

SCOTTISH ST. ANDREW SOCIETY OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members & Friends,

Where's the summer going, even gone? In two months we'll all be active in the wonderful tradition of "Highland" Games that seemed so far away with our last Newsletter. I invite readers to Save the Date then join us and, in the meantime, choose to support this huge effort at one of our donor levels if you haven't already done so. The generosity of all who have already contributed is much appreciated. See the Games website for more details (URL inside).

In May, the picnic was a fantastic day out with a record 70 of us mingling, participating and enjoying the RenFaire's "French" locale and Wentzville weather! In July, the Society sponsored a local Highland Dancing workshop with outside instructor and 30 students at all ages and stages.

Recent news highlight was when we learned that **Governor Holden signed the Tartan Day resolution July 13**, with it due to become law August 28th. We're now set for "the real McCoy" next April 6, and every year thereafter!

Check out *Upcoming Events* and plan to be at our **Annual General Meeting Sept 24**, in the same downtown location as last year. Let me know (314-966-3920) if anyone you know has an interest in being on the Society Board. It's great fun!

Yours aye, Bill Nicoll.

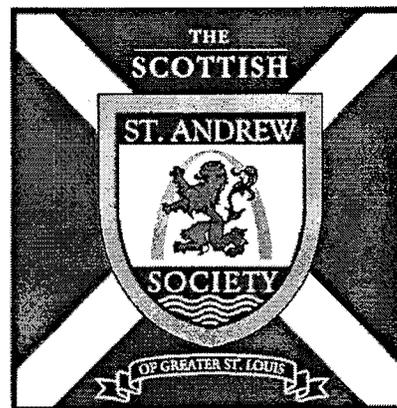
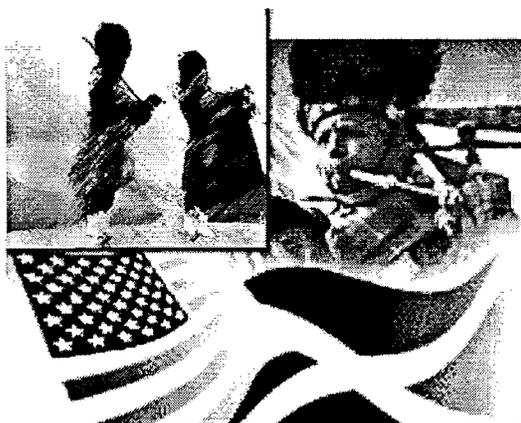
THIS ISLE TIMES

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SPECIAL EDITION



S T L O U I S
SCOTTISH GAMES



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ST ANDREW SOCIETY UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL KILTED GOLF OUTING

September 21st, 2001. Call Kathleen Parle (636) 537 9463 for details and to register.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Monday, September 24th, 2001, at 7:00 pm
Upstairs at the Tap Room, 2100 Locust.** (You can eat downstairs before the meeting).

ST ANDREW'S DAY DINNER DANCE

November 10th, 2001 at Forest Hills CC, again featuring the Kinlochard Ceilidh Band from Scotland. Mark your calendars and plan to bring some friends.

Beer typically comes in the form of "bitter" in England, and "heavy" in Scotland. However, things might be changing. The wee Harviestoun Brewery (Scotland) defeated hundreds of English real ale producers to win the medal in the Camra Champion Beers of Britain awards. The winning entry was called Harviestoun's Bitter & Twisted. Harviestoun's brewer Ken Brooker said it was named to describe how he was feeling the day he concocted the recipe. He had just lost his driving licence for speeding!

Scots continue to find it difficult to make themselves understood down south. Recently, a young Scots lad was dining in a small restaurant in Southsea (England) and asked the waitress if he could have some black pepper. She returned some minutes later clutching a sheet of A4 white paper saying she couldn't find any black paper but would this do? Of course, the Scots lad took this in stride — despite wondering what on earth she thought he was going to do with a sheet of black paper!

Wha wad ken?

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

No questions till October — it's the summer hols and too hot to think anyway.

Sorry no winners last time.

Answers:

1. The Lake of Menteith is Scotland's only Lake — the others are all "lochs".
2. Oban means "little bay".
3. The Callanish Stones are on the Isle of Lewis in the Hebrides.

