



June 2009

# 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)

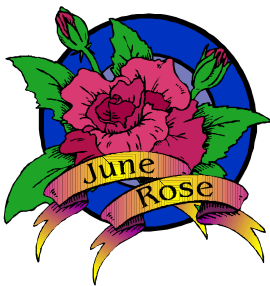
*"If you are receiving this newsletter through the United States Postal Service, it means we do not have an accurate or valid email address. Please email us at*

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

**NOTE:** This is the final Saltire Sentinel until September, when we resume our monthly meetings. Happy summering!!

**MEMBERSHIP DUES:** just a reminder that 2009-2010 membership dues can be submitted to the Treasurer from July 1, 2009.

## Calendar



**Jun. 6 Ashland Strawberry Faire** in historic Ashland, Virginia is a traditional celebration to promote the community and feature the strawberry harvest. The Faire will be from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. It is held on the streets adjacent to the Randolph Macon College campus. The Faire is a free community, family-oriented event during which non-profit groups and churches raise funds and offer something for everyone. There are vendors offering arts, crafts, plants,

and antiques to the many thousands who attend the event.

**June 6 and 7 The Virginia Renaissance Faire** will hold a Celtic Heritage weekend on June 6 and 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Lake Anna Winery. Keltish will perform. Tickets are \$7; under age 5 is free. Visit <http://www.varf.org/index.html> for more information and directions.

**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.**

**June 14 Celtic Woman** will be performing an all new show called Isle of Hope at the Landmark theater at 7:30pm. Tickets available at Ticketmaster and the Landmark box office.

**June 14 St. Patrick's Church** will celebrate it's 150th anniversary with a special Mass on June 14th at 10:30 am. Bishop Emeritus Walter Sullivan will be presiding.

**July or August Summer Picnic at Powhatan** Details to be provided under separate e-mails.

**Sept. 12 Gayton Kirk Festival - (rain date 9/19)** Saint Andrew's Society has again been asked to be part of this event. We will finalize the details for communication in the September Saltire or before.

**October 24 and 25 Meadow Highland Games & Celtic Festival** (formerly Richmond Highland Games and Celtic Festival)

**Oct. 2009 Billy Kennedy** (Scots-Irish author) will be hosted by the Williamsburg St. Andrews Society for a Luncheon Review in Williamsburg in October. Details to follow.

**The Prez Sez!**

***THIS IS IT***

They say time goes by faster as you get older. Unfortunately, I have found this to be true. It seems like just a short time ago that I was elected as your President. But, it really was two years ago and now it is time for me to bang my gavel one more time and then pass the job on to the next President.

Job is probably not the word to use to describe the office. Granted it does take extra work, but it is also a position I was proud to occupy and I hope I made a positive contribution to the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond. As is the case with anything, there were ups and downs over the two-year term, but the ups far, far outweighed the downs.

I want to thank my fellow officers and board members for their dedication to the Society. Not every vote was unanimous, but that is the way it should be. We live in a Democracy and that gives us all the right and privilege to agree and disagree. But when all was said and done, the end result was a concerted effort to continue to maintain the high ideals our Society works towards.

I also want to say a big thanks to all the membership. Your attendance at meetings, your willingness to pitch in at the various events of which we were a part, your support and your involvement are things that make the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond more than just a club.

Now comes the time for new Officers to take the helm and I hope you will give them the same

support and continue the enthusiasm you have shown me. I am not going away, as I will now move onto the Board for the next two years as Immediate Past-President. Elsewhere in this edition you will see the announcement of the proposed slate up for election at our June 10 General Meeting. Please come out and show you support for the new officers and the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond.

Again, my thanks to all for all you do. Let us continue promoting our mission and continue to be positive examples of whom we are and what we stand for. Lyndon Johnson may have used the phrase first, but I will use it now to describe the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond as our "Great Society." See you on June 10<sup>th</sup>!

Aye!

Dick

**A Reminder:** that we will be holding our annual election at the June 10 General Meeting. The Meeting takes place at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, Monument Avenue & Staples Mill Road. The Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m., to be preceded by the usual Celtic Buffet at 6:30 p.m.

