

The Highland Fling

August 2026



Chris MacKenzie, President

Reflecting on the Games & Looking Ahead

As the second Monday of August rolls around, our focus naturally turns to the future—and to planning our next Highland Games.

Looking back, this year's Cèilidh and Games were a magnificent success! The rain held off for the most part, gate sales were strong, and the Cèilidh crowd loved our two new featured bands. We even noticed cleaner grounds after the party, thanks in part to Joe Marzka reminding patrons that our crew is all volunteers. Love was also in the air: congratulations to Jessica Brunell (daughter of Clan Martin convener Doug Brunell), who got engaged right at the Games and took 3rd place in the shortbread competition! We might just see our first-ever Games wedding next year.

Behind the Scenes: The Power of Volunteers To the outside observer, the Games look like magic. In reality, they are powered by pure member sweat and dedication. While we contract professionals for the major tents and specialized audio gear, everything else is run by volunteers.

To put our operational needs in perspective:

•**The Goal:** We have nearly 500 members and need **637 total shifts** filled across the event.

•**The Reality:** Last year, 300 volunteers filled 494 shifts. Over **30% of those volunteers were non-members** (not including specialized areas like parking, heavy athletics, dance, beverage service, or court volunteers).

•**The Commitment:** Most shifts are manageable **2-hour blocks** covering gates, tickets, or beverages.

A huge shout out goes to Robin Boyd Demarest, who single-handedly covered First Aid on Friday and stayed all ***Knight!***

We also cannot thank our setup and teardown crews enough. What takes an entire week (Monday–Friday, 8 to 4) to construct, gets dismantled in less than 12 hours on Saturday night and Sunday morning to protect our gear and return merchandise to the Kilgour Scottish Centre.

It truly takes an army. As we begin planning for next year, we are calling on our membership to step up, take pride in ownership, and help make the workload easier for the entire community.

Chris MacKenzie, President, St. Andrew's Society of Detroit

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2026 SASD CALENDAR

August 2026

Date	Event				
There is not a Membership Meeting in August					
8/1	177 th Highland Games, Greenmead Historical Park, Livonia, 8:30 a.m.				
8/11	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
8/13	Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				
8/15	Library Committee Business Meeting, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				
8/17	Cultural Activities Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
8/18	House Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom) Board of Trustees Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
8/26	Membership Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
8/27	Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				

September 2026

Date	Event	Food	Charity	50/50	Benevolence
9/7	Labor Day				
9/8	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
9/10	Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				
9/14	Membership Meeting, Kilgour, Social Hour 6:00 p.m., Potluck 6:30 p.m., Business Meeting 7:00 p.m.				
	Membership Meeting	Potluck	St. Vincent DePaul	Detroit Rescue Mission	Walk for the Red – Neighbors United
9/15	House Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom) Trustees Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
9/19	Library Committee Business Meeting, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				
9/21	Scottish Heritage Night with the Detroit Tigers, Comerica Park, 2100 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI 48201 6:40 p.m. (See flyer for tickets)				
9/23	Membership Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
9/24	Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				
9/28	Charles Low Library Book Club, 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
9/28	Cultural Activities Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				

2026 SASD CALENDAR

October 2026					
Date	Event	Food	Charity	50/50	Benevolence
10/5	Membership Meeting, Kilgour, Social Hour 6:00 p.m., Potluck 6:30 p.m., Business Meeting 7:15 p.m.				
	New Member Initiation	Potluck with Shepherd's Pie	Forgotten Harvest	Spina bifida	Maggie's Center - Scotland
10/8	Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				
10/13	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
10/16	Scottish Artist Jim Malcolm in Concert, Kilgour, Doors open 6:00 p.m., Advance Tickets				
10/17	Library Committee Business Meeting, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				
10/19	Cultural Activities Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
10/20	House Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom) Board of Trustees Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
10/22	Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				
10/28	Membership Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
10/30	Whisky Tasting, Kilgour, 6:00 p.m., Tickets go on sale 10/01				
	Calendar Subject to Change				



[Click Here to see our
2026 Highland Games
Photo Albums](#)



Beth Frahm
Benevolence Chair

OUR BENEVOLENCES

I hope everyone is enjoying some summer activities with friends and family. This is a mini edition of the Fling. I still would like to express my gratitude to the many members that support our benevolences each month. We truly are a giving community and it shows each month with your donated items and financial support of the worthy charities that we assist. Don't forget to gather some clothing to donate as you organize your drawers and closets for the season changes. Thank you!

If, you have a charity that you would like to be considered for 2027, please email me at bfracm@detroitscots.com before September 1st. The benevolence committee will be meeting to vote and build our calendar for 2027.

Looking forward on the calendar to Fall, we will be collecting used clothing and household items for St. Vincent de Paul in **September** to be sold in their stores. **October** we will collect food pantry items for Forgotten Harvest.

