



# THE SPECTATOR



**Saint Andrews Society of Williamsburg**

**July, August, September 2000**

## **President's Report**

Everyone has had a busy and quick summer, and now the fall is here. For me, the Williamsburg Scottish Festival heralds the arrival of autumn. This one was no less so. That is, if your autumn was in Scotland. We certainly had the weather for a Highland festival, wet and wild. But the beer tent and the dancing tent held their own even though the mud became the order of the day. I salute those who braved the elements, and the mud. And I also salute the MacDonalds, for theirs was the honored clan for the day. Douglas K MacDonald, Deputy High Commissioner and High Commissioner for Clan Donald, represented the clan.

It is fitting also that I say thanks to Maureen Brown, President of the Williamsburg Scottish Festival, and all her officers, chairmen, and Board of Directors. It is no easy task to put one of these together. I salute you all. Incidentally, Maureen had relatives over visiting from Ireland.

So now we are looking forward to getting back to Society business. The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterly luncheon will actually be in December so we'll send information out on that. On 10<sup>th</sup> October we have Members Night under the leadership of Bill Weaver. It's at the Williamsburg National Golf Club House, 3700 Centerville Rd, Green Spring Plantation. Bill will deliver a presentation on Scottish lighthouses and there will be a complimentary single-malt whisky tasting. Also, piper Jim Stuart will be there. But then you all know this because you received your flyer.

On 19<sup>th</sup> November the Kirkin will be held at Bruton Parrish Church where we will hear the Kilmarnock and District Pipe Band. Jack Rouzie is the man in charge.

Looking forward a little more we see 27<sup>th</sup> January as the date for Burns Night. Bob Davis, Jack Rouzie, Bill Anderson and Rod MacGiillivray are the people in the breach.

In the meantime, let's all promote things Scottish. *Byron Adams*

## *Flowers of the Forest*

*It is with a great sense of loss that I must report the death of former member Robert Maxwell Brown on July 11, 2000. Born in Chautauqua, New York in 1912 he was educated at the University of New York and the College of William and Mary. He served during WW II and Korea and retired from Fort Monroe in 1963 as a Major.*

## **Life Insurance, Tax Deductions and Saint Andrews Society**

The benefits of life insurance can greatly increase the generosity that supports the many good works of the Saint Andrews Society (SAS), while also providing tax deductions to the donor of a life insurance policy. Some of the things we can do to accomplish such meaningful giving and receiving helpful tax deductions are as follows:

1. Transfer ownership to the SAS of a paid-up life insurance policy that is no longer needed for family protection or your estate liquidity plans. The amount of your gift would be increased to the paid-up death benefit at maturity. You receive a current tax deduction equal to the policy's net cash surrender value at the time ownership is transferred to SAS.
2. Change the Beneficiary designation on an existing policy so that all or a part of the policy death proceeds would go to SAS. Doing this would provide an estate tax deduction to the policy owner of the entire gifted amount when the life insurance gift was received by SAS.
3. Currently insurable donors could make annual tax-deductible gifts of the premiums to SAS, which would be the policy owner and premium payer to the insurance company. At policy

maturity, the death benefit proceeds received by SAS would normally be many times greater than the total tax-deductible premium gifts received from the donor.

4. Donors could also buy a new life insurance policy and retain full control and ownership while naming SAS as a beneficiary for all or a part of the death benefit proceeds. The death benefits would be included in the donor's gross estate, but the full amount of the proceeds payable to SAS would be fully deductible by the estate.

If enough members made the SAS the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, the resulting pool of money could be sufficient to provide an ongoing stream of cash that would support a meaningful program of grants from SAS that would perpetuate the ideals and principles of our Scottish heritage that mean so much to all of us. **Suggestion:** Meet with your life insurance professional. Discuss your interests in making a life insurance gift to SAS. Review with your agent all the options available in light of your estate and protection needs. You may be pleasantly surprised to find out how large a tax-deductible gift you could be remembered by while also preserving the altruistic effects from our Scottish heritage.

