



The Carolina Piper



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Donald C. McLeod, Editor Winter 2022

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

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This past year has been agonizing, but we have managed well despite what the pandemic has thrown at us. We held successful dinners and entertainment at the Chetola Lodge in Blowing Rock, during the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, and at our annual Saint Andrew's Day Dinner at the Pine Needles Lodge and Golf Course in Southern Pines. The Scotland County Highland Games were well attended in October. Zoom is now a common lexicon, and board and executive committee meetings have been maintained with the aid of this technology. The year 2022 will likewise be challenging, but we will have a successful year.

The following initiatives are of high interest to me, but in no particular order. These items will be discussed by the Board and will be multi-year in scope.

1. Strengthen our relation with Mount Ayr, in Hillsborough, one of the restored homes in Richard Jenrette's Classical American Homes Preservation Trust. Mount Ayr was built in 1815 by Scotsman William Kirkland. Discussion is underway about an "Outlander Weekend" similar to the one 3 years ago.
2. Collaborate with Barton College in Wilson to promote their Scottish collection in the Rare Book Room at the library. The collection contains much on Scottish history, music, dance, literature and Gaelic language. There was still Gaelic-language preaching in the NC Sandhills as late as 1900.
3. Ally with other Scottish heritage organizations in NC, a state with the highest percentage of residents with Scottish ancestry. There are several highland games and many regional groups, i.e., the Scottish Society of Wilmington, the Cape Fear Valley Scottish Clans and the Montreat Scottish Society. There is a great common interest among these organizations
4. Improve and develop relations with other Saint Andrew's societies and with national organizations, i.e., American-Scottish Foundation of New York and the Robert Burns Society of New York. These and other groups have international speakers and guests who perhaps could come our way.

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5. Members of the SASNC have much shared interest, which can be promoted, with other heritage groups i.e., the NC Society of the Cincinnati, the NC Sons of the Revolution, NC Society of Colonial Wars and the Order of the First Families of NC.

Many successful accomplishments have occurred during the years of our past 23 Society presidents. If each of us makes some contribution to Scottish heritage, great days are ahead.

J. Robert Boykin, President

SAINT ANDREW'S DAY DINNER GALA GALORE

After the Covid cancellation of the 2020 Saint Andrew's Day dinner, it was joyous to see almost 100 old friends and guests at the Pine Needles Lodge and Golf Club. The social hour and dinner were festive and President Robert Boykin marshaled a great evening. Toasts, a standard feature of these dinners, were offered by Donald McGlohon to Saint Andrew, Gary Pendleton to the Armed Forces, William Wiseman to the President and Matthew Garrett to the Queen. The delight of the evening was the "Address to the Haggis" performed by James McCallum. McCallum was jaunty, unconstrained and delivered each line flawlessly. John Harman, chair of the membership committee, inducted 10 new members to the Society. Richard McDermott presented the golf tournament trophy. The 23 members who have died in the past two years were remembered in the Flowers of the Forest Ceremony. Donald McLeod discussed plans for the SASNC 50th Anniversary Celebration to be held at the Pinehurst Resorts' Carolina Hotel the weekend of December 2-4, 2022. William Caudill piped an eclectic concert enjoyed by all.

The renovated, Donald Ross designed, Southern Pines Golf Club hosted the Society's annual golf competition. The winners, in order were Heyward Armstrong, Thomas Maze and Richard McDermott. The 50th anniversary event will be held December 3, 2022 on a Pinehurst Resorts course.

Special thanks to Donald McKenzie for most of the following photographs and for many years of photography service to the Society.



