



March 2009

Saltire Sentinel

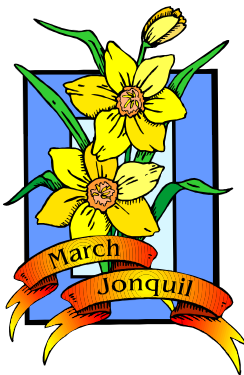
The Newsletter of the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond, Inc.
PO Box 3972, Glen Allen Virginia 23058, www.standrewssociety.org

"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 with your correct address so that we may save money on postage.

Membership renewal for 2008/2009 is in full swing. Please mail checks to our post office box, or present to a Board member at our next general membership meeting (see calendar). Thanks and we hope to see you at our meetings and fun filled events through out the new season!!

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.

Mar. 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 p.m. to socialize and the meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. ***Celtic Buffet, as usual, so please bring a dessert or an appetizer to share.***

"Preparation for the upcoming St. Patrick's Church Irish Festival."

Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day



Mar. 21 – 22 St. Patrick's Church Irish Festival. The annual St. Patrick's Irish Festival will take place up on Church Hill at the intersection of 25th and Broad Streets on March 21 and 22. The hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. We will be assisting the Virginia Scots Guard with their tent. We are in need of participants for assistance with set up on Friday March 20 and we need lots of members help on Saturday and Sunday. This is a fun local event with good food, music, vendors and it's a family friendly event. The cost is minimal and should be around \$2 per person. A sign up sheet will be at the meeting on March 11. Contact Steve Bruce at 350-9973 to sign up or for more information.

Apr. 8 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting will be a dinner meeting. The location will be announced. We gather at

6:30 p.m. to socialize and the meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

Apr. 11 Strawberry Hill Races Colonial Downs Race Track. See details later in this newsletter.

May 13 St. Andrew's Society Business Meeting at The Church of the Holy Comforter (Monument Ave. at Staples Mill Rd.) We gather at 6:30 p.m. to socialize and the meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. *Celtic Buffet, as usual, so please bring a dessert or an appetizer to share.*

A speaker will be featured.

Jun. 6 Ashland Strawberry Faire Ashland, VA

Jun. 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 p.m. to socialize and the meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. *Celtic Buffet, as usual, so please bring a dessert or an appetizer to share.*

This will be our annual Election meeting.

The Prez Sez!

We Need You!

Spring is on the way and that means there will be a lot of activity coming up for the St. Andrew's Society. We have the Irish Festival in March, Strawberry Hill Races in April, Ashland Strawberry Faire in June, and we can't forget the Meadow Highland Games & Celtic Festival (formerly The Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival) in October. There are also other events that we will be hearing about and want to be a part of, as well.

In order to continue to grow and further our mission, the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond needs to have a significant presence at as many of these events as possible. However, in order to do this WE NEED YOU! Over the years I have seen the same small group of folks manning our tent. We need help. For example, last year at the Irish Festival we had only one person left to watch the store on Sunday Afternoon. We simply cannot continue to be at these events if we don't have more people involved.

We are a Society of many people. We need more participation. The more people who volunteer, the shorter the shifts and the more time you can spend just enjoying the events. I know we are busy with your lives. But if you can just spare a few hours, we can all share the duties and not cut too deeply into time we need for other things.

Our first event is the Irish Festival on March 21 & 22. We need folks to staff our tent both days. The Ashland Strawberry Faire is June 6. We need people at the tent for one day. The Meadow Highland Games are October 24 & 25 and we need a lot of people for both days. All these events are important to us and if we are to continue to grow, we need participation from everyone.

On the lighter side, the Strawberry Hill Races are April 11 and we need you to come and have fun with us in our own Sky Suite at Colonial Downs. There is more about this event elsewhere in this issue, but the key thing is that we must have at least 20 people buying tickets. We can accommodate up to 50. It's a great time to socialize and maybe even watch the races. Once again, we need a good turnout.

To those who have given so freely of their time in the past, I say "Thank You!" To those who have not taken part, I say "Come Join Us!" We have fun while we promote our Society, but the more the merrier. We need to

have a strong presence at all the events and in order to do that WE NEED YOU!

Aye!

Dick

Strawberry Hill Races April 11

Once again this year, the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond has reserved a Sky Suite at the Strawberry Hill Races on Saturday, April 11 at Colonial Downs. For the past few years, this has been a great way to spend a day with all your friends.

