

NEWSLETTER OF THE
SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Society Officers:

President: Andy Calvo

Vice President: Doug Elder

Treasurer: Maggie Mackay

Secretary: Joseph Schaub

Board members:

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Rosemary Day

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**INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE:**

Upcoming 2
Events

Recipe 3

Clan Profile 4

Scots in Vir- 4
ginia

Scottish Holi- 5
days

Scottish His- 5
tory

Scottish Mer- 6
chandise

The River City Caledonian

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JANUARY FEBRUARY 2012



Burns Night 2012

This year's big event, the Burns Supper, will be held Saturday, January 28, at Jefferson Lakeside Country Club. A social hour with cash bar, beginning at 6:00 p.m., will precede the dinner which begins at 7:00.

Fare will include traditional Scottish dishes such as haggis, cock-a-leekie soup, tatties & neeps, along with a choice of rib eye steak, salmon, chicken, or vegetarian entrée.

Alcoholic beverages (including a fine array of single-malt scotches) and non-alcoholic beverages will be available through a ticket purchase at the event, as in years before.

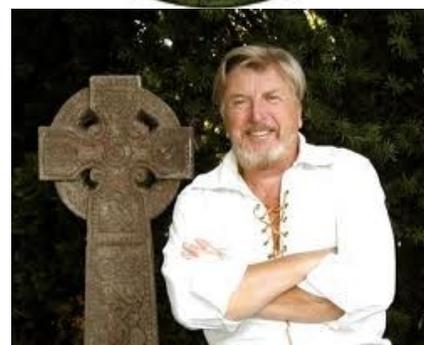
Carl Peterson will provide the evening's musical entertainment.

You should be aware that we

have kept the prices at the same rate as last year, and that the profit margin on event tickets is very small indeed. Where we make more substantial money to offset the expenses of the event is in the silent auction—and this is dependent upon YOU to be successful. See the item below for details.

Tickets are still available for purchase from Treasurer Maggie Mackay (at \$39 for members of the Society, \$44 for non-members), but you must act before January 15th to reserve your spot. Request an invitation and send it back with your meal preference noted and a check for your reservation (see page 6 for address).

We hope to see you there for a



great time!

Burns Supper Auction: Your Items Needed!

Please donate items for our major fundraiser for Burns Night, the silent auction. As noted above, we don't really make much of a profit off of event tickets or drinks; we have to pay for the event mostly out of our existing funds and the money generated from the auction.

Scottish or Celtic themed items

are not required, but are certainly welcome. Anything you believe folks will bid on is fine.

Sarah Slutzah will coordinate the auction items. If you have anything to donate, give her a call at (804) 515-7171 or (804) 651-7288.

You may also bring items on the

night of the Burns Supper, but if you do so, please arrive early to set up the item and fill out the auction card well before the dinner is to begin.

After notifying Sarah of any large items to donate, contact Andy Calvo (at 804-551-0918) if you need an item picked up.

Hogmanay Celebration

You and your family are invited to a *Special Potluck Social Evening* on Monday evening, January 2nd of 2012, at 6:00 PM at the Benedictine Abbey at 12829 River Road, Richmond VA

This event is multi faceted, with the Pipers & Drummers and their families at the center of attention. Pipe & Drum Bands historically, have strong connections with various Celtic bodies and Public Service, and this is an opportunity for everyone; Cadet, Families of Cadets, Faculty, Alumni, Scottish & Irish organizations, and Police & Fire members, along with members of the Diocese of Richmond to enjoy a evening of warm fellowship.

What better way to meet and make new friends along with old

acquaintances than to come out near the time of "New Years" (or as the Scots call it- "Hogmanay")? The event is casual. Kilts and tartan are always welcomed.

The young men of Benedictine Pipes & Drums have embarked on a new avenue for the school prominence in education, virtue and character. They have risen to the challenge of what Benedictine has to offer, and with a lot of hard work, they shall make their mark on the schools' history. Please show your support for them by attending this event.

The events of the evening are as follows:

- 1) Potluck Dinner with various introductions and speakers throughout dinner.
- 2) Introduction and performance

given by the Benedictine Pipes & Drums

3) An Introduction by Randy Dedricksen of the William Wallace Society of Glasgow

4) Presentation of the film: "Walk for Wallace" a major documentation film that first aired on BBC created by the late Sir David Ross.

5) A drawing will be held for a chance to win a Scottish Claymore Sword.

Please RSVP to the following email, and if possible, inform what type of covered dish you are bringing and how many in your party to:

**PipesofArgyll@aol.com
or call: (804) 502-7046**



THE RIVER
CITY
CALEDONIAN



Local Events Calendar, January-February

January 2: Hogmanay Celebration, Benedictine Abbey, 6:00 p.m.

