



Emma Velasco, President

A Letter from the President

Dear Members of the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit,

It's a beautiful fall day as I write this, and it's fitting that we are headed into the season of gratefulness and thanksgiving. Even for those of us who are better suited to the warm summer days, there is something to be said about nature's splendor displayed in a Michigan autumn.

The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit has a mission to give to charity and our community, and we have done that consistently throughout the year even when we were disrupted and unable to meet in our own Kilgour Hall. In doing so, we give thanks for our own abilities to help when help is needed. The members of this Society are generous and kind, and our work is important.

We are struggling to put together the cook team for next year's Fish Fry nights (each Friday during Lent). The proceeds from this activity are key to our operating budget, and we've missed this revenue for the past few years (first due to Covid, then the flood damage). If you know someone who can run the kitchen, please contact any member of the Executive Committee, or tell Paula Lupi at the next meeting.

Why Paula, you ask? She's going to be running the meetings while I'm lolly-gagging around after back surgery. The Society will be in good hands – thanks Paula.

I'd like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to everyone who has worked with me over the past several years. The names are too many to mention, and include not only our officers, but our committees, and our member volunteers. To those of you who simply reached out and held my hand or gave me a hug or a suggestion or a word of heartfelt advice – it means the world to me. Our brother and sister Scots help us all get through both good times and bad.

Sometimes, thankfulness isn't even a big enough word.

In community and gratefulness, I remain Yours Aye

Emma Velasco, President

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2022 DETROIT SCOTS CALENDAR

November 2022					
Date	Event	Food	Charity	50/50	Benevolence
11/7	Membership Meeting, 6:00 pm Social Hour, 7:00 pm Business				
	Nomination of Officers & Trustees	Chips available for purchase at the Tartan Tavern	Marine Toys for Tots	Vietnam Veterans of America – Macomb County	Burt Middlemas Matching Fund
11/8	Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 pm (Zoom)				
11/10	Open Library Hours, 10:30 am - 3:30 pm				
11/14	Low Book Club, 5:30 pm, (Zoom)				
11/15	House Committee Mtg., 5:00 pm (Zoom) Trustees Meeting, 6:30 pm (Zoom)				
11/18	Tartan Tavern Trivia Night – Trivia Host Ron Fiorina, Kilgour, 7:00 – 10:00 pm				
11/19	Library Committee Business Meeting 9:30am - 11:30am, Open Library 11:30am – 3:30pm				
11/20	Kirking of the Tartans, Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, 10:00 am				
11/26	Decorate the Hall, Kilgour, 10 am – Noon				
December 2022					
Date	Event	Food	Charity	50/50	Benevolence
12/3	St. Andrew's Day Dinner, Kilgour, 6:00 pm Social, 7:00 Dinner Served				
12/5	Membership Meeting, 6:00 pm Social Hour, 7:00 pm Business				
	Election of Officers & Trustees, Vote on 2023 Budget	Chips available for purchase at the Tartan Tavern	Giving Tree for Guest Elementary School	Fort Street Open Door Program	Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs
12/8	Open Library Hours, 10:30 am - 3:30 pm				
12/11	Santa Visit for Wee Bairns, Kilgour, 3:00 – 5:00 pm				
12/13	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm (Zoom)				
12/17	Library Committee Business Meeting 9:30 - 11:30 am, Open Library 11:30 am – 3:30 pm				
12/20	House Committee Mtg. 5:00 pm (Zoom) Trustees Meeting, 6:30 pm (Zoom)				
12/22	Open Library Hours, 10:30 am - 3:30 pm				
12/31	Hogmanay Family Celebration, Kilgour, 4:00 – 8:00 pm				

2022 DETROIT SCOTS CALENDAR

January 2023					
Date	Event	Food	Charity	50/50	Benevolence
1/07	Take Down the Kilgour Decorations, Kilgour, 10 am - Noon				
1/09	Membership Meeting, 6:00 pm Social Hour, 7:00 pm Business				
	General Meeting & Installation of Officers & Trustees	Chili Cookoff	South Oakland Citizens for Homeless	Lighthouse	SOCH and Scottish Heritage Event Port Huron
1/10	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm (Zoom)				
1/12	Open Library Hours, 10:30 am - 3:30 pm				
1/21	Library Committee Business Meeting 9:30 - 11:30 am, Open Library 11:30 am – 3:30 pm				
1/21	Robert Burns Celebration, TBD				
1/26	Open Library Hours, 10:30 am - 3:30 pm				



2023 Officer & Trustee Election

DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5TH 7:00 PM

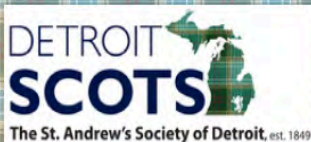
President

Trustees

**All Executive Officers &
3 Members of the Board of Trustees
are eligible for Election**

For more information,
contact Dave Martin
davemartin@standrewspipeband.com

Officers





Lynette McLeod
Benevolence Chair

Our Benevolences

In November the Society honors the Veterans of the United States Armed Forces to celebrate and honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

November Charity



At the **November 7** Meeting we will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for the **Marine Toys for Tots** Program for distribution as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community. Please donate the same type of gift you would give to your own children/relatives/friends, up to age 12. Toys for Tots does not accept realistic looking weapons or gifts with food.

