



Annual Members' Contact List Edition

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## A Scottish Weather Report

It rains upside down in Scotland, but no one said a word. I know the locals had to have noticed, and it stands to reason a tourist would have returned with such a story. "You'll never believe what happened to me!" Surely someone's vacation was hammered by the kind of pavement-pounding rain that has no choice but to ricochet off the street, thus hitting you on the way down and on the way back up.

Given the legendary friendliness of Glaswegians, it's shocking that no one happened to mention it. "Hey," they



Xenia Schiller

"Fræ Auld Glasga Toun!"

might have said. "Stay off that sidewalk." Just like we would do, if we happened upon a kilted guy seeking shelter under a tree. Or just standing about, trying to place that siren. Even God warned Noah, so it's not like there hasn't been precedent. It's just good manners.

I got soaked, but I'm not bitter. Three hours later whilst making my way home, it occurred to me how much time I had saved, washing my jeans while I was still in them. Such good luck

called for a celebration, so I stopped at Millie's Cookies and demanded a scoop of Baskin Robbins Chocolate ice cream. The woman behind the counter was very gracious so when she put a cookie in my hand as part of a package deal, I allowed her to exploit my happiness. You can't get Baskin Robbins in Alabama, and what harm is one cookie?

As any southerner will tell you when someone offers food, the polite thing is to take it. Thank them. And then eat the whole thing. Friends and strangers are well-fed but also they are dry. And possibly sitting in the basement, depending on the weather.

## New Members to be Welcomed

Don't forget the Annual New Members' Reception Sunday, Oct. 16, 4:00 at the home of AC & Jean McCully's. Old members bring a finger food and an adult beverage of your choice. SAS will provide ice and mix. New members are our guests. Simply come and enjoy.



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## Mark Your Calendar

- Oct. 16 - Sunday - 4:00 - New Members Reception - At the home of AC & Jean McCully's
- Nov. 11 - Friday - Veterans' Day Parade
- Dec. 4 - Sunday - 5:30 - St. Andrew's Day Dinner - Westminster Oaks
- Feb. 4 - Saturday - Burns Supper - Westminster Oaks



DORIS HENDERSON

Message from the President

After a wonderfully relaxing summer in Maine - despite Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee - I have now returned to wee bit warmer climes and all my fellow Scots.

I hope you are all ready for another year of activities and fun. Once again, I encourage you to take part in your Society, not only by attending the events, but by becoming involved in a committee as well. New and different perspectives are vital to a healthy organization!

We are in for a busy season with parade marching (Veteran's Day and Springtime Tallahassee), St. Andrew's Day Dinner and Burns Supper, and potluck covered dish dinners.

Something new, thanks to Linda Frazier, is a Scottish meal at the Publix cooking school. Knowing how we all like to eat, this dinner promises to be a lot of fun, so sign up at the new Publix next to Books-a-Million on Thomasville Rd. per the email notice from Linda.

Once again, Al and Jean McCully have graciously offered their home for our New Member's Reception which will be happening very soon on Oct. 16. Please make plans to attend this reception and welcome those folks who have chosen to join us in fellowship as lovers of all things Scottish.

Thank you very much to our Audit Committee composed of Carolyn Jensen, Nancy Simpson, and Patty Atherton for examining last year's financial records and finding them to be in order and correct. We all appreciate their willingness to perform this valuable service. We can now proceed with other committee activities. You may, for example, get a call to serve on the Budget committee.

The Scholarship Committee will also soon be gathering to seek out 2011-12 scholars, to evaluate our Scholarship Fund in this "low-yield world" and to determine additional income source opportunities.

Our new Chaplain, Gary Mathews will be working to get our Benevolence Committee more active in the concerns of our Society. Remember, St. Andrew Societies were formed to "Relieve Distress" of fellow Scots. If you are aware of any member who is ill, in the hospital, or in need of the comfort of friends, please let Gary know at 556.6885 or garymathews63@yahoo.com. Gary also welcomes additional committee members. Again, caring and helping each other in time of need is one of the major charters of our Society. Give Gary a call.

