

The Whistle

Summer

July—September 2008

From the Desk of the President

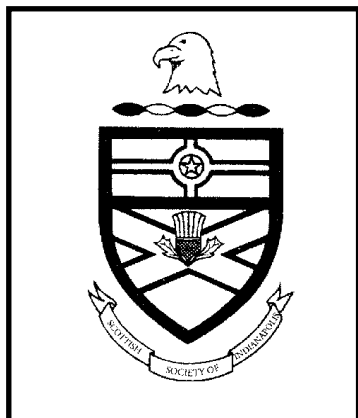
This last quarter we had a couple of “firsts.” One of these “firsts” was the celebration of Tartan Day at the Columbia Club; the second was the Midsummer’s Solstice Day at the Latvian Center. In my opinion, the Society needed to do things differently to keep things fresh and yet still keep the appropriate traditions.

The new National American tradition of having April 6th (the day The Declaration of Arbroath which was signed in 1320) as Tartan Day is now celebrated in different cities, like New York and L.A. We, here in Indianapolis, were able to celebrate Tartan Day at the Columbia Club with their members, who have Scottish heritage. The Caledonia Pipe Band did several piping setts and presented a “dueling pipers” event with sisters Chandler and MacKensie Waugh challenging Pipe Major Hugh Sutherland. The two sisters were 8 and 10 years old. It was great to see these two youngsters give Pipe Major Hugh Sutherland a good run for his money, after that Ann Martin and her daughters from the Village Dance Studio in Zionsville got us all dancing. Her daughters demonstrated The Highland Fling and then Ann had us do “easy” Scottish dances. Also see Gary and Julie’s Davidson’s report on page 3.

The second “first event” was the Celebration of the Midsummer Solstice. This goes back to our Celtic past. The Latvian, Lithuanians, Swedes, Estonians, and Poles are also into celebrating this Midsummer event. The Latvian’s have been lighting fires and drinking beer at their Center for decades and were gracious enough to invite those mentioned above, who use their Center; to come and join them celebrate on Saturday, June 28th.

As per our custom at Highland Games, we pitched our tent and the Re-enactors pitched theirs, wore their period attire, brought their spinning wheel and wool, and wagged their tongues telling tall stories. Gary and Julie Davidson as well as Lisa Douglass brought shepard’s pie, Walker’s shortbread and Scottish ginger bread for people to sample.

At 4:30 we feasted grilled burgers, brats, and hotdogs with accoutrements, Jani cheese and wine plus Latvian Pirogi, this for a cost of \$7. Afterwards Mark Cornelius did a great job singing and playing Scottish songs and leading a group sing-a-long. This was followed by Ken Morgan and Laura Chatan leading the SSI dance troupe in a demonstration of Scottish dance with intricate patterns and this was followed by open invitation, which many accepted, to learn some of the simpler dances. That is, simpler for some but of great hilarity for others who screwed them up. Andris Berzins President of the Latvian Center, was in the middle of all this, wore a kilt, provided by JD Dockery with his traditional Oak Leaf Crown. Following the dancing, the Scots men-o-war challenged our Latvian hosts to a tug-o-war, which we promptly lost to our hosts, but not without great effort on their part. The Poles and Lithuanians on seeing us as beaten, decided to challenge us, thinking we were “easy meat”! They were rudely awakened to the fact that we virile Scots were up to the task of beating them. Almost every one of the 203 people there, left their seats to watch and support this exhibition of male virility from different nations, but let us not forget our “Celtic woman”, Alexandria Douglass, who showed the strength of our women in helping us win in our “pull” against the Poles and Lithuanians!



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These were our contributions to this unique day and which set the stage for the others to share with us all their songs and dances, and where everyone was invited to join in with their events.

It was felt that this was very successful and enjoyable for all and was of interest to all young and old alike. The Latvians look to repeat this next year. Further, these events were different than our traditional meeting and presentations and therefore might appeal to a wider group of our membership, helping to attract and hold the interest of some of our younger members. Don't forget we are having two of our main events in September, so come and join us then at The Columbus Games Indiana and The Irish Festival downtown Indianapolis.

