

Great SCOT!

Scottish Cultural Organization of the Triangle

Look what's
going on...

June 2013

May Tea Draws Crowd

The cool, misty weather on Sunday, May 5 made the May Tea feel all the more Scottish. A total of 52 tea lovers squeezed into the Annandale Center in Cary. Each enjoyed their fill of savory tea fare including tea sandwiches, stuffed pickled okra, sausage rolls, spinach stuffed mushrooms, lavender and ginger scones, and surprise cheese puffs. Then there was the table laden with the sweets—cranberry scones with orange marmalade, shortbread, strawberry thumbprint shortbread, lime coconut shortbread, empire biscuits, fly cemeteries, date cake, chocolate cookies, and creamed cheese stuffed strawberries. The tea masters, John Sprague and Dennis Herman, worked non-stop to keep the tea pots filled with a variety of teas. The warmth of friendship wafted throughout the Center in spirited conversations at each table. It was so much fun that a number of guests requested that the Tea be an annual event.

Special thanks to the Tea Committee, Amy Herman, Pat Johnston, Sandie Wash, and Alison Birrell. And sincere appreciation to all who contributed baked goods and helped with set up.

- Emily Sprague

Solo Piping Results

Twenty-seven pipers competed at the Eighth Annual Cary Indoor Solo Piping Competition at the Resurrection Lutheran School in Cary on Saturday, March 23, 2013. This year's judges were Bill Caudill and Ken McKeveny, and the EUSPBA Monitors were Thomas and Carissa Hahn.

Grade 4 Junior Trophy: Katharine Priu

Grade 4 Junior – 2/4 March

- 1 Silas Akers
- 2 Ian Minnear
- 3 Katharine Priu

Grade 4 Junior – Piobaireachd

- 1 Katharine Priu
- 2 Ian Minnear

(Continued on page 2)

Your Help Needed



The SCOT booth, in all its glory, will be at The Grandfather Mountain Highland Games on Saturday, July 13 and Sunday, July 14. We have a great site this year, right at the main entrance with a clear view of all dancing platforms. Doug and I will be able to set up and break down, but we may not be able to man the booth the whole time. We need your help!

Talking to people about SCOT and our activities is easy and fun. Many people from the Triangle area have not heard of us (hard to imagine). If they are at the games, it's because they already have an interest in things Scottish. All they need is to hear about the great activities we offer and they want to join on the spot. They can't join if there's no one in the booth.

If you can volunteer for one or two hours, email me and I'll assign you a time. When you are not giving out information, you will have a shady place to watch the games.

- Carolyn McDonald Graf

John Sprague Honored

John Sprague was honored as the 2013 recipient of the **Scottish Heritage Service Award** on April 5 at a banquet at St. Andrews University in Laurinburg. The award was given for his outstanding contributions to the perpetuation of Scottish history, culture and traditions as Director of the NCSU Pipes and Drums. John recently retired after 43 years of consistently providing quality musical education and leadership for hundreds of students, alumni and community members. Emily Sprague was also recognized at the banquet for her untiring support of the Pipes and Drums since marrying into the band 27 years ago.

Piping Competition Results *(Continued from page 1)***Grade 4 Senior Trophy: Amber Tussing****Grade 4 Senior – 2/4 March**

- 1 Dan Johnson
- 2 Amber Tussing
- 3 Jeremiah Fulton
- 4 Jay Thomas
- 5 Terry Rose
- 6 Megan Lewis

Grade 4 Senior – Piobaireachd

- 1 Jonathan Gurney
- 2 Amber Tussing

Grade 3 Trophy: Stuart Marshall**Grade 3 – 2/4 March**

- 1 Stuart Marshall
- 2 Evan Johnson
- 3 Patrick Johnson
- 4 Dalton Marshall
- 5 William Hughes
- 6 Ally McKinnis

Grade 3 -Strathspey/Reel

- 1 Stuart Marshall
- 2 Evan Johnson
- 3 Patrick Johnson
- 4 Ally McKinnis
- 5 Mary McCool
- 6 William Hughes

Grade 3 – Piobaireachd

- 1 Patrick Boland
- 2 Mary McCool
- 3 Stuart Marshall
- 4 Robert Delp
- 5 Patrick Wiers
- 6 Duncan Fraser

Grade 2 Trophy: Harvey McLendon**Grade 2 - 2/4 March**

- 1 Harvey McLendon
- 2 Connor Thompson

Grade 2 - Strathspey/Reel

- 1 Connor Thompson
- 2 Harvey McLendon

Grade 2 - Piobaireachd

- 1 Harvey McLendon
- 2 Connor Thompson

It was an honor to have members of the US Naval Academy Pipes and Drums participate in this year's competition and to hear their band perform during the lunch break of the dance competition.

