



April 2008

# Saltire Sentinel

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

*"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](mailto:Board@StAndrewsSociety.org) with your correct address so that we may save money on postage.

**For those of you who did not renew for the 2007/2008 membership year (and are still receiving the newsletter), we hope you will consider renewing for the upcoming 2008/2009 year. You are important to us.**

## Calendar



**NOTE:** St. Patrick's Church is making plans to celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2009. They would like to be in touch with all the alumni of St. Patrick's School. Please let them know your name and address. Drop them a note at 213 N. 25th St. Richmond VA 23223, or call 804-648-0504 or email at [st.patrickric@aol.com](mailto:st.patrickric@aol.com).

**April 5** The Saint Andrew's Society of Richmond will have a Pub Night at the Stratford Grill, located at 2805 Hathaway at the Stratford Hill Shopping Center off Forest Hill Avenue. The owner is preparing Shepard's Pie and Fish and Chips as the specials for the evening, and there will be live entertainment. Starting time will be 7:00 p.m. To get there you can take the Powhite Parkway or Chippenham Parkway and get off at the Forest Hill exit. It is located between these two roads on Forest Hill Avenue. Look for the McDonalds and also a high rise building. Call the restaurant at 272-5677 or 320-1218 for more directions to the

establishment. For more information please contact Chris Rapp at [ckchris@verizon.net](mailto:ckchris@verizon.net).

**April. 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. *Celtic Buffet, as usual, so please bring a dessert or an appetizer to share.* The Scottish Country Dancers of Richmond will be the program for the April meeting. They will be giving a demonstration with possible audience involvement for those willing.

**April. 12** St. Andrew's Society of Richmond hosts a sky suite for the Strawberry Hill Races at Colonial Downs. No ticket purchases can be made at the event. Those who have paid for their tickets, will receive them at the April meeting. Any additional folks who want to attend, will need to have the money to us at the Pub night on April 5. We are unable to obtain "last minute" tickets. The price is \$35.00 per person.

**May. 14 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting.** This will be a dinner meeting at Steak and Ale Restaurant located at 6900 West Broad Street. The Society dined here last year and a good time was had by all. We have reserved our own private room. The menu is, well, steak and ale. Actually they have a good salad bar as well. We can have separate checks. An 18% gratuity will be applied to the bill.

The entrance is located off Glenside Drive near Paragon Place Office Park. Their phone number is 288-2833 for more specific directions.

**May. 18** The Kirkin of the Tartans at Amelia Presbyterian Church located behind the Amelia Courthouse, planned for this date, has been rescheduled for June 8 (pending Board approval). The church requested the change. More details on location, time, will be in the May newsletter.

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

## Annual elections will be held at June meeting, so be sure to attend!

### The Prez Sez!

At our March General Meeting, we did something that had not been done since I became a member of the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond. For those of you who were not there, we went around the room and everyone got up, stated their name, their Clan affiliation(s), and who got them involved in SASR. I am sure that those of you who were there came up with the same thought as we went around the room. That thought being that two names that were most were mentioned were Bob Maxwell and Bill Swackhamer.

First, I want to thank Bob and Bill for all the folks they brought into the Society. I know they were the two that got me involved and I thank them for it. If everyone were as active in recruiting new members, we would need a much larger place to meet...and that would be a nice problem to have. But on my way home, I had to ask myself, how many new members or prospective new members have I introduced to the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond. The answer was far fewer than Bob and Bill. I think a lot of us are in the same boat.

Our Society can only be as strong as its membership and it is time for us to rally around and start working on recruiting new members. When a prospective member comes to a meeting, let's make sure they feel welcome. When prospects come to our tent at various functions, let's greet them enthusiastically and make sure we answer all their questions as best we can.

When we get new members, let's give them an opportunity to get involved. I have seen too many organizations treat new members as "rookies" and not as full-fledged team members. I am NOT saying that we are that way. I am saying that we need to make sure we never get that way. We need to be open to new folks and new ideas.

