



# The Spectator

The Quarterly Newsletter of Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Spring 2009

## President's Message

Lads and Lassies,

June 28, 2009

If it's hot, hazy, humid and thunderstorms every afternoon it must be Tidewater Virginia in the summer.

Let's recap the year so far, we celebrated National Tartan Day at a "Food for Thought" with a nice presentation from Harold Maxwell. Harold shared his knowledge of history and genealogy, and he's on my short list for making other presentations. I especially like his information on his own DNA studies. Our next expedition was up to the Northern Neck for the Kirkin' o' the Tartans at historic Christ Church. Many thanks to our dear friend Jim Stuart, Christ Church Episcopal Church, and all the folks that helped make it a wonderful service. This year, as in the past, we were supported by Scottish Societies from Norfolk and Richmond; my personal thanks go out to each of them. If you have never been before please mark your calendar for next year, it's well worth the trip. Lunch was much fun at Eckhard's Restaurant with a very lively group of Scots and new friends. My thanks to both committees for a job well done.

Now we come to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Family Picnic and Ceilidh. This has become an annual production from Howard & Carolyn Inc. Not only was it fun and the food selection outstanding, but my grandson (age 4) found the girl of his dreams, please no details. We started our ceilidh this year with a great Scottish Sing-a-long by our own Von Topp Family Singers with the able assistance of our friends Bill and Agnes Kump adding the harmonies. Bridget's Thistle and Shamrock



Dancers performed along with the Williamsburg Pipes and Drums to get us in that highland mood. Many thanks to Howard, Carolyn, and the committee for putting on another excellent event. One note of interest, the new Society membership lapel pins and necklace charms went on sale for the first time. They will be available at all of our events for now on at a price of \$10.00.

We are just about at the half way point for this year so let's make sure we know the schedule for the next upcoming events:

We have a luncheon planned for August 16 at the King's Arms in Colonial Williamsburg, details to follow.

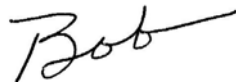
Please join us at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Williamsburg Scottish Festival on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Rockahock Campgrounds in Lanexa. Many members of your Board have been deeply involved with this Festival over the years and can state that it is one of the premiere Scottish Festivals on the East Coast. If you have never been, please mark your calendars for an excellent tour of Scotland in culture, history, entertainment and food. Make it a point to stop by "your" Society Tent on Clan Row for good food and cheer. Our Society founded the Festival over 30 years ago and we look forward to seeing you there.

A special presentation by Billy Kennedy, noted author, journalist, lecturer, historian and genealogist from County Armagh, Northern Ireland. His latest book is [Three Men of Destiny: Andrew Jackson, Sam Houston and David Crockett \(Scots-Irish Chronicles\)](#) about three men of destiny in 19th century American history. This event will be held at the Windsor Forest Clubhouse on October 18<sup>th</sup> at noon. Save the date and look for an invitation in September.

In November we will have our Annual General Meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the Kirkin' o' the Tartan scheduled for the 29<sup>th</sup>. Again this year we will have a Christmas Luncheon in December and our Annual Burns' Nicht Dinner of course will be in January.

Have a happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July and great summer.

Yours Aye,



*Bob Davis*  
*Clan Donnachaidh*  
*Clan Kennedy*  
*Clan MacFarlane*

## Tartan Day Luncheon

The Society celebrated Tartan Day 2009 with a luncheon April 4 at the Food for Thought restaurant. Attendance was outstanding. More than 40 members and guests showed up and the restaurant staff had to work extra tables and chairs into the large private room up front. The menu at the Food for Thought was tempting and the food was delicious. After the meal the Society's genealogist Harold Maxwell gave an interesting and insightful talk on Tartan Day. This was a very successful event and many people were there who we do not often see, so it was a fun session all around.

