which is free to all. Full dress kilts and tartan plaid skirts were a fashion and heritage statement, as Joe Bailey played the pipes and Brown McCallum addressed the Haggis. The mid-afternoon function featured many appetizers, shortbread, Dundee cake and other delectables.

"The success of the afternoon was the result of the enthusiastic help of many volunteers." noted Tea Chair Ann Vinson. "My thanks to all who helped with food preparation, decorating, serving, clean up — Larry Glenn, Per and Marjorie Reich, Tommy Hay, Lynda McCarty, Diane Claybrook, Maryalice & Bob Ramsey, Charlotte & Calvin Chestnutt, Emmy Lou Legerton, Nancy Mulford, Bob & Margaret Moffatt, Stratton Peacock, Garlene Johnson, Katherine Field, Herb & Alice Smith, Barbara Sneed, Martha Chasteen, Righton McCallum, Bill and Susanne McCaskill, Alice Starkey, Susan Neville, Shirley and Charlie Mitchell, Carol Cauthen, John and Ann Craven, Jim Crook, Lenoir Tucker and Ron Vinson."

Pictured top (l to r) is Betty Tilley, Bob Ramsey and John Dall; the middle picture shows Ruth Obolensky being served by Maryalice Ramsey, with Dave Lloyd in the background; while the two pictures at right show Ruth and George Obolensky, Bill and Susanne McCaskill, John Dall, Bob Ramsey and Flora MacDonald Gammon.



May/June Dates in Scottish History — Or What Do Sherlock Holmes, TV, Mary Queen of Scots, Mellow Yellow & Captain Kidd Have In Common?

May

- 1 On this day in 1707, the Act of Union between Scotland and England came into force. Scottish church bells played the tune "Why am I so Sad on my Wedding Day?"
- 2 In 1779, John Galt, Scottish novelist, was born. As well as writing the first biography of his acquaintance, Lord Byron, Galt's main achievement lies in his thirteen innovative and entertaining novels — *Tales of the West* — giving a complete picture of Scottish life from about 1760 to 1820.
In 1568, Mary, Queen of Scots, escaped from Loch Leven castle and revoked her abdication.
- 6 In 1999 saw the election of the first Scottish Parliament since 1707.
- 7 In 1711, David Hume, Scottish philosopher, historian, economist and author, was born. Hume is one of the most significant figures of the Scottish Enlightenment, and is still considered among the greatest philosophers of all time.
- 10 In 1946, Scottish pop and folk singer-songwriter Donovan was born. Born Donovan Leitch, his hits include "Mellow Yellow" and "Sunshine Superman."
- 13 On this day in 1568 at the Battle of Langside, Mary, Queen of Scots, was finally defeated in her attempt to regain the throne from her son, James VI, and his supporters. Mary fled to England and was imprisoned until her execution in 1587.
- 22 In 1859 in Edinburgh, (Sir) Arthur Conan Doyle, who invented the detective Sherlock Holmes, was born.
- 23 In 1701, Captain William Kidd, the notorious Scottish pirate, was executed. Probably born in Dundee (about 1645), Kidd became one of the best known pirates of his age. Commissioned by King William III to attack pirates in the Indian Ocean, but secretly allowed to attack French merchantmen, Kidd was disowned by the government at his trial.
- 26 In 1652, the last Royalist stronghold — Dunnottar Castle in eastern Scotland — surrenders. Although the castle fell, the defenders smuggled out the Crown Jewels of Scotland to nearby Kinneff Church. On May 26, 1819, the Honours of Scotland (Crown Jewels) were displayed in Edinburgh Castle after their rediscovery from their 1707 burial place.

