



ESTABLISHED IN 1863

# The St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco

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January 2012



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**OUT  
OF  
THE  
ASHES**

# A Message from Our President

## The Saint Andrew's Society of San Francisco

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San Francisco, CA  
94133-3604  
(415) 885-6644  
Editor: William Jaggers  
Email: wjaggers@hotmail.com

### Membership Meetings:

Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of the month, at 7:30 PM. Light refreshments served after the meeting.

### Officers of the Society

John G. Allison, President  
James S. Beatty, First VP  
David McCrossan, Second VP  
Joshua G. Kyle, Treasurer  
Norma Dahnken, Secretary  
Roger Weed, Librarian  
Charles Syers DDS, Physician  
Elly Sturm, Chaplain  
Mary Gilbert, Bard  
Jack Cunningham, Piper  
Gerard S. Sample, Historian

### Trustees—

John McCorkindale, Chairman  
Stewart Hume  
Gene McCracken  
Bruce McMillan  
James M. Robertson, AIA-E

### Trustees Emeritus—

John B. Ritchie,

### Board of Relief—

Elly Sturm,  
Biz Obley  
Robert Blair, Jr.

### Board of Student Assistance—

J. Robert Logan, Chairman  
William Cummings, Sr.  
William Cummings, Jr.  
Fiona Allan



St. Andrew's Society  
of San Francisco

Dear Members and Society Friends:

I wish all our members a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year. May 2012 be kind to you all.

For those of you who did not make this year's Hogmanay Party, it was fabulous. We had in excess 60 members, their spouses, and friends join us to bring in the New Year at 1088 Green Street. Gene McCracken did a splendid job of addressing the haggis and Bruce McMillan graciously donated the Scottish pies, all adding to the flavor of the day.

The very pretty Daune (Dawn) Finke donated two bottles of spirits to our free New Year's raffle, and we gave away, malt, bourbon, vodka and ten bottles of wine. We had a tremendous spread of culinary delights, not the least of which included the most delicious short-bread I've ever tasted, that was homemade by Marjory, who used to run a wee Scottish tea shop in Monterey. I am glad she asked me to join our society and hope I can convince her to produce a batch for the March Members' Dinner.



*Karen Burton Lind, President PBFSCO.  
On my left Kay Deeham, President  
Oakland St Andrew's Society*

*Dining at the Caledonian Clubs Installation of Officers 2012*

On January 7th, my wife and I attended the very splendid Caledonian Club's Installation of Officers. With 160 sitting down to dinner, the event was a credit to their leadership and featured a very dignified presentation steeped with Scottish culture and tradition. We welcome their new Chieftain George McCombe.

Our own January meeting brings the installation of our officers to serve the Society in 2012.

*(Continued on page 3)*

(Continued from page 2)

If you have not signed up already for our Burns Supper please do so right away. You will not want to miss this memorable Scottish evening.

'Hope to see all your happy and smiling faces at Green Street in the New Year.

Aye

John Grant Allison

President



*Past Chief Jack Scott*

## BURNS SUPPER

Commemorate the Anniversary of the birth of Scotland's National Poet,

**Robert Burns** with

A Traditional Burns Night Supper

**Saturday, January 28th, 2012**

at

***The Family***

545 Powell Street (at Bush)

Nearest Parking at Sutter / Stockton Garage

**6:00 PM—No Host Cocktails**

**7:00PM — Dinner & Entertainment**

*Formal attire encouraged*

Please join us in San Francisco for our Traditional Burns Night Supper: an evening of celebration, dinner and entertainment on the anniversary of the birth of Scotland's National Poet, Robert Burns.

Accompanied by first class Scottish entertainment from Colyn Fischer, Shauna Pickett-Gordon and The Peninsula Scottish Fiddlers, come enjoy a taste of the Old Country right in the heart of the City.

Please complete guest information and mail \$100 check per person made out to:

***St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco***

**Joshua Kyle, Treasurer,**

3053 Fillmore, #118,

San Francisco, CA 94123

*Reservations must be received by*

*January 21st, 2012*





## Why Another Election? - An answer by John McCorkindale



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I've had many people ask me why the Society is having another election. Members have told me that James Beatty deserved to win the election in December because he has worked hard for the Society. I've been told that the votes in the last election were fairly counted and that he won.

All of this may be true, but is not relevant to the question at hand.