**The guests look over the menu at the Food for Thought.**







**The Front Table (above). Harold Maxwell speaks (below).**





**We all enjoyed the food and the good fellowship.**





## **Kirkin' o' the Tartans**

On Sunday April 26 our Society joined other local Scottish heritage organizations in a regional gathering at Historic Christ Church, Irvington, for a church service featuring a Kirking of the Tartans. The event included delegations from our own Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg, the Saint Andrew's Society of Richmond, the Scottish Society of Richmond, the Scottish Society of Tidewater, the Tidewater Saint Andrew's Society, the Williamsburg Scottish Festival and the Foundation for Historic Christ Church.

It was a clear sunny spring morning and the Church was full for the ceremony. After earlier coffee and pastries the service began with the entry of the Color Guard and the Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band, which provided special music during the service and the blessing of the tartans. Following the service the pipe band presented a gala band recital under the trees by the Church main gate. A luncheon followed at Eckhard's Restaurant on Route 3.

Following are photos taken during the event by Jamie Griffin.







**The Color Guard and the Pipe Band enter the Church**







**The Killmarnock and District Pipe Band perform after the service.**

### **The St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg's First Kirkin'**

With our Spring Kirkin' o' the Tartans at historic Christ Church in Irvington in May and our own at the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church in November, I am reminded of our first St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg Kirkin'. It was held on May 23d, 1969 at the Williamsburg Baptist Church on Richmond Road. The Reverend Thomas Pugh, then the pastor at the church, was intrigued with the idea of the Kirkin' o' the Tartans and invited the society to hold a Kirkin' at his church. President Bob Duncan readily accepted on behalf of the society.

Several of us had been to other Kirkin's previously and had a pretty good idea as to how the event was to be conducted. However, when the officers of the St. Andrew's Society of Washington invited our society to attend their Kirkin' the previous November, it gave us an opportunity to see how that society performed the service. I acted as the chauffer for Bob Duncan and Dave Shepherd, driving Bob's Caddy on a trip to the Washington Cathedral for the event. The Kirkin' was spectacular within the stately cathedral, but far grander than anything we intended. Regardless, it gave us a program on which to base our own Kirkin'. Bob and Pastor Pugh worked out the details and established how the actual Kirkin' itself was to be performed and integrated into the church's regular 11 a.m. service. The Reverend Walter Kennedy of



First Presbyterian Church in Newport News would assist in the blessing of the Tartans, as well.

This Kirkin' was held before Lt. Col. Alex Matheson the Canadian liaison officer at Fort Monroe and the Rev. Dr. Jim Forrester formed the "St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg Pipes and Drums." The current Williamsburg Pipes and Drums is the lineal descendant organization of that original pipe band. Everyone agreed that the presence of the pipes was essential for a proper Kirkin', but where to find them? The solution was found down the road in Newport News. Warwick High School had the "Warwick Grenadiers Pipe Band" at that time and they were invited to participate in the procession in and out of the church. At the conclusion of the service, the pipe band also delighted the attendees and the passers-by on Richmond Road with a short performance of Scottish tunes in front of the church.

Since the society was only a year old and many of our members had yet to purchase Highland Daywear, those not possessing Scottish attire were given Royal Stewart baldrics to provide a "touch o' the Tartan." The event flowed smoothly that day and has pretty much been the template for the St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg's Kirkin' ever since that time.

Courtesy Howard Topp.

### **Family Picnic and Ceilidh**

The Society's latest Family Picnic and Ceilidh was at the Queen's Lake Clubhouse on June 7, and it was a memorable experience for family and friends. The event was an unqualified success with more than seventy adults attending. The gathering filled the clubhouse with stirring bagpipe and drum marches from the Williamsburg Pipes and Drums, beautiful melodies from Kathy Kasley and her Scottish harp, an exciting highland dancing exhibition from the students of Bridget (Glassen) Boswell, and a traditional sing-along to guitars and tambourines, with our own rock star Howard Topp cutting loose on his guitar. The buffet feast was delicious, amazing and seemingly endless. That was good food! The Society and numerous guests had a very enjoyable afternoon. It was so good to see so many old friends. Some photos follow. Please see [www.scotsofwmbg.org](http://www.scotsofwmbg.org) for more photos from this event.



