



Clan Donnachaidh News

ROCKY MOUNTAIN *Branch*

SEPTEMBER 2007

FRAE THE PRESIDENT

By Nancy Bigley

Slainte Everyone! The summer is in full swing. Our kick off of events began with the Annual Ice Cream Social, several of us headed north to the Second Annual Cheyenne Celtic Music Festival, supported our Irish friends at the Colorado Irish Festival, dressed in our finery for the Colorado Renaissance Faire, a few were able to attend the Elizabeth Celtic Festival and just recently we met up at the Colorado Scottish Festival and Rocky Mountain Highland Games. Whew we've been busy.

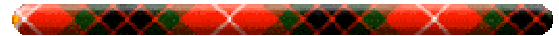
Many of us have had additional events with weddings, job promotions, new businesses, anniversary & birthday's celebrations and a variety of camping trips and vacations. Therefore, with all going on for everyone, it has been great to see so many long time members, returning members and new members at our gatherings. The visiting has been fun and full of laughter and good cheer.

We have some new fund raising items, shirts and window decals. We are using the same crest that is on our pub glasses. The shirts are high quality and we have tried to have a variety of colors and sizes to meet the needs of everyone. The decals are the cling type so they can be placed in several windows. Please check these out in this newsletter and place orders through the order form or make it easy and go to the website and place your order there.

We've added some new scrapbooks to our tables thanks to Maureen Silva. These are beautiful and continue to document our events that Jennifer Duncan began. If you have pictures to share from events please send copies via e-mail momsilva@aol.com or snail mail copies to Maureen at: 7967 W. Morraine Dr., Littleton, CO 80128. Please be sure to include a note about the event including dates, locations, and people in the pictures. It's fun to look through these and revisit our history.

Thanks to all that have been assisting with the booths. We could not participate if it wasn't for our volunteers. Please continue to sign up and join the fun. We are looking forward to the Long's Peak Scottish Festival in September (7-9). Remember to join us for the parade on Saturday morning. Continue to have a safe summer and do your best to keep cool when the temperature rises.

Sincerely,
Nancy Bigley, President



KIRKIN OF THE TARTAN

This year it is planned for October 21, at Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in Northglenn. Would you be able to see that all (or most, anyway) of the clan membership is informed of this? We invite anyone who is interested in Scottish traditions.

The service starts at 10:00 and will be followed by a small buffet brunch - shepherd's pie, scones, etc. - you are all invited to that, also. Please come a little early for the service so that you can give your tartan item to an usher for the blessing and also enjoy the two pipers and drummer who will start the service. Look for me in my Robertson Red cape!

We'd like a rough count to make sure we have enough food, so I ask that anyone who plans to attend to call me no later than the Friday before - 303.650.1041. The church is easy to find - located on Melody Drive about 2 blocks north of 104th in Northglenn (just west of the Marketplace at Northglenn). Use the 104th exit west from I-25. If the parking lot is full, try the lot at the bank next door or the middle school just up Kennedy Drive, across from St. Stephen's Lutheran church (swing around the traffic circle and head west).

Catherine Roy



WEDDING INVITATION

Alice Woods and Rich Matthews invite the clan to attend their wedding on October 13, 2007, 10 am to 10:45 am the Hudson Gardens, 6115 South Santa Fe Drive Littleton, CO

80120, near old town Littleton.

The reception will follow at about 11am to 1am with BBQ and entertainment from our old friends Gobs-O-Phun.

There will be a medieval-Celtic-fantasy flair to this so we will know exactly what it will be when it happens

Kilts and Clan wear are encouraged but medieval robes, Ladies in distress and Knights in shining armor are also encouraged.

Hold on to this info just in case your invitation gets mixed up in the U.S. POSTAL service.

Thanks,

Rich Matthews and Alice Woods



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!!](#)

PAST EVENTS

Clan Donnachaidh-Robertson Annual Picnic—Ice Cream Social 2007

Our annual picnic and ice cream social was held on Saturday, June 16th at the Washington Park Methodist Church. We had a great turn out with 21 adults and 5 youth.

The church's court yard was just the right size. The weather was clear and warm in the early hours and the afternoon clouds arrived just in time. The walk way had just enough of a breeze to keep us all cool and comfortable. As always the potluck turned out with a great variety of tasty salads, watermelon, strawberries, cake, and a little taste of homemade mead and although the ice cream was a little soft we seemed to handle it.

