



# The Caledonian

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## A Skye-high movie March 19 & 23 ONLY

Here's a rare combination: a chance to see a powerful movie filmed in Scotland, learn stories from Scottish folklore, and hear the melodious sound of Scottish Gaelic, the language still spoken in parts of Scotland's Highlands and Islands. Lucky for us!

The Gaelic movie will show at **The Movie Museum**, 3566 Harding Avenue, Kaimuki, Honolulu. Thursday and Monday, **March 19 and 23**. Showings at **12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30 and 8:30 pm** both days.

This very small theater backs onto Harding Avenue but faces the large municipal parking lot between Harding and Waialae Avenues. Access is from the parking lot, not the street. Its twenty or so seats are large comfortable recliners.

**Reservations REQUIRED.** Phone **735-8771** and reserve with Dwight or Jaynie or leave a message. Society member Dwight Damon offers a low price of \$4 for Caledonian Society members. (Regular price \$5). Museum open Thurs-Mon, noon to 8 p.m. Reserve with a friend or two and carpool. Parking is often tight in Kaimuki.



"*Seachd*" (2007) was filmed mostly on the island of Skye and is presented in Scottish Gaelic with English subtitles. A young man, Aonghas (Angus) visits his dying grandfather and embarks on a quest for the truths behind his parents' deaths and behind his grandfather's ancient, fearful stories from Gaelic history. On a mountain in Skye he finds an ancient truth he did not expect.

Billed as "family drama," this film was nominated for several BAFTA awards in 2007. The word '*seachd*' is Gaelic for 'seven,' the number of stories portrayed in the film, counting Aonghas' own story. 88 mins. *Lan fhirinn na sgeoil*: the truth is in the story.

## “The Daughter of a Double Race”

Princess Victoria Ka‘iulani of Hawai‘i (1875-1899) was the daughter of Archibald Scott Cleghorn, originally from Edinburgh, Scotland, and of Princess Miriam Likelike, a member of the royal Kamehameha family of Hawaii.

In 1889 the Scottish writer Robert Louis Stevenson visited Hawaii and befriended the young princess. The two spent time talking under the large banyan tree at Ainahau, the Cleghorn estate in Waikiki. As the princess was about to leave for education in England and Scotland in May 1889, Stevenson wrote a poem in her autograph book.

“Forth from her land to mine she goes  
The Island maid, the Island rose,  
Light of heart and bright of face,  
The daughter of a double race.  
Her Islands here in Southern sun  
Shall mourn their Kaiulani gone.  
And I, in her dear banyan’s shade,  
Look vainly for my little maid.  
But our Scots Islands far away,  
Shall glitter with unwonted day,  
And cast for once their tempest by  
To smile in Kaiulani’s eye.”

He added: “*Written in April to Kaiulani in the April of her age and at Waikiki within easy walk of Kaiulani’s banyan. When she cometh to my land and her father’s, and the rain beats upon the window (as I fear it will), let her look at this page; it will be like a weed gathered and preserved at home; and she will remember her own Islands and the shadow of the mighty tree, and she will hear the peacocks screaming in the dusk and the wind blowing in the palms and she will think of her father sitting there alone.*”

While Ka‘iulani was away for schooling, the Kingdom of Hawai‘i was overthrown and the monarchy deposed. After a stop in Washington to plead for her Islands, she eventually returned home, but died a year later, age 23 years, 5 months.

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*If you drop a bagpipe and a water melon off a tall building, which would hit the ground first?  
Who cares?*

## Princess Ka‘iulani Tribute on April 2



On **Thursday, April 2**, the Caledonian Society will present a sunset **Tribute to Princess Ka‘iulani**, at **6 p.m.** at **Mauna ‘Ala**. This site, The Royal Mausoleum of Hawaii, is located at 2261 Nu‘unau Ave., Honolulu. All are welcome to attend this short, simple

ceremony, which includes bagpiping, readings, dancing, and presentation of a lei at the crypt of the Hawaiian-Scottish crown princess.

## Tartan Day Rally April 6

In 2008 the Hawaii State Legislature passed a resolution designating April 6 each year as Tartan Day and recognizing the Hawaii Tartan. This year in gratitude for that act, The Caledonian Society will sponsor a short **Tartan Day Rally** at the **State Capitol** from **3-3:30 p.m. on Mon., April 6**.

Help swell the tartan-clad crowd, and to applaud the bagpipes, the resolution, and the contributions made by Scots to the flourishing of the State of Hawaii. Since 1998 April 6 has been recognized as National Tartan Day throughout the U.S. April 6 was chosen to commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320. This document, declaring independence, proclaims, “For we fight not for glory nor for riches nor for honour, but only and alone for freedom, which no good man surrenders but with his life.”



### Editor’s note:

Our thanks goes to Lillian Cunningham who prepared all the material for this newsletter.

# Highland Festival

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## Hawaiian Scottish Festival April 4 & 5

It's time again for the annual **Hawaiian Scottish Festival & Highland Games**. The big event takes place on **Saturday and Sunday, April 4 - 5**, in **Kapiolani Park** from **9 am to 6 pm** both days. Plan to attend and to spend as much time as you can. Each day a noon parade of bands, athletes, clans, competitors and representatives of organizations will help to build up the excitement.

