



SCOTTISH ST. ANDREW SOCIETY OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

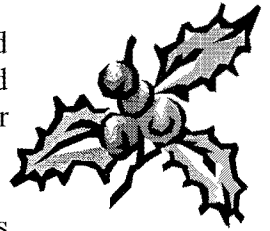
THIS TIMES

DEC 2003
ISSUE 12.3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members & Friends,

It was so nice to see some familiar and quite a few new faces at the St. Andrews Dinner Dance recently, and of course we all took the opportunity tae "Dance the buckles aff oor shoon." Many thanks to all who made the evening so enjoyable.



The weather over the last few days has reminded us "Tis the Season" to celebrate with friends and family, so see you all at the Christmas Party on the 15th (details elsewhere in the newsletter). Then on to Christmas, Hogmanay, New Year, and Robert Burns. So, Merry Christmas to all, and to all....

Yours aye, Alex Sutherland

Yule Shard...

A common rite in Scotland is to ensure that every part of the house is clean and tidy before midnight on Hogmanay (New Years Eve). Originally, this was also an activity associated with Christmas Eve. Nothing should be borrowed or lent and all work must be finished. If you don't conform then you are a "Yule Shard"!

Happy Holidays



Merry Christmas



an' a Guid New Year.

Lang mae yer lum reek!



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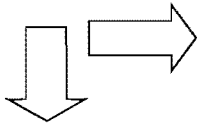
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MARK YOUR
CALENDAR NOW



Monday December 15th, 2003
Dinner starts 6:00pm. Caroling/Santa ~ 7pm
Christmas Party
At Mary Institute/Country Day School
101 North Warson Road (corner of Warson and Ladue)
Enter grounds and turn left: last building at south end of campus.



Ham, tea/coffee, soft drinks provided
PLEASE BRING A CASSEROLE, SALAD or DESSERT

Names of children (to meet Santa) to Shirley Trotter
Call 314 841 2095 as soon as possible

January 24th, 2004. Annual Robert Burns Dinner at the Frontenac Hilton
SOLD OUT LAST YEAR. Sign up soon. SEE ATTACHED FLIER.

Other exciting events for this year....

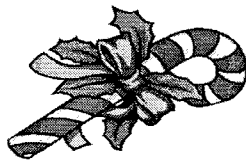
- April — Ceilidh and Tartan Day events
- May — Annual Picnic



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

Kilted Golf — we need an organizer, or volunteer to help co-organize this event for 2004
It's fun and the bonus is amazing! Call Jim McLaren at 636 532 5986

BULLETIN BOARD



WELCOME RECENT NEW MEMBERS

Georgia Bracey	Maryville	IL	Romayne & Keith Filges	Collinsville	IL
M. & Carole C Brennan	St. Louis	MO	Joanne Frazer	St. Louis	MO
Derrick & Deborah Bruce	St. Charles	MO	J. Alan & Penny Grant	Alton	IL
Jack & Joy Carr	Chesterfield	MO	Irvin & Lynn Henning	Maryland Hts	MO
Bill & Jean Carson	DeSoto	MO	Vanessa Kinder	Elsberry	MO
Ray & John Cooperman	St. Louis	MO	Jason & Melissa Kinder	Ballwin	MO
Bernadette Dione	St. Louis	MO	Bryan & Carol Landis	Manchester	MO
Carolyn Duncan	St. Louis	MO	John & Gina Loudon	Ballwin	MO
Jack & Claudia Fife	St. Louis	MO	James & Barbara McCulloch	Lake St Louis	MO
			Sandra & Alan Politte	Chesterfield	MO
			Wallace & Sylvia Stuart	Saint Louis	MO
			Howard & Mary Sutherland	St. Louis	MO
			Frank & Anita Ward	St. Louis	MO
			Grace Wells	St. Louis	MO
			Joe & Irma Yanks	Webster Groves	MO

Oot an' Aboot

REMEMBRANCE DAY "THANK YOU"

