



David Campbell, President

March 2017

President's Report

Dear Members & Friends

Happily, I begin this month's report with the news that Past President John Allison is free and clear of the cancer for which he had been receiving treatment last year. It was nice to see John & Terry out—at Gerry Sample's memorial service in February; and then to catch up with John over lunch last week. John and long time friend Jim McBain, visiting from near Stirling—were just off the course after a morning round. It's great to see John getting back in the swing!

Otherwise, it has been a busy month so far on the following fronts: membership renewal, scholarship application process review, and roster update. I'm also pleased to announce that joint-society Ceilidh planning is commencing...with 2nd VP Allen Cary representing St. Andrew's Society on that committee. We're now looking at prospective dates, and will get that announced as soon as we have something firmed up.

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Scotland in Books

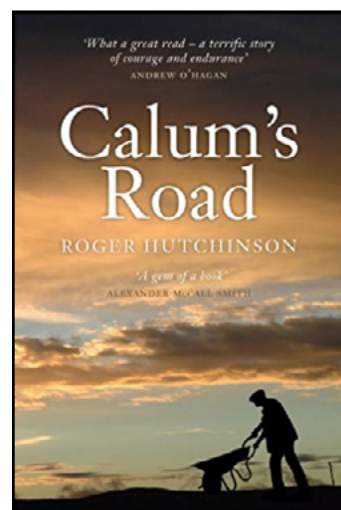
By Paul Gallagher

Scotland belies its relatively small size by the sheer number of unique stories it contains. ***Calum's Road*** by Roger Hutchison is one of the more amazing of these stories. Calum MacLeod was an ordinary but singularly determined man who lived at Amish on the northern tip of the remote Scottish island of Raasay. Quite a few families still lived at the north end—in Torran, Umachan, North and South Amish, and the islands of Fladda and Rona—and 32 children attended the school at Torran. But there was no road for the last few miles beyond Brochel Castle. For decades requests for a road had fallen fall on deaf ears.

In the late 1960s, after seeing his remote community gradually depleted due to the progress of technology and neglect of local government, Calum decided to do something. He single-handedly built the two-mile road himself, using only "a pick, a shovel, a wheelbarrow and a road making manual." This is a book about a small personal story that also opens up a bigger picture of Scotland's history.

In his telling of the story, Hutchison leads us to see how Calum was essentially fated to make this road; how his life had led him to it. We learn about Calum's belief in the self-sufficiency of his corner of the world—"we were happy with our own wee world," as he puts it—and his determination to make that "wee world" the best it could be, armed only with the get-up-and-go

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President's Report

Please make plans to join us at the upcoming monthly meeting on March 20th. We welcome back to San Francisco—University of Edinburgh Professor of American History and Dean International (North America) Frank Cogliano, who will provide an update of our Capital Cities scholarship campaign from across the pond.

At our March meeting we also look forward to hearing from new members Tony Becker & Celia Fabos-Becker who will be our featured speakers. They will present to us on their work of communicating Bay Area-wide Celtic activities and goings-on via their weekly online newsletter AmeriCeltic.

Please keep in mind two additional dates coming up this Spring: **Tartan Day Scottish Faire at Ardenwood** in Fremont (Saturday, April 1); and **John Muir Day at the National Historic Site** in Martinez (Saturday, April 22).



Statue of Robert Burns located in Golden Gate Park.

You may recall the mention a couple years back of Australian former MP Gordon Ashley who was in town doing research at that time on the Robert Burns statue in Golden Gate Park. In fact he wrote an interesting article, published in the March 2015 newsletter in which he described his research project. Well, Gordon is planning on returning to San Francisco in early May to continue his research—and we can look forward to hearing his update.

Sadly, I must also report the passing of our Society friend—Caledonian Club of San Francisco's recent Past Chief Geof-

frey Craighead. Our sympathy and sincere condolences have been conveyed to Geoffrey's wife Gay Ann and to his family. A celebration of Geoffrey's life will be held on Saturday afternoon, April 8th from 1:00 PM onwards at the CCSF clubhouse (312, Maple St, South San Francisco, CA 94080).

Chief McKinven is requesting specifically that those who would like to attend—please RSVP your intention to him directly: charles.mckinven@yahoo.com.

