



# The Spectator

The Quarterly Newsletter of Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg  
Winter 2012/Spring 2013

## President's Message – Spring 2013

Lads and Lassies,

Saint Andrews' Society – Williamsburg anticipates another good year for Scottish activities in the eastern region of Virginia. Thus far this year the Society enjoyed a wonderful Burns' Night in January, a successful Tartan Day on 6 April at the Boxwood Inn at Lee Hall, Virginia, and a moving Kirking of the Tartans at Christ Church located between Irvington and Kilmarnock, Virginia, on 5 May. The various Activity Committees working under the Society's Board of Directors are pulling together another slate of Scottish activities for enjoyment by the Society's general membership. As the various Activity Committees pull an event together, members in good standing are notified via mail/e-mail and event details posted on the Society's web site.

By design, Society events are self-financed with little or no impact on the Society's ability to continue charitable activities that sustains our 501c3 status under IRS regulations. Dollar amounts granted by the Society are not large but recipients over the years have demonstrated their appreciation with feedback to the Board of Directors and presentations to Society memberships at various gatherings.

While the Society's membership remains fairly stable with new membership offsetting attrition, Society membership participation in our scheduled events remains somewhat uneven for various and personal reasons. Never the less, the Board of Directors remains committed to providing Scottish activities to all members of the Society and welcomes suggestions, recommendations, and planning/participation by all members.

The Society, like other societies in our country, has over the last few years experienced difficulties in attracting younger membership. An initiative in 2012 by



the Society involved a segment of William & Mary students in some of our activities. This initiative is not focused on recruitment of student members, it is, however, 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/May; a Spring Luncheon in May/June; a Summer Luncheon in August; a Ceilidh & picnic in the fall; 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 management of the Spectator remains exemplary. However, since this is overall a Society endeavor, please assist Marshall by providing your input, photographs of interest, Scottish tidbits, Scottish genealogy or any items you think are of interest to the membership of the Society.

As the Society calendar dictates, I will vacate the Presidency on Burns' Night, passing the baton to the very capable hands of Marshall Thomas. Please support him in 2014 as you have supported me this year.

My very best wishes to each and every one of you in 2013.

Yours Aye, David Lowery, Clan MacLaren

### **Burns' Night**

On January 26 the Society celebrated Burns Night 2013 with a gala dinner at the Colonial Heritage Clubhouse to honor Scotland's famed national poet, lover and humanitarian. Similar functions were being held all over the world. This gathering was a grand success thanks to the hard work of a host of people who made all the arrangements. There were 98 guests. From the presentation of colors to Auld Lang Syne the evening was truly memorable.

Byron Adams did his usual excellent job addressing the haggis, then knifing it to death. This is an ancient ceremony. Although the ingredients of the haggis are a secret, the earliest recipes begin with "First, steal a sheep..."

Byron also did a remarkable bagpipe duet with his famous singing dog. The Williamsburg Pipes and Drums led by Lynn Newcomer filled the hall with rousing Scottish melodies. Past President Howard Topp spoke eloquently on the Immortal Memory. Anne Korff sang an inspiring Flower of Scotland. Numerous toasts were made.

Past President Jamie Griffin was proclaimed Scot of the Year. She certainly deserves it. Jamie was the Society's first female member, first female Board Member, and first female President. In her two years as President she reformed, modernized and strengthened the Society.

Outgoing President Harold Maxwell formally turned Society leadership over to the new President David Lowery, and the DOG Street Band provided music for the dance floor.

This was an outstanding event, the venue was excellent, and the food was first-class. Following are some photos from the event. Please see the website for all photos.

## **Robert Burns**





**Jamie Griffin, Scot of the Year (above)  
David Lowery, new President (below)**





**Byron addresses the Haggis (L)**



**President David Lowery with wife Eileen (below)**



**Len makes beautiful music  
(L)**

**Anne Korff sings a lovely song**





**Guests humor the paparazzi**



**A good time was had by all!**

## **Society Night Out**

On February 10 the Society's "Night Out" was held at the DOG Street Pub at Merchant Square. This was Amana Katora's idea - a series of random informal social events open to anyone who wants to come. The DOG Street Pub proved to be a great venue. The menu has three pages of amazing beer choices and one page of eats. Your editor can report that the beer is excellent and your choices are almost infinite. The food is also wonderful, especially if you order the DOG Street cheeseburger like I did. People showed up this time and had a great time.