Slainte, Gordon



The Royal Scots Greys

R.W.

Nemo Me Impune Lacessit (No one provokes me with Scots impunity)

— The Royal Greys official motto was the royal Scottish motto—

The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards is Scotland's senior regiment and her only regular cavalry. The new regiment was formed in 1971, when two famous regiments, the 3rd Carabiniers and the Royal Scots Greys were combined. The 3rd Carabiniers had been formed in 1922 by combining of the 3rd Dragoon Guards and the Carabiniers (6th Dragoon Guards). The history of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards is, therefore, the record of these three regiments; and through the Royal Scots Greys; they can claim to be the oldest surviving Cavalry of the Line in the British Army. The Royal Scots Greys existed as an separate cavalry regiment of the British Army from 1678 until 1971, when they were combined with the 3rd Carabiniers (Prince of Wales's Dragoon Guards) to form the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys).

The Regiment's history began in 1678, when three independent troops of Scots Dragoons were raised in Scotland to quell the Covenanters—a militant body opposed to the enforcement of episcopacy. At that time Dragoons were neither cavalry nor infantry but what might more accurately be called a mounted infantry. They, in various degrees, were armed with a sword and dirk or bayonet, firelock musket (the word dragoon said to be derived from "dragon" an old name for this particular weapon), and, perhaps holster pistols. Three years later, in 1681, King Charles II ordered General Thomas Dalrymple of the Binns to raise additional troops and to form them into a regiment to be known as the "Royal Regiment of Scots Dragoons" (numbered the 4th Dragoons in 1694). Their tasks during these early years were those of patrolling the foothills of the Highlands, breaking up unlawful meetings, and to cordon and search.

Red cloth being unobtainable, like many other troops in Scotland at that time, they were clad in stone grey coats for the first few years of their existence and they were mounted on grey horses. This led to the troop being commonly referred to as the Grey Dragoons. Before the Royal Scots Dragoons embarked for Flanders in 1694, to fight in the War of The League of Augsburg, they were reviewed by William III in Hyde Park, and it is recorded that they made a fine sight for the entire regiment rode grey horses. This is the earliest known instance of them being mounted on the horses from which their name the "Scots Greys" was derived. Although this did not become the official title for many years, it was in general use from the very early 1700's.

In 1707, the Regiment was renamed The Royal North British Dragoons, but was already being referred to as the Scots Greys. Although the name did not become official for many more years, it was in general use from the very early 1700's. For almost 300 years the regiment remained mounted exclusively on greys and this tradition is still continued in the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards. In 1713, the Regiment was renumbered the 2nd Dragoons (there had been one regiment of English dragoons that had existed prior to this). In 1877, the commonly used nickname was made official and the regiment became the 2nd Dragoons (Royal Scots Greys); and in 1921, the name was officially changed to the Royal Scots Greys (2nd Dragoons). The Regiment kept this name until July 2, 1971 when they combined with the 3rd Carabiniers and ceased to exist as a separate regiment.

The regiment has won many battle honours in engagements from Blenheim, 1704, (a great victory for John Churchill, 1st Duke of Marlborough whose descendent Winston Churchill led Britain I World War II) in the War of the Spanish Succession through the Second World War.

The Greys fought in Belgium during the Napoleonic War, as a part of an Allied Army under the Duke of Wellington. Their most famous engagement of this war took place at Waterloo on June 18, 1815, when Sergeant Charles Ewart captured the Imperial Eagle standard of the French 45th Regiment. Today one can see Ewart's grave on the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle and the standard which is on display in the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards museum in Edinburgh Castle.

World War I began on Aug. 4th 1914 when war was declared against Germany. The Scots Greys mobilized at York, landed at LeHavre on the 17th Aug and moved up to the Belgian frontier as part of the 5th Cavalry Brigade. Their grey horses were stained chestnut as camouflage and to prevent the easy identification of their formation. The Regiment was to see much bitter fighting in the grim battles of the Western Front, Aisne, Messines, Ypres, Arras, Cambrai, Amiens, and the Somme, as a long list of battle honors testify. Many of the Regiment's actions were undertaken dismounted and on numerous occasions manning the trenches. The Greys also took part in the

break through in the Hindenburg Line and were in pursuit of the retreating German army when on November 11, the armistice went into effect.

