Anther year, another successful Williamsburg Scottish Festival. It was a blessing to have such beautiful weather on the heels of the eight inches of rain we had a couple of days before. The field was a little muddy, but not enough to deter hardy Scots intent of having a good time.

The organizers have really hit their stride at the Rockahock Campground as the venue. The layout was wonderfully compact and user friendly.

The Honored Clan this year was Clan Hamilton, which was proudly represented by our own Capt. Oliver “Ham” Hamilton and his family. The Hamilton tent buzzed with activity all day, filled with clansmen from all over the U.S. What a wonderful day for Ham & Rita, and their sons and daughter!

Festival goers sampled from a wide variety of vendors, from jewelry to woollen ware. There were several high-quality food vendors to enjoy. As usual, I wish there had been more food vendors, but I didn’t have to wait too long for my Lorne sausage w/ HP sauce. Tasty! Beer was quite good, too, as they served beer locally brewed by O’Conner’s in Norfolk. Ice cold, affordable beer and awesome Celtic music – what more can one ask?

The SST just did a wonderful job with our display tent. The organizing committee is to be commended for your hard work, dedication and creativity. The tent was filled with educational displays ranging from the Highland Clearances to Scottish dog herding. So impressive was their handiwork that the SST was awarded the Lord Dunmore Award, the first time EVER that a Scottish society received this prestigious recognition! Awesome! The committee members were Tricia Young, Terry Woodward, Linda Lucas, Lucy Withington, Connie Smith, Cheryl Brown and Joyce Cowan. Many SST members helped to staff the booth all day, including all of the committee members, as well as Jackie & Rosemary Wareham, Manny & Robin Willis, Marcey Hunter, and Tina Gutshall, to name but a few. We had six new members sign up on the spot, plus over a dozen new “students” interested in the upcoming Scottish Gaelic lessons. An EXCELLENT job by all. SST rocks!

Historical re-enactors set up camp on the festival grounds, including the Revolutionary War re-enactors the 76th McDonald Highland Regiment of Foot, which includes SST member Skip Hunter.

President of the WSF this year is SST member Randy Dedrickson, who gave glowing accounts of attendance at the gate. Well done Randy and crew!

A new addition this year was the fiddling competition, in fact the WSF was the host of the 2010 U.S. National Scottish Fiddling Championships! One of the judges was
The Scottish Society of Tidewater exists to promote the preservation and study of Scottish culture, including music, language, art, history, folklore, dance, literature, athletics, and all other things distinctively Scottish among interested persons in the Hampton Roads, Virginia area and to cooperate with like-minded persons, groups and organizations here and abroad.

A meeting is held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Church of Ascension Community Center, 4853 Princess Anne Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23462-4446. Social time begins at 7:00pm, and the meeting starts at 7:30pm. Anyone interested in Scottish culture and history is invited to attend.

P.O. Box 3733, Norfolk, VA 23514-3733
www.tidewaterscots.org

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Another hot summer has zipped past. A lot was going on for SST this summer and I’d like to give you a recap.

We celebrated Wallace Day by having pot-luck dinner and were fortunate to have our friend John Wallace, to give a presentation on the life of William Wallace. Thank you John.

Early September, Murphy’s in Virginia Beach had their 2nd annual SE Virginia Celtic Music Festival. SST had a display table there with all things Scottish. We gained two new members from this event. A special thanks to Bob and Jeannie Rider, who were there with Pixie Treasures, for supplying a tent covering.

The next day, we had our annual SST picnic held at Ascension. We had a really good turnout and I was especially glad to see some of our founding members there. Yours truly did much of the burger and hot dog flipping over the hot coals but thankfully most of the attendees survived, partly due to skills of John Maxwell and Al Cowan who mercifully took over the cooking.

On October 13 the US Navy hosted its annual Diversity Day, which recognizes the national and ethnic diversity of the US Navy. It was Scotsman John Paul Jones who was the father of the US Navy, so of course I had to say yes to a request for Scotland to be represented. Manny and Robin Willis and Donna Looney stepped into the breach and manned our display table. I think we also had a new member sign up there.

