



 **The Spectator** 
The Quarterly Newsletter of Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Winter 2011/2012

President's Message

Lads and Lassies,

Writing this first President's Message for the Spectator reminds me of how honored I am to have been selected to serve the Society in this capacity for the year 2012. I approach this challenge with confidence that we will have a good year for the Society. With Burns' Nicht attendance in the mid-sixties, this somewhat smaller but enthusiastic audience experienced a successful evening.

Thanks to so many of you for the great effort put forth in producing this event. Thanks in particular to Wil Phillips and the Burns Nicht Program Committee, consisting of Bill Kennedy, Doug Burns, Sherri Elmore and Bob Davis, for all the time and effort in planning, contracting and riding herd on all who helped put this event together. Especial thanks to Joyce White and Jamie Griffin for scripting the evening's proceedings down to the last detail. Joyce kept a watchful eye on the clock and guided the proceedings along in her role as mistress of ceremony. And Jamie discharged the remainder of her duties as President with aplomb. The Color Guard consisting of James White, David Lowery, Byron Adams, and Allen Turnbull brought the colors in to a mostly standing crowd.

Arthur Korff led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Sherri Elmore delivered the Invocation to get the evening started. Then, a dispatching of the haggis by Byron Adams set the stage for an entertaining evening. (He did stab the haggis with a dirk!) A series of Toasts that were informative, heartfelt, and sometimes amusing were presented by Anne Korff, David Lowery, Kathy Kasley, James White, Douglas Boller, Jon Katora, and Amana Katora.



A pleasing variety of music was heard from David Gardner, Scottish Fiddler, Pipe Major Lynn Newcomer and the Williamsburg Pipes & Drums and pianist Bob Flinn. How fortunate it was that Bob and Clarissa Young “discovered” such an outstanding Scottish Fiddle player and enticed him to participate!

The Raffle (Doug Burns) and the Silent Auction (Heather Phillips) require a good deal of preparation and are always crowd pleasers and profitable as well. More thanks to those who donated items so generously.

We were pleased to see Anne Korff receive the Scot of the Year Award. Congratulations Anne, the award is well deserved.

Particular thanks to Pipe Major Lynn Newcomer for his participation in the Seating of the Officers, Presentation of the Haggis, the Pipes & Drum Concert, and Flowers of the Forest. You never get to finish a meal, do you Lad? Also, a big thank you to the Board Members (and spouses) who participated in the banquet room setup and teardown. And last, but certainly not least, thanks to Marshall Thomas for the very fine photographs of the evening and promptly making them available to post. And thanks to Wayne Craigmiles for his publicity efforts and his miracle work in cyber space from a thousand miles away getting Marshall’s photos up on the web site. You both do a grand job.

I apologize to anyone that I may have omitted making mention of. Expect to see a number of interesting events to unfold throughout 2012. Two Kirking’s, Tartan Day, quarterly luncheons and a couple of other events not yet fully thought out are planned.

Marshall has articles on the Christmas Parade, the Christmas Luncheon, the Scots Walk in Portsmouth, Burns Nicht, and a letter from Sarah McCaslin in this issue of the Spectator.

May you all prosper in your personal endeavors in the New Year and please remain mindful of furthering our Scottish heritage,

Harold Maxwell
Clan Maxwell

Christmas Parade, December 3, 2011

This year SAS decided to make a splash by participating in Williamsburg's Christmas Parade. The result was a great success. Thanks to Amana Katora, Jim and Joyce White, Kathy Kasley and a host of others SAS was able to construct a great float showing Lord and Lady Dunmore (Wil and Scottie Phillips) at Christmas in their parlor with a big Christmas tree set with presents, on a float decorated with festive Christmas wreaths and garlands. Our entry was led by Jim White and Harold Maxwell holding the SAS banner, big Wayne Craigmiles threateningly holding our claymore aloft to scare away any lurking bad guys, and three flags flapping gloriously in the breeze, held by Byron Adams, Doug Boller and Marshall Thomas. SAS President Jamie Griffin followed, waving to the crowd from an open sports car driven by her faithful chauffeur and bodyguard Dave Lowery. Behind her was our glorious float with Lord and Lady Dunmore before their Christmas tree. Other members held aloft colorful tartan banners. The Williamsburg Pipes and Drums were next, blasting the assembled multitudes with rousing, spirited highland tunes. We were all dressed in our Scottish finest, with sprigs of holly to add the Christmas spirit.

Our entry was near the rear of the parade, but the route was lined with Williamsburgers who reacted enthusiastically to our flags, banners, displays and music. The weather was a bit cold but bright and sunny and it was a delight to be there, and to march boldly through the streets with our banners. Jim and Joyce White later held a warm-up party in their home for the attendees.



Our Beloved Leader Jamie Griffin



SAS float, with Lord & Lady Dunmore (below)





The SAS gang gathers at the Christmas Parade



Christmas Luncheon at the Williamsburg Lodge, December 17, 2011.