We as a Society continue to support and encourage Scottish Culture with the scholarships we award to young dancers, pipers, and drummers. Recently we learned of two Highland Dancers from Plymouth that were selected to participate in The Edinburgh Tattoo in August. It is quite an honor as only 48 dancers are chosen from around the world. We were able to award them each \$1,000 towards their expenses. Congratulations Ava and Emilia!

Each summer approximately ten young students from metro Detroit that we are associated with through area instructors attend a program at the Ohio Scottish Arts School. We were able to help them with their tuition by providing \$2,800 for the group. You will see these talented young people at our meetings and fish fries. We are very pleased to support them as they continue to learn and grow in their interest of Highland Dance, piping, and drumming.





Emily Bissell
Cultural Events Chair

CULTURAL EVENTS

*Now westlin winds and slaught'ring guns
Bring Autumn's pleasant weather;
The moorcock springs on whirring wings
Among the blooming heather:
Now waving grain, wide o'er the plain,*

*Delights the weary farmer;
And the moon shines bright,
as I rove by night,
To muse upon my charmer.*

~ Robert Burns

General Membership Meeting

Our next **General Membership Meeting is Monday, September 14, 2026**. We hope you'll join us for an evening of fellowship, Society updates, and a potluck meal.

If you'd like to bring a dish, please sign up in advance. Can't bring food? Donations to our general fund are always appreciated and help cover the cost of coffee, paper goods, and other meeting supplies. A collection box will be available at the front desk.

Recent Events

Scottish Heritage Night with Detroit City FC

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Detroit City FC match! We loved seeing so many members come out to celebrate our Scottish heritage and support the Society.

177th Highland Games

Thank you to our volunteers, clan representatives, performers, vendors, sponsors, and attendees for making this year's Highland Games a tremendous success. Your hard work and enthusiasm are what make this event so special.

Upcoming Events

Scottish Heritage Night with the Detroit Tigers - Monday, September 21

Celebrate Scottish Heritage Night at Comerica Park as the Tigers take on the Washington Nationals!

- Special \$26 ticket package includes:
 - Game ticket
 - Limited-edition Scottish Heritage jersey

Bring your family and friends for a fun evening celebrating our Scottish heritage while cheering on the Tigers.

[Buy your tickets here!](#)

Jim Malcolm – Award-Winning Scottish Folk Singer - Friday, October 16

Enjoy an evening of traditional Scottish music with acclaimed singer-songwriter Jim Malcolm.

- \$15 in advance / \$20 at the door
- Doors open: 6:00 p.m.
- Concert begins: 7:00 p.m.

Known for his engaging performances and masterful storytelling, Jim Malcolm is widely regarded as one of Scotland's finest traditional singers.

[Buy your tickets here!](#)

Be sure to check our [Events](#) page regularly as new events are added throughout the year!

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Get Involved

Volunteer at the Michigan Renaissance Festival - August 29 & 30

Help promote The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit at the Michigan Renaissance Festival! We're looking for volunteers to staff our booth and hand out postcards throughout the festival. A limited number of volunteer admission tickets are available. If you need one, please indicate that when you [sign up](#). For more information about the festival, visit www.michrenfest.com.

Looking for other ways to help? Visit our [SignUpGenius](#) page to see current volunteer opportunities.

Have an idea for an event or activity? We'd love to hear from you! Email us at culturevents@detroitscots.com.

Interested in joining the Cultural Activities Committee? Our next meeting is **Monday, August 17, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom**. New members are always welcome!

Zoom Meeting ID: 878 6259 4600

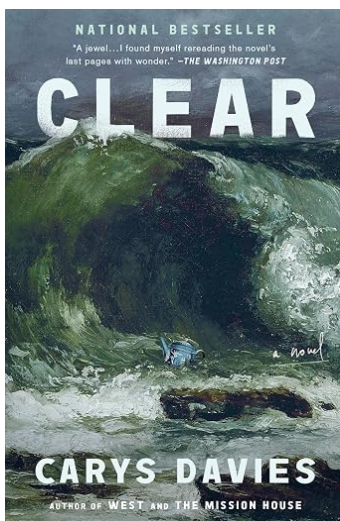
Passcode: 723223

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)



Charles S. Low Book Club

The Low Library Book Club title for our September discussion will be: *Clear* by Carys Davies (196 p.). Here's the description:



1843. On a remote Scottish island, Ivar, the sole occupant, leads a life of quiet isolation until the day he finds a man unconscious on the beach below the cliffs. The newcomer is John Ferguson, an impoverished church minister sent to evict Ivar and turn the island into grazing land for sheep. Unaware of the stranger's intentions, Ivar takes him into his home, and in spite of the two men having no common language, a fragile bond begins to form between them. Meanwhile on the mainland, John's wife Mary anxiously awaits news of his mission.

