



October 2007

Saltire Sentinel

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

Calendar

Don't forget, membership dues are due for the 2007/2008 year.

Oct. 6 – SALPD - Varina Episcopal Fall Festival

Oct. 10 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. *Celtic Buffet, as usual, so please bring a dessert or an appetizer to share.*

Win a weekend pass to the Richmond Highland Games!!

Come to the Wednesday, October 10th meeting for an opportunity to win a weekend pass to the Highland Games. Each person who signs up to work a 2 hour shift at the SASR tent will be entered to win a weekend pass, valued at \$24. You must be present at the meeting to enter and to win. Tickets will be available that night only.

Oct. 15 Irish Megalithomania! 6:30-9:00 pm University of Richmond 804-287-6331, www.scs.richmond.edu/thinkagain
<<http://www.scs.richmond.edu/thinkagain>>

Oct. 19 Dublin, Ireland Dinner and Lecture 6:00-9:00 pm, University of Richmond; **804-287-6331**, www.scs.richmond.edu/thinkagain
<<http://www.scs.richmond.edu/thinkagain>>

October 20 - SALPD - Kilmarnock Scottish Day
www.kilmarnockchamber.org/scottish.html

Oct. 27-28 The Thirteenth Annual Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival features

two days of 'Music. Food. Large Men Throwing Stuff.' For more information: <http://www.richmondceltic.com/site.asp>

Nov. 5 Lionheart at the University of Richmond Modlin Center. For more info: <http://modlin.richmond.edu/contentmgr/showdetails.php/id/700/cid/>

Nov. 14 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting (restaurant meeting TBA)

Dec. 12 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting at The Church of the Holy Comforter (Monument Ave. at Staples Mill Rd.)

"If you are receiving this newsletter through the United States Postal Service, it means we do not have an accurate or valid email address. Please email us at Board@StAndrewsSociety.org with your correct address so that we may save money on postage.

The Prez Sez!

Here we are only a short, short time away from the Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival and I am up to my ears in final plans. The phones are ringing and the e-mails are zinging.

First, however, I want to say a big "THANK YOU" to Analee Evans, who has taken on the additional responsibility of editing and overseeing the Saltire Sentinel. Lennie's plate is overflowing and she had asked for someone to take over and Analee graciously agreed to step up. She would welcome input from all of you with articles, etc.

Secondly, we are on the verge of the Richmond Games and here is our time to shine. We have always put our best foot forward and I feel sure

this year will be no exception. Bob Maxwell and Steve Bruce head up our Special Events Committee and they are doing an excellent job. However, they cannot do it alone. We need your help in setting up, manning, and closing down our tent. This is our big opportunity to present the St. Andrews Society of Richmond to the public and to bring in new members. It is a group effort and we need and appreciate your assistance.

But there is something else about the Games we need to remember. It is a chance to mix with all the other Groups and Societies and Clans. These are folks that in many cases we only see once or twice a year. We are all of one purpose and that is to promote and perpetuate the Celtic Heritage. It is a great time to get acquainted and re-acquainted with our Celtic Brothers and Sisters. Make a point of stopping by the other tents and introducing yourself. Make sure that folks who stop by our tent feel welcome. Remember, The St. Andrew's Society of Richmond is ALL of us. The more members that pitch in, the better it is. YOU are an important part of US.

See you at the General Meeting on October 10 at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church and at the 13th Annual Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival on October 27 & 28 at Richmond Raceway Complex.

Aye!

Dick

dkharman@statefairva.org.

Treasurer's Report:

For the month ending September 30, 2007, we stand at:

Balance from 2006/2007: \$4,063.71
Income: \$585.00
Expenses: **\$396.08**
Balance: \$4,252.63

Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival It's Almost Time!

The days are shorter, the nights are longer. That means it's October and time for the 13th Annual Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival. Two

days of "Music, Food and Large Men Throwing Stuff!"

The dates this year are October 27 & 28 and it's still at Richmond Raceway Complex. 58 Clans and Societies have signed up, so it will be another first rate turnout. As usual, the Professional Athletes will be competing for the North American Championship on Saturday and the Amateur Athletes get their turn on Sunday. Both days will be filled with music. Among the groups you'll see are Charlie Zahm, Uisce Beatha, Poisoned Dwarf, Tinkers Dam and Robin Rich. Featured musical acts this year are Needfire, an outstanding Celtic Group out of Texas, and Mythica. The Scottish Dancers will be there as will the Crossroads Irish Dance Troupe. The Sterling Swordplayers are back and so is the Southern Express Drill Team with their Equine Riverdance. And for those who are asking, YES, ferret-legging returns for another year.

