



SCOTTISH ST. ANDREW SOCIETY OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members & Friends,

The summer is almost over, although the temperature seems to be "sticking"! Again, our talented and dedicated volunteers have been busy planning and organizing many exciting events for the coming months (see page 2), including the Society Annual General Meeting (Sept 20th) and the Scottish Games (Oct 8-9th). A big "thank you" to all the people that have contributed.

The St Andrew Society (SSAS) has a goal to promote Scottish culture and heritage around St. Louis and achieves this through events such as the Annual Dinner Dance, the Robert Burns Dinner, the Ceilidh, and several parties. The St Louis Scottish Games (SLSG), with sponsorship from the Society, provides an opportunity for an exciting glimpse of the breadth and depth of Scottish culture, from music to athletics to ancient legends, during the course of one week-end in October.

As always, our success depends on the people in our "Scottish" community who make the difference – and we look forward to continuing with the success achieved so far. Thank you for your support in these activities, and we look forward to your continued support and to seeing you at the Games, the AGM, and during another enjoyable year of events in the Scottish community.

Yours Aye, Alex Sutherland (President SSAS),
Jim McLaren (Chair SLSG, and Thistle Times Editor)

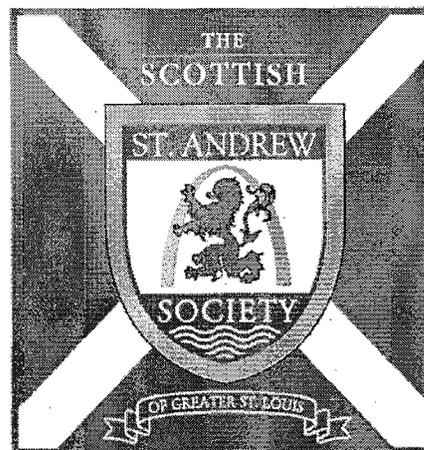
A Wee Slice o' Scotland



We're Back!

We trust you had a good summer, and you're ready for the upcoming events.

The Thistle Times is now a teenager!
This will be the 13th year of publication.



inside...

Upcoming Events

St Louis Scottish Games

Enclosed Dues Form

Back in the Auld Country

THISTLE TIMES

SEP 2004
ISSUE 13.1

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next



Event

Tuesday, September 20th, 2004 at 7:00pm

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Pat's Bar & Grill, 6400 Oakland at Tamm (across 140 from the zoo)

Come along early and eat first then join us in the upstairs meeting room

(Excellent food in the grill at reasonable prices)

Don't miss this important event to kick-off our new session

Plus you get to vote for new officers and tell us what's on your mind.

Other exciting events for this year....

The planning for several events is already underway, including

October 8-9, 2004. See you at the Annual St. Louis Scottish Games

November 13th, 2004. St Andrew's Day Dinner Dance at Forest Hills CC

December 13th, 2004. Christmas Party at Mary Institute Country Day School

January 29th, 2005. Annual Robert Burns Dinner at the Frontenac Hilton

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

Other events around town....

Battlefield Band coming to St. Louis

Under the banner "Forward With Scotland's Past," the **Battlefield Band** play Celtic music with rare passion and joy. Inspired by a rich heritage and fueled by the strength of today's Scottish cultural scene, the Battlefield Band mixes old songs with new self-penned material, and performs them on a unique fusion of ancient and modern instruments - bagpipe, fiddle, synthesizer, guitar, cittern, flute, bodhrán and accordion. The Battlefield Band performs at the Touhill Performing Arts Center on **Friday, Oct. 1 at 8 p.m.** For tickets or for more information, call 314.516.4949 or visit www.touhill.org.



"Kilt Nichts"

Thursdays, 7pm, at local Celtic watering holes (Sept 16: Feasting Fox)

Our own Nessie will appear on occasion to promote the Games.

For schedule, see SLSG web or call 636-949-4186 or 314-821-1286.

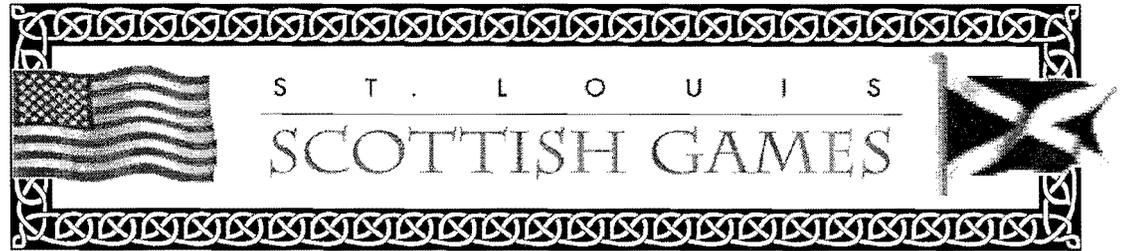
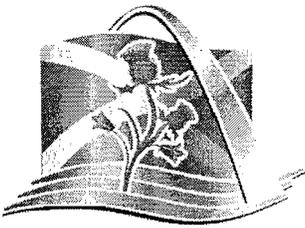
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (even for a couple of hours) for the Games Event

