

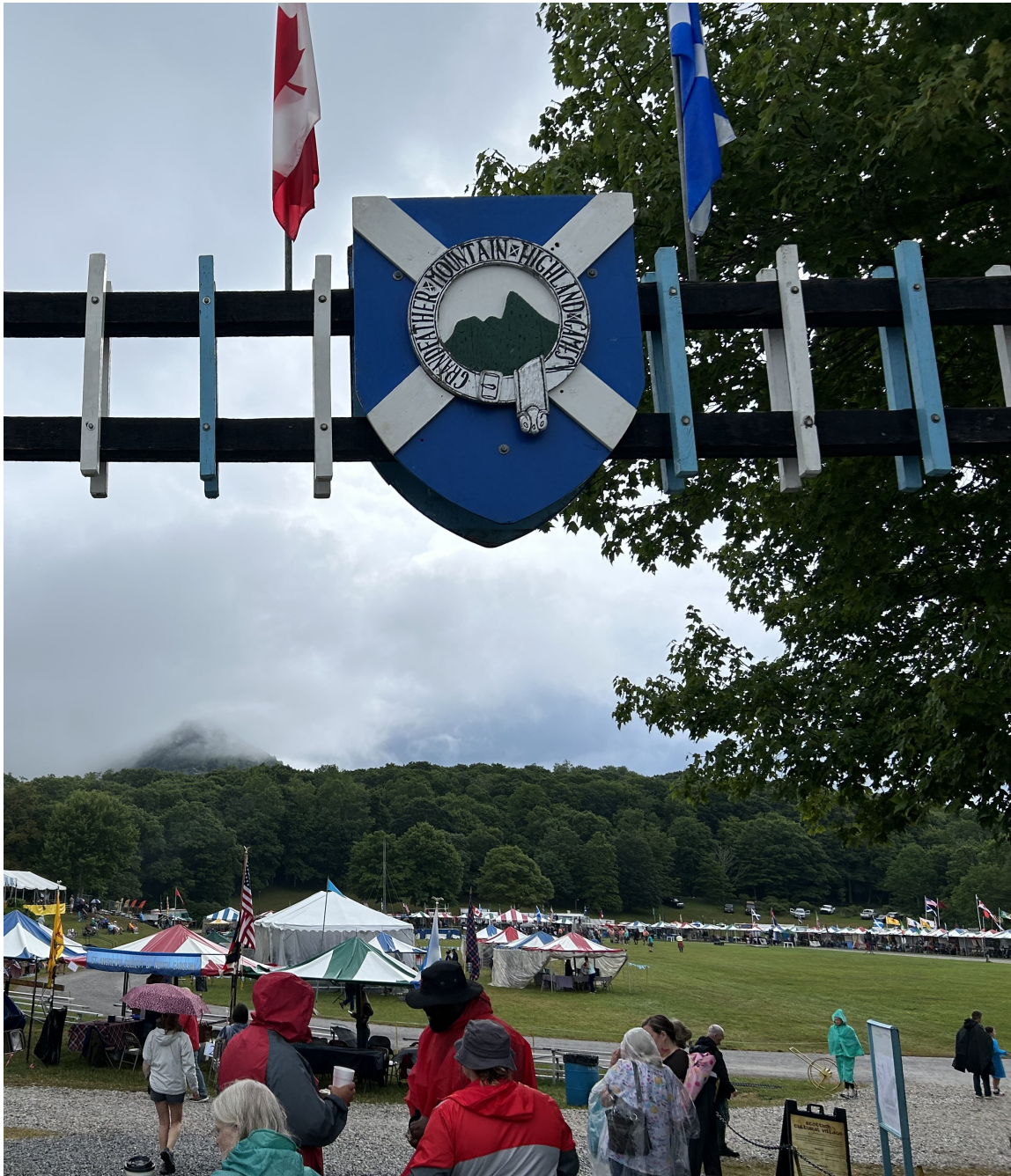


The Scottish Society of Louisville

AUGUST 2025

VOLUME XXVIII

ISSUE 8



Grandfather Mt. Highland Games, North Carolina

Photograph courtesy of Steve Goodin

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
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THE SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF LOUISVILLE

Established in 1993 as a nonprofit organization to enrich the cultural lives of members in the Kentuckiana area.

