



NEWSLETTER OF THE
SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Society Officers:

President: Joseph Schaub

Vice President: Doug Elder

Treasurer: Maggie Mackay

Secretary: Charlie Sue Rappold

Board members:

Rosemary Day

Margaret Duckworth

Barbara Evans

Jerry Mackay

Bruce Sutton

David Tiller

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Upcoming Events 2

2

Reminders 3

Clan Profile 4

Scottish History 4

Celebrate St. Andrews Day 5

Scottish Merchandise 6

The River City Caledonian

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2012



November, December: Eats and Treats

It's time for our annual **Taste of Scotland** feast, on **Thursday, November 15, at 7:00 p.m.**, Trinity United Methodist Church.

Bring your favorite Scottish dish to share. If you're stuck for an idea, try http://www.rampantscotland.com/recipes/blrecipe_index.htm for a listing of recipes that have found their way into Scottish kitchens. Scotch eggs, salmon, shortbread, and trifle are typically among the offerings, but you're free to explore other options—make it interesting, but above all, make it Scottish!

We'll enjoy the food and one another's company to some Scottish tunes playing in the background.

Our **December meeting** will be held not on the third but the

second Thursday of December—**December 13, also at 7:00 p.m.** at Trinity UMC. We're moving it up because the 20th is so close to Christmas that we didn't want to interfere with anyone's holiday travel plans.

There will be a very brief, informal presentation on Scottish Christmases, then it will be time for Celtic Christmas tunes, and what has become tradition: our Christmas gift giving (and taking) game. The more who participate, the more fun there is to be had.

Bring a gift (not to put you out of pocket too much—it should only be about a \$5 item) for "Dirty Santa." Each person bringing a gift will pick another present from the pile and un-

wrap it. The next person will then have the option of opening another present, or taking away the previous gift for their own. (It's not as mean as it sounds—it's all done in good humor, and often leads to a lot of laughter and entertainment to see who will be "naughty" or "nice.")

Your bringing a snack food will be welcome, though not mandatory, at the December meeting.

We hope we'll see you for the meetings! And happy holidays, everyone!



Good Weather at the Celtic Festival? No Way!

The Society hosted a tent at the Central Virginia Celtic Festival and Highland Games on October 20th and 21st, at the Richmond Raceway grounds. It was, strangely, a beautiful weekend and the festival had great attendance. We talked to numerous patrons and signed up a few new members—always welcome!

A big thanks to the folks who helped out at the tent:

Julie Canfield (a new member, and already hard at work—thanks, Julie!), Erik Dillon, Margaret and Alan Duckworth, Barbara Evans, Jo Garey, Jim Haney, Florine Johnson, Bruce Kleve, Melissa Johnson, Chris Martin, Maggie and Jerry Mackay, Charlie

Sue and Bob Rappold, Joseph Schaub, Ann Scholte, Bruce and Kathleen Sutton, Dani and David Tiller.

(We had a mishap with our sign-up documents, so if we left you off this list, our apologies—let us know and we'll thank you in the next issue.)

Message from the President

First, thank you to the volunteers at our Celtic Festival tent this October. It was a great success at our tent, and it appeared that the Festival itself was also highly successful. We have high hopes for next year.

Secondly, let me encourage you to attend our meetings coming up, especially if you've not made it to any recently. We want to see you! And there will be good food and fun.

A bit further down the road,

keep Burns Night on your calendar (January 26), and consider donating items to the silent auction.

Lastly, please send any suggestions for programs or events that would be appropriate to the Society and that people would enjoy. We welcome your input.

If I don't see you soon, I hope you'll have a happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and promising New Year.

Mar sin leibh an dràsda (bye for now),

Joseph



THE RIVER
CITY
CALEDONIAN

Want to host your own St. Andrews Day event? Check out <http://www.scotland.org/culture/festivals/st-andrews-day/host-your-own-event/> for tips on how to go about it!

Local Events Calendar, November-December

November 5: Board Meeting, Trinity United Methodist Church library, 7:00 p.m.

November 15: General Meeting, Trinity United Methodist Church, 7:00 p.m.

November 30: St. Andrews Day (worldwide)—no SSR event scheduled, but celebrate in your own way!

December 3: Board Meeting, Trinity United Methodist Church library, 7:00 p.m.

December 13: General Meeting, Trinity United Methodist Church, 7:00 p.m.

And coming up:

January 24: Pipes & Drums of The Black Watch 3rd Battalion, Carpenter Theatre, Richmond Center Stage, 7:30 p.m. (a few tickets still available)

Events in Scotland, November-December

Nov. 3-18: Dundee Science Festival

Nov. 5-January 25: Aberdeen Winter Festival

Nov. 16-18: Fiddle, Edinburgh (fiddle festival)

Nov. 23-24: Dundee Mountain Film Festival

Dec. 15: Carols in Culzean Castle, Maybole Ayrshire

Dec. 31: Hogmanay (various locations)

Dec. 31-Jan. 1: Stonehaven Fireball Festival, Stonehaven, Aberdeenshire

Burns Nicht—Coming Soon

Our biggest event of the year, the annual Burns Dinner, will be on Saturday, January 26 at Jefferson Lakeside Country Club.

