

SCOT

Scottish Cultural Organization
of the Triangle

newsletter

may 2005

attention golfers!

scottish heritage

It is time to dust off your mashies, cleeks, baffys, niblicks, spoons and brassies. The Mark Johnston SCOT Classic (named in memory of one of last year's SCOT Classic Champion winners) golf event is just around the corner. The course selection committee has chosen "Crooked Creek Golf Club" as the site for this year's prestigious affair. 24 players/slots have been reserved in anticipation of a large gathering. Sign-up now! The pertinent information is as follows:

- Date:** Saturday, June 11, 2005
- Place:** Crooked Creek Golf Club
- Tee Time:** First group off at 11:58 am
- Format:** 4-man Captain's Choice or 2-Man Best Ball (to be decided)
- Contests:** Mark Johnston SCOT Classic Champion Trophy, Closest to Pins, Long Drive, Best Scottish Attire?
- Cost:** \$50.00 for SCOT members, \$55.00 for non-SCOT members, which includes greens fee and carts.
- Attire:** Classic golf attire: collared shirt, golf shoes (spikeless), no jeans. Scottish wear encouraged: plus fours, kilts, etc.

Must sign up prior to June 7.

There is a rumor that a dinner of some sort for all SCOT members (golfers or not) and their guests may follow the tournament. Be on the lookout for details!

Contact: Chuck McDougal
home: 783-7476
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Scottish Heritage USA—SHUSA for short—is a non-profit membership organization in this country that supports the work of the National Trust for Scotland, a private charity dedicated to conserving Scotland's natural, architectural and cultural heritage. And what treasures it has saved during its 70 years of operation! The Trust cares for the very best of Scotland's castles, gardens, open spaces, battlefields and historic sites, in order to keep them open for the public's enjoyment.

Each year, Scottish Heritage USA's Board of Directors adopts a slate of National Trust for Scotland projects to underwrite financially. This year, it will contribute toward updating the interpretation at Scotland's most important battlefield: Culloden.

Since its inception, Scottish Heritage USA has donated more than one million dollars to National Trust for Scotland projects, including the restoration of gardens, the interpretation of various sites and the conservation of the countryside. Scottish Heritage USA has over its 40-year history arranged many student and ranger exchanges, which have enabled the exchange of information and understanding between our two countries.

And it is our members who make it all possible.

As a way to say thank you to our members for their support, the National Trust for Scotland admits all Scottish Heritage USA members into its properties free of charge. If you are going to Scotland, it's a great bonus. Our members also receive a one-year subscription an American-Scottish magazine called, *The Highlander*, in addition to our newsletter and the National Trust for Scotland's official magazine, *Scotland in Trust*.

This year Scottish Heritage USA is organizing a symposium in Savannah, GA, on June 4 and a 10-day tour of Scotland during the last half of September. Everyone is welcome.

For all the details and to learn more about Scottish Heritage USA's work both in the United States and in Scotland, please contact us at 910-295-4448, e-mail us at shusa@pinehurst.net, visit our web site at www.scottishheritageusa.org, or contact: Jacqueline P. Stewart, Scottish Heritage USA, Inc., P.O. Box 457, Pinehurst, NC 28370.

tartan day

With the assistance of members of Clan Hay, Clan Morrison, and the Scottish District Families Association we set up our 6th annual Tartan Day Awareness booth, donated to us by the NC Renaissance Faire, on the weekends of March 26 (cold and windy) and April 2, when the first day we had high winds, drenching rain, and hail, and the second day was sun and breezes.

We displayed several different tartans and flags, information on Scots contributions to the world and explanations of Tartan Day's origins and significance. We had many people who had been to the booth in prior years and had come for specific information and many new people for whom we looked up surnames for possible Scottish affiliation, showed them the tartans they were eligible to wear, clans and associations they might like to seek more information on, and made out cards to be sent to the Council of Scottish Clans and Associations for clan information inquiry.

