



SCOTTISH ST. ANDREW SOCIETY OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

THIS IS IT

May 1999
ISSUE 7.7

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Another busy and interesting year is coming to a close for all of us who are involved in the continued success and growth of our society. At our AGM in September we welcomed several new members and retained some of our existing board members. Everyone has given a lot of their personal time to organize all of the monthly programs and the special events that promote our Scottish culture and heritage. My thanks and appreciation to all the board members for their hard work and dedication.

Over the last year we have celebrated Halloween, St. Andrews Day, Christmas, and Burn's. At our ceilidh we marked the occasion of Tartan Day. The kilted golf tournament in October brought out many golfers and a few television cameras. Last month Bill Nicoll and Peggy Flynn along with Alex and Carrie Sutherland, and Geoff and Judy Chaboude participated in a two part series on the British Isles to be aired on the education channel later this year. The annual picnic in Tower Grove Park was the last official event of the year. It was a glorious day with lots of good food, games, and wonderful friends.

We do have one more event that the society will be participating in and we need you! On July 31st & August 1st an event called Festival of Nations will be held on South Grand (see attached flyer). The society will be represented at the information center and we need some volunteers. Please call Diane McCullough at 773-4195 if you can help. I encourage all members to support this community initiative. I'm sure you will have a great time doing it. I PROMISE!

I hope you have a cool and restful summer and I look forward to meeting up with all of you at Young's Restaurant on September 27th to kick off our new season with the AGM.

Lang May Your Lum Reek,

Denise



Jean Armour Dinner replaces Burns Supper

March 1999, Glasgow Hilton Hotel:
a new event was held by 400 women to celebrate the life of Jean Armour, the "long-suffering" wife of Robert Burns.

One male was allowed to attend in order to make an appropriate response to the "Toast to the Laddies"!

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What's Happening...

No more events this St Andrew Society season. That Scottish blood gets too thin in the heat of July — so we hibernate in the summer, or head back to Scotland to find some cold July weather. See you there....

Next



Event

**The first event of next season is at
Young's Restaurant
(great fish and fries!)
on Monday September 27th**

**If you would like
to help out, call
Diane McCullough
314 773 4195**

Want to order Scottish pies? Call Tom Brennan at 314 567 3280

HIGHLAND MIST BALL (An evening of Scottish country dancing)

Saturday, June 26th, 7:30 – 11:00pm

At "Just Dancing" Studio 236 Old Meramec Station Road — near Route 141 and Manchester Road, behind the shops, west of Office Depot.

\$10 per dancer, \$3 per observer. Bring your own goodies. Call Marilyn at 636 916 5344

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

Your St Andrew Society Board has often debated (and at great length) the charitable portion of our Constitution. Giving money to worthy causes is fine, but we need a more consistent framework for various donations. For donations toward educational and assistance with events related to Scotland, the Board will continue to consider requests on a case-by-case basis — written requests outlining the purpose and expected result is required.

For cases where the request is related to aid, disasters, or other emergency events, we wish to put a solid framework into place that will guide the actions of the Board. Possible approaches are:

- A. We should not give contributions at all to aid-related situations (too much headline influence)
- B. We should have a set amount (in the budget) each year for aid-related situations.
- C. We should donate a specific amount each year to a world organization (that re-distributes).
- D. We should focus on helping Scottish related aid needs (but not just in Scotland).
- E. We should continue to judge each request on a case-by-case basis.
- F. We should not decide on one approach, and have any combinations of the above.

Irrespective of the decision on the above, any single donation of less than \$350 will be determined by the Board and no pre-approval by the membership will be required.

Your comments and feedback (choice of A – F) are welcome ... please write before September to
Denise Duffy, 15810 Large Oak Road, Chesterfield, MO 63017

A New Anthem as Well??

Well, when you have a new Parliament building, it might not surprise some that a new Anthem would be called for. Perhaps the surprise is that “Flower of Scotland” has not been adopted right away — ah, but there are changes in the auld land! The Glasgow Herald ran a survey and the response was about 50-50 for Flower of Scotland versus a complete new song. The Herald immediately took the opportunity to run a competition called “A song for Scotland” which evoked a huge response and no less than 250 original entries (from all over the world).