We will get started half an hour earlier this year, with social hour running from 5:30-6:30 p.m., followed by the dinner festivities beginning at 6:30.

Music will be provided by Fredericksburg-based band, Kinda Celtic. They'll perform a mixture of Scottish and Irish tunes for us.

Please donate items to donate to

the silent auction. Remember that the auction helps us to offset some of the expenses of the event, so the more items we can successfully auction, the better for everyone. Not all items need be Scottish in nature, but such items usually are favorites. As this event comes a month after Christmas, it can be a good time to donate those presents you got which were nice, but just didn't suit you!

We've worked yet again to keep ticket prices at the same level as last year so you won't feel any addi-

tional pinch on your wallet. Invitations are being sent out for the event—please return your reply and check as soon as you can. Invitations will be mailed later this month. When you receive yours, please fill it out and return your advance payment as soon as possible. If you don't receive one and are interested in attending, just contact treasurer Maggie Mackay (see the contact information on the back page of the newsletter).

Best Wishes

We wish a happy birthday to the following Society members:

November:

- Anne Scholte, Nov. 7
- Maggie R. Caskie, Nov. 13
- Valerie Miller, Nov. 13

December:

- Jerry Mackay, Dec. 15
- Liliana Page Young, Dec. 16

Martha Darlene Curtis, Dec. 18
(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!)

The following folks have had medical issues and we wish them well in recovery:

Beverly Creasy, Bob Rudden, Betty

and Gordon Smith, and Vance Smith

And happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to everyone!

Recipe: Potato Soup

Cold weather is on its way—warm up with a hot bowl of soup!

Ingredients:

- 1 medium onion or leek, finely chopped
- 3 stalks celery, finely chopped
- 3 medium-sized potatoes peeled and diced
- Cup of milk
- 2 oz/50 g butter (1/2 stick)

- A further one or two tablespoons of butter
- Salt and pepper
- Fresh parsley (or chives or dill) for garnish

Method:

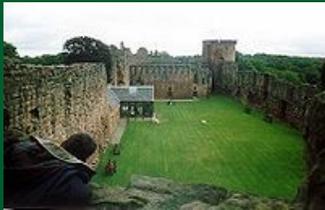
Chop the vegetables into roughly even sized pieces. Melt the butter and sauté the onion until they are yellow and soft. Add the other

vegetables and continue sautéing with the lid on, over a low heat, for 5-10 minutes. Add 3 cups water or stock and season with salt and pepper and add the bay leaf. Cook until the vegetables are tender. When vegetables are ready, remove the bay leaf and add 1 cup of milk and 1-2 tablespoons butter. Reheat (but don't boil). Once the soup is on the soup plate, garnish with parsley (or chives or dill). Serve with crusty bread and butter.





Murray of Tullibardine
Tartan



Bothwell Castle
Courtyard



Blair Castle

Clan Profile: Clan Murray

The Murray family is descended from Freskin, who is thought to be a Flemish knight who flourished in the 12th century. Granted lands in West Lothian by David I, he and his sons intermarried with the house of Moray to consolidate their power.

The descendants of this family were designated "de Moravia", which in Lowland Scots became "Murray."

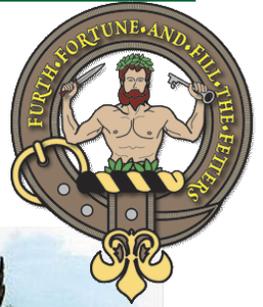
Bothwell Castle, one of the most powerful and visually striking strongholds in Scotland was built by the Murrays and remained the seat of the chief until 1360. In 1297 Sir Andrew Murray took up the cause of Scottish Independence and, with Sir William Wallace, rose against Edward of England. After this, the Murray family multiplied throughout Scotland and many branches of the name

Murray disputed the right to the chieftainship.

In 1360 the lordship and the great house of Bothwell was lost by the Murrays and passed into the hands of the Douglas family, and it was not until the 16th century that the Murrays of Tullibardine are recorded once again.

The Clan Chief is Clan chief: His Grace Bruce Murray, 12th Duke of Atholl, Marquess of Atholl, Marquess of Tullibardine, Earl of Atholl, Earl of Tullibardine, Earl of Strathtay and Strathardle, Viscount of Balquhiddier, Viscount of Glenalmond, Lord Murray of Tullibardine. He succeeded John, the 11th Duke, who passed away earlier this year.

Blair Castle is the seat of the Duke of Atholl.



Murray
of Atholl
Tartan

November, December in Scottish History

November 1: The novelist and politician Naomi Mitchison was born in Edinburgh on this day in 1897.

November 10: 1871, the journalist Henry M Stanley found the missing Scottish missionary David Livingstone.

