



# Clan Donnachaidh News

ROCKY MOUNTAIN *Branch*

## FRAE THE PRESIDENT

By Nancy Bigley

Hello Everyone. Well, summer is fast upon us and that means our busiest time of the year with gatherings galore. This is truly a fun time and an opportunity for us to reconnect and celebrate our ancestry. We kick off the events with our annual picnic and ice cream social and then a variety games and festivals. We know there are so many opportunities. If there are members participating in any of the games contest whether it be piping, dancing, etc. please let us know so we can support your efforts.

Please check out the calendar and between the vacations, weddings, reunions and other doings we hope to see many of you throughout the summer.

Alas, it is with many mixed emotions that we must say farewell to Dennis and Shellie Smith. Shellie has accepted a great career opportunity in California. And, of course, that means she and Dennis will be moving. Dennis will be continuing to run our website and they will visit when able (which we hope is often). Although we bid them a sad adieu, we also celebrate their success and send them off with our best wishes. This will not be goodbye but just "until we meet again".

As always, our big events are the Colorado Scottish Festival in Highlands Ranch and then the Long's Peak Scottish/Irish Festival in Estes Park. We'll be looking for volunteers to help with our booths and to visit. See everyone soon and have a safe and joyous summer.

Warmly,  
Nancy Bigley, President

JUNE 2007

## CLAN HAPPENINGS

This is a new section for our newsletter, a little more formalized than what we've done in the past. So, a little about this section is about... We (the council) thought it might be nice to recognize our member's personal lives in our newsletter to help others get to know the clan as a whole. An example would be weddings, births, birthdays, anniversaries, graduations (high school/college) etc. If you'd like to share something about your family or yourself, please email or call Mindy Bolen at [mindybolen@hotmail.com](mailto:mindybolen@hotmail.com) or 303-289-5634 to be included in the next newsletter edition.

Recent Happenings:

The clan sends its condolences to Holly and Sean Sullivan on the passing of Holly's mother. Our thoughts are with you.

Ray and Robin Ward just celebrated their 17th wedding anniversary on May 5th (by attending a clan council meeting-Ray you romantic soul, you!)

Becky Robertson's son Sean, who moved to Texas, is getting married June 23<sup>rd</sup>, so Becky's been a wee bit distracted. (We want pictures of Sean in his kilt for the next edition, if you please Becky!)

Nancy Bigley recently switched positions which will hopefully reduce the amount of stress she was under!

Dennis and Mindy Bolen recently were blessed with a healthy new granddaughter (seven grandchildren to date, ten if you count the adopted) born March 16<sup>th</sup> and weighing in at 6 lbs 13.5 oz. Her name is Peyton Rosemary Bolen, (yep, after the Colts football player) and so far, she's the complete opposite of her brother Hunter James.

Rachelle Smith (better know as Shelli) has accepted a position as a head nurse in an ICU for a hospital in California. Shelli will go first to start her new job with Dennis following as soon as their home is sold. Both will be very much missed by everyone in the clan.

**Birthdays:**

**Anniversaries:**

Hope Charles and Shelli	4/27 3/15	Dennis
Mindy Bolen	5/28	Ray and
Robin Ward	5/5	



**MONTHLY RECIPE**

With summer approaching, and our newsletter requiring a food offering for this month, I was surprised and happy to find that there is a region of Scotland specifically known for their berries. The Tayside region -stretching westward from the North Sea and including the cities of Perth, Pitlochry, Blairgowrie and Dundee - a draw for travelers who think there is nothing more delicious than raspberries fresh off the vine. Unless, perhaps, it's freshly picked strawberries, gooseberries or blackberries (brambles when you are in Britain). In 1890 a solicitor by the name of Mr. Hodge arranged for the planting of 30 acres of raspberries on a farm outside Blairgowrie. This initiated a commercial crop that today produces from 11,000 to 15,000 tons of raspberries a year, said to be the largest concentration of raspberry-producing acreage in Western Europe.

But raspberries aren't the only berry crop in the region. Fresh Strawberries are available from mid- to late July. Then there are early-growth raspberries as the strawberries give out, gooseberries, black

currants and late varieties of raspberries into mid-August, and blackberries - not much of a commercial crop but available at roadside stands throughout Tayside - in September.

With this new information in hand, I found a recipe that combines two great Scottish flavors (in my mind), Berries and Fish. So my offering for this newsletter is the following:

**Gooseberry Mackerel**

- 4 Cleaned and Filleted Mackerels (or herring)
- 1 tablespoon butter, softened
- salt and pepper (to taste)

**Stuffing:**

- 4 heaping tablespoons breadcrumbs
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley
- 2 egg yolks
- grated peel of 1 lemon
- pinch of nutmeg
- salt and pepper to taste

**Sauce:**

- ½ pound of gooseberries
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 2 tablespoons chopped fennel

Mix all the stuffing ingredients together and place on each filleted mackerel. Fold over and secure with toothpicks. Rub a little softened butter over fillets and broil or grill gently on both sides until fish is tender and flaky.