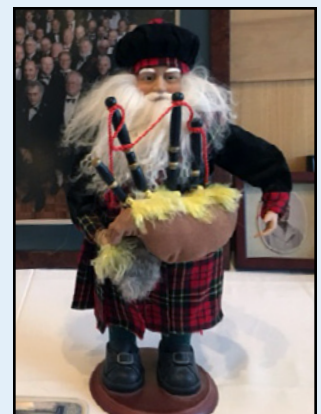
In closing, we wish our Irish cousins this month—Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Yours in service,

David Campbell

President

As mentioned in the February newsletter, there was a good turnout from the St. Andrew's Society on hand at Gerry Sample's memorial service on Sunday, February 19th. Please see additional photos for a snapshot display of Gerry's well-celebrated life.





St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco
Member's Meeting Minutes
2/20/2017

Piper Jek Cunningham opened the meeting at 7:35 pm.

President David Campbell called the meeting to order.

Chaplain Laurien Fiddes gave the blessing.

First Readings were given by **Rory Gammell** and **Jack Ryder**. Guests from the Saltire Foundation were **Don MacLeod, Prof. Reg Kelly, Christine Winota**.

Pres. David Campbell thanked the **1st VP Francesca McCrossan** for an excellent job on the very successful Burn's Supper.

The Society email is now managed by MailChimp. He also reported that **David Walker** is the new envoy from the University of Edinburgh.

He announced the newsletter would be out in a week and also annual dues are now due. Please send them to **Administrative Assistant Susan Goodier**.

David then told the members about attending the memorial for **Past Pres. Gerry Sample**. At the wishes of his family, the Society made a donation, in Gerry's, name to the Wounded Warrior Project. Piper Jek Cunningham played a lament for Gerry. Members **David McCrossan, Tom McLaughlin, Roger Weed, Fred McCondry** made statements about Gerry. **Rory Gammell** suggested a toast to Gerry.

1st Vice Pres. Francesca McCrossan thanked those who had helped her with the **Burn's Supper, Susan Goodier, Laurien Fiddes, Jek Cunningham, Irenie Waldman, Andrew McKay, Rory and Jack Ryder**. She thanked all who made it to the Supper regardless of the inclement weather and huge traffic snarls. 120 people made it. Photos will soon be up on the website. The next **Burn's Supper** will take place on January 20, 2017, at **The Family**.

2nd Vice Pres. Allen Carrey mentioned he had decided to have "finger food" for the evenings refreshment and asked for comments as to its appeal.

Treasurer Ian Baird reported the Society worth at \$1.7 million as of 1/31/2017, an increase of \$20,000, from the previous month. The UBS portfolio stands at \$1.2 million. The Burn's Supper served 122 meals, and had a bottle of Glenlivet Scotch on each table. The monthly bills have been paid. The Society is solvent.

Board of Trustee's Chairman David McCrossan reported on the Board meeting with John Asher of UBS. The portfolio was discussed. Overall, it is on the right track.

David has met with the Universities of Stanford, Strathclyde, Glasgow, and Edinburgh to discuss further collaboration. **Prof. Frank Cogliano** from University of Edinburgh will speak to the Society in March or April.

The Historical Preservation Society made their annual inspection and we passed. David investigated the provenance of the Ram's Head (used for snuff) and discovered it's very illustrious Scottish history. He also reported

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the Society donates to Irskine, Fisher House and others. He is researching other areas as well, such as Rotary, Stevenson Foundation Museum, John Muir House. The scholarship committee has received two draft applications from the Bay Area so far.

Tom McLaughlin, President of the **St. Andrew's Society Foundation**, stated that **Fred Rutledge** would be the new President of the Foundation. Tom reported that get well cards had been sent to **Bob Logan, John Allison, Sandy Corbett, and Norman Macleod**. Francesca asked if there were any other names to be added to the list and announced that **Laurien Fiddes** would be taking over this duty in her capacity as Chaplain.

Caledonian Envoy, Roger Weed, announced that past **Caledonian Chief, Jeffery Craighead**, had passed away over the weekend.

David Walker, University of Edinburgh, asked how many members of the Society had studied in Edinburgh and announced a reception for University of Edinburgh Alumni on March 8, in Silicon Valley. There will be a University of Edinburgh Information Session for new students in San Francisco.

Executive Administrator, Susan Goodier, mentioned the membership dues are due now. There are 75 paid members and 65 Life members.