*William Caudill, Piper
Master entertainer of the evening*



*Richard McDermott presenting the
golf tournament trophy*



James McCallum sleuthing the Haggis



The Monroe Clan: Edward, Fred, John, John Jr., and Clement; John Monroe is a founding member of the Society



*McKenzie Clan: Wayne Morgan, Connor McKenzie, Donald McKenzie.
Don has been the photographer at this dinner and numerous Society events for more than 20 years.*

Save the Date
TARTAN DAY
ROBERT BURNS DINNER
Saturday April 9, 2022
CAROLINA COUNTRY CLUB
RALEIGH, NC



Auld Lang Syne Finale



David and Keith Burns



Steve and David McLean

SASNC 50th Anniversary Celebration

Carolina Hotel, Pinehurst Resorts, Pinehurst, NC

Dec. 2-4, 2022



Eric Larsen, Randall Fraser, Heyward Armstrong



*Collier Clan: Robert (Rock) IV, Robert (Robb) III,
Collier Wiseman, William Wiseman,
seated, Judge Robert Collier*



John Taws & William McIlwaine



Brian Grisham, Charles King, Allen James, Glenn Davis



Greg Allen, Daniel McNiel, Scott Coley, James Narron



*President Elect James Graham,
John Harmon, Membership Chair,
Robert Boykin III, President*



James McCallum, John Julian, Carr and William McCaskill



John Harman, inducting new members: Brandon Hensley, Stuart Miller, Blaine Berkowitz, Reed Taws and Garland Conley Jr.

**NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY
SONS OF THE REVOLUTION**

The annual meeting of the SRNC was held at the Carolina Country Club in Raleigh Nov,20, 2021. At least a dozen members of the SASNC belong to the SRNC and many are officers and board members. Augustus (Gus) Succop, a retired Presbyterian minister from Davidson, is the current president and a new St. Andrew's member. Robert Boykin is chaplain and Daniel Pate is the historian. Carlton Mansfield, John Harman, Dan Holding and David Gellatly also hold positions.

Membership in the SRNC is open to males of good character with one or more ancestors who actively assisted in establishing American Independence in the conflict of 1775 to 1783.

The ancestor may have been in the military, naval or marine corps or a member of the Continental Congress or any of the state legislatures.

Donald McLeod lectured on "The Scottish Dilemma In NC During the American Revolution".

An outstanding social hour and luncheon was enjoyed by members and guests, a special respite after previously disrupted occasions. Several SASNC members were kilted but possessed of patriotic spirit.



Gus and Beth Succop at SRNC Annual Meeting 2021



NCSR 2021 Donald McLeod, James Graham, Robert Boykin, John Harmon

SCOTCH WHISKIES – A TASTING GUIDE
CLAUDE HENRY SNOW, JR.

When someone says they “drink Scotch,” the next question often asked is, “which one?” A better question might be, “what’s your favorite?” The complexity in style/taste of Scotch whisky is akin to the automobile that you prefer. “Are you a Ford man or Chevy; BMW or Mercedes or Lexus?” “Truck, SUV, or sedan?” “Luxury or economy?” “Domestic or foreign?” You get the idea. There are many choices and Scotch whisky is much the same. What you drink may depend on the circumstances, the style you prefer, and personal value for the money spent. Like the automobile questions, for Scotch ... “Peaty or not?” “Speyside or The Glens?” “Oak or sherry-casked?” “Single malt or blend?” “Smooth or bold?” “Traditional or Reserve label?” “12-, 15-, 18-, or 20-year?” Again, you get the idea. Price also is not an indicator of better style or taste. By example, in terms of blended whisky, Johnny Walker is famous for its blends whose unique styles are reflected in their choices of Red Label, Black Label, Green Label, Gold Label, and Blue Label. A bottle of Red Label costs around \$20. A bottle of

Blue Label Reserve costs around \$300. I have been drinking Scotch for over 50 years and consider myself somewhat a whisky connoisseur. My favorite Johnny Walker bottling is the “Double Black Label, 12-year” at around \$45 a bottle. I really don’t care for the taste of the Blue Label, could give-or-take the Gold Label, and the Red and Green Labels taste like muddy water to me. Your taste may be different from mine! What is my favorite Scotch whisky? It depends ... General purpose = Balvenie Sherry-casked, 18-year. A cold winter’s day = Talisker 12-year or Highland Park, Cask-strength, Release #1. A hot summer’s day = Johnny Walker Double Black Label, 12-year. After a fine dinner = Macallan 25-year, Sherry-casked. What follows is a high-level guide to Scotch whiskies with the hope that you will sample many varieties and develop your own answer to the question, “what’s your favorite?”

