



Jan-Feb 2021

# The Caledonian

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## SCOTTISH HEROES IV Saturday, February 13, 2021 Via Zoom 6:00PM

On Saturday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, the Caledonian Society will host the fourth in a series of *Scottish Heroes*. **Brian Richardson** will tell us about David Douglas (1799-1834), botanist, explorer, and adventurer. Douglas explored North America and Hawaii and was the source of the name of the Douglas fir tree. He died mysteriously on the Big Island by falling into a pit and being crushed by a bull who also fell in the pit. (Wikipedia). Brian will tell us about his travels and also show a video of his life.

You must register to have access to the program by emailing Kevin Bogan at [kevin.bogan@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.bogan@gmail.com) or call him at 778-4697. A link to the Zoom event will be sent out prior to the meeting.



David Douglas 1799-1834

### *The Annual Robert Burns Dinner*

was held on Saturday, Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>, in a whole new venue—over the airwaves of modern technology via Zoom. As Master of Ceremonies **Bill Mullen** noted, “dinner” in Scotland means lunchtime to us in the U.S., so no need to change the name. We continued with our prescribed program beginning with **Dan Quinn** of the Celtic Pipes and Drums of Hawaii calling us to dinner and he and two others (Tina Yap and Chuck Jamison) played solos from separate areas of Oahu. Next Chieftain McEwan surprised **Tory Laitila** (*at right*) with the annual **Scot of the Year award**. Tory has been our Society vexillologist (one who studies flags) for many years and sets them up for events like the Burns Dinner. This year he had them lined up in front of a curtain in his home. **Stuart Donachie** and his daughter Anela, put together an active video of Stuart running through “hills” and then reciting the address “To a Haggis.” After the Selkirk grace, **Lisa Gomes** played her fiddle from her home in Kaneohe.



The three geographical toasts—to Scotland, to the USA, and to Hawaii—were briskly delivered by **Kevin Campbell Bogan**, **Susan MacKinnon**, and **Larry Phillips**. **Dan Quinn** and **Tina Yap** gave a sassy Toast to the Lasses and Reply From the Lasses. **The RSCDS** offered a video of a Scottish country dance called “Ian Powrie’s Farewell to Auchterarder,” by dancers in old-fashioned costumes. **Tory Laitila** and **Carol Anne Gordon** each read a Burns poem: “A Man’s a Man for a’ That” and “To a Mouse.” The program, interspersed with songs by **Bill Mullen**, had all the parts we are used to seeing at the Burns Dinner, even virtually holding hands and singing *Auld Lang Syne*.

I believe this year might be the most innovative Burns Dinner ever!

The Caledonian Society of Hawaii \* PO Box 4164 \* Honolulu, HI 96812-4164 \* [www.scotsinhawaii.org](http://www.scotsinhawaii.org)

## Chieftain's Column: From the Craig



As I write this, it is January 25<sup>th</sup>, the birthday of Robert Burns. Our annual Burns Night had to become a virtual Burns Day event on January 23, 2021, and I am proud to say that it was very successful. Our guest emcee, Bill Mullen guided us through a fun-filled and Scottish event that highlighted the talents of many of our members. And he sang songs and provided more information on Burns life.

The COVID restrictions continue to keep us apart for our upcoming events. Our popular Scottish Heroes virtual presentations will continue for the near future. Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> is a tribute to David Douglas with Brian Richardson, and Scottish Heroes V will be held on March 20<sup>th</sup>. We will need three or four members to volunteer to present their favorite Scottish Hero. Please contact me at 538-7707. I think 2021 will be an excellent year to meet our mission of holding educational events on Scottish culture and history. I hope our members will take advantage of each event and participate when they can. Slàinte, Bruce

## Member News

**January Birthdays** James Douglas, Arlene Holmes-Henderson, Michael Medeiros, Kurt Mellow, and Tina Yap.

**February Birthdays** Douglas Bauckham, Ann Clark, Sally Dahlquist, Gregg Fraser, Lisa Gomes, Philip Paradine, Charles Thompson, Karen Thompson, and Dorothy Williams.

**Note:** If your birthday is in January or February 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 778-4697 or by email at [kevin.bogan@email.com](mailto:kevin.bogan@email.com).