The Society offers exposure to Scottish heritage and preserves, enhances and fosters pride in our Scottish ancestry.

The Society sponsors local and regional activities and is a nonsectarian organization with no religious or political affiliation.



Members Steve & Robbin Goodin
at 2023 Grandfather Mt Highland
Games



SSL President's Message

The dog days of summer are here. As much as I love my summer break, the heat is no longer as fun as it used to be! Have you ever wondered where the term “dog days of summer” came from? Have no fear – I am here to enlighten you! The phrase is in reference to Sirius, the ‘Dog Star’. During July and the beginning of August, the Sun occupies the same region of the sky as Sirius, which is the brightest star visible from any part of Earth. Sirius belongs to the constellation *Canis Major* (the Greater Dog). Because Sirius is so bright, the ancient Romans believed that it actually added to the Sun’s warmth during the summer. They referred to this time as *dies caniculares* – “dog days”. Now you know, and I hope you are managing to stay cool! One way to do that is to come to this month’s meeting and hear Kerry Overfelt’s talk on the History of the Highland Games. Hope to see you there!

Cheri

hello,
august



Member Reminders

1. Check out our Facebook page for any information about upcoming events.
2. Name of the SSL Facebook page is “The Scottish Society of Louisville”
3. Our website can be found at scotsoflou.com. Dues may be paid on the website, or mailed to Scottish Society of Louisville, PO Box 34758, Louisville, KY 40323.

Individual - \$25

Family - \$40

4. To submit an announcement, article, etc. to the newsletter, please email to our newsletter editor, Linda Wilson, at tomatoladyone@yahoo.com. All articles, pictures, etc. should be sent to the editor by the 1st of the month. The newsletter is published about the 5th of the month.

Membership Meeting by Linda Wilson

Vice President Marla Jo Cameron had us start eating at about 6:20pm, and opened the meeting at 6:50pm while we ate.

She asked if there were any visitors, and we welcomed Armand Hays.

Steve reminded us about upcoming events and set out sign-up sheets. (see **pg. 10 Upcoming Events** for more information).

Robbin reminded us about our upcoming FUNdraiser at Panera Bread in Clarksville, IN. She also handed out the flyers needed to get the 30% for the SSL. This flyer was also in the last newsletter.

This was a lot of fun, and we had at least 12 in attendance at Panera when I went at 6:00pm. Others may have gone between 4:00 and 8:00pm. Those we saw had a really good time, it is so nice to be able to socialize! And we get to raise a little money for the SSL.

Marla Jo spoke about the auction on the second Tuesday in November, and reminded us that we need to bring donations that are in good condition. Please don't just clean out the garage or spare room. We want these to be items worth buying.

Mindy told us that she has been contacted by people who live in other states about the SSL. She is working on getting a podcast going for us.

There were no other reports.

Mindy ran the Stone of Destiny movie for us. It was educational and a lot of fun to watch. Also known as the Stone of Scone and used during the coronation of Scottish kings, it was taken by the English in 1296. It was kept under the Coronation Chair in Westminster Abbey and used during the coronation of English kings.

The movie relates how the stone was taken from the Abbey to Scotland. It was officially returned *on loan* from the British government in 1916. It is now kept in the Crown Room in Edinburgh Castle with the Scottish Crown Jewels.

I checked online, and the movie can be seen on several streaming services, including Prime Video and rented for \$3.99 on Apple TV.



Stone of Destiny

Janice, Jamie, Robbin, and Cindy at the SSL tent at the CCUM Market Fair (courtesy Steve & Robbin Goodin)



Updated 2025 SSL Programs

August

[Speaker-Kerry Overfelt](#)

Topic: History of the Highland Games

Bio: Kerry Overfelt, also known by friends as KO is the owner of Darkside Athletics in Bardstown, Kentucky.

Kerry is aged 54 and has been competing in the games since 1998.

He turned pro in the games in 2003 and competed until 2019.

