



The Carolina Piper



Volume 1, Issue 1

Fall 2006

NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF NORTH CAROLINA

ST ANDREW'S DAY DINNER



What better way to kick off the holiday season than by attending the St. Andrews Day dinner, on Saturday December 2, at the Mid Pines Inn and Golf Club in Southern Pines. Festivities include golf, cocktails, dinner and a Sunday morning Kirking service at Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church.

We have arranged for a block of rooms at Mid Pines Inn, so make arrangements to stay overnight. Their phone number is 910-692- 2114. Don't forget to bring a guest and invite him to experience a first-rate St. Andrews event at a resort with 1920's charm and hospitality.

If you'd like to play golf, plan to arrive early on Saturday and take advantage of the Donald Ross Championship style course at Mid Pines. Heyward

Armstrong is in charge of coordinating the golf outing. His cell phone is 919 669-3913. The course dates back to 1921 and is set in rolling wooded terrain, with Bermuda grass fairways and bent grass greens. The course has been described as a "must-play" for traditionalist golfers. The 18th hole plays into a Georgian-style clubhouse.

Saturday evenings events will begin with cocktails at 6pm and dinner at 7pm, nationally known singer, Ed Miller, will provide the feature entertainment. Mr. Miller is one of the best
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Photographs are from the 1974 St. Andrews Dinner held at CCNC in Southern Pines



L-R: JOHN KERR-DAN PATE, DUNCAN McFADYEN, ROBERT FLUERY, HARVEY RITCH(PIPER) AND EDWARD TAWS, SR.



L-R: JACK McPHAIL, EDWARD TAWS, JR. JOHN FLOWERS, LAMONT BROWN

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS



The **Carolina Piper has a new look!** After many years of loyal and dedicated service as newsletter editor, Ches Crow has resigned. Producing a newsletter is a major undertaking and required a significant time commitment. Ches has other obligations and Clan responsibilities that compete for his time. We are grateful for his past contributions and will continue to call on him as a resource for coming additions of the Piper.

Mary Jane "MJ" McKittrick will be taking over as Executive

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St Andrew's cont.

singers to emerge from the Scottish folk revival. The guitar wielding folkie wins audiences over with his powerful voice, his great ear for material along with equal doses of populist politics mixed with wry humor. Mr. Miller is a native of Scotland now living in Austin, Texas where he hosts a folk music program on Austin's NPR station, KUT-FM.

Sunday morning, the 3rd, plan to join us at the Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church in Southern Pines for the Kirking service at 11:10am. We want to encourage everyone with or without kilts to be part of the procession of Tartans and Bagpipes.

Future Events Planned

The Scottish Society of Wilmington will hold their annual **Robert Burns dinner** on February 3, 2007. (For information call Marian McPhaul at 910-791-4448.

April 6 is the **Tartan Day Celebration**.

The weekend of April 21 and 22 will be the **Loch Norman Games**. The Celtic Appalachian music of Stephen



and Ann Smith will be the featured entertainment. The Western North Carolina couple, both of Scot-Irish heritage, present a musical journey beginning with the origins of 17th and 18th century Celtic music of Scotland and Ireland that migrated with the Scots-Irish into the Appalachian mountains of America. More information will be provided at a later date.

July 6, 7 and 8 is the **Grandfather Mountain Highland Games**.

October brings the **Flora McDonald Highland Games** in Red Springs. More information will be provided at a later date.

RAMSAY REMARKS CONT.

Editor to handle the "heavy lifting" of writing, producing and mailing the Piper. MJ is a marketing/publicity consultant who lives in Southern Pines. She and graphic designer, Andie Rose, have been tasked with developing a new look and expanding the content of the Piper to personalize our newsletter by including features about our members.

For this initiative to be successful, we need your help! We will be publishing information on new members and celebrating birthdays, but we also want to know about significant events in your life (i.e. anniversaries, children, grandchildren, awards, recognitions and significant accomplishments). We won't know this unless you tell us! Better still, send us a note and include a photograph. A picture is worth a thousand words and pictures of Scots are priceless.

In addition, by producing the Piper electronically, we will be able to post the Piper on our Internet web site and email it to those members with email accounts.

As I write this, I am on my way to Kansas City to meet **my son Carter** who is driving east from Idaho to Raleigh where we will fit him into my Kilt for his wedding next weekend in Charlottesville, VA. This may be his last week of freedom and independence and I have volunteered to drive the Missouri/Kentucky leg of the journey. It should be quite a bonding experience. In addition to Carter and me, we will have Jackson the Golden Retriever who I'm told has already staked a claim to the backseat of Carter's truck.

Expect to hear more about our Odyssey at the **St. Andrew's Dinner** on December 2nd in Southern Pines. I hope you will make a special effort to attend this year. In addition to the usually excellent food, fun and fellowship, and always exhilarating St. Andrew's Pipes & Drums, our featured entertainer will be Ed Miller, a nationally known and highly respected Celtic musician.

A block of rooms at a special rate have been reserved at Mid Pines. Make your reservations early because we expect a big

crowd. Many of you bring guests and to encourage more of you to do so, we will be entering the names of all those bringing guests into a drawing for a bottle of fine Single Malt Scotch. Cousin Joe Ramsay has offered to sponsor the after dinner cigars. I look forward to seeing you at Mid Pines.

On the cover of the Piper, you will see a photo of a younger **Ted Taws** taken at one of the first St. Andrew's Dinners in the early 70's. I was struck by the obvious energy, enthusiasm and pride that is evident in the faces of these early Charter Members of this great organization.

