

Vice Chieftain Report 2026

By Susan MacKinnon

My journey with the Caledonian Society started when Scott & I moved to Hawaii in 1973. His mother Lillian involved me in the Society almost immediately—the MacKinnon family had been charter members. In the early years I helped with the Burns dinner which was at the Ilikai Hotel. Attendance could have close to 400 people. No computers back then, we had to write everything down and hope we remembered everyone. Over fifty years later, it's much easier to keep track of attendance at events with computer programs. I guess pretty soon we'll just let AI take care of it all.

I have probably done every job on this Council over the many years—except Chieftain, and don't want that job! As Vice Chieftain, I do have responsibility for conducting meetings if the Chieftain is not available—that's enough. I also write the newsletter & occasional emails. And help with other areas as needed.

The Society is now 61 years old. Volunteer organizations struggle to keep relevant and to keep members interested. Our mission is an educational one that tries to blend the Scottish culture with the Hawaiian culture since Scottish immigrants began coming to the Islands in the early 1800's. Every year we honor Hawaii's Princess Kai`ulani whose father was Scottish born Archibald Scott Clegghorn, and mother was Princess Likelike. We are the supporting member of the Hawaiian Scottish Association which puts on the Highland Games here in Hawaii. Our Scottish Heroes series highlights Scottish men & women who have made a difference in the history of world events, science, public service, etc.

We hope to see the Society continue to provide interesting programs and that our membership will learn about the contributions of so many in history. Come join us at these events and send us your ideas for future events. Bring friends and family too. You are greatly appreciated.