



The Caledonian

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THE SCOTTISH-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF THE SOUTHERN TIER, INC.



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GREETINGS FROM THE CHIEF:

Happy Hogmanay!

From my family to yours we wish you all the best in 2020.

New folks on the Board bring new ideas, so 2020 should be an exciting year for us.

2019 was an eventful year for the Society, and for the Caledonian Highlanders as well. They

traveled to New York City to participate in the Tartan Day Parade, and plan on doing a repeat performance this year in the Big Apple! We wish them safe travels and another wonderful experience there.

The Society and the Band had a good showing at the Dundee Scottish Festival (which sadly has been discontinued this year) and we were able to make some new friends and to assist folks in learning how to track down their Scottish roots. In addition to providing four scholarships to worthy students this year at our annual picnic, we were fortunate, with the assistance of member Susan McLaren, to have received a grant from the Corning Foundation. We are targeting these funds to enable us to further our mission to encourage interest in the cultural heritage of Scottish-American people in the Southern Tier. To this purpose, plans are in the works to enhance our traditional Burns Celebration with the inclusion of an after-dinner program highlighting various aspects of Scottish culture, which will be free and open to the public. We do hope that you will encourage your friends to join us for this event. They would also be welcome to join us for dinner, by making reservations as indicated (see details next page) and paying \$35/person, accepted at the door. As this is our first event of the year, let's see if we can continue to make it our biggest!

Please remember that as members of the Scottish American Society you have a say in what we do. You don't have to be a board member to share your thoughts and opinions. If you have something that will benefit the Society please share it with us. We want to grow and we can only do that with fresh ideas from you.

Best regards,

Timothy W. Swan
Chief



Wasn't it a Time!

Our Annual St. Andrews Dinner, Meeting and Election came off beautifully, even though the crowd was somewhat sparse ... it included the usual tasty meal with good fellowship. We were entertained by a group of Caledonian Pipers playing a nice selection of pipe tunes, we installed the new crop of officers and board members (listed on page 1), enjoyed a poetry reading offered by Barbara Cunningham, and laughed over a reprise of Nedra McElroy's collection of Scottish television commercials. A good night...and speaking of good nights, make your reservations now for our

BURNS NIGHT CELEBRATION

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!

Saturday, January 25, 2020 at the
Horseheads Elks Club

Social Hour 4 PM, Dinner 5 PM

Buffet: \$35

including haggis(!), beef, chicken, vegetarian pasta, veggies, dessert

Coming for dinner? Reservations required

Contact Tim & Sandy Swan

(607) 215-5864 or sandyswan21@gmail
by January 18, 2020

Guests are also welcome to skip the dinner
and join us for

FREE EXPLORING SCOTLAND PROGRAM

FOLLOWING DINNER AT 6:30 PM,

featuring The Caledonian Highlanders Pipe
Band, along with

Step in Time and Killarney Krew

Join us, view displays about things Scottish:
Travel, clans, attire, bagpipes, more!

Raffle, silent auction of Scottish treasures!

****Proceeds benefit our Scholarship Fund****



OLD LANG SIGN

The Border Reivers

(Information gleaned from FaceBook:
Armstrong's & Border Reiver Clans at Celtic Classic)

From 1296—1603, clans and families on both sides of the Scottish-Anglo border fought, feuded, raided, stole cattle and sheep, kidnapped for ransom and murdered each other as part of a culture that served the political interests of the Scottish and English crowns. They were known as Reivers, or brigands and raiders. Collectively they are known as "The Riding Families" for their expert horsemanship.

