



THE SPECTATOR

November - December, 1994
Saint Andrew's Society
of Williamsburg



Kirkin' O' the Tartan

The next event in our 1994 list of activities for the Society will come along on Sunday, November 20, when we gather for the "Kirkin' o' the Tartan" at Bruton Parish. There will be a brunch at the Cascades after the Kirkin'. A flier is on the way to give you all the details. This is always a pleasurable event with a good turn out, and the ceremony is impressive.

Watch for the announcement and get your reservation in early for the brunch. Last year we had an overflow crowd, so be sure and let the planners know that you are going to be there!

Alexandria Christmas Walk

Bob Davis is getting the group together for the Alexandria Christmas walk on December 3. We have been attending the local Williamsburg parade on that first December weekend, but the Board of Directors has elected to go back to the Alexandria event for a couple of good reasons. One is that the Alexandria walk is a Scottish affair, where we meet Scots from throughout the area. Also, being out of town and together has made for good fellowship and offers a pre-Christmas festivity for those attending.

Bob has reserved a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn located right at the parade site with special rates. Also, the Society will sponsor a hospitality room where we can all gather. Combine this with a shopping trip in the DC area, and you have a real celebration.

Members Night Out

There were twenty-two members and guests at the October 27th "members' night out", and everyone had a great time. Ev Tucker had arranged for a nice meal at the Ft. Eustis Club, and he had talked Bob Zents into providing the entertainment, which was excellent.

There were several guests, among whom was the Vice Principal of St. Andrews University in Scotland. The speeches were all short, and the songs were just right. In all, everyone enjoyed the evening and agreed that Ev Tucker had put on an excellent show.

Williamsburg Scottish Games

Beautiful weather, lots of bands, plenty to eat, good entertainment, spectacular games, lovely dancing, great piping, interesting visitors - all of it describes the Williamsburg Scottish games held in September. Charles Saunders was in charge of setting up the Society's exhibit that day. A focal point of our tent was the floral Scottish thistle display donated by Margaret Ritchie.

Plenty of visitors stopped by to say hello or enquire about our organization. Some of our visitors were from the old country, and it was nice to exchange conversation about their particular part of Scotland with them. Pat Bierer took care of the Society emblem and other regalia, as he has done for several years. The shortbread, snacks and other refreshments added to the pleasant spectacle of the games.

The Spectator

The Spectator is published periodically by the St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg, Virginia
President: Jack Rouzie

Editor: Tom Nichols

Contributors: Gordon Duffus, Taylor Fraser, Bruce Schoch

From the Editor

My article about the Scottish National Party (SNP) and the Nationalist Movement in the last issue of "The Spectator" stimulated some discussion and further editorial input. Society member Gordon Duffus has provided more detailed material that documents the rise of the SNP from its founding in 1934 to a formidable force in Scottish politics in 1994.

The SNP is able to cite polls that show that almost 40 percent of voters prefer independence for Scotland. This is a dramatic change from as recently as the 1950's, when few polls indicated any strong desire for nationalisation. Forces which have contributed to this change include the loss of population and manufacturing to England, the North Sea oil reserves, and the emergence of a desire to be a front line player in European Community negotiations. The leadership of the SNP cites the advantages of Scotland's being able to confer with other members of the European Community as a sovereign nation, rather than going through England.

Leadership in the party is not composed of political activists only, but involves Gaelic revivalists, poets, novelists, provincial businessmen, socialists, republicans and a few aristocrats. The goals of the SNP have been, at times, espoused by the Labour Party; however, much of the time the SNP has decried the inability of Labour to go beyond Nationalist rhetoric, and has sought to persuade voters to elect SNP delegates to Parliament.

A support organization for the SNP exists among descendants and former Scots in the United States. For those who might like to learn more, or to provide tangible support, contact can be made to:

The Scottish National Party
133 SW. 2nd Avenue, Suite 220c
Portland, OR 97204

The organization, which has a subscription fee of \$20 per year, provides periodic updates and a newsletter.

