

THE SCOTSMAN

NEWSLETTER OF THE SCOTTISH FOUNDATION OF THE VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS

www.scottishfoundation.org

January/February 2010

Volume 7, Issue 1

Dear Members:

Well it hardly seems possible that we are looking at our 2010 Burns Night celebration. 2009 certainly seems to have vanished very quickly. Must be the new decimal system..... Anyway, as you all know, this is the single biggest fundraiser we have, benefitting the Scholarship programs in particular and the Foundation in general. So if you haven't made your reservations, please do so quickly – Maggie will certainly appreciate it very much!!!! If you are attending, please participate in the Silent Auction and, as always, please remember that it isn't a yard sale!!!! Many people make generous donations, and it's discouraging when we see many of these items go out the door at a fraction of their value.

As the term of the current Board approaches its conclusion, I'd like to thank the new faces who have volunteered their time and talents to serve as officers. In preparation for the new Board, we have made several changes to existing By-Laws. We are looking to change the Board Meeting nights from a Tuesday to a Wednesday, but all things are negotiable in the best interests of the Board members. To make serving as an officer more attractive, we have reduced the term from 2 years to one, and have added the Immediate Past President as a formal Board member. This means that if you are interested in serving as President, you are now making a commitment of three years as opposed to six.

The changes made to the Treasurer's position have, I believe, been very beneficial and have greatly simplified the position as well as providing much needed consistency for everyone when we change officers. All in all, we have tried very hard to make positive change in areas we truly think needed addressing, and not making changes simply in the interests of making changes.

If you are interested in serving the Foundation and its members as an officer, it is still not too late to submit your names.

Well that'll do for now – if you are attending Burns Night, Mary Jo and I look forward to seeing you there!!!

As always if anyone has concerns please contact the Board of Directors.

John
Slaintè Mhath

PUB NIGHT - FLANARY'S
JEFFERSON STREET (old Gunther's/Kara's)
FRIDAY, JANUARY 15th at 7pm

Come on out and join us for some great music, food and fun! It's **NON SMOKING!!** Food is great. Musicians bring your instruments. Our February pub night will be on Friday, February 19th. Further info from Maggie mbrall@jetbroadband.com.

TARTANS
Blue Ridge Highlands Heritage &
Scottish Foundation of the Virginia Highlands

Please consider placing an order the cost is \$60 per yard for members and \$75 per yard for non members. We need 27-yards ordered to get these prices. This is a medium weight fabric (13 oz), good for kilting, sashes scarves etc. When placing an order, please specify either the Blue Ridge Highlands Heritage or the Scottish Foundation tartan. Contact Jean Oxley, djoxley@rbnet.com at 540-992-4979 to be added to the order; a 50% deposit is required.

BURNS NIGHT
Saturday, January 23rd, 2010
Holiday Inn, Tanglewood
Cocktails 5:30pm Cash Bar

Join us for cocktails and listen to the VMI Pipe band playing in the foyer, they will then proceed into the ballroom and play some more music. Followed by the Haggis Ceremony with Ian Fraser reciting the Address to the Haggis. Dinner will follow, and after all the toasts and scholarship presentations, the Immortal Memory to Rabbie Burns will be performed by John Morman. Our entertainment band this year will be Prydein - the Celtic Rock band from Vermont - so please come join us for a fun filled evening of Scottish music, fun and great food!!

Ticket costs will be: \$60 for members and \$80 for non members. Further information please contact Maggie - mbrall@jetbroadband.com.

Silent Auction - we have had great success with the auction and it has proved to be a great asset as all proceeds go to funding our scholarships so think about donating an item this year. We try to have a nice variety of items each year, but the burden of supplying these items seems to be falling on a few shoulders. It would be great if others made donations as well! Items do not have to be expensive, in fact, buy something on sale! But, please remember us early - now is not too early. We would love to avoid the usual last minute rush to be sure we have enough items, and to have the bid sheets ready before the event. If you have something you would like to donate contact Charlene at cdhut@aol.com or Deborah at dfraser447@aol.com.