November 50/50 Raffle



Veterans Support Center - Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #154 in Clinton Township provides nourishment, clothing, blankets, toiletries and pantry items to local veterans and their families. The raffle and monthly charity donations will support the chapter's Operation Christmas delivery of toys and food to veteran households in crisis.

November Benevolence

The **Middlemas Matching Fund** was created by member Burt Middlemas in 1982 as a way of encouraging members to donate to our charities. Since it was his suggestion, it was named after him. The Society is making a \$6,000 contribution to the fund this year. For each member who contributes to one of the Society's charities, the Society will make a matching contribution. The maximum amount of the matching is up to \$100 per member annually.



The

St. Andrew's

Society of Detroit is

Sponsoring a Christmas

Giving Tree. We are supporting the

Mary Helen Guest Elementary School

in Walled Lake by providing Christmas gifts

to families and children who need a little Christmas.

The Kilgour Christmas tree will be adorned with Tartan Tags

at the November 7 General Meeting. Each Tartan Tag includes

a number to identify a family or child. Each Tartan Tag includes the age

and sex, size, interests, or other helpful information of the person.

Each Tartan Tag lists types of gift/s to purchase.

Please select a Tartan Tag

Have fun shopping

Return with your

Unwrapped Gifts

December 5 Meeting

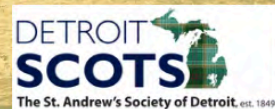
TARTAN TAVERN PUB + TRIVIA NIGHT

TRIVIA HOST
**RON
FIORANI**

Kilgour Scottish Centre
2363 Rochester Road
Troy, MI

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2022
7:00PM - 10:00PM

CASH BAR



*Scottish Sunday and the Kirkin' of the Tartan
will take place at historic
Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church
on Sunday, November 20th at 10:30 am.*

This magnificent service is truly a St. Andrew's tradition with our members participating in the service and presenting their tartans. St. Andrew's Pipe Band and St. Andrew's Royal Scottish Honour Guard will also participate. St. Andrew's members are invited to present their tartans during the service.

Presenters must check in at the church by 9:45 am in Dodge Hall. The church is located 8625 E. Jefferson (at Burns) in Detroit. The service is extremely popular so plan on arriving early.



Presenters must have a swatch of material in their tartan and will, preferably but not mandatory, be in highland dress. If you would like to be a presenter, please call Randall Cain (313-884-8881).





Nancy Waters

Cultural

Activities Chair

Cultural Activities November Fling Press Release

Below is a line-up of recent past, present, and future events open to our membership and friends.

RECENT EVENTS

- Friday, September 23rd, 7:00 - 10:00 pm - **Pub/Trivia Night at the Kilgour!** - Tim Reade fearlessly led our members in two sessions of Trivia at our newly re-created Pub Night! Great job and thank you, Tim!
- Saturday, October 1st, 9:00 - 11:00 am - **New Member Breakfast** - New members joined some of our Trustees and Exec Committee members at Julie Bartoy's scrumptious breakfast. Thank you, Julie!
- Monday, October 3rd, 6:00 - 10:00 pm - **Membership Meeting with New Member Initiation and Dinner.** We enjoyed a piece of Shepherd's Pie along with a member-provided potluck including appetizers, salads, and desserts. Thank you, Heather and Susan Remo, Ann Campbell, Christy Haradean, Emily Wigodski, Michael Grabowski, and Stuart Kennedy for helping with set-up and clean-up. And, thanks to everyone else who bussed their own tables and gathered papers for recycling. Your efforts are appreciated!
- Saturday, October 8th, 2:00 - 4:00 pm - **Presentation by Scottish author, Donald S. Murray** - Donald visited with us regarding his book *As the Women Lay Dreaming*, about the Iolaire tragedy, as well as a brief introduction to his newest book, *In a Veil of Mist*. During this event, sponsored by Charles S. Low Library, we served coffee, tea, and yummy treats donated by the Library Committee. Thank you, friends!
- Sunday, October 23rd, 1:00 - 3:30 pm - **Scottish Tea at the Kilgour** - Pam Thomson hosted this fundraiser for The Highland Games to replace worn out equipment. The sold-out event featured Dave Martin on the bagpipes and Jessica Ford as our Highland Dancer. Ann Campbell, Claudia Scott, Stuart Kennedy, Ryan Dix, Michael Grabowski, and Emily Wigodski helped with set-up and clean-up. In addition, we had a set of very handsome men in kilts to serve the tea to us. Thank you, Stuart Kennedy, Kent Richards, Ron Cunningham, and Michael Grabowski. What a totally delightful afternoon! Be sure to come next year as this will be an annual event.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday, October 29th, 10:00 am - Noon - **Wee Bairns Drop-In Halloween Event - Spooky Scottish Saturday!** Our morning will include a craft, storytelling, songs, treats, and a surprise or two. Parents, please remain at the Kilgour and enjoy a visit with friends, coffee, tea, and a treat. The event is designed for 3-12-year-olds, but babies in arms are always welcome! Costumes are encouraged, but not required. The event is sponsored in part by the Charles S. Low Library Committee. Free!
- Friday, November 18th, 7:00 - 10:00 pm - **Tartan Tavern Trivia Night** - This time our host is Ron Fiorani. Please join us for a challenging evening of trivia with friends. Kathleene will be at the cash bar and will have chips for sale for \$1.00 as well.

