



ESTABLISHED IN 1863

# The St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco



Volume 147, No. 3

November 2009

## Calendar

SUN, 8 NOV, Remembrance Day Service at Grace Cathedral, SF

MON. 16 NOV. Society Monthly Meeting Program.

SAT, 28 NOV St. Andrew's Day, Banquet and Ball, Marine's Memorial, SF

MON, 30 November, St. Andrew's Day

Mon. 14 DEC (note date change). Society Monthly Meeting. Election of 2010 officers



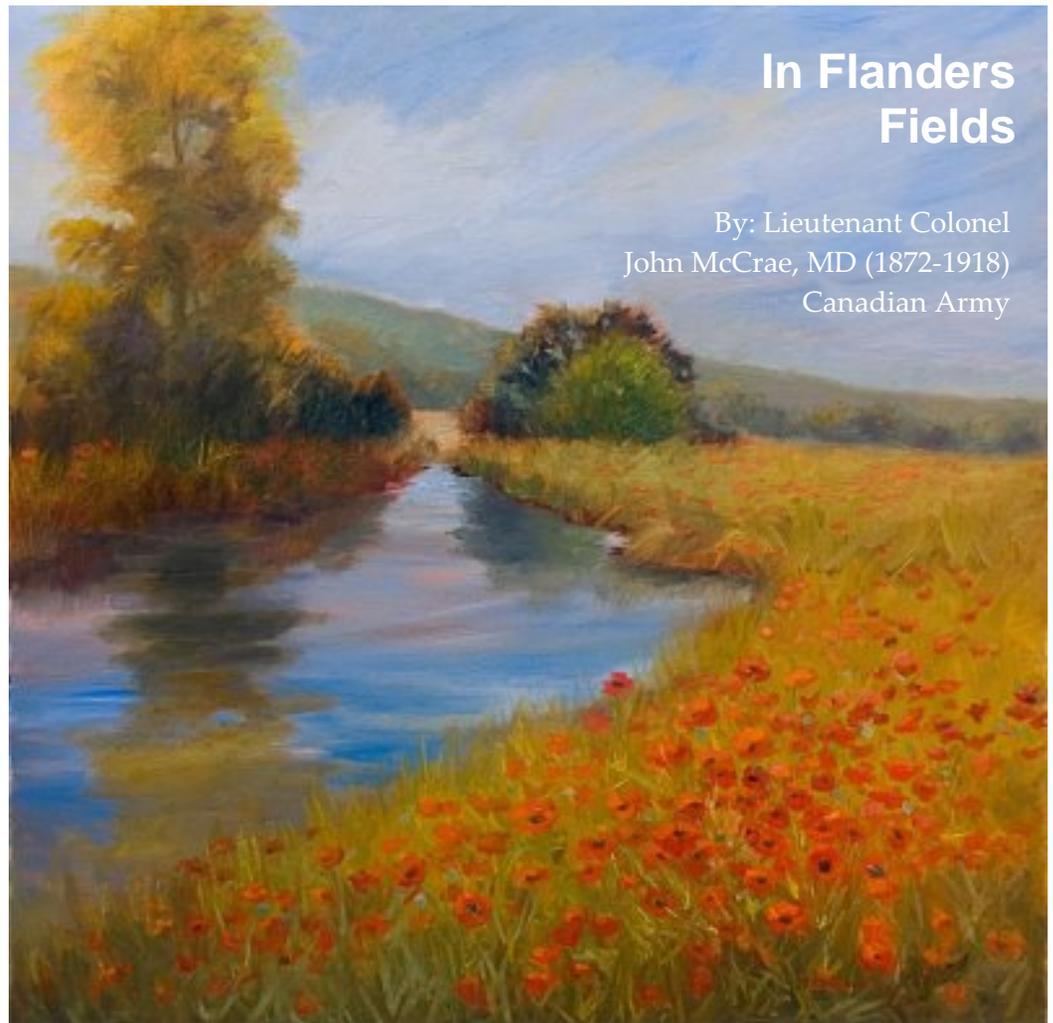
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## In Flanders Fields

By: Lieutenant Colonel  
John McCrae, MD (1872-1918)  
Canadian Army

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.  
We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,

Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.  
Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

# 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 Jagers  
Email: wjagers@hotmail.com

### Membership Meetings:

Meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

### 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 Celtic New Year (Samhain) to one and all! November is a full month of activities. The John Muir Awards Banquet, the Festival of Remembrance at Grace Cathedral, the photo presentation at Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School, and our St. Andrews Banquet and Ball are this month.

