



The Caledonian

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Edinburgh Adventures: Summer 09

topic of Society meeting on Saturday, October 3 by Lillian Cunningham

Attending the first Society event of the fall season will be the next best thing to actually having been in Scotland this past summer.

Some of the summer travelers will share adventures from Edinburgh on Sat., October 3, 2 - 4 p.m. in HALE 'AKOAKOA 103, at WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE in Kaneohe.

Our main reporting guests will be Karen Meyer and some students from Castle Performing Arts Center of Castle High School. A group of these drama students went to Edinburgh to put on the play *Okinawa 1945* at the EDINBURGH FRINGE FESTIVAL in August. Some of these students had never been away from Oahu and none had ever been to Europe. Ms. Meyer says their trip was "fabulous." The Caledonian Society contributed to their adventures, as this group



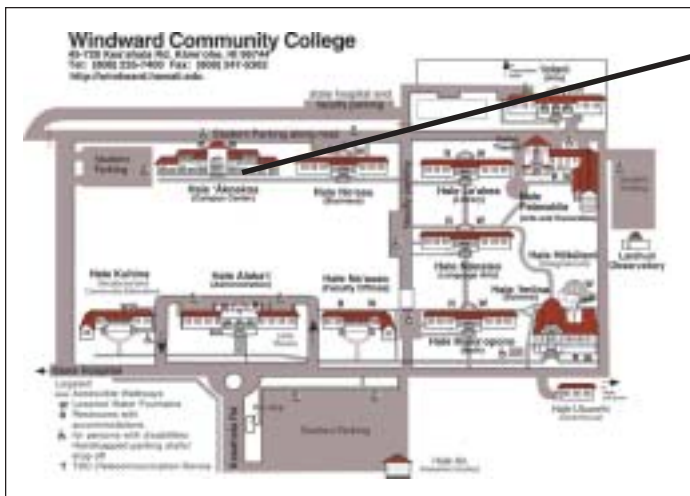
Pipers parade up the Royal Mile in Edinburgh. Photo by Hamish Burgess

received our SERG award (Scottish Education Research Grant) for 2009.

They will bring a compilation of pictures and tell their stories to put us into the scene.

In addition several travelers from our Society will also take us with them in words and pictures to Edinburgh for the huge GATHERING OF THE CLANS held in in late July. It is said to be the largest such clan gathering since 1822. The Gathering included Highland Games with professional athletes, music by some of Scotland's most famous bands, and

an evening march of clans up the Royal Mile including Bruce McEwan, Lillian Cunningham, and Hamish Burgess from Maui. See pages 4-5 for Hamish's story. No charge for this meeting. Afternoon refreshments will include tea and several kinds of shortbread.



Directions to the October 3 meeting

Windward Community College is at 45-720 Kea'ahala Road, straight mauka from Kamehameha Highway as it passes through Kaneohe. Turn mauka at Jack in the Box. At the entrance to the college, turn left in front of the administration building. Pass one more building and turn right up the hill to the large parking lot next to 'Akoakoa. After you park in the lot, walk along the walkway in front of the building to Room 103.

From the Craig by Chieftain Bruce McEwan

Aloha and mahalo to everyone who attended our Annual General Meeting in June. We had a great turnout. I want to thank you also for electing me to a new term as your Chieftain.

We are now in our new Society event year with our first meeting scheduled for October 3rd. As always, your Council tries to put together a calendar of events that will be educational and fun. Members are welcome to volunteer to help as presenters at our events.



This summer, Lillian and I attended The Gathering in Edinburgh. This event drew thousands of Scots, both native born and of Scottish ancestry, back to Scotland to celebrate our Scottish roots and heritage. Details of that experience will be discussed at the October 3rd meeting. What I want to say here is that seeing so many of us together in one place by clans was awesome. I felt a kinship not only with my own clan members, but with all the kilted and tartan-clad “cousins” in attendance. The spirit of the event was superb and there was a great deal of camaraderie visible. The march up some 8,000 clans people up the Royal Mile was exhilarating and we were cheered on by an estimated 20,000 onlookers. A chickenskin experience for sure. As we locals might say: “Lucky we be Scottish.”

Yours aye, **Bruce**



Scottish soups & ceilidh on November 14

Our annual Scottish soup supper & ceilidh is set for **Saturday evening, November 14** at St. Clement's Parish Hall. Mark your calendars and watch for more information in the next newsletter.

Planning for Burns 2010 underway— Why not help out!