Cultural Activities (cont'd)

- Saturday, November 26th, 10:00 am - Noon - **Kilgour Hall Decoration and Tear Down Events** - All are welcome to join us as we decorate for the Holidays. Remember to also sign up for the tear down event which will be held on Saturday, January 7th, 10:00 am - Noon. Coffee and bagels provided at each event.
 - Sign up here:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44ABAD2DAAF9CF8-kilgour>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FUTURE EVENTS

- Saturday, December 3rd, 6:00 – 10:00 pm - **St. Andrew's Day Dinner** - Dust off your kilt or your prettiest dress and join us for our formal, Annual St. Andrew's Day Dinner. Portofino is our caterer with dance music provided by DJ Van Rohr. Ticket prices are \$50 per person.
- Monday, December 5th, 6:00 – 9:00 pm - **Membership Meeting/Annual and Elections** - Social Hour begins at 6:00 pm - a variety of chips available for purchase at the bar for \$1.00.
- Sunday, December 11th – 3:00 – 5:00 pm – **Wee Bairns Visit with Santa** - The event will include a photo op with Santa (bring your camera) and surprise gift for children provided by Charles S. Low Library Committee. Santa will magically appear at 3:30 and stay until 4:30. Free event.
- Saturday, December 31st, 4:00 – 8:00 pm - **Family Hogmanay Celebration** - Brian Maddaford and his committee are making plans for a family style Hogmanay event with activities for both young and old with a New Year's celebration at 7:00 pm (midnight in Scotland). Ticket prices TBD.

HELP WANTED

- **2023 Fish Fries** - We are looking for an Event Coordinator and a Cook for our Annual Fish Fries during Lent which falls this year between February 22nd and April 7th. Contact me if you are interested in coordinating (you will organize the volunteers) OR cooking (you will need a crew) for this event. Thanks! nwaters@detroitscots.com

That's all for now folks! – Nancy Waters, Cultural Activities Director



Thank you to our many veterans!

We Need Elves!

Kilgour Hall

Holiday Decoration & Tear Down Elves!

Saturday, November 26, 2022
10:00 am to Noon

Saturday, January 7, 2023
10:00 am to Noon

wee BAIRNS

Santa VISIT & HOLIDAY PARTY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH AT 3:00 PM

KILGOUR SCOTTISH CENTRE
2363 ROCHESTER ROAD
TROY, MI
248-546-1849

Free Family Event!



Sponsored by the Charles S. Low Library

DETROIT SCOTS
The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, Inc. 1849

A Scottish Benevolent Society founded in 1849 and an IRC 501(c)(3) charitable organization

Candidates for Election to Executive Offices

Candidate for 1st Vice President

Paula Lupi

My name is Paula Lupi and I am running for the 1st Vice President position again. Through my maternal grandpa, Donald McLean, I am a part of Clan McLean of Duart. I signed my name into the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit membership book on March 4, 2013 but had started going to the Membership and Game's meetings in January 2013. I jumped feet first into the Highland Games that summer as the Co-Chair for the Wee Bairns area and in 2014 I took over as Chairman for the Wee Bairns area and have been doing it ever since. In 2014, I took over the duties as The Highland Fling newsletter editor, and in 2015 the Communications Committee was formed, which Shelby Rohr and I built from the ground up. In 2017, I handed the Communications Committee Director responsibilities over to Shelby Rohr.

