



SCOTTISH ST. ANDREW SOCIETY OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members & Friends,

Our 30th Robert Burns Dinner maintained its tradition of quality and a heavy dose of Scottishness in word and music. Congratulations to all who contributed their talents, both out front and behind the scenes. Featured entertainer Ed Miller had another busy week in St. Louis with his popular house concerts before/after captivating about 400 Scots and "wannabees" on January 26.

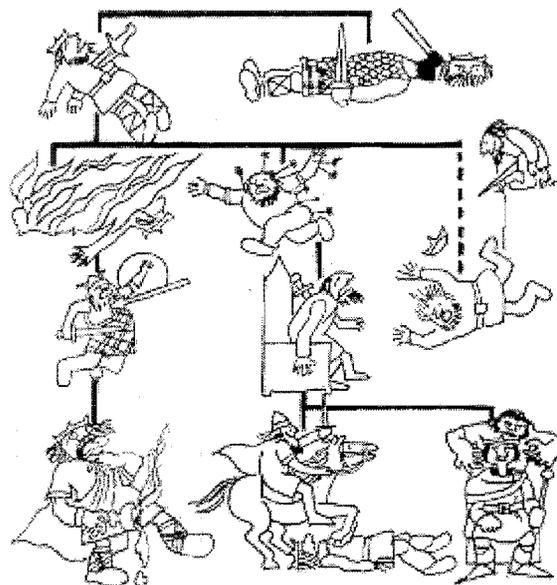
Alongside seasoned performers, a young husband and wife team cleverly delivered the Lassies Toast & Reply. They were Alysa & Greg McLaughlin, whose late father Hugh is named among "The Society's Presidents" elsewhere in these pages.

Also in a historical context, I had the pleasure to bestow Honorary Life Membership on Jean Cobain, Frances "Babs" Stirrat, and Rev. Thom Hunter (Society Chaplain for most of these past 30 years). They join a small group that has only two surviving Honorary members – Peggy Flynn, who was present for the latest awards, and Winnie Shirreff, who was ill at the time.

Our Society is now a member of the International Folklore Federation (Greater St. Louis) and at my first meeting I learned about its next festival at Westport in May (check out *Upcoming Events*). With likely membership from 53 countries, the cross-cultural aspects promise to be interesting in these difficult times we live in.

Yours aye, Bill Nicoll.

Genealogy is becoming the new rage — check your family tree via the internet and come up with all kinds of links. Truth is that the symbols below are an essential guide to your past.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Next



Event

Saturday, April 6th, 2002.

Ceilidh and Tartan Day Celebration

at the Whispering Hills Club House

See attached flier — plan now and ask some friends

THE FLIER IS YOUR RESERVATION FORM: USE IT, DON'T LOSE IT

Other exciting events for this year....

April 30th, 7:30pm: **A CELEBRATION OF SCOTLAND**

At the Sheldon Concert Hall (pay at the door)

An evening of Scottish music and song, poetry and dance.

To benefit the Scottish Games and Cultural Festival

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

Alex Sutherland and His Cronies — have lots of upcoming events. Best to check out their web site at www.alexutherland.com or call Alex at (314) 771 0119

What's on elsewhere....

Folklore Federation — multi-cultural event at Westport, May 18-19.

Interested in the Irish version of Celtic music?

See the **Mississippi River Celtic (Irish) Music Festival** April 12-14. More details can be found at www.tionol.org

Summer School of Gaelic music, song, dance, and culture (Ed Miller will be there)

For more information call (314) 516 7299

Jock finds himself in dire trouble. His business has gone bust and he's in serious financial problems. He's so desperate that he decides to ask God for help. "God, please help me. Ah've lost ma wee store and if Ah dinna get some money, Ah'm going to lose my hoose too. Please let me win the lottery!" Lottery night! Someone else wins... Jock prays again. "God, please let me win the lottery! Ah've lost my wee store, ma hoose and Ah'm going to lose ma car as weel!" Lottery night again! Still no luck... Jock prays again. "Ah've lost ma business, ma hoose and ma car. Ma bairns are starving. Ah dinna often ask Ye for help and Ah have always been a good servant to Ye. PLEASE just let me win the lottery this one time so Ah can get back on ma feet!"

Suddenly there is a blinding flash as the heavens open and the voice of God Himself thunders: "Jock at least meet Me half way and buy a ticket!"

"There's aye a pickle waater whaur the stirkie droons!" (There's always water where the calf drowns)

Burns Dinner Pics

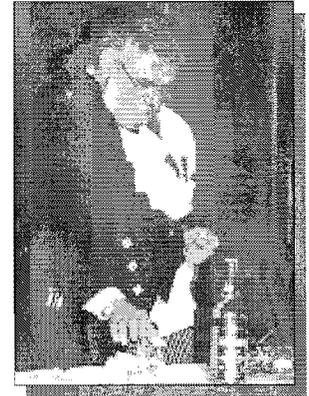
Our 30th Anniversary



Sisters of The Haggis



Piping of The Haggis



He did it Proud



Dance Caledonia in great form.



