

# The Highland Fling

December 2025



Chris MacKenzie, President

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Winter is here....sometimes. Seems kind of undecided. But we do know that winter brings a rush of anticipation for our various holidays. We have the regulars like Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve. But as Scots, we also celebrate St. Andrew's Day and Hogmanay.

Even though Hogmanay is on New Year's Eve, it is traditionally a replacement for Christmas which was banned in Scotland for centuries. Hogmanay's focus is on having the house clean for the new year. If you are hosting that is probably taken care of before guests arrive anyways. This gives a clean start to the new year. There is also the Scottish song most notably associated with New Year's Eve, Auld Lang Syne. A song put to paper by our own Robert Burns where we sing, hold hands, cross arms, and hold our dear friendships close. And lastly, we are interested in who will be the "First Footer". The first person to cross our threshold in the new year. But the first footer cannot be just anyone. Traditionally it is a dark-haired male as it is generally thought that a blonde male would likely be a Viking there to pillage. The first footer should be carrying symbolic gifts such as coal, shortbread, or whisky. All of these combine to bring good luck in the coming year.

If I don't see you before, please have a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and a Happy Hogmanay.

PS: I am available for hire as first footer for a small fee of whisky. Feel free to contact me.

Christopher Robert Fraser MacKenzie  
President, St. Andrew's Society of Detroit

**Help us order enough yardage of the Michigan Tartan! We need to order 65 yards for the weaving of our beautiful Michigan Tartan one more time!**

Order your Clan Tartan or help us get to 65 yards of the Michigan Tartan! Deadline to order is December 31, 2025. All previous orders are void. If you need information, contact Ann Campbell at [acampbell@detroitscots.com](mailto:acampbell@detroitscots.com)

**Fill out the order form here: [2025 Tartan Order Form](#)**

## 2025/2026 SASD CALENDAR

### December 2025

| Date  | Event                                                                                                 | Food    | Charity                               | 50/50      | Benevolence                            |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------|
| 12/01 | Membership Meeting, Kilgour, Social Hour 6:00 p.m., Potluck 6:30 p.m., Business Meeting 7:00 p.m.     |         |                                       |            |                                        |
|       | Election of Officers / Trustees                                                                       | Potluck | COTS – Coalition of Temporary Shelter | Focus Hope | National Trust for Scotland Foundation |
| 12/06 | Winter Holiday Craft Fair, Kilgour, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.                                           |         |                                       |            |                                        |
| 12/09 | Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)                                                         |         |                                       |            |                                        |
| 12/11 | Open Library Hours, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.                                                           |         |                                       |            |                                        |
| 12/11 | Panera Bread Fundraiser, 37800 W Six Mile Road, Livonia, MI, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.                        |         |                                       |            |                                        |
| 12/15 | Cultural Activities Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)                                               |         |                                       |            |                                        |
| 12/16 | House Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom)<br>Trustees Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)                       |         |                                       |            |                                        |
| 12/20 | Library Committee Business Meeting, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.<br>Open Library Hours, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. |         |                                       |            |                                        |
| 12/24 | Membership Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)                                                        |         |                                       |            |                                        |

### January 2026

| Date | Event                                                                                                 | Food          | Charity                                        | 50/50       | Benevolence               |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| 1/05 | Membership Meeting, Kilgour, Social Hour 6:00 p.m., Potluck 6:30 p.m., Business Meeting 7:00 p.m.     |               |                                                |             |                           |
|      |                                                                                                       | Chili Cookoff | SOCH – South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless | Flower Fund | Motor City Mitten Mission |
| 1/08 | Open Library Hours, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.                                                           |               |                                                |             |                           |
| 1/10 | Holiday Take Down, Kilgour, 10:00 - Noon                                                              |               |                                                |             |                           |
| 1/10 | Curling with the Detroit Scots, Detroit Curling Club, 7:30 p.m., 1615 E. Lewiston, Ferndale           |               |                                                |             |                           |
| 1/13 | Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)                                                         |               |                                                |             |                           |
| 1/17 | Library Committee Business Meeting, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.<br>Open Library Hours, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. |               |                                                |             |                           |
| 1/19 | Cultural Activities Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)                                               |               |                                                |             |                           |
| 1/20 | House Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom)<br>Trustees Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)                       |               |                                                |             |                           |
| 1/22 | Open Library Hours, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.                                                           |               |                                                |             |                           |
| 1/24 | Burns Supper, Kilgour, more info soon                                                                 |               |                                                |             |                           |
| 1/28 | Membership Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)                                                        |               |                                                |             |                           |

