



St. Andrew's Society of the Adirondacks



September 2008

Future Events

Sept. 19-20: New Hampshire Highland Games, Loon Mt. Ski Resort, Lincoln, NH. For information: 1-603-229-1975 or www.NHSCOT.org

Nov. 16: Kirkin o' the Tartan at St. Eustace Church, Lake Placid at 10am; Annual General Meeting at the same church at 2 pm.

Nov. 30th: Feast of St. Andrew

Dec. 6: holiday party at the home of Peter McAfee, 17 Country Club Lane, Lake Placid. Happy Hour at 5:30 pm, potluck dinner at 6pm. An indoor pool is available. Call Peter at 523-8168 for directions.

Jan. 24th: Burns Supper. Details will be in the Dec. 1st newsletter.

HEAP and Food Pantries

The original mission of St. Andrew's Societies was to assist Scottish immigrants with basic needs such as housing and food. Today we are carrying out this spirit by assisting others in need of immediate help. "HEAP" is the Home Energy Assistance Program in each county. SASA collects food items and cash donations at all our functions. These are distributed to food pantries throughout our area. For your personal donations the following numbers are offered:

Clinton Co. Dept. of Social Services 565-3298
Essex Co. Dept. of Social Services 873-3446
Franklin Co. Dept. of Social Services 481-1807
Saratoga Co Dept. of Social Services 884-4144
Warren Co. Dept. of Social Services 761-6300
Ecumenical Food Pantry Lake Placid 523-8123

Other food pantries are available in most towns. Check with Social Services or local churches for the locations.

Mission Statement:

- ◆ The Perpetuation of Scottish Heritage, Traditions, Culture, Education and Genealogy.

To Contact Us :

- ◆ St. Andrew's Society of the Adirondacks,
P.O. Box 1424
Lake Placid, NY 12946
- ◆ We are on the Web:
www.kvvi.net/~adkscot

YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD:

WILLIAM BURKE, PRESIDENT
ROBERT BREEN, VICE PRESIDENT
LINDSAY ANDERSON, SECRETARY
AL HOOD, TREASURER
GARDA BABCOCK, DIRECTOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
PETER FISH, DIRECTOR
SARAH IRVING, DIRECTOR
PETER MCAFEE, DIRECTOR
IAN STRACHAN, DIRECTOR EMERITUS
MARJORY MOELLER,
WEBSITE
JINI AND AL HOOD,
NEWSLETTER

News From Members

Dr. George Hart, SASA member from Lake Placid, was recently honored by the New York State Academy of Family Physicians. At 90 + years of age he is the oldest living past president of the academy. Dr. Hart practiced for many years in Lake Placid and for most of that time was the only family doctor in the village. He resides here with his wife Ruth, and has children, grandchildren and a great grandchild nearby.

Ian Breen, son of SASA vice-president Bob Breen, is making a name for himself in the golf world. In early July he won the Northeastern New York PGA FAM Funds Classic in Cobleskill. It was his second major win on the NENY PGA circuit. Ian is a graduate of Saranac Lake High School where he quarterbacked a championship football team as well as being the CVAC Individual Golf Champion of 1990. He is the head pro at Canajoharie Country Club. Ian has survived two bouts of cancer which helps him appreciate his life and his sport as "just a game".

Rebecca Marie Butler and Paul Freeman Supley were married May 25, 2008, in Plattsburgh. Piping was performed at the ceremony and reception by SASA member Cameron Anderson. Becky and Paul are both radiologic technologists at CVPH Medical Center and now reside at their new home in Plattsburgh.



A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE by Sarah Irving

On July 8, 1758, British armed forces led an attack against a smaller number of French troops in what is known as the Battle of Carillon. The French were outnumbered more than 5 to 1 by the British and Colonial soldiers and yet, when the fighting was over, the French won the day. More than 1900 men perished and a full third of those lost were from the 42nd Regiment of Foot, better known as the Black Watch Regiment or the Highlanders.

250 years later on July 5, 2008, a celebration of Scots was observed at Fort Ticonderoga to honor those who died in the battle. The St. Andrew's Society of the Adirondacks and the St. Andrew's Society of Vermont joined together carrying tartan flags and banners behind a regimental guard from the Black Watch Highlanders. Behind the flags came individuals from Scotland, England, Canada and the United States in a march from the parade grounds in the fort to the Cairn that marks the site of the battle of Carillon. The sound of the Black Watch bagpipes accompanied the marchers over the half-mile walk through the woods. Upon reaching the Cairn, the flags formed a line to create a backdrop of tartans for the ceremony that commemorated the day in history and to remember the clan members who fought and died so far from home.

There was an invocation by the clergy, speeches by local dignitaries and by a British descendent reliving a bit of family history. Then with military precision the Black Watch marched forward to lay a wreath at the foot of the Cairn. Each person present had been offered a red carnation in memory of their fallen forebears and as the guard returned to their positions, people



slowly came forward to place their flowers next to the Black Watch wreath. It was a trickle at first, one at a time came forward, laid the carnation on the ground and stepped away to make way for the next to do the same. Soon it seemed that people were coming from all around the Cairn, all with the same purpose of honoring and remembering those of their clans. In complete silence they moved in and about one another, never interrupting the solitude of the moment or the thoughts of those around them. The bagpipes could be heard through the trees playing an air that receded slowly into the distance. Quiet fell as the last of the carnations was laid in memoriam.

