

The Highland Fling

September 2026



Chris MacKenzie, President

Aye, August has been running me ragged! Between the Highland Games and keeping a 7-year-old amused all summer, and all the other social events that I participated in, I am about done. Don't get me wrong, it was all good, but good can still wear you out.

September brings us back to the Kilgour for our monthly meetings. Seeing others we haven't seen since the Games or even our June meeting. It will be fantastic to gather back at the Kilgour Scottish Centre and catch up properly. After the sheer blur of the Games, it's always nice to sit down with everyone without running around in ten different directions at once.

Looking forward to catching up on everyone's late-summer stories, swapping news, and getting settled into a nice, steady autumn rhythm. Hope to see a strong turnout for our first meeting back, grab yourself a wee dram, and let's get September off to a good start!

Slàinte,

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

Inside this issue:

Society Calendar	2
Benevolences	4
Cultural Events	5
2026 Election	7
Thoughts & Prayers . .	9
Kilgour Fund Drive . .	10
Kim's Korner	12
Thank You	13
Charles Low Library .14	
Membership & Book Club	16
Highland Games	17
Sign Ups & Events . .	19
Clan Plaques	23
Executives & Trustees	24
Sept. Birthdays. . . .	25

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS DECEMBER 7, 2026

★ EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ★

TWO-YEAR TERMS
(2027-2028)

⚔

PRESIDENT

⚔ **2ND VICE PRESIDENT**

⚔ **TREASURER**

★ BOARD OF TRUSTEES ★

THREE-YEAR TERMS
(2027-2029)

⚔

THREE (3) MEMBERS
TO BE ELECTED TO THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2026 SASD CALENDAR

September 2026

Date	Event	Food	Charity	50/50	Benevolence
9/7	Labor Day Holiday				
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)				
9/17	Panera Bread Fundraiser, 390 W. 14 Mile Rd., Troy, 4 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.				
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.				
9/23	Membership Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
9/24	Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				
9/25	AOH Scottish Night Fish Fry, AOH Hall, 25300 Five Mile Road, Redford, 5:00 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)				

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)				

2026 SASD CALENDAR

October 2026 (cont'd)

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

November 2026

Date	Event	Food	Charity	50/50	Benevolence
11/2	Membership Meeting, Kilgour, Social Hour 6:00 p.m., Potluck 6:30 p.m., Business Meeting 7:00 p.m.				
	Membership Meeting	Potluck	Toys for Tots	Vietnam Veterans - Macomb	Penrickton Center for Blind Children
11/9	Charles Low Library Book Club, 5:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
11/10	Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
11/12	Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				
11/16	Cultural Activities Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
11/17	House Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m. (Zoom) Trustees Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
11/20	St. Andrew's Day Party, Kilgour, Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.				
11/21	Library Committee Business Meeting, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Open Library Hours, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.				
11/22	Kirking of the Tartans, Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, 8625 E. Jefferson Ave, Detroit, Check-in at 9:45 a.m., 10:00 a.m. Service				
11/25	Membership Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. (Zoom)				
11/26	Happy Thanksgiving Day!				
11/30	Happy St. Andrew's Day & Happy Birthday St. Andrew's Society of Detroit!				
	Calendar Subject to Change				



Beth Frahm
Benevolence Chair

OUR BENEVOLENCES

Summer went by too quickly as it always seems to do. I look forward to getting back to gathering at our meetings. I am always so amazed at the generosity of our membership on the ways they find to support our benevolences. Please keep up the good work with helping others less fortunate than ourselves.

Our September charity is [St. Vincent de Paul](#). They are accepting used clothing and household items to be sold in their stores. Funds raised help support the many services they provide for our neighbors in need. Please bring your items to the September 14th meeting.

If, you prefer a monetary donation for the charity of the month, we can accept PayPal at our [Detroitscots.com](https://www.detroitscots.com) website. You must indicate if you wish to have your donation matched in the memo box. 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.

Our September benevolence is [Walk for the Red/Neighbors United](#). In 2019 Joe Warne, a firefighter from Macomb Township, MI and President of Neighbors United, had his passion ignited to help those in his own profession. After repeatedly hearing about brothers and sisters battling cancer, he learned that occupational cancer had become the leading cause of firefighter deaths, according to the International Association of Firefighters. That June, *#walkfortheRED* was born. This is a 140-mile walk across the state of Michigan that takes place with the start landing on the Thursday morning following Labor Day each September. We will learn more about this important mission at our September meeting.