The Society was represented at this year's Remembrance Day service at Jefferson Barracks by Don Conrad, Shawn Steadman, Jen & Bill Nicoll, Anja & Dick Lodge. As Honorary Consul for the Netherlands and one of the original hosts of this moving Annual event, Dick laid one of the wreaths in memory of Dutch soldiers buried in a mass grave along with Australian, British and American prisoners of war. These men all died in Japanese prison camps in the Philippines during World War II. Society friend Bill Sandbach (USNR Retired) was again the piper for this ceremony, and one of those in kilts. At the lunch which followed, with military personnel from Fort Leonard Wood and Scott Air Force base, the following note received from a lady at the restaurant sums up what such a gathering is all about: "I'd like to thank all of you for being generous to all of your countries and fighting for freedom. You have the respect of this American Veteran and her 8-year old son. We appreciate your honor and respect. Happy Veteran's Day."

HIGHLAND DANCING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN ST. LOUIS

On May 1, 2004, the Southwest Regional Highland Dancing championships (there are six regions in the US) are being held for the first time in St. Louis. As part of the 1904 World's Fair Bicentennial celebrations, this unique Scottish event will take place in the History Museum's auditorium at Forest Park. "Regionals" is an annual closed competition for Premier dancers only, which determines who will go on to dance in "Nationals." Next year, these will be held July 21-25 at the Mall of America in Minneapolis. In Highland Dancing, it is a very high honor to reach this level, which was achieved in 2003 by Madeleine Docherty, one of our area's own! This young lass was featured on the St. Louis Scottish Games poster and Program cover, and came up through Sandra Brown's outstanding "Dance Caledonia" group that is so well known to our Society members.



St. Louis Scottish Games... DID YOU KNOW?

Charitable donations can be offset against income tax, and you still have until December 31st to make such donations for 2003.

The 2003 Games were very successful with higher attendance and more quality events than

ever before. Again, the feedback was that this is an enjoyable, top-class operation. Over the three years, we have strived to create outstanding quality, at an affordable entry fee for everyone. At the present time, we remain in a situation where the total income has not covered all the costs over the three years. We are still in the red and will either have to raise more funds or cut back on some aspects of future Games.

Please consider what you might be able to donate to help out, and offset this against your 2003 income tax. Please make checks payable to "St Louis Scottish Games" and mail to SLSG, PO Box 8611, Chesterfield, MO 63006. Friends of the Games (2004) benefits will be provided per donation level. Thank you.



Caledonia Corner

Hogmanay — the major Scottish Celebration

Hogmanay (December 31st) is the Scottish New Year and has been celebrated for centuries. The origins are lost in time but the event is present in many stories and legends. Today, there are massive wild street parties in Edinburgh and Glasgow. All over Scotland there are traditional celebrations involving Ceilidhs (song and dance types), first footing, torchlight ceremonies, fireworks, and in some parts there is the swinging of special fireballs. The flames and partying of Hogmanay symbolizes carrying of knowledge from one year to the next, lighting the way into the next uncharted period of time, putting behind you the darkness of the past, hopes and expectations of a favorable conditions in the coming year.



Happy Hogmanay, A guid New Year tae yin an' aw, an' Aw ra' best fir 2004.

ANNIVERSARY OOPS! (or rebel Station comes alive?)

Radio Scotland's early morning Sunday Live programme chose to celebrate the station's 25th birthday with a special report featuring a jolly if ancient-sounding jingle which went: "Fun for you on Radio Scotland/ Radio Scotland calling you/ Turn the dial to Radio Scotland/ Stationed here on 242." Interestingly, as our more elderly readers will know, that jingle is from the "wrong" Radio Scotland — the much-lamented pirate station which preceded it. Radio Scotland's head, Maggie Cunningham, had to get out of her bed early on the Sunday to explain to the bosses how it all happened. *The original*

Radio Scotland lives on in the ghost airwaves!!

Wha wad ken?