The planning for the 2010 Robert Burns Dinner is starting once more. The event will be on Saturday, January 23, 2010 at the Hawaii Convention Center. We will have our first committee meeting in mid September and would like to call on you for help. Do you have ideas for the program? Can you help with the decorations at the Convention Center? Or do you love to make centerpiece arrangements? We need people to help with all aspects of putting together a fun-filled evening of Scottish entertainment and tribute to our favorite poet, Robert Burns. Please call Susan MacKinnon at 591-9398 or email susanmack@myhokua.com

Burns Night special guest

At our 2009 Burns Night, we had a visit from the Bard himself (aka Stephen Mead). Thanks to the Honolulu Celtic Pipes & Drums, the 2010 Burns Night will feature another special guest. Jim Motherwell, former Queen's Own Piper (at right piping at Queen Mother's funeral), will be here to pipe for us and talk a bit about his experiences serving the Queen and piping around the world. Please mark your calendars for at the Hawaii Convention Center on January 23rd.



Burns T-shirts still available

Our exclusive Robert Burns Anniversary t-shirts in black or maroon are still available at \$15 per shirt. We will have them for sale at the next event on October 3. Or mail your order and a check to the Society mailbox with an additional \$5 per shirt for postage. We still have all four styles—women's scoop neck, women's crew, and men's crew in black and men's crew in maroon— but some sizes have now sold out. For details e-mail lillianc@hawaii.edu.



Society Events

Annual General meeting brings out the smiles

There was a full house at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at Waioli Tea Room in Manoa, on June 20, 2009. The featured speaker was Dr. Tom Bopp, and the topic was tracing your roots through

the use of DNA. Using a large screen and visual aids, Dr. Bopp illustrated how we can trace our Scottish roots to places of origin. Attendees also enjoyed a delicious lunch and cool breezes.

—Stories & photos by Barbara Coons



Lunching together (l-r): Debbie Sanders, Heather MacGregor, Kathy DeFoster and Richard Souther



(l-r): Roberta & Stan Jones, and guest speaker Tom Bopp



Julie & Frank Morgan



Newlyweds-Carlene & Ron MacPherson



John & Denise MacKinnon



Susan MacKinnon & past chieftain Alan Buchanan



(l-r): Eppie Kerr, Marcia & Lois Wright



(l-r): Joyce Morse & Mollie Mead



(l-r): Jeannie Ferrier & Michaele Mahelona



June Waugh



Carolyn Conrad & Nanci Munroe



Wendy & Richard Sherman



(l-r) Lillian Cunningham reviews year as Don Munro & Athlyn Bruce follow along

"The Gathering":

Hamish Burgess reports first-hand on Edinburgh Gathering

"The Gathering" in Edinburgh, Scotland, July 2009

Caledonian Society member and West Maui resident Hamish Burgess, owner of local business and cultural organization Maui Celtic (www.mauiceltic.com), recently represented Maui Scots at 'The Gathering' in Edinburgh, Scotland, the centerpiece of Homecoming Scotland 2009, a year long series of events aimed at bringing folks of Scottish heritage back to their homeland in the year of national poet Robert Burns' 250th birthday anniversary.

As Scottish Ambassador for The Princess Ka'iulani Project (www.thekaiulaniproject.com), he also took the story of Hawaii's most beloved Hawaii/Scot back to her father's homeland, where Hamish was a featured guest on Liz Clark's show "Travels with your Auntie" on Celtic Music Radio Scotland, and broadcasting icon Archie Fisher's "Travelling Folk" show on BBC Radio Scotland, both in Glasgow.

While representing Scots of Hawaii, he reported on events and interviewed traditional musicians which will be heard on his own Celtic music radio show on Mana'o Radio 91.5fm Maui, 8-10am Sundays (online at www.manaoradio.com).

Clan Convention

July 24th Hamish attended the first Clan Convention in recorded history, at the Scottish Parliament building in Edinburgh. Over 100 Scottish Clan Chiefs and clan dignitaries from around the world discussed the role of the Clans in the modern world, as from a homeland population of 5 million, the Scottish diaspora worldwide is now 30-40 million people.

While welcoming the Chiefs, the Earl of Caithness (Chief of Clan Sinclair) stated "Never have so many chiefs been in one room, without swords and shields, gathered in peace". Dr. Jim Hunter further showed the significance of the day's event, saying that the last time the Clans gathered like this was in 1745, when the Highland Army captured Edinburgh!

David Sellar, Lord Lyon King of Arms, spoke about the Scottish clan and family, pointing out that the word 'clan' comes from the Gaelic 'clann' meaning 'children', and defined it as a "social and political kin-based unit". Donald McLaren of McLaren (Chief of the Clan McLaren), gave a passionate speech on



Caledonian Society of Hawaii member Hamish Burgess attended the first ever Clan Convention, at the Scottish Parliament building, where over 100 Scottish Clan Chiefs and clan dignitaries from around the world discussed the role of the Clans in the modern world.

behalf of the Chiefs, stating "Titles are not to honour men, the man or woman is to honour the title".

