



The Spectator

The Quarterly Newsletter of Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Spring 2023

President's Message

Lassies and Lads, we had a busy year so far!

We had a wonderful Burns Night in Fords Colony in January. The Burns Night committee did an excellent job and received many positive compliments. The evening focused on

Robert Burns, Scottish culture, and Scottish music. We had a large number of attendees, some from out of town, and everyone had an enjoyable evening.

Our pub nights started back up in February at Anna's Brick Oven. March and April were at Paul's Deli in New Town and we'll go back to Anna's for the rest of this year. Thank you Jan Hruz for taking over from Mary and Jim Murphy. During the February Pub Night, we enjoyed a presentation from Peter Fox and Jackson Humphreys, two William & Mary students who recently came back from their studies at the University of St Andrews. The plan is to have more University of St Andrews and William & Mary Joint Degree Programme students join our pub nights and tell us about their time at St Andrews and their journeys in Scotland. We also started a 50/50 Raffle as a fund raising idea. The winner of the 50/50 gets half the money and the other half goes to the general fund to help offset costs of some of our events (ex: Burns Night).

We had a good turn out on April 6th for Tartan Day at the Grove Christian Outreach Center. We donated approximately 357 pounds of food for their

food pantry. They were very thankful for our donations as more people than ever need are in food.

A few members, in kilts/tartans, visited and helped out at the Williamsburg British Car Club (WBCC) car show on April 22. I thought it would be a good idea to go, to be seen, and chat up our society. Two gents I spoke with said they're interested in joining... we'll see what happens.

Neighborhood friends of Mary and Jim Murphy joined WBCC and their gorgeous red 1955 MG TF won third place at their first car show!

Seven society members attended the Spring Kirkin' of the Tartans on April 23 at the Historic Christ Church in Weems, VA. The Kilmarnock Pipes and Drums performed before, during, and after the service.

Tartan Day on April 29th. We lucked out on the weather! It rained all day Friday, cleared up on Saturday and rained again all day Sunday. We normally celebrate Tartan Day around April 6th; however, due to a few scheduling challenges, we had to postpone our Tartan Day celebration until Saturday April 29th. The Williamsburg Pipes and Drums (WPAD) and members of the Newport News Police Department Pipes and Drums and a member from the Winchester Pipes and Drums gave a great concert in front of the Bruton Parish Gift Shop. During the society lunch, we enjoyed hearing songs from Sarah Taylor, lead soprano at the Bruton Parish Church choir, wonderful Scottish fiddle playing by Dave Gardner, a well-known professional Scottish fiddler, and enjoyed Scottish dancing by Brooke Braden - a student at William & Mary. We also learned about Scottish signers of the Declaration of Independence, History of the Tartan, and Scottish settlers in Colonial America. After our lunch, several society members joined WPAD in their event at Copper Fox Distillery for a tour and whiskey tasting and enjoyed more music by the WPAD.

Founders Day — Saturday May 13 at Fords Colony. This is the 55th year of our society – Doors open at 11:00am, welcome at 11:20, Buffet starts at

11:45 and the program about SASW and the Ken Graham Educational and Charitable Fund. Thank you Bruce Schoch for arranging this event. Last day to register is May 5th, \$40 per person for buffet and a cash bar. If you have not paid Bruce already you can pay at the door with cash or check. More information is on the Society webpage at <https://www.scotsofwmbg.org/news>. Contact Bruce Schoch to let him know if you want to attend – his email is: culloden@aol.com.

Don't forget - Mothers Day is May 14th!

Things always slow down over the summer. Committees will be busy planning and organizing for the remainder of the year and into January 2024 for Burns Night. Burns Night is celebrated each year in Scotland to mark the birth of legendary poet Robert "Rabbie" Burns. He is widely regarded as the national poet of Scotland and is celebrated worldwide.

