

The Great Scot

www.dcscots.org

Douglas County Scottish Society

OCTOBER 2008

2008 Celtic Games Report

by Charles Lamb, Games Coordinator

At our last general meeting, Heather reported on the games finances. With some income yet to be received and some bills left to pay, the games were just about to break even. A far better outcome than the loss we, unfortunately, had anticipated. We were able to pay both of our headliners and other expenses in full, which was a major concern due to the anticipated loss of revenue expected because of high fuel prices. To counter this, we purchased and utilized about 150 political type signs to get the message out to locals. It seems to have worked and in spite of record hot temperatures on games weekend, people did attend. Our gate was down but not as much as we had feared. Other revenue came from the campground, collected donations, vendor and entry fees, and the beer garden. The beer garden with the new beer trailer was a success. I think that survival of this year's games, given the economy, can be viewed as a success. We certainly did not lose ground and can look forward to building for next year.

As always, suggestions were made for improvement following these games which we hope to implement in 2009. Remember 2009 is Oregon's sesquicentennial and we will certainly want to feature the Oregon State Tartan and perhaps the Scottish contribution to Oregon's Statehood.

As coordinator for the 2008 Celtic Highland Games I wish to thank all the volunteers who made this years games happen. You are too numerous to list and some I am certain are unknown to me, but you all know who you are, and also know you deserve a pat on the back for a job well done.

Yours Aye, Charles Lamb

Douglas County Scottish Society

**General Meeting
October 17, Friday, 6:30 pm
Evergreen Grange in Green
Potluck Supper**

Directions: Take Exit 119 off I-5, head west on 99. Go 2 stoplights & turn left on Grange Road. Evergreen Grange Hall is on left across from The Butcher Block.

Coming Events

October 17, Friday - General Meeting, 6:30 pm, The Grange, Green - potluck supper

November 11, Tuesday - Veterans Day Parade, 10:00 am, Roseburg - Fowler St. behind courthouse

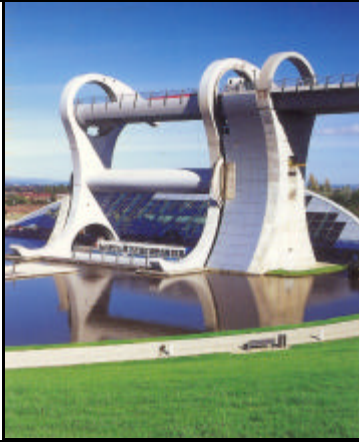
November 21, Friday - General Meeting, TBA

December 6, Saturday - Christmas Parade of Lights, 4:30 pm, starting in Riddle on Main St, proceeding through Myrtle Creek

December - DCSS Christmas Party - TBA

Member News

Tom Paulson and Dennis Smith have returned from their trip to Scotland. One of the postcards sent was of “The Falkirk Wheel” in Falkirk, Scotland, which is an ingenious method of transporting ships through canals. It is quite an engineering feat. Here is some information from the website: thefalkirkwheel.co.uk.



The Falkirk Wheel

“The Millennium Link was an ambitious £84.5m project with the objective of restoring navigability across Scotland on the historic Forth & Clyde Canal and Union Canal, providing a corridor of regenerative activity through central Scotland.

A major challenge faced, was to link the Forth and Clyde Canal, which lay 35m (115ft) below the level of the Union Canal. Historically, the two canals had been joined at Falkirk by a flight of 11 locks that stepped down across a distance of 1.5km, but these has been dismantled in 1933, breaking the link.

What was required was a method of connecting these two canals by way of a boat lift. British Waterways were keen to present a visionary solution taking full advantage of the opportunity to create a truly spectacular and fitting structure that would suitably commemorate the Millennium and act as an iconic symbol for years to come.

The resultant, perfectly balanced structure that is The Falkirk Wheel – the world’s first and only rotating boat lift – was the eventual outcome of British Waterways collaboration with a design team...

Completion of The Millennium Link project was officially marked by Her Majesty The Queen on 24 May 2002 at The Falkirk Wheel.

Welcome New Members!

We have added new members to our Society in the past few months.

Kip and June Page
Myrtle Creek, Oregon

Terry and Debra Rutter
Roseburg, Oregon

Kip Page is the drummer in the parade pictures in last month’s newsletter and his wife, June, is the wonderful photographer. Debra Rutter has already been helping DCSS at the Games in the Pub. Please welcome these new members when you see them at meetings or other events.



Rosslyn Chapel

Another postcard sent by Dennis Smith was of the 15th century Rosslyn Chapel, also known as St. Matthew’s Collegiate Church, located seven miles south of Edinburgh. It is one of Scotland’s loveliest and most historic churches, renowned for its world famous carvings. This beautiful building which is still a working church as well as a popular tourist destination is also a spiritual center for many groups including the Knights Templar of Jerusalem.

Limericks and Language

LIMERICKS



Our DCSS Vice-President, **Heidi Wood**, sent to the newsletter this website called www.localmouth.com that has “local information from every town, village, and hamlet in Britain”. The website ran a limericks contest and chose “The Best

Local Limericks” or the “50 Funniest Limericks”. If you get a chance, go to the website. Some of the limericks are quite good fun (although I had to have Patrick explain some of them to me!). Here are some of the Scottish entries.