The October meeting was lively and tasty with a proper introduction to the Haggis by Alex Henderson. Alex had background music from Shauna on the piano and Colin on the fiddle. The nominating Committee did yeoman work putting a great slate of officers together for your consideration. We are still working on a chaplain however, so interested persons please let us know! The opportunity for nominations from the floor will be made during the November meeting. The elections will be held next month. Please note the December meeting will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> to allow folks a proper Holiday break!

Tom Kasinger is working on an article about John MacLeran for the newsletter. Thank you Tom! I would like to encourage other members to contribute on other topics of interest to the society. Please step-up to the computer and draft an article!

The regimental articles are switching to North American topics. This month the article is on the oldest Highland Regiment in Canada: the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada. I have a particular interest in this regiment and have been a member of its association for 22 years. Back in 1987 three of us from Royal Canadian Legion, Post 25 Color Party were invited to participate in the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Regiment's founding in Montreal. The Colonel in Chief, Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother was there to celebrate. We marched with the Regiment and the Association in Molson Stadium at McGill University and participated in other commemorative events.

Roger Weed has recruited a small team of St. Andrews members to participate in the John Muir Conservation Award Celebration in Martinez on 7 November.

Lee Stetson, who portrays Muir in Yosemite will present "The Spirit of John Muir" that night. It should be a great time.

John Allison has organized a presentation of the Robert Louis Stevenson photo to St. Helena's Robert Louis Stevenson Middle School. The event has been moved to the 19 November. We Currently have Dorothy MacKay-Collins, Jim Marsh, James Beatty, Elli Sturm, the Mayor of St Helena, British Consul-General Julian Evans, Deputy Consul Mary Gilbert and 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Allison will be representing us that day. The local newspaper, the St Helena Star, should be on hand to take pictures. John will take the group to lunch in Napa afterwards. A great day indeed! Thanks go out to John for getting this organized.



- Saint Andrew's Society Banquet and Ball, Saturday, 28 November, at the Marines' Memorial Club and Hotel, San Francisco.  
Point of Contact: Gene McCracken.
- Robert Burns Supper, Saturday, 23 January, at the Family, San Francisco.  
Point of Contact: John Allison.

## St. Andrew's Society of SF & Related Calendar of Events for 2009

### NOVEMBER

SUN, 8 NOV, Remembrance Day Service at Grace Cathedral, SF

SAT, 28 NOV St. Andrew's Day, Banquet and Ball, Marine's Memorial, SF

MON, 30 November, St. Andrew's Day

Society Monthly Meeting – 16 NOV. Program: the British Consulate in San

Francisco, presenters Consul General Julian Evans & Deputy Mary Gilbert

Add candidates from floor.

### DECEMBER

Society Monthly Meeting – 14 DEC (note date change). Program: John Paul Jones, presenter Admiral Judd Scott USN (Retired).