Commentary *(Continued from page 6)*

than meeting to forward the spirit and culture of his beloved Scotia.

While Burns was sought after for company, there were times he was alone, by happenstance or choice, resting from composing in his attic room in St James Square, walking by the windy Firth of Forth or in a graveyard off the Cannongate or with a half finished glass by the inglenook of a pub near the High Street or maybe Rose Street. In these respites away from composing or being on show in society he contemplated his current state of being alone and somewhat friendless, despite all those people who pursued him for company. Thinking of what could be a happier life, his mind would turn to the farm lands of the West and the real people, good, bad or middling, he knew there. In these thoughts there always burgeoned up as if uncontrollable in his mind, Jean Armour, with whom he would walk of an evening, with whom he was intrigued and missed so much compared to even the best of folks in Edinburgh.

Before his poetry became highly regarded Robert and Jean had quietly signed a “tochter band” (contract of marriage) only for her father to tear it up upon finding that his daughter was pregnant by Burns, the son of a poor, but personally well regarded tenant farmer, who ran around and wrote poetry rather than raised cattle and oats!

Shortly after the publication of his “Edinburgh Edition” of poems in 1787 and being paid something for them, he returned to the West, no longer a somewhat questionable person who wrote poems and hung about watching and conversing with all types of folks. Now he was a man of stature in the whole nation of Scotland, with much prestige and a little money in his pocket and bought a farm on which to settle down. Jean's father now had a different view of Burns and what he could bring to Jean and his whole family. So, Robert and Jean married again, as respected members of society. Well-wishers helped by offering use of places like the Hermitage to wander, think and write and other assistances so he could continue to write his poems and songs for Scotia.

In 1788 as he worked building the new farmhouse for Jean and their family at Ellisland near Dumfries and relishing his full life, the places and people he knew and loved, he wrote this poem extolling the beauty of the countryside of the West and his satisfactions of life. Here we have his wonderful, focused, visceral dream expressions of the natural beauty of his homeland in the west of Scotland and his pure happiness in life with Jean.

Truly, a poem from a man who has reached happy fulfillment and shares it with us.

- Dr. George S. Birrell

Highland Dance Recap

This spring, the Triangle Scottish Highland Dancers have been very busy with competitions, performances, and parades. March is always busy and this year was no different. First up was a performance at the Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi in Raleigh. The International Festival was on March 2. The following weekend, there were 2 dance performances—one at the Garner Public Library and another at Cameron Village which was a part of a program focused on the history and influence of the King James Version of the Bible. And finally, dancers put on several dances for the Tartan Day Celebrations at Cameron Village Library on April 6.



Everyone loves a parade and the students danced a jig around the parade course on March 16 in downtown Raleigh. Later that afternoon, they gave a performance that is always well received with a rousing applause from the large group of spectators by the stage. In between the

parade and the performance, dancers and parents painted faces and ran a bake sale raising money to help support the 2015 USIR National Highland Dance Competition to be held in Atlanta and hosted by the Southeast region, of which we are a member. Thanks to Janie Hill, Jill Findlay and Colette Chatelain for their work in making these two efforts so successful this year.



Competitions near and far kept our highland dancers busy. Our SCOT president, Donald Ross, once again manned the ticket booth, with help from Scott Bartow, and welcomed competitors and spectators alike to the Cary Indoor Competition on March 23. This year saw a large number of pre-premier dancers for the first time in several years. The entire day was well planned and executed by the members of the Ghillie Gang, both by parents of past dancers and current dance families as well. SCOT would like to thank all the parents, especially those new to the competition and from our past dancers for their

efforts this year in making it such a success. Also, a continued thank you to Carol Muth for her drive and enthusiasm in rounding up sponsors and getting local hotels to comp the judges, workshop teachers and dance pipers rooms saving SCOT a large sum. She encourages the Ghillie Gang parents to ask for sponsorships making Cary Indoor pay for itself. The Piping Workshop volunteers also helped raise funds and all worked to make it a success.

This year, the Loch Norman Highland Games were sunny and many of our dance community and former local dancers now living far away were there to compete and enjoy the games. Our dancers went to the Regional USIR championships on May 11 in Savannah and performed well – results to be posted later.