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

1. What was Jackie Stewart famous for?
2. Where would find Marschall College?
3. What is a bawbee?

Congratulations to Shari & Dave Borlin — correct and fast answers!

ANSWERS:

1. Andy Stewart: Scottish singer
2. New Lanark: industrial commune on the River Clyde, with 19th century social reforms.
3. Sheep: Blackface or Cheviot

All replies to Jim McLaren Tel: 636-532-5986

Fast e-mail: mclaren@strathkirn.com

Snail mail: 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Ct.,
Chesterfield, MO 63017

An optimistic conference called Toward a Confident Scotland recently took place at Glasgow's Science Centre, with delegates naturally radiating much positive energy. One participant was a little surprised, however, at the oddly restricted title of one of the attending organizations: "Be All You Can Be Limited."

ARCADIA VALLEY CELTIC FESTIVAL Christmas Ceilidh, Friday Dec 12th, 7pm

To be held at the beautiful Scottish Rite Temple in St. Louis. Performers include The Boatrights, Alex Sutherland & His Cronies, Dr. Bil Christmas, Matt Panteloni, and Pat Harvey. Come along, have fun, watch and/or participate.

More info from the website:

www.arcadiavalleycelticfestival.org

Cody Wiles via acafe@misn.com

Tartan Day Plans

Missouri Tartan Day Festivities April 2, 3 & 4, 2004

Seems like a April is a long way ahead, however, the organizers would like those wishing to participate in Tartan Day to become involved early and communicate as soon as possible. For your planning purposes, here is the proposed schedule....

Friday, April 2

6:00pm, Reception & crowning of "Miss Tartan Day" Travelodge (host hotel), 2781 Veterans Memorial Parkway, St. Charles (Special Tartan Day rate \$49) For Reservations call 1-877-303-8700 For more information call Judie Chaboude 636-946-4174



Website: www.missouritartandayfestivities.com

Saturday, April 3

9:00am, "Rathad Breacan" Gaelic for "Tartan Trail" We will purchase & hang clan tartans from balconies along the parade route. For information on how to have your clan tartan included or to help call Geoff Chaboude 636-946-4174

11:00am, Assembly of parade Parking lot – Riverside & Boone's Lick

12:00 noon, Tartan Day Parade with participants from all four corners of Missouri, as well as from Illinois and Kansas. Parade route – Main to Monroe to Riverside to Frontier Park for short program. Following the program, entertainers & organizations will entertain & inform the public on Main St. and in Frontier Park. For more parade information or participation call Joe Moore 618-332-0117

7:00pm, Music Fest, A full program of entertainers from all over Missouri and our Master of Ceremonies, Alex Sutherland. Lindenwood University Cultural Center – 400 Kingshighway, St. Charles. Tickets at the door – Adults \$7 & Child, 5-12 \$4. Advance tickets available at Thistle & Clover 330 So. Main, St. Charles, including a "Special" of \$5 (adult) till Christmas (in a small tartan Christmas stocking). For more Music Fest info. call Janet Moss 636-386-2840 or Pam Davis 314-962-5103.

Sunday, April 4

10:30am "Kirkin of the Tartan". An American-Scottish celebration, founded in 1941, with pageantry and the blessing of the tartans. St. Charles Presbyterian Church, 131 Gamble, St. Charles. Following the ceremony, a buffet will be served in the Fellowship Hall. For more "Kirkin" information, call John Avery 636-227-2643

Fund Raising Support for Tartan Day: Hamilton House Dinners

Friday, February 27 and Saturday, March 6

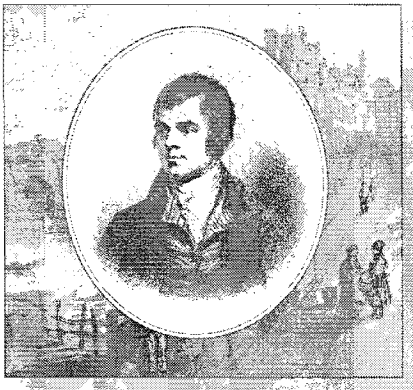
Have a wonderful dinner in a Scottish atmosphere by Cordon Bleu Chefs, John & Annie McClure. They are a delightful couple and John's very proud of his stock of Scottish single-malts. Located at 325 South Main St., St. Charles. Capacity is 15 couples per evening. **Reservations are \$45 per person** (all proceeds go to support Tartan Day). For reservations or information, call Judie Chaboude 636-946-4174 or Laura Courtney 636-946-4587.