There were some people we haven't seen for a while and it was nice to see them doing so well. Plenty of conversation and laughter was shared. Our youth rode scooters, blew bubbles, had an egg hunt, drew pictures, and had a couple of water balloon fights. And not just the youth engaged in tossing a few balloons. A special note of congratulations on celebrating your 59th wedding anniversary goes to Jim and Doris Reid. It was an enjoyable time for us all. We missed those unable to attend and we hope to see you soon.

Nancy Bigley



CHEYENNE CELTIC MUSIC FESTIVAL

Once again the cowboy hometown of Cheyenne experienced the invasion of the Celtic kind. The success of the first annual Cheyenne Celtic Music Festival last year meant that this year was going to be bigger and better...and it was! This year, with a whole year to plan – it was a much larger event! Instead of 3 clans with displays there were nearly a dozen in the depot museum, with several vendors lined up outside and two stages set up to accommodate all the activities of the weekend.

Friday night the depot was packed as people gathered to visit the clan displays, enjoy the fine Scottish cuisine (scotch eggs and haggis were available for those willing), and to jam to the Celtic music of the Indulgents followed by Canned Haggis from Denver. Later that evening, Bob Armstrong of Clan Armstrong, gave Cheyenne its first taste of a calling of the clans.

Saturday morning the sound of bagpipes filled the air as the mass bagpipe band marched from the Capitol Building to the depot to begin the day's activities. While the crowds dwindled on Saturday afternoon and Sunday – there was still plenty of Celtic music and Irish and Scottish dancing to keep entertained. Believe it or not, on Saturday evening Cheyenne hosted its first Scotch Tasting at the Plains Hotel!

Even Michael Patrick, the leprechaun who is always at the Games in Estes Park was present, and doing what he does best. (By the way, how can you possibly have a successful festival without a guy dressed like a leprechaun?)

Clan Donnachaidh was very well represented as Dennis Smith, Dennis and Mindy Bohlen and Hope Charles along with our esteemed president Nancy Bigly came to enjoy the festivities on Saturday. Dennis and Mindy brought their R.V. and parked at our place so they could stay for the events on Sunday, and I know they are glad they did.



On Sunday, the festival ended with the hilarious (and occasionally touching) music of Gob's O Phun – who played in spite of the dwindling crowds and pouring rain.

One thing can be sure, the only direction this festival is up. With the difference in interest and participation from last year to this year – look out for next!! Oh, and if you need a place to stay next year...our door is open!

Ray Ward

COLORADO SCOTTISH FESTIVAL AND ROCKY MOUNTAIN GAMES 2007

The 44th Annual CSF and RMG were held on Saturday, August 11 and Sunday, August 12 in Highlands Ranch, Colorado. This year's weather was sunny and hot with a light breeze both days rather than the rains of last year. It meant drinking lots of water and sitting in the shade as much as possible. This gave us a lot of opportunity to visit and find out what people have been doing. We were happy to see so many people in attendance. Throughout the two days we had approximately 31 current members attending, added 4 new members, and had numerous visitors stop by our booth.

We had representation in the parade of clans both days. Thanks to Bill Collier and Dennis Bolen for braving the hot sun to display the standard for us. Our new banner helped give us shade while waiting to start and adds additional recognition as we walk. Although we didn't have any clan members participate in the "knobby knees" contest we cheered on some friends from other clans. Several of us spent time (and dollars) at our clan member Mike Duncan's jewelry booth. The Hall's and the Collier's enjoyed the Saturday night Celidh. Some of us discovered Guinness Chocolate Chip Ice Cream and are now looking for a recipe to share.

Those that we not there this year, know you were missed. Thanks to all who assisted both days with volunteering at our booth. It really helps draw people in and its fun to share knowledge and stamp those passports and pass out bubbles for the youth.

Submitted by Nancy Bigley

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HIGHLANDS RANCH CELIDH

Sandy and I attended the Saturday night Celidh at the Sheraton. It was a most enjoyable evening with a nice variety of entertainment. Starting off with a combination of two bands; first being bagpipes and drums after playing a full day at the fest grounds and second a local brass band. It was an unusual combination but very interesting and enjoyable listening.

