

NOVA SCOTIA'S
SCOTTISH VOICE
SINCE 1982

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Major announcement forthcoming regarding FSCNS membership benefits

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THE BROADSWORD

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SPRING 2014



By Jean Watson

Greetings everyone, what a wild ride this winter has been. Thankfully Spring is on the horizon, you can feel it in the sun and in the nice fresh air.

Members of the Federation organized a Robbie Burns Night in Lower Sackville once again. I forgot my camera but saw some nice pictures in the church bulletin of the Haggis being piped in. Piper Rob Green led Al Matheson who carried the tasty treat "Mr. Haggis", Tom Wallace, the M.C. and Haggis Chef, joined them and the whole room rose at attention for the Royal Pudding to

Spring Has Sprung!

be honoured as it reached it's final destination. Tom gave the Toast to the Haggis and it was enjoyed by all.

Many took Part: Mel Baird read two Burns poems, Ode to a Mouse:

"Wee, sleekit, cowrin, tim'ous beastie, O, what a panic's in thy breastie! Thou need na start awa sae hasty, Wi' bickerin brattle!" Later in the evening Mel followed with The Ploughman:- "Then up wi't a', my ploughman lad, And hey, my merry ploughman! Of a' the trades that I do ken, Comend me to the Plowman!"

We had piping, and beautiful violin playing by Rob Green, and the Celtic Choir sang beautifully, as usual. (Approximately 14 people) Al Matheson, in honour of the Ladies, graced us with the lovely words to "My love is like a Red, Red Rose".

Jean Watson gave a brief talk on the up-coming International Gathering. Tom Wallace, who acted as Master of Ceremonies, kept everyone in good spirits and once

again we enjoyed a lovely hot dinner and friendly companionship. Many new people were with us and they enjoyed the evening so much they have spoken for next years tickets already! Congratulations!



FSCNS Treasurer Al Matheson ensured that everyone had paid.



The Celtic Choir entertained a standing-room only Burns Night Celebration held in Lower Sackville on January 25th. This is the second time at this venue.

Belenus:

The first of May is the ancient Celtic festival of Bealtaine or Beltane, the cross quarter day marking the mid-way point between the spring equinox and the summer solstice. It is exactly six months away from Samhain – the Celtic New Year on 1st November. Like many Celtic festivals the date has an agricultural significance as it marks the end of the unfarmable winter in the Northern hemisphere and symbolised the start of the summer – when the cattle were moved to the high pastureland. The word Bealtaine is used in the modern Irish for the month of May.

AROUND TOWN

Past President Mel Baird and Myrna Baird were honoured at the Neptune Theatre Launch on March 20 for having been subscribers for more than 30 years. Myrna was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers. Congratulations to you both!

Bob Hanes Named SASPC “Scot of the Year”



L-R, St Andrew's Society President Ken Langille, Scot of the Year, Robert Hanes, Joan Sutherland, Mary Beth Sutherland and one of Rev. Don's grandsons, Sandy.

New Glasgow – It was another grand night for the St. Andrew's Society of Pictou County to celebrate Robbie Burns' birthday and inaugurate a special award.

Society member Bob Hanes of New Glasgow was presented with the first “Scot of the Year” award in memory of past-president and Chaplain Rev. Donald Sutherland on Saturday during the Society's annual dinner to honour Burns' birthday on Jan. 25, 1759.

“Rev. Don” was also the first president of our Federation of Scottish Clans. “Shortly after his passing there was talk that our society should honour this man in some way,” emcee and Society Secretary, Troy MacCulloch said.

The plan was to first present the award at the Feast of St. Andrew in November. It was postponed to Robbie Burns Night, but the second award is scheduled to be presented next November. “It has come as a real surprise,” Hanes said.

“I knew Donald so well. I never thought I'd be the recipient.” Hanes served as Society President first in 92 and again in 2007. He has been an active member and Director of both this Society as well as a staunch supporter of the local Festival of the Tartans.

Mr. Hanes received a standing ovation which was led by Their Honours, The Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, His Honour

Brig. Gen. J.J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, and Her Honour Mrs. Joan Grant.

Guest speaker Anne Emmett spoke on behalf of both the Hector Quay Society and the Ship Hector Foundation and provided an update on repairs to the Ship Hector. Emmett explained the need for both organizations because the quay society owns and operates the site, while the foundation is a registered charity. This enables it to offer receipts for income tax purposes.

The Federation congratulates Mr. Hanes on his prestigious award, and commends the great work of the St. Andrew's Society of Pictou County. Mealaibh ur naidheachd!



2014 Culloden Ceremony at Knoydart on April 26th



The Scottish community comes together to commemorate the Battle of Culloden annually in April. This event is a highlight of the Scottish cultural calendar — followed by excellent fellowship and refreshments in Lismore

The traditional gathering in memory of the Battle of Culloden at the cairn in Knoydart, Pictou County, is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 26.