Rory Gammell suggested we plan a ceiligh to encourage new members. The idea was well received. Plans for the future.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Jean Macdonald Allen, Recording Secretary
St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco*



Hello St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco,

Here is the requested title and description of our program for the St. Andrew's Society of SF, meeting on March 20, 2017

TITLE: AmeriCeltic.net Celtic Cultural and Educational Opportunities

DESCRIPTION: Founders Tony Becker and Cecilia Fabos-Becker will give an overview of their AmeriCeltic.net mission, activities, and especially their website. AmeriCeltic strives to re-awaken the 70 million Americans with Celtic ancestry to their heritage and culture. Accompanied by Celtic festival maven Gayle Wayne, organizer of Celtic Festivals both here and in Seattle, they will review the history and opportunities for regional Celtic festivals in the greater Bay Area to expand membership in, and interaction with, Scottish and Irish organizations.

Tony Becker

www.AmeriCeltic.net

www.facebook.com/AmeriCeltic

Orkney Considering Independence

The Orkney archipelago off the northeastern coast of Scotland overwhelmingly voted to remain part of Britain in the Scottish Independence Referendum of 2014 and to remain part of the European Union in the Brexit referendum of 2016. But now that it appears that Britain will be leaving the European Union, islanders are considering their options, including breaking free from Scotland and becoming independent.



Orkney archipelago off the northeastern coast of Scotland.

A motion passed by 13 of the Orkney Islands Council's 21 members has demanded that the chief executive compile a report considering "whether the people of Orkney could exercise self-determination if faced with further national or international constitutional changes, or indeed to decide if more autonomy might be beneficial for the wellbeing of Orkney." The motion also says the report should look at what would be needed to "consider such opportunities for greater autonomy or self-determination" with both the U.K. and Scottish governments.

"I think the islands are more significantly different—both historically and culturally—from the rest of the country," said Graham Sinclair, the independent councillor who drafted the motion. "It is a very preliminary shot. It is to consider whether there is the possibility of constitutional changes."

Mr. Sinclair said that an opinion poll might be carried out to determine how people living on the islands feel about the issue. He added, "I don't have any preconceptions about where it might lead."

This article was first published in the March/April 2017 edition of The Highlander magazine.

Glasgow Central Pulls Back The Curtain

The guided tours of Glasgow Central station have proved to be an unexpected hit, attracting 29,000 visitors over the past two years. Ticketholders are taken below stairs to restricted areas such as the huge former coal and grain stores, the old steam engine boiler rooms, the derelict tunnels and even an abandoned mortuary used during World War I. And now Network Rail, who owns the station, has begun restoring the long-forgotten lower-level platform of the station,

closed in 1964, as part of an expanded offering of station tours. Tracks will be relaid, a vintage bookstall will display historic newspapers, the old shop fronts will be put back in place and old-fashioned vending machines and gas-effect lighting will be reinstalled. Network Rail is also planning to offer an additional tour to the top of the station's glass roof—at 48,000 panes of glass, the largest in the world. Visitors will be able to stand 40 feet above the concourse and take in the stunning city views. For more information, visit www.glasgowcentral-tours.co.uk.

This article first appeared in the Spring 2017 edition of Scottish Life magazine.



Glasgow Central train station

Photo © Radek Redtschek



Photo © Fred Murray / Red Bull Content Pool

Danny MacAskill begins his journey at the Strathspey Steam Railway.

A Ride In Country

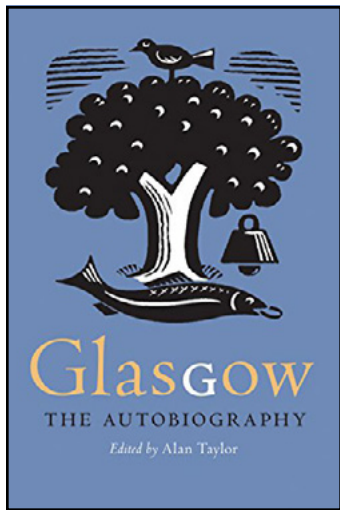
In a new film Scotland's leading stunt bicyclist Danny MacAskill abandons the city for a "simple fun of a ride in the country." But as his legions of fans well know, MacAskill likes to push the limits, so in *Danny MacAskill's Wee Day Out* we find the YouTube star riding over the roof of a stone cottage, skidding across downed trees, soaring over fences and skittering across a vertiginous bridge on a narrow handrail. If you can take your eyes off MacAskill for a minute, the film also provides spectacular views of the Scottish countryside, including the Pentland Hills in Midlothian... the Strathspey Steam Railway in the Highlands... and Kenmore, Blair Atholl and Loch Tay in Perthshire. The video can be seen on YouTube.com.

