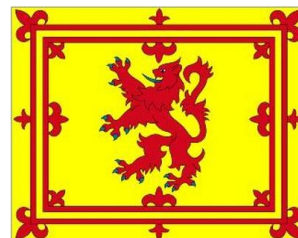




The Caledonian

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



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FROM THE CHIEF:

Greetings from high atop the windy mountains of Pennsylvania, where, like most of you, we've been staying home as much as possible during these unprecedented times. Who could have guessed how long it would be in between visits? I hope you are all well, both physically and emotionally, and ready to soon pick up where we left off a few months ago. Now that we are nearly halfway through 2020, it's high time to finalize events for the rest of the year.

The Board has recently started meeting virtually using Zoom, so that we can discuss getting plans underway for upcoming events. Our Scholarship Committee has announced the winners of our scholarships for 2020, a difficult choice this year from a large field of very qualified young people. They are:

Bruce Stewart Memorial Scholarship

Amelia Thomas, Horseheads

Robert Burns Scholarship

Collin Gaylord, Watkins Glen

George Cunningham Scottish Essay Award

McKenna Goltry, Corning-Painted Post

We are planning on going forward with the annual picnic at Mossy Bank in Bath to which they and their families will be invited on **August 22nd**,

Continuing to meet virtually, we are hoping to be able to plan our St Andrews event in November, and of course, the Burns Dinner in January.

Also, I have a good start on acquiring tartan pieces for our next quilt fundraiser, be it quilt or table runner. USA Kilts has donated 12 different tartans, some of them large pieces of fabric. Think about how we can incorporate them into a raffle project!

Hope to see you soon.

Timothy W. Swan

Chief



THE PICNIC!

We will be gathering once again on August 22nd at noon at Mossy Bank Park Pond Pavilion for our annual picnic honoring the winners of this year's scholarships with good food and fellowship. Bring a dish to pass and an appetite for those hotdogs and hamburgers the chief will be cooking. We hope to see and hear some pipes and stories and to congratulate the three outstanding young people who have been awarded our scholarships this year.

Call Jan Kostolansky (368-8385) now and tell her you're coming with a dish to pass and your table service. Hot dogs, hamburgers, and beverages will be provided. See you there!

WASN'T IT A TIME...

Our Burns Celebration was a success in spite of the weather. The tradition is that the dinner is held, come rain or snow or icy dark of night,



Piping in the haggis



Presentation of the haggis



Laddies' toast by **Sandy Swan**

and sure enough, many hearty souls made it without mishap, as the poor conditions were limited to the higher elevations...it may be that those weather conditions had an impact on our showcasing of things Scottish for the public, but we will carry on and try the same format again next year.

We welcomed new member, **Brian White** from Hammondsport.

The music included *Step in Time* and the *Killarney Krew*, in addition to the usual stellar performance of the Caledonian Highlanders, and exhibits included Visiting Scotland with **Ian Mackenzie**, Exploring Your Clan with **Bill Mackinnon Sitzman**, Scottish Attire, Caledonian Highlanders Information, Bagpipe History: Pipe Components with **Tim Swan** and band members, and SASST Information along with the ever present raffle and silent auction ticket sales with **Nedra McElroy**, **Linda Ferris** and **Jan Kostolansky**.

TRAVEL TRIVIA:

THE MUSEUM OF CHILDHOOD

The world's first museum dedicated to the history of childhood opened in Edinburgh in 1955. With exhibitions devoted to play, the history of toys, and nostalgia, the Museum of Childhood charts the generations of Edinburgh youth through the decades, as well as British youth culture going back to the 19th century. The museum is composed of interactive play spaces and zones dedicated to specific elements of play—from a digital photo area to school memories. Highlights of the collection include



an improvised "shoe doll" from the turn of the 20th century; a small teddy bear from Vienna that made its way on the last Kindertransport train with a Jewish child rescued from Nazi Germany in 1939; a dollhouse built in 1894 that was expanded upon until it had 19 rooms, electricity, and running water; and the oldest object in the museum's collection, a rare wooden Queen Anne doll from 1740.

The museum now boasts newly refurbished galleries following a five-month ground floor restoration. This includes a new exhibit displaying 60 rare objects, such as a Buzz Lightyear action figure circa 2000 and a Fisher-Price Chatter Telephone from 1979.

"WHY DO SCOTS WEAR KILTS?"