The commemoration ceremony honours the memory of those who fought on both sides of the famous battle. Beginning at 11 a.m. with the traditional march from the highway to the cairn, the Scottish community of Nova Scotia will pay its respects.

The Knoydart cairn, which was constructed in 1938, honours the memory of three survivors of the Culloden battle – Angus MacDonald, Hugh MacDonald and John MacPherson – who are buried near the historic monument. The trio fought for Scotland in the Clan Ranald Regiment in 1746.

Since 1981, local residents have been hosting this annual memorial service at the cairn in Knoydart.

Every April the Scottish community of Nova Scotia honours the fallen on behalf of

their respective organizations. Every member of the Federation is encouraged to come out in the spirit of solidarity and fellowship.

An excellent reception and delicious roast-beef lunch followed at the Lismore Community Hall on Route 248 (Pictou County). Visit www.culloden.ca for more information.

Travelers' Notes from Jean Watson:

One mile past Lismore Hall on the left. If you wish to lay a wreath please register before the march into the cairn.

Try to be there by 10:30 a.m. wear good foot wear and dress warmly. Following the service please return to the Lismore Hall a hot meal awaits you, a dram and entertainment.

Please leave a donation for the lovely meal.



Federation Spring Meeting on May 3rd in Sackville

The Spring meeting will be held on the weekend of 3 May 2013 at the Sackville Library, 636 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville. There will be a guest speaker, who will be announced at a later date.

Please note this is a Morning Meeting and will start at 10:30 a.m.

Lunch sandwiches/sweets/ donations always welcome.

Every Clan Society is allowed two votes at any meeting. Individuals are allowed one vote only.

Dues are due : They may be paid at the start of the meeting \$30.00 Soc./ Assoc. And \$15.00 for Individual Members. Please see Al Matheson, our treasurer, with any membership issues.

If you cannot be in attendance please mail in your membership to :

Federation Mail Box Address: Federation for Scottish Culture in Nova Scotia, PO Box 811, Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia, B4C 3V3.



Referendum News

According to today's Scottish paper there is a bit of a backlash from Scots with the threat from England's parliament that they will not be allowed to use the British pound should they separate.

Mr. Salmond states, "No one with a semblance of understanding of Scottish history and indeed the Scottish character would have made a speech such as the Chancellor made last week. To be told we have no rights to assets jointly built up is as insulting as it is demeaning. It is a sign of how out of touch and arrogant the Westminster establishment have become."

We will see all in September. The topic is heating up in Scotland.

A Tartan Day Call to Action! Observe the day!

"This is the day we honour our fore-bearers and their struggles to survive in the Dominions of Canada. It is also a day we honour the great achievements of Scottish Canadians and a date the youth of Canada can recognize as ours."

"Never forget TARTAN DAY was started by us, the Scots of the Federation! For Scottish Clans and Scots in Nova Scotia."

It has now spread around the world. How proud we should be to know, we the Scots of this little province started something that has become so big that it is beyond comprehension.

We do not get excited enough about it. We do not promote it in our stores and towns. Little is done about it in the province. You the members of the Federation need to go to local stores and talk to the

managers, get them to put on promotions. Tourism should be promoting Nova Scotia as the place it all started!

We need to get bands to put on special functions and get the word out to all that we have a date of our own, started in Canada for Canadians, approved by the Federal Government as a National Day.

We all need to go to just one store, bank, seniors center, newspaper in your area etc. And promote Tartan Day.



Tartan Day is

APRIL 6th



Get Ready for the 2015 International Gathering of the Clans

The Scottish Community of Nova Scotia is preparing to welcome the global Scottish Community to our province again during the summer of 2015,

Events will run from July 1st beginning with a flag raising ceremony at the Pugwash Gathering of the Clans.

The Official Opening will be held in Halifax on July 3rd at the Grand Parade in Halifax. The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo in Nova Scotia will be running during the first week with acts from all over the world and it is

formal closing ceremonies in Yarmouth. It is hoped that Scots from all over the world will turn their eyes toward New Scotland for 2015.

Nova Scotia is known for its many musical entertainers, Celtic singers, and world-class fiddlers. Along with its scenic coastal villages, sandy beaches, lobster in all its delicious forms, and its historical settlements of not only Scots but Irish, Germans, English, Ulster Scots, Acadian French, Aboriginal people and many other Multi-cultural groups make this seaside province a place to experience the best of culture and cuisine is a compact and accessible package.



The Ship Hector brought some of the first Scottish Settlers to our shores and a replica rides the waves in the Historical town of Pictou inviting you to come aboard and reach back through time.

Watch for more announcements: Come to Nova Scotia in 2015 and go from Routes to Roots.

Historic villages are found throughout our province - the Highland Village at Iona, Sherbrook Village a working village and Ross Farm to name but a few of the many interesting places to visit.

hoped that the IGC will be formally recognized by the Tattoo on July 3.

Events will be held in the Halifax area during the first weekend before moving to the Antigonish Highland Games the following week. From there, the IGC will head to Pictou County for the New Glasgow Festival of the Tartans.

