

St. Andrews Society of NW Michigan
“Northern Thistle”
February 2017



SASNM 20th Anniversary Dinner - Sunday, April 30 at The Music House Museum! Details soon.

National Tartan Day – Thursday, April 6 *

SAS booth at the Grand Traverse Pipes & Drums *Concert on the Lawn* – 7pm Thursday August 3 at The Pavilions

Picnic and Family Highland Games – Sunday, August 27

Annual Membership Meeting – October

Annual Saint Andrews Day Dinner – Friday, December 1

*Can anyone plan an event for Tartan Day? It would be good publicity for the SAS and may recruit new members.

Report on Burns Night from Glad Remaly, Cheboygan:

January 27th was our Annual Burns Night celebration. It was held at The Cottage in the main dining room. They used the small room to serve the meal and for the dancers to store their paraphernalia. The weather was cooperative, chilly but no blizzards in the forecast.

A good gathering of 30 attended and as always, wonderful to see friends and new members in attendance. Many of our men were dressed in their Scottish attire and how handsome they all looked. We even had some onlookers from the other dining area taking a peek to see what we were doing.

Donald Kinloch was having a marvelous time as our Master of Ceremonies and did an outstanding job. You could tell all those years as a minister certainly made him at ease when it came to speaking and keeping things moving along. His jokes were as nutty as Alan McColl's have always been.

I shared history of the Selkirk Grace before reading it. Clyde Buchanan piped in the haggis with Jane Arney doing a great rendition of the 'Toast to the Haggis'. Our dancers were Helene Kirkpatrick-Johnston, Elizabeth Olson, Sophia Scott, Hayden Scott and Nevaeh Cobbley, and all of them did a lovely job.

A surprise was handed out by Susan Kinloch and Betty McColl ... homemade shortbread for everyone in attendance. Susan and Alan made the shortbread, and it was melt-in-your-mouth wonderful.

The dinner was delicious and we all enjoyed listening to many of our group coming forward to recite poems written by Robbie Burns. Jane Arney played a number of tunes on her concertina. Alan McColl's 'The Immortal Memory' was terrific and he received a round of hearty applause. Toast to the Lassies was made by Wallace Skinner with the Reply from the Lassies by Anje Scott.

We had bagpipe music from Clyde Buchanan, some remarks and appreciation from our President, Jim Mills, and a thank you to Eric the manager, and our two very attentive servers Hannah and Noah.

Before we knew it, the evening had come to an end, so we formed a circle and sang Auld Lang Syne led by Jane Arney on her concertina.

Our next gathering will be on April 30th to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the SASNM. Please be sure to mark your calendars and plan on attending. All of us enjoy meeting the many friends we have created from this group and we miss you when you're not there.

Q: What's the difference between a bagpipe and an onion? A: No one cries when you chop a bagpipe. Q: What's the difference between a bagpipe and a trampoline? A: You take off your shoes before you jump on a trampoline. 😊

Editorial: Want an idea for an nice winter break? The Central Florida Highland Games! Huge park with loads of vendors; bagpipe, drum, dance & athletic competitions, massed bands, whisky tasting, parade of tartans, etc. Don & I have gone for years, and never had bad weather. (If you go, I hope that holds true for you.) This year's entertainers were *Off Kilter*, the rock bagpipe band, and *Albannach*.

