

Great SCOT!

Look what's
going on...

Scottish Cultural Organization of the Triangle

March 2013

Twelfth Annual
**Cary Indoor Competitions
Highland Dance & Solo Piping**

Saturday, March 23, 2013

Resurrection Lutheran School
100 Lochmere Drive, Cary, NC

Registration forms available at www.scot.us
for Highland Dance Competition,
Solo Piping Competition, and
Highland Dance Workshop (on Mar. 24).

See newsletter insert for
Advertising and Sponsorship opportunities.

Make plans now to come out and enjoy a day
of piping and dancing—close to home!

Solo Piping Competition

The Cary Indoor Solo Piping Competition is expecting around 30 pipers in all amateur grades, from across the southeast, to compete at the Resurrection Lutheran School in Cary on Saturday, March 23, 2013. Competition begins at 10 AM. Spectators are welcome to sit in on any of the piping events to hear these pipers play their marches, strathspeys, reels and piobaireachds. The Cary Indoor is popular amongst solo competitors because it provides an

opportunity to get a jump start on the competition season; it is indoors where adverse weather is not a detractor; and, it has a reputation as a well-organized event where competitors can relax and play their best. For more information, call John or Emily Sprague at 919-828-1269.



Cary Indoor Fundraising

Every year SCOT puts on the highly regarded Cary Indoor Competition for Highland Dance and Solo Piping. This year it will be held again at Resurrection Lutheran Church on Kildare Farm Road on March 23rd. In order for this to be successful, we must raise the funds to cover the expenses. We are frugal Scots and do our best to keep the costs down. To do this, members of the local Scottish, Highland dance and piping communities help raise funding through sponsorships and a silent raffle.

We are in need of your help to accomplish this. I have never been one to ask for a business I frequent to donate, but tried it last year and was surprised how easily it was! Both businesses I approached supported our efforts. You can do it too. Here's how:

Ask your dentist, chiropractor, lawn service, doctor, podiatrist, stylist, etc if they would like to advertise in our color program. Or, ask if they have a service or item they would like to donate to ours silent raffle such as a free evaluation, small arrangement from a florist, coffee from your barista—the list is endless. Take the enclosed flyer with you and give it a try. We need every little bit we can to make Cary Indoor a continued success.

- Ginny Kent

P.S. if you think the person you are talking with finds the cost a bit much, contact me my email at splitrock@nc.rr.com and I can talk with Carol Muth to see what can be done to make it happen for them (and us).



Tartan Day

April 6 is National Tartan Day celebrating the wealth of Scottish heritage that was present in the founding of the United States. This year, SCOT will host Tartan Day activities at the Cameron Village Library. We have a variety of activities planned, including lectures, piping, highland dancing and more. Look for more about this exciting event via email and on the SCOT website at www.scot.us.

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Poem & Commentary: Because they wish to go to their Heaven and be rewarded there, many people behave better in life than they would under their own choices, others just live as they feel and choose. A few, like Dod, are simply good people in their behaviour towards others.

During his long working life at Whinniemuir Farm, Dod Sprunt was always supporting others and giving help to neighbours, which led everyone to respect and like him even though he was poor. Indeed, his poverty was caused by his spending on doing good deeds. On his death, all folks around were saddened and would miss his cheerful, helpful presence, but each was consoled by knowing that Dod has gone straight to Heaven for his due rewards, even if his poverty meant he had to be confined in his working clothes.

In Heaven, he is greeted warmly and given the title of Saint because he has been so good to so many people on Earth. In Heaven, Dod is given a beautiful, long white gown and, as a Saint, is given a crown and accompanied by angels and harpists to make his ongoing afterlife as enjoyable and pleasant as possible.

In talking with Dod, insightful God realizes that something is irritating Dod and with probing questions tries to find what can make Dod as happy as possible in Heaven as a reward for all his good deeds on Earth. As Dod was unaccustomed to asking for anything for himself, he struggled to put into words to God what would make Heaven for him. Dod has concerns about long white gowns and always being attended by gracious servants because neither are what he has been accustomed to during his life, nor are they his thoughts of Heaven, if he ever considered such a matter. Over time, God gently nudges Dod to express his wishes as to what would make a happy Heaven for Dod. Eventually, after hand wringing, hesitations and throat clearings, Dod modestly mentions that he would be really happy if he could wear a smart cocked hat, just like the hat the laird who lived near Whinniemuir Farm wore when he went to market with his carriage and trotting horses. Such a hat would make Dod feel happy and more so if he could wear his farm working clothes, for then he would be content, just as he was in life.

