



THE SPECTATOR



SAINT ANDREWS SOCIETY OF WILLIAMSBURG

January, February, March, 2000

President's Report

It seems that numerous individuals have complimented the board of directors for displaying sound judgement in selecting the youngest president in the Society's history. Of course, the board's principal thought was that a young president would attract young Scottish Americans to its membership, thereby injecting the Society with vitality, renewed vigor, fresh ideas, long life, and designated drivers. The fact that this new president bears a remarkable resemblance to Robert Burns was purely coincidental, as is his innate ability to deliver *The Address to the Haggis* so convincingly. Zounds, they are talking about me, and I am humbled by their illuminating remarks. But more than that, I am honored to be your president for the next year.

Burns' Nicht was quite a success, if those in attendance are to be believed. Paul Ritchie, past president, would have been pleased. In a letter dated 1989 to the Board of Directors, he said, "Laughter is the destroyer of inhibitions and the catalyst that brings people together. A party without laughter is a party wasted." I will take that approach in our events and meetings, so be forewarned, laughter is the byword.

Several years ago the board of directors, after much effort, convinced the powers that be to bestow upon the Society and the Benevolent Society the status of a charitable organization, thus becoming tax exempt. To that end I have

often thought how wonderful it would be if we could increase our ability to assist deserving students of Scottish ancestry with further education, widows in need, and numerous other worthwhile purposes. There are so many. It also crossed my mind that having our own building is an achievable goal. Recently, the Highlander featured an article about an old restored building that the St. Andrews Society of Albany, New York owned. We could share such a building with other organizations for their functions. Just imagine, our own place on the planet. How can we accomplish such things?

One of our new members, Bill Morrison, is a financial planner. Read his article about charitable giving in this newsletter. For anyone interested in these endeavors, contact Charlie Saunders, the Society's Benevolent Association Chairman.

The Board of Directors and I look forward to all members becoming involved and committing themselves in every upcoming function. In other words, commitment from all members. As the story goes in Scotland, the old crofter MacGillvary ate eggs and haggis for breakfast. As you can see, the chicken was involved but the haggis was **committed**. You need not be on the board to participate in various functions. Want to commit? Call me or any one of the directors listed.

Byron Adams, President

Membership Certificates

The Society has produced a new membership certificate which new members since 1998 have received. This beautiful new color certificate with a celtic font is suitable for framing. If you would like one, for whatever reason, notify me, Bruce Schoch, 114 Discovery Ln, Williamsburg, VA, 23185, or e-mail culloden@aol.com. Include your full name, date you joined (if you remember), and names of the secretary and president on your old certificate. If you don't know, we'll use current Officers. Please include \$1.00 for administrative P&A. Thanks. *Bruce Schoch*

Charitable Giving can help the Giver Too

By Bill Morrison

We have all heard the phrase, "It is better to give than to receive", and not many of us would argue with that saying. The feeling we get when we give to our favorite charity is certainly all the benefit most of seek from our giving. But, what if our giving could also benefit our personal finances beyond the usual tax deduction? Would we be more likely to give? Would more, likely give? Would more, likely give more?

The Basics

If you wanted to give \$10,000 to a charity you could write a check. The charity would get \$10,000 and you would get a deduction for \$10,000. Not bad, but could you benefit more? Yes. Instead of writing a check, you could give appreciated property, something not hard to find in today's stock and real estate markets. Let's say that you paid \$2,000 for land now worth \$10,000. It is sitting there doing nothing. If you deed the land to the charity, you get a deduction for \$10,000, and the IRS would forgive the \$8,000 capital gain when the charity sells the land. You just avoided an additional \$1,600 in federal taxes.

Gifts of Appreciated Property Can Help You More

A real life case. A couple has a piece of property worth \$900,000 today, though it only cost \$100,00. It makes up 80% of their investable net worth yet produces no income. If they sell it, they must pay 20% capital gain on \$800,000. That's \$160,000 in taxes. With \$740,000 left which they could invest for retirement, at 8%, that's \$59,000 per year. Not bad.

