ANNUAL ROBERT BURNS SUPPER

Robert Burns (1759-1796) was born to, and, generally, lived a difficult life including working as a tenant farmer and an Excise Collector (not a popular person in Scotland in those times.) However, it is his poetry which has lived and brought admiration and fame worldwide. His poetry and song recorded and celebrated farm life and Scotland's culture and religion while celebrating life itself. His work sought a better world of equality for those among whom he was raised and lived. He is truly the Scots Bard!

Celtic singer Charlie Zahm returns along with fiddler Tad Marks as the main entertainment for the Scottish Society of Central Pennsylvania's 62nd annual Robert Burns Supper. In addition to his expressive baritone voice, Charlie also performs with the bodhran (a Celtic drum), guitar and tin whistle.

Also featured will be the traditional "Address to a Haggis" performed by Fred Hait, a humorous "Toasts to the Lads and Lassies" by Bucky Nelson and the "Immortal Memory" by Mark Hagenbuch. Our society piper will help lead the Ceremonial Haggis March. Speaking of that famous Scottish dish, individual servings of haggis will be available at each table, along with soup, salad, a choice of entrees (pecan-encrusted salmon, slow-cook beef or a vegetarian stack) and a tasty trifle for dessert.

Come meet your Scottish friends for a wonderful evening of music, fine food and drink, culture and a raffle drawing in which you can win Scottish-themed items. Be sure also to invite someone who has never attended a Burns Night Supper to come with you. We know they will enjoy it. The Radisson features free parking and overnight stays at a reduced cost for our society.

The objective of the Scottish Society is to promote an interest in the history, culture and traditions of Scotland and Scottish Americans in Central Pennsylvania. That's why we would like you to indicate your clan affiliation, if known, in the reservation form. It will help with seating and, perhaps, you will learn more about your Scottish ancestry that evening.
Some historians say that the first member of this family was Simon, a brother to Walter, the first High Steward of Scotland. The first time the name Boyd appears in history is 1205 when Sir Robert Boyd, Simon's son, was a witness to a contract. This Robert Boyd is mentioned as a nephew of Walter the High Steward in the chartulary of Paisley. Owing to this history, the Boyds today may wear the Royal Stewart tartan. However, the Boyds are considered a clan unto themselves, as well as being a Sept of the Royal Stewarts. Thus they have their own tartan which just happens to be remarkably similar to that of the Stewarts.

An interesting and unusual fact is that there seems to be no Septs of the Boyd clan. Mike Boyd, the historian for Clan Boyd has said, "While this Sept of the Boyds with the Stewarts seems to have taken place in the 1200's, there does not seem to be any such linkages with the Boyd Family/Clan over the next 800 years." I guess we just were not very good leaders, maybe?

From ancient times the Boyds have held the Island of Arran and a large area of the western Scottish coast. For nearly 450 years, there were Boyds living in Dean Castle at Kilmarnock. I visited there a few years ago and when the guide learned that I was a Boyd, suddenly my daughter and I were treated like royalty. So if you go there, be a Boyd for the day! The Boyd name is held in high regard there and I am both pleased and surprised that I was born into such a family!

Sources: 1000 Years of History--The Boyds, Elizabeth Boyd Henry Tennies, Xulon Press, 2007

History of the Boyd Family and Descendants, William P. Boyd, John Smith Printing, 1912

Clan Boyd web site: www.clanboyd.org
**ROBERT BURNS SUPPER REPLY FORM**

Please reserve your place at the Burns Night Supper by Tuesday, February 2, 2016.

YES, I plan to attend the Burns Night Supper on Saturday, February 6, 2016.

Social hour begins at 5:00 PM and dinner begins at 6:30 PM.

Location: Radisson Hotel and Convention Center, 1150 Camp Hill Bypass, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Name__________________________________________________________

Address________________________________ City__________________ State ______ Zip_______

E-Mail________________________________________________________ Telephone_________________________

Name of your (family) principal CLAN affinity: ____________________________

Names of OTHER guests for whom you are reserving seats __________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________

Please indicate the number and type of meal you and those in your party prefer.

Adults: ____Baked Salmon ____ Braised Beef ____ Vegetarian ____ Total # x $32 each = $________

Children: ____Baked Salmon ____ Braised Beef ____ Vegetarian ____ Total # x $15 each = $________

Children are school age up to age 18 years.

Tables will be set for 8 people. If you have a seating preference, please indicate it here and every effort will be made to honor your request. _________________________________________________________________

Mail your reservation form and check, made out to “Scottish Society of Central Pennsylvania” to Dr. Jesse Weigel, 649 Willow Way, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Questions: E-mail Ken Millage, President at scotsocietycpa@gmail.com or contact John Goodrich, Vice President, at (717) 652-8526 or jmg1644@comcast.net.

**Haggis Set For Return To U.S. Menus**

Tom Peterkin in the November 13, 2015 edition of The Scotsman reports the following.

Scotland’s national dish could be back on US menus within the next 24 months thanks to the lifting of an American ban on haggis sales, which has been in force since 1971. The delicacy has been the subject of delicate Scottish/American negotiations, which has seen Scotland’s food secretary Richard Lochhead lead a transatlantic charm offensive on behalf of the haggis. For almost half a century, haggis has been banned from import into America because some of the ingredients - including sheep’s lungs - are banned there.

After holding talks with Lisa Mensah, an under-secretary in the US Department of Agriculture, and representatives of the US Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Mr Lochhead said they had confirmed draft rules to be published in 2016 would pave the way for sales of both haggis and Scotch lamb in the US from the following year.

For now, what we will be served at our Burns Night Supper will not be traditional due to government regulations but this article says that may change. We will try to stay on top of this story.
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