

# Thistle Epistle

The Newsletter of the  
St. Andrew Scottish Society of N.A.

Website: [sassnm.org/](http://sassnm.org/)

## April 2018

Be sure to plan on joining us for the SASSNM Tartan Day Celebration,  
from 6 to 8 pm, Friday, April 6, 2018  
at O'Neill's Pub, 3301 Juan Tabo Blvd NE  
(west side of Juan Tabo, just north of Candelaria, across from Lowe's, same parking lot as Defined Fitness)  
(see page 3 for details of our Tartan Day Celebration)  
(also check the article starting on page 6 on the origins of Tartan Day)

### **SASSNM President's Message**

Hello members,

I am happy to say that this years board looks like a great one, but there are still opportunities to let your voices to be heard by joining a committee that could use your special talents.

Tartan day is just around the corner and so is the Celtic festival. Our events committee is planning what I hope will be some fun activities for this year.

I hope you all have a wonderful Easter Sunday and stay safe and well.

Bruce





*National Tartan Day*  
*A national holiday for all Scottish Americans*

## **Tartan Day at O'Neill's Heights**

**Featuring:**

**High Desert Pipes and Drums**

**&**

**Highland Dance Albuquerque**

**Come join us in celebration of Scotland's Independence and support HDPD on their road back to Scotland for the World Pipe Band Championships, August 2019.**

**Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 6 - 8 PM**

**O'Neil's Tartan Day Specials:**

**Bar: Bosque's Scotia Scotch Ale.**

**Menu: Blue Plate special: Salmon with a Whiskey Glaze**

❖ **Proceeds from each pint of Pipers Pale Ale to Support HDPD**

❖ **Raffle to benefit HDPD's travel to Scotland 2019**



**O'Neil's Heights**  
**3301 Juan Tabo Blvd NE**  
**Albuquerque NM 87111**



## Upcoming Events

**REMEMBER: SASSNM is an associate organization of and has partnership benefits with the Irish American Society (IAS), the Edelweiss am Rio Grande German American Club (GAC), Hungarian-American Club (HAC), and Jazz Society, including dances and events! The GAC is located at 4821 Menaul NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110 (at the corner of Quincy Rd).**

Apr 6, 2018, Tartan Day Celebration, 6-8pm, at O'Neill's, 3301 Juan Tabo Blvd NE (west side of Juan Tabo, just north of Candelaria, across from Lowe's, same parking lot as Defined Fitness) Pipers from High Desert will be playing, around 7pm, and might bring the dancers who danced for us at Burns Dinner. See page 3 for more details.

April 6th, 2018, A Tour of the British Isles! — Take a tour of the isles with the harp playing and song of Kelly Brzozowski. Come and experience an evening of music from Scotland, Ireland, and Wales and experience the love, strength, and drama of traditional music. St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church 425 University Blvd. NE, Albuquerque. \$15 at the door/payable by cash, check or venmo

April 13th, 2018, 7pm at the GAC, IAS meeting & entertainment, this month featuring a Lecture: "Modern Ireland: A Nation Once Again?" We hope to see you there, and we hope you will bring a sweet or salty snack to share!

Apr 14th, Vienna Ball at the GAC; dinner from 5:30 to 6:30pm, dancing from 7 to 11pm, Door Fee \$10.00

At 6:45 will be a short concert by Maya, Sophia and Nick

At 7:00 will be the Polonaise followed by Jim Brauer's music for Dancing until 11:00.