October 2nd and 3rd saw many of us at the Williamsburg Scottish Festival (WSF). It was one of the best festivals I’ve ever had the pleasure of attending. It was a true Scottish Festival. Connie Smith spearheaded the SST display table, which was so successful that we won the Lord Dunmore award for BEST DISPLAY. Of course a number of people were involved in preparing and manning our display area and deserve individual credit, but a special thanks goes to Terri Woodward who artfully designed the cool display boards.

I was thrilled to see that my friend John Turner was asked to help bring, organize and judge the regional and national Scottish Fiddling competition at WSF. John has, arguably, done more than anyone in the US to promote the wonderful and unique music that is Scottish fiddling. This really does move the festival to a special level from the standpoint of Scottish culture. Then, on top of that our own Charles Murla won 1st place in the Regional Open Competition. Congratulations Charles!

Also new this year was the Scottish Country Dance competitions. It’s a pity we don’t have a local SCD group. If anyone is interested in SCD contact Donna Looney who ride-shares up to Williamsburg, Thursday evenings, where there is a SCD class.

In looking at where we are relative to our key goals for this year, I feel we’ve definitely been making good progress. (1) We have a good program schedule for the year, (2) we’ve recruited new members, and (3) financially we are on a somewhat more solid footing. Membership must remain a key focus, so please encourage your friends and family.

Also, if you have any ideas on how we can improve our services to you and to the Scottish American community, please feel free to let me know.

Yours aye, John
William Lacy Barkley

William Lacy Barkley, better known as "Bo," passed away at age 61 July 14, 2010 at Augusta Health in Fishersville, Va. He was born July 14, 1949 in Virginia Beach, the son of the late William Lacy and Vera Elizabeth (Rowell) Barkley of Virginia Beach, and the grandson of the late William Charlton and Sally Rebecca (Stephenson) Barkley of North Carolina and the late David Oscar and Vera Mae (Wynne) Rowell of South Carolina. Bo was a veteran of the U.S. Army with two tours of duty in Vietnam. Prior to retirement, Bo was employed as a federal firefighter and lead fire inspector for the Norfolk Naval Base Fire Department. He was commissioner to the chief of Clan Barclay for North America, past president of Clan Barclay International, past president of the St. Andrew's Society of Tidewater and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, Scotland. In addition to his loving wife of 23 years, Carolyn L. Barkley, he leaves his son and daughter-in-law, Kelley and Kimberly Powell and grandchildren Megan Murray, Samantha Powell and Mackenzie Powell, all of Roanoke; sister and brother-in-law, Linda Jo and Richard Thomas of Gaines, Mich., nephews, Richard and Scott Thomas of Gaines and niece, Jennifer Dodds and her husband Lee of Livonia, Mich.; sister and brother-in-law, Brenda Ann and Wayne Boyd of Maple, N.C.; and niece, Suzanne Sibert and her sons Leon and Jesse, also of North Carolina. He was predeceased by a brother, Richard C. Barkley. A celebration of life service were held at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 18, at the Waynesboro Chapel of Reynolds Hamrick Funeral Homes, 618 W. Main St., with Pastor Matthew Coiner officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Wintergreen Rescue Squad, 2390 Wintergreen Drive, P.O. Box 711, Nellysford, VA 22958. Relatives and friends may share condolences and memories with the family online by visiting www.reynoldshamrickfuneralhomes.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to Reynolds Hamrick Funeral Homes & Crematory.

God Bless and Godspeed, Bo.
This and That...

♦ Brenda & George Phillips celebrate 50 years of wedded bliss on Oct. 21. Wow! Wishing you many more years together, Brenda & George!

♦ Jeanne Rider, proprietor and creator of Pixie Treasures Celtic Shoppe, has opened a store on the first floor of Macarthur Center Mall. Jeanne hand makes many of the Celtic-themed items, which include jewelry, home décor and crafts, among other things. And there’s a bonus! Active SST members receive a 10% discount on purchases of anything in the store! Here’s to a successful venture! Good job, Jeanne & Bob!

♦ Tina Gutshall has completed Phase I of the ODU Career Switchers Program, and has received her provisional license from the Va. Dept of Education to teach Social Studies for grades 6-12. This is a great achievement, Tina!

♦ There is much to celebrate in the Crouch family! Amanda Crouch (Clan Gunn), Tom Crouch’s eldest daughter, will wed Milan Sheldon Osborne, Jr., on Oct. 23rd, at Church of the Ascension in Va. Beach. Lynette Crouch’s sister, Laura Gilmour (Clan Morrison) and Christopher Clement, both of Washington, D.C. were wed on 10/16 at St.Bede Catholic Church in Williamsburg. Congratulations and many happy years go both couples!

