



The Spectator

The Quarterly Newsletter of Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Summer-Fall-Winter 2020/2021

President's Message

Lads and Lassies,

It is an honor to have been selected to be your president for 2021. Though we find ourselves in the middle of a pandemic, we will not allow the significant challenges to deter our society's mission. This pandemic, that is disrupting our lives, will pass, just like previous historical outbreaks of diseases, but our society will endure.

It seems like yesterday when, following our wonderful 2020 Burns Night Celebration, we learned that a dangerous virus from China had been spread to our country as well as to numerous other nations. Subsequently, necessary protective protocols were implemented to protect people and slow the spread of this highly contagious virus. For the remainder of 2020 and into 2021, these protocols have restricted person to person interactions and social gatherings thereby limiting opportunities for our St. Andrews Society to plan and conduct normal functions. The bold and aggressive "warp speed" development of vaccines and therapeutics in an unprecedented few months now give us hope for transition to healthy normal activities in 2021. Hopefully the ongoing immunization program will quickly reduce the rates of infection and sickness thus allowing medical experts to roll back and eventually phase out restrictive protocols.

Our St Andrews Society Board will monitor the changing medical recommendations and restriction directions to proactively plan and schedule future safe society functions. The October luncheon at Ford's

Colony and 2021 Burns Night celebration are recent successful examples. These times with COVID conditions require innovative out of the box solutions when considering a future society function. As we navigate the uncertain months ahead, suggestions and comments from the membership on re energizing our society are encouraged. As upcoming functions are announced, we encourage the membership to invite friends and family to join in our uniquely Scottish flavored activities. Increasing our membership with new participants will introduce fresh ideas and energies that strengthens the society's goal of preserving Scottish culture as a legacy for future generations. Early restoration of normal society functions and the close camaraderie we all enjoy will be our goal for 2021.

Yours aye,

Ed Matheson

Fall Picnic

After a long frustrating Coronavirus pause, the Society finally met again in a lively, happy celebratory luncheon meeting on October 4, 2020. The Board had been meeting on-line and arranged a picnic plated luncheon at Ford's Colony Country Club Pavilion Terrace. The luncheon was truly delicious, not your standard dry banquet fare.

It was gratifying to see all the regular suspects in person again and several new recruits as well. Festivities began with a glorious open-air concert by the Williamsburg Pipes and Drums. Society President Tim Cordle addressed the faithful, reviewing the recent past and commenting on future events. Holly Yohe put on an entertaining show with stories from Scotland and surprises for all.

This was a well-attended (50 guests), successful event and we can thank the Board members who arranged it, and the Ford's Colony Country Club for the excellent luncheon.



Williamsburg Pipes and Drums



President Tim Cordle



Holly
Yohe

Pub Night

The Society gathered for another Pub Night on October 15 at Paul's 2. These are always fun and relaxing, and also a challenge due to the rapidly changing COVID regulations. However Scots have never been deterred by troublesome regulations. One of the earliest recorded recipes for Haggis, for example, begins "First, steal a sheep." Two photos of this gathering, taken by Tim Cordle, are shown below.





A Wee Poem by Douglas Boller

Much of Robert Burns poetry was written in what became known as Standard Habbie (named for the 17th century piper Habbie Simpson). This style, also known as the Scottish Stanza, was frequently used by Lowland Scots poets and consists of six line stanzas with 4 tetrameters and 2 dimeters. Some of Burns best known works are in Standard Habbie, e.g. " To a Mouse", " To a Mountain Daisy" and "Address to a Haggis".



Were Burns alive today, I **attach** what he might pen in this Pandemic time.
It's entitled: **To the COVID, on wakening one pandemic morn with a fever.....**

To The COVID, on wakening one pandemic morn with a fever.....

Ye dirty wee disgusting virus

wi' sticky spikes fixin' tae mire us.
Yer woefu' power fu' meant tae tire us
an' steal oor taste.

Yet ye should ken we'll hae ye licked
wi' muckle haste.

