

# SCOT

Scottish Cultural Organization  
of the Triangle

# newsletter

OCTOBER 2006

## agm recap

The 5th Annual General Meeting for SCOT was held Sunday, August 27 at Greenshields in Cary. We had a total of 62 people and three new members: Susanne Spry, Seth Svoboda, and Susan Barnes. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful dinner, drinks, and a smashing slide show presented by Chuck McDougal, who is this year's recipient of the "Volunteer of the Year" award. We voted on one new board member - Amy Mooney. We thanked Chuck Mooney and Leslie Kennedy for their able service as they rotated off the board. There were lots of wonderful



door prizes given away and of course the famous game that Pat Johnston creates that we have to answer questions about Scottish culture. This year it was centered around Scots in North Carolina. Everyone enjoyed meeting old and new friends and a good time was had by all.



## new BOARD member

Hello, fellow SCOT members. I am Amy Johnston Mooney, married to Chuck Mooney, daughter of Pat and Steve Johnston, and sister of Eric, Wendy, and Mark Johnston. I have been an active member of the Scottish community in the triangle as a Highland dancer since 1980. I am also a highland dance teacher, and a member of Clan Johnston/e in America. In 2004 Chuck and I returned to this area after living in the Northeast for nine years, and were thrilled to rejoin an active community. Before we moved, I always enjoyed local opportunities to listen to good Celtic music or perform as a Highland Dancer. When we returned, we were amazed at the variety of opportunities to join friends and family in celebrating our Scottish heritage. I am honored to join the board that has organized and supported such a variety of events. In my time away from SCOT events, I have two dogs named Molly and Duncan, and I teach Special Education at a middle school in Apex to support my Scottish habit.



That's Amy, 2nd from the left, celebrating her team's win in the annual SCOT AGM challenge!

## international festival

Come join us at the 21st Annual Raleigh International Festival on November 4 and 5 at the State Fairgrounds. Scottish activities have been included in this event since the very first year and this year is no exception. SCOT will host a Cultural Booth as well as a Bazaar Booth which will feature Celtic jewelry, T-shirts, and other items.

The Raleigh Scottish Country Dancers and the School of Scottish Dance will both perform. We would love to have any SCOT members volunteer to help out in either of the booths. As a bonus, you will get free admission to the festival. Contact Pat Johnston at 614-3303 or [patriciatj@aol.com](mailto:patriciatj@aol.com) to volunteer to help with either booth. For more information about the International Festival, check the website at [www.internationalfestival.org](http://www.internationalfestival.org).