Maintaining the respectful silence, all present turned and retraced their steps back towards the fort. The fife and drums began to play on the return march and a new feeling prevailed. Past and present had been meshed giving life to our ancestral roots and making us feel the blood connection stronger and more real than ever.

Family stories give color and life to each of us but standing on the dirt and rocks where our Scottish ancestors fought and died while making American history brought to heart who we are as individuals and as Scots.

Pipes and Drums

Adirondack Pipes and Drums was formed in 1949 in Ft. Edward, NY, to promote and preserve Scottish music and traditions in the region, and to pay tribute to the Highland Regiments that served in the area during the French and Indian Wars. The band is a member of the Eastern U.S. Bagpipe Assoc. and a member of the Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council.

The Pipe Major is David Jones and the Drum Sergeant is Tom Harrington. The manager is Jim Hood, SASA member. Piper Michael Murdock is a recent SASA scholarship winner. There is a piping class beginning Sept. 8th at 6pm at the Park Street Theater in Glens Falls.

The band will appear in the TD Holiday Parade in South Glens Falls and at the Festival of Trees in Lake George. They will present Celtic Arts recitals at the Park St. Theater on Oct. 4th and Dec. 7th, as well as Feb. 28th and April 11th next year.

The website is www.adkpipes.org or contact Jim Hood at 518-307-9823, David Jones at 518-745-6857, or Tom Harrington at www.gfprinting.com

SASA member Robin Dunning writes that she plays with the **Police Pipes and Drums of Plattsburgh** which was formed two years ago. The band is sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Police. Members consist of active and retired fire and police officers, plus those from many other walks of life. They range in age from 14 to 70+.

The Pipe major is "Doc" Al Walker and the Pipe Sergeant is Gerry Tetreault, both SASA members. Another member is Adam Blaine who is a recent recipient of the SASA Joseph McCallie scholarship. The band recently played at the Montreal Highland Games and will be at the Battle of Plattsburgh events in September.

Anyone interested in piping or drumming may come to rehearsals on Monday nights at 6:30 at the Salvation Army in Plattsburgh. Free lessons on pipes and drums are offered. For more information contact president Kim Matthews at 518-873-2114, or Robin Dunning at robin_dunning@hotmail.com or 518-962-8336.

Joseph McCallie Scholarship

Applications for the 2009 scholarship are being accepted and will be awarded at the Burns Supper in January. The scholarship is available for lessons or competition expenses in piping, drumming, Highland dancing, or traditional Scottish crafts. Study of Scottish history and culture, or publication of material on these subjects would also be eligible for scholarship money.

Applications should be sent to SASA, P.O. Box 1424, Lake Placid, NY 12946 by December 10th.

The Wee Mad Road by Jack & Barbara Maloney

A Book Review by Bob Breen

"Our children grew up and left home. Before they could come back, we sold the house and ran away to a foreign land." Jack and Barbara chose their midlife escape in the Scottish Highlands and a small village in Coigach.

I have never had the opportunity to visit Scotland but this book, written in diary form, gives a glimpse of coastal highland life around the time of the Falklands War in 1981-82. It portrays the hardships endured by these tight knit communities. The rural lifestyles lived would be similar to my parents and grandparents era. The stark contrast to what is essential in the Highlands and what is convenience in America is most interesting.

In two short years Jack and Barbara endeared themselves to the "locals" and became a part of the community. Music, drinks, food, caring and sharing appears to have been the key to being accepted as a friend to these stoic and rugged Highlanders. They did not miss television and the modern conveniences, and felt that this contributed to getting them out with the locals. They even introduced celebrations of American customs such as Thanksgiving—a success even though the electricity went off while dinner was cooking.

They were amused with the custom of local names. Their "monikers" were decided by what they did, what they had or where they lived. One example is Donnie Roll who was the postmaster. He was known as Donnie Post. It really was quite clever.

The little knowledge that I had of Scotland (which was mostly historical in nature) has been enhanced by reading this book about the lives of average Scottish Highland people. I would recommend it to all SASA members.

The book is available from Jack Maloney, 580 Otis Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104 for \$17.95, or see www.theweemadroad.com

Days Like This

"Days Like This" is a project of the Scottish Book Trust and the BBC Radio Scotland. People across Scotland and Scots abroad can become part of the nation's history by writing about one special day in their lives. The stories will appear in on the BBC website for all to read. A panel will choose some to be discussed in a series of radio programs and to be published in a book next year.

Anyone can send a story as long as it is true and centers on a single day. Please keep it under 1000 words. The deadline is Nov. 1st, 2008. Send to www.scottishbooktrust.com/dayslikethis

2009 Raffle

The raffle supports our scholarships as well as community cultural events. The prizes this year are a pack basket hand-made by Sarah Irving, and a tartan tote bag filled with the makings of a great party.

Tickets have been sold at the Saranac Lake Block Party and the Capital district Scottish Games. They will be available until the Burns Supper on Jan. 24th when the drawing will be held. Tickets can be purchased for \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Send request to SASA, Box 1424, Lake Placid, NY 12946 or contact a Board member.

Your Newsletter

The SASA newsletter is published quarterly. Items of interest to our membership and comments are always welcome.

Send your family news, favorite stories, recipes, travel tales and Scottish humor. Photos will be returned.

Contact us at P. O. Box 1424, Lake Placid, or e-mail: [Jini Hood at a-al-hood-1@att.net](mailto:Jini.Hood.1@att.net)