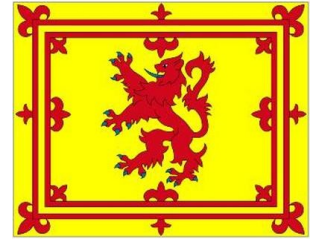




The Caledonian

VOL. XXXIX NO. 2 MARCH 2022



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



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FROM THE CHIEF:

Our annual Burns Night was a great success, with proceeds from the various fund-raising activities raising an impressive amount to help fund 2 of our annual scholarships! Well done, all! The Wings of Eagles Discovery Center was a good choice of location, and Sweet 'n' Saucy provided a tasty meal. The

Caledonian Highlanders did their usual stellar job, and Three Stone Fire provided great music along with dance lessons.



It looked like a good time was had by all! We hope to continue our relationship with the Warplane Museum in the future.

Next up is our **SECOND ANNUAL TARTAN DAY**, scheduled for Wednesday, April 6, 2022, from 6 - 7 pm at the Centennial Park, Corning, NY, followed by a Market Street Pub Crawl starting at the Quincy Exchange on Market Street.

Order of Events

Welcome by the Chief Tim Swan

Invocation by Rev. Troy Preston, Rector of

Christ Episcopal Church

National Anthem with **Michael Burrell**

Proclamation Presented by **Bill Boland**,
Mayor of Corning

Kirkin' O' the Tartans

Listen to the Pipes:

The Caledonian Highlanders Pipes & Drums

All are welcome!

Hope to see you there!

Wear your tartan!

On another note, it's time to get the word out about our scholarship program. There is an application on page 5 for you to share with any likely students you know...

Timothy W. Swan

Chief



HISTORY OF TARTAN DAY

On April 6, 1320, fifty-one Scottish nobles signed the Declaration of Arbroath, formally declaring their independence from England by stating in part: "For we fight not for glory, nor riches, nor honors, but for freedom alone which no good man gives up except for his life." From its early beginnings, Americans with Scottish ancestry endeavored for their freedom as much as any American. It was in their blood.

On March 20, 1998, the United States Senate passed Resolution 155, a bill sponsored in part by Daniel Patrick Moynihan of NY, designating April 6th of each year as National Tartan Day. The day recognizes Scottish Americans and their achievements and contributions to the United States. The House passed Resolution 41 on March 9, 2005, and George W. Bush signed the Presidential Proclamation on April 4, 2008. Our own founder and first Chief **George Cunningham** was a prime mover in encouraging Senator Moynihan to sponsor the bill.

HIGHLAND DRESS

The Highland Dress presently worn is a result of a process of evolution. Before the year 1600 the Gaels of Scotland wore a large shirt colored with saffron. Over this get wore a garment hanging approximately knee-length, made of a thick woolen material. Some years later the saffron shirt was no longer worn and it was replaced by the belted plaid and kilt (fiele beag). Originally the belted plaid and kilt were in one piece consisting of twelve Ells of tartan pleated and fastened around the body with a belt. The lower part was used as a lit and the top was attached to the shoulder by a brooch and hung down over the back forming a plaid.

Today of course the kilt and plaid are two different garments. The full Highland Dress consists of a kilt, plaid, low cut Ghillie brogues, knitted hose in correct check to match the tartan of the kilt, a doublet of cloth or velvet with diamond shaped buttons, sporran, balmoral cap and correct jewelry. Many of the ornaments which are not necessary part of the dress are left out or used in a more subdued form. Ancient colors in clan tartans are popular, and there are many attractive reproductions being made. A kilt made from these charming materials is a delight to the eye and worthy of serious consideration when deciding on an outfit.



THE STORY OF THE KILT PIN



Before the reign of Queen Victoria, the Scottish kilt was worn without the kilt pin, now used to secure the fold over the right-hand side. As a result, there were many embarrassing moments, especially if you wore the kilt in a high wind. The awful truth was that nothing in the nature of an undergarment was worn with the kilt!

One day Queen Victoria arrived on a visit to Balmoral Castle and reviewed the Gordon Highlanders. A stiff wind was blowing and one young soldier, at rigid attention, was unable to control the flapping of his kilt and was mortified at the thought of exposure on this important occasion. The Queen, noticing his embarrassment, walked over to him and removed a pin from her own dress, leaned over and pinned the overlap of his kilt.

Famous Scots Department

THE MACKINTOSHES & HILL HOUSE

The architecture and designs of Charles Rennie Mackintosh (along with his wife Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh) are loved throughout the world

The Hill House, located in Helensburgh, around 40 kilometers northwest of Glasgow, is considered to be Charles Rennie Mackintosh's domestic masterpiece. In 1902, he began working to a commission from Glasgow book publisher Walter Blackie. A life-long resident of Glasgow, the up-and-coming architect Mackintosh and his wife Margaret Macdonald (of her, Charles said 'Oh, I had the talent, but she had the genius.') created just about everything from the building itself to the interior design: furniture and textiles.

Mackintosh always intended for the Hill House to be lived in rather than revered, and the Blackie family cherished their unique home.