As usual, if anyone has a suggestion of other possible events, do not hesitate to call me and make your desires known.

Scots aye!  
Doris



We've had quite a few people come to town since we arrived in Scotland. While they are packing we usually get an email about how to dress for the weather.

Now, we have only been here since April, but we've already learned a few things about dressing appropriately for the weather.

Here's rule #1:

Be prepared for anything. It can be raining, then beautifully sunny, then windy and chilly, then clear and warmer. This was yesterday!

Unless we lose our minds and forget rule #1, we always have at least a light jacket with us. Scarves are also a great accessory.

Rule #2:

Wear layers. You can peel off a layer at a time, but boy, when places have their heaters on, you do not want to have on a heavy sweater.

Rule #3:

Water-proof/resistant walking shoes are a must. No one wants to walk around all day with wet socks...and if you're with us, you'll be walking :)

That's about it! Scotland has given us beautiful and wild weather already. We'll see what Fall and Winter bring. Hope you'll start packing soon!

Thank you for taking a few minutes to get caught-up with what's new for our family as we live and serve in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Peace and love,  
Mark, Andrea, Jordan & Ashlyn

To read more about Michael family's journey go to:

<http://www.michaelfamilyuk.com/>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Michael-Family-UK/166972793317111?sk=info>

Or email the Michael family at:

[mark@crossbridgechristian.ccsend.com](mailto:mark@crossbridgechristian.ccsend.com)



Eric King

Editor's Corner

Just a wee reminder: The Annual Member Contact List is proprietary and belongs exclusively to the SAS of Tallahassee and its members. It is to be used internally only and not to be distributed outside our organization. This issue WILL NOT be posted on our website.

Maintaining lists of any description is an on-going task, and at any given time, there are errors. If you find an error in your information please let me know or contact Babs at [baragstewart@hotmail.com](mailto:baragstewart@hotmail.com).

**Coming Attractions!**

**New Members' Reception:** Bring a guest to the New Members' Reception Sunday, October 16th 4:00. Also, if you have a preferred "adult beverage" please bring your own.

**Veterans' Day Parade:** November 11. More information to come. Scottish-Americans have been the first to defend since 1756.

Come join us in honouring our veterans.

**"A Scottish Dinner":** Also on November 11 is the 4-course dinner at the new Publix. At Village Square Sign up today. Space is limited. Call the "Aprons Events Desk" today at 850-893-3480.



Jean Holzapfel  
Society Educator

The St. Andrew Society held its first Covered Dish Dinner on Tuesday, September 19 and it was enjoyed by all who attended. We had delicious food, good fellowship and I told about our very first trip to Scotland many years ago and how it led to a lifelong enjoyment of my Scottish heritage through my membership in the Society. My husband, George, added comic interest to my talk.

Eric King had a good idea for a future dinner and that is to have 6 or 8 members get up and talk about 3-5 minutes on their favorite part of Scotland, or anything special about

their past trips. Many people won't talk for 30 minutes but five would be easy and I know we would all enjoy it. So be thinking about what you would like to share with the group. These Covered Dish Dinners are a good way to really get to know your fellow members. So come and greet old friends and meet new ones!

Have you ever noticed that every Fall, the fashion people come out and tell us that "Plaid is going to be very big this year". Of course, it is always big with us! They do say it is best to wear only one plaid piece at a time unless you are a model on the runway! It is nice to be able to buy some plaid "off the rack" without having to pay exorbitant prices.

*Scottish Wisdom*

*Money cannot buy happiness but...somehow, its more comfortable to cry in a Mercedes Benz than it is on a bicycle.*

Answers to Scottish Trivia from page 8:  
1. Tayside; 2. St. John's Town; 3. Loch Leven; 4. Piltchoy; 5. Golf; 6. Aberfeldy; 7. Blairgowrie; 8. Creetf; 9. Score; 10. Allowed private army. (Avg. score for this quiz: 7/10.)

**Name Tags - Membership Badges - Tartan Banners**

We are proud of the St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee and our membership in it. If you aren't already doing so, express that pride by ordering your SAS Name Tag and Membership Badge today.


