



December 2005

Saltire Sentinel

Newsletter of the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond, Inc.
PO Box 3972, Glen Allen Virginia 23058, www.standrewssociety.org

Calendar

Dec. 14 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting will be held in the Celebration Room at the **Ukrop's in The Shoppes at Crossridge** located on Staples Mill Road between I-295 and Hungary Road. Members can purchase dinner if they want from the extensive selection in the cafe. The room is located on the second floor (there is an elevator or stairs) and should be quiet for our meeting. They will set up and take down. We will have tables organized in a U shape and the meeting will begin at 6:30 PM. *Alcohol and gambling is not allowed.* Members should *not* bring their own food or beverages as these are for sale.

Jan. 11 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting details TBA



Hogmanay, Saturday, January 7

6:30pm – 7:30pm Social Hour with Cash Bar & Silent Auction

7:30pm – 8:45pm / Dinner (Cash Bar will remain open during dinner.)

8:45pm – 10:30pm / Program, Songs & Such - Raffle Drawings, Silent Auction Winners

This year's event will be held at the **Henry Clay Inn** in Ashland. Here's a link to their website where you can get information and directions as well as a review of their restaurant www.henryclayinn.com. Please note that we are not having a buffet this year, so you will

choose a selection from these four offered: Grilled Salmon, Surf & Turf, Tournedos of Beef, or Chicken Cordon Bleu. (Please note your selection(s) on your check.) Also, a limited number of rooms are available at the Inn at a very attractive rate, if you wish to spend the night.

The Inn only serves beer and wine, but the SASR will be obtaining a liquor license so we will be able to serve mixed drinks and single malts for the cash bar. If you have any bottles of liquor or single malt that you would like to donate to the SASR, we will gladly accept them. Otherwise, we will buy what we need and any leftovers will be kept on hand for future events. If there is a specific type of mixed drink/liquor that you prefer, please note it when you sign up for this event, so that we will be sure to have what you want.

We are planning to make our own mix of music for pre-dinner, dinner and dancing after. If you have music preferences or any music that you would like us to include, please send it to Muffi Grinnell at muffigrinnell@yahoo.com as soon as possible.

Please note that the Henry Clay Inn can only accommodate 60 people for this dinner--we will have the entire restaurant to ourselves. We already had several people sign up at the meeting, so this event will sell out. If you plan to attend, please send your check ASAP to: St. Andrew's Society of Richmond, Inc. P.O. Box 3972 Glen Allen, VA 23058

Cost is \$50 per Member and \$60 per Non-member. If you have any questions, please contact Muffi Grinnell at the above email address.

-- Beverly Cochrane



Richmond Celtic Christmas Show December 10 & 11

On December 10 and 11, 2005 there will be a Celtic Christmas show at the Richmond Raceway Complex. This is an inside event which will take place in the buildings adjacent to the exhibition hall. Times are 10am to 7pm on Saturday and 10am to 5pm on Sunday. Bring out the whole for family for a day full of shopping, food, music and Irish and Scottish dancing. Music will be provided by Seven Nations, Iona, Tinker's Dam and Andy & Then Some. A Celtic Santa complete with a kilt and his own Christmas village will be available for the kids. One-day passes are \$15. Weekend passes are \$20. Save \$3.00 by purchasing tickets in advance at Celtic Colours. Children 9 and under are free. For additional information check out the website:
www.celticchristmasshow.com.

St. Andrew's will have a table at this event. *We are currently looking for eight highly enthusiastic individuals to work the table.* All volunteers will receive free admission. The event's primary sponsor, Celtic Colours, is looking volunteers for a variety of positions. All volunteers will receive free passes. Contact Troy or Bobbi Suggs at 804-740-6112 for additional information. Tell them St. Andrew's sent you.

-- Steve Bruce

Olde Towne Scottish Walk

Come to the eight annual "Olde Towne Scottish Walk" in Portsmouth, Virginian. This year it is on Saturday, December 31st; with assembly starting at 3:30 PM.

Meeting-up place is the corner of Queen and Washington Streets.

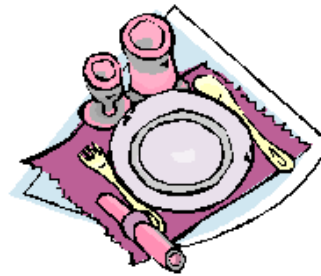
I know, that is New Year's Eve, but it is a good time in a great little city.

Anyway, it's over by 6-6:30 PM & there are great taverns and restaurants nearby.

For more information contact Susan Heely Cocks, 757-650-3052 susancocke@cox.net
Throw on your Tartan, take a hearty shot of *uisage beath*, light your *clavie* and join us.

I will have some copies of the organizer's handout at the next meeting.

-- John LoRe



The Ettrick Historical Society's Fifth Annual Robert Burns Evening February 25

The Ettrick Historical Society is now taking reservations for its Fifth Annual Robert Burns Evening Saturday, February 25, 2006 at Ettrick-Matoaca Volunteer Rescue Squad, River Road, Matoaca.

