

# HEATHER BELL

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALEDONIAN & ST. ANDREWS SOCIETY OF SEATTLE

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[www.caledonians.com](http://www.caledonians.com)

October 2009

## CHANGE OF DATE FOR OCTOBER

Because of a scheduling conflict our Gathering will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of October (we usually meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday).

**OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup>**

> THIS IS A ONE-TIME CHANGE <

## POTLUCK

**7:30 PM, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup>**

We ask that everyone attending bring something to eat. If you can't bring the dish corresponding to your name, please let Carol Garman know so we can supplement or ask someone else to trade off. The hot dishes can be kept warm in the ovens in the church kitchen. Also, please have your food table-ready so that the kitchen crew doesn't have to put it in a dish or on a platter. If you bring something that needs a serving spoon, please also bring the spoon! And, lastly, if your item contains meat or something that someone might be allergic to, please make a little sign. Thanks!

If your last name begins with the following letter, please bring a corresponding dish:

A-J – dessert  
K-N – salad  
O-Z – main dish

## A Letter from our President Bill McFadden

I hope everyone had a great summer. The Caledonians had a booth at the Enumclaw Games and we talked to a number of people who might be interested in joining. A big thank you to Mike Nelson for taking charge of the booth and to all those who volunteered to work in it and to participate in the opening ceremonies. Now we're anxious to get back into our Fall & Winter season with a number of activities coming up. One is the Heather Tartan Ball on November 7. I hope the members will get out & support the SSHGA by attending this annual event. It's always a lot of fun, with a silent auction and several pipe bands for entertainment. We are getting a Caledonian table, so if you want to go, send your money in with a note that you're a Caledonian so we can all sit together.

We have a new board who will be addressing some new issues within the society, so please attend our gatherings & participating in the society. At the October gathering we will be bringing the issue of a raise in dues to the members. I would encourage all members to become more involved in the society. The board always appreciates input and opinions and, of course, we always need volunteers to help in various ways.

We have some interesting entertainment planned for the upcoming gatherings. Our new social director, Mike Nelson, has some good groups lined up. We kick off the season this month with the October potluck and a "meet and greet" night, and a sing-along. I am looking forward to seeing you all there for our first gathering of the year.

Yours aye, Bill

**NEXT GATHERING **OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup>****

**SET-UP - 6:30 PM, DINNER - 7:30 PM**

# THE MAIN THING IS KEEPING THE MAIN THING, THE MAIN THING:

Thoughts on the Caledonian and St Andrews  
Society and its Members

by Jim Mentzer, First Vice President

The motto is from my friend Mike Hale of “Hales Ales Brewery.” The establishment is an excellent place for a meal and a pint. It’s clear to me that Mike and his crew have found ways to keep a close connection to the prime directive despite changes in economics, raw materials and clientele. They still make an excellent brew.



Let it not be said that I am here to plug my favorite pub. I want to talk with you about the MAIN THING as you see it. As membership chair I have responsibilities to and for the members of the Society. I am going to start out by asking, What is the “Main Thing” for you?

The Society started one hundred seven years ago. That’s a long time as organizations go in this world. The needs of our membership have continued to evolve as the years passed by.

Our current membership includes emigrants from Scotland. Another group of members are almost entirely “Yanks” like me seeking to learn more about the country of our ancestry. Others are simply interested in Scottish and Celtic lands, people and culture.

Is it the interest in the land, music and culture that keeps you here? Is it the welcome you find in other members? Maybe you are just interested in the lemon cakes at tea?

Now is the time, or past the time, to cut to the chase. I’m interested in talking with you about “THE MAIN THING” so far as you see it. I’m hoping that it’s more than an opportunity to wear the tartan once a month from October to June.

You can find me in the Membership Directory or call me at 206-789-6104, email james.mentzer@handmadedscot.com, or you’ll find me at the meetings. Come tell me what you think. I’ll listen.

## LIBRARY

Please return all your books to the library. Book donations graciously accepted (please, only books that have a connection with Scotland or Scottish subject matter).