This article first appeared in the Spring 2017 edition of Scottish Life magazine.

Scotland in Books

to make it happen. It took Calum at least 10 years to build his road, dividing his time between the road, crofting and his other responsibilities, and in the early 1980s, the local government finally embraced Calum's road and laid a tarmac surface over it. The story is peppered with illuminating details about Raasay and its people, and the great value in the book is the wealth of personal accounts it contains. Hutchison has conducted many in-depth interviews and the result is an authentic, in-depth look at life in this particular community.

Calum's Road by Roger Hutchison. \$14.95 (paperback). Bir/inn Ltd., Edinburgh; www.amazon.com or www.ScottishLifeMagazine.com.



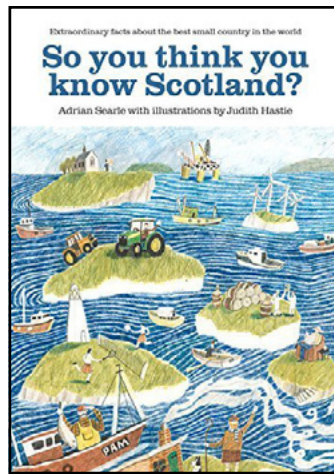
Thoroughly researched, edited and presented, **Glasgow: The Autobiography** is a treasure trove of writings about Scotland's "second city." Beginning with the observations of a 17th-century travelling politician, through to recent pieces on the 2014 Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony and the final demolition of the city's infamous Red Road flats, journalist and Glasgow resident Alan Taylor has collected an impressive spread of accounts. Taken-together they

offer seemingly endless insights into what makes Glasgow the unique and unforgettable city it is.

Taylor captures the effect well in his introduction: "It is often said of cities that they are characters in their own right. Glasgow's character, readers will find, is much more complex than the stereotype. It envelops you in its embrace, it doesn't attempt to be other than what it is, it loves to put on a show, it is resilient, optimistic, kindly, ambitious, it likes a good time, it won't be put down or put upon, it is inferior to nowhere. There is, too, an edge to it..."

In his selections, Taylor allows well-known authors like John Buchan and Evelyn Waugh to rub shoulders with less-renowned memoirists, journalists and report-writers. Each excerpt is contextualized with skill, and often the editor's mini-biographies of the writers are as interesting as the excerpts themselves, and occasionally more so. It is a book packed with fascinating stories and slices of Glasgow life, and this reviewer found the best approach was to look up an item in the index - Kelvingrove Museum, for example, or Glasgow School of Art - then flip to the relevant page. One excerpt then leads to another, and the reader is soon off on another journey of discovery through Glasgow's history.

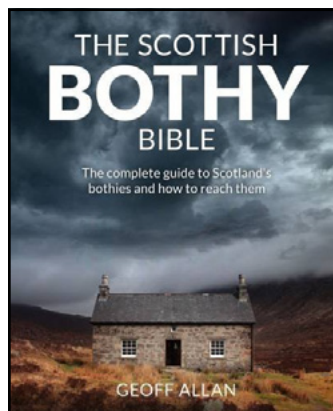
Glasgow: The Autobiography, edited by Alan Taylor. \$15 (hardback) and \$9.59 (Kindle). Bir/inn Ltd., Edinburgh; www.amazon.com or www.ScottishLifeMagazine.com.



more listed (preserved by statute) buildings than anywhere else in the world. But some of the details fly in the face of stereotypes, which is author Adrian Searle's stated intention.

For example, who would have guessed that the apparently stingy Scots give more money per capita than any other part of the U.K.? Or that the largest Buddhist temple in Western Europe is located close to Dumfries and Galloway? With humorous illustrations throughout by award-winning artist Judith Hastie, this is a book that doesn't take itself too seriously, and has some genuinely interesting facts to share.

So you think you know Scotland? by Adrian Searle and Judith Hastie. \$12.95. Freight Books, Glasgow; www.amazon.com or www.ScottishLifeMagazine.com.