Election of 2010 officers

THU, 31 DEC, Society's Hogmonay Celebrations, Firehouse

### JANUARY 2010

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

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

**The Saint Andrew's Society of San Francisco**

*Cordially invites you to its  
146<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Banquet and Ball*



*on Saturday,  
November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
at the  
Marines' Memorial Club  
San Francisco*

*Special overnight room rates of \$179.00, includes a Buffet Breakfast. Call 1-800-5Marine for reservations. Please mention The Saint Andrew's Society Scottish Banquet.*

*Reception  
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm*

*Dinner and Dancing  
7:30 pm to 11:00 pm*

*Dunvegan Pipe Band  
Scottish Fiddlers  
Scottish Dancers*

*Address to the Haggis*

*Circulation of the  
Ram's Head Snuff Box*

*Formal, Highland Dress  
or Evening Attire*



*Parking available at the  
Olympic Garage on Sutter St.*

Prices per person:  
\$110 each per member and member's guest  
\$110 each per non-member and guest  
For more information call Gene McCracken,  
Society's VP, at: 650-573-1353

Reservations:

Ticket	Qty.	Price	Subtotal
Member/Guest	_____	\$110	_____
Non-Member/Guest	_____	\$110	_____
<b>Order Total:</b>			_____

Number of Vegetarian Meals: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks Payable to:  
Saint Andrew's Society of San Francisco

**Reservations due by November 23, 2009**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Send this Form and Payment to:  
The Saint Andrew's Society of San Francisco  
Mr. Russell E. Wallace, Treasurer  
100 Thordale Dr. Apt 350  
San Rafael, CA 94003-4576

For information about Saint Andrew's Society:  
<http://www.saintandrewssociety-sf.org>

# A Message from Our President continued:

## VETERANS HONOR

by Nathan Jagers

As the veterans march to the field  
of battle,  
as the cries of soldiers and rifles  
rattle,  
as they defend the land of the  
free,  
defending us and our families.

One by one they fall,  
two by two they answer the call  
of protecting their land.

Together they band,  
they come to fight  
with all their might.

We thank them for doing their  
best  
and forgetting all the rest.  
If they die they die in honor  
of protecting their home

Just remember that you are not  
alone.  
We are proud of you.  
We thank you.  
We love you.  
We honor you.



*(Continued from page 2)*

The Robert Louis Stevenson Museum has agreed to take on the task of helping sell the Bank of Scotland/RLS One Pound notes. The RLS Museum will split the proceeds with our society. A win-win for both organizations.

The St. Andrews Banquet and Ball is this month! It will be held at the Marines' Memorial Club on Saturday, 28 November. Please support this event with your attendance and bring guests along! First VP Gen McCracken is the point of contact.

For those interested, a small block of rooms in the club are available for the evening of the event. A copy of the notice and registration is on the website.

Honorary Member and British Consul-General Julian Evans and his Deputy and member Mary Gilbert will make a presentation on the duties and activities of the British Consulate at the 16 November meeting. The presentation should be great fun. I look forward to seeing you there!

Yours aye,  
Fred Rutledge

Yours aye,  
Fred Rutledge

## The Sack Lunches

I put my carry-on in the luggage compartment and sat down in my assigned seat. It was going to be a long flight. I'm glad I have a good book to read, perhaps I will get a short nap, I thought.

Just before take-off, a line of soldiers came down the aisle and filled all the vacant seats, totally surrounding me. I decided to start a conversation.

'Where are you headed?' I asked the soldier seated nearest to me.

'Petawawa. We'll be there for two weeks for special training, and then we're being deployed to Afghanistan ...'

After flying for about an hour, an announcement was made that sack lunches were available for five dollars. It would be several hours before we reached the east, and I quickly decided a lunch would help pass the time..

As I reached for my wallet, I overheard soldier ask his buddy if he planned to buy lunch.

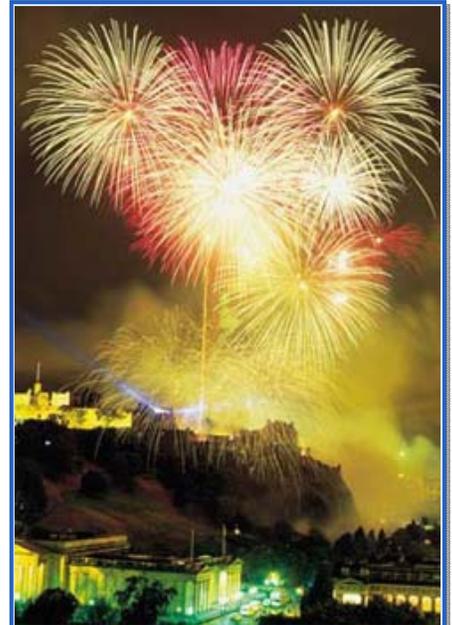
No, that seems like a lot of money for just a sack lunch. Probably wouldn't be worth five bucks. I'll wait till we get to base.

