

President's Message

Dear Members,

What a roarin' success the St Andrew's Country Dance was! We'll be sure to do it again next year. It did my heart fair guid to see ye all up and dancin', wearin' oot yer dancin' pumps. Next year, I think I'll try the Sword Dance. Just kiddin'! Many thanks to Denise, Kathleen and helpers for keepin' things tickin' o'er. Me, I prefer to have my dessert before my pies and sausage rolls anyway! Thanks also to Alex for keepin' that music comin'. For those of us wi' a Scottish heritage it was a special night - a wee taste o' hame.



Arrangements are well under way for the Christmas party. Don't forget to bring your allocated food - ye'll no' be let in without it! Also, please, please make sure ye let Elaine know what bairns (kids) are comin' - we want to see smilin' faces, no' greetin' yins 'cos they've no' got a pressie frae Santa! Lookin' forward to seein' ye all there.

Aw-ra-best, Keith

Back in the early days...

People the world o'er, take the music of Scotland and adapt it to their own culture. The music of the American March, Hail to the Chief, which is the accepted Salute whenever the President of the United States makes a public appearance, is said to be an ancient Gaelic melody adapted to the words of Roderich Dubh's triumphal Boating Song from Sir Walter Scott's long narrative poem, The Lady of the Lake. Records indicate it was first used as a Presidential March in 1815 during the term of President James Madison.

Congratulations to Peter and Marilyn Geery on receiving, on November 18th, 1995, the Supreme Military Order of the Templar Knights of Jerusalem, Grand Priory of the Scots, Priory of Robert the Bruce.

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Just For Kids!

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Events Program. Come along and enjoy...

Our first St Andrew's Dance, in celebration of St. Andrew's Day, was a great success. We were able to dance till we dropped! Dance Caledonia put on an excellent performance for us, and Karen Chartrand ably taught us the more intricate Scottish dances. No main Scottish event is complete without the kirl o' the pipes, and Vic made sure we didn't miss out. A lot of work went into making this evening such fun, so many thanks to Denise and her helpers for their work before and during the event, to Alex for running the soundboard, and to all others who participated.

Our next event is the highlight of the year for the kids, so don't let them miss it! You-Know -Who will be dropping in to see them!

It's our annual Christmas Party...**Monday, December 18th, 6.30pm:**

At Mary Institute/Country Day School

Please note the earlier time as this is a dinner meeting.

The Society will supply the main course and drinks. We need you to bring the following foods in accordance with your last name.

A to G.....Salad (enough for 8 people)

H to N.....Vegetables (enough for 8 people)

O to Z.....Delicious desserts (enough for 8 people)

Please make sure you bring a dish with you, as otherwise there will not be enough for everyone!

Also, to make sure every child receives a gift from Santa, you need to call Elaine Martin - 926 0222, by Dec 15th with your child's name and age.

Denise Duffy, and her various helpers, are working very hard to create another enjoyable year for all. More help is welcome! Call Denise: 532 7587

Saturday, January 20th: Burns Night. Alex Beaton will be back to entertain us, plus we'll have all the expected high standard Scottish extras. Venue will be the Adams Mark Hotel - details to follow.

Monday, February 26th: "Songs and Stories of Scotland" with our own Alex Sutherland. At Mary Institute/Country Day.

Monday, March 25th: Diane McCullough, another of our own members, will entertain us in song. At Mary Institute/Country Day.

Saturday, April 27th: Annual Ceilidh. Venue to be arranged.

Monday, May 20th: Bill Nicoll, yet another of our members, will inform us about the history of Scottish music. At Mary Institute/Country Day.

Sunday, June 30th: Another Scottish BBQ and games. Venue t.b.a.

Invera'an Pipe Band: College Commencement for Logan Chiropractic College at Convention Center on Saturday, December 16th at 9am.

CALEDONIA CORNER



Can anyone guess where this fantastic, and famous, view is located?

Who wad ken?

First to answer all three wins a Society flag pin.

1. Which American Car Company was started by a Scot?
2. Where are 48 Scottish kings buried?
3. What height is Ben Nevis?

All replies to Jim McLaren: 314-532-5986
Fast e-mail: JamesM66@aol.com
Snail mail: 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Court,
Chesterfield, MO 63017.

Congratulations to Linde Flanders for being the first with the correct answers:

1. John Knox was the key figure of the Scottish Reformation.
2. The River Tay is Scotland's longest river, at 188km.
3. 1707 was the Union of the Parliaments.

Looking forward to hearing from you: answers or interesting questions welcome.

JUST FOR KIDS! NO ADULTS MAY READ THIS!

How about entertaining your friends and family with some "good" Scottish jokes? You can do better I'm sure, so call Jim McLaren and give him some more.

What do you get if you cross a hamburger with a Scotsman?
A Big Mac

What's a Scottish parrot? *A MacCaw*

What's smelly, and spoken in Scotland? *Garlic*

What's dark, talks with a Scottish accent, and goes "tick-tock"?
The Black Watch

What's 10 metres long, lives in Scotland, and never wins anything?
The Luck Less Monster

What's grey and sits in a tree singing "Hoots, mon, hoots, mon"?
A Scottish owl

What's a Scottish chef called? *Dinner Ken*

TOASTS & THINGS

WHA'S LIKE US? *NO MONY AND THEY'RE A' DEID!*

The average Englishman in the home he calls his castle, slips into his national costume - a shabby raincoat - patented by Chemist Charles Macintosh from Glasgow, Scotland. En route to his office he strides along the English lane, surfaced by John Macadam of Ayr, Scotland.

He drives an English car fitted with tyres invented by John Boyd Dunlop, Veterinary Surgeon of Dreghorn, Scotland.

**WHA'S
LIKE
US?**

At the office he receives the mail bearing adhesive stamps invented by John Chalmers, Book-seller and Printer of Dundee, Scotland.

During the day he uses the telephone invented by Alexander Graham Bell, born in Edinburgh, Scotland. At home in the evening his daughter pedals her bicycle invented by Kirkpatrick Macmillan, Blacksmith of Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland.

He watches the news on TV an invention of John Logie Baird of Helensburgh, Scotland and hears an item about the U.S. Navy founded by John Paul Jones of Kirkbean, Scotland.

Nowhere can an Englishman turn to escape the ingenuity of the Scots.

He has by now been reminded too much of Scotland and in desperation he picks up the Bible, only to find that the first man mentioned in the good book is a Scot - King James VI - who authorised its translation.

He could take to drink but the Scots make the best in the world. He could take a rifle and end it all but the breech-loading rifle was invented by Captain Patrick Ferguson of Pitfours, Scotland. If he escaped death, he could find himself on an operating table injected with penicillin, discovered by Sir Alexander Fleming of Darvel, Scotland and given chloroform, an anaesthetic discovered by Sir James Young Simpson, Obstetrician and Gynaecologist of Bathgate, Scotland.

Out of the anaesthetic he would find no comfort in learning that he was as safe as the Bank of England founded by William Paterson of Dumfries, Scotland.

Perhaps his only remaining hope would be to get a transfusion of guid Scottish blood which would entitle him to ask - "*Wha's like us?*"

Thank you for your participation and help...

Hope you all enjoyed reading our newsletter, the Thistle Times.
Comments, and new material to the Editor:

*Jim McLaren, 2214 Stoneridge Terrace Court, Chesterfield, MO 63017
or call (314) 532-5986, or e-mail: JamesM66@aol.com.*

Many thanks to those who contributed some excellent material, it all helps!

Any volunteers to write? A page or less!

**Many thanks to Carrie Sutherland for standing in
and producing the Thistle Times this month.**

**You all made
a difference...**
