



# SCOTTISH ST. ANDREW SOCIETY OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**D**ear Members,

Another year in the life of the St. Andrew Society comes to a close. We have certainly worked hard to promote Scottish culture through the many events offered throughout the year. Thanks to all who helped make our year so enjoyable.

One of the exciting projects for the society was of course the formation of the Highland Games committee. The committee will be presenting it's initial report to the board on July 27<sup>th</sup> and we will give you a progress report by the AGM in September.

There are also elections coming up, it's time to have some fresh blood on the Board. So, if you wish to nominate someone please give Jim McLaren a call.

I wish you and you families a pleasant summer and I look forward to seeing you at the AGM

Lang ma yer lum reek, Denise

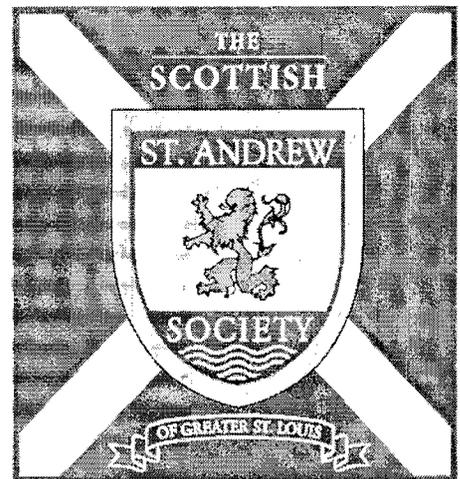
Sorry about the delay in publishing this Thistle Times. It's been a bit hectic lately and I didn't notice it slip from Spring to mid-Summer...or maybe it's just old age coming!!! The Ed.

## Believe It or Not?!

Scots have made many contributions to North American life, some of which are amazing and often quite surprising. Take the Mexican slang term for an American, "gringo". Where did this come from?

Yes, you guessed right — another Scottish contribution. But how did that come about? The story told me is that in 1836 at the siege of the Alamo in Texas, there were 80 Scottish mercenaries inside the famous fort. As the Mexican soldiers charged time and time again they heard a strange song, "Green Grow the Rashes O".

As is well known, the Mexicans won that battle but that song sung by the dying Scottish heroes impressed them so much that the name stuck. Of course, they didn't know it was Scots singing and so "gringo" became associated with "American".



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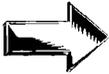
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# THISTLE TIMES

June 2000  
ISSUE 8.8

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Next

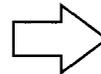


Event

## September 29th, 2000 ANNUAL KILTED GOLF See attached flier for details

September, 2000. Annual General Meeting and election of new Board and incoming President. Venue and date to be announced.

We are already starting planning and arranging for next year



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

Saturday, November 18th, 6:30 pm

**St Andrew's Day Dinner Dance at Forest Hills Country Club**

Dear Friends,

The Program Committee is interested in your ideas! This committee is responsible for and is planning to have the Halloween Party, the St. Andrew's Day Dinner Dance, the Christmas Party, a Feb/March speaker or musician, the Ceilidh, and the picnic. The Burns Dinner and Kilted Golf are organized by other committees. We have had many successful events this year. However, as we look at our attendance there seems to be fewer people in the twenties and thirty-somethings. Of course, for those of you within those age groups there are many different needs and demands on your time. However, we are interested in finding out how we could organize events of interest to you. For example, some have suggested more picnic activities like volleyball or soccer. Can you help us?

The Committee could use some volunteers or suggestions from people in this age group. Remember, it is your organization and the more the volunteer leadership hears from you then the better we can fit with your needs. This is also true for all age groups. If you have any ideas or would like to become more involved we would love to hear from you.

You can contact the Committee by writing Diane McCullough, 3664 Wyoming, St Louis, MO 63116, or calling at 314 773 4195. Or you can e-mail Jeff & Judie at [jeffckt@aol.com](mailto:jeffckt@aol.com) or e-mail to the Thistle Times.

Thank you and have a great summer, Diane.

### ALEX SUTHERLAND & HIS CRONIES

Up to their summer tricks again.... You can catch up with them at:

July 8th, 11:00 am—12:00: Ethnic Festival, MO History Museum, Forest Park.

