



# The Caledonian

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## SCOTTISH SMILES: An Evening of Fun—March 7

Do Scots have a sense of humor? Of course. Do Scots laugh at all the same things that amuse other people? Has Scottish humor changed over the years? Is the humor of contemporary Scots likely to be droll, self-deprecating, or nationalistic or does modern Scottish humor take other forms? Let's find out.

Come to the next Caledonian Society Event, **Scottish Smiles**, on **Saturday, March 7, 2009**, from **5:30 to 8:30 p.m.** at the **Parish Hall of the Episcopal Church of St. Clement**, 1515 Wilder Ave, in Honolulu. Parking in the front lot or along the street.

We start the evening with a **potluck meal**, so **bring a food dish** to share. Please phone or e-mail Jackie Phillips, 621-6622 or [jlphil1@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:jlphil1@hawaiiintel.net) to let her how many guests and what sort of food you are bringing.

Our presenter is **Brian Flynn**, a Scottish-born Society member who keeps in touch with current comedy on visits to Scotland and London several times a year.

He plans to bring videos of contemporary Scottish comedians in action and knows a great deal about them.

Brian says, "Enjoy a collection of short sketches and video clips of Scotland's greatest comedians from the past and the present, from theatres, comedy clubs, and pubs, television and movies. Choose your favorites and tell us about what makes you laugh. Audience participation is invited."

To start the audience participation during dinner, we'll have a Scottish news and joke pool. We

encourage everyone to **bring a Scottish joke and/or a small contemporary Scottish news item**. Past issues of *The Caledonian* might be one source for jokes. Current Scottish news can be found in the front pages of publications like *Scottish Life* or *Scotland* and in online newspapers and websites. Here's a chance to explore what's out there.

No charge for this event (and we all know old jokes about Scots on that subject!)

### The Details

**Date:** Sat. Mar. 7, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**Activity:** Potluck dinner & Scottish humor

**Where:** St. Clement's Parish Hall, 1515 Wilder Ave.

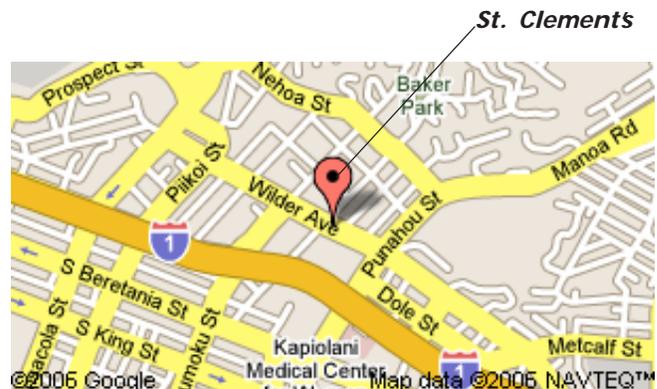
**Bring:** Potluck dinner item. Call Jackie Phillips at 621-6622 OR email [jlphil1@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:jlphil1@hawaiiintel.net) with food item & # of guests

**Also:** Bring Scottish joke or current news item

**Park:** Park in parking lot & surrounding area

### About Brian Flynn ...and this is no joke!

"I was born in Leith, Edinburgh. My father was a theatre musician, and until the Empire theatre in Edinburgh (in 1959 I think) stopped its vaudeville, shows and became a bingo hall, I often appeared in shows there when a little kid was needed. I moved to NYC in 1994 and Hawaii in 1999. I am usually in Scotland for Christmas and New Year, usually there twice a year. I always go to the Xmas pantomime shows, and friends keep me informed about who's doing what in comedy. I have a sizeable collection of DVDs and videotapes of Scottish comedy."



# Society News

2

## From the Craig by Chieftain Bruce McEwan

I cannot say enough about our 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Robert Burns. Burns Night at the Hawaii Convention Center was the special event that we wanted it to be for this historical evening. A great mahalo to all of the members who participated to make this such a memorable evening for all.

