



# The Spectator

The Quarterly Newsletter of Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Summer, 2005

## From the President

Gentlemen:

I have not been actively involved in the business of President for the last two weeks. After our vacation in St. Maarten, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June I began to feel ill and spent the weekend in bed with flu like symptoms. An uncharacteristic visit to the doctor gave a diagnosis of gastroenteritis which I faithfully took some pills for. By the 24<sup>th</sup> I was short of breath and was referred to the Emergency Room and subsequently admitted with acute (not) atypical double pneumonia. At this point I am really sick, fever 101.8. After massive amounts of antibiotics I was released from the hospital July 1<sup>st</sup> and I have been recuperating at home since. The disease is at bay but it will take awhile to rebuild my stamina to move around. The day after I was home I learned from an informant in the hospital that a test came back indicating I had Legionnaires Disease. So I am one of the 80% who survive the disease. At this time I am mentally ready to do anything and eat anything I did not have on the hospital menu. I kept calling the man who brought my food tray, the Dominoes Man. But he never took the hint.

My only clue as to where I picked up the bacteria would be that it was in the Princess Juliana Airport departure area. The area was packed with our airplane load and another flight that had been canceled. We were sitting under an air conditioner vent in the only cool area of the departure area. It was too hot and humid in the airport and it is impossible to tell if the a/c was



spitting up on us. Margie who was beside me all the time has not been affected, luckily. So far, the health department and the CDC have not been in touch and do not seem very concerned. So your tax dollars are at work as usual. Isn't that a comforting feeling? I am just glad the doctors guessed it might, without telling us, be Legionnaires and treated it as such. A shotgun shot in the dark beats no shot at all. I can only suggest that no one lap up the condensate in an air-conditioner or breathe any unsanctioned A/C aerosol mist.

I hope all of you are in good health, Yours aye, Lynn Newcomer

### **Winter Luncheon**

The SAS Winter Luncheon was held February 28, 2005 at the Port of York Coast Guard Training Center in York. The Senior Student Dining Facility is the old officer's club, and it has a spectacular view of the York River. Outside it was a cold, wet day with grey skies, but inside the dining hall was a delight. For only \$6.50 we feasted on a generous and delicious main course with veggies, soup, salad, cold drinks and coffee and several yummy desserts. I wanted to try all the desserts but managed to restrain myself. Attendance was good, and we were happy to see the ladies turn out in force. This was a leisurely lunch and a time for relaxing conversation with old friends.



**The ladies came in force to the Winter Luncheon**

## **Tartan Day at the Swem Library**

William & Mary's Rare Books Collection at the Swem Library hosted Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg for Tartan Day. April 6, 2005. There was a very good turnout and the guests were greeted at the door of the library by Lynn Newcomer serenading them on the bagpipes. Inside, W & M archivist Stacy Gould gave a fascinating talk on the Scottish connection to William & Mary, and showed us around the rare books display. Bob Young showed us a film, *The Crafter's Song*, about Scottish crafts and artisans. Refreshments and wine were courtesy of Clem Brown, Bob Young and Jim White. The Rare Books area has some amazing original books, including two copies of *Wealth of Nations*. Also on display was the original U.S. Senate proclamation of April 6 as Tartan Day.



**Lynn Newcomer lures visitors into the Swem Library**



**Archivist Stacey Gould shows us some rare books**



**Stacey's pride and joy, the "Harry Potter Display" of the College Mace, the Marischal Mace (from Aberdeen, Scotland) and the Chancellor's and Rector's chains and badges of office.**

## **Kirking of the Tartans at Christ Church**

What a spectacular day! April 17, 2005 was a bright, clear, sunny day, just a little cool, at Historic Christ Church, Irvington. Christ Church was the venue for St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg to gather for the Kirking of the Tartans. It was great to see all our old friends again, dressed in their Scottish finery. The Rev. Dr. Howard Hanchey gave the sermon and the blessing of the tartans was done to the sound of 'When the Battles O'er' on the pipes and drums. A lone piper then played 'Flowers of the Forest' in memory of those Scots who died last year. After the ceremony the Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band held a stirring concert under the trees outside the church. They roused our spirits with traditional tunes such as 'Scotland the Brave', 'The Black Bear' and many other haunting melodies as well. It was almost a mystical experience, gathering under those shady trees in that dappled sunlight, listening to the music of our ancestors. Cheers for the Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band!



