



Sept-Oct 2019

The Caledonian

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**Sunday, October 20th *The Quiet Man*
And Soup Supper
Hokua Condominium Ocean Terrace
1288 Ala Moana Blvd
5:00 PM**

You probably have seen *The Quiet Man* over and over, and of course it is set in Ireland (not Scotland), but we think you will love to see the 1952 classic John Ford movie again (or for the first time). John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara and Barry Fitzgerald star in this 1953 Academy Award winning romantic comedy. We also will show a short Scottish video (to be determined).

We often love to have a soup supper to enjoy before our movies and this time is no exception. Members on the Society Council will provide the soups. Please bring a potluck pupu, bread, salad or dessert to share and help round out the meal. BYO adult drinks if you'd like. Non-alcoholic drinks will be provided.

We'll gather around 5:00 PM for socializing & pupus. The supper will start around 5:30 PM with the short feature at 6:30 PM and *The Quiet Man* will begin at 7:00 PM.

Reservations are required for this event as it is a secured building and space is limited. Parking is free in the Hokua parking lot. Email Susan MacKinnon at susanmack1@mac.com for reservations. Donations welcome to offset costs.



Princess Ka'iulani's birthday will be celebrated on **Ali'i Sunday at 9:00 AM, Sunday, October 13th** at Kawaiaha'o Church, 957 Punchbowl St. in Honolulu. Caledonian Society members are welcome to attend. Please wear your tartan to show respect for the Princess. Her father, Archibald Scott Cleghorn, was born in Edinburgh in 1835 and was married to Princess Miriam Likelike.



Chieftain's Column: From the Craig

In this edition, we have unveiled our event schedule for the Society year (*subject to change*). Our first event on the Clearances in September was well received and was engaging for those who attended. At every event we have a learning experience on the topic and also an opportunity to learn more about our fellow Society members. As a cultural nonprofit we are drawn together by our common interest in Scotland, Scottish culture and traditions, and sometimes more broadly in the culture we share with other Celtic organizations. When you review the upcoming events, be sure to mark them down in your calendar. Slàinte, Bruce

Member News

September Birthdays Jodi Beardon, Carol Anne Gordon, Tory Laitila, Heather MacGregor, Bruce McEwan, Jackie Phillips, John Robertson, and Kathy Titchen.

October Birthdays Mandy Blake Bowers, Kalani Brady, Donna Calkins, Skipper Calleon, Mary Fraser, Bill Gillespie, Samantha Maguire, and Jamie McOuat.

Note: If your birthday is in September or October, and you don't see your name listed here, we probably don't have it in our database. We want to celebrate your special month too, so please contact Jeannie Ferrier at 271-0779 or by email at jferrier@msn.com.

Jackie & Larry Phillips *(shown below)*

visited Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in North Carolina this summer and were surrounded by Henderson cousins. They were there to celebrate the anniversary of the 1986 founding of the Clan Henderson Society on the site of the GMHG. Jackie & Larry brought their usual warm smiles and Aloha spirit with them.



Congratulations...

to Stan and Karin Jones who were married in September. Stan has been an active and long-time member of the Caledonian Society. We look forward to welcoming Karin and getting acquainted with her.

Welcome to our new members This month we have had two new members join the Society. Please welcome Virginia (Ginny) Bink and Brian Bellah. We hope to see you at the October 20th movie Soup/Supper.



Terence Knapp 1996 Caledonian Society Scot of the Year, Terence Knapp, passed away August 12th. He was a renowned Shakespearian actor who was active in Hawaii at the Manoa Valley Theatre, Diamond Head Theatre, and

Hawaii Opera Theatre in addition to teaching and directing at the University of Hawaii in the Drama Department. Terence provided songs and his acting skills at some of our Burns suppers. Our condolences to his family and friends.

Màiri Mhòr nan Òran—Big Mary of the Songs

This issue of *The Caledonian* recounts the September 7th meeting the Society held on the Scottish Clearances. Coincidentally, there also have been numerous accountings of the Clearances in different publications this month. We found this article about Mairi Mhor Nan Oran on Wikipedia to be quite interesting. She was born Mary Macdonald into a crofting family on the Isle of Skye in 1821. When she was 50 she was imprisoned for stealing clothes from her mistress, a charge that was considered unjust. While in prison, she began writing poetry and songs about the struggle of the crofters over land rights. When she returned to Skye in 1882 she began writing songs "directed at those she held responsible" for the disenfranchisement of Skye crofters. Of the Skye clergy she wrote:

*The preachers have so little care
Seeing the ill treatment of my Isle's folk
And so silent about it in the Pulpit
As if brute beasts were listening to them.*

She wrote her songs in Gaelic, so she was able to spread information through her music to the crofters on Skye who often were not literate in reading Gaelic. Today her poetry provides a look at the crofters' uprisings.

