



SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC

THE WHIN & THISTLE

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2009 KIRKIN O' THE TARTAN

By Brian Mabry & David McKenzie

The 69th Annual Kirkin' O' The Tartan will be held at Washington National Cathedral on Saturday, April 18 beginning at 4 PM.

This tradition is inextricably linked to the St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC, and has spread from humble origins as a 1941 fundraiser for British war relief to the point where Kirkin' services are now celebrated throughout the U.S. and Canada. The service, complete with the Pipes & Drums, now seeks to raise contributions to support scholarships awarded by its Charity & Education Fund

The Washington St. Andrew's Society has conducted the Kirkin' Service at the National Cathedral, uninterrupted, since 1952 when it was moved there from several other churches in the DC area. The massed Pipes, Drums, & Colour Guard will lead the Tartan Bearers & Society Members into the Cathedral Nave at 4:00 PM for the start of the service.

Upon conclusion of the remarks by the guest Chaplain, the entire massed Pipes & Drums march to the High Alter with Society Members for the "Blessing of the Tartans", Remembrance of Departed Comrades, and Benediction. All attendees are invited to watch an open air performance of the Pipes, Drums, and Dancers of the Society on the south side of the Cathedral immediately after the service.

The National Kirkin' O' The Tartan Service is free of charge. RESERVED SEATING in the National Cathedral is available for this service. Reservations are free to Members and Guests and they may be obtained, preferably via e-mail, or by phone, from the Society's Sgt. At Arms, Kirkin Chair. David S. McKenzie may be reached at e-mail address: dmckenzie@wmata.com, or caberman162@yahoo.com message should be titled simply KIRKIN2008. Also via phones listed below and leave a short specific message with your Name, Phone Number, How many attending. General public seating is also available as always and all are most welcome.

When requesting reservations, please indicate seating preference either in the Nave (main body of the building) or in the Great Choir.

Tickets WILL still be REQUIRED for Great Choir and available (will call) at the Choir Entrance.. Great Choir availability is first come first served only and very limited. No children in the Choir please. Every sound they make is amplified through the whole building. Attendees seated in the Great Choir please be in place by 3:45 PM when the High Alter is readied for the service.. Quiet is requested in that area at all times since sound there is naturally amplified into Nave.

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NEW, LONG STANDING MEMBERS ENJOY “DINING IN”

By Brian Mabry

More than two dozen members, ranging from long-time stalwarts to the newly minted, gathered at the City Tavern Club on March 20th for the second annual “Dining In”. Those present enjoyed a lovely 4-course meal and a bonus serving of haggis procured for the occasion that was properly addressed before serving. The evening ended with toasts, singing to the tunes of the piper, and great fellowship. Be sure to check out the photos below.

Joel -
Another outstanding job! Every year when we think it can get any better, you make it better. I really feel sorry for anyone that missed this event, this is truly what the Society is all about -- a good time with good friends.
Thank you, Al



MANAGING EDITOR
Adam Pressman

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Al Buckalew
TJ Holland
Brian Mabry
David McKenzie

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MJF Associates
10692 Crestwood Drive
Manassas, Virginia 20109
(703)369-6535
Fax: (703) 369-9008



2009 Calendar of Events

January

- 5 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 6 Board of Managers Meeting
- 8 Annual Members Dinner - Belle Haven Country Club
- 19 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 24 Burns Nicht Supper

February

- 2 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 3 Board of Managers Meeting
- 16 Jefferson Cup Luncheon

March

- 2 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 3 Board of Managers Meeting
- 16 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 20 Members' Dining In

April

- 6 Tartan Day
- 6 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 7 Board of Managers Meeting (no fooling!)
- 18 Kirkin' o' The Tartan and Reception, National Cathedral, Washington, DC
- 20 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 25 Southern Maryland Celtic Festival, St. Leonard, MD

May

- 1 Scholarship Deadline
- 4 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 5 Board of Managers Meeting
- 7 Members' Dinner Meeting - Belle Haven Country Club
- 18 Jefferson Cup Luncheon

June

- 1 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 3 Board of Managers Meeting
- 15 Jefferson Cup Luncheon

July

- 6, 20 Jefferson Cup Luncheon

August

- 3, 17 Jefferson Cup Luncheon

September

- 1 Board of Managers Meeting
- 7 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 10 Members' Dinner Meeting at Belle Haven Country Club
- 12-13 Virginia Scottish Games, Sky Meadows Park, Delaplane, VA
- TBD New Members' Orientation, Angus MacDuffer Tournament
- 21 Jefferson Cup Luncheon

October

- 5 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 6 Board of Managers Meeting
- 19 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- TBD Alexandria Scottish Heritage Fair Fort Ward Park, Alexandria, VA
- TBD Pipe Band Benefit

November

- 2 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 3 Board of Managers Meeting
- 6 Tartan Ball (Tentative)
- 16 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- TBD Haggis Shoot - Fairfax Rod and Gun Club, Manassas

December

- 1 Board of Managers Meeting
- 5 Breakfast, Service and Wreath Laying at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House and Christmas Walk, Old Town Alexandria, VA
- 7 Jefferson Cup Luncheon
- 21 Jefferson Cup Luncheon

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Gentlemen –

I am pleased to introduce the latest issue of the *Whin & Thistle*. Together with the assistance of fellow member Adam Pressman and a cadre of faithful contributors, we are reintroducing this member communication tool. I hope that you find it useful and welcome your feedback on how we can make it better.

