The Highland Fling

December 2023

75th



Chris MacKenzie, President

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NEW: You can now click on the titles above to jump to that page in the document.

A Letter from the President

Happy Holidays!

Well, the deer were all safe from me last weekend, but I was nice and comfortable in my blind in a hand-me-down chair from our boardroom.

This time is the season of giving, and our members really stepped up at the November meeting. Between the collection of shoes, toys, and the giving tree, our members showed what has made our Society what it is today. As always, I am proud to be associated with this Society.

I want to thank those of our members who participated in the Kirkin' O' the Tartans at the Jefferson Ave. Presbyterian Church this past weekend. It looks like it was a great event that was well attended by our members.

Next weekend is our holiday decorating at the hall. We polish our center to put a bright shine on everything for our various private and public events through the month of December.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the St. Andrew's Gala on the 9th. It promises to be a great night with a great band.

Slainte!

Christopher MacKenzie, President

New Christmas Trees are needed at the Kilgour! Please consider donating a new or used tree! Contact Stuart Kennedy at stumo1965@gmail.com



2363 Rochester Road, Troy, MI 48083

(248) 526-1849

2023–2024 SASD CALENDAR

December 2023 No Trustees meeting.					
			ouse Committee me		
Date	Event	Food	Charity	50/50	Benevolence
12/2	Decorate the Kilgour, Kilgour, 10:00 a.m. to Noon, Wreaths are due!				
12/3	Pipe Band Christmas Party				
12/4	Membership Meeting, Kilgour, 6:00 p.m. Social Hour, 7:00 p.m. Business				
	Election of Officers/ Trustees & Vote on 2024 Budget	Candy & Chips	Christmas Giving Tree for Morse Elementary School	St. Vincent De Paul	National Trust for Scotland
12/9	St. Andrew's	Dinner Dance, K	ilgour, 6:00 p.m. (Ti	ckets now on Sa	le!)
12/11	175 th Annivers	ary Committee M	eeting, 6:30 p.m. <mark>(Zo</mark>	om)	
12/12	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
12/14	Open Library I	Hours 10:30 a.m.	- 3:30 p.m.		
12/14	Cultural Activities Committee Mtg, 6:30 p.m., (Zoom)				
12/15	Tartan Taverr	n Trivia Night, Kil	gour, 7:00 to 10:00	p.m., \$5 cover c	harge, Cash Bar
12/16	Library Committee Business Meeting, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Open Library Hours, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.				
12/17	Visit with Santa, Kilgour, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.				
12/20	Membership Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
12/31	Happy Hogma	anay / New Year'	s!		
			January 2024		
Date	Event	Food	Charity	50/50	Benevolence
1/6	New Date! Ta	ake Down the Kil	gour Decorations, F	Kilgour, 10 a.m. t	o Noon
1/8	Membership Meeting, Kilgour, Social Hour 6:00 p.m., Business 7:00 p.m.				00 p.m.
	General Meeting & Installation of Officers & Trustees	Annual Frank Hasse Chili Cookoff	SOCH – South Oakland Center for the Homeless	Fort Street Open Door	St. Andrew's Pipe Band
1/9	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
1/11	Open Library Hours, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.				
1/12	Tartan Taverr	n Trivia Night, Kil	gour, 7:00 to 10:00	p.m., \$5 cover c	harge, Cash Bar
1/15	Cultural Activities Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
1/16	House Committee Mtg, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom) Trustees Mtg, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
		C	alendar is subject f	to change	