**The SAS Color Guard and leadership gathers at Christ Church**



**A lone piper, Jim Stuart of Kilmarnock, plays Flowers of the Forest in Historic Christ Church**



**Wreathed in sunlight, the Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band rouses our spirits**

## Spring Luncheon

For the May 25, 2005 Spring Luncheon, SAS headed back to the Port of York Coast Guard Training Center in York. The combination of a spectacular view, good food and warm fellowship made for a relaxing lunch. Attendance was good, and Jim White was snapping photos for your editor, who had to miss this event.



**Attendees enjoy the feast at the Spring Luncheon.**



**The view of the York River from the Port of York**

**Book Review - Robert the Bruce: King of Scots, by Ronald McNair Scott, Carroll & Graff Publishers, Inc, New York, 1982. Reviewed by Lynn Newcomer**

Forget Braveheart and all that crap.

The life and career of Robert the Bruce, who died of natural causes at age 55, has been well told numerous times, but this book still is able to engage the reader. Just dying of natural causes in the middle ages is an accomplishment in itself.



The book makes good use of the 24 primary sources from the middle ages while balancing obviously biased English sources. King Edward I is portrayed accurately as the consummate ruthless and ambitious tyrant he was in his age. Edwards' ambition to dominate a politically divided Scotland is well illustrated and not far off if you saw the movie Braveheart. Young Edward II is just as flawed and self centered as you might expect and only like his father in one way, his attitude toward the Scots and the desire to grab Scotland.

The role of William Wallace in the late 1200's is related matter of factly and he is credited for keeping the spirit of Scottish independence alive while Robert the Bruce is growing up in the house of his father, also Robert the Bruce, and becoming an accomplished warrior and politician. Part of the problem attaining a united Scotland is based on the feudal system itself because Scottish nobles held lands in both England and Scotland and owed fealty to two crowns. Nobles were faced with a loyalty to Scotland but did not want to lose their lucrative estates in England by supporting a Scottish national agenda. One of the later developments is a proposal by Bruce to end the holding of estates in both countries.

Bannockburn is explained from the social and military aspects. Without repeating an often told tale the clans fighting there were; Cameron, Campbell, Chisholm, Fraser, Gordon, Gunn, McKay, MacIntosh, MacPherson, MacQuarrie, MacLean, MacDonald, MacFarlane, McGregor, McKenzie, Menzies, Monroe, Robertson, Ross, Sinclair, and Sutherland.

Edward II is a tragic story. He starts out his reign by not following his Father's dying wish to have his heart conveyed to Jerusalem and his bones to be conveyed into Scotland and not buried until Scotland was captured. Instead Edward II immediately dumped his body at Waltham Abbey to await future burial and made weak progress into Scotland before going back to England. Eventually Edward II is deposed by his nobles and killed in a delightful manner. A sheep shank bone is shoved up his rectum and a red hot poker is inserted to cauterize his bowels in order that he would die without surface injuries.

The real contribution of Robert the Bruce is that he saved Scottish independence in spite the sociopath Edward I, and gave Scotland a generation of peace to become a kingdom and begin to develop an

economy. This book concisely tells the political, social, and military events, and is worth a quick read.

### **Upcoming Event: Williamsburg Scottish Festival & Celtic Celebration, September 24, 2005**



Yes! It's here again! This is Williamsburg's primary Scottish heritage event! It is once again to be held at the Jamestown Beach Campsites, an excellent venue as demonstrated last year. Saturday, September 24 is the date and the timing is from 9 AM to 5 PM. Reserve this date and get high on your Scottish heritage. There's so much planned you won't be able to see it all, or at least not all at once: a "pub tent" with nationally known Celtic bands, piping, drumming and band competitions, dance competitions, the parade of clans, whiskey tasting, exhibitions, shopping, sheep dog herding, girl-watching, athletic competitions, Scottish & Irish vendors, the massed pipe bands, girl-watching, clan gatherings, Scotch/Irish food, music, beer, re-enactment groups, spinning and weaving demonstrations, harp competition, girl-watching and evening Ceilidhs. But don't take my word for it, go on-line at [www.wsonline.org](http://www.wsonline.org) and see for yourself! Admission is \$10 for adults. See you there!

