



The St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco

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Calendar

JANUARY 2010

MON, 18 JAN,
Society Monthly
Meeting: Installation
of Officers

SAT, 23 JAN,
Robert Burns Supper
at The Family, San
Francisco



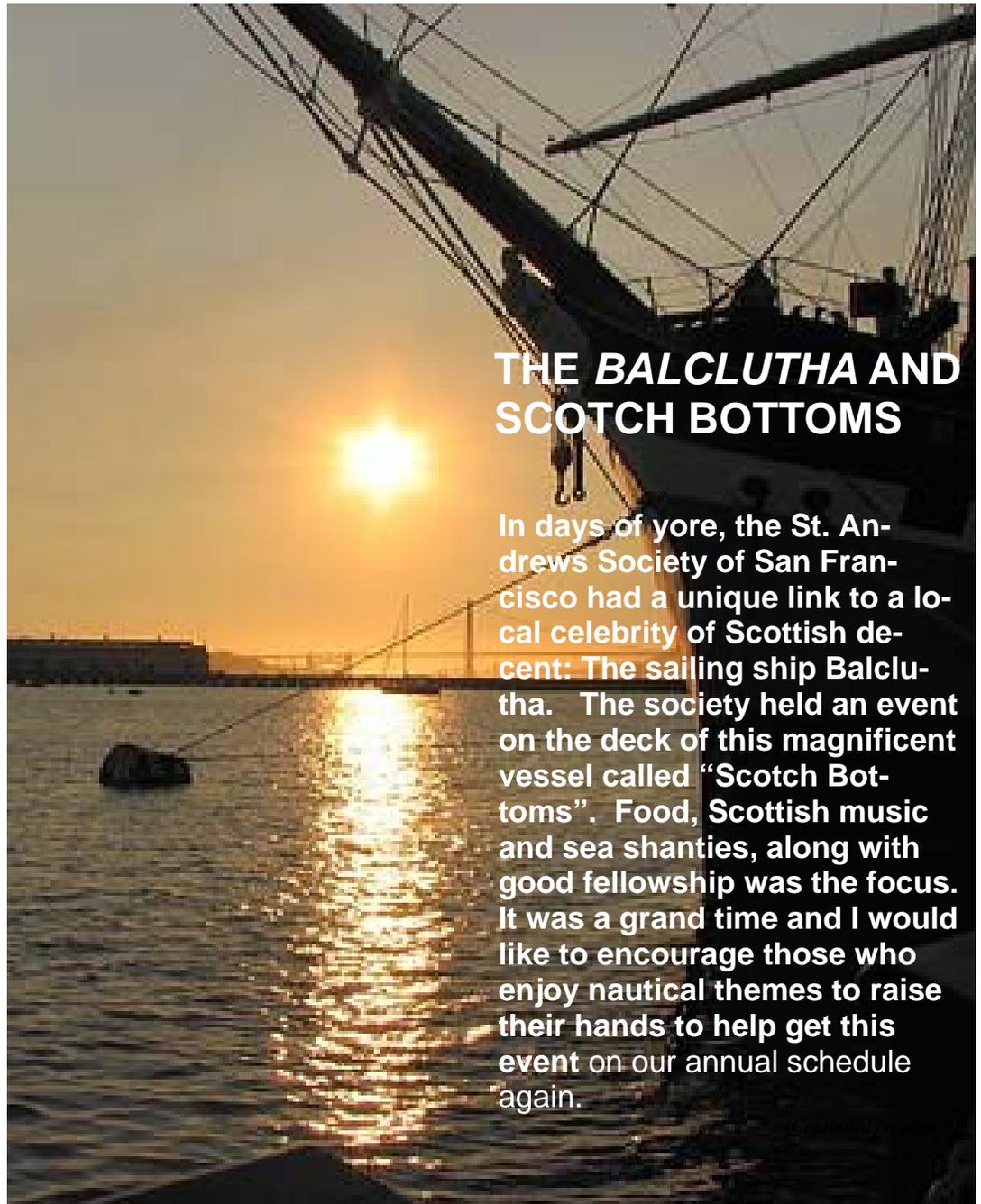
Inside this Issue

Remembrance 1

Message from our

President 2

Upcoming events 3



THE *BALCLUTHA* AND SCOTCH BOTTOMS

In days of yore, the St. Andrews Society of San Francisco had a unique link to a local celebrity of Scottish descent: The sailing ship *Balclutha*. The society held an event on the deck of this magnificent vessel called "Scotch Bottoms". Food, Scottish music and sea shanties, along with good fellowship was the focus. It was a grand time and I would like to encourage those who enjoy nautical themes to raise their hands to help get this event on our annual schedule again.

A Message from Our President

The Saint Andrew's Society of San Francisco

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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

Fred Rutledge, President
Gene McCracken, First VP
John Allison, Second VP
Russ Wallace, Treasurer
Tom Kasinger, Secretary
Roger Weed, Librarian
Charles Syers DDS, Physician
James Beatty, Chaplain
Bruce McCubbrey, Bard
Ozzie Reid, Piper

Trustees—

Bruce McMillan, Chairman
Tom McLaughlin,
John McCorkindale
Bruce Reeves
James M. Robertson, AIA-E
John B. Ritchie, Trustee
Emeritus

Board of Relief,

James Beatty

Board of Student Assistance—

Robert Logan,
William Cummings, Sr.
William Cummings, Jr.
Loren Obley



St. Andrew's Society
of San Francisco

Members and Friends:

A Happy New Year to each and every one! We ended 2009 and started 2010 with a great Hogmanay celebration at the fire-house. Thanks go to Elly Sturm and James Beatty for organizing the program. Some fifty people were jammed into the meeting room. We had many guests and family members in attendance as well. Gene McCracken gave the Address to the Haggis, Jack Cunningham played his parlor pipes and there we had a sing-along to boot.