We need volunteers from the Society to help on Friday Oct 8th and Saturday Oct 9th with the

Society Information Booth and other Games Related Venues

If you would like to help, call Chris Fulton (314)962-1478 evenings

NOTE: Volunteers get a free souvenir T-shirt (*collectors item*)



Committee Chairs

The following people are leading the organization of the respective areas via personal efforts and through Committees of volunteers:

Patricia McRoberts/Anne McLaren
Administrative Support

Jen Nicoll

Admission Gate

Doreen Beckmai

Animals & Birds

Scott Runnels

Athletics

Dave Massey

British Car Show

Judie Chaboude

Ceremonies

Pam Davis

Children's Activities

Geoff Chaboude

Clans & Associations

Alex Sutherland

Entertainment

Sandra Brown

Highland Dancing

Diane McCullough

History; Genealogy; Grants

Gordon McRoberts

Logistics & Facilities

John Daniels R. N.

Medical

Christopher Fulton

Merchandising; Volunteers

Carrie Sutherland

Merchants & Food Vendors

George Gerules

Piping & Drumming

Kim Gordon

Program Coordination

Charles Henderson

Publicity & Media Relations

Mike McCrann/Larry Carr

Radio Communications; Parking

Dan Bohn

Security

Jim McLaren

Website Management

4th Annual St Louis Scottish Games & Cultural Festival

October 8th (Friday evening) and 9th (all day)
At Forest Park

To establish, for the Greater St. Louis community, a high-quality Highland Games and Scottish Festival as a sustainable, annual tradition that generates national interest and recognition.

What did they say about the Games last year?



Well, some said it was a wonderful occasion, some said fabulous and memorable, and some said it brought tears to their eyes to be standing in Forest Park with the sights and sounds of Scotland all around.

Many thanks to those who have already given, to the "Friends of the Games", and to the volunteers who have worked so hard during the past months. There are still opportunities to help out, so please feel free to contact us and ask what is involved.

With the costs involved, we are always looking for additional sources of financial help. If you have not done so already, please consider making a financial contribution, or helping to raise money via corporate sponsors, or by making referrals to people who may want to help. Please also encourage as many people as you can to attend the Games.

Looking forward to seeing there,

SLSG Board of Directors

Dr. Jim McLaren (Chair)

Diane McCullough (Vice-Chair)

Bill Nicoll (Managing Director)

Alex Sutherland (Secretary)

Turk Lewis (Treasurer)

Charles Henderson (Director at L)

Richard Lodge (Director at Large)

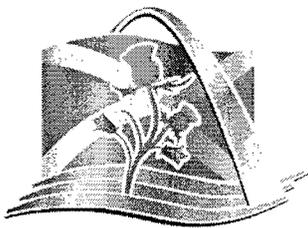
NEED TO CONTACT SOMEONE AT SLSG:

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



SUMMARY OF EVENTS & SCHEDULE

Friday, October 8th, 2004

Gates open @ 5:00pm.

~6:30pm: Torchlight Ceremony & Calling of the Scottish Clans. You may participate in this moving "out of the mist" ceremony — one representative per Clan, sign up inside the entry gate, wear tartan, and be able to carry a flaming torch. Or you can just show up and cheer for your favorite Clan.

Starting ~8:00pm: Ceilidh and Musical/Singing performers. An evening of song, dancing, and fun for all.

(You may bring your own lawn chair for the torchlight ceremony.)



Saturday, October 9th, 2004

Gates open @ 8:30am.

A full day of spectacular events and ceremonies, including folk music, heavy athletics, Highland dancing, pipebands, Border Collie sheepdog demonstrations, history, storytelling, British collector car show, animals, birds, kids games, Nessie and much more....

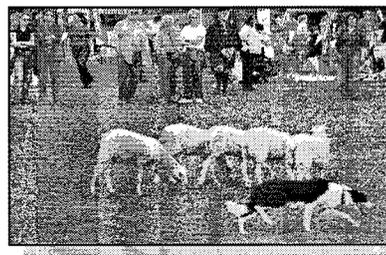
Visit the Clan tents, and browse the merchandise booths.

Parade of Tartans at ~12:30pm

Closing ceremony starts at 4:30pm, includes massed pipe-bands.

Food and beverages available both days from a range of vendors.

Please note: ***No pets allowed on site.***



Official Entry Forms for Competitions.....