June

- 1 In 1872 James Gordon Bennett, the Scottish-born American journalist, died. Founding editor (May 1835) of the 'New York Herald', Bennet built the largest circulation paper and the first regularly print financial articles on Wall St.
- 5 In 1723, the father of economics, Adam Smith, was born in Kirkcaldy. Author of the pioneering work, 'An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of The Wealth of Nations'.
- 7 In 1329, Robert the Bruce died at Cardross Castle in Dunbartonshire.
- 10 In 1688, James Edward Stuart, "the Old Pretender," was born. Son of King James VII and father of Charles Edward Stuart, "Bonnie Prince Charlie," James failed to regain the throne for the Stuarts.
- 11 In 1939, Formula One champion, Jackie Stewart, was born in Dunbartonshire. The winner of 27 Grand Prix and World Champion three times, Stewart remains one of the greatest drivers in the history of the sport.
- 14 In 1946, Scottish inventor, John Logie Baird, died. Baird is remembered as the inventor of television.
- 19 In 1566, King James VI was born. The only son of Mary, Queen of Scots, and Lord Darnley, James acceded to the throne at the age of one, after his mother was forced to abdicate.
- 24 In 1314, the Scottish army, under Robert Bruce, defeated a far larger English army at the Battle of Bannockburn.
- 26 In 1824, William Thomson, Lord Kelvin, was born. He devised the Kelvin, or Absolute, scale of temperature.
- 28 In 1746, Flora MacDonald and Bonnie Prince Charlie set sail to Skye. After Culloden, the Prince had a high price on his head. Flora helped him escape to Skye and then to France. Flora was arrested and put in the Tower. Released a few years later, she emigrated to North Carolina, but later returned to Skye, where she died in 1790.

Scottish Gala Changes

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3. Payment for the Gala & 2005 dues must also be completed by the deadline. With these procedures, we hope to accommodate all members that would like to attend."

See photo album of Gala on pages 4 & 5

Pipes In The Glen

A music compact disc of the Montreat Scottish Pipes & Drums band features CDs cost \$15 each, plus \$1.50 in handling & postage.

You may purchase copies from Joe Bailey, PO Box 241, Flat Rock, NC 28731 by making a check out to: Montreat Scottish Pipes & Drums.

A few copies of the CD also may be purchased from Bill McCaskill at Montreat Scottish Society, PO Box 414, Montreat, NC 28757. Make these checks out to: Montreat Scottish Society.

2004 Montreat Scottish Gala — Picture Album

From the parade of pipers to the Presentation of the Haggis, from national anthems and Scottish songs to a wee bit of history, the 2004 Montreat Scottish Society Gala was a sold-out, entertaining event for 150 attendees at the Biltmore Forest Country Club.



Pipe Major Joe Bailey of the Montreat Scottish Pipes & Drums led the band into the Biltmore Forest Country Club (upper right), and then led the Presentation of the Haggis (upper left). John Dall delivered the Address to the Haggis (above left). The audience joined in singing God Bless America, God Save the Queen and a singing toast to the ladies present (above right). At right, Gala organizers Bill and Susanne McCaskill (left to right) and Gala hosts Gay and David Cogburn.



2004 Montreat Scottish Gala — Picture Album



The clans gathered on the veranda of the Biltmore Forest Country Club prior to the dinner (top and above left).

Among the participants in the program were: Herb Smith toasting the President of the United States (above right), Bob Neil toasting the Queen (below middle) and guest speaker Flora MacDonald Gammon (below right).



2004 Calendar

May 29

Annual Meeting/Montreat Scottish Society

May 30

Kirkin' o' the Tartan at Montreat

July 3 (Saturday)

Independence Day Parade in Montreat

July 10 -11

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

September 26

Kirkin' Marion First Presbyterian Church

Dues Reminder

We cordially invite all who love Scottish traditions and heritage to join.

The annual suggested minimum donations for the Montreat Scottish Society (MSS) are:

★ \$15 for an individual or

★ \$25 a couple.

To figure out whether you are up-to-date in your membership, look at the your address label below.

Numbers indicate the year through which you have paid. For example, 04 means your dues are paid through this year.

Some receive the newsletter on a temporary basis — these are denoted by T3 (temporary circulation list of 2003). Anyone with a T3 needs to join to continue receiving the newsletter.

Complimentary copies of the newsletter are denoted by the letter C.

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