**SCOT** sponsored events  
Scottish Cultural Organization  
of the Triangle 2006-2007

- Oct. 6-8 **Flora McDonald Highland Games.** Join us at the SCOT Booth for the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Flora McDonald Highland Games <http://www.capefearscots.com/>. These are our closest games and produce some of our fondest memories. Please help us staff the booth and enjoy the many festivities of the games. For details, contact Carolyn Graff: [CMcDGraf@aol.com](mailto:CMcDGraf@aol.com).
- Nov. 4-5 **International Festival** at Dorton Arena. SCOT will again host a cultural and concession booth. This is a great opportunity to meet other members and prospective members. Please contact Pat Johnston if you would be willing to staff the booth: [PatriciaTJ@aol.com](mailto:PatriciaTJ@aol.com).
- Dec. 16 **Hogmanay** at Exploris. Hogmanay comes early to Raleigh. SCOT will sponsor a day-long Hogmanay event at the Exploris Museum. We were invited to staff a booth, produce a short skit, and provide dancing and piping entertainment for an annual event at Exploris titled "Holidays Around the World." Please come by, or contact Eugene Oddone if you are willing to volunteer: [gene.oddone@duke.edu](mailto:gene.oddone@duke.edu).
- Jan. 27 **Burns Night Dinner** and bus trip to the Country Squire Inn in Kenansville. Come join us for a real Burns Night Dinner. The first 50 SCOT members who sign up will enjoy a lively bus trip from Cary to Kenansville, a wonderful dinner holding to the true traditions of Burns' Night. Sign-up will be available soon, or contact Donald Ross for more details ([nondo@dockpoint.net](mailto:nondo@dockpoint.net)).
- Feb. 17 **"Scotch-Hop"** at Kirk of Kildaire. This will be a family activity where SCOT members can come, in casual clothing, to learn easy and fun "ceilidh" dances. A potluck dinner will be included with SCOT providing the paper products and drinks. SCOT members will be free. Non-SCOT members will be \$5. Contact Amy Mooney for information: [danceramy@aol.com](mailto:danceramy@aol.com).
- Feb. 24 **Whisky Tasting.** Back by popular demand with a new format. Craig Hill will host this event. We will likely be at Greenshields in Cary because of the great job they did with the AGM. For information contact Craig Hill: [chill@rti.org](mailto:chill@rti.org).
- Mar. 17 **St. Patrick's Day Float.** Carolyn Graf and Amy Mooney will work on this together. Carolyn will check to see if it is ok to add SCOT's web address to the sign on the float. She or Amy will contact David Coulter about piping (on the float) for the dancers.
- Mar. 17 **Ceilidh.** Our 4<sup>th</sup> annual event, and one of the most popular and fun events of the year. Contact D'Nise Hefner for more information: [dbhefner@aol.com](mailto:dbhefner@aol.com).
- Mar. 31 **Cary Indoor Highland Dance and Piping Competitions and Fiddle Workshop.** Over 100 dancers from four states competed in last years event and many stayed for a special workshop on Sunday. This year will be even better with our first piping competition. Contact Pat Johnston, [patriciatj@aol.com](mailto:patriciatj@aol.com) (dancing), Ian Dunbar, [iandunbar@mindspring.com](mailto:iandunbar@mindspring.com) (fiddling), and John Sprague, [sprague3@bellsouthnet](mailto:sprague3@bellsouthnet) (piping).
- April **Tartan Day** at the NC Renaissance Faire. Join us for three great weekends at the NC Renaissance Faire to be held on the State Fairgrounds. SCOT will sponsor a variety of performances over the four days (Raleigh Scottish Country Dancers, Scottish Highland Dancing, Pipe Band, and more). This is also a great opportunity for you to volunteer in our booth to meet and greet. Contact Judi Lloyd for more information and to volunteer: [jlloyd@a4healthsystems.com](mailto:jlloyd@a4healthsystems.com).
- May **Mother's Day Tea.** Our second annual tea, and back by popular demand. This was a great event for conversation and sharing of traditions. Natalie Sprague will again host this event: [sprague3@bellsouth.net](mailto:sprague3@bellsouth.net).
- June **Fourth Annual SCOT Mark Johnston Memorial Golf Classic and Pig Pickin.** Dates and site to be determined. Chuck McDougal will again organize and host this popular event: [cherylmcd@nc.rr.com](mailto:cherylmcd@nc.rr.com).
- July **Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.** SCOT will host a booth with afternoon tea.
- August **Annual General Meeting.**

## encore class

Participants in the Encore Program at NC State's McKimmon Center, take note! Last spring, Steve Johnston taught a very successful class on Scottish history and he is back by popular demand. He will be teaching a course called History of Scottish Traditions on Wednesdays at 10 am starting in January. Check the website at [www.ncsu.edu/encore/](http://www.ncsu.edu/encore/) to see exact times, but be forewarned—space may be limited. Steve's class last spring filled up very quickly!

### Other Local Events of Interest:

**Tannahill Weavers (Scottish music): Saturday, October 14, 8:30 p.m.** Scotland's traditional music ambassadors "combine tradition with the spirit and energy of rock 'n' roll into an entertaining and satisfying evening of music, humor and joy" - News & Observer. Part of the 5th annual World Arts Festival's "Island music & culture" focus. \$19, \$17 Carrboro ArtsCenter Friends

**GAELIC Myths and Mayhem: Saturday, October 28,** all day at Regency in Cary. A celebration of Halloween through the ages featuring great Halloween activities and entertainment for the whole family. During the day, a wide variety of kids activities, games, pumpkin carving, costume contests, candy and entertainment. In the evening, we will kick it up a notch with great Celtic bands and spooky happenings.

**A Celtic Holiday: November 24-25.** North Carolina Symphony at Meymandi Concert Hall.



# SCOT

215 SE Maynard Road  
Cary, NC 27511  
[www.scot.us](http://www.scot.us)

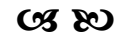
The Scottish Cultural Organization of the Triangle (S.C.O.T.) is a non-profit organization dedicated to informing and educating the public about the history, culture, and heritage of Scotland and the Scottish people.

