



Montreat Scottish Society Newsletter

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PO Box 414
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Ron Vinson
Editor

www.montreatscottish.org

Memorial Weekend Activities

Kirkin' o' the Tartans & the MSS Annual Meeting & Elections

The Montreat Scottish Society will hold its 24th annual Kirkin' o' the Tartan on Sunday, May 29th, at 11 a.m. in Anderson Auditorium, Montreat. Nearly 2,000 people attend this annual event — one of the largest Kirkins in the U.S.

The Rev. James Wood, founder of the Wears Valley Ranch for children in Sevierville, TN, will be the guest minister at the service.

In the U.S., the Kirkin' service originated with Peter Marshall.

Legend is that that when the tartan was banned in 1745, clansmen would bring a small concealed tartan to the Kirk (church) for a annual blessing. Today, Kirkins are a time for wearing family tartans to church.

The Montreat Scottish Pipe & Drum Band will play a Pipin' on the Green, prior to the service, beginning around 10:15 a.m.

Individuals wishing to carry a tartan banner during the service must arrive at Anderson Auditorium by 10:15 a.m. to claim a banner. No banners are being reserved this year for specific individuals or donors. The Society has more than 130 tartan banners.

The offering from the service is donated, after expenses, to the Montreat Conference Center for its various projects.



The opening of the 2004 Kirkin' held at Anderson Auditorium, Montreat.

Annual Meeting

Also on Memorial Day Weekend, the Society will hold its annual meeting and luncheon buffet on Saturday, May 28, at noon in the Howerton Dining Room. Featuring bar-b-que, the luncheon donation costs are \$3 for adults and \$1 for children. Please return the card enclosed with this newsletter if you are planning on attending, so we can get a

count. This year, Montreat Scottish Society members will select a President-elect, Secretary, Treasurer and two board members.

Email?

If you wish to receive the newsletter or other notices by email from the Montreat Scottish Society, you need to send an email with "MSS mailing list" in the subject line to Ron Vinson. Indicate whether you want the newsletter and/or notices. Thank you. The email address is —
vinson@solutionscompanies.com

February 18, 2005

Dear Bob and Kitty,
Bob, in your role as President of the Montreat Scottish Society, I wish to express our deep appreciation for the Society's support of the Kiev Youth Orchestra and Chorus' concert on Monday. This support, as it is turning out, will make it possible for us to reach our goal of contributing a total of \$4,000.00 to the KYOC, since they did not require this figure as a guarantee. We were also able to bless them with an offering of \$1,342.30, and the amount of merchandise sold was \$1,500 over what they hoped for.

Yours in Christ,
Carter Blaisdell, Chair Kiev Concert Committee
Montreat College, Friends of Music

2005 Robbie Burns Tea Attracts More Than 125 Members & Guests

More than 125 members and guests attended the free Robbie Burns Tea on Saturday, February 5, 2005, at the home of Bill and Susanne McCaskill in Montreat. The tea featured hors d'oeuvres, desserts and the omnipresent Address to the Haggis.

Ann Vinson chaired the event. Food preparers included: Larry Glenn, Per and Marjorie Reich, Diane Claybrook, Charlotte & Calvin Chesnutt, Emmy Lou Legerton, Nancy Mulford, Margaret Moffatt, Lila Ray, Anne Straughan, Lenoir Tucker, Barbara Sneed, Debbie Dunham and Susanne McCaskill.

Tea and haggis servers were Jean Crook, Margaret & Bob Moffatt, Wanda & George Barber, David & Gay Cogburn, Karen Strubble and Ron Vinson.

Other help that we can't live without were Alice Starkey, Susan Neville, Ann Craven and Carol Cauthen.

Brown McCallum gave the Address to the Haggis and Martha Chasteen played the piano.



MSS President Bob Neil (shown at top right) with Charlotte Chesnutt and Judy Shuford.

Middle photos show (left to right) Susanne McCaskill, Lila Ray and Gay Fox.; plus Martha Chasteen, who provided musical entertainment.

Kitchen helpers at the tea included (left to right): Ann Craven, Susan Neville, Tommy Hay, Alice Starkey, Ann Vinson, Carol Cauthen and Ron Vinson.



Sell-out 2005 Scottish Gala

Another full crowd gathered at the Asheville Country Club on Saturday, March 12th, for the third annual Montreat Scottish Gala.

Keynote speaker Alexander "Sandy" Stoddart, one of the world's leading neo-classical sculptors, entertained the Gala with wide-ranging and funny observations on Scotland. His travel was sponsored by MSS members Dr. Dan & Anne Ervin of Florence, SC.

The formal Scottish attire or black-tie event was chaired by MSS Founders Bill and Susanne McCaskill. Asheville CC and MSS member Dr. & Mrs. Colin Hudson made the facilities available for the gathering.



Clockwise from top: Will Wharton, Andi Eginton, Elisabeth Wharton, Dan Eginton; Sandy Stoddart with sculpture; Pipe Major Joe Bailey & Sandy Stoddart giving the Address to the Haggis; some of the crowd; Jean Crook, David Cogburn and Barbara Sneed; center photo: Bill & Susanne McCaskill flanking Asheville CC manager Fran Carpenter.



2005 Calendar

May 28 (Saturday)

Annual Meeting/Montreat Scottish Society
Noon — Howerton Hall, Montreat College

May 29 (Sunday)

Kirkin' o' the Tartan at Montreat,
Anderson Auditorium
10:15 am - Pipin' o' the Green
11:00 am - Kirkin' Service

July 4 (Monday)

Independence Day Parade in Montreat

July 7 - 10 (Thursday - Sunday)

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games; come visit the two Montreat Scottish Society tents; use it for your headquarters while at the games.

September/October — Saturday, TBD

1st Annual MSS Golf Outing — details to be discussed at the annual meeting. We are planning on a golf outing on a Saturday afternoon, and a social gathering that evening for golfers and non-golfers. It won't be played on St. Andrews, but at least it will be the ancient and honourable game!



Dues

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 family.

We are accepting 2005 dues. To figure out whether you are up-to-date in your membership, look at the your address label below. For example, 04 means your dues are paid through this year.



Mass band parade of pipes & drums at the 2004 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.

SCOTS Summer Dinner/Dance

The Scottish Clans of the South will hold its first annual **Summer Dinner Dance** in Hendersonville, NC, on **Saturday, June 25th**.

The Dinner Dance will be held at the Hendersonville Quality Inn & Suites, 201 Sugarloaf Rd., Hendersonville, beginning at 6 p.m. with a cash bar, followed by a buffet dinner at 7 p.m and dancing at 8 p.m. with music from The Madison Horns — one of Western North Carolina's finest dance bands.

The cost for the evening event is \$55 per person, and Scottish attire or other evening wear is appropriate.

Members of the Montreat Scottish Society are cordially invited to the function. Reservations are required by June 17, 2005. To order tickets to the event, call Sue Myers at (828) 693-8526 or email her at sue8526@bellsouth.net

MSS Membership Forms online

Remember, membership forms in the Montreat Scottish Society now can be printed from our web site — www.montreatscottish.org