What is your vision of a happy Heaven for yourself? In Heaven there will be many other people, each with their own views of their happy Heaven. Can Heaven be without the frictions between people in life if each there wants their own happy Heaven? Deep questions about what would make you happy in your Heaven, and present life!

Footnote: Whinniemuir Farm, between Perth and Scone, was where your commentator was first employed. Ten

Ceud Mile Sailte

One hundred thousand welcomes to our new members from all over the Triangle –

Christopher Chandler – Cary
Darcy Zorio – Raleigh
Thom Bowie – Willow Springs
Jamie Andrews – Cary
Tom Perry – Linville
Brian & Amanda Tapp – Raleigh
Thomas Terry – Durham
Glenn Davis – Raleigh
Charlotte Graham – Raleigh
Andrew & Maureen Pettigrew – Durham

We are delighted you have joined SCOT and look forward to seeing you at some of our upcoming SCOT events. We hope all of you will remember to invite friends and acquaintances to join SCOT. Encourage them to check our SCOT website at www.scot.us for information on joining and upcoming events

We encourage all of our current members to continue to support the Scottish arts and culture by renewing their annual memberships. And we welcome contributions from Life members. All funds received from memberships are used to support programs and scholarships and qualify for a tax deduction. Please consult your tax professional to determine deductibility in your own situation.

We remind you that 2013 memberships are due. Please check your mailing label for this issue of our Great SCOT! Newsletter. If your label is printed in red, we have not yet received your 2013 payments. Annual members who have not renewed memberships by March 31 will be dropped from the membership rolls. We encourage you to get those membership dues in. We don't want you to miss any of the great SCOT events coming up!

- Patricia Johnston



years old, tattie howkin' (picking potatoes from the ground into baskets) from eight in the morning till five at night, five and a half days a week, hard physical work in the open, fresh air under a warm, blue sky, unless it rained. Happy, tiring days, learning how to work productively and how different people did things.

- Dr. George Birrell

Highland Dance

The Fall was busy with dancers from the Triangle traveling to Charleston, Williamsburg, Scotland County, Richmond and Stone Mountain Games. Our dancers performed very well in each competition and had fun as well. Two SCOT members ran the first dance competition at the Scotland County Games: Darcy Zorio and Erin McDougal Bartow! Many of our Triangle Dancers competed in the sun and beautiful setting in Laurinburg and said it felt like being back at the old Flora McDonald Games. All said it was a very well run competition.

The dancers were also part of the Wake and District's Fall Fling sharing Scottish dance with the community. Dancers were also performing at the Yates Mill Pond Fall Festival, the early show of Albannach at Tir Na nOg, the Cary Winter Daze festival in December, and for the Rabby Burns Night at the Pub in January.

We are always looking for more dancers to join our ranks and ask you to share Highland Dance with your friends. Information on area dance teachers is available on the SCOT website.



Beer Tasting Recap

Many thanks to White Street Brewing Co. in Wake Forest for a great start to the new year!

Our host, Jeff McDowell, explained the various beers in the flight. I have to admit my favourite was definitely the Scottish Ale. Each participant then had a pint of their choice to go along with the meal, which was prepared and served by Andrew Forster, the Chef and General Manager of the Fire Pit in Wake Forest. The Scottish style stew and gravy made with the Scottish Ale was plentiful and tasty!

- Donald Ross

Burns Supper Success

The Country Squire: When we started out on this journey 12 years ago, I never expected that we would be going along stronger than ever all these years later. This year was another great success with over 150 people attending, thanks of course to all our performers and speakers who do such a wonderful job keeping us entertained.

The past few years we have been fortunate to have the Port City Pipes and Drums helping to entertain us, this year we changed the program line up and brought the pipe band on at the very beginning. I will be interested to get your feed back on this change as to whether it was a good idea or not.

