



The Spectator

The Quarterly Newsletter of Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg

Fall/Winter 2022

President's Message

Lassies and Lads,

With the leaves on my backyard oak trees almost all down now I pause to think of what a great year we've enjoyed celebrating the Scottish heritage that brings us together. And what a wonderful way to bring our Society year to a close with that terrific December Christmas party at Fords Colony thanks to Tim Cordle's organizing skill, Holly Yohe's hilariously brain-taxing left/right gift exchange, and David Gardner's fiddle virtuosity.

Of the many high points this year I can't fail to mention the prominent role that the Williamsburg Pipes and Drums have played during our gatherings. In addition to being regularly featured at annual events like Burns Supper, Founders' Day, and Kirking, they successfully expanded their numbers for Tartan and Jubilee Days, and the Williamsburg Christmas Parade by inviting members from other local bands to join them. Ensuing skirls and drumbeats allowed Society members to march along more proudly, and plans are afoot for an even larger band next Tartan Day.

Another feature of this year has been the record number of new members, all of whom have been enthusiastically welcomed into our Society functions. Recognizing that interest in Scottish culture and traditions is as important as ancestry for membership, our associate member numbers are growing.

Halloween Pub Night, well attended at new venue Anna's Brick Oven, bore stunning testament to members' costume imagination putting the lie to Scots being dour. You can see the results on our website, giving me again the opportunity to thank Marshall Thomas for so ably maintaining

this, and also Terri Cordle for making sure our events are well covered. We're all indebted also to Mary and Jim Murphy for so successfully organizing pub nights this year.

Dreich is the Scots word for the weather on St Andrew's Day when a new tradition was begun as members marked the date by bringing food donations to Grove Christian Outreach. The miserable rain did not deter enthusiasm to effectively bracket this foray to that of efforts on Tartan Day in the Society's pursuit of charity ventures.

The Fall Kirking at the Williamsburg Presbyterian Church gave a fine turnout of members a thought provoking sermon by the visiting preacher who provided an original focus on a global tartan inclusivity theme. The tartans were not only blessed, but inspired members' buoyant mood through the afternoon's Annual Meeting at Windsor Forest clubhouse. This was nicely prepared for our activities thanks to the team efforts of Michael Thompson, Rod MacGillivray and Clay McEldowney. Members' culinary skills were much evidenced by the multiplicity of dishes brought to lunch with the salmon prepared on Jimmy McCarter's smoker possibly achieving pride of place. Included in the day's activities, and receiving unanimous approval, was the announcement of Jerry Lelansky as Scot of the Year, recognizing the enthusiastic energy Jerry brings to his many efforts for our Society. An enjoyable day was brought to a close with the traditional whisky tasting; our palettes educated by Bob Davis and Tim Cordle.

After an eleven year hiatus our Society joined the ranks of the December Williamsburg Christmas Parade and once again our involvement was largely due to the hard organizational work of Jerry Lelansky. His team included Vicki and John Scott, Holly Yohe, Jim Murphy and Russ Madigan. Nessie, the Loch Ness Monster, proudly graced the Society's float to the delight of the surprisingly large crowd lining the parade route, in nighttime darkness since start time was 5 pm. That Nessie and our new banner and members were visible, was thanks to new member Chris McPherson's loaned generator. Inevitably the massed pipe band leading the way roused the appreciation of the crowd .

In closing I remind you that this is an unusual Board handover. Since we reduced the board term from four years to three, the new 2023 board will number twelve, as opposed to sixteen. As a result, as a onetime event, eight members now step down, and I would like to thank the outgoing Board, Rod MacGillivray, Sherri Cornoni, Russ Madigan, Mary Murphy, Jim Murphy, Mott Robertson and Wayne Glass for their work. The new 2023 Board members, as announced at the AGM, are Vicki Scott, Jerry Lelansky, John Scott and Jimmy McCarter. The officers for 2023, as voted at the December Board are: Jerry Lelansky, President; Tim Cordle, Vice-President; Vicki Scott, Secretary; Doug Burns, Treasurer. Going forward we have a very strong Board and I have full confidence that our Society will continue to flourish.

It has truly been an honor to have served as your President, and my heart is warmed in the confidence that "Auld Acquaintance" will not be Forgot. For Auld Lang Syne. Merry Christmas and Happy Hogmanay.

Douglas Boller, 2022 President

Pub Night/Halloween October 27, 2022

Here are some pix taken at the Society's Halloween Pub Night at Anna's Brick Oven on October 27. It was a wild night and attendance was high!





Holly pix



Mary pix



Kirking of the Tartan and Annual General Meeting, November 13 2022

On Sunday November 13, 2022 Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg gathered at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church for the church service and the Kirking of the Tartans. 45 Society members attended in full Scottish attire, along with Williamsburg Pipes and Drums. The pipe band performed a sidewalk concert after the inspiring service.

Following are a few pix taken at the Kirking.