This last year was one of great change for the society. We started off with having opened membership to women of Scottish ancestry. As we enter 2010 Mary Gilbert has taken on the mantle of Bard and Elly Sturm will be our Chaplain. Euan Cunningham produced a fine Burns Supper on the occasion of Burns' 250th Anniversary. John Allison put together a year of great programs for our meetings and meals too! Gene McCracken then ended the year with a super St. Andrews Banquet and Ball.

The December meeting marked the election of 2010 Society Officers. This month we will have the installation of said officers. A heart-felt thanks goes out to each of those persons who stepped up to serve the society in 2009. In particular, I would like to thank past-presidents Gene McCracken and Bruce McCubbrey for jumping in and holding positions for the year. We have some familiar faces on the 2010 roster and a few new ones as well. There will be more opportunities come next fall for those interested in stepping up and serving the society.

After the meeting was adjourned, Admiral Judd Scott, US Navy Retired gave a great presentation on Scot John Paul Jones. Scott's presentation was great fun and informative. His presentation was indicative of the variety and quality our 2nd VP provided at the meetings over the year.

In other news: Past-president Bruce McMillan had a very nasty accident on the ski slopes while on vacation with his daughter in Aspen, Colorado. From my last conversation with Bruce it appears he is on the mend, but your good thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery are appreciated.

This month's meeting is the Installation of Officers. A business meeting will be conducted first. I encourage you to wear your kilts that evening! Please note, Past-President Gerry Sample has promised to provide his traditional installation poem (more like a roast) to "bless" each person stepping into an office. That alone is worth the effort to attend. Thank you Gerry!

(Continued on page 4)



Robert Burns Supper,

Saturday, 23 January,

at

the Family,

San Francisco

Please get your reservations and cheques to John Allison, ASAP.

John is getting regular calls and email returns. He asks that you print your guests' names so they can be read by older gentlemen, aye.

Remember, ticket prices are \$80 for members and members' guest, \$85 for non members until Hogmanay, thereafter prices go up \$5.

