

# Highland Games...from Page 1A

Harris of Cherry Log. "This setup is really neat and I hope they continue doing it this way."

On Saturday morning the Southeastern Scottish Amateur Athletic Association began its Heavy Athletics, which includes the caber toss, the sheaf toss, and the stone put. The Games were held throughout the day on the main field.

The gun fired for the Kilted Mile race on Saturday morning before the mercury could rise above 80 degrees.

Bob Valentine, The Scottish Country Dancers, The Blarney Girls, The Glencoe Highland Dancers, and Colin Grant-Adams were back to entertain audiences and providing the perfect soundtrack to the day's events.

Kids were able to get in on the action with the children's games held on Rich Field.

The Flying Hawkes Axe Throw and Archery and a Falconry demonstration took place on the main field and the Border Collies provided entertainment from the Bryant Field.

Despite gates opening early in the morning, the official Opening Ceremony featuring the Parade of Tartans and Massed Bands got underway at high noon.

More than 30 clans and societies took part in the 2014 festival with Clan Scott owning the distinction of being the Honored Clan.

Those unsure regarding their own Scottish heritage could pay a visit to the genealogy tent and attempt to trace their roots back to 'the greatest country on earth.'

Sunday's 9 a.m. church service was led by Rev. Travis Adams.

Following morning worship was music provided

by The Oatcakes and Raven & Red.

The Bonniest Knees contest and the Haggis Hurl took place during the afternoon.

At 3:30 p.m. the Awards Ceremony was held for the athletes, Best Clan, and Haggis Hurl competitors.

The official closing of the Games was at 5 p.m.

The only negative mentioned regarding the festival was that it only lasts one weekend.

As for next year's games, the Blairsville-Union County community along with the thousands of visitors from outside the county wish the festival and games a collective 'hurry back' or 'haste ye back,' as they say in a land where 'wild are the winds that meet you and staunch are the friends that greet you.' A land known as 'Scotland the Brave.'



Photos by Lowell Nicholson