However, they could use a vehicle called a Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT). Not only would they give a substantial gift to their favorite charity, but also they would enhance their retirement income, and receive a tax deduction. How? A CRT allows a donor to give property into a trust for charity, but the donor is allowed to use the income from the trust during the Donor (s)' lifetime. In the above example, the couple give the property into a CRT which sells it and invest the proceeds for the donor(s)' benefit. With the CRT, the donor would have the entire \$900,000 invested for retirement income. At 8% that's \$72,000 per year, almost \$13,000. That's great, but there's more. The donor gets a deduction as well, based on age. The older the donor, the bigger the deduction. A 65 year old would get about 35% of the total gift.

Estate Tax Relief ?

There can be. If your estate will be subject to the onerous estate tax, 55% max, then the trust will take the full \$900,000 from your estate, away from the taxman. Our real life couple would have had a taxable estate, but after subtracting the \$900,000, they were below the \$650,000 exclusion, and would pay no estate taxes. Look at the benefits.

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. Avoided tax on \$800,000 capital gain: | \$160,000 |
| 2. Increased Annual Income: | \$12,800 per year |
| 3. Received a deduction of \$315,000 | \$110,000 |
| 4. Avoided estate tax on \$900,000 (40%) | \$360,000 |

There is no question that the CRT helped this couple give, far more than they would normally. Why? Because they could help themselves in the process. They were concerned that they would not be able to pass the \$900,000 to their children, because, at their deaths, the CRT would pass the "remainder" to the charity. So, they decided to use some of the tax savings to buy a life insurance policy to replace the \$900,000 asset. Therefore, their kids will receive \$900,000 in tax-free cash, versus a \$900,000 piece of land with a tax bill of \$360,000.

All of us are close to certain charitable organizations, such as our church, and of course St. Andrews Society of Williamsburg. Knowledge of the CRT and other techniques will help you in giving to your favorite charities while making maximum use of your assets.

The Scots Were Always Theologians

The Scottish nation, although fierce in battle, loves ease and quiet, and has no desire for disturbance by neighboring kingdoms, being bent on the study of the Christian faith rather than on the exercise of arms.

An excerpt from the "Historia Ecclesiastica" of Ordericus Vitalis, a Norman monk of St Evroul, who wrote between 1123 and 1141. He is speaking of the year 1068.

Second Sight

The gift of second sight, or prophecy by visions flourished in Scotland, possibly because of the Celtic atmosphere. There were many *seers*, but one stands out above the rest, The Brahan Seer, otherwise known as Coinneach Odhar, or Kenneth the Sallow. Born about 350 years ago at Baile na Cille in the Lews, he was called the Brahan Seer because he worked as a laborer on the Brahan estate.

His prophecies are legendary, like the linking up of the chain of the Great Glen about 150 years before Telford's Caledonian Canal was built, and strings of carriages without horses, a long time before trains. When he passed over Culloden Moor, the same field that later became the battlefield, his words were taken down and preserved: "This bleak moor, ere many generations have passed, shall be stained with the best blood of Scotland. Glad am I that I will not see that day." He further prophesied that "the day will come when there will be a road through the hills of Ross, and a bridge upon every stream". This he said at a time when there was nothing in the highlands which could be considered a road. And, who at that time could fathom such a tragedy to come known as the Highland Clearances, long before alien land-owners drove out men that sheep might feed on the hills, Coinneach said: "The clans will become so effeminate as to allow themselves to be driven from their native land by an army of sheep." But his greatest prophesy was also his last.

Kenneth MacKenneth, the third Earl of Seaforth, clan chief, visited Paris a year before the Restoration of Charles II. His jealous countess stayed behind at Brahan Castle and began to hear rumors of his conduct among the Parisiennes. She sent for Kenneth who, after bribes and threats, she forced to say that he could see the earl "in a gay gilded room," that he was "grandly dressed in velvets, with silks and cloth of gold," that he was "on his knees before a fair lady, his arm around her waist, and her hand pressed to his lips." At this the countess flew into a rage, denounced Kenneth as a slandering charlatan, and demanded his life as penalty for speaking evil of his lord. He was taken to Chanonry Point, and burned to death in a tar barrel on a charge of witchcraft.