July 22nd: St Louis Children's Choir — Bon Voyage Concert

# This 'n That

**R**emember that Ceilidh....



There was dancing....



... and singing....



And dynamic duos!!

## **H**IGHLAND GAMES UPDATE

Thanks to all who responded to the flier regarding a possible Highland Games in St Louis — it was a positive response overall. The special meeting of members was well attended and a motion was passed (by a large majority) to continue exploring the options. A committee of 9 people was formed and charged with the mission of determining what level of interest there is for sponsorship and funding of a Highland Games within the local community. They will be reporting back to the Board on July 27th. The Board will then consider all the information and make a recommendation for consideration by membership. If anyone would like the minutes of the special meeting then call Denise Duffy at (636) 532 7587.

Otherwise stay tuned to see if you'll need to start practice wi' yon caber!

# Caledonia Corner

**B**ack home things are... well, much the same!

The fate of England in the European soccer championship resulted in a new round of the old jokes... "Did you know that Oxo are bringing out a new red-and-white cube based on the England football team? It will be called 'laughing stock' and it will crumble in the box". Or "what's the difference between an Airfix box without the adhesive and Phil Neville. One's a glueless kit."

Anyway, it has been said that England's downfall was due to the lighter ball being used — of course, that was said by people south of the Border! However, have to give them credit — that's probably a Guinness book of records for the worse ever excuse!

The revered Caledonian MacBrayne ferry service is in financial trouble. The Scottish Tourism Forum wants to put the company up for sale. Options being considered by Transport and Environment Minister include splitting the current routes between different operators and creating a separate vessel-owning company. One of the Scottish Tourism Forum's greatest fears is that potential ferry operators will be allowed to cherry-pick the most profitable routes, leaving some islands without the lifeline services currently subsidized by the Scottish Executive. If you have never been on one of MacBrayne's island ferries then rush over to Scotland now and experience one of life's treats (well, depends on the size of the Atlantic waves at the time) before the chance disappears. Hebrides here we come!

## Wha wad ken?

**F**irst to answer all three correctly wins a Society lapel pin.....

No questions. Take the whole summer off!  
Congratulations to Dick Lodge who won.

### Answers:

Irnbru is a Scottish drink — soda (well close but not like anything else really).

Largs is on the Firth of Clyde.

Auld Reekie is the nickname for Edinburgh. It means "old smokie" and came from the steam trains that ran alongside Princes Street and made all the buildings black.

