



NEWS FROM THE HOUSE of SCOTLAND

“Sgeoil nan Taigh”: Scots-Gaelic for
“News From The House”

Balboa Park, San Diego, California 92101

October 2010

Highlights from the September Meeting:

September Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Don Stewart and Dan Beaty, Dianne's son-in-law, celebrate their birthdays on September 11, Virginia Anderson's birthday is September 12 and Nancy Ross has a birthday on September 22. We also add John Keith, whose birthday is September 16, to our September birthday list.

Prayers and Remembrances: A moment's silence was observed for those members of our military serving in harm's way.

Treasurer's Report: Cherie is working on bids for House of Scotland tee shirts that will be available for sale to the public during events such as the Highland Games and our Lawn Program. Rob and Janette McLintock modeled the prototypes of the new House of Scotland polo shirts and Cherie had several North County Scots polo shirts that served as examples of the size range available from the new supplier. The new polo shirts also come in a range of different colors. Cherie says that our Facebook page continues to attract followers and she will be posting the information about our Lawn Program in the near future.

Pipe Band Report: There was no Pipe Band report.

HPR Report: There was no HPR report. The regular HPR meeting is today, having been moved back because of the Labor Day weekend.

Old Business: Graham moderated.

Hosting: Hosting Holly reports that she and Connie Malear are hosting today. Andy and Melissa Keith are hosting on September 19 and the Maxtons host on September 26. The Pipe Band has hosting duty for the month of October, with the exception of October 24, which is our Lawn Program. The members voted to close House of Scotland on December 12, the day after

our Christmas party. A letter will be sent to HPR detailing this closing.

Upcoming events: **The next House meeting will be this Sunday, October 3, due to the Seaside Highland Games being the following weekend.**

Our Lawn Program is October 24. We will be serving the usual meat pie dinners and bangers. We need people to donate salads and desserts. If you want to donate, please let Cherie know what you plan to bring. The signup sheet will also be available at the October meeting.

December Nights is the first Friday and Saturday in December and our Christmas Party is December 11.

Ceilidh Band: David reports that the Ceilidh Band is rehearsing today. The band played at St Dunstan's church Labor Day weekend. Bonnie, the fiddler, and her husband are members of that church. David says the band did a very good job. The band might be playing another event there in October. Kathleen McBain, who was the accordion player for Geese in the Bog, has set up a concert venue in her living room in Carlsbad. The band might play a gig there, and if they do, they are expected to bring their own audience. The band will, of course, be playing for our Lawn Program.

Housekeeping: Cherie made the request that people check before reporting to the Trustees that we are out of any supplies. There was a report that we needed paper towels and other items, when in reality, the corner cupboard in the bathroom had a large quantity of paper products.

Other Old Business: There was no other old business.

New Business: Graham moderated

Nominating Committee: The nomination committee for 2011 officers consists of Dani McGruer, David McSwain, and Cherie McGruer,

whose services were kindly volunteered by Rob McLintock. Rob tried to volunteer Janette, but she refused. Cherie, who had left for the HPR meeting, wasn't able to do so.

Other New Business: There was no other new business. Dianne did share the information that the 75th anniversary of the invention of Scotch tape had recently been observed. The product acquired the name "Scotch tape" because the manufacturer originally put adhesive only on the edges of the product.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm

Respectfully submitted

Dianne Schultz, Secretary



Upcoming Events

- Oct. 3** HOS Meeting, 11:30 am
- Oct. 8-10** Seaside Highland Games
- Oct. 24** HOS Lawn Program
- Nov. 14** HOS Meeting, 11:30 am
- Dec. 3 & 4** December Nights
- Dec. 11** HOS Christmas Party



Hosting

- October Pipe Band
- Nov. 7 McLintocks
- Nov. 14 McCollis
- Nov. 21 Mike Stewart & ??
- Nov. 28 OPEN
- Dec. 5 OPEN
- Dec. 12 Closed
- Dec. 19 OPEN
- Dec. 26 OPEN

Please call Holly at (619) 287-7812 if you can host. Let's fill the calendar through the end of the year!

Hearth of the Kitchen

Almond Lavender Cake



Ingredients:

- 2 cups sugar, divided
- ½ cup slivered almonds
- 1 Tbsp plus 1 tsp dried lavender flowers, divided
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 4 eggs
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 cup (8 oz) sour cream
- ½ cup half-and-half cream
- 2 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- ½ tsp baking soda
- ½ tsp salt
- 4 tsp boiling water
- ¾ cup confectioners' sugar
- Additional dried lavender flowers, optional

Method:

Grease a 10-in. fluted tube pan and sprinkle with sugar; set aside. Place ½ cup sugar, the almonds and 1 Tbs. lavender in a food processor; cover and process until finely ground.

In a large mixing bowl, cream butter and remaining sugar until light and fluffy; beat in almond mixture until combined. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in vanilla.

In a small bowl, combine sour cream and half-and-half. Combine the flour, baking soda and salt; add to the creamed mixture alternately with sour cream mixture, beating well after each addition.

Pour into prepared pan. Bake at 350° for 55-60 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool for 10 minutes before removing from pan to a wire rack to cool completely.

For drizzle, in a small bowl, combine water and remaining lavender. Cover and steep for 5 minutes. Strain, discarding lavender. In another small bowl, combine confectioners' sugar and enough infused water to achieve desired consistency; drizzle over cake. Garnish with additional lavender if desired.

Yield: 12 servings

Recipe from Aug. & Sep. 2008/6, *Taste of Home Magazine*
NOTE: Dried lavender flowers are available from Penzeys Spices. Call 1-800-741-7787 or visit www.penzeys.com.