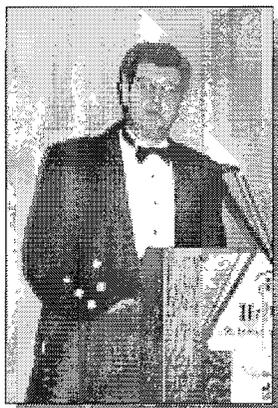
Our MC kept the night moving with an exciting touch



Toasts to The President, The Queen, and Bonnie Scotland



Ed Miller
- entertaining as ever



The Immortal Memory



SAS President awards Hon Life Membership:
Rev Thom Hunter, Jean Cobain, Babs Stirrat

Caledonia Corner

A meeting of the Royal Philosophical Society of Glasgow was held. There was a very large attendance to hear a lecture by Mr Ebenezer Howard, London. Mr Howard said the housing problem was now universally admitted to be of the greatest urgency. On its solution depended the position which this country would occupy in the century upon which we had entered. Congested cities and depopulated country were twin problems which must be dealt with together. The Garden City Association was getting in touch with a numerous body of manufacturers and public-spirited persons with a view to acquiring a large tract of land on which a considerable town with a population of, say, 30,000 might be built. *From the Glasgow Herald, 100 years ago.*

A recent letter to leading Scottish Newspaper.....

I wonder whether I am the only one of your readers to be somewhat disturbed that your only proposed solution to the difference between the economies of Edinburgh and Glasgow (Leader, February 2) is that Glasgow should become a labour "feeder" to the booming Edinburgh economy. The only intervention to the crudity of what you suggest are market forces proposed in your leader would be improved transport links, no doubt to facilitate the "feeding" of the ravenous Edinburgh economy and to reduce, slightly, the minimum 10 hours a week Glasgow residents will require to spend commuting to Edinburgh. (The equivalent of an extra five weeks' work a year.) The potency of the Edinburgh economy is partly due to decisions taken by our rulers in the first place. *Think he was from Glasgow??*

Wha wad ken?

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

1. When was the Battle of Prestonpans?
2. What did Kirkpartrick Macmillan invent in 1839?
3. What is processed along the river Tweed?

Congratulations to Stephen Clark who was first with the correct answers.

Answers:

1. A Munroe is a mountain over 3000 feet.
2. St Andrew's University was founded 1411
3. Tam O' Shanter's horse was "Meg"

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

Sir Hugh Robertson died 50 years ago and has been forgotten by name but his work lives on. He was knighted for services to music in Scotland.

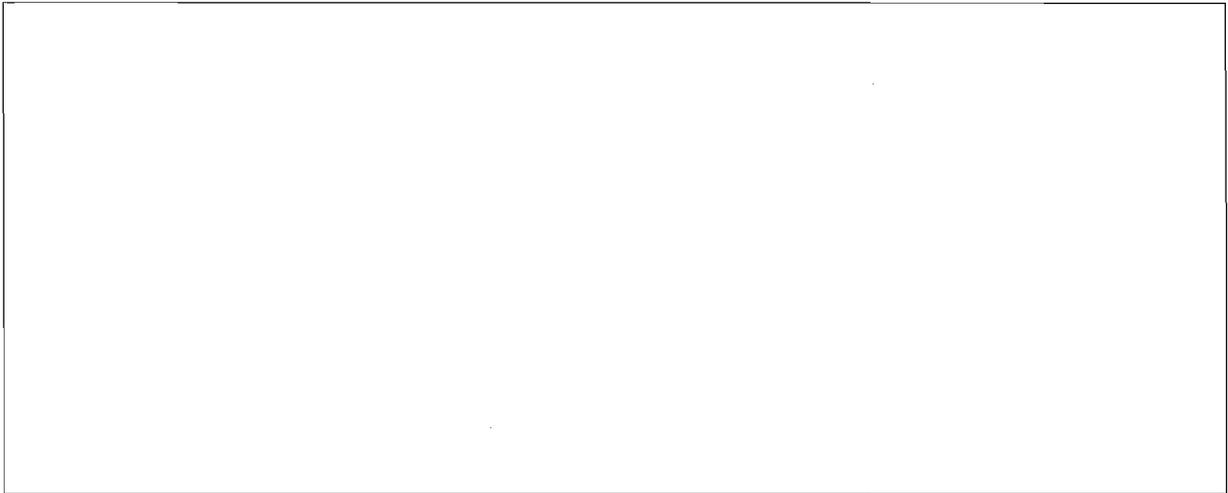
Robertson was the person who collected, arranged and published many of the Hebridean songs that are now taken as part of Scottish folk music. Who has not heard the Lewis Bridal Song, or Speed Bonnie Boat, or Westering Home...

*Westering home and a song in the air,
Light in the eye, and it's goodbye to care;
Laughter o' love, and a welcoming there;
Isle of my heart my own one!
Where are the folk like the folk o' the west?
Canty and couthy and kindly the best;
There I would hie me, and there I would rest
At hame wi' my ain folk in Isla.*

Robertson was involved in many musical ventures in Scotland, including the forming of a choir made up of Glasgow street kids.

