



PBFSCO Exchange

Summer 2013

From the President - Karen Burton-Lind

I want to say thank you to Kathy Tollworthy. Kathy was a part of the original group who searched in Scotland for a sister city. She is leaving the board for personal reasons but Kathy and George are not leaving the area. She will continue to participate in PBFSCO when possible and use her talents. Thanks Kathy!



With summer in full swing, including a quick trip to Denver, our attention turns to the end of August for The Caledonian Club of San Francisco's Scottish Highland Gathering and Games. PBFSCO will have our hospitality tents in our usual spot. Seeing members and friends, enjoying a snack and wee dram (of water, too) make for a good time. I am also looking forward to music, dancing, heavy events, and a wee bit of shopping.

The board is requesting your help to facilitate the tent. The set up will be at 10:00 on Friday August 30. You can help with two hour shifts starting at 10:00-12:00, 12:00-2:00 (Sunday only), 2:00-4:00. Please email me with a time you can help. This year we are again offering a one day ticket for anyone who helps Saturday or Sunday. If you already have a ticket please do not request one. Thank you for your assistance.

Your dues help pay for this hospitality and if you have not paid this year please do so. You can pay your dues at the tent or we have a new option: pay by PayPal on the website.

For history buffs, take note of a new DVD documentary about John Witherspoon (see article on page 10). I ordered it and Steve and I enjoyed watching it. It is a good quality and very informative. I admit that I have always enjoyed stories about the signers of the Declaration and this story started in Scotland.

See you at the games! Karen Burton-Lind.

Looking Ahead:
mark your calendar

PBFSCO Pub Night

Main Street Brewery,
Pleasanton downtown
August 29, 2013

Caledonian Club of SF 148th Scottish Highland Gathering & Games

Alameda Co Fairgrounds,
Pleasanton
August 31 & Sept 1, 2013

2013 Burns Supper

January 25, 2014
Pleasanton Marriott

The purpose of PBFSCO is to promote understanding and friendship between the citizens of Pleasanton, Blairgowrie, and Fergus and their respective regions, and to encourage and facilitate the exchange of people and culture between the communities.

A WINDOW ON BLAIRGOWRIE & RATTRAY - Jessie McLean



The quieter winter months carried on this year through most of April and the start of May with very changeable weather including late snow showers. We were all getting a bit of the winter blues then came June – the sun started to shine and everyone was out and about and there was a hive of activity as all the summer events started to happen.

Blairgowrie was put on the map once more by a young local girl Paula McLagan who was announced at the prestigious Chelsea Flower show as Young Florist of the Year. Paula works for local florist Jillian Page of Something Special Flowers – Jillian herself being no stranger to winning titles and accolades in her profession.

THE WEEKEND



One of Paula's first public duties after her win was the official opening of an event called "The Weekend" – this was the brainchild of a number of local business people, organisations and individuals who wanted to showcase what the town has to offer. There was a packed programme over the four days with Street Theatre, Classic Cars & Bikes, Craft & Art Displays, Birds of Prey, Children's Sports, Highland Dancers, Pipe Band, Horse Show – to name just a few. No event in the town would be complete without an appearance of the Pleasanton Fire Engine and this was no exception. It was duly climbed on, photographed, horn tooted and generally admired throughout the day. I would imagine

it must be the most photographed Fire Engine in Scotland!!

Feedback from the "Weekend" has been so positive that it looks set to be a regular event in the calendar. It once more demonstrated the strength of community and the event was enjoyed by locals and visitors alike.

A WINDOW ON BLAIRGOWRIE & RATTRAY- Jessie McLean

THE stArt FESTIVAL

Just a week after the "Weekend" event and we were treated to yet another wonderful weekend of entertainment with the stArt (short for Strathmore Art) Festival. Hundreds of people enjoyed the sunshine and made the most of the opportunity to try out a number of art-based activities and workshops. There were more than 40 workshops on offer along with performances from Edinburgh's Drumergy, Scrap Happy Theatre Company and entertainment and hilarity from Big Rory and Ochie the dog.



The stArt Festival fish



Big Rory and his dog Ochie



Scottish Woodland Carvers



Drumergy Drum Corps

A WINDOW ON BLAIRGOWRIE & RATTRAY- Jessie McLean

THE stArt FESTIVAL



Arts & Crafts



Enjoying the sunshine at the Tea and Cake Stand

A WINDOW ON BLAIRGOWRIE & RATTRAY- Jessie McLean

Wellmeadow Planting by the Blairgowrie Campus 0-3 Group

Last Autumn I included photographs of the lovely floral displays around town but at that time did not realise how young the "budding" gardeners are getting.