There will be plenty of food and beverages available, including Haggis and Guinness. For those who might not be inclined to Haggis, there will also be Fish & Chips and many other types of sustenance...both solid and liquid.

The hours are 9-AM till 6-PM on Saturday and 9-AM till 5-PM on Sunday. Tickets are \$28 for a Weekend Pass and \$19 for One Day. Save \$4 off the one-day ticket with advance purchase. Check the website for details. Your dog is welcome and the cost is \$5. The restrictions are one dog per person; rabies certificate and non-retractable leash is required.

For more information, check out the website at www.statefairva.org.

Dick Harman

NAMING YOUR CHILD

In the Book "Scots in Michigan" by Alan T. Forrester, he writes about the traditions of naming a child. He says the following was traditional:

- The first son was named after the father's father.
- The second son was named after the mother's father.
- The third son was named after the father.
- The fourth son was named after the father's eldest brother.
- The first daughter was named after the mother's mother.
- The second daughter was named after the father's mother.
- The third daughter was named after the mother.

- The fourth daughter was named after the mother's eldest sister.

"Official middle names were not always given, but when they were, they were typically the mother's maiden name or another surname honoring grandparents, other relatives, or close friends."

From *"The Scottish-American History Club Newsletter" of the Illinois St. Andrew Society.*

This Month in History

1 October

The Battle of Largs started on this day in 1263. By October 5th the battle ended in victory for the Scots under Alexander III over the invading Norse King Haakon. This victory helped shape the Kingdom of Scotland and how it was determined for centuries to follow.

2 October

This day marks the birth of Sir William Ramsay in 1852, the Scottish chemist who discovered helium, xenon, neon, argon, radon and krypton.

3 October

James Herriot (real name James Alfred Wight), author of "All Creatures Great and Small," was born on this day in 1916 in Sunderland England. He and his family moved to Glasgow, Scotland, in late October 1916.

4 October

Today in 1883 the Boys' Brigade was founded in Glasgow by Sir William Alexander Smith. A Sunday School teacher and an officer in the army, his stated object was 'the advancement of God's Kingdom among boys and the promotion of habits of reverence, discipline, self-respect, and all that tends towards a true Christian manliness'. The first uniformed youth organization in the world, from one small company of 35 boys it has grown into a worldwide organization with companies in over 60 countries.

5 October

1922 saw the birth of Jock Stein, famous Scottish football manager. Stein was manager of Celtic between 1965 and 1978, during which time it was one of the most successful clubs in

Europe, and in 1967 became the first British club to win the European Cup. He managed the national squad from 1978-85, and it was after Scotland's 1-1 draw with Wales in a World Cup qualifier that he collapsed and died from a heart attack.

6 October

Today in 1811 Ebenezer Henderson formed the first Congregational church in Sweden. He had not intended a trip to Scandinavia - after waiting some time in Denmark for a passage to India, he decided to stay, and spent many years travelling throughout Scandinavia and Russia, giving out bibles translated into local languages.

7 October

Today in 1782 Charles MacLaren was born. MacLaren, a customs official, founded 'The Scotsman' newspaper with colleague William Ritchie, a Fife-born solicitor. The first copy was published on 25 January, 1817. It was a weekly paper that sold about 800 - 900 copies and cost 10d. To read the first edition of *'The Scotsman'*

8 October

Today in 1774 the Rev. Henry Duncan, founder of the first ever savings bank, was born at Lochrutton. A great champion of the poor, he set the bank up in his parish of Ruthwell, Dumfriesshire. At the time, other banks required a ten pound minimum deposit, making them completely out of reach for the vast majority of the populace. The savings banks only required a minimum of sixpence, and 1% of the interest of the combined deposits went to a charity fund.

9 October

In 1506, was the day King James IV ratified the Charter incorporating the Surgeons and Barbers.