Aiblins ye see us proudly kilted,

though what's beneath it may be wilted,
'tis best ye ken it's always tilted
toward vaccine.

An' if ye think ye've got us beat
it's in yer dream.

Like Shanter Tam, it gars me greet

tae see how mony councils sweet,
advices wise, fa' at the feet
of Dr Fauci.

Nae wonder ilka folk an' bairns
are fu'some grouchy.

Voracious stinkin' putrid worm !

Soon Devil kens 'twill be your turn,
for Science brains will brawly learn
a cure. They're on it !

Then vaccinated we'll all spurn
your loathsome vomit.

Ye ugly feckless blasted scunner !

Yer spew wad pit us aff oor dinner.
Nae wonder we're all getting' thinner
an' feelin' fudgy.

But know the vaccine soon will pit ye
doon the cludgie.

How daur ye think, ye crabbit cuss,

Glossary

know *have*
much
perhaps

makes me cry
many

every *children*
very

bravely

rascal

WC

dare *angry*

that ye could lightly mess wi' us.

Guid faith ! We shouldna hae such fuss

ye snivelin' farce.

Go bile yer heid, before we skelp ye

get lost

thrash

on yer arse !

Douglas Boller - November 30, 2020

Burns Supper Gathering 26 January, 2021

Nineteen stalwart Scots gathered at the Waypoint Grille on Tuesday, 26 January to celebrate the 262nd birthday of Robert Burns. As the Saint Andrews Society was prevented from having any formal gathering of over ten people, this was not a Society function. A separate room designated "The Scottish Room" was made available to seat individuals who made their own reservations. Guests ordered from the menu which did have Cock-a-leekie Soup and Sticky Toffee Pudding as additional choices. Haggis was provided by Douglas Boller who has an excellent recipe.

"If you're feeling muckle grouchy and you can't call Dr. Fauci
While the Covid's driving you to sore distraction.

And you're not yet vaccinated but are somewhat constipated-
BOLLER'S HAGGIS will give TOTAL SATISFACTION"

Copies of Douglas Boller's poem "To the Covid", composed in true Burnsian style, also were distributed to each table.

Michael Thompson blessed the meal with the Selkirk Grace and later in the evening recited a Burns Poem. Mott Robertson later recited the last verse of "Green Grow the Rashes, O"

Holly Yohe brought Shortbread and Burns napkins. She also conducted a ten question quiz about Robert Burns which tested everyone's knowledge about Rabbie. Later in the evening Holly led us as we recited "The Haggis Song" which is about hunting Haggis in the Highlands! Much merriment was had by all!

After the meal was finished, former President, Tim Cordle, transferred the Crook of Office and the President's Medallion to our new President, Ed Matheson. Ed then outlined his goals for for the coming year as we continue to deal with the challenges of dealing with Covid. Ed also welcomed new member Andy McKie who was accompanied by his wife, Karen.

The evening ended with a rousing singing of Auld Lang Syne.

Submitted by,
Mott Robertson

Photos from the event by Mott Robertson:







**Ed Matheson and
Tim Cordle**

**Karen and Andy McKie
(below)**





Ed & Cindy Matheson

Flowers of the Forest

J.T. Baxter

Board Members

I am sad to report that JT Baxter, one of the two surviving original Founders of SASW, died on 25 July, 2020. I, by chance, discovered this when looking through the Obituary supplement published by the Richmond Times-Dispatch this past Sunday. I have attached his obituary that was published in The Times West Virginian.

I have tried to make contact with his family to no avail at present. The Richmond phone number is now out of service. I have attempted to contact the ministers who performed his service in West Virginia but have not heard back from them as yet. I was hoping that they may have some information about where his widow, Bea, may now be located. I have sent an email to the address we have for JT asking that family members contact us. In the interim, I think our Society could send a sympathy note to the address in Richmond that we have in our membership records. I have sent an email to Howard Topp letting him know. He is now the sole survivor of the original Founders.

Yours aye,
Mott Robertson

JT Baxter passed away peacefully at his home in Richmond, Virginia on Saturday, July 25, 2020.