Found on Quora.com, written by Janie Keddy, Scottish tour guide and story teller

Men in Scotland, and not just Scots by birth, will often wear kilts to formal events, particularly weddings, graduations and dances or ceilidhs. They sometimes also wear them less formally, for example with a jumper (sweater) and hiking boots to rugby matches and outdoor events. It's a pretty much a sure fire way of getting a lift if you're hitch hiking abroad.

Men look and feel fantastic in kilts. You see them stand differently and develop a swagger. It's extremely attractive!

The kilt has been worn since at least the 16th Century. Before that, Medieval men wore longer tunics with a heavy woollen cloak. When wool became more available this outfit mutated into recognisable Scottish garb. The tunic gradually became shorter, ultimately into a long loose linen shirt (the *cutti sark*). Meantime, the wool cloak became bigger and was used as a 'multi-functional wrap. Two bolts of cloth were sewn together lengthwise. The wearer arranged these into pleats and belted it around the waist. The lower bolt of cloth hung down to the knee. The upper half could be wrapped around the body as a warm and almost windproof covering. This is how the "great kilt" - the *feileadh Mòr* came into being.

At night, the kilt was taken off and became a large blanket or make-shift shelter. They were incredibly practical, and would have been partly responsible the Highlanders' survival in a variable and often harsh climate.

A description from 1746 states:

The garb is certainly very loose, and fits men inured to it to go through great fatigues, to make very quick marches, to bear out against the inclemency of the weather, to wade through rivers, and shelter in huts, woods, and rocks upon

occasion; which men dressed in the low country garb could not possibly endure. [See Ref]

Around the late 17th - early 18th Century, a less cumbersome version of the kilt, the *feileadh beag*, was developed. Essentially, this was made from one bolt of cloth, omitting the over-shoulder plaid. The pleats were permanently stitched into place, so the cloth could no longer be opened into a blanket. It is this form of the kilt which survives to the present day.

Ed. Note: Interesting kilt site: <https://lifeinakilt.com/> put together by the fellow who spent a year (here in the US) wearing kilts daily and blogging about it. This site lots of resources for things Scottish, and is not limited to kilts.

SCOTTISH WIT & WISDOM

A English lawyer and a Scotsman are sitting next to each other on a train. The lawyer is thinking that the Scots are so dumb that he could put one over on him easily...So the lawyer asks if he would like to play a fun game. The Scot is tired and just wants to take a nap, so he politely declines and tries to catch a few winks. The lawyer persists, and says that the game is a lot of fun. "I ask you a question, and if you don't know the answer, you pay me only £5; you ask me one, and if I don't know the answer, I will pay you £500". This catches the Scots attention and to keep the lawyer quiet, he agrees to play the game. The lawyer asks the first question. "What's the distance from The Earth to the Moon?" The Scot doesn't say a word, reaches in his pocket pulls out a five pound note and hands it to the lawyer. Now, it's his turn. He asks the lawyer, "What goes up a hill with three legs, and comes down with four?" The lawyer uses his laptop and searches all references he could find on the Net. He sends e-mails to all the smart friends he knows, all to no avail. After one hour of searching he finally gives up. He wakes up the Scot and hands him £500. He happily pockets the £500 and goes right back to sleep. The lawyer is going nuts not knowing the answer. He wakes the Scot up and asks, "Well, so what goes up a hill with three legs and comes down with four?" The Scot reaches in his pocket, hands the lawyer £5 and goes back to sleep. And the moral of this little tale? Never underestimate the guile of a Scotsman!

PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES!

Look at your mailing label! If it says "lifetime," or "benefactor", "fellow", or "comp," you are current in your membership and will remain so. If there is a year above your name, and it is not 2020 or later, you are in arrears. If you are not current with your dues (Single \$10, Family \$15, Patron \$25, Benefactor \$50 or more, Life \$250), please remit to Nedra McElroy, 4 Lackawanna Ave., Bath NY 14810 straight away.

Members whose 2020 dues have not been paid will be removed from the Society mailing list!

Thank you for your attention to this important matter!

By the same token, if your e-mail or telephone or mailing address has changed, please keep us in the loop. Tell Nedra, keeper of the database.



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
4 Lackawanna Avenue
Bath NY 14810-1650

Address Service Requested



2020 PROPOSED NOTABLE DATES:

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PICNIC AT
MOSSY BANK PARK, BATH
AUGUST 22, beginning at noon

ST. ANDREWS DINNER: November 21

BURNS DINNER: January 23, 2021

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

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