## 2025/2026 SASD CALENDAR

| February 2026 |                                                                                                       |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Date          | Event                                                                                                 | Food    | Charity                         | 50/50            | Benevolence                       |
| 2/02          | Membership Meeting, Kilgour, Social Hour 6:00 p.m., Potluck 6:30 p.m., Business Meeting 7:00 p.m.     |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
|               | Officers & Trustees Induction                                                                         | Potluck | Capuchin Soup Kitchen & Shelter | Genesis House II | St. Andrew's Society Honour Guard |
| 2/7           | Celts, Cups, & Canvases, Kilgour, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.                                              |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
| 2/9           | Charles Low Library Book Club, 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)                                                       |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
| 2/10          | Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)                                                         |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
| 2/12          | Open Library Hours, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.                                                           |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
| 2/16          | Cultural Activities Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)                                               |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
| 2/17          | House Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom)<br>Board of Trustees Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)              |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
| 2/20          | Friday Fish Fry, Kilgour, 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. <a href="#">(VOLUNTEER HERE)</a>                    |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
| 2/21          | Library Committee Business Meeting, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.<br>Open Library Hours, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
| 2/25          | Membership Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)                                                        |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
| 2/26          | Open Library Hours, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.                                                           |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
| 2/27          | Friday Fish Fry, Kilgour, 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. <a href="#">(VOLUNTEER HERE)</a>                    |         |                                 |                  |                                   |
|               | CALENDAR SUBJECT TO CHANGE                                                                            |         |                                 |                  |                                   |



[CLICK HERE](#)  
[for our November 2025](#)  
[Photo Album](#)

**REMINDER: At an SASD event? Take photos! Send them to**  
[\*\*flingeditor@detroitscots.com!\*\*](mailto:flingeditor@detroitscots.com)



Beth Frahm  
Benevolence Chair

## OUR BENEVOLENCES

As we take time this season to reflect on what we are thankful for, I am thankful for our St. Andrew's Society members. I am always amazed at the thoughtfulness and generosity from our members on how we support our charities. Thank you for your continued dedication to our mission.

Forgotten Harvest was our October charity. I mentioned Tim Reade delivered 375 pounds of food that was collected at our meeting. With your generosity we were able to send them a check for \$949 including matching funds.

December 1st meeting, we will be collecting items for [Coalition on Temporary Shelter \(COTS\)](#) Please bring toiletries, dental hygiene, feminine hygiene pads, twin size sheets, pajamas (children through adult), wash cloths, coloring books, board games, baby formula (ready-made), diaper rash cream. They are also in need of food pantry items.

If you prefer a monetary donation for the charity of the month we can accept credit cards online via PayPal at [detroitscots.com/donate](https://detroitscots.com/donate). You must indicate it is for the charity of the month in the note and ask for it to be matched if you would like to do so. Checks and cash are always collected at all monthly meetings. Checks are to be made payable to the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit with the name of the charity in the memo line.

Looking ahead on our calendar we will be supporting the following charities in the coming months.

[January 5th - South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless](#), they have an extensive Amazon wish list to choose from that I will provide details on next month. They can always use new underwear, socks, and sports bras.

[Feb 2nd - Capuchin Soup Kitchen and Shelter](#), new or used-warm clothing, coats, boots, hats, gloves and, scarves.





Emily Bissell  
Cultural Events Director

## CULTURAL EVENTS

I'm gaun to hing a stockin up,  
I'll borrow my big brither's,  
It's bigger nor my sister's ane  
And strang-er nor my mither's.

I'll be in bed on Yule E'en  
When Faither Christmas comes.  
I ken he'll wale oor chimley oot  
Amang the ither lums.

On Yule richt early I'll be up  
Afore the screich o day  
To see what ferlies Santa Claus  
Has brocht me for my play.

I hope he'll mind a cuddly bear,  
And cups for dolly's tea  
Wi lots o ither bonnie toys  
For a guid wee lass like me.

~JK Annund

### **Please sign up for our December 1st General Membership Meeting Potluck!**

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our General Membership Meeting on December 1st, 2025. If you are able to contribute to the potluck, please [sign up here](#).

### **Please Sign Up for Our Annual Frank Hasse Chili Cookoff at our January General Membership Meeting!**

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our General Membership Meeting on January 5th, 2026. If you would like to enter, or to bring condiments, sides or desserts, [sign up here](#).

We also need volunteers to help set up and clean up for our meetings. Please sign up if you'd like to [volunteer](#).

Can't bring a dish or volunteer but still want to contribute? Please consider donating to our general fund! Even a dollar or two will help defray the cost of paper goods, coffee, tea, etc.

### **January 10th Holiday Take down**

A fun holiday tradition, this is a great way to have some fun and get to know your fellow Scots. In conjunction with the House Committee, we will be taking down our Holiday decorations. Light refreshments will be provided. [Sign up here](#).