He is the current AD (Athletic Director) for Southern Ky Highland Games, Middle Tennessee Games and Central Ky Games (Home of the Masters National Championship, and Indianapolis Highland Games).

September

Speaker-Cindy McNary-Atchison

Topic: Flora McDonald

Bio: Cindy is a retired teacher/librarian. She loves to travel, especially Scotland and enjoys reading, gardening, and watching Outlander .

October

Podcast: Stories Fireside Folklore: Nuckelavee, Scotland's Scariest Demon

We journey to the cold waters of the North Sea for Jenny to tell the famed story of the Nuckelavee as captured by farmer and folklorist Walter Trail Dennison. The nuckelavee is a skin-less horse who haunts Orkney's coasts, terrifying travelers. He also brings blight and plague to crops, livestock and even humans with his terrible toxic breath. Meanwhile, Annie will do anything to avoid the nuckelavee, including summoning the ancient Sea Mither to ensure the nuckelavee is trapped for summer.

November

Heritage Dinner & Auction Fundraiser

December—No member meeting

2025 Upcoming Celtic & Other Events by Regional Celtic Commissioner Steve Shetter Jr.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| July 10th-13th | Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, Linville, NC. Detailed information available online for tickets, camping, parking, events, etc. at gmhg.org . |
| July 19th-20th | Kentucky Renfaire in Eminence, KY; 955 Elm Street, HWY 22, Eminence, KY. Children 5 and under free. Other information available online at kyrenfaire.com . |
| September 13th-14th | Columbus, IN Highland Games, Bartholomew County Fairgrounds, 750 W 200 S, Columbus, IN 47201. Children 4 and under free. Other information available online at scottishfestival.org . |
| September 20th-21st | Central Kentucky Highland Games. 955 Elm Street, HWY 22, Eminence, KY, children under 5 free. Other information at kyrenfaire.com . |
| October 11th-12th | Ohio Renaissance Fair and Highland Games; 10542 OH 73, Waynesville, OH 45068. Support animals allowed, no pets. Date-specific tickets, must be ordered online at renfestival.com . |
| October 17-19th | Stone Mountain Highland Games and Scottish Festival, at Stone Mountain State Park, Georgia. For detailed information check online at smhg.org . |

As noted above, more detailed information about service dogs, ticket prices, parking fees, early registration, gate fees, camping fees, area hotels, special events, maps and so on is available at the included web sites and email addresses.



Athletics at the 2025 Southern KY Highland Games

Southern KY Highland Games – May 31, 2025

Steve and I attended the Southern KY Highland Games in May to set up for the Clan Hay. We had decided to make it a short vacation so we stayed at the Grand Victorian Inn in Park City. Happily, the Inn was directly across the street from the games, so we were able to walk everywhere. The Victorian Inn was a B&B and used to be the Historic Train Station Inn, from the 1880's, so it was right across from the train tracks. We were pleasantly surprised to find that Karen Brumley, piper for the days event was also staying there.

The games were a one-day event and since it was a first time for these organizers they decided to make it a free event. Next year there will be a charge. With Kerry Overfelt and Melanie Booker heading up the athletics we knew we were in for a great day. And we were, of course, pleased. They were GREAT!! Even sporting a 12 on the very first throw of the caber!

The clans set up in the woods along the edge of the athletic field, so beautiful scenery. The only downside were the cicadas that were everywhere. It didn't seem to dissuade the crowds though. It was a well-attended games, and people were genuinely curious about the 6 clans that attended. The children's area was in constant motion and wonderful music from Jacobites By Name and Doon The Brae could be heard all day. Both bands also stayed at the Inn, so at the end of Friday and Saturday we all ate together at Betty's Diner and then spent hours on the porch jamming, singing and visiting. There was even an upright bass there, which thrilled me, too. Then we got up to a huge breakfast and more fun gathering with new and old friends.

The Southern KY Highland Games put on a very nice first-time event. We wish them much success in planning their event for next year. They are hoping to make it a 2-day event at some point, but have set next year's date for May 30, 2026. We are very glad they kept it on the same weekend as the Glasgow Highland Games which had been running for 33 years.