**Examples:** Because potential donors have different ages, health and financial qualifications, etc, we can't cite an example that fits everyone. Those details would come from your life insurance professional. However, to support our enthusiasm for this concept of tax-deductible gifting of life insurance to SAS, we collected these quotes as illustrations only:

**Donor in the 34% Tax Bracket;** male, age 60, non-smoker, standard\* insurance;

| Initial face Amount of Gift | Annual Premium | Years of Outlay** | Total Gift Outlay | After Tax Cost of Gift Outlay |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| \$10,000                    | \$1687         | 4                 | \$6748            | \$4454                        |
| \$25,000                    | \$4845         | 3                 | \$14,535          | \$9593                        |
| \$50,000                    | \$9490         | 3                 | \$28,470          | \$18,790                      |

\*Preferred rates would be lower in the insured qualified.

*Note:* Depending on assumptions used, Variable or Universal type permanent insurance policies may also be considered as appropriate for tax-deductible gifting.

\*\*The above examples are based on current dividend scales, which are not guaranteed, actual dividends earned may be higher or lower and could affect years of outlay.

### Members In The News

In early July, George Grayson was one of a panel of featured experts interviewed by the host of the PBS Evening News.

Robert Maccubbin, Faculty member of the College of William and Mary is in the press as the editor of the recently released book, Williamsburg, Virginia: A City Before the State, hardcover (July 2000). It received a favorable review in the Richmond Times Dispatch on Sunday, July 23, 2000, and is selling at Amazon. Com for \$39.96 plus shipping.

### Member's Night

Just a reminder everybody, you've gotten your flyer already. The Tenth Annual Member's Night is at 6:30 P.M. on October 10, 2000 at Williamsburg National Golf Club House, 3700 Centerville Rd (Rte 614), Green Spring Plantation, Williamsburg. It promises to be a grand evening. There is a cash bar.



There is a BBQ buffet dinner. And, there is a Bill Weaver enthralling you all about Scottish Lighthouses. How much do you know about them? Well, come and find out more.

Don't forget that Member's Night is for Society members and their male guests only, and dress is Scottish daywear or coat and tie. By now you all have returned your reservations. If not, call Bill Weaver at (757) 229-3432. Hurry up now.

### **Sylvander and Clarinda**

Between December 1787 and March 1788, Burns exchanged letters with Agnes Maclehose, a deserted Edinburgh 'grass-widow, a lady of very modest means with two young boys. During the winter of 1787/88, the second of Burns' two Edinburgh seasons, when the poet was less popular than the previous winter, he carried on a passionate courtship with her. He called himself Sylvander and she used the name Clarinda. The friendship had to be built up by letters since Burns was laid up with a damaged knee after falling from a coach. In many letters he professed his passionate devotion.

Their affair reached a climax on 26<sup>th</sup> January. Clarinda, who depended on help from her uncle, the judge Lord Craig, and was under the spiritual dominance of the Reverend James Kemp (1744-1808)—himself involved in an affair with Lady Colquhoun of Luss—wrote to Burns breaking off the relationship.

When the affair was almost over, Burns wrote a revealing letter to Clarinda dated 4<sup>th</sup> February in which he poured out his heart to her. Afterwards he commemorated their brief passion in one of his finest and most moving lyrics, *Ae Fond Kiss*.

#### **Ae Fond Kiss**

Ae fond kiss, and then we sever;  
Ae fareweel, and then forever!  
Deep in heart-wrung tears I'll pledge thee,  
Warring sighs and groans I'll wage thee,  
Who shall say that fortune grieves him,  
While the star of hope she leaves him?  
Me, nae cheerfu twinkle lights me;  
Dark despair around benights me.

I'll ne'er blame my partial fancy,  
Naething could resist my Nancy;  
But to see her was to love her;  
Love but her and love forever.  
Had we never lov'd sae kindly,

Had we never lov'd sae blindly,  
Never met—or never parted,  
We had ne'er been broken-hearted.

