

St. Andrew's

Echoes Echoes



St. Andrew's Society of Oakland

NEWSLETTER September – October 2011

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St. Andrew's Society of Oakland

c/o 3565 Whitehall Ct,

Pleasanton, CA 94588

Editor's Corner

Welcome back, everyone. "Where did you think I'd gone?" you might reply. Why you've been on the Summer side of the globe for the last few months enjoying some of the finest weather this big blue marble has to offer. Even if a true vacation was not in the list of your Summer endeavors (note Editor's license here to save an extra "u" from endeavours for later use) you can't complain about our great climate. Seems more people are opting for the STAY-cation where you don't travel very far, staying instead close to home base for your holiday. And why not? Let's boil it down with some comparative statistics :

Pleasanton CA	Jul	Aug	Sep	Toronto, Ontario	Jul	Aug	Sep
Avg Max Temp (F)	88	88	85	Avg Max Temp (F)	77	76	58
Avg Min Temp (F)	56	56	54	Avg Min Temp (F)	60	60	53
Avg Rain (in.)	0	0	0.2	Avg Rain (in.)	2.5	2.8	2.8

New York City, NY	Jul	Aug	Sep	Edinburgh, Scotland	Jul	Aug	Sep
Avg Max Temp (F)	85	83	86	Avg Max Temp (F)	63	64	60
Avg Min Temp (F)	69	68	61	Avg Min Temp (F)	49	50	47
Avg Rain (in.)	4.4	4.4	4.2	Avg Rain (in.)	2.2	2.4	2.4

They don't call the place "Pleasanton" for no reason, true? All that great weather plus extras like world class wineries within easy driving distance, the Pacific Ocean to the West, the mighty Sierra Nevada mountains to the East ... hey, no wonder it's so crowded around here! We are a fortunate lot.

But lest we forget, let us heed the old saying: Spring has sprung, Fall has fell. Winter is here, and it's colder than ... well it's colder than I care to think about!

Visit our group page at <http://groups.google.com/group/saint-andrews-society-of-oakland>

And don't forget the website at <http://standrewssocietyofOakland.org/default.aspx>

Thanks for the feedback about the Echoes Newsletter. It sounds like you are getting the information you need about our St. Andrew's society and are willing to put up with an Editor who is truly having fun putting the letter together for your (and his) pleasure. It is my honour to serve in this capacity. (Hey, I found a place for that extra "u" I saved earlier honour.)

Now on to some very important news starting with the annual St Andrew's Ball ... have you bought your tickets yet from Nancy or Ian?

The St Andrew's Society of Oakland
(serving The East Bay since 1878)
presents

The St Andrew's Ball

If you Love Scotland... You'll Love this

Join us for a fun-filled night of

Scottish Culture, Music & Dance

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH 2011
THE HILTON, PLEASANTON

6.30PM - 12 MIDNIGHT
(5-6.30PM - NO HOST BAR)

TICKETS: \$70
(\$650 FOR A TABLE OF 10)

Your ticket includes:
A three Course Dinner
with Wine

Pipers & Dancers
from the
Prince Charles Pipe Band

A Scottish Ceilidh

Live DJ for late night music
and dancing

Early Bird Special - Purchase your tickets by
October 13th, 2011 and you will be entered to win
a free night for two including breakfast
at the Hilton for the evening of The Ball
(see website for rules)

To purchase tickets, please contact:

Ian Myles (510) 797 9621 or email: ianmyles@att.net
Nancy Wigley (925) 426 8969 or email: ns_wigley@yahoo.com

www.standrewssocietyofoakland.org

NOTICE: Special rate at the Hilton for the night of Ball - \$82/double including breakfast.
Deadline for booking rooms at this special rate at the Hilton is Nov 5th. A block of rooms in the
Society's name is guaranteed till then - after that it is on space available.

