



## The Spectator

The Quarterly Newsletter of Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Fall/Winter 2021/2022

### President's Message

Lassies and Lads,

With this latest issue of The Spectator it is my great pleasure to be addressing you as Saint Andrew's Society President for 2022.

At the outset I would like to recognize the tireless efforts of our Spectator editor and website manager Marshall Thomas, who unfailingly keeps us regularly informed with reports and pictures of our various gatherings, and with updates of the excellent website.



In spite of Omicron clouds that attempted to usher in 2022 with a degree of unease, the Society has forged ahead with preparations for an enthusiastic continuation of the events that bring us together in celebration of our Scottish traditions, culture and heritage. Plans were laid months ago for what was expected to be an unusually large attendance for our January celebration of the birth of The Bard. Omicron determined otherwise; so with commendable caution, your Board voted to postpone the Burns Supper for several weeks. With the virus curve ebbing we are now looking forward to a healthy late February turnout. Associated with this have been Scottish dance practices, visuals tryouts with our new projector and screen, and 15 lbs. Haggis eager to escape the freezer and savor a dram or two.

A talented and enthusiastic committee is well ahead with ambitious plans for a vigorous celebration of Tartan Day, to include enhanced publicity for this and other Society events. April 6 itself will see our annual food donation to Grove Christian Outreach featuring as many tartaned members as can be mustered. Going forward, the theme of charitable giving will now receive more Society focus as per the By-Laws change voted at last AGM.

The return of a less anxious Spring will find us celebrating Founders Day in May, and perhaps a Kirking followed by lunch with our friends at Christ Church, Kilmarnock.

The Society has a strong Scholarship and Grant Fund to which all members contribute. Fund details and application requirements feature well on our website. While the fund has assisted many students in past years both in USA and UK, applications have been sparse of late. Since providing help for those in need is a basic element of our mission, it will help if we can all spread the word about our funds availability.

As we emerge from pandemic woes and health limitations we can look forward to a great year of Scottish themed activities. The skirl of the pipes should delight the ears of all, as the Queen's Jubilee is celebrated in our town. But before that, we can all enjoy an ale or two, or perhaps a wee dram, as Pub Night recommences. Stay tuned.

Yours Aye,  
Douglas Boller

### **Kirking of the Tartans and Annual General Meeting, 21 November 2021**

On November 21 St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg held a Kirking of the Tartans at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church Sunday morning service. It was followed by the Society's Annual General Meeting at Windsor Forest Clubhouse for lunch, a business agenda on the state of the Society, and a hearty welcome to nine new members. Both events were very well attended.



**Kirking of  
the Tartans**

AGM - The Politburo (below)



**President Ed Matheson (below)**



**"Are there any volunteers for the whisky tasting?" (below)**



## Welcome to New Members (below)



### State of the Society

Former Society President Ed Matheson addressed the State of the Society during the AGM. Here is a synopsis:

The state of our Society is vigorous and strong. Since the spring of 2020, the health restrictions for in person gatherings and events during the COVID pandemic forced the Society to postpone and limit events normally scheduled. This interruptive experience gave us a greater appreciation for our times together, celebrating the culture of Scotland.

Our Society started 2021 with all the protocols implemented to stop the spread of COVID. For our Society, that celebrates and promotes Scottish heritage by scheduling gatherings throughout the year, these health limitations had restricted our opportunities for enjoying these events. Undeterred, a Scottish innovative work-around enabled an unofficial small gathering at Le Yaca in January to celebrate Burns Night . The next two months were quiet as the membership received their vaccinations for

immunity. Instead of a Tartan Day event in April , Society members brought food and donated approximately 600 pounds to the Grove Christian Outreach Center. The vaccinations enabled lifting the protective protocols, and the Society fully gathered in May to celebrate Founders Day. We also restarted the popular monthly Pub Nights culminating in a Halloween costume night in October, The Kirking of the Tartan and AGM in November were well attended with nine new members being piped in and recognized. The Christmas Luncheon on December 11 will complete our event schedule for 2021. Going forward, the Society is well positioned for the membership to participate in and enjoy a complete schedule of events and gatherings during 2020.

Aye

Ed Matheson

### **Christmas Luncheon**

On 11 December 2021 St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg held a gala Christmas Luncheon at Sal's by Victor to celebrate Christmas and New Years. Attendance was high and a good time was had by all. It was heart-warming to see all our fellow Scots celebrating the Christmas season. A high point was the Scot of the Year award which was presented to Bruce Buchanan for efforts as Society Quartermaster. A gift exchange also added to the fun. Following are some photos taken at the event.





**Scot of the Year – Bruce Buchanan**









## Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

PO Box 533, Williamsburg, VA 23187

### Application for Membership

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you applying as a new Active Member, or as a Spouse, Son, Daughter, in the same household of a current Active Member, (check one)?

(Active membership is limited to individuals who were born in Scotland or who are lineally descended from a native of Scotland. This is not required for Associate membership.)

Active Member's Name if you are a spouse/son/daughter: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Schools/Colleges: \_\_\_\_\_

Business or Profession: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name (if not a member): \_\_\_\_\_

Names and Ages of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Scottish Ancestry: (Not required for Associate Membership.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Clan Affiliation or Membership: (Not required for Associate Membership.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Scottish Interests: (History, Literature, Arts, Clan Affiliation, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

To the best of our knowledge, the above applicant is of sound character, over the age of 18 years, and is entirely suitable to membership in the Society. Applicant 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 for Membership:

Initial Individual Active Membership in a Household – Initiation Fee (\$20.00)  
plus First Year's Dues (\$45.00), Total of \$65.00.

Additional Active Membership within same household – Initiation Fee (\$20.00)  
plus First Year's Dues (\$25.00), Total of \$45.00.

Individual Associate Membership – Initiation Fee (\$20.00)  
plus First Year's Dues (\$45.00), Total of \$65.00.

NOTE: All memberships are individual and only one applicant per application.

Submit your completed application with address, phone number, and e-mail address to your sponsor or the address above. Include your check made out to "St. Andrews' Society of Williamsburg", as well as a small photograph of yourself suitable for digitization.