



March 2007

Saltire Sentinel

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

Calendar

Mar. 14 St. Andrew's Society Dinner Meeting at Steak and Ale located at 6900 West Broad Street (just west of the I-64 intersection; members should access from Glenside Avenue; it is behind the Bob Evans restaurant and there is a K-Mart across the street); **6:30 pm**. We have a large room reserved (up to 70 people) set off from the other diners. There is a cash bar and we can have separate checks; there is 18% gratuity.

Mar. 17 Boys from the Lough concert at the Modlin Center, see page 4 for details



Mar. 24-25 St. Patrick's Church Irish Festival in Church Hill; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday; Featuring live bands, traditional Irish foods and beverages, children's games and rides, Celtic vendors, local crafts, Celtic harps.
www.saintpatrickchurchhill.org/Festival.htm

Apr. 11 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting at The Church of the Holy Comforter (Monument Ave. at Staples Mill Rd.); We gather at 6:30 pm to socialize and the meeting begins at 7:00 pm. **Analee** will speak on Celtic springtime festivals; *Celtic buffet*

May 9 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting at The Church of the Holy Comforter (Monument Ave. at Staples Mill Rd.); We gather at 6:30 pm to socialize and the meeting begins at 7:00 pm. Guest speaker/slash demonstration TBA; *Celtic buffet*

Jun. 13 St. Andrew's Society Business &

Potluck Dinner Meeting at The Church of the Holy Comforter (Monument Ave. at Staples Mill Rd.); Elections; We gather at 6:30 pm to socialize and the meeting begins at 7:00 pm. It's a *Pot Luck Dinner*, so please bring a dish to share.

New Series? . . . It depends on you!

Jeff Kelso has written the *beginning* of another series. It is an abbreviated history of the Scotland. This first installment, below, is about the origins of the Celts. *Here is where you come in*: if members express interest, he will keep writing and have the series cover the history of Scotland from the most ancient times up to the re-establishment of the Scottish Parliament in 1999. Each article will be short and written in a non-academic way (no footnotes or citations) but will be as accurate as his research can provide. It is uncertain how many articles there will be in the series but I suspect perhaps several dozen ... or more. So please read on and let us know what you think.

Where did the Scots come from?

It must be remembered that the historic modern Scottish population (after 1700) is a conglomeration of several ethnic groups: Celts, Britons, Norse, Picts, Normans, Flemish, *etc.* Since the Second World War, the population of Scotland has seen a major influx of people from the former British Empire and, more recently, political refugees from the Balkans. It is probably easier to find a good curry in Edinburgh today than it is to get haggis. The emphasis in this article will be on the Celts and is going to leapfrog back to the earliest origins and work its way forward.

The Celtic people are thought to have originated in the Caucasus area of ancient Scythia in the late Bronze Age (c. 1200 to 700

BCE). They slowly migrated, over several centuries, west to the central Europe area around modern day Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. Their migration was caused by pressure from other westward bound people, changing climate, and the general way that hunter-gatherers have of moving. There is no evidence that they migrated with the purpose of conquest (like the Norse and later Normans). As they moved west they spread out. By the early Iron Age, Celts could be found in what are now northern regions of Italy, eastern France, Bohemia, Moravia, Spain, Slovakia and parts of Hungary and Ukraine.

The Celts did try invasions of Italy and Greece in the early 3rd century BCE but were not successful, other than becoming known to the “civilized” world and entering Greek/Roman history, where they were known as Gauls. A branch settled in the Anatolia area of modern Turkey that became known as Galatia. It was to these people that Paul addressed his Epistle to Galatians. Eventually these Celts/Gauls were absorbed into the Greek/Turkish population of the region and disappeared as a separate people.

During Roman times the Celtic people settled in many parts of Europe. The ones that settled in Eastern France and Western Germany were the people that Julius Caesar fought and wrote about in his Gallic Wars which begins with his famous line “*Gallia est omnis divisa in partes tres ...*” “All Gaul is divided into three parts, one of which the Belgae inhabit, the Aquitani another, those who in their own language are called Celts, in ours Gauls, the third.”

The Celts continued their disorganized migration across Europe passing through Italy and France into modern Spain and the area know today as Galicia. This area is in the Northwestern part of Spain and extends into Portugal. It is now an autonomous community within Spain and has its own distinct language.

There is an area of Northwestern France known as Brittany that was settled by the Celts in the late Roman times. The name actually comes from an interesting turn-about. The Celts in that area were forced out by the Romans, invaded what is now England and became known as

Britons. When Rome began to fall, the Britons cross back over the Channel and resettled the region. And that is how it came to be called Brittany.

More to our direct interest is that there was a semi-peaceful invasion/migration from Galicia, Brittany, and the Northern German Celts in the 3rd and 4th centuries into Southwestern England (Cornwall), Wales, the Isle of Mann, and then Ireland. In each of these the local people were either absorbed into the new Celtic community or, like the Picts, forced out to other areas.

In the 6th century, the great Irish abbot Columba crossed the Irish Sea in exile to the Isle of Iona off the Western coast of what we now called Scotland. There he established a monastery that was to bring Christianity and learning to the Northern British Isles. He provided a foot-hold in that Pictish land that was soon followed by a tribe of Irish, called the Scotians.

NEXT: St Columba, the Columbian Church, Kenneth MacAlpine, and Scotland.

--Jeffrey E Kelso, FSA Scot



Time is Running Out! Don't Miss It! Join SASR at the Strawberry Hill Races April 14!

We're coming down the home stretch. The Strawberry Hill Races will be here before you know it and the deadline to sign up is less than a furlong away. If you haven't signed up yet, don't delay. The 75th Running of the Strawberry Hill Races is Saturday, April 14 at Colonial Downs. The Saint Andrew's Society of Richmond wants you to be a part of the

“Diamond Jubilee” running of this annual event.