TOASTS & THINGS

Don't forget to sign up early for the BURNS DINNER. See attached flier.

Then let us pray that come it may,
(As come it will for a' that),
That Sense and Worth, o'er a' the earth,
Shall bear the gree, an' a' that.
For a' that, an' a' that,
It's coming yet for a' that,
That man to man, the world o'er,
Shall brithers be for a' that.



By Oppression's woes and pains!
By your sons in servile chains!
We will drain our dearest veins,
But they shall be free!

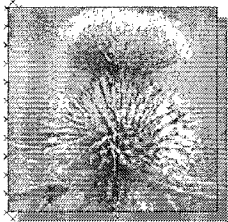
MELROSE ABBEY comes to St. Louis

Those who attended the AGM were able to view a large enclosed carving of Melrose Abbey. Some restoration may be required but the art work is magnificent and we don't know the ultimate value. This piece is being given to the Society by Ruth Ponciroli.

The Board has decided that we will hold a silent auction of this piece (at the Burns Dinner), with some of the proceeds to benefit Highland Dancing in the region: e.g. as mentioned on p3.

To those who bravely till the ground,
And those who make the wheels go round,
To those who dig the coal and shale,
Those who succeed and those who fail,
To weak or strong this word of cheer —
We wish you all a Good New Year.

John Black, 1909



**A wonderful Christmas
and a
Happy New Year
to Yin an' A'
an' lang mae yer lum reek!**



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@strathkirk.com.*

Website address is <http://www.inverizon.com/scotlink>
The St Andrew Society phone number is (636) 519 7979

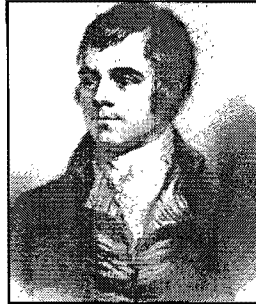
SCOTTISH ST ANDREW SOCIETY OF GREATER ST LOUIS

ROBERT BURNS DINNER

Sold out
last year

Frontenac Hilton
at Lindbergh and Clayton
Saturday, January 24th, 2004

Cocktails @ 5:30pm
DINNER @ 6:25pm
(plus haggis)



A Grand Evening
of poems, songs,
Dance Caledonia,
Invera'an Pipe Band,
and Scottish culture.

TRADITIONAL TOASTS AND TRIBUTES TO THE GREAT BARD

Including Special Guest Entertainer: Chris Tait as R. Burns himself

Special room rates at the Frontenac Hilton: \$99 single or double.

Call to make room reservations at 314 993 1100

Seating is first come first reserved: must reserve and pay by Jan 17th.

RESERVATIONS: DETACH & SEND WITH CHECK

Society Members:

___ Regular Members @ \$60.00 ea = \$ ___

___ Senior Members (62+) @ \$55.00 ea. = \$ ___

Non-Members

___ Non-members @ \$65.00 ea. = \$ ___

CHECK FOR TOTAL = \$ ___

If after Jan 17th, and space still available, price = \$75 per ticket

RESERVATIONS IN THE NAME OF _____

Any seating preference: _____

RESERVATIONS & CHECKS MUST BE IN BEFORE JAN 17th

INCLUDE A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE TO:

Anne McLaren, 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Court, Chesterfield, MO 63017

Need more information then call Anne @ 636-532-5986.

CHECKS MADE OUT TO SCOTTISH ST ANDREWS SOCIETY