Scotch whiskies generally are grouped into five styles or regions: Speyside, Islay, the Highlands, Campbeltown, and the Lowlands. Better blended whiskies are usually a blend of whiskies from all over Scotland which are designed by a Master

Distiller to evoke a particular taste. By example, Johnny Walker Black Label is a blend of Cardhu from Speyside, Lagavulin from Islay, and Talisker from The Highlands.

Speyside is often called Scotland's greatest whisky-making region. It spreads between Inverness and Aberdeen. The streams and rivers of this region rise from granite and flow over peat, imparting a smokiness that often is enhanced by maturation in sherry wood casks. More than 70 distilleries are located here, among these being:

- Millburn (Inverness) = Vatted malt with rich aroma, full body, and long finish.
- The Macallan (Upper Spey) = A single malt famous for its "Calvados-like" flavor.
- Aberlour (Lower Spey) = A rich, rounded "after dinner" style (owned by a French firm!).
- Glenlivet (Livet) = An elegant and complex single malt that smells "sweet."

Islay is an island off the southwest coast of Scotland that boasts 9 distilleries. Their whiskies have a double pungency from both the peaty water and the sea air. These are the boldest and "heaviest" of Scotch whiskies. Good examples are:

- Ardbeg = Intense, but with a balanced richness.
- Laphroaig = Pungent, full-bodied, with an oiliness and a renowned "seaweed" character.
- Bowmore = Complex, rounded, and warming in flavor. A great after dinner malt.

The Highlands (and the Western Isles) are dominated by lochs and mountains, including the islands such as Skye. Its remoteness has led to whisky distillation for hundreds of years. Its malts have a touch of peat and tastes ranging from fruity and flowery to heathery to peppery. Major distillers here include:

- Talisker (Skye) = Intense and powerful with a clean finish and a hint of seaweed.
- Highland Park (Orkney) = 220 years old and going strong! Long and golden with many shades of flavor and a deep, lingering finish.
- Glenmorangie (North Highlands) = A subtle, unique flavor with a suggestion of sweetness.
- Oban (West Highlands) = Peaty aroma and smooth body with a balanced sweetness.

Campbeltown is the smallest of the whisky regions, located near the Mull of Kintyre. It once had 30 distilleries, but all but two are now gone because they sacrificed quality for quantity by providing major quantities of bootleg whisky for the United States during Prohibition. The survivors include:

- Springbank = A big and profound taste with a balanced, malty sweetness.
- Glen Scotia = Has a full aroma, palate, and finish that once was typical of this region.

The Lowlands historically have produced soft, sweeter whiskies with a fruitiness from the yeast. This less bold profile has led to the Lowland malts being used extensively in blended whiskies since about the 1830s although in recent years there is a growing recognition for certain single malts. Better, single malt examples include:

- Rosebank = Delicate, subtle, and elegant; dry with a light sherry finish.
- Auchentoshan = Fresh aroma, light sweetness, and dry finish.
- Bladnoch = A very delicate aroma with a lemony character.

The "correct" way to drink any Scotch whisky is straight-up with "a drop of water like the dew on a rose" to open up the flavor and its nose. Over-ice, if you must, should be reserved for hot days in the American South and a low-cost blend (like J&B or The Famous Grouse). Best wishes as you learn why Scotch whisky is often called "the water of life."

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF N.C.

SUMMER BANQUET

CHETOLA LODGE

BLOWING ROCK, N.C.

JULY 9, 2022

In conjunction with
Grandfather Mountain Highland Games