♦ SST Baird Scholarship recipient Ian Amorosi began his 2nd year at St. Andrew’s University in Fife. He is taking a Scottish history class, spanning 1200-1603 a.d., and a British Isles Medieval history class. Ian will use his scholarship to help offset the cost of his text books. What a wonderful experience for Ian! We are so proud.
Annual SST Picnic 2010

Al Cowan, left, and John Maxwell, Masters of the Grill.

Good food and good weather, a combination that is hard to beat.

Andrew West, grandson of Manny & Robin Willis, and great grandson of Gerry McDowell, takes a break from hotdogs to do a little jig to the fiddle music.

Jim Dyer, left, Joyce Cowan, center and the Neemeyer family enjoy the pot luck samplings.
Many SST members enjoyed the Wallace Day Celebration that was recently held at the Church of the Ascension. It was a pot luck affair, and very well attended. The keynote speaker was Capt. John Wallace, longtime SST member and former SST Vice President. The evening’s program also included excerpts from the “Walk for Wallace” featuring the late author/historian Sir David R. Ross as he traced the steps of William Wallace from Robroyston to London.

It was a glorious fall day at the Virginia Beach oceanfront on Sept. 18, when folks of Celtic ancestry came together to celebrate their shared heritage at the Southern Celtic Festival. There was music, dancing, vendors, food and lots of fun. Hope to see everyone out there next year!
Jink & Diddle Fiddle Camp

This summer, many fiddling enthusiasts attended the Jink & Diddle Fiddle Camp in North Carolina, including SST members John McGlynn and Donna Looney, and Charles Murla. It was a wonderful experience for learners at all levels of skill.

A wee dock 'n doris performance.

SST member and Baird Scholarship recipient Charles Murla.

Donna Looney & John McGlynn at the Fiddle Camp Ball.

With such an enthusiastic and talented group of young musicians, Scottish fiddling is alive and well.
world-renowned fiddler and teacher Dr. John Turner. The competitors also showed breath taking talent and passion. Wow! There were plenty of festival revelers who took advantage of the camping facilities nearby. There just isn’t anything like being so close to the action of the festival, yet having the tranquil retreat of your campsite, to make a weekend really memorable.

To round out the day, there were heavy athletics, piping competitions, Highland dance and Scottish Country dance competitions, harp competitions, dog herding demonstrations, a Celtic Heritage tent, and children’s activities. The athletes seemed to have a great time, despite the mud, and were so appreciative of the crowd’s enthusiasm.

Something new this year was the raffle for a trip for two to the winner’s choice of Scotland or Ireland. Tickets were $10 apiece (a real bargain), and proceeds went to help offset festival costs. Plus, each organization that sold tickets got a “cut” – the SST made just over $200 for our assistance in selling tickets. Not bad! Despite the fact that I bought ten tickets, luck was not with me and some other fortunate festival goer won. Oh well, it was for a great cause!

Also new this year was the President’s Reception, which took the place of the Balmoral reception held in years past. The President’s reception was held on Friday, October 1, and was open to the fee for a $30 admittance fee. The event included heavy hors d’oeuvres and cocktails. At the reception, the Honored Clan was officially recognized, as was the Special Guest, Scottish fiddling legend Bonnie Rideout, and Scot of the Year David R. Ross (Daughter Kimberly received the recognition on behalf of her late father). I did not have the opportunity to attend, but I understand it was quite lovely.

The Celtic music definitely did not disappoint. Performing this year were Glasgow Kiss, Rathkeltair, The Brandywine Harp Orchestra, The Havers, Dr. John Turner, Carl Peterson, and the headliner Albannach. The crowd was wildly enthusiastic, and partying went on into the night. A Celtic Rockin’ good time!

Another fun, educational and exciting event. Can’t wait until next year!
WSF Continued...

Thanks to many historical and cultural displays, the SST tent enjoyed steady traffic all day.

John McGlynn and grandson Colin play on the festival main stage.

Former SST president Nancy Miller and her goddaughter Molly. Molly is wearing the kilt that Nancy and CG Miller made for her.