#### Board of Directors:

Carolyn Graf  
D'Nise Hefner  
Craig Hill  
Patricia Johnston  
Cheryl Jones  
Judi Lloyd

Cheryl McDougal  
Amy Mooney  
Eugene Oddone  
Donald Ross  
John Sprague

## tastes of scotland



### finnan haddie

As a child, I remember my mother making Finnan Haddie. She soaked the dried salted fish in several changes of water before creating the creamed dish that was served over toast. My father loved it. It was too salty and strongly flavored for my young taste. As an adult, I find strong flavors more appealing and discovered that milder Finnan can be found.

Finnan Haddock is named after the hamlet of Findon near Aberdeen where this haddock cure was first practiced. The fish is split open, brined and smoked to pale yellow color. I have found smoked whitefish in local markets but the real thing can also be ordered online from Scotland. The English rice dish, Kedgeree, is made with Finnan Haddock as is the Scottish chowder, Cullen Skink.

If the fish has not been dried, it does not need to be soaked over night. Other smoked or fresh white fish could be used in this basic recipe. As with all traditional recipes, there are many adaptations so please create your own.

4 Tbs all purpose flour  
4 Tbs butter or margarine  
1 cup milk or cream  
White wine, cream, milk, or reserved broth  
1-2 lbs Finnan Haddock (or other white fish)  
2 hard boiled eggs, chopped  
Salt and pepper  
Crispy toast or cooked rice

Place the Haddock in a large pan, cover with cold water, and bring to a boil. Lower heat and simmer 4-5 minutes. Remove the fish with a slotted spoon, flake it into large chunks with a fork and set aside. Reserve broth if desired.

Melt the butter in a large sauté pan. Stir in the flour. Add the milk and continue stirring until mixture thickens. Add cream, wine, or reserved broth to create a creamy sauce. Add the fish and eggs. Season to taste and heat through. Serve over toast or rice for a comforting lunch or supper.

Other recipes and information about obtaining Finnan Haddock can be found at [www.salmonlady.com](http://www.salmonlady.com)

- submitted by Carolyn McDonald Graf

## early hogmanay

The Exploris Museum in downtown Raleigh hosts a series called "Holidays Around the World." This year, SCOT will help Exploris pay tribute to Scotland with a Hogmanay Festival on Saturday, December 16 from 12:00 until 4:00 PM. We will staff a booth and organize performances by Highland and Country Dancers as well as piping. Please join us at the booth and enjoy the afternoon. Please contact Eugene Oddone if you would like to volunteer for this event.

Hogmanay is celebrated on New Year's Eve every year, usually in a most exuberant fashion in Scotland, as hundreds of thousands of revelers take to the streets to welcome the New Year. In the cities of **Glasgow** and **Edinburgh** it has become a huge ticketed festival. Celebrations start in the early evening and reach a crescendo by midnight. Minutes before the start of new year, a lone piper plays, then the bells of Big Ben chime at the turn of midnight, There is lots of kissing, and everyone sings Auld Lang Syne. **Elsewhere in Scotland**, particularly in more remote parts, customary first footing and Scottish dances, or ceilidhs, take place. For centuries, fire ceremonies—torch light processions, fireball swinging and lighting of New Year fires—played an important part in the Hogmanay celebrations, and they still do.

## ncsu pipes & drums

The NCSU Pipes and Drums have proven their versatility in the last few months by performing in a wide variety of venues. In July, the band added to the pageantry of the Special Olympics Equestrian Opening Ceremony at the Hunt Horse Complex at the Fairgrounds. In August, the band was again among horses at the annual Farmers' Day parade in Robbins. Later in August, the band participated in the Triad Highland Games (Greensboro), taking first place in the Grade III competition. In September, the band added an air of excitement to the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church Rally Day service, provided music for a wedding at the NCSU Bell Tower, and entertained at a Chili Cook-Off in Cary.

In October, the band will travel to Red Springs for the Flora Macdonald Highland Games and to Atlanta for the Stone Mountain Scottish Games. In between, the band will join the NCSU Marching Band at the NCSU vs. Wake Forest football game for a combined rendition of Amazing Grace. For a current schedule of band performances, go to [www.ncsu.edu/pipesanddrums](http://www.ncsu.edu/pipesanddrums).



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](mailto:thedunbars@mindspring.com)).

### S.C.O.T.

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