



THE SPECTATOR

July - August - September 1996
Saint Andrew's Society
of Williamsburg



Williamsburg Scottish Games

The 1996 edition of the Williamsburg Scottish Festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 28. Scots from all over will be here for the games and fellowship. The weather in our area is usually quite fair at that time of the year, and the Williamsburg Winery (this year's venue) is an excellent setting, so it should be another good festival.

As usual, our St. Andrew's Society will host a tent where all are welcome to stop and rest or chat or have some "refreshments" in the true Celtic style. By the way, if you would like to help set up the tent or play host (or hostess) to greet visitors, please give Charley Saunders a call. He is on the committee to set up our tent, and he could definitely use some help. Contact him at 229 - 6463.

In addition to helping out at the Society tent, there is the opportunity to work with the festival committee. A special effort is being made this year to stimulate interest in those who might be a "Volunteer Hero" - in other words, someone who could devote time and energy to the preparation and conduct of the festival. Our celebration has grown in size and scope so that it does require lots of dedicated work to keep everything on track, so if you have a talent, please lend it to the festival committee. Drop a card to Box 866, Williamsburg 23187.

And don't forget to send your check to the Balmoral Society. Every year this distinguished group proudly sponsors the Festival and its sponsors include many of the prestigious names in our community. If you haven't responded to your invitation to become a sponsor, it is not too late to do so now.

Christ Church in Kilmarnock

Last April, our Society gathered up in the Northern Neck to hold a Kirkin' o' the Tartan at Historic Christ Church in Irvington, near Kilmarnock. Led by members Jack Robinson and Beth Williams, the group had a delightful time.

The whole affair was so successful that the committee would like to try it again in 1997, so watch for details in this paper and be ready for another spring excursion to Kilmarnock!

The Spectator

The Spectator is published periodically by the St. Andrew's Society of Williamsburg, Virginia
President: James Anthony
Contributors: Ev Tucker, Chuck Hunter, Don Dixon

Editor: Tom Nichols

The President Comments

During the recent Society luncheon, our President, Jim Anthony, gave a short talk to remind us of the importance of recruitment in any organization such as ours. In essence, Jim believes that we must keep in mind the need to encourage young persons to join our Society so as to keep the club vibrant and lively. The present make-up of our Board of Directors is headed in that direction, and every effort is being made to encourage participation by our younger members.

It may seem to youthful prospective members that the seniors have the resources and time to travel back and forth to the Old Country. This may be so.....but it is not necessary. There are enough local activities and a wealth of literature so that anyone with an abiding interest in Scotland and its history can have a great time with Scottish lore.

The point is, if you know someone of Scottish descent, bring them to the games, or a luncheon, or the kirkin' so they can get a wisp of the Old Country and perhaps bring with them that infusion of vitality Jim is looking for!

Prepaid Life Membership Program

In the last Spectator, in the article under this headline, a few numbers were incorrectly stated. Edited somewhat, the article reappears below with corrected numbers:

"At the Annual General Meeting, conducted at Burns Night, 1996, our Board of Directors proposed a major change in the ByLaws of the Society to permit a program for Life Memberships; it was approved by the Membership, and so adopted. It offers an opportunity for those Members age 50 or more and so disposed to prepay their annual dues in one sum, thereby obviating the need for annual renewal. The sum is actuarially derived, including considerations of discount for present value, mortality and inflation; accordingly there is no refund for premature death . . . nor a calling for more money from a member enjoying extraordinarily long life! The ByLaw includes a formula which applies to whatever the current dues and assessment amount may be at the time of application by the Member. Presently the sum of those items is \$20, and the Prepaid Life Membership amounts are:

Ages	50 through 60	\$ 540
Ages	61 through 70.	\$ 320
Ages	71 and over	\$ 180 "

A Scots Proverb

He who waits long at the ferry will get across sometime.

Mark Your Calendar

All members are offered a special invitation to attend the 6th Annual Members' Night on Wednesday, October 9, at the Fort Eustis Club. As always the purpose of Members' Night is to provide all members a chance to meet new members, to renew friendships and to make new ones, and to bring male guests to this "fun event" and hopefully encourage them to become members. It's an evening devoted solely to fun and fellowship! An outstanding evening has been planned with Scottish entertainment by Bob Zentz following dinner. Bob has performed at a number of SAS events; always to audience acclaim. He is an extremely talented folksinger and musician. If you haven't heard him play, you are in for a real treat!