My hope is that as the torch of leadership is passed from Ted's generation to mine, we will be able to catch and hold onto the spirit so evident in our founders. Our goal is an organization thriving with new members, renewed energy and participation.

Finally, one of the St. Andrew's Society's primary reasons for being is to provide **scholarship assistance** to North Carolina students who wish to study in Scotland and Scottish students who wish to study in North Carolina. For the past few years, our Foundation with the able investment assistance of Past President Chip Hasty, has been generating more income and we are now able to offer more and larger scholarship grants than in previous years. If you know students (possibly yours) who would be good candidates, please let me and Alan Donaldson, Chairman of the Scholarship and Grants Committee, know.

My father who taught me to honor and respect my heritage used to say, "If your best stories are what you did many years ago, chances are good you haven't done much today."

I appreciate all the advice that comes my way. Please let me continue to hear from you. You can count on hearing more from me.

Ora et Lehora
John E. Ramsay, Jr.

HopScotch

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

The Scholarships and Grants Committee reports the St. Andrews Society still has funds available and opportunities for scholarship assistance this year. As you may know, our scholarship program was established in 1973 to award scholarship assistance to students from Scotland who wish to study at North Carolina colleges and universities and to students from our state who want to study in Scottish universities. Grants in the coming year may total \$20,000.

The deadline for the 2007-2008 academic year is December 15th. Soon thereafter, our Scholarship Committee will convene and decide on the winners. A brief interview may be conducted, probably in the Triangle area. Just like Membership, this is also an important focus of our Society.

If you know of a qualified candidate, or would like to obtain an application please contact Alan Donaldson, the Scholarship Committee Chairman at: glenelg@ipass.net

Congratulations to last year's recipients:

Elizabeth Gullede of Raleigh –
Attending St. Andrew's
University

Randall A. McLeod of Raleigh –
Attending Edinburgh
University

Thomas S. Schroder of Charlotte
– Attending Edinburgh
University

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

The St. Andrew's Society of North Carolina is the premier Scottish organization in the state, and one of the most prestigious in the nation. Membership is limited to four hundred of Scottish descent and is by invitation extended by one of our members.

When was the last time you invited one of your friends or associates to consider membership and offered to sponsor their application? If you can't remember how long it has been, now would be a good time to think of someone who may be interested and Ask Them!

Application forms are available from Rob Collier, Chairman of the Membership Committee, or by writing to the Society at our Southern Pines address. Applications are also available by email (4collier@statesville.net.), so don't let the paperwork get in the way.

At the Board of Directors meeting at Grandfather Mountain in July, President Ramsay asked all Board Members to make a commitment to sponsor a new member in 2006. Membership growth will be a major focus of our Society for the next two years. Membership cost is \$165.00. This amount of \$165 includes \$60 initiation fee, \$55 for

the Blazer Badge and Lapel Pin and \$50 for annual dues.

The "Flowers in the Forrest" take their toll on our membership every year. We must be pro-active in membership development if we expected to remain a vital organization.

Sponsors of new members will be recognized at the St. Andrew's Dinner and become eligible to win a bottle of one of Scotland's fine Single Malts.

Welcome to the following New Members:

LTC Rodney Holt Allen, Sr. of
Fayetteville, NC

Spencer McLaughlin Brown of
Charlotte, NC

Thomas Marshall Carlin
of Southern Pines, NC

Jack Douglas Horner of
Greensboro, NC

Michael Glenn Martin
of Southern Pines, NC

Roderick Drouin Sprinkle
of Washington, NC

Thomas Wayne Williams, Jr.
of Fayetteville, NC

*"Be slow in choosing a
friend, but slower in
changing him."*

Scottish Proverb



The Carolina Piper

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

I'd like to take this chance to let you know I'm very pleased to be helping with the Carolina Piper Newsletter. My father is Scots-Irish and my maternal grandfather was an industrious Scotsman. Harold Sanders (Saunders - but he changed it) was living in Minco, Oklahoma in the early '20's when his three-year-old daughter developed polio in her right leg. There they were, in an Indian territory, with no medical technologies available. Harold and his wife, Edna, moved to Los Angeles to seek treatment for young Mary Jane at the Children's Orthopedic Hospital. Edna got a job as a nurse to be near her young daughter. Harold went up the street a bit to the headquarters of the Union Oil Company of California. He found out he was too old for an entry-level position. So he lied about his age and got the job. Many years later, Harold Sanders retired as the Senior Vice President of Finance for Union Oil. And yes, I was named after my mother, who has been married to my father, Rex McKittrick, for 54 years. They are both 85 years old and still live in southern California.

I want to encourage all of you to call or write to me about events going on in your lives. If there's a graduation, wedding, engagement, interesting trip or anything else you'd like to share, please call or write to me, MJ McKittrick, and let me know. This newsletter is intended to be about you! Phone: 910 322-2688 or email: mjmckittrick@earthlink.net

SAVE THE DATE CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2 - 3, 2006
ST. ANDREWS DINNER & FESTIVITIES
AT MID PINES

FEBRUARY 3, 2007
SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF WILMINGTON
ROBERT BURNS DINNER AT THE
CAPE FEAR COUNTRY CLUB

APRIL 6, 2007
TARTAN DAY CELEBRATION

APRIL 21 - 22, 2007
LOCH NORMAN GAMES

JULY 6-8
GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND
GAMES

OCTOBER
FLORA MCDONALD HIGHLAND GAMES