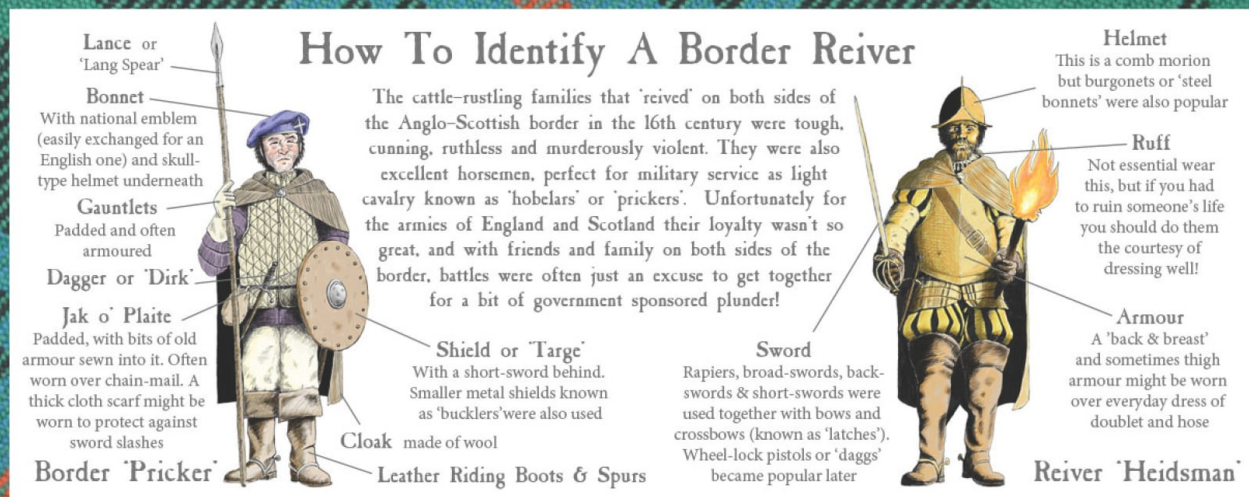
From pauper to noble, raid and reprisal was accepted and codified in the law. Justice was administered by six March Wardens—themselves often practitioners of the Border Reiver lifestyle. Border Reivers were sought after for use as light cavalry and used as mercenaries. Their lives were violent and tough and they were loyal to family and clan, not the crown. The border meant nothing to them. Their loyalties were fluid to all but their closest kin.

With the unification of the crowns in 1603 the era of the Border Reivers would come to a close. They would find themselves used to press King James I interests, policing Ulster plantations and eventually would settle the American colonies where the Reivers' natural fighting abilities would again find value.

Are you from a Riding Family?

Ainslie * Archbold * Armstrong * Ballantine * Beattie(son) *
Bell * Blenkinsop * Bromfield * Bunyan * Burn * Carlisle *
Carnaby * Carr * Carruthers * Cessford * Charlton * Chisholm *
Collingwood * Coulter * Cranston * Craw * Cresswell * Crichton * Crozier * Curwen * Dacre * Davidson * Dixon * Dodds *
Douglas * Dunne * Elliot * Etherington * Fenwick * Forster *
Gilchrist * Glendenning * Goodfellow * Graham * Grey * Hall *
Halliday * Harden * Hedley * Henderson * Heron * Jardine *
Johnstone * Kerr * Kilpatrick * Kinmont/Kinnimont * Laidlaw *
Little * Lowther * Maxwell * Milburn * Moffat * Murray *
Musgrave * Nixon * Noble * Ogle * Oliver * Orde * Percy *
Potts * Prigle * Reaveley * Reed * Redpath * Ridley * Robson *
Rowell * Routledge * Rutherford * Salkeld * Scott * Selby *
Shaftoe * Sommerville * Stamper * Stephenson * Storey *
Swinton * Tait * Taylor * Thompson * Trotter * Turnbull *
Tweedie * Veitch * Witherington * Waddington * Watson *
Wilson * Yarrow * Young

While most Scottish clans have a modern tartan....



Border Reivers did not wear kilts.
Kilts were a highland tradition.



The Board accepts the Corning Foundation check!



Bob at the American Legion always puts out a good meal!



Incoming and outgoing comparing notes



It just wouldn't be right without some pipe music!



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

<i>George Cunningham</i>	<i>1973 to 1985</i>
<i>Don Campbell</i>	<i>1985 to 1991</i>
<i>Doug Colborn</i>	<i>1991 to 2000</i>
<i>Donald Flatt</i>	<i>2000 to 2003</i>
<i>Tom McIntyre</i>	<i>2003 to 2009</i>
<i>Blake Mayo</i>	<i>2009 to 2015</i>
<i>Gil Ferris</i>	<i>2015 to 2017</i>
<i>Rick Mason</i>	<i>2017 to 2019</i>



Nedra McElroy
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Address Service Requested



2020 NOTABLE DATES:

BURNS CELEBRATION: January 25, 2020
Horseheads Elks Club

Alegany County Celtic Festival: June 6
Fireman's Park, Cuba NY

<http://www.alleganycountyceltic.com/>

SASST PICNIC: July 18

Central NY Scottish Games: August 8
Long Branch Park on Onondaga Lake, Syracuse

ST. ANDREWS DINNER: November 21

<http://www.sasst.org/events.html>

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