Taking a more lighthearted approach, **So You Think You Know Scotland?** is a funny and surprisingly illuminating little fact book, inspired by the idea that "sometimes those places that seem most familiar to us are actually more alien than we think." Contained within are facts about Scotland, some of which a reader would anticipate, like the ones noting the proliferation of golf courses in Scotland, or that impossibly picturesque Edinburgh has

The last recommendation for this issue is particularly for readers who don't just want to read, but want to get out and explore, too. **The Scottish Bothy Bible** is the first complete guide to Scotland's bothies, and marks the culmination of a five-year project by its author, Geoff Allan, to visit and document them all.

A bothy is defined by the Mountain Bothies Association

(MBA) as "a simple shelter in remote country for the use and benefit of all those who love being in wild and lonely places;" and up until 2009 the MBA had not shared specific details about the whereabouts of all of Scotland's bothies with anyone outside of the Association. But as Allan explains, "A desire to protect the shelters from overuse explains the aura of secrecy that has always surrounded them, even though this runs contrary to the ethos of 'open to all.'"

Allan is a member and maintenance officer in the MBA, so is ideally placed to open up the world of bothying to a wider audience. The book is aptly titled, as it really is an exhaustive guide, containing a wealth of first-hand detail, painstakingly put

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Scotland in Books

together and thoughtfully laid out.

An introductory section sets out the key details—what bothies are, what are the understood codes of usage, what you'll need to successfully venture out in the wilds of Scotland—while the main bulk of the book focuses on each of the 81 bothies across Scotland. Each is given a full write-up, with beautiful photographs and detailed descriptions of routes to find them. Even for the armchair enthusiast, the book is so well organized and presented (with excellent maps and indexes, too) that just by reading it you feel you are learning more about the real Scotland.

The Scottish Bothy Bible: The Complete Guide to Scotland's Bothies and How to Reach Them by Geoff Allan. £16.99 (\$21.25). Wild Things Publishing Ltd, Bath, England; www.amazon.co.uk or www.ScottishLifeMagazine.com.

Paul Gallagher is a book and film reviewer for *The List* magazine and appears regularly as a critic on BBC Radio Scotland's Culture Studio. He lives in Glasgow with his wife and their two young children.

This article was first published in the Spring 2017 edition of Scottish Life magazine.

The Piper's Requiem

The Piper stood at Heaven's gates, his bagpipes by his side,
But hesitant to enter, although they were open wide.
An angel chancing to pass by, paused, and made this demand,
"Are those a weapon of some kind that you hold in your hand?"
The Piper groaned, "A Sassenach!" As it became quite clear
That they were present everywhere, they even had them here!

"They were regarded as such, long ago", he then replied,
"But always made such harmonies that ever will abide
With images of heather clad hillsides with rippling burns,
Which every native Scotsman in his heart secretly yearns".
And gently coaxing out a melody his fingers wove
A highland air so exquisite, a song of peace and love.

And as he played, it seemed there was an echo distantly,
Until he was aware of other pipes in harmony,
And into view came highland pipers playing, by the score;
He recognised his old comrades, and then, so many more
That he had played a farewell for so many years long gone,
Who came, prepared to welcome him, his race now finally run.

For though their mortal span is over, pipers will transcend
This life, their spirit wings to where we cannot comprehend,
A place reserved for them somewhere in heaven's paradise,
Where chanters play quite easily, and drones are so precise.
Where reeds are perfect at all times and neither flat nor sharp,
And in this part of heaven, you will NEVER hear a harp.

So never fear, good Piper, you may now lay down and rest,
In knowledge that your friends considered you the very best
Example of what any man in this life can attain,
And truthfully will say that they won't see your like again,
You leave a space in people's lives but will forever be
One of God's heavenly pipers in celestial harmony.

This article was submitted by Fred Rutledge. The St. Andrew's Society of San Francisco invites all members to submit articles to the newsletter editor. Submitted articles should be relevant to the Society and its mission of serving its members and their constituency.