The Gathering

July 25-26th Holyrood Park in Edinburgh saw the biggest clan gathering, Highland Games, and Scottish music festival in memory. Over 47,000 people from over 40 countries, enjoyed the 2 music stages, bagpiping, dancing, heavy athletics, and visiting the Clan Village of 125 clan tents. There were talks on genealogy, history and storytelling, Scottish arts and crafts, the wonders of Scotland's larder, and of course local ale and a wee dram of whisky was always close at hand.

Saturday evening marked the highlight of the event: the Clan Parade of 8,000 clansfolk from the Palace of Holyroodhouse, up the Royal Mile to Edinburgh Castle Esplanade. Hamish photographed the parade, and greeted several Hawaii Scots from Maui and Oahu marching with their clans, including a surprise sighting (as we hadn't told each other we were going) of Lillian Cunningham and Bruce McEwan! Hamish joined his own Douglas clan for the memorable long walk up the medieval cobbled street, with 20,000 spectators cheering them on. The clans then filled the courtyard of the ancient

Edinburgh 2009



After the official Clan Chiefs photograph, a fabulous lunch was served, where Hamish met several of the Chiefs and worldwide clan representatives. One session was surprisingly cut short by a genuine fire alarm, sending the kilted Chiefs and dignitaries, not to mention the kilted Hamish Burgess, out on the street in the torrential Edinburgh rain. Fortunately there was a large covered entrance to the Parliament buildings, where bewildered tourists and residents gaped at the tartan-clad, bonnet and feather-sporting throng. It's been a long time since so many caps and bonnets bearing the traditional three feathers of a Clan Chief were seen in old Edinburgh.

imposing Castle, the stage for the world premier of the musical pageant *Aisling's Children: Tales of the Homecoming*. It told the history of Scotland with words, music and dance, through the eyes of a mother and six generations of her descendants. The weekend also featured Highland dancing and piping competitions, a 'Pipe Idol' contest for under 25s, a

traditional hill race, World Tug-of-War Champions, and the World Highland Games Heavy Events Championship. The music ranged from Scottish traditional groups to bagpipe rock !

Truly a 'once in a lifetime' Scottish experience, the full tartan-clad story with pictures is available at www.mauiceltic.com. Pics here from that site.



Sat-Sun July 25-26th - 'The Gathering' took place at Holyrood Park in Edinburgh



'Aisling's Children: Tales of the Homecoming' Edinburgh Castle Esplanade

Great Scot! A 100th Birthday ... from Tom Fairfull

Tom writes, "I received the Burns T-shirt. I'm sure Dad will wear it proudly at least when his Pittsburgh Steelers shirts are in the laundry. Here's a picture of my Dad celebrating his 100th birthday, on Guy Fawkes Day. He'll be 101 on Nov. 5, 2009. His memory is very sketchy, except for things years and years ago in Scotland. His stroke mainly affected his left arm and leg. He's still ornery though, and he has a good appetite. I visit him regularly on Tuesdays and Fridays. Every other week or so, I bring him fish & chips from Teddy's in Kailua; he says theirs are just like



Scotland. And in the off-week, I take him some McFries and a cheeseburger from Mickey-D's. "

Caledonians race to sound of pipes

The Caledonian Society was well represented at the 7th annual Mango Days race at Ala Moana Beach Park on Aug. 9. Scots-born **Bill Wynn** made it his "coming out" event while recovering from shoulder surgery and heart difficulties. Piper **Tina Yap** got the race off with a skirl and kept racers moving with her Scottish tunes. **Kit** and **Margie Smith**, who started the race to honor their daughter, finished in style along with **Helen Wynn**. This event was inspired by the book *Mango Days* by Patty Smith of Honolulu, a dedicated runner who died of lymphoma at 18.



Bill Wynn finishing up 5K race



Meet Marcia Wright

by **Barbara Coons, membership sec**

Marcia's interest in the organization began with our Castles event last September. She then attended the Robert Burns Dinner and became a member soon thereafter. Of special interest was the topic of the speaker at our Annual General Meeting in June, where she learned more about tracing one's roots through DNA. The Newcomers' "At Home" event at Heather MacGregor's was a lot of fun, she said. Already an enthusiastic new member, she Marcia brought friends to the Scottish Festival and has been to Scotland to research her heritage of Clan Gunn in Wick.

Marcia was born in California, but the family, which has strong roots in Hawaii going back 150 years, moved back here when she was four months old. Keeping her busy are many activities, such as singing in the church choir, helping out at the Daughters of Hawaii and working as a certified Shiatsu therapist.