## A Letter from the Editor Diana Smith

I hope everyone had a great summer and that you got to at least some of the Highland Games. I always enjoy the Games and anticipate them every year, knowing I’ll be seeing friends and having fun watching the various events. Now we can look forward to the year of monthly gatherings of the society, seeing people we maybe haven’t seen all summer and enjoying Scottish entertainment. Our October gathering will be on Oct. 16 (not the 9th, due to a scheduling conflict with a church event) and will be a potluck “meet and greet” social evening. Sometimes we’re so pressed for time at our gatherings that we don’t have time to visit with everyone, so this will be our chance to catch up.

I didn’t make the picnic this year, but I heard it was lots of fun, if sparsely attended. I was on my way across the country at that point, driving back to see my daughter who lives in Arlington, VA, just across the Potomac River from Washington D.C. I was sorry to miss the picnic as I always enjoy it, especially “Pass the Parcel”, but I will catch it next year. The day of the picnic I was driving through Utah, heading for Salt Lake City.

I want to remind people to let me and/or Bonnie know if a member (or former member) is ill or hospitalized so we can send a card. Bonnie is our “Sunshine Committee” and will send a get well card or something appropriate.

Diana Smith, Heatherbell Editor

## RAFFLE

We are trying something new this year with the raffle. We will have only a few items, and the tickets will be drawn at various times throughout the evening.

## TARTAN DAY PETITION

**National Tartan Day not signed into perpetuity, please sign petition** – Apparently when National Tartan Day was signed, it was a temporary bill. If we want it made permanent, we need to petition the government. This is easy to do – just go to the website, enter your name & email address (which will be kept private). If you do not have email, you can write to your legislators. <http://www.petitiononline.com/Sep2009/petition.html>

“Every line of strength in American history is a line colored with Scottish blood.” (President Woodrow Wilson, praising the contribution of the Scottish Nation to the history of the USA)

# A VOTE AT THE OCTOBER GATHERING

We will be voting on a modification of the By-Laws at our October Gathering. This article is written to familiarize you with the proposal to be voted on and with the process we will use.

At a regular meeting of the board, a proposal was moved, seconded and passed to increase the dues for Caledonian membership effective with the 2010 calendar year. This proposal must be ratified by a vote of the membership and our by-laws treat dues increases as a special case in that they can only be voted on at the October Gathering. The proposal to be voted on would increase individual dues to \$35 (with \$5 set aside for charitable/scholarship purposes only) and family membership to \$45 (with \$10 set aside for charitable/scholarship purposes only).

Given that the matter has already been voted on by the Board, it will not be necessary to make a motion and second the motion at the gathering. The proposal will be read and explained and we will go directly into the discussion phase. During the discussion phase, members (only members) will be recognized one at a time to make whatever comments they wish to make including proposing amendments to the original motion. Once an amendment has been moved and seconded, discussion on the original question is suspended and only discussion on the amendment will be allowed until a vote is taken on the amendment. After voting on the amendment, we will return to discussing the original motion (either in its original form or as it has been amended). Using this process, we can stay focussed on the current vote topic without losing track of the central question.

Discussion will be restricted to the matter at hand. Only discussion on the proposed dues increase and

the amendments to that proposal will be sanctioned by the chair. Other ideas and proposals will be noted and can be dealt with at a later time.

The Society needs to consider increasing our dues for at least the following 4 reasons and possibly others:

1. We haven't raised our dues in around 10 years. During that time, inflation has continually reduced the buying power of our dues. In effect, we have been reducing the value of our dues each year by not addressing shifts in the economy.
2. Even with cost cutting measures, our operating costs have continued to rise. A great example is our move to Lake City Presbyterian. Initially, this cost saving helped keep our balance in the black. Now, the church is raising its price (to a very fair level, I might add) and we must pay a higher rental this next year.
3. There are areas where we need to spend more. The society has virtually ignored Scholarships and charity for the last 10 years. Our financial position has not allowed us to support these objectives that our bylaws commit us to. We also need to start paying more for some of our entertainers. Several groups last year were paid LESS than the cost of their transportation; meaning that they were subsidizing us rather than the other way around.
4. We need to begin restoring our savings. We have been slowly drawing down the Society's funds. As a friend of mine likes to say, "We are living on Grandpa's money." If we expect another "Hundred Years" we need to replenish the money we have used.