We are already looking ahead to our next event, which is an evening with Scottish comedians hosted by member Brian Flynn. To get everyone in the mood, I have a Scottish joke: Jeannie and Morag, two golden-agers from Inverurie, were discussing their husbands over lunch. "I do wish Ian would stop biting his nails. He makes me terribly nervous" said Jeannie. "My Angus used to do the same thing," Morag replied. "But I broke him of the habit." Jeannie looked impressed and asked, "Really, how?" Morag smiled knowingly and replied. "Easy, I hid his false teeth."



The Highland Festival will be held on April 4-5 this year and we will be sponsoring a cultural exhibit. We need volunteers to tend the table, so when the time comes to step forward and help, please do.

I would also like to remind our members that The Caledonian Society of Hawaii, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, so donations are tax deductible. Because the majority of our members are life members, they do not have to pay the annual \$20 dues, but can still make a financial contribution through a donation to support our various activities.

Finally, the status of the *Falls of Clyde* is a subject that our Society is very concerned about. The ship was delayed going into drydock in January because of weather conditions, but has now been further delayed because of undisclosed hazardous materials inside the vessel that has created an environmental clean-up problem before the ship can go into drydock. Also, the \$500,000 endowment that was

set up for maintenance of the ship has not yet been turned over by Bishop Museum to Friends of Falls Of Clyde (FoFOC), which is causing a financial hardship. FoFOC has been handling the challenges as they come along because saving the *Falls of Clyde* is the right thing to do for our community.

Yours aye, **Bruce**

## Highlights from Recent Council Meetings

Recently the Caledonian Society Council took these actions:

1. Discussed updates and improvements to the Society website, [scotsinhawaii.org](http://scotsinhawaii.org)
2. Voted not to participate as a group in the Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Waikiki.
3. Appointed a committee to revise the handout brochure about the Society.

## SERG: Scottish Education Research Grant

Each year the Society offers a grant of up to \$2,000 to a young person between 18 and 28 who wishes to do a project involving Scotland or Scottish history or culture. This year the deadline for application is March 6, 2009. For full information and application form, see the website [scotsinhawaii.org](http://scotsinhawaii.org).

## 2008-09 SOCIETY EVENTS

**Saturday, March 7, 2009 5:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**"Scottish Contemporary Comedians"**

Featuring our very own Bryan Flynn. Potluck meal.

**Thursday, April 2, 2009**

**"Tribute to Princess Ka'iulani"**

Mauna Ala in Nu'uauu

**Sat./Sun. April 4/5, 2009**

**"Hawaiian Scottish Association Highland Festival"**

Kapiolani Park.

**Monday, April 6, 2009**

**"Tartan Day Rally at State Capitol"**

**Saturday, June 20, 2009**

**Annual General Meeting**

Talk on genealogy DNA by Tom and Georgia Bopp

# Society Events

## Good Soups, Good Food, Good Whiskies

In the Garden Terrace Room at Hokua on Ala Moana Boulevard, on November 14, 2008, four soups made from Scottish recipes were served. About 35 Caledonians and guests tried the soups and came back for seconds of Potato Leek, Scotch Broth, Carrot Lentil and Cullen Skink (made with smoked fish).

Soup for supper primed the group to enjoy a video about the history and making of Scotch whiskies followed by a tasting of whiskies of different ages and from different distilleries. Thanks to **Bruce McEwan** and **David Gochros** of Remy Martin for sharing their knowledge and their whiskies.

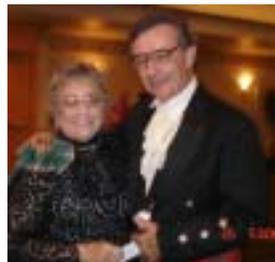
Mahalo to **Susan MacKinnon** for providing the meeting space, to **Jackie Phillips**, **Larissa Forseth**, **Lillian Cunningham**, and Susan MacKinnon for making the soups, to **Nanci Munroe** for kitchen help, to the Hokua staff for set-up and clean-up help, and to everyone for sharing interesting pupus, breads and desserts.

