



The Spectator

The Quarterly Newsletter of Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg
Winter 2014

President's Message – Winter 2014

Lads and Lassies,

Rather than the regular quarterly President's message, what follows is the 2014 State of the Society message, given at the Annual General Meeting. Vice President Duncan McIver presented the message because the President regrettably could not attend the AGM.

2014 State of the Society Talk

St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg Annual General Membership Meeting

November 16, 2014

Lads and Lassies,

The State of the Society report is meant to update the Society's membership on meaningful developments during the past year. You have just voted on important revisions to our bylaws, and you have elected four new Board members who will take office in January 2015. The new Board will then meet to elect new officers. This is the purpose of the Annual General Membership meeting. However before we go on to sample the merits of the Scotch whiskies that await us, let us briefly review developments in 2014.

We saw plenty of action this year, and I believe it is largely due to the energy and can-do spirit shown by our board of Directors and all the members who helped them and all the attendees at Society events during 2014. The year began with our gala Burns Nicht on January 25. This is always our best attended event. Do you remember Byron Adams on the pipes accompanied by his singing dog Skye? It was an unforgettable experience. The array of talent that paid homage to the immortal Robbie Burns was impressive. We went on to celebrate Tartan Day April 6 at the Boxwood Inn and it was a lovely sunny day full of music, song, dancing, musketry and warm comradeship. Then our student grantee Erin Park wrote us

from the University of Glasgow and her letter was included in the Spectator quarterly. In late April a Society delegation attended the Kirking of the Tartans at Historic Christ Church in Kilmarnock, sharing our Scottish heritage with other regional Scottish organizations and with the public.

In July it was the Family Picnic and Ceilidh at Queens Lake Clubhouse. The Society displayed a dazzling array of musical talent and served a delicious barbecue lunch. Also in July two of our grantees attended the Gaelic Song and Language Week in North Carolina, and sent us informative reports. In August, three of our Board members attended the Plains Scottish Games and Festival in the Plains, Virginia. Then in September the Society held a well-attended September luncheon in Peter Chang's restaurant, and our speaker was Andrew O'Dongghaile, a Society grantee studying at Cambridge. His talk and slide show was fascinating. In September the Society attended the Fall Festival of Folklife at Newport News Park. This was an effort to reach out to potential new members. We had our own tent and an impressive display of highland items. It was a good outreach and we made many new contacts.

Some of you just attended the Fall Kirking of the Tartans at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church and so here we are at the Annual General Meeting. Our next event will be the always popular December Lunch to be held at the Hellenic Center and we are already planning for the January 2015 Burns Nicht.

Perhaps most important, we continue our efforts to grow the Society. Total membership is now 116. We've welcomed ten new members since January. Our student grant recipients are doing fine, and briefing us regularly on their activities. Our goals for 2015 will include growing the Society further by reaching out to the general public through publicizing our activities and making them relevant to the younger generation. It is critical that we pass on our Scottish heritage to future generations. We have a strong new team to do this and I have full confidence in them.

Thank you.

Marshall S Thomas, President



Newport News Festival

The Fall Festival of Folklife was held Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 October in Newport News Park. This is a huge gathering that attracts around 40,000 visitors over the weekend. This was the 41st year for the event, but the first time for the Society to participate. It is mostly an arts and crafts festival.

We had a nicely decorated tent in the Heritage and Food section (those two go together well) on both Saturday and Sunday. We had an attractive group from our Saint Andrews Society, in kilts, tartan, and smiles, staffing the booth. We gave out a nice brochure, membership applications, and a lot of clan and other Scottish information. We believe it was a good outreach and we made some new friends, and we hope some will turn into new members. The photos are on our website already.

Special thanks to Bob Davis and his team for organizing and producing another excellent Saint Andrews Society Event. The team included: Bob and Claudette Davis; Marshall, Chris, and Kim Thomas; Duncan and Pat McIver; Jack and Nancy Kane; Milt and Frances Holt; Art and Anne Corff; Kathy Kasley; Dave and Eileen Lowery; Harley Stewart; and Tom Campbell. We also thank our entertainers Jim Boyer and 13-year old Charles Perry on the pipes, Connie Smith on guitar, Arden Clark on violin and Kathy Kasley on the harp.

The Newport News Folk Festival is a new venue for many of us and was a lot of fun and we should consider going again next year. Article by Duncan Mciver.











Fall Kirking of the Tartans, November 16, 2014

The Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg held its fall Kirking of the Tartans on Sunday November 16th at the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church.

Thirty five members of the society and friends were led into the sanctuary by the music of the Williamsburg Pipes and Drums playing Morag of Dunvegan.

Pastor John Morgan's sermon was titled: *Children of Light*. The tartans were presented to the music of *Oh God, Our Help in Ages Past*.