Please attend the October Gathering and share your thoughts. And, when the final vote is taken, vote for the good of the Society.

## SOCIETY NEWS

The June Show – We made a little profit from the June Show and the proceeds enabled us to deposit funds into our Scholarship fund and Charitable fund.

Heatherbell by email – beginning in January 2010, the Caledonians intend to "go green" by sending the Heatherbell only by email to those who have email. Those who do not have computers can opt to receive it by U.S. mail. Our costs have risen dramatically for printing and postage, and by switching to email we figure to save approximately \$1000 for the year.

The current membership of the board is listed on the back cover

Clean-up help needed – please consider staying after the meetings to help clean up. We just need help putting things away. Thanks!

Chaplain/Sunshine Committee's report: Bonnie has sent get well card to Annette Mentzer, Laura Hammond, and May Heltsley. She would like to remind members that if anyone is ill or having surgery, to let her know. She will send cards and visit them in the hospital or at home. Bonnie is so good to do this and we need to give her a big thank you for her kindness.

## TEA

We need members to volunteer to bring tea (sandwiches and cookies) to the November 13 and December 11 meetings. If you can help out, please contact Garol Garman at 253-661-8149 or carol-garman@hotmail.com. Thanks in advance!

# SCOTTISH NEWS

**Centuries-old slurs against families who supported Bonnie Prince Charlie and his Jacobite warriors could be lifted.** Thousands of Scots and their relatives around the world could soon have a slur lifted that has stood against their names for hundreds of years. A new campaign has been launched that could see the likes of actor Ewan McGregor – a member of the same clan as Jacobite rebel Rob Roy MacGregor – pardoned for actions that took place centuries ago. Several hundred nobles were persecuted after Jacobite uprisings in the 18th century, including national hero Rob Roy and Flora MacDonald, who provided shelter for Jacobite leader Bonnie Prince Charlie after his defeat at the Battle of Culloden in 1746. Certain noble lineages were declared as having a “corruption of blood”. There were executions and banishments, and land and titles were taken away.

**The new campaign, led by retired banker and heraldry expert Peter Drummond-Murray, has found cross-party support through a motion before the Scottish Parliament.** Mr. Drummond-Murray’s ancestors had their estates and titles removed but later restored through private Acts of Parliament. He said many others have gone through the costly process of gaining such acts but an overarching campaign could remove the stain from hundreds of family names with relative ease. He added, “This I see as doing justice to those who could not afford private Acts of Parliament and reconciliation. I think people are entirely convinced that these honorable men followed their consciences. Several hundred were stigmatized as having a corruption of blood and were exiled, largely to North America. This could lift the stigma for thousands of people around the globe.”

The campaign, if successful, could restore ancient titles to descendants of earls of Panmure, Southesk and Kellie, as well as the Duke of Berwick. “Acts of attainder”, which branded an individual or group guilty of a crime without trial, were passed 264 years ago, although many were overturned to celebrate the Queen’s silver jubilee in 1977.

Scottish Parliament can only take the motion so far and it requires an Act in the Westminster parliament to clear the Jacobite names.

After 1688, when James VII of Scotland and II of England was replaced by his daughter, Mary II, and her husband, William of Orange, many who refused to swear allegiance to William and Mary and other staunch Stuart supporters, were tried for treason, executed and “attainted.” Many more went into hiding or into exile, and were punished without trial by parliament passing Acts of Attainder. They lost all civil rights and their property, and, because their blood was held to be “corrupted”, their descendants were disinherited. The intention had been this would

be relaxed on the death of the sons of the “Old Pretender”, but it never happened. King George IV came to Edinburgh in 1822 and undertook to have the attainders reversed for anyone who so petitioned, but only a handful of peers could afford the procedure of a private bill in parliament to achieve this. (from The Scotsman, July 12)

**Queen scoops a year of free ice-cream at Highland Show** - The Queen had something to smile about after she was given a year’s supply of ice-cream at a sunny Royal Highland Show. Touring the showground she was handed a book of free ice-cream vouchers by Maitland Mackie, chairman of Mackie’s of Scotland. Mr Mackie joked that he was worried about the state of the royal finances as he handed over the gift. Mr Mackie founded the Aberdeenshire ice-cream firm 22 years ago.

