



# The Porridge Pot



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## Ne'er cast a clout till May be oot.

(Don't put aside winter clothing until May be out. But Scottish weather isn't that cold. In this context, "May" is the Mayflower or Hawthorn, which blooms well before the end of May).

### **BELTANE PICNIC | MAY 17 @ DUCK CREEK PARK PAVILION 1 6:00 p.m.**

Although it's a bit early for a picnic, our group attempts to celebrate the day as close to the Beltane season as possible. Bring a dish or two to share, your own table service, and your own beverages (beer and wine are allowed). Ty Thomson will again be providing cake in memory of her beloved Chick. As has been the group's tradition for years, we will have a short ceremony before the meal to commemorate Beltane.

*A little history: Beltane is the second principal Celtic festival (the other being Samhain). It is celebrated halfway between Vernal (spring) equinox and the midsummer (Summer Solstice) and is a day to celebrate fertility, fire, and abundance. Historically, Beltane was widely observed throughout Ireland, Scotland, and the Isle of Man.*

### **THE KILTED T GOLF OUTING | JUNE 5 @ HIGHLAND SPRINGS GOLF COURSE**

To register call Darren Low at 563-579-9225 or kiltedt@gmail.com. \$260 per team - \$150 deposit required by May 20. Credit card payment can be made at Mint Green Boutique in the Village of East Davenport, next to Rudy's. 1:00 p.m. shotgun start. Proceeds will go to supporting Celtic traditions in the Quad-Cities i.e. dance, bagpipes, and other events.

### **CELTIC FESTIVAL/HIGHLAND GAMES | SEPTEMBER 16 & 17 @ CENTENNIAL PARK**

Volunteers are needed to sit for an hour or two in the SAS tent. No special knowledge is required. One reason for our involvement at the Festival is to make available, to those interested in their Scottish heritage, a source for them to pursue that interest. Another reason is to enjoy meeting those attending the Festival and share their enthusiasm for the day. The main reason we're a part of the event is to make people aware we exist and what our organization has to offer. If you can volunteer to be a "tent sitter," help set-up and/or take down the tent, please contact Bill or Judy Hawthorne at thornebj67@gmail.com or 563-391-9971. For more information about the Festival go on-line to the Celtic Festival/Highland Games of the QC website.

### **ANOTHER LOSS OF AN SAS MEMBER**

It is with sadness that our group announces the death of Elliott (Jack) McDonald on April 8th. He was a founding and longtime member of our organization whose expertise as an attorney was often very helpful when legal advice was needed. He will be missed.

### **NEW POSITION DEVELOPED FOR SAS BOARD**

In an attempt to draw from the creativity of our organizations's membership, the Board has decided to add another appointed position. As has been the case the past few years, we will continue to ask for members to volunteer to be responsible for one of our scheduled events during the year. The Program Chairperson would follow-up with those volunteering to organize those events and may pursue setting up an additional program or two that would delve into various topics related to our group such as Scottish history or Scottish current events. If anyone is interested in serving in this capacity, please contact any member of the Board.

### **SAS WEBSITE**

Remember to check out [www.scottishamericansocietyoftheqc.com](http://www.scottishamericansocietyoftheqc.com) or (to prevent typing cramp) [www.sasqc.com](http://www.sasqc.com) to stay updated on the latest for our group. Our website is a work in progress. If you have suggestions for additions to the website or something you would like to see included on our calendar, contact Jim Dougherty, Vice President & Co-Membership Chair.

### **YOUR DNA - ARE YOU SCOTTISH?**

There is an interesting article in a recent edition of the Scotland Magazine which explains the basics of genetic genealogy. Many of you are already aware that "Celtic" is a culture, not an ethnicity. The Scots are made up of many combinations of Celts, Picts, Britons, Gaels, Norse, Irish, Anglo-Dane and others. According to the author of the article, Dr. Bruce Durie, if enough of the right people have tested and the right level of tests have been taken, it is possible to identify the geographical prevalence of one line among people alive today. More than in many countries, the different ethnic groups which made up the Scottish population have stayed highly represented where they first arrived-especially in relatively isolated places with settled populations such as the Orkneys. As an ongoing science, DNA ultimately can tell us not only who we are but where we came from.

### **TARTAN DAY**

The patrons of 11th St. Precinct in the Village of East Davenport on April 6th must have wondered what was going on as bagpipes were being played near the entrance and several people came through the door wearing kilts or tartan sashes! Derek and Sue Grant served as host and hostess and had festively decorated our room as well as providing cake for the occasion. Nearly 50 members and guests enjoyed an informal evening of food, spirits, and conversation. Derek gave the group a short history lesson on the signers of the Declaration of Arbroath. And, the evening would not have been complete without bagpipe music. Some of the attendees talked about finding a way to make Tartan Day just as well recognized as St. Patrick's Day!

**Visit our website - [www.scottishamericansocietyoftheqc.com](http://www.scottishamericansocietyoftheqc.com) - tell your friends too!**



**SCOTTISH AMERICAN SOCIETY**

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FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- May 17 - Beltane Potluck Picnic
- June 5 - Kilted T
- September 16 & 17th - Celtic Festival/Highland Games
- October - Samhain Potluck
- November 30 - St. Andrew's Day
- December (Date to TBA) - Christmas Party
- January 28, 2017 - Annual Burns Celebration & Dinner