Of course our wonderful audience truly makes my job so worthwhile! When they come up to me afterwards and tell me how much they enjoyed their evening and how they look forward to coming every year, or they send me an email thanking me for the wonderful evening they had once more...all the hours of frustration and worrying about the evening coming together soon fade away into a distant memory. Hope you can join us next year!

- Donald Ross

Tir Na nOg: Robert Burns was well celebrated on Sat., January 19, with the help of Wake and District Pipe Band, Triangle Highland Dancers and SCOT's own Donald Ross. Pipe Major Joe Brady piped in the Haggis and Donald addressed it. Highland Dancing was up next with a group fling for all the dancers, past and present joining in. The Band played on and all enjoyed a great Scottish evening together.

We hope to have more of these Scottish Nights Out in the future at the pub. Our thanks to Annie Nice of Tir Na nOg Pub for hosting the event and donating 10% of the proceeds to Highland Dancing.



Tastes of Scotland



Seather Sowle Creamy Chicken Soup

Not all of the traditional recipes of Scotland came from the simple crofts. In the manor houses of the upper classes, the cooks had more time and ingredients for their soups. Lady Clark of Tillypronie is credited with a version of this chicken soup recipe as a luncheon soup, with influences from the French cooks (The Scots Kitchen by F. Marian McNeill). Surely this was not a soup of the crofts, but one of the upper classes. The original recipes call for measurements such as dessertspoonfuls and ladlefuls, but this more modern version has more common measurements and eliminates the jointing and boiling of the fowl before making the soup. It also includes peas and carrots, which were not in many of the older versions.

Ingredients

- 5 cups water
- 1 small onion minced
- ¼ cup diced cooked ham
- 1 medium stalk celery with leaves, chopped
- ½ teaspoon dried thyme
- 2 chicken breast halves (bone in, about 1½ pounds)
- Salt, pepper to taste
- 1 cup frozen green peas
- 1 medium carrot cut into thin slivers
- 2 egg yolks
- ½ cup heavy cream
- 1/8 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg

Put water, onions, ham, celery and leaves, and thyme in a large skillet. Bring to a boil; reduce heat. Add chicken breasts. Season with salt and pepper. Cook slowly, covered, about 10 minutes, until chicken is tender. Remove chickens from skillet; set aside to cool. Strain broth into a large saucepan. Remove and discard chicken skins and bones; cut chicken into small julienne pieces.

Heat chicken broth; add chicken pieces, peas and carrots. Heat 2 to 3 minutes. Meanwhile whisk egg yolks with cream in a small dish; add nutmeg and a large spoonful of hot soup, whisking as adding. Add to soup, whisking as adding. Warm over low heat 2 to three minutes. Serve at once.

My Notes: As with almost any recipe, cooks make changes to suit themselves. I used boneless skinless



President's Corner

Dear Members,

We are now well into the New Year with three events behind us: the Beer Tasting, our Burns Night, and the Kirkin o' the Tartan. There are many more events coming up which I hope will bring many of you out to participate. I am enthusiastic about the rest of the year and trust that SCOT will have something for you to enjoy this year. Remember to mark your calendar for our Golf Tournament on June 1.

Once more I will 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. I of course want each of you to encourage young people to get involved in SCOT, as they are our future.

God Bless & Have a Great Year,

Donald Ross

welake87@gmail.com



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:

George Birrell
Chris Chandler
Carolyn Graf
Patricia Johnston
Cheryl Jones

Ginny Kent
Donald Ross
John Sprague
Darci Zorio

chicken breasts and cooked them for about 8 minutes. I left out the carrots and peas and upped the nutmeg a little as this spice was used more liberally in historic savory recipes than today. This is an elegant soup with a delicate flavor: perfect for a spring luncheon.

A Bonnie Scottish Cookbook by Kay Shaw Nelson, EPM Publications, Inc. McLean, Virginia, 1989.