EVENT REPORTS

KIRKIN O' TARTAN
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 11:00am service
COLONIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We had a good turnout for our Kirkin, VHP&D played very well and everyone seemed to enjoy this. Thanks to Colonial Presbyterian Church staff for the tea party afterwards.

BLUE RIDGE CELTS CONCERT SERIES
Saturday, November 21, 2009
Colonial Presbyterian Church, 3550 Poplar Drive, Roanoke

Ian gave a fantastic concert, not a great turnout, we had hoped more people would want to see this great singer from Glasgow, Scotland who is a world renowned singer/songwriter, traditional Scottish musician, but guess not.....

Upcoming concerts in 2010 – all concerts performed at Colonial Presbyterian Church:

February 20th – Saturday - No Strings Attached – popular local Celtic group

April 16th - Friday - Aisling Agnew & Matthew McAllister – Flute and Guitar Duo

Irish flautist Aisling Agnew and Scottish classical guitarist Matthew McAllister will play traditional Scottish music

May 22nd – Saturday - Paddy Keenan

Legendary Irish Uilleann Piper formerly with the Bothy Band will be accompanied by John Walsh

September - TBA

November 20th – Saturday - Jim Malcolm

Phenomenal Traditional Scots Balladeer, former lead singer for Old Blind Dogs, returns to Roanoke.

Further info on the concerts from Charlene – cdhut@aol.com or Maggie – mbrall@jetbroadband.com

PERSONALS

This space is for you to communicate with others in SFVH. Offer items to sell, tell us of a great service, etc. **Send your information to Maggie by 20th of the month for our next issue.**

*****NEW*** CAFÉ PRESS SHOP** – the SFVH have now opened a shop online where you can buy a variety of items with the SFVH logo, to access the account go to www.cafepress.com/sfvh, this is a new fund raiser for us to help with our scholarships and concerts. There are a lot of great gifts; children's clothes, tote bags, sweatshirts, hooded shirts, mugs.....please check it out.....members have been buying things!

*****The sale of our T-shirts supports many of our events and projects, inclusive of the concert series and the tents at various Highland Games and festivals. These shirts are sold as a fund-raiser making a very modest profit for the Foundation.**

*****A new order of T-shirts is now available. In women's, there are several lovely pastel colors, short and long sleeved, mostly V-neck, but also mock-turtleneck (long sleeves only) and scoop neck. These are in "misses" S-XL and "womens" 1X-3X. The cost remains \$20 each for S-XL; \$24 for 1X-3X and long-sleeved. There are traditional men's Ts (S-XL) in dark tan, gray, and a few XXL and XXXL in several shades of blue and a few other colors. Cost for the men's Ts are \$20 S-XL; \$24 for 2XL and 3XL and long sleeved. "Scottish Foundation" is tastefully printed on the upper left front and our logo is on the back. To place an order, please contact Maggie mbrall@jetbroadband.com or see us at one of our events. Think birthday and Christmas presents! ...or just because...**

*****We also have denim chambray shirts available with the SFVH logo embroidered on the left side, a new order has just arrived!! Sizes are S-XL - \$35; XXL-XXXL - \$40. To place an order, please contact Maggie mbrall@jetbroadband.com.**

SFVH BOARD MEETINGS

Our Board meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm. All members are welcome. Contact Maggie for location and directions. Our next meeting is on Wednesday, February 3rd. ***The Board of Directors would like to thank Doug Densmore and Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore for allowing us to use their offices for our monthly meetings.***

The Board of Directors currently has 5 vacancies. Any members who are interested in filling those positions should contact John Morman or Maggie Brall for possible election.

Officers & Board of Directors:

President: John Morman – celtictides@embarqmail.com, Vice President: Ed Scott – ejs24018@yahoo.com, Secretary: Maggie Brall – mbrall@jetbroadband.com, Treasurer: Jean Oxley - djoxley@rbnet.com, **Directors:** Dave Kendrick, Phyllis Mardian – irishmother1@verizon.net, Alan Silver – laphroaiglover@aol.com.