



SCOTTISH ST. ANDREW SOCIETY OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

I apologize for not attending the February meeting and by all accounts I missed a very good presentation given by our champion harper, Wayne Elrod, thank you Wayne.

Our next event will be the Ceilidh, see attached flier, and don't forget the Tartan Day celebrations. The Ceilidh is an excellent opportunity to bring along the whole family and a few friends to enjoy another traditional Scottish pastime. I hope to see all of you there.

As we are half way through the year we will soon be forming a nominating committee to set up our Board for next year. If you are interested in serving on the Board, or you know of anyone who might be, then please contact one of the existing Board members for a little insight into the management of the society. We are always looking for fresh faces with new and interesting ideas to promote the Society within our community. I will let you know when the committee is formed and you can send in your nominations.

Lang ma yer lum reek, Denise

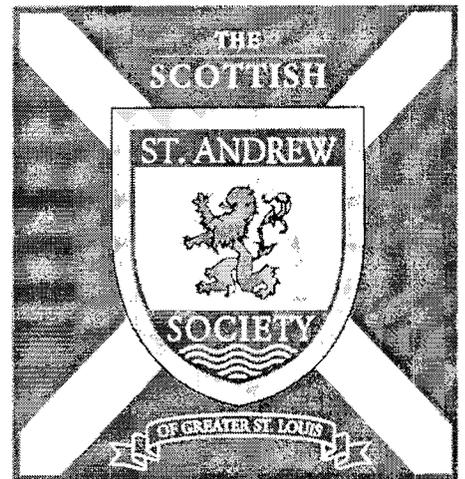
Hear about the Aberdonian who was out walking and found a perfectly good crutch at the side of the path. He picked it up, rushed home with it, and broke his wife's leg!

TARTAN

March 2000
ISSUE 8.7



★ ★ ★ *Tartan Day* ★



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Next



Event

April 8th, 2000, 7:00pm

ANNUAL CEILIDH

Don't miss this outstanding night out.

At Whispering Hills Clubhouse.

SEE ATTACHED FLIER TO RESERVE TICKETS

May 21st, 2000, 2:00pm: Picnic and Scottish BBQ
At Tower Grove Park, Sons of Rest Pavilion

November 18th, 2000: St Andrews Dinner Dance
At Forest Hills Country Club

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

ALEX SUTHERLAND & His Cronies IN CONCERT

Sat June 3, 2000
Springfield Celtic Gathering, Springfield, MO
Sat Jun 10, 2000
Kansas City Highland Games
*CD now available. Tel: 314 771 0119
or check out www.alexutherland.com*

Charitable Donations

The Board decided to make the following donations:

Dance Caledonia: \$700 to support travel to competitions.

St Louis Children's Choir: \$250 towards travel to Scotland.

Highland Mist: \$100 to sponsor a dance.

S. Vaughan: \$100 travel support to train for Scottish Olympic ski-team.

A Vineyard in Scotland?

Started by William Thomson, Head Gardener to the Duke of Buccleuch, in 1869, Scotland's first vineyard has now fallen into disrepair. The two-acre lot near Galashiels, in the Scottish Borders, has seen many a magnificent day. Thousands of bunches of black Gros Colman and Muscat of Alexandria grapes have been produced there. Serious grape production was stopped around 1970 and the owner tried to make it a tourist attraction — that didn't work out either. You can buy it if you want!



Wayne Elrod entertains a wild crowd

Tartan Day

Tartan Day is now well-recognized throughout America, and how that came to pass was in the Thistle Times last year. To add more information this year, we have researched some additional Scottish influences in the U.S., and don't forget our very own MISSOURI TARTAN DAY.

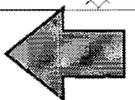
Many locations in America were nostalgically named after the places the Scottish immigrants had left behind. There are eight Aberdeens, eight Edinburghs, seven Glasgows and eight places, simply known as Scotland! There are also many places named after individual clans, and in many others with Mc/Mac as a suffix to the name: in North Carolina alone there are 130 such places.