Bill of Fare: Beef in Guinness, Cock-a-Leekie Soup, Neeps & Tatties, Peas, Yorkshire Pudding, The Haggis, Dessert, Tea and Coffee, Lively Entertainment

The Society will also be raffling a basket of delightful goodies directly from the United Kingdom. One of the items in the basket is a 10 year-old bottle of Ardbeg that cannot be purchased in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Raffle tickets are \$2 each and will continue to be sold at the door February 25.

Doors will open at 6:30pm; festivities begin at 7pm. Book early to avoid disappointment! Seating is limited. Cost: \$15 per person. This is a fundraiser for the Ettrick Historical Society.

Please make checks payable to: Ettrick Historical Society, 21101 Chesterfield Ave., Ettrick, VA 23803. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope or your tickets will be held for you at door. Questions? Please email Jeffrey or Mary Ellen Anderson at victoriaandalbert@comcast.net <<mailto:victoriaandalbert@comcast.net>> or call 804-526-8367.

One further note: Ettrick Heritage Day will be held on **April 1, 2006**. If anyone wishes to register now, please email us. Registrations will be mailed and emailed out after Thanksgiving holiday.

--Jeffrey Anderson

On A Beautiful Scottish Evening

Dear Fellow Scot,

Please allow me to introduce myself: I am Margaret Dunlop, Past President and current trustee of The St Andrew's Society of Detroit with special interest in promoting Scottish cultural awareness in the community. I am writing to ask for your help in making North American Scots aware of a Scottish cultural PBS special called *On A Beautiful Scottish Evening*. Let me say from the beginning, I am not looking to get you to buy anything, subscribe to anything or ask you for any kind of financial donation - I simply ask you to pass on some Scottish cultural information to your members.

I want to let you know about a PBS Special called *On A Beautiful Scottish Evening*. It was shot at the Ross Bandstand in the lovely Princes St. Gardens beneath Edinburgh's historic castle during the 2004 Edinburgh Festival, and features *Caledon - Scotland's 3 Tenors*, accompanied by the world-famous Scottish Fiddle Orchestra. The programme contains some of Scotland's most beautiful and famous songs such as My Love is like a Red, Red Rose, A Man's A Man, Highland Cathedral and Auld Lang Syne expertly played and wonderfully sung.

It was aired by WLIW New York Channel 21 on October 30th and has been a big success in the New York area. The station is now offering O.A.B.S.E. to every other PBS network station in the US and Canada for broadcast and will very closely watch the uptake of this programme with a view to making other Scottish interest programmes for the network.

As you are no doubt aware, our Celtic cousins, the Irish have had a great run of success in promoting their own culture on PBS with show like Riverdance and the Irish Tenors becoming smashes. Now I firmly believe it is Scotland's turn and all like-minded North American Scots should get behind this programme and make it a big success, leading to more of the same on our TV screens.

All I ask of you is that you and your organisation contact your local PBS station and ask them if they would consider airing On A Beautiful Scottish Evening. It is very possible that your local channel is unaware of your organisation and doesn't realise that there is an interest in Scottish programming in your area and so you should take the opportunity to explain this to them. If your organisation is anything like mine, it will have been founded to help promote and encourage Scottish culture in your area - I can think of no finer way to do this than asking for Scottish programmes of this quality to appear on your TV screens. I can also think of no greater example to our young folk than to let them see this programme with its dramatic shots of the castle, its beautiful melodies and emotive Scottish folk songs, rather than the normal unsuitable TV fare.

My own interest in this programme came about when Caledon gave me a copy of a DVD of the show this summer. We had them at our 156th Annual Highland Games and as usual they were a huge hit. We have actually engaged Caledon on a number of occasions for St Andrew's Society sponsored concerts and events and they are so popular in this area that they have been responsible for raising thousands of dollars for our society's William H Kincaid scholarship which awards grants to youngsters involved in Scottish cultural and educational activities. In addition the members of Caledon have been

created honorary members of other St Andrew's Societies including the SAS of Illinois and the SAS of Sarasota.

Thank-you for your time and I hope you can support this worth Scottish cultural cause. If you require any more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address.

Yours Aye,

Margaret Dunlop
Past President and current trustee of The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit
PEGGILOU@aol.com

Prayers and well wishes

For **John Wallace**, who is recovering well from bypass surgery and has just started rehab. He really appreciates all the support— cards, calls, visits, support, and prayers from his St. Andrew's friends—“It keeps me going.”

johnrwallace@earthlink.net

For **Ray Burton**, who has had serious health problems since late September. He is so thankful for prayers and emails.

john.burton@highmark.com

Sons of the Mountains

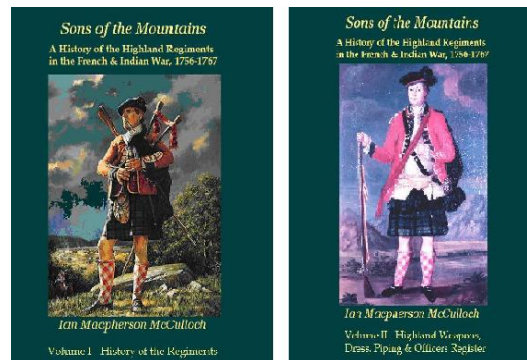
Ian Macpherson McCulloch, Commanding Officer of the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada and the former Deputy Director of History & Heritage for the Canadian Armed Forces, has just completed a two volume book that should be of interest to some or all of our membership who trace their ancestry back to the first Highlanders that came to North America. It's entitled *Sons of the Mountains: A History of the Highland Regiments in North America during the French & Indian War 1756-67*. The book will be published next Spring, the 250th Anniversary of the arrival of the Black Watch in North America. The author is currently on active duty with NATO in Norfolk. We hope he will be

able to speak at one of our meetings next year.