GLASGOW

In Glasgow, try Haggis for tea,
With tatties and neeps, and you'll see
That if you are willing,
It's tasty and filling,
Washed down with a whisky or three.

by Jennie Tripp, [Edinburgh](#)

LOUTH

There was a loud woman from Louth
Who had trouble shutting her mouth.
Oh, how she nattered
And gossiped and chattered
So her long suffering husband moved South.

by Rosie Peters, [Loughborough](#)

NEATH

A hefty young laddie from Neath
Had a caber that beggared belief
And each time he tossed it
The audience lost it
And chased him all over the heath

LANGUAGE



“The Minister’s Cat” is familiar to most Scots. It is an alphabet game, played by any number: in each round each player has to think of an epithet for the cat beginning with the same letter of the alphabet. “The minister’s cat is a cat.” The game

works A to Z and a player who fails to come up with an appropriate adjective is out. It is not really a competitive game in the sense of there being a winner, rather, players try to outdo each other in thinking of extravagant terms for the cat. It’s played for fun. ... The Minister’s Cat joined other games such as hunt-the-thimble (or Grandmotherhalf-crown) at the New Year’s get-together of family and friends.”

(from the Introduction to the book)

Example:



“The Minister’s cat is a..... cat.”

CLARTY = “dirty, sticky, muddy”

CADGY = cheerful, friendly

CORRIE-FISTED = left-handed

CREESHIE = greasy, fat, dirty

Thanks to

Donna Hunter for sharing this game

A Wee Bit of This & That

HELP WANTED

Grants Information and Grants Writers

Grants Information - needed to fund the Celtic Highland Games & Clan Gathering. If you know of any possible grant and/or funding sources, please contact President Ray Edwards at 863-6424.

Grants Writers - needed to write and obtain funding for the Games. If you are willing to help with this process in any way, please contact Ray Edwards at 863-6424.

Thank you in advance for assisting the DCSS continue the tradition of the Celtic Highland Games & Clan Gathering.

Certificates of Deposit

Ray Edwards reports Umpqua Bank has agreed to match the other banks interest rate and will retain our certificate of deposit for 12 months at 4% APR. That rate will be a large increase over the previous rate.

Celtic Concert Information

Natalie MacMaster will be in concert at The Shedd Institute in Eugene, October 14th, Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Call Shedd Ticket Office at 541-434-7000 for information and tickets.

Here is some publicity information:

“Ferocious, authentic Cape Breton fiddling and step-dancing have earned Natalie MacMaster Grammy nominations, Juno Awards and international acclaim as a powerhouse in traditional and tradition-based music. The Los Angeles Times calls her “one of Celtic Music’s most dynamic performers” and the Irish Post “Canada’s finest fiddler.”



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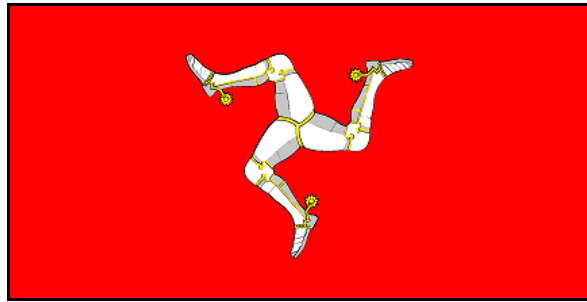
If you would like to receive The Great Scot by email, just call, write, or email me and I will put you on the list. So far we have almost 1/3 of our members receiving the DCSS newsletter by email. It saves time, money, and effort, and you obtain a full color copy of the newsletter. I can be reached at 541-670-1030 or email at thewebbers@hughes.net.

Thanks, Terry Webber

Willy's Flag Corner

by Willy Ellis

The Flag of the Isle of Mann (Mannin)



THE ISLE OF MANN (MANNIN): Located in the Irish Sea nearly equidistant from Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, the Isle of Mann has long enjoyed its own sort of independence. Never formally annexed to England, and to this day not a part of the United Kingdom, Mann remains a "crown dependency" whereby its hereditary ruler, the "Lord of Mann," happens also to be the English monarch. Be that as it may, Mann is governed, at least locally, by its own



Isle of Mann

representative body known as the House of Keys, whose roots go back over a thousand years to the popular decision-making assemblies held by the invading Norse.

By ancient tradition, the entire body of the Manx government assembles in public every 5th of July on "Tynwald Day" to hear the body of Manx laws read aloud in Manx and in English to receive the assent of the assembled populace. The Bank of Man retains the right to issue its own coins and paper currency, and the Manx Post Office prints its own stamps.

Mann's fragile independence has in recent years been threatened by the island's existence as an off-shore financial and tax haven, which has caused nearly half the island's population be be outlanders come to take advantage of the low income tax rates, and by international economic organizations that have cast a cold eye on the island's potential as a base for financial shenanigans. The large number of foreign banks and corporations that have set up on Mann to take advantage of the island's political status have also been opposed by many native Manx, who fear the loss of the island's independence and identity. Mann maintains its own nationalist party, MecVannin ("Sons of Mann").

Since the death in 1948 of the last reputed native speaker of Manx, efforts have been underway to revive the language, resulting today in a small but growing number of native Manx for whom Manx is their cradle language.

Named for the Celtic sea god Mannan mac Lir, Mann's foremost patriotic hero is Illiam Dhone, who led an uprising against the island's English overlords in 1651. Today, the Celtic League's General Secretary and a lively Manx Branch continue to defend their country's interests in the face of such issues as military exploitation and radioactive (and other) pollution of the Irish Sea.

Douglas County Scottish Society
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October Birthdays!!

Calvin Peterson
Betsy Davis
David Kaiser
Ann Chamberlain
Richard H. Baird
Tom Henderson
Lynnette Smith
Jan Edwards
Sue Rochambeaux
Roger Bothwell

*The Great Scot is published monthly and is
free to all paid-up members.*

***Douglas County Scottish Society
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Articles, photos & information welcome!