At 8:00 the Fledermaus Quadrille will be performed by club members led by Sheri Kraemer

Meal Served from 5:30PM to 6:45PM Menu:

Wiener Schnitzel (pork cutlet)

Bratkartoffeln (fried potatoes)

Rotkohl (red cabbage)

Salad/Dessert

All for only \$10.00. Children under 12, \$5.00

Please make meal reservations by Apr 12th by calling the club at 505-888-4833 when club is open

Attire: **Formal**

April 15, 2018, Jazz Sunday Dance at the GAC, from 2:00 PM to 5:30 PM

*Join the Jazz Society for a Sunday Dance!*

April 25th, 2018, from 5pm to 8pm, the Flying Star on the SE corner of Wyoming Blvd and Paseo del Norte is sponsoring a fundraiser on behalf of the RGV Celtic Festival

May 5th, 2018, Bernalillo "BackYard" Highland Games, at Rotary Park, Bernalillo, NM, probably 9am to 5pm. We welcome all and would appreciate if you could help us staff an information booth at the Games (Contact Paul McDonough, ([PenthorMul@aol.com](mailto:PenthorMul@aol.com)) if you can help

Take EXIT 240 west, toward NM-473/Bernalillo, Then 0.20 miles

Merge onto E Avenida Bernalillo, Then 0.65 miles

Turn right onto NM-313/S Camino del Pueblo, Then 0.19 miles

Turn left onto Calle Don Francisco, Then 0.16 miles

Calle Don Francisco becomes Rotary Park Rd, and takes you right Rotary Park.

Mayfest Dance, May 5, 2018 at the GAC, dinner from 5:30 to 6:30pm, dancing from 7 to 11pm, music by Swing-shift

(Continued on next page)

Upcoming Events (continued from previous page)

May 11, 2018, IAS Monthly Meeting and Program, 7 PM at the GAC. Program will be a dramatic performance of The Celtic Queens, with Maya Sutton.

May 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 30th Annual Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival and Highland Games, Balloon Fiesta Park, 5000 Balloon Fiesta Parkway NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113 (entry from the north gate, only), More information to come  
*For more information, please visit <http://www.celtfestabq.com/>.*

May 19th, 2018, Fiesta Dance at the GAC, dinner from 5:30 to 6:30pm, dancing from 7 to 11pm

May 20, 2018, Jazz Sunday Dance at the GAC, from 2:00 PM to 5:30 PM  
*Join the Jazz Society for a Sunday Dance!*

June 2nd, 2018, ABQ Folk Festival, at the Balloon Museum. More information to come

June 2, 2018, Sock Hop at the GAC, dinner from 5:30 to 6:30pm, dancing from 7 to 11pm, music by Hit Squad

June 16, 2018, Summerfest Dance at the GAC, dinner from 5:30 to 6:30pm, dancing from 7 to 11pm, music by Street Scene

June 17, 2018, Jazz Sunday Dance at the GAC, from 2:00 PM to 5:30 PM  
*Join the Jazz Society for a Sunday Dance!*

July 7, 2018, Luau Dance at the GAC, dinner from 5:30 to 6:30pm, dancing from 7 to 11pm

July 15, 2018, Jazz Sunday Dance at the GAC, from 2:00 PM to 5:30 PM  
*Join the Jazz Society for a Sunday Dance!*

July 21, 2018, Anniversary Ball at the GAC, dinner from 5:30 to 6:30pm, dancing from 7 to 11pm

August 4th, 2018, Membership Appreciation Dance at the GAC, dinner from 5:30 to 6:30pm, dancing from 7 to 11pm, music by 'Stepping Out' (DJ Madie)

August 18th, 2018, Woodstock Dance at the GAC, dinner from 5:30 to 6:30pm, dancing from 7 to 11pm, music by Street Scene

August 19, 2018, Jazz Sunday Dance at the GAC, from 2:00 PM to 5:30 PM  
*Join the Jazz Society for a Sunday Dance!*

August 26th, 2018, Celtic Picnic at Elena Gallegos Park, Kiwanis Picnic Area. More information to come.

**Pipers Launch:** O'Neill's Pub, 3301 Juan Tabo Blvd (slightly north of Candelaria Rd) is conducting a Pipers Launch fundraiser for the High Desert Pipes and Drums to help send the band to Scotland in celebration of their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of winning first place in Scotland competition, and being the only American band to win. The Bar is launching their new house beer called Pipers Pale Ale and is donating \$1.00 per Pint sold for the next year starting 2/24/18.