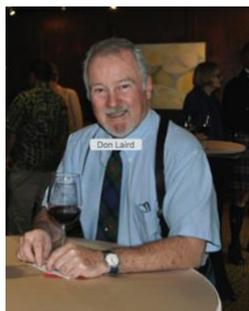


## Flowers of the Forest

**Former Chieftain Don Munro** We were very saddened to learn Don Munro passed away on August 15, 2020. Don was Chieftain of the Caledonian Society from 1994-1998. He was always involved with some part of the Caledonian Society. He loved coming to the Burns Dinner each year. He participated in everything he could for many years, even coming from

Kaneohe to meetings in Honolulu. After his partner of over 50 years, Louis "De" DeChamps passed away, Don moved to Palm Springs, CA and found a new group of friends to help him through the last years of his life. Don was a real estate agent in Hawaii and ran a B&B in Kaneohe for many years. We only recently heard of his passing and are sorry for the delay in reporting this to the Society. Our heartfelt condolences to his family & friends.

*Chieftain Don Munro in 2013*



**Member Don Laird** (shown at left) passed away November 15, 2020 at the age of 82. Born and raised in Birmingham, Michigan, he completed a bachelors, two masters degrees, and a PhD in Political Science, focusing on international relations. He subsequently conducted research at the Asia Center of the University of the Philippines. After returning from the Philippines, Donald then left college teaching, and moved to Washington, DC, where he worked in the international programs of the Office of the Chief of the Naval Operations, the National Science Foundation, the General Accounting Office, and finally the Department of the Army. In 1981, Donald's final move was to Honolulu, where he worked for several years in the U.S. Army's international program of exchanges and exercises with the armies of over 40 Asian-Pacific countries. Don was a member of Clan Gunn and participated in the annual Highland Festival & Games in Honolulu for many years. Our condolences to his family & friends.

**Member Lyn McGregor** passed away on January 9, 2021. She was a volunteer at the Honolulu Zoo where she especially loved the elephants. Lyn came to Hawaii after high school on a tour aboard the *SS Lurline* after high school. Aboard ship she met her future husband, Calvin McGregor, a member of an Oahu family with strong Hawaiian influences. The couple kept in touch, married after she finished college, and named their only daughter Lurline. Lyn was a longtime member of The Caledonian Society. Sincere condolences to her family & friends.

**Men in Kilts** starts online at Starz.com (subscription required) on Feb. 14. Sam Heughan and Graham McTavish explore their homeland of Scotland, delving into its culture and history in an 8-episode travel documentary.

## *Bill Mullen and his Songs*

**Bill Mullen** who calls himself “The Wandering Scotsman,” grew up in Dundee, Scotland, but since 2007 has been based in Florida. He travels to entertain in many venues, including Scotland, Europe, and the U.S. He now hosts a regular Sunday morning show on Facebook every Sunday at 11 am, Hawaii time. He and his wife, Dorothy, joined us in person for our Annual General Meeting in June of 2019. A few years ago, Bill performed at a festival in Seattle with our own favorite fiddler, Lisa Gomes. Lisa and Bill played a well-timed, long-distance duet during our Burns Dinner this year.

Bill served as Master of Ceremonies for our Burns Dinner this year, gave the “**Address to the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns,**” sang a number of songs during the program and more songs in the informal time after the program. Here are insights borrowed from Bill’s notes about the songs on the program.



*Bill Mullen*

**Loch Lomond** is a well-known traditional song, said to be the words of a prisoner sentenced to death and addressed to a companion who has been set free. The “high road” is the highway to Scotland and the “low road” is the road of death which will take the spirit of the sentenced prisoner home to Scotland.

**Scots Wha Hae** has lyrics by Robert Burns in the form of a speech by Robert the Bruce before the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314, a battle won by the Scots over the English. Bill sings this song up tempo as being appropriate to rouse the troops of the Scottish army. “Scots Wha Hae” is considered the song of the Scottish National Party.

**McPherson’s Rant** is believed to have been composed by Jamie McPherson in jail under sentence of death in 1700. It is said McPherson played it under the gallows, then offered his fiddle to anyone in his clan who would play it at his wake. When no one came forward, he broke the fiddle and threw it into the crowd. The broken fiddle now lies in the McPherson clan museum. Burns rewrote the words, and Bill sings the Burns version.

**The Scotsman** Although it sounds like an old drinking song, this song was written in 1980 by an American, Mike Cross. Bill sings a version of it recorded by another American, Bryan Bowers.

**Ye Jacobites by Name** is a traditional Scottish folk song with lyrics rewritten by Burns in 1791. It goes back to the Jacobite risings in Scotland (1688 -1745). It expresses Burns’ humanist anti-war sentiments, as Scotland suffered badly in the years following the Battle of Culloden.

**Auld Lang Syne** is the third most often sung song in the world after “For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow” and “Happy Birthday.” Burns said in 1789 that it was an ancient song, but that he was the first to record it on paper. The song is about preserving old friendships and looking back over the events of the year. The phrase “auld lang syne” roughly translates as “for old times’ sake.”

