The Spectator

The Quarterly Newsletter of Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Fall 2012

President's Message

Lads and Lassies,

I wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let's all hope for an improved economy and a more peaceful environment, both domestically and internationally.

Saint Andrews' Society – Williamsburg had a pretty good year in 2012. Our financial situation is good. Most of our events are designed to be self-financed thus allowing the continuation of our scholarship efforts. While the dollar amount granted is never large, the recipients demonstrate their appreciation and the program is truly a good thing and also abides with the IRS requirements for 501c3 status. Participation in our event offerings was somewhat uneven, but I think it generally is on the upswing. We remember the loss of three members and a few others dropped out for various reasons. This was somewhat offset by gaining six new members. So, membership remains fairly stable.

The Society has an effort underway to involve a segment of William & Mary students in some of our activities. While the intention is not recruitment of members, it is expected to bring new ideas and enthusiasm into our midst.

The Society follows a general format for events each year that includes: Burns' Night in January; Tartan Day in March/April; Spring Kirking at Historic Christ Church near Kilmarnock also in April; a Spring Luncheon in May; a Summer Luncheon in August; Fall Kirking at a local church in October/November; and the Christmas Luncheon in December. Dates and locations do vary from time-to-time, but this is the general array of events. Throw in an occasional social time at a local pub and we have the

basis for fellowship with our fellow members, all in the spirit of our Scottish heritage. You are encouraged to participate in these events.

Be sure to visit our Society website (http://www.scotsofwmbg.org/) to see what is happening and exchange thoughts on our Facebook page (http://www.facebook.com/pages/Saint-Andrews-Society-of-Williamsburg/202981426431383).

Marshall's preview of the articles in this edition of the Spectator promises to be up to his usual high standard. Many thanks to Marshall for his consistently high productions.

As the Society calendar dictates, I will be vacating the Presidency on Burns' Night, passing the baton to the very capable hands of David Lowery. Please support him in 2013 as you have supported me this year.

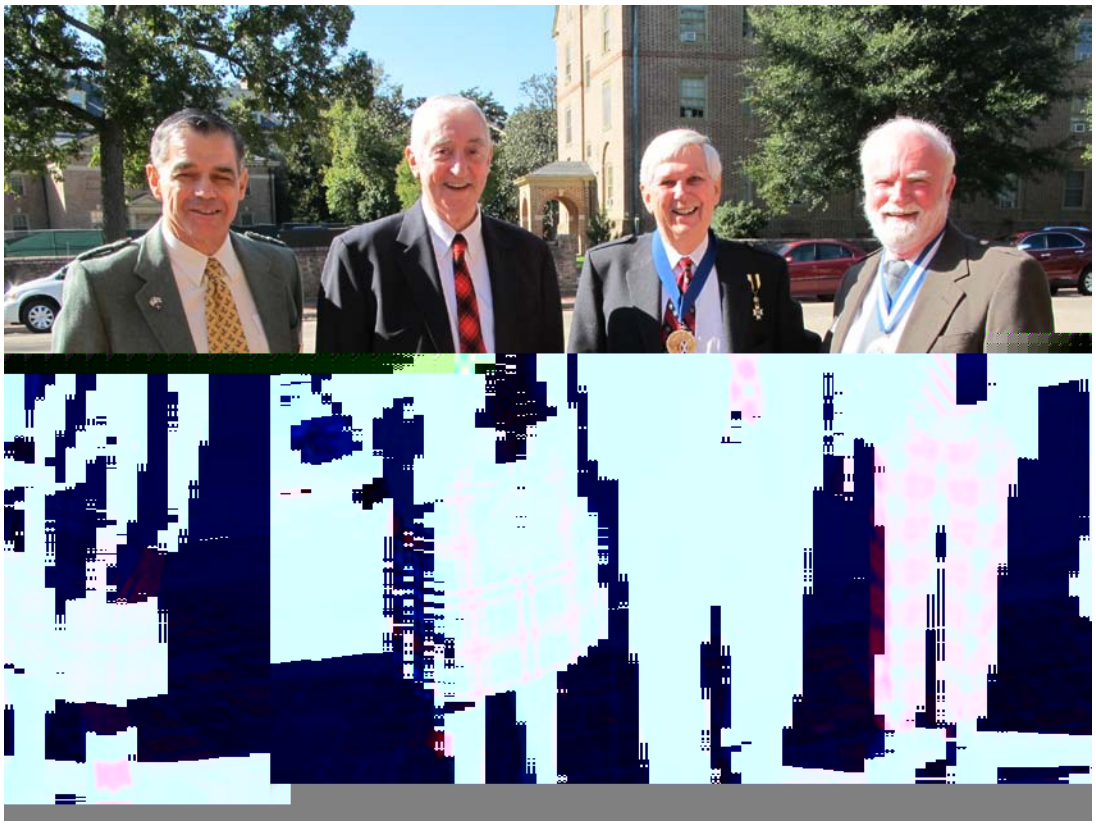
On a personal note, Mickey and I plan to relocate to Lexington, South Carolina in the near future. I have enjoyed meeting the many good people who are our Society members. It has been an honor to serve this year as your president.
My very best wishes to each and every one of you in the coming year.