The Slate as proposed by your Nominating Committee is:

President:	Bill Cooper
Vice-President:	Chris Rapp
Secretary:	Lorraine Arritt
Treasurer:	John LoRe

Board Members:

Judy Moore Garrett  
David Hinton  
Dick Harman (Immediate Past President – no vote required)

Our thanks to departing Board Members:

Steve Bruce  
Dianthea Joyner  
Bob Maxwell (Immediate Past President)

We hope to have samples on display of T-shirts and Shirts featuring the new logos that we agreed on at the end of last year as well as samples of

Crystal and Glassware engraved with our classic crest.



### **Rosemary Kelso**

For those of you who may not have already heard or read, Jeff Kelso's wife, Rosemary, passed away on May 11 after a long illness. She was the kind of person who lived a busy life of service to others in many various forms and she will be missed by the many, many people whose lives she touched.

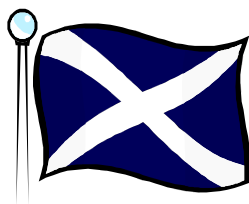
A Celebration of Her Life took place on Wednesday, May 20, at the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Richmond, 1000 Blanton Avenue. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Resources for Independent Living, 4009 Fitzhugh Avenue, Richmond, VA 23230.

The St. Andrew's Society will be making a contribution in Rosemary's Memory from our President's Discretionary Fund and we will welcome additional contributions at our June Meeting.

Jeff is one of our Founding Members and I ask you to please keep him in your prayers. May Rosemary's soul and the souls of all faithful departed find peace and rest in the arms of the Lord.

Dick Harman, President

### **FREEDOM!**



William Wallace's spirit and vision of an Independent and free nation live on in modern Scotland today. The Scottish National Party have been keeping that flame alive since 1934, and they are now closer than at any time in their history to achieving that goal.

### **What would happen if there was a yes vote for independence?**

The SNP, the only party ever likely to organise a referendum, say that if there was a yes vote, they would open negotiations with London about the details, and pass a bill guaranteeing citizens' rights in an independent Scotland, which would no doubt be based on European law. The negotiations would be long and complex, because the peaceful splitting in two of a sovereign country is a rare event in history. The nearest precedent would be break up of what used to be Czechoslovakia.

British citizens would presumably be given time to choose which nationality they wanted to retain. This would be a difficult one for Scots who live and work in England, but have kept up their ties with Scotland – like Gordon Brown, for instance.

Everyone would need a new passport over time, but if the split was amicable, you might not be required to produce it at the Scottish-English border. Scotland would apply and probably be granted membership of the EU, whereupon it would abandon sterling and adopt the euro, so anyone travelling between the two countries would have to change currency.

If the Scots were in sentimental mood, they might retain the monarchy – which after all predates the 1707 Act of Union – but north of the border the Queen would be simply Queen Elizabeth, not Elizabeth II, and her grandson, if crowned, would be William II in Scotland and William V in England.

### **Would England be better off without Scotland?**

The Act of Union in 1707 set off a wave of anti-Scottish sentiment in England, which has threatened to creep back since the creation of the Scottish Parliament and the electoral success of the SNP. An ICM poll for the Sunday Telegraph in November 2006 produced the startling finding that 59 per cent of English voters wish Scotland would leave the UK.

The reason is that Scotland is perceived to be living well off English taxes. New figures

throwing light on this issue will be published next month. For now, we can only go on the published figures for the year 2003-04, when public spending in Scotland was £7,346 per head of population, compared with £5,940 in England. Scotland received £3bn more from the Exchequer than it paid in taxes. Scotland is seen as a country that gets Scandinavian levels of public services on US-level taxes.

For Conservatives, another argument in favour of a split is that it would vastly improve the Tories' chances of winning general elections in England.

### **Would Scotland be better off without England?**

The SNP has two answers to the accusation that Scotland lives off English subsidies. One is that a self-governing Scotland could manage its economy better, attracting EU support and joining an "arc of prosperity" with its near neighbours, Norway, Denmark and Iceland.

The other answer is oil. In the past 30 years, taxes from North Sea oil have amounted to about £200bn, at today's prices. Last year's receipts were around £8bn, and this year's will be higher, possibly up to £12.5 bn. That looks like enough to fill the gap between income and expenditure – but it assumes that an English government would roll over and concede that all tax revenues from oil belong to Scotland. Actually, London would fight for a share. And North Sea oil is a diminishing asset. Production peaked at 2.9m barrels a day in 1999, and by 2010 is expected to be down to a million barrels a day – barely a third of what it used to be. If the Scots want exclusive use of the taxes generated by "their" oil, they have left it too late.

