



Tundra Thistle

The Newsletter of the Alaskan Scottish Club

Volume 29 Number 2

February 2023

Scot of the Year:

Mark Truog



Mark Truog was named Scot of the year for 2022 and was presented the trophy at Burns Night by club President Joan Massart-Paden. Mark has been working on the Games committee for almost a decade, gradually increasing his support roles over the years. Mark is instrumental in setup and take down for the Games, bringing all the equipment and supplies from the club storage area in Anchorage out to the field, assisting in field layout, and picking up and returning and stowing everything afterwards. During the Games, he is the organizer and the voice of the tug-o-war, creating an exciting, crowd-pleasing event. As a CPA, he has also provided the club with financial and accounting advice, when needed.

His good-natured, motivating, can-do attitude makes him a joy to work with all year, and lifts the morale of all the volunteers and athletes who work with him.



Scot of the Year 2021, Christa Wallace (left), and Scot of the Year 2020, Amberle Wright (center), were also honored, as they had missed their live presentations when we celebrated Burns Night virtually in 2021 and 2022. Club President, Joan Massart-Paden (right) is making the presentation.

Coming Events:

March in the Fur Rondy Parade

Saturday February 25: Throw on your kilt, some tartan, ASHG shirt, or Scottish costume and join the Alaskan Scottish Club for Fur Rondy! We will be 'racing' as a team in the Frostbite Footrace & Costume Fun Run and then marching in the Parade as a group.

Fur Rondy Grand Parade: The parade starts at 10:30 am. Wear your Scottish garb and come walk with us. If you have questions, please reach out to Jeni McDaniel jeni@alaskanscottish.org or call 907-602-0901.

Frostbite Footrace & Costume Fun Run: We will be walking the 2.5k Costume Fun Run. Race is at 9:30 am. Our costume theme will be "Nessie Hunters," and we'll even have Nessie with us! After the run, Nessie and the hunters will join the parade contingent for a second circuit of the route.



2022 Fur Rondy Parade participants

ASHG Planning Committee Open House

Are you interested in becoming involved with planning the Alaska Scottish Highland Games? Would you like to learn more about opportunities to volunteer at the games? The ASHG committee has created a Planning Committee Open House to welcome new volunteers and give you an understanding of what we need help. This is a great chance to ask questions and get answers. If you have friends or family who are interested in getting involved, invite them too. The Meeting will be available in both in person and via Zoom

Thursday February 9th at 6:15 pm

In-Person: The Eureka Space 405 W 36th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99503

Zoom: Meeting ID: 890 5627 7805

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89056277805>

Annual General Meeting

This year's Annual General Meeting will convene on March 5 at 2 pm. During this meeting, club members receive an update of the health of the club from the Board of Directors and Executive Director. The meeting will be held in person, this year, at the Moose Lodge #1534 in Anchorage (Arctic and Tudor). All ASC Club members are invited to attend. If you are not current on your dues, you can pay at the meeting.

Along with reviewing the previous year of the club, an election for Board of Directors will held. The Alaskan Scottish Club Board of Directors is comprised of 9 members who are elected to serve 2-year terms. At the 2022 meeting, there will be 5 Board seats that are up for election. The board meets monthly and oversees club activities. New ideas are discussed to continue to grow our organization. If you are interested in finding out more about Board Member duties and are interested in running for a seat, please contact any one of the current Board members or our Executive Director. They would be happy to answer any questions. Contact info can be found on the last page of the Thistle.



Games Planning Committee Meetings

The 42nd Annual Alaska Scottish Highland Games will be on June 24 and 25 this year and the planning is underway.

All of our meetings will be on Thursday evenings starting at 6:15 pm. We meet in person at The Eureka Space 405 W 36th Ave in Anchorage and via Zoom: Meeting ID: 237 286 7941 <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2372867941>

From now until May, we will be meeting weekly. Starting in May, we will be meeting biweekly until the games.

From lead positions to minor roles, there is plenty of work to be done and we can always find something for you to do. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jeni McDaniel and we can find a place for you: jeni@alaskanscottish.org or 907-602-0901.

