



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

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The Caledonian Society of Hawaii  
Chieftain's Report  
Annual General Meeting  
August 23, 2020

Our 54<sup>th</sup> Society year (7/1/2019-6/30/2020) has continued our mission as the primary Scottish educational organization perpetuating Scottish culture and traditions in Hawaii. The recap of events is reported separately and we again provided a variety of programs that have a learning component. It is unfortunate that our events were cut short because of the COVID-19 pandemic. We did take advantage of Zoom technology and thanks to member Hardy Spoehr we had our first ever virtual event. The annual meeting we are all attending today is our second virtual activity and the Council is preparing more for the balance of the year.

Fortunately, our newsletter has been going out on schedule and have kept the members informed with local Scottish activities, as well as, interesting news from Scotland. We should all be grateful to Vice Chieftain Susan MacKinnon and Lillian Cunningham for their work in putting together and editing our major communication medium.

I'm sure we all miss the social aspect of our meetings, where we get to know each other better. I look forward to our next New Member Picnic to learn more about our new members and let them meet our long-term members. Hopefully, we will have an opportunity before the end of the year to get together in a live venue.

Speaking of venues, Burns Night 2020 was in a brand new and interesting venue at the Velocity building. We had an excellent turnout and a few changes in our format that were well received by the attendees. Unfortunately, we have since found that the restaurants have been closed and the space is no longer available. Burns Night 2021 will be at a new venue and with another quality program.

The cancellation of the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Highland Games & Festival was also a victim of the pandemic, but has been rescheduled for April 10-11, 2021. As a sponsor organization, The Caledonian Society has five director positions on the Hawaiian-Scottish Association Board of Directors, where we have direct leadership and input into how the Highland Festival is managed. I am confident that the Highland Festival will benefit from our contribution. As always, we will need members to help when the time comes for our participation.

I want to acknowledge and thank those directors retiring from the board. Jeannie Ferrier has been our Membership and Aloha Committee Chair for several years and has done an excellent job in communicating with our members. Carter Kimsey has been our Treasurer for the past three years and has kept our financial records in excellent order. Dr. Rev. Phil Paradine has been a mainstay at Burns Night and has helped develop event themes. They will all stay an active part of our organization. Mahalo to all for their work.

Slainte, Bruce McEwan, Chieftain