Hang Onto These Dates

So much is happening on the Society calendar it's hard to keep track! Let me sum up:

St Andrew's Monthly Meeting - Officer Vote	November 10 th 2011
St Andrew's Ball at the Pleasanton Hilton	November 19 th 2011
Society Seniors Christmas Party	December 4 th 2011
St Andrew's Monthly Meeting – Install Officers	December 8 th 2011
Christmas Pub Quiz and Dinner	December 11 th 2011

Fremont Needs Pipers and Drummers

Community: Recruitment for Bagpipe and Drum Band Volunteers

The Fremont Police Department is seeking volunteers to form a Bagpipe and Drum Band. The volunteer band would be assigned to the Honor Guard Unit and will represent the Department at various internal and external civic events. Applicants must be active musicians and provide their own instruments. Uniforms will be provided. Commitments would range from one to three events per month. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in this unique opportunity please contact Sgt. Donn (Tony) Tassano, Honor Guard Coordinator, at dtassano@fremont.gov to get more information.

All volunteer applicants must be 18 years old and will be required to successfully pass a background check. To apply online go to:

<http://www.fremontpolice.org/volunteer/volunteer.html>

For full details, [view this message on the web](#).

Fremont Police Department (CA),
2000 Stevenson Blvd,
PO Box 5007,
Fremont, CA 94538

Important Information for Members of St. Andrew's Society of Oakland
Proposed Constitution Change

CONSTITUTION CHANGE

Pre-amble

Article V (Duties of President and Vice President) of the Constitution of the St Andrew's Society of Oakland provides in Section 3 that the president shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

It has been the practice and tradition within the St Andrew's Society for all time past that, although not specifically stated in the Constitution and By-Laws, an ex-officio committee member (such as the President) is not obligated to attend committee meetings, and if in attendance, is not counted in determining if a quorum is present nor is entitled to a vote.

Further, Section 2 of this Article (Article V) has been, for all times past, applicable only to meetings of the membership (regular or otherwise) and not to any Committee meetings.

This Constitution change sets to clarify and document such understanding and practice.

Such that

Propose additions to Section 3 (Sec. 3) of ARTICLE V – Duties of President and Vice-President as follows.

Section 3 to be changed from " *He shall have the power to call special meetings of the Society, and shall be ex-officio a member of all committees.*"

to " *The President shall have the power to call special meetings of the Society, and shall be ex-officio a member of all committees. In such an ex-officio role, the President is not obligated to attend committee meetings, and if in attendance, is not counted in determining if a quorum is present nor is the President entitled to a vote within a committee. "*

Submitted by

Ian Myles
and
Douglas Unsworth

October 13, 2011

N.B. Constitution/By-Law proposed changes will be given a 2nd reading on November 10. - Ed.

And More Important Information for Members

Nominations for Officers of the society were presented at the October 13th 2011 meeting are:

President: Kay Deehan

Vice President: Nancy Wigley

Treasurer: Ian Myles

Secretary: Faye Cater

Assistant Secretary: Derek Penrice

Editor: Gary Croak

Historian: Billy Edmiston

Chaplain: Ann Kelly

Sick/Relief: Ann Kelly

Flag Bearer: John Houston

Piper: David Unsworth

Trustees: Martin Deehan, Steve Wigley, Ian Myles, Alan Purves, Joe Collins

The nominations are still open for change and will be read at the next meeting. Voting for officers happens November 10th and at our December meeting at Redcoats Pub the installation of the new officers will take place ... and don't forget about the fish n' chips!

Did You Know ?

What to do if you're sick or in need of assistance?

If you, a loved one, or an acquaintance is sick or needs help contact Ann Kelly by email or phone. Ann Kelly 925 461 1957 or 925 872 2572 (cell) **Email:** annkelly7865@comcast.net

How to apply for the St. Andrews Society Alex Moir Memorial Scholarship?

See <http://standrewssocietyofoakland.org/scholarship.aspx> for application details.

The St. Andrews Society was established with the objective to provide support and assistance to Scotsmen in need. It is a Society created by Scotsmen, and has evolved over the years to remain true to its roots and continues to offer support and assistance to many worthwhile charities and people of Scottish descent. This scholarship works within the spirit of that original objective to help students with an affinity for Scotland realize their ambitions by furthering their education and reaching their true potential. This was very close to the heart of Society Past President Alex Moir. The Alex Moir Memorial Scholarship was established in 2007. A past president and life long member of the Society, Alex had a youthful spirit and was very much connected to the trials and tribulations facing the younger generation. With that spirit in mind, this scholarship was created to honor his memory by his wife, Ernestine.