**NOTE:**

**A message from the German-American Club (GAC): The Edelweiss Am Rio Grande GAC is a private club and, as such, cannot solicit, by advertising or otherwise, participation its events and activities to the general public. As the SASSNM is an associate organization of the GAC, listing events here does not constitute advertising but, rather, is a notice for associate members as to events that will occur.**

# Tartan Day

Excerpts from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia  
([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tartan\\_Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tartan_Day))

(sections on Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, and Galicia omitted for space considerations)

**Tartan Day** is a celebration of Scottish heritage on 6 April, the date on which the Declaration of Arbroath was signed in 1320. It originated in Canada in the mid-1980s and spread to other communities of the Scottish diaspora in the 1990s. In Australia the similar **International Tartan Day** is held on 1 July, the anniversary of the repeal of the 1747 Act of Proscription that banned the wearing of tartan.

Tartan Days typically have parades of pipe bands, Highland dancing and other Scottish-themed events.

## Origins

On 9 March 1986, a 'Tartan Day' to promote Scottish heritage in Canada, was proposed at a meeting of the Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia. Jean Watson, President of Clan Lamont, petitioned provincial legislatures to recognize April 6 as Tartan Day. The first such proclamation was by Nova Scotia in April 1987; *On December 19, 1991, in response to action initiated by the Clans & Scottish Societies of Canada, the Ontario Legislature passed a resolution proclaiming April 6 as Tartan Day following the example of other Canadian provinces.*

Meeting in 1997 in Sarasota Florida, The Scottish Coalition USA looked to see Tartan Day recognized in the USA as it was being observed in Canada. The Scottish Coalition USA comprises **The American-Scottish Foundation®**, **Scottish Heritage, USA**, **The Living Legacy of Scotland, Inc.**, **The Association of Scottish Games and Festivals**, **Scottish American Military Society**, **Council of Scottish Clans and Association (COSCA)**

In 1998, the efforts of the Scottish Coalition with the leading help of Trent Lott, saw the United States Senate Resolution adopt 6 April National Tartan Day. This led in turn to the Congressional and then Presidential passing of the recognition of Tartan Day Observance on April 6 each year.

In Australia, wearing tartan on 1 July has been encouraged since 1989. The day has been promoted as International Tartan Day in Australia since 1996 and has been formally recognized by many states, but not at national level.

## Canada

15.1% or 4.7 million Canadians claim Scottish descent. As stated above, Tartan Day in Canada originated with a proposal from the Federation of Scottish Clans in Nova Scotia and has since been proclaimed by all the provincial legislatures. In 2007 Peter Stoffer introduced a Private member's bill for "An Act respecting a Tartan Day". Progress of the bill was interrupted by the 2008 election, but was resubmitted.

An annual 'Gathering of the Clans' will take place each 6 April or on the Sunday nearest to it on Parliament Hill in Ottawa at noon with pipes, drums and dancing hosted by the Sons of Scotland Pipe Band,

(Continued on next page)



Sean Connery at a Tartan Day celebration in Washington D.C. with members of the USAF Reserve Pipes and Drums.

Canada's oldest civilian pipe band. The 2011 celebrations marked the first time that Tartan Day has been celebrated with Canada's official tartan having been named: the Maple Leaf.