### **January 10th - Curling at the Detroit Curling Club.**

Learn And Play the Scottish Sport of Curling

Option 1: Curling participant ticket \$45 (mobility aids available; see below)

Option 2: Spectator ticket \$10

Curling in Scotland dates to the 16th century! Join fellow Scots at the Detroit Curling Club in Ferndale and learn to play or join the cheerleaders (or hecklers) watching from the warm room!

Curlers should arrive a little before 7:30 p.m. to be fitted for shoes, sign a waiver, and be ready for instruction.

Please wear pants that stretch and warmer clothing (no jeans, and no fleece or other materials that may shed on the ice).

All curlers will receive a pair of rental curling shoes. They have grippers on both feet. Curlers will remove the gripper on their sliding foot when they deliver a stone and put it back on after delivery.

Anyone of any age and ability can curl. If you are unable to do the curling "lunge", you will keep your grippers on at all times, and "stick-curl" using an extender stick similar to shuffleboard.

(continued on page 6)

(continued from page 5)

Curlers will meet at 7:30 p.m. to receive about 20 minutes of off-ice instruction. Then we'll go on the ice for stone delivery and sweeping instruction. Everyone will practice delivering stones, followed by playing an actual game until 10:00 p.m. Spectators can listen in on the off-ice instruction, or arrive later to watch the on-ice competition. The Detroit Curling Club bartender will be at our service - please note, cash bar only! (On-ice curlers may not take alcohol into the ice area).

Let's celebrate Scotland's important role in what is now an Olympic sport!

### **January 24th, 2026 - Burns Supper**

We will again be hosting a traditional Burns Supper in honor of Robert Burns, the Bard of Scotland. Tickets will be on sale on December 1st, 2025. Members & Guests Presale price will be \$100 until December 31st. Public ticket prices will be \$110 per person. Ticket sales end January 11, 2026. Contact me for group sales. Come enjoy what has become an annual tradition for many members and non-members alike!

### **February 7th, 2026 - Celts, Cups & Canvases, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

An instructor will take us through painting a picture of a Highland cow as we sip our beverages and enjoy conversation!

Tickets: \$30 for members and guests; \$40 for non-members.

Tickets on sale December 15, 2025.

More events are being added to our calendar all the time. Make sure to visit our events page to stay up to date on all our upcoming events!

Find volunteer opportunities at our [SignUpGenius landing page](#).

We want to hear from you! Got an idea for an event you'd like to see? Want to host an activity? Want to get involved and don't know where to start? Please email your ideas and questions to [culturalevents@detroitscots.com](mailto:culturalevents@detroitscots.com).

Do you want to discover if the Cultural Activities Committee is for you? Come check out our next committee on December 15th at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

[Link to Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 878 6259 4600

Passcode: 723223



## **In Our Thoughts & Prayers**

**Member Patricia Lyall Hill passed away on October 16, 2025. Please keep her family in your thoughts during this time.**

<https://www.wasikfuneralhome.com/obituaries/patricia-hill-53/#!/Obituary>



Julie Palmer  
Highland Games Chair



## ANNUAL HIGHLAND GAMES

With the sun setting earlier, now that our clocks have changed, what are you doing? Turning in earlier? Spending time with your favorite book? Getting cozy with your pets or partner and watching a favorite movie?

Whatever it is, I hope you are at peace.

Graphic Design is progressing, and I hope to share new designs in our January meeting. We've welcomed Jack Ruby as the new Food Vendor Chair. This leaves only three positions: Gates, Raffle and Volunteer food coordination. We're already in a better position than last year with our Chair positions. Thank you!

Regarding a decision on a new digital platform, our Games technology team and I are nearing a final decision and our choice will be shared at our December meeting.

We've submitted our request for Golden Limousine to be our bussing sponsor and we'll announce their decision as soon as it's made. Do cross your fingers. This would be incredible.

I'm committed to making our guest experience better and better. Please let me know if you have ideas to contribute to this goal. Email me with your thoughts and suggestions. Thank you!

May your Thanksgiving tables be filled with your favorite foods. May the conversations around the table nourish your souls. May your hearts overflow with gratitude.

Warmly,

Julie Palmer

[highlandgameschair@detroitscots.com](mailto:highlandgameschair@detroitscots.com)



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## The Kilgour Centre Fund Drive

### *Saving our Kilgour Scottish Centre*

A big thank you to those who have donated! In three months, we are over 25% of our \$60,000 goal! Our total donations stand at \$17,196.61. Thank you greatly to those who have donated and those considering their donation.

Some have commented about SASD's \$700,000 in savings and have questioned the need for the Kilgour Centre Fund Drive. Remember, that at several recent meetings we've heard that we are in dire financial straits and, here is why. A few years ago, our savings were about \$1,000,000. We used to pay for maintenance and improvements to the Kilgour Centre with the interest of our savings. Over the past several years, we have had to significantly dip into the principal. In calendar year 2024, repairs and maintenance including re-roofing the Kilgour totaled around \$90,000. Bottom line, total Kilgour expenses increased by \$99.2K from fiscal year 2023 to 2024. In 2025, our fire suppression system underwent major repairs at a cost of about \$19,000. The resurfacing of our main parking lot and resealing of our auxiliary lot was just completed.