Candidate for Communications Director

Shelby Rohr

Hello, my name is Shelby Rohr, and I am asking to be re-elected to the office of Communications Director. Since joining the Detroit Scots in October 2013, I have been an active member of the Communications Team. I have also volunteered at the Highland Games every year as well as the Fish Fry. As Communications Director, my team and I support our three websites, host Zoom meetings, maintain our Social Media, take photos at meetings, publish the Highland Fling Newsletter, and a plethora of other activities. This year, my Team and the Membership Team, researched, tested, and launched a new online Membership System.

Candidate for Membership Secretary

Julie Bartoy

I joined St. Andrew's Society of Detroit in May 2018. My second cousin, Jodi Samp, and I were sitting at a table enjoying our fish fry dinner and our Hendrick's gin & tonic when our server, Micki McFarlane, encouraged us to join as she heard us reminiscing about our grandmothers, who were sisters born in Scotland. We submitted our applications and here I am six years later wanting to reach out and support others interested in our Society and who love Scottish things.

Once I was initiated, I joined the Library Committee and have been an actively participating since joining. I take the committee minutes and I am working with Ian Hunter and Dennis Clements to write the SASD History from 2000-2019.

On a more personal note, I moved to Troy in 2017 and live about 5 minutes from the Kilgour Centre. I've been married for 33 years to my husband Mitch and have two adult children. My son Jackson lives in Ann Arbor and my daughter Allison lives in Endicott, NY.

I have been working as the Acting Membership Secretary since Rosemary Newton became ill earlier in the summer. Thank you for your consideration in electing me as the Membership Secretary.

Candidates for Election to Executive Offices

Candidate for Cultural Activities Director

Nancy Waters

Hello SASD members! My name is Nancy Waters and I was your Cultural Activities Director this past year. As a retired elementary and high school librarian, I had an opportunity to plan many events for rather large groups during my career and I find this work rewarding. I hope you have enjoyed some of the events I helped plan this year including the Burns Dinner, The Tartan Tavern Nights, the author visit, the Scottish Tea, and meals at special membership meetings. I have plans to expand the SASD offerings to include children's events, a Hogmanay celebration, and more. I hope you will consider electing me to this post for another year. It has been my honor to serve SASD in this role.

Candidates for Election to the Board of Trustees

Cliff Les

Running for a third term on your Board of Trustees. From two thousand miles away.

Points in Favor:

- 1) If there's one thing the last three years has shown us, it's that we can indeed work closely even though we're a long ways apart. Demanding that all interactions be in-person may be as silly as blowing into a sheep stomach and expecting music to come out of it.
- 2) By now, I sort of know what the job's about.
 - a) In the end, it's about keeping the outfit solvent, and on the right side of the law.
 - b) Job 1: Investment Committee Chair
 - i) When we needed money, for scholarships, for fixing the hall, for benevolences, for charities, it was there. And the Board knew it was there.
 - a) Job 2: Board Secretary
 - i) In truth, they only picked me because I look good in a plaid skirt. But you gotta have the (hairy) legs to make that work.
 - ii) But now, because of my ability to use the genius of Doug Reith, the Board has access to the meeting minutes within a couple hours of the meeting's end. When everybody still remembers what they said and decided. Institutional memory works best when it's accurately set down in the first place.

Points Against:

- 1) I live two thousand miles away.
- 2) Should **anybody** have three terms on the Board?
- 3) I've set up many of the duties of my jobs (Secretary and Investment Chair) to be close to automated. Or at least turn-key. To the point where pretty much any idiot could run them.
 - a) But I'm not just any idiot. I'm a Scot!

Your call.





The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, est. 1849



St. Andrew's Day Dinner Dance

Saturday, December 3, 2022

6 o'clock Social Hour, 7 o'clock Dinner Served

Tickets \$50
per person,
Cash Bar

Dinner Catered by Portofino Restaurant

Dance Music provided by Van "Rockin'" Rohr

Ticket Sales end Sunday, November 27 at Midnight.

Purchase at detroitscots.com/tickets

or mail a check made out to

St. Andrew's Society of Detroit

Kilgour Scottish Centre

2363 Rochester Road

Troy, MI 48083





A Scottish Benevolent Society founded in 1849 and an IRC 501(c)(3) charitable organization



Wishing you and your family

HAPPY Thanksgiving








The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, est. 1849





173rd Annual Highland Games News

Were the 173rd Annual Highland Games a financial success? The answer to that question is a resounding “NO”. Did this upset some Trustees, some Executive Board members, some members of the St. Andrew’s Society? Absolutely!!

When I took over the position of Chairman of the Games, the purpose of the Games was to share our Scottish heritage, traditions, music, and culture with our guests who were in attendance. In the past twenty plus years, I have striven to do that. Along with that goal, I tried to “raise the bar” for the standards of the St. Andrew’s Games. We definitely have grown in attendance, competition, events, and success. To many, our Games became a destination event of their summer. The amount of money raised each year was something to be proud of. Some years were undeniably more financially successful than others. But each year, I remained proud of my efforts and even more proud of the Games Chairs who worked so diligently beside me yearlong.