Our 50/50 recipient for September is the [Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries](#). They provide food, clothing, shelter and so much more for the unhoused.

Planning ahead we will be collecting for the following charities:

- October 5th - **Forgotten Harvest**, non-perishable food items. They are always in need of canned items, peanut butter, pasta, and cereal.
- November 2nd - **USMC Toys for Tots**, unwrapped gifts for children.

We are planning a fun afternoon viewing of the Michigan vs. Michigan State Football Game on November 7th at the Kilgour Scottish Centre. It will support one of our charities. Details coming!





Emily Bissell
Cultural Events Chair

CULTURAL EVENTS

This far north, the harvest happens late.
Rooks go clattering over the sycamores
whose shadows yawn after them, down to the river.
Uncut wheat staggers under its own weight.

Summer is leaving too, exchanging its gold
for brass and copper. It is not so strange
to feel nostalgia for the present; already
this September evening is as old as a photograph of itself.

The light, the shadows
on the field, are sepia, as if this were
some other evening in September, some other
harvest that went ungathered years ago. Dorothy Lawrenson

General Membership Meeting - Monday, September 14, 2026

Our next General Membership Meeting will be held on 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

Michigan Renaissance Festival

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help promote *The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit* at the Michigan Renaissance Festival! We appreciate everyone who staffed our booth, shared information about the Society, and helped spread the word throughout the festival.

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 ticket package – \$26

- *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.

(continued on the next page)

(continued from the previous page)

Known for his engaging performances and masterful storytelling, Jim Malcolm is widely regarded as one of Scotland's finest traditional singers. Cash Bar; outside food welcome. Food will not be served or sold at this event.

[Buy your Tickets Here](#)

Whisky Tasting - Friday, October 30, 2026

Our always-popular Whisky Tasting is back! Join us for an evening of great food, fine whisky, and good company.

The evening begins with a delicious dinner catered by **Mission BBQ**, served at **6:00 p.m.**, followed by the whisky tasting. Our very own **Whisky Wizard, Elliot MacFarlane**, will guide us through the evening and share his knowledge and appreciation of Scotland's national spirit.

Tickets are **\$100** and will go on sale **October 1, 2026**.

This popular event is sure to fill up, so be sure to get your tickets early. We hope you'll join us for another memorable evening of good food, great whisky, and Scottish fellowship!

St. Andrew's Day Party - Friday, November 20

Join us for a fun, casual evening filled with **live Scottish music, good food, drinks, and great company!**

This year, we're putting a fresh, relaxed spin on our St. Andrew's Day celebration—think more **Scottish Pub Party** than formal dinner. Enjoy live music from **Roane**, grab a drink at the bar, and spend the evening celebrating Scottish culture with friends, family, and fellow members of the Society. Cash bar; food will be available for purchase at the event.

Come dressed in your best Scottish attire—or just come ready to have a good time! Whether you're a longtime member, a friend of the Society, or simply interested in Scottish culture, everyone is welcome.

Come celebrate St. Andrew's Day with us—**raise a glass, enjoy the music, and have a little Scottish fun!**

Save The Date - Hogmanay - Thursday, December 31st

Be sure to check our Events page regularly. New events are added throughout the year!

Get Involved - Volunteer with the Society

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, September 28, at 6:30 p.m.** via Zoom. New members are always welcome!

Zoom Meeting ID: 878 6259 4600

Passcode: 723223

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

The St. Andrew's Society of Detroit's Election Season is Here! Robbie Burns Wants You!

With the Highland Games behind us for another year, it is now St. Andrew's Society of Detroit's Election Season! The 2026 SASD election will take place at this December 7th's Membership Meeting. This year, three 3-year Board of Trustee positions and three 2-year Executive Committee positions are up for election.

If you have ever thought, "I think this would be good for the SASD" or, "The SASD should really consider doing X" or, you really value the SASD and appreciate its mission and want to offer your leadership skills to benefit the Society, you should run for a position on the Board of Trustees or for one of the Executive positions.