When I was President of the Advertising Club of Tidewater, many years ago, we made sure that every committee had at least one new member whenever it was possible. It didn't always work, but it worked well enough that we saw membership increase. What is more important is that we saw *involved membership* increase.

Let's see how we can continue the growth of the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond and let's strive to make sure that it isn't just membership, rather let's make sure it is *involved membership*. The more involvement we have, the more we can accomplish.

See you at the April Meeting!

Aye!

Dick

### Treasurer's Report:

For the month ending March 31, 2008, we stand at:

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Previous Balance: | \$2,821.95* |
| Income:           | \$ 838.00   |
| Expenses:         | \$ 75.66    |
| Balance:          | \$3,584.29  |

\* adjusted for \$12.00 bank fee

### SONS OF SCOTLAND Update

The mechanized calvary arm of the Saint Andrews Society is gearing up for another outstanding riding season. Bikes are being tuned, leathers dusted off, new tattoos chosen, and all sort of mayhem planned by our members. Firmly believing in honing our riding skills to perfection, three members below are practicing their group riding skills. Keep your children off the roads!

John Scott



### This Month in History

#### 1 April

Today Scots celebrated April Fool's with the tradition of "Hunting the Gowk". The gowk, an old Scots word meaning "a cuckoo" was an emblem for simpleton and the butt of practical jokes. Scots would play pranks on the gowk, usually on the unfortunate victim's posterior.

Also on this date in history, the law firm of Dewey, Cheatham, and Howe, agreed to represent Scotland during their battle against the invading Roman armies.

### *2 April*

This date in 1593, the College of New Aberdeen was founded. The college was founded by the Earl Marischal of Scotland, George Keith of Inverugie, and became known as Marischal College. The college is one of the largest granite buildings in the world. The site of the College was formerly occupied by a Franciscan Priory which was disestablished during the Reformation of 1560. Marischal College was the second university in Aberdeen, following the foundation of King's College in 1495 by Bishop William Elphinstone. The two universities were united in 1860 as the University of Aberdeen.

### *3 April*

On this day in 1902 the road surface "Tarmac" was patented by English county surveyor Edgar Purnell Hooley, building on the success of "macadamised" road surfaces pioneered by Scotsman John Loudon McAdam. Macadamised roads were unsuitable for heavy use by motor vehicles as they threw up clouds of dust and caused the gradual break-up of the road surface.

### *4 April*

Today in 1617 John Napier, the mathematician, died. Napier was educated at St Andrews University, entering in 1563 at the tender age of 13, although the likelihood is that he completed a degree somewhere in Europe, probably at the University of Paris. Napier was a fervent Protestant in a time of religious trouble, and he considered his most important work a religious tract entitled "The Plaine Discovery of the Whole Revelation of St. John", which he wrote in 1593. Napier regarded mathematics only as a hobby to be fitted in between his theological works. He is best known today for his invention of logarithms, but he also made further advances in the field of mathematics, including the introduction of decimal notation for fractions.

### *5 April*

The first recorded meteorite fell in Possil, on the northern outskirts of Glasgow on this day in 1804. It was named the High Possil meteorite, and is one of only four ever to have been found in Scotland.

### *6 April*

April 6 1998 began the celebration of Tartan Day as approved by the US Senate, in recognition of the monumental achievements and invaluable contributions made by Scottish Americans.

### *7 April*

On this day in 1968, Jim Clark, the Scottish Formula One motor racing driver was killed while racing at the Hockenheim circuit, West Germany. Although born in Fife, Clark is most commonly associated with the Borders, where he grew up. Clark won 25 of his 72 Grand Prix, and would undoubtedly have won more had he driven more reliable cars. The cause of the crash was never definitively identified, but investigators concluded it was most likely due to a deflating rear tyre.

