



April 2004

Saltire Sentinel

Newsletter of the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond, Inc.

Calendar

Apr. 3 Tidewater Tartan Day festival, 10 am to 5 pm, Kellam High School, 2323 Holland Rd., Virginia Beach VA; www.tidewaterscots.com or (757) 484-7682 for more information.

Apr. 3 National Tartan Day group and many clans will have a contingent in the **Cherry Blossom Parade** in DC. The parade begins at 10:00 am. The Scottish group is Unit Number 57. The parade route is along Constitution Avenue. I believe this is the only Scottish group in the parade; they will be easy to see or hear. **After parade party:** Flying Scotsman Restaurant and Pub at 233 2nd Street, NW. Take 2nd Street off Constitution Avenue. The Flying Scotsman is usually closed on Saturday afternoons, but they are opening it up just for this group. All family members, friends, parade participants and non-parade participants, including children, are welcome. There is no cover charge.....the only costs is what you choose to eat or drink.

Apr. 6 National Tartan Day Cocktail Reception at Clyde's Restaurant at Mark Center at 1700 N. Beauregard St, Alexandria. This is 7:00 pm until 10:00. Cost is \$15.00 in advance and \$20.00 at the door. For information, call S. Read Hanmer at 703-698-9798.

Apr. 14 —St. Andrew's Society of Richmond, Inc. Business Meeting at the Church of the Holy Comforter (Episcopal), 4819 Monument Ave., Richmond VA 23230-3615, which is at the corner of Staples Mill Rd. Their website is www.hoco.org and their phone number is 804-355-3251. The meeting will be at the usual time-6:30 ish for socializing and 7:00 ish for meeting. We will have our usual **Celtic Buffet**, so please bring soft drinks, munchies or dessert if you would like. **Chris Rapp will be giving a presentation called**

"Fortresses Across Three Continents - A Brief Travelogue." He has incorporated photos from several trips over the past couple years. Many are of castles, but he's thrown in scenic shots from different countries and added a bit of history into his talk. Do your taxes early. Don't miss the talk on account of the IRS!

St. Baldrick's

At the St. Patrick's Festival in Church Hill, two of our members, **Tom Blanton** and **Sharon Fones**, had their heads shaved to raise money for St. Baldrick's, The National Children's Cancer Foundation. Yeah Tom and Sharon! Way to go! For more information www.stbaldricks.org

Sons of Scotland

The Sons of Scotland are planning their (first) Annual Group Ride to the Outer Banks April 10-11. We will be attending the Outer Banks Bike Weekend. Anyone of Scottish descent, who also rides a motorcycle, is eligible for membership and would be welcome to join us for the weekend. Membership initiation rituals will be held at this event for several new members. Anyone interested in joining the Sons can contact me at scottishbiker@hotmail.com.

-- submitted by **John Scott**

Southern Maryland Celtic Festival April 24

The Celtic Society of Southern Maryland, Inc is holding a Festival on April 24, 2004 10am -6pm with an evening Ceilidh at 7pm at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. Events and attractions include:

Genealogy Seminars, Celtic Market place, Celtic and Regional foods, Craft Demonstrations, Live Performances on 3 covered stages all day long, children's highland games, storytelling.

There will be free shuttle buses from parking to festival. The evening Ceilidh is at an off-site location. The Societies web page is www.cssm.org

--submitted by **Darlene Curtis**



A Tooth Story

A Scotsman goes to the dentist and asks how much it is for an extraction.

"£85 for an extraction sir" was the dentist's reply.

"Och huv ye no got anything cheaper", replies the Scotsman getting agitated.

"But that's the normal charge for an extraction sir", said the dentist.

"What about if you didn't use any anesthetic?" asked the Scotsman hopefully.

"Well it's highly unusual sir, but if that's what you want, I suppose I can do it for £70", said the dentist.

"Hmmm, what about if you used one of your dentist trainees and still without anesthetic", said the Scotsman,

"Well it's possible but they are only training and I can't guarantee their

level of professionalism and it'll be a lot more painful, but I suppose in that case we can bring the price down to say £40", said the dentist,

"Och that's still a bit much, how about if you make it a training session and have your student do the extraction and the other students watching and learning", said the Scotsman hopefully.

"Hmmmmm, well OK it'll be good for the students I suppose, I'll charge you only £5 in that case", said the dentist.

"Wonderful, it's a deal" said the Scotsman..."Can you book the wife in for next Tuesday"

--submitted by **Gordon Duffus**



Luck of the Irish

The winner of the Ancient Order of Hibernian's 2004 "Trip for two to Ireland" is David Jones, ticket # 1024. David, of Irish ancestry, was visiting relatives in Richmond and bought 10 tickets at Rare Olde Times Restaurant Pub. He is delighted that he will be able to visit "THE OLD SOD," the land of his grandparents.

To those who didn't win, better luck next year. Thanks for helping to support the A.O.H.'s activities and charities. www.aoh.com

--submitted by **Paul McFadden**

Humour from the UK's Newspapers

Commenting on a complaint from a Mr. Arthur Purdey about a large gas bill, a spokesman for North West Gas said, "We agree it was rather high for the time of year. It's possible Mr. Purdey has been charged for the gas used up during the explosion that destroyed his house."

(The DailyTelegraph)

Irish police are being handicapped in a search for a stolen van because they cannot issue a description. It's a Special Branch vehicle and they don't want the public to know what it looks like.

(The Guardian)

A young girl who was blown out to sea on a set of inflatable teeth was rescued by a man on an inflatable lobster. A coastguard spokesman commented, "This sort of thing is all too common".

(The Times)

At the height of the gale, the harbourmaster radioed a coastguard on the spot and asked him to estimate the wind speed. He replied he was sorry, but he didn't have a gauge. However, if it was any help, the wind had just blown his Land Rover off the cliff.

(Aberdeen Evening Express)

Mrs. Irene Graham of Thorpe Avenue, Boscombe, delighted the audience with her reminiscence of the German prisoner of war who

was sent each week to do her garden. He was repatriated at the end of 1945, she recalled "He'd always seemed a nice friendly chap, but when the crocuses came up in the middle of our lawn in February 1946, they spelt out "Heil Hitler." (Bournemouth Evening Echo)

--submitted by **Gordon Duffus**



Contributions?

Please send any articles, music/book reviews or information on upcoming events (of a Celtic nature) to Lennie Geipel at geipel@geipel.info or PO Box 2663, Glen Allen VA 23058 by the end of April. Thank you!