## Scotland

Angus Council, whose region includes Arbroath, established the first Tartan Day festival in Scotland on 6 April 2004, and has since joined other regional councils in attempting to develop its potential as a global celebration. In 2006 events were held in Arbroath, Aberdeen, Montrose, Kilmarnock, Stirling, Perth, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

## United States

There are an estimated are 6 million people in the US who claim Scottish descent. In 1998, a Coalition of Scottish Americans with the Support of Senator Trent Lott, successfully lobbied the Senate for the designation of 6 April as National Tartan Day "to recognize the outstanding achievements and contributions made by

Scottish Americans to the United States". Senate Resolution 155, passed on 20 March 1998, referred to the predominance of Scots among the Founding Fathers and claimed that the American Declaration of Independence was "modelled on" the Declaration of Arbroath. While this link is plausible, it has not been definitively proven. This is just one opinion. There is a great bit of proof given in the book entitled *Scottish Invention of America, Democracy and Human Rights* and to some degree in the book entitled *How the Scots Invented the Modern World*. Thomas Jefferson's education was heavily influenced by Scottish thought.

Meeting in 1997 in Sarasota Florida, **The Scottish Coalition USA** looked to see Tartan Day recognized in the USA as it was being observed in Canada. The Scottish Coalition USA comprises **The American-Scottish Foundation®**, **Scottish Heritage, USA**, **The Living Legacy of Scotland, Inc.**, **The Association of Scottish Games and Festivals**, **Scottish American Military Society**, **Council of Scottish Clans and Association (COSCA)**

In 1998, the efforts of the Scottish Coalition with the leading help of Trent Lott, saw the United States Senate Resolution adopt 6 April National Tartan Day. This lead in turn to the Congressional and then Presidential passing of the recognition of Tartan Day Observance on April 6 each year. **The Scottish Coalition President Ms Duncan MacDonald (thr 2014)** spearheaded a national platform for the **Observance of Tartan Day in the US**, through the development of a network of State representatives. Over 33 states are represented.

Annually the Scottish Coalition USA in conjunction with the National Capital Tartan Day Committee celebrates Tartan Day and its legacy.

With Tartan Day established in 1998 via Senate Resolution in 2004, the **National Capital Tartan Day Committee**, in conjunction with **The Scottish Coalition USA**, led and successfully lobbied the **US House of Representatives**.

On 9 March 2005, the United States House of Representatives unanimously adopted House Resolution 41, which designates 6 April of each year as "National Tartan Day." H.Res.41 Chief Sponsors were Congressmen Mike McIntyre from North Carolina and John Duncan from Tennessee, who are the founding co-chairs of the **Friends of Scotland Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives**.

Four years later, a joint effort by the **National Capital Tartan Day Committee** and the **American-Scottish Foundation** promoted a campaign for a Presidential Proclamation, which resulted in thousands of letters and petition signers to the President of the United States. On 4 April 2008, President George W. Bush signed a Presidential Proclamation making April 6 National Tartan Day. Here is the content of the Presidential Proclamation:

## **2008 PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION**

President George Bush today signed on April 4th 2008 a Presidential Proclamation making April 6th National Tartan Day! Proclamation signed by the President of the United States:

Americans of Scottish descent have made enduring contributions to our Nation with their hard work, faith, and values. On National Tartan Day, we celebrate the spirit and character of Scottish Americans and recognize their many contributions to our culture and our way of life.

Scotland and the United States have long shared ties of family and friendship, and many of our country's most cherished customs and ideals first grew to maturity on Scotland's soil. The Declaration of Arbroath, the Scottish Declaration of Independence signed in 1320, embodied the Scots' strong dedication to liberty, and the Scots brought that tradition of freedom with them to the New World. Sons and daughters of many Scottish clans were among the first immigrants to settle in America, and their determination and optimism helped build our Nation's character. Several of our Founding Fathers were of Scottish descent, as have been many Presidents and Justices of the United States Supreme Court. Many Scottish Americans, such as Andrew Carnegie, were great philanthropists, founding and supporting numerous scientific, educational, and civic institutions. From the evocative sounds of the bagpipes to the great sport of golf, the Scots have also left an indelible mark on American culture.