The Kilgour Fund Drive's goal is to raise \$60,000 in one year from September 1st, 2025, through August 31st, 2026. Every member is urged to participate in the Kilgour Centre Fund Drive by giving \$200. You could choose to donate \$16.67 monthly, \$50 quarterly, or make a one-time donation of \$200. If donating at that level is too high right now, any size donation would be greatly appreciated.

Your donation can be made by logging into Wild Apricot and going to the "Members' Only" homepage or, through the QR code on the Kilgour Fund business cards located by the front desk inside the Kilgour. If you'd prefer to write a check, make it out to St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, write *Account #40507* in the memo line and mail it to:

St. Andrew's Society of Detroit  
c/o Kilgour Fund Drive  
2363 Rochester Rd.  
Troy, MI 48083

Thank you again to all our donors! Read the Fling for monthly donation updates, Kilgour projects and other Kilgour fundraising events. Work on the Kilgour's HVAC system and work to better protect the Kilgour from freezing pipes will begin soon.

To further raise funds for the Kilgour, the Fund Development Committee's first Winter Holiday Craft Fair is this Saturday, December 6th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We have sold tables inside the Kilgour to crafters. It's not too late, if you'd like to be a vendor, please click here <https://winterholidaycraftfair.artcall.org/>. We're looking for 20 SASD members to join the fun and volunteer for various jobs. If you can donate a couple of hours or the full day, there is something for everyone. Click on this link to sign up [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949A5A72AA2FB6-59689573-winter#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040949A5A72AA2FB6-59689573-winter#/).

We are also hosting a Bake Sale at the Craft Fair. Goods may be dropped off during the week before. Sign up here: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044DABAA2EA3FBC61-60209700-bake#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044DABAA2EA3FBC61-60209700-bake#/)

Special thanks to the show's organizer, Liz Douglas! See you all at the fair!

Don Hiruo & Van Rohr

Kilgour Fund Development Committee

## Give a Dram for the Kilgour

**As of 11/28/2025  
\$17,396.761**



*The Kilgour Centre Fund Drive*





## Off The Shelf... News from the Charles S. Low Memorial Library

### **Holiday Traditions That Connect Us to Our Scottish Ancestors**

When we research our families, it is easy to focus on documents and names. Those are important, but the traditions our ancestors carried with them can tell an equally meaningful story. Many Scottish families kept customs for generations without fully realizing how deeply rooted they were in their homeland. Looking at these traditions can help us understand where our families came from and what shaped their lives.

December is a natural time to think about the habits our families still honor. Small things such as recipes, songs, or the way we welcome the New Year often have roots that reach back centuries. When we pay attention to them, we uncover hints about where our ancestors lived and what they believed.

Hogmanay is one of the strongest connections to Scotland's past. Many families still remember tales of first-footing, where the first visitor after midnight brought gifts such as coal or shortbread to bring luck for the year ahead. If this custom appears in your family stories, it is worth asking who kept it alive and how far back it might go. These details can even point to regions where the tradition was especially strong, including the Highlands and Western Isles.

Food traditions hold their own clues. Black bun, shortbread, or a New Year's broth often stayed in families long after they left Scotland. If certain recipes were non-negotiable in your household during the holidays, they may be linked to a specific region or a custom passed down through your clan.

Some families also carried forward seasonal rituals tied to the old Scottish calendar. First Foot Day, guising, and winter gatherings connected to local Kirks helped communities get through the darker months. Noticing whether any of these survived in your family can offer insight into how your ancestors lived and celebrated.

You might also see patterns in holiday naming traditions. Children born near Christmas or the New Year were sometimes given meaningful or symbolic names, continuing the long-standing naming practices that guided Scottish families for generations. When several relatives share the same festive name, it can help you make sense of crowded parish records.

These traditions are more than interesting notes in the margins. They help fill in the gaps where written records grow thin and remind us that our ancestors lived full lives shaped by community and ritual. By paying attention to the customs that still appear in our homes during the holiday season, we gain a fuller, more personal picture of where our families came from and how their stories live on through us.