January 9: Society Board Meeting, Trinity United Methodist Church, 7:00 p.m.

(No general meeting of the SSR in January.)

January 28: Burns Supper, Jefferson Lakeside Country Club, 6:00 p.m.

February 6: Society Board Meeting, Trinity United Methodist Church, 7:00 p.m.

February 16: Society General Meeting, Trinity United Methodist Church, 7:00 p.m.

February 25: (Tentative) Pub Night, TBA

Events in Scotland, January-February

11 Jan: Burning of the Clavie, Burghead, Morayshire (fire festival)

19 Jan– 5 Feb: Celtic Connections, Glasgow (music celebration)

21-22 Jan: Aviemore Sled Dog Rally

31 Jan: Up Helly Aa, Lerwick, Shetland (Viking fire festival)

4-26 Feb: International Rugby, Edinburgh

15-19 Feb: Fort William Mountain Festival (celebration of mountain culture)

16-26 Feb: Glasgow Film Festival

25 Feb: Annual Inverness Fiddlers' Rally

(From <http://www.welcometoscotland.com/things-to-do/>)

Recipe: "Auld Reekie" Cock-a-Leekie Soup

Ingredients:

3lb boiling chicken (giblets removed)
 3 slices of streaky bacon
 1lb shin of beef
 2 lb leeks
 1 large onion
 5 fluid ounces Scotch whisky
 4 pints water
 1 level tablespoon dried tarragon
 Salt and pepper
 8 pre-soaked prunes (optional but traditional!)

Method:

Mix the whisky, tarragon and sugar in the water. Chop up the bacon and place the chicken, bacon and beef in a large bowl and pour over the whisky marinade. Leave to soak overnight. Place the chicken etc in a large soup pot. Chop up the leeks (reserve one) and onion and add to the pot. Salt and pepper to taste. Bring to the boil, cover and simmer for two hours, removing any scum as required. Remove the chicken from the pot, remove skin and bones. Chop the meat into small pieces

and return to the pot. Cut up the shin of beef, if required. Add the prunes and the last chopped leek and simmer for 10 to 15 minutes. It will serve up to eight people.

(From: http://www.rampantscotland.com/recipes/blrecipe_reekie.htm)



Best Wishes

We wish a happy birthday to the following Society members:

Jan/Feb birthdays:

Brian Mackay (Jan 1),
 Robert Clarke Land (Jan 6),
 Andy Calvo (Jan 10),
 W. Christopher Martin (Jan 15),
 Susan Hamilton (Jan 24),

Maggie Mackay (January 28),
 Alvin Buchanan (January 28),
 Sandra Ambrose (February 2),
 Verda Little Jones (Feb 9),
 Michael Kenneth Young (Feb 12),
 Eugene McLendon (Feb 14)

(If we don't have your birthday in our database, please let us know so we can wish you the best on your special day! Contact newsletter

editor Joseph Schaub—see contact info on page 6.) One of those whose date we didn't have before but do now, we wish a happy belated birthday: Owen Brodie's birthday was November 21.



Other Area Scottish Groups and Info

While we appreciate your participation in the Scottish Society of Richmond, you might have an interest in looking into one or more of the following area Scottish-themed groups or sites:

The **Scottish Country Dancers of Richmond** hold classes and dances in the three centuries-old pastime of Scottish Country Dancing (<http://www.scd-richmond.org/>)

Thistle and Shamrock Dance Academy is a Celtic dance studio

for children and adults focused on highland dancing. (<http://www.thistleandshamrockdance.com/>)

The **Scottish Gaelic Enthusiasts in Richmond** keep alive the Gaelic language and welcome all levels of learners (see the Gaelic Society of America site, <http://www.acgamerica.org/>).

Fiddle enthusiasts of all skill levels are part of the **Potomac Valley Scottish Fiddle Club**, serving the

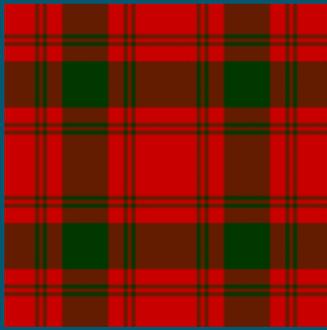
Washington, D.C. area

(<http://www.potomacvalleyscottishfiddle.org/>).

For the Scottish heavy athlete, there is the **Mid-Atlantic Scottish Athletics** association, which is the official sanctioning organization for many events in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Kentucky (<http://www.heavyevents.com/>).

The **Capital Scot** website (<http://thecapitalscot.com/>) hosts information on events, etc. in the Washington, D.C. area.

In addition to these, there are numerous musical groups and instructors in Scottish/Celtic music—check them out!