Fare-thee-weel, thou first and fairest!  
Fare-thee-weel, thou best and dearest!  
Thine be ilka joy and treasure,  
Peace, Enjoyment, Love and Pleasure!  
Ae fond kiss, and then we sever!  
Ae fareweel, alas, forever!  
Deep in heart-wrung tears I'll pledge thee,  
Warring sighs and groans I'll wage thee.  
Robert Burns

### **Golf Courses St Andrews**

Golf has been played at this site for more than 500 years, and the old course can fairly be described as an ancient monument. Certainly it is a national treasure, and because it is a public course its delights are available to all. Top players find it easy to subdue the course in good conditions but Scottish wind and weather can bedevil their efforts. The 17<sup>th</sup> hole is probably the most famous, or notorious, in the world—with that metallised road and accursed stone wall just behind the green.

### **Scottish Weapons**

#### **Claymores (*claidheamh mhor*)**

This is the sword most often seen on grave slabs, dating from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, to be found in West Highland churchyards. It is a long, two-handed, cutting sword, tapering to the point. Having a long handle for a solid two-handed grip, there are some hand and a half examples. The single cross guard slopes down towards the point and the arms of this guard end in a shamrock or quatrefoil design. This sword made the Highlander, at close quarters, the terror of his adversary. The claymore was renowned in every battle from Harlaw in 1411 to the Killiecrankie in 1689.

#### **Basket-hilted sword**

Because of the scarcity of surviving claymores, this broadsword is sometimes mistakenly called a claymore, which it is not. However, it is considered the characteristic Scottish sword, although the best



examples were made in the Andrea Ferrara workshop in Italy. Ferrara was the epitome of quality in sword making and many European sword makers for at least a century and a half, engraved his name on their creations. Ferrara lived and worked in Belluno, Italy around 1590. Since there are many variations of the spelling of his name, it is probably safe to consider as authentic, an inscription as "XX ANDREIA VARARA XX". So check out your old broadswords. There is an authentic one in the Regimental Museum of the Gordon Highlanders.

The Scottish basket hilt evolved over a long period of time. While few hilts are dated, there is a Ferrara sword at Craigston Castle with a 16<sup>th</sup> century date and Scottish design. Supposedly the mercenaries of the Venetian Republic carried a sword called the Schiavona sword, which is the ancestor of the Scottish basket hilt. It seems that Scottish armourers adapted the highly complicated guard of interlaced steel straps that the Schiavona swords had into the Scottish basket hilt. While early basket hilts are roughly made, hammered out by hand by local smiths, the later ones became more and more complicated in design. It eventually became a test piece for Scottish swordsmiths on their completing apprenticeship. By the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century the basket hilt had reached its zenith but continued in use in Highland regiments as a military weapon until the First World War.

### **Highland Dirks**

Truly an ancient Highland weapon, the dirk was for use at close quarters, hidden under the plaid in front of the wearer. There was no defense against it as a stabbing weapon. There was many variations and ornamentation of dirks. Usually it was a single thick blade, sometimes cut down from a sword. About 12 inches in length, the back of the blade might be pierced or grooved. Early dirks had hilts of brass and were quite plain. There is no cross guard except for an Atholl variety. Some hilts were staghorn but the dirk as we know it had a hilt of heather root or ebony and carved with Celtic symbols. From about the time of Sir Walter Scott, the beginning of the *Celtic Revival*, dirks became purely ornamental. Intricately chased and engraved in silver and mounted with Cairngorm stones on their pommels, some dirks are splendid indeed. Many 19<sup>th</sup> and even 20<sup>th</sup> century examples are costly collector's items. A recent auction of things Scottish in Edinburgh saw record-setting prices for dirks, selling for 2000 to 3000 pounds sterling.

### **Sgian Dhu or Black Knife**

Actually a relatively modern piece, worn in the stocking, the sgian dhu dates from the late 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century. More for symbol and show as an additional ornament for the kilt, it probably was an adaptation of the ancient armpit knife, the *Sgian Ocalis*. Like the dirk the sgian dhu became elaborate as well, with examples in silver and inlaid with precious stones. And also like the dirk, it has commanded high prices at auction.