The Queen is the patron of the show’s organiser, the Royal Highlands and Agricultural Society of Scotland. With the RHASS celebrating its 225th anniversary this year, organisers were delighted to welcome both the Queen and the Princess Royal to the event.

**Baby boom at Edinburgh** – The Edinburgh Zoo has enjoyed a bumper year for births. The most recent high-profile arrival was Leishan, the pygmy hippo born in May, the first pygmy hippo born there in four years. In April, the zoo also welcomed three baby gelada baboons – Chandu, Chibale and Chiku – which were the first to be born in Edinburgh, with the species only being brought to the zoo two years ago. In addition, they have seen 43 gentoo penguin chicks and two rockhopper penguin chicks hatched this year. Two cochin Chinese red jungle fowl chicks, a potaroo, two hamerkop chicks, a white-faced saki monkey, a North American tree porcupine, two reindeer foals, a white-lipped deer, a bush baby, a capuchin monkey, a goeldi’s monkey and three maned wolf pups have been born. Flamingos have had their best ever breeding season, with four fluffy flamingo chicks already born and another five eggs due to hatch over the coming weeks.

**English Haggis? Butchers deny author’s claim that first haggis was English.** Scotland’s haggis-makers have leapt to the defense of the dish’s origins after claims the first recipe for the food was published in an English book. Food historian Catherine Brown said she found references to the dish in a book called The English Hus-Wife, dated 1615. But she said the first mention she could find of Scottish haggis was in 1747. Ms Brown said the book, by Gervase Markham, indicates that haggis was first eaten in England and subsequently popularized by the Scots. It seems that while there could well be some recipe in England that’s

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similar, the things that go in it are Scottish. There's a lot of mutton and oatmeal in the product.

**£1.3bn Highland playground for the super-rich** - With membership fees an astronomical £2 million and annual dues of £500,000, it aims to be the most exclusive "holiday" resort ever built in Scotland. Ambitious plans were unveiled to transform one of the most remote stretches of Highland Perthshire into a £1.3 billion private playground for the world's super-rich. The Dall Estate, on the shores of Loch Rannoch, is set to become a "mini Monaco" in the heart of the Scottish.

**Rare Scots earldom up for grabs** - A rare feudal earldom is about to come up for sale in Scotland and it might be the last time. Whoever buys the title will be able to call themselves earl, but they may have to pay £500,000 for the privilege. The title is understood to be one of just six outstanding Scottish feudal earldoms left over from the medieval era. Along with less-prestigious feudal baronies, they are the only titles that can be legally bought or sold rather than inherited. The seller is Dumfriesshire-based entrepreneur Brian Hamilton, dubbed the Raider of the Lost Titles, who last night said he believed the earldom would be the last to go on the open market, such is its rarity. Hamilton refused to say which earldom he will be offering or what it would cost. But the Earldom of Arran recently changed hands for more than £200,000, while the Barony of Macdonald in Skye was reputedly sold for £1 million. Baronies and earldoms were rediscovered – and first traded with land – in the second half of the 20th century. Since 2004, and the abolition of feudalism in Scotland, the titles have been separated from the land. The title is not the same as a peerage earldom, an inherited rank that can earn a seat in the House of Lords. Titleholders can, however, be able to petition the Lord Lyon for a coat of arms.

**Catriona Matthew, the first Scot to win the Women's British Open golf championship** – In July she battled her way out of a burning hotel in France, and in May she gave birth to her second daughter. Matthew, from North Berwick, turned 40 in August and is already known as a "supermum" on the tour after winning the HSBC Brazil Cup in Rio de Janeiro in January when she was five months pregnant.

**New look for the Tattoo** – The esplanade at Edinburgh Castle will soon have a spectacular new arena which will host year-round events. Organizers of the Edinburgh Military Tattoo, who are behind the £16 million project, have declared they want the 8,600-capacity spectator stands to be in place by 2011. Plans lodged with Edinburgh City Council show how a new bowl-shaped arena will play host to the Tattoo and other major events, such as rock concerts, Festival showcases and even sporting occasions.