## Aloha Committee Report

**Heather MacGregor**, our Aloha Committee Chairperson, has this report on members who have had health problems. **Bill Wynn** is back at home after his hitch in the hospital for shoulder surgery. He is having a rough time, as he may not be able to give hugs for a while, but is coming along with therapy. **Vicky Armstrong** is improving and improving. **Lyn McGregor** also improves as the days go by. **Dr. Nancy Hedemann** asks about Caledonian affairs and likes to hear from members.

## Flowers of the Forest

Longtime Caledonian board member and lover of things Scottish, **Betty Davison**, died in December after a long, valiant battle with mesothelioma cancer. She specifically requested that her Scottish roots be celebrated at her memorial service, with Piper Larry Coleman playing three special pieces in her honor. Many of her Caledonian friends came out to support her memory.



**Betty & Don Munro**



*Lovely table settings greeted Caledonians and friends*



*Attendees watched a video about whiskies, while eagerly awaiting a wee dram.*



*Bruce McEwan imparts some info about whisky (spelled without the "e" please!)*

# Burns 250th Anniversary

## A Highlight Review of the Gala Evening

by Lillian Cunningham:

\* Actor Stephen Mead, looking like the bard, declaiming Burns poems with drama and verve.

\* 2009 Scot of the Year Awards to three who contributed to the State of Hawaii Joint Resolution in 2008 establishing Tartan Day and recognizing the Hawaii Tartan: Doug Herring, Harold (Sandy) McKeen, and Hardy Spoehr.

\* 2009 White Heather Award to Burl Burlingame for outstanding contributions in the field of Journalism.

\* Pre-dinner reception with Katie McClellan's harp music in the spacious glass foyer of the Hawaii Convention Center.

\* Lighted stage backdrop suggesting a Scottish cottage of yesteryear with spinning wheel and blazing hearth.

\* High ceilings doing justice to the stirring music of the Celtic Pipes and Drums.

\* Haggis Procession including Chef Douglas Rothenburger, who made the haggis. Others in the procession: Larry Coleman, piper; Carlene Hart, Poosie Nancie; Steve Craven addressed the haggis and raised the ceremonial knife.

\* Skillful emcee work and songs by Kalani Brady, with fiddler Lisa Gomes.

\* A surprise proclamation from Mayor Mufi Hanneman presented by Gordon Bruce, now a new member of the Society.

\* All the toasts and readings done with skill, sentiment, and humor.

\* Scottish dancing both lively and elegant, a delight to watch.

\* A gorgeous crowd in Highland finery.

\* To sample the evening in color, use the Burns pictures link from the Society website: [www.scotsinhawaii.org](http://www.scotsinhawaii.org)



**Katie McClellan at her harp**



**The Celtic Pipes & Drums**



**Haggis Ceremony, Piper Larry Coleman; Possie Nancie, Carlene Hart; Steve Craven, Haggie addresser; Chef Douglas Rothenburger**



**Lisa Gomes, fiddler**



**Kalani Brady & Lisa Gomes**

**Highland Dancers: (L-R) Julie Bliss-Tyau, Dede Lum, Ching Hsin Tseng, Linda Schupp, Lisa Gomes**



**Country Dancers: (L-R) Bruce McEwan, Elizabeth Ratliff, Mary Braffet, back to camera Mick MacIntosh, Don Munro**



**Scot of the Year  
Winners: (L-R)  
Hardy Spoehr,  
Sandy McKeen,  
Doug Herring**

**(L-R) Bruce McEwan  
and Burl Burlingame,  
White Heather Award  
winner**



**Piper Jacob Kaio**



**Robert Burns portrayed by Stephen Mead**



**Jim Redmond and Larissa Forseth**



**Wendie McClain, Elspeth Kerr, David McClain**



**Cindy and Gordon Bruce**



**Athlyn Bruce with Ione  
Pokipala**



**Carlene Hart and Susan  
MacKinnon**



**Tory Laitila and  
Kristen Keller**



**Jane Redmond and Heather  
MacGregor**

*Photos by Jim Redmond & Larissa Forseth;  
Photo selections and captions by Lillian Cunningham*

# More Society Events

## An Orkney Afternoon

On Saturday, December 20, 2008, a dozen or so members of The Caledonian Society were warmly welcomed by a large crowd at Christ Church Uniting for a holiday event with a ceilidh atmosphere, which the church called "A Scottish Christmas."