We also gave out brochures for nearby games such as Loch Norman, Grandfather Mountain and the Triad, SCOT, and St. Andrews College in nearby Laurinburg. With a donation from SCOT, we provided Scottish music on harp and dulcimer, and the NC State Pipes and Drums (always a big crowd gatherer). In addition, the Faire provided time for Scottish Highland and Country Dancing.

Many people have questioned how Scots belong at a Renaissance Faire. This prompted me to do some research on Scots and the Renaissance. The Raleigh Faire centers around Elizabeth I. In fact, Mary, Queen of Scots, has been imprisoned by Elizabeth by this time. King James III of Scotland is noted as bringing the Renaissance movement to the Scottish Court with advancements in the translation of Greek and Latin literature into Scots language, developing an interest in the arts and music, and bringing culture to the Scottish Court. The court of James IV (Mary's grandfather, who married Henry VIII's sister, Margaret Tudor) was in full Renaissance swing when Henry started some of the advancements in his own court in England. However the Renaissance movement in Scotland was disrupted drastically by James' decision to attack England when England declared war on Spain. James and many of his nobles and top clergy were killed at Flodden.

So, yes, Scots, too belong at a Renaissance Faire.

- Judith Lloyd

pipe Band news

The **NCSU Pipes and Drums** and the **City of Oaks Pipe Band** have joined forces to make one strong band for the triangle area. Thanks to the combined wisdom and experience of John Sprague, Director of the NCSU Pipes and Drums, and Bruce Wright, the P/M of the City of Oaks Pipe Band, the merger has gone smoothly, resulting in a renewed energy and optimism amongst all band members. The band is currently divided into three distinct units, a Grade III Band with 15 members, a Grade IV Band with 30 members, and a Beginners Band with 10 members. In addition, there are 8 students in a Chanter Class and 3 students in a Drum Pad Class. New classes will begin on August 23. The band's web page offers more details: www.ncsu.edu/pipesanddrums.

At the Loch Norman Highland Games on April 16, about a dozen of our pipers and drummers entered solo competitions, most making the prize list in their various events. Both the Grade III and Grade IV bands competed. The Grade IV Band won third place. The next band contest will be the Gatlinburg Scottish Festival on May 21.

The January 29 performance on the NCSU campus was canceled due to icy conditions that night. Instead, the band will have an outdoor Summer Solstice Celebration on Tuesday, June 21 on the NCSU campus (unless too many bandsmen are on vacation!). If it's not ice, it's vacations—stay tuned for more information!

BURNS night recap

The 4th Annual Burns Supper held at The Country Squire was a great success, and those who traveled by bus, were having many doubts about making the trip with the impending ice storm looming, but Rabbie must have taken care of things as by the time the evening was over there was no ice and all made the trip home safely.

Many thanks to Carolina Livery Service for all their efforts and our driver David Williams for doing such a great job.

SCOT will be sponsoring a bus again next year and we hope to have it full and perhaps even a larger bus, so keep a look out for the information in your newsletter towards the end of this year. We already have some new speakers lined up for next year, and if anyone would like to participate in the evening, feel free to contact me at this email: nondo@dockpoint.net.

- Donald Ross

scot invites you to a family ceiliòh



- Come for an evening of music, song, and dance—where audience participation is encouraged!
- Enjoy Scottish highland and country dancing.
- Sing along, listen, or dance to dulcimer and fiddle music.
- Take part in skits and lots of impromptu entertainment.

Join us on **Saturday, May 21**, 7:00—10:00 pm
at the Triangle Dance Studio
2603 South Miami Blvd.

Admission: \$5.00 per person,
plus a dessert or snack to share.
(\$3.00 for SCOT members; Under 18—Free)

Soft drinks will be provided,
or bring your own beverage.

For more info call Carolyn Graf, 846-1176
or Cheryl Jones, 851-3956

the water of life

What could be better than friends? Friends with a common interest? Add some hors d'oeuvres? Need some music? OK, a little libation, too?

On a cold February Saturday, 45 SCOT enthusiasts gathered to celebrate and enjoy some fine single malt whisky. Kilts and tartans were everywhere as the crowd gathered around food and drink (provided by Carolyn and Doug Graf with an assist from Cheryl Jones).

