



Clan Donnachaidh News

ROCKY MOUNTAIN *Branch*

NOVEMBER 2007

FRAE THE PRESIDENT

By Nancy Bigley

Hello Everyone,

It seems amazing that 2007 is almost at an end. It has been a very busy year for The Rocky Mountain Society of Clan Donnachaidh-Robertson. We have had a presence at approximately eleven different events with one last major event to come, our **Yule Party on December 1st**. That will be an even dozen of gatherings which is a record as I understand. We are known as one of the busiest clans in the region and it is easy to see why. We have many new members and it has been good to renew friendship at each of our gatherings.

At our recent Annual General Meeting on October 14th Charlene Sullivan presented an overwhelming informational program on Genealogy: Tips and Tricks. There is so much to learn and so many different ways to find out about our ancestry. We had a great turnout with the opportunity to meet new members and guests. There was great food and a very successful fund raising drawing which supplemented our memorial fund.

The Officers were elected to serve for another year and all have agreed to continue. We again thank you for your confidence in us and we hope to continue expanding our participation at a variety of events through 2008. We also welcome any of our members to attend our council meetings. The more participation we have the more we are able to respond to the membership as a whole and have activities and such that you as our members want us to provide and participate in. Please continue to share your ideas and thoughts with any of us.

At our first council meeting, we began putting together the variety of clan events. We will once again kick off 2008 with our Robert Burns Dinner, adding a Scotch tasting and began thinking about our

other annual events. We look forward to seeing as many of you at these gatherings whenever possible. Any assistance with planning and participating is welcomed. So please join in at any time.

That said, enjoy your holiday season. May it be safe, joyous and cheerful!! See you at our Yule Party.

Warmly,
Nancy Bigley, President



CLAN QUILT

As many of you know we have been planning a project to complete a quilt for this year's silent auction at the Robert Burn's Dinner. This is meant to be a very personal and unique clan keepsake and we would like as many women (and men) of the clan to participate as possible.

We are asking members to complete individual squares for this project. Each square will contain a Scottish Thistle. The thistle should be in the traditional green and purple but otherwise may be completed in any way that you would like; embroidery, cross stitch, fabric paint, appliqué, etc. Any project must fit within the squares provided, with the correct seam allowance, although may be attached to them so that other materials can be used. The material will be ivory colored, pre-shrunk cotton and must be used so that the squares are consistent and can be easily stitched together. Squares are 12 x 12 inch which includes a 5/8" hem.

The squares will be provided at the AGM in October. The squares will be due to Mindy Bolen by

the Yule party December 1st. The squares must be turned in no later than this date so that there is time to assemble the completed quilt.

We will assemble the quilt between the Yule party and the Robert Burn's Dinner.

If you are interested in participating in this project please e-mail Nancy Bigley, nabigley@msn.com or call 303-691-5007 or Hope Charles hcharles1086@hotmail.com no later than October 1st so that we may determine the size of the squares and acquire the required material. If you would like to participate but will not be able to attend the AGM please provide your address so that we can mail the material and the instructions to you.

Nancy Bigley



Rocky Mountain Branch Promotional Items

Window Decals: \$5.00 each
Cling style white lettering

New Logo Shirts: \$30.00 plus shipping

In various styles with the Clan Crest

[Now Available on the Website!!](#)

WEDDINGS

ROBERTSON - BELLIS

Gary and I are pleased to announce the marriage of our son Sean Robertson to Angela Bellis on June 2, 2007. It was a beautiful day for an outdoor Scottish wedding. Sean welcomed Angela into our large family under a sunny sky by presenting her with our tartan. Angela looked lovely and wore the sash into the evening. I was thrilled to see Sean in his first kilt, the modern red Robertson! They even got the two men standing up with Sean to wear black utilikilts. Having had to wear a cowboy hat at Joe's (his best man) wedding, Sean finally got even by getting Joe in a kilt.



We were delighted to have Ryan Dean present to play the pipes. He had just graduated from school a couple weeks earlier and

flew his parents up in a private plane from Colorado Springs to attend the ceremony. It was great to see the three of them again. I've missed them. They left early from the celebration and to the delight of everyone attending, Ryan buzzed the wedding with his plane.

Gary's brother Alan came out from California and almost all of my family came from homes around the country. My mother came from Kansas, sister from North Carolina and four brothers from California, Kansas and North Carolina. It was wonderful to have the family together again, wives of brothers, my sister's husband and most of my nephews, nieces, husbands of theirs and even my great niece. Everyone attended to celebrate my mother's 80th birthday. All of the Robertson members wore tartan, the men in red ties and women in sashes. It gave us a sense of Clan we hadn't felt before and still carry close. Sean and Angela will be coming up to see us for Christmas and visit with Angela's large family in the Denver area. They currently live in Houston, Texas.

Submitted by Becky Robertson

WOOD - MATTHEWS HANDFASTING

Sam and I, along with many other Clan Donnachaidh/Robertson members, (who took a full quarter of the available seating!) were honored to attend the Handfasting of Rich Matthews and Alice Woods. The setting could not have been more lovely with the - Hudson Gardens dressed in it's fall glory. The trees and foliage were beautiful with the blooms in their final burst of color. The weather was perfect. I know I had anticipated rain, but it held off 'til later in the day.

The procession of Rich and Alice, along with the High Priests and High Priestesses, were lead to the altar by Molly Robertson playing traditional Scottish melodies on the bagpipes. Clan Donnachaidh had numerous members in attendance, so our tartan was well represented in the audience. The Four Elements, "earth, air, water, and fire", were honored as were the Lord and Lady, and were asked for their assistance/blessing in the ceremony. Reciting their vows, The bride and groom reminisced on how they met several years ago, (122 months?!) with their friendship blossoming into the loving relationship they share today. With the marriage tokens exchanged, the radiant couple was declared man and wife.