2023–2024 SASD CALENDAR

		Ja	anuary 2024 (cont'd)		
1/17	Membership Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
1/20	Library Committee Business Meeting, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Open Library Hours, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.				
1/20	Robert Burns Night, Kilgour, 6:00 p.m., Dinner served 7:00 p.m.				
1/25	Open Library Hours, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.				
	February 2024				
Date	Event	Food	Charity	50/50	Benevolence
TBD	Ceilidh, Kilgo	ur, More details	soon		
2/5	Membership Meeting, Kilgour, Social Hour 6:00 p.m., Business 7:00 p.m.				00 p.m.
	General Meeting		St. Ephrem Food Pantry	SASD Flower Fund	SASD Honour Guard
2/8	Open Library Hours, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.				
2/9	Tartan Tavern Trivia Night, Kilgour, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., \$5 cover charge, Cash Bar				
2/11	Lecture Series by Bruce Gray, Kilgour, 2:00 p.m.				
2/12	Low Library Book Club meeting, 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
2/13	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
2/16	Friday Fish Fry, Kilgour, Tentative				
2/17	Library Committee Business Meeting, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Open Library Hours, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.				
2/19	Cultural Activities Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
2/20	House Committee Mtg, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom) Trustees Mtg, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
2/21	Membership Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
2/22	Open Library Hours, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.				
2/23	Friday Fish Fry, Kilgour, Tentative				



CLICK HERE TO SEE THE PHOTOS OF OUR NOVEMBER EVENTS



Lynette McLeod Benevolence Chair

Our Benevolences

CHARITY



Sponsoring a

Christmas Giving Tree

for Morse Elementary School for

Children who need a little Christmas.

Thank you for selecting Mitten Tags for the kids

in November from the Kilgour Christmas tree! PLEASE

WRAP THEM, MARK EACH GIFT WITH YOUR TAG NUMBER

Return them to the

DECEMBER 4 Meeting

Thank you

Scottish Santas!

Wishes can come true!



50/50 RAFFLE St. Vincent de Paul



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Detroit feeds families, provides beds, warm clothes, energy assistance and other urgent needs through its outreach programs.

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BENEVOLENCE The National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA

For the Love of Scotland What do you think of when you think of Scotland?

The National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA encourages Americans to connect with the things that make Scotland special – from grand cliff-side estates to the humble cottage where Robert Burns was born, from hidden archaeological sites to majestic landscapes – and to help the Trust ensure that Scottish heritage always has a home.

Every year, Americans help fund the essential work of the Trust by supporting a conservation priority, a favorite property, or an element of the Trust's mission that captures personal interests and imagination. From vital structural repairs to monuments, castles, and houses, to the protection and rewilding of landscapes and habitats, to providing physical and virtual access to Scotland's natural and cultural heritage.

The Society is making a \$1,000 donation to the National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA.







Nancy Waters Cultural Activities Director

IMPORTANT THANK-YOUS!

 November 6 - Membership Meeting - Many thanks to Van Rohr, Jean Wingblad, and our lovely Kathleene Thomson for helping with set up. Thanks also to Ann Brown for taking home the tablecloths and washing them and to Mike Simon for washing up the dishes. Many hands make light work!

Cultural Activity Events

 November 11 - Veterans Day Whisky Tasting with Elliot MacFarlane - Our SOLD OUT event was a great success thanks to many volunteers including Karen and Elliot MacFarlane our salad makers and table washers, Kent Richards and Matt Patterson for the whisky pouring, Cathy Hasse our dessert maker, Claudia and Cliff Scott our chicken procurers, and Victoria Patterson and Chris MacKenzie who set up tables and helped set up the Mission BBQ buffet which was delicious. It seemed like everyone had a wonderful time and we are looking forward to our next Whisky Tasting. Hint, hint, Elliot!

DECEMBER EVENTS

• Saturday, December 2 - Holiday Decorating Event - 10:00 a.m. to Noon - sign up to volunteer here:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949A5A72AA2FB6-44495475-decorate

- Wreath Decorating Contest Entries due by December 2 (at Holiday Decorating) or December 4 (at Membership Meeting). We have a blank wall in our Hall that could use some TLC from our crafty members. The spotlights are all hung, thanks to David Tait, and our wall looks just plain empty. The wreaths that were made about 10 years ago have mostly fallen apart so we thought a refresh was in order. Bring your entry to the Holiday Decorating Event on December 2nd or the Membership meeting on December 4th. Judging for the contest will take place at the December Membership Meeting and the Winning Prize is two tickets to the Friday Fish Fry of your choice. Enter your wreath here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949A5A72AA2FB6-45549980-christmas
- Monday, December 4 Membership Meeting / Election of Officers and Trustees / Voting for Wreath Decorating Contest - Social Hour is at 6:00 p.m.,