St. Andrew's Society of SF & Related Calendar of Events for 2010

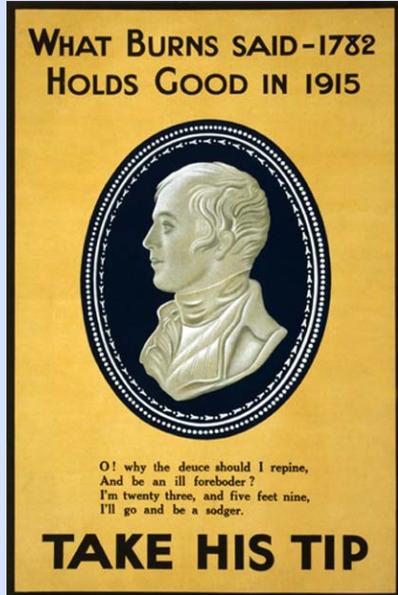
JANUARY 2010

MON, 18 JAN, Society Monthly Meeting: Installation of Officers

SAT, 23 JAN, Robert Burns Supper at The Family, San Francisco



A Message from Our President continued:



ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.
Celebration of the One Hundred and
Twenty-Seventh Anniversary of the
Birth of Robert Burns.

The St. Andrew's Society last evening celebrated the one hundred and twenty-seventh anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns, and Scottish Hall was packed with enthusiastic Scots and their friends. The feature of the evening's entertainment was an eloquent address by Rev. Robert Mackenzie upon the "Memories of Bobby Burns." At the conclusion of the address a musical programme was rendered, in which Signor Campobello, Miss Grace Porter, Messrs. Owens and Boker, Miss Marjory McIntosh, J. Linklater (in Highland costume), Mrs. D. W. Laird, J. Niven and George Bremner took part. Dancing was then taken up and continued till midnight.

*From San Francisco Bulletin;
January 26, 1887*

(Continued from page 2)

And finally, my historical article this month is on the sailing ship *Balclutha*, moored at the National Park site at the Hyde Street Pier, San Francisco. In years past our society conducted a fun event aboard this sailing ship called "Scotch Bottoms". In an effort to bring back some of the great traditions and to support Scottish history in the region, I have asked a committee of "maritime-types" to take on the project of getting the program up and running (perhaps in the late spring). Biz Obley has agreed to chair the committee. Interested parties should touch base with him.



Our next big event is coming up on Saturday, 23 January. The annual Robert Burns Supper will be at "the Family again this year. Second VP John Allison is master of ceremonies. Haggis and other Burns traditions will be honored and consumed! Please support this event with your attendance and bring guests along!

Again, a thank you goes out to all who served the society this year, and I thank the membership and officers for your support. With that said, please wear your kilts to the January meeting!

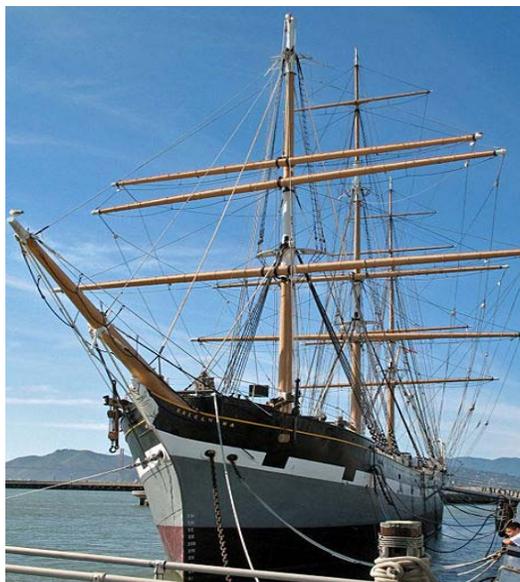
Yours aye,

Fred Rutledge



(Continued from page 1)

Why the *Balclutha*? Well, it was built in 1886 by Charles Connell & Co. Ltd., of Glasgow, Scotland, for Robert McMillan, of Dumbarton. Her namesake is said to be the town of Balclutha, New Zealand, but her name can also refer to her first homeport, Glasgow, Scotland, which is a "City on the Clyde" - the meaning of her name derived from the Gaelic Baile Chluaidh. Designed as a trader, *Balclutha* rounded Cape Horn 17 times in 13 years. During this period she carried cargoes such as wine, case oil, and coal from Europe and the East Coast of the United States to various ports in the Pacific. These included Chile for nitrate, Australia and New Zealand for wool, Burma for rice, San Francisco for grain, and the Pacific Northwest for timber. In 1899 the *Balclutha* was transferred to Hawaiian registry, and traded timber from the Pacific Northwest to Australia, returning to San Francisco with Australian coal.