Later several highlands dancers including the Sword of the Rockies Premier dance award winner performed three dances. Crowd participation got many of us involved in Irish line dancing with a great instructor. Loretta Thompson and several other musicians with fiddles played separately and teamed up for some nice listening and danceable tunes. During this Irish Folk Dancers danced to the fiddlers.

Participation started off slow but grew to 125 or so as the evening progressed. The sound volume was just right! Appropriately loud but you could still talk and hear what was being said without straining. Festivities lasted from 7:00 PM to about 10:30 with minimal interludes between entertainers.

We're looking forward to next year's Celidh but hoping for more Donnachaidh/Robertson representation joining us.

Dick and Sandy Hall



ESTES PARK / LONG'S PEAK FESTIVAL CLAN PHOTOGRAPH

CALLING ALL CLAN MEMBERS!!! The Long's Peak program committee has set a time to take the clan photograph for the 2008 games program. All those who will be at the Estes Park games on Friday, September 7th, please stop by the clan booth at 1:30 pm in your Scottish finery and help support the clan photo! We'd like to have as many as possible in the photograph this year as possible.

See you there!
Mindy

RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL MUSIC WEEKEND JULY 21ST AND 22ND

As many of you are aware, several of the clan members attended the Renaissance Festival this year representing our clan for the Music Weekend. It was a hot weekend, but that didn't deter us from shopping, watching the wonderful shows and partaking of the great food and beverages offered by the festival.



The members met at the front gates in time to see the opening ceremonies by King Henry VIII and his court. Ray was singled out by one of the performers for

some "special treatment" which gave most of us a real laugh. (Winnie sure loved your bare pate!) We tried to see all the shows, but found it was impossible since there were so many.

Just a few which were seen were Puke and Snot (a vaudeville type show), The Washing Well Wenches (Good Clean Fun), Ded Bob, the Jousting and Celtic Legacy, a local Celtic band led by Ben Holmes. (A joke: "Do you know why a kilt is called a kilt? Because the last man who called it a skirt was "kilt"! I know, it's an awful joke! But hey, I just had to share...)

Towards the close of the Festival, we met at the Pirate's Pub to enjoy the music of the Whirly Jigs and Iris and Rose (the Bawdy Wenches) until the festival closed for the day. Afterwards, several of us visited the local pizza establishment, for more visiting and great food.

We hope more will attend the selected weekend next year, be it opening weekend or closing weekend or somewhere in between as it always a great time. Unfortunately, the Elizabeth games fell on the same weekend this year which precluded us from attending that festival as well.

Clan members in attendance: Nancy Bigley, Hope Charles, Sandy (Hope's aunt), Ray, Robin, Alan and

Megan Ward, Madge (Robin's mom), Dennis Smith, Mindy and Dennis Bolen and Joel Conger.

Submitted by Mindy Bolen



SPECIAL CLAN EVENT

Please help us congratulate Joel Conger on the marriage of his daughter Joelle Conger to James Taylor on August 18, 2007. Many of you have met James and Joelle at Estes Park over the years and Joel at many of the local Clan functions. The couple was married in Price, UT amongst family, kith and kin. The bride looked lovely in a Medieval-style gown.



The happy couple After the ceremony



Dennis, Coleman, Joel, & Cameron

By Mindy Bolen

TREASURER'S REPORT

I can't believe how quickly the summer has flown... we're already planning the weekend at Estes Park for the Longs Peak Festival. So many things to do and to get ready for that weekend and so little time left. As we found out at Highland's Ranch, we need a new flag pole for the tartan standard and some cosmetic touches to the other flag poles. Plus a flag stand to hold the new banner.

As a reminder, we can use all the help we can get in the clan tent (two-hour intervals) Please contact Nancy Bigley to sign up if you're able to help the officers and council "man" the booth. We also need your bright shining faces (and the rest of you too!) to march in the parade Saturday morning. Meet at the Big Horn Restaurant past the water wheel at 9:00 am (ish) to get lined up. The parade starts at 9:30 am. (We hope Ray Ward and Dennis Bolen can get their "twirls" synchronized Friday night so they'll look great in the parade!)

OK, enough about Estes... and on to the clan finances:

Clan Treasury

General Fund:	\$1,381.37
Memorial Fund:	\$ 408.12

Outstanding Expenses:

Ad in the Clan International Annual: (\$140.00 approx.)