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the meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. Please sign up for dishwasher, set-up, clean-up, recycle manager, and tablecloth washer here:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949A5A72AA2FB6-2023#/

- Saturday, December 9 St. Andrew's Day Dinner Dance with 'The Classics Band' - Catering by Celebrity Catering. Early bird tickets for members were available beginning Monday through November 12. Members of the Public can buy tickets beginning November 13. Buy tickets here: <u>https://detroitscots.wildapricot.org/event-5429104</u>
- Friday, December 15 Tartan Tavern Trivia Night 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Laurel Paterson will be our host for this event. Sign-up to help with set-up and clean-up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949a5a72aa2fb6-volunteeer#/
- Sunday, December 17 Meet Santa Event with Low Library 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. - Free event to our members and their families - Sponsored by Charles Low Library and the SASD. Crafts, Cookie Decorating, Stories with Diane Raymond, a book qift for each child. and SANTA! Sign up to volunteer here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949A5A72AA2FB6-46137165-volunteer#/ Sign up to register your party here (include total number of adults and number of children, please): https://detroitscots.wildapricot.org/event-5493926

PLANNING AHEAD FOR JANUARY

- Date Change! Saturday, January 6, Kilgour Christmas Decoration Take Down - Moved from Saturday, January 13th to Saturday, January 6th, 2024 -10:00 a.m. to Noon. Volunteer here or change your status if you cannot come that day: <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949A5A72AA2FB6-44495475decorate#/</u>
- Monday, January 8, 2024 General Membership Meeting and Chili Cook-off
 If you would like to enter the Chili Cook-off, click here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949A5A72AA2FB6-45549320-frank
- Friday, January 12, 2024 Tartan Tavern Trivia Night Hosted by Beth and Russ Frahm - 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. sign up to set-up or clean up here: <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949a5a72aa2fb6-volunteeer#/</u>
- Saturday, January 20, 2024 Robert Burns Night Open to SASD members and the Public. Details coming soon.

Thanks everyone for being such great Scots! Nancy Waters, Cultural Activities Director



Tom & Marilyn, aka Tara, we just want to say *Thank You!*

for being at our meetings and events and sharing your beautiful music with the Detroit Scots!



Annual Highland Games

And, we're off and running. Does it seem to you that we just wrapped up the 174th Annual Highland Games? Well, it seems like that to us too. We hardly have time to catch our breath and we are starting to line up a plethora of things for our 175th. We are happy to be back and look forward to a great Games next August working with YOU.

First on our agenda is our plea to you as members to help us find some Sponsors. So many of you as volunteers ask why we don't have Volunteer t-shirts anymore. The main reason is that we don't have any sponsors for them. If you have any leads for sponsors, please contact one of us so we can get more money in our budget. If you are not comfortable contacting the company, firm, or place of business we can do that for you.

Meetings for the Games will be starting soon, and please know that all members are always welcome. Our Communications Team for the Society will send out notices beforehand and the Zoom link. If you are new to the Society and just want to listen and find out what we are all about, please consider joining us. We start meetings at 6:30 p.m. and do try our best to keep them to one hour.

If you have not completed your Christmas shopping, bring some cash or your check book to the December meeting. Ann Campbell and Heather MacFarland will be selling merchandise that you might not have had time to purchase at the Games last August. They'll have blankets, shirts, Glencairn Glasses, and baseball caps for sale.

See you at the December meeting and hopefully at some of the other events that are coming up.

Cathy Hasse and Glen Milligan

She Bought It at The Highland Games!

