



The Hibroch

Official Journal
St. Andrew's Society of Baltimore
standrewsbaltimore.com



December - January 2024 * Volume 218 Issue 1 * Stuart Blair Editor

Celebrating the Blessing of the Tartan To Honor St. Andrew at Cathedral Mary Our Queen



*St. Andrew * Patron Saint of Scotland*



Cathedral Mary Our Queen

November 19, 2023

On a sunny and brisk Sunday morning, the members of SASB ETC and Highlanders Pipe Band arrived at the Cathedral Mary Our Queen were welcomed by Father Louis A. Bianco.

After the greeting the ETC, consisting of 10 lads and a lassie carrying flags and tartans proceeded with the opening lead by the Highlanders Pipe Band and SASB President Ernie Brandt,

The ETC was seated in pews at the lower sanctuary, during which time mass was offered by Father Bianco. Upon the conclusion of communion, 1st. Vice Pres. Steve Grant offered a message on Scotland's Patron Saint St. Andrew followed by Pres. Ernie Brandt's presentation of tartans for the blessing by Father Bianco.

The Mass concluded with the ETC exiting with the pipe band playing familiar Scottish tunes

We wish to thank the Cathedral Mary Our Queen, Father Louis A. Bianco, and his staff for their welcoming hospitality. Also kudos to the Highlanders Pipe Band. With the success of this year's Kirkin' at the Cathedral, we hope to return next November.



President's Wee Word

Hello all of you out in St Andrews Society of Baltimore land. May I welcome all of you to a new year with your favorite Scottish Society.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ernie Brandt, our outgoing president, for all of his hard work, dedication and enthusiasm that made his presidency truly a model for myself to emulate.

Through good times and bad he was able to handle all situations with quiet confidence and thoughtfulness that was always for the good of the order. Thank you for your service to our beloved society.

I wish to thank all of you, the members of the St Andrews Society of Baltimore for your time, ideas and passion about our collective Scottish ancestry. We are a group of like-minded individuals who frequently, among other things, like to remind the world that we live in how great it is to be Scottish. And let's face it- we look damn good in our kilts! Your continued as well as renewed commitment and volunteerism will continue to progress our society and enrich our membership. Keep up the good work lads and lassies!

I am often times inspired by individuals in our society. We belong to an amazingly diverse group of men and women. So many talents with so much experience to offer and gain. It is this thought that I wish to focus on as your president. In Gaelic the term is 'CRAIC' and it is defined in its simplest form as fun and enjoyment. If we go deeper into its meaning this sentiment goes beyond just having a good time. To have a craic requires great company with lively and equal sharing among all present. It is this sharing, this comradely that I wish to foster over the coming year. As a society we have an amazing past filled with great times and full of friendships. I would like to focus on creating new great times and new friendships.

To close I wish to remind all that my door is always open and my text is available for your ideas and thoughts about how this wonderful society can be made even better. One gets out of life what you put into it so here is the call out to everyone to help improve the SASB.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hogmanay,
May your 'first footing' be a great one . . .
'Lang My Yer Lum Reek!'

Slàinte Mhath,
R Steve Grant II
59th President



2024-2025 Past Presidents' Heritage Scholarship Program

Valuing education is one of the pillars of our Scottish heritage, and so, the Saint Andrew's Society Foundation and the Benevolence Committee of the Society are offering \$5,000.00 to the winning applicant for the Past Presidents' Heritage Scholarship for the 2024-2025 academic year. Scholarships in lesser amounts will also be awarded to other qualified applicants.

Each award will be divided into two equal installments payable for the first and second semester of each winner's freshman year only. Completed Scholarship Applications will be accepted beginning February 1, 2024, and must be postmarked by March 15, 2024. For complete information and to download an application, please see the Society Website at:

standrewsbaltimore.com/foundation/scholarship/

Trivia Question

On January 7, 1451 a Papal Bull from Pope Nicolas IV enabled the foundation of a unique building in Glasgow. The building had been requested by King James II and championed by Bishop William Turnbull. The building was modeled on the of Bologna construction and became Scotland's second one of its kind forty years after the founding of a St Andrews. similar building. What was the name of this Glasgow building ?

- a) Cathedral
- b) Glasgow Lighthouse
- c) Glasgow University
- d) Glasgow Tower

Answer on page 7

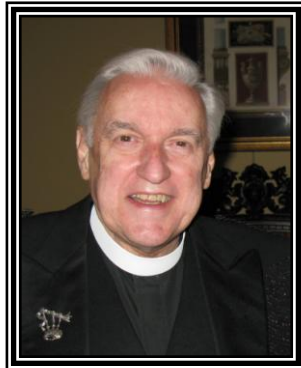


The Almoner's Report

Rev. Dr. George Gray Toole

Some additional thanks ... from SAS members

As our nation celebrate Thanksgiving Day and we express our gratitude for our blessings we Scots have a few distinctive things to add.