But before he died he uttered the doom of Seaforth. "I see into the far future and read the doom of my oppressor. The line of Seaforth will end in extinction and sorrow. I see a chief, the last of his house, both deaf and dumb, who will father four sons, all of whom he will follow to the tomb. He will die mourning, knowing his line is to be extinguished forever, and that no future chief of the MacKenzie shall rule at Brahan or in Kintail. He will sink into the grave, and his possessions shall be inherited by a whitehooded lass from the east, and she is to kill her sister. There shall be four great lairds in the days of the last Seaforth, Gairloch, Chisholm, Grant, and Raasay. One shall be buck-toothed, another hare-lipped, another half-witted, and the fourth a stammerer. Chiefs like these shall be the allies and neighbors of the last of the Seaforths. And when he looks around and sees them, he may know that his sons are doomed, that his broad lands shall pass to a stranger, and his race shall come to an end."

In 1794 Francis Humberston MacKenzie was born. He eventually became deaf and dumb and by the time four sons were born to him, his neighbors were Gairloch, Chisholm, Grant and Raasay, all afflicted as the seer had said 100 years before. One after another his sons died and on January 11, 1815 MacKenzie died, the last of his race. His title became extinct, and the chiefship passed to a remote collateral who succeeded to none of the lands. Lord Seaforth's daughter inherited the estates. She was the widow of Sir Samuel Hood, who had commanded in the Indian Seas. She returned to Scotland in white weeds, eventually remarried a grandson of the Earl of Galloway, a Stewart. One day while driving a pony carriage with her younger sister on board, the ponies bolted, she lost control, and both women were thrown from the carriage. Her sister was killed. So was fulfilled the last of Coinneach Odhar's prophecies.

Scotch Whiskey

Years ago, spirit strength was *proved* when whisky and gunpowder were mixed and then ignited. If the gunpowder flashed, then there was enough whisky in the mixture to allow ignition. Thus the whisky was said to have *proof*. If the spirit was weaker than this proved strength, ignition did not happen.

Statute of 1661 declared the fifth part of a year's stipend for a minister for cursing and swearing

Coat and Waistcoat

A physician who attended Burns in his last illness, declared him to be addicted to the bottle and that "the coat of his stomach was entirely gone." The merry bard declared that, if that was the case, he would go on drinking to the end of the chapter, "for if the coat was gone, it was not worth the while carrying about the waistcoat." ---*The Albion Advertiser*, May 23, 1801.

Spring Kirkin

By Jim McCaig

In Scotland in 1735, Robert Adam, its most famous architect, was just a child. His later deeds are legend. In Irvington, Virginia in 1735, Christ Church was built. It is, perhaps, this country's most complete colonial church building, unaltered, and most certainly a masterpiece of Georgian architecture. Want to see it? Want to embrace its history? Then do so.

The Northern Neck members of St. Andrews Society of Williamsburg invite you all to the fifth annual Spring Kirkin at this historic church, in this historic town, on April 9 at 12:30 PM. The Christ Church Foundation invites you to arrive as early as 10:30 and enjoy fresh brewed coffee and sweet treats at the Bayne Center, directly behind the Museum/Reception Center.

The Reverend Hugh White III of Kilmarnock's Grace Episcopal Church and Irvington's Christ Church, will conduct the service. The choir of Grace Church and the Kilmarnock & District Pipe Band will provide the music. Member Neil Smart will play a

Scottish organ prelude and, hopefully, will participate in the pipe band.

Following the service, Society Members and those in attendance will parade around the perimeter and strut their stuff. Then, for only \$15.00, they'll strut into the Bayne Center and wade into the buffet luncheon, eat to their heart's content and wash it down with the fruit of the vine. Children under 12 eat free. Reservations required.

After the luncheon, at 3:00PM, the Center for the Arts in Kilmarnock will present the musical Brigadoon at a matinee performance. The stage presentation will feature the Kilmarnock & District Pipe Band and involve lots of local Scottish American talent. However, if you want to have a weekend getaway, then come the day before. The Center will present Brigadoon on Saturday night at 8:00PM.