His friend agreed. I looked around at the other soldiers. None were buying lunch. I walked to the back of the plane and handed the flight attendant a fifty dollar bill.

Take a lunch to all those soldiers. She grabbed my arms and squeezed tightly. Her eyes wet with tears, she thanked me. My son was a soldiering Iraq; it's almost like you are doing it for him.

Picking up ten sacks, she headed up the aisle to where the soldiers were seated. She stopped at my seat and asked, 'Which do you like best - beef or chicken?'

*(Continued on page 8)*



## Come Home for HOGMANAY!

Let all get together for Hogmanay this year. Thursday, 31 DEC at the Firehouse.

Aye, Mark your calendar, more details to follow, while we all keep watch for the fair haired stranger.



## The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada

The American Civil War created an air of concern in British North America. While the war and the creation of a large American Federal Army were making it necessary to establish a united "Canada", the colonists were demanding the creation of local militia units to guarantee the fundamental rights of what would become the "Dominion of Canada". Montrealers were no exception, and early in 1862 the 5th Battalion, Volunteer Militia Rifles of Canada, the forebear of The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada, was raised. Right from the start, Canada's senior Highland Regiment has been privileged to serve Canada in its obligations not only to the Empire and the Commonwealth, but also to international organizations such as NATO and the United Nations.



*Cap badge of the 5th Royal Scots.*

The Black Watch of Canada's birth and growth is similar to that of the Parent Regiment, which was formed in 1739 to guarantee peace in the Scottish Highlands and eventually to fight for Crown and Country in conflicts throughout the world. It is not surprising that both Regiments share a common heritage, spirit, and a distinctive highland dress. The tartan of the Black Watch and the Royal Stewart tartan of its pipers are known the world over as symbols of outstanding service in peace and war.



*A hand-colored postcard of the Royal Highlanders of Canada circa 1900.*

Although members of the Regiment served side by side with the Black Watch of Scotland in the Boer War, the formal alliance between Regiments did not occur until 1905. The great battles of World War I and

*(Continued on page 7)*

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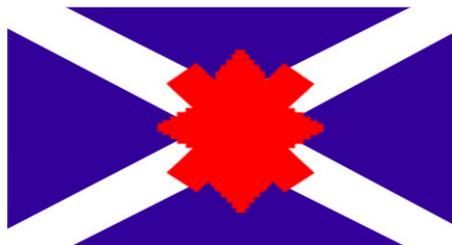
World War II served to strengthen the alliance and constant liaison and exchanges of officers and other ranks are fitting expressions of our wish to maintain this valuable affiliation. During the First World War, 11,954 officers and enlisted men fought in the three battalions of the Canadian Regiment, winning twenty-six battle honors. Of those who served, 2,163 were killed, 6,014 were wounded and 821 were decorated. Six members were awarded the Victoria Cross. During the Second World War, the Canadian Regiment joined with battalions of the Black Watch from all parts of the Commonwealth in the struggle to defeat the Axis. The Regiment first saw action at Dieppe, where its "C" Company and Mortar Platoon were key components of the assault force. Landing in Normandy shortly after D-Day, the Black Watch participated in some thirty combat actions throughout France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and into Germany. Members of the Regiment won 211 honors and awards for the campaign.

After the war the Black Watch (RHR) of Canada reverted back to its role as a one-battalion militia regiment, but in 1953, the 1st and 2nd Canadian Highland Battalions (Active Force) were re-designated 1st and 2nd Battalion Black Watch (RHR) of Canada while the Montreal Militia Unit became 3rd battalion.

