



# The Scottish Connection

Newsletter of the Scottish Heritage Society of North Central West Virginia



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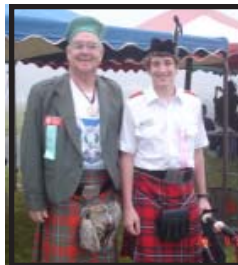
SUMMER 2009

## GOOD OL' SUMMERTIME-GAMES, FESTIVALS, SCHOOLS, PARADES.....



It was so foggy that you couldn't see your hand in front of your face, but that didn't stop the North American Academy of Piping and Drumming Band from marching onto the field on Thursday evening, July 9th to play for the opening ceremonies at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in Linville, NC. The band was composed of 80 plus pipers and 40 snare, tenor and bass drummers ranging in age from 7 to 70-something years, from the four corners of the US who were attending the school conducted annually by P/M Sandy Jones in Valle Crucis, NC, one of the piping judges at our festival since 2002. Included in the band were members of NCWVSHS and The Pipes and Drums of St. Andrew, our Festival Host Band - P/M Joe Quick, P/S Ann Watson, Larry Koay, Miguel Hernandez, Robert Greer, Toni DeVore and Robert Strother, who all reported that it was an awesome, memorable experience.

Also in attendance were all the Greers - Mike and Marjorie, Bob and Mary Kay, Christopher and Joseph as well as Miguel's family who came to enjoy the entire weekend. The highlight for the Greers was the opportunity to meet the Gregor Clan Chieftain, Thad Osbourne, who was impressed to see a young Gregor who plays the pipes.



Another Society member, Brandon Wright from Fairmont, also attended a summer piping school, the Fox Chapel, PA session



of The Balmoral School of Piping and Drumming in June and commented that it was a great learning experience. He and

another Society member, Glen Campbell along with Michael Whitten played the pipes for the Celtic Festival held at Prickett's Fort near Fairmont earlier in June. All three are Ann Watson's students.

The Pipes and Drums of St. Andrew Band, resplendent in their new kilts (which did arrive in time to be initiated at our Festival) played for the McHenry Highland Festival at McHenry, MD on June 8 and later that month for the Bass Festival Parade in St. Marys, WV and the Parkersburg Homecoming Parade on August 22.

## SOCIETY MOURNS LOSS OF CAROLE H. WHALEY

Friends and fellow NCWVSHS members were saddened to learn of the passing on Thursday, July 9, 2009 of Carole Currey Heim Whaley, aka "Flora MacDonald", the personage she became on Scottish Festival weekend each year. An avid student of Scottish history and the great influence that Scots had on the formation of the government of the United States and the American way of life, Carole's presentations also told of Scottish men and women who influenced science, government, industry, and civil development as well as religion throughout the English-speaking world and beyond.



Carole was veteran Toastmaster and historic roleplayer, who, along with her mentor, Dolores Christopher Stinespring brought the Chautauqua style of entertainment to Harrison County. As Flora MacDonald, Carole told how it was to live in western Scotland and in Edinburgh in the mid 1700s. She related the flight of Bonnie Prince Charlie following the Battle of Culloden and pointed to the significance of that battle as a turning point in history from an agrarian, clan-oriented society to an industrial economy.

A former vocational educator and administrator, she served as chairperson for Public Affairs Committee of the Bridgeport Woman's Club and was active as International Chairmperson and Director on the WV State League of Women Voters Board. She also worked with stained glass and served in the Stephens ministry of the Bridgeport Presbyterian Church.

She will be missed and long remembered by all who were privileged to have known her.



# Festival News and Notes

This past Festival's first ever West Virginia Pipe Band Championship was a huge success....even though it was held on a bed of straw! The bands that competed were most enthusiastic about our Festival in general and the conduct of the competition in particular and they all declared that they would be back next year and encourage other bands to come too. And people who had never seen band competition before watched and were fascinated. That's the best advertising we could have and certainly sets the stage for bigger things to come.