For more information call me, Jim McCaig, (804)435-6643, jamccaig@crosslink.net or Bob Maccubbin at (757)229-7650, rpmacc@wm.edu. Hope to see you there.

To You Let Snow and Roses...

*To you, let snow and roses
And golden locks belong.
These are the world's enslavers,
Let these delight the throng.
For her of daskier lustre
Whose favor still I wear,
The snow be in her kirtle,
The rose be in her hair!*

*The hue of highland rivers
Careering, full and cool,
From sable on to golden,
From rapid on to pool—
The hue of heather-honey,
The hue of honey-bees,
Shall tinge her golden shoulder,
Shall gild her tawny knee*

Robert Louis Stevenson

The strongest Scotch whiskies on the market are all malts; MacPhail's Gold 106, a single malt, at 60.5% volume alcohol, Glenfarclas 105, a single malt, and Highland Fusilier 105, a vatted malt, both being 60% volume alcohol.

The Scots Fusiliers At Dettingen

The 21st Royal Regiment of North British Fusiliers did themselves honor at Dettingen. When the French Cuirassiers pounced down upon them, Sir Andrew Agnew, deciding it impossible to withstand their charge, ordered the regiment to fall back from the center by right and left. The cuirassiers rushed madly into the lane they formed, believing the line had been broken. The 21st then delivered a volley,

and charged the horses with the bayonet, closing around the trapped cuirassiers, nearly annihilating the French corps. The king did not fail to perceive the movement and its result. "Ah, Sir Andrew," said his Majesty, after the battle, "the gens d'armes got in among you today." "Aye, please your majesty," answered the brave Scotch knight, "but they did'nae get oot again!"

from *The British Soldier*

At The Height of a Winter Gale

"The blast howls among the grim and desolate rocks around him. Black clouds are seen advancing from the west in fearful masses, pouring forth torrents of rain and hail. A sudden flash illuminates the gloom, and is followed by the deafening roar of the thunder, which gradually becomes fainter until the roar of the waves upon the shore prevails over it. Meantime as far as the eye can reach, the ocean boils and heaves, presenting one wide-extended field of foam, the spray from the summits of the billows sweeping along its surface like drifted snow. No sign of life is to be seen, save when a gull, labouring hard to bear itself against the blast, hovers overhead, or shoots athwart the gloom like a meteor. Long ranges of giant waves rush in succession towards the shores. The thunder of the shock echoes among the crevices and caves, the spray mounts along the face of the cliffs to an astonishing height; the rocks shake to their summit, and the baffled wave rolls back to meet its advancing successor. In the meantime the natives are snugly seated around their blazing peat-fires, amusing themselves with the tales and songs of other years, and enjoying the domestic harmony which no people can enjoy with less interruption than the Hebridean Celts."—William Macgillivray writing in the *Edinburgh Journal of Natural and Geographical Science*, 1830-1840.

Clans and Families

Sinclair

The name Sinclair originated in Normandy, probably from St Clair sur Elle in the department of La Manche. In Scotland, the first recorded bearer of the name was Henry of St Clair, who held lands in East Lothian around 1162. Sir William Sinclair of Roslin, a close adviser of Alexander III, established the foremost family line. Serving as sheriff in the Lothians and Borders in the late 13th century, he backed John Balliol at the outset of the War of Independence. He died in the Tower of London after his unsuccessful defence of Dunbar Castle in 1296. His son Henry fought with the Bruce at Bannockburn and his grandsons William and John were slain while taking Bruce's heart to Palestine in 1330.

Henry Sinclair of Roslin's claim to the earldom of Orkney through his mother was upheld by the king of Norway in 1379. In 1391 he met the shipwrecked Venetian brothers Nicolo and Antonio Zeno. He made Nicolo Captain of his fleet, which crushed a revolt in the Shetlands. With Antonio he explored the west Atlantic, touching the Greenland coast and possibly landing in North America.