The only issue that the Board of Trustees was asked to decide was whether or not there was any doubt that the December election was fair. If there were any doubt, the only action possible would be a new election. Nothing in any democracy poisons the atmosphere more than the suspicion of an unfair election. Just look at Mr. Putin's situation in Russia.

Try to put yourself in my position (not an enviable one!)

The chairman of any board has to take an absolutely impartial stance on each issue, making sure that everyone has a chance to speak up. Afterward the board votes and regardless of the chairman's personal opinion, the majority vote rules. The board received complaints that the December election for First Vice President was unfair because there was confusion over which candidates would be running for the office. If evidence supported this, the board could take no other action than to call another election with the candidates clearly known beforehand.

Those members who asked for a new election did so based on the following argument:

At the November meeting, most members heard James Beatty say "I resign" during the nomination process and many understood this to mean he resigned his nomination. They did not think James was resigning his position as First Vice President, because First VP runs the banquet and they didn't think James would resign and leave the event leaderless just days before it would be held. Iain Macdonald certainly thought James resigned his nomination because he wrote a letter to all the members bemoaning that fact. John McCorkindale certainly thought he resigned his nomination when he wrote his reply to Iain. The Secretary thought James had resigned his nomination when she

*(Continued on page 5)*

wrote this in the minutes. Finally, James did nothing in the weeks following to correct the impression that he was not running. He did not email Iain, John, the secretary or anyone that the letters and minutes were incorrect and that in fact he had not resigned his nomination.

Those calling for a new election claimed that since the election was won by only two votes and since many people did not attend the December meeting on the mistaken understanding that the positions would be uncontested, the election was not fair.

Put yourself in the board's position. Was there any evidence of confusion over whether or not James was a candidate? What do you think?

The board decided that confusion could have existed and only another election with candidates clearly identified in advance would leave no doubt in the minds of all of the members about the fairness of the vote.



# IMAGES FROM CALEDONIAN CLUB INSTALLATION PARTY



## Chaplain's Corner Chat

With a wish for good health, peace, and plenty of opportunities to share the wealth of our blessings with others throughout this new year, I would like to join our First Vice James Beatty in thanking everyone in attendance at our recent Fire House Hogmanay celebration. We again enjoyed the lovely music of our Society's skilled musicians: pianist Richard Clark, guitarist and balladeer Trystan Buckley, and piper Jack Cunningham; and it was fun to hear the lusty voices of the attendees joining in on the sing-along pieces. Accolades go as well to all the talented cooks who shared their delicious wares; even with a full house, there was plenty of food and drink to go around, and then some! Together, we made the entry of the Scottish New Year a success in San Francisco.

There were others of our members who have had health challenges, some of whom I would like to mention, so that they may know they have not been absent from our hearts. It is with no small measure of joy that I may report to you that our young friend, Kristian Mullins, is improved in health and, although he is not free of the condition which was so very debilitating in the last few years, it is presently under a great degree of control and less painful for him. Kristian is continuing his studies at Sonoma State University, and you may contact him at his email address: KBMullins@comcast.net.

Another bit of good news is that Kathy and David Martin--our former tenants upstairs--are both feeling improved in health, Kathy in recovering from a somewhat minor back operation, and David after serious injuries incurred in a bicycle accident. They are happy to be in their new Mill Valley home and are looking forward to a complete return to strength and good health. They may be reached at Kmartin94941@gmail.com.

Many more were unable to attend, due to illness, other commitments, a variety of reasons--your presence and cheer were missed as well, and we wish you all well!

