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CELEBRATE THE SAINTS/ANNUAL MEETING DECEMBER 6

Join your Scottish American Society on Wednesday, December 6 at 6:00 as we celebrate Saint Andrew and Saint Nicolas with dinner at the Outing Club 2109 N. Brady Davenport. Thanks to one of our Board Members, who as a member at The Outing Club gives us access to this lovely facility, we will be able to enjoy a festive evening celebrating the holidays and the friendships we have formed through SAS. The evening begins with cocktails (cash bar) followed by our delicious dinner and a short general meeting. Our current officers will continue in their positions for this next year, but we still are in need of someone to come forward to be our vice president. You are invited to attend a Board Meeting so you can learn what a fun and interesting group your officers are and what you can contribute to make our organization even better. Dinner will include entree choices listed on the reservation form as well as mixed green salad, rolls, tea, and coffee. The cost to our members is only \$25 (the cost is subsidized by SAS)! Please fill out the attached reservation form (be sure to mark your dinner choice). Reservations and payment are due no later than November 29th. Don't miss this wonderful party!



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Attached is the renewal form for you to complete and send to our Membership Chairperson, Mary Gloeckner-Bouljon by January 1. For the first time in many years, the dues will be increased to \$15 for a single and \$25 for



a family membership. As you would expect, expenses have increased over the years and it's still one of the best deals around! In addition to reaping the benefits of lots of free labor from the Board, you receive a quarterly newsletter, a discount on your Christmas Party dinner, many opportunities to attend Scottish-related events, and your membership(s) helps support donations or contributions that helps promote knowledge of Scottish heritage in the community. If you know someone who you think would enjoy our activities and/or a chance to meet a new friend or two, make a copy of the form for them to complete or refer them to the SAS website.

2024 BURNS CELEBRATION AND DINNER

In mid-January you will be receiving the annual informational letter and reservation form for the February 24, 2024 Robert Burns event. Information will also be posted on our Facebook page and the SAS website. As is the case every year, the committee is always looking for help in putting together this special day in the SAS year. There are a variety of ways you can help so contact a Board member if you can volunteer and we will talk with you about how you can contribute your time and/or skills. Non-members are always welcome, so be sure to talk with friends, neighbors, and family to add to our attendance numbers. Since the committee tries diligently every year to keep the cost down, the more who attend, the more likely it will be that we can keep the Burns Dinner as affordable as possible. Also, items donated for the raffle are appreciated. Board member, Judy Redlinger is the contact person for the raffle.



SAS BOARD MEETING

If you are ever interested in attending a SAS Board Meeting, simply contact a Board member. The monthly meetings are generally on the second Saturday morning, but, due to the busy schedules of our Board, sometimes have to be changed.



Board member, Mary Gloeckner-Bouljon lost her daughter, Anne Gloeckner Anderson in September. Please keep Mary and her family in your thoughts at this sad time.

with deepest
Sympathy



ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL TO SCOTLAND IN 2024

First Presbyterian Church in Davenport is sponsoring a trip August 9-21, 2024 and are calling it Scotland: Land of Lore and Legend featuring the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. There are just a few spaces left.

For more information scan the QR code or go to the following link: <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1210255> If interested, you can call the church office to be connected with the appropriate person in charge 563-326-1691.



HURDY-GURDY, A MOST UNUSUAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

SAS member, Joe Lalemon, has spent the past several months constructing, from scratch, a hurdy-gurdy. Not your usual hobby, but he provided us with pictures and the following article to describe his efforts:

The origins of the hurdy-gurdy are unknown. It is the first stringed instrument to which the keyboard principle was applied. The bowing action of the fiddle is replaced by a wheel cranked by a handle. The typical one to six drone strings gives the hurdy-gurdy its unique sound much like the drones on a bagpipe. The instrument's common name may be derived from the Scottish word "hiddie-giddie" which means a "giddy head" further defined as a commotion, tumult, strife or uproar (sounds like a description of lots of Scottish history)!

