



PO Box 765, Rapid City SD 57709  
Black Hills Celtic Events.org  
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*October 2010*

**Serving the Celtic Communities of: Wales, Isle of Man, Cornwall  
(England), Galicia (Spain), Brittany (France), Scotland and Ireland**

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MARK THOSE CALENDARS

## Upcoming Events

- Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> Culture Fair  
Western Dakota Tech. 11  
am-1pm.
- ***No regular meeting.***
- Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Election Day.
- Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Jim  
Byrne's office. 7pm.
- Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. Costume Party.  
Celts Hall at the Fair  
Grounds.



President Jim Byrn

Dear Fellow Observers of the Solemn  
Season of Samhain,

This year, the Scottish and Irish Society has big plans for the observance of the ancient Celtic harvest festival Samhain (pronounced sau'-in), known in modern times as Halloween. The Dakota Celts have accepted our invitation to hold a combined Halloween Costume Party at Celts Hall on Saturday, November 6. The preceding Saturday, October 30, Celts Hall will be occupied as part of the Pennington County Haunted House in the adjoining Soule Building. For more details, see the separate article included in this

newsletter. I hope to see many creative costumes come party time. If you have any "white elephants" in like-new condition for the silent auction, please contact Siaryn Duggan at the Celtic Connection to arrange your donation (Ph. 716-9014).

After Samhain, our next seasonal celebration is Hogmanay (New Year's Eve). At this time, our plan is to rent several adjoining rooms at the Dahl Fine Arts Center for this event. Watch this space and come to the next Meeting of the Members, Tuesday, November 16, 7:00PM, at Raben Realty for future developments.

P.S. Next Board of Directors Meeting is THURSDAY, Nov.4, 7:00PM at my office.

Please note the change from our usual Tuesday due to ELECTION DAY.

Best regards,

Jim Byrne, President  
Scottish and Irish Society of the  
Black Hills

# Irish Blessing

May good luck be your friend  
In whatever you do  
And may trouble be always  
A stranger to you.

# Celtic Trivia

The Galloglaich (pronounced galloglass) were mercenaries from the Hebrides islands of Scotland. A contingent of 160 warriors

arrived in Ireland in 1259 after Aed O'Connor married a princess from the Hebrides. They fought alongside the Irish for the next 350 years against the British.

Records show they were well respected and well paid. Each soldier received 12 cattle per year as well as grain, butter, etc. Officers were awarded land along with the other provisions.

They become obsolete with the introduction of muskets and cannon since their specialty was hand-to-hand combat. Anyone have an ancestor that may have fit this description?

## Officers

President Jim Byrne  
[info@BlackHillsCelticEvents.org](mailto:info@BlackHillsCelticEvents.org)

Vice President Pat Hamilton

Secretaries Heather Williams & Sally Knight

Treasurer Carole Conrad

Board Members John Duggan, Susan Peterson, Jim Byrne, Bill Knight, Paul Smith & Winnie Balster

Past President John Burke

Web Site Gary Hamilton

Newsletter John Burke  
[jburke67@rap.midco.net](mailto:jburke67@rap.midco.net)

If you would like to contribute an article or story, list an event, submit a photo, etc. to the newsletter, please email the item to me by the

5th of each month.

# Member News

## Aliyah Sander

Aliyah has been our (Irish Lass) member since 2003, but has recently discovered lots of Scot lineage as well. Her Irish roots are Neely & O'Neal, Scots include Duncan (which can be traced to the House of Alpin & the Dalriata.)

She was born in Indianapolis, IN, lived in Chicago & Champagne IL., then to Rapid City in 2002. She has also traveled to London, Pakistan & India.

She has always been a very busy lady, raising five daughters, going to school on a part-time basis and working as well. She attended college at Indiana State University, St. Mary of Woods, SD School of Mines where she was president of Engineers & Scientists for Peace International, and finally Oglala Lakota College. She has an associate degree in Interdisciplinary Science, A Bachelor Degree in Social Science & is contemplating a master's degree within another two years!

Her many interests include jewelry making, leather working, beadwork, and artifact replicating, and writing. Her passion is in music and she plays the piano, Indian flute, bodhrain, congas, guitar, mandolin, and violin. She also sings, writes songs & poetry.

Susan McMillan Kains Susan was born in Reading, PA., of Glengarry Scots & Mohawk ancestry. She grew up in Dayton, OH, was active in glee club, & took piano lessons. She received a BA at Bowling Green State University and then moved to Canada where she worked for the Frontiers Foundation, accepting commissions in British Columbia among the Pahlpan tribe and in Ontario. Returning to Ohio, she acquired a MS degree in Natural Resource Management at Ohio State U. with a thesis on preservation of biodiversity in the USA. As a wife & mother of two sons, Susan was also a graduate student & assistant professor at the State University NY and then at Columbia U., she received her PH.D. in 1988. Susan taught at the Mem.U.of Newfoundland for 6 years, during which she ran an international expedition to Turkmenistan and Russia focusing on practical ecology in education. She was selected as one of the top 20 environmental educators in Canada. Susan returned to the US to complete 4 years of seminary and courses in Ethics & Celtic Studies from Harvard Divinity School. She graduated in 2005 and taught Celtic Studies in 2006. Susan is a descendant of the Scottish clans McMillan, Cameron, Gray, Douglas and Stewart. One of her ancestors is Archibald McMillan, chief of the McMillan clan in 1802 who brought 3 shiploads of Highland Scots to Glengarry, Ontario, for whose land grant applications he paid in full. In 2002, the descendants of these Glengarry Highlanders returned to Murlannan in Lochaber where they placed a plaque on the banks of Locharkaig commemorating their emigration to Canada 200 years before. Susan is currently serving as chaplain at Rapid City Regional Hospital and still has her love of music, Celtic history and concerns with ecological and environmental issues. We welcome her to our group.

*Samhain, All Hallows Eve,  
Halloween*

Whatever you call it, it came from the Celts. It was the end of harvest & the beginning of the New Year and the time when the thin veil could be lifted and the creatures from the underworld might walk the earth! It was traditionally a week long celebration. We Celts, from Dakota Celts & the Scottish & Irish Society are joining for a celebration.

WHEN: **Saturday, November 6th**

WHERE: **Celts Hall (fairgrounds west side near little red barn)**

TIME: **6:30 - 7:00 social time (SEE NOTE BELOW)**

COST: **Food (pot-luck, finger food, etc)**

Social "hour"

Pot Luck food for all night

Ceilidh (bring your vocal cords, musical instruments, favorite jokes or stories)

Music

Games

Dancing

come as you

Silent Auction (proceeds to be split between the two organizations)  
contributions

All of your white elephant items are welcome.

This promises to be a fun time for our two groups, and the opportunity to get to know each other.

(We need volunteers for set-up and clean up, and could use some Halloween decorations...we're really being Scot with this event)

**PLEASE NOTE : No outside alcoholic beverages are allowed at Celts Hall.**

**A cash bar may be provided by the county fairground administration.**



# Sponsors

**RON BALSTER** *BROKER ASSOCIATE*

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From the Island in the Plains to the islands across the Pond!

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