And speaking of improving, we need your support at this year's **National Kirkin' O' The Tartan on April 18**. Conceived by former U.S. Senate Chaplain Rev. Peter Marshall, this unique and meaningful service started at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC. Our goal is to build it into a truly national event - the stature and recognition it deserves. We have extended invitations to other St. Andrews Societies and regional Scottish heritage organizations, and having a healthy procession of members to represent our society is very important. If our own members do not support this event it's more challenging to convince others of its value to our Scottish heritage. Many of you have been faithful attendees for several years and I am grateful for your commitment.



You will find more information on the Kirkin' in this issue. Please don your kilt and join us for what will be a pleasant spring day, filled with sounds of the pipes and drums and rich with our Scottish heritage.

Finally, thank you for your membership in the society. I am well aware that you have many choices about how you devote your time, money and attention and am pleased that you have chosen to be a St. Andrews member. I recognized early during my time as a member that I derived satisfaction commensurate with the time I gave. And it has been such a positive experience for me that I decided two years ago to become a life member. Scottish philosopher David Hume said, "Everything in the world is purchased by labor," so if you have time and talent to share please consider joining a committee, being a steward or simply attending events.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the *Whin & Thistle* and look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events.

Yours in service –

Vern McHargue

OUR CORPS OF STEWARDS

By Al Buckalew, Chairman – Corps of Stewards

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines stewardship as: "the office, duties, and obligations of a steward; also: the individual's responsibility to manage his life and property with proper regard to the rights of others."

From this definition it can be noted that everyone, that is, **all the members of the Society, are Stewards**. Each of us has a responsibility to their fellow members to be a Steward. There is not a single event where the Stewards are not relied upon to assist or manage. And there is not a single event where you, as a Society Member and Steward failed, to answer the call; for that great service and as Chairman of the Corps I thank you. That thanks also goes out to those of you conscripted to help complete our tasks.

For those of you yet to serve – especially new members – remember that being a Steward is the best way to meet and get to know your fellow Society Members. The current list of the Corps of Stewards is never complete; I need to add your name and email address. I use email as the tool to notify you of events and recognize you as an active member of the Corps of Stewards, please send you email address to Allen Buckalew at abuca@aol.com. Thank you for your time and commitment to this important and meaningful service.

TREASURER'S REPORT—APRIL 2009

Prepared by Andy McDonald, Treasurer, St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC

In the past two months, since assuming the position of Treasurer for the St. Andrew's Society of Washington, D.C. I have been working on two main tasks: transition and membership books.

In the transition from previous Treasurer, Russ Shumway, I have been working with our new President Vern McHargue, Russ, and the Society's accountant (Dick & Christine Badger) on all of the financial policies and procedures that the SASW follows. I now have all of the tools necessary to accomplish the job.

The second task has been to work with Mark Fischer of MJF Associates, who we use to handle the society's membership books and account receivables. I am aware of a few mistakes about billing that had gone out, but I believe they have been fixed and we are now focusing our efforts on the collection of 2008 and 2009 dues. If you have received a bill for more than \$100, it would indicate that there was a balance for previous year's membership dues. I understand everyone can be forgetful and in this current economy anything over \$100 could be tough, so if you need time to clear up your arrears, please just send me a note with when you can pay it (e.g., 2nd, 3rd Quarter).

Finally, just so you know a little about me, I am currently a Program Manager for Lockheed Martin and also an adjunct professor at The George Washington University in the department of Engineering Management and Systems Engineering. I have a BS Industrial Engineering (minored in business) from Geneva College in Beaver Falls, PA; a MS Computer base Systems Engineering from George Mason University; and I have a Doctorate of Science (D.Sc.) from GWU in Systems Engineering. I joined the SAS in 1997 and I am married (wife Suzie) with a 6 year old daughter (Carleigh) and a 2 year old son (Kaegan). I am also in the Corps of Stewards and have co-chaired events. I would also, like to remind you that we are a fraternity and all of the brothers are here for your support not only fun times with events.

Yours Aye!

Dr. Andrew McDonald

Treasurer
St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC

KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN

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NO NAVE TICKETS this year, just reservations.. We are trying to eliminate the line caused by the ticket issue and chronic late arrivals previously experienced. Requested reservations will be on a list held by the kilted ushers in reserved section. All reserved seats will have to be released 10 minutes prior to service by Cathedral Staff. Please be on time..

Society Members are requested to join in the procession into the Cathedral. Formation will be on the South Drive at exactly 3:30 PM and will step off with the Pipes & Drums at 3:45 sharp. Those in the procession will have special seating at very front. Prospective Members & gentlemen guests are invited to join the procession. Reservations are required for family members and our guests in designated areas closely behind the Society/processional reserved area..

