



ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE,

founded in 1806, is dedicated to the purposes of benevolence and education which are accomplished through activities organized and run by dedicated members serving on various committees. Through participation in Highland Games, Piping Competition, Parades, Kirkin' (Blessing) of the Tartans, Stated Meetings, and formal dinners, the Society educates about the unique history, culture, and contributions of Scots and Scottish Americans, many having suffered and overcome great adversity.

The **ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE FOUNDATION INC** was organized under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code in 1963 by the Society as a means of facilitating the charitable work of the Society within the framework of the tax laws that would allow all contributions to be fully tax-deductible in the year given. The Foundation provides charitable support to those in need as well as educational support by sponsoring college scholarships. These scholarships are known as the Past Presidents' Scholarship Program. In addition, annual grants are made to support the U.S. Piping Foundation, the Guilford & Glencoe Juvenile Pipe Band and National Tartan Day.



The **Benevolence Committee** was created to help immigrant Scots in need due to the many derelictions of the 19th century political and social conditions in Scotland. Many of these new Scottish-Americans arrived with little but the clothes on their backs, so these programs were certainly appropriate and needed. We are blessed today that most of our members seldom need alms; nonetheless, such assistance is available through this committee and the Foundation if needed.

The recipient of the **Past Presidents' Scholarship Program** is chosen annually by the Benevolence Committee from applicants using very tough criteria. Preference is given to applicants of Scottish ancestry attending high school in Central Maryland and going on to college. An essay accompanies the application, a personal interview may be required, and proof of matriculation in the academic

program described in the application must be supplied to the Committee before initial payment. Applications must be received during the applicant's Senior year. For more information, please visit the page on the SASB web site <http://www.standrewsbaltimore.org/scholarship.html>.

Escort to the Colors

The Escort to the Colors ("ETC") was formed in 1972 and is the Society's most visible group. It actively solicits member involvement year round by participating in all Society activities, including kirkin's, parades, and highland games throughout the region. The versatility of the ETC is enhanced by the equipment acquired over many years including shields of ancient arms of Earldoms of Scotland, Arms of the Realm, tartan banners, flags of the Armed Forces, flags of the original American Colonies, flags of the counties of Maryland, the City of Baltimore, the state of Maryland, the American flag, and the Saltire of Scotland.

Anniversary Dinner

The Anniversary Dinner is the largest attended formal affair of the Society and is held on St. Andrew's Day or the Thursday evening closest (the Thursday after Thanksgiving). It is for members and their male guests with attire limited strictly to Highland Evening Wear, Black Tie, or Dress Military Uniform. The event is full of pageantry and color, culminating every other year with the change of Society Presidents.

Burns Nicht Supper

The Burns Nicht Supper is the first major event of the new calendar year and celebrates the birth of Scotland's most revered bard, Robert Burns, who was born on January 25, 1759 in Alloway, Scotland. It is for members and their spouses or significant others and is held on the Saturday evening nearest Robbie's birthday, usually the third Saturday in January.

Tartan Ball

The Tartan Ball occurs on Tartan Day, April 6th, or the Saturday evening after and is when members escort their most significant other to an evening of fine dining and dancing. In recent years we have joined our brothers of the Boumi Temple Highlanders and their Queen's Birthday Ball, thus combining the two for an evening of pageantry.

Annual Picnic

Our Annual Picnic, held in September, ushers in early fall with a tremendous time for members, their families, and friends to socialize in a very relaxed informal atmosphere. There are plenty of activities for young and old alike. Everyone is urged to come and enjoy this fun time and meet the Society mascot, Robbie McTavish.



Robbie McTavish

At the Stated Meeting in May, 2007, the Society adopted a six-month old authentic Scottish Highland bull calf as its mascot which was named "Robbie McTavish". Robbie is a gentle giant residing on a farm in Hanover, PA, and has attended several Society events as he has grown up.



Hospitality

The Hospitality Committee organizes and runs the Society's four Stated Meetings, held on the second Thursday evening in March, May, October, and November. Traditionally the attitude adjustment hour begins at 5:30pm followed by an outstanding buffet. These meetings, well attended by members and their male guests, are pleasurable gatherings with good food and a program that imparts something of Scottish interest.

