

Great SCOT!

Look what's
going on...

Scottish Cultural Organization of the Triangle

August 2012

Golf Tournament Recap

A cool, crisp dawn set the stage for a day of fantastic golf at Crooked Creek Gold Club in the outskirts of Fuquay Varina, NC. The golfers gathered as Seamus' pipes droned on the 1st tee. The stage was set for an excellent day. 19 players were paired into foursomes (2-3 player teams) and the time was right for the 1st shot of the day. Amy Mooney scorched a worm burner down the left side of the fairway followed by a screamer up the middle by playing partner, Jill Stark. The tournament had begun. Tee shots were sprayed in every direction. Putts were made and putts were missed, badly. Shanks, hooks, sliced shots and on occasion, beautiful shots rained down on the sacred grounds of Crooked Creek. Many bogies, double bogies and a few, very few birdies later, two champions were crowned. Congrats to John Sprague and Michael Friedman (past champions) for winning yet again.

Other distinguishing awards were presented and the winners as follows:

- Youngest Player: Mirren Hill
- Oldest Player: Old man Ross (Donald)
- Most Steps Taken: Jill Stark (over six miles)
- Most Lost Balls: Mike Rodrigues (20+)
- Most Gross (high score): Amy Mooney (in the 100s)
- Most Beers Consumed: 1st - Donald the Ross, 2nd - Scott Bartow (no award, but good try)
- Best Scottish Attire: Nigel Little (Englishman)
- Closest to the Pin: Women - Amy Mooney, Men - Michael Friedman
- Long Drive: Women - Susan Cruikshank, Men - Monte Flowers

The tournament was deemed a success and plans are under way for the 10th Annual SCOT Mark Johnston Golf Classic. John Sprague and partner will have to play left-handed next year...

- Chuck McDougal

Piping News

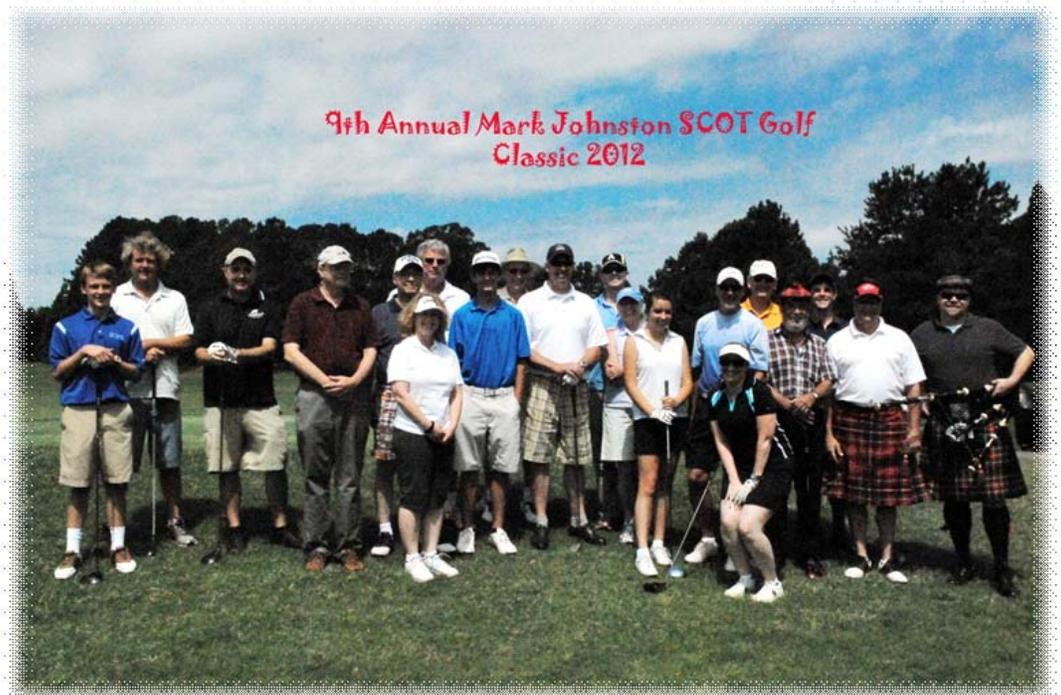
Trophy Won at Smoky Mountain Highland Games

The NCSU Pipes and Drums took first place in bagpipe band competition at the Smoky Mountain Highland Games in Maryville, TN on Sat., May 19. Competing in the March-Strathspey-Reel event in Grade IV, they won in a field of five southern bands. Judges listen for a good attack and cutoff, good expression, tunes played technically correct, and pipes well tuned. Judges were especially impressed with the band's pipe corps and drum corps complimenting one another to create a pleasing ensemble effect. Dr. John Sprague is the Director of the band.