**Howard Topp rocks on out and the highland dancing girls charge up the crowd.**







**The buffet was a big attraction. The Williamsburg Pipes and Drums raised the roof.**





**The SAS Politburo grins for the paparazzi: Bob Davis and Wayne Craigmiles (above); Howard Topp and Jim Anthony (below)**



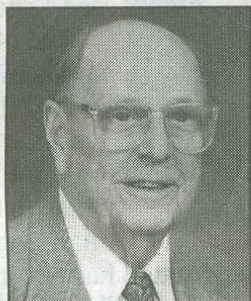


## Flowers of the Forest - Millard McKinsey

A long-time former Society member, LTC Millard McKinsey, passed away on March 12 at age 94. His obituary appeared in the Times-Dispatch and Gazette. He was an early member, joining in the early '70s and active until advancing age prevented his participation. He was part of the "Queens Lake crowd" of members, led by Paul Ritchie and Henry Wann. He was in his 90s and his obituary lists his membership in the society. We will never forget him.

### *Millard F. McKinsey*

Retired Army Lt. Colonel Millard F. McKinsey of Williamsburg, died in Sandston on March 12, 2009 at the age of 94. He was a Hampton native and a graduate of Hampton High School and Virginia Technology Institute.



Col. McKinsey was a veteran of World War II and the Koran Conflict. His military citations include the Bronze Star, Army Commendation medal and eight Service Medals. He served three years at Georgia Tech as commanding officer of the Artillery Branch, ROTC Program.

After serving a second tour of duty in Korea and Japan, he was assigned to Headquarters Third U. S. Army in Atlanta, Georgia. He retired from the Army after serving four years on the staff with a total of twenty-one years. After his military retirement, Colonel McKinsey moved with his family to Williamsburg, Virginia. He retired from civil service with eleven years service as a supervisor mechanical engineer at the Naval Mine Engineering Facility in Yorktown, Virginia.

He was a member of the Williamsburg United Methodist Church, the Virginia Tech Alumni Association and Old Guard, and the Saint Andrews Society of Williamsburg.

Survivors include his loving wife, Syliva of 66 years; a son, Millard F. McKinsey, Jr. and his wife, Kathleen, of Sandston, Virginia; two granddaughters, Barbara M. Seay of Covington, Georgia, and Rebecca M. Cruce and husband, Mark Cruce of Madison, Georgia; sister, Virginia M. Johnson of Hampton currently residing in Williamsburg; three great-grandchildren, Grace and Clay Cruce and Austin Seay.

The family will receive friends on Monday, March 16, 2009, 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. at Nelsen Funeral Home, 3785 Strawberry Plains Road, Williamsburg, Va. A graveside service with full Military honors will be held at 3:00 p.m. in the Chapel Mausoleum, Parklawn Memorial Park, Armstead Ave. in Hampton, Virginia. Memorial gifts may be made to the Williamsburg United Methodist Church, P.O. Box BB, Williamsburg, Virginia. Nelsen Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. On-line condolences may be registered at [www.nelsencares.com](http://www.nelsencares.com).

March 14, 2009

The Virginia Gazette

## Flowers of the Forest – Margaret Garrison

Margaret Garrison passed away on March 19. She was the wife of Ken Garrison, a long-time SAS member. Ken and Margaret were good friends of many SAS members. Ken was a member since 1983 and served on the Board several times. We mourn Margaret's passing.

### Margaret Garrison

Member, Grace Episcopal

Margaret White Garrison, 85, died peacefully on March 19, 2009.

She was a Newport News native and attended Stonewall Jackson Elementary School and



The Virginia Gazette March 25, 2009

Newport News High School, graduating in the Class of February

1942. She was a member of Grace Episcopal Church in Yorktown where she served on the Altar Guild and Canterbury Circle and volunteered in the church bookstore.