November 22: 1926, publication of *A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle* by Hugh MacDiarmid, Scotland's Greatest Twentieth Century poet.

December 1: On this day in 1787, the first modern lighthouse in Scotland was lit at Fraserburgh.

December 4: Today in 1795 saw the birth of Thomas Carlyle, the leading Victorian intellectual, in Ecclefechan, Dumfriesshire.

December 20: Today in 1933 the entertainer Andy Stewart was born in Glasgow.

December 25: On Christmas Day in 1950 four young Scots retrieved the Stone of Destiny from Westminster Abbey.

Celebrating St. Andrews Day

On the 30th of November, St. Andrews Day is observed throughout the world to celebrate the life of St. Andrew who is the patron saint of Scotland, Greece and Russia. St. Andrew was a fisherman and brother of the disciple Simon Peter (St. Peter). He was also the first disciple of Jesus Christ. Here are some ways to celebrate St. Andrews Day:

Buy and fly the National Flag of Scotland. The flag consists of a white St. Andrews Cross against a blue background. According to

legend, Saint Andrew, the patron saint of Scotland, was crucified on an X-shaped cross at Patras, (Patrae), in Achaea. Use of the familiar iconography of his martyrdom, showing the apostle bound to an X-shaped cross, first appears in the Kingdom of Scotland in 1180, during the reign of William I. The flag is one of the oldest national flags in the world.

Celebrate the culture of Scotland by holding a small gathering at your local public house or even at your own home. You could

invite all of your friends to the party to enjoy all things Scottish.

Wear traditional Scottish dress. A kilt, a skirt, a bit o' tartan.

Find out more at:

<http://www.scotland.org/culture/festivals/st-andrews-day/>

A Commemoration of Possible Interest

(This message was sent via the Society Website. It is not investigated or endorsed by the Scottish Society, but may be of interest to you.)

We are writing to enquire whether any members of your group would be interested in staying at Ford Castle to attend the commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Battle of Flodden. This took place at Flodden Field near the village of Branxton on the Scottish-English border on September 9th 1513. Scottish King James IV led his troops against the forces of King Henry VIII, led by the Earl of Surrey and after 3 hours of extremely bloody combat, 14,000 men lay dead. This was the last time a King of Scots led a united Scots army into battle and the result had a significant influence on the future of Scotland. King James captured Ford Castle on September 1st and he spent the days before the battle in residence there. It was rumoured that he had assignments with Elizabeth, Lady Heron with a secret staircase linking their rooms. He slept in the King James Room before losing his life on the battlefield along with many brave men on both sides. The battle secured Henry's position on his northern border but left Scotland questioning the wisdom of the Auld Alliance with France. In part it contributed to the Union of the Crowns of Scotland and England under James VI of Scotland in 1603. The

site of the battle is marked by a granite cross on the summit of Pipers Hill and engraved with the words "To the brave of both nations."

Ford Castle stands to this day although with a number of Victorian changes. The King James room and secret staircase however remain unchanged. The castle is now a residential centre for educational holidays for groups of young students who also take part in a range of challenging activities. They are all inspired by staying in this fantastic, historic building as indeed would any visiting group.

We believe that the Castle should play a major role in the Flodden 500 commemorations by providing a very special visit for our guests. It is planned to use the Great Hall to stage a number of illustrated lectures by experts on the battle itself and the events leading to and following on from this bloody encounter. We will be holding an eve of battle commemoration dinner on the night of September 8th and a guided walk along The Battlefield Trail on September 9th, the anniversary date. There will also be several organised excursions with expert guides to local areas of historical interest including the

majestic city of Edinburgh. We are able to offer a special Flodden package for interested groups for the week of Saturday, September 7th - Saturday, September 14th 2013. The package will include full board accommodation at the castle, a guided tour of the Castle and the battlefield, several excursions including Edinburgh, plus guest lectures. There will be a magnificent commemorative dinner, with all beverages included throughout the stay. The package will also include transfers to and from Edinburgh airport. If your group would prefer other excursions and/or presentations these can be discussed and incorporated into an itinerary tailored to your requirements. If you are interested in taking advantage of this historic opportunity could you please let us know as soon as possible as places are limited. The cost of the package will be dependent on the group size and exact requirements and will be discussed and agreed with groups on receiving an expression of interest.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly, Ben Wire

www.ford-castle.co.uk

Questions? Contact an officer or Board member:

Joseph Schaub: 264-4729

Doug Elder: 314-0384

Maggie Mackay: 672-1927

Charlie Sue Rappold: 399-6350

Rosemary Day: 272-1771

Margaret Duckworth: 264-7453

Barbara Evans: 363-7059

Jerry Mackay: 672-1927

David Tiller: 798-6252

You can also email any officer by using the email links found on our website.

Scottish Society of Richmond

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 meets once each month, September through May, at Trinity United Methodist Church (903 Forest Avenue, Richmond).



Buy Scottish Society Merchandise for Christmas!

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.

Great Christmas present ideas!

