



The Caledonian

Sept-Oct 2026

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Join the Society for a fun-filled picnic

Sunday, September 27

5:00pm to 9:00pm

Hokua Condominium

1288 Ala Moana Blvd



It's been a few years since we've had a picnic for the Society and this year it was decided to reprise it. Meet your fellow Caledonians, enjoy the beautiful Terrace level cabanas at the Hokua condominium (*left*), at **1288 Ala Moana Blvd**. Start thinking about your past! There might be a chance to share the amazing things you have done in your life. Or maybe we'll all try out a poem to read (act it out? Write one on the spot?), or sing a song? No pressure! I'm just thinking of what we might have as an ice breaker while I'm writing this newsletter! BUT, if you have suggestions, please let me know. Just reply to this email.

The Society will provide the main BBQ'd dishes, all utensils, condiments & soft drinks. Please bring a favorite dish to share. Hear more about upcoming events, play a game or two and meet your fellow Caledonians along with new members. Feel free to bring a friend, children and grandchildren too.

Do RSVP to me (Susan) at susanmack1@mac.com or call 808-372-5744. I need to have your name at the front desk. Parking is free in the building—enter on the Mauka side off Queen Street and enter the lobby.

No charge. Donations always welcome. We are a non-profit organization with a 501(c)(3) designation.

Song Fest of Scotland—Saturday, October 3, 1:30 to 3:30

Lisa Gomes will present *Song Fest of Scotland* at Aina Haina Library, 5246 Kalaniana'ole Hwy., Honolulu. The program will explore the history of singing in Scotland, with audience participation during and after the presentation. Musicians include Lisa, Michael MacIntosh, and Matt Milette-Winfree. Light refreshments will be provided. Bring your own drinks in covered containers. Join us for a Scottish singalong! **Please RSVP to Lisa at fiddlegal123@yahoo.com.**

Chieftain's Column: *From the Craig*



Our new event year begins in September. The Caledonian Society council has established a schedule of events through our June 2027 Annual General Meeting. We will have a more heavily focused in-person meeting schedule, which will give members more opportunities to meet one another and share experiences. When you receive the event schedule, please feel free to reach out to me or any other council member to volunteer to help with any event that interests you.

This is also a time to be sure you renew your member status by paying the annual fee. For those with Life Member status, we encourage support not only with attendance, but also with tax-deductible donations. Slàinte, Bruce

Member News

September Birthdays Jodi Beardon, Sheryl Delsol

Carol Anne Gordon, Tory Laitila, Kristin Laitila, Heather MacGregor, Bruce McEwan, and Jackie Phillips.

October Birthdays Kalani Brady, Donna Calkins, Mary Frasier, Lisa Gomes, Jamie McOuat, and John Thompson.

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 Kevin Campbell Bogan at 808-778-4697 or by email at kevin.bogan@gmail.com

Have you paid your Membership?

The Caledonian Society relies on membership participation, donations, and annual membership fees to keep the Society healthy, to allow us to plan events, and to keep costs at a minimum. Most events are either free, or we charge a minimal fee to cover our costs. Also, we do not charge extra on most events for bringing a guest.

Now our 2026-2027 fiscal year has begun, and it's time to send in your fee of \$30 per member (we don't have a family membership). If you have questions regarding your membership, please contact our membership secretary, Kevin Bogan, at kevin.bogan@gmail.com.

To pay by credit card, please go to www.scotsinhawaii.org. Use the link there for SquareUp. (A fee of \$2 is added for each charge.)

Personal checks can be mailed to:

The Caledonian Society
P.O. Box 4164
Honolulu, HI 96812-4164



Coming in October

Besides Lisa's *Song Fest of Scotland* on October 3, we will also continue a favorite – **Spooky Stories on Friday, October 23**. We'll begin around 6:00 with a soup/supper at the Hokua condo Ocean Terrace (1288 Ala Moana Blvd.), then, the **spooky stories** will begin. Bring a story to tell—whether it's a true encounter, a favorite legend, or a piece of fiction. Wear a costume that highlights your costume.