The Lodge always seems to come through for us with great facilities and a delicious buffet. This was a very enjoyable event, well-attended with some 53 members and guests present. Allen and Mary Turnbull presented a fascinating account of bicycle touring Scotland, with the history of the Turnbull clan, and good details on pub placement for thirsty bicyclists. It seemed that just about everyone was there and having a great time. This was a good final event for Society activities in 2011.



The mixer





The Turnbulls orient the audience with a map of Scotland





Allen and Mary Turnbull

Attendees at the Christmas Lunch



The Scottish Walk in Olde Towne Portsmouth on New Year's Eve.

Wayne Craigmiles attended this event and here is his report.

My wife Jill and I drove down to Portsmouth, followed by Scott Henry from Richmond. I found out later that many people bring their dogs to walk with them and that the walk organizers highly encourage this.

We parked at a friend's house and found that there was a lot of on-street and lot parking available. The people attending the parade formed up at one of the churches near Washington and Lee Streets.

The color guard was created by a couple of groups representing Scottish units from the Revolutionary war and music was provided by the bass drummer, snare drummer and piper. After a quick tuning, the piper and drummers formed up with the color guard and at 4:30pm the color guard fired a volley and we were off.

There were many people in the windows and on the porches (and steps) of their homes along the walk. There were lots of Happy New Year's exchanged between the participants and the crowd.



Photo courtesy Virginian-Pilot

The walk ended at Portside near the ferry landing. A re-enactor read a message from George Washington and another re-enactor was dressed as a rector and read an inspiring speech of the day. A flag from the revolution was hauled up the flag pole to some stirring music. The crowd participated with much Huzzah! as the name of each of the original colonies that signed the Declaration of Independence was called out and a volley fired from the color guard.

Following the ceremony, the musicians played and the crowd mulled about and just enjoyed each other and the fellowship. It slowly dispersed, some to their homes, some to local restaurants and some to other planned events at pubs in Portsmouth. The Highland dancers performed at Roger Browns' restaurant. There were a lot of people in the audience and many rounds of applause.

It was a nice time and it was great meeting new people and seeing all the great kilts and modified highland attire. Next year I'll be bringing several of my dogs to walk with me. Remember, I have plenty of room for people that don't want to drive themselves and it'd be much more fun going with a group.



Photo by Wayne Craigmiles

Burns Night January 28, 2012

The Society's Burns Night celebration for 2012 was held at the Crowne Plaza Williamsburg at Fort Magruder. This was a welcome change from last year's location. About 72 members and guests attended and the venue was enjoyable. It was a gala celebration and dinner with all that we have come to expect from Burns Night – the presentation, ode, toast and eating of the haggis, numerous and enthusiastic toasts to all, a concert by Williamsburg Pipes and Drums, a recitation of the Immortal Memory by Harold Maxwell, and a wonderful concert by David Gardner, a spectacularly gifted Scottish fiddler. Anne Korff was chosen as Scot of the Year for her boundless energy and effective accomplishments in promoting Scottish heritage. New members were welcomed, new and old board members were recognized, and Harold Maxwell was chosen as our new President. The event ended with the singing of "auld lang syne." Following are selected photos from the evening.



Outgoing President Jamie Griffin



Dismemberment of the haggis (above)

David Gardner fiddles up a storm (below)





**Anne Korff, Scot of the Year (above)
Handing over leadership of the Society from Jamie Griffin to Harold Maxwell
(below)**



Letter from Sarah McCaslin

Dear Joyce and the St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg,

I hope that you are all doing well and enjoying your holiday season. I have really enjoyed receiving updates about the SAS and hearing about your events.

I am back in Maryland after a VERY busy semester at the University of Edinburgh. I have been researching nineteenth century Scottish associational culture, writing dissertation chapters, and teaching undergraduate seminars (Modern Scottish History and British Social History).



The weekend before leaving Edinburgh, I was able to take some time off work and visit the Edinburgh Christmas market and go ice skating in Princes Street Garden. Edinburgh is beautiful this time of year, albeit windy and cold.

I am now about to embark on a five month research trip here in the United States. I hope to be in Williamsburg a few times while I am here, and I will be sure to keep you informed of my plans.

Nollaig chridheil agus Bliadhna mhath ur! (Gaelic for Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!)

Sarah

Sarah E. McCaslin
PhD Candidate in History
Scottish Centre for Diaspora Studies
School of History, Classics and Archaeology
University of Edinburgh



Robert Burns - metro.co.uk



Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Application for Membership

Full Name: _____

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

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: _____

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

Clan Affiliation or Membership: _____

Date: _____ Signature of Applicant: _____

To the best of our knowledge, the above applicant is of sound character, over the age of 21 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 Membership in a Household– Initiation (\$20.00) plus First Year's Dues (\$40.00). Total of \$60.00.

Additional Membership within same household – Initiation (\$20.00) plus First Year's Dues (\$20.00). Total of \$40.00.

Your check made out to: St. Andrews' Society of Williamsburg

A Small Photograph of you suitable for digitization.

Completed Application with address, phone number and e-mail address included.

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