Terri foto



Terri fotos



In the afternoon of the same day as the Kirking, November 13, the Society held its 2022 Annual General Meeting at the Windsor Forest Clubhouse to summarize the year and plan for next year. During the festive event the annual Scot of the Year Award was presented to Jerry Lelansky for his outstanding performance in 2022 for the Society. The photo below shows Society President Douglas Boller (left) presenting the award to Jerry Lelansky.





New Society members (above)



SASW at Grove Christian Outreach Center

The Society celebrated November 30, Saint Andrew's Day by making food donations to Grove Christian Outreach Center as we did last Tartan Day. It rained hard but that didn't stop our members who delight in a little cold Scottish rain. We gave 380 pounds of food for this charity, as one of our objectives is "to engage in activities that support local charities." Grove Christian Outreach Center is always grateful and gracious.





President Douglas Boller

Joint Williamsburg-Yorktown SAR Installation

At the joint Williamsburg—Yorktown SAR Installation Dinner last Saturday, nearly a third of the male attendees wore Highland Dress, including a number from SASW of Williamsburg—Duncan, Tom Campbell, Harley, me, and Bob Davis.

Pretty strong cultural statement. Please see pix below.

Thanks, Tim



Joint Williamsburg-Yorktown SAR Installation

Parade Planning



I bet you thought parade planning was a slow, solemn, tedious process conducted by slow, solemn, tedious people. NO! It's done by a gang of crazies. These pix were smuggled out of the Saint Andrew's Society planning session for the Williamsburg Christmas Parade. Thanks to Michael Thompson.

John Scott

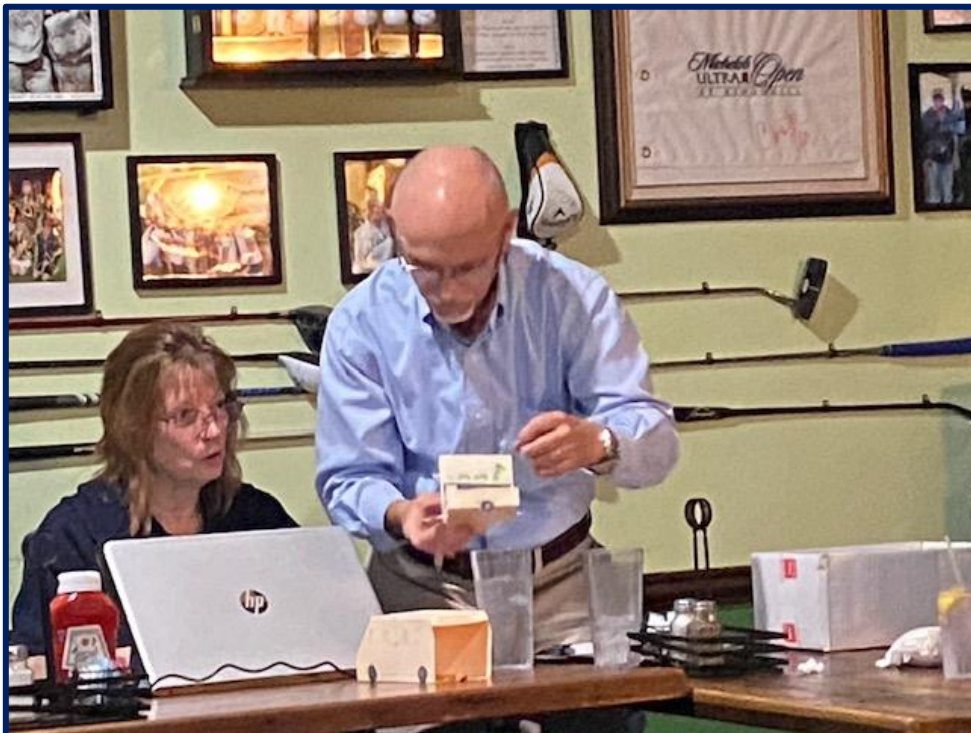


Terry Murphy-Lewis (above)
Holly (below)





Michael Thompson (above)



Jerry Lelansky showing the float prototype.

The Williamsburg Christmas Parade, December 4, 2022

Scottish heritage – going back to the earliest days of the colonial period – was well represented at the Williamsburg Christmas Parade on Sunday, December 4th. The Saint Andrew’s Society of Williamsburg showed its Scottish spirit and helped ring in the holiday festivities with an entry including 30 members in Scottish regalia, a float featuring “Nessie” of Loch Ness fame, and stirring musical support from 25 members from five regional pipes and drums bands. Led by the Tidewater Drum Major, the bands included the Williamsburg Pipes and Drums, Tidewater Pipes and Drums, Newport News Police Pipes and Drums, Albemarle Pipes and Drums, and the City of Winchester Pipes and Drums.

Formed in 1968, Saint Andrews Society of Williamsburg, Virginia, provides a social venue for celebration, education, and understanding of Scottish-American tradition and heritage. Anyone interested in membership in the Society is encouraged to check out the following web address: <https://scotsowmbg.org/membership>. Photos by Terri Cordle.

Planning is already underway for the Society’s participation in next year’s Christmas parade.





Passing Scotland Street (above)
SASW Float







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.