In March of 2020, the world changed with the pandemic caused by Covid 19. The Annual Games went on. In August of that year, we maintained our tagline of being “the oldest continuous Highland Games in North America”. True, the Games in August 2020 were a far cry from what we had in 2019. BUT the Games went on! In 2021, the Games were a little more back on track with a somewhat scaled down version. We still did our best. In 2022, the world was now faced with rising costs, higher wages, a smaller work force, and inflation. The Games were hit and hit hard. The increased costs that were anticipated were much higher than had been planned on. Equipment that we used needed to be repaired or replaced. In summary, we had a bad year. As I write this, we are still in the black, but it is closer to gray.

There is no need to point fingers or outright throw anyone under the bus. Those in charge did the best they could. It’s time to move on with the spirit of being positive and looking forward to working together. We are Scots and we are members of the best St. Andrew’s Society there is. Continue to be proud. I am.

Slainte!!

Cathy Hasse

MEDICS Tips & Info



- Login to our new Membership System, by going to detroitscots.com and click on **LOGIN** in the Main Menu.
- Be sure to change your password the first time that you login
- Be sure to add this Email Address **DetroitScots@wildapricot.org** to your email Contacts. This should prevent our emails from getting lost in your Spam or Junk folders.
- If you are not receiving our emails, please send us an email at Medics@detroitscots.com and let us help you!



New Membership System

Our new Membership System was launched in early October. By now, all our members should have visited the new system, logged in, created a new password, and looked at their profile for correct information. Several members have already paid their 2023 dues! The best news is that you can do all of this on your own!

About a year ago, a team was created to search for a new system for our membership process. This team consisted of Bob Richardson, Emily Wigodski, Rosemary Newton, Doug Reith, Rod Harris, and me. Later, we invited Paula Lupi and Julie Bartoy to join our committee and learn the new system. Our first task was to give our team a name. Being mostly IT retirees, we had to come up with an acronym. We came up with MEDICS – Membership, Events, Documentation, Information, Communication System! Whew! Don't worry none of us have a medical degree!

After spending the first quarter of this year looking at several online systems available, we determined that Wild Apricot was the system that we wanted to look at further. So, we created a free account and added testing data to try it out! So, if you see Mickey Mouse in the directory, don't panic! We may have forgotten to delete him!

By August, we gave ourselves a goal of being ready to launch before the next round of Membership Dues were to be paid for 2023, that is November 1, 2022.

With the Annual Dues letters being sent via email instead of the USPS, we are saving money by not printing and mailing over 400 letters! Our new system allows all our members to pay their dues online or by check.

The new system also allows new applicants for membership to fill out the Membership Application and pay the fee online!

Our members can login into the system and lookup an individual member's email address, home address, and phone number. You can also browse our Society Documents, such as the Highland Fling Newsletters, Membership Meeting Minutes, and others.

As the Fling Editor, I am responsible for communicating with our membership with Eblasts, items of interest, and of course the Highland Fling Newsletter. My plans are to do this with Wild Apricot's Email functionality, so it important that all members login and keep their email address up to date.

In the future, there are many more features of Wild Apricot that we plan to incorporate. Stay tuned!

Shelby Rohr
Communications Director



Off The Shelf... News about the Charles S. Low Memorial Library



On October 8th, 40 Society members and individuals from the community came to the Kilgour Centre to meet and listen to Scottish Author Donald Murray. Donald talked about his two recent books *As the Woman Lay Dreaming* and *In A Veil of Mist*. He briefly talked about his upcoming book on the Scottish influence in the auto industry. Those that attended found his description of the area and the people that were the basis for the books very informative and fascinating. Liza Mulholland is accompanying Donald as he continues his tour and research in the U.S.

With how well this program was received, the Library Committee will continue to look for other Scottish authors to come the Kilgour and talk about their books. We would like to thank Nancy Waters from the Library Committee for initiating and organizing this presentation.

Watch in the December Highland Fling for several announcements from the Library.

The Library Committee continues to look for a member or non-member that is proficient in Microsoft Word to volunteer for a project in the Library. This project is limited in time and scope. Please contact Dennis Clements or email library@detroitscots.com.