We are thankful for the rich Scottish heritage that is ours.

We are thankful for that stirring inside us at the sound the skirl of the pipes.

We are thankful for the taste of haggis.

We are thankful for the invention of whiskey and the drinking of it.

We are thankful for the variety and beauty of our various tartans.

We are thankful for the events and occasions to enjoy and care of one another.

These we add to the thanks others express such as gratitude for our nation ours freedoms, and our fairies and friends.

Yours aye,
George

As always, keep in mind those members in need of our prayers and support during difficult times, and also times joyous as we keep in touch with them.

A prayer of thanksgiving by Robert Borns

Selkirk Grace

*Some Folk hae meat that canna eat,
And some can eat that want it;
But we hae meat, and we can eat,
So let the Lord be Thanket*

Flowers of the Forest

WILLIAN "BILL" MERRITT, JR., MD

On September 30, 2023, we experienced the passing of William "Bill" Merritt, Jr., 77. He is survived by his beloved wife, Alicia Merritt;

Bill was born in Easton, MD. He went onto become a doctor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine (class of 1972).

51 years as a physician, Bill cared for thousands of patients and comforted thousands more through complicated operative events.

A member of the SASB since 2015 and as many know, Bill Merritt was co-owner of the Scotch Bar "Birds of a Feather" in Fells Point.

DONALD H. MACDONALD, JR.

Donald passed away on October 7, 2023, at the age of 93. Not only was Mac one of our most senior members of the SASB, he was also one of our longest serving members, having applied for membership on January 17, 1974, and then admitted on March 7, 1974 – an association with the Society of almost 50 years.

In addition to several children and grandchildren, Mac is also survived by his wife Betty, to whom he was married for 72 years

ROBERT BURNHAM LUDWIG

Robert passed away on September 28, 2023. Mr. Ludwig was 93 years old and joined the Society in 1968.

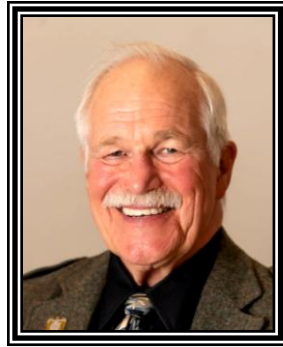


Hospitality

John 'jack' Gordon, MD

Greetings Lads & Lassies

The Fall season has been an exciting one. October and November stated meetings featured outstanding presentations.



A Royally Good Time

At October's Stated Meeting, members were royally entertained and majestically educated by the talented actress Mary Ann Jung as she performed and portrayed Mary Queen of Scotland. Invited by John "Jack" Gordon, MD, head of the Hospitality Committee, Queen Mary instructed members, through demonstrations with four selected participants, Jim Dawson, Scott Hinson, Rebacca Papa, and Dee Stahl, the etiquette, customs, and past times during her reign in the mid-1500's.

Included in Queen Mary's teachings were the proper manners for greeting others. For men, handshakes were a grip of each other's forearm to secure there was no hidden weapon there with a strong slap on the other's back to ensure no weapon was there also. Women's greetings were much simpler with hands folded in front and a delicate curtsy with head bowed. Closer female friends gave each other a kiss on each cheek, which is from the Queen's French upbringing.

Queen Mary also enlightened members on popular foods of those times, recreational activities such as chess, archery, horseback riding, and hunting, and the proper attire for both genders with displays of head pieces and an explanation of clothing styles, colors, and their status significance.

Mary Ann Jung's performance as Queen Mary, interesting and entertaining monarch, captivated everyone with a delightful evening of laughter, interaction, and enjoyable learning. Hail to the Queen!



"Secret" Information Q&A

Barry Donadio, former military officer on the security team for US Presidents before joining the Secret Service, held an interactive question and answer session at the Stated Meeting on November 9, 2023. Barry, currently a Private Detective and President of Public Security, LLC, kept members engaged with his insider's view of several historic occurrences including the September 11th attack on the Pentagon, protecting President Clinton on Air Force One, and the TWA airplane crash of 1996. He authored a book titled *TWA Flight 800: First Responder Witness Account* based on his involvement moments after the incident.

In addition to sharing events' information, Barry admitted he'd done a bit of Scottish research for the group and found that the FBI had created the Secret Service, Abraham Lincoln conducted secret intelligence work with his friend Allan Pinkerton (a Scot), the Davidson brothers of Harley-Davidson motorcycles were Scottish, and 27 US Presidents were of Scottish descent including Clinton, Obama, and Trump. He also revealed that the image of Uncle Sam was based on Samuel Wilson, a Massachusetts meat packer whose grandfather was from Scotland.