The third earl, William, was created Lord Sinclair by James II in 1449 and given the earldom of Caithness in 1455. William actively colluded with James III to consolidate his holdings over the northern isles, resigning his earldom of Orkney in exchange for lands and castles in Fife. In 1476 he made his mentally unbalanced son, who was known as William the Waster, Lord Sinclair. He gave the earldom of Caithness to a younger son, also called William. Both of these sons fell at Flodden in 1513.

Though the Sinclair Lords upheld Protestantism in the wake of the Reformation, the earls of Cairness remained Catholic. That they endured long spells of imprisonment was attributable less to their faith than to their reputation for cruelty. George, the fourth earl, started feuds with the Mackays of Strathnaver and the Gordon earls of Sutherland that endured for over a century. He condoned the poisoning of the earl and countess of Sutherland in 1567, and kidnapped the 15 year old 11th earl for marriage to his 32 year old daughter. George was imprisoned at Girnigo Castle, where he died at the hands of his jailers who fed him salt beef but gave him no water. In 1609 his grandson George, who succeeded him as 5th earl, filled a band of Orcadian mariners full of drink, shaved off half their hair and beards and set them adrift in the Pentland Firth. He fell from favor in 1621 when he was caught counterfeiting coins to pay off his debts.

On a national level, the Sinclairs maintained a low profile. However, Patrick, the eighth Lord Sinclair, who was a moderate Covenanter in the 1640s, and John, master of Sinclair, a cavalry officer in the 1715 rebellion, were exceptions. George, the sixth earl and the last of the direct line of Caithness, precipitated a clan battle in 1680 when the Campbells defeated the Sinclairs. However, the right of George Sinclair of Keiss to succeed as 7th earl was upheld in 1681.

In 1793 Sir John Sinclair of Ulbster founded the Board of Agriculture. His enthusiasm for improvements in farming accelerated clearance and relocation in both Highlands and Lowlands. Funny enough though, in 1911 Sir John Sinclair, Lord Pentland, in his capacity as secretary of state for Scotland, piloted an act that accorded to all small landholders the security of tenure.

First Postal Service in Scotland (Edinburgh To Portpatrick), February, 1642

Kindness and Courage

Life is mostly froth and bubble:
Two things stand like stone:
Kindness in another's trouble,
Courage in your own.

Adam Lindsay Gordon

A Bard's Epitaph

Reader, attend! Whether thy soul
Soars fancy's flights beyond the pole,
Or darkling grubs this earthly hole, in low pursuit;
Know, prudent, cautious, self-control
Is wisdom's root.

Robert Burns

CEUD MILE FAILTE

The Society sends a very warm and hearty welcome to the following new members:

Robert F. Richardson, Jr of Williamsburg who claims Clan FacFarlane.

Dr. John J. Graham of Williamsburg who claims Clan Graham.

Donald T. Regan and his wife Ann of Williamsburg, who claim Clan MacDonald.

Andrew Young Dawson and his wife Louise of Williamsburg who claim Clans Davidson, Cunningham and Stewart.

Christopher J. Evans and his wife Christie of Richmond who claim Clan MacPherson.

St. Andrews University founded, August 28, 1411

Scottish Place Names

Culloden -Highland -'Hollow of the Pool', *cwm* (Brittonic) hollow; *lod* (Gaelic) pool; thus *cwmlo*.

Ballantrae-Strathclyde-'Village on the Shore', *baile* (Gaelic) village, homestead; *traigh* (Gaelic) beach, shore; thus *bailetraigh*.

Anstruther-Fife-'The little Stream', *an*(Gaelic) the; *sruthair* (Gaelic) little stream; thus *ansruthair*.