2023 Games meeting dates:

February 2, 16, 23 (February 9 is the Open House)

March 2, 9, 16, 23

April 4, 13, 20, 27

May 11, 25

June 8 and 22

Volunteers needed for ASHG Promotion Event Dates:

February 25 : Fur Rondy Parade

June 9-11: Colony Days Marketplace (Booth)

June 10: Colony Days Parade

June: JBER Cultural Fair (Booth) DATE TBD

June: Friday Fling (Booth) DATE TBD

June 15: Volunteer 101 Training

June 23: Pre Game LW Weigh-In and Promo Concert (Ticket Sales)

2023 ASHG Participant Registrations

Vendor Registration:

<https://alaskanscottish.regfox.com/2023ashgvendor>

OPENS February 1st

Athletics Registration:

<https://alaskanscottish.regfox.com/2023ashgheavy>

OPENS February 1st

Piping and Drumming Registration:

<https://www.akpads.com/> OPENS February 1st

Tug-O-War Registration:

<https://alaskanscottish.regfox.com/2023ashgtow>

OPENS February 15th

Gathering O' The Clans:

<https://alaskanscottish.regfox.com/2023ashgclans>

OPENS February 15th

Kilted Mile Registration: COMING SOON

Alaskan Throwing Groups

While there may still be snow on the ground, there is a lot of excitement for the throwing season which is just around the corner. Looking to meet other athletes and find local practices? Join the Alaskan Highland Throwers Facebook page and connect with fellow athletes across the state. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AlaskanHighlandThrowers>

The Women's throwing groups at the Highland Games in Alaska continues to grow. Sometimes, it's intimidating as a woman to get into the sport, luckily there is a group of women throwers who have come together to train, help each other and get ready for the Games. Any women who might be interested in learning how to throw, join the Facebook page also at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AKLADYHAMMERHEADS>

Reminder:

Memberships expire each year on December 31. Please pay your dues if you last paid before September 2022!

Thank you for your support!

Recipe of the Month:

Chef Gary Mclean, the National Chef of Scotland, demonstrated the preparation of ten recipes from his cookbook: *Gary Mclean's Scottish Kitchen*. He has given permission for his recipes to be shared here.



Scallop and Black Pudding WITH POTATO & GREEN APPLE

As a chef and educator, I love the fact that I don't just teach the practical elements of cookery but also highlight and share knowledge of wonderful ingredients and sustainability.

This is a relatively simple dish, but it relies on great ingredients and precise cooking to make it stand out. Two of Scotland's most iconic ingredients marry beautifully to make this classic dish. I always use hand-dived scallops; the reason being that it is the most sustainable method of harvesting this incredible ingredient. Black pudding is a real speciality of Scotland; Stornoway black pudding is particularly good. Black pudding has been made in crofts on the Hebridean Isles for hundreds of years. It is so unique that in 2013 it was awarded Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) status.

You can get scallops in the shell from most good fishmongers. They will be more than happy to shuck them for you. If you fancy giving it a go yourself, it is very easy. You will need a table knife and a spoon for the job. You will notice that the scallop has a rounded and a flat shell. Insert your knife into the hinge of the shell and twist to pop open. Run your knife along the inside of the flat shell to separate it from the meat. Once you have the shell completely open, take your spoon and scoop everything out. You now need to remove the white meat and the roe from the skirt; I do this by separating them with my fingers. Discard all excess material so you are left with white juicy meat and roe. Give them a quick clean under cold water, and your scallops are ready to cook and enjoy! Makes 4 Servings

Ingredients

4 king scallops in the shell, shucked

400g (14oz) potatoes, diced (good frying potatoes work best)

400g (14oz) black pudding, diced

3 cloves garlic, crushed

25g (1oz) butter

Small bunch flat-leaf parsley, shredded

½ lemon

1 green apple, cut into matchsticks

good oil

Instructions:

1. Preheat your oven to 200°C (400°F).
2. Next, place the diced potato into your frying pan. Fry until golden and crisp. You want to make sure that the potatoes have started to go soft, then add the black pudding.
3. Cook until the pudding starts to crisp up, then add the crushed garlic and cook for a couple of minutes.
4. Pop all of this onto a tray and place in the oven until the potatoes are cooked.
5. Meanwhile, give your pan a clean, pop it back on the stove and, once hot, add a little oil.
6. Next, place each scallop into the pan. Try not to shake or shoogie the pan – you want to create lots of colour on the scallop before turning it.
7. Once you have coloured both sides of the scallop, reduce the heat and add your butter and a squeeze of lemon juice.
8. Baste the scallop in the butter and lemon. Once cooked, remove from the pan.
9. Now take the potatoes and the black pudding out of the oven, mix in the shredded parsley and double-check the seasoning.
10. Fill each of the cleaned shells with the potato and black pudding mixture. Top each one with a scallop and finish with your apple matchsticks.