MacQuarrie Tartan



MacQuarrie Crest



“Lochaber No More”:
The romantic view of Scottish immigration

Clan Profile: Clan MacQuarrie

Clan MacQuarrie is first found in possession of the island of Ulva in the Scottish Inner Hebrides, and as a result was dependent on the Lords of the Isles. The first record of Clan MacQuarrie is of the chief *John Macquarrie of Ulva*, who died in 1473. John's son, *Dunslaff*, was the chief of the clan during the forfeiture of the Lord of the Isles, after which the MacQuarries gained some independence, though a minor clan surrounded by more powerful ones. Following the fall of the Lordship of the Isles the clan followed Maclean of Dowart, and with the Macleans, the MacQuarries supported Domhnall Dubh's quest for the Lordship of the Isles at the beginning of the sixteenth century. In 1504 *MacGorry of Ullowaa*, along with other chiefs, was summoned to answer for aiding in Donald Dubh's failed

rebellion. The following chief, Dunslaff's son John, was one of the chiefs denounced in 1504, for treasonous correspondence with the King of England. The clan suffered grievously at the Battle of Inverkeithing on July 20, 1651, as they supported the Scots forces in aid of Charles II of England against an English Parliamentary army led by John Lambert. In the battle the Scots were decisively defeated by the well disciplined New Model Army of the English, and amongst the slain was *Allan Macquarrie of Ulva*, chief of Clan MacQuarrie, and most of his followers. The last chief of Clan MacQuarrie, was *Lachlan Macquarrie of Ulva*. MacQuarrie was head of the clan when Samuel Johnson and James Boswell visited Ulva in 1773. Debts to creditors forced the last chief to sell off his lands and in 1778, at

the age of 63, he joined the British Army. The chief then served in the American Revolutionary War, and died at the age of 103 in 1818, with the title Lord Lynedoch.

Notable MacQuarries:

- Lachlan Macquarie (1762-1824) Governor of New South Wales (1810-1824)
- Bluegrass musician and singer Del McCoury.

(text from Wikipedia)

Mull and Ulva, Macquarrie territory



Scots in Virginia

“Colonial Virginia was always intended to be a piece of England translated to the Chesapeake Bay. King James I expected his three kingdoms—Scotland and Ireland being the other two—to develop their own American colonies. By 1640, however, the surviving overseas plantations were all English, and neither Scots nor Irish were especially welcome. Nevertheless, many a Scot still made his way to Virginia, though not always under circumstances that commended the journey.”

So begins historian Bruce Lenman's article “Lusty Beggars, Dissolute Women, Sorners, Gypsies, and Vagabonds for Virginia,” published in *Colonial Williamsburg Journal* (Spring 2005). While many Scots and Scots-Irish came to American soil of their own accord, seeking better opportunities, many others went unwillingly, including indentured servants.

The first large-scale compulsory migration of Scots began with the Scottish soldiers defeated by Oliver Cromwell. “Shiftless people and vagabonds” were soon on the list to be transported, placed there by city leaders hoping to clean up the streets. (continued on page 5)

Scottish Holidays, January and February

First Footing. 1st January - Visiting friends and relatives immediately after New Year's Eve, in the early hours of the morning of January 1st. First footing after the bells have rung in the New Year is still common - the 'first foot' in the house after midnight should be male, dark, and handsome and should carry symbolic coal, shortbread, salt, black bun (a spiced cake) and, of course, whisky. In Kirkwall, Orkney, there is a New Year Ba' Game held in the streets of the town which can last most of January 1st, between the Uppies and the Doonies, or more correctly, 'Up-the-Gates' and 'Doon-the-Gates' from Old Norse 'gata' (path or road).

Up-Helly-aa, Last Tuesday of January - Held in Lerwick, Shetland Islands, a full sized Viking Galley, complete with

shields and oars is pulled by a torch-bearing procession dressed as Viking warriors to the beach. Guizer Jarl calls for three cheers for the builders of the longship and after a bugle call, the galley is set alight by 800 blazing torches.

25 January - **Burns' birthday** The anniversary of the birth of the poet Robert Burns, in 1759 at which many a Burns Supper is consumed and the Immortal Memory, a speech in praise of the Bard, is given.

Imbolc, 1 February - the Celtic goddess who in later times became revered as a Christian saint. Originally, her festival on February 1 was known as Imbolc or Oimelc, two names which refer to the lactation of the ewes, the flow of milk that heralds the return of the life-giving forces of spring. Later,

the Catholic Church replaced this festival with Candlemas Day on February 2, which is dedicated to the Virgin Mary and features candlelight processions. The powerful figure of Brigid the Light-Bringer overlights both pagan and Christian celebrations.