As a part of the treaties that ended World War I, Britain was given a mandate to govern Palestine for the League of Nations. The quarrels between Arabs and Jews in this region grew worse and violence ensued. In October 1938, the Scots Greys were ordered to Palestine, still as a cavalry regiment mounted on their famous grey horses they would cordon and search villages, and comb the hills for rebels and their hide-outs. The outbreak of WWII in 1939 made little immediate difference in the life of the Regiment and their tasks in the twilight of their days as horsed cavalry were not too different from the period in the 17th Century when the Scots Dragoons roamed the foothills of the Highlands in search of rebellious Covenanters.

Things began to change for the Regiment, in late spring of 1941, the Scots Greys were ordered to provide RHQ the Machine Gun Troop and one squadron as motorized infantry. On July 19, 1941 the regiment officially became part of the Royal Armoured Corps and by the time the force returned from Syria in August practically all the horses had been handed in and training had begun on American Stuart tanks. In Palestine also the Scots Greys were undergoing conversion to tanks and in February 1942, they moved to Egypt as a fully trained armored regiment. During WWII the Scots Greys saw action at El Alamein, Salerno, Normandy, in Holland and in Germany. As the War neared the end, The Greys were the first British troops to link up with their allies from the east at the Baltic port of Wismar. A few days after this the enemy surrendered and the war in Europe came to an end.

Defense budget cuts in 1958 and the 1960's forced further amalgamations within the Cavalry until the Scots Greys, by virtue of their unique position in Scotland were left as the only regiment of British Cavalry with a history unalloyed. This lasted until further cuts forced the combining and the 3rd Carabiniers and the Royal Scots Greys were merged. On July 2, 1971 the ceremony forming the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (the Greys and Carabiniers) took place at The Palace of Holyrood House where the Queen, who had consented to be their Colonel-in-Chief presented the unit with a new standard.

The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards now form part of the 7th Armoured Brigade.

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Scottish Humor

A Scottish shepherd was herding his flock in a remote pasture when suddenly a brand new Range Rover advanced out of a dust cloud towards him. The driver, a young man in an Armani suit, Gucci shoes, Ray Ban sunglasses and a Hermes tie leaned out of the window and asked the shepherd...

'If I can tell you exactly how many sheep you have in your flock, will you let me have one?' The shepherd looks at the young man, then at his peacefully grazing flock and calmly answers 'Aye!'

The yuppie parks the car, whips out his notebook, connects it to mobile phone, surfs to a NASA page on the Internet where he calls up a satellite navigation system, scans the area, opens up a database and some 30 Excel spreadsheets with complex formulae. Finally he prints out a 10 page report on his hi-tech miniaturized printer, turns to the shepherd and says 'You have exactly 1586 sheep here!'

That's right said the shepherd, and as agreed, you can take one of the sheep. He watches as the young man makes a selection and bundles it in his Range Rover.

Then he says 'If I can tell you exactly what your business is, will you give me my sheep back?' 'OK - why not?' answers the young man. 'You are a consultant' says the shepherd. 'That's right' says the yuppie 'How did you guess?' 'Easy' answers the shepherd. 'You turn up here although nobody called you...you want to be paid for the answer to a question when I already knew the answer...and you don't know a damned thing about my business. That's obvious. Now give me back my dog.'

A Scottish Evening

By Gary & Julie Davidson

On April 5, 2008 we celebrated Tartan Day at the Columbia Club. In attendance were approximately 40 of our members of the Society and about 40 guests through the Columbia Club. We met in grand fashion in full tartan dress in the Grand Ballroom. The evening began with a parade led by the Indiana Caledonia Pipe Band, followed by the flags and the chef and kitchen staff carrying the feast to be served. Speaking of food, the chef prepared all the entrees with a Scottish flavor and many raved about the Roasted Monk Fish, Steak Balmoral and Chicken Bonne Prince Charles Apples and not a person went hungry.