Re-enactors from the 76th McDonald Highland Regiment of Foot (Skip Hunter, right, and James Taylor, far left) answer some questions from curious history buffs.
Many members of the SST attended the Yorktown Victory March in Yorktown on Tuesday, October 19. Some of the participants were, from left, Carl Cowan, Nancy Miller and Al Cowan.
NEW SCOTTISH BOOKS AND AUDIOVISUALS
At the Virginia Beach Public Library

ADULT NON-FICTION BOOKS:


ADULT FICTION:


Bound to a Warrior by Donna Fletcher. New York: Avon, 2010


MUSIC


- Submitted by Nancy Miller, MSLS, Virginia Beach Public Library
The Saint Andrews Society of Tidewater Invites You to the

**Annual Saint Andrews Day Dinner**

Sunday, November 14, 2010

Virginia Beach National Golf Club
2500 Tournament Drive, Virginia Beach
(Formerly “Tournament Players Club”, near Virginia Beach Court House)

Cash bar and social time—6:30 pm
Piping to Dinner—7 pm

The Guest Speaker Will Be

**Ms. Jillian Hume**

**Office of Scottish Affairs**
**British Embassy, Washington, DC**

YOUR MENU CHOICES CONSIST OF:
*Slow Roasted Prime Rib of Beef*
*Spinach & Cheese Stuffed Chicken Calvados*
*Grilled Fresh Tuna w/ Tequila-Lime Dressing*

Cost is $45 per person

No Reservations will be accepted after November 6

Suggested Dress: Highland Daywear / Semi-formal

For more information, contact President Charles Stewart
E-mail: charlie@navylanterns.com   Phone: 757-495-4765

Please send your reservations and checks to:
St. Andrew’s Society of Tidewater
703 Gemstone Lane
Virginia Beach, Virginia
23462-1189
Ed & Shirley Brash celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a sit-down dinner and dance for family and friends at the Shrine Club in Kingston, Ontario. Son Edward, daughter-in-law Lynnette, and granddaughter Sarah were all delighted to be there with them on this momentous occasion. Congratulations to the Brash family!

You’re Invited to the Kirking O’ The Tartan

When:  Sunday, November 14, 2010
Where:  Knox Presbyterian Church, 427 W. 37th St., Norfolk
          (Corner of 37th & Colonial Ave)
Time:  10:30 am line-up, 11:00 am service.
       All forms of tartan wear are encouraged.

A reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall. Finger foods will be served.
There will be Scottish piping & Highland Dancing, as well as other entertainment.
For more information, contact Nancy McKay at agoodwin3@cox.net or 623-6743
My husband Arthur and I escorted 21 people from five different states to our beloved Scotland last August. It was hot and dry in the United States when we left and drizzly and chilly when we landed in Glasgow.

Andy Middleton-Cameron met the plane and offered us a guided tour of Glasgow. (Andy is the friend who pronounced her wedding vows last November at the Glenfinnan Monument – also on a chilly, rainy day).

Most buildings and sites she pointed out were obscured by dark clouds and sometimes torrential rains – hardly an ideal start for a holiday. However, fate and the Scottish skies eventually smiled on us. By mid-afternoon, all was clear and crisp.

Arthur arranged a visit to the College of Piping for tour group members who were also pipers. They were welcomed by the “veteran Pipers” (all over age 65) who staged an informal concert.

Meanwhile, others in our group enjoyed tea at the Willow Tea rooms, walked through Kelvin-grove Museum or took a nap until time for a dinner at The Sisters boutique restaurant where the owners pride themselves on cooking only locally grown products.

The next morning, after a bountiful breakfast, we headed south along the West Coast. Two of our travelers, Bill & Terry Kennedy, wore their clan attire as we were bound for Culzean Castle, a stronghold of Clan Kennedy and a stunning example of Georgian architecture. Built in 1700s and expanded several times since then, Culzean Castle dominates that cliff above the Firth of Clyde. From its windows one can also catch a glimpse (in clear weather) of the Mull of Kintyre.

Following lunch in Culzean’s tea shop, we explored Robert Burns’ cottage. Everyone speculated about the lifestyle inside the cottage where human occupants shared living space with the animals. (It provided an interesting answer to the old question: “Were you born in a barn?!” Burns could have said, “Why, yes.”) The property itself was bordered on three sides by an ample vegetable garden. On the fourth side, blocks of wood carved into animal shapes were scattered about. The Burns visitor center offered a well-done video dramatization of Burns’ Tam O’Shanter and of course, a generous array of souvenir items.