We're always looking for volunteers to join various committees, having computer skills, like working with spreadsheets, is a plus. We can always use help at our events with setup, teardown, and storing all the Society gear – flags, banners, tartans, electronic equipment and so forth. If interested, please reach out to any board member. Also, there are opportunities to join the Board starting in January 2024. The three year term for four of our board members is up at the end of this year. Membership will be reaching out to society members asking to join the board. That committee will meet late this summer and we would love to have your name.

Yours aye,
Jerry Lelansky (maternal ancestry is Anstruther)

Burns Supper January 2023 – from President Jerry Lelansky

We had a great Burns Night at Fords Colony on January 21st. Many thanks to Tim Cordle, our Master of Ceremonies and the Burns Night committee; to Douglas Boller for his Address to the Haggis and Toast to the Haggis as well as his explanation and recital of Tam O'Shanter; and thank you Lianne Boller for the slide presentations and designing the Burns Nights night program. Thanks to Terri Cordle and Marshall Thomas for taking pictures and thanks to Terri and Anna, Tim and Terri's daughter, for handling the registration table. Our silent auction exceeded all expectations, and I want to thank Sherri Cornoni for managing it. Once again Russ Madigan, our Quartermaster, did the yeoman's share of the work setting up and tearing down everything needed for the successful event. Thanks to several others that made the evening a success. Also, thank you Poison Dwarf and last, but definitely not least, a huge thank you to the Williamsburg Pipes and Drums band for their performance.



Douglas Boller turns the Presidency over to Jerry Lelansky (L)



The Lads

Douglas Boller
addresses the Haggis





Williamsburg Pipes & Drums (above) & Color Guard (below) Terri photos





**The Lassies
Terri photo**

Pub Night



Jackson Humphreys, left, and Peter Fox, right, gave a lively and informative audio/visual presentation of their Fall semester studies taken at St. Andrew's University in Scotland to the St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg. Humphrey and Fox are completing their Junior year at William and Mary. The program was presented at the Society's monthly "Pub Night" gathering currently held at Anna's Brick Oven on Richmond Road.

Photo by Michael Thompson



Grove Christian Outreach Center, 6 April 2023

On 6 April the Society visited the Grove Christian Outreach Center and donated numerous food and hygiene products to the outreach center for distribution to the less fortunate. This is now a yearly event. The outreach staff were delighted with our contributions..

Photo by Andy McGowan.



British Car Show, 22 April 2023

On April 22 the Williamsburg British Car Club sponsored a car show in the parking lot next to Revolution Golf and Grille. This was a charitable event with part of the proceeds donated to the Arc of Greater Williamsburg.

This was a fine car show with plenty of shiny British antique cars.

Several members and guests of St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg attended informally just for fun. Please see the photo below which shows SASW President Jerry Lelansky and friends admiring one of the cars .



Kirking of the Tartans, 23 April 2023

On April 23 the Society held a Kirking of the Tartans at the Historic Christ Church in Weems, Virginia. A Kirking of the Tartans is a Scottish-American tradition where family tartans are presented at a church (Kirk) service for blessing. Below is a photo of SASW members before the Historic Christ Church. This is always a moving experience.

From left to right: Harley Stewart, Bob Davis, Jerry Lelansky (President), Irene Lelansky (Board member), Russ Madigan (Sergeant at Arms), and Daryl Johnson.

Photo credit Jerry Lelansky.



Tartan Day, 29 April 2023

On April 29 the Society celebrated Tartan Day with a parade along DOG Street from the palace green to Bruton Parish House. Williamsburg Pipes and Drums and other pipers from across the state performed a concert there. It was followed by a light lunch for Society members and guests, and an engaging Scottish program. The program included Scottish fiddle music by Dave Gardner, Scottish dancing by Brooke Braden, Scottish songs by Sarah Taylor, a history of the tartans by Jim Murphy, a talk on Scottish settlers in America by John Scott and Auld Lang Syne by Douglas Boller and all present. John Scott was master of ceremonies and President Jerry Lelansky gave the opening remarks. This was a satisfying, fun event.





Jerry Lelansky, Russ Madigan, Jimmy McCarter, John Scott





Sarah Taylor (above)



Sarah and David Gardner



Brooke Braden



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.