Blairgowrie Campus 0-3 Group

The Blairgowrie Campus 0-3 Group was established by Jillian Ritchie, Early Years Development Teacher, in collaboration with Play Start. The group provides high quality opportunities for under threes and their families and offers crèche facilities. Well done to the little ones!

The sun is still shining – I have just looked out the window to check!!

Until next time

Yours Aye - Jessie

PLAID TIDINGS FROM FERGUS ONTARIO CANADA! - Deb Dalziel

The community of Fergus is excited to share with our friends at the PBFSo our newly created welcome signage including our Logo! I am thrilled to offer this photo for you all to see and thank Stephen and Karen for providing the logo for our use.



Welcome to Fergus!

The newly acquired sign captures the colour and updated style of our new Piper greeting everyone to our community. Fergus boasts 4 larger than life Pipers at all our entrance ways along with a list of our premier events such as the Fergus Scottish Festival, Fergus Truck show etc. All our signature events are listed as a pleasant reminder of great reasons to visit Fergus, Ontario.

PLAID TIDINGS FROM FERGUS ONTARIO CANADA! - Deb Dalziel

We have just nicely finished celebrating Canada Day on July 1st, an event that breathes all we stand for in our great nation. Awesome weather allowed the best of entertainment, soap box derbies, parades, fireworks, kids races, pancake breakfasts including good old Canadian Maple Syrup! Here is a photo of Katie Sinclair, Volunteer Music Chair of the Fergus Scottish Festival and myself on Canada Day. Every year we participate in our annual Dominion Day Parade. Notice the tartan these 2 are wearing? Its McClown!!!!!!



Katie Sinclair and Deb Dalziel on Canada Day

It is only weeks away until Canada's largest Truck Show and Shine competition and a celebration of great Canadian Country Music. The Fergus truck show boasts over 300 million in trucks and accessories and is one of North America's leading family entertainment and trucking events.

PLAID TIDINGS FROM FERGUS ONTARIO CANADA! - Deb Dalziel

Immediately following the trucks rolling down the highway, we are preparing for the Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games. After our disastrous 2012 event with a major drought and then torrential downpour the entire festival weekend, 2012/13 certainly has been a `character building year'. The Fergus Scottish Festival and highland games is back with a `vengeance' this year with sooo many ways to enjoy our "scottishness". The Festival is excited to have Local playwright Glenn McGuiness who has written a fun filled play called **àuch eye** featuring the history of the Fergus Games. This production is a fundraiser for the Festival and will be featured a few weekends before our Games to get the community in the mood!

Our parade and Thursday night "sneak Mac Peek" will continue now in our 4th year of celebrations. This features a community twilight parade, live Celtic music, free family ceilidh, historical walking tours, wandering pipe bands and dancers to set the stage for an action packed Festival weekend. Fergus is hosting the 4th annual Canadian Scottish Athletic Federation Championships, tug o war, highland Dance, our traditional Friday Night Tattoo and " the light'n " along with our Gathering of the Clans. Once again Fergus is honoured to have renowned Author Diana Gabaldon of the Outlander Series join us again for readings, signings and lectures during our three day event. Don't be shy, if you have thought of dropping up to Fergus, we would love to have you! Check us out at www.fergusscottishfestival.com.

By the time our event draws to a close all our friends in Pleasanton will be in high organizational gear to set your own world class stage for the Scottish Highland Games and Gathering presented by the Caledonia Club of San Francisco. I wish you all the best at this year's 148th presentation—god speed to the Board, Organizers, Athletes and many volunteers who make it happen!

Until next time, ...

Plaid Tidings!

Deb

Flying Scotsman May 5, 2013



SCOTTISH GAMES AND PBFSCO

pub Night

PBFSCO Pub Night, the annual kickoff to the Pleasanton games weekend, is an evening of music, dance, fun and merriment! Pub Night happens at Main Street Brewery on Thursday, August 29th starting at 6:00 pm. Celtic entertainment features Caliban, Piedmont Highlanders Pipe Band and more. Main Street Brewery, conveniently located at 830 Main Street in the historical heritage Cheese Factory building in downtown Pleasanton, is a full service restaurant/brewery offering five or more home brews plus a dozen rotating guest taps and local wines.