Although Howard Topp was out of town and could not attend he sent us an interesting historical note: "One important thing to share with all y'all is that site at which you will be gathering (The Dog Street Pub) is rather important to the history of the SAS-W! The pub building was once the "Peninsula Bank" building and in the board of directors room on May 8th, 1968, 27 men gathered to form the society..... our 'Founders Day!' Founder Bob Duncan was president of the bank at that time and hosted us in the bank's board room as we formally founded the SAS of Williamsburg. Thanx. HST"

### **Jon and Amana**





**Jim & Joyce (above) and the gang (below)**



## Tartan Day

SAS celebrated Tartan Day on Saturday April 6 2013 at the Boxwood Inn. It was a beautiful cool clear day with blue skies and bright sunshine. The Boxwood Inn was a good venue with participants setting up tables in the yard. SAS was well represented. It was a festive and busy event with appearances by the Williamsburg Pipes & Drums, the Newport News Police Pipes & Drums, the Tidewater Genealogical Society, and the 76<sup>th</sup> McDonald Highland Regiment of Foot re-enactors. Fiddling, dancing, harp music, Scottish food and musket fire enlivened the gathering. This was a wonderful way to spend a Saturday afternoon. Here are a few photos – the rest can be viewed on [http://msthomas.com/SASG\\_13\\_Tartan\\_Day.html](http://msthomas.com/SASG_13_Tartan_Day.html). Our thanks to Anne Korff and everyone who helped!



The SAS table

## Williamsburg Pipes & Drums





**Celtica**

**Irish Wolfhound**





**Who is this mysterious masked lassie?**



**Bob Davis & Dave Lowery**

## The 76<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot - MacDonald Highlanders at Tartan Day 2013

A re-enactment group portraying a Scottish regiment that fought in the Revolutionary War provided entertainment and education for Tartan Day at the Box Wood Inn in Lee Hall on Saturday, April 6, 2013. The group was dressed out in costumes of the period, (photo 1 below), demonstrated replica artifacts of the period (photo 2), and fired and reloaded and fired muskets (photo 3). The leader of the group is James W. Taylor on the right in photo 1.

Lord Alexander Macdonald of Sleat created the regiment in Scotland on December 1777. The regiment was named the 76<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot: “Macdonald’s Highlanders” and was also known as The Immortals. The regiment was composed mostly of Highland Scots and numbered more than a thousand men. They participated in the capture of Charleston, South Carolina, and in 1781 sailed to Virginia with the army of General Phillips. They fought successfully in several battles in Virginia and assisted in the defense of Yorktown until it was captured. During captivity in Virginia, they were pressed to become subjects of the American government, but not a single Highlander was seduced to violate his pledge to his King and country. Following the end of the war it returned to Scotland and was disbanded at Stirling Castle in March 1784. -- Article by Duncan McIver





**Bang! Don't trifle with the 76<sup>th</sup>!**



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## The 76<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot - Macdonald's Highlanders



In December 1777 Lord Alexander Macdonald of Sleat at the suggestion of his agent and with encouragement from the Office of War began to raise troops to complete a Highland Regiment for the purpose of quelling the unnatural rebellion taking place in the North American Colonies. Within a few weeks more than a thousand men were raised by Beat of Drum to form the new 76<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot - also known as Macdonald's Highlanders.

The 76<sup>th</sup> Foot was comprised of mostly Highland Scots who spoke only Gaelic, a number of Lowland Scots, and one company of Irish. They trained for 12 months at Fort George in Scotland before embarking for New York. Arriving at New York in 1779, they garrisoned that city, participated in the capture of Charleston, South Carolina, and in 1781, sailed to Virginia with the army of General Phillips.