Library Hours:

The 3rd Saturday of every month from 11:30am to 3:30pm

The 2nd and 4th Thursday's every month 10:30am to 3:30pm

Also, by appointment

Email: library@detroitscots.com

Web Page: <https://detroitscots.com/library/>

Library Staff:

Julie Bartoy, Janet Bobby Ann Brown, Ann Campbell, Maryann Clark, Marge Cowan, Sharon Cross, Nan Fromm, Stuart Kennedy, Teri Mago, Cathy McCullough Les, Nancy Waters, Dennis Clements (Chair)

Honorary Member: Dick Fromm **Contributors:** Linda Davenport, Brian & Marilyn Rose, Beth Stireman



In Our Thoughts & Prayers

- Member Emily Wigodski's father, Timothy R. Bissell, passed in June of this year. Emily and her family are sent our sincere condolences.
<https://www.howepeterson.com/obituary/timothy-bissell>
- President Emma Velasco is undergoing back surgery in early November. We want to wish her healing and a speedy recovery!
- Our Hall Manager, Kathleene Thomson, informed us that her brother Harry "Dutch" Erkenbrack passed away on Friday, October 28th. He was 54 years old and lived in Great Falls, Montana. Please keep Kathleene and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Low Library Book Club

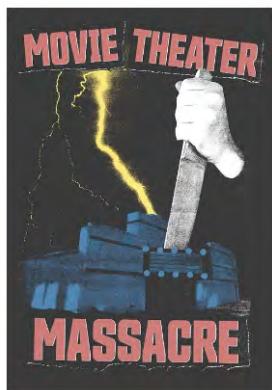
The Low Library Book Club's next meeting will be on November 14th at 5:30 pm (EST), via Zoom. The book for discussion will be *A Croft in the Hills* by Katharine Stewart. Here's the summary:



Katharine Stewart, who died in 2013, was one of Scotland's best-loved writers on rural life in the Highlands. *A Croft in the Hills* tells the story of how a couple and their young daughter, fresh from city life, took over a remote hill croft near Loch Ness and immersed themselves in the practicalities of looking after sheep, cattle, hens, mending fences, baking bread, and surviving the worst that Scottish winters could throw at them. Full of warm personal insights, good humor and a love of living things, it has become a classic and has rarely been out of print since it was first published in 1960.

All are welcome to join in the discussion (whether you've read the book or not). If you're not already a member, just send a request for the Zoom link to library@detroitscots.com

Wee Bits of Interest



We have a Movie Star in our Society!

From our member, Xavier Allen: On 3 Dec, 2022, The Monroe Battlefield: River Raisin plans to show a premier segment of 'The Patrol' before release. Also, I was in this film, which will be shown first in France in next April.



From Member Marc Harlow: Clan Buchanan inaugurated its first Chief in 340 years! The ceremony took place on October 9.

From Member Ernie Paulick: My family has been going to the "Scottish Picnic" on Boblo since the early 1920s. Until recently, the "Picnic" was always held on the third Thursday in August.





HAPPY HOGMANAY
FAMILY CELEBRATION

TICKETS
ON SALE SOON!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31ST,
4:00 - 8:00 PM

LIVESTREAM
NEW YEAR'S IN
SCOTLAND!



A SCOTTISH BENEVOLENT SOCIETY
FOUNDED IN 1849 AND AN (IRC 501)(C)(3) CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION



*Do you think you make
good chili?*

**10th Annual
Frank Hasse
Chili Cook Off**

Members Only

**Monday, January 9, 2023 at the
General Membership Meeting**

Notify Nancy Waters
nwaters@detroitscots.com

to submit the entry of your favorite chili recipe by Friday, January 6th, 2023.
A count of entries is needed to be sure we have enough supplies.

Deadline is January 6th, 2023



St. Andrew's Society is a Scottish Benevolent Society established in 1849 and a IRC 501(c)(3) charitable organization

A Gift of Time

by Cathy Hasse

Elsewhere in this edition of the Highland Fling I mentioned about being proud to be a Scot and a member of the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit. When we all joined the Society, we took an oath to speak well of Scots, not to wrong a fellow member of the Society and basically look out for our fellow members. In the past few months, I have witnessed many good deeds by members, and it made me even prouder to be a member of this organization. These members have gone above and beyond just doing something because it was the right thing to do. From time to time, I think we need to think about all of our good fellow members and how lucky to are to share being in a great group with them. Susan Mair Tower has worked in the Counting House on Games Day for most of her adult life. She started out working there with her sisters, Holly, Kyle and Cori under the direction of their dad, long time Highland Games Treasurer, Bob Mair. After their dad died in 2009, the Mair girls continued to honor him by showing up every year and working from dawn to dark. Cori Mair Hall accepted the position vacated by her dad and has been Games Treasurer since 2009. Susan's husband, Mike and their sons work every Games and always can be counted on. I have always enjoyed my professional relationship as well as a personal friendship with Susan and her family.

A few months ago, I was watching the local news and heard about a local woman who had donated a kidney to a total stranger. I listened a little more carefully as I realized the woman was my friend (and new hero) Susan Mair Tower. She had heard a plea on Channel 7 from a family begging for an organ donation for their dad so he would be able to go off of dialysis and live a normal life. Susan contacted the station, and they started the ball rolling. Selfless Susan donated her kidney because it was the right thing to do. She donated her kidney to a total stranger in memory of her sister Holly who had died from Kidney Cancer three years earlier.

