



# The Caledonian

July-Aug 2024

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## Recap: Annual General Meeting June 22, 2024 Special guest speaker: Robert (Bob) Oaks

It was a bright, sunny morning at the comfortable Waioli Kitchen & Bakery (formerly Waioli Tea Room) party room in Manoa when 26 Caledonians gathered on June 22 to begin our Annual General Meeting with generous-sized scones and coffee. In our honor, our host, Russell, wore a sport kilt which he said he had worn in the past for hiking on the John Muir trail in California. Lunch, after the AGM meeting and our speaker's talk, was tasty and abundant including sandwiches, salad, and a generous haupia bread pudding.

Among the attendees were our newest member, RSCDS Scottish dance teacher, Michael McIntosh, who served as our tech helper for the day, Katherine Love who was introduced to the Society by member Tory Laitila, and also our longest-term current founding member, Scott MacKinnon, who is now retired. We didn't ask his age, but he joined the Society at age 16, the son of founding members, Lillian & Donald MacKinnon.

Business of the day was conducted by Chieftain McEwan. Reports of the past year were summarized and can be reviewed on the Society website. One report of special interest was the award of a SERG grant to Kathleen O'Dell, our first SERG award since before the pandemic. We hope to hear from Kat in a fall program about her experience in Scotland where she is currently undertaking her SERG project. (At right: Tory Laitila, Susan Anderson And Josh Beem)

**Re-elected to additional 3-year terms** were 5 Council members: Bruce McEwan, Susan MacKinnon, Susan Anderson, Kevin Campbell Bogan, and Larry Phillips. Former Council Member Jeremy McOuat has resigned and has been replaced by appointment by Jim Redmond. His appointment will be confirmed at the next Council meeting. The rest of the 15-member Council remain Karen Thompson, Mary Jill Ackerman, Anton Anderssen, Joshua Beem, Janice Choate-Zavakos, Lillian Cunningham, Jackie Phillips, Brian Richardson, and Hardy Spoehr.



Council members expect to meet in late August to plan the Society schedule of events for the upcoming year, 2024-25. AGM attendees were asked to fill out a questionnaire for the Council to help their planning. The same questions are now posted on the Society website, [www.scotsinhawaii.org](http://www.scotsinhawaii.org), so that members who were unable to do so at the meeting can now answer the questions online. One key question asks for ideas about how to celebrate our 60th anniversary, this coming year. Please help with ideas.



Our guest speaker, Bob Oaks, kept us all intrigued with his account of the life and death of Scotsman, David Douglas. People who had not heard of Douglas before and also people who already knew something about him, learned new things from Bob's account and pictures. For instance, we learned about Douglas's long walk across Canada to collect botanical specimens, about his friendship with the Hawaii missionaries, the Lymans, that the Hawaii Silversword has a scientific name that honors Douglas, and that the circumstances of Douglas's death on the Big Island in 1834 are still mysterious. Thank you, Bob. You helped us have a good day at our AGM.

*Susan MacKinnon, Our guest speaker Bob Oaks, Lillian Cunningham, & Chieftain McEwan*

# Recap: May 11<sup>th</sup> – Islands & their Distilleries

Chieftain Bruce McEwan regaled a group at the Hokua condo Ocean Terrace with information about the many islands along the Western coast of Scotland. Called the Inner and Outer Hebrides, they are rich with history, beautiful scenery, and the site of many popular distilleries.



*Bruce discusses one of the whiskies from the Isle of Skye*



*Standing: Susan, Lillian, Bruce, Chris, Nancy, Mary O-B, Mary F. and Joyce; In front: Brian & Kevin.*



*Whiskies: Highland Park, Raasay, Laphroaig, and Bruce's 65.*



## Chieftain's Column: From the Craig

We are about to begin our new event year and, as always, we appreciate input from our members. There are two opportunities for input. First, we will be setting our event schedule at our annual Council planning meeting in August. This is when we choose the specific programs for our 2024-2025 event year. Ideas for topics can be sent to me or any other Council member. We are open to both in-person events and virtual events, like the Scottish Heroes programs we began during COVID.

The second opportunity is to submit ideas for celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Caledonian Society of Hawaii in 2025. We plan to start 2025 at Burns Night with an initial celebration of our founding in 1965.

Enjoy your summer and keep your calendars open when we announce our 2024-2025 event schedule. Slàinte, Bruce

## Member News

**July Birthdays** Neil Abercrombie, Bruce Bonbright, Carl Frazier, Chuck Jamison, Susan Melow, Kit Smith, Frances Weibenga, and Brian Whitcraft.

**August Birthdays** Kevin Bogan, Lois Anne Gordon, Chris Haig, Grace Johnson, Jim Putnam, Nancy Smiley, and Rita Thompson.