Yours Aye,

Harold Maxwell, Clan Maxwell

Fall Kirking of the Tartans

The Fall Kirking of the Tartans was held on a cool but sunny day at the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church on October 14, 2012. The Williamsburg Pipes & Drums led our procession into the church. Following the service and the blessing of the tartans the band performed on the sidewalk to the delight of both worshippers and passers-by. A luncheon followed at the Colonial Heritage Clubhouse. It was good seeing old friends after a busy summer. Here are a few pix taken at the event; see all pix at the website gallery on our website www.scotsofwmbg.org.



Society notables gather outside the church

The Kirking

AGM Meeting

The Society held its Annual General Meeting on November 18 at the Queen's Lake Club, followed by a tasty luncheon. Attendees were serenaded by the Williamsburg Pipes and Drums and by Joyce White on the harp. Secretary Kathy Kasley, gave a general report, followed by Treasurer Doug Burns, with the disclosure of the Society's financial status. The Treasury was sound with $16,514 in the bank, about the same as last year. Proposed new Board members, Doug Boller, Bob Davis, Sherrie Elmore, & Duncan McIver were voted on and approved by membership. Doug and Duncan were in attendance and introduced to all. New member Roy Ferguson, was welcomed and given his membership certificate and lapel pin.

Following that, President Harold Maxwell reported on the State of the Society. Please see the separate article below.

After the conclusion of the formal meeting, 18 Door prizes were given away. Members enjoyed a sumptuous sandwich spread with trimmings, and lovely desserts and snacks brought by members. Jon Katora provided his special beers. Lively conversations and a time of good fellowship followed. This was a very successful meeting.

The President reports to the Society

Meeting in Queen's Lake Clubhouse

Byron can't help it – the ladies just love him
Happy campers (below)

2012 SAS Annual General Meeting - State of the Society – from the President

Saint Andrew's Society-Williamsburg is required to hold an annual membership meeting in order to keep our 501 (C) (3) status as a tax exempt charitable organization. So I welcome all of you to our Annual General Meeting.

The purpose of this meeting is to inform the membership of the status of the organization and to transact business that requires the vote of the members. By being here this afternoon and voting for our new directors you have fulfilled the obligation of SAS membership.

It is traditional for the President of SAS to give a State of the Society address at the AGM, so I am here to tell you that we are alive and well! We currently have 101 Members, 7 of which are Life Members and an additional 14 Honorary Members. Our economy is healthy and our "governing body" (the board) is doing well.

We have had a successful year to date. This was due to the significant time and effort contributed by our members. We have great members who have shared their talents and abilities to enable us to offer activities and events that give us a glimpse into the rich history, culture and customs of Scotland.

Our year began with Burn's Nicht at the Crowne Plaza/Fort Magruder and we shared a wonderful evening celebrating the birth of Robert Burns. It is always a thrill to see so many of our members, family and friends in their best Scottish finery sharing a wonderful meal and enjoying the toasts, honors and Immortal Memory. Thanks to the entire Board of Directors and officers who devoted so much time, energy and creativity in making Burns' Night 2012 a success.

In March, we held our Tartan Day celebration at the Tabb Library in York County. This was quite an undertaking sponsored by Saint Andrews Society and the Tidewater Genealogical Society and it surpassed our hopes for a great day! Over 200 attended and enjoyed demonstrations of Scottish culture information on genealogy and pipe and drum music. Tabb Library was impressed and invited us back. Congratulations to Anne and Arthur Korff, Jim and Joyce White, and Kathy Kasley for their planning and execution of this event.