Are you wishing to be thrilled by the great bagpipes played in the great out-of-doors? Come to the Festival. Need a kilt pin or an item in the Hawaii Tartan? Get it at the Festival. Hungry for haggis or scones? Find them at the Festival. Need help finding your Scottish ancestors? Ask at the Festival. Want to join your clan organization? Check out the clan tables at the Festival. Can't imagine how athletes lift that caber? Watch them at the Festival. Want to see or do Scottish dancing? Tap your toes at the Festival. Need a Scottish t-shirt? You'll have choices at the Festival. Want to amuse the children? There's a children's tent at the Festival.

The Festival Games feature traditional Scottish **athletic events**, including the famous caber toss. Open events are on Saturday including the Kilted Run and the Housewife's Events, which take place about noon. The Masters' events happen on Sunday. Rumor says that several competitive athletes will be here from Canada, including one woman. If you want to compete, sign up early, preferably by 8 am.

There will be two stages for continuous **entertainment**. Our local Celtic Pipes and Drums will do the bagpiping honors. Visiting entertainers include Ed Miller, a traditional Scottish singer and guitar player, from Texas, the lively duo, Switchback, from Chicago, and Judith Weikle and her composite band. They will be joined by local musical groups such as Celtic Waves, Saloon Pilots and Lobo del Mar (Dogwatch) and others. Local Scottish Country Dancers and Jig This Irish Dancers will perform. A third stage will host competitive Highland Dancing, including a group of young dancers all the way from

Scotland. The Society for Creative Anachronism will demonstrate medieval skills such as swordfighting.

Informative **displays** will appear in the clan tent where there will be two genealogy tables, a Falls of Clyde table, and representatives from various clans and other groups. Scottish wares—especially jewelry—will be on sale in the vendors' tent. Several food vendors will sell Scottish and other food.

On **Saturday** morning at 9 am, a dance group called the Lindsay Halau will help to put a Hawaiian touch on the Festival, and The Royal Hawaiian Band will play on Sunday afternoon. On **Sunday** morning a Kirkin' o' the Tartan will be held on the main stage at 9:30 am to be followed at 9:45 by a Scottish wedding—for real!

The Festival is put on by The Hawaiian Scottish Association, which is itself sponsored by The Caledonian Society and other local Scottish groups.

**The Caledonian Society** will have a membership table with our book *The Story of Scots in Hawaii*, on sale. New for sale by The Society in 2009 are two items especially to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns. They are a brand new biography of Robert Burns called *The Bard: Robert Burns* by Robert Crawford and a new commemorative t-shirt displaying the contemporary logo from our Burns Night and available only from The Caledonian Society of Hawaii.

**Please help out your Society** by volunteering some time at the table this year. Especially needed is a Society coordinator of volunteers for the weekend and helpers for Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday. Phone Susan MacKinnon, 591-9398, before March 23, to offer to take a shift at the Festival.

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*If you took all the bagpipers in the world and laid them end to end....it would be a good idea.*

*Then there were two Scots who bet a pound on who could stay under water the longest. They both drowned.*

# Society Events



Above, members and guests sup on delicious pot luck dinner. To the right, "comedian" Brian Hynn takes a bow. Pix by Bruce McEwan



## "Scottish Smiles": March 7

All 56 members and guests were smiling as we went around the tables at St. Clement's Parish Hall introducing ourselves. Maybe we smiled because of the bountiful dinner we had just consumed. Maybe we smiled at the jokes some people told as part of their introductions. Maybe we smiled at what my mother would have called "the chance to visit" with old and new friends, including a number of out-of-town guests who came along with members. **Chieftain Bruce McEwan** smiled at the size of the crowd, which surpassed a goal he has urged us toward. Whatever the cause, Scottish smiles abounded.

And then we smiled some more at the video clips presented by **Brian Hynn** from his collection of comedies. Some poked fun at Scots; others presented situations much like those in humor from anywhere. Maybe we didn't yet define whether Scottish humor is distinctive or not, but we had some chuckles and a pleasant evening.

Special thanks and a big smile to Brian Flynn for presenting the program. Thanks also to **Jim Redmond** for important technical assistance to make the systems work. Thanks to **Jackie Phillips**, assisted by **Larry Phillips**, for taking reservations and coordinating the food and food tables. A grateful smile to everyone who brought food, who helped assisted in the evening.

*How many Scotsmen does it take to change a light bulb?  
Och! It's no that dark!*

*Have you heard about the lecherous Jock who lured a girl up to his attic to see his etchings? He sold her four of them.*

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **Thurs, March 19 & Mon, March 23**

#### ***Seachd: The Incredible Pinnacle***

The Movie Museum, 3566 Harding Avenue, Kaimuki, Showings at **12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, & 8:30. Reservations Required 735-8771.** \$4 for Caledonian Society Members.

### **Thurs, April 2, 6 p.m.**

#### **Tribute to Princess Kaiulani**

Mauna Ala, 2261 Nuuanu Avenue, The Royal Mausoleum of Hawaii. Brief remembrance for the Scottish-Hawaiian princess. Piping, dancing, readings, placing of lei.

### **Fri, April 3, 5 - 9 p.m.**

#### **Welcome Ceilidh**

The Willows Restaurant, 901 Hausten Street. Advance tickets from The Willows, 953-9200. \$25 per adult; At the Door \$30. Headliner musicians: Switchback. For more information see the HSA Website.

### **Sat & Sun, April 4 - 5, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

#### **Hawaiian Scottish Festival,**

Kapiolani Park, Scottish games, entertainment, food, wares.

### **Mon, April 6, 3 - 3:30 p.m.**

**Tartan Day Rally, Hawaii State Capital**

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