Candlemas Day, 2 February - "Candlemas began as a Roman festival to celebrate the return of spring. It is now a Scottish legal 'quarter day' when rents and other duties must be paid. Schoolchildren also traditionally gave their teachers gifts on this day. There is an old traditional poem which said that:

If Candlemas Day be bright and fair
Half the winter is to come and mair (more)
If Candlemas Day be dark and foul
Half the winter was over at Yowl (Christmas)



The Honours of
Scotland



Alexander
Graham Bell



January, February In Scottish History

January 8, 1746: The burgh of Stirling surrendered to the Jacobite army. Significantly however, the castle remained in Hanoverian hands despite a Jacobite siege which caused many casualties on both sides. Hanoverian forces under General Hawley marched from Edinburgh to break the siege, and met the Jacobites at the Battle of Falkirk.

January 16, 1746: A retreating Jacobite army defeated Hanoverian forces at the Battle of Falkirk. The Jacobite army, led by Lord George Murray, defeated Gov-

ernment forces under General Hawley. This was the last Jacobite victory. Hawley blamed his troops for the defeat and executed about 60 men for cowardice.

January 15, 1759: poet Robert Burns was born. Scotland's National Bard entered the world in a clay biggan at Alloway. Although born into a poor family, Burns's father enrolled him at a local school and the poet's love of language was born.

February 4, 1818: Sir Walter Scott supervised the rediscovery of the Hon-

ours of Scotland, the Scottish Crown Jewels, in Edinburgh Castle. The jewels consist of a sword, crown and sceptre. The three items were first used together during the coronation of Mary, Queen of Scots and last used for the coronation of Charles II in 1651. During the Second World War, they were hidden in different parts of Edinburgh Castle in case of German invasion.

February 14, 1876: Alexander Graham Bell patented the telephone, patent no. 174461.

Scots in Virginia, continued

Indentured servitude of prisoners and of the poor was akin to slavery, and indeed supplied much of the labor in the American colonies before African slavery became more widespread.

"Most Scots prisoners went to Virginia. Immigrant Scots women helped early eighteenth-century Virginia acquire a self-replacing population. Before 1700, the sex ratio and lifestyle ruled that out. And if Virginia suited these Scots,

they did well by Virginia. Despite the homesickness, hardship, and misery, some Scots found that their land of exile had turned into a new home. In 1730, looking back over the first three generations of Scots migration to Virginia, Roderick Gordon, a ship's surgeon and from 1729 resident of King and Queen County, Virginia, wrote:

'Pity it is that thousands of my country people should be starving at home, when they may live here

in peace and plenty, as a great many who have been transported for a punishment have found pleasure, profit, and ease and would rather undergo any hardship than be forced back on their own country.'"

Read Professor Lenman's entire text at:

<http://www.history.org/foundation/journal/spring05/scots.cfm>

Questions? Contact an officer or Board member:

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(andymed49@yahoo.com)

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Joseph Schaub: 264-4729

(josephmelissal@verizon.net)

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Barbara Evans: 363-7059

(celticday54@comcast.net)

Jerry Mackay: 672-1927

Dani Tiller: 798-6252 (danitatiller@comcast.net)

David Tiller: 798-6252

Make sure you get your Burns Night reservation and check to Maggie Mackay before January 15! P.O. Box 1264, Glen Allen, VA 23060

On the web

<http://www.richmondscots.org/>

The Scottish Society of Richmond was founded in 1978 for the purpose of sharing ideals of Scottish heritage. It provides a gathering place for those with an interest in Scotland, educational programs and events on Scottish themes, as well as scholarships and awards for those studying Scottish arts and culture. The Society typically meets the 3rd Thursday of each month, September through May, 7:00 p.m., Trinity United Methodist Church (903 Forest Avenue, Richmond). We will NOT have a regular meeting in January, however, as our function this month is Burns Night.



Scottish Society Merchandise

Proudly display your Scottish Pride with several items in the SSR Store. We have created the Richmond Scots store at cafepress.com for you to purchase your SSR logo swag from. Whether it's a T-Shirt, Sweatshirt, or a mug, you'll be able to proudly display your Scottishness.

Café Press does all the hard work; you simply use the link on our website to order your merchandise and Café Press does the rest. A portion of all sales goes directly to the Society, so not only are you telling the world you are a Scot and you are proud, but you are helping the Scottish Society at the same time.

Just visit the website, <http://www.richmondscots.org/>, and follow the "Store" links.

Consider buying something soon and auctioning it at Burns Night!



Reminders:

Get your Burns Night reservations in to Maggie Mackay by January 15 (address is on page 6).

Donate items to the silent auction (see page 1 story for contact information).

Remember Hogmanay (and RSVP if you plan to attend). Information is on page 2.

Join us at our Pub Night (tentative) and our February general meeting.

Make sure we have the most recent contact information (phone, email) from you so we can keep you up to date.

Have a Happy New Year!