At the conclusion of the service the delegation followed the band out of the church for a postlude of Scottish pipe music performed on the walkway. Over the past 6 or 8 years the event at the Presbyterian Church has grown in popularity to the point where members of the church ask when it will occur again, and Pastor Morgan who has Cameron ancestors, is also an enthusiastic supporter.

Article by Lynn Newcomer, photos by Kimberly Perry.





Annual General Meeting, November 16, 2014

The Saint Andrews Society of Williamsburg held their Annual General Meeting on Sunday afternoon, November 16 at the Windsor Forest clubhouse. Over 35 attended this exciting event. After a delicious luncheon provided by Creative Cuisine of Hampton, Duncan McIver, Vice President, called the AGM to order.

Following excellent reports by Secretary Kasley and Treasurer Tucker, we welcomed new members: Tom Campbell, Kenneth Herman, Frances Holt, Milton Holt, Terry Newsom, Michael Thompson, Johanna Thompson, Edward Truslow, Archibald Wallace III, and Samuel Kneeland Wallace. We then elected four new Board members: Roger Ferguson, Frances Holt, John Mott Robinson, and Michael Thompson. We said goodbye and thanks to retiring Board to: Bill Kennedy, Jack Kane, Kathy Kasley, and Marshall Thomas.

We also passed a new Quorum change to the Society's Constitution. We introduced a review of membership requirements that the Board would discuss over the next year and bring back to the AGM for consideration next year. McIver then read the excellent State of the Society Talk from President Marshall Thomas. Anne Korff read the presentation for the Scot of the Year, and the plaque was presented to the honored recipient Walter Spencer. The AGM was then adjourned and a great Scottish Whiskey Tasting ensued, produced by Jack Kane, Bob Davis, Byron Adams, and Howard Topp.

Article by Duncan McIver, photos by Walter Spencer.



New members Johanna Thompson, Michael Thompson, Tom Campbell, Edward Truslow, Milton Holt, and Frances Holt



New Board members Michael Thompson, Frances Holt and Roger Ferguson (above)





Walter Spencer (left) receives Scot of the Year award from SAS Vice President Duncan McIver



Anne Korff



The whiskey-tasting (below)



Christmas Luncheon, Sunday December 7

The SAS Christmas Luncheon was held Sunday December 7, 2014 at the Hellenic Center. This was an excellent venue with a delicious buffet. The gathering was great fun with more than 30 members and guests attending. Henry Hancock played a terrific harmonica concert for us while Anne Korff serenaded us with lovely songs. This was a very good start for the Christmas season.





Henry Hancock (below)





WE NEED YOU!



VOLUNTEER FOR THE SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF WILLIAMSBURG

Help us ensure that Scotland's heritage never dies!



Saint Andrew's Society
Williamsburg, Virginia

www.scotsofwmb.org

Photo from stopthesethings.com

WE NEED YOU!



JOIN SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF WILLIAMSBURG

WE NEED STRONG-WILLED, COURAGEOUS, INDEPENDENT
WOMEN TO ENSURE SCOTLAND'S HERITAGE NEVER DIES!



Saint Andrew's Society
Williamsburg, Virginia

VOLUNTEER AT

www.scotsofwmbg.org

Image from Pinterest willow-wood.tumblr.com



Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Application for Membership

Full Name: _____

Are you, applying as a new member ☐ or as a Spouse ☐ Son ☐ Daughter ☐ in the same household of a current member (check one)?

Member's Name if you are a spouse/son/daughter: _____

Address: _____

Telephone(s): _____

E-mail: _____

Date and Place of Birth: _____

Schools/Colleges: _____

Business or Profession: _____

Spouse's Name (if not a member): _____

Names and Ages of Children: _____

Nature of Scottish Ancestry: _____

Scottish Interests – (History, Literature, Arts, Clan Affiliation etc): _____

Clan Affiliation or Membership: _____

Date: _____ Signature of Applicant: _____

To the best of our knowledge, the above applicant is of sound character, over the age of 21 years and is entirely suitable to membership in the Society. Applicant will actively participate in the functions of the Society as circumstances allow and will perform conscientiously any duties undertaken.

Sponsor: _____ Date: _____

Co-Sponsor: _____ Date: _____

Checklist for Membership:

Initial Individual Membership in a Household– Initiation (\$20.00) plus First Year's Dues (\$40.00). Total of \$60.00.

Additional Membership within same household – Initiation (\$20.00) plus First Year's Dues (\$20.00). Total of \$40.00.

Your check made out to: St. Andrews' Society of Williamsburg

A Small Photograph of you suitable for digitization.

Completed Application with address, phone number and e-mail address included.

NOTE: All memberships are individual and only one applicant per application.