Plaza plan for Balboa Park unveiled

Proposal to clear cars out of historic square might mean parking fees for a future garage

BY [ROGER SHOWLEY](#)

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED AUGUST 31, 2010 AT 6:50 A.M.,
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San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders and Qualcomm co-founder Irwin Jacobs unveiled a \$33 million plan Monday to remove cars from Balboa Park's main square, but the price for creating a pedestrian-only zone might be to charge for parking in the park for the first time.

The plan, which would require City Council approval, calls for removing the 67 parking spaces in the Plaza de Panama and building a two-level parking garage with up to 900 spaces south of the Spreckels Organ Pavilion.

Jacobs, who has donated tens of millions of dollars to local causes, said he has formed an 11-member committee to raise the necessary funds. But he said if they come up short, the city might have to issue a bond and charge for parking in the garage to cover bond payments. Neither Jacobs nor any of his committee publicly pledged what they will contribute to the effort. But the group has several generous donors who have backed other park improvements.

"There are many people who would prefer not (to pay for parking)," Jacobs said. But considering the time wasted in looking for spaces on busy days, "I would much prefer to pay a parking fee if it comes down to that."

Sanders and Jacobs want to complete the transformation in time for the 2015 centennial of the [Panama-California Exposition](#) that made the park into the city's crown jewel and cultural hub it is today.

The focus Monday was not on parking fees but on the vision of returning the plaza to what it was like as a pedestrian-only zone for the 1915 exposition and the 1935-36 California Pacific International Exposition that left behind the Old Globe Theatre, Starlight Bowl and the Air & Space Museum.

Parking has been allowed in the plaza since 1917 — aside from during the two World Wars, when the park was taken over by soldiers and sailors —

and many master plans have called in vain for it to be eliminated.

"The plaza was designed as a grand, ceremonial space, a gathering place for visitors and a hub of cultural activities in the heart of Balboa Park," Sanders said. "As you can see, previous generations traded in that vision and all they got in return was a few dozen parking spots and a steady drone of automobiles searching for an empty spot."

The city last tried to impose a \$5 parking fee in Balboa Park and at the beaches to fill a budget hole in 1993. But public outcries prompted the City Council to reverse itself and raise parking fines instead.

This time, charging for parking in a garage might be acceptable, said park activist Betty Peabody, who sits on Jacobs' committee representing the Friends of Balboa Park.

"There's a time and place for everything," she said.

Leo Wilson, chairman of the Uptown Planners group that will review the Jacobs plan, said parking fees in a garage might be acceptable if free spaces continue to be available elsewhere.

"I'm not necessarily putting a big, red flag up," Wilson said.

Richard Rider, chairman of San Diego Tax Fighters, said he also could accept a parking charge but cautioned that the city will have to find alternate funding sources if parking revenues come up short.

The parking issue is just one of many that Jacobs and his committee will have to address as public presentations begin next month before the Balboa Park Committee. Some key areas include:

- **Traffic:** The plan envisions only eastbound traffic across the Cabrillo Bridge. Visitors would have to exit via Presidents Way and Park Boulevard and return on surface streets or freeways to their westside origins.
- **Fountain:** Under the proposal, the fountain donated by the late Mary Elizabeth North in the 1990s would be moved from the center of the plaza to the Plaza de California outside the San Diego Museum of Man. Mark Johnson of Civitas, who has been hired to develop the Jacobs plan, said the fountain, while called for in the park

master plan, is not typical of Spanish-style plazas and was not a feature in the park at the time of the expositions.

- Public art: Jacobs said the plaza might be a suitable place for the sculptures in the San Diego Museum of Art's sculpture garden. If that takes place, museum board President Tom Gildred, a member of Jacobs' committee, said the museum could then proceed to build a new wing — something park supporters have supported as long as it is modeled after the 1915 Science of Man Building that was demolished in the 1960s to make way for the museum's present west wing.

- Future plaza: If the Plaza de Panama becomes pedestrian only, some park activists want to move on to another goal in the park master plan and replace parking at the Pan American Plaza with reconstruction of the fountains and landscaping that existed at the 1935-36 exposition. The new garage would be large enough to compensate for lost parking in this area outside the Starlight Bowl and Air & Space Museum.

Vicki Granowitz, former chairwoman of the Balboa Park Committee, said the review process is as important as the design details.

"We need a very robust public process," she said.

Article from Sign On San Diego

Gaelic Giggles

There was a Scottish painter named Smokey Macgregor who was very interested in making a penny where he could, so he often thinned down his paint to make it go a wee bit further

As it happened, he got away with this for some time, but eventually the Baptist Church decided to do a big restoration job on the outside of one of their biggest buildings.

Smokey put in a bid, and, because his price was so low, he got the job.

So he set about erecting the scaffolding and setting up the planks, and buying the paint and, yes, I am sorry to say, thinning it down with water...

Well, Smokey was up on the scaffolding, painting away, the job nearly completed, when suddenly there was a horrendous clap of thunder, the sky opened, and the rain poured down washing the thinned paint from all over the church and knocking Smokey clear off the scaffold to land on the lawn among the gravestones, surrounded by telltale puddles of the thinned and useless paint.

Smokey was no fool. He knew this was a judgment from the Almighty, so he got down on his knees and cried:

"Oh, God, Oh God, forgive me; what should I do?"

And from the thunder, a mighty voice spoke..

(you're going to love this)

"Repaint! Repaint! And thin no more!"

Sent in by Cathy Hale

House Officers

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