An eminent panel of judges eventually selected a song called “A Land of Light” by William (Billy) Jackson. For those who have not been keeping up with musical developments in Scotland, Jackson is a well-known, and very well-respected, composer who has completed 8 albums with the traditional band, Ossian. Jackson lives near Forfar but is also known here in America, especially for his work as head of the Music Therapy programme in Asheville, North Carolina.

Reviewers of the “anthem” have said “*the song has a wonderful haunting quality, and the lyrics a sense of history and optimism about the future*”, and “*the hairs on my arms stand well proud when I hear something this good*”. Apparently, the song sounds excellent in any one of various formats, from the pipes to an orchestra to the stands at Murrayfield. A recent review that I saw had the following summary: “On grounds of both its musical quality and its social context, it deserves to find a place in the heart and consciousness of the country, with myriad versions and multiple performances. It has the pulse of the era”.

At present it is not clear if this song will become the official Anthem of Scotland or will just be added to the repertoire of great songs. And what of that other song we all love dearly, created by the Corries, and adopted long-ago as the unofficial anthem? Well, some say that Flower of Scotland will still exist and continue to be an integral part of events in Scotland and around the world. “Land of Light” might just be added as the official Anthem — but both will still be used.

Is that not typical of Scots — is it that we have to have two of everything — or is it that we can never make up our minds about what to keep and what to toss out!

Did I hear someone mention Flag!?

A LAND OF LIGHT by Billy Jackson

O Land of Light
Ancient and strong
Land of justice, and hope of the young
Land of the glen, and shining river

Scotland my homeland forever
Alba mo dhuthaich gu deireadh mo la

Freedom and Truth
Music and verse
Carried aflame to the ends of the earth
Dear to my heart, where e'er I wander

Scotland my homeland forever
Alba mo dhuthaich gu deireadh mo la

Now dawns the age
Now comes the call
Carry science and learning to all
God, be our guide and leave us never

Scotland my homeland forever
Alba mo dhuthaich gu deireadh mo la

Scotland my homeland forever

This and That

Snippets of stories and facts that you can amaze your friends with...

The Lockerbie plane bombing suspects are being tried under a Scottish Court of Justice located in the Netherlands. Strange arrangement? Well, the Scottish community in the Dutch town of Veere had a court within the “House of the Scottish Nation” — that arrangement came to an end exactly 200 years ago, in 1799. Due to the high volume of trade between Scotland and Netherlands, this special adjudication of matters involving Scots had been in place since 1541.

- ◆ In Shakespeare’s time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes when you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. That’s where the phrase, “goodnight, sleep tight” came from.
- ◆ The sentence “The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog” uses every letter in the alphabet.
- ◆ The term “the whole 9 yards” came from WWII fighter pilots in the Pacific. When arming their airplanes on the ground, the .50 caliber machine gun ammo belts measured exactly 27 feet, before being loaded into the fuselage. If the pilots fired all their ammo at a target, it got “the whole 9 yards.”
- ◆ The phrase “rule of thumb” is derived from an old English law which stated that you couldn’t beat your wife with anything wider than your thumb.
- ◆ Thirty-five percent of the people who use personal ads for dating are already married.
- ◆ There are an average of 178 sesame seeds on a McDonald’s Big Mac bun.
- ◆ On average, 100 people choke to death on ball-point pens every year.
- ◆ It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride’s father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer, and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the “honey month” or what we know today as the “honeymoon.”

St. Andrew Society on TV in St. Louis

Bill Nicoll recently represented the Society, along with Laurie Hartung of the Invera’an Pipeband, in “Ortega’s Ethnic World of St. Louis“. This show is hosted by Puerto Rican born Ortega Nunez, and is part of a non-profit TV program about the U.K. — including a British Information Service documentary on four aspects of life back home. Part 1 of the program will air on two cable channels:

HEC-TV (Higher Education Channel, #10 in West County) on **Saturdays June 12 and 25th at 8-9pm.**

Charter-P.A. (#102 where available) every **Mon/Tue/Wed, June 7 – 30th, 2:30 and 8:00pm.**

Part 2 is likely to air on similar schedules in July.

