



President's New Year's Message

Those of you who are members of the Clan Society in Scotland should have received an email in December from the Clan Chairman, Jonn Duncan. Part of Jonn's message was:

Celebrate...the rich history, traditions, and values that bind us together. Let us come together in unity, honoring our shared heritage and the legacy of our ancestors.



I thought about that appeal and would like to send each of you a personal challenge.

That challenge is for you to attend one of the 2024 games or festivals where the Texas Clan Donnachaidh Society will have a tent (see page 6). During that event, watch the athletic, dance, or piping competition and learn about the history of the competition.

A second challenge is for each of you to reach out to a close or extended family member and encourage them to join CDSTI—and the Clan in Scotland if they so wish. Many of our Board Officers and Directors have given of themselves for decades, and the physical and other demands of their service are no longer sustainable. We desperately need active involvement from younger members. Also, consider becoming a board member or other volunteer yourself.

Finally, I wish each of you a safe, healthy, and happy New Year.

David Robertson, CDSTI President

Houston Highland Games and Festival

The 2023 Houston Highland Games and Festival were again held at the Humble Civic Center and Arena on October 14. The games were much better attended than last year, probably due to more advertising by the organizing committee. There were more food vendors and two entertainment stages.

Our clan tent was set up and staffed by the Jones family. We had quite a bit of traffic at the tent and were even able to sell a few items.

There were dancing and athletic competitions as well as a shortbread contest, where Donna Jones won second place. There was no piping competition, but two pipe bands added to the festivities. Several members of the Houston organizing committee said that there is very little chance that they will extend the games to two days, so look for the one-day festival to be around the same time this year in Humble again.

David Robertson

Central Texas Scottish Gathering and Highland Games, Salado

The 62nd annual games in Salado were held November 10–12, 2023 with a healthy number of Clan Donnachaidh Society of Texas Board of Directors and other members congregating at our tent. The games featured nine athletic events, dancing competition, piping and drumming competition, and of course, clan and vendor tents. The Board held our Annual General Meeting at this event as always. The rest of this newsletter is a pictorial journey through the weekend from the editor's desk.

Paula Robertson

Central Texas Scottish Gathering and Highland Games, Salado



*Lilliah Jones, Highland Dancer and award winner
(photo: Lavinia Straka)
The rest of us got donuts.
(photo: Paula Robertson)*



Representing Clan Donnachaidh in the parade:
James Robertson, Bill Jones, Frank Woodall, Sean Dougherty, Richard Roberson, Jack Robertson
(photos: Lavinia Straka)



Shortbread Contest
Second-place winner Donna Jones, second from right
(photo: Lavinia Straka)



Opening Parade of Bands and Clans
Let the games begin! (photo: Lavinia Straka)



Bonniest Knees Contest
That's Bill Jones in the center
(photo: Lavinia Straka)

The Real Games—Caber Toss



Up and balanced...



Down...



And over...

*(The caber kept flipping end over end to successfully complete the toss, but the photographer missed it.
photos: Paula Robertson)*

2023 Clan Donnachaidh Society of Texas AGM



Clan Piper Bill Jones
opened the AGM
(photo: Lavinia Straka)



Dave Robertson, Charlie Wymore, Donna Jones,
James and Rhonda Robertson, Richard
Roberson, Valerie Wymore

President Dave Robertson called the meeting to order.
Secretary Valerie Wymore took meeting notes.
(photo: Paula Robertson)



Susan Robertson, Valerie Wymore, Betty Robertson, Jack Robertson, Raylene
Woodall, Janis Roberson, Frank Woodall (photo: Paula Robertson)



Treasurer Janis Roberson gave the Treasurer's Report for 2023.
Raylene and Frank Woodall, their grandson Sean Dougherty,
Valerie Wymore, Janis Roberson
(photo: Paula Robertson)

Tommy Duncan,
Donna Jones,
Dave Robertson,
James Robertson,
Lavinia Straka,
(photo: Paula
Robertson)



CDSTI Board of Directors



Officers: Dave Robertson, President; Valerie Wymore, Secretary, Janis Roberson, Treasurer; Frank Woodall, Vice President (photo: Lavinia Straka)



Dog Parade and Costume Contest



Directors: Jack Robertson, Charlie Wymore, Thomas Duncan, Paula Robertson, Richard Roberson, Bill Jones (photo: Lavinia Straka)



Honorable Mention, Best Trick (photos: Paula Robertson)

Welcome CDSTI New Members!

We are pleased and honored to welcome the following new members to our society branch as of December 2023:

*David and Cindy Nelson, Dr. Don Robertson,
Eric Robertson, Larry and Lavinia Straka*

Please contact the newsletter editor with additions or corrections.

CDSTI 2024 Board of Directors

Officers

Dave Robertson, *President*
Frank Woodall, *Vice President*
Valerie Wymore, *Secretary*
Janis Roberson, *Treasurer*

Directors

Bill Jones, *Clan Piper* Thomas Duncan
Richard Roberson, *Genealogy* Kathy Johnson
Paula Robertson, *Newsletter* Jack Robertson
Charlie Wymore, *Membership* Micah Robertson


2024 Festivals/Games in Texas

For venue information and directions, go to the respective website.

March 23–24	Sherman Celtic Festival and Highland Games	Pecan Grove West Park, Sherman	shermancelticfest.com
April 6–7	San Antonio Highland Games	Helotes Fair Grounds, Helotes	sahga.org
April 20–21	Grapevine Lake Celtic Festival	3000 Meadowmere Lane, Grapevine	grapevineceltic.com
April 27–28	Stonehenge Celtic Festival and Highland Games	120 Point Theatre Drive, Ingram	hcac.com/celtic-festival/
Mid-October	Houston Highland Games and Festival	Humble Civic Center and Arena, Houston	houstonhighlandgames.com
November 9–10	Central Texas Scottish Gathering and Highland Games	Salado	saladomuseum.org

www.cdsti.org

Find us on  : CDSTI

Newsletter design, layout, and editing
courtesy of 

cdstitejasjournal@gmail.com

CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY OF TEXAS
2024 New or Renewing Membership

- To pay online, go to www.cdsti.org and select Membership.
- To pay by mail, please complete the following and send with your check for the selected membership level.

Name _____

Family: Spouse _____

Children _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

- Check the desired Membership By Mail payment option(s).

Membership	Duration	By Mail	On Website
Family in Scotland and Texas	One Year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55.00	\$58.00
Individual in Scotland, Family in Texas	One Year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45.00	\$48.00
Individual in Scotland and Texas	One Year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00	\$43.00
Family in Texas Only	One Year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00	\$21.00
Individual in Texas Only	One Year	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00	\$16.00
Individual in Scotland Only	Five Years	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00	
Individual in Scotland Only	Lifetime	<input type="checkbox"/> \$750.00	

Note Memberships in Scotland receive the *Clan Donnachaidh Annual* from Scotland. Texas Only memberships can be combined with Scotland only memberships.

☐ I would like to receive information about serving in a leadership position or other volunteer capacity of the Texas Clan Society. Please contact me!

- Send completed form with check made out to CDSTI to:

CDSTI Treasurer
Janis Roberson
330 Springbrook Ct
Grapevine, TX 76051