The occasion was a chance to meet and to hear from the Reverend Fiona Lillie from Stromness Parish in the Orkney Islands in Scotland. She was in Hawaii for a month's pastoral exchange while the Kailua pastor served her church in Scotland. She gave a delightful talk about the life in Orkney and showed personal and scenic slides.

Piper Jacob Kaio played several numbers, Linda Schupp did the sword dance, Melissa Lindsay, danced a Scottish Lilt and local dancers of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society taught a few country dances informally. Under the leadership of Bruce McEwan, some of the church folks joined in for their first experience of Scottish country dancing.

The warm and hospitable CCU people brought mountains of homemade Christmas cookies for refreshments. It was a enjoyable afternoon for both groups.

The afternoon was organized by Dianne Brookins of CCU and Chieftain McEwan, who presented guest Fiona Lillie a souvenir sash of Hawaii tartan from the Caledonian Society. Thanks to CCU members Paul Haring and Bill Muench for the photos.



**Fiona Lillie receiving her Hawaii tartan sash from Bruce**



**Piper Jacob Kaio**



**(L-R) Felix Tan, Melissa Lindsay, Bruce McEwan, Linda Schupp and Alice Herring**



**Lillian and Bruce partnering church members**



**Linda Schupp doing the Sword Dance**



**Melissa Lindsay doing the Scottish Lilt**

# Burns Toast & Books

## Worldwide Toast to Robert Burns

On the January 25, Robert Burns' actual birthday, but the morning after our Burns Night, a group of members and friends met at O'Toole's Pub to toast the bard once again.

The goal was to participate in a Guinness World Record attempt for the Largest Simultaneous Worldwide Toast. Thirty-seven glasses were raised in Hawaii at 11 a.m. (9 p.m. Scotland time) "To the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns."

The Scottish organizers of the Worldwide Toast say there was no record set for the Guinness Book, but the group in Hawaii had great fun and even attracted a *Star-Bulletin* photographer.

We haven't seen his pictures anywhere, but our own photographers caught the spirit of the Hawaii toast. To see local pictures, check the link from our website [scotsinhawaii.org](http://scotsinhawaii.org).

For more on the world project see: <http://www.worldwidetoasttorobertburns.com>



**New members Desi & Cliff Poteet**



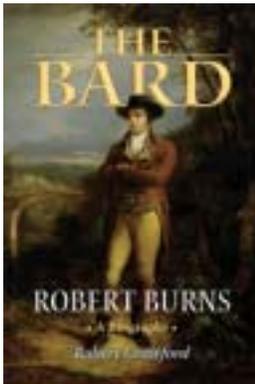
**Mary Peddie, Father Ruby, Dan Peddie**



**(R-L) Lillian Cunningham, Desi Poteet, new member Richard Fulton**

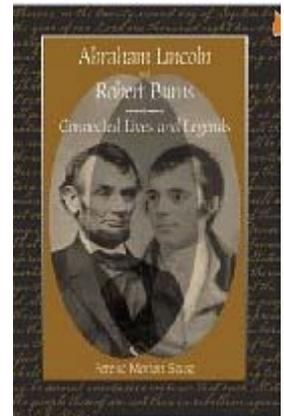


**(L-R) Selina Marsh, Jackie Phillips, Heather MacGregor, Athlyn Bruce, new member Kimberly Gunn**



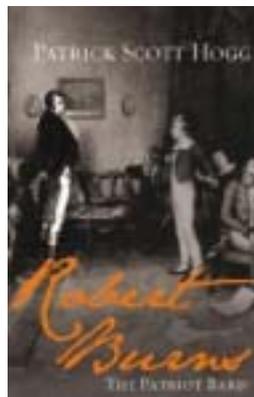
## ***THE BARD ROBERT BURNS A Biography***