**Name Tags** may be ordered from **Nick Baldwin** at 877.0249. Name tags with magnetic backs can be purchased for \$10.25. Tags with pin backs are \$8.25.

**Membership Badges** (seen below.) These attractive metal and enamel badges may be purchased from **Babs Stewart** at 385.3037 for \$5.00 each.



Don't forget to call **Laurie Long** at 510.9866 for shirts, sweaters, blouses, jackets or hats with our **SAS Embroidered Badges** on them.

**Tartan Banners** may be purchased by calling **Dunedin Scottish** at 800.237.5836 and asking for Daryl MacDonald. Be sure to mention you are a member of the Tallahassee St. Andrew Society. You can also call Eric King at 894.8955 for more information or he can order it for you saving sales tax.





Jay Breeze

"The Mermaid's Tale"

## Official SAS Piper Tells All - Part III

*In this, the third and final installment of our SAS interview of St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee official piper Joe Ashcraft, he describes memorable performance moments, associations with the Tallahassee Pipe Band and SAS, and thoughts on teaching.*

**SAS: Joe, would you talk a little about your experiences as Pipe Major for the Tallahassee Pipe Band?**

I joined the Band in 1986. Band leadership saw fit to elect me Pipe Major in 1993. Band members are willing to entertain some of my off-beat arrangements. I've transcribed a lot of tunes and arranged harmonies for them. I'm really proud of the pipers I've trained and the music we create.

**SAS: What were the circumstances that gave rise to your becoming official piper for the St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee?**

I agreed to provide piping at St. Andrew Society events in appreciation for its donations to the Tallahassee Pipe Band, and I gladly did so for quite a few years. Eventually, in 2004, the Society Board passed a resolution designating me as the official St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee piper. I was surprised and honored in equal amounts. I have always enjoyed my association with Society members. Great company!

**SAS: You've had a wealth of performances as a solo and Band piper. Of the performances you have given, would you share any particularly memorable moments?**

All the 9/11 memorial piping events in

which I participated were of course very poignant for me and my fellow pipers. A particularly proud moment was the honor of solo piping at a standing-room-only memorial for former Florida Senate President Jim King at the Florida Capitol and nailing it! Still another memorable moment was the 2002 Pipe Fest in New York City, where I was one of almost 8,000 pipers!



**SAS: ...and any embarrassing, humorous or unusual moments?**

Well, there were plenty of embarrassing moments that were kilt-related, but I do recall one unusual but heartwarming moment. I once piped at a memorial service for a police dog. The Sheriff's deputy/handler who had trained the dog was heartbroken over the loss of his long-term canine companion. The ceremony ended on a happy note, though, with the surprise presentation of a little furry recruit – a very enthusiastic puppy – to the delighted deputy.

**SAS: Your website relates the testimonial from the minister presiding at a graveside service where you performed. He noted how mourners would remember your music long after they had forgotten his words. Would you share any other notable testimonials, comments or feedback from individuals or groups concerning your performances?**

In the late 90's (I would have to consult my shoebox archives to give you the exact year), I was pleased to win Gold, Silver and Bronze medals at the Scottish Games in Montgomery, Alabama. I was able to meet with the judges later and obtain helpful feedback on my playing. All were very positive about my playing and practice strategy. Over the past few decades, I've also been fortunate to build a good

reputation through my engagements and performances. I've got shoeboxes full of thank-you cards from family members who engaged me to play at weddings, memorial services and other milestone events.

I once responded to a woman's request to play for her father, who was bedridden and rapidly succumbing to a terminal illness. Before my scheduled visit to the man's home in Madison, the woman called to tell me that it was too late – her father had slipped into a coma. I agreed to come anyway, as we knew that comatose individuals often retain the ability to hear and understand sounds. On my arrival, family members opened all the windows of the man's bedroom, and I began playing outside under the shade of a pear tree. After playing a while, I entered the house and was witness to an emotional scene. The daughter told me her father had stirred as soon as I started playing. Experiences like this bow my head.