By Bob Giles



One of the major attractions of our Highland Games is the area where our vendors display their goods. This year we had an amazing variety of goods for sale. I am very happy to say my wife Louise (on a solo shopping trip) spotted this terrific Australian Nullarbor Micro Mesh hat. It was a surprise to receive it a few weeks later on my birthday. We live within a few blocks of the kangaroo exhibit at the Detroit Zoo, so I can't wait to get their reaction when they see me strutting by wearing my "Nully" hat. It was purchased for \$65 from Cape Woolamai Mercantile Co, 3584 Centre Circle, Fort Mill, SC 29715. I hope they return next year! https://capewool.com/

If you made a purchase at our Highland Games, please share your experience with other members. Send a photo and some basic information, and who sold it to you to our Fling Editor, Shelby Rohr, who can share it in a future edition of The Highland Fling. We value our relationship with our vendors and spreading the word here helps to strengthen that support all year long!

I now wonder what to do about those homesick kangaroos at the Zoo.



Click here to review our Bylaws concerning Elections

Elections for leadership positions will be held at the December membership meeting. As a nonprofit charity organization, we must continue to meet sound business and administrative standards that include maintaining a solid leadership base. Our members are proud of our Society, and the way we continue making a difference is through a good continuity of operations and management.

All executive positions are open, and we have several incumbents who are nominated to serve another one-year term. We still need at least two more people on our Executive Committee please consider joining this group that meets monthly, via Zoom, to plan Society activities and administer the communications and operations of the office.

Each year, the membership elects three Trustees to serve a three year term. Trustees have responsibility for the assets of the society, including the building, our investments, and our benevolences. They meet 8 to 10 times a year, via Zoom, and the body is chaired by Elliot MacFarlane.

Certain requirements exist for these leadership seats - you must be a member in good standing and have a steady meeting attendance record.

If you're interested and want to know more, please contact Emma Velasco at <u>emma.velasco@hotmail.com</u>, or speak to Dave Martin or Louise Giles at meetings.

Candidate for President Chris MacKenzie

As your president this past year, I have done my best to make the Society proud and to manage and represent in the best capacity. I feel I have done a good job taking over initiatives of the past administrations as well as putting forth my own which I feel would make for a better St. Andrew's Society. I would like to continue to represent the Society in the capacity as President.

Candidates for Election to Executive Offices

Candidate for 1st Vice President

Bruce Gray

My name is Bruce Gray, and I am running for 1st Vice President for the 2024 term. I am very passionate about my Scottish Heritage and have a strong interest in Scottish history, genealogy, as well as Scottish music and folk song. I joined the Saint Andrews Society in February of 2021 and have been active in the Highland Games field crew each year, as well as assisting the communications team with preparing the PowerPoint slide shows each month for the General Membership meetings. I have recently signed on as a contributor to the Library Committee. My early claim to fame was taking on responsibility for building out the shelves in the new trailer for the 2021 Highland games. I have worked in automotive R&D for over 35 years, and I am currently responsible for new engineer training, so I am very comfortable speaking in front of crowds. I look forward to contributing more to the society in this new role.

Candidate for 2nd Vice President

Jean Wingblad

I am interested in running for the 2nd VP position to aid in the continued operation of the Society. Since retiring I have held offices in another 501c3 organization. I feel with my talents I can be a vital help to any group. I now am chairman of the Raffle committee and enjoy being of service. I look forward to helping the St. Andrews Society continue to grow and move forward.

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, maintain our Social Media, take photos at meetings, publish the Highland Fling Newsletter, and a plethora of other activities. Our goal for 2024 is to rejuvenate the Kilgour website in hopes of bringing more rentals to the Hall!

Candidate for Recording Secretary

Louise A. Giles

I've been involved with the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit since 1995, when my husband, Bob, became a member. In 2003, I was given the privilege of becoming an honorary member of the Society and have remained active as a volunteer for the past 20 years.

As the Society's Recording Secretary in 2023, I've tried to produce meeting minutes that would both keep our members informed and serve as helpful references for the future. I've enjoyed preparing agendas for our membership meetings and conferences of our Executive Committee, always with the goal of keeping meetings organized, on track, and on time. I've learned a great deal about the Society and its membership in the process—knowledge I hope to draw on if elected to a second term as Recording Secretary.

In my professional life, before retirement, I worked as a newspaper reporter; TV news editor, writer, and producer; and public relations professional—experiences that proved helpful as I took up the responsibility of accurately recording our meetings.