After our delicious meal, the evening's activities continued with the children participating in three legged and egg carry races while the crowd cheered for their favorites. We were then treated to several songs and a piping contest as well as a demonstration of the various types of pipes presented by the Indiana Caledonia Pipe Band. This was followed by a Scottish dance demonstration while some retired to the tasting festivities. I distinctly remember George exiting the tasting and the only word he uttered as he smiled broadly was "Smooth". There were also several displays of Scottish Heritage and travel planning.

During the evening we met many new faces and some of the guests wore kilts as well. Before we knew it our evening was complete and a wonderful time was shared by all in attendance. Hopefully we can make this an annual event and meet many more new friends. A big thank you goes to our President Gordon Inglis for planning this event with the Columbia Club.

2008 Events Calendar

July

9th—SSI Meeting

10th-13th—Grandfather Mt. Highland Games—MacRae Meadows, Linville, NC. (828) 733-1333

www.gmhg.org/

August

1st-2nd— St. Andrew's Society of Detroit Highland Games—Historic Greenmead Village, Livonia, MI.

(248) 593-5064

13th—SSI Meeting.: Program—Mini Games. Cookout

23rd—Celtic Highland Games of the Quad-Cities—Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, Davenport, Iowa

(309) 794-0449. www.celtichighlandgames.org/

23rd—Kalamazoo Scottish Festival—Kalamazoo, MI. www.kalamazooscottishfestival.org/

September

13th-14th—Columbus Scottish Festival—Bartholomew County Fairgrounds, Columbus, IN.

(800) 468-6564 www.scottishfestival.org/

10th—SSI Meeting

19th-21st—Indianapolis Irish Fest—Military Park, Indianapolis, IN. www.indyirishfest.com/

14th-16th—West Kentucky Highland Festival--Murray City Central Park, Murray, KY. (270) 753-2225

www.wkyhighlandfestival.com/

27th-28th—Feast of the Hunter's Moon—Fort Ouiatenon Historic Park—West Lafayette

October

5th-6th—St. Louis Scottish Games--Forrest Park, St.Louis, MO. **SUSPENDED**

5th-7th—Tennessee Highland Games—Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN

8th—SSI Meeting

17th-19th—Stone Mt. Highland Games—Stone Mountain Park, Atlanta, GA. <http://www.smhg.org/>

November

15th—Founder's Dinner—Geroge's Bar andGrill

20-23rd—Indianapolis International Festival—Indiana State Fairgrounds, West Pavilion—Indianapolis, IN

December

10th—SSI Meeting

Celtic Cooking

Sticky Toffee Pudding

Ingredients:

½ stick soft margarine
generous one third stick) butter
1 cup white sugar
2 cups) plain flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 egg whisked
6 oz (1½ cups) dates
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/3 cup light brown sugar
2 tablespoons double cream
½ pint boiling water

Cream together the margarine and sugar. Sift together the flour and baking powder. Beat the whisked egg into a creamed mixture with a little of the flour and baking powder and continue beating for about a minute before adding the rest of the flour/baking powder.

Chop the dates and flour lightly. Pour the boiling water over the dates and mix in the baking soda and add the date mixture to the batter and mix well.

Place in a buttered tin (or one lined with baking parchment) and bake for 40 minutes at 350F.

When the pudding is cooked, heat the brown sugar, butter and cream and simmer gently for 3 minutes. Pour over the pudding and place under a grill until it starts to bubble. Then serve.

Duke

The highest rank in the Peerage was introduced into England in 1337 when King Edward III created his eldest son Duke of Cornwall. The first non-royal dukedom was created in 1448. In Scotland, the first two dukedoms were created in 1398.

British dukes rank next to princes and princesses of the blood royal, the two archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Lord Chancellor, but beyond this precedence they have no special privileges which are not shared by peers of lower rank

Marquess

The second rank in the Peerage is derived from the German Markgraf, signifying the guardian of a March, or border territory. King Richard introduced it into England in 1385, and it was introduced into Scotland by King James VI in 1599.