10 October

On this day in 1802 writer and geologist Hugh Miller was born on the Black Isle. Miller is mainly associated with the Devonian epoch. Indeed, his work on fossils found in Devonian strata gave the era its other name of the "age of fishes". He opposed the theory of evolution, arguing that the complexity of ancient fish

fossils was evidence that God created them fully formed.

11 October

Today in 1297 was the date of the letter from William Wallace to the mayors of Lubeck and Hamburg proclaiming that "The Kingdom of Scotland has, by God's Grace, recovered by battle from the power of the English". One of the few relics remaining of Scotland's great hero, the letter followed victory over the English at the battle of Stirling Bridge, and invited German merchants to begin trading directly with Scotland since the ports were no longer under English control. Originally thought destroyed in World War II, the letter was found intact in a Lubeck museum, and after some campaigning has been returned to the Museum of Scotland 'on loan.'

12 October

Charles Mackintosh began manufacturing waterproof coats on this day in 1823. Mackintosh, born in Glasgow, was devoted to science for which he gave up his first job as a clerk. He began experimenting on the by-products of tar and discovered that one such by-product, Naphtha, made India rubber soluble so that it could be painted on to woolen materials. The first coats were not a great success but led him to better understand the materials.

13 October

Today in 1644, the Battle of Aberdeen raged. James Graham, 1st Marquess of Montrose, sacked the city.

14 October

Today in 1788 the first steamboat experiment was held on Dalswinton Loch. Robert Burns was farming at Ellisland, just outside Dumfries, when he was invited by his landlord, Patrick Miller, to go out in a small experimental steamboat. The boat, which was fitted with an engine designed by William Symington, was the first paddle-propelled steamboat in the world, and Robert Burns was one of its first passengers.

15 October

Today in 1928 the voting age for women reduced from 30 to 21, the same as for men.

16 October

In 1939, the City of Glasgow Fighter Squadron (No 602) shot down the first enemy aircraft over Britain after an attack on the River Forth.

17 October

This day in 1346 witnessed the Battle of Neville's Cross during which King David II was captured by the English

18 October

On this day in 1958 Aberdeen-born Denis Law became the youngest footballer to play for Scotland. At the time playing for Huddersfield Town, he was 18 years and 7 months old when he played against Wales at Cardiff. Scotland won 3-0 and he went on to win 55 Scotland caps throughout his career. Law went on to great things, scoring 236 goals as Manchester United's star striker, and in a bizarre irony, it was he who, wearing a Manchester City strip, scored the infamous goal that relegated United in 1974. He has recently been nominated Scotland's best player of the last 50 years by the SFA.

19 October

On this day in 1687 the first public-hire sedan chairs became available in Edinburgh. A sedan was an enclosed chair for one person, carried on poles by two men. The very affluent already had their own ornate models, and this date marked the appearance of a modest fleet of six functional 'black cab'-like chairs. Replacing cumbersome horse and carriage, sedans were a particularly suitable mode of transport in the narrow wynds and closes of Edinburgh's Old Town, though it can't have been much fun to work as a bearer, many of whom were Highlanders and wore tartan uniforms. The chairs carried the better-off citizens of the burgh through the streets of Edinburgh on two poles lifted by two men, who must have had Olympic strength given Edinburgh's hilly landscape. They reached the height of their popularity in the 18th century, when there were as many as 180 sedans for public hire in Edinburgh.

20 October

On this day in 1792 the famous general, Colin Campbell, Lord Clyde, was born in Glasgow.

Campbell was born Colin MacIver, and it is likely he assumed his mother's maiden name of Campbell when accepting his commission to help his army career. Campbell fought in every major campaign the British army was involved in, from the Napoleonic War to the Crimea, and rose quickly through the ranks. His crowning moment was as Commander-in-Chief of the British forces during the Indian Mutiny, 1857. He was a shrewd and careful General, with a deep regard for the welfare of his men, and was particularly well regarded by the Highlanders under his command - it was these soldiers who held the famous 'Thin Red Line' during the Battle of Balaclava.

