



The Spectator

The Quarterly Newsletter of Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Spring 2006

From the President

Dear Members,

On June 28 we held our quarterly luncheon at the Pints and Pipes Celtic pub, on Palace Lane. We had a nice lunch which consisted of soup and a sandwich. We had a pretty good turn out, 43 people in the middle of the day in the middle of the week. We had only expected to have one speaker but we ended up having two and both were excellent. If you were at Burns Nicht you may remember Alan Graham who gave the toast to the Lassies and his wife Beth, who gave the toast to the Laddies. Beth spoke briefly about their life together in Scotland, and Alan spoke about growing up in Scotland.

Very soon you will get a notice of either a called meeting of the St. Andrew's Benevolent Association or a request for a proxy vote. I cannot emphasize the importance of this meeting or vote strongly enough. We would like to have 100% Participation either by personal attendance or a proxy vote to take care of the business at hand.

I would also like to remind everyone that the Williamsburg Scottish Festival and Celtic Celebration is coming up the end of September, Member's night in October, Kirkin' of the Tartans in November and then it will be the first of the New Year and Burns Nicht again. Somewhere in the middle of all this there will probably be at least one more quarterly luncheon.

Yours aye, Taylor C. Fraser, Jr. President



Summer Luncheon

The Pints and Pipes Pub was the venue for the June 28 SAS Summer Luncheon. This event was a great success. There was high attendance and high spirits as well. After lunch Alan and Beth Graham spoke about life in Scotland. Beth highlighted the differences between everyday life in Scotland as compared to the States while Alan, a native Scot, gave us excellent insight into what it was like to grow up in Scotland, deal with the educational establishment, and finally make one's own way in the world. Alan eventually met a lovely American girl named Beth at a Scottish pub in Japan, so we see that Scottish pubs offer quite a bit more than excellent beer.



Alan and Beth Graham speak on Scotland at the Summer Luncheon



The Pints and Pipes Pub – say that real fast – the perfect venue





Happiness comes in a beer glass

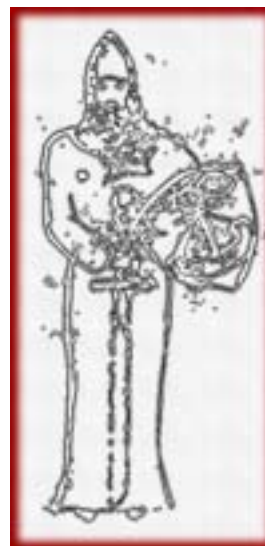
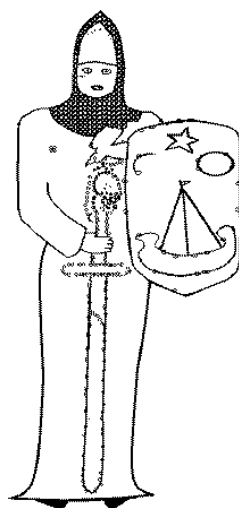
How Scotland Discovered America

The Scottish Banner has some fascinating articles, and the May 2006 issue tells us about a Scots noble who reached America a hundred years before Columbus. One reason I love history is that we're always gaining new knowledge that often contradicts everything we thought we knew about the past. I won't duplicate the article here but will summarize it and urge everyone who's interested to get a copy of the Scottish Banner and read the article in depth. Briefly, an 81 year old Scot named Niven Sinclair believes that one of his ancestors reached America in the late 1300's, and he is determined to prove it. Sinclair is the descendant of William St Clair, who built Rosslyn Chapel, and Williams' grandfather, Henry St. Clair. Niven Sinclair is a historian who has generated a lot of controversy. Rosslyn Chapel of course is famous because of its connections with the Knights Templars and the Holy Grail. Sinclair has written on these issues as well,

made plenty of controversial claims, and attracted both scorn and praise. The article notes the following:

- Henry was Earl of Orkney, charged by Norway's Queen Margarete with expanding trade to the West.
- Iceland and Greenland were inhabited then and Newfoundland's fishing shoals were a great attraction.
- Eric the Red and Leif Ericson had reached Newfoundland and 'Vinland' in the 10th Century. News of lands to the west were kept secret to preserve commercial advantages.
- The Mi'mak Indians of Nova Scotia have tribal lore about the first white men who arrived from the sea in the late 1300's. They were friendly with these people, who wintered with them.
- Niven Sinclair believes that Henry made at least two visits to Nova Scotia in the late 1300's. There are historical records of voyages he made to the West.
- In Massachussets a carving known as the Westford Knight shows a man with a sword type of the 14th Century and a heraldic coat of arms that looks like that of Clan Gunn. James Gunn was Henry St. Clair's head man and is believed to have died in America.
- Kelly Prosper, current chief of the Mi'Maq tribe, is cooperating with Niven Sinclair to generate DNA evidence to prove the Mi'Maq tribe has ties to early Scots explorers who settled there. If they can do this, we will leave the realm of speculation and enter the realm of facts.