### **Is independence likely to happen?**

It seems very likely that there will be a referendum in Scotland in 2010 or soon afterwards, because the SNP have promised it, and there is no indication yet that they are going to lose their position as the largest party in the Scottish Parliament. But even if it happens, and it produces the result the SNP want, it does not follow that Scotland will get independence. The London government would be morally obliged to

abide by a properly run plebiscite that clearly showed a majority for independence – but it might not be that clear cut.

### **What are the possible scenarios?**

The turn-out might be very small, or the majority very narrow, and there is an as yet unresolved dispute about what question to put on the ballot paper. If, as the SNP want, it is a vaguely worded question about the desirability of taking further steps towards independence, the London government might interpret that to mean nothing much. If the Scots tried to declare independence in defiance of the Westminster, they would get no recognition internationally.

### **What are the polls saying?**

The evidence is that the Scots are happy to have an SNP administration in a devolved Edinburgh Parliament, but are not minded to vote for outright independence. The opinion polls do not all agree, but they seem to suggest that enthusiasm for self rule has cooled since the SNP won control of the Scottish administration. The Sunday Telegraph poll in 2006 said that 52 per cent of Scots wanted independence; a YouGov poll conducted in the past week put the figure at only 25 per cent, with 59 per cent saying they prefer things as they are. But in 2010, there could be a Conservative government in London, supported by less than a quarter of Scottish voters, which could stoke up separatist sentiment – and that, no doubt, was what Wendy Alexander was thinking when she said: "Bring it on".

### **Should England and Scotland separate?**

#### **Yes...**

- \* Scotland's half-way status, partly independent, partly not, is an anomaly that cannot last
- \* There are smaller and much less wealthy countries than Scotland now in the EU
- \* Scotland's economy would benefit from the discipline of self-government

#### **No...**

- \* Most Scots like devolution, but that does not mean they want independence

\* Breaking up the United Kingdom would leave each component weakened internationally

\* Since 1707, both countries have benefited from the freedom with which people cross the border

*Article by Andy McSmith, The Independent UK. May 9, 2008*

### Something fun / different - Bill Cooper

I promised, a few short Scottish Jokes. This month is appropriately Scots and American themed jokes. Future months might be Scots / English, Scots / Drink, Scots / Money, Scots / Kilts or even Scots / Sheep!!!. I will keep them PG13 so as not to offend. Here goes.....

*Irate American golfer, on his way to a round of 150: "You must be the worst caddie in the world!" Scottish caddie (dryly): "That would be too much of a coincidence, sir."*

Jock and an American were flying across the Atlantic to New York when the stewardess approached.

"May I get you something?" she asked. "Yes, a whisky" Jock replied. She poured him a drink then asked the American if he'd like one. "Never!" he said sternly. "I'd rather be ravished by whores all the way to America than drink whisky!" Jock hurriedly passed the drink back, saying "Shoot, I didn't know there was a choice!"

*At an auction in Richmond a wealthy American announced that he had lost his wallet containing \$10,000 and would give a reward of \$100 to the person who found it. From the back of the hall a Scottish voice shouted, "I'll give \$150!"*

American: "In Scotland, the men eat oatmeal; here in America we feed it to our horses." Scot: "That's why American horses and Scottish men are the finest in the world."



The problem with bathrooms in Scotland

### STUFF - DID YOU KNOW ??

$$111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$$

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:

- Spades - King David
- Hearts - Charlemagne
- Clubs - Alexander, the Great
- Diamonds - Julius Caesar

Many years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled 'Gentlemen Only..Ladies Forbidden'.. and thus the word GOLF entered the English language.

It is impossible to lick your elbow.

Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.

In the 1400's a law was set forth in England that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have 'the rule of thumb'

*Question* - If you were to spell out numbers, how far would you have to go until you would find the letter 'A'?

*Answer* - One thousand

*Question* - What do bulletproof vests, fire escapes, windshield wipers, and laser printers all have in common?

*Answer* - All were invented by a woman.