### *8 April*

On 8 April 1783 John Loudon, the Scottish architect, landscape gardener and journalist was born. Loudon had a profound influence on the aspiring middle classes through his books on architecture and gardening. Co-author with his wife, Jane Webb, of 'The Suburban Gardener and Villa Companion', and author of 'An Encyclopaedia of Gardening', 'British Trees and Shrubs', 'Encyclopaedia of Cottage, Farm, and Villa Architecture', he also founded 'Gardener's Magazine'. His designs can be seen at Scone Palace and Castle Kennedy, near Stranraer.

### *9 April*

The independence of Scotland was confirmed on this day in 1139 by the signing of the second Treaty of Durham where David I was recognised as King of an independent Scotland by King Stephen of England.

### *10 April*

On April 10, 1988, one of Scotland's greatest golfing ambassadors, England-born Scot Sandy Lyle, becomes the first Scottish (and British) golfer to win the US Masters tournament.

### *11 April*

On this day in 1882, the last stand against the Clearance, the Battle of the Braes in Skye, took place between crofters and 50 policemen in a dispute over land rights. In 1881 the crofters of Braes withheld rents until grazings on neighbouring Ben Lee were returned to them. Eviction notices were served leading to the battle.

### *12 April*

The union flag was adopted as the national flag of Great Britain on this day in 1606 following the coronation of James IV of Scotland as James I of England. The flag combined the St George's cross and the Scottish saltire to represent this union. The cross signifying Ireland was not added to the flag until 1801.

### *13 April*

On 13th April 1951 the 'Stone of Destiny' was returned to Westminster Abbey. The Stone, removed from

Scone by Edward I and taken to Westminster Abbey, was removed from its resting place of over 700 years on Christmas Day 1950 and smuggled north of the border. After a few months of hide and seek with the authorities, the conspirators left the Stone in Arbroath Abbey to be discovered. The Stone finally returned permanently to Scotland in 1996, where it now sits in Edinburgh Castle.

#### *14 April*

On this day in 1903 Aberdeen Football Club was founded after the merger of three of the city's clubs: Aberdeen, Victoria United and Orion. They originally wore a white strip, only adopting their all-red colours in 1946. They joined the First Division in 1906 and have been in the top flight of Scottish football ever since.

#### *15 April*

Scottish comedy actor Rikki Fulton was born in Glasgow on this day in 1924. He is famous for his double act with Jack Milroy as "Francie and Josie" and his character the Reverend IM Jolly in the television programme "Scotch and Wry". He received an OBE in 1991. He later suffered from Alzheimer's Disease and died in 2004.

#### *16 April*

On this day in 1728, Joseph Black, the Scottish physicist and chemist, was born. Black was actually born in Bordeaux, where his father was a wine merchant, but is closely associated with Glasgow University, where he worked. Black was the discoverer of "fixed air", which we now know as carbon dioxide. He also formulated the concept of latent heat.

#### *17 April*

Scotland's first cremation at Glasgow's Western Necropolis occurred on April 17, 1895.

#### *18 April*

On this day in 1874, the body of David Livingstone was interred at Westminster Abbey, the missionary explorer having died nearly a year earlier in Africa. During his life Livingstone travelled to uncharted areas of Africa. His greatest discovery was Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River.

#### *19 April*

On this day in 1905, Jim Mollison, the pioneering Scottish aviator, was born. Mollison held many individual records for distance, endurance, and speed flying, and jointly set several others with his wife, the aviatrix Amy Johnson. In 1932, he became the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic from East to West. In the same year, his wife broke his record for the fastest flight from London to Cape Town.

#### *20 April*

One of golf's greatest players was born today in 1851. "Young" Tom Morris won the Open Championship in 1868, 1869 (where his father finished second), 1870 and 1872. After that, Young Tom was allowed to keep the original winner's belt, so the famous Claret Jug was purchased for the next tournament in 1872, and his was the first name to be engraved on the trophy.

#### *21 April*

Today in 1838, John Muir, the Scottish-born American naturalist, was born in Dunbar, East Lothian. Muir was responsible for the creation of Yosemite and Sequoia national parks in California and is often described as the father of America's national parks system. The 550-acre Muir Woods National Monument is named after him. A prolific writer, his books included "My First Summer in the Sierra" and "Our National Parks", as well as "A Thousand-Mile Walk to the Gulf" and "The Yosemite". He died in Los Angeles on 24 December 1914.