Mackintosh was a revolutionary designer, but the materials and techniques at the cutting edge of architectural design in 1904 haven't

withstood a century of the west of Scotland's harsh, wet weather conditions.



The external render of the property has not proved watertight as its facade is made of gray Portland cement rather than a more traditional and harder substance like lime, and the walls have gradually become saturated and are crumbling, with water threatening the interiors. The National Trust of Scotland, which manages the home, describes it as "dissolving like an aspirin in a glass of water."

If action hadn't been taken, the house would be irreparably damaged and its iconic architecture and unique interiors would be lost

forever.

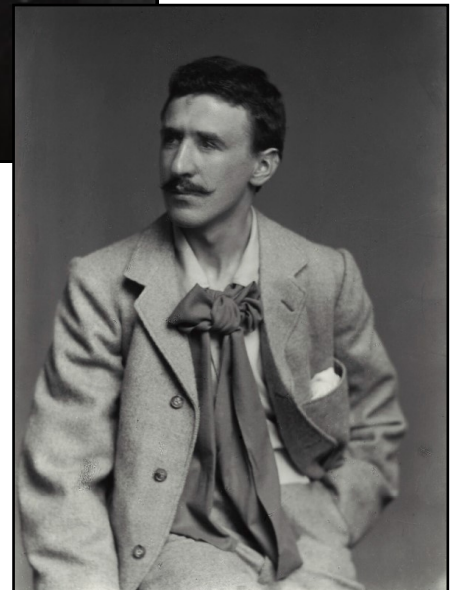
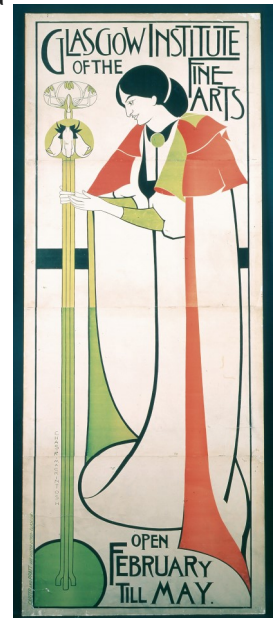
The National Trust embarked on a 15-year conservation program, which will allow continued public access, but also offer views of the Hill House that have never been seen before, even by Mackintosh himself. Stage one opened to visitors in early June 2019, with a protective steel frame structure covered in chainmail mesh, a giant, greenhouse-like box which sits over the house, featuring walkways around and over the top of the house. This structure, along with a new visitor center, will deliver a unique heritage visitor experience.



Although Charles Rennie Mackintosh is frequently claimed to be Scotland's most famous architect, Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh has been somewhat marginalized in comparison. Yet she was celebrated in her time by many of her peers, including her husband who once wrote in a letter to her, "Remember, you are half if not three-quarters in all my architectural work ... " She was a member of the Glasgow School of Art which helped define

the later Art Nouveau movement.

Active and recognized during her career, between 1895 and 1924 she contributed to more than 40 European and American exhibitions. Poor health cut short Margaret's career and, as far as is known, she produced no work after 1921. She died in 1933, just over four years after her husband.



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 2022 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 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.

The Scottish American Society of the Southern Tier annually awards three \$500 scholarships to students from the Southern Tier of New York State and the Northern Tier of Pennsylvania



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete this form and return it to Jan Kostolansky,
17 Kahler Road South, Elmira, New York 14903 by May 6, 2022

NAME _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

ADDRESS _____ TOWN _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ AGE _____

E-MAIL _____

SCHOOL _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S FULL NAME _____

PARENT ADDRESS & PHONE, IF DIFFERENT: _____

NAME OF COLLEGE ATTENDING OR COLLEGES TO WHICH YOU HAVE APPLIED: _____

PLEASE SUBMIT A COPY OF YOUR MOST RECENT TRANSCRIPT OR NAME & PHONE NUMBER OF YOUR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR: _____

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES _____

ON A SEPARATE SHEET, PLEASE PROVIDE AN ESSAY EXPLAINING YOUR INTEREST IN SCOTTISH HERITAGE, HISTORY, LITERATURE, MUSIC AND/OR ART.

Applications are reviewed and weighted according to merit, scholarship, and interest in Scottish heritage.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: _____

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



George Cunningham

1973 to 1985

Don Campbell

1985 to 1991

Doug Colborn

1991 to 2000

Donald Flatt

2000 to 2003

Tom McIntyre

2003 to 2009

Blake Mayo

2009 to 2015

Gil Ferris

2015 to 2017

Rick Mason

2017 to 2019



Nedra McElroy
4 Lackawanna Avenue
Bath NY 14810-1650

Address Service Requested

DATES TO REMEMBER:

TARTAN DAY April 6, 2022

SCHOLARSHIP PICNIC July 16, 2022

ST. ANDREWS DAY & ANNUAL MEETING November 26, 2022



There have been questions about the resumption of festivals: so far, as far as we know, these are 'on' for 2022:

Finger Lakes Celtic Games & Festival, Farmington NY: May 21, 2022

Allegany County Celtic Festival, Cuba NY: June 4, 2022

Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival, Lockport NY: Sept. 17-18, 2022