Scottish Proverb

Dinna sigh for him, but send for him: if he's unchanged, he'll come.
(Don't waste time wishing for something, get it done)

The Castles of Scotland

Cawdor Castle, Cawdor, Nairnshire, Off A96

Cawdor Castle, located in delightful scenery near the village of the same name, is one of the best known of all the castles in Scotland due to its association with Shakespeare's "*Macbeth*", a story which belongs in fact to legend, as the real Duncan died in 1041, long before the castle was built. Though the central tower dates from 1454, most of the existing building is modern. However, there are a few traces of stonework which date back to 1386, but these have no relevance to the existing structure. In 1454, James II granted a royal license to the Thane of Cawdor, thus ensuring that he and his descendants could keep the right to enter the castle at any time. Nothing like free lodgings forever. In the early days the keep stood alone protected by a dry ditch and reached by a drawbridge and protected by a iron door or portcullis. The entrance to the keep would have been by a retractable ladder to the first floor.

The keep was four floors high and the tower chambers were vaulted to prevent burn-out from below. At the corner of each tower is a rounded turret with a cap-house. In the 16th and 17th century curtain walls, more living space, enlarged wings and mural carvings were added. The Thanes of Cawdor, whose family name was actually Calder, lived in the castle until 1510, when it passed to the Campbells by marriage of Muriel Calder to Sir John Campbell, the 3rd son of the 2nd Earl of Argyll. This line started a new line of Campbells of Cawdor which remained as lairds. For 100 years after the Jacobite uprising the castle was uninhabited when the lairds moved south and settled on lands in Wales.

Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Place	Point of Contact
Apr 8	National Tartan Day		Jim White (757) 220-0275
Apr 30	Spring Kirkin at Christ Church	Irvington	Robert Maccubbin (757)229-7620
Summer	Luncheon	TBA	
Sept 30	Williamsburg Scottish Festival	Wsmbg	Layton Clark (757)564-1734
Oct	Richmond Highland Games	Richmond	
Oct 10	Members Night	TBA	Bill Weaver (757)229-3432
Nov	Fall Kirkin	Wsmbg	Pete Stephenson(757)357-2345

Officers and Directors For 2000

Officers

President	Vice-President	Treasurer	Secretary
Byron Adams	Bruce Schoch	Ken Garrison	Bruce Goodwin

Directors

Byron Adams	Bob Davis	Robert MacCubbin	Bruce Schoch
Alexander Andrews	Ken Garrison	Rod MacGillvary	Pete Stephenson
Irving Campbell	Bruce Goodwin	Jack Rouzie	Bill Weaver
Layton Clark	Jack Kane	George Saunders	Jim White

Associated Duties

Chaplain	Publicity	Spectator	Color Guard & Quartermaster	Historian
Kent Brinkley	Jim White	Don Dixon	Bob Davis	Howard Topp

Benevolent Association	Membership	Web Page
Charles Saunders	Bruce Schoch	Bruce Schoch, Jack Rouzie, Doug McLean

Famous Scots Sir William Arrol

William Arrol was born to a poor family of nine in Renfrewshire in 1839. At 10 he lied about his age to get a job as a thread boy in a Johnstone cotton mill. Later he moved to the Coats Company in Paisley where he eventually became a director. At 14 he became an apprentice blacksmith, went to night school to learn mechanics and hydrostatics. At 29 he started his own engineering business, became fascinated with bridges making his first one in 1865, a viaduct for the railway over Greenock.

In his time bridges were the sign for technological progress and some of his own efforts are still up, including the two near the Broomielaw in Glasgow. However, not every 19th century bridge was a success. There was a wonderful bridge over the River Tay which collapsed in 1879 sending a train crashing down, killing everyone on board. Arrol took on the job of replacing it, and his Forth rail bridge still remains fairly reliable and is of course one of Scotland's great landmarks.

The Spectator is published quarterly by the St. Andrews Society of Williamsburg. We welcome any comments you have regarding this newsletter. Your editor is Don Dixon, who, as you read this, is in Scotland with his Scottish bride Hazel. Today, we're probably at the Kirkmichael Arms near old Dalry, enjoying a pint, and looking out the window at the flowering valley. So don't bother to call until after April 27th. You can e-mail me at thistlegate@aol.com. Long may your lum reek. *Don Dixon*

Saint Andrew's Society
P.O. Box 533
Williamsburg, Virginia 23187



MR. HOWARD TOPP
207 BUFORD RD.
WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23188