Article by  
Kellie Beveridge

# CANDIDATES FOR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

## Staggered Officer Terms

| Office                         | 2025 Election<br>2026 Induction | 2026 Election<br>2027 Induction | 2027 Election<br>2028 Induction | 2028 Election<br>2029 Induction |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| President                      | 1-year term                     | 2-year term                     | n/a                             | 2-year term                     |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President | 2-year term                     | n/a                             | 2-year term                     | n/a                             |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President | 1-year term                     | 2-year term                     | n/a                             | 2-year term                     |
| Secretary                      | 2-year term                     | n/a                             | 2-year term                     | n/a                             |
| Treasurer                      | 1-year term                     | 2-year term                     | n/a                             | 2-year term                     |
| Membership Secretary           | 2-year term                     | n/a                             | 2-year term                     | n/a                             |

### **President - Chris MacKenzie**

As your president for the past 3 years, I have done my best to make the Society proud and to manage and represent to the best of my ability. I feel the St. Andrew's Society is moving forward while also keeping an eye on the past. If you would have me, I would like to continue to represent the Society in the capacity as President for one more year.

### **First Vice President – Bruce Gray**

I am currently First Vice President for the St. Andrews Society, and I am seeking reelection for the 2026 term. I was first elected to this position in December 2023 and have served for two terms. My main responsibility is to fill in for the President whenever necessary and serve on the Executive Committee. I also serve on the Membership Committee, By-Laws Committee and support the communications team as well. I have volunteered on the Highland Games field crew every year since joining St. Andrews Society in 2021. I am also a contributor/member of the Library Committee and did a series of four historical lectures last year as part of the 175th Anniversary celebration. My main interests include genealogy, Scottish history and culture, as well Scots language and traditional music and song.

My grandfather, John Gray, was born in Saltcoats, North Ayrshire, Scotland in 1898 and immigrated to the U.S. with his parents and siblings in 1913. He became a U.S. citizen in 1929. My family lineage is also affiliated with several Highland Clans including MacCallum, Lamont, and MacNeil. I am married with two adult children and currently reside in South Lyon, MI.

I hope you will consider re-electing me as your First Vice President in 2026.

Aefauldie (Yours sincerely),  
Bruce Gray

**Second Vice President – Jean Wingblad**

I am Jean MacLeod Wingblad running as an incumbent for the Executive Board. I have been a member of SASD for over three years and on the Board for two. I was previously on the Board of another 501(c)(3) for 10 years and feel my experience is of value to the Executive Board. The Executive Board is a place where important decisions may be made to carry on the work of our great 176-year-old Society.

**Recording Secretary - Alison Coates**

1. Current secretary elected 2024.
2. Volunteer for Games Field Set Up, Highland Games, Fish Fries, and more.
3. Help organize Kirkin' of the Tartans
4. Member since 2023
5. Not a fan of peaty whisky

Alison

**Membership Secretary - Julie Bartoy**

Hello, I am the Membership Secretary for St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, and I am seeking reelection for the 2026 year. In 2022, I assumed the responsibility of Membership Secretary from Rosemary Newton, who was unable to finish out her term due to a serious illness, and I have now been elected three times. I have enjoyed working in the position as it has given me a unique opportunity to meet and welcome those who are seeking membership. It is a joy sharing the important mission our Society and all the important work we do. I enjoy welcoming new members and supporting them as they become acclimated. In addition, I take seriously my responsibility of maintaining an accurate membership list and in collecting application fees and membership dues.

I became a SASD member in May 2018 in honor of my grandparents, George and Mary Reid. My grandmother was a great storyteller who loved being from Scotland and certainly valued others who were "off of Scotch" (meaning the person had Scottish ancestry). It looks like I value that, too, and am proud to be among a great group of those from metro Detroit who are also "off of Scotch".

I hope you will consider re-electing me for another year as your Membership Secretary.

Kindest regards,  
Julie (Reid) Bartoy

**Treasurer - Open**

## **CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **Emily Bissell**

Since joining The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, I have found myself taking more and more of an interest in how we govern our Society. I am running for Trustee because I believe that I have developed the leadership skills necessary to move our Society forward. I have taken an active interest in ensuring our financial prosperity through employing common sense business strategies that create sustainable income streams that will maintain our Society and our building for many years to come. I would love the opportunity to learn from our current Trustees, and to embrace their mentorship. I hold the best interests of our Detroit Scots community dear to my heart, and, if elected, vow to be a representative of the Society members at large on the Board of Trustees.

### **Beth Frahm**

Hello Fellow Scots. I am running for another term on the Board of Trustees. My first two years on the Board, I was the Vice Co-Chair. When, the Benevolence Chair position became available for 2025, I moved over to take on those duties instead. It has been a year of learning and, I find the work very rewarding. Supporting charities and benevolences are the core of what we do as a Society. I hope you feel I should serve another term on the BOT to keep the continuity as there is much to learn about being the Benevolence Chair. My history with the SAS started in 1992 when I began attending our Games at Historic Fort Wayne. I joined in 1999 and was strongly encouraged to be the Food Vendor Chair of the Games, a role I volunteered in for twenty-five years. I am passionate about all things Scottish (except whisky) and, want our members to share our culture for years to come. I am proud that I was born in Scotland and stay in touch with relatives across the pond.

