



President's Corner, March 2017 – March 5

We hope all of you had a safe and fun Mardi Gras and at least caught a glimpse of the Kilts of Many Colours and friends marching in the Rex parade. We spent the day at home watching the festivities on television.

Our next event is the March meeting on the 21st, and we are so excited to have our good friend Connie Rodriguez coming to present the program. Many of you met her at Burns Night and know how enthusiastic she is about her archaeology work, so we hope you can attend because it's going to be so much fun!

Your Board of Directors met today to discuss several different events for the Caledonian Society, including Tartan Day, the business meeting in May and our end-of-year party. Some of these discussed items have been confirmed and will be covered later in this newsletter. We still have some matters pending, and we will notify you as soon as those are decided. It's going to be an exciting and fun spring and we look forward to sharing our Scottish fellowship.

Hae a guid day! Christyn

Upcoming Scheduled CSoNO Meetings / Events:

Tuesday, March 21, 2017 – Regular Monthly Meeting: 7:00 PM at The Christopher Room at 6254 Vicksburg Street. **Program:** Dr. Connie Rodriguez, Department Chair of Classical Studies at Loyola University and President of the New Orleans Society of the Archaeological Institute of America, will present a program on archaeology in Scotland, focusing on Clan Urquhart's Castle Craig, a 16th Century fortified tower, and Kirkmichael, both of which are located on the Black Isle on the shores of Cromarty Firth.

Tuesday, April 18, 2017 – Regular Monthly Meeting: 7:00 PM at The Christopher Room at 6254 Vicksburg Street. **Program:** Mark Romig, President and CEO of the New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation, will talk to the Society and guests about the upcoming Tri-centennial celebrations planned for New Orleans in 2018. Now's your chance to find out what is planned for the big

event and perhaps where we as a Society can help make the city more aware of Scottish contributions to the growth and development of the city.

Tuesday, May 16, 2017 – Annual Business Meeting: 7:00 PM at The Christopher Room. If you have any items to present, please let a Board Member know. **Program:** TBD – we hope to have a presentation on genealogy/DNA resources.

Saturday, June 3, 2017 – End-of-Year Party – 11:00 AM–2:00 PM at Michael & Christyn Elliott's home in Bush. We hope to arrange either transportation or car-pooling in order to help members take the trek across the Lake. The Society will provide drinks, dining implements and the main portion of the casual lunch. Details to follow once they are decided upon.

Member and Society News

If you have any family news you would like to share, please give Christyn a call at (985) 886-5502 or send her an e-mail at mje.cmr@att.net.

New Members

Beryl and George Guelfo are well known friends to those of us who attend Scottish Country dancing on Friday nights because they have been attending classes for well over a year. They applied for CSoNO membership after attending Burns Night and we couldn't have been happier to welcome them into the Society! They live in the uptown area and also attend dance classes with the International and Israeli Folk Dance groups. So here's a hearty Scottish welcome to a wonderful couple!

CSoNO donates to Louisiana State Championships – This is the longest running sanctioned traditional Irish Dance competition (aka "feis") held in the State of Louisiana, and Piper Rob Martin's wife Cindy is on the Board of Directors for Ryan School of Irish Dance, which is organizing the event. She contacted us to see if we could help, and the Board of Directors decided to donate at the \$150 "Raffle Basket Sponsor" level. We are proud to help out our fellow Celts in this endeavor. If you are interested in attending, here are the particulars:

On May 27th & May 28th, 2017, the first annual Magnolia State Feis and the 28th Annual Feis New Orleans will take place at the New Orleans Airport Hilton in Kenner. The competitions start at 8:00am and continue all day. Spectators are welcome to attend at no charge. Over 250 dancers from around the country will participate in this professionally judged competition presented by The Ryan School of Irish Dance New Orleans.

Newsletter, Website and Membership Directory

CSoNO members receive the newsletter by e-mail or post. A complimentary e-mail newsletter is also sent to non-members who have expressed an interest, so if you know of someone who would be interested in receiving our newsletter by e-mail, please send their information to me for inclusion in the courtesy e-mail group. All mass e-mails are sent to recipients "bcc" for privacy.

The Society has an excellent website which includes the newsletter. Be sure to take a look!

As they occur, updates to the directory will be sent by e-mail and post to members only. **This directory is for our use only**, so please do not share it with any other people or organizations!

Committees

If you are interested in any of these activities or have information for them, contact the following:

Membership: Sally Rice

Website: Scott Bond

Sunshine: Vilma Pinero

Publicity: Cathie Groh-Tamasi/Ren Alexander

CCCC Movie Group: Louie Greer

Refreshments: T. Diemer/Trudy Burkart – they will need help with the March meeting, so please call T. or Trudy to volunteer refreshments!

Other Upcoming Events

Information about possible trip to UK & Ireland

– Beverly Hall announced at the Board meeting that she read about a vacation seminar being held by Travel Central at 3221 North Causeway on Thursday, March 9th at 5:30 p.m. to discuss plans for a 10 Days, 8 cities or 2 countries trip. Irish Coffee and Sweets will be served. To attend, please RSVP by calling (504) 834-7000 (From page 2 of Sunday, March 5th Times-Picayune)

Activities for East Jefferson Regional Library –

T. Diemer told us about two events coming up for EJRL: Big Book Sale – March 9-12, 10AM to 8PM on Thursday – Saturday, Noon to 5PM on Sunday at

the Pontchartrain Center located at 4545 Williams Blvd. in Kenner with free parking and attendance AND Italian Flag Tossers at the EJRL facility on West Esplanade on March 16th at 2:30 PM.

Tartan Day – Remember to wear Tartan on April 6th! We hope to have our usual display at the East Jefferson Regional Library and are currently checking availability. We will let you know about upcoming plans once they are finalized.

Scottish Country Dancing – is continuing at Carrollton United Methodist Church at Freret and S. Carrollton at 7:00 PM. Contact Wendy Grubb at (504) 866-2220 or wgrubb52@gmail.com for updates on March and April schedules.

New Orleans Strathspey & Reel Society – The group plays at the Irish House and at other venues, so if you want to catch a set, contact leader Jim Gunter at nosrs_08@yahoo.com for more information.

Caledonian Society of Baton Rouge – For upcoming Spring, 2017 events, go to <http://csbr.org> or address inquiries to CSBR's secretary Janice Wise at jirvingwise@gmail.com.

Baton Rouge Scottish Country Dance Group – Monday nights from 7-9 PM at Broadmoor Presbyterian Church, 9340 Florida Blvd. in BR. Contact instructors Morgan McGlone (225-803-7021) or James Mungall (225-278-1577) or email at TBRSCD@gmail.com.

Blast from the Past: Anyone recognize this lovely dancing couple??? Answer next month...