The third week of July will be the final week for IGC 2015 and will be packed with events leading to the

Fort Anne, Port Royal, the Halifax Citadel, and the Fortress Louisbourg are but a few more places to capture your imagination. Drummers, Pipers, historical re-enactments are all here to catch your fancy. We are home to the world famous Royal Gaelic College

Come learn your ancestral language in beautiful Cape Breton and join in the "Gathering" on New Scotland's shores.





Clan Stuart/Stewart Dinner, tickets \$25 pp.

Clan Stuart/Stewart Dinner on April 12th

The "Tribute to Tartan Day Dinner hosted by Clan Stewart-Stuart Association will be held on April 12th at the St. Margaret of Scotland Church Hall on Robie Street, Halifax.

Tickets may be applied for from: Allan and Sue Stuart 835-5611; Jean Watson 864-1994 or Carol Creaser at 443-2541 \$25.00 per ticket.

Hot Beef dinner, sit down at 6:15 p.m. doors open at 5:00 p.m. to view the Silent Auction.

This is a very popular event in HRM, and we strongly suggest that you get your tickets ASAP.

Many thanks for you wonderful support!

30th Annual Tartan Day, April 11th

Photo: FSCNS



The FSCNS participate at Tartan Day Ceremonies at Government House on April 11th, as guests of Their Honours, the Lieutenant Governor J.J. Grant, and Mrs. Grant.

The Federation for Scottish Culture is very pleased to learn that His Honour Brig.-Gen. J.J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, and Her Honour Mrs. June Grant will host a Salute to Tartan Day at Government House in Halifax, on Friday, April 11th, 2014

FSCNS President Troy MacCulloch stated that "Government House is the perfect place to celebrate the contributions of those of Scottish descent to the development of our province. Nova Scotia was the first jurisdiction in the world to proclaim "Tartan Day" and it is now celebrated by the Scottish cultural community around the world. Initiated by the Federation as a day to

celebrate Scottish heritage and to reflect on the accomplishments of those of Scottish descent, Tartan Day (6 April annually) also commemorates the signing of the Declaration of Arbroath in which Scotland asserted its independence from England in 1320 A.D.

This year, Tartan Day will be observed on April 11th because of the Good Friday holiday. Key contacts for the Federation are 1st Vice President George MacLean or 2nd VP Carol Dobson at or if you are interested in learning more about this special event. This event is by invitation only.



Federation President Troy MacCulloch



Membership is open to everyone who shares our vision and goals. Having an appreciation for Scottish Culture is all that is required.

As a supporter of Scottish culture, you have one of three classes of annual membership from which to choose:

- Individual Membership** **\$15**
- Family (2 adults and ≤ 3 children)** **\$30**
- Society/Association/Group** **\$30**

If you agree, simply fill in the form to the right and follow the instructions. Fáilte! Welcome!



Join the Federation — today!

FSCNS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM	
Name (Primary Contact):	
Mailing Address:	
City:	Province/State:
Postal / ZIP:	Phone
Email:	AMOUNT ENCLOSED
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership (\$15) <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership (2 adults and ≤ 3 children) (\$30) <input type="checkbox"/> Society or Association Membership (\$30)	\$ CDN
THIS SECTION FOR FAMILIES AND SOCIETIES ONLY	
Name of Organization (society/association/group):	Name (secondary contact)
Secondary Address (if different than above):	Phone/Email (secondary contact)
Mail your payment and this form to our Membership Office:	
FSCNS MEMBERSHIPS PO BOX 811 LOWER SACKVILLE NS B4C 3V3	



Results of the 31st Annual General Meeting & Election of Officers

The 31st Annual General Meeting of the Federation for Scottish Culture was convened at 1 p.m. on Saturday, 23 November 2013 New Glasgow Town Hall.

President Troy MacCulloch thanked attendees for coming and for their dedication to and passion for perpetuating Scottish culture and heritage.

Reports of the standing committees were presented to the Council of the Federation, and submitted to Secretary Jean Watson.

Watson shared a synopsis of activities during 10th International Gathering of the Clans, which will take place in 2015.

The following are the officers of the Federation for Scottish Culture in Nova Scotia:

President
Troy MacCulloch (New Glasgow)

Immediate Past President:
Thomas Wallace (Lower Sackville)

1st Vice President:
George MacLean (Lower Sackville)

2nd Vice President:
Carol Dobson (Halifax)

Secretary:
Jean Watson (Lower Sackville)

Treasurer/Memberships:
Al Matheson (Lower Sackville)

Federation Piper
Robert Greene (Bedford)

Board of Directors:
Cairns Henderson (Halifax)
Celeste Henderson (Halifax)
William MacCulloch (New Glasgow)
Gerald J. MacGillivray (Antigonish)
Ian MacLean (Tidnish/Amherst)
Audrey Manzer (Dartmouth)
Gary Patterson (Kentville)