I might add that in March our editor of the very fine Spectator, Marshall Thomas was the recipient of an offer to make a movie of one of his science fiction novels. Congratulations again, Marshall!

The Spring Kirkin at Historic Christchurch is one of our member's favorite traditions and was once again a moving service. The Kilmarnock Pipe and Drum band was in excellent form this year. This is always a beautiful way to remember our Scottish history and remember our heritage. Attendance by Society members was light this year with only six members present along with spouses and/or family. Perhaps the April inclement weather held some folks back. Thanks to Lynn Newcomer for coordinating this event.

A few Society members attended some the various activities of the Robert Burns Association of North America AGM held at the Williamsburg Hospitality House in April. This is largely a Canadian group of Scottish ex-pats, but does have American membership including our Society. Their take on a Burns' Night event was interesting.

Our May Spring Luncheon at Colonial Heritage was well attended with 40 or so members and their guests and featured guest speaker, Cliff Neilson, who gave an interesting talk on the Scotch-Irish, or Ulster Scots.

Another highlight of the year was the August Summer Luncheon also held at Colonial Heritage. Attendance was 60 + members and guests. Anne and Arthur Korff had earlier led a group of Society members and others on a tour of the Orkneys. Joyce White narrated a slide show of photographs taken on the tour by Marshall Thomas and Jim White. The event was concluded with Anne Korff singing a beautiful folk song from Orkney.

The Society increased the amount of the scholarship given to Sarah McCaslin to $1,000 this year. Sarah is a great example of the success of our Scholarship Endeavors. Our Fund has grown thanks to donations from you, the members. Further, we have continued our sponsorship of the Williamsburg Pipes and Drums. Your donations allow us to continue to give tuition assistance; not large amounts but truly appreciated by the recipients.

The Fall Kirking was held 14 October at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church and attendance was 31 members and guests. Lunch at Colonial Heritage followed the Kirking and 31 were in attendance there also. Again, thanks to Lynn Newcomer for his planning and execution of this event.

Also, new this year are occasional Sunday afternoon social events at local taverns. No business conducted, just a pleasant couple of hours socializing. Thanks to Amana Katora for this concept.

The Society has a Facebook presence now, thanks to Amana Katora.

Watch for information on upcoming events. The Christmas luncheon was held 15 December at the Williamsburg Lodge. Also, the new and improved Burns' Night formal affair will be held 26th of January 2013 at Colonial Heritage. Mark your calendars.

We are exploring the possibility of involving William and Mary students who are participating in a joint program with Saint Andrew's University.

We have 6 new members and one honorary member so far this year.

And we sadly bid farewell to members Thomas Sale, Jr. and Dixie McCaig. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

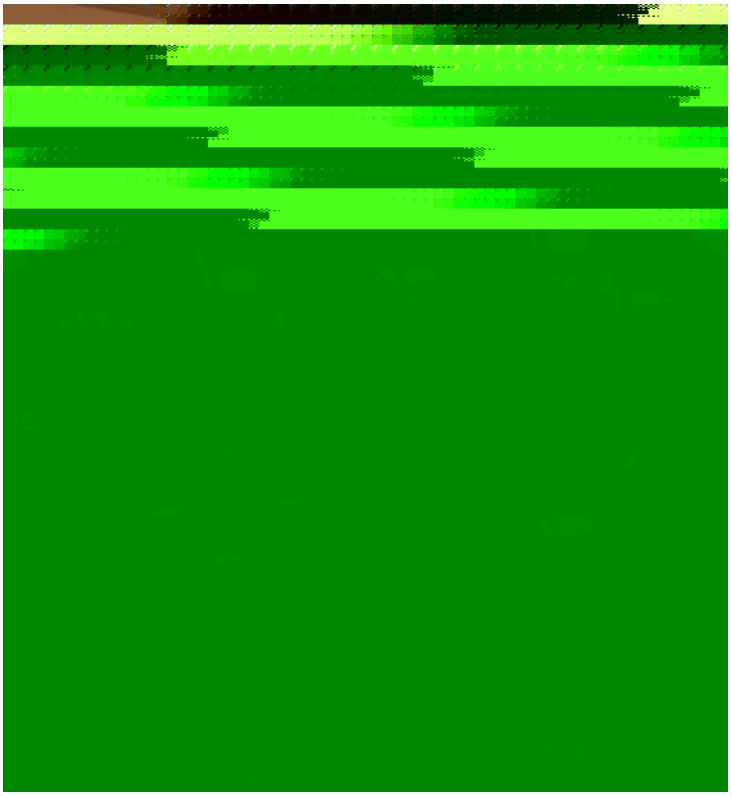
I want to thank the members of our Board and various committees who have worked so hard this year. It does require considerable effort to make these events happen. And thanks to our members who have participated.