**'Cathedral' as old as Stonehenge unearthed** - Even in an area as archaeologically rich as Orkney, it is being hailed as the find of a lifetime. Experts have

unearthed a Neolithic "cathedral" – a massive building of a kind never before seen in Britain – which has left them in awe of its scale and workmanship. At 82ft long and 65ft wide, it stands between two of Orkney's most famous Neolithic landmarks, the Ring of Brodgar and the Stones of Stenness. While impressive in their own right, they would have been dwarfed by the monumental building now uncovered and, in comparison, may have been peripheral features in the islands' Stone Age landscape. Investigative work has been continuing at the Ness of Brodgar since 2003 and the site – which dates back nearly 5,000 years – is slowly giving up more of its secrets. Far taller when built, they are 16 feet thick and surround a cross-shaped inner sanctum where the 40-strong excavation team have found examples of art and furniture created from stone. The building was surrounded by a paved outer passage. The archaeologists believe this could have formed a labyrinth that would have led people through darkness to the chamber at the heart of the building. The team has also discovered that a standing stone split by a hole shaped like an hourglass was incorporated into the structure, something never seen before in buildings from the period. The building may have served as some kind of temple, perhaps playing an important role on the journey from life to death in the beliefs of the people of the time. It was buried under a large natural mound at the tip of the Brodgar peninsula, a huge archaeological site where last year the team unearthed a four-metre-wide wall made of massive stone boulders. The Great Wall of Brodgar, as it's been dubbed, appears to go right across the peninsula and seems to separate the land of the living from the realm of the spirits at the Ring of Brodgar. Other buildings, over 50ft long and 30ft wide, have also been discovered.

**The 5,000-year-old 'first Scot'** - At first glance, it appears little more than a tiny fragment of sandstone with a few crude scratches on the surface. Yet this precious object is one of the most exciting archaeological discoveries made in Scotland – the earliest representation of a human face and body ever found north of the Border. The face and its lozenge-shaped body – measuring just 3.5cm by 3cm – were carved on the Orkney island of Westray between 4,500 and 5,000 years ago. The figurine was unearthed by Jakob Kainz, one of a team of archaeologists working at Historic Scotland's excavations on an ancient farmhouse at the Links of Noltland site – a prehistoric settlement in the dune system flanking Grobust Bay, on the north-west coast of Westray. Historic Scotland senior archaeologist Richard Strachan said it was a find of "astonishing rarity" – the only known Neolithic carving of a human form to have been discovered in Scotland. Careful examination revealed a face with heavy brows, two dots for eyes and an oblong for a nose. A pair of circles on the chest are being interpreted as representing breasts, and arms have been

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Scottish News continued

etched at either side. A pattern of crossed markings could suggest the fabric of clothing.

**UFOs in Scotland** - Documents released recently by the National Archives detail some 800 UFO reports made to the MoD between 1981 and 1996. They include tales of attempted abductions, along with sightings of aliens with lemon-shaped heads and flying saucers over Glastonbury. In Scotland, the Stirlingshire town of Bonnybridge became a touchstone for UFO-ologists after it became an apparent hotspot for sightings in the mid-1990s. At the height of its fame, it was claimed 3,000 sightings had been reported, and such was the hysteria surrounding the area that local councillor William Buchanan wrote to then prime minister John Major, calling unsuccessfully for an inquiry to be launched.

Across the UK, there were 285 alleged UFO sightings reported to the MoD in 2008 – twice the number recorded in 2007. Nick Pope, who ran the British government's UFO project at the MoD in the early 1990s, believes that, while many sightings could be explained away, there were those for which no rational explanation could be given.

Having investigated many of the Bonnybridge incidents himself, he said that there were some that could not be explained.

## MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

In the distant past the Member-of-the-Year was selected by vote of the membership. In recent years participation in this vote has dwindled. Rather than eliminate this tool for recognizing active, contributing members, the Board has decided to select the MotY itself. This year's winner will be announced at the October Gathering. Be there to show your appreciation to the people who keep the Caledonians going.

If you would like to suggest a recipient for next year's Member-of-the-Year, contact any board member.

