



Nov-Dec 2019

# The Caledonian

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## *Rantin' Rovin' Robbie* **January 25, 2020 \* 5:00 pm Cocktails** **Call to dinner at 5:55 pm** **Velocity Honolulu** **888 Kapiolani Blvd.**

**This year's Robert Burns Dinner** will be celebrating the 261<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns on January 25, 2020. His contributions to the world of poetry and music have been extensive, including *Tam'O'Shanter*, *A Red, Red Rose*, *Comin' Thro' the Rye*, and *Auld Lang Syne* to name only a few. Many of his poems have been featured in song, theater, and recitation by the Society over many years of Burns suppers, and this year is no exception.



Robert Burns had a “bawdy” side and we will take a look at some of his poems from the point of view of Burns’ wife and some of his lovers. Our own **Celtic ladies “The Bawdy Belles”** will entertain us with the “Bard’s Libs” compiled from ideas and words from a list provided at each table. Traditional segments of the program will be the Presentation of the Haggis and the Address to the Haggis, The Immortal Memory, and Toasts to the Lasses and Reply from the Lasses.

We will also have an interesting new venue at Velocity Honolulu, a car dealership, where we will be in the showroom on the main floor right on the corner of Ward Ave. & Kapiolani Blvd. Dinner will be prepared by the chef at Viaggio Honolulu, a new local Italian restaurant also on the Velocity property. The cocktail hour (**from 5:00 pm**) will feature “The Spicy Bard Manhattan” and “The Chastity Belt” (a non-alcoholic option), wandering fiddler Lisa Gomes, and great conversations with fellow Caledonian members and their guests. One drink per person (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) will be free.

In appreciation of all things Robert Burns, there will be an amalgamation of videos from around the world playing on a loop on a large-screen TV. Visit the Oahu Photo Booth hosted by owner Matt Satterlee, and take a picture with *Outlander’s* Jamie & Claire. One print per person will be no charge! A Celtic Accessories & Enhancement table will be available to ensure your kilt is in correct order, with accessories also correctly positioned. Need a rosette? Pins? Rubber bands? Member Carol Anne Gordan has you covered at the Celtic table. Bring your own tartan scarf.

**NEW THIS YEAR!** An “AfterBurner” dance party will follow the program with the live band “The ‘MacFerris’ Bueller Band” in the Bentley Room at Velocity. They are an 80’s band so bring your dancin’ shoes, check out the lads with the Bonniest Knees and see who wins a prize!

**Valet Parking is free** with validation at Velocity (please do bring a gratuity however). Best to enter the area off of Kapiolani Blvd.

See page 4 for a reservation form or go to [www.scotsinhawaii.org](http://www.scotsinhawaii.org) to pay by credit card.



## ***Chieftain's Column: From the Craig***

Our annual tribute to the memory of Robert Burns is the premier event on our Society calendar. We are fortunate that our 2020 Burns Night falls on his actual birthday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. We are at a new venue and will have a few additions to the program to involve attendees, while showing both sides of Burns' character in our celebration. We hope to get a large turnout to enjoy the evening's festivities.

The Caledonian Society is one of the founding sponsors of the Hawaiian Scottish Association and our 2020 Highland Festival, which is scheduled to be our 40<sup>th</sup>, needs the help of all of the sponsors' members. We have relied on grants over the years and

for the upcoming festival HSA applied for a major grant from the Hawaii Tourist Authority, but only received 16% of the amount requested. HSA has a grant writer who is applying to other funders and potential corporate sponsors to make up the difference. Each sponsor organization is reaching out to its members for **tax-deductible donations to support the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Highland Festival & Games**. Members of our Society, who want to make a donation, can do so by sending a check to the Hawaiian Scottish Association, P.O. Box 3795, Honolulu, HI 96812, or use SquareUp at the HSA website: [www.hawaiianscottishassociation.org](http://www.hawaiianscottishassociation.org). Slàinte, Bruce

## ***Member News***

**November Birthdays** George Allen, Pam Asbury-Smith, Lyn Bruce, Lillian Cunningham, Leanne Davis, Elspeth Kerr, Adrienne King, Don Laird, Linda McKenzie, Jim Redmond, Karen Thompson, and Helen Wynn.

**December Birthdays** Jeannie Ferrier, Arik Harris, Reiko Harris, Catherine Johnson, Susan MacKinnon, Larry Phillips, Jane Redmond, Keene Rees, Andrea Snyder, and Robert Lormand.

**Note:** If your birthday is in November or December, 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](mailto:jferrier@msn.com).



***Welcome new member*** Kristen Coles (left), who joined the Caledonian Society at the Scottish Geography and Planning a Trip to Scotland event, along with her husband James, are planning their first trip to Scotland and learned much about traveling the country. She is a naturopathic physician in Honolulu and part of Clan Davidson.

## ***Representing Scotland***

Chieftain Bruce McEwan (right with his wife Lillian Cunningham) had the honor of representing Scotland and The Caledonian Society of Hawaii at two Hawaiian celebrations. In October, Chieftain McEwan and Board Member Lillian Cunningham were invited to attend a celebration of the birth of Princess Ka'iulani, the Hawaiian-Scottish Princess, at Kawaiahao Church as representatives of The Caledonian Society and Scottish community. Chieftain McEwan also attended a celebration of the Princess' birthday on October 16<sup>th</sup> at Mauna Ala, the Royal Mausoleum in Nuuanu. He was also invited to attend King Kalakaua's 183<sup>rd</sup> birthday on November 16<sup>th</sup> at Mauna Ala as a representative of Scotland, The Caledonian Society, and the Hawaii Scottish community. The Hawaii tartan was introduced to the Hawaiian community on these occasions. The recognition that the Scottish community received at these events is very important for our connection with Hawaiian history and culture.