He was born in Fairmont, West Virginia on November 21, 1933. He was a graduate of East Fairmont High School and West Virginia University.



JT was a long-time banking consultant and owned and operated Landmark Research Associates, Inc. in Richmond.

He was an active member of The Commonwealth Club of Richmond, a Master Gardener of Hanover County, a Boy Scout leader, and member and former Chairman of The Republican Party of Virginia. In his later years he remained active as a member of The Alliance Francaise, Daylily Society, Iris Club, and Rose Society of Richmond.

JT wore his Scottish heritage with pride. He attended The Scottish Heritage Highland Games of North Carolina. He was one of six children and the last of the East Fairmont Baxter family. He along with his five sisters, and nieces and nephews enjoyed gathering for bi-annual family reunions across the United States. He was the family historian and would proudly don the McMillan kilt complete with the family sword, educating the young and old alike.

JT enjoyed intelligent conversation, had the gift of wordsmith extraordinaire, and continued to learn throughout his golden years.

He is survived by Bea N. Baxter and many nieces and nephews. JT was preceded in death by his parents, Harry C. and Hallie Herndon Baxter of Fairmont, West Virginia, his sisters Betty Vinick, Joan Owens, Barbara Berlack, Margaret Norris, and Nell Baker.

The family would like to thank his compassionate caregivers and Hospice of Virginia.

There will be a memorial service at Tichnel United Methodist Church announced at a later date. Interment will follow in the family plots at Tichnel Cemetery, Heaters, West Virginia.

Published on July 26, 2020

Robert P Maccubbin

Another veteran Society member sadly has left us.

Robert Purks Maccubbin, 81, passed away peacefully on November 3, 2020 in hospice care at Commonwealth Senior Living in Williamsburg. He was surrounded by his family and caring nurses. Robert Purks Maccubbin, 81, passed away peacefully on November 3, 2020 in hospice care at Commonwealth Senior Living in Williamsburg. He was surrounded by his family and caring nurses.



Robert was born to Mary Anna Purks and Walter Aubrey Maccubbin on October 30, 1939, younger brother to Don Maccubbin. His beloved father was the superintendent of Baltimore public schools, a position that impressed upon him the joys of learning and teaching from a young age. He graduated with a degree in Biology from Johns Hopkins in 1961. He received his M.A. and PhD in English from the University of Illinois.

Robert taught eighteenth-century English and Scottish literature for 41 years at the College of William and Mary, with a special love for the work of John Dryden, Robert Louis Stevenson and Robert Burns. He co-wrote, with his wife Martha, *The Age of William III and Mary II: Power Politics and Patronage 1688-1702*, a celebrated encyclopedia of The Glorious Revolution. He edited a comprehensive history of Williamsburg for the city's 300th anniversary: *Williamsburg, Virginia, A City Before the State 1699-1999*. Above all, Bob was immensely proud to be editor of the celebrated journal *Eighteenth-Century Life* for twenty-four years.

Robert was a bibliophile and enjoyed his home library. He also enjoyed his annual "Christmas Garden": creating humorous miniature villages. He made marble houses and homemade holiday cards. He enjoyed billiards, coconut cake, the Orioles, pastries, Pluto the dog, gardening, musing, traveling, reading, and above all, Scotland.

Robert is survived by his loving wife of 34 years, Martha Hamilton-Phillips; his children, Gwyneth Tatum (Carter), Aubrey Maccubbin (Leah) and Glencora Israel (Jason); his older brother Don Maccubbin (Linda); his six grandchildren, Alexander Maccubbin, Ryland Tatum, Kimball Tatum, Aurelia Maccubbin, Octavian Israel and Arabella Maccubbin.

A celebration of life will be held in spring 2021. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Prostate Cancer Foundation, the Historic Scotland Foundation, the Williamsburg Community Foundation or a [charity of your choice](#).

To Plant Memorial Trees in memory, please visit our [Sympathy Store](#).

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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.