#### *22 April*

On April 22, 1838, the 703-ton *Sirius*, built in Leith, chartered to the American Julius Smith, and carrying 90 passengers, reached New York, the first ship to cross the Atlantic entirely under steam. The ship limped into New York 18 days after setting off from Cork, Ireland, having used all of its coal reserves and much of its timber superstructure to complete the voyage. Brunel's steamship, *Great Western*, arrived a day later. She made one further transatlantic crossing before she was wrecked off the coast of Ireland in 1847.

#### *23 April*

Today in 2001, Jan Sundberg, an explorer specialising in unusual species, arrived at Loch Ness in a bid to trap the legendary monster. The Swede planned to install a massive creel to catch Nessie, a move which led to Scottish Natural Heritage drawing up a voluntary code preventing environmental damage caused by monster hunters. Although recorded sightings of Nessie stretch back to the days of St Columba, the public obsession with Nessie really began with a sighting in 1933 by the late Donaldina Mackay. Since then the loch has been inundated with monster hunters, and many thousands have claimed to have spotted him in the waters of the loch.

#### *24 April*

On 24th April, 1633, Warrant was issued by the Privy Council to Sir John Hepburn to raise a regiment of 1200 men which ultimately became the First Regiment of Foot, The Royal Scots. The warrant ordered Hepburn to raise the regiment to fight in the French service. The recruits came mainly from Scottish

mercenaries of Gustavus Aldolphus in the Thirty Years' War.

### *25 April*

Today in 1599, Oliver Cromwell was born in Huntingdon, England. To say that Mr. Cromwell was (and remains) an enormously controversial figure is something of an understatement and he is rather less popular in Scotland and Ireland than in England - but Britain would be a rather different place today if he had not existed.

### *26 April*

Lady Elizabeth Bowes Lyon married the Duke of York at Westminster Abbey on April 26, 1923, the first Royal wedding to take place there since 1383. The couple later became King George VI and Queen Elizabeth.

### *27 April*

James Bruce, the Scottish explorer, died on this day in 1794. Bruce became the first European to discover Lake Tana, the source of the Blue Nile, in 1770. His experiences were described in the classic "Travels to Discover the Source of the Nile", published in 1790.

### *28 April*

Sir Alexander MacKenzie, the Scottish composer and conductor, died in 1935. Mackenzie conducted the British premieres of Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony, and Borodin's Second Symphony. His noted choral works included the cantata, 'The Bride', the opera, 'Colomba', and the oratorio, 'The Rose of Sharon'.

### *29 April*

Lonnie Donegan, the Scottish skiffle singer, composer and guitarist, was born on this day in 1931. Considered by some to be Britain's first pop superstar, James Anthony Donegan burst onto the scene in the mid-1950s with a distinctive, lively sound called "skiffle", which was based loosely on American folk music. His first big hit, "Rock Island Line", achieved the then rare distinction of soaring up the US hit parade, and he was rarely out of the charts from then until 'The Beatles' era. Donegan's hits included "Does Your Chewing Lose Its Flavour", "My Old Man's A Dustman", "Cumberland Gap" and "Puttin' On The Style".

### *30 April*

In 1891 on this day, An Comunn Gaidhealach was formally instituted as a vehicle for the preservation and development of the Gaelic language.

*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.*

You can email the Officers and Board at [Board@StAndrewsSociety.org](mailto:Board@StAndrewsSociety.org). Each of the officers can be directly emailed at [President@...](mailto:President@...), [VicePresident@...](mailto:VicePresident@...), [Secretary@...](mailto:Secretary@...) and [Treasurer@...](mailto: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](mailto:analee_e@hotmail.com) or P.O. Box 3972, Glen Allen, VA 23058, **by the end of April**. **This is your St. Andrew's Society newsletter . . . so please send something you would like to see in it!** Thank you!