In Virginia, the 76<sup>th</sup> helped garrison Norfolk and Portsmouth, assisted in manning the British Fort at Great Bridge in Chesapeake, took part in a daring nighttime raid into the Dismal Swamp defeating the forces of General Gregory, participated in the destruction of the Virginia State Navy at the battle of Osborne's Landing, took part in the capture of Petersburg, defeated General Anthony Wayne and General Lafayette at the Battle of Greenspring, and assisted in the defense of Yorktown.



## To All Gentlemen Volunteers

Any likely young Fellow, under thirty Years of Age, that is able and willing to serve his Majesty King George in Colonel John M'Donnel's Regiment of Foot shall receive SIX GUINEAS Advance, and enter into immediate Pay and good Quarters, by applying to Mr. Cameron, Merchant, in the Middlestreet, Newcastle upon Tyne;  
Or at Matthew Hall's Black Swan  
Flesh Market Newcastle.

N. B. Any Person bringing an able-bodied Man, shall upon his being enlisted, receive One Guinea Reward.

The above is a transcript of an original recruiting poster of the 76<sup>th</sup> Foot. The modern Reconstituted 76<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Foot is currently seeking recruits. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide the Six Guineas bounty, but we are willing to accept recruits above thirty years of age, and will assist new recruits by providing "toaster" equipment and training. We are seeking soldiers, camp followers, drummers, and bagpipers.

If you are interested in joining the 76<sup>th</sup> Foot, please contact James Taylor (737) 831-179.

## **Kirkin' o' th' Tartan at Christ Church**

On Sunday May 5 the Society participated in the Kirking of the Tartan at Historic Christ Church in Irvington, Kilmarnock. The weather was perfect and the church was packed as the Society color guard and the Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band marched into the church for the blessing of the tartans. The Reverend David May of Grace Episcopal Church presided and the Rev. Dr. Tom Coye gave the sermon. The Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band held a concert under the trees after the service. It is always a pleasure attending the kirking at Christ Church.



**Historic Christ Church**



**The Kirking**



## Dues

To all members, please do not forget your annual SAS membership dues. Here are the facts:

Outstanding SAS Dues - March 15th was the due date for your St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg Annual Dues. If you have not yet sent in your dues for this year, the final date we will accept dues payment for 2013 is May 15th. After this date, If we have not received your dues, you will no longer be considered a member, and will not receive member communications from the Society. However, you are welcome to reapply for membership at any time. Please contact Treasurer Ev Tucker ([pnaco98@cox.net](mailto:pnaco98@cox.net)) with any questions.

### Reminder - Membership Options:

Regular Member's Dues - \$40.00

Plus Spouse Membership - \$20.00

Lifetime Membership - \$400.00

## Celtic Life International!

Wayne Craigmiles has sent us a link to a magazine called Celtic Life International.

This is an amazingly interesting magazine. Please take a look at

[www.celticlifintl.com/sc462.pdf](http://www.celticlifintl.com/sc462.pdf) which is a complimentary Spring 2013 edition.

This mag is a wonderful journey. Take your time and enjoy it. I believe I'm going to subscribe.

Thanks, Wayne!



## Order of the Thistle

On Burns Night Don Dalrymple told me about the book *The Order of the Thistle*, by Peter Galloway. The Order of the Thistle was instituted in 1687 by King James II of England and VII of Scotland. It was originally designed to recognize the loyalty of those who governed Scotland in the King's name. Since then it has become an honor that recognizes men and women of outstanding reputation and pre-eminent service, both in Scotland and on the wider stage. The book lists knights, brethren and ladies who have been awarded the honor. One of Don's ancestors is listed. For further information please contact Dan.