Against the rugged backdrop of this faraway spot beyond Shetland, Carys Davies's intimate drama unfolds with tension and tenderness: a touching and crystalline study of ordinary people buffeted by history and a powerful exploration of the distances and connections between us. Perfectly structured and surprising at every turn, *Clear* is a marvel of storytelling, an exquisite short novel by a master of the form.

The meeting will be on Monday, September 28 at 5:30 p.m. (EDT) on Zoom. Contact Cathy McCullough Les at library@detroitscots.com for the link or if you have any questions.



The Kilgour Centre Fund Drive

Saving our Kilgour Scottish Centre

As the Kilgour Fund Drive ends on August 31, 2026, we want to extend our deepest and most heartfelt thanks to the members and friends of the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit who have donated to this campaign. The generosity and personal commitment exhibited toward our Society has made this one-year endeavor a tremendous success.

Because of your support, we expect to announce at the September Membership Meeting that the campaign has raised just over \$40,000 for the continuing maintenance and operations of the Kilgour Scottish Centre. While our original goal was \$60,000, what we have accomplished together is truly something to celebrate. Every donation, large or small, has helped strengthen the future of our Society's home, and we are sincerely grateful for every contribution.

The Kilgour Fund Drive was never intended to direct how these funds would be spent. Rather, it served as a "tin cup" to encourage voluntary donations for the maintenance and operation of the Kilgour Scottish Centre. All donated funds have been safeguarded and earmarked under Fund #40507 and will be used exclusively for that purpose under the oversight of the House Committee. Your generosity will help preserve and maintain the Kilgour so that future members can enjoy it for years to come.

If you established a monthly automatic contribution to the Kilgour Fund Drive, please remember to cancel it after your final donation.

At the September 14th SASD Membership Meeting, we will announce the campaign's final total. Don Hiruo and Van Rohr will officially conclude their roles with the Kilgour Fund Drive. Serving in this effort has been both an honor and a privilege.

We also encourage anyone interested in carrying this spirit of giving forward to consider organizing a future fundraising effort. One worthwhile project could be raising funds for a new digital sign along Rochester Road to increase visibility, attract more rentals and events, and generate additional revenue to support the Kilgour Centre.

Most importantly, thank you. Your kindness, generosity, and belief in our Society have made this campaign possible. Together, we have invested in the future of the Kilgour Centre and the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit.

It has truly been a privilege and a joy to serve.

With sincere gratitude,
Don Hiruo & Van Rohr

Kim's Korner - The Legacy Society

August 2026

Topic: Planned Giving versus Legacy Planning

I have been writing all year about savvy planning strategies to transfer assets intelligently to the next generation or your favorite charitable endeavor, but recently I encountered a bit too much savvy planning at one time and thought I'd spice things up a bit: when is too much planning also bad planning?

Now, I love a good loophole as much as the next person when it comes to winning with money, but sometimes the concept of "winning at all costs" can become a slippery slope. It's when people ask me how to put tax-free investments into a tax shelter that I know they are not seeing the forest for the trees. Their heart is in the right place, but the practical application of executing the strategies may not be.

Something I urge you to consider when developing your financial strategies is to streamline as much of the work as possible for your beneficiaries while creating your master plan. While your spreadsheets may be your emotional support documents, your next generation may not share your love language. If you have created trust after trust (after trust) to create a symphony of tax shelters, how much work has been put on your heirs to disassemble them...and enjoy the fruits of your labor? I'm not saying these strategies are bad, I'm just saying they can be overused and the loopholes could be filled with professional fees and/or time spent away from work to decipher seventeen different entities and track down just as many bank accounts.

I see the hours and hours if not years of work it could take to execute the intentions of the benefactor of this master plan. And I also see hours and hours if not years of professional or legal fees that could stack up. An unintended burden to the recipients not projected on those lovey spreadsheets. I have watched a masterpiece of planning unwound and wonder if the amount of savings was worth all of the time and effort in the end? Sometimes it is. Sometimes it isn't. I'm not here to judge, just urge you to consider your situation carefully, play it all out postmortem, and realistically see if the juice was worth the squeeze.

Best,

Kimberly Enders

kimenders@yahoo.com



SASD Membership

2026 Monthly Membership Meetings--Many Hands Make Light Work



Social Chair



Contact

[VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT OUR MEETINGS](#)



SASD Membership

Highland Fling Weekend at Michigan Renaissance Festival



SASD Sign-Ups



Contact

Come help promote The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit at the Michigan Renaissance Festival on August 29 & 30! We need volunteers to staff our booth and also to wander the festival to give out our postcards. The more the merrier!

A limited number of tickets are available for volunteers. Please leave a comment about whether or not you need a ticket.