The designation "3rd Battalion" has now been removed from the Militia Unit and The Black Watch (RHR) of Canada has reverted to its traditional role as being a Militia Regiment in Canada's Armed Forces. In 1987 the Black Watch celebrated 125 years of service. The Colonel of the Regiment – Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, attended. So did three lads from the Black Watch Color Party of Royal Canadian Legion, Post 25 in San Francisco. The author had a chance to speak briefly with the Queen Mother and even shake her hand during a walk-about on Mount Royal!

In August 1992, the Regiment was granted the Freedom of the City of Montreal. The towns of Ormstown and Huntingdon, Quebec granted the Regiment the Freedom of their cities in 1997 and 1998, respectively. And in the fall of 1999, the City of Verdun, Quebec, bestowed the Freedom of the City upon the Regiment. Verdun has provided many Black Watch soldiers from the First War onwards. Today the Black Watch of Canada is a modern infantry battalion providing trained soldiers to augment regular force units and to aid civil authorities in times of crises. Currently, the Regiment has soldiers serving in Afghanistan. To fulfill these tasks, the soldiers undergo extensive infantry and more specialized training.

*(Continued on page 9)*



*The Flag of the Regiment. This flag flies over the Armory in Montreal.*



*(Continued from page 5)*

'Chicken, ' I replied, wondering why she asked. She turned and went to the front of plane, returning a minute later with a dinner plate from first class. ' This is your thanks. '

After we finished eating, I went again to the back of the plane, heading for the rest room. A man stopped me. ' I saw what you did. I want to be part of it. Here, take this. ' He handed me twenty-five dollars.

Soon after I returned to my seat, I saw the Flight Captain coming down the aisle, looking at the aisle numbers as he walked, I hoped he was not looking for me, but noticed he was looking at the numbers only on my side of the plane. When he got to my row he stopped, smiled, held out his hand, and said, ' I want to shake your hand.'

Quickly unfastening my seatbelt I stood and took the Captain's hand. With a booming voice he said, ' I was a soldier and I was a military pilot. Once, someone bought me a lunch. It was an act of kindness I never forgot.'

I was embarrassed when applause was heard from all of the passengers.

Later I walked to the front of the plane so I could stretch my legs. A man who was seated about six rows in front of me reached out his hand, wanting to shake mine. He left another twenty-five dollars in my palm.

When we landed I gathered my belongings and started to deplane. Waiting just inside the airplane door was a man who stopped me, put something in my shirt pocket, turned, and walked away without saying a word.

Another twenty-five dollars!

Upon entering the terminal, I saw the soldiers gathering for their trip to the base. I walked over to them and handed them seventy-five dollars. 'It will take you some time to reach the base. It will be about time for a sandwich. God Bless You.'

Ten young men left that flight feeling the love and respect of their fellow travelers. As I walked briskly to my car, I whispered a prayer for their safe return. These soldiers were giving their all for our country. I could only give them a couple of meals. It seemed so little...

A veteran is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to 'Canada' for an amount of 'up to and including my life.'

That is Honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand it. '

May God give you the strength and courage to pass this along to everyone on your email buddy list..I just did.

**~Freedom Isn't Free Somebody Paid~**

*(Continued from page 7)*

## THE RED HACKLE

While many have believed that the Red Hackle began as a campaign distinction of the parent Regiment for its services during a British retreat through the Flemish village of Geldermalsen in January 1795, recent evidence has more or less debunked this myth. In fact, many now believe that this Regimental icon traces back to the 42nd Regiment's service during our War of Independence (1775-1781). In any case, what is certain is that in 1822, the exclusive right of the 42nd Regiment to wear the Red Hackle was cemented by a Horse Guards General Order: "The red vulture feather prescribed by the recent regulations for Highland regiments is intended to be used exclusively by the Forty-Second Regiment."