National Tartan Day is an opportunity to celebrate all Americans who claim Scottish ancestry, and we are especially grateful for the service in our Armed Forces of Scottish Americans who have answered the call to protect our Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 6, 2008, as National Tartan Day. I call upon all Americans to observe this day by celebrating the continued friendship between the people of Scotland and the United States and by recognizing the contributions of Scottish Americans to our Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

GEORGE W. BUSH



## More Celtic Influence!

Need more Celtic influence? Check out the following

### Live Celtic Music, Sundays from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

O’Niell’s Pub, 4310 Central Avenue, Albuquerque, NM  
O’Niell’s Pub, 3301 Juan Tabo NE, Albuquerque, NM  
For more information, visit: <http://oniells.com/>.

### The Thistle and Shamrock Radio Program, Mondays at 6PM

New Mexico Public Radio, KANW 89.1 FM,  
Visit: <http://kanw.com/> or listen on your FM radio.

### Celtic and Beyond Radio Show, Mondays at 6:00 PM

Solar Radio, KTAOS 101.9 FM, Visit:  
<http://ktao.com/SolarRadio> or listen on your FM radio.

### Ceili Dance Classes | Wednesdays, 7:15 PM, \$3.00 per person

German-American Club, 4821 Menaul NE, Albuquerque, NM

### Irish Music Session, Thursdays, 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Joliesse Chocolates, 6855 Fourth Street NW, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, NM Contact 505.379.3753 or visit <http://celticsteps.org/albuquerque/>.

### Irish Book Club, Last Thursday of the Month

O’Niell’s Pub, 4310 Central Avenue, Albuquerque, NM  
Contact Ellen at 505.307.1700

### Coleman Academy of Dance, Saturdays 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Lloyd Shaw Dance Center, 5506 Coal Avenue SE, Albuquerque, NM

### Celtic Steps Arizona/New Mexico (formerly Tir Conaill)

Saturdays, at the McDermott Athletic Center, 801 Loma Colorado, Rio Rancho, NM. Contact 505-415-4390 or visit <http://celticsteps.org/albuquerque/>.

## Local Scottish, Irish, and Celtic Musicians and Performers

Many of us wonder who among us in New Mexico are furthering our cultural background through music and other performances. Here is a list of locals we can support and who, in turn, help fuel our passion to connect with our roots.

Shenanigans, Celtic and American Folk with a twist using a variety of instruments and vocals  
Contact Kathy Wimmer for more information: 505.249.7012 or [kmillewimm@comcast.net](mailto:kmillewimm@comcast.net).

Saoirse (“seer shih,” Irish for “freedom”)  
Celtic music from Scotland, Ireland, Brittany, and Galicia, spiced with jazz and world beat.  
Contact: Harlow Pinson at [hpinson@indepthl.com](mailto:hpinson@indepthl.com) or 994-2135.

The Anslovers, Teenage performers  
Emily, John, and Jamie on violin, guitar, and upright bass  
Contact John and Lorraine Anslover for more information: [anslovernavy@comcast.net](mailto:anslovernavy@comcast.net).

Carol Benson, Strolling café fiddler, vocalist, Suzuki teacher, and symphony violist  
Contact Carol Benson for more information: 505.268.0906 or [carlbens@gmail.com](mailto:carlbens@gmail.com).

A Jug of Punch, Triple-Distilled Irish-American Fun featuring flutes, accordion, mandolin, violin, and guitar  
Contact Cleve Sharp for more information: 505.507.9915 or [clevelans@comcast.net](mailto:clevelans@comcast.net).

Rye Creek, Folk, Irish, Western, and good-old mountain music  
For more information, contact Terry Ryan Axline (505.293.894 or [neomexicana@hotmail.com](mailto:neomexicana@hotmail.com)), contact Tron Trellue (505.362.2551 or [trellue@swcp.com](mailto:trellue@swcp.com)), or visit [www.myspace.com/ryecreeknm](http://www.myspace.com/ryecreeknm).

Michele Buchanan and Shanachie Harpers  
Contact Michele Buchanan for more information: 505.765.1288 or [tmbuchs@gmail.com](mailto:tmbuchs@gmail.com).

