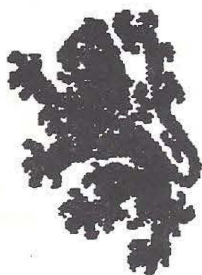
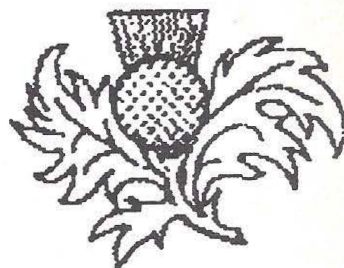


Formerly *The Virginia Highlander*



THE WILLIAMSBURG SCOTSMAN

SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY
OF WILLIAMSBURG



NEW NAME FOR THE SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

This issue marks the first time ever that the familiar {and hopefully eagerly awaited} *The Virginia Highlander* appears not at all! During the gathering of material for this issue, the editor noted that the same name is used by the Scottish Society of the Virginia Highlands, who though junior to us, has at least the geographical advantage. [See separate article on this organization]. After my conferring with the Board of Directors and offering to lead a punitive expedition to Roanoke, they wisely decided to come up with a more descriptive name for our journal. {There was no ready way of determining who had more "Highlanders" among the memberships}.

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NOTICE: On 22 May 1987, Society member Gordon Duffus, a detective in the Petersburg Police Department, was wounded in a shoot-out with a robbery suspect. Gordon will be back among us before too long. President Paul Ritchie sent him a Scottish book in the name of the Society, for which Gordon has asked this medium to express his heartfelt thanks to all.

ByLaws: The following proposed amendment to the Bylaws has been voted on by the Board of Directors in order to reimburse members who perform professional and artistic services for the Society. It must be ratified at the General Membership Meeting at the next Burns Nicht--24 Janaury 1988.

Article IV, Section 5 <u>Emolument</u> Members may be reimbursed for professional ser- vices approved by the Board of Directors.

Membership & Distribution:

Williamsburg: 64
 Peninsula/Southside: 23
 Richmond: 14
 Out-Of-State: 10
 Upper York County: 9
 Northern Virginia: 6
 Upper Peninsula: 4
 Overseas: 4 [includes 3 honorary
 members]
 Western Virginia: 3

These numbers include 5 honorary
 members and 3 widows of mem-
 bers.

CEUD MILLE FAILTE--Belatedly:

Samuel Preston Hart
 James McLaughlin Redd
 Charles Goley Wistar
 Malcolm Lee Boswell

and

Dr. William M. Anderson
 Mr. Lynn Charles Martin

Upcoming Events:

Tidewater Scottish Festival was
 held at the Norfolk Botanical
 Gardens on 27 June 1987. The
 Society had a tent there.

Williamsburg Scottish Festival and
 Tartan Ball: Jim James will be our
 tent coordinator at the Festival.
 There will be refreshments
 available for Society members.
 The Ball will be held at the Patrick
 Henry Inn on the evening of 26
 September. Charles Saunders and
 Jack Rouzie are co-chairing this
 event. Entertainment will be
 provided by either Rev Dr John
 Turner, or Fiona Ritchie, as things
 stand at the moment! Watch this
 space...

Christmas Walk: George Haviland,
 Chairman, is working on getting a
 block of a dozen rooms again at the
 Olde Towne Holiday Inn for the 5
 December 1987.

Burns Nicht: Pierre Kirk reports
 that the event will take place on
 24 January 1988 at the Fort Eustis
 Officers Club. A number of Burns
 speakers are being considered.

New Committee: This is actually a revival of an old one: Committee for Oversight, consisting of Bill Monroe, Jack Kane, Ken Burns, and Paul Ritchie, who will check on the needs of members who are seriously ill or otherwise in dire straits.

Other Societies:

The Scottish Society of the Virginia Highlands, founded in 1983 and based "around" Roanoke [for a 100 miles or so], has 185 members, 74 of whom joined last year. It supports the new Blue Ridge Highland Scottish Festival [1986 was the first] and holds a Burns Night, a Founders' Day Ceilidh, a meeting in conjunction with the Festival, a Fall picnic, and a Saint Andrew's Day gathering. It has the Virginia Highland Pipes and Drums, also founded in 1983, with 9 pipers and 6 drummers. Their newsletter, published more frequently than ours, is... "The Virginia Highlander"!!