Besides my involvement with our Society, I've been a volunteer usher at the Detroit Opera House and taken classes with the Society of Active Retirees (SOAR) affiliated with Wayne State University. I currently serve as editor of Nordkap Lodge of the Sons of Norway and treasurer of the Columbia Alumni Association of Michigan.

Candidates for Election to Executive Offices

Candidate for Cultural Activities Director Emily Wigodski

I am Emily Wigodski, and I am running for Cultural Activities Director for the 2024 calendar year. I am passionate about sharing our Scottish heritage both together and with members of the public, and I will strive to bring the best of both tradition and innovation to our Society activities. Working closely with our current activities director, Nancy Waters, I have been extremely involved in the Cultural Activities Committee. I have planned and executed several large- and small-scale events for The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, with the help of many wonderful volunteers. I am currently employed as event staff for a prestigious company in the area. If elected, I will work diligently to make sure our Cultural Activities are representative of our Society as a whole and would welcome anyone who wants to join the committee or event subcommittees.

Candidate for Membership Secretary Julie Bartoy

My name is Julie Bartoy, and I have been the Membership Secretary for about a year, and I am running for re-election for 2024. It has been an honor to serve the Society by performing my assigned duties along with being on the Executive Committee. One of the main tasks of the Membership Secretary is to review member applications, present them for election, and coordinate new member initiation. I have enjoyed meeting all of the member candidates and sharing my SASD knowledge and enthusiasm. I'm proud to report that we have had over 50 new members initiated in 2023!

I joined the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit in 2018 and quickly became a member the Library Committee. I found the committee to be welcoming and a great way to get to know some of the members and to become involved in Society activities, including to help write the SASD 2000 - 2019 history (it's an ongoing project). Please consider voting for me as Membership Secretary.

Candidate for Society Treasurer Amy Pennybacker

Hi SASD family! I am Amy Pennybacker (Clan MacGregor). I signed my name to the Society's membership ledger in March of this year and have been regularly attending the monthly membership meetings since January. While I realize that I am not yet fully eligible to run for an elected position, I know that I have a lot to offer the Society and am willing to volunteer for an interim position as Society Treasurer. Since joining the Society, I have been volunteering with the Communications Team to keep our websites current and have volunteered for the fish fry events and the Highland Games.

My qualifications for the role of (interim) Treasurer include being a bookkeeper for a subcontractor of the U.S. government while in college. Additionally, I have a business-related Master's degree and am able to be bonded and insured should the position require it. I have held other fiduciary roles in the past for several global insurance carriers. Throughout my career, I am regularly dropped into new situations and asked to organize things and get projects on track to meet specific goals and deadlines. I have yet to not meet the challenges placed before me and am confident I can successfully assist and represent the Society in the role of interim Treasurer. Thank you for your consideration.

Candidates for Election to the Board of Trustees

Bob Crawford

After a couple of years helping with the Highland Games, I was sworn in as a member of St. Andrew's Society on 11/05/2019. I was appointed to the Board of Trustees in November 2022 to fill a vacant position. I am enjoying serving on the board and working as a team to meet the Society's mission. My goals are to increase our membership, its presence in our community, and to maintain our financial stability.

I remain active in setting up the Highland Games, the book club, and other volunteer activities. I am a retired high school administrator, also a licensed social worker working with Open Door program at Fort Street Presbyterian Church in Detroit, supervising interns working with the homeless and returning citizens. I am also working with the Detroit Promise through the Detroit Regional Chamber, again supervising interns and consulting as we work with first generation college students. And in my spare time, I am an adjunct professor at Wayne State's School of Social Work.

Kent C. Richards

I hope you will consider voting for me for Trustee of the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit. I currently serve as a Trustee and take this position very seriously and look on it as an honor to help our illustrious organization.

As a Trustee, I serve on the Benevolence Committee helping fellow members research organizations that we support. I am co-chair of the House Committee with fellow Trustee Scott David.