Though no "top secrets" were revealed, the Stated Meeting was another entertaining event.

Stated Meeting Articles submitted by
Dee Stahl

The Scottish History and Heritage lecture series

Lads and lassies:

I am pleased to announce the successful completion of the 4th annual CCBC Scottish History and Heritage course. With 10 wonderful speakers over the 10 wk. course, all the students went home with a better understanding and appreciation of Scotland and its stories. Again, we were joined by Chris Thomson, the Scottish consul to the US. Next Fall will be new topics and speakers. Please join us. It's well worthwhile.

Jack Gordon
57th President



Scottish Immigrant

John Johnston (merchant)

January 22, 1781 – April 20, 1851

John Johnston was a Scottish-American bookkeeper and merchant who was a co-founder of New York University.



Johnston was born on January 22, 1781, at Barnboard Mill in the Parish of Balmaghie, Gallowayshire, Scotland. He was a son of John Johnston and Dorothea (née Proudfoot) Johnston, who married in 1780. After his mother's death in June 1794, his father remarried to Margaret Rae in 1795. Johnston, an only child of his parents' marriage, became the elder brother to ten half-siblings, including brothers William, Robert, Samuel, and sisters Agnes and Margaret, as well as uncle to John Taylor Sherman.

His paternal grandparents were William Johnston and Janet (née McCreedy) Johnston and he was educated in the neighboring village of Laurieston, and also at Boreland.

In 1804, at twenty-two years old, he came to New York and became a bookkeeper in Robert Lenox's counting house. After nine years with Lenox and Maitland, Johnston and partner James Boorman established the merchant house Boorman, Johnston, & Co. in 1813. The firm, based at 57 South Street, sold Scotch goods and, later, tobacco from Virginia and wines from Madeira and Italy. They also owned an iron warehouse at 119 Greenwich Street and, in 1828, admitted Adam Norrie as a partner.

Johnston was elected a member of the Saint Andrew's Society of New York in 1811. He served as its manager from 1819 to 1823, second vice-president from 1823 to 1827, first vice-president from 1827 to 1828 and president from 1831 to 1832.

In 1839, Johnston and several other civic-minded New Yorkers founded the University of the City of New York (today known as New York University). He was also a co-founder of Washington Square North.

On September 2, 1817, Johnston married Margaret (née Taylor) Howard (1784–1879). She was a widow of Rhesa Howard Jr., himself a nephew of William Few, signer of the U.S. Constitution from Georgia whose brother-in-law was U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin. Margaret, the daughter of John Taylor and Margaret (née Scott) Taylor, had four siblings who, likewise, married two grandchildren, a great-granddaughter, and a nephew of founding father Roger Sherman, signer of the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. Declaration of Independence from Connecticut. Together, John and Margaret were the parents of:

John Taylor Johnston (1820–1893), who married Frances Colles (1826–1888), the daughter of Harriet (née Wetmore) Colles and James Colles, a prominent merchant in New York and New Orleans.

- Andrew Taylor Johnston (1821–1821), who died in infancy.
- James Boorman Johnston (1822–1887), who married Mary Hoppins Humphreys. He commissioned the Tenth Street Studio Building at 51 West 10th Street between Fifth and Sixth Avenues. They were the parents of artist John Humphreys Johnston.
- Margaret Taylor Johnson (1825–1875), who married John Bard (a grandson of Dr. Samuel Bard) in 1849 and became founders of Bard College.
- Emily Proudfoot Johnston (1827–1831), who died in infancy.

Johnston, who suffered from gout, died on April 20, 1851, at his residence, 7 Washington Square in New York City.



*New York Univeraty * 1839*



"Albannach Cuideachd" Membership

James J. Dawson
* **Membership Secretary**

"Ceud Mile Failte"

***A Hundred Thousand
Welcomes***



The Board of Managers has elected four new members in the past two months. We're very pleased to welcome

Donald F. Blair
16800 Blake Road
Hagerstown, MD 21740
H: 301-582-1303 C: 301-991-4341
quercusman@aol.com
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Laurie

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Ret. Md. District Court Judge

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Clan: Hannay Software Development

Janine Schofield
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C: 443-370-1221 Clan: MacKay
jcschofield@yahoo.com
Middle School Teacher

Paul

Thanks to all members who have paid their 2024 Annual Dues and submitted their 2024 Membership Directory contact information up-dates. If you haven't already done so, please send in your Annual Dues along with the information form at your earliest convenience. The 2024 Membership Directory will be finalized and distributed in February.