Several people have mentioned to me of their interest in running but, continued that they weren't sure about running against another member or they didn't want to hurt anyone's feelings. I truly believe that with 177 years the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit is strong because members have run "for" ideas, for the Society's good, and not necessarily "against" anything or anyone. Please consider running and, for more information about any position you may be interested in, please reach out to me or any of the other Election Committee members, Paula Lupi, Glen Milligan, Ann Campbell, or Ray Swetman. Our email addresses and phone numbers are accessible via the Wild Apricot Membership Directory.

There are three incumbent Board of Trustee candidates running, Bob Crawford, Kent Richards, and Bob Richardson. There are two incumbent Officers running, Jim Adair for Treasurer and Jean Wingblad for 2nd Vice President. After three years of serving as SASD President, Chris MacKenzie is stepping down. The Election Committee is seeking two members to run for the Presidency.

The three new Board of Trustees terms will begin with the swearing-in ceremony at the February 1, 2027, Membership Meeting and will end at the February 4, 2030, Membership Meeting.

The three Executive Committee positions up for election include the President, 2nd Vice President and the Treasurer. These new terms will begin at the February 1, 2027, Membership Meeting with the swearing in ceremony and will conclude at the February 5, 2029, Membership Meeting.

Trustees, elected officers, and appointed positions are expected to attend all general membership meetings of the Society. A total of three unexcused absences during an elective year may warrant consideration for recall.

We're going to get "into the weeds" just a bit but, for your knowledge according to the SASD Bylaws, Executive Committee and the Board of Trustee members are elected by SASD membership present at the December Membership meetings. However, below are details on how leadership of the following committees come into office.

Appointed by the President:

- **Archives and Library Committee** is led by the Archives and Library Chair.
- **Communications & IT Support Committee** is led by the Communications Chair.
- **Cultural Activities Committee** is led by the Cultural Activities Chair.
- **Highland Games Committee** is led by the Highland Games Chair.
- **Marketing Committee** is led by the Marketing Chair.

(continued on the next page)

(continued from the previous page)

Other Committees include:

- **Membership Committee** is led by the First Vice-President and the Membership Secretary.
- **Auditing Committee** led by the Second Vice-President.
- **Benevolence & Scholarship Committee** is led by a member of the Board of Trustees and appointed by the BOT Chair.
- **Finance Committee** is led by the Treasurer.
- **House Committee** is led by the Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees.
- **Investment Committee** will consist of at least three members, including two or more members of the Board of Trustees.

The SASD Bylaws state that the qualifications for holding office are:

- Nominees for all elected offices must be in good standing at the time of nomination and must have attended at least 6 of the previous 10 monthly general membership meetings or, volunteered at 3 recent events or, provided services to the Society in a volunteer capacity or, served as an active member of the Executive Committee or Board of Trustees within the past two years or, has the skills and experience to perform the duties and has the approval of the Board of Trustees.

Should you choose to run, your next step would be to write and send me a one-page profile about yourself to be published in November's *Highland Fling* Newsletter. Share how long you've been a member and your leadership skills. Also, mention things you have done with or for the SASD, i.e. special events, regularly attended meetings, and mention any SASD efforts you have volunteered for, i.e. Highland Games, Fish Fries, etc. and share your vision as a BOT member or Officer for the SASD. Please send me your completed profile by Monday, October 12, 2026. You and all candidates are invited to speak at the Monday, November 2nd, Membership meeting. Please put that date on your calendar. This is an opportunity to "verbalize" your profile within three minutes from the podium and allow our Membership to put "your name with your face". If elected, you'll be sworn in during the February 1st, 2027, Membership meeting.

If you would like more information about the position you are considering or, you'd like to speak to a former or current BOT or Officer about a position you may be considering, please let me know. Thank you for thinking about running for office in the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit!

Joyfully at the SASD's and your service!

Van Rohr

Election Committee Chair

SASD Nominations/Elections Committee

vrohr@detroitscots.com

586-431-1753

*And all at once,
summer collapsed into fall*
- Oscar Wilde



In Our Thoughts & Prayers

- Member and Trustee, Bob Richardson, is in need of our healing prayers as he is having a hip replaced on September 21st. Bob broke his hip in April.
- From Member Colleen Willey - "My mom, Bonnie Willey, passed away on July 23. I am attaching her obituary. We have requested in lieu of flowers, people show their condolences via a gift to St Andrew's Society. My parents used to be members years back."