Please contact Chieftain Bruce McEwan for story ideas at: bemacewan@gmail.com.

When you have identified a story, let Bruce know what it is so there aren't any duplicates.

Scottish News –An AI Query

Heritage season is in full swing. Scottish Archaeology Month 2026 has launched with a wide program of events across the country, including Orkney Archaeology Festival and East Lothian Archaeology and Heritage Fortnight. It is a timely reminder of how Scotland's ancient places continue to inspire fresh curiosity, community learning, and travel ideas.

A hidden prehistoric circle adds intrigue at Machrie Moor. Historic Environment Scotland has highlighted the discovery of an underground ancient circle at Machrie Moor, one of the country's most evocative prehistoric landscapes. The find adds another mystery to a site already known for its standing stones and deep sense of place.

A puzzling Highland burial raises new questions. Near Dornoch, archaeologists uncovered a human skeleton inside an unusual stone-lined underground structure, alongside animal bones, charcoal, burnt wood, and small artifacts. Researchers are still working to understand whether the structure served a practical, ritual, or symbolic purpose.

Dolly Parton Belongs in the Scottish Family

By Dr. Anton Anderssen

Dolly Parton is my fifth cousin. My family always adored her. My love of Scotland encouraged me to look more closely at the Scottish threads running through her life, and the more carefully I looked, the more comfortably Dolly seemed to fit within the Scottish spirit. She spoke proudly of her Celtic and Scottish ancestry, having “Scottish blood coursing through those Tennessee veins.” Her heritage belonged to the broad Scottish and Scots-Irish influence which helped shape Appalachia, carrying across the Atlantic songs, ballads, religious traditions, family stories, humor, and a particular respect for memory.

Dolly grew up in a musical world. Dolly regarded that music as part of the music of her heart. Her own songs reveal the inheritance beautifully. “Coat of Many Colors” begins with an ordinary family memory, gives dignity to poverty, and passes a lesson from one generation to another. The instinct behind it is as old as the ballad tradition itself: life becomes story, story becomes song, and song preserves what ought not to be forgotten.

Even the name Parton has an ancient place in Scotland. Parton is a historic parish and settlement in Kirkcudbrightshire, now Dumfries and Galloway, and the name appears in Scottish records as early as 1296, when Patrick de Partone was recorded in the Ragman Rolls. Robert Burns knew Parton as well. On July 27, 1793, during his tour of Galloway with John Syme, Burns dined at Parton before continuing toward Kenmure Castle. Thus, centuries before a singer from Tennessee carried the name onto stages throughout the world, Parton was already written into the Scottish landscape and Scottish history.

Dolly herself visited Scotland in considerable style. In May 1977 she performed at the King’s Theatre during Queen Elizabeth II’s Silver Jubilee

celebrations. Nobody told her until she was on the aircraft, in the middle of the Atlantic, she was performing before The Queen herself. After the performance, Dolly met Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, and later remembered Her Majesty as warm and gracious. There is a pleasing symmetry in the scene. Musical traditions which had traveled from Scotland and the British Isles to the Appalachian Mountains had helped form Dolly’s



world, and generations later one of Appalachia’s greatest singers carried that music back across the Atlantic, before The Queen in Glasgow.

Scotland suited

Dolly, and Dolly was fond of Scotland. She delighted in its old buildings, historic streets, and sense of continuity, and spoke warmly of the old-world character she found there. She also returned as a performer. During her 2002 Halos & Horns tour, Dolly played two nights at Glasgow’s Clyde Auditorium, once again taking her talent back to a Scottish audience.

Scotland, in turn, found a memorable way of keeping Dolly close. In 1996 researchers at the Roslin Institute near Edinburgh produced the first mammal cloned from an adult somatic cell and named the sheep Dolly. One of the great scientific achievements of the twentieth century thereby acquired a permanent association with Dolly Parton, an association she received with her customary good humor. It was perhaps inevitable that Scotland should eventually find a way to make Dolly part of its scientific history as well as its musical affections.