The Scottish Thistle

Let the lily of France in luxuriance bloom,
Let the shamrock of Erin its beauty maintain,
Let the rose of fair England still waft its perfume,
But the Thistle of Scotia will dearest remain.
'Twas the badge that our fathers triumphantly wore
When they followed their sovereigns to vanquish the Dane,
The emblem our Wallace in battle eye bore;
Then the Thistle of Scotia must dearest remain.
It blooms on our mountains, it blooms in the vale,
It blooms in the winter, in snow, and in rain;
The type of her sons when rude seasons assail ~
To Scotia, her Thistle will dearest remain.

~ Author Unknown ~

Our Authors

Russell Fraser's: *From China to Peru*

Russell Fraser presented his new book, *From China to Peru*, at a book-signing at Barnes and Noble in Kahala on September 5th. His wife, Mary, and many friends gathered in a cozy section of the store and listened to Russell tell us how he came to write the book and what it is about. Then he read to us from his book, explaining his experiences as he went along.



Russell & Mary Fraser at the book signing

This book's front jacket reads, *From China to Peru, a Memoir of Travel*. Russell recalls his visits to China, Peru, Italy, France, Russia, the Persian Gulf, Scotland and Antarctica, getting to know the people and the cultures. Mary served coffee and a cake that cleverly had a picture of the book's cover on top of it. This book can be purchased at Barnes and Noble.

Eleanor Nordyke's: *Pacific Images*



(l-r) Eleanor Nordyke & Barbara Coons

The First Edition of Eleanor Nordyke's book, *Pacific Images*, sold out and became a rare book value, so she decided to put out a Second Edition. There were years of hard work involved in the publishing. On June 28th of this year, she held a book signing at

Barnes and Noble in Kahala. Also on view was the video related to the book.

Maps, engravings and text tell of the third and last voyage of Capt. James Cook in 1776 and 1780 on the ships HMS Discovery and Resolution. Capt. Cook, who was of Scottish and English descent, wrote in his journals about Pacific Island people and cultures. It was information in these journals, as well as of those of his officers, that are contained in this book. As an added attraction, there are pictures of a collection of stamps from 40 countries related to the voyage. This book is available at Barnes and Noble bookstores or from Eleanor herself.

—Stories & photos by Barbara Coons

Time to pay your dues

Please use the form below to pay your annual dues of \$20. Dues run from July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010. Your newsletter is one of the benefits of membership. Please don't miss an issue by letting your membership lapse.

Please renew your membership & make annual donation

Annual Dues / Donations

Annual Membership is \$20 per member NOW.....	\$ _____
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Please make checks payable to: The Caledonian Society of Hawaii
 Mail to: P.O. Box 4164, Honolulu, HI 96812-4164
 Questions? Barbara Coons, Membership Secretary: 521-7022 or BFCoons@aol.com

Scottish Humor

Two brothers, both Scots, named Jock and Sandy, go into business together. At the end of the first year they try to balance their account books, but were \$10.00 short. They tried again and again, but no matter which way they tried to do it, they always came out \$10.00 short.

"Tell me the truth, Sandy," asked his brother, "Are you keeping a woman on the side?"

How many Scotsman does it take to change a lightbulb? Ach, lad! It's nae that dark!

A Scotsman was heading out to the pub and turned to his wee wife before leaving. "Jackie - put your hat and coat on Lassie."

"Awe, John, that's nice - you're taking me to the pub with you?"

"Nae, just switching the heat off while I'm oot!"

MacShimidh: "I appreciate the cold plate and cold fork for the salad, but why is the butter knife hot?"
MacWaiter: "Tis policy of the management. Butter is a wee bit expensive, so we save a little.."

Did you hear about the Scotsman who invited a young woman back to his room to see his etchings? He sold her three of them.

An English doctor, being shown around a Scottish hospital, is taken into a ward with a number of patients who show no visible signs of injury.

He goes to examine the first man he sees, and the man proclaims "Fair fa' yer sonsie face, Great chieftain e' the puddin' race!" The Englishman, somewhat taken aback, goes to the next patient, who immediately launches into: "Some hae meat, and

canna eat, and some wad eat that want it, But we hae meat and we can eat, and sae the Lord be thankit."

The next patient sits up and declaims: "Wee sleekit cow'rin tim'rous beastie, O what a panic's in thy breastie! Thou need na start awa sae hasty, wi' bickering brattle. I wad be laith to run and chase thee, wi' murdering prattle!"

Well, says the Englishman to his Scottish colleague. "I see you saved the psychiatric ward for last." "Nae, nae," the Scottish doctor corrects him. "This is the Serious Burns Unit!"

Sandy will never forget the time he spilled a bottle of whisky on the wooden floor of his kitchen. He still has splinters in his mouth.

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