A Scotsman who died of a heart attack is taken to a funeral parlour in the black suit in which he died, but his wife tells the undertaker that she would prefer the body dressed in a blue suit, and tells him to buy the best blue suit that money could buy. The next day she returns and is delighted to see him in a beautiful blue suit.

When she asks what it cost, he explained: "Nothing. A deceased gentleman of about your husband's size was brought in shortly after you left yesterday, wearing a lovely blue suit. I asked his wife if she minded him going to his grave wearing an attractive black suit, and she didn't. So I switched the heads."



S T . L O U I S
SCOTTISH GAMES

Don't miss out!
This will be the happening of the year in St. Louis.

Mark your calendars. Buy your tickets. Tell your friends.
Consider being a special donor or sponsor — see attached form.



There is much historical evidence that traditional "Games" of agility and strength have been taking place in the Scottish Highlands from very early times. However, formalized annual gatherings began around 1820 as part of the revival of Tartan and Highland Culture encouraged by Sir Walter Scott.

First Annual



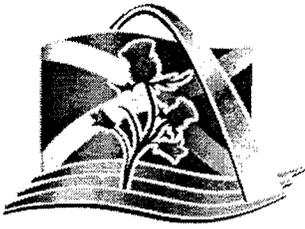
S T . L O U I S
SCOTTISH GAMES
& Cultural Festival

Forest Park in St. Louis
October 12 (evening) and 13 (all day)

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Piping, Drumming, Dancing and Athletic Competitions• Parade of Tartans, featuring more than 40 Scottish Clans• Genealogy & History/Storytelling• Scottish Vendors• Sheep Dogs, Livestock, Clydesdales and Birds of Prey• Children's Activities• Activities at Missouri History Museum (in Forest Park)• British Car Show	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Torchlight Ceremony and Tented Ceilidh (Friday evening)• Music Workshops (fiddle, autoharp and mandolin)• Musical Entertainment<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ed Miller, international Scottish folk singer, with Scottish fiddle player John Taylor• Duddybreeks, St. Louis's own ceilidh band• Alex Usher, music of Scotland on the autoharp• Alex Sutherland and His Cronies, popular Scottish folk group
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S T L O U I S
SCOTTISH GAMES

Committee Chairs

Turk Lewis
Accounting & Finance
Jen Nicoll
Admission Gate
Joe Moore/Jim & Tom McCaughan
Athletics
Dave Massey
British Car Show
Judie Chaboude
Ceremonies
Carrie Sutherland
Children's Activities
Geoff Chaboude/Carrie Sutherland
Clans & Associations
Doreen Beckman/Jen Nicoll
Dog, Bird & Livestock Exhibits
Patricia McRoberts
E-mail & V-mail Coordination
Alex Sutherland
Entertainment
Diane McCullough
Genealogy; History/Storytelling
Sandra Brown
Highland Dancing
Doreen Beckman
Hotels/Accommodation
Dan Bohn
Logistics & Facilities
John Daniels R. N.
Medical
Christopher Fulton
Merchandising; Volunteers
Carrie Sutherland/Geoff Chaboude
Merchants & Food Vendors
Drew Hoinacki
Piping & Drumming
Erik Miller
Program Design
Charles Henderson
Publicity & Media Relations
Larry Carr
Radio Communications
Gary Stacey
Security
Anne McLaren
Sponsor Recognition

In the beginning...

Torchlight Ceremony (Friday, Oct 12, 6:30pm)

The ceremony will begin with a few songs by Alex Sutherland. At approximately 7:00, you will be transported back in time to the highlands of Scotland. Off in the distance a piper is playing a haunting tune....
"outlawed tunes on outlawed pipes".



After the tune begins to fade, a voice begins to describe where we are in time and the historical significance of Clansmen running through the hills of Scotland....

"The Calling of the Clans".

From out of the night mist, we see a flaming torch approach, and as it draws nearer, we recognize that it is carried by a Clansman answering our call "to gather". With a loud, proud voice, he announces what Clan he represents and where they are from. He deposits his torch alongside the torches of his fellow clansmen and joins a circle of the clansmen around the growing group.



Where will it be held?

In Forest Park, on Lindell Boulevard, immediately east of the Missouri History Museum (at DeBaliviere). Forest Park is bounded on the north by Lindell, on the west by Skinker, and on the south by US40-I.64.