Activities with other Anchorage Groups:

AN AFTERNOON IN IRELAND

2:00 pm on Sunday March 12th
The Nave at 3502 Spenard Road

The **Irish Club of Alaska** returns to its roots with a Live production of An Afternoon in Ireland. This annual celebration of Irish culture is in its 35th year, and features the finest of the local Irish music scene.

The 2023 show will explore the theme of anti-war sentiment in song, story and poetry, and will take place on March 12th at The Nave in Spenard at 2:00 pm. A suggested donation of \$15 per person or \$30 per family will be accepted at the door.

The show will be streamed for those out of town fans to enjoy. For More information, log onto www.irishalaska.org .

Celtic Spring Festival

The Celtic Community of Alaska (CCA) Spring Festival is returning this year as a live event. Scheduled for April 29, we are looking for instructors and vendors for the day. Instructors keep the majority of the fees paid by the students, to compensate you for your time, effort and materials.

Previous year classes have included music, dance, martial arts, make and take art projects and informational talks.

If you are interested in teaching a class related to Celtic culture please contact the CCA at csteen@gci.net.

Wreaths Across America



Jon Doan (Marine Corps Veteran) placing wreaths at the Ft. Richardson National Cemetery on December 17th

Thank you to everyone who placed wreaths at the Fort Richardson National Cemetery with Wreaths Across America in December. We had a very snowy December, here in SouthCentral Alaska, and at Fort Richardson's National Cemetery, the headstones were buried under more than four foot of snow. The valiant volunteers braved deep snow to honor the fallen. Wreaths Across America coordinates various local organizations to place wreaths at American Veteran graves at more than 3,700 locations globally during the Holiday season.

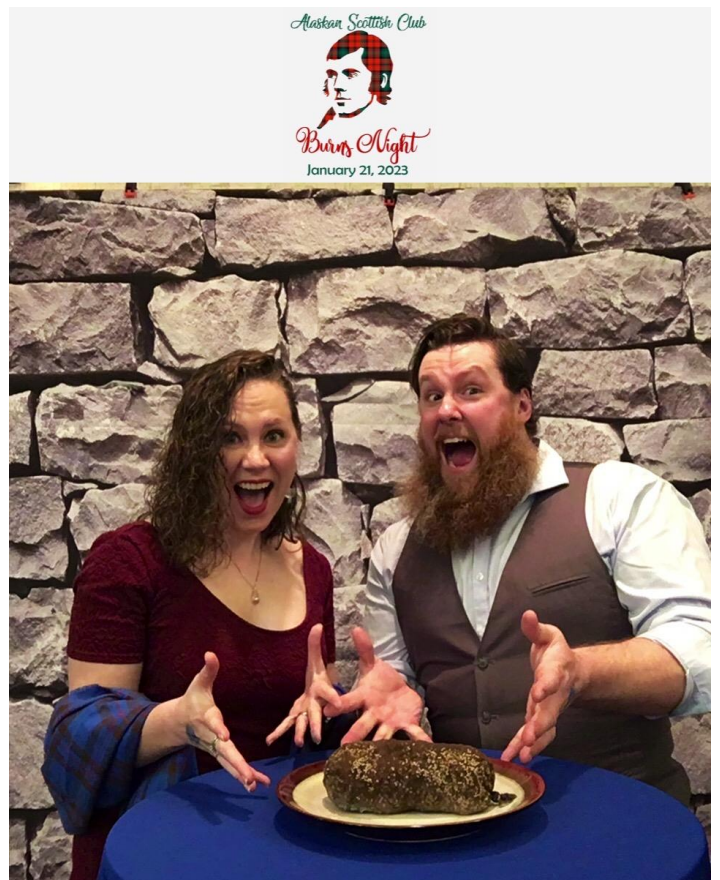
Take a moment to honor our living and deceased veterans within the Club and amongst family members; thank them for their service. Thank you, Cathy Steen and Ron Norris for your service (Board of Directors members).