### **Lochaber Axe**

Simply a pole with an axe head and a hook on its reverse, the Lochaber axe was a most formidable weapon. Its main function was for tearing horseman off their saddles and dispatching them.

### **Targes**

The targe or target is a small circular shield about 20 inches made of two thicknesses of wood running in different directions. The wood was covered with animal skin and the exterior was embellished with brass bosses or nails in decorative patterns. Sometimes there was a metal spike in the center, thus making it a weapon. The interior was covered with leather cured with the hair on it and equipped with thongs and handles. Early targes were made of a circular metal plate with hard stuffed wool over which was a layer of cork. Over all that was strong leather nailed to the cork. Normally slung on the back it was carried on the left arm during battle to protect the body.

### **Firearms**

The earliest Scottish pistols date from the 17<sup>th</sup> century and have snap haunch locks. The butts terminate in a globe, after a Spanish pattern. The Scottish pistol was a beauty of design, perfectly balanced, and accurate. To have a pistol by a Scottish gunsmith such as Campbell, Murdoch, or Cadell is a collector's dream. While pistols in Scotland remained all metal, English or Continental ones developed wooden butts. At the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century the *ramshorn* butt appeared, having been developed at Doune in Perthshire. Lavish in ornamentation, frequently inlaid with gold and silver, individual parts pierced and fretted, the Scottish pistol reached its ultimate design about this same time. Towns of important pistol manufacture were Dundee, Stirling, Brechin and Oldmeldrum.

The production of Scottish pistols ended with The Disarming Acts after Culloden. To keep Scottish regiments supplied with pistols they were made in England and were of inferior quality. However,



some ornate reproductions showed up with the Romantic Revival of the 1820's. The Act made it unlawful to use or bear broadsword or target, poniard, whinger or dirk, side pistol or gun or any other warlike weapon. Arms were of royal burghs were to be kept in magazines and could not exceed 200 in number. At Keith alone in 1717, 634 swords, 91 dirks, 396 guns, 219 pistols, 37 halberds, 18 targets and one steel breastplate were given up. But that was not all.

After the '45 Rebellion, thousands of weapons were collected and destroyed. This deliberate destruction proved to be a huge cultural and artistic loss to a Highland way of life by a hostile government. These vanished examples of exquisite craftsmanship would be priceless today and make those that have survived even the more rare and costly.

### **The Compsons**

The Compsons were Glasgow printers, but Quentin was orphaned early and brought up in Perthshire by his mother's family. He fought in the '45 Rising, and, after Culloden, fled to America, to South Carolina. During the War of Independence Quentin fought, reluctantly, against an English king, and sought sanctuary in the wilds of Kentucky with his grandson, Jason Lycurgus.

In 1820 this grandson rode north up the Natchez Trace to the Chickasaw agency at Okatoba, Mississippi, on a "light-waisted but strong-hocked mare", which, being the fastest quarter-horse seen by the Indians, who still possessed the land, not to mention the title, he swapped with their chief Ikkemotubbe for a square mile of that very land—"a solid square mile of North Mississippi dirt as truly angled as the four corners of a card table top".

On that square mile of dirt was founded the town of Jefferson, the Compton dynasty, and the county of Yawknatawpha, Mississippi.

From The Glasgow Diary, by Donald Saunders, 1984

### **Jewels of Love and Magic**

#### **The Luckenbooth Brooch**

Perhaps the most popular mystic brooch in Scotland is the heart, or luckenbooth brooch. Made from around 1700 onwards, the name comes from the luckenbooths (lock-up booths) set around the High Kirk of St. Giles, Edinburgh, where silversmiths carried out their trade. Actually, these brooches were made all over Scotland. Shaped like a heart, sometimes there was a crown on top and sometimes two hearts were intertwined. Usually they were given as a gift when a couple were engaged but sometimes they were worn to keep away witches, keep nursing mothers from drying up, and to keep harm from the babies. But from all over Scotland they were worn to cloak a person from the Evil Eye.