I attend almost all of the activities of the Society, reaching out to new members to learn about them and their interest in the Society.

If re-elected, I will continue to help and support the Society in any way I can. I'm proud to be a Scot and love to share knowledge of my heritage with others.

Thank you for considering me.

Slainte, Kent C. Richards

Bob Richardson

I'm Bob Richardson, and I'm running for a position on our Board of Trustees. I joined the Society just before Covid arrived (no, it's not my fault, LOL) and have been active ever since. I joined the Communications Committee and helped test and select our new membership system. While continuing with that committee, I was asked to join the Membership Committee, so I straddle the people and technical sides of membership issues.

I've investigated the duties and time requirements of the Trustee position to ensure I can serve our Society properly and not have too many balls in the air. Thank you for your consideration.

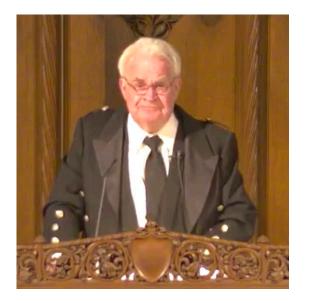


In Our Thoughts & Prayers

New Procedure: You can now contact our officers who need to learn of Thoughts & Prayer Requests on our <u>Membership Home page</u>: Click the link "Report Thoughts & Prayers Needed" and it allows you to fill out a form for notifying the Second Vice President, who is in charge of determining what the Society should do: send flowers, send cards, or make a donation.



Thank You to Randall Cain, past President of the St. Andrew's Society for organizing Scottish Sunday at Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church on November 19th. Randall has been actively involved doing this for over twentyfive years. This Kirking of the Tartan is attended by many of our members who are proud to bring their tartans and show them. The St. Andrew's Society Pipe Band and the St. Andrew's Society Honor Guard participate as does our Trustee Chairman, Elliot MacFarlane. Some of our members are readers at the service. This wonderful event highlights the importance of Scots and their tartans. It certainly shows off the Society in a great light. It is always held on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. All of this is due to the work and efforts of Randall.









Volunteer Here

Deadline is Saturday, December 2nd



Enter Contest Here



Buy Tickets Now

<u>MENU:</u>

English Sausage Roll Bites

Scotch Eggs w/ mustard (GF)

Bubble & Squeak Patties w/ Sour Cream (GF, V)

A fun Twist to a classic Scottish dish. Potato, Carrot, Shredded cabbage, Onion, mustard, and cheddar cheese. Grilled till crispy. Top with sour cream and onion.

United Kingdom Bangers & Mash (GF)

Traditional griddle sausage with sour cream and chive mashed potatoes with mustard for dipping.

Chicken Wellington

Buttered Peas w/ pearl onions (GF, DF, V)

Lemon garlic green beans (GF, nut free, V)

Garden Salad (GF, V)

Romaine topped with cucumbers, red onions, and tomatoes. Served with Ranch dressing on the side

Brown Bread and honey butter

Mini Gluten Free Mince Pies (GF)

Mini Mince Pies GF – Gluten Free DF – Dairy Free V-Vegetarian







Enter your Chili here!

TICKETS GO ON SALE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15



December 2023

The Highland Fling

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A Scottish North American Conversation: The Power of Our Vibrant Community!'

Save the Date for the 2023 SNACC! December 1 & 2, 2023, In-Person & Online!

For further information or to join our mailing list:

929-499-9025

snaccevent@gmail.com

https://scottishleadershipconference.com





Off The Shelf... Celebrating the Charles S. Low Memorial Library

Santa Elves Wanted



If you are looking for a way to meet new friends and get involved in a good cause, then the library may be the place for you. The library is always looking for volunteers to help during the open library hours, join the library committee, and/or sign up to assist with a library project. If you would like to check out our wonderful library family, please contact us at <u>library@detroitscots.com</u>.