Who can forget our Tir Na nOg evenings of Scottish food and fun? We have another coming up on Saturday, June 15 at 6:30 pm (come earlier for dinner). The Pub generously gives 10% of the food proceeds to us for help with dancing and workshops. Come have fun with us!

Wake and District

What a start to 2013 competition season! Wake and District has been working hard this winter getting ready for competition season and it shows. Loch Norman saw the Grade Four Band finishing in 1st place, the Grade 5 band in 3rd place, as well as a 1st place solo bass drumming by John Lovett, a 2nd place 2/4 march by Garret Justice, and many other solo competitors performing well. It was a great day for the Wake & District program.

On Saturday, May 18, band members participated in the 53rd Annual Scottish Games in Fair Hill, Maryland. Both the band's G4 and G5 took the field at the Fair Hill Race Track against a myriad of fantastic bands. Several of our solo members landed solidly on the boards – John Lovett with a 1st place in solo bass, Jean Russell with a 2nd in solo tenor drum, and Garret Justice with a 4th in his march. As for the band competition circles: our Grade 4 took 3rd overall, while our Grade 5 landed in the middle of the pack at 6th.

May is the month for honoring our police and firemen lost in the line of duty, so members of the Wake & District Public Safety Pipes and Drums participated in the 8th Annual North Carolina Fallen Firefighters (NCFFF) march and memorial at Nash Square located in Downtown Raleigh on May 4. As always, it was very moving and we were grateful to be able to pay homage to our fallen.

Cary Indoor Highland Dancing Competitions Winners March 23, 2013

Most Promising Beginner Layla Giardina

Dancer of the Day Gabrielle Rosenthal

Primary

Pas De Basques

1st Rayleigh Ward
2nd Genevieve Poulin
3rd Reagan Kaufman

Pas De Basques & High Cuts

1st Rayleigh Ward
2nd Genevieve Poulin
3rd Reagan Kaufman

Beginner 7 & under 9

Trophy: Ashlyn Rubach

Highland Fling

1st Ashlyn Rubach
2nd Lilli Burgin
3rd Shona Wood
4th Layla Giardina
5th Kayla Shute
6th Brynn Ohlhoff

Sword Dance

1st Ashlyn Rubach
2nd Shona Wood
3rd Brynn Ohlhoff
4th Layla Giardina
5th Kayla Shute
6th Marta Striplin

Seann Triubhas

1st Shona Wood
2nd Kayla Shute
3rd Lilli Burgin

Flora

1st Layla Giardina
2nd Kayla Shute
3rd Ashlyn Rubach
4th Shona Wood
5th Lilli Burgin

Beginner 9 & under 12

Trophy: Eleanor Brooks

Highland Fling

1st Eleanor Brooks
2nd Paige Braden
3rd Lilly Wallace
4th Ruby Watts
5th Leilani Peebles

Sword Dance

1st Paige Braden
2nd Eleanor Brooks
3rd Annaliese Poulin
4th Lilly Wallace
5th Ruby Watts

Beginner 9 & under 12

Sword Dance Cont.

6th Leilani Peebles
Seann Triubhas
1st Paige Braden
2nd Eleanor Brooks
3rd Ruby Watts
5th Lilly Wallace
6th Leilani Peebles

Flora

1st Annaliese Poulin
2nd Eleanor Brooks
3rd Lilly Wallace
4th Ruby Watts
5th Leilani Peebles
6th Paige Braden

Beginner 12 & over

Trophy: Brook Braden

Highland Fling

1st Brook Braden
2nd Josephine Brooks
3rd Windsor Rose Whitlock
4th Emily Henry
5th Clarissa Christensen
6th Corinne Peebles

Sword Dance

1st Brook Braden
2nd Windsor Rose Whitlock
3rd Annabelle Christensen
4th Clarissa Christensen
5th Charlotte Yunker
6th Josephine Brooks

Seann Triubhas

1st Brook Braden
2nd Windsor Rose Whitlock
3rd Clarissa Christensen
4th Corinne Peebles
5th Emily Henry
6th Josephine Brooks

Flora

1st Windsor Rose Whitlock
2nd Brook Braden
3rd Josephine Brooks
4th Annabelle Christensen
5th Clarissa Christensen
6th Corinne Peebles

Novice

Trophy: Constance Yunker

Highland Fling

1st Constance Yunker

Novice

Highland Fling Cont.

