



The Partridge Pot



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ST. ANDREW'S DINNER (November 30) cancelled for this year. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Christmas Party!



CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 13 @ Blackhawk Hotel
Downtown Davenport
6:00 Cocktails and Annual Meeting;
Dinner at 7:00. Menu choices are
listed on the reservation form and
include house salad, cheddar potatoes,
mixed vegetables, roll, assorted
dessert bar, and beverages.

Cash bar. Your meal is subsidized by SAS. Wear your Scottish attire (encouraged but not required) and enjoy this festive occasion with friends and family! **IMPORTANT - Return reservation form and check by December 1.** The following Christmas ditty was composed by our esteemed president, Bill Sterba:

A BRAW BRIGHT ALBA NICHT FOR ALL TAE NICHT

'T WAS A NIGHT IN DECEMBER
AND ALL THRU THE QUAD CITIES
THERE WAS A NIP IN THE AIR
THRILLING ALL OF THE KIDDIES,
'CAUSE IT JUST HAD TO BE,
SNOW IS ONE OF THE NECESSITIES,
SANTA'S SLEIGH HAS RUNNERS,
'N' BARE ROOF TOPS ARE COMPLEXITIES!
AND KEEPING IN THE SEASON,
WE'LL BE SEEING GREEN AND RED
THE COLORS OF CHRISTMAS, AS
VISIONS OF THISTLES DANCE IN OUR HEAD,
GATHERING NOT AT THE MANOR
BUT AT HOTEL BLACKHAWK INSTEAD,
AND THE SASQC WANTS YOU TO JOIN US,
FOR A PLATED, SUMPTUOUS SPREAD.
TRYING A NEW VENUE THIS YEAR
BE SURE TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION,
FOR AN AYE JOLLY GOOD TIME,
A SCOTTISH FLAVORED CELEBRATION,
TO GIVE YOUR HOLIDAYS
A FESTIVE HEATHERED FOUNDATION,
MARK UP YOUR CALENDARS
FOR OUR CHRISTMAS OBSERVATION!!



ELECTION OF OFFICERS

at General Meeting December 13
If you are interested in being a part of the SAS Board, please contact any of the current Board members. The job descriptions are listed in the by-laws which are posted on the SAS website or feel free to contact any of the SAS Board members. You can be a Board member without holding one of the main offices. New ideas are always welcome.

HAGGIS PREPARATION SATURDAY

January 20, 2018 @ 9:30 a.m.
The Manor, 1103 Kimberly Rd., Bettendorf
All are welcome to help prepare our own recipe of haggis which is served at the Burns Dinner. We're quite proud of the quality of our SAS version of this uniquely Scottish dish!



ROBERT BURNS CELEBRATION & DINNER

January 27, 2018
5:30-10:30 p.m.
NEW LOCATION
The Isle Casino Hotel,
1777 Isle Parkway,
Bettendorf

This year's Burns Dinner will be held in an exciting new location. Blackhawk Pipes & Drums, Scottish dancers, Laura Almquist, harpist, and much more will be a part of this, the biggest event of the SAS year. Letters explaining the details and reservation forms will be in your mailbox in mid-December so be sure to include the date on your calendar and to invite your friends and family. Please try to make your reservation immediately upon receiving your letter or as soon as you can. There is a deadline for turning in reservations to the hotel and there will be a discount of your price if sent before the deadline. Reservations cannot be guaranteed after the deadline.

Visit SAS website
www.sasqc.com

CELTIC FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES

Several members helped host the SAS tent at this annual event. Thanks to those who volunteered their time to assist with set-up and teardown as well. As usual, it was a very busy weekend in the Quad-Cities but there was a nice crowd who attended this free event to enjoy music provided by multiple bands (including the Blackhawk Pipes & Drums), dancing in the dance competition tent, various vendors, clans sharing information about their heritage, children's activities, herding demonstrations, and, of course, the Highland Games competitions.



FOCUS GROUP MEETING

On September 12, several SAS members were invited for pizza and asked to give their input on what is going well and what might be improvements that would be beneficial for our organization. A more detailed report of those suggestions will be included on the website and in the February Porridge Pot. There are 110 people who belong to SAS but a very limited number participate in planned activities throughout the year. Some decisions that need to be made may include: Do we need to decrease how many (or the type of) events planned? Communication of SAS takes place through The Porridge Pot newsletter, website, Facebook, and reminder postcards - with some media publicity for special events. Are there suggestions for other forms of communication that might be more effective? Is our type of organization of value? If there isn't more involvement of members, do we need to disband as an organization? Your input is important so contact a Board member if you have ideas.

SAMHAIN MOVIE NIGHT

The Board members were the only ones present, so, due to low attendance, the movie was cancelled.

NON-PROFIT FUNDRAISER at Mississippi River Distilling Co. & Cody Road Cocktail House, LeClaire

SAS members and friends gathered October 25 for a wee dram or two, to share good conversation, and listen to pipe music played by Derek Grant. On Wednesday nights, non-profit organizations can sign up to host the evening and earns 20% of the income from the distillery.

Thank You Gale Hoff
for organizing!

Thank You MRDC
for supporting SAS!



MISSISSIPPI RIVER
DISTILLING COMPANY



SCOTTISH AMERICAN SOCIETY

c/o Sue Grant
2331 Belle Avenue
Davenport, IA 52803

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 13, 2017 - Christmas Party
January 20, 2018 - Haggis Making
January 27, 2018 - Robert Burns Celebration & Dinner
April 20-May 5, 2018 - Scottish Castles and Isles

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR SILENT AUCTION

If you have something you would be able to donate to the Burns Night Silent Auction, please let Gale Hoff know teacher1949@mchsi.com. Gift cards, Scottish themed items, jewelry, children's toys, non-perishable food, clothing, gift baskets, and any number of other items are accepted. It would really help, if you would let her know before that night so she has some idea in advance of what to expect. The Silent Auction helps cover expenses for the Burns Dinner since the committee tries to keep the cost for attending as low as possible.



SCOTTISH CASTLES AND ISLES

April 20-May 5, 2018

There are still spaces available for this wonderful trip! So much is included: exclusive transport by luxury motorcoach with guide, lovely hotel accommodations, breakfasts every day and seven dinners, ferry and steam train rides, multiple guided tours, admission fees to 26 castles/museums/distilleries and more. You don't have to be an SAS member to be a part of this custom trip.

There are only 6 places left, so don't miss out. Contact Gale Hoff at 562-210-1591 or teacher1949@mchsi.com. Time is growing short, so Gale needs to know soon if you want to take advantage of this unique opportunity. Final payment won't be due until February. If you know of a location where you could post the flier describing this trip, please let Gale know and she will send you a flier.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THESE SCOTTISH BEASTS?

Kelpie - shape-shifting, horse-related water spirits which may take the form of a sweet little pony, a beautiful maiden, or a hairy old person.



Loch Ness Monster - possibly the most famous of "monsters." It is hidden in the beautiful, dark loch.

RedCap - a castle goblin in Hermitage Castle who can either bring good luck - or disaster.

Selkie - these creatures, who swim around the waters of the Orkneys, cast away their sealskins to dance on the shore. Disaster can come to all if a fisherman steals the skin and forces a selkie maid to marry him.



Brownie - they live around streams and waterfalls and are more mischievous than evil.