[Barbara Willey Obituary](#)

- Member Jim Irwin is in the hospital. His wife Tanya is asking for prayers or healing thoughts.
- Member John Morrison's mother Nancy passed away on Tuesday, July 14th. Below is more information.

[Nancy Morrison Obituary](#)



The Kilgour Centre Fund Drive

Saving our Kilgour Scottish Centre

The Kilgour Fund Drive ended **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. We had no idea of what the total donations would be.

Over 100 generous donors contributed, and an estimated \$40,000 plus was donated for the continuing maintenance and operations of the Kilgour Centre. 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 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. If you established a monthly automatic contribution to the Kilgour Fund Drive, please remember to cancel it. Donors' generosity will help preserve and maintain the Kilgour so that future members can enjoy it for years to come.

SASD Treasurer Jim Adair is tallying the totals. At the **September 14th** SASD Membership Meeting, we will formally announce the campaign's final donation and donor counts. 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 & Stephenson Highway to increase visibility, attract more rentals and events, and generate additional revenue to support the Kilgour Centre.

We thank President Chris MacKenzie for giving us his authorization to move forward with the Kilgour Fund Drive. We thank Treasurers Jill England and Jim Adair for their time, expertise, and detailed monthly reports. We offer great thanks to Bill Rehahn for his fun, "Give a Dram" graphic updates published monthly in the Fling. We thank the *Fling* Editor Shelby Rohr for including our monthly updates in the *Fling*. And we thank SASD Secretary Alison Coates for placing us on the Membership meeting agendas! Most importantly, to all who have donated, **thank you!** Your kindness, generosity, and belief in our Society have made this campaign a huge success. 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

Give a Dram for the Kilgour

Total Donations are estimated to be greater than \$40,000.



The Kilgour Centre Fund Drive

Kim's Korner - The Legacy Society

September 2026

Topic: Charitable Giving with Donor-Advised Funds

As we start to round third base and head for home in the year 2026, I'd like to continue our conversation about this being the year of abundance and how to give our money away. As I mentioned last month, sometimes we can over-engineer our financial strategies...but having a smart, straight forward financial plan in place is always a good idea. So let's chat about a strategy rising in popularity these past few years since the tax laws keep changing: donor-advised funds (DAF).

The DAF has gone mainstream in the past decade but actually dates back to the 1930's when John D. Rockefeller Jr wanted more donor control than the community foundation's board structure allowed. In 1991, the first commercial DAF was started by Fidelity Investments and today, according to National Philanthropic Trust, DAFs in the U.S. outnumber charitable remainder trusts, charitable remainder annuity trusts, charitable lead trusts, pooled income funds, and private foundations combined.

Similar to their charitable trust counterparts, a donor can contribute cash, securities or other assets into a donor-advised fund hosted by a 501(c)(3) sponsoring organization. Often a charitable arm of a large money manager, DAFs can also be sponsored by individuals, families, and businesses. The donated funds are irrevocably given to the DAF, thus the donor gives up legal control in exchange for an immediate tax deduction. The sponsoring organization is now the legal owner of the funds and will facilitate the monies being given to qualifying non-profit organizations per the donor's suggestions. Suggestion being the key word.

Not to be a buzz kill, but not all DAF accounts may be legitimate. The IRS warns taxpayers of abuse in this community, so please do your due diligence before choosing your sponsoring organization and accepting their claims of DAF status. And if you feel it is in your best interest to have a DAF as an intermediary between yourself and your charity of choice, please confirm your intended charity is recognized by the DAF since this communication loop is driven by the donor...not the charity itself.

Best,

Kimberly Enders

kimenders@yahoo.com



A SHOUT OUT AND THANK YOU

To all the hard-working volunteers in the
St. Andrew's Society Merchandise
Souvenir Tent at the 2026 Highland
Games:

Sandy McLeod
Cathy Ragan
Judy Pardonnet
Beverly Patchett
Richard Patchett
Karen Newcomer

Marcia Hiruo
Dawn Danowski
Cate Mullins
Kellie Beveridge
Bill Rehahn

Our three Outsourced Volunteers:
Janice, Cheryl, and Patricia

And the many after-games helpers that assisted in packing up our tent!