Comment: They should stop talking about DNA tests and do them. A valid DNA match will be proof positive of the presence of Sinclair's blood line in Nova Scotia's native Mic'Mac. And if we never hear anything further about this, we can conclude that this is just an interesting story with no proof to back up these claims. There is plenty of further info, pro and con, about Henry Sinclair on the web. I haven't researched any of this, but it's certainly an interesting subject.



Prince Henry St. Clair, Earl of Orkney (top)
The Westford Knight, two copies of the stone carving (above)

Family History: Taylor Fraser

Here is the family history background for our own St. Andrew's Society President, Taylor Fraser.

'For those of you who don't know me, my name is Taylor Fraser of Clan Fraser and I was born in Newport News in Riverside Hospital, not the big modern building that you know but the one that used to be on the corner of 50th Street and Washington Avenue. When I was a year and half old my mother and father decided to move to Rome, New York and since I had no other means of support I went along with them. After a few years of doing nothing, they said I was too young to get a job, I decided to get an education. I spent four years in Ganzevort Elementary School.

'Near the end of my fourth year my folks bought a nice little country estate. It was a nice place but it had a few drawbacks. One was in the winter when the temperature got down to forty five below zero and you had to make a trip to the little house behind the big house. Another was if you wanted to take a bath you had to haul water from the well in the back yard, except in the summer when the well would run dry and we had to haul water from a spring a half mile away. The next two years I continued my education in a one room school house. We had six grades and one teacher. Having had the advantage of going to a city school I was a little ahead of the rest of the kids in my class so I helped the teacher by working with the younger kids. I then went to Westmoreland Central School and finished my education. I had always been interested in music so I joined the High School Band and Choir. I also developed an interest in flying so I learned to fly light airplanes. If you have never flown a plane and done takeoffs and landings on skis you have missed a real experience.

'When I graduated from high school it was 1945 and I enlisted in the Navy. I tell my kids that the Japanese heard I was coming and surrendered. As yet I haven't been able to figure out how they knew. Since I was in the Naval Reserve I was released from active duty in 1946. When I got out my folks decided to move back to Virginia and since I was again unemployed I moved with them. I didn't think this was such a great idea since I had a girl that I was madly in love with, but as it happened she had met another guy and eventually married him. As for me I met a young lady, Dorothy Beale, and after going together for three years while she finished school we got married and were happily married for fifty one and a half years. We have

two children a son who was born to us and an adopted daughter. I have six grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.

I worked for NACA and NASA for a combined total of 41 years and retired in 1989. Since then I have had a couple of jobs and have been employed at Busch Gardens for the past twelve years.

I was an active member of my clan association and served on its board of directors and as its President. I also served on the board of the Williamsburg Scottish Festival for eight years in various capacities and I am currently serving my third term on the board of St. Andrew's and was honored with the presidency during my second term.

My wife and I made a total of six trips to Scotland. We would rent a cottage near Loch Ness and make day trips from there. You can go to most any point in Scotland from there and back in a day's time by car.

My ancestor who came to this country was William Wallace Fraser. William Wallace Fraser was born in 1792 and came to this country some time between then and 1820 when his first child was born in upstate New York. We have not been able to pin down the exact date nor where he was born, other than Scotland. On one of my trips I visited the genealogy section of the Inverness Library and found not one but 800 William Wallace Frasers.

The Clan Fraser is made up of two branches, the Saltoun branch and the Lovat branch. We have two chiefs, Flora Marjory Fraser, 20th Lady Saltoun and Simon Fraser, 18th Lord Lovat. The present Lord Lovat is the grandson of the 17th Lord Lovat, who formed and led the Lovat Scouts during World War II from 1939 to 1945. If you happened to see the movie The Longest Day, the story of the Normandy invasion, Lord Lovat was played by Peter Lawford.'



Taylor Fraser, President, St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

The New Presbyterian Sanctuary

Byron Adams reports that on April 30th many folks were able to have their first look at the new Presbyterian Sanctuary on Richmond Road across from William and Mary. It was not quite completed and the new John Buzard pipe organ was being installed. Members were hoping to actually use the facility in a few more weeks. The seating capacity will about double the former sanctuary for the 1500 plus members. Having required four weekend services to fill the needs of all our folks should now allow perhaps a better schedule for our ministers.