Visit <https://www.michrenfest.com/> for more festival information

[JOIN OUR TEAM AT THE RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL](#)



SASD Membership

September Membership Potluck



SASD Sign-Ups



Contact

SUGGESTED LAST NAME ALPHA SPLIT

A-H Salads & Side Dishes

I-P Main Dishes

Q-Z Desserts



Date 09/14/2026 (Mon.)



Time 6:00PM - 6:30PM EDT



Location Kilgour Scottish Centre of the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit - Detroit Scots
2363 Rochester Rd
Troy, MI 48063

[VOLUNTEER TO BRING A DISH TO THE POTLUCK](#)

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

**JOIN THE DETROIT SCOTS
AT COMERICA PARK
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST @ 6:40 pm**

**Celebrate our Scottish Heritage at Comerica Park on September 21!
Show your pride and enjoy an unforgettable night of baseball featuring a
limited-edition Scottish Heritage jersey and game ticket package.**

Special Ticket Package includes limited-edition Scottish Heritage jersey.

<https://www.gofevo.com/event/standrews20>

[BUY TICKETS](#)



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

Presents Acclaimed Scottish Folk Singer

Jim Malcolm

7pm Friday, October 16th, 2026
\$15 presale/\$20 at the door
Doors open at 6pm

 **The Kilgour
Scottish Centre**
2363 Rochester Rd. Troy, MI.

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

[BUY TICKETS](#)

TICKETS GO ON SALE OCTOBER 1ST



WHISKY Tasting

A SPIRITED NIGHT OF FINE WHISKIES
GOOD COMPANY & HAUNTINGLY GOOD TIMES

KILGOUR SCOTTISH CENTRE
2363 ROCHESTER ROAD, TROY, MI 48063

 DINNER AT 6 PM  TASTING AFTER

OCTOBER 30TH
JOIN US IF YOU DARE!

St. Andrew's Society of Detroit

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



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 2026 Executive Officers & Trustees

Executive Officers

2026-2027	Chris MacKenzie	president@detroitscots.com
2026-2028	Bruce Gray	firstvp@detroitscots.com
2026-2027	Jean Wingblad	secondvp@detroitscots.com
2026-2028	Alison Coates	societysecretary@detroitscots.com
2026-2027	Julie Bartoy	membership@detroitscots.com
2026-2028	Jim Adair (acting)	societytreasurer@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	2026-2028
Clifford Les, Secretary	2026-2028
Robert Crawford	2024-2026
Diane Raymond	2025-2027
Scott Hunter	2025-2027
Tim Reade	2026-2028

Appointments

Cultural Events Chair	Emily Bissell	culturalevents@detroitscots.com
Communications Chair	Shelby Rohr	communications@detroitscots.com
Society Piper	Dave Martin	davemartin@standrewspipeband.com
Highland Games Chair	Julie Palmer	highlandgameschair@detroitscots.com
Society Bard	Elliot MacFarlane	societybard@detroitscots.com
Society Chaplain	Fr. Scott Hunter	chaplain@detroitscots.com

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

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
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

A Scottish Benevolent Society founded in 1849 and an IRC 501(c)(3) charitable organization
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Located at the Kilgour Scottish Centre

2363 Rochester Road Troy, MI
48083 Phone: 248.526.1849
kilgour@detroitscots.com

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.

We're on the Web!

detroitscots.com

thekilgour.com

highlandgames.com

Happy August Birthdays!

Marcia Baird Hiruo

Sandra Bartosik

Bruce Beach

Mary Margaret Block

Madeleine Brown

Roger L. Brown

Nancy Camilleri

Ann Campbell

Anthony Cartagena

Meghan Michelle Cherry

Reneé Church

Dennis Clements

Zachary Crumb

Jeffrey Cuthbertson

Dawn Evoe Danowski

Margaret R. Garbarino

Ruth Wishart Garner

Amy Grice

Mark Harris

Kevin Hayes

Robert P. Hurlbert

Roger Isaacson

Stephen W. Kerr

John Scott Kroener

Sherri LaFehr

Paula Lupi

Jim Lyon

Jason MacKenzie

Teri Mago

Matthew Manor

Glen T. Milligan, Jr.

Bettye P. Moore

Irwin Moyna

Richard C. Patchett

Martin Peklo

Jean V. Schramm

Bruce M. Sherwood

Elizabeth Smith

David Spens

Karin Stahl

Samuel Steele

David Strachan

Michelle Williams

Daniel (Bubba) Wilson

Note: Our Birthday Wishes are coming from our Membership System for those members who update their profile with their Month of Birth. If your name is missing, please contact flingeditor@detroitscots.com



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

Kilgour Scottish Centre • 2363 Rochester Road • Troy, MI 48083 • (248) 526-1849 • www.detroitscots.com • www.highlandgames.com • 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 \$_____