Suddenly, the drone of bagpipes (a salute to our piper, Bonnie McPherson) signaled the start of the festivities. The single malts were piped in, and after the piper received her due from the silver quach, the learning began.

SCOT's designated whisky master for the evening, Steve Johnston, introduced us to the miracles of single malts. Each whisky has its own special character due to unique malts, peat, stills, casks, salt air, climate and on and on. The five offerings included:

- Auchentoshen
- Balvenie
- Glenmorangie
- Highland Park
- Laphroaig

Though the whisky was superb, the highlight of the evening was communing with friends: the true water of life (usquebaugh).

- Crawford Crenshaw

4th cary indoor

The SCOT-sponsored 4th Annual Cary Indoor Highland Dance Competition was held on Saturday, April 2 at Cary Academy. Dancers from a five-state region competed in pre-premier competition in the morning and in premier competition in the afternoon. During the intermission, spectators were treated to a fiddling demonstration by local students participating in a SCOT-sponsored Scottish Fiddling Workshop taught by Mara Shea in conjunction with the Cary Indoor competition.

SCOT members volunteered in record numbers to fill all the roles needed to run a smooth day of competition! Volunteers busied themselves with setting up and cleaning up, registration and ticket booths, baking goods and staffing the concession stand, first aid assistance, hosting a used costume sale, and running the competition itself. Out-of-state dancers complimented SCOT members on a well run competition at which the dancers felt welcomed and cared for! One mother of a new primary dancer commented that this was the most wonderful competition to introduce her daughter to highland dancing!

The competition was judged by Ann Milne Armstrong of Ontario, Canada and Sharon Farrar from Los Angeles, California. The judges taught a dance workshop on Sunday along with Betty Lawrence who traveled from Oklahoma to join the fun.

Congratulations to all the dancers and the trophy winners listed below:

Beginners under 11:	Avia Kinard
Beginners 11 & under 13:	Maeve Bracken
Beginners 13 and over:	Elsbeth Berry
Novice under 11:	Mairead Horton
Novice 11 and over:	Allison McKinley
Intermediate under 13:	Claire MacMillan
Intermediate 13 & over:	Kelly Kent
Premier under 12:	Shannon Anfindsen
Premier 12 years:	Tara Mueller
Premier 13 & under 16:	Ania Oddone
Premier 16 & under 18:	Cameron Oddone
Premier 18 & over:	Sandra Kennedy
Most Promising Beginner:	Dominique Koontz
Dancer of the Day:	Shannon Anfindsen



sponsored events 2005

- May 21 **A Family Ceilidh.** Bring your family for an evening of great food & drink, dance, song, and skits. 7-10 pm at Durham's Triangle Dance Studio. Contact Carolyn Graf (846-1176) for info.
- June 11 **Mark Johnston SCOT Classic.** Golf enthusiasts will gather at Crooked Creek Golf Club. \$50 fee for SCOT members. Register with Chuck McDougal (783-7476) before June 7. Dinner may follow the tournament—details to follow.
- July **Afternoon Tea** at the SCOT booth at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.
- August **Annual General Meeting.**
- September **Cary Celtic Festival.** SCOT will sponsor a booth and children's activities.

home away from home

Have you seen our SCOT booth? With its red and gold banner and faux stone battlements, it is a stand out among the clan booths. Please think of it as YOUR spot at the games.

Leave your cooler and use it as a base of operations for the day. We often have refreshments for our members, lots of shade, and plenty of chairs. Come on by! As part of our mission to bring Scottish Culture to the Triangle area, we will set up the SCOT booth at the following games: Loch Norman Highland Games, Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, Triad Highland Games, The Cary Celtic Festival, and Flora MacDonald Highland Games. Come by to say hello and have some refreshments. If you are able to stay a while and tell newcomers about SCOT we'd be glad to have you. If you are interested in being a "boothie" or having the SCOT booth at another venue, please contact Carolyn and Doug Graf at 846-1176.



SCOT

215 SE Maynard Road
Cary, NC 27511
www.scot.us

The Scottish Cultural Organization of the Triangle (S.C.O.T.) is a non-profit organization dedicated to informing and educating the public about the history, culture, and heritage of Scotland and the Scottish people.