Have you ever wanted to do something first? The idea came to Byron to be the first to play the Highland Bagpipes in the new sanctuary. That occurred on May 18th with the help of friend Leonard Bosworth to catch the event with a couple of pictures.



The John Buzard pipe organ



Byron tests the acoustics in the new Presbyterian Sanctuary

Come to Scotland, Land of Golf

Page Saunders, wife of long time member and former Board member Charles Saunders, sent the following news to Byron Adams. Charles and Page have made a great contribution to SAS over many years of faithful support. Charles has frequently been part of Burns Night Committee and also has sponsored SAS for use of The Williamsburg Country Club for many functions. This news release also ran in the Virginia Gazette.

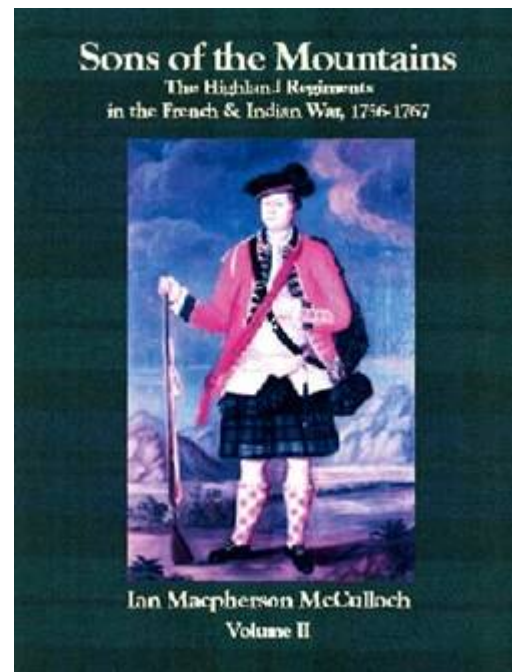
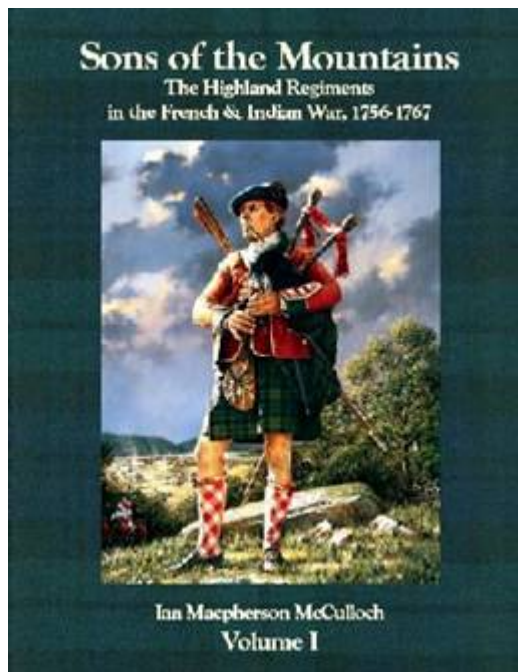
TARTAN BANNERS DECORATE COUNTRY CLUB SETTING

The Williamsburg Country Club's 9 Hole Ladies Golf Association held an invitational tournament on Monday, May 22 at their club. St. Andrews Society of Williamsburg loaned their tartan banners for decoration of the dining room. The theme of the day was "Come to Scotland, Land of Golf". Foursomes had clan names and were assigned to lunch tables named for famous golf clubs in Scotland. The menu consisted of cock-a-leekie soup, Celtic fish and chips, colcannon, and sticky toffee pudding. Table decorations and favors completed the Scottish theme setting. Many thanks to the St. Andrews Society for providing the banners for this event.

New Books on the Highland Regiments

Lt.Col. Ian MacPherson McCulloch, former commanding officer (1993-96) of the Black Watch (RHR) of Canada, has contacted the St. Andrew's Society to inform us about two books he has written on the highland regiments. These books are available as of May 2006. Following is the press release:

NEW HIGHLANDER BOOK AVAILABLE 15 MAY 2006



Three proud Highland regiments fought in North America during the Seven Year's War - the 77th Foot (Montgomery's Highlanders), the 78th Foot (Fraser's Highlanders), and the famous Black Watch, more correctly known

at the time as the Royal Highland Regiment. Undoubtedly, the exploits of the 42nd, 77th and 78th Highlanders in some of the most bloody and desperate battles on the North American continent were a critical factor in transforming the overall image of Highlanders from Jacobite rebels to Imperial heroes in the latter half of the 18th century. But the everyday story of these regiments - how they trained, worked, played, fought and died from their own point of view - has never been seriously told.