## WELCOME TO THESE NEW MEMBERS

Barb St. John  
31 146th St. SE, Lynnwood WA 98087  
425-743-9977, dooliedog@hotmail.com

Nancy Rasmussen  
19500 84th Ave. W., Edmonds WA 98026  
425-778-3436, Ras3436@aol.com

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct. 16 – Caledonian-St. Andrew's gathering; 7:30; potluck and "Meet and Greet" social evening; Lake City Presbyterian Church, 3841 NE 123rd St, Seattle.
- Oct. 17 – 18th annual Celtic Fling, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Seattle; [www.saintandrewsseattle.org](http://www.saintandrewsseattle.org)
- Oct. 18th – Church Service and Kirkin' O' the Tartan, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Seattle; [www.saintandrewsseattle.org](http://www.saintandrewsseattle.org)
- Oct. 29 – Battlefield Band, Kirkland Performance Center, 350 Kirkland Ave., Kirkland, WA; [www.kp-center.org](http://www.kp-center.org); [www.battlefieldband.co.uk](http://www.battlefieldband.co.uk)
- Oct. 31 – Battlefield Band, Traditions Café, Olympia, WA. [www.traditionstradefair.com](http://www.traditionstradefair.com)
- Nov. 1 – Battlefield Band, Coupeville High School Performing Arts Center, [www.whidbeycamanoislands.com](http://www.whidbeycamanoislands.com)
- Nov. 1, 7:00 pm, Celtic Arts Foundation concert & fundraiser, Scottish & Cape Breton fiddling; Island Music Center, 18598 Valley Rd. NE (Rolling Bay), Bainbridge Island, [www.CelticArts.org](http://www.CelticArts.org); 360-416-4934; toll free 1-888-416-4934. Tickets also available at Island Music Center on Bainbridge Island: 206-780-6911.
- Nov. 7 – 45<sup>th</sup> annual Heather Tartan Ball & silent auction, Northgate Community Center, [www.sshga.org](http://www.sshga.org)
- Dec. 5 – Enumclaw Christmas parade; [www.sshga.org](http://www.sshga.org)
- Dec. 20 – "A Celtic Christmas", Columbia Theatre Rose Center for the Performing Arts, Lower Columbia College, Longview, WA; 3:00 pm; [www.columbiatheatre.com/index.html](http://www.columbiatheatre.com/index.html)
- Jan. 14 – Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas, Triple Door, Seattle; [www.tripledoor.net](http://www.tripledoor.net)
- Jan. 15-18 – Scottish Musical workshop & concert; Alasdair Fraser, Natalie Haas, Calum MacKinnon, & Josephine Hunner; Camp Casey, Coupeville, WA; [www.nwscottishfiddlers.com](http://www.nwscottishfiddlers.com)
- Jan. 23 – Robert Burns Scottish Evening, Hillcrest Lodge, Mt. Vernon, WA; [www.celticarts.org](http://www.celticarts.org)
- Feb. 5 – Mastery of Scottish Arts concert, Benaroya Hall, Seattle; [www.celticarts.org](http://www.celticarts.org)
- March 20 – Clan Gordon 47th Annual Tartan Ball, Puyallup Fairgrounds Pavilion, [www.clangordonpipeband.org](http://www.clangordonpipeband.org)
- March 25,26,27 – Keith Highlanders Pipe Band concert, Kirkland Performance Center, [www.kpcenter.org](http://www.kpcenter.org), [www.khpb.org](http://www.khpb.org)
- March 27 – 11th Annual Tartan Day Scottish Festival, 10:00-5:00, Puyallup Fairgrounds Expo Hall, [www.tartanday-wa.org](http://www.tartanday-wa.org)

# MEMBER NEWS

Carl Zimmerman has a new email address: Holdfast576@comcast.net.

Jim & May Heltsley have a new email address: coat-bridge4@comcast.net.

Sheila Lisson-Smith has a new apartment number: 106 (same address as before).

Mike Nelson has a new email address: mdnelson1656@hotmail.com.

Annette Mentzer has a new email address: armentzer@gmail.com.

What our members are up to:

Frances Crews and Gary Cosgro have the new Scottie Rescue calendar available. They will be bringing some to the October gathering. Be sure to get yours! Some awfully darling pictures of Scotties! And it's an 18 month calendar, so you can start using yours now.