### **The Highlander's Sense of Duty**

"After the surrender of Lord Cornwallis's army in America, the 75<sup>th</sup> was marched in detachments as prisoners to different parts of Virginia, where they met with many of their emigrant countrymen, by whom, as well as by the Americans, every endeavour was used, and many tempting offers made, to prevail on the soldiers to break their allegiance and become subjects of the American Government. Yet not a single Highlander allowed himself to be seduced by their offers from the duty which he had engaged for his king and country."

From The British Soldier By J.H Stocqueler

### **Danish Sperm is on Its Way**

The first batch of imported Danish sperm for childless couples will arrive in Glasgow this week, causing consternation among Scottish males, casting doubt on the nation's virility. It also led to an 18-month inquiry between Glasgow Royal Infirmary and the Human Fertilization and Embryology Authority.

The decline in Scottish donors has been blamed on a law that required them to give names, raising fears of paternity actions. When it emerged that there was only one available donor left in Glasgow, and a two-year waiting list for treatment, the HFEA relented. Now 250 containers, each containing 25 million frozen sperm, will be flown in at a cost of 10,000 pounds.

Dr Richard Fleming, a fertility expert at the Glasgow Infirmary, said: "There has been a rigorous selection process. This is high-grade sperm and each sample has been screened. Donors have agreed to have their details stored on a national database.



Thomas Ebbesen of Cryos said:” We make sure that all the sperm has been screened for disease. This is very high quality sperm.”

From *Scotland on Sunday*, April 16, 2000

## Clans of Scotland

### Gordon

Whether or not the Gordons were ‘no claned familie’ (as an 18<sup>th</sup> century writer maintained), it was a true saying over a long period and a wide area in the northeast that ‘the Gordons hae the guiding o’ t’. The area was of three main parts- a western section of Strathbogie and Enzie (with Huntly Castle on the Deveron and Gordon Castle at the lowest crossing place on the Spey) and stretching southwards into the mountains; a section on Deeside, including Aboyne, Glentanar and Glenmuick, acquired by marriage with an heiress; and a section in the Aberdeen neighborhood where many cadet branches settled and prospered.

The first the name was recorded in Scotland was Lord of the barony of Gordon in the Merse (Berwickshire) in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century, and it was after the war of independence that Sir Adam Gordon received the lands of Strathbogie in Banffshire from King Robert. The fall of the Comyns and later the crown’s annexation of the earldom of Mar enable the Gordons to become the most powerful family in the northeast. In the early 15<sup>th</sup> century an heiress married Sir Alexander Seton, but the family remained Gordons. The Earls and Marquesses of Huntly and later Dukes of Gordon, along with a large number of cadets including the Earls of Aboyne, dominated the region from about 1445 to 1660. They were a ‘very considerable and powerful name’ in the low country of the northeast, able to raise 3000 men with a ‘great posse of gentlemen on horseback’, as well as a Highland following. The Gordons of Lochinvar and Gordons of Haddo branched off the main stem before the Seton marriage. On at least six occasions between 1475 and 1557, Huntly, as the King’s Lieutenant in the north, was given sweeping powers of control over an area from the Forth to the Orkneys.

After 1603 Huntly lost his position in Scotland. The second marquess supported Charles I (Gordon cavalry fought with distinction at Auldearn and Alford), and shared the king’s fate in 1649; the duke kept the flag flying for James VII over Edinburgh castle for a year after the Revolution; the heir was ‘out’ in 1715, raising 500 horse and 2,000 foot from a sometimes reluctant tenantry, but with the enthusiastic Gordon of Glenbucket in command; and 30 years later the ‘terror of Glenbucket’s name brought out half Aberdeen and Banffshire’. But the dukes themselves remained uninvolved, and later raised two regiments of infantry, which made the name of the Gordon Highlanders famed and feared far and wide.

All the Gordons are said to descend from Sir Adam Gordon. Adam or Edom has always been a popular name among the Gordons, thus most Scottish Adams, Adamsons, MacAdams and Edomsons claim to be descended of the Gordons.