Susan and the gentleman she gave the gift of life to have become "family". Her late parents both of whom were both very active in the St. Andrew's Society are surely proud of her. As fellow Scots, all members can be proud of her, too

Those members who have been around a while know George Boyd. In the past three years or so, George has fallen on some difficult times due to failing health. Who has come to help him? Fellow Scot from the St. Andrew's Society! R. Ian Hunter has been there for moral support, legal issues, medical referrals and friendship. Ian and George developed a friendship while serving on the Board of the Trustees of the Society. Doug Reith has helped George move, helped build extra shelves in George's new assisted living facility, and has walked George through numerous phone and computer issues. Doug stops on his way home from work at least once a week to check in on George. Member David Tait takes George to the Games' trailer to make an adjustment or two (mainly to get George out for a few hours), and Stuart Kennedy reassures George about computer programs. And, Rod and Elaine Harris pick up George to come to membership meetings. These five gentlemen (and, one lady) truly took their oath to the Society to heart when they promised to 'help another Scot'. At the Wednesday night volunteer meeting before the Games a new member, Heather MacFarlane chanced to sit next to Sue Daniels. Sue, who was volunteering, was one of the first women allowed to join the Society. She struck up a conversation with Heather telling her she lived in Farmington Hills, no longer drove at night and missed going to Troy to the membership meetings. Heather, who lives in Ann Arbor, and being a great Scot, offered to stop on her way to membership meetings to pick her up. When I see the two of them together, strangers except for their mutual membership in the Society, I can't help but think how wonderful.

I know that there are dozens or more of examples of good deeds among our membership. Let's all try and focus on the good we do and can do.

This is what we as Scots are all about. Be proud.



Memorial for Chuck Forbes

The passing of Chuck Forbes is sad news, indeed. My deepest sympathy to his family at this time of loss.

But his passing is a loss for many. Detroit, for instance, owes a huge debt of gratitude to Chuck Forbes. Long before Dan Gilbert, Mike and Marion Ilitch, and Peter Karmanos, there was Chuck Forbes. It was this solitary man who looked at a largely vacant downtown Detroit and had the vision to save its icons. With his own money during the 1970s, he purchased closed theaters, including the State, Palms, and the Fox, saving them from a certain date with demolition. His vision was to restore them and eventually have small, medium, and large venues for live shows and entertainment. And he kept buying Detroit architectural gems like the Gem, Elwood Bar & Grill, and the Colony Club. Forbes would proudly point out that his restoration projects were financed with his own money, and he never asked for a handout from the city.

Over the years, I had met him occasionally, and we chatted about our mutual Scottish heritage, but it wasn't until 2016 when he learned about a team project that I had become associated with, the restoration of a huge portrait of Scottish poet Robert Burns, that a true friendship developed. He asked to see what was left of this portrait of Burns by Scottish-born painter Robert Hopkin and brought along his creative restorer, Victor Ashmianets, "just to take a look." The task appeared impossible. The huge canvas, unfurled on the floor of our Kilgour Scottish Centre, was in about twenty-five pieces, some large and some as small as a dime. Clearly its restoration would be a costly years-long project. Our Saint Andrew's Society of Detroit, which owned the painting that once hung in its downtown Detroit St. Andrew's Hall, had raised only a little over half of the anticipated cost.

But the prospect of this project brought together two very important parts of Forbes' life, his Scottish heritage and the restoration of historic Detroit artifacts. He quickly committed to fund the remaining restoration. It took eighteen months for Victor Ashmianets to bring the painting fully back to life.

On January 20, 2019, Chuck beamed at the sight of the painting he helped restore, frame, mount, and illuminate in the Kilgour Scottish Centre in Troy, MI. That dedication dinner was a sweet and emotional moment not only for Chuck Forbes, but also for many of us who helped support this important artistic endeavor. The completion of that work burnishes even brighter the legacy of Chuck Forbes and his impact in restoring and preserving some important Detroit treasures. I knew him as a kind and generous friend willing to spend his time and money to truly make a difference. Thank you, my friend, and, as our Scottish ancestors might say, "mar sin leat" (farewell).

Bob Giles,
Past President, St. Andrew's Society of Detroit

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<https://youtu.be/ZSzdxfBZNxQ>

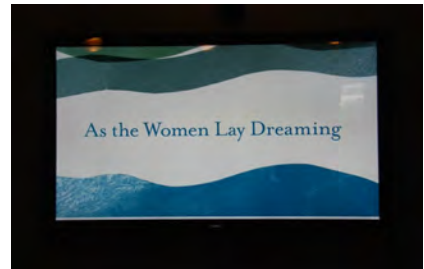


Chuck Forbes is 2nd from the left.

