

The Detroit Burns Club

The Detroit Burns Club celebrated the life of Robert Burns with its Annual Burns Dinner Dance on January 23, 2010 at The Burton Manor Conference and Banquet Centre. The Committee members, Frank & Heather McGinty, Jim & Ann McDougal, Joyce & Herb Dobbs, Bruce & Laurel Patterson, Johnston Cummings & Helen McCallum were lead into the hall by Piper Bruce Burt Jr.



President Frank McGinty opened the evening welcoming everyone including our overseas, out of state visitors and war veterans. There were approximately 230 people in attendance, many of whom have returned year after year

The time honored traditions started with the singing of The Star Bangled Banner and The Star of Rabbie Burns sung as always by Graeme Dobbs.

The Address to the Haggis was 'performed' by the Club Bard, Jim McDougal, followed by the Selkirk Grace offered by the Club Chaplain Herb Dobbs.

The Toast to the Lassies was proposed by Brian Patterson and our Vice President Heather McGinty responded in fine style.

The Immoral Memory was delivered by our Club President Frank McGinty along with a long serving club member Tom McGinnes. The formal part of the evening was closed by Vice President Heather McGinty.



We were entertained by the Caledonian Pipe Band, led by Pipe Major Bruce Burt Sr. and Highland Dancers who have been part of our evening for many years.



The Rhythm Society Orchestra, who have played our dance music for more than 25 years, started us off with our own tradition of the **Grand March**, directed by Club Treasurer Johnston Cummings (with his back to the camera) and led by President and Vice President Frank and Heather McGinty. As always everyone took to the dance floor for this time honored tradition.

{Fans of John Wayne movies will be interested to learn that the Grand March was danced in the movie 'Fort Apache' starring Henry Fonda & John Wayne}.



You can find out how the Grand March is performed by clicking on the link:- <http://www.mnopltd.com/cdance/grandmarch.html>

The Grand March is a great 'pot boiler' to get everyone started on the dance floor.

The Detroit Burns Club looks forward to meeting Burnsians from across the US and Canada in June, for the RBANA Annual Conference.