Burns Night Scrapbook



Anchorage Scottish Pipe Band presented a program of Burns tunes and a salute to the military.



The Elliots pose with the haggis at the photo booth

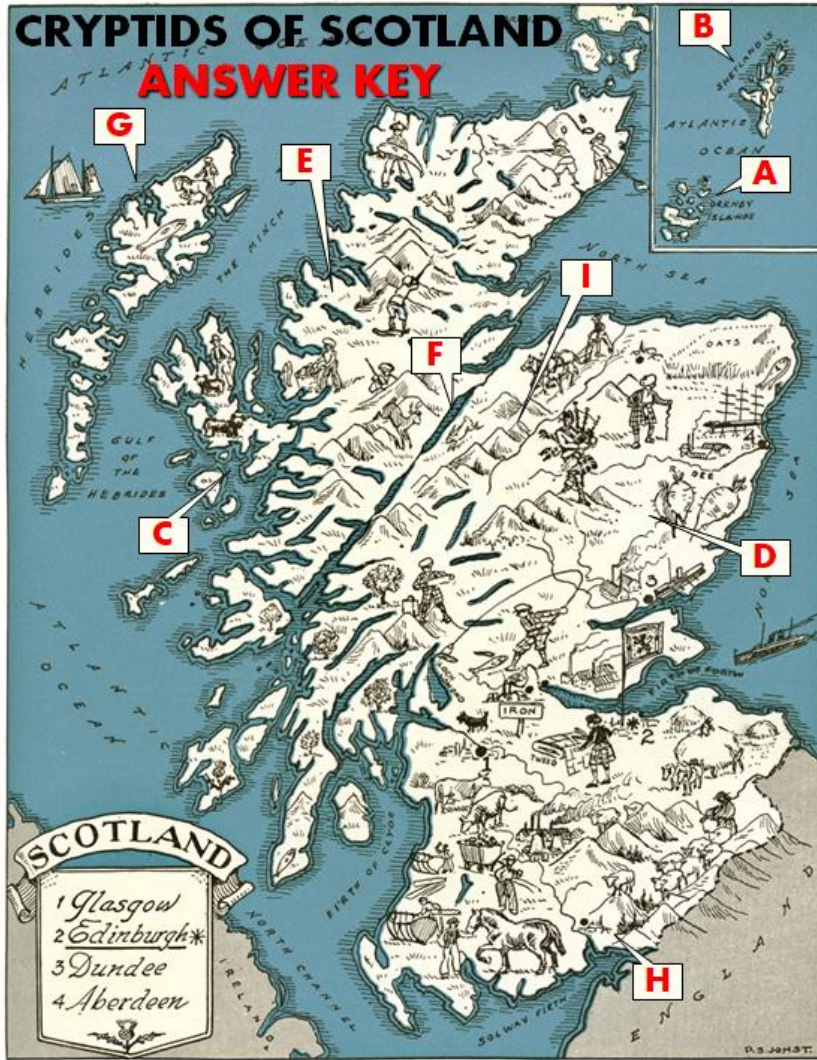


Cryptids of Scotland

Last month contained a puzzle to identify some famous (and lesser known) Scottish Cryptids. How many did you get?

What, you may ask, is a “cryptid”? Cryptids are **animals that cryptozoologists believe may exist somewhere in the wild, but are not believed to exist by mainstream science**. Cryptozoology is a pseudoscience, which primarily looks at anecdotal stories, and other claims rejected by the scientific community. Examples are found all over Scotland, including Scotland’s national animal: the unicorn!