In 1895, the Canadian Black Watch (then known as the 5th Battalion, Royal Scots of Canada) was officially permitted by General Order to wear the Red Hackle: "5th Battalion, Royal Scots of Canada: The Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of this Battalion are permitted to wear the Red Hackle in the feather bonnets." It appears, however, that the 1895 General Order simply recognized a long standing internal regimental dress regulation. Indeed, as far back as 1863, one of the Regiment's flank companies wore a red feather in its full dress headgear. Although there is strong evidence of the Canadian Regiment wearing the red hackle prior to deploying for the First World War, the Black Watch battalions of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (the 13th, 42nd, and 73rd Battalions CEF) did not wear the hackle overseas right off. The Royal Highlanders of Canada did not think they were entitled to do so overseas, at least until they had "won their spurs" in actual battle. After the 13th Battalion's magnificent stand at 2nd Ypres, and the exploits of all three battalions at the Somme, there was little doubt that the Royal Highlanders had proven themselves. Accordingly, the war diary of the 13th Battalion dated 16 November 1916 states that "as many men as possible were fitted out with Balmorals and Red Hackles an honor which they greatly appreciated." A year later, on 30 November 1917, the diarist of the 42nd Battalion recorded that "the Battalion, pursuant to a request received some time prior from the 1st Battalion of Imperial Black Watch, adopted the Red Hackle as part



*(Continued on page 10)*





**SOLDIERS WANTED**



**JOIN THE FIGHT**

**ARMY RESERVES**  
**THE BLACK WATCH**  
(ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT) OF CANADA

**INFO SESSIONS**  
**TUESDAY NIGHTS AT 8PM**

**2067 BLEURY ST.**  
**MONTREAL**  
**514.496.1686**



*(Continued from page 9)*

of its head-dress." Today's Black Watch (RHR) of Canada soldiers are easily recognized owing to their unique red hackle, and continue to wear it with pride. The current commander is Lt. Colonel Thomas MacKay. Manu Forti!

The Regiment has 43 Battle Honors. Many are placed on the Regimental Colors (on right). Among them are: From the Boer War: SOUTH AFRICA, 1899, 1900 From World War I: Ypres, Vimy, St. Julien Passchendele, Somme, Amiens, Hindenburg Line From World War II: Campaigne, Falaise, Walcheren, The Rhineland, and The Hochwald. During the 1980s the Royal Canadian Legion, Post 25 sponsored a Color Party based on the Black Watch of Canada circa 1944. Among the duties of the Color Party was to be the Honor Color Party at the Festival of Remembrance service at Grace Cathedral. The Colors were laid upon the alter during the service and carried off at the end. Below are photos from a service twenty years ago this month.



## Saint Andrew's Society of San Francisco

### Meeting Agenda

16 November 2009

*Our mission is to aid financially, and otherwise, any worthy Scot, or any member of the family of any worthy Scot who is deserving of help, and any person of Scottish origin or descent, who is in financial distress; to promote good will and harmony among people of Scottish birth or ancestry; to improve the social, educational and cultural life of persons of Scottish birth or ancestry; to preserve the practice and appreciation of traditional Scottish values and culture; and to acquire funds and property with which to carry out the objects and purposes hereinabove set forth.*

#### Call to Order:

- Introduction of Guests
- New Members First Reading
- New Members Second Reading/Vote
- Approval of Membership Meeting Minutes (from prior month)

#### Member Comments

President's Report – Fred Rutledge

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President's Report – Gene McCracken

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President's Report – John Allison

Treasurer's Report – Russ Wallace

#### Board Member Reports:

- Trustees – Bruce McMillan
- Foundation – Tom McLaughlin
- Board of Relief – James Beatty
- Board of Student Assistance – Robert Logan - Scholarships

#### Old Business

New Business: Nominations for 2010 Officers from the Floor

For the Good of the Order

Next Meeting: MON, 14 DEC, and Adjourn Business Meeting

Evening Program: CG Julian Evans and Deputy-CG Mary Gilbert, UK Consulate



## Program for the November 2009 Meeting—

## Elections!