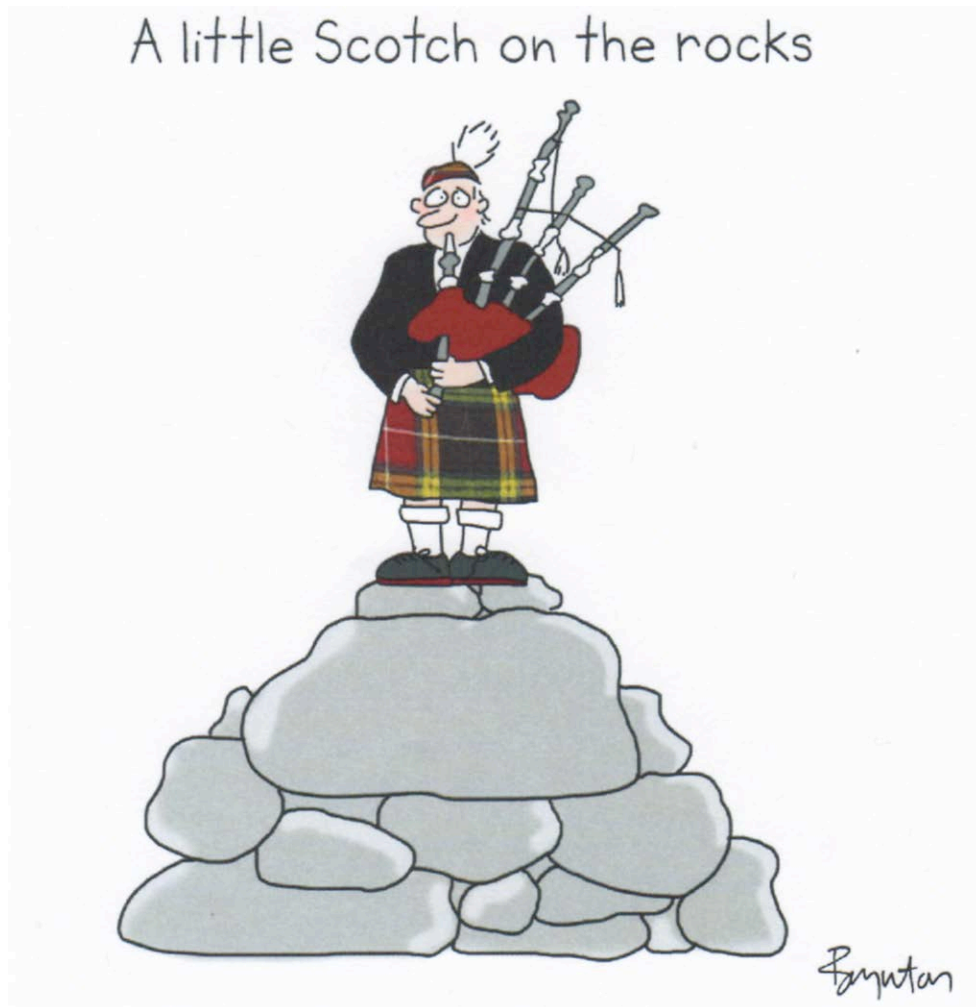
Fly into Orlando and head north to Altamonte Springs. The host hotel is the Hilton, but there are many others to choose from. Or drive to Orlando in 20 hours.

What a treat it is to Scottish Country Dance outdoors in shorts & T-shirts in winter! This is a four-star cold weather trip. The 2018 dates are January 13-14.



2017 Officers & Committees:

President	Jim Mills	jmills@mhc.net
Vice President	Donald Kinloch	dekinloch@msn.com
Treasurer	Alan McColl	amccoll@charter.net
Secretary	Gloria Veltman	smbslt@charter.net
Member-At-Large	Cindy Fricke	cindyfricke@sbcglobal.net
Website	Don Sarna	dssarna@sprintmail.com
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St. Andrew Society of Northern Michigan Membership Form

The SASNM is a non-profit organization founded in 1997.
Annual membership is \$20 per household.
Make checks out to SASNM and mail to
P.O. Box 2303, Traverse City, MI 49685

Name(s) _____

Clan affiliation (if any) _____

Home Phone # _____ Cell # _____

Address (if new member) _____

City _____ Zip _____

Email address (if new) _____

We look forward to your participation. {And if you are renewing, a big thank you as well.} We look forward to seeing you at the next gathering and will alert you of upcoming events through our newsletter and emails!