CRYPTID	
Nuckelavee	A
Wulver	B
Each Uisge	C
Wild Haggis	D
Ghillie Dhu	E
Nessie	F
Bean Nighe	G
Red Cap	H
Baobhan Sith	I



Each picture is matched to its name & the locality it is said to frequent



Cryptozoological Consulting, LLC

For more research on these and more cryptological curiosities from Caledonia, check out these sites:

1. spookyscotland.net/scottish-myths-and-legends/
2. mysteriousbritain.co.uk/folklore/creatures-of-scottish-folklore/
3. livebreathescotland.com/scottish-mythical-beasts-monsters/

Special thanks to Carl Plossl, who created this cryptid puzzle for the Tundra Thistle

Contact Information for Alaska Pipe Bands:

<p>Crow Creek Pipes & Drums Practice every Monday, 6:00 p.m. First Congregational Church, 2610 E Northern lights Blvd. http://crowcreekpd.com/</p>	<p>Anchorage Scottish Pipe Band Practices Monday, 6:00 to 8:00pm (Anchorage) and Thursday, 6:30 to 8:30pm (Eagle River) Lessons: Thursday, 6:00pm (Eagle River), or by appointment Contact: Tim Kincaid, 907-360-2585; Email: tim@terntech.com Find us on Facebook</p>
<p>Alaska Celtic Pipes & Drums Lessons on Tuesdays - 6:30 pm - Mat-Su College; Lessons on Fridays - 5:30 pm - Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Chugiak: Band Practice to follow. Contact Richard Christiansen - 907-315-9838 www.alaskacelticpipesdrums.org</p>	<p>Fairbanks Red Hackle Pipe Band P.O. 82782 Fairbanks, Alaska www.fairbanksredhacklepipeband.org</p>
<p>Alaska Piping and Drumming Society Contact Teddy Krogh at krogh_teddy@hotmail.com</p>	<p>City of Juneau Pipe Band Juneau, Alaska www.cityofjuneaupipeband.org</p>

Scottish Club Supporters

<p align="center">  Joan Massart-Paden, CAS <i>907-229-0022 Email: adstrategies@icloud.com</i> </p>	<p align="center"> AK Natural Stone Craft <i>Quality Custom Granite & Marble Design</i> Rafal Markiewicz 1341 E. 70th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99518 Phone: 907.344.2158 Cell: 907.351.8881 aknaturalstonecraft@yahoo.com </p>
<p align="center"> MAPPING SOLUTIONS  Custom maps and graphics – (907) 561-4627 Mapmakers.com </p>	<p align="center"> Brown Bear Shrink Wrap & Self Storage <i>We Shrink Wrap Anything</i> 1341 E. 70th Avenue Anchorage, Alaska Phone 344-2158 Fax 344-2148 Cell 351-8881 aknaturalstonecraft@yahoo.com </p>
<p align="center"> AMANDA KERR SUZUKI VIOLIN & FIDDLE STUDIO Weekly Private Lessons and Group Classes for Age 3 and up Variety of fiddle styles!  Register NOW online for Spring Semester Jan. 14th - May 21st Complete information available on the website: www.amandakerrmusic.com <small>Amanda Kerr holds State, Regional, and National titles for Fiddling and is teacher-certified in the Suzuki Method (Every Child Can, Suzuki Principles in Action, Violin Units 1 & 2), and Music Mind Games.</small> </p>	<p align="center">  MOLLY V. MANAUGH A TARTAN WEAVER CELEBRATING 25 YEARS IN BUSINESS HAND WEAVING TARTANS IN FAIRBANKS, ALASKA WWW.TARTANWEAVER.COM 907-479-5772 </p>
<p align="center">  Steven Blades Associate Broker ABE, MRP, CNE, GRI, AHWD, FairHaven, Ally @stevenblades kiltedAK@gmail.com www.stevenblades.com +1 209 6020686 1174 N Leather Loop, Suite A Wasilla, AK 99654 </p>	<p align="center"> OSHA 10-and 30-hour training Awareness training – Asbestos, Lead, Silica and Respiratory Protection Written Tool box talks, Mitigation Plans, Small Business Management Plans  A. Wright Perspective Occupational Safety Training and Consulting Amberie Wright 907-231-0870 amberle1112@yahoo.com </p>