## *Thank You to the Burns Committee*



Thank you to the Burns Committee: Kevin Bogan, Lillian Cunningham, Bruce McEwan, Jackie & Larry Phillips, Brian Richardson, Susan MacKinnon and Tina Yap. A special thank you to Bill Mullen who joined us from Scotland in the middle of the night for a rehearsal on Jan. 16th, then again from Florida on the 23rd. Thank you to Society photographer Janice Choate-Zavakos and others who took screen shots. Thank you to the delivery team of Kevin Campbell Bogan (kilted deliverer), Tina Yap (piper), Hardy Spoehr (piper), Jackie & Larry Phillips (Leeward side kilted team) and Chuck Jamison (piper).

*Haggis Tasting Bag Delivery Team*  
*Janice Choate-Zavakos (photography),*  
*Kevin Campbell Bogan (registration & delivery coordinator)*  
*and Tina Yap (piper).*

# Pictures from January 23<sup>rd</sup>--Online with the Bard



Jackie & Larry Phillips packaged the Haggis bags



Kevin Bogan delivers the Haggis bag to the Harris Family Arik, Reiko & Rosslyn



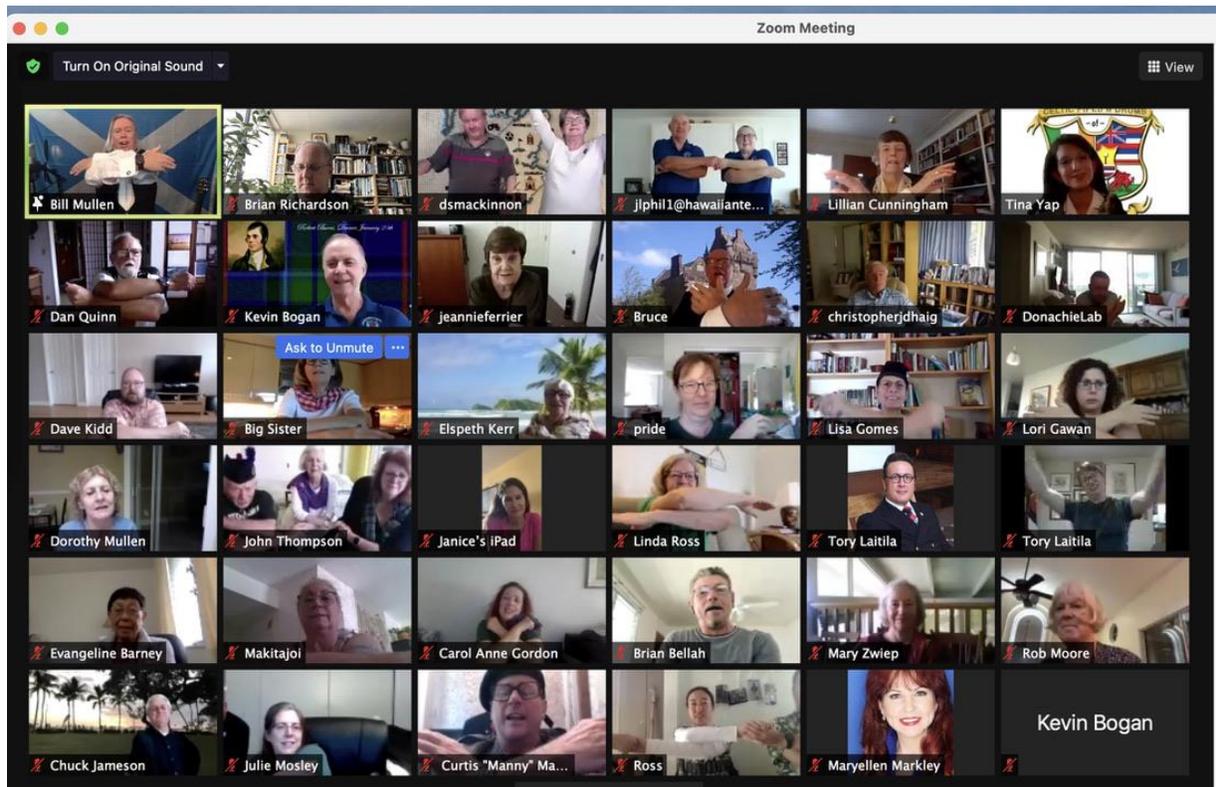
Chieftain McEwan, Tina Yap, Kevin Campbell Bogan and Lillian Cunningham



The Haggis Tasting Bag



Program & contents of Haggis Tasting Bag



*Auld Lang Syne being sung with attendees virtually holding hands*

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