Membership due to Scotland: (\$120.00)

We did gain TWO new members and had others renew their memberships at Highlands Ranch. Please welcome:

Michael McConkey: (who comes to us from the Northern California branch of Clan Donnachaidh)
Simon Penner: who I understand is another piper!

Welcome both of you! We hope to see you at the upcoming clan functions.

Renewing 2007-2008 Members:

Ann Robertson
Pat Carver
Damon Carver
Catherine Roy (renewed earlier in the summer)

Way to go! You're the first for the new year.

It's that time again... time to start thinking of getting your dues in for the 2007-2008 year.

We're planning another year of activities, so make sure you're included in the festivities! If you can't make it to Estes Park, please come to the Annual General Meeting on October 14th. We'll have many Celtic drawing items for drawings since we missed the Ice Cream Social.

Mindy Bolen



CLAN DONNACHAIDH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, July 13, 2007

Present: Mindy Bolen, Hope Charles, Dennis Bolen, Becky Robertson, Tom Reed, Robin Ray, Kathleen, Charlene

Meeting called to order 7pm

Committee Information:

Ice Cream Social: no raffle was held due to any tickets being brought.

Celtic Music Fest, Cheyenne; Friday through Sunday. Clan tents available by invite only, we were one of 6 clans present this year. Several vendors were present. Mindy, Ray and Robin spoke to Gobs of Fun about being the entertainment for the Burns Dinner 2008.

Web-Site; Dennis Smith has agreed to continue from California and will also do the e-mail broadcast of the newsletter.

Member Relations, Becky Robertson; no new info. Donald Robertson will be attending Highlands Ranch games.
Scrapbook, Maureen Sullivan; continuing to work on

Treasurer's Report:

General Fund \$1396.67
Memorial Fund \$407.79 + interest
47 paid members to date.

Old Business:

Window decals are completed and available, a \$5.00 price was decided on for each.
Shirts with Crest, pricing at \$30/shirt plus shipping, available for order via website. Need to research status as non-profit due to sales-tax issues, Mindy will look into.
All Clan property is now in plastic tubs for transport and storage.
Shield for Booth; Maureen currently working on.
Becky is planning to interview clan members for newsletter articles and accepting ideas about questions.

Upcoming Events:

Elizabeth Games: July 21st and 22nd, Becky Robertson may attend
Renaissance Festival: July 21st and 22nd (Music Weekend) Best Knees contest, pipers and dancers.
Irish Fest: July 14th, Clement Park, Littleton
Highlands Ranch Games: August 11th and 12th, no information at this time
Estes Park, Longs Peak Games: September 7th, 8th, 9th. Double tables in the same location as 2006.
AGM: October 14th program will be on Genealogy.
Tent for Clan use at Games, Tom Reed looking into cost.

New Business:

Scotch Tasting Event; Possible date March 22nd, close to St. Patrick's day, well spaced from other events. Mindy has offered to have it at her house. Options include having it conducted by Katherine again. Having individuals from Clan research and

provide information about individual types, regions bottles. Robin is going to research regions. Becky also presented Whiskey dinners are currently being offered and will e-mail regarding times, places and contact information.

Quilt for Robert Burns: Squares available by AGM, due by Yule party, will need instructions, determine size, how it will be assembled etc. Hope to provide article for newsletter regarding participation.

Robert Burns Dinner: January 19th.

Next Newsletter: Articles due August 16th, Publish date August 20th.

Next Council Meeting September 14th

Meeting adjourned 8:45pm



CHOCOLATE STOUT CUPCAKES

Recipe courtesy Dave Lieberman
Of the Food Network

3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa, plus more for dusting finished cupcakes
2 cups sugar
2 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
Pinch fine salt
1 bottle stout beer (recommended: Guinness)
1 stick butter, melted
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
3 large eggs
3/4 cup sour cream
1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened at room temperature
3/4 to 1 cup heavy cream
1 (1-pound) box confectioners' sugar
Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the cocoa, sugar, flour, baking soda, and salt.
In another medium mixing bowl, combine the stout, melted butter, and vanilla. Beat in eggs, 1 at time. Mix in sour cream until thoroughly combined and

smooth. Gradually mix the dry ingredients into the wet mixture.