In 1902 the *Balclutha* was chartered to the Alaska Packers' Association. She struck Sitkin Island near Kodiak in May, 1904. She was renamed the *Star of Alaska* when bought by APA for a mere \$500! After repairs she joined the salmon fishing trade, sailing north from the San Francisco area to the Chignik Bay, Alaska, in April each year, with supplies, fishermen, and cannery workers, and returned in September with a cargo of canned salmon. For this trade she carried over 200 crew and passengers, as compared to the 26 man crew she carried as the *Balclutha*. Her last voyage in this trade was in 1930, when she then was laid up after her return home.

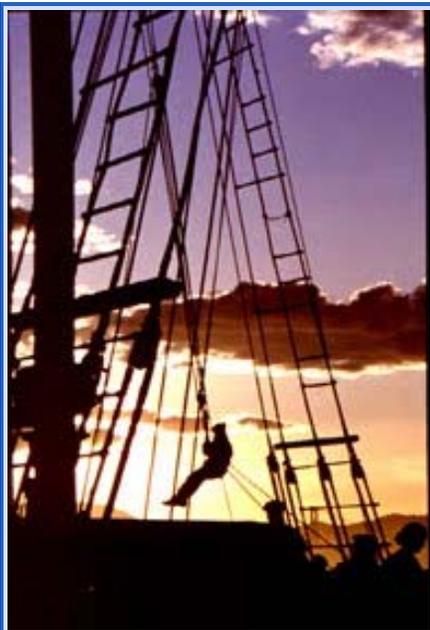


Left: "stage" for Scotch Bottoms

In 1933, the *Star of Alaska* was renamed the *Pacific Queen* by her new owner Frank Kissinger. In this guise she appeared in the film *Mutiny on the Bounty* starring Clark Gable and Charles Laughton. She then eked out an existence as an exhibition ship, gradually

(Continued on page 6)

The *Balclutha* and Scotch Bottoms



(Continued from page 5)

falling into disrepair.

In 1954, the *Pacific Queen* was acquired by the San Francisco Maritime Museum, who restored her and renamed her back to *Balclutha*. In 1985 she was designated a National Historic Landmark. She is now one of the exhibits of the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park and is moored at the park's Hyde Street Pier.



This wee bit of Scotland is the only square rigged ship left in the San Francisco Bay Area. She is a representative of different commercial ventures, including grain, lumber and salmon. I encourage you to visit this historic landmark! You may find more information by checking the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park Museum, 2905 Hyde Street, 415- 929-0202, www.maritime.org

As well as being exhibited, the *Balclutha* is host to a monthly sea shanty sing-around.



CELESTIAL CORNER

As your 'out-going' Chaplain, I wish to express my sincerest appreciation to have been privileged to serve our society in this capacity. During the past six years I have participated in memorials to dearly departed members, soliciting contributions to victims of 'Katrina' via fellow



Saint Andrews Societies in the greater New Orleans area, and introspectively memorialize the national catastrophe of '9 - 11.' We have also witnessed the loss of loving partners of members, and the challenging health issues of current active members, and Past Presidents. We have also experienced the uncertain financial futures of many of our members, as well as the depletion of our own society's resources.

Yet with resilience we have improved upon and retained our beloved 'Firehouse', while sharing its historical value with the community and our extended Celtic family. We have celebrated the advent of women into our 'beloved order' following 145 years of 'men only.' How delightful it is to not only welcome these attractive and accomplished members, but also note the frequency of husbands and wives joining together. We look forward to such an enriched and 'welcoming' future.

