



The Carolina Piper



Volume 3, Issue 3

Spring/Summer 2009

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



St. Andrews Dinner 2008



Piping the Haggis 2008



Kirkin the Tartans
Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church



2 Speakers and 2 Badgers
Joe Hackney, Speaker of NC House, Alex Ferguson MSP, Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament, Tom & Sally Badger

EDITOR'S NOTES

As you can see from the contents of the *Carolina Piper*, good times have been had by a lot of your fellow Scots and members of the Society since our last edition.



In December, we had a near-record crowd for our annual St. Andrew's Dinner day celebration at the Mid

Pines Resort in Southern Pines. As usual, the food and fellowship was first rate. The Celtic Connection performed and reminded

us what should be worn under the kilt. (A Blue Ribbon!) The drinks were plentiful and most everyone had smiles on their faces. One of the many things I enjoy about the occasion is seeing the large numbers of fathers and sons who attend. You will notice from the photos that family groups make up a large part of the assembly.

Tartan Day

National Tartan Day was celebrated in Raleigh this year by the visit of a delegation from the Scottish Parliament. Alex Ferguson,

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**A BRIEF HISTORY OF
THE KIRKIN' O' THE TARTAN**

On April 16, 1746 at the battle of Culloden, the English Army led by the Duke of Cumberland defeated the Highlanders and once and for all subjugated the Highlands and their way of life. By destroying the clan system and outlawing signs of Highland culture such as playing bagpipes and wearing tartan dress, the English hoped to bring the north under control.

The people were required to take an oath stating:

I do swear as I shall answer to God at the Great Day of Judgment, that I shall not retain in my possession any gun, sword or pistol or any other offensive arms whatsoever. I do further swear never again to use or possess any tartan, plaid or any part of the traditional Highland garb.

Needless to say, Highlanders bitterly resented the restrictions imposed upon them. Many kilts were hidden away and many people, as an act of defiance, wore woven tartan under their clothes.

Tradition records that Scottish churches set aside a Sabbath service for the blessing of the Tartan. On that day, members wore a piece of tartan underneath his/her clothes next to their heart and during the service, the clergy blessed it.

The ceremony became known as *The Kirkin' O' the Tartan* and serves as a remembrance of the liberties and religious freedom Scots endured to preserve.

As an American tradition, the "kirkin" or blessing of the tartans began in 1941. The Rev. Peter Marshall, originally from Coatbridge, Scotland, originated the service to raise funds for British war relief. Rev. Marshall was the pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC and served as Chaplain of the United States Senate and the St. Andrew's Society of Washington, DC. At one of the services on April 27, 1941, Rev. Marshall gave a sermon entitled "the Kirkin' O' the Tartans"- thus a tradition was born.



Kirkin the Tartains - Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church



Reid & John Taws



Conner & Lynn McKenzie



John Monroe, Don McKenzie, Bob Campbell

**THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT RECEPTION IN RALEIGH, NC
APRIL 8TH, 2009**



Maurice Robertson, Fayetteville & Steve Quillin, Durham



John Ramsay & Alex Ferguson MSP, Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament.



Tom Badger, Ellen & Warner Hall, Raleigh



A Scottish Blessing

*I after Kirk you bide a wee,
There's some wad like to speak to ye.
If after Kirk you rise and flee,
We'll all seem cauld and stiff with ye.
The one that's in the seat with ye
Is stranger here than you, maybe.
All here have got their fears and cares,
And your soul unto our prayers,
Be you our angel unawares.*

ST. ANDREW'S DINNER 2008

Photographs: Courtesy of Don McKenzie



Bob Sprinkle, Ralph Sprinkle, Bobby Sprinkle, Bill Disher, & Kenneth Brown



Hunter Tate, Sherrill Deaton, Bob Tate, Tom Allison, Tommy Allison, Andrew Allison, William Allison, John Allison



Fred Monroe, Doug Williams, Douglas Monroe, Clem Monroe, John Monroe



Jim McCallum, Brown McCallum, Hal Hyde



Ike Hobbs, Bob Sprinkle, Dick Hobbs, John McPhaul, Lynn McKenzie



John McPhaul & Phineas McPhaul



Jim Dawson & Scott Dawson



Ches Crow IV & E. Ches Crow III



Jim McNair, Alex McNair, & Bill Synder



Piping the Haggis



Chef presents the Haggis



Alan Donaldson addressing the Haggis



Piper your Dram



John Monroe, Don McKenzie, & Pat Henderson



Head Table (Left); Rob Collier, Tom Badger, John Ramsay, Hal Hyde



President Hal Hyde



Head Table (Right); Doug Kelly, Bob Collier, Ken McArthur, Cameron Seely



Thomas Borthwick & Donald Foyston



Charles King & Heyward Armstrong



J. Edward Morrison, Dr. William Presnell, & Lynn McKenzie



James Collins, Dalton McLean, & Brantley Clifton



Jim Dawson, Bob Collier & John Burns



Bill Caudill & Alan MacIntyre



Henry Neill Lee & J. Larry McNeill



Randall Fraser, James Hill, James Barham, Gary Pendleton, & Charles King



Ken McArthur, Bob Collier, & Brantley Clifton



Tom Badger, Alan Donaldson, & Jim Samsel



Robert Stiehl & Bill Snyder



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EDITORS NOTES CONT.:

MPS, Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament, led the delegation. Politicians attract politicians, and the reception held at the Museum of Natural Science included Congressman Mike McIntyre, Speaker of the NC House of Representatives Joe Hackney and scores of other members of the State legislature.

The St. Andrew's Society was well represented along with a multitude of Scottish ex patriots. North Carolina was recognized by presiding Officer Alex Ferguson as the largest repository of Scots and former Scots in the United States. There are more of us here than there are in Scotland!

Grandfather Mountain

The Society is gearing up for the Grandfather Mountain Games, July 10th - 12th. We will have a tent and lunch on the field Saturday and Sunday, and we will have dinner on Saturday night at the Blowing Rock Country Club. A terrific program has been arranged. The Blue Ridge Brass and Montreat Pipes & Drums will be back to entertain during the cocktail hour. Nationally known Scottish Folk musicians Ed Miller, Jil Chambliss, and Scooter Muse will perform after dinner. If you haven't been to the mountain recently, this will be a great year to join us!



Ora et Labora
JER

NEW MEMBERS:

MR. JAMES MCNEELY BARHAM
RALEIGH, NC

SPONSOR: HEYWARD ARMSTRONG

FLOWERS IN THE FOREST:

DR. WILLIAM CARLYLE POWELL
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

AUGUST 3, 1928 - SEPTEMBER 24, 2008

MR. THAYER CHEATHAM SMITH
NASHVILLE, TN

OCTOBER 7, 1938 - NOVEMBER 4, 2008

MR. GREGORY PASCAL MCDANIEL
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

AUGUST 1, 1958 - JANUARY 6, 2009

MR. ROBERT WALTER SCOTT*
HAW RIVER, NC

JUNE 13, 1929 - JANUARY 21, 2009

*Editor's Note:

Bob Scott was Governor of North Carolina from 1969 to 1973.