*Note: If your birthday is in July or August, and you don't see your name listed here, we probably don't have it in our database. We want to celebrate your special month too, so please contact Kevin Campbell Bogan at 808-778-4697 or by email at [kevin.bogan@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.bogan@gmail.com).*

## Meet Kat O'Dell—2024 SERG Recipient



The Council is pleased to announce the 2024 Scottish Education Research Grant went to Kathleen (Kat) O'Dell, PhD. Kat is heading to Scotland this summer to "gain a comprehensive understanding of Quarriers' model for FRCs (Family Research Centers)." She is currently an instructor with Human Development & Family Studies and a lecturer at Windward Community College.

Quarriers is an organization dedicated to helping families find positive ways to care for their children. We look forward to hearing about Kat's experiences in Scotland and her conclusions about how it can help families in Hawaii.

**Members who have passed away 2023-24:** Former Membership Secretary Jeannie Ferrier, Former Chieftain Allan Buchanan, Donald MacGregor, Dottie Williams, & Nancy Hazelbaker. Our condolences to all their families and friends.

## Anton Anderssen received the President's Volunteer Award

Council member Anton Anderssen received the President's Volunteer Award from President Biden for his decades of volunteer work with the disabled community through his travel agency, Anton Anderssen Inc, a 501c3 charity. Congratulations!



Twenty years ago, Anton Anderssen started a "Teddy Bear Ministry." The 64-year-old Monroe resident collects and gives teddy bears to church pastors, patients in hospice, fire departments and children's hospitals.

TOM HAWLEY/MONROE NEWS

## More Scottish Sayings

- We're a' Jock Tamson's bairns! (We're all God's children.)
- It's not real work unless you would rather be doing something else. -- J. M. Barrie
- It's not in doing what you like, but liking what you do that is the secret of happiness. -- J. M. Barrie
- It's got me fair scunnered. (It's got me very annoyed.)

(All of these come from a wee book called *OCH WHEESHT AND GET OAN WAE IT*. Copyright Lewis Dawson, 2011)

## Council Contacts 2023-2024

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### The Caledonian Newsletter

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[www.scotsinhawaii.org](http://www.scotsinhawaii.org)

### Consolidated Celtic Calendar

<https://goo.gl/mCnvsU>

## 2023-2024 Calendar of Events

(Subject to change)

**Aug 31 Council planning meeting for 2004-2005**

**Contact Chieftain McEwan with your ideas**

**([bemacewan@gmail.com](mailto:bemacewan@gmail.com))**

**NOTE: Due to travel plans for many Council members there will not be a Caledonian event in July or August. The Council will be meeting in August to make plans for the coming year. Please watch for an online survey to help us with those plans.**

**The Caledonian Society** relies on membership participation, donations, and annual membership fees to keep the Society healthy, to allow us to plan events, and to keep costs at a minimum. Most events are either free or kept at our cost. We also do not charge extra on most events for bringing a guest. Now our 2024-2025 fiscal year has begun, and it's time to send in your fee of \$30 per member (we don't have a family membership). If you have a question regarding your membership, please contact our membership secretary, Kevin Bogan, at [kevin.bogan@gmail.com](mailto:kevin.bogan@gmail.com).

**To pay by credit card**, please go to [www.scotsinhawaii.com](http://www.scotsinhawaii.com) and use the link there for SquareUp. (A fee of \$2 is added for each charge.)

**Personal checks** can be mailed to:

The Caledonian Society

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**The Hawaiian Scottish Association** has recently had its Annual Meeting and begun planning for the 2024-25 Highland Festival & Games. The HSA is the organization formed by other local Scottish groups for the purpose of putting on the annual Scottish Festival and Games. The other HSA member groups are the Saint Andrew Society of Hawaii (SASH), the Celtic Pipes and Drums of Hawaii, and the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS).

As one of the HSA members, the Caledonian Society is entitled to 5 representatives at HSA meetings and in its work. Our representatives to HSA for the next year are Bruce McEwan, Larry Phillips, Kevin Campbell Bogan, Josh Beem, and Jeremy McOuat. If you have any questions or suggestions for HSA, feel free to contact any of our representatives.

The new Chieftain of HSA for 2025 is Tim Cooke. No venue has yet been selected for the 2025 Festival and Games, but the dates will be April 5 and 6. Highland Dance instructor Margaret MacInnes from Scotland, expects to bring some of her students to compete in Hawaii again in 2025 as she has done for several years. Some other Festival responsibilities that HSA oversees besides Highland Dancing, are Athletics, Clans, Vendors and Entertainment.

It is important for member organizations like the Caledonian Society to provide volunteers to help on the days of the Festival. Do note April 5 and 6 in your upcoming 2025 calendar and keep the dates clear so that you can attend and volunteer.