Earl

The third rank in the Peerage, but the oldest. Its origins are traced back to Saxon times, when an Ealdorman administered a shire or province for the king. The present title of Earl, derived from the Scandinavian Jarl, dates from the reign of Canute (1016-35).

Viscount

The fourth rank in the Peerage is derived from the hereditary office of Vice-Comes, that is, the deputy of a Count. King Henry VI introduced it into England in 1440.

Baron

The Normans introduced the fifth and lowest rank of the Peerage into England. A Baron was tenant-in-chief of the king, holding his land directly from him. In Scotland, the equivalent title is Lord of Parliament, as the word 'Baron' relates to Feudal Barons.

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

Taken from Burke's Peerage and Gentry 106th edition. The order of Precedence begins with the Sovereign. The Peers, of which there are five grades are detailed in the order of precedence below.

Duke - There are currently five royal dukes - Cornwall & Rothesay, Gloucester, Kent, Edinburgh and York, and one potential royal duke, Prince Harry. There are only 24 non-royal British dukes.

Marquesses in the peerage of England.

Marquesses in the peerage of Scotland.

Marquesses in the peerage of Great Britain.

Marquesses in the peerage of Ireland created before the Union of 1801.

Marquesses in the peerages of the United Kingdom or Ireland created since the Union.

Earls in the peerage of England.

Earls in the peerage of Scotland.

Earls in the peerage of Great Britain.

Earls in the peerage of Ireland created before the Union of 1801.

Earls in the peerages of the United Kingdom and of Ireland created since the Union.

Viscounts in the peerage of England.

Viscounts in the peerage of Scotland.

Viscounts in the peerage of Great Britain.

Viscounts in the peerage of Ireland created before the Union of 1801.

Viscounts in the peerages of the United Kingdom or Ireland created since the Union.

Barons in the peerage of England.

Lords of Parliament in the peerage of Scotland.

Barons in the peerage of Great Britain.

Barons in the peerage of Ireland.

Barons in the peerages of the United Kingdom or Ireland created since the Union of 1801. Life peers, who these days are always of baronial rank, are included here, as also are Lords of Appeal in Ordinary, who these days are made life peers too. They rank among themselves according to the date of the peerage's creation or the date of appointment as a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary.

Just a Few Reminders

Due to the increasing cost of food and what it has been costing the meat dish providers, the trustees have increased the maximum amount allowed to be spent for the meat dish to \$100. This has made it necessary to increase the amount each of us contributes to help pay for the meat dish and hall rental from \$3.00 to \$4.00. Thank you for understanding.

The Columbus Scottish Festival is coming up Sept. 13-14th. In addition to encouraging your attendance, the Society needs help to set-up and take down our booth at the festival as well as people to help work the tent on those days. See Jack Davidson if you are able to help with any of these.

The Irish Festival is also coming up the weekend of Sept. 19-21. Again the Society will need help setting up and taking down our tent as well as working the tent. If you are able to help contact Jack Davidson.

For that is the mark of the Scots of all classes: that he stands in an attitude towards the past unthinkable to Englishmen, and remembers and cherishes the memory of his forebears, good or bad; and there burns alive in him a sense of identity with the dead even to the twentieth generation.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Meeting Schedule: July—September 2008

July

Date: Wed. July 9

Meat Dish: Bastin

Program: Comparison of
the Declaration of Independence
with the Declaration of Arbroth—Ingles

A-E—Veggie

F-N—Salad

O-Z—Dessert

Social Hour 6:30 p.m.

Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Program 8:00 p.m.

August

Date: Wed. August 13

Meat Dish: Cookout

Program: Calling of Clans

A-E—Salad

F-N—Dessert

O-Z—Veggie

All meetings take place
at the Latvian Center
1008 West 64th Street

September

Date: Wed. September 10

Meat Dish: McMath

Program: Scottish Dancing

A-E—Dessert

F-N—Veggie

O-Z—Salad

For more information contact
Gordon Inglis 317-849-7871
or any Board member.

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Member of COSCA