My design and construction of a hurdy-gurdy spanned five full months. The process required making precision wooden and metal parts for the body of the instrument and finding materials and components that could be altered to complete the tuning mechanism. For example, the parts that apply pressure to play the melody strings called "tangents" act much like a finger on a guitar fret. Making them required a precision lathe. I used basswood cribbage board pegs and glued a small ridge of hard maple on them to "fret" the strings. There is still much work to do.



SAMHAIN GATHERING/WHISKY TASTING

On October 14th, it was necessary to change the location for Samhain this year to the Hawthorne home in Davenport. Twenty-five members and friends were able to take advantage of a chilly autumn evening to enjoy each others' company and a delicious potluck dinner (which included numerous choices of adult beverages). Since the Hawthorne home doesn't have a nice fire pit, the group stood around a flaming grill in the front yard as they called out their clan names. Derek Grant provided his usual piping expertise while the Hawthornes' neighbors probably were wondering what the heck was going on! When returning to a little more comfortable setting indoors, a DVD of one of the Edinburgh Military Tattoos was played on the TV in the back-

ground and Lisa Lockheart shared information about the significance of Samhain in the Scottish calendar. One of the snippets of history of this Celtic celebration she told us about was - As the veil between worlds was believed to be especially thin during the three-day Samhain celebration, the Celts took precautions against spirits who might hold a grudge - and against visiting Fae folk! Mischief, tricks, or even worse, being kidnapped into the Underhill might be the result of a Fae encounter. So to confuse and evade Fae and spirits alike, ancient Samhain celebrants might: 1) Turn their coats inside out, 2) Disguise themselves as animals or monsters, or 3) Carry iron or salt. Interesting choices to defend themselves!!





A GATHERING OF THE CELTS

September 10th at Lake McBride, Solon, IA was the location for the three Iowa Scottish organizations (with guests from Nebraska also attending) to picnic together and share ideas as well as getting to know each other better. The groups represented were members from H.A.G.G.I.S from the Cedar Rapids area, SHSI from

the Des Moines area, and our own Scottish-American Society. Hopefully, maintaining these connections will enhance what's available to everyone with Scottish heritage in Iowa, Illinois, and Nebraska or those who simply are interested in just learning more about the Scottish influence in our part of the world.

LET'S PLAY TRIVIA



Hosted by
St. Patrick Society
& Daiquiri Factory



**Saturday November 4, 2023
2:00PM to 4:00PM
303 W. Third Street, Davenport**

**Partial proceeds benefit
Grand Parade XXXVIII
on March 16, 2024**

Tables of maximum 8 players, \$10 per player,
will be open to the public, first come first served

SCOTTISH AMERICAN SOCIETY

P.O. Box 132

Moline, IL 61266

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas/St. Andrew's Party & Annual Meeting - December 6

Thru the Stones (Outlander Convention) - December 1 & 2

Robert Burns Celebration & Dinner - February 24, 2024

2024 SAS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Name(s)_____

Address_____

Preferred Phone Number_____ Email_____

Clan(s)_____

Membership: Single \$15_____ Family \$25_____

**Send by January 1, 2023 to: SASQC, P.O. Box 132, Moline, IL. 61266
c/o Mary Gloeckner-Bouljon. Checks should be made out to SASQC.****RESERVATION FORM FOR CELEBRATION OF SAINTS/GENERAL MTG DECEMBER 6 @ 6:00 P.M.**

Name(s)_____

Address_____

Preferred Phone Number_____ Email_____

Adults \$25 per person_____ Child 5-12 yrs \$10_____ Under 5 yrs. free

Pretzel Encrusted Chicken Breast_____ Broiled Atlantic Salmon_____

Sliced Beef Brisket_____ Vegetarian Strudel_____

**Send by November 29 to: Gale Hoff, 1456 Clay Street, Davenport, IA 52804.
Checks should be made out to SASQC.**