Also, Kevin Callaghan of Callaghan Promotions
He has been there for the Society for many years

With Warm Appreciation,
Lynn McGartland Rehahn
SASD Merchandise Committee
Sales Chair





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

Big Festivals, Small Moments: What Makes Our Highland Games Special

I recently spent an afternoon volunteering at the Michigan Renaissance Festival and had a wonderful time. There is certainly no shortage of things to see and do. Between the costumes, entertainment, vendors, food, and thousands of people wandering through the grounds, it is quite an experience. Thanks to our Cultural Events Chair Emily!

As I walked around enjoying the day, though, I found myself thinking about our own St. Andrew's Society of Detroit Highland Games and what makes them so different.

The word that kept coming to mind was intimacy. But the more I thought about it, I realized there was another word that belonged right alongside it: hospitality.

Our Highland Games may not have the enormous crowds or sprawling grounds of the Renaissance Festival, but I think that is part of their charm. At our Games, you don't simply attend an event. You become part of it. From the moment you arrive, there are people working to make you feel welcome.

And apparently, you also get a much nicer commute!

After what felt like a mile-long trek from the parking lot just to reach the Renaissance Festival entrance, I found myself with a whole new appreciation for our Tartan Taxi service. Our taxi drivers graciously shuttle guests from the parking area to the Games as a courtesy, and after my Renaissance Festival experience, I can confidently say that little bit of Highland hospitality is pretty top-notch. Sometimes it's the small things that make you feel especially welcome.

Once inside our Games, that feeling continues.

You can stop and watch the Highland dancers and actually see the concentration on their faces. You can stand near the athletic field and feel the excitement when a caber turns just right. You can hear the pipes approaching before you see them. You can wander through the clan tents, ask a question about a surname, and find yourself in a conversation with someone who may know a little piece of your family's history.

There is time to stop. There is time to talk. And there are people who genuinely want to share what they know with you.

Even the entertainment felt different. I had the chance to see one of the same bands at the Renaissance Festival that I had seen at our Games, and while they were wonderful in both places, there was simply no comparison to the experience at our Cèilidh. There, they really were putting on a private concert just for us. We were so close to the musicians that you didn't just hear the music, you could feel it. The beat seemed to move right through you, until it felt as though your own heart was keeping time. There was an energy and connection between the band and everyone gathered around them that made the evening feel incredibly special. We weren't simply watching a performance. We were part of it.

(Continued on the next page)

(Continued from the previous page)

And then, of course, there is the food.

The Renaissance Festival certainly has plenty of it, but I may be a little biased when I say that nothing I had there could compete with the food at our Games. Our fish fry alone is hard to beat, and the shepherd's pie we had this year was wonderful. Good food has always had a way of bringing people together, and at our Games it does exactly that. You sit down, someone joins you, a conversation starts, and before you know it, lunch has become another part of the day you remember.

Perhaps that is really what I kept noticing throughout my afternoon at the Renaissance Festival. Bigger gives you more to see, but smaller gives you more opportunity to experience what is happening around you.

At our Games, you run into old friends, meet new ones, stop to talk, and inevitably find yourself staying in one place much longer than you intended because you've gotten caught up in a conversation. Our volunteers answer questions, give directions, offer rides, share stories and traditions, serve food, and do countless other little things throughout the day.

Those things may seem small individually, but together they create something important. They create a feeling of being welcomed.

The Renaissance Festival is wonderfully immersive. For an afternoon, you get to step into another world.

Our Highland Games offer something a little different. They invite you into our world.

The music, dancing, athletics, clans, genealogy, food, history, and traditions aren't simply there for entertainment. They represent something that has been passed down and is still being shared. Whether you have deep Scottish roots, are just beginning to explore your heritage, or simply enjoy being part of the day, there is room for you.

Maybe that is what I appreciate most about the size of our Games. They are large enough to fill a day with things to see and experience, but small enough that you can still feel connected to the people around you.