Clubs and societies celebrating Scottish ancestry were established in the 18th Century to assist struggling Scots in the new land. Today, these groups are more involved in communicating and spreading the good aspects of Scottish cultural — in N. America there are over 300 St Andrew's Societies and Caledonian Clubs. Education has always played an important part in Scottish society, and the early Scots pioneers played a crucial role in the development of the New World. Most headmasters of the schools in the new colonies south of New York were Scottish or of Scottish ancestry. These establishments were fundamental in the education of America's future leaders; both Thomas Jefferson's and John Rutledge's tutors were Scottish immigrants. Scots arriving in the New World soon established many universities, colleges and other educational establishments such as Princeton University (1746).

WASHINGTON D.C.

Tartan Day organizers have announced plans for a three day celebration in the capital Thursday, April 6 to 8th. A plan is in-place to present Senator Trent Lott (sponsor of the Senate Tartan Day resolution in 1998) with the American-Scottish Foundation's prestigious Wallace Award at a Capitol ceremony. The following day a forum is planned, hosted by the Smithsonian Institution, which will feature professors and experts from both the United States and Scotland debating and discussing "The Living Legend of Scotland". On the evening of April 7, a National Tartan Day Reception will bring together many supporters of the Scottish-American experience from both the public and private sectors. Then on April 8th, the festival in Freedom Plaza is likely to be the biggest ceilidh Washington has ever seen. For further information, contact Noel Young at noelyoung@netscape.net

TARTAN DAY JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI



A bus has been organized that will leave Penney's parking lot (Chesterfield Mall) at 8:00am on Thursday April 6th. If you need a carpool to get to the boarding site then call Judie at (636) 946 4174.

At 10:30am, State Rep Chuck Gross's office will be providing our group with a tour of the State Capitol Building. After the tour, you will have free time for lunch. Capitol Plaza restaurant is convenient and has a buffet lunch for \$7.95. Bringing box lunches, snacks, and beverages is also ok.

At 12:45pm we will be gathering at the Rotunda for the "Presentation of the Proclamation" (scheduled for 1:00pm), followed by a photo shoot on the Capitol steps.

The bus will leave Jeff City at 4:15pm. Cost is \$18 per person and it's filling up fast. Call Judie (# above) to reserve seats. This will be a memorable occasion.

Caledonia Corner

Back at the end of 1999, there was an old lady who didn't quite understand the millenium? She was heard to ask "Juist whit is aa yon fuss about?" Well her interviewer tried to explain that it wasnae just another Hogmanay but a whole hunner (100) decades had passed. "Mmmm, maybe so, but I cannae mind (can't remember) folk making this much fuss afore!" Now there's a thought — who could have survived 1000 Hogmanays in Scotland? Anyway, the first 950 years werena' the easiest to get through what wae the Romans, and the Vikings, and the English, and a' that stuff. Well at least the wee magic stane is back where it belongs, and maybe the Golden Age of Scotland will start in the new Holyrood and be evident for the hunner years or so! Anyway, but tae the auld lady... So, are ye doing anything special for to celebrate the event? An she says, "Och, no. No this time, maybe the next time!"

SMILE....

One of the best methods of creating the ideal personal address book in Scotland.... Find an old phone book and just cross out the names and addresses of the people you don't know!

With gas prices increasing this might work in Missouri... You can save on gas by pushing your car along the side of the road. Invariably, passers-by will think you've broken down and stop to help push!

Wha wad ken?

First to answer all three correctly wins a Society lapel pin.....

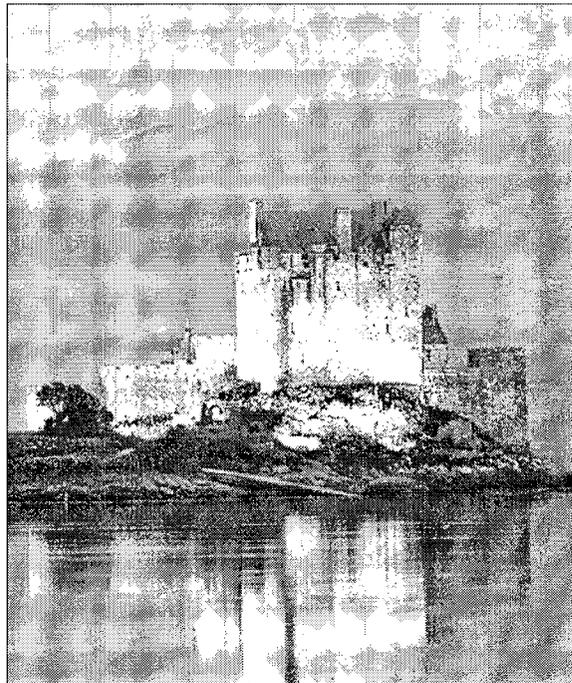
1. What is Irnbru?
2. Where is Largs?
3. What city was often called "Auld Reekie"?

