

St. Andrews Society of NW Michigan
“Northern Thistle”
February 2015



**Sunday, April 12 – Spring potluck, Traverse Hills Clubhouse
5:30 - 8**

**Sunday, Aug 23 – SAS Annual Picnic & Family Highland Games
Silver Lake Recreation Area; 1-4 pm**

Burns Night, January 2015 by Glad Remaly, Cheboygan:

The weather was crisp and cold, but no blizzard conditions, thank goodness. We had a delightful gathering of about 50 at Sleder's, a sell out. The staff went out of their way setting up tables to accommodate us and make room for the dancers. Alan and Clyde arrived early to make sure everything was set up and ready. This time the sign-in sheet was up to date and the name tags of our newest members were made up and waiting. Dawn Buchanan and Dorothy Moroff were at the greeting table.

Alan McColl did an outstanding job as our Master of Ceremonies and even with all the many things to be accomplished, he managed to keep things moving in between his jokes (some of which were real groaners).

Gloria Veltman not only led us in the Selkirk Grace, but shared a bit of its history. Highland Dancers were Helene Kirkpatrick-Johnson, Roan Kirkpatrick-Johnson, Nevaeh Cobbley and Sophia Scott, and they did such a precious presentation.

The haggis was piped in by Clyde Buchanan and the Toast to the Haggis given by Donald Kinloch – an excellent toast he gave, with all the dramatic flourishes and gory details. (And it was delicious by the way!)

As the food was served, many of our friends came forth and shared Robert Burns poems. It was very apparent what a prolific writer Rabbie was, and versatile as well. A raffle was held, and there was more lovely Highland dancing from Lee Gwyn's students. Music was from Jane Arney and her friend Lynne Brownridge, who used to play in a group called Marmalade

when they lived downstate. Lynne plays the accordion -- soft, melodic Scottish and Irish tunes, lovely to listen to. Jane not only played her harp, but her concertina, and a couple of numbers they played together. Jane's son Jordan sang, with Jane accompanying him on the harp. What a rich voice Jordan has and how proud Jane looked to have her son sharing in the music portion of the program.

One of our newer members, Bruce Douglass, read 'The Immortal Memory' and did an outstanding job! He kept us spellbound with his rendition of the life and times of Robert Burns, and received thunderous applause for his effort. Wallace Skinner toasted the Lassies, and Glad Remaly replied from the Lassies and also toasted the Laddies. Clyde Buchanan played his bagpipes and was in fine form.

Alan McColl shared closing remarks because our President, Jim Mills could not be here – he was with his family welcoming their new grandchild. Alan introduced our servers, expressed his appreciation for everyone who helped him prepare for Burns Night, and thanked all of us for coming together to share in a very successful gathering to honor Robert Burns.

We gathered in an oval, held hands and sang 'Auld Lang Syne' led by Jane Arney on the concertina.

Some new members recently joined our family. Please welcome Andrew & Sally Baker (Cadillac), Glenn & Lisa Blackford (Traverse City), Al Bryant (Frankfort), Ken Bryson (Kalkaska), Bruce Douglass (Traverse City), Shelley Ehrenberger (Traverse City), Jennifer Kirkpatrick-Johnson (Kingsley), Rex & Dorothy Luxton (Rapid City), Jim and Barb Mahan (Maple City), Carol McLeod (Bellaire), Kyle & Angela Scott (Buckley), and Elvin & Karla Stretten (Traverse City).

We hope they enjoy our gatherings and meetings as much as the rest of us have over the years, and we all look forward to getting to know them.

In two years, the SAS will have a 20th anniversary party, which will be a *special* event. Start saving up! We promise a classy venue with a view, room to mingle, bagpipes, Scottish dance, good food, and a great time . . . just like our 10th anniversary.



© From the Lyman Williams Collection of Bagpipe Jokes: What do pipers use for birth control? Their personalities.
And this one: What did the bagpiper get on his IQ test? Drool.

GRAND TRAVERSE PIPES & DRUMS SCHEDULE:

Sat, Feb 21 – Flint Pipe Band Annual Ceilidh (www.flintscottish.com)

SCOTLAND THE BRAVE

*Hark when the night is falling,
Hear! Hear the pipes are calling,
Loudly and proudly calling,
Down thru the glen.*

*There where the hills are sleeping,
Now feel the blood aleaping,
High as the spirits of the
old Highland men.*

*Towering in gallant fame,
Scotland my mountain hame,
High may your proud standards
Gloriously wave.*

*Land of my high endeavor,
Land of the shining river,
Land of my heart forever,
Scotland the brave.*

Membership in the **Detroit** St. Andrews Society is \$65 per person. That's how they can afford to host major events like their annual Highland Games.

2015 SASNM Officers & Committees:

President	Jim Mills	jmills@mhc.net
Vice President	Alan McColl	amccoll@charter.net
Treasurer	Clyde Buchanan	bag1piper@gmail.com
Secretary	Gloria Veltman	smbslt@charter.net
Member-At-Large	Harry Daniels	hmccandlish@gmail.com
Website	Don Sarna	dssarna@sprintmail.com
Newsletter/Publicity	Margaret Sarna	dssarna@sprintmail.com
Facebook	Lee Gwyn	leeellengwyn@charter.net

MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

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The SASNM is a non-profit organization. Membership is \$20 per household. Please send checks to PO Box 2303, Traverse City 49685.