A short walk from the visitor’s center led to the Brig O’Doon where a local wedding party was in progress. We did not know the couple but joined in the applause for their nuptials all the same.

The next day we moved from a study of history into modern times with a ride on Falkirk Wheel that bridges the gap between two canals by use of a Ferris wheel-style mechanism. It lifts riders so gradually one only realizes the movement by gazing down at the tops of trees, yet the energy it takes to do so is less than that of boiling two kettles for tea.

Our guide on the boat itself was an informative and entertaining stand-up comic. She asked if anyone on board was afraid of heights or of the water and commented, “If you are, that’s tough. Get over it. This is a BOAT on the WATER rising to great HEIGHTS.” She proudly explained that the Falkirk Wheel is the only one of its kind in the world and is the result of Scottish engineering skills.

Although Arthur and I planned this tour primarily to showcase the attractions of the West Coast, we made one important detour to the East. Monday morning we traveled to Edinburgh where The International Fringe and Book Festivals were in full swing. The streets were chock-a-block with people from across the globe. As part of the Fringe Festival, The Royal Mile offered continuous free enter-
tainment ranging from esoteric to exotic.

After a full day of this type of excitement, we dined at the New Bell Restaurant and joined an orderly crowd filling rain-soaked stadium style seats for the Edinburgh Tattoo. We shivered together with plastic garbage bags across our laps and hoods over our heads. Rain or no rain, the show had to go on and on it did with massed bands, pipers, acrobats, the imps in their little cars, Highland dancers and one thrilling event after another.

It is hard to match the wonder of the Tattoo, but we managed to do so in the following days with a long stop in Oban, which we used as a springboard for a day tip to Tobermory on the Isle of Mull. The much publicized rainbow-colored store front were still there, although one merchant had pained his storefront black in sharp contrast to the rest.

Thursday in Oban was the day for the Oban Highland Games otherwise called the Argyllshire Gathering. Everything started in town square directly outside our hotel. Pipers and drummers who had won awards in previous years formed a massed band and led the visitors (including us) down to the grounds of the Games.

Unlike American Highland games, there were no clan tents in evidence. Instead, there was a heritage tent at the far end of the field showcasing genealogy and current attractions including generous samples of single malt whisky and haggis.

The field itself was crowded with competing pipers, dancers and athletes all at once. Food stands offering local cheeses and meat pies were set up along the perimeter of the field along with games for youngsters including on called Walk on Water. This game featured a large wading pool filled with water about knee high to most adults. Children stepped inside a huge plastic balloon and were sealed in along with adequate oxygen. The balloons were rolled onto the wading pool water. It was hard to know who enjoyed the activity more – the youngsters in the balloons rolling across the water or the adults who watched from the sidelines.

My husband Arthur already walks on water (or so I am told) so he did not try it but instead joined a group of French Boy Scouts who sang Scotland the Brave for him with a Gallic accent.

Our last day on the West Coast started in Ft. William where we boarded the steam train for Mallaig (the train used in Harry Potter movies). We traveled to the charming village by riding on the Glenfinnan aqueduct.

Needless to say, the sun shone brightly for us then and on the following day as we wound our way past Glen Coe and through awesome inspiring scenery to return to Glasgow for our free day before returning home.

Although our group managed to visit Glenturret and other distilleries, participate in a Gaelic language Ceilidh in a Glasgow pub, meet locals in the Oban pubs, walk through the magnificently manicured Drummond gardens and wander through Duart and Inveraray castles as we journeyed along, we never tired of the signs and sounds of Scotland.

Next year, Arthur and I plan to escort another group along the East Coast but we admit that the glories of the West Coast will be hard to beat.
**SST Christmas Ceilidh and Silent Auction Set for Wednesday, Dec. 1**

Get ready for a wee bit of Christmas cheer, Scottish style. Don’t miss the SST Christmas Ceilidh and Silent Auction on Wednesday, Dec. 1 at the Church of Ascension Community Center, 4853 Princess Anne Road, Virginia Beach.