And perhaps that is the difference I was trying to put my finger on all afternoon.

You can attend a festival.

But at the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit Highland Games, you are welcomed as our guest.

And I think that is something pretty special.

Written by
Kellie Beveridge



Julie Bartoy
Membership Secretary

Membership News

I hope you have enjoyed another Michigan summer and are ready to get back to our Kilgour Scottish Centre. A big thank you to the Games Committee chaired by Julie Palmer and all the volunteers for working so hard to showcase St. Andrew's Society of Detroit and our Scottish culture.

At our June meeting, we initiated fourteen new members: Evan Campbell, Peggy Grandstaff, Cynthia Hartung, Maddie Jones, Leslie Moyna, Tammy Nesbitt-Alvarez, Martin Peklo, Chuck Schneider, Chris Scholl, Jennifer Shaw, Sandra Smith, Mary Storey, Fiona Taggart, and Charles Tomes. A big welcome to you. It was awesome to see so many new members volunteering. I sure hope you had a great time and will continue to volunteer at our events and fundraisers.

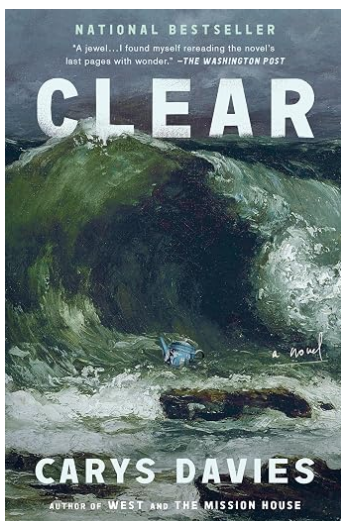
We are gearing up for member renewal season. If you are a regular member at least 70 years old who has been a member for at least 20 years, you may be eligible for Life Membership. Please send me an email to membership@detroitscots.com and I'll look into the possibility of your becoming a Life Member.

One final note, I've noticed that at times members speak harshly or are stand-offish to one another. It is important that we treat each other with kindness and respect, even when frustrated. So please, be careful with what you say and the tone you use when speaking with others. It's important for us to have a positive and friendly environment. Thanks for your consideration, and I hope to see you at our September 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.



ANNUAL HIGHLAND GAMES

Julie Palmer
Highland Games Chair

We've done it! Gratitude and pride continue to make my heart swell. Congratulations to everyone for another successful Highland Games.

Thanks to our dedicated team of Committee Chairs, the nearly 400 volunteers, talented entertainers, creative vendors, delicious food makers and awe-inspiring ceremonies, we delivered another unforgettable experience.

Thank you to our sponsors. We couldn't have done it without you: Black & Rossi, Diageo, Ciamillo Heating & Cooling, and The Whisky Wizard.

Our band lineup was incredible. I'm thrilled with the performances this year and I look forward to next year. We've received consistent positive feedback on the bands who entertained us this year.

We didn't have any major health emergencies. I consider this a huge win.

We had the opportunity to test our emergency preparedness. While we didn't end up needing to execute the plan, it allowed us to identify a few areas of opportunity. We plan to address these in our upcoming September 13 Games review meeting. We're hosting it at the Kilgour Center at 4pm. I deeply value these sessions. Reviewing what went well and identifying gaps and opportunities for improvement are key to ensuring we are delivering the best games possible. We've already received incredibly valuable feedback from members.

One of the top items for discussion is the Eventeny platform. We are going to discuss this with great attention to all the features and reliability we must have in a platform. I've already been in contact with the account manager at Eventeny to share our top concerns. Our renewal date is March 1st, 2027. We have time to address necessary changes we hope Eventeny will make if they are to earn our business in the future. I truly hope we avoid going back to separate and disparate platforms that don't communicate. However, our volunteer user experience is important, and we are committed to improving this.

There are several aspects of the new platform that worked. Sadly, when a few key things don't work, it's hard to see the pros through the cloud of highly frustrating issues. Vendor, Dance and Band registrations went well. We didn't have the opportunity to use the sponsor module or the ticket sales module. Our contract with Eventbrite expires next month, so we are also looking for the best functionality to handle ticket sales for our 178th Games.