At January's board meeting, the chieftain informed the group of a new biography of Robert Burns, *THE BARD*, written by St Andrews Univ Modern Scottish Literature Professor Robert Crawford & just published by Princeton Univ press. The published price is \$35, but a group discount of 40% is available to Scottish societies ordering five or more. After the meeting, members of the Scottish Educational Research Grant committee decided to order 10 copies of *THE BARD* to have available for purchase at Burns' Night Jan 24. That night we sold them all at a special price of \$25, with \$1.90 per book going to the SERG scholarship fund. So, heady with success, the SERG committee—with board approval—has ordered ten more copies which will be available at the April Highland Gathering.



## ***ROBERT BURNS THE PATRIOT BARD***

This biography reveals Burns as a Scottish patriot of the heart, but also a man who was pragmatically a British patriot and risked his life for democratic reform. He was a son of the Enlightenment, whose inspiration came from Scottish and English poets, the Glorious Revolution of 1688, the American Revolution of Independence, and the French Revolution of 1789. \$26.03 Available May 26 from Amazon.com



## ***ABRAHAM LINCOLN & ROBERT BURNS/ Connected Lives & Legends***

The fruit of meticulous research on both sides of the Atlantic, this beautifully crafted, sensitive analysis offers intriguing and instructive insights into the numerous parallels and intersections between the life stories of two men who were to become the embodiment of their respective nations in all their contradictions. \$18.45 Available now from Amazon.com

# Scottish Humor

8

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**Jackie Phillips**, 621-6622

One day Wee Hughie bought a bottle of fine whisky and while walking home he fell. Getting up he felt something wet on his pants. He looked up at the sky and said "Oh, Lord, please I beg you let it be blood!"

Said the Englishman to the boastful Scot: "Take away your mountains, glens and lochs, and what have you got?" "England", replied the Scot.

An Englishman was being tried for being drunk and disorderly. The judge asked him where he had purchased the whisky. "But I didn't buy it, your Honour," said the Englishman. "A Scotsman gave it to me." "28 days for perjury," replied the judge.

An American was going for a job interview in the Scottish countryside and on the way out he asked a local farmer for directions: "Excuse me, dude, could you possibly tell me the quickest way to London?" The farmer asked: "You driving or walking, lad?" The American replied: "Driving." The farmer nodded, saying: "Aye, definitely the quickest way"

Scottish preacher to his congregation: "I don't mind you putting buttons in the collection plate, but please provide your own buttons. Stop pulling them off the church cushions."

Another Scottish preacher prayed thusly after a particularly unproduc-

tive collection: "We thank you Lord that the plate was returned safely."

The Scots have found an infallible cure for sea sickness: Lean over the side of the ship with a ten pence coin in your mouth.

Two robbers broke into a boarding house in Glasgow in search of money. A fierce struggle ensued. "We didn't do too badly," said one of them afterwards. "We came out with twenty pounds." "But we had fifty when we went in," complained the other.

Jock McTavish." A Scotsman decided to get married so one morning he sent messages to three of his girlfriends, proposing marriage. Two phoned immediately to say "yes" while the third phoned that night to say the same. He married the third girl saying, "The lass for me is the one who waits for the cheap rates."

A Scotsman won a toilet brush as the booby prize in a raffle. He had never won anything before, though, so he was delighted. A few weeks later a friend asked if he was getting much use from the toilet brush. "Well," came the reply, "I don't think much of it. I think I'll go back to using toilet paper."

**Q.** How was the Grand Canyon formed? **A.** Scotsman dropped his penny into a small crack in Arizona. **Q.** How was copper wire invented? **A.** By two Scotsmen quarrelling for a penny.

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**Society of Hawaii**

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