This is a pot-luck supper, so please bring something tasty to share. Perhaps you can do a little early Christmas shopping at the Silent Auction. There are always treasurers! Should you choose to donate something for the Silent Auction, please try to make it Scottish and/or Christmas in nature. Remember that proceeds of the Silent Auction go toward the Baird Scholarship Fund.

So be sure to come out, and bring your appetite and your checkbook!

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**Fall Recipe: Pumpkin Cheesecake Bars**

1 16 oz package pound cake mix  
3 eggs  
2 T butter, melted  
4 t pumpkin pie spice  
1 8-oz pkg cream cheese, softened  
1 14-oz can sweetened condensed milk (NOT evaporated milk)  
1 16-oz can pumpkin  
1/2 t salt  
1 c. chopped nuts.

Preheat oven to 350. In larger mixing bowl, on low speed, combine cake mix, 1 egg, butter and 2 t. pumpkin pie spice until crumbly. Press into bottom of 15x10 inch pan. In large mixing bowl, beat cheese until fluffy. Gradually beat in sweetened condensed milk then remaining 2 t. pumpkin pie spice and salt; mix well. Pour over crust; sprinkle with nuts. Bake 30 - 35 minutes or until set. Cool. Chill; cut into bars. Store covered in refrigerator.
Researchers to Explore Experiences of Gaelic Speaking Fishing Communities

University of Ulster News September 15, 2010

Researchers at the University of Ulster hope to reveal more about the social and cultural lives of Gaelic speaking fishing communities in a unique two-year study.

Dr Maxim Fomin and Professor Séamus Mac Mathúna from the Research Institute for Irish and Celtic Studies are investigating the experiences of Irish and Scottish Gaelic speakers at sea.

The project, entitled Stories of the Sea: A Typological Study of Maritime Memorates in Modern Irish and Scottish Gaelic Traditions, is the first major study of its kind.

It will examine first-hand, personal accounts of experiences at sea by Irish and Scottish fishermen, boatmen, foreshore gatherers and beachcombers from the end of the nineteenth century to the present day.

It will also bring together for the first time an archive of important stories and information from communities in the Western Donegal Gaeltacht, Tory and Rathlin Islands, the islands of the Western coast of Ireland and the Isle of Skye, the Outer Hebrides and Orkneys in Scotland.

Dr Fomin said: “First-hand recollections of experiences at sea form an important component of the narrative tradition of Irish and Scottish Gaelic coastal communities and this study will contribute to a greater understanding of the social and cultural life of these communities and of the close maritime connections between Ireland and Scotland over many centuries.

“One of the main aims of this project is to make the existing data, whose dissemination and analysis has been largely neglected until now, available to wider audiences and to bring it up to date.”

Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council via a grant of over £200,000, this major study will involve close collaboration with University College, Dublin and the University of Edinburgh, and will result in the publication of an online resource of narratives which will be available to the public.
Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 19
Yorktown Victory March
This all day event and short parade commemorates our victory over the British in the American Revolutionary War. For more information, contact Al Cowan at ScottishRebel@att.net or 587-8913

October 23 & 24
Meadow Highland Games & Celtic Festival
(Formerly Richmond Highland Games)
The Meadow Event Park, Richmond, VA
http://www.meadowceltic.com/home

November 3
SST Monthly Meeting
Church of the Ascension
4853 Princess Anne Road
7 pm social time, 7:30 program
Topic: Scottish Genealogy presented by Nancy Miller, former SST president.
Please bring a dish to share.

November 5
Battlefield Band
Williamsburg Library Theater, 7:30 pm
515 Scotland St., Williamsburg
Tickets are $25
http://www.wrl.org/programs/concerts.html

November 14
Kirkin’ of the Tartan
Knox Presbyterian Church
427 W. 37th St., Norfolk
11 am service; assembly at 10:30 am
For more information, contact Nancy McKay at agoodwin3@cox.net or 623-6743

November 14
St. Andrews Night Dinner
Sponsored by the St. Andrews Soc. of Tidewater
Guest Speaker: Ms. Jillian Hume
Office of Scottish Affairs
British Embassy, Washington, DC
Virginia Beach National Golf Club
2500 Tournament Drive, Virginia Beach
Tickets are $45
For reservations, contact Rob Lockwood piobmor@juno.com or 473-0784

November 30
St. Andrews Day
Scotland’s Patron Saint

December 1
SST Christmas Ceilidh & Silent Auction
Church of the Ascension
4853 Princess Anne Road, 7 pm
This is a potluck supper, so please bring a dish to share. Also, we welcome your Christmas and/or Scottish-themed items for the auction.