## Flowers o' the Forest

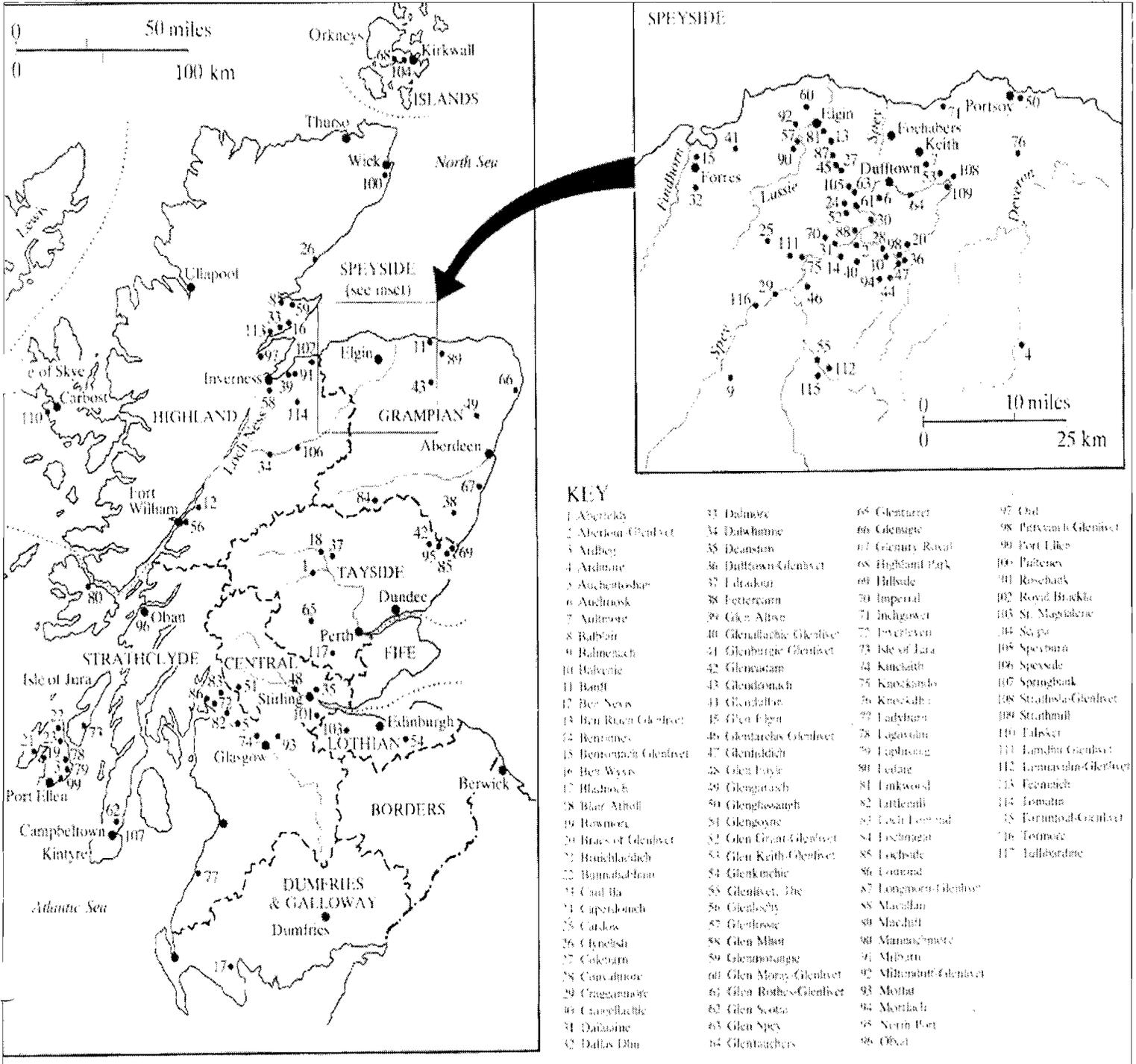


The highland lad frae the meeting place o' the two rivers passed away early this summer. He will be sorely missed and always remembered for the great personal contributions that he made to things Scottish and to pipe music in St. Louis, the MidWest, and America.

Vic Masterson, here's tae ye, Laddie.

# Free Map of Scotland

**M**any people ask me about the locations of distilleries in Scotland. I ran across this informative diagram. It may even be useful if you are thinking about visiting for a holiday. The map of Scotland comes with it (for no extra charge) so you can keep it if you want....



# TOASTS & THINGS

**W**ee Jimmy went to the local hall to hear a Temperance lecture by an eminent speaker (it wis raining!). Anyway, the noted anti-drinking campaigner poured out a large glass of whisky, then opened up a tin box, took out a wriggling worm, and put it in the whisky. After a few minutes the worm stopped wriggling and sank to the bottom of the glass.

“Now then” announced the speaker, “what does this tell us?”

Jimmy jumps up an’ says “It’s pretty clear right enough, if you drink whisky ye’ll no be bothered wi’ worms!”

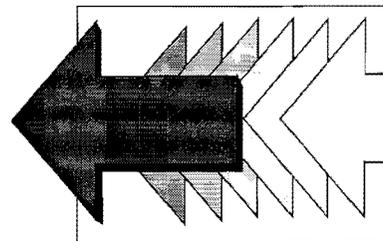


**“Furrows at Tullybaccart”**  
(1974)

A fabulous painting of a typical Scottish country scene. By the late James McIntosh Patrick of Dundee.

**HAVE A WONDEFUL SUMMER.**

**BE BACK AROUND SEPTEMBER.**



**H**ope you all enjoyed reading our very own newsletter, the **Thistle Times**. Thank you to all who contribute material. It is appreciated. Comments, new material, and letters to the Editor:

*Jim McLaren, 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Court, Chesterfield, MO 63017*

*or call (636) 532-5986, or e-mail: [mclaren@inverizon.com](mailto:mclaren@inverizon.com).*

Website address is <http://www.inverizon.com/scotlink>

The St Andrew Society phone number is (636) 519 7979