Kudos to Philip Junkins who finished the 5K Kilted Run at Magnuson Park on May 31.

Dennis Percherke is studying Microsoft Word and Excel, as well as taking Drama courses, at North Seattle CC.

Three members have had surgery – Annette Mentzer (her back), Carol Garman (her back), and May Heltsley (partial cornea transplant of the left eye). And Laura Hammond got cellulitis while visiting her mother in Minnesota.



Liz Leedom took her daughter, Betsy Christianson, on a graduation trip to Europe and they stopped in Scotland at Skibo Castle near Dornoch. This is a photo of Betsy and her Scottish boyfriend Kevin Docherty, (who will soon be moving to Seattle and joining the Caledonians) and Liz on the grand staircase at Skibo.

In August, Diana Smith drove across country, 12 states, 9 days, 3440 miles to visit her daughter in Arlington, VA. Let her know if you're interested in reading the trip notes & viewing the pictures.

## SCOTTISH HISTORY

James Young Simpson, Scottish doctor - James Simpson was born in Bathgate, West Lothian. He entered the University of Edinburgh when he was 14 years old. He was appointed Professor of Midwifery (which would now be called Obstetrics) at the University of Edinburgh and physician to Queen Victoria.

Simpson completed his final medical examination at the age of 18 but, as he was so young, had to wait two years before he got his license to practise medicine. Simpson developed an interest in obstetrics, and at the age of 28 was appointed Chair of Midwifery at the University of Edinburgh. He improved the design of obstetric forceps and fought against the contagion of puerperal sepsis. His most noted contribution was the introduction of anaesthesia to childbirth.

In 1847 Simpson discovered the properties of chloroform during an experiment with friends in which he learnt that it could be used to put one to sleep. It was very much up to chance that Simpson survived the chloroform dosage he administered to himself. If he had inhaled too much, subsequently passing away from an overdose, chloroform would have been seen as a dangerous substance. However, if Simpson had inhaled slightly less it would not have put him to sleep. It was his willingness to explore the possibilities of the

substance that established his career as a pioneer in the field of medicine.

Simpson first used his anaesthetic to help ease the pain during childbirth. Some opposed this practice, interpreting it as an act against nature or the will of God, but this has been shown to be a distinctly minority view. Wider acceptance of Simpson's efforts came when Queen Victoria used chloroform during the delivery of Prince Leopold in 1853. Full recognition of Simpson's work followed quickly. He was the first man to be knighted by the Scottish Court of the Lord Lyon for services to medicine. "Victo Dolore" (pain conquered) is the inscription of his coat of arms.

Simpson died at his home in Edinburgh at the age of fifty-eight. A burial spot in Westminster Abbey was offered to his family, but they declined and instead buried him closer to home in Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh. However, a memorial bust can be found in a niche at Westminster Abbey in London. On the day of Simpson's funeral, a Scottish holiday was declared, including the banks and stock markets, with over 100,000 citizens lining the funeral cortege on its way to the cemetery, while over 1,700 colleagues and business leaders took part in the procession itself.



A fellowship founded in  
Seattle in 1902 to foster  
a love of Scotland, her  
people and her heritage.

**Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 27278  
Seattle WA 98165-1778

**Dancing:**

Mondays, 7 p.m. at The  
Phinney Ridge Community  
Center. For information call  
Fraser 206-784-5943

**Gatherings:**

When - Second Friday of each month except  
July, August and September.

Where - Lake City Presbyterian Church  
3841 N.E. 123<sup>rd</sup> St. Seattle WA.

Directions - From Lake City Way proceed east on 123<sup>rd</sup>  
to 40<sup>th</sup>. Park in the Church parking lot.

Time - Set-up at 6.30 p.m.  
Social Hour at 7:00 p.m.  
Business meeting at 7:30 p.m.  
Entertainment and raffle at 8:00 p.m.

Visit us on the Web: [www.caledonians.com](http://www.caledonians.com)

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Dates of the Caledonian gatherings for 2009-2010:

October 16	March 12
November 13	April 9
December 11	May 14
January 8	June 11
February 12	

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