Board of Directors:

Crawford Crenshaw
Carolyn Graf
D'Nise Hefner
Patricia Johnston
Cheryl Jones
Leslie Kennedy

Judi Lloyd
Cheryl McDougal
Chuck Mooney
Eugene Oddone
Donald Ross
John Sprague



guinness stew

20 mins. prep; cooking time 3 to 3 1/2 hrs.

INGREDIENTS

- Use canned Guinness, brewed in Dublin. Don't buy the bottles—they are made in Canada with Canadian water. Buy a four pack as you can drink what you don't use. One can should suffice for the stew.
- Some lean beef (I think you call it Beef Round here in the USA)
- 2 -3 onions, chopped.
- 2 large carrots (sliced chunky)
- 1-2 parsnips, sliced (optional, if you like them, they tend to sweeten the mixture and reduce the need for the sugar - see below)
- Two large spoons of brown sugar
- A fistful of plain flour
- Black pepper, herbs, and spices to taste

SPECIAL INGREDIENTS

- A man partial to Guinness who will do what he is told in a kitchen.
- Some Irish music

DIRECTIONS

Get the man partial to Guinness and set him loose in the kitchen with ingredients and the recipe and a CD player with Irish music.

Use two table spoons of olive oil to cook the onions in a large pan on a low heat until they go glazey and translucent. Roll the beef in some plain flour, ground black pepper and, if you like, some dried sage and any other herb or spice that takes your fancy (this is not rocket science). Add the coated meat to the pan and stir it around among the onions until it goes brown. Add half pint of Guinness. Chuck in the carrots (and if you like them, the parsnips).

Put a lid on the pan and simmer on a low heat for 2 and a half hrs to 3 and half hrs or until the meat can be cut easily with a spoon - let the liquid reduce - but don't let it dry out. Add more Guinness as necessary. The liquid should be thick and saucy.

Drink the remaining Guinness. After two hours or so, taste the mixture and add brown sugar to reduce any bitter flavor (you won't need to add so much if you used parsnips).

SERVING OPTIONS

You can even transfer the stew to a casserole dish and cook it in the oven at 400. This could let you walk out to the store to buy more Guinness.

I sometimes get my wife to make a flaky puff pastry crust, and then serve it as a pie.

Serve with spuds (freshly boiled potatoes). Dish with something green, like broccoli.

VEGGIE ALTERNATIVE

Instead of beef, use large mushrooms, and a handful of lentils—and reduce the cooking time by one hour.

- Mick McKenna

uplifting evening of music, dance & song

Alasdair Fraser was everything we hoped for and more. After a year of hard work, SCOT's second major production of Rhythms of Scotland played to a sold out Page Auditorium on the Duke University Campus. Alasdair Fraser and Natalie Haas fresh off their tour of Scotland celebrating their 2004 Scottish Album of the Year joined our Rhythms cast which included the Jo Kalat School of Highland Dance, the Raleigh Scottish Country Dancers, NC State Pipes and Drums, vocalist Jennifer Licko, and narrator Mick McKenna.

The show captured the sentiments of immigration, preservation of cultural traditions, and celebrated reunions. Over 50 SCOT volunteers joined forces to make this show a cultural and financial success. Our

appreciative audience of 1,200 included at least 700 who had not seen our show before. We also received excellent media coverage including full length articles in the Apex, Cary and Durham newspapers, and a 40 minute interview on WUNC's show "The State of Things" hosted by Melinda Penkava (a recording of that interview is available on our website www.scot.us).

Alasdair's comments provided stimulus for our next undertaking. He called our show the future of Scottish Dance saying "one can tell when something special is happening at the top when you observe the joy and dedication shining out of the dancers' faces." A full length video of the show is available. Contact Eugene Oddone: gene.oddone@duke.edu, or 919-401-4403.



We welcome your contributions to this quarterly newsletter! If you have an article, story, artwork, or bit of Scottish lore to share, please submit it to Jane Dunbar (thedunbars@mindspring.com).

S.C.O.T.

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