2nd Abigail Carter
3rd Aubrey Carley
4th Maggie Kolmer
5th Lindsay McGowan

Sword Dance

1st Aubrey Carley
2nd Maggie Kolmer
3rd Ellen Daniels
4th Abigail Carter

Seann Triubhas

1st Constance Yunker
2nd Maggie Kolmer
3rd Abigail Carter
4th Aubrey Carley
5th Ellen Daniels
6th Lindsay McGowan

Flora

1st Constance Yunker
2nd Maggie Kolmer
3rd Aubrey Carley
4th Ellen Daniels
5th Abigail Carter
6th Lindsay McGowan

Intermediate

Trophy: Fiona Wright

Highland Fling

1st Fiona Wright
2nd Stephen Henry
3rd Amelia Gassner
4th Liam Davis

Sword Dance

1st Stephen Henry

Seann Triubhas

1st Fiona Wright
2nd Liam Davis
3rd Stephen Henry
4th Amelia Gassner

Hornpipe

1st Liam Davis
2nd Fiona Wright
3rd Amelia Gassner

Premier 7 & under 12

Trophy: Alayna Rubach

Highland Fling

1st Alayna Rubach
2nd Gillian Wright
3rd Katherine Mary Hughes
4th Caleigh Santa Maria

Premier 7 & under 12

Highland Fling Cont.

5th Sarah Ross Paolucci
6th Ivy Roche

Sword Dance

1st Alayna Rubach
2nd Ivy Roche
3rd Ingrid Findlay
4th Sarah Ross Paolucci
5th Julia White

Seann Triubhas

1st Alayna Rubach
2nd Caleigh Santa Maria
3rd Katherine Mary Hughes
4th Sarah Ross Paolucci
5th Kayli Robb
6th Ingrid Findlay

Reel

1st Gillian Wright
2nd Katherine Mary Hughes
3rd Caleigh Santa Maria
4th Ivy Roche
5th Ingrid Findlay
6th Sarah Ross Paolucci

Premier 13 & under 16

Trophy: Lauren Wall

Highland Fling

1st Kelsey Luyster
2nd Erica Milner
3rd Elaine Hinkel
4th Lauren Wall
5th Sally Johnson
6th Megan Minnear

Sword Dance

1st Lauren Wall
2nd Kathryn Carley
3rd Catharine Burgess
4th Kelsey Luyster
5th Katelyn Fraker
6th Megan Minnear

Seann Triubhas

1st Kelsey Luyster
2nd Lauren Wall
3rd Kathryn Carley
4th Catharine Burgess
5th Megan Minnear
6th Erica Milner

Reel

1st Lauren Wall
2nd Catharine Burgess
3rd Katelyn Fraker
4th Kathryn Carley

Premier 13 & under 16

Reel Cont.

5th Erica Milner
6th Carolann Stout

Premier 16 & over

Trophy: Gabrielle Rosenthal

Highland Fling

1st Gabrielle Rosenthal
2nd Sydney Luyster
3rd Martha Clendenin
4th Claire Macmillan
5th Ruth Packard
6th Dominique Koontz

Sword Dance

1st Gabrielle Rosenthal
2nd Sydney Luyster
3rd Ruth Packard
4th Martha Clendenin
5th Anneliese Koontz

Seann Triubhas

1st Claire Macmillan
2nd Gabrielle Rosenthal
3rd Ruth Packard
4th Martha Clendenin
5th Sydney Luyster
6th Linka Schleusener

Reel

1st Gabrielle Rosenthal
2nd Martha Clendenin
3rd Ruth Packard
4th Sydney Luyster
5th Anneliese Koontz
6th Dominique Koontz

Duet Choreography

1st "If"
Greg Graf & Carissa Koontz-Graf

Tastes of Scotland



Redgeree

The origins of this breakfast dish are hazy. It is thought to be an Indian dish brought back to Britain by returning British colonists. There is another theory by Christopher Trotter in his book, *The Scottish Kitchen*, which claims that the dish originated in Scotland, was taken to India by Scottish Troops, where it was adopted into Indian cuisine. This new version of Kedgeree was then brought back to Britain. Either way, it is a common and comforting food and a great way to use up leftovers.

The recipe below is a fairly basic version but, as with many traditional dishes, variations abound. Ginger, cilantro, lime leaves, and many different spices have been included. One recipe added coriander, tomatoes, mustard seeds, and yogurt. The traditional fish is smoked haddock but salmon or any other firm-fleshed fish can be substituted. It can be served warm or cold.

