



The Caledonian

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THE SCOTTISH AMERICAN SOCIETY OF THE SOUTHERN TIER, INC.



2016 Officers & Board of Trustees

Chief: Gilbert Ferris

8788 Route 53, Bath NY 14810
(607) 776-7101 ferrisgilbert@yahoo.com

First VP: Rick Mason

10 Manning Avenue, Savona NY 14879
(607) 583-4256 rmason7@stny.rr.com

Secretary: Nedra McElroy

4 Lackawanna Avenue, Bath NY 14810
(607) 778-6727 mscopyola@stny.rr.com

Treasurer: Alastair Cormack

76 University Street, Alfred NY 14803
(607) 587-8295 cormack@alfred.edu

TRUSTEES

Linda Ferris, lferris@yahoo.com

Russell Gridley (607) 562-7046

Jan Kostolansky, jkostolansky1@stny.rr.com

Ray Margeson, rmargeson@aol.com

Rick Mason, rmason7@stny.rr.com

Susan McLaren, smclaren@stny.rr.com

Bill Sitzman ibcengineering@juno.com

Sam Watson, barbsam418@gmail.com

Editors:

Nedra McElroy, mscopyola@stny.rr.com

Linda Ferris, lferris@yahoo.com

Editor Emeritus:

Herb MacDonell, forensiclab@stny.rr.com

Caledonian Pipe Band:

Drum Major, Derek Gould (607) 962-6546

Pipe Major, Lee Adelsberg, adelsbe@stny.rr.com

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Webmaster: Sean McElroy, info@sasst.org

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Happy Spring to our members!! Now that we've turned our clocks ahead and crocus are blooming, we can safely say that Spring is, if not here, then certainly on its way.

Please join us for the April 8th Tartan Day gathering at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church in Bath. More information is found elsewhere in The Caledonian. Nothing could be more suitable for Tartan Day than a presentation by Hazel Stewart, Kilt Maker. Many members have asked for another chance to talk with her, get measured and order their own tartans. She brings over 4000 samples of tartans in every weight. Her program is fascinating. If you missed her last visit, you'll want to attend this time.

Six hundred and ninety-six years ago, on April 6, 1320, the Declaration of Arbroath was signed in Scotland. Much of the language and intent of this document was used by Thomas Jefferson and the others who drafted our Declaration of Independence.

We use this day also to commemorate the repeal of the 1747 Act of Proscription which banned the wearing of tartans.

The Scots have made amazing contributions to the world in Science, literature, theology and the arts. We have much to celebrate. Dust off your tartan and join us as we begin an interesting and fun-filled year of activities.

Chief,

SPRING FLING

Our annual dish-to-pass dinner will be held on Friday, April 8th, 5:30 PM at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Bath. Due to popular demand, and in observance of Tartan Day, we have invited Hazel Stewart to provide a repeat of her 'Kilt Show' for our edification and entertainment--this might also be of interest to folks wishing to find out about outfitting themselves with a bonny new kilt, as Hazel comes equipped with many many tartan samples and her trusty measuring tape...

Bring a dish to pass and table service. A main dish will be provided, along with beverages.

**Please RSVP to Gil & Linda Ferris,
607-776-7101 or email lferris@yahoo.com.**

BURNS DINNER REDOUX

Wasn't it a time...it is always a treat to meet and greet old friends and new at our annual cieldh, and this year was no exception. We enjoyed the eating as well...and all would agree that the band outdid themselves this year. We made a little money with our silent auction, and thanks go out to all those contributing items



Drum Major Derek Gould



Pat Saxe, Rick Mason, Barbara Hutchinson, Carl Johengen, Ray Margeson



for that, benefitting our scholarship fund.

Please note, we've decided to relocate the dinner this year to the Hilton Garden Inn at Big Flats...this is an attempt to bring down the cost, which has escalated to the point that some of our loyal members no longer attend. The Radisson has done a splendid job over the past several years, but have priced themselves out of our ability to continue there. We are quite excited about our plans, and hope that you agree that a change of scenery never hurts!