Volunteer grant donations

A big shout-out to Dennis Clements, the chair of the library committee. Dennis has been volunteering in the library since 2010 and discovered that logging his volunteer hours with his former employer - could turn those hours into grant money, which Dennis has donated toward the special projects for the library. In fact, since 2019, Dennis has submitted nearly 5,000 volunteer hours. In 2022, a need arose for a new entrance door for the library. This came about from a concern regarding being able to see outside and the need to increase the sense of security within the library. Dennis obtained a \$5,000.00 grant for this project from his former employer. This is just one of the projects that has benefited from one of these grants. Some special projects are coming up for additional library renovations, which will benefit from additional grant money.

If your work offers volunteer hours or grants, maybe consider the library as a beneficiary. Contact <u>library@detroitscots.com</u> if you would like to volunteer or learn more about donating.

Scottish Author Highlight

Presenting Edinburgh: The Royal Burgh: Thirty Photographic Studies of Old and New Edinburgh



By Geoge Scott-Moncrieff

Is it time to start to plan your trip to Scotland? Why not check out the travel books in the Charles Low Library. Start to dream about the places you want to visit.

Library Hours

3rd Saturday of every month - 11:30 am to 3:30 pm. 2nd and 4th Thursday every month - 10:30 am to 3:30. During Social Hour prior to the monthly meeting. Also, by appointment.

> Email: <u>library@detroitscots.com</u> Web Page: <u>https://detroitscots.com/library/</u>



Did you know there are books for sale at the Charles Low Library? Check out the library before our monthly meeting and add to your home library.



Low Library Book Club

The Low Library Book Club selection for our November 13 meeting was *The Bookseller of Inverness* by S.G. MacLean. Here's the book description:

After Culloden, Iain MacGillivray was left for dead on Drumossie Moor. Wounded, his face brutally slashed, he survived only by pretending to be dead as the Redcoats patrolled the corpses of his Jacobite comrades.Six years later, with the clan chiefs routed and the Highlands subsumed into the British state, Iain lives a quiet life, working as a bookseller in Inverness. One day, after helping several of his regular customers, he notices a stranger lurking in the upper gallery of his shop, poring over his collection. But the man refuses to say what he's searching for and only leaves when Iain closes for the night.The next morning Iain opens up shop and finds the stranger dead, his throat cut, and the murder weapon laid out in front of him - a sword with a white cockade, the emblem of the Jacobites, on its hilt. With no sign of the killer, Iain wonders whether the stranger discovered what he was looking for - and whether he paid for it with his life. He soon finds himself embroiled in a web of deceit and a series of old scores to be settled in the ashes of war.

On one level, this novel is a cracking adventure story. There are plots, spies, long-hidden secrets and shocking betrayals; and castles with underground tunnels and exciting escapes across night-clad moors. On a deeper level, the author portrays a haunting sense of an occupied country still reeling from the slaughter at Culloden, and from the brutal reprisals that followed. Many Highlanders were hunted down and subjected to a traitor's death, or transported. Those left behind endured Hanoverian land seizures, and strict laws forbidding them to carry weapons, play the pipes or wear the tartan.

Our group liked this book a lot. It's a mystery story and none of us guessed the identity of the murderer, but it's the history brought to life in the story that won us over. It gave us insight into life in the Highlands in the period after the battle of Culloden. And I think we'd all like a companion novel that revolves around the character of Donald Mor, the bookbinder. We also had a personal connection to the story. One of our members is descended from the MacGillivray's and it was the chief of Clan MacGillivray who led the whole of Clan Chattan and led the Highland charge against the English at Culloden.

We recommend this book to all who are interested in the time period and/or a good historical mystery.

Everyone is welcome to participate. To get the Zoom invitation, just email Cathy McCullough Les at: <u>library@detroitscots.com</u>

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The Highland Fling is produced by Shelby Brown Rohr, Communications Director flingeditor@detroitscots.com Founded in the year 1849, St. Andrew's Society of Detroit is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and is the oldest benevolent organization in the State of Michigan. Our mission is to provide assistance to fellow Scots and to encourage the love of Scotland through its history, customs, music, literature, and national games.

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Happy December Birthdays

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Note: Our Birthday Wishes are coming from our Membership System for those members who update their profile with their Month of Birth.

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