The 21st McLain Celtic Festival will be held at Two Mile House in Carlisle on Saturday, September 5. This is a great opportunity to enjoy a day of athletic games, good music and dance, working border collies, and vendors offering many things of a Scottish nature. Many cultural groups will be present to share their information. The Scottish Society will have a tent where you can come to visit, enjoy some shortbread, and learn more about your clan tartan from our own Dan Maresh.

At noon there will be a parade of the clans led by a pipe band. Shortly after the parade the Society will hold its Bonnie Knees contest for men in kilts. For the men receiving this newsletter and planning to attend the games, you should find out if your knees will be judged most appealing.

Many clans will have tents on the grounds making this an easy way to learn more about your cultural and familial background.

Location: Two Mile House, 1189 Walnut Bottom Road, Carlisle, PA 17015
Time: 9 AM – 5 PM
Cost: Adults $10, children under 10 years of age free

The second annual Covenantanter Scottish Festival will take place on the grounds of the Octorara Covenantanter Presbyterian Church in Quarryville, PA on Saturday, September 12. There will be highland games and piping competitions, other musicians including Fire in the Glen, Charlie Zahm, and Tad Marks, and dance groups performing. Vendors and food purveyors will be offering many temptations.

The Scottish Society will have its tent at the festival offering information about the Society to attendees who may not yet know us. This will be another opportunity for us to broaden our outreach into a wider community. Dan Maresh will once again provide his flair to gaining tartan knowledge. We will have shortbread for those who did not get their fill the previous Saturday in Carlisle.

Location: Octorara Covenantanter Presbyterian Church and the Middle Octorara Presbyterian Church
1199 Valley Road (Rte. 372), Quarryville, PA 17566
Time: 9:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Cost: $15

Following are the Ligonier Highland Games which is held Saturday, September 26th, 2015 in Idlewild Park, Route 30, Ligonier, PA.

This is only a little under 3 hours away and easy to find.

It is a “must not miss” for Scots in Central and Western PA!

Ligonier is the biggest Highland Gathering in Pennsylvania and features:
+ 15 Pipe bands in competition
+ Multitudes of solo pipers in competition
+ Gaelic Mod
+ About 40 Clan Tents
+ Food
+ Vendors
And lots of people!
**Picnic 2015**

**Good Food, Good Friends**

A Beautiful Afternoon, indeed, was July 25\textsuperscript{th} when many members of the Society came together in Lower Allen Park.

There was no business and no formality. This was a time for friendship, chatter about families and Summer travel done and planned.

Then there was the food featuring an entre prepared by President Ken and all nature of sides and deserts brought by everyone to share!

People came promptly and lingered long. Just a great picnic in the park. Just enough. Just fine!

Watch for the 2016 dates and location!

**Upcoming Events**

November 17, 2015
St. Andrews Day Dinner and Entertainment

February 6, 2016
Burns Night - Formal Dinner
Entertainment by Charlie Zahm

**Ceud Mile Failte**

To Our Newest Member
Rev. Heather M. Sigler

**Flowers of the Forest**

Edward C. Campbell
1929 - 2015

**The Scottish Society Board of Directors for 2014-2015**

Ken Millage ..................President
John Goodrich ..................Vice President
Jesse Weigel ..................Treasurer
Jennifer Gardner ..........Secretary
Rev. Dr. Russell Sullivan ....Chaplain
William Gable ..................Piper
John Cameron
Fred Hait
Bucky Lee
Dan Maresh
John Melville
Kathleen White
Charlene Kemp Silvis, ex officio
**KIRKIN’ OF THE TARTAN SERVICE**

In 1745 at the Battle of Culloden, the followers of Bonnie Prince Charlie were defeated in Scotland’s last armed attempt to regain the independence they had lost with the Union of Parliaments which took place in 1707. Shortly after this defeat, the “Act for the Abolition and Proscription of Highland Dress” was passed by the British Parliament. Among the provisions was the banning of the wearing of highland clothes and the plaid. Bagpipes also fell silent. This was a time of great repression and the purpose of the act was to destroy every vestige of Scottish national identity and heritage. Many highland Scots came to America as a result of this act.

The Proscription Act actually served to solidify clan loyalties and it was during the 45 year period when the Act was in force that the Kirkin’ of the Tartan came into being. The highlanders partially maintained their loyalty to family and clan by hiding pieces of tartan, often under other clothing, and bringing them into the Kirk (church) to be blessed.

The Kirkin’ of the Tartan service came to the U.S. in the early years of World War II after Peter Marshall, Scottish by birth and chaplain to the U.S. Senate, preached a number of sermons in support of British war relief and the Scottish clans evacuation plan which he titled “Kirkin’ O’ the Tartan.” The St. Andrews Society of Washington D.C. also held prayer services at the Washington National Cathedral which became an annual event known as the Kirkin’. The Kirkin’ services spread across the U.S. from there.

This year’s Kirkin’ of the Tartan service for the Scottish Society of Central Pennsylvania will be held on Sunday, October 18 at 11:00 AM at the Mechanicsburg Presbyterian Church. The church is located at 300 East Simpson Street in Mechanicsburg, PA. Parking is available in the lot behind the church and on streets around it. We have moved the location after several years at Pine Street Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg in order to broaden the awareness of the Scottish Society. We hope you will join us, bring a piece of your family tartan to be blessed, and invite friends who may have an interest in Scottish history to come with you. Please be at the church by 10:45 in order to gather for the procession into the sanctuary behind our Society piper, Bill Gable. After the church service we will provide shortbread during the fellowship time when we will be able to meet congregation members.

**SCOTLAND’S POSTAGE STAMPS**

One of the distinctive marks of nationhood is the issuance of postage stamps. Every country does so frequently to make money from stamp collectors. The stamps can be used throughout the UK and for international mail.

For Scotland, the Heraldic symbols were added but continued to feature Queen Elizabeth.

1971 saw the introduction of decimal postage rates. Gone were pounds and pence!

The 1999 series for Scotland dropped Elizabeth and conveys Scottish images by local artists.

Beginning in 1958, special regional issue stamps were issued for Scotland, Wales, and No. Ireland. Looking like ‘regular’ UK stamps, they were differentiated by the addition of specific symbols unique to each nation.
Scottish Society of Central Pennsylvania Membership Form
For additional information please go to: www.pennscots.org

To become a member of SSoCP, or to renew an existing membership, please complete and return this form with your payment to: SSoCP, PO Box 1006, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

Membership Dues: July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016
$15 for individual membership
$20 for family membership

Please note if you are making a payment for the past year(s).

Enclosed is $__________ for ________ year(s) [ ] Individual [ ] Family Membership. (Check one)

Name:___________________________________________

Address:_________________________________________

City/State/Zip:____________________________________

E-Mail Address:___________________________________

I am most interested in the following: (Check ALL Areas of Interest)
[ ] Scottish Art/Music [ ] Scottish Dance [ ] Bagpipes [ ] Genealogy
[ ] Scottish Cuisine [ ] Local History [ ] Committee Work [ ] Event Planning
[ ] Cooking/Baking [ ] Writing for Newsletter [ ] Membership Services

2015—2016 Membership Fees are DUE! PLEASE MAIL THEM!