148th Scottish Highland Gathering & Games, Pleasanton

The Caledonian Club of San Francisco's Scottish Highland Gathering and Games will be held at the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton on Labor Day Weekend - Saturday, August 31st and Sunday, September 1st. The gates open at 8:00 am and games start at 10:00 am each day. One or two day tickets are available for purchase. Visit www.thescottishgames.com for more information.

SCOTTISH SIGNER OF THE U.S. DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Friday Film Productions of Scotland has produced a documentary of John Witherspoon who was the only Scottish Clergyman to sign the American Declaration of Independence. Historians have called Witherspoon "the man who shaped America". The Friday Films Productions documentary explores the Scottish influences that shaped this man from his early education in Edinburgh through to his involvement in the Jacobite rebellion.

You can view an extended trailer at: <https://vimeo.com/51646086>

A copy of the full film can be purchased through Friday Films Productions at: <http://www.fridayfilmproductions.co.uk/contact.html>



“In [John Trumbull](#)'s famous painting, Witherspoon is the second seated figure from the (viewer's) right among those shown in the background facing the large table.”

Source: Wikipedia

Upcoming 2013 Scottish Highland Games

✓ Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games Friday
August 9 - Sunday August 11
Fergus, Ontario, Canada
www.fergusscottishfestival.com

✓ Blairgowrie & Rattray Highland Games
Sunday September 8th
Blairgowrie, Perthshire, Scotland
www.blairgowriehighlandgames.co.uk

✓ 148th Scottish Highland Gathering & Games
Presented by The Caledonian Club of San Francisco
Saturday August 31 & Sunday September 1
Alameda County Fairgrounds,
Pleasanton, California
www.thescottishgames.com

✓ Dixon Scottish Cultural Association Highland Games
Saturday September 28th
Dixon May Fairgrounds
Dixon, California
www.facebook.com

On PBFSCO Membership

What do you want from your membership in PBFSCO? What can we, as a board, do to increase your interest in PBFSCO and attract more members?

What excites you about Scottish culture?

Are you interested in learning more about Blairgowrie, Scotland? Or learning more about Fergus, Canada?

Are you interested in learning more about Scotland or Canada in general?

Would you be interested in more events to meet other members and attract new members?

Help us help you! Please send your suggestions to Linda Morrison at pousette@sbcglobal.net or to PBFSCO, PO Box 10162, Pleasanton, CA 94588.



2013/14 Board of Directors

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Vice-President Gloria Grieve

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Correspondents

Jessie McLean - Blairgowrie

Deb Dalziel - Fergus

BLAIRGOWRIE

The Blairgowrie & Rattray website:

www.heartofscotland.com

facebook page:

www.facebook.com/blairgowrieandrattray

FERGUS

Fergus & Elora website:

<http://elorafergus.ca/>

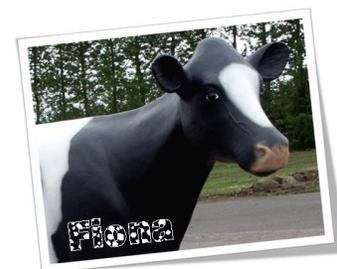
facebook page:

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[EloraFergusTourism](https://www.facebook.com/EloraFergusTourism)

Fiona Pleasanton

living & milking happily at
Alviso Adobe Milking Barn



Visit my **facebook** page

www.facebook.com/fionapleasanton

Renew your 2013/14 Membership Dues

PBFSCO Membership Renewal - www.pbfsc.org

Name(s) _____

Street _____
City/St/Zip _____
E-mail _____
Phone _____

Level of Membership:
Family (\$20) ___ Individual (\$15) ___

Submit payment via PayPal at <http://www.pbsco.org/join.php>

-or-

Send form with check payable to PBFSCO at:
PBFSCO Membership
PO Box 10162
Pleasanton, CA 94588



EmbroidMe in Livermore is our source for PBFSCO Logo items such as Polo Shirts and hats. You can purchase directly from EmbroidMe or bring in your own item(s) to have an embroidered PBFSCO logo added.

EmbroidMe

51 Wright Brothers Ave, Suite G, Livermore, CA 94551, Phone: 925-245-9070

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