## Order of the Thistle



## W&M Class Notes on Bob Flinn – Thanks to W&M

### CLASS NOTES

## [ALUMVIEWS]

### Classical Style

Bobby Flinn '66 Continues to Find Musical Inspiration at His Alma Mater

BY ELLSIECHEN NEWAM '11

Although he studied at the College of William & Mary 50 years ago, **Robert Sturdivant "Bobby" Flinn '66** can still be found on campus. He returns frequently, often during Homecoming weekend and Charter Day, to play the piano at Alumni Association events. An accomplished songwriter and pianist, Flinn has written several popular pieces now performed by orchestras and bands. His work has been recognized by the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP) and was played at a celebration in honor of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's 50th wedding anniversary.

Even a half-century later, Flinn says he still remembers his first visit to campus at Christmastime.

"I had taken five years off after high school to work,"

says Flinn, "but something kept gnawing at me: 'You're 23 years old and you haven't given it the college try.'"

"When I came to look the campus over, there was snow on the ground. I walked around the Wren Building and I said to myself, 'This is where I want to go.'"

Flinn arrived as a student at the College in the summer of 1963 and began studying English and German. He was not involved in musical groups during his years at school, but Flinn, who had been taking piano lessons since the third grade, still found time to play. "I would go to Ewell Hall and when no one was in the studio, I'd play piano just to relax," he remembers.

Flinn left the College in June 1965 and returned to his home in Alberta, Va., to work. But he never lost his passion for music. When given a chance to take a tour of Europe, he even made what he refers to as his "European debut."

"We were stopped for the night at the Hotel Metropole in a small town in eastern France, on our way from Vienna to London," remembers Flinn. "One of the members of the group knew I played piano and said, 'We'll have some music by Robert Flinn.' Several of the couples got up and started dancing as I sat at the piano and played."

In August 1968, three years after his trip to Europe, Flinn wrote his first song. He penned "The Swamp Stomp" while passing through the Great Dismal Swamp on the way home from a family trip to Nags Head, N.C. Flinn describes his first work as a Charleston-type number inspired by the music of the late 1920s. "I liked the music of that era. It's a sound you don't hear very often," he says.

Two years later, while returning from another family vacation, Flinn was inspired once again by the Great Dismal Swamp. This time, he wrote "Forever, August Moon," a song with "a stardust-era sound" that imitates the style of the early 1930s. The song was a success, winning several awards and immediately becoming a band and orchestra favorite. "Forever,



Robert Flinn '66 playing piano at the Hotel Metropole in Luxeuil-les-Bains, France, on Sept. 28, 1965.

August Moon" and Flinn's other works — including numbers like "You Came Along without Warning Me" and "The Bluebird Goes Over to Dover" — have since been performed at such venues as the Chrysler Museum Theater and the historic Chamberlin Hotel.

On New Year's Eve 1997, Flinn's "Forever, August Moon" was performed by the Hotel Parade Roof Garden Orchestra as part of a celebration in honor of Queen Elizabeth's 50th wedding anniversary. His work has remained a staple at other performances by the orchestra, which specializes primarily in music from the 1920s. Flinn often makes guest appearances with the orchestra, playing his own songs on the piano. He also remains involved as a pianist for the Jamestown Society and accompanist at many Alumni Association events, including Homecomings and Alumni Medallion receptions.

Although Flinn spent just two years at the College, he looks back fondly on his years as a student. "If I hadn't come to the College, I would never have made some of my lifelong friends," he says. "It was a wonderful experience. I just think this school is a very special place. I like tradition and I feel that tradition belongs here."

## **Virginia Scottish Games – The Plains, VA - August 31 & September 1, 2013**

From Duncan McIver and Kathy Kasley. See the website, below, for all the events and directions to the Games. SAS member Duncan McIver went last year and said it was well "worth attending".

<http://www.vascottishgames.org>

### **Guys Group**

The men of the SAS are invited to participate in a "Guys Group" Dutch treat lunch the first Friday of every month at the Sportsman's Grill. There are no rules – just come for lunch around 11:30 and talk about whatever is on your mind. Women are welcome if they choose to come.

For further details call Arthur Korff, 596-6063 or just show up and join the group.



**Edinburgh Castle – Summer 2012**



# 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.