Thank you!  
Beth Frahm

### **Tim Reade**

I am honored to have served as a member of the Board of Trustees since 2023, having joined the Society in 2018. The Board is a great team, and I feel I have made many contributions to our goals. I arranged for the purchase of and installed the Automatic External Defibrillator (AED), which, thankfully, we have not had to use, and arranged for our membership in the Kroger Community Rewards program. I am also the Board liaison to our insurance providers.

At the Highland Games, I have been a Field Team member since 2018, as well as completing other volunteer activities there. I hosted a Trivia Night, organized food drives for Forgotten Harvest, staffed the tent at the Renaissance Festival, and participated in many Kilgour decorating and clean-up sessions. I have also rented the Kilgour for 2 family events.

In my career in Public Health, I coordinated many education programs and have experience in event management, which can aid in the marketing of the Kilgour Hall.

I will continue to work hard to maintain the progress the Trustees and others have made in guaranteeing the Society many years of financial stability and camaraderie.

Thank you,  
Tim Reade

## **Board of Trustees Candidates (continued)**

### **Cliff Les**

A lot of you don't know me. That's good.

Not for the obvious reason (I'm actually a pretty nice guy). No, it means that you may have joined the SASD since 2021, when Catherine and I left SE Michigan for Northern California. It would mean that the Society is growing at a healthy pace; it may also mean that the age distribution of our little group is tilting a bit less towards the geriatric. That would be good. Very good.

I'm running for a fourth term (years 10-12) on the BoT. There are some really good reasons why you shouldn't vote for me:

1. Leadership atheroscleroses. Should anybody have this kind of management power for this kind of time? "We've always done it this way" has been the death knell of more vigorous institutions than ours.
2. My understanding is that we have some really good people running for these positions. You should pay close attention to them, and see if their long-term goals for the Society line up with yours.
3. I live 2300 miles away. Right off the bat, that makes me effectively ineligible for Chair BoT, Vice Chair BoT, or House Chair. Since the pandemic, we've found that we can indeed run a BoT meeting without a Board Room (maybe freeing up some much-needed space at Kilgour??). But there are some people who need to be able to be on-site in a hurry if need be. I wouldn't be able to do that.

Some reasons why you might consider voting for me:

1. Experience: The first 18 months on the BoT is like getting a drink of water out of a firehose. Our high-level finances are complex, and there's a lot of moving parts. Mentorship to newer members of the BoT can be an important contribution to the Society.
2. Specifically, consider the Investment Committee, on which I've served. When I was first elected to the BoT, our total investments were \$1.8M. On 31 October 25, they were \$2.3M. That's with zero deposits, a major flood, a lot of benevolences, and a new roof. Did I do that? Of course not; I'm just a dumb horse doc. But I know how to draft and maintain an investment policy a decade in advance, and how to pick financial advisors who can stick to that policy, and how to watch them closely while they work their magic. Find smart people with integrity, pay them fairly, and then let them do their thing. And watch them like a hawk.
3. I live 2300 miles away. I will never be the winemaker, but always the worker in the vineyard. I'm ok with that. I'm more of an institutional-memory than an institutional-power kind of guy.
4. We're entering a new phase in BoT operations: We're finally moving away from management-by-fire-alarm, and starting to build procedures to account for the inevitable surprises. I'd like to continue being a part of that.

Please consider all of the candidates, and vote as if the long-term financial and cultural survival of the Society depends on it. Because it does.



SASD Membership

## December Membership Potluck



SASD Sign-Ups



Contact

SUGGESTED LAST NAME ALPHA SPLIT

A-H MAIN DISHES

I-P SALADS AND SIDE DISHES

Q-Z DESSERTS



**Date** 12/01/2025 (Mon.)



**Time** 6:00PM - 6:30PM EST

**SIGN UP TO BRING A DISH**



Kilgour Fund Development

## Bake Sale at SAS Craft Fair Dec 6



Beth Frahm



Contact

Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Thank you!



**Location** The Kilgour

**SIGN UP TO DONATE TO THE BAKE SALE**



# Winter Holiday Craft Fair

*Saturday, December 6th  
10:00 am - 3:00 pm*

*Free Admission  
Indoor & Outdoor Vendors  
Photos with Santa (including pets)  
Food Trucks*

**Kilgour Scottish Centre  
2363 Rochester Road  
Troy, MI 48083  
248.526.1849**

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

**SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER**

## NEW WESTSIDE LOCATION AND 30% DONATION

### RAISE SOME DOUGH

*Help support us!*

30% of sales will benefit  
**THE ST ANDREWS SOCIETY OF DETROIT**

**December 11, 2025  
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
37800 W Six Mile Road  
Livonia, MI**

In Cafe • Drive-Thru • Pick-Up • Delivery  
Enter promo code **FUND4U** at online checkout.

