

THE SALTIRE

St. Andrew Society of Sarasota

2017

July/August

FROM THE PRESIDENT

If you haven't gotten your kilt to the cleaners, you'd best get your "kit-together" as the Sarasota Scottish season is fast approaching. In this section, I will attempt to provide a summation of upcoming events as they are now known for all the area Scottish organizations.

First, we all want to wish a speedy recovery to our Saint Andrew Society of Sarasota Treasurer, Anne Wolfe. Michael, our President, is fully involved in her care, and as result both have resigned their positions and as Vice President, I have assumed duties as SASS President. Bert Mitchell has volunteered to temporarily assume Treasurer responsibilities. I know Michael and Anne welcome our prayers and messages of concern.

If you have yet to renew your Saint Andrew Society membership for the year please do so. The SASS board has recently authorized two-year memberships (single - \$75 and family (2 or more) - \$90). One year memberships are still available (Single - \$40 and Family \$50). Print a membership application from the new and improved SASS website membership page (<http://www.standrewsocietyarasota.com/membership>) or call Marilyn Blausten at (941) 923-3345.

The 2017 Scholarship season is coming to a close as our 6 accomplished winners begin packing for college in the fall. Our best wishes (and \$1000 each) go with them. Please visit our scholarship section of the SASS webpage. Did I mention that the whole site is "new and improved?" View it at (<http://www.standrewsocietyarasota.com/scholarships>). As a "Navy-guy" I'm not too subtle, when I mention that we as an organization are helping provide monetary support to area graduating high school seniors of Scottish lineage. This is one of SASS's major purposes.

So, it is now time to rebuild (\$\$\$) our SASS scholarship account. Let me be clearer, SEND YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE SCHOLARSHIP CHECKS TO: Bert Mitchell, 5186 Cote du Rhone Way, Sarasota, FL 34238 (please make the checks out to "SASS Scholarship Fund"). Bert has graciously stepped in to serve as Acting SASS Treasurer during Anne Wolfe's convalescence. Again, our thanks go to Bert and his lovely bride, Linda Prowten who serve as co-chairs of the Scholarship Committee. The SASS Board of Directors ask all members to consider the scholarship fund in your estate planning.

There is a lot going on in the Scottish Community. Below you will find a chart listing all events into next year, their sponsor, dates and places. These events are all open to SASS members. I am sure dates may change as time progresses, but we will keep you posted. In the meantime, here are web addresses for all the organizations. Check them out...you will be surprised to see what they are about!

St. Andrew Society of Sarasota: <http://www.standrewsocietyarasota.com/>

Caledonian Club of Southwest Florida: <http://www.caledonianclub.org/>

New World Celts-Sarasota Chapter: <http://www.newworldceltsinc.org/sarasota.html>

Sarasota Highland Games: <http://www.sarasotahighlandgames.com/>

Gulf Coast Welsh Society: <http://www.sarasotawelsh.com/>

I'll take the liberty here as Chairman of the Burn's Supper, to remind EVERYONE TO SAVE THE

DATE – 20 JANUARY 2018. That is the evening for the next Burn's Supper. It will be held again at Palm Aire Country Club. We have booked J.J. Smith the Scottish troubadour who entertained us in 2016. Checkout the 2017 Burn's Supper photos from the link on the SASS webpage.

Get ready to recommence monthly meetings/readings/eating/drinking of the Burn's Club at MacAllister's on Main Street in Lakewood Ranch. The first meeting of the season will be either 9 Oct or 13 Nov. Watch for David MacMillan's e-mail!

I will set down my quill for this issue of the Saltire. Remember, send dues and scholarship fund donations. Please continue to think of Anne & Michael in your prayers.

Carl Morris, Capt, USN (ret)
Vice President, SASS

2017-18 Scottish Events

Event	Date	Lead Organization
530 Socials	13 Jul - Trumans & 17 Aug - the Meadows Pub 5:30 PM	Caledonians
Kilt Night	21 Jul - Pub 32 6PM	New World Celts
Rowdies Game	22 July in St. Pete	New World Celts
Kilt Night	19 Aug - Motorworks Brewery	New World Celts
Tampa Bay Tartan Ball	9 Sept - Masonic Scottish Temple Tampa	New World Celts
Celtic Bash	23 Sept – Pub 32 - 7 Celtic Nations Buffet & Whisky tasting	New World Celts
Burn's Club (Monthly in Season)	TBA 9 Oct or 13 Nov MacAllister's	SASS
SRQ Celtic Music Festival	21 Oct - Nathan Benderson Park 11AM to 9PM	New World Celts
Heritage Luncheon	22 Oct - The Oaks	Caledonians
Celtic Christmas Show	3 Dec – Sarasota Opera House	Caledonians
Christmas Luncheon	9 Dec – The Meadows	Caledonians/SASS
Burn's Supper	20 Jan – Palm Aire Country Club	SASS
Sarasota Highland Games	26 Jan Ceilidh/Games 27 Jan	Game Organizers
Frugal Night	22 Feb	Caledonians
Thistle Ball	24 Mar – Palm Aire CC	Caledonians
Scholarship Luncheon	TBA Mar/Apr	SASS
Kirkin o the Tartan	TBA Mar/Apr – Church of the Redeemer	SASS



MAKING A DIFFERENCE FOR THE FUTURE OF AMERICA!

Meet our Scholarship Winners for 2017

Lewis Ferrier

Lewis is an accomplished piper who readily performs for events in Sarasota. We are proud to present his winning essay here for your enjoyment. Next issue: You will meet another scholar!