The historical position of 'Chaplain' in our society was not lightly conceived. Most of our forbearers in their efforts to create new homes for themselves in foreign lands recognized the need for a 'helping hand' inspired by a benevolent God. Times of transition were arduous as they were inspiring. Banding together within the energized bonds of a shared faith, provided them purpose, strength, and appreciation for each other. They were indeed a community of thankful and reliant souls. I pray that we never grow numb to the needs about us, nor deny the omnipresent source of our strengths and success.

As I leave this position I rest assured that it will be well served in the spiritually-gifted hands of our society's first woman to hold an elected office, Elisabeth Sturm. Our first woman to become a member was Mary

(Continued on page 11)

Check it out – Black Watch tartan with a twist

Published Date: 06 January 2010

By MARTYN McLAUGHLIN



A model strikes a pose in the distinctive new tartan designed to raise museum funds. Picture: Dan Philip

It is a twist on one of the world's most celebrated and enduring military brands.

A new tartan celebrating the Black Watch was unveiled yesterday in a move designed to preserve the proud heritage of Scotland's famous fighting unit.

Proceeds from sales of a range of items in the new "Red Hackle" tartan will go towards multi-million plans for a permanent museum charting the regiment's history.

The tartan takes its name from the distinctive red plume worn by the regiment's troops in their bonnets. While incorporating the traditional dark regimental tartan of the Black Watch, the design has been overlaid with a series of checks in two shades of red.

It was designed by Perthshire-based House of Edgar, part of Macnaughton Holdings Ltd, with the final tartan approved by Black Watch top brass.

The material is available as a fabric and sold as scarves, ties, kilts, trews and waistcoats.

Some 10 per cent of the sales from the tartan will be given to the Black Watch Heritage Appeal, which is seeking to establish a permanent museum to the regiment at Balhousie Castle in Perth.

Blair Macnaughton, managing director of Macnaughton Holdings, said the company was "delighted" with the new tartan.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

"I have been wanting to create a Red Hackle tartan for several years," he said.

"We hope it will appeal not only to anyone connected with the Black Watch – either at present or in the past – but also to the general public who have no allegiance to any clan tartan.

The red hackle is synonymous with the world's most famous regiment. I think it will appeal to people the world over. It's a great name and I can't believe a Red Hackle tartan hasn't been designed before now."

Originally made from red vulture feathers, the hackles can be traced back to the 18th century, and have been worn exclusively by the Black Watch since 1822.

Soldiers of the Black Watch first started wearing it on their Tam O'Shanter bonnets in 1795.

It is said the honour was conferred by King George III to recognise the regiment's gallantry in the Battle of Geldermalsen in that year. Assistant regimental secretary Major Ronnie Proctor praised the design and said it had already won enthusiastic approval among serving and retired soldiers of the regiment, which is now a battalion of the Royal Regiment of Scotland.

"The red hackle is something that Black Watch soldiers have always been proud to wear," he said.

"They will be equally proud to wear the new tartan as I hope many others will.

"The House of Edgar is to be congratulated on designing a tartan that is both true to the traditional Black Watch roots and the spirit of the scarlet plume."