We should be proud of our success this year, but we need to build on it in order to continue our goal of keeping our Scottish identity and culture relevant and to pass on to others our love of our Scottish heritage.

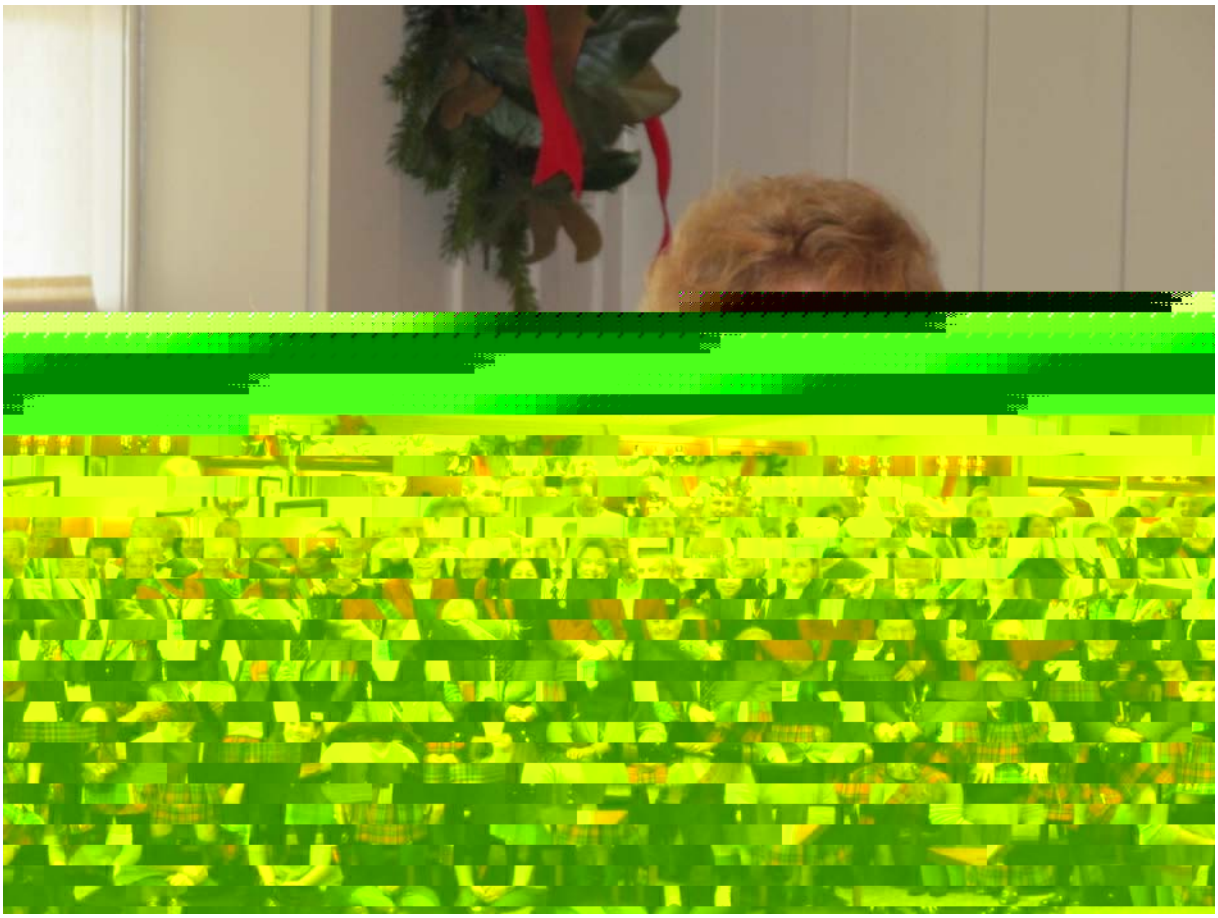
Thank you, Harold Maxwell.