Lewis Ferrier and Linda Prowten at the Awards Luncheon, Mattison's 41

“On a blazing hot and humid Saturday afternoon at the ripe age of 13, I stepped onto the soccer field, proudly wearing my fresh new referee uniform, not realizing that I would face one of the most difficult challenges of my life. I was a novice referee at the local soccer complex assigned to officiate what I thought would be an uneventful, easy match of eight and nine year olds playing the sport I love. Spending the \$15 wage for the match crowded my mind. As soon as I arrived at the field, I was astounded by the intensity of the teams’ warm-up exercises, with the coaches being quick to chastise for any lack of energy or effort.

“The 100 faceless spectators caught my eye and I suddenly felt like I was their prey. I quickly felt very alone. The game was on. A curly haired redhead went for the ball right away, or did he aim for the player? I didn’t know. I bravely waved “play on” but in the corner of my eye, I saw the opposing player on the ground clutching his ankle. The faceless mass roared into life. I knew I was in trouble. With my confidence gone, each call I made was wrong in the eyes of the crowd and coaches. The end of the game could not come soon enough.

“With the ghosts of countless refereeing mistakes snapping at my heels, I fled the field after the game to seek shelter—my dad’s car, only to break down. I swore I would never referee again, ever.

“I later reflected on what happened and concluded that I had two choices: to go forward and referee again, or backward and give in to the faceless crowd. I resolved to face the challenge and since then, have been refereeing for almost five years. By facing adversity, I gained an unexpected new confidence in myself that is willing to stand up and face any of life’s obstacles. I recognize that the faceless spectators are only people. I learned that even in my darkest moments, there is hope. I have used this valuable experience since that horrible day to guide younger referees when they are forced to face unruly parents and coaches. Refereeing has turned me into the person I am today and has shaped how I interact with teachers and students alike. I have never been more proud to call myself a soccer referee knowing that it has transformed my character into the confident and capable person I am. Now, when facing impossible challenges and expectations on and off the soccer field, I think back to that day knowing that whatever life throws at me, I will always prevail.”

EXPANDING YOUR SCOTTISH VOCABULARY

Pokey hat – an ice cream cone

Meat – food in general. (Now the “Selkirk Grace” may make more sense to you!)

Pudding-sausage – sausage using entrails or stomach of a pig or sheep. (When your editor was a kid we called these “natural casings”.)

Willie-waught – a hearty swig of some beverage (Good for a dog day summer!)

Clishmaclaver – good old gossip!

Kilt - We often assume the kilt as we know it has been around for centuries. Not true. It dates only from the 18th century. Originally a verb, to “kilt up” was to hike up and tuck your clothes. Then the “kilted plaid” appeared, being half cloak and half blanket. The waist down garment appeared later and was called a “philibeg,” then the “little kilt” and finally just the kilt.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW MEMBERS

These folks recently joined St. Andrew’s. Please welcome them with a call or e-mail!

Samuel Preston Adams	941/914-899	prestonadams3@gmail.com
Russel & Stephanie Campbell	612/849-0404	dr-data@claimlynx.com
John & Margot Dickie	941/925-5947	Johndickie4@gmail.com
Paul & Marianne Ferrier	941/924-3203	paulwferrier@gmail.com
George Graydon	941/923-6047	zamalek@verizon.net
G. Donald & June Hertenstein	941/782-8020	Junehert@yahoo.com
Richard & Cynthia MacLeod	630/605-3219	twomacleods@yahoo.com
Evelyn B. Sklair	585/615-8290	evelynsklair@yahoo.com

MUSING WITH THE CHAPLAIN by Dick Thompson

I was recently asked by a new member what St. Andrew was famous for. You know...like St. George killing the dragons and St. Patrick offing the snakes. I was surprised by the question as I thought everyone knew the Patron Saint of our beloved isles was the Apostle Andrew, the brother of St. Peter. But let's dig deeper.

As it true with most folklore and legend much is hard to document. As a result we have conflicting accounts of how Andrew came to be the favored one. Some say Columbo should have that honor as his claim to have brought Christianity to Scotland from Ireland is pretty well documented and dates to the 6th century. Early Christian history states that Andrew was a missionary along the Black Sea and up into Russia to what is now Kiev. He also founded the church in Byzantium—later Constantinople and now Istanbul. But did he travel to Caledonia? The Declaration of Arbroath says so but it was not written until 1320. So mostly we rely on the legends. A credible one states that a Pictish king named Oenus II prayed for victory over his Angle foes in 832 AD. The day of the battle he saw a saltire cloud, took this as a good omen and excited his troops who went on to claim the day. The saltire is St. Andrew's cross, chosen by him for his execution because he considered himself unworthy to die like Christ. The national symbol was thus born. Years later both William Wallace and Robert the Bruce appealed to St. Andrew to lead them to victory when the country was threatened.

There is another legend that says some of St. Andrew's bones were taken to Fife in 732 from Patras in Greece by shipwrecked missionaries. For a long while they were in the church in St. Andrew but the relics are now in Edinburgh at St. Mary's Cathedral.

Yet another says the medieval Scots claimed to be descendants of Scythians who lived on the shores of the Black Sea when Andrew preached there. Maybe there were Christians in Scotland long before we thought!

There are now St. Andrew societies all over the world. Originally they were established to help Scots in distress and to provide a sense of community for those now living in a strange land. We still acknowledge St. Andrew's Feast Day and it is now the national day of Scotland....November 30.

Let us pray: Lord we thank you for the courage of the apostles and other religious leaders who were brave enough to stand up for what they believed. We are in awe of the many martyrs who gave their lives that we might have freedom to worship you in

spirit and in truth. Amen.