Scottish Heritage/Games

The Scottish Heritage Committee coordinates the attendance of Society members and the ETC marching unit at Celtic gatherings and Highland Games in the local area, as well as parades, kirkins, military memorial ceremonies, and dinners. The committee also develops Scottish history and heritage displays and presentations.



Convener

The Convener is responsible for transporting and erecting the tents, tables, chairs, used by the Society at various highland games and gatherings. The Society provides the Escort to the Colors at many events, some being the Southern Maryland Celtic Festival in April, the Colonial Highland Games in May, the Virginia Scottish Games in September and the Anne Arundel Scottish Highland Games in October as well as participating with a Society welcome tent.

Quartermaster

The Quartermaster is the keeper of Society items which members may purchase such as bumper stickers, lapel pins, flashes, ties, sweaters, and jackets. These transactions occur primarily at the four Stated Meetings or by calling him to arrange the sale.

Golf

Scotland is the birthplace of golf and the Society intends to perpetuate the game with matches throughout most of the year. From spring through fall, a game is scheduled for each month, at a different course, and listed in the *Pibroch*. These are fun times to chase the little ball and enjoy friendships

Nisbet Cemetery

The Nisbet Cemetery is the final resting place of the family of the longest serving president of the Society (1831-58), Alexander Nisbet, who was also one of the Society's founders and its third president. The cemetery, discovered in the early 1980s, had been long forgotten and was severely overgrown. Under the stewardship of former president Duncan H. Mackenzie and the help of many members, the cemetery was restored and is now beautifully maintained by this committee. A Cairn of Tears has been erected with formal marker. A Service of Remembrance is held at the cemetery around noon in August. This service follows a morning memorial ceremony at the Wallace Memorial in Druid Park.



Over the years, the Society assisted families not only with clothing and financial assistance, but also with medical care, sponsoring hospital beds, and even burials by providing cemetery plots. The Society has title to many grave sites throughout the Baltimore area, maintained by this committee.

Other than Membership, the remaining committees and appointments of the Society provide support for the ongoing business of the Society and its assets. These committees and their functions are briefly outlined below.

Historian

The Society Historian assists committee chairmen and members as an authority on matters of Scottish history and heritage as well as the history of the Society with information often presented at public gatherings in cooperation with the Heritage Committee.

Library & Archives

This person supervises the care of the relics of the Society such as old books, papers, letters, and programs of events of the Society in order to sustain a historical record of Society activity.

House

The House Committee consists of a chairman and two or more members who are responsible for any real property owned by the Society whether in storage or in members' homes, by recording items and locations and by reviewing and managing the appropriate insurance needs.

Finance

This committee recommends to the Board of Managers any changes in investment programs and investment of any accumulated cash. This committee also manages the investment of the proceeds from the sale of the Society's building and would oversee the rental or acquisition of a new facility for Society meetings or Board of Managers meetings.

Nominating

The Nominating Committee consists of five members with the Chairman being the immediate Past President. A slate of officers is presented at the Board of Managers' meeting in October and the officers for the next year are presented to and voted upon by the membership at the Stated Meeting in November.

Publications

The Pibroch is the bi-monthly newsletter mailed on "even numbered" months to the membership to keep them informed about the many activities, items of interest, and general information of our heritage. All members are encouraged to send material, articles, and information to the editor of *The Pibroch*, who is the Chairman of this committee.



Membership

Membership programs are coordinated by the Membership Committee Chairman and the Membership Secretary. The Chairman is responsible for shepherding new applications through the process of becoming a member. He is also responsible for holding New Members' gatherings to welcome new members and explain the Society's events and structure.

The Membership Secretary is responsible for maintaining accurate membership records, lists, and data, and for providing labels to the various committees for their mailings to the members as well as sending out Dues Notices. Any changes in address, phone, or email should be sent to the attention of the Membership Secretary.

After having read this material, if you would like to join our group of men, then please take a moment to fill out an application. Two sponsors are required and can be provided if you do not know anyone already in the Society.

Membership is open to any male born in Scotland or who can show direct lineage to a Scottish ancestor. The application must be accompanied by an initiation fee and one year's dues. Applications are read at the Board of Managers meeting, generally held on the first Tuesday evening of each month, and must pass two votes held on separate months.

Please feel free to contact a member of the St. Andrew's Society of Baltimore or go to its web site, where you can link to officers' e-mails and request an application:

<http://www.standrewsbaltimore.org>

Ceud Mìle Failte