Ingredients

- 4 Tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 to 2 Tablespoons curry powder
- 2 Tablespoons lemon juice
- 2½ cups cooked rice
- 2½ cups flaked cooked fish (haddock, cod or salmon)
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 4 hard cooked eggs, shelled and chopped
- ½ cup chopped fresh parsley
- Salt and freshly ground pepper

In a large sauce pan, melt the butter over medium heat. Stir in the curry powder. Reduce heat to low and cook 1 minute. Add lemon juice, rice, and fish. Cook slowly stirring, until all ingredients are heated, about 5 minutes. Add the egg and chopped parsley. Season with salt and pepper. Serve shaped into a mound on a platter. Serves 6 to 8.

The Scottish-Irish Pub and Hearth Cookbook, Kay Shaw Nelson, 1999, Hippocrene Books Inc. New York, NY

- Carolyn McDonald Graf

The SCOT Tartan Day celebration was hold on April 6 at the Cameron Village Library, complete with Tartan banners, tables of information, kilts to try on, Scottish and Celtic guitar songs, Highland dancing to Dave Coulter's parlor pipes, lectures by George Birrell on Tartan Day and the Declaration of Abroath, and a Bonnie Knees contest (winners pictured to the right).



President's Corner

Dear Members,

We are almost halfway through the year and I truly believe we have had much success thus far.

Sincere thanks to Emily Sprague and her many volunteers who helped to put on a great tea! It was the first of many events to be held at Pat Johnston's lovely new facility, the Annandale Center.

By the time this newsletter is in your hands, we will have completed our annual Golf Tournament. I trust that many of you will have been there to enjoy the day with us, either on the golf course or at the barbecue.

Our next big event after the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games will likely be our Annual General Meeting to be held on August the 25 (venue to be decided).

This is the time of year for us to elect a new slate of Board members. If anyone would like to serve on the Board, please let me or one of our Board members know.

Once more, I encourage you to let us know what we can do to make your experience in SCOT all that you want it to be! We are unable to read your minds, so please keep us informed of ways that we can help. Of course, I want each of you to encourage young people to get involved in SCOT, as they are our future.

Watch your email for updates,

Donald Ross

welake87@gmail.com

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
Chris Chandler
Carolyn Graf
Patricia Johnston
Cheryl Jones

Ginny Kent
Donald Ross
John Sprague
Darci Zorio



Poem and Commentary

Of A¹ the Airts²

By Robert Burns

Of a³ the airts⁴ the wind can blaw⁵
 I dearly like the west,
 For there the bonnie lassie lives,
 The lassie I lo'e⁶ the best.

There wild woods grow and rivers row,⁷
 And monie⁸ a hill between,
 But day and night my fancy's flight
 Is ever wi'⁹ my Jean.

I see her in the dewy flowers—
 I see her sweet and fair,
 I hear her in the tunefu'¹⁰ birds—
 I hear her charm the air.

There's not a bonny flower that springs
 By fountain, shaw,¹¹ or green¹²
 There's not a bonie bird that sings,
 But minds¹³ me o'¹⁴ my Jean.

¹all, ²places/directions, ³all, ⁴places, ⁵blow, ⁶love, ⁷flow,
⁸many, ⁹with, ¹⁰tuneful, ¹¹wood, ¹²field, ¹³reminds, ¹⁴of

Upon hearing or reading the opening couplet of this poem, folks from the West of Scotland pause, lift their heads and smile. These words, already in their hearts, tell of their lands of green fields and hills, rivers, the soft air and bonnie lassies of the West!

After Robert Burns became famous from the publication of his "Kilmarnock Edition" of poems in 1786 he moved to Edinburgh where he was sought after by everyone, society hostess for their dinner parties, people in high and low stations of life for conversations, proximity, a coin and maybe, involvement. Burns was well aware of the celebrity status thrust upon him but relished sharp discussions with the likes of Dugald Stewart the Professor of Moral Philosophy at the University of Edinburgh and his peers over dinner, a drink or a walk on the Braid Hills south of Edinburgh. Also, he enjoyed a humorous "crack" (chat) with traders and farmers in the Grassmarket. Alternatively, he only tolerated, and quite often did not, the fawning attention of those who wished to be able to say to others that they had been in the company of Burns or even closer to him. He easily saw those who wished to use him rather

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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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