### Scottish Toasts

The seasons are approaching that you may need a toast. Here are a few to file away in the gray matter.

*Here’s tae mair freends, an’ less need o’ them.*

Here’s to more friends and less need of them.

*Here’s grand luck, an’ muckle fat weans!*

Here’s to first-rate luck and large fat babies.

*Here’s health tae the seeck, an’ stilts tae the lame;*

Here’s health to the sick; and crutches to the cripple.

*Claise tae the back, an’ brose tae the wame!*

Clothes for the body, and a meal for the stomach.

*A cosy but, an’ a canty ben,*

A cosy and neat cottage,

*Tae couthie women, an’ honest men!*

To tender women and honest men.

*Whan we’re gaun up the hill o’ fortune, may we ne’re meet a freend comin’ doon!*

Bank of Scotland established, 1695

National Dress prohibited, 1746

### Scottish Place Names

**Harris**-Isle of Lewis-Western Isles-‘high island’, *har* (Norse) high.

**Gleneagles**-Tayside-‘glen of the church’, *glean* (Gaelic) glen, valley; *eaglais* (Gaelic) church.

**Bannockburn**-Central-‘bright water’, *bhan* (Brittonic) bright; *oc* (Brittonic) water.

### Internet Domain For SNP USA

Now you can access the site on <http://www.snpusa.org> and contact the advisory committee through their personalized e-mail addresses.

### Mr Joseph Galloway on the American War

- Q.** In what state was Washington's army in respect to clothing in the campaign of 1777?
- A.** "All the deserters who came in to us, except the Virginians, and a very few from the northward, were in a manner naked;-they were not clothed fit for the inclemency of the season.—Some of them had linen garments on, and those without shoes, very few with whole breeches or stockings;-in short, they were objects of distress when they came down to me to be examined.—The Virginians had passed a law, under which they authorized commissioners to search the house of every inhabitant for whatever spare cloth of every kind that might be suitable for the army, and to seize it for that purpose, which was executed.—The Virginians, therefore, were better clothed.—Washington sent into the county of Bucks, where there was a considerable quantity of cloth manufactured, lying in their fulling-mills, and seized it for the use of his army; but before it was conveyed to him it was taken by an American troop of light horse and some refugees and conducted to Philadelphia." From Scots Magazine, Volume XLI, 1779

### The Guid Neighbor

Angus McTavish of Glasgow comes to his guid wife asking, "Maggie, could ye be sewin' on a wee button that's come off me fly? I canna button me pants."

"Oh Angus, I've got me hands in the dishpan. Go up the stairs and see our guid neebor, Mrs MacDonald, could be helping' ye wi' it."

About five minutes there was a terrible crash, a bang, some yelling and the sound of a body falling down the stairs.

Walking back through the door with a black eye, a bloody nose and a sore body comes Angus. The guid wife looks at him and says, "My Gawd, what happened to ye man? Dinna ye ask her like I told ye?"

"Aye" replied Angus. "I asked her to sew on the wee button and she did it fine. But when she bent doon to bite off the wee scrap of thread, Mr MacDonald come walking in."

### Great Scots William Quarrier

Born at Greenock in 1829, William Quarrier worked in Glasgow before he was eight years old to help support his widowed mother and two sisters. He was often cold and hungry and vowed that if he ever had the means he would help destitute children.

By the age of 12 he was a shoemaker and by 35 owned three shops. One day he encountered a starving match-seller that reminded him of his childhood vow. To realize his dream of Cottage Homes, where groups of children under a house-father and mother could be brought up with a sense of security, he bought land at Bridge of Weir and in 1878 opened the first buildings.

When Quarrier died in 1903 there were 64 buildings on the site, including the first tuberculosis sanatorium in Scotland. There are now nearly 90 buildings, with 450 children.

**The Spectator** is published quarterly by Saint Andrews Society of Williamsburg. We welcome comments, articles, advice. Please send your input to me, Don Dixon at 1 Wagner Rd, Poquoson, VA, 23662 or e-mail at [thistlegate@aol.com](mailto:thistlegate@aol.com).



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