Club Calendar

<p style="text-align: center;">Scottish Club Board Meeting February 20, 6:00 pm Petroleum Club of Anchorage</p>	<p>The Tundra Thistle, the newsletter of the Alaskan Scottish Club, is published approximately 11 times each year. Subscription is by membership to the Alaskan Scottish Club. Send articles for publication, membership info, and advertising rate inquiries to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Editor, Tundra Thistle, Alaskan Scottish Club, Inc. P.O. Box 244416 Anchorage, AK 99524-4416</p> <p>Thanks to our contributors for the February Thistle: Cathy Steen, Jeni McDaniel, Christa Wallace, Carl Plossl, Chef Gary Maclean. Photos by John@49mmcreative.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Alaskan Scottish Club Board of Directors</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Joan Massart-Paden</td> <td style="width: 33%;">President</td> <td style="width: 33%;">907-229-0022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ron Norris</td> <td>VP</td> <td>ronldnorris@gmail.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amberle Wright</td> <td>Secretary</td> <td>amberle1112@yahoo.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cathy Steen</td> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>csteen@gci.net</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MaryAnne Aadnesen-Norris</td> <td></td> <td>ma.aadnesen@gmail.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nelson Kevin Alger</td> <td></td> <td>nkalger@mtu.edu</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sherri Borchert</td> <td></td> <td>ak_snowangel04@yahoo.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Preston McKee</td> <td></td> <td>starkepm@gmail.com</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Christa Wallace</td> <td></td> <td>ashgvolunteers@gmail.com</td> </tr> </table> <p>Executive Director: Jeni McDaniel, jeni@alaskanscottish.org Cell: 907-602-0901</p> <p>Board Emeriti: Robert J. Dickson, Rod Finkle, Tim Kincaid</p> <p>The Alaskan Scottish Club is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) entity and can accept cash and services. Cash donations are welcome at any time of the year. For those with corporate matching programs, we are eligible for those funds. You can contact the Board of Directors at the above address with questions. Facebook and Instagram contacts are: Facebook: www.facebook.com/AlaskanScottish (Club page) www.facebook.com/alaskashg (Highland Games page) Instagram: www.instagram.com/alaskanscottish</p> <p>NOTE: Thistle information gratefully received at all times. However, to make the monthly deadline, please submit by the 25th. Send to Cathy at csteen@gci.net.</p>	Joan Massart-Paden	President	907-229-0022	Ron Norris	VP	ronldnorris@gmail.com	Amberle Wright	Secretary	amberle1112@yahoo.com	Cathy Steen	Treasurer	csteen@gci.net	MaryAnne Aadnesen-Norris		ma.aadnesen@gmail.com	Nelson Kevin Alger		nkalger@mtu.edu	Sherri Borchert		ak_snowangel04@yahoo.com	Preston McKee		starkepm@gmail.com	Christa Wallace		ashgvolunteers@gmail.com
Joan Massart-Paden		President	907-229-0022																									
Ron Norris		VP	ronldnorris@gmail.com																									
Amberle Wright		Secretary	amberle1112@yahoo.com																									
Cathy Steen		Treasurer	csteen@gci.net																									
MaryAnne Aadnesen-Norris			ma.aadnesen@gmail.com																									
Nelson Kevin Alger			nkalger@mtu.edu																									
Sherri Borchert			ak_snowangel04@yahoo.com																									
Preston McKee			starkepm@gmail.com																									
Christa Wallace		ashgvolunteers@gmail.com																										
<p style="text-align: center;">Fur Rondy Parade February 25, 10:30 am 5th Avenue</p>																												
<p style="text-align: center;">Annual General Meeting March 5, 2023 Moose Lodge (see page 1)</p>																												
<p style="text-align: center;">Afternoon in Ireland Sunday, March 12, 2023 The Nave at 3502 Spenard Road</p>																												
<p style="text-align: center;">Celtic Spring Festival April 29, 2023 CCA location TBA</p>																												
<p style="text-align: center;">Kirkin' o' the Tartan Date and location to be Announced</p>																												
<p style="text-align: center;">Alaska Scottish Highland Games June 24 & 25, 2023 Alaska State Fair Grounds, Palmer</p>																												
<p style="text-align: center;">Tartan Tourney Saturday, July 29, 2023 Settler's Bay Golf Course</p>																												

Alaskan Scottish Club
 PO Box 244416
 Anchorage, AK 99524