The Saint Andrew's Society of the Eastern Shore holds monthly luncheons, "stated meetings," and occasionally a "Combined Societies Dinner." It supports the South Maryland Celtic Festival and the Colonial Highland Gathering, both in May, and the Celtic Society of Southern Maryland.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS

This organization is actually a group of four Scottish Country Dancing groups, allied by a com-

mon interest, in Williamsburg, Gloucester, Richmond, and Norfolk, and founded by Dr. Leland Ticknor and his wife, Gail. They began dancing in 1960 when they attended a folk dance camp in New Hampshire, and joined the Swarthmore, Pennsylvania Scottish Country Dance Society upon their return. In 1965, they moved to Pittsburgh and founded "The Gae Ghillies", a Scottish Country Dance group. In 1968, they moved to Williamsburg, after a vacation in Scotland, during which they attended the school for dance teachers conducted by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, of Saint Andrew's University. They conducted Scottish and English classes in their home, adding a dance floor, and used a reprint of a dance book first published by Charles and Mary Stagg of Williamsburg in 1730. Gail Ticknor's research into the origins of these dances showed that most directions had been published by 1788, were English in origin, dating from the reign of Henry VII, and were adopted by the Scots about 1700, about the time they were losing favor in England. A second beginners' class was begun in 1969 and the group participated in dancing at the Virginia Highland Games in Alexandria the same year: other classes were conducted in 1971, 1973 (included English Country Dancing), and 1979.

Clan Donald (US) Pipe
band...

Games and Festivals

Rowland Berthoff noted in his 1981 monograph, *Under the Kilt*, that the first Scottish or Highland Game in the United States was probably held in New York sometime between 1837 and 1845; there just isn't enough evidence to pin it down any further. In 1978, he found 60 such Games or Festivals in the United States, 80 in Scotland, and 26 in Canada. Of the American Games, he found that 17 were in the South, 22 in the Far West, and 21 in the Northeast/North Central states. Of those gatherings still extant, The Association of Scottish Games & Festivals gave pride of place to the Santa Rosa, California Highland Games, first held there in 1866 by the Caledonian Club of San Francisco, and still an on-going function and organization. Of the difference between American and Scottish games, the observations of one Scottish guest at the Ligoneer (PA) Games are probably the most succinct:

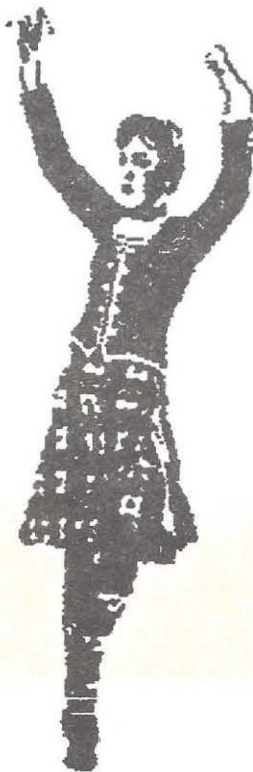
Native Scots
might have been
slightly embarrassed
at the loud
enthusiasm, emotion
and raucous support
which greeted the
entry...of the entire

As far as the distribution of Games and Festivals, no one knows for certain just how many there are; the Association of Scottish Games & Festivals numbered 26 member Games in 1984 and 37 in 1985, whereas two associations, in publishing their own lists of games and festivals for the summer and fall of 1985, showed disagreement and confusion on the issue: the coincidence of agreement was only 50%.

The Scottish-American press and often the general press as well, regularly carry stories on the Games and Festivals, including photographs of the unique athletic events (there is something quite distinctive about the caber toss...); however, there has been very little written in these same journals about Scottish sports itself. *The Scottish Merchant* carried but eight articles and *The Highlander* but four. Clan organizations have had an important role in revitalizing Games and Festivals, and much of their interest has been in area other than athletics.