- Carolyn McDonald Graf

Poem and Commentary

Saint Dod,^a by William Soutar

Whan¹ Dod Sprunt dee'd² at Whinniemuir
 (A guid³ man a'⁴ his days)
 They kisted⁵ him, he was sae⁶ puir,⁷
 In his auld⁸ workin'-claes.⁹

He gaed¹⁰ abune;¹¹ but had sma'¹² thocht¹³
 That noo¹⁴ he was a saint:
 Afore¹⁵ him flew an orient flaught¹⁶
 And harpists came ahint.¹⁷

Sune¹⁸ he was whitter'd¹⁹ up to God
 Wha'²⁰ crapp't²¹ him wi'²² a crown:²³
 And cried: "You're welcome here, Saint Dod;
 Saft²⁴ be your sittin'-down."²⁵

Gin²⁶ ye²⁷ are fain²⁸ for ony²⁹ fairin',³⁰
 As fain am I to gie:³¹
 Saint Cuthbert and Saint Kentigern
 Are no³² mair³³ dear to me."

Dod kent³⁴ fou³⁵ weel³⁶ there was ae³⁷ boon³⁸
 He'd³⁹ lang'd⁴⁰ for monie⁴¹ a year:
 But fitter'd⁴² wi' his snaw⁴³-white gown⁴⁴
 And was owre⁴⁵ blate⁴⁶ to speer:⁴⁷

"Speak oot,⁴⁸" said God; "and lat's⁴⁹ hae⁵⁰ dune⁵¹—
 There's nae⁵² bane-pikin'⁵³ here."

Wi' that Dod hecht,⁵⁴ and haisk't,⁵⁵ and hocht⁵⁶
 Or⁵⁷ he was in a steuch;⁵⁸
 But syne⁵⁹ he kyth'd⁶⁰ his benmost⁶¹ thocht
 And it was deuce⁶² eneuch.⁶³

"Dear Lord! o'⁶⁴ heaven and the yird⁶⁵
 Gie⁶⁶ me fornent⁶⁷ this croun,
 A cockit-bonnet⁶⁸ like oor⁶⁹ laird⁷⁰
 Whan he trots⁷¹ to the toun.⁷²"

Sae a' you fowk⁷³, wha'⁷⁴ tak'⁷⁵ the road
 That speels⁷⁶ awa'⁷⁷ up there,
 Hae a bit corrieneuch⁷⁸ wi' Dod—
 Ye'll⁷⁹ ken⁸⁰ him be⁸¹ his gear.⁸²

^aGeorge, ¹when, ²died, ³good, ⁴all, ⁵put in a coffin, ⁶so, ⁷poor, ⁸old, ⁹clothes, ¹⁰went; ¹¹above, ¹²small, ¹³thought, ¹⁴now, ¹⁵before, ¹⁶flight of angels, ¹⁷behind, ¹⁸soon, ¹⁹briskly propelled, ²⁰who, ²¹capped, ²²with, ²³crown, ²⁴soft, ²⁵stay here, ²⁶given, ²⁷you, ²⁸glad, ²⁹any, ³⁰gift, ³¹give, ³²not, ³³more, ³⁴knew, ³⁵full, ³⁶well, ³⁷one, ³⁸benefit, ³⁹he had, ⁴⁰longed, ⁴¹many, ⁴²fidged, ⁴³snow, ⁴⁴gown, ⁴⁵over, ⁴⁶modest, ⁴⁷ask, ⁴⁸out, ⁴⁹let us, ⁵⁰have, ⁵¹done, ⁵²no, ⁵³bone-picking, ⁵⁴hesitated, ⁵⁵croaked, ⁵⁶coughed, ⁵⁷as if, ⁵⁸cloud of dust, ⁵⁹then, ⁶⁰gave, ⁶¹deepest, ⁶²pleasant, ⁶³enough, ⁶⁴of, ⁶⁵earth or yard, ⁶⁶give, ⁶⁷instead of, ⁶⁸dressed hat, ⁶⁹our, ⁷⁰lord, ⁷¹goes with horses, ⁷²town, ⁷³folk, ⁷⁴who, ⁷⁵take, ⁷⁶climbs, ⁷⁷away, ⁷⁸conversation, ⁷⁹you will, ⁸⁰know, ⁸¹by, ⁸²appearance

(Continued on page 2)

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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