His CV can be found at the Clan Macpherson website here:

<http://www.parsonage.net/2005agm/guest.html>

Three proud Highland regiments fought in North America during the Seven Year's War - the 77th Foot (Montgomery's Highlanders), the 78th Foot (Fraser's Highlanders), and the famous Black Watch, more correctly known at the time as the Royal Highland Regiment. Undoubtedly, the exploits of the 42nd, 77th and 78th Highlanders in some of the most bloody and desperate battles on the North American continent were a critical factor in transforming the overall image of Highlanders from Jacobite rebels to Imperial heroes in the latter half of the 18th century. But the everyday story of these regiments - how they trained, worked, played, fought and died from their own point of view - has never been seriously told.



Sons of the Mountains: A History of the Highland regiments in North America during the French & Indian War, 1756-1767, is a two-volume set due to be co-published Spring 2006 by Purple Mountain Press and the Fort Ticonderoga Museum. It chronicles the Highland regiments' fighting performance and experiences from the time they were raised in the Highlands and stepped ashore in North America, to their disbandment in 1763; or, as in the case of the 42nd, reduced in establishment and left on lonely garrison duty in the American wilderness until their recall and return to Ireland in 1767.

Volume One of **Sons of the Mountains** follows all three regiments on their various campaigns

in the different theatres of war. As they range from the wilderness of the Ohio Forks to the wind-swept crags of Signal Hill in Newfoundland, and from the waters of the Great Lakes to the torrid swamps and cane fields of the "Sugar Islands", the reader will be exposed to all the major conflicts and actions of the "Great War for Empire" as seen through the eyes of the Highland soldier.

Volume Two of **Sons of the Mountains** will appeal to all families of Scottish descent and serious genealogists. It features comprehensive biographical histories of every regimental officer from all the major clans (over 350 entries) who served in North America. For example:

For further information, see Purple Mountain Press website at <http://www.catskill.net/purple/order.htm> or write for details to: **Purple Mountain Press, Ltd.**, PO Box 309, Fleischmann's, NY, 12430-0309. Phone: 1-845-254-4062.

December in History

3rd, 1894: Robert Louis Stevenson is born. Rejoice as we will now eventually find the Crown Jewels of Scotland and be visited by a kilt-wearing king (in pink tights). Oh yeah. He also wrote stuff.

4th, 1795: Thomas Carlyle, a Scottish Historian was born. Maybe related to Robert Carlyle of "Macbeth" and "Train Spotting" fame. Robert is probably more famous.... for us telly-watching-types.

8th, 1524: Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots is born. This is a good day to fly The Lion Rampant and reflect on that old adage, "No good deed goes unpunished".

10th, 1824: George Mac Donald, Scottish poet, clergyman, novelist, & creator of children's fairie tales is born. I wonder where he got the time.

11th, 1792: 'Scottish Friends of the People', an early Republican movement was formed. I guess it didn't work out.

14th, 1542: King James V died.

16th, 1707: The Act of Union with England gets the ok vote from the Scottish Parliament..."There's an end to an old song".

1946: The birth of that great Scottish American 'warm & fuzzy type of guy', Gordon D. Duffus in New York City. Some of the world rejoices. The others soon will.

25th, 1951: Scottish Nationalists 'repossess (liberate?) the Stone of Scone from Westminster Abbey. But did they get the 'correct' rock?

26th: Wren Day: commemorates St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. This name alludes to several Irish legends linking episodes in the life of Jesus to the wren. In parts of Ireland persons carrying either an effigy of a wren, or an actual caged wren, travel from house to house playing music, singing and dancing. Depending on which region of the country, they are called Wrenboys, Mummers or Strawboys. A Mummer's Festival is held at this time every year in the village of New Inn, Co. Galway.

29th, 1766: Charles Macintosh, Scottish inventor of the rubberized raincoat (a Mac) was born.

Planned Parenthood also celebrates this date with feasting and such.

31st: Hogmanay: It's Cake Day in Scotland!..... and First Footing time... and party time.

1720: The birthday of Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie) again bringing forth the adage, "No good deed goes unpunished". Was this adage invented for the Stuarts or were the Stuarts invented for it?

Newsletter Contributions Please!

Please send any articles, music/book reviews, recipes or information on upcoming events (of a Celtic nature) to **Lennie Geipel** at geipel@mac.com or PO Box 2663, Glen Allen VA 23058 by the end of December.