Most recently, there has been a serious effort to compile and categorize the games; it is new enough that I have not read it yet! Ann Donaldson has published *The Scottish Highland Games in America*, a review of which in *The Scottish-American* noted that: The San Francisco Games were the oldest, first held November 24,

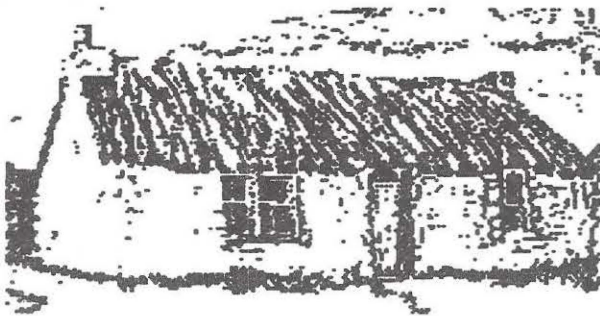
1866; that there were a series of Depression-era Games in Los Angeles, Capitol City and Central New York State; and that the north American United Caledonian Association ultimately led to the formation of the U. S. Amateur Athletic Association via the transition of Highland Games athletic events to modern track and field...and ultimately to an earlier demise of Scottish Games. However, the next *Highlander* issue carried a claim that the Detroit Games, sponsored by the Saint Andrew's Society of Detroit, were in their 137th consecutive, continuous year, and that the Society was founded in 1849! Pick your own evidence...



An Comunn Gailhealach (America) Inc.

This small Gaelic promotion group, headquartered in Rockville, Maryland, was founded by the late Dr. John L. Cameron, a native Scotsman who had lived in the Highlands and spoke fluent Gaelic. Its size is represented as "over 100 members representing 32 states", a modest enough statement for an obscure group. The parent organization in Scotland, founded in 1891, claims 6000 members and promotes the teaching, use, and cultivation of Gaelic literature, music, and literature, as well as some interest in "the social and economic welfare of the highlands and Islands of Scotland." The group is trying to reverse a decline in Gaelic speaking in Scotland, which plummeted from 250,000 people in 1900 to 80,000 by 1960, largely claimed due to the "English-only" Education Act of 1872. It felt strong enough in early 1986 to hold its second annual *ceilidh* and to elect new officers, including members from Texas, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, and to confirm emeritus status upon the widow of the founder, who had apparently been at the helm since his death.

Not bad for a nearly moribund language in which "...one {can} find a word for 'itchiness about the lip, portending a kiss, or a swig of whisky'." And this from a Jewish writer for *The New York Times* now living in Scotland...



American Friends of Scottish Opera

This Society was incorporated in New York in March, 1976 "for the purpose of building support for Scottish Opera and the Theatre Royal in Glasgow." The Scottish Opera itself was founded by Sir Alexander Gibson, CBE, in 1962; it had performed its 2000th performance and 75 different operas by April, 1984, including four (notable was *Mary, Queen of Scots*) commissioned by The Scottish Opera.

Sir Alexander Gibson appears to be the focal point of the Society's efforts: there are two photographs of him in the Scottish-American press and these are the only ones dealing with the Society. He is also the Conductor of the Scottish National Orchestra, and an officer in both groups' governance bodies. Apart from a statement of purpose and a commentary upon the strength of the Scottish Opera by the Society's president in 1983, there has been little mention of the group or of the Opera. Early in

1984, the Society announced that the Opera was planning three new operas for the coming season, promoted a group package tour for two of these in Edinburgh that spring, and also launched a fund-raising drive for the Scottish National Orchestra. For 1986, the group enthusiastically solicited for an American tour of the Scottish Opera.

Then, towards 1987, the organization flowered again. Helen Hayes MacArthur was honorary chairman of the AFSO Silver Anniversary Committee, culminating in a Jubilee Ball on June 1, 1987, with a performance of *Madame Butterfly*, first performed in 1962, as feature. The Balnain House restoration at Inverness, to become the Highland Music Center for bagpipes, clarsach, drums, and fiddles was jointly sponsored by AFSO and the Iona Appeal, which has been concerned with the preservation of delicate antiquities on that holy isle.

COMING NEXT
ISSUE---FALL
1987

Iona Appeal
Scottish Tartan Association
Scottish Heritage USA

A Report on the Spring Ceilidh

It started with an empty gas tank.

We were on our way to the Spring Ceilidh at the Naval Weapons Station on the hottest day of the year (or so it seemed) when the car simply stopped running. It had run hard all week...Fortunately, while I was peering under the hood, Dave Borlund and Neil Stevenson happened along and took us to the party and home again. Dave said the only reason he stopped was that he saw my kilt! Later that night and during a thunderstorm, I was refueling the Buick from my lawnmower can and getting drenched in the process--except under the kilt.