Editor's note: [Can you name the movie in which Lord Clyde was somewhat inaccurately portrayed?](#)

21 October

On this day in 1983 The Burrell Collection was opened by Queen Elizabeth II in Pollok Park, Glasgow. The £20m gallery contains more than 8,000 works of art collected by Glasgow shipping magnate, Sir William Burrell, who died in 1958. After amassing a fortune thanks to shrewd business sense, Burrell dedicated his retirement to travelling the world procuring a huge, eclectic selection of high quality artworks. It is a kaleidoscopic mix of paintings, tapestries, stained glass, sculpture and just about anything else you can think of - and has become one of the most popular visitor attractions in Scotland. In 1947 he bequeathed the collection to the people of Glasgow, but stipulated that it must be housed in a rural setting. The difficulty of finding a location meant he never saw his dream realized. It was not until the MacDonald family left their Pollok Estate to the City of Glasgow in 1967 that a suitable site was found.

22 October

In 1861, the foundation stones of main Post Office and National Museum of Scotland laid by Prince Albert in his last public engagement before his death.

23 October

John Boyd Dunlop, the inventor of the first practical pneumatic tyre, died today in 1921. Dunlop had worked as a vet for ten years before his invention and only developed the first of his

tyre designs for use on his son's tricycle. Although credited with the invention, he had not been the first to patent such an idea - another Scot, Robert Thomson, had come up with the original concept some years before, but it was Dunlop who was able to make the idea into a workable one.

24 October

On this day in 1796 the artist, David Roberts, was born in Edinburgh. The son of a shoemaker, who began his career as an apprentice house painter, Roberts became a scene painter for circuses and for the theatre. Having honed his skills, he became a Member of the Society of British Artists from 1824-1836. By 1838 he was made a Royal Academician. He also had an interest in the newly-'developed' art of photography, and the image is taken from one of the world's earliest known photographs.

25 October

On this day in 1960 Elvis Presley touched down at Prestwick airport, his only visit to Scotland. He spent an hour at the airport on his way home to be demobbed from the army. This was the only time The King set foot on British soil. He was surrounded by ecstatic teenagers as he reputedly asked, 'Where Am I?' Despite huge worldwide fame, he never toured the globe to feel the adulation of his millions of fans. There were rumours that one of the reasons for him staying in the United States was the residency status of his manager "Colonel" Tom Parker. Parker was reputed to be an illegal alien and feared being unable to re-enter America if he left the country.

26 October

In 1760, George III was crowned, beginning a 60 year reign, one of the longest in British history.

27 October

In 1728, James Cook, circumnavigator of the globe, born to Scottish parents in Yorkshire.

28 October

On this day in 1794 Robert Liston, the first surgeon to use general anesthetic, was born in Linlithgow. In 1827, he became a Surgeon at

the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. Liston moved to University College London in 1835 as Professor of Clinical Surgery.

29 October

Sir Walter Raleigh was beheaded for treason today in 1618. He was alleged to have had involvement in a plot 15 years earlier to remove James I of England (James VI of Scotland) from the throne and be replaced by his cousin, Lady Arabella Stewart. However, his part in the alleged plot remains uncertain. The Stewart period was a most colourful one.

30 October

In his London workshop, Scottish inventor John Logie Baird achieved the first television pictures using a dummy's head on this day in 1925. He then persuaded a 15-year-old office boy, William Taynton, to sit in front of the camera to become the first live person captured as a moving image on a television screen.

31 October *(to finish the month on a ghoulish note, as befits the date)*

Edinburgh murderers William Burke and William Hare claimed their last victim - an Irish immigrant named Mrs. Docherty, today in 1828. They murdered a total of 16 people over the course of a year and sold the bodies for medical research.

Thanks to John Scott, Clan Scott, and BBC Scotland (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/history/onthisday/>), and Scotsman.com (<http://heritage.scotsman.com/>), About.com, and other miscellaneous sources.

Tis the Season – Hallowe'en



Halloween as we know it has its origins in the festival of Samhain as practiced by the Celts. Here is

a little more information about what Samhain is/was and the influences of the Celts on Halloween:

What is Samhain? The "Irish-English Dictionary" published by the Irish Texts Society defines the word as follows: "Samhain, All Hallowtide, the feast of the dead in Pagan and Christian times, signaling the close of harvest and the initiation of the winter season, lasting till May, during which troops were quartered. Fairies were imagined as particularly active at this season. From it, the half-year is reckoned. Also called Feile Moingfinne (Snow Goddess)."

The "Scottish Gaelic Dictionary" defines it as "Hallowtide. The Feast of All Souls. Sam + Fuin = end of summer." Also know as: ShadowFest, Martinmas, Old Hallowmass.