For the next show, Ortega and Bill will be joined by Alex and Carrie Sutherland, Jeff and Judy Chaboude of *Highland Mist Country Dancers*, Jenny Gores and Sara Mefford of *Dance Caledonia*, Bill Henry and Matt Panteleoni of *Invera’an pipeband*, and Peggy Flynn and Nancy Klenk from the *DBE*.

CALEDONIA CORNER

A memorable moment in the history of the auld country took place recently and, while shorter than the Declaration of Arbroath, it may have similar significance in years to come....

At the age of 69 years young, Winifred Ewing, acting Presiding Officer, spoke the historic words,

“The Scottish Parliament, adjourned on 25th March 1707, is hereby reconvened”.

The next day, Sir David Steel was elected as the Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament. On taking his seat as Chair of the new governing body he commented, that this was the “start of a new sang”. Those many years ago, the Earl of Seafield had given Royal Assent to the Act of Union by touching that document with his sceptre and saying “There’s the end of an auld sang”.

Typical clever subtle stuff... and never forget that Scots have long-lasting memories — elephants are not even in the same league, how about outlasting a computer hard-drive!

DANCE CALEDONIA COMES OUT TOP IN ILLINOIS GAMES

(Congratulations to Sandra Brown and her hard-working group)

May 15th, 1999 saw Dance Caledonia kick-off their season with great success at the Springfield Highland Games. Many medals were captured by the group and to top that off the girls won 4 major trophies:

7-yr olds - Ellie Scott ; 8-yr olds - Sarah Baker; 12-yr olds - Becky Reinhart; 16-yr olds - Jenny Gores. Other participants in the group were: Marisa Scott, Christine Henry, Colleen Rose, Madeleine Docherty, Meagan McCaughan, Kimberly Myles, Rachael Baker, Erika Baker, Sara Mefford, and Kylie Schmidt.

And other news from previous Dance Caledonia performers that you may remember....

Traci Mitchell — now being ordained.

Tara McCallum Polleys — Graduated from Law School, passed the Bar with flying colors and is joining the U.S. Air Force.

Kieron McCaughan — graduating from college and is planning to join Missouri Baptist Hospital in the

Wha wad ken?

Answers: (no one won)

1. Loch Lomond is UK largest lake
2. Hadrian’s Wall built in ... a hurry.. (118AD)
3. Two rivers with same name: Dee

BACK NEXT YEAR — KEEP PRACTICING

Go ahead have a chuckle!

After a recent open-air service in Scotland, the preacher passed his hat around the various people who had stopped to listen. It came back completely empty. The preacher raised his eyebrows and said, “I thank thee, O Lord! For the safe return of my hat!”

The barber shop sign read — Shaves \$10, Haircuts \$20. The Scotsman went in and said, “shave my head!”

TOASTS & THINGS

From "My Faither's Gairden" by George Hardie

Luikan ower the hedge
 At whit was aince his gairden
 Whaur his eident wark
 Brocht on a hairst
 O tatties, neeps, kale and leek.
 Ilk ane the better o bein hamegrowen.

Aa his years o toil
 And only girse growes
 On the soil he warked
 While a laddie,
 Mair a hindrance nor a help,
 Did whit he micht.

Noo, it's someane's lawn.
 They hae levellt



Noo, luikan ower the hedge,
 I see fifty years gae bye.

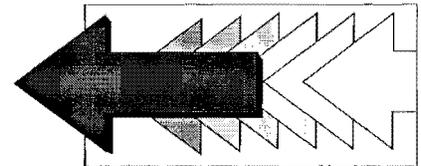
Smile... We're getting ready for the tourist season.....



Baa..baaa.... We're ready for them too!



WE'RE STILL SELLING GOODIES!
 (St Andrew's plaques, logo stickers, flag pins...)
 Please contact Anne McLaren at 636 532 5986



Hope you all enjoyed reading our very own newsletter, the **Thistle Times**. Thank you to all who contributed material this year. It is appreciated. Comments, and new material to the Editor:

*Jim McLaren, 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Court, Chesterfield, MO 63017
 or call (636) 532-5986, or e-mail: mclaren@inverizon.com.*

Website address is <http://www.inverizon.com/scotlink>
 The St Andrew Society phone number is (314) 519 7979

**Have a great
 Summer**