



June 2007

# Saltire Sentinel

Newsletter of the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond, Inc.  
PO Box 3972, Glen Allen Virginia 23058, [www.standrewssociety.org](http://www.standrewssociety.org)

## Calendar

**Jun. 7 Enter The Haggis** plays at Ashland Coffee & Tea (804-798-1702)

**Jun. 9 Ashland Strawberry Fair** at Randolph



Macon College, 10 am – 5 pm. SASR and St. Andrew's Legion will both have tents there.  
<http://www.ashlandstrawberryfaire.com/>

**Jun. 13 St. Andrew's Society Business & Potluck Dinner Meeting** at The Church of the Holy Comforter (Monument Ave. at Staples Mill Rd.); **Annual 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.**

**Jul. 7 - 8 Wine Festival at Floyd Virginia**, Milepost 170.5 Blue Ridge Parkway; Featuring Wine, Art, Music by **Gaelic Storm**.

**Jul. 21 Picnic** is Saturday from 11 am – til? at **Frances McConnell's**. \$5 per person (children 12 and under free), BYOB & side dish to share; burgers, hot dogs and soft drinks provided; port-a-potty on site; **please pre-pay at the June meeting.**

## Election on June 13

The nominations line up is: **Dick Harman** for President, **Chris Rapp** for Vice President, **Analee Evans** for Treasurer, and **John LoRe** for Secretary. **Debbie Franklin**, **Jeff Kelso**, and **Dianthia Joyner** are running for Board

positions. We will also accept nominations from the floor.

## Malcolm, St. Margaret, and the Margaret Sons

In October of 1066, Duke William the Bastard of Normandy invaded England in a desperate attempt to get a kingdom and a better moniker. He succeeded in both becoming King of England and William the Conqueror. Many surviving Anglo-Saxon nobles fled to Scotland; among them Edgar the Æthling (heir to throne of England after the death of Harold at the Battle of Hastings) and his two sisters Cristina and Margaret.

King Malcolm III was the widower of Ingibjorg (widow of the Jarl of Orkney, Thorfinn Sigurdsson "Raven-Feeder) by whom he had a son Donnchad, later King of Scots. When Malcolm first saw Margaret, it was love at first sight: they were married within the year.

Malcolm was a political realist and did not support his new brother-in-law in Edgar's feeble attempts at overthrowing William. Malcolm ruled for almost five decades, His major accomplishments (other than surviving so long!) were cementing royal control over north and west Scotland, the beginnings of Norman style feudalism, and the establishment of a dynasty that lasted until the death of Alexander III in 1286.

In 1072 Malcolm met with William and took an oath of fealty for his lands in Cumbria and Northumberland. This had been done before by other monarchs but William chose to interpret it more exactly: he believed that Malcolm had acknowledged him as overlord of Scotland. This proved to be the seed for many years of war between Scotland and England.

His marriage to Margaret had a very profound affect on Scotland. The children were not given Celtic names but names of Anglo-Saxon (Edward, Edmund, and Edgar), classical (Alexander), and biblical (David, Edith, and Mary) origins. This tradition continues to this day.

Margaret had been born in Hungary and was a Roman Catholic. Malcolm, while by no means a religious man, was a member of the Columbian Church as was virtually the entire population of Scotland. Margaret, through her devotion and royal influence, brought Roman Catholic Church to Scotland. By her death in 1093, the old monastic-based Columbian Church had been almost totally replaced by the bishop-based Roman Catholic Church. She founded many chapels, churches, monasteries, and cathedrals throughout Scotland. The small free-standing chapel that she had built inside Edinburgh Castle is still there\*. She was canonized as Saint Margaret in 1251 although she was called Saint Margaret during her lifetime.

Malcolm was succeeded by his brother Donald III for four tumultuous years and then briefly by Malcolm's son by Ingiborg, Donnchad. Donnchad had spent many years as a hostage / guest of William the Conqueror and was strongly Norman in outlook. This did not please the Scottish nobles or the sons of Malcolm by Margaret (collectively known as "the Margaret Sons"): he was murdered by one of the nobles.

The first of the Margaret Sons, Edmund, sided with Donnchad against his own brothers. After the death of Donnchad he was forced to become a Clunic monk and lived the rest of his life in a monastery in Somerset. Most historians do list him as King of Scots although he clearly had a direct claim.

Edgar Margotsson became King of Scots in 1097 and reigned for ten years. He accomplished little of note during his reign and had no wife or children.

Alexander I succeeded his brother for 17 years. While he did marry, he had no legitimate offspring. He is mostly noted for his

religiousness, having founded several major establishments.

Upon Alexander's death, David became King of Scots. Being the youngest of all of Malcolm's sons, he had never expected to become King. He spent most of his early life in exile in England and become immersed in Norman and Anglo-French culture. He is responsible for the creation of the Royal Burghs (which were independent of local nobles and owed allegiance directly to the Crown), reforms in the Church including the re-organization of the diocesan system with, and the firm establishment of feudalism.