Read the rest of this personal accounting of Dolly Parton in the next Caledonian Society Update email TBD.

Council Contacts 2026-2027

Officers

Chieftain Bruce McEwan

808-538-7707 bemacewan@gmail.com

Vice Chieftain Susan MacKinnon

808-591-9398 susanmack1@mac.com

Secretary Mary Jill Ackerman

808-392-1903

Membership Secretary Kevin Bogan

808-778-4697 kevin.bogan@gmail.com

Treasurer Karen Thompson

808-779-4839 vsf723@yahoo.com

Directors

Anton Anderssen

586-757-4177 antonanderssen@gmail.com

AJ Buchanan ajbuchanan808@gmail.com

808-354-6711

Janice Choate-Zavakos

808-778-4630 jlczlady@aol.com

Lisa Gomes

808-783-5770 fiddlegal123@yahoo.com

Edward “Mickey” Knox

808-349-5160 edward.knox@gmail.com

Nancy Muir McPherson

808-283-9698 nanimcp7684@gmail.com

Jackie Phillips

808-721-0707 jlphil1@hawaiiantel.net

Larry Phillips

808-721-0476 jlphil1@hawaiiantel.net

Brian Richardson

808-367-5066 richardson96822@gmail.com

Hardy Spoehr

808-888-0471 hspoehr7@gmail.com

The Caledonian Newsletter

Editors

Susan MacKinnon

Anton Anderssen

Newsletter Mailing

Jackie & Larry Phillips

Tech Support

Brian Richardson

Society Website

Brian Richardson

www.scotsinhawaii.org

Society Photographer

Janice Choate-Zavakos

Consolidated Celtic Calendar

<https://goo.gl/mCnvsU>

Events Calendar 2026-2027

(Subject to change)

2026

Sunday, Sept. 27: Caledonian Society picnic. The Hokua condominium Terrace level cabanas @ 1288 Ala Moana Blvd. 5:00p.m. Main BBQ to be provided by the Society. Bring a dish to share. **Reservations required:** susanmack1@mac.com

Saturday, October 3: Song Fest of Scotland Lisa Gomes' Music program. Aina Haina Library. 1:30 – 3:30. See page 1.

Friday, October 23: Spooky Stories & Soup Supper. Hokua condo. 6:00p.m.

Saturday, November 21: Scottish Heroes XV. Via Zoom. 6:00p.m.

Friday, December 18: Arlene Holmes-Henderson report on Gaelic progress in Scotland. (See below)

2027

Saturday, January 2: Post Hogmanay combined with SASH @ Capitol Place.

Saturday, February 27: Contemporary Scottish Life & Scotland's Early Settlers

Saturday, March 13: Larry Phillips—Athletics history & HSA Highland Games info. Potluck

Wednesday, March 17: St. Patrick's Day Parade

Saturday, April 17: Harry Potter locations

Saturday, May 15: The Lochs of Scotland; Potluck

Saturday, June 19: AGM

Event for December 18



Arlene Holmes-Henderson (*left with Chieftain McEwan*) came to Hawaii in 2012 - 2013 to study the success of the Hawaiian language immersion program at the University of Hawaii Manoa and apply those lessons to her work supporting the Scottish government's efforts to revive the Gaelic. Many of you may remember a food contest we

held that Arlene agreed to be a judge for along with Jeremy McOuatt. Members had to create a dish combining Hawaiian elements with Scottish shepherd's pie. **On Friday, December 18,** she will be speaking on how progress is going in Scotland because of her time at UH. We will meet at the Hokua condo in the Ocean Terrace at 6:00. Please bring a pupu to share and we'll provide the drinks & all utensils. **Contact Susan** at susanmack1@mac.com for reservations and any other needed information.