The reception, was held inside the adjacent log cabin hall. Gobs 'o Phun entertained the guests many traditional and comical selections. The radiant couple provided their guests with a buffet and two wedding cakes; a magical blue dragon (chocolate) and a beautiful fairy castle, (ginger). What a fitting dessert for a the happy couple. Many asked "Rich, where was the haggis?!!!"

Congratulations to Rich and Alice from all your Clan family members!

Submitted by Angie Earl

COUNCIL MEETING (CONTINUED)

Upcoming Events:

Yule Party; December 1st at Mindy and Dennis Bolan's from 5pm to ?; Drawings to be held
Notice sent via e-mail by Nancy
Council to provide side dishes and desserts, general membership to provide hors d'oeuvres
Drawing items: Mindy, Becky, Kathleen, Nancy volunteered to provide, need at least six items. Will request other members to contribute for Burn's Dinner.

Robert Burns Dinner;

January 26th at Radisson Greystone Castle. Contract has been signed. Reservation forms ready, will be in next newsletter and available at Yule party. Due by January 14th. \$40 Fee for dinner.

Piper - \$25 fee + will provide his dinner.

Entertainment will be Ray and Gobs O'Phun.

Place cards for Council members, especially those involved in program. There was discussion about whether to have council seated throughout or at a central table.

Drawing items: Michael Duncan, Mindy, Hope, Scotch provided by Ray and Robin, goal is 10 items. Possible Hospitality Suite rather than going to Pub after dinner. Need to determine what cost will be. Mindy and Kathleen will call contact person at Greystone.

Scotch tasting, planned for March 22nd at Mindy's. Robin Ward drew up the different regions, 8 in all as Highland divides into 4 regions. Presenters will be Nancy, Mindy, Ray, Robin, Charlene, Brian Robertson (confirmed after meeting by Hope), Hope
RSVP will be required, with payment.

Estimating cost will be \$20.

Purchase of Scotch by Clan, to be recovered by payment of reservations.

Becky is going to get suggestions of Scotches to use for each region. Target of two suggestions for each region.

Presenters will meet at Pint's Pub on February 9th for preliminary tasting to finalize which Scotches to present.

2008 Calendar of Events needs to be Finalized

Next Newsletter: Articles due November 10th, Publish date November 15th.

Next Council Meeting January 4th

Meeting adjourned 9pm

Submitted by Hope Charles

NEW HOME

Dennis & Shelli Smith have new contact information. We now live in Santa Rosa, California.

1819 Midway Dr
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
707.703.1700

dennis@rdsmith.us

Rachale@rdsmith.us

CLAN BOARD 2006/7

President: Nancy Bigley
nabigley@msn.com

Vice President: Ray Ward
wyodonnachaidh@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Mindy Bolen
Mindybolen@hotmail.com

Secretary: Hope Charles
hcharles1086@hotmail.com

Newsletter: Dennis Smith
dennis@rdsmith.us

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kathleen Cahoon
KLCahoon@yahoo.com

Richard Mathews
amarok.richard@gmail.com

Tom Reed
treedm@comcast.net

David Robertson

Becky Robertson
brob9inco@yahoo.com

Maureen Silva
momsilva@aol.com

Charlene Sullivan
sulliva100@aol.com

Robin Ward
wyodonnachaidh@hotmail.com

PAST PRESIDENTS

Bob Baskins
Mark Donnachaidh,
Curtis Roberts,

Bob Robertson,
Becky Robertson
Charlene Sullivan



COMING EVENTS

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| December 1 | Third Annual Yule Party
Bolen's, Thornton, CO |
| January 4, 2008 | Council Meeting at the Bolens
7:00pm |
| January 26 | Robert Burns Supper
Greystone Castle |
| March 7 | Council Meeting at the Bolens
7:00pm |
| March 22 | Scotch Tasting @ Mindy and
Dennis Bolen's House TBA |

**Clan Donnachaidh/Robertson
Robert Burns Dinner 2008**



**Come one, come all to the
Clan Donnachaidh-Robertson
Annual Robert Burns Night,
January 26th, 2008.**

We begin the festivities with a social hour/cash bar, piping in of the haggis and a fabulous buffet dinner. (We promise to have more Harp and Guinness!) Our program this year will include toasts and stories about Robert Burns and a musical program by Gobs O'Phun.

As a reminder, we will be having drawings for great items donated by your fellow clan members to raise funds for the year's events. If you have something to donate this year, please contact Nancy Bigley or Mindy Bolen. Rather than the silent auction, this year we will hold a drawing for a thistle themed quilt comprised of squares hand made by your fellow clan members, so remember to bring your cash or checks!. Also, if weather permits, Michael Duncan will be on site with his fabulous jewelry. And, as last year, we will have a photographer taking portraits of you in your Celtic finery immortalizing the evening for you!

We'll once again be at the Radisson Greystone Hotel at 120th and I-25. Why not make it a weekend by planning to stay the night at the special price of \$95.00 + tax which includes breakfast the next morning?

Please complete the form below and return it and your check to Mindy Bolen, 3604 E. 88th Cir. N. Thornton, CO 80229 no later than January 19th. Please join us for fun, good food, and great conversation. We hope to see everyone!

I plan on attending! Please reserve the following places:

Me: _____ Spouse/Date: _____

Other: _____ Other: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Return by Jan. 19th to: Mindy Bolen, 3604 E. 88th Cir. N. Thornton, CO 80229



Dennis Smith
1819 Midway Dr
Santa Rosa, CA 95405