



The Caledonian

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



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FROM THE CHIEF:

That time of year has arrived when we honor the recipients of our annual scholarships at our picnic at Mossy Bank Park in Bath.

This year's winners are:

George Cunningham Scottish Essay Award

Aidan Thurston, Odessa Montour Central School

Robert Burns Scholarship

Olivia Nittinger, Waverly Central School

Bruce Stewart Memorial Scholarship

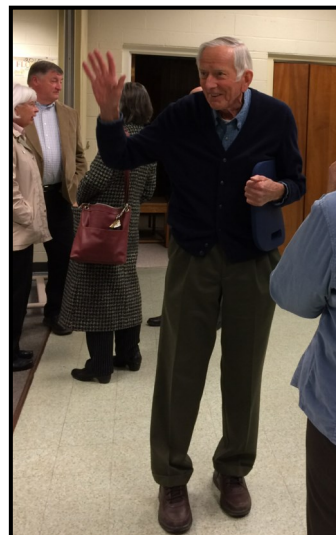
Sydney Burns, Bath Central School

Congratulations to all, and we hope to meet them at the picnic!

Please plan on joining us in the Pond Pavilion at Mossy Bank. Bring your table service and a dish to pass. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs are provided, along with beverages. There is usually a tune or two on the pipes present, along with the good food and fellowship. We'd love to see you—just let Nedra McElroy (607-684-0205 or mscopyola@stny.rr.com) know you're coming so we can be sure to have enough food!

Timothy W. Swan

Chief



REST IN PEACE, IAN
We were saddened to hear of the passing of our friend and long-time loyal member Ian Mackenzie on June 2, a mere 2 weeks before his 94th birthday. Ian was a valued member of the Board of Trustees for many years, and also



IAN MACKENZIE
1928-2022

served as program chairman for a decade, organizing all Society events. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him: he epitomized a true Renaissance gentleman, artist, author, lecturer, world traveler, athlete, friend.

Donations honoring Ian's memory may be made to the Finger Lakes SPCA, 72 Cameron Street, Bath NY 14810

SCOTTISH FOLKLORE

Found on FaceBook: 'This Land Called Scotland' posted by Robert McAngus

Scotland is full of beautiful places, from the hustle and bustle that is Glasgow and Edinburgh to the quiet beauty that is the mountains and glens, the Lochs attract millions of visitors each year along with the midges, but what about the dark side, that the casual visitor never gets to see, in the dark places, where the creepy crawlies are

and the things that go bump in the night... let me tell you about some of those things you may never see, but I'm sure if you talk to your family, someone has seen but not told out of fear.....

THE STANDING STONES



When the first settlers arrived in Scotland over 10,000 years ago, it is thought that they erected large imposing standing stones. Why, you may ask? Read on to find out the myths behind some of Scotland's most iconic stones.

They may be big, heavy and made of stone, but what do they mean, and why do they exist? Many questions surround the clusters of standing stones dotted across Scotland. The iconic Calanais Standing Stones lie on the west coast of the Isle of Lewis. The stones are also known as Fir Bhreig meaning the 'false men' in Gaelic, and many people believe they are the petrified souls of the distant past. Legends say that the stones were once giants, turned into stone by a saint when they refused to convert to Christianity. It is also thought that a visiting spectre arrives every year to wander around the stones, on the dawn of the Midsummer Solstice.

Standing stones certainly stir unexplainably strong feelings. At the Ring of Brodgar in Orkney, people have been known to sit patiently and await aliens and UFO landings. On the Isle of Arran, it is thought that a group of fairies once sat atop the mountain, Durra-na-each, and passed the time by

flicking pebbles onto the moor below. The pebbles became large stones and formed the six stone circles of Machrie Moor.

That's right, visit one of these ancient sites and you'll feel the mystery in the air too.

THE WALLACE SWORD THE SYMBOL OF LIBERTY

found on FaceBook 'O Flower of Scotland' page posted by Jimmy Ireland

The Wallace Sword provides an historical link to William Wallace. The sword was installed in The National Wallace Monument in 1888, after years languishing in Dumbarton Castle, where Wallace had been taken after his capture in 1305.

Wallace was taken to London and brutally executed his lifeless body quartered – the four parts of which were sent to Newcastle, Berwick, Perth and Stirling for public display. Wallace's head, meanwhile, was dipped in tar and placed on a spike on London bridge, a grisly reminder to others of King Edward's "justice".

In 1505, King James IV of Scotland ordered the sword to be refurbished. A recent examination of the sword blade, which has been repaired several times, dates it in part to the 13th century.

The maker's marks have been lost through wear and tear over the centuries, but the quality of the sword suggests it was made locally rather than imported from the continent.

The Wallace Sword is unusually long, suggesting Wallace must have been well over six feet tall to wield such a weapon.



Facts and Figures

- Sword length: 5.5 feet
- Blade length: 4.3 feet
- Weight: 6.5 pounds
- Material: iron with leather handle

Its association with Wallace has given the sword political significance. In the 20th century those fighting for political change identified with Wallace. In 1912 Ethel Moorhead, a suffragette, smashed the case containing the Wallace Sword, to highlight the struggle of women to gain the right to vote.

Wrapped around the stone which Ethel Moorhead used to smash the case was a note which read:

"Your liberties were won by the sword. Release the women who are fighting for their liberties."

Her exploits were praised by other suffragettes as 'a symbolic act: to emphasis the fact that Scots liberty was won by fighting.'

Later in the 20th century the sword was twice stolen by Scottish nationalists to highlight their cause. Only once has the sword left the UK, when it was taken to New York in 2005 and given pride of place in the 'Tartan Week' events.

Today the sword remains a symbol of liberty, and a reminder of the freedom for which Wallace fought, at The National Wallace Monument in Stirling, Scotland.

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 2021 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.



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>



Scottish-American Society of the Southern Tier
Nedra McElroy
4 Lackawanna Avenue
Bath NY 14810-1650

Address Service Requested



DATES TO REMEMBER:

Annual Scholarship Picnic June 23 at Mossy Bank Pond Pavilion,
(Directional signs on County Route 10 out of Bath will help you find the way.)

Central New York Scottish Games and Celtic Festival

<https://cnyscottishgames.org/>

August 13, 2022 from 9am - 8pm
Long Branch Park in Liverpool, NY

The Niagara Celtic Festival

https://www.niagaraceltic.com/fest_events.html

Sept. 17th 10am-10:30pm and Sept. 18th 10am-6:30pm
Niagara County Fairgrounds, Lockport NY