Band Shows Its Versatility

The NCSU Pipes and Drums not only succeed in competition, but can also march up golf course fairways while piping, add pageantry to patriotic celebrations, offer memorable music for graduates as they process in commencement ceremonies, add heartfelt feeling to benefit walks, stir ancient memories of Scottish forbearers during Kirkin' o' the Tartan church services, and rev up the cheering crowds during a creative neighborhood parade. The band has had a busy, fun-filled past couple of months performing at no less than 20

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Going to the Games

Sometimes as the tires on my old car slap against the joints in the concrete highways, my mind wanders in cadence with the sound and I wonder why I am going to another game. Loch Norman was quieter this year with no tornados or high wind events to speak of like last year. Savannah was gorgeous under the live oak trees, and the bugs and heat didn't build up until lunch time this year. The sound of pipes echoed around the old school and it seemed like the tunes were caught in the Spanish moss and drifted lazily upward in the warm air.

There was the rain and mud at Grandfather this month with cars sliding down the hills into one another over the slick grass. Men were dropping loads of gravel and hay on the muddy areas so people wouldn't get stuck. The heavy wet air was ripe with the pungent smell of manure and joined with the sound of music from the glen stages and athletic events to make it a most unusual game this time around. Seeing old friends and meeting new folks at the SCOT tent put a delightful ending on a busy day off-field as Highland dance got rained off the stage and into the Newland Elementary School. Thanks to the Grafts for hauling the SCOT tent, 'stones,' tables, and display equipment, as well as setting it up and working the booth with Cheryl Jones. Many thanks to Pat Johnson and the McDougals for running 3 days of dancing events as well.

Grandfather 2012:
Cheryl, Erin and
Scott, enjoying
the games,
people, food,
and dressed for
the weather,
which can't keep
a good Scot away!



A few days later, we got into our small car and headed to Northern Maryland for the USIR National Highland Dance Competition. The weather was hot, cooking the food in the trunk and the drive long as we three were caught in heavy DC beltline traffic listening to a iPod full of pop music. The afternoon slowly passed as we sang along and watched a milk truck ahead of us spring a leak! As the milk sprayed over us, heated and baked on the car and air intake, it began to sour and stayed with us until we reached our destination.

Torrential downpours continued outside over the competition days with sizzling dancing inside as the best dancers in the nation competed in highland and national dances as well as choreography. Friends from across country were greeted with hugs and chances to make new ones and talk with strangers with a common love of all things Scottish abounded. Triangle dancers did very well in all the competitions with one group choreography coming in second.

It's the music, the smells, sounds, and friends that keep me coming back to the games. I love watching the bands compete, wander among the trees and far places listening to the pipers try to win with their best song as the tunes slowly fade away over the sound of the judge's pencil marking the score sheet. The dancers on stage always captivate me and the tunes play in my head for hours and nights afterwards. I wouldn't miss it, even when my car is covered in spilled milk. Just talk with the old hands in SCOT who never miss a game and have been going for years and years and ask them why they keep going. You'll want to go, too.

Be sure to support the local games, the next one being in Laurinburg in October and only an hour and a half south of the Triangle. The games need us, our support and our money to keep our heritage strong and alive. You will have fun, meet new people, eat strange foods and have experiences few others have. See you there!

- Ginny Kent



Membership News

Should any one know of a potential new member, this would be a great time for them to join SCOT.

For anyone who joined at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games or until the end of the year, we will consider them paid through the end of 2013. This is a great incentive for anyone sitting on the fence about joining.

As further incentive to you, our members, I will give any member a bottle of Scotch if they personally enroll four or more members between now and the end of the year.

Let's see what we can do about this mini membership drive! I look forward to giving you that bottle of Scotch.