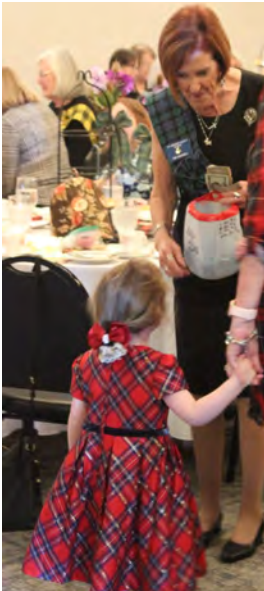
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October 23rd – Scottish Tea Fundraiser



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The Highland Fling is produced by

Shelby Brown Rohr,

Communications Director

flingeditor@detroitscots.com

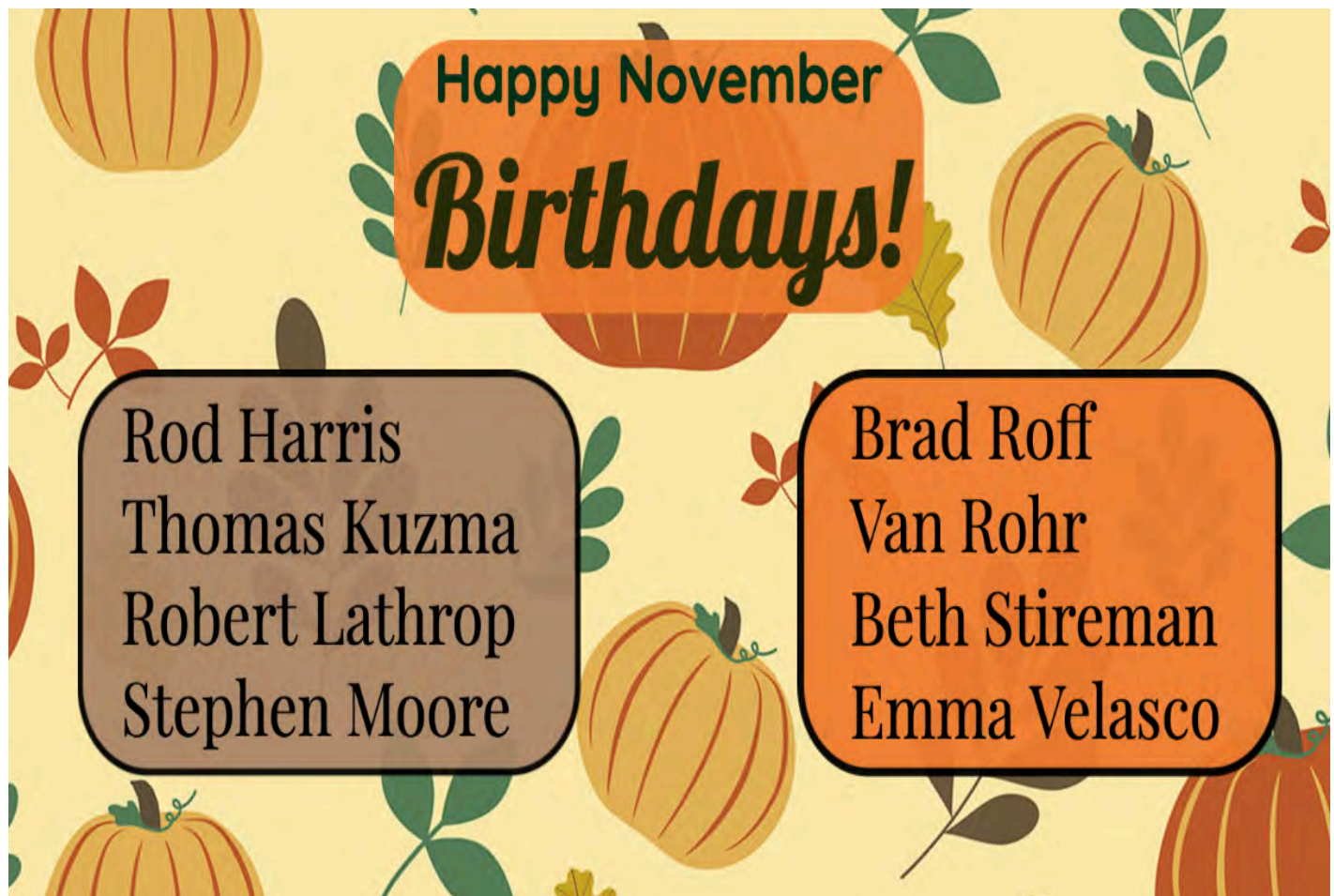
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