Wikipedia and Highlander



The Clearances in Scotland

On September 7th almost thirty of our members enjoyed a discussion on the Clearances that occurred in Scotland roughly between 1750 and 1850, and changed the Scottish Highlands and its clan system forever. Philip Paradine and Brian Richardson put together a documentary of the time and why the Highland Clearances happened. For centuries wealthy landowners had rented parcels of their land to traditional crofters who farmed it or raised cattle. The landowners became more and more in debt and decided they would rather have sheep (for their wool) on the land which would bring in higher profits. To raise sheep, the land divisions needed to be substantially changed, leaving no space for family homes or land parcels for cultivation. By the mid 1800's there was a potato famine (caused by a blight) spreading across Northern Europe. Some landowners tried to help by paying for the tenants to emigrate to America and other places. Ancestors of some of our members probably came to North America as a result of the Clearances or to related economic difficulties.

Phil made up a script of what someone experiencing these times might have written in their diaries. The following are excerpts from two of the voices:

Potato Famine Clearances: *Five children I bore, and if it wasn't for the new-fangled potato we would have starved to death, there being many people on a small patch of land, only big enough for a few vegetables and grass enough to produce milk for the porridge for the bairns. My husband fished but it is a dangerous occupation--many a man was lost at sea in a storm.*

Then there was the work program to help deal with the poverty but in the end four out of ten Islanders emigrated; in my case the landlord helped to pay for the passage. We went in 1852 on the sailing ship Hercules all the way to Australia. That was the hardest part, a long voyage, over 100 days during which one of the children died of typhus, another of smallpox. But there really was no choice given the times.

The Crofters' War: *People still talk about the 1882 Battle of the Braes, when the women fought on the front lines against the bailiffs sent in to enforce the evictions of Crofters. It was about restoring traditional grazing rights on the land MacDonalld and the rent arrears after a series of bad harvests. This led to writs of removal. (Right: pinterest.com)*

...People had begun to attack livestock, the hated sheep. Then they sent in policemen from Glasgow and when that didn't work a detachment of Marines was deployed. It wasn't until 1885 that things settled down enough for them to leave. By that time there had been relief programs established and finally a law passed to protect the people's traditional right to stay on the land: security of tenure, fair rents fixed by the government, and compensation for improvements when Crofters decided to leave their tenancy. So now a tenant could allow his sons and daughters to inherit a piece of the property. A major grievance had been that sons who married had not been allowed to stay on the property through subdividing, in effect forced off the land. Still some chose to move away, to work in the burgeoning towns in the lowland. The Industrial Era Migration they called it.

A timely and interesting article in *Country Life* (September 6, 2019) was sent to us just after our Clearances program. **In Focus: The wild visions of Scotland which made it 'a playground for the rich' as the native Gaels faced typhoid, famine and eviction.**

Mary Miers visits the National Museum of Scotland's latest exhibition, 'Wild and Majestic: Romantic Visions of Scotland', and sees how as native Gaels faced typhoid, famine and eviction, their homeland was turned into a playground for the rich, the ancient culture sentimentalized by Scotch-themed decor and kitsch souvenirs.

Read in *Country Life*: https://apple.news/AXVIQjANkR6Kx1j8R_C92vg



PROPOSED CALEDONIAN SOCIETY 2019-2020 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, Nov. 9, 2019: Scottish Geography and planning a trip to Scotland; Hokua Condominium

Saturday, Jan, 25, 2020: Robert Burns Dinner; Velocity Honolulu (new venue)

February 2020: TBD We are working on an unusual event.

Thursday, March 26, 2020: Princess Ka'iulani Tribute

March 28-29: Hawaiian Scottish Association Highland Festival & Games

April 18, 2020: Afternoon tea and talk on Hats & Hat History by Mary Alice Hurd

Saturday, May 16, 2020: Cooking demonstration

Saturday, June 27, 2020: Society Annual Meeting highlighting essays from the book *Who Built Scotland*

PICTURES FROM OUR CLEARANCES EVENT 9/7/19



*Back Row: Adrienne King, Peggy Bright, Susan MacKinnon, Donna Jinbo, Janice Choate-Zavakos, Lillian Cunningham, Carter Kimsey and Jackie Bogan
Seated: Susan Anderson, Stella Scott, Karin Jones and Rose Mary Thompson*



*The Thompson-Yon family
Jeremy, Stanley, & Rose Mary*



Ja-Ne and Moana McGlaughlin-Tregaskis



*Lillian Cunningham, Kevin Bogan with
Stella Scott and Donna Jinbo in back.*



Lillian Cunningham & Chieftain McEwan



Chris diSante and Brian Richardson



Kathy Titchen talking with Stanley Yon