



January 2006

Saltire Sentinel

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

Calendar

*All our meetings will be held at **The Church of the Holy Comforter** (corner of Monument and Staples Mill Rd.) *except in March* (Lent). We gather at **6:30pm** to socialize and the meeting begins at 7pm. Please bring food to share if you wish (**Celtic Buffet!**).

Feb. 8 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting - Scottish Gaelic Enthusiasts will give presentation and talk about their upcoming retreat.

Mar. 8 St. Andrew's Society Dinner Meeting
- location to be announced

Apr. 12 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting - Author Ian McCulloch; He will be discussing and selling his book *Through So Many Dangers: The Memoirs & Adventures of Robert Kirk, late of the Royal Highland Regiment*.

May 10 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting - Member Curry Roberts will speak about Meadow Farm, the future home of the State Fair of Virginia.

Jun. 14 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting – Elections

Kirkin of the Tartans February 19

There will be a Kirkin of the Tartans on February 19th at Amelia Presbyterian Church (16401 Dunn Street, Amelia Courthouse, VA 23002) sponsored by the House of Gordon. I will get more details for you, but just make sure people put it on their calendar. We need to bring tartans to bless and wear our colors.

-- Chris Rapp

Scottish Gaelic Enthusiasts in Richmond 9th Annual Spring Retreat

This annual S.G.E.I.R. retreat weekend will be held at Camp Hanover, Friday, March 3, through Sunday, March 5, 2006. There will be Gaelic language classes for all levels, 2 Cèilidhs, and a workshop with Jeff MacDonald: Gaelic teacher, storyteller, singer, songwriter, and an historian of the Gaelic culture in Cape Breton. If you would like to know more please feel free to contact Kate at: ceitruadh@comcast.net.

Hogmanay was a SELL-OUT!

We are so pleased to announce that the 2006 Hogmanay was a sell-out! Thank you to everyone who attended. If anyone has photos and/or would write a story on this event, it would be most appreciated! Please send it to the address at the end of the newsletter and it will appear in February's issue.

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. *Checks must be received by Feb. 22.* 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.

--Jeffrey Anderson

Strawberry Hill Races— A special opportunity for SASR

The St. Andrew's Society of Richmond has been offered the opportunity to use a private Skysuite at Colonial Downs for the 74th running of the Strawberry Hill races on April 15, 2006. The Strawberry Hill Races are presented annually by The State Fair of Virginia as part of its annual roster of events and promotes its mission to support youth and education by raising funds for its Youth Scholarship Program. The Skysuite is offered to us as a non-profit organization and our only commitment is to purchase at least 15 shuttle passes/tickets for the races. The Skysuite can accommodate 50 people comfortably. More information will be forthcoming in future newsletters and through email to the general membership. Once ticket prices are established, we will take reservations on a first-come, first-served basis. This event was a sell-

out last year and we expect it to be again this year.

-- Beverly Cochrane

January in History

3rd, 1590: Robert Boyd, who kidnapped the young James VI, 'lost his head' for attempting to usurp the king's power.

5th, 1984: Ronald Mac Donald Douglas (without the red nose), a prominent Scottish Nationalist died.

17th, 1746: The last Jacobite victory occurred at the Battle of Falkirk during the Jacobite retreat to the North after the abortive 'invasion' of England.

25th, 1759: Robert Burns, Scottish poet was born. Can anybody really understand his stuff? I make believe that I do.

26th, 1316: Edward Bruce (Robert's brother) and his Irish allies (who eventually deserted him) fight the Battle of Ardscoil in Ireland.

27th, 1784: The Mutiny of the 77th Highland Infantry Regiment who was to be shipped to India even though their enlistment's had expired.

29th, 1716: The Scottish Jacobite Army begins a scorched earth policy to slow down the advancing Anglo-Dutch army. I don't think that they noticed.

-- Gordon D. Duffus

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 January.