But, what a party! There were 90 in attendance, at least half again as many as we traditionally knew to expect. Perhaps it was the chance change to a Sunday evening (?) or the reputation of the NWS Officers Club. The meal, prime rib, was certainly reason enough--the price was low for what was placed before us! The rooms were cool and pleasant and the wine was flowing--but...

There was a single piper--Charles Harkness, a former member and an original member of the Strath James Pipes and Drums--but he is good! There was the Reverend Dr. John Turner and his award-winning fiddle--he demonstrated that a fiddle can play Pipe music.

And, at long last, the Scot of the Year award was present to "Scottie" Thompson, who was a guest of the Woodwards.

Because we came in 'out of sequence', we just found vacant seats and spent a wonderful time talking with the Tates, who we knew not at all, and the Burns, who we hadn't seen in a long time. There is something to be said for open seating and talking to other members that you don't know...

A CLOSING NOTE:

Our next issue will be significantly devoted to the now completed membership survey that "Woody" Woodward has painstakingly compiled.

We have recently received inquiries from Pelican Press in Louisiana concerning the carrying of reviews of books on Scottish topics printed by that company. If you see something in the near future that looks unusually professional, that is probably what it is...

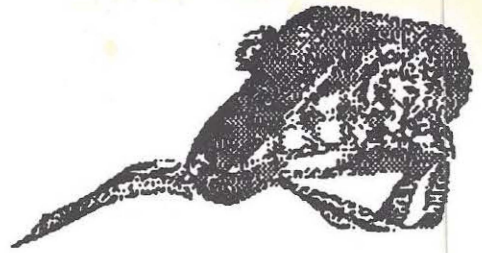
I modestly await the publication of the September-October issue of *The Scottish-American*. It is supposed to contain some of my "scholarly" articles on the Scottish-American scene today, concentrating upon the educational dimensions of our movement.

the williamsburg scotsman

**SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY
OF WILLIAMSBURG**

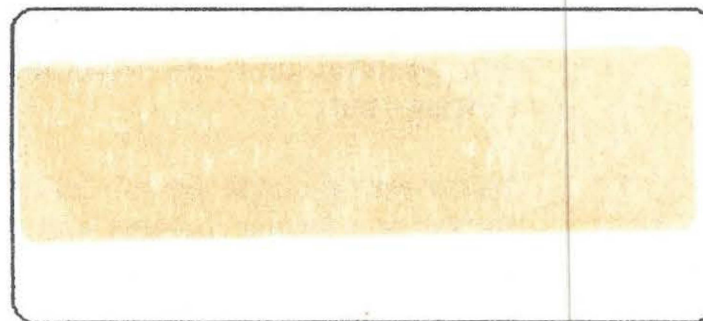
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Inside:

**New Name for Newsletter
Summer Festivals
News of Other Societies
More Cultural Organizations
Uses for a Wet Kilt**





ANNOUNCING THE FIRST VISIT TO THE
USA OF THE
**ATHOLL
HIGHLANDERS**
LED BY THEIR COLONEL
His Grace, the **DUKE OF ATHOLL**



Dear Saint Andrew's Society Member,

On Saturday, September 26th, the special feature event at the Williamsburg Scottish Festival will be a "Trooping of the Colours" by the Atholl Highlanders from Scotland. The marching unit will be led by their colonel, the Duke of Atholl, and accompanied by their pipes and drums. The highlanders will be making their first American tour and Williamsburg was fortunate to be selected as the site of their final performance before returning home to Scotland.

This will be the first time that most of the Athollmen have ever visited the United States. Consequently, the members of this ceremonial group have requested lodging in private homes as a means of meeting "real Americans." As the coordinator of this housing effort, I am turning to the Saint Andrew's Society and asking your help in providing accommodations for these visitors to our town. This would be an ideal opportunity to meet a Scot in a truly unique manner, providing them with a warm Williamsburg and "Scottish-American" welcome.

If you would be willing to host one or two highlanders for "Bed and Breakfast" on Saturday night, please contact me by August 31st. The men are touring by bus and a specific location for pick up/drop off will be designated prior to their arrival. It will not be necessary for you to provide the evening meal.....unless you would like to have another face at the dinner table. The option would be yours.

If you have other friends who would be interested in "adopting a Scot" for the evening, please let me know. Call Howard or me evenings at 565-2738. At other times I'll endeavor to have the answering machine turned on for your convenience. And, thank you for your consideration.

Yours, aye

CAROLYN TOPP