December 2
Danu, “Christmas In Ireland”
American Theater, 7:30 pm
125 East Mellen Street
Hampton, VA 23663
Tickets are $30
http://www.hamptonarts.net/

December 4
40th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk
Alexandria, Virginia
http://www.scottishchristmaswalk.com/

December 12
Natalie MacMaster
“Christmas in Cape Breton”
American Theater, 2:30 pm
125 East Mellen Street
Hampton, VA 23663
Tickets are $35
http://www.hamptonarts.net/

December 31
13th Annual Old Town Portsmouth Hogmanay Walk
11:00 AM Kirking of the Tartans
Monumental United Methodist Church.
Line up at 10:45 to process.
3:30 PM Gathering Corner of Queen and Washington Streets.
4:30 PM Step off Behind the St. Paul’s Catholic and Monumental United Methodist Churches.

January 22
Burns Night Supper
Sponsored by the St. Andrews Soc. of Tidewater
Princess Anne Country Club
Details TBA
A Taste of Whisky

Enjoying the Uisege Beatha, the “Water of Life”

Various & Sundry

Smokey the cat came from nowhere;
Just whisped in under some door;
Sniffed quietly around
And knew that she’d found
The best place to stay in Bowmore.

She’d arrived at Bowmore distillery
Where the finest malt whisky is made.
There was no welcome mat
For Smokey the cat
But she liked the place - so she stayed.

They say cats have more than one life
With re-incarnation and that.
Whether it’s true
All that cat deja vu,
Smokey’s a born again cat.

There’s something about her that takes you
Back to the Lords of the Isles
When the cats of Finlaggan
Would go scallywaggin’
For miles and miles and miles.

It’s the way she melts into the shadows
Or suddenly creeps up on folk
She’ll always find you
Slinking behind you
The cat who was named after smoke.

She sits on the sill of the maltings
On days when the weather is nice
And while one eye sleeps
The other one keeps
A lookout for small birds and mice.

Small birds and mice eat the barley
So Smokey confronts them foursquare
But she pulls in her claws
And quietly ignores
The Angels who come for their share.

Felines don’t care for whisky
Everyone understands that
But the peaty odour
Beneath the pagoda
Owes something to Smokey the cat.

On Islay people made whisky
Long before it was chic.
The cat from Bowmore
Is nothing more
Than the ghost of the island’s peat-reek.

by Robin Laing

The Whisky Muse: Scotch Whisky in Poem and Song
Collected and introduced by Robin Lang, Luath Press Ltd., 2003

WARNING:
The consumption of alcohol may leave you wondering what the hell happened to your bra and panties.
The consumption of alcohol may make you think you are whispering when you are not.
The consumption of alcohol is a major factor in dancing like a retard.
The consumption of alcohol may cause you to tell your friends over and over again that you love them.
The consumption of alcohol may cause you to think you can sing.
The consumption of alcohol may lead you to believe that ex-lovers are really dying for you to telephone them at four in the morning.
The consumption of alcohol may make you think you can logically converse with members of the opposite sex without spitting.
The consumption of alcohol may create the illusion that you are tougher, smarter, faster and better looking than most people.
The consumption of alcohol may lead you to think people are laughing WITH you.
The consumption of alcohol may cause pregnancy.
The consumption of alcohol may be a major factor in getting your ass kicked.
Teh crumsumpten of alchol may Mack you tink you kan type reel gode.
Scottish Society of Tidewater, Inc.
c/o Marcey Hunter
301 E. Randall Ave.
Norfolk, VA 23503

www.tidewaterscots.org

CALL FOR NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

Want to contribute to the newsletter? I am looking for a few good ideas.

Some suggestions:
♦ History/Re-enactments
♦ Book and/or music reviews
♦ Photos, both old and new (do you have a vintage SST photo to share? We would love to see it!)
♦ Gathering & Games information
♦ Poetry/Fiction
♦ Recipes

Please e-mail Marcey at marcey9@cox.net

Remember: This is YOUR newsletter!