See the website or call:

Piping & Drumming: George Gerules (314) 963 7242

Highland Dancing: Mary Sinclair (636) 530 9184

Heavy Athletics: Scott Runnels at 314-429-6681

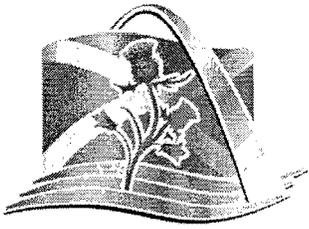
Car Show: Dave Massey (314) 966-6056

STILL THE BEST VALUE EVENT EVER

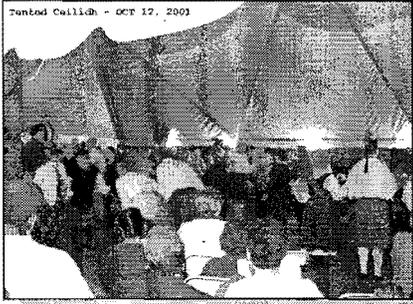
AGE GROUP	Friday Torchlight & Ceilidh	Saturday All Events	Both Days Combo Pass
General	\$10.00	\$15.00	\$20.00
Family pass 2 adults + kids	\$25.00	\$35.00	\$50.00

Under 5: free





S T L O U I S SCOTTISH GAMES



MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

In addition to the greatest Ceilidh in the MidWest (Friday), and fabulous pipebands (all day long on Saturday), there is an entertainment program lineup that would be rated a first-class show itself, in any theatre, anywhere in the world, including:



Main stage:

Brian McNeill, born in Falkirk, Scotland, plays fiddle, viola, mandolin, cittern, bouzouki, guitar, concertina, bass and hurdy-gurdy, and the importance of his songwriting (mostly about Scotland's past and future) has long been recognized.

Ed Miller is one of the finest singers to come out of the Scottish Folk Revival and brings his love of Scotland to every performance.

John Taylor, a native of Aberdeen, Scotland, started playing fiddle when he was eight years old. He moved to California in 1979 and joined the Scottish/Irish folk group Emerald.

The Boatrights, a five member Celtic band from the "Ozark Highlands" has been on the professional performing circuit for the past eight years.

Missouri Showcase Tent:

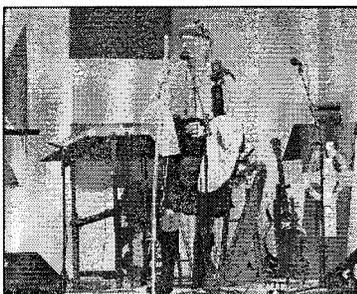
Duddybrecks, Ceol Alainn and guests, Alex Usher, Highland Mist Scottish Country Dancers, and Peat Fire Flame (folk band)

History and Storytelling:

Jeffrey Smith will appear as William Clarke.

Archie and Ramona Mason (Indian-Scottish links). Nationally recognized cultural Indian historian, with strong ties to Scotland.

Jeff Campbell (Gaelic Bard). Scottish history, culture, poems, and legends....



SLSG is also sponsoring and arranging history/storytelling and fiddle workshops in St Louis Public Schools, Ferguson-Florissant, and Lindbergh School Districts, with participation by the professional performers who will be at the Games.

Back in the Auld Country

Several members have been back visiting Scotland over the summer and it is interesting to note that some things change and some things never change.....

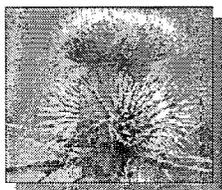
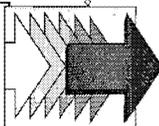
You are probably aware that the relatively new government, called the Scottish Executive, has been taking some stick over the new government building (that is not yet completed and the costs are escalating). What you may not have heard about is that the Executive spent about \$600,000 of taxpayers money to conduct an exhaustive search for an inspiring new symbol to promote Scotland. The result of this comprehensive exercise was to come up with the "Saltire" as the key symbol. Probably a good choice but it seems a bit costly just to discover a Scottish symbol that has been around for 12 centuries!

Your Editor, Jim McLaren, had meetings with the GlobalScot network leadership (part of Scottish Enterprise) and they are interested in developing solid business connection between Scotland and N. America. If you know of any one interested in investing in Scotland, wanting to start a business in Scotland, or wanting to invest in Scottish business this side of the "Pond" then let me know and I'll make the appropriate network connection.

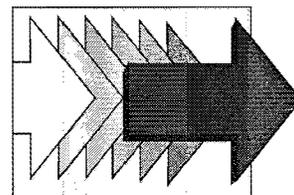
Musselburgh Racecourse recently held it's first Ladies' Day as a follow-up to the course's \$8 million refurbishment. To celebrate, the Herald newspaper organized a competition with the prize being brunch and buck's fizz at Rick's Bar in Edinburgh, private bus to the racecourse, club admission, betting voucher and a cocktail in the champagne marquee. The winner was to be the person that sent in a name for a racehorse that best described the current state of Scotland. We didn't see the winning name, but early entries included: "Deep-Fried Shergar", "Red Buckfast", "That's All Vogts!", "Knacker's Yard"! Oh well, there's nothing like local optimism!

... and did you know that Musselburgh racecourse sits on the site of one of the first golf courses in Scotland (way before St Andrews) and the members now play at Muirfield.

**PLEASE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE YOU MEET TO ATTEND THE GAMES.
ENCLOSED ARE SOME GAMES FLIERS FOR DISTRIBUTION (more are available)
AND TO JOIN THE ST. ANDREW SOCIETY**



**The DUES are DUE
See enclosed form**



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