#### **Kathy Lare, Kiltmaker**

Byron Adams recently received some interesting news about New Mexico's only certified kiltmaker, Kathy Lare. Kathy studied under master kiltmaker Robert McBain of the Keith Kilt School in Keith, northern Scotland, where she earned the Scottish Qualifications Authority Award in Traditional Handcraft and Kilt Making Skills. According to Celene Adams of New Mexico Business Weekly, Kathy is the only kiltmaker in the USA who knows how to make a traditional "military box-pleat" kilt. Her business is

growing rapidly. Give Kathy's website a look-see at <http://www.kathyskilts.com/>



**Kathy's Kilts**

### **Scottish Humor**

Following are the first eight Scottish jokes on the website [http://www.humorsphere.com/humor/scottish\\_jokes.htm](http://www.humorsphere.com/humor/scottish_jokes.htm) . Visit the site for more! It's free!

A Scot is the only man on earth who would step over the bodies of a dozen bronzed naked beauties just to get to a glass of whiskey.

A Glaswegian stops before a graveyard in a Gorbals cemetery, and notices a carved tombstone declaring, "Here lies a lawyer and an honest man..."  
"Ach, who'd ever think..." he murmured, "there'd be enough room fer two men in that one wee grave..."

How do you disperse an angry Scottish mob?  
Nae bother - just take up a collection.

3 guys, 1 Irish, 1 English and 1 Scotch, are walking along the beach one day and come across a lantern and a Genie pops out of it.

"I give you each one wish, that's three wishes in total", says the Genie.

The Irish guy says, "I am a fisherman, my Dad's a fisherman, his Dad was a fisherman and my son will be one too. I want all the oceans full of fish for all eternity." So, with a blink of the Genie's eye "AlKaZoom" the oceans were teeming with fish.

The English guy was amazed, so he said, "I want a wall around England, protecting her, so that nothing will get in for all eternity.

Again, with a blink of the Genie's eye "AlkaZoom - POOF" there was a huge wall around England. The Scot asks, "I'm very curious. Please tell me more about this wall."

The Genie explains, "Well, it's about 150 feet high, 50 feet thick, protecting England so that nothing can get in or out."

The Scot says, "Ach, fill it up with water."

What do you call a Scots woman with one leg?

Eileen.

An Englishman, an Irishman and a Scotsman were standing looking at a prize cow in a field.

The Englishman says "Look at that fine English cow."

The Irishman disagreed, saying "No, it's an Irish cow."

The Scotsman thought for a moment and then clinched the argument. "No, it's a Scottish cow - it's got bagpipes underneath!"

Jock decided to call his father-in-law the "Exorcist" cuz every time he came to visit he made the spirits disappear!

How do you get a Highlander onto the roof?

Tell him the drinks are on the house.

## The Black Watch

Don't forget Scottish soldiers have been fighting side by side with our own troops in Iraq. Following are some photos of Black Watch troopers, taken in Iraq in 2004. May God bless and watch over all Allied forces fighting the war against evil.



**Photos: The Age (above), Guardian (below)**





Photos: [news.station.lu](http://news.station.lu) (left),  
Daily Texan (below)



## Application for Membership



# Saint Andrew's Society

Application for Membership

P. O. Box 533  
Williamsburg, Virginia  
23187

1. Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  2. Date and Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_
  3. Schools/Colleges: \_\_\_\_\_
  4. Business or Profession: \_\_\_\_\_
  5. Wife's Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  6. Names and Ages of Children: \_\_\_\_\_
- 
7. Address: \_\_\_\_\_
  8. Telephone [s]: \_\_\_\_\_
  9. E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_
  10. Years at Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_

11. Legacy Application? [Yes] [No] [If Yes, Father's or Grandfather's Name] \_\_\_\_\_  
*{A Legacy member is the son or grandson of an Active Member, in good standing, or the son or grandson of a deceased former member, who is age eighteen [18] through twenty-one [21]. Admission fees are waived for Legacy Members; however, annual dues are required.}*

12. Membership in other Professional or Social Organizations: \_\_\_\_\_

13. Nature of Scottish Family Connections [documents not required]: \_\_\_\_\_

14. Any Visits to Scotland—Frequency and Purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

15. General Scottish Interest [History, Literature, Arts, Etc.] \_\_\_\_\_

16. Clan Association[s]: \_\_\_\_\_

17. Membership in Clan Organization or other Scottish Society: \_\_\_\_\_

18. What Tartan[s] do you wear? \_\_\_\_\_

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

To the best of our knowledge, the above applicant is of sound character and is entirely suitable for membership in the Society. He 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: Check for initiation and first year's dues {\$60.00} \_\_\_\_\_ Small photograph suitable for digitization into Membership Directory \_\_\_\_\_ Current local address and telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Verification of Legacy Member Eligibility: \_\_\_\_\_