Unfortunately, due to space limitations this year at the adjoining school there will be NO RECEPTION. We will reformat and try to have one next year.

Please try to get there early and enjoy the weather, which will be outstanding, and the Spring flowers abundant!

The NEW PARKING GARAGE is open! Any questions? Do not hesitate to call Dave McKenzie @ 202-345-0843 (days) 703-243-6068 (evenings) All reservations will be acknowledged w/in 24 hours. Thank You.

POSTCARD FROM A FRIEND

By T.J. Holland

Ms. Abbie Sprague (formerly an assistant curator here in Washington at the National Gallery of Art) has received SAS support for several years now as she pursues her Doctorate in Fine Arts at Cambridge University's Pembroke College. She is currently researching her dissertation on the Scottish-led Arts & Crafts movement and its influence on the turn-of-the-Twentieth-Century British Tempera Revival in painting.

The postcard to the right is the façade of the Glasgow School of Art – hub of the Arts & Crafts movement's innovators

Her text:

Greetings from Glasgow!

I'm up here diving into research, thanks to the St. Andrew's Society's scholarship. My first day walking down Sauchiehall I heard the pipes . . . the perfect welcome to Scotland! I'm spending my days in the basement of the Glasgow School of Art – poring through their archives and finding a lot of great material! I can already tell I will need to come back. Thank you to you and the St. Andrew's Society for making this trip possible!

Best wishes,



HEAR THE TRUTH ABOUT ABU GHRAIB OUR MAY MEMBER'S MEETING SPEAKER IS JACK LONDON

At our next Member's Meeting, on 7 May, 2009 hear from Jack London on the true nature of the controversial involvement of CACI, a defense contractor, in the embarrassing situation at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq. The meeting will be held again at the lovely Bellehaven Country Club in Alexandria, Virginia starting at 7PM.

J. Phillip ("Jack") London is the Chairman of the Board of CACI International Inc (NYSE:CAI). During his 23 years as Chief Executive Officer (1984-2007), London built CACI into a leading information technology and network communications services company. With over \$2 billion in annual sales and more than 11,800 employees, CACI is located in over 100 offices worldwide. Joining the company in 1972, London is known today in the industry as the founder of the modern-era CACI.

London is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He holds a master's degree in operations research from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School and a doctorate in business administration from The George Washington University. He retired as a U.S. Navy Captain after serving 12 years as a U.S. naval officer and aviator, and another 12 years with the reserves. London has received numerous industry awards and recognition, and is active in industry and community affairs.

NEW MEMBERS BY YEAR	
2002	15
2003	22
2004	35
2005	18
2006	16
2007	18
2008	9
2009	3

ALEXANDRIA'S NATIONAL TARTAN DAY 2009 FESTIVAL

- **Saturday, April 4, 2009 - 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm**
Market Square (Directly in Front of City Hall), 301 King Street, Alexandria, VA

Alexandria gets a head start on the Tartan Day celebration with this event on the 4th of April.

- Welcoming Remarks by City Officials and Others
- Pipers, Fiddlers, Highland Dancers, and Other Scottish Entertainment Continuously Throughout the Afternoon
- Educational Displays by Clan Societies and Other Scottish-American Organizations
- Scottish Dog Breeds and More ...

For participation by clans, vendors and entertainment please contact
Bob Cameron at rbcthescot@aol.com.

GOAL OF 3 DOZEN NEW MEMBERS BY 2010 YOUR HELP NEEDED

By Brian Mabry

Nine new members joined the Society in 2008. This represents the lowest number since 2002, when 16 new members joined. President McHargue has challenged the Membership Committee to do better and we have set a goal of having 36 new Members added to the Society's rolls this year. This would be the most new members this decade, and translates to 4 new members a month for the rest of the year.

To meet this ambitious goal, we will need everyone's help. We need each member to identify potential members, invite them to events, and ask them to join the Society. The Membership Committee can not meet this ambitious goal by relying solely on potential members finding us. There are a number of things going on that make an easy way to get potential members involved.

First, invite your friends to join us for the Kirkin' o' The Tartan on Saturday, April 18. This event was conceived by our society and first held in 1941. While there are similar Kirkin' o' the Tartans services staged across all 50 States, as well as similar ceremonies held throughout Canada, invite your Scottish friends to see the original and the best.

You can also introduce potential members to the Society through:
Jefferson Cup Lunch, which is held the 1st and 3rd Monday each month.
Informal events organized by the Social Committee.
Saturday morning crafts group that meets regularly.
Memberships Dinners held throughout the year.

Membership Applications and information can be found on the Society's website at:

<http://www.saintandrewsociety.org/membership.htm>

Please contact your Membership Co-Chairmen, Mr. Jonathan MacKenzie Gordon, or Mr. Brian K. Mabry, if you have questions. The easiest way to reached them is via email at membership_request@saintandrewsociety.org



Saint Andrew's Society of
Washington DC

Attn: Adam Pressman, Editor
PO Box 16385
Washington, DC 20046

Phone: 703-850-2072
Fax: 817-796-1200
E-mail: adam@pressman.org