Eliade's "Encyclopedia of Religion" states as follows: "The Eve and day of Samhain were characterized as a time when the barriers between the human and supernatural worlds were broken... Not a festival honoring any particular Celtic deity, Samhain acknowledged the entire spectrum of nonhuman forces that roamed the earth during that period."

Origins of Jack O' Lanterns

An Irish legend tells of Jack, a lazy but shrewd farmer who uses a cross to trap the Devil, then refuses to free him unless the Devil agrees never to let Jack into Hell. The Devil agrees. When Jack dies, he fails to gain admission to heaven and is barred from entering hell. He is then left wandering the Earth. In need of light, Jack carves out one of his turnips, puts a candle inside it, and begins endlessly wandering the Earth for a resting place. He is known as "Jack of the Lantern," or Jack-o'-Lantern.

Despite the colorful legends, the term *jack-o'-lantern* originally meant a night watchman, or man with a lantern, with the earliest known use in the mid-17th century; and later, meaning an *ignis fatuus* or will-o'-the-wisp.

Halloween in Ireland and Scotland

Ireland

Halloween is popular in Ireland, where it is said to have originated, and is known in Irish as "Oíche Shamhna" or "Samhain Night". Pre-Christian Celts had an autumn festival, Samhain, "End of Summer", a pastoral and agricultural "fire festival" or feast, when the dead revisited the mortal world, and large communal bonfires would hence be lit to ward off evil spirits.

Irish children have a week-long Halloween break from school; the last Monday in October is a public holiday given for Halloween even though they often do not fall on the same day.

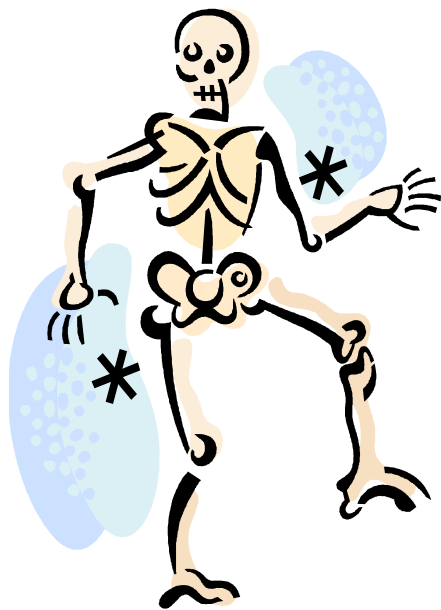
Scotland

Scotland, having a shared Gaelic culture and language with Ireland, has celebrated the festival of Samhain robustly for centuries. Robert Burns portrayed the varied customs in his poem "Hallowe'en" (1785).

Halloween, known in Scottish Gaelic as "Oidhche Shamhna", consists chiefly of children going door to door "guising", i.e., dressed in a disguise (often as a witch or ghost) and offering entertainment of various sorts. If the entertainment is enjoyed, the children are rewarded with gifts of sweets, fruits or money. There is no Scottish 'trick or treat' tradition; on the contrary, 'trick or treat' may have its origins in the guising customs.

In Scotland a lot of folklore, including that of Halloween, revolves around the belief in faeries. Children dress up in costume and carry around a "Neepy Candle" a devil face carved into a hollowed out Neep, lit from inside, to frighten away the evil faeries.

Courtesy Doug Elder, BTC, SALPD newsletter



Win a 1984 Mercedes 380 SL hard top/convertible!!!

When: Sunday October 28th.

Where: Richmond Highland Games and Celtic Festival

Tickets: \$5 per ticket. On sale now until the drawing.

Tickets can be purchased at any Legion event or stop by our practice location located in St. Joseph's Villa on Monday nights from 6 to 9.

All proceeds will go to benefit St. Andrew's Legion. For more information and photos of the car go to www.salpd.com

You can email the Officers and Board at Board@StAndrewsSociety.org. Each of the officers can be directly emailed at President@..., VicePresident@..., Secretary@... and Treasurer@...

Contributions Please!

Please send any articles, music/book reviews, jokes, recipes or information on upcoming events (of a Celtic nature) to **Analee Evans** at analee_e@hotmail.com or P.O. Box 3972, Glen Allen, VA 23058, **by the end of October**. **This is your St. Andrew's Society newsletter . . . so please send something you would like to see in it!** Thank you!