She was an active member of the Women's Club of Warwick and a member of the PEO Sisterhood, chapter S, Virginia. She was also a former member of the Riverside Regional Medical Center Auxiliary, York Republican Women's Club, and served on the Yorktown Bicentennial Committee.

In addition, she was a member of the Comte de Grasse chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was a

member of the Guild of the Peninsula Fine Arts Center and volunteered in the gift shop.

Mrs. Garrison will always be remembered as a loving and devoted wife, mother and grandmother. Her kind and gentle soul touched all whom she met, and her memory will live forever in their hearts.

She is survived by her husband of over 66 years, George Kenneth Garrison; three daughters: Margaret Ann Bevelacqua and her husband, Jimmy, of Seaford, Laurie Blanton-Coleman and her husband, Bobby, of Seaford, and Linda Spurling of Fredericksburg; two granddaughters, Lisa Siceloff and her husband, Steve, of Palm Bay, Fla., and Rebecca Grizzle and her husband, Scott, of San Antonio, Texas; two grandsons, Mason Jones of Boise, Idaho, and Taylor Blanton of Seaford; and three great-grandchildren, Evan, Sophia and Alex.

The family received friends on March 23 at Amory Funeral Home in Grafton. Funeral services were held at Grace Episcopal Church in Yorktown at 2 p.m. March 24. Interment at the Grace Church cemetery was followed by a reception in the church parish hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Grace Church Building Fund, PO Box 123, Yorktown, VA 23690.



### **Flowers of the Forest – Stuart Mackenzie Jr.**

Stuart was a long-time- member of St. Andrew's Society. He passed away on May 13, 2009. We will certainly miss him.



**Stuart and Barbara**

## STUART ARTHUR MACKENZIE JR.

**WILLIAMSBURG** - Stuart Arthur MacKenzie Jr. passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 13, 2009.

He was born on Jan. 20, 1944, in Baltimore, Md., to Stuart A. MacKenzie and Marie Christine Totaro. He was educated at St. Thomas More School in Arlington, Va., and St. Louis High School in Hawaii. He received his B.S. degree from the University of Dayton and his Masters degree from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Stuart proudly served for 20 years in the United States Army Corps of Engineers until his retirement in 1987. He then worked as a Defense Contractor in the Northern Virginia area, and in 2004, retired to Williamsburg, Va. He was an active member of Saint Bede Catholic Church and proudly volunteered as a docent at the Mariner's Museum in Newport News, and Jamestown National Historical Park. He was president of the Ford's Colony Model Railroad Club and a member of the St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg.


Stu was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. He lived each moment of his life to its fullest through his love of family, friends, and his hobbies.

Stu is survived by his wife of 43 years, Barbara Edwards MacKenzie; three children, Anne MacKenzie Kotraba, Lynn MacKenzie Iovino and Stuart Arthur MacKenzie III; his mother-in-law, Constance Edwards; daughter-in-law, Beverly MacKenzie; sons-in-law, Jon Kotraba and Michael Iovino; five grandsons, Joshua, Iain, Braden, Jack and Tanner; brothers, Douglas Glen MacKenzie and Alan James MacKenzie; sisters-in-law, Kris MacKenzie and Gail MacKenzie; nieces, Jeannine Domedion, Laura Crouch, and Molly MacKenzie; and nephew, Kevin MacKenzie.

Visitation will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, May 18, at the Nelsen Funeral Home, 3785 Strawberry Plains Rd., Williamsburg. A Mass of the Christian burial will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 19, at St. Bede Catholic Church, 3686 Ironbound Rd., Williamsburg, Va.

Memorial Contributions in Stu's honor can be made to the Endowment Fund for the Peninsula Cancer Institute (PCI), 120 Kings Way, Suite 3100, Williamsburg, VA 23185.

On-line condolences may be registered at [www.nelsencares.com](http://www.nelsencares.com).

View and post condolences on our online guestbook at [dailypress.com/guestbooks](http://dailypress.com/guestbooks). 





# Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

PO Box 533, Williamsburg VA 23187

## 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.