Sons of the Mountains: The Highland regiments in North America during the French & Indian War, 1756-1767, is a two-volume set due to be co-published Spring 2006 by Purple Mountain Press and the Fort Ticonderoga Museum. It chronicles the Highland regiments' fighting performance and experiences from the time they were raised in the Highlands and stepped ashore in North America, to their disbandment in 1763; or, as in the case of the 42nd, reduced in establishment and left on lonely garrison duty in the American wilderness until their recall and return to Ireland in 1767.

Volume One of *Sons of the Mountains* follows all three regiments on their various campaigns in the different theatres of war. As they range from the wilderness of the Ohio Forks to the wind-swept crags of Signal Hill in Newfoundland, and from the waters of the Great Lakes to the torrid swamps and cane fields of the "Sugar Islands", the reader will be exposed to all the major conflicts and actions of the "Great War for Empire" as seen through the eyes of the Highland soldier.

Cluny, the 27th Hereditary Chief of Clan Macpherson, writes from Blairgowrie, Scotland: *As a direct descendant of a Clansman who was present on the Heights of Carillon and at Fort Ticonderoga in July 1758 I feel that I understand now far better how my forebear and his fellow Highlanders must have felt and lived and fought, and relate much more closely to those "Sons of the Mountains" of long ago. I warmly commend Lt Colonel McCulloch's book to readers across the Atlantic and here in Scotland. He has done a great service to the memory of those who fought and died with these distinguished Regiments.*

Volume Two of *Sons of the Mountains* will appeal to all families of Scottish descent and serious genealogists. It features comprehensive biographical histories of every regimental officer from all the major clans (over 350 entries) who served in North America. Also included in the

glossaries are regimental muster rolls and land petitions of discharged Highlanders. Marie Fraser editor of *Canadian Explorer*, newsletter of the Clan Fraser Society of Canada, writes: *Besides being compelling Highland history, SOTM is a valuable genealogical resource for all of Scottish heritage. With over 350 officers' biographies, career details and genealogical notes in the annexes, McCulloch has identified the complex ties of kinship, marriage and friendship that bound the most prominent Scottish families of the day together during the Seven Years War between Britain and France fought in North America, known to some as the French & Indian War.*

Lavishly illustrated with artwork by Robert Griffing, Steve Noon, Peter Rindlisbacher, Charles Stotz and John Buxton, as well as with contemporary prints, maps and portraits from the collections of the Black Watch Museums of Scotland and Canada, the Fort Ticonderoga Museum, the Fort Ligonier Museum, the William L. Clements Library, the National Army Museum, Chelsea, the David M. Stewart Museum, Montreal, the National Archives of Canada and the Library of Congress, *Sons of the Mountains* is a visual delight.

Without a doubt, *Sons of the Mountains* is the most complete and informative work on the history of early Highland regiments of the British army in North America to date. As the first print run is limited to 3000 copies, reserve your copies now of this long anticipated Highland history, now available by pre-ordering from Purple Mountain Press at <http://www.catskill.net/purple/order.htm> or at: **Purple Mountain Press, Ltd.**, PO Box 309, Fleischmann's, NY, 12430-0309. Phone orders: 1-845-254-4062. Volume One is \$29.00 US and Volume Two is listed at \$19.00 US. Bulk orders of ten copies or more receive a 40% discount.

VOLUME ONE: 392 pages, illustrated, 8.5 x 11, \$29.00, paper, 2006
VOLUME TWO: 208 pages, illustrated, 8.5 x 11, \$19.00, paper, 2006

The Tartan Pimpernel and The Black Bonspiel of Willie MacCrimmon

Byron Adams recommends two books that may be of interest to SAS members. From Byron:

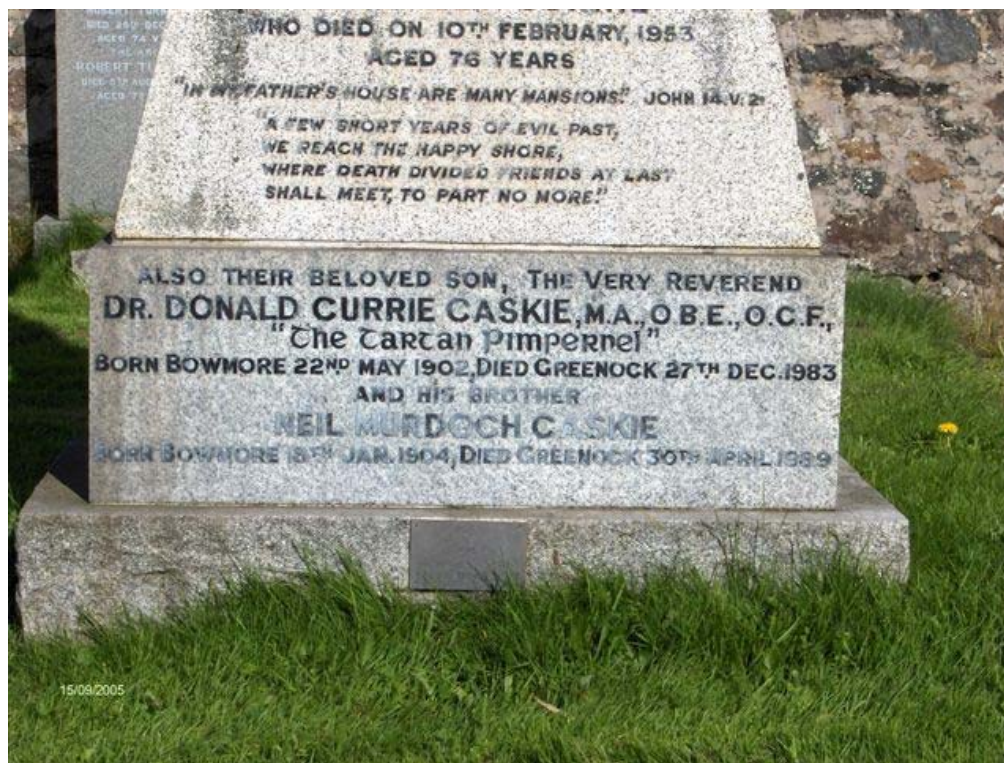
I attach some pictures of the resting place of Donald Caskie. You may be familiar with his book *The Tartan Pimpernel* which was his autobiography. He was from Bowmore on the Isle of Islay and this is where the church and marker are that I attach below. You can see that his gravestone has his book noted as well as his parents and brother's names. His brother was a colleague of Rev. Alex Chestnut of Largs Scotland who is a good friend of mine and this last September shared some other details of Caskie's life with me. Rev. Caskie was in Paris and the pastor of the Scots Kirk there when the Germans marched in 1940. It was the same church that Eric Liddell preached his famous sermon during the 1924 Olympic Games. The book is a fascinating and inspiring account of Rev Caskie's planning and organizing escape routes for Allied servicemen after Dunkirk. ISBN 1 84158 014 7. I believe many of our group would enjoy it.

'Also I am sending you the cover leaf of W. O. Mitchell's book, *The Black Bonspiel Of Willie MacCrimmon*. Don Dixon, the former editor of the "Spectator" ... sent it to me recently, largely due to the recent Olympic Games and the concentration on curling, I suspect. I purchased my first and only curling stone from Don's Scottish antique store when he was here a few years ago. I'm not sure but the author may be related to our member Ken Mitchell. The story is a humorous account of Willie's wager with the devil and his curling team competing with Willie's, the outcome of the competition determining the final resting place of Willie's soul.

Byron



Bowmore, Isle of Islay, final resting place of Donald Caskie



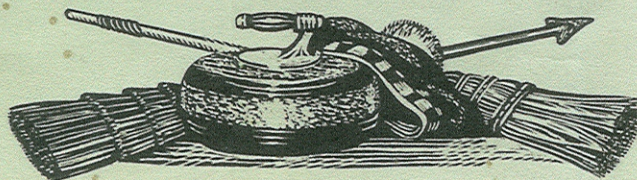
Grave of Donald Caskie

W.O. MITCHELL

THE BLACK BONSPIEL...



W.O.
MITCHELL



THE
BLACK
BONSPIEL
OF
WILLIE
MacCRIMMON

Illustrated by Wesley W. Bates

Flowers of the Forest

Long-time SAS member Robert Sullivan died on March 27, 2006. The Virginia Gazette did an excellent obituary on him, and I reproduce it here. We will all miss Robert Sullivan.

OBITUARIES

The Virginia Gazette, Williamsburg 3/29/2006

Robert E. Sullivan Sr.