So, great accommodations, wonderful food, great games, fabulous music, and new friends. Who could ask for more? Hope to see you there next year.

To find out more visit: southernkyhighland-games.org

Peace,

Robbin Goodin

Jamming on the porch
Courtesy of Robbin and Steve
Goodin



Grandfather Mountain Highland Games – July 2025

Another fabulous games on top of the mountain in North Carolina. Steve and I were joined by Lady MacRae from Scotland, Denise Rathsbottom from England, and Janice and Paul Beatty. What a wonderful time we had together. Our overseas friends had never been to these games and both competed in the piping competitions. It was an exciting time for all. We stayed in a wonderful Airbnb and plan on going again next year.

It did truly rain EVERY single day of our trip, from leaving our house to returning, 10 days. A bit much for the games. It doesn't usually rain that much. But it made for some beautiful skies.

Hope you have a chance to make it to the mountain if you have never been. It is an awesome experience.

Robbin Goodin



Photos courtesy of Robbin
& Steve Goodin

Robbin has some other
pictures that I could not
get in this edition. I will try
next month.

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, Inc.

From Steve:

Our 69th Grandfather Mountain Highland Games are a wrap, and what a Games it was! The weather was daunting to say the least, and the strong daily thunderstorms coming on the heels of Helene presented a big challenge to our Games crew. They performed in magnificent fashion, being able to restore the field to a great condition every day. Please join me in thanking them.

Despite a record 109 clans attending, our overall attendance was down slightly from the record year of 2024. I attribute the dip at least partially to the daily storms. It is unusual to have rain all four days, and except for Sunday, it rained hard all four days. We saw some strong performances from our shuttle partners, our parking attendants, golf cart drivers, and security personnel, all of whom contributed mightily to our handling the impacts of Mother Nature so well.

2025 was a very strong year for our events, from the Scottish Cultural Village to Highland Dance to Highland Athletics. We saw continued growth in our Children's events, and our seminars were well attended. We were able to squeeze in our traditional Torchlight Ceremony between storms, and the sky was magnificent during the event.

Hurricane Helene forced us into a different shuttle bus route this year, and it worked quite well. We really appreciate the cooperation of all involved. Grandfather is a big undertaking, and it can be difficult to institute changes, least of all to the shuttle system. Thanks are due to Elder Transportation, Trinity Transport, and Crossnore Volunteer Fire Department for helping to develop and execute an alternate plan.

And thank you to the clan tent Conveners. They soldier on, year after year, on behalf of their families and the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. We at GMHG cherish our relationship with the clans; they are our lifeblood. Thank you for coming and celebrating your Scottish Heritage with us.

And now, it is back to work on what will be our 70th Anniversary Games July 9-12, 2026. I hope to see each and every one of you next year.

Yours Aye,

Steve

Photographs courtesy of James Shaffer, text and photos posted on Facebook



2025 Event Reminders

Save the dates!!! SSL FUNdraisers are coming back!!!

Come join us for our 5th Tuesday SSL FUNdraisers. We will gather at a local restaurant, visit and eat together.

A portion of the proceeds will come back to the SSL so we can plan some more fun events in 2025.

We will meet on **September 30th, December 30th**.

Restaurant details to follow. Be sure to check the calendar in the upcoming newsletters.

Hope to see you there!



SSL FUNdraiser Update from Robbin Goodin

At our last event, there were 13 members and guests at Panera Bread on Veteran's Parkway, Clarksville, IN. Free money for the SSL, and a fun time to boot. That's awesome. Thanks to all of you who helped us raise money. Let's do it again! All we have to do is show up and eat!

*In fact, put **Tuesday, September 30th** on your calendar for our next fun dinner out. We have not chosen a restaurant yet, so keep an eye out for the announcement in the newsletter soon.*






August 2025



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 SSL Board Meeting  | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 SSL Member Meeting  | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| | 1  | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7  | 8 | 9 SSL Board Meeting  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 Fall Equinox  | 23 SSL Member Meeting  | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 SSL FUNdraiser To Be Announced | | | | |