Christmas Luncheon

On December 15 the Society gathered for a Christmas Luncheon at the Williamsburg Lodge. Over fifty members and guests attended for a festive celebration of the season, attired in highland kilts and tartans. It was good fellowship and good eating to judge by the conversation level and the compliments for the delicious buffet feast. President Harold Maxwell addressed the crowd and said Grace. After a memorable meal, Anne Korff and Jan Spencer sang a chorus of wonderful Scottish and holiday favorites, delighting the crowd. Both are very talented singers. This meeting culminated a good year for the Society. Below are some photos of the event. Please also see the gallery at www.scotsofwmbg.org. .



Greetings from the President



Songbirds Anne & Jan (Anne Korff, Jan Spencer)

SAS December 2012 – all present!

Scottish Memories

On a site called Bletherskite, in the Scotclans homepage. We find some wonderful old Scottish postcards. I reproduce two of them below, thanks to Scotclans.

Fish wives in the green, Aberdeen

Doing the laundry

Outer Hebrides Tour

From Ann Korff, details are being formed up for her August 2013 tour of the Outer Hebrides. Interested people can contact Arthur or Ann Korff by email acorff32@mycidco.com or telephone 596-6063 for detailed information.

Outer Hebrides beach. wetcanvas.com

Cancellation of Gathering of the Clans

From Kathy Kasley. The Scotsman newspaper has announced that the planned 2014 Gathering of the Clans in Scotland has been cancelled, primarily for financial reasons. This is a big disappointment to many Scots worldwide who may have planned to attend the event. See the link for details: http://www.scotsman.com/news/arts/organisers-pull-plug-on-gathering-of-the-clans-1-2590723

The Story of St. Kilda

Kathy Kasley provides this fascinating look into the vanished world of the Scottish island of St. Kilda. It is a sad and unforgettable story. Please click on http://www.ultimatehistoryproject.com/st-kilda.html

Pipers for Memorial Services

Lynn Newcomer reminds us that the St. Andrew's Society, through its sponsorship of the Williamsburg Pipes and Drums, may provide a piper for memorial/funeral services at no charge on an "as available basis". This pertains to members and spouse.

Flowers of the Forest

Col. James Reeve Stuart Jr.
(November 29, 1930 - November 19, 2012)

Colonel James Reeve Stuart, Jr. (US Army, Retired), 81, of Laurel Point, Lancaster, died November 19, 2012 at home. He was born in Minneapolis, Minn. on November 29, 1930.

He is survived by Susan, his wife of 58 years; three children and their spouses; Richard R. and Mary Stuart Schwab of Ledyard, Conn. and their children, Kelsey and Brian; Roger K. and Blythe Stuart Norris of Alexandria; and Leisl L. and James R. Stuart, III of Arlington and their children, Lauren and Collin; and a brother, Ridley Middleton Stuart of Peru, N.Y.

He graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree from the U. S. Military Academy in 1953 and later earned a masters degree in Public Administration. He was commissioned in the U. S. Army as an Armor officer and served in various command, troop and staff assignments during a military career of 31 years. He was a 1964 graduate of the Army Command and Staff College and a 1975 graduate of The National War College after which he served on the faculty. His overseas tours of duty included Korea, Turkey and Vietnam.

His interest in sailing brought him and his family to the Northern Neck of Virginia and he moved to Laurel Point in Lancaster in 1984. He was a member of Grace Episcopal Church where he served on the Vestry as Junior Warden, as a teller and as an usher; Historic Christ Church Foundation as a board member and several

committees. He was a charter member of the local chapter of the Retired Officers Association (now MOAA) and served on the board. He was also a member of the Indian Creek Yacht and Country Club, a former member of the Rappahannock River Yacht Club and a member of the Saint Andrews Society of Williamsburg. He also was a member of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He was a bagpiper and charter member of the Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band.

A memorial service will be held 11:00 a. m. Saturday, November 24, 2012 at Grace Church, Kilmarnock with interment at Historic Christ Church Burying Grounds, Irvington.

Memorials may be made to Animal Welfare League, P. O. Box 975, White Stone, VA 22578 or Grace Church Trust, P. O. Box 1059, Kilmarnock, VA 22482.

"Journeyed on into Death"

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.