Membership News

This is a new page for St Andrew's Society members.... One suggestion that we've had is to publish more current information about the things going on in the lives of our Members. The Membership News was written last month by your editor (me) — and there has been a long standing request for more information. We can write stories about Scotland and history and what's going on in general, but we don't have reporters out there to cover and write all the detail news items.... You have to respond, or we will go back to having this page be filled with other things (maybe you prefer that, so we'll see). Just to convey the point, this text box is filled with the recent material sent in....



The Society now has around 260 members and in recent months has welcomed a significant number of new members with interests in things Scottish. The names of these new members are:

Elizabeth "Beti" Bailey, Mineral Point
Giles Blair, St Louis
William & Diana Blanchard, University City
Will & Hellen Carpenter, Chesterfield
Bruce & Mary Coonan, Ballwin
Douglas & Heidi Drysdale, St Albans
Chris & Elizabeth Kidd, St Louis
Robert Kostuck Newburgh, IN
Dean & Sandra Lewis, Belleville, IL
Marilyn Mackris, Richmond Heights
Michael & Gihan Kader Shepard, Chesterfield
George Gerules, St Louis

Show your Society Pride with newly designed Polo Shirts...

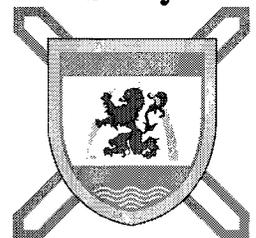
100% Cotton polos made by Munsingwear. Herringbone weave. Two colors available:

- Navy with contrasting oatmeal colored collar and sleeve bands, and
- Oatmeal with contrasting black colored collar and sleeve bands

Full color embroidered Society Logo
Sizes available (Small thru 3X)
Cost: \$40.00 each

To place your order, contact Chris Fulton at (314)962-1478

Scottish St. Andrew Society



St. Louis

TOASTS & THINGS

In April in the small town of Bridge of Allan, the Stirling Literary Society is sponsoring a presentation of the Sir Walter Scott epic, "The Lady of the Lake." Many of our readers may not be aware but the writings of Scott are interwoven into hundreds of situations around the world.

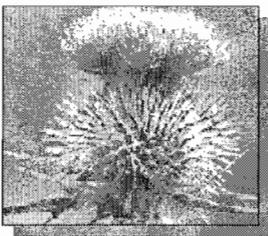
The 1810, Lady of the Lake is a story of love and war in the Highlands. It prompted the creation of two well-known pieces of music... "Hail to The Chief" which is the entry march played for American Presidents, and "Ave Maria" which was written by Schubert but inspired by a hymn that Sir Walter Scott had included in this piece. Other works include Ivanhoe, The Talisman, Marmion, and Jock O' Hazeldean.

From Lady of The Lake

*No rude sound shall reach thine ear,
Armour's clang, or war-steed champing,
Trump nor pibroch summon here
Mustering clan, or squadron tramping.
Yet the lark's shrill fife may come
At the day-break from the fallow,
And the bittern sound his drum,
Booming from the sedgy shallow.*

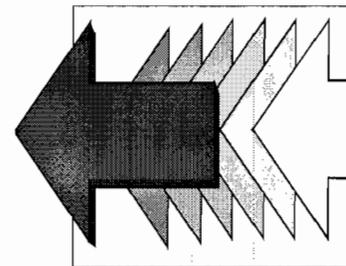
OK! Who painted my face to look like that Braveheart guy!

Scottish badgers are nocturnal — this one got caught with a spotlight.



**Know anyone interested
In joining the Society**

**Call Geoff Chaboude
At (636) 519 7979
E-mail: jeffcktj@aol.com**



Hope you all enjoyed reading our very own newsletter, the **Thistle Times**. Thank you to all who contribute material. It is appreciated. **Please send 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**

SCOTTISH CEILIDH

PLUSTARTAN DAY CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 6th, 2002. Starting 7:00pm till ~11:30pm
at Whispering Hills Club House

Presenting
THE ANNUAL CEILIDH

Songs, poetry, stories, dance,
jokes, music, fun, laughter.....

Everyone can participate.....
Raffle prizes.....
A fun, party atmosphere....

Beverages supplied

POT LUCK FOOD
Everyone please bring a hot or
cold hors d'oeuvres or dessert.



DRESS...
Informal with
some tartan or
informal kilts

Whispering Hills Club House is on Whispering Hills Drive, between Ross Rd and Fee Fee, just north of Olive.

Detach here and send with check, by April 1st, to:

Diane McCullough, 3664 Wyoming Street, St. Louis, MO 63116. Tel: 314 773 4195

RESERVATIONS: Name _____

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| ___ Adults @ \$15.00 each: | \$ _____ |
| ___ Seniors (over 65) @ \$10.00 each: | \$ _____ |
| ___ Kids (under 16) @ \$5.00 each: | \$ _____ |
| TOTAL: | \$ _____ |

Questions: Call Diane @ 314 773 4195

Checks payable to: The Scottish St Andrew Society

**RESERVATIONS WILL
NOT BE ACCEPTED
WITHOUT A CHECK.**

Please remember to include
your check . Thank you.

BY April 1st

TICKETS at DOOR will be \$17 but phone reservation is required