***Thank you*** Janice Choate-Zavakos for being the Secretary of the Caledonian Society for the past few years. Janice has decided to change positions and will be a Director in charge of photography at our events. Director Susan Anderson has agreed to become the Secretary and we thank her for taking this position.



***Flowers of the Forest*** We received word that long-time member Dane Musick passed away on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at age 60. He was born in Shelby, North Carolina. Dane was active with the Hawaiian Scottish Association helping with the athletics. Our condolences to his family and friends.

## *Tips from Scottish Geography & Planning a trip to Scotland*

**The following tips came from Lillian Cunningham and Nancy Smiley during our geography and planning meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup>.**

- Be prepared for Scottish weather. Always carry a lightweight, waterproof windbreaker to wear over your sweater or fleece. Hawaii residents may even want a winter coat and gloves.
- Learn to pack light. I travel with a small carry-on & a little backpack. Fashion is not important. You don't need jewelry & a different pair of shoes for each outfit. Checking luggage slows you down. It's hard to wrangle a large suitcase through the streets of the old cities in Europe. Plus, if they lose your luggage overseas, it's a disaster.
- I used my Hawaiian miles for the nonstop redeye flight from Honolulu to JFK in New York. If you don't already have their credit card, consider getting it now just for this. I had 15 hours on the ground, so I took the subway into downtown leaving my luggage at JFK in a storage locker in Terminal 4 for about \$20 per day. I went to Central Park & rented a bike for \$20 for two hours. This was plenty of time to bike around the park & see the sites.
- I took another redeye from JFK to Glasgow. The Glasgow airport is smaller & easier to navigate. There are not as many flights, so expect to pay about \$200 more for a nonstop from the US to Glasgow. It's cheaper to fly to London first, but it's a huge hassle.
- Money: Avoid the cash exchange booths—they will ream you. Use your ATM card to get the local currency. All cities have ATMs.
- Most places take credit cards. If the checker asks if you want to use dollars or pounds, choose pounds. Your credit card company will likely give you a better rate than the store.
- Don't sell your pounds back at the airport. Their exchange rates are terrible. Plan ahead & don't get too much local currency.
- Try trains & buses to get around. They can get you to lots of places frequently without the hassle of driving, and you can listen to the locals talking around you. Ask ahead at the ticket office whether booking a seat is advisable. Keep track of time for your return journey.
- Try day trips. Stay at a bed & breakfast in a regional town or one of the cities and plan destinations for each day. Try [Booking.com](http://Booking.com) and [Airbnb.com](http://Airbnb.com). You can rent whole houses this way, which is way cheaper if you're traveling with a large group. You can also find apartments in the city. Airbnb even has "experiences" now. We took a great walkabout tour of Portree on Skye through Airbnb. The proprietor even gave us whisky & chocolate!
- Include a Scottish island or two in your itinerary. Particularly popular is to visit the island of Skye or to take a three-island day trip to the islands of Mull, Iona and Staffa from the town of Oban, a good regional center.
- Visit the tourist information center when you arrive in a city or town. They have useful free brochures and local stuff to buy, and know about local events and directions. Their staff people are well-informed and helpful, including finding you a place to stay if needed.
- Lots of galleries and museums are free as well as being very well presented.
- For read-ahead information and ideas, subscribe to the magazines *Scottish Life* and *Scotland*. Use Rick Steve's travel books. Google maps on your smart phone works almost everywhere except way up in the Highlands. Use Facebook and Airbnb to find local events & tours. Talk to the locals!
- Distillery Tours: Book ahead. Whisky is popular. If you're driving or don't want to drink your free dram, ask for a to-go bottle. They will give you one for free, and you can take yours home.
- When to go? The weather is best in the Summer, but it's CROWDED!! If you don't mind a little cold weather, it's better (and cheaper) to travel in the off season (before June, after September).



The Caledonian Society of Hawaii  
Burns Night Reservation Form

Rantin' Rovin' Robin

January 25, 2020 at 5:00pm  
Early Bird deadline – January 6, 2020

Venue: Velocity • 888 Kapiolani Blvd.

Prices: Early bird—members: \$85 ea., or table of ten \$850; non-members \$95 ea.  
After Jan. 6 — members \$95 ea., or table of ten \$950; non-members \$105 ea.

**Questions? Call Susan MacKinnon at 591-9398**

Sit with if possible:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner Choices: #1. Beef #2. Fish #3. Vegetarian

Table Names (Print all names in party)	Dinner choice#	(M)ember/(G)uest	Price
1 _____	_____	_____	_____
2 _____	_____	_____	_____
3 _____	_____	_____	_____
4 _____	_____	_____	_____
5 _____	_____	_____	_____
6 _____	_____	_____	_____
7 _____	_____	_____	_____
8 _____	_____	_____	_____
9 _____	_____	_____	_____
10 _____	_____	_____	_____

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need a ride? \_\_\_\_\_ From what area? \_\_\_\_\_

Can you provide a ride? \_\_\_\_\_ From what area? \_\_\_\_\_