- Donald Ross

Tastes of Scotland



Scottish Dumpling

If you've never made a steamed dumpling, this would be a nice way to start. Dumplings and puddings were easily made in crofts where most of the cooking was done in a kettle over a fire. Sometimes the batter was enclosed in a floured cloth, tied into a bag. This recipe calls for a bowl. Either ceramic or metal will do. I used a deep, narrow Bundt pan. The result is a soft gingerbread.

SCOT member, Barbara Youngman, was kind enough to share this recipe from her Scottish grandmother's handwritten cookbook. I've included my notes in parenthesis.

Ingredients

- 1 cup sugar (if brown 1½ cups)
- ½ cup butter, drippings, or ground suet
- 2 eggs well beaten
- ½ cup jelly (I used home-made grape jam)
- 1 teaspoon each of cinnamon, ginger, allspice and salt
- ½ teaspoon (ground) cloves
- 2 cups flour
- 2 teaspoons (baking) soda
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 cup milk sweet or sour
- Add a little more milk or molasses if necessary

Mix sugar, butter, eggs, and jelly. Sift dry ingredients and add alternately with milk to the sugar mixture. Add the floured raisins last. (I did not use raisins, but dusting them with flour will keep them from sinking to the bottom while cooking.)

Grease a large bowl, (pour in the batter), cover with wax paper (I used foil), and tie down. Have water boiling. Set bowl in water and boil for 2½ hours. (Check occasionally to be sure water level doesn't get below halfway up the side of the bowl. I also put two canning jar rings under the bowl to lift it off the bottom of the pot.)

Serve with Hard Sauce or Foundation Pudding Sauce. There are many versions of Hard Sauce, often flavored with whisky. Again, these recipes are from Barbara's grandmother's cookbook.

Hard Sauce

- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 1/2 cup butter
- 3/4 tsp Vanilla
- 1/2 tsp lemon extract
- Liquor from maraschino cherries

Cream butter and sugar till smooth. Stir well, adding the flavoring and cherry liquor gradually. When serving, cherries may be used for garnish.

Foundation Pudding Sauce

- 1 cup sugar
- 2 Tablespoons corn starch
- 2 cups hot water
- Flavoring
- 2 tablespoons melted butter

Mix the sugar and cornstarch. Add boiling water, stirring, and cook for 10 minutes. Add butter and flavoring. Fermented jelly, marmalade, or other fruit can be beat into the sauce. Grape juice or other fruit juice may be used as flavoring.

(I would be interested in hearing if anyone knows about fermented jelly. The sites I researched said to throw it away if it ferments.)

- Carolyn McDonald Graf

Piping News *(Continued from page 1)*

venues since April 1! Follow the link to the band on SCOT's webpage to see the band's performance schedule.

World Pipe Band Championship Party

From the World Pipe Band Championship website: "The incredible spectacle of The World Pipe Band Championships at Glasgow Green will take place on Saturday 11th August. Considered the single most important date in the calendar for pipe bands, this year the Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band from Belfast, will battle it out to retain their 2011 World Champions title against bands from Scotland, America, Ireland and Northern Ireland. Ian Embelton of the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association says "*London may have the Olympics this year, but The Worlds has long been known as the Olympics of the pipe band world. Each year, bands from over 11 countries come to Glasgow to compete for the coveted title of World Champions, the piping equivalent of Gold.*"

The NCSU Pipes and Drums will host a **2012 World Pipe Band Championship Party** on Saturday, August 11 beginning at 7:00 AM at Backyard Bistro, near the PNC Center in west Raleigh. Piping enthusiasts watch a BBC live stream of the championship on a large screen while enjoying a delicious brunch. Prizes will be awarded to those who come the closest in predicting which bands finish in places one through six. Everyone is welcome to come celebrate this piping event while enjoying the camaraderie of the local piping community.

Poem & Commentary *(Continued from page 6)*

parking lot in a typical drizzle under a dark sky, so to cheer him up, "Hey Jimmy." After decades, he may meet an old friend by happenstance such as on a back street in Hong Kong, so he starts by saying "Hey Jimmy." He may use "Hey Jimmy" to tell a friend that it is his turn to buy their drinks! The Glaswegian may just feel he needs to say something because he has not spoken for a while and then he meets someone, anyone, so "Hey Jimmy". It is always the same two words, "Hey Jimmy!" but it is how you say it that carries so much Glasgow meaning!

