



THE SALTIRE



1884

The St. Andrew-Caledonian

Society of

Learn to Curl

The Society is working with the Calgary Curling Club to hold a LEARN TO CURL event likely on a weekend in March. The event would consist of on-ice coaching from CCC, to learn (or improve on) the proper technique of throwing a curling stone and some coaching on the strategy of playing a couple of ends. So come out, enjoy some time on the ice and then replay your best game and near misses with the other Society members after it's all done. The event would be free to members and open to friends or family members who would be charged the appropriate fee for joining the Society. To register your interest, please e-mail Doreen Herdman at djherdman@shaw.ca.



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Board

The Society's Board of Directors is looking for two members who would like to get involved with the operation of Society events and activities. The Board is the place for those who would like to make a difference in the Society. Board positions are elected for two year terms and meetings are held at the beginning of the month, usually the first Tuesday evening. A director would be expected to take on a project during their term to determine: 1. the funding required, 2. source of the funds, 3. the member participation and , 4. to bring the project to commencement and/or to completion. Interested members are asked to contact Robert Henderson at roberthenderson@yahoo.com or 403-245-5514.



TARTAN DAY CELEBRATION 2014

Sunday, 6 APRIL
MURDOCH'S BAR & GRILL
(1935 – 37th Street SW)



Hosted by the St. Andrew-Caledonian Society of Calgary

Watch for full details in the March Saltire

2014 Society Scotland Tour

The Society's Discover Scotland tour is set for 7-16 July 2014. Day 1, 7 July, is the overnight flight; Days 2 & 3 are in Edinburgh; Day 4, 10 July, goes to St. Andrews, Pitlochry & Grantown-on-Spey; Day 5 is Grantown to Thurso; Day 6 Thurso to the Orkneys; Day 7, 13 July, Thurso to Loch Ness & Ballachulish; Day 8 Ballachulish to Skye and back; Day 9 Ballachulish to Erskine; Day 10, 16 July, Erskine. Collette Vacations does offer other start dates: 15 May, 9 June, 16 June, and 11 August and while it would be great to go as a full group, some may find that one start date works better for them, as in the case of student summer vacation and interest in the Commonwealth Games or Edinburgh Tattoo. As a group larger than 15, we would receive one free member and the savings would be a reduction spread over the whole group. Regular rates are \$4,409 (subject to change) and include: 1. round trip air travel from Calgary, 2. air taxes and fees/surcharges of \$660 (subject to increase), 3. hotel transfers, and 4. 8 breakfasts and 6 dinners. Cancellation and medical insurance is the traveler's responsibility. Full payment would

be required 2 months before departure. The tour is open to non-members of the Society and please note that air fares do rise for the summer months. Check out the special link on the Society website. The tour contact is: Susanne Mozel at Omega National Travel—(403) 457-1707 or Susanne.omegatravel@shaw.ca



2013 Inter-Faith Food Bank Volunteers

On Tuesday, December 17, the Society held its first Inter-Faith Food Bank Volunteer Event at the Food Bank's main warehouse, 5000 – 11 Street SE. The evening started at 5:15 pm as 20 Society members along with family and friends gathered together in the Volunteer Room. After a 10 minute 19 point health and safety orientation they entered the warehouse in two groups. The groups were assigned various tasks by their two staff supervisors that involved preparing incoming food donations for distribution to needy families. Our shift ended at approximately 8:00 pm with some of the volunteers planning return trips in the future on their own or with family members to help out again.

The event was inspired and organized by Frank Henderson, a long-time volunteer with the Food Bank. He wanted to add another charitable event to the Society's calendar and introduce Society members to a charity they may not be familiar with. December was chosen because of the additional need this time of year at the

Food Bank. Frank and the Society thank all of the volunteers that attended and supported this worthwhile cause.

A few 2013 facts from the Food Bank:

- Every 1 dollar donated allows distribution of 5 dollars' worth of food.
- 82% of clients visited 3 times or fewer in their lifetime, 41% used Food Bank once.
- In 2012, 129,948 families and individuals used the Food Bank, 42% of clients are children.
- 73,505 food hampers were distributed, all hampers meet Canada's Food guide.
- Food was provided to 110 community agencies and programs.
- Over 50 other Food Banks across Western Canada share food in crisis situations and disaster relief.
- 110 volunteers give their time each day.