Once again this year, we have our very own Sky Suite and you can join in the fun for just \$35 per person. If you were there last year, you know how much fun was had by all. If you missed it, you still have a chance for this year’s event. Your \$35.00 Ticket gets you a Shuttle Bus Ride to and from the Races from the Richmond International Raceway, admission to the Races and to the St. Andrew’s Society Sky Suite. The Buses will be running from 9:30-AM until 7-PM.

If you want to join the fun, contact Analee Evans at analee_e@hotmail.com. Checks should be made payable to the St. Andrew’s Society of Richmond and must be turned in to Analee no later than the March 14 General Meeting at the Steak & Ale on West Broad at Glenside. That will give us time to get your tickets to you before Race Day on April 14.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 569-3228 or dharman@statefairva.org. We’ll also be available to answer questions at the General Meeting on March 14. Don’t miss out on all the fun at the Strawberry Hill Races.

-- Dick Harman

Ireland Trip for Two Raffle

2007 Fifth Annual Ancient Order of Hibernians
"TRIP FOR TWO TO IRELAND"
(Or anywhere in the world)

GRAND PRIZE - \$3,000.00 CASH
(You need not be present to win)

\$10 Donation per ticket, 10 for \$90

Drawing 5:00 pm, March 25, 2007 on the bandstand at the St. Patrick's Church Irish Festival (25th & Main Sts., Richmond, VA, all welcome).

St. Andrew's Society of Richmond will receive a percentage for the tickets that we sell. If you

are interested please see one of our Board members or Officers for details and tickets. Unsold tickets and monies need to be turned in March 20, 2007. An average of 1,000 tickets have been sold each year, so your odds of winning the \$3,000 are good. Remember the more we sell the more we receive.

Another new series:

“What’s in a Name?” Members are invited tell about your clan-- a brief history/anecdote/motto . . . John LoRe takes the lead on this new venture . . . read on.

Clan Buchanan

Badge: “Bilberry”

Slogan: “Clar Innis” (An Island in Loch Lomond)

The origins of Clan Buchanan have been traced to Gilbert, a Steward to the Earl of Lennox about the middle of the 13th century. The Earl conferred on Gilbert a part of the lands of Buchanan from which he took his name. Maurice of Buchanan, his successor, received the same grant from the sixth Earl of Lennox. Maurice married the daughter of Menteith of Rusky, and thus his son became connected with the Royal House. This son married the sole heiress of the ancient family of Leny.

It is said that at the battle of Bauge-en-Anjou in 1421, Sir Alexander, the eldest son, slew the Duke of Clarence. The former was killed at the battle of Verneuil in 1424 when his second brother, Walter, succeeded to the Buchanan estates, and his third brother to the Leny estates. Walter married Isabel, Countess of Lennox. The eldest son, Patrick, married the heiress of Killearn and Auchreock, while Thomas, the youngest son, founded the House of Drumkil, of which the famous historian, George Buchanan, was a descendant. Patrick’s son Walter married a daughter of Lord Graham, and by her younger son who became known as “King of Kippen.” Walter, a grandson of Patrick, and founder of the line of Spittal, was twice married. By his second wife he had William, founder of the now extinct line of

Auchmar. The principle line became extinct in 1682, when representation was claimed by Buchanan of Auchmar, whose line perished in 1816. The family lands are now possessed by the Duke of Montrose.

Best regards,
John LoRe

SASR Photomontage

Those of you who were there enjoyed seeing and hearing the multimedia extravaganza called "St Andrew's Society Photomontage" that was produced by Walter Ruggieri (son-in-law of President Bob Maxwell). The DVD is available to members of the Society from Walter for just \$15 (to cover the costs of production, materials, and shipping). If you are interested in getting your own copy, please contact Walter by phone at 804-266-9043 or by email at wdrneder@hotmail.com.



Boys of the Lough

The Modlin Center, U of R
Saturday, March 17, 2007 at 7:30 pm
Camp Concert Hall, Booker Hall of Music

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day magic with the Modlin Center as the Boys of the Lough bring the warmth and vitality of traditional Celtic music to Richmond. The Boys have established a reputation for technical brilliance and integrity in their performance of Irish and Scottish music. A ready wit and sense of fun enliven their onstage performance while their original arrangements and dynamic interactions

between the two major strands of the Celtic tradition keep the music bright and fresh. A hallmark of the band's approach has been their refusal to dilute their music with the addition of inappropriate vocalists or electric instruments or percussion. They prefer the natural tone colors of their acoustic instruments, traditionally played. Almost alone among Celtic groups, they truly play "music that tastes of itself."

Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$28 for seniors, \$15 for children, \$22 for UR faculty/staff and \$8 for UR students.

Tickets are available by visiting or calling the Modlin Center Box Office at (804) 289-8980 or by visiting <http://modlin.richmond.edu>

O'Toole's goes Smoke-free!

O'Toole's Restaurant and Bar, a popular spot on Forest Hill Avenue since the 1960s, is going non-smoking starting March 1st. Requests from customers prompted owner John O'Toole to make the change. Concerns for the health of employees and patrons also played a role. It will likely boost business as well since the non-smoking area always fills up more quickly than the smoking area.

O'Toole's joins a growing number of restaurants asking smokers to take their habit outside. For a list of smoke-free restaurants (maintained by The Virginia Department of Health) visit:

<http://www.vahealth.org/smokefreedining/smokefreelocations.aspx>

Newsletter Contributions Please!

Please send any articles, music/book reviews, jokes, 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 March. **This is your St. Andrew's Society newsletter . . . so please send something you would like to see in it!** Thank you!