Recipe for Bannocks

Mix well in a bowl: a pound of barley meal, four ounces of flour, and a half a teaspoonful of salt. Into a pint of buttermilk stir two small teaspoonfuls of bicarbonate of soda, and as it fizzes up, pour it into the mixed barley meal and flour. Work into a soft dough, flour, and roll out lightly to the thickness of about half-an-inch. Cut into large round shapes and bake on a hot griddle, turning the bannock until each side is a rich brown.

Words From The President

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Starting with a successful attendance at the Williamsburg Scottish Festival, this Fall has been another eventful season for the Saint Andrew's Society. We experienced some of the best Band performances from the Williamsburg Strath James Pipe Band and the many guest bands travelling as far away as Canada. I was proud to present to Mr. Jay Close, President of the Strath James Band, a check for One Thousand Dollars to assist in the Band's effort to sponsor a week-end classical piping seminar January 27, 1995. Our members are invited to attend their evening performance on Saturday, January 28, at Walsingham Academy.

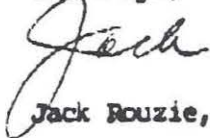
I would like to thank Ev Tucker for organizing the 4th Annual Saint Andrews' Members Dining Out at the Ft. Rustis Officers Club. Twenty of our members attended, with several guests from the St. Andrews University. As usual, we enjoyed an excellent meal followed by the great entertainment of Bob Zentz. Please do not let this event pass you by next year.

We all are looking forward to our annual Kirkin O'the Tartan at Bruton Parish Church on November 20th. Many thanks to Ken Garrison for the arrangements at the Colonial Williamsburg Cascades. Please return your reservations as soon as possible to attend the brunch following the worship service.

Bob Davis has made the arrangements for our members to attend the Alexandria Christmas Walk on December 2nd and 3rd. At this time, he has ten couples committed to having a fun weekend. I will miss the event due to the expected arrival of our first grandchild. It seems like just yesterday that Jan was competing in Scottish Dancing Competitions.

Currently, Burns Night plans are being finalized to include an exciting new location. We anticipate another delightful evening. This year's date will be January 21th, so mark your calendar for the grand finale of the year.

Yours aye,



Jack Rouzie, President

Membership Roster

This edition of "The Spectator" includes a membership roster for the St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg. If you find an incorrect entry or omission, please drop a card to the Society's PO Box and let us know. We do work hard to keep up with all of the changes, and receive quite a number of them during any given year.

Also, remember that this roster is for each member's personal use only, and is not to be released to anyone for commercial use.

Travel to Scotland

We have received a letter and some brochures from the Royal Travel Center, Ltd., which is located in Williamsburg. Some of you may know them. Of possible interest to some might be the tour to Scotland they are setting up for May, 1995.

According to their itinerary, they will take a group to Glasgow, then Peebles, Edinburgh, St. Andrews, Braemar and Inverness in a two week stint. There is an extra charge golf package for those who choose.

Royal has offered to send flyers if you are interested.

Our Fellow St. Andrew's Societies

There is no national association governing the various Saint Andrew's Societies that exist throughout the North American continent. Our Society was founded with the encouragement of the Washington, D.C. group, and there is still occasional contact with that Society. There is also an active St. Andrew's on the Eastern Shore.

Other Societies that have sent us their newsletters or greeting cards are in Montreal, Albany, Savannah, Philadelphia and Nova Scotia.

Board of Directors Elections

The Board of Directors of our Society is charged with the management of the club, and with caring for the financial resources of the Society and the Benevolent Association, a tax deductible non-profit entity.

If you would like to participate in the decision making process, there will be openings on the Board beginning in January. Our by-laws set the term limits of our Board members, so that every year there has to be some fresh talent. The most desirable outcome is to have as many new members as we can: those who have not served on the Board previously. In that way, we get the fresh ideas and enthusiasm that a group like this needs to remain viable & vigorous.

Board members meet once a month except during June and July. They head up the committees that plan our social calendar, get the Society's word out, pass on memberships, respond to requests for assistance, and so-on. The Board meetings seldom last more than 90 minutes, and the fellowship is always lively.

If you feel that you would like to have a role in the management of your Society, or would like to make some changes in how things get done, contact our President, Jack Rouzie, and stand for election! The nominations are made in early December, so call now to make your voice heard.