Susan McLaren, Jan Kostolansky, Susan Gould, Martha & Bill Sitzman, Herb MacDonnell (His version of photobombing?)

THE GAMES OF SUMMER

Your Trustees have been discussing our representation at festivals this summer. We can always use assistance, in setting up our 'booth' or in taking a shift in the booth talking to people. The first festival this year

is the [Allegany Celtic Festival](#) in Belmont on June 4. This gathering is great fun: think bands, music, games, dancing, Welsh Cookie Guy! If you'd like to help, call Rick Mason. He's agreed to coordinate our participation at this event.

The next games are the Dundee Scottish Festival, and this one's a doozy. They've changed the date from September to July 16 this year, hoping for better weather, and editorially speaking, this is a splendid festival, even if during monsoon season, er, typical Scottish weather. We will have a new more water-resistant tent, just in case, and if you only plan to attend one 'do' this year, this should be the one... I don't know if the Cookie Guy will be there--but last year, they offered up some wonderful Scottish food such as pasties and Scotch eggs.

A WEE BIT OF HUMOR

How do we know that the game of golf was invented in Scotland? Well, the whole point of the game is to hit the ball as few times as possible in the course of a round, and any Scotsman can tell you that the fewer times you hit a ball the longer it will last.

WHO KNEW DEPARTMENT

Mark your calendars for next year: March 10 is International Bagpipe Day. (Initiated by the Bagpipe Society, just so you know.)

GIFTS SCOTLAND HAS GIVEN TO THE WORLD include adhesive stamps, bicycle pedals, the breech-loading rifle, Bovril, chloroform, color photography, penicillin, the decimal point, the Encyclopedia Britannica, the fountain pen, fingerprinting, the hypodermic syringe, the lawnmower, lime cordial, marmalade, automobile insurance, the MRI scanner, postmarks, pneumatic tires, radar,

the reflecting telescope, savings banks, the speedometer, the raincoat, macadam, Universal Standard Time, the vacuum thermos and, of course, chicken tikka masala, which was invented in Glasgow in the late Sixties.

FISH STORY

The last salmon was caught in the River Kelvin on the 12th of March in 1852 as numbers dwindled due to the impact of Glasgow's booming manufacturing industries.



Pollution from the city's sprawling factories decimated traditional spawning areas with obstructions in the river also disrupting salmon runs.

By the late 18th century the runs of salmon in much of Central Scotland were in decline. The situation in the 19th century became increasingly bad and salmon completely disappeared from many of the rivers.

In February 1999, a £43 million investment was instigated which greatly improved conditions for salmon along the river with numbers increasing steadily ever since.



"What Clan Do You Belong To?"

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please be advised that if you are not current with your dues (Single \$10, Family \$15, Patron \$25, Benefactor \$50 or more, Life \$250) please remit them to Nedra McElroy, 4 Lackawanna Ave., Bath NY 14810 straight away! Our roster is being edited, and those not current with their dues will be deleted from the contact list. Questions to Nedra, 607-776-6727 or <mscopyola@stny.rr.com>

**Past Chiefs of the Scottish American Society
of the Southern Tier, Inc.**

George Cunningham December 1973 to December 1985
Don Campbell December 1985 to December 1991
Doug Coburn December 1991 to December 2000
Donald Flatt December 2000 to December 2003
Tom McIntyre December 2003 to December 2009
Blake Mayo December 2009 to December 2015



Nedra McElroy
4 Lackawanna Avenue
Bath NY 14810-1650

Address Service Requested

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 8 Dish to Pass Dinner, St Thomas, Bath, 5:30 PM
June 4 [Allegany Celtic Festival](#), Belmont, NY
July 16 [Dundee Scottish Festival](#)
July 23 Picnic
Nov. 5 John Paul Jones Presentation, Corning Methodist Church
Nov. 19 St. Andrews Dinner @ Tag's
Jan. 28, 2017 Burns Dinner, Horseheads Hilton Garden Inn

Please call Ferris to respond to any event:
776-7101 or ferrisgilbert@yahoo.com

ALL THESE EVENTS AND MORE ON OUR WEBSITE
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