The application, official high school or college transcript and letters of recommendation must be received by the Society by July 4th. Start planning early to take advantage of this benefit!

Meetings

Regular business meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 8pm at a predetermined venue in Pleasanton. The next meeting will be held on Thursday the 10th of November at Cafe Main, 401 Main Street, Pleasanton.

Membership

35 folks signed up at the Pleasanton Games this year for more information on the Society.

Entertainment Committee

We organize Balls and dances for our members, hold a special Society Seniors Christmas party, have Pub Quizzes and real grown-up events throughout the year. But what about the wee ones and families? Besides the annual picnic, what could we do as family style events or kids events? Well, the Entertainment Committee members are planning ... but you'll have to wait and see what and when. (In Editor-speak this is called a "teaser".)

Birthday Wishes go to:

August

Donald Davidson 9th
Elaine Durkin 9th
Nicola Golden 11th
Nick Nicolsen 12th
Alan Purves 29th
Ian Robertson 19th
Nancy Wigley 22nd
Janet Love 26th

September

Bill Edmiston 12th
Nikki Chrupallo 18th
Paul Brian 24th
Ernie Shanks 17th
Douglas Unsworth 7th
Gary Croak 30th
Gail Horn 30th


October

Sandra Keir 9th
John Morrison 15th
Ian Myles 14th
Joyce Somerville 1st

Best Wishes and Happy Birthday from all your friends of the Society!

Correspondence

Received this announcement from Petersburg Caledonia regarding their St. Andrew's Ball. I would be interested to see what that "traditionally freshly caught haggis" looks like. And a bargain at 5500 Roubles (I think ...).




PETERSBURG CALEDONIA

Petersburg Caledonia has great pleasure in announcing

The XIV Saint Andrew's Ball *Scottish Architecture*

Saturday 3rd December 2011
7.15 pm Astoria Hotel

Champagne reception
Innovative Scottish menu
Traditional freshly caught Haggis; Address to the Haggis
By popular demand — The Midgies — from deepest, darkest Scotland — a "reel" dance band!
Scottish country dancing
Prize lottery
... and of course, the glorious 'pipes!
Complementary Scottish country dance practices in advance*



Ticket price	5500 Roubles
Ticket sales	
Luba Babeshko	+7-921-937-41-57
Irina Spirina	+7-921-964-84-41
William Hackett-Jones	+7-921-932-44-43
Dress Code	
Black tie (strictly formal attire - tartans, tuxedos, smoking jackets, ball gowns)	
Programme	
Reception, dinner, dancing, prize lottery, more dancing, Auld Lang Syne	

Come and have a ball!

* Country dancing practice — please contact Irina Spirina for more information



Scottish Trivia

Curse of Scotland

The nine of diamonds playing card is often referred to as the "Curse of Scotland" There are a number of reasons given for this connection:

1. It was the playing card used by Sir John Dalrymple, the Earl of Stair, to cryptically authorise the Glencoe Massacre. Certainly there is a resemblance between the nine of diamonds and his coat of arms.
 2. The Duke of Cumberland is supposed to have scribbled the order for "no quarter" to be given after the Battle of Culloden on a nine of diamonds playing card.
 3. It has also been suggested that it is a misreading of the "Corse of Scotland" ie the "Cross of Scotland" or St Andrew's Saltire. There is a resemblance between the pattern of the nine of diamonds and the Saltire.
 4. Nine diamonds were at one time stolen from the crown of Scotland and a tax was levied on the Scottish people to pay for them - the tax got the nickname "The Curse of Scotland".
- The first two explanations are the ones most commonly given.

Officers

President:	Kenny Lawrence 4266 Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin, CA 94568 Email: kennethlawrence2@gmail.com	925 829 8771 510 676 6865 (cell)
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Website:	www.standrewssocietyofoakland.org	