That the words "thi GEMM" includes capitals could mean only that this conversation is taking place on or about Ne'ersday! That is New Year's Day, the first day of the New Year, and "the GEMM" is the Old Firm football game between Glasgow Rangers and Glasgow Celtic which used to be played on the first day of the New Year. Now Glasgow has few shipyards, no smoke and has become more refined so "the GEMM" tends to be arranged for a day during the Christmas New Year holiday. Probably there are some Glaswegians who would prefer that the Game was still held on New Years Day so that sons could always remember and tell their sons what happened when their fathers took them to their first "GEMM," which would always be at the father's team home ground to instill the correct fundamental meanings and rightness of life in the world to his son.

By words in the poem appearing to explore the other person's religion, both of these people might well be supporters of Glasgow Celtic football team. On the other hand, maybe they are both Glaswegians but are strangers to each other. Each may be trying to sense out the "leanings" of the other before opening a fuller conversation while preparing to repel or provide a fierce attack, verbal or physical, depending on the response of the other person and the capability of each person after drinking for a number of hours.

In the old days when "the GEMM" was played on New Years Day probably both people in the poem, either together or separately, have been "first footing" since midnight and having a drink at every house visited between then and now when they are leaving a pub in the early afternoon and making their slow meander towards where "the GEMM" is being played that "Ne'ersday." They may be looking to follow the growing trickle of people moving towards the game, although it would not be surprising given their load of drink and lack of sleep, that their meandering was heading East rather than West or West rather than East on their walk towards where they thought it was to be played.

Before flood lighting at football grounds and because natural mid winter darkness comes on about mid after-

noon in Scotland, football games had to start much earlier than the normal time of three o'clock so that the game's crowd could see the game and afterwards disperse in daylight to give the police a chance to limit frictions between factions of supporters of different teams as they left the ground and moved to their pubs and homes.

Now, it is common that each football ground in Britain has powerful lighting so that games can be played regardless of hours of natural light and dark around the year. However, now, British football games are played to meet the scheduling of international television which require a British game to be played at a time secondarily for the crowd in the football ground in Britain and more for the combined audience around the world in the Far East around their midnight and in North America around their early morning. For Glaswegians, this variance of timing of football games gives a new slant to the phrase "flexible drinking hours!"

These are a few of the deep, complicated images and meanings to be derived from a few almost incomprehensible combinations of alphabet letters making up spoken words in a poem about a single sliver of the complicated life that exists in the City of Glasgow.

- Dr. George S. Birrell

Wake and District News

May is the month of Memorials to our fallen public and military servicemen and women, who serve and often give their lives for our protection and safety. It is Wake and District's busiest month as honoring these men and women with dignity is why the band was formed in 2005.

On Saturday, May 5, Wake & District members participated on the **7th Annual North Carolina Fallen Fire Fighters** parade in Raleigh and then the memorial service held at Nash Square in Raleigh, NC. As Wake & District pipers and drummers surrounded the memorial to play *Amazing Grace*, the sky *fell a-flood* and everything stood still for just a moment at attention as the sound of TAPS resonated through the air. It was very moving for us and those there to share the moment and captured in the photo below by Lee Wilson.

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President's Corner

Dear Members, our Annual General Meeting is right around the corner on August 26, and this year we are excited to be trying out a new venue, Natty Greene's Pub & Brewing Co. at 505 West Jones Street in Raleigh. We will be voting on our slate of officers, and reflecting on the past year.

As we prepare to plan out the year ahead, we look forward to suggestions from you, our members, for events that we could consider to make SCOT the organization you want it to be. If you would like to get in touch before the AGM, please feel free to do so. We want to have another great year, so please make your voice heard.

I look forward to seeing many of you on the 26th at Natty Greene's.

God Bless & Take Care, welake87@gmail.com
Donald Ross 919-934-1915

Wake & District *(Continued from page 4)*

For the 4th year in a row, Wake & District was honored on May 16 to send one of our pipers to play as law enforcement officers, families and the public gathered outside the Progress Energy Center to honor the courage and sacrifice of Wake County's 19 fallen officers at the fourth annual Wake County Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. On May 18, the band provided a piper to play "Amazing Grace" as the **Fort Bragg** community gathered at the **16th Military Police Brigade** (Airborne) Headquarters building Friday to pay tribute to their fallen comrades.