To whom it may concern,

We are running an archaeological field school in the Scottish Highlands in June next year. Participants will be involved in researching, surveying and recording a series of historical and archaeological sites associated with the Jacobite rebellions and Highland Clearances of 18th Century Scotland. Training will be provided in archaeological recording practices including historical analyses, map regression, archaeological field survey, technical drawing, photography, building recording and GIS. I have attached [full details of the field school](#) and an [application form](#) and would appreciate if you could forward this to your archaeology department mailing list or anyone you think may find it useful. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me, you can find more information on our organisation at www.harparchaeology.co.uk. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes – Ian Hill



[Click here](#) for more information about the Tartan Day Scottish Faire.

[Click here](#) for more information about the John Muir Birthday / Earth Day Celebration.

The Caledonian Club of San Francisco's

152nd Tartan Ball

Saturday, March 25, 2017



It's time once again to dust off your dancing shoes
and don your kilt and sporran
for our annual Tartan Ball



•
Dancing to Full Steem
The Prince Charles Pipe Band
and Scottish Highland Dancers

Raffle

to benefit

The American Friends of Erskine Hospitals

•
No Host Cocktails at 6:00 pm Dinner served at 7:00 pm
\$75.00 per person
Highland Dress • Formal

Menu Selections

- Filet of Beef • Pan Seared Petaluma Chicken
- Sesame Crusted Mahi Mahi • Vegetarian Paella •

•
This Grand Event will be held at the

San Ramon Marriott

2600 Bishop Road, San Ramon, CA

Reserve online at

www.caledonian.org

or contact 1st Chieftain Rob Tysinger at:

robbiet@comcast.net or 415 717-6124

Special Discount for Lodging: Single or Double **\$109.00**

Must reserve by March 10th for this rate.

Reservations: 925 867-9200 (Ask for the Caledonian Club block discount)

or online at: <https://aws.passkey.com/e/49030929>

Meeting & Events Schedule

Date	Event / Topic	Location / Notes
2017		
Mon. Mar. 20	Member Meeting (Prof. Frank Cogliano: University of Edinburgh Update, Tony & Celia Becker: AmeriCeltic and Bay Area "Celtic" Events)	1088 Green St., SF
Sat. April 1	Tartan Day Scottish Faire at Ardenwood	Fremont, CA
Mon. April 17	Member Meeting (Pennisula Scottish Fiddlers (to be confirmed)	1088 Green St., SF
Sat. April 22	John Muir Day / Earth Day celebration.....	NPS - Martinez, CA
Mon. May 15	Member Meeting (Justine Kelly - Scottish Development International)	1088 Green St., SF
Mon. June 19	Member Meeting (Judith Paul: Sir David Brewster - Kaleidoscope)	1088 Green St., SF
Date TBD	Summer Ceilidh at Encinal Yacht Club	Alameda, CA
Mon. July 17	No Meeting (Summer Recess)	
Mon. Aug. 21	No Meeting (Summer Recess)	
Date TBD	University Reception(s)	1088 Green St., SF
Sept. 2-3	Caledonian Club's 152nd Highland Games & Gathering	Pleasanton, CA
Mon. Sept. 18	Member Meeting (Speaker / Topic TBD)	1088 Green St., SF
Mon. Oct. 16	Member Meeting (Speaker / Topic TBD)	1088 Green St., SF
Nov. 11 or 25	155th Annual St. Andrew's Banquet & Ball	Marines' Club, SF
Mon. Nov. 20	Member Meeting (Peninsula Scottish Fiddlers—to be confirmed)	1088 Green St., SF
Mon. Dec. 18	No Meeting due to December 31st. Hogmanay Celebration	
Sat. Dec. 31	Hogmanay Celebration.....	1088 Green St., SF
2018		
Mon. Jan. 15	Member Meeting	1088 Green St., SF
Sat. Jan. 20	Annual Burns Supper.....	The Family, SF
Mon. Feb. 19	Member Meeting (Speaker / Topic TBD)	1088 Green St., SF

About Us

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 P.M. Light supper served before the meeting. (Free valet parking is provided for members' meetings. MUNI: one block east of Hyde St. cable car).

Officers of the Society

David Campbell,
President
Francesca McCrossan,
First VP
Allen Cary,
Second VP
Ian Baird, Treasurer
Jean Allen, Secretary
Roger Weed, Librarian
Laurien Fiddes, Chaplain
Marjory Matic, Bard
Jack Cunningham, Piper
Thomas E. Kasinger,
Historian
Kent Walker,
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Dr. Bill Blair, Physician
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**The Saint Andrew's Society
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