Everything else went well too after a few stutter steps in the early morning dealing with parking and maneuvering in the mud, but that was soon forgotten as events got underway and the large crowd of festival goers streamed in. Following is a listing of the 2009 Scottish Festival & Celtic Gathering Competition Winners:

## PIPE BAND COMPETITION

### 2009 WEST VIRGINIA PIPE BAND CHAMPION

Balmoral Highlanders III

#### Grade III placements

1. Balmoral Highlanders III

#### Grade IV placements

1. Seton Hill University Pipe Band  
2. 87th Cleveland Pipes and Drums

#### Grade V placements

1. Balmoral Highlanders V  
2. MacDonald Pipe Band  
3. Kanawha Valley Pipes & Drums



photo by Penny England

## SOLO BAGPIPE COMPETITION

2009 Ian and Norah Gauld Memorial Trophy for Best Young Piper – Andrew Giel

2009 David Mucklow Memorial Trophy for Best Grade 4 Senior Piobaireachd Competitor – Mark Knox

Grade 4 Junior Piper of the Day – Andrew Giel

Grade 4 Senior Piper of the Day – Mark Knox

Grade 3 Piper of the Day – William Wilkerson

Grade 2 Piper of the Day – Ryan Praskovich

Grade 1 Piper of the Day – Liz Cherry

## SOLO DRUMMING COMPETITION

2009 Matt McConnell Memorial Trophy - Anita Lowman

Grade 4 Junior Drummer of the Day – Alicia Diamond

Grade 4 Senior Drummer of the Day – Emily Jackson

Grade 3 Drummer of the Day – Drew Donnelly

## HIGHLAND DANCING COMPETITION

2009 Most Promising Dancer – Brenna Kilby

2009 Rosemary Gauld Trophy for the Best Young Dancer 17 & Under – Emily Carter

Beginner 11 & Under – Charlotte Layman

Beginner 12 & Over – Maggie Jones

Novice – Isabella Nieves

Intermediate – Jordan Whitson

Premier – Emily Carter

## HEAVY EVENTS COMPETITION

Amateur A Athlete of the Day – Drew Kirchen

Amateur B Athlete of the Day – Sean Fabinich

Masters Athlete of the Day – Sean Green

Even though it's a bit early, we already have a number of our entertainers and exhibitors under contract for 2010.....HIGHLAND REIGN is coming back and TULLAMORE, the fabulous trio who were here two years ago are also returning as is folksinger COLIN GRANT- ADAMS.....plus....biggest news of all....ALBANNACH will be here! The HOMESPUN CEILIDH BAND will play again for the Ceilidh, and they'll play in the Activities tent on Saturday as well. Dave Jenkins and his Border Collies, sheep and ducks will be back and so will Celtic Harper Lynne Barnes-Dale. On top of that, Carl Peterson will be singing all day in the vendor area which will liven things up in that area!

The full Festival Committee will hold its first meeting on November 22nd at 7 PM in the parlor of First Presbyterian Church. Any members who are interested in helping are invited to come and join in the planning. As a matter of fact, we're still looking for someone who would be willing to take on the job of Program Advertising Coordinator.

The Program Advertising Coordinator would work with the general chairman to secure advertisers for the souvenir program by writing letters to previous advertisers, inviting them to again advertise in the program and corresponding with prospective new advertisers as directed either by the chairman or by a member who has made the contact. For further information about this position or to indicate an interest in it, please contact Ann Watson.

Everyone can help by talking to associates, friends and neighbors to encourage their participation and support. New brochures will be available soon from Ann or Kevin and the web page will be constantly updated with photos and information. Also available soon from Ann or Sponsor Chair Susan Wilson will be the support opportunity forms which can be given to anyone who might be interested in becoming a patron or sponsor, donating medals and trophies, or advertising in the souvenir program.