In Shakespeare's time, mattresses were secured on bed frames by ropes. When you pulled on the ropes the mattress tightened, making the bed firmer to sleep on. Hence the phrase 'goodnight, sleep tight.'

It was the accepted practice in Babylon 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the honey month, hence the honeymoon.

In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts... So in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them 'Mind your pints and quarts, and settle down.' It's where we get the phrase 'mind your P's and Q's'

Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim, or handle, of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service. 'Wet your whistle' is the phrase inspired by this practice.

At least 75% of people who read this will try to lick their elbow!

*"Stuff" submitted by Bill Cooper*

## **TRAVEL TIPS FOR THE BUDGET-MINDED**

There's nothing like a troubled economy to inspire dreams of a vacation far from the daily grind. If you're thinking of getting away but feeling pinched in your pocketbook by the recession, don't despair. There are a number of affordable travel options out there if you're willing to put a little extra effort into getting the best deal for your dollar.

### **Redefine your ideal vacation**

Taking a vacation is essentially about

getting away. Where you go may not be as important as simply finding a comfortable spot for rest and relaxation. If you can no longer afford a Caribbean escape, there are other ways to satisfy your wanderlust that may be surprisingly affordable.

If you're open to outdoor adventure, consider exploring the vast U.S. National Park System. With 391 areas spanning almost every state in the nation, you'll find a wide range of affordable accommodations, from campgrounds, to yurts (free-standing, circular-domed houses), to rustic and fully furnished cabins. Hit the road in an all-American recreational vehicle and forget the cost of a flight or hotel room. The gas pump may take a dent out of your budget, but the low cost of campsite lodging and self-prepared meals can make for a very affordable and fun road trip.

If a big city is more your idea of fun, then check out the hostel system, no longer reserved for those less than 25 years of age. Northern California Hostels boast ten unusual accommodations for "the adventurous traveler." With rates as low as \$20 per night, travelers can enjoy a memorable and unusual accommodation such as a lighthouse or a pioneer homestead. More traditional digs are also available, of course. Hostels offer low-cost private, semi-private and dorm-style rooms. Look for hostels that meet Hostelling International's standards for cleanliness, service and safety.

### **Look for bargains and negotiate**

If you're still intent on flying to your destination and staying in a hotel, you may be in luck. Airlines, resorts and even cruise lines are hurting for business in this down market. Look for advertised fire sales and check out online deals at travel websites such as Travelocity, Expedia and Orbitz. Sites such as Kayak, TripMama and LowFares will simultaneously search and compare flight, hotel and car rental prices for the best deal. If you're really daring and can be flexible about when you travel and where you stay, try blind bidding for flights and accommodations through Priceline. If you're not satisfied that you're getting the best rates online, try negotiating directly with top hotels, especially if you're looking to stay during off-peak travel times. Call the hotel and ask to speak with the hotel manager rather than trying to get a deal

through the 1-800 reservation line. Traditionally, the further out you can make your travel plans, the cheaper. Because of lower travel numbers, you may be able to nab deeply discounted airfares even for last-minute travel plans.

### Look at the big financial picture

Before you finalize your plans, make sure the cost of your itinerary fits within your overall financial plan. A financial advisor can help you evaluate your financial situation, set goals and take steps to afford the kind of travel you want.

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### An update on Gordon & Cynthia Duffus

The following invitation has been sent to the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond from former member Gordon D. Duffus:

*By the grace of God  
And  
With the consent of the people  
The Right Reverend  
Herman Hofferith IV  
Bishop of Southern Virginia  
will ordain*

### **Cynthia Slaughter Duffus**

*To the Sacred Order of Deacons  
in Christ's One Holy Catholic  
and Apostolic Church*

*Saturday, the thirteenth of June,  
two thousand nine  
at eleven o'clock in the morning*

*Episcopal Church of the Redeemer  
2341 Winterfield Road  
Midlothian, Virginia*

*Your prayers and presence are  
requested*

*Clergy red stoles Reception following*

On behalf of the St. Andrew's Society of Richmond, I wish the very best to Cynthia as she takes this important step forward in her life and I thank Gordon for sending us the invitation. Dick

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 August for the September issue**. This is *your* St. Andrew's Society newsletter . . . so please send something you would like to see in it! Thank you!



**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**