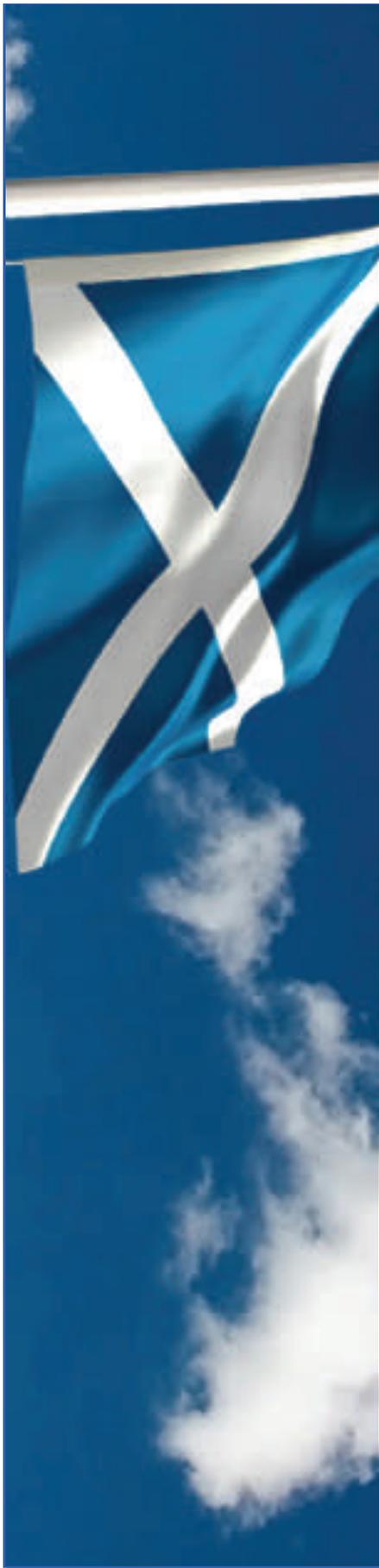
As a reminder, there are five or six completed SASSF certificates waiting to be claimed by their owners; these I have, as of Hogmanay, left at the Fire House in a cylinder with the list of the names posted on the exterior of the tube. At the moment, the list--being at the Fire House--is not in my possession, but you may contact me, if desired, at elisabeth.sturm@solano.edu.

Please accept my warmest wishes for a very Happy New Year!--  
Elisabeth Sturm, Chaplain



# OVER AND ABOVE: Gifts to the Society

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## **ST. ANDREW'S HONOR ROLL (\$1000 to \$5000)**

Thomas E. Kasinger

## **ST. ANDREW'S SPONSOR (\$500 to \$1000)**

Rosie and David J. Colt  
William D. MacQuattie, Jr.  
Sue and John B. Ritchie

## **ST. ANDREW'S SUPPORTER (up to \$500)**

Kalco Properties, Inc  
William C. Blair, M.D.  
Adriane and Col. James W. Campbell  
Deborah and Jeffery T. Griffith  
Diana and Robert J. Logan  
Kate and John A. Lord  
Donald MacDonald Architects  
Linda and Gerald W. MacKay  
Ellen and Glen McLaughlin  
Fred S. Nagle  
Maria and John R. Pitcairn  
Rosie and Donald M. Sanford  
Ruth and David B. Stronach  
Marilyn Van Story  
Lucille and G. Russell Wiley

## **Patron Life Members**

Life Members who have elected to make additional contributions for 2010.

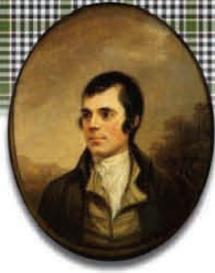
Wade Hughan  
John Lord  
Gerry Sample  
Don Sanford  
Brian Tulloch  
Jim Campbell

# SOME MEMORIES FROM HOGMANEY



# SOME MEMORIES FROM HOGMANEY cont.





# BURNS SUPPER 2012

Join us for the annual tribute to  
ROBERT BURNS, the Bard of Scotland

❖ SATURDAY, JANUARY 28<sup>TH</sup> ❖  
FEATURING JOANN GILMARTIN

**5:30pm No Host Bar/Registration**  
**7:00pm Dinner**

**Pleasanton Marriott ❖ 11950 Dublin Canyon Road**

*Dinner \$70 ❖ Group Table (10) \$650*

*Advanced Reservations Required by **January 20, 2012***

*Your cancelled check is your receipt ❖ No Refunds*

*For information please visit [www.PBFSCO.org](http://www.PBFSCO.org)*

*Susan Spiegel 650.799.9001 or [susan@celtic-lass.com](mailto:susan@celtic-lass.com)*

**Presented by the Pleasanton Blairgowrie Fergus Sister City Organization**

**Please do not drink and drive**—Rooms are available for \$90.00 + tax, breakfast included.  
Please call 925.847.6000 and ask for the Burns Supper block. Rate available until January 11, 2012.  
[www.MarriottPleasanton.com](http://www.MarriottPleasanton.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check Amount \_\_\_\_\_ (made payable to PBFSCO)

Dinner Choice: Grilled Flank Steak # \_\_\_\_ Chicken Wellington # \_\_\_\_ Salmon/Shrimp Combo # \_\_\_\_



**Please print legibly, complete this form in full and mail with check to:**  
**PBFSCO ❖ PO Box 10162 ❖ Pleasanton, CA 94588**