David ruled for almost 30 years. He spent most of that time in wars against Scottish nobles who wanted to restore their old Celtic independence of the Crown. In this he was very successful and afterwards the nobles all acknowledged the King of Scots as their overlord instead of their equal.

He also became very involved in the affairs of England. Upon the death of Henry I of England, he sided with Henry's daughter Matilda against the claims of Stephen of Blois. David invaded England several times in support of Matilda, coincidentally increasing his land holdings there. In 1141 Stephen wrenched the throne from Matilda and ruled for another 19 years.

David died at the ripe age of 70. His only son, Henry, had died in 1152 but David had named Henry's son Malcolm (the IV) as his successor.

\* St Margaret's Chapel is open to tourists and well-worth visiting. The Chapel is maintained by the Society of Margaret (membership limited to women born in Scotland and named Margaret). The only religious ceremonies held there are weddings of active duty soldiers stationed at the Castle.

**NEXT: More Malcolms and the Alexanders**

**--- Jeffrey E Kelso, FSA Scot**

**For Further Reading:**

The two Nigel Tranter historical novels that cover this period are "Margaret the Queen" and "David the Prince".



## Charlie Zahm Returns to 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival

It may just be the start of Summer, but we are working steadily on the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival. The dates are set for Saturday & Sunday, October 27 & 28 and the location is still the Richmond Raceway Complex.

It has just been announced that Festival Favorite Charlie Zahm and crew will be back to entertain both Saturday & Sunday. Along with Charlie (and his voice) will be Tad Marks on Fiddle and Cheryl Prashker on percussion. Cheryl made her debut at last year's event and proved to be quite an accomplished percussionist.

So far, 30 Clans and Societies have signed up. If your group has not yet done so, now is the time. Tent fees are \$160 for a single and \$300 for a double tent, but the prices will go up on July 15. If you need more information, registrations forms, etc., please give me a call at 569-3228 or e-mail me at:

[धारman@statefairva.org](mailto:धारman@statefairva.org). It wouldn't be the same without you.

See you at the June Meeting and at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival, October 27 & 28 at Richmond Raceway Complex.

## Celtibillies Concert July 21<sup>st</sup>

"A masterful work of art that transcends all musical genres". That's how Bluegrass Unlimited described the music of Celtibillies. Formed in 1994 as a contradance band, Celtibillies began exploring the deep-rooted connections between Celtic music and the Appalachian music of their home region of southwest Virginia. Their music expanded beyond dance tunes to include a wide range of traditional Celtic and Appalachian Old-Time music and song as well as original music. The band features Becky Barlow on hammered dulcimer, keyboard and bodhran, Jack Hinshelwood on fiddle and guitar, Tim Sauls on banjo, bouzouki and guitar, and Jeff Hofmann on bass. Celtibillies performances are an energetic mixture of duet vocal arrangements and spirited jigs, reels, waltzes and breakdowns. **Celtibillies concert with Hoorah Cloggers & Good Foot Dance Company 8:00 pm, July 21, 2007 at Dogwood Dell (Festival of Arts), Richmond, VA.**

<http://www.celtibillies.com/index.htm>

## Music websites of interest

I came across these two websites while looking for local Celtic concerts on the Internet:

<http://www.clanhaggis.com/group.html>

<http://www.clanmaccool.com/>

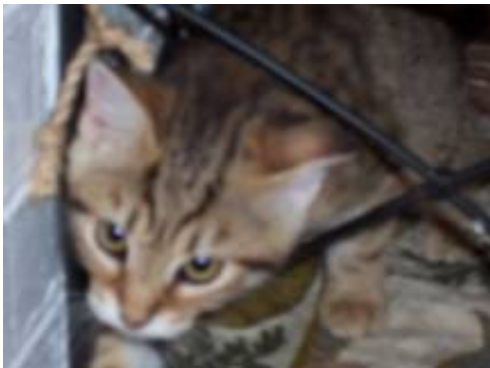
Hmmm-- Don't we know some of these folks? Maybe they would come sing for us sometime?

-- Lennie Geipel

## St. Andrew's to the Rescue

When the Ogden's found that their daughter Emma's skin condition was caused primarily by an allergy to the family cat, Meena, they called on SASR for help.

An email was sent out asking if anyone could take Meena and provide a loving home. The year old tabby had a lovely disposition, all shots, and was recently spayed. She has unusual coloring; a rusty brown/grey with some leopard spots and a raccoon tail. Within days a new owner was found and the exchange took place a week ago. While the family misses having Meena around, the improvement to Emma's skin was noticed within the week and it continues to improve. The Ogden's are so pleased with the quick help they received and happy that Meena will be in a great new home. Thank you St. Andrew's Society of Richmond for a job well done!



Best regards,

**John LoRe**

## 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](mailto:geipel@mac.com) or PO Box 2663, Glen Allen VA 23058 **by the middle of August**. **This is your St. Andrew's Society newsletter . . . so please send something you would like to see in it!** Thank you!