Congratulations to Bill Wood who won.

Answers:

Midge is a mosquito like insect
Duke of Perth is a dance (among other things)
Wallace Monument can be seen from Stirling Castle.

All replies to Jim McLaren Tel: 636-532-5986
Fast e-mail: mclaren@inverizon.com
Snail mail: 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Ct.,
Chesterfield, MO 63017



**A great picture of the magnificent
Eilean Donan Castle
By Clarrie Pashley.**

Bairnsangs

Wondering what the title means? In Scotland children go by the name of “weans” (wanes), or “bairns” — so, “bairnsangs” are songs and nursery rhymes for children.

Children all over the world recite poems, and those in “Scots” have a particular “music” to them. It’s not the just the humor of a kid trying to make a recitation of Burns at the annual contest, but rather it’s an integral part of the language. Everyone born in Scotland can remember poems like that by Glaswegian William Miller (1810-72) called, Wee Willie Winkie.

*Wee willie Winkie runs through the toun,
Up stairs and downstairs, in his nightgoun.
Tirlin at the window, cryin through the lock:
Are all the weans in their bed for it’s past ten o’clock.*

And then there is the “Heron” by J. Annanad, that has the classical kids lilt.

*His skinnie-ma-linkie lang legs
Juist like reeds
Cheats a the puddocks
Soomin ‘mang the weeds.*
(his very thin long legs, just like the reeds
cheats all the frogs, swimming among the weeds)

Many of the kids poems are about animals and the names are often very descriptive — for example, a turkey is a bubbly-jock. The verses typically relate some of the things that happen in life, and the more popular have that kids honesty built-in.

*Poussie (cat) at the fireside, Suppin up the brose,
Doon cam a cinder, And brunt poussie’s nose.
“Echt!” cried poussie, “that’s nae fair!”
“It’s a het,” said the cinder, Ye shouldna’ hae been there.”*

There is a more recent book (1955) of modern nursery rhymes in the Scots tongue, called “Bairnsangs” by Sandy Thomas Ross. It was written by three men, Sandy MacMillan, Thomas Limond, and Ross Taylor.

*In my wee rid motor, I can gang for miles,
Up and doon the gairden, Through the lobby whites.
Mony a bigger motor, Gangs tae toons afaur.
Nane can gang whaur I gang, In my wee rid caur.*

The statue of Peter Pan at Kirriemuir



The brilliant creator of Peter Pan, James Barrie, or J.M.B. as he was often called, was born at Kirriemuir in 1860 — the ninth child of poor working weavers, he rose to international literary fame. He died in 1937 and, at his own request, was buried in the grave of his father and mother, along with two sisters that had died in infancy. A plain granite headstone marks the spot in the cemetery on the Hill of Kirriemuir.

TOASTS & THINGS

MARKING TIME

by Nessie Gell

Haunting sound of marching feet
Echo up the cobbled street.
Empty barracks now await
Thro' the once well-guarded gate.
Empty barracks where once dwelt Kings,
No bugle call at sunset rings.
All, all is peace, all, all is still,
No marching feet climb up the hill.
The pipes and drums together lie
In silence, as the years drift by.
Relics of the Argyll's proud past
The Castle keeps them safe, at last.

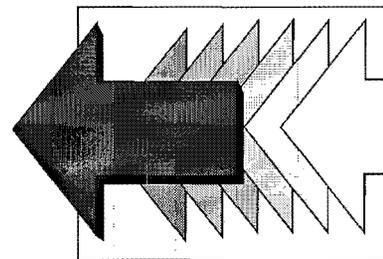
Written about Stirling Castle which is now the museum of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and was once their active depot.



“Hey, whit’s wrong wi’ you?
Never seen a “safety” sporan
before”!
(actually I wis run over by a
truck and they stuck these
tassles on ma belly!)

**IF YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO MIGHT
LIKE TO JOIN THE SOCIETY...**

**HAVE THEM CALL PETER GEERY
TEL: 636 916 5344**



Hope 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:

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