**SAS: That was indeed a profound moment. You also teach, and I would guess that being a piping instructor provides its own special moments as well. Would you share any reflections on your teaching experiences?**

I've got two active students and a couple of others in the wings. I enjoy sharing my experience and knowledge with students. In particular, I enjoy the moments when I look at the faces of my students and see the "light bulb" of insight switch on. Then I know for sure that they understand what I'm saying.

**SAS: What advice would you offer a young person interested in learning how to play the pipes?**

Listen to soloist recordings for tone control; listen to any pipe music that keeps you inspired and interested, either live music or recordings. Come to piping rehearsals and hear first-hand what the sound is like!



# St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee

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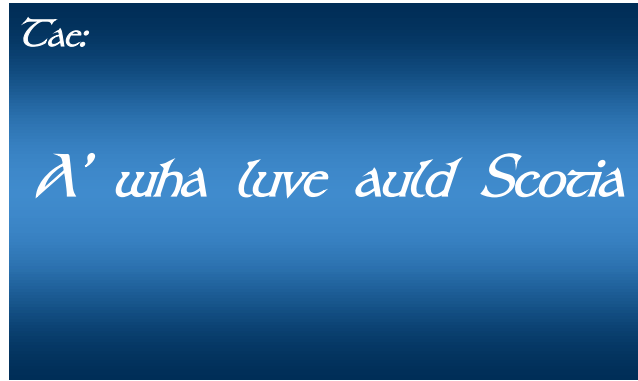
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### Help us stay in touch!

Send us your address change, or for others,  
at the above address.



## Return Service Requested



October 2011

## Scottish Trivia

1. Perthshire and Kinross-shire were separate counties until 1930, when they amalgamated to form one unitary council. From 1975 until 1996, they disappeared from the map altogether when they became part of which much larger region?

- \_\_\_ Grampian
- \_\_\_ Strathclyde
- \_\_\_ Tayside
- \_\_\_ Highland

2. The traditional county town of Perth & Kinross is Perth; by what name was the town known in medieval times?

- \_\_\_ St. David's Toun
- \_\_\_ St. Andrew's Toun
- \_\_\_ St. John's Toun
- \_\_\_ St. George's Toun

3. Kinross, formerly the county town of Kinross-shire, lies on the banks of which loch?

- \_\_\_ Loch Ness
- \_\_\_ Loch Leven
- \_\_\_ Loch Lomond
- \_\_\_ Loch Tay

4. Which of these Scottish towns has a festival theatre and a salmon ladder?

- \_\_\_ Crieff
- \_\_\_ Pitlochry
- \_\_\_ Dunkeld
- \_\_\_ Auchterarder

5. Gleneagles Hotel, near Auchterarder, is most associated with which sport?

- \_\_\_ Tennis
- \_\_\_ Golf
- \_\_\_ Motor Racing
- \_\_\_ Show Jumping

6. Wade's Bridge and The Black Watch Memorial are two notable landmarks in which Scottish town?

- \_\_\_ Aberfeldy
- \_\_\_ Cromie
- \_\_\_ St. Fillans
- \_\_\_ Milnathort

7. Which town is sometimes referred to as the "berry capital of Scotland"?

- \_\_\_ Blairgowrie
- \_\_\_ Dunkeld
- \_\_\_ Methven
- \_\_\_ Kenmore

8. Which town is home to the Glenturret Distillery, and a famous hotel called The Hydro?

- \_\_\_ Bridge of Earn
- \_\_\_ Pitlochry
- \_\_\_ Crieff
- \_\_\_ Scone

9. In which village were kings of Scotland traditionally crowned until the mid-17th century?

- \_\_\_ Blair Atholl
- \_\_\_ Dunkeld
- \_\_\_ Hunting Tower
- \_\_\_ Scone

10. Blair Castle, near Blair Atholl, is the ancestral home of the Dukes of Atholl. What unique distinction does the Duke of Atholl hold?

- \_\_\_ Only person exempt from income tax
- \_\_\_ 1st claim to any gold on Scottish soil
- \_\_\_ Only person in Britain allowed to form private army
- \_\_\_ Heir to the discontinued Scottish throne

(Answers will be found on bottom of page 2.)