I welcome all feedback from our members. If you have additional volunteer sign-up concerns, when you share them with me, please also share what you need in order to be satisfied with volunteer sign-up functionality.

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

Open committee chair positions

Each year, some of our long serving chairs want to retire. I send my heartfelt gratitude to all who serve.

Here are the roles we must fill:

- **Merchandise Vendor Chair.** Carry on the high level of review to ensure the appropriate vendors are approved to vend at our Games. A new chair will receive excellent documentation and vendor contacts.
- **Graphic Designer and Design Coordination Chair** to create our 178th graphics and ensure every team who needs the designs receives them timely and with quality. We do not have the ability to hire an outside designer.
- **Tartan Taxi Chair.** This is a new role to ensure communication and process improvements are successful in 2027.
- **Games Social Media.** We need a savvy person or team to continue our fun and creative posts on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok.
- **Gates Chair.** We need a dedicated chair to ensure gate volunteers are given the tools, materials and training to be successful during each shift.
- **Storytelling Chair.** This is a new position that helps us collect and document the important stories about each of our Games' elements.

I cannot stress the importance of filling each position. We are unable to absorb any more empty positions, and our Games are put in a risky position as key elements may have to be excluded going forward. I encourage our collective membership to dig deep and find the desire within you to fill our positions. None of these roles is a significant time commitment throughout the year.

I look forward to providing up-to-date financials during the September and October meetings. It sometimes takes more than a month for items to be sent and paid or deposited. For example, just last week an invoice and a sponsor check arrived.

Here's to next year and making strides to become the Storytellers of the Legends and Lore of Scotland.

Thank you.

Humbly Yours,

Julie Palmer

Games Chair

highlandgameschair@detroitscots.com



SASD Membership

2026 Monthly Membership Meetings--Many Hands Make Light Work



Social Chair



Contact

VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT OUR MEETINGS



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

RAISE SOME DOUGH

Help support us!

25% of sales will benefit
THE ST ANDREWS SOCIETY OF DETROIT

**September 17, 2026
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
390 W 14 Mile Rd
Troy, MI**

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

Panera
FUNDRAISING





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



AOH SCOTTISH NIGHT

Fish Fry



On **Friday, September 25th**, the Tara Band will be playing at the AOH Scottish Night Fish Fry.



Tara, along with our own Dave Martin and a couple of dancers will be the entertainment for the evening.

Kilts are encouraged.

Doors open at **5:00**
Dinner is served from **5:30** until **7:30**
Entertainment is from **6:30** until **9:30**

The menu is all you can eat
Fish and Chips,
fried or baked cod, salad,
slaw, fries, mac & cheese,
and dessert.

Cost is
\$15.00



There is also a full cash bar available.

There is an optional meal of Chicken Strips for those who don't like fish.





The Ancient Order of Hibernians Hall
is located at 25300 Five Mile Road, Redford.





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

OCTOBER 30TH

JOIN US IF YOU DARE!

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

Scottish Sunday - Save the Date - Sunday, November 22, 2026



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

*Scottish Sunday and the Kirkin' of the Tartan
will take place at historic
Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church
on Sunday, November 22nd 10:00 am.*

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

Presenters must check in at the church by 9:00 am in Dodge Hall. The church is located 8625 E. Jefferson (at Burns) in Detroit. The service is extremely popular so plan on arriving early. A Cèilidh will be held immediately following the service in the church basement, featuring Highland dancers, bagpipers, refreshments, and Scottish treats.



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



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	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
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

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 September Birthdays

Janet Bobby

Heather Eurich Barry

Penny Farrell Murphy

Gary R. Fawkes

Ronald Fiorani

Joseph Grazioli

Marilyn Joan Grazioli

Kelly Hemmerling

William Irvine

Ann Randall Kendrick

Jeanette Kennedy Asiala

Brian C. Kidston

Kathleen Martin

Kimberly D. (Robertson) Martin

Mark Minder

Leslie Moyna

David A. Randall

Paula Sutton Sarvis

Charles Schneider

David Smith

Jonathan Snow

Susan Stahl

Terri Stocke

Bonnie Sutherby

Christopher Sytek

Kathleene Thomson

Roy Graham Watson

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 \$_____