Burns Dinner for the Homeless 2014

The 12th Annual Burns Dinner for the Homeless was held on Sunday January 19, 2014 at the Calgary Drop-In and Rehabilitation Centre in the East Village. It was a fabulous success!! Thank-you. Thank-you for the 65 plus volunteers that showed up to help. We are the ONLY volunteer group that brings in the meal, serves the meal then cleans up afterward. We are also the best dressed!! (in my opinion) The day started out with a parade of Society members taking up their positions: in the kitchen to load the plates with the day's lunch of roast beef, mashed potatoes, turnip, gravy and haggis; along the outer walls ready to serve, and; in the middle to entertain. The Burns Show started at 11:30 am with the pipers, highland dancers, singer and bard putting on a demonstration of Burn's work culminating in the Address to the Haggis. Then the performers paraded to the kitchen and started serving the dinner. The kitchen volunteers were professionally orchestrated by Cindy from



the Drop-In Centre and Ian Hopkins with all sporting highland aprons which made for lots of fun. Mercat Cross performed for the patrons through the lunch time service. The entertainers performed a second show for the second sitting and was enjoyed by everyone. In all about 1000 persons were served. We all stayed afterward for lunch, it was a great day. This dinner is one of the Drop In Centres "highlights" of the year. I wish to personally thank everyone who came and volunteered their precious time for this worthy cause. The show and dinner is always well received and I look forward to seeing everyone again next year! Thank-you once again for a day well received. More pictures of the Ball can be viewed on the Society's website: www.standrewcaledonian.ca *Margot Aftergood*

St. Andrew's Ball 2013

The 130th St. Andrew's Ball was held on Saturday, 30 November 2013 at the MacEwan Hall Ballroom on the University of Calgary Campus. The Ball is the cornerstone event of the Society and attracted 130 members and friends. The evening began with a chance to catch up with friends, listen to the piping group play some old favourites, and then the piping in of the Head Table followed by the Saltire. The Society's Gaelic Choir sang the Grace and dinner started off with Smoked Tomato & Basil Bisque, followed by Roast Alberta Prime Rib with Madeira Jus topped off with red velvet cake. The company then sat back and was entertained by the Society Choir who took the

company through many new musical selections. The formal part of the dinner was started off with the President and company toasting the Monarch, then Bill Partridge, member, toasting St. Andrew, Deputy Chief Len McacCharles of the Calgary Emergency Management Agency toasting Calgary, Dawn MacEachern, President of the Calgary United Scottish Games Association toasted Canada and Dr Debra Henderson, Chairman of the Royal Scottish Country



Dance Society—Calgary Branch toasted Scotland. The dinner concluded with the company singing 'Auld Lang Syne' and then prepared for the Ball starting off with the Grand March : 'Scotland the Brave' and 'The Garb of Old Gaul'. The Society was pleased to have Mercat Cross supply the music for the dancing as they are a local group that has Society has been developing to serve the Scottish Country dance community. At the intermission, the piping group performed again as everyone rested and prepared for the second half of the Ball. The music was very well received—even the Dancemaster, Jim Adamson, joined in several dances and still managed to wrap the whole program up by midnight. The Society wishes to thank the Society Gaelic Choir, Piping Group and the Ball Committee: Jim Adamson, Anne Angus, Janyyn Bertram, Donna Gillespie, Catherine Hand, Debby Henderson,



Bill Partridge, Barrie Purvis, David Stewart, Malcolm Stewart, Eric & Nonie Sundstrom, Jan & Sarah van der Wal, all the other volunteers and the staff at MacEwan Hall for all their great work in making the St. Andrew's Ball a great success. The 131st St. Andrew's Ball is set for 29 November 2014. More pictures of the Ball can be viewed on the Society's website: www.standrewcaledonian.ca

Celebrating Scottish Culture in Calgary for over a century



SCD News

The Society's Scottish Country Dance classes meet Tuesday evenings at the Confederation Park +55 Activity Centre, 2212—13th Street NW, starting at 7:30pm, so you should arrive at 7:15pm. Anyone interested in trying out Scottish Country Dancing is welcome to attend. Please contact the teacher, John Bertram, at (403) 585-3842 john_d_bertram@hotmail.com for more information.

Gaelic Lessons

The Society's Gaelic classes started on January 7 at the Confederation Park +55 Activity Centre, 2212—13th Street NW, meeting every Tuesday at 6:45 pm. Donna Gillespie is our teacher for this wonderful opportunity to keep Scottish Culture alive here in Calgary. All are welcome and no prior knowledge is necessary. Please contact Ann van derWal, Annvanderwal@shaw.ca, to register for these classes.

Member Benefits

Benefits of Society membership include:

- reduced rates for pipers at your function,
- 10% discount on purchases at the Highland Scottish Gift Shoppe,
- Free entry to the Foothills Highland Games,
- Free entry to the Calgary Highland Games,
- Free entry to the Canmore Highland Games.
- Free entry to the Foothills Highland Games,
- \$2.00 reduction in the regular adult admission to the Globe Theatre 617—8th Avenue SW.

Members should consider renewing for several years to avoid missing any activities or events.

**The St. Andrew-Caledonian Society of
Calgary**

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