From 40, exit north onto McCausland which becomes Skinker Blvd., then East on Lindell to the Missouri History Museum, then follow the signs.

NEED TO CONTACT SOMEONE AT SLSG:

Call Bill Nicoll at The Games phone no. (314) 821 1286

E-mail to macmail@stlouis-scottishgames.com

Web URL is www.stlouis-scottishgames.com



S T L O U I S SCOTTISH GAMES

I've seen the budget and it's no better looking than I am. Of course, we can use more help in raising money to cover costs.



The attached **Patron/Donor** form is being offered as an opportunity for readers to make an appropriate financial contribution to the St Louis Scottish Games. Be sure to check out the form for the benefits and privileges that come in return.

Tell your friends about this opportunity.

Call us if you know anyone who might be interested in advertising in the program or in other types of support.

Parade of Tartans will begin at 12:30 pm

Pipe bands will march and play to begin the ceremony. As each clan represented enters the ceremony area, a short history of that clan is announced, with special acknowledgments given to any attending Clan Chiefs. The first clan to enter will be the "Honored Clan" of the day, and the rest will follow in alphabetical order. After all Clans have been introduced, they will stand as a group with their standards held high as they are welcomed by the Games officials.

The celebrity of the Games will be introduced and say a few words. As the pipe bands play, the clansmen will leave the area, led by one of the pipe bands, while their standard bearers remain in place. At this time, there will be an acknowledgment of the "Tartan", then the standard bearers will follow the remaining pipe band off the field.

(All clansmen/women participating, must wear tartan)

History & Storytelling Tent

Three professional storytellers will take the audience back into the time of legends. *Sponsored in partnership with the Missouri Humanities Council and with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the State of Missouri.*

Music Entertainment

Several professional musicians will perform at various times. *Financial assistance provided by the Missouri Arts Council, a State agency.*



TOASTS & THINGS

The Origins of Scottish Highland Games

According to tradition, early Clan chieftains used athletic competition to choose their personal guard. King Malcolm Canmore, who began his reign in 1057, is credited with initiating crude forms of today's Scottish Highland Athletic Games as a means of improving the abilities of his military. By the sixteenth century, the athletic competition had become festive occasions, but were still seen as a way for kings and chiefs to choose the best men.

The equipment currently used at Highland Games has evolved from items that were locally available. A blacksmith's wooden-shafted hammer or "mell" for driving fenceposts has become the 22# hammer. Woodsmen produced the "caber" (gaelic for "tree") for their own event. Thrown for distance and height were 28# and 56# steelyard weights. Tossing a sheaf with a pitchfork emerged from the agricultural regions. A rounded riverbed stone made the ideal "clachneart". Even Highland dancing was included with the other events which combined to tax the endurance, strength and agility of the competitors. While many of the events have become more sophisticated and refined over the centuries, they retain the essence and flavor of the ancient days.

Scottish Highland Games are held in all parts of the world where Scots by birth or ancestry have made their homes. Scots, more than any other nationality, seem to inherit a remarkable attraction and love for the land of their ancestors, taking particular pride and pleasure in perpetuating the customs and culture of Scotland. The athletic competitions are still an essential part of the Games today; but have gradually grown in size and scope to their present form including more of the atmosphere of a fair with Scottish food and goods for sale, a gathering of clans and friends, and the music and dancing all Scots love. The spirited yet haunting skirl of the bagpipes, the most ancient of musical instruments, which can excite one to follow in war, and stir the tears of remembrance, weaves all these things together.

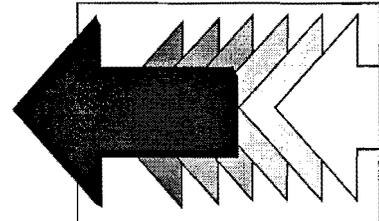


CORRECTION.

In the previous edition we made a typo in the phone number for Judy Browne (The Walter Crawford Scottish Trip). The correct number is (636) 394 7667. The e-mail is the same at incentive@primary.net. Wishing you all a great trip to Scotland.

**SEE Y'ALL AT OUR
SCOTTISH GAMES AND CULTURAL FESTIVAL**

Please encourage your friends to attend



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:

*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 (636) 519 7979