Cook the gooseberries in ½ cup water with all other ingredients. Do not let them overcook, but heat just until they burst open. Serve hot with fish.

**The Celtic Fisherman's Prayer:**

Watch, barrel, watch,  
Mackerel for to catch.  
How shall they be?  
Like blossoms on a tree.  
We'll catch some by their noses,  
We'll catch some by their fins,  
Lady send us quickly out  
And give use fair wind in!  
Please, dear Lady,  
May we have a good haul!

By Hope Charles

## COLORADO TARTAN DAY

April 14th 2007

Is a celebration of the 11th year of recognition of Scots in America and their contributions to the development and growth of this country.

This was the second year for this event.

Activities include: Kilted golf tournament, a 9 hole golf tournament, Scotch whiskey tasting, Highland Tea, miniature golf, go-carts, and mini drag race cars.

The RenScots were in attendance to demonstrate the art of blacksmithing, medieval weapons, weaving and battle re enactments.

St. Andrew Society of Colorado had an information booth as did the Scottish American Military Society, The Daughters of the British Empire of Colorado, and The Knights Templar.

Music, dancing and marching bands were to be seen and heard around the open areas provided by Hyland Hills Golf and Entertainment Complex.

This report was prepared from the published activity agenda and from a short news in Your hub.com. I had to leave before most of the events got underway. Other Clan members seen at this gathering were Dennis Smith and Bill Collier and his wife.

This event needs a lot more advertising and invitations to attend sent to all the Colorado Clans.

Submitted by:

Tom Reed,

## A SAD GOODBYE

My dear clansmen (and women) it is with great sadness that I sit here and write this. Shelli and I have decided to take a position out in Santa Rosa, California. Shelli will be the new Manager of ICU at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital. It is a position that she has worked very hard for and it finally came along. I will start another computer business with I hope is the current success. We came to Colorado in August 2004 and the first thing we did was get in contact with Clan Donnachaidh at Estes Park. We joined on the spot. A piece of my heart will always be here in Colorado with the Rocky Mountain Branch of Clan Donnachaidh and with all of you, my family. We will keep our membership with your society and will try and make it to Estes Park for as long as we can. I will continue to supply the Donnachaidh's with web space and continue to develop the website with the Clan Council for as long as they choose. Shelli will be gone by the time you receive this newsletter but you can reach her by email ([Rachale@rdsmith.us](mailto:Rachale@rdsmith.us)) if you like. I will be staying here until our house sells or until I tire of waiting and rent it out.

Dennis & Shelli Smith



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## TREASURER'S REPORT 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER

Hi All! Hope everyone is enjoying the return of warm weather.

Now, about our finances.

Current Members: 47 (Welcome Back Catherine (Roy)! We missed you!)  
General Fund \$1,611.02 (\$124.00 still to be deducted for Highland's Ranch)  
Memorial Fund \$407.45

### Current Expenses:

The current expenses were the booth spaces for the Estes Park and Highland's Ranch Games.

### Future Possible Expenses/Fund Raising:

The council members and officers are continually looking at additional promotional items such as the denim shirts with embroidered crest and static cling crest decals for windows. If you have any suggestion/ideas, please let one of the council members or officers know.

As always, we are looking for items for our drawings, so if you have an item, book, art piece, etc. that you would like to donate for the next round of drawings, please contact any of the council members. It doesn't have to be an expensive item, just something you think our members would be interested in. We very much appreciate anything donated, and remember, all the money collected is split between the General Fund, which helps to pay for the events, games, and activities held each year, and the Memorial Fund, which was created to help pay for a piper in the event of a member's passing.

Until next time...

Slainte!

Mindy Bolen

Clan Treasurer

## UP COMING EVENTS

We hope you will all mark your calendars and that we'll see everyone at as many of the events as possible. Watch the website and your e-mails for details and links.

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|-------------------------|---|
| <b>June 29- July 1</b>  | Second Annual Cheyenne Celtic Music Festival<br>Cheyenne, Wyoming                       |
| <b>July 14&amp;15</b>   | Colorado Irish Festival<br>Clement Park, Littleton, CO                                  |
| <b>July 20&amp;21</b>   | Renaissance Faire,<br>Scottish/Irish Weekend<br>Larkspur, CO                            |
| <b>August 11&amp;12</b> | Colorado Scottish Festival and<br>Rocky Mountain Highland<br>Games, Highlands Ranch, CO |
| <b>September 6-9</b>    | Long's Peak Scottish/Irish<br>Festival Estes Park, CO                                   |
| <b>October 3-7</b>      | International Clan<br>Donnachaidh Annual<br>Gathering<br>Pitlochry, Scotland            |
| <b>October 14</b>       | Annual General Meeting<br>Washington Park United<br>Methodist Church<br>Denver, CO      |
| <b>December 1</b>       | Third Annual Yule Party<br>Bolen's, Thornton, CO  |

## CLAN BOARD 2006 / 2007

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