**Panera**  
FUNDRAISING





*Members only*

13th Annual  
Frank Hasse  
chili  
**Cookoff**

**Monday, January 5, 2026  
at the General Membership Meeting**

**Sign up today**

**Signups end Friday, January 2nd**

Bring your largest crockpot filled  
with your Best Chili Recipe!  
Limited to 10 chili entries.

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

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

## [SIGN UP FOR THE CHILI COOKOFF](#)

## TIME TO TAKE DOWN OUR HOLIDAY DECORATIONS



**We Need Help!**

**Kilgour Hall  
Holiday Decoration Elves!**

**10:00 am to Noon**  
**Decorate on Saturday, November 22, 2025**  
**&**  
**Take down on Saturday, January 10, 2026**

## [SIGN UP BY CLICKING HERE](#)



**DETROIT SCOTS**  
**AT**  
**DETROIT CURLING CLUB**

**JANUARY 10<sup>TH</sup> 2026**

**\$45 CURLERS**  
**\$10 SPECTATORS**

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

**TICKETS GO ON SALE MONDAY, DECEMBER 1ST**



THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF DETROIT  
PRESENTS  
AN EVENING WITH ROBERT BURNS

JANUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2026  
SOCIAL HOUR 6PM  
DINNER & PROGRAM 7PM

TICKETS  
\$100 MEMBER & GUEST PRESALE THROUGH 12/31  
\$110 PUBLIC PRICE  
CASH BAR

KILGOUR SCOTTISH CENTRE  
2363 ROCHESTER ROAD  
TROY, MI 48063

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



## Kirk in the Hills

Would Like to invite members of the St.  
Andrew's Society of Detroit to join us for a

### POETRY PARTY

To honor Robert Burns' 267th Birthday,  
and celebrate poetry together!

Please join us in the Refectory at Kirk in the Hills on  
Sunday, Jan. 25 2026 from 3 - 4:30 p.m.

- 1340 W Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills MI 48302 -

Bring a small snack and favorite poem to share with your  
poetry table. We will have readings of Burns' work to  
begin and conclude our afternoon together!

Sign up here:

[tinyurl.com/2026burnsbash](https://tinyurl.com/2026burnsbash)



### Soft Bound Edition – Special Order Opportunity

The Library is exploring interest in placing a group order for softbound copies of the St. Andrew's  
Society 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History Book.

Estimated Price per Book:

**\$19.00 - \$30.00** (final cost depends on total number of orders)

This is a wonderful opportunity to own a piece of Society history – perfect for your personal library or as gift.

If you are interested in ordering, please email: [library@detroitscots.com](mailto:library@detroitscots.com)

and mention “175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Book” in your message

## **It's almost Fish Fry Season! We offer the best Friday Fish Fry during Lent!**



**Returning in 2026!**

**The Detroit Scots' Friday Fish Fry**

**Beginning Friday, February 20 through Friday, April 3  
4:30 pm until 7:30 pm**

**Kilgour Scottish Centre  
2363 Rochester Road, Troy, Michigan  
248-526-1849**

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

It is because we have many dedicated members that continue to volunteer each week that makes it a success. There is room to bring more volunteers on board. It takes more than 30 volunteers each week to ensure we can host a memorable evening for the community.

Fish Fries start February 20th and run for seven weeks ending April 2nd.

We need volunteers 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for set-up and prep. And 3:45 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. each Friday night. Please use the Signup Genius link below. Thank You!

**[SIGNUP TO VOLUNTEER](#)**

## Have your Clan join the Wall!



Want your Clan plaque added to our Burns Room display?

Want to showcase your Scottish heritage at home or in your office?

Or perhaps you want to give someone a special gift.

If so, contact Carol Zagorowska at [cazago@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cazago@sbcglobal.net)



# Clan Crest Plaque Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email or text info: \_\_\_\_\_

Donate to Kilgour & verified Clan not displayed in Burns Room: yes [   ]

Clan: \_\_\_\_\_

Tartan: \_\_\_\_\_

Price: \$\$85.00

Purchase for personal use:

Circle Size:   Standard 7x8   (\$85.00)   or   Large 10x12   (\$130.00)

Clan: \_\_\_\_\_

Tartan: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Wood color:   Light   or   Dark