Celtic Coyotes, Traditional music from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and Brittany  
Contact Doug Cowan for more information: 505.710.0583 or [celticcoyotes@yahoo.com](mailto:celticcoyotes@yahoo.com).

Friends Forever, Michael Coy, Donna Coy, and Chris Nelson play Celtic, Folk, Cowboy, and Original music  
Contact Michael Coy for more information: 505.296.2017, 505.250.4429, or [mmcoy3@msn.com](mailto:mmcoy3@msn.com).

Eagle’s Whistle, Michael Coy, Donna Coy, Chris Nelson, and Andy Moss play Celtic, Folk, Cowboy, and Original music with the addition of whistle and concertina. Contact Michael Coy for more information: 505.296.2017, 505.250.4429, or [mmcoy3@msn.com](mailto:mmcoy3@msn.com).

The Singing Coyote Sisters, Donna Coy and Michelle Palmer perform Celtic, Folk, and Gospel music as well as Sing-A-Longs  
Contact Michael Coy for more information: 505.296.2017, 505.250.4429, or [mmcoy3@msn.com](mailto:mmcoy3@msn.com)

Scottish Country Dance class meets on Friday nights 7:30-10:00 at the Friends Meeting House, 1600 5th Street NW. We are always looking for new dancers to join us. Contact Kenneth Armstrong at [karmstrong00@comcast.net](mailto:karmstrong00@comcast.net),

SASSNM Membership Application

Please (preferably) complete and mail this form, alternatively you may renew online at [sassnm.org/](http://sassnm.org/).

Application Type <b>(Please Circle)</b>	First-Time	Renewal	Re-Registration (lapsed registration)	
Type of Membership	Student 18+:	(Annual \$10.00)		
(Please Circle Amount)	Adult Individual:	(Annual \$20.00)	(3 Years \$45.00)	(5 Years \$75.00)
	Family (specify below):	(Annual \$25.00)	(3 Years \$60.00)	(5 Years \$100.00)
Donation:	Annual	\$ _____	One-Time:	\$ _____

Household Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Partner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Family memberships are only available to those members living in the same household. Please only specify included family members below if they are 18+. (If additional same-household members are needed, please fill out another form and include with this one.)

Family Member #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Member #2: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:** ST. ANDREW SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF NM  
**MAIL CHECKS WITH COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:**  
 SASSNM MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, PO BOX 37288, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87176-7288

**Are You Able to Volunteer For (please circle the following, as applicable)...?**

Hogmanay (New Years)	Yes	No	Contact Me	Facebook	Yes	No	Contact Me
Burns Night (January)	Yes	No	Contact Me	Managing the Website	Yes	No	Contact Me
Tartan Day (April)	Yes	No	Contact Me	Editor for the newsletter	Yes	No	Contact Me
Celtic Festival (May)	Yes	No	Contact Me	Writing for the newsletter	Yes	No	Contact Me
Celtic Picnic (September)	Yes	No	Contact Me	Serving on the Board	Yes	No	Contact Me
St. Andrew's Day (Nov)	Yes	No	Contact Me	Serving on a Committee	Yes	No	Contact Me
Membership Drive	Yes	No	Contact Me	Other: _____	Yes	No	Contact Me

Below item will be added to the  
“More Celtic Influence”  
page beginning next month

Duke City Ceili Band just agreed to perform at Quarter Celtic from 7 to 9 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month. They will begin on Wednesday April 4<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see many of you there for dinner and a pint. Come listen to tunes and sing a shanty with them!

Later this year, they'll be performing at Celtic Fest in the first slot 10 AM on Saturday morning, May 19, 2018 and playing for Norita's Ceili dancing at the Folk Fest at 11:30 on Saturday, June 2, 2018.

Hope to see you there!

St. Andrew Scottish Society of NM

PO Box 37288

Albuquerque, NM 87176-7188