We will also arrange for rides within the local area for those members who are unable to drive at night.

So, mark your calendar on the 9th of October, plan to attend with a friend, and watch for the "Members' Night" flyer, which will be sent out in early September.

Scottish Games in Richmond

The short drive up to Richmond in the crisp fall weather of October will reward the traveller with a chance to attend the "Richmond Highland Games and Festival". Scheduled to take place at the State Fairgrounds on October 25 through 27th, the event will have all the usual games and demonstrations. Daily admissions will cost \$8.00, and multiple day admissions are available. The fairgrounds are located just off I - 64 on Laburnum Avenue just east of the city.

Upcoming Events

Williamsburg Festival	September 28
Annual Members' Night	October 9
Richmond Games	October 26
Williamsburg Kirkin'	November
Alexandria (Va.) Christmas Walk	December

Clans

MACALPIN

Alpin is a name of Cymric (Welsh) origin. The MacAlpins claim descent from Kenneth MacAlpin, the ancestor of a long line of kings. But the MacAlpins have never been a united clan under a chief. There is an old saying: "Cnuic is uillt is Ailpeinich" meaning 'Hills and streams and MacAlpins are as old as the mountains and rivers!'

Committees for 1996

The following committees have been appointed by President Jim Anthony to serve the Society for 1996:

President	Jim Anthony	253 - 0321
Vice President	Jack Robinson	229 - 5020
Secretary	Ev Tucker	898 - 8151
Treasurer	Ken Garrison	898 - 5350
Membership Committee	Will Monroe	873 - 3369
Williamsburg Festival	Charles Saunders	229 - 6463
Grandfather Mountain	Ev Tucker/Bob Davis	898 - 8151
Kilmarnock Kirkin'	Jack Robinson	229 - 5020
Quarterly Luncheon	Tom Sale	723 - 8206
	Chuck Hunter	229 - 5868
Williamsburg Kirkin'	Doug McLean	258 - 0071
Members' Night	Ev Tucker	898 - 8151
Burns Night	Jack Kane	898 - 6953
	Jim Young	249 - 2690
Color Guard	Jim Ogilvie	766 - 1673
Quartermaster	Pat Bierer	229 - 4678
Editor	Tom Nichols	851 - 0013

Scottish Place Names

- Skye. Isle of - sgaith (winged island) gaelic
- Dunblane - dun (hill) - Blann was a 16th century monk in charge of Dunblane monastery.
- Dunoon - (hill, fort) gaelic, obhainn (river, water) gaelic. The river is the Clyde, the fort is an ancient ruin.

Tidewater Games

The Society was ably represented at the Tidewater Games on June 24 by Howard Topp and Bob Davis. The Saint Andrew's booth was a jolly watering spot with a warm greeting for all who came by. Bob's son, Robert, assisted the greeters and displayed a line of specially marked shirts.

The Tidewater Games were well attended in spite of the very hot weather. Their contestants, both in the athletic and dancing competitions, put on some exceptionally fine shows this year.

Quarterly Luncheon

Our quarterly luncheons provide an excellent opportunity for informal gatherings where conversation and fellowship reign. On August 19, at the Williamsburg Country Club, a group of 38 members and guests met in a delightful setting to lunch together and learn the latest about Scotland.

The committee, Tom Sale and Chuck Hunter, had ordered up a nice menu and had arranged for member Jim Ogilvie to give a lively presentation on his recent trip to Scotland. Jim entertained us with his tales of what to do and what not to do when travelling. Armed with maps, brochures and pictures, Jim held the audience's attention with his light-hearted tales of travel around the country. Of special interest was his comparison between "bed and breakfast" places versus the traditional hotels in Britain.

These luncheons are scheduled so that workers and shop-keepers can break away for a time, but are not too long so folks can get back to business. Our thanks to Tom, Chuck and Jim, and to Charles Saunders for setting us up in the Club.

A Burns Toast

Here's a bottle and an honest friend

What wad ye wish for mair, man?

Wha kens, before his life may end,

What his share may be o' care, man?

(would, more)

(who knows)

(of)

Then catch the moments as they fly,

And use them as ye ought, man;

Believe me, happiness is shy,

And comes no ay when sought man!

(not always)


St. Andrew's Society
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