# CELTIC FOLK FEST SET AT NORTH BEND PARK



The North Bend State Park is pleased to offer this fall what is hoped will be an annual Celtic Folk Fest. The event, slated for Saturday, September 26th, will feature the Pipes and Drums of St. Andrew, The West Virginia Highland Dancers, Appalachian Celtic Consort, Branson artist Paul Asher and Company, and Eric Benson.

The Appalachian Celtic Consort performs traditional Scottish and Irish music in the foothills of the Appalachian mountains of West Virginia. Their music catches the energy of the Celtic ceili, where musicians would gather just for the craic (Craic – pronounced “crack” but meaning “great fun”).

Also featured that Saturday will be Civil War Re-enactors from the 17th Virginia Regiment of Cavalry Company F Nighthawkangers, as well as various on site vendors. North bend State Park plans to offer meals to tempt the tummy of hungry fest fans.

The opening ceremonies begin at 1:30 on Saturday. Concerts continue all afternoon and evening, with a break for dinner at 5 pm.

The next morning, Highland Faith Fellowship in Cairo will hold a Celtic-inspired service, featuring traditional and contemporary music and worship. Paul Asher will also perform during this time. Service will begin at 10 am at the Historic Cairo Community Theatre.

Overnight packages are available at North Bend. Contact (304) 643-293, or toll free at 1-800-CALL-WVA. You can also email the park at [northbend@wvdnr.gov](mailto:northbend@wvdnr.gov)



## NEW BOARD MEETS, SETS 2009-10 DATES

New Society officers and board members elected at the NCWVSHS annual meeting on May 18th, held the first regular board meeting on Monday evening, June 22nd to field ideas and formulate plans for the 2009-10 year. The Board is made up of, President James Wilson, Vice-President Bill McLean, Secretary Deb Woods, Treasurer Scott Burnside and Member at Large Kim Sabo. Immediate Past President Kevin Anderson and Festival Chairman Ann Watson were named to their Board positions as directed by the by-laws.

Regular Board meetings will be held as follows: August 17, 2009, November 16, 2009, March 15, 2010. Members who have concerns that should come before the Board can contact any of the Board members prior to any of the scheduled meetings so that any such issues can be included in the agenda of the meeting. Dates and times for other Society activities were discussed and are included in the calendar elsewhere in this newsletter.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- August 24- Board of Directors meeting - 6:30 PM, Burnside Funeral Home
- September 20 - Annual NCWVSHS Picnic, 4-7 PM, Bridgeport City Park
- October 5 - Festival Sponsor Committee meeting - 7:00 PM, Watson home
- November 16 - Board of Directors meeting - 6:30 PM, Burnside Funeral Home
- November 22- Festival Committee Meeting - 7 PM First Presbyterian Church Parlor
- December 4 - Clarksburg Christmas Parade - 6 PM
- January 24, 2010- Annual Burns Supper - 6 PM, Via Veneto
- March 15, 2009 - Board of Directors meeting - 6:30 PM, Burnside Funeral Home
- April 30 - May 2 - Ninth Annual Scottish Festival & Celtic Gathering
- May 16, 2010 - Annual Membership meeting, 7 PM. First Presbyterian Church Mc Clelland Room



# HELP US CHOOSE PHOTOS FOR THE 2010 CALENDAR

We have narrowed down the hundreds of photos taken by Penny England at the 2009 Festival to the 25 you see here (the first prerequisite was that they be horizontal rather than vertical which automatically eliminated a bunch), but it still was a daunting task! We ask you to choose **13** of these for inclusion in the calendar (one for each of the month's pages and one for the cover). Call me (842-3457) or e-mail me (scotfestchief@yahoo.com) and list your 13 favorites by number, designating one you think best for the cover. I'll compile all the responses and the top vote getters will go into the calendar. I'll need to know your choices by September 10 in order to have the calendar ready in October.....and while you're at it, if you'd like to order one or more for yourself and/or for gifts, the pre-pub price will be \$16 each or 3 for \$45 (as opposed to \$18 each or 3 for \$52 after they come out).....just give me your name and the number you want when you tell me your photo choices. Thanks for your help!