Yours Aye,
Jim Dawson,

Escort to the Colors

T. Scott Hinson

"E.T.C.,"

*The Escort to the
Colors is the unofficial
"face" of the St.
Andrew's Society of
Baltimore.*



*We welcome you
joining us in the fun and
camaraderie we share,*

Kirkin' * Perry Hall Presbyterian Church

*Dedicated to the Winslow Family Clan Irwin
Sunday 12 November*

The ETC led by the Baltimore City Pipe Band entered the church with tartans. During the service the reader was our new member Rebeca Papa and the Society's message was given by President Ernie Brandt about the origins of the Kirkin' O' the Tartan and at the end of service a short concert by the Baltimore City Pipe Band which was enjoyed by all. A reception with a buffet was graciously offered by the Winslow family.

Kirkin' * Cathedral Mary Our Queen

November 19th.

* Article page 1

Coming Events

The Alexandria Christmas Walk on Saturday December 2nd and the Pearl Harbor Remembrance on Thursday 7 December.

On the scheduled for Sunday February 4th is a new Kirkin at St. Mary's Church in Abingdon with new member Reverend Paul Bennett. Also early Spring is Baltimore City's St. Patrick's Day Parade, Sunday March 10th.

*Check Calendar of Events for details.

Here's the link:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=NWJzbXQ2dmdkOHVtdnE5aTlia2dnOTVtMThtAZ3JvdXAuY2FsZW5kYXluZ29vZ2xlMnNvbQ>

Best Regards,
T. Scott Hinson
55th President



Book Review

Submitted by S. Blair

A Time of Love and Tartan

by Alexander McCall Smith

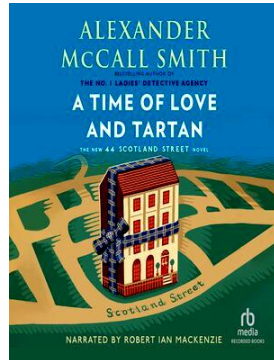
4.5 4.5 out of 5 stars

Book 12 of 17:

The Scotland Street series

Synopsis

The latest installment of Alexander McCall Smith's perennially popular and irresistibly charming 44 Scotland Street series.



When Pat accepts her narcissistic ex-boyfriend Bruce's invitation for coffee, she has no idea of the complications in her romantic and professional life that will follow. Meanwhile, Matthew, her boss at the art gallery, attracts the attention of the police after a misunderstanding at the local bookstore.

Whether caused by small things such as a cup of coffee and a book, or major events such as Stuart's application for promotion and his wife Irene's decision to pursue a PhD in Aberdeen, change is coming to Scotland Street. But for three seven-year-old boys--Bertie Pollock, Ranald, and Big Lou's foster son, Finlay--it also means getting a glimpse of perfect happiness.

Alexander McCall Smith's delightfully witty, wise and sometimes surreal comedy spirals out in surprising ways in this new installment, but its heart remains where it has always been, at the center of life in Edinburgh's New Town.

Review

Anyone who has spent any time in Scotland's ancient capital, Edinburgh, should read any and all of the 44 Scotland Street series. AMS has created a set of believable characters; most of them as likable as they are believable. He also evokes the "feel" of Edinburgh, the warts as well as the city's many delightful qualities. Probably the most interesting character is also the most detestable one, Irene Pollock, an intellectual dominatrix - an arrogant sexist-feminist know-it-all, the kind whose rear end you would like to kick up through her mouth, to borrow the words of my sainted Scottish grandfather. She is the mother of Bertie, a truly wonderful little boy of 7, whom she is striving to de-man, when she is not trying to do the same to her husband. However -- in "A Time of Love and Tartan" there is hope -- she may be leaving for Aberdeen, though what Aberdeen has done to deserve her is not made clear. All told, a delightful read, as are all the books in this series.

"Stiùradair"

Quartermaster

R. Steve Grant II

Hello all of you out in St Andrews Society of Baltimore land. Just a brief reminder to let you know that our collective merchandise has been fully restocked and is ready for you to complete all your SASB wardrobe needs. We have polos for the lads and lassies, ties, baseball hats, patches as well as flashes and even glassware for your personal enjoyment.

Currently we are looking for my replacement as your quartermaster. It has been more than surreal having taken this on before COVID interrupted our collective lives. I thank you all for the opportunity to serve you.

For my final farewell as the quartermaster may I again thank you, wish you all to be well and strongly recommend that you should drink good Scotch!

Slàinte Mhath,
R Steve Grant II
Former 1st VP
Former Quartermaster
Forever your master whisky guide

Website

Society's programs and events have been posted on our website: <http://standrewsbaltimore.com>. You may find these topics under titles: "Officers", "BOM", "Membership", "Calendar", "Events", "Foundation", "Scholarship", "and Photos."

Face book

Check out SASB latest info, photos, and coming events

Answer to Trivia Question

Glasgow University