Retired Army colonel

Retired Col. Robert E. Sullivan Sr. of Williamsburg died March 27.

Col. Sullivan retired from the Army in 1968 as a staff provost marshal, U.S. Continental Army Command, after more than 30 years of service.

During World War II he commanded the 713th Military Police Battalion in the U.S., Northern Ireland, France, Luxemburg, and Germany. During the Korean War he was deputy theater provost marshal, GHQ Far East Command and United Nations Command. Other key career assignments were commandant of the U.S. Army Military Police School, president of the Military Police Board, chief of operations of the Office of the Provost Marshal General, and security adviser to the Defense Representative to the North Atlantic Military Alliance and the U.S. Ambassador to NATO.

His decorations include the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, the Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, and the French Croix de Guerre. After retiring from the Army he was deputy director of the George Washington University Tidewater Center in Hampton.

Col. Sullivan and his wife, Nicki, the former Elizabeth M. Nikola, who died in 1994, moved to Kingsmill in 1977, where he became known as the poet laureate of Kingsmill. His works were published in the Kingsmill Bulletin and local Peninsula newspapers. Writing mostly about golf and the life he loved at Kingsmill, a collection of his works was published by Busch Properties in 1982 in a small book entitled "The Kingsmill Collection Of Locker Room Ballads and Other Poems."

In 1979 he founded The Honorable & Ancient Order Of Ball Hawks at Kingsmill. Membership in the Order consists of approximately 40

golfers who find, grade, clean, package, and sell lost golf balls. They have an annual meeting at a location overlooking the James River where a Scottish piper serenades the members and salutes those who have "fallen off the perch." They also have an annual Ball Hawk Golf Tournament complete with trophy. The Order still flourishes to this day. Funds generated by the Ball Hawks are used to support worthwhile community services such as the Williamsburg Community Hospital Auxiliary.



He was a member and past president of the Crown Colony Club in Williamsburg. Col. Sullivan moved to Williamsburg Landing in 2002, and was a member of the Landing Lobby Choristers.

Born in Syracuse, N.Y., on Jan. 1, 1914, he held a bachelor's degree from Syracuse University and a master's degree from George Washington University. He was a graduate of both the U.S. Naval War College and the Army War College.

He is survived by his wife, Emily Driscoll Sullivan; a son, Robert E. Sullivan Jr. and his wife, Kit T. Sullivan, of Richmond; four grandchildren, Jennifer Ann Bliley and husband, Carey, Robert E. Sullivan III, Kate McCrady and Aaron McCrady, all of Richmond; his brother, James E. Sullivan of Minnesota; and two stepdaughters, Cynthia Brandon and her husband, Joel, of Annapolis, Md., and Susan Verrell and her husband, Bill, of Atlanta, Ga.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Thursday in St. Bede Catholic Church, 3686 Ironbound Rd. The family will receive friends at church on Thursday beginning at 10 a.m. A private inurnment with full military honors will be held at a later date in Arlington National Cemetery.

Memorial gifts may be made to the American Heart Association or to the Muscarelle Museum of Art at the College of William & Mary.

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Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Application for Membership

PO Box 533, Williamsburg VA 23187

Full Name: _____

Date and Place of Birth: _____

Schools/Colleges: _____

Business or Profession: _____

Wife's Name: _____

Names and Ages of Children: _____

Address: _____

Telephone(s): _____

E-mail: _____

Years at Current Address: _____

Legacy Application? Yes or No _____

(A Legacy member is the son or grandson of an active member, in good standing, or the son or grandson of a deceased former member, who is age eighteen through twenty-one. Admission fees are waived for Legacy Members; however annual dues are required.)

If Yes, Father's or Grandfather's Name: _____

Membership in Other Professional or Social Organizations: _____

Nature of Scottish Family Connections (documentation not required): _____

Any Visits to Scotland – Frequency and Purpose: _____

General Scottish Interests – (History, Literature, Arts etc): _____

Clan Association(s): _____

Membership in Clan Organization or Other Scottish Society: _____

What tartan(s) do you wear? _____

Date: _____ Signature of Applicant: _____

To the best of our knowledge, the above applicant is of sound character and is entirely suitable to membership in the Society. He will actively participate in the functions of the Society as circumstances allow and will perform conscientiously any duties undertaken.

Sponsor: _____ Date: _____

Co-Sponsor: _____ Date: _____

Checklist

Initiation and First Year's Dues (\$60.00) _____

Small Photograph suitable for digitization _____

Current local address and telephone number included _____

Verification of Legacy Member Eligibility _____