## St. Andrew's Society of Detroit 2025 Executive Officers & Trustees

### Executive Officers

|                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Chris MacKenzie       | president@detroitscots.com          |
| Bruce Gray            | firstvp@detroitscots.com            |
| Jean Wingblad         | secondvp@detroitscots.com           |
| Alison Coates         | societysecretary@detroitscots.com   |
| Julie Bartoy          | membership@detroitscots.com         |
| Jill England (acting) | societytreasurer@detroitscots.com   |
| Emily Bissell         | culturalevents@detroitscots.com     |
| Shelby Rohr           | flingeditor@detroitscots.com        |
| Dave Martin           | davemartin@standrewspipeband.com    |
| Julie Palmer          | highlandgameschair@detroitscots.com |
| Elliot MacFarlane     | societybard@detroitscots.com        |
| Fr. Scott Hunter      | chaplain@detroitscots.com           |

### Email Address

### Board of Trustees

|                               |           |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Elliot MacFarlane, Chair      | 2025-2027 |
| Kent Richards, Co-Vice Chair  | 2024-2026 |
| Bob Richardson, Co-Vice Chair | 2024-2026 |
| Beth Frahm, Benevolence Chair | 2023-2025 |
| Clifford Les, Secretary       | 2023-2025 |
| Robert Crawford               | 2024-2026 |
| Diane Raymond                 | 2025-2027 |
| Scott Hunter                  | 2025-2027 |
| Tim Reade                     | 2023-2025 |

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### Get your company in the Fling!

For \$20 you can place an ad in the Fling.

See last page in this Fling or  
Email the Fling Editor at

[flingeditor@detroitscots.com](mailto:flingeditor@detroitscots.com)  
for an advertisement form!



### Choose to support the SASD with your shopping at Kroger!

The St. Andrew's Society has been approved for the Kroger Community Rewards Program. When you select our Society as your chosen Non-Profit, and use your Kroger Plus account to shop, we will receive a donation!

**Rent the Kilgour Scottish Centre  
for your next event!**

[detroitscots.com/kilgour](https://detroitscots.com/kilgour)

A Scottish Benevolent Society founded in 1849 and an IRC 501(c)(3) charitable organization.  
Detroit Scots / St. Andrew's Society of Detroit © 2025.



Located at the Kilgour Scottish Centre

2363 Rochester Road Troy, MI  
48083 Phone: 248.526.1849  
[kilgour@detroitscots.com](mailto:kilgour@detroitscots.com)

*The Highland Fling* is produced  
by Shelby Brown Rohr,  
Communications Director  
[flingeditor@detroitscots.com](mailto: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.

*We're on the Web!*

[detroitscots.com](http://detroitscots.com)

[thekilgour.com](http://thekilgour.com)

[highlandgames.com](http://highlandgames.com)

## *Happy December Birthdays*

*Jennifer Anderson*  
*Byron Beattie*  
*Kellie Beveridge*  
*Ellece Campbell*  
*Elise Cassista*  
*Stephen Crewdson*  
*Dorothy Day*  
*Lisa Fountain*  
*Eileen (MacFarland) Giesbrecht*  
*Brian Greminger*  
*Irene R. Hall*  
*Elsa Jorgensen*  
*Stacey LaFehr-Yoder*

*Kimberly (Buchanan) Leach*  
*Jon Kevin Logan*  
*David R. Mandy*  
*Shelia Hayes Mitchell*  
*Michael Moore*  
*Judy Nimer Mubn*  
*James L. Petres*  
*Anna Mary Postma*  
*Anthony (Tony) Pyszk*  
*Catherine Ragan*  
*Gary Ralston*  
*William Rehahn*  
*Bob Richardson*

*Daniel Rose*  
*"Jack" Nicholas Scott Ruby*  
*Suzanne Sherwood*  
*Doriann Smith*  
*Mark C. Somerville*  
*Laura Stephens*  
*Carol Hunter Swanson*  
*Ray Sweetman*  
*David C. Tait*  
*Andrew Thomson*  
*Coleen Willey*  
*Linda Young-Sheiko*  
*Carol Zagorowska*

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



**St. Andrew's  
Society of Detroit, Inc.**

Kilgour Scottish Centre • 2363 Rochester Road • Troy, MI 48083 • (248) 526-1849 • [www.detroitscots.com](http://www.detroitscots.com) • [www.highlandgames.com](http://www.highlandgames.com) • [www.thekilgour.com](http://www.thekilgour.com)

## FLING ADVERTISEMENT FORM

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Information about the business (attach description or business card):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Which month(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\$20 Payment (business card ad) ☐ Check ☐ Cash ☐ Credit Card

\$30 Payment (1/4 page ad) ☐ Check ☐ Cash ☐ Credit Card

\$50 Payment (half page ad – only one per month): ☐ Check ☐ Cash ☐ Credit Card

Make Check out to the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit

Mail completed form and check to: St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, Attn Fling Editor, 2363 Rochester Road, Troy, MI 48083

FOR EDITOR USE ONLY

Month: ☐ January ☐ February ☐ March ☐ April ☐ May ☐ June ☐ September ☐ October

☐ November ☐ December

PAID \$\_\_\_\_\_