The Band also stepped out on the 2012 Circuit this year fielding 2 bands and several solo players. The Loch Norman games were much drier this year than last, and the Grade 5 band took to the field for the first time together placing 3rd overall. Grade 4 had some highs and lows placing 7th overall in a field of 13 with our drummers placing 1st. Traveling out of the area, on Saturday, May 19, the band competed for the first time at the **52nd Annual Colonial Highland Gathering** in Northern Maryland. Overall our Grade 5 group placed 4th out of 10 – and our Grade 4 group placed 7th out of 13 (*placing 4th in ensemble*).

As this didn't keep the band busy enough, we've been playing for firefighting recruit graduation, RFD promotional celebration, RFD Centennial Celebration, Pinehurst 4th of July parade, and many more events. Come and join us, keep in step with us as we never stop!

Major Upheaval in Scottish Football

There has been considerable upheaval in Scottish football during 2012 as a result of the unusual happenings at Glasgow Rangers football club which might cause the undesirable ending of a major feature of Glasgow life and its traditions.

To honour the annual New Year's Day football match between Glasgow Rangers and Glasgow Celtic which may never again take place, presented in this issue is the poem "Good Thief" by Tom Leonard and its translation into English for non-Glaswegians.

Should any person unfamiliar with Glasgow verbal expressions and idioms wish to more fully understand the poem, please request the help of a born and bred Glaswegian to provide a fuller explanation of background facts, their experiences of such a game and a verbal presentation of the poem. Be prepared to spend some time to receive the history and ramifications of this football match and to ensure your Glaswegian helper fully extols the virtues of one of the major events in Glasgow life, provide the helper with a suitable supply of "nips and pints" for this thirsty job. Beware, that whomever that helper may be their version will be biased in some way or another, mostly depending on their religious background, their place of upbringing in Glasgow and their fervour for "the GEMM!"!

To enable the people and City of Glasgow to return to normal life, this event must be resurrected somehow, even if by joint edict of the Glasgow City Council, all religious groups in the city and totally regardless of the wishes of the "polis."

- Dr. George S. Birrell

SCOT

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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:

George Birrell	Ginny Kent
Carolyn Graf	Judith Lloyd
D'Nise Hefner	Donald Ross
Patricia Johnston	John Sprague
Cheryl Jones	

Scottish Poem and Commentary

The Good Thief

By Tom Leonard

hey jimmy
yawright ih
stull wayz
lh

hey jimmy
ma right insane yirra pape
ma right insane yirwanny uz jimmy

see it nyir eyes
wanny us

Hey

hey jimmy
lookslk wirgonny miss thi gemm
gonny miss thi GEMM jimmy
nearly three o cloke thinoo

dork init
good jobe theyve gote thi lights

“Hey Jimmy!
Are you all right, are you?
Still with us are you?”
“Aye[yes]”.

“Hey Jimmy!
Am I right in saying you are a Papist?
Am I right in saying you are one of us, Jimmy?”

Do I see it in your eyes?
One of us?”

“Hey!”

“Hey Jimmy!
It looks like we will miss the game”
“Going to miss the GAME, Jimmy ?”
“Nearly three o’clock, right now”

“It is really dark”
“It’s good the football pitch has bright lights!”

On the far left is a “poem” by Tom Leonard in very broad and deep-spoken Glasgow language. On the near left is its translation into plain words of this conversation between two Glaswegians. The poem and translation put in writing how a few obscure sounds can express considerable meanings between people of the same culture. There is no idea why the poem on the left is titled “The Good Thief.” It should be titled something like “Conversation Between Two Glasgow Celtic Football Supporters Upon Leaving Their Pub In The East End Of Glasgow Early On A Winter Afternoon!”

Here we have the Glaswegian everlasting greeting “Hey Jimmy” to anybody under any circumstance, such as when he sees a foreign visitor walking from Glasgow airport to the

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We welcome your contributions to this quarterly newsletter! Please forward news of any achievements, births, marriages, or graduations to Amy Mooney (danceramy@aol.com) to be included. 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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