Lightly grease 24 muffin tins. Divide the batter equally between muffin tins, filling each 3/4 full. Bake for about 12 minutes and then rotate the pans. Bake another 12 to 13 minutes until risen, nicely domed, and set in the middle but still soft and tender. Cool before turning out.

To make the icing:
In a medium bowl with a hand mixer, beat the cream cheese on medium speed until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in the heavy cream. On low speed, slowly mix in the confectioners' sugar until incorporated and smooth. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate until ready to use. Icing can be made several hours ahead and kept covered and chilled.

Top each cupcake with a heap of frosting and dust with cocoa.



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

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Robin Ward
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PAST PRESIDENTS

Bob Baskins
Mark Donnachaidh,
Curtis Roberts,
Bob Robertson,
Charlene Sullivan
Becky Robertson



COMING EVENTS

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| September 6-9 | Long's Peak Scottish/Irish Festival Estes Park, CO |
| October 3-7 | International Clan Donnachaidh Annual Gathering Pitlochry, Scotland |
| October 14 | Annual General Meeting Washington Park United Methodist Church Denver, CO |
| December 1 | Third Annual Yule Party Bolen's, Thornton, CO |

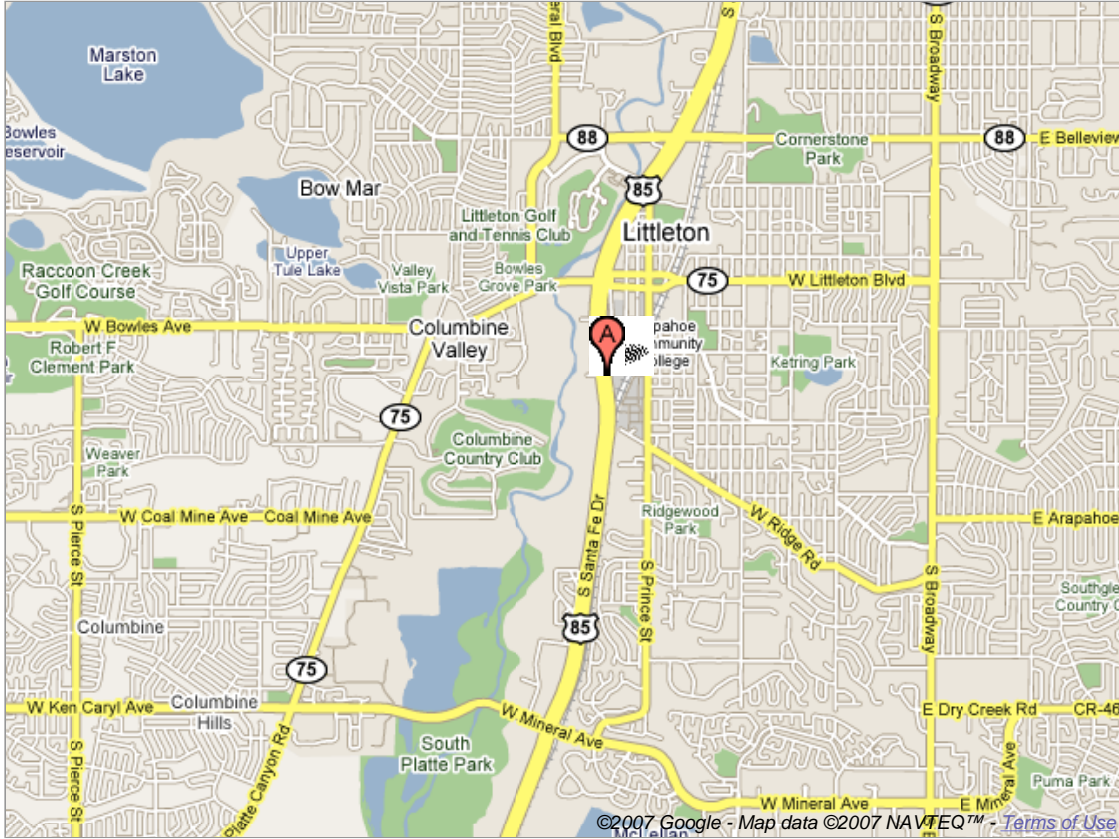


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Dennis Smith
9270 Country Ln
Sebastopol, CA 95472