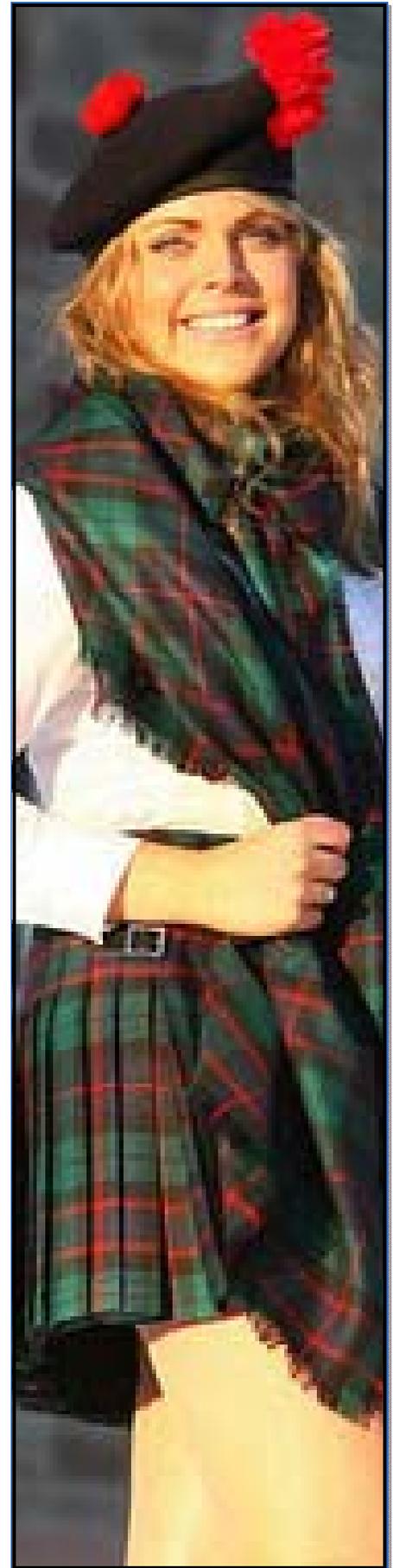
Alfie Iannetta, chief executive of the Black Watch Museum Trust, said donations from the sale of the new tartan were a creative and innovative way to raise funds for the £3.2m museum.

He said: "I'm confident it will endure for generations." It's very simple, but we hope it will be successful.

THE Red Hackle tartan is a classic design at heart, and it was very important for us to include the famous Black Watch design.

There are only three colours – black, navy and bottle green – but we wanted to include the red. We went through a series of designs, first of all swapping the black for red, then the navy, and then the green.

(Continued on page 10)



Letter from Elly

HOGMANAY A BIG HIT

If you missed Hogmanay at the SASSF Firehouse recently, well, I'm sorry. We were happily surprised by a turnout that exceeded expectations. While everybody basked in the celebratory ambience of our festively-decorated hall, enhanced by the border pipe tones of Jack Cunningham, the food tables quickly began to overflow with the delectably delicious dishes of the season--from Cock-a-leeky soup, shrimp with sauce, pasta salad, to cheesecake and real shortbread, to mention just a few--prepared and shared by quite a few of our members and members-to-be. Not to be outdone, the beverage corner was also well supplied: wines of varied sorts, malts and liqueurs, plus sodas, water, and coffee.

With opportunities to meet new people and greet longtime acquaintances alike, the pleasant hubbub of socializing was intermittently interspersed with several sing-alongs--original rounds (created by James Beatty) enjoyed by three teams of singers; several Scottish songs; and a rousing version of the Twelve Days of Christmas, in which the whole

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 9)

In the end, however, we settled on keeping the Black Watch design, but the scarlet and cherry overchecks give it definition and fresh life.

It's very simple, but we hope it will be successful. It's difficult to know the response, but we've already had a great reception from retailers. There are various pipe bands named after the red hackle and numerous regimental associations around the world, and we hope the new tartan will give them a chance to wear something new.

The first rule when making a new tartan is to ensure it is wearable for men and women, otherwise you are cutting off half your potential market.

If we are approached by a family or a company, we will research their history and see if there is any allegiance to a clan. In that case, we will suggest making amendments to that tartan.

A lot of people get snooty regarding tartan and regard it as kitsch, but research shows it is worth £300 million a year to the Scottish economy.

- Blair Macnaughton is managing director of Macnaughton Holdings, the fabric manufacturer and kiltmaker founded in 1783.

(Continued from page 7)

Gilbert, Deputy British Consul. Of this first generation of 'pioneer women' in their first year of admittance was 'Elly' (Sturm.) Many have met her acquaintance by way of our 'membership tents' at the 'Games', artwork for the various banquets or 'in-house' celebrations, musical contributions, or uninhibited, inclusive hugs. She is definitely a 'people person' who has served to meet the needs of so many her entire life.