Here's the way it works: You pay \$35.00 per person; You get the shuttle bus ride from Richmond International Raceway to Colonial Downs before the Races and back to RIR after the Races; you get a ticket to the 77th Running and admission to the St. Andrew's Society Sky Suite. You can bring your own food and drink. Ask anyone who has been there before and they will tell you what a fun time it is.

In order to take part, you must have your reservation (and money) in as soon as possible. Please bring your check or cash to the March meeting and give it to our Treasurer, John LoRe. Make checks payable to the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond. We need at least 20 people and we have a limit of 50. So get your reservations in now. You can also mail them to the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond, P. O. Box 3972, Glen Allen, VA 23058-3972.

The theme this year is Casablanca, so you can feel free to dress accordingly if you wish. Don't miss the fun, the socializing, and the races. That's the 77th Running of the Strawberry Hill Races, Saturday, April 11 at Colonial Downs. We'll see you there!

SIR SANFORD FLEMING Inventor of Standard Time

Sir Sanford Fleming, a Scottish-born Canadian engineer and inventor, he was known for proposing worldwide standard time zones. Sir Fleming was born in Kirkcaldy, Fife, Scotland on January 7, 1827. He emigrated to Ontario, then the western half of the British province of United Canada, in 1846.

In January, 1855, while living in Peterborough, Sir Fleming married Ann Jane (Jean) Hall, his "love" of ten years. They had nine children, two of whom did not live past childhood. His eldest son, Frank Andrew, accompanied Sir Fleming on his great Western expedition in 1872.

In 1876, after missing a train in Ireland, because the schedule listed p.m. instead of a.m., Sir Fleming proposed a single 24 hour clock for the entire world, located at the center of the earth, and not linked to any surface meridian. On February 8, 1879, at a meeting of the Royal Canadian Institute, he linked his proposal to the anti-meridian of Greenwich (now 180 degrees). Sir Fleming suggested that standard time zones could be used locally, but that they were subordinate to his single world time. At the International Meridian Conference of 1884, they accepted a different version of Universal Time, but refused to accept his zones, stating they were a local issue. Nevertheless, by 1929 all of the major countries of the world had accepted time zones.

Sir Sanford Fleming is also known for designing the *Threepenny Beaver*, the first Canadian postage stamp; is huge body of surveying and map making; engineering much of the Intercolonial Railway and the Canadian Pacific Railway; and was a member of the Royal Society of Canada and founder of the Royal Canadian Institute, a science organization in Toronto.

In 1880, Sir Fleming retired from surveying and took the position of Chancellor of Queen's University in Kingston Ontario. He retired to Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he had lived for a time during the construction of the Intercolonial Railway. He died July 22, 1915, and is buried in Beechwood Cemetery, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

March Mondays In Scots History

2 March

On this day in 1873, Robert Buchanan, the Scottish philosopher, poet and playwright, died. Buchanan was Professor of Logic at Glasgow University for more than 40 years. He is also known as the author of 'Tragic Dramas from Scottish History'.

9 March

On this day in 1776 "Wealth of Nations" by economist Adam Smith was published. The ideas in Smith's book took ten years to research and write. The breakthrough book covered for the first time the role of self-interest and a better use of labour.

16 March

On 16 March 1995, Simon Fraser, Lord Lovat, the Chief of Clan Fraser, died. Fraser, a WWII hero, played a key role in the development of the commandos and was actively involved in both the Dieppe Raid, 1942, and D-Day landings, 1944.

23 March

On 23 March 1923, Roddy McMillan, the Scottish stage and TV actor, was born. His credits include the TV series, 'The View From Daniel Pike', and the play, 'The Revellers'. However, he will be most fondly remembered for his portrayal of Para Handy, the captain of the Vital Spark in the much loved television series of the 1960s.

30 March

On 30 March 1783, William Hunter, the eminent physician and obstetrician, died. Hunter made several important studies of the pregnant human uterus. His work, 'The Anatomy of the Human Gravid Uterus, Established in Figures,' is considered an anatomical classic. His collection of books and manuscripts form the Hunterian Collection at Glasgow University.

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. 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 or P.O. Box 3972, Glen Allen, VA 23058, **by the end of March for the April issue**. This is *your* St. Andrew's Society newsletter . . . so please send something you would like to see in it! Thank you!

It's almost spring... can you hear it?