Until recently, she was the musical director and conductor for the vocal and bell choirs of a major Presbyterian Church in Vallejo, CA. She currently conducts the children's chorus for the Vallejo Choral Society. She also participates in performance regularly with the outreach ministries of 'Jamanhi Presbyterian Church (black & white musicians.) She is a continuing singer and founding member of the 'Well-Tempered Voices' (a 27 yr. old group) that records and sings all over the North Bay. She has also been a long-standing member of the Solano Choral Society that comprises 70 outstanding voices. But she also takes time to sing for convalescent facilities and 'developmentally-challenged' adults in their day centers. She believes in 'reaching out' and 'giving back.' She is spiritually motivated to 'make some difference' in the lives of others. How she finds time for her regular job of teaching German or Spanish at Solano College is a mystery to me. The Good and Persistent amongst us do seem to benefit us all. These characteristics are so noticeable in the many selfless leaders of our own society. Just look around. Don't be shy to say, "Thank you." And now I will close with 'God Bless' us all.

Chaplain, James S. Beatty

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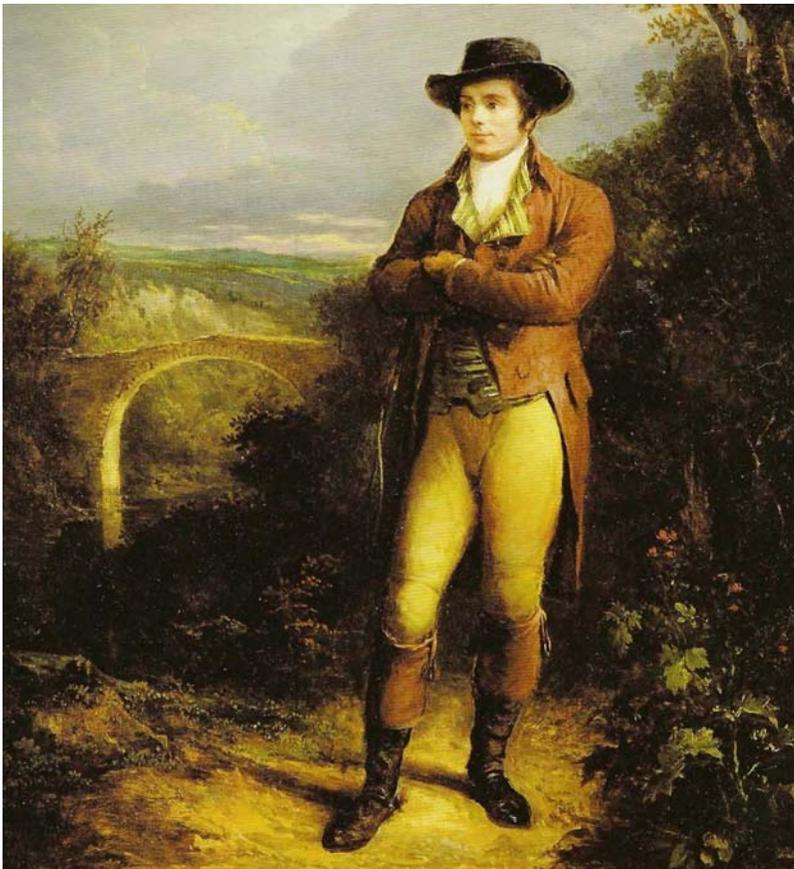
company participated--until James Robertson brought our attention to the melodic 'Call of the Haggis'--one of my favorite moments. Then, preceded by Piper Cunningham's music, the Haggis was addressed in a fashion meeting; I'm sure, with Robbie Burn's approval, by Gene McCracken. First Stepper (and handsomely dark-haired) Biz Mobley's entrance assured us of protection from those marauding bands of blue-eyed blondes, as James Beatty gifted everyone with a tartan-wrapped piece of coal for good luck.

A huge "Thanks" to all who brought their yummy offerings and to everyone for sharing and participating in this joyous welcome of the New Year in the Scottish tradition. It was fun. To those who couldn't be there, don't miss the next Hogmanay on Green Street!

By Elisabeth Sturm



1088 Green Street
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94133-3604



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Saturday, 23 January,
at
the Family,
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